

THE 1960's



A Decade of Conflict

**The 1960's began
with excitement
and tremendous
optimism**

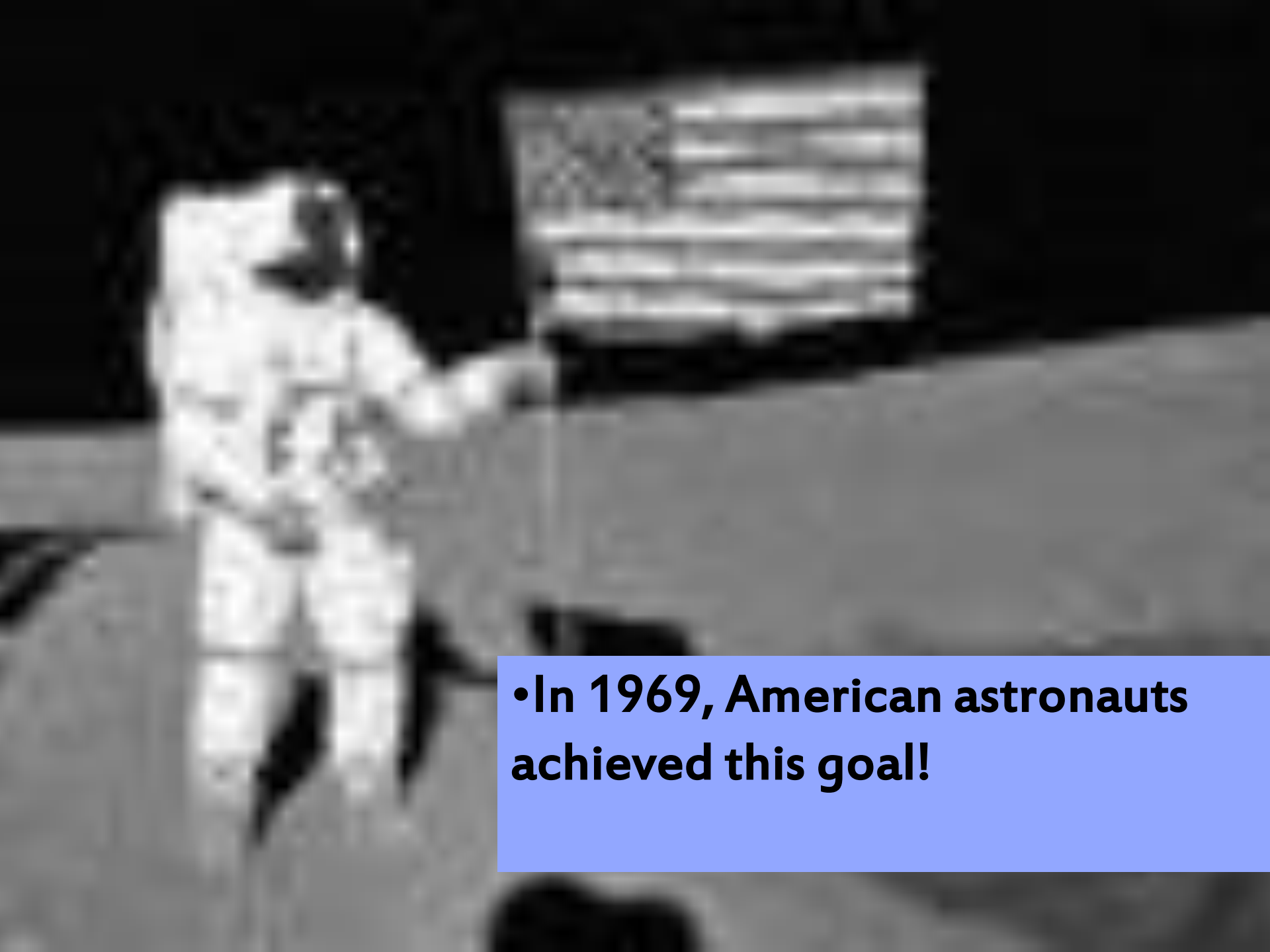
President Kennedy inspired our country with his inauguration speech when he said:

“Ask not what your country can do for you-ask what you can do for your country.”

