

## Who won the Cuban missile crisis?

### Card sort

- Cut out these cards and sort them into 3 groups: evidence that the Cuban missile crisis benefited the USA, evidence that the crisis benefitted the USSR, or evidence both sides benefitted equally.
- Rank each of the groups in order of importance.
- Who won the Cuban missile crisis? Using the evidence come to a balanced judgement.

Cuba remained Communist and highly armed.

The USA removed its Jupiter missiles from Turkey.

In 1964 Khrushchev was removed from power and replaced by Brezhnev.

The crisis led to a thaw in the Cold War mainly because it had made both sides realise how easily the world could have been drawn into a nuclear war.

Kennedy came out of the crisis with a greatly improved reputation in his own country and throughout the West. It seemed that he had stood up to Khrushchev and made him back down.

The nuclear missiles were withdrawn from Cuba under United Nations supervision.

In 1963 the USA and the USSR signed a Nuclear Test Ban Treaty. This did not stop the development of nuclear weapons but it limited tests and as such was an important step forward.

The removal of the missiles from Turkey was kept secret from the world.

In the USA, the crisis had an effect on anti-Communist opinion. Some of the most anti-communist generals had wanted to invade Cuba to 'roll back' communism but the crisis had showed that diplomacy could work.

After the crisis a permanent 'hotline' phone link was set up between the Whitehouse and the Kremlin. It was hoped this would ensure that both sides could discuss issues before they escalated to a full-blown crisis.

Cuba remained a useful ally to Soviet Union especially as it was so geographically close to the USA.

In the USSR Khrushchev was portrayed as a responsible peacemaker who was willing to make the first move towards a peaceful solution.