

## **Unit 8: World War II**

### **Geography: Overview of the Middle East, Egypt & Israel**

#### **Middle East Overview**

1. Start of many great civilizations
  - a. Egypt & Mesopotamia
    - i. Nile River and Fertile Crescent
2. Climate
  - a. Hot, dry and deserts (most)
  - b. Farming is hard b/c of poor/thin soil
3. Languages
  - a. Most speak Arabic
    - i. Israel also speaks Hebrew
4. Religion
  - a. Predominantly Muslim
  - b. Holy Sites
    - i. Jerusalem-Christian (Jesus' crucified)
    - ii. Bethlehem-Christian (birthplace of Jesus)
    - iii. Mecca-Islam (birthplace of prophet Mohammad)
    - iv. Medina-Islam (where islam was est. & Mohammad buried)
5. Oil
  - a. World's most valuable commodity/resource
  - b. Greatest known oil reserves in world are concentrated around Persian Gulf
  - c. Strait of Hormuz
    - i. Only sea passage from Persian Gulf into open ocean
    - ii. US presence
    - iii. ~ 1/3 of world's oil passes through every day

#### **Hitler's Foreign Policy**

1. Rearmament of Germany
  - a. Announced March 16th, 1935
  - b. Re-instituted draft, increase soldiers to 500,000 and built luftwaffe
2. Remilitarization of Rhineland
  - a. March 7th, 1936
  - b. No punishment from Europe
3. Annexation of Austria
  - a. March 12th, 1938
  - b. Known as Anschluss
4. Annexation of Sudetenland
  - a. Hitler demanded area
  - b. Allies conceded and gave to Hitler in exchange for peace
    - i. Known as Munich Agreement, September 30th, 1938
5. Invasion of Czechoslovakia
  - a. Czech's tried to prevent
  - b. March 15th, 1939

6. Invasion of Poland
  - a. Broke non aggression pact
  - b. September 1st, 1939
  - c. Poland attacked on 2 sides
    - i. Germany and Russia divided Poland in 2
7. Timeline



a.

### **Dictionary Words To Add: New Title— World War II**

1. Luftwaffe: German Air Force
2. Rhineland: Strip of German land that borders France, Belgium and the Netherlands that was demilitarized to increase security and reduce future German aggression
3. Sudetenland: Area in northern Czechoslovakia that borders Germany

### **Class Timeline**

September 1st, 1939: Start of WWII

### **Case White, Finland and Norway**

1. Operation Case White
  - a. Hitler withdrew from non aggression pact

- i. Secret pact with Stalin, dividing Poland
  - b. Objective was to destroy the enemy
  - c. Made to look like Poland provoked hostilities
    - i. Radio station was destroyed, Poles were blamed
  - d. German military was superior to Polish army
    - i. Blitzkrieg was effective
  - e. September 17th-Russia attacked on the eastern side.
  - f. Poland continued to fight but gave up on September 27th.
2. Sitzkrieg
    - a. Period of time when no action was happening
    - b. "Phony War"
  3. Norway
    - a. Invaded by Germany
    - b. Allie land effort failed but the Brits damaged the German navy
    - c. Became a "puppet" state for Germany
  4. Finland
    - a. Attacked by Russia
    - b. Ended in Treaty of Moscow
      - i. Finland surrendered large area and naval base
      - ii. Befriended Germany to help with Russia

### **Dictionary Words to Add**

4. Sitzkrieg: war/phase of war where there is little to no active warfare. Used more for lack of action. Stalemate is more for pause in progress.

