

THE TREATY OF VERSAILLES

- Georges Clemenceau: France
- David Lloyd George: G.B.
- Woodrow Wilson: USA

Wilson's 14 points

- 1. No secret alliances (A)
- 2. No body of water claimed by one country
- 3. Remove economic barriers-Trade Blockades (I)
- 4. Disarm- Every nation has a force only for defense, no aggression (M)
- 5. Get rid of all colonies (I)
- 6. Leave Russia alone
- 7. Fix Belgium
- 8. Alsace Lorraine: Return to France
- 9-13: New borders drawn according to self determination (N)
 - Divided by Ethnic Group (e.g. chop up A-H)
 - Less conflict, no foreign oppressors
- 14. League of Nations: Pre cursor to the modern day United Nations
- How does it work?
- Every country sends a delegate
- What is their job?
 - Keep the peace by talking
 - Negotiate problems
 - Use diplomacy
 - All nations work together to resolve conflicts

Treaty of Versailles

Article 42

- No German military presence in the Rhineland
- Q: Why this zone?
- A: Creates a buffer between France & Germany
- Q: Is this a good idea?
- Treaty of Versailles

Article 45

- Germany's coal mines are taken from Germany and given to France
- Q: Is this a good idea?
- A: German economy tanks
 - French economy gets a strong boost
 - Does this sound like a "peace treaty"?

Article 49

- League of Nations governs the Saar Basin
- Is this a good idea?
- Group of foreign dignitaries runs your town

Article 51

- Alsace Lorraine is officially returned to France
- Treaty of Versailles

Article 80: Germany must respect Austria

Article 81: Establishes Czechoslovakian State

Article 87: Poland established

Article 119: Germany must give up colonies

- Only Germany

Article 160

- Germany is demilitarized
- 30 million citizens 100,000 soldiers NYC has a bigger police force
- How does the German population feel after article 160?
- Answer:
 - Scared, defenseless, angry, vulnerable

Article 231

- “THE WAR GUILT CLAUSE”
- WWI is all Germany’s fault
- Q: what is the only reason for this clause?
- A: make Germany feel guilty about their role in the war
 - Designed to psychologically effect the Germans
 - French bitterness is very apparent in this clause

Rise of Fascism

- **Leading Causes**
- Unstable Democracies Coalition Governments
- Large # of political parties/Coalition governments
- France had 40 different governments from 1919-1939
- Can not advance long term goals due to short time in office
- People become willing to sacrifice democratic principles for strong leadership

Leading Causes

- 1929 Worldwide Depression
- Inflation due to reparations and war spending by Germany
- Unemployment reaches all time highs in Germany due to the poor economy
- Weak democratic governments are unable to stem the tide of economic ruin

Plight of the Populace

- No money to heat homes in the winter
- Shanty towns are built across Germany
- Children could not attend school due to lack of shoes
- Teenagers were unable to find work
- College graduates competed for low paying jobs
- Anger grew in society

- **Characteristics of Fascism**

- Extreme form of Nationalism-Right Wing
- Believed nations must struggle to survive
- Loyalty to the leader = Loyalty to the state
- Wore uniforms, special salutes, war cries, mass rallies

- **Rise of Fascism in Italy**

- Fascism was born in Italy in the 1920's
- Many Italians felt betrayed by the Treaty of Versailles (650,000 dead, 1 Million wounded)
- Italy suffered from unemployment and inflation
- A growing number of Italians called for an end to democracy and waited for a strong leader

- **Mussolini**

- As unemployment rose Mussolini's party grew in strength
- Blackshirts roamed the Italian streets beating up Communists and Socialists
- Supported by the middle class, aristocracy, and industrial leaders
- October 28th, 1922 30,000 blackshirts marched into Rome and took power in Italy
- State was more important than the individual
- Secret Police jailed political opponents
- Media was censored
- "Il duce" was a dazzling orator, emotional delivery
- Teachers were encouraged to compare Mussolini to Aristotle, Michelangelo, and Napoleon
- Slogans like "Mussolini is Always Right" covered billboards
- Italy became the model for other fascists movements in Spain, Germany, and many Eastern Europe nations

- **The Rise of Hitler**

- Hitler believed that Germany had to overturn the Treaty of Versailles and combat communism
- He joined the Nazi (National Socialist German Workers Party) in 1920
- The party adopted the swastika and established an army of stormtroopers or brown shirts
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- **Hitler Gains Power**

- Hitler was a spellbinding speaker
- Wrote the book Mein Kampf (My Struggle) while in prison for an attempted coup
- Master race-Lebensraum
- By 1932 the German economy was in collapse and people began to listen to Hitler and his ideas for Germany
- Jan 30th, 1933 Hitler was named Chancellor

- **Germany Becomes Totalitarian**

- Secret Police "Gestapo" is formed
- SS or protection squad arrested and murdered many of Hitler's enemies
- The Nazi party was the only party allowed by law
- Government controlled the economy and unemployment declined as a result

