UNIT 11 DEPRESSIONS, DICTATORSIPS, AND WORLD WAR II

THE AGE OF ANXIETY

After World War I, the old order was over. The traditional thought of mankind’s invincibility form human reason collapses from the Great War. Philosophy, science, arts, literature contributed to crisis of confidence and conscience. Eventually new models are offered to explain humanity.

I. Philosophy
- The works of Nietzsche and existentialists re-examined
  - Ludwig Wittgenstein – logical empiricism – Tractatus Logico-Philosophicus - God, morality, freedom cannot be defined by science or logic so it’s a waste of time to study/pursue them. Only worry about things that were measurable, precise and demonstrable. (Bertrand Russell and Alfred Whitehead – same)
- Oswald Spengler – Decline of the West – Analyzed civilizations as living organisms and that World War I was the beginning of the end for western civilization
- Jose Ortega y Gasset – believes that the masses will use their combined number/power to destroy civilization’s achievements

II. Science
- Science is still a mystery as no one can understand anything about except people who specialize in it.
- Albert Einstein – theories of relativity. Speed of light is constant everywhere in the universe. Matter and energy are interchangeable. Every particle of matter contains enormous levels of potential energy. Space and time are not absolute. Takes science beyond the confine so Isaac Newton
- Physicists were also finding a new understanding of matter. In 1895 Wilhem Roentgen discovered x-rays, and two years later J.J Thomson proved the existence of the election. Researchers like Pierre and Marie Curie explored radioactivity and further proved the divisibility of the atom.
- Ernest Rutherford followed up on this by associating radioactivity with the breakdown of big atoms. He changes an atom by bombarding it with subatomic particles
- This led to quantum physics (the attempt to explain why Newton’s laws didn’t’ work for subatomic particles). Max Planck the most famous of these. He challenges Newton in 1902 by show energy emitted in quanta and had many properties of matter.
- They could find no unified theory for the subatomic world.
- Werner Heisneberg – Uncertainty Principle – We really aren’t sure how things work. Newtonian physics (some cases) and old conception of the atom had to be thrown out the window. Science is forever ultra-complicated where everyday people can understand the intricacies.
- Penicillin – developed by Alexander Fleming. Also advances made in the study of heredity (Mendel’s work beginning to be recognized).
- Sociology – Emile Durkheim (using statistics to analyze customs) and Max Weber (stats and facts too broad for government bureaucrats to effectively enforce, thus someone’s always unhappy. That person could fall for a charismatic influence). Both were concerned about the customs of a society if norms broke down.

III. Psychology
- Field grows due to humanity’s desire to explain the irrationality of human behavior.
- Sigmund Freud – see earlier notes
- Carl Jung – broke from Freud and developed a theory of collective unconscious (a common bond between whole peoples expressed in rituals).
IV. Art

- Expressionism – Van Gogh, Cezanne, etc
- Surrealism grows from Freud’s ideas that art could penetrate the subconscious (Dali, Matisse, Munch, Picasso (Cubism-the depiction of mood through geometric angles and planes, clashing lines)). Artistic and literary movement. Artists wanted to display a world beyond the visible realm. Emotional intensity.
- In literature, authors explored human irrationality. Also wrote about controversial issues.
  - Franz Kafka – wrote about twisted fantasies
  - Marcel Proust – conflict of the inner monologue/narrator’s feelings
  - James Joyce – Ulysses – a modern revision of the Odyssey with an average Dublin citizen experience epic (modern problems)(e.g. the Cyclops is a raging Fenian/Anti-Semite & the Sirens are hot barmmaids)
  - Virginia Woolf – political activist/feminist – A Room of One’s Own – “a woman must have money and a room of her own to write.”
- Architecture – moves to simplicity function only. No more making aesthetically pleasing ornaments or decoration. Clean lines. Bauhaus

V. Media

- Massed media used as an escape from the struggles of everyday life. Film and radio become major means for entertainment, information, and propaganda. All sorts rich, middle, and poor attended the movies. Sound introduced in 1929.
- Cult of Celebrity emerge as people idolize performance rather than the actors themselves
  - The Great Train Robbery
  - Charlie Chaplain
  - Buster Keaton
  - Birth of a Nation
  - Mickey Mouse
  - The BBC
- Totalitarian regimes love it.

WESTERN DEMOCRACIES AFTER WORLD WAR I

Although Germany was defeated, the victors were crippled as well. Russia is communist

I. Great Britain

- Merchant fleet decimated. With the rise of the US economy, Britain no longer the best supplier of industrial goods
- Economy ravaged by war debts, and war relief programs (veterans, orphans, and widows)
- Biggest problem was unemployment. Reaches 12% by the 1920s. Although struggling the economy continues to intervene in poor relief (benefits, medical aid, & pensions). Expensive, but keep standards of living from decreasing and falling prey to radical movements (communism)
- David Lloyd George’s Liberal Party replaced by the “people’s champion” Labor Party. Labor Party now the main opponent to the Conservative Party. Labor Party promotes nationalizing major industries (EEK socialism?!). Both parties work together in hard times.
- Foreign policy occupied with Britain’s inability to maintain control over its vast worldwide empire. British manpower, resources, and navy greatly reduced from the war.
  - Once again the Irish Question: an ardent group of nationalists (like Easter Rising) begin a campaign of violence which Britain responds with a heavy hand. Stalemate. Negotiations take place and Irish Republic granted in 1922. Northern Ireland to remain in the United Kingdom. Secular, religious, and more violence (IRA) continues in Ireland.
  - Statute of Westminster – Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, and Canada - gives local independent legislatures autonomy/control of their countries. Maintains a sovereign/business relationship with Britain
Britain reluctant to move away from its crown jewel, India. From 1915 to 1947, former lawyer Mohandas Gandhi leads and Indian nationalist movement to rid his country of British interference. Organized and advocated nonviolent demonstrations (sit-downs, boycotts, speeches, marches, writing). His followers grow in numbers and becomes leader of the Indian Congress. Leads non cooperation with the British. March 12th, 1930 leads millions of Indians on a 240 mile Salt March to protest British taxes. British jails tens of thousands. Attitude toward the British changing for the worse and Gandhi becoming a folk hero. India eventually freed in 1947 after long conflict. Nation divided in India (Hindus) and Pakistan (Muslims). Gandhi assassinated by Indian nationalist (claimed Gandhi was too sympathetic to Muslims)

