

TOPIC ABSTRACT

Breaking News! President John F. Kennedy was assassinated while traveling in a motorcade through Dealey Plaza in Dallas, Texas, two hours ago. Vice President Lyndon B. Johnson has just been sworn in to the presidency, but the crisis isn't over. Since this afternoon, the nation has been left without clear answers: the American government is seeing the first hours of an unplanned transition, and the rumors about Cuba, the Soviet Union, and Vietnam are quickly circulating through government channels, the press, and the nation. This committee's central problem is not only who did the assassination, but also the several unresolved tensions that the Kennedy administration left that directly affected the crisis. Kennedy's civil rights bill is still sitting in Congress, the remaining tensions from the Cuban Missile Crisis and the Bay of Pigs invasion keep growing, the American troops are just starting to be sent to Saigon, and, now, a murderer is loose in Dallas. With these political stakes, the delegates are working during the first 24-48 hours since the assassination to find the killer and what the immediate future of the country will be.