

# 17.4

## The Cold War Divides the World

### Main Idea

The superpowers supported opposing sides in Latin American and Middle Eastern conflicts.

### Why it Matters Now

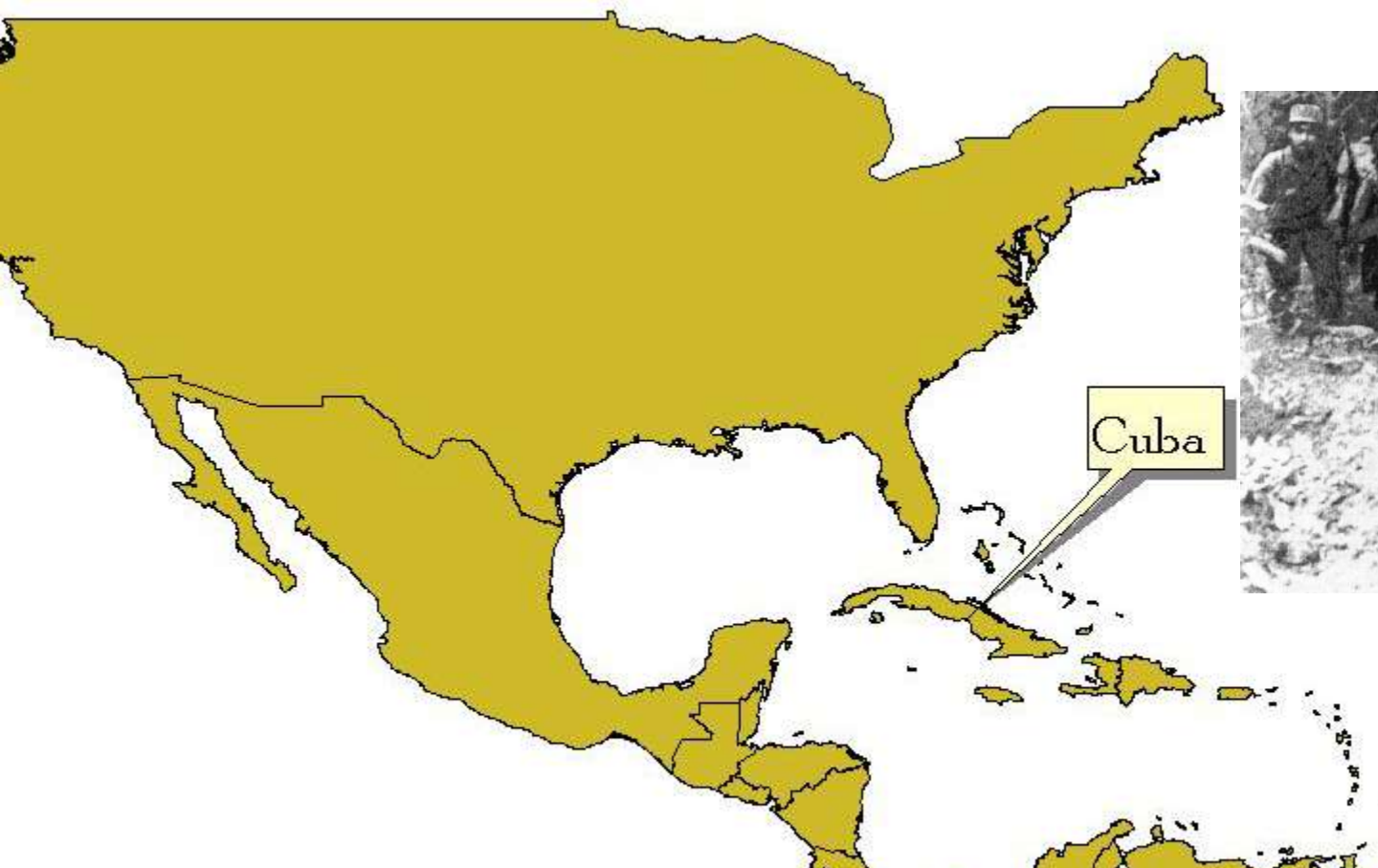
Many of these areas today are troubled by political, economic, and military conflict and crisis.



