World War II and its Aftermath

CHAPTER 29
Japan Overruns Manchuria and Eastern China

- Manchuria – 1931
- Withdrew from the League of Nations
- 1937 – Eastern China
Italy Invades Ethiopia

- 1935 – Italian invasion of Ethiopia
- Ethiopia asked the League of Nations for help
- League voted sanctions; had no power to enforce them
Hitler Goes Against Versailles

- Built up German army
- Sent troops into demilitarized Rhineland
- Western democracies denounced Hitler’s moves, but took no real action
- Appeasement – giving in to an aggressor’s demand to avoid war
- Rome-Berlin-Tokyo Axis – Axis powers agreed to fight Soviet communism
'Remember... One More Lollypop, and Then You All Go Home!'
Spain’s Civil War

- Fascists, Nationalists – led by Franco
- Loyalists (communists, socialists)
- Hitler and Mussolini sent help to Franco
- Soviet Union sent help to loyalists
- Horrible atrocities on both sides
- 1939 – victory for Franco
German Aggression Continues

- 1938 – Anschluss of Austria
- 1938 – Munich Conference – British and French leaders gave in to Hitler’s demand for the Sudetenland
- Nazi-Soviet Pact – nonaggression pact between Hitler and Stalin – agreement to divide Poland and eastern Europe
- September 1, 1939 – German invasion of Poland
The Axis Attacks

- German Blitzkrieg – lightning war
- Soviets attacked from the east – Poland lacked natural defenses and was quickly defeated
- Britain and France declared war on Germany
- Phony war – winter of 1939
France Falls

- France surrendered to Hitler
- Puppet state of Vichy
- Free French government led by Charles de Gaulle
Germany Launches the Blitz

- Germany began bombing London and other cities
- Thousands of civilians were killed
- Germany never gained air superiority over Britain
- The bombing made the British more determined to defeat the Germans
Africa and the Balkans

- General Rommel – “The Desert Fox”
- British forces were pushed back to Egypt
- 1940-1941 – Axis forces controlled most of Europe
Germany Invades the Soviet Union

- Hitler decided to nullify the Nazi-Soviet pact and invade the USSR
- Hitler’s costliest mistake – invasion stalled at Leningrad
- German army unprepared for Soviet winter
- 900 day siege – Soviets suffered extreme hardships but the city did not fall
Hitler’s New Order

- Light skinned Europeans (Aryans) were superior
- Dark skinned Slavs were inferior
- The Nazis plundered the resources of all conquered nations
- Jews were forced to live in ghettos
- Later, Jews, Poles, Slavs and others were sent to “work” camps – concentration camps
Nazis Commit Genocide

Hitler’s “Final Solution”
- Special “death camps” were built
- Prisoners were stripped of all belongings
- Elderly, sick and young were targeted for immediate killing
- Others were worked to death or used for medical “experiments”
- Holocaust - 6 million Jews were killed
- 6 million others also were killed
Japan

- Took control across Asia and the Pacific
- Brutal treatment of Chinese, Filipinos, Malaysians and others
- US banned the sale of war materials
- December 7, 1941 – Japanese bombing of Pearl Harbor
- Early victories across the Pacific
Total War

- War production
- Rationing
- Censorship, limits on civil rights
- Internment of Japanese Americans; discrimination against Germans
- Women in the war effort
Allied Victories

- Japanese defeats in the Pacific
- Axis defeats in North Africa
- Allied invasion of Italy
- Battle of Stalingrad – bitter street by street struggle
- German forces surrendered in 1943
- German army now on the defensive
Victory in Europe

- D-Day invasion – June 5, 1944
- Successful liberation of France
- By 1945 Germany was surrounded by Allied forces
- Yalta Conference – Churchill, Roosevelt and Stalin agreed on post-war issues
- May 8, 1945 – V-E day
Victory in the Pacific and the Bomb

- The Japanese navy suffered heavy losses
- American marines took Iwo Jima and Okinawa
- Japan did not surrender; Truman decided to use the atomic bomb on Hiroshima and Nagasaki
- Japan surrendered on September 2, 1945
Europe in Ruins

- Most European cities were in ruins
- Millions of people were homeless
- Agriculture was disrupted, infrastructure was destroyed
- Thousands died as famine and disease spread through the cities
Nuremberg Trials

- Nazi leaders were charged with waging a war of aggression and of committing “crimes against humanity”
Differences Grow Between the Allies

- Conflicting ideologies and mutual distrust led to the Cold War
- Stalin promised free elections in Eastern Europe; instead he installed communists governments
- The Truman Doctrine – US promised to help any country resisting communism
- Marshall Plan – billions of $ to help rebuild the European economy
Division of Germany

- Four zones – one controlled by each of the Allies
- France, Britain and US united their zones
- Stalin blockaded Berlin
- Berlin airlift – cargo planes supplied West Berliners with food and fuel
Opposing Alliances

- NATO - US, Canada and 10 other countries formed the North Atlantic Treaty Organization
- Warsaw Pact - the Soviet Union and its Eastern European satellites
Effects of Defeat in Japan

- US occupation of Japan
- Demilitarization
- Democratization
- The emperor had to declare that he was not a god, and his power was reduced
- A new constitution gave political power to the people