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

**Summary:**

In this informational e-book, Megan M. Gunderson describes the plans and actions of John F. Kennedy during his presidency, highlighting key events such as the Bay of Pigs invasion and the Cuban Missile Crisis through factual language and historical context.

**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.

Soviet Union (proper noun): a former federation of Communist republics comprising Russia and various other republics.

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

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 advocating for class war and leading to a society in which all property is publicly owned.

Cuba (proper noun): a country in the Caribbean.

Cuban (proper adjective): relating to Cuba.

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

China (proper noun): a country in East Asia.

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

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

North Vietnam (proper noun): a former country that was the northern part of Vietnam during the Vietnam War.

advisers (noun): individuals who offer advice, especially in a formal or professional capacity.

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

Cuban Missile Crisis (proper noun): a 13-day confrontation between the United States and the Soviet Union initiated by the discovery of Soviet ballistic missiles in Cuba.

**Multiple Choice Questions:**

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

A. To improve civil rights

B. To establish direct relations with the Soviet Union

C. To prevent the spread of Communism

D. To dismantle nuclear weapons

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

2. How did Kennedy's administration respond to the threat of Communism in Cuba?

A. They negotiated a peace treaty with the Soviet Union.

B. They sent military advisers to Vietnam.

C. They trained Cubans to overthrow Castro.

D. They invested in space technology.

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

3. What was the outcome of the Bay of Pigs invasion?

A. It successfully overthrew the Cuban government.

B. It escalated tensions between the United States and China.

C. It failed and was a significant embarrassment for Kennedy.

D. It established a U.S. military base in Cuba.

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

4. What event is known as the Cuban Missile Crisis, and how did it affect international relations?

A. It was a peaceful negotiation that strengthened U.S.-Soviet ties.

B. It was a direct military conflict that resulted in U.S. victory.

C. It was a standoff that nearly led to nuclear war between the U.S. and the Soviet Union.

D. It was a diplomatic discussion that ended the Cold War.

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

5. Which action did Kennedy take to respond to the construction of missile bases in Cuba?

A. He ignored the situation to avoid conflict.

B. He sent additional troops to South Vietnam.

C. He ordered a naval blockade of Cuba.

D. He conducted airstrikes on Soviet shipping.

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