WWII Study Guide

Test: Tuesday 1/28

Beginning of WWII

Dictators were able to rise to power during and after the Great Depression because **economies** were ruined, and people wanted strong leaders to solve their problems and **rebuild** their countries after WWI. Germany begins to take over other countries to claim land lost in WWI. This is called **imperialism**.

Hitler blamed the **Jews** for the Great Depression and suffering in Germany. As a result, he created **concentration** camps and killed over 6 million people during the **Holocaust**.

Leaders and Alliances

Adolf Hitler was the head of the Nazi party in Germany.

Franklin D. Roosevelt was president of the United States from 1933 to 1945 and led us through the Great Depression, established the New Deal and declared war on Japan and Germany.

Harry S. Truman became president of the United States after President Roosevelt died. He decided to drop the atomic bomb in Japan.

Josef Stalin is a communist and dictator of the Soviet Union who began the war in an alliance with **Germany**, but then chose to join forces with the **allied** powers when the Soviet Union was attacked by Germany.

Hirohito was the Emperor of Japan from 1926 until 1989 and ordered the attack on Pearl Harbor. He was in a military **alliance** with Nazi Germany.

Benito Mussolini was the fascist dictator of Italy. He believed in Nationalism and used the army to control Italy.

Allied Powers: France, Great Britain, Soviet Union, United States

Axis Powers: Germany, Italy, and Japan

On the Homefront:

Women worked in wartime defense industries and factories. "Rosie the Riveter" played an important role as part of the propaganda campaign from the US government to recruit women into the workforce. Many products like gas and rubber became scare at home because they were needed for the war. Americans at home needed to ration their supplies. The Tuskegee Airmen were African American Pilots that fought many missions to help the allies defeat Italy, Germany and Japan.

US Enters the War:

The Japanese led a surprise attack in 1941 on the Naval base at **Pearl Harbor** caused President **Roosevelt** to declare war. A major concern was that Japanese Americans would side with Japan and be against the US. The US created **internment** camps that forced the relocation or incarceration of people with Japanese ancestry.

End of WWII

D-Day was June 6, 1944 when Allied forces stormed the beaches of Normandy, France.

Victory in Europe (V-E) Day came after Germany surrendered.

The US uses a strategy called island hopping to take control of islands occupied by Japan. President Truman decides to use **atomic bombs** on Hiroshima and Nagasaki in Japan to save lives of **American soldiers** and end the war. Japan finally surrenders on V-J Day in August of 1945.

Eleanor Roosevelt played a major role in the creation of the United Nations which was created to solve **problems** and maintain **peace**.

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