

World War II

1939 - 1945: Can America defeat two world powers at the same time? In two almost separate wars?





Rise of Dictators

Adolf Hitler: leader of the Nazi Party, believed that Germans were a superior race

After the Great Depression raised unemployment in Germany, the Nazis gained in popularity. Hitler's *Mein Kampf* gave some Germans a sense of hope; 1933 - Hitler is appointed Chancellor in hopes of controlling him and his political party; However after a fire at the Reichstag and turmoil in the German leadership he was given emergency dictatorial powers

All of Germany will be put under Nazi control and if they refused or challenged the new regime they were closed. The Army took an oath of loyalty to Hitler and anyone opposing his power was sent to concentration camps or sentence to death (mostly rich German elite)



The Failure of the League of Nations and Appeasement

League of Nations - failed

Hitler would expand into the Rhineland, Japan will attack China in Manchuria, Italy will attack Ethiopia for resources, Germany, Italy and the Soviet Union take part in aiding the Spanish Civil War

(Leaders: Hitler, Mussolini, Tojo, Stalin, Franco, F.D.R, Chamberlain (replaced by Winston Churchill))

Appeasement: Britain and France meet with Hitler at the Munich Conference: attempt to appease Hitler and avoid a war by giving him part of Czechoslovakia 1938. This only reaffirms Hitler's belief that Germans are superior and Western Powers are weak and will not stop him.

Neville Chamberlain - Appeasement Works



World War II Begins..

Nazi invasion of Poland: After Hitler signs the Nazi Soviet Pact with Stalin, he orders an immediate invasion of Poland in September 1939. France and Britain will immediately declare war on Germany.

*Nazi-Soviet Pact was a nonaggression pact between the two countries; neutrality would remain and they would split a vulnerable Poland





World War II Begins..

Blitzkrieg Warfare - new German tactics based on coordinated use of airplanes, tanks, and motorized troop movements. This rapid advance was nicknamed “blitzkrieg” which is translated as lightning war



World War II Begins..

The Fall of Poland: Invaded in early September 1939 - under German control by September 27th

France and Britain declare war September 3rd

As you have seen, on September 1st, 1939, the German armies, without warning, blitzed into Poland. The Nazi bid to smash the world into slavery was on.

World War II Begins..

The Fall of France: April 1940
Germany attacks Denmark and Norway, invades Holland and Belgium to defeat France in May. German's will attack at **Dunkirk** and the British face total destruction of their military



World War II Begins..



Battle of Britain: Hitler sends the Luftwaffe to destroy the RAF and take Britain (Operation Sea Lion); **Radar** and skilled British fighter pilots will keep the Germans from succeeding



U.S. Neutrality

Neutrality Acts of 1935-1937 were aimed at keeping the U.S. out of the war in Europe.

35-36 - prohibited America from sending arms to countries at war (Spanish Civil War)

37 - Americans could not travel on ships of countries at war; Cash and Carry est.

Quarantine Speech was delivered after the invasion of China 1937; Roosevelt was “testing the waters” of public opinion; proposed isolating nations that violated treaties and attacked civilians (not well received)

Neutrality Act of 1937 expanded “cash and carry” to include the sale of arms; meant to aid Britain who was fighting the Germans alone

March 1941 Lend Lease is est. U.S. could lend or lease arms to Britain and they could pay for them or return them after the war

Roosevelt’s **Four Freedoms** promised Americans freedom of speech and expression, freedom of religion, freedom from want and freedom from fear.

August 1941 **Atlantic Charter** was agreed upon by Roosevelt and Churchill before America's entry into the war. Planned for a postwar world.

The Home Front




Selective Service System: draft; 15 million Americans will serve in the armed forces.

Women enlisted as WACS and WAVES (Women's Army Corps 1942; Navy: Women Accepted for Volunteer Emergency Service 1942) Women provided many valuable contributions serving as: plotting aircraft paths, radio operator/telephone switchboard, supplies, driver, stenographers/typists/clerks; 57,000 served as Army Nurse Corps

Minorities: one million African Americans served in segregated units; **Tuskegee Airmen** served as fighter pilots in Europe; **Navajo Code Talkers** formed secret codes and were an invaluable resource in defeating the Japanese in the Pacific

Japanese Americans were relocated under **Executive Order 9066** they were sent to internment camps away from the West Coast and would stay there for the duration of the war. A Japanese American **Fred Korematsu**, sued the federal government but the Supreme Court upheld Roosevelt's order.

