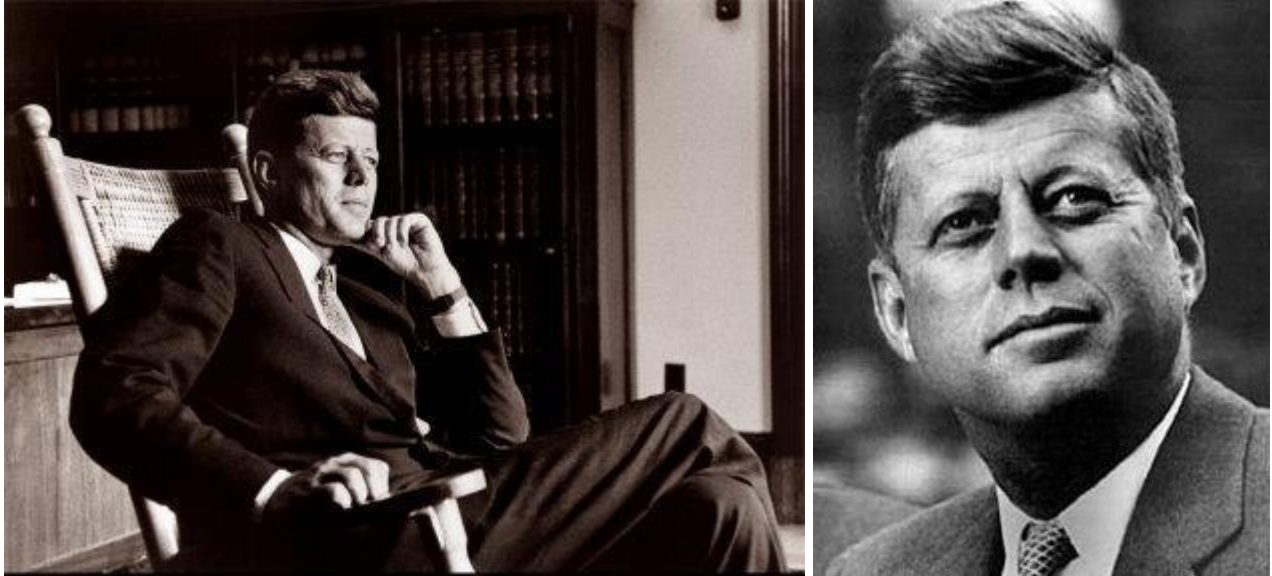


The Kennedy and Johnson Years (1960-1968)

OBJECTIVES:

- Identify John F. Kennedy's domestic policy and explain its programs.
- Summarize John F. Kennedy's election in 1960 and Lyndon B. Johnson's path to the White House.

Lecture #1 – President John F. Kennedy



John F. Kennedy

- Democrat from Massachusetts
 - Former Senator and member of House of Representatives
 - 1946 – elected as U.S. Representative from Massachusetts
 - 1952 – elected to the U.S. Senate
- 43 years old when elected
- Roman Catholic
 - “Get America moving again.”
- Response to the last few years of Eisenhower's campaign
 - Sluggish economy...several recessions in the late 1950's
- 1960 – elected as President of the U.S. (POTUS)

1960 Presidential Election

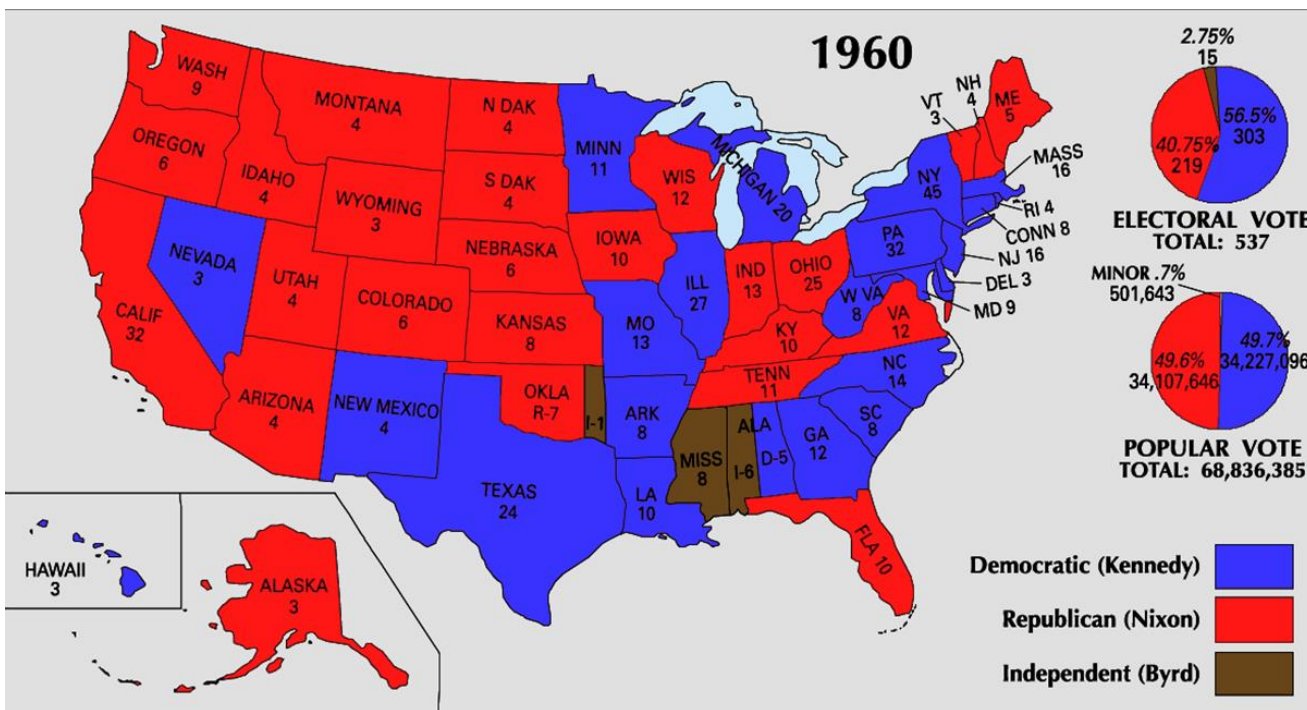
- Sept. 26, 1960...John F. Kennedy and Richard Nixon participated in the first televised presidential debate
 - Nixon looked tired and sweaty
 - JFK looked youthful and energetic

