**Lesson Plan - ARP\_MakingPlans\_G3-5 - 10/23/2024**

**Summary:**

In this informational e-book, Megan M. Gunderson describes the presidency of John F. Kennedy and his various plans, focusing on his domestic policies, foreign relations, and notable events like the Cuban Missile Crisis, through straightforward and factual language choices.

**Tags:**

John F. Kennedy; Cold War; Cuban Missile Crisis; US 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 hostility between countries characterized by threats, propaganda, and other measures short of open warfare.

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

Communism (proper noun): a political and economic ideology advocating for a classless system in which the means of production are owned communally.

overthrow (verb): to remove from power or to topple.

Bay of Pigs (proper noun): a failed military invasion of Cuba undertaken by a CIA-sponsored paramilitary group in 1961.

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

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

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

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

**Multiple Choice Questions:**

**1. What was one of President John F. Kennedy's plans when he took office in 1961?**

A. To abolish the military draft

B. To improve civil rights and combat poverty

C. To establish relations with Communist leaders

D. To end the Cold War immediately

[CCSS.RI.3.1; TEKS.ELAR.3.7(C); CCSS.RI.4.1; TEKS.ELAR.4.7(C)]

**2. How did the Cold War influence Kennedy's approach to foreign relations?**

A. He ignored the political climate in Europe

B. He focused only on economic issues

C. He aimed to stop the spread of Communism globally

D. He established friendly relations with the Soviet Union

[CCSS.RI.5.1; TEKS.ELAR.5.7(C); BEST.ELA.K12.EE.3.1]

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

A. It successfully removed Cuba's Communist leader

B. It was a failed attempt to overthrow the Cuban government

C. It led to improved relations with the Soviet Union

D. It caused a direct conflict with China

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

**4. In response to the Cuban Missile Crisis, what action did Kennedy take?**

A. He sent troops to Cuba

B. He offered peace talks to the Soviet Union

C. He blockaded Cuba to prevent shipments of supplies

D. He immediately launched a nuclear attack

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

**5. What underlying theme did Kennedy's decisions during the Cold War reflect?**

A. A desire to expand military bases worldwide

B. A commitment to prevent the spread of Communism

C. A focus on increasing global trade relations

D. An inclination to reduce US military involvement in foreign conflicts

[CCSS.RI.5.1; TEKS.ELAR.5.7(C); BEST.ELA.K12.EE.3.1]