

"The war we have just been through, though it was shot through with terror, is not to be compared with the war we would have to face next time."

Woodrow Wilson

"We are determined that before the sun sets on this terrible struggle our flag will be recognized throughout the world as a symbol of freedom on the one hand, of overwhelming power on the other."

G.C. Marshall, Chief of Staff

"I fear we have awakened a sleeping giant, and filled him with a terrible resolve."

Yamamoto, after the attack at Pearl Harbor

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The Road to World War II

Kellogg-Briand Pact (1929)

- 64 Nations signed
- Never make war again & settle all disputes peacefully
- Permitted defensive war
- No provisions for econ or military force
- "Create peace through incantation"
- It could have worked in a world that longed for peace – but not the case
- Japan, Germany, & Italy wanted war

Japan attacks Manchuria

- Japan depended on world trade for food & raw materials
- Economy was shaky
- Need for markets made Japan materialistic
- Invaded Manchuria Sept. 1931
- *Stimson Doctrine: US does not recognize any land taken by force*
- Set up puppet state of Manchukuo
- League of Nations criticized Japan, so Japan quit
- *Built up its navy – violating Five-Power Treaty (US, GB, FR, JP, IT)*

Dictators Come to Power

Fascism:

- state more powerful than individual
- strong central government
- dictator with absolute power
- militaristic
- individuals have no rights
- fierce nationalism & racism
- anti-Communist – gains support of businessmen

Benito Mussolini – 1922

Adolph Hitler – 1933

National Socialist German Workers Party – Nazi's Come to Power

Germany – disastrous inflation in 20's
Money lent by US dried up in 30 & 31
Businesses fail & unemployment high
No political party gained majority votes
Paul von Hindenburg, ailing President, called for largest party to form gov't
Jan. 30, 1933 Nazis take control
War veterans made up most of the party

Two private armies:

Storm Troopers – Sturmabteilung – SA – brown shirts

Protective Group – Schutzstaffel – SS – black shirts

Armbands had swastika

Target Jews, union leaders, communists

Hitler blamed Jews (less than 1% of pop) for WWI loss

Hitler takes office & suspends the German Constitution

Chief goal of Nazis: undo results of WWI & Treaty of Versailles and make

Germany Europe's dominant power

"One State! One People! One Leader!"

European Aggression Begins

October 1933 – Germany pulls out of League of Nations

Builds nations armed forces secretly

Nothing else until 1936

1934 - Mussolini attacks Ethiopia

Threatens world stability

Boasted of plans to revive Roman Empire

Med. Sea into an Italian Lake

Italy claimed Ethiopia attacked Italian Somililand

June 1936 – Ethiopia annexed by Italy

League does nothing

Applied sanctions

Countries did not stop supplying oil

Britain & France did not cut off Suez canal

League is useless means of preventing war – dangerous precedent

African Americans raised \$ & medical supplies for Ethiopia

1935 – Germany arms Rhineland

Takes advantage of world's distraction over Ethiopia

Hitler announces Germany would rearm despite ToV

March – 1936 sent troops into the Rhineland

German army still weak, if GB & Fr had sent their troops he may have been stopped

GB & Fr couldn't agree on joint action

1936 – Rome-Berlin Axis

US Reaction

1932 – Roosevelt elected to Pres

Nov 1933 – exchange ambassadors with USSR

Can monitor events inside USSR

Possible market for US goods

Possible counterweight to Japan

Reciprocal Trade Agreements - 1934

1930 - Smoot-Hawley Tariff – highest tariff rates in US history

Pres could make agreements reducing tariffs 50%

Signed with more than 20 nations over 5 yrs – improve relations esp. w/ LA

Good Neighbor Policy

1933 – Pan American Conference

US ends all armed intervention in Latin America

Abolished Platt Amendment

Promote Isolationism

Girls Scouts uniforms from khaki to green

Tried to end sale of toy soldiers

Tried to Abolish Memorial Day – flags on graves glorified past wars

1934 - Nye Committee

US Corps made \$ off WWI & urged Wilson into it

Corps called “merchants of death”

Neutrality acts (3)

1935 –

1. once state of war existed unlawful for US to ship or sell arms to fighting countries

1. Also warn citizens to travel on ships at their own risk

1936 – prohibit loans & credit to warring nations

1937 –

1. applies to civil wars as well but Pres could sell goods other than weapons.

