**World War II**

**Approaching the War**

- Fascism - A political theory advocating an authoritarian hierarchical ultra-nationalist government. Favors nationalizing economic elites (corporations) rather than promoting egalitarian socialist collectivization. Often promotes racist views.
  - Italy
    - Invades Ethiopia - 1935
  - Germany
    - Anti-Treaty of Versailles-open violation of treaty
    - Anti-Semitic
    - Formed Rome-Berlin Axis - 1936
    - Sent military into Rhineland - 1936
    - Living space and farmland for Germans through territory expansion
  - Spanish Civil War - 1936-39
  - 1937: Spanish village of Guernica used as blitz practice by Nazis

- US Response
  - Investigate role of weapons manufacturers in decision to enter WW I (70% of Americans believe US involvement in WW I was a mistake)
  - 1935: Prohibited sales of weapons to warring nations
  - 1936: Barred all loans to warring nations
  - require a national referendum (vote) on declaration of war

- Appeasement
  - Nazi occupy and Hitler announces Union of German speaking peoples - 1938
    - Violation of Treaty of Versailles
  - Great Britain and France lets Germany annex Sudetenland
  - Hitler by handing him Sudenteland
  - Germany annexes the remainder of Czechoslovakia - 1939
  - Partition of Poland
  - Avoid two-front war

- World War II begins
  - Germany invades Poland - Fall of France - 1940
  - Germany, Italy, and Japan - Axis powers - conclude a military alliance - 1940
  - Hitler invades Soviet Union - 1941

- Arsenal of Democracy
  - Neutrality Act of 1939 - “Cash and Carry” weapons
  - “Bases for Destroyers”
  - Undeclared Naval War with Germany - Ruben James (115)

- War with Japan
  - Conflict of Interests
  - Pacific Ocean rivals
  - Invasion of Manchuria - 1931
  - Japan quits League of Nations - 1933
  - Japan attacks China - 1937
  - US embargo on scrap metal and fuel
  - Germany, Italy, and Japan - Axis powers - conclude a military alliance - 1940

- Surprise “knock-out” attack
  - Failed in three areas
    - Storage fuel tanks
    - Repair facilities
    - Aircraft carriers off coast
FDR, “A Day which will live in infamy”
- Congress votes to declare war on Japan
- Germany and Italy declares war on the US

**Home Front**
- Fear of a Japanese-American sabotage
- Executive Order 9066
  - Forced excavation of 72,000 Americans to camps
- S.C. justified during wartime
  - Compensation $20,000 in 1988

**Prosperity**
- 17 million new jobs created

**War Ended the Great Depression?**
- 16 million joined military/17 million new jobs
- Govt. spent $323 Billion on war (stimulating the economy)
- War debt until 1970’s

**Opportunities for Women**
- 3 million joined workforce
- Women’s Army Corps (WAC)

**Racial Discord**
- Double V Campaign
- Washington Campaign
  - FDR responds with Executive Order 8802: prohibited discriminatory employment practices in federal agencies and established the Fair Employment Practices Commission to enforce

- Detroit Race Riot-1943
  - Segregated City not Segregated factories
  - Whites-Slowdowns/Blacks-”Bumping Campaign”
  - 34 killed

**On the Front Lines**
- **Defeat, Then Victory**
  - Fall of the Philippines
  - Battle of Coral Sea- May ’42
    - Draw: Prevent Invasion of Australia
  - Battle of Midway-June ‘42
  - Europe Theater-First Priority
    - Open Second Front/Request by Stalin
      - FDR & Churchill agreed on North Africa- Italy surrendered Sept 8, 1943
  - Battle of Stalingrad-Jan-Feb ‘43
  - Teheran Conference- Nov ’43
    - France 2nd front next year
  - Pacific Theater
    - Battle of Guadalcanal- Aug ‘42 to Feb ‘43
  - Battle of Philippine Sea-’43 to ‘44
    - Captured Islands provide airbases for bomber raids on Japan
    - Largest Naval battle in history
    - Japan defensive posture /Kamikaze

**Final Push in Europe-Operation Overlord**
- FDR wins forth term as President- Truman on ticket due to unknown
• German counter attack in December 1944

- Feb ‘45
  • Stalin promised to join war against Japan after German defeat and concessions of land

• United Nations
  - Security Council
  - Members (Veto Power)

- Hitler commits suicide Berlin bunker
- Germany surrenders May 7, 1945

• Response to the Holocaust
  - Hesitate to report atrocities
    • World War I reports unreliable

  - US Govt. releases info on holocaust 11/24/42 and Allies made declaration denouncing Hitler’s goal of eliminating Jews from Europe
  - Allied forces liberate camps in Germany and Poland

- Final Solution
  • Systematic extermination of Jews, Gypsies, homosexuals, and other “inferior” races
  • Over 6 million murdered
  - Nuremberg Trials

**Ending the Pacific War**

• Edging Closer to Japan
  - No difference in Civilian/Military targets
    • Incendiary bombing raids
  - Airstrips for bombers
  - 70,000 Japanese dead/75,000 casualties
  - Staging point for invasion of Japan

• Dropping the Atomic Bomb
  - Death of FDR April 12, 1945
    • 4 years/$20 billion
    • Atomic Bomb
  - Potsdam Conference: July 1945

• Final Surrender
  - USSR entered the war/captured Manchuria on Aug. 8
    • US allowed for conditional surrender/Emperor remained
  - Japan surrenders September 2, 1945
    • Over 1,000 officials committed suicide/ War Trials convict 28 major officials