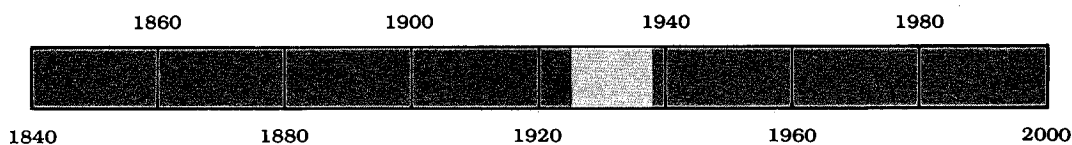


Part **7**

*The
Shadows
of War*



Looking Ahead



By the summer of 1938, more and more Americans were getting their news from the radio. Every evening, millions of families gathered around their loudspeakers to learn what had happened that day. Often, news reports were beamed direct from world capitals. "We take you now to Berlin," an announcer would say, followed by a pause as radio signals jumped the Atlantic Ocean. Then another, more distant voice would crackle through the airwaves.

Such newscasts were fresh proof of how small the world had become. In the summer of 1938, they were also proof of how troubled the world had become. Europe was trembling on the brink of another war. And as World War I had already shown, a conflict in Europe could threaten

peace around the world.

What was the latest crisis? And how had it begun? The story went all the way back to the Treaty of Versailles in 1919. The treaty had forced Germany to give up large areas of territory and to pay heavy damages for its role in the war. It had also said that Germany was to blame for starting the war. Most Germans found this hard to accept.

Worthless money. After the war, many Germans could not find work. Their country's wealth had been used up. To make matters worse, Germany suffered from runaway inflation. The same amount of money bought less and less. People with savings were ruined. Their money was worthless.

The situation made Germans feel angry and helpless. Some of them believed that their government was too weak to deal with Germany's problems. At this point, the country was politically divided. In election after election, no party won enough votes

In Nazi rallies such as this one in Nuremberg, Adolf Hitler told Germans that they would rule the world.



The German economy went haywire in the 1920's. Extreme inflation made money nearly worthless. An employer might need a whole wagonload of cash just to meet one week's payroll.

to provide the leadership Germany needed.

Inflation was followed by depression—the same Great Depression that gripped the United States. Depression sent prices skidding downward. It also threw large numbers of workers out of jobs. Many people in Germany began to look for extreme answers. Some supported the Communist party. Others turned to the opposite extreme. They joined a party led by a former army corporal. His name was Adolf Hitler. The party he led was the National Socialist, or Nazi, party.

The "master race." Hitler and the Nazis rose to power by appealing to German pride. The events of the preceding 15 years had been a source of shame to many Germans. The Nazis proclaimed the Germans the "master race" and said that all non-Germanic people were inferior. The Nazis also appealed to the nation's prejudices. They preached hatred of all who opposed them, especially Jews. They

blamed the Jews for Germany's defeat in World War I.

Rise to power. The Nazis got their chance at power in 1933. On January 30, Adolf Hitler was named chancellor, or head, of the German government. But the Nazis did not have enough members in the Reichstag (RYK-stahg) (German parliament) to control the government. On March 5, the day after FDR took office in the U.S., the German people went to the polls. They gave nearly half their votes to the Nazi party. The Nazis now controlled the Reichstag. Before the month was out, they passed a law giving Hitler special powers for four years. He could make whatever laws and treaties he wanted without regard to the nation's constitution. Hitler had become dictator of Germany. He banned all other political parties, and he gave himself the title Der Führer (dair FYUR-uhr), the leader. Then he began jailing and killing those who disagreed with him.

Hitler had turned Germany into a fascist state. **Fascists** emphasize the importance of the nation over the individual. They favor a government ruled by a dictator with control over all parts of the nation's life. Any opposition to the government is put down by force.

Germany was not alone in being ruled by dictators at this time. Nor was it the only fascist nation. Benito Mussolini (beh-NEET-oh moo-suh-LEE-nee) had taken power in Italy in 1922. He was the first fascist dictator. The Soviet Union also had a dictator, Josef Stalin. But he was a Communist.

Hitler made it his special goal to wipe out all Jewish influence in his country's life. He took away the citizenship of German Jews. He forbade Jews to marry non-Jews. This was only the beginning. Between 1935

Nazis paraded this Jewish man and non-Jewish woman through Nuremberg. The signs they wore said that they had offended "racial purity."



and 1945, he directed one of the most enormous crimes in human history. Under his leadership, the Nazis murdered about six million European Jews.

As Hitler became more powerful, he began to look beyond Germany's borders. In speech after speech, he called for a German empire that would rule the entire world. At the same time, he began re-arming Germany. In 1936 German forces took back the Rhineland, an area west of the Rhine River. These lands had been given up by Germany following World War I. No democratic government in Western Europe wanted to get involved. All of them looked the other way.

Empire-building. So in March of 1938 Hitler became still bolder. This time he sent German troops to invade Austria and take it over. Britain, France, and the Soviet Union protested. But they took no action.

By the summer of 1938, then, the stage was set for still another of Hitler's daring acts. This time his target was the Sudetenland (soo-DAY-ten-land). The Sudetenland was an area of Czechoslovakia near the German border. About three million German-speaking people lived there.

In September Hitler announced his plan to seize the Sudetenland on October 1. He would go through with this plan, he said, unless the area was given to him peacefully. His threat brought Europe to the brink of war.

America on the sidelines. Americans did not watch these events with any pleasure. Yet they were in no mood to fight another war. Many of them now believed that the U.S. had



Nazi Germany on the March, 1935–1939

been drawn into World War I by mistake. They thought that the U.S. should isolate itself—that is, stay clear of alliances with foreign governments. These people were called **isolationists**.

Not all Americans were isolationists. A few went to Spain to fight against right-wing forces there. Others tried to help Germans and Italians escape from their homelands and come to the U.S. But most Americans seemed less actively concerned with events overseas.

