

Cuban Missile Crisis

Document 1

Good evening, my fellow citizens: - This Government, as promised, has maintained the closest surveillance of the Soviet military build-up on the island of Cuba. Within the past week, unmistakable evidence has established the fact that a series of offensive Missile sites is now in preparation on that imprisoned island. The purpose of these bases can be none other than to provide a nuclear strike capability against the Western Hemisphere.

The characteristics of these new missile sites indicate two distinct types of installations. Several of them include medium range ballistic missiles, capable of carrying a nuclear warhead for a distance of more than 1000 nautical miles. Each of these missiles, in short, is capable of striking Washington, D.C., the Panama Canal, Cape Canaveral, Mexico City, or any other city in the southeastern part of the United States, in Central America, or in the Caribbean area.

Additional sites not yet completed appear to be designed for intermediate range ballistic missiles capable of traveling more than twice as far-and thus capable of striking most of the major cities in the Western Hemisphere, ranging as far north as Hudson Bay, Canada, and as far south as Lima, Peru. In addition, jet bombers, capable of carrying nuclear weapons, are now being un-crated and assembled in Cuba, while the necessary air bases are being prepared.

Excerpt from the Cuban Missile Crisis Speech by John F. Kennedy
October 22nd 1962

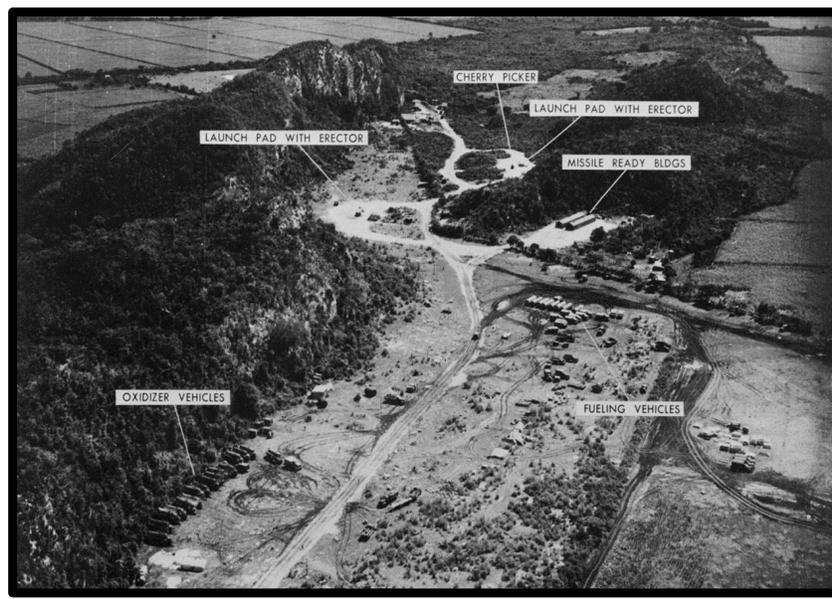
Cuban Missile Crisis Document 2

Some of the Soviet missiles in Cuba had a strike range of up to 2,200 miles. This illustration shows the potential damage which could be inflicted on America.



Cuban Missile Crisis Document 3

An American spy plane took this photograph of *Missile Site at Sagua La Grande, Cuba*



Name: _____

Hour: _____

American History
Cuban Missile Crisis DBQ Questions

Directions: Answer the questions based on Document 1.

1. Who gave this speech and what date was this speech given?

 2. What threatening evidence did the United States find after maintaining close surveillance of the island of Cuba?

 3. List four places in danger of a nuclear attack
 - A. _____
 - B. _____
 - C. _____
 - D. _____
-

Directions: Answer the questions based on Document 2

4. Which American city was the closest in striking distance?

5. How many miles from Cuba was it?

6. Which American city was the furthest in striking distance?

7. How many miles from Cuba was it?

8. Do you think America should be nervous if Cuba has access to Nuclear Arms?
Explain.

Directions: Answer the question based on Document 3.

9. Would this photograph convince you that Russia is planning to set up a nuclear missile site in Cuba? What evidence do you see?