



Road to World War II

Communism

Fascism



Radical	Liberal	Moderate	Conservative	Reactionary
Favors extreme changes to create an altered or entirely new social system	Believes that the government must take action to change economic, political, and social systems	Holds beliefs that fall between liberal and conservative views	Seeks to keep in place the traditional economic, political, and social systems	Favors extreme changes to restore society to an earlier state

Totalitarianism



Any type of absolute, oppressive, single-party govt

- Requires a lack of individual liberties

- Requires conformity under threat of imprisonment or even more punitive measures

Chief objectives:

1. Rule without legal restraint or party competition
2. New leader effectively ends any past legal, social, and political traditions

Goals may differ:
industrialization, ethnic purity, expansion/conquest, etc.



Marxism and the Soviet Union

- Karl Marx/Frederick Engels wrote The Communist Manifesto comparing the system to capitalism in 1848; Proletariat struggle against the Bourgeoisie
 - Workers (Proletariat) are exploited by factory owners (Bourgeoisie)
 - Workers should overthrow the capitalists and redistribute wealth and property
- Marx and Engels didn't consistently or clearly differentiate communism from socialism, which ensured lasting confusion between the two terms
- Communism is put into practice for the first time with the Bolshevik Revolution in Russia – led by Vladimir Lenin





Leader: Lenin → Stalin

“Combined Community Codec Pack”



Communism

- Extreme “left-wing” ideology
- Government ownership of capital, resources, land, farms/factories, control of labor
- Religion perceived as a threat to goal and authority
- Freedom exchanged for protection
- No opposition
- No private property or class system
- Governing body makes all decisions for the collective society
- Typically instated through a “Cult of Personality”*
- Goal: worldwide revolution***

Fascism

- Extreme “right-wing” ideology
- Militant: glory achieved through war; control of the military needed to gain and retain power
- Extreme nationalism: country over individual
- Religion can be intertwined and used to strengthen goals
- Gender roles are often enforced
- Extreme “Social Darwinism” beliefs (can lead to Ethnic Cleansing/Genocide) there will always be an “enemy” group in the way of country’s progress
- Control of media and use of propaganda (use of fear tactics/threat to national security)
- Private ownership is allowed but contingent upon usefulness of the state; nationally self-sufficient
- Goal: achieving the greatness of the past through glory of the future



