

# World War II

1939 - 1945

United States involvement from  
December 8, 1941 to 1945



AP / Joe Rosenthal, 1945



- European Theatre
- North African Theatre
- Pacific Theatre

*theatre* is a term normally used to define a specific geographic area within which armed conflict occurs.....

in short, the region where fighting takes place in a war

## Lesson Objectives

Students will be able to understand and discuss or write a clear understanding of the following information...

- Causes of World War II
- Key Definitions (terms or words) introduced in the lesson
- Allies and Allies leaders of World War II
- How American foreign policy changes from "NEUTRAL" to "INVOLVEMENT"
- War in the Pacific
- Major events and Turning Points of World War II
- The Holocaust
- Women's involvement in the war
- American's support for the war at home
- Effects of World War II at home
- Rebuilding Europe after World War II
- Effects of World War II worldwide
- Establishing the United Nations

## Between the wars, 1918-1939

The Treaty of Versailles was between Germany and Allied countries that established Germany's role and punishment for their part in World War I. Germany was angry for being forced to accept the total blame for the war and lost land, Italy was angered by not getting as much land as they thought they deserved, Japan was insulted because the treaty would not accept their proposed "equality of races" belief. In short, the fighting stopped but the anger still existed.

The United States in the 1920's was a period where most American's were optimistic (felt positive, good) about the country's future. Business was good in American factories and most people had money to spend on household conveniences and entertainment. Many American's invested in the stock market and became wealthy. The 1920's were also a period of Prohibition (a time when alcohol was illegal) so speakeasies became popular. Famous gangsters made money selling illegal alcohol gained power.

But by the end of the 1920 everything changed. Millions of people lost everything when the Great Depression started in October of 1929. Banks failed, people were homeless, and families were torn apart.

The rest of the world also suffered from a worldwide depression and people in most countries did not see a good future for themselves and for their country. Because of this fear of the future, people were willing to listen and be convinced by radical (wanting change at any cost) groups or individuals calling for change. It also helped make it possible for governments to be "over-thrown" by groups or individuals who promised to create jobs for the people to end the depression, build their military to become a world power again, and promised a bright future for their country. People demanded change and these people promised to give them change by taking control of the government.

These new world leaders were dictators that controlled not only the government but also the people. They created their own "rules" and began taking land from smaller countries to get natural resources to help support their countries. Because the world had recently finished a destructive world war (World War I) and the world wide depression, most countries were not able to stop dictators from invading neighboring countries and taking control.

<b>Anti-Semitism</b>	
<b>Blitzkrieg</b>	
<b>Theatre of War</b>	
<b>Containment</b>	
<b>Fascism</b>	
<b>Appeasement</b>	
<b>Aryan Supremacy</b>	
<b>Ration</b>	
<b>Holocaust</b>	

# Causes of World War II

1

- This means that the government of a country and its leader is weak and lacks support from the people or military of the country it serves. When people in the country no longer supports the government and its leaders, the people will challenge the government of their country by "overthrowing" (pushing them out of power) them and taking power of the country by force.

## What causes "political instability" ????

- High war debts owed by Germany
- High inflation
- High unemployment
- Worldwide Depression

## Why Germany hated the Treaty of Versailles

(This treaty was between only Germany and the Allies)

- Germany was forced to take total responsibility for causing WWI
  - Because the Weimar Government signed this agreement, the Germany people did not support them
- Germany had high war debts and was forced to repay Allied countries
  - About \$400 billion, but, there was never an amount given
  - German people felt this was unfair  
This helped create inflation (when cost to buy goods is high)

- High unemployment (people out of work)
  - Because Germany could not pay the money to France, France Entered Germany in a place called the Ruhr. This was where most of Germany's factories were and France took them over and deported (kicked out) about 150,000 German workers that no longer had jobs.
- Germany lost a lot of land
  - Some given to France, Poland, Belgium, Denmark, Czechoslovakia, and Russia
  - League of Nations took control of Germany's overseas colonies
  - New countries were created from some German land
- Germany's military was limited
  - Could have no more than 100,000 men
  - Could not have tanks
  - Not allowed to have an air force
  - Could only have six naval ships and zero submarines