- The British Empire is faltering

II. France
- France’s landscape bore the brunt of WWI as the NE part was destroyed. Also a 70% casualty rate left many destitute. Unemployment, inflation, and debt.
- Unlike the political unity in Britain, France is a mess with numerous political parties (business, Church, army, socialists)
- In 1923, Germany cannot make reparations payment, asks for a moratorium. President Raymond Poincare responds by ordering troops to enter the Ruhr Valley (in west Germany). Completely belligerent and aggressive move that is condemned by all countries. To settle potential conflict USA/Britain arranges a series of ideas to re-examine German reparations with US help (Dawes Plan, Young Plan, Lausanne Plan)
- France agrees but remains adamant about isolating Germany. Seeks international allies since
  - Former ally Russia gripped by communism and civil war
  - Great Britain has their own problems and won’t commit to anything
  - USA isolates itself from Europe
- France turns to eastern Europe for aid. Aligns itself with Czechoslovakia, Belgium, Romania, Yugoslavia, and Poland. The “Little Entente.” Attempting to surround Germany with allies like Louis XIV was in Unit 3
- In 1924 the French people had enough of Poincare’s strong armed tactics and was replaced by moderates. Debt/Inflation gets worse and Poincare is brought back to deal with domestic affairs only. He slashes spending, raises taxes, and restores confidence in the French economy.
- Paris prestige grows as the planets center from art, intellectualism, culture, and innovation.
- Radical movements (communism) in Paris luring workers

III. The United States
- Senate rejects the Treaty of Versailles as the United States doesn’t want to commit to international affairs that would drain American resources and manpower. Thus the USA doesn’t join the League of Nations. Republicans led by Henry Cabot Lodge engage in political war with Woodrow Wilson over the treaty. Wilson refuses to negotiate/make changes. Wilson’s health is failing.
- Republican attitudes reflected in America’s policy of non interference in Europe. Immigration quotas are halted
- USA enters into a period of isolationism except in business matters (repayments WWI loans by Britain and France). In essence the USA is the only country on its two feet who could help struggling Europe and basically turns its back.

IV. Germany
- The Weimar Republic is the victim of the vindictive Treaty of Versailles. Straddled with
  - Reparations and inflation
  - Unemployment, debt, and despair
  - Like France, many political parties attempt to gain power
  - Disillusioned veterans who believed they were close to winning until betrayed by socialists and Jews.
- Reichstag, chancellor and president established in Weimar constitution
• Situation worsens in 1923 as inflation skyrockets as the government prints more money. So does nationalism in face of French aggressiveness. People close to starvation. Middle class, forced to use their savings, begin to dwindle in numbers. Looking for a scapegoat for their problems

V. False Optimism
• The 1920's are characterized by sense of hope and optimism. Faith that their leaders were working to ensure that another world war would never happen. This happy-go-nice feeling seen in music, social activities, and the following
• 1924 - Dawes Plan – see drawing
• 1925 – Locarno Pact – Europe's leaders meet in Switzerland
  o France and Germany settle border disputes.
  o Germany settles border disputes with its eastern neighbors (Poland and Czechoslovakia)
  o Britain and Italy promise to fight the aggressor in a future German/French war.
• 1928 – Kellogg Briand Pact – 15 countries (including USA) condemn war as an instrument of national policy and promise to settle disputes peacefully. In other worlds aggressive war is made illegal. Yay! No more war!

THE GREAT DEPRESSION

Recessions and slow downs are normal characteristics of an economy. The Great Depression is different because of its intensity and length. Affects all aspects of life (SPICE). It shatters the optimism of the late 1920s. Begins in the United States and it drags Europe down with it.

I. Causes
• Real investment in business is shrinking. Business have no money for research, investment, risk, etc
• People buying luxuries rather than investing
• People where buying stocks on margin creating overpriced stock
• Farm prices had peaked in WWI, producing too much food, thus low prices.
• Banks making too many bad loans

II. Effects
• The bubble bursts on October 30th 1929 as the US Stock Market crashes. Stock prices beginning spiraling downward
• Panic follows as investors begins selling at an alarming rate.
• With confidence in the stock market, people hoard their money, thus no investment and less good/products purchased.
• Selling less, businesses go under, thus unemployment
• No one earning wages so they can’t pay back their loans
• Banks call for loans. People can’t pay thus foreclosures
• With no money for loaning (smart people went to the bank and withdrew everything until the banks closed their doors) banks begin to fail.
• With common investment/loans the US and European markets are linked. As the US goes down it takes Europe with it
• American investors begin recalling all loans from Europe, thus gold begins flowing out of the continent.
• Between 1929 and 1933 production falls 38%
• To protects its’ domestic industries many countries raise tariffs thus reducing world trade.
• 33% of US workforce is unemployed
• 18% in Great Britain
• Effects felt at home as marriage and birthrates decrease
• Poverty, idleness, hopelessness, suicide and mental illness increase
III. Recovery

