

Great Depression & WWII



Economic Instability and the Great Depression

- Recovery post WWI was fragile
- The Great War left every major European country nearly bankrupt.
- Only the United States and Japan came out of the war in better financial shape than before. (Neither had been a wartime battlefield.)
- US loaned money to Germany to pay war debts to Britain and France
 - Britain and France needed Germany's money to repay money US loaned them during the war
- US pulled back on investments in mid-1928 – lack of capital caused repayment structure to collapse



Economic Problems of the 1920s (cont)



- Weimar Republic in German faced insurmountable problems
 - Had to pay back huge \$\$\$ to Allies
 - Eventually Germany asked for a two year moratorium; France sent troops to occupy Ruhr area – heart of Germany’s industrial production – seizing iron and coal production
 - Germany told workers to go on strike; shutting down production



- Germany slipped further behind and printed more paper money in response- causing **severe inflation**
 - Resentments between Germany and France continued to simmer



Political Reactions to Economic Woes

Stock Market Crash – October 1929

Panic selling of stocks caused the stock market to crash sending the United States into the **Great Depression.**

The crash was the catalyst for depression world wide because Europe depended on the US

1933- FDR Elected

New Deal (Keynesian Economics)



- US began to call back loans to Europe
 - Led to key bank failures in Austria and Germany
 - Infrastructure built on repayment caved
 - Crisis expanded to every sector of industrial society and their colonies
- US placed high tariffs on goods; other countries couldn't export
 - Japanese economy very dependent on US; highly affected



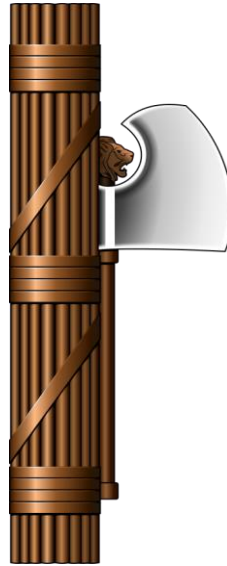
Didn't change until WWII began and war production increased



The Rise of Fascism



Fasces- Ancient Roman symbol of power



- Changes in Russia frightened Europeans/Americans
 - Fear that the communist elements would take over other countries
- Great Depression and uncertainty - communism and the apparent collapse of the free market – made many turn to fascism
 - **Extreme form of nationalism**
 - **Subordinate your will to the state**
 - **Promised full employment**
 - **Stop communism**
 - **Conquer new territory**
- Condemned communism for abolishing private property but used totalitarian tactics along with a powerful secret police



The Rise of Fascism (cont)



- Mussolini gained control 1922; established a one-party dictatorship
 - Controlled govt, press, education
 - Il Duce (the leader)
 - Mass communication; oratory talent
- 1930's – fascist movements across Europe, Americas, China, Japan
 - People feared rapid change and economic insecurity; placed hopes in charismatic leaders and their promises
- Most notorious – Nazi Party and Adolf Hitler



GERMANY – Current government was the Weimar Republic. The people lost hope in this government during the depression and wanted something “new”....enter Adolf Hitler

Hitler joined political party supporting the overturning of the Treaty of Versailles. established a German form of fascism – National Socialist Party (Nazism)

- led a failed rebellion in 1923 and went to prison

- wrote MEIN KAMPF – MY STRUGGLE

- supported the development of the master “Aryan” race

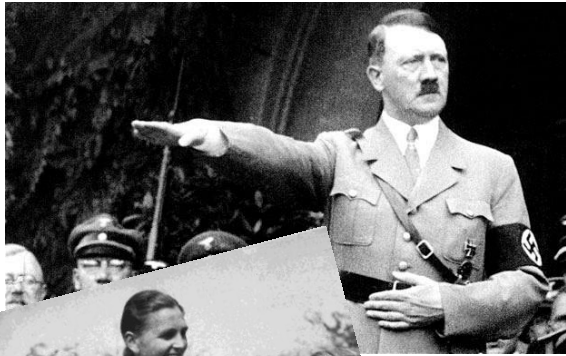
- *lebensraum*

- supported the elimination of all non-Aryans and declared the Treaty of Versailles an outrage, promising to reclaim lost German land...1933: Hitler became Chancellor then took control of the government...under his rule called the Third Reich (name for Germany from 1933-1945)...then set his sites on conquering Europe



