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

**Summary:**

In this informational e-book, Megan M. Gunderson describes the key plans and actions of John F. Kennedy during his presidency, highlighting his initiatives in civil rights, space exploration, and foreign policy through straightforward and factual language choices. The text provides an overview of significant events, including the Bay of Pigs invasion and the Cuban Missile Crisis.

**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): a state of geopolitical tension after World War II between powers in the Eastern Bloc and the Western Bloc.

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

Communist (proper adjective): pertaining to communism, a political ideology advocating class war and leading to a society in which all property is publicly owned.

Communism (proper noun): a political and economic ideology that envisions a classless society in which all property is communally owned.

Cuba (proper noun): a country located in the Caribbean region of North America.

Bay of Pigs (proper noun): a resort on the southern coast of Cuba where a failed invasion occurred in 1961.

Communist China (proper noun): a term referring to the People's Republic of China under the rule of the Communist Party.

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

South Vietnam (proper noun): a former country in Southeast Asia that existed from 1955 to 1975.

Communist North Vietnam (proper noun): a term referring to the Democratic Republic of Vietnam governed by the Communist Party.

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

nuclear (adjective): relating to the energy released during nuclear reactions; in this context, often refers to nuclear weapons.

Soviet (proper adjective): pertaining to the former Soviet Union.

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

**Multiple Choice Questions:**

1. What was one of John F. Kennedy's main goals during his presidency related to the Cold War?

A. To improve civil rights laws.

B. To enhance the US space program to outpace the Soviet Union.

C. To promote global free trade.

D. To establish diplomatic relations with China.

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

2. How did Kennedy's actions in Cuba exemplify the U.S. approach to the Cold War?

A. By negotiating peace agreements.

B. By attempting to overthrow a communist regime.

C. By establishing trade relations with Cuba.

D. By ignoring communist expansion.

[CCSS.RI.5.1; TEKS.ELAR.5.7(C); CCSS.RI.3.1]

3. What event illustrated the heightened tension between the U.S. and Soviet Union during Kennedy's presidency?

A. The Bay of Pigs invasion.

B. The establishment of NATO.

C. The Berlin Wall's construction.

D. The signing of the SALT treaty.

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

4. In what way did Kennedy respond to the discovery of nuclear missile bases in Cuba?

A. He proposed a diplomatic solution.

B. He decided to ignore the situation.

C. He implemented a naval blockade.

D. He immediately launched an airstrike.

[CCSS.RI.5.1; TEKS.ELAR.5.7(C); CCSS.RI.3.1]

5. What underlying concern drove U.S. foreign policy during the Cold War, as indicated by Kennedy's actions?

A. Economic expansion into Europe.

B. The containment of communism.

C. The promotion of democracy worldwide.

D. Strengthening alliances with capitalist countries.

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