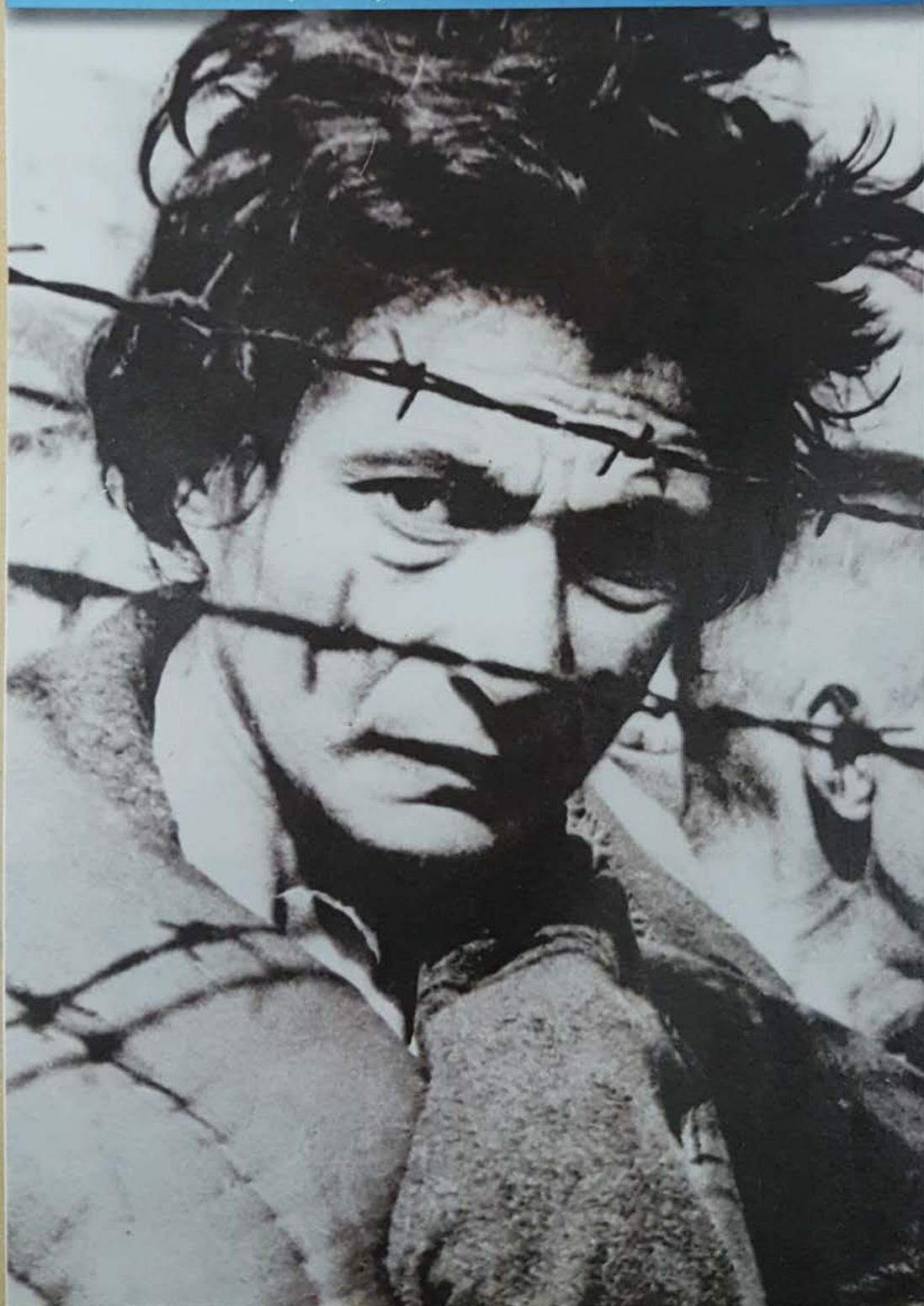


World War II and the Holocaust

1939–1945

ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS • *Why do political actions often lead to war?*
• *How does war impact society and the environment?*



networks

There's More Online! about World War II and the Holocaust.

CHAPTER 17

Lesson 1

World War II Begins

Lesson 2

World War II

Lesson 3

The Home Front and Civilians

Lesson 4

The New Order and the Holocaust

Lesson 5

World War II Ends

The Story Matters...

From 1933 to 1945, the Nazis fought two wars: one against the Allies and another for “racial purity.” At first, the Nazis sent European Jews to concentration camps. Later, they developed horribly efficient killing centers such as Auschwitz and Treblinka. By the time Allied forces liberated the death camps in 1945, the Nazis had murdered nearly two out of every three European Jews during the Holocaust.

- ◀ These prisoners at Auschwitz were liberated by the Soviets in January 1945. Victims of the Holocaust suffered cruelty at the hands of their Nazi captors. Those who survived were ill or dying of starvation and maltreatment.

PHOTO: ullstein bild / The Granger Collection, NYC. All rights reserved.

Place and Time: Europe 1939–1945

World War II was the most devastating war in history. Germany and Japan achieved stunning territorial victories between 1939 and 1942. In 1941 the United States and the Soviet Union entered the war, turning the tide against fascist expansion. New military technology, such as aerial photography, informed the military strategies of both the Axis and Allied powers and changed the way the war was fought.

Step Into the Place

Read the quotes and look at the information presented on the map.

DBQ **Analyzing Historical Documents** How did the Allies use aerial photographs for strategic purposes during the war in Europe?

PRIMARY SOURCE

“Aerial photos were the only solid, irrefutable evidence of where an enemy was, what he was doing and what he had with which to do it. Intelligence was a ‘force multiplier,’ permitting our side to put resources or air strikes on the most critical ground, and aerial photographic intelligence was the most reliable source.”

—Colonel Roy M. Stanley, United States Air Force, *Asia from Above*



PRIMARY SOURCE

“These [36-inch cameras mounted on the belly of the aircraft] produced 3-D views of the areas being photographed, which were then examined by our intelligence people. Details as small as a golf ball were detectable. We also carried a smaller camera in the port side of the aircraft, and with this we could take oblique pictures. Some of the trips involved low-level photographs, and this required flying at tree-top level. On 15 May [1943] we were jumped by six Bf 109s [German fighter planes] while flying photo runs over Oslo. . . . We were able to do ever decreasing turns and avoid their gunfire. We were also able to inch our way over to Sweden. The Swedes will never know how grateful we were to them as they opened up with every flak [anti-aircraft] battery on their coast.”

—Flight Lieutenant Bill White, Royal Air Force, recalling a reconnaissance mission to find a German battleship harbored in Norway, quoted in *Mosquito Photo-Reconnaissance Units of World War 2*

PHOTO: (top) Kubon-Dewach Collection/Corbis; (right) Stringer/Krypotow/Newton Anderson/Getty Images

Step Into the Time

Determining Importance

Choose an event from the time line and explain why it was an important development in the Second World War.



networks

There's More Online!

- MAP Explore the interactive version of this map on Networks.
- TIME LINE Explore the interactive version of the time line on Networks.

World War II in Europe and North Africa 1941-1945



1942-1943 Allies and Germany battle for control over North Africa

May 7, 1945 Germany surrenders

June 6, 1944 Allies under U.S. General Dwight D. Eisenhower launch D-Day invasion

March 1945 Allies cross the Rhine after the Battle of the Bulge

1942

1943

1944

1945

December 7, 1941 Japanese attack Pearl Harbor

1942 Japanese conquer Thailand, Philippines, Malaya

1942 United States Navy defeats Japanese at Battle of Midway Island

May 1943 Japanese launch offensive in central China

December 8, 1944 U.S. Air Force begins bombardment of Iwo Jima

August 1945 United States drops atomic bombs on Japan

August 14, 1945 Japan surrenders

networks

There's More Online!

- ✓ BIOGRAPHY Winston Churchill
- ✓ IMAGE Bombing of Shanghai
- ✓ IMAGE The Munich Conference
- ✓ IMAGE The Nazi-Soviet Nonaggression Pact
- ✓ INTERACTIVE SELF-CHECK QUIZ
- ✓ MAP German and Italian Expansion, 1935–1939
- ✓ MAP Japanese Expansion, 1933–1941
- ✓ PRIMARY SOURCE Germany's Invasion of the Rhineland
- ✓ VIDEO World War II Begins



LESSON 1

World War II Begins

ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS • Why do political actions often lead to war?
• How does war impact society and the environment?

IT MATTERS BECAUSE

In the 1930s, Germany and Japan invaded neighboring countries to gain resources and land. Hitler allied with Italy, annexed Austria, and occupied the Sudetenland. Japan made a quick conquest of Manchuria. At first, other world powers allowed these acts of aggression. They wanted to avoid war—yet the path to war was already paved.

The German Path to War

GUIDING QUESTIONS What was Hitler's motivation for German expansion?
What alliances and events contributed to the outbreak of World War II?

World War II in Europe had its beginnings in the ideas of Adolf Hitler. He believed that Germans belonged to a so-called Aryan race that was superior to all other races and nationalities. Consequently, Hitler believed that Germany was capable of building a great civilization. To be a great power, however, he thought that Germany needed more land to support a larger population.

