

## Advanced Topics in U.S. History – Summer Reading Guide

### *One Minute to Midnight* by Michael Dobbs

1. How would you describe the relationship between the USA and the USSR in the early 1960's?
2. How would you describe the relationship fo the USA to Cuba?
3. What is the Bay of Pigs all about?
4. What is Operation Mongoose all about?
5. What is Operation "Ortsac" all about?
6. Who offers or asks first to put missiles in Cuba?
7. What is the justification for this decision?
8. What was the first reaction of almost everyone in the US Government upon hearing of the missiles in Cuba?
9. What are JFK's Options in dealing with this crisis?
10. Describe Khrushchev's and Castro's reactions to the Crisis.
11. What major circumstance in the Crisis were JFK's advisors totally unaware of until 30 years later?
12. Who were you most impressed with in his handling of the Crisis? Least impressed with?
13. Who in your mind was most responsible for the Crisis?
14. What was the final solution to this Crisis?