

ETERNAL ECHOES

Teach and Learn About the Holocaust

News Paper Article No.1

Berliner Börsenzeitung, 12 November 1938 | "Civil War"

World Jewry's Relief Offensive

The dark figures who set world public opinion in motion in the democracies have found a way to cover up the devastating impression of international Jewry that the murder of Legation Secretary Herr vom Rath has evoked throughout the entire civilised world. They use common tricks to construct a "scandal" and give suitable documents with false horrific reports according to the usual methods. The justifiably deep disgust which prevails in every German as a result of this despicable murder of a German diplomat has led to spontaneous retaliatory measures against the Jews. (...)

For a people of honour, it is no longer tolerable to be the object of acts that are dangerous to the public committed by an international clique, whose Jewish inspirers, to use a word of its craftsman, the murderer Grünspan, want to take "revenge" in National Socialist Germany. The German people are intelligent enough to see through what these dark figures are seeking, whose most fervent wish is to rush the peoples of Europe into war, from which these illusionists promise the fall of Germany. (...)

The international Jewish political criminality should know once and for all that the patience of the German people is herewith exhausted. They are no longer in the mood to allow themselves to be provoked and to accept with humility that German diplomatic representatives lose their lives for this society.

It is typical that even foreign papers, which want to be taken seriously, do not shy from presenting their "information" to the reader on the side of the relief offensive of the Jewish world press. They are suddenly no longer interested in the dark background of the murderous deed and the person of the murderer, they direct their friendly attention to full extent at the spontaneous consequences the murder in Germany. (...) From the smashed-in shop windows they make a sort of civil war. (...)

The spontaneous operation against Jewry was denounced in the shortest period by the Government. (...) The German Government will now settle the Jewish question in Germany in the shortest period via laws and regulations. Germany has been provoked most gravely by this second murder; it will issue an appropriate response.

Source: <http://wienerlibrarycollections.co.uk/novemberpogrom/testimonies-and-reports/press-reports#bb121138>

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News Paper Article No.2

Pogrom goes on till night | LOOTING MOBS DEFY GOEBBELS | Jewish homes fired, women beaten | Berlin, Thursday Night

All over Germany tonight the Jews are cowering in terror. Their shops are wrecked and looted, their synagogues are burning, their homes are at the mercy of gangs drunk with destruction. Not even the proclamation of Dr. Goebbels, the propaganda minister-broadcast this afternoon and again tonight-ordering the stoppage of pogroms could curb the madness of the mobs.

The wave of violence sweeping through the cities has moderated now only for lack of further damage to be done. So dangerous did the situation become in Berlin that at eight o'clock the entire police force were called out. (...)

Jews who had managed to elude their persecutors earlier in the day were hunted out and beaten up. Crouching fearfully in corners, they anxiously await the next stroke of the Terror --- the anti-Jewish decrees already threatened following the assassination of von Rath, the Embassy official in Paris.

The confiscation law, it is reported, will affect all property valued at more than £250. Another decree is likely to order all foreign Jews to leave Germany. They filled the passages, stood round in huddled groups outside, waited with pitiful patience for their turn. (...)

Late tonight, the work of destruction done, police and Black Guards are standing in front of the ruins to prevent further pillage. They are saying: "Pass on there." "Pass on," to the dense crowds of cheerful Aryans who have flocked on to the streets to gape at the wreckage, shuffling through the splintered debris, just as holiday makers might stare at a fair-ground. The guards, their jackbooted feet among glass splinters, are exchanging jokes with them...

From The Daily Express, 11/11/1938 © 1938 The Daily Express.

Source: <http://wienerlibrarycollections.co.uk/novemberpogrom/testimonies-and-reports/press-reports#bb121138>

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Table Sheet

A. Fill in the sheet

1. Collect/underline the words/phrases that support the writer's position in the texts.
2. Based on the words/phrases you have collected, decide what position the two writers have taken.
3. What do you think was the writer's aim?

	<i>Berliner Börsenzeitung</i>	<i>Daily Express</i>
Collected words, phrases		
Position		
Aim		

B. With your partner's help, fill in the missing information for the other report

1. Which writer wants to influence the reader's emotions and which one the common sense?

Name: _____

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