Worksheet 14.3

Photographic representations of the Algerian War

Please view this photographic agency website.

In the ‘Search’ box enter the code 0025005.jpg, which brings up a photo of a French security check in the Kasbah in Algiers during the 1960s. (Click on the thumbnail to enlarge.)

Study the photograph closely.

1. What are the value and limitations of this photograph for an historian studying the French policy in the Algerian War?

2. What does the photograph tell you about the nature of the conflict?

3. Can a single photograph be representative, that is, tell a general truth about wider historical events?