1. Goods must be paid for upon delivery and taken from a US port by the buyer

1. Response to Spanish Civil War – Franco

Roosevelt challenges Isolationism

Wanted to stand up against Fascism

1937 - China Incident

Japan takes China's seacoast

Roosevelt says Japan called the conflict “incident” not war so we continue to sell arms

Oct 1937 – Quarantine Speech

Peace lovers should quarantine the sick warriors to protect against the spread of the disease

Dec 1937 – the USS Panay & three oil tankers attacked on Yangtze by Japan

Japan apologizes and US public breathes sigh of relief
70% would rather pull out of China than go to war

1938 – Hitler begins to march

Austrian chancellor Kurt von Schuchnigg summoned to meet Hitler
Verbal abuse
Unless Austria throws out gov't and installs Nazis Germany will attack
Appalled & has no power to do it, allowed to return to Austria
Hitler begin propaganda

March – 1938 Anschluss (union)

Must help fellow Germans and marches into Austria unopposed

Shockwaves

US begins building two-ocean navy (GB guarded Atlantic)
\$1 Billion over 10 years to build navy to protect both coasts

1938 Summer – Hitler takes Czechoslovakia

Sudetenland – large German minority “persecuted” by Czech gov't
Built military along boarder
Summoned aged Pres Emil Hacha to Berlin – long ride, no rest
Hitler ranted – must submit to German occupation of territory or face complete destruction
Must sign agreement now!
Hacha fainted, then signed

GB & Fr promised to protect Czech

Munich Pact – Sept. 30 1938
Chamberlain, Daladier, Hitler & Mussolini meet (no USSR & Czech)
Hitler says this is it & he'll stop
“Peace in our time”
Churchill “GB & Fr had to choose between war & dishonor. They choose dishonor. They will have war.”

1939 March – Hitler takes rest of Czech

1939 April – Mussolini takes Albania

Jews Suffer Persecution

1933 – econ boycott against Jews
Cannot enter or remain in legal or medical profession
All civil employees fired
Jews in non-Jewish firms fired

Nuremberg Laws – 1935

- Took away Jew's political rights
- Lost citizenship
- Expelled from school
- Lost medical rights
- Segregated in society
- No telephones
- Only shopped in special hours
- Off streets after 8 PM
- Must wear Star of David
- Aryans couldn't marry Jews
- Jews not allowed to take \$ or property if they left
- Jews had to register all they owned to prevent smuggling
- Applied to Austria after 1938

Kristallnacht - Crystal Night – Nov 7, 1938

- 17-year-old Jewish refugee assassinated German diplomat in Paris
- Nazis burned Synagogues
- Looted homes & businesses
- Beat up occupants
- Shattered glass littered the streets
- 100s committed suicide
- Over 1000 murdered
- 26,000 thrown into Concentration camps
- Fine of 1 billion marks (20% of what they owned) levied on Jewish community

- GB accepts 80,000 refugees
- US accepts 60,000 but no more due to high unemployment

1939 - Germany & USSR Conspire

- Hitler wanted Polish corridor & city of Danzig
- Germans being "brutalized"
- World though Hitler wouldn't make mistake of WWI – fight war on both fronts
- Invading Poland would surely bring on the USSR
- April – Stalin proposes Fr & USSR join GB pledge to back Poland
- Chamberlain turns it down
- August – Non-Aggression Pact b/t USSR & Germany
- Germany takes west & USSR gets east
- Hitler outsmarted the west & avoids two-front war

WWII Begins in Europe

FDR asks to mediate – Poland agrees, Hitler refuses

1939 – Sept 1 – Germany attacks Poland with planes, tanks, ships & 2 mil troops

September 3, 1939 – GB & Fr declare war

US Reaction:

FDR – “Neutral, but cannot close mind or conscience”

4th Neutrality Act

1. Repeal arms embargo on Allies
1. US ships cannot enter warzone
1. US & LA establish safety belt – 300 to 1000 mi around coast of Americas

