

Name _____



Missiles And Diplomacy

Directions: Read the short scenario below about the Cuban Missile Crisis. Then, summarize in a few sentences how the conflict was resolved. Focus on the decisions made by both sides and how the situation ended without war.

Scenario: In October 1962, American spy planes discovered Soviet nuclear missiles being built in Cuba, just 90 miles from the United States. President John F. Kennedy demanded their removal and ordered a naval blockade around the island to prevent more missiles from arriving. For 13 tense days, the world watched as U.S. and Soviet leaders exchanged warnings and threats. Behind the scenes, both sides communicated secretly to find a peaceful way out of the crisis.

Eventually, Soviet leader Nikita Khrushchev agreed to remove the missiles from Cuba if the United States promised not to invade the island and secretly agreed to remove its own nuclear missiles from Turkey. The agreement ended the standoff but left lasting fear about how close the world had come to nuclear war.

Your Summary:
