**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 time in office through detailed descriptions of historical events and policy decisions. The text outlines Kennedy's initiatives regarding civil rights, space exploration, and foreign relations 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.

Soviet Union (proper noun): a former federal socialist state in Eastern Europe and Northern Asia that existed from 1922 to 1991.

Communist (proper adjective): relating to a political ideology that advocates for a classless system in which the means of production are owned communally.

relationships (noun): the way in which two or more concepts, objects, or people are connected.

Communism (proper noun): a political and economic ideology based on communal ownership and the absence of class.

Bay of Pigs (proper noun): a failed invasion of Cuba by Cuban exiles sponsored by the US government in April 1961.

Communist (proper adjective): relating to a political ideology that advocates for a classless system in which the means of production are owned communally.

nuclear (adjective): relating to the nucleus of an atom or the energy released during nuclear reactions.

Communist (proper adjective): relating to a political ideology that advocates for a classless system in which the means of production are owned communally.

South Vietnam (proper noun): a former country in Southeast Asia that existed from 1955 to 1975, known for its opposition to the communist North Vietnam.

North Vietnam (proper noun): a former communist state in Southeast Asia that existed from 1945 to 1976.

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

nuclear (adjective): relating to the nucleus of an atom or the energy released during nuclear reactions.

showdown (noun): a final test or confrontation.

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

**Multiple Choice Questions:**

1. What approach did John F. Kennedy take to stop the spread of Communism during his presidency?

A. He ignored the issue entirely.

B. He trained Cubans to overthrow Cuba’s Communist leader.

C. He decided to negotiate peace with Communist leaders.

D. He withdrew all military support from international conflicts.

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

2. Which major event in 1962 highlighted the intensity of the Cold War between the United States and the Soviet Union?

A. The invasion of Cuba at the Bay of Pigs

B. The nuclear missile crisis in Cuba

C. The landing on the moon

D. The training of military advisers in South Vietnam

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

3. How did Kennedy's administration react to the Soviet Union's actions during the Cuban Missile Crisis?

A. They agreed to share nuclear technology with the Soviet Union.

B. They blocked Soviet ships from reaching Cuba.

C. They withdrew their military presence from Cuba.

D. They immediately launched an attack on Soviet forces.

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

4. In what way did the Cold War influence U.S. foreign policy towards South Vietnam?

A. The U.S. decided to remain neutral and not intervene.

B. The U.S. sent military advisers to assist South Vietnam against the North.

C. The U.S. planned to establish diplomatic relations with North Vietnam.

D. The U.S. withdrew all troops from Southeast Asia.

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

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

A. It successfully overthrew Cuba’s Communist leader.

B. It failed and demonstrated the challenges of U.S. foreign interventions.

C. It led to closer relations between the U.S. and Soviet Union.

D. It prevented a nuclear conflict with the Soviet Union.

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