

# MALAWI SCHOOL CERTIFICATE OF EDUCATION- WORLD HISTORY

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## TOPIC 1: THE FIRST WORLD WAR

### EUROPEAN POWERS IN THE PERIOD BETWEEN 1870 TO THE OUTBREAK OF WWI

#### 1. GERMANY AND FRANCO-PURSSIAN WAR OF 1871

- The German statesman or Chancellor from 1870 to 1890 was Otto Von Bismarck while the German Emperor was Kaiser William II.
- During his reign, Germany defeated France at the battle of Frankfurt in 1871 and annexed the territories of Alsace and Lorraine.
- France became the enemy of Germany after she lost these territories to Germany and wanted to regain the provinces of Alsace and Lorraine.

#### Cause of Friction between Germany and France

- The main cause of friction between Germany and France which upset peace of Europe was the French resentment at the loss of Alsace-Lorraine to Germany at the end of the Franco- Prussian war of 1871.

#### 2. AUSTRIA-HUNGARY

Austria-Hungary was an empire made up of many different ethnic groups and nationalities (Germans, Serbs, Czechs, Slovaks, Slavs, and Croats) who wanted their independence from Austria. In particular, the Serbs living in Austria wanted to be joined to Serbia. Serbia was becoming more powerful and Austria was concerned by this. Russia supported the Serbia and the Serb people. Like Germany, Italy wanted an overseas empire and hoped the other countries in the Triple Alliance would support Italian ambitions. Italy lacked the military and industrial strength of Germany.

#### 3. BRITAIN

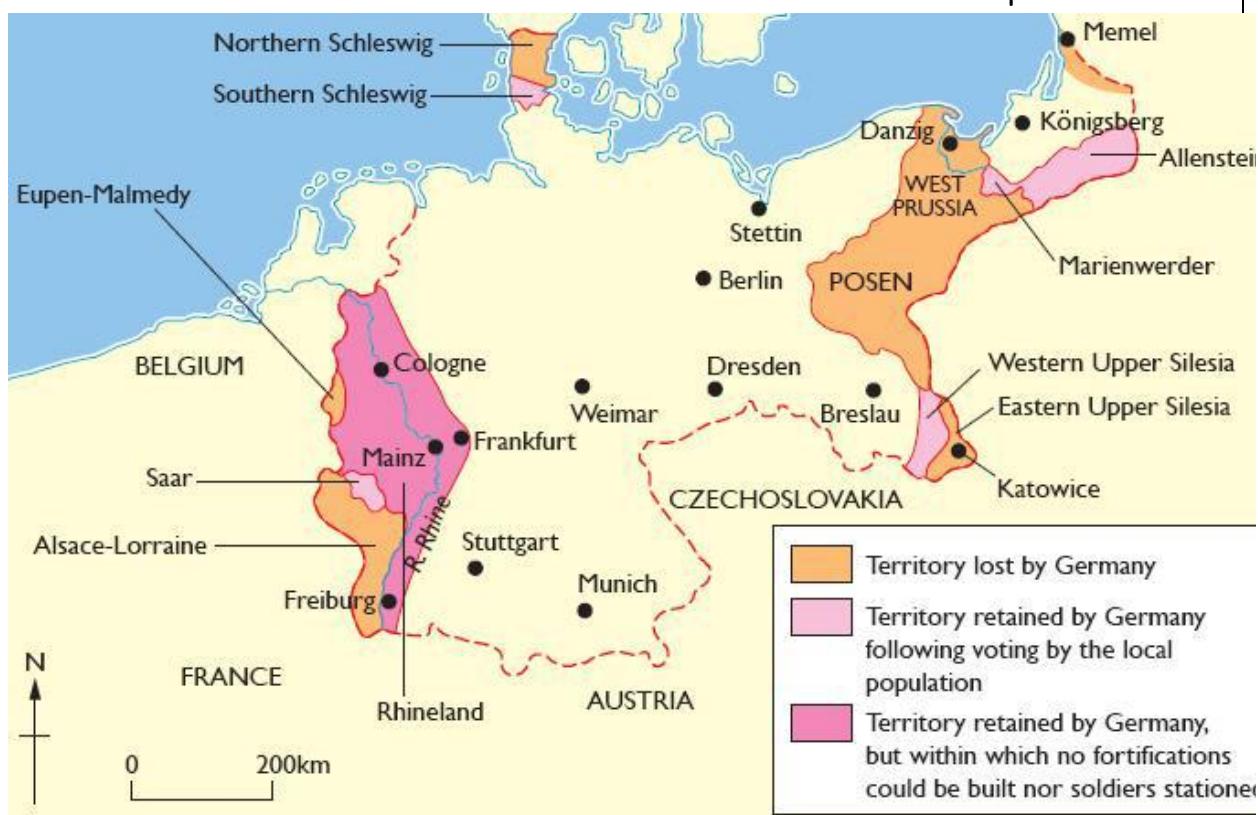
- Britain chose a policy of isolation described as "The British Splendid Isolation" in the period between 1870 and 1900.
- Splendid Isolation Policy was a policy followed by Britain in which she decided not to be involved in the European affairs in the second half of the 19<sup>th</sup> Century.
- The events that led Britain to abandon the Splendid Isolation Policy included the following:
  - a. The arms race between Britain and Germany
  - b. Britain felt that her interest in the Far East was threatened by Germany in

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China. Britain wanted to keep an open door for trade to all nations in every part of China.

## 4. FRANCE

- France was defeated by Germany during the Franco-Prussian war at the battle of Frankfurt in 1871. France paid 5 Billion Marks to Germany as compensation for the damages caused in the war to Germany.
- Therefore the major aim of French foreign policy between 1871 and 1914 was to regain the provinces of Alsace and Lorraine lost to Germany in the Franco-Prussian War of 1871. See Frankfurt and Alsace-Lorraine in the map below.



## 5. THE OTTOMAN EMPIRE UPT TO 1914

- Turkey was described as the sick man of Europe by the mid 19<sup>th</sup> century because it was economically declining.

## 6. BRITAIN

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Century.

- The events that led by Britain to abandon the Splendid Isolation Policy included the following:
  - c. The arms race between Britain and Germany
  - d. Britain felt that her interest in the Far East was threatened by Germany in China. Britain wanted to keep an open door for trade to all nations in every part of China.

### 7. RUSSIA

- Russia under Tsar Nicholas 11 was defeated by Japan in Russo-Japanese war in 1905.
- When Austria-Hungary annexed Bosnia- Herzegovina from Turkey, Russia failed to support Serbia after she appealed for help from Russia. Serbia had also been hoping to take Bosnia because it contained about 3 million Serbs among its mixed population of Serbs, Croats and Muslims. Russia did not dare to risk another war without after her defeat by Japan the support of its allies France and Britain.
- France did not protest against the Austria-Hungary's annexation of Bosnia-Herzegovina because it became clear that Germany would support Austria in the event of the war.
- Britain did not protest against Austria-Hungary's annexation of Bosnia-Herzegovina because the British were anxious to avoid a breach with Germany.

#### Effects of Austria's of Bosnia-Herzegovina of 1908

1. Serbia remained bitterly hostile to Austria, and it was this quarrel which led to the outbreak of the First World War in 1914.
2. The Russians embarked on a massive military build-up because they intended to be prepared if Serbia should ever appeal for help again.

### 8. JAPAN

- Japan signed Anglo-Japanese Agreement with Britain in 1902. By its terms Britain wanted to make use of Japan to check on Russia aggression in the Far East and Britain would support Japan in the event of the war.
- Japan joined the First World War on the Allies in accordance with the Anglo-Japanese Alliance.

### CAUSES AND EFFECTS WORLD WAR I

#### 1. MILITARISM ( THE GLORIFICATION OF WAR)

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- Arms race was the competition in the building of arms mainly between Germany and Britain until 1914.

Evidence:

- The naval arms race between Germany and Britain. The building up of German fleet was started by Admiral Tirpitz's Navy Law in 1897.
- In 1906, Britain introduced the powerful battleship known as 'Dreadnought' which sparked off the arms race between Britain and Germany. The introduction of the British Dreadnought battleship made Germany to start building her own Dreadnoughts on equal terms with Britain.
- Most European nations were stockpiling large numbers of weapons  
By 1914, Germany had the greatest increase in military buildup. Britain felt threatened by Germany's naval building program  
Great Britain and Germany both greatly increased their navies in this time period. Further, in Germany and Russia particularly, the military establishment began to have a greater influence on public policy. This increase in militarism helped push the countries involved into war in 1914.
- Many countries had contingency plans for war including Germany's Schlieffen Plan
- Many nations had the desire to use military force to solve political Problems. Therefore, the European Countries which were involved in the arms race were Britain and Germany before the outbreak of the First World War in 1914.
- Germany's army was not the biggest in Europe but it was the best trained and the most powerful (approx. 2.2 million soldiers). The biggest problem for the Germany army was the problem that they might face fighting on two fronts (France to the West and Russia to the East) The Schlieffen Plan was devised to avoid this problem
- The Austrian army was not strong enough to fight Russia alone (approx. 1.3 million soldiers) - they relied on the support of the Germany army and the success of the German Schlieffen Plan if they were to fight Russia.
- The Russian army was huge (approx. 3.4 million soldiers) but backward and ill equipped. Russia was reliant on her ability to overwhelm her enemies by sheer weight of numbers.
- France had a large and well equipped army (approx. 1.8 million soldiers). The French plan if attacked by Germany was to charge across the border and attack

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deep in Germany, forcing surrender

- Britain had traditionally relied on her navy rather than her army for security. The BEF (British Expeditionary Force) consisted of about 150,000 highly trained and well equipped professional soldiers. Britain's military planners had secretly collaborated with the French when setting up the BEF - they could be sent to France to fight alongside the French army at short notice.
- Countries argued that they were increasing the size of their armies for defence, in case they were attacked by members of an opposing alliance. As tensions increased in Europe countries were afraid that war would happen at some point - they did not know when but they wanted to be prepared. The problem was that although they expected war they thought war would be quick - nobody was prepared for a long drawn-out war and nobody had the funds to support a long war.
- Most European countries had the capacity to engage in a large scale conflict in the early 20th century and were fully prepared to use their military might once a political conflict arose so when the assassination of the Archduke set off the chain of events there were a large number of willing and capable participants eager to join the First World War



### 2. IMPERIALISM:

Imperialism is when a country increases their power and wealth by bringing additional territories under their control.

In other words, imperialism is the building up of an empire by seizing territory overseas.

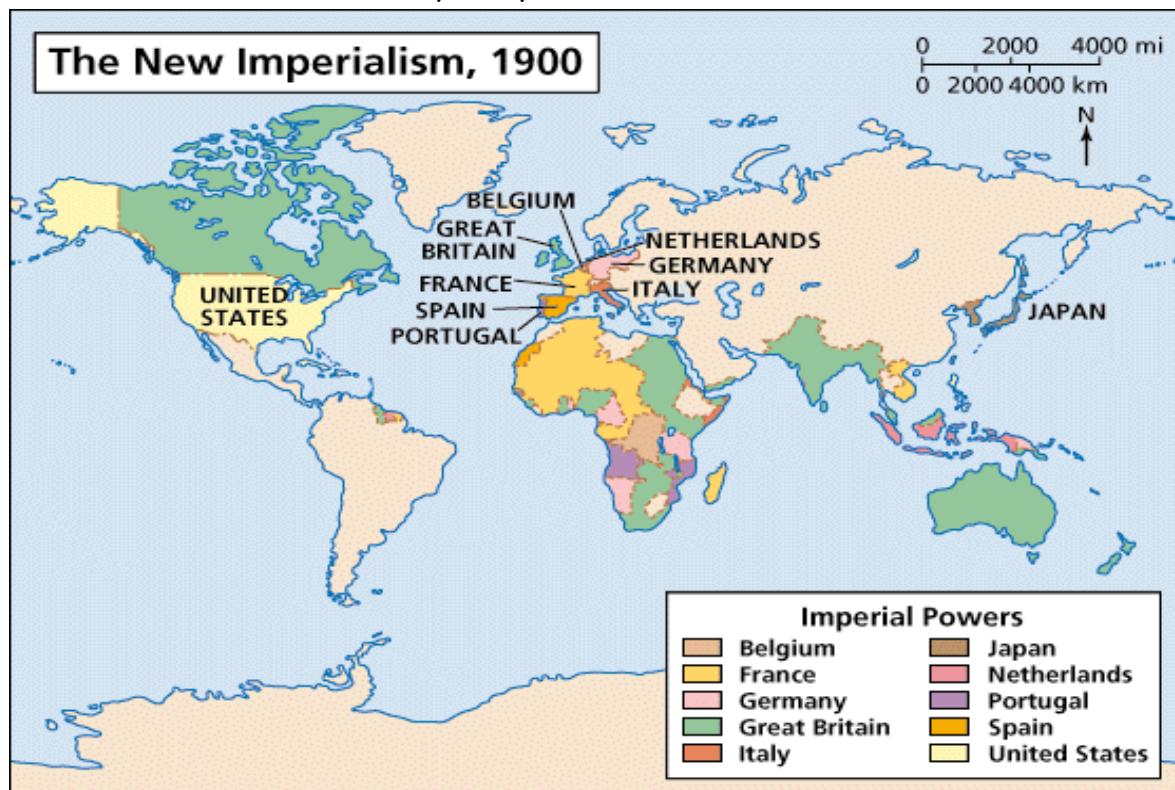
Before World War I, Africa and parts of Asia were points of contention among the European countries. This was especially true because of the raw materials

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these areas could provide. The increasing competition and desire for greater empires led to an increase in confrontation that helped push the world into WW I.

European countries battled over colonies. For example

- France and Germany clashed over Morocco.
- Great Britain and Germany competed for control in Africa and Asia for markets.



- Most of Africa was taken over by the European states in what became known as the scramble for Africa; the idea behind it was mainly to get control of new markets and new sources of raw materials
- Russia and Austria-Hungary had quarrels over the Balkan region.
- The tension brought on by the attempted expansion of the European empires in the early 20th century meant that there was already an aura of animosity in Europe which made it a lot easy for countries to join the conflict that erupted as a result of the Assassination

## 3. SYSTEM OF ALLIANCES/MUTUAL DEFENSE ALLIANCES

An alliance is a political, military or economic agreement, negotiated and signed by two or more nations. Military alliances usually contain promises that in the event of war or aggression, signatory nations will support their allies.

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Political Alliances were mutual defense agreements that were made by European countries in which they agreed that would help one another if attacked by enemy countries.

The terms of the political alliances were that if one country was attacked, allied countries were bound to defend them.

### **REASONS FOR THE FORMATION OF ALLIANCE SYSTEMS IN EUROPE**

1. To bring mutual defense among the European powers against their aggression in the time attacks. For example, the Triple Alliance against Triple Entente.
2. To promote economic co-operation among the European powers for the purpose of development. For example, Britain wanted to use Anglo-Japanese Alliance of 1902 to strengthen her trade ties with Japan.
3. To boost the imperialism acts. For example, Britain and France signed the Entente Cordiale in 1904, and France wanted to use it as the strategy of acquiring Morocco peacefully.
4. Germany formed the Three Emperor's League, the Dreikaiserbund Alliance of 1872 in order to isolate France from world of politics.
5. To contain the spread of socialism in Europe. For instance, the Three Emperor's League resist the spread of socialism in Europe.

### **DEVELOPMENT POLITICAL ALLIANCES BETWEEN 1872 AND 1907**

Explain the development of political alliances and how did they lead to the outbreak of WWI. By 1907, Europe was divided into two hostile camps. Explain how did it lead the outbreak of the WWI.

#### **FRANCO-PRUSSIAN WAR**

In 1871, Germany defeated France in Franco-Prussian War at the battle of Frankfurt. As a result of the French defeat in the Franco-Prussian War, France lost the territories of Alsace and Lorraine to Germany. This made France to become the enemy of Germany.

#### **CENTRAL POWERS**

Following a series of military victories from 1862 to 1871, Prussian Chancellor Otto Von Bismarck formed a German State out of several states. After unification, Bismarck feared that neighbouring nations, particularly France and Austria-Hungary might act to destroy Germany. Bismarck wanted a careful series of alliances and foreign policy decisions that would stabilize the balance of power in

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Europe. Without them, he believed, another continental war was inevitable. As a result, he Otto Von Bismarck was the First European Statesman who started political alliances.

Before World War 1, the following alliances existed:

## 1. THE TREATY OF LONDON, 1839

- In 1839, Britain, France, Prussia, Russia and Austria-Hungary signed that Belgium would be forever an independent and neutral state, free of alliances.

## 2. THREE EMPERORS LEAGUE/DREIKERSBUND, 1872

- The Three Emperor's League was a three-way alliance between the ruling monarchs of Germany, Austria-Hungary and Russia.
- The three emperors who signed the Three Emperor's League included
  - a. Emperor William I of Germany
  - b. Czar Alexander II of Russia
  - c. Emperor Francis Joseph of Austria-Hungary
- It was engineered and dominated by the Prussian statesman Otto Von Bismarck who saw it as a means of securing the balance of power in Europe.

### Terms of the Three Emperor's League

- a. To maintain the existing territorial arrangements in Europe.
- b. To resist the spread of revolutionary movements such socialists. To consult one another if any international difficulties arose. In 1872, the Three Emperors League was created in which the member countries pledging mutual wartime support among themselves (Germany, Austria-Hungary and Russia).

The main aim of the Three Emperor's League was to make sure that France remained isolated by Germany.

However it was difficult for Germany to keep both Russia and Austria-Hungary in the same camp because of the quarrel over the Balkan region.

## 3. DUAL ALLIANCE, 1879

Russia and Austria - Hungary quarreled over the Balkan Region or South Eastern Europe. This made Russia to withdraw from Three Emperors League in 1878. As a result, Three Emperor's League collapsed. As a result, Dual Alliance between Germany and Austria-Hungary was formed in 1879. The Dual Alliance was a binding military alliance between Germany and Austria-Hungary. Bismarck chose Austria-Hungary instead of Russia during the Balkan crisis

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because

1. Germany would easily control Austria-Hungary as compared to Russia.
2. Alliance with Austria-Hungary would open German trade route through Danube Valley.
3. It would enable Germany to exercise influence in the Balkans.
4. It did not want to antagonize Britain if it would choose Russia.

## **Terms of Dual Alliance of 1879**

- a. The Dual Alliance promised that the parties/member countries would aid/support each other if Russia attacked them or if Russia assisted another power at war with either nation.
- b. Each agreed to remain neutral if any one of them attacked by enemy country.

## **4. Triple Alliance of 1882**

Its signatories were Germany, Austria-Hungary, and Italy in 1882. In 1882, Germany and Austria-Hungary strengthened their bond by forming the Triple Alliance with Italy. It was motivated chiefly by anti-French and anti-Russian suspicions and sentiment. Each of the three signatories to the Triple Alliance was required to provide military support to the others, if one was attacked by two other powers- or if Germany and Italy were attacked by France. This means that the three countries of the Triple Alliance had agreed that if any member of the alliance was attacked they would be supported by the other members.

## **Terms of Triple Alliance, 1882**

All three nations (Germany, Austria-Hungary, and Italy) pledged support should any of them be attacked by France. If any member found itself at war with two or more nations at once, the alliance would come to their aid.

In other words, the states agreed to a defensive alliance in which members promised to support each militarily if they were attacked by enemy countries. Germany wanted to be assisted when attacked by France, Austria-Hungary wanted to support when attacked by Russia while Italy joined in hopes of taking territory from France or supported when attacked by France.

## **5. RE- INSURANCE TREATY, 1887**

Bismarck was keen to avoid fighting a war on two fronts, which meant making some form of agreement with either France or Russia. Given the sour relations with France, Bismarck signed what he called a 'Re-Insurance Treaty" with Russia

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stating that both nations would remain neutral if one was involved in a war with a third party or their enemies. If that war was with France, Russia had no obligation to aid Germany. Germany wanted still France remained isolated.

### 6. Dual Entente of France and Russia

This was the military alliance between France and Russia which restored cordial relations between the two imperial powers. It was in effect, a response to the Triple Alliance, which had isolated France. After Otto Von Bismarck was voted out of power in Germany, Germany's new leaders failed to maintain Bismarck's alliances. As a result, Re-Insurance Treaty was allowed lapsed in 1890.

As a result, Russia and France agreed to a military alliance known as Dual Entente in 1892. It resolved several points of disagreement including the status of colonial possessions in the Middle East and Asia.

#### Terms of Dual Entente, 1893

By its terms, France would treat any attack on Russia as an attack on France and vice versa. For example if France was attacked by Germany or Italy, Russia would aid France in return, if Russia was attacked by Germany or Austria-Hungary, France would support Russia. They agreed support one another in the event of the war.

Germany faced threats on two fronts as a result of the formation of Dual Entente.

The Franco-Russian also provided economic benefits to both signatory nations. It gave Russia access to French loans and provided French capitalists with access to Russian mining, industry and raw materials.

### 7. The Anglo-Japanese Alliance of 1902

- In 1902, Britain abandoned the "Splendid Isolation Policy" which was a policy followed by Britain in which she decided not to be involved in the European affairs in the second half of the 19<sup>th</sup> Century.
- Britain signed the Anglo-Japanese Agreement in 1902 in which Britain wanted Britain wanted to keep an open door for trade to all nations in every part of China.
- The events that led by Britain to abandon the Splendid Isolation Policy included the following:
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- b. Britain felt that her interest in the Far East was threatened by Germany in China. Britain wanted to keep an open door for trade to all nations in every part of China.

