



(The Presidency of John F. Kennedy).

"The Purpose of history is properly to understand the past, and ~~in~~ most after this means tackling accepted interpretations head-on". This statement and thesis by Chris J Bickerton from February, 2006 is as true now as it ever was. The ^{way} only to properly understand history is to explain the different interpretations offered by fellow historians, ~~more so~~

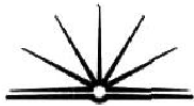
Such ~~an~~ interpretation can be seen through the different perspectives offered by the Camelot and Revisionist schools - both in direct controversy of one another - over John F. Kennedy's presidency during the mid 1900's, or more specifically, ^{the} American - Cuban relationship in regard to the 1961



'Bay of Pigs Fiasco' and the 1962,
'Cuban Missile Crisis'.

The Camelot School's "Myth Makers" – Arthur Schlesinger and Theodore Sorenson
convey Kennedy as a 20th Century
war hero in a wonderful marriage
with beautiful wife Jacqueline Kennedy.
The Camelot's convey a bias view of
the president as they were close family
friends with the Kennedys. The Camelot's
admit that while the Bay of Pigs
Fiasco (61) and Cuban Missile Crisis
(62) were disasters, they name young
Kennedy as inexperienced and
blame the experts around him for
pushing him in the wrong direction.

However, the Revisionist School
wrote about Kennedy 20 years



after his assassination, proving that with time, interpretations change. Revisionist "Myth Breakers" directly contrast the image of Kennedy created by the Camelots, naming Kennedy ^{"a product} ~~of~~ his father's dreams, who will not take no for an answer; they question his accrued infidelities and label him a vain, self-righteous man not capable of leading a country, "let alone ~~the~~ the United States of America."

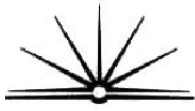
However, while Revisionist members Jason Reid and Lyotard Thomson strongly disliked Kennedy as a man and President, they admit that Kennedy handled the "incidents" of 1961 and 1962 "strategically, he

still created the men himself."

As EH Carr quoted, "History is a never ending dialogue between what ~~was~~ and what is". Professor Carr furthens the theory ~~that~~ ~~proposed~~ brought forward by Bickerton that the past is constantly being challenged by new and controversial interpretations which need to be tackled head on if we are to discover the real 'truth' in history.

~~Therefore,~~

Therefore, it can be seen through the interpretations brought forward by the bar camelot party and the strong dislike for Kennedy as a result of this biased view shown by not only the camelot party



but ^{also by} many others which reinforces
~~the~~ Bickerton's thesis that if we
as historians are to find significance
in truth and history, we are to
face the different interpretations
of different historians head on and
learn to properly understand
history.