Already in the 1920s, Hitler had indicated that a Nazi regime would find this land to the east—in the Soviet Union. Germany therefore must prepare for war with the Soviet Union. After the Soviet Union had been conquered, according to Hitler, its land would be resettled by German peasants. The Slavic peoples could be used as slave labor to build an Aryan racial state that Hitler thought would **dominate** Europe for a thousand years.

Hitler Violates Treaty

After World War I, the Treaty of Versailles had limited Germany's military power. As chancellor, Hitler, posing as a man of peace, stressed that Germany wished to revise the unfair provisions of the treaty by peaceful means. Germany, he said, only wanted its rightful place among the European states.

On March 9, 1935, however, Hitler announced the creation of a new air force. One week later, he began a military draft that would expand Germany's army from 100,000 to 550,000 troops. These steps

Reading HELPDESK



Academic Vocabulary

- dominate • violation

Content Vocabulary

- demilitarized
- appeasement
- sanctions

TAKING NOTES:

Key Ideas and Details

Categorizing As you read, create a chart like the one below listing examples of Japanese and German aggression prior to the outbreak of World War II.

Japanese Aggression	German Aggression

were in direct **violation** of the Treaty of Versailles. France, Great Britain, and Italy condemned Germany's actions and warned against future aggressive steps. In the midst of the Great Depression, however, these nations were distracted by their own internal problems and did nothing further.

Hitler was convinced that the Western states had no intention of using force to maintain the Treaty of Versailles. Hence, on March 7, 1936, he sent German troops into the Rhineland. The Rhineland was part of Germany, but, according to the Treaty of Versailles, it was a **demilitarized** area. That is, Germany was not allowed to have weapons or fortifications there. France had the right to use force against any violation of this provision but would not act without British support.

Great Britain did not support the use of force against Germany. The British government viewed the occupation of German territory by German troops as a reasonable action by a dissatisfied power. *The London Times* noted that the Germans were "only going into their own back garden." Great Britain thus began to practice a policy of **appeasement**. This policy was based on the belief that if European states satisfied the reasonable demands of dissatisfied powers, the dissatisfied powers would be content, and stability and peace would be achieved in Europe.

New Alliances

Meanwhile, Hitler gained new allies. Benito Mussolini of Italy had long dreamed of creating a new Roman Empire. In October 1935, Mussolini's forces invaded Ethiopia. Angered by French and British opposition to his invasion, Mussolini welcomed Hitler's support. He began to draw closer to the German dictator.

In 1936 both Germany and Italy sent troops to Spain to help General Francisco Franco in the Spanish Civil War. In October 1936, Mussolini and Hitler made an agreement recognizing their common interests. One month later, Mussolini spoke of the new alliance between Italy and Germany, called the Rome-Berlin Axis. Also in November, Germany and Japan signed the Anti-Comintern Pact, promising a common front against communism.

Union With Austria

By 1937, Germany was once more a "world power," as Hitler proclaimed. He was convinced that neither France nor Great Britain would provide much opposition to his plans. In 1938 he decided to pursue one of his goals: *Anschluss* (AHN • shloos), or union, with Austria, his native land.

dominate to influence or control

violation a disregard of rules or agreements

demilitarized elimination or prohibition of weapons, fortifications, and other military installations

appeasement satisfying reasonable demands of dissatisfied powers in an effort to maintain peace and stability

GEOGRAPHY CONNECTION

Germany expanded its borders from 1935–1939.

- 1 THE WORLD IN SPATIAL TERMS** Which countries did Germany take land from during this time period?
- 2 HUMAN SYSTEMS** What was Germany's rationale for expansion?



By threatening Austria with invasion, Hitler forced the Austrian chancellor to put Austrian Nazis in charge of the government. The new government promptly invited German troops to enter Austria and “help” in maintaining law and order. One day later, on March 13, 1938, after his triumphal return to his native land, Hitler annexed Austria to Germany.

Demands and Appeasement

Hitler’s next objective was the destruction of Czechoslovakia. On September 15, 1938, he demanded that Germany be given the Sudetenland, an area in northwestern Czechoslovakia that was inhabited largely by Germans. He was willing to risk “world war” to achieve his objective.

At a hastily arranged conference in Munich, British, French, German, and Italian representatives did not object to Hitler’s plans but instead reached an agreement that met virtually all Hitler’s demands. German troops were allowed to occupy the Sudetenland. The Czechs, abandoned by their Western allies, stood by helplessly.

The Munich Conference was the high point of Western appeasement of Hitler. When Neville Chamberlain, the British prime minister, returned to England from Munich, he boasted that the agreement meant “peace for our time.” One British statesman, Winston Churchill, warned instead

that the settlement at Munich was “a disaster of the first magnitude.” Hitler, however, had promised Chamberlain that he would make no more demands. Like many others, Chamberlain believed Hitler’s promises.

In fact, Hitler was more convinced than ever that the Western democracies would not fight. Increasingly, he was sure that he could not make a mistake, and he had by no means been satisfied at Munich.

In March 1939, Hitler invaded and took control of Bohemia and Moravia in western Czechoslovakia. In the eastern part of the country, Slovakia became a puppet state controlled by Nazi Germany. On the evening of March 15, 1939, Hitler triumphantly declared in Prague that he would be known as the greatest German of them all.

At last, the Western states reacted to the Nazi threat. Hitler’s aggression had made clear that his promises were worthless. When Hitler began to demand the Polish port of Danzig, Great Britain saw the danger and offered to protect Poland in the event of war. At the same time, both France and Britain realized that only the Soviet Union was powerful enough to help contain Nazi aggression. They began political and military negotiations with Joseph Stalin, the Soviet dictator.

Hitler and the Soviets

Meanwhile, Hitler continued to believe that the West would not fight over Poland. He now feared, however, that the West and the Soviet Union might make an alliance. Such an alliance could mean a two-front war for Germany. To prevent this, Hitler made his own agreement with Stalin.

On August 23, 1939, Germany and the Soviet Union signed the Nazi-Soviet Nonaggression Pact. In it, the two nations promised not to attack each other. To get the nonaggression pact, Hitler offered Stalin control of eastern Poland and the Baltic states. Because he expected to fight the Soviet Union anyway, it did not matter to Hitler what he promised—he was accustomed to breaking promises.



▲ After the Munich Conference, Adolf Hitler, Neville Chamberlain, and Joachim von Ribbentrop (left to right) at the Munich airport on September 29, 1938.

CRITICAL THINKING

Evaluating Why is the Munich Conference an oft-used example of the failure of appeasement?



▲ This political cartoon depicts Adolf Hitler and Joseph Stalin as a newlywed couple after the signing of the Nazi-Soviet Nonaggression Pact.

Hitler shocked the world when he announced the treaty. Hitler was now free to attack Poland. He told his generals, “Now Poland is in the position in which I wanted her . . . I am only afraid that at the last moment some swine will yet submit to me a plan for mediation.”

Hitler need not have worried. On September 1, German forces invaded western Poland. Two days later, Britain and France declared war on Germany.

READING PROGRESS CHECK

Determining Cause and Effect How did World War I affect European leaders’ attitudes toward international aggression?

The Japanese Path to War

GUIDING QUESTION *Why did Japan want to seize other countries?*

On the night of September 18, 1931, Japanese soldiers, disguised as Chinese soldiers, blew up a small section of the Manchurian Railway near the city of Mukden. Japan owned this area, and the Japanese soldiers wanted to blame the “Mukden incident” on the Chinese. The Japanese army used this incident to justify its taking all of Manchuria in a series of rapid military advances.

Manchuria offered many resources the Japanese needed. After this conquest, the Japanese army became committed to an expansionist policy—a policy of enlarging the Japanese Empire.

By September 1932, the Japanese army had formed Manchuria into a separate state and renamed it Manchukuo. They placed a puppet ruler, Henry Pu Yi, on the throne. As an infant, Henry Pu Yi had been China’s “last emperor.” He had abdicated that throne, however, following the revolution of 1911 in China.

Worldwide protests against the Japanese seizure of Manchuria led the League of Nations to send in investigators. When the investigators issued a report condemning the seizure, Japan withdrew from the League. The United States refused to recognize the Japanese takeover of Manchuria but was unwilling to threaten force.

Over the next several years, Japan continued its expansion and established control over the eastern part of Inner Mongolia and areas in north China around Beijing. Neither Emperor Hirohito nor government leaders could control the army. In fact, it was the army that established Japanese foreign policy. The military held the upper hand. By the mid-1930s, militants connected to the government and the armed forces had gained control of Japanese politics.



War With China

Chiang Kai-shek tried to avoid a conflict with Japan so that he could deal with what he considered the greater threat, the Chinese Communists. When clashes between Chinese and Japanese troops broke out, he sought to appease Japan by allowing it to govern areas in north China.

As Japan moved steadily southward, protests against Japanese aggression grew stronger in Chinese cities. In December 1936, Chiang ended his military efforts against the Communists and formed a new united front

▲ During the Sino-Japanese War, the Japanese air force bombed Shanghai.

CRITICAL THINKING

Making Inferences What role did the Sino-Japanese War play in the Chinese civil war?

against the Japanese. In July 1937, Chinese and Japanese forces clashed south of Beijing and hostilities spread.

Although Japan had not planned to declare war on China, the 1937 incident turned into a major conflict. Japan seized the Chinese capital of Nanjing in December. The Japanese Army destroyed the city and massacred more than 100,000 civilians and prisoners of war. The event was so brutal it became known as the “Rape of Nanjing.” Chiang Kai-shek refused to surrender and moved his government upriver, first to Hankou, then to Chongqing. Temporarily defeated, the Chinese continued to resist.

