

WWII

Universe of Obligation and American membership

Unit 5: Who are we responsible for? (Universe of Obligation)

Individuals to Individuals: Progressive Era

Individuals to Community: Progressive Era

Government to Citizens: Roaring 20's and Great Depression

Citizens to Country: World War 2

Country to World: World War 2



World War 2

Who are we responsible for?

When do other people's problems become our own?

Are violations to civil liberties ever justified?

Is there such a thing as a just war?

Causes of WWII and the Rise of Totalitarian Dictatorships

Fast Facts

- ❑ Lasted from September 1, 1939 to 1945
 - ❑ May 8, 1945: Victory in Europe Day (V-E Day)
 - ❑ August 14, 1945: Victory in Japan Day (V-J Day)
- ❑ Worldwide Military Deaths: 15,000,000
- ❑ Worldwide Military Wounded: 25,000,000
- ❑ Worldwide Civilian Deaths: 45,000,000 (Some sources estimate that China lost 50,000,000 civilians)
- ❑ Total Deaths: 70,000,000 to 85,000,000 (maybe even more)

The United States lost about 400,000+

Major Players

AXIS POWERS

Germany (Adolf Hitler)

Japan (Hideki Tojo)

Italy (Benito Mussolini)

ALLIED POWERS

United States (FDR)

Great Britain (Winston Churchill)

China (Chiang Kai-Shek)

Soviet Union (Joseph Stalin)



Definitions...

Dictator:

a ruler with total power over a country, typically one who has obtained power by force.

Totalitarianism:

a system of government that is centralized and dictatorial and requires complete subservience to the state.

Causes of WWII

- ❑ Treaty of Versailles
 - ❑ Germany made to pay reparations, accept guilt for WWI, lost territory
- ❑ Economic Depression
 - ❑ Adolf Hitler becomes leader of Germany promising to restore German wealth and power (1933)
- ❑ Germany's Militarism
 - ❑ Hitler secretly builds army and weapons
 - ❑ Britain and France knew but hoped a stronger Germany would prevent spread of Communism from Russia
 - ❑ 1936: Germans enter German-speaking areas of France (Rhineland), Austria and Czechoslovakia
 - ❑ Hitler makes alliances with Italy and Japan
- ❑ Failure of Appeasement
 - ❑ Appeasement: agreeing to demands of another nation in order to avoid conflict
 - ❑ Policy of Appeasement in 1938: Germany allowed to annex areas of Czechoslovakia that were German-speaking but agreed not to invade the rest of country...THEY LIED (invaded 1939)
- ❑ Failure of the League of Nations
 - ❑ Not all countries joined PLUS, no army to enforce/prevent military aggression
- ❑ Japan's Militarism
 - ❑ Japan invades China and other areas of Southeast Asia for resources
 - ❑ China asks for help---U.S. worried about their territories in Asia (Philippines and Guam)
- ❑ Rise of Totalitarianism in Europe and Asia



Rise of Totalitarianism in Europe and Asia



Mussolini and Fascism in Italy

**“All within the state,
nothing outside the
state, nothing against
the state”**

–Benito Mussolini



Italy after WWI...

Weak economy

Unemployment high

Labor strikes (often led by Communists)

Mussolini: gathered war vets, nationalists, and people fearing the rise of Communism into the Fascist party in 1919

Benito Mussolini

1922

Country: Italy

Type of Government: **Fascism (dictatorship)**

Goals and Ideas:

- Centralized all power in himself as leader (total control of social, economic, and political life)
- Ambition to restore the glory of Rome—marches on Rome in 1922: takes power without firing a single shot
- Fascism: rooted in extreme nationalism
- Alliance with Hitler's Germany
- "The Black Shirts": spread intimidation and fear



Italy under Mussolini

- Brought economy under state control
- People only important as members of the state
- Men: encouraged to be 'warriors of Italy'
- Youth groups taught strict military discipline
- Women: called to "win the battle of motherhood"
 - Given medals by Mussolini himself if they had more than 14 children





Hitler and Nazism in Germany

“Any alliance whose purpose is not the intention to wage war is senseless and useless”

–Adolf Hitler

Adolf Hitler

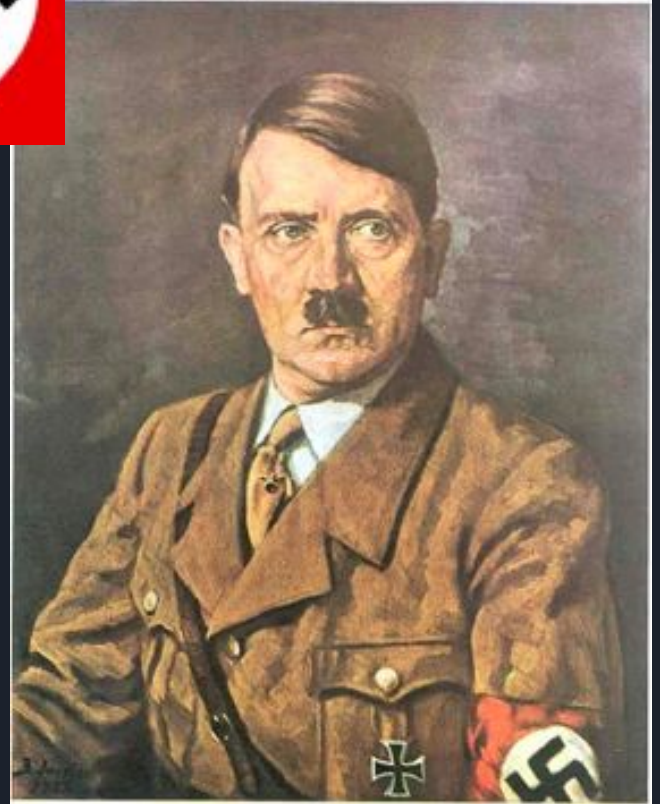
1933

Country: Germany

Type of Government: Nazism (dictatorship)