New Horrors – swift victories & open contempt for life by Germany

Blitzkrieg – lightening war through Poland

Slave Labor – Slavics (Poles) inferior to Germans

Shipped to Germany as slave laborers

Polish towns & farms now resettled by Germans

Wiped out Polish culture

Genocide – deliberate & systematic killing of a group of people

1939 – Final Solution of the Jewish Question

Exterminate all Jews – starting with 2 million in Poland

Since methods were not fast enough found a more efficient way – death camps

1. Auschwitz
1. Belzec
1. Chelmno
1. Majdanek
1. Sobibor
1. Treblinka

6000 killed in gas chambers daily

Removed gold teeth & used hair to stuff mattresses

Burial became odorous so began to burn bodies – cheap & efficient

1945 - 6 million Jews, 1000s Gypsies, Gays & opponent murdered

Western Front

Nothing happens for seven months

Maginot Line - GB & Fr sat in France staring at

Siegfried line - Germans sat a few miles away staring back

Sitzkrieg – phony war or Winter of Illusion

Thought they could starve Hitler out

1940 – April – Blitzkrieg struck neutral Norway & Denmark

Kings join Poles in Britain as gov'ts in exile

1940 – May – Blitzkrieg strikes neutral Netherlands, Belgium & Luxembourg (Low Countries)

France Falls

Maginot Line stopped at border of Fr & Bel

In four weeks:

Germans swung around the North pinning the GB troops against English Channel

Destroyed Fr army & took Paris

Hitler did in 4 weeks what Kaiser couldn't do in 4 years

Italy declares war on side of Germany & invades Fr from the South

Puppet Gov't set up in Vichy southern France

Fr gov't in exile in GB – Charles de Gaulle

Nazis "have but one more battle to win"

Hitler had no plan for invading GB

He hoped GB would come to terms

He misjudged Churchill

Battle of Britain – Summer & Fall 1940

Germany had to destroy the RAF

Hitler - 2600 bombers

August 15 – 1000 planes attacked GB

Every night for 2 months 200 bombers pounded London

GB had perfected radar and inflicted heavy damages to German planes

Hitler postpones invasion & never considers it again

Winter 40 – 41 - Nightly raids on civilian GB – reign of terror to demoralize spirits

Three-Powers agreement – Japan, Germany & Italy - Rome-Berlin-Tokyo Axis is official

US Response – 1940

Lend-Lease Act:

FDR lends GB (bankrupt)

500,000 rifles

80,000 machine guns

900 field guns

130 Million rounds of ammunition

50 destroyers (from WWI)

US got 99-year leases on 8 naval & air bases on:

Newfoundland

Bermuda

West Indies

British Guyana

FDR appointed 2 republicans to cabinet

Henry Stimson (War)

Frank Knox (Navy)

Selective Training & Service Act

Adopted first peace time draft in US History
16 million men b/t 21 & 35 were registered

FDR wins third term 1940

Dictatorship not war was the issue
Electoral votes 449 to 82
"all aid to GB short of war"

US Prepares for War

1940 – US must become "great arsenal for democracy"

1941 – June 22 – Germany invades USSR
USSR uses *scorched-earth policy*

1941 Sept. – Robin Moor, US merchantman, sunk off Brazil

1941 Sept. – Greer (US destroyer) attacked in N Atlantic

1941 Oct – Kearny (US destroyer) torpedoed near Iceland–11 dead

1941 Oct – Reuben James sunk – near 100 dead

FDR – Navy to shoot Axis on sight & armed merchant ships

Congress agreed to 18-month extension on draft by 1 vote in House

1941 August – Secret meeting FDR & Churchill Newfoundland

Atlantic Charter

1. no territorial expansion
1. no terr. Changes without the consent of the inhabitants
1. self-determination for all people
1. freer trade
1. cooperation for the improvement of other nations
1. disarming of all aggressors

Endorsed within a month by 15 countries including USSR
Became the basis for the UN

Japan Plans Attack

With USSR & Europe fighting, Japan looks at Euro-colonies

Needs oil

1941 – forces Vichy Gov't to give Indochina

FDR freezes all Japanese assets in US

Japan does same

All trade between US & Japan halts

1941 Oct – Gen. Hideki Tojo becomes Premier

Nov – Secty of State Hull & Japanese ambassador meet

Japan wants oil & no lend-lease to China

US wants Japan out of China & SE Asia

Last Dec. US broke Japan's Code & knew attack was coming though it would be in Malay Penn. or Dutch East Indies

Built our defenses in the Philippines

1941 – Nov. 25 – Japan Gambles

6 aircraft carriers

2 battleships

2 heavy cruisers

11 destroyers

400 planes

Sail from Japan's Kuril Islands

The Attack

Dec. 7, 1941, 7:55 AM Sunday

Japan strikes

8 US Battleships Docked

3 Sunk

1 Run aground

1 Capsized

3 Badly damaged

11 smaller ships sunk or disabled

170 planes destroyed on the ground

2400 people (68 civilians) dead

In one hour the US Navy suffered more damage than all of WWI

Japan also coordinated attacks on:

Philippines, Guam, Midway, Hong Kong, & Malay Penn.

