

CHAPTER

21

1921–1945

World War II



Adolf Hitler



The cover and the sheet music to George Gershwin's "Rhapsody in Blue"

1921 Business and Finance
The German mark falls rapidly and inflation begins.

1923 The Arts
American composer George Gershwin writes "Rhapsody in Blue."

1926 Science and Technology
American scientist Robert H. Goddard fires the first liquid fuel rocket.

1929 Business and Finance
A world economic crisis begins after the U.S. stock market crashes.

1933 Politics
Adolf Hitler is appointed chancellor of Germany.

1933 The Arts
Books by Jewish and other non-Nazi authors are burned in Germany.

1920

1922 Politics
Benito Mussolini forms a fascist government in Italy.

1925

1924 Daily Life
More than two million radios are in use in the United States.

1926 The Arts
Ernest Hemingway publishes his novel *The Sun Also Rises*.

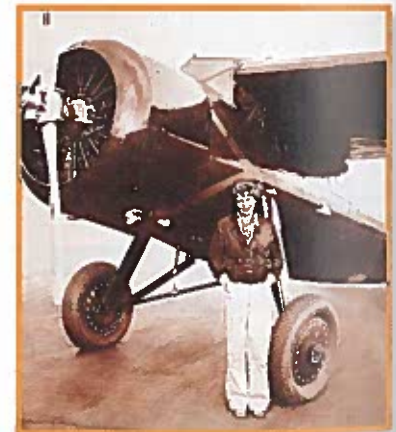
1930

1928 Global Events
The Kellogg-Briand Pact is signed, making war "illegal."

1928 Science and Technology
American aviator Amelia Earhart becomes the first woman to fly across the Atlantic.

1931 Global Events
The Japanese attack Manchuria.

A radio from the 1920s



Amelia Earhart

Build on What You Know

After World War I, bitterness and distrust continued to divide Europe. Under the Treaty of Versailles, Germany and its allies had to accept blame for starting the war and pay for damages to the countries they had invaded. The treaty also greatly reduced Germany's size and put limits on the size of its military. These measures were designed to keep Germany from waging another war. When Germany began violating the terms of the treaty, however, Great Britain and France took no action. In this chapter, you will learn how German, Japanese, and Italian aggression led to the outbreak of a new world war. You will also learn how the Allies fought this aggression and defeated the Axis Powers.



A page from a child's sugar ration book from Great Britain



These suitcases were taken from prisoners upon their arrival at the Auschwitz-Birkenau concentration camp.

1935
Science and Technology

Robert Watson-Watt builds radar equipment to detect aircraft.

1937
Politics

President Franklin Roosevelt signs the U.S. Neutrality Act.

1937
The Arts

Pablo Picasso paints *Guernica* for the Paris World Exhibition.

1940
Daily Life

Bacon, butter, and sugar are rationed in Great Britain.

1941
Politics

Hitler orders the "Final Solution"—a program to kill the entire Jewish population in Europe.

1941
Global Events

The United States and Great Britain sign the Atlantic Charter.

1945
Politics

Roosevelt, Churchill, and Stalin meet at the Yalta Conference.

1945
Global Events

The Allies achieve victory in Europe on May 8, V-E Day.

1945
Science and Technology

The first atomic bomb is exploded near Alamogordo, New Mexico, on July 16.

1935

1934
Global Events

The Soviet Union is admitted to the League of Nations.

1936
Politics

The Spanish Civil War begins.

1936
Global Events

Mussolini and Hitler form the Rome-Berlin Axis.

1940

1939
Global Events

Germany invades Poland.

1939
Business and Finance

The U.S. economy begins to boom from European orders for arms and war equipment.

1945

1943
The Arts

Casablanca wins the Academy Award™ for best film.

1945
Business and Finance

Black—or illegal—markets for food, clothing, and cigarettes develop throughout Europe.

1941
Science and Technology
The U.S. "Manhattan Project" of intensive atomic research begins.



Poster for the movie *Casablanca*

What's Your Opinion?



Do you **agree** or **disagree** with the following statements? Support your point of view in your journal.

Global Relations Regional conflicts in one part of the world can spread to affect the rest of the world.

Government Racial prejudice within a nation can be used as a political weapon by the government of that nation.

Science, Technology & Society Technology developed during wartime can be both beneficial and destructive.

Threats to World Peace

READ TO DISCOVER

- 1 Why were Japan and Italy able to carry out aggressive territorial policies in the 1930s?
- 2 Why was the League of Nations unable to stop international aggression?
- 3 How did Spain's civil war lead to a fascist dictatorship there?

IDENTIFY

Kellogg-Briand Pact
Osachi Hamaguchi
Falange
Spanish Civil War
Francisco Franco
International Brigades

WHY IT MATTERS TODAY

Today the United Nations works to keep international peace. Use [C3P.org](#) or other **current event** sources to find out what recent peace efforts the UN has undertaken. Record your findings in your journal.



The Main Idea
During the 1930s aggression by Japan and Italy and civil war in Spain threatened world peace.

The Story Continues *After World War I, the role of the League of Nations as an international peacekeeper was challenged. When Italy invaded Ethiopia in 1935, Ethiopia's former leader Haile Selassie explained the threat to international peace. "It is not merely a question of a settlement in the matter of Italian aggression. It is a question of collective security; of the very existence of the League . . ."*

Japanese Aggression in Asia

In 1928 the U.S. secretary of state, Frank B. Kellogg, and the French foreign minister, Aristide Briand, met in Paris. Together they created an agreement that made war "illegal." Eventually more than 60 nations signed the **Kellogg-Briand Pact**. During the 1930s, however, it became clear that world powers would not be able to put such an agreement into effect. Japan made one of the first challenges to this pact.

The Japanese military began gaining power in the late 1920s. Then in 1930 Japan's liberal prime minister, **Osachi Hamaguchi**, was fatally shot. Political chaos followed the assassination. Within two years, a group of military leaders controlled the Japanese government. In September 1931 a small group of Japanese army officers staged a fake attack on the railway near Mukden, in China's province of Manchuria. Blaming the attack on China, Japanese forces in Manchuria quickly took control of the entire province. The major nations in the League of Nations condemned Japan's aggression but were not willing to take military action to protect China. Japan responded to the condemnation by withdrawing from the League of Nations.

The lack of enforceable opposition encouraged Japan, which announced its intention of extending its influence not only to all of China, but also through out East Asia and the western Pacific. Six years later, in 1937, the Japanese army captured the city of Beijing. While Chinese forces fought hard to protect their country, Japan slowly gained more territory. By 1939 the Japanese controlled about one fourth of China, including all seaports.

- ✓ **READING CHECK: Finding the Main Idea** What was the result of Japanese aggression during the 1930s?

Victorious Japanese troops celebrate the conquest of Manchuria.





The Expansion of Japan, 1928–1941

Interpreting Maps When the Japanese took over Manchuria, they declared it the independent nation of Manchukuo and installed a puppet government led by the former emperor of China. Within a ten-year period, Japan occupied about one fourth of China. Then the Japanese fought to gain control over Southeast Asia and to establish a large island empire in the Pacific.

- **Skills Assessment: 1. Human Systems** Through what two cities in Manchuria did the Japanese advance?
- **2. Drawing Inferences** Why do you think Japan chose Manchuria as its first site of expansion?

Italy's Conquest of Ethiopia

Benito Mussolini came to power in Italy in 1922 and ruled as a fascist dictator. Mussolini worked to improve the nation's economy. He may have believed that overseas expansion would help ease some of Italy's economic problems. Ethiopia, one of the few independent nations in Africa, became the target of Mussolini's aggressive goals.

When a border dispute with Italy broke out in 1934, Ethiopia called on the League of Nations to help. The League could not offer military protection to Ethiopia, however, because it maintained no armed forces. A year later Italian forces invaded and

CONNECTING TO Art

Painting: *Guernica* by Pablo Picasso

Although Pablo Picasso lived in France, he was born in Spain. He strongly supported the Loyalist cause during the Spanish Civil War. Picasso's painting *Guernica* expresses his outrage over the bombing of the Spanish town of Guernica, which had no strategic value in the war. Picasso's broken figures show war victims' fear and suffering. They twist in pain under a bright electric light. Picasso asked that *Guernica* be kept in the United States until democracy returned to Spain. In 1981 the painting was placed in a museum in Madrid.

Understanding the Arts

What techniques does Picasso use to express the pain and horror of war?



defeated the poorly equipped Ethiopian army. The League declared Italy an aggressor and placed economic sanctions on the country. The weak boycott on trade had little effect on Italy, however. In the spring of 1936, Mussolini announced Ethiopia was part of the Italian Empire.

Most countries did not agree with Italy's actions. However, no major power was willing to enforce the League's sanctions. Horrible memories of World War I made countries such as Great Britain and the United States unwilling to risk another war. In addition, many countries were busy dealing with the problems created by the Great Depression. As a result, Italy and Japan realized they could continue their acts of aggression with little real threat of opposition.

✓ **READING CHECK: Analyzing Information** Why was the League of Nations unable to stop aggression in both Italy and Japan?

Civil War in Spain

After World War I political instability increased in Spain. In 1923 rebels overthrew the government and set up a military dictatorship. This government fell in 1931 when the army withdrew its support. Spain's new leaders formed a government called the Second Spanish Republic. They planned to establish freedom of religion and to separate church and state issues. Education came under government control and members of the clergy were not allowed to teach. The new government also took land from the Catholic Church and the nobility and gave it to the peasants. Workers received new benefits such as shorter hours, better wages, and the right to organize.

Nationalists versus Loyalists. These dramatic new changes angered many Spanish conservatives. They quickly gave their support to a fascist party called the **Falange**. Using terrorism, the Falange worked to preserve the power of the army, landowners, and the church. Members of the Falange became even more active after a group of socialists and Communists, called the Popular Front, won a major election in February 1936. In the summer of 1936, Falangist uprisings led to the outbreak of the **Spanish Civil War**. The Falangist rebels were led by General **Francisco Franco** and called themselves Nationalists. Those who supported the republic were known as Loyalists, or Republicans. By the end of 1936, the Nationalists controlled most of northern Spain. The Loyalists controlled the east and southeast. They also had power over most of the northern coastline and the capital city of Madrid.

Foreign assistance to Spain.

The Spanish Civil War soon grew into a small European war. Germany and Italy saw a fascist Spain as a part of their plan to surround France with unfriendly powers and threaten Great Britain. They sent fully equipped military units to bolster Nationalist forces. The Soviet Union sympathized with the republican government. Soviets sent planes, technicians, and military advisers

to Spain. Their support, however, was not nearly as great as what Franco received from his fascist allies.

Volunteers from France, Great Britain, and the United States also rushed to help the Spanish Republic. These idealistic antifascist volunteers became known as the **International Brigades**. The French and British feared that the Spanish Civil War might spread to the rest of Europe. Spain's civil war illustrated a wider conflict between communism and fascism throughout Europe. English writer George Orwell described the antifascist city of Barcelona.

History Makers Speak

“Practically every building of any size had been seized by the workers and was draped with red flags . . . ; every wall was scrawled with the hammer and sickle and with the initials of the revolutionary parties; almost every church had been gutted and its images burnt.”

George Orwell, *Homage to Catalonia*

Nationalist forces defeated the Loyalists in the spring of 1939. Franco set up a fascist dictatorship. He became Spain's head of state and had unlimited power. Franco's government and economic structure began to look a lot like Mussolini's in Italy. Franco brought an end to all free elections and most civil rights. Spain's old ruling groups—the army, the landowners, and the Roman Catholic Church—all held positions of power under Franco's rule.

During the three years of the Spanish Civil War, Spain and its people suffered greatly. The war caused considerable destruction and loss of life. Estimates of Spain's war dead during these years range from 500,000 to 1 million. Over the course of the war, moreover, the bitter differences that had separated the various opposing groups in 1936 became deeper and even more divisive.

✓ **READING CHECK: Sequencing**
How did Spain become a fascist dictatorship?



Analyzing Primary Sources

Identifying a Point of View Why would antifascists in Spain have destroyed churches?

INTERPRETING THE VISUAL RECORD

Spanish Civil War Europe's larger conflict between communism and fascism was demonstrated in the Spanish Civil War. *Why do you think these antifascists barricaded the streets of Barcelona?*

SECTION I REVIEW

1. **Identify** and explain the significance:
Kellogg-Briand Pact
Osachi Hamaguchi
Falange
Spanish Civil War
Francisco Franco
International Brigades

2. **Identifying Cause and Effect**
Copy the chart below. Use it to explain how militarism and fascism affected Japan, Italy, and Spain in the 1930s.

	Japan	Italy	Spain
Militarism and Fascism			

3. **Finding the Main Idea**

- Why was the League of Nations unable to stop the aggression of Japan and Italy?
- How did Francisco Franco become a fascist dictator in Spain?

