

The International Dimension of the Spanish Civil War

Overview

- The Spanish Civil War was a "dress rehearsal" for World War Two.
- It was a clash between the forces of reform (the socialism of the USSR, the democracy of France and Britain) and reaction (the fascist dictatorships of Italy and Germany).
- The democracies of France and Britain sympathised with the Republicans. However, they were desperate to prevent the crisis escalating into a Second World War. So they formed a "non-intervention committee" (NIC) to ensure that no foreign powers got involved. Hitler (for Germany) and Mussolini (for Italy) joined up, but then helped Franco's Nationalists anyway.
- This left the Republicans at a severe disadvantage from the outset, although they were aided by volunteers from Germany, France, Britain and elsewhere who joined the International Brigades despite the ban of their governments.

This table may help to summarise the situation:

	Nationalists	Republicans
Leader	Franco	Negrin
Government system	Dictatorship	Democracy
Political Ideology	Right Wing – Fascist	Left Wing – Socialist
Supported by	Italy, Germany	USSR

Cartoon Practice

Practice your answers to **Question 1b** using the following two cartoons about international involvement in the Spanish Civil War.

Question 1b) What is the message of the following source?

**Preparing to write your answer**

THINK about historical context: what was going on during the **time** this source was produced?

Write your answer**Interpretation:**

One message / the main message of the cartoon is that...

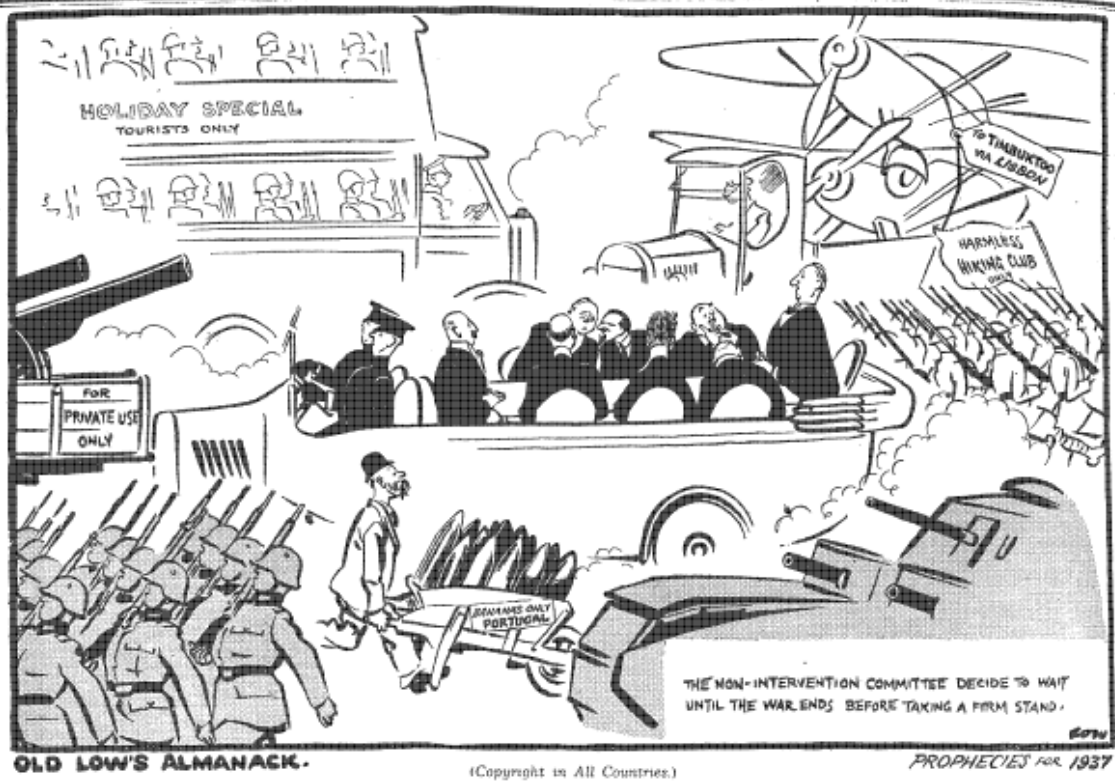
Detail:

This can be seen by...

The cartoonist gets this message across through a number of details...

Another message is that...

This can be seen by...

**Preparing to write your answer**

THINK about historical context: what was going on during the **time** this source was produced?

Write your answer**Interpretation:**

One message / the main message of the cartoon is that...

Detail:

This can be seen by...

The cartoonist gets this message across through a number of details...

Another message is that...

This can be seen by...