One of the most successful military acts in history

Dec. 8, 1941 – US Declares War on Japan

Germany & Italy declare war on the US

Japan believed US was soft & incapable of discipline, courage & hard work required for a long war – they were wrong

By 1944 – US manufactured as much war machinery as Axis

76,000 tanks

> 300,000 planes

2.5 million machine guns

64,000 landing craft for tanks and infantry

6,500 naval ships

5,400 cargo ships

Selective Service System – 16.5 million men

All men b/t 16 & 65 were registered eventually

Most draftees were single men, under 30

Women & the War

Women were allowed to volunteer for armed forces for first time
216,000 enlisted
Women's Army Corp (WAC)
Accountants, bakers, bookkeepers, typists, radio operators
Women's Auxiliary Ferry Service (WAFS)
Flew planes in Atlantic with targets for gunnery practice
Considered civilians; received no veterans' benefits

African Americans – 1 million entered military

Segregated – except officer candidate school & the Battle of the Bulge

Nisei – Japanese Americans - segregated in the service

120,000 Japanese from CA, OR, WA, & AZ interned
Surrounded barbed wire & guards

10 Camps:

Heart Mountain, WY
Tule Lake & Manzanar, CA
Minidoka, ID
Topaz, UT
Poston & Gila River, AZ
Granada, Co
Rohwer & Jerome, AK

1944 – Korematsu v. US

Supreme Court upholds internment as “military necessity”

Work Force Expands

Wipes out depression unem. of 7 million
AFL & CIO pledged no to strike during the war
National War Labor Board – to enforce settlements

2 million women joined workforce
1945 – 4 to 5 million women workers
received 60% less than men
had little job security

More than 1 million African Americans, Indians, & Mex-Amer now employed

1941 – FDR executive order banning racial discrimination in hiring & firing workers in plants with gov't contracts

A. *Philip Randolph* – threatened march of 10,000 African Americans on DC

Results:

Black families moved N & W
Lynchings & Race Riots
1943 June – Detroit: 25 African Americans & 9 whites killed
econ standing of African Americans did improve during the war

War Economics

Government had to build 85 % of plants – Why?

Office of War Mobilization (OWM)

War Production Board (WPB)

Supervising Gov't Contracts – Truman, MI Senator

Office of Price Administration (OPA) – curb inflation & rationing

Extended Income Tax & payroll deduction law

Bonds – bought \$100 Billion, worth \$129 Billion after WWII

Science

Allies: Radar, penicillin, DDT, no body lice

Germany: jet aircraft, rockets, *splitting of the atom 1939*

1941 – Office of Scientific Research & Development by FDR make an atom bomb as quickly as possible

How to Fight the War – What should US Strategy be?

1. Defeat Hitler first
He may defeat USSR & cut off GB – Japan couldn't
2. Then all out Allied assault on Japan
3. Accept only unconditional surrender of the enemy

European Theater

Allies push through Italy

USSR pushing into Poland

Needed to control the air

Oct 1943 – May 1944 Air raids

US bombed Germany by day, GB by night

June 1944 – Allies had 30 – 1 superiority

D-Day (Operation Overlord) – June 6, 1944

Largest land & sea operation in history

2 years of planning

176,000 troops

4,000 landing craft

600 war ships

11,000 planes

German defenses were enormous:

250,000 troops, mines, tank traps, guns, concrete forts

Allies bomb area to east - throws off Germany

Germany fight strongly at Omaha Beach, Allies almost wiped out

Within 1 month Allies land:

