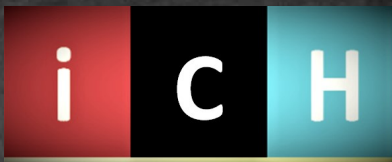


# THE CUBAN

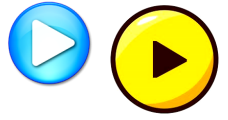


# MISSILE

# CRISIS



# THE CUBAN MISSILE CRISIS



1962

Origins of the crisis - remember the US policy of containment

## The Nuclear Arms Race = a 'MAD' Deterrent?

During the Cold War, the USA and the USSR competed in developing atomic weapons and spying on each other. The USSR used spy planes, while the USA used advanced technology like the U2 plane with high-altitude cameras. Both sides had nuclear weapons deployable from submarines or planes. Additionally, both sides developed intercontinental ballistic missiles (ICBMs). By the early 1960s, they had enough weapons to potentially annihilate (destroy) each other, leading to mutually assured destruction (MAD), deterring aggression with the threat of devastating counterstrike.



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## The Cuban Revolution - Enter Fidel Castro - 1959

Cuba, an island only 90 miles from Florida in the USA, and was traditionally a US ally with many American-owned businesses. Cuban, General Batista ruled with US support until he was overthrown in a revolution by Fidel Castro in 1959. Castro was initially recognised by the USA, but tensions rose due to Cuban exiles in the US demanding action against Castro. Castro had also nationalised American businesses in Cuba.



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## The USA's Response to Castro

In June 1960, President Eisenhower authorised the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) to explore methods of overthrowing Castro. The CIA provided funds and strategic support to Cuban exiles for this purpose. American companies in Cuba boycotted local businesses that used materials imported from the Soviet Union. Anti-Castro propaganda saturated American media. By 1960, Castro formally aligned Cuba with the Soviet Union, securing economic aid and military assistance from Khrushchev.



KHRUSHCHEV

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CIA

## The Bay of Pigs Invasion - 1961

In January 1961, newly inaugurated U.S. President John F. Kennedy severed diplomatic ties with Cuba and refused to accept a Soviet-aligned Cuba. Castro anticipated an America invasion, which materialised in 1961. Kennedy armed and transported 1,400 Cuban exiles for an invasion. On April 6, they landed at the Bay of Pigs but faced overwhelming Cuban forces, resulting in their swift capture and execution.



INVASION

Impact - the failed invasion bolstered Castro's propaganda and his grip on power. Khrushchev noted the U.S. reluctance to directly engage with Cuba.

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## A Frightening Discovery

After the failed invasion, the Soviet Union openly declared its provision of weapons to Cuba, causing significant concern in America. On October 14, 1962, an American spy plane captured photographic evidence of nuclear sites being constructed by the USSR in Cuba. A subsequent flight two days later confirmed that these bases were nearing completion, with some already housing missiles. Additionally, reports indicated that 20 Soviet ships en route to Cuba were carrying nuclear missiles.



BASES

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SOVIET SHIPS

## Why Did the USSR Place Weapons in Cuba?

The USSR placed weapons in Cuba to counterbalance US missiles in Turkey, ensuring strategic balance. It aimed to protect Cuba from potential US aggression, establishing a deterrent against invasion. Additionally, the move allowed the USSR to extend influence in the Western Hemisphere, challenging US dominance during the Cold War.

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TURKEY



DILEMMA

## The Cuban Missile Crisis Plays Out - The October Crisis, 1962

JFK faced several options: do nothing, conduct a surgical air attack, invade, apply diplomatic pressure through the United Nations, or blockade Cuba using the US Navy. He chose a blockade, but received a response from Khrushchev on October 23, refusing to observe it and denying the missiles' presence in Cuba.



BLOCKADE

On October 24, the blockade commenced, with the first missile-carrying ship approaching, but ultimately turning away. Despite this, work on the Cuban bases persisted. On October 26, Khrushchev proposed terms in his **first** letter = no attack on Cuba and lift the blockade in exchange for removing the missiles. He demanded the US remove its missiles from Turkey.

On October 27, an American U2 plane was shot down over Cuba, leading to pressure for an attack. Kennedy opted to delay and reject Khrushchev's **second** letter while accepting the conditions of the first. Khrushchev agreed to dismantle the missiles, averting mutual destruction.

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MESSAGE?

## Outcomes of the Cuban Missile Crisis

**For Kennedy and the USA:** Improved reputation, though privately agreeing to remove missiles from Turkey upset NATO allies. **However**, JFK had to accept a communist Cuba in America's sphere.