- John Maynard Keynes – deficit spending
- USA elects Democrat Franklin D Roosevelt in 1932. Immediately institutes his New Deal (Keynesian Economics). It has 3 goals
  - Provide immediate help for victims of the Depression
  - Restore confidence in American business (fix the economy)
  - Make laws so the Great Depression never happens again
- New Deal Programs
  - FDIC
  - Agricultural Adjustment Act
  - Wagner Act – protects organized labor
  - Social Security Act
  - TVA
  - Civilian Conservation Core
- Probably to most successful in combating the Great Depression is the Scandinavian countries Sweden and Norway. Run by the Social Democratic Party institutes a moderate/non-radical form of socialism. Government funded projects to help unemployment and taxed the shit out of the rich. Communities worked together. A good example between pure capitalism and communism.
- By the Depression, staples of the British economy, coal and textiles, are in decline. The British responds with conservative measures by reorganizing its economy to concentrate on new products such as appliances and cars. In mid 1930’s Britain undergoes a housing boom
- France is mess. It wallows in the Depression a lot longer than Britain.
  - Unstable government – France composed of many political parties, all claiming to have an answer for the depression.
  - Frightened by the emergence of fascism in its neighbors Italy, Spain, and Germany, left wing parties (socialism, radicals, commies) band together in a political movement called the Popular Front. Its leader is Leon Blum. It enters government promising to implement New Deal like policies to help France combat the Depression. Fails (money problems and divisiveness.) Situation gets worse. Blum resigns
  - A serious fear in France that the Spanish Civil War my spill over into France. People begin to pick sides.
- Germany – Germany was recovering under Gustav Stressman, but when the US goes down, Germany really falls and is now victims to misery parties......

FASCIST ITALY

Definition of Fascism varies but usually is centered on the common principles of
- Totalitarianism
- Authoritative/One Party Government
- Ultra Nationalism (the state, the state, and the state)
- Militarism
- Anti-communism (although they tend to sound alike)
- Scapegoat for country’s ills
- Propaganda in place of intellectualism
- Conservatism or socialism: whatever is needed to guide “the people”
- Best examples in history are in Italy and Germany before WWII

Like communism, fascism is a party to look to in bad times. A misery party

I. Rise of the Fascists
- Like everyone else in Europe, Italy is a mess after WWI. Unemployment, and inflation are rampant. Italy also feels betrayed as it never received the concessions promised under “Italian Irrendentia.” Matters worsen when a depression hits in 1919. Talks of revolution grew as industrial workers were threatening
to go on strike and peasants in the countryside were seizing land. Angry capitalists feared a communist rebellion was in action.

- Benito Mussolini – signs of greatness were visible early in his life as he stabbed a girlfriend and threw things at his teacher in temper tantrums. Joins the Italian socialist party as a newspaper editor, but is expelled after advocating that Italy should join WWI (a no-no for socialists). Kicked out and starts his Fascist Party. Claims Marx is anti-nationalist.

- Establishes a paramilitary police force to go around Italy promoting Mussolini (leaflets, posters, fundraisers) and threatening opponents (intimidation, beatings, murder, bombs). The targets of thier thuggery usually communist sympathizers. This force easily recognized by their outfits thus the nickname “Blackshirts.”

- Fascist propaganda machine begins railing about the miseries of the Italian people. Very effective

- Mussolini always promises to protect private property. Very dynamic orator (more important how to say something rather than what you said). Italian industrialists, ever fearful of communism, turn to the fascist for help and give them money/arms.

- Fascists infiltrate labor unions to steer them toward a fascist agenda, rather than a national one. Many join.

- Initially Fascists not very successful as elections in 1921 (Italy’s first with universal male suffrage) only won 35 seats in Italy’s legislature.

- Fascists step up their intimidation of other party’s (Catholic Popular, Socialists, Communist) rallys. Force usually used to break up meetings and scare people.

- The economy doesn’t rebound in 1922 and left wing (socialists/communist) political parties call for a general strike in all of Italy. In the name of protecting the country from a Soviet-like rebellion, Blackshirts take over many town governments (city councils) by force.

- 1922- October – Mussolini orders a grand march on Rome. Many in Italy want the king to enact martial law and arrest Mussolini/fascists. The opposite happen as King Victor Emmanuel, scared of a civil war, asks Mussolini to form a government and restore order. Mussolini becomes prime minister

- As prime minister, the fascists win a huge majority in the elections of 1924 (imagine that) due to even more Blackshirt brutality and rigging elections. Mussolini orders opposition be terrorized and shot.

II. Italy under Mussolini

- By 1925, Mussolini had ridden Italy of all of his opponents and control the press. Mass censorship. A series of laws passed that give Mussolini rule by decree. Now officially recognized as the Il Duce (leader) of Italy. Opposing political parties banned, enemies arrested shot, and government officials purged of any person not loyal to Fascism. Italian Democracy essentially destroyed.

- Fascist propaganda machine creates Mussolini into a Cult of Personality. (books/media with Mussolini quotes must have He, His, Him, etc) (cover of Time magazine 8 times). A militant police ensured that the countryside walked the party line. Propaganda constantly promoting the nation/state and confidence. Any opposition to government killed or exiled.

- Italy divided into 22 zones run like a corporation. Each sector controlled by Fascist council (Mussolini president of each council). Agriculture and industry controlled by these corporations (wages, products, etc). Strikes and unions outlawed.

- Fascists do see gains in railroad and electricity production. In 1926 they start campaign to increase agricultural production (amount of grain doubles). They are also successful in suppressing activities of organized crime. Good at building highways. Hired people for public works programs

- Industrial growth is minimal due to state mandated focus on military products. Mussolini is always harping on recapturing the gloories of Rome.

- Fascist start a campaign to increase birthrates. Fascists promote the sanctity of motherhood, so Italian women see their limited opportunities reduced. Special taxes enacted to support single mothers and daycare. (See Italian Fascism DBQ). Campaign fails as birthrates decrease.

- 1929 – Lateran Pact – Mussolini strikes a deal with Pope Pius XI.
  - Catholic Church receives large amounts of state funds (millions)
  - Pope publically endorses Mussolini and Fascist Regime
Marriages must be Catholic
- Restrict Protestants
- Religious teaching in schools
- Vatican City becomes an independent state

THE NAZI'S

"Nazis….I hate these guys” Professor Henry “Indiana” Jones Jr.

