



NATIONAL SENIOR CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION
NOVEMBER 2017

HISTORY: PAPER II

**SOURCE MATERIAL BOOKLET
FOR SECTION B AND SECTION C**

SOURCE A

This is a photograph of Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchev (left) who is about to hug Cuban Premier Fidel Castro (right) taken in New York, 23 September 1960. They were in New York for the 15th General Assembly of the United Nations.



[Getty Images. 1960. Russian politician and Premier Nikita Khrushchev: September 23, 1960 New York [ONLINE]. Available at: <<http://www.gettyimages.com>> (Accessed 5 January 2017)]

SOURCE B This is an extract from an interview with Sergei Khrushchev, the son of Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchev, conducted on 24 October 2012, which gives a Soviet perspective on the Cuban Missile Crisis.

What do you consider to be the largest American misconception* about the Cuban Missile Crisis? The largest misconception was the idea that America thought this crisis was about defending Cuba against possible invasion [or] some broader implications* with relations to ... infiltration* into South America ... theories that have nothing to do with reality.

What would those realities be? The reality is that after the Bay of Pigs [invasion] Fidel Castro announced he officially joined the Soviet bloc. Through that [declaration] the obligation* of the Soviets was to defend all their clients, all their allies because otherwise they would lose face ... and your allies would not trust you. Cuba, after 1961, became for the Soviet Union the same as West Berlin to the United States—a small useless piece of land deep inside hostile* territory. But if you don't defend it, you will not be treated as a superpower. The United States was ready to use nuclear weapons to defend Berlin. The Soviet Union sent missiles to Cuba ... as a powerful signal to the United States: Don't invade Cuba.

[Adapted From: Sam LaGrone. 2012. Soviet Perspective on the Cuban Missile Crisis from Nikita Khrushchev's Son. [ONLINE] Available at: <<https://news.usni.org>> (Accessed 4 January 2017)]

- * misconceptions – misunderstandings
- * implications – effects
- * infiltration – to enter, spy and gain access
- * obligation – duty
- * hostile – unfriendly belonging to the enemy

SOURCE C This is an extract from an interview with Fidel Castro in 1984.

It was necessary to make it clear to the United States that an invasion of Cuba would imply a war with the Soviet Union. It was then that they proposed the missiles ... We preferred the risks, whatever they were, of a great tension, a great crisis, to the risks of the impotence* of having to await a United States invasion of Cuba.

[Spartacus. 1984. Cuban Missile Crisis Primary Sources A3. [ONLINE] Available at: <<http://spartacus-educational.com>> (Accessed 9 January 2017)]

- * impotence – powerless

SOURCE D This is an extract from Andrei Gromyko, the Soviet foreign secretary, reflecting on the Cuban Missile Crisis.

The United States over several years had established offensive military bases around the socialist countries and, primarily, near the USSR borders ... the placement of medium-range effective Soviet missiles in Cuba was undertaken only after the United States' ruling circles continually rejected proposals to remove American military bases, including missile sites, on foreign territory.

[Adapted From: A. Gromyko. 1973. Through Russian Eyes: President Kennedy's 1 036 Days. Washington International Library]

SOURCE E **This is an extract from an article written by a South African historian, Rodney Warwick, in 2012 on the Cuban Missile Crisis.**

The Cuban situation had its origins in the nuclear arms race; an ... expensive competition between the USA and USSR ... However, it was the Americans who easily bested* the Soviets in terms of nuclear weapon technology and deployment. Despite the "peaceful co-existence" ... Khrushchev was determined to assert* his country as America's equal in military, diplomatic, economic and scientific strength. Besides proving communism as being capitalism's ideological superior, Khrushchev believed that capitalism would ultimately destroy itself and communism would inevitably spread ... **(Paragraph 1)**

