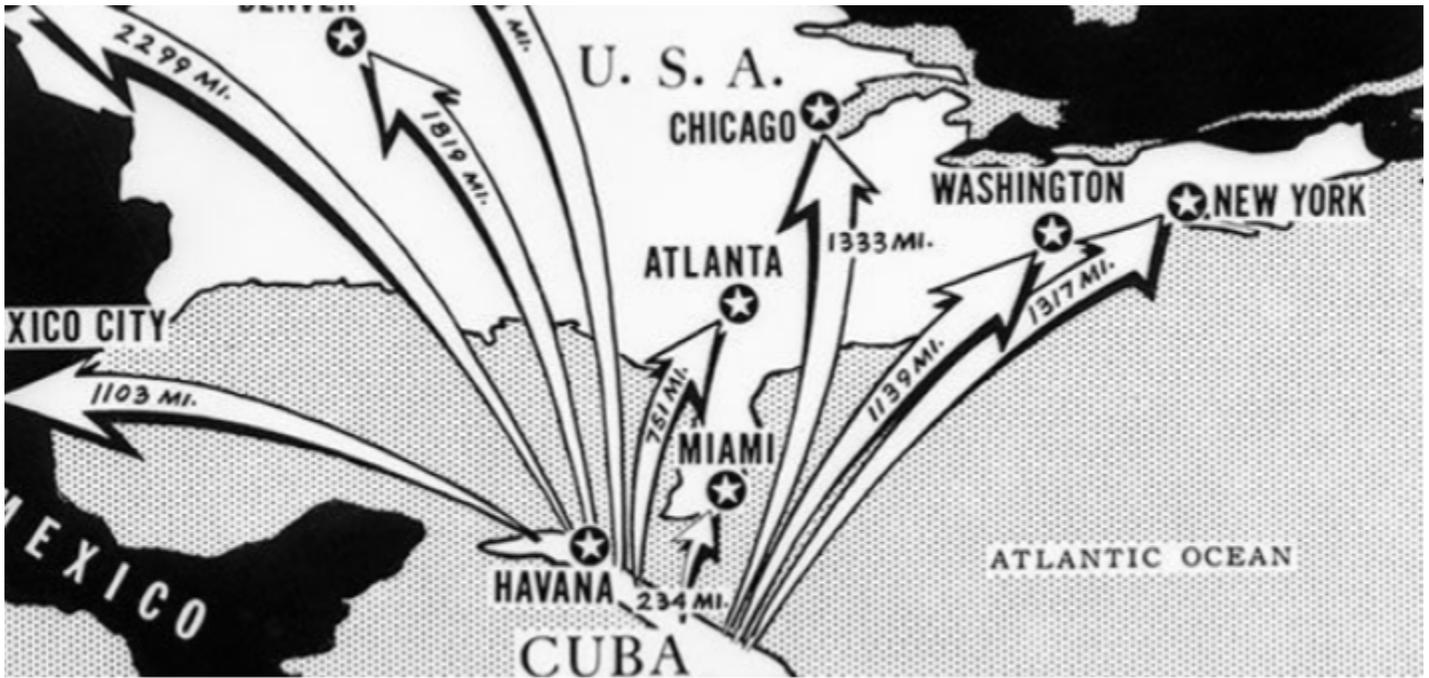




# Surf City XVIII

Huntington Beach High School



Crisis Committee

Cuban Missile Crisis

Joe Hulsy  
Grant Latour  
Vivian Bui



## Welcome Letter

Dear Delegates,

On behalf of the Huntington Beach High School Model United Nations Program, we would like to welcome you to our Surf City XVIII advanced conference!

Our annual Surf City conference upholds the principles and intended purpose of the United Nations. Delegates can expect to partake in a professional, well-run debate that simulates the very issues that those at the United Nations discuss every day. Both novel and traditional ideas will be shared, challenged, and improved.

It is our hope that all delegates will receive the opportunity to enhance their research, public speaking, and communication skills as they explore the intricacies of global concerns through various perspectives, some of which may be very different from their own. We hope their experiences here give them new insight and values that they can apply outside of the realm of Model UN for the betterment of the world community.

Please do not hesitate to approach our Secretariat or Staff Members with any questions or concerns that you may have throughout the day. We wish the best to all our participants and hope that they may share a fulfilling experience with us! Enjoy the conference.