The New Asian Order

Japanese military leaders had hoped to force Chiang to agree to join a New Order in East Asia, comprising Japan, Manchuria, and China. Japan would attempt to establish a new system of control in Asia with Japan guiding its Asian neighbors to prosperity.

Part of Japan’s plan was to seize Soviet Siberia, with its rich resources. During the late 1930s, Japan began to cooperate with Nazi Germany. Japan assumed that the two countries would ultimately launch a joint attack on the Soviet Union and divide Soviet resources between them.

When Germany signed the nonaggression pact with the Soviets in August 1939, Japanese leaders had to rethink their goals. Because Japan lacked the resources to defeat the Soviet Union, it looked to South Asia for raw materials for its military machine.

Japan Launches Attack

A move southward would risk war with the European powers and the United States. Japan’s attack on China had already aroused strong criticism, especially in the United States. Still, in the summer of 1940, Japan demanded the right to exploit economic resources in French Indochina.

The United States objected. It warned Japan that it would apply economic **sanctions** unless Japan withdrew from the area and returned to its borders of 1931. Japan badly needed the oil and scrap iron it was getting from the United States. Should these resources be cut off, Japan would have to find them elsewhere. This would threaten Japan’s long-term objectives.

Japan was now caught in a dilemma. To guarantee access to raw materials in Southeast Asia, Japan had to risk losing them from the United States. After much debate, Japan decided to launch a surprise attack on U.S. and European colonies in Southeast Asia.

READING PROGRESS CHECK

Summarizing What regions did Japan consider in its search for natural resources?

sanctions restrictions intended to enforce international law

LESSON 1 REVIEW



Reviewing Vocabulary

1. **Explaining** What is the connection between national sovereignty and demilitarization?

Using Your Notes

2. **Comparing** Use your graphic organizer to compare how German and Japanese aggression affected the United States.

Answering the Guiding Questions

3. **Summarizing** What was Hitler’s motivation for German expansion?

4. **Distinguishing** What alliances and events contributed to the outbreak of World War II?

5. **Analyzing** Why did Japan want to seize other countries?

Writing Activity

6. **ARGUMENT** Write a paragraph that argues for or against the following statement: The British policy of appeasement was the main cause for Germany’s aggressive actions.

There's More Online!

- ✓ BIOGRAPHY Franklin D. Roosevelt
- ✓ BIOGRAPHY Hideki Tōjō
- ✓ CHART/GRAPH The Axis and the Allies, 1939–1945
- ✓ IMAGE Battle of Midway Island
- ✓ INFOGRAPHIC Pearl Harbor
- ✓ INTERACTIVE SELF-CHECK QUIZ
- ✓ MAP WWII in Asia and the Pacific, 1941–1942
- ✓ MAP WWII in Europe and North Africa, 1939–1942
- ✓ VIDEO World War II



LESSON 2

World War II

ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS • Why do political actions often lead to war?
• How does war impact society and the environment?

IT MATTERS BECAUSE

In the first years of World War II, Hitler, with his blitzkrieg, had gained control of much of western and central Europe. Victories over Britain and Russia remained elusive, however. When the United States entered the war, the Allies agreed to fight until the Axis Powers surrendered unconditionally.

Europe at War

GUIDING QUESTION What were Germany's gains and losses during the early years of the war?

Hitler stunned Europe with the speed and efficiency of the German attack on Poland. His **blitzkrieg**, or "lightning war," used armored columns, called panzer divisions, supported by airplanes. Each panzer division was a strike force of about 300 tanks with accompanying forces and supplies.

The forces of the blitzkrieg broke quickly through Polish lines and encircled the bewildered Polish troops. Regular infantry units then moved in to hold the newly conquered territory. Within four weeks, Poland had surrendered. On September 28, 1939, Germany and the Soviet Union divided Poland.

Hitler's Early Victories

After a winter of waiting, Hitler resumed the attack on April 9, 1940, with another blitzkrieg against Denmark and Norway. One month later, Germany launched an attack on the Netherlands, Belgium, and France. The main assault was through Luxembourg and the Ardennes Forest. German panzer divisions broke through weak French defensive positions there and raced across northern France.

French and British forces were taken by surprise. Anticipating a German attack, France had built a defense system, called the Maginot (MA • zhuh • NOH) Line, along its border with Germany. The line was a series of concrete and steel fortifications armed with heavy artillery. The Germans, however, decided not to cross the Maginot Line. Instead, they went around it and attacked France from its border with Belgium.

Reading HELPDESK



Academic Vocabulary

- resolve
- involvement

Content Vocabulary

- blitzkrieg
- isolationism
- neutrality

TAKING NOTES:

Key Ideas and Details

Determining Cause and Effect As you read, use a chart like the one below to list key events during World War II and their effect on the course of the war.

Event	Effect

BIOGRAPHY



Franklin D. Roosevelt (1882–1945)

President Franklin D. Roosevelt was the only U.S. president elected to serve four terms in office. He led the United States during two major crises—the Great Depression and World War II. Before Pearl Harbor, President Roosevelt convinced the U.S. Congress to send “all aid short of war” to Britain and the Soviet Union to help fight the Nazis. The United States sent ships and guns in exchange for military bases in Britain. After the attack on Pearl Harbor, the United States entered the war in earnest. Roosevelt led the war effort until his death in office in 1945.

► CRITICAL THINKING

Making Inferences How did the Great Depression prepare Roosevelt for the war effort?

blitzkrieg German for “lightning war”; a swift and sudden military attack; used by the Germans during World War II

resolve determination; a fixed purpose

isolationism a policy of national isolation by abstention from alliances and other international political and economic relations

neutrality refusal to take sides or become involved in wars between other nations

By going around the Maginot Line, the Germans split the Allied armies, trapping French troops and the entire British army on the beaches of Dunkirk. Only by the heroic efforts of the Royal Navy and civilians in private boats did the British manage to evacuate 338,000 Allied (mostly British) troops. An English skipper described the scene:

PRIMARY SOURCE

“The soldiers were coming off the beach clinging to bits of wood and wreckage and anything that would float. As we got close enough we began . . . picking up as many as we could . . . [and taking] them off to one of the ships lying off in the deep water.”

—quoted in *Blood, Tears and Folly*, 1993

The French signed an armistice on June 22, 1940. German armies now occupied about three-fifths of France. An authoritarian regime under German control was set up over the remainder of the country. It was known as Vichy France and was led by an aged French hero of World War I, Marshal Henri Pétain. Germany was now in control of western and central Europe, but Britain had still not been defeated. In fact, after Dunkirk, the British **resolve** heightened. Especially helpful in rallying the British people were the stirring speeches of Winston Churchill, who had become prime minister in May 1940.

President Franklin D. Roosevelt denounced the aggressors, but the United States followed a strict policy of **isolationism**. A series of **neutrality** acts, passed in the 1930s, prevented the United States from taking sides or becoming involved in any European wars. Many Americans felt that the United States had been drawn into World War I due to economic **involvement** in Europe, and they wanted to prevent a recurrence. Roosevelt was convinced that the neutrality acts actually encouraged Axis aggression and were gradually relaxed as the United States supplied food, ships, planes, and weapons to Britain.

The Battle of Britain

Hitler realized that an amphibious (land-sea) invasion of Britain could succeed only if Germany gained control of the air. At the beginning of August 1940, the Luftwaffe (LOOFT • vah • fuh)—the German air force—launched a major offensive. German planes bombed British air and naval bases, harbors, communication centers, and war industries.

The British fought back with determination. They were supported by an effective radar system that gave them early warning of German attacks. Nevertheless, the British air force suffered critical losses.

In September, in retaliation for a British attack on Berlin, Hitler ordered a shift in strategy. Instead of bombing military targets, the Luftwaffe began massive bombing of British cities. Hitler hoped in this way to break British morale. Instead, because military targets were not being hit, the British were able to rebuild their air strength quickly. Soon, the British air force was inflicting major losses on Luftwaffe bombers. Hitler postponed the invasion of Britain indefinitely.

Attack on the Soviet Union

Although he had no desire for a two-front war, Hitler became convinced that Britain was remaining in the war only because it expected Soviet support. If the Soviet Union were smashed, Britain’s last hope would be eliminated. Moreover, Hitler had convinced himself that the Soviet Union had a pitiful army and could be defeated quickly.



WWII in Europe and North Africa 1939–1941



Hitler's invasion of the Soviet Union was scheduled for the spring of 1941, but the attack was delayed because of problems in the Balkans. Hitler had already gained the political cooperation of Hungary, Bulgaria, and Romania. However, the failure of Mussolini's invasion of Greece in 1940 had exposed Hitler's southern flank to British air bases in Greece. To secure his Balkan flank, Hitler seized both Greece and Yugoslavia in April.

Reassured, Hitler invaded the Soviet Union on June 22, 1941. He believed that the Russians could still be decisively defeated before the brutal winter weather set in. The massive attack stretched out along a front some 1,800 miles (about 2,900 km) long. German troops advanced rapidly, capturing 2 million Russian soldiers. By November, one German army group had swept through the Ukraine. A second army was besieging the city of Leningrad, while a third approached within 25 miles (about 40 km) of Moscow, the Soviet capital.

