

# The Cuban Missile Crisis A Concise History

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The Cuban Missile Crisis Revisited  
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how did john f kennedy protect his country from a nuclear threat and avoid the outbreak of a new world war what choices did he have what support and advice did he receive and how did his decisions affect history and his legacy this book looks at a momentous event from the cold war showing how one of the world s most charismatic leaders chose to follow a brave course of action

october 1962 the cuban missile crisis the confrontation that brought the world closer to nuclear catastrophe than ever before or since both john f kennedy and nikita khrushchev were determined to avoid nuclear war but events could easily have spiraled out of control with cataclysmic results drawing on an extensive body of research including primary sources released

only in the last few years this work places the crisis in a broader international and chronological context than previously possible discover how america was responsible for causing the conflict and cuba s role as an important actor rather than a superpower pawn

never has the world come as close to the catastrophic destruction that nearly came to pass in october 1962 the united states and the soviet union uneasy allies in world war ii but cold war rivals after the defeat of germany squared off over the discovery of soviet nuclear missiles in cuba this launched 13 days of tense negotiations between the two nations as both president john f kennedy and soviet premier nikita khrushchev prepared for the possibility of nuclear war while neither man wanted a war and understood the potential consequences the situation was not merely in their hands khrushchev faced pressure from soviets to take a hardline stance against the u s while kennedy faced the real possibility of a military coup if he did not follow the strong recommendations of his military advisors to destroy the missiles as attorney general robert kennedy said the 10 or 12 people who participated in all these discussions were bright and energetic people we had perhaps amongst the most able in the country and if any one of a half a dozen of them were president the world would have been very likely plunged into catastrophic war read more about the history of this short crisis in this book historycaps is an imprint of bookcaps study guides with each book a brief period of history is recapped we publish a wide array of topics from baseball and music to science and philosophy so check our growing catalogue regularly to see our newest books

this book shows how president kennedy and his brother robert used this information to bring about the withdrawal of the missiles without war

explores the cuban missile crisis and how that event has sculpted societies the sciences and politics

the words nuclear war strike fear into the hearts of people all over the world movies and books depict the apocalyptic aftermath of such an event while fictitious accounts may not be totally accurate in october 1962 the united states came perilously close to finding out the reality of such a catastrophe during the cuban missile crisis for thirteen days the country teetered on the verge of nuclear war through engaging text accompanied by dynamic images and intriguing sidebars students will learn exactly how close the nation came to world war iii and how the country was pulled back from the brink

for thirteen days in october of 1962 a truly perilous flirtation with nuclear war developed between the united states and ussr as the superpowers argued over the installation of

soviet nuclear weapons in cuba launched by rash judgment and concluded through circumspect leadership the cuban missile crisis acted as a catalyst for change during the cold war resolved through back channel negotiations the moment is popularly remembered as the closest the world has ever come to full scale nuclear war using government memoranda personal letters and newspaper articles the cuban missile crisis details the actual events of the political history while explaining widespread public response in six concise chapters alice george introduces the history of cold war america and contextualizes its political social and cultural legacy this will be a must read for anyone looking for an in depth summary of these important events for additional resources please visit the companion website at [routledge.com/cw/criticalmoments](http://routledge.com/cw/criticalmoments)

the soviet response to the first edition of reflections has been a prime example of the new openness under glasnost in discussing previously taboo subjects using new revelations such as the fact that moscow had twice as many troops in cuba as the kennedy administration believed from key soviet and cuban sources garthoff has revised his earlier analysis to produce the most accurate eye opening story yet of the 1963 crisis in this book raymond l garthoff a participant in the crisis deliberations of the u s government reflects on the nature of the crisis it s consequences and it s lessons for the future he provides a unique combination of memoir historical analysis and political interpretations he gives particular attention to the aftermath and afterlife of the crisis and to its bearing on current and future policy in the first edition of the book in 1987 the garthoff presented a number of facts for the first time since then more information has become available particularly from soviet sources in part from conferences in which garthoff participated but even more from individual interviews and research this new information much of it presented here in this volume for the first time helps to fill in gaps in our knowledge about events and motivations on the soviet side more importantly it enlarges our understanding of the crisis interaction