PAWN?

**For Khrushchev and the Soviet Union:** Public portrayal as a peacemaker, protecting Cuba from US attack and relocating US missiles from Turkey. **However**, anger in the USSR led to Khrushchev's removal from his position in 1964.

**For Castro's Cuba:** On one hand, Castro was angry having been misled about the deal between Khrushchev's and JFK and Cuba became more dependent on the USSR. On the other hand, the crisis helped to consolidate Castro's power of power and his control over nationalistic Cubans. Cuba remained an important player in the Cold War struggle.

**For the Cold War:** The resolution improved US-Soviet relations, leading to a direct hotline between the White House and the Kremlin and a 1963 nuclear test ban treaty.

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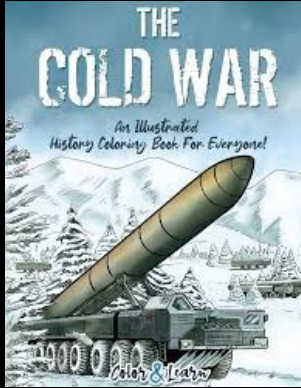
HOTLINE

CAUSES



IMPACT

## Cold War Context



Events in Cuba in 1962 occurred within the wider context of the Cold War ... tension between the USSR + the USA.

An ideological struggle ...

Capitalism

V

Communism

End of WW2 Onwards

## The Long Telegram + Sinews of Peace



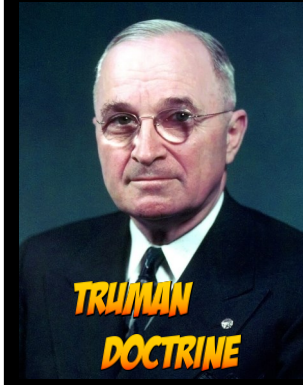
**The Long Telegram**  
George Kennan was the US Diplomat in Moscow. His 'Long Telegram' would shape US thinking about the USSR. He wrote that the USSR was .. 'Impervious to ... reason ...highly sensitive to force ..'



**The Sinews of Peace**  
Winston Churchill gave a speech in Fulton, Missouri USA and delivered the famous words ... 'an iron curtain has descended.' President Truman was sat just behind. The speech is seen as a key moment of the Cold War ...

February to March 1946

## Containment



US President, Harry Truman gave a speech to the U.S. Congress.

He proposed that the United States had the obligation to ... "support free people who are resisting ... subjugation."

His policy / ideas became known as the **Truman Doctrine** and the promise to 'contain' or stop the spread of communism around the world.

March 1947

## A 'MAD' Idea?



MAD =

ICBM =

Deterrent =

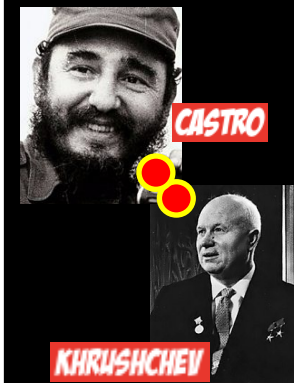
## THE CUBAN CRISIS

### MISSILE



- CAUSES
- KEY FIGURES / PROCESS
- IMPACT / CONSEQUENCES

## Leaders



The leader of Cuba in 1962 was ...

F \_ \_ \_ \_

C \_ \_ \_ \_

The leader of the USSR in 1962 was ...

N \_ \_ \_ \_

K \_ \_ \_ \_

Communist Allies

## The CIA = Castro must go!



The Central Intelligence Agency ( CIA ) is the foreign intelligence service of the USA. The CIA decided Castro must go!

### Reason - 1

Unlike previous Cuban leaders, Castro refused to be a p \_ \_ p \_ t of the USA. He also n \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ many American businesses.

### Reason - 2

Castro increasingly aligned himself with the S \_ \_ \_ \_ U \_ \_ \_



## The Bay of Pigs - A Total Fiasco



The Bays of Pigs was the failed invasion of Cuban exiles. It was orchestrated by the CIA.

It was a humiliation for Kennedy and a propoganda win for Castro.

It also gave the Soviet Union confidence that the USA would not get directly involved with Cuba.

April 1961

## Shock - Nuclear Base in Cuba!



How was this base discovered?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



October 14th 1962

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**JFK**



John F. Kennedy, a Democrat took office following his victory in the 1960 election.

Kennedy's time in office was marked by Cold War tensions with the Soviet Union + Cuba.

