



Castro and the United States (10.9.3 & 11.9.3)

Background:

In 1933, Fulgencio Batista came to power in Cuba after a massive labor strike motivated by government corruption. During his 26-year rule, Batista implemented some progressive social and economic reforms but later suspended these. Government corruption and brutality grew over time during his administration. In 1958 Fidel Castro led a successful revolt that overthrew the Batista regime.

Prompt:

Did the foreign policy of the United States encourage Fidel Castro to make his revolution a socialist one?

Task:

In a well thought out essay:

- Write a claim in response to the prompt.
- Support your claim by using at least five pieces of evidence from the documents, background reading, and additional research on why the Soviets put missiles in Cuba and why they subsequently pulled them out.
- Be sure to explain how the evidence you have chosen supports your claim
- Incorporate at least two additional pieces of evidence from the documents and/or your research that argues against your claim and use your evidence to counter that opposing claim.