

The **Archive**



Issue No.2
May 2013



FOREWORD: In February, Michael Gove, Secretary of State for Education, announced his proposals for the new history curriculum, only to spark huge controversy. Academic historians have condemned it as ‘history for football hooligans’, whilst its supporters point to the current curriculum’s neglecting of essential facts and chronology. Gove’s history syllabus for children up to the age of fourteen is essentially ‘Our Island’s story’, told in sequence with facts and dates. Various criticisms have arisen from this focus on ‘Our Island’s Story’, primarily the concern that the emphasis solely on British history ‘will produce a generation of young Britons with no knowledge of the history of any part of the world beyond the shores of the British Isles’. ¹ Moreover, sequential teaching of history is seen to ‘rip events out of their context, leaving them insusceptible to analysis’. ² This concern with analysis picks out a key purpose of teaching history, and is something that Richard Evans puts much focus on: he appears to see history as a vehicle for teaching analytical skills that can then be applied to everyday life. Yet history is debatably more than just a ‘vehicle for teaching analytical skills’. History is valuable in and of itself and thus whilst both sides of the debate have merit, what is perhaps more interesting is the question it should make us ask about what is the purpose of studying and teaching history. As is the nature of history, there is also no clear answer to this question. Nonetheless, whether the purpose of teaching history is the instilling of national values and the creation of a national identity, or whether it is the means of equipping students with a framework for interpreting the world in which we live, it is apparent from the current debates that history is rightly perceived as something that is extremely valuable, powerful, and arguably even dangerous. Perhaps ultimately Orwell’s belief that “He who controls the past controls the future. He who controls the present controls the past”, is the best means of making sense of the intensity and extent of controversy surrounding Gove’s proposals for the new history curriculum.

The fact that in this second issue of ‘The Archive’ we have once again been able to gather a huge variety of material from King’s students reveals that independently of what Gove and his supporters perceive to be the flaws of the current curriculum, students at King’s have an interest in history that extends beyond, yet arguably also from, what they are taught in the classroom. We have had so many fantastic articles this year that we have decided to publish two summer issues, splitting the articles we have received in half. Nonetheless, in both issues there will be a wide range of articles such as on ‘The Prague Spring’ that have clearly originated from the GCSE syllabus, yet others such as ‘Scott’s expedition to the Pole’ are the product of genuine historical curiosity. Either way this seems to show that whether the curriculum is confined to rote-learning of facts, or instead takes a more modular approach, history’s intrinsic value, namely that it is the study of the past, means that there is such a wealth and diversity of historical exploration available to students, that regardless of what is taught at school, and in what manner, it can merely open the lid of the treasure chest. We hope that this issue of ‘The Archive’ can and will go someway to further broadening our historical horizons.

Sophie and Josh

¹<http://www.newstatesman.com/culture/culture/2013/03/michael-gove's-history-curriculum-pub-quiz-not-education>

²<http://www.newstatesman.com/culture/culture/2013/03/michael-gove's-history-curriculum-pub-quiz-not-education>

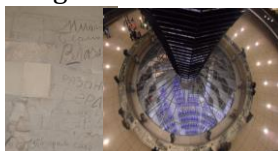


Berlin 2012 A-level History Trip

In October half term, a group of A level historians were lucky enough to set off to Berlin, a city encompassing and enlivening the AS level study of Germany from 1918 to 1991, whilst also offering a unique opportunity to see first hand the sites of many of the most important and influential historical developments of the 20th century and beyond.



On our first day in Berlin, we visited the German parliament building, the Reichstag, to discover more about the country's political nature. An imposing and incredible structure, the German Reichstag offers a fascinating insight into past, present and future. The building itself was opened in 1894 and housed the first parliament of the German Empire, beginning what would be a turbulent future. The infamous Reichstag fire of 1933, marking a significant turning point in Nazi fortunes, prompted what transpired to be a long-term decline in structural and political importance for the Reichstag. After World



War II, the building fell into disuse; however, there is no attempt to whitewash history in the reconstructed edifice, as Soviet graffiti, preserved from the Battle of Berlin in 1945, litters some of the walls within. Yet the past does not overwhelm; internationally renowned and British architect Norman Foster

began restoration of the building after reunification, and the myriad of glass which now adorns the Reichstag symbolises a transparent, democratic and forward-looking nation, placing it firmly in the present day. This is epitomised above all by the new and ultramodern focal point: the Reichstag dome. This glass cupola offers a bold statement of architectural modernism, as much for the panoramic views of the entire city from a height of forty-seven metres, as for the close ups of the mirror clad funnel at the dome's centre, utilising over three hundred and sixty mirrors to reflect light into the parliamentary chamber below. Moreover, state of the art technology and innovative environmentalism, including three hundred square metres of solar panels, prepare the building for a sustainable journey into the future.

However, with all this in mind, it is all too easy to forget that just twenty-five years ago, Berlin was a city divided.



The Berlin Wall was the monument and means of this division, but the reason was the Cold War. Berlin stood at the very centre of this conflict, with several defining crises such as the Berlin blockade and airlift and the construction and destruction of the Berlin Wall, occurring within the confines of the city, transforming it into a microcosm of the wider Cold War context. Our trip provided many startling reminders of this past division, for example, visits to the old Stasi headquarters and the infamous Stasi prison of Hohenschonhausen. Both captured the past atmosphere of Eastern repression, the Stasi having evolved into an organisation commanding the service of over five hundred thousand both officially and unofficially. Perhaps the most telling embodiment of this however, was the sight of a jar containing a 'sweat sample'. Samples like this were collected from all those imprisoned to act as a means of tracking down any who attempted to slip under the noses of the state by use of sniffer dogs.

Seeing what remains of the Berlin wall first hand was also an impressive experience. Our trip took us to the site where this fate was truly decided: the Schloss Cecilienhof, location of the Potsdam Conference of 1945. The conference room has been



preserved in the same state it was sixty-seven years ago, and the impressive palace really displays the power world leaders have to shape the future from the most luxurious of environments.