Goals and Ideas:

- Inflation and depression weakened the democratic government in Germany and allowed an opportunity for Hitler to rise to power
- Believed the western powers had no intention of using force to maintain the Treaty of Versailles
- Anti-Semitism: persecution of Jews
- Extreme nationalism: National Socialist German Workers party (aka: Nazi Party)
- Lebensraum: unite all German speaking nations
Feared communism



Germany under Hitler

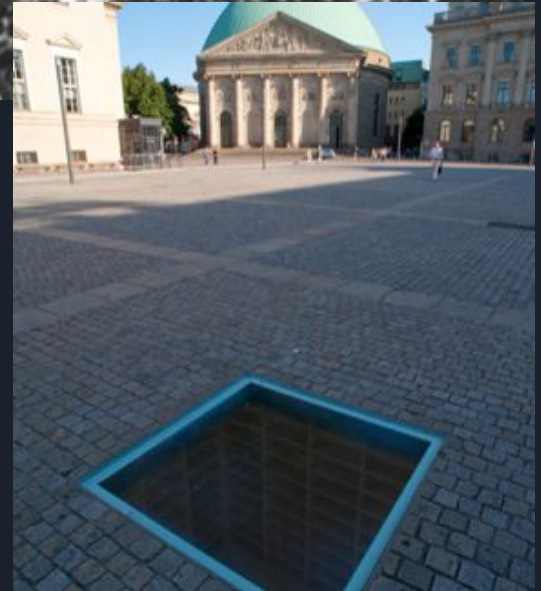
- Used Nazi “storm troopers” to battle political opponents
- *Book: Mein Kampf* (My Struggle)[Claimed Germany didn't lose war: was instead, betrayed by conspiracy of Marxist, Jews, and corrupt business & political leaders]
- Controlled all aspects of German life
- Hitler Youth
- Rewarded women for having pure Aryan race children
- Burned books
- Created state church




Nazi Book Burning

*Dort wo man Bücher
verbrennt, verbrennt man
auch am Ende Menschen.
(Where they have burned
books, they will end in
burning human beings.)*

-Quoted by Heinrich Heine
(German Jew and romantic
poet) in 1823





***The Nazis came first for the Communists.
But I wasn't a communist, so I didn't speak
up. Then they came for the Jews, but I
wasn't a Jew so I didn't speak up... Then
they came for the Catholics, but I was a
Protestant so I didn't speak up. Then they
came for me. By that time, there was no
one left to speak up.***

–Martin Niemöller (Lutheran minister who preached against Nazi policy)



Stalin and Communism in Russia

**“One death is a
tragedy, one million
deaths is a statistic”**

-Joseph Stalin

Joseph Stalin

1924

Country: Soviet Union

Type of Government: Communism (dictatorship)

Goals and Ideas:

- Crushed opponents and took control after Lenin's death
- Held absolute authority; suppressed resistance
- Brought his country to world power status but imposed upon it one of the most ruthless regimes in history

•New Economic Policies (NEP)

•Collectivization: expropriated seized goods and gained enough capital to finance a massive industrialization drive

•**The Great Purges:** KGB = secret police killed thousands of army officers and prominent Bolsheviks who opposed Stalin
Feared the growing power of Nazi German



The Holodomor (To kill by starvation)

- Stalin wanted to punish the Ukraine for wanting independence
- 1932-33: forced starvation of Ukrainian people
- Soviet troops & KGB stole all food and harvests
- Killed an estimated 7.5 million people





Hideki Tojo and Hirohito: Militarism in Japan

“It goes without saying that when survival is threatened, struggles erupt between peoples, and unfortunate wars between nations result”

–Hideki Tojo

Hideki Tojo

Country: Japan

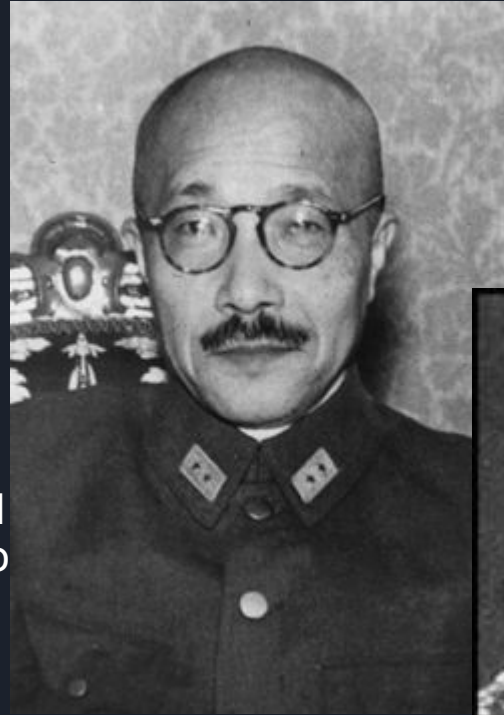
Type of Government: Militarism

Goals and Ideas:

- Though Japan had an emperor, the military had taken control of the government
- Emperor Hirohito could not stand up to the powerful generals, but he was worshipped by the people, who often fought in his name
- Industrialization of Japan, leading to a drive for raw materials – how do you get raw materials?

IMPERIALISM

- Invasion of Korea, Manchuria, and the rest of China (the League of Nations did nothing)



**Hideki Tojo, Military
Leader of Japan**



**Hirohito,
Emperor of
Japan**



UP NEXT:

HOW DID THE UNITED STATES ENTER THE WAR?

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