### **Invasion of France/Dunkirk**

1. After Norway Germany invaded Belgium, Luxembourg, Netherlands and France
  - a. Campaign started on May 10th, 1940
  - b. Germany had control in 6 weeks
2. Britain and France thought Germany would go through Belgium (same as WWI)
  - a. Entered further south
  - b. By end of May allied forces were cornered on the beach at Dunkirk
3. Miracle at Dunkirk
  - a. Hitler stalled, worried about counterattack
  - b. Gave allied forces time to plan, -Operation Dynamo
  - c. Royal Navy ships were to big to get to shore, call for help went out
    - i. May 26th ~1,000 small boats and fishing vessels came to help.
      1. May 28th they arrived at Dunkirk
  - d. Civilians helped evacuate 338,000 British and French Forces
    - i. June 4th, 1940 Germany occupied Dunkirk
      1. 90,000 allied troops taken as POWs
  - e. "Miracle at Dunkirk" became a rallying cry for Britain.
4. Without enough allied forces, Paris fell to Germany on June 14th, 1940
  - a. June 22nd Armistice signed
    - i. Germany gets northern france and all Atlantic Coast
    - ii. New puppet govt. Formed in the south with Henri Petain as head.
      1. Declared neutrality but required to cooperate with Germany.

## **Pacts, Goering & Battle of Britain**

1. Tripartite Pact
  - a. Agreement between Germany, Italy & Japan
  - b. Formed Axis powers
  - c. Recognized their rights to form “new orders”
  - d. Signed September 27th, 1940
    - i. Other countries joined later
2. Hermann Goering
  - a. Joined Nazi party in 1921
  - b. Commanded the Luftwaffe
  - c. Made Chancellor and Hitler’s Successor
    - i. Formed the Gestapo (SS) and the concentration camps.
  - d. Tried at Nuremberg, found guilty
    - i. Committed suicide before he could be hung.
3. Battle of Britain
  - a. Started July 10th, 1940
  - b. Hitler wanted Great Britain, but had to take out the RAF first.
  - c. RAF was outnumbered but had better technology (radar)
    - i. Divided SE England into squadrons with air protection.
    - ii. Had help, ~ $\frac{1}{4}$  of pilots were not British
  - d. RAF bombed Britain, Hitler retaliated
    - i. September 15th- “The Blitz”
      1. Heavy bombing of London, hope to decimate the city.
  - e. Hitler had to call off by October 1940.
    - i. Both sides had heavy losses
    - ii. RAF weakened the Luftwaffe and was the 1st major defeat for Germany.

## **Add to Class Timeline**

July 10th-October 1940 Battle of Britain

## **Winston Churchill**

1. Early Life
  - a. Born November 30th, 1874.
  - b. Loved “boy” things
  - c. Sent to boarding school when he was 7.
2. Pre-WWII
  - a. At 17 had a dream he would be in command of London and it would fall to him to “save the Empire.”
  - b. Joined the military
    - i. Pushed for Gallipoli Campaign
      1. Had to resign after it failed.
        - a. But he was brought back by the Prime Minister.
3. WWII
  - a. Became Prime Minister in May 1940.
  - b. Lead the allied efforts and Britain through WWII

- c. Powerful speaker and writer.
  - i. "I have nothing to offer but blood, toil, tears and sweat."
- 4. Post WWII
  - a. Served as Prime Minister again in 1951, resigned for health reasons.
  - b. Died on January 24th, 1965.

### **Sinking of the Bismarck and US Unofficial Assistance in WWII**

1. May 19th, 1941 the Bismarck went to attack allied shipping lines in the Atlantic.
  - a. Britain responded immediately
  - b. Fighting began on May 24th
    - i. Bismarck destroyed the HMS Hood, but Bismarck was damaged and retreated
  - c. Britain wanted revenge
    - i. May 26th, with hours to spare they fired on the Bismarck.
      1. By the following morning the "unsinkable Bismarck" was at the bottom of the Atlantic.
2. US Assistance in WWII
  - a. Neutrality Acts made it hard to help
  - b. FDR found workarounds
    - i. Leaving planes a few feet from the Canadian border.
    - ii. Cash and Carry Policy
      1. As long as foreign governments paid cash and transported themselves we would help.
    - iii. Lend-Lease Act
      1. Last chance to stay out of WWII
      2. We would lend/lease supplies and money to allied governments.