- Radio audience thought Nixon won the debate
- TV audience thought JFK won the debate



JFK Campaign Slogans

- “Get America Moving Again”
- “To Seek a New Frontier”
- “To summon every segment of our society . . . to restore America's relative strength as a free nation . . . to regain our security and leadership in a fast changing world menaced by Communism.”



1960 Election Day

- Electoral vote: 303 to 219
- Kennedy only won by 120,000 popular votes out of more than 34 million cast
- Not a strong **mandate**...a set of wishes expressed to a candidate by his voters

“Let the word go forth from this time and place, to friend and foe alike, that the torch has been passed to a new generation of Americans, born in this century, tempered by war, disciplined by a hard and bitter peace... And so my fellow Americans, ask not what your country can do for you; ask what you can do for your country.”

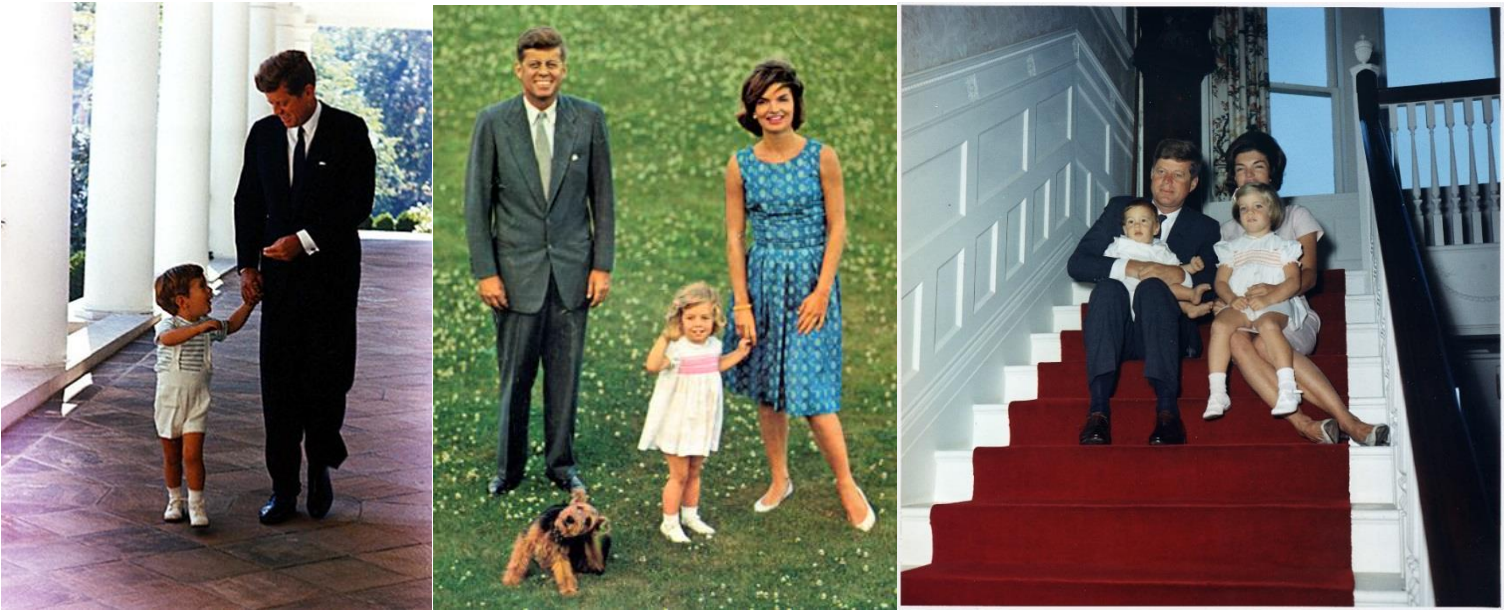
-John F. Kennedy, Inaugural Address

“Camelot”

- New JFK administration was energetic and full of optimism
 - Jacqueline Kennedy...graceful, beautiful First Lady
 - JFK and Jackie were compared to a royal couple...”Camelot”
- Administration wanted to change the United States into a country where power would be used to achieve right.

Family in the White House

- Brought youthfulness to the White House
 - Youngest U.S. President with 2 small children
- The White House was compared to King Arthur’s Camelot because of the idealism JFK possessed
- JFK and his wife, Jacqueline Bouvier Kennedy, had an aura of royalty around them.



