

COVERING THE YEAR'S BEST AND WORST

THE ZEITGEIST

DECEMBER 31ST, 1940

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY TAKES A STEP FORWARD?

In 1940, Kenneth and Mamie Phipps Clark became the first African-Americans to get PhDs in psychology at Columbia University. Over the past two years, the Clarks did their research, published in the *Journal of Social Psychology*, on racial perception and preference in African-American children.

The achievements of the Clarks are not only a step forward for Columbia University, but potentially the entire field of psychology. Currently, only four black colleges in America offer an undergraduate program in psychology. However, with more brilliant African American minds achieving PhD's, that number could most certainly increase.

Not only could the Clarks change the field of psychology for racial minorities, but their work could have a far greater impact on how society views race, especially in the education system. In their experiments, children were presented pictures of White and coloured children. The Clarks found that Black children not only were able to identify their own race using skin color as a cue, but preferred White children over coloured children. The Clarks used dolls for their experiments, and in these experiments, Black children not only chose white dolls, but associated positive traits with white dolls.



Hitler stands in front of the Eiffel Tower.



The Clarks -- the first African Americans to get their PhD's in psychology at Columbia University.

The work of the Clarks provide some genuine evidence for the potential negative effects of the current school system on children. With the *Plessy v. Ferguson* Supreme court decision in 1896, the Supreme Court ruled that the creation of two separate but equal school systems for White and coloured children. However, with their newfound evidence, these two school systems may not be entirely equal at all.

FRANCE FALLS TO NAZI FORCES

On June 22, 1940, France officially surrendered to the Nazi invaders. Representatives of the Third French Republic and Nazi Germany met together to discuss the French surrender to the Nazis, following a swift and brutal invasion into French territory. The armistice was signed in the same place as the original armistice that ended the First World War in 1918, in a train cart in Compiègne, France.

The Nazis caught British and French forces completely off guard when Army Group A through the Ardennes Forest -- a natural barrier the Allied Forces originally deemed impassable. This unexpected maneuver caused a disaster at Dunkirk, where almost the entire British expeditionary force and French forces, ended up surrounded. However, oddly enough, the Nazis halted their offensive, allowing for around 338,000 Allied troops to successfully evacuate Dunkirk to the home islands in Britain.

Following the disaster at Dunkirk, the Nazis swept through France, despite renewed and fierce resistance at the Weygand Line. The Maginot Line would fall to German forces, while Paris was captured on June 14th, 1940. Just two days later, the French surrendered to the Germans. The Nazis agreed to occupy the North and Western parts of France, about three-fifths of French territory, while the rest of the territory would be left to a neutral government under Marshall Philippe Petain. As the Nazis now dominate Western Europe, France's future remains uncertain.

ANYTHING YOU WANT US TO COVER? CALL 1-800-ZEITGEIST

COVERING THE YEAR'S BEST AND WORST

THE ZEITGEIST

DECEMBER 31ST, 1940

BRITAIN STANDS DEFIANT

Across the English Channel from occupied France, the British fight, even after the setbacks in the Western Front. Prime Minister Winston Churchill, through a series of speeches, has made it clear that Britain will fight on, even with France lost to the Nazi invaders.

Following the mismanagement of the evacuation of Norway, former Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain resigned on April 26th, 1940. Chamberlain left the position to Winston Churchill, who now leads a multiparty coalition government. On June 4th, in response to the disaster of Dunkirk, Churchill made a rousing speech to parliament which emphasized British soldiers would "fight in France, fight in the seas and oceans, fight with growing confidence and strength in the air, fight on the beaches, fight in the landing grounds, fight in the landing fields and in the streets, fight in the hills, and never surrender."

In what Churchill deems Britain's "finest hour", Britain continues to fight. British fighters repelled Nazi fighters in the skies of Britain, even amidst heavy airstrikes from the bombers of the Luftwaffe. British troops sank ships of the fleet of the new Vichy French government in the port of Mers-el-Kebir in Algeria, reportedly as part of an operation to prevent the Nazis from acquiring the French fleet. Finally, troops from all around the Commonwealth successfully repelled attacks from Italian forces in Egypt at Sidi Barrani, and are currently on the counteroffensive.



Winston Churchill speaking to Parliament. He made three important speeches encouraging the public and government to keep fighting.

