



HISTORY

8814

International History, c. 1945 – 2000

4 September 2017

Additional Materials: Answer Paper

3 hours

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Write your **name** and **CT class** clearly on every sheet of writing paper submitted.

Write in dark blue or black pen on both sides of the paper.

Do not use staples, paper clips, highlighters, glue or correction fluid.

Attempt both Section A and Section B.

Attempt one question from Section A and only three questions from Section B.

Please start every question on a *fresh* sheet of paper and label each question clearly.

If you did not manage to complete a question, please hand in a piece of blank paper with your name and CT on it.

At the end of the examination, fasten your responses with the string provided **together**.

All questions in this paper carry equal marks.

Section A

You **must** answer Question 1.

Security Council during the Cold War

1. Read the sources and then answer the question.

Source A

As soon as word of the attack was received, Secretary of State Acheson called me at and informed me that, with my approval, he would ask for an immediate meeting of the United Nations Security Council. The Security Council met just 24 hours after the Communist invasion began.

One of the main reasons the Security Council was set up was to act in such cases as this—to stop outbreaks of aggression in a hurry before they develop into general conflicts. In this case the Council passed a resolution which called for the invaders of Korea to stop fighting, and to withdraw. The Council called on all members of the United Nations to help carry out this resolution. The Communist invaders ignored the action of the Security Council and kept right on with their attack.

The Security Council then met again. It recommended that members of the United Nations help the Republic of Korea repel the attack and help restore peace and security in that area. Fifty-two of the 59 countries which are members of the United Nations have given their support to the action taken by the Security Council to restore peace in Korea.

Harry Truman in a television address to the American public, July 1950

Source B

The Congo presented a major logistical challenge to any intervention because it lacked a major port near its principal cities, meaning that all military assistance would have to be airlifted. Khrushchev preferred a political solution anyway. It served Soviet interests to let the UN restore order. Moscow's favourite was already Congo's prime minister, and the international community was coming to his rescue. On July 13 the Soviet delegate at the UN was instructed to support a Security Council resolution calling for the formation of a UN force for the Congo and the immediate withdrawal of Belgian forces from the country. The resolution passed that night, 8 – 0, with Washington and Moscow on the same side of the discussion.

A history book on the Cold War, 2010

Source C

The habits of consultation and negotiation that the council has cultivated influence, often in subtle ways, the course of crises. These habits can prevent miscalculation, and they can permit powerful states to save face. A quiet conversation in the council's anteroom helped to ease the dangerous Berlin blockade in the early days of the Cold War. When the Middle East descended into war in 1967 and 1973, the council served as a ready vehicle for negotiating ceasefires, dispatching peacekeepers, and avoiding superpower entanglement. In the late 1980s, the combined pressure of the council members ended the long struggle between Iran and Iraq, a conflict that was spilling over into the Persian Gulf and threatening international commerce. Even when the council "fails", it may serve a useful purpose. During the Cuban missile crisis, the Soviet veto prevented formal council action, but the dramatic debate may have helped to slow the pace of the crisis and to shape world public opinion...For all of its shortcomings, however, the council has been a qualified success as a loose concert of the most powerful states.

A law professor on the UN Security Council, 2009

Source D

From its creation in 1945 to the end of the Cold War, the Security Council lay largely unresponsive, paralyzed by the dynamics of the Cold War. The cross-vetoes of the United States and the Soviet Union prevented any effective action, except for the deployment of a few peacekeeping operations by mutual consent. Both powers used each other's vetoes in the propaganda battles. The respective positions of the fifteen members in the Cold War would determine their role in this political theatre. There was no divide between the P5 and the E10 then, because the P5 were divided.

An academic in his book on the UN Security Council, 2004

Source E

The Security Council occupies a very important position in the UN. Under the terms of the Charter it has the principal responsibility for maintaining peace and security. Has the Security Council fulfilled the mission given to it? At the Washington Conference, we criticized the veto rules allowed in the Security Council. But the conference was willing to apply the system loyally. Experience has justified our objections. We are ready to continue the experiment. We recognized that the countries are not yet sufficiently conscious of their interdependence and are not ready to accept the decision of the majority. If the members of the Security Council do not make prudent use of the veto power then it will reduced to impotence, incapable of fulfilling its mission.

Belgium delegation representative to the UN General Assembly, 24 Oct 1946

Now answer the following question.

How far do Sources A – E support the view that the Security Council had been ineffective in maintaining international peace during the Cold War? [25 marks]

Section B

You must answer **three** questions from this section.

2 To what extent was the Cuban Missile Crisis a Cold War proxy conflict between the USA and USSR? [25 marks]

3 How significant was American foreign policy since 1945 in ending the Cold War with the Soviet Union? [25 marks]

4 “The USA was unequalled in contribution to the Golden Age of Capitalism.” How fair is this assessment? [25 marks]

5 “The rapid growth of the Chinese economy after 1978 can be argued to be primarily the result of the creation of Special Economic Zones.” Discuss. [25 marks]

6 How far would you agree that the protraction of the Arab Israeli Conflict can be attributed primarily to Israeli defence policy after 1948? [25 marks]

END of PAPER

Acknowledgements:

- Source A Truman, Harry S.; Radio and Television Address to the American People on the Situation in Korea. trumanlibrary.org <https://www.trumanlibrary.org/publicpapers/index.php?pid=823&st=&st1=> [accessed 14 August 2017]
- Source B Furseko, Aleksandr; Khrushchev’s Cold War: The Inside Story of an American Adversary; W. W. Norton & Company, 25 Oct 2010
- Source C Bosco, David L.; Five to Rule Them All: The UN Security Council and the Making of the Modern World; Springer; Oxford University Press, 2009.
- Source D Malone, David; The UN Security Council: From the Cold War to the 21st Century; Lynne Rienner Publishers, 2004.