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 America at Odds With Russia

 After the chemical attacks that occurred in Syria, the United States is upset with the actions Russian government. Russia has vetoed a U.S. draft that called for an independent investigation in the suspected use of chemicals in the attacks. President Trump threatened Russia on Twitter proposing military strikes for defending Syria.

 President Trump tweeted “Russia vows to shoot down any and all missiles fired at Syria. Get ready Russia, because they will be coming, nice and new and “smart!”

Once again the United States and Russia are butting heads. Since the end of World War II, The United States and Russia have been in an uneasy relationship. The tension between the two countries has grown over the years with possible Russian collusion in the U.S. 2016 presidential election, the expulsion of 60 Russian diplomats from the U.S. last March and the poisoning of a Russian spy in the United Kingdom has increased tension. President Trump proclaimed on Twitter that the United States relationship with Russia has deteriorated.

“Our relationship with Russia is worse now than it has ever been, and that includes the Cold War.” Trump tweeted just one day after Russia vetoed the investigation.

Former Whitewater student Libby Citta, a history major, sees the relationship as always being shaky at best.

“Historically speaking, the political relationship between the US and Russia has always been touchy. It got better in the 90s, but since Putin has been in office, it’s been steadily declining to Cold War tensions.”

Tensions during the Cold War were at an all time high. Nuclear bomb drills were regularly practiced in case of an attack. Hawaii recently suffered a scare after a malfunction in their warning system causing an eruption of mass panic from the citizens of Hawaii. The citizens were sent a text saying a ballistic missile strike was heading to the island and it wasn’t a drill. Although there wasn’t a strike on U.S. soil, we have to wonder if a nuclear strike could happen.

 The U.S. has to be on high alert with Putin in charge of Russia. Army veteran Jason Nichols never saw Russia as a military threat until some of the decisions they’ve made.

 “Not really, but as of late the moves they are taking I would now see to be at least eyebrow raising. From aircraft flybys and hostile movements in the Russian area. Abandoned mountain bases since WWII are now being reactive by the UN.”

However, the U.S. and Russia have somehow managed to avoid war even war seemed to be imminent. The nations managed to avoid war after the Soviet Union shot down an American spy plane on route to the North Pole. The nations managed to avoid war after a Soviet submarine mistook warning shots from the U.S. as live shots and wanted to attack. The nations even managed to avoid war after a technical glitch in Colorado had the U.S. defense believing the Soviets had fired off missiles towards America. If our relationship can avoid war through all of these close calls, then something extreme would have to happen for a war to break out.

Even though a war hasn’t happened between the U.S. and Russia, Libby Citta doesn’t have faith in our current government to avoid a war.

“Not with Trump as president. He doesn’t have the political finesse to avoid aggressive confrontation.” Citta described a confrontation between the two nations as messing with a sleeping bear.

“You don’t want to poke the bear. And in this case, both bears are ornery.”

 Jason Nichols doesn’t have any faith in Vladimir Putin to avoid a war due to Putin’s corruption as a leader. Nichols believes Putin is messing with the U.S. just to stay relevant.

“I don’t see really what else he would be getting out of it. People even claim he is the richest person in the world. He is so corrupt and takes the control of everything over there why risk it?”

Russia isn’t the only problem for the U.S. to contend with as the U.S. still has to contend with Syria. On Friday night, President Trump ordered missile strikes towards Syrian labs where the weapons were produced. President Trump took to Twitter to rave about the success of the mission.

“A perfectly executed strike last night. Thank you to France and the United Kingdom for their wisdom and the power of their fine military. Could not have had a better result. Mission Accomplished!”