General Hideki Tojo
of Japan



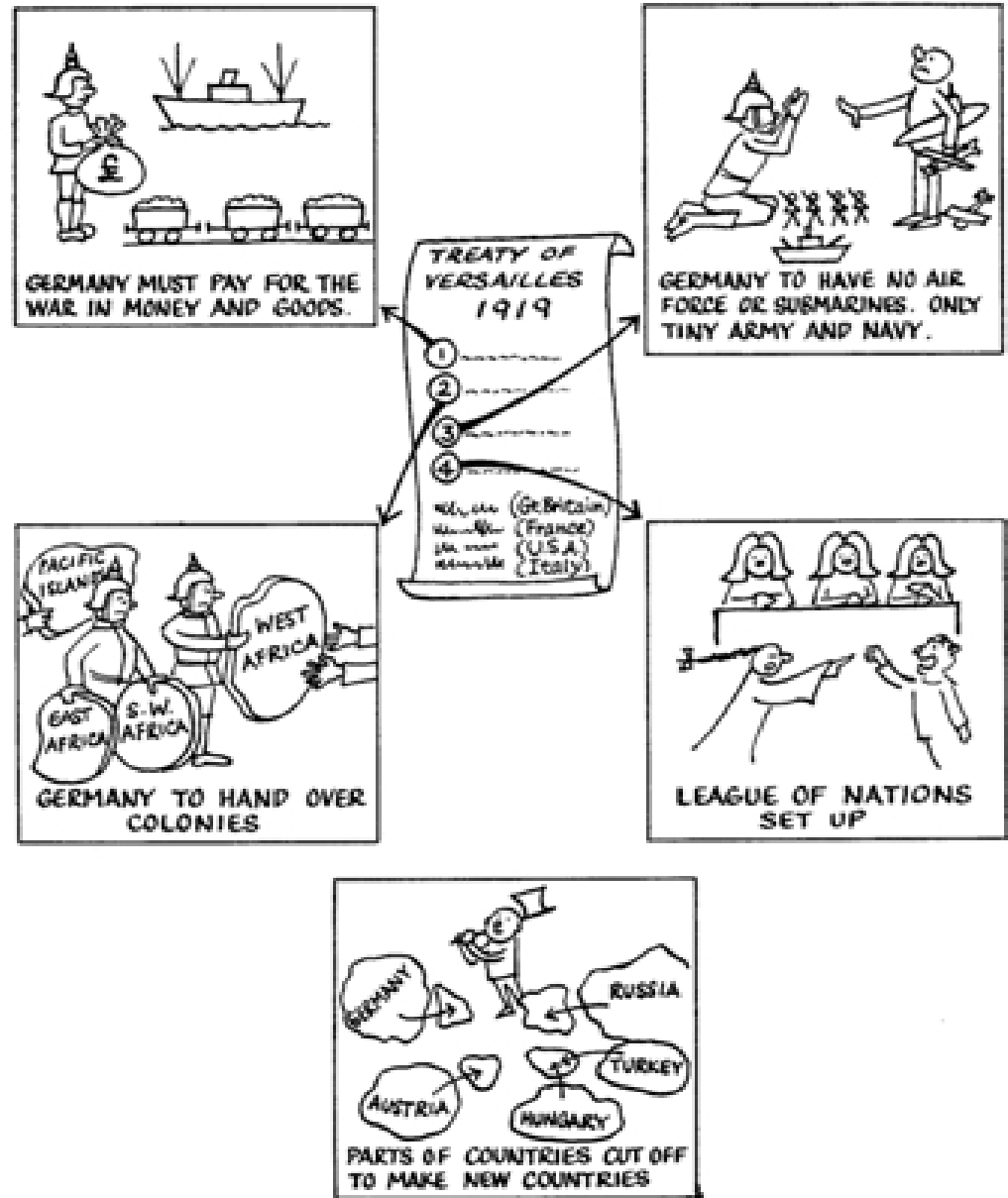
← Benito Mussolini of
Italy

Treaty of Versailles (1919)

-Long-term cause of WWII

-Germany is punished:
BRAT
(Blame, reparations,
Army demilitarized,
territorial loss)

-Article 231 (“War Guilt Clause”) – Germans felt betrayed by this clause



National Social German Workers' Party (Nazi Party)

-1919: Hitler joins the *Nationalsozialistische Deutsche Arbeiterpartei* (NSDAP) — often abbreviated to Nazi

-He gained notoriety for his vitriolic speeches against the Treaty of Versailles, rival politicians, Marxists and Jews

-1921: Hitler replaced Drexler as the Nazi party chairman

-His beer-hall speeches began attracting regular audiences; early followers included army captain Ernst Rohm, the head of the Nazi paramilitary organization the Sturmabteilung (SA – “strong arm” assault division), which protected meetings and frequently attacked political opponents



1923: Beer Hall Putsch

- Failed attempt at revolution against the Weimar Republic; occurred evening of 8 November/early afternoon of 9 November 1923
- Hitler and other heads of the coup unsuccessfully tried to seize power in Munich, Bavaria, Germany
- Hitler writes Mein Kampf while imprisoned for high treason (9 months)



Hitler's Plan:

1. Overthrow the republic and establish Nazi fascism
2. Throw off the shackles of Versailles Treaty
3. Attain *Lebensraum*: “breathing space” for Germany by expanding eastward
 - Saw history as a racial struggle for race and space
4. Make Germany a nation of Pure Germans (he referred to them as “Aryan”)