"NEWER CONCEPTS IN PSYCHOTHERAPY"

On December 11th, 1940, Dr. Carl Rogers, a young and upcoming professor of Clinical Psychology at Ohio State University, gave a lecture titled "Newer Concepts in Psychotherapy" at the University of Minnesota. In this lecture, Rogers suggested the idea of a patient centered approach to psychotherapy.

Rogers started out as a devout follower of Catholicism, but shifted towards a career in psychiatry after a conference in Beijing, China in 1922. In 1924, he completed his undergraduate degree at the University of Wisconsin. By 1931, Rogers earned a PhD in clinical psychology from Columbia University's Teacher College. Over the past five years, Rogers has lectured at the University of Rochester, but he got his first position as professor of Ohio State.

While in its infancy, Rogers suggested a patient centered approach that would prioritize the relationship between the client and the therapist. Rogers's approach contradicts the psychoanalysis of the late Sigmund Freud. While psychoanalysis focuses on unconscious mental processes at childhood, Rogers believes that the relationship between the therapist and the patient could emulate the mother-child relationship. Much of Rogers's theories currently mirror that of the late Otto Rank.

In theory, the ideas of a person centered approach are interesting, but in practice, it may not have an effect on society. There are very few facilities for the psychologically ill, and the field of clinical psychology is quite small. The work of an average clinical psychologist involves the administering of tests, with perhaps a little psychotherapy. therefore, his ideas may not be generalizable to the greater public. In summary, it is unknown whether a person centered approach will be helpful to an already decaying field.



Carl Rogers, professor at Ohio State University

ANYTHING YOU WANT US TO COVER? CALL 1-800-ZEITGEIST

COVERING THE YEAR'S BEST AND WORST

THE ZEITGEIST

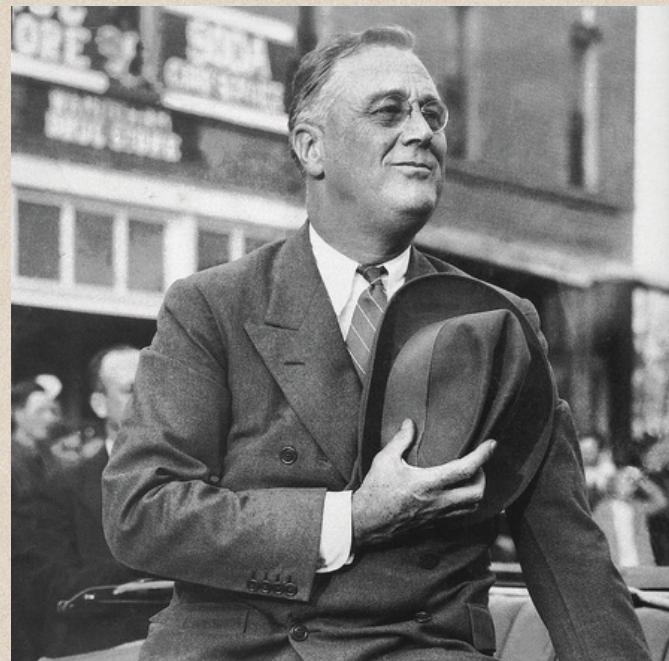
DECEMBER 31ST, 1940

IS THE U.S. AN ARSENAL OF DEMOCRACY?

Just two days ago, in a radio broadcast, president Franklin D. Roosevelt called for the American public to help the British fight against the Nazi regime. In this radio broadcast, Roosevelt claimed that America must become an "Arsenal of Democracy". The speech is the culmination of an increasingly interventionist policy from the United States, that might eventually lead to American troops being sent overseas.

Roosevelt, who recently became the first President to win a third term in office, has been slowly moving America away from a policy of strict interventionism in the Neutrality Acts before. In July, Congress had already passed the Export Control Act, which blocked the export of petroleum products, machine tools, and aircraft to Japan, as a response to their occupation of Indochina. This export control act expanded to iron and steel scraps in August. On September 2nd, 1940, Roosevelt orchestrated a destroyers-for-bases deal in which America would send 50 destroyers for a 99 year, rent free lease on British naval bases in the Western Hemisphere. The deal could help the British fight against Nazi convoy raiding in the Atlantic.

