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GRADE 12

SEPTEMBER 2023

**HISTORY P1
ADDENDUM**

This addendum consists of 14 pages.

QUESTION 1: HOW DID THE BERLIN WALL CONTRIBUTE TO COLD WAR TENSIONS BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA (USA) AND THE SOVIET UNION (USSR)?

SOURCE 1A

The source below focuses on the reasons why the Berlin Wall was built in August 1961.

In the 1950s, the German Democratic Republic (GDR) – that part of Germany that had been the Soviet Occupation Zone in the post-WW2 division of Germany – was threatening to bleed dry, as one in six people fled, usually in search of work under West Germany's 'economic miracle' but in some cases fleeing political or religious persecution (torture).

In 1952 East Germany had sealed its mainland border to West Germany, along the river Elbe and in the mountains of the Harz, with barbed wire and fire zones, where all vegetation was cut back within 100 m of the border to allow guards an unencumbered (unrestrained) field of fire. But there was a leak in the centre of the GDR, in the four-power city of Berlin, whose three western sectors were still protected by the US, Britain and France under post-war agreements that Moscow was unwilling to flout (disobey).

The Soviets had already tried to force the Western powers out during the Blockade of 1948–49 but were foiled (stopped) by the famous Anglo-American airlift. The communists closed the sector boundary temporarily after the abortive insurrection (failed uprising) in East Germany in June 1953, but within weeks it was open again.

So, throughout the 1950s East Germans could simply walk across from East to West Berlin. Underground trains still rumbled (ran) below. Once across East Germans, who might otherwise have feared being stopped at the overland border, could fly over it from Tempelhof in the US sector out to the Federal Republic.

The GDR had therefore run out of 'territorial' options to stop the brain-drain by 1961. To halt the exodus (departure) that was filling western transit camps to capacity, the East German communists were finally permitted by Moscow to close the border in August 1961 and build a physical barrier.

The Berlin Wall turned the usual function of walls – to keep people out – on its head; this wall was solely to keep its citizens in.

[From <https://www.historyextra.com/period/20th-century/berlin-wall-history-facts/>. Accessed on 05 January 2023.]

SOURCE 1B

The following source focuses on the response of the United States of America (USA) on the building of the Berlin Wall on 13 August 1961.

Although the United States immediately lodged a protest with the Soviets, its initial reaction to the construction of the wall was surprisingly understated (lowkey). The president's special assistant for national security affairs, McGeorge Bundy, summed up the consensus (agreement) among many in the president's cabinet that the action was something the East Germans were bound to do sooner or later. It was just as well that it happened early, he said, and that it was so clearly a unilateral (one-sided) action on their part.

After several days of high-level consultation and public condemnation of the wall, President Kennedy elected to continue the military buildup he had initiated following his meeting with Khrushchev in Vienna. On 17 August, Secretary of the Army Elvis J. Stahr Jr. announced a freeze in service for more than eighty-four thousand enlisted men whose time in service was scheduled to end between 1 October 1961 and 30 June 1962. He also extended the tours of Army personnel in Germany and Japan by six months and confirmed the activation of 113 reserve units, a move that called up for duty more than 23 000 soldiers.

Finally, Stahr indicated that he would send 3,000 more troops to Europe, bringing the Seventh Army and other U.S. units committed to NATO up to full strength. A day later, the White House announced that Vice President Lyndon B. Johnson would fly immediately to Europe to meet with West German Chancellor Konrad Adenauer and Mayor Willy Brandt. Accompanying the vice president would be retired General Lucius D. Clay. Since Clay had been the Allied commandant in Berlin during the 1948–1949 blockade, his presence, much more than Johnson's, helped restore morale and reassure West Berliners that they had not been abandoned.

[From <https://www.archives.gov/files/research/foreign-policy/cold-war/1961-berlin-crisis/overview/us-military-response>. Accessed on 26 February 2023.]

SOURCE 1C

The source below focuses on the confrontation between the USA and the Soviet Union over the building of the Berlin Wall on 25 October 1961.

