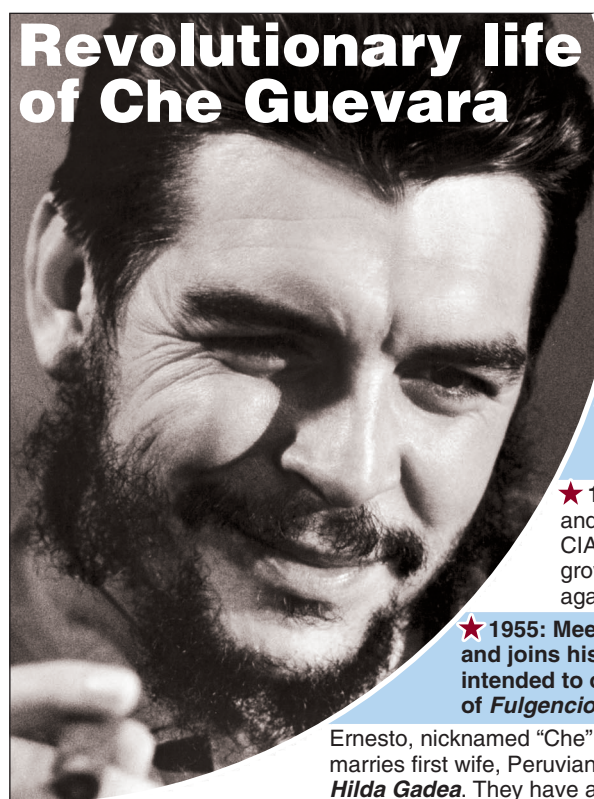


Revolutionary life of Che Guevara



★ **Jun 14, 1928:** **Ernesto Guevara de la Serna** born in Rosario, Argentina, to liberal, middle-class family

★ **1930:** Diagnosed with asthma – family moves to Alta Gracia in search of healthier climate

★ **1951:** Travels through Latin America with friend **Alberto Granado**, works in leper colony in San Pablo, Peru. His experiences, described in "Motorcycle Diaries", convince him that genuine equality can only be achieved through socialism

★ **1953:** Graduates from medical school in Buenos Aires, embarks on second trip through Latin America

★ **1954:** Witnesses invasion of Guatemala and overthrow of elected president by CIA-backed forces. Events confirm his growing belief in armed resistance against opponents of socialism

★ **1955:** Meets **Fidel Castro** in Mexico, and joins his **26th of July Movement** – intended to overthrow dictatorship of **Fulgencio Batista** in Cuba

Ernesto, nicknamed "Che" by Cuban friends, marries first wife, Peruvian economist **Hilda Gadea**. They have a daughter

CUBA
Guevara's route to Havana, Dec 1958



TRIPS THROUGH LATIN AMERICA

1951 →

1953-56 →



★ **1956:** Che, Castro and 80 Cuban guerrillas land in Las Coloradas, Cuba, aboard yacht **Granma**

Most are captured or killed by government troops, some 15 survivors launch guerrilla war in Sierra Maestra mountains

★ **1957:** Successful attacks see rebel numbers grow to around 3,000. Che promoted to **comandante** after distinguishing himself as courageous and ruthless tactician

★ **1958:** Guevara's forces capture strategic locations, including Santa Clara, leaving road to Havana clear

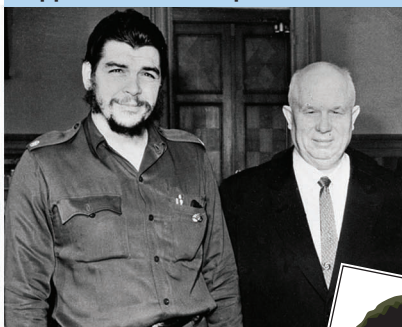


★ **1959:** Batista flees. Castro becomes prime minister. Che declared Cuban citizen, marries second wife **Aleida March**. They have four children

Presides over summary trials of enemies of revolution and becomes president of National Bank of Cuba



★ **1960:** As U.S. trade embargoes bite, Soviet Union, under **Nikita Khrushchev**, becomes Cuba's chief supporter and trade partner



Publishes **Guerrilla Warfare**, which becomes handbook for revolutionary movements throughout Latin America, Africa and Asia

Alberto Korda's iconic image of Che becomes symbol of revolutionary ideals worldwide



★ **1961:** CIA-backed attempt by Cuban exiles to invade Cuba at Bay of Pigs crushed by Castro's forces

As Minister of Industry, Che pushes for centralised economic planning

★ **1962:** Plays key role in bringing to Cuba Soviet nuclear ballistic missiles, precipitating Cuban Missile Crisis

★ **1964:** Guevara addresses UN General Assembly, denouncing Western imperialism

★ **1965:** Relinquishes Cuban nationality and all official positions

Travels to Africa to foment rebellion in Congo – but campaign fails and he returns secretly to Cuba

★ **1966:** Arrives in Bolivia to head guerrilla movement attempting to overthrow military government

★ **Oct 8-9, 1967:** Che captured by CIA-led Bolivian troops and killed, aged 39, in La Higuera, after telling his executioner: "Shoot, coward. You are only going to kill a man"



Pictures: Getty Images, AP

Source: Che Guevara: A Revolutionary Life by Jon Lee Anderson © GRAPHIC NEWS