- Nikita Khrushchev became leader of USSR after Stalin's death.
- 1956: Denounced the crimes of Stalin
  - set out to reform USSR
  - advocated "peaceful coexistence"
- 1956 UN speech: Announced that "we (USSR) will bury you (U.S.)"

- U.S., USSR, & China worked to gain influence in Third World countries
  - Developing nations, economically poor & unstable

**Discuss  
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FIDEL CASTRO

• Jan. 1, 1959: Revolution in Cuba

- overthrew the gov

• Jan. 6: Fidel Castro became Premier

- Will later be communist dictator
- Many Cubans flee to U.S.

• Castro declares himself a Communist

• allies with the USSR

• Feb. 6, 1960: Trade agreement with USSR

• USSR agreed to buy 5 million tons of sugar over a 5-year period

• USSR would send supplies to Cuba

• crude oil, petroleum

• wheat, iron, fertilizers

• machinery

• USSR provided Cuba with \$100 million credit at 2.5 percent interest



CASTRO AND KHRUSHCHEV



- May 1960: U-2 incident

- U.S. E-2 reconnaissance plane was shot down over the USSR

- Pilot Gary Powers captured & put on trial

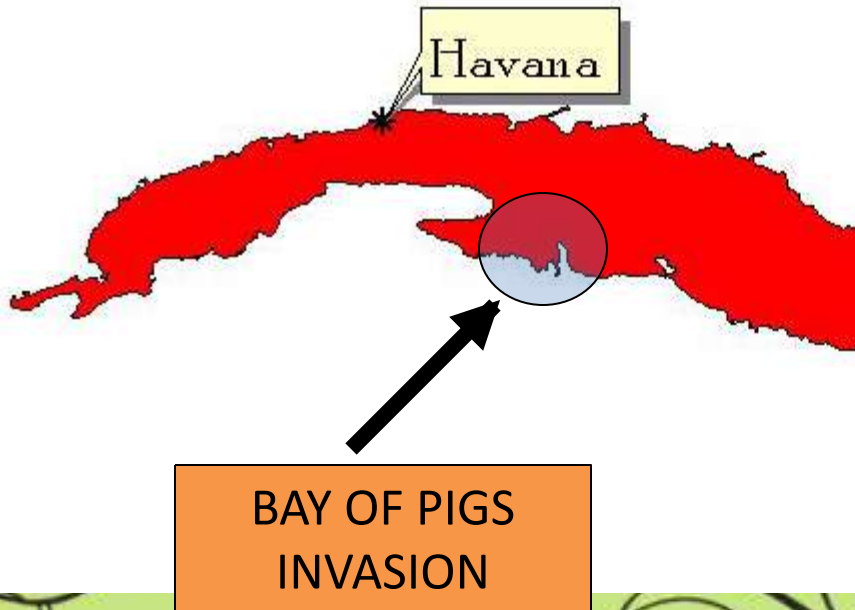
- Khrushchev used this incident to cancel a planned East-West summit conference in Paris



- 1961: John F. Kennedy becomes President of the U.S.
- Inherits planned invasion of Cuba from Eisenhower



CUBAN EXILES INVADE CUBA  
WITH THE HELP OF THE U.S., APRIL 1961



- 1960 - All U.S. businesses in Cuba are nationalized

  - taken over by the Cuban gov

  - U.S. breaks off diplomatic relations with Cuba and sees Castro as an enemy

- March 1960: Eisenhower authorized CIA plan to overthrow Castro

  - used Cuban exiles living in U.S.

