

# World War II



Carnage Abroad and Changes At  
Home, 1941-1945

# U. S. Entry into War

- Response to Japanese gamble that it could effect the Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere and U. S. wouldn't effectively challenge
- U. S. war in Europe resulted from Hitler's declaration of War on U. S. on Dec. 11, following U. S. declaration of War on Japan on Dec. 8.

# World War II

- Transforming event at home and abroad
- U. S. had to mobilize society and economy at unprecedented levels
- War shape experiences of a generation and had particular impacts on Women, African-Americans, Mexicanos, and Japanese-Americans.
- U. S. military strategy in war: Europe first, then Japan.

# Holding Action in Pacific

- Pacific had become a Japanese lake by Spring '42, with the fall of the Philippines.
- U. S. victories at Coral Sea (May 7-8, 1942), Midway (June 4-5, 1942), and Guadalcanal (August 7, 1942-February 21, 1943) arrested Japanese expansion, and crippled their naval airpower
- This permits U. S. to focus on Europe



# The War at Home

- War Production Board managed conversion from civilian to military production
- OPA - (Office of Price Administration) ration coupons and price ceilings
- Smith-Connally War Labor Disputes Act - allowed government to seize plants useful to war when there were strikes
- War inflated national debt by 6 times, but 45% of total war costs were paid with tax revenues

# War Transforms a Nation

- Western states experience population boom due to war industries
- Women serve in military (over 200,000) and 6 million worked in war related industries.
- Executive Order 8802 provides non-discrimination in Defense hiring for African Americans
- Double V – Hitler and Racism
- Military remained racially-segregated: Tuskegee Airmen defy stereo-types, but race riots occurred around bases where large numbers of African Americans were stationed.





*Longing won't bring him back sooner...*

**GET A WAR JOB!**

**SEE YOUR U. S. EMPLOYMENT SERVICE**

WAR BROTHERS' ASSOCIATION



# War Transforms a Nation

- *Bracero* program brought 200,000 Mexican laborers to U. S.
- 17 *Mexicanos* win CMH
- 1943 Zoot Suit Riots
- 33% of eligible Native Americans Serve in War—many as “Code Talkers”



- Executive Order 9066: Japanese Americans interned, affirmed by Supreme Court in *Korematsu v. U. S.*



# War Transforms a Nation

- Rural people flock to cities and many acquire useful skills for the post war economy
- Service Personnel eligible for benefits under Serviceman's Readjustment Act (G. I. Bill)—loans to start small businesses and \$\$ to go to college.
- Origin of Middle Class norm in U. S.

# Bellwork: September 27, 2012

- Get out your notes and get ready to COMPLETE them! 😊

# War in Europe



Poland invasion, 1939



France invasion, 1939



# ALLIED MILITARY STRATEGY IN NORTH AFRICA, ITALY, AND FRANCE

- Axis Powers and satellites
- Farthest extent of Axis control
- Allied and Allied-controlled nations



- Neutral nations
- Eastern front, November 1942

# War in Europe: Southern Front

- Operation Torch, North Africa (November 1943)
- Casablanca Conference (1943)—unconditional surrender of Axis
- Battle of Atlantic—“won” by U. S. in 1943
- Sicily invaded on July 10, 1943
- September 1944, Italy mainland invaded
- Anzio landings on January 22, 1944
- Rome fell on June 4, 1944

# War in Europe: Western Front

- Teheran Conference—  
“Big Three” Cross-channel invasion
- June 6, 1944—landings in Normandy - Operation Overlord (5,000 U. S. casualties on Day One)
- Paris fell August 25, 1944
- Battle of the Bulge, Dec. 16, 1944—January 26, 1945
- March 7, 1945, Bridge at Remagen seized
- May 7, 1945, Germany surrendered





# War in the Pacific

- Island Hopping and Leapfrogging
- January 1943, New Guinea Invaded
- Tarawa invaded, Nov. 20, 1943
- Marianas secured on June 19, 20, 1944
- Battle of Leyte Gulf, October 25, 1944
- Iwo Jima, February 19, 1945
- Okinawa, April 1, 1945

# War in the Pacific

- U. S. plans to invade Japan: Operations Coronet and Olympic, but war casualties rise
- Firebombing raids on Tokyo, March 1945
- Decision to use Atomic Bomb
- August 6, 1945—Hiroshima; August 9, 1945, Nagasaki
- Japanese sue for peace on August 14, 1945
- Formal Surrender on U. S. Missouri, September 2, 1945.

# Hiroshima: courtesy RW & B



# Ongoing Controversies

- Did FDR know about Pear Harbor in advance?
- Could U. S. have done something to liberate death camps sooner?
- Did the U. S. really need to nuke Japan?

# Balance Sheet

- 17 Million soldiers and 19 million civilians died world wide
- War cost approximately \$1,000,000,000,000
- 6 million Soviets died in Battle
- U. S. lost 294,000 servicemen in combat, 600,000 wounded, and 114,000 others killed in war related accidents.

# Textbook Work

- 625-630, #3-7
- 631-637, #3-6
- 640-648, #3-8
  
- Due Tomorrow by the end of class
- Coming Up:
  - Tomorrow, finish WWII Timelines & textbook
  - Review for Exam
  - Exam THURSDAY!

# Today: April 10

- Finish Textbook Assignment:
  - 625-630, #3-7
  - 631-637, #3-6
  - 640-648, #3-8
- Work on your Timeline Project, due TOMORROW!!!
- Work on your exam review, Exam TOMORROW!!!