Cultural Control

- Radio speeches and Movies glorified Hitler and the Nazi party
- Hitler condemned modern art in favor of the classical and romantic period
- Christian clergy was forbidden from criticizing the Nazi party
- School children joined the Hitler youth movement
- Boys prepared to fight and women prepared to have babies

Nazis persecute Jews

- Hitler realized people would believe a lie if it was repeated enough
- Preached that Jews, Poles, Americans, and other groups were inferior
- Jews represented less 1% of German population
- Hitler used the Jews as a scapegoat for Germany's problems

Nuremberg Laws

- 1933 Germany passes laws forbidding Jews to:
- Hold Public Office
- German Citizenship
- No flying the German flag
- Publish works
- Act on stage, teach, banks, sell books
- Required Jews to wear a yellow star

Kristallnacht

- Nov. 9, 1938 Nazi mobs a "spontaneous" demonstration of anger against Jews
- 7,500 Jewish owned businesses, 275 synagogues, Jews beaten in the streets and their homes
- Signaled a significant escalation in the search for a final solution to the Jewish question

WWII -The Lead Up to War

- The League of Nations was Weak
- USA and USSR(1934) not members
- Britain and France provided muscle, but were weakened post WWI
- Both countries wanted to avoid war for fear that their economies would be weakened

Kellog Briand Peace Pact

- Treaty between the United States and other Powers providing for the renunciation of war as an instrument of national policy.

Italy attacks Ethiopia

- Mussolini longed to hold land in Africa
- Jealous of other European powers possessions in Africa
- 1890's conquest of Ethiopia had failed, Mussolini desired to avenge this loss
- 1935 Italy invades Ethiopia
- League of Nations condemns the attack, but do nothing

Hitler defies the Treaty of Versailles

- Hitler's "Mein Kampf" and his desire that Germany be counted among the strong
- March 1935 Hitler announces Germany would no longer obey military restrictions set by the Treaty
- League of Nations issues a mild condemnation
- Banners read "Today Germany, Tomorrow the World!"

Hitler Reoccupies the Rhineland

- The weakness of the League of Nations convinces Hitler to take more risks
- March 1936 Hitler installs 35,000 troops in the Rhineland
- The French are unwilling to risk a new war, The British urge appeasement
- *"If the French had then marched into the Rhineland, we would have to withdraw"*-Hitler
- Strengthened Hitler's power & prestige
- Changed the balance of power in Germany's direction
- Weak response by France and UK encouraged Hitler to start a policy of territorial and military expansion

The Rome-Berlin Axis

- An axis is a straight line around which an object rotates
- In October 1936 Italy and Germany reached an alliance agreement
- November 1936 Japan joins the Axis powers
- USA, FRANCE, BRITAIN (ALLIES)
- USSR
- GERMANY, ITALY, ...JAPAN (AXIS)

Democracies fail to act

- Worldwide depression forced U.S., UK, and France to focus on domestic issues
- Horrible suffering during WWI created an anti-war sentiment in many of these countries
- Isolationist in the US argue against war in Europe
- Neutrality Acts are passed in the US to avoid war

Civil War in Spain

- Fascist Francisco Franco vs. Democratic Republican Army
- Hitler and Mussolini sent tanks, planes, & munitions
- The U.S., U.K., and France remained neutral. USSR provided some aid
- 1939 Franco group wins remains dictator for 30 yrs.
- Pre-cursor or test war for Hitler

Germany takes over Austria

- Anschluss: The unification of Germany and Austria, prohibited by the Treaty of Versailles
- 6 million people in Austria supported unification
- March 1938 Hitler ordered his army into Austria
- France and Britain do nothing, Hitler makes Austria a part of Germany

Hitler invades Czechoslovakia

- 3 million Germans live in the Sudetenland
- Provides main defense against Germans,
- September 1938 Hitler demands that the Sudetenland be given to Germany
- This demand pushed the world toward war
- Hitler invited Neville Chamberlain and the French premier to Munich to discuss the Sudetenland and Hitler's goals
- Munich Conference
- Hitler says that this will be his last territorial claim
- "here was a man who could be relied on when he had given his word" –Neville Chamberlain
- UK and France agree to give the Sudetenland to Germany
- "I believe that it is peace for our time"- Neville Chamberlain
- Appeasement
- 6 months later Hitler marches into Czechoslovakia and claims it as Germany land

Russian German Nonaggression Pact

- 1939 Russia and Germany agree not to attack each other
- Russians are weary of the West and Germany
- Russia gets: Finland, Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia
- Germany and Russia would share Poland

Hitler and Poland

- 1939 Hitler announces his desire to control the Polish Corridor
- UK and the France pledged to defend Poland if Hitler attacked and asked the Soviet Union for help fighting the Germans
- Soviet Union signs a nonaggression pact with Germany pledging not to attack each other. Privately divided Eastern Europe
- Aug 31, 1939 phony Polish attack prompted German invasion of Poland
- UK & France declare war on Germany
- September 3, 1939
- Hitler didn't believe the UK & France would honor their pledge to defend Poland...he was wrong
- WWII officially began as France and UK mobilized for war