The world was growing smaller, of course. In the end there was no retreat from the kind of trouble Hitler was stirring up in Europe. By 1940 Americans such as historian Ralph Barton Perry were sounding the call to arms. "If democracy be the great and good thing we believe it to be," Perry wrote, "we should expect its cost to be high." By that time, the costs of defending democracy in Europe were already mounting. They would soon begin to mount in the U.S. as well.

CHAPTER 40

Rise of a Dictator

As a boy in Austria, Adolf Hitler had not been strong enough to do hard labor. Later he had tried designing gift cards without any great success. During World War I, he had fought for Germany as an obscure corporal. Only after the war did Hitler discover his greatest talent—his voice.

He found it while making political speeches in the early 1920's. His speeches were in support of the National Socialist party—or Nazi party, for short. There was fire in his eyes as he promised to make Germany strong again. Germans, he said, were the master race.

His message was quite simple. The German army had not really been beaten in World War I, he claimed. Instead, he shouted, Germany had lost the war because it had been “stabbed in the back” by traitors and Jews. Germany must rebuild its army. It must win back the territory it had lost in World War I.

Hitler's message was both false and foolish. Yet it appealed to many Ger-

mans. Just then Germany was in a bad way. People were without jobs and were hungry. Hitler promised them jobs—and greatness. In 1923 he and his party tried to take power. But the police fired on them and sent them running.

Then Hitler was put in jail. There he wrote a book called *Mein Kampf* (mine kahmpf) which means “my struggle.” It told of his plans to conquer much of Europe. Lands lost in World War I would be retaken. Germany would grab “living space” from Russia and other east European countries. And the Jews would be dealt with harshly. Hitler believed they were to blame for most of the evils of the world.

Hitler built up the Nazi party when he got out of prison. He won the support of many generals and business people who believed that the Nazis would save Germany from a Communist take-over.

Party in power. The worldwide Depression of the 1930's gave Hitler his big chance. Again many Germans



World War I had wiped out the old German empire. To many Germans, the empire had been Germany itself. Hitler promised to rebuild the empire, known in German as the Reich (pronounced "rike"). This Nazi poster says "Germany lives!" The armband and flags bear swastikas, the Nazi symbol.

were out of work and hungry. Hitler's promises of jobs and German greatness sounded better than ever.

In 1932 the Nazi party got four votes out of every 10. Early in 1933, Hitler became the German chancellor. Within a few months he got special laws passed that took away most of the German people's civil rights. The laws placed all the power in the hands of Hitler and the Nazi party. So Hitler became dictator. He soon began to rule Germany with an iron fist.

Hitler hated democracy, the Christian religion, and anything that wasn't German. His secret police shot or jailed all who spoke out against him. Labor unions and all political parties except the Nazis were outlawed. Books the Nazis didn't like were burned. Jews were driven from their jobs and businesses. Many fled to other countries.

"Tomorrow the world." In 1934 Hitler began to prepare Germany for war. "Conquest is not only a right, but a duty," he told the German peo-



Hitler believed he was the "greatest military commander of all time," and that his empire would last a thousand years. In the early 1930's, many Germans were ready to believe him.

ple. Today, Hitler bragged, the Nazis rule Germany. Tomorrow, the dictator promised, Germans would rule the world.

Hitler built the German army and air force into a powerful war machine. Factories turned out guns day and night. Of course, almost everyone was at work or in the army. Many Germans thought Hitler was a great man.

In 1936 Hitler sent troops into Germany's Rhineland. This action was against the Treaty of Versailles. The treaty said that there should be no German soldiers in the land west of the Rhine River. But Britain and France did nothing. This made Hitler bolder. Soon he grabbed Austria as well.

How did people in the United States take all this? At first they were not worried about it. But in 1937 President Roosevelt began to warn the American people of the dan-

ger from abroad. Few paid much attention to these warnings. Wasn't the United States protected by two oceans? The best course, most Americans believed, was to stay neutral.

Chapter Check

1. What did Adolf Hitler promise that made many Germans follow him? What did he say that caused some Germans to fear him?
2. A **scapegoat** is a person who takes the blame for others. What people did Adolf Hitler use as scapegoats in the 1930's? Why do people sometimes use someone else as an excuse for their own failings?
3. Hitler was elected chancellor, yet he became a dictator. How did this happen? He began to rule Germany with an iron fist. How did he do this?

CHAPTER 41

Staying Out of War

In a 1932 political cartoon, the nations of Europe are shown standing on one side of the Atlantic. "We can't pay our war debts," they shout in chorus. Uncle Sam, on the opposite shore, replies, "It's too bad you can't agree on anything else." The cartoon reflected the way many Americans felt toward Europe after World War I. They were annoyed about the quarreling among their Allies. And they were just plain disappointed. World War I was supposed to "make the world safe for democracy." It was supposed to have been "the war to end all wars." It brought neither democracy nor peace. Many Americans felt the United States should stay out of Europe's affairs. They did not want to be dragged into any more wars.

War debts. The issue of war debts, poisoned the relations between Europe and America. The United States had lent large sums to its European Allies during the war. By 1918, the nations of Europe owed the United States 10 billion dollars. Most Euro-

pean nations were unable to repay the loans. And many Europeans were angry about the demands for payment. They had suffered far more death and destruction than the U.S. had. So they felt, in all fairness, that America should cancel the debts.

The U.S. government lowered the **interest rates** (the amount paid for borrowing money). It gave the European nations more time to repay the loans. But it would not cancel them. To make matters worse, U.S. tariff rates were at an all-time high. That meant that Europeans could not sell their goods in America. That made it harder for them to rebuild their economies.

But the U.S. did not abandon its European Allies. America farmers continued to send food to war-torn Europe for years after the fighting stopped. American business people helped out by investing large sums in European industries. These investments led to the development of multinational corporations—large companies with interests in several



In 1939, this mothers' group traveled by bus to Washington, D.C., to argue for a continued arms embargo.

countries. People talked a lot about isolationism (not getting involved with other nations). But in trade and finance, the U.S. was very much involved with the rest of the world.