The “New Frontier”

“*New Frontier*”...the name used to describe Kennedy’s proposals to:

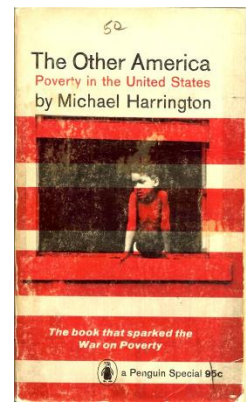
1. ... improve the economy
 2. ... give aid to the poor
 3. ... breathe new life into the space program.
 4. *****fight for civil rights (1960’s was the height of the civil rights era)
- The “*New Frontier*” presented an idealistic view of what JFK wanted to accomplish during his presidency
 - Focused more on foreign policy than domestic policy
 - Development of new programs to help those in need – influenced LBJ’s “Great Society”

Economy

- JFK wanted to reverse the economic recession of the late 1950s
- Business leaders didn’t trust him
- He tried to cut taxes, but did not get passed by Congress

JFK's War on Poverty

- *The Other America*...author Michael Harrington wrote this book, which revealed the situation of the poor while the rest of the citizens in the 1950s enjoyed prosperity
- 1 out of 5 people in poverty during the 1950s
 - Kennedy hoped to reverse this and provide direct aid to the poor
 - Successfully raised the minimum wage
 - Housing Act of 1961...provided \$4.9 billion for urban renewal
 - 24th Amendment ratified: made poll taxes illegal



JFK & Space

- John F. Kennedy was determined not to fall behind the Soviets in the "Space Race"
- Wanted to outdo the Soviet Union in space
 - USSR sent first satellite into space...Sputnik in
 - USSR sent first man into space...Yuri Gagarin circled the Earth on *Vostok* in 1961
- In 1962 John Glenn orbited the Earth 3 times
- Called for a man on the moon before 1970
 - Neil Armstrong became the first man to walk on the moon in 1969, though Kennedy was not alive to see his dream become a reality



"We set sail on this new sea because there is new knowledge to be gained, and new rights to be won, and they must be won and used for the progress of all people... Only if the United States occupies a position of preeminence can we help decide whether this new ocean will be a sea of peace or a terrifying theater of war."

-John F. Kennedy, 1962

JFK & Civil Rights

- Appointed a many African Americans to office
 - EX: Thurgood Marshall, who eventually became a federal judge
- Justice Department began enforcing existing Civil Rights laws more frequently
 - Voting laws, desegregation, etc.
 - Supported James Meredith going to Ole' Miss
- Worked to pass the Civil Rights Act
 - Did not pass until 1964, after JFK was assassinated

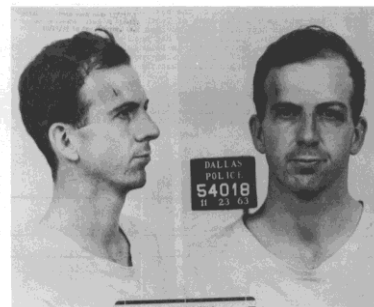


“We preach freedom around the world, and we mean it, and we cherish our freedom here at home, but are we to say to the world, and much more importantly, to each other that this is a land of the free except for the Negroes; that we have no second-class citizens except Negroes; that we have no class or caste system, no ghettos, no master race except with respect to Negroes?”

- John F. Kennedy, 1963 Civil Rights Announcement

Kennedy is Assassinated

- Nov. 22, 1963...Kennedy traveled to Texas to mobilize support for the upcoming Presidential election
- Texas Governor John Connally and his wife Nelly met JFK and Jackie at the airport in Dallas
 - Together they rode through the streets of Dallas in an open limousine
 - Thousands of supporters lined the route of the motorcade
 - Suddenly shots rang out and bullets struck both Connally and the President



LEWIS (AUBREY L.) EXHIBIT No. 1

- While Gov. Connally was wounded, President Kennedy was pronounced dead soon after his arrival at a nearby hospital
 - The country was shattered...Millions of Americans remained glued to their TV sets for the next four days as the impact of the tragedy sank in
- Shortly after Kennedy's death, a commission headed by Chief Justice Earl Warren was formed to investigate the crime
 - The Prime suspect was Lee Harvey Oswald...a former marine and supporter of Cuba's Fidel Castro
 - Two days after Kennedy's assassination, Oswald was transferred from one jail to another, live on national TV
 - Dallas nightclub owner Jack Ruby stepped through a crowd of reporters and fatally shot Lee Harvey Oswald



- After months of investigation, the Warren Commission declared that Oswald had worked alone in shooting the President
 - Since then, however, some people have argued that Oswald was involved in a larger conspiracy, and that he was killed in order to protect others who had helped plan Kennedy's murder
- Lyndon Johnson, who had also travelled to Dallas with Kennedy, took the Presidential oath of office on board Air Force One just ninety minutes after Kennedy's death
 - Johnson went on to make good use of the spirit of hope and the desire for change that Kennedy had inspired
- He saw enacted much of the legislation that Kennedy had tried to push through Congress
 - JFK's "New Frontier"
 - LBJ's "Great Society"



The Kennedy and Johnson Years (1960-1968)

OBJECTIVES:

- Identify John F. Kennedy's domestic policy and explain its programs.
- Summarize Lyndon B. Johnson's path to the White House.
- List the programs associated with President Johnson's Great Society and describe their effect on American society.

Lecture #2 – President Lyndon B. Johnson

- Lyndon B. Johnson became president upon the death of Pres. John F. Kennedy
 - *“All I have, I would have given gladly not to be standing here today.”*
 - The theme of Johnson's presidency was “Let Us Continue”
 - He strove to continue and to enact the policies of President Kennedy
- **Lyndon B. Johnson**...Democrat from Texas
 - Served in the House of Representatives in 1937 until 1948
 - He became a Senator in 1948
 - As a Senator, he served as leader of many committees...became famous for his ability to work within the political system to accomplish his goals
- LBJ ran for the Democratic president nomination in 1960, but lost it to JFK
 - He accepted JFK's invitation to become the Vice-Presidential running mate
- LBJ was dissatisfied as Vice-Pres. – thought that the office was powerless and weak