The Home Front



Many government agencies were established/re-established to promote the war effort. The **War Production Board** was placed in charge of production: liberty tanks, liberty ships. Steel, copper, and aluminum were reserved for military production. Gas, food, rubber were a few of the supplies that were **mandatorily** rationed. Victory Gardens now named Liberty Gardens were grown all over the United States. Americans were encouraged to **“Mend and Make Do”** - no waste, use what you have and not overindulge

Increased personal income taxes and **war bonds** were used to pay for the war

Office of War Information was in charge of maintaining popular support for the war

Braceros Programs recruited Hispanic workers in Mexico and LA to migrate and work in fields and factories; these immigrants were met with nativism and the conflict would turn violent in Los Angeles; these violent attacks were nicknamed **Zoot Suit Riots** after the fashionable dress Hispanic immigrants in the city



Propaganda

DUCKTATORS

1942



COMMANDO DUCK



The Home Front

DEMOCRACY



Unlike WW1 - Civil Rights activism was prevalent during WW2. **A. Philip Randolph** planned a **March on Washington** to assure and protect jobs for African Americans

Roosevelt met with Randolph and would go on to issue **Executive Order 8802** this opened all federal jobs and defense contract positions open to all African Americans. His actions would prevent a march

The **Double V Campaign** - double victory over nazism abroad and racism at home - was published in the Pittsburgh Courier; this belief encouraged many African Americans to support the war effort and enlistment

The Holocaust



Nazi **anti semitism** led to the Holocaust; Nazi's passed Nuremberg Laws to segregate Jews and limit their rights. IN 1938, their synagogues and businesses were closed or destroyed. Following **Kristallnacht** (the Night of Broken Glass) Jewish citizens and they were forced to pay fines for the "conditions" of their businesses/buildings

After Poland was taken in 1939 - Jews in both countries were moved into **ghettos** within these communities they were starved to death and disease spread quickly

1941 - Jews are forced to wear a yellow star on their clothing

1942 - the Nazi's adopt the **Final Solution** the extermination of all undesirables in Europe; death camps like Auschwitz and Birkenau

The Holocaust



Attack on Pearl Harbor

September 1940 - Japan joins Germany and Italy; Japan is struggling after an embargo issued by the United States in response to aggression in the Pacific on China and the East Indies.

Japan will plan a surprise attack on American forces at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii **December 7, 1941** -

“a date that will live in infamy”

Germany and Italy will declare war on the United States



The War in Europe

Germany becomes America's priority - they are believed to be the greater threat

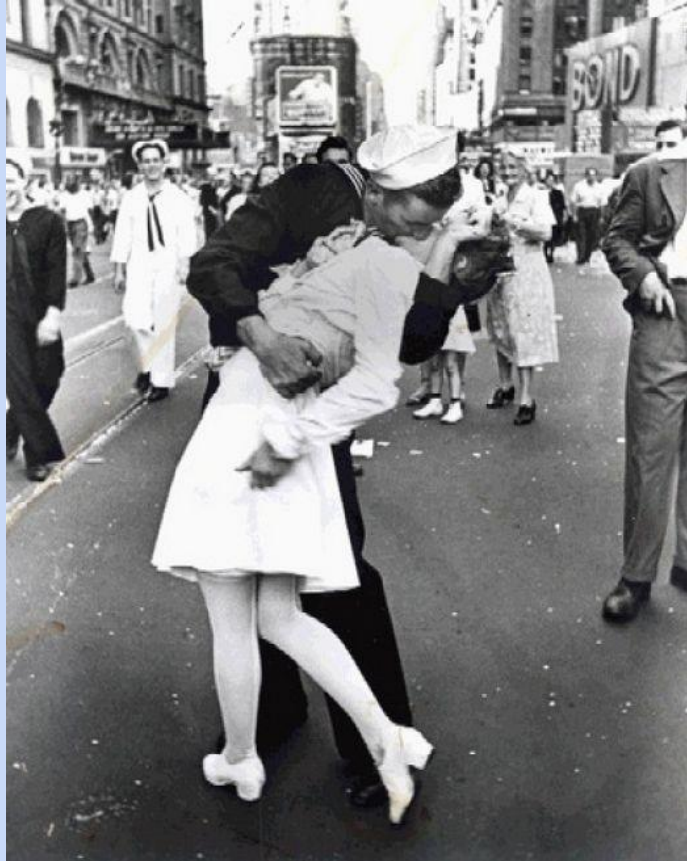
British and American forces will land in **North Africa** in 1942 - they will quickly defeat German and Italian forces; after this victory forces will move towards Sicily - another victory for Allied forces; as Mussolini's government starts to fall **Allied** forces land in Salerno, Italy on September 9, 1943 - they will encounter a fierce German fighting force. By September 15th - **Salerno is under Allied control.**