  - Invasion failed

    - All of Cuban exile force killed or captured by Castro's army



- Tensions rise during 1961
  - Aug. 13<sup>th</sup> East Germany begins preparing for the construction of the Berlin Wall
  - Sept. 1: USSR resumes testing of nuclear weapons
- June 1961: Vienna Summit
  - Khrushchev threatens JFK with an ultimatum on Berlin
  - JFK responds with a U.S. military build-up and civil defense program
- June 1963: JFK went to Berlin
  - “Ich Bin Ein Berliner” ( I Am A Berliner) Speech
  - Showed U.S. determination to keep Berlin free



# Cuban Missile Crisis (1962)

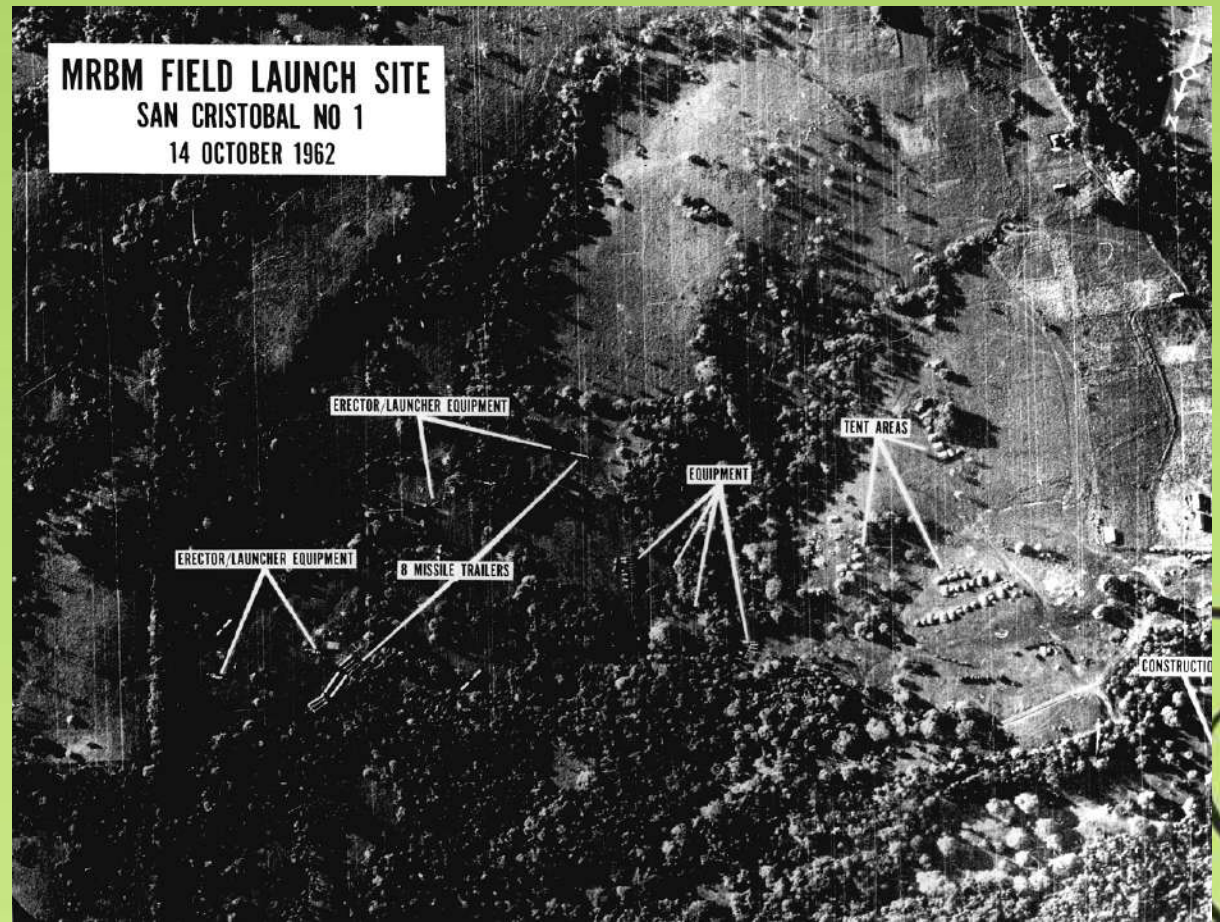
We went eyeball-to-eyeball with the Russians, and the other man blinked!



