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# The Cuban Missile Crisis Mini Quiz Pack

# Table of Contents

"Good Evening, My Fellow Citizens"	4
Complete the Statement	10
Who's Who	12
Day by Day	13
Proclamation 3504	15
In Your Opinion	17
Answer Key	19

## "Good Evening, My Fellow Citizens"

Following is the speech delivered by President John F. Kennedy on October 22, 1962, informing the American public and the international community of the missile crisis in Cuba. This crisis brought the world very close to nuclear war. Read the speech and then answer the questions that follow. You can use the notebooking page to answer the questions if you wish.

#### Good evening my fellow citizens:

This Government, as promised, has maintained the closest surveillance of the Soviet Military buildup on the island of Cuba. Within the past week, unmistakable evidence has established the fact that a series of offensive missile sites is now in preparation on that imprisoned island. The purpose of these bases can be none other than to provide a nuclear strike capability against the Western Hemisphere.

Upon receiving the first preliminary hard information of this nature last Tuesday morning at 9 a.m., I directed that our surveillance be stepped up. And having now confirmed and completed our evaluation of the evidence and our decision on a course of action, this Government feels obliged to report this new crisis to you in fullest detail.

The characteristics of these new missile sites indicate two distinct types of installations. Several of them include medium range ballistic missiles capable of carrying a nuclear warhead for a distance of more than 1,000 nautical miles. Each of these missiles, in short, is capable of striking Washington, D.C., the Panama Canal, Cape Canaveral, Mexico City, or any other city in the southeastern part of the United States, in Central America, or in the Caribbean area.

Additional sites not yet completed appear to be designed for intermediate range ballistic missiles—capable of traveling more than twice as far—and thus capable of striking most of the major cities in the Western Hemisphere, ranging as far north as Hudson Bay, Canada, and as far south as Lima, Peru. In addition, jet bombers, capable of carrying nuclear weapons, are now being uncrated and assembled in Cuba, while the necessary air bases are being prepared.

This urgent transformation of Cuba into an important strategic base—by the presence of these large, long range, and clearly offensive weapons of sudden mass destruction—constitutes an explicit threat to the peace and security of all the Americas, in flagrant and deliberate defiance of the Rio Pact of 1947, the traditions of this Nation and hemisphere, the joint resolution of the 87th Congress, the Charter of the United Nations, and my own public warnings to the Soviets on September 4 and 13. This action also contradicts the repeated assurances of Soviet spokesmen, both publicly and privately delivered, that the arms buildup in Cuba would retain its original defensive character, and that the Soviet Union had no need or desire to station strategic missiles on the territory of any other nation.

The size of this undertaking makes clear that it has been planned for some months. Yet only last month, after I had made clear the distinction between any introduction of ground-to-ground missiles and the existence of defensive antiaircraft missiles, the Soviet Government publicly stated on

September 11, and I quote, "the armaments and military equipment sent to Cuba are designed exclusively for defensive purposes," that, and I quote the Soviet Government, "there is no need for the Soviet Government to shift its weapons . . . for a retaliatory blow to any other country, for instance Cuba," and that, and I quote their government, "the Soviet Union has so powerful rockets to carry these nuclear warheads that there is no need to search for sites for them beyond the boundaries of the Soviet Union." That statement was false.

Only last Thursday, as evidence of this rapid offensive buildup was already in my hand, Soviet Foreign Minister Gromyko told me in my office that he was instructed to make it clear once again, as he said his government had already done, that Soviet assistance to Cuba, and I quote, "pursued solely the purpose of contributing to the defense capabilities of Cuba," that, and I quote him, "training by Soviet specialists of Cuban nationals in handling defensive armaments was by no means offensive, and if it were otherwise," Mr. Gromyko went on, "the Soviet Government would never become involved in rendering such assistance." That statement also was false.

Neither the United States of America nor the world community of nations can tolerate deliberate deception and offensive threats on the part of any nation, large or small. We no longer live in a world where only the actual firing of weapons represents a sufficient challenge to a nation's security to constitute maximum peril. Nuclear weapons are so destructive and ballistic missiles are so swift, that any substantially increased possibility of their use or any sudden change in their deployment may well be regarded as a definite threat to peace.

