

World War II Era
Chapters 24 & 25
American History
American History Honors

Dictators Threaten World Peace
Text, Section 24.1

Nationalism on the rise

- (Review from World History)
- How did Germany suffer from the Treaty of Versailles?
- Russia's complaint: creation of Eastern European nations
- What happens to Europe in the post-World War I years?
- Rise of dictators

Group Activity

- Review how each of the following rose to power and why:
 - Stalin – Soviet Union
 - Mussolini – Italy
 - Hitler – Germany
 - Militarism in Japan
- Then:
 - Make a timeline of events
 - Why was the world incapable of stopping this?

Spanish Civil War & Isolationism

- Spanish Civil War (1935-1939)
 - Francisco Franco
 - Testing ground?
- How do Americans react to growing aggression abroad?
 - 1935, 1936, 1937 Neutrality Acts – what did they prevent?
 - Japan attacks China 1937 / Quarantine Speech
 - Panay incident (1937)
 - Could the U.S. truly remain neutral?

War in Europe

Text, Section 24.2

Beginnings of outward aggression

- Invasion of the Rhineland, 1936
- Austria-Hungary split after WW I; most Austrians were German
- 1938 – Austria falls to Germany (mostly unopposed)
- Hitler challenges the Sudetenland
- 1938 Munich Conference and appeasement!

Soviet alliance and *Blitzkrieg*

- March 1939 – Hitler takes Sudetenland and all of Czechoslovakia
- Hitler-Stalin Non-Aggression Pact (1939) – shocking?
- September 1939 – Hitler invades Poland
 - Soviet Union invades eastern Poland
 - France & Britain declare war → WORLD WAR II

Beginning of World War II

- The Phony War (Sept. 1939-Mid 1940)
 - Stalin annexes eastern European nations
 - Hitler invades north of France
 - The Waiting Game!
 - (will cover American reaction in future section)
- Fall of France, 1940
 - Evacuation at Dunkirk
 - Reaction in America = peacetime conscription (draft)

Battle of Britain

- No, not Ben Affleck!
- Summer of 1940 – German strategy?
- Not successful for the Germans



The Holocaust

Text, Section 24.3

GROUP DISCUSSION ABOUT THE HOLOCAUST

America Moves Towards War

Text, Section 24.4

Moving away from neutrality

- Another preparedness movement
- 1939 Neutrality Act: “Cash and Carry”
- By 1940, “all aid short of war”
 - WHY?
 - Destroyers-for-bases deal
 - Selective Service Act (draft after Fall of France)
 - Tripartite Pact signed 1940
 - Increase in defense spending (U.S. is emerging from the depression)

Roosevelt leads the preparations

- Election of 1940 – FDR wins third term
 - Defeats Wendell Willkie
- The Lend Lease Plan (H.R. 1776 – symbolic?)
 - The “arsenal of democracy”
 - Why was this vital to keeping the allies alive?
 - Roosevelt’s “Four Freedoms” speech
 - Is this neutrality?
- Hitler breaks non-aggression pact; Stalin now an “un-likely” ally

Preparations, continued

- Convoy system and submarines (also close to home)
 - FDR’s “shoot-on-sight” authorization
- The Atlantic Conference & Charter, 1941
 - Basic war aims (recognize major)
 - Basis of “Allies”

Pearl Harbor: December 7, 1941

- Japan's expansion in the Pacific
 - Indochina
 - Oil and rubber
 - Diplomatic talks (cut off Dec. 1941)
- Attack! (see pictures)
- Declaration of War
- Germany and Italy declare war four days later

Mobilizing for Defense

Text, Section 25.1

Joining the war effort

- Enlistments surge after Pearl Harbor
- 10 million drafted to meet needs of war
- Women: WAAC, WAVES (thousands)
- Other minorities (discrimination?)
 - 300,000 Mexican-Americans
 - 1 million African-Americans (service this time? Reasons for joining?)
 - 13,000 Chinese-Americans
 - 33,000 Japanese-Americans, despite internment
 - 25,000 Native Americans

Wartime production

- Depression finally over
- Conversion of factories
- Shipyards (mass-production techniques)
- Speed of production in war-related industries
- Labor (18 million, 6 mil. women):
 - Minorities hired; another “Great Migration”
 - A. Philip Randolph → FEPC
 - Dealing with Labor Unions (Smith-Connally Act)
- Scientists: Manhattan Project

Economic Controls

- Office of Price Administration (OPA)
 - Prices and inflation
- Higher taxes, war bonds again (lowers demand for goods needed for the war effort)
- War Production Board (WPB)
 - Directs companies/production needs
 - Raw materials
- Mandatory rationing*

