### THE CUBAN MISSILE CRISIS

#### NUCLEAR ARMS IN CUBA

- In 1961 American forces failed to invade the quasicommunist country Cuba. Instead, they secretly prepared nuclear warheads in Turkey and Italy.
- In order to maintain mutual threat of destruction, Soviet leader Nikita Khrushchev granted Cuba's request for nuclear weapons to be placed in their country.
- Soviet-sponsored production of nuclear warheads in Cuba began in 1962. The U.S. subsequently blockaded the country and demanded that the missiles be dismantled and returned to Russia.
- After very tense negotiations, JFK and Khrushchev agreed that Cuba would be stripped of its nuclear capability if the U.S. promised to never invade and to remove its nukes from Turkey and Italy.



## AMERICAN SPACE PROGRAM, 1960's

### FREEDOM 7 + ALAN SHEPARD

- Freedom 7, or Mercury-Redstone 3, marked the United States' first human spaceflight. It launched 5 May 1961 and was piloted by astronaut Alan Shepard.
- Shepard's mission onboard Freedom was not to achieve Earth orbit but rather demonstrate technical capability of withstanding the immense forces of launch and atmospheric re-entry.
- The Soviet Union achieved launching the first man to space three weeks prior to Freedom 7, with Yuri Gagarin piloting Vostok 1.





### FRIENDSHIP 7 + JOHN GLENN

- Friendship 7, or Mercury-Atlas 6, was the first time the United States achieved a manned orbit around the Earth. Piloted by John Glenn, it launched on 20 February 1962.
- Glenn completed the planned number of orbits (three) despite encountering problems with fuel and a miscalculated automatic parachute deployment.
- The aforementioned Soviet vessel Vostok 1 managed to complete one full orbit on its flight before re-entering Earth's atmosphere.





#### **APOLLO 11 + NEIL ARMSTRONG**

- Apollo 11 placed the first two men on the moon, Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin, and fulfilled JFK's promise to land American men on the moon before the close of the century.
- The astronauts were placed in quarantine for about three weeks after return, in case any extraterrestrial pathogens were picked up.
- The Soviet Union attempted to beat the U.S. to the moon, sending unmanned probes to recover lunar soil. Its endeavors failed however, largely because it could not build a rocket powerful enough.





# TECHNOLOGY AND INVENTIONS, 1960's

#### TIMELINE OF INNOVATIONS

1960 - Halogen Lamp

1962 - Audio Cassette

1962 - "Space Wars" Computer Game

1964 - BASIC Coding Language

1965 - Compact Disks (CDs)

1965 - Contact Lenses

1965 – Kevlar Bulletproof Material

1967 - Computer Mouse

1968 - RAM Computer Chip

1969 - Handheld Electronic Calculator

1969 – Automated Teller Machine (ATM)

1969 - Artificial Human Heart