

CHAPTER 16

World War II

A Second World War began in 1939, less than 21 years after the end of the Great War. The United States played a much larger role in World War II than it had in World War I. But it again escaped the devastation that left much of Europe and Asia in ruins.

U.S. FOREIGN POLICY BETWEEN WARS

After World War I, many ordinary Americans favored a policy of *isolationism*—remaining aloof from involvement overseas. Most of the nation's political leaders, however, realized that the United States was now a leading power and could not remain uninvolved in world affairs.

1. Republican Diplomacy. Although the United States was not a member of the League of Nations, it took part in international conferences and agreements.

a. Washington Naval Conference. The Warren G. Harding administration organized the Washington Naval Conference of 1921–1922. Delegates from nine nations discussed Asian affairs and reductions in naval strength. The five leading naval powers—the United States, Britain, Japan, France, and Italy—agreed to limit the number of their battleships, aircraft carriers, and heavy cruisers for ten years. Conference delegates also pledged to guarantee China's independence and to continue an Open Door Policy there.

b. Dawes Plan. The United States also played a role in European affairs. In the early 1920s, Germany had trouble making reparation payments to France. President Calvin Coolidge appointed a commission headed by Charles Dawes to work out a solution. The Dawes Plan provided for foreign loans to Germany so that it could make its payments.

c. Kellogg-Briand Pact. A high point of international cooperation in the 1920s was the Kellogg-Briand Pact of 1928. It was sponsored by U.S. Secretary of State Frank Kellogg and the French

Foreign Minister Aristide Briand. Most nations signed this agreement to outlaw war as a way of settling international disputes. The Kellogg-Briand Pact, however, included no provision for enforcement of its provisions.

d. Policy toward Latin America. Under Harding and Coolidge, the United States continued to intervene in Latin America as it had during the Progressive era. (See the map and table on pages 270–271.) U.S. troops, in Nicaragua since 1912, were withdrawn in 1925 but were sent back a year later. Haiti remained a U.S. protectorate throughout the 1920s. U.S. Marines stationed in the Dominican Republic since 1916 were finally withdrawn in 1924.

President Herbert Hoover, however, opposed *interventionism*. As president-elect, he urged the nations of the Western Hemisphere to treat one another “as good neighbors.” He later refrained from interfering when troubles broke out in Cuba, Panama, and El Salvador. He also ordered the withdrawal of U.S. troops from Nicaragua before he left office in 1933. Hoover’s treatment of Latin American countries is called the *Good Neighbor Policy*.

2. Changes Under Roosevelt. FDR became president in 1933, during the Great Depression. Many people felt that high U.S. tariffs (such as the Hawley-Smoot Tariff of 1930) had contributed to the Depression. The Roosevelt administration set up the Export-Import Bank, which made loans to stimulate foreign trade. The Trade Agreements Act allowed the president to lower tariffs on specific items by as much as 50 percent, without congressional approval. By 1939, tariffs had been reduced by about 30 percent.

Ever since the Bolshevik revolution of 1917, Americans had been suspicious of the Soviets. Between 1918 and 1920, U.S. troops had even aided anti-Soviet Russians in their attempt to overthrow the Bolsheviks. Over the years, however, fear of a Communist revolution in the United States had lessened. In 1933, at the urging of farmers and business leaders who wanted to trade with the Soviet Union, Roosevelt established diplomatic relations with that country.

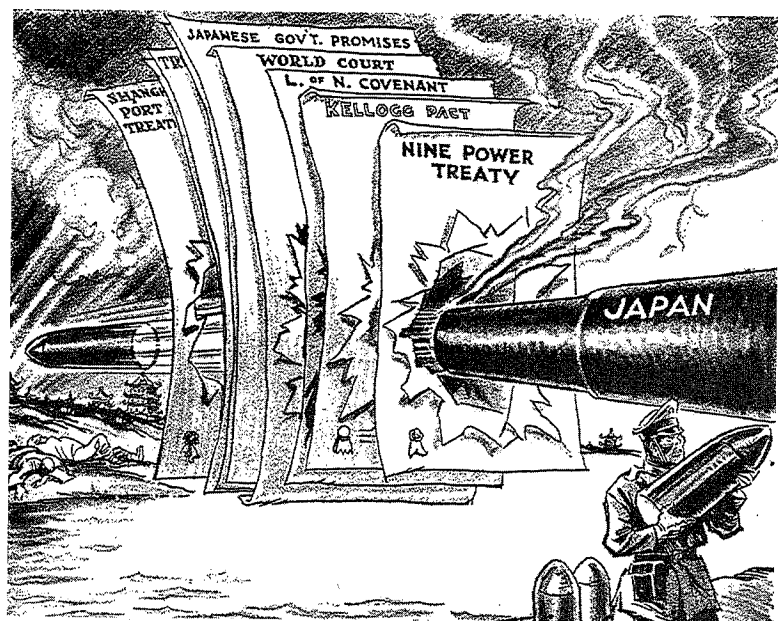
Roosevelt expanded the Good Neighbor Policy. In 1934, he pulled U.S. troops out of Haiti. That same year, the United States also revoked the Platt Amendment, thereby surrendering its right to intervene in Cuba.