I. The Weimar Republic
- Weimar Republic still faced with inflation, debt, unemployment, and the handcuffs of the Great Depression. Situation is worsened by the Ruhr Valley Crisis (see earlier notes
- The only person respected by most Germans is Field Marshal Paul Von Hindenburg (WWI) Hindenburg, ever the Prussian elitist, but very old, assumes the Presidency in 1924
- By 1930 the demise of the German democracy was expedited by the Great Depression. The Great Depression destroys what is left of the German middle class. With their savings gone, desperate, they are now prey to radicalism.
- The Social Democrats hold in the Reichstag is wavering. The people have no faith in government during this new crisis the position of president (Hindenburg, now 80 years old) is given a vast array of powers (rule by decree).

II. Adolf Hitler (1889-1945)
- Austrian, born near Munich, veteran of WWI (wounded 3 times), failed to get into art school (couldn’t draw people), gets a job as a poster hanger. Doesn’t drink, smoke, chase women or eat meat. Charming, gentleman-like behavior. Begins associating with Free Corps and German Workers Party. Shares their passions. Brilliant orator.
- Free Corps/German Workers Party – not really a political party. Just a bunch of ex-soldiers and Anti-Semites who believe they were close to winning the war but were betrayed by communists and Jews. Anger at the Treaty of Versailles. Hitler joins the association as the movement’s 55th member (later claims to be the 7th). Quickly rises in the ranks with his ideas, organization, and speaking.
- Beer Hall Putsch of 1923 – With the Weimar Republic’s problems in the Ruhr. Hitler and his movement plan a revolution to overthrow the decadent republic. Begin an armed revolution (Hitler, Ludendorff, Goering, Hess) in Munich. Fails, dozen killed, movement dispersed, Hitler arrested. Judge sentences him to 5 years (only serves 8 months in nice, minimum security prison. Begins dictating his book
- Mein Kampf (My Struggle) – a psychotic rambling….  
  - Nazism can only succeed as legitimate and LEGAL political party. NOT revolution.
  - “The Betrayal” - the vindictiveness of the Treaty of Versailles. The betrayal and decadence of the west
  - Lebensraum – the need for living space. The Reich is crammed and needs to expand
  - Racial Theories – Anti-Semitism, Aryan blood, The Sub-Human Jews (and their “International Conspiracy) and Slavic Races
  - The evils of Bolshevism
  - Fuehrerprinzip – authority and guidance from a leader with absolute obedience from below
- When released from prison, Hitler begins building the Nazi’s as a political party. Gives speeches, wines/dines with higher ups, meet/greet. Movement officially renamed National Socialist German Workers Party (NAZI/NSDAP). Nazism begins taking shape (the Blood Flag, salute, “Zieg Heil”, etc)
- To spread the movement’s ideas Nazi’s form a paramilitary force (like Mussolini’s Blackshirts) to pass out flags, leaflets, hang announcements, march, parades, but also beat, intimidate enemies (communists). Nazi force known as the “Brownshirts” or the SA (stormtroopers)
- The Great Depression gives the Nazi’s the opening the need. People miserable, desperate for hope, etc). At the start of the Depression, the Nazis are the 9th largest political party in Germany.
- As Hitler, grows in popularity and celebrity, a new unit of fanatical Nazis formed to protect him: the SS
III. The Nazi’s Seize Power.

- Recovery in Germany was on its way until the Great Depression. More power to Hindenburg and the Social Democrats resign. New elections held
- Reichstag elections of 1930:
  - Nazis: 107 doubled
  - Social Democrats: 143
  - Communists: 83 doubled

A clear sign that people are turning toward radicalism. Nazi gains allow Hitler to run for president two years later. Hindenburg hires Franz Von Papen as chancellor. Social Democrats ban Nazi activities. Never worked
- Presidential elections of 1932:
  - Hindenburg: 19 million
  - Hitler: 13.5 million
  - Some Commie: 4 million

- Reichstag elections of 1932
  - Nazis: 196
  - Social Democrats: 121
  - Communists: 100

Hindenburg hires Von Schleicher as chancellor (hates Hitler). Von Papen convinces Hindenburg to invite Hitler to form a new government as long as he is the only Nazi in the cabinet. Von Papen/Hindenburg think that they could use/control Hitler. Schleicher ousted. Hitler hired as Chancellor of Germany
- Hitler calls for new elections in 1933. Nazis only win 44% of the vote but(by illicit means) proclaim an overwhelming majority/victory. The grand night rally/march
- The Reichstag mysteriously catches fire in 1933. Hitler blames communists and declares a state of emergency. Reichstag gives him emergency powers to deal with the “insurgency.”
- Individual freedoms eliminated. Crackdown on dissidents. Needed 2/3 vote in Reichstag to become a dictator so he makes a series of promises to the moderates/center/Social Democrats. Works. Hitler now has the right to make laws without the Reichstag’s approval for 4 years.