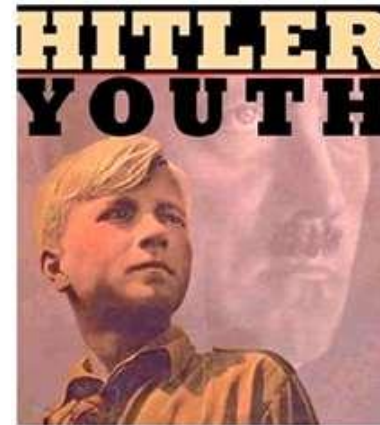
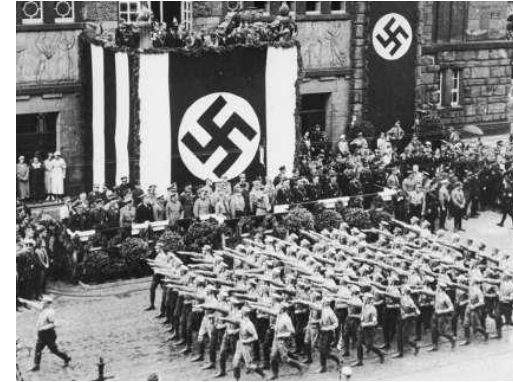
The Rise of Fascism (cont)

- Nazi leaders wanted to reverse Germany's humiliating defeat
 - Hitler abolished Weimar Republic
 - Expanded arms production
 - Created new jobs
 - Germans racially superior; Aryans
- Nazism appealed to lower-middle class who had lost almost everything
 - Rigid hierarchy reinforced traditional roles of women
 - Launched campaign to increase birth rates; birth control ended – awards for large families



Jewish Persecution

- 1933-No Jewish people could hold offices
- 1935 – Nuremberg Laws
 - Land, Citizenship prohibited to Jewish
 - Must wear a yellow star for identification
- Germany Targeted Jews, Homosexuals, Gypsies, invalids and Others
- Idea of the Master Race
- Gov't Policy of Persecution
 - Kristallnacht...what does this mean?
 - November 9, 1938
 - 100 murdered and shop windows broken
- Many fled (emigrated)
 - France, Britain, Latin America, US
 - German Jews numbered about 500,000- **or less than 1%** of the national population.



The Rise of Fascism (cont)

- Japan
 - More authoritarian
 - Worked to stave off effects of Great Depression
- 1931 Japan invaded **Manchuria** establishing a colony there.
- 1937 Japan aggressively attacking other areas of Asia
 - **The Nanking Massacre**
 - Brutal mass killings
 - Systematic arson, torture, and rape



Spain's Role...

- Spain-1931: monarchy falls/republic declared
- July 1936, army leaders, favoring a Fascist-style government, joined General Francisco Franco in a revolt
 - Civil War in Spain 1936-1939



PATTERNS OF CHANGE: Totalitarianism

Key Traits	Description
Dictatorship and One-Party Rule	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Exercises absolute authority• Dominates the government
Dynamic Leader	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Helps unite people toward meeting shared goals or realizing a common vision• Encourages people to devote their unconditional loyalty and uncritical support to the regime• Becomes a symbol of the government
Ideology (set of beliefs)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Justifies government actions• Glorifies the aims of the state
State Control Over All Sectors of Society	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• business• labor• housing• education• family life• youth groups• religion• the arts
State Control Over the Individual	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Demands total obedience to authority and personal sacrifice for the good of the state• Denies basic liberties
Dependence on Modern Technology	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Relies on mass communication, such as radios, newsreels, and loudspeakers, to spread propaganda• Builds up advanced military weapons
Organized Violence	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Uses force, such as police terror, to crush all opposition• Targets certain groups, such as national minorities and political opponents, as enemies



Fascism

- . Reactionary
- . Totalitarian
- . Militaristic
- . Anti-intellectual
- . Ethnocentric
- . Ultra nationalistic

Fascism and communism

- ∴ Single party states
- ∴ Ruled through propaganda and terror
- ∴ Segregated and persecuted their opponents
- ∴ Sought to extend their power abroad through force or subversion
- ∴ Rose in nations with little or no democratic tradition
 - ∴ Came after lengthy domestic crisis
 - ∴ Had a minority posing as saviors
 - ∴ Leaders with great demagogic gifts

Communism

- . Based on a defined philosophical base
- . Revolutionary, based on Marx
- . Focused on the working class



World War II

CAUSES

- German Aggression in Europe
- Unstable Governments
- Rise of Fascism
- Failure of League of Nations
- Appeasement



The Onset of War

- 1936 Germany and Italy in Rome-Berlin axis; rest of Europe would revolve around this central pact

- Hitler invaded Sudetenland 1938
 - Munich Conference had weak response and agreed on *appeasement* policy
 - Hitler kept going and captured Czechoslovakia



German-Soviet Nonaggression Pact

- Wanting to avoid a two-front war Hitler gets Stalin to agree to a Nazi-Soviet Pact
 - Promised the Eastern half of Poland to the Soviet Union.
 - September 1, 1939 German forces using their blitzkrieg (lightening war) military tactic invaded Poland.
 - Soviet Union invaded in the East.
 - Britain and France responded by declaring war on Germany.



