Chapter 16
Section 1 – Hitler’s Lightning War

Setting the stage
- recap of Hitler’s pre-war conquests: Rhineland, Austria, Sudetenland, and Czechoslovakia
- now wants the Polish Corridor

GERMANY SPARKS A NEW WAR IN EUROPE
- recap of non-aggression pact with Stalin and Hitler who agree to divide Poland and let USSR have at Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania and Finland - why them?

Germany’s Lightning Attack
Sept 1, 1939 – Hitler surprise attack on Poland – cross border w/ tanks and troops and airstrike on Warsaw
- France and Britain declare war on Sept 3, 1939 but couldn’t get mobilized before Hitler annexed Poland
- BLITZKRIEG – lightning war – airplanes and tanks followed by massive infantry – surprise and overwhelm

▶ Invasion of Poland Video (Ency of the 20th Cent)

The Soviets Make Their Move
Sept 17, 1939 Stalin’s troops occupy the eastern ½ of Poland then moved on to Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia, all who fell without struggle
Finland resisted – in November Stalin sent in nearly 1 million troops – Finns put up a good fight and even used skis to get to the Soviets in the snowy conditions, but by March 1940, the Finns had to surrender.

The Phony War (sitzkrieg!!)
Britain and France waited at the Maginot line while Germany was a few miles away at the Siegfried Line….everyone sat at their lines from the time they mobilized for war in September until April 1940 then…..
April 1940 – Hitler surprise invasion of Denmark and Norway. Denmark fell in 4 hours and Norway fell in 2 months. Hitler started building bases on the coasts of Norway and Denmark for future attacks on Britain.
THE FALL OF FRANCE
May of 1940 – Hitler sent troops through the Netherlands, Belgium and Luxembourg as a distraction. While the Allies were busy fighting there/in those areas, German tanks and troops made their way through the Ardennes in N France, Luxembourg and Belgium and into France, reaching the coast in 10 days

http://library.thinkquest.org/CR0215466/the_invasion_of_france.htm
Europe WWII PowerPoint

Rescue at Dunkirk
-those troops joined up with the troops in Belgium and backed the Allies up the coast at the beaches of Dunkirk. With nowhere to go, Britain sent Navy ships and civilians went out on their own rescue the troops off the beaches. Everything from navy ships to yachts to motor boats and lifeboats worked from May 26 to June 4th to ferry 338,000 soldiers to safety.

dı Dunkirk overhead
Video: Rescue at Dunkirk (Ency of the 20th Century)
(The Little Ships)

France Falls
France losing the fight…June 14th Germans took Paris and on June 22, 1940 France surrendered. Germany took over Northern France and set up a puppet government in southern France led by French World War I hero Marshal Philippe Petain. Meanwhile, French General Charles de Gaulle led the resistance movement against the Germans, organizing the Free French military forces that brought guerilla attacks against the German occupiers.

THE BATTLE OF BRITAIN
With France defeated, Hitler looked to Britain, the last Ally in the west. Hitler planned to knock out the Royal Air Force (RAF) then land invasion of 250,000 soldiers. In the Summer of 1940 the Luftwaffe started bombing Britain focusing on airfields and aircraft factories. September 7th, the Luftwaffe started bombing raids on cities, London in particular. Attacks lasted until May 10, 1941 before Hitler called off the Battle of Britain because he couldn’t break the resistance. Why was Britain so unbreakable?
   1 - The people’s will – inspired by PM Churchill and the King and Queen, the British people had decided to stick it out and stick it to Hitler
   2 - RAF – the Royal Air Force, while not as strong as the Luftwaffe, was able to do some damage to the Luftwaffe
3 - Radar – this gave Brit’s a forewarning of strikes – telling the number, speed and direction of incoming warplanes
4 - Enigma – the British had an enigma in possession for decoding German Messages

Seeing that there’s no easy win, Hitler focuses his attention on the Balkans and Soviet Union (what about the pact that was made Aug 24, 1939?!!!)