Peace efforts. Above all, America wanted to avoid another war. The U.S. did not join the League of Nations. But it did participate in dozens of League conferences on such subjects as public health and drug problems. The strong pacifist feeling in the U.S. led to several attempts to set up a framework for world peace.

In 1922, nine world powers met in Washington, D.C. They had come to discuss naval **disarmament** (giving up weapons and reducing military forces). The United States, Britain, Japan, France, and Italy signed a treaty that put a limit on the size of each nation's navy. In another treaty, the powers pledged to support the

Open Door Policy in China and to respect each other's possessions in the Pacific. They wanted to keep the **balance of power** in the Pacific just as it was. The U.S. Senate accepted the treaty. First, however, it added a statement that there was "no obligation to join in any joint defense."

One of America's most ambitious peace efforts was the Kellogg-Briand Pact of 1928. U.S. Secretary of State Frank B. Kellogg and French foreign minister Aristide Briand (bree-AHN) were the sponsors. They asked all nations to sign an agreement outlawing war "as an instrument of foreign policy." Sixty-two nations—including Germany, Italy, and Japan—signed. The post-war treaties seemed to be a worthwhile step toward ending war. But since they provided no means of punishing violators, they were almost useless.

Open Door Policy. Although America backed away from involvement in Europe, it continued to support the Open Door Policy in China. The policy protected China from foreign attack or domination and gave all nations the right to trade there. Japan felt it had special rights in China. But it had agreed at the Washington Conference of 1922 to honor the Open Door Policy. In 1930, there was another naval conference on limiting the number of warships. Japan signed, but Japanese-American relations at the time were very strained. In 1924, the U.S. had passed an immigration law that specifically prohibited Japanese immigrants. The law caused much ill feeling in Japan.

In 1931, Japan invaded the Chinese province of Manchuria. The U.S. sent a note of protest, and the

League of Nations condemned the action. The next year, Japan bombed the city of Shanghai and resigned from the League. In 1938, Japan seized the coastal provinces of China. The "open door" was slammed shut. The Japanese tried to drive Americans out of China by "accidentally" bombing American schools, hospitals, and churches.

Japan had violated League of Nations treaties, the Nine Power Treaty of the Washington Conference, and the Kellogg-Briand Pact. However, no nation was willing to go to war over China. Eventually, the U.S. cut off military aid to Japan, but shipments of oil and steel continued.

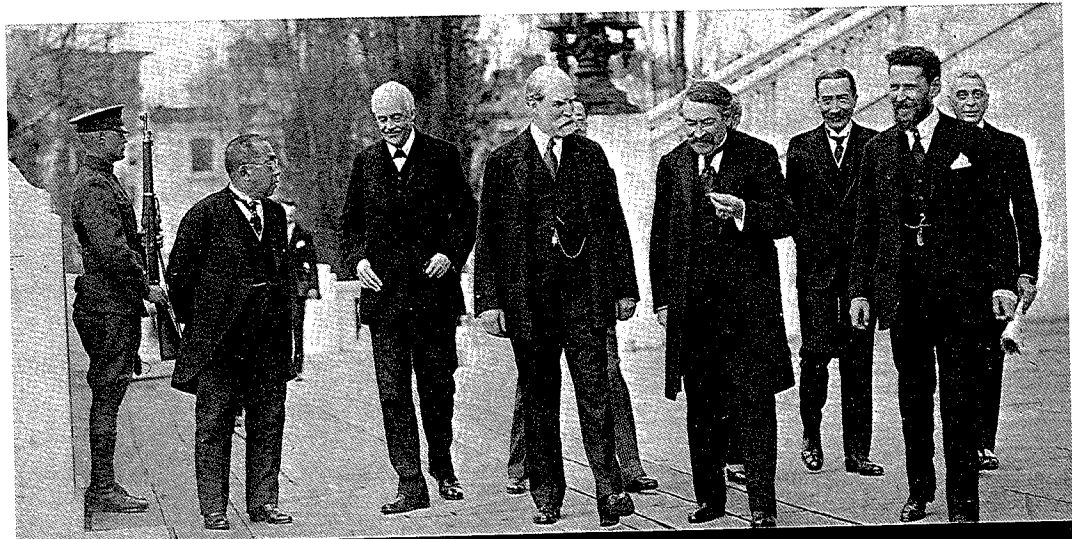
Neutrality Acts. At this point, America was deep in the Great Depression. Major problems at home occupied the public and the political leaders. Italy invaded Ethiopia in 1935; German troops moved into the Rhineland (an area west of the Rhine River) in 1936. The world was once again drifting toward war, and America wanted no part of it. Between 1935 and 1937, Congress passed three **Neutrality Acts**. They were designed to prevent Americans from