The War Begins!

- **After Germany invades Poland...France/Gr. Britain Declare War**
- Germans took advantage of new technology: **blitzkrieg**
 - Fighter planes scattered enemy troops and disrupted communications
 - Tanks rolled over enemy defense lines
 - Infantry invaded and occupied lands
- **Maginot Line- Sitzkrieg**
- **Trapped the French at Dunkirk (Battle of Dunkirk)**
 - **Rescued By The British**
 - **Charles De Gaulle leads the Free-French from GB**
- **Continual Losses After Dunkirk**



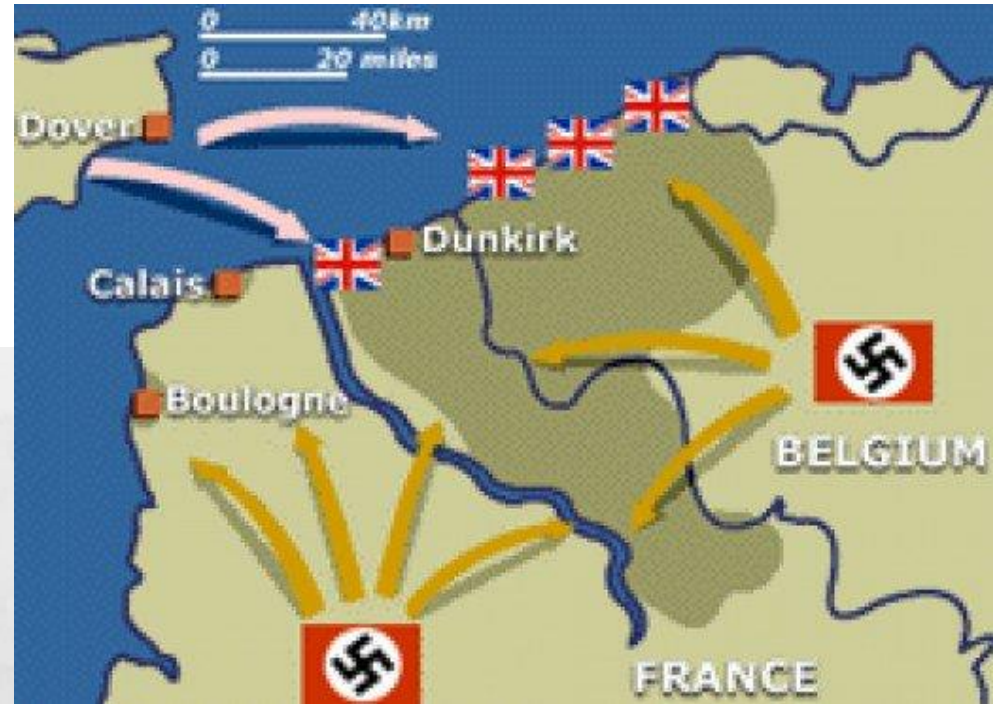
Maginot Line



- It was a joke! France built it as a great defense after WWI...but the German's just went around it



Dunkirk- soldiers waiting to be evacuated



War in Europe and North Africa

- Poland, Austria, Norway, Denmark, Belgium all surrendered; France collapsed
 - In France – German controlled **Vichy France**
 - French Resistance staged guerilla attacks
- Britain stood alone resisting Germany until 1941; Russia and US joined



War in Europe and North Africa (cont)

- Britain's geography helped protect it
 - Winston Churchill Prime Minister
 - **German Luftwaffe** launched massive air attack
 - Battle of Britain
 - British Royal Air Force counterattacked German planes

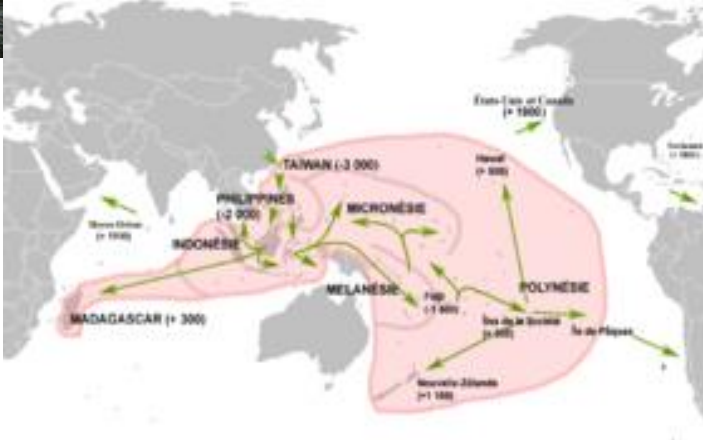




- Japan and China already engaged in fighting when war in Europe began
 - Japan began attacking other areas in Asia when war in Europe broke out
- 1940 – Germany, Italy, Japan signed Tripartite Pact
- Spreads the war into two major theatres; Pacific and Europe



