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### Chapter 24: Cuban Missile Crisis

The Cuban Missile Crisis is the closest the U.S. and U.S.S.R. came to actual war during the long years of the Cold War. The events that led up to this were Fidel Castro gaining power in Cuba while befriending an ally in U.S.S.R leader Khrushchev in endeavors to attack the U.S. Former President Kennedy planned for another full envision of Cuba during this time. Khrushchev sent out crews and soldiers in secrecy to board submarines which had missile tips attached. The ballistic misses were able to kill many on the east coast within 13 minutes.

The early options and decisions of the United States & the response of the Soviet Union were JFK having a blockage over the Atlantic all while trying to respond to Khrushchev in a negotiation where he was willing to retract troops. JFK's trusted board called the X-con were skeptical and some wanted to invade and negotiations would have to wait. Black Saturday was on October 27, 1962 and it was a day where at the slightest wrong decision a war could have broken out. An American spy pilot traveled over Cuba's airspace taking photographs of the Cuban missile site where the order was given to target his plane so that information would not be leaked back to the U.S. Bobby Kennedy made the announcement to remove the missiles while U.S Navy ships were trying to find the 4 Soviet submarines. This was a dangerous time due to the submarine ships not being able to communicate with their base while under water. Exhaustion, fainting, and not being able to function well due to the high levels of CO2 and poor ventilation system which caused the voting to begin an official attack to the U.S. Thanks to the one vote of Captain Vasily Arapov which allowed for the attack not to happen the nuclear war did not pull through.

The resolution and aftermath of the Cuban Missile Crisis was that a better communication system directly between nations was established. In that time period it took about 12 hours for JFK to receive the letter from the Soviet Union and in Moscow the radio system was used. These delays allow for poor communication and potential aggravations and mishaps. The U.S and U.S.S.R came to an agreement and all missiles were retreated, but Castro was very upset about the negotiation.