Pearson Edexcel Level 3 GCE

Wednesday 5 June 2019

Afternoon (Time: 1 hour 30 minutes) | Paper Reference **9HI0/2E**

History

Advanced

Paper 2: Depth study

Option 2E.1: Mao's China, 1949–76

Option 2E.2: The German Democratic Republic, 1949–90

Source Booklet

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P 5 6 7 9 4 A

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Sources for use with Section A.

Answer the question in Section A on the option for which you have been prepared.

Option 2E.1: Mao's China, 1949-76

Sources for use with Question 1.

Source 1: From the *Communiqué of the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party concerning Lin Biao's '12 September' anti-Party Incident*, 18 September 1971. This was the official communication sent to the leadership cadres of the Party and labelled 'Top Secret'.

On 12 September, Chairman Mao was making an inspection tour in the South. Lin Biao took advantage of the opportunity and organised a plot to blow up the train in which Chairman Mao was travelling. That same afternoon, when the plot failed and was exposed, Lin Biao hurriedly left Beijing. He boarded a British-made aeroplane with the intention of surrendering himself to our enemy, the Soviets, and betraying his own country. After crossing the national border, his plane crashed in Mongolia. Lin Biao, his wife and son, and the pilot were all burned to death.

By the act of betraying his own country to the enemy, Lin Biao invited his own destruction. Yet his death could not make amends for his crime, and his dishonour will last for ten thousand years to come. What has been most intolerable is that Lin Biao stole a huge quantity of secret documents and foreign currencies.

Lin Biao's sworn followers also attempted to escape from the country. They were intercepted by the Air Force and all the documents they had attempted to take with them were recovered.

Lin Biao's daughter placed national interest above family devotion by refusing to escape with Lin Biao. She reported the situation in time, which led to the foiling of her father's monstrous conspiracy. She has thus performed a great service to the Party and the state and she has helped the Party Central Committee smash a serious counter-revolutionary coup d'état.

Source 2: From an official press release made by the Chinese embassy in Algeria, 28 July 1972. This was the first time that the death of Lin Biao had been officially reported outside of China by Chinese government representatives.

Lin Biao repeatedly committed errors and Mao Zedong had waged many struggles against him. Sometimes Lin Biao was able to control his arrogance and thus was able to accomplish some useful work. But he was not able to give up his underhanded nature. During the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution he appeared to support the Thought of Mao Zedong and made propaganda in favour of this Thought. He was thus able to fool the masses into becoming, in their eyes, the successor of Chairman Mao Zedong.

But he was a double-crossing man. In reality he was opposed to the revolutionary line of Mao Zedong, especially after the Ninth Party Congress. He took part in anti-CCP activities in a planned, premeditated way with a well-determined programme. He aimed to take over power, so usurping the leadership of the party, the government and the army.

Mao Zedong unmasked his plot and blocked the manoeuvre. Mao Zedong made efforts to rehabilitate him but Lin Biao did not change his perverse nature one bit. He attempted a coup d'état and tried to assassinate Mao Zedong. After his plot was foiled on 12 September, he fled towards the Soviet Union on a plane which crashed in the People's Republic of Mongolia.

Option 2E.2: The German Democratic Republic, 1949-90

Sources for use with Question 2.

Source 3: From an article in a Leipzig newspaper, published 11 October 1989. Here it is describing the mass protest in Leipzig, 9 October 1989.

Following the weekly prayer for peace in the Nikolai Church, tens of thousands of Leipzig residents came out on Monday evening for an unauthorised demonstration in the city centre. The demonstration remained peaceful. This was due to both the calm response of the police force and militia, who did not intervene in events, and to the absolute lack of provocation on the part of the demonstrators themselves.

This was in keeping with an appeal from the church working groups on justice, human rights, and environmental protection which was read to those attending the services in the churches. It proclaimed that 'violence does not solve any problems'.

In a telephone interview, the superintendent of the church district of Leipzig-East said that he considered the appeal by leading political and cultural personalities asking the demonstrators to act calmly and non-violently, to be an encouraging initial signal. He believed it would pave the way for a dialogue with the government which would be followed by solid offers of reform. He believed the writers of the appeal had committed themselves to ensure that such a dialogue would take place.

Source 4: From an interview with Werner Bramke, 1991. Bramke was a long-time member of the SED and chairman of the history department of the Karl Marx University, Leipzig. The interview was carried out as part of a research project on events in Germany in 1989. Here he is answering questions about his participation in the mass protests in Leipzig on 9 October 1989.

I first participated in the demonstrations on 9 October.

I said to myself that this demonstration simply had to take place. If it ended peacefully, at the very least it would lead to a 'breaking apart' of the existing system and that, in itself, would have to be an improvement. At the time it was not important to me anymore whether socialism could still be saved or not.

My position on 9 October was thus very clear. I hoped that the demonstration would be successful and non-violent. Anything that came afterwards would be better than maintaining things as they were.

Question: Is it correct that the party, police, and the Stasi tried to convey a very clear message prior to 9 October that anybody who participated in the demonstration would be considered an enemy of the state and should thus expect the most severe repercussions imaginable?

Answer: That is exactly how I understood it.

Question: How do you explain the fact that you yourself and thousands of others dared to go anyway?

Answer: There had already been a mass demonstration on 2 October – I think 25,000 people is a realistic figure. Since the police had not intervened then, there was hope that it could be repeated again.

The protest movement had also generated a sort of momentum; it could no longer be stopped. Most people felt that they could not withdraw at this point; they just had to participate. But I think most people did not think that the state would use violent measures against them.

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