**Q: Which of the sources is more useful to an historian studying the events of Kristallnacht? [11]**

**[You should refer to both sources in your answer and use your own knowledge and understanding of the historical context.]**

**Source A: An account of Kristallnacht published in the *Daily Telegraph*, a British newspaper, on 12th November 1938.**

Mob law ruled in Berlin throughout the afternoon and evening as hordes of hooligans took part in an orgy of destruction. I have never seen an anti-Jewish outbreak as sickening as this. I saw fashionably dressed women clapping their hands and screaming with glee while respectable mothers held up their babies to see the ‘fun’. No attempt was made by the police to stop the rioters.

**Source B: An account of Kristallnacht published in *Der Stürmer*, an anti-Semitic German newspaper, on 10th November 1938.**

The death of a loyal party member by the Jewish murderer has aroused spontaneous anti-Jewish demonstrations through the Reich. In many places Jewish shops have been smashed. The synagogues, from which teachings hostile to the state and people are spread, have been set on fire. Well done to those Germans who have ensured revenge for the murder of an innocent German.

**Mark scheme:**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **AO1 (3 marks- knowledge)** | | **AO3 (8 marks- source analysis)** | |
| **BAND 4** |  |  | You have fully analysed/evaluated the authorship and content of the sources. You have reached a clear and well-supported judgement on the question. | 7-8 |
| **BAND 3** | You have detailed understanding of the question topic. | 3 | You have partially analysed/evaluated the usefulness of the authorship and content of the sources. You have reached a supported judgement. | 5-6 |
| **BAND 2** | You have some understanding of the question topic. | 2 | You have started to analyse/evaluate the usefulness of the authorship and content of the sources. However, this is limited and you have not supported your judgement. | 3-4 |
| **BAND 1** | You have a limited understanding of the question topic. | 1 | You have copied or paraphrased the sources, but have not analysed/evaluated them. | 1-2 |

**Model answer:**

**Q: Which of the sources is more useful to a historian studying the threat posed by the SA in June 1934? [11]**

**[You should refer to both sources in your answer and use your own knowledge and understanding of the historical context.]**

**Source D: Part of a press conference given by Hermann Goering to justify the Night of the Long Knives. It was reported in *The Times* newspaper on 2nd July 1934.**

General Goering explained that he and Herr Himmler, who were responsible for security, had been watching for weeks, even months, and had been aware that preparations for a ‘second revolution’ were being made by certain ambitious SA leaders, headed by Röhm. Hitler had decided to suppress the movement with a firm hand at a suitable moment.

**Source C: An announcement made by Ernst Röhm, leader of the SA, on 7th June 1934, following a long interview with Hitler.**

I have decided to follow the advice of my doctors and take a cure [go to a health spa] to restore my energies which have been severely strained by a painful nervous complaint. 1934 will require all the energies of every SA fighter. I recommend, therefore, to all SA leaders to begin organising leave now in June. Therefore, for some SA leaders and men June, and for the majority of the SA, July, will be a period of complete relaxation in which they can recover their strength. I expect the SA to return on 1st August completely rested and refreshed.

Source C is useful because it suggests that there was no real threat posed by the SA in June 1934. It gives the impression that the opposite was true as Röhm was announcing that the men of the SA were to go on holiday during June and July, not returning to work until 1st August. There is no evidence in the source to suggest that Röhm was going to use this time to challenge Hitler’s leadership. Therefore, the source is useful because it shows that Röhm was not unhappy with Hitler or felt that the SA was being treated unfairly, especially as this comes following a long interview with him. Another reason why the source is useful is that it comes from Röhm himself, who was the leader of the SA. This is useful because at this time, Röhm had very good control of the SA, so his announcements give use a good idea of what the SA will be doing next.

Source D is useful to a historian studying the threat of the SA because it suggests that the inner Nazis leadership, Goering and Himmler, was becoming increasingly worried about the threat posed by Röhm and the SA. This source also suggests that the Nazi leadership made the decision to stop the SA before it was too late. The source is useful because it shows some of the reasons for the Night of the Long Knives, and suggests that the threat of the SA had been building for some months. The source also mentions the fear of a ‘second revolution’, which is something Hitler wanted to avoid whilst he was consolidating his power. The provenance of this sources is useful because it comes from Goering, who was one the leading Nazis in Hitler’s inner circle. The fact that it is a press conference recorded by a British newspaper also makes it useful as it is more likely to be an accurate recording of what was said.

Overall, source D is the more useful source for a historian studying the threat of the SA because it shows some of the reasons why the Nazi leaders felt that they needed to act against the SA. For example, it mentions the growing concern over Röhm’s different views of the Nazi regime and the fear of the ‘second revolution’. Source C is less useful because it is does not fit with the other evidence about the lack of discipline in the SA and their continued use of terror.