

America in World War Two

I. Declarations of war

- A. U.S. declared war on Japan on December 8, 1941, a day after the Japanese surprise attack on Pearl Harbor, Hawaii
- B. December 11, Germany and Italy declared war on the U.S.
 1. U.S. declared war on both countries on the same day.
 2. Fatal blunder by Hitler as Germany was not obligated to declare war against the U.S. since it did not attack Japan first
 3. This guaranteed that the U.S. would focus most of its military might on Germany first, rather than Japan.
 - Until May 1945, about 85% of the U.S. war effort was geared towards Europe; only 15% towards the Pacific
- C. Britain and the U.S. decided to focus on Germany first; later concentrate on Japan after Germany had been defeated
- D. Declaration of the United Nations
 1. January 1, 1942, representatives of 26 nations met in Washington, D.C. and signed the Declaration of the United Nations
 2. Pledged themselves to the principles of the Atlantic Charter.
 - a. No territorial gain for the victors of the war
 - b. No territorial changes made against the wishes of the people
 - c. Free trade
 - d. Reduction of poverty world-wide
 - e. Disarmament of the aggressor nations
 3. Promised not to make a separate peace with the Axis powers.

II. The Japanese Empire

- A. Conquests in the Pacific
 1. U.S. islands of Guam, Wake Island, and Gilbert Islands fell by the end of December.
 2. Japan controlled Singapore, Dutch East Indies, Malay peninsula, Hong Kong, and Burma by the spring of 1942
 3. Philippines were taken from the U.S. in March 1942
- B. Resources
 1. Controlled 95% of world's raw rubber; 70% of tin; 70% of rice.
 2. Oil from Dutch East Indies fueled Japan's war machine
 3. Rice from Indochina fed Japanese soldiers
- C. Japan dominated a population of about 450 million
 1. Played on Asians' bitterness of European colonial rule
 2. **"Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere":** "Asia for Asians"
 3. Used forced labor for construction projects and often abused the peoples of the nations they conquered.

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4. Japan recognized the independence of Burma, Vietnam, and Indonesia, although they dominated those countries.
- D. Nationalists in Japanese-conquered regions organized resistance to Japanese rule (like Chiang Kai-shek in China)

III. The American Homefront

A. Military mobilization

1. Selective Service registration was expanded to men ages 18-65 after Pearl Harbor.
 - The period of enlistment for each soldier was extended to 6 months after the war was over.
2. By war's end, 16 million men and women had served in the military
 - a. Only 72,000 refused to enlist by claiming "conscientious objection" (largely for religious reasons)
 - Only 5,500 refused to register and were jailed
3. Nearly a million African Americans served in segregated units.
 - a. **Tuskegee Airmen:** first African-American aviators in the U.S. Army
 - Comprised the 332nd Fighter Group
 - Flew missions in North Africa and Europe
 - b. The Double V campaign demanded that African Americans should receive full civil rights at home as they were fighting abroad for U.S. victory
4. 258,000 women enlisted as WAC's (Women's Army Corp), WAVES (Women Appointed for Voluntary Emergency Service), and WAF's (Women's Auxiliary Ferrying Squadron).
 - a. Provided medical & technical support
 - b. Flew military equipment to war zones
 - c. Took part in cryptography decoding
5. Thousands of Japanese-Americans served in the Army even though their families were being interned at the time
 - The **442nd Regiment Combat Team**, an all-Nisei fighting force, became the most highly decorated regiment in U.S. military history.
6. **Navajo** volunteers were used as "**code talkers**"; the Japanese were unable to decipher the Navajo language.

B. Economic mobilization

1. OWM (Office for War Mobilization) was established to supervise various agencies to increase war production.
 - The New Deal had given the federal government experience in coordinating the economy.
2. **War Production Board**
 - a. WPD established in 1942 by FDR to regulate the use of raw materials



- It was considerably more powerful and effective than the War Industries Board had been during WWI.
 - The attack on Pearl Harbor and the threat of Nazi expansion warranted increased federal power to coordinate the nation's defense.
- b. 1/2 of U.S. factory production went into war materials.
 - c. In 1943, the U.S. was producing twice as many goods as all enemy countries combined.
3. Women on the Homefront
- a. Over 5 million women joined the labor force during the war
 - The majority of jobs women took during the war were non-factory job
 - b. **“Rosie the Riveter”**
 - A minority of female workers moved to new communities to work in aircraft, munitions, and automobile industries.
 - Propaganda, nonetheless, urged women to work in industry
 - Films characterized "Rosie the Riveter" as an American heroine
 - Women's magazines and newspapers discussed the suitability of women's smaller hands for "delicate" tasks.
 - c. Women's increased wages from industrial jobs increased family incomes and pave the way for postwar consumer demand.
 - d. The increase of African-American women in the work force, who worked alongside whites, played a role in breaking down racial barriers after the war and contributed to the civil rights movement
 - e. Despite gains, the average woman's pay in 1945 was still less than 2/3 that of a male worker
 - f. At war's end, pressures increased on women to return to homemaking rather than to stay in the work force.
 - American society believed that only men should receive a “family wage” and that women in the work force were taking jobs away from men.
4. Demographic impact of war mobilization
- a. The **"Sunbelt"** region began to emerge during the war years in California and in certain areas of the South.
 - b. A population and power shift from the Northeast to the Southwest and the South influenced post-war society and politics
- C. Controlling inflation
1. More people were working but less consumer goods were available during the war due to production for the war effort.
 2. More dollars chasing fewer goods resulted in an increased cost of living