THE COMING OF WAR

In spite of its domestic problems, the United States maintained a stable government. Japan, Italy, Germany, and other countries, however, experienced upheavals.

1. Militarism in Japan. After World War I, a prosperous Japan began to move toward democracy. Its *Diet* (Japanese parliament) gained greater power, and all men over 25 were granted the vote. Unfortunately, the Great Depression all but wiped out Japan's silk trade. People lost faith in the ability of the Diet to restore their prosperity. Many Japanese viewed as a national insult their country's 1922 agreement at the naval conference in Washington to limit its warships.

In 1931, Japanese military units seized the Chinese province of Manchuria. When the League of Nations condemned this aggression, Japan withdrew from membership. From then on, Japan's military leaders gained greater control over the country. Weakened by a revolution in 1911, China became a target for Japan's militarism. In 1937, Japanese troops moved south from Manchuria into China. When the United States protested against this violation of the Open Door Policy, Japan declared that it no longer accepted that policy. For the next eight years, Japan waged an undeclared war against China.



The Japanese invasion of Manchuria in 1931 signaled a new policy of militarism that would bring Japan and the United States into direct conflict within ten years.

2. Fascism in Europe. Dictatorships that rose to power in Europe during the 1920s and 1930s also adopted an aggressive foreign policy.

a. Italy's Mussolini. After World War I, Italy was disrupted by labor unrest and fear of a Communist revolution. A political leader named Benito Mussolini gained wide support by promising order and a return to the glories of the ancient Roman Empire. In 1922, he led his private soldiers in a march on Rome and was soon made prime minister.

Mussolini preached a doctrine called *fascism*, which glorified the nation at the expense of the individual. Citizens were expected to fight and die for the state. Fascist Italy was one of the first *totalitarian states*. Regimes of this type keep a close watch over people's activities, often through spies and hidden microphones and cameras. Government-controlled mass media subject citizens to constant propaganda.

b. Germany's Hitler. Like Italy, Germany had troubles after the war. It was greatly weakened by the worldwide depression. Many Germans deeply resented the Versailles Treaty. It had branded Germany as the sole power responsible for World War I and had burdened the Germans with heavy reparations.

Adolf Hitler, an Austrian-born veteran of World War I, argued that political leaders, foreigners, and Jews had sold out the German people. Hitler's new party, called the National Socialists, or Nazis, aimed to revive the German Empire. During the early 1930s, the Nazis became a powerful force in the *Reichstag* (German parliament). Because of that, Hitler became the German chancellor in 1933. Within a year, he ruled Germany as dictator.

Nazism, a form of fascism, was particularly vicious because of its racial policies. According to Hitler, the Germans were a master race, destined to control such "inferior peoples" as Slavs, Jews, and Gypsies. Hitler exploited German *anti-Semitism*—hatred of Jews and discrimination against them—and made laws that deprived Jews of their rights and property.

3. A String of Aggressions. From 1935 through 1939, Mussolini and Hitler made a series of aggressive moves that brought on World War II.

a. Initial moves. In 1935, Mussolini attacked the African state of Ethiopia. Italy's advanced weapons enabled it to defeat the Ethiopians in a few months. The League took little action. That same year, Hitler defied the Versailles Treaty by announcing that he

would rearm Germany. He had already taken his country out of the League of Nations. The following spring (1936), Hitler marched troops into the Rhineland. This German area along the French border was supposed to be free of military installations. But Hitler built fortifications there.