From one day to the next, the Wall separated streets, squares, and neighbourhoods from each other and severed public transportation links. On the evening of August 13, governing Mayor Willy Brandt said in a speech to the House of Representatives: "The Berlin Senate publicly condemns the illegal and inhuman measures being taken by those who are dividing Germany, oppressing East Berlin, and threatening West Berlin ..."

On 25 October 1961, American and Soviet tanks faced off against each other at the Friedrichstrasse border crossing used by foreign nationals (Checkpoint Charlie), because GDR border guards had attempted to check the identification of representatives of the Western Allies as they entered the Soviet sector. In the American view, the Allies' right to move freely throughout all of Berlin had been violated. For sixteen hours, the two nuclear powers confronted each other from a distance of just a few meters, and the people of that era felt the imminent (pending) threat of war. The next day, both sides withdrew. Thanks to a diplomatic initiative by America's President Kennedy, the head of the Soviet government and communist party, Nikita Khrushchev, confirmed the four-power status of all of Berlin, at least for now.

In the years to come, the barriers were modified, reinforced, and further expanded, and the system of controls at the border was perfected. Well over 100,000 citizens of the GDR tried to escape across the inner-German border or the Berlin Wall between 1961 and 1988. More than 600 of them were shot and killed by GDR border guards or died in other ways during their escape attempts. At least 140 people died at the Berlin Wall alone between 1961 and 1989.

From <https://www.berlin.de/mauer/en/history/construction-of-the-berlin-wall/> Accessed on 03 January 2023.]

SOURCE 1D

The photograph below depicts the body of 18-year-old bricklayer Peter Fechter being carried by East German border guard after he tried to cross the Berlin Wall to West Berlin in August 1962.



[From <https://www.gettyimages.com/photos/peterfechter/>. Accessed on the 26 February 2023.]

QUESTION 2: WHAT WERE THE REASONS FOR THE INVOLVEMENT OF SOUTH AFRICA IN THE ANGOLAN CIVIL WAR OF 1975?**SOURCE 2A**

This source focuses on how foreign countries became involved in Angola.

Since gaining independence from Portugal in 1975, Angola has faced severe domestic, regional and international challenges. Angola's dominant domestic reality for the first 27 years was civil war.

During the critical years following independence and through much of the 1980s, Angola relied heavily on the USSR and Cuba. Their assistance was critical in enabling the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA) to survive regular South African military incursions (invasions) into Angolan territory, which had the dual purpose of disrupting SWAPO (South West Africa People's Organisation) operations into Namibia and providing assistance to National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA). Combined with US support, South African assistance, especially in training and logistics, played a critical role in transforming UNITA into a powerful semi-conventional force which, by the late 1980s, posed a serious threat of overthrowing the MPLA government.

... Soviet assistance proved vital to the MPLA at two critical junctures (occasions). In 1975 Soviet support enabled the MPLA to avoid defeat at the hands of internal rivals, the FNLA and UNITA, which, with the help of South Africa and Zaire, were poised to take over the capital city of Luanda before independence. Then, in 1987, Soviet support enabled the MPLA and Cuban forces to defeat South Africa at the Battle of Cuito Cuanavale. The latter paved the way for peace in Southern Africa, thus ensuring the survival of the MPLA regime.

The US pursued the pragmatic (practical), but ultimately conflicting, approach of continuing to support Portugal while establishing links with the Western-leaning FNLA (National Front for the Liberation of Angola). Within the Cold War context, no realistic alternative was available for the US. This was because Portugal was a North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) ally and the MPLA's communist pedigree.

[From <https://saiia.org.za/wp-content/uploads/2011/06/Occasional-Paper-84.pdf>. Accessed on 05 January 2023.]

SOURCE 2B

The source below is an extract from a speech made by Mr Pik Botha, South African former Minister of Foreign Affairs in the Critical Oral History conference in January 2013.

