

Causes of WWII


1) Japanese Aggression

1930's -- Japan is dealing with the worldwide depression
 - Depression is blamed on the new democratic government

-Military leaders gain control of country

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Military leaders believe that the key to economic recovery for Japan would be to expand their territory
 -- Japan would gain access to natural resources



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Japan invades Manchuria (1934)


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Japan invades mainland China (1937)

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Breaks "Kellog-Briand Pact"

League of Nations' only action: to kick Japan out of the League of Nations



2) Italian Aggression

Italy invades Ethiopia

- Upset with the lack of territory gained under the Treaty of Versailles
 - **Mussolini = Fascist leader**.....Fascism believes in using war to gain power and influence

Italy uses the Suez Canal to transport troops and Navy to get to Ethiopia
 - At this point, Great Britain has control of the Suez Canal and allowed Italy to use it

League of Nations does not act
 - Allowed Italy to invade Ethiopia





Germany after the Treaty of Versailles

- 1) De-Militarized Germany (100,000 troops)
- 2) Took away German land (Europe and Colonies)
- 3) Reparations = German Economy in ruins
- 4) League of Nations = supposed to preserve peace in the world

Germany MANIA

M -- Militarism, Hitler builds up army and places troops in the RHINELAND



A -- Alliance

Nov. 1936 = Rome-Berlin Axis

1 month later, Japan was added

Axis Powers = Germany, Italy, and Japan

N -- Nationalism

- Hitler = strong leader who made German's proud of their country again

Re-built pride in Germany by blaming the Jews for their current economic situation (scapegoat)

I -- "Imperialism"

- Hitler takes over surrounding land around Germany

- 1) Places troops in the Rhineland (1935)
- 2) Annexes Austria (1938)
- 3) Hitler is given the Sudetenland (1938)
- 4) Hitler takes the rest of Czechoslovakia (1939)
- 5) Hitler invades Poland (1939) (after invasion WWII starts)




A -- Appeasement

Appeasement = France and Britain's policy to give Hitler what he wants in order to avoid another war from starting

September 1938 = **Munich Conference**

Great Britain and France agree to give Hitler the Sudetenland

- Neville Chamberlain - Great Britain
- Edouard Daladier - France
- Benito Mussolini - Italy
- Adolf Hitler - Germany

"I believe it is peace for our time"
- Neville Chamberlain



or Rare Speech

NAZI - Soviet Non-Aggression Pact

- **Stalin did not side with France and Great Britain**
- Resented not being involved in the Munich Conference

- **August 23, 1939 =**

- Russia and Germany agreed not to attack each other
- In case war broke out, Hitler does not have to fight a two front war