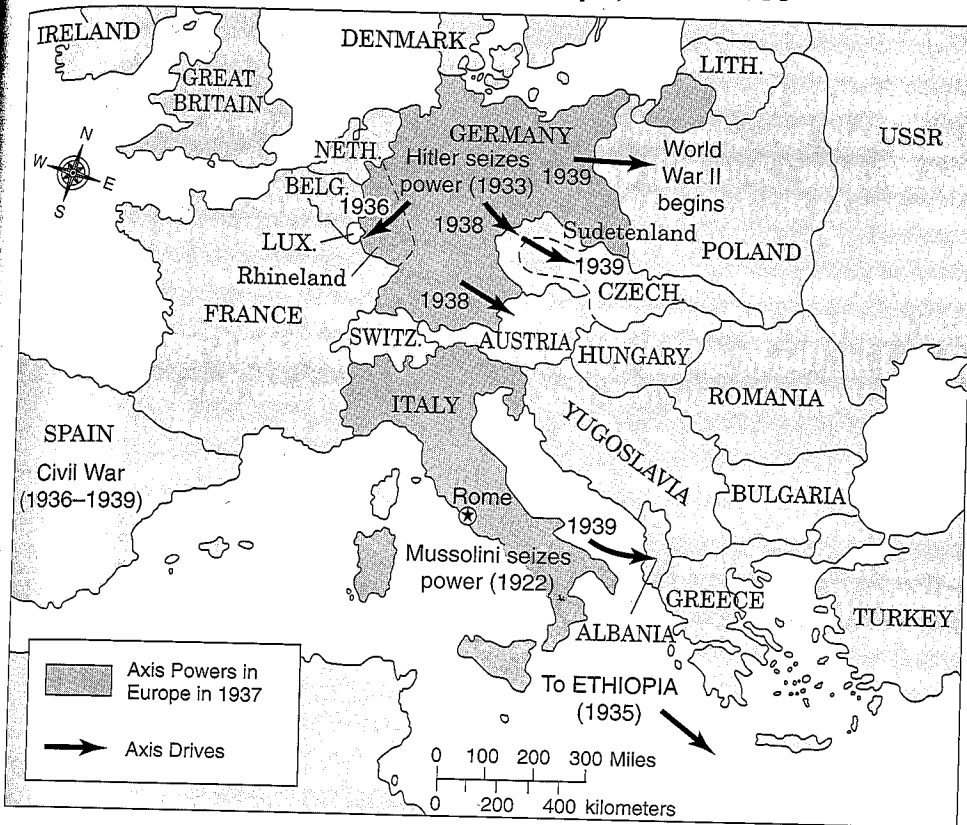
b. *The Spanish Civil War.* During the summer of 1936, Francisco Franco led the Nationalists in an uprising against the forces of the Spanish government, known as Loyalists or Republicans. Both Italy and Germany sent troops and planes to help Franco. Although many people in the United States, Britain, and France sympathized with the Loyalists, the three democracies declared themselves neutral. None sent aid. Only the Soviet Union sent arms to the Loyalist cause. It also helped organize an International Brigade of volunteer soldiers from several countries, including the United States. Franco's forces defeated the Loyalists in 1939 and set up a Fascist dictatorship.

c. *Final march to war.* In 1936, Mussolini and Hitler signed an alliance called the Rome-Berlin Axis. In 1940, Japan joined the alliance, which then became known as the Rome-Berlin-Tokyo Axis. Early in 1938, Hitler annexed Austria with the support of Nazis in Austria. The *annexation* (takeover), in violation of the Versailles Treaty, gave Germany a better position from which to control the rest of Central Europe.

Hitler then demanded that Germany be allowed to annex the Sudetenland, border areas of Czechoslovakia where many Germans lived. Representatives of France, Britain, and Italy met with Hitler in the fall of 1938. Britain and France were so afraid of provoking war that, without consulting Czechoslovakia, they let Hitler have his way. This policy of making concessions to aggressors to keep the peace became known as *appeasement*. The German dictator promised that this would be his last territorial demand. Six months later, Germany took over the rest of Czechoslovakia.

By early 1939, France and Britain realized that Hitler and Mussolini would have to be stopped by force. In the spring of 1939, Italy invaded Albania and soon annexed it. Hitler's next target was Poland. In August, he signed a *nonaggression pact* with Joseph Stalin, dictator of the Soviet Union. The two countries agreed not to attack each other. This pact left Hitler free to act against Poland, the Soviet Union's western neighbor. On September 1, 1939, Germany launched an all-out attack on Poland. Two days later, Britain and France declared war on Germany. World War II had begun.

Axis Aggression in Europe, 1935-1939



IDENTIFY OR DEFINE: isolationism, Good Neighbor Policy, fascism, Nazism, anti-Semitism, Sudetenland, appeasement.

CRITICAL THINKING: What is the relationship between economic problems and the rise of Nazism in Germany and fascism in Italy?

EARLY YEARS OF THE CONFLICT

Germany battered Poland with dive bombers, artillery, and tanks. The Germans called such a combined assault *blitzkrieg* (lightning war). While the Germans attacked Poland from the west, Soviet troops attacked it from the east. Poland surrendered late in September. The two invaders then divided the nation between them.

1. Western Europe. In the spring of 1940, Germany suddenly launched other blitzkriegs, toward the north and west. By the end of May, the Germans had overrun Denmark, Norway, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, and Belgium. German forces then pushed into France, which fell in 17 days.

Britain now stood alone. The bravery of their new prime minister, Winston Churchill, inspired the British to withstand punishing attacks. In the fall of 1940, the German *Luftwaffe* (air force) began a series of massive air raids on London and other British industrial centers and ports. This Battle of Britain was designed to knock out the country's defenses and soften British resistance to an invasion. Foiled by the Royal Air Force's valiant defense, the Germans abandoned their plan.

2. Fighting Elsewhere. German forces now occupied Romania, and Italy invaded Greece. By the spring of 1941, both Greece and Yugoslavia had fallen. At the same time, the Axis began to attack British possessions in North Africa. The Axis goal was to gain control of the Suez Canal and the oil fields of the Middle East. For months, the advantage swung from one side to the other.