A U.S. government propaganda poster encouraging women to work in industry.

3. The **War Labor Board**: sought to maintain (but not improve) workers' standard of living
 - a. Wages kept pace with rise in cost of living.
 - b. This contrasted WWI where inflation significantly reduced the earning power of workers, causing thousands of strikes.
 - c. **Smith-Connolly Antistrike Act** (1943) -- expired in 1947
 - Authorized the gov't to seize plants or mines that were idled by a strike if the war effort was affected.
 - This was a gov't response to some strikes that occurred, especially those organized by **John L. Lewis**
 - 1943, 450,000 United Mine Workers members went on strike who were denied a raise by the National War Labor Board.
4. **Office of Price Administration (OPA)**
 - a. Froze prices and rents at March 1942 levels
 - b. Rationing of resources occurred for the war effort
 - **Certificate Plan**: to buy cars, tires, typewriters, etc., one had to apply to a local rationing board. If accepted, one received a certificate allowing purchase of the item.
 - **Coupon Plan** was more widely used: Families were issued coupon books to buy of meat, coffee, sugar, gas, etc.
 - The number of coupons allocated was based on family size. No coupons, no purchase.
5. Anti-inflation measures were largely successful
 - a. During WWI, the U.S. cost of living went up 170%
 - b. During WWII, less than 29%

D. Funding the War

1. Taxes were increased to finance the war
 - a. Many who had never had to pay taxes were now required to.
 - b. In 1939, 4 million people filed tax returns; in 1945, 50 million!
2. Increase in the National Debt
 - a. 1941 = \$49 billion; 1945 = \$259 billion
 - b. 2/5 was pay as we go; 3/5 was borrowed (e.g. war bonds)
 - c. Critics claim that the New Deal + WWII = "warfare welfare" state
3. War bonds were sold, as had been the case in WWII
 - a. Bond drives were held around the country with celebrities promoting patriotism
 - b. About 85 million Americans bought war bonds during the war, totaling approximately \$185 billion.

E. Science goes to war: Office of Scientific Research and Development (OSRD)

1. Organized before Pearl Harbor, advances in technology occurred (radar, insecticides)

2. Manhattan Project--1942

- a. Established to research all aspects of building an atomic bomb.
- b. Formed after notable scientists Albert Einstein and Enrico Fermi warned FDR in a letter in 1939 that Germany was working on building a bomb through nuclear fission.
- c. Work was conducted at various locations with scientists from various countries involved in the project..
- d. Los Alamos, New Mexico, a group of scientists were charged with building the bomb itself
 - Headed by **Dr. J. Robert Oppenheimer**
- g. July 16, **“Trinity” test**: first successful test of an atomic bomb in the desert outside of Alamogordo, New Mexico.
 - Within the next three weeks, two atomic bombs were dropped on Japan, ending the war in the Pacific.

IV. Discrimination during the war

A. African American civil rights issues

1. The war years saw a massive migration of 5 million blacks out of the South to industrial centers in the Northeast, Midwest, and California.
 - This was due primarily to competition for scarce resources (e.g. housing), tensions in the southern workplace among white and black urban workers, and the desire of many blacks to escape Jim Crow.
2. The “Great” northern migration led to violence in 47 cities.
 - The **Detroit Race Riot** (June, 1943) was the worst example.
 - 25 blacks and 9 whites died in the violence
 - 6,000 federal troops were needed to restore order
 - \$2 million in property damage resulted
3. **A. Philip Randolph**, “father of the Civil Rights movement”
 - a. Randolph was president of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, the largest African American labor union in the U.S.
 - He saw that blacks were excluded from well-paying jobs in war-related industries.
 - b. Randolph made three demands that he expected FDR to grant
 - Equal access to defense jobs
 - Desegregation of the armed forces
 - End to segregation in federal agencies
 - c. **March on Washington Movement**:
 - Randolph proposed a black March on Washington in 1941 if his conditions were not met.
 - FDR was concerned such a march would divert attention from the war
 - d. FDR issued Executive Order 8802 in 1941 establishing **Fair**

Employment Practices Committee (FEPC) to investigate violations in defense industries.