## 8. **Cordiale Entente, 1904**

Cordiale Entente was signed by Britain and France in 1904 to settle differences from the past colonial disputes. They were also concerned about the threat rival powers posed to the colonies; Great Britain began searching for alliances of its own hence formation of Cordiale Entente.

France wanted Britain to be her ally because she did not want to support Russia in the Far East because it would mean a war with both Britain and Russia. Secondly, she wanted to settle her colonial disputes with Britain peacefully in North Africa and thirdly build a great force against Germany, her old rival.

### **Terms of Cordiale Entente**

- a. The two nations, Britain and France pledged military support for one another in the Entente Cordiale of 1904.
- b. France recognized the British occupation of Egypt and Sudan while Britain recognized the French occupation of Morocco in North Africa.

## 9. **Triple Entente, 1907**

This treaty consolidated the Entente Cordiale and the Anglo-Russian Entente into a three-way agreement between Britain, France and Russia. It was formed by Britain, France and Russia in 1907 to counteract the threat of Germany. This further humiliated Germany because it felt that this new alliance was an attempt to surround it.

Both Britain and Russia were greatly threatened by Germany. The building up of battleships known as Dreadnoughts aggressive nature of William II of Morocco during 1905 to 1906 threatened Russia and Britain.

The three Ententes of 1904-1907 were important because they marked the end of British neutrality and isolationism.

### **Terms of Triple Alliance, 1907**

- a. The states agreed to a defensive alliance in which members promised to support each militarily if they were attacked by enemy countries.
- b. Britain would take control of South Persia; Russia would take control of North Persia and the central under the Persian control as a buffer zone.

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c. Britain gained control of the foreign policy in Afghanistan while Russia renounced her interests in Afghanistan but they could enjoy equal trading rights in the country.

d. Both Russia and Britain were to recognize China's control over Tibet.

Just before World War 1, the Great Powers of Europe split into two main camps: the Triple Entente consisted of Great Britain, France, and Russia and Triple Alliance which consisted Italy, Austria -Hungary and Germany.

The political alliances led to the outbreak of the World War 1 because the major powers of Europe had all agreed to come to the assistance of each other, any small conflict had the potential to turn into a worldwide war.

The assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand does play a significant role in starting WWI

When Gavrillo Princep, a crazed member of the terrorist group The Black Hand, assassinated the heir to the Austro-Hungarian throne, Franz Ferdinand, after the driver of his car takes a wrong turn in Sarajevo, Bosnia on June 28, 1914. Austria-Hungary blamed Serbia and issues a series of ultimatums and eventually declared war on Serbia. This declaration of war eventually leads to the outbreak of WWI. The Austro-Hungarian declaration of war on Serbia brought Russia and France into a conflict against Germany and Austria-Hungary.

In August, 1914, the military and political leadership of Germany concluded that war should risked 'now or never' if they were to achieve their vision of Germany's destiny. They planned to defeat France swiftly, before Russia could marshal its forces. The invasion of France and the violation of Belgian neutrality brought Britain into the war. Once Germany invaded Belgium in order to attack France, Great Britain declared war on Germany. The map below shows the European countries involved in the World War including Serbia, Britain, Austria-Hungary, France, Italy, Russia, Germany etc.

### HOW DID THE ALLIANCE SYSTEM CAUSE THE FIRST WORLD WAR?

The most significant of the indirect causes of World War One had to be the complex alliance system that was in place prior to the outbreak of the war. By the early 20th century, Europe saw itself in two armed camps. On one side the Triple Alliance was established between Germany, Austria-Hungary, and Italy. In opposition to them was the Triple Entente made up of Great Britain, France and

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Russia. Russia also had very close ties to Serbia due to their common Slavic heritage. As well, Great Britain, France, and Germany had all agreed to come to the assistance of Belgium if it was ever invaded by a foreign power. Once Austria-Hungary declared war on Serbia, Russia immediately came to Serbia's assistance. Russia's entry then triggered the alliance between Germany and Austria-Hungary as the former came to the aid of the latter. This potential imbalance was then corrected by France's entry into the war on the side of Russia. In order to attack France, Germany had entered into Belgian territory which triggered Britain's response which was a declaration of war against Germany. Had it not been for these complex alliances, the assassination would only have brought about a war between Austria-Hungary and Serbia. It was the alliance system that turned a small conflict into World War One.

### THE FIRST MOROCCAN CRISIS 1905-1906

This was an attempt by the Germans to test the recently signed Anglo-French 'Entente Cordiale of 1904 with its understanding that France would recognize Britain's occupation of Egypt and Sudan in return for British approval of French takeover of Morocco.

The First Moroccan Crisis started in 1905 when there were revolts against the Sultan of Morocco. When the revolt against sultan started in 1905, Kaiser Wilhelm of Germany arrived at Tangier and declared his support for the Sultan of Morocco to maintain his country's independence and demanded an international conference to discuss its future.



Kaiser's main objective was to test the Cordiale Entente of 1904 between Britain and

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France. This provoked the anger of France and Britain in what will become known as the First Moroccan Crisis, causing the greater conflict between Europe's great nations still come, the First World War.

### ALGECIRAS CONFERENCE, SPAIN (1906)

Algeciras conference took place in Southern Spain 1906 to discuss the future of Morocco. At the Algeciras Conference the Kaiser wanted Germany to be seen as a major power, but his views were rejected by the French who believed he had no right to speak on colonial matters in North Africa. The Kaiser left the Algeciras Conference very bitter at how he had been treated by Britain and France, and the way German ambitions had been ignored.

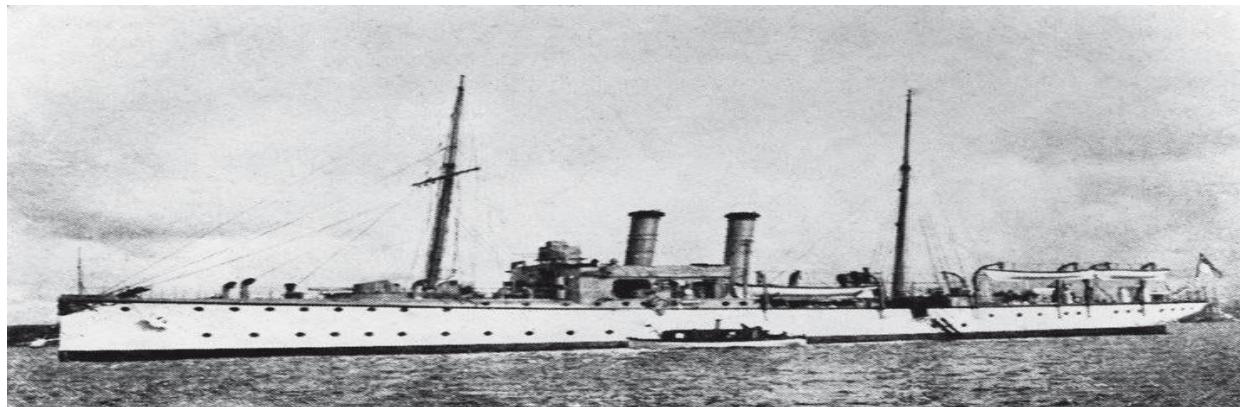
### RESULTS OF THE ALGECIRAS CONFERENCE

1. The result of the conference was that Britain, Russia, Italy and Spain supported the French demand to control the Moroccan bank and police.
2. It led to the Anglo-French military conversations.

It deepen hostility between Europe's great nations still come, the First World War.

### THE SECOND MOROCAN /AGADIR CRISIS OF 1911

In May, 1911, France sent troops to Fez, Morocco on the request of the Sultan to suppress a revolt that had broken out. The Germans saw this as the beginning of a French takeover of Morocco and sent a German gunboat, the Panther, to Agadir, a small port on Morocco's Atlantic coast, hoping to pressurize the French into giving them some compensation for such an action.



The Germans were too ambitious in their claims, demanding the whole of the French Congo. The Gun boat Panther, sent by Germany to the port of Agadir was implied by the British, a threat of war. Britain, worried that the Germans might acquire Agadir as a naval base that would threaten its naval routes to Gibraltar,

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made its position clear.

David Lloyd George, Britain's Chancellor of the Exchequer gave a speech- called the Mansion House Speech to warn Germany off. He said that Britain would not stand by and watch while her interests were affected. Britain did in order to strengthen French resistance. This speech turned the Franco-German crisis into an Anglo-German confrontation.

The Second Moroccan Crisis was resolved in November, 2011 when Germany accepted far less compensation two strips of territory in the French Congo.

### THE RESULTS OF THE SECOND MOROCCAN CRISIS, 1911

1. Germany agreed to recognize the French the protectorate over Morocco in return for two strips of territory in the French Congo.
2. German public opinion was hostile to the settlement and critical of their government's handling of the crisis.
3. The Entente Cordiale between Britain and France was again strengthened. Naval negotiations between the two began in 1912 and Britain agreed a commitment to the defense of France by 1913.
4. There was increased tension and hostility between Germany and Britain.

### HOW DID THE MOROCCAN CRISIS CAUSE WW1

- The First Moroccan Crisis is seen as one of the long term causes of World War 1 as it lead to a breakdown in trust between the major European powers.
- The Second Moroccan Crisis made the British drawing slowly a head in the naval race. At the end of 1911 they had built eight of the new and more powerful Dreadnought type battleships compared with Germany's four.

## 4. NATIONALISM

### NATIONALISM IN GERMANY

Germany was united in 1871 as a result of the Franco-Prussian War, and she rapidly became the strongest economic and military power in Europe. From 1871 to 1890, Germany wanted to preserve her hegemony in Europe by forming a series of peaceful alliances with other powers. After 1890, Germany was more aggressive. She wanted to build up her influence in every part of the world. German foreign policy in these years was best expressed by the term 'Weltpolitik' (World Politics). Because German ambitions were extended to many parts of the globe, Germany came into serious conflicts with all other major powers of Europe (except Austria-Hungary)

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from 1890 to 1914.

### **NATIONALISM IN ITALY**

Italy was unified in 1870. She was barely powerful enough to be counted as a great power. Her parliamentary system was corrupt and inefficient. Her industrial progress was slow. But Italy had great territorial ambitions. She wanted Tunis and Tripoli in northern Africa. This brought her into conflicts with France because Tunis was adjacent to the French colony, Algeria, and was long regarded by France as French sphere of influence. Italy also wanted Italia Irredenta--Trieste, Trentio and Tyrol. Although the majority of the people in these places were Italians, they were kept under the rule of the Dual Monarchy. Thus Italy came into serious conflicts with Austria-Hungary.

### **NATIONALISM IN AUSTRIA-HUNGARY**

Austria-Hungary was established as the Dual Monarchy in 1867. The Dual Monarchy ruled over a large empire consisting of many nationalities, but only the Austrians (racially they were German) and the Hungarians had the right to rule. The other nationalities Czechs, Slovaks, Serbs, Croats, Rumanians and Poles resented their loss of political freedom. They desired for political independence. Thus the policy of the Dual Monarchy was to suppress the nationalist movements both inside and outside the empire. The particular object of the Dual Monarchy was to gain political control over the Balkan Peninsula, where nationalist movements were rife and were always giving encouragement to the nationalist movements within the Austro-Hungarian Empire.

The centre of the nationalist movements in the Balkans was Serbia. Serbia always hoped to unite with the Serbs in the Austro-Hungarian Empire so as to create a large Serbian state. Therefore the first enemy of Austria-Hungary from 1871 to 1914 was Serbia. Besides Serbia, Austria-Hungary also hated Russia because Russia, being a Slav country, always backed up Serbia in any Austro-Serbian disputes.

### **NATIONALISM IN RUSSIA**

Russia was the largest and most populous country in Europe. It extended from the shores of the Arctic Ocean to those of the Black Sea and from the Baltic Sea eastwards to the Pacific Ocean.

Two thirds of her people were Slavs. She was still territorially ambitious. She wanted to expand in all directions. In 1870, Russia broke the Treaty of Paris (see

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below) and renewed her aggression in the Balkans. Thus, her territorial ambitions clashed with the interests of Austria-Hungary and Britain. However, Russia did not retreat. Being a 'landlocked' state, she wanted to acquire warm water ports in the Balkans (e.g. Constantinople). Moreover, as most of the Balkan peoples were of the Slavic race, Russia could claim to be the protector of her brother races in her expansion.

### **NOTE: TREATY OF PARIS AND RUSSIA**

In 1856, Russia was defeated by Britain and France in the Crimean War. She was forced to sign the Treaty of Paris, which stopped her expansion into the Balkans from 1856 to 1870. Britain wanted to establish her influence in the Balkans because the Balkan area borders the Mediterranean Sea. If Russia controlled the Balkan area, British naval power and trade in the Mediterranean Sea would be threatened.

### **Nationalism in France**

France had been the dominant power in Europe for centuries. Napoleon I and Napoleon III had attempted to dominate Europe. In 1871, France was defeated by Germany. She had to lose two provinces: Alsace and Lorraine. She also needed to pay heavy indemnities. From 1871 onwards, France's greatest ambition was to recover Alsace and Lorraine from Germany. She also wanted to prevent another defeat by Germany, to recover her national prestige by acquiring overseas colonies (e.g. Morocco) and to make diplomatic alliances with other important powers in Europe.

### **NATIONALISM IN BRITAIN**

In 1870 Britain was the most industrially advanced country in Europe. She also possessed the largest overseas empire and the largest navy in the world. She did not want to trouble herself with the continental affairs of Europe. Her main concern was to preserve her overseas empire and her overseas trade by maintaining a large navy. Before 1890, her chief enemies were France and Russia. The colonial interests of France often clashed with those of Britain. (Britain and France had colonial rivalries in Asia and Africa--for example, India, Burma, Thailand, Egypt.)

Russia's interest in the Balkan area also alarmed Britain, as British naval interests in the Mediterranean Sea would be immediately threatened. After 1890, as Germany went on increasing her naval strength and threatened British naval supremacy and the British overseas interests, she became Britain's chief enemy.

### **NATIONALISM IN THE BALKAN REGION**

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Nationalism is the intense love or loyalty for ones country based on a common language, culture, heritage, etc).

Intense patriotism assured popular support for war in 1914. Serbia wanted Austro-Hungarian territory inhabited by Yugoslav peoples. (Yugoslavs, Czechs, Slovaks). Much of the origin of the war was based on the desire of the Slavic peoples in Bosnia and Herzegovina to no longer be part of Austria Hungary but instead be part of Serbia. In this way, nationalism led directly to the War.



### Austria-Hungary

- Since Serbia had gained its independence from the Ottomans in 1878, it had always been a problem for Austria-Hungary.
- Several million Serbs lived in Southern Austria and were keen to **unite with Serbia**.
- Franz Joseph thought it might be better to **conquer Serbia** to stop the threat as the **Czechs and Croats** also wanted independence.

### Russia

- The Russian disguised their selfish aims by claiming they were just **protecting Christians** in the area, who were members of the **Russian Orthodox Church**, from the oppressive Muslim Ottomans.
- Russians were also **Slavs** so were keen to **promote Slav nationalism** and thus help the Slav people in the region to **win their freedom** from the Ottomans. If this freedom **threatened** the Austro-Hungarians - then even better!

### Reasons why the Balkans were a problem area:

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1. The Ottomans were trying to keep their empire in Europe.
2. The Slav people were trying to set up independent countries.
3. Austria-Hungary was trying to stop these Slav countries being set up.
4. Russia was trying to encourage the Slavs to ensure it had a secure access to the Mediterranean.
5. Britain and France wanted to keep Russia out of the Mediterranean to protect their own trade.

### TROUBLE IN THE BALKANS

In the early twentieth century, the Balkans was a very unstable area of Europe.

The area had traditionally been controlled by the Ottoman (Turkish) Empire. However by the start of the twentieth century, the Ottoman Empire had weakened to such an extent that dissatisfied ethnic groups in the Balkans, such as the Serbs, were seeking independence.

### THE BOSNIAN CRISIS 1908

In 1908, Austria-Hungary annexed Bosnia-Herzegovina from the Ottoman Empire in the Balkan region. Austria-Hungary annexed Bosnia -Herzegovina in order to create a larger divide between France and Russia to take advantage of trade routes on the Adriatic sea to prevent Russia from taking Ottoman Empire territory to seize territory from the declining Ottoman Empire.

Turkey protested against its annexation since she lost her territories..

Serbia objected strongly; appealed to Russia for support. She wanted to unite with the Slavs living in Bosnia. Russia backed Serbian claims. Germany bluntly threatened Russia with war\* if they didn't back off.

Russia became angry because she was blocked to have the trade route to the Adriatic sea.

The Russians were not prepared to take on both Austria-Hungary and Germany at the same time. Russia, lacking French support\*\*, backed down; war averted/was prevented. Map below shows Bosnia-Herzegovina.

However, the results were significant. The crisis sparked greater nationalism in Serbia, and prompted Russia to start modernizing its armed forces. . The next time Russia got involved in the Balkans, it would not back down so easily.

Bosnian nationalism was so intense that some sought any means in which to bring it about including the assassination of public officials in order to increase international

awareness of their cause.



When the Black Hand assassinated the Archduke it set off a firestorm of intense nationalism in all European countries which were now ready to prove that their nation was superior to others.

When Austria-Hungary declared war on Serbia, Russia got involved to defend Serbia. Germany seeing Russia mobilizing, declared war on Russia. France was then drawn in against Germany and Austria-Hungary. Germany attacked France through Belgium pulling Britain into war. Then Japan entered the war. Later, Italy and the United States would enter on the side of the allies.

- Triple Alliance (Germany, Austria-Hungary, Italy)
- Triple Entente (France, Russia, Britain)

## THE BALKAN LEAGUE (1912)

- The Balkan League was formed by new Balkan states (under Russian influence) to form the **Balkans League** determined to drive the Ottoman Turks from the region forever. It was led by Greek Prime Minister Venizelos.
- The members of the Balkan League included Serbia, Montenegro, Greece and Bulgaria
- Balkan League of 1912, a military and political alliance of Serbia, Montenegro, Greece and Bulgaria directed against Turkey and also in effect against Austria-Hungary.
- In October the members of the Balkan League began a war against Turkey; the war soon ended in victory for the League.

## THE FIRST BALKAN WARS OF 1912-1913

- In the First Balkan War (October 1912-May 1913), Serbia, Montenegro, Greece and Bulgaria declared war on the Ottoman Empire.

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- Serbia wanted to use the **power vacuum** left by the Ottomans to create a "Greater Serbia". The Balkan Wars of 1912-13 represent the greatest effort of the Balkan states to realize their national objectives against the Ottoman Empire.

## RESULT OF THE FIRST BALKAN WARS

- The Balkan League managed to expel the Turks from the region.
- The Balkan alliance rapidly overcame Ottoman forces. By the end of 1912, almost the entire Balkan Peninsula was in the hands of nation-states.
- Only the far eastern part of Thrace, the Gallipoli Peninsula, and the three besieged cities of Ionnina (Janina), Edirne (Adrianople/Odrin), and Shkodër (Scutari) remained under Ottoman control. Many of the non-national populations found themselves in difficulty with the new authorities.
- The Balkan alliance triumphed over the Ottomans, but failed to resolve disputes among themselves over the division of Ottoman territories.
- Austria-Hungary was afraid of Serbia becoming **too powerful**. Serbia wanted Albania which would give the Serbs an outlet to the sea but the Austrians with German and British support insisted that Albania should become independent state. The Austrians interfered at the peace talks, resulting in Serbia gaining less territory than they thought they deserved.



## RESULTS OF THE SECOND BALKAN WARS

1. The Balkan League managed to expel the Turks from the region
2. Albania, declared an independent state in November 1912, was thus a product of

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- the First Balkan War.
3. The borders of other territories were changed and obtained features that partially remain valid up to the present:
  4. The historical region of Macedonia, a main theatre of the wars, was divided among Greece (Aegean Macedonia), Bulgaria (Pirin Macedonia) and Serbia (Vardar Macedonia, corresponding largely to today's Republic of Macedonia, established in 1991).
  5. The Ottoman Empire's loss of most of its European territories in the conflict was one more warning sign of its inner weakness; it ceased to exist in the aftermath of the First World

### **THE SECOND BALKAN LEAGUE(JUNE-AUGUST 1913)**

- In the Second Balkan War (June-August 1913) followed almost immediately when Bulgaria demanded more land. Bulgaria fought Serbia, Montenegro and Greece over the Ottoman territories they had each just gained. From July onwards, Serbia, Montenegro and Greece were supported by Romania, who entered the war hoping to seize the southern Dobruja from Bulgaria.
- In the Second Balkan War of 1913, Bulgaria fought Greek, Montenegrin, and Serbian allies, mainly over Macedonia. While the Bulgarian armies were heavily engaged in the west, Ottoman and Romanian forces seized specific Bulgarian objectives in the east of the country.
- Bulgaria was defeated in the Second Balkan League.
- The Second Balkan Wars were settled by Bucharest Treaty of 1913.
- The Greeks and Serbs were the big winners of the Balkan Wars; the Bulgarians and Ottomans were the big losers.

### **RESULTS OF THE SECOND BALKAN WARS OF 1912-1913**

- Bulgaria was defeated.
- The Serbs managed to win a lot of territory for themselves and now became the dominant power in the Balkans. Therefore Serbia had been strengthened and was determined to stir up trouble among the Serbs and Croats living inside Austria
- Austrians were equally determined to put an end to Serbia's ambitions. Serbian ambition threatened the multinational Austro-Hungarian Empire, whose leaders wanted a war to put Serbia in its place in 1914.