drawing on revealing new research this richly informative volume is the definitive concise introduction to the crisis that took the world to the brink of nuclear war cuban missile crisis the essential reference guide captures the historical context the minute by minute drama and the profound repercussions of the missiles of october confrontation that brought the very real threat of nuclear attack to the united states doorstep coinciding with the 50th anniversary of the crisis it takes full advantage of recently opened soviet archives as well as interviews with key russian cuban and u s officials to explore the event as it played out in moscow havana washington and other locations around the world cuban missile crisis contains an introductory essay by the author and alphabetically organized reference entries contributed by

leading cold war researchers the book also includes an exceptionally comprehensive bibliography together these resources give readers everything they need to understand the escalating tensions that led to the crisis as well as the intense diplomacy that resolved it including new information about the back channel negotiations between robert kennedy and soviet ambassador anatoly dobrynin

this volume brings together a collection of leading international experts to revisit and review our understanding of the cuban missile crisis via a critical reappraisal of some of the key texts in october 1962 humankind came close to the end of its history the risk of catastrophe is now recognised by many to have been greater than realised by protagonists at the time or scholars subsequently the cuban missile crisis remains one of the mostly intensely studied moments of world history understanding is framed and informed by cold war historiography political science and personal experience written by scholars journalists and surviving officials the emergence of soviet later russian and other national narratives has broadened the scope of enquiry while scrutiny of the operational especially military dimensions has challenged assumptions about the risk of nuclear war the cuban missile crisis a critical reappraisal brings together world leading scholars from america britain france canada and russia to present critical scrutiny of authoritative accounts and to recast assumptions and interpretations the book aims to provide an essential guide for students of the missile crisis the diplomacy of the cold war and the dynamics of historical interpretation and reinterpretation offering original ideas and agendas the contributors seek to provide a new understanding of the secrets and mysteries of the moment when the world went to the brink of armageddon this book will be of great interest to students of the cuban missile crisis cold war studies nuclear proliferation international history and international relations in general

why did the cuban missile crisis happen how was it resolved by focusing on the roles of a number of key individuals such as jfk robert kennedy and nikita khrushchev and by using recently declassified materials this book frames answers to these questions in so doing it presents a cluster of new findings and arguments including a fresh interpretation of khrushchev s motives for putting missiles in cuba new information on the mystery surrounding senator kenneth keating s secret sources and evidence indicating that jfk planned to carry out a military strike on cuba at the start of the crisis

in 1962 people around the world but especially in the united states cuba and the soviet union seemed to be holding their breath as they wondered if a nuclear war was about to erupt us secretary of defense robert mcnamara later recalled that he thought october 27 1962 was the last saturday i would ever see this notable book packed with interesting sidebars and

fascinating facts transports readers back to a time of political intrigue key figures such as john f kennedy fidel castro and nikita khrushchev are examined as well as related events such as the bay of pigs

the cold war between the united states of america and the soviet union lasted for more than 40 years in general this was a war of spies and subterfuge of covert action and espionage there was always a danger however that an error of judgment on either side could suddenly cause the cold war to turn red hot with an exchange of nuclear weapons on many occasions tensions between the countries increased but the prospect of all out nuclear war between america and russia was never closer than during a two week period in october of 1962 discover a plethora of topics such as from world war to cold war mutually assured destruction revolution in cuba the missile gap american build up and provocation russian missiles arrive in cuba kennedy speaks to america and much more discover the cuban missile crisis a tense 13 day standoff that brought the world to the brink of nuclear war explore the diplomacy decisions and danger that defined this cold war showdown perfect for history buffs and political thriller fans alike get your copy today and relive one of the most critical moments in modern history

