

CUBAN MISSILE CRISIS PROJECT – 75 points

<http://thea.micds.org/twitster/index.php>

(These TwHistory reenactment materials were created by Carla Federman for her Cold War History class. They are shared with her permission.)

You are to recreate the actions of one of the key players in the Cuban Missile Crisis on Twitter. As you are assuming the identity of the person, all entries should be in first person. The assignment runs from Friday, October 16, 2009 through Wednesday, October 28, 2009.

Project Requirements:

1. **Twitter Profile** Fill out the profile for your CMC Player, including a picture. Pay special attention to the “One Line Bio,” the location, and the background of your profile page.
2. **Annotated Bibliography & Media Index** You must turn in an annotated bibliography of at least three sources that you used for textual information, correctly cited in MLA format. Pictures and video should be cited in MLA format in a separate media index, and does not need to be annotated.
3. **Tweets** You should regularly tweet on the actions, beliefs, and discussions of your CMC Player. At a minimum, you should have **at least one tweet per day**. However, there are some days in which your CMC Player will likely have **upwards of 6-7 tweets**, especially on days in which they are involved in meetings to discuss the Crisis or are writing correspondence regarding the Crisis. While some tweets will likely just be your thoughts, others should be specifically addressed to other Players (or reference them, their thoughts, and their actions in some way) and you should engage other Players in discussions in order to recreate the conversations that took place during the Crisis. If any images or video are appropriate, these should be included in your tweets. On days in which your Player is not “busy” with the Crisis, tweets should reflect your thinking, your day-to-day life, possible activities of the day, etc.... Your tweets should make the following issues clear:
 - How involved were you in the Crisis? What meetings did you participate in, and what was your role? What were your contributions to those meetings?
 - What was your opinion on the best way to handle the Cuban Missile Crisis? What did you believe your country should do?
 - Did those opinions/beliefs change at all?
 - Who were you communicating with? How well were your ideas received?

Tweets will be graded on the following criteria:

1. All important information is relayed at the appropriate time by Player
 2. Tweets answer the questions above about role, beliefs, etc...
 3. There is an appropriate number of tweets
 4. Direct quotes are used when necessary to maintain historical integrity
 5. Tweets use appropriate wit & creative role-play
 6. Tweets engage and converse with other Players
 7. Tweets include images, video, articles, etc... that support learning about the Crisis
 8. Tweets carry the story of Crisis forward and support creation of authentic simulation
4. **Summary** On October 28th, you must turn in a 1-2 page (double-spaced) synopsis of your CMC Player (written in the 3rd person) that covers the following information:
 - a. Who was your Player, and what was his role in the Cuban Missile Crisis?
 - b. What were your Player’s beliefs regarding the situation? What were his thoughts on the best way to resolve the Crisis?
 - c. How important was your Player to the Cuban Missile Crisis? To what extent were his opinions/advice heeded (if you served as an advisor to a leader), or to what extent were his decisions effective (if you served as a leader)?
 - d. Who (if anyone) did you clash with during the Cuban Missile Crisis?

Account Management:

1. Twitter: Go to www.twitter.com. Username is listed below; password is midsrams.
 - a. Once logged in, click “Settings.” You’ll then be able to fill out your Profile. To add a Picture or change the background Design, click on those tabs on the “Settings” page
 - b. To find and follow your fellow CMC Players, in the URL field enter www.twitter.com/username. So, for example, to find JFK, go to www.twitter.com/JFK_1962. Then, click the “Follow” button. You should follow all 14 other CMC Players
2. TwtMstr (Timed Tweets): While signed into Twitter as your CMC Player, go to www.twtmstr.com & sign up for an account (under whatever userID & password you like). Under Edit, choose “Twitter UserIDs,” and then click on “Add a Twitter ID.” Once you have your CMC Player added to TwtMstr, you can schedule tweets at any specific time.

