Please check the examination details below before entering your candidate information

Candidate surname	Other names

Centre Number | Candidate Number

Pearson Edexcel International Advanced Level

Friday 16 June 2023

Afternoon (Time: 2 hours)

Paper reference **WHI04/1C**

History

International Advanced

PAPER 4: International Study with Historical Interpretations

Option 1C: The World Divided: Superpower Relations, 1943–90

You must have:
Extracts Booklet (enclosed)

Total Marks

Instructions

- Use **black** ink or ball-point pen.
- **Fill in the boxes** at the top of this page with your name, centre number and candidate number.
- Answer Question 1 in Section A and **ONE** question in Section B.
- Answer the questions in the spaces provided
  – *there may be more space than you need.*

Information

- The total mark for this paper is 50.
- The marks for **each** question are shown in brackets
  – *use this as a guide as to how much time to spend on each question.*

Advice

- Read each question carefully before you start to answer it.
- Check your answers if you have time at the end.

Turn over ▶

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SECTION A

Answer Question 1. Write your answer in the spaces provided.

Study Extracts 1 and 2 in the Extracts Booklet before you answer this question.

1 How far do you agree with the view that the power of the USSR was greatly threatened by the US monopoly of the atomic bomb in the years 1945–49?

Explain your answer using Extracts 1 and 2 and your knowledge of the issues related to this controversy.

(25)

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(Total for Question 1 = 25 marks)

TOTAL FOR SECTION A = 25 MARKS

SECTION B

Answer ONE question in Section B.

You must start your answer to your chosen question on the next page.

EITHER

2 How accurate is it to say that the Soviet Union implemented an aggressive foreign policy along the European Iron Curtain throughout the years 1953–64?

(Total for Question 2 = 25 marks)

OR

3 How far do you agree that, in the years 1962–79, the main consequence of the Cuban Missile Crisis for superpower relations was a commitment to reduce the spread of nuclear weaponry?

(Total for Question 3 = 25 marks)

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Indicate which question you are answering by marking a cross in the box ☒. If you change your mind, put a line through the box ☒ and then indicate your new question with a cross ☒.

Chosen question number: **Question 2** ☒ **Question 3** ☒

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TOTAL FOR SECTION B = 25 MARKS
TOTAL FOR PAPER = 50 MARKS

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Extracts Booklet

Do not return this Booklet with the question paper.

Turn over ▶

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Extracts for use with Section A.

Extract 1: From C Craig and S Radchenko, *The Atomic Bomb and the Origins of the Cold War*, published in 2008.

The US possession of the atomic bomb undermined Stalin's vision for the post-1945 world. The very fact that the USA had the A-bomb, and the Soviet Union did not, undermined the Soviet Union's great power claims. In fact, the USSR had been downgraded to the rank of a technologically-backward, second-rate power. This direct reminder of Soviet inferiority cast a shadow over Stalin's triumph in the Second World War, which he believed had demonstrated the advantages of Soviet socialism. The US monopoly of the bomb created an inequality in Soviet-US relations, weakening Stalin's hopes for an equitable international order. By the time psychological balance was restored in August 1949, the Cold War was in full swing.

Stalin feared that the atomic bomb would make US foreign policy more assertive, more hegemonic, and less inclined towards compromise with the Soviet Union. Stalin worried that the US would use the bomb to force Stalin to accept the US version of a post-1945 order. He feared that the US would use the threat of the A-bomb as a policy tool to force him to make concessions. The Soviet response to this perceived blackmail was firm resistance to the US challenge. From the London Conference of Ministers in 1945 to the Soviet attempt to ban atomic weapons in June 1946, the Soviets were determined to counter this perceived US pressure.

Extract 2: From A B Ulam, *Expansion and Coexistence: Soviet Foreign Policy, 1917–73*, published in 1974.

US possession of nuclear weapons did not produce panic among the Soviet leadership. Neither did it lead to excessive concerns that American policy-makers would use the atomic bomb to advance their future political aims. Stalin's comment at the Potsdam Conference, that he was glad that the Americans had the fearsome weapon and hoped they would use it, represented his matter-of-fact acknowledgement of the new weapon's existence. It was only much later on that Soviet politicians claimed that US use of the bomb on Japan was a sinister attempt to blackmail the USSR and to undermine Soviet wartime victories.

The period during which the US had the monopoly of the A-bomb was also the period when the Soviets made their greatest advances in foreign policy. This was a time when the USSR rapidly took control of satellite states in Europe and communism prevailed in China. It was also a period of extensive demobilisation of the Soviet armed forces. None of these factors suggests concern about an imminent war, or the readiness of the Soviet army to respond to an atomic attack by invading western Europe.

The existence of the atom bomb made little difference. Any military clash with the United States was simply inconceivable to Stalin. Stalin was realistic and cautious in facing the challenge of Russia's unreconstructed economy and the formidable task of controlling the satellite states.

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