1928: Kellogg-Briand Pact – signed by the U.S., France, and Germany (afterwards many other nations signed) stating war would not be used to settle disputes & called for disarmament (signed by Coolidge)

→



-Nazi & communist parties in Germany rise because of the suffering due to the Great Depression

1931: Japan conquers Manchuria in China

1932: FDR Elected in the U.S



Understanding the Third Reich



-1932: Nazi Party receives 37% of vote in the last democratic election

-1933: General von Hindenburg, President of Weimar Republic, appoints Hitler as Chancellor

1933 campaign poster: “In the deepest need Hindenburg chose Adolf Hitler for Reich Chancellor. You too should vote for List 1”



1933: Reichstag (German Parliament) fire

- Communists accused (fire could easily have been set by Nazis)
- *Schutzhaft*: protective custody — anyone can be arrested and held without charges or trial by police (40-50k people)
- Mass arrests to hunt down perpetrators

Hitler's Rearmament



Hitler visits a factory and is enthusiastically greeted; many Germans were grateful for jobs after the misery of the depression years

- 1935**
- U.S. policy: “isolation/neutrality”
 - “Cash and Carry” policy – U.S. sells arms on “Cash and Carry” basis (allowed the sale of materiel to belligerents, as long as the recipients arranged for the transport using their own ships and paid immediately in cash, assuming all risk in transportation)
 - FDR felt that further help was needed in Europe after Germany invaded Poland in September 1939
 - German Nuremburg Laws: race laws against Jews established

Nuremberg Race Laws of 1935

Deprived German Jews of their rights of citizenship, giving them the status of "subjects" in Hitler's Reich

- Laws also made it forbidden for Jews to marry or have sexual relations with Aryans

Nuremberg Laws had the unexpected result of causing confusion and heated debate over who was a "full Jew"

- The Nazis settled on defining a "full Jew" as a person with three Jewish grandparents; those with less were designated as "Mischlinge"

- After the Nuremberg Laws of 1935, a dozen supplemental Nazi decrees were issued that eventually outlawed the Jews completely, depriving them of their human rights

March 1936: German troops march into the Rhineland



Region of Germany that was “demilitarized” after the Treaty of Versailles

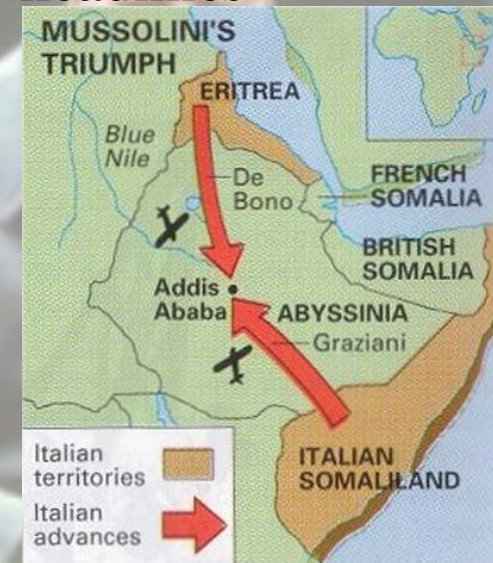
-The Rhineland was Germany’s industrial region

-Hitler’s actions showed he was willing to directly challenge the treaty



April 1936

- Mussolini conquers Ethiopia (foothold in N. Africa)
- Olympics held in Berlin (the real Germany hides behind a peaceful façade) with Jesse Owens making international headlines



1937

-Japan invades China

-“Rape of Nanking”: 300,000 Chinese civilians and disarmed/surrendered soldiers were murdered by soldiers of the Imperial Japanese Army; widespread rape and looting

