

**Totalitarianism  
and the**

**Outbreak  
of WWII**



WWI was not the “war to end all wars” because events from 1919 to 1939 led to another world war

The punishing terms of the Treaty of Versailles led to resentment in Germany

Huge reparations slowed Germany's ability to rebuild after the war

Britain, France, and other members of the League of Nations wanted to avoid another war

The Great Depression meant no American money for rebuilding and a world-wide depression in Europe

Percent of Work Force



Germany inflation was so bad, money was worthless; German children play with stacks of money

# In the 1920s and 1930s, nationalism increased and totalitarian dictators came to power

Totalitarian leaders came to power by promising jobs and promoting

Dictators controlled all aspects of the nation by eliminating rivals, denying liberties, using censorship, secret police





After Vladimir Lenin's death in 1924

...Joseph Stalin gained control of the Soviet Union



## Age of Nationalism, 1922–1941



Joseph Stalin grabs control of the Soviet Union in 1924 and squelches all opposition after V. I. Lenin, founder of the communist regime, dies.

Economic stability is achieved during the 1930s as the country becomes

- Fascist dictatorship
- Communist dictatorship
- Imperialist military regime

0 750 1,500 miles  
0 750 1,500 kilometers



Benito Mussolini rises to power in 1922 and attempts to restore Italy to its former position as a

Stalin was Communist and seized all property, farms, factories in order to control the economy and create

He used a secret police and the Great Purge to eliminate



# Stalin's Five Year Plans transformed the Soviet Union into an industrial and military power by 1929





Not all totalitarian dictators were Communists...

...In Italy, Germany, and Spain, people turned to an extremely nationalist gov't called fascism

Fascist governments were controlled by dictators who demanded loyalty

Fascists did not offer democracy and used one party to rule the

Unlike Communists, fascists believed people could keep their property



# Mussolini

- Forms Fascist Party with paramilitary arm, the blackshirts
- 1922: King of Italy asks him to form government as prime Minister
- Establishes first Fascist Government
- “Il Duce” (The Leader)





- Mussolini saw himself as a Caesar, restoring the grandeur of the Ancient Roman Empire



# Fascist Parties Develop Throughout Europe



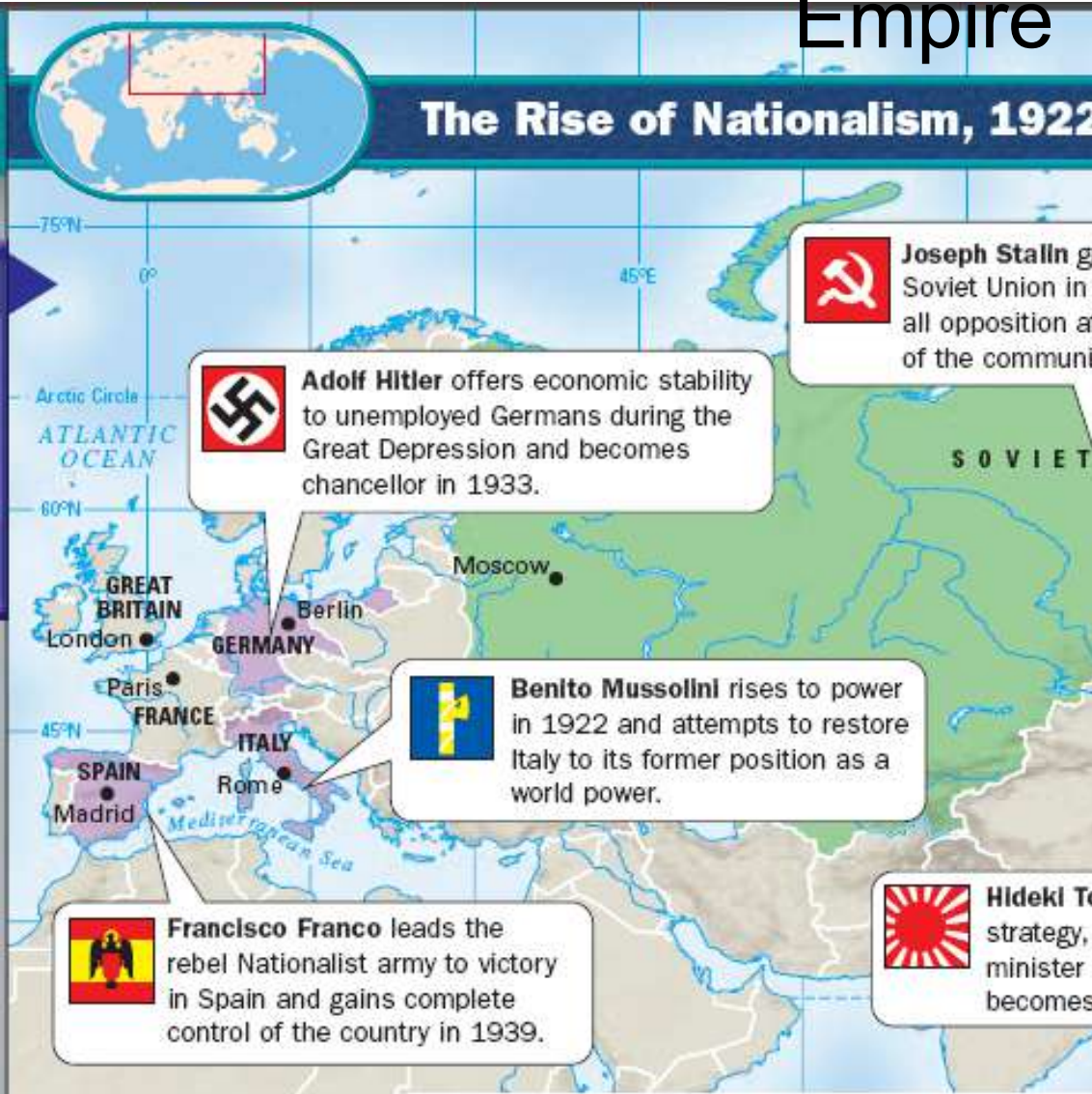
The examples shown are incomplete. Many of these parties drew on political traditions stretching back to the 19th century.