IV: Nazi Germany

- Jews begin getting the hell out of Germany. Massive emigration requests. Soon find international borders (includes Britain, USA, France) closed. Nowhere to go
- Hindenburg dies in 1934.
- Hitler assumes title of Fuehrer outlaws all opposition political parties. Judges/police/politicians/officials dismissed if they were not loyal Nazis or from good Aryan stock.
- The Gestapo begins penetrating all levels of society.
- Labor unions destroyed or replaced/controlled by Nazis. Strikes illegal
- Private ownership continues although factories/industries reports to a Nazi
- German economy attempts autarchy (market independent of imports and foreign markets).
- Massive propaganda continues especially campaigns against intellectualism (they too begin to emigrate {Einstein}). Book burning rallies. Modern art viewed as degenerate (Bauhaus closed). Women encouraged to go back home and make babies.
- Schools become mouthpieces for Nazi rhetoric. Major focus on PE programs and sports. Hitler Youth program started (uniform, marches, indoctrination)
- 1933 - Germany withdraws from the League of Nations.
- 1933 – Hitler makes an agreement with the Catholic Church. Church maintains control over their schools and churches. Nazism recognizes by Church. Bishops still must walk the line or be arrested
- 1934 (June) – Night of the Long Knives. Army very suspicious of the Nazi’s, especially the SA. Rohm fully intended the SA to replace the army. SA membership well over 2.5 million. Hitler, Goering, and Himmler make a deal with the army elite that the SA would never replace them if all swore an oath to Hitler. In a
brutal, coordinated, clandestine operation Hilter and the SS orchestrate a night of murder. Targets purged
  o Rohm and the heads of the SA
  o Schleicher and other left wing politicians
  o Former allies, top Nazi officials

- SA incorporated into the army
- 1934 – Nazis sign a Non-Aggression Pact with Poland. Soviets freak out and join the League of Nations
- 1935 – Hitler openly announces his intent to renounce the Treaty of Versailles and makes plans for the re-armament of Germany. 52% of the budget goes to this task. Does bring in jobs and investments in new technologies. Hitler promises GB that he will only build a navy that of 35% of Britain’s
- 1938 – Kristallnacht – Night of Broken Glass – In another coordinated assault the Gestapo organizes mobs to assault/burn Jewish homes, business, and temples. Jews re-located into resettlement ghettos. Holocaust begins (more later)
- Euthanasia / sterilization programs begin against “undesirables” (handicapped, deformed, homosexuals, alcoholics, deadbeats)

ROAD TO WORLD WAR II

I. Italian Aggression
- Italy leaves the League of Nations in 1937. Germany, Italy, and Japan sign the Anti-Commintern Pact (alliance against communism). The origins of the Axis alliance

II. Spanish Civil War
- 1936-1939 – considered the dress rehearsal for WWII.
- From Africa, Francisco Franco and his Fascist movement attempt to overthrow the government. He is funded by Germany and Italy. Targets current Spanish government and any communist sympathizers. These communists begin organized and funded by the Soviet Union.
- Nasty fight with bombing on towns/villages and guerrilla raids. Over 3 years, 600,000 Spanish are killed (Picasso’s Guernica)
- Franco becomes dictator with the Fascist victory in 1939.
- Spain leaves League of Nations

III. Appeasement
- Hitler orders his troops to re-seize the Rhineland (taken from Treaty of Versailles and Lorcano Pact). Hitler’s generals say that Germany is not ready for war and the French will go nuts. Hitler promises that if there is any French movement he will order a turn around. Germany enters the Rhineland, France asks Britain what should they do. Britain, under PM Neville Chamberlain says let them have it. Without a shot Germany retakes the Rhineland. Appeasement begins.
- The West his hoping to use Hitler and Germany as an ally against Soviet Communism.
- 1937 – Nothing officially happens, but evidence gained after the war reveals that Hitler met with the top military brass and wanted a war of conquest in 1938 to 1943. Any general who objected was replaced/fired.
- 1938 – Anschluss – Hitler wants to incorporate Austria into the German Reich. Problem is Italian reaction. Hitler meets with Mussolini. Mussolini has no interest in Austria. Assurances made. SA enters Austria and begins stirring trouble. Austria forces arrest SA troublemakers. Hitler announces that German people are being persecuted. Austrian Chancellor Kurt Von Schussnig bans Nazism. More rallies. Schussnig calls for country wide demonstrate against the Nazi’s. Hitler freaks out and threatens invasion. Germany
mobilizes. Schussnig calls off demonstration and resigns. The new Austrian chancellor invites the Germany army into Austria to “put down disturbances” Austria officially annexed by Germany

- The Soviet Union flips out. Requests a meeting with the west concerning Germany’s aggression. The West declines. More appeasement
- Hitler targets Germans living in the Czechoslovakian territory the Sudetenland. Nazi’s attempt same tactics used in Austria. Czech army of over 500,000 fully mobilizes. Hitler angry
- If Germans attack it would lose as Czechoslovakia allied with France, England, USSR, Yugoslavia. Good defenses, stable economy, good borders, good army.
- September 15th - Chamberlain flies to Berlin and talks with Hitler. Hitler says that the Sudetenland his last territorial demand. Chamberlain tells French President Daladier the Czechs that they should let Hitler have it.
- September 21st - Chamberlain goes back and discovers that Hitler is demanding ½ of Czechoslovakia. All sides preparing for war. Mussolini calls for a last minute peace negotiation.
- September 29 – The Munich Conference (Betrayal or the Peak of Appeasement) – Hitler, Mussolini, Chamberlain, and Daladier meet. Soviets not invited. Hitler gets ⅔ of Czechoslovakia. Chamberlain: (“Peace in Our Time!). The west has just screwed Czechoslovakia.
  By the start of 1939 Germany overruns the rest of Czechoslovakia.
- Pact of Steele with Italy formalized.