The map below shows Bulgaria, Serbia and Greece involved in the second Balkan

Wars of 1912--13.



## 5. ASSASSINATION OF ARCHDUKE FRANZ FERDINAND OF AUSTRIA-HUNGARY

The immediate cause of World War I that made the aforementioned items come into play (alliances, imperialism, militarism, nationalism) was the assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand of Austria-Hungary. Archduke Franz Ferdinand of Austria-Hungary was heir to both Habsburg throne and the Austro- Hungarian Empire. He was asked to visit newly annexed Bosnia- Herzegovina and inspect their troops. On Sunday **28<sup>th</sup> June 1914**, a Serbian-nationalist terrorist group called the Black Hand Society sent groups to assassinate the Archduke Francis Ferdinand in Sarajevo, Bosnia. Their first attempt failed when a driver avoided a grenade thrown at their car.



Gavrilo Princip

However, later that day a Serbian nationalist named Gavrilo Princip assassinated him and his wife Sophia Shotek while they were in Sarajevo, Bosnia which was part of Austria-Hungary.

**The New York Times.**

**HEIR TO AUSTRIA'S THRONE IS SLAIN WITH HIS WIFE BY A BOSNIAN YOUTH TO AVENGE SEIZURE OF HIS COUNTRY**

Francis Ferdinand Shot During State Visit to Sarajevo.

TWO ATTACKS IN A DAY

Archduke Saves His Life First Time by Knocking Aside a Bomb Hurled at Auto.

SLAIN IN SECOND ATTEMPT

LIED TO A SERBIAN PLOT

ARMED EMPEROR IS STRICKEN

Archduke Francis Ferdinand and his Consort, the Duchess of Hohenberg, Slain by Assassin's Bullets.

This was in protest to Austria-Hungary having control of this region. Serbia wanted to take over Bosnia and Herzegovina. This assassination led to Austria-Hungary declaring war on Serbia. When Russia began to mobilize due to its alliance with Serbia, Germany declared war on Russia. Thus began the expansion of the war to include all those involved in the mutual defense alliances.

The assassination of Austrian Archduke Franz Ferdinand (June 28, 1914) was the main catalyst for the start of the Great War (World War I). After the assassination, the following series of events took place:

**The Ultimatum**

- Austria wanted to punish Serbia but feared war with Russia. They asked for support from their ally Germany.
- **On 5<sup>th</sup> July, 1914** The Germans promised full support
- **23<sup>rd</sup> July, 2014**, The Austrians presented Serbia with an ultimatum, a set of demands

These demands included the following

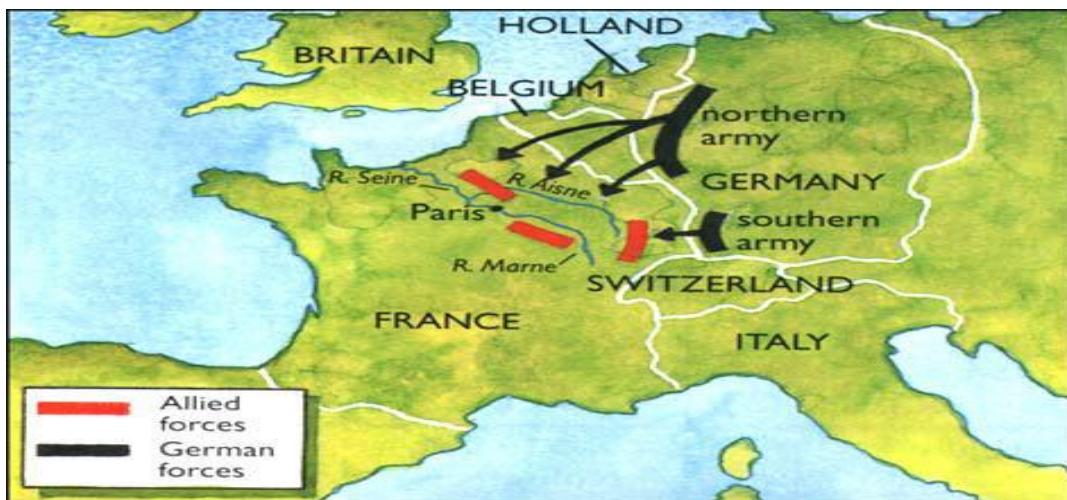
- a. Serbia had to stop encouraging nationalism in Austrian territory.
- b. Serbia was to dismiss all of its officials that objected to.
- c. Serbia was to allow Austrian police to enter Serbia and help to crush the terrorist movement, the Black Hand Society that assassinated Archduke Francis Ferdinand.

- **On 25<sup>th</sup> July, 2014**, the Serbians accepted most of them but could not accept them all.

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- On 28th July, 2014, Austria therefore declared war on Serbia. Austria-Hungary used it as an excuse to attack Serbia leading to WWI. Russia mobilized her troops to help her ally Serbia against Austria Hungary.
- **August 1, 1914** - As Austria's ally, Germany declares war on Russia. When Russia began to mobilize due to its alliance with Serbia, an ally of Serbia.
- **August 3, 1914** - Germany declares war on France, an ally of Russia and immediately begins an invasion of neutral Belgium

### GERMAN WAR PLANS: THE SCHLIEFFENPLAN



It was the German plan which was formulated by Count Von Schlieffen which stated in the event of war between Germany and France; the Germany would attack France through Belgium, a neutral country to avoid a two front war against both France and Russia, two members of the Triple Entente. Germany would have to defeat France first very quickly as it did in the Franco-Prussian War in 1871, and then turn to commit all of its forces to fight Russia.

- **August 4, 1914** - Great Britain, an ally of France, declares war against Germany
- The United States (President Wilson) declares that the United States will remain neutral

### THE UNITED STATES' ENTRANCE AND RUSSIA'S EXIT

Despite the stalemate on both fronts in Europe, two important developments in the war occurred in 1917. In early April, the **United States**, angered by attacks upon its ships by German U Submarines in the Atlantic Ocean, declared war on Germany. Then, in November, the **Bolshevik Revolution** prompted Russia to pull out of the war.

### WHY DID WAR BREAK OUT IN EUROPE IN AUGUST 1914?

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On June 28, 1914 in Sarajevo, a 19-year-old Serbian Slav nationalist, Gavrilo Princip, assassinated Archduke Franz Ferdinand, heir to the throne of the Austrian-Hungarian Empire.

Princip and his associates believed that killing the Archduke might destabilize the already wobbly government of the Empire and result in the emergence of a larger, independent Yugoslav (South Slav) nation consisting of Serbs, Croats, and Bosnians. They miscalculated.

Once it was discovered that Princip was a Serbian, the Austro-Hungarian government sent Serbia an ultimatum that insisted on terms that the Serbs believed they could not accept. The Serbs' primary ally, the Russians (who were also Slavs - explaining their connection to the Serbs), urged the Serbs to placate/accept the Austrians since Russia feared the crisis could lead to a war among the Great Powers in Europe.

The Serbs tried to compromise with the Austrians, but the Germans (the Austrians' main ally) pressured the Austrians to reject any "deals." The Germans likely viewed the crisis as an opportunity to enhance their power in Central Europe and a chance to force the Russians to back off, so they may have even welcomed war.

Once Austria refused to accept any deals with the Serbs and mobilized its army in preparation for an attack on Serbia, the Russians responded by mobilizing their armed forces, hoping this would convince the Austrians to back down before a larger war broke out.

Within days, the Russians' mobilization led the French to mobilize their forces since they had an alliance with the Russians. The Germans convinced (correctly) that their military was stronger than that of the French were eager to attack the French. The French mobilization offered the Germans a pretense to launch an attack on the French.

### GERMANY AND THE SCHLIEFFEN PLAN.

- Germany faced a war on two fronts (Against France and Russia as both these countries had made an alliance together)
- A German general, von Schlieffen, produced a plan based on defeating France first
- He believed he could defeat the French army in 3 weeks.

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- The Germans would then turn on Russia and defeat them.
- France would be defeated first as Russia would be slower to get their army ready (mobilise)- they estimated 6 weeks to fully mobilise)



The easiest way to attack the French was through neutral Belgium, and so the German army invaded Belgium, where it hoped to subdue the Belgians, move across the border into France (doing an end run around the French defenses), and march to Paris. The Germans anticipated a quick victory. They miscalculated

### WHY DID THE SCHLIEFFEN PLAN FAIL?

- a. The Plan looked good on paper, but Schlieffen had not taken account of the **distances** that the German armies had to cover in the strict timetable he laid down. The troops soon got **very tired** and it became very difficult to supply them with enough food and equipment.
- b. The Schlieffen Plan was changed by von Moltke, the new Chief of Staff, who only sent **60% of the Germany army** through Belgium. This made it harder to attack so quickly.
- c. The German army met **stronger opposition in Belgium** than was expected. This meant it took much longer than expected to break through Belgium.
- d. When Germany declared war on Belgium on 3 August 1914 the Belgian government appealed to **Great Britain** for help. Germany did not expect Britain to help, but in fact the British sent troops straight away and they played a key role in holding up the Germans.
- e. Even worse for the Germans was the fact that the **Russian army** had taken them by surprise and had attacked after two weeks. Some of the German army had to be sent east as reinforcements. This made it even more difficult to

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attack quickly in the west.

### BRITAIN AND THE WAR

Britain had signed an alliance with Russia and France in 1907. Equally it had signed the **Treaty of London of 1839** when they had **promised to respect the neutrality** of Belgium. When Belgium was invaded by Germany, this convinced the British government that they would be right to go to war.

By invading neutral Belgium, the Germans triggered the provisions of a treaty between France and Great Britain according to which the Brits would declare war against the power that violated Belgian neutrality (in this case, Germany.)

In sum, the assassination of the Archduke, which had initially stirred little response among the powers, ended up becoming the catalyst for a war that drew in all of the great European powers.

The assassination of the Archduke, however, was more of a pretense for war rather than its actual cause. Tensions between the Great Powers - particularly between Germany and the French and British -- had been simmering for some time. The Germans resented French and British domination of Africa and Asia and believed they had been "left behind" in the race for colonial possessions (and access to raw materials and foreign markets).

In particular, the German leadership resented the dominance of the British navy and the British imperial trading system which kept other nations from trading directly with British colonies. The Germans feared that unless they could acquire more colonies or at least access to trade in foreign markets, they would not have sufficient raw materials to expand their rapidly industrializing economy.

To gain such markets and access to raw materials, they needed a strong navy and so began constructing new battleships. This military expansion concerned the Brits, and moved them closer to their traditional rival, France.

The French resented the Germans, who had defeated them in a war in 1871 and taken two northern French provinces, Alsace and Lorraine. The French wanted these provinces back, but the Germans refused. This increased the tension between France and Germany.

The Germans hoped that a European war might result in some of the French and British colonies being transferred to a victorious Germany.

The war itself turns out not to be a "quick affair" as all sides had assumed it would

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be. The carnage on the battlefield is unprecedented. Tens of thousands of men on both sides lose their lives in single battles.

In part, this is due to an uneven development in technologies and innovations.

For example, weapons technology had advanced far more quickly than battlefield tactics. Machine guns slaughtered thousands of men who were ordered to "charge" out of their trenches.

Generals, lacking good communications with the front lines (radio communication was still unreliable) ordered further "charges." Those at the front knew such instructions were insane, but had to obey. Likewise, medical innovation lagged behind. For example, Penicillin, which could have saved countless wounded soldiers from death due to infection, would not be widely available until the war was over.

As the slaughter continued, it became clear that the war was a war of attrition - each side's aim was to starve or bleed out the other. Breaking the stalemate seemed increasingly unlikely and tens of thousands continued to die.

### TREATY OF LONDON, 1915

In Treaty of London, Italy and the Allied forces of France, Britain, and Russia wanted to bring Italy into World War 1 because of its border with Austria-Hungary. Italy was promised territories of Trieste, Southern Tyrol, Northern Dalmatia and other territories in return for a pledge to enter the war against Austria-Hungary in May, 1915..

### WHY USA DID NOT JOIN THE FIRST WORLD WAR UNTIL 1917

1. The war had not interfered directly with USA interest until at the beginning of 1917.
2. The USA feared that a declaration of war on Germany would lead to a civil war between Americans of German descent and those of British, French and Russian descent.
3. There was also fear of a revolt by her citizens of German origin.
4. USA had trade relations with both Central Powers and Allied Powers from whom she was gaining economically.

### REASONS FOR U.S. ENTRY INTO WORLD WAR I

Woodrow Wilson's policy and public opinion changed in favor of the US entry into World War I for the following 5 reasons that are described below.

#### 1. German Atrocities in Belgium

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One factor that had a major influence on American public opinion was the invasion of neutral Belgium and stories of German atrocities in the country which shocked and outraged the Americans. Stories of unarmed civilians being killed and small towns being destroyed circulated throughout the press. Although some of the stories were British propaganda, they left a strong anti-German sentiment among Americans.

### 2. Economic Interests

The American businessmen were very interested in the Allied victory and many such as J.P. Morgan helped fund British and French war efforts with approximately \$3 billion in loans and bond purchases. If the Allies would be defeated by the Central Powers, they probably wouldn't be able to repay their debt to their US lenders. Many businessmen therefore supported the so-called 'Preparedness Movement' which campaigned for the US intervention in the war on the side of the Allied forces.

### 3. Sinking of the Lusitania

In May 1915, a German U-boat sunk the British passenger ship Lusitania off the coast of Ireland. Over 1,000 passengers were killed, including 128 Americans. Although the ship may have been carrying military equipment along with the civilians, the Americans were infuriated because the people on board weren't warned before the sinking. In addition to straining diplomatic relations between the US and Germany, the Sinking of the Lusitania further increased anti-German sentiment in America.

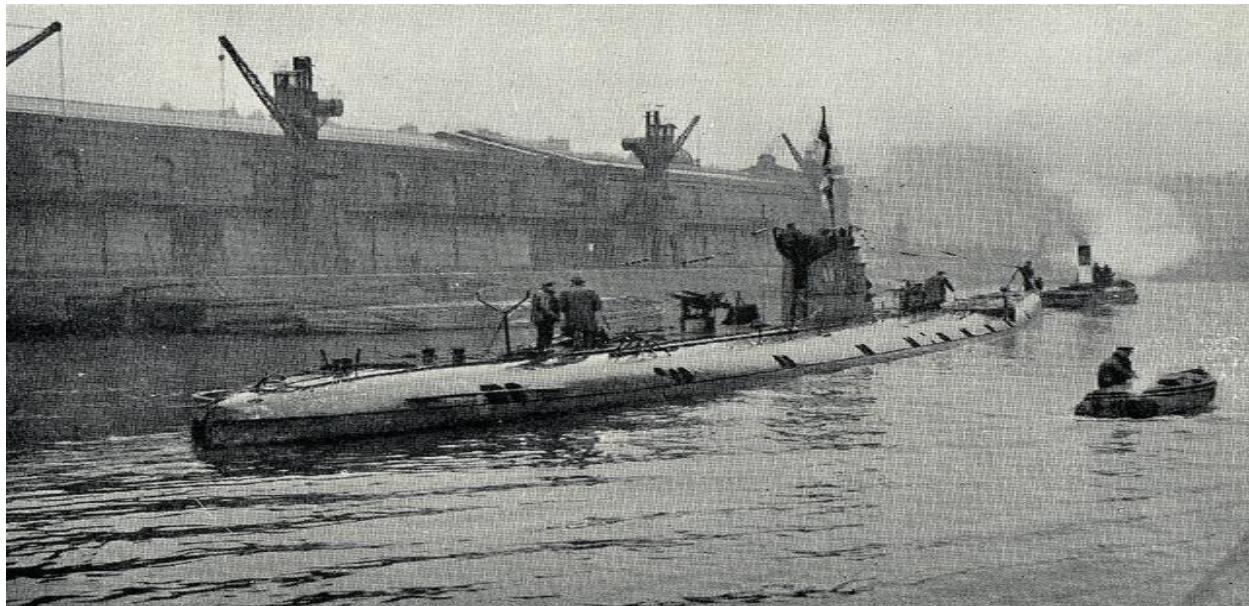


### 4. Unrestricted Submarine Warfare

In response to Britain's blockade, Germany turned to unrestricted submarine warfare to keep goods from reaching Britain. After the Sinking of the Lusitania, Germany promised to stop unrestricted submarine warfare but within less than one

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year, they torpedoed another passenger ship - the cross-English Channel ferry Sussex. Again, the Germans promised not to attack passenger ships without warning (the Sussex Pledge). But that pledge was short lived as well.



### 5. Zimmerman Telegram

In 1917, German Foreign Minister Arthur Zimmermann sent a telegram to Mexico suggesting that if the US should declare war on Germany, Mexico should declare war on the US. In return, Mexico would get back the territory lost in the Mexican-American War (Texas, New Mexico, and Arizona). Unfortunately for Germany, the telegram was intercepted by the British and hurriedly given to the Americans. Although Mexico had no real intention of declaring war on the US, the publication of the letter further mobilized the American people against the Central Powers.

### WHY DID THE USA DECLARE WAR IN APRIL 1917?

- a. Until 1916 the US government did not want to get involved in a conflict so far away from their own country.
- b. However by 1917 the USA had lent large sums of money to Britain and France - £850,000,000 to Britain alone. This would be lost if Germany won.
- c. In March 1917, four US ships were sunk by German U boats. This angered the USA.
- d. The British government then handed the **Zimmermann Telegram** to the US government. This was a secret message from Germany to Mexico, encouraging Mexico to attack the USA. This angered America so much they decided to get

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involved.

## WHAT IMPACT DID THE USA HAVE ON THE WAR?

- a. The US troops themselves did not have a massive effect on the outcome of the battles. They did not start arriving until the spring of 1918 and they were not trained for a war like the one they found - their casualty rate was very high.
- b. The most important effect of the US declaration of war was that it convinced Germany they needed to try and win the war quickly. However the German forces were very tired, and couldn't keep up with the new plans.
- c. The arrival of so many fresh and enthusiastic US troops also helped break the Germans' will to continue.

## ALLIED POWERS IN WORLD WAR 1

The Allied Powers in World War were Great Britain, France, and Russia. Other countries which were also called Allies were Portugal, Japan, Italy which joined by Treaty of London of April 26, 1915, Belgium, Greece, Romania, Italy etc.

USA entered the First World War on the side of Allies on April 6, 1917 against the Central Powers (Germany, Austria-Hungary, Turkey).

## THE IMPACT OF WW1 ON GERMANY

- By 1918, Germany was close to collapse.
- The German people were so short of food that they were surviving on turnips and bread, and a deadly flu epidemic was sweeping the country, killing thousands already weak from a poor diet.
- On the battlefields, too, Germany was close to defeat.
- In October, General Ludendorff, a leading German army general and war hero, told German politicians that they could never win the war. He advised the Kaiser that the British, French and Americans might treat Germany more fairly if the country became more democratic - in other words, the Kaiser must share more of his power with the German parliament.
- The Kaiser reluctantly did exactly that. He allowed the main political parties to form a new government, and transferred some of his powers to the Reichstag. However, the changes came too late to satisfy the German people.
- More demonstrations were held against the war and some said the Kaiser should give up his throne. Others talked of overthrowing him in a revolution.

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## MUTINY AND REVOLUTION IN GERMANY

- On 28 October 1918, the German navy was ordered out to sea from Kiel in northern Germany to attack British ships.
- Sailors on the ships refused to follow orders because they no longer wanted to fight.
- News of their **mutiny** began to spread. In ports nearby, other sailors refused to follow orders.
- Workers in the towns supported them.
- Soldiers, sent to deal with the protests, joined the sailors and workers.
- They took over towns there and set up special councils to run them. In just six days, workers' and soldiers' councils were governing cities all over Germany, such as Hamburg and Munich. The country was in chaos and there was little the Kaiser could do. He had lost control and his army generals refused to support him. On 9 November 1918, he **abdicated** and secretly left Germany, never to return.

### What role did Germany's defeat in WW1 play in all this?

- It was Germany's defeat in WW1 which pushed the Kaiser to abdicate. By the early autumn of 1918, after four years of warfare, it was clear that Germany had to surrender.
- The Allies said that they would not accept Germany's surrender unless the Kaiser (who they blamed for starting the war) went. Chaos ensued. Armed soldiers and factory workers took control of many German cities. They wanted the Kaiser to go. Reluctantly, the Kaiser was persuaded by his military advisers to abdicate. Overnight, Germany went from being a monarchy to a **republic**.

## THE END OF THE WAR

- Friedrich Ebert, the leader of Germany's largest political party (the SPD], took the Kaiser's place as leader of Germany, on a temporary basis.
- He promised to hold elections soon. If ordinary German people wanted him as their leader, they would get the chance to vote for him if they wished. Meanwhile, he gave the people what they really wanted - an end to the war. On 11 November 1918, Germany surrendered: the First World War was over.

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## WHY WAS GERMANY DEFEATED IN 1918?

1. Germany had had to fight on **two fronts** for most of the war.
2. The **British naval blockade** forced the German people into a desperate situation- Many were starving by 1917
3. The arrival of the **USA** in 1917
4. The **constant battles** (like the Somme) had weakened the German army and the spirit of the German people.

Their spirit was weakened even more when the USA joined the war

## THE END OF THE WAR AND ARMISTICE

On November 11, 1918, the Germans signed an **armistice** in which they agreed to surrender their arms, give up much of their navy, and evacuate occupied territory.

An armistice or ceasefire was agreed on 11/11/1918.