The Great Society

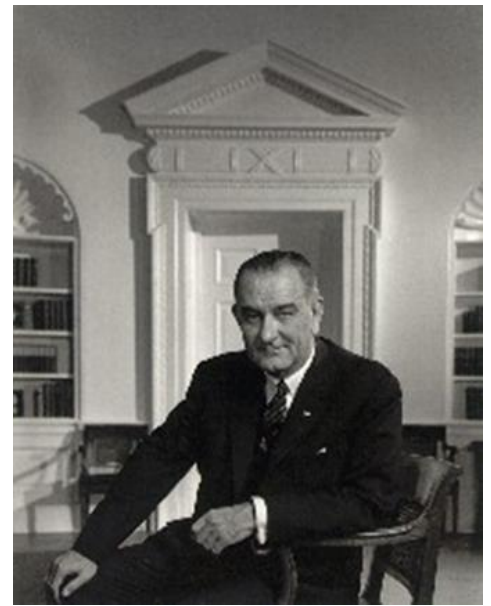
- “Great Society”...a phrase Johnson used to describe his goals for the nation
- The goals of Johnson's “Great Society” program were to improve the economy, education, and the environment, as well as to offer government assistance to the poor.

“Your imagination, your initiative, and your indignation will determine whether we build a society where progress is the servant of our needs, or a society where old values and new visions are buried under unbridled (unrestrained) growth. For in your time we have the opportunity to move not only toward the rich society and the powerful society, but upward toward the Great Society.”

-LBJ, May 1964

The Great Society

- **Economic Opportunity Act**
 - Created to combat multiple causes of poverty such as illiteracy and unemployment
 - Job Corps, Head Start, VISTA
- **Medicare**
 - Provides healthcare (hospital visits and low-cost insurance) to most adults over the age of 65
- **Medicaid**
 - Provides low-cost health insurance to low-income Americans who cannot afford their own
- **Immigration Act of 1965**
 - Changed immigration quotas (limits)



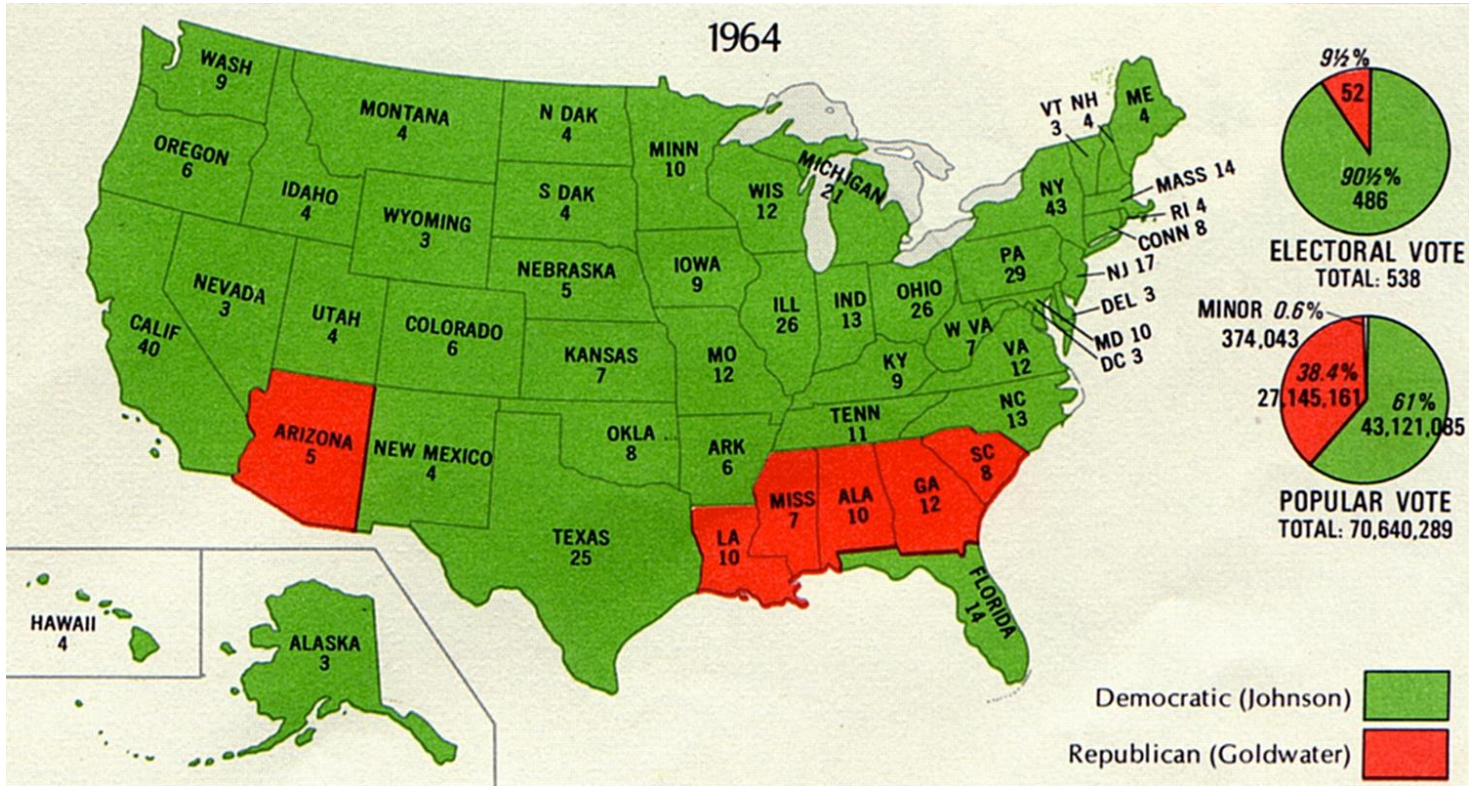
Economic Policy

- Johnson believed a budget deficit would improve the economy
 - He decided to cut government spending and cut taxes
 - As a result the GDP rose 7.1% in 1964, 8.1% in 1965, and 9.5% in 1966
 - Unemployment fell and inflation remained in check
- **War on Poverty**
 - LBJ pressed for the antipoverty campaign that Kennedy had begun to consider
 - wanted to build a society which was “great” and ended poverty
- His 1964 State of the Union message vowed “*This administration today, here and now, declares unconditional war on poverty in America.*”
- The **Economic Opportunity Act** passed in 1964
 - It was created to combat several causes of poverty: illiteracy, unemployment, and inadequate public services.
- **Volunteers in Service to America (VISTA)**...a government program which sent volunteers out to help people in poor communities



