



General Certificate of Education
Advanced Subsidiary Examination
January 2013

History

HIS2Q

Unit 2Q The USA and Vietnam, 1961–1975

Tuesday 22 January 2013 9.00 am to 10.30 am

For this paper you must have:

- an AQA 12-page answer book.

Time allowed

- 1 hour 30 minutes

Instructions

- Use black ink or black ball-point pen.
- Write the information required on the front of your answer book. The **Examining Body** for this paper is AQA. The **Paper Reference** is HIS2Q.
- Answer **two** questions.
Answer Question 1 and **either** Question 2 **or** Question 3.
Answer **both** parts of each question chosen.
- In answering the questions you must use your own knowledge and understanding of the period.

Information

- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- The maximum mark for this paper is 72.
- You will be marked on your ability to:
 - use good English
 - organise information clearly
 - use specialist vocabulary where appropriate.

Advice

- You are advised to spend about 45 minutes on each question.

Answer Question 1 and **either** Question 2 **or** Question 3.

Each question has **two** parts. Answer **both** parts of each question chosen.

Question 1

Study the following source material and then answer the questions which follow.

Source A Adapted from the McNamara-Taylor Report, 2 October 1963

- We recommend that a program be established to train the South Vietnamese so that essential functions now performed by US military personnel can be carried out by the South Vietnamese by the end of 1965. It should be possible to withdraw the bulk of US personnel by that time. We also recommend that, in accordance with the
- 5 program to train progressively the South Vietnamese to take over military functions, the Defence Department should announce, in the very near future, prepared plans to withdraw 1000 US military personnel by the end of 1963. This action is an initial step in the long-term program to replace US personnel with trained South Vietnamese without damaging the war effort.

Source B Adapted from National Security Action Memorandum 273, 26 November 1963

- It remains the central object of the United States in South Vietnam to assist the people and government of that country to win their contest against the externally directed and supported communist conspiracy. The test of all US decisions and actions in this area should be the effectiveness of their contribution to this purpose.
- 5 We should concentrate our own efforts on the critical situation in the Mekong Delta. This concentration should include not only military but political, economic, social and educational effort. We should turn the tide not only of battle but of belief.

Source C Kennedy had asserted that the United States must prevent 'the onrushing tide of communism from engulfing all Asia'. He had described Diem's regime as 'the cornerstone of the Free World in southeast Asia', and he had portrayed Vietnam as not only 'a proving ground for democracy in Asia', but a 'test for American

5 responsibility and determination'. He fully subscribed to the policy of containment, arguing that the line had to be held against 'the relentless pressure of the Chinese communists'. Repeating the domino theory, he said: 'No other challenge is more deserving of our every effort and energy. Our security may be lost piece by piece, country by country'.

Adapted from S KARNOW, *Vietnam: A History*, 1983

0	1
---	---

 Use **Sources A** and **B** and your own knowledge.

Explain how far the views in **Source B** differ from those in **Source A** in relation to the USA's involvement in South Vietnam in 1963. (12 marks)

and

0	2
---	---

 Use **Sources A, B** and **C** and your own knowledge.

How important to the USA was the protection of South Vietnam from the threat posed by communism by 1963? (24 marks)

EITHER**Question 2**

0	3
---	---

 Explain why President Johnson supported the Gulf of Tonkin Resolution in August 1964.
(12 marks)**and**

0	4
---	---

 'In the years 1965 to 1968, the war in Vietnam was escalated because President Johnson was confident of a US military victory.'
Explain why you agree or disagree with this view. (24 marks)**OR****Question 3**

0	5
---	---

 Explain why the Tet Offensive of 1968 was a setback for the USA. (12 marks)**and**

0	6
---	---

 'In the years 1969 to 1973, President Nixon always favoured a diplomatic solution to the war in Vietnam.'
Explain why you agree or disagree with this view. (24 marks)**END OF QUESTIONS**

There are no questions printed on this page

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COPYRIGHT-HOLDERS AND PUBLISHERS

Permission to reproduce all copyright material has been applied for. In some cases, efforts to contact copyright-holders have been unsuccessful and AQA will be happy to rectify any omissions of acknowledgements in future papers if notified.

Question 1 Source A: US State department

Question 1 Source B: US State department

Question 1 Source C: Extract from *Vietnam: A History* by STANLEY KARNOW, reprinted by permission of Peters Fraser & Dunlop (www.petersfraserdunlop.com) on behalf of the Estate of Stanley Karnow

Copyright © 2013 AQA and its licensors. All rights reserved.