I was at that stage the South African Ambassador at the United Nations and in the United States, and my impression was, and still is, that Cuban troops came into Angola, and they were plotting a southward thrust towards the Namibian border and we genuinely believed that the Soviet Union was mainly behind this, and no less a person than Dr Kaunda referred to the Cubans as the 'cubs of the leopard'. There were other African leaders, Mobutu, Arap Moi, and the government of Botswana – who also shared this view; it was again perceived to be at that stage a Soviet intrusion (invasion) as they have done in Afghanistan; and they've done in other parts of the world.

I personally was extremely concerned about Angola, our going into Angola. I phoned the then-Secretary of Foreign Affairs, Dr Brand Fourie – he asked me to phone the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Dr Hilgard Muller. Dr Muller asked me to phone Prime Minister Vorster. The Prime Minister said to me: "I think you have to go and do some homework on Capitol Hill because I was assured at the highest level on the American side, that they will support us and that they would wish us to do it."

The Americans all said to me, "Look, we will not vote against this proposal to cut all funds, American funds to the non-communist parties in Angola. I was extremely concerned that the Americans would drop us and that our troops might get caught and captured. The American government asked my government not to withdraw, but to hang on at least until the Addis Ababa Conference of the Organisation for African Unity (OAU).

[From <https://www.wilsoncenter.org/publication/southern-a...> Accessed on the 25 January 2023.]

SOURCE 2C

The source below focuses on why human rights abuses were committed by the South African Defence Force (SADF) during the Angolan Civil War of 1975. It was taken from the Final TRC report that was submitted to President Nelson Mandela on 29 October 1998.

The targets and objectives of the various security operations conducted in Angola by the security forces of the former South African state were two-fold.

First, the possibility of the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA) taking power in Angola was regarded by the former government as a threat to South Africa's security, as the MPLA was viewed as a Soviet surrogate. The introduction of Cuban forces into Angola in support of the MPLA simply confirmed that view. The South African government's initial objective, therefore, was to prevent the MPLA from taking power at independence. When this failed, the goal became its overthrow and replacement by a 'friendly' anti-Communist government led by the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA).

Second, the movement of the forces of the South West African People's Organisation (SWAPO) into bases in Angola was regarded as escalating the threat to South Africa's position in South West Africa. Aware that it would ultimately have to implement UN Resolution 435, the South African government was determined to weaken or cripple SWAPO's military capacity in preparation for the time when SWAPO would enter the electoral stakes inside South West Africa.

South Africa's active involvement in Angolan politics after the collapse of Portuguese colonial rule escalated (increased) with the SADF's invasion of Angola, through Operation Savannah, in the second half of 1975. Though the operation was undertaken with the covert support of the US State Department, this undeclared act of war did not receive the approval of the South African cabinet. Indeed, the issue was not even raised at the cabinet level until the invasion was several months old and no longer a secret.

[From <https://sabctrc.saha.org.za/reports/volume2/chapter2/subsection2.htm>: Accessed on 17 January 2023.]

SOURCE 2D

The photograph below depicts South African troops providing military training to UNITA during the Angolan Civil War. The photographer is unknown.



[From <https://samilhistory.com/category/the-border-war-1966-to-1989/page/2/>. Accessed on the 28 February 2023.]

QUESTION 3: HOW DID THE MARCH TO WASHINGTON ON 28 AUGUST 1963 CONTRIBUTE TO ENDING DISCRIMINATION AND SEGREGATION AGAINST AFRICAN AMERICANS IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA (USA) IN THE 1960s?

SOURCE 3A

The source below focuses on the events leading up to the march to Washington.

In the mid-1950s and early 1960s, one significant form of civil rights activism involved nonviolent direct action. The 1960 sit-in movement, the 1961 Freedom Rides, and the 1963 Birmingham Campaign all set the stage for the largest civil rights march of its time. Planning for the March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom began in the spring of 1963, with the involvement of “the Big Six,” prominent leaders of some of the major civil rights organisations: Martin Luther King Jr. (Southern Christian Leadership Conference), James Farmer (Congress of Racial Equality), John Lewis (Student Non-violent Coordinating Committee), A. Philip Randolph (Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters), Roy Wilkins (National Association for the Advancement of Coloured People), and Whitney Young (National Urban League). One of the main goals of the march was the passage of comprehensive civil rights legislation.