Paradoxically, submersion in the mass gives you identity, the shared power of nationality and race. Fascism appeals to the romanticism of youth, the lure of self-sacrifice to a common cause, the rediscovery of comradeship in battle



# In Italy, Benito Mussolini's Fascist Party seized power by promising to revive the economy, rebuild the military, and create a new Roman Empire



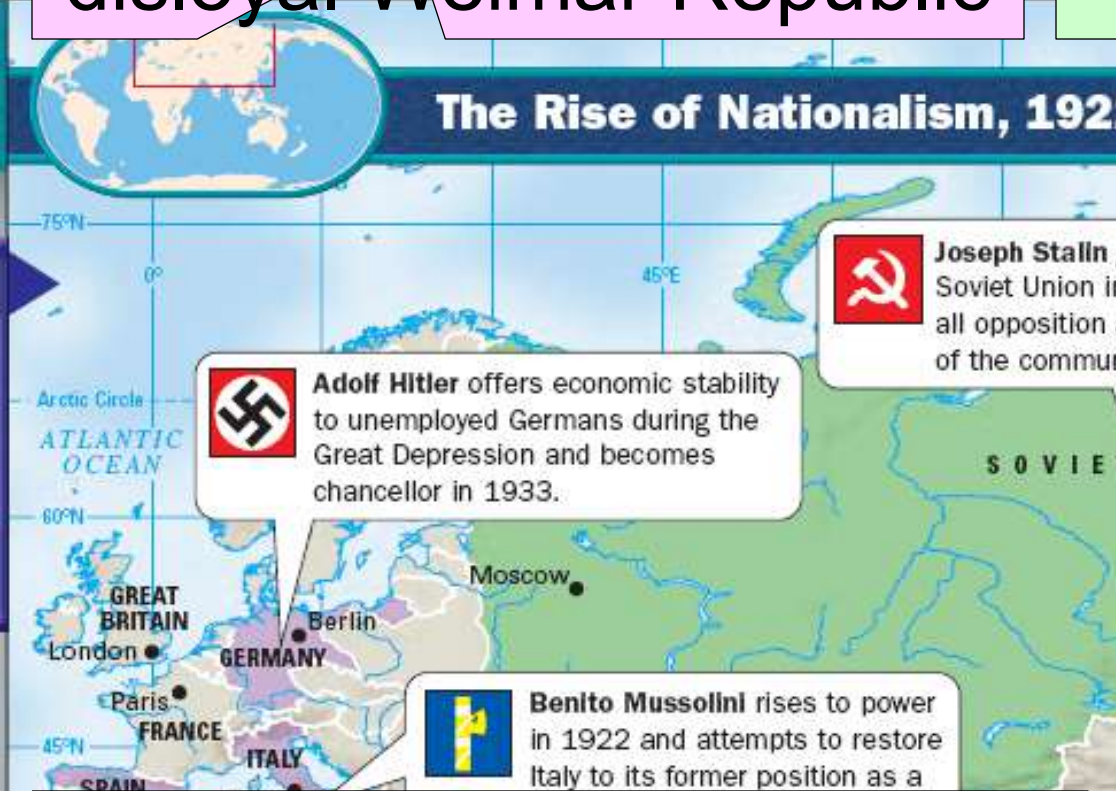
Mussolini's "march on Rome"



The "Blackshirts"

The Nazis were a fascist group in Germany that wanted to overthrow the disloyal Weimar Republic

Adolf Hitler was an early Nazi recruit and quickly rose to power in the party



Hitler was impressed by Mussolini and used many of his ideas to make the Nazi Party strong in Germany







Hitler's *Mein Kampf* outlined his plans for Germany

He wrote that Germans were members of a master race called Aryans and all non-Aryans were inferior

He declared that Germans needed *lebensraum* (living space) and should conquer Eastern Europe and Russia

He called the Treaty of Versailles an outrage and vowed to regain land taken from Germany after the war

# Hitler















"WE ARE SOCIALISTS, WE ARE  
ENEMIES OF TODAY'S  
CAPITALISTIC ECONOMIC SYSTEM...  
...AND WE ARE ALL DETERMINED  
TO DESTROY THIS SYSTEM  
UNDER ALL CONDITIONS."  
-ADOLF HITLER



ON SEPTEMBER 24, 1920, HITLER AND  
OTHERS REVEAL THE PLATFORM OF THE  
NATIONALSOZIALISTISCHE DEUTSCHE  
ARBEITER PARTEI (A.K.A. THE NATIONAL  
SOCIALIST GERMAN WORKER'S PARTY).