For many years both the Soviet Union and the United States, recognizing this fact, have deployed strategic nuclear weapons with great care, never upsetting the precarious status quo which insured that these weapons would not be used in the absence of some vital challenge. Our own strategic missiles have never been transferred to the territory of any other nation under a cloak of secrecy and deception; and our history—unlike that of the Soviets since the end of World War II—demonstrates that we have no desire to dominate or conquer any other nation or impose our system upon its people. Nevertheless, American citizens have become adjusted to living daily on the Bull's-eye of Soviet missiles located inside the U.S.S.R. or in submarines.

In that sense, missiles in Cuba add to an already clear and present danger—although it should be noted the nations of Latin America have never previously been subjected to a potential nuclear threat.

But this secret, swift, and extraordinary buildup of Communist missiles—in an area well known to have a special and historical relationship to the United States and the nations of the Western Hemisphere, in violation of Soviet assurances, and in defiance of American and hemispheric policy—this sudden, clandestine decision to station strategic weapons for the first time outside of Soviet soil—is a deliberately provocative and unjustified change in the status quo which cannot be accepted by this country, if our courage and our commitments are ever to be trusted again by either friend or foe.

The 1930's taught us a clear lesson: aggressive conduct, if allowed to go unchecked and unchallenged ultimately leads to war. This nation is opposed to war. We are also true to our word. Our unswerving objective, therefore, must be to prevent the use of these missiles against this or

any other country, and to secure their withdrawal or elimination from the Western Hemisphere.

Our policy has been one of patience and restraint, as befits a peaceful and powerful nation, which leads a worldwide alliance. We have been determined not to be diverted from our central concerns by mere irritants and fanatics. But now further action is required—and it is under way; and these actions may only be the beginning. We will not prematurely or unnecessarily risk the costs of worldwide nuclear war in which even the fruits of victory would be ashes in our mouth—but neither will we shrink from that risk at any time it must be faced.

Acting, therefore, in the defense of our own security and of the entire Western Hemisphere, and under the authority entrusted to me by the Constitution as endorsed by the resolution of the Congress, I have directed that the following initial steps be taken immediately:

First: To halt this offensive buildup, a strict quarantine on all offensive military equipment under shipment to Cuba is being initiated. All ships of any kind bound for Cuba from whatever nation or port will, if found to contain cargoes of offensive weapons, be turned back. This quarantine will be extended, if needed, to other types of cargo and carriers. We are not at this time, however, denying the necessities of life as the Soviets attempted to do in their Berlin blockade of 1948.

Second: I have directed the continued and increased close surveillance of Cuba and its military buildup. The foreign ministers of the OAS, in their communique of October 6, rejected secrecy in such matters in this hemisphere. Should these offensive military preparations continue, thus increasing the threat to the hemisphere, further action will be justified. I have directed the Armed Forces to prepare for any eventualities; and I trust that in the interest of both the Cuban people and the Soviet technicians at the sites, the hazards to all concerned in continuing this threat will be recognized.

Third: It shall be the policy of this Nation to regard any nuclear missile launched from Cuba against any nation in the Western Hemisphere as an attack by the Soviet Union on the United States, requiring a full retaliatory response upon the Soviet Union.

Fourth: As a necessary military precaution, I have reinforced our base at Guantanamo, evacuated today the dependents of our personnel there, and ordered additional military units to be on a standby alert basis.

Fifth: We are calling tonight for an immediate meeting of the Organ of Consultation under the Organization of American States, to consider this threat to hemispheric security and to invoke articles 6 and 8 of the Rio Treaty in support of all necessary action. The United Nations Charter allows for regional security arrangements—and the nations of this hemisphere decided long ago against the military presence of outside powers. Our other allies around the world have also been alerted.

Sixth: Under the Charter of the United Nations, we are asking tonight that an emergency meeting of the Security Council be convoked without delay to take action against this latest Soviet threat to world peace. Our resolution will call for the prompt dismantling and withdrawal of all offensive weapons in Cuba, under the supervision of U.N. observers, before the guarantine can be lifted.