Twitter Vocabulary and Usage

1. To address a tweet TO another Player, use the @ sign + the UserID (without a space in between) at the beginning of the tweet. Example: In order to address a message specifically to John McCone disagreeing about what the US should do next, write:
 - a. @JohnMcConeCIA You have some good ideas, but logic is wrong; US can’t proceed as you believe
2. To mention other Players IN a tweet, use the @sign + the UserID (without a space in between) wherever you would mention them in the text. Example: In order to reference the fact that you need to call a meeting with McGeorge Bundy & Robert McNamara, write:
 - a. Need to discuss immediately with @McGeorgeBundy and @RobMcnamara64 – will call a meeting for tomorrow morning

Twitter IDs:

1. John F. Kennedy (US President): JFK_1962
2. Bobby Kennedy (Attorney General): BobbyKennedy64
3. Robert McNamara (Secretary of Defense): RobMcnamara64
4. Dean Rusk (Secretary of State): DeanRusk62
5. McGeorge Bundy (National Security Adviser): McGeorgeBundy
6. Gen. Maxwell Taylor (Chairman of Joint Chiefs of Staff): GenMTaylor
7. C. Douglas Dillon (US Secretary of the Treasury): CDDillon
8. John McCone (CIA Director): JohnMcConeCIA
9. Adlai Stevenson (US Ambassador to the United Nations): AdStevenson62
10. Llewellyn (Tommy) Thompson (former US ambassador to Moscow): LThompson62
11. Gen. Curtis LeMay (US Air Force Chief of Staff): GenCurtisLeMay
12. Fidel Castro (Prime Minister of Cuba): FidelCastro62
13. Nikita Khrushchev (Soviet Premier): NikitaKhrushche
14. The Media: the1962Media
15. Richard Heyser (U-2 pilot): RichardHeyser

Executive Committee of the National Security Council (EXCOMM):

1. John F. Kennedy (US President) –
2. Bobby Kennedy (Attorney General) –
3. Robert McNamara (Secretary of Defense) –
4. Dean Rusk (Secretary of State) –
5. McGeorge Bundy (National Security Adviser) –
6. Gen. Maxwell Taylor (Chairman of Joint Chiefs of Staff) –
7. C. Douglas Dillon (US Secretary of the Treasury) –
8. John McCone (CIA Director) –
9. Adlai Stevenson (US Ambassador to the United Nations) OR US Media –
10. Llewellyn (Tommy) Thompson (former US ambassador to Moscow) –
11. Gen. Curtis LeMay (US Air Force Chief of Staff) –

Foreign Players:

1. Fidel Castro (Prime Minister of Cuba) –
2. Nikita Khrushchev (Soviet Premier) –

Resources (originally included on the class wiki: <http://micdsstudents.wikispaces.com/Cold+War>)

The following resources will help you when researching your individuals for the Cuban Missile Crisis project as well as for gathering background info on the crisis itself.

TEACHING AMERICAN HISTORY

<http://teachingamericanhistory.org/neh/interactives/cubanmissilecrisis/>

Audio Files/Transcript of crisis

<http://www.hpol.org/jfk/cuban/>

The players of the crisis: <http://library.thinkquest.org/11046/people/>

Primary source documents from the crisis

<http://www.mtholyoke.edu/acad/intrel/cuba.htm>

Cold War Virtual Archive (lots of primary sources)

http://www.wilsoncenter.org/index.cfm?topic_id=1409&fuseaction=va2.browse&sort=Collection&item=Cuban%20Missile%20Crisis

National Security Archive (minute by minute account of the crisis)

http://www.gwu.edu/~nsarchiv/nsa/cuba_mis_cri/

JFK Library-Missile Crisis

<http://www.jfklibrary.org/Historical+Resources/JFK+in+History/Cuban+Missile+Crisis.htm>

State Department declassified information

http://www.state.gov/www/about_state/history/frusXI/index.html

Library of Congress

<http://www.loc.gov/exhibits/archives/colc.html> (Translated letter from Krushchev to JFK sent during the Crisis.)

Avalon Project http://avalon.law.yale.edu/subject_menus/msc_cubamenu.asp.

Wilson Center

<http://www.wilsoncenter.org/topics/pubs/ACF199.pdf>

Detailed analysis of documents released from the Russian archives regarding the crisis.

More Russian documents

<http://spider.georgetowncollege.edu/htallant/courses/his325/cmclinks.htm>

Primary Source link: <http://www.cubanmissilecrisis.org/page2.asp>

The following print resources, which we have in the library, will provide much needed information from the Russian perspective on the CMC:

Allyn, Bruce J. Cuba on the Brink: Castro, the Missile Crisis, and the Soviet Collapse. New York: Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, 2002.

Dobbs, Michael. One Minute to Midnight: Kennedy, Krushchev and Castro on the Brink of Nuclear War. New York: Vintage, 2009.

Fursenko, Aleksandr; Naftali, Timothy. One Hell of A Gamble W.W Norton & Co., New York: 1997.

Gribkov, Anatoli I. Operation Anadyr: US and Soviet Generals Recount the Cuban Missile Crisis. New York: Edition Q, 1993.