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## **WORLD WAR II**

## **Unit 14 Review Guide**

## 1: NEUTRALITY & PEARL HARBOR

America tried to maintain its isolation from a growing war in Europe and Asia in the late 1930s. At first, the United States tried to use economic pressure to limit Japanese expansion and provided material support to Great Britain's fight against Nazi Germany, but Japan's attack on Pearl Harbor brought America into the conflict as a full combatant.

## 2: WINNING THE WAR

Good leadership, economic power, and the use of total war eventually helped the Allies defeat both Germany and Japan. In the end, President Truman's use of the atomic bomb prevented the need for a full invasion of Japan.

## 3: THE WORLD WAR II HOMEFRONT

The war affected the daily lives of almost all Americans and had lasting effects for many people. Women and African Americans had new opportunities and made advancements toward equality, but Japanese Americans were interned, marking one of the nation's darkest moments of racial injustice.

# **14-1: NEUTRALITY & PEARL HARBOR**

**BIG IDEA:** America tried to maintain its isolation from a growing war in Europe and Asia in the late 1930s. At first, the United States tried to use economic pressure to limit Japanese expansion and provided material support to Great Britain's fight against Nazi Germany, but Japan's attack on Pearl Harbor brought America into the conflict as a full combatant.

During the two decades that followed World War I, the United States maintained an attitude of isolationism. The nation had refused to join the League of Nations. As Europe was collapsing into turmoil with communism arising in the Soviet Union and Fascism in Spain, Italy and Germany, most Americans were happy to be far away and uninvolved.

The United States was not entirely isolationist. We cultivated better relationships with the nations of Latin America through Roosevelt's Good Neighbor Policy and tried to limit the size of the world's navies by participating in the Washington Naval Conference. However, organizations like the America First Committee had widespread public support and isolationism was popular.

Fascism, a system of government in which the leader and the nation become synonymous, was established by Mussolini in Italy and then by Hitler in more populous and economically powerful Germany. Hitler used anti-Semitism as a tool manipulate public opinion, gain support, win elections, and eventually take total control.

European leaders tried to appease Hitler by offering him control over some territories in exchange for promises of peace, but it did not work. After signing a secret peace deal with Joseph Stalin of the Soviet Union, Hitler invaded Poland in 1939, and then France. By 1940, only the United Kingdom was still holding out against Hitler.

Most Americans did not like the Nazis but wanted to remain neutral. To support the United Kingdom, President Roosevelt implemented Cash and Carry and Lend Lease programs to supply war materials to the British without declaring war. During this time, Roosevelt met with Winston Churchill of the United Kingdom to conclude the Atlantic Charter, which described how their two nations promised to offer a democratic alternative to Fascism. Roosevelt expressed his goals as Four Freedoms.

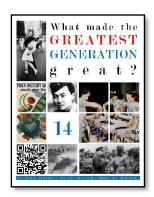
In Asia, Japan had been expanding into China. The United States opposed this expansion, especially after Japanese troops committed war crimes against Chinese civilians. In response, the United States instituted an embargo on war material to Japan. Under pressure to find an alternative source for oil, rubber, and other raw materials, the Japanese military command decided to attack the Dutch East Indies (now Indonesia), British and French Indochina (now Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia, Malaysia and Singapore), and the Philippines, which was an American territory.

In order to prevent the United States from entering the war, Japanese commanders decided to destroy the entire American fleet in one surprise attack on Pearl Harbor. Although the strike on December 7, 1941 was a tactical success, it was a strategic failure. The United States entered the war rather than suing for peace.

## **VOCABULARY**



Isolationism **Fascism Appeasement** Blitzkrieg



## PEOPLE & GROUPS

Benito Mussolini Adolf Hitler Nazi Party Joseph Stalin America First Committee Chiang Kai-shek Winston Churchill Hideki Tojo



# **EVENTS**

Washington Naval Conference Marco Polo Bridge Incident Rape of Nanjin **Battle of Britain** Attack on Pearl Harbor



The Great Gatsby The Waste Land Main Street





## **SPEECHES**

A date that will live in infamy...