Seventh and finally: I call upon Chairman Khrushchev to halt and eliminate this clandestine, reckless and provocative threat to world peace and to stable relations between our two nations. I call upon him further to abandon this course of world domination, and to join in an historic effort to end the perilous arms race and to transform the history of man. He has an opportunity now to move the world back from the abyss of destruction—by returning to his government's own words that it had no need to station missiles outside its own territory, and withdrawing these weapons from Cuba—by refraining from any action which will widen or deepen the present crisis—and then by participating in a search for peaceful and permanent solutions.

This Nation is prepared to present its case against the Soviet threat to peace, and our own proposals for a peaceful world, at any time and in any forum—in the OAS, in the United Nations, or in any other meeting that could be useful—without limiting our freedom of action. We have in the past made strenuous efforts to limit the spread of nuclear weapons. We have proposed the elimination of all arms and military bases in a fair and effective disarmament treaty. We are prepared to discuss new proposals for the removal of tensions on both sides—including the possibility of a genuinely independent Cuba, free to determine its own destiny. We have no wish to war with the Soviet Union—for we are a peaceful people who desire to live in peace with all other peoples.

But it is difficult to settle or even discuss these problems in an atmosphere of intimidation. That is why this latest Soviet threat—or any other threat which is made either independently or in response to our actions this week—must and will be met with determination. Any hostile move anywhere in the world against the safety and freedom of peoples to whom we are committed—including in particular the brave people of West Berlin—will be met by whatever action is needed.

Finally, I want to say a few words to the captive people of Cuba, to whom this speech is being directly carried by special radio facilities. I speak to you as a friend, as one who knows of your deep attachment to your fatherland, as one who shares your aspirations for liberty and justice for all. And I have watched and the American people have watched with deep sorrow how your nationalist revolution was betrayed—and how your fatherland fell under foreign domination. Now your leaders are no longer Cuban leaders inspired by Cuban ideals. They are puppets and agents of an international conspiracy which has turned Cuba against your friends and neighbors in the Americas—and turned it into the first Latin American country to become a target for nuclear war—the first Latin American country to have these weapons on its soil.

These new weapons are not in your interest. They contribute nothing to your peace and well-being. They can only undermine it. But this country has no wish to cause you to suffer or to impose any system upon you. We know that your lives and land are being used as pawns by those who deny your freedom.

Many times in the past, the Cuban people have risen to throw out tyrants who destroyed their liberty. And I have no doubt that most Cubans today look forward to the time when they will be truly free—free from foreign domination, free to choose their own leaders, free to select their own system, free to own their own land, free to speak and write and worship without fear or

degradation. And then shall Cuba be welcomed back to the society of free nations and to the associations of this hemisphere.

My fellow citizens: let no one doubt that this is a difficult and dangerous effort on which we have set out. No one can see precisely what course it will take or what costs or casualties will be incurred. Many months of sacrifice and self-discipline lie ahead—months in which our patience and our will will be tested—months in which many threats and denunciations will keep us aware of our dangers. But the greatest danger of all would be to do nothing.

The path we have chosen for the present is full of hazards, as all paths are—but it is the one most consistent with our character and courage as a nation and our commitments around the world. The cost of freedom is always high—and Americans have always paid it. And one path we shall never choose, and that is the path of surrender or submission.

Our goal is not the victory of might, but the vindication of right—not peace at the expense of freedom, but both peace and freedom, here in this hemisphere, and, we hope, around the world. God willing, that goal will be achieved.

Thank you and good night.

- 1. How does President Kennedy refer to the island of Cuba in the first paragraph of the speech?
- 2. Why did President Kennedy say he waited to inform the people of the full details of the crisis?
- 3. How did President Kennedy describe the range of the missiles already on site and the range of the missiles for sites that appeared to be forthcoming?
- 4. What does President Kennedy say this missile build-up is in defiance of?
- 5. In paragraph 12, President Kennedy makes a reference to the 1930s. What is he referring to? How is he comparing it to the Cuban missile situation?
- 6. Briefly list the seven immediate steps that President Kennedy said he has taken.
- 7. What comments does President Kennedy make to the Cuban people?
- 8. Near the end of his speech, President Kennedy speaks of the dangers that may be faced because of the course that has been chosen. What does he say would be the greatest danger of all?
- 9. President Kennedy says the cost of freedom is always high and that Americans have always paid it. What is the one path he says Americans will never choose? What is the goal he says America wants to achieve?
- 10. What is your assessment of President Kennedy's speech?