2

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- \_\_\_\_\_ This is a political philosophy (your values and beliefs that you live by) that gives total power to a dictator and the peoples individual freedoms are denied (not allowed)
    - Adolph Hitler in Germany
    - Benito Mussolini in Italy
    - Hideki Tojo in Japan

These dictator's and their countries eventually led an alliance that became known as the Axis Powers

- **Why would people in a country support a dictator?**
  - **Because the government the country had was weak**
  - **Because they promised a better life for the people**
    - **Jobs**
    - **Military power**
    - **Economic growth**
  - **Pride of Nationalism (they believed their nationality was the best in the world and the people supported them)**
  - **Military power promised the people in the countries world superiority and economic relief**



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**Why did Germany allow a dictator to take control of the country?**

- **Germans were mad about the Versailles Treaty**
  - **Germany had to take total responsibility for starting the war**
  - **German people were out of work**
  - **Germany lost a lot of land**
  - **German people thought the amount of money they had to repay to the Allied countries was unfair**

- Germany was stripped of its army, navy, and air force
- The policy of "appeasement" led Hitler to become more greedy

### **Why did Italy allow a dictator to take control of the country?**

- Italy's natural resources were not enough to support the number of people the country had. This led to strikes and riots due to the people not having enough jobs. Mussolini promised to bring Italy back to days it had during the Roman Empire.
- Italy only joined the Allies in World War I because they (the Allies) promised to divide up the Central Powers land and Italy wanted to be in a position to get more land. Italy gained less land than they thought they deserved.
- Italy wanted to expand its empire and Italy looked to Africa to fulfill its ambitions for an empire. In 1935, Italian troops invaded Ethiopia, one of the few independent countries in Africa. The Italians used machine guns, tanks, and airplanes to overpower Ethiopia's poorly equipped army.
- The people in Italy were afraid Socialist government from Russia might control them if they remained weak

### **Why did Japan allow a dictator to take control of the country?**

- Japan's natural resources were not enough to support the number of people the country had. This led to Japan needing to expand its territory to get the natural resources it needed. Because of this, Japan invaded Manchuria.
- The invasion would also get the needed natural materials needed to build their military to defend themselves against any future threat from Russia
- Military officers started to hold political jobs and gained power
- Japan built up its defense under the control of military leaders
- Japan was angered by the failure of the Treaty of Versailles to include the "equality of all races".

### **Why did the other countries of the world allow these dictators to rise to power and to start invading other countries?**

- The League of Nations was weak and lacked the power to stop them from taking over other countries
- The world just finished the most destructive war in history and did not want to start fighting again. Countries adopted a policy of....



**Who fought World War II**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**The Axis Powers fought against ...**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



**And in 1941,**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



**Why did Stalin join the Allies?**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## 1st: appeasement (1938)

In September 1938 the British and French prime ministers met Adolph Hitler and surrendered to his demands. They agreed to divide up Czechoslovakia and allowed Hitler to annex the Sudetenland (part of Czechoslovakia). The reason Hitler was allowed to annex part of Czechoslovakia was to keep world peace.

## 2nd: Nazi-Soviet Pact..... A Shock to the System

- The Pact (agreement) was between Germany and Soviet Union
- The agreement promised that if each of the countries got into a war by invading another country, the other country would not get involved to fight against them
- Secret part of the agreement was that Germany and Soviet Union would invade Poland and divide it up between them.

On 23 August 1939, the world was shocked when, suddenly, Russia and Germany signed a Non-aggression Pact. People would have been even more shocked if they had known at the time that, in addition, the two countries had a secret agreement to invade and divide Poland between them.



