

AP United States History

1930's Foreign Policy

- Americans' Position on War
 - In the 1930s, though Americans were concerned about the rise of fascism, most opposed taking military action
 - This was until the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor drew the US in WWII
- FDR's "Good Neighbor" Policy — 1933
 - Important to have all nations in the Western Hemisphere united in lieu of foreign aggressions
 - FDR implements the Good Neighbor policy and respects other countries
 - This was in Latin America
- Fascism as a Threat to the World Order
 - Japan invading China from 1931 + 1937
 - Mussolini creates Fascism that favors ethnic superiority, and The Nazis take power in 1933 and favor the same ideas
- Isolationism Returns in the US
 - Beliefs that the US should stay out of foreign affairs begins in the 1920s
 - History books around this time assert that Germany was not necessarily at the entire fault of WWI
 - Republicans and Midwesterners were in particular isolationist
 - Nye, a senator, begins investigating those who profited off of war
- Neutrality Acts of 1935, 1936, 1937
 - Prohibits sales of arms, loans, credits to belligerent nations
 - Forbids Americans to travel on vessels of nations at war
 - Non-military goods must be purchased on a "cash-and-carry" basis
- Quarantine the Aggressor Speech — 1937
 - FDR proposes that democracies need to unite to quarantine aggressor nations
 - The Public doesn't support this, so he dials back this idea
- Selective Service Act — 1940
 - The draft is reinstitute and 1.5 million men are in the military

- Lend-Lease Act — 1941
 - Britain ran out of money and the US was allowed to lend money for British war supplies
 - Essentially means the US was on the Britain
- Atlantic Charter — August 1941
 - FDR and Churchill discuss how they will end colonization
- Japanese-United States Relations
 - FDR freezes all Japanese assets in the US as a result of atrocities in China
 - Cuts off trade with Japan and cripples the Japanese economy after no oil
 - Japanese refuses to leave China and wants a Pacific Empire which would be impossible with American Presence
- Pearl Harbor: December 7, 1941
 - 2400 dead, 1300 wounded, 150 airplanes destroyed
 - Most aircraft carriers were spared because not in harbor that day
 - The next day, FDR asks for and receives a declaration of war from Congress