4. **Writing and Critical Thinking**

Making Predictions Describe what might have happened differently during the 1930s if the League of Nations had been a more effective international peacekeeper.

Consider:

- Japan's aggression in the 1930s
- Italy's aggression in the 1930s
- the effects of not opposing such aggression



Homework Practice Online

keyword: SH3 HP21

READ TO DISCOVER

- 1 How was Adolf Hitler able to take over Austria and Czechoslovakia?
- 2 How and why did Great Britain and France attempt to avoid another war in Europe?
- 3 How did Great Britain and France prepare for war in the face of German aggression?
- 4 Why did Hitler and Stalin create the Nazi-Soviet Pact, and how did Western nations respond to Hitler's invasion of Poland?

DEFINE

appeasement

IDENTIFY

Axis Powers
 Anti-Comintern Pact
 Munich Conference
 Neville Chamberlain
 Édouard Daladier
 German-Soviet nonaggression pact

WHY IT MATTERS TODAY

Today, world powers often get involved when one country acts aggressively against another. Use **CURRENT** or other **current event** sources to find an aggressive act during recent years that the United States has taken action against. Record your findings in your journal.



Hitler's Aggressions

The Main Idea

Adolf Hitler led Germany in its aggressive acts to expand the territory of the German empire.

The Story Continues Militarism and fascism also grew in Germany. Under Adolf Hitler's leadership, Germany began a plan to acquire "living space" for the "superior" German race. "An additional 500,000 kilometers [almost 200,000 square miles] in Europe can provide new homesteads for millions of German peasants . . .," Hitler wrote.

Austria and Czechoslovakia

In 1933 Adolf Hitler announced that he would rearm the country. He then took Germany out of the League of Nations. In March 1936 German troops marched into the Rhineland, violating the Treaty of Versailles. In October 1936, Hitler and Mussolini created an alliance called the Rome-Berlin Axis. They began calling themselves the **Axis Powers**. Shortly afterward, Japan and Germany promised to work together. They signed an agreement called the **Anti-Comintern Pact**, pledging to stop the spread of communism. Italy later signed the pact. By the end of 1936, the three nations who would later enter World War II as the Axis Powers had hidden their aggressive intentions under the cover of fighting communism.

Annexing Austria. A Nazi Party had been formed in Austria in the late 1920s. By the early 1930s, the extremely conservative Austrian government was doing little to resist Nazi inroads. By 1938 threats from both Hitler and Mussolini forced the Austrian government to include Nazi members in its cabinet.

Although the Austrian chancellor had made an agreement with Hitler on union with Germany, he regretted the agreement and suggested that the Austrian people be allowed to vote on the issue. Hitler refused, preferring instead to take Austria with a show of force. The Austrian chancellor resigned, and a German army marched into Austria unopposed. In March 1938 Hitler declared Austria to be part of the Third Reich. This was in violation of the Treaty of Versailles, which had specifically forbidden any union between Germany and Austria. Even so, Great Britain and France did nothing more than send protests to Hitler, which he ignored. The League of Nations took no action.



Mussolini and Hitler at a 1937 conference in Munich.

The addition of Austria increased the size of Germany's population, territory, and resources. It also increased Hitler's power in Europe. Strategically, Germany controlled the heart of central Europe. Germany now had a common border with its ally Italy and it nearly encircled Czechoslovakia. Hitler identified this country as his next area of expansion.

Crisis in the Sudetenland. More than 3 million Germans lived in the Sudetenland (soo-DAYT-uhn-land), a region around the western rim of Czechoslovakia. The Sudetenland included a chain of mountains that provided a natural defense for Czechoslovakia. They were heavily fortified as a very important defensive line.

The Czech government tried to protect the rights of Germans living in this area. However, many still wanted union with Germany. As a result the Nazi Party grew in strength there. When riots broke out in September 1938, Czechoslovakia placed the region under martial law. Hitler then announced he would invade and annex the Sudetenland to protect fellow Germans. The loss of this heavily armed mountain region would mean disaster for Czechoslovakia since it would leave the country defenseless against Germany.

Appeasement. As tensions grew in Europe, Hitler held a meeting on September 29, 1938, called the **Munich Conference**. He invited British prime minister Neville Chamberlain and French premier Édouard Daladier (dah-lahd-yay). Also in attendance was Mussolini. Chamberlain and Daladier accepted Hitler's demand that the Sudetenland be joined with Germany. Britain and France feared Germany's military strength. In addition, they knew their own countries were not prepared for war. This policy of trying to keep the peace by accepting some of the demands of the aggressor is called **appeasement**.

Upon returning to London, Chamberlain spoke triumphantly to a cheering crowd. He announced that he had achieved "peace in our time." France announced it would not honor its agreement to defend Czechoslovakia. Germany began to occupy the Sudetenland. Abandoned by its allies, Czechoslovakia was left defenseless. The United States also tried to avoid the conflict. Famous pilot Charles Lindbergh expressed the feelings of many Americans.



“If we are forced into a war against the wishes of an overwhelming majority of our people, we will have proved democracy such a failure at home that there will be little use fighting for it abroad.”

Charles A. Lindbergh, *The New York Times*, April 24, 1941

In March 1939 German troops invaded Czechoslovakia. Within six months this independent republic had been erased from Europe's map. Germany also gained the port city of Memel, Lithuania, in the spring of 1939. Yet another country lost its independence when Mussolini invaded Albania in April 1939. The Italians took this small country on the east coast of the Adriatic Sea in only a few days. Once again the League of Nations had failed to be effective. Its complete helplessness in the face of aggression was now obvious.

✓ **READING CHECK: Summarizing** How did Hitler conquer Austria and Czechoslovakia, and what role did Great Britain and France play?



These Sudeten women express strong emotions as they salute German troops in Czechoslovakia.

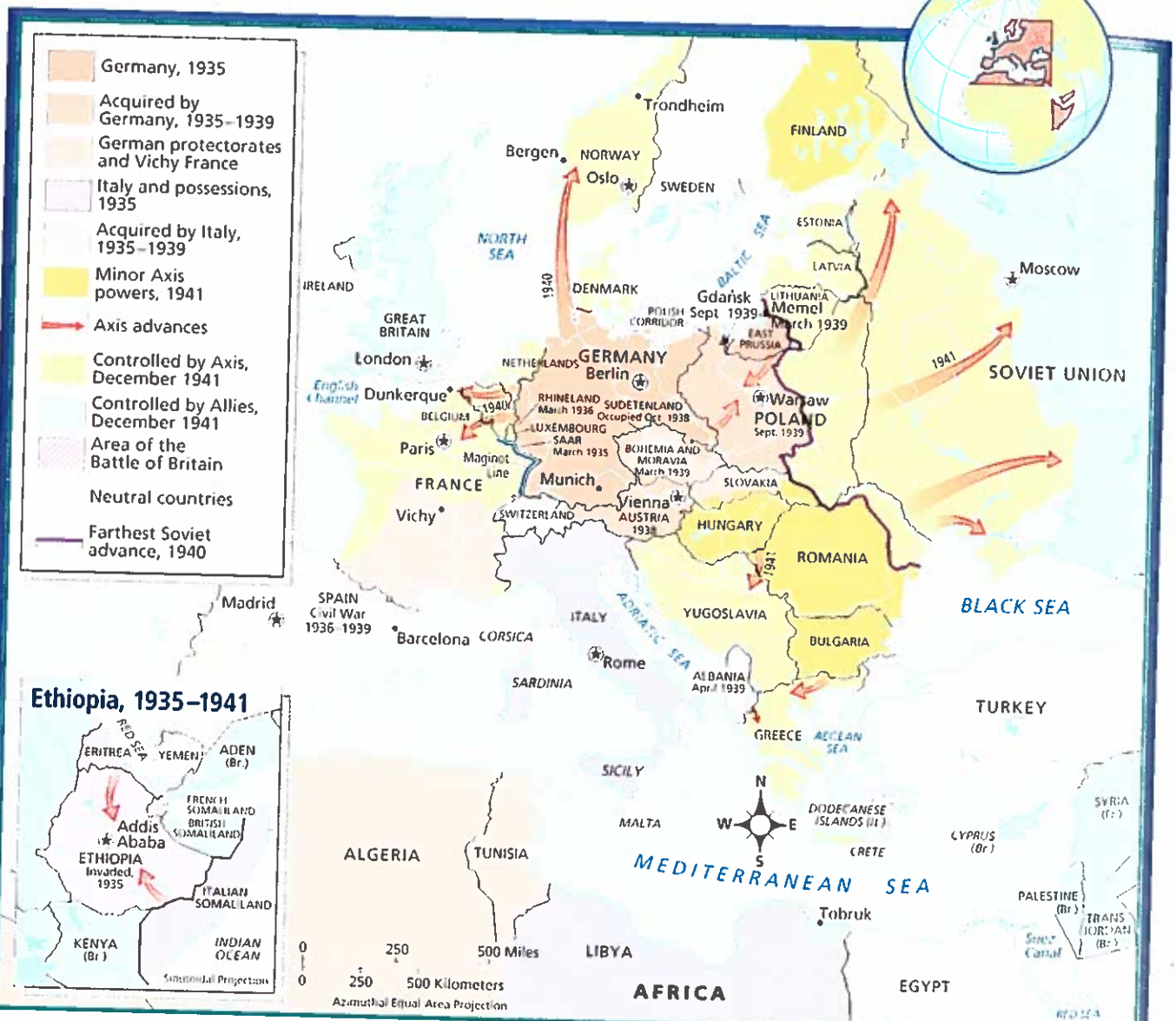
Analyzing Primary Sources

Finding the Main Idea According to Lindbergh, in what sense would democracy have failed if the United States went to war?

Preparations for War

After Hitler took over Czechoslovakia, British and French leaders could no longer ignore the fascist dictators. Britain and France therefore began to prepare for war. Neville Chamberlain ordered that Britain's rearmament program be stepped up. He also rushed through Parliament a law drafting men into the military. Great Britain joined France in a promise to protect Poland if Germany attacked.

Negotiating with Stalin. Great Britain and France asked Soviet leader Joseph Stalin to become part of an alliance against Germany. The Soviet Union had joined the League of Nations while Japan, Germany, and Italy had



German and Italian Expansion, 1935-1941

Interpreting Maps Within six years of expansion, Germany and Italy controlled much of Europe and North Africa.

- Skills Assessment:**
- Places and Regions** What regions did Germany and Italy control by December 1941?
 - Analyzing Information** What countries remained neutral during this period?

dropped out. However, Soviet leaders still did not trust the Western democracies. Western nations were fearful of communism. Until this time they had kept the Soviet Union out of all major decisions. Soviet leaders in turn feared that the Western powers would welcome a chance to turn Hitler loose on them.

The Soviets required that any agreement with the West guarantee the independence of Poland, Finland, and the Baltic countries of Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania. All but Lithuania had common borders with the Soviet Union. The Soviets also wanted a military alliance with these countries. This would allow an immediate response if Germany attacked. The Baltic states immediately protested the Soviets' idea. A military agreement would mean that Soviet armies would have the right to move into their countries to fight off a German attack. As a result the talks dragged on without any agreement.

✓ **READING CHECK: Summarizing** What preparations did Great Britain and France make for war when Hitler's plans became clear?

The Nazi-Soviet Pact. At the same time that Stalin was negotiating with Great Britain and France, he was carrying on secret talks with Germany. In August 1939 the Western democracies received a huge shock when Hitler proudly announced a **German-Soviet nonaggression pact**. Also called the Nazi-Soviet Pact, this agreement publicly stated that Germany and the Soviet Union would never attack each other. Each would remain neutral if the other went to war.

The reasons for this agreement were not clear at the time. Both Hitler and Stalin may simply have been playing for time. Hitler wanted to make sure the Soviets would be neutral if Great Britain or France took action against Germany. Stalin hoped that Hitler's attention would be focused on events in the West. This would give the Soviet Union enough time to prepare for a conflict with Germany.

Secretly, however, Hitler and Stalin had agreed to divide eastern Europe into spheres of influence. Germany was to take western Poland. The Soviet Union was to have a free hand in the Baltic countries. It would also control eastern Poland and the province of Bessarabia. Little doubt existed as to the meaning of the agreement. The Western nations had lost a possible ally in the East, and Germany had arranged for the Soviet Union to be neutral. This gave Germany a huge military advantage.

✓ **READING CHECK: Finding the Main Idea** Why did Hitler and Stalin create the Nazi-Soviet Pact?