Election of 1964

- Johnson's early successes paved the way for a landslide victory over Republican Barry Goldwater
 - Goldwater was a Senator from Arizona
 - Held radical views on nuclear bombs, civil rights, etc...
- Americans were convinced LBJ would not lead the U.S. into Nuclear War
 - Johnson won the election with 61% of the popular vote and an Electoral vote of 486 to 52
 - Won with the greatest popular victory in history (61%)



Aid to Education

- Johnson was successful in his effort to provide money for education
 - He endorsed the **Elementary and Secondary Education Act**...provided aid to states based on the number of children from low-income homes
 - \$1.3 billion was given out in this manner to public and private schools

Medicare and Medicaid

- Johnson also focused on the increasing cost of medical care
- **Medicare**...provided hospital and low-cost medical insurance for most Americans age 65 and older

"No longer will older Americans be denied the healing miracle of modern medicine. No longer will illness crush and destroy the savings that they have so carefully put away."
- **Medicaid**...provided low-cost health insurance for poor Americans of any age who could not afford their own private health insurance.
- These programs were of the most important pieces of legislation passed in the 20th century

Immigration Reform

- The Great Society revised the immigration laws of the 1920s
 - Quota system done away with
- **Immigration Act of 1965** eliminated the quotas set for certain countries and replaced them with more flexible limits.
 - 170,000 from the Eastern Hemisphere and 120,000 from the Western Hemisphere.
 - Political refugees and family members of current U.S. citizens were exempt.

“New Frontier” vs. “Great Society”



JFK's “New Frontier”

- Space exploration
- Medicare
- Medicaid
- Increased funding for schools
- Increase social security and minimum wage
- Civil Rights Act
- Protect wilderness
- Poverty relief
- Economic development



LBJ's “Great Society”

- Man in space
- Medicare
- Medicaid
- Increased funding for schools
- Civil Rights Act
- Wilderness Protection Act
- Air and Water Quality Acts
- Poverty relief
- Urban renewal
- Economic development

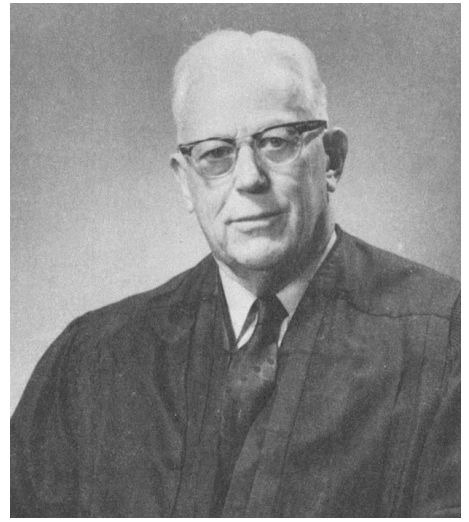
Effects of the Great Society

- At first the Great Society seemed enormously successful
 - Criticisms surfaced soon after
 - New programs failed to meet the demands they promised
 - Some Americans complained that too much tax dollars were being spent on poor people
 - Great Society put too much power in the hands of the government
 - Positively, the Great Society saw a dramatic reduction of those living in poverty...the number was cut in half by the 1970s



Chief Justice Earl Warren

- Was appointed by Dwight Eisenhower as Chief Justice of the Supreme Court in 1953
 - Served as Chief Justice until 1969 – led a very liberal court (Democrat-ish)
 - Under Warren's leadership the Court outlawed segregation (*Brown v. The Board of Education*)
 - Court also ruled that birth control was legal and that religious prayer in public schools was unconstitutional
 - Separation of church and state...1st Amendment



Supreme Court 101

- 3 branches of government
 - Judicial Branch = courts
 - Supreme Court = highest court in the US!
 - 9 Justices (1 = Chief Justice)
 - Nominated by President, confirmed by Senate
 - Life terms (tenure)
 - Removal = resign, die, impeach
 - Most cases = appeals (95% rejected ☹)
 - Long process for cases to reach Supreme Court



Major Cases & Decisions

- Important decisions = landmark cases
 - Change policies, set precedent for ALL other courts
- Social Issues
 - ***Brown v. Board of Education*** (1954)—Separate is not equal (desegregates schools)
 - ***Engel v. Vitale*** (1962)—Prayer in public schools is unconstitutional (no state/gov. sponsored prayer) - Violates Establishment Clause of 1st Amendment
 - ***Griswold v. Connecticut*** (1965)—Use of birth control became legal
 - Creates right to privacy
- Criminal Rights (aka Rights of the Accused)
 - ***Mapp v. Ohio*** (1961)— Evidence found illegally cannot be used during trials
 - Exclusionary Rule – applied to states
 - ***Gideon v. Wainwright*** (1963)—If you could not afford a lawyer, you would be given one
 - ***Miranda v. Arizona*** (1966)— Suspect must be warned of his/her rights before questioning
 - Miranda Rights created

Warren Commission

- Chief Justice Earl Warren - Appointed by LBJ to investigate JFK's death
- Decision: Lee Harvey Oswald acted alone - No conspiracy
- Effect: Not all people agreed with/believed report

Legacy of the Warren Court

"Where there is injustice, we should correct it; where there is poverty, we should eliminate it; where there is corruption, we should stamp it out; where there is violence we should punish it; where there is neglect, we should provide care; where there is war, we should restore peace; and wherever corrections are achieved we should add them permanently to our storehouse of treasure."

