

A-level HISTORY

Component 2R The Cold War, c1945–1991

Time allowed: 2 hours 30 minutes

Materials

For this paper you must have:

- an AQA 16-page answer book.

Instructions

- Use black ink or black ball-point pen.
- Write the information required on the front of your answer book. The **Paper Reference** is 7042/2R.
- Answer **three** questions.
In **Section A** answer Question 01.
In **Section B** answer **two** questions.

Information

- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- The maximum mark for this paper is 80.
- You will be marked on your ability to:
 - use good English
 - organise information clearly
 - use specialist vocabulary where appropriate.

Advice

- You are advised to spend about:
 - 1 hour on Question 01 from **Section A**
 - 45 minutes on each of the **two** questions answered from **Section B**.

Section A

Answer Question 01.

Source A

From a message from President Eisenhower to President Ngo Dinh Diem of the Republic of Vietnam, 22 October 1960. The White House made this message public on 25 October 1960.

Dear Mr President

During the years of your independence it has been refreshing for us to observe how clearly the government and the citizens of Vietnam have faced the fact that the greatest danger to their independence was Communism. You and your countrymen have used your strength well in accepting the double challenge of building your country and resisting Communist imperialism. In five short years since the founding of the Republic, the Vietnamese people have developed their country in almost every sector. At the same time Vietnam's ability to defend itself from the Communists has grown. I also know that your determination has been a vital factor in guarding that independence while steadily advancing the economic development of your country. 5 10

Although the main responsibility for guarding that independence will always, as it has in the past, belong to the Vietnamese people and their government, I want to assure you that the United States will continue to assist Vietnam in the difficult, yet hopeful, struggle ahead.

Source B

From a news conference given by President Kennedy to journalists, 7 February 1962.

Journalist: Could you tell us what the situation is in Vietnam? How deeply are we involved in what seems to be a growing war and what are our forces doing?

President Kennedy: There is a war going on in South Vietnam, and I think that last week there were over 500 killings, as well as assassinations and bombings and the casualties are high. As I said last week, it is a guerrilla war of increasing ferocity. The United States, since the end of the Geneva Accords and the setting up of the South Vietnamese government as an independent government, has been assisting Vietnam economically to maintain its independence. It has sent training groups out there, which have been expanded in recent weeks, as the attacks on the government and the people of South Vietnam have increased. 5 10

We are out there helping with training and transportation. We are assisting in every way we can the people of South Vietnam who, with the greatest courage, are attempting to maintain their freedom.

Source C

From a confidential note from Presidential advisor, Ambrose Galbraith, to President Kennedy, 4 April 1962.

The following considerations influence our thinking on Vietnam:

1. We have a growing military commitment. This could expand step by step into a major, long drawn-out indecisive military involvement.
2. We are backing a weak and ineffectual government and corrupt leader.
3. There is consequent danger we shall replace the French as the colonial force in the area and bleed as the French did. 5
4. The political effects of some of the measures which pacification requires, or is believed to require, including the concentration of population, relocation of villages, and the burning of old villages, may be damaging to those associated with it.
5. We fear that at some point there will be a major political outburst about a new war into which the Democrats have led the USA. 10

In the light of the foregoing I urge the following:

We should reduce our commitment to the particular present leadership of the government of South Vietnam and resist all steps which commit American troops to combat action.

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With reference to these sources and your understanding of the historical context, assess the value of these three sources to an historian studying the relationship between the US and South Vietnam in the years c1960 to 1962.

[30 marks]

Turn over for Section B

Section B

Answer **two** questions.

0 2

'American involvement in Europe, in the years 1945 to 1949, was primarily driven by the desire to advance US economic interests.'

Assess the validity of this view.

[25 marks]

0 3

How far do ideological differences between the USSR and China explain the worsening relations that developed between these two countries in the years 1963 to 1972?

[25 marks]

0 4

To what extent, in the years 1972 to 1979, was there a significant reduction in tensions between the superpowers?

[25 marks]

END OF QUESTIONS

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