

Outline for Cuban Missile Crisis

A. Nukes and Cuba on our minds

National Security Council Mtg (July 20, 1961)

JCS projected that by 1963 US Strategic Nuclear Arsenal will be so superior to the Russians that a preemptive nuclear strike on the Soviet Union will end in a US victory in the Cold War.

Bay of Pigs, April 1961

B. Operation Northwoods

C. Cuban Missile Crisis (October 1962)

The most dangerous moment in human history

D. JFK and the American University Speech (June 1963)

Ultimate goal was abolition of nuclear weapons

E. Follow ups

- a. Nuclear test ban of weapons in outer space
- b. Hot line
- c. A rapprochement attempt with Castro
- d. End U.S. involvement in Vietnam. NSM 263—the first 1000 US troops out of Vietnam. JFK was determined to end US involvement in Vietnam by December 1965.

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