

**FLORIDA ATLANTIC UNIVERISTY**  
**DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY**

**EUH 4465 Hitler and Nazi Germany**  
**SPRING 2004**

**Dr. Patricia Kollander**  
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 Office hours—MWF 3-4PM; T 9AM-NOON

This course will provide a survey of German history prior to the Nazi era, and will focus on Hitler's rise to power, and the politics and policies of the Nazi regime, the road to world war, the Holocaust and the Nazi legacy. The course will also analyze the Hitler regime within the broader context of modern German history.

[This is a web-assisted course.](#) Syllabi, handouts and PowerPoint presentations will appear on BlackBoard. To access these materials, please log on to <http://blackboard.fau.edu>. Please note: Using Blackboard does not preclude your requirement to attend all lectures.

**Reading to be purchased at the bookstore:**

Richard Bessel, Life in the Third Reich

Rita Botwinick, A History of the Holocaust

Benjamin Sax and Dieter Kuntz, eds., Inside Hitler's Germany  
 Jackson Spielvogel, Hitler and Nazi Germany

**Recommended Reading available at the bookstore**

Mary Fulbrook, A Concise History of Germany (1990)  
 Norman Rich, Hitler's War Aims

**Attendance at weekly sessions is mandatory. For each unexcused absence, one point will be deducted from the final grade.**

**Grading:**

**Written work:** Students are required to submit two essays. These papers must be based on class readings. Outside sources (other books, internet sites) CANNOT be used.

**The first essay** – The class has been divided into eight groups. A topic has been selected for each group. The groups shall meet at the beginning of the semester and select one person to deliver a 15-20 minute presentation to the class on the topic (Use of PowerPoint is highly recommended). The rest of the members of the group must write (3-5 pages [750-1000 words]) on the topic for the group. Students will be tested on contents of presentations; taking notes is therefore mandatory. Lists of groups and topics appear below.

**The second essay** will analyze selected documents in the Sax and Kuntz collection. Topics for the second paper will be handed out in due course. This essay must be at least four full pages long (1000 words or more).

**Both papers must be well-written and logically argued. Please pay special attention to the quality of your writing. Points will be deducted for spelling errors, run-on sentences, sentence fragments and vague statements. Papers that exhibit poor writing and/OR errors in fact that judgment will not receive a passing grade.**

These papers are not editorials. Therefore, do not use first person singular in the paper (i.e. "I think" or "in my opinion"); instead, use phrases such as, "this essay will attempt to show that" and "the evidence from documents indicates that"

### **LATE PAPERS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED**

**Exams:** There will be a multiple choice midterm and a multiple choice final examination. Makeup or early exams will be NOT given (none, for any reason)

Oral report OR and essay	15 percent
Midterm	25 percent
Document-based essay	25 percent
Final Exam	35 percent

**Plagiarism:** There should be no need to remind students that plagiarism is "to take and pass of as one's own (the ideas, writings, etc., etc., of another.)" [Source: Webster's World Dictionary of the English Language, (Cleveland, 1964), p. 1116]. ***Students guilty of plagiarism will automatically flunk the course and will be subject to additional penalties under the Academic Code of Conduct.***

## **SCHEDULE OF CLASSES AND ASSIGNMENTS**

### **WEEK ONE**

**TUES 13 JANUARY**

**The Course of German History and the  
Impact of World War I**

***READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF 14 JANUARY:*** Spielvogel, chapter 1; Botwinick, chapter 1

### **WEEK TWO**

**TUES 20 JANUARY**

**The Weimar Republic**

**REPORT FOR THE WEEK: ANTI-JEWISH RACISM AND  
ITS ORIGINS**

***READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF 21 JANUARY:*** Sax and Kuntz, chapter 1, Spielvogel, pages 10-20; Botwinick, chapter 1

**WEEK THREE****TUES 27 JANUARY****Hitler—the early years**

*READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF 28 JANUARY:* Sax and Kuntz, chapter 2; Spielvogel, chapter 2, Botwinick, pages 46-53

**THE EARLY CAREERS OF HITLER’S HENCHMEN—  
HIMMLER, GOEBBELS AND GOERRING**

**WEEK FOUR****TUES 3 FEBRUARY****Collapse of the Weimar Republic**

*READINGS FOR THE WEEK:* Spielvogel, chapter 3; Botwinick, pages 53-61; Sax and Kuntz, chapter 3, Bessel, pages 1-16

**REPORT OF THE WEEK: WHO VOTED FOR HITLER?**

**WEEK FIVE****TUES 10 FEBRUARY****Bringing into line—Gleichschaltung**

*READINGS FOR THE WEEK:* Spielvogel, chapter 4; Botwinick, chapter 5; Sax and Kuntz, chapter 4, Bessel, pages 17-25, 41-57

**REPORT OF THE WEEK: THE NUREMBERG LAWS  
AND THEIR IMPACT**

**WEEK SIX****TUES 17 FEBRUARY****Fate of the “Mischlinge” in the Third Reich**

*READINGS FOR THE WEEK:* Sax and Kuntz, chapter 5; Spielvogel, chapter 5; Botwinick, chapter 4, Bessel, pages 69-97

**WEEK SEVEN****TUES 24 FEBRUARY**

**The Nazi Terror Machine  
—the SA and SS  
Film: “Der ewige Jude”**

**REPORT OF THE WEEK: PROPAGANDA IN THE THIRD  
REICH**

*READINGS FOR THE WEEK:* Sax and Kuntz, chapter 5; Spielvogel, chapter 5; Botwinick, chapter 4

**WEEK EIGHT****TUES 2 MARCH**

**MIDTERM EXAM  
FILM: TRIUMPH OF THE WILL**

**MARCH 8-12 SPRING BREAK – NO CLASS**

**WEEK NINE**

**TUES 16 MARCH**

**Nazi Foreign Policy—1933-39  
and the Appeasement of Hitler**

*READINGS FOR THE WEEK:* Sax and Kuntz, chapter 11; Spielvogel, chapter 7 ; Botwinick, chapter 6

**REPORT OF THE WEEK: THE HOSSBACH  
MEMORANDUM**

**WEEK TEN**

**TUES 23 MARCH**

**Germany in World War II and Hitler's War Aims**

*READINGS FOR THE WEEK:* Sax and Kuntz, chapters 11 & 12, Spielvogel chapter 8; Botwinick, chapter 7

**WEEK ELEVEN**

**TUES 30 MARCH**

**The Holocaust**

*READINGS FOR THE WEEK:* Spielvogel, chapter 9; Sax and Kuntz, chapters 13 & 14; Botwinick, chapters 8 & 9

**REPORT OF THE WEEK: THE WANNSEE PROTOCOL**

**WEEK TWELVE**

**TUES 6 APRIL**

**The Holocaust and the Problem of Holocaust Denial  
Life in the Third Reich**

**REPORT OF THE WEEK: YOUTH GROUPS IN THE  
THIRD REICH**

*READINGS FOR THE WEEK:* Bessel, pages 25-41, Spielvogel, chapter 6, chapter 10; Sax and Kuntz, chapters 9, 10 & 15

**WEEK THIRTEEN**

**TUES 13 APRIL**

**THE HOLOCAUST –LESSONS AND LEGACIES**

**DOCUMENT- BASED ESSAYS DUE**

**WEEK FOURTEEN**

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**TUES 20 APRIL**

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**The Problem of Resistance****The Legacy of Hitler and Nazi Germany**

*READINGS FOR THE WEEK:* Spielvogel, chapter 10; Botwinick, pages 217-219; Sax and Kuntz, 515-519; Bessel, 97-110

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**TUES 27 APRIL****FINAL EXAMINATION**

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**SCHEDULE FOR SPRING 2004**

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
<b>9-11AM PREPARATION FOR LECTURE</b>	<u>OFFICE HOURS- 9AM --NOON</u>	<b>9-11AM PREPARATION FOR LECTURE</b>	<u>RESEARCH</u>	<b>SUPERVISION OF SECTIONS FOR WOH 2012 HISTORY OF CIVILIZATION I</b>
<b>11-11:50 WOH 2012 HISTORY OF CIVILIZATION I SO 250</b>		<b>11-11:50 WOH 2012 HISTORY OF CIVILIZATION I SO 250</b>		<b>COMMITTEE MEETINGS</b>
	<b>4-7 PM EUH 4465 HITLER AND NAZI GERMANY GCS 119</b>			
<b>2-2:50 WOH 2022 HISTORY OF CIVILIZATION II AL 242</b>		<b>2-2:50 WOH 2022 HISTORY OF CIVILIZATION II AL 242</b>		<b>2-2:50 WOH 2022 HISTORY OF CIVILIZATION II AL 242</b>
<u>OFFICE HOUR- 3-4 PM</u>		<u>OFFICE HOUR- 3-4 PM</u>		<u>OFFICE HOUR- 3-4 PM</u>

## The Course of German History and the Impact of World War I

### I. The German Problem

- a. Germans were in the forefront of music, literature, philosophy, education
- b. Germans came into 20<sup>th</sup> century as one of the greatest civilizations – most literate
- c. How could such a great culture have created Hitler?
- d. Was Hitler's reign inevitable based on German tradition or was it alien to German tradition?

### II. Geniuses of German Culture

#### A. Music

- a. Johann Sebastian Bach (1685 – 1750)
- b. Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756 – 1791)
- c. Ludwig Van Beethoven (1770 – 1826)

#### B. Literature

- a. **Friedrich Schiller** (1759 – 1805) – His poem “Ode to Joy” was incorporated into Beethoven's Ninth Symphony
- b. **Johann Wolfgang Von Goethe** (1749 – 1832) – greatest figure in the history of German literature. Author of *Doctor Faustus*

### III. Geniuses of German Culture - Philosophy

- a. **Immanuel Kant** (1724 – 1804) – author of *Critique of Pure and Practical Reason*
- b. **George Wilhelm Fredrich Hegel** – originator of the theory of dialectics, which profoundly influenced Karl Marx. Said, “History evolves progressively – man comes up w/ better ideas”

### IV. German Land and People

- a. Location: Central Europe from North Sea to the Alps
- b. Population: about 80 million (today)
- c. Europeans fear that Germany might be the leading power in Europe because of its size and population

### V. Regional Variations

- a. Unity is the exception rather than the rule in German History
- b. Germans from certain parts of the country have a hard time understanding each other if they speak in their own dialect

## **VI. Barbarians Destroy Rome**

- a. 476 C.E. – Germans conquer Roman Empire
- b. Germans were called Barbarians b/c they weren't Roman

## **VII. Carolingian Empire**

- a. Charlemagne revived the imperial tradition in 800 C.E. and created the Carolingian Empire
- b. Carolingian Empire divided in 9<sup>th</sup> century and became known as the Holy Roman Empire

## **VIII. Holy Roman Empire (First Reich) – 800s - 1806**

- a. Not holy
- b. Collection of 300 German-speaking states headed by an emperor who had limited power
- c. Germany is unique because the unity of people who spoke a common language transformed into the creation of a country
- d. Included Hungarians, Italians, Slavs, (not just Germans)
- e. Most were German speaking
- f. Each state was ruled by a leader and each leader only owed allegiance to Holy Roman Emperor
- g. Organization of Holy Roman Empire was better to Europeans b/c it kept Germans divided

## **IX. Power of the Papacy**

- a. Holy Roman Empire was not unified
- b. Struggled w/ power of Pope in Rome
- c. Empire wasn't designed to give emperor much power
- d. Emperor's power declined further during Middle Ages b/c of the Pope's power
- e. Pope wanted Emperors and Kings to bow to their power
- f. Emperors got the short hand of the stick

## **X. Austrian - Hapsburgs (1200-1806)**

- a. Family of Emperors that headed the Holy Roman Empire

## **XI. Protestant Reformation**

- a. On top of pre-existing problems of unity in the Holy Roman Empire, the Reformation further divided the empire – on religious grounds
- b. Reformation – Intellectuals were fed up w/ abuses of Catholic Church and called for a return to piety of early church
- c. Martin Luther's Lutheran Church thrived
- d. Germans were now divided further, along religious lines



## **XII. Peace of Augsburg, 1555**

- a. Holy Roman Empire became embroiled between Lutherans vs. Catholics
- b. Peace of Augsburg – “Whoever Rules His Religion” rules the state

## **XIII. Thirty Years War (1618-1648)**

- a. Started over struggle of religion between Austrian Catholics and Bohemian Calvinists
- b. Austrians stayed Catholic to the present day
- c. 1628-30 – Other Catholic powers began to wage war on Holy Roman Empire
- d. The fear of a united Germany led to more wars against Holy Roman Empire
- e. 30 years war further depleted power of the empire, weakening the emperor and thus diminishing the chance that Germans could unite
- f. France went on to build an absolute monarchy
- g. Catholics and Protestants began to tolerate one another after 30 years war

## **XIV. Prussia**

- a. Flat land – invaded often throughout history
- b. Able rulers realized that Prussians needed a strong Army to protect themselves
- c. Prussia had no natural boundaries
- d. Prussia emerges as a great power under Frederick the Great (1740 – 86)

## **XV. Frederick the Great (1740 – 86)**

- a. There was an emerging rivalry between Austria and Prussia for influence in German-speaking Europe
- b. Frederick the Great declared war on much of Europe, making Prussia a great power by the end of the 1700s

## **XVI. Austria**

- a. Austrians were in the Holy Roman Empire, but they also had a stronghold over Europe, controlling Bohemia, Austria, Hungary

## **XVII. Enlightenment (18<sup>th</sup> Century)**

- a. By the Enlightenment, philosophers tried to look forward
- b. German intellectuals didn't like Holy Roman Empire because there was no unity – they wanted to create a united Germany (planted the seeds)

### **XVIII. Germans Support French Revolution**

- a. Germans were enthusiastic about the French Revolution because they saw it as progressive change
- b. Beethoven liked Napoleon
- c. Support of France declined after Napoleon made it known that he was after all of Europe

### **XIX. German Confederation**

- a. Napoleon forced Austrian Emperor to give up his throne
- b. Napoleon made Germany into a Confederation (Confederation of Rhine)
- c. 300 states were narrowed down to 39 German-speaking states by Napoleon – this made it easier for Napoleon to rule the territory

### **XX. Downfall of Napoleon**

- a. Marched into Russia
- b. Biggest enemy – Snow (winter-time)
- c. Went during summertime in summer uniforms, anticipating a quick victory
- d. Hitler did the same thing

### **XXI. Germany after Napoleon**

- a. Germans who hated Napoleon didn't want to reverse Napoleon's decision to end Holy Roman Empire
- b. Germanic Confederation was created (39 German-speaking states) during peace negotiations
- c. Austria and Prussia were the two largest German states

### **XXII. Nationalism**

- a. Is Germany going to be controlled by Prussia or Austria?
- b. Nationalism – live w/ people who are alike
- c. Germanic patriots questioned whether German state was w/ Austria or Prussia

### **XXIII. Industrial Revolution**

- a. Creates working class in Germany that wants political change and power to include them
- b. Middle-class merchants want change
- c. Middle class wants German question answer about which state was going to control the future of Germany

**XXIV. Otto von Bismarck**

- a. Minister-President of Prussia
- b. Came to power in 1862, desiring change
- c. But the Conservative King of Prussia didn't want change
- d. Bismarck was a visionary –wanted to ally with other forces that wanted political change
- e. Nationalists in Prussia wanted liberal change, but Bismarck only wanted unification under Prussian leadership
- f. Bismarck felt that nationalism and liberalism combined were responsible for the failing 1848 Revolution attempt

**XXV. Wars of Unification**

- a. Bismarck won Austro-Prussian War in 1866
- b. Bismarck won Franco-Prussian War in 1871
- c. Wars of Unification were only 6 weeks long
- d. Bismarck talked the rest of Europe into staying out of war by signing neutrality pacts – he didn't want to start another long war, like the 30 years war

**XXVI. Bismarck – the master manipulator**

- a. Provoked Austrians
- b. Good at starting wars and making it look like he was attacked
- c. Bismarck only went to war as a last resort
- d. Bismarck talked the rest of Europe into staying out of war by signing neutrality pacts – he didn't want to start another long war, like the 30 years war

**XXVII. Bismarck Seeks Peace**

- a. Bismarck didn't want to quickly unify Germany in 1866 b/c he didn't want to upset France
- b. Bismarck also didn't want to upset Austria, believing that he may need to ally with them in the future
- c. Peace treaty which ended Austro-Prussian War, 1866 was mild as a result

**XXVIII. Franco-Prussian War, 1870-71**

- a. Bismarck tried to talk the French into accepting German unification
- b. 1871, Bismarck provoked fight w/ France, making it look like Prussia was attack first
- c. Bismarck signed treaties of neutrality with other major powers of Europe
- d. France – major power of Europe
- e. Germans laid siege in Paris
- f. January 1871 – end of war
- g. Lasted longer b/c of French resistance
- h. Hall of Mirrors at Versailles Palace in France was where Germany declared victory
- i. France and Germany hated each other through 20<sup>th</sup> century as a result of this war

**XXIX. What Did Bismarck's 2<sup>nd</sup> Reich Have that Hitler's 3<sup>rd</sup> Reich Didn't Have?**

- a. Constitution
- b. People voted
- c. Federal structure (not centralized)
- d. Conservative State
- e. 1866, Universal Manhood Suffrage

**XXX. Universal Manhood Suffrage, 1866**

- a. Bismarck wanted to give farmers a vote, thinking that they would vote conservative
- b. However, farmers left farming and went to cities, which are more liberal
- c. Cities were a stuffed box for Socialist parties
- d. Bismarck thought he was making Conservatives stronger, but wound up making them weaker
- e. Germany: 1 man = 1 vote

**XXXI. Bismarck's Welfare System**

- a. Bismarck thought he could woo workers into the Conservative ranks by creating a welfare system

**XXXII. 2<sup>nd</sup> Reich had a Conservative-Progressive Federal Structure**

## **German History: Holy Roman Empire – World War I**

### **I. Federalism in Germany**

- a. 1933-45 (Hitler's Reign – only centralized government in German History)
- b. Before and after Hitler, Federalism thrived

### **II. The Holy Roman Empire, 800 - 1806**

- a. Weak empire (which is why it's not studied much in history classes)
- b. Most states in empire were German-speaking
- c. The rest of Europe was united in preventing the unification of German states
- d. Existed for 1000 years because the H.R.E. didn't bother anybody and nobody wanted to bother them to encourage unification
- e. Each King from the 300 states guarded his own territory and didn't go outside
- f. Even though all Germans were Catholic until a split during the Reformation, Catholic Powers, France, and Pope in Rome discouraged unification

### **III. History of United Germany**

- a. Germany united in 1871
- b. After unification, there were 2 World Wars
- c. Germany Divided into East and West Germany (1945 – 1989)

### **IV. The German Name**

- a. Name of country is unique because it was named after a language instead of a tribe or territory

### **V. Reformation, 1517**

- a. Weakened Holy Roman Empire, creating Calvinists and Lutherans that opposed Catholics

### **VI. Rise of Prussian Dominance**

- a. Prussia becomes good at raising, training army, and creating a conservative bureaucracy in 17<sup>th</sup>/18<sup>th</sup> centuries
- b. Several talented Kings in Prussia helped to make it strong w/ strong army, and loyal bureaucracy

## **VII. Frederick the Great**

- a. Considered “Great” b/c he was the 1<sup>st</sup> German ruler to wage war against the rest of Europe and survive
- b. Taxed peasants into destitution
- c. Seen as possible role model for making Prussia a great 1<sup>st</sup> rank power
- d. Frederick the Great was part of the Hohenzollern family

## **VIII. Hapsburgs (Austria) vs. Hohenzollerns (Prussia)**

- a. Hapsburgs were the elected leaders of the Holy Roman Empire
- b. But after the rise of Prussia, the German question became, which power was going to control the rest of the Holy Roman Empire

## **IX. Enlightenment brings liberal thoughts**

- a. The 18<sup>th</sup> century Enlightenment brought liberalism to Germany
- b. German intellectuals liked that the French were able to change their government into a new progressive state
- c. Intellectuals believed that if France could change institutions, long standing for thousands of years, then why couldn't the Germans
- d. Idea of Nationalism began – the French said they were special b/c they were French
- e. Nationalism was a positive development from the French Revolution that went awry
- f. Nationalism started as a liberation ideology
- g. German intellectuals started wanting all Germans to unite instead of having a scattering of States

## **X. Napoleon**

- a. By 1812, France had a new emperor that wanted to take over all of Europe
- b. German intellectuals turned against Napoleon for wanting to take over Europe
- c. Napoleon created 39 German states from the 300 that were in existence
- d. Napoleon also ended the Holy Roman Empire in 1806

## **XI. German Confederation**

- a. After Napoleon was exiled in 1815, peace negotiations decided to keep the Holy Roman Empire in the past and to accept the 39 German states that Napoleon created
- b. But the German question of who would lead Germans, Austria or Prussia, still had to be answered

## **XII. Industrial Revolution – Rise of the Middle Class**

- a. Industrial Revolution creates Middle Class – descendant from peasants
- b. Middle Class was made rich by the wealth of the Industrial Revolution
- c. Middle Class, not Conservatives want to unify Germany
- d. Conservatives don't want change b/c they are already in power
- e. Middle Classes agitate for unification and for political power, regardless of whether Austria or Prussia rules

## **XIII. Otto von Bismarck**

- a. Minister-President of Prussia who didn't like Middle Class liberals
- b. Kings didn't want change – they were Conservative
- c. Bismarck agitates for change
- d. Bismarck builds up support from Prussian Parliament for unification
- e. Bismarck realized that German unification could only be settled by war (Iron and Curtian Speech)

## **XIV. Iron and Curtian Speech**

- a. Speech where Bismarck claims that German unification could only be settled by war
- b. Historians have debated that this speech paved the way for Hitler
- c. Bismarck and Hitler wanted war to achieve their aims
- d. Bismarck wanted unification, but still a federal structure (unlike Hitler)

## **XV. War – Bismarck's Last Resort**

- a. Bismarck fought limited wars, not total wars
- b. Bismarck used war as a last resort when talks didn't work
- c. Hitler used war as a first resort
- d. **Bismarck went to war:**
  1. When war would be limited
  2. When no 3<sup>rd</sup> party would escalate
  3. After peaceful means of settling German question had failed

## **XVI. Wars of Unification**

- a. Austro – Prussian War (1866)
- b. Franco – Prussian War (1870-71)

## **XVII. French and German animosity towards each other**

- a. Prussia won Franco-Prussian War
- b. Animosity between France and Germany lasted through World War 2
- c. Prussia took French Provinces of *Alsace Lorraine*
- d. Prussia declared victory in the Hall of Mirrors at Versailles in Paris, France
- e. After French beat Germans in World War I, peace treaty was signed at the same Hall of Mirrors at Versailles that the Germans had declared victory at as revenge for Franco-Prussian defeat
- f. French also took back *Alsace Lorraine* after their victory over Germany in WWI