- FDR did not agree to desegregation in the armed forces
- Randolph canceled the march

e. Result:

- Gov't agencies, job training programs, and defense contractors agreed to end segregation.
- Enforcement provisions for the FEPC were weak, however.
- Due to southern opposition, Congress never passed the FEPC into law after WWII, although five states continued to enforce their own FEPC laws.
- After the war, Randolph's pressure on President Truman led to the desegregation of the armed forces in 1947.

4. The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) grew from 50,000 before the war, to 500,000 members by war's end

B. Mexican Americans

1. Bracero Program

a. In 1942, the need for increased farm production led to a U.S. gov't policy for short-term work permits to be issued to Mexican workers.

- During the Great Depression, about half a million Mexicans left the U.S. due to deportation or various other pressures as unemployed whites were desperate for work.

b. About 150,000 braceros came to work in the railroad and agricultural industries during the war.

c. Initial program expired in 1947 but was continued in various forms until 1964

2. Zoot Suit riots in Los Angeles (1943)

a. Young Mexican-Americans became the object of frequent violent attacks in LA. by white sailors and marines

- The press had regularly connected the "zooters" with crime, "baby" gangsterism and thugery.
- "Zooters" wore jackets with excess cloth at a time that rationing prohibited such garments; this was seen by servicemen and others as un-patriotic
- Some violence against white sailors precipitated the riots.

b. In June, sailors and marines roamed the streets of East L.A. for several days, beating "zooters," burning their clothes, and cutting their hair.

- 150 people were injured and 500 Latinos were arrested
- Many believed the riots were racially motivated
- Violence against Latino youths spread to at least seven cities throughout the country

- African-American “zooters” were also attacked
- c. The Navy and Marine Corps ordered the sailors confined to their ships to avoid future violence.
- d. Radio reports blamed the “zooters” but a city committee under Earl Warren later revealed a more balanced account and need for improved housing for Latinos

C. Internment of Japanese Americans -- Japanese relocation

1. **Executive Order 9066** (February 19, 1942)
 - a. FDR authorized the War Dept. to declare the West Coast a "war theater".
 - Initially, the military did not see the need for internment
 - b. Relocation became "necessary" when other states would not accept Japanese residents from California.
 - c. Although the gov't considered relocation of Germans and Italians, the Japanese were the only ethnic group singled out by the gov't for action.
 - Seen by the U.S. military as potential "fifth column"
 - Pearl Harbor left the public paranoid that people of Japanese ancestry living in California might help Japan during the war.
2. Eventually, 110,000 people of Japanese ancestry were forcibly interned in concentration camps.
 - a. 1/3 of those interned were **Issei** -- foreign born
 - b. 2/3 were **Nisei** -- American born, usually too young to vote
 - c. Ironically, Japan no longer posed a threat to the West Coast after the Battle of Midway in June 1942 yet internment proceeded anyway.
3. General John DeWitt organized the removal of people of Japanese ancestry to 10 locations in 7 states
 - a. They were given 48 hours to dispose of their belongings
 - Most families received only about 5% of their possessions' value.
 - b. Camps were located in desolate areas where conditions were harsh (e.g. Manzanar in the Owens Valley in California)
 - c. Labor unions and businesses favored internment as it would reduce competition for wages and profits.
4. Yet, most Japanese-Americans remained loyal to the U.S.
 - a. After 1943, 17,600 Nisei fought in the U.S. Army.
 - b. No act of sabotage was ever proven against any Japanese-America
 - c. The camps finally closed in March, 1946
5. **Korematsu v. US** (1944): the Supreme Court upheld internment
 - a. The Court ruled it could not second-guess military decisions
 - b. The Court also ruled that persons couldn't be held once loyalty was established.

- By then, the camps were being closed down.
- 6. Japanese internment represented the greatest violation of civil liberties during WWII.
 - a. \$105 million of farmland was lost
 - b. \$500 million in yearly income was lost coupled with unknown losses in personal savings.
- 7. 1988, President Reagan officially apologized for the internment and approved in principle the payment of reparations to camp survivors totaling \$1.25 billion.
 - In 1990 Congress appropriated funds to pay \$20,000 to each internee.

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Background: 1942 was a critical year for the survival of the Allied powers. Japan controlled all of Southeast Asia and most of China; Germany controlled Western Europe, North Africa, and were deep inside the Soviet Union.

<u>Axis Powers</u>	vs.	<u>Allies</u>
Germany (1939)		Great Britain (1939)
Italy (1939)		France (1939)
Japan (1940)		U.S.S.R. (1941)
Hungary (1940)		U.S. (1941)
Romania (1940)		China
Bulgaria (1941)		43 other countries

V. The Grand Alliance

- A. A coalition of the nations at war with the Axis Powers was created with the signing of the "United Nations Declaration," Jan. 1, 1942.
- President Roosevelt and Prime Minister Winston Churchill were the heart of the alliance.

