Years of Crisis
1919-1939

-In the 1920s, new scientific ideas changed the way people looked at the world. New inventions improved transportation and communication.

-The collapse of the American economy in 1929 triggered a depression that threatened the economic and political systems of countries throughout the world.

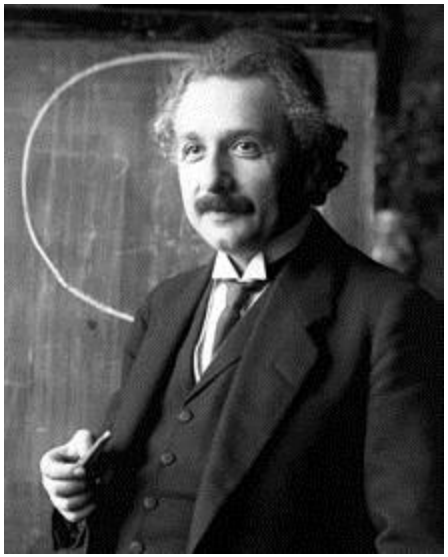
- In the 1930s, several countries- including Japan, Germany, Italy- adopted aggressive, militaristic policies.

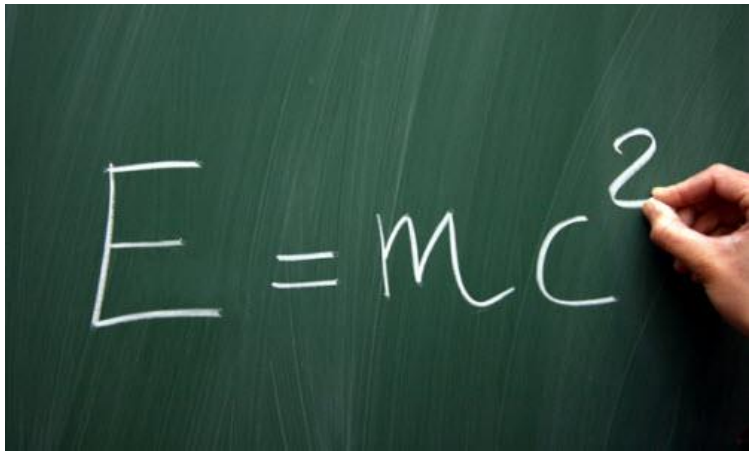
Section 1: Postwar Uncertainty

- Postwar period was one of loss and uncertainty but also one of invention, creativity, and new ideas

A New Revolution in Science

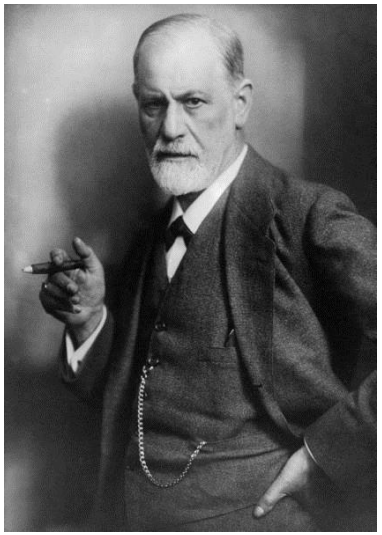
- Albert Einstein
- German born physicist
- Ideas of space, time, energy and matter
- Theory of relativity
  - Space and time can change when measured relative to an object moving near the speed of light
- Brings uncertainty since absolute laws no longer apply
- http://www.history.com/videos/einstein-einsteins-general-theory-of-relativity