### Terms:

- Germany to withdraw from Belgium and France.
- Germany to hand over most of its heavy weapons
- Germany to hand over its fleet.
- Allies to occupy the Rhine bridgehead

## TOPIC 2: DEVELOPMENTS IN THE INTER-WAR PERIOD(1919-1939)

### THE PARIS PEACE CONFERENCE OF 1919

After the four years of the bloody fight between the Allies and the Central powers, the Great War finally came to an end at 11.00am on 11<sup>th</sup> November, 1918 after the USA entered into the war on the side of the Allies.

### THREE GREAT PRINCIPLES THAT FORMED THE BASIS OF WORLD PEACE

After the end of the war in January, 1918, USA President Woodrow Wilson outlined in his speech to the Congress, THE 14 Points that were essential in maintenance of world peace.

Three great principles that formed the basis of world peace included

1. Self-determination of all peoples, that is, the right of peoples all over the world to determine their own fate.
2. The need to make public all diplomatic and international agreements.
3. The need to establish a League of Nations which would provide an avenue for discussing all international problems and protect small states from aggressions

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by large ones.

### THE AGENDA OF THE PARIS PEACE CONFERENCE OF 1919

1. To re-organize Europe for the purpose of maintaining world peace, security and stability.
2. To re-draw the map of Europe and restore the balance of power because Germany's aggression had destroyed the balance of power to her advantage.
3. To map out strategies that would preserve the territory integrity and independence of countries in Europe.
4. To reconcile the warring powers of the First World War most especially Germany although her aggression was to be checked for some time.
5. To free the different races dominated by the Central powers (Germany and her allies)
6. To disarm both the victor and defeat powers since arms race had partly caused the disaster of 1914 to 1918.
7. To recognize the principle of nationalism and self-determination by giving independence to the oppressed nations.

### THE PARIS PEACE SETTLEMENT

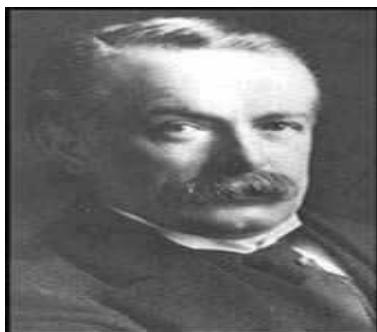
- The representatives of 32 countries met in 1919 in Paris to draw up the peace settlement.
- The "Big Three" (France, USA and Britain) leaders were mostly in command of the decision makings and so was Italy but to a lesser extent.
- The settlement was created from five treaties; the Treaty of Versailles, St Germain, Trianon, Neuilly, Sevres/Lausanne.
- The Treaty of Versailles dealt specifically with Germany and was the major discussion during the draw up of the peace settlement whereas the other treaties dealt with the geo-political and economic future of Europe.
- The agreement containing the principles on which the League of Nations was to operate on took into account all five treaties.

### THE TREATY OF VERSAILLES

- Basically, it was the peace agreement that was forced on Germany in 1919 because they lost World War I. Countries that lose wars usually have to sign agreements with the winners - they agree to give over certain things in return for not being invaded or destroyed.

## MALAWI SCHOOL CERTIFICATE OF EDUCATION- WORLD HISTORY

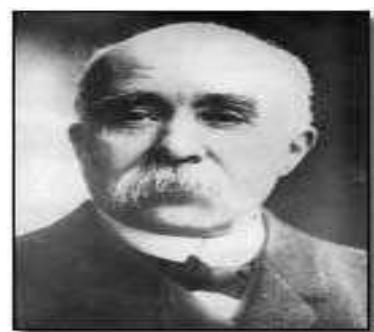
- It was signed on 28<sup>th</sup> June 1919 by Allied Powers with Germany. It was signed in the Palace of Versailles. Germany had to agree to accept full responsibility for the outbreak of the First World War
- Germany, Russia and none of the other defeated countries were allowed to take part of the discussions nor attended the Versailles conference
- All the big decisions were made by the Council of four (United States, France, United Kingdom and Italy)



David Lloyd George



Woodrow Wilson



George Clemenceau

- Great Britain, America and France were the three most powerful Allies and they wanted to exert their influence upon the Treaty of Versailles ("Big Three")
- The aims of the major powers were often contradictory and so compromises had to be made within the treaties
- Terms of the Treaty of Versailles were not soft enough to allow for reconciliation with Germany but not harsh enough to weaken Germany's power

### ATTITUDE OF ALLIED LEADERS TOWARDS AT THE PARIS PEACE CONFERENCE, 1919

#### 1. Lloyd George (UK)

- He wanted Germany to be justly punished, but not too harshly
- He wanted Germany to lose its navy and colonies as these were a threat to Britain's own navy and empire
- He wanted Germany and Britain to become trading partners
- BUT Overall, Lloyd George did not want to punish Germany too harshly as he did not want Germany seeking revenge in the future

#### 2. Clemenceau (France)

- He wanted to cripple Germany so it couldn't attack France again.
- He wanted Germany to be broken down into smaller states (weakened).

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France had suffered the most during the war so Clemenceau was under great pressure from the French people to make Germany pay.

### 3. Wilson (USA)

- He wanted to create a better and more peaceful world
- He wanted to form a League of Nations that would help and support each other and help to promote world peace
- He wanted to introduce the right to self-determination. The right to decide which country you wish to be governed by

The U.S.A. had joined war late (1917) and hadn't suffered as much as the other Allies in terms of human and material costs.

### 4. Vittorio Emmanuel Orlando of Italy

He went to the peace conference to be rewarded with the promised territories from Austria as promised by the Allied Powers during the secret London Treaty of 1915. However, his ideas were rejected because they were against the principle of self determination policy. Italy, therefore, resented the Versailles Treaty.

Vittorio Emmanuel Orlando left the conference leaving behind the Big Three Allied Leaders (George Clemenceau, of France, David Lloyd George and Woodrow Wilson, the President of the United States of America.

### WHY DID GERMANY EXPECT A FAIR TREATY?

- Germany was in real trouble. WWI had bankrupted the country, and some were starving. The Weimar government assumed the treaty would be light so as not to cost any more German lives.
- The Kaiser was gone, and a new, democratic government was in place, just like the allies had.
- Germans assumed the winning powers would like this and want to help it remain stable.
- Woodrow Wilson, president of the USA, wanted a fair treaty. He declared "14 points" that would make a better world, and believed the treaty should allow Germany to recover.

### What did the winning Powers want?

- France - Georges Clemenceau wanted to crush Germany and forever prevent her from being a major world power. He wanted Germany to pay massive reparations and have no army.

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- **Britain** - David Lloyd-George wanted to punish Germany harshly and get money from them; but he wanted Germany to be able to recover.
- **USA** - Woodrow Wilson believed the war was everyone's fault. He feared that Germany would one day want revenge if the Treaty was too harsh

### PRESIDENT WOODROW WILSON'S FOURTEEN POINTS

Discuss the President Woodrow Wilson's fourteen points presented at the Versailles Peace Conference of 1919.

Woodrow Wilson (the President of USA) went to the Versailles Peace Conference (1919) in Paris, France to urge the other members of the Allied Powers to accept his formula for future peace and stability. President Woodrow Wilson of the USA was interested in world peace that he came up with a formula of fourteen points that would help to maintain peace and stability in the future. His fourteen points included the following:

- Abolition of secret diplomacy.
- Free navigation at sea for all nations in war and peace.
- Removal of economic barriers between states.
- All round reduction of armaments consistent with levels of national security.
- Impartial adjustment of colonial claims in the interests of the populations concerned.
- Recognition of Russian territory.
- Restoration of Belgium Sovereignty.
- Liberation of France and restoration of Alsace and Lorraine.
- Readjustment of Italian frontiers along the lines of nationality.
- Self government for the peoples of Austria-Hungary.
- Romania, Serbia, and Montenegro to be evacuated and Serbia given access to the sea.
- Self-government for the non-Turkish peoples of the Turkish Empire and permanent opening of the Dardanelles.
- An independent Poland with secure access to the sea.
- A general association of nations to preserve peace.

Explain how Woodrow Wilson's fourteen points helped in establishing World Peace.

Woodrow Wilson's 14 Points had the potential to help sort out issues that previously

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led to the outbreak of the First World War in 1914. There were five areas that the Wilson's 14 Points brought positive suggestions and these included:

1. Abolishing secret treaties was the good thing as they bred suspicion and hatred and lined up nations against each other in the event of a conflict/war.
2. Disarmaments in colonial territories led tensions and conflicts among colonial masters and their perceived trespassers.
3. Reduction of armaments reduced the arms race as building up of war machinery encouraged the threat of war.
4. Lack of a body to solve world problems especially those involving countries was not good for world peace. This led to the formation of the League of Nations.
5. Nationalism and self-determination policy. The self-determination policy was the policy which led to many nations under foreign rule to demand self rule.

### WHAT WERE THE TERMS OF VERSAILLES PEACE TREATY OF 1919?

The Allied Leaders agreed the following terms of the Versailles Peace Treaty which were presented to the Germany to sign them despite that she was not invited to attend the peace conference:

#### 1. The war guilt-clause fixed on Germany and her allies

The War Guilt Clause blamed Germany for starting the First World War. The Versailles Treaty forced Germany to admit its responsibility for starting the First World War. She was accused of five things

- a. Encouraging her ally Austria-Hungary to attack Serbia after Archduke Franz was assassinated on 28<sup>th</sup> June, 1914 at Sarajevo.
- b. Initiating the signing of secret treaties or political alliances that divided Europe by 1907
- c. Invading Belgium, a neutral country; the event that provoked Britain to join the First World in 1914.
- d. Invading France during the war.

#### 2. Loss of German territories in Europe and the Far East to the Allies.

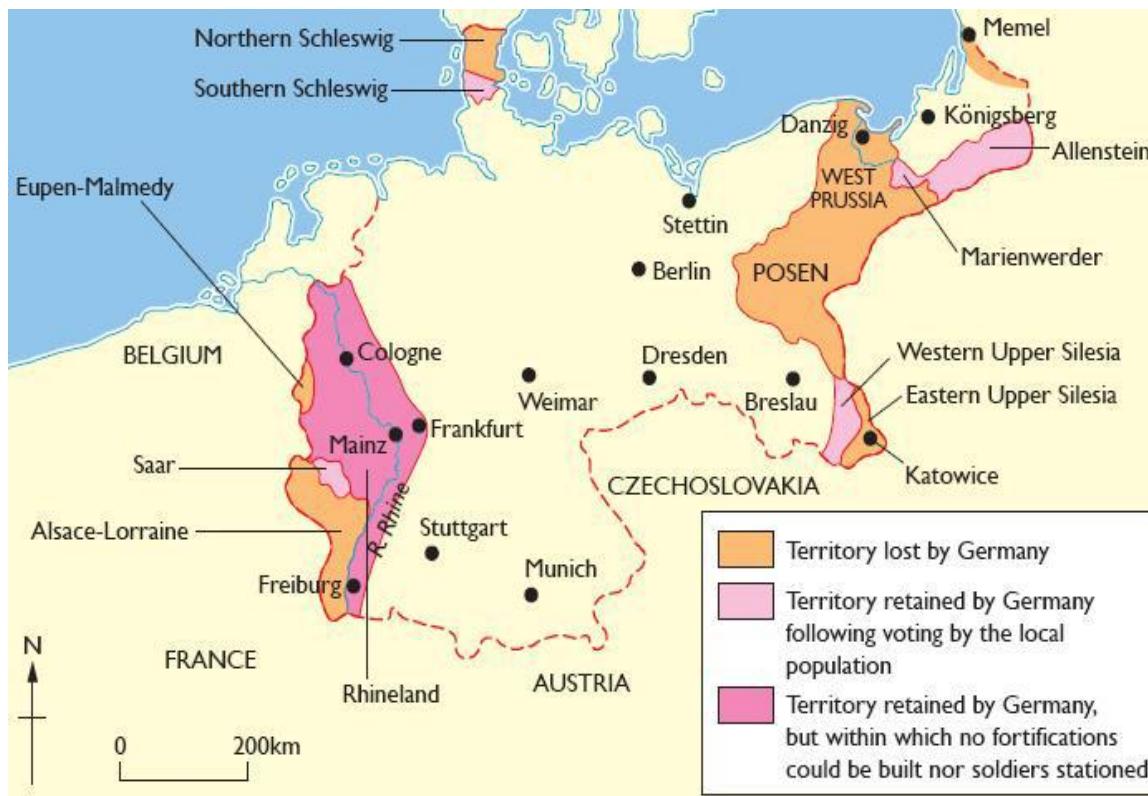
By Versailles Treaty of 1919, Germany lost all her territories that she had acquired abroad which were all shared up by the members of the Allied Powers.

- a. The following were the territories that Germany lost by the Versailles Treaty signed in 1919
- b. Alsace and Lorraine were given back to France

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- c. Eupen and Malmedy to Belgium
- d. Germany was to be divided into two by the Polish Corridor.
- e. German Pacific possessions were to be given to Japan.
- f. Her union with Austria-Hungary (Anschluss) was forbidden.
- g. Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania were to be set up as independent states as an example of self-determination. Therefore, Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania were the countries that were set up by the Versailles Treaty of 1919.
- h. The Saar Basin was to be administered by the League of Nations for 15 years while preparing it for independence.

The below shows the territories lost by the Germany at the Versailles Peace Conference of 1919.



From the map above, Germany lost the following areas:

- Alsace-Lorraine was returned to France
- Danzig became a free city
- Malmedy was given to Belgium.
- German territory in West Prussia and Upper Silesia was given to Poland to create the 'Polish Corridor' - cutting off East Prussia
- The Saar Coalfields (rich in industry and raw materials) were given to France for

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15 years

## 3. Loss of German colonies in Africa to the Allies.

The German African colonies were mandated under the League of Nations. This means that Germany lost her African colonies and were shared out to various members of the League of Nations and they were called mandated territories for they were being looked after by other countries while preparing them for their independence.

Examples of the German African colonies that she lost by the Versailles Treaty and were mandated under the League of Nations included

- a. German West Africa(Namibia) was put under (South Africa)
- b. Germany East Africa(Tanzania) was under Britain
- c. Togo and Cameroon were under the Mandates Commission of the League of Nations.

## 4. Reparations

By Versailles Treaty, Germany was forced to pay a compensation for the losses to Britain, France and Belgium. In 1921, the Reparation Commission told Germany was to pay £6,600 as reparations to Britain, France and Belgium installments for 66 years. Germany had to pay million in reparations to cover war damages and other Allied losses. These were called "war reparations"

- Reparations were to be paid in regular installments, some in gold and some in goods
- The Allies struggled to get payments from Germany from 1921 to 1923
- France took over Ruhr in 1923

## 5. Disarmament and military reductions

- Germany army worried all the Allied Powers especially France. Therefore by Versailles Treaty, to avoid future German attacks, they forced Germany
  - a. to reduce the Germany army to only 100,000 men
  - b. ban conscription (soldiers were to be recruited voluntarily)
  - c. Not to have air force, submarines, tanks and armoured vehicles.
- Rhineland, the Germany military camps, to become demilitarized zone (an area free from military activity). No German troops were to be allowed into the occupation zone. It was to be policed by the Allies.

## 6. To set up League of Nations.

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Versailles Treaty established an international body (the League of Nations) for maintaining world peace which could be responsible for settling conflicts among countries through peaceful discussions or collective defence. The League of Nations was formed in 1920 as the brain child of the Woodrow Wilson, the President of the United States of America. However, The USA refused to join which weakened the League of Nations.

- Germany and the defeated nations were at first left out. Germany was not invited to join the League of Nations until it had demonstrated to be a peace loving country.
- All commissions in Germany controlled by the allies until 1927

## **German Reactions to the Treaty of Versailles**

### **1. The Diktat**

- The Germans were given no say in the treaty -sign it or risk invasion. This led to the Germans calling the Treaty the 'Diktat' -a dictated peace!
- Ebert and the Weimar Government were called the '**November Criminals**' who had stabbed Germany in the back to take power from the Kaiser and army (The Dolchstoss Theory)

### **2. War Guilt**

- Many German people hated Article 231 -they felt why they should be blamed for that the Kaiser and other countries had done.
- They said it was unfair to blame the new Weimar government for the actions of the now abdicated Kaiser.
- The German people were disgraced and humiliated by this clause.

### **3. The Terms of the Treaty**

- The loss of the armed forces hurt Germany's pride and made them feel weak/insecure -how could they control their own country or defend themselves?
- The loss of territory split up the country and took away 13% of Germany's population; this had financial and social consequences.
- Germans were bitter and angry at the allies, who they thought were trying to destroy Germany.
- The £6.6 billion fine would almost bankrupt Germany, and the lost of land would make it harder to pay back.

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Why did Germany resent/object to the terms of Versailles peace treaty? How did Germany react to the terms of the Versailles peace settlement of 1919? "The Versailles peace treaty was very unfair" discuss.

The Germany was not pleased with the terms of the Versailles Treaty. She felt that she was unfairly treated by the Versailles Treaty. Germany resented to the terms of the Versailles Treaty because of the following reasons

### 1. It was diktat

It was a dictated peace treaty since Germany and her allies were not invited to attend the Versailles Peace Conference which resulted to Versailles Peace Treaty. It was just forced upon Germany and told to sign. They were even bitter by not invited to the League of Nations. They boycotted it when it was later formed.

### 2. The War guilt clause.

The War Guilt Clause blamed Germany for starting the First World alone. Germany felt Russia and Britain were to share the blame. Russia supported Serbia who behaved irresponsibly towards Austria. Russia made the war likely by mobilizing her troops after Austria threatened to attack Serbia in 1914. Britain's declaration of war on Germany over Belgium was unjustifiable as it only intensified the war by increasing the number of warring countries.

### 3. The disarmament clause.

This disarmament clause angered Germany because it reduced German army to 100,000 troops which were not enough to enforce the law and order within the country. It was unfair to only disarm Germany.

### 4. Loss of territories in Europe and Africa.

Germany was unhappy to lose her European states and African colonies because this implied the loss of their economic and political capacity. They felt:

- a. the colonies provided her with the industrial raw materials
- b. the colonies acted as potential markets for German goods
- c. Some Germans were locked up in foreign countries especially in Europe which may not respects their right. It was against the self-determination policy.

### 5. The reparations

Germany resented the reparations because the figure was too much beyond Germany capacity to pay. Many industries collapsed leading to the rise in unemployment levels. All these economic hardships made Germany to resent the

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reparations even more. In 1923, Germany defaulted in paying the reparations due to inflation. The ALLIES who relied on the reparations for the war debts to USA and for home were stranded. This made France and Belgium to send troops under Raymond Poincare to invade the Ruhr, Germany's rich industrial regions to force her to pay the reparations.

### US ISOLATIONISM

- The United States never accept the Treaty of Versailles because they did not agree with Article X and could not accept the agreement of the League of Nations and so it was never part of the League or never joined the League of Nations.
- Wilson campaigned vigorously in the United States between 1919 and 1920 to win support for the ratification of the Treaty of Versailles and for the United States to join the League of Nations. However the Anglo-American Guarantee was not accepted by the US Senate and so never took place
- When the United States did not accept the Guarantee, Britain withdrew from the agreement as well. France no longer had a guaranteed military support from the United States and Britain.
- Isolationism was not new to the United States. It had been a big part of its history. After the war it returned to its isolationism and did not want to intervene outside its own areas of interest

### THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS

- The League of Nations was an international organization which was established after The First World War for the purpose of monitoring peace and security in the world.
- The goal was to create an organisation that would prevent war and resolve conflict by discussing issues in a peaceful manner
- League of Nations was the brain child of Woodrow Wilson. He had talked about the League of Nations in his Fourteen Points. The formation of the League was one of Wilson's most important goals
- The League Covenant was written into the Versailles Treaty and so all those who signed the treaty would become members of the League
- The Covenant was made up of 26 articles.
- The most important one was Article X which stated that "all members

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undertake to respect and preserve as against external aggression the territorial integrity and political independence of all members of the League"

- This was the idea of collective security. If one nation was under threat, the others would have to defend it even if it was of no interest to themselves and regardless of the outcome. This meant that money and military staff would have to be sacrificed if ever one nation was under threat.
- The main goal of the League was to prevent further conflict but it also dealt with humanitarian and economic problems
- The League of Nations was formed in 1920. The League of Nations came into force during the first meeting in London, Britain, 10<sup>th</sup> January, 1920. The diagram shows the first meeting of the League of Nations.
- The headquarters of the League of Nations was in Geneva, Switzerland.

### AIMS OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS

**The League of Nations had two main aims**

- a. To maintain world peace through collective security: if one state attacked another, the member states of the League of Nations would act together collectively, to restrain the aggressor either by economic or by military sanctions.
- b. To encourage international co-operation in order to solve economic and social problems.

### ORGANISATION OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS

**The League of Nations had the following six organs**

#### 1. The General Assembly

- This met annually and contained representatives of all the member states each which had one vote.

#### Functions of the General Assembly

- a. Propose a revision of peace treaties
- b. It had finances of the League of Nations/control budget of the League of Nations.
- c. Elected the non-permanent members of the Council of the League of Nations.

**NB:** Any decisions taken by the General Assembly of the League of Nations had to be unanimous.

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### **2. The Council**

- It was made up of permanent and non- permanent members and met at least three times a year.
- The four permanent members of the Council of the League of Nations included Britain, France, Italy and Japan.
- Non-permanent members were four elected by the Assembly for the period of three years

#### **Functions of the Council of the League of Nations**

- a. It dealt with political disputes as they rose or to settle disputes among member states.
- b. To admit and expel members of the League of Nations
- c. Take measures in reduction of armament.
- d. To appoint the Secretary General of the League of Nations.