Foreign Policy in the Early 1960's

OBJECTIVES:

- Explain America's foreign policy during the 1960's and describe the key events and programs which distinguished it.

Lecture #3 – Foreign Policy in the 1960's

- John F. Kennedy proclaimed from the very start that the United States would do anything to uphold freedom throughout the world

“Let every nation know, whether it wishes us well or ill, that we shall pay any price, bear any burden, meet any hardship, support any friend, oppose any foe to assure the survival and the success of liberty.”

- JFK, Inaugural Address

- These bold words were spoken at the height of the Cold War between the USSR and the United States



Bay of Pigs Invasion

- Kennedy's first serious foreign policy crisis
- Cuba...an island 90 miles off the coast of Florida
- 1959...Fidel Castro seized control of Cuba's government from U.S.-backed dictator Fulgencio Batista ... Cuba was now a communist nation
 - Once in power, he had taken over private property, including property owned by U.S. corporations in Cuba
 - In response, the U.S. broke diplomatic relations with Cuba and refused to accept Castro as the country's legitimate leader
- U.S. officials began to worry when Cuba developed relations with the Soviet Union
 - Worried that it might lead to more communist revolutions in Latin America
- Kennedy inherited a secret plan developed by former President Eisenhower and the CIA during the 1950's
 - The plan called for the CIA to secretly train anti-Castro Cuban fighters



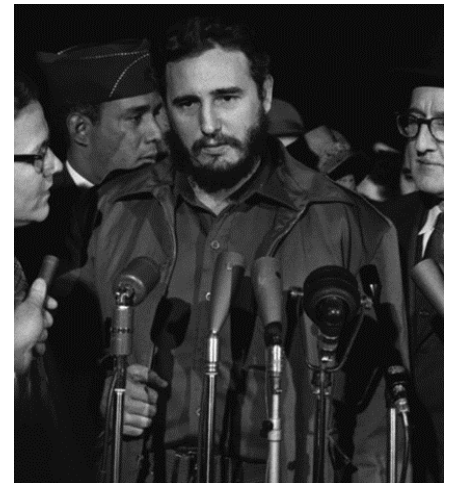
- This training had been taking place in Guatemala and, when completed, the Cubans were to invade Cuba to wrest control of the government away from Castro
- Kennedy and his advisors expected the people of Cuba to help overthrow Castro



- Some members of the U.S. government found out about the operation and did not want it to proceed
 - Kennedy decided to push through with it anyway
- The invasion took place on April 17, 1961 and was a total disaster
 - An air strike failed to destroy Cuba's air power, allowing Castro to stop the United States backed troops from going ashore
 - Kennedy was then advised to use U.S. planes to provide air cover for the 1,500 Cuban invaders...he refused
 - Rather than continue what he deemed a "hopeless effort" John F. Kennedy chose simply to accept defeat



- As a result, the United States lost a great deal of prestige internationally in the disastrous attack
 - Why?
 - 1) It was a clumsy and incompetent operation from the start
 - 2) The U.S.'s support of a failed operation to overthrow a legitimate government was exposed
- JFK began losing credibility with the leaders of the foreign nations in Europe
 - Latin American nations were furious with the United States – meddling in their affairs

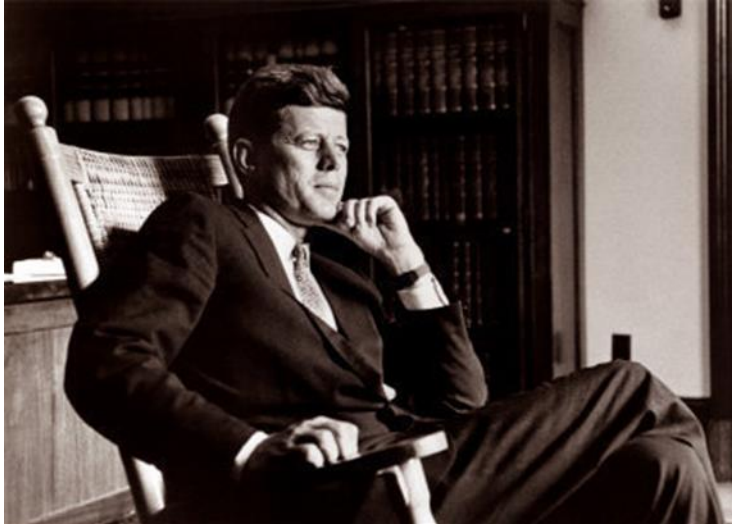


The Berlin Crisis

- After the failed Cuban operation, Kennedy was determined to show that he was strong on communism
- USSR leader Nikita Krushchev began taking actions to increase Soviet power, this time in Germany
 - Soviet effort to cut off access to Berlin failed in 1948, and resulted in Truman's Berlin Airlift
 - The Soviets demanded that the U.S. sign a peace treaty making the division of Berlin permanent
 - Wanted to cut off the flow of East Germans who frequently escaped to West Germany through Berlin



- Kennedy was afraid that the USSR was planning to take over the rest of Europe
 - As a result, JFK asked Congress to approve a \$3 billion increase in the defense budget
 - He also doubled the number of young men being drafted into the armed services and called up reserve forces for active duty
 - JFK called for more than \$200 million to be used to build fallout shelters across the country
 - He wanted the U.S. to be prepared for nuclear war

