The Axis Advances

Chapter 14
Section 2
World War II Begins

- In September, 1939, Nazi forces launched a **blitzkrieg** against Poland.
- First the **Luftwaffe** (German Air Force), bombed cities and villages.
- Then, tanks and troops swiftly invaded on the ground.
- At the same time, Stalin invaded from the east, seizing a slice of Eastern Poland.
- Within a month, Poland ceased to exist.
Invasion of Poland
Blitzkrieg
German Invasion of Poland

These images show German troops opening and crossing through the Polish border.
Invasion of Poland

Watch this brief color video on the invasion of Poland:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bpYpbiIZDGw
Poland Partitioned Between Germany and the Soviet Union
1940

- In early 1940, Hitler conquered Norway, Denmark, the Netherlands, and Belgium.
- By May, German forces had bypassed France’s Maginot Line.
- British forces that had been sent to help the French were trapped in Europe.
- In a desperate scheme, the British rescued their troops from Dunkirk (off the French coast) by sending all available ships from Britain to France to rescue the stranded soldiers.
- However, in June, 1940, the French were forced to surrender to the Germans.
- Germany occupied northern France and set up a puppet state, called the Vichy government, in the south.
Dunkirk
Dunkirk
Vichy Government
Southern France

La France après l'armistice du 22 juin 1940

- Ligne de démarcation tracée par l'armistice du 22 juin 1940
- Zone non occupée appelée aussi zone "libre" ou zone sud. Les Nazis Occupant cette zone à partir de novembre 1942 (Capitale : Vichy)
- Zone occupée par les Allemands sous l'autorité du gouverneur militaire de Paris. À partir de nov. 1942, cette zone s'appelle la zone nord.
- Zone interdite au retour des réfugiés (des agriculteurs allemands devaient s'y installer)
- Zone interdite rattachée au gouverneur militaire allemand de Bruxelles
- Alsace-Lorraine annexées au Reich allemand
- Secteurs occupés par les Italiens à partir de l'armistice

http://www.hist-geo.com
Battle of Britain

- Great Britain was the only country that Germany had not yet invaded and conquered
- The British, led by Winston Churchill, remained defiant against Hitler
- Hitler made plans for Operation Sea Lion – the invasion of Britain
- In response, Hitler launched bombing raids over British cities that lasted from September 1940 until June 1941 (Battle of Britain)
- Despite this *blitz*, Hitler was unable to take and conquer Britain
- The British defeated Hitler over the skies of the English Channel and over Great Britain causing Hitler to focus his war efforts elsewhere
Winston Churchill
Prime Minister of United Kingdom
Battle of Britain
Battle of Britain
North Africa, Balkans, and Asia

- Hitler sent one of his best commanders, General Erwin Rommel, to seize countries in North Africa.
- Rommel had a string of successes there.
- In the Balkans, German and Italian forces added Greece and Yugoslavia to the growing Axis territory.
- At the same time, the Japanese were occupying lands in Asia and the Pacific.
General Erwin Rommel
(“The Desert Fox”)
WWII in North Africa
North African Campaign
German Invasion of Russia

- June, 1941: Hitler nullified the Nazi-Soviet Pact by invading the Soviet Union
- Stalin was unprepared, and the Soviet army suffered great losses
- USSR had three advantages: bitter winter, population, and large territory to absorb the advancing enemy
- The Germans advanced toward Moscow and Leningrad
- During a lengthy siege of Leningrad, more than one million Russians died
- The severe Russian winter finally slowed the German army (remember Napoleon’s mistake?) (well, history repeated itself)
The Holocaust

- As they marched across Europe, the Nazis sent millions to concentration camps to work as slave laborers.
- Even worse, Hitler established death camps to murder those he judged racially inferior (Jews, Slavs, disabled, Gypsies, homosexuals, etc.).
- Among many others, some six million Jews were killed in what became known as the Holocaust.
Images of the Holocaust
Images of the Holocaust