YOUNG PEOPLE IN HISTORY

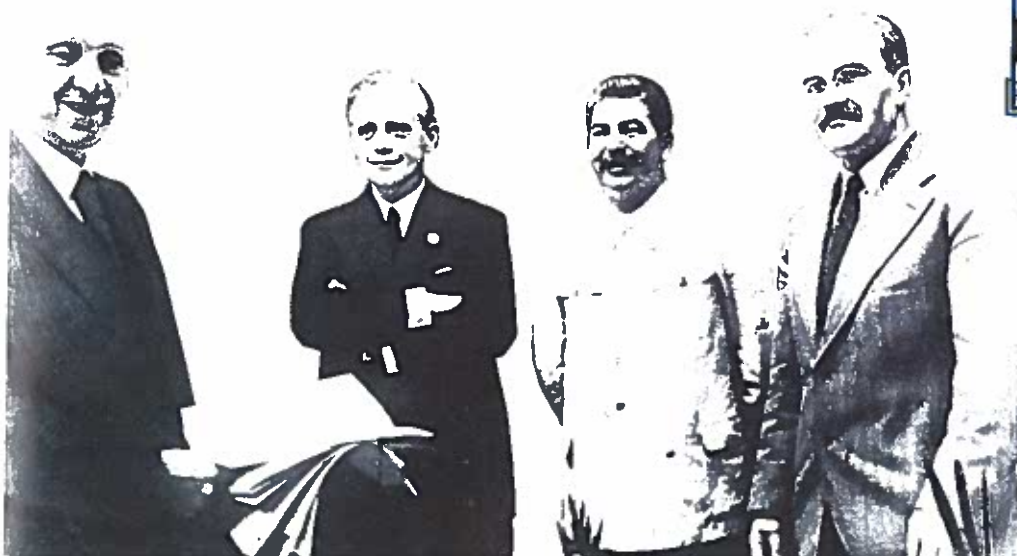
Edelweiss Pirates

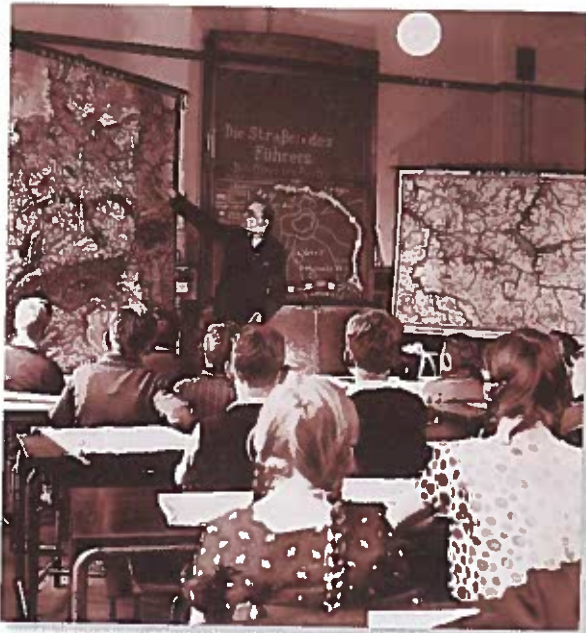
Hitler established youth groups to train young Germans in Nazi ideology. Not every German youngster joined the Hitler Youth, however. Many teenagers formed their own neighborhood groups. Some groups, such as the Edelweiss Pirates of Cologne-Ehrenfeld, became involved in anti-Nazi activities. The Edelweiss Pirates provided shelter to concentration camp escapees and carried out secret attacks on Nazi leaders. The Nazis caught and executed several members of the group. **Who were the Edelweiss Pirates, and how did they resist Nazism?**

The Nazis hanged Bartholomäus Schink on November 10, 1944, for being a member of the Edelweiss Pirates.



Shown here is Joseph Stalin (second from right) with other Russian and German diplomats concluding the German-Soviet nonaggression pact.





INTERPRETING THE VISUAL RECORD

Nazi schools The government of Nazi Germany wanted children to share the military mood and master-race philosophy of the Nazi party. Here, a teacher points out the location of the Polish Corridor to a classroom full of students. *What effect do you think lectures like the one shown here had on children?*

Danzig and the Polish Corridor. The crisis that finally touched off World War II began in Poland. Hitler wanted Germany to control the seaport city of Danzig—modern day Gdańsk. Danzig was a free city, protected by the League of Nations. Poland and Germany both had rights to use the busy and strategically important port of Danzig, located at the mouth of the Vistula River on the coast of the Baltic Sea. A strip of land about 90 miles long and between 25 and 55 miles wide allowed Poland access to the port of Danzig. This land ran through what had been German Prussia. It had been granted to Poland in 1919 by the Treaty of Versailles in order to provide Poland with a direct opening to the Baltic. This strip of land, known as the Polish Corridor, became a growing source of conflict between Poland and Germany during the years following World War I. After Hitler came to power in 1933, he acted to claim Danzig for Germany because it had a large German population. It also had a strong and growing Nazi Party that by 1937 had taken control of the city government.

On September 1, 1939, Hitler announced the annexation of Danzig to the German Reich. At the same time, without warning, his air force began a massive attack on Poland. Nazi tanks sped across the border and swiftly drove toward Warsaw and the Polish heartland. The Poles were relentlessly attacked by German forces equipped with modern weapons and technology, and a strategy of total war. Polish troops made a courageous but hopeless defense against the German onslaught. Two days later Great Britain and France decided that they would not stand for any further Nazi aggression. They kept their promises to Poland and declared war on Germany. Within 48 hours the unannounced attack on Poland had become the beginning of World War II.

✓ **READING CHECK: Drawing Conclusions** How did the Nazi-Soviet Pact and Hitler's attack on Poland lead to World War II?

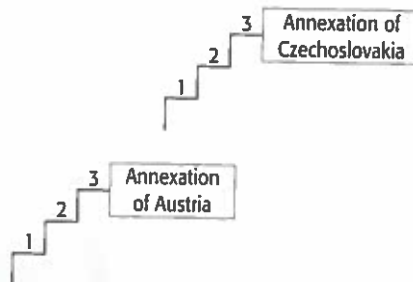
SECTION 2 REVIEW

1. Define and explain the significance: appeasement

2. Identify and explain the significance:

- Axis Powers
- Anti-Comintern Pact
- Munich Conference
- Neville Chamberlain
- Édouard Daladier
- German-Soviet nonaggression pact

3. Summarizing Copy the graphic organizer below. Use it to identify the steps Hitler took to annex Austria and Czechoslovakia.



4. Finding the Main Idea

- a. How and why did France and Great Britain try to avoid war with Hitler?
- b. Why might British and French policies during the 1930s have encouraged German aggression?
- c. How did the Western powers react to Hitler's invasion of Poland?

5. Writing and Critical Thinking

Identifying Cause and Effect Explain how Great Britain and France prepared for war after Hitler overtook Czechoslovakia.

Consider:

- building their military strength
- the protection of Poland
- negotiating with Stalin



Homework Practice Online

keyword: SH3 HP21

SECTION

3

READ TO DISCOVER

- 1 How did German control of Norway, Denmark, and the Low Countries benefit Hitler?
- 2 What success did German forces experience in France?
- 3 What was the Battle of Britain, and why were the Germans unable to achieve victory?
- 4 What role did the United States play at the beginning of the war, and how did that role change?

DEFINE

blitzkrieg
 “phony war”
 collaborators
 maquis
 isolationists

IDENTIFY

Winston Churchill
 Philippe Pétain
 Charles de Gaulle
 Luftwaffe
 Battle of Britain
 Neutrality Acts
 Lend-Lease Act
 Atlantic Charter

WHY IT MATTERS TODAY

Great Britain and the United States continue to work together on international issues. Use **CNN** or other **current event** sources to find a recent issue that these two countries have addressed. Record your findings in your journal.

CNN
 NEWS.com

Axis Gains

The Main Idea
 Striking quickly and forcefully, the Axis Powers gained military control over most of Europe.

The Story Continues After France and Great Britain agreed to Hitler's demands at the Munich Conference, the German leader believed he had little to fear from the Western leaders. “I saw them at Munich,” he said. “They are little worms.” Germany's invasion of Poland brought declarations of war from Great Britain and France. Hitler already had the advantage, however, and continued his conquest of European nations.

The “Phony War”

Hitler's invasion of Poland introduced the world to a new kind of warfare. The attack was a **blitzkrieg** (German for “lightning war”), meaning it took place with great speed and force. After a month of fighting, Poland surrendered to Hitler. While Germany attacked Poland, France moved its army up to its chain of fortifications along the Maginot Line. British forces landed on the northern coast of France and the British navy blockaded Germany's ports. The Germans placed troops in the Siegfried Line, the system of fortifications they had built in the Rhineland. There were a few attacks on British battleships. Otherwise, however, there was little action on the western front. While there was an increase in troop movement and arms production, newspapers began to speak of the “**phony war**” in western Europe. Some people still hoped that an all-out war could be avoided.

As the Germans marched into Poland from the west, the Soviet army built up on the Soviet-Polish border. Then following the secret deal made in the Nazi-Soviet Pact, the Soviets invaded eastern Poland on September 17. Once again Poland disappeared from the map of Europe. The Soviets also took control of Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania. On November 30, 1939, the Soviet Union attacked Finland. The Finns appealed to the League of Nations. However, the League could do nothing more than expel the Soviet Union for its aggression against another member nation. Although the Finns fought bravely, their struggle ended in March 1940.

Scandinavia and the Low Countries. On April 9, 1940, the “phony war” ended with a sudden German invasion of Denmark and Norway. The Germans sometimes depended on help from **collaborators**, people who were willing to help their country's enemies. A leader of the Norwegian Fascist Party named Quisling proved to be an important collaborator for Germany. He provided information to the Germans before the invasion and aided the occupying forces. In a single day German troops took control of some of Norway's strategic ports. Both Norway and Denmark fell to German control.

By taking these countries, Germany gained an outlet to the Atlantic Ocean. The Scandinavian coastline and landscape gave Germany very good submarine bases and airfields. This put shipping to France and Great Britain in serious danger. The British realized that Hitler was now an immediate threat to their safety. In May 1940 **Winston Churchill** replaced Neville Chamberlain as prime minister. Churchill had been one of the few politicians to speak out against the policy of appeasement in the 1930s.



Citizens of Warsaw, Poland, flee the German Blitzkrieg as fire consumes their neighborhood.

Hitler, meanwhile, continued to attack. On May 10, 1940, German armored units invaded the Low Countries—the Netherlands, Belgium, and Luxembourg. By the end of May, all three countries had surrendered. Hitler's forces were now in a position to outflank France's Maginot Line. German armored units drove westward toward the English Channel. Reaching the coast, they cut off a large number of British, Belgian, and French troops from the main French force to the south. Outnumbered and with no room to change their position, the encircled Allied troops tried to escape from the French seaport of Dunkerque.

Evacuation of Dunkerque. The British air force, badly outnumbered, struggled to help the trapped forces in Dunkerque. Fortunately the German ground forces stopped their advance. Every available ship and boat in Britain was ordered to Dunkerque. Even fishing and rowboats fell under attack by aircraft, submarines, and artillery as they picked up forces from the beaches. Between about May 27 and June 4, about 338,000 men were safely transported across the channel to England. However, they did lose all their heavy equipment.

The reason why Hitler did not attack the retreating Allies is not known for certain. He may have believed his air force could finish off the Allied forces. This decision would later be seen as a costly mistake. It allowed Britain to regain its strength. Although the Allies were defeated at Dunkerque, the success of the rescue effort helped raise British spirits.

✓ **READING CHECK: Evaluating** How did Hitler benefit from taking control of Norway, Denmark, and the Low Countries?

The Fall of France

After the evacuation of Dunkerque, the French were left to fight alone on the European continent. The Maginot Line was useless. Having taken Belgium, the Germans were in a position to attack France from the north, where there were few fortifications. Germany turned southward to attack the heart of France early in June 1940. The French fought a difficult, losing battle. The French army expected stationary battles such as those in World War I. They were not trained or equipped for this new kind of war. German planes bombed and machine-gunned civilians who tried to escape the attack, causing great panic and disorder.

In June 1940 northern France became a scene of absolute confusion. Carrying whatever belongings they could, civilians crowded roads as they tried to escape to the south.



Mussolini quickly took advantage of France's weakness. He declared war on France and Great Britain on June 10, and Italian forces attacked southern France. On June 14 the Germans entered Paris, and the French armed resistance in the north fell apart. Rather than surrender, the French cabinet resigned.

Some French leaders, however, were willing to surrender. **Philippe Pétain** (PAY-tan), a hero of World War I, formed a government and assumed dictatorial powers. Late in June, Hitler forced the Pétain government to sign a peace agreement with Germany and Italy. The terms of the agreement were severe. German troops were to occupy northern France, including Paris, and a strip of territory along the Atlantic coast southward to Spain. France had to pay the costs of this occupation. The French navy was to be disarmed and not allowed out of French ports. Pétain's government moved to the city of Vichy (VISH-ee), in the south. Thus France was divided into occupied France, administered by the Germans, and Vichy France, which collaborated with the Germans. The Vichy government also controlled most French possessions in North Africa and the Middle East.

