



# CUBAN REVOLUTION

Communism Comes to Cuba

# CUBA UNDER BATISTA

- 1952: Batista stages a coup d'etat → becomes dictator
- Corrupt!!!
  - Supported by wealthy, American mafia, American companies
- Restricted freedoms, censored media, used secret police
- Gap widened b/w rich and poor



# FIDEL CASTRO (1940's)

- Believed corruption was b/c of US influence in Latin America
- Adopted communist ideas; influenced by Marx, Lenin
  - Cuba's problems were b/c of capitalism
  - Cuba needed a "proletariat revolution"



# COMPARING PERSPECTIVES



Cartoon A



Cartoon B

Which cartoon do you think is from the US perspective and which is from the Cuban perspective? Why?



# Video Time! YAAAAAAS!

- <http://www.history.com/topics/cold-war/fidel-castro/videos/castro-and-the-cuban-revolution>

# CUBAN REVOLUTION (1950's)

- July 26, 1953: Castro attacks military barracks
- Castro sent to jail; released 1955
- Goes to Mexico and begins “26<sup>th</sup> of July Movement”
  - Meets Ché Guevara
  - Train to overthrow Batista → set sail with 80 rebels
  - Immediately attacked, most die, survivors hide in mountains
- 1956 – 58: Fight guerrilla warfare w/ support from peasants, workers
- 1958: Rebel groups take key cities → Batista flees to Dom. Rep.



# CUBA UNDER CASTRO (1960's)

- Introduced social reforms
  - Equality for black Cubans, rights for women
  - Improved health, housing, education, employment
- Started land reforms
  - Before revolution 75% of land owned by foreign companies
  - Govt. took over land owned by wealthy landowners/businesses
  - US placed strict embargo on Cuba
- Suppressed counter-revolutionaries
  - Controlled media, jailed political opponents



# Let's Pause and CFU...

CASTRO POSITIVES	CASTRO NEGATIVES



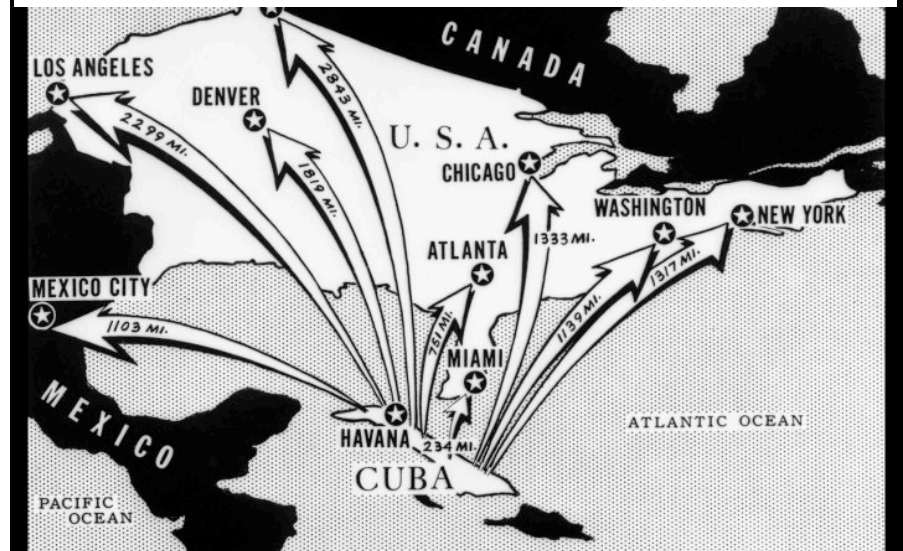
# BAY OF PIGS (1961)

- CIA trains counter-revolutionary military to overthrow Castro
  - US wanted Castro out b/c of ties with USSR, taking away land from US companies
- Castro defeats invaders
- HUGE failure for US Pres. JFK



# CUBAN MISSILE CRISIS (1962)

- USSR put nuclear missiles in Cuba
- Kennedy ordered blockade of Cuba
- Told USSR to take missiles out
- Deal: USSR takes back missiles, US promises never to invade Cuba
  - Also secretly takes missiles out of Turkey
- Closest world has gotten to nuclear war



# CUBAN MISSILE CRISIS

<http://www.history.com/topics/cold-war/cuban-missile-crisis/videos/cuban-missile-crisis>