The War in Asia and the Pacific



- France fell; Britain trying to protect its territories
 - Japan saw their opportunity to seize European colonies in SE Asia
- Britain and US stopped shipments of steel and oil to Japan
 - US insisted Japan give up newly acquired territories
 - Japan attacked Pearl Harbor
 - US declared war on Japan; had to rebuild fleet
 - Germany declares war on U.S.
 - US stopped Japan in battle in the Coral Sea (1942)
 - Battle Of Midway; US gaining momentum and began island hopping campaign





Pearl Harbor

- **December 7, 1941**, Japanese forces launched a surprise attack on the US naval station at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii.
- **2402** Americans killed
- At the same time Japanese bombed and invaded US bases in the Pacific and the **Philippines**.
- Brought the United States into the war in both the Pacific and **Europe**.



The Nature of War

- Total War
 - Mobilization extensive and required govt control of natural and labor resources
 - Destructive technologies from WWI plus airplanes, rocketry, and the atomic bomb
- Blurred lines regarding military and civilians; all subject to destruction



Germany Invaded Russia

- Russia Brutally Attacked-Called Operation Barbarossa 1941
- Russians Used “Scorched Earth Policy”
- Germans Took Control Leningrad (St. Petersburg)
 - Germans first had trouble b/c of the winter, but when summer came, they killed 1 million Russians (but would not surrender) and moved onto Moscow and then Stalingrad
- Battle of Stalingrad-1942
 - Nightly raids, looked bad for USSR
 - By November 1942 Germany had 90% of the city
 - Counterattack by USSR-surrounded Germans, cut off supplies; German officers ask for a retreat, Hitler says no
 - Feb. 1943, Germany surrenders
 - 99% of the city was destroyed
 - This put Germany on the defensive



Allies advance-Invasion of Italy

- Roosevelt and Churchill agreed to invade Italy (1943) before taking France Back (France was mad)
- 1943: Mussolini pushed out and King Emmanuel III put back in charge (by allies)
- 1945: Mussolini was found disguised as a German soldier trying to go north..
 - The next day, he was shot and hung in the Milan town square



Holocaust

- “Final Solution”
 - Mass extermination of targeted peoples
 - Medical experiments
 - Camps (labor, extermination)
- 6 million Jews exterminated along with anyone who threatened the purity of the Aryan race (another 6 million)
 - Gypsies
 - Homosexuals
 - Polish (Jews & Catholics)
 - Mentally and physically disabled



The End of the War

- 1942: Battle of Stalingrad was a major turning point
- 1943: Russian army began pushing Germans westward
- Allies D-day 1944
 - Allies advanced on Belgium; defeated Germany at Battle of the Bulge
 - US and France marched east across Germany; Russia marched west and met at the Elbe River.
 - Paris liberated in August
- 1945 Hitler committed suicide and Germany surrendered





MULBERRY HARBOURS

The Normandy landings

By 1943, Britain and the US were prepared to launch an offensive in Europe, first invading in Italy.

- **June 6**, 1944 a combined English, American, and Canadian force landed on the [French beaches of Normandy](#).

- From this point Allied forces battled across northern France in the summer of 1944, eventually liberating France.

The End of the War (cont)

