

THE ROAD TO WORLD WAR II

PART A: RISE OF TOTALITARIAN REGIMES pp. 120-123

Match the following dictators with the statements below.

- A. Adolf Hitler
- B. Benito Mussolini
- C. Emperor Hirohito
- D. General Francisco Franco
- E. Joseph Stalin

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|--|---|
| _____ aggressively persecuted Jews in a policy known as the "Final Solution" | _____ leader of Japan |
| _____ army and police were used to maintain control | _____ leader of the Communist Party in the Soviet Union |
| _____ believed the state is above all else | _____ leader of the Fascist Party in Italy |
| _____ came to power by winning a civil war | _____ leader of the Nationalists (fascists) in Spain |
| _____ citizens in his country suffered hardships such as starvation, forced labour, and death | _____ leader of the National Socialist German Workers' Party (Nazis) |
| _____ created 5 year plans to stimulate the economy in areas such as agriculture and industrialization | _____ modeled his regime on the Soviet Union |
| _____ created camps for "undesirables" and those who opposed him | _____ promised to restore the country's nationalism (pride) |
| _____ did not allow any opposition to his government and policies | _____ promised to revitalize his country's economy |
| _____ gained power with the support of 2 other European dictators | _____ propaganda and censorship was used to control society |
| _____ had total control over the country's economy and resources | _____ ruled as a dictator with absolute power |
| _____ his nickname was "Fuhrer" (the leader) | _____ used a secret police force to enforce his leadership and eliminate opposition |
| _____ his nickname was "Il Duce" (the leader) | _____ used the Great Depression to rise to power |
| _____ ideas of racial superiority were present in his country | _____ used threats, intimidation, and violence to gain allegiance |
| | _____ used the humiliating terms of the Treaty of Versailles to rise to power |

PART B: HITLER'S ACTIONS IN EUROPE pp. 124-125

Hitler came to power in Germany in the 1930s. His goal was to conquer land ("lebensraum") for his idyllic master race (Aryan nation). In order to do this, he committed a number of acts that were in direct defiance to the Treaty of Versailles. Analyze Hitler's actions in the chart below.

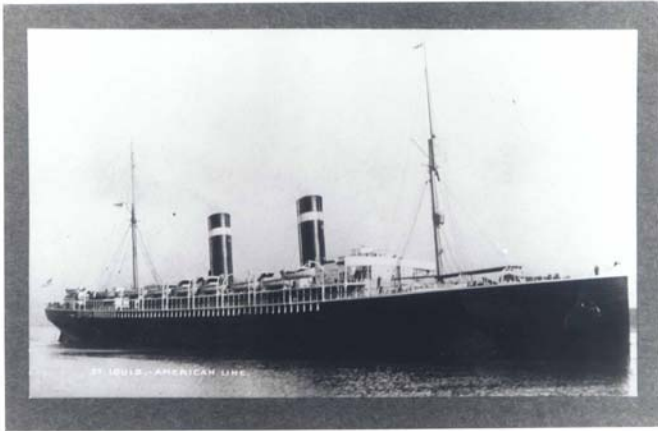
| | Hitler's Actions | How was this in defiance of the Treaty of Versailles | Europe's Response |
|----|---|---|--------------------------|
| 1. | Re-militarization and Re-occupation of the Rhineland (March 1936) | | |
| 2. | Anschluss (unity) with Austria (March 1938) | | |
| 3. | Annexation of the Sudetenland in Czechoslovakia (Sept 1938) | | |
| 4. | Occupation of all of Czechoslovakia (March 1939) | | |
| 6. | German-Soviet Pact (August 1939) | | |
| 7. | Invasion of Poland (September 1, 1939) | | |

PART C: FAILURE OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS pp. 125-126

1. What was the main purpose of the League of Nations after WWI? Why was it unsuccessful?
2. Describe Japan's policy of aggression in the 1930s and analyze the response of the League of Nations.
3. Describe Italy's policy of aggression in the 1930s and analyze the response of the League of Nations.
4. How would the failure of the League of Nations influence Hitler's policy of aggression?

PART D: CANADA'S INTERWAR PERIOD FOREIGN POLICY pp. 127-129

Similar to countries in Europe, Canada followed a policy of _____ during the Interwar Period. Canada did not want to become involved in another world war. The rise of dictatorships and acts of aggression witnessed around the world were happening somewhere else – why should Canada become involved in something that had no direct impact on the country? Also,



Canada was slowly started to recover from the _____: if we went to war, it would plummet the country back into debt. There were anti - _____ feelings towards Jews all around the world, including in Canada. Prime Minister Mackenzie King felt that the issues in Germany were a domestic problem and we should not interfere. Thus, he was not willing to help those trying to

escape from the tyranny of Hitler. This would have tragic consequences in 1939: a ship, S.S. _____, containing over 900 Jewish refugees was denied the right to dock and allow its refugees to disembark. The ship and its passengers were forced to return to Europe where many died in _____.

Not everyone in Canada supported the government's policy on Jewish immigration.

Many Canadians showed their displeasure by speaking out, holding rallies, and writing into newspapers.



Passengers aboard the St. Louis, May or June, 1939.
(Courtesy United States Holocaust Memorial Museum.)