**NB:** Decisions taken the Council of the League of Nations had to be unanimous.

### **3. The Secretariat**

- The Permanent Secretariat, appointed by the Secretary-General, was given the task of working out the methodology of international cooperation. The Secretariat was also responsible for the general administrative tasks of the League of Nations, in addition to the registration and publication of the Treaties ratified between Member States.

#### **Functions of the Secretariat of the League of Nations**

- a. Looking after all paper work/records of the League of Nations
- b. Preparing the agenda of the League of Nations
- c. Writing resolutions and reports for carrying out the decisions of the League of Nations.

The Secretariat was based at Geneva in Switzerland

### **4. The Permanent Court of International Justice**

It was based at Hague in Holland and consisted of fifteen judges of different nationalities.

#### **Function of the International Court of Justice**

It dealt with legal disputes between states as opposed to political ones.

### **5. International Labour Organisations**

It consisted of four delegates, two for member states and two for workers

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from each member states.

## Function of ILO

Its function was to maintain good working conditions for men, women and children.

## 6. The Mandates Commission

It supervised the administration of the trustee colonies.

## THE SUCCESSES/Achievements OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS

The League of Nations resolved the following political disputes.

### 1. Aaland Islands (1921)

Both Sweden and Finland wanted control of the Aaland Islands, which were between the two countries. The countries appealed to the League for help. After studying the matter the League ruled that the Islands go to Finland, Sweden accepted the ruling and war was avoided.

### 2. Greece v. Bulgaria (1925)

When the Greek troops invaded Bulgaria after an incident on the border in which a group of Greek soldiers were killed. Bulgaria appealed to the League to help. The League ordered Greece to pull out and pay compensation to Bulgaria.

### 3. Upper Silesia 1921

There was the dispute between Poland and Germany over Upper Silesia. Plebiscite in 1921 that decided the division of the territory was tight, the riots followed. The League was asked to intervene. The territory was divided between Poland and Germany.



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### 4. Mosul 1924

When Turkey claimed the province of Mosul, part of the British mandated territory of Iraq, the League of Nations resolved a dispute between Iraq and Turkey over Mosul - which was important oil rich area - in a favor of Iraq.

### OTHER SUCCESSES/ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS

- a. It managed to encourage their members to settle their disputes through the Permanent Court of International Justice. This led to maintenance of international peace and security. For example, it successfully administered Danzig and Saar.
- b. Stabilization of the currencies of Austria and Hungary in the 1920s. The League helped raise loans to save Austria from bankruptcy.
- c. The League Secretariat also helped revive the world economy, by arranging world conferences on tariffs and trade agreements.
- d. Its humanitarian work with refugees and prisoners of war was also significant achievement. The League helped return 400 000 prisoners of war to their own countries and found homes for countless refugees. In addition, it did much to deal with tropical diseases, such as yellow fever and malaria.
- e. The International Labour Organization was set up to improve workers' rights and working conditions across the world. Its main achievement was to limit child labour in some countries.
- f. It successfully restored financial stability in Austria following the economic slump in the country after the manufacture and sale of arms.
- g. It assisted in the administration of the trust territories through the Mandate Commission. The countries that were administered by the Mandate Commission were Togo, Tanganyika, Cameroon and Rwanda-Burundi, Iraq and Palestine.
- h. It ensured the signing of peace treaties that promoted security in the world. For example the Locarno Treaties of 1925 that settled boundary disputes between Germany and France.
- i. Through World Health Organization, the League of Nations helped to combat diseases such as typhoid, small pox and cholera in Eastern Europe in the 1920s.

### FAILURES OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS IN 1920S:

**Why did the League of Nations fail to preserve peace in the World?**

1. It was too closely linked with the Versailles Treaties whose some of its

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provisions were bound to cause trouble. For example, the disappointment of Italy and the inclusion of Germans in Czechoslovakia and Poland.

2. It was rejected by the USA and USSR and Germany excluded. USA never joined the League of Nations. The United States never accept the Treaty of Versailles because they did not agree with Article X and could not accept the agreement of the League of Nations and so it was never part of the League. USSR and Germany did not support the Versailles Treaty nor the League as they had been excluded from these.

Germany was not allowed to join the League of Nations because it was a defeated nation and was blamed for starting the war. Russia was not invited to join the League of Nations because she had communist state of government.

The absence of three major powers, USA, Germany and USSR meant that collective security had little chance of succeeding

### 3. Vilna (1920)

In 1920 the League of Nations supported Lithuania in her claim to Vilna which had just been seized from her by the Poles. Lithuania asked the League to intervene in order to seize Vilna as its capital. When the Conference of Ambassadors insisted on awarding Vilna to Poland, the League of Nations allowed it to go ahead.

### 4. Russo-Polish War (1920-21)

Poland was not content with its eastern borders and decided to seize White Russia and Ukraine. The League was unable to prevent this warfare. In fact, Poland was backed by France and Britain.

### 5. Greece v. Turkey (1920-22)

Greece invaded Turkey in order to overthrow the new government led by Ataturk, which was determined to overturn the Treaty of Sevres. The Turkish army defeated Greece and further warfare was avoided by Britain agreeing that a new treaty should be signed - Lausanne 1923. The League had been unable to either prevent or halt this war, in large part because Britain supported Greece, while France supported Turkey.

### 6. Memel (1923)

This was the area under League administration by the Treaty of Versailles. The League was unable to prevent Lithuania seizing it in 1923. This was followed by

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little success when the league persuaded Lithuania to accept the port becoming an "international zone", with Lithuania retaining the surrounding area.

### 7. Invasion of the Ruhr (in Slovak *Porúrie*) (1923)

The League was unable to prevent France and Belgium from invading the Ruhr after Germany failed to pay its second reparations installment. In fact, France did not even consult the League before it took action.

### 8. The Corfu Incident (1923)

This was a boundary dispute between Greece and Albania in which three Italian officials working on the boundary commission were killed. Mussolini blamed the Greeks, demanded huge compensation and bombarded and occupied the Greek island of Corfu. Greece appealed to the League of Nations but Mussolini refused to recognize its competence to deal with the problem. He threatened to withdraw from the League of Nations. The Conference of Ambassadors overruled that Greece had to pay the full amount demanded.

The League failed to stop Italy from invading the Greek Island of Corfu even though Greece asked for help.

The Corfu Incident was seen as a serious failure for the League. It showed that powerful nations could still bully a less powerful neighbor (Greece was a small, weak country with no powerful friends on the Council).

## FAILURES OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS IN 1930S:

### Why did the League of Nations fail to preserve peace in the world?

### 9. THE MANCHURIA AFFAIR, 1931-1933:



- Another League member, Japan, invaded the Chinese region of Manchuria in 1931
- The League tried to get Japan to withdraw but it refused and the League couldn't agree on sanctions / actions to stop Japan
- Japan ended up leaving the League in 1933 as did many other countries throughout the 1920s and 1930s

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In 1931 Japanese troops invaded the Chinese territory of Manchuria after their army came up with an answer - to attack Manchuria. The attack started with so-called **Mukden Incident**, which was a staged event that was engineered by Japanese military personnel as a pretext for attack of Manchuria. Japanese Army blew up the railway near Mukden but blamed Chinese dissidents for that. Japan "responded" with a full invasion that led to the occupation of Manchuria, in which Japan established its puppet state of Manchukuo in 1932. In 1933 the League condemned the Japanese invasion and ordered Japanese troops to be withdrawn and suggested that Manchuria should be governed by the League of Nations after finding faults on both sides. Japan refused and simply left the League in 1933 and carried on with its conquests in China.

**The Manchurian Affair 1931 – 1933 had 3 very important results:**

- a. The League showed it is incapable of enforcing world peace,
- b. the Affair encouraged the European dictators to try the same tactics in Africa and Europe,
- c. Japan continues in violent policy and launches full-scale attack in 1937.

### 10. Failure of the World Disarmament Conference (1932-3)

In 1932, Germany asked for equality of armaments with France but when the French demanded that that should be postponed for at least 8 years, Hitler was able to use the French attitude as an excuse to withdraw Germany from the Disarmament Conference and the League of Nations. Then he embarked on remilitarization programme and established a navy and airbase.

### 11. Abyssinia, 1935

In 1936 Italy under the Fascist dictator of Italy, Benito Mussolini, the Fascist dictator of Italy invaded Abyssinia to win the coal, iron and oil Italy lacked. Mussolini wanted to add Abyssinia - now called Ethiopia - to the Italian Empire. It was an independent country ruled by the Emperor **Haile Selassie** and was a member of the League of Nations.

The Italian soldiers used tanks, poison gas, bombs and flame-throwers against Abyssinian troops armed with spears and outdated rifles. Selassie appealed to the League of Nations for help. Britain and France, two leading members of the League, could have stopped Italy by closing the Suez Canal to Italian ships - cutting the Italian supply route to Abyssinia. Instead they agreed with the rest of the League

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to impose certain economic sanctions on Italy which did not include steel, oil and coal, which were vital to the Italian war effort. In May 1936 the Italian captured the capital of Abyssinia, Addis Ababa. Once Addis Ababa fell in May of 1936, Emperor Haile Selassie, who was in Geneva at the time, went to the Assembly and again asked the League of Nations for help, but to no avail, as Italy's conquest had been formally recognized by most countries. The Abyssinian crisis dealt a death blow to the League of Nations which was now ignored as a peace-keeping body.

### **Results of Italian invasion of Abyssinia in 1936**

- a. Mussolini was annoyed by the sanctions anyway and began to draw closer to Adolf Hitler.
- b. Small states lost all faith in the League of Nations
- c. Hitler was encouraged to break the Versailles Treaty.

### **THE HOARE-LAVAL PACT**

- Britain and France sent their foreign ministers (Hoare and Laval) to come up with a settlement to offer Italy.
- They met in secret in December 1935 and agreed to give Italy some areas in Abyssinia.
- This land was not theirs to give and they did not discuss the plan with Italy or Abyssinia.
- Details were leaked to the press and the two politicians were forced to resign.

### **12. RHINELAND, 1936:**

In 1936, Germany under Adolf Hitler invaded the demilitarized zone of Rhineland (**no weapons or soldiers were allowed there**). The march into Rhineland was a clear breach of the Locarno Treaties and the Treaty of Versailles. Hitler wanted full control of Rhineland. Hitler feared that much stronger French army would force them out. Hitler took a risk by sending in troops with orders to withdraw if they meet opposition from the French army.

The League of Nations (France and Britain) made no attempt to stop it the invasion. France lacked a strong leader and had problems at home. The French would not act without British support. Britain was not willing to stop Germany.

### **13. THE ANSCHLUSS OF AUSTRIA**

Anschlus means the union between Germany and Austria. This was forbidden by the Versailles Peace Treaty in 1919. The League of Nations failed to stop Germany

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from violating the terms of Versailles Treaty. In 1938, Germany annexed and occupied Austria into Nazi Germany in **March 1938**. Although the Allies were committed to upholding the terms of the treaties of Versailles and St. Germain, which specifically prohibited the union of Austria and Germany, their reaction was only verbal and moderate. No fighting ever took place.

### 14. THE MUNICH PACT (29.-30.9.1938)

This was an agreement permitting Nazi German annexation of Czechoslovakia's **Sudetenland** signed in Munich, Germany. The Sudetenland areas along Czech borders, mainly inhabited by ethnic Germans. The Munich Conference was called in 1938 and was attended Adolf Hitler of Germany, Neville Chamberlain of Britain, Benito Mussolini of Italy and Daladier of France. The purpose of the conference was to discuss the future of the Sudetenland in the face of territorial demands made by Adolf Hitler. The agreement was signed by Nazi Germany, France, Britain, and Italy. The Sudetenland was of immense strategic importance to Czechoslovakia, as most of its border defenses were situated there, and many of its banks were located there as well. Because the state of Czechoslovakia was not invited to the conference, Czechs and Slovaks sometimes call the Munich Agreement the **Munich Dictate**. The phrase **Munich Betrayal** is also used because the military alliance Czechoslovakia had with France was not honoured. The Sudetenland was handed over to Germany immediately. Czechs were told to accept and if resisted they would not receive help from Britain and France. France also did not honour the military alliance she had with Czechoslovakia which France guaranteed at Locarno Treaty.

### 15. THE SPANISH CIVIL WAR (1936)

Neither Britain nor France intervened in the Spanish Civil War though Germany and Italy sent decisive help to General Franco.

### 16. INVASION OF POLAND AND FINLAND (1939)

Germany invaded Poland while Russia invaded Finland in 1939 in the violation of the League of Nations.

### FACTORS THAT WEAKENED THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS

The following are the factors that undermined the effectiveness of the League of Nations:

1. Some member countries were not willing to take disputes to the International

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Court of Justice for arbitration.

2. The aggressive nature of some member states. Germany was still determined to increase its military strength and continue with its aggression.
3. Some individual member countries were more pre-occupied with national interests and pride at the expense of the organization's interests.
4. The Versailles Peace settlement resolutions were too harsh to countries like Germany. This left the Germans aggrieved and refused to co-operate with the League of Nations.
5. The League of Nations lacked the executive authority to implement its resolution.
6. The USA refused to join the League of Nations. This was because the US Congress refused to ratify the treaty of the League of Nations.
7. There was shortage of funds to implement the functions of the League of Nations.
8. The Appeasement Policy of Britain and France forced the League of Nations to stand aside and avoid taking a firm action against Japan when she invaded China.
9. The League also failed in its covenant which did not forbid war.

### TOPIC 3: DEVELOPMENTS IN THE INTER-WAR PERIOD

#### POSITIONS OF THE ALLIES TOWARDS GERMANY'S ECONOMIC RECOVERY

When the Allies met in Paris in January, 1919 to make peace after the First World War, each of the major powers took differing positions on the recovery of Germany's economy as follows:

1. **Prime Minister of France, Georges Clemenceau** was determined to have a weakened Germany so that any just peace required Germany to pay reparations for the damage it had caused. Reparations would also go towards the reconstruction costs in other countries including Belgium, which was also directly affected by the war.
2. **The British Prime Minister, David Lloyd George** opposed harsh reparations, arguing for a smaller sum that was less damaging to the Germany economy so that Germany could remain a viable economic power and trading partner.
3. **Woodrow Wilson of USA** wanted to make the World safe. He also wanted the powers not to blame Germany for the war and to ensure Germany was not

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destroyed economically. He did not support the "Guilt Clause" imposed on Germany.

## HOW WERE THE FIRST WORLD WAR DEBTS BEING PAID?

After the First World, the USA lent money to Germany. Germany was obtaining loans from the USA through Dawes Plan of 1924. Germany then used that money to build up their economy and increased tax so that they could pay off their reparations to France, Belgium, and Britain. Then France, Belgium and Britain paid to USA.

## THE CRISES OF 1923 -THE RUHR CRISIS

- By 1923, Germany was struggling to keep up with its reparations payments of £6.6 billion (loss of territory and bankrupt from WW1).
- In January 1923, Germany defaulted on their payments to France -they didn't pay up
- France was angry as they also needed money to pay off their war debts to USA.
- They decided to take raw materials like coal and steel for themselves by going into the Ruhr where 80% of Germanys steel was produced, they thought taking the Ruhr would make up for Reparations Germany had missed.

## THE RUHR CRISIS, 1923

- On 11thJanuary, 60,000 French and Belgian troops march invaded the industrial area of the Germany called the Ruhr in **retaliation** for the **inability of Germany to pay the reparations** in 1922 as they had missed a payment.
- France and Belgium occupied the heavily industrialized Ruhr Valley in response to Germany defaulting on reparation payments dictated by the victorious powers after World War 1 in the Treaty of Versailles.
- The occupation of Ruhr Industrial area by Britain and France worsened the economic crisis in Germany and the German civilians engaged
- The French seized the money in terms of goods, resources and machinery instead. They seized control of all mines, factories and railways.
- The French believed the Germans would work for them, but this did not happen.
- The Weimar Government ordered **passive resistance** and the **German workers went on strike**. This meant that the French could not gain any raw materials as payment for the reparations but also that the Germans lost a huge amount of their profits as the area did not make a goods to sell.

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- The French killed over 100 passive resistors and expelled 100,000 protestors out of the Ruhr region.
- The French arrested, imprisoned and deported the resistance leaders
- The workers decided on 'passive resistance' and go on strike, refusing to work. Some even burn factories
- As a result there was violence with huge protests over the French treatment of the workers.
- The French then shoot a number of strikers and some French soldiers are also killed.
- German industrial production fell dramatically.

### RESULTS OF THE CRISIS

The invasion united the German people against the French and impact of the Treaty of Versailles. To support the workers, the government prints more money to pay them. However, as the government had no money, this caused the value of the mark (money) to drop. This led to the second crisis Hyperinflation!



### THE CAUSES OF HYPERINFLATION

The Hyperinflation crisis of 1923 was caused by two problems.

- **The reparations** -The £6.6 billion reparations had almost financially bankrupted Germany after WW1.
- **The occupation of the Ruhr** -When the government did not have enough money from reparations and the French taking their main industry in the Ruhr, they simply printed more money. However, when a government prints more money, which it does not have, the value of the money goes down but prices go up.

### EFFECTS OF HYPERINFLATION

- Hyperinflation had serious affects on Germany, the mark (currency) became worthless and millions faced starvation and poverty.
- Prices went up so fast that workers had to rush into shops after being paid, as prices went up by the hour.
- At one point it cost 80 million marks for a single egg

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- Children played with the worthless money in the, some used it as fuel as it was cheaper than wood!

### HOW DID THE WEIMAR REPUBLIC RECOVER?

#### DAWES PLAN, 1924

- First of all German Chancellor Gustav Stresemann tackled the problem of hyperinflation. Stresemann gained help from US banker Charles Dawes to create the Dawes Plan. Dawes ordered all of the currency (the mark) to be burned and destroyed. This immediately ended the huge prices. In Oct 1923 he scrapped the old worthless money and brought in a new currency called the Rentenmark. The temporary new currency (The Rentenmark) reset the prices of goods.
- The Rentenmark was more stable and could then be replaced by a permanent currency = the Reichsmark.

At the London Conference attended by British foreign Minister MacDonald, French Foreign Minister, Herriot and German Chancellor Gustav Stresemann proposed the Dawes Plan since it was proposed by the Dawes Committee chaired by Charles G. Dawes in 1924. By Dawes Plan no reduction was made in the total amount Germany was expected to pay but it was agreed that she should pay annually only what she could reasonably afford until she became prosperous.

US banks agreed to loan money to Germany, 800 million at first. Over 6 years, \$3 billion was given. USA was to make a loan of 800 million gold marks to Germany. Germany was able to meet her obligations to pay reparations under the Treaty of Versailles for the next five years. France was assured of at least some reparations from Germany agreed to withdraw her troops from the Ruhr.

The Dawes Plan was designed to strengthen Germany's economy and stabilize the currency and the inflation was brought under the control. It provided short-term economic benefits to the German economy and softened the burdens of war reparations. By stabilizing the currency, it brought increased foreign investments and the loans to the German market.

The Dawes Plan strengthened Germany Economy and made it easier for Germany to pay reparations. As a result, reparations payment resumed and the French occupation of the Ruhr ended.

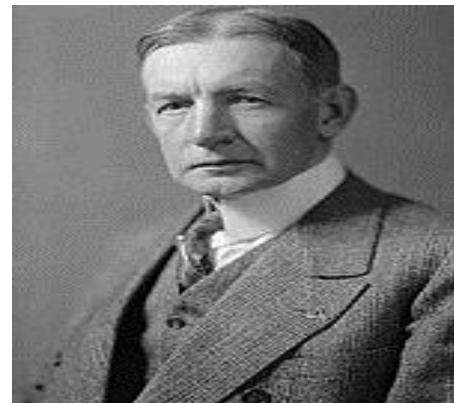
- Germany was also given more time to pay their reparations and set payments at 2.5 billion marks a year by Dawes Plan.

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**Gustav Stresemann**  
Chancellor 1923  
Foreign minister 1924-29



**Charles, G. Dawes**

## SOLVING THE RUHR CRISIS

The Dawes plan also helped to solve the Ruhr crisis. With a new stable currency and reduced reparations payments, Germany was able to start paying their debts. Stresemann ordered an end to the strike in the Ruhr. France and Belgium pulled their troops out of the Ruhr as Germany were now cooperating.

German Industry was able to start up again, helping the German economy recover.

## DETAILED DISCUSSION OF THE DAWESPLAN, 1923

### WHO IS THE DAWES PLAN

The Dawes committee, which was urged into action by Britain and the United States, consisted of ten informal expert representatives, two each from Belgium (Baron Maurice Houtart, Emile Francqui), France (Jean Parmentier, Edgard Allix), Britain (Sir Josiah C. Stamp, Sir Robert M. Kindersley), Italy (Alberto Pirelli, Federico Flora), and the United States (Dawes and Owen D. Young, who were appointed by Commerce Secretary Herbert Hoover).

Charles G. Dawes, an American banker, was asked by the Allied Reparations Committee to investigate the problem. His report, published in April, 1924, proposed a plan for instituting annual payments of reparations on a fixed scale.

### What is THE DAWES PLAN?

- The Dawes Plan (as proposed by the Dawes Committee, chaired by Charles G. Dawes) was an attempt in 1924 to solve the reparations problem, which had plagued international politics following World War I and the Treaty of Versailles.

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- Under the Dawes Plan, Germany's annual reparation payments would be reduced, increasing over time as its economy improved; the full amount to be paid, however, was left undetermined.
- In 1925, Dawes was a co-recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize in recognition of his plan's contribution to the resolution of the crisis over reparations.