Comparing Churchill and deGaulle reading – compare and contrast

THE MEDITERRANEAN AND THE EASTERN FRONT

Axis Forces Attack Northern Africa
While Hitler’s forces were fighting across Western Europe, Italians moved into France and then focused on northern Africa, starting with Egypt. Why Egypt? Britain controlled the Suez Canal which was key to reaching the Middle East and the oil fields. The Axis Powers obviously were going to want control of the canal.

Sept 1940 – Italians invade Egypt and make it in 60 miles, pushing British troops back as they advanced
Dec 1940 British counterattacked and not only got Italians out of Egypt, but by February 1941 the British had pushed them back 500 miles and taken 130,000 Italians as POWs
Late March 1941 Hitler sent in a tank force, the Afrika Corps, led by General Erwin Rommel, whose attack forced the British troops to retreat to Tobruk, on the Libyan coast. It went back and forth for a bit until Rommel seized Tobruk in June 1942

The War in the Balkans
As early as summer 1940, Hitler had though to invade the USSR. To do that, Hitler knew it would be good to establish bases in the Balkans. Early 1941, Bulgaria, Romania and Hungary joined the Axis Powers due to Hitler’s threats. Yugoslavia and Greece were pro-British and resisted. April 1941 Hitler invaded both. Yugoslavia fell in 11 days and Greece surrendered in 17.

(Hitler used the varying nationalities of the region as a wedge. He had promised the Croats that they could have autonomy if they helped out the Nazis)

overhead of Ethnic Groups in Eastern Europe

Hitler Invades the Soviet Union
June 22, 1941 the invasion of the Soviet Union begins. In one week, the Germans had made it 500 miles into Soviet territory. Soviets had a larger army but their troops were
not well-equipped or trained. The Soviets used the scorched-earth strategy which meant they burned and destroyed everything as they retreated. Why?!!!

Sept 8, 1941 – 42 Siege of Leningrad – totally cut off from the rest of the Soviet Union. Hitler bombed food warehouses hoping to starve 2.5 million people into surrendering. Desperate, they ate horse and cattle feed, cats and dogs and crows and rats! Nearly one million people died that winter but Leningrad would not surrender.

Oct 2, 1941 Hitler was annoyed at the pace of Leningrad so he set his sights on and moved on to Moscow – attack-counterattack by Soviet General Zhukov – Hitler won’t let his troops retreat – dig in until March 1943

Practicing Skills Cartoons w/s

THE UNITED STATES AIDS ITS ALLIES

Americans were against involvement in World War II. From 1935 to 1937 various Neutrality Acts were signed making it illegal to sell arms or lend money to nations at war but FDR knew we’d be drawn in so he managed to get the Lend-Lease Act passed in March of 1941 which said we can lend or lease (just not SELL) arms and other supplies to any country vital to the defense of the United States. The U.S. Navy even began escorting cargo ships which led to Hitler ordering the sinking of any cargo ship.

Atlantic Charter – Roosevelt and Churchill have a secret meeting where they talked of free trade among nations and the right of people to choose their government, among other things. It became an outline for the peace plan at the end of WWII

Sept 4, 1941 A German U-Boat fired on a U.S. destroyer in the Atlantic which led the navy to order commanders to shoot German subs on sight. We basically were under undeclared naval warfare with Hitler but it wasn’t Germany whose attack would bring us into the war!
Section 2 – Japan’s Pacific Campaign

Setting the Stage
– dreams of empire – invasion of China for resources but resistance by Chinese caused the war to drag on. Japan needs resources so they look to the European colonies in Southeast Asia (since the Europeans are busy…)

SURPRISE ATTACK ON PEARL HARBOR
America had cracked one of the Japanese secret codes by Oct 1940, so we knew of Japan’s plans for conquest in Southeast Asia where we had the Philippines and Guam. We sent aid to the Chinese to help hold up the Japanese and when Japan overran French Indochina (Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia) in July 1941, FDR cut off oil shipments to Japan (picking sides…)

Japan continued on their conquests and planned a massive coordinated attack on British and Dutch colonies and American outposts in the Pacific. Admiral Isoroku Yamamoto referred to our Pacific fleet as a “dagger pointed at Japan’s throat” that must be destroyed.

