**Lesson Plan - ARP\_MakingPlans\_G3-5 - 10/21/2024**

**Summary:**

In this informational e-book, Megan M. Gunderson describes the key plans and actions of President John F. Kennedy during his time in office, highlighting significant domestic and foreign policy initiatives. Through concise language and historical context, the author illustrates Kennedy's efforts in civil rights, the space race, and Cold War tensions.

**Tags:**

John F. Kennedy; Cold War; Cuban Missile Crisis; civil rights; space program

**Glossed Text:**

Making Plans (excerpt from John F. Kennedy)

By Megan M. Gunderson, Abdo Publishing

John F. Kennedy became President of the United States on January 20, 1961. He had many plans when he took office. These included programs for \*higher wages\* and aid for people experiencing \*poverty\*. He also hoped to improve \*civil rights\*.

During this time, America was part of the \*Cold War\* with the \*Soviet Union\*. Another plan was to put a person on the moon before the \*Communist\* Soviet Union did. As a result, Kennedy greatly improved the US space program.

\*Relationships\* with other countries were another concern for Kennedy. American officials wanted to stop the spread of \*Communism\*. So, they trained a group of Cubans to \*overthrow\* Cuba’s \*Communist\* leader. In 1961, the group invaded Cuba at the \*Bay of Pigs\*. However, the effort failed.

Then, in 1962, \*Communist\* China invaded India. Kennedy sent \*weapons\* to India’s army. Meanwhile, South Vietnam was fighting \*Communist\* North Vietnam. Kennedy sent thousands of US military \*advisers\* to help the South Vietnamese.

In October 1962, Kennedy learned \*nuclear\* missile bases were being built in Cuba. He wanted to stop Soviet ships from bringing supplies there. So, Kennedy stated that the US Navy would block Cuba’s coast.

The Soviet leader said his country would guard its \*shipping rights\*. A \*nuclear\* war could begin. But Kennedy held his ground. The Soviet ships stayed away from the blocked area. Kennedy won the \*showdown\*! This event became known as the \*Cuban Missile Crisis\*.

**Vocabulary Words:**

higher wages (noun): increased salary or pay

poverty (noun): state of being extremely poor

civil rights (noun): rights that protect individuals' freedom and ensure their ability to participate in civil and political life

Cold War (proper noun): period of geopolitical tension between the Soviet Union and the United States after World War II

Soviet Union (proper noun): former federal socialist state in Eastern Europe and Northern Asia

Communist (proper adjective): relating to a political ideology advocating for a classless society and common ownership of means of production

Relationships (noun): the ways in which two or more people or groups regard and behave toward each other

Communism (proper noun): political ideology that aims for a classless society through the common ownership of the means of production

overthrow (verb): to remove forcibly from power

Bay of Pigs (proper noun): a failed military invasion of Cuba in 1961

Communist (proper adjective): relating to a political ideology advocating for a classless society and common ownership of means of production

weapons (noun): instruments used for causing harm or destroying

nuclear (adjective): relating to the nucleus of an atom, often referring to weapons using nuclear reactions

advisers (noun): individuals who provide advice or guidance

shipping rights (noun): legal rights concerning the transportation of goods by sea or other means

nuclear (adjective): relating to the nucleus of an atom, often referring to weapons using nuclear reactions

showdown (noun): a decisive confrontation or contest

Cuban Missile Crisis (proper noun): a 13-day confrontation in 1962 between the United States and the Soviet Union over the installation of nuclear missiles in Cuba

**Multiple Choice Questions:**

1. What was one of John F. Kennedy's goals during his presidency related to the Cold War?

A. To establish a peace treaty with the Soviet Union

B. To put a person on the moon before the Soviet Union

C. To expand the US territory

D. To eliminate nuclear weapons entirely

[CCSS.RI.3.1; TEKS.ELAR.3.7(C); CCSS.RI.4.1; TEKS.ELAR.4.7(C); CCSS.RI.5.1; TEKS.ELAR.5.7(C)]

2. How did Kennedy respond to the invasion of Cuba in 1961?

A. He agreed to negotiate with Cuba's leader.

B. He sent American troops to Cuba immediately.

C. He trained a group of Cubans to attempt an overthrow.

D. He launched a direct military attack on Cuba.

[CCSS.RI.3.1; TEKS.ELAR.3.7(C); CCSS.RI.4.1; TEKS.ELAR.4.7(C); CCSS.RI.5.1; TEKS.ELAR.5.7(C)]

3. What major international event in 1962 heightened tensions between the United States and the Soviet Union?

A. The Bay of Pigs Invasion

B. The establishment of NATO

C. The Cuban Missile Crisis

D. The signing of the Vietnam War Agreement

[CCSS.RI.3.1; TEKS.ELAR.3.7(C); CCSS.RI.4.1; TEKS.ELAR.4.7(C); CCSS.RI.5.1; TEKS.ELAR.5.7(C)]

4. What was a consequence of the Cold War that impacted Kennedy's foreign policies?

A. A reduction in military spending

B. Increased support for civil rights movements

C. The need to stop the spread of Communism

D. Improved relations with all European nations

[CCSS.RI.3.1; TEKS.ELAR.3.7(C); CCSS.RI.4.1; TEKS.ELAR.4.7(C); CCSS.RI.5.1; TEKS.ELAR.5.7(C)]

5. What role did Kennedy see for the U.S. in relation to South Vietnam during his presidency?

A. To withdraw all military support

B. To assist North Vietnam in its conflicts

C. To send military advisers to support South Vietnam

D. To establish a peacekeeping force in the region

[CCSS.RI.3.1; TEKS.ELAR.3.7(C); CCSS.RI.4.1; TEKS.ELAR.4.7(C); CCSS.RI.5.1; TEKS.ELAR.5.7(C)]