### NAZI PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS:

- UNIVERSAL EDUCATION
  - GAURANTEED EMPLOYMENT
  - WELFARE FOR THE ELDERLY
  - NATIONALIZATION OF INDUSTRY
  - ELEVATION OF NATIONAL HEALTH
  - ABOLITION OF MARKET-BASED LENDING
- ② DOES THIS SOUND RIGHT-WING TO YOU ②

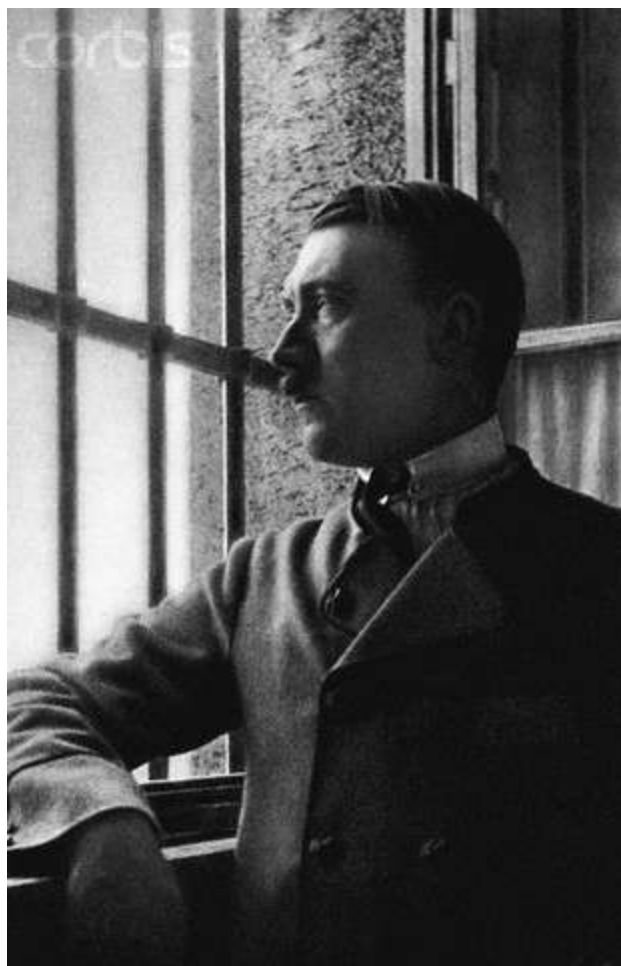
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### HITLER WAS:

ANTI-SMOKING  
ANTI-CAPALIST  
PRO GUN CONTROL  
PRO EUTHENASIA  
PRO ANIMAL RIGHTS  
A VEGETARIAN

### SOME NAZI SLOGANS:

"EVERYTHING MUST BE  
DIFFERENT!"  
"PUBLIC NEED BEFORE  
PRIVATE GREED!"  
"PEOPLE'S COMMUNITY!"  
"WE SOCIALIZE HUMAN BEINGS!"



# Brown Shirts- Nazi paramilitary Stormtroopers





In 1933, Hitler was named chancellor (prime minister) of Germany and used his power to become dictator.



# 1933

- Hindenburg dies and the Reichstag burns down
- Nazis immediately blame arson on communist conspiracy
- Hitler demands and gets totalitarian powers in order to deal with the national crisis
- Becomes Der Fuhrer (The Leader)

Hitler put Germans to work by building factories, highways, weapons, and increasing the military.



He created the gov't protection squad called the SS and a secret police called the Gestapo to eliminate rivals and control all aspects of Germany.



In 1935, Hitler began a series of anti-Semitic laws called the Nuremberg Laws that deprived German Jews of the rights of citizens, forbade mixed Jewish marriages, and required Jews to

wear a yellow star

In 1938, Hitler ordered Kristallnacht (Night of Broken Glass) a series of attacks on Jewish synagogues and

businesses



# Nazi Creed Spelled Out in Mein Kampf

- 1. Men are not created equal. As the most superior race on earth, Germans are true creators of culture. Since only they are capable of solving mankind's future problems, the future of civilization depends on them. Therefore, Aryan blood must be kept pure, or these superior qualities will be lost. Marriages to inferior races are forbidden. Germans must create a pure Master Race to rule the world.
- 2. Jews, the most inferior race, are the true destroyers of culture. They have deliberately invaded and drained all countries of the world of money and power. Therefore, the future of world power rests on either the rightful German masters or the Jews. Germans must save the world by ridding it of this Jewish poison.
- 3. Slavs, blacks and Mediterranean peoples rank only slightly above Jews. They are fit to live only as German slaves.
- 4. The German Master race will take as much land to the east as it needs for **Lebensraum**, or extra living space. Political boundaries are nonsense. If others resist, Germany will use its arms and take land by force.

