

## Problems Lead to World War II

### Events in Europe

#### Germany and reparations

Germany couldn't make reparation payments **because its economy was in bad shape.**

Great Britain and France could not pay the United States because **Germany could not pay them.**

#### Hitler's promises

**Adolph Hitler** was head of the Nazi Party.

Hitler promised to **cancel reparation payments and make Germany rich and powerful** if his party controlled the government.

#### Italian fascism

**Benito Mussolini** led the Italian government.

The black shirts were the **Fascist Party**

**Totalitarianism:** system which limits a persons rights and freedoms

**Dictator:** controls all sections of a country's political and economic life.

**Mussolini invaded and defeated Ethiopia** to help the Italian people.

#### Hitler gains control

After taking control of Germany, the Nazis **reduced unemployment by 50% and arrested members of the Communist Party.**

Hitler sent his opponents **to work camps.**

#### Nazi racism

Nazis believed that **Aryans were destined to rule.**

Hitler thought Germany's most important enemies were the **Jews.**

**Nuremberg Laws** deprived Jews of German citizenship and required Jews to identify themselves by posting signs and wearing yellow stars.

Most Jews left Germany **out of fear for their lives.**

### **Hitler's expansionism**

Hitler thought European countries would not stop Germany's expansion because **they were led by cowards.**

### **Appeasement**

**Appeasement:** tolerating illegal actions by a person/group out of fear that punishing them might lead to even larger problems.

**Great Britain did nothing** when Germany occupied Austria and Czechoslovakia.

Germany made an alliance with **Italy, called the Axis.**

### **Hitler and Stalin sign a treaty**

**Non-aggression pact:** two countries agree not to attack each other

Soviet Union signed a non-aggression pact. **Stalin was afraid that his country was not ready to fight Germany**

Germany signed a non-aggression pact **to keep the country friendly until he was ready to fight them.**

### **The Spanish Civil War**

**Italy and Germany** supported Franco during the Spanish Civil War

**The Soviet Union and the Communist Party in the United States** supported the democratic government of Spain.

### *Events in Asia*

Japan was like Great Britain. It **depended on foreign trade to modernize economy built a strong modern navy**

Japan's government in 1930s was **like a democracy but the country was controlled by heads of important families who controlled all the major industries.**

### **Japan's expansion**

Japan conquered territory in 1930s in its **struggle for freedom against European imperialist countries.**

## The Beginning of World War II

**France and Great Britain would fight Germany** if Germany invaded Poland.  
**Invasion of Poland**

**German invasion of Poland** started World War II.

### **The United States stays neutral**

Two reasons United States wanted to stay out of war:

- 1) Problems with America's own depression
- 2) Fought in WWI to protect businesses, not to fight for democracy

Neutrality Acts prohibited

- 1) Military equipment to be shipped to countries at war
- 2) American citizens from traveling on a ship belonging to a country at war

## **World War II in Europe**

### Germany Conquers the European Continent

Great Britain's and France's plan of attack: **Use forts called *Maginot Lines* to stop Germany and then use the navy to block German ports.**

Germany's reaction: **attacked north of the Maginot Line, taking Norway, Denmark, and Holland in weeks.**

Germany attacked France which **quickly split French and Great Britain forces.**

**General Charles DeGaulle** was the leader of the Free French.

**Partisans** were underground groups resisting the Germans by engaging in acts of sabotage.

### Germany Tries to Conquer Great Britain

Germany's 3-step plan to conquer Great Britain:

- 1) stopping supply ships from reaching Great Britain
- 2) destroying the British Air Force
- 3) sending armies across the English Channel to invade Great Britain

### **The Battle of Britain**

The Battle of Britain was fought **for control of the air.**

**Radar** helped the British win.

Germany began bombing Great Britain at night **when the Royal Air Force could not see the German planes.**

The Battle of Britain was a turning point in the war because **it stopped Germany from completely dominating Europe and forced Hitler to change his plans.**

### **Code Breaking**

Breaking the German code helped the Allies during the war by **allowing them to intercept and decode German war plans and alert British troops.**

### **North Africa**

Great Britain needed to keep control of the Suez Canal because **it provided the shortest route for its ships carrying oil and natural resources.**

**General Erwin Rommel** was nicknamed Desert Fox

### *Germany Tries to Conquer the Soviet Union*

German advance into the Soviet Union was stopped by **the Soviet Winter.**

The consequence of Germany not quickly defeating the Soviets was that **Germany would have to continue to fight on two fronts-in the east against Soviets and the west against British.**

### *U.S. Aid to the Allies*

Two things the U.S. did to support the Allies:

- 1) Roosevelt ordered the sale of old military equipment to Great Britain and France**
- 2) Roosevelt traded 52 older American warships to Great Britain**