However, it was not solely post-World War II events into which we gained an insight on the trip since our first experience took us on the Third Reich walking tour, whereby our fabulous guide pointed out key ex-Nazi locations, including the site of Hitler's bunker and the building that was once the Nazi propaganda headquarters. Similarly, a stop at the 'Topography of Terror', formerly home to the headquarters of the SS Reich leadership, Gestapo and Security Service and the desks of Himmler, Heydrich, Kaltenbrunner and their assistants, provided an (albeit chilling) insight into the atrocities of the Nazi period, which culminated in the 'Final Solution' to the Jewish question at the House of the Wannsee Conference, which we visited on our second day. Exploration through the house illustrated in more detail Nazi propaganda as well as some moving personal stories of holocaust survivors and their descendants.

The consequences of the horrific plans made at this conference were captured upon our visit to the Jewish museum, designed by Daniel Libeskind (son of two Holocaust survivors and the architect responsible for the Imperial War Museum in Greater Manchester) in order to reflect the confusion, fear and disorientation that punctuated Jewish experiences of the war. Empty rooms to represent forever-to-be unknown stories, a piece of art which involved walking over metal faces to produce a piercing screech, and the garden of exile all aimed to emulate such emotions. Similarly, our visit to the Holocaust monument, a nineteen thousand squared metre patch of land housing two thousand seven hundred stone slabs in the centre of Berlin, showed how the genocide of World War II is kept ever-present in the consciousness of modern day citizens and visitors.



permeates Berlin.

Alternative sites of remembrance, such as the enormous and imposing Soviet war memorial at Treptower Park, and the Commonwealth War Grave Cemetery, where we had a service with Reverend Max Homewood, amongst the sites of three thousand five hundred ninety-four burials, each marked by perfectly uniform white headstones, indicated the enormity of the historical representation that

Berlin is arguably the city to have undergone the most profound changes of any over the course of the 20th century. Clearly, as we venture into the 21st century, battles with past demons persist, but more importantly, further change and modernisation prevails. A far cry from the "Red Berlin" of the 1920s, the Nationalsozialismus of 1933-45, and the division of the latter half of the century, modern-day Berlin encompasses the values of liberalism, vibrancy and diversity, having evolved into the metropolitan centre of Europe. Indeed, our first evening in Berlin, spent at the Reichstag, epitomises the espousal of history and modernity which make Berlin such a unique and incredible city, and which ensured a truly memorable and incredible trip. Berlin is, in the words of Mark Twain, "a new city; the newest I have ever seen".

Cameron Szerdy, Jack Jameson, Nia Hughes and Jess Guest



Roman Feasting



Edesia was the Roman goddess of food. She made sure the food tasted excellent. *Bibasilar* was the goddess of drink. These two gods were responsible for a Roman feast. Only the rich could afford fancy banquets. They were very important for social purposes, and if anything went wrong it was a heavy burden of embarrassment! A Roman feast took place in a Roman dining room, known as the *triclinio*. It was a rectangular room finely decorated with large flowers, statues of Heros and paintings of gods. In the middle of the room was an enormous low square table with a tablecloth, often made out of marble. The diners would lean up on sofas with their left elbow, and eat with their right hand. There would be three sofas around the table, and one side of the table was empty for slaves to bring the dishes.



The slaves would work for hours preparing a banquet. They could have five courses in total! The starters were called *Gustatio*. Several kinds of vegetables including ones we eat today were enjoyed, with vinegar and spiced greens often mashed together. Olives were also very popular; green and black was eaten with pickle as well. Also, stewed seafood like muscles, clams and also snails were very popular. Fruits were included in the starters, as were hot sausages. Eggs and jellyfish was a traditional dish. They would have gallons of wine with honey and water and snow from the nearest mountain. Romans had a very sweet tooth!



The main course (*Coena*) was usually a meat dish. A delicacy was a chicken stuffed in a duck, which was then stuffed into a goose, then stuffed into a pig, and finally stuffed into a cow. They might also include stuffed dates, with a little bit of cheese in them. They would be served with spices all the way from India, and a rich oily sauce. Presentation was of the most importance, and grapes were always laid at the side of the dish. A wild boar was a popular dish too, served with apples. Birds such as peacock were very expensive, and were adored by the Romans. Pigeon was also a good meal cooked with orange. They literally ate everything! In fact, so much was eaten that they had a room called a vomitorium, a place to throw up so you can come back and eat more! For dessert (*Bellaria*), they would have snow cubes flavoured in fruits such as lemon, which would be a lot like ice cream. They ate pastries with almonds, and honey that would be coated in sugar. At the end of a meal the Romans would take bread, and wipe it in all the spilt oil on the tablecloth to eat. They would then take home their favourite dish home in a napkin.



Rohan Yesudi



Winston Churchill



Family:

Winston Churchill was born on 30 November 1872 in Blenheim Palace in Oxfordshire, England to Lord Randolph Churchill and Lady Jennie Churchill, an American. She was always too busy with her social life to be concerned about her child.

School:

At the age of eight his parents registered him at St. George's, a boarding school in Ascot. He wrote to them that he was happy there, but actually he hated it and did not do well at all. His teachers thought he was "a very naughty boy", and he was frequently punished. He was ranked last in his class and was considered lazy. His headmaster said of him, *"He is a constant trouble to everybody and is always in some scrape or other. He cannot be trusted to behave himself anywhere."*

At the age of ten his parents removed him from St. George's and he went to a Brighton school run by the Thomson sisters. Although he was much happier there, he still did poorly in his classes.

He wrote letters to his parents, but they rarely answered them. He visited them at home during the Christmas holidays, and his mother made a trip in February to visit him at his school.

The highlight of his school year was the visit of his nanny, Mrs. Everest, whom he called "Wooms". She had been hired to care for him when he was only a few weeks old and had been his faithful supporter through the years. His younger brother Jack also came with her for the visit. Winston's parents turned deaf ears to his pleas for them to come to visit him. Many times they would not even answer his letters. He entered school at Harrow. He still did not do well, but his teachers saw his potential. By age fourteen he was doing very well in history and literature. One day after looking at the way Winston had his toy soldiers lined up, his father asked him if he would like to go into the Army, and Winston said, "Yes." He felt so good because he thought his father saw him as a military genius. He later learned Lord Randolph thought his son was not intelligent enough to become a lawyer, and the Army was just an alternative.