### The International Financial System Under the Dawes Plan and Young Plan 1924-30



### WHAT HAPPENED?

- After the First World War Germany had great difficulty paying the reparations that had been agreed under the terms of the Treaty of Versailles. When the German government failed to keep up the payments in 1923 French and Belgian troops occupied the Ruhr.
- The Young Plan further reduced reparations to 112 billion Gold Marks -then equal to about \$8 billion. The money was set to be paid over 59 years with the equivalent of \$473 million paid each year.

### MAIN POINTS OF THE DAWES PLAN!

In an agreement of August 1924, the main points of The Dawes Plan were:

- The Ruhr area was to be evacuated by Allied occupation troops
- Reparation payments would begin at one billion marks the first year, increasing annually to two and a half billion marks after five years
- The *Reichsbank* would be re-organized under Allied supervision
- The sources for the reparation money would include transportation, excise, and customs taxes
- Germany would be loaned 800 Million Marks from the USA

### RESULTS OF DAWES PLAN!!

- Dawes Plan provided short-term economic benefits to the German economy and softened the burdens of war reparations.
- It brought increased foreign investments and loans to the German market.

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- As the U.S. economy developed problems under the Great Depression, Germany and other countries involved economically with it also suffered.
- The Allies owed the US debt repayments for loans.



### EFFECT OF DAWES PLAN

- Dawes planed to help Germany payback war reparations to countries such as Great Britain and France, which in return paid their loans with interest to the USA.
- Germany used to pay the others which it was able to control the hyperinflation at the time.
- Germany missed a payment at one point, which destroyed the whole plan and the cycle and was a leading factor to causing the Great Depression

### LOCARNO TREATY, 1925

In 1925, Stresemann signed the Locarno Treaty with France and Belgium, Great Britain and Italy. This pact agreed that the countries' borders should stay the same. In 1925 Chancellor Gustav Stresemann of Germany signed the Locarno Treaties, guaranteeing not to change Germany's western borders with France and Belgium. Germany, France and Belgium promised to respect their joint frontiers. Germany signed agreements with Poland and Czechoslovakia providing for arbitration over possible disputes but Germany would not guarantee her frontiers with Poland and Czechoslovakia. It was also agreed that France would help Poland and Czechoslovakia if Germany attacked them. This improved the friendship between the countries in Europe and Germany

Although Germany was banned when it was set up in 1919, German had earned enough trust to be allowed to join the League of Nations in 1925. This increased Germany's international respect and made them a 'Great Power' again.

### KELLOGG-BRIAND PACT IN 1928

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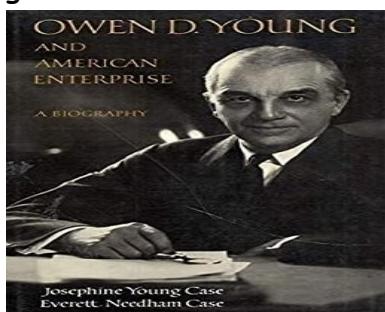
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Germany also signed the Kellogg-Briand Pact in 1928. 64 countries agreed to keep their armies for self defence but they agreed to solve all future disagreements by 'peaceful means'.

In August 1923, Gustav Stresemann became Chancellor. Historians have claimed that this period was the Weimar governments '**Golden Years'** as he was able to help the country recover from the crises and bring about a period of prosperity.

### THE YOUNG PLAN, 1929

In the improved atmosphere, the French were willing to compromise, and a committee chaired by an America banker, Owen Young came up with the Young Plan of 1929. The Young Plan signed in Paris on 7<sup>th</sup> June, 1929, is an extension of the Dawes Plan in 1924. It allowed Germany to reschedule both the payment of its remaining annual war indemnity as well as its repayments related to its public debt as a result of the loans. The Young Plan reduced the total amount of the reparations owed by Germany from £6,600 to £2,000 to be paid on a graded scale over the next 59 years, making them run until 1988.



Owen Young

### LAUSANNE CONFERENCE (1932)

In July, 1932, Britain and France released Germany from most of the remaining reparations payments by Lausanne Agreement.

### CHALLENGES THAT GERMANY FACED WITH REPARATIONS DURING THE FIRST WORLD WAR

Germany faced the following challenges with reparations that she was paying to France, Belgium and Britain:

1. The reparations were too expensive for Germany to pay. In 1923, Germany defaulted on its ability to pay reparations. In response, French and Belgian troops occupied the Ruhr River Valley, the German coal industrial area.
2. There was civil strife in Germany. The German people resisted the occupation of German territories by the French and Belgian troops. As the result, workers

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- and civil servants refused orders and instructions from the French and Belgian troops.
3. Increased German debts. During the period of reparations, Germany received between 27 and 38 billion Marks in form of loans. By 1931, German foreign debt stood at 21.514 billion Marks.
  4. Hyperinflation. The payment of reparations caused a crisis and the occupation of the Ruhr. It had a disastrous effect on the Germany economy, resulting in the government of Germany printing more money for the payment of large sums of reparations, thus the collapse of the German currency.
  5. Collapse of the Germany economy. The Great Depression occurred at a time when was faced with reparation payments. Its economy was therefore totally crippled, thus unable to deal with issues of unemployment and poverty.
  6. Rise of nationalism in Germany. The Germany people saw reparations as a national humiliation. The Germany government worked to undermine the validity of the Treaty of Versailles and the requirement to pay.

### THE GREAT ECONOMIC DEPRESSION ON USA AND EUROPE

#### STOCK MARKET IN THE 1920S

- Stocks are shares or parts of a company, whose prices are always changing. When you buy stocks, it is like you are gambling on a company, hoping it will do well.
- During the 1920s, people were buying on the margin. People bought stocks while only paying a fraction of the stock's value. Stockbrokers would loan buyers the remainder of the cost.
- People were also trying to get rich quickly through stock market speculation. This is a way of gambling with short-term investments in which speculators would buy cheap stocks they thought would rise in price and then sell these same stocks when their prices went up.

#### ECONOMIC DOWNTURN: THE WALL STREET CRASH OF 1929

The 1920s had been a period of success for people in the USA. As a result of the economic boom many people had money to buy new goods such as cars and radios.

But in 1929 the Wall Street Crash happened:

- People were nervous that the stock market was going to fail.
- People were selling shares.

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On October 24, 1929, the New York Stock Market on Wall Street collapsed. It fell even further on the 29th (Black Tuesday). Black Tuesday happened on Tuesday, 29 October 1929, when 16.5 million shares were sold. The value of all shares had dropped by \$40,000 million by the end of 1929. Stock brokers continually wanted to sell their stocks, few wanted to buy them. As a result, stock prices fell rapidly.

- a. As long as stock prices had been going up, brokers loaned out money. But when stock prices went down, brokers began to call in the loans they had lent to speculators.
- b. This calling in of loans began to increase in autumn of 1929. When speculators couldn't pay, stockbrokers lost money which had been loaned to them by banks. When the banks lost money, those who invested in the banks lost their savings. This allowed the crash to affect those who had nothing to do with the stock market.
- c. Banks which had invested money in the stock market lost much in the crash and after. People panicked after the crash and withdrew their savings from accounts which no longer existed in some cases. Many banks failed. By 1933, 11,000 closed

### THE CAUSES OF GREAT ECONOMIC DEPRESSION

#### 1. Stock Market Crash of 1929

- On October 24, 1929, the New York Stock Market on Wall Street collapsed. It fell even further on the 29th (Black Tuesday). Stock brokers continually wanted to sell their stocks, few wanted to buy them. As a result, stock prices fell rapidly.
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accounts which no longer existed in some cases. Many banks failed. By 1933, 11,000 closed

## **2. There was misdistribution of income**

- The unequal distribution of income caused the Great Depression. There was an unequal distribution of income between the rich and the middle or poor. The average wage for industrial workers rose by about 8 percent between 1923 and 1929, but during the same period, industrial profits increased by 72 percent. An 8 percent increase in wages meant that there was not enough buying power in the hands of the general public to sustain the boom.

## **3. Tariffs**

- Fewer countries were buying goods from the USA because they were highly taxed.

## **4. Overproduction**

- Too many goods were being produced and nobody wanted to buy them.

## **5. Speculation**

- People took a chance on the stock market and poor people borrowed too much money to do so. When the shares became worthless they couldn't afford to pay back their loans.

## **6. Bank Failures**

- Throughout the 1930s over 9,000 banks failed. Bank deposits were uninsured and thus as banks failed people simply lost their savings. Surviving banks, unsure of the economic situation and concerned for their own survival, stopped being as willing to create new loans. This exacerbated the situation leading to less and less expenditures.

## **7. Drought Conditions**

- While not a direct cause of the Great Depression, the drought that occurred in the Mississippi Valley in 1930 was of such proportions that many could not even pay their taxes or other debts and had to sell their farms for no profit to themselves.

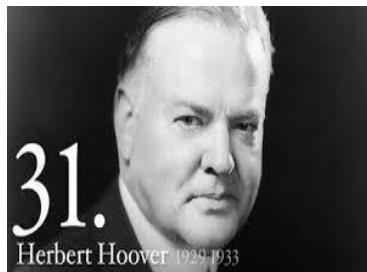
## **EARLY REPUBLICAN ATTEMPTS TO DEAL WITH THE DEPRESSION (1930S)**

- President Herbert Hoover was called upon to help, but it was Hoover's opinion that people should be able to look after themselves and not expect charity or social security from the Government. He did not give unemployed people much

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help. Hoover believed in Laissez-faire and Rugged individualism.

- A lot of people lost their homes as they couldn't afford to pay their bills without a job. They moved to the edges of the cities and built shanty towns. They were nicknamed **Hoovervilles**.
- It is estimated that several hundred thousand people across the USA lived in Hoovervilles



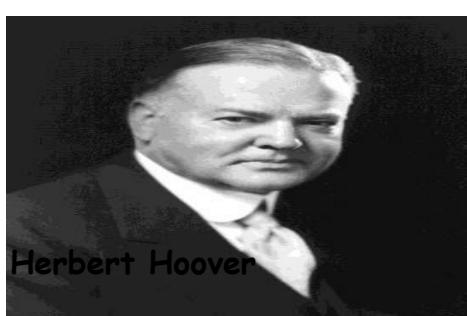
**In 1932 Hoover lost the election to Roosevelt (FDR)**

**President Hoover's Response to great economic depression**

Herbert Hoover was in charge when the Depression began.

- Hoover believed the Depression could be stopped through voluntary action (working hard and helping yourself), not direct relief (cash payments given directly to the poor).
- Despite Hoover's belief, the Depression worsened over the next two years.
- Hoover realizes his mistake and gets Congress to create the Reconstruction Finance Corporation in February, 1932. While it gave loans to faltering banks, insurance companies, and railroads, it failed to help the common man immediately.
- Hoover then got Congress to pass the Emergency Relief Act in July, 1932. This was to give \$300 million to state govts., but, again, not directly to the common man.

### THE 1932 ELECTION



Despite the huge economic problems after 1929 President Hoover insisted that 'prosperity is just around the corner'. This made people hate Hoover, they were angry that he was doing nothing to help them. A popular slogan at the time was 'In

Hoover we trusted and now we are busted!'

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Hoover was called a 'do nothing' President. This was not entirely fair, he had tried to help the banks and to persuade business leaders to improve wages, he passed a Bill in 1932 that allowed Congress to spend \$2.1 billion on creating new jobs. However his heavy import duties on strangled international trade and made the economic problems worse. Ultimately the Republicans believed in laissez faire and blamed the Depression on European countries.

### FRANKLIN DELANO ROOSEVELT

A result of his refusal to help the poor Hoover lost the 1932 election to the Democrat candidate, Franklin D. Roosevelt. Unlike Hoover, Roosevelt believed in strong 'active government' to improve the lives of ordinary people.



He planned to spend public money to create jobs and solve social problems. Roosevelt was also keen to seek advice on important issues from a range of experts including factory owners and union leaders.

During the election campaign Roosevelt's aims were deliberately vague but he realised that people wanted change. He travelled the country by train, covering 20,800 km and making important speeches in which he promised the people a 'New Deal'. This was the first time that a presidential candidate had travelled the country to personally address so many people and impressed the public. The election was a landslide victory for the Democrats and Roosevelt. He won by 7 million votes. It was the worst defeat that the Republicans had ever suffered

### FRANKLIN DELANO ROOSEVELT AND HIS NEW DEAL POLICY

- The people of America had lost confidence in Hoover and there were placards to be seen during the election campaign of 1932 with the words 'Hang Hoover' on them.
- The Democratic candidate Franklin Delano Roosevelt was the new President,

## MALAWI SCHOOL CERTIFICATE OF EDUCATION- WORLD HISTORY

winning 42 of the 48 states.

President Franklin Delano Roosevelt's slogan during his campaign was "I pledge you, I pledge myself, to a New Deal for the American people."

### DESCRIBE THE AIMS OF THE NEW DEAL

Roosevelt introduced the New Deal to the people of America.

The New Deal had 3 aims, referred to as the 3 Rs;

1. **Relief** - Measures to help the millions who were unemployed and homeless
2. **Recovery** - Policies to rebuild the economy that had suffered due to the Depression
3. **Reform** - Legislation and laws to create a fairer society

### FRANKLIN DELANO ROOSEVELT'S FIRST 100 DAYS IN OFFICE.

- FDR needed to follow through on his election promises immediately, so the people knew they could trust him.
- During his 100 days he was given emergency powers which meant he could pass laws very quickly.
- Before he could create jobs he needed to find some extra money to pay for his ideas. He passed 3 acts to help him do this.

How did President Franklin Delano Roosevelt solve the Great Economic Depression by New Deal?

He introduced the following New Deal measures

#### 1. Emergency Banking Act

- The immediate crisis involved the banks. Thousands had failed, costing families their life savings. The failures had prompted bank runs: people rushed to take out their money, causing more banks to become bankrupt.
- The Emergency Banking Act closed all banks for 10 days. The new law authorized the Treasury Department to begin reopening the banks when they could prove they were healthy. Barely a week after the Inauguration, the banking system was operating again.

#### 8. Economy Act

1. The economy act cut the pay of everyone working for the government, the army, navy and air force by 15%.
2. Roosevelt also took a pay cut to show he was prepared to help the people.
3. The money saved (one billion dollars) was spent on helping the unemployed.

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### **9. Farmer's Relief Act**

Under this Act, the government paid compensation to farmers who were producing too much by reducing output thereby raising prices.

### **10. Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC)**

A department to help people to employ unemployed men between 18 and 25 to work in forests, in special camps. The workers would get food and accommodation as well as a dollar a day from the Government. They stayed in the CCC for 6-12 months.

### **11. Federal Emergency Relief Act (FERA)**

This gave \$500m to the states to spend on food and shelter for the unemployed and homeless. For every \$3 each state gave to its people, the Government gave \$1.

### **12. Agricultural Adjustment Act (AAA)**

The AAA tried to encourage farmers to produce less by paying them not to produce in the hope that prices would rise and farmers would make a profit. More than 5 million pigs were killed as part of the AAA

### **13. Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA)**

This gave support to people of the Tennessee Valley who had suffered from food shortages. They built 21 dams to produce hydro- electricity, providing work for thousands of people and bringing electrical power to the area.

### **14. National Industrial Recovery Act(NIRA)**

#### **(a) National Recovery Administration(NRA)**

This encouraged workers to improve their working conditions, and laid down rules on minimum wages, hours of work and conditions of work. The companies taking part in the scheme were entitled to display a blue eagle badge.

#### **(b) PWA - Public Works Administration(PWA)**

This provided jobs on major building projects for highly skilled workers. It dealt with slums and shanty towns, and built houses, schools and hospitals.

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### 15. Works Progress Administration (WPA)

This created a variety of jobs for people in the countryside. It combined all agencies responsible for job creation and provided work building roads, schools and airports. Authors and artists received contracts to carry out creative work.

### 16. The Social Security Act

#### SUCCESSES/ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE NEW DEAL

1. Unemployment reduced from 24.9 million in 1933 to 14.3 million in 1937
2. As a result of the AAA, farmers' money doubled between 1932 and 1939.
3. The TVA improved the lives of 7 million people.
4. The CCC created work for 2.75 million people.
5. The NRA and the Wagner Act brought better working conditions for workers and introduced trade unions (labour unions).
6. The PWA and the WPA created work for 4 million people.
7. Roosevelt restored faith in the American people - he kept his election promises of helping to reduce unemployment and make America a better place.
8. It led to the growth of agricultural production in USA hence provision of enough food for the starving population.
9. It widen the scope of security to workers.

### TOPIC4 : THE COMMUNIST REVOLUTION IN RUSSIA

#### WHAT WERE CAUSES OF 1905 RUSSIAN REVOLUTION?

- ✓ **Immediate spark:** Bloody Sunday, 22 January 1905. On January 22, 1905, a peaceful march of 200,000 St Petersburg workers and their families approached the czar's Winter Palace in St. Petersburg, by Father Gapon, a priest with connections to 'police socialism'. They carried a petition asking for better working conditions, more personal freedom, and an elected national legislature. Nicholas II's generals ordered soldiers to fire on the crowd. Non-violent and loyal to the Tsar, this was the last occasion the Russian people approached the Tsar in his role as 'father' of the people. More than 1,000 were wounded and several hundred were killed. Cossack troops fired on the protestors killing an estimated 1,000 people. Russians quickly named the event "Bloody Sunday."



Soldiers fired on unarmed workers demonstrating at the czar's Winter Palace on "Bloody Sunday."

- ✓ The regime had turned upon its own workers, and Tsar Nicholas II was held directly to blame. As Richard Charques states, this "*did more than perhaps anything else during the whole of the reign to undermine the allegiance of the common people to the throne.*"
- ✓ **Short-term catalyst:** defeat in war against Japan, in 1905, led to increased opposition to the Tsar, who was viewed as incompetent. The war was also important in intensifying and **worsening longer term social and economic problems**, as it caused food shortages, high prices and unemployment - the factors which motivated many to take part in the march on the Winter palace that resulted in Bloody Sunday.
- ✓ **Long term social and economic problems:** Witte's industrialization drive had led to greater pressure on workers and peasants, in terms of higher taxes and low wages. This worsened long-standing problems and caused resentment which resulted in **tension, violence and riots**.
- ✓ **Long term political problems:** refusal of Nicholas's regime to make any political concessions towards representative government and a less oppressive rule meant there was **growing political opposition to the regime** - from both middle class liberals, the more revolutionary socialists.

## What were the results 1905 Russia Revolution?

- ✓ After the events of Bloody Sunday, over 400,000 workers were on strike in St Petersburg by the end of January, and this spread to other cities and the countryside.

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- ✓ June 1905, and **mutiny** aboard the Battleship 'Potemkin', when sailors refused their captain's orders to shoot protesting sailors took control of the ship. This mutiny spread to other units in the army and navy, though the majority remained loyal to the regime.
- ✓ **Local peasant disturbances** spread across Russia, with over 3,000 of these needing the army to control them and causing almost 30 million Troubles of damage. Private estates were seized and destroyed. Some land owners were killed together with governor of Moscow who happened to be the uncle of Tsar.
- ✓ By the end of the year 2.7 million workers had been on strike, with the **railway workers' strike in October** almost bringing the economy to a standstill.
- ✓ Various national minorities within the Russian empire called for greater independence from the Tsar's rule - including the Finns, Poles and Ukrainians.
- ✓ **Politically**, various opposition groups believed that the time had come to force the autocracy to change. **Middle class liberals**, many involved in the *zemstvo* at a local level, established the 'Kadets' party and **demanded universal suffrage to a national assembly**. On the left, **Leon Trotsky** and the Mensheviks established the **St. Petersburg Worker's Soviet** (worker's council) in October, and by the end of the year 50 of these had been formed across Russia.

### How and why was the Tsar Alexander III able to survive 1905?

- ✓ **Loyalty of the army retained**. Regime able to use state instruments of oppression - police, army and strikebreakers - to restore order: Trotsky was arrested, a strike in Moscow was crushed killing 1,000, and other riots across Russia were brutally crushed.
- ✓ **Rebels lacked unity and direction**. Peasants, workers and middle class liberals all wanted different things - liberals scared by revolutionary cries of the workers! Most wanted concessions from the Tsar, not outright revolution. **The Left lacked leadership**, as Lenin was in London and Stalin in Siberia. Uprisings largely spontaneous and uncoordinated.
- ✓ **Concessions granted to liberals and peasants**, thus dividing the opposition. Following advice from his advisers, Nicholas made political concessions in the '**October Manifesto**', which promised a **Legislative Duma** and **liberal freedoms of expression**. This helped split the moderate liberals from the revolutionaries, and secure the loyalty and support of these liberals for the regime. Nicholas also

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made concessions to peasants by cancelling redemption payments, and this helped to restore order in the countryside.

- ✓ Tsar promised reforms in his **Imperial Manifesto of 30<sup>th</sup> October, 1905**. These include: First, Politically, a **National Duma had finally been established**, bringing in a brief era of parliamentary government to Russia - though Nicholas had moderated his original concessions considerably by 1906. This still represented the possibility of the development away from autocracy and **towards a limited monarchy** in Russia. Secondly, more freedom of the press was granted. Thirdly, improvement of the industrial conditions such as increased wages.