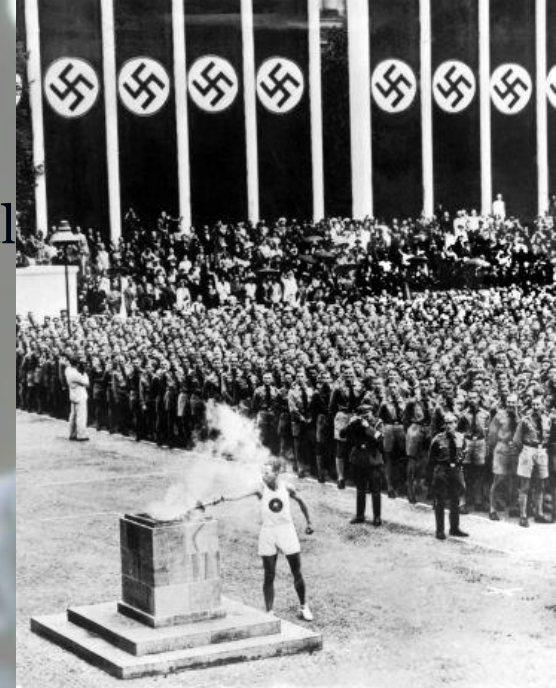
-Atrocities were published in the media →

-FDR’s “Quarantine Speech”

-FDR wants to end isolation and appeals to Congress to take action

-U.S. embargoes oil and steel to Japan

-Japan secretly begins plans to attack Pearl Harbor



March 1938: Nazi Germany annexes Austria



-Germany had been banned from allying with Austria as per the Treaty of Versailles

(However, the arrival of German troops was met with great enthusiasm by many Austrian people)

-Britain and France try to **appease** Hitler at the Munich Conference (Sept. '38) by not acting against his occupation of the Sudetenland in Czechoslovakia

-Why appeasement?



-Kristallnacht: 9 and 10 November '38 - Nazi violence against Jews throughout Germany (due to the assassination of a Nazi leader by a Polish Jew living in France who had been expelled from Germany); killed almost 100 Jews

-Precursor to the "Final Solution", as many would be subsequently rounded up for transportation to concentration camps



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 NEW YORK, FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 1938. P

**END
USH
ANS**

**Build
.000
ed
IRMS**

**NAZIS SMASH, LOOT AND BURN
JEWISH SHOPS AND TEMPLES
UNTIL GOEBBELS CALLS HALT**

**All Vienna's Synagogues Attacked;
Fires and Bombs Wreck 18 of 21**

**Jews Are Beaten, Furniture and Goods Flung
From Homes and Shops — 15,000 Are
Jailed During Day — 20 Are Suicides**

BANDS ROVE CITIES
 Thousands Arrested for
 'Protection' as Gangs
 Avenge Paris Death

EXPULSIONS ARE IN VIEW
 Plunderers Trail Wreckers in
 Berlin — Police Stand Idle
 — Two Deaths Reported

VIENNA, Nov. 10.—In a surge of
revenge for the murder of a Ger-
man diplomat in Paris by a young
Polish Jew, all Vienna's twenty-
one synagogues were attacked to-
day and eighteen were wholly or
partly destroyed by fire and bomb
explosions.

Wrote in The New York Times.
reported to have attempted suicide;
about twenty succeeded.
Scores of bombs were placed in
synagogues, blowing out windows
and in many cases damaging walls.
Floors that had been soaked with
kerosene readily caught fire.
Fire brigades were summoned to
fight fires in eighteen synagogues.



