A

AQA

GCSE

HISTORY

Paper 1 Section A/C:

Russia, 1894–1945: Tsardom and communism

8145/1A/C

Interpretations Booklet

INTERPRETATIONS A and B for use in answering Questions 01, 02 and 03

INTERPRETATION A

Adapted from the 'Memoirs of Count Witte', published in 1921.

Witte was the Minister who introduced the October Manifesto (1905). Nicholas II sacked him and later replaced him with Witte's rival, Stolypin.

The October Manifesto had promised people political rights, such as freedom of speech. But Stolypin blocked all attempts to carry out what we had promised. He allowed the police to enter homes and arrest people illegally. The men in   **5**
Stolypin's Government were only interested in their own careers and did as they pleased. As a result Stolypin lost the respect of all decent people.

INTERPRETATION B

Adapted from 'Government and Opinion in the reign of Nicholas II' by Vladimir Gurko, published in 1939.

Gurko was a Russian noble and government minister. He helped Stolypin introduce his reforms.

Stolypin's only thought was for the good of his country. He worked successfully with the Duma. Under his clever direction, calm and peace spread throughout the country. Wealth increased rapidly. In 1900 the average Russian had an income of 98   5 roubles a year, but by 1912 it was 130 roubles. He was one of the most outstanding ministers of Nicholas II.

END OF INTERPRETATIONS

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