The War for Europe and North Africa

Text, Section 25.2

Beginnings of war

- Hitler-first strategy, why?
- Battle of the Atlantic
 - Raids on ships (including local stories)
 - Convoy system; sonar; "liberty ships" (cargo)
 - Result
- Battle of Stalingrad, July 1942-February 1943
 - (see interactive map)
 - Hitler's goal (Caucasus oil fields)
 - Soviets win in the winter; major turning point-know why

North African Front

- Erwin Rommel's campaigns (to El Alamein)
- "Operation Torch" (beginning 1942)
 - Stalin's reaction? Why here?
 - French resistance
 - "Afrika Korps" surrender May 1943
- Casablanca Conference, January 1943
 - FDR and Churchill
 - Unconditional surrender pledge
 - Next front: "underbelly"

The Italian Job

- (see map)
- Sicily falls August 1943; Mussolini deposed September 1943
- Italy surrenders; becomes an ally
- Nazi resistance
- Monte Cassino (1944); Rome captured 1944
- Italian campaign ends May 2, 1945
- U.S. forces (see "Heroes in Combat" in text)

Liberation

- Tehran Conference, Nov. 28-Dec. 1, 1943
 - “The Big Three”
 - Plans made for a “second front”
- Preparations
- Normandy Invasion (or “D-day”) 6/6/1944
 - See interactive
 - Importance of this invasion
 - Patton’s Tank Division
 - Paris liberated – August, 1944

Defeating the Nazi war machine

- (Election of 1944 – Fourth term; Truman)
- October, 1944 – Aachen fell
- December, 1944 – Battle of the Bulge
 - German retreat; Nazis falling apart
 - Discovery of the holocaust
 - In the east: Soviets making progress
- February, 1945 – Yalta Conference
 - Very important concessions (especially in regards to the Cold War)

End to Hitler

- March 1945 – Crossing of the Rhine
- April 1945 – Invasion of Berlin
- April 12, 1945 – FDR dies
- April 30, 1945 – Hitler commits suicide
- May 8, 1945 – V-E Day

The War in the Pacific

Text, Section 24.3

Japanese Expansion

- Strategy of Pearl Harbor?
- Defense of the Philippines – Gen. MacArthur
 - Trapped at Bataan
 - MacArthur: “I shall return”
 - Atrocities
- Doolittle’s raid, April 1942

Turning Point Battles

- (see interactive map)
- Battle of Coral Sea – May 1942
 - Stops Japanese thrust to the south
- Battle of Midway – June 1942
 - Major turning point – stops Japanese expansion
 - Admiral Chester Nimitz
 - Carrier-based aircraft
- Battle of Guadalcanal (1942-43)
- Island-Hopping Strategy (MacArthur/Nimitz)

Pacific Battles

- (see dates on map)
- Two main thrusts
- MacArthur returns to the Philippines
- Capture of the Marianas Islands-importance?
- Battle of Leyte Gulf-importance?
- Kamikaze attacks

Last two obstacles

- Battle of Iwo Jima (dates)
 - Total losses
 - Significance?
- Battle of Okinawa (April-June 1945)
 - Huge losses – why?
 - Significance for how to end the war?

The Atomic Bomb

- The Manhattan Project
 - Original intent / Einstein's famous letter of 1939
 - J. Robert Oppenheimer
 - July 1945 – successful test (what happens?)
- Potsdam Conference: surrender or be destroyed
- August 6, 1945: Hiroshima
- August 9, 1945: Nagasaki (Japan sues for peace)
- Official surrender: Sept. 2, 1945
 - Unconditional? *USS Missouri*

End of War Arrangements at Yalta

- Germany is divided into zones of occupation
- Stalin promises free elections in Eastern Europe
- Support for the United Nations
- How did the Yalta Conference set-up the problems of the “Cold War”?
- Was a “Cold War” inevitable?

Ending the War

- Human costs – most destructive in World Hist.
- Nuremberg War Trials
 - Crimes against humanity / war crimes
 - Precedent?
- Occupation of Japan
 - War crimes trials
 - MacArthur – occupation commander until 1951
 - Help Japanese write a democratic constitution

The Home Front

Text, Section 25.4

Economic Gains and Social Change

- Ends the Great Depression
- Farmers – rising crop prices
- Women in the work force (up to 35%)
- Population change
 - A second “great migration”
 - People move to cities for industrial jobs
 - Will see the growth of suburbs after the war
- War time marriages and families
- GI Bill (1944) – Very important!

Civil Rights Issues

- Racial tensions increase in cities – why?
- CORE (1943) – Congress of Racial Equality, militant organization
- Race riots (worst in Detroit, 1943)
- Zoot-Suit Riots in Los Angeles, CA

Japanese Internment

- Why internment camps?
- (See visual presentation on internment)
- 110,000 relocated (War Re-Location Agency)
 - What was life like?
 - How did it change during the war?
- *Korematsu v. United States* (1944)
- Reparations made in 1988