## **XVIII. Bismarck – the peacemaker**

- a. After uniting German states, into the Federal Republic of Germany, Bismarck allowed German states to keep their own armies
- b. Bismarck refrained from war after 1871 until his resignation in 1890
- c. Bismarck was afraid of a major European war that could potentially break up Germany

## **XIX. Bismarck's Power**

- a. Bismarck was a powerful man who made it hard for people to realize who the emperor of Germany really was
- b. Bismarck wrote German Constitution and gave himself a lot of power in the process

## **XX. German Kaisers**

- a. William I (1871 – 88)
- b. Frederick III (1888) – Great hope of German liberalism; 99 Days in rule; sick
- c. William II (1888 – 1918)

## **XXI. Bismarck grants universal manhood suffrage, 1866**

- a. Bismarck's 2<sup>nd</sup> Reich gave universal manhood suffrage
- b. Working class proletariat began to vote Socialist
- c. Grants votes to farmers, believing that they would vote Conservative
- d. Farmers move to cities to work b/c of Industrial Revolution and become Socialist
- e. Socialists oppose Conservatives
- f. Bismarck is made to sound like a nice guy when he was really trying to make Conservatism stronger
- g. Workers were entitled to more benefits in Germany than anywhere else in Europe



**XXII. Legacy of 2<sup>nd</sup> Reich**

- a. Age of Progress?
- b. Nationalist
- c. Upscale Middle Class
- d. An alienated Proletariat
- e. Reasons for Optimism: Short localized wars (1854, 59, 66, 71, 77, 1911)
- f. Europe Dominates most of the world – Most countries on the planet were influenced by Europe in the 19<sup>th</sup> century

**XXIII. Reign of William II ends Bismarck's control**

- a. William II – brash and full of himself
- b. Came to power at 26 after his father, emperor Frederick III died
- c. William II thought that Bismarck should bow down to him
- d. Bismarck was getting old and couldn't battle anymore
- e. Bismarck resigned after a falling out with William II

**XXIV. William II – Difficult Childhood**

- a. Son of Emperor Frederick III and his wife, Victoria
- b. Born in 1858-59
- c. Difficult birth – doctors at Victoria's bedside realized baby was in the wrong position coming out
- d. His right arm was deformed as a result of birth damage – right arm didn't grow as long as the left
- e. William II grew up with neck and arm problems
- f. His mother, Victoria was committed to make William II brilliant and talented like others
- g. However, he didn't possess the traits of an intellectual
- h. This strained Victoria's relationship with William II b/c he wasn't brilliant
- i. As a result of their strained relationship, William II rebelled against his parents, who were liberal, by doing everything opposite of them
- j. Thus, William II wanted Conservative greatness

**XXV. William II – wants a Great Navy**

- a. William II wanted an alliance with England and France
- b. However, he made the British angry when he announced that he wanted to build up Germany Navy and create a massive navy
- c. British allied w/ French and Russians by 1904 b/c of their mutual fear of Germany
- d. British feared Germany building up their navy b/c the British had the best Navy in the World at the time

**XXVI. Loyalty to the Kaiser**

- a. William II told military men that they must kill their parents if he asked them too

**XXVII. William II wants Colonies**

- a. Germany of William II is aggressive, wanting colonies
- b. Germany is late in the game in getting colonies
- c. William II believed that Germans were better than the French and British that had colonies (nationalist ideology)

**XXVIII. Franco-Russian-British alliance**

- a. Great Britain, France, and Russia entered into an alliance with the effect that if one country was attacked by Germany that it would be considered an attack against all of them

**XXIX. Social Democrats**

- a. By 1912, there were unstable leaders, social rambling in Germany
- b. By 1912, Social Democrats – largest party in parliament
- c. Everything the Conservative government proposed was shot down by Social Democrats who controlled Parliament

**XXX. Austria-Hungary**

- a. 1867, Austria becomes Austria-Hungary
- b. Non-German speaking groups wanted to break away from Austral-Hungarian empire
- c. But if all groups broke away, Austria would be a very small country (like today)

**XXXI. Archduke France Ferdinand**

- a. Archduke France Ferdinand, the heir to the Austral Hungarian empire went to Sarajevo, Bosnia on a good will gesture to make peace and entice them to stay in the empire
- b. But the Archduke was assassinated by a Serb-nationalist

**XXXII. Austria-Hungary wants Revenge**

- a. Austrians wanted to wipe out Serbia, believing that it would destroy the Austral-Hungarian Empire
- b. Austria wanted to go to war w/ Serbs
- c. Russia was allied w/ Serbs
- d. Russia didn't want to sit idly by to see Serbia destroyed

**XXXIII. Nicholas II Mobilizes troops**

- a. Nicholas II mobilized Russian troops toward the German border
- b. Nicholas II only had one war plan – all troops had to be mobilized together
- c. However, in reality, needed to mobilize into directions, towards Austria and towards Germany

**XXXIV. Schliefan Plan**

- a. William II believed that Germany could attack France first and take over Paris before the Russians were able to mobilize their troops to the German border
- b. If Schliefan Plan doesn't work before Russian troops mobilize, there would be a German pancake with Germany in between France and Russia
- c. The Russians mobilized faster than the Schliefan plan expected
- d. The Germans were 20 miles away from Paris when they had to backtrack and mobilize troops towards their eastern border to prevent a Russian invasion
- e. Hundreds of thousands of Germans died – The Best and the Brightest signed up first and died

**XXXV. August 1914**

- a. Every major power in Europe declared war against everyone else

**XXXVI. William II – Foreign Policy**

- a. William II 's reign was problematic
- b. He pursued a world policy that antagonized world powers of Europe
- c. William II was out to add colonies to Germany
- d. William II tried to create a great Navy

**XXXVII. Germany by 1914**

- a. 1 man = 1 vote
- b. Finest education in Europe
- c. Laws were abided by
- d. Hitler came to power in 1933 b/c Germans were a-political, used to being told what to do

### **XXXVIII. Germany in the 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> Century**

- a. Unification and peacemaking under Bismarck
  - Conservative government
  - Progressive legislation
- b. Growing instability under William II
  - *Weltpolitik* = tensions under other great powers
  - Pressure from the SPD (Social Democratic Party) = parliamentary paralysis in 1912
  - Radicalism in intellectual circles – “Voelkisch” ideology
- c. World War, Chaos Revolution, and creation of the Weimar Republic, 1914-1919

### **XXXIX. World War I – Longer than Expected**

- a. Every power thought that WW1 would be over quickly and each believed they would be victorious b/c 19<sup>th</sup> century wars were always short
- b. Hundreds of thousands of Germans died – the Best and the Brightest signed up first and died

### **XXXX. Propaganda during World War I**

- a. Propaganda misled people in several country
- b. It claimed that one more push and the war would be over
- c. Several countries became more authoritarian as a result

### **XXXXI. Social Democrats**

- a. Supported war, but by 1916-17, they became disillusioned

### **XXXXII. Authoritarianism Develops in Europe**

- a. Prolongation of war saw the military establish power over political establishments in Germany and other countries

### **XXXXIII. Hindenburg and Ludendorff**

- a. Hindenburg and Ludendorff were major Generals during WW1
- b. During the course of WW1, they put pressure on Wilhelm II to name them to top positions in the government that would give them complete control over the war
- c. Hindenburg became the Army Chief of State
- d. Germany’s needs were dictated by its military

**XXXXIV. Power of William II Declines**

- a. As military dependence increased, William II went more and more into the background, not capable of asserting his leadership
- b. Germany was dependent on its military, so it gained power
- c. William II was living in a fool's paradise
- d. By 1917, William II couldn't even get a meeting w/ Hindenburg and Ludendorff
- e. This was the same William II that in 1890 was responsible for Otto von Bismarck resigning from his post

**XXXXV. Hungry Turnip Winter, 1916-17**

- a. Because of the strain of the war, peasants withheld food from the cities, wanting it for themselves
- b. The cities, which were a hotbed for Socialist activity revolted
- c. This was around the time the Social Democrats became disillusioned with the war
- d. About the only thing that cities were able to get were turnips
- e. German workers were only able to have about 1000 calories/day
- f. Scarcity of food in the country/city created more division in the country
- g. Germany could not afford to sustain its resources

**XXXXVI. Political War in Germany during World War I**

- a. Social Democrats supported war in exchange for liberalization after the war
- b. Conservatives hoped that victory in war would destroy Social Democrats
- c. It's possible that the Left in Germany could have abandoned liberalism for nationalism if the war had ended quickly
- d. But Social Democrats, who became disillusioned with the war, wanted political concessions NOW – not later
- e. Conservative leadership promised land to the Social Democrats after Germany won the war instead of political concessions
- f. By 1916, Domestic peace characterizing unity behind the war fell apart
- g. War effort seemed to be going nowhere
- h. By 1916, States of Hindenburg were created to make people proud of the war
- i. Social Democrats wanted concessions now b/c they were hungry now – they didn't just want territory later

**XXXXVII. "Peace Without Annexation"**

- a. By 1917, Russians are weakened b/c Czar is gone
- b. Social Democrats want to get out of war without gaining territory b/c the Czar was gone
- c. Social Democrats started to see that the war was fought for territorial expansion that was wanted by a general few

### **XXXXVIII. The Original Unrestricted Submarine Warfare, 1915**

- a. Hindenburg and Ludendorff want a knockout blow so they start unrestricted submarine warfare
- b. Unrestricted submarine warfare ended British blockade around Germany
- c. Germans shot at all ships around Germany

### **IC. The *Lusitania* is Sunk, May 1915**

- a. Lusitania – British Passenger liner that has ammunitions on board
- b. German embassy in US runs ads in American newspapers saying that the Germans are going to torpedo the *Lusitania*
- c. Extremely rich Americans go on the ship anyway and the ship is sunk
- d. 1198 killed total, including 128 Americans
- e. Americans started to making rumblings about going to war
- f. Germans backed down and apologized b/c America's entrance into the war would hinder Germany's war effort

### **C. The Revival of Unrestricted Submarine Warfare**

- a. By 1917, with Russia out of the war, Hindenburg believed that unrestricted submarine warfare could destroy all British ships quickly and bring Britain to their knees
- b. Unrestricted submarine warfare didn't bring British to their knees b/c US got involved after they British informed America about the *Zimmerman Telegram*
- c. US got involved faster than Germany planned and saved the British

### **CI. Bolshevik Control in Russia, Nov. 1917**

- a. Nov. 1917, Bolsheviks gain power in Russia
- b. Mar. 1918, Russia pulls out of war

### **CII. Allies Unite Camps, 1918**

- a. 1918, Germans kept fighting
- b. 1918, Allies united camps – allies opened a hole in the overextended German line
- c. Allies advanced toward German frontier
- d. Ludendorff told Germans that immediate peace was the only way to prevent Germany from being invaded

**CIII. Versailles Treaty**

- a. In Woodrow Wilson's 14 points, Wilson wanted peace without victory
- b. But the only point he made that was included in Versailles Treaty was the creation of a League of Nations (which America did not enter into)

**CIV. Allies Want Resignation of William II**

- a. September-October 1918 – Wilson told Germany he would agree to peace if Germany got rid of its emperor, Wilhelm II
- b. November 1918 - Hindenburg and Ludendorff forced Wilhelm II to abdicate
- c. They gave in to the allied demand, believing that it would be a small price to pay for getting a better peace agreement

**CV. "A More Democratic Germany"**

- a. Ludendorff supported the resurrection of Parliament
- b. The military commanders said that Germany would be more democratic, hoping to have lenient peace negotiations

**CVI. German Expansionism Continues, Late Oct. 1918**

- a. Late October 1918 – Hindenburg/Ludendorff wanted Germans in Navy to go out on quasi-suicide missions to gain as much territory as quickly as possible
- b. They figured that Germany would lose territory in peace negotiations, so they wanted to gain more territory so that they would lose less land

**CVII. Sailors Rebellion at Kiel, Nov. 1918**

- a. Germans soldiers/sailors from port of Kiel were acting like Communists
- b. They created councils across the country

**CVIII. Fall of a Conservative Parliament**

- a. Early November 1918 – movement for peace took revolutionary foundation
- b. Conservative forces in Parliament had been discredited b/c it was widely believed by the German public that Conservatives had fought a war for territorial expansion that was wanted by a general few
- c. After German people saw that the war was fought for territorial expansion, they turned against the war

**CIX. Social Democrats in Control**

- a. Social Democratic Party that wanted peace without annexation seemed to be the logical group to Germans that should be in power b/c they had sent the most peace feelers out

**CX. Socialists: A Divided Party**

- a. Socialists were not united
- b. Left Wing of Social Democrats (Spartacists) wanted Communism, now
- c. Moderates (USPD) wanted Socialism (and when the time was right, Communism)
- d. They were beset with divisions



### Anti-Semitism: Its Origins and Popularity

Christian animosity towards Jews has a long history that stems from the time when the Christian sect of Judaism severed its ties with the mother religion and formed its own religion. Since the split, nearly two thousand years ago, Christians have had the desire to isolate, cause financial hardships, make up lies, and even resort to murdering Jews in order to make it clear to them that there was room for only one ideology, one religion in the world, Christianity (Botwinick, p. 10).

Ghettos were usually created to isolate Jews from the Christian masses (Botwinick, p. 13). They ensured that the two worlds did not meet so that the myth that Jews were inferior could be passed down from generation to generation of Christians and, in essence, transform the hatred of Jews into a tradition (Brohmer in Sax, p. 20). Otto von Bismarck capitalized on that myth of Jewish inferiority in his successful efforts to unite German-speaking states into the nation of Germany (Spielvogel, p. 6). Bismarck was able to make the *volk*, the German people, realize that Germans shared a common language, ancestry, and a common belief in Christianity. These shared traits allowed Bismarck to spread the ideals of the *völkisch*, or nationalism, and allowed Germans to realize that “‘the power of the blood’ was more important than the state” (Ibid.).

*Völkisch* ideology professed that a united German population could be the leader of Europe, but it was argued that it would first be necessary to create a race that was “pure” German (Aryan) to ensure the superiority of the German people over the rest of the world (Ibid). This patriotic claim was the basis for the creation of racial biology, a modern anti-Semitism as German Wilhelm Marr labeled it in 1873 (Botwinick, p. 20) with a new, unscientific spin to Charles Darwin’s theory of evolution that added the

premise that “races...had evolved through time. Some were superior, others were inferior” (Spielvogel, p. 6) Houston Stewart Chamberlain, an Englishman who emigrated to Germany around the turn of the twentieth century, overwhelmingly supported the ideals of racial biology, believing that Germans “were the true creators of culture while the Jews were simply parasites who destroyed culture” (Spielvogel, p. 6). But historian Rita Botwinick explains that Jews were given an unfair shake through claims of “deficiencies that [had] little or no relationship to reality” (Botwinick, p. 3). It took the Christian Middle Ages to discover the “truth” that the Jews were responsible for the misery that the Black Plague brought (Ibid., p. 12) just as it would take a downhill turn in the economy in Germany from 1870 – 1890 caused by new “economic and social problems” of urbanization and the Industrial Revolution to make people believe that Jews were responsible for the new hardships, too (Spielvogel, p. 7).

In the 1890s, conservative voices in the government sounded very similar to radical right-wing nationalist and anti-socialist groups due to frustrations caused by the poor economy. These groups also shared the fear that the poor economy could trigger the onset of socialism, which would take power and money away from the anti-liberals that controlled the government. Unfortunately, the agreements in opinion that conservatives began to share with the radicals had the effect of turning the radicals into credible players in the political spectrum (Ibid.). Nationalistic pressure groups, while not having a direct affect on German politics, also played an important role at this crucial time in the young nation’s history. The Pan-German League, one of the many nationalistic pressure groups, tried to keep Germans united behind conservative leadership by diverting the public’s attention towards an old enemy, the Jews. The Pan-German League preached that Jews

were the “destroyers of national community” (Ibid.). This anti-Semitic rhetoric, which by the 1890s had a well-established foundation, saved the country from revolution and also reinforced the German acceptance of *völkisch* ideals that the Jews were responsible for all problems that Germans faced.

By the time World War I ended, German leaders were not as lucky as they had been in the 1890s when they avoided a change in government. Germany stood as a defeated nation at the hands of American militaristic forces. Germany stood humiliated, as their quest for territorial expansion had come to a halt. On top of German pride that was dealt a blow, economic liabilities and militaristic sanctions imposed by the Treaty of Versailles, which ended the Great War, caused economic hardships for the majority of German citizens (Spielvogel, p. 10). These blows to the ego of Germans, the *volk*, gave the Nazis, an emerging middle-class radical group after World War I the propulsion they needed to gain support, especially from the working class, which was affected the most by the vengeful stipulations of the peace treaty (Ibid., p. 7).

With goals of expansionism, the Nazis stayed true to *völkisch* ideals of playing to German patriotism and once again blamed the Jews for the decreased standard of living that Germans were experiencing. By 1933, the Nazis and their leader, Adolph Hitler, had gained a large enough following that they were able to grab power. In an effort to control the masses, the Nazis spread a massive amount of propaganda. Paul Brohmer, a Nazi author who helped to spread their propaganda, wrote in 1933 that for the *volk* to have a great existence, “German man must not think only of himself, but should be cognizant of his duty to place himself in the service of the people” (Brohmer, p. 206). The Nazis hoped that propaganda such as this would decrease opposition to their rule, and to a large

extent, it did. The “people” that Brohmer speaks of was referring to Hitler and his government, which was telling Germans that it was their patriotic duty to take out their frustrations on the people who caused them to face hardships.

To convince the public that Jews were responsible for the miserable fate of Germans citizens, Hitler manipulated historically documented facts, events, and so-called conclusions, such as the Jews had caused the Black Plague, and he mixed them with new interpretations of the words of nineteenth century German intellectuals whose main goal in their time was to make Germans realize that they shared a common heritage. These historical writings were used to support Hitler’s claim that Jews were evil. The Fuhrer dramatically explained that Jews possessed a certain trait that was poisonous to Germany. The evidence that Hitler presented to the masses was convincing enough that people actually started to believe that Jews must be extinguished (Botwinick, p. 23). Hitler was able to manipulate the time-tested prejudice towards Jews into his own self-righteous campaign that made the decimation of “an estimated two-thirds of the Jews living in Europe” into the patriotic and socially acceptable thing to do (Ibid., p. 3) But perhaps the most valuable lesson that can be derived from the tragedy of the Holocaust has been hit on by historian Rita Botwinick. She expresses the importance of understanding the “connection between the men who committed acts of unspeakable brutality during the Holocaust and their claim that they were only carrying out orders” (Ibid., p. 3).

## Problems of the Weimar Republic

### **I. William II wants Colonies**

- a. Germany of William II is aggressive, wanting colonies
- b. Germany is late in the game in getting colonies
- c. William II believed that Germans were better than the French and British that had colonies (nationalist ideology)

### **II. “Peace without Annexation”**

- a. Originally, Social Democrats supported the war
- b. By 1917, Russians are weakened b/c Czar is gone
- c. Social Democrats want to get out of war without gaining territory b/c the Czar was gone
- d. Social Democrats started to see that the war was fought for territorial expansion that was wanted by a general few

### **III. Woodrow Wilson’s 14 Points**

- a. Germans were willing to sign Armistice based on Woodrow Wilson’s 14 points
- b. None of Wilson’s points included revenge on Germany
- c. Wilson said he would only deal with a democratic Germany
- d. 1918, Wilhelm II is forced to resign

### **IV. Social Democratic Party (SPD)**

- a. **USPD** (moderates) – want Socialism now, and Communism when the time is right
- b. **Spartacists** (radicals) – want Communism now based on Russian model

### **V. DIASPORA – Scattered Jews**

- a. DIASPORA (scattered) – Jews were historically scattered
- b. Romans caused the Diaspora of the Jews
- c. Jews were not tolerated in the Christian world
- d. Christians wanted Jews to assimilate or convert
- e. Popes said that Jews should be humiliated, but not harmed
- f. Jews were ghettoized – where they could freely practice their faith
- g. During Protestant Reformation, Martin Luther thought Jews would convert to Protestantism b/c he liberalized Christianity, but when they didn’t, he turned against them and became an strong anti-Semite
- h. Jews had bad times during the Crusades, Black Death, Reformation
- i. One reason why Poland had so many Jews by the end of 1700s was b/c they treated Jews better there
- j. Jews kept being kicked out of various countries

- k. Jews went where they were treated better
- l. When policies reversed, they went elsewhere
- m. Assimilated Jews climbed the social ladder more quickly and were treated better

## **VI. Jews in the Enlightenment**

- a. The Enlightenment saw tolerance for religion
- b. Knowledge became a priority over faith
- c. The role of religion was downplayed
- d. French made Jews citizens in 1790
- e. At the end of the Revolutionary age, after Napoleon was exiled, all of Europe, except for England, saw a reversal of tolerance towards Jews b/c they turned against Napoleon's policies (including supporting Jews)

## **VII. Jews in Germany**

- a. Industrial Revolution gave Jews more equality b/c they were talented
- b. There were lots of Jews in Germany in 1933 b/c Jews were treated more freely in Bismarckian Germany due to their important role in the Industrial Revolution

## **VIII. Volksgemeinschaft (People's Community) – Spreads Volkisch ideology**

- a. Volk = people's ; gemeinschaft = community
- b. Each culture was seen as special among itself and should not be diluted with other blood
- c. **Julius Langbehn** – “Power of the blood was more important than the state”
- d. Nationalists spread propaganda, attesting that Jews could never be German and were aliens b/c they were Jewish
- e. German nationalists didn't believe that Jews should be mixed in with Germans, claiming that Jews were aliens and parasites that would cause the downfall of Germany
- f. Hitler based his anti-Semitism on historical writings – He didn't make up what past authors said – he just manipulated them

## **IX. Racial Biology**

- a. 19<sup>th</sup> Men, like Langbehn took Darwin's theory of evolution and added a new, unscientific spin to it, claiming that “races... had evolved through time. Some were superior, others were inferior”

## **X. Houston Stuart Chamberlain**

- a. An Englishman who emigrated to Germany
- b. Wrote in 1920s that Germans “were the true creators of culture while the Jews were simply parasites who destroyed culture”

## **XI. Forces of Modernism**

- a. Progress of material possession (1871-1933)
- b. Moderates – wanted justice, peace, equality
- c. Radicals – wanted to return to past times and anti-Semitism

## **XII. Political/Economical Troubles Affect Jews**

- a. When new problems arose, the Jews were blamed b/c there was a history of blaming Jews for problems
- b. Jews were blamed for stock market crash, capitalism, socialism
- c. Nazis blamed Jews for turmoil in Weimar Republic after WW1 b/c SPD was in power and Jews belonged to that party b/c they promoted equality

