



南 华 中 学

NAN HUA HIGH SCHOOL

PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION 2023

Subject : Humanities (History)
Paper : 2273/02
Level : Secondary Four Express
Date : 22 August 2023
Duration : 1 hour 40 minutes

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

Write your index number and name on all the work you hand in.
Do not use staples, paper clips, highlighters, glue or correction fluid.

Answer all questions in the answer booklet provided.
Begin each question on a new page.

Section A

Answer **all parts** of Question 1.

Section B

Answer **one** question.

The number of marks is given in brackets [] at the end of each question or part question. The total mark for this paper is **50**.

Section A: Source-Based Case Study

Question 1 is **compulsory** for all candidates.

Study the Background Information and the sources carefully, and then answer **all** the questions.

You may use any of the sources to help you answer the questions, in addition to those sources you are told to use. In answering the questions, you should use your knowledge of the topic to help you interpret and evaluate the sources.

1 (a) Study Source A.

What do you think the address aimed to achieve? Explain your answer. [5]

(b) Study Sources B and C.

Does Source B prove that Source C cannot be trusted? Explain your answer. [6]

(c) Study Source D.

How useful is Source D as evidence of the Cuban Missile Crisis? Explain your answer. [5]

(d) Study Sources E and F.

Having read Source E, are you surprised by Source F? Explain your answer. [6]

(e) Study **all** the sources.

'The Soviet Union played the most important role in de-escalating tensions in the Cuban Missile Crisis.' How far do these sources support this view? Use the sources and your knowledge to explain your view. [8]

Who played the most important role in de-escalating tensions in the Cuban Missile Crisis?

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Read this carefully. It may help you answer some of your questions.

When a Soviet missile was spotted on a launch site in Cuba on 14 October 1962, Kennedy announced on 22 October a naval blockade to prevent further Soviet missile shipments. As messages were exchanged between Kennedy and Khrushchev, a U-2 spy plane was shot down in Cuba on 27 October by Soviet forces. Aware that the shooting was unauthorised, both Kennedy and Khrushchev realised that the crisis could spiral out of control at any moment. On 28 October Khrushchev informed Kennedy that the missiles in Cuba would be returned to the Soviet Union. In return, Kennedy committed the United States to never invading Cuba and secretly promised to withdraw the Jupiter missiles stationed in Turkey.

Who played the most important role in de-escalating tensions in the Cuban Missile Crisis?

Source A: *Excerpt from a televised address by Kennedy, 22 October 1962.*

The blockade of Cuba is a dangerous effort on which we have set out. No one can foresee precisely what course it will take or what costs or casualties will be incurred. Many months of sacrifice lie ahead – months in which both our will and patience will be tested – months in which many threats will keep us aware of our danger. But the greatest danger of all would be to do nothing.

I therefore call upon Mr Khrushchev to stop this reckless and provocative threat to world peace. He has an opportunity to step back from the abyss of destruction.

Source B: *Account of events that took place on 27 October 1962 by Soviet Vice-Admiral Vasili Arkhipov when Soviet submarine B-59 surfaced in Cuban waters and encountered US forces.*

Upon surfacing, B-59 discovered the following: an aircraft carrier, nine warships and four airplanes. This submarine experienced the entire range of provocative activities of the US forces. Overflights by planes just 20 to 30 metres above the submarine, use of powerful searchlights which momentarily blinded the crew, fire from automatic cannons (over 300 shells), dropping depth charges,* cutting in front of the submarine by warships at a dangerously close distance, targeting guns at the submarine. The key question was: why did the submarine not use its weapons? During those few moments of hesitation, I realized that the US forces were signalling rather than attacking, and deliberately firing off to the side of the submarine. I called to the submarine commander and said: 'calm down, look they are signalling, not attacking. Let's just signal back.'

**depth charges: an explosive designed to be dropped from a ship or aircraft and to explode under water; most commonly used to attack submarines*

Source C: *US Attorney-General[#] Robert Kennedy's words to Soviet Ambassador Anatoly Dobrynin in a one-to-one meeting, 27 October 1962.*

Because of the U2 spy plane that was shot down, there is now strong pressure on the president to order a military response. But if we initiate any military action, the Soviet government will undoubtedly respond against us. A real war will begin, in which millions of Americans and Russians will die. We want to avoid that any way we can. There are many unreasonable heads among the generals who are itching for a fight. The situation might get out of control, with irreversible consequences.

[#]*attorney-general: the top legal officer whose job is to provide legal advice to the government and to represent the government*

Source D: *Confidential message from Khrushchev to Castro, 28 October 1962.*

Our message of 27 October to President Kennedy makes it possible to normalize the situation and protect Cuba. Kennedy's response provides a guarantee that the USA will refrain from invading Cuba.