The French Resistance. Some of the French who wanted to continue to fight against Germany escaped to Africa or to Britain. Under the leadership of General **Charles de Gaulle** (duh-GOHL), they formed the Free French government. It set up headquarters in London, Britain, and later the United States, equipped the Free French army. As the war went on, this army played a part in several campaigns.

In France itself a resistance movement worked underground, or in secret. Similar movements developed in other German-occupied countries as well. Members of some of these groups were called **maquis** (mah-KEE)—the French term for the scrubby undergrowth common in the areas where resistance fighters hid. The maquis fought the Germans from within their occupied lands. They undermined the Nazi war effort by engaging in acts of sabotage such as blowing up bridges, wrecking trains, and cutting telephone and telegraph lines.

✓ **READING CHECK: Summarizing** What success did Hitler have in France?

The Battle of Britain

After France fell, many predicted that Britain would prove to be even weaker than France. Little by little, Hitler began scattered bombing raids on Great Britain, gradually increasing them in intensity. When he offered to negotiate a peace settlement, Churchill refused. At the end of June 1940, Churchill braced the British people for the dangerous battle that he felt sure would come.

History
Makers
Speak

“Hitler knows that he will have to break us in this island or lose the war. If we can stand up to him, all Europe may be free and the life of the world may move forward into broad, sunlit uplands. But if we fail, then the whole world, including the United States, including all that we have known and cared for, will sink into the abyss of a new Dark Age. . . . Let us therefore brace ourselves to our duties, and so bear ourselves that, if the British Empire and its Commonwealth last for a thousand years, men will say, ‘This was their finest hour.’”

Winston Churchill, quoted in *A Treasury of the World's Great Speeches*,
edited by Houston Peterson

Hitler ordered his air force, the **Luftwaffe**, to soften up Britain for invasion. He moved the Luftwaffe units to airfields in France and Belgium, closer to their targets.

HISTORY MAKER



Winston Churchill
(1874–1965)

Winston Churchill is generally considered to be one of Great Britain's most outstanding leaders. As prime minister during World War II, Churchill is best remembered for helping to boost British hopes of victory.

Churchill also recognized the importance of maintaining close ties with the United States. Throughout the war, he worked hard to promote good relations between the two countries. His distrust of Stalin and the Soviet Union emphasized his concern about the spread of communism. **What were Churchill's goals and concerns?**

Analyzing Primary Sources

Evaluating Why do you think Churchill's speech made a difference in the war?



INTERPRETING THE VISUAL RECORD

The Battle of Britain Between about September 1940 and May 1941, Britain suffered regular nighttime air raids by German bombers. Some 43,000 civilians died and thousands were left homeless. *Why might this British family need the wooden shutters that they are making?*

The first German air attacks were on British military sites. Later they struck railroads and civilian and industrial targets. These raids, along with British efforts to counter them, became known as the **Battle of Britain**. This fighting continued non-stop during September and October. Hitler believed his airforce would destroy the people's will to fight. The British, however, dug out of their ruins and carried on. The Royal Air Force—or RAF—continued fighting to defend the island country. The growing success of these fighter planes gave the British hope.

Outnumbered by the Luftwaffe, British pilots flew combat missions day after day, night after night. The RAF also had a new electronic tool called radar. This helped identify enemy aircraft or ships as they came near. The early warning provided by radar gave British fighters time to counterattack and kept the Germans from making surprise attacks. The RAF's control of the air also meant that Germany could not invade across the English Channel.

The Germans continued their night bombing for many months. At the same time, British bombers made stronger and heavier attacks on German cities. By the middle of 1941, air warfare had peaked. Germany began sending some of its war resources to the east. However, Germany's blockade of British shipping meant there was a chance that Great Britain could be starved into surrendering. This might have happened had it not been for the United States.

✓ **READING CHECK: Finding the Main Idea** Why was Germany unable to win the Battle of Britain?

United States Involvement

In the **Neutrality Acts** passed between 1935 and 1937, the United States had stated its wish to stay neutral in future wars. These laws said Americans could not sell war equipment to warring nations. Americans could not make loans to these nations or sail on their ships. In addition, American ships were restricted from entering war zones.

Many people worried that Nazi Germany would hurt not only Europe, but also civilization itself. Most Americans, however, believed that Europe's wars should not concern the United States. These **isolationists**, as they were called, had come to power at the end of World War I. Their power began to fade as fears grew that the Nazis would take over the world. In 1939 a revised Neutrality Act allowed American firms to sell munitions to warring nations on a cash and carry basis. Great Britain still controlled sea routes between the United States and Great Britain. Therefore, the effect of this law was to allow the sale of arms only to Great Britain.

After the rescue from Dunkerque and the fall of France, American sympathy for the British grew. President Franklin D. Roosevelt believed that Britain was the front line of a war that would involve the United States sooner or later. In September 1940 President Roosevelt moved 50 old American warships to Great Britain. In exchange Great Britain gave the United States use of several naval and air bases. In that same month Congress passed the first national draft law in the United States during peacetime. Early in 1941 Churchill said to the United States: "Give us the tools, and we will finish the job." In March Congress passed the **Lend-Lease Act**, authorizing the president to supply war materials to Great Britain on credit. Now the direction of America's involvement became clear.

✓ **READING CHECK: Sequencing** What was the U.S. position on foreign wars during the 1930s and how did it begin to change?

**Holt
Researcher**



go.hrw.com

KEYWORD: Holt Researcher

FreeFind: Winston Churchill

Franklin Roosevelt

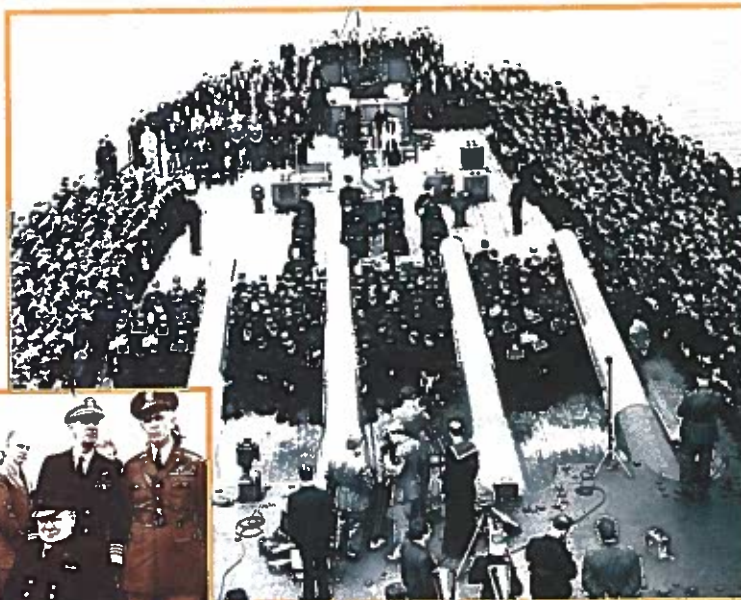
After reading more about Winston Churchill and Franklin Roosevelt on the Holt Researcher, create a Venn diagram comparing their accomplishments in office. Then assess which one you think had the greatest impact on the 20th century.

The Atlantic Charter

President Roosevelt and Prime Minister Churchill met in August 1941. Together they created a statement that became known as the **Atlantic Charter**. This document stated that the United States and Great Britain (1) sought no territorial gain, (2) would allow no territorial changes without the consent of the people concerned, (3) respected the right of all people to choose their own form of government, (4) believed that all nations should have equal rights to trade and to raw materials, (5) wanted nations to cooperate on economic matters to ensure everyone a decent standard of living, (6) believed people everywhere should have the right to security and freedom from want and fear, (7) believed freedom of the seas should be guaranteed, and (8) believed that nations must abolish the use of force and establish a system of general security, suggesting the creation of an international organization.

During the fall of 1941, the United States Navy helped the British in many ways. It fought against German submarines and protected ships in the western Atlantic. Isolationist opinion was still strong in the United States. By November 1941, however, the United States was giving the British all aid short of joining the war.

✓ **READING CHECK: Summarizing** In what ways did the United States become involved in the war?



In August 1941 Roosevelt and Churchill met aboard a British battleship off the coast of Newfoundland. Their Atlantic Charter publicly announced the democratic goals shared by Great Britain and the United States.

SECTION 3 REVIEW

1. **Define** and explain the significance:

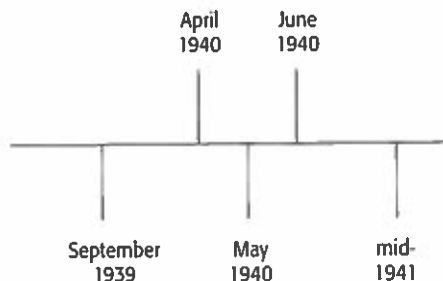
blitzkrieg
"phony war"
collaborators
maquis
isolationists

2. **Identify** and explain the significance:

Winston Churchill
Philippe Pétain
Charles de Gaulle
Luftwaffe
Battle of Britain
Neutrality Acts
Lend-Lease Act
Atlantic Charter

3. **Sequencing** Copy the time line below.

Use it to describe German progress in the war through the first half of 1941.



4. **Finding the Main Idea**

- How did Hitler gain control over France and how did some French people continue to resist German rule?
- How was British airpower able to prevent a German invasion across the English Channel?

5. **Writing and Critical Thinking**

Sequencing Describe the progression of the involvement of the United States in World War II.

Consider:

- the original Neutrality Acts and the revised Neutrality Act of 1939
- why Americans sympathized with the British
- the Atlantic Charter and U.S. aid to the British in the fall of 1941



Homework Practice Online

keyword: SH3 HP21

READ TO DISCOVER

- 1 What steps did the Axis Powers take to gain control of eastern Europe, the Middle East, and North Africa?
- 2 How did Germany plan to gain control of the Soviet Union, and how successful was the Soviets' defense?
- 3 How did Japan's goals in the Pacific lead to war with Britain and the United States?

IDENTIFY

Erwin Rommel
Hideki Tōjō

WHY IT MATTERS TODAY

After two world wars, the Soviets and Germans continued to be fearful of each other. Use **CNN** or other **current event** sources to find information about the relationship between Russia and Germany today. Record your findings in your journal.

CNN current event
NEWS.com

The Soviet Union and the United States

The Main Idea
The Soviet Union entered the war against Germany, while the United States fought Germany and Japan.

The Story Continues *In the Atlantic Charter, Franklin D. Roosevelt and Winston Churchill called for the destruction of "Nazi tyranny." They pledged to create a postwar world in which "all men in all the lands may live out their lives in freedom from fear and want." The loyalty of the United States to the Allied cause now was obvious.*

Eastern Europe and the Mediterranean

In the fall of 1940, Germany held almost all of western Europe. It controlled the Atlantic coastline from the tip of Norway to southern France. Spain, under Franco's rule, remained neutral but allowed German submarines to use its ports. Italy and Germany also controlled much of the western Mediterranean coastline. This was an important advantage. Great Britain still held Gibraltar, on the southern coast of Spain. It also held the islands of Malta and Cyprus, in the Mediterranean, and Alexandria in Egypt. British troops were stationed in Palestine and in Egypt, protecting the Suez Canal. In September Japan joined the Rome-Berlin Axis, allying itself with Hitler and Mussolini.

Mussolini hoped to build a Mediterranean empire for Italy. In the fall of 1940 he sent his troops into Egypt and Greece. The decision proved to be unwise. Italy's attack on Greece did not go well. The British stopped the Italians' advance into Egypt and took Tobruk, a port city of Libya. They also liberated Ethiopia and turned the Italians back from British Somaliland.

The Axis powers had more success in and around the Balkans. By April 1941, Hungary, Romania, Slovakia, and Bulgaria had all joined the Axis side. That same spring, Germany took Yugoslavia, Greece, and the island of Crete. This gave the Germans control over the Balkan Peninsula except for European Turkey. In June 1941 Germany and Turkey signed a treaty that said Turkey would remain neutral. The Balkan victories put Germany in a position to attack the Soviet Union and the Middle East. Controlling the region's rich oil fields would give Hitler a huge advantage. If Britain lost the Suez Canal, its position in India, Southeast Asia, and the Pacific would be threatened.

The Axis Powers had the support of many citizens in Iraq and Egypt who wanted to be rid of their British occupiers. The French Vichy government controlled Lebanon and Syria. In May 1941 British and Indian troops crushed a pro-Axis coup d'état in Iraq. In July British and Free French forces drove the Vichy French out of Lebanon and Syria. Meanwhile, the Allied situation in Africa grew worse.