Illness:

When he was eleven he became very ill with pneumonia. His parents, when they heard the news and thought he might die, finally went to see their son. Otherwise they did not visit him, even when they happened to be in the same town as the school.



Trademarks:

When Winston was fifteen, his mother promised him a gun and a pony if he would quit smoking. He quit for a short time. When he was an adult, he developed a taste for Cuban cigars after a visit to Cuba. The cigar, along with the "V for Victory" hand sign, became his trademark.

Sadness:

The year he turned twenty-one was a difficult year for Winston. His father, Lord Randolph died, and that summer his beloved governess, Mrs. Everest, also passed away. He had spent his whole life trying unsuccessfully to please his father. His faithful governess had always given him her unconditional love and support.

Work:

He joined the Army in 1926 and during his enlistment he spent time in Cuba, India, and in Egypt. He read a lot, educated himself, and then began writing. He would go to war and when on returning home he would write a book about it. When he was twenty-four he decided to leave the Army and pursue a writing career.

Fame:

He travelled to South Africa as a war correspondent. The Boers disrupted the train on which he was riding. After helping those who had been wounded, Churchill was taken captive. He managed to escape by climbing out a latrine window. He made it to Pretoria, South Africa, stowed away on a train, and then was aided in his escape by John Howard, who was a coalmine manager. When he finally arrived home, he learned he had become world-famous overnight. This helped him to launch his political career.

Marriage:

In 1900 the voters elected him to Parliament, an office he would occupy the greater part of his life. Between World War I and World War II, Churchill began painting and became well known as an artist. In 1908 when he was thirty-four years old he married Clementine Hozier. He later said his most brilliant achievement was persuading his wife to marry him. He said he *"lived happily ever afterwards."* They had four children; three daughters, Diana, Sarah, and Mary, and one son, Randolph.

**Invasion:**

Churchill was one of the few men who recognized the threat Germany posed to the world. He was in a position as lord of the admiralty to build up the British navy. People called him a warmonger, but the fleet was ready when it was needed. When the Germans invaded Poland on September 1, 1939, it became clear that Churchill's warnings about the threat had been right on target.

Prime Minister:

On 10 May 1940, when he was sixty-six years old he became prime minister of Great Britain. He said, *"I felt as if I were walking with destiny, and that all my past life had been but a preparation for this hour and for this trial".*

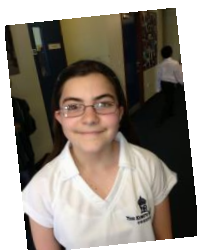
He declared, *"Let us therefore brace ourselves to our duties, and so bear ourselves that if the British Empire and its Commonwealth last for a thousand years, men will say, 'This was their finest hour'."*

Success:

In 1953 Queen Elizabeth knighted him and he became "Sir Winston Churchill", a member of the highest order of British knighthood. That same year he also won the Nobel peace prize for literature. In 1963 The United States Congress voted to make Winston Churchill an honorary citizen of the United States.

Death:

He died on the 24 January 1965 at the age of ninety after suffering a stroke.



Mariam Little



SAY NO to paying the EU **UK INDEPENDENCE PARTY (UKIP)**

"These are anxious and troubled times. As crisis has followed crisis our politicians are seen to be impotent in the face of the dangers rearing up all around us."- UKIP

VOTE UK INDEPENDENCE PARTY ON JUNE 4TH

ukip.org

The UK Independence Party is a right wing party, which believes in low taxation (such as 11% income tax), that multiculturalism has split society, a zero tolerance of crime (life sentence means life), and importantly wants to leave the EU to protect our borders from immigration. UKIP supports various other British supremacy, high class supporting policies that are seemingly unrealistic in our more liberal age. Is it an appealing party?

The UK independence party is becoming increasingly popular following the 2010 general elections and its outcome as a hung parliament between the Liberal Democrats and the Conservatives. People have a fascination with UKIP and Nigel Farage the party leader: there is often a group of media followers intrigued by Farage's personality, and ironically, Europeans show active interest in UKIP. As well as more media attention UKIP's polls have been raised, with much focus on their immigration policies. Especially with rumours of mass Romanian and Hungarian immigration when they join the EU, many British people are feeling their 'nationality', culture, and jobs are at risk to potentially harder working, cheaper labourers, who can work for more in the UK than at their home country even for minimum wage. In the UK the average monthly wage is \$2303, whereas Poland, for example is \$759, and Romania is even less per month at \$480. UKIP claims that the threat from foreign countries is great to the people of the UK, and this strikes a major chord with those who are unemployed, or are struggling in the current economic climate. UKIP, whether looking for a scapegoat, retaining a British way of life, or actually speaking accurately is being successful, or certainly increasingly so.

UKIP's primary objective however was explicit when it was founded in 1993 in order to remove the UK from the European Union, hence its name. In the 2009 election to the European Parliament, UKIP obtained 13 seats with 16.5% of the vote, coming second behind the Conservative Party, overtaking the Labour Party in votes, and drawing level with it in seats. UKIP has yet to win any seats in a UK general election in the House of Commons, but Farage is confident this will change in 2015, saying, "Don't think about UKIP forming the government in 2015 but if we continue at anything like our current progress, who knows? The 'first-past-the-post' system is brutal to a party like us. We've got a lot of work to do on that and to build up our stronger areas, but who's to say that in 2015 UKIP may well be needed in a coalition?"

It is true that in order for Farage to lead a party that could rival the Liberal Democrats or even the Conservatives and Labour, he has a long way to take the party. The Conservative leadership described UKIP supporters as 'pretty odd' and 'closet racists' and that is a stereotype that UKIP now has to deal with. Although a coalition seems the only realistic way in which UKIP could be influential in the 2015 UK general election, its opponents must first accept that it is a substantial and arguably increasing threat to their interests in politics currently in the UK. At the moment, it may seem more like a fringe party, but it could become more powerful very quickly in this current climate of recession, as the history of the 20th century has so powerfully shown us.