An early winter and fierce Soviet resistance, however, halted the German advance. Certain of quick victory, the Germans had not planned for winter uniforms. For the first time in the war, German armies had been stopped. A counterattack in December 1941 by a Soviet army came as an ominous ending to the year for the Germans.

READING PROGRESS CHECK

Predicting Consequences What assumptions did Hitler make about invading the Soviet Union? Do you think the invasion would have gone differently if he had not made those assumptions?

GEOGRAPHY CONNECTION

By 1941, Germany had conquered most of continental Europe.

- 1 PLACES AND REGIONS**
What offensive did the Axis powers carry out in Africa?
- 2 THE USES OF GEOGRAPHY**
Why was it significant that Germany failed to control Moscow by 1941?

Japan at War

GUIDING QUESTION *What brought the United States into the war?*

On December 7, 1941, Japanese aircraft attacked the U.S. naval base at Pearl Harbor in Hawaii. The surprise attack damaged or destroyed more than 350 aircraft, damaged or sunk 18 ships, and killed or wounded more than 3,500 Americans. The same day, the Japanese attacked the Philippines and advanced on Malaya. Later, they invaded the Dutch East Indies and occupied several islands in the Pacific Ocean. By the spring of 1942, almost all of Southeast Asia and much of the western Pacific had fallen to the Japanese.

A triumphant Japan now declared the creation of a “community” of nations: the Greater East Asia Co-Prosperty Sphere. The entire region would now be under Japanese direction. Japan also announced its intention to liberate areas of Southeast Asia from Western colonial rule. For the moment, however, Japan needed the resources of the region for its war machine and treated the countries under its rule as conquered lands.

Japanese policy was now largely dictated by Prime Minister Hideki Tōjō—formerly a general—who in the course of the war became a virtual military dictator. Tōjō had hoped that Japan’s lightning strike at American bases would destroy the U.S. fleet in the Pacific. The Roosevelt administration, he thought, would now accept Japanese domination of the Pacific.

But the Japanese miscalculated. The attack on Pearl Harbor unified American opinion about becoming involved in the war. The United States joined with European nations and Nationalist China in a combined effort to defeat Japan. Believing American **involvement** in the Pacific would make the United States ineffective in the European theater of war, Hitler declared war on the United States four days after Pearl Harbor. As in WWI, another European conflict had turned into a global war.

READING PROGRESS CHECK

Identifying Why did the United States stay out of WWII until the Pearl Harbor attack?

involvement a commitment or a connection to

Analyzing PRIMARY SOURCES

Hitler in August 1942

“As the next step, we are going to advance south of the Caucasus and then help the rebels in Iran and Iraq against the English. Another thrust will be directed along the Caspian Sea toward Afghanistan and India. Then the English will run out of oil. In two years we’ll be on the borders of India. Twenty to thirty elite German divisions will do. Then the British Empire will collapse.”

—quoted in *Spandau*, 1976

DBQ

ANALYZING

Why was Hitler so optimistic after he captured the Crimea?

The Allies Advance

GUIDING QUESTION *How did the involvement of the United States change the war?*

The entry of the United States into the war created a new coalition, the Grand Alliance. To overcome mutual suspicions, the three major Allies—Great Britain, the United States, and the Soviet Union—agreed to stress military operations and to ignore political differences. At the beginning of 1943, the Allies agreed to fight until the Axis Powers—Germany, Italy, and Japan—surrendered unconditionally, which required the Axis nations to surrender without any favorable condition. This cemented the Grand Alliance by making it nearly impossible for Hitler to divide his foes.

The European Theater

Defeat was far from Hitler’s mind at the beginning of 1942. As Japanese forces advanced into Southeast Asia and the Pacific, Hitler and his allies continued fighting the war in Europe against Britain and the Soviet Union.

Until late 1942, it seemed that the Germans might still prevail. In North Africa, German forces broke through the British defenses in Egypt and advanced toward Alexandria. A renewed German offensive in the Soviet Union led to the capture of the entire Crimea in the spring of 1942. However, by the fall of 1942, the war had turned against the Germans.

The Tide Turns

In North Africa, British forces had stopped General Erwin Rommel's troops at El Alamein in the summer of 1942. The Germans then retreated back across the desert. In November 1942, British and American forces invaded French North Africa. They forced the German and Italian troops there to surrender in May 1943.

On the Eastern Front, after the capture of the Crimea, Hitler's generals wanted him to concentrate on the Caucasus and its oil fields. Hitler, however, decided that Stalingrad, a major industrial center on the Volga River, should be taken first. In perhaps the most terrible battle of the war, between November 1942 and February 2, 1943, the Soviets launched a counterattack. German troops were stopped and then encircled, and supply lines were cut off, all in frigid winter conditions. The Germans were forced to surrender at Stalingrad. The entire German Sixth Army, considered the best of the German troops, was lost.

By February 1943, German forces in Russia were back to their positions of June 1942. By the spring, even Hitler knew that the Germans would not defeat the Soviet Union.

The Asian Theater

In 1942 the tide of battle in the East also changed dramatically. In the Battle of the Coral Sea on May 7 and 8, 1942, American naval forces stopped the Japanese advance and saved Australia from being invaded.

The turning point of the war in Asia came on June 4, at the Battle of Midway Island. U.S. planes destroyed four attacking Japanese aircraft carriers. The United States defeated the Japanese navy and established naval superiority in the Pacific.

By the fall of 1942, Allied forces in Asia were gathering for two operations. One, commanded by U.S. general Douglas MacArthur, would move into the Philippines through New Guinea and the South Pacific Islands. The other would move across the Pacific with a combination of U.S. Army, Marine, and Navy attacks on Japanese-held islands. The policy, called "island hopping," was to capture some Japanese-held islands and to bypass others to reach Japan. After engagements near the Solomon Islands from August to November 1942, Japanese fortunes began to fade.



▲ A group of U.S. fighter planes fly over the reefs at Midway Island, November 14, 1942.

► CRITICAL THINKING

Assessing What Allied strategies helped change the tide of battle in the East?

✓ READING PROGRESS CHECK

Summarizing Why was the German assault on Stalingrad a crushing defeat for the Germans?

LESSON 2 REVIEW



Reviewing Vocabulary

1. **Explaining** What is a blitzkrieg, and what supplies and equipment did it require?

Using Your Notes

2. **Determining Cause and Effect** Use your notes to explain the effects of key events in World War II.

Answering the Guiding Questions

3. **Analyzing Information** What were Germany's gains and losses during the early years of the war?

4. **Determining Cause and Effect** What brought the United States into the war?

5. **Making Generalizations** How did the involvement of the United States change the war?

Writing Activity

6. **NARRATIVE** Research one of the battles described in this lesson. Then write a descriptive account of the battle from the perspective of a soldier fighting in that battle.

There's More Online!

- ✓ IMAGE American Propaganda Poster
- ✓ IMAGE B-29 Superfortresses
- ✓ IMAGE Coventry Cathedral After a German Bombing Raid
- ✓ IMAGE Soviet Propaganda Poster
- ✓ IMAGE Woman at Work in a Munitions Factory
- ✓ INTERACTIVE SELF-CHECK QUIZ
- ✓ VIDEO The Home Front and Civilians



LESSON 3

The Home Front and Civilians

ESSENTIAL QUESTION

• How does war impact society and the environment?

IT MATTERS BECAUSE

During World War II, nations mobilized their people and geared their economies to war. While the troops fought, the citizens on the home front made personal sacrifices to produce the materials and supplies needed to fuel the war. Hundreds of thousands lost their lives in bombing raids.

Reading HELPDESK



Academic Vocabulary

- widespread
- circumstance

Content Vocabulary

- mobilization
- kamikaze
- blitz

TAKING NOTES:

Key Ideas and Details

Organizing As you read, complete a chart like this one to show the impact of World War II on the lives of civilians.

Country	Impact on Civilian Lives
Soviet Union	
United States	
Japan	
Germany	

The Mobilization of Four Nations

GUIDING QUESTION How did countries mobilize for war?

Even more than World War I, World War II was a total war. Fighting was much more **widespread** and covered most of the world. Economic **mobilization** was more extensive; so, too, was the mobilization of women. The number of civilians killed—almost 20 million—was far higher than those killed in World War I. Many of these victims were children.

World War II had an enormous impact on civilian life in the Soviet Union, the United States, Germany, and Japan. We consider the home fronts of those four nations next.

The Soviet Union

Known to the Soviets as the Great Patriotic War, the German-Soviet war witnessed the greatest land battles in history, as well as incredible ruthlessness. The initial military defeats suffered by the Soviet Union led to drastic emergency measures that affected the lives of the civilian population. The city of Leningrad (now St. Petersburg), for example, experienced 900 days of siege. Its inhabitants became so desperate for food that they even ate dogs, cats, and mice. Probably 1.5 million people died in the city.

As the German army made its rapid advance into Soviet territory, Soviet workers dismantled and shipped the factories in the western part of the Soviet Union to the interior—to the Urals, western Siberia, and the Volga regions. Machines were placed on the bare ground. As laborers began their work, walls went up around them.

Stalin called the widespread military and industrial mobilization of the nation a “battle of machines.” The Soviets won, producing 78,000 tanks and 98,000 artillery pieces. In 1943, 55 percent of the Soviet national income went for war materials, compared with 15 percent in 1940. As a result of the emphasis on military goods, Soviet citizens experienced severe shortages of both food and housing.