WORLD WAR II

- At least 55 million people will die in World War II and for the first time history many of the casualties will be non-combatants
  o Saturation bombing
  o Starvation and displacement from destruction
  o Genocide – state sponsored murder to exterminate enemies of the state (Germany and the USSR
- Fought in Asia, Europe, Australia, North America (Pearl Harbor), and Africa. Plus, all oceans.
- A mobile war dominated by superiority of air power. Completely different than WWI.
- Fought over the issues never resolved from the Treaty of Versailles
  o Nationalism and Autonomy
  o Blame of WWI
  o Aggressive Dictatorships
  o Appeasement and Western Economic Troubles
- Ravages Europe. Leaves the world with 2 superpowers who will dominate the globe for the rest of the century
- End with the most destructive power in mankind’s history….. nuclear weapons

I. “So it begins….”

- Hitler announces he wants to annex the Germanic peoples living in the Danzig Corridor to East Prussia (northern Poland)(1934 nonaggression pact be damned! Hitler must appease Soviets if Germany begins aggressive invasion of Poland). The west finally shows some cajones and stands up to Hitler. Britain and France announce that if Germany invades Poland it will be war.
- 1939 – August – News that completely shocks the world. Molotov-Von Ribbentrop Pact or known as the Non-Aggression Pact between Germany and the Soviet Union. Stalin is convinced that the west wants Russia and Germany to destroy each other so peace is declared. What the world doesn’t know is that a secret component is arranged where Germany and Soviets will spilt Poland
- 1939 - September 1 – Poland invades Germany........actually this a ruse where German troops dressed in Polish uniforms. Nazi propaganda goes to work about “Polish aggression.” Germany storms into Poland.
- Britain and France give Germany 48 hours to evacuate Poland. Nothing. September 3 war is declared.
- Neutral – Spain (Franco is begged by Hitler to enter the war), Ireland, Sweden,
Germany, with its blitzkrieg (lightening war) tactics, completely overruns Polish defenses. Within weeks Poland surrenders to Germany. 2 weeks into the attack, the Soviets invade Poland from the east. Poland eliminated as a sovereign nation (again). Poor Poland. Listen

Finland appears completely outmatched but guerrilla tactics make the Soviet lives miserable (ski attacks!!!!). Russian superior numbers allow them victory

II. Germany Triumphant 1939-1942

With the fall of Poland in September the 1939, the “Phony War” begins. From September 1939 to May 1940, nothing happens.

France sits in their supposedly impregnable line of fortresses and defenses (underground tunnels) called the Maginot Line (French/German border in Alsace).

Winston Churchill (who the whole time had been warning the government not to trust Hitler) becomes the Prime Minister. Britain lands an Expeditionary Force to harass/engage any Germany attack.

Ends on May 10, 1940 when Germany attacks France. Germany bypasses French defense by invading France through the densely forested Verdun region and Belgium. More blitzkrieg. During this attack Denmark, Belgium and the Netherlands fall to the Nazis. Germany drives a wedge between French and British forces. British Expeditionary Force completely routed and Britain sends anything that floats to evacuate them from Dunkirk on May 26. All British equipment left behind. France overrun and surrenders in 6 weeks in June (another fine French performance). 100,000 French fighters escape into Britain. Listen to Churchill’s speech

France divided into two zones:
- Northern part becomes Occupied France (completely administered by the Nazis)
- Southern part and African colonies (Casablanca!) become Unoccupied France or Vichy, administered by French Fascists at Vichy (Nazi collaborators). Puppet government under the Marshal Phillip Petain

1940 - June – Italy formalizes a firm alliance with Germany.
1940 – June – Germany takes Norway.
1940 – July/August – Britain is the only European country left fight Germany. The Battle for Britain begins. Thanks to the English Channel guarded by the British Navy, the Battle for Britain will be largest air battle in the history of war. The German Luftwaffe versus the Royal Air Force. Listen to Churchill’s speech. London and southern English cities endure months of bombing by Germany.

Britain vs. Germany
- 1,963 working aircraft vs. 2,550 working aircraft
- 1,547 aircraft destroyed vs. 1,887 aircraft destroyed
- 544 airmen killed vs. 3,336 airmen killed
- 20,000+ civilians killed
- Cities devastated

Britain skill, stubbornness and advance warning systems (radar and sirens) win the day. In desperation the Nazis resort to night raids (disaster, since they can’t see what their bombing). Germany air superiority reduced and is regarded as Hitler’s first defeat (psychological boost). Churchill, “Never in the field of conflict was so much owed by so many, to so few.”

1940 - September – Tripartite Pact – Alliance between Germany, Italy, and Japan (Axis Powers)
1940 – November – Hungary and Romania join the Axis Powers
1941 – April – Germany overruns Yugoslavia and Greece
1941 – June – Operation Barbarossa – In a complete surprise attack (despite Russian intelligence officers who Stalin had shot) Germany invades the Soviet Union. Massive German attack in 3 fronts:

Soviet Union vs. Germany
- 5.5 million troops vs. 4.5 million troops
- 70,000 tanks & guns vs. 50,600 tanks & guns
- 13,000 aircraft vs. 4,389 aircraft
Russians completely unprepared for this attack (only had 11,500 combat ready troops in initial stages). Plus, Stalin’s purges of the military left many untrained officers. 2.5 million German troops rush into Russia and overrun defenses. Germany quickly gains Ukraine, Belarus, and the Baltic States (Estonia, Latvia, and Estonia). As Germany conquerors territory, Russian POWS (probably 3.3 million die in camps), Jews, and many civilians sent east for slave labor and concentration camps. Millions of civilian deaths at the hands of the Germans. Holocaust continues.

- The Third Reich has reached its pinnacle

III. Total War

- Like World War I, every facet of society is totally altered in the face of WWII. The only difference is the use of undesirables as slave labor by the Nazis.
  - Propaganda
  - Rationing
  - Government economic controls and planning
  - Money to science and military research
  - Women, etc to the factories/dockyards
  - War economy (accordion factory now a airplane wing factory, etc)
  - Nationalism, unity, and patriotism
  - Schools

