

Sujet : MEMORIES OF THE BLITZ IN ENGLAND

DOCUMENT 1: A night in a tube Station during heavy bombing by the Germans in London, 1940.



DOCUMENT 2: Did the Blitz really unify Britain?

(The Blitz) has become part of British Folklore and the blitz spirit a byword for stoicism, invoked at times of need, like after **the 7/7 bombings in London**. But is this image of a nation standing shoulder to shoulder an accurate one?

Although there was some panic and chaos in those first nights, says Juliet Gardiner, author of *The blitz: the British under attack*, the term “Blitz spirit” typifies two qualities that emerged - endurance and defiance. (...) Despite this fortitude, it’s important not to be over-sentimental about the Blitz, she says, and a lot of social tensions remained unresolved. (...) Some people exploited the crisis for their own gain, although this wasn’t widespread. “Bomb-chasers” followed the latest raids so they could loot shops, while some people were charged money to get a place on the Tube to sleep at night.

They were other tensions as cities outside London felt their suffering was overlooked, she says. For security reasons, places weren’t always named in news reports, but national newspapers and the BBC were also guilty of playing down the damage and casualties in some regional cities.

Tom Geoghegan, BBC News Magazine, 8 September 2010.

The 7/7 bombings in London: London bombings of 2005, also called 7 July attacks or 7/7 attacks, coordinated suicide bomb attacks on the London transit system on the morning of July 7, 2005.