## **XIII. Chaos in Germany after WW1**

- a. Post WW1 in Germany saw many problems that Socialists could not prevent, like the signing of the Versailles peace treaty – which Socialists were blamed for signing
- b. Socialists were in power b/c during WW1 they had wanted “Peace without Annexation” and they were the largest party in the Reichstag (parliament)
- c. Socialists were split between USPD and Spartacists vying for party control
- d. Spartacists had nothing in common with USPD

## **XIV. Spartacist Rebellion**

- a. **Scheidemann** – head of majority SPD party- said Germany would have a parliamentary government
- b. Two hours later, **Liebknecht** – proclaimed that Germany was Communist
- c. Which side would prevail?
- d. Street fighting broke out in Berlin at the end of 1918-19
- e. Uprising spread to rural areas

## **XV. Friedrich Ebert – Chancellor of Reich**

- a. Believed that majority Socialists couldn't put down Communists
- b. Ebert began to approach German generals: Hindenberg and Groener
- c. Generals wanted to stabilize Germany, so they agreed to help fight off radical Communists

## **XVI. Freikorps (Free Corps)**

- a. Generals and old Army officers got together to prevent Germany from becoming a Communist country

### **XVII. Leibknecht – Spartacist – Communist leader**

- a. January 1919, the *Spartacist Leibknecht* tried to establish Communist Revolution, trying to take over communication lines, like the Bolsheviks had in November 1917
- b. After a trap, radicals were soon murdered – military wins out

### **XVIII. Military Influence after Victory**

- a. Germans have suggestions that influence Germany away from becoming Democratic
- b. Generals called for elections soon after victory believing that the country would vote for more right wing candidates that are stronger on national defense
- c. Left wing had been discredited b/c of Spartacist Rebellion

### **XIX. Creating the Weimar Republic**

- a. Weimar – small, cultural city in Germany
- b. The name Weimar was used b/c it would remove militaristic image of Germany (with a new name and with Weimar being a city of culture)
- c. It was established to try and show that Germany had changed – in an effort to get better peace terms
- d. Constitution was drafted in the city of Weimar
- e. 1919 – elections took place
- f. Delegates were elected in 1919

### **XX. Different Name, but Same Values**

- a. Unholy alliance between Socialists and the (Conservative) military caused agreement that there would be no reforms to bureaucracy, military, or judiciary
- b. Ideals of bureaucracy, military, judiciary were not necessarily democratic
- c. B/c there was little change to pre-WW1 government, Democracy was off to a rocky start
- d. Conservative military was left alone by Socialists for ending Spartacist Revolt

### **XXI. Weimar's Constitution, 1919**

- a. Created a Reichstag (Parliament) that all power would be given to
- b. All men/women over 21 could vote for delegates to the Reichstag
- c. There was a secret ballot
- d. Head of government – President – elected by the people, but he was responsible to the Reichstag



**XXII. Article 48 - loophole**

- a. In the event of an emergency, the President could bypass parliament and rule by decree, thereby becoming “**Ersatkaiser**” – Replacement Kaiser
- b. Constitution never said what constituted an emergency
- b. Article 48 gave President incredible power
- c. Weimar Constitution was the most democratic constitution without Article 48
- d. Historians believe that Article 48 was established into the constitution b/c the military didn't believe that Socialists were ready for complete power b/c of revolts
- e. It as felt that somebody had to bring order
- f. Germans had always been ruled by a powerful leader

**XXIII. Ebert-Groener Pact, 11/10/1918**

- a. Ebert, the day before became chancellor of the Reich as leader of SPD
- b. Groener had just succeeded Ludendorff as quartermaster general
- c. Groener pledged support for Ebert's new government in exchange for Ebert's promise to keep the **Freikorps** free of parliamentary interference
- d. Pact helped to influence elections in Weimar Republic
- e. Pact made Weimar a Republic without a Republican Army

**XXIV. Strengths/Weaknesses of Weimar Constitution**

- a. Strengths
  - Universal suffrage – gave German women the power to vote for the first time
  - Ministers responsible to Reichstag
  - Election of President by the people
- b. Weaknesses
  - Article 48
  - President as “Ersatkaiser”
  - Multiplicity of political parties – very easy to create a new party

**XXV. Power in the Weimar Republic**

- a. Reichstag was elected by people
- b. President appoints a chancellor from majority party
- c. Weimar Republic was ruled by decree from 1930-33 when the president became “Ersatzkaiser” = substitute Kaiser

## *THE POLITICAL SPECTRUM OF WEIMAR*



### **XXVI. German Trouble with Democracy**

- a. Spring 1919 – Peace treaty of Versailles was being hammered out
- b. It was difficult for Germany to establish democracy b/c of street fighting, division of Socialists
- c. Germans had expected peace treaty to reflect Wilson's 14 points – that's why they supported treaty (Wilson's didn't want revenge)

### **XXVII. Impact of Versailles Treaty**

- a. June 28, 1919 – Signed at Hall of Mirrors at Versailles (5 years to the day that France Ferdinand was assassinated in 1914)
- b. Reduced Army = sense of vulnerability for Germans
- c. Germans were treated as pariahs – excluded from League of Nations and denied the right to self-determination
- d. Polish-speaking territory was given back to recreate Poland

### **XXVIII. Polish Corridor**

- a. Territory taken from Germany to give Poles access to the North sea
- b. Divides German property from E. Prussia

### **XXIX. More Lost German Land**

- a. Alsace Lorraine given back to France
- b. Germany had to give back colonies it claimed
- c. Germany lost 13% of its pre-WWI territory and 10% of its population

**XXX. Austria-Hungary**

- a. Austria lost everything
- b. Nationalities of the empire became independent countries

**XXXI. German Military**

- a. German Army – limited to 100,000 officers or men (small army) so that they couldn't be a threat against another European power
- b. Germany was not allowed to produce aggressive weapons
- c. German Navy was to be surrendered to the British b/c Britain feared a competitive Navy

**XXXII. Demilitarized Rhineland**

- a. Rhineland – German side of Franco-German border
- b. To guarantee military clauses, Rhineland would be occupied by Allies for 15 years
- c. Rhineland would remain demilitarized permanently to guarantee that Germany couldn't attack France again
- d. Germany was only allowed to have a small military so that Germany could never win another war
- e. Occupation of the Rhineland and a small German Army would prevent Germany from being able to win another war
- f. It was also decided in the Versailles treaty that in the event of a future Franco-German war, the war would be fought on German territory and Germans would surely lose (because they would have a small Army and no aggressive weapons)

**XXXIII. Article 231 of Versailles Treaty**

- a. Germans were forced to accept responsibility for all losses suffered by countries who fought Germany
- b. Article claimed that Germany was 100% at fault for starting WW1, so therefore they had to pay the entire bill for the war
- c. Germans disagreed w/ Article, believing that it was an accident that everyone stumbled into
- d. Germans didn't feel anymore responsible for starting the war than any other country.

**XXXIV. German Reparations**

- a. Germany would have to pay astronomical reparations to pay widows who lost husbands in the war, to pay for destroyed land...
- b. Treaty said Germany was responsible for so much destruction that the total amount that they owed couldn't even be determined at the time that they had to sign the treaty
- c. Germany would have to pay \$5 billion while reparations committee totaled amount

**XXXV. Allies Weaken Germany's Ability to Pay**

- a. Treaty forced Germany to hand over merchant fleets and railroad stock, making it hard for Germany to earn the money necessary to pay reparations
- b. Germany had to pay for hundreds of thousands of ships and pay for occupation bill in Rhineland
- c. Germany also had to make yearly coal payment to France, Britain

**XXXVI. Self-Determination denied to Germany**

- a. Germany was not permitted to join League of Nations
- b. Wilson wanted national self-determination for Germany, but the rest of the allies wanted revenge
- c. Austrians and Germans were separated by the Polish Corridor and were not allowed to join together b/c they caused the war
- d. Political Union of Austria/Germany was forbidden by Treaty of Versailles
- e. Impression that Germans were

**XXXVII. Germans Forced to Sign Versailles Treaty, June 1919**

- a. Hindenburg believed that if Germany agreed to have Kaiser Wilhelm II abdicate his throne that Germany would be in a better position to negotiate, but that was not the case
- b. Germans were treated as outcasts and criminals
- c. Treaty was presented in April-May 1919 to a German delegation that was kept behind barb wire
- d. Germans were believed to be inhumane and should be treated as such, so Germany was not allowed to negotiate a peace settlement
- e. Allies threatened war against Germany if they didn't sign treaty
- f. Allies told Germans that if they didn't like something, they could make a note, but they still had to sign it
- g. By June 1941, Germans had stalled since May from signing treaty – Allies told them that if they didn't sign in 1 week that the Allies would go to war w/ Germany
- h. Schinelmann resigned, rather than sign the treaty
- i. His successor accepted the treaty in order to avoid an invasion
- j. Germans were not even allowed to sit in Hall of Mirrors, where the treaty was signed – they had to stand
- k. British and French didn't care about Armistice

**XXXVIII. Criticism of Versailles Treaty by Historians**

- a. Presented fast after the war ended, while countries still wanted revenge
- b. Voters in Allied countries were angry and wanted revenge, and politicians picked up on their sentiment
- c. Lesterconian measures were not possible

### **XXXIX. Social Democrats Blamed for Signing Treaty**

- a. Treaty united Weimar citizens against the Peace treaty
- b. Acceptance was impossible, but defiance would mean war
- c. Germans blamed Socialists for signing treaty (even though they had no choice)  
b/c they were in power when the treaty was signed
- d. Germans felt that the Socialists had **stabbed them in the back** –  
“Dolchstosstheorie”

### **XXXX. Reichstag (Parliament) Lacks a Majority**

- a. Nobody supported moderate parties in the Reichstag
- b. As long as there were free elections, Nazis never became the Majority party
- c. Weimar Republic was created based on a Democratic-Republican Constitution
- d. But the Constitution didn't have a majority group to uphold the Constitution

### **XXXXI. Obstruction vs. Fulfillment of Versailles Treaty**

- a. Cabinet Debate in Weimar Republic – 5 years after signing Versailles Treaty
- b. Right Wingers in Cabinet refused to pay Article 231 (reparations)
- c. Cabinet members on the left wanted to fulfill the treaty, so that Germans would be seen as nice and obedient, believing that in time, the Allies would realize that they were asking for too much and would set better negotiations

### **XXXXII. Right Wing Coup Attempt**

- a. Right Wing coup attempt to overthrow government in Berlin after being forced to reduce Army to 100,000
- b. But after a strike, radicals were captured

### **XXXXIII. Reduced Army, Same Mentality**

- a. 100,000 men Army was still in the control of old army officers (not reformed) as agreed to by the Social Democrats for putting down **Spartacist Rebellion** (Communist uprising)
- b. But while the Army was reduced to 100,000 men, military shooting clubs sprung up throughout the country to make up for the reduced military since the Versailles treaty didn't ban them

### **XXXXIV. Reparations Committee Determines German Debt, 1921**

- a. 1921 - Reparations Committee determined that Germany owed \$35 billion due in annual installments of \$750 million
- b. Right and left wing groups united in saying that Germany couldn't pay
- c. Left side wanted to pay some
- d. Right side wanted to pay nothing

**XXXXV. Walter Rathenau**

- a. Finance Minister, but not a leader
- b. Reminded people that Germany had to pay obligations, otherwise the Allies would invade Germany
- c. 1922, Rathenau became a target for his insistence on paying the obligation and was assassinated by a right winger

**XXXXVI. Right Wing Decides to Obstruct Obligation, 1923**

- a. Obstruction becomes popular by 1923
- b. Government run by the right wing (since the left wing had been discredited for signing treaty) refused to deliver part of the payment due to the Allies
- c. Germans only shorted the Allies by a couple of trucks of telephone poles, but the German default of the Versailles agreement made the Allies want to cripple the German economy

**XXXXVII. Ruhr Invasion, 1923**

- a. As a result of Germany's default on their obligation, the French moved into the Rhineland w/ troops and told miners that they were now working for France and Belgium
- b. Miners showed passive resistance by refusing to work
- c. German government supported Miners
- d. German government printed more money to support the miners
- e. Soon, German Marks became devalued (1923: \$1 = 4 trillion Marks)

**XXXXVIII. German Depression, 1923**

- a. Since German money was devalued, people spent money quickly before it was devalued further
- b. In an effort by Germany to show that they couldn't pay, they lost just about everything
- c. Wages couldn't keep up with price b/c of hyperinflation
- d. Middle Class suffered the most because they had their savings disappear

**IC. Middle Class Turns Against Republicanism**

- a. Middle Class is usually the class that supports Republican government
- b. But since Middle class suffered the most, having their savings wiped out b/c of inflation, they were the first to turn against the Weimar government
- c. Poor (lower class) has nothing to lose either way b/c they have nothing
- d. Most Germans who had supported Republican government, turned against it b/c of their losses
- e. Radicals alternatives sprang up everywhere
- f. Germans backed down and apologized b/c America's entrance into the war would hinder Germany's war effort

**C. Change is Needed to Prevent Collapse of Weimar Republic**

- a. Republicans were blamed for Germany's depression and it was seen that Radicals were necessary
- b. Something had to be done or else Weimar would break away
- c. Federal Republic had to change to keep states from breaking away

**CI. Hitler Attempts to Overthrow Bavarian government, 1923**

- a. Republic was discredited due to hyperinflation
- b. Hitler tried to break republic apart and overthrow Bavarian government, but it failed

**CII. Gustav Stresemann as Chancellor**

- a. No Democrat before 1914 (supporter of Wilhelm II)
- b. Became convinced that having a Democratic Republic was a necessity
- c. Rose to power as Chancellor in 1923
- d. Started fulfilling reparations payments
- e. Stabilized currency by introducing a new currency (shock economics)

**CIII. International Committee to Oversee Reparations Payments, 11/1923**

- a. France and Britain knew that Germany's economy was on the verge of collapse
- b. France and Britain believed that if Germany's economy collapsed, whereas they couldn't pay anything, that it might bring them under too and they would default to America
- c. Calmer heads had to prevail to prevent a depression

**CIV. Dawes Plan, 1924**

- a. American Financier **Charles Dawes** came up with the idea that repayment had to be based on actual ability to pay
- b. **Sliding Scale** - As Germany's economy recovered, they would be expected to pay more
- c. Dawes Plan showed that the entire world was once again interested in cooperating w/ Germany
- d. It was also decided that Reparations were temporary – to be discussed again in 1929

**CV. “The Era of Good Feeling” begins, 1924**

- a. 1919 – 1924 – Germany was run by European beleaguers
- b. After 1924 – Conciliation was desired
- c. Europe tried to work to get Germans and Soviets into League of Nations (the outcasts) after 1924

**CVI. Gustav Stresemann as Foreign Minister**

- a. Became Chancellor in 1923
- b. Had to resign b/c new currency he introduced caused pain
- c. Came back as Foreign Minister in 1925
- d. Wanted to recognize Treaty of Versailles
- e. Acted as the good guy, but wanted to change treaty
- f. Wanted to introduce conciliation
- g. 1925 – promoted Locarno Pact agreement to guarantee Franco-German border

**CVII. Locarno Pact, 1925**

- a. Franco-German promise to maintain Rhineland (permanently demilitarized)
- b. France/Germany recognized the neutralized border (Germany’s western border)
- c. Britain and Italy were guarantors of the Locarno Pact
- d. If either France attacked Germany, or if Germany attacked France, Britain and Italy would attack the aggressor nation

**CVIII. Germany Still Obligated to Pay**

- a. The Locarno Pact didn’t let the Germans off the hook for reparations payments, but it allowed them to be treated as an equal – able to negotiate
- b. The reparation issue would be discussed again in 1929
- c. Stresemann knew that the French wanted to strengthen Germany
- d. Stresemann wanted the world to see that Germany could be nice
- e. Germans still resented having to pay reparations

**CIX. Hitler Remilitarizes Rhineland, 1936**

- a. Violating 2 international treaties, the Locarno Pact and Versailles Treaty, Hitler remilitarized the Rhineland in 1936



## **I. Weimar Republic: 1919 – 25**

- a. The Treaty of Versailles
- b. The Weimar Constitution
- c. Obstruction vs. Fulfillment
- d. Invasion of the Ruhr
- e. Hyperinflation of 1923 and its impact
- f. Stresemann, Dawes, Locarno and the “Era of Good Feeling”

## **II. Friedrich Ebert, 1925**

- a. SPD leader – dies of a heart attack in 1925

## **III. Stresemann’s Hidden Agenda in the Locarno Pact, 1925**

- a. Stresemann wanted border-specific pact (Franco-German border), which was Germany’s western border to be guaranteed by Britain and Italy
- b. Stresemann wanted to make Germany appear less threatening
- c. Got Germany into the League of nations
- d. **Stresemann wanted EASTERN German borders to be more fluid**
- e. Germans wanted to see the elimination of the Polish Corridor, so that all German-speaking people could be reunited
- f. Stresemann signed arbitration agreement against Poland and Czechoslovakia in the Locarno Pact, saying that Germany would have to warn them if they planned on attacking them
- g. Britain believed that Germany had the right to self-determination in eastern border b/c there were German-speaking people in Poland and Czechoslovakia (which is why they didn’t act when Hitler invaded the Rhineland)
- h. British were not against allowing all Germans to unite in Germany
- i. But in the Locarno Pact, Germany agreed never to remilitarize the Rhineland
- j. Germany also agreed in the Locarno Pact never to attempt to regain Alsace Lorraine

## **IV. Era of Good Feeling**

- a. French accepted Germans as equals in the League of Nations
- b. When Locarno Pact concluded in 1925, it seemed to end animosity that existed since the end of WW1
- c. German economy was improving w/ US loans being sent into Germany

## **V. Germans enter League of Nations, 1926**

- a. German delegates first take their seats in League of Nations
- b. The French foreign minister is the first to welcome them

## VI. Locarno Pact = Nobel Peace Prize, 1926

- a. For their part in negotiating the Locarno Pact,
  - Briand – FRANCE
  - Stresemann – GERMANY
  - Chamberlain - BRITAIN
 are awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1926

## VII. Kellog-Briand Pact, 1928

- a. Pact between American and French foreign ministers
- b. **OUTLAWS WAR**
- c. Agreed to in the spirit of the Era of Good Feeling that began with the passage of the Locarno Pact
- d. However, this pact was never backed up – no means of enforcing pact was discussed

## VIII. “Era of Good Feeling” was superficial

- a. **Push towards Disarmament** – nobody wanted to be first to disarm and be vulnerable
- b. Dawes Plan – Germans still resented having to pay reparations even though they were being welcomed back into the European community
- c. Locarno Pact – Allowed possibility of German revisionism in the east
- d. Weimar Republic’s Greatest Prosperity (1925 – 29): Locarno – Great Depression
- e. Locarno Pact didn’t take away Article 231 from Versailles – Germans were still seen as being guilty for starting WW1

## IX. Young Plan, 1929

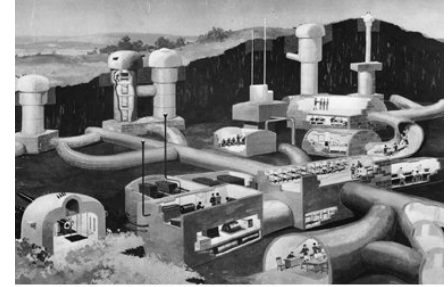
- a. Temporary reparation plan of Locarno Pact expired in 1929
- b. Young Plan replaced reparation plan
- c. Plan said that Germans would have to pay reparations until the 1980s
- d. Germans were infuriated to be ordered to pay for 60 more years, so disarmament became impossible

## X. Problem of Disarmament

- a. Germans would only disarm if other nations agreed to disarm, too
- b. France feared that if they disarmed, then Germany would rearm and attack France again
- c. France, because of its insecurity spent more money on armaments than any other European country, except for the Soviet Union

## **XI. Maginot Line, started 1929**

- a. Extending about 150 miles from Sedan in the west to beyond Wissembourg in the east, the Line bristled with some 50 large fortifications, each within cannon range of another. Buried 100 feet and more under hills and ridges, the impregnable complexes were manned by up to 1,000 troops.
- b. Vast network on France's Eastern border w/ Germany
- c. Completed in 1935
- d. French public opinion wanted to extend Maginot line to the English Channel
- e. Faced eastward (toward Germany) so that in the case of a German landward invasion, France would be ready
- f. Left and Right parties in France supported Maginot Line
- g. Maginot Line didn't anticipate air power
- h. Germans landed behind the Maginot Line and invaded France
- i. France spent "billions" to hide behind the Maginot Line



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## **XII. Stabilization in Germany, 1924**

- a. After the hyperinflation of 1923, the introduction of new currency by Stresemann, and with US foreign funds sent to Germany from 1924-1929, the German economy began to improve
- b. Some stabilization in Parliament
- c. Universal suffrage worked
- d. Good treatment of labor unions
- e. 1930s – Berlin became cultural center of Europe (arts, movies, films)
- f. Mid – late 1920s – economic revival helped German foreign policy

## **XIII. Stresemann's Death, 1929**

- a. Died of a heart attack in 1929
- b. Seen by the entire world as an extraordinary and positive figure
- c. Historians believe he would have kept Hitler from coming to power

## **XIV. Stresemann's Revisionist Tendencies?**

- a. After WW2, in one of Stresemann's personal letters that were found by the Allies, addressed to the Crown Prince of Prussia, Stresemann expressed controversial, revisionist tendencies
- b. In September 1925, Stresemann stated that he wanted to set a time table for dismantling the Locarno Pact
- c. He said that while he accepted the Franco-German border, he wanted revision on the other side
- c. Letter said that Germany would take down Versailles treaty as well, by, force, if necessary to reunite German-speaking people
- d. Stresemann died before he could carry out his grand designs
- e. Revisionist tendencies sound like HITLER

**XV. STRESEMANN and HITLER Similarities**

- a. It appears that Stresemann was being expansionist, wanting the same things that Hitler wanted
- b. Stresemann wanted to remove the Sudetenland line in Czechoslovakia, which Hitler did
- c. Stresemann and Hitler wanted German-speaking areas in Eastern Europe

**XVI. STRESEMANN and HITLER Differences**

- a. Hitler wanted territory that was German and non-German (Stresemann only wanted German-speaking territory)
- b. Stresemann didn't advocate the destruction of Jews, which Hitler did

**XVII. Analyzing Stresemann's Letter**

- a. To stay in power, Stresemann had to gain support from the left and right wings
- b. The Crown Prince of Prussia had pull w/ right wing parties in Weimar
- c. It is possible that the letter to the Crown Prince was just propaganda to gain support for Stresemann

**XVIII. Tip on Analyzing Primary Sources**

- a. It is important when analyzing primary sources to determine what the document is trying to accomplish and for what audience the letter is written for

**XIX. Divided Loyalties in Weimar**

- a. Could Stresemann have saved Weimar? Widely debated
- b. History of Weimar Republic was problematic
- c. There were Communist coup attempts that had been put down, but they were still around
- d. Communist groups made anti-Communist groups very nervous
- e. None of the 4 major parties had a majority in Parliament

**XX. von Hindenburg elected President, 1925**

- a. 1925 – Friedrich Ebert prematurely died of a heart attack
- b. Popular elections for new President, elected Hindenburg
- c. Hindenburg was a war hero, but a right winger
- d. Elections of 1925 proved that republican section of Weimar was weaker than parties on the left and the right

**XXI. Why Did Germans Continue to Support Right Wing after WW1?**

- a. Innate mistrust of Democracy
- b. Inflation affected Middle Class
- c. Anti-Parliamentary movements found favors from the Army, which was carried over from pre-WW1 Germany

## Hitler – the Early Years



circa 1890

### **I. Hitler's Manipulative Ways**

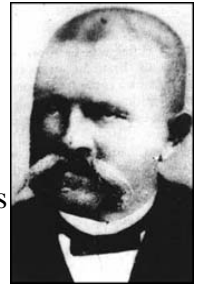
- a. Hitler was ready to take Weimar out by force
- b. Hitler played on the insecurity of Germans

### **II. Birth Information**

- a. Adolph Hitler – born: April 1889 in Austria (near Bavarian border)
- b. Born to family of peasant stock
- c. Father, Alois moved up from peasant to civil service rank

### **III. Alois Hitler (1837-1904)**

- a. Father of Adolph Hitler
- b. Born an illegitimate peasant; moved up in status to civil service rank
- c. ALOIS was incensed when his son told him that instead of joining the civil service he was going to become an artist. The relationship between Hitler and his father deteriorated and the conflict only ended with the death of Alois Hitler in 1903.



