Rattling Missiles
Test Ban? What Test Ban!? 

• Trachtenberg (486)

• 9/1/1961 – USSR tests nukes despite Vienna good-faith negotiations→
  – JFK & HMAC propose ban on atmospheric testing
  – USSR answers w/ 2 more tests; NK calls JFK immature & inexperienced in media

• Gotterdammerung vs. One side survives (489)
  – RFK: Doesn’t NK get it?!
Missile Gap? What Missile Gap?!

- A man on horseback…(490)

- JFK says there’s a “missile gap” in campaign
  - US learned USSR had 10-25 ICBMs to their 6K (oops)
  - Needs a win in midterms, so releases info to the public
  - Of course, NK responds w/ missile tests

- JFK gives an interview to saying he will use nukes preemptively.
  - Says JFK made a “bad mistake” (492)
Kagan Says...

- NK putting missiles in CUB meant he didn’t think JFK would use them (492)
- Info release & interview embarrassed NK without removing his doubts that JFK would use the weapons (493)