Sincerely,

Summer Balentine  
*Secretary-General*

Jenna Ali  
*Secretary-General*

Kayla Hayashi  
*Secretary-General*

Hailey Holcomb  
*Secretary-General*



## Meet the Dias

### Grant Latour

Hello Delegates! My name is Grant Latour and this is my 4th year and final year in MUN at Huntington Beach High School. When it comes to MUN, I love everything that involves crisis. Which is why I am extremely excited to chair this committee for you. I have participated in upwards of 6 crisis committees with topics ranging from World War One to the Nepalase Civil War. Last year I was even able to participate in the National High School MUN conference in New York where I represented the Attorney General for the United Kingdom in the Irish Rebellion. My goal as your chair is to ensure that only the most thought out and interesting solutions are brought forward and that debate is thoughtful and fierce. Outside of Mun you can find me any given sunday watching my Green Bay Packers play. The rest of the week you can find me hanging out with friends downtown, surfing, or rewatching the Packer v Steelers Super Bowl from 2011. This topic means a lot to me because my family escaped communist Cuba and I have always been extremely invested in Cuba's past. I look forward to seeing you all (virtually sadly) in committee and I can't wait to see what you all come up with.

### Joseph Hulsy

Hello! My name is Joseph Hulsy, and I will be one of your chairs for this crisis committee. As a senior at Huntington Beach High School, this is my 4th year in our school's Model United Nations program. Last year, as a junior, I got to travel to New York City to participate in a crisis committee at the National High School MUN Conference, where I was able to give a speech to the 3,000 delegates in attendance. As a chair, I hope to bring this level of debate to your upcoming conference. Outside of MUN, I play on our school's water polo team- though the pandemic has brought disruptions to all of our lives, my fingers are crossed that we may be able to have a season later in 2021. Beyond sports, my favorite hobbies are surfing, fishing, and golfing with my friends. Your topic, the Cuban Missile Crisis, is the closest our world has come to legitimately destroying ourselves in a nuclear war. Your task as delegates is to navigate this tenuous period of history and to hopefully bring a level of peace to the Cold War (and not the Call of Duty one by the way!).

### Vivian Bui

Hey! My name is Vivian Bui, and I will be one of your chairs for this committee! I am a junior at Huntington Beach High School, so this is my third year in MUN. I love all things related to music, and my favorite artists are Frank Ocean and Tyler the Creator. However, I am currently listening to "Coconut Mall (10 Hours)" from the Mario Kart Wii Soundtrack on loop. Additionally, I like to impersonate John F. Kennedy on Twitter, so our committee is certainly one that I am looking forward to. MUN has not only helped me improve my public speaking skills but also given me a new perspective on world events, both current and historical. The Cuban Missile Crisis is one of the most interesting topics I have ever come across, and I cannot wait for what storylines we come up with together. As JFK probably once said, "Good luck delegates!"

**All Papers are due on January 2, 2020 by 11:59pm to**  
**[surfcity.historicsc@gmail.com](mailto:surfcity.historicsc@gmail.com)**



## TOPIC: Cuban Missile Crisis

### BACKGROUND

The Cuban Missile Crisis was the product of decades of rising international tension due to the Cold War, the series of proxy conflicts and arms races that took place between the world superpowers of the United States and the Soviet Union between the 1940s and 1990s. The conflict began out of the ashes of World War II, where the two powers were forced to cooperate against their mutual enemy of Nazi Germany. Even before the war, the relationship between the United States and the Soviet Union was tense: the US' support of the White Army- the anti-Bolshevik and pro-Tsardom faction during the Russian Civil War- and the Palmer raids of the first Red Scare in the 1920s had tarnished relations between the two countries, fueled by fear of a communist uprising similarly occurring inside the United States and distrust of Joseph Stalin's tyrannical government<sup>1</sup>. Similarly, the Soviets resented the US' refusal to accept the USSR on the international stage and their late admission into World War II. Despite the lack of trust between the two nations, their shared victory would have not likely occurred without their alliance. The Lend-Lease program, which supplied the Soviets with American food and industrial aid, was essential to the USSR's fight against the Nazi invasion of Eastern Europe, and without the Soviet comeback, it's unlikely the US and UK would have had the combined military might to beat Germany<sup>2</sup>.

