

**HISTORY**

**9769/73**

Paper 51 Special Subject: Germany, 1919–1945

**October/November 2013**

**2 hours**

Additional Materials: Answer Booklet/Paper

**READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST**

If you have been given an Answer Booklet, follow the instructions on the front cover of the Booklet.

Write your Centre number, candidate number and name on all the work you hand in.

Write in dark blue or black pen.

You may use a soft pencil for any diagrams, graphs or rough working.

Do not use staples, paper clips, highlighters, glue or correction fluid.

**DO NOT WRITE IN ANY BARCODES.**

Answer Question 1 and **one** other question.

You are reminded of the need for analysis and critical evaluation in your answers to questions. You should also show, where appropriate, an awareness of links and comparisons between different countries and different periods.

At the end of the examination, fasten all your work securely together.

The number of marks is given in brackets [ ] at the end of each question or part question.

This document consists of **3** printed pages and **1** blank page.

**Answer the following question.**

**Nominated topic: Nazi racial policies**

- 1 Study the following documents and answer all the questions which follow. In evaluating and commenting upon the documents, it is essential to set them alongside, and to make use of, your own contextual knowledge.

- A** *The director of the Reich Resettlement Department describes the evolving discussion about the creation of the Warsaw Ghetto.*

The idea of creating a Jewish residential district in Warsaw emerged as early as February 1940. A directive came from Cracow (the German Headquarters) to gear all activities to the fact that, according to the Führer's plan, after the end of the war all the Jews in Europe were to be sent to Madagascar, and thus it would be illusory to create a ghetto. At the end of August 1940, the creation of a ghetto was once more encouraged by the Health Department in order to protect the German Army and population. Completely sealed Jewish ghettos should not be created, but rather Jewish residential districts which permitted economic links with the surrounding Aryan area, which would be vital to the survival of the Jewish residential district.

Waldemar Schön, Report, 20 January 1941.

- B** *In a report to Himmler, the commander of the Third Einsatzkommando\* describes the murder of Jews in Lithuania.*

I can now state that the aim of solving the Jewish problem for Lithuania has been achieved by Einsatzkommando 3. The Jews had to be concentrated in one place. The place for the pits for their bodies had to be found and dug. The Jews were transported to the place for execution in groups of up to 500. All leaders and men of my commando have taken an active part in the major actions. There are no more Jews in Lithuania apart from work-Jews and their families. I wanted to bump off all these work-Jews but this brought me smack up against the civil administration (the Reich Commissioner) and the Wehrmacht (the Germany Army) and prompted a ban on shooting these Jews and their families.

Karl Jäger, Report, 1 December 1941.

*\*Einsatzkommando = one of the special units sent into Russian territory in the wake of the German invasion to murder those seen as enemies of the Reich.*

- C** *This German officer served in Riga and wrote a report to Military Intelligence about shootings he observed. Here he writes about the reaction to that report.*

On my way back to Riga after my leave, I checked to see what had become of the report that I had submitted about the Jewish situation in Riga. The excesses described in my report – the scale and bestiality of the killings – went beyond anything known to the Reich Intelligence Office. The report eventually came into the hands of the highest ranking officer in Intelligence who had open access to Hitler. He is reported to have given the Führer an urgent account of the atrocities. The Führer is said to have replied 'You're getting soft, sir! I have to do it because after me no one else will!' How long will it be before the Jews that remain are 'resettled' to the pine forests where I saw recently mounds of earth heaped up over five large pits?

Dr. Otto Schulz-Du Bois, letter to his wife, January 1942.

- D** *A German general recalls a meeting in which Himmler talks about the Führer's policy towards the Jews.*

At the end of January 1944 I had to attend a meeting convened by the highest ranking National Socialist political officer, General Reineke, in Posen in the so-called Warthegau\*. Three hundred high-ranking officers were present. On 26 January 1944 the Reichsführer SS and Chief of Police Heinrich Himmler gave a briefing. Naturally I cannot remember his exact words, but I can assure you that the following represents the gist. 'When the Führer gave me the order to carry out the total solution of the Jewish question, I at first hesitated, uncertain whether I could demand of my worthy SS men the execution of such a horrid assignment. But this was ultimately a matter of a Führer-Order, and therefore I could have no misgivings. Since then, the assignment has been carried out and there is no longer a Jewish question.'

Declaration by Freiherr von Gersdorf to the historian Gerald Fleming, 12 December 1979.

\**Warthegau = that part of pre-1939 Poland which had been annexed to Germany.*

- E** *A modern historian offers an explanation of the origins and timing of the Holocaust.*

Extensive actions for the transport of masses of people were begun without any clear conception of the consequences. There existed only a vague idea: to employ the Jews in the East. There existed, by late autumn 1941, no real capacity to absorb the mass deportations which everybody urged, and furthermore, the campaign against the USSR had reached a stalemate in the winter and offered no prospect for sending the Jews beyond the Urals. The ghettos which had been created for the Jews spread destitution and disease. The Jews had 'to be exterminated somehow'. This fatal expression recurs again and again in documents in autumn 1941 revealing evidence of the improvisation of extermination as the simplest solution. It follows that the responsibility and the initiative for the killing were not Hitler's, Himmler's or Heydrich's alone.

Martin Broszat, *The Genesis of the Final Solution*, 1985.

- (a)** To what extent does Document C corroborate the evidence outlined in Document D about Hitler's role in the Holocaust? [10]
- (b)** How convincing is the evidence provided by this set of documents for the view that the Holocaust emerged as a result of the situation in the East created by the war?

In making your evaluation, you should refer to contextual knowledge as well as to all the documents in this set (A–E). [20]

**Answer one of the following questions.** *Where appropriate, your essay should make use of any relevant documents you have studied as well as contextual knowledge.*

- 2** How important was Hitler's personal leadership to the development of the NSDAP to 1929? [30]
- 3** Who was more successful in meeting Nazi aims in economic policy before 1939: Schacht or Göring? [30]
- 4** To what extent did the success of Nazi foreign policy between 1933 and 1940 depend more on Hitler's diplomatic skills than on the weaknesses of other powers? [30]

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