Soviet women played a major role in the war effort. Women and girls worked in industries, mines, and railroads. Overall, the number of women working in industry increased almost 60 percent. Soviet women were also expected to dig antitank ditches and to work as air-raid wardens. Also, the Soviet Union was the only country in World War II to use women in battle. Soviet women served as snipers and in aircrews of bomber squadrons.

The United States

The home front in the United States was quite different from that of the other major powers. The United States was not fighting on its own territory. Eventually, the United States became the arsenal of the Allied Powers; it produced much of the military equipment the Allies needed. The height of war production came in November 1943. At that point, the country was building 6 ships a day and 96,000 planes per year.

The mobilization of the American economy and workforce resulted in some social turmoil, however. The construction of new factories created boomtowns. Thousands came there to work but then faced a shortage of houses and schools. Sixteen million men and women were enrolled in the military and moved frequently. Another 16 million, mostly wives and girlfriends of servicemen or workers looking for jobs, also moved around the country.

More than a million African Americans moved from the rural South to the cities of the North and West looking for jobs in industry. The presence of African Americans in areas in which they had not lived before led to racial tensions and sometimes even racial riots. In Detroit in June 1943, for example, white mobs roamed the streets attacking African Americans. One million African Americans joined the military, where they served in segregated units. For some, this treatment later led to a fight for their civil rights.

Japanese Americans faced even more serious issues. On the West Coast, 110,000 Japanese Americans, 65 percent of whom had been born in the United States, were removed to camps surrounded by barbed wire and required to take loyalty oaths. Public officials claimed this policy was necessary for security reasons. California governor Culbert Olson expressed the racism in this policy:

PRIMARY SOURCE

“When I look out at a group of Americans of German or Italian descent, I can tell whether they’re loyal or not. I can tell how they think and even perhaps what they are thinking. But it is impossible for me to do this with inscrutable Orientals, and particularly the Japanese.”

—quoted in Spickard, *Japanese Americans: The Formation and Transformation of an Ethnic Group*

widespread widely extended or spread out

mobilization the process of assembling troops and supplies and making them ready for war



▲ An African-American woman works in a U.S. munitions factory during World War II

CRITICAL THINKING

Making Inferences How did munitions factories like the one shown above impact U.S. communities?

Women in the U.S. Military

During World War II, women participated in organizations such as the Women's Army Corps (WACs), where they served in administrative, noncombat positions. In 1948 President Harry S. Truman signed the Women's Armed Services Integration Act, which enabled women to become active members of all branches of the U.S. military. At that time, women made up 2 percent of the armed forces. Today, women make up 15 percent of the military, though they are often excluded from direct combat missions. In 2009 only 6 percent of the Marine Corps was made up of women, while women accounted for 20 percent of the Air Force, 14 percent of the Army, and 15 percent of the Navy.

kamikaze Japanese for "divine wind"; a suicide mission in which young Japanese pilots intentionally flew their airplanes into U.S. fighting ships at sea

Germany

In August 1914, Germans had enthusiastically cheered their soldiers marching off to war. In September 1939, the streets were quiet. Many Germans did not care. Even worse for the Nazi regime, many feared disaster.

Hitler was well aware of the importance of the home front. He believed that the collapse of the home front in World War I had caused Germany's defeat. To avoid a repetition of that experience, he adopted economic policies that may have cost Germany the war.

To maintain the morale of the home front during the first two years of the war, Hitler refused to cut consumer goods production or to increase the production of armaments. Blitzkrieg gave the Germans quick victories and enabled them to plunder the food and raw materials of conquered countries. In this way, they could avoid taking away resources from the civilian economy. After German defeats on the Russian front and the American entry into the war, however, the economic situation in Germany changed.

Early in 1942, Hitler finally ordered a massive increase in armaments production and in the size of the army. Hitler's architect, Albert Speer, was made minister for armaments and munitions in 1942. Speer was able to triple the production of armaments between 1942 and 1943, in spite of Allied air raids.

A total mobilization of the economy was put into effect in July 1944. Schools, theaters, and cafés were closed. By that time, though, total war mobilization was too late to save Germany from defeat.

Nazi attitudes toward women changed over the course of the war. Before the war, the Nazis had worked to keep women out of the job market. As the war progressed and more and more men were called up for military service, this position no longer made sense. In spite of this change, the number of women working in industry, agriculture, commerce, and domestic service increased only slightly. The total number of employed women in September 1944 was 14.9 million, compared with 14.6 million in May 1939. Many women, especially those of the middle class, did not want jobs, particularly in factories.

Japan

Wartime Japan was a highly mobilized society. To guarantee its control over all national resources, the government created a planning board to control prices, wages, labor, and resources. Traditional habits of obedience and hierarchy were used to encourage citizens to sacrifice their resources, and sometimes their lives, for the national cause.

The calls for sacrifice reached a high point in the final years of the war. Young Japanese were encouraged to volunteer to serve as pilots in suicide missions against U.S. fighting ships at sea. These pilots were known as **kamikaze**, or "divine wind."

Japan was reluctant to mobilize women on behalf of Japan's war effort. General Hideki Tōjō, prime minister from 1941 to 1944, opposed female employment. He argued in October 1943:

PRIMARY SOURCE

“The weakening of the family system would be the weakening of the nation. . . . We are able to do our duties. . . . only because we have wives and mothers at home.”

—quoted in *Valley of Darkness: The Japanese People and World War Two*, 1978

Female employment increased during the war but only in areas such as the textile industry and farming, in which women had traditionally worked. Instead of using women to meet labor shortages, the Japanese government brought in Korean and Chinese laborers.

READING PROGRESS CHECK

Contrasting How were war preparations in Germany different from war preparations in the United States?

The Bombing of Cities

GUIDING QUESTION How did the bombing of cities impact the home front?

Bombing was used in World War II against military targets, enemy troops, and civilian populations. Bombing made the home front a dangerous place.

Although a few bombing raids had been conducted in the last year of World War I, the aircraft of the time were limited by how far they could fly and by how much they could carry. The bombing of civilians had led to a public outcry, leading many leaders to believe that bombing civilian populations would force governments to make peace. As a result, European air forces began to develop long-range bombers that carried enormous payloads in the 1930s.

Britain

The first sustained use of civilian bombing began in early September 1940. Londoners took the first heavy blows. For months, the German air force bombed London nightly. Thousands of civilians were killed or injured, and enormous damage was done to the buildings of London. In spite of the extensive damage done to lives and property, Londoners' morale remained high.

The **blitz**, as the British called the German air raids, soon became a national experience. The blitz was carried to many other British cities and towns. The ability of Londoners to maintain their morale set the standard for the rest of the British population. The theory that the bombing of civilians would force peace was proved wrong.

Many children were evacuated from cities during the war to avoid the bombing. The British moved about 6 million children and their mothers in 1939. Some British parents even sent their children to Canada and the United States. This, too, could be dangerous. When the ocean liner *Arandora Star* was hit by a German torpedo, it had 77 British children on board. They never made it to Canada.

Germany

The British failed to learn from their own experience, however. Churchill and his advisers believed that destroying German communities would break civilian morale and bring victory. Major bombing raids on German cities began in 1942. On May 31, 1942, Cologne became the first German city to be attacked by 1,000 bombers.

Bombing raids added an element of terror to the dire **circumstances** caused by growing shortages of food, clothing, and fuel. The Germans, too, sought to protect their children from the bombings by evacuating them

blitz the British term for the German air raids on British cities and towns during World War II



▲ The blitz leveled buildings in England. A man stands amid the rubble of what was the Coventry Cathedral in November 1940.

CRITICAL THINKING

Drawing Conclusions What effects did the blitz have on England?

circumstance state of affairs

from the cities. They had a program that created about 9,000 camps for children in the countryside. Especially fearful to the Germans were the incendiary bombs, which created firestorms that swept through cities. The ferocious bombing of Dresden from February 13 to 15, 1945, created a firestorm that may have killed as many as 35,000 inhabitants and refugees.

Germany suffered enormously from the Allied bombing raids. Millions of buildings were destroyed; half a million civilians died. Nevertheless, it is highly unlikely that Allied bombing sapped the German morale. Instead, Germans, whether pro-Nazi or anti-Nazi, fought on stubbornly, often driven simply by a desire to live. At times, even young people were expected to fight in the war. In the last years of the war, Hitler Youth members, often only 14 or 15 years old, served in the front lines.

Nor did the bombing destroy Germany's industrial capacity. Production of war materials actually increased between 1942 and 1944, in spite of the bombing. However, the widespread destruction of transportation systems and fuel supplies made it extremely difficult for the new materials to reach the German military.

Japan

Japan was open to air raids toward the end of the war because its air force had almost been destroyed. Moreover, its crowded cities were built of flimsy materials that were especially vulnerable to fire.

Attacks on Japanese cities by the new U.S. B-29 Superfortresses, the biggest bombers of the war, had begun on November 24, 1944. By the summer of 1945, many of Japan's industries had been destroyed, along with one-fourth of its dwellings. To add to the strength of its regular army, the Japanese government decreed the mobilization of all people between the ages of 13 and 60 into a People's Volunteer Corps.

