

The Road To World War II



Isolationism

- ◆ The U.S. wanted no part of world affairs that would lead them to war after WWI.
- ◆ A period of disarmament (downsizing the military) was called for by many nations, in hopes of preventing future wars.
- ◆ This was followed for short time, but soon abandoned by most nations.


War Debts

- ◆ The Allies owed money to the U.S. from money lent during WWI
- ◆ The only way to pay back the debt was to collect from Germany
- ◆ Germany printed paper money to pay off the debt, thus destroying their economy.
- ◆ The German people become bitter and angry towards the Allies and U.S.

Rise of Militarism

- ◆ Many countries in Europe after WWI were devastated by the War and the global depression.
- ◆ This paves the way for a takeover by militaristic, totalitarian dictators in many of Europe's nations.

Benito Mussolini

- ◆ Benito Mussolini took control of Italy in 1922.
 - ◆ He set up a fascist state, a military dominated government that controls all aspects of society.
 - ◆ He became a ruthless dictator, arresting and killing those who opposed fascism.
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Joseph Stalin

- ◆ The Soviet Union (Russia during WWI) was a communist nation.
- ◆ Joseph Stalin took power after the death of Vladimir Lenin,
- ◆ He set up a totalitarian state, a country where the government has complete control.
- ◆ Stalin converted all private farms into state run farms. This practice lead to wide-spread famine.
- ◆ He used the powerful Red Army to scare people into complying with his rules.
- ◆ Stalin killed as many as 30 million who opposed his rule.



Наивысшая награда нашей страны — орден
«Звезда Героя» — присвоена Сталину.

Adolf Hitler

- ◆ Hitler was thrown in prison after WWI for plotting to overthrow the new German Government.
 - ◆ While in jail he wrote the book Mein Kampf, in which he blamed German problems on Jews, communists, and politicians.
 - ◆ Once he got out of prison, his message was received well by the poor and hungry German people.
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Hitler continued

- ◆ In 1932 Hitler's party, the Nazis won many national elections.
- ◆ He was appointed chancellor and name his new government the Third Reich
- ◆ He became a dictator and started to spread Anti-Semitism (hatred of Jews) throughout Germany
- ◆ He built up the German Army in hopes of conquering the world and setting up his Aryan race.

Francisco Franco

- ◆ Francisco Franco, a fascist, rises to power in Spain as he defeats the communist government with the help of Germany and Italy.
- ◆ Hitler uses this as an opportunity to use his new weapons and train his soldiers.
- ◆ Franco does not play a role in WWII, but with him being pro-fascism, this is one less nation Hitler has as an enemy.


Hitler and his Master Plan

- ◆ In 1936 Hitler starts his conquering plan by expanding into nearby territories Rhineland and in 1938 to Sudetenland
- ◆ The Allied Powers hoped Appeasement(giving in) would quench his thirst for power.
- ◆ Nov. 9, 1938 known as Kristallnacht (night of broken glass), is when Hitler began rounding up Jews and putting them in camps.


Militarists In Japan

- ◆ Japan began to increase their military in hopes of controlling the Pacific region.
- ◆ By 1937 Japan controlled Northern China and was the Superpower in the Pacific region.
- ◆ The U.S. wants to stay out of any conflict. They Pass the Neutrality Acts of 1935-US will not sell or transport weapons to any nation at war.

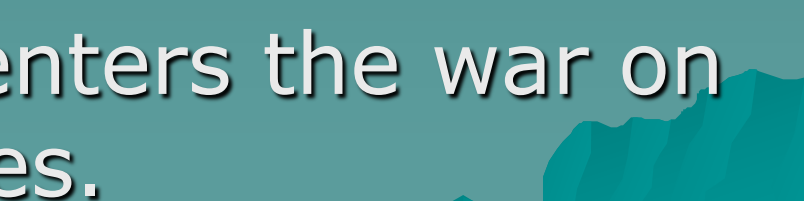
War Breaks Out!

- ◆ Italy and Germany form an alliance. They are known as the Axis Powers. Japan will later join.
 - ◆ Hitler invaded Poland using Blitzkrieg (intense bombing).
 - ◆ Britain and France form an alliance to stop Germany and Italy.
 - ◆ They are known as the Allied Powers.
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War

- ◆ Germany signs a nonaggression pact with the Soviet Union.
 - ◆ Germany invades and controls France in 1940
 - ◆ Hitler then begins intense bombing of Britain
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War

- ◆ The U.S. sent aid via the Lend-Lease Act to the Allies, but was not committed to entering the fight.
 - ◆ “the great arsenal of democracy”- FDR
 - ◆ Germany breaks the pact with the Soviet Union and invades.
 - ◆ The Soviet Union enters the war on the side of the Allies.
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World War II in Europe, 1942–1945

Interpreting Maps After being battered at El Alamein, Rommel retreated some 1,250 miles to Tunisia in eight weeks. By 1943 Africa was cleared of Axis forces.


? LOCATE Where did the major battles in the European theater take place?



Atlantic Charter

- ◆ An agreement signed between the U.S. and Britain that:
 - Neither would acquire land via war
 - Countries should have self determination
 - Promote disarmament
 - Create a body that resembled Wilson's proposed League of Nations

U.S. enters War

- ◆ Japan continues its expansion in Asia.
 - ◆ U.S. cuts off trade with Japan.
 - ◆ While negotiating a trade agreement Japan secretly begins to plan an attack on the U.S.
 - ◆ December 7th, 1941 Japan attacks Pearl Harbor.
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