Hitler signs pact with Stalin. Hitler wants Stalin to "feel safe" from a German invasion. Within two years Hitler invades Russia. This caused Russia to join the Allies against Germany and Hitler.

## Major Events of World War II

- August 23, 1939:
  - Germany and Soviet Union sign Nazi-Soviet Pact. Each country promised they would remain neutral in the war if either of them got involved in a war.
- September 1, 1939

# Germany invades Poland ....

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What test questions could you write from this worksheet?

Q. \_\_\_\_\_

A. \_\_\_\_\_

Or

Q. \_\_\_\_\_

A. \_\_\_\_\_

During the next 10 months, Germany continued to take back the land they felt was theirs. The land they lost in World War I and more....

## 1940

- Germany invades Denmark
- Soviet Union invades Finland
- Germany invades Norway
- Germany invades France and captures Paris
- Germany invades Luxembourg
- Germany invades Netherlands
- Germany begins bombing raids in London but does not take it even though Germany attacks Great Britain with massive air raids on major cities.
- German troops invade Romania
- The Axis Powers are born when Germany, Italy, and Japan sign a pact as partners in the war.

## 1941

- Germany invades Greece
- Germany invades Yugoslavia
- Germany does the unthinkable... June 22, 1941, Germany attacks the Soviet Union. Enraged by this, Soviet leader Joseph Stalin joins the Allies to help stop Hitler. The attack on the Soviet Union is called

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On 22nd June, 1941, the German Army invaded the Soviet Union. Stalin went on Soviet radio and gave instructions that when forced to withdraw, the Red Army should destroy anything that could be of use to the enemy.

The scorched earth policy created severe problems for the German war machine which was trying to keep her three million soldiers supplied with the necessary food and ammunition they would take from places they invaded.



**December 7,  
1941**

**Japan attacks  
Pearl Harbor**



**The next day, December 8, 1941, the United States  
Officially joins the war by declaring war on Japan...  
Then German declares war on the United States**

**Write one test question from this worksheet.**

**Q.** \_\_\_\_\_

**A.** \_\_\_\_\_

Foreign Policy is \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**U.S. Gradual Foreign Policy changed from being**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**To**  
\_\_\_\_\_

**First Policy:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Second Policy:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Third Policy:** \_\_\_\_\_

1942

- First American Forces arrive in Great Britain
- Japanese American's sent to interment camps
- First "mass murders" of Jews in Auschwitz

Fall of 1942 thru the winter of 1943

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The Battle for Stalingrad was fought during the winter of 1942 to 1943



The Battle of Stalingrad is considered by many historians \_\_\_\_\_ in World War II in Europe. The battle at Stalingrad bled the German army dry in Russia. After this defeat, the Germany Army was in full retreat. This was the first major defeat of Hitler's army.

Write two questions from this worksheet you think would be on a test.

Q. \_\_\_\_\_

A. \_\_\_\_\_

Q. \_\_\_\_\_

A. \_\_\_\_\_

Throughout 1943 and 1944, Germany began to withdraw its troops from many countries they occupied. Then...

1944

This is where D Day took place.



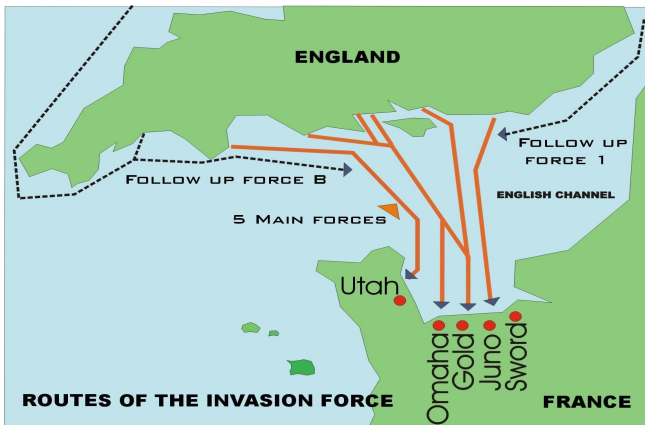
The D-Day operation of June 6, 1944 brought together the land, air and sea forces of the allied armies in what became known as the largest invasion force in human history.