### **IV. Klara Hitler (1851-1907)**

- a. Mother of Adolph Hitler
- b. HITLER had fond memories of his mother, carried her photograph wherever he went and, it is claimed, had it in his hand when he died in 1945.
- c. Hitler's mom was taken care of by a Jewish doctor when she was ill in 1907
- d. Hitler knew that the doctor was very helpful to his mother, so he protected him during the Holocaust



### **V. Hitler's Childhood**

- a. Grew up in Linz
- b. Good in elementary school
- c. Hitler's father died when he was 14 in 1903 (but Hitler didn't care b/c he didn't get along with his father)
- d. Few years afterwards, Hitler flunked out of school

### **VI. Hitler's Dreams**

- a. Hitler had architectural dreams of rebuilding cities

**VII. Hitler is Rejected**

- a. 1907 – Hitler went to Vienna, but his paintings were thought not to be very good
- b. He was rejected the same year that his mother died, so he may have taken the rejection extra hard

**VIII. Hitler's Mother Dies**

- a. 1907 – Hitler's mother died (he was very attached to her)
- b. The doctor of Hitler's mother was Jewish
- c. Hitler knew that the Jewish doctor did a good job in taking care of his mother, so he did everything to protect him during the Holocaust

**IX. Hitler: an Orphan**

- a. At 17, when Hitler's mother died, he received a state pension as an orphan
- b. He had dropped out of school, and he was getting money for doing no work
- c. When Hitler's money ran out and he was living in poverty in Vienna in 1911-12, Hitler began forming his world views
- d. Once Hitler had his philosophies, he never wavered

**X. Georg Von Schoenerer**

- a. Anti-Jewish racism was popular in Vienna in the 20<sup>th</sup> century
- b. Von Schoenerer thought that all German-speaking people should live together
- c. Wanted to end Austrian empire to unite Germans
- d. Anti-Semitic
- e. Von Schoenerer was anti-Middle Class, but Hitler wanted to include the Middle Class

**XI. Karl Lueger**

- a. When Hitler was in Vienna, Karl Lueger was Mayor
- b. Hitler was a supporter of Lueger's anti-Semitism and supported that he mixed with the masses
- c. Hitler liked that Lueger used slogans and propaganda to spread his message
- d. Hitler wished that Lueger used more anti-Semitism as policy and not just as propaganda

**XII. Lanz Von Liebenfels**

- a. Pushed philosophy of Arisophy
- b. Gave Hitler the Swastika idea as movement of Ariosophical
- c. Gave Hitler the idea that Jews were monsters that had to be eliminated

### **XIII. Richard Wagner (1813-83)**

- a. COMPOSER OF OPERAS THAT CELEBRATED THE GERMAN PAST. HIS WRITINGS CONDEMNED JEWISH INFLUENCE IN MUSIC.
- b. Hitler liked his operas b/c they included outsiders (Hitler was rejected by art school)
- c. Hitler blamed his rejection from art school on Jews and the Bourgeois
- d. Hitler didn't think his rejection was justified
- e. In Wagner's operas, outsiders get back at those who reject them

### **XIV. Hitler Goes to Munich, 1913**

- a. 1913, Hitler moved to Munich to escape the draft in the Austrian army
- b. Hitler went to Munich to volunteer for the German Army

### **XV. Hitler's Role in World War I**

- a. World War I gave Hitler a purpose for the 1<sup>st</sup> time
- b. Hitler was a dispatch runner – a dangerous position
- c. He was awarded an “*iron cross*” - a rare award for a man enlisted in Army
- d. Hitler loved being in the war, but he wasn't social – not one of the guys

### **XVI. Hitler Blames Jews for Defeat in WWI**

- a. Hitler got news of Germany's defeat and was shocked
- b. He believed that the military wasn't responsible for losing
- c. He blamed the political establishment that Jews belonged to (Social Democrats - that were in power AFTER the war) on the home-front
- d. Hitler claimed that Jews stabbed the country in the back
- e. Since Hitler believed the Social Democrats humiliated Germany by signing the Versailles Treaty, Hitler became a politician to get back at them

### **XVII. Thule Society**

- a. After the war, Hitler was recruited by the Army to be an information minister to observe political parties
- b. In Bavaria, Hitler observed meeting of the **German Workers Party** that belonged to the Thule Society

### **XVIII. German Workers Party**

- a. Wanted to attack Jews and achieve racial purity
- b. Party belonged to the Thule Society



**XIX. Anton Drexler**

- a. Leader of German Workers Party when Hitler joined as member #55
- b. Hitler rose to #1 by 1921 (very fast) because he found out that he had a good at speaking

**XX. Hopra House Meeting, April 1920**

- Hitler and Drexler have 20-point meeting in front of 2000 people
- German Workers Party is renamed:

**NATIONAL SOCIALIST GERMAN WORKERS PARTY (NSDAP), or the Nazi Party**

In 1920, neither Drexler nor Hitler preached for the destruction of Jews

- a. They just wanted a place to put “undesired” people - wanted to move Jews out of Germany
  - b. Wanted only Germans to be members of Germany
  - c. Believed that Jews could not be German
  - d. Wanted self-determination for German-speaking people
- Hitler quit the Army soon after and devoted himself full time to politics

**XXI. Hitler Becomes Leader, 1921**

- a. Hitler ousts Drexler and becomes the leader of the Nazi Party

## **Hitler's Henchmen: Goebbels, Goering, and Himmler**

(2<sup>nd</sup> Group Presentation)

### **I. Herman Goering**

#### **A. Life and Views**

- a. Born in 1883 to a Bavarian family
- b. Served in WWI as a Mercenary
- c. Due to injuries suffered from the Beer Hall, Putsch Goering developed an addiction to heroin
- d. Goering was more interested with power and status than with his ideological views

#### **B. Goering's Titles**

- a. President of the Reichstag
- b. Reich's Minister Without Portfolio
- c. Commander in Chief of the Luftwaffe
- d. Minister-President of Prussia
- e. Prussian Minister of the Interior
- f. Created the Prussian political police, the **Gestapo**
- g. Retained control of Gestapo, contrary to Himmler

#### **C. Goering's Fall**

- a. Due to his heroin addiction, Goering was largely bypassed during the latter parts of the war
- b. In the final days of the war, he attempted to claim his "rightful" role as the Fuhrer after Hitler supposedly claimed he was going to commit suicide
- c. Seeing that Goering was out for his power, Hitler sent people to kill Goering, but they didn't get him before the Allies did
- d. Goering was captured by the Allies and tried at Nuremberg (and found guilty)
- e. He committed suicide two hours before his scheduled hanging (punishment for being found guilty)

### **II. Joseph Goebbels**

#### **A. Life**

- a. Born in 1887
- b. Suffered from Osteomyelitis, which left his left leg shorter than his right leg
- c. While he was physically impaired, he was intellectually gifted (had several degrees)
- d. He was aware of his handicaps at a young age

**B. Goebbels' Role**

- a. National Minister of Public Enlightenment and Propanda
- b. Created most of the Nazi propaganda personally
- c. Was a great orator – nearly as good as Hitler
- d. He had no scruples, which allowed him to perpetuate the “Big Lie” – If you tell a lie for long enough, the public will accept it as truth

**C. Goebbels' Fall**

- a. Over time, Goebbels' lies became harder for the German people to swallow (War was taking longer than propaganda claimed it would)
- b. On the eve of the Russian invasion, Goebbels committed suicide
- c. His wife committed suicide as well
- d. Before killing themselves, Goebbels and his wife, poisoned their children
- e. Goebbels said that if his children were old enough, they would have said that they didn't want to live in a world without Hitler
- f. Goebbels and his wife also didn't want their children to be looked down on and treated badly by the victors

**III. Heinrich Himmler****A. Life**

- a. Born in 1900
- b. Had an atypical youth
- c. No signs of abuse
- d. Despite his average youth, he became a cold, calculating killer

**B. Himmler's Role**

- a. Personally responsible for brutal efficiency of the SS and the SD
- b. The terror created by Himmler's SS was effective at quelling any potential enemies of the regime from ever becoming effective against the Nazi Party
- c. Personally responsible for the day-to-day events with regard to the Holocaust
- d. His second in command came up w/ the idea for the Holocaust

**C. Himmler's Fall**

- a. Main fault was creating too effective of a terror device
- b. Himmler was captured while trying to escape, disguised as a low-level Gestapo soldier
- c. The entire organization had been declared outlawed
- d. Committed suicide in custody, with capsule hidden in his mouth

**IV. What Did Hitler's Henchmen Have in Common?**

- a. Craved power
- b. Willing to do anything to get power (killed millions of people)
- c. Had psychological disorders
- d. Committed suicide
- e. Did not fit the German Aryan model
- f. All ugly people

## **Who Supported Hitler?**

(3<sup>rd</sup> Group Presentation)

### **I. Napalm**

- a.
- b.
- c.
- d.

### **II. Potsdam Declaration**

- a.
- b.

### **III. A Threat to North Korea**

- a.
- b.
- c.

### **IV. Truman learns about Manhattan Project**

- a.
- b.
- c.

### **V. Malitov gets the Riot Act**

- a.

### **VI. Start of Cold War**

- a.
- b.
- c.

### **VII. Victory in Europe**

- a.
- b.
- c.
- d.

## **Hitler's Rise to Power**

### **I. Hitler – the Skilled Politician**

- a. Committed to his ideals and didn't waver
- b. Good party organizer
- c. Molded party well in early years
- d. Wanted party's message to be set in stone

### **II. Hitler's Symbols**

- a. Established symbols (Swastika and the high "heil" salute)
- b. Symbols were borrowed from past times
- c. Swastika = eternal life and motion
- d. Symbols were simple; message was simple
- e. All Germans agreed that Treaty of Versailles was bad and the symbols Hitler used gave the people something to hold on to

### **III. Hitler's Party Leaders**

- a. Hitler's early recruits in the Nazi movement were chosen to be party leaders when Hitler came to power
- b. People like, Rudolph Hess, Goebbels, Goering and Himmler

### **IV. The Stirmabteilung, or the S.A.**

- a. Nazi party was strengthened by S.A.
- b. Founded to guard speaker and party leadership during Nazi meetings
- c. Expanded over time to become a violent party militia
- d. They added terror and violence to pack up everything they said

### **V. Hitler's Rise to Leadership**

- a. 1919 – demoralized Army speaker, then became information minister
- b. 4 years later, became Nazi party leader

**VI. Hitler – The Time is Right for Revolution, 1923**

- a. In 1923, Hitler felt the time was right to take over Bavarian and German governments b/c of demoralization due to hyperinflation
- b. Hitler thought that w/ Right wing leaders in Bavaria turning against the government, Hitler could stage a coup, like Mussolini did in Italy in 1922
- c. S.A. – 15,000 members; Nazi Party – 50,000 members
- d. Germany was in crisis and more people turned their allegiance towards the Nazis b/c of hyperinflation

**VII. Kampfbound**

- a. Umbrella that controlled paramilitary groups in Bavaria
- b. Paramilitary groups were the so-called “Hunting Clubs”
- c. Hitler established himself outside of the Nazi party as a Kampfbound

**VIII. Weimar Orders Not Followed, 1923**

- a. Leaders of Weimar weren't surprised at uprisings
- b. Weimar government sent orders down to shut down Nazi newspapers to avoid Nazi takeover in Bavaria
- c. Right-wing leaders in Bavaria didn't follow orders given from Berlin
- d. Hitler thought that by the Fall 1923 that he could bring Right Wing leaders in Bavaria into the Nazi Party

**IX. Right Wingers Side with Weimar Government**

- a. At the last minute, right wing Bavarians wavered their allegiance and turned against Hitler b/c the Weimar government was beginning to take control of the population
- b. Hitler now had to move fast to carry out a revolution

**X. Beer Hall Putsch, 11/9/1923**

- a. Hitler went to Beer Hall in Munich on a cold day and proclaimed that a national revolution had broken out
- b. Hitler thought that right wingers in Bavaria would follow him, but right wingers were wavering
- c. Hitler threatened to unleash the S.A. on right wingers who were wavering in support to Hitler
- d. Hitler let the right wingers go – and they didn't come back (they sided with Weimar government)
- e. Hitler led 2000 marchers in downtown Munich, but they were shot at and so they had to surrender after being shot at

**XI. Hitler on Trial**

- a. Hitler went on trial for treason
- b. Hitler used his defense in the trial to publicize the Nazi message
- c. Hitler claimed that by starting a revolution, he was just trying to give Germans what they wanted – a better life – because all Germans were opposed the Versailles treaty
- d. Judiciary gave Hitler a slap on the wrist (Judge was on Hitler's side)
- e. Hitler got a 5-year prison sentence
- f. Released from prison after 1 ½ years

**XII. Landsberg Prison**

- a. Prison where Hitler served
- b. Had very relaxed rules
- c. Hitler was allowed to hang curtain on his windows
- d. Hitler had lots of food brought to him in prison from party aficionados
- d. **Rudolph Hess**, a supporter of Hitler, was allowed to stay in prison with Hitler

**XIII. *Mein Kampf***

- a. While Hitler was in prison, he dictated *Mein Kampf* (my battle) to Rudolph Hess
- b. Poorly written propaganda (on a 5<sup>th</sup> grade level) that outlines the goals of the Nazi movemnet
- c. Hitler's message was not taken seriously
- d. Book was a blueprint of what Hitler would do if he gained power.
- e. Hitler tells his life story and how he learned his philosophies

**XIV. Lebensraum (living space)**

- a. In *Mein Kampf*, Hitler said that Aryan race was the greatest race on earth, but that Aryans were crowed into a small space in central Europe and they needed to expand to the east to achieve greatness for the German people
- b. Hitler didn't want colonies – feeling that they were problematic due to uprisings
- c. Hitler wanted contiguous territory

**XV. *Mein Kampf* – #1 best seller**

- a. When Hitler came to power, he forced all German houses to carry his book, threatening to send the S.A. to households that didn't have his book
- b. His book was not widely read, but it contained important messages and plans

**XVI. Hitler's Platform to Achieve Lebensraum**

- a. Nationalism
- b. Anti-Semitism
- c. Anti-Bolshevism



## **XVII. Nazis: Party Rivalry**

- a. Party membership Declined when Hitler got out of jail in 1925
- b. Hitler got rid of party rivalry to re-establish firm control over the Party

## **XVIII. Reichstag**

- a. Germany was divided into 35 Reichstag electoral districts
- b. Hitler renamed electoral districts - **Gau**
- c. Each **Gau** was subdivided into small districts in a top-down organization
- d. Each **Gau** was called the **Gauleiter**

## **XIX. The Road to a Legal Takeover**

- a. Hitler revamped S.A. and established S.S. after getting out of prison
- b. Nazi party gaining control of government in 1933 was perfectly legal as opposed to Hitler's proclaimed revolution in 1923
- c. Just as Hitler was putting his final plans for a takeover in process, the Depression came

## **XX. Why Was Germany Hardest Hit by Depression?**

- a. Agricultural Slowdown in 1920s – strike one
- b. Industrial Slowdown in 1920s – strike two
- c. Wall Street-Stock Market Crash, 1929 – strike three
- d. Germany had no Roaring 20s
- e. After collapse of Wall Street, US called in short-term loans that were given to Weimar since 1925
- f. German economy had just begun to rebuild and the repayment of short-term loans brought the German economy down to its knees

## **XXI. Lack of Solid Leadership to Help German Economy**

### **A. Stresemann**

- a. Died a couple of weeks before stock market crash
- b. Historians believe that he may have prevented Hitler from gaining power

### **B. President Hindenburg**

- a. in his 80s

**C. The Great Coalition**

- a. Composed of right and left wingers that compromised
- b. Right Wingers wanted to cut unemployment benefits
- c. Socialists (left) couldn't support cutting unemployment benefits b/c their identity was in supporting social programs

**D. Review**

- a. Best Leaders were gone
- b. Economy was in Shambles
- c. Coalition had dissolved over irreconcilable differences

**XXII. Hindenburg Wants to Uphold Constitution**

- a. Hindenburg didn't favor bringing back 2<sup>nd</sup> Reich
- b. He was honor bound to support Weimar Constitution
- c. Hindenburg was always surrounded by generals and monarchists to do away w/ Constitution in 1930

**XXIII. Bruening, 1930**

- a. Member of Center Party, chosen as chancellor in 1930 by Hindenburg
- b. Catholic, right winger (very conservative)
- c. Believed budget cuts were necessary
- d. Wanted to cut unemployment benefits
- e. Socialists in Reichstag refused to support him

**XXIV. Article 48 – Rule By Decree**

- a. B/c Socialists wouldn't support Bruening's conservative views, Bruening convinced Hindenburg to impose Article 48 to allow Bruening to rule by decree as “**Ersatkaiser**” – Replacement Kaiser

**XXV. September 1930 Elections**

- a. Bruening believed people would support him and shift away from Communism, but he was wrong
- b. Nazi Party went from having 15 seats to 107 seats om Reocjstag

**XXVI. September 1930 – January 1933**

- a. The question became how long would it be before Hitler came to power
- b. Government was shifted to the right

**XXVII. Bruening Disregards Elections**

- a. Bruening continued to rule by decree
- b. He still didn't want to cooperate w/ Socialists (at the risk of allowing the Nazis to gain strength)

**XXVIII. Bruening's Government**

- a. Bruening wanted government to be right wing - authoritarian
- b. He believed that he could tame the Nazis into supporting his type of government
- c. Right wingers even believed that the Nazis were under-classed and that they could be dictated to
- d. Socialists regarded Bruening government as being a lesser evil than the Nazis

**XXIX. Bruening's Massive Celebrations**

- a. In trying to appeal to nationalistic instincts, Bruening staged massive celebrations when France pulled out of Rhineland in 1930
- b. Bruening thought that nationalistic appeals could create unity
- c. However, unemployment kept increasing

**XXX. Bruening is Dismissed, May 1932**

- a. As a result of Bruening's rule, more people start turning against Weimar government
- b. People were less concerned with nationalism when they had trouble getting their next meal
- c. Hitler dismisses Bruening

**XXXI. More Hesitation to Cooperation with Socialists: May 1932 – Jan. 1933**

- a. Hindenburg and those around him were more hesitant to cooperate with Socialists
- b. Hindenburg was 85 and more inclined towards authoritarianism
- c. B/c of Bruening's failures, more right wingers supported Nazis

**XXXII. Hitler Wants to Be Chancellor**

- a. Since Nazis were the party in control of the Reichstag, Hitler as its leader wanted to be Chancellor
- b. Between May 1932 and Jan. 1933 there was a standoff between Nazis and successors
- c. Hindenburg cited reasons to avoid from having to name Hitler, as Chancellor

**XXXIII. Chancellor Von Papen**, appointed Late 1932

- a. Tries to form coalition w/ Nazis
- b. Elections show a decrease in Nazi vote by end of 1932
- c. Communist popularity was increasing

**XXXIV. A Deal is Made to Save Authoritarianism**

- a. Conservatives/Nazis feared that the chance for establishing an authoritarian government would be missed if they didn't allow Hitler and Nazis to come to power
- b. Von Papen believed that Hitler could become Chancellor, but only be allowed to have 2 Nazi cabinet members with him
- c. Von Papen believed that if Hitler's other cabinet positions were filled by Conservatives (not nazis) that Hitler could be controlled by Reichstag
- d. Von Papen thought Hitler was a rabble rouser that could be controlled
- e. von Papen and Hindenburg agreed to let Hitler become Chancellor
- f. B/c of Nazi decline in 1932 election, Hitler accepted having only 2 cabinet members as Nazis

## **The Nuremberg Laws** (4<sup>th</sup> Group Presentation)

How did they define who was a Jew?  
How did they affect Jews, Half-Jews, and Quarter-Jews?

**Background:** anti-Semitism, Belief goes way back. Re: Marin Luther. Term originated in Germany used by Wilhelm Marr in the 1870s in his book *The Victory of Judaism over Germanism*. Late 19<sup>th</sup> century economy was booming – no one cared about heritage. However, with socialism on the upswing and Jews favoring liberal politicians, Jews became some of the labor leaders, thereby becoming whipping boys for the crash of 1873. Most Jews were loyal Germans and craved acculturation. They were strongly Nationalist, even to the point that Orthodox Jews accused the reformed Jews of abandoning Judaism for Germanism. Reform Advocate Abraham Geiger, said “German Jews must look upon Germany as the one and only homeland.” Germans fought with Jews in WWI.

**During the Weimar Republic:** Jewish intermarriage w/ Christians reached 60% (marriages were later voided by the Nazis). Jews represented high percent of their population in high profile jobs, which left Jews open for new attacks.

