



U.S. was afraid the Soviet Union might use Cuba as a base to attack the U.S. and spread Communism into Latin America.



January 20, 1961 – John F. Kennedy became president
He wanted to help Latin
America become Democratic,
especially Cuba.

Cuba is 90 miles from Florida

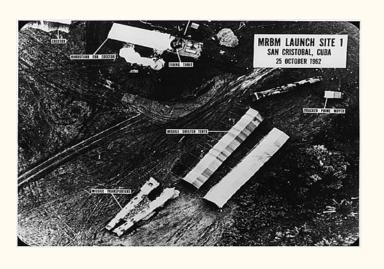




1961 – Soviet Union sending increased numbers of military personnel to Cuba

<u>Summer 1962</u> — Soviets started arming Cuba with missiles, Soviets said missiles were to protect country from future invasions





September 1962 – Kennedy warned Soviet Leader Khrushchev not to place missiles in Cuba that could attack U.S. targets

- -Khrushchev denied anything being there
- -U.S. spy planes took photos proving otherwise





October 22, 1962

Kennedy demanded Khrushchev remove missiles.

- -U.S. would attack the Soviet Union if they fired missiles anywhere in Western Hemisphere
- -Kennedy ordered the U.S. navy to surround Cuba and stop Soviet ships. (U.S. Blockade)



- The Soviets removed missiles, and the U.S. promised not to invade the island.
- •November 22, 1963 Kennedy assassinated by Lee Harvey Oswald – Lyndon Johnson takes office.
- Soviets and Cubans worried they're suspects.

