

World War II

Mr. Zindman's Class
Please study your slides!

WORLD WAR II –*Take two, the World is bleed & Horrific deeds are done*

- **Dictators** controlled the nations of Germany, Italy, Japan, and the Soviet Union in the years prior to and during World War II
- Dictatorships are characterized by a lack of person freedoms (such as speech, religion, and assembly) and political rights
- **A major cause of World War II was the expansion and aggressiveness of Germany and Japan**
- A major factor in Hitler and the Nazi Party's rise to power in Germany was the resentment towards the **Treaty of Versailles**, which ended World War I.
- British and French appeasement was shown towards Germany by allowing Hitler to seize the Sudetenland at the Munich Conference
- America adopted a policy of isolationism during the 1930's when it failed to join the **League of Nations**
- **The Neutrality Acts** illustrated the belief that the US should not get involved in the affairs of Europe
- **World War II began on September 1, 1939** when Britain and France declared war on Germany following the invasion of Poland
- When the war began, the U.S. maintained a policy of isolationism and neutrality
- The U.S. became the "**Arsenal of Democracy**" by providing war supplies and equipment to the Allied powers through the Lend-Lease Act
- Japanese aggression in the Pacific was aimed at acquiring raw materials and labor for it's nation
- The U.S. entered World War II following Japan's surprise attack on **Pearl Harbor**, Hawaii on December 7, 1941
- Following the attack on the U.S. by Japan, the United States joined the **Allied Powers**. The Allied powers consisted of Britain, the Soviet Union, the U.S. and what was left of the French forces following their surrender to Germany in June 1940
- The **Allies** were opposed by the Axis Powers of Germany, Italy, and Japan
- Rationing, the planting of victory gardens, and rubber and scrap drives were efforts made by Americans to aid the war effort on the Homefront

- The goal of the government's rationing program was to make sure that everyone received an equal amount of scarce items
- Sacrifices were demanded from all classes and age groups of Americans on the Homefront
- As a result of World War II, the Great Depression ended, and unemployment decreased due to the huge increase in employment opportunities in industry, agriculture, and the military
- World War II affected women because many took jobs in war-related industries
- "***Rosie the Riveter***" was the nickname given to females who worked in the defense industry producing war materials during World War II
- During the war, Japanese-Americans were forced from the West Coast of the U.S. and made to move into ***internment camps*** for fear that they might act as spies or saboteurs
- The strategy of ***island hopping***, used by American forces in the Pacific occurred when the U.S. attacked the Japanese forces on selected islands in their approach to Japan
- ***D-day*** was the code name for the Allied invasion by air and sea forces of Europe at Normandy, France on June 6, 1944.
- D-Day was significant because it surrounded the Germans between the Americans and British in the west, and those of the Soviet Union in the east
- One of the Nazi Germany's main goals was to eliminate all of the Jews from Europe, and expand their borders into Eastern Europe
- Germany's attempt to kill all European Jews and other minorities was known as the ***Holocaust***
- ***Nuremberg*** was the place where German government officials and soldiers were put on trial for committing crimes "against humanity" from the Holocaust
- President Truman decided to use the ***atomic bomb*** because he wanted to reduce the loss of American lives in the Pacific
- The cities of ***Hiroshima*** and ***Nagasaki*** were the targets of America's atomic bombs
- Japan finally surrendered after the US used atomic bombs against them
- A major result of World War II was that the ***United Nations*** was created, which was designed to help prevent future wars