

NATIONAL SENIOR CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION NOVEMBER 2012

HISTORY: PAPER I

SOURCE MATERIAL FOR SECTION B AND SECTION C

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SOURCE A An extract from a book written by the South African historian John Pampallis in 1991

The Soviet 'new thinking' on international relations emphasised cooperation to overcome problems rather than stressing the antagonisms* between states with different social systems. This led to a relaxation of international tensions and an emphasis on solving international problems by political rather than military means.

One result of these changes, particularly as they resulted in part from the economic weakness of the Soviet Union and its consequent inability to sustain high military expenditures, was the sharp decline of what many in the capitalist world had seen as the 'Soviet threat'. The overthrow of most of the Communist-led governments in Eastern Europe in 1989, and the virtual collapse of the Warsaw Pact, finally removed any remaining fears. In South Africa, the regime* thus found itself no longer able to win support in the West by posing as a 'bulwark* against Communism' and a counter against 'Soviet expansionism in Southern Africa'.

[Pampallis, John, Foundations of the New South Africa, Maskew Miller Longman, 1991, p. 300]

- * antagonism = opposition, tension
- * regime = government
- * bulwark = something that acts as a protection or defence

SOURCE B An extract from a history book commissioned by the South African Department of Education in 1994

It was in 1988 that Soviet premier Mikhail Gorbachev called for a 'new world order', and reconfirmed his commitment to 'glasnost' and 'perestroika'. Ronald Reagan, who in the previous year had met Gorbachev to agree on reducing the superpowers' nuclear arsenals, visited Moscow. The Cold War thaw* had set in. Within another year Berliners would break down the dreaded symbol of the Iron Curtain – the Berlin Wall – and the 'Communist threat', so long exploited* by successive South African governments, would lose its potency*. This would have a significant bearing* on South Africa.

[Morris, Michael, Every Step of the Way: The Journey to Freedom in South Africa, HSRC, 2004, p. 239]

- * thaw = warm up, change from frozen state
- * exploited = taken full advantage of; used
- * potency = strength, power and effectiveness
- * bearing = impact

SOURCE C An extract from an article that was published in *The Guardian* – a British newspaper – on 23 May 2008

Some people argue that the protests of the anti-Apartheid movement helped to bring about change in South Africa, although it is more likely that the end of Apartheid owed more to the collapse of communism and the Berlin Wall. This meant that the fear of communism was removed and Nelson Mandela was released after the sanctions which had been imposed by the US crippled the economy. It is important to note, of course, that Britain failed to impose sanctions regardless of the fact that this was what the ANC and the unions had called for.

[<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2008/may/23/yearofdisappointments?INTCMP=SRCH> Accessed 6 February 2012]

SOURCE D An extract from a history book written by the South African economist Francis Wilson in 2009

And then, quite unexpectedly, the Berlin Wall came down in 1989. For some analysts, this was a necessary and sufficient event for the ending of apartheid. It is true that once the Cold War ended the CIA* no longer felt obliged* to protect South African racists as opponents of Marxism. The white government felt more isolated than ever and also, so it claimed, was more willing to talk to a liberation movement that no longer had the might of the Soviet Union behind it. However, it would seem more accurate to describe the ending of the Cold War as something which facilitated* the process of change in South Africa, but which did not cause it.

[Wilson, Francis, Dinosaurs, Diamonds and Democracy: A short, short history of South Africa, Umuzi, 2009, p. 107]

- * CIA = Central Intelligence Agency (USA's anti-terrorist organisation)
- * obliged = committed
- * facilitated = made it easier

SOURCE E An extract from a book written by the South African historian David Welsh in 2009

One factor that was helpful to De Klerk in pushing for inclusive negotiations was the steady unravelling of the Soviet Union and the roll-back of its domination over much of Eastern Europe, which was symbolised by the destruction of the Berlin Wall on 9 November 1989 ... For some time the South African government's strategy had been to try to drive a wedge between the ANC and the SACP, in the belief that there was a potential cleavage* between African nationalists and communists. It had not succeeded: the relationship was far too strong. Despite this failure, the collapse of communism created an opportunity for a much more adventurous approach than had previously been conceivable*: a gap had opened and De Klerk took it.

[Welsh, David, The Rise and Fall of Apartheid, Jonathan Ball Publishers, 2009, p. 348]

- * cleavage = split
- * conceivable = possible

SOURCE F

A photograph of the newly released Nelson Mandela (centre) with his wife Winnie (left) and Joe Slovo, General Secretary of the South African Communist Party (right) at an ANC rally in 1990. The Communist flag appears behind them.



[<www.sahistory.org> Accessed 6 February 2012]

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SOURCE G

An extract from an article entitled *The Impact of the Fall of the Berlin Wall on South Africa and the World* written by FW de Klerk and published in 2009 by the FW de Klerk Foundation, an organisation established by the former South African State President to promote his political aims and achievements

The collapse of the Soviet Union helped to remove our long-standing concern regarding the influence of the South African Communist Party within the ANC Alliance. By 1990 classic socialism had been thoroughly discredited* throughout the world and was no longer a serious option, even for revolutionary parties like the ANC.

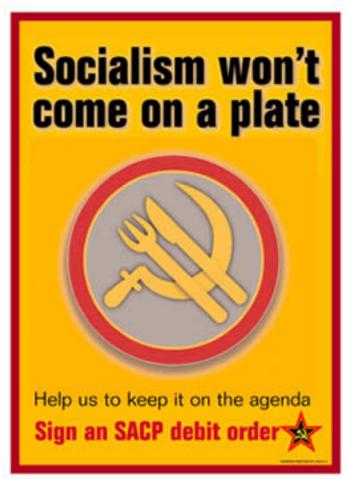
At the same time the ANC was reaching a similar conclusion that it could not achieve a revolutionary victory within the foreseeable future. The State of Emergency, declared by the South African government in 1986, and the collapse of the Soviet Union – which had traditionally been one of the ANC's main allies and suppliers – led the organisation to adopt a more realistic view of the balances of forces. It concluded that its interests could best be secured by accepting negotiations rather than by committing itself to a long and ruinous* civil war.

[<www.fwdeklerk.org.za> Accessed 6 February 2012]

- * discredited = shown to be wrong; not working properly
- * ruinous = harmful

SOURCE H

A South African Communist Party (SACP) poster from the early 1990s asking for financial assistance in order to achieve its aims. It suggests that these aims will not be easily achieved.



[<www.aluka.org/SACP> Accessed 6 February 2012]