However, as the war came to a close after Germany's surrender in May 1945, distrust between the allies was rekindled as Western powers worried that the Soviet's push back into Nazi Germany was less a liberation of Eastern Europe, but more an occupation. At the Yalta conference, Churchill, Stalin, and Roosevelt, the respective leaders of the UK, USSR, and US, met to discuss the postwar division of Germany and the state of the world- despite the USSR's choice to join the United Nations, Stalin's refusal to leave Poland, Hungary, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Romania, and Bulgaria and his shaky promise of free elections that were never met, tensions once again began to rise between the West and East<sup>3</sup>. Citing the fact that these countries had twice been steamrolled by Germany in the name of invading Russia in just 30 years, they would eventually become Soviet Satellite states with puppet governments, as to become buffers between Moscow and the West. At the Potsdam Conference, the Allies had agreed on splitting up Germany, as well as Berlin, in two, with the west half of both city and country becoming the democratic, capitalist West Germany and Berlin, and the other becoming the rigidly controlled communist East Germany and Berlin<sup>4</sup>. Out of anger of the occupied zones of the US, UK, and France coalescing into West Germany, the creation of the Deutsche Mark, and the successes of the Marshall Plan helping to restore capitalist European nations pushed Stalin to close off West Berlin by rail and road in 1948, hoping to starve the city into joining East Germany- however, the allied powers continued to airlift food into the city until 1949, and this resistance earmarked the first sign of conflict between the USSR and the US that would become the Cold War and would inspire the formations of the NATO and Warsaw Pact mutual defense treaties<sup>5</sup>.

The real underlying tension to the Cold War, and later would be the portmanteau of the Cuban Missile Crisis, was the result of the emergence of nuclear weapons. One of the reasons for President Truman's use of the atomic bomb against the Japanese cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki was not just to force Japanese surrender but as a demonstration of power to the Soviet Union. Conflict first emerged after the July 16th, 1945, Trinity Test- the first nuclear detonation-



as some of those found working on the Manhattan Project were found to be “atomic spies” for the USSR. Stolen nuclear plans helped the USSR start development of their nuclear weapons in 1943, eventually testing their first on August 29th, 1949<sup>6</sup>. To curb the other’s military expansion, both sides began to stockpile larger nuclear arsenals. This would reach a crux in 1952, with the US’s test of the hydrogen bomb on Bikini Atoll, and the Soviet’s test in 1953. The hydrogen bomb significantly increased the effectiveness of the nuclear weapons of each country, and increasing improvements of missile technology would stem from increasing arms races and proliferation to allies<sup>7</sup>. By the 1960s, both countries had developed medium/intermediate-range ballistic missiles (such as the Jupiter missiles of the United States and the R-14 of the USSR) submarine-launched ballistic missiles, and the early stages of intercontinental ballistic missiles that would come to dominate both power’s nuclear arsenals. Even without ICBMs, both the USSR and the US had the destructive power to destroy the entire world several times over, as the arms race began to turn from weapons production to weapons proliferation to each other’s allies<sup>8</sup>.

That was exactly the conflict of the Cuban Missile Crisis, as the USSR attempted to plant 32 R-14 IRBMs and SS-4 MRBMs on the island nation of Cuba, just about 100 miles off the coast of Florida. By the beginning of the 1960s, tensions had reached an all-time high between the Soviet Union and the United States. Proxy conflicts arising due to the policy of containment, such as the Korean War, began to emerge throughout the 1950s. After the UN formed a coalition to help defend South Korea from the Soviet and Chinese backed Kim Il-Sung, Truman was able to first enforce his policy of containment<sup>9</sup>. Another factor for rising tension was the increasing number of hydrogen bomb tests conducted by the two nations. The United States, after the first Soviet ICBM test in August 1957 and the launch of Sputnik, the first Soviet satellite, in October 1957, began to believe they lagged in missile production and possessed a “gap” in technology. This gap pushed President Eisenhower to significantly increase defense spending. The truth was revealed that the US had the advantage in 1960, with over 100 launchers compared to Russia's 10-15- notably, this was particularly shocking to president-elect John Fitzgerald Kennedy, who ran on a campaign of closing the missile gap. Instead, this increased missile production led the Soviets to believe a US first strike was imminent<sup>10</sup>. In 1961, the drastically different economic conditions of West and East Germany caused many to use the shared border West and East Berlin as a route to escape the Iron Curtain (a colloquial term for the Warsaw Pact), and by August of that year, thousands were emigrating from East Germany a day. In response, Nikita Khrushchev, Soviet Premier of the time, allowed East Germany to close the border for good, constructing the 12-foot-tall Berlin Wall around the capitalist controlled section of the city. The response from the West was clear: this would become a new divide between the US and the Soviet Union, and furthered the Cold War<sup>11</sup>.

