

American History Chapter 24, The Kennedy and Johnson Years 1960-1968

U.S. History Objectives, North Carolina SCS

11.03: Identify major social movement's including, but not limited to, those involving women, young people, and the environment, and evaluate the impact of these movements on U.S. society

11.04: Identify the causes of U.S. involvement in Vietnam and examine how this involvement affected society

11.05: Examine the impact of technological innovations that have impacted American life.

With the thrilling words of "...ask not what your country can do for you; ask what you can do for your country." John F. Kennedy announced the dawn of a new era and rallied the nation to battle against the common enemies of man. In this chapter you will learn how the nation continued to fight the Cold War and the spread of communism. For the first time television had a significant influence upon the American voter. New ideas and new initiatives are put in place to meet the Soviet Challenge and bring about the alignment of the "Third World" nations to the cause of democracy.

You will discover that the Cold War almost became a "hot war" over missile bases in Cuba, the city of West Berlin came under siege and the building of the Berlin Wall. At home Americans became excited about the "New Frontier" and the administrations new ideas to stimulate the economy, improve civil rights, and win the race for space. You will discover the shock of having a President assassinated and the Constitutional transfer of government to a new President.

A new President's domestic and foreign agenda sets increasing demands on the American society. Increasing involvement in a "brushfire" war in Southeast Asia along with the creation of the "Great Society" puts strains upon the fabric of American society.

Section 1: Kennedy and the Cold War:

- Use web links or your textbook to define the following: Alliance for Progress, hot line, Cuban missile crisis, Fidel Castro, Richard M. Nixon, Bay of Pigs invasion, Peace Corps, Nuclear Test Ban Treaty
- Create a graphic organizer like the one found on page 820 and list the Cold War crisis Kennedy faced and the effects of each event
- Explain the steps Kennedy took to change American foreign policy

Section 2: Kennedy's New Frontier:

- Use web links or your textbook to define the following: space race, New Frontier, deficit spending, Warren Commission
- As you read section 2 create a list the characteristics of John F. Kennedy that appealed to the American People
- Assess the impact of the Kennedy assassination.

Section 3: Johnson's Great Society:

- Use web links or your textbook to define the following: War on Poverty, Medicare, Medicaid, Economic Opportunity Act, Warren Court, Civil Rights Act

- Create a graphic organizer like the one found on page 833 and identify details about the Great Society programs
- Assess the achievements of the Great Society