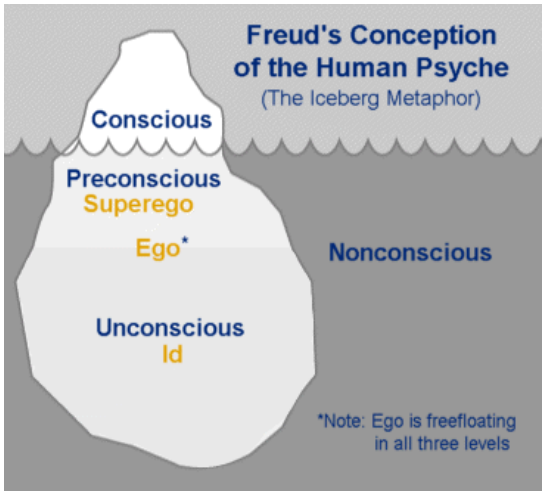




A New Revolution in Science

- Sigmund Freud
- Austrian physician/psychologist
- concluded that people are irrational because unconscious mind controls the conscious mind
- Views scares people that horrors and evils cannot be avoided

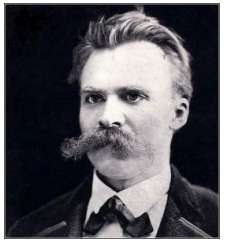




Literature in the 1920s

- Many feared the future and expressed doubts about traditional religious beliefs
- "Lost Generation"
  - Writers response to negatives of WWI
    - Talk about the horrors
    - Disillusionment
      - Free from viewing world as being perfect
  - Hemingway and Fitzgerald

- Existentialism
  - No universal meaning to life
- Friedrich Nietzche
  - German philosopher that wanted to return to ancient heroic values of pride and strength
  - Western ideas like democracy, reason and progress limit people's creativity and actions
  - Influences Germans



Revolution in the Arts

- Surrealism
  - "beyond or above real life"
  - Art movement that sought to link the world of dreams with real life
  - Inspired by Freud

Prohibition

- 18th Amendment
  - Banning the manufacturing and sale of "intoxicating liquors"
- To many middle-class white Americans, Prohibition was a way to assert some control over the unruly immigrant masses who crowded the nation's cities

Jazz

- Great Migration
  - Many African-Americans move north
- Loose, free style of music, breaks with order and discipline
- Developed mainly by African Americans in New Orleans, Memphis, and Chicago
- http://www.history.com/videos/the-harlem-renaissance-an-artistic-explosion

Society Challenges Convention

- Women's war effort helps give them the right to vote, suffrage 1920 with 19th amendment
- Took new jobs
- Flappers

Technological Advances Improve Life

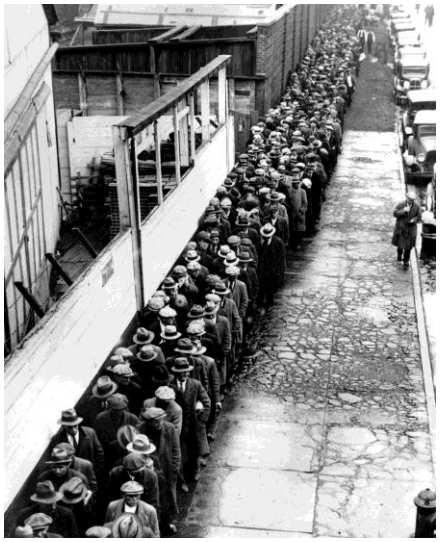
- WWI brings technology to the hands of ordinary people
- Automobile
  - prices dropped because of assembly line production which makes it more available to most Americans
  - Gives freedom
  - http://www.history.com/shows/america-the-story-of-us/videos/henry-ford-and-the-model-t#henry-ford-and-the-model-t
- Airplane
  - 1919 two British pilots cross Atlantic Ocean
  - 1927 Charles Lindbergh first solo transatlantic flight

Radio and Movies Dominate Popular Entertainment

- Radio brings entertainment
  - Used in WW1 for communications
- Hollywood comes to rise with 90% of all movies made there

Section 2: Worldwide Depression

- An economic depression in the United States spread throughout the world and lasted for a decade.