Meanwhile, Hitler, ignoring his treaty with Stalin, invaded the Soviet Union in June 1941. German armored divisions quickly overran Ukraine and reached the outskirts of Moscow and Leningrad. The Soviet Union, now an ally of Britain, fought the Germans to a standstill during the winter of 1941-1942. But the Axis could look back on two years of warfare and see little but success.

3. U.S. Neutrality. Between 1935 and 1937, Congress passed several Neutrality Acts. Among other things, they (1) banned the export of arms to countries at war, (2) authorized the president to require warring powers to pay cash for U.S. goods and to transport the cargoes in their own ships, and (3) banned loans to nations at war.

In 1939, when World War II broke out, Congress revised the neutrality laws. The Allies could now buy weapons as well as other U.S. goods on a cash-and-carry basis. In 1941, Congress passed the Lend-Lease Act. It authorized the president to sell, exchange, lease, or lend articles of defense to any nation he considered vital to U.S. security. It extended to the Allies lend-lease aid valued at more than \$50 billion.

The United States also prepared for its own defense. Congress set aside money to strengthen the armed forces. In 1940, it passed the Selective Service Act, the first peacetime program of compulsory military service in U.S. history. The United States traded 50 old de-

stroyers to Britain in return for the lease of naval and air bases on British possessions in the Western Hemisphere.

4. Pearl Harbor. In 1940, after the fall of France, the Japanese had started moving into French Indochina in Southeast Asia. Soon afterward, Japan joined the Axis alliance. In response, the United States banned the export of steel and scrap iron to Japan. Later, the U.S. embargo was extended to include oil and airplane fuel as well. The United States also stepped up its aid to China.

U.S. neutrality came to an abrupt end in December 1941. On December 7, Japanese planes launched a surprise attack on Pearl Harbor, the U.S. naval base in Hawaii. They killed more than 2,000 Americans and destroyed 15 ships and 150 planes. The next day, President Roosevelt asked Congress to declare war on Japan. He called December 7 "a date which will live in infamy." On December 11, Germany and Italy declared war on the United States.

5. The American Home Front. Americans mobilized for World War II more completely than they had for World War I. All men between 18 and 45 were now subject to military service. During the war, more



Many African-American workers, such as these at a shipyard, made valuable contributions to the war effort.

than 16 million served in the armed forces, most of them overseas. A total of about 285,000 women joined the military, performing non-combat duties. Some 75,000 women served as Army and Navy nurses.

a. War production. American industry tooled up to produce airplanes, guns, tanks, and ships. War plants operated 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. More than 20 million people worked in key war industries. This total included millions of women. They took over many jobs that had previously been open only to men. The GDP rose to more than \$200 billion, and the national debt to some \$260 billion.

To finance the war, Americans invested billions of dollars in war bonds. Taxes were increased. A part of each worker's earnings was deducted in the form of withholding taxes. This system replaced the older method of paying income taxes in one lump sum. The government rationed such items as food, shoes, gasoline, and fuel oil. Millions of Americans collected paper and scrap metal for the war effort.

b. Relocation of Japanese Americans. Early in 1942, U.S. government authorities decided that people of Japanese ancestry living near the Pacific Coast might aid Japan if it invaded the U.S. mainland. Orders were issued to move them to *internment camps* inland. More than 110,000 Japanese Americans were uprooted. Given short notice of the transfer, many of them had to sell their homes and businesses at rock-bottom prices. Two-thirds of them were Ameri-



After the attack on Pearl Harbor, the U.S. government moved many Japanese Americans away from the West Coast. Most had to spend the rest of the war in internment camps.

can-born citizens. No Japanese American anywhere in the United States was ever found guilty of working for an enemy. In fact, thousands of Japanese Americans enlisted in the U.S. armed forces and fought with distinction.

After the war, Japanese Americans who had been interned received compensation for their sufferings that amounted to roughly 10 percent of the value of their claims. In 1983, a congressional commission blamed "racial prejudice, war hysteria, and failure of political leadership" for the internment. Five years later, the government granted \$20,000 tax-free to each living former internee.

IDENTIFY OR DEFINE: blitzkrieg, Neutrality Acts, Lend-Lease, Selective Service, Pearl Harbor, internment camp.

CRITICAL THINKING: To what extent was the United States at war with the Axis powers before its official declaration of war in December 1941?

ALLIED VICTORY IN EUROPE AND AFRICA

When the United States entered the war in 1941, Britain and the Soviet Union had their backs to the wall. Soon, however, thousands of U.S. merchant ships carrying weapons and supplies were steaming across the Atlantic in Navy-protected convoys. And millions of GIs (U.S. soldiers) were arriving in the British Isles.