- 5. Democracy and majority rule are stupid. The masses are ignorant sheep that need leading by a brilliant statesman. This divinely appointed leader is Adolf Hitler, who will rule the world with a few chosen elite. The Third Reich, or new German empire, will last a thousand years. It will be a Nazi totalitarian state with total control of government and the lives of all citizens.
- 6. Propaganda, or a system to spread political ideas, must be used to gain support of the ignorant masses. Since the people are dull and forgetful, propaganda must be limited to only a few points and repeated over and over again in important slogans. It is not important that these ideas be true, for people are willing to believe anything. In fact, the bigger the lies, the better.
- 7. Force and fear are the only means to keep the masses under control. Reason and argument have no place in the Third Reich.
- 8. Give the people a single enemy to hate and to blame for all their troubles. Then they will not feel guilty and will aim all their frustrations in one direction. Blame the Jew for everything evil.
- 9. Thou shalt have no other God but Germany! (Hitler even proposes this to be the eleventh commandment.) Christianity is just a scheme created by Jews. Christian love, mercy, and charity must be replaced.



# Negative Jewish Stereotypes in Nazi Germany

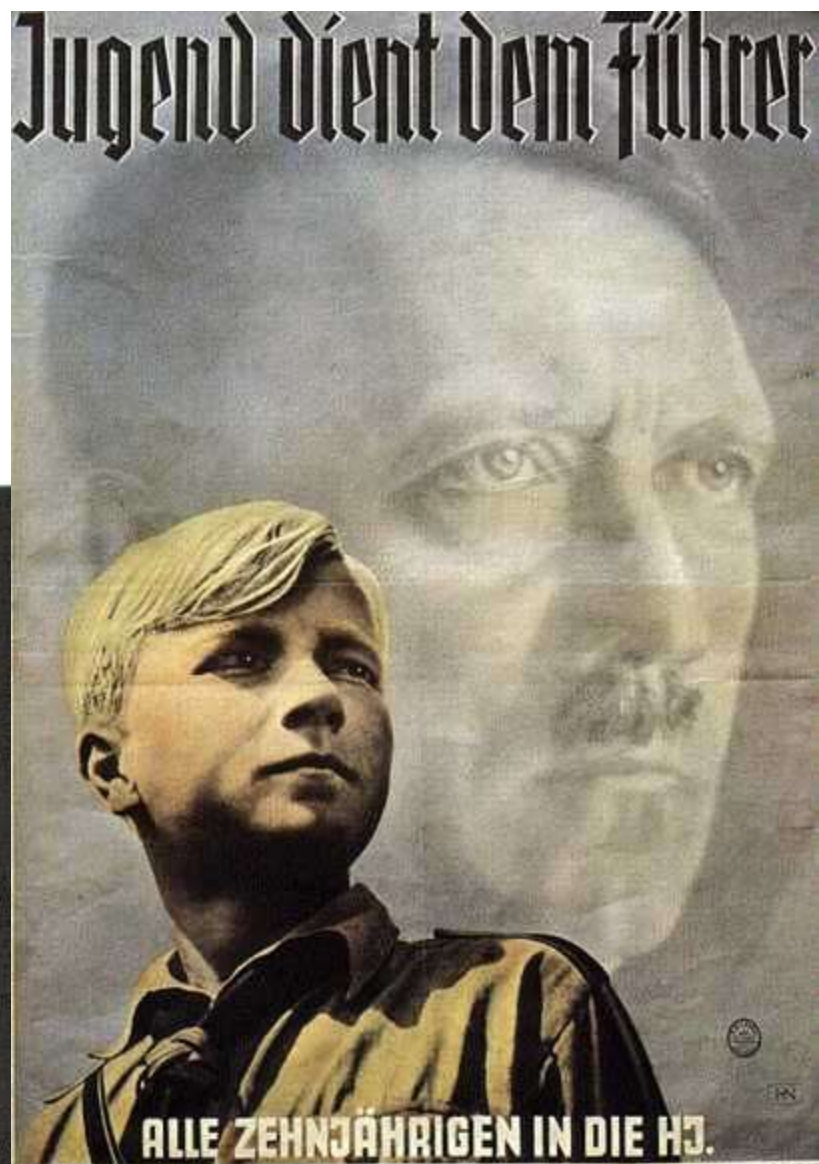
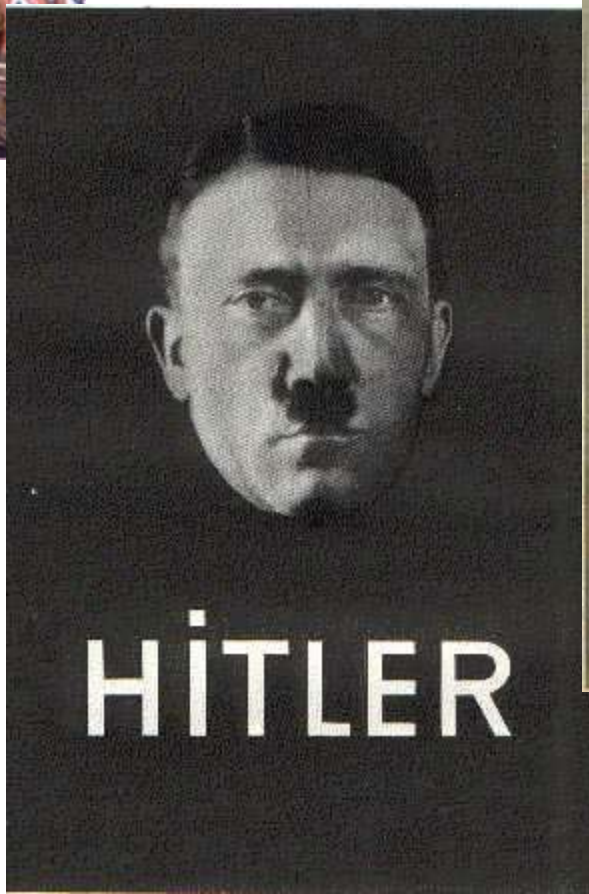
- Christ Killers
- Poisoned Wells to create Black Death
- Stole Christian babies to eat for Passover
- Not part of the community, strange outsiders without allegiance to any land
- Devil's agents (wear yarmulkes to cover horns on head, along with tails and cloven hoofs)
- Condemned by God to wander world
- Evil money-hungry Jews out to take over world