Postwar Europe

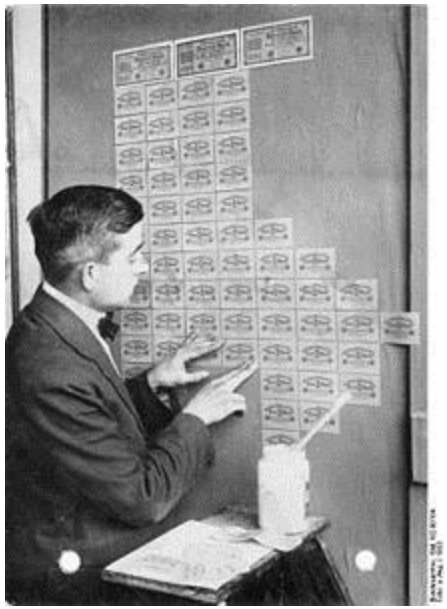
- Sudden rise of democratic nations without any experience with democracy
- Having so many political parties countries would have to have coalition governments
  - Temporary alliance of several parties
  - Needed for a parliamentary majority
  - Coalition did not last long

Weimar Republic

- Germany's new democratic government in 1919
- Unpopular, but got Germany out of war
- Blamed for losing WWI, signing and accepting the Treaty of Versailles

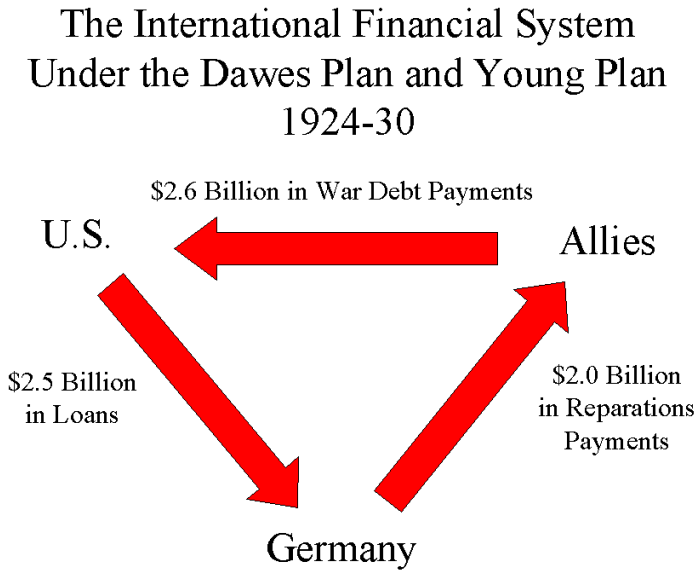
Inflation

- To pay for wartime expenses Germany simply printed more money making its money worthless
- Could not pay for reparations (money owed for the cost of WWI)
- Bread cost
  - 1918 1 mark
  - 1922 160 marks
  - 1923 200 billion marks



Attempts at Economic Stability

- Dawes Plan
  - 1924 U.S. banker's plan to help stabilize Germany
  - $200 million loan
  - More realistic schedule of reparation payments
  - 1929 German factories recover and are producing more than before WWI



Efforts at a Lasting Peace

- Kellogg-Briand Peace Pact
  - 1928
  - Renounced war as an instrument of national policy
  - Signed by every major country

Financial Collapse

http://www.history.com/videos/1929-stock-market-crash

- Uneven distribution of wealth, overproduction by businesses and agriculture
- By 1929 U.S. produced almost half of the world's industrial goods
- Americans bought less which caused merchants to cut back and factories to layoff
- Farmers could not pay loans and banks seized farms and equipment

BROOKLYN DAILY EAGLE

WALL ST. IN PANIC AS STOCKS CRASH

Attempt Made to Kill Italy's Crown Prince

Hollywood Fire Destroys Films Worth Millions

High Duty Group Gave $700,000 to Coolidge Drive

FINANCIAL STOCKS BONDS PAGE

STOCK MART CONTINUES TO REACT TO BEARISH PRESSURE

MANY ISSUES HIT NEW LOWS AT OPENING

Grape Prices Slump As Offerings Nearly Double

Noon Stock Prices

ELBERTAS ARE NEARLY DONE FOR THIS YEAR

National Banking System Crumbling, Forbes Warns

HELPING RAINS IN ARGENTINA LOWER WHEAT

Peacock Flour

Eventually An Economic Relationship Is Established Between Earnings and Value

U. S. SHIPPING BOARD LOANS 16 MILLIONS

Cider Apples WANTED

Cress, McKinney & Co.