B. Objectives

1. Hitler first: Churchill & FDR wanted to concentrate on defeating Germany before giving Japan higher priority.
2. Many who were outraged from Pearl Harbor complained.

C. Military Strategy:

1. Economic blockades were placed on Germany & Italy
2. Massive air attacks on Germany
3. Peripheral military strikes in the Mediterranean
4. Final direct assault on Germany

D. Allied defeats in the Pacific

1. During the first six months of 1942 it seemed that the Allied

Powers would lose the war.

2. Asia and the Pacific

- a. Japan took Guam, Wake Island, Hong Kong, Singapore, Burma, Dutch East Indies and the Philippines.
 - The important Burma Road supply route into China from India was cut off by the Japanese
- b. U.S. loss of the Philippines (December 1941-May 1942)
 - 20,000 U.S. troops led by General Douglas MacArthur withdrew to Bataan, close to Manila, but eventually surrendered to Japanese forces.
 - **Bataan death march** – 85-mile forced march of U.S. GIs who were tortured and eventually burned alive.
 - The Japanese believed in fighting to the death and did not accept surrender as honorable
- c. MacArthur was ordered by Washington to leave for Australia
 - He then assumed command of all Allied Pacific forces
- d. Doolittle Raid, April 18, 1942
 - The U.S. sent a small bombing raid on the Japanese mainland in April, 1942 in retaliation for Pearl Harbor.
 - Although the raid was militarily insignificant, it helped American moral since U.S. had not yet struck back after Pearl Harbor.

E. Early Defeats in Europe and North Africa

1. German U-boats sunk 8 million tons of Allied supplies including 25% of Soviet supplies.
2. Germans pushed east to Stalingrad by the fall 1942, and to El Alamein, Egypt. threatening to drive Britain out of Egypt and control the Suez Canal

VI. Allied Turning Points in the War

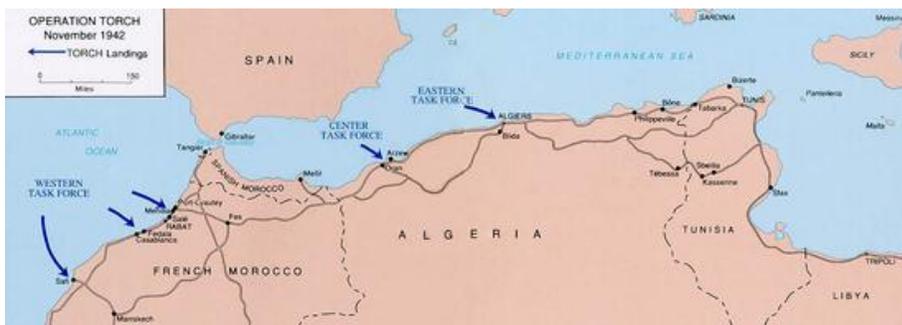
A. **Battle of Stalingrad** (July 17, 1942 to February 2, 1943)

1. Perhaps the most important battle of the war
 - a. Represented the first major German defeat on land.
 - b. Henceforth, Germany's army was in retreat from the east until Berlin was occupied by the Russians in the spring of 1945.
2. Stalin never forgave the Allies for not opening a second front in 1943 as the USSR had to bear the full brunt of the German war machine until 1944.
 - Churchill opted for North Africa and Italy instead, which had less military significance; the U.S. reluctantly supported Churchill's position.

B. North Africa

1. Britain had been fighting German Panzer divisions in North Africa since 1941.

- a. German forces were led by General Irwin Rommel (the "Desert Fox")
- b. Rommel's *Afrikan Korps* took over for Italy's failed North Africa campaign, drove the British out of Libya and penetrated deep into Egypt seeking to take Alexandria, the Suez Canal, and other Middle East oil fields.
2. Battle of El Alamein (Oct 23-Nov. 3, 1942) signaled the end of German presence in North Africa
 - a. British forces pushed Rommel out of Egypt and all the way back to Tunisia; massive German casualties ensued
 - b. Considered one of the major turning points of the war.
3. "Operation Torch" (November 8, 1942)
 - a. Led by U.S. general **Dwight D. Eisenhower**.
 - b. 100,000 American and British troops invaded North Africa in Algeria and Morocco
 - German armies were now caught in between Allied armies in Algeria/Morocco and British armies sweeping westward from Egypt
 - c. By May 1943, 275,000 German forces surrendered to the Allies in Tunisia, dealing Germany a significant blow.