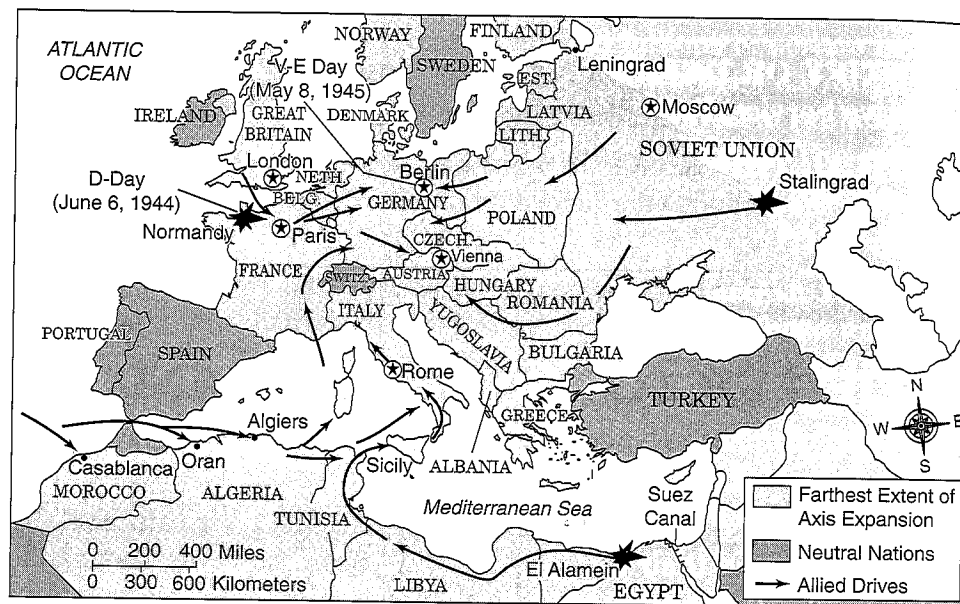
In the spring and summer of 1942, the Allies began massive bombing raids of their own. Their targets were enemy industrial centers and military installations. This was the first step in the Allied counteroffensive.

1. The Soviet Union. By the fall of 1942, a huge Axis army had driven 1,000 miles into the Soviet Union to the outskirts of Stalingrad. There, the Soviet Army made its stand, defeating their German attackers in February 1943 at the Battle of Stalingrad. The Germans alone lost 200,000 to 300,000 troops. After this decisive victory, the Soviet forces began to drive the enemy back toward Germany.

2. North Africa. Early in 1942, Axis forces in North Africa commanded by Erwin Rommel were threatening Britain's hold on Egypt. In the fall, the British, led by Bernard L. Montgomery,

defeated Rommel at El Alamein, in northern Egypt. They then pursued the retreating Germans westward across Libya. Meanwhile, in November 1942, British and U.S. troops under Dwight D. Eisenhower landed at Casablanca, Oran, and Algiers. Axis forces in North Africa were caught between Eisenhower's troops in the west and Montgomery's in the east. Rommel surrendered in May 1943. All of North Africa was now in Allied hands.

Allied Campaigns in Europe and North Africa, 1942–1945



3. Italy. In July 1943, a combined force of U.S., British, and Canadian troops captured the Italian island of Sicily. The attack brought on a political crisis in Italy, and Mussolini resigned. In September, the Allies invaded the Italian mainland. The Italian government surrendered, but German troops continued to defend the Italian peninsula. The Allies struggled northward, taking Naples in 1943 and Rome and Florence in 1944. At the very end of the war, in April 1945, Italian resistance fighters captured and executed Mussolini.

4. The Invasion of France. In 1944, the Allies crossed the English Channel for a full-scale attack on the Germans in France. The Allied forces stormed ashore onto the beaches of Normandy, France, on *D-Day* (June 6). Eisenhower directed this invasion, the largest land-air-sea operation in history.

After a beachhead had been set up along the coast, reinforcements poured in. The Allies freed Paris in August. Next came Brussels and Antwerp, in Belgium. In September, the Allies invaded the Netherlands. More than 2 million Allied troops took part in the final push toward Germany.

5. German Surrender. In December 1944, the Germans launched a counterattack on the Allies at Bastogne in the Battle of the Bulge. The Allies won and pressed forward into Germany. At the Elbe River in April 1945, they joined forces with the Soviet Army, which had fought its way across Poland. The Soviets now occupied most of eastern Germany.

On May 1, German radio announced that Hitler had committed suicide in an underground bunker in Berlin. The following day, the Russians entered Berlin. Germany's armies were now destroyed, its territory overrun, and its major cities in ruins. It surrendered unconditionally on May 8. The war in Europe was at an end.

6. The Holocaust. After the defeat of Germany, the world became aware of the true horror of Nazism. As the Germans overran Europe, they forced hundreds of thousands of Europeans into slave labor. This was a common fate for Slavs and other peoples whom the Germans regarded as "inferior."

For Jews, the Germans reserved their most barbaric treatment. The Nazis first deprived Jews of their property and citizenship, and isolated them in ghettos. Later, they sent many to *concentration camps*, such as Dachau and Buchenwald in Germany. In January 1942, Hitler adopted what he called the "final solution of the Jewish question"—a program that aimed to kill every European Jew.