# Complete the Statement

Circle the word that will make the statement correct.

1.	President John F. Kenned near San	•	nat a Soviet missile site was being built
	Juan	Cristobal	Antonio
2.	Two main courses of act	ion were discussed, an air	strike and invasion of Cuba or a naval
	invasion	attack	quarantine
3.	Units of the United S	, ,	ving to the assigned bases in the
	northeastern	southeastern	southwestern
4.	President Kennedy met w	ith Soviet Foreign Minister A	ndrei
	Gromyko	Dobrynin	Khrushchev
5.	•	Factical Air Command told the would destroy 100% of the	he President it could not be guaranteed e missiles.
	invasion	ambush	air strike
6.	President Kennedy spoke of the situation.	with British Prime Minister I	Harold to inform him
	Macmillan	Churchill	Thatcher
7.	After the United States N Caribbean Sea.	laval fleet was in place, So	oviet moved into the
	freighters	tankers	submarines

8.	The United States and th	he United States and the Soviet Union Ambassadors debated publically in the halls of the		
	United Nations	Congress	White House	
9.	Fidel Castro urged Nikita States invaded Cuba.	Khrushchev to begin a	first strike if the United	
	naval	nuclear	military	
10.	An Americankilled.	plane flying over Cuba w	as shot down, and the pilot was	
	U-4	U-2	U-6	
11.	President Kennedy resist Union and instead pushed		nilitary action against the Soviet	
	doing nothing	action against Cuba	negotiations	
12	Air Forceneeded.	carrier squadrons were brough	nt to active duty in case they were	
	troop	helicopter	jet	
13.			would remove the missiles from and the United States would agree	
	Air Force	United Nations	Navy	
14.	Additionally, it was secre	, -	es would eventually remove their	
	Saturn	Apollo	Jupiter	
15.	•		ed the solution and the missiles m the United States not to invade	
	Cuban government	Soviet Union	United Nations	

# Who's Who

Match the person with their position at the time of the Cuban Missile Crisis.

 _1.	Harold Macmillan	a.	United States Ambassador to the United Nations
_2.	Andrei Gromyko	b.	President of the United States
_3.	Dean Rusk	C.	Soviet Union Ambassador to the United Nations
_4.	Anatoly Dobrynin	d.	General of the Tactical Air Command
 _5.	John F. Kennedy	e.	Premier of the Soviet Union
 _6.	Valerian Zorin	f.	United Nations Secretary General
_7.	Adlai Stevenson	g.	Soviet Foreign Minister
 _8.	Walter Sweeney	h.	Ambassador at the Soviet Embassy
 _9.	U Thant	i.	Secretary of State
10.	Nikita Khrushchev	i.	British Prime Minister

# Day by Day

Although a tense time filled with the possibility of nuclear war, the Cuban Missile Crisis lasted only thirteen days—from Tuesday, October 16, 1962, to Sunday, October 28, 1962. Look at each of the facts shown below and circle the day of the crisis that the event occurred.

iacis	SHOWIT DEIOW AND	circle trie day or trie cr	sis that the event occurred.	
1.		obtained that show L-28 bombers at airfiel	construction of the missile sites is acce Is in Cuba.	elerating and
	5	7	10	
2.	the Soviet Union	•	reign Minister Andrei Gromyko, who says nly for defensive purposes and does no	•
	6	3	2	
3.		dy suddenly returns to long discussion with h	the capital, with the excuse he is fighting s advisers.	g a cold, and
	5	9	13	
4.		s Ambassador to the Uns Security Council.	nited Nations, Adlai Stevenson, brings the	e situation to
	10	8	12	

5. Premier Khrushchev is indignant and replies to President Kennedy that he does not feel a quarantine is being declared but that an ultimatum is being set.

