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

**Summary:**

In this informational e-book, Megan M. Gunderson describes the key plans and challenges faced by President John F. Kennedy during his administration through a clear presentation of historical events and political strategies. The text delineates significant moments such as the Bay of Pigs invasion and the Cuban Missile Crisis, highlighting Kennedy's efforts to address domestic and international issues.

**Tags:**

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

**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:**

poverty (noun): the state of being extremely poor.

civil rights (noun): the rights of citizens to political and social freedom and equality.

Cold War (proper noun): a state of political tension and military rivalry between the United States and the Soviet Union after World War II.

Soviet Union (proper noun): a former federal socialist state in northern Eurasia.

Communist (proper adjective): relating to the political system of communism.

Communism (proper noun): a political theory advocating class war and leading to a society in which all property is publicly owned.

Bay of Pigs (proper noun): a failed invasion of Cuba by Cuban exiles in 1961.

Communist (proper adjective): relating to the political system of communism; used in reference to a member of a communist party.

India (proper noun): a country in South Asia.

Vietnam (proper noun): a country in Southeast Asia.

nuclear (adjective): relating to the nucleus of an atom; often used to describe weapons.

Soviet (proper adjective): relating to the Soviet Union or its government.

Cuban Missile Crisis (proper noun): a 13-day confrontation in October 1962 between the United States and the Soviet Union concerning Soviet ballistic missiles deployed in Cuba.

**Multiple Choice Questions:**

1. What was one of John F. Kennedy's goals relating to the Cold War when he took office?

A. To increase the United States' agricultural exports

B. To prevent the spread of Communism

C. To establish a relationship with the Soviet Union

D. To eliminate poverty completely

[CCSS.RI.3.1; TEKS.ELAR.3.7(C); BEST.ELA.K12.EE.3.1]

2. Which event is described as a significant confrontation between the United States and the Soviet Union during Kennedy's presidency?

A. The Bay of Pigs invasion

B. The Korean War

C. The Cuban Missile Crisis

D. Vietnam War

[CCSS.RI.4.1; TEKS.ELAR.4.7(C)]

3. How did the training of Cuban exiles relate to U.S. foreign policy during the Cold War?

A. It aimed to foster trade relations with Cuba.

B. It was an attempt to combat the influence of Communism in Latin America.

C. It was a way to establish democracy in Cuba.

D. It sought to expand the U.S. military presence in Asia.

[CCSS.RI.5.1; TEKS.ELAR.5.7(C)]

4. What was President Kennedy's response to the discovery of nuclear missile bases in Cuba?

A. He initiated peace talks with the Soviet Union.

B. He chose to withdraw all military forces from the region.

C. He ordered a naval blockade of Cuba.

D. He launched an airstrike on Cuba.

[CCSS.RI.4.1; TEKS.ELAR.4.7(C)]

5. What can be inferred about the relationship between the United States and the Soviet Union during Kennedy's presidency?

A. They were allies working towards a common goal.

B. They engaged in numerous cooperative projects.

C. They were in a state of intense rivalry and conflict.

D. They had completely severed diplomatic ties.

[CCSS.RI.3.1; TEKS.ELAR.3.7(C); BEST.ELA.K12.EE.3.1]