The Holocaust did not begin in the gas chambers
It began with words
Entrance to Auschwitz Concentration Camp (Poland)

The caption reads "Work Sets You Free"
American Neutrality

- The USA declared neutrality at the beginning of the war under the Neutrality Acts.
- Yet many Americans, including FDR, sympathized with those who fought against the Axis powers.
- Congress passed the Lend-Lease Act of 1941, allowing the USA to sell or lend war goods to the enemies of the Axis powers.
**Attack on Pearl Harbor**

- On December 7, 1941, the Japanese bombed the U.S. fleet at Pearl Harbor
- The next day, Congress declared war on Japan
Attack on Pearl Harbor

- The Japanese military leaders were upset that the USA was interfering with Japanese plans to expand her empire.
- To stop Japanese aggression, the USA banned the sale of war materials to Japan (oil, steel, iron, etc.).
- Japanese leaders saw this move as an attempt to interfere in Japan’s sphere of influence.
- On December 7, 1941, the Japanese bombed the U.S. naval fleet at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii.
- Several U.S. warships were destroyed or badly damaged.
Attack on Pearl Harbor

- 2400 military (soldiers and sailors) and civilians perished
- The next day, December 8, 1941, Congress declared war on Japan
- President Roosevelt stated that Dec. 7th was a “date which will live in infamy”
- Germany and Italy declared war on the USA on Dec. 11, 1941 to aid their ally Japan
United States Declares War on Japan

Honolulu Star-Bulletin 1st EXTRA

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 7. President Roosevelt announced this morning that Japanese planes had attacked Manila and Pearl Harbor.

WAR!

OAHU BOMBED BY JAPANESE PLANES

SIX KNOWN DEAD, 21 INJURED, AT EMERGENCY HOSPITAL

Attack Made
On Island's
Defense Areas

Hundreds See City Bombed

Honor of Dead and Injured

Schools Closed

River Fruit Market Open
Japan Declares War on the United States
PEARL HARBOR ANNIVERSARY

Shortly after dawn on December 7, 1941, a Japanese sea-launched force of more than 600 bombers attacked the U.S. naval base of Pearl Harbor.

In less than two hours, the Japanese surprise attack had sunk and damaged most of the U.S. fleet moored in the harbor's Battleship Row.

The assault killed 2,330 Americans and wounded another 1,347.

Twelve vessels sank, including the two battleships Arizona and Oklahoma; another six battleships were severely damaged.

The attack cost the Japanese 64 men, 29 planes and five midget submarines.
Attack on Pearl Harbor
Attack on Pearl Harbor
Pearl Harbor Memorial
Powerpoint Questions (16 points)

1. What does *blitzkrieg* mean?
2. What country did Germany invade on September 1, 1939?
3. What aggressor country invaded from the east?
4. Where were many British troops rescued who were stranded in France?
5. What was the name of the “puppet” government the Nazis established in conquered southern France?
6. What was Hitler’s codename for the invasion of Britain?
Powerpoint Questions (16 points)

7. Identify the British leader who replaced Neville Chamberlain as Prime Minister.
8. Identify the German commander in North Africa.
9. What was the nickname of the German commander in North Africa?
10. What did Hitler do in June, 1941?
11. How many Russians died defending Leningrad?
12. What slowed the German advance into the Soviet Union?
13. What did the Lend Lease Act permit?
Powerpoint Questions (16 points)

14. Six million Jews died in a conflagration known as the ???
15. What event occurred on December 7, 1941? Explain.
16. What did President Roosevelt call December 7, 1941?
Martin Niemöller

First they came for the Socialists, and I did not speak out--
    Because I was not a Socialist.
Then they came for the Trade Unionists, and I did not speak out--
    Because I was not a Trade Unionist.
Then they came for the Jews, and I did not speak out--
    Because I was not a Jew.
Then they came for me--and there was no one left to speak for me.

Have the courage and moral strength to speak out
against hatred, prejudice, racism, bigotry, and anti-
semitism in the world.
The End

May it never happen again.