Chapter 28: The Kennedy and Johnson Years (1960 - 1968)

Section 2: Kennedy’s New Frontier
Objectives

- Evaluate Kennedy’s domestic policies.
- Assess the impact of the Kennedy assassination.
Terms and People

• **New Frontier** – a term for Kennedy’s proposals to resolve economic, educational, healthcare, and civil rights issues and to explore space

• **Equal Pay Act** – passed in 1963, the law required equal wages for equal work in industries engaged in commerce or in producing goods for commerce

• **deficit spending** – the government borrows money to spend more than it receives in taxes
Terms and People (continued)

- **space race** – the competition between the Soviet Union and the United States to develop technology to land on the moon

- **Warren Commission** – the official government commission that investigated the assassination of President Kennedy
What were the goals of Kennedy’s New Frontier?

President Kennedy was determined to improve life in the United States.

He succeeded in making some domestic policy changes regarding poverty and racial discrimination and spurred interest in the space race.
President Kennedy had a special style that made him seem different from other politicians.

The new First Family charmed Americans with their youth and energy.
Kennedy promised America a **New Frontier**.

- He pledged to create economic opportunity and expand healthcare and civil rights.
- He also wanted to jump-start the space program.
Some of President Kennedy’s **New Frontier** proposals succeeded. Kennedy was able to:

- Increase the minimum wage
- Extend Social Security benefits
- Improve the welfare system
- Pass the first **Equal Pay Act** for men and women

However, a conservative Congress prevented Kennedy from enacting all of the programs he proposed.
Kennedy made several proposals related to the economy.

- Increased military spending
- Tax credits for business and tax cuts for the middle class
- **Deficit spending** to stimulate the economy

Kennedy’s economic initiatives led to tremendous economic growth in the late 1960s.
Kennedy introduced a civil rights bill in 1963. He also proposed to strengthen civil rights in response to the violence in the South.
Kennedy recognized the need for the United States to beat the Soviet Union in the **space race**.

He made it a national goal to place a **man on the moon** before **1970**.

Congress gave generous funding to NASA, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.
In July, 1969 an American flag flew on the moon.
In November, 1963, while riding in a motorcade in Dallas, Texas, President Kennedy was assassinated.

The senseless murder deeply saddened Americans.

To many, it seemed that America’s innocence had died with Kennedy.
After Kennedy’s death, Vice President Johnson was sworn in as the new President.

The nation moved to resolve the economic and equality issues Kennedy had identified.

Johnson also appointed the **Warren Commission** to investigate the assassination of President Kennedy.
Section Review

QuickTake Quiz

Know It, Show It Quiz

ExamView
QuickTake Presenter

Mac

Windows