medland s book is very timely naval war college this caveat notwithstanding william medland proves it can be done indeed his the cuban missile crisis of 1962 is so good that he makes the task look easy william medland s the cuban missile crisis of 1962 is outstanding and necessary to a good understanding of the missile crisis the daily mississippian a wealth of books exist on the cuban missile crisis and its aftermath but none examines the different historiographical views of what the crisis meant medland surveys various interpretations of the confrontation approaching the crisis from national disciplinary and decision making perspectives although the soviets reasons for placing missiles in cuba in 1962 may never be completely known medland explores several possible motives taking into account views of participants observers and right and left wing groups the author also discusses the consequences of the confrontation as he demonstrates the end of the crisis brought mixed and surprising results

in october 1962 when the soviet union deployed nuclear missiles in cuba the most dangerous confrontation of the cold war ensued bringing the world close to the brink of nuclear war over two tense weeks u s president john f kennedy and soviet premier nikita khrushchev managed to negotiate a peaceful resolution to what was nearly a global catastrophe drawing on the best recent scholarship and previously unexamined documents from the archives of the former soviet union this introductory volume examines the motivations and calculations of the major participants in the conflict sets the crisis in the context of the broader history of the global cold war and traces the

effects of the crisis on subsequent international and regional geopolitical relations selections from twenty primary sources provide firsthand accounts of the frantic deliberations and realpolitik diplomacy between the u s the u s s r and fidel castro s cuban regime thirteen illustrations are also included contents introduction the making of a global crisis the origins of the cold war a new front in the cold war the cold war in latin america the cuban revolution and the soviet union u s and regional responses to the cuban revolution operation zapata the bay of pigs operation anadyr soviet missiles in cuba crisis dénouement the missiles of november reevaluating the leadership on all sides of the crisis nuclear fallout consequences of the missile crisis the future of cuban soviet relations latin american responses to the missile crisis conclusion lessons of the cuban missile crisis historiography of the cuban missile crisis documents memorandum for mcgeorge bundy from arthur schlesinger jr april 10 1961 state department white paper april 1961 from the cable on the conversation between gromyko and kennedy october 18 1962 telegram from soviet foreign minister gromyko to the cc cpsu october 20 1962 president john f kennedy s speech to the nation october 22 1962 resolution adopted by the council of the organization of american states acting provisionally as the organ of consultation october 23 1962 message from mexican president adolfo lópez mateos to cuban president osvaldo Dorticós october 23 1962 letter from khrushchev to john f kennedy october 24 1962 telegram from soviet ambassador to the usa dobrynin to the ussr mfa october 24 1962 memorandum for president kennedy from douglas dillon october 26 1962 telegram from fidel castro to n s khrushchev october 26 1962 letter from khrushchev to fidel castro october 28 1962 cable from ussr ambassador to cuba alekseev to soviet ministry of foreign affairs october 28 1962 telegram from soviet deputy foreign minister kuznetsov and ambassador to the u n zorin to ussr foreign ministry 1 october 30 1962 premier khrushchev s letter to prime minister castro october 30 1962 prime minister castro s letter to premier khrushchev october 31 1962 meeting of the secretary of the communist party of cuba with mikoyan in the presidential palace november 4 1962 brazilian foreign ministry memorandum question of cuba november 20 1968 letter from khrushchev to fidel castro january 31 1963 i know something about the caribbean crisis notes from a conversation with fidel castro november 5 1987 select bibliography

this ebook analyzes the impact and legacy of the cuban missile crisis through an analysis of the political figures that made the event possible

this volume introduces and provides a brief overview of major factors that contributed to the cuban missile crisis during october 1962 personal narratives are also shared allowing readers first hand details that other books on this topic do not supply readers hear from a soviet naval officer as he goes

to battle and a british journalist who recalls the tense weeks of the crisis two native cubans also share their memories

the cuban missile crisis revisited is a comprehensive overview of the great cornucopia of new materials recently released by the soviet union united states and cuba the authors some of whom were participants in the crisis have all had a major role in bringing to light either significant reevaluations of the crisis or in some cases truly startling revelations of the extant wisdom surrounding much of the crisis the collection edited by a long time student of the crisis is a coherent original and up to date work that bears on a moment when the world for good cause held its breath in fear that the morning might bring the apocalypse

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