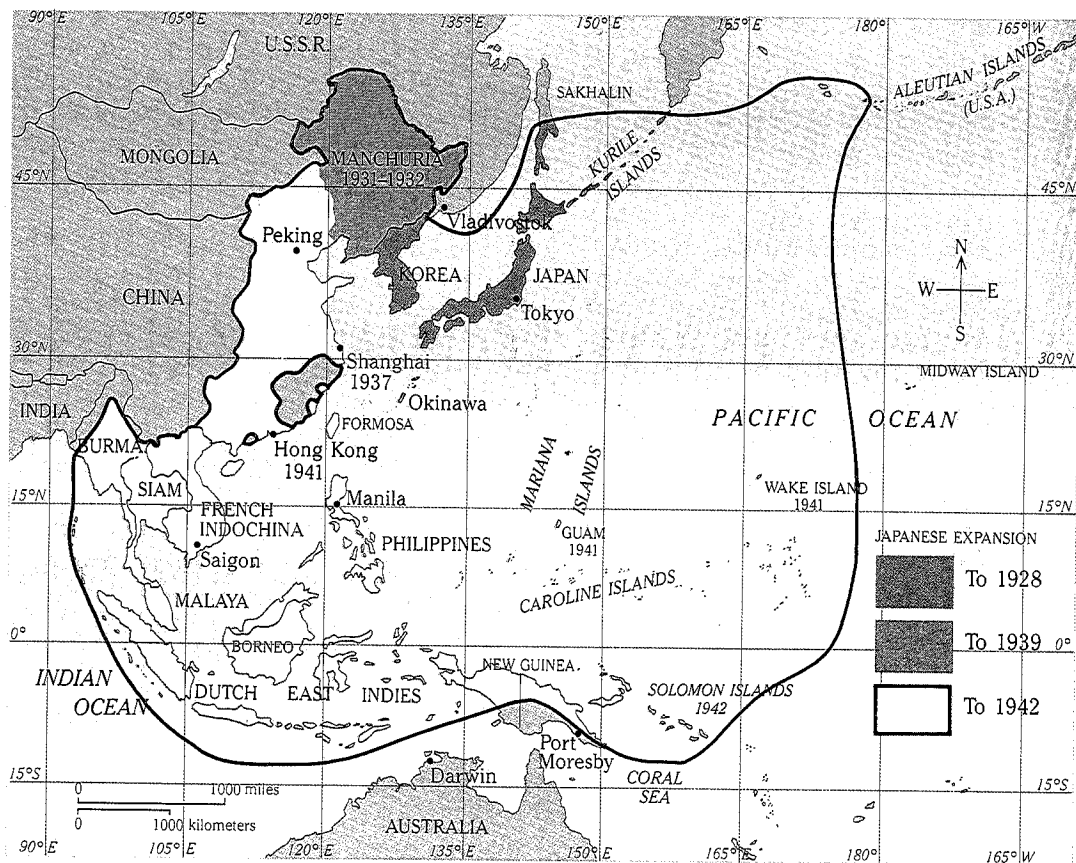
selling arms or lending money to nations at war. Many people believed that bankers and weapon manufacturers had pushed the U.S. into the last war.

The Spanish Civil War broke out in 1936. Congress voted for an arms embargo (ban on trade) against both sides, the Loyalists and Franco's Nationalists. But when the Japanese invaded China in 1937, President Roosevelt did not apply the Neutrality Acts. And the U.S. continued to send arms to China. Throughout the 1930's, Germany, Italy, and Japan were busy building up their armed forces and military supplies. In 1938, Roosevelt managed to get a ship-building program through Congress. It was to give the nation a "two-ocean" Navy.

Europe went to war in 1939. America took steps to prepare its own defense. It signed pacts with Canada and with Latin American countries for the mutual defense of the Western Hemisphere. It also changed the Neutrality Acts. Americans could now sell arms to any nation on a "cash-and-carry" basis. This helped both Great Britain and France. Buyers

In 1922, nine nations sent delegates to a disarmament conference in Washington, D.C. This photo shows U.S. Secretary of State Charles Evans Hughes (center) with delegates from France, Britain, Japan, and Italy.





Japanese Expansion, 1928-1941

had to pay cash for the arms before they left American shores. They also had to carry the goods on their own ships. But at least they got the goods. The arms embargo was over. It seemed that America could no longer remain on the sidelines.

Chapter Check

1. How did the issue of war debts harm relations between the U.S. and Europe? Why did the Europeans believe that the U.S. should

cancel the debts? Do you think this was a fair reason?

2. Sixty-two nations signed the Kellogg-Briand Pact, promising not to go to war. This sounded like a good treaty. Why didn't it work?
3. Do you think the United States could have done more to stop the Japanese from invading China? Why didn't the U.S. do more?
4. What was the purpose of the Neutrality Acts? Why were they changed to allow "cash-and-carry" purchases of arms?

CHAPTER 42

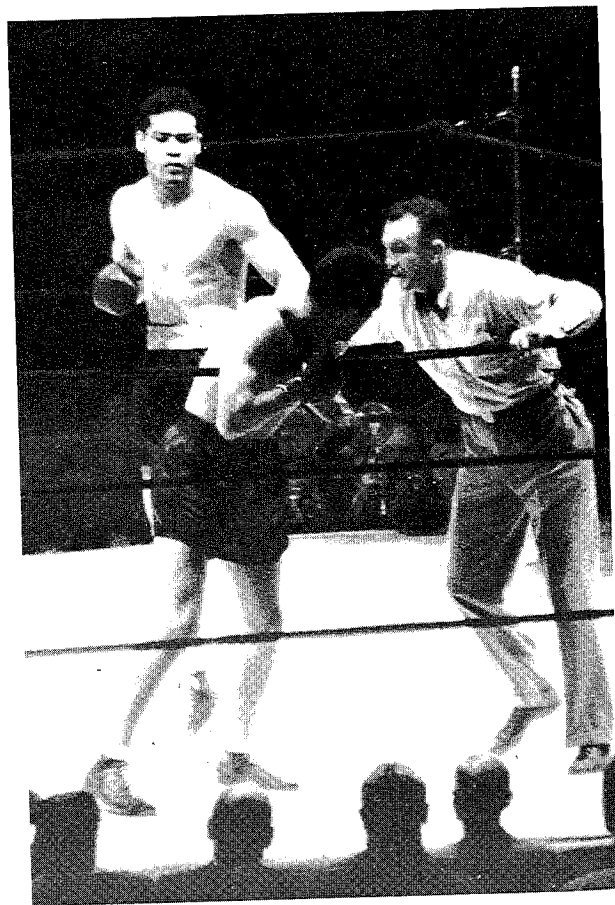
The Brown Bomber

Joe Louis—the “Brown Bomber”—was enraged. In 1936 the boxer had been knocked out by Max Schmeling (SHMAY-ling), the German fighter. That was bad enough. But now the Nazis were bragging about it. It was, they said, a victory for Germany and the “master race.”