<http://www.history.com/topics/cold-war/videos#cuban-missile-crisis>

- U.S. intelligence received reports of Soviet missiles in Cuba
- August 29, 1962: U-2 flight confirmed the presence of surface to air missile batteries in Cuba
  - designed to shoot down enemy aircraft

Aerial photographs from U.S. spy planes left no doubt that the Soviets were installing nuclear missiles in Cuba aimed at the U.S.



EACH ONE OF THE RUSSIAN MISSILES IN CUBA HAD THE EXPLOSIVE POWER OF 50 HIROSHIMA TYPE ATOMIC BOMBS

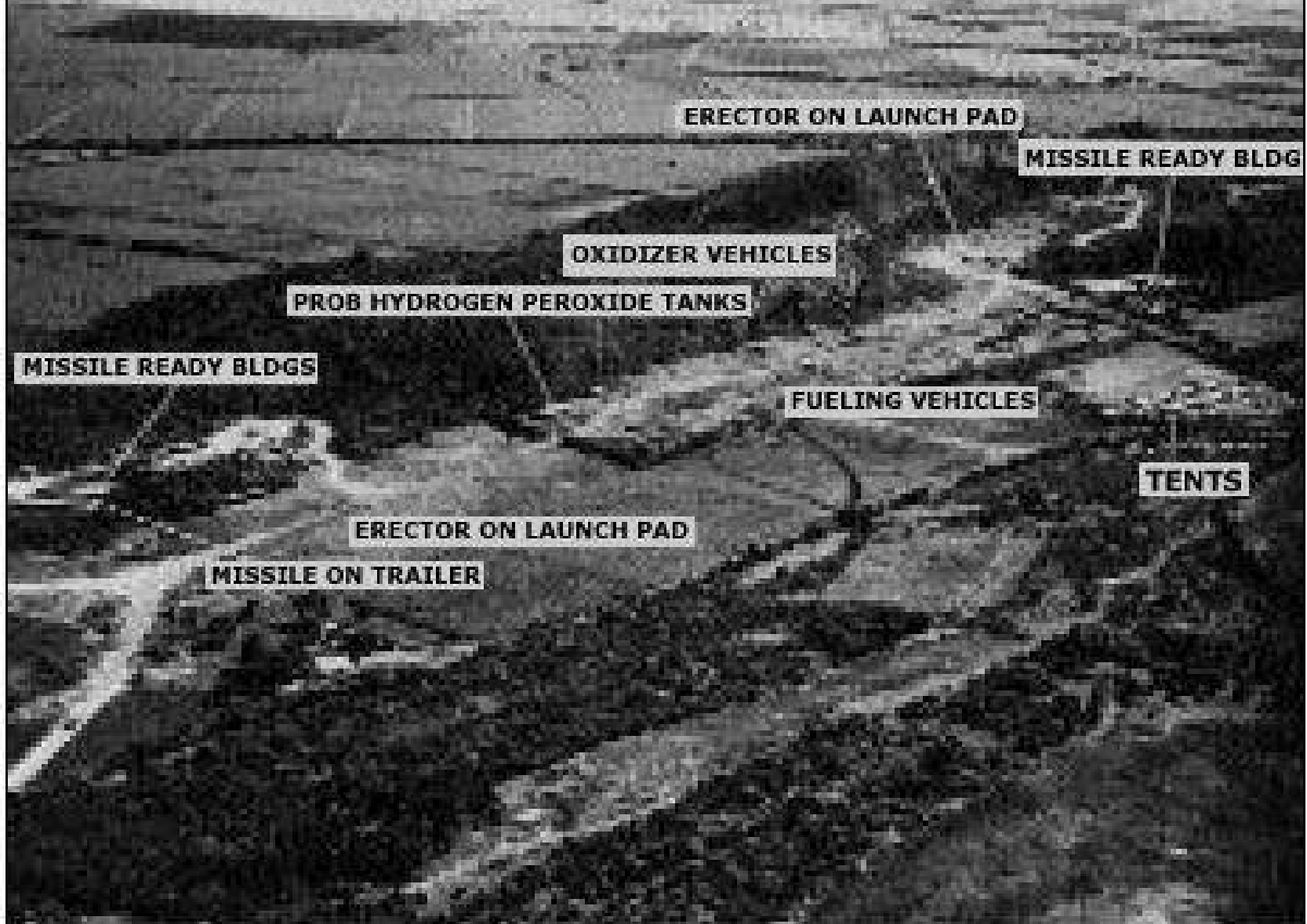


Figure 3. U-2 photograph providing the first evidence of medium-range ballistic missile deployment in Cuba.