Edward Downes

King's Parliamentary Invasion

We began the day with an early start as we had to be at Chester Station for 7.20 this meant a gruelling 6am wake up. Thankfully though we all managed to get there with



time to spare and no major incidents, we grabbed a quick breakfast and then went to our platform excited at what the day in London would bring. What added to the excitement and tension, of the day was the fact that the majority of us, except a lucky few, were receiving January exam results which were to be handed to us in envelopes but only at the specific time of 8.30, this resulted in a nervy start to the day, but when the results did come in there were thankfully smiles and relief all round.

After a long train journey we finally arrived in London where we caught the tube to near the Houses of Parliament and after Mr Heap had taken us round in a circle, on purpose he argued, we found out the right way to go, as soon as we saw the face of Big Ben there was no way we could get lost. We arrived at the Houses of Parliament and after the necessary security checks with understandably no pictures allowed, we met up with our tour guide. The guide told us all about what they had in store for us, which involved visiting the House of Commons, the House of Lords all topped off with an elections workshop about the different electoral systems used in the UK.

First, we walked from the outer building underground to the Houses of Parliament, after far too many stairs we arrived at the House of Commons viewing area and watched MPs debating real life key issues at the heart of political life. We were then taken down into the central area in which BBC political editors such as Nick Robinson make their broadcasts from almost daily, and our tour guide told us about one of the many statues there of Charles I. There was, as you can imagine, many such tributes to great political figures down the ages. One of the most appropriate was that of Baroness Margaret Thatcher wagging her finger and, still looking down over political life even after death.



After a surprisingly short walk we arrived at the House of Lords, a room with red instead of green seating and to put it simply, lots of old experienced people. The topic being discussed was International Women's Day which was the next day. After watching this topic being debated in a rather cramped House of Lords viewing area it was time to head back for our elections workshop and a chance to meet our MP Stephen Mosley.

Our tour guide dropped us off at a large room and handed us over to an incredibly enthusiastic man who was going to tell us about the different electoral systems used in the UK. We were split into three parties who



each had to elect a leader and come up with two policy suggestions for example one was the introduction of a 99p coin. At this point the party leaders had to try and sell their party to the group and then we voted using a proportional representation system. After the results were in, it was explained to us how the elections result changes when proportional representation electoral system is used instead of the normal UK first-past-the-post system and we saw how the 2010 election results would have had stark differences if proportional representation had been used. Then we got to ask a few questions to our MP Stephen Mosley which involved a typical week in the life of an MP, with most of the week being spent in London and his views on major issues such as gender equality within politics (asked by you know who, Mrs Chadwick) which coupled with underrepresentation of many ethnicities seems an on-going everyday issue in political life.



We then set out on foot and made our way to the Supreme Court. After yet more security checks we were led up into a court room and educated about a number of interesting cases that had gone through the Supreme Court, for example, the Star Wars case where a man was fighting for the right to sell Star Wars helmet replicas. He successfully argued that the costumes were functional not artistic works, and so not subject to full copyright laws. Then we were asked if we wanted to go and sit in on a real case, we agreed and were led downstairs

into a courtroom. After the group squeezed into a full court room we watched a case about nitrogen oxide in which two women presented their cases to a group of five Lord Judges. This allowed us an insight to the inner workings of the judiciary in terms of the highest court of appeal within the UK. The case ended and that concluded our day in London. We caught the train home very tired but glad the day had been such a success, and returned with a sense of an appreciation of the job many politicians seem to struggle to do.



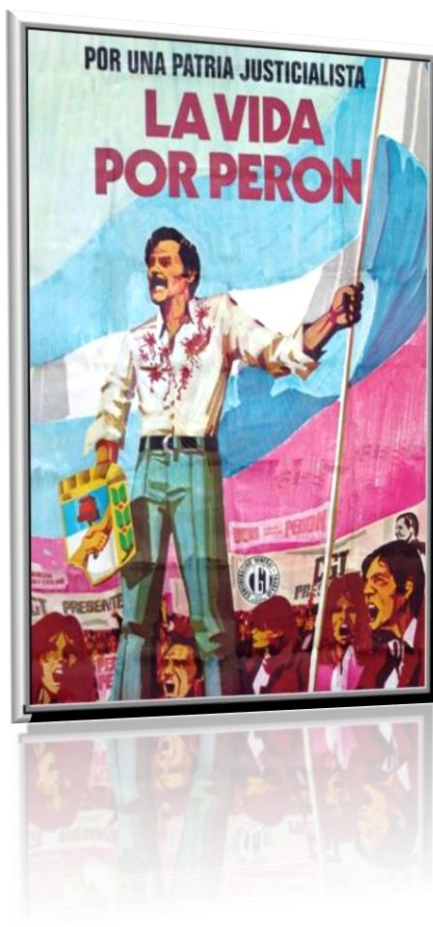
“What are the chances that we all wore the same clothes? How embarrassing!”

Sam Chadwick



THE ABSTRACTS OF FASCISM: PERONISM

Fascism, arguably the most important political creation of the twentieth century, is synonymous with coloured-shirt militants, aggressive imperialism and military dictatorships. Mussolini's March on Rome in 1922, Hitler's Nuremberg Rallies 1923-1938, Sir Oswald Moseley's 'Battle of Cable Street' 1936 seem to epitomise our understanding of this multifaceted and potentially abstract ideology. Empirical research of the last century has allowed historians to outline fascism's distinctive progression and teaching through experience is in fact both more accurate and effective, rather than labouring fascism with a static definition. Unlike other classical 'isms', fascism rests not on the truth of its doctrine, but on romanticist ideas of the nation, mass sensual experiences instead of reasoned debate, and fails in part to provide a theoretical justification for its actions.



Whilst we would normally associate fascism, namely Nazism, with oppression of liberty, biological superiority, fatally expansionist ambitions, a relish for war and the creation of a society based on violent exclusion, Juan Domingo Perón's Argentinian dictatorship 1946-55 actually opposed some of these principles, extending the vote to women, giving women the chance to participate in government for the first time and redefining national citizenship around promises of a 'vidadigna' (a dignified life). Whereas Hitler and Mussolini used fascism to shrink workers' share of national product, Peron actually increased their share from 40% to 49% in the first three years of his regime. Such fundamental differences can be attributed to circumstance; Argentina in 1946 was not united and Peron had to win support from established oligarchies and not a failed democracy. 'Classic' fascism relied on the humiliation of existing political leaders and organizations, assuming the role of an 'antiparty' against liberal traditions and socio-economic distress, trumping constitutional deadlock with a revolutionary surge of mass support and a 'helping hand' into power. Peron, however, was no such leader of a party. He depended on the militancy of his worker supporters, who occupied Buenos Aires on 17th October 1945 and paved the way for Peron's successful presidential election in 1946. Furthermore, building on Peron's already significant gains in social welfare, Peron's wife, Eva, established the Eva Peron foundation in 1947, which changed the lives of the poor through public funds, and it was she who

formally pushed the law allowing women to vote. Such a centric female role in government was without historical precedent within fascist regimes.