**D Day was** \_\_\_\_\_





**D-Day is June 6, 1944—the day on which the Battle of Normandy began—beginning the British, American, and Canadian liberation efforts of mainland Europe from Nazi occupation during World War II**



**The attack began when allied planes and warships bombarded German positions along the coastline. This was to damage the defenses making it easier for the troops to get ashore.**

**At the same time planes and gliders dropped tens of thousands of allied soldiers behind the German defenses. They took control of important roads and bridges. This made it harder for the German army to rush extra men towards areas where the troops were landing.**

**Thousands of ships set out from the south coast of England. In all, over 6,000 vessels joined the attack. Over 11,000 planes supported them. The naval force crossed the channel overnight.**

**At 6.30am on 6 June troops started to land on the beaches of Normandy. There were five main landing beaches: Juno, Gold, Omaha, Sword, and Utah.**

**By the end of D-Day the allies had put 156,000 troops ashore in Normandy suffering 10,000 casualties.**

The importance of D Day was \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Write two questions about this event that you think would be on a test.

Q. \_\_\_\_\_

A. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Q. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

A. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### 1945

- April 28, Mussolini is captured and hung in public
- April 30, Hitler hears about Mussolini and commits suicide in his bunker in Berlin. Hitler does not want what happen to Mussolini to happen to him
- May 2, German troops surrender in Italy
- May 7, all German troops surrender unconditionally
- May 8, V-E Day



# **V-E Day**

**Victory in Europe**

**May 8, 1945**

**(Germany surrenders)**



**The Allies and World celebrate victory in Europe**

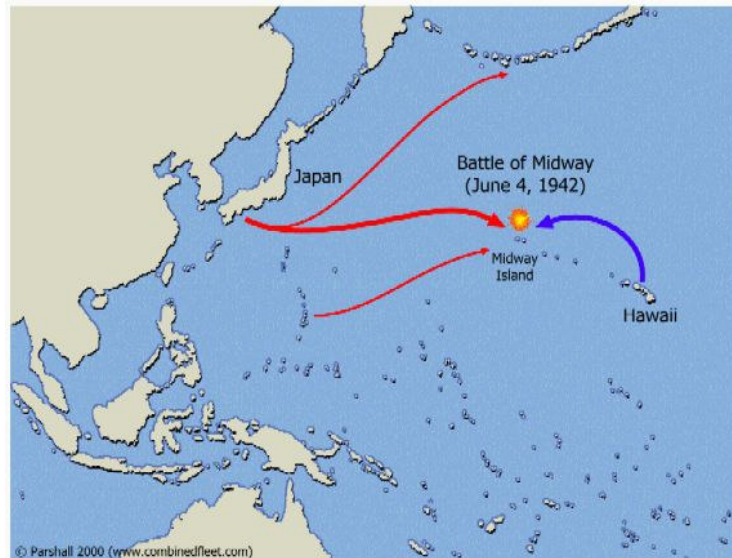
**But**

**In the Pacific Japan was still fighting the war**

**The U.S. Strategy for fighting in the Pacific Theater of War was**

# Battle of \_\_\_\_\_

**WAS**



Midway is the most remote of the Hawaiian Islands, 1,300 miles NW of Oahu, where Pearl Harbor is located. After the attack by Japan on Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941, the U.S. felt it was important to respond quickly to Japan. On April 1, 1942, four months after the attack on Pearl Harbor, the U.S. send a powerful message to Japan and its people by bombing them in what is known as the Doolittle raid. This event both surprised the Japanese leaders and people, who had always been told that Japan was not vulnerable to an attack by the U.S. or any of the Allies. Because of the Doolittle Raid, the Japanese people began to question the idea that they could not be attacked.

