

Unit _____ Chapter _____ Topic/Section _____	
Discussion Notes	Reading Notes
<p>West Germany thriving East Germany neigh dying.</p> <p>The building of the Berlin Wall solidified the situation in Europe.</p>	<p>Berlin: West Germany larger territory, population, and economy. Also had Marshall Aid. In East Germany collectivization and socialization was horrible for economy. Many fled to West Germany for better living standards. West was a democracy and East was Stalinist Authoritarian State. Riots broke out in 1953, but was crushed with Soviet tanks.</p> <p><u>A New Crisis:</u> The Berlin loophole meant that migration to West Germany was easy, so East Germany lost 1/6th of its population (young and intelligent workers). Berlin also served as a propaganda and Spy base beyond the Iron Curtain. Khrushchev proposed a peace treaty to demilitarize Berlin and make it a free city, if this was refused, he would give the land routes to West Berlin to East Berlin. If the West didn't go to war for these routes, they would have to negotiate and recognize East Berlin. Khrushchev did this because he feared West Germany getting nuclear weapons, afraid of the East German economy failing, and was under pressure from Ulbricht (leader of East Germany). Khrushchev called off his ultimatum in the face of Western rage, but this did lead to a conference that failed and then another but the U-2 Incident happened. The new President, John F. Kennedy, wanted to take a Flexible Response to the Cold War, meaning more spending on conventional forces, a larger nuclear arsenal, covert CIA operations, giving aid to developing countries to help them resist Communism, and negotiations with the USSR. Kennedy felt Communism was now more diverse in territory and methods and reasoned that his options should be more than humiliation or nuclear war.</p> <p>Khrushchev met Kennedy at the Vienna Conference of 1961 and tried to use the President's inexperience (and Bay of Pigs Failure) to renew his ultimatum and push it through. Kennedy instead doubled down on commitment. Under pressure from East Berlin and in light of Kennedy's response, the border was closed and barbed wire was put up, later to be followed by a concrete wall.</p> <p><u>Impacts:</u> Building the Berlin Wall forced Khrushchev to admit Soviet propaganda had failed to keep people in the East, but it did remove the pressure from East Berlin and allowed him to control the situation/stop East from acting alone. Although he didn't get the land routes, Ulbricht was still contented. The wall did cut families off from their loved one's on the other side, but for the Cold War as a whole it ended the German question and focused moved fully to Asia. This wall became the symbol of the Cold War / Iron Curtain Divisions. Hundreds died in trying to escape to West Berlin.</p>

West Germany thriving East Germany neigh dying. The building of the Berlin Wall solidified the situation in Europe.

IB History Reading Notes

Name _____ **Date** _____

Unit _____ **Chapter** _____ **Topic/Section** _____

Discussion Notes

Reading Notes

Cuba came out as Communist.	<p>Cuba: <u>Causes:</u> Cuba is close to Florida so the US felt any government there should support US interests. The US controlled most of many major industries, had a base in Guantanamo Bay, and a right to intervene to protect Cuban independence. Fidel Castro overthrew Mob connected, pro US Cuban leader Batista. Castro insisted that he was non-Communist and the US recognized his country, still hoping to control it. However as time went on the regime showed more and more authoritarianism. Many emigrated to the US and Castro nationalized US businesses. The US responded by using the International Monetary Fund to deny him loans and when the Organization of American States also refused, Castro turned to the Soviet Union. The US in turn responded with an embargo of exports besides medicine and food to Cuba and began to prepare to militarily support a regime change.</p>
Bay of Pigs failed and Kennedy was humiliated.	<p>Eisenhower approved a plan to train and aid Cuban refugees for an invasion of Cuba at the Bay of Pigs. This was green lighted by Kennedy but the invasion failed miserably and the prisoners were sold back for a ransom (paid by volunteers). This humiliated Kennedy and the international community condemned the action. The CIA had underestimated Castro's popularity, expecting a popular uprising. The Bay of Pigs merely increased Castro's popularity. The refugee soldiers were also low on ammo and weren't supported by air, hile Castro's air force turned out to be better than anticipated. In the end Kennedy didn't respond to requests for air support so that he could distance himself from the blunder. This failure humiliated Kennedy and set him back from identifying the US with anti-colonialism. The USSR also criticized the US and Latin America was now skeptical of US involvement in the region. After the attack Castro was politically stronger, came out as a Marxist-Leninist, and created a defensive alliance with the USSR. US continued to resist Cuba through Operation Mongoose (sabotage, assassination plots, and diplomatic isolation {removed from OAS}).</p>
Russia moved to place nuclear missiles in Cuba.	<p><u>The Crisis:</u> In 1962, Khrushchev made the decision to instal Intermediate Range Ballistic Missiles in Cuba to "protect Cuba" but really as spite towards the US missiles in Turkey. He also wanted to make up for his humiliation with the Berlin Wall and use Cuba as a bargaining chip from stationing nuclear bombs in Europe. Kennedy was intolerable of the missiles not because it changed nuclear warfare capabilities, but because it had improved Soviet first strike capacity, meaning they would be able to attack the US faster, and that public opinion felt a keen shift in the balance of power that they were frightened by (as well as upcoming Congressional Elections). Kennedy faced a challenge to US and Kennedy reputation.</p>
Cuba came out as Communist and Bay of Pigs failed and Kennedy was humiliated. Therefore, Russia moved to place nuclear missiles in Cuba.	