In Japan, the bombing of civilians reached a new level with the use of the first atomic bomb. Fearing high U.S. casualties in a land invasion of Japan, President

Truman and his advisers decided to drop atomic bombs in August 1945. The result was the deaths of thousands of Japanese civilians.

READING PROGRESS CHECK

Drawing Conclusions How did the development of airplanes change the way militaries fought?



▲ B-29 Superfortresses fly over Mount Fuji en route to Tokyo.

LESSON 3 REVIEW



Reviewing Vocabulary

1. **Describing** Describe the social effects of U.S. mobilization for World War II.

Using Your Notes

2. **Comparing and Contrasting** Use your notes to write a paragraph comparing and contrasting the effects of World War II on civilians in the Soviet Union, the United States, Germany, and Japan.

Answering the Guiding Questions

3. **Gathering Information** How did countries mobilize for war?

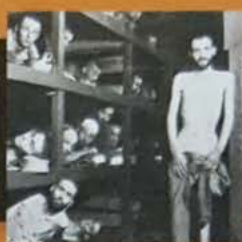
4. **Identifying Cause and Effects** How did the bombing of cities impact the home front?

Writing Activity

5. **INFORMATIVE/EXPLANATORY** Do research to find out more about the blitz in London or another city in Great Britain. In paragraph form, present a detailed sequence of steps or events that would typically occur for average citizens in their homes from the time planes were sighted until the "all clear" signal. Use transitional words and phrases, and list your source or sources.

There's More Online!

- ✓ CHART/GRAPH Jewish Population in Europe Before and After World War II
- ✓ IMAGE German Prison Camp
- ✓ IMAGE Heinrich Himmler
- ✓ IMAGE Japanese Troops Arriving at Haiphong Port
- ✓ INTERACTIVE SELF-CHECK QUIZ
- ✓ MAP Major Nazi Death Camps
- ✓ PRIMARY SOURCE An Eyewitness to the Holocaust
- ✓ VIDEO The New Order and the Holocaust



LESSON 4

The New Order and the Holocaust

ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS - Why do political actions often lead to war?
 • How does war impact society and the environment?

IT MATTERS BECAUSE

Japan exploited the resources of the nations it conquered. In Germany, the Nazis began a terrifying genocide, carried out by death squads and death camps. Nearly two out of every three European Jews died in the Holocaust.

The New Order in Europe

GUIDING QUESTION How did Germany establish a New Order in Europe?

In 1942 the Nazi regime stretched across continental Europe from the English Channel in the west to the outskirts of Moscow in the east. Nazi-occupied Europe was largely organized in one of two ways. Nazi Germany directly annexed some areas, such as western Poland, and made them into German provinces. Most of occupied Europe, however, was run by German military or civilian officials with help from local people who collaborated with the Nazis.

Nazi administration in the conquered lands to the east was especially ruthless. Seen as the “living space” for German expansion, these lands were populated, Nazis thought, by racially inferior Slavic peoples. Hitler’s plans for an Aryan racial empire were so important to him that the Nazis began to put their racial program into effect soon after the conquest of Poland.

Heinrich Himmler, the leader of the SS, was in charge of German resettlement plans in the east. Himmler’s task was to move the Slavic peoples out and to replace them with Germans. Slavic peoples included Czech, Polish, Serbo-Croatian, Slovene, and Ukrainian people. One million Poles were uprooted and moved to southern Poland. Hundreds of thousands of **ethnic** Germans were brought in to colonize the German provinces in Poland.

The invasion of the Soviet Union made the Nazis even more excited about German colonization. Hitler planned a colossal project of social engineering after the war. Poles, Ukrainians, and Russians would be removed and become slave labor. German peasants would settle on the abandoned lands and “Germanize” them.

Reading HELPDESK



Academic Vocabulary

- ethnic
- occupation

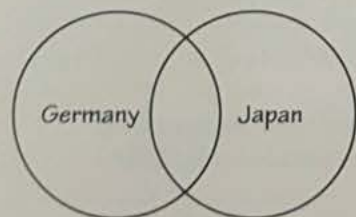
Content Vocabulary

- genocide
- collaborator

TAKING NOTES:

Key Ideas and Details

Comparing and Contrasting As you read, use a Venn diagram like the one below to compare and contrast the New Order of Germany with the New Order of Japan.



Nazi Death Squads

“The unit selected for this task would enter a village or city and order the prominent Jewish citizens to call together all Jews for the purpose of resettlement. They were requested to hand over their valuables to the leaders of the unit, and shortly before the execution to surrender their outer clothing. The men, women, and children were led to a place of execution which in most cases was located next to a more deeply excavated anti-tank ditch. Then they were shot, kneeling or standing, and the corpses thrown into the ditch.”

—from *Nazi Conspiracy and Aggression*, vol. 5, 1946

DBQ **CLASSIFYING** How do the actions described above exemplify genocide?

ethnic relating to people who have common racial, religious, or cultural origins

occupation the military force occupying a country or the policies carried out by it

genocide the deliberate mass murder or physical extinction of a particular racial, political, or cultural group

By the summer of 1944, more than 7 million European workers labored in Germany. They made up approximately 20 percent of Germany’s labor force. Another 7 million workers were forced to labor for the Nazis in their own countries on farms, in industries, and in military camps.

The use of forced labor caused many problems for Germany. Sending so many workers to Germany disrupted industrial production in the occupied countries. Then, too, the brutal way in which Germany recruited foreign workers led more and more people to resist the Nazi **occupation** forces.

READING PROGRESS CHECK

Analyzing How did resettlement contribute to the goals of Hitler’s New Order?

The Holocaust

GUIDING QUESTION How did Adolf Hitler’s views on race influence the New Order?

No aspect of the Nazi New Order was more terrifying than the deliberate attempt to exterminate the Jews. Racial struggle was a key element in Hitler’s world of ideas. He saw it as a clearly defined conflict of opposites. On one side were the Aryans, who were the creators of human cultural development, according to Hitler. On the other side were the Jews, whom Hitler blamed for Germany’s defeat in World War I and the Depression.

Himmler and the SS closely shared Hitler’s racial ideas. The SS was given responsibility for what the Nazis called their Final Solution to the Jewish problem. The Final Solution was **genocide** of the Jewish people.

The Einsatzgruppen

Reinhard Heydrich, head of the SS’s Security Service, had the task of administering the Final Solution. Heydrich created special strike forces, called *Einsatzgruppen*, to carry out Nazi plans. After the defeat of Poland, these forces rounded up all Polish Jews and put them in ghettos set up in many Polish cities. Conditions in the ghettos were horrible. Families were crowded together in unsanitary housing. The Nazis tried to starve residents by allowing only minimal amounts of food. In spite of their suffering, residents carried on, and some organized resistance against the Nazis.

In June 1941, the *Einsatzgruppen* were given the new job acting as mobile killing units. These SS death squads followed the regular army’s advance into the Soviet Union. Their job was to round up Jews in their villages, execute them, and to bury them in mass graves.

The Death Camps

The *Einsatzgruppen* probably killed more than 1 million Jews. As appalling as that sounds, it was too slow by Nazi standards. They decided to kill the European Jews in specially built death camps.

Beginning in 1942, Jews from countries occupied by Germany or sympathetic to Germany were rounded up, packed like cattle into freight trains, and shipped to Poland. Six extermination centers were built in Poland for this purpose. The largest was Auschwitz (OWSH • VIHTS).

About 30 percent of the new arrivals at Auschwitz were sent to a labor camp, where many were starved or worked to death. The remainder of the people went to the gas chambers. Some inmates were subjected to cruel and painful “medical” experiments.

By the spring of 1942, the death camps were in full operation. First priority was given to the elimination of the Polish ghettos. By the summer of 1942, Jews were also being shipped from France, Belgium, and Holland.



Even as the Allies were winning the war in 1944, Jews were shipped from Greece and Hungary. In spite of Germany's desperate military needs, even late in the war when Germany was facing utter defeat, the Final Solution often had priority in using railroad cars to ship Jews to the death camps.

The Death Toll

The Germans killed approximately 6 million Jews, more than 3 million of them in the death camps. Even in concentration camps that were not designed specifically for mass murder, large numbers of inmates were worked to death or subjected to deadly medical experiments. Virtually 90 percent of the Jewish populations of Poland, the Baltic countries, and Germany were killed. Overall, the Holocaust was responsible for the death of nearly two out of every three European Jews.

The Nazis were also responsible for the deliberate death by shooting, starvation, or overwork of as many as another 9 to 10 million non-Jewish people. The Nazis considered the Roma, who are sometimes known as Gypsies, to be an alien race. About 40 percent of Europe's Roma were killed in the death camps.

The leading citizens of the Slavic peoples were arrested and killed. Probably an additional 4 million Poles, Ukrainians, and Belorussians lost their lives as slave laborers. Finally, at least 3 to 4 million Soviet prisoners of war were killed.

This mass slaughter of European Jews is known as *Shoah*—a Hebrew word meaning “total destruction.” Many Jews attempted to resist the Nazis. Friends and strangers aided some Jews, hiding them or smuggling them to safe areas. A few foreign diplomats saved Jews by issuing exit visas. The nation of Denmark saved almost its entire Jewish population.

