**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, focusing on his domestic initiatives, foreign policy challenges, and critical events such as the Cuban Missile Crisis through factual language choices. The text provides a historical overview of Kennedy's presidency, highlighting both his ambitions and the tensions of the Cold War era.

**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): the period of political tension and military rivalry between the Soviet Union and the United States after World War II.

Soviet Union (proper noun): a former federation of communist republics that existed from 1922 to 1991.

Communist (proper adjective): relating to a political system or ideology derived from Marxism-Leninism.

Communism (proper noun): a political and economic ideology advocating for a classless system in which private property is abolished.

overthrow (verb): to remove forcibly from power.

Bay of Pigs (proper noun): the site of a failed military invasion of Cuba by CIA-sponsored paramilitary group on April 17, 1961.

Communist China (proper noun): the ruling government of China, established in 1949 under the leadership of the Communist Party.

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

South Vietnam (proper noun): a former country in Southeast Asia that existed from 1955 to 1975.

Communist North Vietnam (proper noun): the government of North Vietnam, aligned with communist ideology.

advisers (noun): individuals who provide advice or counsel in a specific field.

Navy (proper noun): the branch of a nation's armed services that engages in naval warfare.

showdown (noun): a decisive confrontation or contest.

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

**Multiple Choice Questions:**

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

A. To end the United States' involvement in World War II

B. To establish peace treaties with Soviet leaders

C. To land a person on the moon before the Soviet Union

D. To disband all military forces in Europe

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

2. How did Kennedy respond to the Soviet Union's actions in Cuba during the Cuban Missile Crisis?

A. He agreed to negotiate with the Soviet leader

B. He sent US troops to Cuba immediately

C. He ordered a naval blockade of Cuba

D. He withdrew all US military presence from South Vietnam

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

3. What was the outcome of the Bay of Pigs invasion that Kennedy oversaw?

A. It successfully overthrew Fidel Castro

B. It established a democratic government in Cuba

C. It was a failed attempt to overthrow Cuba's Communist leader

D. It led to improved relations between the US and Cuba

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

4. What role did the United States take in the conflict between South Vietnam and North Vietnam?

A. Provided economic aid only to South Vietnam

B. Sent military advisers to assist South Vietnam

C. Remained neutral and did not intervene

D. Supported North Vietnam in their efforts

[BEST.ELA.K12.EE.3.1; CCSS.RI.4.1]

5. What critical event occurred in October 1962 that heightened tensions during the Cold War?

A. The Berlin Wall was constructed

B. The Cuban Missile Crisis unfolded

C. The United States fully withdrew from Vietnam

D. The signing of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty

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