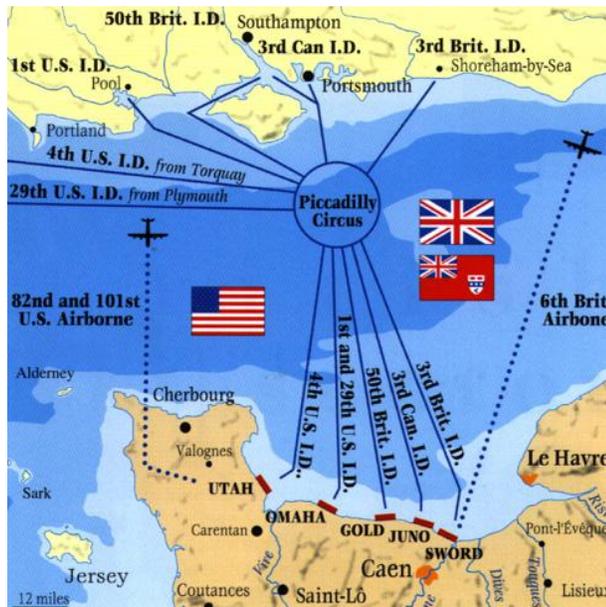
Map of Operation Torch

C. Europe

1. Invasion of Italy (commanded by U.S. General George C. Patton)
 - a. July 1943, British and U.S. forces landed in Sicily and were victorious within a month
 - b. Mussolini was forced out of power by officials within the Fascist party.
 - c. June 4, 1944: the Allies marched into Rome
 - First capital city freed from Nazi control
 - d. Northern Italy remained under Nazi control until spring 1945.
 - e. U.S. military leaders were frustrated with the focus on Italy in 1943 as it had little strategic value
 - The U.S. had sought to open a second front in Western Europe in 1943 but Churchill insisted on Italy instead

2. D-Day (June 6, 1944): Invasion of Normandy -- "Operation Overlord"

- a. Perhaps the war's most important battle (although many would point to Stalingrad instead)
- b. Commanded by **General Dwight D. Eisenhower**
- c. 120,000 troops left England and stormed 5 beachheads at Normandy Coast.
 - 800,000 more men arrived within 3 weeks; 3 million total
- d. Demonstrated the significance of the Battle of Britain four years earlier
- e. Casualties during D-Day: 2,245 Allies killed; 1,670 wounded
- f. Significance of battle:
 - A second front was established and Germany would now have to fight a war on two major fronts (in addition to the Italian front)
 - August 25, the first Allied troops entered Paris.
 - By end of summer, Belgium, France and Luxembourg had been liberated
 - Had Allies failed, Hitler could have focused on the Eastern Front and perhaps negotiated a peace with Stalin leaving most of Europe under Nazi control.



A Map of the Normandy Invasion, June 6, 1944

3. Invasion of Germany

- a. Pre-invasion bombing severely damaged Germany
 - Relentless bombing by the British RAF and the U.S. Air Force severely damaged German factories and oil refineries.
 - The British had begun daytime attacks against German

- targets but suffered significant losses
- Britain and the U.S. switched to night bombing which was far less precise and devastating to the German population
- The northern port city of Hamburg was destroyed in the summer of 1943
- Berlin and other major cities and targets were hit repeatedly
- b. Allied invasion of Germany in September 1944 was repelled by German forces who held the line at the Rhine River
- c. **Battle of the Bulge** (December 16, 1944- Jan. 25, 1945)
 - Germany launched the last major offensive on U.S. positions in Belgium and Luxembourg
 - U.S. casualties were nearly 80,000
 - **General George Patton** and his 101st Airborne Division stopped Hitler's last gasp counter-offensive at Bastogne
 - By January, the Allies were once again advancing toward Germany.
- d. Britain and the U.S. attacked Dresden with fire bombs in February 1945, killing 100,000, and destroying factories and rail lines.
- e. April 1945
 - U.S. was approaching Berlin from the west while the Soviets blasted their way in from the east.
 - German resistance in Italy collapsing.
 - Mussolini caught by the Italian resistance and killed
 - Hitler went into bunker under the Chancellery in April and committed suicide on April 30.
- f. Germany surrendered unconditionally on May 7, 1945
 - The Allies celebrated V-E Day (Victory in Europe Day) the following day.

