Pearson Edexcel Level 3 GCE

Wednesday 12 June 2019

Afternoon | Paper Reference **9HI0/37**

History
Advanced

Paper 3: Themes in breadth with aspects in depth
Option 37.1: The changing nature of warfare, 1859-1991: perception and reality
Option 37.2: Germany 1871-1990: united, divided and reunited

Sources Booklet
Do not return this booklet with the question paper.

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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 37.1: The changing nature of warfare, 1859-1991: perception and reality

Source for use with Question 1.

Source 1: From Helmuth Von Moltke, *Memorandum on War*, published 1871.

The handling of armies cannot be learned in peacetime. The advances in technology, especially in communications and new weaponry, completely change the nature of war and the issues that a commander needs to deal with. A study of great commanders of the past is of great interest but a successful commander in our age must be prepared to be open to change where it provides new opportunities and challenges.

It is vital that the supreme commander has a clear view of the overall picture. He must be able to balance conflicting reports against each other and draw conclusions. Experience teaches us that plans must not go beyond what can be clearly seen and will seldom cover every detail. All plans of operation will require some adjustment when contact is made with the enemy in battle. In my Army the higher ranking the officer is, the shorter and more general his orders will be. The commander on the spot needs to add precise details. Wars cannot be conducted from Headquarters as frequent and rapid decisions have to be made. Effective strategy is a system that requires the ability to adapt to constantly changing circumstances without losing sight of overall objectives. An effective supreme commander must surround himself with subordinates whose judgement and opinions he values and trusts. The development of the General Staff, the development of general military service and my development of staff colleges has made it easier to identify candidates for promotion to positions of responsibility.

An interest in and understanding of technology is vital to a modern commander. During my career there has been a technological revolution which is continuing. In 1866 our needle gun was superior to the weapons of the opposing infantry but in 1870 we were no longer facing inferior infantry weaponry. It was fortunate that our heavy field guns continued to give us an advantage. The railways and the telegraph are also central to the conduct of war. The initial mobilisation, transportation and deployment of mass armies is crucial and our General Staff are well trained in the use of our greatly expanded railroad and telegraph system. These instruments can also be used to transport supplies and to communicate orders and other military information quickly and effectively.

Option 37.2: Germany, 1871-1990: united, divided and reunited

Source for use with Question 2.

Source 2: From an article in an English newspaper, 19 July 1879. The article is reporting on a speech made by Otto von Bismarck to the German *Reichstag*, 9 July 1879.

Bismarck's speech of last Wednesday, and the startling announcement which followed soon after it, have caused great controversy and debate in Germany. Bismarck has suspended the *Reichstag* and announced that, in its next session, it will be asked to pass laws which will limit its own authority.

In his speech Bismarck strongly denied that he had ever considered sacrificing for political advantage what he believed were the correct policies. He emphasised that his actions were a direct consequence of the attempt by the National Liberals to pressurise the German Government. He said he had been compelled to act in the interest of the State. He stated that the result of the most recent German election had suggested that the people supported his attitude to National Liberal policies.

He stated that he had been left isolated in his War against the Socialists and had recognised that he now needed to choose any political allies carefully in the future.

He asserted that he had never attempted to use his military prestige and had always been determined to follow the German constitution in order to unite the State.

He also said that, if he had felt that absolutism was in the best interest of the State, he would have argued for it.

He said he was determined to keep the Government of the State above the control of any Party. Immediately the National Liberals tried to dictate policy he broke his alliance with them. The German Government must not allow individual parties to make demands in return for their support. The parties must appreciate the position of the Government and act in the interest of the State.

Bismarck stated the German Government must have administrative independence and is prepared to work with the smaller parties rather than give way to pressure. He added that the Government would not be a slave to any party that sought a price for their support. He would seek an agreement with the Catholic Centre Party, whose electoral support had increased, and be prepared to modify some previous legislation if it were in the interest of the State to do so.

Whilst this newspaper can admire the force of Bismarck's argument and his clear resolve, we feel that he may be entering a difficult period for both himself and the German State.

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