IV. The United States

- During the first stages of the war, USA was watching from the sidelines not wanting to get involved
- 1941 – March – The United States begins to move away from neutral/nonintervention policy as they were becoming alarmed by Nazi aggression. Roosevelt declares that America “will make the world safe for democracy.” He signs the Lend Lease Act where the USA will send trains, parts, ships, trucks, boats, supplies to Britain, Free France, China, and eventually the Soviet Union. A total of 50 billion dollars (over 600 billion today) in equipment sent to Allied Nations (mostly Britain).
- US relations with Imperial Japan had been deteriorating for years. USA openly condemned Japan's aggressive invasion of China in 1937. Condemns Japan's horrific atrocities. As Japan expands into China and South Asia, they approach US controlled Philippines. USA protected by the vast Pacific announces that it will halt all oil going into Japan.
- 1941 – December 7th – “a day that will live in infamy. The United States was suddenly and without provocation attacked by naval and air forces by the Empire of Japan.” Japan launches a complete surprise attack on the US Pacific fleet anchored in Pearl Harbor Hawaii. Brutally efficient as 3000 US men lose their lives along with the destruction of numerous naval vessels (thankfully, US aircraft carriers not in dock). When congratulated, the attack’s planner Japanese Admiral Yamato (Harvard educated), say’s “all we’ve done is awaken a sleeping giant.” THAT’S RIGHT @#$%T#@%$&!!!!. USA declares war on Japan. Germany declares war United States
- Churchill immediately flies to Washington to confer with Roosevelt and address Congress. The beginnings of a beautiful friendship. Churchill convinces USA to adopt a policy of defeat Germany first.
  - Germany the greater threat to peace
  - Britain and Soviets hanging on by their fingernails
  - Japan, small, and so far away.
- American industrial and agricultural potential is limitless. And the world will see it.

V. The Holocaust

- By 1942 the wheels are fully in motion of the Holocaust. Since 1933 the Nazis have been constructing construction camps in Germany and by 1939 into Poland, Low Countries, and Czechoslovakia. Most camps located in Poland
- Two kinds of camps
  - Slave labor –
  - Slave labor and death camps - Auschwitz, Belzec, Treblinka, Sobibor, Chelmo, Jasenovac, Majdanek, Buchenwald, Dachau, Bergen-Belsen, Mauthausen, etc
During the early part of the Holocaust, Nazi’s were brutal and inhuman. Slave Labor, Shooting, hanging, sterilization, and other forms of cruelty used. Death squads travel all over the east with the sole purpose of shooting Jews (Babi Yar in Ukraine)

Ghettos becoming overcrowded and dirty, especially in occupied Eastern Territories. No food or medicine

1942 – January – Wanensee Conference held in Berlin suburb. Top secret. Deputies from all government departments meet to discuss the Jewish Question. It’s not really a conference (Heidrich and Eichmann) it’s a gathering were all departments are told that all matters regarding Europe’s Jews will be handled by the SS. The Final Solution ordered on all parts of German and occupied territory. The decision is that the Jews will be exterminated.

By 1942, death camps ready. Perfected methods at concentration camps allow Nazis to murder 2,000 an hour. Camps built in isolated areas with good rail access. False showers are built with chambers that allow an SS guard to drop in Zyklon B/cyanide gas. Crematoriums run 24 hours a day.

Jews stuffed into cattle cars for the trip to camps. Filth, no food/water

The Selection

Hair, jewelry, clothes, shoes, glasses, etc

Medical experimentation,

Slave Labor

Such an undertaking requires vast cooperation of the occupied territories. Mostly all territories collaborated (oh my, Lithuania)(even Vichy). The most stubborn nation was Denmark. Refused. Another was Hungary who refused until the Nazis killed stubborn administrators and “killed the Hungarian Jews for them” in the later parts of the war.

Results:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Before WWII</th>
<th>Estimated Killed</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Poland</td>
<td>3.3 million</td>
<td>3 million</td>
<td>90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baltic Sts</td>
<td>253,000</td>
<td>228,000</td>
<td>90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CZ</td>
<td>180,000</td>
<td>156,00</td>
<td>87</td>
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<tr>
<td>Greece</td>
<td>70,000</td>
<td>54,000</td>
<td>77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Netherlands</td>
<td>140,000</td>
<td>105,000</td>
<td>75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hungary</td>
<td>650,000</td>
<td>450,000</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Belarussia</td>
<td>375,000</td>
<td>245,000</td>
<td>65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ukraine</td>
<td>1.5 million</td>
<td>900,000</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Belgium</td>
<td>65,000</td>
<td>40,000</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yugoslavia</td>
<td>43,000</td>
<td>26,000</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Romania</td>
<td>600,000</td>
<td>300,000</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Norway</td>
<td>2,173</td>
<td>890</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td>350,000</td>
<td>90,000</td>
<td>26</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bulgaria</td>
<td>64,000</td>
<td>14,000</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>LX</td>
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<td>1,000</td>
<td>20</td>
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<tr>
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<td>975,000</td>
<td>107,000</td>
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<td>2,000</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Denmark</td>
<td>8,000</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Soviet POWS                                           3.3 million
Polish                                                  1.8 million
Gypsies                                                Unknown, maybe a 1 million
Disabled                                                200,000
Slovenes                                                25,000
Homosexuals                                             15,000
Jehovah Witnesses                                      5,000

Approximately 12,000,000
VI. Resistance Movement

- Organized resistance movements in France and Yugoslavia work behind the scenes to aid the Allies. Spy networks, guerrilla raids, and intelligent work proves very useful in planning assaults. The Free France movement is lead by exiled general Charles De Gaulle in England. An ardent nationalist, he gives radio broadcasts and organizes resistance to the Nazis and Vichy.

- Another, in Yugoslavia is lead by Josip Bronz (Tito). He utilizes the Balkans as a base to launch raids and attacks against the Nazi occupiers.