The main instigating force behind the Cuban Missile Crisis was quite ostensibly, the communist revolution of Cuba. Since the Spanish-American War and the Cuban War for Independence, relations between the island nation and its powerful neighbor had been strained, at best. From independence in 1898, the US had extended significant economic and political ties to Cuba, at times making the country more territory than a sovereign nation in the eyes of America. Fulgencio Batista, a former military commander and dictator of Cuba from 1933 to 1944, once again took control of Cuba in a coup in 1952<sup>12</sup>. Fidel Castro, a popular, young lawyer who tried to run for office in the Cuban Congress but whose elections were canceled by Batista, organized a movement to unseat the dictator from power. Under the name of the 26th of July (1953) Movement and allied with the Communist Party of Cuba, Castro worked with other radical South



American leaders, such as Che Guevara, to organize a revolution against Batista, formed mainly of students and poor workers from Havana. Throughout the war, Castro's increasingly anti-American rhetoric led the US to back Batista despite his numerous human rights violations, and at his removal on December 31st, 1958, Fidel rose to power<sup>13</sup>. He immediately nationalized all American businesses and property in Cuba, leading to the Eisenhower Administration severing all diplomatic ties with the country, enforcing an embargo on Castro's government, and allocating \$13 million to the CIA to "deal" with Castro. This embargo, enhanced by a travel ban under JFK, pushed Cuba to strengthen ties with the Soviet Union and other Latin American countries against the US<sup>14</sup>.

In 1961, the CIA organized Brigade 2506, a military unit supported by the Cuban Democratic Revolutionary Front and made up of Cuban exiles, U.S military personal, and anti-communist counter-revolutionaries, to make a 1,400 personal landing in Cuba to overthrow Castro. Initially, this attack was supposed to be supported by United States air and naval backing, but JFK chose to withdraw this assistance. On April 17, the Brigade landed on the Bay of Pigs, but in three days the force was overrun by the Cuban Revolutionary Armed Forces. The CIA's failure at the Bay of Pigs forever soured public relations between Cuba and the US and forced the Cubans into a stronger alliance with the Soviets<sup>15</sup>.

Out of fear of their new ally being invaded against, and in response to the 1958 and 1959 installation of 13 American Jupiter IRBM sites in Italy and 15 in Turkey through NATO (claimed to be for defense, but had forward striking capabilities against the USSR), Khrushchev ordered Operation Anadyr in 1962 to begin arming Cuba R-14 IRBMs, R-12 MRBMs, and FKR-1 tactical nuclear weapons on 86 transport ships. These missiles, once installed, would initially have the ability to strike Washington DC, and once fully operational would have the ability to strike almost all of the continental United States<sup>16</sup>. Khrushchev tried his best to keep the missile installation a secret, but it wasn't long before the United States caught on. After first witnessing surface-to-air missiles on September 4th, and a series of espionage reports pointing towards Operation Anadyr, the CIA ordered a U2 spy plane to conduct a flyover on October 14th and formally photographed the missile sites, and the Cuban Missile Crisis had begun<sup>17</sup>.

On October 16th, the CIA informed the State Department and President Kennedy of the situation in Cuba. At its outset, JFK summoned the 9 members of the National Security Council-including the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Secretary of Defense Robert Macnamara, Vice President Lyndon B. Johnson, and Attorney General Robert Kennedy- and 5 other experts to convene as the Executive Committee of the National Security Council, or EXCOMM<sup>18</sup>. That same day, Robert Kennedy met with Soviet Ambassador Anatoly Dobrynin, where the official refused to admit the legitimacy of any missiles in Cuba. On October 18, Soviet Minister of Foreign Affairs Andrei Gromyko once again refused the existence of the missiles to Kennedy, despite U2 plans showing 4 operational sites at that time. Until October 22, EXCOMM debated over the United States' operational plans. The first of these was to simply do nothing, being that the missile advantage of the United States might not affect the political advantage of the country over Cuba, however, Kennedy promised over his campaign that he would take action if Castro had "offensive weapons" so his hand was forced. The second of these was to use diplomacy or try to force Castro to back down, but both of these were presuming that Cuba and the USSR weren't preparing for a nuclear first strike<sup>19</sup>. The third option was between OPLAN 312, an airstrike and naval attack against missile sites, and OPLAN 316, which featured a total American military invasion of Cuba following the airstrike of OPLAN 312. The fourth and chosen operation plan



was a “blockade” of Cuba. To avoid the term blockade, an act of war in the eyes of the public, JFK referred to it as a quarantine by order of the Rio Treaty of the Organization of American States. This meant he could only stop ships for inspection and turn away any with found nuclear weapons, but not cut off all ships to the island.

