

30 Minutes

Study Sources A and B.

SOURCE A

The following extract is adapted from US President Eisenhower's speech to the United Nations advocating the establishment of a dedicated agency on December 8, 1953.

On 16 July 1945, the United States set off the world's biggest atomic explosion. But the dread secret and the fearful engines of atomic might are not ours alone. In the first place, the secret is possessed by our friends and allies, the United Kingdom and Canada, whose scientific genius made a tremendous contribution to our original discoveries and the designs of atomic bombs. The secret is also known by the Soviet Union. The Soviet Union has informed us that, over recent years, it has devoted extensive resources to atomic weapons. During this period the Soviet Union has exploded a series of atomic devices, including at least one involving thermo-nuclear reactions.

The United States knows that if the fearful trend of atomic military build-up can be reversed, this greatest of destructive forces can be developed into a great boon, for the benefit of all mankind. The United States knows that peaceful power from atomic energy is no dream of the future. The capability, already proved, is here today.

SOURCE B

The following extract is a discussion on the United Nations and disarmament.

Most of the original 55 member states of the United Nations belonged to the Allies of World War II, over which America has strong and absolute influence. At that time, the American foreign policy in the United Nations was supported by most countries, in contrast with the Soviet one supported by only a few Eastern European countries. Under these circumstances, it was usually hard for proposals from the Eastern Bloc to be adopted. Despite their proposals being rejected, they maintained an anti-Western stance and the veto power bore considerable significance at the time.

However, from 1960 onwards, African countries gained independence and joined the United Nations successively, and nearly all these new member states were members of the Non-Aligned Movement. This led to the increasing number of member states that did not always support the American foreign policy. In terms of number, the Non-Aligned Movement had an edge over other alliances. Therefore, despite superior military strength possessed by the Eastern and Western Blocs, they could not dismiss what these non-aligned countries proposed.

Concerning the talks on the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT), the non-aligned countries agreed on the principle that ‘nuclear proliferation should not be allowed’ and held a cooperative attitude towards the establishment of the treaty; however, almost all these countries were non-nuclear-weapon states and could only take on the obligations to not own any nuclear weapon, with their national security threatened by the nuclear-weapon states in a one-way manner. Therefore, after the NPT came into effect in 1970, the non-nuclear-weapon states became increasingly discontented about the lack of progress in the campaign to abolish nuclear weapons. The NPT stipulated that the operation of the treaty must be reviewed every five years. At the first review conference in 1975, the non-aligned states strongly criticized the nuclear-weapon states for their insufficient efforts. As for the second review conference in 1980, their confrontation was so fierce that no conclusion could be drawn.

- (a) Identify the name of the dedicated agency Eisenhower advocated to establish. Explain your answer with **one clue** from Source A. (3 marks)
- (b) In what way was the gradual entry of the non-aligned states a turning point in the history of the United Nations? Explain your answer with reference to Source B. (3 marks)
- (c) What were the factors that affected international cooperation in the peaceful use of nuclear energy in the second half of the 20th century? Explain your answer with reference to Sources A and B, and using your own knowledge. (9 marks)