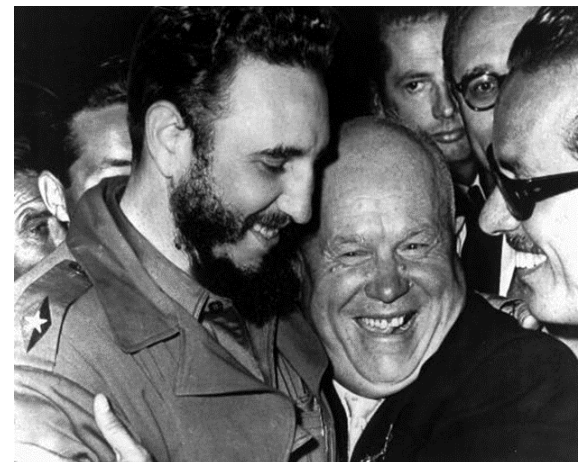


- John F. Kennedy described West Berlin as *“the great testing place of Western courage and will, a focal point where our solemn commitments...and Soviet ambitions now meet in basic confrontation. We do not want to fight – but we have fought before.”*
- The Soviets responded by building a wall in Berlin beginning in August 1961
- The Berlin Wall became a somber symbol of the cold war.
- In 1963, JFK visited Berlin, telling the citizens that the United States *“will risk its cities to defend yours because we need your freedom to protect ours.”*



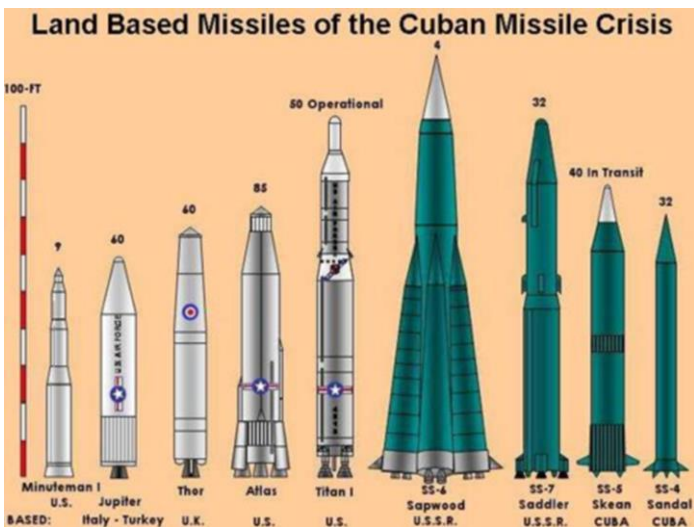
The Cuban Missile Crisis

- The Soviet Union was pledged to support their “little brother” Cuba
- Oct. 16, 1962...photographs were taken from a U.S. spyplane which revealed that the Soviets were building missile bases on Cuban soil
 - Khrushchev was building up Soviet power by positioning missiles so close to the U.S.
 - Kennedy was convinced that the missiles in Cuba presented a direct challenge to which he must respond





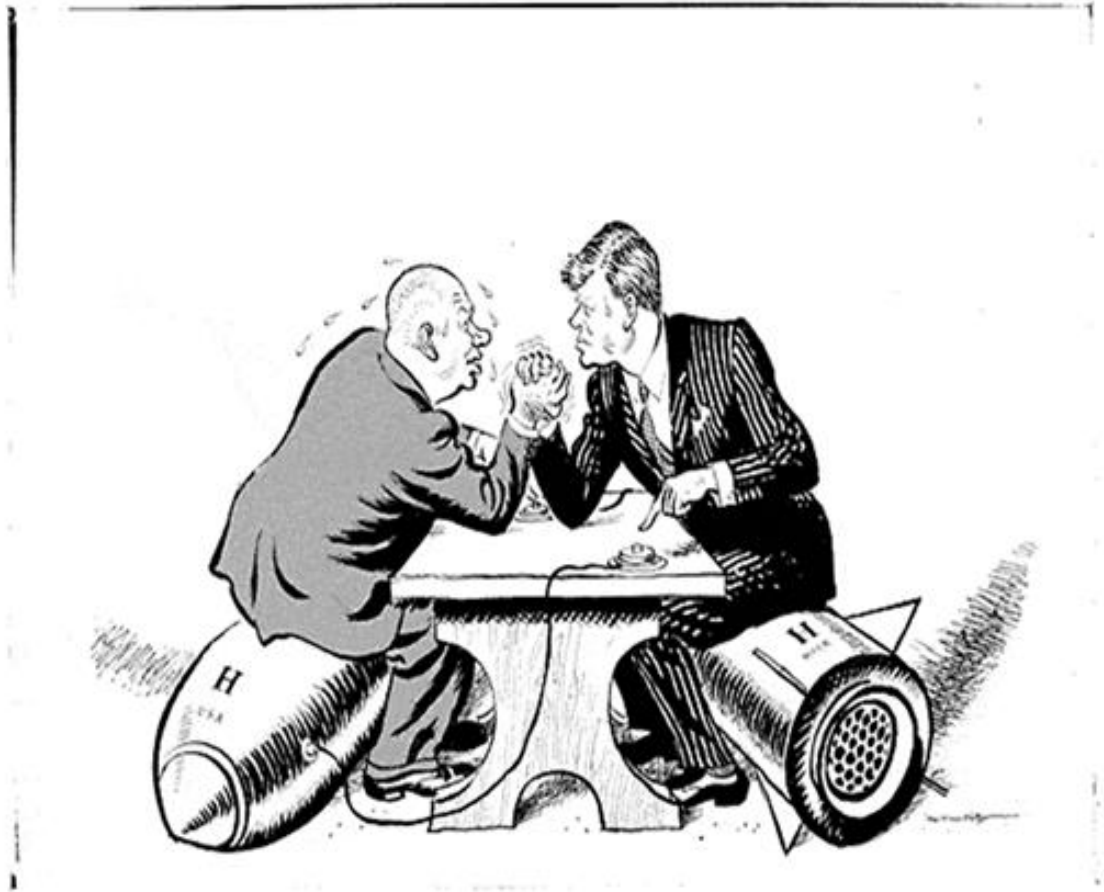
- JFK quickly convened his top military advisors in a series of secret meetings
 - Attorney General Robert Kennedy advised against an air strike to knock out the missiles, saying it was eerily similar to how the Japanese had started WWII with the attack on Pearl Harbor
- JFK immediately ordered U.S. forces on full alert
 - Bombers and missiles were armed with nuclear weapons
 - The naval fleet was prepared to move with soldiers ready to invade at a moment's notice
 - Nuclear warheads were poised and ready to be used on both sides