In 1959, the Cuban Revolution resulted in Fidel Castro's revolutionaries overthrowing the corrupt and despotic American-supported Batista regime. An opportunity now existed whereby Soviet nuclear weapons could be placed in "Uncle Sam's backyard", tilting* the strategic nuclear balance away from the USA. The planned clandestine* placement of Soviet [missiles] in Cuba, just 90km from Florida, meant the warning time in America to prepare for a nuclear attack would be less than one minute. **(Paragraph 2)**

Therefore, in the most extraordinarily dangerous gamble in history, Khrushchev with Castro's complete consent, ordered the secret shipping and installation of nuclear armed missiles on Cuba, ... Khrushchev reasoned that the missiles would not only deter* any American attack on Cuba, but they could also be used as a bargaining chip to force the West out of Berlin ... **(Paragraph 3)**

In consultation with his military Chiefs of Staff, Kennedy ordered preparations to begin for a full conventional military invasion of Cuba. But firstly a naval blockade of the island was immediately enforced, euphemised* as "quarantine". Kennedy opened urgent discussions with Khrushchev who after initially denying the missiles presence, was forced to confront the photographic evidence at the United Nations ... **(Paragraph 4)**

[Adapted From: Politicsweb: Dr Rodney Warwick PhD MA (UCT). 2012. The Cuban missile crisis remembered. [ONLINE] Available at: <<http://www.politicsweb.co.za>> (Accessed 1 January 2017)]