On 11 June 1963, President Kennedy spoke to the nation about civil rights and presented the Civil Rights Act of 1963 to Congress on 19 June 1963. When he was informed about the planned March on Washington, he was initially concerned that a large demonstration at the Capitol might intimidate (threaten) some senators who would use it as an excuse to vote against his broad-reaching bill which included provisions for equal access to privately owned establishments such as theatres, restaurants and motels; authorising the attorney general to initiate school desegregation suits when requested by people unable to initiate or maintain legal proceedings; and equal voting standards.

[From <https://www.jfklibrary.org/learn/education/teachers/curricular-resources/marching-for-equal-rights-evaluating-the-success-of-the-1963-march-on-washington>. Accessed on 8 February 2023.]

SOURCE 3B

The source focuses on the reasons for the march to Washington on 28 August 1963.

It was the largest gathering for civil rights of its time. An estimated 250 000 people attended the March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom on 28 August 1963, arriving in Washington, D.C. by planes, trains, cars, and buses from all over the country.

The event focused on employment discrimination, civil rights abuses against African Americans, Latinos, and other disenfranchised (excluded) groups, and support for the Civil Rights Act that the Kennedy Administration was attempting to pass through Congress. This momentous display of civic activism took place on the National Mall, "America's Front Yard" and was the culmination (result) of an idea born more than 20 years before.

While the march was a collaborative effort, sponsored by leaders of various student, civil rights, and labour organisations, the original idea came from Asa Philip Randolph, a labour organiser and founder of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters and the Negro American Labour Council (NALC). His vision for a march on the Nation's Capital dated to the 1940s when he twice proposed large-scale marches to protest segregation and discrimination in the U.S. military and the U.S. defence industry and to pressure the White House to take action. The pressure worked. President Roosevelt signed Executive Order 8802 (Prohibition of Discrimination in the Defence Industry, 1941) and President Truman signed Executive Order 9981 (Desegregation of the Armed Forces, 1948), and Randolph cancelled the marches.

[From <https://www.nps.gov/articles/march-on-washington.htm>. Accessed on the 8 February 2023.]

SOURCE 3C

This photograph shows activists peacefully marching along Constitution Avenue in Washington on 28 August 1963.



[From <https://www.sutori.com/story/march-on-washington-1963--tt5AYMDkDVteHFhtzxo6Sz1D>.
Accessed on 8 February 2023.]

SOURCE 3D

The source below is an extract from Martin Luther King's "*I have a dream speech*" which was delivered by Martin Luther King Jnr on 28 August 1963 in Washington.

But 100 years later, the Negro still is not free. One hundred years later, the life of the Negro is still sadly crippled by the manacles of segregation and the chains of discrimination. One hundred years later, the Negro lives on a lonely island of poverty in the midst of a vast ocean of material prosperity ...

When the architects of our republic wrote the magnificent words of the Constitution ... a promise that all men – yes, Black men as well as white men – would be guaranteed the unalienable (undeniable) rights of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. Instead of honouring this sacred obligation, America has given the Negro people a bad cheque, a cheque which has come back marked as insufficient funds. But we refuse to believe that the bank of justice is bankrupt.

There will be neither rest nor tranquillity (peace) in America until the Negro is granted his citizenship rights.

I have a dream that one day even the state of Mississippi, a state sweltering (boiling) with the heat of injustice, sweltering with the heat of oppression will be transformed into an oasis of freedom and justice. I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the colour of their skin but by the content of their character.

[From <https://www.npr.org/2010/01/18/122701268/i-have-a-dream-speech-in-its-entirety>. Accessed on 8 February 2023.]

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Visual sources and other historical evidence were taken from the following:

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<https://www.archives.gov/files/research/foreign-policy/cold-war/1961-berlin-crisis/overview/us-military-response>

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