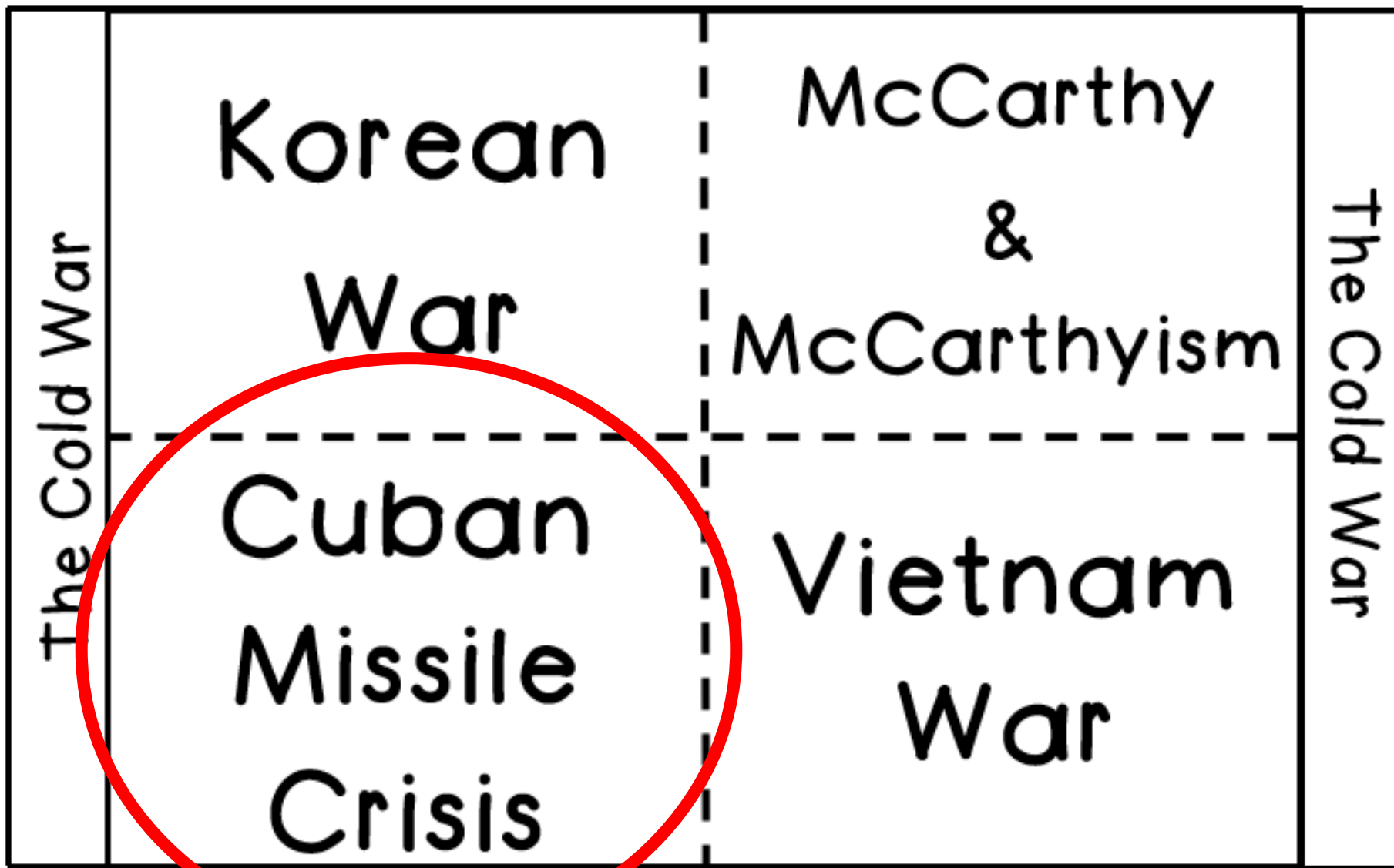


Cold War

Day 6



Korean War

McCarthy & McCarthyism

Cuban Missile Crisis

Vietnam War

Missiles

- In 1962, the Soviets sent ballistic missiles with nuclear warheads to communist Cuba.
- Cuba is only 90 miles away from the US.
- The missiles could have easily destroyed the southeastern states!



Soviet Ballistic Missile

Blockade

- US President John F. Kennedy ordered the US Navy to blockade Cuba, which prevented Soviet ships from delivering more weapons or supplies to the island.
- President Kennedy also sent troops to Florida in case the US needed to invade Cuba.
- He warned that any attack on the US from Cuba would be considered an act of war by the Soviet Union.

A US Navy P2-H Neptune flying over a Soviet cargo ship carrying weapons in 1962.



President Kennedy signs
the Proclamation for
Interdiction of the
Delivery of Offensive
Weapons to Cuba at the
Oval Office on October
23, 1962.



Truce

- After 13 tense days and many secret negotiations with Soviet leader Nikita Khrushchev, the Soviets finally backed down and agreed to pull their missiles out of Cuba.
- The US also agreed to never invade Cuba again and to pull its own missiles out of Italy and Turkey.
- The world narrowly escaped a nuclear war!
- Fidel Castro, Cuba's dictator, was not present during the negotiations.

