

# Cambridge International AS & A Level

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**INTERNATIONAL HISTORY**

**9982/03**

Paper 3 Historical Interpretations

**For examination from 2027**

SPECIMEN PAPER

**1 hour 15 minutes**



You must answer on the enclosed answer booklet.

You will need: Answer booklet (enclosed)

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## INSTRUCTIONS

- Answer **one** question.
- Follow the instructions on the front cover of the answer booklet. If you need additional answer paper, ask the invigilator for a continuation booklet.

## INFORMATION

- The total mark for this paper is 40.
- The number of marks for each question or part question is shown in brackets [ ].

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This document has **4** pages. Any blank pages are indicated.

Answer **one** question.

### The Holocaust

- 1 Read this extract and then answer the question that follows it.

It is perfectly possible that Hitler began to deport German Jews because he wished to believe, or wished others to believe, that Operation Typhoon, the offensive on Moscow that began in October 1941, would bring the war to an end. Hitler claimed as much in a speech on 3 October: 'The enemy is broken and will never rise again!' If the war was truly over, then the Final Solution, as a programme of deportations for the postwar period, could begin.

Though Operation Typhoon brought no final victory, the Germans went ahead anyway with the deportations of German Jews to the East, which began a type of chain reaction. The need to make room in these ghettos confirmed one mass killing method (in Riga, in occupied Latvia) and likely hastened the development of another (in Lodz, in occupied Poland). In Riga, the police commander was Friedrich Jeckeln, who had organised the first mass shooting of Jews in August in Ukraine. Now he brought his industrial shooting methods to Latvia. On a single day, 30 November 1941, fourteen thousand Jews were marched in columns to the shooting sites, forced to lie down next to each other in pits, and were then shot from above. The city of Lodz, located in the Wartheland, the largest area of Polish territory added to the Reich, was under the control of Arthur Greiser. It was now the most populous Jewish city in the Reich. Its ghetto was overcrowded before the arrival of the German Jews. It could be that the need to remove Jews from Lodz inspired Greiser, or the local SS and Security Police commanders, to seek a more efficient method of murder. The Wartheland had always been at the centre of the policy of 'strengthening Germanism'. Hundreds of thousands of Poles were to be deported beginning in 1939, to be replaced by hundreds of thousands of Germans from the Soviet Union. But the removal of the Jews, a central element of the plan to make the area racially German, had proved hard to implement. Greiser faced the problem in his district that Hitler faced in his empire: the Final Solution was officially deportation, but there was nowhere to send the Jews. By early December, a gas van was parked 50 kilometres north of Lodz, at Chelmno – the first extermination camp.

Hitler's deportation of German Jews in October 1941 suggested improvisation at the top and uncertainty below. German Jews sent to Minsk and Lodz were not themselves killed but, rather, placed in ghettos. The German Jews sent on the first transports to Riga were, however, shot upon arrival. Whatever Hitler's intentions, Jews were now being shot. Perhaps Hitler had decided by this point to murder all the Jews of Europe, including German Jews. If so, even Himmler had not yet heard of this decision. It was Jeckeln who killed the German Jews arriving in Riga, whom Himmler had *not* wished to murder. However, Himmler did set in motion, also in October 1941, a search for a new and more effective way of killing Jews. The SS began working on a new type of facility for the killing of Jews at a site known as Belzec. By November 1941 the concept was not entirely clear and machinery was not yet in place, but certain outlines of Hitler's final version of the Final Solution were visible. In the occupied Soviet Union, Jews were being shot on an industrial scale. In annexed and occupied Poland, gassing facilities were under construction. In Germany, Jews were being sent to the East, where some of them had already been killed.

What can you learn from this extract about the interpretation and approach of the historian who wrote it? Use the extract and your knowledge of the Holocaust to explain your answer. [40]



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