At 3 P.M, EDT, on October 22, Kennedy gave his famous “speech to the nation” to address both national and international buzz around the conflict and raising fears of a nuclear war, where he discovered of the missiles, the United State’s quarantine response, and moved the Defcon military readiness level 3. He famously claimed in the speech that any attack against the United States by Cuba would be considered an attack by the Soviet Union on the United States. On October 24, Khrushchev similarly addressed his nation over radio, calling the quarantine an act of piracy, being that the quarantine was in international waters. Despite his call to ignore the quarantine, many ships turned back toward Russia on October 24, 25, and 26 at the first sightings of the U.S. Navy, with the first ship boarding taken on October 25<sup>20</sup>. At the same time, Castro was reeling: believing a US invasion was imminent due to the continuous flyovers of U2 spy planes and F8 fighter jets on reconnaissance missions, he wanted the Soviet Union to launch a first strike. After the UN Security Council’s emergency meeting on October 25, where the US ambassador publicly confronted the Soviet ambassador, who still refused any existence of the missiles, and the response of Pope John XXIII, the United States moved to Defcon 2, one step below nuclear readiness<sup>21</sup>. This meant complete mobilization of troops as Kennedy believed a US invasion was the only solution to Khrushchev’s lack of response, as well as the Air Force’s strategic fleet of B-52 bombers being armed with nuclear bombs.

However, on October 26, secret negotiations began to find a diplomatic solution to the conflict. In the morning of October 26, ABC correspondent John Scali met with a Soviet agent, who claimed Russia and the Politburo would agree to remove the missiles if the United States agreed to never invade Cuba again<sup>22</sup>. That night, EXCOMM received a letter written presumably by Khrushchev himself, affirming this statement. The letter, being very long and emotional, took multiple hours to transmit and translate. Though hope for diplomacy was high, this sentiment would be squashed by morning. On October 27th- black Saturday as it would come to be called- saw another Khrushchev communique indicating a new negotiation, that the Cuban missiles would be removed if the Jupiter missiles from Turkey were also removed<sup>23</sup>. However, the stronger tone and aggression of the letter led some in EXCOMM to question its legitimacy. On the same date, a U2 spy plane flown by Major Rudolf Anderson Jr. was shot down over Cuba under the orders of Castro, raising tensions for those calling on both sides for war, but made Kennedy and Khrushchev realize the conflict was spiraling out of control. Similarly, another scare would occur that day when the US Navy dropped practice depth charges on the B-59, Soviet diesel submarine near Cuba, to force it to surface. Being underwater and out of radio range, the submarine had no way to ask for orders from Moscow and believed that the war had begun. On the submarine, 3 officers had to approve its use of their nuclear-armed torpedoes, and only one, flotilla commander Vasili Arkhipov, refused its usage. It’s safe to say that Arkhipov saved the world that day, as undoubtedly the use of the torpedo would have sparked an international thermonuclear response<sup>24</sup>.

Despite the risk, EXCOMM chose to publicly ignore the second Khrushchev message and accept the first, as Kennedy returned a communique agreeing to never invade Cuba if all offensive weaponry, from missiles to bombers, were removed from Cuba under UN supervision. Secretly on the night of October 27th, Bobby Kennedy met with Soviet Ambassador to the



United States Anatoly Dobrynin and told him to pass along the message to Khrushchev that the Jupiter missiles would be dismantled soon in Turkey, and that the deal was off if he leaked this information to the press<sup>25</sup>. The following day, October 28th, Nikita Khrushchev announced that the Soviet missiles would be dismantled and removed from Cuba, ending the Crisis. The quarantine was officially ended after the final Soviet IL-28 light bomber was removed from Cuba on November 20, 1962, and the final Jupiter missile was dismantled by April 1963<sup>26</sup>.

The Cuban Missile Crisis had several large effects on the world's socio-political stage. The most notable change in the relationship between the US and USSR. Being that lack of proper communication was one of the main reasons peace was not found for 13 days, the Washington-Moscow hotline was developed so the two leaders would be able to negotiate and resolve conflict themselves. Despite this increased cooperation, the Cold War would continue. The development of ICBMs and the policy of MAD, or mutually assured destruction, would render the political advantage of having missiles in either Cuba or Turkey obsolete<sup>27</sup>. Instead, the world would always be under the pressure of full nuclear conflict erupting between the US and USSR. The Crisis also affected the leadership of the two countries. Nikita Khrushchev would be despised in 1963 by Lenord Brezhnev, the basis being the "weakness" he showed in dealing with the US and submitting to their demands<sup>28</sup>. Also in 1963, JFK would be assassinated in Dallas, Texas. However, tensions would never rise again to the level of the Cuban Missile Crisis, and the conflict remains the closest our world has come to legitimately destroying ourselves. The nuclear fears stemmed by the conflict caused both powers to reconsider the nuclear arms race and tests being conducted, setting up the period of detente which would occur in the 1970s to reduce tensions<sup>29</sup>. Though EXCOMM and the Politburo were able to find a diplomatic solution in our timeline, your job as delegates will be to consider the many facets of issues which caused and resolved the Cuban Missile Crisis, and hopefully find a similar peace.