- Declassified 1962 map showing the distances nuclear armed missiles would go if fired from Cuba
- Almost all major U.S. population centers were within range
- Maps like this convinced JFK that the Soviet missiles must be removed from Cuba

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~~TOP SECRET~~

NO FOREIGN DISSEM

DECLASSIFIED

E.O. 11652, SEC. 2(B), 5(2), 5(1) AND 11

CIA Ltr. NLK-77-1035

BY my/m NARS DATE 5-23-78

• JFK had two choices of how to deal with Cuba

- 1) Order airstrikes on the missile sites in Cuba
  - Risked an all out nuclear war with the USSR
- 2) Order a naval blockade and stop Soviet ships from bringing in missiles & equipment
  - Soviet reaction was unknown

• He chose the naval blockade



JFK SIGNING CUBA QUARANTINE  
PROCLAMATION 10/23/1962

- Oct. 22, 1962: JFK speech to U.S.
  - planned to remove Soviet missile sites in Cuba
  - any missile attack from Cuba would trigger attack on USSR
- For next 6 days, the world faced the possibility of nuclear war
  - Soviet ships headed toward Cuba
  - U.S. Navy prepared to quarantine Cuba & prevent ships from coming within 500 miles of the island
  - In Florida, 200,000 men were being concentrated in the largest invasion force ever assembled in the U.S.



US SHIPS ENFORCNG THE QUARANTINE &  
SHADOWING A SOVIET SUBMARINE



- Oct. 27, 1962: Soviet ship Grozny crosses quarantine line
  - Stops after U.S. Navy fire
- Khrushchev gives in to U.S.
  - Removes Soviet missiles from Cuba
  - U.S. promised not to invade Cuba



Years later, Robert Kennedy (served as attorney general in his brother's administration) recalled the relief, "For a moment the world had stood still, and now it was going around again,"



Soviet information that came to light in the 1990's suggested that the CIA had underestimated the numbers of nuclear weapons and Soviet troops on the island. During the crisis, the Cubans had armed missiles in anticipation of an invasion by the U.S.

# Confrontation in the Middle East

## Oil-rich Middle East attracts U.S. & USSR attention

- Iran
  - Traditional Islamic values vs. modern Western materialism
  - Leader (Shah): Mohammed Reza Pahlavi
    - Embraced Western govts & oil companies
  - Iranians nationalists forced the shah to flee Iran
  - U.S. helps restore Pahlavi's power
    - Keep Iran from getting aid from USSR
    - Westernizes Iran

- **Ayatollah**
  - Muslim leader who opposed westernization
  - 1978: Iranians riot under Ayatollah Khomeini's direction
  - 1979: Shah flees Iran (again)
- **1979: Iran returns to an Islamic State**
  - Encouraged Muslim radicals everywhere to overthrow secular gov
    - Seize U.S. embassy in Tehran
    - Imprisoned American hostages for 444 days
  - New leader: Saddam Hussein

- Afghanistan
  - Communist
  - 1950s: Soviet influence increased
  - Late 1970s: Muslim revolt threatens communist regime
    - Mujahideen (“holy warriors”)
      - Afghan rebels
  - 1979: USSR invades
    - U.S. involvement
      - Pres. Carter considered USSR threat to oil supplies
      - supplied weapons to rebels
      - Stopped U.S. grain shipments to USSR
      - Boycotted 1980 Moscow Olympics
  - 1989: Last Soviet troops leave Afghanistan

# ASSIGNMENT

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