

Name _____

Date _____ Period _____



Directions: While watching the film, answer each question in complete sentences.

1. How did the Kennedy Administration know that the Soviet Union was putting ballistic missiles into Cuba?
2. According to Kennedy, what was the purpose of the missile sites in Cuba?
3. How much warning time would a US city in range of these missiles have?
4. According to Kennedy, why did the presence of the missiles pose a threat to the United States?
5. Kennedy referred to the 1930s. What was he referring to? What was to be learned from it?
6. How will a “sneak attack” be played in the news, according to Bobby Kennedy?
7. Kennedy’s first action was to institute a “strict quarantine.” What did he mean by this?

8. The day after JFK addressed the nation about the “quarantine” in Cuba, military leaders attempt to pressure him into the use of military force. **What do the military leaders try to get the President to do?** Be specific.

9. How quickly could the “quarantine” on Cuba have turned into WWII?

10. Why would firing the Joint Chiefs of Staff look so bad for JFK, even as they defy his orders?

11. What role did the United Nations play in the crisis? Did U.N. involvement seem to help or hurt the situation?

12. What was the back channel deal that the US & USSR are trying to work out? (confirmed by Khrushchev’s first letter)

13. What conclusion does the second letter from the USSR suggest?

14. How did the Kennedy Administration finally decide to respond to the letters from the Kremlin? Be specific in describing their solution.

15. What kind of peace does President Kennedy speak of in his speech at the conclusion of the film?