Day of Infamy
Dec 7, 1941 attack on Pearl Harbor. We had an idea it would occur but not sure when or where...
The Japanese sank or damaged 19 ships, including 8 battleships and more than 2300 Americans were killed and 1100+ wounded
FDR referred to it as a “date that will live in infamy” and declared was on Japan

At the same time, Japan was bombing Hong Kong (Brit), Guam (ours) and Wake Island (ours) and invaded Thailand (Siam!!)

JAPANESE VICTORIES
Guam and Wake Island fell
Jan 1942 Japan invaded the Philippines where the Filipino and American troops fell back to the Bataan Peninsula for a defensive position. By May 1942 the Philippines fell.
Also starting in May 1942 the Japanese started with Malay/Singapore and worked their way through the Dutch East Indies to Java, Sumatra, Borneo, and Celebes. On the other side of the Malay, the conquered Burma and had their eyes on India!

The new conquests equaled more than 1 million square miles and 150 million people. “Asia for Asians” was forgotten and the Japanese treated the people in conquered lands with extreme cruelty – used them for slave labor and there was brutal mistreatment of the people, with the worst treatment saved for
POWs. The **Bataan Death March** was an example of the brutality – it was a forced March of Filipino and American POWs to relocate them to a POW camp more to the interior of the island. They were forced to walk 50+ miles... 70,000 started and 54,000 survived

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uQWdETwFACs&playnext=1&list=PL79373C719127F7B5

Fall of Singapore w/s

**THE ALLIES STRIKE BACK**

The Japanese seemed unbeatable but Australian and American forces were ready to take them on.

**April 1942** the **Doolittle Raid** was carried out bombing Tokyo and several other Japanese cities. It didn’t have much impact on the war, but proving that it COULD be done was a big deal to the Allies and left some Japanese questioning their invincibility and the ability of the military to protect its empire.

**May 1942** the Japanese were heading for the Allied base Port Moresby in New Guinea when they were intercepted by American and Australian troops ... **Battle of the Coral Sea** - use of aircraft carriers made this a new kind of naval warfare. The Allies stopped the Japanese advance so even though the Allies suffered greater losses than the Japanese, it was a “victory”

**The Battle of Midway**

Midway was home to an American airfield. Code breakers figured out the impending attack on Midway by the Japanese, led by Adm. Yamamoto himself. Yamamoto hoped an attack on Midway would draw the entire Pacific fleet to defend the air field so that the Japanese would have them all in one location to attack.

Read book on page 500 out loud

The **Battle of Midway ended June 7, 1942** and turned the tide of the war

**AN ALLIED OFFENSE**

Midway was a huge morale boost. General Douglas MacArthur, who’d had to retreat from the Japanese in the Pacific previously, knew the Japanese were dug in on hundreds of islands waiting for Americans to attack. Rather than the costly idea of storming and fighting on each island occupied by the Japanese, MacArthur decided to “island hop” past Japanese strongholds to get closer to Japan.
The 1st place they hopped was Guadalcanal of the Solomon Islands on August 7, 1942. The Japanese were building a huge air base here. Savage fighting went on for 6 months before Americans won in February 1943. The Japanese referred to it as the “Island of Death” **read page 501 quote from American war correspondent Ralph Martin**

The end paragraph previews that Section 3 is about how Hitler dealt with those he considered inferior for living in the Third Reich.
Section 4 – The Allied Victories

Setting the Stage
Dec 22, 1941, Churchill and Roosevelt meet to develop a joint war policy. Stalin had asked for their help by opening a front in the west, coming in behind the Germans, forcing them to fight on two fronts. Churchill agrees but they had to deal with their side of the world first.

THE TIDE TURNS ON TWO FRONTS
Churchill wanted to first take care of Northern Africa and Southern Europe. Stalin didn’t like the idea because he needs help against the Germans (really, who was HE to complain?). Allies agree to send him supplies but they had their own interests to take care of first.