11 7 9

0.	and Eisenhower.	ly discusses the situat	ion by phone with	Tormer Presidents Hoover, Truman,
	6	7	1	
7.		•	•	ne solution and the missiles will be nited States not to invade Cuba.
	13	8	12	
8.			•	tro pushes for Nikita Khrushchev to United States invades Cuba.
	2	12	11	
9.			-	y a surface-to-air missile, which had lph Anderson, Jr., is killed.
	6	12	10	
10.		dy is alerted to the showed evidence a Sov	•	es of Cuba had been taken and as being built.
	11	1	8	
11.	•	of the Tactical Air (would destroy 100% o		President it cannot be guaranteed
	6	9	3	
12.		• .		nd between 16 and 32 missiles. This nnedy observes by attending a brief
	5	2	7	

## **Proclamation 3504**

Proclamation 3504 authorized the United States Navy to quarantine Cuba. President Kennedy signed the proclamation on October 23, 1962. Choose the correct word to fill in each space from the word box below.

### BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

A PROCLAMATION
WHEREAS the peace of the world and the of the United States and of all American States are by reason of the establishment by the Sino-Soviet powers of an offensive military capability in Cuba, including bases for missiles with a potential range covering most of North and South America;
WHEREAS by a Joint Resolution passed by the Congress of the United States and approved on October 3, 1962, it was declared that the United States is determined to prevent by whatever means may be necessary, including the use of arms, the
WHEREAS the Organ of of the American Republics meeting in Washington on October 23, 1962, recommended that the Member States, in accordance with Articles 6 and 8 of the InterAmerican Treaty of Reciprocal Assistance, take all measures, individually and collectively, including the use of force, which they may deem necessary to ensure that the Government of Cuba cannot continue to receive from the powers military material and related supplies which may the peace and security of the Continent and to prevent the missiles in Cuba with offensive capability from ever becoming an active threat to the peace and security of the Continent:
NOW, THEREFORE, I, JOHN F, KENNEDY, President of the United States of America, acting under and by virtue of the authority upon me by the Constitution and statutes of the United States, in with the aforementioned resolutions of the United States Congress and of the Organ of Consultation of the American Republics, and to defend the security of the United States, do hereby that the forces under my command are ordered, beginning at 2:00 P.M. Greenwich time October 24, 1962, to, subject to the instructions herein contained, the delivery of weapons and associated materiel to Cuba.
For the purposes of this Proclamation, the following are declared to be prohibited materiel:
Surface-to-surface missiles; aircraft; bombs, air-to-surface and guided missiles; for any of the above weapons; mechanical or electronic equipment to support or operate the above items; and any other classes of materiel hereafter designated by the Secretary of Defense for the purpose of this Proclamation.

delivery of pro	phibited materi	Secretary of Delaced of Color of Delaced of Delaced Offices that notes that n	ploying the la	nd, sea and ai	r forces of the	United States
necessary to	ensure the _	ay make such _	of this o	rder, including	the designat	tion, within a
may be direct to stop, to lie craft which fa into carrying be directed to custody if it fa	ed to identify ito, to submit to ils or refuses to proceed to ails or refuses	tself, its cargo, to visit and to respond to conversel or cramateriel or materiel or materiel to obey such conversel of the states for appreciate to obey such conversel or appreciate to observe the observe observe th	or comply with ft which it is y itself constitution	nd stores and in the control of the	ts ed as directed. all be subject t route to Cuba riel shall, wher ice and shall	of call, Any vessel or o being taken a and may be ever possible, be taken into
directions, or	with regulation	orce shall not bons or directive one been made	es of the Secr	etary of Defe	nse issued he	reunder, after
		rce shall be use				
	WHEREOF, I h	ave hereunto s	set my hand a	nd caused the	seal of the Ur	nited States of
	sixty-two, and	iton this twent of the Indeper			•	•
subversive	search	restricted	threaten	regulations	affixed	interdict

subversive	search	restricted	threaten	regulations	affixed	interdict
disposition	accordance	Marxist	ports	cooperation	endangered	Consultation
warheads	Sino-Soviet	security	custody	offensive	effectiveness	intercepted
proceeding	prohibited	reasonable	proclaim	extent	conferred	regime
ballistic	bomber	effectuating	hemisphere	armed	rockets	destination

# In Your Opinion

Do some research on the Cuban missile crisis and explain what you think should have been done to solve the situation. Was it best to not invade Cuba? Would an invasion of Cuba have stopped the spread of Communism into Latin America? Would the Soviet Union have really responded with nuclear war or would they have known that the only result of nuclear war would be a loss for both sides? What is your opinion of the steps taken to resolve the crisis?