D. The Defeat of Japan

1. **Battle of Midway** (June 4-7, 1942): turning point in the Pacific
 - a. Allies broke the Japanese code and prepared for the attack on Midway.
 - b. Japan lost 4 aircraft carriers (the Japanese navy had ten in all), 7 of 11 other ships; and 250 planes.
 - c. Significance: Japan no longer had any hopes of attacking the U.S. mainland and fell into a defensive posture for the remainder of the war.
2. **Island Hopping** campaign began in 1943 – eventually pushed Japanese forces all the way back to Japan.
 - a. Sought to neutralize Japanese island strongholds with air and sea power and then move on to the next major island.
 - b. Battle of Guadalcanal (Solomon Islands -- August 1942-February 1943)

- First Japanese land defeat after 6 months of bitter jungle fighting.
3. **Iwo Jima** (February, 1945)
 - a. Savage fighting resulted in 62,000 U.S. casualties; 12,000 killed or missing.
 - b. Only 216 of the 22,000 Japanese soldiers on the island were taken alive.
 - c. U.S. fighter planes were now close enough to reach Japan (would escort B-29s coming from the Marianas)
 4. **Okinawa** (April 1 to June 1945)
 - a. 50,000 American casualties resulted from fierce fighting which virtually destroyed Japan's remaining defenses.
 - b. Bloodshed influenced the eventual use of the atomic bomb to prevent further U.S. casualties from ground assaults.
 5. Conventional bombing of Japan resulted in the destruction of most major cities
 - March 1945, 100,000 died in a single Tokyo raid; 60% of the city's buildings were destroyed.

VII. Election of 1944 and death of FDR

- A. FDR, with running-mate Harry S. Truman, defeated Republican Thomas Dewey, 432-99 in the electoral college
 1. FDR was elected to an unprecedented fourth term in office, despite showing strong signs of failing health
 2. FDR's 8-year vice president, Henry Wallace, was strongly opposed by Democratic conservatives for renomination in 1944
 - Harry Truman, a senator from Missouri, was a moderate who conservatives supported; FDR reluctantly agreed
 3. This was the last election where a Democrat won every state in the South
- B. April 12, 1945, FDR died at Warm Springs, Georgia
 - His death occurred just three months into his fourth term and preceded Germany's surrender by less than a month
- C. Vice President **Harry Truman** became the nation's 33rd president
 1. Truman had not been in FDR's inner-circle and was in the dark regarding a number of war-related issues (including the atomic bomb project)
 2. When Truman visited Eleanor Roosevelt to offer his condolences on the day of FDR's death, and asked if there was anything he could do for her, she replied: "Is there anything we can do for you? For you are the one in trouble now."

VIII. The Atomic Bomb and the Defeat of Japan

A. U.S. successfully tested the atomic bomb on July 16, 1945 at Alamogordo, New Mexico.

- President Truman was at the Potsdam Conference in Germany with Britain and the USSR at the time.

B. **Potsdam Conference** (mid-July - August)

1. Three allied leaders (Truman, Stalin, and Clement Atlee) warned Japan without specifics to surrender or suffer "complete and utter destruction."
2. Japan refused to remove its emperor but showed signs in secret dispatches it might be willing to surrender if the emperor remained on throne.
 - The Emperor was seen by his people as a God-Emperor and the Japanese people were willing to fight to the death on his behalf.
3. Military advisors had warned Truman of enormous U.S. casualties if the U.S. invaded Japan.
 - An invasion was being planned for the fall of 1945

C. August 6, 1945, the first atomic bomb ("Little Boy") was dropped on Hiroshima

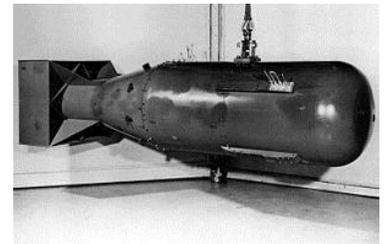
1. 80,000 people died immediately; 100,000 were injured
 - Countless people died later of radiation sickness or cancer
2. The bomb was dropped by a B-29, the *Enola Gay*
3. The militarist Japanese gov't still did not surrender

D. August 8, Soviet Union entered the war against Japan as promised

1. Stalin had pledged at the 1943 Tehran Conference and the Yalta Conference in February 1945 to enter the war against Japan exactly three months after Germany had been defeated.
2. On August 9, the Soviets invaded "Manchukuo" (Japanese-controlled Manchuria)
3. This was an enormous shock to the Japanese government, perhaps even more than the dropping of two atomic bombs

E. August 9, the second bomb ("Fat Man") was dropped on Nagasaki, killing 60,000 instantaneously

1. 60,000 were killed instantly
2. Japan still refused to surrender unless the emperor was allowed to remain on the throne; the Japanese mainland, Korea and Formosa remained unoccupied; and the Japanese government was responsible for trying war criminals
3. Conventional bombing on August 1 led many to evacuate the city, including school children, prior to the A-bomb explosion.
4. Although "Fat Man" was a stronger bomb than the one used on



A post-war model of "Little Boy"

Hiroshima, the hilly geography in Nagasaki prevented further damage.