Some people did not believe the accounts of death camps because, during World War I, allies had greatly exaggerated German atrocities to arouse enthusiasm for the war. Most often, people pretended not to notice what was happening. Even worse, **collaborators** helped the Nazis hunt down Jews. Although the Allies were aware of the concentration camps and

GEOGRAPHY CONNECTION

- 1 THE WORLD IN SPATIAL TERMS** Where were the death camps located?
- 2 HUMAN SYSTEMS** Why do you think the Einsatzgruppen operated in Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union?

collaborator a person who assists the enemy



▲ Japanese troops arrive at Haiphong Port in Indochina

death camps, they chose to concentrate on ending the war. Not until after the war did the full extent of the horror and inhumanity of the Holocaust impress itself upon people's consciousness.

READING PROGRESS CHECK

Explaining What was the role of the *Einsatzgruppen*?

The New Order in Asia

GUIDING QUESTION *What characterized the New Order in Asia?*

Japan needed its new possessions in Asia to meet its growing need for raw materials, such as tin and oil, and as markets for its manufactured goods. To organize these possessions, Japanese leaders included them in the Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity

Sphere. This economic community supposedly would provide mutual benefits to the occupied areas and to Japan.

The Japanese had conquered Southeast Asia under the slogan "Asia for the Asiatics." Japanese officials in occupied territories promised that local governments would be established under Japanese control. In fact, real power rested with Japanese military authorities in each territory. In turn, the Army General Staff in Tokyo controlled the local Japanese military command. Japan used the economic resources of its colonies for its war machine and recruited the native peoples to serve in local military units or in public works projects. In some cases, these policies brought severe hardships to the native peoples. In Vietnam more than a million people starved in 1944 and 1945 when Japan forcibly took their rice to sell abroad.

At first, many Southeast Asian nationalists took Japanese promises at face value and agreed to cooperate. Eventually, the nature of Japanese occupation policies became clear, and sentiment turned against Japan. Japanese officials provoked such attitudes by their contempt for local customs. Like the Germans, Japanese military forces often had little respect for the lives of their subject peoples. To help their war effort, the Japanese used labor forces composed of both prisoners of war and local peoples.

This behavior created a dilemma for many nationalists. They had no desire to see the return of the colonial powers, but they did not like what the Japanese were doing. Some turned against the Japanese. Others simply did nothing. Some nationalists tried to have it both ways. Indonesian patriots pretended to support Japan while actually sabotaging them.

READING PROGRESS CHECK

Assessing As part of its New Order, how did Japan treat the peoples it conquered?

LESSON 4 REVIEW



Reviewing Vocabulary

1. **Expressing** Explain how some collaborators helped make genocide possible.

Using Your Notes

2. **Contrasting** Use your notes to write a paragraph contrasting the New Order of Germany with the New Order of Japan.

Answering the Guiding Questions

3. **Analyzing** How did Germany establish a New Order in Europe?

4. **Identifying Cause and Effect** How did Adolf Hitler's views on race influence the New Order?

5. **Summarizing** What characterized the New Order in Japan?

Writing Activity

6. **INFORMATIVE/EXPLANATORY** Using a variety of sources, research and analyze the causes and consequences of the Holocaust. Be careful to use only reputable sources. Be sure to include information on the role of anti-Semitism.

networks

There's More Online!

- IMAGE** Bombing of Hiroshima
- IMAGE** Invasion at Omaha Beach
- IMAGE** Prison Camp Liberation
- INTERACTIVE SELF-CHECK QUIZ**
- MAP** World War II in Asia and the Pacific, 1943–1945
- PRIMARY SOURCE** Churchill's Iron Curtain Speech
- TIME LINE** The Final Months of World War II
- VIDEO** World War II Ends



LESSON 5

World War II Ends

ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS • Why do political actions often lead to war?
• How does war impact society and the environment?

IT MATTERS BECAUSE

By 1943, the Allies had strengthened their strategies and stopped the advances of both the Germans and the Japanese. Germany surrendered on May 7, 1945, and Japan surrendered on August 14. When the war ended, political tensions, suspicions, and conflicts of ideas led to a new struggle—the Cold War.

Last Years of the War

GUIDING QUESTION How did the tide of battle turn against Germany, Italy, and Japan?

By the beginning of 1943, the tide of battle had turned against Germany, Italy, and Japan. Axis forces in Tunisia surrendered on May 13, 1943. The Allies then crossed the Mediterranean and carried the war to Italy, an area that Winston Churchill, prime minister of Great Britain, called the “soft underbelly” of Europe. After taking Sicily, the Allies began an invasion of mainland Italy in September.

The European Theater

After Sicily fell, King Victor Emmanuel III of Italy arrested Mussolini, but in a daring raid the Germans liberated him. He was then made the head of a German puppet state in northern Italy as German troops moved in and occupied much of Italy.

The Germans set up defense lines in the hills south of Rome. The Allies advanced up the peninsula with heavy casualties, but they took Rome on June 4, 1944. By then, the Italian war was secondary as the Allied forces opened their long-awaited “second front” in western Europe.

Since the autumn of 1943, the Allies had planned an invasion of France from Great Britain, across the English Channel. Finally, on June 6, 1944 (D-Day), Allied forces under U.S. general Dwight D. Eisenhower landed on the Normandy beaches in history’s greatest naval invasion. The Allies fought their way past hidden underwater mines, treacherous barbed wire, and horrible machine

Reading HELPDESK



Academic Vocabulary

- ideological • assure

Content Vocabulary

- partisan • Cold War

TAKING NOTES:

Key Ideas and Details

Listing As you read, use a table like the one below to list three of the major military events that brought an end to World War II and where they took place.

Event	Location



OMAHA BEACH-WEST (Vierville-sur-Mer)

NOTE TO COMMANDERS & OPERATORS

LEGEND



▲ On D-Day, June 6, 1944, Allied troops departed landing craft and moved inland. This map of Omaha Beach was created on April 21, 1944, in preparation for the Normandy invasion.

► **CRITICAL THINKING**
Determining Cause and Effect Why is the Normandy invasion considered a turning point in the war?

gun fire. Believing the battle was a diversion and the real invasion would occur elsewhere, the Germans responded slowly. This gave the Allied forces time to set up a beachhead. Within three months, the Allies had landed 2 million men and 500,000 vehicles. Allied forces then began pushing inland and broke through German defensive lines.

Allied troops liberated Paris by the end of August 1944. In December, with Allied aircraft grounded, the Germans launched a counter-offensive to regain the seaport of Antwerp in Belgium. The Battle of the Bulge was named for the “bulge” the German attack caused

in Allied lines. By January 1945, both sides had suffered heavy losses, but the Allied lines held. In March 1945, the Allied forces crossed the Rhine River and advanced into Germany. At the end of April 1945, Allied armies in northern Germany moved toward the Elbe River, where they linked up with the Soviets.

The Soviets had come a long way since the Battle of Stalingrad in 1943. The Soviets had soundly defeated the German forces at the Battle of Kursk (July 5 to 12), the greatest tank battle of

World War II. Soviet forces now began a steady advance westward. Reoccupying the Ukraine by the end of 1943, they moved into the Baltic states by early 1944. Advancing along a northern front, Soviet troops occupied Warsaw in January 1945 and entered Berlin in April. Meanwhile, Soviet troops along a southern front swept through Hungary, Romania, and Bulgaria.

As the Allied forces advanced into Nazi-occupied Europe, they also liberated the concentration camps and death camps. Although the Nazis tried to destroy some of the evidence, the Allies were able to see for themselves the crimes against humanity carried out by the Nazis.

By January 1945, Adolf Hitler had moved into a bunker 55 feet (almost 17 m) under the city of Berlin. In his final political testament, Hitler, consistent to the end in his anti-Semitism, blamed the Jews for the war. He wrote:

PRIMARY SOURCE

“Above all I charge the leaders of the nation and those under them to scrupulous observance of the laws of race and to merciless opposition to the universal poisoner of all peoples, international Jewry.”

—from Hitler’s Final Will and Testament, April 29, 1945

partisan a resistance fighter in World War II

Hitler committed suicide on April 30, two days after Italian **partisans**, or resistance fighters, shot Mussolini. On May 7, 1945, Germany surrendered. The war in Europe was finally over.

The Asian Theater

The war in Asia continued. Beginning in 1943, U.S. forces went on the offensive and advanced across the Pacific. Along with their allies, the U.S. forces continued their island-hopping campaign. At the beginning of 1945, the acquisition of Iwo Jima and Okinawa helped the Allied military power draw even closer to the main Japanese islands. The islands of Iwo Jima and Okinawa were of great strategic importance. Iwo Jima was essential to the air war on Japan. This small volcanic island had two airfields used by the Japanese to attack Allied aircraft and to support their naval forces. The Allies felt capturing Iwo Jima would lessen the Japanese threat and could aid in the invasion of the Japanese mainland. The Allies hoped that controlling Okinawa would also provide them with a base near the mainland.

The Allies were victorious in both battles, but the victories came at a great cost. Casualties were great on both sides, and many began to fear even more losses if the war in the Pacific continued. This left Harry S. Truman, who had become president after Roosevelt died in April, with a difficult decision to make. Scientists, including Enrico Fermi, worked on a top secret project called the Manhattan Project. Their efforts led to the development of the atomic bomb. Should he use newly developed atomic weapons to bring the war to an end? If the United States invaded Japan, Truman and his advisers were convinced that American troops would suffer heavy casualties. There were only two bombs; no one knew how effective they would be.