The North Africa Campaign
June 1942 – Rommel took Tobruk, Libya from the British and had moved on to the Egyptian village of El Alamein by the time Britain sent General Bernard Montgomery to lead the British forces in Northern Africa. Germans were dug in and the only way to dislodge them was a massive frontal attack.

Oct 23, 1942 Battle of el Alamein where they get Rommel retreating to the West across northern Africa
Nov 4th Operation Torch
Allied troops, mostly American and led by Dwight D. Eisenhower, landed in Morocco and Algeria and started heading east. Meanwhile, General Bernard Montgomery comes in from the west

Eisenhower → Rommel ← Montgomery

By May 1943, Rommel’s Afrika Corps were crushed in Tunisia!

The Battle for Stalingrad
The German advance was stalled in Moscow and Leningrad in late 1941 and the winter that year was especially harsh.
Summer 1942 – Hitler sends the Sixth Army under General Paulus to seize oil fields in the Caucasus and capture Stalingrad, an industrial city that was obviously Stalin’s namesake as well.

August 23, 1942 Battle of Stalingrad starts with Germans doing bombing raids. Stalin didn’t want to see “his city” fall to the Germans and he ordered the Soviets to do all they could. There were still many civilians in the city who also stepped up to help fight off the Germans. By November 1942, however, Germany had 90% of the city…then winter came and so did a counterattack.
Soviet troops surrounded the Germans who were surrounding the city so the Germans were “trapped” where they were. Hitler would not let Paulus retreat though.

Feb 2, 1943: 90,000 of the original 330,000 German troops surrendered, frostbitten and half-starved. Stalingrad was 99% destroyed and one million Soviet soldiers had been killed but now they had the Germans retreating.

**Invasion of Italy**

Stalin wanted Britain and the United States to invade France first, but they decided to go after Italy first, instead (after all, it was Italy – it HAD to be an easy win!!)(but mainly because they were in Northern Africa already and Italy is right there!)

They invaded Sicily on July 10, 1943 and in a month the British and United States won it from the Italians and Germans. King Victor Emmanuel had Mussolini arrested on July 25 and surrendered on September 3, 1943 HOWEVER the Germans took Northern Italy and put Mussolini back in charge! Meanwhile, the allies also continued north, pushing the Germans back as they went. The allies entered Rome on June 4, 1944) but fighting in Italy continued until Germany itself fell in May 1945). On April 27, 1945, resistance fighters ambushed German trucks and found Mussolini inside! “They shot him the next day and later hung his body in downtown Milan for all to see.”

**THE ALLIED HOME FRONTS**

Major support for Allied soldiers but civilians endured extreme hardships in Europe, especially – lack of food, bombings, destruction of towns and civilian death. The United States did not suffer any direct hits to the continental United States. We produced weapons and war equipment.

**Mobilizing for War**

Total War – factories for wartime production – guns, boots, tanks, armor piercing shells...By 1944, 17-18 million United States workers had jobs in the war industry

- Shortage of consumer goods ➔ rationing of scarce items like meat, sugar, tires and gas, they even lowered the speed limit to 35 mph
- propaganda
- scrap metal drives
- war stamps and bonds

Disney Propaganda video
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q38H6Xol9t0

***Lockheed Martin
http://stories-etc.com/hidden.htm

**War Limits on Civil Rights**
- prejudice against Japanese-Americans
  - Feb 19, 1942 began the internment of Japanese-Americans because they were considered a threat to the country
  - “aliens” were sent to relocation camps in restricted military areas in under-populated areas. Two-thirds of those interred were Nisei = American-born citizens whose parents were Japanese and many had volunteered for military service and fought while their families were in the camps.

From the US gov’t
[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k6gSShuQCUE](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k6gSShuQCUE)

Interview with internees
[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ujDPvUFSfdw](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ujDPvUFSfdw)

**VICTORY IN EUROPE**
- The Allies have moved into Italy, now they’re figuring how to get Germany out of France
  - They decide to launch an attack on German-held France by crossing the English Channel and invading on the northern beaches of France.
  - General Dwight D. Eisenhower was in command and the invasion force was ready to go in June 1944. Planned to invade at Normandy, France but also set up a huge fake staging area to make it look like Calais would be the landing site.
  - June 6, 1944 – D-Day “Operation Overlord” – largest land and sea attack in history….British, French, American and Canadian troops came up the beach to be “greeted” by machine gun fire, rocket launcher and cannons…2700 Americans died that day.