F. Japan's Surrender

1. The twin shocks of the Soviet invasion of Manchuria and the dropping of the second atomic bomb on August 9 led Emperor Hirohito to demand that his government surrender.
2. After several days of debate, and a failed coup attempt against the Emperor, Hirohito gave a radio address on August 15 announcing his government would surrender to the Allies.
3. The occupation of Japan by American forces began on August 28
4. Sept 2, Japanese formally surrendered aboard *U.S.S. Missouri* in Tokyo Bay.
 - a. World War II was officially over.
 - b. The Emperor was allowed to remain on the throne but no longer had divine status

G. The decision to drop the atomic bomb became controversial in later few decades.

1. Most compelling reason for dropping the bomb was that it saved countless U.S. lives who would have had to invade Japan. It may have also saved Japanese lives since massive conventional bombing of Japan continued to kill hundreds of thousands.
 - a. Bloody U.S. victories at Iwo Jima and Okinawa were only a preview of the horrific carnage that would occur if the U.S. invaded the mainland.
 - b. Japan was preparing women and children to defend Japan as well.
 - c. Japan had started a war with a sneak attack; the U.S. was finishing it.
2. Recent scholarship contends that Truman sought to intimidate the Soviet Union in the post-war world by using the bomb.
 - Proponents of Truman's decision say this was not the key issue in Truman's decision; ending the war was the overriding goal
3. Some suggest a demonstration of the bomb to Japan was a viable alternative. Yet, U.S. did not know if the bomb would work and only two bombs were available in August 1945.
4. Some military officials believed Japan could be broken by the naval blockade and continued conventional bombing. General Eisenhower later lamented the bomb's use.
5. Critics of the decision maintain that Japan may have surrendered if the emperor had been allowed to remain on the throne. The U.S. refused. After the bombs were dropped, the U.S. let the emperor remain, albeit without divine status.
6. Some critics argue that Hiroshima was not a crucial military

target and that civilians were the target. Hiroshima and Nagasaki had been spared of bombing up until then.

7. Some critics argue that even if Hiroshima bombing was somewhat justified, the quick bombing of Nagasaki three days later was not.
8. Some critics argue that Truman and others connected with the gov't misled the public about the use of the bomb by misinformation later in the press and movies.

IX. Allied Diplomacy during the war

A. **Casablanca Conference** (January 14-25, 1943)

1. FDR and Churchill declared policy of unconditional surrender for "all enemies"
2. Both men agreed that Italy would be invaded first before opening a second front in France.

B. Moscow Conference (October 1943)

- Secretary of State Cordell Hull obtained Soviet agreement to enter the war against Japan after Germany was defeated and to participate in a world organization (UN) after the war was over.

C. Declaration of Cairo (issued December 1, 1943)

1. FDR met with **Chang Kai-shek** in November, demanding Japan's unconditional surrender.
2. All Chinese territories occupied by Japan would be returned to China; Korea would be free and independent.

D. **Tehran Conference** (Nov-Dec, 1943)

1. First meeting of the "Big Three" -- FDR, Stalin, and Churchill
2. Allies agreed to an invasion of Western Europe in 1944.
3. Stalin reaffirmed the Soviet commitment to enter the war against Japan and the Allies discussed coordination of a Soviet offensive with the Allied invasion of France.
4. Disputes over the post-war world emerged
 - a. Stalin insisted on Soviet control of Eastern Europe and division of Germany
 - b. Churchill demanded free governments in Eastern Europe and a strong Germany after the war to preserve a balance of power in Europe.
 - c. Roosevelt acted as a mediator and believed he could work with Stalin to achieve a post-world peace within the construct of the United Nations.

E. **Yalta Conference** (Feb, 1945)

1. The "Big Three" met to discuss post-war Europe.
2. Stalin agreed to enter the Pacific war within 3 months after

Germany surrendered

3. Stalin agreed to "Declaration of Liberated Europe" which called for free elections.
4. Called for a world organization to meet in the U.S. beginning on April 25, 1945 and agreed Soviets would have 3 votes in the General Assembly and that the U.S., Great Britain, the Soviet Union, France and China would be permanent members of the Security Council.
5. Germany would be divided into occupied zones and a coalition government of communists and non-communists was agreed to for Poland.
 - U.S.S.R. was allowed to keep its pre-1939 territory.
6. FDR accepted Soviet control of Outer Mongolia, the Kurile Islands, the southern half of Sakhalin Island, Port Arthur (Darien), and participation in the operation of the Manchurian railroads.

F. Potsdam Conference (July-August, 1945)

1. Truman, Stalin, and Clement Atlee (Britain) met at Potsdam, in eastern Germany.
2. Conference disagreed on most issues; the war alliance was beginning to break down.
3. The Allies demanded an unconditional surrender from Japan lest total and utter destruction be unleashed against the Japanese islands.
 - During the conference, Truman ordered the dropping of the atomic bomb on Japan.
4. Approvals were given to the concept of war-crimes trials and the demilitarization and denazification of Germany.
 - Reparations from Germany could be taken from each respective zone.
5. Established a council to draft peace treaties for the Balkans.

