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a) Albert Speer was a humble architect, who rose to great power during the Third Reich.

Speer was born into a wealthy German family. His dad was an architect, & perhaps the inspiration for Speer's career choice. Speer also became an architect.

Speer joined the Nazi party & was soon working for the Nazi party. Hitler & Speer developed a friendship, which grew from Hitler's passion in architecture. After the death of the Chief architect, Speer was elevated to the role of Chief architect of the Third Reich.

This was a very important role, & incorporated Speer designing propaganda

settings, such as the 'cathedral of light', & megalomaniac buildings ~~for~~ ~~Hitler~~ ~~new~~ ~~whose~~ for Hitler's new Germania. Hitler was a very clever man, & designed buildings he believed would have ruin value. Speer greatly inspired Hitler during his role as chief architect, ~~that~~ so much so that with the death of ~~the~~ Todt, Speer was promoted to Minister of Armaments in 1942.

As minister for Armaments, Speer conducted many achievements. One such achievement was with the economy. He significantly boosted the ~~economy~~ German economy, which was some achievement for Speer, who had no previous experience in a job like this.

In 1943, Speer demanded the position of Minister for armaments & war production. Hitler, impressed by his previous great work, permitted this promotion. During this role, Speer held phenomenal power in the Nazi party, & was ~~considered~~ believed to beat the likes of Himmler, Goering, & others for the role as Hitler's successor.

b) History, to a significant extent, presents us with a balanced interpretation of Albert Speer.

In the case of ~~the~~ Albert Speer, according to ~~the~~ history, the good is balanced by the bad. During his time as architect, Speer created buildings which led to the destruction of 50,000 Jewish apartments. These homeless Jews were consequently forced to live in ghettos. ~~The~~ The bad aspects of Speer's work are also seen through his time as Minister for armaments & ~~war~~ war production, where he used the ghetto-bounded Jews as a focus of slave labour in munitions factories. To his credit, Speer was against the ~~the~~ aimless destruction of Jews in concentration camps, but this belief

was only fuelled by his ~~terrible~~ belief that they could be better used as slaves in munitions factories (which would mean less money would have to be spent & an increase in labour, would mean that he would be portrayed as a hero). These factors ~~was~~ of History make Speer, to a great extent, appear as a villain, but this is balanced ^{to a great extent} by the good things that Speer did. Speer did help the economy during his time as minister for armaments, which naturally was good for Germany & the German people. Also, ~~at~~ at the Nuremberg trials, where many of the Nazi leaders were sentenced to death, Speer was portrayed as the 'good/penitent' Nazi. This is because he proclaimed he was sorry for his sins ~~to~~ & that he was unaware of his actions, which

had such a detrimental effect on the Jews. As such, Speer was portrayed through history as a good Nazi.

In conclusion it can be seen that to a phenomenal extent, history presents us with a balanced interpretation of Albert Speer, who is portrayed as having both good & bad sides, but overall these differences balance out.

Speer was both good & bad, but overall he is not portrayed by history as being distinctly either.