IB History Reading Notes

Name _____ Date _____

Unit _____ Chapter _____ Topic/Section _____

Discussion Notes	Reading Notes
<p>Kennedy used Blockade to resolve the conflict without military action.</p> <p>The Communist World became less united.</p> <p>The US won a clear victory and the tensions of the Cold War decreased.</p>	<p>After long deliberation with ExComm, military invasion and air strike options were pushed aside in favor of a blockade of Cuba from Soviet supplies. Khrushchev ignored the quarantine but on October 24th six soviet ships turned back. On the 26th Khrushchev sent a telegram saying that he would remove the missiles in exchange for a pledge to not invade Cuba, but then a second one was sent adding that the missiles in Turkey be remove. Tensions heightened when a U-2 was shot down over Cuba. Jack Kennedy decided to accept Khrushchev's first offer and ignore the first, while his brother Bobby Kennedy worked a backdoor connection to the Kremlin to agree to secretly take the missiles out of Turkey at a later date.</p> <p><u>Results:</u></p> <p>Khrushchev claimed that he had won the day because he guaranteed Cuban survival and was willing to compromise to prevent war. However many saw it as humiliation and the military was particularly unhappy (already due to budget cuts) because they had to withdraw rapidly and had to have US officials count the missiles they removed. Castro was mad because he wasn't consulted and lost the missiles, bombers, and troops the Soviets had sent. Khrushchev had to work hard to repair relations and prevent a Sino-Cuban alliance. It is evident that Castro was independent during this conflict and was more than willing to use the nuclear missiles.</p> <p>Kennedy's reputation increased and the US built up its homeland securities. In the USSR the crisis only impacted it in starting khrushchev's fall. Castro remained in power but became determined not to be caught up in the East-West argument instead focusing on encouraging revolutions in Latin America and Africa, but still relied on the USSR for economic aid. China saw this as proof that the USSR was no longer revolutionary and as such went on with their own R&D of Nuclear Weapons and their relationship with the USSR continued to deteriorate. As for the Cold War as a whole, there was now a hotline between D.C. and Moscow and treaties were signed to ban the testing of nuclear weapons (France and China didn't sign) and giving missiles to or spreading the secrets of nuclear knowledge to any non-nuclear country. This didn't prevent the arms race, which did intensify, but neither side went on to challenge the other's sphere of influence.</p>
<p>Kennedy used Blockade to resolve the conflict without military action. The Communist World became less united. The US won a clear victory and the tensions of the Cold War decreased.</p>	

IB Historian Reading Notes

Name _____ Date _____

Unit _____ Chapter _____ Topic/Section _____

Historian and School	Viewpoint
Robert Beggs	Installing missiles in Cuba was risky but paid off by increasing their prestige in the world and Latin America as well as give them a bargaining chip for the Cold War.
John Lewis Gaddis	Put missiles in Cuba to protect it. May have seen Bay of Pigs as Kennedy's resolution to crush the Cuban Revolution, which would be a massive blow to global Communism. The missiles in Turkey served as justification.
Zubok and Pleshakov	<p>Protect revolutionary Cuba, Communist Hegemony, and spread of Communism. Khrushchev handled the situation with the cold realism of Stalin and was not afraid to go back on the people who had helped him develop his plans.</p> <p>Kennedy's Handling: <u>Orthodox:</u> Stressed this was Kennedy's finest hour, used nuclear brinkmanship to preserve world peace. "The writings of Robert Kennedy, Theodore C. Sorensen and Richard E. Neustadt all put forward the following arguments in support of this view: » Kennedy was right to respond to this crisis in a firm and forceful way, as the missile represented a Soviet threat to alter the balance of power either in actuality or in appearance. I The idea of imposing a quarantine (blockade) exerted maximum pressure on the Soviet Union while incurring the minimum risk of war. • Kennedy himself always remained calm and in control of the situation. He resisted pressure for action from the military, he was statesmanlike and did not attempt to humiliate Khrushchev. • The results of the crisis helped to preserve the balance of power and world peace."</p> <p><u>Revisionist:</u> Stresses that Kennedy unnecessarily raised the Cuban episode to the level of crisis, subjecting the world to the danger of nuclear war. "Roger Hagman David Horowitz and I.F. Stone put forward the following arguments in support of this view; » The missiles did not affect the nuclear balance and the USA was under no greater threat. This was rather a political problem that could have been resolved by political means. I The imposition of the blockade and the fact that Kennedy made the crisis public turned it into an unnecessarily dangerous situation. • Kennedy was only interested in personal and national prestige. The forthcoming November elections meant that the President wanted the situation solved quickly, so he could not wait for lengthy negotiations. I The aftermath of the crisis was not victory but arrogance which led the United States to increase its activity in Vietnam."</p> <p>"What if the Russians had refused to back down and remove their missiles from Cuba? What if they had called our bluff and war had begun, and escalated? How -would the historians of mankind if a fragment survived., have regarded the events of October?... Since this is the kind of bluff that can easily be played once too often, and that his successors may feel urged to imitate, it would be well to think it over carefully before canonizing Kennedy as an apostle of peace. From an article by I.F. Stone on John F. Kennedy written after Kennedy's assassination. "</p> <p><u>Newer:</u> Recent evidence supports that Kennedy acted in a statesman way. He wanted to compromise and wasn't self-interested. The tape recordings of ExComm show Kennedy was keenly aware of the dangers. He deceived ExComm with the secret agreement on Turkey.</p>

--	--