**President 1961 - 1963**

**Why Did the USSR Place Weapons?**




**Reason 1** - the USA had put nuclear weapons in Turkey.

**Reason 2** - to protect Cuba from an invasion from the USA.

**Reason 3** - to increase the Soviets influence in the region.

**Reason 4** - to put pressure on the USA and test them.

**JFK's Options - Dilemma - Moment**



'Hawks' = people who are aggressive and push for war, especially in the military, encouraged JFK to attack the missile sites in Cuba. **His other options?**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_


\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**October 1962**

**The Blockade - The World Waits!**



JFK imposed a blockade around Cuba - thus putting the ball in Khrushchev's court.

**Did the Soviet ships carrying nuclear missiles defy the US blockade?**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

The situation was further complicated when an American U2 spy plane was shot down over Cuba.

**October 1962**

**Khrushchev's 1st proposal?**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_


\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**SUBSCRIBE**

**Impact - 1**



Positives for JFK and the USA

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Negatives for JFK and the USA


\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Impact on Kennedy and the USA**

**Impact - 2**



Positives for Khrushchev and the USSR

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Negatives for Khrushchev and the USSR

\_\_\_\_\_


\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Impact on Khrushchev and the USSR**

**Impact - 3**

**HOTLINE**



Positive 1

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Positive 2


\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

However - The Cold War did not end.  
Note - Case Study 3 - The Vietnam War

**Impact on the Cold War**

**Impact - 4**



Negatives for Castro

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Positives for Castro

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**MESSAGE?**

**Impact on Cuba**

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# Topic Review - Cuba and the Missile Crisis { c1959 - 62 }

- 1 - The Cold War was a struggle between 2 ideologies - **C** \_\_\_\_\_ and Capitalism
- 2 - The Cold War was a struggle between 2 main countries - The **S** \_\_\_\_\_ Union and the **U** \_\_\_\_\_
- 3 - The US policy to stop the spread of communism was called **C** \_\_\_\_\_
- 4 - Nuclear weapons were a **deterrent** due to 'MAD' - **M** \_\_\_\_\_ **A** \_\_\_\_\_ **D** \_\_\_\_\_
- 5 - ICBM = \_\_\_\_\_
- 6 - The leader of the Soviet Union in 1962 was **N** \_\_\_\_\_ **K** \_\_\_\_\_
- 7 - The USA had a long history of influence over Cuba - True or False?
- 8 - Florida, a southern U.S. state is just \_\_\_\_ miles from Cuba
- 9 - In 1959, **F** \_\_\_\_\_ **C** \_\_\_\_\_ took power in Cuba. Cuba became more aligned with the **S** \_\_\_\_\_ **U** \_\_\_\_\_
- 10 - The **C** \_\_\_\_ believed Castro needed to be removed because ...
- 11 - The failed invasion of Cuba in 1961, by CIA backed Cuban **E** \_\_\_\_\_ was called the **B** \_\_\_\_ **O** \_\_\_\_ **P** \_\_\_\_\_
- 12 - The 'shocking discovery' that occurred in October 1962? = \_\_\_\_\_
- 13 - The president of the USA in 1961 was **J** \_\_\_\_ **F. K** \_\_\_\_\_. He was a **D** \_\_\_\_\_
- 14 - The USSR put weapons in Cuba partly because the USA had put nuclear weapons in **T** \_\_\_\_\_
- 15 - What did US 'hawks' in the military want JFK to do?
- 16 - JFK ignored **h** \_\_\_\_\_ in the U.S. military and chose to **b** \_\_\_\_\_ Cuba
- 17 - The world waited as Soviet ships approached the line of blockade. The ships did \_\_\_\_ cross it.
- 18 - To complicated matters an American \_\_\_\_ spy plane was shot down over Cuba
- 19 - Khrushchev sent two proposals to JFK - the first one did NOT demand he removed missile in **T** \_\_\_\_\_
- 20 - JFK simply ignored Khrushchev's **s** \_\_\_\_\_ proposal and accepted the first
- 21 - A positive outcome for JFK and the USA was ...
- 22 - A negative outcome for JFK and the USA was ...
- 23 - A positive outcome for Khrushchev and the USSR was ...
- 24 - A negative outcome for Khrushchev and the USSR was ...
- 25 - Castro was unhappy with Khrushchev because he was not included in the **d** \_\_\_\_\_ over Cuba
- 26 - A negative outcome for Castro was ...
- 27 - A positive outcome for Castro was ...
- 28 - A positive outcome for the Cold War was ...
- 29 - However, Cold War conflict would continue, most notably in **V** \_\_\_\_\_



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