

A black and white photograph of John F. Kennedy, the 35th President of the United States, speaking at a podium. He is shown from the chest up, wearing a dark suit, white shirt, and dark tie. He is looking slightly to his left with a serious expression. Several microphones are visible in the foreground, partially obscuring the lower part of his face. The background is dark and out of focus.

JFK and The Cold War

Jenny, Valter, Eldrick

Who is JFK?

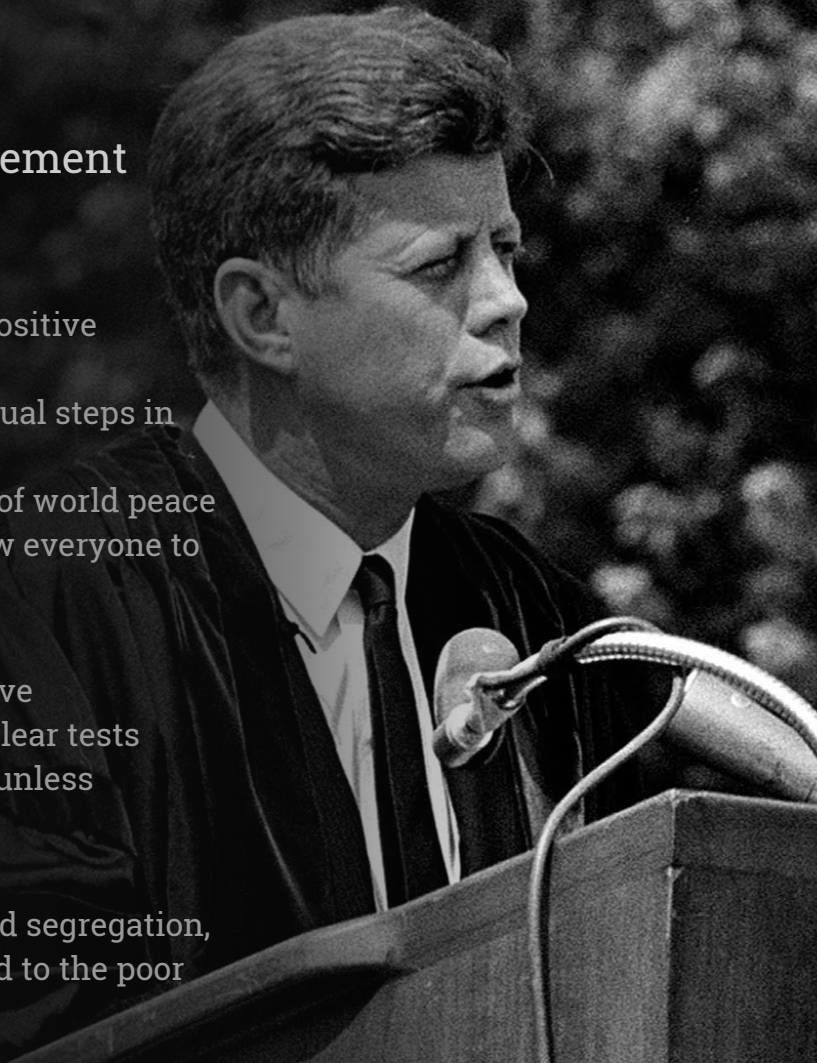
- Born on May 29, 1917 in Brookline, MA
- Served from January 20, 1961 – November 22, 1963
- 43 year old Democrat from Massachusetts



Overall Policies and Values

American University Speech

- Washington D.C., June 10 1963, at the commencement ceremony for American University
- Discusses the topic of world peace and attitude
 - Asks that both the Soviets and US public adopt a more positive attitude towards diversity and world peace
 - Believes that world peace can be achieved by many gradual steps in the right direction
 - The US holds alliances because they share these values of world peace and diversity, and it is in everyone's best interest to allow everyone to decide their own future
- Discusses current state with nuclear weapons
 - Kennedy, Khrushchev, and Macmillan have agreed to have discussions in Moscow concerning a treaty banning nuclear tests
 - The US will stop nuclear tests for the foreseeable future unless provoked
- Took further action following the speech
 - Kennedy later took action to promote bills that would end segregation, introduced stronger voting rights, and provide federal aid to the poor and elderly