Adolf Hitler had told the German people they were “supermen.” All other people were inferior. Hitler especially looked down on black athletes from the U.S. Now Schmeling too was beginning to sound like a Nazi. He called Louis “black fellow” and “stupid amateur.”

Louis couldn't wait to get even. “Get me Schmeling,” he told his managers. “I want Schmeling.” Finally the fight was set for the night of June 22, 1938. Louis trained harder than he ever had before. His muscles were like steel springs. A reporter asked him how long the fight would last. Louis held up one finger. “One round,” he said.

More than 70,000 fans packed New



York's Yankee Stadium for the fight. Millions more listened to it on the radio. At the bell, Louis tore into Schmeling. Three lefts and a right drove Schmeling back into the ropes. Louis kept hammering away. Schmeling looked sick. He couldn't move. His legs turned to jelly. Down he went for a count of three.

Schmeling got up, and Louis swarmed over him again. A right and a left sent Schmeling down again. Schmeling got to his feet, and Louis knocked him down a third time. Schmeling's handlers threw a towel into the ring (a sign they wanted to stop the fight). The referee threw it back. Now Schmeling was hanging on the ropes, helpless. Then the referee stopped the fight. "If I hadn't," he said later, "Joe would have killed him."

The Brown Bomber had gotten even in two minutes and four seconds of the first round!

Hard beginnings. Joe Louis Barrow (his real name) was born on May 13, 1914. His father was a poor Alabama tenant farmer, who died when Joe was four. Soon Joe was helping his mother, brothers, and sisters pick cotton. Joe's mother remarried, and the family moved to Detroit. Joe was then 10 years old. He hadn't gone to school much. In Detroit he was put in a class with younger kids. Joe didn't like that.

When the Depression came, Joe's

stepfather lost his job. Joe had to go to work after school. He delivered ice. He would carry a 50-pound (23-kilogram) block of ice up four flights of stairs. Then another—and another. It was hard work, but it made Joe big and strong.

When Joe was 18, he heard that an amateur fight club paid fighters with food. Joe had hungry brothers and sisters at home, so he signed up for a fight. He was knocked down six times in the first two rounds. He went home aching and swore never to box again. He gave his mother the seven dollars worth of food he got. A little later he quit school and took a factory job.

Coming on strong. Soon Joe met a professional boxer. He gave Joe some lessons and talked him into entering the Golden Gloves. In 1934 he won the Golden Gloves light-heavyweight title. Then he became a pro. He won his first three pro fights by knockouts. Sportswriters began calling him the "Brown Bomber." He became the golden boy of boxing.

Louis came to New York and knocked out the giant Primo Carnera. Soon he was earning \$250,000 a fight. In 1937 he knocked out Jim Braddock and won the heavyweight title. He kept the title for 12 years. He defended it 25 times. He won 20 of his title fights by knockouts.

Boxing was good to Louis, and Louis was good for boxing. He had millions of fans, black and white. Louis often spoke of black Americans as "my people," and to them he was a special hero. "If I ever let my people down," he once said, "I want to die." He never let them down.

Two fights between Joe Louis (facing the camera) and Max Schmeling made political history.



In 1947 Joe Louis, then the heavyweight champion of the world, met former champion Jack Dempsey. Dempsey held the heavyweight title from 1919 to 1926.

Chapter Check

1. What made Joe Louis such a special heavyweight champion?
2. What was so important about his defeat of Max Schmeling?
3. Joe Louis grew up during the Depression. Life was hard for many people, and Joe Louis was no exception. In what way did his hardships during the Depression prepare him for life in the boxing ring?
4. What made Joe Louis decide to enter boxing after he had earlier made a decision never to box again? Have you ever had the experience of finding that once you learn how to do a thing well, you want to keep on doing it? If so, explain.
5. Many people say that sports in America are too competitive. They argue that the main purpose should not be winning but playing. Many other people repeat the words of Vince Lombardi, a famous football coach: "Winning isn't everything. It's the only thing." What is your view? Why do you hold this opinion?

CHAPTER 43

Flight to Freedom

Albert Einstein stood in front of his house, surrounded by suitcases. The world-famous scientist and his wife, Elsa, were about to leave Germany for a trip to the United States. Einstein seemed lost in thought as he gazed off into the distance and smoked his pipe. Finally he turned to Elsa and said, "Before you leave this time, take a good look at your house."

"Why?" Elsa asked.

"You will never see it again," was the reply.

In the fall of 1932, Germany was still a democratic country. But Einstein knew that the Nazis would soon be in power. He feared that the Nazis meant trouble for all Jews such as himself. And he was right.

Soon after Hitler took control in Germany, the Nazis began attacking Jews. Einstein was high on Hitler's "hate list." While the scientist was in America, the Nazis searched his German home for weapons. They found a bread knife in the kitchen and considered it a "dangerous weapon." The

Nazis claimed the mild-mannered scientist was the leader of a "criminal gang."

Einstein never returned to Germany. At first he lived in Belgium. Then in 1933 he moved to Princeton, New Jersey, to continue his scientific work. Einstein was famous for discoveries he had made about the structure of the universe. His discoveries were the most important work in science in 300 years.

Albert Einstein was one of the first Jews to leave Germany because of Hitler. He was followed by thousands more. In 1933 Hitler barred Jews from the universities as a first step in his attack on this group. This prompted a great many Jews to look for a way of escape. But finding another home was a problem. There was a Depression all over the world. Few foreign countries wanted outsiders, no matter where they came from or why.

In the U.S. and Britain, many people worked hard to help these new refugees. To do so, Americans not



By the late 1930's, many prominent Germans such as scientist Albert Einstein (left) and writer Thomas Mann (right) had fled Nazi Germany. Einstein and Mann, both Nobel Prize laureates, are shown here with Rabbi Stephen Wise.

only had to find ways around their own immigration laws; they also had to overcome prejudice against Jews

Although Adolf Hitler couldn't possibly have understood Einstein's work, he dismissed it as "Jewish physics." This Nazi cartoon shows the scientist being swept from his "ivory tower."