* bested – better than all others

* assert – establish

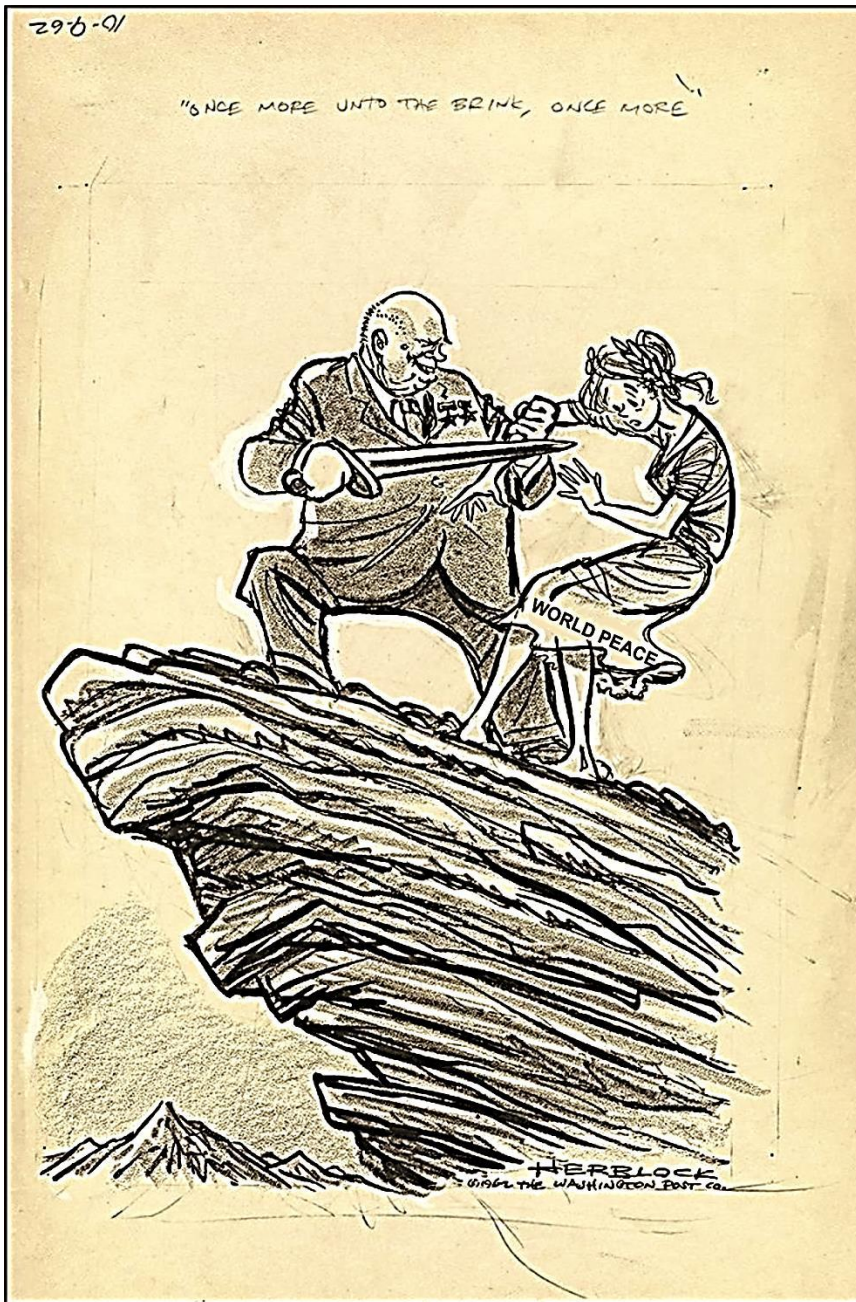
* tilting – shifting or moving

* clandestine – secret

* deter – discourage

* euphemised – to use a term that is more neutral and less harsh

SOURCE F This is a cartoon, published on 9 October 1962, showing Khrushchev threatening "world peace".



"ONCE MORE UNTO THE BRINK, ONCE MORE"

[Herbert L. Block Collection. 1962. "Once More Unto the Brink, Once More". [ONLINE]. Available at: <<https://www.loc.gov>> (Accessed 4 January 2017)]

SOURCE G **This is an extract from a famous speech made by US President J. F. Kennedy on 22 October 1962 in which he responds to the USSR's build-up of nuclear weapons on the island of Cuba.**

I have directed that the following ... steps be taken immediately: ... To halt* this offensive* build-up, a strict quarantine on all ... military equipment under shipment to Cuba is being initiated. All ships of any kind bound for Cuba from whatever nation or port will, if found to contain cargoes of offensive weapons, be turned back ...

... We are not at this time, however, denying the necessities* of life as the Soviets attempted to do in their Berlin blockade of 1948.

... It shall be the policy of this nation to regard any nuclear missile launched from Cuba against any nation in the Western Hemisphere as an attack by the Soviet Union on the United States, requiring a full retaliatory* response upon the Soviet Union ... I call upon Chairman Khrushchev to halt and eliminate this clandestine*, reckless, and provocative* threat to world peace and to stable relations between our two nations. I call upon him further to abandon this course of world domination and to join in an historic effort to end the perilous* arms race and transform the history of man. He has an opportunity now to move the world back from the abyss* of destruction ...

[Adapted From: M. Mooney. 2006. United States History 1959–1962: On the Brink: From the Bay of Pigs to the Cuban Missile Crisis. 1st ed. California: The Regents on the University of California. p. 24]

- * halt – stop
- * offensive – aggressive/used to attack
- * necessities – essential items
- * retaliatory – to react in a way which will harm
- * clandestine – secret
- * provocative – aggressive
- * perilous – dangerous
- * abyss – hell

SOURCE H **This is an extract from a letter written by Khrushchev to Kennedy during the Cuban Missile Crisis on 24 October 1962. This letter was sent two days after Kennedy's famous speech.**

... Having presented these conditions to us, Mr. President, you have thrown down the gauntlet* ... You, Mr. President, are not declaring a quarantine, but rather issuing an ultimatum, and you are threatening that if we do not obey your orders, you will then use force. Think about what you are saying! And you want to persuade me to agree to this! ... It would mean for us to conduct our relations with other countries not by reason, but by yielding to tyranny ... you want to intimidate* us.

[Adapted From: S. Grove, J. Manenzhe, P. Vale, G. Weldon. 2013. Via Afrika History Grade 12 Learners Book. 1st ed. Cape Town: Via Afrika. p. 32]

- * gauntlet – challenge
- * intimidate – threaten