In some areas, all the Jewish residents were gathered together and shot. More commonly, Jews were sent by train to extermination camps. The most notorious of these were Auschwitz, Majdanek, and Treblinka, all in Poland. Here, the Germans killed their victims with poison gas and then burned their bodies. This organized murder of some 6 million European Jews came to be called the *Holocaust*. An equal number of other victims (homosexuals, Poles, Gypsies, resistance workers, political prisoners, and the handicapped) also died in the camps.

A long tradition of anti-Semitism helped make the Holocaust possible. In France, for instance, local authorities cooperated with the Germans by seizing Jews and sending them off to die. Britain and the United States were slow to react when they heard about the extermination policy. For instance, Allied planes, in their raids on German-held territory, did not bomb the concentration camps, an act

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that might have put them out of operation. Many historians believe, however, that little could have been accomplished in the face of Hitler's insane determination.

ALLIED VICTORY IN THE PACIFIC

By the time the Allies defeated the Axis in Europe, they were nearing a hard-won victory in the Pacific.

1. Japanese Successes. The Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor in December 1941 temporarily crippled U.S. naval and air power in the Pacific. The other Allies were also unable to withstand Japanese military attacks.

A few weeks after Pearl Harbor, the Japanese seized Guam, Wake Island, and Hong Kong. They also invaded the Philippines. The city of Manila fell in January 1942. Led by Douglas MacArthur, the outnumbered U.S. and Filipino troops withdrew to Bataan Peninsula across Manila Bay. There, they resisted the enemy for more than three months. On Roosevelt's order, MacArthur retreated to Australia, where he was given command of Allied forces in the southwest Pacific. The Japanese soon overran all the Philippine Islands. (See the map on page 326.)

The Japanese went on to take French Indochina, Thailand, Burma, the Dutch East Indies (Indonesia), and Singapore. From New Guinea and the Solomon Islands, the Japanese were menacing Australia. They also seized Attu and Kiska, the westernmost of the Aleutian Islands and hence had a base of operations against Alaska. By the middle of 1942, Japan had won control of a vast empire, rich in oil, rubber, tin, and other vital natural resources.

2. Stopping the Advance. Two U.S. victories began to turn the tide for the Allies in the Pacific. One was the Battle of the Coral Sea, off the eastern coast of Australia, in May 1942. The U.S. force defeated the Japanese, removing a threat to Australia.

The other turning point was the Battle of Midway, a month later. A large enemy fleet steamed out to seize Midway Island—the first step in a planned Japanese invasion of Hawaii. The United States, however, had recently broken the Japanese naval code. Therefore, U.S. leaders knew of the attack plan in advance. U.S. ships defeated the Japanese naval force decisively.

he Offensive. By late summer 1942, the Allies were offensive in the Pacific. They had three major objectives: (1) to cut Japan's lines of communication with its possessions, (2) to retake the Philippines, and (3) to attack Japan. The offensive was a U.S. attack on the enemy-occupied island of Guadalcanal, in the Solomon Islands. U.S. Marines landed there in August 1942. After six months of sea, air, and land battles, they defeated the Japanese.

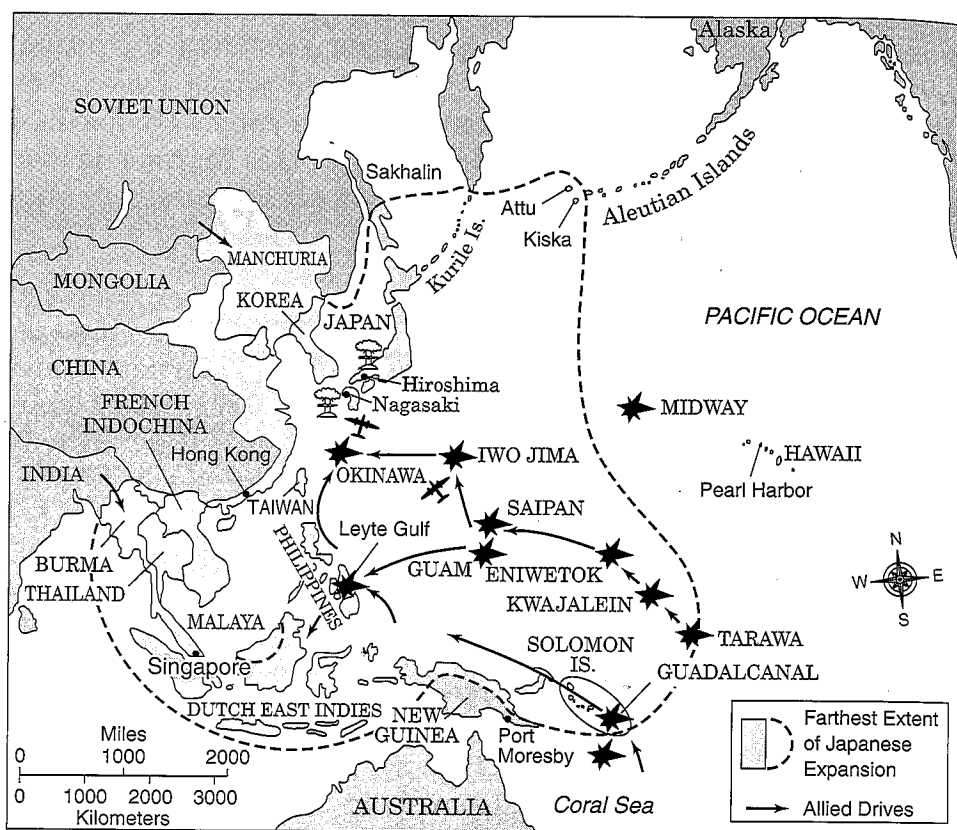
Island-hopping. Allied planners decided that a campaign to retake every enemy-held island would be too costly. Instead, they used the tactic of *island-hopping* (taking only certain strategic islands and leaving the others to the enemy). The Japanese eventually surrendered for lack of supplies. Heavily fortified islands in the Gilbert Islands fell to the Allies in November 1942. Their next leap was to Kwajalein and Eniwetok, in the Marshalls, and then to Saipan and Guam, in the Marianas. In August 1944, U.S. long-range planes began to bomb industrial centers in Japan.