Stock Market Crashes

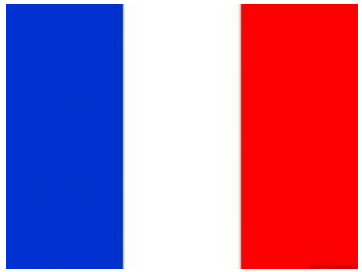
- Many bought stock on credit
- Thought they would always be able to pay back when stock prices went up
- Black Thursday
  - October 24, 1929 16 million stocks sold

Great Depression

- Long business slump
- Banks closed, production decreased, ¼ of Americans were jobless
- U.S. could not buy foreign goods
- Germany and Austria hit hard since U.S. loans were given to help rebuild
- Latin America and Asia hurt from exports
- Many people in the world lose faith in democracies

The World Confronts the Crisis

- Britain
  - Raises taxes and regulates currency
  - Maintains democracy
- France
  - Since still heavily agricultural and not independent on foreign trade not hurt as bad
  - Maintains democracy

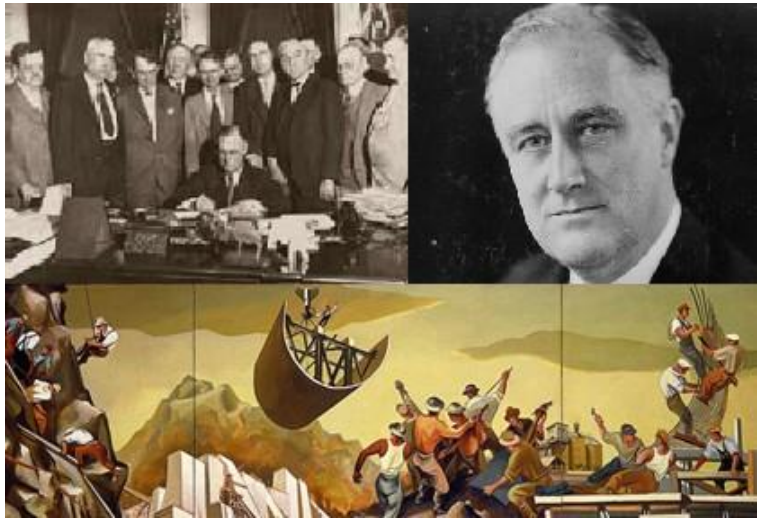


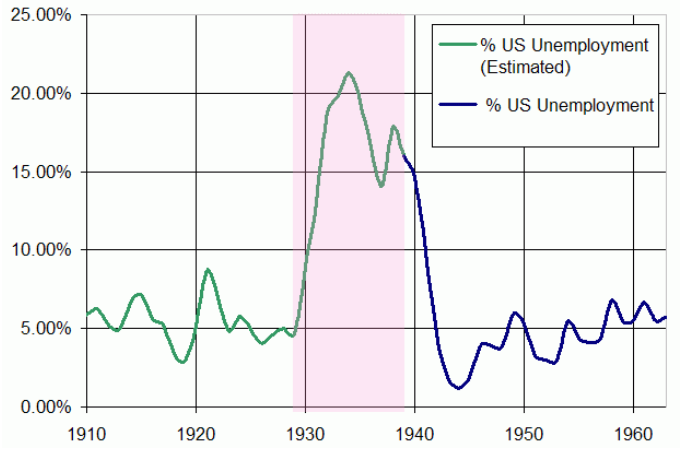
Socialist Governments Find Solutions

- Massive public work projects
- Citizens taxed higher

The World Confronts the Crisis

- FDR takes over after Hoover
- New Deal
  - Large public works projects, new government agencies to provide jobs for unemployed and help farmers and businesses
  - Social security system set up (2nd)
  - $10 billion on construction of 122,000 public buildings, 664,000 miles of roads, 77,000 bridges and 285 airports
  - Full recovery not until WWII
  - http://www.history.com/shows/the-presidents/videos/the-new-deal-how-does-it-affect-us-today#the-new-deal-how-does-it-affect-us-today





