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World Civilization II

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Fidel Castro won control over Cuba and turned the entire government system to communism. Fidel Castro turned to the Soviet Union for help and protection. John F. Kennedy launched the Bay of Pigs invasion 4 months after being in power to which the invasion failed. Fidel Castro and Khrushchev started to build a relationship after the Bay of Pigs and it grew to a personal level. Khrushchev wanted to secretly ship missiles to Cuba in order for better defense in Cuba. He also wanted to create an official defense agreement after the missiles would be delivered. The USSR sent troops in the lower decks of cargo ships. The missiles were transported via submarine however there were lots of issues that the tropical waters near Cuba brought (such as relatively dangerous heat levels). The U.S. found out about a month later through their spy planes. The U.S. learned that the missiles were capable of long distances in just minutes. The missiles could potentially hit the capital of the U.S. if deployed in only 13 minutes. John F. Kennedy set a group to aid in his decision making.

Kennedy had two options. Option 1 would be to set up a naval blockade around Cuba to prevent more Soviets from arriving. Option 2 could be airstrikes that would destroy the missile sites before they were even finished. Kennedy picked option 1. Khrushchev was glad that Kennedy showed restraint and decided not to invade. In response to this Khrushchev had to decide between retreating his ships that were already halfway to Cuba or to call the American's

bluff and to continue to push ahead. The USSR decided to retreat. As the Cubans were nearing the completion, the U.S prepared for war. However one day Khrushchev wrote to Kennedy that he would be willing to negotiate

October 27th 1962 was known as black saturday where there were many events that could have resulted in a nuclear war. The day started with Castro writing to Khrushchev to strike first against America and deploy nuclear weapons. Khrushchev believed there was time for negotiation so he wrote once again to Kennedy. Khrushchev broadcasted his message to make sure that Kennedy heard it faster. Khrushchev said he would remove his missiles if the U.S removed their own missiles from Turkey. An American spy plane was shot down by missiles because it was in Cuban airspace and it could have gained knowledge that would've made it easier for the U.S to attack. Kennedy's brother drafted a letter to Khrushchev to negotiate on terms to remove the missiles. The U.S Navy found the USSR submarines were found. The U.S sent signaling depth charges on top of the submarines to make them come up to the surface. The USSR submarine captain ordered for missiles to be shot from the submarine but he needed approval from all the officers onboard. One of the officers single handedly stopped nuclear war by not approving the firing of missiles.

Khrushchev broadcasted his acceptance of the deal from the U.S the day after black Saturday. This resulted in the soviet missiles to be taken back to the Soviet Union. The blockade would end and the Missiles in Turkey would be dismantled. Castro was furious that the USSR made a deal with America without his input.