Peron instinctively mirrored classic Fascist rhetoric through his 'Twenty Fundamental Truths of Justicialism': the eighth stating, 'In political action the scale of values of every Peronist is the following: first the Fatherland, then the Movement, and then Men.' However, Peron, unlike most European fascist dictators in the twentieth century, failed to establish a complete dictatorship despite calls for a 'partidoúnico' (single party). Peron did not fulfill fascist aspirations and historians have particularly focused on his 'leftist' demagoguery. Peron promoted the state as an intermediary between class conflicts and relied on the industrial class and organized labour for support. Despite such innate failings, Peronism teaches us to look beyond the fall of the Nazi dictatorship in 1945 for a more clarified understanding of this ideology. Perhaps our preconceived view of fascism should have ended with Hitler, and whilst still retaining a natural vigilance towards such a potentially corrupt and totalitarian phenomenon, it is worth noting that fascism is far more diverse than simple disdain towards liberty and a fancy for military dictatorships.



Josh Smith



Scott's Expedition to The South Pole 1910-1912

Who was Scott?

Captain Robert Falcon Scott was a naval officer and a true explorer. He originally went on an expedition with Shackleton (who was also a good explorer) and other men. This expedition was a successful one and this was when Scott realised that he loved exploring. Scott carried on in the navy and Shackleton set out to the South Pole. However, Shackleton did not get there and his expedition ended in disaster when his ship 'Endurance' got stuck in the ice. When Scott heard this he was determined to discover the South Pole for himself and so he set out with hopes of being the first to discover and reach the South Pole.

Why they went?

The South Pole was the last important place on earth that hadn't been discovered! So obviously we weren't going to just leave it there; England wanted to be the first to discover the South Pole.

Scott worked hard to raise money for his expedition and eventually his ship, 'The Terra Nova', was loaded with tons and tons of stores and equipment and food. The government, the people and lots of companies had helped and donated things they would need for such a huge journey.

The country waved the ship off full of excitement and hope. There were sixty-five men on board and lots of dogs and ponies. Most of the men were scientists and geographers, as well as two photographers. The other four men, neither scientists nor geographers, were to be the men that would try to make the final journey to the South Pole: Captain Robert Falcon Scott, Dr Edward Wilson, Edgar Evans and Captain Oates.

So the Terra Nova expedition left England and sailed on the 1st of June, 1910, to Australia and New Zealand and then on to Antarctica. It was after Scott's journey to the Pole had begun that he suddenly heard some bad news: someone else was also trying to be the first to reach the South Pole and was also busy preparing his route. A Norwegian man called Amundsen wanted to try to get to the South Pole first and suddenly the expedition became a race. Scott felt his route would be better because Shackleton had already been along it: up the Beardmore Glacier. Amundsen was trying a new unexplored route and could get stuck as he was using sledges pulled by dogs that would get tired and need feeding and Scott had motor sledges as well as dogs and horses.

When they reached Antarctica in January 1911, the ship turned back, leaving only twenty-five men on the Antarctic ice, where they set up a base camp at Cape Evans and just those men spent the winter there. Scott and his team prepared carefully, not rushing, even though he didn't know when Amundsen would begin the race and he had no way of finding out.

So finally, on 1st November 1911, Scott left his base camp hut with support parties, dogs and ponies for his journey to the South Pole. It was an eight hundred mile trek, walking and pulling sledges over ice and glaciers and through deep snow in temperatures of between -10 to -40 Celsius. The men fell over often and struggled in the deep snow. His motor sledges, which Amundsen thought would help Scott beat him in the race, broke down and were abandoned, they wouldn't work in the below freezing temperatures. The ponies suffered very badly with terrible frostbite so as they weakened sadly they were shot to provide meat and left as food for Scott's return. All these troubles meant that

Scott's main important food supply camp called 'One Ton' Depot for when he was coming back was thirty-five miles further walking than he wanted and this had very bad consequences for their journey back from the Pole. Each time the support party laid a depot (which was a supply of rations for when they come back) a bit of the support party would leave and head back to the base camp and then they undertook scientific experiments and geographical studies and explored around the Ross Sea while they waited for Scott's return

The final pole team

Scott did not choose the team for the final push to the Pole until the last support party turned back, about a hundred and fifty miles from the goal. It was at this moment he decided to include a fifth man. The extra man was the little Scotsman Lieutenant Henry 'Birdie' Bowers, who had the kind of character that appealed to Scott - mentally strong and determined. But with a five-man team instead of four it put a heavy burden on their rations and fuel. On 17 January 1912, Scott arrived at the South Pole - only to find that Amundsen had beaten him to it by just thirty-three days. It was Bowers who first caught sight of a camp in the distance and saw the first evidence of a Norwegian victory. As well as the Norwegians' black marker flag, they also left a tent with supplies. Amundsen had even left Scott a note to deliver to the King of Norway in case he did not return. The temperature had dropped to -30°C, eight degrees lower than for the Norwegians. The dispirited men took pictures and left quickly. Scott wrote gloomily in his diary:

"The POLE. Yes, but under very different circumstances from those expected. Great God! This is an awful place and terrible enough for us to have laboured to it without the reward of priority."

The race to the Pole was over. All the men were by now suffering from slow starvation, hypothermia and almost certainly scurvy. They knew they had a very long journey to walk back: eight-hundred miles and not even the feeling of victory to help carry them through the hard days ahead. Petty Officer Evans was the first man to die on 17th February - he had stumbled behind the group and he fell and slipped into a coma. A month later on 17th March, Captain Oates, crippled with frostbite, walked out of the party's tent; it was his 32nd birthday. Scott immortalized the courageous army officer in his diary, writing that as he left he said:

"I am just going outside and may be some time... We knew that Oates was walking to his death... it was the act of a brave man and an English gentleman."