March 1939: Germany invades Czechoslovakia



- Many hoped that that this would be the last conquest of the Nazis
- March 1939, he ordered his troops to take over the remainder of Czechoslovakia
- 1st “aggressive” step that suggested another war in Europe

August 1939: Soviet German Non-aggression Pact



Soviet foreign minister signing the pact

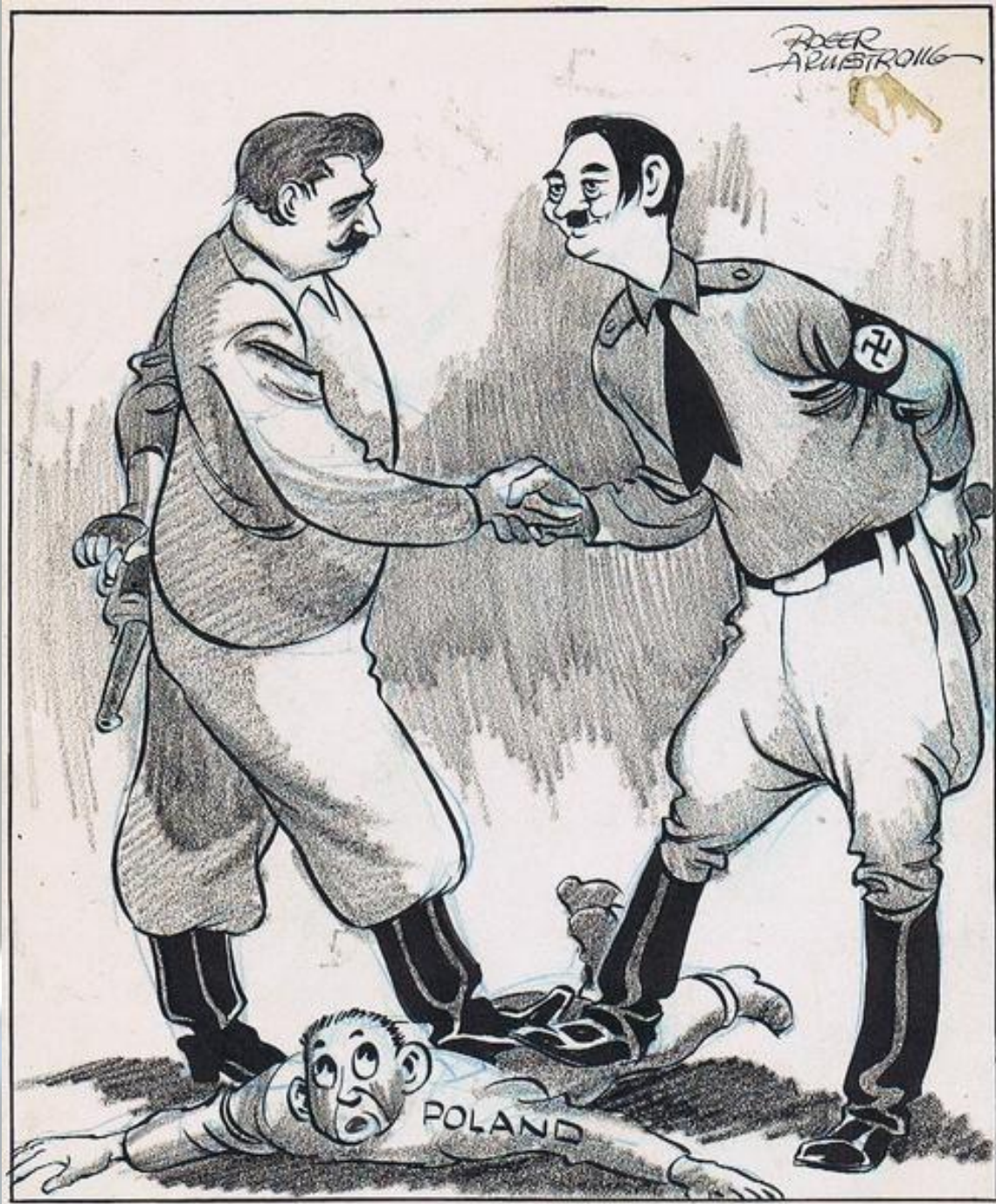
- Hitler and Stalin
- Neither country would attack the other in the event of war
- Stay out of each other's conflicts
- Stalin will sell military equipment to Hitler
- As part of the deal, Hitler promised Stalin part of Poland, which he planned to invade soon

-The non-aggression pact was surprising

WHY?

