

# Cold War in Latin America

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# Cold War Hot Spots, 1948–1975



1. The United States helps Greece defeat Communist-led rebels (1946–1949) and gives economic and military aid to Turkey (1947–1950).

3. The Soviets down U.S. U-2 pilot Francis Gary Powers in 1960.

2. Communists retain or gain control after bloody wars in Korea (1950–1953) and Vietnam (1957–1975).

4. The United States and the Soviet Union bring the world to the brink of nuclear war during the Cuban missile crisis in 1962.

5. The Soviet Union aids anticolonial struggles in Congo (1960), Mozambique (1971), and Angola (1974).

6. Britain helps Indonesia repress a Communist uprising in 1965.

7. The United States intervenes in the governments of Guatemala (1954), Bolivia (1956), and Chile (1973).

Legend:  
Red: Communist expansion  
Yellow: Communist expansion prevented by U.S. and allies

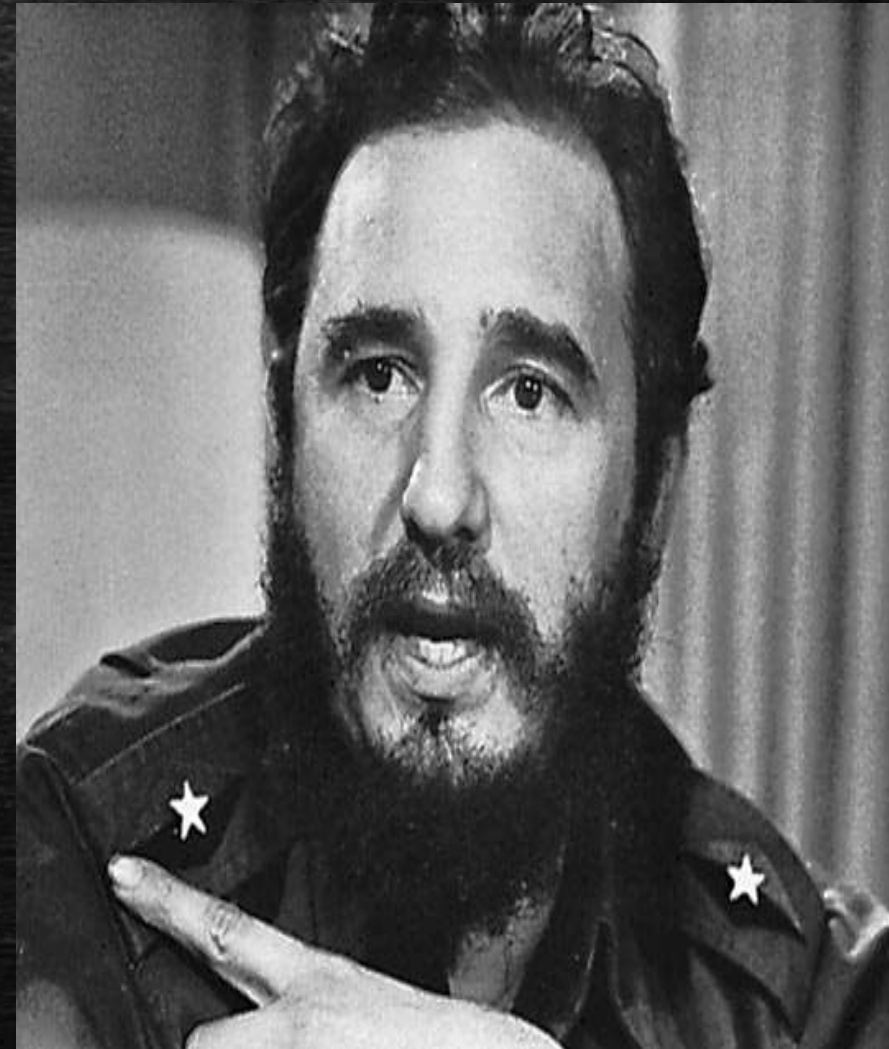
**GEOGRAPHY SKILLBUILDER: Interpreting Maps**

- 1. Location** On what continents identified on the map did Cold War conflicts not occur?
- 2. Region** About what fraction of the globe did Communists control by 1975?

# CUBAN REVOLUTION

1953-1959

- Cuba—1898 gained independence from Spain
- 1952—Fulgencio Batista gained power—repressive and corrupt
- Batista was supported by the U.S. and the U.S. was benefitting economically under Batista because he was anti-communist
  - Americans owned 50% of Cuba's railway system, 90% of the telephone and power industries, tourist facilities, and 25% of all Cuban banks
- 1959—Fidel Castro, a young lawyer, started a revolution to overthrow Batista and his corrupt regime.
  - He was supported by Communists and the Catholic Church



# CUBAN REVOLUTION

- Under Batista, the U.S. imported 60% of its sugar from Cuba
  - When Castro took power, the U.S. cancelled its sugar-trade agreement with Cuba
  - How will this impact the Cuban economy???
- This led Castro to turn to the USSR for assistance
- USSR agreed to pour over \$50 million (including tanks, helicopters, rocket launchers, machine guns, etc.) into Cuba in exchange for a foothold only 90 miles from the U.S.
- The Cold War had come to the Western Hemisphere





- Approved by Eisenhower, The CIA began training Cuban exiles in Guatemala to invade Cuba and overthrow Castro
- Kennedy authorized the plan but wanted to disguise U.S. support
- Castro learned of the training camps in 1960
- The invasion site, the Bay of Pigs, was a remote area on the southern coast of Cuba

# BAY OF PIGS: The plan

## Video

- 2 airstrikes on Cuban air bases to destroy Cuban planes → 1<sup>st</sup> airstrike missed most targets, 2<sup>nd</sup> airstrike cancelled
- 1400 man invasion force → Immediately came under heavy fire—there was a full moon
- Paratroopers leading the attack → Many surrendered and were taken prisoner
- Cuban citizens join invaders and establish provisional government in Cuba → U.S. had underestimated the local support of Castro
- Back up B-26s (planes) to help invasion forces on the beach → They were an hour late b/c they forgot about the time difference



