



Tuesday

APRIL 11, 2017

For the next 50 years, Cuba had many leaders (some elected, some dictators). The country was very wealthy, but most of the people were extremely poor.



What's a dictator?

A ruler with total power over a country, typically one who has obtained power by force

Warm-Up 4/11/2017

- Write in your agenda.
 - Which group of people was exploited (taken advantage of) in Cuba?
 - What do you think that group of people would have done to get equality?

- Cuba had no decent leadership/ government
- Cuba basically had a pure market economy because the govt. wasn't able to regulate and control
- 1933 → 200,000 sugar plantation workers led an uprising against the govt. – this group was led by Batista!
- This time period was chaos!

Discovery Education Video: "Edge of War: Castro's Revolution" → attack clip

Batista's Revolution (1940-52) 6

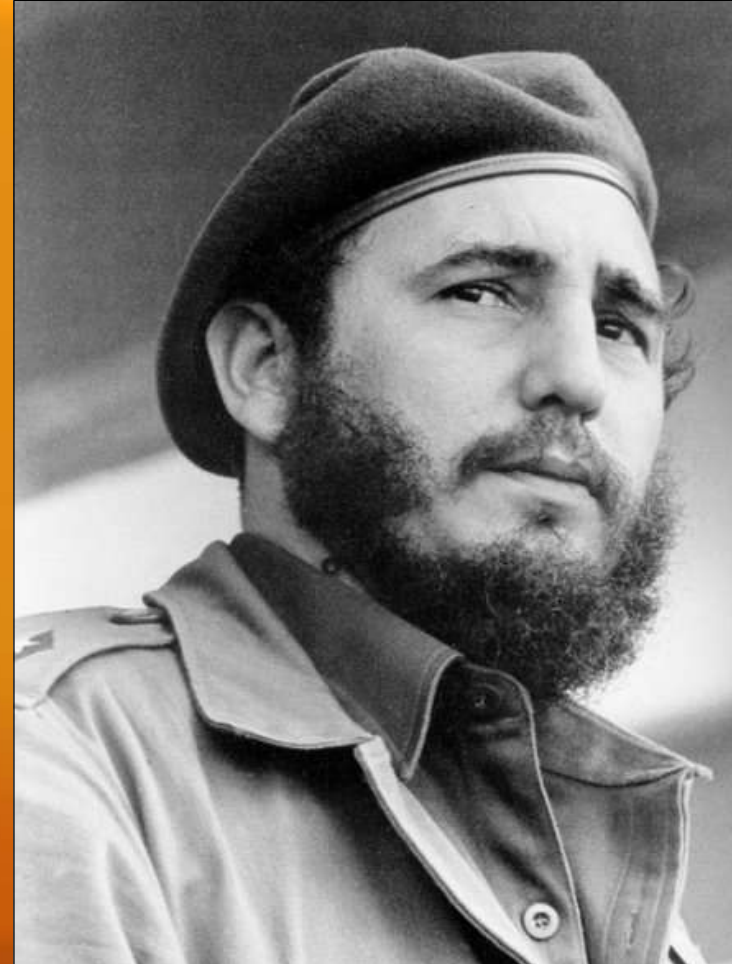
Fulgencio Batista was in and out of control since 1940, & eventually overthrew the govt. & was elected President of Cuba on March 27, 1952. (hopes to "fix" the chaos)

- He was an ally of the USA & partners with several rich American gangsters, politicians, and investors within Cuba.
- He was a dictator and did away with their personal freedoms & constitution (thus, no more democracy)
- Many Cubans did not like Batista because there were few with great wealth (sugar plantation owners) and most of population was poor
 - He cared about the wants/ needs of the rich (top 10%), & ignored the poor (majority)

Cubans still felt that they still were not free- and saw that middle class rebels just like them around the world were free... so they protested/ rioted & looked again for a better leader...

Fidel Castro

Just like in
other Latin
American
countries, a
leader emerged
to take up the
cause...



In the late 1950s, Fidel Castro led a armies of rebels and, after a failed attempt, did defeat the corrupt government (a dictator named Batista).

This is known as the Cuban Revolution.

Castro's Revolution...

July 26, 1953 -

Fidel Castro and others began a guerilla (impromptu) war against Batista's army in the mountains of Cuba...

They were unsuccessful: only the Castro Brothers and about 26 rebels survived!

The Castro brothers and about one hundred other rebels attacked the Moncada army barracks in Oriente Province. The attack was a failure, and the few rebels who were not killed were caught, tried, and sentenced to 15 years in prison.



Castro's Support Grows (1950s)⁸

The Castro brothers were put in prison.

Propaganda, TV reports, news articles, and many other medias reported the unjust sentence... so, they were released & Pardoned!

Batista's leadership had Cubans begging for Castro to come back and “save” them



Castro and Rebels enter Havana. 1959



Castro Returns...

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1959 - Castro and 9,000 guerillas march into Havana and fight the Cuban Army.

Castro overthrows Batista and becomes the leader of Cuba.

Castro promises to restore all things that Batista got rid of.

To establish a strong central (unitary) Govt. & provide for citizens needs that had been ignored, he brings communism to Cuba.



Closing

Why do you think the citizens of Cuba were happy to have a communist government when Castro first took control?