An Ethiopian chief addresses his troops before battle.



German troops commanded by General Erwin Rommel moved across the Mediterranean to take control of Libya in early 1941. However, by the summer of 1942, the British were having success in the naval and air war in the Mediterranean. This allowed the British to build up troops and equipment in North Africa. They also were able to cut off Axis supplies. In October Rommel's forces were soundly beaten at the Battle of El Alamein. Now the Axis forces, unable to make up their losses, retreated to Tunisia.

✓ **READING CHECK: Comparing** What were the results of Axis Powers trying to take control of eastern Europe, the Middle East, and North Africa?



World War II in Europe and North Africa, 1939–1945

Interpreting Maps World War II made Europe and North Africa one huge battlefield.

- **Skills Assessment: 1. The World in Spatial Terms** What two battles took place along the 50° N parallel in Europe?
- 2. Drawing Conclusions** What physical feature affected fighting in southern Europe and North Africa?

Germany's Attack on the Soviet Union

The Soviet Union reacted to German victories in the Balkans with alarm and anger. It believed the Balkans should be within the Soviet sphere of influence. The Soviet Union demanded that certain parts of this region be kept in their sphere of influence. Hitler suggested instead that Germany should have Europe and the Soviet Union should create a sphere in Asia. The Soviets rejected this idea.

On June 22, 1941, the war began a new phase. Without declaring war, German armies invaded the Soviet Union. Hitler had opened a huge new front in the east. It was 2,000 miles long from north to south. Churchill offered aid to the Soviet Union. The United States also said it was willing to help. Sending aid to the Soviets, however, was very difficult. Shipping across the Mediterranean ran the risk of submarine and air attacks. The route through the Baltic Sea was impossible. Reaching Soviet ports on the Arctic required passing the long, German-held coast of Norway. As a result, the Allies started a new route. They moved supplies from the Persian Gulf across Iran by train and truck to the southern part of the Soviet Union.

The Soviet defense. The Germans' first movements into the Soviet Union had great success. Everywhere the Soviet armies were driven back. Soviet defenders used the same scorched-earth methods against Hitler that their ancestor had used against Napoléon. The retreating soldiers and civilians carried away what they could. They destroyed everything else. Many Soviet soldiers stayed hidden in forests, making daring guerrilla attacks on railroads, bridges, and trains.

Soon, however, Moscow and Leningrad were under attack. Hitler had expected the Soviet Union to surrender quickly. The Soviets were able to hold off German control of Moscow and Leningrad, however. As a result, the German army had to stay longer than expected. The delay forced the Germans to fight during the bitterly cold Russian winter. When the Soviets chose the winter for a counterattack, the Germans were forced to retreat.

In the spring of 1942, Hitler ordered a new offensive to the south. He hoped to take the oil-producing area around Baku, on the shore of the Caspian Sea. To protect the troops in that main attack, part of the German army was to capture the city of Stalingrad. German troops pushed into Stalingrad in September 1942. There, however, Soviet fighting grew stronger. Hitler now

DAILY LIFE

The Eastern Front

In the four years following the German invasion of Russia in 1941, some of the worst fighting of the war took place on the eastern front. The Germans particularly suffered from the bitter Russian winters. They had assumed that the bulk of the campaign would be over in weeks and so had not prepared equipment and supplies for winter conditions. **How did the weather influence the fighting on the eastern front?**



These photographs show women on the eastern front coping with the devastation of war.

made capture of Stalingrad the main objective of the offensive. Stalin ordered that the city be held at all costs. The battle of Stalingrad had begun.

✓ **READING CHECK: Sequencing** How did Hitler try to gain control of the Soviet Union, and how did the Soviets defend themselves?

Japanese Aggressions in the Pacific

The struggle against the Axis Powers took another important turn in December 1941 when events in the Pacific drew the United States into the war. Japanese militarism and aggression had increased throughout the 1930s. Japanese armies pushed farther and farther into China, although the Chinese continued to resist. Early in 1939, with the situation in Europe growing increasingly tense, Japan saw a chance to extend its control over Southeast Asia. Japan first captured several small islands off the coast of French Indochina. The effect was to cut off the British sea route between Hong Kong and Singapore. Neither France nor Great Britain could act in time to prevent this move.

After both the Netherlands and France fell, Japan made further aggressive moves in East Asia. The Japanese government announced that the Netherlands East Indies was under Japanese “protective custody.” The Japanese also forced the Vichy government to allow French Indochina to become a Japanese protectorate.

In September 1940 Japan formed an alliance with Germany and Italy. In April 1941 Japan and the Soviet Union signed a five-year nonaggression treaty. Soon after, Japan, knowing it was taking a risk, moved farther south to occupy lands in French Indochina. The United States responded to this action in three ways. It protested violations of the Nine-Power Pact of 1922. It provided assistance to Chinese Nationalists and placed an embargo on the sale of oil and scrap iron to Japan. This made Japan even more intent on getting oil reserves in the Netherlands East Indies. Now only the American-held Philippines and the Hawaiian Islands threatened Japanese rule in the Pacific. The United States, meanwhile, had already moved a large part of its Pacific Fleet to Hawaii.

Relations between the United States and Japan continued to worsen. An even more militaristic government came to power in Japan under Premier **Hideki Tōjō**. Early in 1941 the Japanese government realized that their most dangerous potential enemy was the United States. Believing that their best chance for victory was to knock out the U.S. Pacific Fleet quickly, the Japanese commanders began to plan a surprise attack on the U.S. fleet, based at Pearl Harbor in Hawaii.

✓ **READING CHECK: Analyzing Information** How did relations between Japan and the United States worsen between 1939 and 1941?



The Japanese used fighter planes like the ones shown here to expand their empire in the Pacific.

American Entry into the War

On December 7, 1941, the Japanese launched a surprise bombing raid on the American naval base at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. They planned to strike such a severe blow that the United States would be unable to fight the Japanese in the Pacific. Several U.S. battleships were sunk. Others were badly damaged. American military dead totaled more than 2,300.

On December 8, 1941, Congress declared war on Japan, as did the British Parliament. Three days later, Germany and Italy declared war on the United States, and Congress replied with its own declaration of war. The Japanese quickly took advantage of American unreadiness. On the same day as the attack on Pearl Harbor, Japan captured the American island of Guam. They also began aerial attacks on the Philippines. Soon afterward, Japan took control of Luzon, Burma, Thailand, and Malaya.

Japan went on to conquer what became a widespread island empire. Most of the Netherlands East Indies (Indonesia), the Philippines, and the Gilbert Islands came under Japanese rule. Australia was the last stronghold of resistance in the southwest Pacific. The landing of the Japanese on New Guinea and the Solomon Islands threatened to cut off Australia's important supply routes from Hawaii.

✓ **READING CHECK: Identifying Cause and Effect** How did Japan's goals in the Pacific lead to war with Britain and the United States?

INTERPRETING THE VISUAL RECORD

Pearl Harbor Americans were shocked and outraged by the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor. *What do these headlines suggest about public concern over the bombing?*



SECTION 4 REVIEW

1. **Identify** and explain the significance: Erwin Rommel
Hideki Tōjō

2. **Identifying Cause and Effect** Copy the graphic organizer below. Use it to describe the results of the Axis attacks on eastern Europe, the Middle East, and North Africa.



3. **Finding the Main Idea**

- What steps did Hitler take to gain control over the Soviet Union, and how did the Soviets respond?
- Why did the Japanese attack Pearl Harbor, and what was the result?

4. **Writing and Critical Thinking**

Sequencing Describe the results of Axis aggressions from late 1940 through 1942.

Consider:

- Italy's actions
- Germany's expansion
- Japan's actions in the Pacific



Homework Practice Online

keyword: SH3 HP21

READ TO DISCOVER

- 1 How was the Final Solution developed?
- 2 What were conditions like in concentration camps?
- 3 In what ways did different people resist the Holocaust?

IDENTIFY

"New Order"
Final Solution
Heinrich Himmler
SS
Wannsee Conference
Auschwitz
Holocaust
Anne Frank

WHY IT MATTERS TODAY

The oppression and persecution of people based on ethnicity or race continues today. Use [CNN](#) or other **current event** sources to find at least two recent examples of racial or ethnic discrimination in the world. Record your findings in your journal.



The Holocaust

The Main Idea

Hitler led the Nazi effort to kill all European Jews and others who were not members of the "Aryan race."

The Story Continues Holocaust survivor Elie Wiesel remembered his arrival at the death camp Auschwitz. "A German officer gave the order: 'Men to the left! Women to the right!' Eight words spoken quietly, indifferently, without emotion. . . . I walked on with my father and the other men. And I did not know that in that place, at that moment, I was parting from my mother and [sister] Tzipora forever."

Hitler's "New Order"

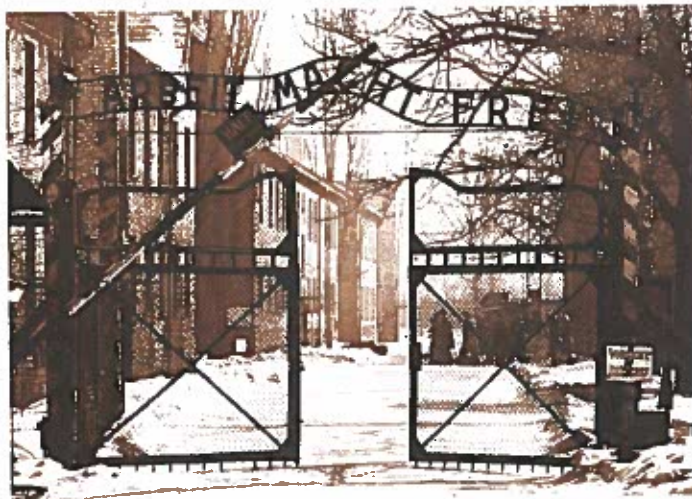
The invasion of the Soviet Union was part of Hitler's master plan for a European "New Order." Hitler wanted to make the European continent into a single political and economic system. He planned to gain "living space" in Eastern Europe. Then his pure "Aryan race" could colonize the new area. According to Hitler's plan, the land in the Soviet Union would supply Germany with food and raw materials. Hitler expected tens of millions of Russians to starve to death. According to Nazi beliefs, all Slavs were "racially inferior."

The Nazis increasingly practiced anti-Semitism during the 1930s. Then in 1941 Hitler ordered the destruction of Europe's entire Jewish population. The Nazis called this program the **Final Solution** to the "Jewish question." In Germany this genocide was made possible by the passionate racist beliefs of some people. Hitler used past genocides that had gone unpunished as examples. Some of Hitler's officers had witnessed the Armenian genocide in Turkey. As Hitler sent his generals to run the death camps in Poland, he said, "Go, kill without mercy . . . who today remembers the annihilation [total destruction] of the Armenians?"

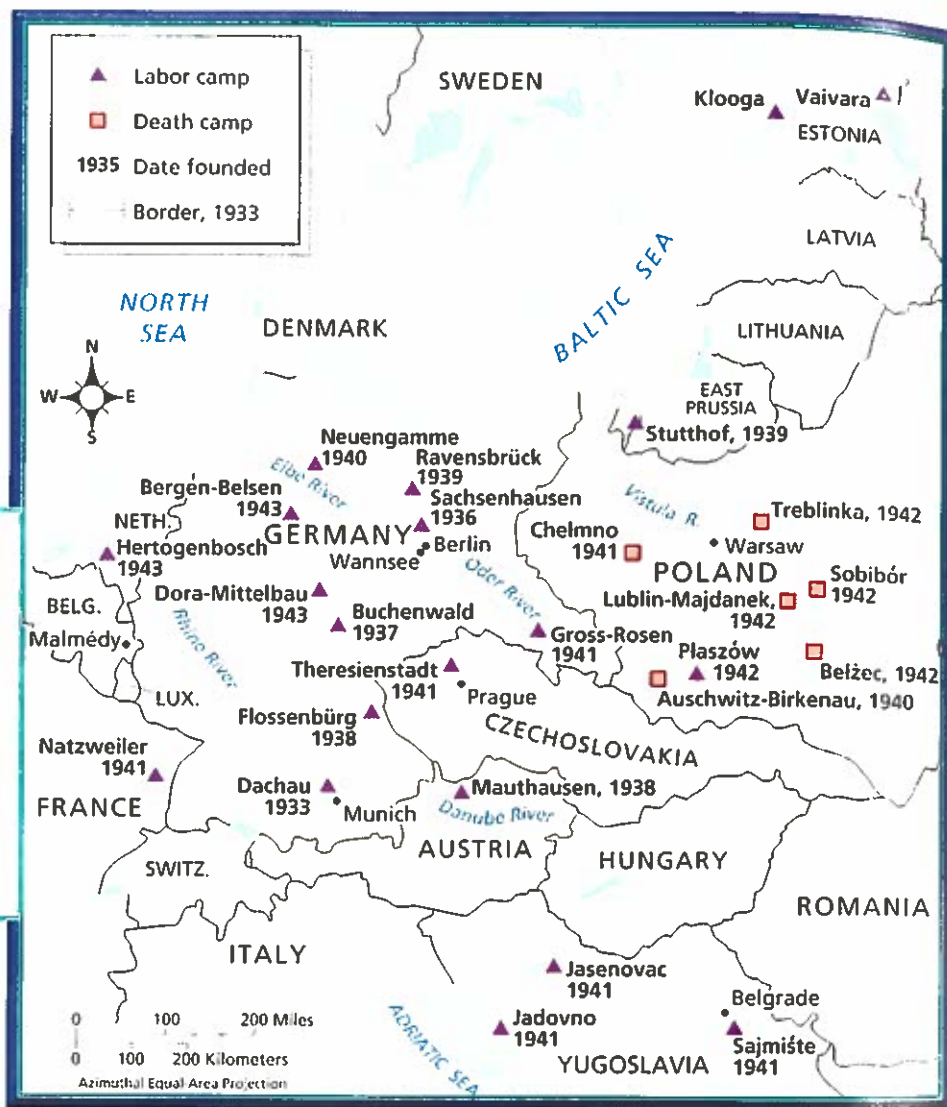
Heinrich Himmler, the head of the the Schutzstaffel, or SS, the military branch of the Nazi Party, headed the Final Solution. At first the SS simply rounded up Jews and shot them in large groups. Soon, however, they turned to using poison gas as a more

efficient method of execution. At a January 1942 conference in Wannsee, Germany, officials met to formalize their plans. The **Wannsee Conference** set out a systematic plan for exterminating Jews in concentration camps.