-When Hitler talked of taking over new land for Germany, many thought that he meant Russia

-Idealistically they were at opposite (but both extreme) ends of the political spectrum



September 1939: Germany invades Poland



German troops marching into Warsaw, the capital of Poland

The Non-Aggression Pact allowed Germany to march into Poland without fear of an attack from the Soviet Union

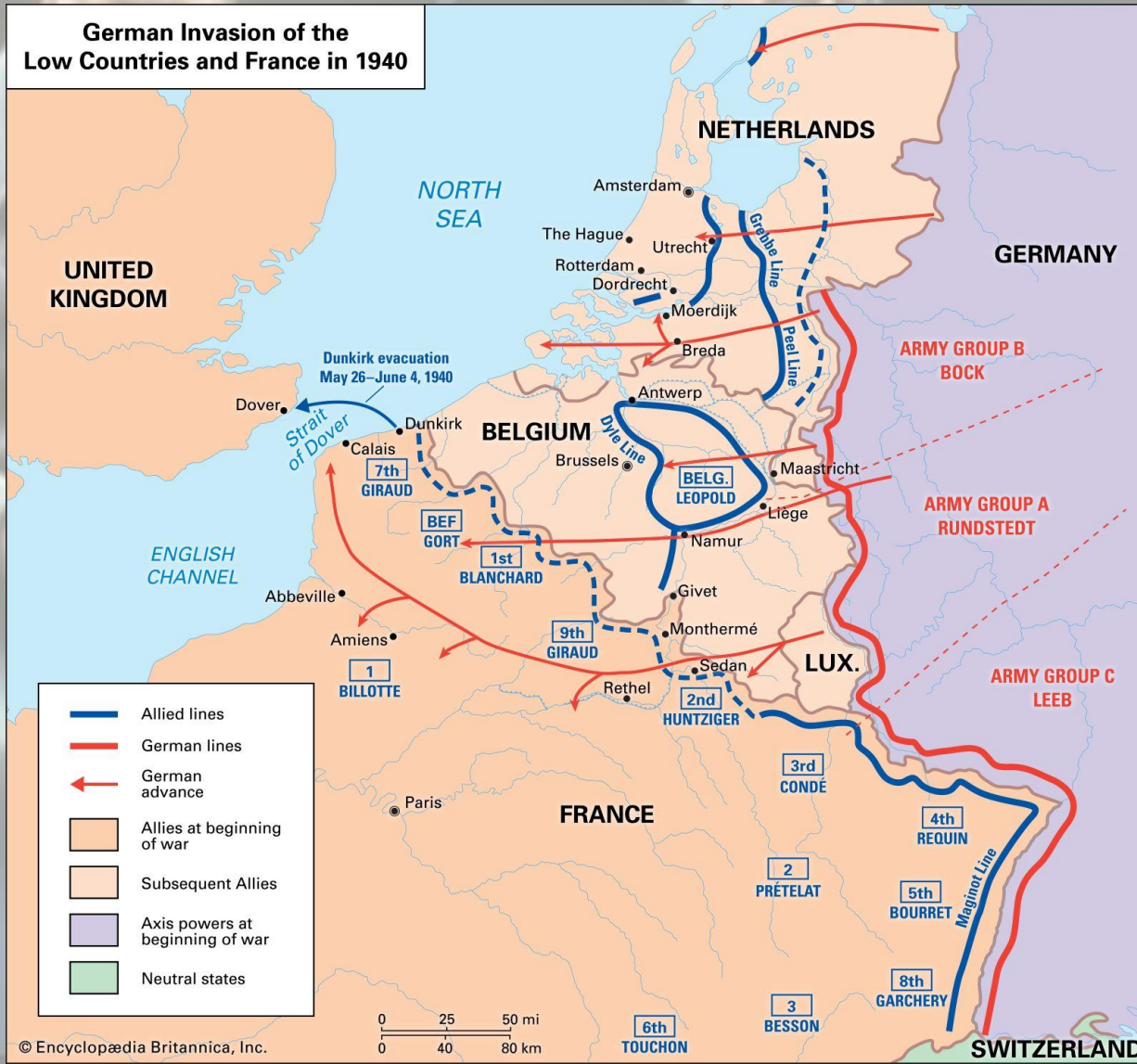
On 1 September 1939, Germany invaded Poland and on the 3rd Britain and France declare war