### **Lend-Lease Act**

Lend-Lease Act helped Allies by **allowing the President to lend rather than sell weapons.**

To ensure supplies would make it to Great Britain **Roosevelt ordered American warships to escort British ships as far as Iceland.**

### *Japan and the United States on a Collision Course*

In 1940-41, Japan signed treaties with **Hitler and Mussolini, and the Soviet Union.**

Japan made these treaties **in hopes that they would appear more powerful and to make the U.S. agree to Japanese control of Southeast Asia.**

Japanese military leaders began planning an attack on the American naval fleet **in order to stop the U.S. from challenging their control of Eastern Asia.**

### **Attack on Pearl Harbor**

Attack on Pearl Harbor occurred on **December 7, 1941.**

The USS Arizona was **bombed, killing nearly half of those who were on it.**

**The three navy aircraft carriers that the United States had** escaped unharmed.

The attack on Pearl Harbor was a turning point in WWII because **it brought the U.S. into the war.**

### **U.S. Military in 1941**

The Board of Defense **began drafting men into the military.**

The United States also began to **increase its production of weapons and military supplies.**

The war in Europe was different from that in the Pacific. **The war in the Pacific would have to be fought mostly by the Navy and the Marines.**

### *Winning the War in Europe*

Stalin wanted the United States and Great Britain to attack Europe **to force Germany to fight on two fronts.**

Churchill did not want to fight Europe:

- 1) Americans and British were not prepared to fight against German troops.
- 2) Churchill didn't want to help the Soviets and allow them to become too strong.

### **North Africa**

#### **The Battle of Stalingrad**

The Battle of Stalingrad was a turning point in the war because **the German eastern advance had been stopped.**

#### **Invasion of Italy**

The Allies invaded Italy instead of France because **there were fewer German troops in Italy.**

**Mussolini was forced to resign** after the Allies invaded Italy.

### **The air war in Europe**

#### **The final assault**

On April 30, 1945, **Hitler committed suicide.**

## **World War II in the Pacific**

The Allied war strategy in the Pacific was to **destroy as much of the Japanese forces as possible and the slowly regain possession of the Japanese occupied islands.**

In 1942-43, the U.S. did not send many soldiers to the Pacific because **the overall war strategy was to first win the battle against Germany.**

### **The Doolittle Raid**

Two effects of the Doolittle Raid on Tokyo:

- 1) **America demonstrated they could fight back**
- 2) **Made Americans feel that something was being done to stop the Japanese**

### **Battle of the Coral Sea**

Japanese wanted Port Moresby because **the city could be used as a place from which to attack Australia.**

**Neither side could claim victory** at the Battle of the Coral Sea

### **Battle of Midway Island**

Japanese wanted to conquer Midway Island **to use as a base to prevent any bombing raids on Tokyo.**

United States had advantage. **They knew when the attack was going to happen**

**Japanese lost four of nine aircraft carriers and many of their best pilots.**

Battles of Midway and Coral Sea were turning points in the war because **Japan's naval forces had been severely beaten and they no longer gained territory in the Pacific.**

## Allied Offensive in the Pacific

### The Pacific Theater

Allied strategy for Pacific Theater was to **sink as much of the Japanese fleet as possible.**

#### **Guadalcanal**

The first island retaken from the Japanese was the **Guadalcanal**

Allies learned **it was a disgrace for a Japanese soldier to surrender**

#### **Battle for the Philippines**

Result of Battle of Leyte Gulf = **Japan's navy so badly defeated it was no longer a threat to the Allies.**

**Kamikaze** = slow, cheaply built airplane filled with explosives

Japan used kamikazes because **they had few good pilots or airplanes left**

### The China-Burma-India Theater

Allies had more success after 1944. The **U.S. had destroyed a large part of the Japanese fleet.**

### The Final Assault on Japan

Allies were fearful of invading Japan, **it would cost over a million Allied lives.**

#### **The atomic bomb**

#### **The Manhattan Project**

**Manhattan Project:** American effort to build an atomic bomb

#### **The decision to use the bomb**

**Three factors Truman considered in deciding to use atomic bomb:**

- 1) Invading Japan might cause the lives of maybe a million American soldiers.
- 2) Scientists were not absolutely sure that the bombs would explode as they planned.
- 3) Afraid Soviet Union would attack Japan and then want to control more Asian territory.