✓ **READING CHECK: Evaluating**
How was the Final Solution an extension of Nazi philosophy?



The sign over the gate of this concentration camp translates to "Work makes you free."



Concentration Camps, 1933–1945

Interpreting Maps As the German army invaded surrounding countries, Hitler ordered the construction of concentration camps, which became sites of enforced labor and death.

Skills Assessment: Locate Which European country contained the most labor camps? The most death camps?

Holt Researcher



go.hrw.com

KEYWORD: Holt Researcher

FreeFind: Fania Fenelon

After reading more about Fania Fenelon on the Holt Researcher, write a diary entry about her experiences at Auschwitz.

Analyzing Primary Sources

Drawing Inferences What does Primo Levi's account reflect about the methods of the SS?

Concentration Camps

The Nazis moved Jews by the hundreds of thousands to concentration camps in Germany and Poland. Dachau and Buchenwald in Germany were two of the largest labor camps. In Poland the Germans built Treblinka and Auschwitz—huge death camps in which people were systematically murdered. At first the Nazis buried their victims in mass graves. Eventually they used huge ovens to cremate the dead.

Not everyone who arrived at the camps was killed immediately. As prisoners arrived, SS officers sorted them into groups by age, health, and sex. Some groups, especially those unable to do much physical work, were immediately sent to “showers” for cleaning. These “showers” were really gas chambers. Primo Levi, a survivor of Auschwitz, recalled the selection process when he arrived at the camp.



“The SS man . . . judges everyone's fate, and in turn gives the card to the man on his right or his left, and this is the life or death of each of us . . .

Even before the selection is over, everybody knows that the left was effectively the ‘schlechte Seite,’ the bad side.”

Primo Levi, from *Survival in Auschwitz*

Those Jews who were not killed soon after arrival lived in unspeakable conditions. The combination of forced labor, brutal treatment, starvation, filth, and disease killed thousands of other people in the camps.

During the war, people in some western European countries tried to protect Jews. In eastern Europe, however, a long tradition of anti-Semitism made the Nazi program easier to carry out. Its results there were even more devastating. By the time the Nazi government fell, its leaders and its followers had murdered 6 million European Jews. The Nazi genocide of the 1930s and 1940s is called the **Holocaust**. Millions of Slavs, Gypsies, and others who did not conform with the Nazi idea of "purity" were also murdered.

✓ **READING CHECK: Making Generalizations** What was life like in concentration camps during the Holocaust?

Resisting the Holocaust

At first most Jews obeyed the orders of the SS. Some went into hiding, including the family of **Anne Frank**, a teenager who kept a diary of her experiences during the Holocaust. As many people began to realize what the Nazis were doing, some Jews fought back. The fiercest resistance came from those in the Jewish ghetto in Warsaw, Poland. A band of Jews resisted Nazi efforts to evacuate the ghetto to concentration camps. In the end, however, the poorly armed group could not hold off the German forces. Eventually the Jewish rebels were killed and the ghetto was destroyed.

Many other Europeans quietly ignored what was happening to the Jews. Some non-Jews, however, did try to help save some people from the Holocaust. After the Germans occupied Denmark, for example, Danes helped some 7,000 Jews escape into neutral Sweden. In Hungary, Swedish diplomat Raoul Wallenberg saved countless Jews by declaring them under the protection of the Swedish embassy. In Poland and Czechoslovakia, German industrialist Oskar Schindler saved many Jews by employing them in his factories.

✓ **READING CHECK: Summarizing** How did some people resist the Holocaust?

HISTORY MAKER



Anne Frank
(1929–1945)

One of the most powerful and haunting documents of World War II is the diary of teenager Anne Frank. Anne's diary, containing her thoughts and feelings, has come to represent for many the horrors of the Holocaust.

Anne's German-Jewish family fled Nazi Germany for Amsterdam, where they hid in a friend's home. Eventually, however, the Nazis found the Franks' hiding place and sent the entire family to a concentration camp, where Anne later died. **What does**

Anne Frank's diary symbolize?

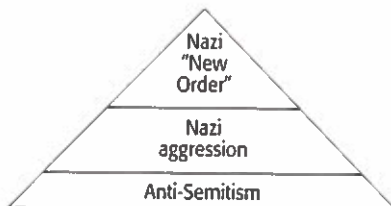


The Nazis forced Jews to wear the Star of David (shown here) to identify themselves.

SECTION 5 REVIEW

1. **Identify** and explain the significance:
- "New Order"
 - Final Solution
 - Heinrich Himmler
 - SS
 - Wannsee Conference
 - Auschwitz
 - Holocaust
 - Anne Frank

2. **Evaluating** Copy the graphic organizer below. Use it to show the role of aggression and anti-Semitism in the Nazis' "New Order."



3. **Finding the Main Idea**

- a. How did the Nazis carry out the Final Solution?
- b. What were concentration camps like?

4. **Writing and Critical Thinking**

Identifying a Point of View Imagine you are a resistance fighter in the Warsaw ghetto. Write a letter to a friend explaining why you are fighting the evacuation of the ghetto, even though you realize that you have little chance of defeating the Germans.

Consider:

- why the ghetto was evacuated
- what the fate of the fighters would be if they complied with German orders
- the odds of succeeding



Homework Practice Online

keyword: SH3 HP21

SECTION

6

The End of the War

READ TO DISCOVER

- 1 What were the outcomes of Allied military actions in the Soviet Union, North Africa, Italy, and the Atlantic?
- 2 How were the Allies able to achieve victory in Europe?
- 3 What steps did the Allies take to end the war with Japan?

DEFINE

"soft underbelly of the Axis"
island hopping

IDENTIFY

Battle of Stalingrad
Dwight D. Eisenhower
Battle of Midway
Operation Overlord
D-Day
V-E Day
V-J Day
Bataan Death March

WHY IT MATTERS TODAY

Today the United States and Japan have a much different relationship than the one they had during World War II. Use **current event** sources to determine the kind of relationship the former enemies share. Record your findings in your journal.

CW News.com

The Main Idea
Allied victories in North Africa, Europe, and the Pacific led to the end of World War II.

The Story Continues *After France fell, French generals had predicted that Britain would "have her neck wrung like a chicken" in three weeks. Churchill later commented: "Some chicken! Some neck!" The British had survived Hitler's aggression. Now, with the help of the United States, they stood ready to turn the tide of war in the Allies' favor.*

Important Offensives

Representatives of 26 nations came together in Washington, D.C., in January 1942. Each nation promised to use all its resources to defeat the Axis. They also agreed to not sign any separate peace treaties and to follow the Atlantic Charter.

In the summer of 1942, the Germans pushed the Soviets back to Stalingrad. The **Battle of Stalingrad** went on for six long and bloody months. German forces pushed inside the city, suffering terrible losses on the way. Instead of falling back, the determined Soviets defended the city street by street and house by house. In November 1942 the Soviets began a counterattack. They circled around the German troops, trapping them in Stalingrad. Those who were left of Hitler's troops surrendered on February 2, 1943. Stalingrad became a major turning point in the war as the Germans never fully recovered from their defeat.

The Allies also made progress in North Africa during 1942. General **Dwight D. Eisenhower** of the United States landed his American and British troops in Africa in November 1942. Eisenhower's army and British General Bernard Montgomery's forces in Tunisia trapped Rommel's army between them. By the middle of May 1943, the Axis forces in North Africa were forced to surrender. As a result of Rommel's defeat, North Africa was completely under Allied control. Italy's African empire disappeared. Control of the French colonies in Africa passed to the Free French government. Moreover, the Allies had kept control of the Suez Canal. This made the Mediterranean safer for Allied navies.

After the Allied victory in North Africa, Stalin demanded that British and American troops open a second front in Europe. He wanted to lessen the German pressure on the Soviet Union. Churchill suggested attacking what he called the "soft underbelly of the Axis" — through Italy and the Balkans. American and British forces took the island of Sicily in the summer of 1943. Then they made plans to invade the Italian mainland. When the Allies landed on Sicily, Mussolini was forced to resign. Marshal Pietro Badoglio (bah-DOH-yoh) became premier. His first act was to dissolve the Fascist Party. Then he began secret talks with the Allies. When the Allied army landed on the southwestern tip of Italy in September 1943, the Italians agreed to stop fighting the Allies. In fact Italy declared war on Germany. German troops still present in Italy, however, continued to resist Allied troops.

✓ **READING CHECK: Summarizing** What did the Allies gain as a result of their victories in the Soviet Union, North Africa, and Italy?

The War at Sea and in the Air

During 1943 American and British bombing attacks against Germany and the occupied countries increased. The Allies bombed nearly every German city. Many were greatly damaged. The Allies were also gaining strength in the Atlantic. Beginning in 1939, German submarines had sunk many Allied ships. In the spring of 1943, however, destroyers and other armed ships safely led troop and supply ships from the United States. Planes also protected the shipping routes. Improved sonar technology located submarines. This took away much of their advantage.

The Japanese advance in the Pacific took its first loss in May 1942. In the Battle of the Coral Sea, American and Australian air and naval forces defeated a Japanese fleet headed for Australia. Soon afterward an American fleet met a larger Japanese fleet pushing eastward to try to capture Midway Island, northwest of Hawaii. The Americans defeated the Japanese in the important **Battle of Midway** in June. With these two victories, the United States Navy began to turn the tide in the war against Japan.

In August 1942 American marines took the airfield on Guadalcanal. This was the first invasion of Japanese-held territory. Winning control of Guadalcanal was important because it protected the Australian supply line. It also gave the Americans a huge lift in confidence. As Japan tried to reclaim the territory during the next three months, both sides suffered great losses. In 1943 the Allies took the offensive in the Pacific. Forces from Australia and New Zealand helped those from the United States. Together they fought to drive the Japanese out of the Solomon Islands. Then they began a strategy called **island hopping**. Under this policy, only certain Japanese islands were captured. Others were skipped and left without supplies.

During 1944 the Americans cleared the Japanese from the Marshall Islands, New Guinea, and the Marianas. In October 1944 an American army under General Douglas MacArthur landed in the Philippines. Shortly afterward, the Japanese suffered a crushing defeat in a great air and sea fight, the Battle of Leyte Gulf. In six months the Allies gained control of the Philippine Islands.

✓ **READING CHECK: Analyzing Information** What victories did the Allies achieve at sea, and what was the turning point in the war in the Pacific?

Victory in Europe

British and American troops slowly fought their way up the Italian Peninsula. However, most German troops remained locked in bloody battles with the Soviet Union. It was clear that another, larger invasion of Europe was needed to create the hoped-for “second front.” Plans were started for **Operation Overlord**, the invasion of northwest France.

On June 6, 1944—**D-Day** as the military called it—the long-awaited landing began on France’s Normandy coast. Within a month, more than 1 million Allied troops had landed. After heavy fighting Allied troops moved into northern France. Shortly afterward, Allied forces landed on the Mediterranean coast of France and fought their way northward. On August 25, 1944, Allied troops entered Paris. By September they faced the strongly fortified Siegfried Line along Germany’s western edge.