Tsar Alexander III

### CONSEQUENCES OF THE 1905 RUSSIAN REVOLUTION

- ✓ Importantly, the state-approved violence of **Bloody Sunday** served as a crucial **severing of the bond between the Tsar and his people**. Loss of popular support for Nicholas II.
- ✓ Politically, a **National Duma had finally been established**, bringing in a brief era of parliamentary government to Russia - though Nicholas had moderated his original concessions considerably by 1906. This still represented the possibility of the development away from autocracy and **towards a limited monarchy** in Russia.
- ✓ The **St. Petersburg Soviet was established**, an impressive show of working class solidarity giving an example for future revolutionaries. However, the importance of the soviet should not be overstated, as Soviet historians tend to do in describing 1905 as a 'dress rehearsal' for 1917. This Soviet only lasted 50 days, and the second strike it called for in November failed comprehensively.

**Explain why WWI was so unpopular amongst the Russian people**

#### 1. Military defeats

In 1914 there were two military defeats at the battles of Tannenberg and the

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Masurin Lakes. Over 250,000 troops were killed, wounded or taken prisoner. In 1915 the Germans advanced 300 miles into Russia. 1 millions died in a failed counter-attack



### 2. Poor Preparation

The Russian troops were badly led and had insufficient weapons. Nearly a million soldiers were without rifles and many had no boots

### 3. Conditions in Russia

Fifteen million men were drafted into the army which meant that there were not enough left to run the factories or farm the land. 600 factories had to close

### 4. Transport system

There were not enough trains to keep the towns and army supplied with food. Food supplies dried up and so prices rose, but wages did not

### 5. Inflation

To pay for the war the government printed more money which caused the trouble to lose its value. Between 1914 and 1917 there was a 400% rise in inflation. This caused strikes and demonstrations

### 6. The Tsar takes charge

In August 1915 the Tsar took personal charge of the army. This was a mistake because he was a weak and incompetent commander. He now made himself personally responsible for Russia's military failures.

### 7. The Tsarina

In the absence of the Tsar the Tsarina (Alexandra) was left in charge of the government. Her German nationality caused people to mistrust her

**Describe the influence of Rasputin**

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- ✓ The Tsarina heavily relied upon Rasputin particularly in the selection of ministers
- ✓ There were rumours that the pair were German agents seeking to undermine the war effort
- ✓ The Tsar and Tsarina (following Rasputin's control of their son's haemophilia) refused to listen to the stories of his wild lifestyle. This weakened the reputation of the Tsar and Tsarina and shocked the nobles. In December 1916 a small group, led by Prince Yusupov, assassinated Rasputin

### IMPACT OF THE FIRST WORLD WAR (1914 - 1917)

- ✓ **Military failures.** Despite initial popularity of the war amongst the Russian people, and increased patriotic support for the Tsar, **heavy military defeats and huge death tolls** in 1914 and 1915 led to **disillusion and anger** at the way the war was being conducted. Nicholas II worsened the situation by **assuming control of the Russian army at the front** from September 1915, making him **personally responsible for future military defeats** and leaving the Tsarina and Rasputin in Petrograd.
- ✓ **Role of Tsarina and Rasputin:** left in charge of the government, these two **decreased support for Tsarism further** by making such a horrible job in charge: dismissing competent Ministers and replacing them with incompetent ones. This led to chaos, and worsening conditions in the cities. Powerful opponents mocked these two, and the Tsar was blamed for leaving them in charge. Even though Rasputin was murdered by a loyalist in 1916, who hoped thus to reduce the damage being done to the Tsar's reputation, it was too late. **Support for Nicholas from the army and higher levels of society faded away**, leaving few prepared to defend him in 1917!
- ✓ **Failure to make political reforms:** allowing the 'progressive bloc' of **discontented liberals a greater role in running the country** might have helped ease the pressure on Nicholas II and for Russia to have become a constitutional monarchy. However, Nicholas' '**dogmatic devotion to autocracy**' meant that he refused to allow a greater role for representative bodies, leaving himself to answer for the condition of Russia personally. His refusal to compromise on his autocratic principles contributed importantly to his downfall in February 1917.
- ✓ **Impact of war on living conditions:** eventual collapse of the Tsardom in 1917 not caused ultimately by ideology or political ideas, but by the **desperate suffering experienced by the Russian people** as a result of WW1. War caused huge

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distress, as there was a shortage of food, fuel and goods, as well as high prices, inflation and worker unemployment. Urban workers were hostile to the Tsar's regime, while peasants were angry about the loss of young men at the front.

### DESCRIBE THE CAUSES THAT LED TO THE FEBRUARY/OCTOBER REVOLUTION

By February 1917 Russia was in chaos. It was caused by

- ✓ Food and fuel shortages, together with temperatures of 35 degrees below freezing, led to growing discontent
- ✓ The industrial unrest. Strikes became common as workers demanded higher wages and better conditions
- ✓ The failure of the land reforms.
- ✓ There was government repression as the secret police rooted out revolutionaries among university students and lecturers and deported masses of Jews.
- ✓ The revolutionary parties revived such as Bolsheviks led by Vladimir Lenin an editor of revolutionary newspaper of The Spark, and Mensheviks
- ✓ The royal family was discredited by a number of scandals. It was widely suspected that Nicholas himself was a party to the murder of Stolypin who was shot by a member of the secret police in the Tsar's presence during a gala performance at the Kiev opera etc.

### THE EVENTS OF THE REVOLUTION OF FEBRUARY/MARCH 1917

- ✓ On 23 February, 1917 International Women's Day, women in St Petersburg took to the streets demanding bread. They called on factory workers to join them. The next day, between 100,000 and 200,000 workers went on strike, many calling for the overthrow of the Tsar.
- ✓ The army refused and mutinied. Instead the army joined the protestors and demanded that the Duma take control of the government.
- ✓ 12 members of the Duma met to take control of the government. They called themselves the **Provisional Government**. They intended to rule until elections could take place for a new Duma
- ✓ When the Tsar commanded troops to fire on civilians, several regiments of the Petrograd Garrison voted to disobey. The soldiers - peasants and workers in uniform - sympathized with the people.

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- ✓ Over the next few days, crowds realised that authority had broken down. Police officers, courts and prisons were attacked, with thousands of prisoners released by excited crowds.
- ✓ The Tsar tried to return to Petrograd but soldiers stopped the train he was travelling on. The Tsar realised that he had no supporters and signed a decree of abdication
- ✓ The Tsar had lost military power in the capital. On 2 March he abdicated the throne to his brother, Grand Duke Michael, who, however, refused to accept it. Three hundred years of Romanov rule had come to an end. In the days following the overthrow of the old regime, the popular mood in Russia was one of extreme optimism. In the cities, massive rallies and parades were held, red flags and banners were waved, and revolutionary songs were sung.



- ✓ At the same time representatives of the workers and soldiers met and re-formed the **Petrograd Soviet**.

### THE PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT, THE PETROGRAD SOVIET AND DUAL AUTHORITY

- ✓ During the chaos of the February Revolution, the Tsar had ordered the dissolution of the duma. However, a group of deputies calling themselves the **Progressive Committee** disobeyed. At the same time, the **Mensheviks**, a socialist political party, formed 'The Petrograd Soviet of Soldiers', Sailors' and Workers' Deputies' to represent the working classes.

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- ✓ After the Tsar's abdication, the Provisional Committee, now re-named the **Provisional Government**, promised to convene a **Constituent Assembly** elected by universal franchise.
- ✓ In the meantime, it assumed responsibility for governing Russia. It faced several problems, the most serious of which were **the war, issues around land and the difficulty of working alongside the Petrograd Soviet**.
- ✓ The Provisional Government, formed of middle class men, and the Petrograd Soviet, made up of a **mass of soldiers and workers**, set up in separate apartments of the Tauride Palace, appropriately in the right and left wings of the building. Since neither the Provisional Government nor the Soviet could rule without the other, they formed a '**dual authority**'.
- ✓ Although the Provisional Government had formal power, the Soviet had popular support in the streets. Only one person - **Alexander Kerensky** - was a member of both.
- ✓ On 1 March, the **Petrograd Soviet** issued Order No. 1, which declared that **soldiers would recognise only the authority of the Soviet, and that the orders of the duma's Military Commission would only be followed if the Soviet approved**. This meant that the armed forces were subject only to the **Soviet**. The Provisional Government, lacking military authority, was vulnerable.
- ✓ This power imbalance was a sign of problems ahead. As time progressed the Soviet became more radical, while the Provisional Government grew more conservative.

**Describe the main features and actions of the period of Dual Power.**

### **1. Provisional government**

- ✓ Political prisoners were released
- ✓ Revolutionary exiles were allowed to return to Russia
- ✓ Free speech was announced and newspapers were allowed to print what they liked
- ✓ The Tsar's secret police (the Okhrana) was abolished
- ✓ Equality for all was announced (irrespective of class, religion or nationality)
- ✓ The new Duma was to be elected by all

### **2. Petrograd Soviet:**

- ✓ In reality this was the real source of power in Petrograd
- ✓ They had 3000 elected members and the Provisional Government could not rule without its support

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- ✓ Alexander Kerensky (an SR) was a member of both and so acted as a bridge between them
- ✓ One of their first actions was to issue Order Number One which gave them control of the Russian armed forces
- ✓ They announced that they would accept the rulings of the Provisional Government but only if they thought that they were appropriate

**Explain why the Provisional Government became increasingly unpopular.**

### 1. WWI

The Provisional Government under **Alexander Kerensky** wanted to support the allies and fight. In June 1917 Russia launched a major offensive but the advance failed and 60,000 Russians were killed. Soldiers began to desert in increasing numbers. Food and fuel shortages continued

### 2. Land

The peasants wanted to own their own land and took it from the nobles and the church. Angry peasants demanded land. The Provisional Government wanted them to stop as they said it should be an issue for a newly elected government to decide in the future. The peasants ignored them and began to take land illegally

3. The Provisional Government lost because it delayed elections which it had promised for a Constituent Assembly (parliament) arguing that these were not possible in the middle of the war when several million troops were away fighting.
4. The government has to share power with the Petrograd Soviet, an elected committee of soldiers' and workers' representatives which tried to govern the city. Other soviets appeared in Moscow and all the provisional cities. On 1 March, the **Petrograd Soviet** issued Order No. 1, which declared that soldiers would recognise only the authority of the Soviet, and that the orders of the Dumas' Military Commission would only be followed if the Soviet approved. This meant that the armed forces were subject only to the Soviet. The Provisional Government, lacking military authority, was vulnerable.
5. In April 1917 Lenin returned to Russia from exile. The Germans believed that Lenin and his Bolshevik supporters would stir unrest in Russia and hurt the Russian war effort against Germany. They arranged Lenin's return to Russia after many years of exile. Traveling in a sealed railway boxcar, Lenin reached Petrograd in April 1917. On his arrival in Petrograd he delivered a major speech to the Bolsheviks (called the April Thesis). In his April Thesis he promised the people

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**Peace, Bread, Land and Freedom.** He promised land to the peasants from the rich landlords, adequate food to the people and to withdraw Russia from the WW1. This made Lenin to win the support of the masses.

6. There was growing economic chaos Russia.
7. The Bolsheviks managed to stop Kornilov and save the Provisional Government but they refused to hand back their guns. The Kornilov affair embarrassed the government and increased the popularity of the Bolsheviks. Kerensky did not have an army to defend Petrograd with and so was forced to give the Bolsheviks weapons. This force became known as the Red Guard. The Bolsheviks managed to stop Kornilov and save the Provisional Government but they refused to hand back their guns.
8. On 20 October, 1917 urged on by Lenin, the Petrograd soviet took the crucial decision to attempt to seize power. Trotsky made most of the plans, which went off without a hitch. During the night of 6-7 November, Bolshevik Red Guards occupied all key points and later arrested the provisional government ministers except Alexander Kerensky who managed to escape. It was almost a bloodless coup enabling Lenin to set up a new soviet government with himself in charge.

### **Describe the events of the Kornilov Plot**

9. In September 1917 Kornilov (Commander in Chief of the Army) attempted to overthrow the Provisional Government. This was because he wanted to continue the war with Germany without government interference
10. Kerensky did not have an army to defend Petrograd with and so was forced to give the Bolsheviks weapons. This force became known as the Red Guard
11. The Bolsheviks managed to stop Kornilov and save the Provisional Government but they refused to hand back their guns
12. In September the Bolsheviks secured a majority in the Petrograd Soviet. As a result of the Kornilov Plot they were now a strong political force

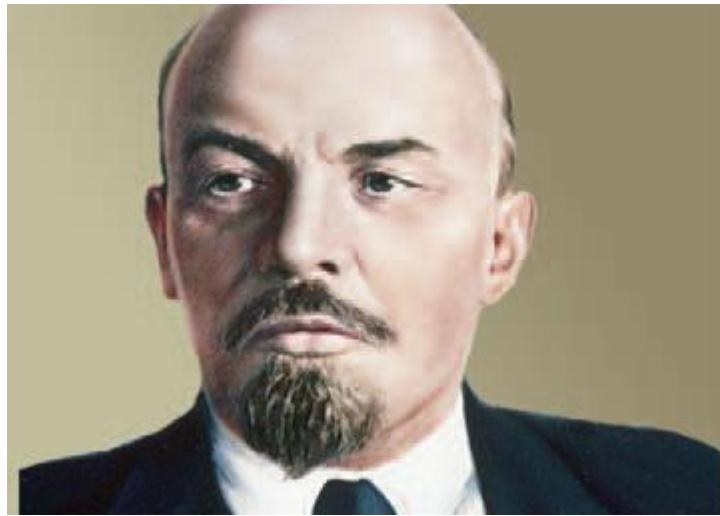
### **Explain why Lenin's popularity with the Russian people grew..**

- ✓ In April 1917 Lenin returned to Russia from exile. The Germans believed that Lenin and his Bolshevik supporters would stir unrest in Russia and hurt the Russian war effort against Germany. They arranged Lenin's return to Russia after many years of exile. Traveling in a sealed railway boxcar, Lenin reached Petrograd in April 1917. On his arrival in Petrograd he delivered a major speech to the

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Bolsheviks (called the April Thesis). In his April Thesis he promised the people Peace, Bread, Land and Freedom. He promised land to the peasants from the rich landlords, adequate food to the people and to withdraw Russia from the WW1.



Vladimir Lenin

- ✓ Lenin told the Bolsheviks to prepare for a second revolution which came as a shock as many did not believe that the time was right. His slogan of 'All Power to the Soviets' and his April Thesis were popular with the Russian people

### EFFECTS OF TWO RUSSIAN MARCH/FEBRUARY REVOLUTIONS, 1917

- ✓ Czar abdicates.
- ✓ Provisional government takes over and Lenin and soviets gain power.
- ✓ Russia stays in World War I.

Explain why the Bolsheviks were able to seize power in October 1917.

#### 1. Success of Lenin

- ✓ The Lenin's Bolshevik party was well organized and efficiently led
- ✓ The Bolsheviks were the only party to offer the people what they wanted (Peace, Bread, Land and Freedom)
- ✓ Lenin convinced his party that the time was right for a revolution
- ✓ He published dozens of books and articles adopting the ideas of Marx
- ✓ He founded 'Pravada' the Bolshevik newspaper to help spread the party message
- ✓ He was a gifted speaker and possessed the ability to tell people what they wanted to hear

#### 2. Role of Trotsky

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- ✓ Trotsky led a disciplined armed force (called the Red Guard) to back up their demands for change
- ✓ Trotsky took charge of the actual days of the revolution
- ✓ Trotsky directed the troops who undertook the Bolshevik seizure of power

### 3. Failures of Provisional Government

- ✓ Would not end WWI
- ✓ Would not organise land reform and tried to stop the peasants taking land

#### Describe the Bolshevik seizure of power

- ✓ Autumn 1917 - the peasants tried to grab more land
- ✓ Lenin returns from exile in disguise and convinces his party that the time was right for the revolution. In April 1917 Lenin returned to Russia from exile. The Germans believed that Lenin and his Bolshevik supporters would stir unrest in Russia and hurt the Russian war effort against Germany. They arranged Lenin's return to Russia after many years of exile. Traveling in a sealed railway boxcar, Lenin reached Petrograd in April 1917. On his arrival in Petrograd he delivered a major speech to the Bolsheviks (called the April Thesis). In his April Thesis he promised the people Peace, Bread, Land and Freedom. He promised land to the peasants from the rich landlords, adequate food to the people and to withdraw Russia from the WW1.

- ✓ Trotsky was made head of the Military Revolutionary Committee. Trotsky led a disciplined armed force (called the Red Guard) to back up their demands for change. He took charge of the actual days of the revolution. Trotsky directed the troops who undertook the Bolshevik seizure of power
- ✓ Night of 24-25 October - The Red Guard took control of key points of Petrograd. Red Guards stormed the Winter Palace. They arrested members of the Provisional Government as they sat around a table. There was no resistance
- ✓ The next day Lenin announced the creation of a new Bolshevik government.

#### Explain how well Lenin established Bolshevik rule after the seizure of power.

- ✓ The Bolsheviks formed Sovnarkom. It was set up to manage the running of the state
- ✓ It was a group of 25 members
- ✓ Lenin was the chairman, Trotsky was the Commissar for war and Stalin was the Commissar for Nationalities

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- ✓ During November and December 1917 they passed a series of laws which laid the foundations for the new Russia:
- ✓ Peace talks were opened with Germany to end the war
- ✓ Land which had belonged to the Tsar, church and nobility was re-distributed
- ✓ Factory workers were to work a minimum 48 hour week
- ✓ All non-Bolshevik newspapers were closed down
- ✓ A secret police force called the **Cheka** was set up
- ✓ The Bolshevik party was renamed the Communist Party
- ✓ All other political parties were made illegal

### **What was the Constituent Assembly?**

- ✓ The Provisional Government had arranged for elections to a new parliament called the Constituent Assembly
- ✓ Lenin allowed the elections to take place in order to maintain support
- ✓ The Bolsheviks came second and the Social Revolutionaries gained the highest percentage of votes
- ✓ In January 1918 Lenin sent troops to dissolve it on its first day

### **Describe the Treaty of Brest Listovk**

- ✓ Lenin had to withdraw from WWI as he promised
- ✓ In December 1917 representatives met with the German government
- ✓ It became clear that Russia was going to have to pay a heavy price for peace but the Bolsheviks feared the consequences of continuing Russia's involvement in the war
- ✓ On the 3rd March 1918 the Treaty of Brest Listovk was signed
- ✓ Russia lost 27% of its farmland and 26% of its population
- ✓ Russia lost its most valuable industrial land and 26% of their railways
- ✓ They had to pay a fine of 3 billion Roubles to Germany

### **What was the Russian Civil war?**

- ✓ In the summer of 1918 Civil War broke out between the Reds (Bolsheviks) and the whites (who opposed the Bolsheviks)
- ✓ They were called the Whites because white was the traditional colour of the Tsar

### **Explain why the Bolsheviks faced opposition**

- ✓ Monarchists wanted to see a return of the Tsar
- ✓ Kerenskyists wanted a return of the Constituent Assembly

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- ✓ **Landowners** wanted their land back from the peasants
- ✓ **Foreign Countries** did not want to Russia to leave their side in WWI and were annoyed that Russia was not paying back the Tsar's debts

### Explain why the Bolsheviks won the Civil War

- ✓ The Reds had a geographical advantage as the centre of the country including the industrial cities of Petrograd and Moscow
- ✓ The Reds had control of the railway network which enabled them to move their troops and supplies quickly
- ✓ The Reds were a united fighting force with one aim: to stay in power
- ✓ Trotsky was made Chairman of the Supreme War Council and he re-organised the Red army. He implemented a harsh regimented order. Capital punishment was introduced for desertion or disloyalty. He proved to be a brilliant leader and won the respect of the troops
- ✓ Conscription was introduced for all men aged 18-40
- ✓ Trotsky employed the best officers from the Tsar's former army. Family members were taken hostage to ensure loyalty
- ✓ Lenin introduced the policy of War Communism in order to keep the Red Army controlled with food and weapons. The state nationalised major industry and controlled the production and distribution of goods.



**Red Army forces were victorious in the two-year civil war against the White Army.**

**Why did the whites lose the Russian Civil War 1918-21?**

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The Whites had several weaknesses.

- ✓ They operated largely independently of each other, without central direction or coordination. With separate forces unable or unwilling to combine, effective campaigns became almost impossible. Armies frequently fell apart due to differing aims and backgrounds of factions.
- ✓ The whites were not united and operated as independent armies. They had many different aims
- ✓ In contrast the white army suffered from low morale and mass desertions

## WHAT WERE THE FEATURES OF WAR COMMUNISM?

### New Economic Policy

In March 1921, Lenin temporarily put aside his plan for a state-controlled economy. Instead, he resorted to a small-scale version of capitalism called the **New Economic Policy**.

The reforms under the NEP:

- ✓ Allowed peasants to sell their surplus crops instead of turning them over to the government.
- ✓ The government kept control of major industries, banks, and means of communication, but it let some small factories, businesses, and farms operate under private ownership.
- ✓ The government also encouraged foreign investment.