May 1940: Germany turned west and invaded France and the Netherlands

Germany implemented Blitzkrieg ("lightning war" - forced breakthrough into the enemy's line of defense through a series of short, fast, powerful attacks; once in the enemy's territory, dislocates them using speed and surprise, then encircles) to attack France and the Netherlands

British troops were forced to retreat from the beaches of Dunkirk in Northern France

U.S. remains neutral



June 1940: France surrenders to the Germans



Britain now stood alone as the last remaining enemy of Hitler's Germany in Western Europe

← Adolf Hitler tours Paris after his successful invasion

September 1940-May 1941: the “Blitz”



- German air force (Luftwaffe) launched repeated bombing raids on British towns and cities
- Lasted 9 months
- Attempt to bomb country into submission
- Sir Winston Churchill becomes Prime Minister of Britain – “I have nothing to offer but blood and sweat”



Destroyers for Bases: 2 September 1940



Agreement: 50 year old (but still serviceable) destroyers given to Great Britain in exchange for use of bases in the Caribbean
Significance: kept us out of the war but directly assisted the Allied Powers

Lend-Lease Act: March 1941



The U.S. remains isolated but will lend military arms to GB and lease our bases around the world to them to use in the war effort

Operation Barbarossa, June 1941



- Hitler decided to halt the bombing of Britain and launch an attack against the Soviet Union; ideological war (to enslave the Slavic population and exterminate Jews)
- Betrayal of the non-aggression pact he signed with Stalin
- Bold move that would prove to be an important turning point in WWII

Atlantic Charter

- FDR and Winston Churchill
- How to fight the war
- Plan for post-war world
- Becomes the basis for N.A.T.O. (U.S.-led Cold War military alliance) in 1949

Atlantic Charter Between U.S.A. and Great Britain

1. Britain and the United States seek no territorial gains from the war
2. Any changes to a country's territory should only happen with the agreement of the people living there
3. It is the right of everyone to choose the government under which they will live
4. Self-government should be restored to those who have lost it
5. There should be free trade between all nations
6. Improvements in the economy and in living standards should be available to all
7. There should be peace following what the Charter calls "the end of Nazi tyranny"
8. Peace should enable freedom of movement around the world
9. A belief that aggressive nations must be disarmed if the world is to live at peace



6 Jan: FDR's "Four Freedoms" Speech

"Freedom of Speech"
"Freedom of Worship"
"Freedom from Want"
"Freedom from Fear"

-FDR's attempt to end isolation, work for human rights around the world, and make the world "Safe for Democracy"

Excerpt

OURS...to fight for



Freedom of Speech



Freedom of Worship



Freedom from Want



Freedom from Fear

7 December 1941



-Japan launches a pre-emptive attack on U.S. Naval Base Pearl Harbor (Hawaii)

-8 December: U.S. declares war on Japan

-9 December: Germany declares war on U.S.

-FDR's famous quote from his speech to Congress about the attack on Pearl Harbor:
"Yesterday, December 7, 1941, a date which will live in infamy, the United States of America was suddenly and deliberately attacked by naval and air forces of the Empire of Japan..."

-The Great Depression ends because the U.S. govt will spend \$27 billion to create an "Arsenal for Democracy" to defeat fascism (2.7 trillion in 2009 dollars)

[FDR Speech](#)