Section 3: Fascism Rises in Europe

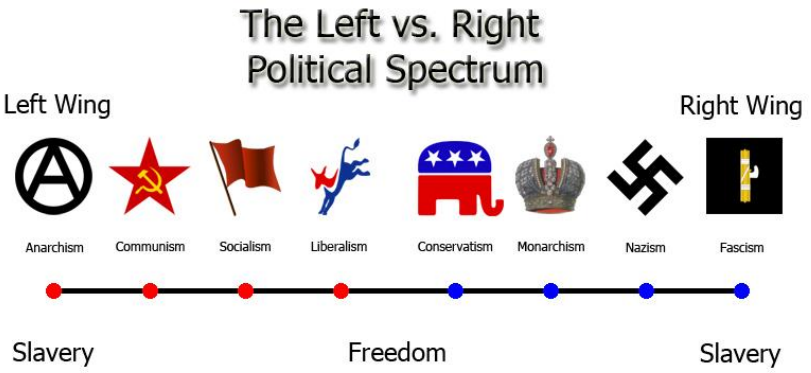
- In response to political turmoil and economic crises, Italy and Germany turned to totalitarian dictators.

Fascism's Rise in Italy

- Fascism
  - New militant political movement that emphasized loyalty to the state and obedience to its leader
  - No defined ideology
  - Extreme nationalism, peaceful states doomed and needed to be conquered, loyalty to an authoritarian leader, mass rallies

Similarities/Differences to Communism

- Similarities
  - Authoritarian rule, dictator, denied rights, blamed minorities, neither practiced forms of democracy
- Differences
  - Did not believe in classless society, each class had its place and purpose (Fascist)
  - Communists wanted to spread communism, fascism only cared about their country



Benito Mussolini

- Italian newspaper editor and politician
- Joined by 300k black shirt fascists they marched on Rome and demanded that Mussolini be put in power
- Also known as Il Duce
- Gained favor speaking about how Italy was wronged by not receiving more from Treaty of Versailles

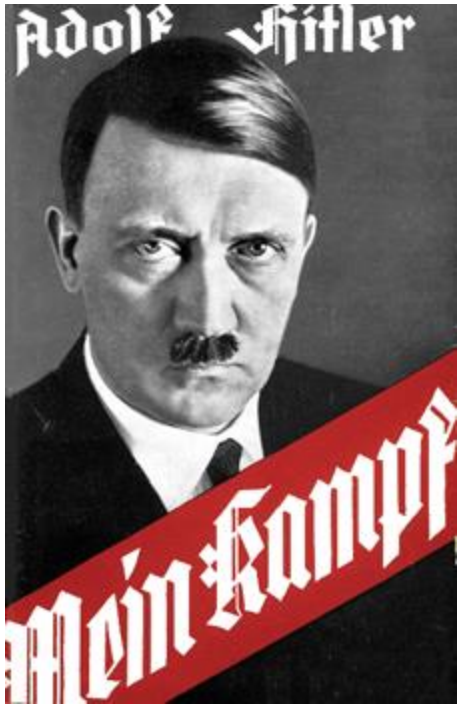
Il Duce's Leadership

- Outlawed all political parties except Fascists
- Secret police jailed protesters
- Radio stations and newspapers censored
- Fascist doctrines published and broadcasted
- Did not have total control like Hitler and Stalin