**Nazis in Power:** 1929 Depression hits, Jews blamed. Hitler manipulates constitution to gain power. Wheels start turning concerning how to “control” Jewish population. Hitler’s Ideology: 2 historical views: **Intentionalists** and **Functionalists** – Jews felt more German, but Hitler still encouraged them to leave

**HITLER LOOKED AT JEWS AS A RACE & A RELIGION**

### Laws preceding Nuremburg Laws (400 laws):

- **Enabling Act**, March 1933
- **Gleichschaltung** (coordination) **Law for the Restoration of the Professional Civil Service**, April 7, 1933

### Nuremburg Laws – beginning September 15, 1935

- **Reich Citizenship Law**, November 14, 1935 – declared that Jews were no longer citizens of Germany and were now “**unwelcome guests.**” There was a brief respite of this law during the 1936 Olympic Games in Germany, but once they were over, things shifted into high gear. (Jews could not sit on park benches, walk in the street)

### Categories of Jews as defined by German geneticists and Nuremburg Laws

Bloodlines, Religious Community affiliation, Mischlings, Non-Aryans

Kristallnacht – Nov. 9-10, 1938 (by Jewish gen. in Paris – Grinsbaum)

By the end of 1939, many of the definitions became moot points

### Law for Protection of Blood and Honor

**Full Jewish:** 3 – 4 grandparents

**Mischling:** Different Degrees of Being Jewish

1. 2 grandparents/blood/non-Jewish
2. 1 grandparent/Jewish/religion

- Offspring that are the result of an extramarital affair are considered Jewish
- Laws made Jews uneasy

**1938**

- Initiation of persecutions
- Curfew in place for Jews
- Jews are not allowed to work

**1939**

- Hitler invades Poland, so Jews can't relocate
- "Final solution" = annihilation

## **The Nazis: A Warning from History: Part 1 – “Helped to Power”**

### **I. Goering**

- a. Joined party in Bavaria in 1921 b/c it was revolutionary, not b/c of ideology

### **II. Buergerbraukeller Putsch, 1923**

- a. (Beer Hall Putsch)
- b. In Munich, Hitler interrupted right wing meeting at Beer Hall and called for revolution in Bavaria  
Hitler hoped police and right-wing leaders would join him in a march, but police wavered their support
- c. In Hitler's march, Nazis were shot at by right wing

### **III. German Judiciary and Hitler, 1923**

- a. Hitler was found guilty
- b. In his defense, spoke as a German patriot who was trying to help Germany (and highlighted his Nazi party)
- c. Judge gave Hitler a lenient sentence

### **IV. Landsberg Prison**

- a. Hitler was given 3 months in prison, but b/c judge called for leniency, Hitler only served 1 month
- b. Hitler served 9 months at Landsberg Prison

### **V. Short-term loans**

- a. Reparations problems were solved in 1925 b/c of US loans that were given to Germany
- b. After stock market crash, US called in short-term loans (which re-crippled German economy)

### **VI. Weimar “Decadence”**

- a. Movement that wanted to return to older, simpler way of life

### **VII. Wandervogel**

- a. One group that wanted to return to old, simpler way of life



**VIII. “World Jewish Conspiracy”**

- a. Nazi claim that Jews were responsible for German suffering and had to be removed from society

**IX. S.A. Brownshirts**

- a. Protected Nazi meetings and drummed up support for Nazis

**X. Nazi Party Structure and Administration**

- a. Ruled from the top – down by Hitler

**XI. Natural Selection**

- a. Hitler believed in the law of the jungle
- b. The stronger asserts his will – survival of the fittest

**XII. Max Amann**

- a. One of Hitler’s closest confidants
- b. Told people who wanted to be appointed as the leader of a local branch of the Nazi party that leadership shouldn’t be appointed
- c. He said that if the individual was as popular as they claimed to be, he should just **“take over power”**

**XIII. Factors that aided Hitler’s Rise to Power after 1928**

- a. Nazis were thought to be a small, joke party
- b. Agricultural crisis
- c. Wall Street Crash
- d. Loan repayments called in

**XIV. Under-employment statistics**

- a. 5.5 million - 1931

**XV. Impact of Depression on Germany**

- a. Underemployed were living poorly
- b. Germany had the worst economy in the world
- c. There was massive inflation
- d. Germans were given 5 Reichmarks (money) each day

**XVI. 1931 Bank Collapse**

- a. 5 major banks crashed
- b. 20,000 businesses folded (now the middle-class was suffering)
- c. After economic crisis, more people voted for the Nazis

**XVII. Rise in Communist Vote, 1930-32**

- a. Democracy was splitting apart to the far right and left

**XVIII. Hjalmar Schacht**

- a. Lobbied Hindenburg to make Hitler - chancellor

**XIX. Strasser's Resignation and Party Finances, 1932**

- a. Strasser was the Nazi Finance Minister
- b. Nazis were going bankrupt b/c of all the election battles
- c. Strasser resigned due to the state of the Nazi finances

**XX. Von Papen's "Deal"**

- a. Von Papen and Hindenburg agreed to let Hitler become chancellor, hoping to save authoritarianism and avoid a Communist takeover
- b. Hitler would become chancellor, but if would only be allowed to have 2 Nazis as cabinet members
- c. Von Papen believed that Hitler could be controlled if the other cabinet positions were filled by conservatives

**XXI. Movie Notes**

- a. Jan. 30, 1933 – Hitler was announced chancellor
- b. People believed that Parliament would be able to control Hitler
- c. 55 million people died in WWII
- d. WW2 was born out of Versailles treaty that ended WW1
- e. Most leaders of Weimar were Jewish
- f. German Workers party started numbering people, beginning w/ 500 to make the party look bigger (Hitler was #555 or really, #55)
- g. France alienated Germans b/c of reparations and invasion of the Ruhr
- h. In 1920s – Nazi platform was that if they came to power, they would strip Jews of citizenship
- i. Hitler had bad time management – never arrived at meetings on time
- j. July 1932 Presidential Election: Hitler lost to Hindenburg
- k. Nazis received 37% of the vote in 1932 Presidential Election
- l. August 13, 1932 – Hitler demanded to be chancellor, but Hindenburg refused
- m. Different pressure groups lobbied

**FOR EXAM: STUDY CLASS NOTES; READ CHAPTERS 1-3 IN BOTWINICK AND SPIELVOGEL**

***STUDY THE FOLLOWING:***

1. **ROLE OF THE HOLY ROMAN EMPIRE IN GERMAN HISTORY**
2. **RISE AND FALL OF THE GERMAN CONFEDERATION, 1815-1866**
3. **BISMARCK'S STRATEGY FOR GERMAN UNIFICATION—WHICH PARTIES DID HE COURT, AND WHY?**
4. **BISMARCK'S FOREIGN POLICY, 1871-90**
5. **BISMARCK, UNIVERSAL SUFFRAGE AND SOCIAL WELFARE**
6. **IMPACT OF REIGN OF WILLIAM II ON DOMESTIC AND FOREIGN POLICY**
7. **VOELKISCH IDEOLOGY**
8. **MAJOR TURNING POINTS RE: GERMANY'S INVOLVEMENT IN WORLD WAR I**
9. **ARTICLE 231 AND ITS IMPACT**
10. **MYTH OF "BETRAYAL" BY SOCIALISTS; THE SO-CALLED "STAB IN THE BACK" THEORY OR DOLCHSTOSSTHEORIE**
11. **EBERT-GROENER PACT—ORIGINS AND IMPACT**
12. **ARTICLE 48 -- ERSATZKAISER**
13. **TREATY OF RAPALLO**
14. **OBSTRUCTIONISM OF WEIMAR GOVERNMENT AND HYPERINFLATION OF 1923**
15. **MEIN KAMPF AND LEBENSRAUM**
16. **ORIGINS OF MODERN ANTI-SEMITISM**
17. **STRESEMANN, DAWES AND LOCARNO**
18. **ORIGINS OF DEPRESSION AND UNEMPLOYMENT IN GERMANY**
19. **WHICH GROUPS SUPPORTED THE NAZI RISE TO POWER AND WHY**
20. **BRUENING'S POLICIES AND THEIR IMPACT**
21. **VON PAPEN, SCHLEICHER AND THE COLLAPSE OF THE REPUBLIC**

## “Mischlinge” in National Socialist Germany (1933-1945) and thereafter

### **I. History of Half Jews**

- a. The term Half Jew (Mischlinge) – never existed until Nuremberg Laws in 1935
- b. Mischling = 1 or 2 Jewish grandparents
- c. Half Jews/Jews couldn't attend higher education after passage of Nuremberg Laws

### **II. Ancestry of Grandparents determines status (blood)**

- a. Ancestry of Grandparents was looked at to decide if a person was Jewish, half Jewish, or Aryan
- b. All Germans were issued and forced to carry at all times a card that recognized themselves as German

### **III. Germans Forced to Prove Their Roots**

- a. Archival records had to be opened for Germans to prove their roots
- b. Being German depended on the grandparent's religion, not the individual (who may have converted)
- c. Even though Jews didn't recognize an individual as being Jewish, if they had a Christian mother, that didn't stop the Nazis from classifying them as Jewish

### **IV. Mug shots clear-up Labeling problems**

- a. If a person questioned their status as a  $\frac{1}{4}$  Jew,  $\frac{1}{2}$  Jew, or Jew, mug shots were taken of the individual
- b. Mug shots were observed by Nazi officials to determine (based on appearance) if the person was Jewish or not
- c. Many non-Jews became victims of this system

### **V. Assimilated Jews**

- a. Jews weren't safe if they converted to Christianity b/c it was the grandparent's religion that was focused on

### **VI. Half-Jews**

- a. Not allowed to take jobs where they would earn more money than for bare essentials
- b. Jews of any denomination could not intermarry with Germans/Christians

**VII. Gestapo**

- a. Targeted all kinds of Jews
- b. Once Jews were behind bars, often the result of devious entrapment, the Gestapo found news ways to keep them there
- c. Nazis encouraged its citizens to inform police (SS) about Jews who did things wrong
- d. By 1937, being a half-Jew was not a serious crime

**VIII. Jewish Name Changes**

- a. All Jewish men who were half-Jews were required to add the name Israel to their name and to wear a yellow band w/ the Star of David so that any German would recognize a Jew when they saw one

**IX. The Unscientific Nazis**

- a. The Nazis were not scientific, even though they claimed that that was how they determined who was a Jew

**X. Half Jews Criticized after WW2**

- a. Half Jews were criticized after the war, so they kept quiet:
- b. Either German Christians would say, when they mentioned being in the war, that they didn't have it as bad as full Jews
- c. Or, people would say, "So you're Jewish, huh? (anti-Semitism hadn't disappeared just b/c Allies won the war)

**XI. Why Were the Jews Persecuted?**

- a. The Nazis wanted get rid of Jews, believing that their lack of morale on the home front in WW1, along with the Social Democrats had caused Germany to be defeated
- b. 1/2 Jews, 1/4 Jews were treated worse outside of Germany

**XI. Jewish Characteristics**

- a. Physical characteristics were stereotyped to Jews, characteristics that were nonsense b/c they didn't apply to all Jews or exclusively to Jews

**XII. Germany Moves Away from Anti-Semitism, (circa 1960s)**

- a. Recent generations of Germans are less anti-Semitic b/c they have studies about the Nazis and what the government of the 1930s/1940s was like, being anti-Semitic
- b. After WW2, it took until the 1960s before German textbooks in W. Germany began to write about the Nazi Era
- c. Before the 1960s, W. German textbooks did not cover the Nazi Era – stopping in 1914

**XIII. Germans Determined Not to Repeat the Holocaust**

- a. In Germany, saying that the Holocaust didn't happen is against the law

## Hitler Establishes a Dictatorship

### **I. Hitler is appointed Chancellor**

- a. Hindenberg was surrounded by men who wanted to move the government more to the right, but he felt duty-bound to uphold the Weimar Constitution
- b. Bruening wanted to cut workers benefits, leading to more votes for radical parties
- c. By 1932, Hindenberg felt that he had to deal w/ Nazis
- d. 1932 – saw a slight loss of Nazis in the Reichstag (forced Hitler to compromise)
- e. Hitler didn't want to be deputy Chancellor – he had the time and patience
- f. Hitler said, "I'm 45, Hindenberg is 85, I can wait"
- g. Hitler wanted to be legitimately appointed to create a stronger sense of legality or credibility
- g. But Hitler didn't have to wait long as he was appointed on January 30, 1933

### **II. Nazi Structure**

- a. The Nazis were a success because they had an organized party structure
- b. Top – bottom organization (Hitler, followed by Gaus (regional leaders)...
- c. Hitler's orders were transmitted through party structure
- d. The organized and efficient nature of the Nazis made people believe that they knew what they were doing
- e. Nazi brutality was impressive to military

### **III. S.S.**

- a. picked up where the SA left off (after they had been banned in 1932)
- b. Gained importance in later Nazi years (Responsible for Holocaust)

### **IV. The Ban of the S.A.**

- a. Ruthlessness of SA – strengthened party
- b. SA beat people into supporting the Nazis
- c. Government put a ban on SA in 1932 that was lifted before Hitler came to power

### **V. Hitler Starts Building Support**

- a. Hitler wanted territorial expansion, but his aims were out of reach when he first came to power in 1933
- b. He had to overcome many hurdles and gain support domestically after gaining power before he could look to foreign policy
- c. The Nazis didn't have a majority in Reichstag
- d. Hitler had to build-up support for his Lebensraum program
- e. Was his party leadership structuralist or intentionalist?
- f. He didn't have a dictatorship, but was part of a coalition in the beginning

## **VI. State of Germany in 1933**

- a. German expansion was forbidden by Versailles and Locarno treaties – foreign policy
- b. Hitler couldn't control domestic policy b/c he didn't have majority in Reichstag
- c. Rhineland – still demilitarized
- d. Germany still had a reduced Army of 100,000 men

## **VII. Hitler's Begins Conservatively**

- a. Hitler had to win confidence of government before he could become more radical
- b. After all, President Hindenberg could still dismiss him
- c. Hitler had to make sure that the military would not turn against him
- d. He had to work to win the respect of the military b/c he wasn't an aristocrat
- e. Hitler had to win over conservatives and right wingers into the Nazi party to gain a majority within the Reichstag that would give him control over domestic policy
- f. Government thought it could control Hitler, but Hitler was working to control the government

## **VIII. Reichstag Fire – Hitler's "Red Scare"**

- a. Hitler worked to create a "Red Scare," attempting to discredit Communism
- b. Weeks after Hitler gained power, the Reichstag building goes up in flames
- c. Lots of emergency decrees issued by Nazis
- d. Hitler made it clear that Communists were responsible for starting the fire
- e. this created a scare, which caused Hindenberg to impose Article 48 of the Constitution, which increased Hitler's power
- f. Reichstag Fire decrees helped shut down opposition to Hitler, helping him to consolidate power

## **IX. The Reichstag after the Reichstag Fire**

- a. Communists had been discredited (because they were blamed for starting the fire)
- b. Hitler still couldn't get the majority after Reichstag fire
- c. Social Democrats and Catholic Center Party controlled 1/3 of the coalition

## **X. Enabling Act, March 1933**

- a. Allowed Hitler to pass laws on his own (freed Hitler from opposition)
- b. Passed by the Reichstag
- c. Only Social Democrats opposed Enabling Act
- d. Nazis convinced the Catholic Center Party to vote for the Enabling Act
- e. After the Reichstag Fire, Communists were carried off to prisons and concentration camps



## **XI. *Gleichschaltung* – “Bringing into line”**

- a. After the Enabling Act was passed, Hitler became a dictator
- b. Government, Army, Bureaucracy, Police were coerced/bribed into accepting Nazi policy
- c. Hitler got a majority in the Reichstag, but never got rid of Constitution (it was suspended—but intact, making his decrees appear legal)
- d. After March 1933, opposition parties were outlawed or dissolved
- e. By July 1933, only the Nazis are a legal party

## **XII. Germany Becomes a Centralized Government**

- a. Hitler curtailed autonomy of Federal State by appointing Nazi Governors and eliminated top house of government
- b. Germany became a centralized government for the first time in its history, as opposed to its traditional Federal Structure

## **XIII. Hitler Assumes the Presidency, August 1934**

- a. Hitler assumed the Presidency after the death of Hindenberg
- b. Authoritarian influences around Hindenberg accepted Hitler as President because they had wanted a dictatorship

## **XIV. Hitler’s Anti-Semitism Begins**

- a. With Germany in-line with Nazi policy, Hitler began passing Anti-Semitic laws
- b. April 1933 – all non-Aryans (Jews) of civil service rank were thrown out of their jobs
- c. 1935 – Nuremberg Laws (banned intermarriage, Jews forced to wear Star of David...)
- d. Once Hitler became dictator, he moved fast

## **XV. Police are Brought Into-Line**

- a. When Hitler came to power, as policies were implemented, the SA, SS imposed terror
- b. Hitler was able to bring the police into-line
- c. If people opposed dictatorship and their lack of freedom...they couldn’t...how?
  - There was no formed opposition
  - S.A. was terrorizing the public
  - Local police were now Nazis
- d. Nazis were appointed as Police Presidents
- e. Responses to Terror
  - Silence
  - Fear

**XV. Gestapo**

- a. Secret police established to single out enemies of Nazism
- b. Terrorized suspects who had no legal rights

**XVI. S.A. vs. the German Army**

- a. The last obstacle for Hitler was the Army
- b. SA helped bring Hitler to power, but it had grown too big
- c. Many in SA wanted Hitler to tear society apart and start over, but Hitler wanted to move slower so as to appear more legitimate

**XVII. Aron Roehm**

- a. Leader of the SA – wanted Hitler’s Revolution to go further and incorporate the SA into the regular German Army
- b. Roehm wanted to make SA into the regular Army and replace Army men w/ SA men

**XVIII. Hitler’s Dilemma**

- a. Hitler realized that he needed the regular Army more than the SA b/c the traditional Army was seen as more legitimate
- b. He wanted Army to support his Presidency after Hindenberg’s death
- c. Hitler had to win the respect of the Army b/c he was not an aristocrat and he was only a Corporal in the Army (meaning his superiors didn’t think he was outstanding)
- d. As a result, Hitler made a deal w/ the Army to clean up the SA if they would support him

**XIX. “Night of the Long Knives,” June 1934**

- a. Purge of the SA by the Army
- b. Hitler used this opportunity to kill former adversaries as well
- c. Van Papen was put under house arrest
- d. General Kurt von Schleicher was killed for trying to prevent Hitler’s rise to power
- e. In 1 ½ years, Hitler became dictator and commanded the respect of the Army for having allowed his SA to be purged

**XX. Hitler’s Totalitarian and Authoritarian State**

- a. By 1936, Hitler had established a Totalitarian and Authoritarian state, with the exception of small pockets of resistance

**XXI. Nazi Economic Policy**

- a. Key to Hitler's early domestic success

**XXI. The Reinhardt Plan**

- a.
- b.
- c.

**XXII. Hjalmar Schacht**

- a. 1933-36 – Hitler's *minister of economics*
- b. Abandoned deflationary policies
- c. Pumped new money into Nazi economy through Public Works, such as creating Autobahn (freeways) that Germany didn't need at the time in order to get people working again
- d. Hitler planned to use the elaborate highways for troop movement in his "secretly"(foreshadowed in *Mein Kampf*) planned war for *Lebensraum* (living space)
- e. By 1936, Schacht wanted less emphasis on rearmament, just as Hitler was preparing for war
- f. As a result, Schacht was dismissed in favor of Goering

## Creating Nazi Germany

### **I. Hitler Becomes President**

- a. Starts Public works Programs to get people working, which made people happy
- b. All of Hitler's policies aimed to achieve *Lebensraum*

### **II. Hitler's Mind**

- a. Hitler had an excellent memory for facts/figures
- b. Used his memory to convince people that he had a superior intellect
- c. Used his problem solving ability to simplify problems to their basic core so that the public could understand them – "The Great Simplifier"

### **III. Hitler Unwavering Intentions**

- a. Once Hitler made up his mind, nothing would budge him
- b. He never wavered from his view in *Mein Kampf*

### **IV. Hitler – a great orator**

- a. A great talker, not listener
- b. Once talked to Mussolini for 1 ½ hours without letting him say a word

### **V. Hitler's Inner Character**

- a. Never let people become close to him, not personally (even to his inner circle)
- b. He didn't want to appear weak

### **VI. Eva Brown**

- a. Mistress of Hitler while he was chancellor
- b. Not brainy, which Hitler liked
- c. Only known to Hitler's intimate circle
- d. Emotionally distant from Brown, which led to her attempting suicide twice
- e. She was introduced into his inner-circle after the second time she attempted suicide

### **VII. A Great Germany – Hitler's Destiny?**

- a. He felt that creating a greater Germany was his destiny
- b. He didn't want to show vulnerability so that he could accomplish his destiny so he kept his personality hidden
- c. Saw himself as a messiah
- d. William Shirer – wrote *Rise and Fall of the Third Reich*

### **VIII. Nazi Rallies**

- a. Delivered simple message – over and over again
- b. Designed to anticipate Hitler's message (Triumph of the Will – movie)
- c. Rallies made Germans proud of their heritage

### **IX. The S.S. -- The Nazi Terror Machine**

- a. Led by Himmler
- b. Its purpose was to destroy Nazi enemies
- c. Started in 1925 as an elite bodyguard, under the control of the S.A.
- d. membership started at 50, then up to 1000, but decreased after Hitler was incarcerated, then increased again after he got out

### **X. Heinrich Himmler**

- a. Believed in Hitler's racial doctrine and lebensraum
- b. Under Himmler, SS carried out mission to bring racial purity
  - Built numbers up
  - Made it distinct from SA – Uniforms designed – Black
- c. SS members had to be racially elite (tall, blonde hair, blue eyes, & aristocratic)
  - A more selective organization than the SA

### **XI. SD**

- a. Division of the SS, led by Heydrich
- b. Made sure party didn't deviate within or outside party from what Hitler wanted

### **XII. SS Gains Independence from SA**

- a. SS men carried out Night of the Long Knives purge and is rewarded
- b. Hitler makes SS a separate organization

### **XIII. Himmler – Chief of Police**

- a. Himmler became Chief of German Police, making him only accountable to Hitler
- b. Himmler could act above party and above the state to carry out Hitler's will
- c. Himmler was above the law and could get away with anything that he wanted to

#### **XIV. SS – Not accountable to the State**

- a. Since Himmler was the Chief of Police and head of the SS, the SS was not responsible or accountable to the state (becoming a state within a state)
- b. SS organization made terror legal
- c. SS took care of enemies via the SD

#### **XV. Enemies of the SD**

- a. Took care of Nazi enemies:
- b. **Jews** – racial enemies
- c. **Ideological** – former Socialists...
- d. **Moral** – church groups, criminals, pornographers, homosexuals
- e. SS ferreted out these enemies who were deemed incompatible with SS/Nazi ideology

#### **XVI. Concentration Camps**

- a. Initially set up to try to redeem ideological/moral enemies, but Jews were not redeemable since Hitler wanted racial purity
- b. SS was in control of concentration camps