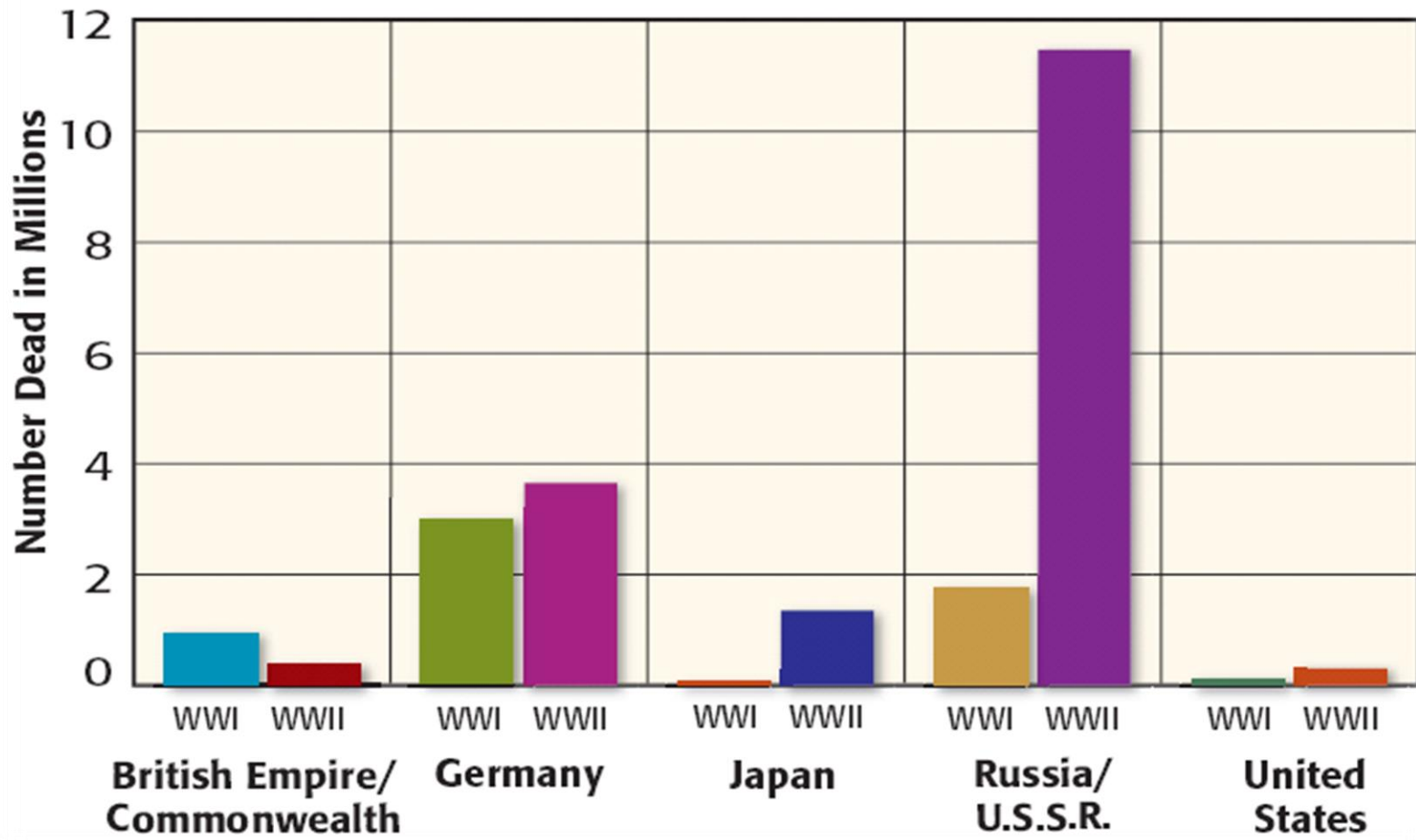


- War in the Pacific continued
- US dropped atomic bomb Hiroshima
 - 200,000 + die
 - After 3 days-Japan refuses to surrender
 - US dropped bomb on Nagasaki
 - Emperor Hirohito orders surrender
- WWII marked end of European domination
 - Most widespread, deadliest war
 - US and Soviet Union emerged to compete for control of technological knowledge and assert power over the world



Effects of World War II

Military Casualties, World War I and World War II



Effects Continued...

- World War II was the biggest, most deadly, & most impactful war in world history:
 - Europe was destroyed by the war & lost its place as the epicenter of power in the world
 - The USA & USSR emerged as super powers & rivals competing for influence in the world
 - Colonized nations began to demand independence from Europeans



New Institutions

- **United Nations Charter** ratified 1945 after WWII ended
 - **General Assembly** – representatives from all member states; votes on non-security issues. Majority rules (more flexible than League of Nations)
 - **Security Council** – major Allied powers
- Dec 9, 1948, the UN unanimously passed the **Genocide Convention**. The treaty made genocide a crime and obligated its signers to prevent, suppress, and punish genocide.
- **The Universal Declaration of Human Rights**- adopted by the UN General Assembly on Dec 10, 1948



New Institutions

- The Marshall Plan, also known as the European Recovery Program, channeled over \$13 billion to finance the economic recovery of Europe between 1948 and 1951.

Bretton Woods Conference 1944- Allies met to plan how to restore financial order after the war:

- IMF
- World Bank