## Portfolio Powers and Crisis Introduction



President John F. Kennedy

President Kennedy was elected the 35th President of the United States in 1960 as a Democrat and has held true to the policy of containment brought forward by past US Presidents. Kennedy is extremely charismatic, and is blessed with a congress dominated by his party. He enjoys high popularity with both the media and people. He has the abilities that the President would have, however to keep the committee balanced the President will be restricted from any extreme actions. These actions are to be considered at the chair's discretion.



Vice President Lyndon B. Johnson

The Vice President was only selected by the President because Johnson's nomination would win over the Southern Democrats as his home state was Texas. Johnson does not have the support of the mainstream Democrats and has a mediocre relationship with the President. However, he does hold a heavy sway over the senate as he was the former senate majority leader and because of his status of Vice President he is also President of the Senate



Secretary of State David (Dean) Rusk

Dean Rusk is the Secretary of State for the United States and is known widely as a very diplomatic man, but harsh when push comes to shove. Rusk initially did not want to run the State Department because he was paid more at his prior job, Rusk only accepted it out of a sense of patriotism. He is extremely anti-communist. He holds sway with many of the richest men in the country and holds pride for the south as he has grandparents who fought for the confederates.



Secretary of Treasury Clarence Douglas Dillon

Clarence Douglas Dillon was a strange choice to be Secretary of the Treasury, not because of his skill but because he is a Republican. He served and supported Dwight D. Eisenhower vigorously and is extremely close with the Rockefeller family. He is extremely critical of government involvement with civilians and he has shown great interest in combating communism with tariffs. He has a good relationship with the Republican minority and is the perfect person for cross party negotiations.



Secretary of Defense Robert McNamara

Robert McNamara is widely known as a war hawk. He is extremely anti-communist and believes that any action or threat that comes from communism should be dealt with harsh response. His aggressive anti-communist sentiment makes him a volatile force. He is however likely to be reeled in by the moderates around him as he does not enjoy major support from his colleagues. He has great connections with the generals.



Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy

Brother of the President, Robert Kennedy is a figure of social justice. He is best known for his fight against the mafia and fight against segregation. He enjoys the same public support as his brother, but is often overshadowed by his brother in public affairs. Robert Kennedy is also the President's secret backdoor to Soviet Russia as Robert Kennedy has connections with the Soviets and is often seen as a backroom dealer who supports covert operations. He is also extremely war-hawkish especially when it came to the Bay of Pigs invasion.



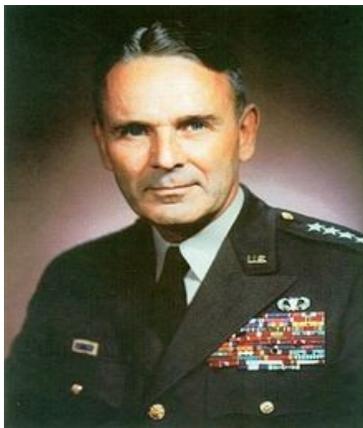
National Security Advisor McGeorge Bundy

A former intelligence officer, Bundy was appointed National Security Advisor because Kennedy knew it would look good to have a Republican in the position. Bundy is extremely anti-communist, but his head is currently in the developing problem in Vietnam. He enjoys a close relationship with generals but a negative relationship with everyday soldiers and veterans. Many in Washington dislike him because of his youth.



Director of the CIA John A. McCone

McCone was only recently put in as Director of the CIA because his predecessor was fired after the disastrous Bay of Pigs invasion. He is heavily focused on Cuba and believes that the Soviets will make a move on Cuba, as the Island nation is of extreme strategic importance. McCone holds a mediocre relationship with the President but is close with Robert Kennedy. He enjoys the powers of CIA director.



Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Maxwell D. Taylor

Like many here Taylor is a World War Two veteran, however he served with quite distinction and dedication as the commander of the 101st Airborne Division known as the “Screaming Eagles.” Taylor is a man of sound military mind and has shown intense study of the disaster that was the Bay of Pigs invasion. He is well loved by the entire military and enjoys a strong personal relationship with both Kennedys.



Under Secretary of State George Ball

George Ball is a man of diplomacy and peace. He believes that any idea of first strike or aggression is ridiculous and dangerous to humanity. He is extremely smart and is often ridiculed for his predictions which frequently turn out true. He enjoys extreme levels of support from the people and has connections with leaders around the world who all view him as a level headed man.