#### **XVII. How to remove Jews from German life?**

- a. SS was at the forefront of the “final solution” – Jews had to be eliminated to achieve racial purity

#### **XVIII. SS Ideology**

- a. Purity of Race within SS
- b. Elimination of Christian ethics – only SS rituals allowed
- c. Production of Aryans – lebensraum program
- d. All men were screened for hereditary/mental background, in addition to racial background
- e. Himmler believed his drive to racial purity was like a new religion
- f. There were SS chapels and procedures for marriage within the SS
- g. Himmler established rituals that set the SS apart
- h. Wives of SS members had to be screened as well

#### **XIX. Lebensborn Program**

- a. Legitimized illegitimate children of SS members, as long as they impregnated blonde hair, blue-eyed women to have “quality” Aryan offspring
- b. SS Social Philosophy: Prudish (marriage for life), but Himmler contradicted philosophy to increase the amount of Aryan babies

**XX. Escalation of Anti-Semitism in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Reich - 1933**

- a. After Hitler comes to power in 1933, anti-Semitism increases
- b. Jews removed from Civil Service, 1933 – (about as far as Hitler thought he could comfortably go in 1933, until he built up more domestic support for his policies)
- c. Nuremberg Laws of 1935 – (Hitler felt he could get away with these laws by 1935 b/c of Enabling Act and the power of the SS)

**XXI. Nazi Olympics, 1936**

- a. Hitler tore down posters to give foreigners a false impression that would make them believe that Jews were complaining about nothing
- b. Many Jews didn't leave b/c improved treatment during Olympics made many of them think that things would get better

**XXII. Anti-Semitism Returns, 1937-38**

- a. Hitler was gearing up for war and trying to build up popularity for his anti-Jewish program

**XXIII. Kristallnacht Pogrom, November 1938**

- a. Retaliation against Jews for a 17-year old Jew who killed a minor government official
- b. Pogrom was a large scale coordinated attack on Jews throughout Germany – that included burning down synagogues`

**XXIV. “Deviants” to Nazi ideology**

- a. The Nazi Ideal: Blond Hair, Blue eyes (Aryan)
- b. Deviants
  - 1. ideological enemies
  - 2. asocial
  - 3. Biological Outsiders
  - 4. Non-Aryans
  - 5. The unfit eugenics

**XXV. Euthenasia and Sterilization programs**

- a. People suffering from bi-polar disorders were sterilized between 1934-39 (1/2 million) – deemed to be the right thing to do
- b. Retarded children/deformed – “the valueless” – seen as a drain on the economy because they couldn't contribute to economy by getting jobs and they cost money, so 60,000 children were killed

**XXVI. T-4 Program**

- a. 2<sup>nd</sup> phase to eliminate the valueless: T-4 program
- b. Organizations were set up to euthanize children – children taken to gas chambers, disguised as showers
- c. Valueless children were institutionalized, then parents were sent telegrams, saying that their kids died of natural causes
- c. T-4 killed 100,000 children
- d. 1941 – T-4 was shut down after word got out to German public about it
- e. Program was intended to be efficient and secret
- f. Killings were legal b/c SS was above the State
- g. T-4 set up a precedent on how to kill that helped lead to the “Final Solution”
- h. German children were subliminally taught in schools through word problems to find the fastest way to kill Jews
- i. Germans who found out about T-4 program didn't say anything about it b/c they feared that they would be shot
- j. Fall 1941 – Hitler suspends T-4 program after the German public learned about it

**XXVII. The Undesirables Pose A Threat**

- a. The idea of getting rid of undesirables (mental, Jews) was illustrated to Germans as a necessity, claiming that they posed a threat to Germany
- b. Nazis claimed that Jews spread disease (such as the Black Death)
- c. Simple, straightforward program – making it acceptable to Germans to wipe out undesirables.



## Nazi Foreign Policy: Years of Caution, 1933-36

### **I. Nazi Foreign Policy, 1933-36**

- a. Hitler moves against the Versailles treaty
- b. Renounces German Disarmament, 1933
- c. Leaves the League of Nations, 1934
- d. Premature uprising in Austria, 1934
- e. Mending fences w/ Mussolini, 1934-36
- f. The Anglo-German Naval Treaty
- g. Renewal of the Treaty of Berlin

### **II. Why Didn't France Act to Stop Hitler?**

- a. Hitler's ascension to power increased fears in Europe
- b. Nobody acted aggressively to stop Hitler
- c. France: Nominally, the strongest power in Europe
- d. France didn't act b/c they were unstable themselves (they had a Republican government, but had unstable domestic problems b/c of Great Depression)
- e. Instability caused France to turn a blind eye to Hitler
- f. Besides, France felt confident that Maginot Line, which was being built, would protect them

### **III. France Seeks Relations with Soviets**

- a. France tried to strengthen ties w/ Soviets after Hitler came to power since the Soviets were Hitler's greatest ideological enemy
- b. In case of war, France wanted to make Germany fight a 2 front war, like in WW1

### **IV. Russians Become Team Players**

- a. Russians were interested in establishing agreements w/ other anti-Fascist countries b/c Hitler was anti-Communist
- b. Mid 1930s, Russians wanted to appear to be team players
- c. Soviets join league of Nations in 1934

### **V. Soviet-Czech agreements, 1935**

- a. Soviets concluded pact w/ French and Czechs
- b. This was a resuscitation of 1894 Franco-Russian alliance b/c of fear of Germany
- c. Pact called for military aid in case of an attack by a Fascist power
- d. If Czechoslovakia was attacked, Soviets would only come to their rescue if France goes in first
- e. If France is attacked, Russia will join a war against Germany

## VI. Popular Front

- a. Liberals, Democrats, Republicans work together w/ Socialists in all countries to fight against Fascism
- b. 1935 Soviet - Comintern Congress starts policy of Popular Front
- c. Soviets are committed to fighting Fascism, so they stop agitating world revolution
- d. Hitler posed a threat to Socialism in one country – the reason why Soviets joined League of Nations
- e. Communists in non-Soviet countries were ordered to cooperate w/ any political parties that weren't Fascist
- f. These policies were supposed to help contain Hitler

## VII. Soviets – the lesser of 2 evils?

- a. Just as things were going good, news of Stalin's purges began
- b. British/French started to wonder if Soviets were the lesser evil, arousing their doubts
- c. By mid 1930s, British and French didn't consider Soviets reliable
- d. In Germany, there were no mass deportations, like there was in the Soviet Union
- e. Popular Front – movement for hatred of Fascism, which united countries

## VIII. Hitler's Rearms

- a. During Hitler's 1<sup>st</sup> few years, he wasn't bold in foreign policy b/c he had to build up support domestically
- b. 1933 – Hitler demanded that all other countries disarm to Germany's level
- c. When other countries refused, Hitler re-armed
- d. Hitler used this pre-text to leave the League of Nations

## IX. Hitler's Peace Treaties

- a. 1934 – **Non-Aggression Pact w/ Poland** – gives Poles a false sense of security
- b. 1936 – **Berlin Treaty w/ Soviets** – promises Soviet neutrality in the event of war
- c. Treaties made Hitler seem less aggressive than he was
- d. 1936 – Hitler was named *Time* Man of the Year

## X. Austrian Coup Attempt, 1934

- a. Austrians stage coup, 1934
- b. Attempt to make Austria a Nazified state, but it fails because of a lack of support
- c. Italy's Benito Mussolini – sent troops to Austria to prevent takeover
- d. Hitler's bark, seemed bigger than his bite

**XI. Hitler – Appears to be a Man of Peace**

- a. Up to 1936, Hitler portrayed himself as a man who hated war
- b. Talked about suffering and signed many treaties (which helped confuse European nations)

**XII. Hitler – on the Rise, 1935**

- a. By 1935, nobody had come out completely against him – b/c of increased domestic support and Enabling Act
  - March 1935 – Hitler announced creation of German Air force
  - Started Draft to increase Army to ½ million men
- c.
- d. Britain and France expressed worry to these actions, but didn't show any concrete action
- e. They didn't act b/c nobody had disarmed, as they originally agreed to do

**XIII. Stresa Conference, 1935**

- a. British/French/Italians – willing to talk to discuss possibility of German rearmament
- b. Conference formed **Stresa Front** – attempt to form front against German rearmament
- c. Stresa Front – seemed like powerful opposition, but it implied the ability of British, French to keep Mussolini on their side

**XIV. Mussolini Invades Ethiopia, Oct. 1935**

- a. Mussolini had his own plan – he wanted an African Empire
- b. Mussolini invaded Ethiopia
- c. British and French didn't want to endorse Ethiopia takeover, but they wanted to keep Mussolini on their side

**XV. Anglo – German Naval Treaty, 1935**

- a. Britain allowed Germany to have a Navy, 1/3 the size of Britain's Navy
- b. Treaty acknowledges the right of Germany to disarm, thus compromising the Stresa Front
- c. France was upset that Britain agreed to this treaty w/ Germans

**XVI. Fall of the Stresa Front**

- a. Stresa Front looked impressive originally, but within months, it became weak
- b. No country was willing to check Germany's power b/c no one was willing to enforce it
- c. Last gasp for Stresa after Anglo-German Naval treaty was to keep Mussolini away from Hitler

**XVII. Hitler Sees No Roadblock and Keeps Going**

- a. Hitler at first said he wanted no new territory
- b. Then, he said that he only wanted German-speaking territory
- c. British gave Germans the right to self-determination, feeling that it would quiet them down if they got what they wanted
- d. Hitler kept making new demands b/c he saw that Europe kept appeasing him
- e. Europe didn't want to do anything b/c they were having domestic problems

**XVIII. Mussolini Moves Toward Alliance w/ Hitler**

- a. Until 1935, Mussolini was in the anti-Fascist camp
- b. Mussolini started moving away from his anti-German stance when he saw that Hitler wanted him to have an empire
- c. An Empire was Mussolini's top priority by 1935

**XIX. Mussolini in Ethiopia, Oct. 1935**

- a. Mussolini took Ethiopia b/c a nice, victorious war would quell opposition at home
- b. Mussolini avenged 1896 defeat to Ethiopia, helping to increase support for him
- c. Ethiopia didn't do anything to provoke a war
- d. Mussolini – the King of Italy – pronounced himself the emperor of Ethiopia
- e. Ethiopia was no match for Italy's modern weapons
- f. In the end, British/French couldn't decide whether to support or oppose Italy
- g. If British/French could keep Mussolini happy (by not intervening), they could prevent the two Fascists (Mussolini/Hitler) from joining forces

**XX. British/French Recognize Mussolini's Ethiopia**

- a. British, French – allowed Italy to have Ethiopia if they didn't go on and on about it
- b. News was leaked – making it seem that British/French supported the takeover
- c. But Mussolini continues by supporting Fascists in Spanish Civil War

**XXI. Remilitarization of Rhineland, March 1936**

- a. Hitler saw that there was no restatement of Treaty of Versailles and that British, French allowed Italy to have Ethiopia, so Hitler felt he could go on
- b. Hitler gambled and remilitarized the Rhineland – pulling it off (while violating 2 international treaties: Locarno and Versailles)
- c. Bold move was done during Ethiopian crisis
- d. Hitler was very nervous for the first 24 hours after rearmament
- e. Rhineland was the armament producing part of Germany on the German-French border
- f. Military staff opposed remilitarization – if there was opposition to remilitarization, Hitler was obliged to retreat
- g. Hitler's political livelihood was on the line, but the move paid off for him
- h. There was only minimal resistance that was put up by France
- i. Military gained an immense amount of respect for Hitler after remilitarization, supporting his leadership
- j. If France had acted, Hitler would have been overthrown
- k. Since France didn't act, Hitler's gamble, after 1936, shifted the balance of military power in favor of Germany

**XXII. Hitler is Quiet after Rhineland invasion**

- a. By 1936, Hitler's threat wasn't clear
- b. He never said he was going to remilitarize to take over territory (it was part of German territory)
- c. Hitler was quiet after invading Rhineland

**XXIII. Why France Doesn't Act?**

- a. Ethiopian crisis
- b. Economically: France was a mess (Great Depression doesn't hit them until 1935 – year before invasion)
- c. When people didn't know where their next meal was going to come from, they weren't going to go fight a war
- d. As a result, France established a pacifist stand towards Germany

**XXIV. Why Great Britain Doesn't Act?**

- a. Great Depression
- b. King Edward abdicating scandal
- c. British believed that remilitarization was purely a German affair (they had not taken over foreign territory, like Italy)
- d. Hitler had not rearmed to the point where he posed a threat

**XXV. Hitler's Image Abroad**

- a. At first, seen as a rabble rouser whose tenure would be brief
- b. Gains respect after economic recovery and Berlin Olympics, which played down anti-Semitism

**XXVI. Hitler Could Have Been Stopped!**

- a. According to military, the best time to have stopped Hitler was in 1936, a year after Hitler announced plans to rearm
- b. However, British felt that Germans had a right to expand and to have self-determination

**XXVII. British/French Inaction Encourages Hitler**

- a. Hitler took British/French inaction as a sign of weakness, including remilitarization of Rhineland, Mussolini's takeover of Ethiopia, and the fact that they didn't help anti-Fascists in Spanish Civil War
- b. Therefore, Hitler felt he could gamble on future foreign policy

**XXVIII. Hossbach Memorandum, Nov. 1937**

- a. Hitler announces plans to go to war in the Hossbach Memorandum

**XXIX. Hitler Tests Weaponry in Guernica, Spain**

- a. Hitler tested German weaponry on Guernica, Spain in the Spanish Civil War, leaving the city in ruins

## Hossbach Memorandum

### **I. About the Memorandum**

- a. Colonel Friedrich Hossbach's notes from a conference of top Nazi military officials - November 5, 1937
- b. Hitler outlined plans for *Lebensraum*
  - "living space"
  - Justification for German expansion
- c. Those opposed were removed from power
  - Blomberg and Fritsch

### **II. Justification For War - People**

#### **A. Security and preservation of nation**

- a. 85 mil people in German
- b. Number of people and close space creates European racial body, no longer German People

#### **B. Austria and Czechoslovakia**

- a. Quality of life "deteriorating" for German people in these countries

### **IV. Justification For War - Economic**

- a. Acquisition of more agriculturally useful space
- b. Economy based on export is a military weakness
- c. Germany will meet resistance from "two hateful enemies," England and France
  - England will cede colonies to Germany when in state of emergency and Germany is strong and well-armed

## V. Anschluss

- a. Hitler's name for unified Germany and Austria
- b. Two attempts to annex Austria
  - First attempt, 1934
    - a. Coup d'etat
    - b. Austrian Nazis murder Austrian Chancellor, Dollfuss
    - c. Loyal Austrian Army led by Dr. Kurt von Schuschnigg defeats Nazis within Austria
    - d. Mussolini sends troops to Austrian-Italian border
  - Second attempt, March 1938
    - a. Schuschnigg, now Chancellor of Austria
    - b. German troops take Austria by force
    - c. Mussolini is neutral
    - d. England and France believe this will satisfy Hitler and do not oppose the invasion
    - e. Schuschnigg sent to concentration camp
      - Survived and outlived Hitler by 30 years

## VI. Czechoslovakia

- a. Party of Germans in Czechoslovakia sought regional independence, Sudeten Deutsche Partei
- b. Konrad Heinlein
  - Founder of Sudeten Deutsche Partei
  - Ideology mirrored Nazi
  - Give and take relationship w/ Berlin
    - Took financial support, gave Hitler a reason to demand annexation of Sudetenland

## VII. Justification for Sudetenland Invasion

- a. Germany would not stand by while Czech government committed alleged atrocities against German majority in Sudetenland

## VIII. Hitler demands Sudetenland

- a. Has economic and military value to Czech
- b. Munich Conference (Fall 1938)
  - Land conceded to Hitler
  - Czech left defenseless
  - Poland and Hungary annexed smaller border districts
  - Proved indecisive nature of West, strengthened morale of Hitler's generals



## The Second Great War Nears

### **I. Hossbach Memorandum**

- a. Gave reasons why Germany was forced to go to war
- b. Hitler didn't waver from earlier beliefs
- c. Hitler believed that war was the only way to achieve Lebensraum b/c British/French wouldn't accept a great German empire
- d. In early 1940s, Germany's rearmament would be at its peak

### **II. The Sudetenland**

- a. 8000 Czechs in Sudetenland, but there is a German-speaking majority
- b. Sudetenland had ideal natural boundaries (hills)
- c. Without the Sudetenland, which protected Czechoslovakia, taking Czechoslovakia would be easy

### **III. Hitler as Military Commander**

- a. Generals Blomberg and Fritsch were dismissed from their positions for questioning Hitler's goals in war
- b. Hitler then appointed himself as commander, giving him full control over the military

### **IV. Hitler wants Austrian takeover, 1938**

- a. Hitler wanted Austria to accept a Nazi takeover
- b. Chancellor Schushnigg gave in to Hitler's demands, but at the last moment, he wavered b/c he realized that once Nazis were controlling part of the government, they would take it over completely

### **V. Schushnigg Plebiscite**

- a. Schushnigg asked for a referendum vote by the Austrian people at the last hour to decide whether Austria would want to remain independent or be annexed by the Nazis
- b. Fearing embarrassment from a close vote, even if they voted to support the Nazis, Hitler invaded Austria, before cheering crowds, before the vote could take place

## VI. Appeasement

- a. West could deal w/ Hitler only taking German-speaking territory
- b. British realize that Germans got a raw deal in 1919
- c. Western power believe that a happy Hitler would be useful in helping to curb the threat of Stalinism and Communism

## VII. Rationale for Appeasement

- a. Fear of another war
- b. Economic Depression
- c. Britain: “The Germans have legitimate grievances that need to be redressed” (i.e. Self Determination)
- d. Germany’s usefulness as a bulwark against the advance of Bolshevism
- e. Between Germany and the USSR, Germany appears to be the lesser of two evils

## VIII. Definition of Appeasement, 1938

- a. “to lessen friction or conflict”
- b. The Architect of Appeasement: British Prime Minister – **Neville Chamberlain** was trying to remove the sources of irritation
- c. After Europe failed to stay out of war, after 1938, the term appeasement became redefined as “to pander to a disastrous end”
- d. Before 1938, appeasement was a good word – British accepted German grievances

## IX. Hitler Never Wavers From Initial Intentions

- a. Hitler’s aims appeared to be limited to German-speaking territory
- b. But on one read *Mein Kampf* or took it seriously (written at a 5<sup>th</sup> grade level)
- c. Plus, Stalinism appeared to be the bigger threat in 1938

## X. Hitler Wants Sudetenland

- a. Hitler told Europe he would go to war unless he got the Sudetenland
- b. When Hitler threatened war, Chamberlain met with Hitler in 1938
- c. Chamberlain gave Germans Sudetenland to appease Germany
- d. British told Czechs that if they didn’t give up land, then the British would never help them again w/ anything

**XI. Munich Conference, Late September 1938**

- a. 4-power conference in Munich to discuss cession of Sudetenland b/c Hitler threatened war if he didn't get it
- b. Hitler's only concession was to promise that he would leave the rest of Czechoslovakia intact
- c. Chamberlain and French counterpart were hailed as heroes for Munich agreement b/c public believed that it stopped a war

**XII. Hitler invades the rest of Czechoslovakia, March 1939**

- a. Less than 6 months after Munich agreement, Hitler used "unrest" among the Czechs as a pretense to invade Czechoslovakia
- b. Prague, Czechoslovakia invaded – March 1939
- c. British and French now have egg on their face
- d. After invasion of Prague, British and French declare that there would not be any more appeasement

**XIII. Hitler Eyes Poland**

- a. Hitler states that he wants Poland to get rid of the Polish Corridor
- b. Britain and France resolve to aid Poland in the event of war after Prague invasion

**XIV. Anglo/Franco/Soviet alliance ???**

- a. British, French believed they needed the Soviet Union to fight a war against Germany (to make Germany fight a 2-front war)
- b. Until March 1939, British and French ignored Soviets
- c. British and French now deemed the Soviets as the lesser of two evils and wondered about their position
- d. British, French didn't trust Stalin b/c of news of his purges
- e. British and French wondered what kind of Army Stalin would have available since they had been purged

**XV. Britain, France, and nazi Germany vie for Soviet friendship**

- a. British and French send 2<sup>nd</sup> tier diplomats on slow boats and trains to Moscow
- b. Hitler sent his foreign minister, Ribbentrop, in a fast plane

**XVI. Hitler Offers Soviets A Better Deal**

- a. Hitler had more to offer Stalin than British and French
- b. Soviet troops couldn't attack Germany without going through Poland and Romania, but those countries didn't want to let the Soviets through, fearing that they would stay
- c. To join Allies, meant to go to war, but Stalin wasn't ready for war b/c he had purged his military
- d. Also, Stalin didn't trust Britain and France began they had appeased Hitler, allowing him to pose a threat to Stalin (Stalin believed it was a conspiracy against him—and he was right)
- e. Hitler offers Stalin neutrality, allowing Stalin to finish his purges and rebuild his army

**XVII. Nazi-Soviet Pact, August 1939**

- a. Pact came as a shocker to British and French b/c Soviets/Nazis had diverse ideologies
- b. Hitler offered Stalin neutrality
- c. Hitler also offered vast tracks of land to the Soviets: Stalin would get Baltic States (Latvia, Lithuania, Estonia), Eastern Poland (W. Poland went to Germany)
- d. Stalin was given the chance to expand to areas formerly of Russian empire and to get more land than any Czar had ever had
- e. On paper, the pact was simply neutrality
- f. The land agreements were part of secret stipulations
- g. Stalin believed that signing the pact would let British and French beat each other up, along with Germany, thus allowing a fresh Soviet Army to move West

**XVIII. Hitler Invades Poland, September 1, 1939**

- a. 1 week after signing treaty, Hitler invaded Poland
- b. Historians believe that Nazi-Soviet Pact gave Hitler the legal justification he needed to invade Poland

## **The Nazis: A Warning From History – Part 3**

- I. “The Drum,” 1938**
  - a.
  - b.
- II. British Rule in India**
  - a. Proof to Hitler of superiority of Aryan race
- III. Russia as Germany’s India**
  - a. Hitler learned from Britain, in his desire to colonize the Soviet Union, but wound up at war w/ Britain, who he admired
- IV. Rearmament – Paid by Loans**
  - a. Helped to end unemployment
  - b. Rearmament overcame the shame of surrender
- V. Schacht**
  - a. Minister of economics who financed loans
- VI. Hitler and Subordinates**
  - a. Hitler believed if his subordinates were strong enough, they would succeed without his help
- VII. “The Heritage,” 1933**
  - a. Goebbels propaganda film, emphasizing Survival of the Fittest
- VIII. *Mein Kampf* and Lebensraum**
  - a. Hitler wrote *Mein Kampf* while he was in Landsberg Prison in 1924
  - b. He claimed that Germany needed colonies to become a great nation
- IX. Anglo-German Naval treaty**
  - a. German ruling classes embraced and admired British
  - b. Treaty allowed Germany to build Navy 1/3 size of the English Navy

**X. Ribbentrop**

- a. Hated by all leading Nazis, except for Hitler
- b. Concluded Anglo-German Naval treaty
- c. For treaty, Hitler rewarded Ribbentrop, naming him German ambassador to London
- d. Not a success in Britain – many mistakes: including, giving Nazi salute to King Edward VI

**XI. CIANO**

- a.

