**WWII (1939-1945)**

* Axis powers vs. Allied powers
  + Major Allied powers:
  + Major Axis powers:

**The Rise of Dictators in Europe**

* Benito Mussolini, Adolf Hitler, Josef Stalin – *how and why did these men become so powerful?*
  + The Treaty of Versailles – Treaty that ended World War I (1919)
    - Provisions:
    - Effects:
  + Europe between the wars/attitudes after WWI:
    - Germany
    - Italy and Japan
    - Soviet Union
    - France
    - Britain
* Benito Mussolini - ITALY
  + Rose to power by appealing to resentment Italians felt after WWI
  + Vowed to recapture glory of ancient Romans
  + Led the Fascist Party
  + Put an end to democratic rule in Italy
* Adolf Hitler – GERMANY
  + Germany angry and economically devastated after WWI
  + Hitler rises up the ranks of the Nazi party
    - Great Depression helps Nazis come to power
    - Hitler dreamed of…
  + Jan. 1933: Hitler appointed…
  + Nazi party begins to expand power
* Josef Stalin – SOVIET UNION
  + 1922: Bolshevik Revolution in Russia creates communist state – the Soviet Union
  + 1924: Josef Stalin takes over as communist leader of Soviet Union
    - To achieve goal of perfect communist state, he turned SU into…
  + Stalin and Hitler are ENEMIES
    - Many hoped that…

Timeline

* Jan. 1933: Hitler becomes chancellor of Germany
* Oct. 1933: Hitler pulls Germany out of the League of Nations
* March 1935: Hitler begins military buildup
  + Violation of the Treaty of Versailles!
* Oct. 1935: Italy invades…
* March 1936: Hitler sends troops to…
* Aug. 1936: Italy/Germany and Germany/Japan formalize alliances
* March 1938: Hitler annexes…
  + Wanted...
* May 1938: Hitler announces Germany’s right…
  + Falsely claimed…
* *The League of Nations did nothing to stop Hitler!*

The rest of Europe reacts

* Britain and France want to AVOID WAR
* Sept. 1938: **Munich Conference**
  + Britain, France, Germany, and Italy meet to discuss Germany and the Sudetenland – Czechoslovakia isn’t there!
  + Decision:
  + Neville Chamberlain’s policy was based on the following beliefs:

**Where is the US??**

* Most Americans are ISOLATIONISTS
  + US does NOT want to be pulled into WWII like we were pulled into WWI
  + Example: Charles Lindbergh’s “New York City” speech (see packet, pg. 9-11)
* 1935 – 1939: US Neutrality Acts
  + Prohibited shipment of US munitions to warring nations
  + Required warring nations that bought goods from America to buy with cash and transport goods on their own ships (**Cash and Carry** – 1937)
  + Forbade Americans to travel on vessels of warring nations
* Some Americans disagreed with isolationist position – FDR is one of them
  + 1937: FDR’s “Quarantine” speech (see packet, pg. 7-8)
    - Says…
    - FDR must retreat from interventionist stand

Despite Munich Conference… aggression continues

* March 1939: Hitler’s army seized…
* Hitler also making plans to invade….
  + Worried that it would anger…
* April 1939: Italy attacks and annexes…
* GB and Fr. say that an attack on Poland would mean war
  + Called on SU to join them in resisting further aggression
  + SU did something else instead
* Aug. 1939: **Soviet-German Non-Aggression Pact**
  + Reaction of leaders of Europe:
  + Why Hitler and Stalin signed it:

**WAR**

* **Sept. 1939: Germany invades Poland – START OF WWII**
  + Germany calls offensive a **“blitzkrieg”**
  + **2** days later, GB and Fr. declare war on Ger.
  + Sept. 17: Soviet troops move in and occupy eastern Poland
  + **FDR disclaims official policy of neutrality** - calls for revision of US Neutrality Acts
    - Compromise of Congress: US allowed to sell…
  + *This is the best deal FDR can get*
* SU occupied independent nations Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, and demanded right to military bases in Finland
  + Finland refuses – SU attacks
* April/May 1940: Hitler attacks…
* May 26 – June 3, 1940: **Evacuation of Dunkirk**
  + w/ collapse of Belgium, Allied troops retreated to port of Dunkirk in NW corner of France on English Channel
  + Trapped b/t….
  + Figured they’d have 48 hrs to evacuate – 48,000 ppl max could get out?
    - If Allies lose too many soldiers, the war will be close to over!
  + What actually happened:
* June 14, 1940: **Germans march into Paris – FRANCE FALLS**
  + What happened and why it matters:
  + Who is left standing of the Allied Powers?
* June-Oct 1940: **The Battle of Britain**
  + Germany targets GB w/ air attacks while they plan land invasion
  + Outcome:
* Sept. 7, 1940 – May 1941: **The Blitz** of London
  + Germany tries to bomb GB into submission
  + Outcome:

**NOW where is the US?**

* Nov. 1940: FDR up for election
  + Promised to pursue peace
  + BUT increasingly alarmed by German and Japanese aggression
  + Begins to prepare US defenses for likely conflict
* US supplies flowed to GB, but they were low on cash
  + Late 1940: **Lend-Lease**

**Meanwhile in Europe…**

* June 1941: **Hitler attacks the Soviet Union**
  + Hitler got greedy – always dreamed of conquering SU
  + AND wanted access to oil fields in SU
  + Why it’s important:

**Aggression in Asia**

* 1930s: Military establishes control over the gov’t
* **Japan wants a vast colonial empire**
* 1931: Japan launches…
  + 1933: League of Nations recommends Japan withdraw troops from Manchuria and restore its sovereignty
    - Japan’s reaction:
* Dec. 1937 – March 1938: **Rape of Nanking**
  + Japanese troops sack…
  + Description:
* Sept. 22 – 26, 1940: Japan invades French Indochina
  + US places an embargo on Japan – no trade of steel, scrap iron, or aviation fuel
  + Why the US did this:
  + Effect on Japan:
* Japan decides to….

