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

**Summary:**

In this informational e-book, Megan M. Gunderson describes the significant plans and actions of President John F. Kennedy during his time in office, highlighting key issues such as civil rights, the space program, and foreign relations. Through a clear recounting of historical events and decisions, the text outlines Kennedy's efforts to navigate the challenges posed by the Cold War and the Cuban Missile Crisis.

**Tags:**

John F. Kennedy; Cold War; Cuban Missile Crisis; civil rights; 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 period of geopolitical tension between the Soviet Union and the United States after World War II.

Soviet Union (proper noun): a former federal socialist state in northern Eurasia that existed from 1922 to 1991.

Communist (proper adjective): relating to or denoting a political ideology that advocates for a classless system in which all property is publicly owned.

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

overthrow (verb): to remove forcibly from power.

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

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

advisers (noun): people who give advice in a particular field.

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

showdown (noun): a confrontation or decisive contest.

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. How did John F. Kennedy's presidency reflect the United States' goal to contain Communism during the Cold War?**

A. By focusing solely on domestic programs without international involvement.

B. By supporting the overthrow of Communist leaders in countries like Cuba.

C. By withdrawing all military presence from foreign conflicts.

D. By refusing to engage with any nation involved in Communism.

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

**2. What was a significant consequence of the Cuban Missile Crisis during the Cold War?**

A. Increased trade agreements between the United States and Soviet Union.

B. The establishment of a direct communication line between the US and Soviet leaders.

C. A declaration of war between the US and Cuba.

D. The complete withdrawal of US military forces from Europe.

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

**3. In what way did the US response to the invasion of India by Communist China illustrate the principles of the Cold War?**

A. By ignoring the conflict altogether.

B. By sending diplomatic missions to negotiate peace.

C. By providing military support to India through the supply of weapons.

D. By encouraging India to seek Communist allies.

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

**4. How did the Bay of Pigs invasion represent the United States' strategy during the Cold War?**

A. It was an example of a successful military campaign against Communism.

B. It illustrated the risks involved in direct intervention in foreign nations.

C. It showed a complete lack of preparation by US military forces.

D. It led to stronger alliances with Communist countries.

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

**5. Which of the following best describes Kennedy's approach to the Cold War, based on the events mentioned?**

A. He preferred a peaceful resolution to conflicts without military involvement.

B. He took decisive military action to deter the spread of Communism.

C. He advocated for complete disarmament on both sides.

D. He focused exclusively on domestic issues rather than foreign affairs.

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