At the same time that Allied forces land in Salerno - the Soviet forces defeat the German Army at Stalingrad; **this is the turning point of the war in Europe****

June 6, 1944 - American and British forces land at **Normandy: D-Day** Lead by Gen. Eisenhower is Supreme Commander

By July Allied forces have reached and liberated Paris;

The War in Europe



The last German counter attack will come at the Battle of the Bulge; the German Army will fail

Allied forces march into Germany from the West and the Soviet Army from the East.

Soviet forces enter Berlin in April of 1945; under pressure Fuhrer Adolf Hitler commits suicide in an underground bunker

Germany will officially surrender on **May 7, 1945 - VE Day** (Victory in Europe)

Six years after the start of the war in Europe; Allied forces are victorious

The War in the Pacific

After the attack on Pearl Harbor, Japanese forces move quickly in the Pacific.

Attacking Manila, to the horror of the American people, those who surrendered will be tortured on the **Bataan Death March**



"Bataan Death March" by Ben Steele



The War in the Pacific

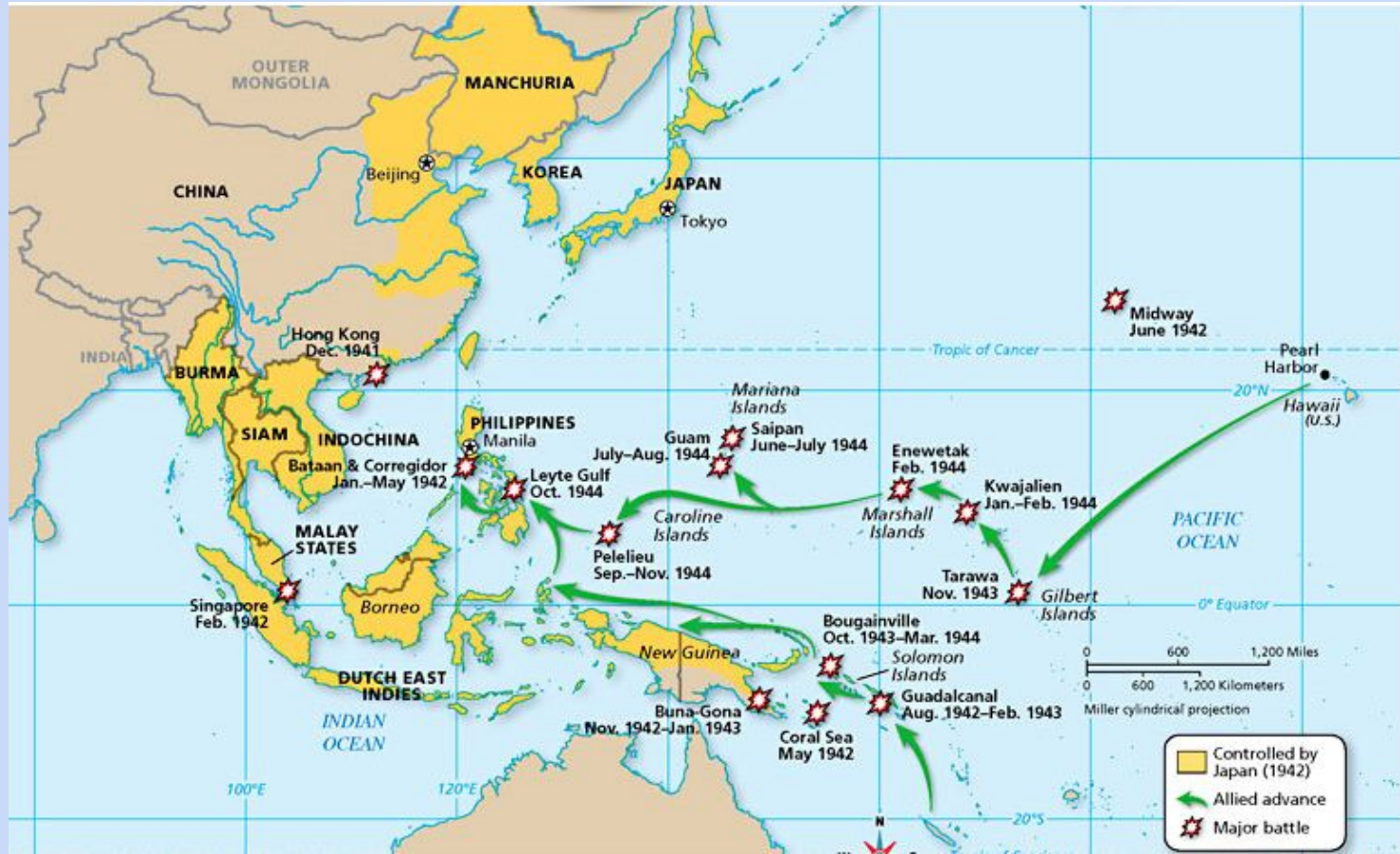


May 1942 - Japanese and American aircraft carriers meet at the Battle of Coral Sea; a tactical victory for the Japanese; strategic victory for America


A few months later, they will meet again at Midway; based on numbers and previous conflict many fear that the Japanese will take Midway Island and have a strong hold, headed toward the United States. However, unwavering courage from the America Navy leads to a unanimous victory. The first decisive victory for America in the Pacific will kick off a series of **island hopping** attacks taking back or claiming territories in the Pacific headed for main land Japan. And a promise kept by General MacArthur to return to the Philippines.

The War in the Pacific

The Island hopping campaign will lead to Japanese defeat at:



The War in the Pacific



Albert Einstein left Germany seeking asylum from Hitler's increasing hostilities on Jews in Germany. As an intellect and Jew he was in extreme danger under Hitler's Third Reich