# The Manhattan Project

On 2nd August, 1939, three Jewish scientists who had fled to the United States from Europe, Albert Einstein, Leo Szilard and Eugene Wigner, wrote a joint letter to President Franklin D. Roosevelt, about the developments that had been taking place in nuclear physics. They warned Roosevelt that scientists in Nazi Germany were working on the possibility of using uranium to produce nuclear weapons.



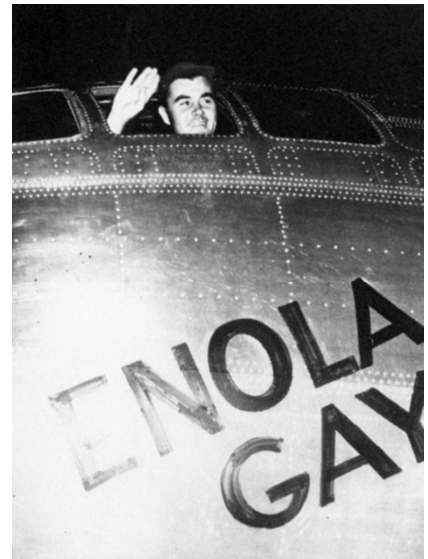
The Manhattan Project was the name given to the

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The Enola Gay was the name of the plane that dropped the bomb on Japan.



The 1942 to 1945 U.S. research project, directed by General Leslie Groves, to create an atomic bomb

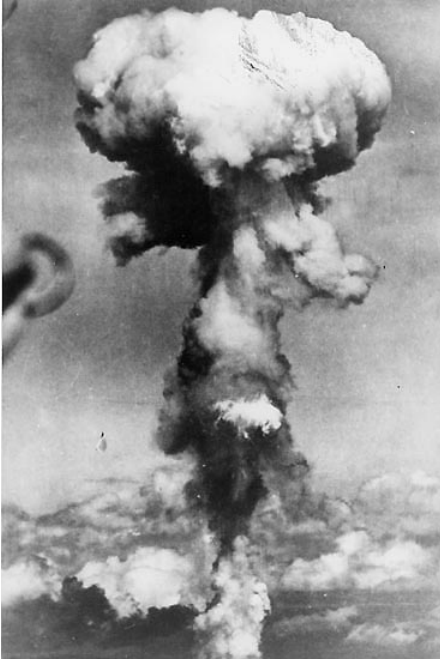
Write one questions from this worksheet that you think would be on a test?

Q. \_\_\_\_\_

A. \_\_\_\_\_

# Hiroshima and Nagasaki

August 6 and 9, 1945



"My God, what have we done?"

- Robert Lewis, the co-pilot of the Enola Gay, the B-29 that dropped the first atomic bomb.

## Hiroshima, August 6, 1945

The atomic bomb has been used only twice in warfare. The first was at Hiroshima. A uranium bomb nicknamed "Little Boy", despite weighing over four and a half tons, was dropped on Hiroshima, Japan on August 6, 1945 at 8:15 a.m. The bomb was dropped from the Enola Gay. In an instant over 66,000 people were killed and 69,000 injured by the atomic explosion. The area of total vaporization from the atomic bomb blast measured one half mile in diameter and total destruction one mile in diameter.

## Nagasaki, August 9, 1945

On August 9, 1945, Nagasaki fell to the same treatment. This time a Plutonium bomb nicknamed "Fat Man" was dropped on the city. Though "Fat Man" missed its target by over a mile and a half, it still leveled nearly half the city. In a split second, Nagasaki's population dropped from 422,000 to 383,000. Over 25,000 people were injured.