Hitler Rises to Power in Germany

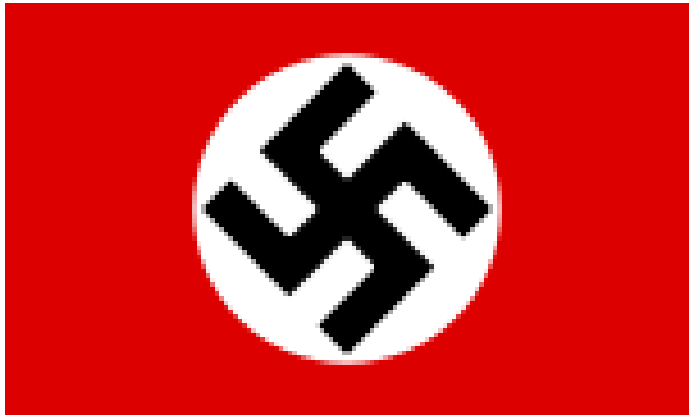
- Awarded the Iron Cross for bravery in WWI for being wounded
- National Socialist German Workers' Party, Nazi party starts its own form of fascism known as Nazism
- Private militia known as storm troopers or brown shirts

- Inspired by Mussolini's march on Rome, Hitler does the same
- Is jailed where he writes *Mein Kampf (My Struggle)*
  - Tried for treason but only sentenced to 5 years, and served less than 5 months
  - Germans were Aryans, master race, return power to Germany, and blamed problems on Jews, Slavs, and Gypsies



Hitler Continued

- Lebensraum
  - Germany was overcrowded and needed living space
  - Gain back the German Empire
  - Return of the Third Reich
- Great Depression
  - Germany turns to Hitler to turn the country around



Hitler Becomes Chancellor

- Nazis largest political party in Germany in 1932
- Hitler is named Chancellor by President Paul von Hindenburg thinking that the Weimar Republic could control Hitler
- Hitler turns Germany into totalitarian state
- Uses elite black uniformed unit for protection, *SS, Schutzstaffel*
  - Murdered thousands of political opponents
  - Secret police used as well, Gestapo

Fuhrer is Supreme

- Improves unemployment from 6 to 1.5 million with construction of roads, factories, and manufactured weapons which all help fuel military
- Began burning books, using propaganda, film, press and radio to serve his purposes
- Schoolchildren had to join the Hitler Youth or League of German Girls
- Used Nietzsche to support his idea of returning to the German empire

Hitler Makes War on the Jews

- Anti-Semitism
- Less than 1% of the population
- Kristallnacht, Night of Broken Glass
  - Sparked the real start of the process of eliminating the Jews
  - Beating and destroying of property

Treaty of Versailles

Under the Treaty of Versailles, Germany:

- Ceded significant amounts of land
- Had to pay billions of dollars in reparations to allied countries
- Had to keep a small military

German delegates at Versailles

Germany's Economic Collapse

Many Germans were angry about the terms of the treaty of Versailles.

Germany suffered economic collapse during the 1920s and 1930s.

Germans began to look for a leader that could restore Germany to its former glory.

Worthless money used as wallpaper

Annexation of Austria

Hitler became chancellor in 1933 and began to challenge the Versailles treaty.

In March of 1938, German troops moved into Austria in order to annex the country and bring it under Nazi rule.

Vote Results

- *When the votes were tallied, 98.9% of Germans and 99.71% of Austrians voted to ratify the annexation of Austria.*

- *Even given the unpopularity of the Treaty of Versailles, this seems like an incredible margin of victory.*

- *This has led historians to closely examine the tactics that Nazi leaders used to ensure their desired result on the referendum.*

Section 4: Aggressors Invade Nations

- As Germany, Italy, and Japan conquered other countries, the rest of the world did nothing to stop them.