## **POLICIES, LAWS & AGREEMENTS**

**Good Neighbor Policy** Munich Pact Stimson Doctrine **Neutrality Acts** Cash and Carry Lend Lease **Atlantic Charter** 

# 14-2: WINNING THE WAR

BIG IDEA: Good leadership, economic power, and the use of total war eventually helped the Allies defeat both Germany and Japan. In the end, President Truman's use of the atomic bomb prevented the need for a full invasion of Japan.

As the war began, Hitler broke his nonaggression pact with Stalin and invaded the Soviet Union. This resulted in an unusual alliance between the communist Soviets and the democracies of the United States, United Kingdom, as well as the Chinese, who had briefly ended their civil war to fight the Japanese.

The Allies concentrated their efforts first in Northern Africa, and after winning there, invaded Italy. The turning points of the war in Europe came on June 4, 1944 (when the British, Americans, free French, and Canadians landed at Normandy on D-Day) and at the Battle of Stalingrad when the Soviets turned back Hitler's invasion of the Soviet Union.

Intensive bombing campaigns over Germany slowly weakened the enemy as Allied forces pushed inward from both East and West. Eventually Germany collapsed, Hitler committed suicide, and the war in Europe ended.

In the Pacific, the United States suffered humiliating defeats in the early months of the war. After the attack on Pearl Harbor, the Americans were forced to surrender the Philippines to the invading Japanese. The turning point came at the Battle of Midway when the United States was able to sink critical aircraft carriers from the Japanese fleet. Without the resources to rebuild or resupply, the war in the Pacific was a long, slow struggle to recapture tiny islands held by the Japanese. This process resulted in some of the most deadly, but celebrated battles of the Marine Corps' history.

After retaking the Philippines, the Americans launched an invasion of Okinawa, the last island stronghold before a full invasion of the Japanese mainland would begin. It was one of the most deadly of the entire war. The Japanese used

suicide airplane attacks and the Americans devastating the islands with an enormous bombardment.

Meanwhile, Albert Einstein had President Roosevelt that warned Hitler's scientists might be trying to develop a nuclear bomb and encourage the Americans to create such a weapon first. This top-secret Manhattan Project was a success, and the first atomic bomb was tested in New Mexico.

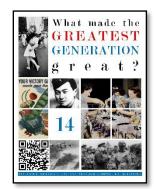


President Truman took office when Roosevelt died in 1944 and decided to use the atomic bomb to force Japan to surrender. The Americans bombed the Japanese cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. There is still debate about the morality of using atomic weapons on cities with large civilian populations. Japan's surrender in 1945 brought the war to an end. It was the most deadly conflict in human history.

## **VOCABULARY**



Firebombing Island Hopping Kamikaze



## PEOPLE & GROUPS

**Bernard Montgomery Erwin Rommel Dwight Eisenhower** Douglas MacArthur Harry Truman Albert Einstein Enrico Fermi Robert Oppenheimer



## EVENTS

North Africa Campaign Invasion of Italy **Battle of Stalingrad Operation Overlord** D-Day Battle of the Bulge Holocaust V-E Day Corregidor Bataan Death March Battle of Midway Island Battle of Iwo Jima Battle of Okinawa





V-J Day

Los Alamos, NM **Trinity Site** Hiroshima Nagasaki



## **GOVERNMENT PROGRAMS**

Manhattan Project



Enola Gay Installment Plan **Buying on Margin** 



Einstein's Letter to Roosevelt

# 14-3: THE WORLD WAR II HOMEFRONT

**BIG IDEA:** The war affected the daily lives of almost all Americans and had lasting effects for many people. Women and African Americans had new opportunities and made advancements toward equality, but Japanese Americans were interned, marking one of the nation's darkest moments of racial injustice.

World War II had an enormous impact on the United States. The government spent previously unheard of amounts of money on the war and the size and scope of the federal government grew tremendously. Government offices produced propaganda to encourage support for rationing, scrap drives, war bond sales, and participation in efforts such as victory gardens.