# **Japan surrender, August 10, 1945**

# Japan Hit By Atom Bomb--- Mightiest Weapon in History! Tokyo Admits Heavy Damage

## New Epoch in Science, War Single Missile Dropped---More Force Than 2000 B-29 Raid; Capitulation May Be Hastened

### Japs Cancel Rail Service Near Target

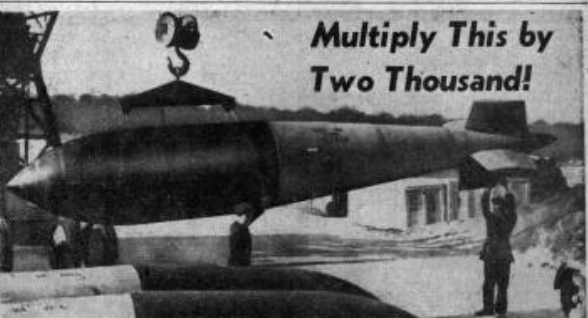
The Omaha table announced last night the manufacture of atomic trains in Hiroshima... The atomic train will be ready to be launched in any amount that might have resulted from it, however, the program was made of five days of explosive... Other Japanese broadcasts... 'The small atom' of Hiroshima had been raised by the 'small atom' of... August 7, 1945.

### 'Basic Power of Universe' Harnessed in Secret Tests; Truman Reveals the Story

By the Associated Press

WASHINGTON, Aug. 6—The most terrible destructive force ever harnessed by man—atomic energy—was today tested on the islands of Japan by United States bombers. The Japanese face a threat of utter devastation, and their capitulation may be greatly speeded up.

Evidence of the great new weapon was announced yesterday by President Truman in a statement issued through the White House at 8 a. m. Pacific war time. He said the first atomic bomb, invented and perfected in the United States, had been dropped on the Japanese army base at Hiroshima 10 hours before. That one bomb alone carried a weight more violent than 2000 B-29 Superfortresses normally could band an enemy city, using old-type TNT bombs.



20,000 TONS OF TNT—The easiest way for the imagination to grasp the meaning of the new atomic bomb's power is to compare it with other bombs. It packs a punch equivalent to 2000 of the monster British "Grand Slam" block-buster pictured above. The new bomb explodes with a greater force than 40,000,000 pounds of TNT. A single atom bomb has the weight equal to that of 2000 Superfortresses. Size of the new bomb has not been announced, except that "the explosive charge is exceedingly small."

