

## AS HISTORY

The Cold War, c1945–1991

Component 2R To the brink of Nuclear War: international relations,  
c1945–1963

---

Monday 18 May 2020

Afternoon

Time allowed: 1 hour 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 7041/2R.
- Answer **two** questions.  
In **Section A** answer Question 01.  
In **Section B** answer **either** Question 02 **or** Question 03.

### Information

- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- The maximum mark for this paper is 50.
- 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:
  - 50 minutes on Section A
  - 40 minutes on Section B.

---

**Section A**Answer Question 01.

---

**Source A**

From a television address given by John F Kennedy to the American nation, 22 October 1962.

Within the past week, unmistakable evidence has established the fact that a series of offensive missile sites is now in preparation on Cuba. The purpose of these bases can be none other than to provide a nuclear strike capability against the western hemisphere. This rapid transformation of Cuba into an important strategic base constitutes an explicit threat to the peace and security of all the Americas. Neither the United States of America nor the world community of nations can tolerate deliberate deception and offensive threats. Nuclear weapons are so destructive and ballistic missiles are so swift, that any substantially increased possibility of their use or any sudden change in their deployment may well be regarded as a threat to peace. 5

**Source B**

From the memoirs of Nikita Khrushchev, written after he was removed from power in 1964 and published in the West in 1970.

The fate of Cuba and the maintenance of Soviet prestige preoccupied me. We had to establish an effective deterrent to American interference in the Caribbean region. But what exactly? The logical answer was missiles. We knew that American missiles were aimed against us in Turkey, and also in West Germany. I had the idea of installing missiles with nuclear warheads in Cuba without letting the US find out that they were there until it was too late to do anything about them. I want to make one thing absolutely clear; when we put our ballistic missiles in Cuba, we had no desire to start a war. On the contrary, our principal aim was to deter America from starting a war. 5

**0 1** With reference to these sources and your understanding of the historical context, which of these two sources is more valuable in explaining the crisis over Cuba in 1962?

**[25 marks]**

---

**Section B**

Answer **either** Question 02 **or** Question 03.

---

**Either**

**0 2**

'Stalin's expansionist policies in eastern Europe were the main cause of tension between the USA and USSR in the years 1945 to 1948.'

Explain why you agree or disagree with this view.

**[25 marks]**

**or**

**0 3**

'McCarthyism had a significant impact on US foreign policy in the years 1950 to 1954.'

Explain why you agree or disagree with this view.

**[25 marks]**

**END OF QUESTIONS**

---

**There are no questions printed on this page**

**Copyright information**

For confidentiality purposes, all acknowledgements of third-party copyright material are published in a separate booklet. This booklet is published after each live examination series and is available for free download from [www.aqa.org.uk](http://www.aqa.org.uk).

Permission to reproduce all copyright material has been applied for. In some cases, efforts to contact copyright-holders may have been unsuccessful and AQA will be happy to rectify any omissions of acknowledgements. If you have any queries please contact the Copyright Team.

Copyright © 2020 AQA and its licensors. All rights reserved.

