Kennedy’s Thousand Days
Chapter 17 Sect. 2

New Frontier
• The Kennedy’s created a very youthful and energetic image
• “Young and goodlooking”
• Americans liked the image much more than the “New Frontier”
• Conservative Democrats and Republicans in Congress often blocked “New Frontier” laws
• With a close election victory, Kennedy did not have a mandate for his programs
• He often sought laws to help the poor.

Space Program
• Soviets launched the 1st person into space
• Khrushchev said this showed the superiority of communism
• Coupled with the disaster at the Bay of Pigs, this was an embarrassment to the US.
• Therefore Kennedy asked the US to land a man on the moon
• This made the “Space Race” a part of the Cold War
• The US would win this though.
**Essential Questions**

1. What did Americans like the most about Kennedy?
2. Why didn’t Congress approve the laws of the “New Frontier”?
3. What incident showed the superiority of communism?
4. What was the Space Race, What did Kennedy want to do in order to win it?

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**Warren Court**

- During Kennedy’s presidency the **Warren Court** was responsible for major changes in *civil rights and freedoms*.
  - **Earl Warren** is second to only John Marshall as most important Chief Justice.
  - Earl Warren did not do much for minorities while attorney general in California.
  - But he presided over *Brown v. Board of Education*: this ended segregation in schools.
  - In 1960’s is court passed many reforms.

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**Court Cases**

- **Warren Court** affected voting rights, rights of the accused, and religious freedom.
- **Baker v. Carr**: declared that urban voters should have equal representation.
- **Mapp v. Ohio**: required state and local police to have search warrants.
- **Engle v. Vitale**: prohibited prayer in school because it violated 1st amendment rights of government not to enforce a national religion.
Essential Questions
1. What was the Warren Court responsible for?
2. What famous Court case is the Warren Court responsible for? What happened in that case?

The Kennedy Assassination
1963, Kennedy made a trip to Texas to make a speech for reelection
- He rode through Dallas in an open car
- Kennedy was shot in that car
  - “Most people remember where they were when JFK was assassinated”
- The shooter was a man named Lee Harvey Oswald. He had ties to the Soviet Union and Cuba.
  - A few days later, Jack Ruby shot and killed Oswald.

A conspiracy?
- Many people felt the shooting was a conspiracy
- President Johnson had a commission headed by Earl Warren investigate the assassination.
- The Warren commission found that both men acted alone.
- JFK’s funeral was big and shown on TV.
- “The drama of Kennedy’s presidency outweighed the achievements.
- JFK made some gains in foreign relations with the Peace Corps and better relations with the Soviets.
**Essential Questions**

1. Who assassinated JFK?
2. Why did people believe this was a conspiracy?
3. What was the Warren Commission?
4. Where were there more gains during JFK’s presidency: Foreign affairs or domestic?