# V-J Day Victory in Japan

## August 15, 1945

# World War II ends

EXTRA The Villager EXTRA

# PEACE!

## OUR BOMB CLINCHED IT!

### Plant Will Not Close! Japs Surrender

**Message from W. O. Simon**

**Food & Drug Stores Close Tomorrow**

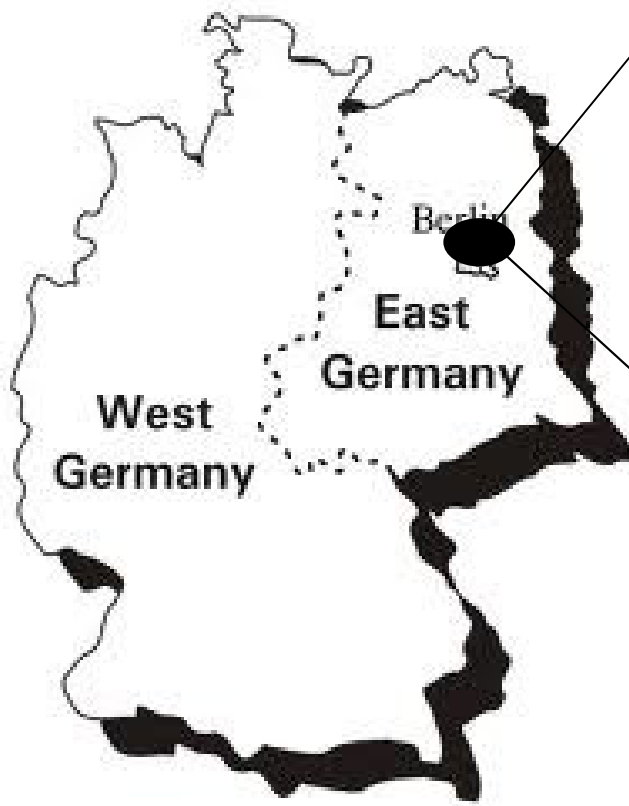
**"Our Bomb" Does the Job**

**Recent Laid Nine Awaken Village**

**"It's Peace"**

# Results of World War II World Wide

1. \_\_\_\_\_











## After World War II



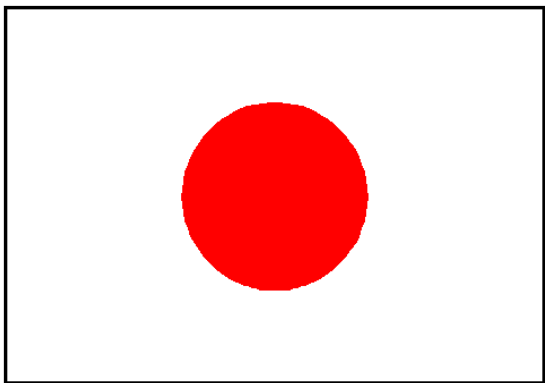
German Flag

Germany was split in half. East Germany became Communist and West Germany became democratic. A wall was built to divide Berlin and East and West Germany. In 1989, the wall came down when Communism fell. Germany went on to become a democratic country and relations between Germany and the United States improved.



Russian Flag

Russia continued to become a Communist country with an aggressive political attitude toward Eastern European countries where they took control of several countries and created Communist governments. This was the beginning of the Cold War. However, Communism eventually failed in 1989 leaving the United States as the world's only "Super Power."



Japanese Flag

Japan was taken over by American troops who introduced and preached democracy. Eventually, Japan accepted and embraced the idea of democracy and became a democratic country and friend of the United States.

# THE MARSHALL PLAN INVESTMENT IN PEACE

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*50th Anniversary*

*"Our policy is directed not against any country or doctrine but against hunger, poverty, desperation, and chaos. Its purpose should be the revival of a working economy in the world so as to permit the emergence of political and social conditions in which free institutions can exist." -- George C. Marshall*

Following World War II, Europe needed reconstruction of its economic and political system that was badly damaged by the war. Bridges, houses, roads, and factories were in ruins. The depletion of gold and dollar reserves made it difficult to get much-needed items for basic survival. Food shortages discouraged maximum efforts by a demoralized work force. Shortages of coal, steel, and other basic resources further made production difficult for European countries. The winter of 1946-47, the worst in modern memory, nearly wiped out earlier economic gains. Europe's future looked bleak.....

What was the Marshall Plan and list examples of what it wanted to accomplish?

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_

What was the name and the title of the person who came up with the Marshall Plan

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## How did World War II affect life in America during the war

1. \_\_\_\_\_

Thousands of women took jobs in defense plants during the war. Plant (factories) that once made automobiles now was making \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ to help our troops fight World War II. During the war about 18 million women worked in defense plants.



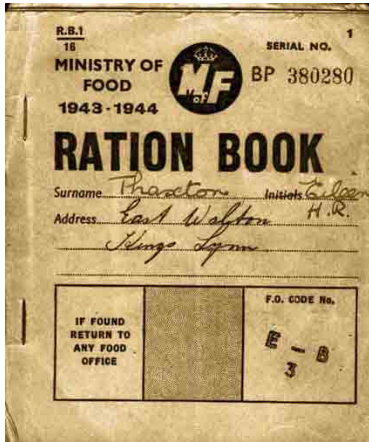
A poster of "Rosie the Riveter" became a famous symbol that encouraged women to support the war effort taking factory jobs.

(The real Rosie was a woman named Rose Will Monroe who worked in a Ford plant in Michigan building B-24 and B-29 bombers. Rosie died in 1997)

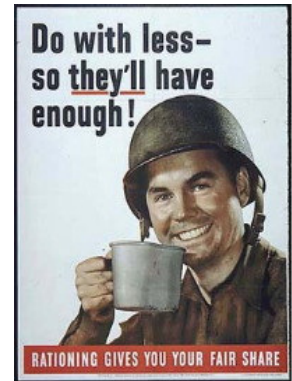


2.

