

The Aftermath of the Battle: Fascism (Un)Defeated?

As instructed by your teacher, work through this worksheet in pairs, each person completing their own worksheet. Discuss each question before writing your answers.

Task 1

You are going to watch sections of an unedited film of a BUF march (Source A) taken by an (unknown) professional cameraperson, probably for a newsreel company. Whilst you are watching, make notes under the questions below.

1. What types of people were on the march?

2. How would you describe the march?

3. Did you notice any protests?

4. Make a note of anything else interesting or unusual.

5. Can you learn anything about British attitudes towards Nazi Germany before the war?

Task 2

Look carefully at Source B, which describes a BUF march in East London on Wednesday October 14th, 1936. Use the source to answer the questions below. Remember to explain your answers.

1. Does this sound like a defeated movement? Explain your answer.
2. Why might the BUF present events this way?
3. What audience is being targeted?

Task 3: The Pogrom of Mile End

One week after Cable Street, violent anti-Jewish attacks occurred in parts of East London. Jewish businesses and homes were targeted. Study Sources C – F and answer the questions.

1. What sorts of things happened?
2. Who was affected? How?
3. What does this suggest about the consequences of Cable Street?

Task 4: Historical Interpretations

By now, you will have realised that there are two possible interpretations of Cable Street; you are going to investigate these. You have been placed in either Group A or Group B. Group A will investigate Interpretation A, whilst students in Group B will investigate Interpretation B. Use your previous worksheets, the knowledge and understanding you have gained so far, and the Interpretation Information Sheet to complete the parts of the table below that seem most relevant to the Interpretation you are researching.

Interpretation A. Cable Street was a great anti-fascist victory. Evidence: the BUF march was prevented; there was a huge mobilisation of anti-fascists; it has become a symbol of solidarity.

Interpretation B. Cable Street has been exaggerated. Evidence: BUF activity continued; Antisemitism remained; Other factors, such as the Second World War, weakened fascism later.

Claim	Evidence	Your Conclusion
Cable Street stopped Mosley		
Fascism survived		
Antisemitism continued		
Cable Street is an important symbol		