More than 1 million reinforcements came in behind the first wave over the course of the month. June 25th George Patton gets through the German line at Saint-Lo…it took one month and they made it to Paris….one month later France, Belgium and Luxembourg were all liberated.

**The Battle of the Bulge**
Allies were approaching from the west while Soviets were coming from the east…Hitler has a war on two fronts. Hitler counterattacks to the west hoping to split the American and British line…Dec 16 German tanks broke through in the Ardennes (created a bulge in the front line – hence the name Battle of the Bulge) until the Allies pushed back from the west. With no reinforcements, the Germans had no choice but to retreat.
Germany’s Unconditional Surrender

**March 1945** Allies enter Germany
Mid-April: 3 million Allied soldiers → Berlin ← 6 million Soviet troops
April 25 had Berlin surrounded
April 29th Hitler marries Eva Braun
April 30th they commit suicide with Soviet troops just a few blocks away. Their bodies were carried outside and burned

**May 7, 1945** German military does an unconditional surrender to General Eisenhower.

FDR had died April 12 so he never got to see the end of the war. Harry S. Truman was his successor

**May 9, 1945** – V-E Day Victory in Europe – the war was officially over

**VICTORY IN THE PACIFIC**
The war in the Pacific still raged on. With the surrender of Germany and Italy, the Allies could now focus all of their attention on ending the war against the Japanese. Midway and Guadalcanal had stopped Japanese advances and they were in retreat mode.

**The Japanese in Retreat**
In the fall of 1944, MacArthur went to Leyte Island in the Philippines. The Japanese had a plan to destroy the American fleet, but at the risk of almost the entire Japanese fleet. ON **Oct 23, 1944** Japan put the plan in motion and in 4 days their navy had lost disastrously (**Battle of the Leyte Gulf**), eliminating it as a fighting force in the war.
Now they “just” had to deal with the Japanese army and kamikazes.

**March 1945** Iwo Jima

**April 1 – June 21** Okinawa – Japanese deaths: 100,000 American deaths: 12,000

**The Japanese Surrender**
From Okinawa the next stop was to be mainland Japan. However, loss of life with a mainland invasion was estimated to be ½ million lives!!

Eisenhower was informed of the Manhattan Project where an atomic bomb had been newly created. They guys in charge of the Manhattan Project were General Leslie Grover and scientist Robert Oppenheimer.
A test bomb was dropped in the New Mexican desert on July 16, 1945. With the knowledge of its power, Eisenhower warned the Japanese to surrender or face “a rain of ruin from the air”

No Japanese response so....

**August 6, 1945 – Hiroshima** of a city of roughly 350,000, 70 to 80,000 were killed in the attack

Still no surrender so....

**August 9, 1945 – Nagasaki** 270,000 occupants…70,000 killed PLUS the damage from the radiation fall out

See page 512

After the second bomb, Emperor Hirohito stepped in and said Japan would withdraw from the war. Japan officially surrendered to MacArthur on Sept 2nd, 1945 in a ceremony on the battleship Missouri in Tokyo Bay.

……Now to figure out how rebuild and handle the war-torn world.

### Section 5: Europe and Japan in Ruins

The 6 years that WWII was fought brought more death and destruction than any other conflict in history. Sixty million (60,000,000) were dead, with 2/3 of them from the Soviet Union; 50,000,000 people were displaced and property damage was into the billions.

