A-level
HISTORY

Component 2R  The Cold War, c1945–1991

Wednesday 13 June 2018  Afternoon  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:
  – 60 minutes on Question 01
  – 45 minutes on each of the two questions in Section B.
Section A

Answer Question 01.

Source A

From a statement issued by the White House to the press, 25 October 1983.

On Sunday, 23 October, the United States received an urgent, formal request from the five member nations of the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States to assist in a joint effort to restore democracy on the island of Grenada. We assented to this request.

Early this morning, forces from six Caribbean democracies and the United States began a landing on the island of Grenada. We have taken this decisive action for three reasons:

First, of overriding importance, to protect innocent lives, including 1,000 Americans.
Second, to forestall further chaos.
Third, to assist in the restoration of conditions of law and order and of governmental institutions to the island of Grenada, where a brutal group of leftist thugs violently seized power, killing the Prime Minister, three cabinet ministers and other civilians, including children.

Let there be no misunderstanding. This action has been forced on us by events that have no precedent in the eastern Caribbean and no place in any civilised society.

Source B

From a televised speech to the American people by Ronald Reagan, 9 May 1984.

The defence policy of the United States is based on a simple premise: we do not start wars. We will never be the aggressor. We maintain our strength in order to deter and defend against aggression, to preserve freedom and peace. Central America is a region of great importance to the United States and it has become the stage for a bold attempt by the Soviet Union, Cuba, and Nicaragua to install communism by force throughout the hemisphere.

The Sandinista rule in Nicaragua is a Communist reign of terror. Many of those who fought alongside the Sandinistas saw their revolution betrayed. They were denied power in the new government. Some were imprisoned, others exiled. Thousands who fought with the Sandinistas have taken up arms against them and are now called the Contras.

We Americans should be proud of what, together with our friends, we can do in Central America to support democracy, human rights, and economic growth while preserving peace so close to home.
Source C

From an article in the Philadelphia Daily News, October 1984, by Richard Aregood who later received the Pulitzer Prize in 1985 for excellent editorial writing.

To hear official spokesmen tell it, the United States is in great danger, surrounded by toppling dominoes that only massive heaps of money and arms can prop up. But in the last week alone, there has been a story about how our government reaches these conclusions.

Nicaragua announced that it was prepared to sign the Contadora peace plan. That sounded like great news, because the US has been pressuring Nicaragua to accept the plan. But the Reagan administration now says it wants changes before we can accept the very same treaty we’ve been pushing on the Nicaraguans. The message is clear, even if the policy is inconsistent. This American government will not be satisfied until it gets what it wanted all along. The only way the Sandinistas can satisfy us is to resign, leave their own country and turn it over to our Somocista (supporters of Samoza) thugs. The only real danger we face is that we’ll believe our own lies, and start pushing our neighbours around for reasons we have created.

With reference to these sources and your understanding of the historical context, assess the value of these three sources to an historian studying the motives for US intervention in the Caribbean and Central America in the years 1982 to 1984.

[30 marks]
Section B

Answer two questions.

02 ‘The USA was responsible for the division of Germany into two separate states by 1949.’
Assess the validity of this view. [25 marks]

03 How effective was Khrushchev’s policy of peaceful co-existence in reducing Cold War tensions in the years 1955 to 1961?
[25 marks]

04 ‘Summit diplomacy, in the years 1985 to 1988, succeeded because of Mikhail Gorbachev.’
Assess the validity of this view. [25 marks]

END OF QUESTIONS