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and foreigners in general. Jewish groups and others helped people leave Germany and find new homes. U.S. college professors donated part of their salaries to hire foreign teachers.

Not all the refugees who came to the U.S. in the 1930's were Jewish. Some were Italians who were at odds with Mussolini. Others were non-Jewish Germans who disliked Hitler and simply wanted to get away from the Nazis. But most of these immigrants did share one thing in common. They were **political refugees**—people who had left their homelands for political reasons. And many were highly educated people—scientists, doctors, thinkers, and artists. Some were already well known when they arrived in the U.S. Others achieved fame afterward.

Who were these people? Here are three of the many who left their mark on American history:

Enrico Fermi (ehn-REE-koe FAIR-me). Fermi was one of the best-known refugees at the time he ar-

rived. He came to the U.S. from Italy in 1939, a year after winning the world-famous Nobel Prize for physics. In the U.S. Fermi discovered how to make controlled atomic energy. Other refugee scientists helped him in his work. Then they joined with U.S. scientists to work on a top-secret military project. The *Manhattan Project*, as it was called, built the first atomic bombs which were used to end World War II.

Erik H. Erikson. Unlike Fermi, Erikson was just beginning his career when he came to the U.S. in 1933. Erikson had been raised as a Jew in Germany. Before he left Europe, Erikson had studied to be a psychiatrist (si-KI-a-trist). Psychiatry is the branch of medicine that deals with mental health.

In the U.S. Erikson became Boston's first child psychiatrist. He studied how children learn and change. His work with children led him to find a new use for psychiatry. Up to this time, psychiatry had been used mostly to treat the mentally sick. Erikson discovered ways to use it to help better understand healthy people. His ideas brought important changes in medicine and education.

Rudolf Serkin. When Serkin came to the U.S. in 1936, he was already a well-known pianist. He was born in Czechoslovakia of Jewish parents in 1903. At age 12, Serkin gave his first concert. His playing of the German masters—Bach, Beethoven (BAY-toe-ven), and Brahms—made him a great success in the U.S. In 1950 Serkin started the Marlboro Music School and Festival in Vermont. Every summer young musicians came to the school to live and make



By the time he was four years old, Czech-born Rudolf Serkin already knew how to read music and play the piano. He was recognized as one of the world's finest pianists when he came to the United States in the 1930's.

music with older people such as Serkin. In 1964 Serkin received the Presidential Medal of Freedom for his services to music and education.

Still other immigrants were social thinkers, or business or religious leaders. In all fields the new immigrants helped change the way people saw the world. Through their teaching and writing, their ideas reached millions. In time these ideas became an important part of American life.

There was another, sadder side to the story of immigration in the 1930's. Millions of Jews without money or influence found they could not leave Germany. As Hitler took over more countries, more people's lives were endangered. Only government action could have saved most of

the millions of people who were threatened by Hitler. But the U.S. government did not want millions of people coming to America. The immigration laws sharply limited the number of people who could enter the U.S. Britain and France also refused to help on a massive scale. Millions who were left behind died in Hitler's gas chambers.

Reasons for limits. Today historians give several reasons for the U.S. government's policy. First, Americans of the 1930's did not realize how dangerous Hitler was. Few people seriously believed he would carry out a campaign of terror against all the Jews in Europe.

Second, Nazi Germany was not the only country to be troubled by **anti-Semitism** (prejudice against Jews).

Third, the U.S. was in the midst of the Depression. Millions of Americans were out of work. For this reason, the U.S. government was not ea-

ger to allow large numbers of immigrants to enter. A larger wave of immigration would have made joblessness even worse.

Fourth, the 1930's were a period of isolationism. Many Americans thought the U.S. entry into World War I had been a mistake. Now they wanted no part of Europe or its problems. America was better off minding its own business, they believed.

In spite of U.S. immigration laws, about 100,000 refugees from Nazism did find their way to U.S. shores in this period. And in America they found freedom. Many of the new immigrants became U.S. citizens. Some of them fought in the U.S. armed forces during World War II. Others served in the government as experts on Hitler and Germany. After the war they continued to enrich American life as had immigrants before them.

Hannah Arendt, a political scientist and philosopher, was another refugee from Nazi Germany.



Chapter Check

1. What did most European immigrants of the 1930's have in common?
2. Name some European immigrants of the 1930's, and list their best-known achievements.
3. Why did the U.S. refuse to take in more European refugees than it did?
4. Do you think the U.S. has a special duty to take in political refugees? Why or why not?
5. Do you think the U.S. should make special rules to take in gifted refugees, such as scientists, artists, doctors, and political leaders?

CHAPTER 44

Peace for Our Time

It was September 30, 1938. A huge crowd had gathered at an airport near London. They were waiting for a plane from Munich (MEW-nick), Germany. As the plane slowed to a stop, the crowd began to cheer loudly.

The door of the plane opened. There stood Neville Chamberlain, the British prime minister. In his hand was a piece of paper. He held it up for the crowd to see. Then the prime minister stepped to some microphones. "I think that it is peace for our time!" he said.

More cheers: "Good old Neville!"

France. Another crowd had gathered at an airport in Paris. When the plane came in, the Parisians rushed up to it even before it had stopped. Then Edouard Daladier (ED-wahr duh-LAHD-yay), the French premier, appeared. Crowds began dancing and cheering.

Daladier turned to a man at his side. "The fools," he said with sadness. "They don't know what they are cheering."

Czechoslovakia. There were crowds in the cities of Czechoslovakia too that day. These crowds were not cheering. Some people had tears running down their faces. September 30, 1938, was a sad day for the people of Czechoslovakia, especially for the country's Jewish citizens.

