

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Preface .....	.ix
How to Use This Book .....	.xiii
Research Topics for <i>Defining Moments: The Cuban Missile Crisis</i> .....	.xv

NARRATIVE OVERVIEW

Prologue .....	.3
Chapter 1: The Cold War .....	.7
Chapter 2: The United States and Cuba .....	.23
Chapter 3: The Discovery of Soviet Missiles in Cuba .....	.37
Chapter 4: The World Reaches the Brink of Nuclear War .....	.53
Chapter 5: The Cold War Comes to an End .....	.69
Chapter 6: Legacy of the Cuban Missile Crisis .....	.89

BIOGRAPHIES

Rudolf Anderson Jr. (1927-1962) .....	.105
<i>American Pilot Who Was the Only Combat Casualty of the Cuban Missile Crisis</i>	
Fidel Castro (1926-) .....	.110
<i>Premier of Cuba during the Cuban Missile Crisis</i>	
Anatoly Dobrynin (1919-2010) .....	.116
<i>Soviet Ambassador to the U.S. during the Cuban Missile Crisis</i>	

Alexander Feklisov (1914-2007)	120
<i>Russian Spy Who Proposed a Deal to Resolve the Cuban Missile Crisis</i>	
John F. Kennedy (1917-1963)	125
<i>President of the United States during the Cuban Missile Crisis</i>	
Robert F. Kennedy (1925-1968)	131
<i>U.S. Attorney General and Leader of ExComm</i>	
Nikita Khrushchev (1891-1971)	137
<i>Soviet Premier Who Placed Nuclear Missiles in Cuba</i>	
John McCone (1902-1991)	144
<i>Director of the CIA during the Cuban Missile Crisis</i>	
Robert S. McNamara (1916-2009)	148
<i>U.S. Secretary of Defense during the Cuban Missile Crisis</i>	
Ted Sorensen (1928-2010)	153
<i>Special Counsel and Speechwriter for President Kennedy</i>	

PRIMARY SOURCES

The Soviet Union Vows to Defend Cuba	161
Robert F. Kennedy Describes ExComm Deliberations	164
John F. Kennedy Tells the World about the Missiles	168
Nikita Khrushchev Denounces the U.S. Naval Blockade	174
An Influential Columnist Proposes a Solution	176
Fidel Castro Calls for a Nuclear Strike	179
Khrushchev Sends His Conciliatory “First Letter”	181
Khrushchev Sends His More Aggressive “Second Letter”	185
Kennedy Responds to Khrushchev’s Initial Offer	188
Anatoly Dobrynin Worries That Nuclear War Is Imminent	190
Khrushchev Accepts the Deal	194
Kennedy Presents “A Strategy for Peace”	197
The Crisis’s Lasting Impact on U.S. Foreign Policy	202

Important People, Places, and Terms205
Chronology211
Sources for Further Study219
Bibliography221
Photo and Illustration Credits223
Index225