**XII. Hitler and Radical Solutions**

- a. Hitler always liked people who gave him radical solutions to his problems

**XIII. “Overheating” German Economy by 1938**

- a.
- b.

**XIV. Hossbach Memorandum, November 1937**

- a. Secret plan to go to war

**XV. Hitler as Chief of Armed Forces**

- a. Hitler named himself Chief of Armed Forces after removing 2 generals who questioned him

**XVI. Hitler’s Priorities**

- a. Empire Building (*Lebensraum*)

**XVII. Anschluss – 3/38**

- a. After checking that no other would object, Germans rode in and were welcomed into Austria (80 million Germans after they joined together)

**XVIII. Himmler as “visionary”**

- a. Spiritual leader of S.S.
- b. Said that if SS was doing their duty, then Germany could create a great empire
- c. Jews became scapegoats

## World War 2 Begins

### **I. Invasion of Poland, 9/1/1939**

- a. On the morning of September 1, 1939 at 4:45 am
- b. German bombers and fighters crossed the Polish borders and began the systematic destruction of airfields, aircraft, road and rail centers, concentrations of troop reserves and other likely command structures identified by intelligence reports and aerial reconnaissance
- c. There was no formal declaration of war
- d. The world witnessed the start of the German Blitzkrieg, or the “Lightning War”

### **II. Allies Declare War on Germany, 9/3/1939**

- a. 2 Days after invasion of Poland, British and French declare war on Hitler
- b. Hitler wasn't worried b/c he didn't have to fight a 2 front war, like in WW1
- c. The Nazi-Soviet Pact made the Soviets neutral (in the event of war)

### **III. Blitzkrieg**

- a. Lightning war was fought to speed up the war b/c Germany lacked the resources to fight a prolonged war
- b. Hitler's war plan depended on speed
- c. Hitler wanted to win fast so that he could take resources he needed from conquered territory, and give them to the German people (so they would remain happy)

### **IV. Germany by 1939**

- a. German Navy had only 57 ships and less than half of those could be used on the high seas
- b. No wartime economy - yet
- c. Superhighways were built
- d. Consumer goods were still being supplied
- e. Hitler wanted people to be happy (We're at war, but it's not that bad)

### **V. Early Stages of WWII**

- a. Poland Falls in 3 weeks
- b. USSR moves on Poland, Baltic States, and Finland
- c. Allied Response: Phony War or “Sitzkrieg”

## VI. USSR Claims Territory

- a. Hitler wanted Lebensraum – to expand towards the Soviet Union
- b. Stalin thought Hitler was going to move towards the west, have long battles w/ the west, and dally in Poland for a year
- c. After Hitler quick victory in Poland, Stalin believed that he had to move fast to get Polish territory he was promised

## VII. 4<sup>th</sup> Partition of Poland, Oct. 2, 1939

- a. Stalin takes the Polish territory he was promised in a secret protocol within the Nazi-Soviet pact before Hitler could claim it

## VIII. Fake War, or “Sitzkrieg”

- a. British and French were only “sitting”
- b. They had no fast plan for war
- c. They were fighting a phony war
- d. Hitler then contemplated an attack against the West

## IX. Conquest of Norway and Denmark, April 1940

- a. The British plan to mine Norwegian water to stop export of Swedish ore to Germany
- b. **Vidkun Quisling** - Head of the National Union – a right-wing fascist-style organization in Norway
- c. Hitler provided funding for Quisling to promote his party in Norway
- d. Hitler invades Norway one day after British begin mining Norwegian waters
- e. Denmark surrenders, Norway capitulates after brief resistance
- f. The term – **Quisling** = traitor b/c he surrendered his people so that Hitler would make him the leader of Norway

## X. Conquest of Netherlands, Belgium, and France, May 1940

- a. Schlieffen Plan Ruse (Works brilliantly for the Germans)
- b. Germans Sweep through the *Ardennes* (forest), a natural protective boundary for France
- c. *Ardennes* were barely defended, since it was believed that the Germans would not be able to get through them
- d. May 1940 – after 3 weeks, Hitler conquered Netherlands and Belgium
- e. N. France falls and is directly by Germany
- f. S. France remains under French rule – known as Vichy France



**XI. Dunkirk**

- a. Allied Expeditionary Force and French became sitting ducks on the beaches of Dunkirk
- b. Hitler believed destruction of exposed troops would be taken care of by his air force, but because of a miscommunication, it was not carried out

**XII. The Miracle at Dunkirk**

- a. Rescue of over 300,000 French and British forces
- b. Between May 27 – June 4, these troops reached England
- c. These troops were later used to help launch the D-Day invasion in Normandy, France in 1944
- d. If Hitler's desires had been communicated better, many of these troops would have been killed and possibly given Hitler a greater edge in the war
- e. While many of these troops were rescued, France was not so lucky

**XIII. Germans in Paris, June 14, 1940**

- a. After passing the Ardennes forest, German troops entered Paris, forcing the French government to retreat southward.

**XIV. Vichy France**

- a. Southern France remains under French rule, known as Vichy France

**XV. Fall of France**

- a. Fall of France left Great Britain dangerously alone
- b. US was not in the war yet and the Soviets were bound by the Nazi-Soviet pact

**XVI. Operation Sea Lion**

- a. British were interested in seeking armistice with Hitler
- b. Hitler prepared to invade England once they refused to surrender

**XVII. Winston Churchill – “Our Finest Hour”**

- a. Prime Minister Churchill said, If the British Empire lasts a 1000 years, that he wanted this to be remembered as “our finest hour”

**XVIII. Battle of Britain, September 1940**

- a. British Air Force bombed targets in Germany
- b. Germans bombarded civilian targets in G. Britain to get people to pressure government for peace armistice
- c. Hitler didn't destroy military supplies (this was a strategic mistake that might have cost him the war – The British people were left with greater angers towards the Germans and still had their military supplies to respond

**XIX. British Break Germany's "Ultra" Radar System**

- a. Helps Great Britain determine Germany's future battle plans

**XX. Hitler Refocuses on *Lebensraum***

- a. Hitler didn't want to bomb the British into submission – He wanted to re-focus on *Lebensraum*

**XXI. Hitler Fears Soviet Growth**

- a. Hitler's motives for invading Soviets: ideological and practical
- b. Hitler needed Soviet resources for war and he ideologically opposed communism
- c. After doing horribly initially, Stalin took Finland – so the Soviets were on a high
- d. Stalin wanted oil fields of Romania, but Hitler wanted them also
- e. Hitler was wary of a larger Soviet Union – he needed raw materials that the Soviet Union would get

**XXII. Operation Barbarossa – Invasion of Soviet Union Delayed by Mussolini**

- a. Mussolini waited until the fall of France to side w/ Hitler, wanting to make sure Hitler would win

**XXIII. Mussolini Invades Greece**

- a. Mussolini was jealous of Hitler gains and wanted to gain territory for Italy
- b. Mussolini was doing bad b/c the British sent thousands of troops in to Greece to keep it from falling
- c. Hitler didn't like that Mussolini was in Greece or that he was doing badly
- d. Hitler had to help Mussolini to get British out of Greece

**XXIV. Hitler invades Yugoslavia**

- a. On his way to Greece, Hitler invades Yugoslavia, setting up a "Quisling" government there in Serbia

**XXV. Greece Falls**

- a. Greece was defeated, making Hitler's position in the Balkans, secure
- b. But 2 month delay in Greece, delaying Operation Barbarossa caused Hitler problems

**XXVI. Operation Barbarossa, began June 22,1941**

- a. Stalin assumed Hitler would honor Nazi-Soviet pact
- b. Soviets were on time w/ all raw materials Hitler requested as part of the Nazi-Soviet Pact
- c. Pact allowed Stalin to regain territory lost in WW1 and added new territory
- d. Stalin's hope that the pact would stay in-force deluded him from believing that Hitler would attack him
- e. Stalin was blind and disregarded British reports that Germany was advancing towards them
- f. Stalin ignored warning and prepared no defense
- g. When Barbarossa was launch, it threw the Soviets for a loop;
  - o They had no order
    1. Soviet troops fled
    2. Stalin did not respond to attack for 10 days (having a nervous breakdown)

**XXVII. German Foreign Minister Ribbentrop**

- a. Told Soviet people that they were at war w/ Germany

**XXVIII. Ukraine Welcomes Germany**

- a. Civilians in Ukraine welcomed Germans as liberators b/c Stalin had intentionally spread famine there, by withholding food from the Ukraine
- b. Ukraine felt that Germany was the lesser of 2 evils

**XXIX. Germany's Rapid Advance**

- a. By November 1941, Germans reached Leningrad, Moscow, and Kiev (3-pronged attack) b/c Soviets many did not support Stalin
- b. Stalin had purged his military corp.
- c. Peasantry also didn't like Stalin b/c he had forced collectivization

**XXX. Destruction in Leningrad**

- a. ¼ of Leningraders (St. Petersburg) died during Nazi siege of early 1940s
- b. After Soviet archives were opened, it was discovered that Leningraders died b/c food was put in warehouses that Germans bombed, rather than putting the food underground
- c. As snow melted, bodies in Leningrad became visible
- d. 20 million Soviets died in WWII

**XXXI. German Failure**

- a. Germans only captured on major city - Kiev
- b. Hitler believed that Jewish Bolsheviks could easily be defeated b/c Jews were inferior
- c. That is ironic b/c Stalin did not like Jews, either
- d. Hitler sent his troops in summer uniforms, believing that it would be a quick 6-week war
- e. B/c of 2 month delay in Greece, and b/c of resistance from the Red Army, the Germans were confronted by a harsh winter, which came early in 1941

**XXXII. State of Germany During WWII**

- a. Germany prospered from resources of conquered territories
- b. Jewish businesses, art collections were confiscated
- c. Germans believed that they were the master race (they deemed Jews and Slavs to be inferior)
- d. SS increased its power during WWII
- e. As SS grew in power, racial doctrine became stronger within the German empire

## The Wannsee Decision (Group 2)

### **I. Hermann Goering**

- a. Proclaimed successor in the event of Hitler's death
- b. Chief of Luftwaffe (German Air Force)
- c. Reichsmarschall
- d. Chairman for the Reich Council of National Defense
- e. Head of Four Year Plan

### **II. Goering's Views on Jewish Question**

- a. Largely believed that the Jews could comprise a valuable work force.
- b. Was not an anti-Semitic fanatic, however largely played a role in the final solution. Shared no desire to massacre Jews.
- c. Took Jewish possessions, money, property, and wealth in order to increase his authority, or for personal gain.
- d. He used "aryanization" as part of the four year plan to steal the wealth of the Jews.
- e. 1939--Appointed Reinhard Heydrich, a severe anti-Semite to the head of the Reich central office for Jewish immigration.
- f. Ordered Heydrich to prepare a conference with several government officials to finalize the Jewish question
- g. This was the Wannsee Conference of January 1942

### **III. The Wannsee Conference -- January 20, 1942. Wannsee Lake side Villa**

- a. 15 delegates attended.
- b. Goering did not attend
- c. The conference lasted only minutes, and contained no arguments except for a short talk on methods to kill Jews.
- d. The "final solution" was already under way.

### **IV. The Solution**

- a. The Final solution was simple. Aryanize the Jewish wealth and estates into the Reich, deport them to ghettos, and then liquidate the ghettos by sending thousands of deported Jews into concentration camps.
- b. It was a process that had already begun behind the Eastern German advance. Ghettos and concentration camps had already been built in this area.

**V. How it occurred**

- a. Since the invasion of the Soviet Union in 1941, the Einsatzgruppen had been following behind the armies advancing line shooting large numbers of people, or sending them to Ghettos
- b. At the Conference, Heydrich simply informed the other delegates what was under way. He also explained the Nuremberg laws
- c. Heydrich gave an estimation of 11 million Jews in Europe that he intended to capture and “evacuate”. His estimation was off by approximately 2 million since he added a lot of non-Jews in his estimate. He also included the populations of undefeated and neutral countries.

**VI. Had the Conference Solved Anything?**

- a. High ranking security officers now were completely aware of Heydrich’s plans and could collaborate with him.
- b. All of these men were aware of what was meant by words like “evacuations”, and “re-settlement”.
- c. By the time this Conference had occurred, at least 70,000 Jews had already been shot behind the eastern front

## **The Tide Begins to Turn: Allies on the Offensive**

### **I. The Problem of Britain**

- a. Invade or not to invade: Operation Sea Lion
- b. Battle of Britain, September 1940
- c. The London “Blitz”
- d. “Ultra” intelligence operation and Goering’s poor leadership over Luftwaffe help to save Britain
- e. Hitler tries to strike at Britain through North Africa
- f. Hitler abandons Battle of Britain in favor of operation Barbarossa – invasion of Soviet Union

### **II. Operation Barbarossa is Delayed**

- a. Operation was delayed b/c Mussolini invaded Greece and Hitler had to help him, so that the Allies wouldn’t get a victory over the Axis Powers

### **III. Operation Barbarossa Begins, June 1941**

- a. German invasion of Soviet Union was supposed to take 3-6 weeks according to Hitler
- b. As a result, Hitler sent his men in summer uniforms
- c. Germans launched a successful three-pronged attack against Soviets
- d. Stalin went into seclusion for 10 days after the invasion b/c he was having a breakdown
- e. Stalin ignored British reports of attack b/c he didn’t trust British b/c they had appeased Hitler

### **IV. The Tide Begins to Turn**

- a. Reversals in the Soviet Union – From 1939 – Jan. 1943, Germany was winning the war, then the tide turned
- b. After Stalin recovered from his initial breakdown, he ordered a fight to the death
- c. 1942 – Allies Arrive in Africa - reversals in Africa

### **V. Hitler/Stalin and the Armed Forces**

- a. Once Hitler took over the Armed Forces, only he made decision
- b. However, Stalin would still listen to his generals for advice

**VI. Why Did the Soviets Win?**

- a. Weather – It got very cold in the Winter of 1941 – Winter also came early and the Germans were in summer uniforms
- b. Superior leadership
- c. Ability of Soviets to endure suffering

**VII. Battle of Stalingrad, 1942-43**

- a. Red Army fought back
- b. Battles in Stalingrad were waged from house to house
- c. Russians began pushing Germans westward
- d. Hitler refused to retreat at the advice of his General Paulus
- e. February 1943 – 100,000 German men were captured
- f. 20 million Russians (mostly civilians) died in WW2

**VIII. Germans Begin Feeling the Effects of War**

- a. Hitler's luck is starting to run out
- b. 1942 – Allies land in Africa
- c. 1943 – Loss of Troops in Russia
- d. By 1943, Germans are feeling the war b/c it is no longer a string of victories, but a stalemate

**IX. Hitler as Military Commander**

- a. Head of Oberkommando der Wehrmacht, or OKW
- b. Hitler didn't accept responsibility for losses in battle – he blamed others

**X. Battle of Britain**

- a. Germans not prepared or capable of fighting a long, drawn out war
- b. **Blitzkrieg** - Nazis needed to use terror tactics to score governments into surrender very fast
- c. Rather than bombing British airfields, Hitler made strategic mistake by attacking civilian populations
- d. Attacking populations, left British angrier, with all military supplies intact



**XI. Himmler Redirects War Money Towards Jewish Camps, 1944**

- a. Failure to retreat and relentless pursuit of racial extermination of “enemies” were major determining factors in the Nazi downfall
- b. Hitler blamed Paolus for loss of 100,000 in Stalingrad, saying that he wasn’t a good Aryan
- c. Himmler was responsible for redirecting money from war towards Jewish camps in 1944 when the war was going down hill
- d. Himmler wanted to at least win the war against the Jews, even if the war on the battlefield was lost
- e. This redirection of money, compromised Hitler in battle

**XII. Invasion of Sicily, 1943**

- a. Allies close in on Germany
- b. More Americans die in Sicily than on D-Day
- c. Italy has more natural boundaries than Normandy

**XIII. Fall of Mussolini**

- a. Fall of Mussolini began soon after Allied invasion
- b. Many Italians believed that Mussolini had outlived his usefulness
- c. Mussolini was deposed and put under house arrest

**XIV. Hitler Rescues Mussolini**

- a. Hitler had Mussolini rescued and flown to Germany
- b. Soon after, Hitler put Mussolini back in Italy
- c. However, Mussolini’s political position had eroded, even though he was reinstalled as the Italian leader

**XV. D-Day Invasion, June 6, 1944**

- a. By 1944, Allies had regrouped and Americans helped to bring down Hitler’s Fortress Europe
- b. British, Americans, Canadians invade Normandy (in Northern France), which was in the control of Germany
- c. Invasion forced Hitler to fight a dreaded 2-front war

**XVI. Nazi Germany is Falling, 1945**

- a. By 1945, Nazi Germany is beginning to be squeezed out of existence
- b. By 1945, Allied troops close in on Berlin – Hitler refused to retreat to Bavarian mountains
- c. Hitler decided to stay in Berlin

**XVII. Hitler Hides in Bunkers**

- a. In Berlin, Hitler hides underneath a bunker in the Reich Chancellery
- b. Hitler is joined only by his main and loyal supporters
- c. From these bunkers, Hitler plays an active role, but the Army begins moving away from him

**XVIII. Mussolini Goes Into Hiding**

- a. 1944-45 – Mussolini's Italy is beginning to collapse
- b. Mussolini tried to escape, but not out of the country

**XIX. Mussolini Is Killed, April 28, 1945**

- a. Mussolini and his mistress were found and killed on April 28, 1945
- b. Huge crowds cheered for the end of Mussolini in Italy
- c.

**XX. Hitler's Last Days**

- a. By the end of April, after Mussolini was killed, Hitler knew the end had come
- b. Hitler insisted that everyone had betrayed him
- c. Hitler created **Will of Political Testament** (blamed Jews)
- d. Hitler married his mistress Ava Brown 2-3 hours before killing himself

**XXI. The Death and Destruction of Hitler**

- a. Shortly after marrying Ava Brown, Hitler poisoned his dog (b/c he would be left uncared for)
- b. Hitler wife, Ava Brown drank poison
- c. Hitler shot himself, rather than be tortured by the Soviets
- d. After Brown and Hitler died, 2 Nazi supporters poured gasoline over the dead bodies and burned their bodies
- e. The 2 Nazi supporters who burned their bodies ran after burning their bodies b/c of Allied bombing
- f. Soviets got the bodies, but never revealed where they were taken to
- g. Location of bodies remains unknown to the public to keep it from becoming a shrine

**XXII. Hitler the Martyr**

- a. Nazis praised Hitler as a hero for dying in battle
- b. After Hitler's death, Germany fell to the Allies

**XXIII. The Wartime Conferences**

- a. Allies Consider Germany's fate
- b. Conferences: Tehran, Yalta, Potsdam
- c. The "Big 3": Churchill, Roosevelt, and Stalin wanted unconditional surrender
- d. It was decided that Germany, Austria, Berlin, and Vienna would be divided into zones of occupation

**XXIV. Who Will Rule Germany?**

- a. After the Nazis fell, there was no government left
- b. There was very little resistance against Hitler b/c he had sent them to concentration camps
- c. Guilty parties were scurrying
  - Many committed suicide
  - Many ran to the Americas, hoping to get better treatment
- d. Elite leadership abruptly disappeared w/ no new leadership emerging
- e. Many Social Democrats and others who opposed Hitler had emigrated

**XXV. France Joins the Big 3**

- a. In 1944, French Resistance Leader Charles De Gaulle, said "We Resisted Too"
- b. France was then added to the Big 3, making it the Big 4

**XXVI. Wartime Agreements Fall Apart**

- a. Agreements made by the Big 3 in wartime conference fell apart

**XXVII. German Division Brings Cold War**

- a. By 1947, breach between E. and W. Germany widened
- b. Germany was divided after 1947
- c. Many historians blame wartime conferences for Germany's division and for Cold War

**XXVIII. Tehran Conference, November 1943**

- a. Nov 1943 – Stalin didn't want to go too far during war, fearing that somebody would take his place (during the war)
- b. It was agreed by the Allies that respective enemies should surrender unconditionally
- c. **Significance of Unconditional Surrender Policy**
  1. Made enemies of Big 3 more resolved to fight – strengthened their resolves
  2. Made Stalin realize that other Allies were in it for the long haul
- d. At Tehran, Stalin didn't get a promise for a 2<sup>nd</sup> Front
  - British and Americans say that it would be too great a risk and there would be a high chance of failure at the present time
  - They said that it could only be opened up by May 1945 (It was opened a week later (Normandy invasion))
  - Stalin believed that this delay was another Allied ploy so that Germany could weaken the Soviets more

**XXIX. Yalta Conference, February 1945**

- a. By the time of Yalta, the war was practically over
- b. Key Agreements were made
  1. Common Allied rule of Germany (4 victors)
  2. Disagreement over interpretation of common rule led to problems
- c. 4 Zones of occupation are determined (SW – Americans; NW – British)
- d. W. Germany is formed in 1947 as Americans, British, and French unite their zones of occupation
- e. Problem: Eastern Borders of Germany were tentative until a new peace conference could take place (didn't happen until 1990)

**XXX. What To Do About Eastern Europe?**

- a. By 1945, Soviets were in control of E. Europe b/c they had pulled all the way westward, liberating the countries on their way to Germany

**XXXI. Division of Germany**

- a. City of Berlin, Germany – divided into 4 zones of occupation
- b. Germany – divided into 4 zones of occupation
- c. City of Vienna, Austria – divided into 4 zones of occupation
- d. Austria – divided into 4 zones of occupation
- e. Where Berlin was concerned, Berlin was located in the Soviet zone of occupation in Germany
- f. What was supposed to be division for good will, turned into a disaster
- g. Berlin became a symbol of post-war tension

**XXXII. DeNazifying Germany**

- a. Yalta Conference decided to destroy Nazism and German militarism
- b. Conference aimed to ensure that Germany would never again be a trouble maker
- c. Military Commanders in each zone of occupation had the responsibility to democratize and denazify
- d. Creating a democracy was problematic b/c the Communist Russians claimed to be “democratic”
- e. Germany was supposed to be transformed into a more peaceful country
- f. War criminals were to be tried and punished
- g. Churchill said Allies were not supposed to destroy the people of Germany – NOT REVENGE – Just to denazify it

