

## Objectives

- Explain the steps Kennedy took to change American foreign policy.
- Analyze the causes and effects of the Bay of Pigs invasion and the Cuban Missile Crisis.
- Assess the results of the Berlin Crisis and other foreign policy events of the 1960s.



## Terms and People

- **John F. Kennedy** – a Democratic senator who was elected President in 1960
- **Richard M. Nixon** – former Republican vice president under Eisenhower who ran for President in 1960 and lost
- **Fidel Castro** – communist leader of Cuba
- **flexible response** – a defense policy in which the U.S. military is prepared to fight any type of conflict

## Terms and People (continued)

- **Peace Corps** – a U.S. program that sent volunteers to developing countries to assist in education, healthcare, and economics
- **Alliance for Progress** – a U.S. policy that aimed to renew the former Good Nation Policy toward Latin American nations by providing economic aid
- **Bay of Pigs invasion** – a CIA-led force of Cuban exiles that attacked Cuba
- **Nikita Khrushchev** – the Soviet Union's prime minister

## Terms and People (continued)

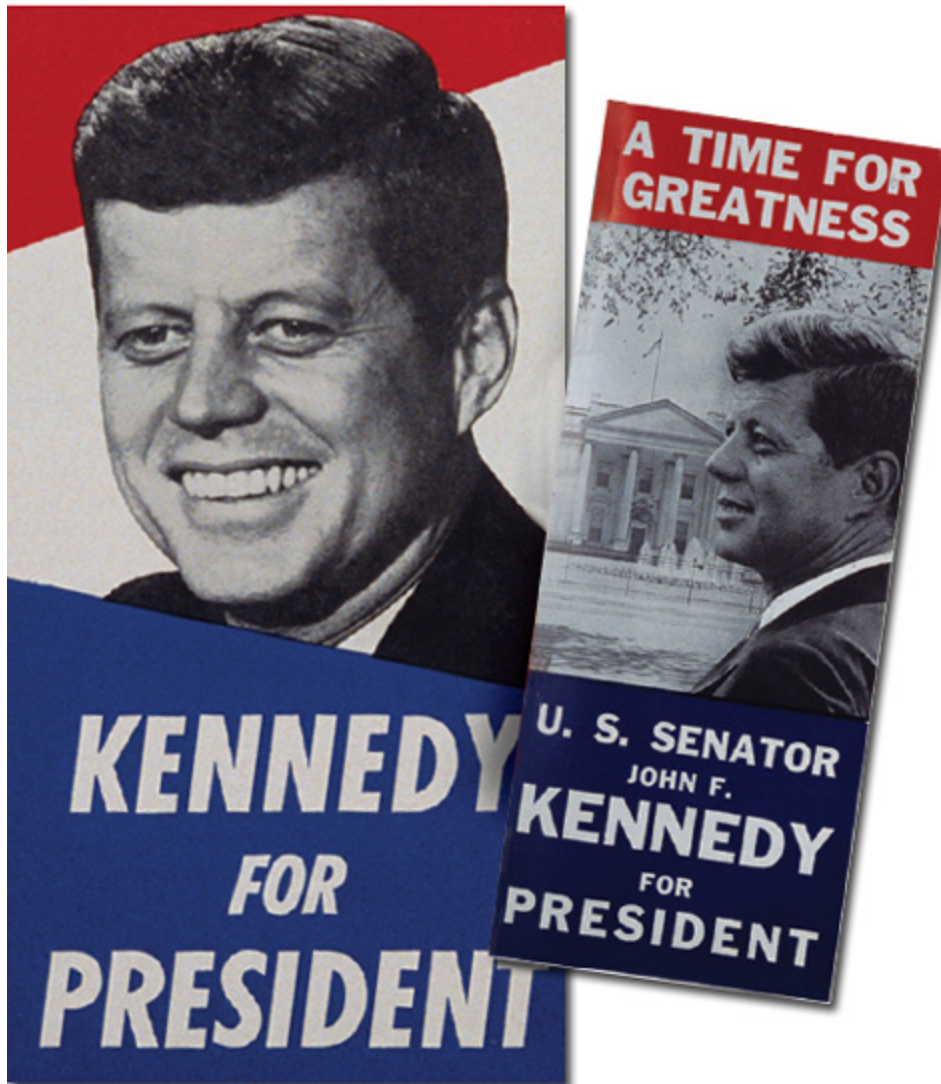
- **Cuban missile crisis** – in October, 1962 a confrontation of threats between Kennedy and Khrushchev
- **hot line** – a telephone line between Washington, D.C. and Moscow to improve communication between the United States and the Soviet Union
- **Nuclear Test Ban Treaty** – in 1963, the first agreement limiting nuclear testing between the United States, the Soviet Union, Great Britain, and thirty-six other countries
- **Berlin Wall** – a wall built by the Soviet Union to separate East Berlin from West Berlin



## How did Kennedy respond to the continuing challenges of the Cold War?

When Kennedy took office, he faced the spread of communism abroad and the threat of nuclear war.

His enthusiasm and commitment to change offered hope that the challenges of the Cold War could be met.



**John F. Kennedy**  
won a close  
presidential  
election in  
1960, defeating  
**Richard M. Nixon.**

## Kennedy launched a new Cold War strategy.

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- He built up both conventional and special military forces.
- He created a **flexible response** defense policy.
- He developed the **Alliance for Progress** to improve relations with Latin American countries.
- He created the Peace Corps.



As ambassadors of American goodwill, the **Peace Corps** sent American volunteers to developing nations to assist with such services as education and healthcare.