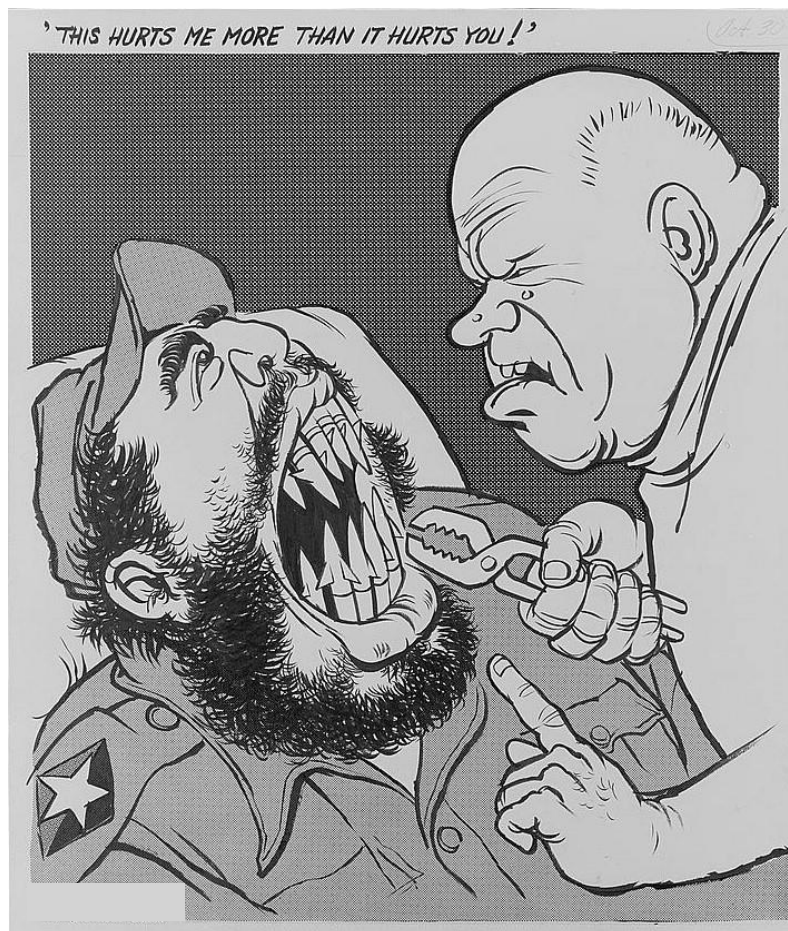
As such we would like to recommend to you not to yield to your emotions, to show restraint. We understand your indignation over US aggression. If there is an invasion, then it will be necessary to repel it with all the forces at your disposal. But do not let yourselves be provoked, since the US military seems to want to provoke you to actions which could then be used against you. You shot down one of their planes yesterday. You had never shot them down before when they flew over your territory. We would ask you not to let such a thing happen again.

Source E: *Excerpt of a speech by Khrushchev delivered in the Soviet Union about the aftermath of the Cuban Missile Crisis, December 1962.*

Which side triumphed? Who won? In this respect one may say it was sanity that won. The two sides displayed a sober approach and took into account the fact that unless steps were taken that could overcome the dangerous development of events, a third world war might break out.

As a result of mutual concessions and compromise, an understanding was reached which made it possible to remove the dangerous tension, to normalise the situation. Both sides made concessions. We withdrew the ballistic rockets, which satisfied the Americans. But both Cuba and the Soviet Union received satisfaction too: the American invasion of Cuba has been averted; the naval blockade has been lifted; the situation in the Caribbean area is returning to normal.

Source F: A cartoon published in an American newspaper about the Cuban Missile Crisis, 30 October 1962.



Acknowledgements

- Source A: © <https://www.archives.gov/publications/prologue/2002/fall/cuban-missiles.html>
Source B: © <https://nsarchive.gwu.edu/document/29078-document-1-vice-admiral-vasili-arkhipov>
Source C: © <https://digitalarchive.wilsoncenter.org/document/cable-ambassador-dobrynin-soviet-foreign-ministry-meeting-robert-kennedy>
Source D: © <https://digitalarchive.wilsoncenter.org/document/letter-khrushchev-fidel-castro>
Source E: © <https://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/education/resources/cold-war-on-file/khrushchev-on-cuban-crisis-1962/>
Source F: © <https://www.loc.gov/resource/cph.3c30423/>

Section B: Structured-Essay Questions

Answer **one** question.

2 This question is on Stalin's Russia.

- (a) Explain why Stalin's manipulations led him to power by 1929. [8]
- (b) 'Stalin managed to remain in power because of the climate of fear.'
How far do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer. [12]

3 This question is on the Cold War.

- (a) Explain why China got involved in the Korean War. [8]
- (b) 'The Cold War started as the United States did not trust the Soviet Union.' How far do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer. [12]

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