UNITED STATES Commissional Florida Key Large THE Coul Ocean
UNITED STATES Florida Gulf of Stratts of Florida  Mexico Strats of Florida  Stratts of Florida  Mexico Strats of Florida
Havana  Cardena Archipidago  Grant  Grant  Grant  Grant  Grant  Lang  Jinka  Cardena  Archipidago  Archipidag
Celes Seatla Archipistage de Canagier de C
Son Antonio la Jan de la Jaron Largo Largo Largo Largo Son Antonio Largo Largo Yucutan Channel Caribbean de la Jarona Mazanilla Mazanilla Mazanilla Ganashana Caribbean de la Jarona Mazanilla Ganashana Caribbean de la Jarona Mazanilla Ganashana Mazanilla Ganashana Caribbean de la Jarona Mazanilla Ganashana Caribbean de la Jarona Mazanilla Ganashana
Havans  Matazza  Griff  Matazza  Griff  Matazza  Griff  Matazza  Griff
JAMAICA Messlesp Roy Ode Blaz Savanas de Met Savanas — "evt Antesis — "e

Answer Key

## "Good Evening, My Fellow Citizens"

- 1. He describes it as "imprisoned."
- 2. He says he had to confirm and complete the evaluation of the evidence and make a decision on the course of action to be taken before reporting the situation to the public.
- 3. He says the missiles include medium range ballistic missiles that could carry a nuclear war head for a distance of more than 1,000 nautical miles. This would be far enough to strike Washington, D.C. the Panama Canal, Cape Canaveral, Mexico City, and any other city in the southeastern part of the United States, Central America, or in the Caribbean. He says the missiles that appeared to be coming were intermediate range ballistic missiles that could reach as far north as Hudson Bay, Canada and as far south as Lima, Peru. He also states that jet bombers were being assembled to carry nuclear weapons.
- 4. He says they are in defiance of the Rio Pact of 1947, the traditions of the United States and this hemisphere, the joint resolution of the 87th Congress, the Charter of the United Nations and his own warnings to the Soviets on September 4 and 13.
- 5. He is referring to the aggression of the Axis countries, Germany, Italy, and Japan, before the beginning of World War II. He states that aggressive conduct, if unchallenged and unchecked, leads to war.
- 6. 1. A strict quarantine of offensive military to Cuba is being initiated
  - 2. Continued and increased close surveillance of Cuba and the military buildup
  - 3. To regard any missile attack launched from Cuba as an attack from the Soviet Union and retaliatory action would be taken against the Soviet Union
  - 4. Reinforced the base at Guantanamo, evacuated dependents of personnel there, and ordered military units to be on standby alert
  - 5. An immediate meeting of the Organ of Consultation of the Organization of American States
  - 6. An emergency meeting of the Security Council of the United Nations
  - 7. Called upon Chairman Khrushchev to stop this threat to world peace and to abandon the Soviet course of world domination
- 7. He says we have watched as friends as their nationalist revolution was betrayed and Cuba came under foreign domination, turning Cuba into the first Latin American country to become a target for nuclear war. He also states that Americans have no wish to force any system on the Cuban people and that Americans look forward to the time when Cubans are free to make their own choices in government and have the other freedoms that are important to all people—to own property, to be able to speak, write and worship freely.

- 8. He says that greatest danger of all would be to do nothing.
- 9. He says Americans will never choose the path of surrender or submission. He says the ultimate goal is peace and freedom around the world.
- 10. Answers will vary

## Complete the Statement

- 1. Cristobal
- 2. quarantine
- 3. southeastern
- 4. Gromyko
- 5. air strike
- 6. Macmillan
- 7. submarines
- 8. United Nations
- 9. nuclear
- 10. U-2
- 11. negotiations
- 12 troop
- 13. United Nations
- 14. Jupiter
- 15. Soviet Union

## Who's Who

- 1. j
- 2. g
- 3. i
- 4. h
- 5. b
- 6. c
- 7. a
- 8. d
- 9. f
- 10. e

## Day by Day

- 1. 10
- 2. 3
- 3. 5
- 4. 8
- 5. 9
- 6. 7
- 7. 13
- 8. 11
- 9. 12
- 10. 1
- 11. 6
- 12. 2

