Pearson Edexcel Level 3 GCE

Tuesday 21 May 2019

Afternoon	Paper Reference **9HI0/1G**

History

Advanced

Paper 1: Breadth study with interpretations

Option 1G: Germany and West Germany, 1918-89

Extracts Booklet

Do not return this booklet with the question paper.

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Extracts for use with Section C.

Extract 1: From William Carr, *Hitler: A Study in Personality and Politics*, published 1978.

Hitler had much wider ambitions than the domination of Europe. Making Germany the dominant power in Europe with the help of Britain and Italy was only the first stage of his plan. After that Germany would build a great naval fleet, acquire colonies in Africa and then wage war for world domination.

There is considerable evidence to support this view. Hitler's extreme anti-Semitism made Germany's expansion onto the world stage a necessity if, as he thought, Jews were a worldwide threat to civilisation. That fanatical view gave Hitler the conviction that his role would be to defeat the Jews everywhere in the world. In Hitler's mind, his mission to save the world from the Jews gave Germany the right to world domination, and there is plenty of evidence scattered across *Mein Kampf* and the so-called *Secret Book* to back this up.

Hitler had absorbed plenty of nationalist racial ideology before World War One. His experiences after 1918 had strengthened his conviction that world domination was both necessary and achievable. Hitler's own ideological convictions led Germany to war because he saw it as a crusade against his ideological enemies.

Extract 2: From Donny Gluckstein, *The Nazis, Capitalism and the Working Class*, published 1999.

Though Nazi Germany was compelled to challenge the existing balance of power in the late 1930s, world war was certainly not inevitable in 1939. If Germany's rivals had continued to give Germany the room to expand, world war could have been avoided. At first this seemed likely as Britain adopted the policy of appeasement. Britain's policy reflected public opposition to war (after the horrors of 1914-18) and the fear that Britain was not ready militarily. But Hitler knew there was a further British motive for appeasement. Lord Halifax had revealed to Hitler in a meeting in 1937 that Germany could 'rightly be seen as a barrier defending the West against Bolshevism.'

This implied approval from Britain made Hitler act ever more boldly on the international scene, first annexing Austria and then occupying Czechoslovakia. However, western powers would not allow German expansion indefinitely and Hitler completely misunderstood the seriousness of western pledges to defend Poland. Hitler felt confident about Germany's military preparations too, and this led him to risk war in 1939.

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