1 million troops

567,000 tons of supplies

170,000 vehicles

1944 Sept – Fr, Bel, Lux, & part of Netherlands liberated
FDR wins reelection

The Battle of the Bulge – Dec. 1944
Last great German offensive fails

1945 March – Allies cross Rhine River into Germany

April – USSR enters Berlin
April 25 – US & USSR look at each other across Elbe River

April 30 – Hitler shoots self, E. Braun poison, bodies burned

May 2 – Berlin falls to USSR
May 7 – Ike accepts unconditional surrender of Germany
May 8 – VE Day

Pacific Theater:

Japan wins big after PH:
Hong Kong, Indochina, Malaya, Burma, Thailand, Indonesia
New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Guam, Wake, 3 Aleutian Isles

Philippines:
Gen. MacArthur uses 36,000 troops to hold off 200,000 Japanese troops for 4 months.
Flees to Australia saying, "I shall return."

Prestige of white people, based in power, is destroyed forever

1942 – Japan threatens India, Australia & Western US

US bombs Tokyo – bring the war home

Battle of Guadalcanal – August 1942

Solomon Islands –
1000 mi barrier isles N of Australia
6 months of fighting – Japanese withdraw in early 1943

1944 – Oct – Leyte Island in Philippines
Mac Arthur, "I have returned"
Japanese fleet defeated at battle of Leyte Gulf

Kamikaze – "divine wind" typhoon 1281 destroyed K. Khan fleet

April 12, 1945 – FDR dies

Spring 1945 – Battle of Iwo Jima & Okinawa
Japanese held out for months & fought savagely
This is what battle for Japan would be like – scared Allies

1942 – Stagg Field at U. of Chicago – nuclear reaction achieved

Manhattan Project – Oak Ridge, TN & Hanford, WA

Dr. Robert J. Oppenheimer – first Nuke at Los Alamos, NM

July 16, 1945 – exploded in desert

Oppenheimer, "I am become Death, the shatterer of worlds, waiting that hour that ripens to their doom"

July 26, 1945 – warn Japan of "Utter & Prompt Destruction"

August 6, 1945 – Enola Gay - 9000 lb. Atom Bomb – Hiroshima
71,000 killed
68,000 injured horribly
Leveled 4 sq. mi.

August 9, 1945 – Nagasaki
36,000 killed
60,000 injured
leveled half of the city

August 14, 1945 – Emp. Hirohito unconditionally surrenders

Sept. 2, 1945 – formal surrender is signed on the USS Missouri

Conferences:

1. *Cairo, Egypt* – Nov. 1943
FDR, Church & Chaing Kai-shek
Korea independent & Formosa (Taiwan) back to China
2. *Teheran, Iran* – Nov. 1943
FDR, Church & Stalin
Stalin agrees to attack Japan after VE-Day
FDR thought relations would be good with USSR post WWII
3. *Yalta, Black Sea* – Feb. 1945
Big Three
Ger & Jap leaders tried as war criminals
Set up UN a year later
USSR to enter Pacific for Kuril & Sakhalin Isles
Support for Polish Communist Gov't
Stalin promised "free & unfettered elections" for East Europe
4. *San Francisco, CA* – April 1945
50 nations meet to establish peace-keeping force
USSR displaying considerable suspiciousness & stubbornness
Wanted all 15 Soviet republics in UN – nations refused
Ukraine & Byelorussia & USSR given seats in UN

5. *Potsdam, Germany* – July 1945
Reached final decision about Germany's fate
Alliance breaking up
Stalin refused elections in Eastern Europe
Couldn't decide on Western Polish Border
Moved 6.5 mil Germans out of Poland, Czech, Hung, into Ger.
Germany divided into four zones & Berlin same

UN charter signed June 1945 – Senate approval in 6 days

US first nation to accept the charter

Dealing with the Enemy

Japan:

Supreme Commander of Allied Powers: MacArthur
US occupation lasted 6 years
Re-wrote Japanese constitution
Freedom of press, no secret police, women's suffrage, unions
Land reform & business reform
Retained Emperor
Peace Treaty with Japan & UN – USSR refused to sign

War Crimes Trials

Nuremberg Trials:

1. waging aggressive wars
2. violating rules on treatment of prisoners & civilians

22 defendants

12 death

7 prison

3 acquitted

Tokyo Trials:

Tojo & 6 others executed

4000 convicted – prison

History's first total & global war is over, while a new one is just beginning to take shape.