Philippines. MacArthur opened a drive to retake the Philippines by landing troops on the island of Leyte in October 1944. The Japanese hurled their main fleet at the invasion forces in the Battle of Leyte Gulf, the largest naval-air engagement in history. The U.S. Navy won a decisive victory and gained control of Philippine waters. MacArthur then captured Manila in February 1945, and by June 1945 regained the entire Philippines.

Final Assault. In February 1945, U.S. Marines stormed the island of Iwo Jima, 750 miles from Japan. In April, U.S. troops landed on Okinawa, just 360 miles from Japan. The United States landed more than 10,000 men before defeating the Japanese. During the six-month campaign, the U.S. fleet suffered severe damage from Japanese *suikaze* attacks. These were suicide missions in which kamikaze pilots crashed their bomb-laden planes into enemy warships.

Truman in charge. In April 1945, shortly before the end of the war in Europe, President Roosevelt died of a brain hemorrhage. Vice President Harry S. Truman became the new president. Truman

World War II in the Pacific, 1942–1945



Project, had been carried on in total secrecy. In July 1945, the first successful atomic bomb test took place at a remote desert site in New Mexico.

b. To bomb, or not to bomb? Should Truman use the atomic bomb now that it was available? The alternative, as he saw it, was a full-scale invasion of Japan. Believing that such a campaign would cost the United States many thousands of lives, Truman chose atomic attack.

On July 26, Allied leaders issued an ultimatum to Japan: surrender unconditionally or suffer total destruction. The Japanese did not reply. On August 6, a single U.S. plane dropped an atomic bomb on the city of Hiroshima. The explosion killed at least 66,000 people immediately and injured even more. It destroyed every structure within a four-square-mile area of the city. Still, Japan would not surrender. When a second A-bomb was dropped on Nagasaki three days later, Japan gave up. The formal surrender took place on September 2, 1945, aboard the U.S. battleship *Missouri* in Tokyo Bay. World War II was over.

IDENTIFY OR DEFINE: D-Day, concentration camp, Holocaust, atomic bomb, island-hopping.

CRITICAL THINKING: What was the Nazis' "final solution" in regard to European Jews and how was it implemented?

Chapter Review

MATCHING TEST

Column A

1. Kellogg-Briand Pact
2. Lend-Lease Act
3. El Alamein
4. Auschwitz
5. Midway

Column B

- a. a Nazi death camp
- b. site of a decisive Allied victory in the Pacific
- c. an international treaty that outlawed war
- d. an agreement that allowed the U.S. president to provide military aid to nations important to U.S. security
- e. the site of a decisive Allied victory in North Africa

MULTIPLE-CHOICE TEST

1. At the Washington Naval Conference, all of the following nations agreed to limit the size of their navies *except* (a) the United States (b) Great Britain (c) China (d) France.
2. The Kellogg-Briand Pact was not very effective because (a) few nations signed it (b) it could not be enforced (c) the United States refused to take part in the agreement (d) it went into effect after Hitler had begun to rearm Germany.
3. A Good Neighbor Policy was first advocated by (a) Warren Harding (b) Calvin Coolidge (c) Herbert Hoover (d) Franklin D. Roosevelt.
4. Hitler's rise to power in Germany was aided by all of the following *except* (a) widespread prosperity (b) the Great Depression (c) bitterness toward the Versailles Treaty (d) anti-Semitism.