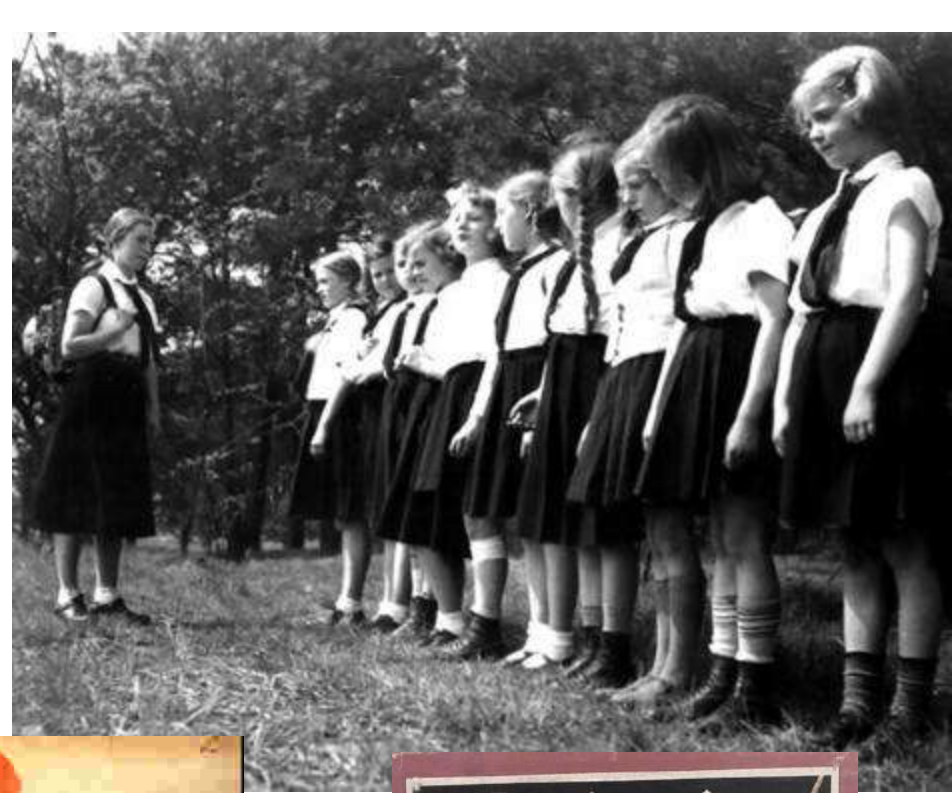
# Nazi Controls

- Control of labor; Hitler's New Deal-inspired program builds autobahns and public works; bad work habits could lead to arrest
- Fear: Secret police force, the Gestapo, had unlimited powers; citizens had no civil rights
- Propaganda everywhere; all media state controlled

- Religion: plans made for national Nazi Church; Christianity called a Jewish invention and the Bible a “book of lies”; Hitler was new “messiah” sent to finish job Jews kept Jesus from completing
- Education: designed to create good Nazis and instill hatred of inferiors
- Youth Groups: Hitler Youth and League of German Maidens
- Arts: Everything displayed, published, performed had to be of “Aryan” background and promote nazism









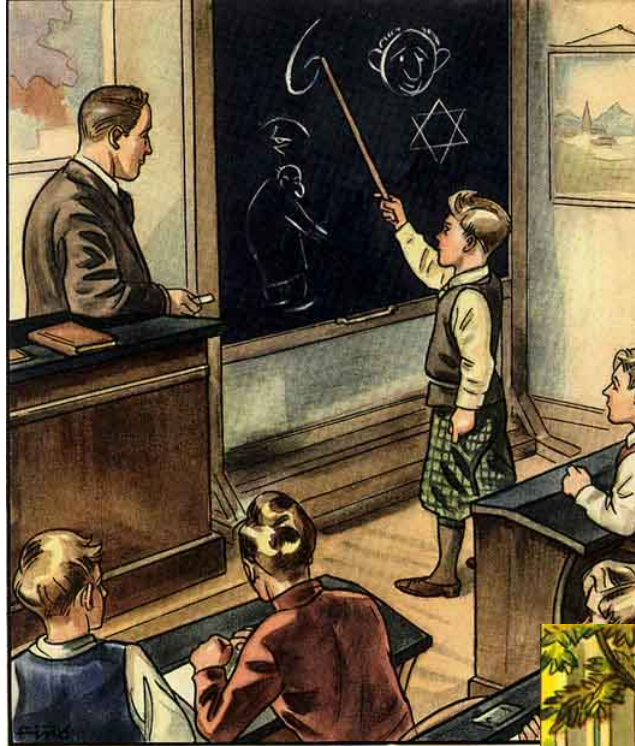




# Die Giftgilde



Erzählungen von Ernst Büchner  
Bilder von Fied



„Die Judenmasse ist an ihrer Spitze gebogen. Sie sieht aus wie ein



„Sofbuerin, heut' hab' ich für dich was Besonderes. Schau diesen Stoff an! Das gibt ein Kleid für dich, Sofbuerin, ein Kleid, du wirst darin aussehen wie eine Kaiserin, wie eine Fürstin, wie eine Königin...“



