Pearson Edexcel Level 3 GCE

History

Advanced
Paper 2: Depth study
Option 2G.1: The rise and fall of fascism in Italy, c1911–46
Option 2G.2: Spain, 1930–78: republicanism, Francoism and the re-establishment of democracy

Friday 16 June 2017 – Morning
Sources Booklet

Paper Reference
9HI0/2G

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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 2G.1: The rise and fall of fascism in Italy, c1911–46

Sources for use with Question 1.

Source 1: From Margherita Grassini Sarfatti, *My Fault: Mussolini As I Knew Him*, published 1945. Sarfatti, who was of Jewish descent, was Mussolini's adviser and mistress from 1912 to 1930. She left Italy in 1938 when Mussolini passed the anti-Semitic decrees. She threatened that she would reveal all she knew about the Duce when she left. Here she is commenting on the murder of Matteotti in 1924.

On June 10, Matteotti disappeared. That afternoon, several bystanders had seen the deputy dragged into a car, which had then sped off. It appeared that a horrible crime had been committed. In parliament two days later, Mussolini seemed weak, repentant and confused. In a brief, hesitant reply he stated that, if, as it appeared, a crime had been committed, 'it would provoke the indignation and angry feelings of the government and parliament.' He stated 'the police are already on the trail of the suspects. Nothing will prevent investigation of the event, the arrest of the guilty parties and their being brought to justice.'

Mussolini's shaky performance struck me as proof of his previous ignorance of the plot against Matteotti. Had that not been the case, he would have found smoother lies to answer the questions asked in parliament. Mussolini swore to me he knew nothing of the plot against Matteotti. I believe it. What Mussolini had stated in parliament, he repeated to me many times in private. It always rang true. 'It was a conspiracy against me,' he insisted 'the work of some devilish enemy'.

Cesare Rossi, Mussolini's press secretary, was a crafty intriguer. He wielded considerable influence. He may not have issued the orders to kill but I am personally convinced that he ordered that Matteotti be abducted and hidden.

Source 2: From Mussolini's speech to the Chamber of Deputies, 3 January 1925. Here Mussolini is commenting on the use of violence by the fascist movement.

Gentlemen, it is I who speak of the accusations made against me. It is said that I have created a *Cheka**. Where? When? How? No one can answer. An Italian *Cheka* has never existed.

Thus far, nobody has ever denied that I possess three qualities: a certain intelligence, much courage and a contempt for riches. If I had created a *Cheka*, I would have done so according to the principles that I have always imposed on the use of violence. I have always said that violence, to be effective, must be precise and intelligent. Now the acts of this so-called *Cheka* have always been unintelligent, disorganised and very stupid.

The most fantastic, most horrendous lies were widely published in all the papers! They invented lies.

Very well, I now declare before this assembly and before the entire Italian people that I alone assume full political, moral and historical responsibility for all that has happened.

If Fascism has been nothing more than castor oil and clubs, then I am to blame! If Fascism has been a criminal association, then I am the chief of this criminal association!

*Cheka – the name of the Russian communists' secret police and given as a nickname to a small fascist hit squad

Option 2G.2: Spain, 1930–78: republicanism, Francoism and the re-establishment of democracy

Sources for use with Question 2.

Source 3: From an interview given by Manuel Portela Valladares, 8 January 1938. Portela, a liberal politician with moderate views, was governor of Catalonia and Minister of the Interior in 1935 and the Spanish prime minister from December 1935 to February 1936. Here he is commenting on events in the civil war in the previous few weeks.

My opinion is that the Republican army is stronger than the rebel army. I said this three months ago, and now the capture of Teruel* has proved it to the world. The Nationalist northern front collapsed because it was technically impossible to defend, because it lacked unity of command, and because it was geographically inaccessible. In spite of Franco's 80,000 Italians and 10,000 Germans, in spite of all the supplies provided by these two great nations, he is now being defeated because he has aroused the spirit of independence in the Spanish people.

War production has been organised. 10,000 officers are graduating from the Republican academies each year. The Republican command, which contains 6,000 officers belonging to the former Spanish army, has growing intelligence and technical services. But nothing is more tremendous than the spirit of resistance which has withstood all defeats. The war of the Republic is only now beginning. The Republican Government has restored order in Republican Spain to such a degree that the percentage of crimes is lower than ever before. It has introduced full and normal constitutional law and respect for this law.

*Teruel – a remote town in eastern Spain

Source 4: From Emanuel Shinwell, *Conflict Without Malice*, published 1955. Shinwell was a member of the British Labour Party and a supporter of the Republican side in the Spanish Civil War. Here he recalls his visit to the Republican zone during the civil war.

While the war was at its height, several of us were invited to visit Spain to see how things were going with the Republican Army. We travelled to Madrid by night for security reasons as the road passed through hostile or unsafe territory. We arrived in the capital just after dawn. The capital was suffering badly from war wounds. The university area had been almost destroyed by shell fire during the earlier and most bitter fighting of the war.

It soon became clear to me that the bravery of the Republican soldiers was not going to be enough. Ill-equipped, only partially trained, lacking in arms (I was always asking to see heavy artillery and was always promised that I should see it – later), the army seemed to me to be doomed to defeat unless a miracle happened or the democracies intervened.

It is sad and tragic to realise that most of the splendid men and women whom we met, fighting so obstinately in a hopeless battle, have since been killed in action. They had a few brief weeks of democracy with a glimpse of all that it might mean for the country they loved. The disaster came because the Great Powers of the West preferred to see in Spain a dictatorial government of the right rather than a legally elected body chosen by the people.

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