5. In their relations toward Hitler and Mussolini through most of the 1930s, the European democracies followed a policy of (a) isolationism (b) intervention (c) appeasement (d) aggression.
6. The United States was brought into World War II when Japan attacked (a) Guam (b) Hawaii (c) Midway (d) the Philippines.
7. Allied troops invading Italy met heavy resistance from (a) the Italian army (b) Italian resistance fighters (c) Mussolini's private troops (d) German forces.
8. By mid-1942, Japan controlled all of the following *except* (a) Indochina (b) Australia (c) Burma (d) Singapore.
9. Beginning in 1942, the key to the Allied war effort against Japan was (a) kamikaze attacks (b) island-hopping (c) fire bombing of Tokyo (d) dropping atomic bombs on Japanese cities.
10. A new kind of warfare used by the Japanese in the final months of the war was (a) poison gas (b) guided missiles (c) atomic warheads (d) suicide attacks by pilots.



ESSAY QUESTIONS

1. What is fascism? Who originated the term? Name *three* countries that had fascist governments during the 1930s.
2. In the early 1930s, what were Roosevelt's policies toward each of the following? (a) the Soviet Union (b) Latin America
3. Describe how the United States mobilized to fight in World War II.
4. What was the Holocaust? When did Hitler begin carrying it out? How many victims did it claim?
5. Explain why President Truman decided to use atomic bombs against Japan.

DOCUMENT-BASED QUESTION

This question is based on the accompanying documents (1–6). It will improve your ability to work with historical documents.

Historical Context:

The Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor in late 1941 put an abrupt end to U.S. isolationism. During World War II, the United States fought in both the Western European/North African theater and the Pacific theater. After driving German forces out of North Africa and Southern Europe, the Allies invaded German-occupied France in 1944. In the Pacific, through island-hopping, Allied naval forces steadily advanced toward Japan beginning in 1942. In 1945, Japan surrendered after U.S. planes dropped two atomic bombs on two Japanese cities.

Task:

Using information from the documents and your knowledge of United States history, read each document and answer the question that follows it. Your answers to the questions will help you write the document-based essay.

Document 1. Excerpt from U.S. Marine E.B. Sledge's description of what it was like to be sent into battle in the Pacific during World War II at age 19:

There was nothing macho about the war at all. We were a bunch of scared kids who had to do a job. . . . We were in it to get it over with, so we could go back home and do what we wanted to do with our lives. . . . But I was afraid so much, day after day, that I got tired of being scared.

Source: Terkel, Studs, *The Good War: An Oral History of World War II*. NY: Ballantine Books, a Division of Random House, 1984, pp. 56-59.

What was Sledge's attitude toward serving as a Marine in the Pacific during World War II?

Document 2. Excerpt from an article written in 1942 by an African American, J. Saunders Redding, in which he explained why he supported the war effort:

I do not like these "race incidents" in the [military] camps. . . . I do not like the constant references to the Japs as . . . "yellow bellies" and "yellow monkeys," as if color had something to do with treachery, as if color were the issue and the thing we are fighting rather than oppression, slavery, and a way of life hateful and nauseating. These and other things I do not like, yet I believe in the war. This is a war to keep men free. The struggle to broaden

and lengthen the road of freedom—our own private and important war to enlarge freedom here in America—will come later.

Source: Redding, J. Saunders, "A Negro Looks at This War," *American Mercury*, LV (Nov. 1942), pp. 585-592.

What did Redding hope that victory in World War II would do for African Americans?

Document 3. Study the photograph on page 319.

Is it likely that if a photograph of shipyard workers had been taken before World War II, it would *not* have shown so many women? Explain your answer.

Document 4. Study the photograph on page 320.

What happened to many Japanese Americans during World War II?

Document 5. Poem written by an anonymous U.S. sailor, fall of 1945:

Remember

The guns of the third fleet in silence lay,
Across the Pacific in Tokyo Bay.
The horrors of war have come to cease,
The world at last can rest in peace.

We've stopped the invader, we've won the fray
Without much time for fun or play
But the flag of freedom once more can fly
Remember those who fought to die.

Remember him Buddie, remember him,
Remember Jack, remember Jim?
They fought beside you on bloody sands,
You couldn't help them much, just hold their hands.

They're gone now Buddie, no more to roam
They'll not come back to a dreamed of home,
But what they fought for shall not die,
The flag of freedom will always fly.

What message or messages was the author of the poem trying to convey?

Document 6. A sample of American motion pictures made 1942–1945:

Across the Pacific (1942)

Mrs. Miniver (1942)

Action in the North Atlantic
(1943)

Bataan (1943)

Destination Tokyo (1943)

Guadalcanal Diary (1943)

We've Never Been Licked (1943)

The Fighting Seabees (1944)

Ladies Courageous (1944)

God Is My Co-Pilot (1945)

Take an educated guess: How do you think these motion pictures contributed to the war effort?

DOCUMENT-BASED ESSAY

Using information from the above documents and your knowledge of United States history, write an essay in which you:

- Explain how true Franklin D. Roosevelt's December 9, 1941, statement "We are now in this war. We are all in it—all the way" turned out to be.