Kennedy set a difficult goal for the nation's space program: To land Americans on the moon by the end of the decade.



<http://www.panoramas.dk/fullscreen3/f29.html>



•In 1969, American astronauts achieved this goal!

- **But by 1969, The United States was not a happy place.**
- **The lunar landing was only a temporary distraction.**

“The decade that seemed so full of promise back in 1960 ended in confusion, anger and despair, with political assassinations, an endless war in Vietnam with violent protests, and severe racial tension that tore the nation apart.” -Feinstein

Over the next two weeks, you will be learning about each of the most important people and monumental happenings of the 1960's.

John F. Kennedy



Lyndon B. Johnson



Martin Luther King, Jr.



ht

The Progression of the Civil Rights Movement



The Vietnam War

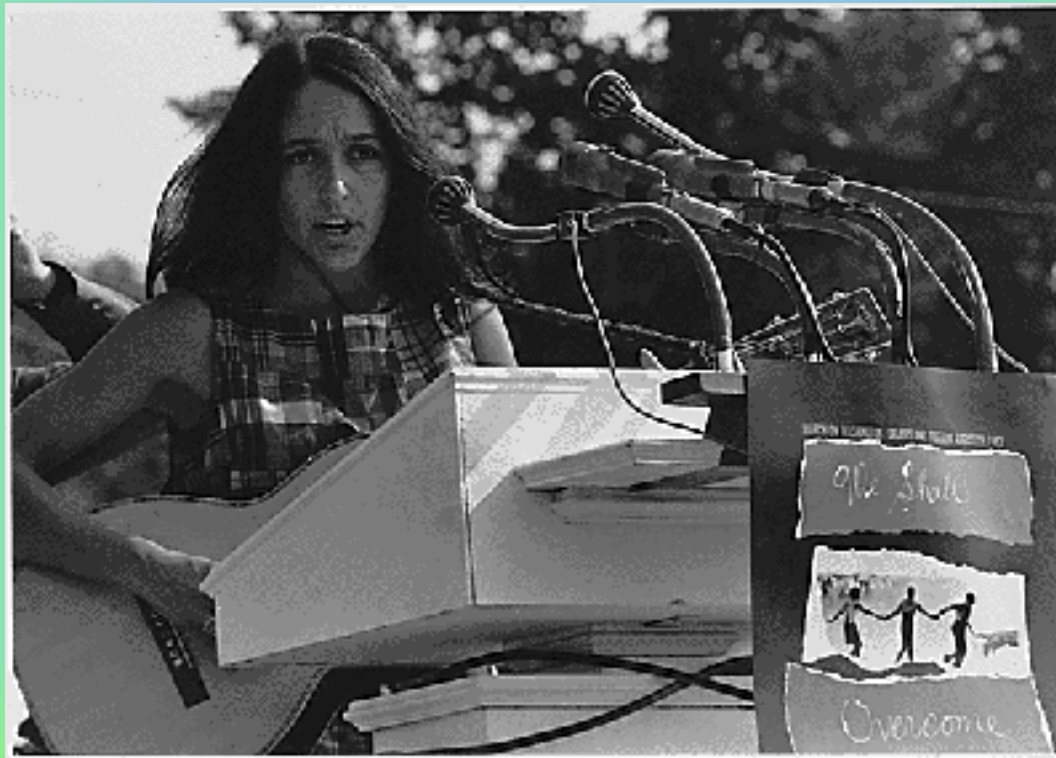


<http://history1900s.about.com/library/photos/blyindexvietnam.htm>

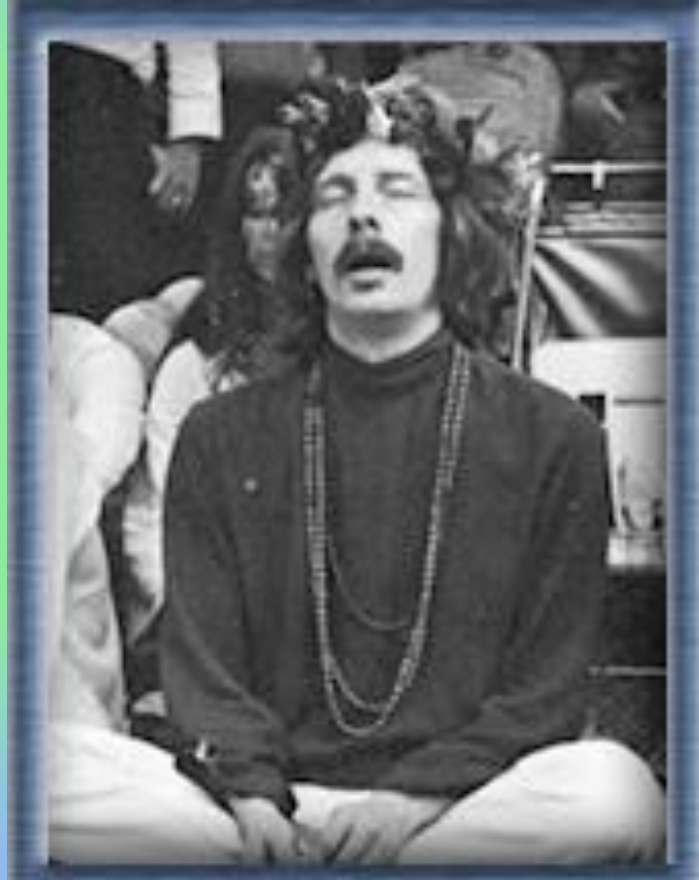
Protests and Riots



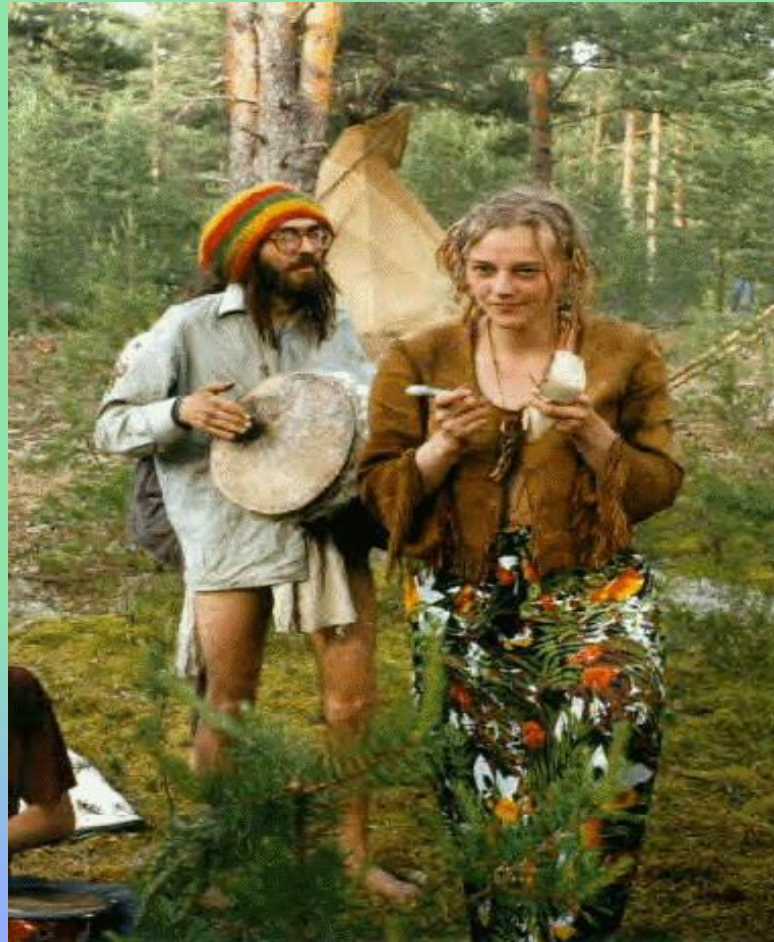
1960's Music



The Youth Movement



Flower Power and Hippie Culture



Women's Liberation Movement



And of course, Fads and Fashion!



Part One: The Early Years

Mainstream America

- Similar to the 1950's.
- A time for family
- Fathers went to work.
- Mothers stayed home to raise the children.