X. Aftermath

A. Massive casualties

1. 46-55 million dead; 35 million wounded; 3 million missing
 - a. About 30 million soldiers died (including about 405,000 Americans)
 - b. 25 million civilians perished
 - 15 million died in the USSR alone (23 million combined with military casualties)

B. 30 million Europeans lost their homeland (60% of them German) and relocated

C. Massive destruction of cities (4 million homes in Britain; 7 million buildings; in Germany; 1,700 towns destroyed in the USSR)

- By comparison, damage to the U.S. mainland included a slightly damaged oil refinery in Santa Barbara and a damaged baseball backstop in Oregon

D. The Holocaust

1. Six million Jews were liquidated as part of Hitler's "**Final Solution**"
2. Six million others were also killed including Gypsies, homosexuals, physically handicapped, Jehova's Witnesses and political opponents.
3. U.S. response to Europe's Jews before and during the war was biased.
 - a. "Americanism" of 1920s continued into 1940s with strong anti-Semitism
 - Strong anti-immigration laws were on the books (e.g. National Origins Act, 1924)
 - b. At one point, the U.S. forced a ship full of German Jews that had made it to U.S. shores to turn around and go back to Germany (the *St. Louis*). Many later died in Nazi camps.
 - c. 40% of German immigration quota between 1933 & 1945 was unfilled while German Jews tried to get into the U.S.
4. Once the war began rescuing Jews became next-to-impossible
5. Some critics argued the U.S. should have bombed railways to Auschwitz and other death camps in eastern Europe.
 - The U.S. Air Force refused as it did not want to divert air support during D-Day and subsequent fighting in France
6. The U.S. armed forces discovered and liberated concentration camps as they overran Germany
 - The systematic slaughter of millions seemed inconceivable until it was actually discovered.

XI. Post-war Political issues

A. WWII made allies of ideological enemies

1. Prior to WWII, Stalin's communist dictatorship was condemned by the West.
2. Soviets conversely denounced "Western Imperialism"
3. Once the war was over, the rivalry between East & West quickly reemerged into the Cold War
 - The U.S. and USSR emerged as the world's two superpowers

B. Fate of Eastern Europe

1. By war's end, the Soviets controlled most of Eastern Europe.
 - a. Bulgaria, Romania, and Hungary surrendered to the Soviets.
 - b. Soviets drove German armed forces from Poland and Czechoslovakia
2. Stalin had promised free elections; but the West was wary that

Eastern Europe would have communist governments imposed.

- C. Germany was divided into four zones among the Allies
 1. The Soviets wished for a weak Germany
 2. Britain and the U.S. wanted a strong Germany economically with a healthy democracy.

- D. As Europe declined, their colonies demanded their independence
 1. India had been promised greater freedom as a reward for fighting in the war.
 2. French Indochina determined to resist European rule; nationalists had fought against Japanese; later fought France and U.S. in Vietnam War.

- E. Technology
 1. Synthetic materials such as plastics were developed to replace natural ones in short supply.
 2. Improvement in airplanes and radar changed war
 3. A-bomb changed course of human history; years after 1945 called "Atomic Age"

Terms to Know

Pearl Harbor "Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere" Home Front WACs WAVES Tuskegee Airmen 442 nd Regiment Combat Team Navajo "code talkers" War Production Board (WPD) "Rosie the Riveter" Sunbelt War Labor Board Office of Price Administration (OPA) Smith-Connolly Anti-Strike Act John L. Lewis Manhattan Project J. Robert Oppenheimer "Trinity" test Detroit Race Riot A. Philip Randolph March On Washington Movement FEPC (Fair Employment Practices Commission) Bracero Program Zoot Suit Riots Japanese internment Executive Order 9066	Issei Nisei <i>Korematsu v. U.S.</i> (1944) Grand Alliance Bataan Death March Battle of Stalingrad Battle of El Alamein "Operation Torch" Dwight D. Eisenhower D-Day, invasion of Normandy Battle of the Bulge General George Patton Battle of Midway Island Hopping Okinawa Iwo Jima election of 1944 death of FDR President Harry Truman Potsdam Conference Hiroshima Nagasaki Casablanca Conference Chang Kai-shek (Jiang Jieshi) Tehran Conference Yalta Conference Holocaust, "Final Solution"
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Essay Questions

Note: This sub-unit is a low probability area for the essay portion of the AP exam. In the past 10 years, zero questions have come wholly or in part from the material in this chapter. Below are some questions that will help you study the topics that have appeared on previous exams.

1. To what extent and in what ways did World War II impact American society between 1939 and 1945?
2. Compare and contrast the extent to which American society was impacted during the World War I era (1914-1920) and the World War II era (1939-1945). (Refer to WWI notes)

3. Analyze the factors that led to the discrimination of minority groups and political dissenters in America during World War I and World War II. (Refer to WWI notes)

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