A few days later, the three remaining men were lying in their tent waiting for death. They had run out of food, had terrible frostbite, were weary beyond all imagining and a swirling blizzard confined them to their sleeping bags. 'One Ton' depot, where food and supplies and fuel was waiting, lay only eleven miles away. Scott was the only one keeping his diary:

'We shall stick it out to the end, but we are getting weaker, of course, and the end cannot be far. It seems a pity but I do not think I can write more - R Scott.'

At the end of March 1912, all three men had died in that tent. Back in Scott's hut at base camp the men waiting for Scott knew nothing at all and became increasingly worried when the team didn't return. They sent a search party out in September 1912 and on November 12th, seven and a half months after they had died and just eleven miles from the safety of the One Ton depot store, the bodies of Scott, Wilson and Bowers were found lying in their tent along with Scott's diaries. Oates' body was never found. The search party left the three bodies in their tent and back at the camp a wooden cross was built for them and erected overlooking Scott's First Hut inscribed with "To strive, to seek, to find and not to yield." The news of their deaths did not reach England until 15th February 1913, almost a whole year after they had died. There was great national sadness and tales of great bravery.

Legacy

Historians still argue about whether the expedition was a failure or not. Scott may not have discovered the South Pole first but the legacy was huge: great research projects had been undertaken in science and geography, which gave important new knowledge to the world. Scott's hut still stands and has become a world heritage listed site.



Robin Lee

The Falklands Sovereignty Referendum: What is it and why is it happening?

The Falklands are undoubtedly some of the most disputed islands in the world with controversy extending throughout their history for hundreds of years. These very isolated and desolate islands were first settled by the English in 1690, with France

establishing a settlement soon after. Britain heavily reduced its presence in 1774 but retained its sovereignty claim. Argentina took over the islands in 1820 but Britain reaffirmed its claim to the islands in 1833 when it repelled the Argentines. Argentina sabre-rattled for many years after then, ultimately leading to the invasion in April 1982 and a fierce war until mid-June. Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher dispatched a huge naval task force to recapture the islands, which while successful, cost two hundred fifty-eight British and six hundred forty-nine Argentine lives. Following the war, Anglo-Argentine relations remained frosty until the 1990s with the disputed sovereignty being brought into the spotlight with the 30th Anniversary of the war in 2012.

Argentina has made aggressive claims in recent years, by blocking Falklands-flagged ships and cruise ships that had visited the Falklands from docking in their ports. It is because of Argentina's very public claims for the islands and demonization of British rule over the islands that the Falklands government decided to hold a referendum to reaffirm the right of the islanders to self-determination. On 12th June 2012, a member of the Falkland Islands' Legislative Assembly announced the referendum, which is due to take place on 10th-11th March this year. He said; "We have thought carefully about how to convey a strong message to the outside world that expresses the views of the Falklands people in a clear, democratic and incontestable way. So we have decided...to hold a referendum on the Falkland Islands to eliminate any possible doubt about our wishes". The move has been praised by Prime Minister David Cameron, who said "Thirty years ago they made clear that they wanted to stay British...Now the Argentine government wants to put that choice in doubt again, by shouting down the islanders' ability to speak for themselves." Argentina has said that the referendum will have no effect on its claims for the islands.

The question that will be put to the Islanders is "Do you wish the Falkland Islands to retain their current political status as an Overseas Territory of the United Kingdom?" We can predict that there will be an overwhelming "yes". In order to protect the legitimacy of the referendum, the British government has invited international observers to verify the result. In a referendum, all those who are eligible to vote in elections are allowed to cast their vote on any piece of legislation or issue in which the government feels the input of the people is needed. This is normally to give the decision greater public legitimacy, as the people, not the government, made the decision. Argentina relies on the support of other nations to back its claims to the islands, but it is hoped that following the referendum, this support will drop dramatically. The UN advocates the right to self-determination and with the referendum it is hoped that Argentina will no longer be able to use the UN as a medium to host its claims for the Islands. For the three thousand inhabitants of the Islands, a peaceful end to Argentinian claims for their home will be a welcome peace.



Will Copley

[This article was written in March before the result of the Falklands referendum had been declared. We subsequently know that 1,513 out of 1,517 were in favour of remaining an overseas territory of the United Kingdom]

Is the US President the world's most powerful man?



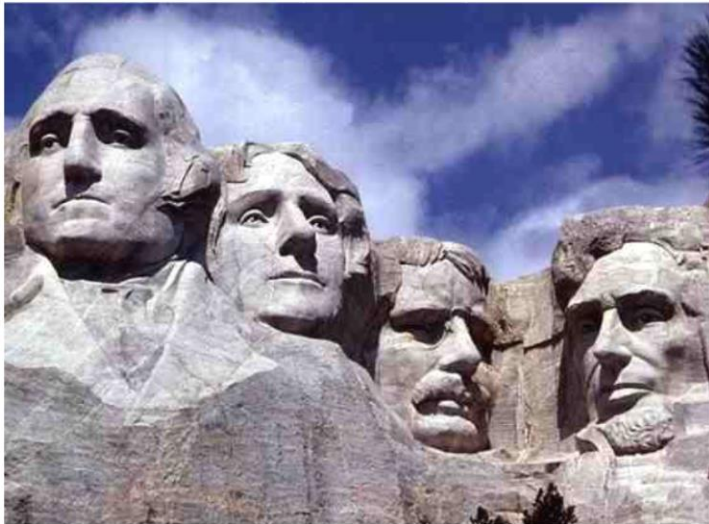
On the face of it many would simply say yes. However, this is a straight forward answer to a complex question. As Chief Executive of the world's largest superpower, the president is boss of 2.7 million employees (two per cent of the US labour force) and Commander-in-Chief of the mightiest army on Earth. At all times he is accompanied by a briefcase containing America's nuclear launch codes. He can negotiate treaties, pardon criminals and appoint around 4,000 senior officials (though many require the Senate's consent), including

ambassadors, judges, generals and cabinet ministers.