Populations shifted, especially to California, which became a center for war production and troop deployments.

American industry transformed itself and produced supplies for the war in record numbers. Government officials and industrial tycoons collaborated and led the celebrated Arsenal of Democracy.

When men left to fight, women stepped up to fill in. The famous Rosie the Riveter symbolized all the women who worked in factories and on farms. For many American women, it was the first time they took jobs outside the home or earned a paycheck. Some women joined the fight as delivery pilots, nurses, or support personnel in government offices. Although most went back to being housewives after the war, it was an important psychological step toward gender equality.

Although African Americans still were relegated to segregated units, they served in an effort to both defeat discrimination and the Axis. A. Philip Randolph convinced President Roosevelt to order an end to discrimination in industries that contracted with the government, and groups like the Tuskegee Airmen won praise for their skill and bravery.

Native Americans served as code talkers, using their native language as an unbreakable code in the Pacific.

Mexican immigrants were welcomed into the country to work in fields left empty by Americans who had joined the military. In Los Angeles, the Zoot Suit Riots showed the level of racial animosity that existed between White servicemen on leave and the city's Hispanic community.

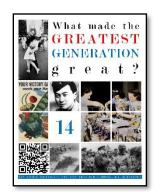
The minority who suffered the most were Japanese Americans. Roosevelt signed an executive order that led to the internment of the entire Japanese American population of the West Coast. The Supreme Court upheld this clear violation of their civil rights. In the face of such mistreatment, young Japanese American men formed the 442nd and fought with incredible bravery in Italy against the Nazis. Eventually in 1988, the government apologized for the internment and paid reparations to those who had suffered.

## **VOCABULARY**



## IDEAS

Rationing
Scrap Drives
War Bonds
Victory Garden
Arsenal of Democracy
Newsreel
Double V Campaign





### PEOPLE & GROUPS

Conscientious Objector
Rosie the Riveter
A. Philip Randolph
WASPs
WAVES
Tuskegee Airmen
Code Talkers
442nd Regimental Combat Team



### **FVFNTS**

**Zoot Suit Riots** 



# I GOVERNMENT PROGRAMS & AGENCIES

Office of Price Administration Office of War Information War Production Board Bracero Program



#### LAWS

Executive Order 8802 Executive Order 9066



### **COURT CASES**

Korematsu v. United States



# **ESSENTIAL VOCABULARY**



#### PEOPLE AND GROUPS

- Axis Powers: The alliance of Nazi Germany, Mussolini's Italy, and Japan during World War II.
- America First Committee: Group that included many prominent Americans in the 1930s which advocated for isolationism.
- **Dwight Eisenhower:** Supreme allied commander in Europe during World War II. He later became president during the 1950s.
- Douglas MacArthur: Allied commander in the South Pacific during World War II. He was forced to surrender the Philippines at the start of the war, but led the successful island hopping campaign and eventually accepted the Japanese surrender and was the military governor of occupied Japan.
- **Harry Truman:** American president at the end of World War II. He became president in 1945 when Roosevelt died and made the decision to use the atomic bomb.
- **Robert Oppenheimer:** Scientist who led the Manhattan Project. He is remembered as the Father of the Nuclear Bomb.
- Rosie the Riveter: Character who represented all the working women during World War II. In the most famous image of her, she declares "We Can Do It!"
- A. Philip Randolph: African American leader of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters union. He convinced President Franklin Roosevelt to issue Executive Order 8802 to end discrimination in industries that fulfilled government contracts.
- **Tuskegee Airmen:** Unit of African American fighter pilots during World War II.
- **442nd Regimental Combat Team:** Army unit made up of Japanese Americans during World War II. They served with distinction despite the internment of their family members back home and are the most decorated military unit in American history.