**XXXIII. How Long Was Occupation Supposed To Last?**

- a. Roosevelt wanted to wait until conditions in Germany cooled down before setting a date to leave Germany
- b. Conditions were vague
- c. People accused Roosevelt of giving Eastern Europe to Stalin b/c he didn’t specify that Soviet troops had to leave Eastern Europe

**XXXIV. FDR’s Health**

- a. Americans sent a sick President to Yalta Conference, where Roosevelt made and did not make key decisions

**XXXV. No A-Bomb yet**

- a. By Yalta in February 1945, there was no completed Atomic Bomb
- b. Roosevelt had no assurance that it would work
- c. He believed that it was just mathematicians throwing formulas around
- d. FDR didn’t know that bomb would be successful and help to win the war in Japan

**XXXVI. FDR and Japan**

- a. After Germany was defeated, Japan still had to be dealt with
- b. Roosevelt wanted to win war w/ Japan as fast as possible
- c. Without the assurance of the successful completion of the A-Bomb, FDR needed help to win the war as fast as possible

**XXXVII. FDR Needs Stalin’s Help**

- a. FDR was ready to concede Poland to Stalin, in exchange for Stalin’s help in Japan

**XXXVIII. Collective Security**

- a. FDR wanted Stalin in United Nations b/c he believed that the UN could put a lid on Stalin's expansionist ambitions through collective security
- b. FDR was willing to concede Poland to save American lives
- c. FDR died – April 1945 before the war in Japan

**XXXIX. Who Gets Germany?**

- a. Soviets want all of Germany
- b. As a result, American stay
- c. B/c of Distrust between Soviets and America, Germany stayed divided

**XXXX. Nuremberg Trials, 1945-46**

- a. Many Nazis claimed that they were just following orders, but the Germans kept excellent records, which showed otherwise
- b. Goering committed suicide in prison – through poison (some historians believe a sympathetic/humanistic prison guard may have given him the poison)

**XXXXI. After War, World Gets More Holocaust Info**

- a. After the war, horrifying truth of Holocaust comes out
- b. Although, there were no major works about Holocaust from 1945-1961 b/c survivors didn't want to think about it

**XXXXI. The Fear of a World War III**

- a. Fear of WW3 between Communism and Capitalism were very real within the 15 years after WW2 (especially during the Cuban Missile Crisis)

## Holocaust

### **I. Origins**

- a. Racial Biology
- b. Anti-Semitism – Hitler Didn't invent anti-Semitism – It was a time-tested ideology in Europe

### **II. Hitler's Implementation**

- a. Anti-Jewish policies – Nuremberg Laws
- b. Kristallnacht and the Hossbach Memorandum

### **III. Intentionalists vs. Functionalists**

- a. **Intentionalists** – believe that Hitler always wanted the Holocaust
- b. **Functionalists** – believe that in 1942, if emigration was feasible, Hitler would have chosen that path as well
- c. Hitler didn't invent anti-Semitism – It was a time-tested ideology in Europe

### **IV. Poland, 1939**

- a. 1939 – Poland is used as a killing field for Jews

### **V. Functionalists**

- a. Believe that implementation of Jewish policies was a gradual process caused by events

### **VI. The Holocaust is Implemented**

- a. World War II and the Final Solution
- b. Implementation of Wannsee Protocol, 1942

### **VII. Wannsee Protocol, 1942**

- a. States what would happen to Jews if there were any remaining after doing exhausting work – they would be killed
- b. Mischlings (half Jews) would also be killed
- c. Hans Frank wanted all Jews removed from Poland

### **VIII. Jewish Emigration – A Solution?**

- a. Emigration was an option before 1939
- b. Deporting Jews to Madagascar and Palestine were broached, but how seriously they were considered is not known

### **IX. Einsatzgruppen (Action Groups)**

- a. Perpetrators in these groups enlisted from men in the SS
- b. Individuals in Einsatzgruppen were subject to loyalty exercises, including killing a dog that they had trained with
- c. Members had to accept Nazi theories
- d. Action Groups were composed of several mobile killing units
- e. Traveled behind front lines – to get rid of as many Jews as possible
- f. Wiped out Polish intelligentsia and Jews to make the rest – “walking sheep”
- g. 1 million Jews were killed in Poland by 1942

### **X. Himmler Accepts Responsibility For Solving Jewish Question**

- a. B/c enough Jews weren't killed in Poland, death camps were built
- b. This was Himmler's idea – he was happy to accept responsibility for the Jewish question

### **XI. Death Camps**

- a. 1942 – Death camps were built to be able to kill Jews faster
- b. There were 6 Death Camps built in the Government's General area of Poland (rest of the camps were “work camps”)
- c. Jews had been evacuated to ghettos and then lured into death camps

### **XII. Rudolph Hoess**

- a. Höss joined the SS in 1934. Höss worked in the concentration camp in Dachau before being appointed as adjutant to the commander of Sachsenhausen in 1938. Two years later, in May 1940, he became commander of Auschwitz in occupied Poland.
- b. In June, 1941 Heinrich Himmler ordered that Auschwitz be greatly increased in size and the following year it became an extermination camp. Bathhouses disguised as gas chambers were added. Höss introduced Zyklon-B gas, that enabled the Nazis to kill 2,000 people at a time.
- c. Hoess was promoted to Deputy Inspector General and took charge of the SS) department that administered German concentration camps.
- d. When Germany surrendered in April, 1945, Höss managed to avoid capture and worked on a farm. He was eventually captured and at his trial admitted that around 3,000,000 people were killed at Auschwitz. Rudolf Höss was found guilty of war crimes and executed at Auschwitz on 15th April, 1947.



### **XIII. Killing Jews – Deemed Acceptable and Desirable**

- a. The SS made up its own world, with its own rules
- b. Within the SS, killing Jews was deemed as acceptable and desirable
- c. Death Camps system was developed so that SS men wouldn't feel personally responsible for killing – It would be the Zyklon-B gas that killed them
- d. SS men honestly believed that they were killing Jews for the common good b/c of the propaganda they were fed

### **XIV. Jewish Ghettos in Poland**

- a. Between 1939 and 1942, Jews were herded into cramped conditions in ghettos so that they would suffer and die faster (not b/c space was not available to put them)
- b. No sanitary conditions in ghetto
- c. Jews were given no food in ghettos (had to buy on the black market)

### **XV. Jewish Existence in Death Camps**

- a. Existence for Jews in death camps was horrible
- b. Research is still being done to see how some managed to survive the death camps, while others didn't

### **XVI. Jews Passively Accept Their Fate?**

- a. Jews were criticized b/c it appeared that they passively accepted their fate and once the Jews got to the camps, it was hard to resist (b/c they didn't have weapons)
- b. Jews had an incredible ability to endure through sufferings – Jews had been ghettoized
- c. Jews passively accepted their suffering in ghettos b/c they believed that not upsetting the Nazis was the key to their survival (as it had been in the past)

### **XVII. No Weapons To Help Jews Resist**

- a. Jews had an understandable case of denial
- b. They feared making things worse
- c. Once it became clear that death was imminent in death camps, Jews didn't have the weapons to resist
- d. One of the first things the Nazis did was confiscate weapons

### **XVIII. Jewish Rebellion and Resistance**

- a. There were rebellions and resistance in ghettos and death camps after the Jews realized they were going to be killed
- b. Jews were passive b/c they had survived through passivity
- b. After the denial of their fate stopped, however, Jews didn't have the weapons to create much resistance and most of them died

### **XVIII. Patterns of Extermination**

- a. The more Nazi control in an area, the more deportations of Jews
- b. The Italian and Danish Exceptions:
  - When Mussolini was ordered to hand over Jews, he refused
  - Germany only got to Italian Jews after they invaded to rescue Mussolini from house arrest – only then did deportations occur

### **XIX. The Righteous Gentiles: Oskar Schindler and Pastor Andre Trocme of Le Chmabon**

- a. Schindler saved Jews b/c he believed they were human beings
- b. In and around the town of Le Cambon-sur-Lignon, France (population: 5000), thousands of Jews, many of them children, *were* sheltered from the Nazis by Christians
- c. Jews were sent to hotels, where they could subsequently disappear

### **XX. Obstacles to Allied Intervention to Help Jews**

- a. All resources had to be diverted to war effort (1942-44) b/c Allies had to concentrate on winning the war first
- b. It was believed that Jews would never be rescued if the Allies didn't win the war
- c. After Allied victory I 1944, British refused to ship Jews to Palestine for fear of upsetting Arabs
- d. British and Americans tossed around plans to bomb Auschwitz
- e. Finally, they decided that the Soviets should bomb Auschwitz b/c they were closer, but nothing was ever done to help Jews

### **XXI. The War Refugee Board, 1944**

- a. 1944 – The War Refugee Board is founded in the US to help Jews
- b. Unfortunately, Board started work only after 1 million Jews had been killed
- c. Problems with the Board
  1. Lacked Resources
  2. Lacked Power
  3. Late Start
  4. Conflicts within the US Government
- d. War Board in US helped finance *Vallenburg* – a Swedish rescue of Jews
- e. Board helped provide Jews with baptismal certificates to say that they were Christians
- f. Helped establish ports for Jews to escape
- g. Board was possibly responsible for saving 200,000 Jews from death

**XXII. FDR Does Little To Help Jews**

- a. US President Franklin Delano Roosevelt was sympathetic to the plight of Jews, but did little to help them

**XXIII. As Nazi War Hope Dwindles, Killing of Jews Increases**

- a. As Nazis were losing the war, the Nazi commitment to killing Jews increased

## Youth Groups, Family Life, and Legacy of Nazi Germany

### **I. Nazi Appeal to Youth**

- a. Fun Physical Games
- b. Potential Power
- c. Glorification from Community
- d. Belonging, Purpose, Equalizing – Many joined to experience a sense of belonging, not necessarily b/c they believed in Nazi ideology
- e. Escape from Parents, Teachers, Clergymen
- f. Escape from Impoverished Conditions

### **II. Growth of the Youth Movement**

- a. 1932 – 100,000 membership
- b. 1933 – Membership Increased to 3.5 million
- c. 1936 – Hitler makes youth organization a “Supreme Governmental Authority” in its own right
- d. 1936 – 63% of Boys Youth (10-18) belong to Organization
- e. March 25, 1939 – Hitler makes membership “compulsory”

### **III. Why Did Some Youth Refrain From Joining the Nazi Youth**

- a. Teachers Perspective – Not fond of Nazism b/c Nazis were anti-intellectual  
-Teachers forced to coerce students to join Hitler Youth in order to keep their jobs
- b. Parents Perspective – Felt that they were robbed of their children b/c their children spent so much time away from them
- c. Many Youths refrained from joining the Hitler Youth b/c they lost their freedom

### **IV. Youth Coming of Age**

- a. Youth Experience Three Versions of the Reich
- b. (During the Years Leading to WW2 and then During the War)

### **V. Importance of the Hitler Youth**

- a. Important for them to be indoctrinated so that they would blindly support Hitler
- b. Anti-intellectual drive (Hitler was an anti-intellectual)

## **VI. Resistance and Rebellion (during War)**

- a. Edelweiss Pirates
  - Didn't act like Hitler Youth – formed their own clique
- b. Swing Movement
  - Youth clubs devoted to Swing Music (American Jazz Music)
  - Danced up a storm
  - Nazis hated Swing Music b/c it was influenced by Blacks
- c. Even though rebellions were not very effective, groups showed that not all kids supported Hitler Youth

## **VII. Women as Wives and Mothers**

- a. Not seen as important originally
- b. Nazis wanted to return women to traditional roles at home
- c. However, there was widespread support from women for the Nazis
- d. 1920s – Women's liberation
- e. Shift from traditional roles was too abrupt – from women being at home to going out and having an active role

## **VIII. Women in the Hitler Years**

- a. After Hitler came to power, all non-Nazi organizations were abolished
- b. Women did not rise up to leadership of party
- c. Women were given incentives to have children, but since Hitler needed more workers, especially during the war to accomplish rearmament, women returned to the workforce
- d. Hitler had inconsistent views on women

## **IX. Homosexuality – Pre and Post 1934**

- a. Hitler was remarkably tolerant towards homosexuality before 1934
- b. Before 1934, intolerance was not pushed because **Roehm** was homosexual
- c. After Roehm was killed in Night of the Long Knives, Homosexuality was no longer tolerated b/c Hitler's new closest henchmen believed that men were supposed to impregnate women

## **X. Illegitimacy and the Lebenborn Program**

- a. Nazis encouraged illegitimacy as long as Aryan babies were created by SS men
- b. Illegitimate children were taken care of by the State

**XI. Prostitution**

- a. Government regulated Prostitution was because Himmler wanted Prostitution to keep SS men happy during the war
- b. Freelance Prostitution, however, could get a women sent to a concentration camp

**XII. The Reich Church**

- a. The Nazis want to bring all churches into line under 1 Reich Bishop
- b. This Desire, however, creates mass opposition in protestant and catholic church circles

**XIII. Concordat of 1933**

- a. Deal between Nazis and Catholic Papacy
- b. Pope agreed to recognize Nazi Regime (increasing the legitimacy of the Nazis) in exchange for freedom of religion and to protect church institutions in Nazi Germany
- c. Good deal for Papacy in order to protect Catholics
- d. Hitler didn't keep concordat promise
- e. By 1937, Hitler launched offensive against Protestants and Catholics

**XIV. The Barmen Confession of 1934 and the Confessional Church**

- a. 4000 Protestant pastors signed and resisted Reich church
- b. Confession helped keep Protestant Church alive

**XV. "Mit Brennender Sorge" Pamphlet**

- a. Pope Pius XII, a former Papal Nuncio (ambassador) to Germany, helped to negotiate Concordat of 1933
- b. Pamphlet concentrated on suffering of Catholics, not Jews
- c. Pius XII was silent about the fate of Jews during war
- d. What Pius XII didn't say to help the Jews, spoke volumes

**XVI. Problem of Silent Consent**

- a. Was Pius XII consenting to Nazi action against the Jews?
- b. Or Did he feel powerless against Nazi power?
- c. Defenders of Pope claim that if he would have said something about Nazi actions towards Jews, it would have harmed more Catholics and still not helped Jews

## **XVII. Problem of Resistance**

- a. Difficulties: Power of the SS and the Gestapo
- b. Why didn't Germans rise against him when Hitler's ideas became clear?
- c. Nazis had all the weapons
- d. SS/Gestapo Terror Machine instilled in Germans fear of retaliation towards the resistor and their family if they acted against the wishes of the SS

## **XVIII. Censorship and Propaganda**

- a. Lots kept under wraps
- b. Info was not made readily available
- c. Possibly, it's remarkable there was any resistance

## **XIX. Episodes of Resistance**

- a. **Rebellion by the Youth:**
  - Swing Kids: Danced to American Jazz Music
  - The White Rose: Small Resistance Movement
    - Most daring and brave resistance
    - Tried to turn University students against Nazis by distributing pamphlets
- b. **Resistance by the Military:**
  - Plot to Blow-up Hitler, July 1944
    - Bomb was put in a briefcase, close to Hitler
    - Person who planted bomb would get away from room, claiming they had gotten a phone call
    - Briefcase was moved, so Hitler wasn't badly injured
    - Perpetrators were all rounded up and suffered through a video-taped execution for Hitler's personal enjoyment
- c. **Revolts in Concentration Camps**
- d. A Question that has to be asked is:
 

**Are they resistors even if they don't undermine the entire regime – if an individual personally doesn't support it?**
- e. For Years after the war, the men who attempted to blow-up Hitler were seen as heroes. However, a later revisionism of the event saw that by July 1944, Germany was invaded and was no longer doing well in the war. When Germany was doing well in the war, the men hadn't planned on blowing-up Hitler

## **XX. Judgment at Nuremberg – Trials of 1946**

- a. The Prosecution: "Crimes Against Humanity"
- b. The Defense: "We Were Following Orders"
- c. The Judgment: Prison Terms and Executions for many Nazis

## XXI. Germany Since 1945

- a. Cold War and Division: From 4 zone of occupation to the FRG vs. the GDR
- b. The Berlin Wall (1961-1989)
  - Brain Drain - Over 1 million of the Best and the Brightest from E. Berlin fled to W. Berlin
  - Berlin became a Cold War super-power pawn
- c. Weakening of the Soviet Union end the invasion of Germany in 1991, allowing Germany to be reunified

## XXII. Have Germans Come to Terms with their Past?

- a. Germany reunified, but has it come to terms with its Nazi past?
- b. In late 1940s, victims of Holocaust want to move on w/ their lives and Super-powers are too worried about blowing each other up
- c. In the Aftermath of WW2, it was assumed that few Germans knew about the Holocaust
- d. In more recent works, it has been shown that Germans knew and participated more than previously thought
- e. Recent years: Some Germans want to “Get on with it” and relegate the Hitler Era and the Holocaust to Historical memory
- f. Others say that Nazism is part of Germany’s “unmasterable past”

## XXIII. Historiography of Hitler and the Holocaust

- a. 1950s and 1960s: Nazism was seen as a bizarre exception in German History
- b. 1970s and 1980s: Nazism was seen as a culmination of negative trends in German History – *The separate path, or Sonderweg Theory*
- c. 1990s: **Daniel Goldhagen** Thesis – Claimed Holocaust happened b/c Germans wanted desperately to kill Jews (Goldhagen has assessed level of cooperation) – Some view this as a radical thesis

## XXIV. Significance of Nazism

- a. **SAX AND KUNTZ: “NATIONAL SOCIALIST IDEOLOGY ATTEMPTED TO ELIMINATE THREATS POSED BY THE INDUSTRIALIZATION AND URBANIZATION OF SOCIETY...WHY THESE GOALS LED TO WAR AND GENOCIDE IS THE QUESTION THAT MUST BE POSED OF THE NATIONAL SOCIALIST PHENOMENON.”**
- b. **SPIELVOGEL: “NAZISM WAS A MOVEMENT THAT FILLED A VACUUM IN MODERN TIMES WHEN TRADITIONAL SOCIETY DISINTEGRATED. THEREIN LIES OUR NEED TO UNDERSTAND IT. THE PRESENT PERIOD OF UNSETTLED CONDITIONS MAKES IT APPROPRIATE TO REMIND OURSELVES ANEW OF THE TRUE NATURE AND ULTMATE PRODUCTS OF NAZISM.”**
- c. In a search for security, people sacrifice rational knowledge



NORMAN RICH, HITLER'S WAR AIMS, VOL. II : THE NEW ORDER (1974):

“ON EVERY CONTINENT WE STILL FIND RACIAL NATIONALIST MOVEMENTS MARSHALLED UNDER THE FAMILIAR SLOGANS OF NATIONAL FREEDOM AND SELF-DETERMINATION, SOVEREIGNTY AND INDEPENDENCE—THE VERY SLOGANS WHICH NAZISM EXPLOITED SO SUCCESSFULLY

--AND IN MANY CASES THESE MOVEMENTS HAVE BEEN ACCOMPANIED BY PROGRAMS OF GENOCIDE, THE COMPULSORY RELOCATION OF ENTIRE RACIAL OR NATIONAL COMMUNITIES, AND ACTS OF BRUTALITY THAT STUN THE IMAGINATION

--APART FROM THE IRRATIONAL PASSIONS AND PREJUDICES INVOLVED IN ALL NATIONAL-RACIAL POLICIES, OR THE EVEN MORE INCALCULABLE FACTORS OF STUPIDITY, PANIC OR SHEER MOMENTUM, ----THE COMMON DENOMINATOR IN ALL OF THEM APPEARS TO BE A SEARCH FOR SECURITY, WHETHER THE GOVERNMENT IS FASCIST OR COMMUNIST

--IT REMAINS ONE OF THE GREAT MISFORTUNES OF MANKIND THAT THIS SEARCH IS STILL SO FREQUENTLY CONDUCTED ON THE BASIS OF THE SAME SIMPLISTIC LOGIC THAT CHARACTERIZED THE POLICIES OF HITLER, AND THAT SO MANY NATIONAL-RACIAL GROUPS CONTINUE TO SEEK THE TEMPORAL SALVATION OF THEIR SPECIES OF HUMANITY AT THE RISK OF ITS DEHUMANIZATION.”

**EUH 4465—HITLER AND NAZI GERMANY  
REVIEW SHEET FOR FINAL EXAMINATION**

To prepare for the final, go over class notes and read pertinent passages in Spielvogel and Botwinick on the following:

1. The Holy Roman Empire
2. Division of German-speaking lands, 800-1871
3. The unification of Germany during the 19<sup>th</sup> century
4. Bismarck's constitution of 1866
5. Bismarck promotion of universal suffrage
6. Bismarck enactment of social welfare legislation
7. Bismarck's foreign policy after 1871
8. William II's foreign policy
9. William II's most important goals
10. Impact of Germany's rapid industrialization in the 19<sup>th</sup> cent.
11. Origins of popular volkisch ideology
12. Article 231 of the Versailles Treaty
13. Ebert-Groener Pact
14. Article 48 of the Weimar Constitution
15. Fulfillment vs. obstructionist policies Weimar gov't in the 1920s
16. Hyperinflation of 1923
17. Stresemann and the Dawes Plan
18. The Era of Good Feeling
19. The Locarno Pact
20. Origins of Hitler's racism and anti-Semitism
21. Lebensraum
22. The Great Depression and the Rise of Nazism
23. Breakdown of Weimar, 1930-33
24. Reichstag Fire and the Enabling Act
25. Gleichschaltung
26. The German Christian Church
27. Nuremberg Laws
28. Pius XII's pamphlet, "Mit brennender Sorge"
29. Roehm, the Night of the Long Knives and its consequences
30. Schacht, public works and autarky
31. Nazi policy on women before and during WWII
32. Nazism struggles to gain support of workers
33. The T-4 program
34. Kraft durch Freude program
35. Impact of Hitler's support for Mussolini's invasion of Ethiopia
36. Anglo-German naval treaty of 1935
37. Impact of the remilitarization of the Rhineland
38. Berlin Olympics
39. Hossbach Memorandum
40. Anschluss
41. Kristallnacht
42. Appeasement
43. Neville Chamberlain
44. Sudetenland and the Munich Agreement
45. Invasion of Czechoslovakia and Anglo-French guarantees to Poland
46. Origins of the Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact
47. Blitzkrieg vs. Sitzkrieg
48. Fall of France
49. Germany aids Italy in North Africa and Greece
50. Wannsee Protocol
51. Einsatzgruppen
52. Lebensborn Program
53. Dunkirk
54. Extermination camps
55. Concentration camps
56. Treatment of Jews in western vs. eastern Europe
57. Turning points for Germany during WWII
58. Resistance to Hitler in military circles
59. Germany divided into zones of occupation
60. The FRG and the GDR
61. Reunification-- 1991
62. Historians and Hitler—1950s, 1980s
63. The Goldhagen thesis
64. Difficulty of resistance
65. Significance of Nazism (Spielvogel, pp. 306-309)