In contrast to the ill-defined powers of the British prime minister, the power of the president is defined in a document; Article two of the US constitution signed in 1787. Yet the powers thus assigned do not sound too impressive. Conscious of the memories of war with King George III, most of the fifty six Founding Fathers wanted to create a weak central leader (a "foetus"

of monarchy), to let congress make the laws and to keep most of the real power in the hands of state and local legislators. However, the revolutionary general George Washington, widely accepted as the first man to hold the new office of president, explains the ambiguous nature of some of his defined powers. For example; the duty to take care that laws be faithfully executed, an ambiguity that over time presidents have systematically exploited.

The president has become the greatest source of new legislation and although the president does not directly vote in congress if he disagrees with a bill he has the power of veto. This veto can only be overridden by a two thirds majority in the senate. This has only happened 107 times in the history of the USA that represents 4% of attempts. In contrast the president can also find it difficult to achieve his aims. Between, 1953-1996 only 46% of proposals submitted by presidents were passed into law in the USA. Although the president has the power to wage war this too depends on the congress, "Congress shall have power to.....declare war," reads article I section 8 of the Constitution.



There have been 120 occasions when the US president has sent troops into battle without congressional backing. However, like the UK America has largely stopped declaring war. The president instead will ask for an authorization of force from Congress as was the case for the Vietnam War. In this conflict 58,000 Americans and up to four million Vietnamese died. In contrast no authorization at all was used for the conflict in Korea. After the war in Vietnam congress tried to reassert its authority with the War Powers Resolution of 1973 that would force the president to consult congress and regularly seek re-authorization for any on-going conflict.

Every president since Richard Nixon, who tried to veto the War Powers Resolution, has ignored it. This has meant that the power of the president has not been constrained by congress and in this sense the president retains unique military power. In contrast this power struggle has seen Obamacare stall and suffer years of modification and revision. Congress voted over thirty times to repeal or replace Obamacare. The president eventually produced a compromise in domestic policy but such compromises are not seen in times of conflict. President George Bush continued to fight the war in Iraq under an authorization to find and eliminate the long dead Saddam Hussein. President Obama faced no obstacles to his search for Osama Bin Laden, the architect of the twin towers nine eleven attack on the US. President Obama who was unable to follow his chosen domestic agenda was able to achieve this military goal. More recently in 2011 President Obama was criticised for exceeding his constitutional authority by ordering attacks on Libya without congressional permission. However, the drone strikes against Gaddafi's forces went ahead. The real power of congress over the Whitehouse lies in its control of the purse strings, "the most complete and effectual weapon for the immediate representatives of the people."



In other words this fiscal stranglehold is the most effective way the president can be constrained by Congress.

The president of the US is in reality the most powerful man in the world however; even the world's most powerful man must act outside the rules that normally constrain his office in order for his power to be truly manifest on the world stage.

Sam Chadwick



'Guerrillero Heroico' – An Image that Changed the World

Though the words 'Guerrillero Heroico' likely won't mean much to you, the chances are that you will have seen this image somewhere at some point in your life – whether on a T-Shirt or on television, Guerrillero Heroico is the world's most reproduced image, an image that has been used in the name of change, anti-authoritarianism and anti-capitalism since its conception.

Communist photographer, Alberto Korda, originally took the photograph on 5th March, 1960, while Che Guevara was attending a memorial service for those who had died as a result of the 'Le Coubre' freighter explosion which killed two hundred people two days earlier.

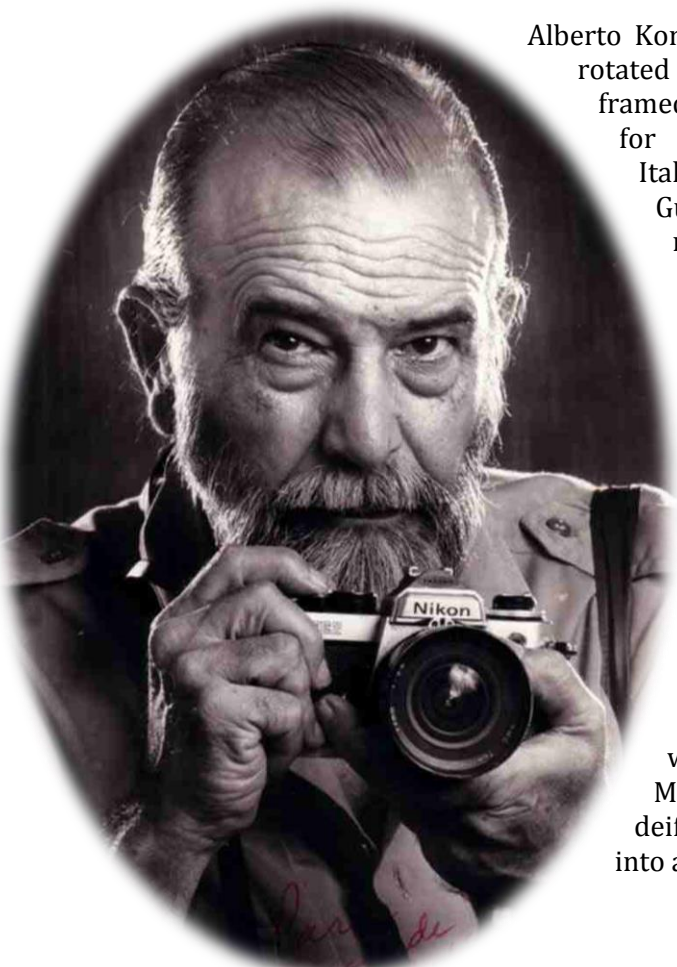
The photograph was taken not by 'product of knowledge or technique' but because Korda was attracted to the look of 'utter implacability, anger and pain' on Guevara's face. Korda managed to capture two frames of Guevara before he disappeared from view, but knew that of the forty images he had taken of Fidel Castro and other speakers at the memorial, the one shot of stoic-looking Guevara was the most powerful.



Alberto Korda had this image rotated and enlarged to be framed on his wall, and so the image remained unknown for seven years. Giangiacomo Feltrinelli, a left-wing Italian publisher, needed an image for the cover of Che Guevara's 'Bolivian Diary' (a diary of the last eleven months of Guevara's attempts to start a revolution in Bolivia), and was given 'Guerrillero Heroico' for free by Korda, because Feltrinelli was a 'friend of the revolution'.