„Die Taufe hat aus ihm keinen Nichtjuden gemacht...“



„Der Gott des Juden ist das Geld. Hat um Geld zu werden, begehrt er die größten Verbrechen. Er ruht nicht eher, bis er auf einem großen Gelblad liegen kann, bis er zum König des Geldes geworden ist.“



Wieder stürzt das Tier zu Boden. Langsam steht es. Die Juden aber strehen herum und lachen dazu.





After WWI, Japan was the strongest nation in Asia and was ready to conquer new lands to provide resources for

Emperor Hirohito, gave full control of the Japanese military to Hideki Tojo who served as a military dictator



# In the 1930s, Japan, Italy, and Germany began aggressively expanding in Africa, Asia, and Europe





# Japan invaded Manchuria in 1931 and mainland China in 1937



## JAPANESE AGGRESSION

- Japan and its colonies, 1930
- Taken over by Japan, 1931-1939

September 1931

Japan invades Manchuria.



July 1937

Japan invades China.



In 1935, Mussolini began his campaign to create an Italian Empire by invading Ethiopia



October 1935  
Italy attacks  
Ethiopia.

Ethiopian soldiers  
defending their country  
from the Italian military

The League of Nations condemned Japan and Italy but did nothing to stop the attacks in order to maintain world peace



# The failure of the League of Nations to stop Italy or Japan, encouraged Hitler to expand Germany

By 1936, Hitler had expanded the German military and moved troops into the

In 1938, Germany annexed Austria and the Sudetenland

In 1939, Hitler invaded Czechoslovakia



March 1938  
Germany annexes  
Austria.

September 1938  
Germany takes  
Sudetenland.

March 1936  
Germany occupies  
Rhineland.

March 1939  
Germany seizes  
Czechoslovakia.





# The League of Nations used appeasement to avoid war with Germany, Italy, and Japan



**March 1938**  
Germany annexes Austria.

**September 1938**  
Germany takes Sudetenland.



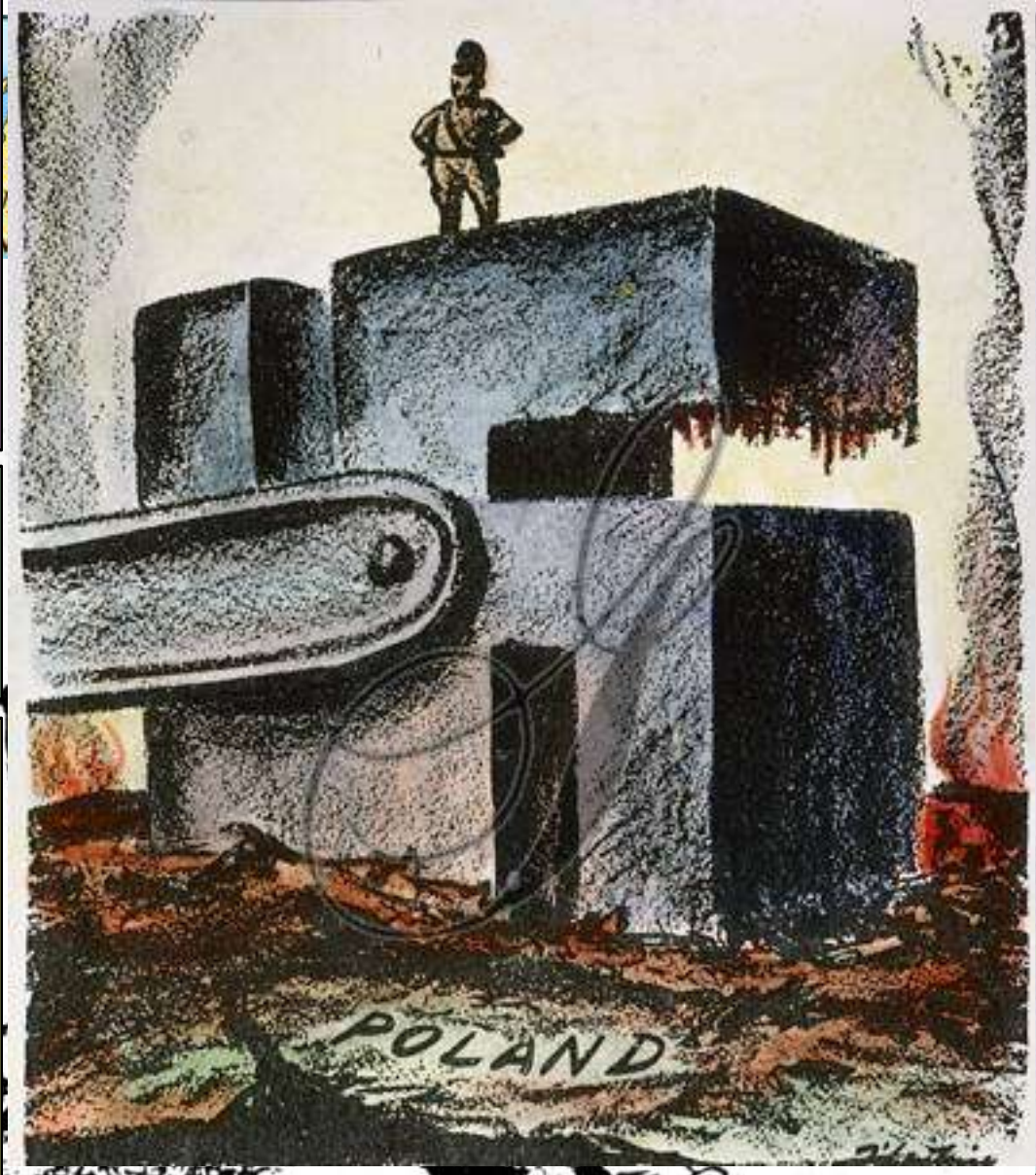
**March 1936**  
Germany occupies Rhineland.