### **Operation Barbarossa/Battle of Moscow**

1. Before 1941
  - a. Stalin and Hitler signed non aggression pact
  - b. Divided up eastern Europe
  - c. "Buddies"
2. June 22nd, 1941
  - a. Operation Barbarossa begins with over 3 million soldiers.
  - b. Germany quickly made advances through Russia.
    - i. North ->Leningrad
      1. Turned into a siege
    - ii. Central -> Moscow
      1. Had to go help north and south
        - a. Gave Moscow time to prepare
    - iii. South -> Kyiv/Stalingrad
      1. Stretched to thin, being cut off
  - c. Britain and the United States sent supplies to help.
3. Fall 1941
  - a. Winter is coming
  - b. Hitler assumes Soviet lines will fall still.
    - i. Germany struggles to advance, tanks can't get through mud.

4. November 1941
  - a. Germany goes faster with frozen ground
  - b. Soviets fight fiercely
  - c. -40 by the time Germany gets close to Moscow
    - i. They don't have winter gear
5. December 2nd, 1941
  - a. Richard Sorge (Spy) had informed Stalin-> Japan has no plan to attack.
  - b. Stalin moves all troops and supplies to western front.
  - c. By December 5th Germany was retreating without orders.
6. January 7th, 1942
  - a. Germans pushed back ~155 miles
  - b. Battle of Moscow -> 1st major Soviet victory against Germany
7. Aftermath
  - a. Hitler's ego is bruised and now looks for people that agree with him, not people that are competent.
  - b. Russia saw almost 7M casualties
  - c. Germany saw almost over 4.5M casualties

Add to Class Dictionary

5. Siege: the placing of an army around a city to force it to surrender.

Add to Class Timeline

September 30th, 1941-January 7th 1942: Battle of Moscow

**Imperial Japan and Attack on Pearl Harbor**

1. Imperial Japan
  - a. Isolated, until early 1900's
  - b. Desire to be an empire and equal with the west.
  - c. Asked for all races to be seen as equal at the Treaty of Versailles, denied by the US and Britain.
  - d. Emperor Hirohito & General Tojo
    - i. Tojo is really in charge.
  - e. Japan wanted us out of the Pacific
2. Pearl Harbor
  - a. December 7th, 1941
    - i. Japan bombed US Naval base in Hawaii
    - ii. Over 2,400 Americans died
    - iii. FDR stated "yesterday, December 7th, 1941, a date which will live in infamy."
    - iv. The US declares war on Japan on December 8th and officially enters WWII.

Add to Class Timeline:

December 7th, 1941: Attack on Pearl Harbor

## **Battle in the Philippines, Bataan Death March & General MacArthur**

1. Japan wants the Philippines
  - a. Philippine Scouts
    - i. Part of the US Army
    - ii. Well trained & respected
  - b. Americans & Filipinos had to hold off Japanese
    - i. lacked supplies and troops that General MacArthur had promised
    - ii. Left defenseless
  - c. Battle of Bataan
    - i. Started January 7th, 1942
    - ii. General MacArthur stated "I came through and shall return."
    - iii. Scouts were forced to surrender April 9th, 1942.
2. Bataan Death March
  - a. 80k soldiers forced to march 65 miles in tropical heat.
  - b. Many starved to death, were beaten or killed.
  - c. MacArthur returned in October 1944, by February 3rd, 1945 the POWs were liberated.