The Average Family

A photograph of a suburban house with a brown roof and a large green tree on the left side. The house has a brown roof and a large green tree on the left side. The sky is blue with some clouds. A person is visible in the distance near the house.

- owned a home in the suburbs
- Bought a new car every couple of years
- And enjoyed a fairly comfortable lifestyle

Economy in the Early 60s

- The post- World War II economic boom was at it's peak.
- Average incomes were growing at 6% a year.
- Family incomes had doubled since the end of the war.
- During the 1960's it was not necessary to have a college degree to live the "American Dream"

The Baby Boom Peaked

- 4 million babies were born in 1960.
- The boom began tapering off in 1962.
- Children born during the postwar baby boom began to reach their teenage years during the 60's.



Teenagers Began to Dominate the Population!

- In 1964, there were more 17 year olds than any other age in the country.**
- There were 24 million people between the ages of 15 and 24.**
- By 1966 almost half of all Americans were under the age of 26.**



“This was the first generation raised on television, TV dinners, and rock and roll.”

-Stuart

Kallen

Politics of the 1960's

- **John F. Kennedy took the presidency in 1961 with Lyndon B. Johnson as his vice president.**
- **At 43, he was the youngest president the United States had ever had.**
- **His debate with Richard Nixon was the first ever televised presidential debate.**

The Camelot Era

- **President Kennedy brought a youthful passion and energy to the White House.**
- **He had the dynamic personality of a T.V. star.**
- **He was viewed as a family man with his beautiful wife Jacqueline and two children, Caroline and John Junior.**

People saw him and his family as the height of glamour



John F. Kennedy

- **Wanted to shape history**
- **Raised minimum wage**
- **Set up Peace Corps to help the poor all over the world**
- **Was a huge supporter of the movement for civil rights.**



A major political conflict during the early 1960's was the Crisis in Cuba and the public's fear of nuclear war

Crisis in Cuba

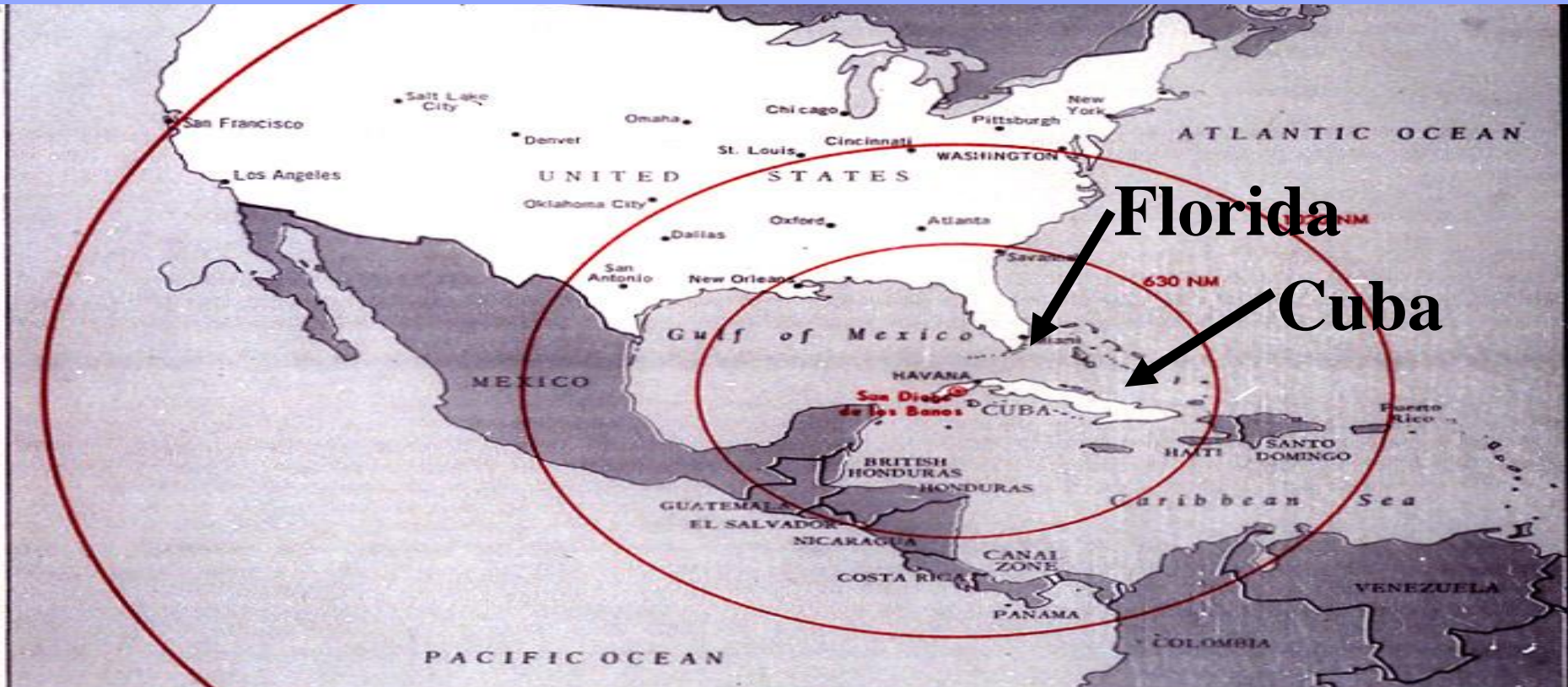
- Cuba was taken over by Dictator Fidel Castro who allied with Communistic Soviet Union.