GEOGRAPHY CONNECTION

- 1 THE WORLD IN SPATIAL TERMS** From which islands did Allied air operations begin?
- 2 HUMAN SYSTEMS** What strategy did Allied forces use to advance on Japan?

World War II in Asia and the Pacific 1943–1945





▲ Of Hiroshima's 350,000 inhabitants, 190,000 died—some immediately and others after suffering the effects of radiation.

► CRITICAL THINKING

Determining Cause and Effect What effects did the bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki have on Japan?

Cold War the period of political tension following World War II and ending with the fall of Communism in the Soviet Union at the end of the 1980s

ideological based on a set of beliefs

assure to make certain of something; to guarantee

Truman decided to use the bombs. The first bomb was dropped on the Japanese city of Hiroshima on August 6. Of the city's 350,000 inhabitants, 190,000 died—some immediately and others after suffering the effects of radiation. Three days later, a second bomb was dropped on Nagasaki. Both cities were leveled. Thousands of people died immediately after the bombs were dropped. Thousands more died in later months from radiation. The devastation led Emperor Hirohito to accept the Allied forces' demands for unconditional surrender on August 14, 1945.

World War II was finally over. Seventeen million had died in battle. Perhaps 20 million civilians had perished as well. Some estimates place total losses at 60 million.

The dropping of the atomic bombs in Japan also marked the beginning of the Nuclear Age. After the world had witnessed the deadly potential of nuclear energy, other countries raced to build their own nuclear weapons. In August 1949, the Soviet Union set

off its first atomic bomb, starting an arms race with the United States that lasted for 40 years.

✓ READING PROGRESS CHECK

Identifying What was the strategic importance of the "second front" that the Allies opened in western Europe?

Peace and a New War

GUIDING QUESTION *What led to the Cold War?*

No real peace but a period of political tensions, known as the **Cold War**, followed the total victory of the Allies in World War II. An **ideological** conflict between the United States and the Soviet Union, the Cold War dominated world affairs until the end of the 1980s.

Stalin, Roosevelt, and Churchill were the leaders of the Big Three (the Soviet Union, the United States, and Great Britain) of the Grand Alliance. They met at Tehran in November 1943 to discuss strategy. Their major tactical decision had concerned the final assault on Germany—an American-British invasion through France scheduled for the spring of 1944.

The acceptance of this plan had important consequences. It meant that Soviet and British-American forces would meet in defeated Germany along a north-south dividing line. Most likely, Soviet forces would liberate Eastern Europe. The Allies also agreed to a partition of postwar Germany.

The Big Three powers met again at Yalta in southern Russia in February 1945. By then, the defeat of Germany was **assured**. The Western powers, having once believed that the Soviets were in a weak position, now faced the reality of 11 million Soviet soldiers taking possession of Eastern Europe and much of central Europe.

Stalin was deeply suspicious of the Western powers. He wanted a buffer to protect the Soviet Union from possible future Western aggression. This meant establishing pro-Soviet governments along the Soviet Union's borders. Roosevelt favored the idea of self-determination for Europe. This involved a pledge to help liberated Europe create "democratic institutions

of their own choice” through free elections. Roosevelt also agreed to Stalin’s price for military aid against Japan: Sakhalin and the Kuril Islands, ruled by Japan, as well as two warm-water ports and railroad rights in Manchuria.

The creation of the United Nations was a major American concern. Both Churchill and Stalin accepted Roosevelt’s plans for the establishment of the United Nations and set the first meeting for San Francisco in April 1945.

The issues of Germany and Eastern Europe were treated less decisively. After Germany surrendered, the Big Three agreed to divide Germany into four zones, one each for the United States, Great Britain, France, and the Soviet Union to occupy and to govern. Stalin compromised and agreed to free elections in Poland. However, it was clear that Stalin might not honor this provision for other Eastern European countries. The issue of free elections caused a serious split between the Soviets and Americans. This split became more evident when the Big Three next met at Potsdam, Germany.

The Potsdam Conference of July 1945 began in a cloud of mistrust. President Harry S. Truman, having succeeded Roosevelt, demanded free elections in Eastern Europe. Stalin responded, “A freely elected government in any of these East European countries would be anti-Soviet, and that we cannot allow.” Stalin sought absolute security for the Soviets. Free elections would threaten his goal of controlling Eastern Europe. Short of an invasion by Western forces, nothing would undo developments in Eastern Europe. After the war’s most destructive conflict had just ended, very few supported a policy of invasion.

The Allies agreed that trials should be held of leaders who had committed crimes against humanity during the war. In 1945 and 1946, Nazi leaders were tried and condemned at war crimes trials in Nuremberg, Germany. War crimes trials were also held in Japan and Italy.

As the war slowly receded into the past, a new struggle was already beginning. Many in the West thought Soviet policy was part of a worldwide Communist conspiracy. The Soviets viewed Western, and especially American, policy as nothing less than global capitalist expansionism.

In March 1946, in a speech to an American audience, the former British prime minister Winston Churchill declared that “an iron curtain” had “descended across the continent,” dividing Europe into two hostile camps. Stalin branded Churchill’s speech “a call to war on the USSR.” Only months after the world’s most devastating conflict had ended, the world seemed to be bitterly divided once again.

READING PROGRESS CHECK

Identifying Central Issues What was the major disagreement between the United States and the Soviet Union at the conclusion of World War II?



▲ Austrian SS chief Ernst Kaltenbrunner addresses the court during his trial for war crimes at Nuremberg.

► CRITICAL THINKING

Analyzing Why is it important that war crimes trials were held?

PHOTO: Kurt Hutton/Picture Post/Obanger/Hulton Archive/Getty Images; TEXT: Winston Churchill, “The Squeezed Peas,” Westminster College, Fulton, Missouri, March 5, 1946. Reproduced with permission of Curtis Brown Ltd., London on behalf of the Estate of Sir Winston Churchill. Copyright

LESSON 5 REVIEW



Reviewing Vocabulary

1. **Defining** Write a paragraph in which you answer the question: *What was the central ideological conflict of the Cold War?* Be sure to define the terms *ideological* and *Cold War* in your discussion.

Using Your Notes

2. **Identifying** Use your notes to identify three of the major military events that brought an end to World War II and where they took place. Briefly explain the significance of each event.

Answering the Guiding Questions

3. **Analyzing** How did the tide of battle turn against Germany, Italy, and Japan?
4. **Explaining** What led to the Cold War?

Writing Activity

5. **ARGUMENT** Imagine that you are an adviser to President Truman. You must persuade him to use or not to use the atomic bomb against Japan. Which position do you take? How do you make your case?



Directions: On a separate sheet of paper, answer the questions below. Make sure you read carefully and answer all parts of the questions.

Lesson Review

Lesson 1

- 1 **EXPLAINING** What was Hitler's master plan for creating an Aryan racial empire?
- 2 **SPECULATING** Why did world powers try to appease or ignore Germany's and Japan's expansionist policies at first?

Lesson 2

- 3 **MAKING INFERENCES** What new tactic did Hitler use to conquer much of Europe early in the war?
- 4 **SUMMARIZING** How and where did the Allies turn the tide in the Asian theater of operations?

Lesson 3

- 5 **SPECIFYING** What effects did war have on civilians in the Soviet Union, the United States, Germany, and Japan?
- 6 **IDENTIFYING CENTRAL ISSUES** What was the goal of bombing cities and was it successful?

Lesson 4

- 7 **CATEGORIZING** What methods did the Nazis use in their genocide?
- 8 **EVALUATING PERSPECTIVES** How did the slogan "Asia for the Asiatics" differ from the reality?

Lesson 5

- 9 **HYPOTHESIZING** Could the Allies have beaten Germany without a "second front" in Europe?
- 10 **INTERPRETING** What political tensions, suspicions, and conflict of ideologies led to the Cold War?

21st Century Skills

- 11 **ECONOMICS** What resources was Japan looking for when it attacked Southeast Asia? What dilemma did Japan face?

- 12 **UNDERSTANDING RELATIONSHIPS AMONG EVENTS** Define and describe the effects of the Nazis' Final Solution.

Exploring the Essential Questions

- 13 **SYNTHESIZING** Working with a small group, find a map of the world showing borders before and after World War II. Mark four borders that changed because of the war, and write labels explaining how political decisions contributed to those changes.

DBQ Analyzing Historical Documents

Use the document to answer the following questions.

After the United States dropped the first atomic bomb, the White House released a statement announcing the bombing of Hiroshima.

PRIMARY SOURCE

“Sixteen hours ago an American airplane dropped one bomb on Hiroshima and destroyed its usefulness to the enemy. That bomb had more power than 20,000 tons of TNT. It had more than two thousand times the blast power of the British ‘Grand Slam’ which is the largest bomb ever yet used in the history of warfare.

The Japanese began the war from the air at Pearl Harbor. They have been repaid many fold. And the end is not yet.”

—from a White House press release, August 6, 1945

- 14 **ANALYZING** How does Truman refer to Japan? How does the use of the term support his claim and America's actions?
- 15 **EVALUATING** Based on what you learned in Lesson 5, is the press release from the White House accurate?

Extended-Response Question

- 16 **ARGUMENT** Write a paragraph comparing and contrasting Germany's and Japan's goals when they expanded. How did their treatment of people in occupied regions differ?

Need Extra Help?

If You've Missed Question	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Go to page	340	341	345	349	350	353	356	358	359	362	348	356	362	364	364	341