## **Proclamation 3504**

#### BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

#### A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS the peace of the world and the <u>security</u> of the United States and of all American States are <u>endangered</u> by reason of the establishment by the Sino-Soviet powers of an offensive military capability in Cuba, including bases for <u>ballistic</u> missiles with a potential range covering most of North and South America;

WHEREAS by a Joint Resolution passed by the Congress of the United States and approved on October 3, 1962, it was declared that the United States is determined to prevent by whatever means may be necessary, including the use of arms, the <a href="Marxist-Leninist regime">Marxist-Leninist regime</a> in Cuba from extending, by force or the threat of force, its aggressive or <a href="Subversive">subversive</a> activities to any part of this <a href="hemisphere">hemisphere</a>, and to prevent in Cuba the creation or use of an externally supported military capability endangering the security of the United States; and

WHEREAS the Organ of <u>Consultation</u> of the American Republics meeting in Washington on October 23, 1962, recommended that the Member States, in accordance with Articles 6 and 8 of the InterAmerican Treaty of Reciprocal Assistance, take all measures, individually and collectively, including the use of <u>armed</u> force, which they may deem necessary to ensure that the Government of Cuba cannot continue to receive from the <u>Sino-Soviet</u> powers military material and related supplies which may <u>threaten</u> the peace and security of the Continent and to prevent the missiles in Cuba

with offensive capability from ever becoming an active threat to the peace and security of the Continent:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JOHN F, KENNEDY, President of the United States of America, acting under and by virtue of the authority <u>conferred</u> upon me by the Constitution and statutes of the United States, in <u>accordance</u> with the aforementioned resolutions of the United States Congress and of the Organ of Consultation of the American Republics, and to defend the security of the United States, do hereby <u>proclaim</u> that the forces under my command are ordered, beginning at 2:00 P.M. Greenwich time October 24, 1962, to <u>interdict</u>, subject to the instructions herein contained, the delivery of <u>offensive</u> weapons and associated materiel to Cuba.

For the purposes of this Proclamation, the following are declared to be prohibited materiel:

Surface-to-surface missiles; <u>bomber</u> aircraft; bombs, air-to-surface <u>rockets</u> and guided missiles; <u>warheads</u> for any of the above weapons; mechanical or electronic equipment to support or operate the above items; and any other classes of materiel hereafter designated by the Secretary of Defense for the purpose of <u>effectuating</u> this Proclamation.

To enforce this order, the Secretary of Defense shall take appropriate measures to prevent the delivery of prohibited materiel to Cuba, employing the land, sea and air forces of the United States in <u>cooperation</u> with any forces that may be made available by other American States.

The Secretary of Defense may make such <u>regulations</u> and issue such directives as he deems necessary to ensure the <u>effectiveness</u> of this order, including the designation, within a reasonable distance of Cuba, of prohibited or <u>restricted</u> zones and of prescribed routes.

Any vessel or craft which may be <u>proceeding</u> toward Cuba may be <u>intercepted</u> and may be directed to identify itself, its cargo, equipment and stores and its <u>ports</u> of call, to stop, to lie to, to submit to visit and <u>search</u>, or to proceed as directed. Any vessel or craft which fails or refuses to respond to or comply with directions shall be subject to being taken into <u>custody</u>. Any vessel or craft which it is believed is en route to Cuba and may be carrying <u>prohibited</u> materiel or may itself constitute such materiel shall, wherever possible, be directed to proceed to another <u>destination</u> of its own choice and shall be taken into custody if it fails or refuses to obey such directions. All vessels or craft taken into custody shall be sent into a port of the United States for appropriate <u>disposition</u>.

In carrying out this order, force shall not be used except in case of failure or refusal to comply with directions, or with regulations or directives of the Secretary of Defense issued hereunder, after <a href="reasonable">reasonable</a> efforts have been made to communicate them to the vessel or craft, or in case of self-defense. In any case, force shall be used only to the <a href="extent">extent</a> necessary.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the United States of America to be <u>affixed</u>.

Done in the City of Washington this twenty-third day of October in the year of our Lord, nineteen hundred and sixty-two, and of the Independence of the United States of America the one hundred and eighty-seventh.



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