### Add to Class Timeline:

April 9th, 1942: American & Filipino Forces Surrender to Japan, Bataan Death March Follows

## **Homefront in America/Preparing for War**

1. Numbers
  - a. 16 million men were fighting
  - b. African Americans and women went to factories
2. Factories
  - a. Switched to war production.
  - b. Employment skyrocketed.
  - c. More than half of all industrial production in the world took place in US.
3. Rations/Scraps/Bonds
  - a. Families were given ration books.
    - i. Only allowed so much meat, fat, sugar, gas, clothes.
  - b. Scrap drives collected metal
  - c. War bonds were sold to help finance war.
4. Women
  - a. Left traditional roles for industrial workforce
  - b. "Rosie the Riveter" was new icon
5. Hollywood
  - a. Worked to put out propaganda
    - i. Der Fuehrer's Face-Donald Duck
  - b. Many actors fought overseas
6. Baseball
  - a. Continued to help with morale
7. Music/Radio
  - a. Patriotic/war songs were very popular

- b. Radio was primary way for info

Add to Class Dictionary

6. War Bond: a way to borrow money that helps with military efforts. Ex. you buy a \$25 war bond for \$18. After a period of time the government gives you \$25.

**Japanese Internment, Battle of the Atlantic & Operation Torch**

1. Japanese Internment
  - a. After Pearl Harbor over 100k Japanese were forced to relocate to camps.
  - b. Had to give up jobs, sell homes etc.
  - c. Camps were not great living conditions.
  - d. All done out of fear after Pearl Harbor
    - i. FDR signed order giving permission, even though it was not legal.
  - e. Japanese Americans were held in camps for 3 years.
    - i. Many never recovered and govt. did not help them.
  - f. President Ronald Reagan formally apologized in 1988.
2. Battle of the Atlantic
  - a. German U-boats were attacking convoys of merchant ships crossing the Atlantic for Britain
  - b. Convoys of up to 60 ships would cross, but "wolf packs" of up to 20 u-boats would attack
    - i. Aircraft carriers and warships helped protect convoys.
3. Strategic Bombing
  - a. Used in WWII
  - b. Doolittle Raid in Tokyo, April 18th 1942
    - i. 16 B-25B plans bombed Tokyo
      1. Not long range enough->one way mission
        - a. Tried again in 1944 B-29 w/ Superfortress heavy bombers
4. Operation Torch
  - a. Allied invasion of North Africa in 1942.
  - b. Plan to draw Axis troops away from fight with Soviet Union
  - c. Pincer move with US troops landing in Morocco
    - i. Other forces landed in N. Africa.
  - d. Started November 8th, by November 10th Allies were victors
    - i. Germany had to fight on 2 fronts now.
    - ii. Still room for growth with allied forces (communication).

**Add to Class Dictionary**

7. Internment: Putting a person in prison or other kind of detention, generally in wartime.



## **Battle of Midway**

1. Japan's Plan
  - a. 3 phases
    - i. Aerial attack on Midway from the NW and a group of planes fight in Aleutian Islands
    - ii. 5k troops would land on Midway and fight
    - iii. Planes from phase 1 would fight any incoming support
  - b. No radio communication and thought the US didn't know about it.
    - i. The US knew about Operation "AF"
  - c. Commander in Chief Chester Nimitz ordered the US to reinforce Midway and was preparing a surprise attack on the Japanese.
2. June 3rd, 1942
  - a. Heavy fog postponed Japan's launch until the following morning at 4:30 am
3. June 4th, 1942
  - a. US planes take off and try to intercept Japanese, failed
  - b. Japanese couldn't find anti-aircraft guns on Midway
  - c. Nagumo's Mistake
    - i. Ordered bombers to take off torpedoes, had to change order after learning US warships were incoming.
    - ii. Waited to send off bombers until all fighter planes had returned.
  - d. McClusky's squadron destroyed a Japanese carrier.
  - e. The Hiryu hit the USS Yorktown. Admiral Yamaguchi ordered another attack, even with 2 warships incoming.
  - f. The USS Hornet and Enterprise sunk the Hiryu
4. June 6th7th, 1942
  - a. Aerial attacks continued
  - b. Japan sunk the USS Yorktown but were forced to retreat.
5. What went wrong?
  - a. Japan assumed it was a surprise
  - b. No radio communication between Japanese
  - c. Assume the US would be weak and cowardly.

### Add to class timeline:

June 3-7th, 1942: Battle of Midway