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# AS HISTORY

The Cold War, c1945–1991

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

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Tuesday 22 May 2018      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.

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**Section A**

Answer Question 01.

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**Source A**

From an official response from the Soviet Union to the United States, 14 July 1948, following US complaints about the Berlin blockade.

The Soviet government considers that the situation in Berlin has arisen because of the violation by America, Great Britain and France of agreed decisions taken at Potsdam in regard to Germany and Berlin. This violation finds its expression in the introduction of a separate currency and in the policy of the dismemberment of Germany.

The interests of the Berlin population do not permit a situation in which there shall be introduced a currency which has no validity in the Soviet zone. The Soviet Command has been forced, therefore, to adopt certain urgent measures for the protection of the interests of the German population and also of the economy of the Soviet zone of occupation and the area of 'Greater Berlin'.

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**Source B**

From a confidential report on the Berlin blockade, from the British Air Ministry to the British government in 1951.

The Berlin blockade developed as a consequence of decisions made during the war. It was the climax of a planned and deliberate attempt by the Soviets to force the Western allies out of Berlin.

The Potsdam Agreement consisted of a short statement of principle and was not a rule book for the government of Germany. Consequently, co-operation and good faith on the part of the allies was required if effective government of Berlin was to work.

Unfortunately, the Soviet attitude prevented this.

The split between the two sectors was made complete by the Allied currency reform introduced in June 1948. This was caused by the Soviets' refusal to co-operate and resulted in each sector having a different currency.

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With reference to these sources and your understanding of the historical context, which of these two sources is more valuable in explaining the reasons for the Berlin blockade of 1948–49?

**[25 marks]**

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**Section B**

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

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**Either**

**0 2** 'Truman shifted the focus of his containment policy from Europe to Asia after 1949 because of the establishment of communism in China.'

Explain why you agree or disagree with this view.

**[25 marks]**

**or**

**0 3** 'The failure to contain communism in South Vietnam by 1963 was the result of Kennedy's policies.'

Explain why you agree or disagree with this view.

**[25 marks]**

**END OF QUESTIONS**

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

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