4.11 The Reagan-Gorbachev Summits and the INF Treaty, 1985-87: 30-minute Pack

EDEXCEL 1HI0 · about 30 minutes

Total Marks

Name: _____ Date: ____ / ____ / _____

Answer ALL questions. You are advised to spend about 30 minutes on this pack.

1 Name the treaty clause type that allowed inspectors from both sides to verify compliance with the INF Treaty.

(Total for Question 1 is 1 mark)

2 Name one concrete step agreed or achieved as a direct result of the Washington summit of 1987 besides signing the INF Treaty.

(Total for Question 2 is 1 mark)

3 State two aims Ronald Reagan had in negotiating with Gorbachev at the summits of 1985-87.

(Total for Question 3 is 2 marks)

4 State two reasons why verification measures were important to both the USA and the USSR in the INF negotiations.

(Total for Question 4 is 2 marks)

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5 Explain two consequences of the INF Treaty of December 1987 for superpower relations and European security.

(Total for Question 5 is 8 marks)

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6 Write a narrative account analysing how the summit meetings at Geneva (1985), Reykjavik (1986) and Washington (1987) built on one another to produce the INF Treaty.

You may use the following in your answer:
- the establishment of personal contact and dialogue at Geneva in 1985
- the near breakthrough and the sticking point over SDI at Reykjavik in 1986

You should also use information of your own.

(Total for Question 6 is 8 marks)

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Mark scheme · 4.11 The Reagan-Gorbachev Summits and the INF Treaty, 1985-87: 30-minute Pack

Question 1

on-site inspections **B1**

Answer: On-site inspections

Question 2

agreement on detailed plans and timetables for the elimination of specified missiles and launchers **B1**

Answer: Agreement on detailed plans and timetables for destroying specified missiles and launchers.

Question 3

to reduce the risk of nuclear war by cutting certain classes of nuclear weapons, such as intermediate-range missiles **B1**

to build a working personal relationship with Gorbachev that could lead to wider arms-control agreements **B1**

Answer: He aimed to reduce the risk of nuclear war by cutting missiles like those covered by the INF Treaty, and to build a working personal relationship with Gorbachev to enable wider arms-control deals.

Question 4

to provide confidence that the other side was actually destroying weapons and not cheating **B1**

to reduce the risk of misunderstandings that could lead to renewed arms competition or crisis **B1**

Answer: Verification gave confidence the other side was destroying weapons and reduced the risk of misunderstandings that could cause renewed arms competition or crisis.

Question 5

Level 1 Identifies one or two simple consequences of the INF Treaty with little or no supporting detail or explanation. **1-2**

Level 2 Identifies and begins to explain one consequence, supported by some accurate detail. **3-4**

Level 3 Explains two consequences with relevant and accurate detail, showing how each followed from the treaty. **5-6**

Level 4 Explains two consequences in a well-developed, analytical way, showing clear links between the treaty, verification measures and wider effects on superpower relations or European security. **7-8**

Indicative content:

- Reduction in immediate military tension in Europe because the removal of US and Soviet SS-20, Pershing II and cruise missiles lowered the prospect of a short-notice nuclear strike on European targets, improving security for NATO members.
- Improved trust and cooperation between the superpowers, since the successful negotiation and verification regime demonstrated that the USA and the USSR could agree verifiable arms control, paving the way for subsequent agreements such as START talks.
- Political gains for Reagan and Gorbachev, enhancing their international credibility and domestic standing: Reagan could claim progress on disarmament, and Gorbachev could show he could negotiate meaningful arms reductions without losing Soviet security.
- A shift in NATO politics, where European allies felt more secure and less vulnerable to being battlefield targets between the superpowers, reducing pressure for unilateral deployments and easing popular protest against nuclear missiles in Europe.

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Question 6

Level 1 Provides a brief or fragmented sequence of events with little analysis of connections between summits. **1-2**

Level 2 Sets out a basic sequence of events across the summits and begins to show how they link, with some accurate detail. **3-4**

Level 3 Provides a coherent narrative of the three summits, analysing how developments at each meeting helped or hindered progress, supported by accurate detail. **5-6**

Level 4 Delivers a well-organised, analytical narrative that clearly explains how Geneva, Reykjavik and Washington built on one another to produce the INF Treaty, with precise and relevant supporting detail. **7-8**

Indicative content:

- Geneva 1985 opened sustained personal contact between Reagan and Gorbachev, establishing trust, agreeing to continue talks and setting the agenda for arms control, including intermediate-range systems.
- At Reykjavik 1986 the leaders moved from general goodwill to concrete ideas, nearly agreeing on deep reductions, showing how far talks had progressed, but talks faltered mainly because Gorbachev wanted limits on SDI and Reagan would not abandon research into missile defence.
- Reykjavik's failure clarified the exact points of disagreement and led negotiators to focus on more limited, achievable goals such as eliminating intermediate-range missiles, where agreement and verification were possible.
- Washington 1987 took the technical and political work forward, converting earlier goodwill and the lessons of Reykjavik into a legally binding treaty with clear verification procedures, culminating in the signing of the INF Treaty in December 1987.

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