Ration means



Americans were glad to "do without" at home so American troops had enough food and drinks

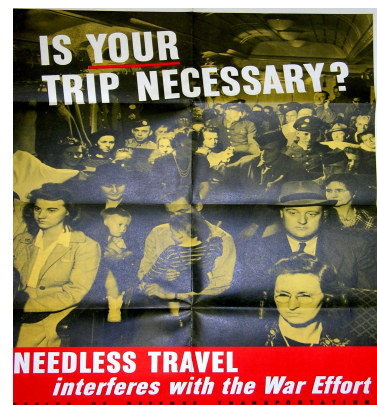


People rationed

\_\_\_\_\_ and

\_\_\_\_\_ were two big parts of a family's effort to contribute to the war effort by eating less and growing more.

Because the United States was cut off from some of its trading partners in the Far East and wartime production demanded extraordinary resources, the country faced the very real possibility of shortages. In order to prevent this, the government took an active role in limiting the purchase of some items and maintaining price controls.



3.

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**NOTICE TO ALL  
JAPANESE PERSONS  
AND PERSONS OF  
JAPANESE RACIAL ORIGIN**

TAKE NOTICE that under Orders Nos. 21, 22, 23 and 24 of the British Columbia Security Commission, the following areas were made prohibited areas to all persons of the Japanese race:—

LULU ISLAND (including Steveston)	SAPPERTON
SEA ISLAND	BURQUITLAM
EBURNE	PORT MOODY
MARPOLE	IOCO
DISTRICT OF QUEENSBOROUGH	PORT COQUITLAM
CITY OF NEW WESTMINSTER	MAILLARDVILLE FRASER MILLS

AND FURTHER TAKE NOTICE that any person of the Japanese race found within any of the said prohibited areas without a written permit from the British Columbia Security Commission or the Royal Canadian Mounted Police shall be liable to the penalties provided under Order in Council P.C. 1665.

AUSTIN C. TAYLOR,  
Chairman,  
British Columbia Security Commission



4.

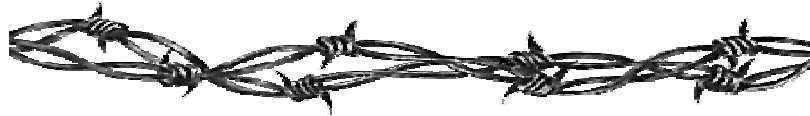
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- Many African Americans and whites worked together

5.

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- Factories that made cars were not making tanks, jeeps, and airplanes to support the war for the Allies.



# THE HOLOCAUST

What was Hitler trying to accomplish??



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## WHY?

1. It was a racial hatred, not a religious hatred. Hitler was influenced and developed his hatred of Jews during his early days in Vienna reading anti Semitic pamphlets and publications.
2. Many white collar workers were Jews, especially in the banks, and Hitler held them mostly responsible for the economic hardships of Germany.

1. Anti Semitism: \_\_\_\_\_

2. Aryan Supremacy: \_\_\_\_\_

3. Systematic attempt to rid Europe of all Jews. HOW?

a. \_\_\_\_\_

b. \_\_\_\_\_

c. \_\_\_\_\_

d. \_\_\_\_\_

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**Do not put in the notebook.**

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**This is just a reminder to leave this page blank**

**As we have learned, one of the results of the World War II  
was the beginning of the Cold War.**

**Our next lesson will be**

# **The Cold War...**

**It was more of a "Power Struggle" between the two  
most powerful countries in the world after  
World War II to try to influence the rest of the world  
to their way of government and economy.**

**The United States, who believed in Democracy**

**And**

**The Soviet Union, who believed in Communism**