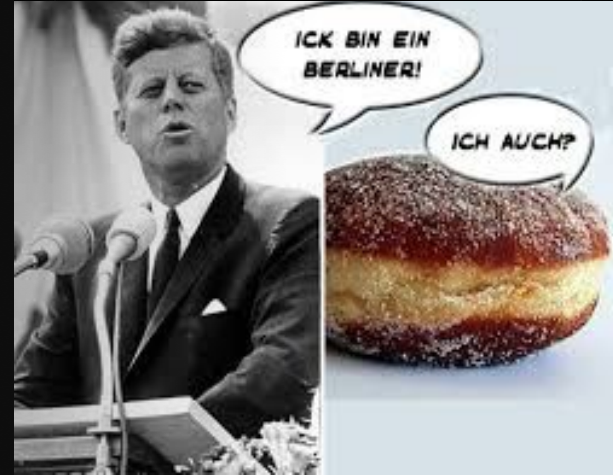


Berlin Speech

- Throughout speech says the words “Ich bin ein Berliner”
 - Messes up translate and actually calls himself a Jelly doughnut
 - This was an attempt for JFK to say “I am a Berliner”
 - This was to show unity between U.S.A and Germany
- Offense to Humanity
 - “When one man is enslaved, all are not free”
 - This Wall is communist’s mark of evil on the world
- JFK’s promise
 - JFK promises the destruction of the wall, reuniting of Germany, and spread of Democracy



“I AM A JELLY DONUT.”
— John F. Kennedy



Major Events and Conflicts

The Bay of Pigs

- Fidel Castro came into power during 1959 after overthrowing Cuban dictator, Fulgencio Batista.
- The US government had little trust in Castro
- The goal of the invasion was to overthrow Castro and the establishment of a non-communist government.
- Trained anti-Castro Cuban exiles to get the job done. Kennedy wanted to disguise America's contribution in the attack.

The Plan

- The invasion called for two airstrikes against Cuban air bases. 1,400 Cuban exiles would disembark undercover and launch a surprise attack.



The Bay of Pigs (continued)

Invasion

- 8 bombers left Nicaragua to bomb Cuban airfields. The bombers missed many of their targets.
- President Kennedy cancelled the second attack as news broke and photos were shared revealing that America supported the invasion.

Aftermath

The failure at the Bay of Pigs took a toll on the Kennedy administration. To make up for the failed invasion, Operation Mongoose was initiated. Operation Mongoose planned to sabotage and destabilize the Cuban government and economy.



