the Cold War

Cuban Missile Crisis

SS5H5d
Discuss the importance of the Cuban Missile Crisis
The Cold War Heats up!

In the early 1960’s, the Cold War began to heat up! In 1962 the U.S. learned that the Soviet Union had built missile launching pads in Cuba. That was only 90 miles from Florida! The Cuban Missile Crisis had begun!
President Kennedy ordered the U.S. Navy to block any Soviet ships carry missiles from getting to Cuba. He also sent troops to Florida in case the U.S. needed to invade Cuba.
Tense Times

Things were tense! People worried that a nuclear war might start!
A sigh heard round the world!

After 13 days, the Soviet Union said they would remove the Soviet missiles in Cuba if the U.S. would agree not to invade Cuba. The U.S. government agreed, and people all over the world breathed a sigh of relief!
The Cuban Missile Crisis, October 1962

By U.S. State Department, adapted by Newsela staff
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TOP: A briefing is given to President John F. Kennedy (center) at the Cape Canaveral Missile Test Annex in Florida, September 11, 1962, at the height of the Cuban Missile Crisis. Also seen are Vice President Lyndon Johnson (second from left) and Secretary of Defense Robert McNamara (second from right). Photo: NASA. BOTTOM: Distances of major cities from Cuba from a newspaper during the crisis.

The Cuban Missile Crisis occurred in 1962 when the Soviet Union began to install nuclear missiles in Cuba. The United States refused to allow this and, after thirteen tense days and many secret negotiations, the Soviet Union agreed to remove the missiles.