INTERPRETING THE VISUAL RECORD

Midway The U.S. victory in the Battle of Midway crippled the Japanese navy. *From the painting, what can you determine about the type of fighting that took place during the Battle of Midway?*

Winston Churchill: Symbol of Wartime Britain

The quality of its leadership, as well as its military and industrial might, help to explain why a nation wins or loses a war. During World War II, the personalities of Allied and Axis leaders played a major role in the war's outcome. Under the exceptional leadership of Prime Minister Winston Churchill, Great Britain was able to overcome staggering odds as it battled the concentrated power of the German war machine. Churchill inspired his nation to victory. His greatest service may well have been his ability to symbolize—through speeches and personal actions—the characteristics of courage, endurance, and determination that his nation so badly needed in the face of German aggression.

Reading biographical accounts of Churchill's life helps us to understand this important man. A biographical account is a secondary source that describes all or part of an individual's lifetime. The source represents the opinions of the writer, and readers must be alert for evidence of bias—either for or against the individual whose life and work is being described. A biographical account is one of several sources that can be used to gather information about a historical figure. The reliability of a biographical account depends upon the biographer's approach—careful or careless, objective or subjective—to the subject. One of the best ways to determine the value of the account is to analyze several different types of evidence, primary and secondary alike, to develop as complete a picture of the subject as possible.

Churchill as a Symbol—A Biographer's View:

“One of Churchill's greatest gifts . . . was his ability to use his exceptional mastery of words and love of language to convey detailed arguments and essential truths; to inform, to convince, and to inspire. . . . His dislike of unfairness, of victimization, and of bullying—whether at home or abroad—was the foundation stone of much of his thinking. His finest hour was the leadership of Britain when it was most isolated, most threatened, and most weak; when his own courage, determination, and belief in democracy became one with that of a beleaguered [threatened with destruction] nation.”

Martin Gilbert, “Churchill, Winston,” *The Oxford Companion to Politics of the World*



Churchill made clear his vision of Britain's wartime aims in a speech broadcast to the nation during the darkest days of the war.

“You ask what is our policy? I will say: It is to wage war, by sea, land and air, with all our might and with all the strength that God can give us . . . You ask, What is our aim? I can answer in one word: Victory—victory at all costs, victory in spite of all terror, victory, however long and hard the road may be; for without victory, there is no survival.”

Winston Churchill,
Speech to the House
of Commons,
May 1940

Churchill's bulldog appearance, coupled with his gift of oratory and his unswerving determination to defeat the “monstrous tyranny” of Hitler's Germany, symbolized Britain's dedication to victory. He became the visible image of Allied determination.

Skills Reminder

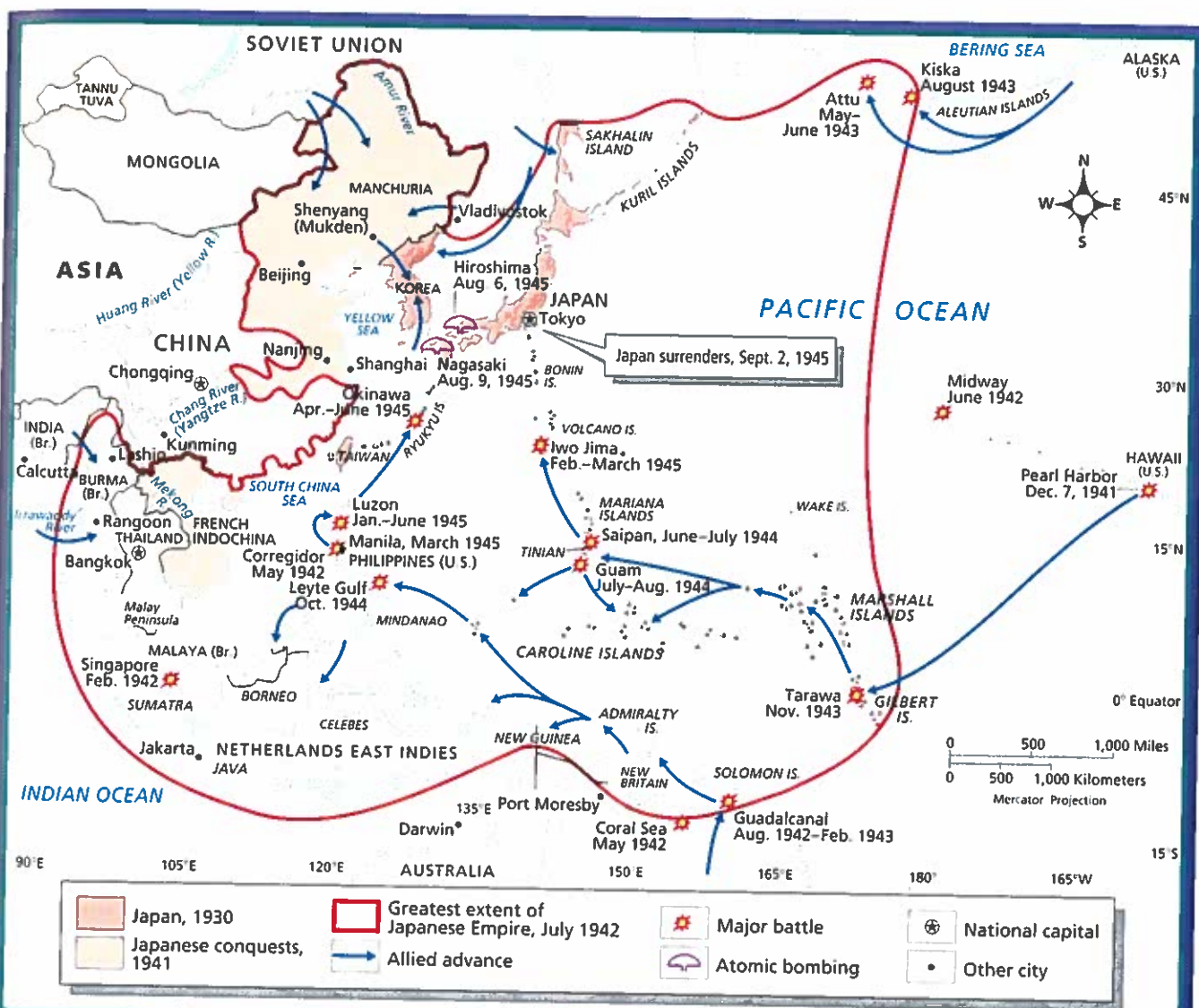
To understand a biographical account, carefully assess the account to identify the writer's underlying bias. Is the biographical account balanced in its treatment? Does it provide a complete picture, placing equal emphasis on the subject's strong and weak points, contributions and failures, and positive and negative traits? Note what kind of language—positive, negative, or neutral—the writer uses to describe the subject. Are descriptors chosen to build a certain “image” of the subject?

Skills Practice

- 1 Analyze Martin Gilbert's description of Churchill above. Can you infer Gilbert's general opinion of Churchill based on the excerpt?
- 2 What clues regarding Gilbert's view of Churchill can you identify?
- 3 Read a biography of a person mentioned in this chapter, then write a book review assessing its value in understanding the person and their importance to history.

Several weeks after D-Day, the Soviets began a major drive against Germany from the east. By the end of 1944, they had taken Finland, Estonia, Lithuania, Latvia, Romania, and Bulgaria. After five weeks of fighting, the Americans broke through the Siegfried Line in October. After a costly 10-day battle—the Battle of the Bulge—the Allies turned back the German drive. Finally, in early spring 1945, German defenses fell apart. At the end of April, the German army in Italy surrendered. The Soviet and American armies made their first contact in eastern Germany in April of 1945. It was agreed that the Soviets would take Berlin. On April 30—two days before the Soviets captured the ruined city—Hitler committed suicide. Within a week the German high command surrendered unconditionally. May 8, 1945 became V-E Day, the day of victory in Europe.

✓ **READING CHECK: Sequencing** What events led to the Allied victory in Europe?



World War II in the Pacific, 1941–1945

Interpreting Maps In 1943 the Allies waged a series of battles against the Japanese in the Pacific.

■ **Skills Assessment: The World in Spatial Terms** Where did the two northernmost Pacific battles take place?

Victory Over Japan

Although the war had ended in Europe, it continued in the Pacific. American marines captured the island of Iwo Jima after a month of the most bitter fighting in the war. The Allies took the island of Okinawa next. One marine later remembered his dreadful experience in the battle.



“The mud beneath our feet was deeply veined with blood. It was slippery. Blood is very slippery. So you skidded around, in deep shock, fighting as best you could until one side outnumbered the other. The outnumbered side would withdraw for reinforcements and then counterattack.”

William Manchester, *The New York Times Magazine*

In this battle about 263 Allied ships were sunk or damaged by suicide attacks of Japanese pilots. The only goal for these young kamikaze pilots was to find a good target and dive into it. The Japanese continued their resistance under heavy Allied bombing. Japan's ports were blocked and their navy could not move. The Japanese refused to surrender, however, and the Allies prepared for a major invasion of the home islands.

Yalta and Potsdam. In February 1945, Roosevelt and Churchill met with Stalin at Yalta, in the Soviet Union. They agreed that Germany would be divided and occupied by Allied troops. The Soviets agreed to enter the war against Japan. In return for their help, the Soviet Union would receive several Japanese territories. Another meeting began on July 17, 1945, at Potsdam, Germany. Roosevelt had died in April and Harry Truman was now president of the United States. Britain's new prime minister, Clement Attlee, had replaced Churchill. The leaders planned for the occupation of Germany and demanded an unconditional surrender from Japan.

Japanese surrender. When Japan again refused to surrender, President Truman made an important decision—to use the atomic bomb against Japan. On August 6, 1945, an American B-29 bomber dropped the deadly weapon on the city of Hiroshima. The impact of the bomb demolished everything in the area and started a spontaneous fire that destroyed the city. About 80,000 people were killed instantly, with many more injured. Countless more people later died from radiation sickness. The effects of the bomb were unlike anything ever seen before. In Tokyo, government officials at first had difficulty comprehending the scale of the damage.

On August 8, the Soviet Union declared war on Japan. Soviet armies swept into Manchuria, meeting little resistance. On August 9, an American plane dropped a second atomic bomb on Japan. This time the target was Nagasaki, where 40,000 people died instantly. Finally, on August 14, the Japanese surrendered unconditionally, asking only that the emperor be allowed to retain his title and authority. The Allies agreed, on the condition that the emperor accept the orders of the top Allied commander in the Pacific, General Douglas MacArthur. On September 2, 1945, known as V-J Day, both sides signed the Japanese surrender documents.

Costs of the war. World War II was the most destructive war in history. More than 22 million military personnel died and more than 34 million were wounded. In Europe and Asia,

Analyzing Primary Sources

Drawing Conclusions What do you think was the worst part of Chester's experience?

Interpreting the Visual Record

“Divine Wind” The Japanese believed that pilots who died to save the empire, just as the kamikaze, or “divine wind” had saved Japan from the Chinese Mongol attack in 1281. *What is suggested by the expressions on the faces of the men shown below?*



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upward of 16 million civilians died. As the war progressed, weapons and tactics became more devastating. People began to feel that killing civilians was acceptable if it weakened the enemy.

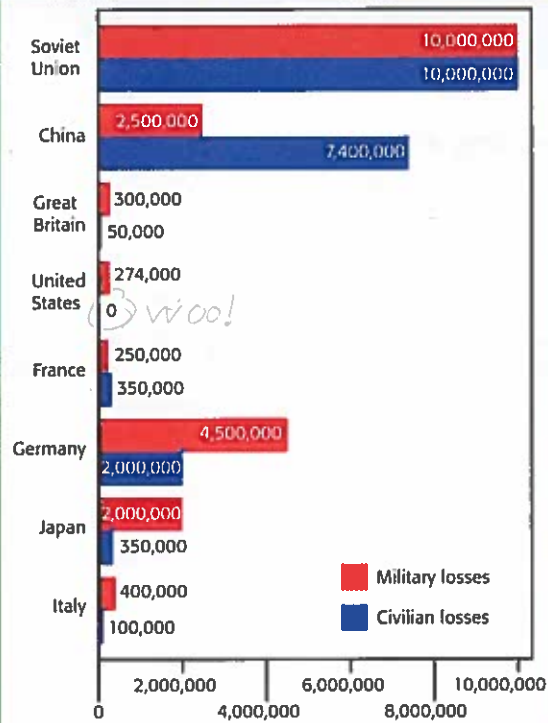
The war also violated human rights on a scale never before seen. The Nazi Holocaust was only the most extreme of the war's atrocities. The Japanese and Soviets also committed acts of cruelty. Viewing conquered enemies as people without honor, Japanese troops often treated soldiers and civilians alike with great brutality. When the Japanese occupied the Chinese city of Nanjing in 1937, they burned stores and homes, eventually massacring about 250,000 people. In the Philippines in 1942, Japanese soldiers forced some 78,000 prisoners of war to march more than 55 miles up the Bataan Peninsula, killing more than 600 Americans and as many as 10,000 Filipinos. The incident became known as the **Bataan Death March**.