Fidel Castro and Nikita Khrushchev



Cuban Exiles in captivity

Cuban Missile Crisis

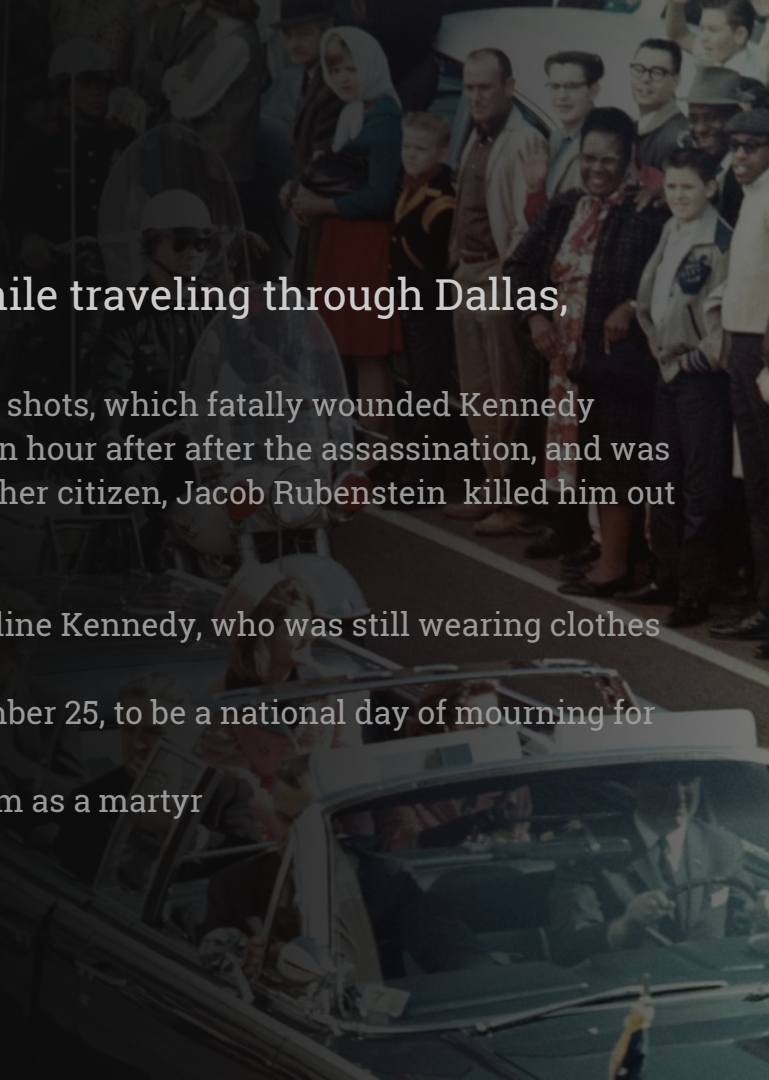
- **U.S places missiles in Italy, Turkey, and U.K**
 - This move by the U.S is seen as bold and makes the Soviets on edge as all countries are in striking distance of Russia
- **Soviet-Cuban alliance**
 - U.S sees this as direct threat to them as Cuba is a neighbor to the U.S and well within striking distance
 - The failed Bay of Pigs attack by the U.S strengthened the Cuban and Soviet relationship
- **Spy Planes**
 - Finds Soviets missiles on Cuban soil
 - This escalates the tension between U.S and Soviets and war looks inevitable
 - The president orders a blockade of soviet ships traveling to Cuba, and informs the American public of the missiles – demonstrating his commitment to transparency but also causing panic
- **The first offer**
 - After speaking with Fidel Castro, Khrushchev offers to disarm the missiles in return for an assurance that the US will not invade Cuba

Cuban Missile Crisis (continued)

- **Spy plane gets shot down**
 - A U.S spy plane gets shot by Cubans while it is on routine fly
 - XCON wants to declare war on Cuba but JFK refuses
 - This incident further complicates the situation as Kennedy and XCON contemplate the first offer
- **The second offer**
 - The USSR makes a second offer a day after the first, now offering to disarm the missiles in Cuba in exchange for both a guarantee not to invade Cuba and the disarmament of missiles in Turkey
- **The end of the crisis**
 - Kennedy finally accepts the second offer, officially ending the Cuban Missile Crisis
 - The president's handling of the crisis demonstrated his grace commitment to peace
 - This event was seen as the defining period of JFK's presidency

The assassination

- On November 22, 1963, JFK was assassinated while traveling through Dallas, Texas in an open top convertible
 - At approximately 12:30 pm, Lee Harvey Oswald fired three shots, which fatally wounded Kennedy
 - Oswald killed a policeman questioning him about an hour after the assassination, and was then arrested 30 minutes later. Two days later, another citizen, Jacob Rubenstein killed him out of rage on his way to county jail.
 - Two hours later, Lyndon B. Johnson was sworn in
 - This was witnessed by 30 people including Jacqueline Kennedy, who was still wearing clothes stained by JFK's blood
 - The new president declared the following Monday, November 25, to be a national day of mourning for JFK
 - The ordeal overall increased JFK's popularity, painting him as a martyr



Legacy

- Changed political system and culture by promoting transparency and honesty in presidential affairs in his handling of the Bay of Pigs fallout
- Demonstrated his belief in and fought for equal rights and opportunity for all, through his handling of the Cuban Missile Crisis and his focus on domestic civil rights in the latter half of his presidency
- Being the first president to be born in the 20th century, he represented and legitimized his generation
- Ultimately, Kennedy's legacy was further solidified by his assassination

Work Cited

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