Why were the crowds in London and Paris so happy? They believed that their leaders had saved them from a war with Nazi Germany. They thought Chamberlain and Daladier had made a "deal" with Adolf Hitler. It wasn't just a deal. It was a bargain, so they thought.

The price of this "bargain" was some land that belonged to Czechoslovakia. It was called the *Sudetenland*. Hitler had wanted this land for a long time. He gave many warlike speeches about it at Nazi party meetings in Germany. "The people of the Sudetenland are Germans!" he screamed. "The Sudetenland must be turned over to Germany!" And if it weren't, he warned, Germany would go to war for it.

Fears of war. By the summer of 1938, people all over Europe were sure that a war would break out any moment. People were very scared.

The British and the French wanted to prevent war. So on September 29, 1938, Chamberlain and Daladier flew to Munich, Germany. They had a meeting with Hitler. All Europe held its breath for the outcome. Benito Mussolini, the Italian dictator, also went to Munich. He was Hitler's ally, and he backed everything Hitler said.

Hitler told the British and French that, if they gave the Sudetenland to Germany, there would be no war. He also said that this would be his final demand for territory. He would ask for nothing more. Chamberlain and Daladier argued for hours. Finally they gave in. Early in the morning of September 30, they agreed to let Hitler take over the Sudetenland. In other words, they decided to *appease* Hitler (satisfy him to keep him at peace). Ever since, their policy has been known as one of **appeasement**.

No defense. Now Czechoslovakia was doomed. The Sudetenland was made up of many mountains. The mountains were vital to Czechoslovakia's defense. Without the Sudetenland, the Czechs could not hope to hold their country together against an outside force.

There was cheering in London and Paris. Most people in these cities thought that peace had been saved. The price of peace was not too high, many English and French people said. Besides, they were not ready for war. Neither England nor France had a large army or air force. Neither country was as powerful as Nazi Germany in 1938.

Many Americans also breathed a sigh of relief. To be sure, Czechoslovakia had been a small democracy. Its government had been on good terms with the U.S. Now thousands of Czech-Americans wept over the loss of their former homeland. Some other Americans worried all the more about the threat of war. But most Americans were relieved that the peace had been saved—at least for a little while.

The Czechs and Slovaks, on the other hand, believed that the price of peace was *much* too high. To keep Hitler quiet, they said, England and France had sold them down the river. England and France would see how wrong they had been. There was no way of stopping a man like Hitler from making more demands.

It turned out the Czechs and Slovaks were right. The English and the

"Peace for our time," said British prime minister Neville Chamberlain, as he held up a copy of the agreement he had signed with Hitler in Munich.





In 1938, Hitler had been given the Sudetenland, part of Czechoslovakia. But he wanted the entire country. On March 15, 1939, Nazi troops entered Prague, the Czech capital. Czech citizens could not do anything but watch and cry.

French were wrong. In a few months, German armies marched in and took over most of the rest of Czechoslovakia.

By that time, Hitler was looking for more land. Germany was more powerful than ever. The leaders of France and Britain had made a terrible mistake. World War II was the proof of it.

Chapter Check

1. What did Hitler gain in the Munich Pact? What did Britain and France gain? Who lost? Why?

2. Did the policy of appeasement succeed in preventing war? Explain. In general, do you think appeasement helps keep peace? Give an example to support your point of view.
3. What did Hitler learn from his dealings with the French and English leaders at Munich? How do you think Hitler would have acted if the French and English had refused to sign the Munich Pact?

Looking Back: The Shadows of War

MAIN EVENTS

1. After World War I, many Germans felt angry and helpless. Adolf Hitler promised to make Germany a great nation again. In 1933, Hitler was elected chancellor of Germany.
2. Once in power, Hitler and his Nazi party ruled Germany with an iron fist. Anyone who opposed Hitler was jailed or killed. Hitler turned Germany into a fascist state.
3. Hitler blamed many of Germany's problems on the Jews. In 1935, he began a program to "eliminate" all Jews in Germany.
4. In Italy, dictator Benito Mussolini organized invasions of Ethiopia and Albania.
5. The U.S., meanwhile, was in the midst of a Great Depression and did not want to get involved in Europe's problems. Above all, Americans did not want to go to war.
6. Congress passed three Neutrality Acts to prevent American businesses from selling weapons or lending money to nations at war. Many people believed that arms manufacturers had pushed the U.S. into the last war.
7. When civil war broke out in Spain in 1936, Congress voted for an arms embargo against both sides.
8. The U.S. tried to continue the Open Door Policy in China. But Japan had other plans. In 1931, it seized the Chinese province of Manchuria. In 1938, it took over the coastal provinces and tried to drive Americans out of China.
9. Nazi Germany took control of Austria in 1938. Six months later, France and Britain signed the Munich Pact, giving Hitler part of Czechoslovakia. Early in 1939, Hitler took over most of the rest of the country.
10. The U.S. admitted about 100,000 political refugees from Nazism. But strict immigration laws turned back many more. France and Britain also refused thousands of refugees.

WORDS TO KNOW

The sentences below contain vocabulary terms used in Part 7. Number your paper from 1 to 10, and then explain in writing each of the terms shown in **bold** print.

1. Mussolini established a **fascist** government in Italy.
2. Not all Americans were **isolationists**. Some went to Spain to fight against the right-wing forces there.
3. Hitler used the Jews as **scapegoats** during the 1930's.
4. The U.S. government lowered the **interest rates** to make it easier for European nations to repay their war debts.
5. In 1922, nine world powers met in Washington, D.C., to discuss naval **disarmament**.
6. The U.S. hoped that the Open Door Policy would help maintain the **balance of power** in the Pacific.
7. The U.S. passed a series of **Neutrality Acts** in the 1930's.
8. Albert Einstein was a **political refugee**.
9. Strong feelings of **anti-Semitism** existed in Nazi Germany during the 1930's.
10. In Munich, Neville Chamberlain and Edouard Daladier agreed on a policy of **appeasement**.

