Initial Research Log

1. John F. Kennedy was only in office for three years.

2. Kennedy expanded America’s space program, giving America world-wide respect.

3. Kennedy worked to have better relations with Europe by expanding Europe’s Common Market.

4. Kennedy worked to unite Western Europe by supporting the newly developing Common Market.

5. Kennedy called for civil rights for blacks. He pestered Congress to pass a civil rights act in June 1963.

6. He worked to fight communism, especially in China and the Soviet Union.

7. On August 5th 1963, he convinced Britain and the Soviet Union to sign a limited nuclear test ban, soothing cold-war tension.


9. In 1961, Kennedy saved the security of Western Berlin and Western Europe by succeeding in a political battle with Nikita Khrushchev, the Soviet premier.
10. On October 22, 1962, Kennedy announced quarantine on all offensive Soviet weapons headed for Cuba, as a response to Soviet nuclear bases being built in Russia.

11. On October 28, Kennedy convinced the Soviet Union to dismantle and withdraw its offensive weapons in Cuba. This was credited as the turning point in the Cold War.

12. A few months into his presidency, Kennedy proposed programs to Congress that would provide medical care for the elderly, create economic growth, reform taxing laws, and more.

13. In August 1961, a program called the Alliance for Progress was started to help struggling Latin-American countries vulnerable to turning out like Cuba, such as Colombia and Venezuela.

Explanation: I chose John F. Kennedy because I believe that he would be an interesting topic. He overcame much adversity in his lifetime and I truly feel that his resilience shaped him as a person. From this article, I learned that Kennedy had a lot to do with the Space program, the Cold War, and fighting communism. Also, I took a special class on the space program that Kennedy created, and I would like to learn more about Kennedy’s influence on the program. Finally, ever since the incidences involving weapons of mass destruction, I have become interested in America’s history with nuclear war. My starting thesis statement would be: John F. Kennedy had an impact on our nation’s history
because of his work for the space program, his behavior in the Cuban Missile Crisis, and
his fight against communism.

Student 3

Works Cited


http://history1900s.about.com/gi/dynamic/offsite.htm?zi=1/XJ/Ya&sdn=history1900%26templatename%3D/article/article.html