#### DEVASTATION IN EUROPE

- 40,000,000 Europeans dead; 2/3 of them civilian – cities were in rumbles and people were homeless

#### A Harvest of Destruction

- populations were decimated:
  
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Warsaw, Poland</th>
<th>population</th>
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<tr>
<td>1939: 1.3 million</td>
<td>1945: 153,000</td>
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- Some cities were almost entirely destroyed (95% of Berlin was) – civilians sometimes stayed in their partially destroyed homes or the rubble left with no water, electricity and very little food – other civilians were displaced and wandering including the survivors of concentration camps, POWs and refugees (some of whom ended up in the wrong country after postwar treaties changed borders) – looking to find their families and/or a safe place to live

Simon Wiesenthal quote p 514
Misery Continues After the War
- agriculture was disrupted because men were off to war and women were working in factories so there was not much planting of crops and with transportation destroyed, what crops WERE harvested didn’t always make it to market/the cities - famine - disease
- 1st winter after the war was miserable because many people did not have proper attire

POSTWAR GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS
Some governments returned quickly like in Belgium, Holland, Denmark and Norway
German, Italians and French (who’d gone all Vichy puppet) citizens didn’t want a return to prewar government because their old leaders were a disgrace. Communism almost gained a foothold in Italy and France because of their promises of change, but when the Commies started holding violent strikes it alarmed citizens who withdrew their support. As the economy improved, the communists got even less support.

The Nuremberg Trials
- were held to deal with the issues of war crimes - In Nuremberg 1945 and 1946 - an International Military tribunal representing 23 nations – Nazi war criminals were tried for waging a war of aggression and crimes against humanity (the murder of 11 million people)
Hitler, SS chief Heinrich Himmler and Minister of Propaganda Joseph Goebbels had committed suicide but other higher ups were still around to charge and bring to trial like Hermann Goring (Commander of the Luftwaffe) and Rudolf Hess (Hitler’s deputy). Hess was found guilty and sentenced to life in prison. Goring was sentenced to death but committed suicide before the execution took place. Ten others were hanged on 10/16/1946. The executed bodies were brought to Dachau for cremation.
“A thousand years will pass and still this guilt of Germany will not have been erased.” Hans Frank the “Slayer of the Poles”

POSTWAR JAPAN
2 million lives were lost and the country was in ruin by regular bombing raids as well as the two “A” bombs

Occupied Japan
-MacArthur is in charge of the occupation and was determined to be fair - he demilitarized and democratized Japan – brought war criminals to trial including Tojo Hideki - oversaw the change to an elected government and a new constitution changing Japan to a constitutional monarchy (like Britain) that went into effect on May 3rd, 1947 - changed land ownership to increase productivity of land and number of workers and farmers – est. right to labor unions
OCCUPATION BRINGS DEEP CHANGES

New constitution brought changes – the emperor was no longer considered divine and his power was reduced...he was now a figurehead. Real political power was given to the people who elected the Diet (a 2-house Parliament) – all citizens 20 years old or older were allowed to vote – Prime Minister chosen by the Diet (majority vote) – Bill of Rights including one that said Japan could not start a war but could fight back if attacked.

Sept 1957 was the official, formal end of the war – US occupation was over but Japan agrees to continued US military presence to protect them. From enemies to allies.

But we also had some allies to enemies – in particular, the Soviet Union. After WWII the US and the SU emerged as the world’s two superpowers but with different postwar goals, conflict emerged that shaped the war for decades...the Cold War.

From Chapter 17 – Restructuring the Postwar World

Section 1 – Cold War: Superpowers Face Off

Yalta - A postwar plan
- meeting in February 1945, BEFORE the end of the war, between Britain, the United States and the Soviet Union - Yalta is a resort on the Black Sea
- The leaders agree to:
  - Divide Germany into 4 zones of occupation, each overseen by a different ally (France, Britain, SU and US)
  - Germany will have to pay reparations to the Soviet Union
  - Soviet Union agrees to join in WWII against Japan

Formation of the UN
- International organization intended to protect its members against aggression
- Security Council was formed with 5 permanent members (US, Brit, China, France and SU) to investigate and settle disputes

The growing strength of the Soviet Union and the Cold War and the desire to limit the spread of Communism (it was REALLY catching on) led Truman to develop the “Truman Doctrine” which would offer support to countries rejecting Communism. He believed part of ensuring resistance to Communism was making sure countries had help in recovery from the war.
Marshall Plan was a way to see the Truman Doctrine through – it would provide food, machinery, and other materials to needy European countries to rebuild Western Europe.