**March 1939**  
Germany seizes Czechoslovakia.

In 1939, Hitler demanded the return on Poland to Germany but wanted to avoid a war with the

Stalin and Hitler agreed to the Nazi-Soviet Nonaggression Pact, promising to divide Poland and to never to attack each other. On September 1, 1939, Germany invaded Poland

On September 3, 1939, Britain and France declared war on the Axis Powers (Germany, Italy, and Japan) and



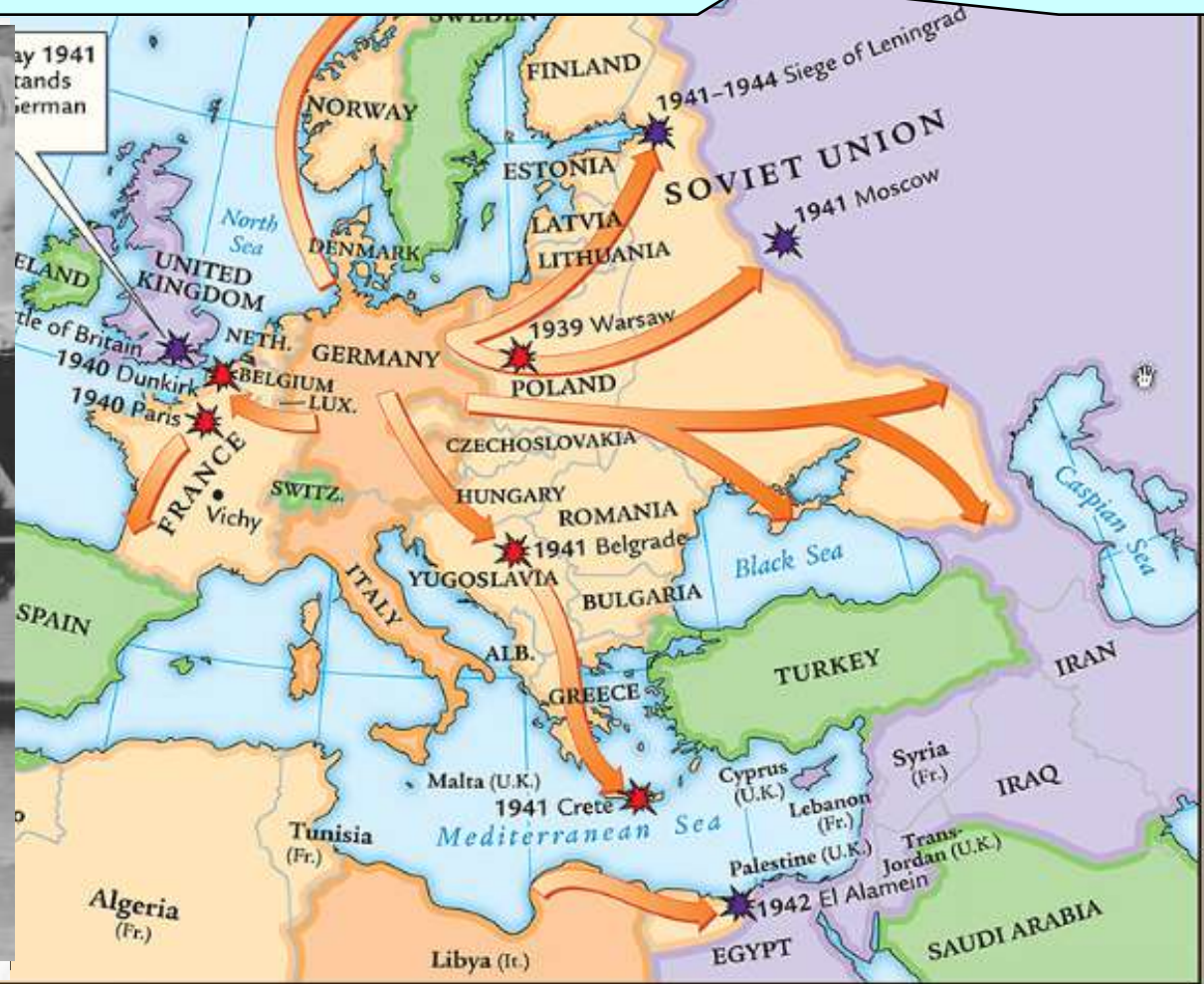


When World War II began,  
German blitzkrieg tactics led to the  
conquest of Poland, Denmark,  
Norway, Netherlands, Belgium,