Japan Seeks an Empire

- Militarists took control of Japan due in part of the Great Depression
- Keeping Emperor Hirohito won popular support but really just a figurehead
- Wanted to solve country's economic problems through expansion

Japan Invades Manchuria

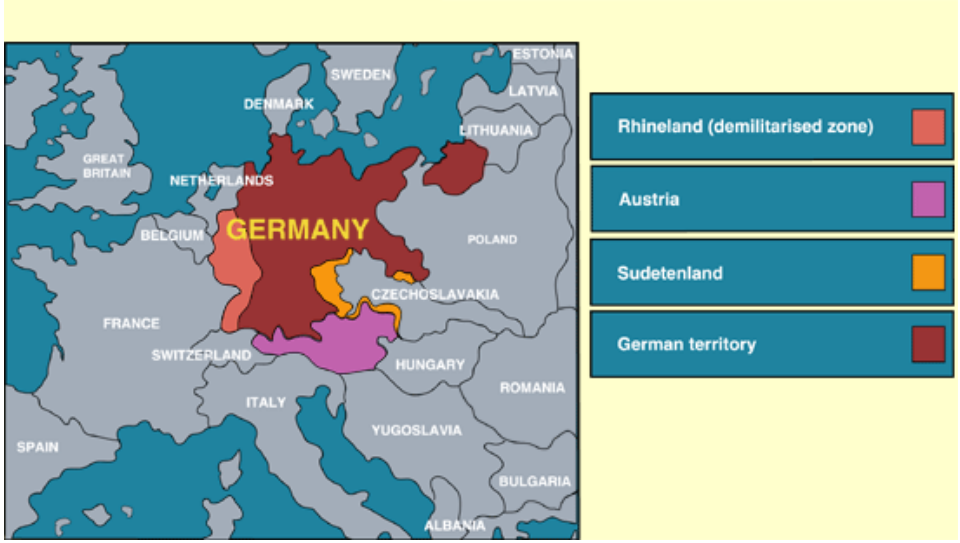
- Japanese businesses had invested lots of money in the heavy resourced area of Northern China known as Manchuria
- Rich in iron and coal which was needed for Japan's empire
- Japanese engineers and technicians build more factories
- League of Nations protested but had no power to stop
- http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=t_aZWY2Pm3g

Japan Invades China

- While China had more soldiers they were technologically disadvantaged and were not as well trained
- Distracted by Civil War
- Invasion in 1931

European Aggressors on the March

- Mussolini Attacks Ethiopia in 1935
  - Wanted to make up for prior loss
  - Ethiopia pleas to League of Nations, but yet again no power to enforce
  - Britain allows Italy to go through the Suez Canal hoping to keep peace
- Hitler Defies the Versailles Treaty
  - Builds large army, enters Rhineland which is an important industrial area



Appeasement

- Giving in to an aggressor to keep peace
- The weak response by France and Great Britain show their wanting to avoid war and that Hitler could continue to take
- 1936 seeing that Italy and Germany are aggressors in Europe they form the Rome-Berlin Axis
  - Work together and not fight each other
  - Later known as Axis Powers which Japan will join

Civil War Erupts in Spain

- General Francisco Franco, helped by Fascists with weapons and ammo, wins the Civil War
- No democracies send aid, but Soviet Union does
- Francisco becomes Fascist dictator
- Does not return the favor in WW2

Democratic Nations Try to Preserve Peace

- Many Americans favor isolationism
  - Belief that political ties to other countries should be avoided
  - Neutrality Acts passed
    - Loans and weapons could not be given to countries at war
- German Reich Expands
  - German Empire, wants to absorb Austria and Czechoslovakia

Britain and France Again Choose Appeasement

- Munich Conference, September 29, 1938
  - Britain and France appease Hitler if he just took part of Czechoslovakia known as Sudetenland
  - Hitler agreed then 6 months later took the rest of Czechoslovakia

Nazis and Soviets Sign Nonaggression Pact

- Fascist Germany and Communist Soviet Union agree publicly not to attack each other
- Secretly split up Poland
- AKA Hitler-Stalin Pact

