

THE CUBAN REVOLUTION

Brain
Wrinkles



Where is Cuba?



CUBA IN THE 1900S

- Cuba gained its independence from Spain in 1898.
- In the 1900s, Cuba's wealth was controlled by American companies.
 - The main businesses in Cuba were sugar and mining companies.
- The leader of Cuba was Fulgencio Batista.

FULGENCIO BATISTA



BATISTA'S CUBA

- Fulgencio Batista had originally been elected as president, but made himself dictator of Cuba.
- Many people were unhappy with Batista's rule.
- Poverty was abundant, education was poor, and healthcare was limited.

POWER TO THE PEOPLE

- Soon, revolutionaries lead by Fidel Castro began to rise up against the government.
- Castro and his forces led an unsuccessful overthrow of the government in 1953, but began a full scale war against Batista's government in 1955.
- Castro attempted to overthrow Batista's government for seven years.

FIDEL CASTRO



CUBAN REVOLUTION

- In 1959, Castro defeated the Batista government.
- Castro seized absolute power and made himself dictator of Cuba.
- He then had 700 of his enemies executed and many more were thrown in prison.
- The US originally backed Castro and sent him supplies to defeat Batista because he promised to make Cuba a democracy.

CASTRO'S PROMISES

- Fidel Castro promised to:
 1. End American dominance over Cuban businesses,
 2. Re-distribute the wealth evenly to all Cubans,
 3. Make every Cuban literate,
 4. and he wanted to give all Cubans healthcare and higher life expectancy.

communism

- Castro failed to do many of the things he promised he would do.
- Castro began organizing a Communist government right away.
- He declared that all property belonging to Americans now belonged to the Cuban government.
- All farms, factories, & businesses now belonged to the government.

CHANGES

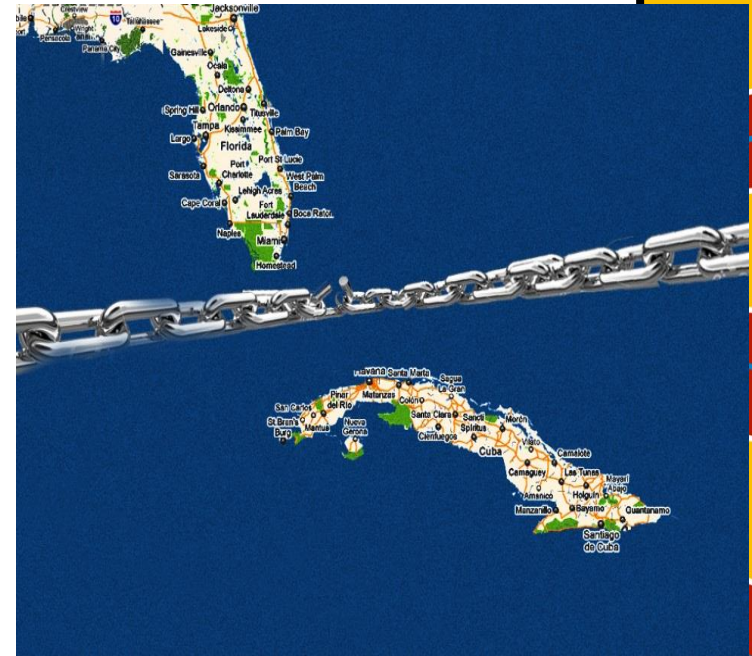
- Castro's government gave less freedom to Cuba's citizens.
- Cubans no longer had the right to protest against the government.
- Cuban newspapers, radio, & TV were shut down.
 - The government became the only source for news.
- Churches were closed and property was taken over by government.

BREAKING TIES

It was the ultimate goal of Fidel Castro to break ties between Cuba and the United States.

Americans who owned land and businesses in Cuba lost their property.

Castro forced American civilians to leave Cuba.



IMPACT ON US

- After the revolution, relations between the American government and the Cuban government got worse and worse.
- US did not like having a communist country so close.
- US didn't like Cuba having ties with the Soviet Union because they were involved in the Cold War.

CUBAN MISSILE CRISIS

- In October of 1962, US planes spotted secret Soviet missile bases in Cuba.
- President Kennedy announced to US citizens that the Soviets had placed long-range missiles in Cuba.
- This was an extremely TENSE time (height of the Cold War) that could have led to World War III.

EMBARGO

- Due to the harsh events, US placed an embargo on goods from Cuba in 1962.
- Cuba's sugar cane crop could no longer be sold in the US, which hurt Cuba's economy.
- As a result of the embargo, poor harvests, and bad government planning, Cuba's economy has become very poor.