

## Candidate 4 evidence

Question: To what extent was fear the main reason for the lack of resistance in Nazi occupied Europe?

5 Plan

Intro= end 1941, Limited resistance.

Night/Fog:

10 Police state, imposed terror, and obedience.  
Vanished without a trace instead of public arrest.  
Politicians/communists

Persecution:

15 Ideology, causing widespread terror through all European countries.  
Roundups (Women/kids/men) 19 41–42 intro of shooting, Russia, Roundup, European Jews,  
death/concentration camps

WIDESPREAD

20 Citizens, willing to expose their fellow citizens to Nazis for not following laws/ideology.  
Scared = talk freely/join clubs/way they act.  
Police: Vel D'Hiv, 1300 detained, 1 week  
People: 1500 Nazis running France.  
Letters – jealousies/rivalries/arguments  
25 Balance: resistance, German army, deporting, Belgium, civil service =no

Radios/news, sensor – BBC

France, petrol = no military, bikes, Jews  
Collaborators, trust?

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Discuss three factors importance, conclusion

References

35 Alan Farmer, access to history in depth – antisemitism at the Holocaust (1998) “Hitler saw nothing wrong with terror. ‘terror is the most effective instrument’ he declared “.

Paul Dowswell, The Usbourne Introduction to WW2, “not everyone resented their new masters. There were many who cooperated with the Nazis – either for their own selfish reasons, because they shared their antisemitic ideas.”.

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## Assignment

55 By the end of 1941, the Nazis controlled the majority of Europe. They were able to control this vast area of land for most of the war, with only limited resistance. The main reason for this was due to fear, as the repercussions were so severe. However, there are other significant factors, such as the help of collaborators and the lack of coordination by those who try to resist.

60 The most important reason why the Nazis were able to control the majority of Europe, with only limited resistance was through fear. The Nazis ran a police state, a regime that imposed terror and obedience. A perfect example of this is the Night and Fog decree, which was issued by Hitler on the 7th of December 1941. This decree stated that instead of publicly arresting people such as political leaders of communists that the Nazis viewed as a threat, they would take them from their homes in  
65 the middle of the night, and was said to “vanished without a trace into the night and fog”. This decree spread fear as people were unaware what happened to these people, they didn’t know if they were dead or alive. People also feared persecution. Nazi ideology stated that Jews were inferior whereas Aryans were the ideal race, this caused widespread fear through all European countries, especially those with large, Jewish, or Slavic populations, as they were controlled by a much harsher  
70 regime. Although tensions towards Jews had been rising before the outbreak of World War II, 1941–42 saw the introduction of systematic shootings in the Soviet Union and the roundup of European Jews to concentration camps. This caused widespread fear as it was millions of innocent people to die. The view that fear was the most important factor in allowing the Nazis to control the majority of Europe, with only limited resistance is supported by Alan Farmer in his book *Access to history in-*  
75 *depth – antisemitism at the Holocaust (1998)*, where he states: “Hitler saw nothing wrong with terror. ‘Terror is the most effective instrument’, he declared.”

Another less important factor in allowed the Nazis to control the majority of Europe is only limited resistance is widespread collaboration. Collaborators were citizens willing to expose their fellow  
80 citizens to the Nazis for following Nazi laws or ideology. Because of collaborators people became scared to talk freely, join clubs or act in certain ways as they feared been denounced to the Nazis. Although collaboration occurred in every occupied country the most notorious case was the French police aiding with the roundup of Jews. The most famous of these raids was the Vel d’Hiv, where the Paris police rounded up non-French Jews living in Paris. It is estimated that one week into these  
85 roundups 13,000 Jews were being detained inside the Velodrome d’Hiver. The French people themselves did, however, play a big role in the controlling of the country, as because collaboration was so common in France, only 1500 Nazis were required to run the whole country. This, alongside the French police, aiding with the roundups caused a lack of resistance as citizens felt like the government and fellow citizens weren’t protecting them so it would be hopeless to try to resist  
90 themselves. It was also very common in occupied countries for citizens to write letters to the Nazis telling them of people they believed to be going against Nazi laws or ideology, as this was due to jealousies, rivalries or arguments. This caused a lack of resistance as your friends, neighbours, or even your family could denounce you to the Nazis, so people didn’t know who they could trust. The view that collaboration was common in Nazi occupied countries is supported by Paul Dowsell in his  
95 book “*The Usborne Introduction to the Second World War*” (2005) where he says “not everyone resented their new masters. There were many who cooperated with the Nazis – either for their own selfish reasons, or because they shared their antisemitic ideas.” However, this factor is limited in its importance, as although collaboration allowed the Nazis to control countries, resistance occurred in every occupied country. For example, in Belgium, where the civil service refused to carry out  
100 deportations, meaning the Nazis were forced to do it themselves.

105 A final least important reason for the lack of resistance in Nazi occupied Europe was due to the lack of coordination by those who tried to resist. The Nazis made it extremely difficult to spread anti-Nazi ideas they banned radios to stop people listening to BBC and senses newspapers. This caused a lack of resistance as people were unable to be aware of any resistance been planned. The Nazis also banned Jews from owning bikes, and in France, took all the petrol to use for their military, meaning people were forced to rely on bikes as the only form of transport. This caused a lack of resistance as people found it difficult to move around the country is easily, meaning they could only resist with others near them. People were also unable to coordinate resistance due to collaborators, as you  
110 didn't know who would denounce you to the Nazis.

In conclusion, it is clear that fear is the main reason for lack of assistance in Nazi occupied Europe. This is because people feared being abducted in the night under the Night and Fog decree. Citizens also feared persecution – particularly Jews and Slavs. Although collaboration is an important factor,  
115 it is less important than fear, as although people feared being denounce to the Nazis, collaboration was so common, yet people still resisted the Nazis. Finally, lack of coordination is the least important factor, as although Nazis made it very difficult to spread anti-Nazi ideas, resistant leaders such as Charles de Gaulle were still able to get anti-Nazi messages into occupied countries, and once again resistance did occur. So overall, it is clear that fear was the main reason for the limited resistance in  
120 Nazi occupied Europe.