Feltrinelli printed the image on the cover of thousands of books, and distributed the image amongst his friendship group. Before a year had past, the image had reached the billboards of every major city, the May 1968 Paris student riots and even a forged pop art painting attributed to Andy Warhol. The combination of the image's intrinsic stoic power and its portrayal of a resolute revolutionary as a mythic hero captured the hearts of the world,

with the Victoria and Albert Museum professing the image deified Guevara and 'turned him into an icon of radical chic'.



Guerrillero Heroico has gone onto become a brand in itself (perhaps ironically given Guevara's anti-corporate stance) and has received widespread distribution on t-shirts, posters, protest banners and countless other formats, appearing as a countercultural symbol of youthful rebellion, merging politics and the power of images in our society as a 'quintessential post-modern icon'.

Some of the success of the image can go down to the fact that the image is not officially owned by anyone, and so can be used for any purpose by anyone. Fidel Castro, the Communist leader of Cuba for almost fifty years, described the ownership (or lack thereof) of the image as a 'bourgeois concept' allowing artists and the like to use the image for any purpose, commercial or otherwise. Alberto Korda, a lifelong Communist, never demanded royalties for the image, likening the spread of the image to the spread of Communist ideals, but did not want the image to be used by corporations that Che Guevara would not support. In 2000 Korda felt the vodka band Smirnoff's use of the image degenerated the figure of Che Guevara and identified his moral right to the ownership of the image. He was given \$50,000 in an out-of-court settlement and donated it to the Cuban healthcare system, citing 'Che would do the same.'

Guerreillero Heroico is a fantastic example of how small actions can change the world. This image was originally taken to highlight Guevara's struggle against Fulgencio Batista, a Cuban dictator, but has now become synonymous with protest and human solidarity, in the process being cited by the Maryland Institute College of Art as 'the most famous photograph in the world'.



George Neal

Picture links:

Accessed on the 18.4.13:

Cover:

http://www.napolun.com/mirror/web2.airmail.net/napoleon/Napoleon_Great.jpg
<http://allthepainting.com/wp-content/gallery/famous-paintings-in-museums/creation-of-adam-michelangelo.jpg>
<http://www.browngirlgumbo.com/wp-content/uploads/2013/01/MLK.jpg>
<http://thebeautifultimes.wordpress.com/2011/08/18/soviet-propaganda-posters/>
<http://www.clemson.edu/caah/history/FacultyPages/PamMack/lec122sts/hobsbawmReview.html>
<http://www.guardian.co.uk/culture/gallery/2012/sep/15/ten-history-moments-andrew-marr?picture=396095325http://www.coverbrowser.com/covers/time/59>

Roman Feasting:

<http://www.historynotes.info/wp-content/uploads/2011/12/roman-feast-1.jpg>
<http://sheamacleod.files.wordpress.com/2011/12/saturnalia.jpg>
http://i2.squidoo.com/resize/squidoo_images/250/draft_lens2325924module153745647photo_1317290982roman-feast-sat.jpg
<http://www.talesbeyondbelief.com/images/greecian-goddess.jpg>

Winston Churchill:

<http://t2.gstatic.com/images?q=tbn:ANd9GcSRiMvsS9Hn1Vh7QFfiMMZtAY5-VnVAOSUcCfjNXIVioxMkRvDF>
http://t0.gstatic.com/images?q=tbn:ANd9GcRrfd6HdRqR77NoV9LeqPmSJEUBC-kjO_qhc4rcGWXQN0gv5hKYJA
<http://www.loc.gov/exhibits/churchill/images/youngchurchill.jpg>
http://winstonchurchill-quotes.com/wp-content/uploads/2010/07/article-1052774-0286BA2400000578-357_468x304.jpg
<http://imgc.allpostersimages.com/images/P-473-488-90/53/5388/C1LJG00Z/posters/english-school-winston-churchill-the-man-who-saved-britain-front-page-of-the-children-s-newspaper.jpg>
<http://static.guim.co.uk/sys-images/Observer/Pix/pictures/2013/1/30/1359548632864/Churchills-funeral-proces-011.jpg>

UKIP:

http://www.ukip.org/media/_leader/billboard.gif
<http://t3.gstatic.com/images?q=tbn:ANd9GcRRVfRRIZFyXW7zpZm40xohJDU3Ge3W8oWMATAUv3nn1U6el2P1>
<http://www.ukiphorsham.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/05/Ukip.png>

Peronism:

<http://english.safe-democracy.org/media/peron%20juan%20domingo.jpg>
http://t0.gstatic.com/images?q=tbn:ANd9GcTbMY-K6lj4HUuUg-6bzyLzqq73AMK4mXC_odIU_vB0YdWk9Hks

Falklands:

http://news.bbcimg.co.uk/media/images/66335000/jpg/_66335220_66335219.jpg

Accessed 20.4.2013

Captain Scott:

http://i.telegraph.co.uk/multimedia/archive/01201/scott-antarctic-46_1201778c.jpg
<http://static.guim.co.uk/sys-images/Guardian/Pix/pictures/2012/1/16/1326726330429/A-photograph-taken-by-Cap-007.jpg>

Accessed 26.04.13

Parliament and President:

<http://www.veteranstopday.com/wp-content/uploads/2011/08/10bama.jpg>
<http://afrocityblog.files.wordpress.com/2010/01/mount-rushmore.jpg>
http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-efG0MCb6qeA/TmY5mlcJs3l/AAAAAAAAAFKg/kKVyRkLA_0E/s1600/911+twin+towers+pictures1.jpg
<http://fnt-usa.org/images/President%20of%20US%20Seal.jpg>

Accessed 29.04.2013

Che Guevara:

<http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-7XUhhxN8Xy0/UHQFjKqB0JI/AAAAAAAAAMgA/PbOa77otfEw/s1600/Che-Guevara-Wallpapers-2011-.jpg>
<http://myarchive.us/richc/2010/CheGuevaraShirt.jpg>
<http://www.galleryjart.com/images/Alberto-Korda.jpg>