

## US History The Cold War - B

### Learning Target:

*I can examine and analyze the evolution of President Kennedy's foreign policy when dealing with the Soviets.*

### 1. The Bay of Pigs (1961)

#### Background –

##### *US Economic Interests in Cuba –*

- US business owned 3 million acres of Cuba's land
- Controlled 40% of its sugar production
- 90% of telephone and electric service
- Sold Cuba 70% of its imports
- American investments equaled 1 billion dollars

##### *The Emergence of Fidel Castro –*

- Fidel Castro overthrows government and brings communism to Cuba in 1959
- New communist government takes control of all property (including American)
- Eisenhower in return reduced American purchase of sugar from Cuba
- Castro receives the backing of the Soviet Union

#### The Bay of Pigs Invasion –

##### *Eisenhower to Kennedy –*

- Planned by the CIA during Eisenhower's presidency
- Carried out by the CIA during Kennedy's presidency

##### *The Plan –*

- Cuban exiles to be trained by the CIA to overthrow Castro
- They would land at the Bay of Pigs & be assisted by US air support
- The Cuban people would in return rise up and revolt against Castro
- A new government would be established that was favorable to the US

##### *The Results –*

- Cuban exiles not experienced soldiers (lawyers, doctors, etc . . . )
- The US withheld air support to keep their involvement secret
- Cuban people did not revolt & Castro remained in power
- A major embarrassment for Kennedy and the US

##### *Conclusions –*

- An unsuccessful application of containment
- President Kennedy learns to deal strongly with the communists and trust his gut instead of listening to his generals all the time