...the Axis Powers seized North Africa

### THE AXIS ATTACKS 1939-1942

- Axis power
- Axis-controlled area, 1942
- Allied power
- Neutral power
- Expansion of Axis control
- Axis victory





# In 1941, Hitler broke the Nazi-Soviet Pact and invaded the Soviet Union

## THE AXIS ATTACKS 1939-1942

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Jul. 1940-May 1941  
Britain withdraws

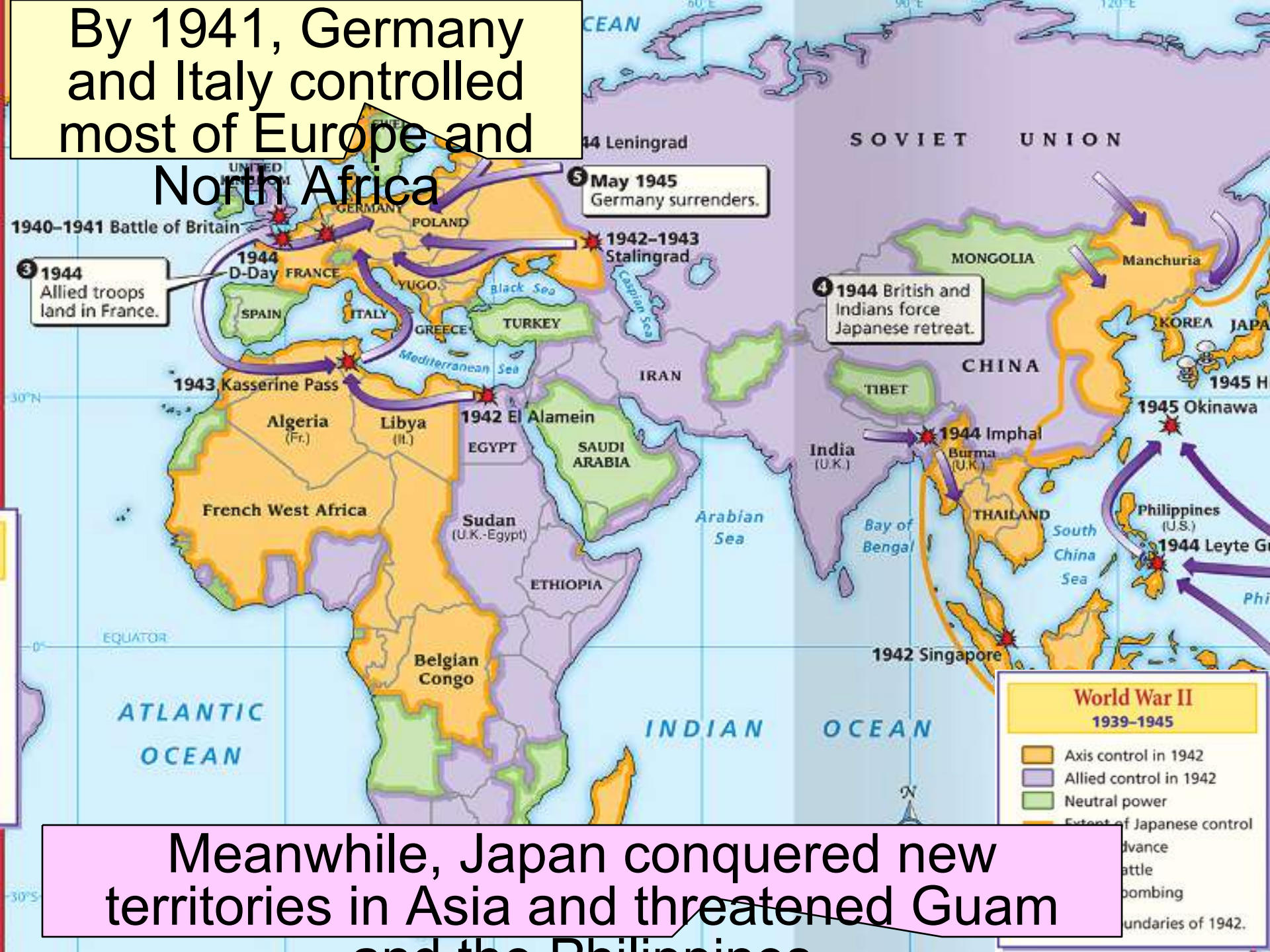
Forgive me  
Comrade, but  
it seemed such  
a good  
opportunity!

Russo-German Pact





By 1941, Germany and Italy controlled most of Europe and North Africa



Meanwhile, Japan conquered new territories in Asia and threatened Guam and the Philippines



From 1939 to 1941, the United States remained neutral, but not isolated, from the global conflict





# Closure Activity

- On your map, label the following:
  - The 3 main Axis Powers
  - The territories under the control of the Axis Powers by 1942
- On your timeline, identify the 5 most important events that contributed to World War 2; For each event, provide a brief summary & an image