## **Hiroshima and Nagasaki**

Atomic bombs were dropped on **Hiroshima and Nagasaki**

## **Four Factors Affect the Outcome of World War II**

### Capability in 1941 After the Attack on Pearl Harbor

#### **Axis Powers**

Axis Powers' capability in December, 1941: **Japan had well-equipped army/navy  
Germany had modern submarines able to destroy British ships**

Allies' capability in December, 1941: **British army capable of fighting against**

#### **Germans**

##### **Capability Advantage**

### Resources in 1941

#### **Axis Powers**

Axis Powers' resources in December, 1941: **huge amounts of war supplies, control  
over industries in the territories they had invaded, natural resources.**

#### **Allies**

Allies' resources in December, 1941: **fewer war supplies**

##### **Resource advantage in 1941.**

### Leadership in 1941

#### **Axis Powers**

Axis' Powers leadership in December, 1941: **Axis countries had very good,  
experienced, military leaders**

#### **Allies**

Allies' leadership in December, 1941: **Allies had fewer military leaders**

##### **Leadership advantage in 1941.**

## Motivation in 1941

### **Axis powers**

Axis Powers' motivation in December, 1941: **fighting for economic growth and access to raw materials.**

### **Allies**

Allies' motivation in December, 1941: **Attack on Pearl Harbor motivated U.S to unite**

### **Motivation advantage in 1941**

## Capability in 1944 After D-Day

### **Axis Powers**

Axis Powers' capability in June, 1944: **very low capability—trouble keeping supplies ready**

### **Allies**

Allies' capability in June, 1944: **modern equipment, armies and navies gained fighting experience.**

### **Wartime Inventions**

#### **Five inventions from World War II:**

- 1) Bazooka
- 2) Silicon lubricants
- 3) Nylon
- 4) New plastics
- 5) Antibiotics

### **Capability Advantage in 1944**

## Resources in 1944

### **Axis Powers**

Axis Powers' resources in June, 1944: **loss of fuel to run planes, tanks, and trucks; no longer protect natural resources.**

### **Allies**

Allies' resources in June, 1944: **huge military personnel, enormous amounts of food.**

**Greatest single advantage:** enormous amounts of weapons.

### **Resource Advantage in 1944**

#### Leadership in 1944

##### **Axis Powers**

Axis Powers' leadership in June, 1944: **Lost many of their good military leaders.**

##### **Allies**

Allies' leadership in June, 1944: **Excellent leadership abilities.**

### **Leadership advantage in 1944**

#### Motivation in 1944

##### **Axis Powers**

Axis Powers' motivation in June, 1944: **tired of bombing and many believed that defeat was inevitable.**

##### **Allies**

Allies' motivation in June, 1944: **more motivated from winning battles.**

### **Motivation advantage in 1944**

## **The Effects of World War II**

### Peace Treaty

**United Nations:** Roosevelt's suggestion at the Teheran Conference

#### **Yalta**

Roosevelt agreed that the **Soviet troops would continue occupying the Eastern European countries after the war and then allow free elections.**

#### **Potsdam**

**Surrender terms of Germany:** Germany and its capital occupied by armies from France, Great Britain, the Soviet Union, and the United States.

**Government of Japan** was to be changed to a democracy modeled after the United States.

### Cost of the War

**Germany and USSR** had most soldiers killed during the war

### United Nations

Decision about sending troops made when **all five permanent members of the Security Council** agreed.

### Genocide During World War II

**Genocide** is systematic killing of people based on their race or religion.

**Concentration camps:** places where Jews were rounded up as slaves; those capable would work, those who weren't were killed.

### **Nuremberg and Tokyo war crimes trials**

**War Crime Trials:** 19 Nazi leaders and several Japanese leaders were found guilty for murder and were executed or imprisoned.

### United States and the Soviet Union Compete

United States was a superpower. It was the only major country that had not been damaged by war. It had the most advanced military and the world's largest economy. Soviet Union was a superpower. It's military was the largest in the world.

### **Distrust**

Stalin causes distrust by using veto power to benefit Soviet expansion to ensure Communist governments

### The Effects on the United States

#### **Economy**

War helped end depression. **Unemployment disappeared and women entered the labor force for first time**

Government helped business during the war. **It suspended antitrust efforts and ensured companies would make profit using cost-plus contracts.**

## People's Rights Problems During the War

### **Japanese Americans**

**West Coast Japanese Americans during the war** were made to report and taken to isolated camps.

### **Mexican Americans**

Mexicans came to United States during the war because **employment opportunities had increased greatly.**

### **African Americans**

**Three ways African Americans were discriminated against in the military:**

- 1) placed in separate units
- 2) blood for injured white soldiers was kept separate from that for African Americans
- 3) not given the same opportunities for advancement available to whites

African Americans faced discrimination in both North and West. They **lived in segregated neighborhoods and attended segregated schools. Riots broke out when they were given the same jobs as whites.**

**Fair Employment Practices Committee:** investigate, hold hearings, and provide solution to the problem.