### **EVENTS**

- **Washington Naval Conference**: Meeting of nine world powers in 1921 and 1922 in which they agreed to limit the size of their navies.
- **Battle of Britain:** Air war between Germany and Great Britain in 1940. Hitler tried to force the British to sue for peace by bombing cities.
- Attack on Pearl Harbor: December 7, 1941. The event that propelled the United States into World War II.
- Battle of Stalingrad: One of the turning point battles of World War II. German forces had attacked deep into the Soviet Union before they were turned back here during the winter of 1942.
- **D-Day:** June 6, 1944. The landing of allied forces at Normandy, France. It was a turning point in the war in Europe.

- **Holocaust:** Hitler's attempt to murder all Jews in Europe. The genocide resulted in 12 million deaths.
- Battle of Midway: Turning point battle in the Pacific in 1942. The Americans d sunk four Japanese aircraft carries. After the battle, the Japanese were unable to rebuild their fleet or train replacement pilots.
- V-J Day: The end of World War II when Japan surrendered.
- Zoot Suit Riots: Violent conflict between White sailors on leave in Los Angeles and young Hispanic men. The media and local leaders blamed the unrest on the Hispanics.



#### KEY CONCEPTS

- **Isolationism:** A policy of not being involved in international affairs or joining in treaties with other nations.
- **Fascism:** Government system in which one person maintains total control and that leader and the country are synonymous. Thus, citizens declare loyalty to the leader, rather than the nation.
- **Appeasement:** Attempting to avoid a conflict by giving someone what they want.
- Rationing: Limiting the amount of a certain product that can be purchased to make people reduce use and therefore limit demand. For example, during World War II, people could only purchase gasoline on certain days of the week.
- War Bonds: Government savings bonds sold during World War II in order to raise money for the war effort. Everyone, including children and students were encouraged to save their money to purchase these.
- **Victory Garden:** Personal gardens people grew during World War II to support the war effort. By growing their own food, people reduced demand on commercially produced food.
- Arsenal of Democracy: Idea promoted by President Franklin Roosevelt that the United States would produce the material the allies needed to win the war, including ships, tanks, aircraft, bullets, bombs, etc.



#### **TECHNOLOGY**

**Manhattan Project:** Secret project during World War II to develop a nuclear bomb.



#### **SPEECHES**

A date which will live in infamy: Famous line from President Franklin Roosevelt's war message to Congress the day after the attack on Pearl Harbor.





### TREATIES, LAWS & POLICIES

- Good Neighbor Policy: President Franklin Roosevelt's foreign policy during the 1930s with regards to Latin America. He withdrew the military and renounced intervention, reversing Theodore Roosevelt's corollary to the Monroe Doctrine
- Munich Pact: Agreement between Hitler and the United Kingdom in 1938. Hitler promised not to invade his neighbors in exchange for British Prime Minister Chamberlain's agreement to let Hitler control the Sudetenland. Chamberlain believed the agreement would preserve peace. It actually convinced Hitler that the British would not stop his expansionist plans.
- Stimson Doctrine: American policy toward Japanese expansion in China in the 1930s. The United States refused to recognize the legality of the Japanese occupation.
- **Neutrality Acts**: Set of laws passed by Congress in the second half of the 1930s that prohibited President Roosevelt from actively supporting any side during World War II.
- Cash and Carry: American policy in which the United Kingdom could purchase war materials so long as they paid in full and transported the materials on British ships. It was a first step toward joining the war.
- Lend Lease: American policy starting in early 1941 to provide war material to the United Kingdom. Under the policy, the British did not have to pay for what they needed up front, thus ending the Cash and Carry policy.
- Atlantic Charter: Agreement between President Franklin Roosevelt and Prime Minister Winston Churchill of the United Kingdom in August 1941 before the United States joined World War II. It outlined the Anglo-American war goals of preserving democracy and self-determination.
- Executive Order 8802: An executive order issued by Franklin Roosevelt during World War II that forbid discrimination in industries that fulfilled government contracts.
- **Executive Order 9066:** Executive order signed by Franklin Roosevelt in 1942 that authorized the internment of Japanese Americans living on the West Coast.



### **COURT CASES**

Korematsu v. United States: 1944 Supreme Court case in which the Court ruled that the internment of Japanese Americans during World War II was constitutional. Most people believe it was a failure of the Court to uphold justice