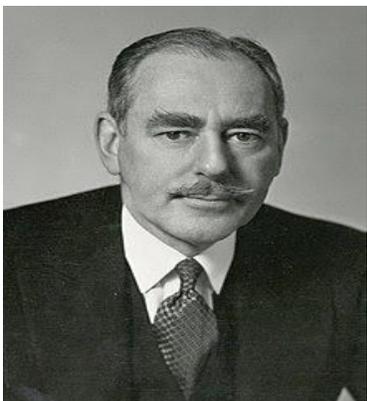
Ambassador to the Soviet Union Llewellyn Thompson

He has a very highly decorated diplomatic background which focused on Europe and the Soviet Union. While in Moscow he developed a unique relationship with Nikita Khrushchev and became the first American to give an address on Soviet Television. He has ties with Khrushchev himself but the rest of the Soviet Politburo doesn't like him. Congress supports him and he wants to take any diplomatic and peaceful approach available.



Deputy Secretary of Defense Roswell Gilpatric

Roswell Gilpatric was a former corporate attorney. He was selected to be Deputy Secretary of Defense to offset the Pentagon nature of McNamara and provide a Washington insight to the Defense Department. Roswell and McNamara time in the department has grown their relationship to be an extremely close dual-threat relationship of soldier and politician. He has close ties with many in congress and is considered the reasonable person to talk to when it comes to the Defense Department.



Ambassador to France Dean Acheson

Dean Acheson is a more minor figure however he carries great influence. A former secretary of state, Acheson is beloved by all of congress. He is loved by the people and seen as a wise man of international diplomacy. Acheson was dispatched to France to garner support for US actions from the French and by extension, Europe. He holds close ties with all ambassadors and leaders of Europe, but knows little and has little connection with communist countries.



Chief CIA Analyst Ray S. Cline

Cline is the Chief CIA analyst to the White House and his primary job is to research and react to new incoming intelligence. He is loved by many in the CIA and has the power to withdraw intel and interpret it. However, he is not well liked by Robert Kennedy because of Cline's frequent delay of intelligence. He is relatively neutral when it comes to the Soviets but always prefers peace to aggression, unless provoked first.



Ambassador to the United Nations Adlai Stevenson

Adlai Stevenson is widely regarded as one of the founding fathers of the United Nations and an extremely diplomatic man. He was the Democratic nominee for the 1952 and 1956 elections. Stevenson wants to seek a diplomatic resolution to the conflict and strongly believes in de-escalating the Cold War. He is extremely popular with the people and holds extremely close ties to the United Nations.



## Committee Start Date: October 16, 1962

You are a member of the Executive Committee which has been put together to gather and respond to information that has recently been obtained regarding the small island nation of Cuba. The committee will have to navigate and respond to various crises, while also keeping in mind international opinion and public opinion, as the world will have its eyes on the actions of the Committee.

Closer to the committee a document outlining the process and rules of a crisis committee will be sent out for those unaware of how a crisis committee works and operates.

### **CASE STUDY: American Missiles in Turkey**

One of the reasons why the Soviet Union's Nikita Khrushchev agreed to place nuclear missiles on Cuba was the presence of American missiles in Turkey. Although the Soviet Union and the United States of America fought alongside each other as part of the Allied Powers of World War II, tensions between the two countries continued to rise after the war, as the United States grew uneasy of the presence of Soviet communism under Joseph Stalin and the Soviet Union wished to eliminate the German threats to eastern Europe by controlling the region and spreading communist ideology.<sup>30</sup> As a result, the Truman administration of the United States developed the policy of containment, which was a strategy meant to prevent communism abroad following the Soviet Union's attempts to enlarge its communist sphere in Eastern European and Asian countries.<sup>31</sup> The United States became an interventionist country after World War II, carrying out interventionist decisions related to the containment policy, such as contributing to the establishment of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, or commonly known as NATO.<sup>32</sup> These geopolitical tensions represented the beginnings of the Cold War between the Soviet Union and the United States. In 1950, NSC-68, a report from the National Security Council called for an increase in defense spending and reiterated President Truman's calls for military force to contain communist expansion, if necessary. Additionally, an arms race developed between the two world powers where the United States and the Soviet Union frequently participated in atomic and hydrogen bomb testing.

This post-World War II international political landscape was of utmost concern to President Dwight D. Eisenhower of the United States of America. The late 1940s and early 1950s represented a period of international vulnerability in the eyes of the Eisenhower administration. In fact, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization was viewed as a collective of weaker nations recovering from World War II which were susceptible to communist agenda and attack.<sup>33</sup> To the Eisenhower administration, nuclearization and the accumulation of weapons was the ideal approach to combating a potential takeover by the communist regime of Joseph Stalin's Soviet Union. Thus, President Eisenhower carried out a security policy of granting nuclear



weapons to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization countries in 1953. Nuclear weapons deployed in European nations close to Soviet borders would generate the looming presence and threat of potential war against the Soviet Union, allow for more withdrawal of American ground forces from Europe, and provide European nations their own methods of defense against the Soviets. The Soviet Union's successful launch of Sputnik, the first artificial unmanned Earth satellite in space, also served as a reason for the United States to close the fear of a confidence and missile gap that the Soviets were leading the United States and the rest of the world in nuclear equipment.<sup>34</sup> The United States would eventually deploy 105 intermediate-range ballistic missiles to Britain, Italy, and Turkey in the late 1950s.<sup>35</sup>