Division of Germany/Berlin and the Berlin Airlift
Postwar Germany was divided into 4 occupation zones – Soviet, US, French and British. The Soviets differed with the others about how to treat Germany. Soviets wanted to keep it weak and divided and the other three wanted it to be able to rebuild, just without a psycho in charge again. France, Britain and US joined their portions together. The city of Berlin was different in that the city was in the Soviet Part (East Germany) AND the city itself was divided into four zones. The Soviets had cut off highway, water, and rail traffic into Berlin’s Western zones (SU had the eastern side) and was trying to starve the populous in hope that the allies would give up their portion of West Berlin. For 11 months, the Allies flew supplies into West Berlin to keep the citizens healthy, thwarting the Soviets, who ultimately admitted defeat and lifted the blockade.

Section 3 – The Holocaust

Setting the stage:

Hitler and the Nazis were looking for a new racial order, proclaiming German people, or Aryans, were a master race (an Aryan was actually Indo-European people who migrated to the Indian subcontinent around 1500 BC) and all others were inferior.

HOLOCAUST: the systematic slaughter of Jews and other groups judged inferior

THE HOLOCAUST BEGINS

With no reason really as to why, Jews were blamed by Germans and other Europeans as the cause for their failures, like their defeat in WWI and economic problems after the war.

1935 Nuremberg Laws were passed by Hitler and the Nazis

“Night of the Broken Glass”

Early November 1938 Herschel Grynszpan, 17, was in Paris visiting his uncle when he got news of his father’s deportation from Germany, where he had lived for 27 years, to Poland. On November 7, 1938, Herschel shot a German diplomat living in Paris
Nov 9 – Kristallnacht: attack of Jews homes businesses and synagogues across Germany and murdered approximately 100 Jews
Quote on page 503
Was a major step –up in the Nazi policy of Jewish persecution

A Flood of Refugees
- by the end of 1939 German Jews fled to other countries
- Hitler favored emigration by Jews but after admitting tens of thousands of Jews, countries like France, Britain, and the United States closed their doors to them, which of course led to some smart alec comment by Hitler about “no one wanting them”

Isolating the Jews
- Hitler ordered all the Jews in the countries under Nazi control to be moved to ghettos in designated areas of certain cities. The ghettos were sealed off from the rest of the city with walls and barbed wire and had very little outside access. Nazis hoped the Jews would starve to death or that disease would overrun the ghetto and kill its inhabitants. Jews hung on and formed resistance groups, kept traditions, even school lessons and music were taught in secret

THE “FINAL SOLUTION”
Jews weren’t dying fast enough for Hitler’s liking so Hitler came up with a GENOCIDE plan to get rid of the Jews (and other undesirables). He believed Aryans needed purity to follow on their path of conquest so other races, nationalities and groups dubbed inferior had to go including Roma, Poles, Russians, homosexuals, the insane, disabled and incurably ill, and the Slavs, but ESPECIALLY the Jews.

The Killings Begin
Units from the SS moved from town to town hunting down Jews as Nazi troops invaded the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe. Jews were rounded up and killed by killing squads while still in their towns. Others were rounded up and sent to concentration camps (mainly in Germany and Poland) where they were used for slave labor in horrific conditions – worked 7 days a week, beaten or killed for not working fast enough, barely enough food (people lost as many as 50 pounds in the first few months)

The Final Stage
1942 – extermination camps with gas chambers
- Separated strong from the weak/young who were immediately exterminated -crematoriums to burn bodies
Some 6 million Jews died in the Holocaust between death camps, being worked to death and massacres. Fewer than 4 million survived – some escaped through their own efforts or with the help of outsiders

Elie Wiesel quote on page 503

Book doesn’t go into it, but 6 million OTHERS were also killed including Poles, Russians, Slavs, gypsies, homosexuals and the insane, disabled and chronically ill.

Nazi medical experiments....