In 1933, while on a trip to America Einstein makes the choice to revoke his citizenship in Germany and stay in the United States. After arriving Einstein warns that the Germans are developing a bomb capable of mass destruction. The atomic bomb - under this advisement F.D.R. and his closest cabinet members will keep the best kept secret in history - the **Manhattan Project** - under the direction of Dr. Oppenheimer America will test our first bomb in New Mexico in 1945

August 6: Little Boy was dropped on Hiroshima, Japan killing hundreds of thousands; still no surrender

August 9: Fat Man was dropped on Nagasaki, Japan killing hundreds of thousands more

Days later August 14/15- Japan surrenders, VJ-Day (Victory over Japan)

World War II in Florida

During the war, U-boats sunk multiple ships off the coast of Florida; many German saboteurs were captured and executed.

\$98 Billion was spent to further the war effort in Florida: training and preparation would lead to Camp Blanding being the 4th largest city in the state

Liberty ships were built in Florida shipyards, orange juice, cattle and other agricultural products were sold by Florida farmers to the armed forces. DDT will be used as an insecticide to kill mosquitoes



Consequences of World War II



Nuremberg Trials - Nazi leaders were tried by an international tribunal of allied judges for **Crimes against Humanity**, most convicted were executed

Germany was divided into 4 occupation zones; Japan was occupied by America

The League of Nations became the **United Nations** a new peacekeeping organization, the UN was made of a Security Council, General Assembly, Secretariat

GI Bill of Rights - U.S. veterans benefit program

Mary Mcleod Bethune and **Eleanor Roosevelt** both contributed to the creation of the United Nations. The United Nations General Assembly would go on to draft the **Universal Declaration of Human Rights**

The End of WW2 would not be the end of conflict for the United States - only the beginning of a global conflict = Cold War