Dictator

Fidel Castro

- Cuba is only 90 miles from the coast of Florida
- Having a Communist nation so close to the United States seemed dangerous.



- The United States assumed they wanted to take over the world.

Bay of Pigs Invasion

- In April of 1961, The United States invaded Cuba at the Bay of Pigs.
- We were easily defeated by Fidel Castro's Forces.
- "Kennedy was given false information by the CIA, regarding the Cuban's people's eagerness to topple Castro."

-Feinstein

Fear of Nuclear War

- This led to the Cuban Communist Party being the only legal party in Cuba at the time.
- They had nuclear missiles that could easily strike targets in the United States.
- This caused a fear of Nuclear War.

Crisis Conclusion

- On October 28, 1962, the Soviets finally agreed to withdraw their missiles
- The United States agreed not to invade Cuba.

**Just one short year later,
the Camelot era came to a
tragic end in Dallas, Texas.**

Kennedy Assassination

- On November 22, 1963 President Kennedy was shot and killed in Dallas, Texas during a Presidential Parade.**
- He and his wife, Jackie, were riding in a convertible limo in front of an enthusiastic crowd.**

President Kennedy with his wife Jackie in the motorcade about two minutes before the shooting in Dealey Plaza



Jackie with their two children, John Jr. and Caroline at the grave site



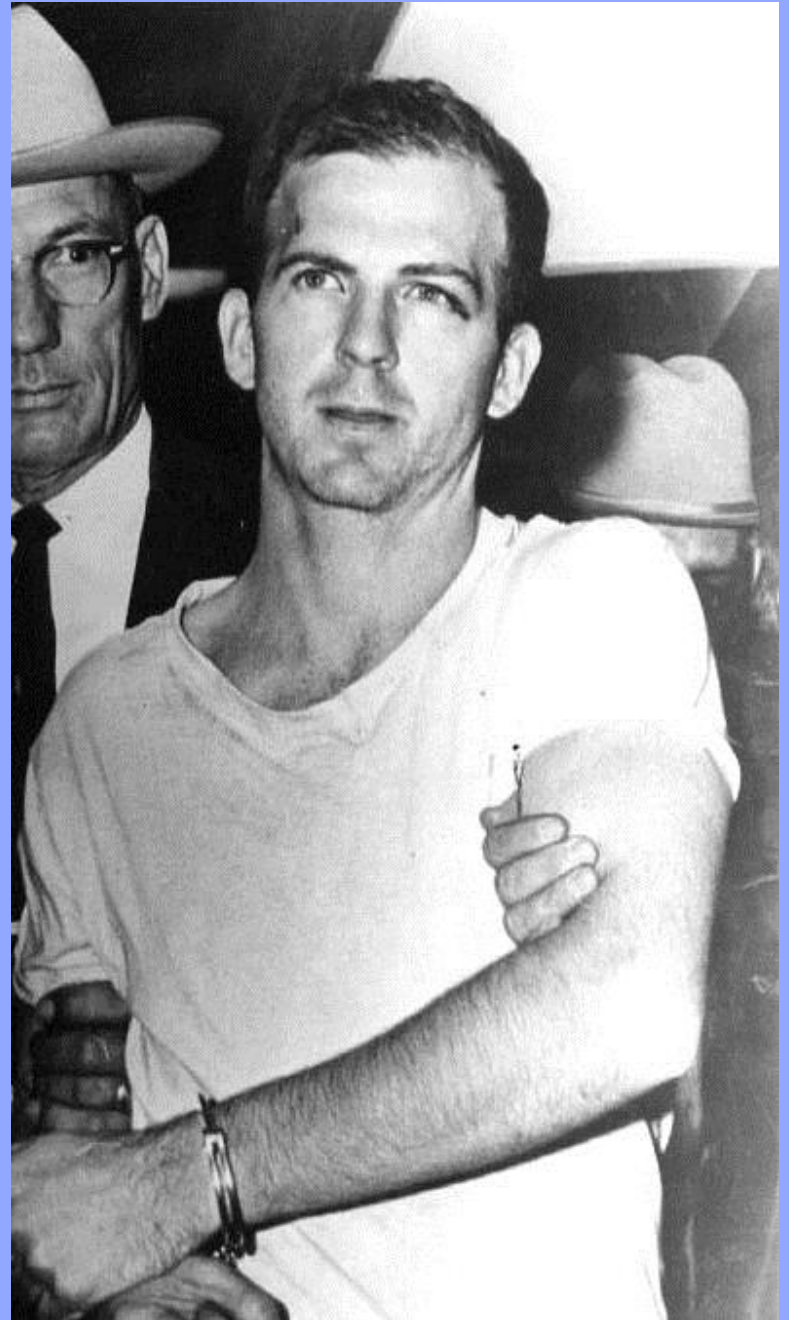
“Kennedy’s death destroyed much of the optimism Americans had during the early years of his administration.”

-Stephen Feinstein



- **Lee Harvey Oswald was accused of JFK's assassination.**