THINKING AND WRITING

A. Interpreting Feelings

Below are four paragraphs taken from the text. Each passage includes a quotation. Read each paragraph carefully. Pay close attention to the quotation. Then, ask yourself the following questions: (a) Who is speaking? (b) What does the quotation show about the feelings of the speaker? (c) What does the speaker want the listener(s) to think, feel, or do? Use your answers to write a paragraph discussing the feelings and concerns of each speaker.

1. In 1934 Hitler began to prepare Germany for war. "*Conquest is not only a right, but a duty,*" he told the German people. Today, Hitler bragged, the Nazis rule Germany. Tomorrow, the dictator promised, Germans would rule the world.
2. Einstein seemed lost in thought as he gazed off into the distance and smoked his pipe. Finally he turned to Elsa and said, "*Before you leave this time, take a good look at your house.*"
"Why?" Elsa asked.
"*You will never see it again,*" was the reply.
3. Hitler had wanted this land for a long time. He gave many warlike speeches about it at Nazi party meetings in Germany. "*The people of the Sudetenland are Germans!*" he screamed. "*The Sudetenland must be turned over to Germany!*"
4. The door of the plane opened. There stood Neville Chamberlain, the British prime minister. In his

hand was a piece of paper. He held it up for the crowd to see. Then the prime minister stepped to some microphones. "I think that it is peace for our time!" he said.

B. Identifying the Main Idea

Below are three paragraphs taken directly from the text. For each paragraph, identify the main idea, and write it on your paper. Explain why this is the main idea, and list three supporting details found in the paragraph. Remember that each supporting detail should tell something about the main idea.

1. In 1932 the Nazi party got four votes out of every 10. Early in 1933, Hitler became the German chancellor. Within a few months he got special laws passed that took away most of the German people's civil rights. The laws placed all the power in the hands of Hitler and the Nazi party. So Hitler became dictator. He soon began to rule Germany with an iron fist.
2. But the U.S. did not abandon its European Allies. American farmers continued to send food to war-torn Europe for years after the fighting stopped. American business people helped out by investing large sums in European industries. These investments led to the development of multinational corporations—large companies with interests in several countries. People talked a lot about isolationism (not getting involved with other nations). But in trade and finance, the U.S. was very

much involved with the rest of the world.

3. Europe went to war in 1939. America took steps to prepare its own defense. It signed pacts with Canada and with Latin American countries for the mutual defense of the Western Hemisphere. It also changed the Neutrality Acts. Americans could now sell arms to any nation on a "cash-and-carry" basis. This helped both Great Britain and France. Buyers had to pay cash for the arms before they left American shores. They also had to carry the goods on their own ships. But at least they got the goods. The arms embargo was over. It seemed that America could no longer remain on the sidelines.

C. Writing a Letter

Look at the photographs in Looking Ahead. These photographs were taken in Germany during the years between World War I and World War II.

Imagine that you are in Germany when these events are taking place. Write a letter home describing what you are seeing, experiencing, and feeling. Write what you think about the future of Germany and the rest of the world.

D. You Are There

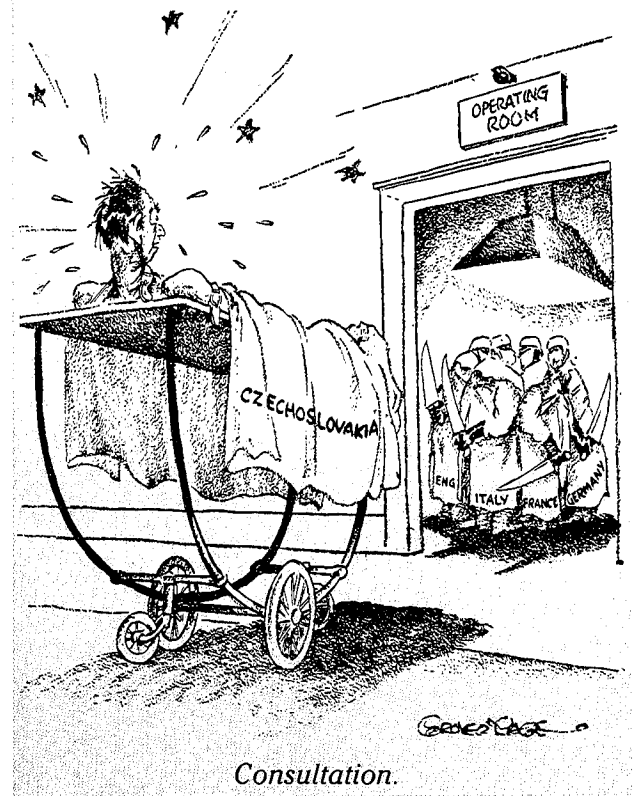
Look at the photograph on the last page of Chapter 44, and read the caption. Imagine that you are one of the Czechs shown in the photograph. Write a paragraph about what is going through your mind as you watch the Nazis come into your city.

SHARPENING YOUR SKILLS

The cartoons on this page show how people viewed the developments in Europe in the 1930's. The cartoon at the top of the page appeared in 1933. It is based on comedian Charlie Chaplin's portrayal of Hitler in the movie *The Great Dictator*. Chaplin was famous for creating a funny but sad character known as the tramp.

The cartoon at the bottom of the page appeared toward the end of the 1930's. Study the two cartoons carefully. Then answer the questions.

1. What does the cartoon at the top of the page suggest about Hitler's effect on Germany? How does the artist portray Germany? Why?
2. How did this view of Hitler change later in the decade?
3. What five nations are shown in the second cartoon?
4. Why are four of them shown in an operating room?
5. Why is Czechoslovakia the "patient"?
6. What is the significance of the swords the "surgeons" hold?
7. What event in the 1930's does the cartoon refer to?



Consultation.