The first medium-range missile created by the United States was the SM-78 Jupiter, and it was intended to replace the PGM-11 Redstone missile, which had a shorter range. The Jupiter's limited reach made it ideal to deploy to European countries that could potentially hit the Soviet Union as a form of deterrence.<sup>36</sup> The Jupiter entered development in 1954, initially facing criticism because it was seen as a more strategic weapon than a weapon for the battlefield. It was later tested in 1957 and the Jupiter missiles started operation in 1959. Despite the fact that the Jupiter was seen as revolutionary, having an inertial navigation system that was mostly accurate, it was largely unable to destroy hardened targets. This type of missile would be able to hit cities, staging areas, and troop transit points.

President Eisenhower initially offered nuclear missiles to France in April of 1958, but French President Charles de Gaulle would reject the deployment of any Jupiter squadrons. This made way for the consideration of Italy and Turkey in the United States' scheme. In 1958 and 1959, Jupiter missiles were deployed to Italy and Turkey, with thirty to Italy and fifteen to Turkey.<sup>37</sup> The placement of missiles in Turkey allowed for the targeting of major Russian cities, such as Moscow, due to Turkey's close proximity to the Soviet Union. In October of 1959, Turkey and the United States signed an agreement to deploy the third Jupiter squadron of missiles.<sup>38</sup> The agreement contained a few conditions: the missiles were owned by the United States, the missiles could be fired with approval from both governments, and their base would be operated by American and Turkish forces. Installation of the missiles occurred without open acknowledgement, with the Soviet's Khrushchev visiting the United States and the Turkish Parliament being out of session. The squadron of fifteen missiles was present in sites surrounding Izmir, Turkey. The missile site was finished with installation in 1961, and the United States Air Force would be in charge of operating the missiles. The Izmir Air Station would serve as the headquarters of the nuclear operations in Turkey, which became operational in July of 1962, and there were five sites and a training pad for the missiles.

The process of installation for the missiles took three years due to the Joint Congressional Committee on Atomic Energy's recommendation in February 1961 that the missiles should not be constructed in Turkey and the Polaris nuclear submarine would serve as a better alternative



that would help protect the entirety of the NATO European nations.<sup>39</sup> This concern was made due to fears regarding the inconsistencies of the Jupiter missiles, including that they were outdated and ineffective. President John F. Kennedy even expressed hesitation with the presence of nuclear missiles in Turkey. In April 1961, the National Security Council formed a committee after the request for a briefing on the missiles was made by President Kennedy. In the briefing, Kennedy questioned if the removal of the intermediate-range ballistic missiles could be possible with the approval of the Turkish government, and he was informed by Ambassador George McGee of the unlikelihood of that happening. When suggested to Turkish Foreign Minister Sarper about the removal of the missiles, Sarper cited that the missiles provided security to the country of Turkey and could only be removed if replaced by another weapon. The Polaris submarine was suggested as a potential replacement, and Sarper suggested to American Secretary of State Dean Rusk in May 1961 that the Polaris would have to be stationed in the Medierranean Sea. However, there were no extra Polaris submarines left, and the United States was not able to grant Sarper's wish, which led to the continuation of the missile site-building.

The White House would determine in early 1962 that the missiles in Turkey were largely ineffective and warranted withdrawal from the country. August 23, 1962 was when the National Security Council sent a Memorandum of Action to consider the methods of removal of the missiles from Turkey, and President Kennedy pressed Under Secretary of State George Ball to further investigate the ordeal. However, the situation was no longer pursued to preserve relations with Turkey and the United States because of the missiles' importance to the Turkish government. From then on, the missile crisis in Cuba began to unfold.

## QUESTIONS

1. What was your individual member's powers on EXCOMM and who did they represent? What operational plan did they endorse taking against the Cubans?
2. What was the operational readiness of the missiles throughout the crisis?
3. How might communication issues between Moscow and Washington be resolved?
4. What was Fidel Castro's reaction to the crisis? How did the Bay of Pigs invasion affect his stance?
5. How might you be able to use Fidel Castro and Nikita Khrushchev's relationship to your advantage?
6. Who in ExComm might agree with your stance?
7. How do the European and foreign powers come in? And how would they react to your solutions?
8. How should the United States utilize the presence of American missiles in NATO countries in this crisis?
9. How will you be able to approach this crisis without initiating any danger or hostility towards the American people?

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