



HISTORY UNIT / DEPARTMENT OF HUMANITIES
H1 International History [1945-2000]
(Syllabus 8838/01)



H1 History Weighted Assessment 1 (WA1): Compare & Contrast (Emergence of Cold War)

Name / Index No.: _____ (____) CG: _____ Date: _____

Instructions

1. You have 30 minutes to finish the paper.
2. Press 'submit quiz' on your device to submit the WA once you have finished.

US FOREIGN POLICY IN THE COLD WAR

Q1 Read the sources and answer the question which follows.

Source A

I have been increasingly disturbed about the trend of international affairs since the end of the war. How do American actions appear to other nations? I mean actions like the tests of the atomic bomb and continued production of bombs, the plan to arm Latin America with our weapons, and the effort to secure air bases spread over half the globe from which the other half of the globe can be bombed. I feel that these actions must make it look to the rest of the world as if we were only paying lip service to peace at the conference table.

These facts rather make it appear either that we are preparing ourselves to win the war which we regard as inevitable or that we are trying to build up a large amount of force to intimidate the rest of mankind. Our interest in establishing democracy in Eastern Europe, where democracy by and large has never existed, seems to the Soviets like an attempt to encircle them with unfriendly neighbors as a springboard to yet another effort to destroy them.

Adapted from a letter written by Henry Wallace, former US Vice-President under Roosevelt, to President Truman, July 23, 1946

Source B

The strategic plans of the United States envisage the creation of numerous bases against the USSR and the countries of Eastern Europe. America has built, or is building, air and naval bases in Alaska, Japan, Italy, South Korea, China, Egypt, Iran, Turkey, Greece, Austria and Western Germany. There are American military missions in Afghanistan and even in Nepal. Feverish preparations are being made to use the Arctic for purposes of military aggression.

Economic expansion is also an important supplement to the realization of America's strategic plan. American imperialism is taking advantage of the post-war difficulties of the European countries, in particular the shortage of raw materials, fuel and food in the Allied countries that suffered most from the war, to dictate to them terms for any assistance rendered. American economic "assistance" pursues the broad aim of bringing Europe into bondage to America.

An excerpt from a speech by Andrei Zhdanov, a leading member of the Soviet Politburo, at the founding of the Communist Information Bureau (COMINFORM), September 1947.*

**The Politburo is the highest decision-making authority of the Communist Party Soviet Union.*

Now answer the following question:

(a) Compare and contrast Sources A and B as evidence that the United States was to blame for the outbreak of the Cold War.

[10]