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

**Summary:**

In this informational e-book, Megan M. Gunderson describes the plans and challenges faced by President John F. Kennedy during his time in office through detailed accounts of his domestic policies and international conflicts. The text provides insights into Kennedy's initiatives on civil rights, space exploration, and military engagements amid the Cold War.

**Tags:**

John F. Kennedy; Cold War; Cuban Missile Crisis; civil rights; US 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:**

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 hostility between countries characterized by threats, propaganda, and other measures short of open warfare.

Communist (proper adjective): relating to a political ideology advocating for a classless society in which all property is publicly owned.

relationships (noun): the way in which two or more people or groups regard and behave toward each other.

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

overthrow (verb): to remove from power by force.

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

weapons (noun): instruments used for attack or defense in combat or warfare.

Communist (proper adjective): relating to a political ideology advocating for a classless society in which all property is publicly owned.

nuclear (adjective): relating to the nucleus of an atom or to nuclear weapons or energy.

supplies (noun): the stock of materials or goods available for use.

advisers (noun): individuals who provide advice or guidance.

nuclear (adjective): relating to the nucleus of an atom or to nuclear weapons or energy.

showdown (noun): a decisive confrontation or contest.

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

**Multiple Choice Questions:**

1. What was one of John F. Kennedy's key goals during his presidency in the context of the Cold War?

A. To promote Communism in other countries

B. To stop the spread of Communism

C. To maintain the status quo in international relations

D. To withdraw from the space race

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

2. How did the invasion of Cuba at the Bay of Pigs reflect the tensions of the Cold War?

A. It was a successful mission to install a Communist government.

B. It highlighted America's efforts to contain Communism.

C. It resulted in an alliance with the Soviet Union.

D. It had no impact on international relations at the time.

[CCSS.RI.4.1; TEKS.ELAR.4.7(C); BEST.ELA.K12.EE.3.1]

3. What significant action did Kennedy take in response to the discovery of nuclear missiles in Cuba?

A. He chose to negotiate a peace settlement with the Soviets.

B. He ordered airstrikes against the missile sites.

C. He blockaded Cuba to prevent further shipments.

D. He withdrew all military advisers from Vietnam.

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

4. In what way did the Cold War influence Kennedy's foreign policy decisions regarding China and Vietnam?

A. Kennedy focused solely on domestic issues unrelated to the Cold War.

B. He sent military aid to countries resistant to Communist influence.

C. He aimed to form alliances with Communist nations.

D. He withdrew all American soldiers to prevent conflicts.

[CCSS.RI.3.1; TEKS.ELAR.3.7(C)]

5. What was the outcome of the Cuban Missile Crisis for Kennedy and the United States?

A. It resulted in a nuclear war with the Soviet Union.

B. It strengthened Kennedy’s position and reputation as a leader.

C. It caused the United States to withdraw from international politics.

D. It led to a nuclear agreement between the two superpowers.

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