- Kennedy went on national television on Monday, Oct. 22 to tell the public about the missiles
 - During the speech he demanded that the Soviets remove the missiles
 - He also added that the U.S. *“would not shrink from the risk of nuclear war.”*
 - JFK then announced that he had authorized a naval “quarantine” around Cuba
 - He didn’t use the word “blockade”...blockade is considered an act of war
 - For the next two days the two most powerful nations in the world stood teetering on the brink of disaster
- The naval quarantine was put into effect on Wednesday, Oct. 24
 - U.S. forces were ready to respond as soon as the line was crossed
- On Oct. 25th a Soviet ship crossed the line, but was carrying only oil

- Several other Soviet ships were heading toward Cuba at the same time, but suddenly reversed direction
- Oct. 26th ...Krushchev sent Kennedy a long letter in which he pledged to remove the missiles if Kennedy promised that the U.S. would end the quarantine and stay out of Cuba
 - A second letter came the next day in which Krushchev demanded that the U.S. remove its missiles from Turkey in exchange for the withdrawal of missiles from Cuba
 - The U.S. accepted the terms of the first note and pretended that the second note never arrived
 - The Crisis was over

"We have won a considerable victory. You and I are still alive."
 -Sec. of State Dean Rusk to JFK

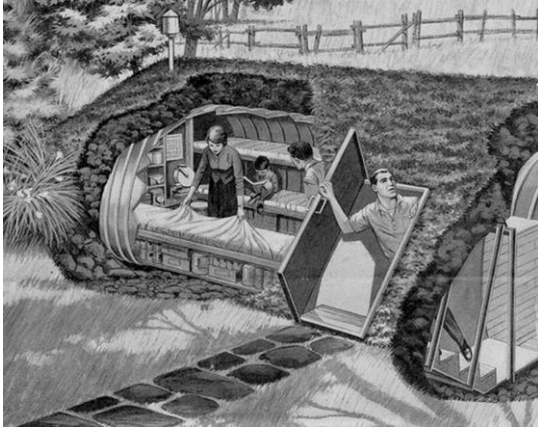


- The world had never been as close to nuclear war as it was during the Cuban Missile Crisis
 - JFK emerged from the Cuban Missile Crisis as a rigid, tough hero
 - Once the confrontation was over, Kennedy and Krushchev established a hot line between the two nations to allow for immediate discussions in the event of a future crisis
 - They also signed the Limited Test Ban Treaty which banned nuclear testing above ground



Nuclear War – Fallout Shelters

- During the crisis, JFK encouraged many Americans to install a bomb shelter (fallout shelter) to be used in case of a nuclear attack
 - After an atomic explosion, radioactive particles attach themselves to dust in the atmosphere
 - This rains down upon the earth for as long as two weeks
 - In a fallout shelter, an air filter protects people from breathing the radioactive dust and a Geiger counter tells them when the radioactivity outside has returned to a safe level



The Alliance for Progress

- **The Alliance for Progress**...was established in 1961 by JFK
 - This was a push by the Kennedy Administration to encourage developing countries to ally themselves with Western countries and the U.S. rather than the USSR and communism
 - This was to counter the pro-Communist revolutions spread by the USSR
 - The Kennedy Administration pledged \$20 billion from the U.S. for the next 10 years to help developing countries

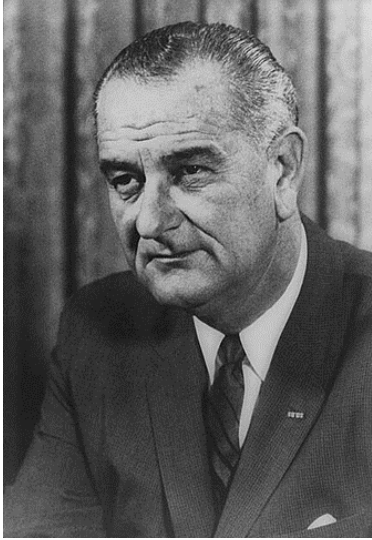
"All citizens in the Western Hemisphere had a right to social justice, including land for the landless, and education for those who are denied education."

-John F. Kennedy



Peace Corps

- The Peace Corps...established in 1961 by JFK
 - This new program sent volunteers abroad as educators, health care workers, and technicians to help developing nations around the world
 - Today, Peace Corps volunteers throughout the world continue to work for JFK's vision of a peaceful world



Lyndon B. Johnson's Foreign Policy

- Dominican Republic
 - In 1965, LBJ heard of that the Dominican Republic, a Caribbean nation close to Cuba, had been attacked by rebels
 - LBJ sent 22,000 troops to the nation, fearing that the disruption was incited by Communist forces
 - The U.S. troops quickly tipped the balance away from the rebels and peace was soon restored
- Vietnam
 - Like Kennedy, Johnson was determined to stop the spread of Communism
 - By 1963, 16,000 military advisors were already in South Vietnam in response to the threatening Communist forces of North Vietnam
 - The U.S. was also contributing economic aid to South Vietnam
 - By 1965, troops were sent in to help the floundering South Vietnam forces...Vietnam was underway...TO BE CONTINUED