**The sudden threat of Castro and Communism in nearby Cuba led to two major confrontations.**



**Bay of Pigs invasion**

**Cuban missile crisis**

## In April, 1961 the United States invaded Cuba's **Bay of Pigs**.

Conceived by the CIA to overthrow Fidel Castro, the invasion involved Cuban exiles who had fled Castro's rule and settled in the United States.

The **Bay of Pigs** mission failed.

Kennedy took responsibility for the mission's failure.

The President said, however, that he would continue to resist efforts by the communists to control other countries in Western Hemisphere.

## Cuban Missile Crisis



**In 1962, American intelligence agencies photographed Soviet nuclear missile installations in Cuba.**

The missiles at these Cuban sites threatened major cities in the United States.



To resolve the **Cuban missile crisis**, Kennedy worked

### In Public

In a television address, Kennedy blamed Khrushchev for reckless action that threatened world peace.

Kennedy initiated a U.S. naval blockade of Cuba.

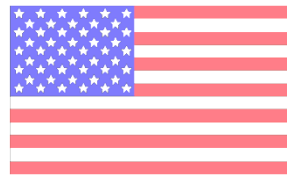
### Behind the Scenes

Kennedy told the Soviets that the United States would remove U.S. missiles from Turkey and Italy if the Soviets removed their missiles from Cuba.

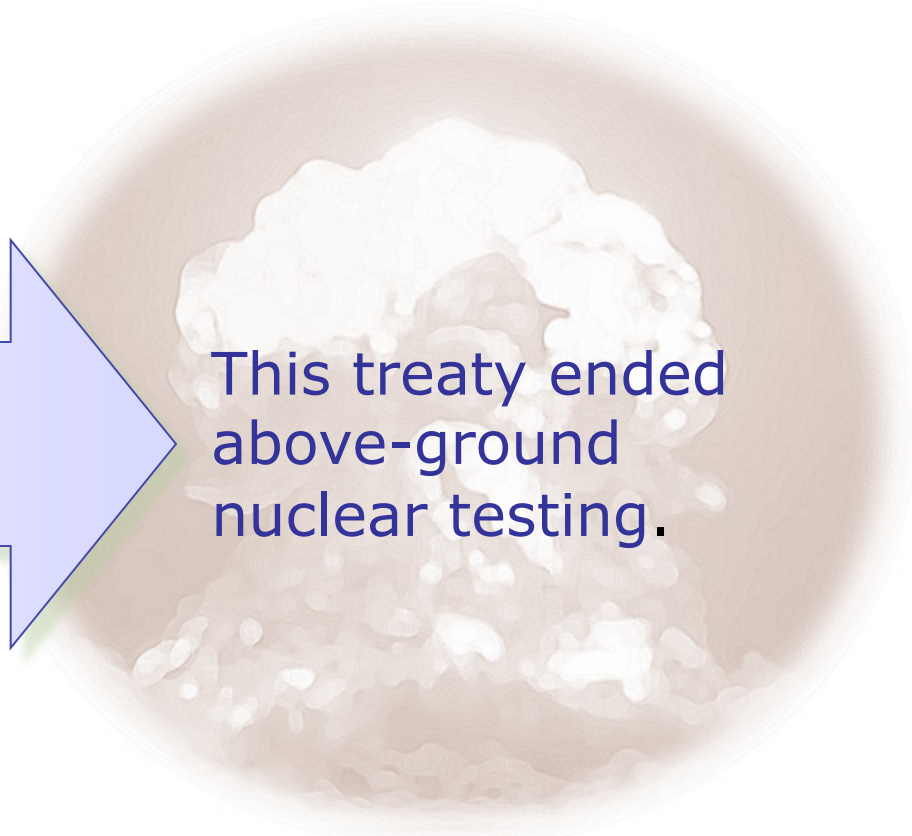
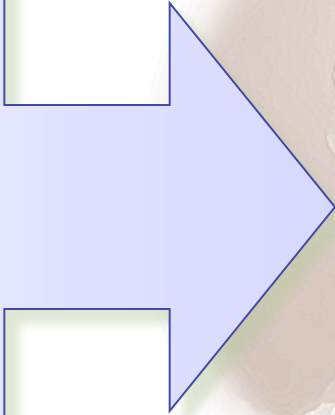
**After six tense days, the Soviets backed off.**

**Nikita Khrushchev** agreed to honor the blockade and **removed the missiles**.

The crisis prompted the two leaders to establish a **period of détente**. They set up a **hot line** between Washington, D.C. and Moscow to improve communication.



**In 1963 the United States, Great Britain, the Soviet Union, and thirty-six other countries signed the first **Nuclear Test Ban Treaty.****



This treaty ended above-ground nuclear testing.

## Disagreement over Berlin led to the building of the Berlin Wall.

Khrushchev insisted the U.S. end its military presence in West Berlin.

Kennedy refused.

Khrushchev ordered the building of the **Berlin Wall** separating East and West Berlin.





In response to Khrushchev's actions, Kennedy requested a large **increase in military spending**.

He also sent 1,500 more U.S. soldiers to West Berlin.

The **Berlin Wall** became a symbol of the gulf between

A diagram illustrating the Berlin Wall. It features a central vertical grey bar representing the wall, with a blue arrow pointing right and an orange arrow pointing left meeting at its center. Below this, a background image shows a concrete wall topped with multiple strands of barbed wire.

the democratic West

and the communist East

## Section Review

### QuickTake Quiz



### Know It, Show It Quiz