Soviet policy in occupied Poland was similar to that of the Nazis. The Soviets did not single out Jews, but instead attacked specific groups including landowners, local officials, clergy, teachers, and intellectuals. The Soviets sent about 1.5 million Poles to labor camps. When the Soviets retreated during the German invasion of 1941, they simply began shooting many of the imprisoned Poles. Close to 100,000 of those prisoners were executed.

The American use of nuclear weapons ushered in the atomic age and with it, many new questions and fears. How would the world deal with these powerful new weapons? What effect might they have on future wars? In the aftermath of World War II, leaders throughout the world struggled with these questions.

✓ **READING CHECK: Summarizing** How was World War II like no other war?

Losses of the Major Wartime Powers in World War II, 1939–1945



Interpreting the Graph

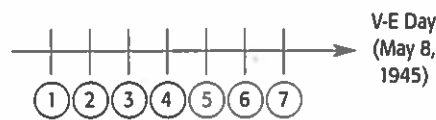
More than 50 million people were killed during World War II. Overall, more civilians were killed than soldiers. **What three countries had the highest civilian losses? What factors do you think contributed to these losses?**

SECTION 6 REVIEW

1. **Define** and explain the significance: "soft underbelly of the Axis" island hopping

2. **Identify** and explain the significance:
 Battle of Stalingrad
 Dwight D. Eisenhower
 Battle of Midway
 Operation Overlord
 D-Day
 V-E Day
 V-J Day
 Bataan Death March

3. **Sequencing** Copy the graphic organizer below. Use it to show the events that led to the Allies' victory in World War II.



4. **Finding the Main Idea**

- Why were Allied victories in the Soviet Union, North Africa, Italy, and the Atlantic necessary to win World War II?
- Why were the American victories in the Battle of the Coral Sea and the Battle of Midway important?
- Why was an Allied invasion of Europe necessary for achieving victory in Europe?
- What was unique about World War II?

5. **Writing and Critical Thinking**

Supporting a Point of View Do you think the Allies were right to use the atomic bomb on Japan? Why or why not?

Consider:

- the benefits of getting Japan to surrender more quickly
- the great destruction and loss of civilian life caused by the two atomic bombs

Go! Homework Practice Online
 keyword: SH3 HP21

Creating a Time Line

Copy the time line below onto a sheet of paper. Complete the time line by filling in events, individuals, and dates from the chapter that you think were significant. Pick three events and explain why you think they were significant.



Writing a Summary

Using standard grammar, spelling, sentence structure, and punctuation, write an overview of the chapter.

Identifying People and Ideas

Identify the following terms or individuals and explain their significance:

- | | |
|------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Kellogg-Briand Pact | 6. Hideki Tōjō |
| 2. Francisco Franco | 7. genocide |
| 3. Munich Conference | 8. Holocaust |
| 4. Winston Churchill | 9. Dwight D. Eisenhower |
| 5. Atlantic Charter | 10. D-Day |

Understanding Main Ideas

Section 1 (pp. 590–593)

Threats to World Peace

- Why was the League of Nations unable to keep Japan and Italy from taking over other countries?

Section 2 (pp. 594–598)

Hitler's Aggressions

- How and why did Great Britain and France follow a policy of appeasement with Hitler?

Section 3 (pp. 599–603)

Axis Gains

- How did the U.S. role in World War II change between the late 1930s and the fall of 1941?

Section 4 (pp. 604–608)

The Soviet Union and the United States

- What were Japan's goals in the Pacific and how did they affect the United States?

Section 5 (pp. 609–611)

The Holocaust

- How did some people try to resist the Holocaust?

Section 6 (pp. 612–617)

The End of the War

- How did the Allies win the war with Japan?

Reviewing Themes

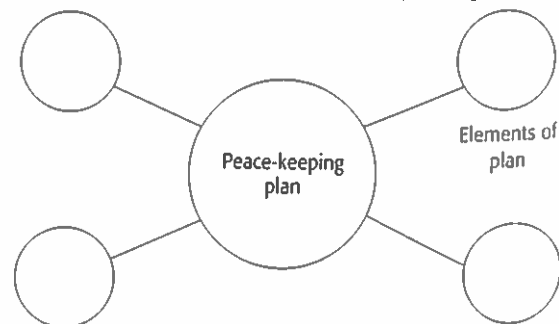
- Global Relations** How did regional conflicts grow to involve many nations in World War II?
- Government** How did Hitler use prejudice as a tool?
- Science, Technology & Society** How was the technology of World War II both beneficial and destructive?

Thinking Critically

- Making Generalizations** How was the era from 1939 to 1945 unique?
- Identifying Cause and Effect** How did the rise of nazism, fascism, and militarism in Germany, Italy, and Japan, as well as communism in the Soviet Union, contribute to the outbreak of World War II?
- Summarizing** What violations of human rights took place during World War II?

Writing About History

Problem Solving Review the failure of the League of Nations to end Italian and Japanese aggression during the 1930s. Then use a problem-solving process to write a peace-keeping plan for a new organization that would make it better equipped to keep international peace. Use the following diagram to organize your thoughts before you begin writing.



Building Social Studies Skills

Reading a Chart

Study the chart below. Then answer the questions that follow.

Major Stages of World War II

Date	Europe and North Africa	The Pacific Theater
1939	Germany invades Poland.	—
1940	"Battle of Britain" occurs.	—
1941	U.S. enters war against the Axis.	Japan attacks Pearl Harbor.
1942	Allies invade North Africa.	U.S. lands on Guadalcanal.
1944	Allies land in Normandy.	U.S. lands in Philippines.
1945	Germany surrenders to the Allies.	U.S. drops atomic bombs on Japan. Japan surrenders.

- Which statement correctly describes a relationship shown on the chart?
 - The war in Europe and North Africa was shorter than the war in the Pacific.
 - Hitler invaded Poland two years after Japan attacked Pearl Harbor.
 - The U.S. landed in the Philippines one year after the Allies invaded North Africa.
 - The war in the Pacific started two years after the war began in Europe.
- Which of the events that occurred in 1945 was most responsible for Japan's surrender to the Allies? Give specific reasons to support your view.

Identifying Bias

Read the following quote from a message that Winston Churchill sent to Franklin Roosevelt in February, 1941. Then answer the questions.

"Some believe that Japan in her present mood would not hesitate to court an attempt to wage war both against Great Britain and the United States. Personally, I think the odds are definitely against that, but no one can tell. Everything that you can do to inspire the Japanese with fear of a double [two-front] war may avert the danger. If however they come in against us and we are alone, the grave character of the consequences cannot easily be overstated."

- Which of the following best describes how Churchill's experience influenced his viewpoint?
 - Churchill had experience dealing with the Japanese, and he thought they feared a two-front war.
 - Churchill welcomed the chance to show the world that Britain could defeat Japan.
 - He had seen the war damage in his country, and he knew that Britain could not hold off Japan alone.
 - Churchill was a soldier and wanted to command the Allied troops.
- What events of World War II had Churchill already witnessed before he sent this message? Give specific examples.

Alternative Assessment

Building Your Portfolio

Global Relations

Interview a friend or relative who remembers the World War II years. Ask this person to explain the meaning of the following words or phrases: victory garden, ration books, blackouts, dog tags, Rosie the Riveter, war bonds, C-rations, and black market. During your interview, try to discover other World War II terms that you might add to the list.



Internet connect

Internet Activity: go.hrw.com

KEYWORD: SH3 WH21

Choose a topic on World War II to:

- write a biography of Raoul Wallenberg.
- write a report on the historical information and legacy of Anne Frank.
- write a report about a landing beach on D-Day that includes a map, a description of what happened there, photographs, and eyewitness accounts.



Hope Amid Turmoil

Erich Maria Remarque (1898–1970) wrote All Quiet on the Western Front to overcome his depressing memories of trench warfare in World War I. In the excerpt below, German Paul Baumer has stabbed a French soldier after he fell on top of Baumer in a shell-hole. Later, Baumer regrets his enemy's death. Despite Remarque's hopes for a peaceful future, the world was soon at war again. As Allied armies advanced toward Germany in World War II, eight Jews hiding above a Dutch factory hoped for liberation. One of them was Anne Frank (1929–1945), who had received a diary for her 13th birthday. She hoped her diary would one day become a record of the Holocaust. Twenty days after the excerpt below was written, the Germans found the Frank's hiding place. Sent to the Bergen-Belsen concentration camp, Anne died of typhoid just weeks before the camp's liberation in April 1945. The Diary of a Young Girl has sold millions of copies since Anne's father published her diary in 1947.



**All Quiet on the Western Front
by Erich Maria Remarque**

The silence spreads. I talk and must talk. So I speak to him and say to him: "Comrade, I did not want to kill you. If you jumped in here again, I would not do it, if you would be sensible too. But

you were only an idea to me before, an abstraction that lived in my mind and called forth its appropriate response. It was that abstraction I stabbed. But now, for the first time, I see you are a man like me. I thought of your hand-grenades, of your bayonet, of your rifle; now I see your wife and your face and our fellowship. Forgive me, comrade. We always see it too late. Why do they never tell us that you are just poor devils like us, that your mothers are just as anxious as ours, and that we have the same fear of death, and the same dying and the same agony—Forgive me, comrade; how could you be my enemy? If we threw away these rifles and this uniform you could be my brother just like Kat and Albert."



**The Diary of a Young Girl
by Anne Frank**

Anyone who claims that the older folks have a more difficult time in the Annex doesn't realize that the problems have a far greater impact on us. We're much too young to deal with

these problems... It's difficult in times like these: ideals, dreams and cherished hopes rise within us, only to be crushed by grim reality. It's a wonder I haven't abandoned all my ideals, they seem so absurd and impractical. Yet I cling to them because I still believe, in spite of everything, that people are truly good at heart. It's utterly impossible for me to build my life on a foundation of chaos, suffering and death. I see the world being slowly transformed into a wilderness, I hear the approaching thunder that, one day, will destroy us too, I feel the suffering of millions. And yet, when I look up at the sky, I somehow feel that everything will change for the better, that this cruelty too shall end, that peace and tranquility will return once more.

**Understanding
Literature**

How do Remarque's and Frank's writings reflect hope? Why do you think Frank's diary has remained a bestseller for more than 50 years?

Economics

The Great Depression of the 1930s not only influenced the world economy, it also played an important role in shaping political events. Imagine that you are a German student living in Berlin. You have faithfully kept a journal throughout your life, taking special care to note the changing economic and political trends in Germany. Create seven journal entries detailing national events taking place in 1933. You can write entries for seven consecutive days or select seven dates from throughout the year. Remember to consider the state of the German economy and its influence on German political life during the early 1930s.



Hitler youth propaganda poster

Global Nationalism

Nationalist movements brought about change in many parts of the world, including Africa, Asia, and Latin America, during the early 1900s. The influence of strong leaders inspired calls for independence, modernization, and other political, social, and economic change. Imagine that you are an international correspondent assigned to interview a nationalist leader for a feature article on revolutions.

Create a list of questions you would ask. The questions should indicate your understanding of the conditions in the country as well as the goals and methods of the person you are interviewing.



Chinese leader Chiang Kai-shek, shown here in about 1935, was head of the Chinese Nationalist Army. He later became president of Taiwan.

Further Reading

- Holliday, Laurel, ed.** *Children in the Holocaust and World War II: Their Secret Diaries*. New York: Simon and Schuster, 1995. First-person accounts of events during the Second World War as seen by young people.
- Lang, Sean.** *The Second World War: Conflict and Co-Operation*. London: Cambridge University Press, 1993. Presents an overview of the people, places, and events of the war.
- Terkel, Studs.** *Hard Times: An Oral History of the Great Depression in America*. New York: New Press, 2000. Classic featuring the voices of Americans who lived during the Great Depression.
- Wepman, Dennis.** *Africa: The Struggle for Independence*. New York: Facts on File, 1994. A history of African responses to imperialism and colonial rule.
- Winter, J. M.** *The Experience of World War I*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1989. A survey history of the First World War.

Internet connect

Internet Activity

KEYWORD: SH3 US

In assigned groups, develop a multimedia presentation about the era from World War I to World War II. Choose information from the chapter Internet Connect activities and the Holt Researcher that best reflects the major topics of the period. Write an outline and a script for your presentation, which may be shown to the class.

