THE CUBAN MISSILE CRISIS

• Castro had a powerful ally in Moscow
• Soviet leader Nikita Khrushchev promised to defend Cuba with Soviet weapons
• During the summer of 1962 the flow of Soviet weapons into Cuba – including nuclear – increased greatly
KENNEDY RESPONDS

American president John F Kennedy making his dramatic television broadcast to announce the Cuba blockade during the Cuban Missile Crisis

- Kennedy made it clear the U.S. would not tolerate nuclear weapons in Cuba
- When surveillance photos revealed nukes ready to launch in Cuba, JFK said the U.S. would respond to any attack from Cuba with an all-out nuclear retaliation against the Soviets
• When more Soviet ships headed for the U.S. with weapons, JFK ordered a blockade
• The first break in the crisis occurred when the Soviets ships turned back
• Finally, Khrushchev agreed to remove the nuclear weapons from Cuba in exchange for a U.S. promise NOT to invade Cuba

For 13 days in October, 1962 the world stood still as the threat of nuclear war gripped the planet
EASING TENSIONS

- Both Khrushchev and Kennedy began searching for ways to ease the enormous tension between the two superpowers.
- In 1963 they established a hot line between the White House and the Kremlin.
- Later that year, the superpowers signed a Limited Test Ban Treaty that served to ban nuclear testing in the atmosphere.
SECTION 2: THE NEW FRONTIER

- Kennedy began his vision in a program he called “The New Frontier”
- The economy, education, medical care for the elderly and the poor, and space exploration were all part of his vision
III. Changing Role of Women
EVOLVING ROLE OF WOMEN in the 1950S

- During the 1950s, the role of homemaker and mother was glorified in popular magazines, movies and television.
- Women were expected to play a supporting role in the family while increasingly working outside the home.
1. The workforce shifted back to men... and women returned to family responsibilities immediately after WWII. Conflict emerged as many women wanted to stay in the workforce.
3. Eleanor Roosevelt helped expand women’s and workers’ rights. She also wanted equal rights for African Americans and other minorities. She was also the U.S. delegate to the United Nations.

Eleanor Roosevelt
1884 - 1962
Civil Rights legislation led to increased... educational, economic, and political opportunities