In his speech, Roosevelt claims that while one might think America is safe from the Nazi threat, the plane makes traversing the Atlantic easier. Roosevelt warned that, should Britain fall, America would stand alone against the Nazi threat, which would have all of the Old World and the high seas. Therefore, supporting the British would be the only option to protect American national security.



Roosevelt, who just won a second term, sitting on his car.

Many questions will be raised over whether America will participate in this devastating war in Europe. However, Roosevelt has also assured the American public that no American armies will be sent to the frontlines in Europe. Whatever this may mean for America's future, one thing is certainly clear: the sleeping giant that is America is slowly awakening.

GREECE SHOCKS THE ITALIANS

In what might be the first major setback for the Axis Powers, the nation of Greece has miraculously held off the Italian invasion from Albania. While Germany vows to support its Italian ally on this front, Mussolini's failure may show the incompetency of the Italian army.

Italy joined the war on June 10th, 1940, when it invaded through the Alps into France. Following the fall of France, Mussolini, the fascist dictator of Italy, turned his ambitions towards the state of Greece, following the successful annexation and occupation of Albania. Greco-Italian relations deteriorated, especially with the sinking of the light cruiser Elli on August 15, 1940.

On October 28, 1940, Italy invaded Greece from Albania. While the Italian invasion might have sounded threatening, the Greeks repelled attacks at the Pindus Mountains and at the Elaia-Kalamas sectors. With the momentum on the Greek side, the Greeks counterattacked along the front and reportedly pushed the Italians back into Albania. By November, Greek forces had reportedly captured territory in Albania. However, with the worsening conditions and greater Italian resistance in the area, the Greeks halted their offensive on December 28th, 1940.

The failed Italian attack on Greece marks the first setback for the Axis Powers. Sources in Berlin reported that even the Nazi dictator Adolf Hitler was not notified of the attack on Greece. With increasing struggles in Albania, the Nazis may be inclined to intervene and help their Italian allies, which could hinder potential operations elsewhere. Meanwhile, the British have reportedly sent a small Commonwealth detachment and air support to help the Greeks defend against the Italians. While Britain may not be alone in its fight against the Axis, Greece's future remains uncertain, especially with most Commonwealth forces tied down in North Africa.



Italian fighters fly over Greek airspace during the invasion.

ANYTHING YOU WANT US TO COVER? CALL 1-800-ZEITGEIST

COVERING THE YEAR'S BEST AND WORST

THE ZEITGEIST

DECEMBER 31ST, 1940

OTHER NEWS

CAN THE MOON ILLUSION BE SOLVED?

On January 1st, 1940, Dr. Edwin Boring published a paper on the phenomenon of the “moon illusion”, where the moon looks bigger the closer it is to the horizon. It is unknown what causes the moon illusion.

JAPAN OCCUPIES INDOCHINA

After the Fall of France, Japanese forces invaded French Indochina to block the import of arms and fuel from the Yunnan-Haiphong railway. Vichy France and Japan came to an agreement where the French would cede Indochina on December 9th, 1940.

THE SOVIETS MAKE A DEAL WITH FINLAND

An end has been put to the Russian invasion of Finland, also known as the Winter War. On March 12, 1940, Soviet and Finnish representatives reached a deal which saw Finland cede border areas to the Soviet Union. The deal comes after a disastrous, but successful invasion for the Soviet Union.



From Top to Bottom: Gordon Allport, president of the APA; the mysterious moon illusion; the Tommy Dorsey Orchestra; Japanese troops at Lang Son, Indochina

ALLPORT ADDRESSES THE APA

Dr. Gordon Allport published his speech to the APA in 1940. He called for a shift away from the use of a singular method to measure psychological phenomena, and reviewed the ongoing trends in psychological research.

SINATRA DEBUTS IN ROCKFORD

On January 28th, 1940, up and coming singer Frank Sinatra debuted for the Tommy Dorsey band as their lead singer. The recording of “I'll never smile again”, ranked at number 2 on the US billboards, was released on June 27th, 1940.

WHEN YOU WISH UPON A STAR

On February 23rd, 1940, Pinocchio was released to American theatres. While the movie flopped at the box office, mainly due to a lack of access to European and Asian markets, the film became the first animation movie to win an award at the Academy Awards for Best Original Score and Best Original Song.

RSVP: HELLO@REALLYGREATSITE.COM