- **Oswald was shot to death inside a Dallas police station before he could be tried.**



UNIVERSAL-INTERNATIONAL NEWS

ASSASSIN KILLED

President's Slayer
Shot In Dallas Jail

VOICE: ED HERLINY

Lyndon B. Johnson was sworn in as president on Air Force One after Kennedy's death



**President
Johnson wanted
to carry out the
ideas of
President
Kennedy.**



President Johnson's Accomplishments

- He worked hard toward the Civil Rights Movement to get laws passed that had been initiated by JFK.**
- He Passed the 1964 Civil Rights Act**
- He Passed the 1965 Voting Rights Act**

Johnson's Plan for a "Great Society"

Included:

- Head Start for disadvantaged children**
- Medicare**
- Decent low-rent housing for the urban poor**
- Jobs Corps program to retrain unemployed workers**

In Summary, the early years...



Information

•Cozzens, Lisa. "Brown v. Board of Education." *African American History*.
<http://fledge.watson.org/~lisa/blackhistory/early-civilrights/brown.html> (25
May 1998).

•Atlanta Regional Council for Higher Education
50 Hurt Plaza, Suite 710 | Atlanta, Georgia 30303 | tel: 404.651.2668 | fax:
404.880.9816

Copyright ©2005 Atlanta Regional Council for Higher Education

Photographs

•<http://www.lyricsfreak.com/>

•<http://folkmusicarchives.org/>

•<http://www.landyvision.com/Slideshow/source/311.htm>

•<http://usinfo.state.gov/usa/infousa/laws/majorlaw/civilr19.htm>

•<http://people.clarkson.edu/~winklebh/vietnam2/byrds.html>

•<http://www.arlington.mccsc.edu/photo.html>

•http://afroamhistory.about.com/library/blphotos_march_baez.htm