THE HARMONY BOYS
PRO NAZI PROPAGANDA

Appeasement

Stanford History Education Group

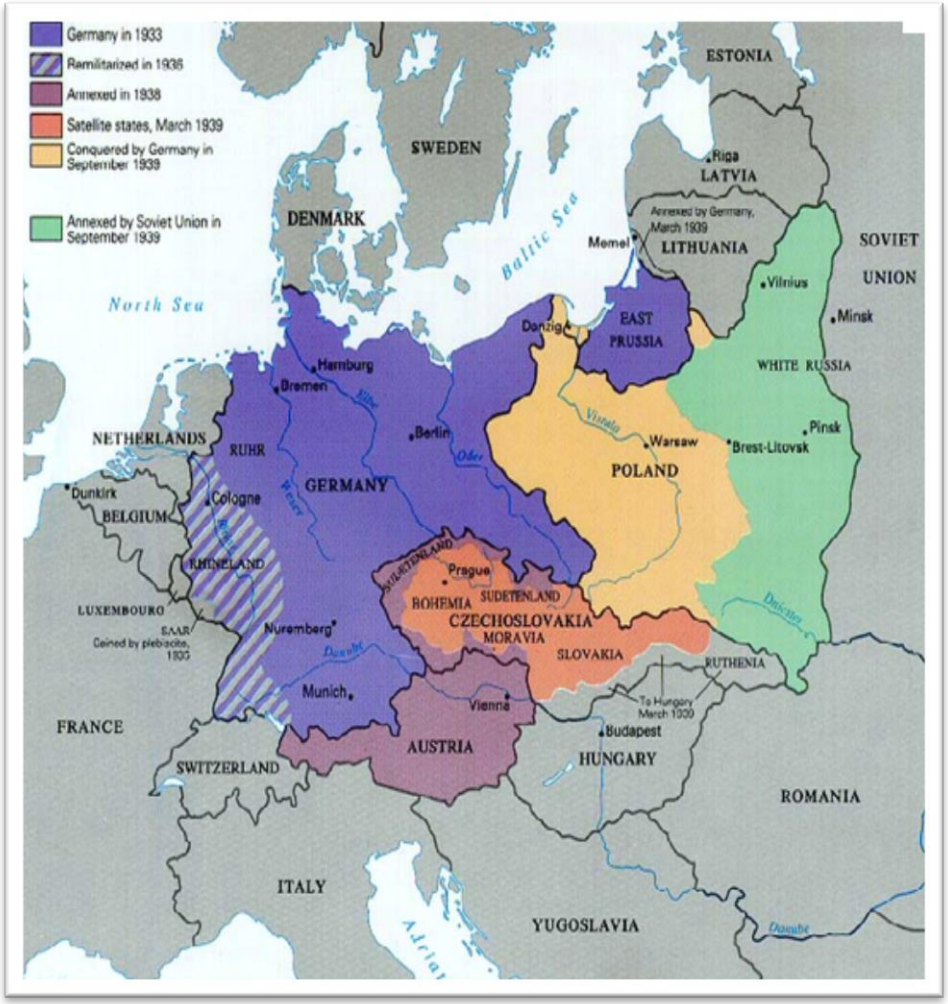
German Rearmament

- By 1938, Germany had rebuilt its military under Adolf Hitler, in violation of the Treaty of Versailles.
- Hitler was looking to expand Germany's borders, claiming that he was attempting to unite ethnic Germans in Europe.
- Recent memories of the First World War left European countries reluctant to prepare for war.

Review of German Troops, 1939

German Aggression

- Between 1936 and 1938, Germany remilitarized the Rhineland, annexed Austria, and in September 1938, Hitler demanded that Czechoslovakia give Germany the Sudetenland, a region with a heavy ethnic-German population.



German Aggression 1936-1939

The Munich Agreement

- The British government took the role of negotiating with Germany.
- British Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain met with Hitler in Munich to find a compromise over the Sudetenland.
- The Munich Agreement (September 29, 1938) stated that Germany would receive the Sudetenland, and promised Germany would not to take further land from Czechoslovakia.
- The Munich Agreement became synonymous with the policy of appeasement.

Chamberlain and Hitler at the Munich Agreement

Further German Aggression

Polish city of Wieluń after German bombing September 1, 1939