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

**Summary:**

* In this informational e-book, Megan M. Gunderson describes the key plans and policies of President John F. Kennedy during his administration through a series of historical events and decisions. The text outlines his initiatives related to civil rights, the space race, and foreign relations amid the tensions of the Cold War.

**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 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 Eastern Europe and northern Asia.

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

Communism (proper noun): a political and economic ideology advocating for a classless society.

Bay of Pigs (proper noun): an unsuccessful invasion of Cuba by Cuban exiles supported by the US in 1961.

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

nuclear (adjective): relating to the use of nuclear weapons or energy.

advisers (noun): individuals who provide advice or guidance, especially in a professional or official context.

Cuban Missile Crisis (proper noun): a 13-day confrontation in October 1962 over Soviet ballistic missiles deployed in Cuba.

**Multiple Choice Questions:**

1. How did Kennedy's view on international relationships during the Cold War influence the U.S. actions in Cuba?

A. He believed in diplomatic solutions only.

B. He sought to prevent the spread of Communism through military intervention.

C. He ignored the situation entirely.

D. He proposed to negotiate directly with the Soviet Union only.

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

2. What was one of the major achievements of the U.S. space program during Kennedy's presidency?

A. Establishing a permanent base on the moon.

B. Launching the first American satellite.

C. Putting a person on the moon before the Soviet Union.

D. Sending astronauts to Mars.

[CCSS.RI.3.1; TEKS.ELAR.5.7(C)]

3. Which event during the Cold War reflected the heightened tensions between the U.S. and the Soviet Union in 1962?

A. The invasion of India by Communist China.

B. The Bay of Pigs invasion.

C. The building of nuclear missile bases in Cuba.

D. The signing of a peace treaty with Vietnam.

[CCSS.RI.5.1; TEKS.ELAR.4.7(C)]

4. In response to the potential nuclear threat posed by Cuba, what decisive action did Kennedy take?

A. He decided to ignore the situation.

B. He proposed a trade agreement with the Soviet Union.

C. He ordered a naval blockade of Cuba.

D. He sent troops to invade Cuba.

[CCSS.RI.3.1; TEKS.ELAR.5.7(C)]

5. What lesson can be inferred from the Bay of Pigs invasion regarding U.S. foreign policy during the Cold War?

A. Military intervention was always successful.

B. The U.S. government underestimated the strength of Communist regimes.

C. Diplomatic solutions were preferred over military actions.

D. The importance of international alliances was overrated.

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