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

**Summary:**

In this informational e-book, Megan M. Gunderson describes the plans and challenges faced by John F. Kennedy during his presidency through factual recounting and analysis of key historical events, including his domestic policies and foreign relations strategies.

**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 geopolitical tension between the Soviet Union and the United States and their respective allies after World War II.

• 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 or characterized by communism, a political and economic ideology.

• space (noun): the vast, seemingly infinite expanse that exists beyond Earth and between celestial bodies.

• 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 a classless system in which the means of production are owned communally.

• Bay of Pigs (proper noun): a failed military invasion of Cuba undertaken by the United States in 1961.

• Communist (proper adjective): relating to or characterized by communism, a political and economic ideology.

• weapons (noun): tools or devices used for fighting or attacking.

• Communist (proper adjective): relating to or characterized by communism, a political and economic ideology.

• nuclear missile (noun): a missile capable of delivering a nuclear warhead to a target.

• supplies (noun): the provisions or materials required for a particular purpose.

• shipping (noun): the act of transporting goods or cargo.

• nuclear (adjective): relating to the atomic nucleus or nuclear energy.

• 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 concerning Soviet ballistic missiles deployed in Cuba.

**Multiple Choice Questions:**

1. How did John F. Kennedy's actions during the Cold War reflect America's desire to contain Communism?

A. By improving civil rights programs

B. By sending weapons to allies fighting Communism

C. By cooperating with the Soviet Union

D. By focusing solely on domestic issues

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

2. What was one consequence of the Bay of Pigs invasion led by Kennedy's administration?

A. Strengthened U.S. relations with Cuba

B. Increased support for Communism in Latin America

C. Successful overthrow of the Cuban government

D. Heightened tensions between the U.S. and the Soviet Union

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

3. How did Kennedy's response to the Cuban Missile Crisis exemplify a pivotal moment in U.S.-Soviet relations?

A. It demonstrated American willingness to retreat during conflict

B. It showed the effectiveness of military intervention in foreign crises

C. It marked a successful negotiation that avoided nuclear war

D. It led to an immediate partnership with the Soviet Union

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

4. What role did the space race play in shaping international relations during the Cold War?

A. It caused nations to collaborate on technology

B. It increased competition and national prestige between the U.S. and the Soviet Union

C. It led to combined military ventures

D. It reduced tensions between ideologies

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

5. What inference can be made about Kennedy's military involvement in Vietnam and its impact on international relations?

A. It isolated the U.S. from global conflicts

B. It encouraged stronger alliances in Southeast Asia

C. It showed a commitment to fighting against communism globally

D. It indicated a lack of interest in foreign military engagements

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