Coup & Civil War

Paul Preston

Republican Panic 19th July 1936
- Rebellion might have been crushed at birth if the government had armed the workers. Quiroga thought the giving of power might be irreversible. Resigned.
- Taken over by Barrio, who failed to compromise with Mola & resigned.
- Giral quickly armed workers.

Mola’s Alzamiento 17th July 1936
- Mola was very confident it would be successful; did not foresee long civil war and underestimated strength of working-class resistance
- Franco “It is necessary to spread terror”, “There can be no cowardice”.
- Preston argues that the scale of terror indicates the objective to eliminate an entire liberal and reforming culture, not just take over Spain.
- Maintaining the status quo is more of a unifying objective than utopian ideals of the left. Generals worked well together, Republicans argued over how to deal with attack but Carlist/ Falangist leaders have minds of their own: Mola is not undisputed leader

Help: - Carlists gave large militia & peasant support
- Falange gave militia (not very popular)
- CEDA gave funds

Successes
✓ Almost no opposition in Catholic heartlands (N.W.), e.g carlist Pamplona (even so with blanket oppression on all on the left, 1000s dead / towns)
- Arguably such victories had been secured for the next twenty years later.
- Nationalist successes elsewhere required trickery.
✓ Seville taken, with its airport, by Queipo de Llano and with support/donations from landowners
✓ For Franco - most of his opponents (Fanjul, Sanjurjo, José, Goded) were either dead or imprisoned. He was a senior officer over Mola. (Respected- In command of nearly 50K Africanistas who put down Asturias rising.) Within a week the rebels were dubbed the ‘Francoists’ in Europe.
✓ Republicans unprepared for attack, panic, divisions, public notice this and feel scared, (already lost)
✓ Within a week: had wheat growing areas, a third of Spain, Seville,

Unanticipated Failures
- 17 of the the army's top 21 generals remained loyal, as do not separatists & Civil Guard remained loyal in working-class strong areas, where also rebels were usually defeated
- Sanjurjo killed in plane crash, from exile he was due to lead march on Madrid- very good for Franco
- Barcelona- Companys refused to arm workers, CNT seized them anyway. Goded captured
- Madrid- left-wing coalition including volunteers, armed. Rebels forced to alcazar (fortress) in Toledo. Fanjul captured: he & Goded are dead within 2 months
- José Primo de Rivera imprisoned
- Within a week: didn’t have industrial areas, (Bilbao, Santander, Barcelona) not an instant success like they’d hoped, lack of arms in the North, Africanistas paralysed (Republican blockade) turned to foreign aid

Republicans: Quiroga, Barrio, Giral, Azaña, Cabellero, Companys
Nationalists: Fanjul, Mola, Goded, Queipo de Llano, Sanjurjo

Timeline
July
17th- Coup begins in Morocco
18th- Mainland but momentum disrupted; Madrid, Pamplona, Barcalona & Saragossa
19th- Panic in Republican government. Giral arms trade unions.
28th- Nazi planes arrive