VII. The Turning of the Tide

- Axis control virtually all of Europe (Scandinavia to North Africa and Biscay to outside of Moscow)
- Convoy system and sonar technology negate U-Boat superiority. Germans would rather face the Gestapo than serve on subs.
- British and German ground forces engage in North Africa. German forces led by the brilliant tactician Erwin Rommel. Rommel is finally halted at El Alemin by British General Sir Bernard Law Montgomery. Thanks to British superiority at sea and air, they are better supplied. Plus, very green American (November) forces arrive.
- USA destroys Japanese carriers of Midway Islands. USA now controls the Pacific. By August 1942 – Battle of the Guadalcanal. Japanese land forces finally retreat in face of the Americans
- CASABLANCA – Churchill and Roosevelt meet and agree to accept nothing but unconditional surrender by Germany. No separate peace.
- Germans at the gates of Moscow and Leningrad (within 10 miles). German 3rd wing is desperate to get oil fields beyond Stalingrad. Winter sets in early. Germans overextended and completely unprepared to fight in winter conditions (coats and diesel engines). Hitler refuses to withdraw. So does Stalin. Under communism, the Soviets are able to relocate/refurbish factories to the far east. War communism is quickly utilized and while the Red Army has been pushed back it is now bigger and better supplied than ever (especially in tank production)(fuschas rocket launchers!!!!). In a brutal fight, both sides meet at Stalingrad. Awful fight. By November Red Army have Germans surrounded. Fighting continues. By January 1943 German generals surrender to the Russians. Both sides know this is the decisive battle. Red Army begins driving the Germans out of Russia. Germany on the defensive.
- By 1943 – All forces in the Atlantic Theatre under the command of American General Dwight D. Eisenhower. Tremendous organizational and diplomatic skills. British/American forces push the Germans out of North Africa. Germans allowed to escape into Sicily in a botched up opportunity. A very slow drive in Sicily. German pushed in to Italy.
- TEHERAN – Roosevelt, Churchill meet with Stalin. Stalin adamant about opening a second front in the west. Roosevelt/Churchill say it is impossible until summer of 1944. Stalin think the west is stonewalling. Roosevelt/Churchill desperate to keep Stalin happy promise it will ASAP. All sides agree to unconditional surrender only.
- American land in Italy in 1943. A coup in Rome removes Mussolini from power. New government immediately asks for surrender. Germans take control of Italy, rescue Mussolini, and force them to continue to the war. Germans put up very stiff resistance that ties up American troops and supplies.

VIII. Allied Victory (1944-1945)

- American/British planes begin bombing Germany back to the Stone Age. (Dresden). Trying to cripple Germany's ability to make war.
- 1944 - June 6 – Allies invade the beaches of Normandy, France. The largest amphibious landing in the history of war. Involves over 5000 ships, infantry, paratroopers (to seize bridges, etc), trucks, tanks, artillery, supplies, planes, etc(part of the problem is not only the landing but staying there). Attack is takes place at four beaches. German defenses are fierce. A large German army is fooled into remaining at Calais.
- American/British forces begin driving through Northern France while the Red Army is still pushing from the east. Germany now caught in a vice, but continues strong defense. The end is in sight.
• 1944 – August – Paris liberated. Free French forces allowed to march in first.
• 1944 – Winter – The Battle of the Bulge – From the Fuhrerbunker, Hitler orders an all out, last ditch offensive to drive the Americans and British back into the Atlantic. A massive surprise attack create an 80 mile wedge/bulge in Allied line. With a break in the weather and an American counterattack, German attack broken up.
• 1945 – January to March – The Red Army smashes into East Prussia and Czechoslovakia. USA/British crosses the Rhine. Both sides begin liberating concentration camps as the horrors are finally revealed. (Eisenhower asks Congressman and MP’s to go to the camps so the validity could never be questioned)
• 1945 – February - Yalta – Roosevelt (very sick), Churchill, and Stalin meet. At Yalta, it is decided that Germany will be divided into 4 zones of occupation. Berlin too. Germany will demilitarized. It was believed that the war with Japan would continue so a deal was struck that the Soviets would attack Japan in exchange territory lost in the Russian-Japanese War of 1905. Done. The other big issue was what to do with eastern European countries liberated by the Red Army. Stalin promises that free elections would be allowed. Many historians consider Yalta to be the start of the Cold War.
• 1945 - April 12 – Roosevelt dies. Succeeded by VP Harry S. Truman
• 1945 – April to May – Noose tightening on Germany as the Red Army nears Berlin. Americans/British in west Germany. To avoid friendly fire American/British/Soviets establish a line of demarcation.
• 1945 – end of April – Red Army enters Berlin
• 1945 – April 30 (?) Hitler refuses to be captured by the Russians, marries is girlfriend Eva Braun, and commits suicide. Bodyguards incinerate the bodies. Reich now under the command of naval Admiral Karl Doenitz. Doenitz believes that peace can be brokered with the west and he will stay to help rebuild Germany. No one wants to surrender to the Russians as the Red Army enacts revenge for the treatment of their POWs/civilians by the SS. Doenitz hopes’ rejected, as he must surrender to the Russians too.
• 1945 – May 8th – Germany accepts unconditional surrender to the Allies. Victory in Europe (VE-Day) celebrated across the globe.
• 1945 – July – Potsdam Conference – Churchill, Truman, and Stalin meet in the Kaiser’s old house to discuss Germany, Eastern Europe, and Japan. Truman gets a secret message saying that it’s ready. All German annexations restored. Soviet to receive reparations (and they begin to loot everything)
• 1945 - August – Churchill loses re-election to Labor Party’s Clement Atlee (Britain wants social reform)
• 1945 – August 6th – USA drops atomic bomb on Hiroshima.
• 1945 – August – Soviet Union declares war on Japan
• 1945 - August 9th – USA drops another on Nagasaki. American defends such a weapon to keep it military forces from having to invade fanatical Japan. Also USA doesn’t want the Soviets around in post war Japan.
• 1945 and beyond – The United Nations formed. This time USA and Soviets join
  o General Assembly
  o International Courts
  o Security Council
• 1945 – November – Leading/surviving Nazi officials are arrested and put on trial. Charges
  o Crimes against peace
  o Conspiracy to commit aggressive war
  o War Crimes
  o Crimes against humanity
International tribunal established. Trials televised and brings the Holocaust to the attention of the world. Numerous trials held.

East/West tensions over ideology and territory lead the Cold War.....