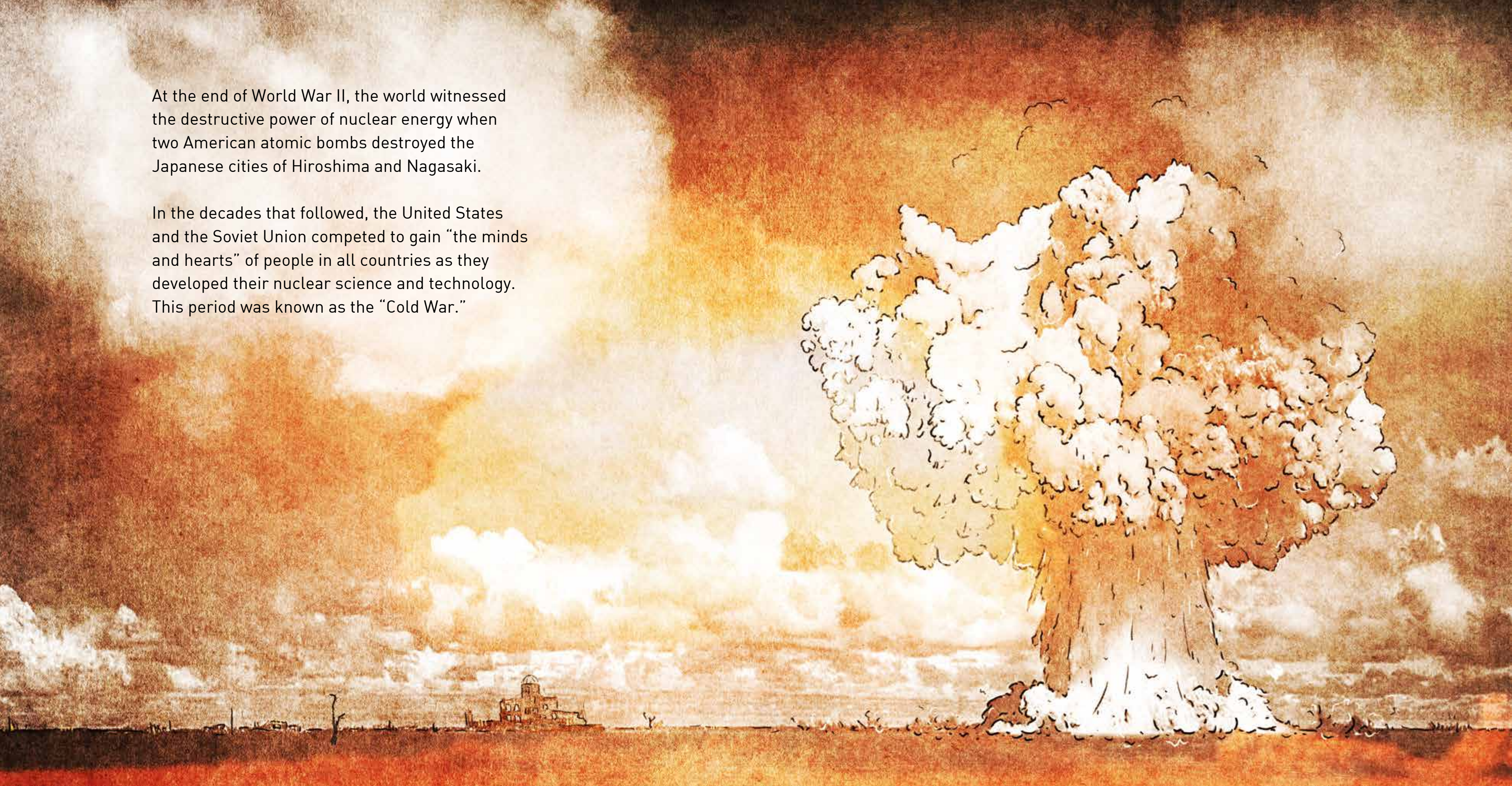


At the end of World War II, the world witnessed the destructive power of nuclear energy when two American atomic bombs destroyed the Japanese cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

In the decades that followed, the United States and the Soviet Union competed to gain “the minds and hearts” of people in all countries as they developed their nuclear science and technology. This period was known as the “Cold War.”







The United States wanted to show the world that atomic energy could, first and foremost, be used for good. Its use could bring progress and prosperity to humanity.

In 1958, President Eisenhower donated two new blue buses that held complete working laboratories to the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). These “laboratories on wheels” would help train scientists around the world. In these labs, scientists could work with radioisotopes and apply atomic energy in medicine, agriculture, and industry.

While the scientists learned about the uses of nuclear energy, they also became reliant on American technologies. This was a way for the US to get ahead in the Cold War.