### Political Reforms

- ✓ Bolshevik leaders saw nationalism as a threat to unity and party loyalty. To keep nationalism in check, Lenin organized Russia into several self-governing republics under the central government. In 1922, the country was named the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR), in honor of the councils that helped launch the Bolshevik Revolution.
- ✓ The Bolsheviks renamed their party the **Communist Party**. The name came from the writings of Karl Marx. He used the word *communism* to describe the classless society that would exist after workers had seized power

**Explain why War Communism was unpopular.**

**In Towns:**

- ✓ Lenin sent in his own managers to operate factories
- ✓ Strict discipline was imposed on workers
- ✓ The death penalty was introduced for strikers

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- ✓ People were prevented from leaving the cities
- ✓ Prices rose and this inflation made the rouble lose its value. Bartering replaced money

### **In countryside**

- ✓ Peasants were forced to grow more food
- ✓ They refused to work harder as they were not paid a fair price
- ✓ Therefore Lenin ordered requisition squads to seize the food
- ✓ Those found hoarding food were punished
- ✓ Peasants did not want to hand over surplus food and so grew less. The result was famine on a massive scale

### **DESCRIBE THE WORK OF THE CHEKA**

- ✓ This was the Bolshevik secret police
- ✓ It arrested, executed and tortured anyone who appeared disloyal to the Bolsheviks
- ✓ Hundreds of Bolshevik opponents were executed in the red Terror
- ✓ They shot the Tsar and his family to undermine the whites in the Civil War
- ✓ Their bodies were cut up and acid was poured over them before they were buried. This was to make them unrecognisable
- ✓ The Cheka became more and more brutal. Any person showing any signs of opposition was arrested and shot without trial nor sent to work in labour camps
- ✓ It is estimated that they killed more than 250,000 people

### **DESCRIBE HOW THE BOLSHEVIKS ESTABLISHED THEIR RULE AFTER THE CIVIL WAR.**

#### **1. CPSU**

- ✓ Bolshevik party was renamed Communist Party of the Soviet Union
- ✓ In theory power lay with the Central Committee. In practise power lay with smaller committees that could make decisions faster. These were called the Politburo and the Orgburo.
- ✓ The Politburo made important decisions (Lenin, Trotsky and Stalin). The Orgburo carried out these decisions (led by Stalin).

#### **2. Comintern**

- ✓ Created by Lenin in 1919
- ✓ To organise Communist revolutions across Europe

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- ✓ In 1920 the Red Army invaded Poland to start this. They were defeated and this convinced many leaders that the plans should wait

### 2. Propaganda and Censorship

- ✓ To spread the Communist message it was vital to censor newspapers
- ✓ Books and films were only allowed if they carried the 'right' messages
- ✓ Posters became important in a country that could not read or write
- ✓ They sent out agitprop - Propaganda trains to explain Communism and the party message

### Describe the problems Lenin faced in 1921

- ✓ War Communism had destroyed the economy and Civil War had drained the country of its resources
- ✓ There was a sharp decline in industrial production
- ✓ 5 million died in a famine. Many turned to cannibalism
- ✓ Therefore opposition to Lenin's government grew
- ✓ In 1921 workers in Petrograd went on strike, by February they were joined by the sailors at Kronstadt. They demanded better conditions
- ✓ These used to be Lenin's most loyal supporters
- ✓ The Kronstadt rising was put down violently, 10000 men were killed
- ✓ This convinced Lenin that War Communism had to be abandoned and replaced by the New Economic Policy (NEP)

### Describe how the New Economic Policy worked

- ✓ Peasants would pay a small fixed amount of grain in tax each year
- ✓ Any surplus grain could be sold
- ✓ Small factories were allowed to make a profit
- ✓ Traders could make and sell goods at a profit. These were called 'Nepmen'

### How successful was the New Economic Policy?

- ✓ Food production increased and brought an end to the famine
- ✓ Industry recovered slowly
- ✓ There was a variety of goods on sale in the shops
- ✓ There was a variety of goods on sale in the shops
- ✓ The introduction of a new Rouble helped to control inflation

### How unsuccessful was the New Economic Policy?

- ✓ Many in the party saw this as a betrayal of Communist ideals. They disliked the idea of allowing workers to make a profit. They saw it as a retreat to Capitalism

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- ✓ The speed of agricultural recovery was not matched by industrial recovery
- ✓ An increase in food production resulted in a fall in the price of food
- ✓ Prices of industrial goods rose due to the scarcity of goods

### **Describe how relations with other countries improved**

- ✓ Countries began to recognise the Communist government and began to trade with Russia
- ✓ In April 1922 Russia signed the Treaty of Rapallo with Germany establishing friendly relations
- ✓ Trade agreements were signed with Britain and France

### **DESCRIBE THE BOLSHEVIK SEIZURE OF POWER. THE BOLSHEVIK REVOLUTION/THE REVOLUTION OF OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 1917**

Lenin and the Bolsheviks soon gained control of the Petrograd soviet, as well as the soviets in other major Russian cities. By the fall of 1917, people in the cities were rallying to the call, "**All power to the soviets.**" Lenin's slogan—"Peace, Land, and Bread"—gained widespread appeal. Lenin won the support of the masses and decided to take action.

In November 1917, without warning, armed factory workers stormed the Winter Palace in Petrograd. Calling themselves the **Bolshevik Red Guards**, they took over government offices and arrested the leaders of the provisional government. Kerensky and his colleagues disappeared almost as quickly as the **czarist regime** they had replaced.

Within days after the Bolshevik takeover, Lenin ordered that all farmland be distributed among the peasants. Lenin and the Bolsheviks gave control of factories to the workers.

The Bolshevik government also signed a truce with Germany to stop all fighting and began peace talks.

In March 1918, Russia and Germany signed the **Treaty of Brest-Litovsk**. Russia surrendered a large part of its territory to Germany and its allies.

### **DISCUSS THE ACHIEVEMENT OF LENIN FROM 1917 TO 1924 IN RUSSIA.**

- ✓ He managed to secure the Bolshevik takeover of power. He was the ideology behind it and the inspiration
- ✓ He restored political, economic and social stability to Russia in his final years
- ✓ Lenin saw the Orthodox Church as a centre of resistance to Communist Party. He recognized that he could not ban religion outright. Therefore he adopted a

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middle way. People were allowed freedom of belief and worship but church property was seized and priests had to pay high taxes

- ✓ He banned the teaching of religion in schools. New schools were built. He set up Komsosol to encourage the growth of Communist ideas amongst the young
- ✓ In April 1922 Russia signed the Treaty of Rapallo with Germany establishing friendly relations. Trade agreements were signed with Britain and France **He improved the relations with other countries.** Countries began to recognize the Communist government and began to trade with Russia
- ✓ In 1924 Russia changed it's name to the USSR (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) in honour of the important role that the Soviets (led by Lenin) had played in Russia
- ✓ When he was in power Lenin had played a central role in directing affairs. He had made unpopular decisions like War Communism but this had helped the Bolsheviks to win the Civil War. His decision to abandon War Communism in favour of the NEP may have been unpopular with party radicals but it stopped Russia from collapsing.
- ✓ Under his NEP, Food production increased and brought an end to the famine; Industry recovered slowly; there was a variety of goods on sale in the shops. There was an introduction of a new Rouble helped to control inflation
- ✓ He had transformed the idea of Marxism into Communism. Without his ideas the revolution may never have succeeded

### DISCUSS HOW JOSEPH STALIN ROSE TO POWER/DISCUSS THE POWER STRUGGLE IN THE POLITBURO AFTER THE DEATH OF LENIN IN RUSSIA.

- ✓ Joseph Stalin was born 1878 into a poor family in Georgia in the USSR. His real name was Joseph Djugashvilli.
- ✓ In 1903, he joined the Russian Social Democratic Labour Party and sided with Lenin.
- ✓ He became the leader of the USSR's secret police force, the Cheka.
- ✓ In December 1922 he dictated his Testament detailing the strengths and weaknesses of the men who might succeed him.
- ✓ In 1922, as general secretary of the Communist Party, he worked behind the scenes to move his supporters into positions of power.
- ✓ In 1923, Lenin's postscript recommended Stalin's dismissal. He came to the conclusion that he should not be replaced by one man

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- ✓ He felt that Trotsky was the most gifted leader but that he was too arrogant
- ✓ Stalin was considered to be an unsuitable leader. He recommended that he was removed from his posts.



Joseph Stalin

- ✓ **Divide and Rule** Stalin joined with Kamenev and Zinoviev to discredit Trotsky and block his chances of success
- ✓ **Funeral- Stalin** lied to Trotsky about the date of the funeral. This made Trotsky look disrespectful. Stalin, on the other hand, played a leading part in the proceedings and was seen as chief mourner
- ✓ Lenin died in 1924. Triumvirate of Joseph Stalin, Kamenev and Kamenev was formed to rule Russia after the death of Lenin.
- ✓ In 1925, two main rivals rose between Joseph Stalin and Leon Trotsky. Stalin believed in Socialism in one country while Leon Trotsky believed in permanent revolution.
- ✓ In 1926, he dismissed Zinoviev from Politburo.
- ✓ In 1926 Trotsky was expelled from the Politburo and the following year from the Communist party
- ✓ In October, 1927, Joseph Stalin persuaded the Central Committee to expel Trotsky, Kamenev and Zinoviev from the Central Committee. **Stalin** no longer needed them and used their objections to the NEP as an excuse to remove them from the Politburo. Stalin replaced them with his own supporters.
- ✓ In November, 1927, Stalin expelled Trotsky and Zinoviev from the Communist Party.
- ✓ By 1928, Stalin was in total command of the Communist Party after he clashed with Bukharin over collectivization. Trotsky, forced into exile in 1929 was no longer a threat. He was later assassinated in Mexico City, Stalin now stood poised to wield absolute power as a dictator

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- ✓ In 1929, Bukharin was removed as editor of Pravda and from the Politburo.

### How did Joseph Stalin make Russia to be strong economically and politically?

Joseph Stalin strengthened the economic and political conditions of Russia through the following domestic and foreign policies:

#### 1. Introduction of the policy of collectivization

- ✓ Collectivization was a system of joining small farms into large collective farms called the Kolkhoz for more profits. During his reign as a Russian Leader, Stalin ordered the consolidation of small peasant farms into large collective farms.
- ✓ The aims of collectivization were: first to encourage farmer to produce more food in collective farms. Secondly to encourage farm mechanization thus extra human labour had to go to towns to work in industries
- ✓ Collectivization had positive effects in that Russia became self-reliant in terms of food production and industrialization.

#### 2. The great purges 1936-1938

- ✓ After taking power from Lenin, Stalin consolidated his power in Russia through the use of purges. This was a system of purifying the Russian state from political resistance by executing all the critics. Stalin used propaganda when he killed his opponents, For instance, the execution could be accused to be a plot to kill Stalin, spying for foreigners and re-establishing capitalism in Russia. It was a way of ending any form of political opposition by enforcing law and order. Purges started in December, 1934 when Sergei Kirov, a high-ranking member of the Communist Party was assassinated in Leningrad by the NKVD at the orders of Stalin who used the event as a pretext for implementing a number of repressive laws and launching a massive investigation to identify so-called "saboteurs" and enemies of the people" throughout the party.
- ✓ In 1936 a series of show trials was held in Moscow. Prominent founders of Soviet Union and leading members of the Communist Party were convicted of counter-revolutionary activity and executed. The show trials launched a frenzy of arrests, during which hundreds of thousands of people - government officials, party bosses, and members or sent to forced labour camps.

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- ✓ More than third of Communist Party members died during the purges. More than half of the Central Committee was killed. Eighty- one of 103 of the high ranking military leaders were executed, a process that crippled the Soviet Union's ability to defend against Nazi soldiers when Germany invaded in 1941. He butchered his enemies like Kulaks in order to secure his position as a Russian Leader.-

## 3. The introduction of the Five Year Plans

- ✓ In 1928, Stalin introduced a domestic policy known as the **Five Year Plan**.
- ✓ The Five Year Plan was meant to improve industrial output in Russia to make Russia self-reliant by transforming it from an agrarian state to a strong industrial nation.
- ✓ To make Russia economically viable, Joseph Stalin consolidated heavy industries like tractor production and hired overseas industrial technical assistance.
- ✓ He built more schools to teach people how to write since education was key for industrialization.

## 4. The use of the Russian communist constitution

- ✓ After the Bolshevik Revolution in 1918, Russia was transformed into the Union of Socialist Soviet Republics (USSR).
- ✓ The formation of USSR led to the exclusion of certain clauses like Tsarists, priests and traders from the franchise.
- ✓ During the elections, people were supposed to vote for a communist candidate only. This led to the strengthening of communism in Russia.

## 5. Improvement of Russian's foreign relations

- ✓ Joseph Stalin improved Russian's foreign relation with other countries to avoid imminent external attacks from Western countries. As a result, in 1934, Russia joined the League of Nations, thus, making France to tolerate her as a defence against Germany's aggression under Adolf Hitler.

In a speech in February 1931 he explained why:"We are 50 or 100 years behind the advanced countries. We must make good this distance in 10 years. Either we do it or we shall be crushed". or Joseph Stalin's policy was "socialism in one country". How far did he achieve this by 1940?

- ✓ Joseph Stalin meant that Russia was a poor agrarian nation fell behind from the advanced capitalist Western Countries like France, Germany, Britain and etc.

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- ✓ He decided to make Russia economically and industrially strong so that it should be strong by 1940 before embarked on spreading communism to other countries. He achieved this through two domestic policies

## 1. Collectivization

- ✓ Collectivization was a system of joining small farms into large collective farms called the Kolkhoz for more profits. During his reign as a Russian Leader, Stalin ordered the consolidation of small peasant farms into large collective farms.
- ✓ Aims of collectivization were to expand and modernize agriculture to increase production. It was also used to eliminate the rich peasants known as Kulaks who resisted communism. It was carried out through sheer brute force by armies of party members who urged poorer peasants to seize cattle and machinery from the Kulaks to be handed over to the collectives. Kulaks reacted by slaughtering cattle and burning crops rather than allow the state to take them.
- ✓ Peasants who refused to join collective farms were arrested and taken to labour camps or shot.
- ✓ By 1937, 90% of all farms had been collectivized and Stalin claimed that collectivization was a success. It allowed greater mechanization which did achieve a substantial increase in production in 1937.

### Results of collectivization

- a. The Red Army killed many Kulaks or deported them to labour camps in Siberia.
- b. In revenge, the Kulaks killed their cattle, destroyed their machinery and burned their crops.
- c. Food production decreased between 1932 and 1934 and there was famine in Ukraine and Kazakhstan.
- d. Peasants were unfamiliar with new ideas and methods of farming and resorted to just producing enough for them due to forced requisition of grain.
- e. Communist officials exported food while millions starved.

## 2. The Five Years Plan

Industrial expansion and modernization was tackled by a series of Five Year Plans. The First two Five Year Plans were said to have been completed a year ahead of schedule although in fact neither of them reached the full target.

### a. The First Five Year Plans (1928-1932)

It concentrated on heavy industry -coal, iron, oil and machinery including tractors which were scheduled to triple output.

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### b. The Second Five Year Plan (1932-1937)

It concentrated on heavy industry and as well as consumer goods with more technical assistance from abroad. It resulted in increased production of goods.

### c. The Third Five Year Plan(1937-41)

- ✓ It emphasized on consumer goods. However it was changed to production of arms due to outbreak of the Second World War. By 1940 the USSR had overtaken Britain in iron and steel production though not yet in coal and she was within reach of Germany. When the Second World War broke out in 1939, Russia was militarily strong. He stopped Adolf Hitler from annexing parts of Russia by signing the Nazi-Soviet Pact in 1939. Hitler broke the pact by launching "**Operation Barbarossa**". Stalin took the command of the army and was successful in stopping German army from annexing Soviet territories.

Later, Stalin succeeded in spreading communism in Eastern Europe where he installed communist states like Poland, Romania, Bulgaria and Czechoslovakia

### Achievements and Failures of Joseph Stalin as a leader of Russia

#### Achievements:

- ✓ He embarked on massive industrialization of Russia through the Five Year Plans. He transformed agrarian society to industrialized society.
- ✓ He introduced the policy of collectivized agriculture in which land was taken away from the Russian peasants reducing them to the status of serfs again.
- ✓ He boosted healthcare and education to improve the social life of the Russians.
- ✓ He promoted girl's education and promoted equal employment among men and women.
- ✓ He stopped Adolf Hitler from annexing parts of Russia by signing the Nazi-Soviet Pact in 1939. Hitler broke the pact by launching "**Operation Barbarossa**". Stalin took the command of the army and was successful in stopping German army from annexing Soviet territories.
- ✓ He played significant role in the formation of United Nations Organization. He participated at the conferences of Yalta, Potsdam, Moscow, Dumbarton Oaks and San Francisco. These conferences were used as settlement of the Second World War and the formation of the UNO.
- ✓ Stalin succeeded in spreading communism in Eastern Europe where he installed communist states like Poland, Romania, Bulgaria and Czechoslovakia.

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### **Failures included**

- ✓ He became a dictator in Russia and people pretended to praise him but resented him.
- ✓ Stalin's reign caused poor governance in Russia as able leaders were purged. Most members of the Bolshevik Party like Trotsky, Zinoviev and Sergey Kirov were killed. These people held very important positions in the Russian government.
- ✓ Stalin's collectivization promoted a lot of laziness among the peasants and workers. Farmers were unhappy with the production of food in collective farms rather than on individual farms.
- ✓ He executed Christians who were against Stalin's dictatorial rule led to emergency of atheism in Russia. Stalin ordered the banning of the church with its leaders either killed or exiled.
- ✓ The Leadership of Stalin was accompanied with a lot of famine and starvation in Russia as many Kulaks who were farmers were killed as a sign of resistance to the collectivization policy.

### **TOPIC 5: ADOLF HITLER AND NAZIS PARTY WEIMER REPUBLIC AND THE WEIMAR CONSTITUTION**

4. The Social Democrats won the January 1919 elections. They held the first meeting of their new government in a town called Weimar - and got the nickname "The Weimar Government". ☐
5. Their first job was to write a new constitution (set of rules) for Germany. Their new rules included: ☐
  1. Everyone over the age of 20 could vote, people voted for mps who would sit in the Reichstag, the Reichstag would suggest and vote on new laws,
  2. The Chancellor would be head of the Reichstag and would be voted for every 4 years,
  3. There would be a President who would choose the Chancellor and keep control of the army and he would be voted for every 7 years.
  4. Germany would use a system called **Proportional Representation**; this means each political party would get a fair share of the seats in the Reichstag - if a party won 10% of the votes they would get 10% of the seats.

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5. Proportional Representation seemed fair but had lots of problems; there was so many parties in the Reichstag that no party ever had a majority (over 50% of the seats) so they couldn't pass laws by themselves. This meant parties had to make deals with each other and this slowed the whole process down. It also helps Hitler get into power later

Strengths of the Weimar Constitution	Weaknesses of the Weimar Constitution
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Very fair, particularly the voting Allowed lots of people to have their say</li><li>State governments would ensure local issues were addressed</li><li>Wouldn't allow one person to take over</li><li>Poor Chancellor or President would only be around for a limited time</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Proportional Representation meant that there were loads of different parties in the Reichstag - it was difficult to get them to agree on anything</li><li>State governments could pass laws that went against what the Reichstag wanted</li><li>Article 48 could be abused so that the President stopped listening to the Reichstag</li></ul>

### THE SPARTACIST REVOLUTION JANUARY 1919

- In January 1919, the German communist party (the Spartacists) decided that they wanted to take over Germany from Ebert.
- They started a revolution attempt on 6th January. It was not successful. In a week, Ebert with the help of his Freikorps (ex-WWI soldiers paid to help the government keep order) had stopped the rebellion and killed many communists. The Spartacist leaders, Rosa Luxemburg and Karl Liebnecht, were murdered.



Rosa Luxemburg

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- It was helpful for Ebert that the Spartacists were no longer a threat. However, he had to rely on the Freikorps to keep order - that made him look weak to the public, and it was risky as the Freikorps could turn on him at any point.
- The German communists continued to create riots around Germany, even after the Spartacist Revolution failed. Freikorps had to be sent round to fight them and stop them.

### OTHER OPPOSITION TO THE WEIMAR GOVERNMENT

- The right wing also hated the Social Democrats. The **Freikorps** themselves went against Ebert in 1920 when they supported Wolfgang Kapp in his attempt to take over the country (**Kapp Putsch**). ☐
- It was only because of the workers in Berlin going on strike and refusing to help the Freikorps that the Putsch failed.
- Over 200 people connected to the Weimar Government were assassinated between 1919 and 1923. The most famous was **Walther Rathenau**, the politician who had been involved with the armistice and the Treaty of Versailles. These assassinations showed how much people disliked their new government and also made people feel that they were doing a bad job as they weren't stopping violence on the streets.

### THE TREATY OF VERSAILLES - JUNE 1919

- This is the peace Treaty Germany had to sign after World War One. The government had no choice but to sign the treaty; if they didn't sign the war would continue and Germany would lose.
- The Main terms can be summed up as **BRAT**
  1. **Blame** - Germany had to accept responsibility for starting the war and causing all the damage. This is called the War Guilt clause. ☐
  2. **Reparations** - Germany had to pay £6.6 billion to pay to repair the damage caused by the war. ☐
  3. **Armed Forces** - the Germany army was reduced to 100,000 men, and they couldn't have any tanks, submarines or planes. The Rhineland (an area of Germany that borders France) was also demilitarised so no German troops could go there. ☐
  4. **Territory** - Germany lost 13% of their land and 12.5% of their population. They also lost all their colonies so they no longer had an empire. Germany was also forbidden to join with Austria. Some of the land they lost was industrial land

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with coal mines etc on; this meant they lost a way to produce income for Germany. ☐

- The Germans were outraged. They called the Treaty a "diktat" (dictated peace) and accused the Weimar Government of "stabbing them in the back" by agreeing to such harsh terms. People began to look to other politicians to rule Germany better than the Social Democrats.

### THE BEGINNINGS OF THE NAZI PARTY

- Anton Drexler had a party called the German Workers Party. ☐
- Hitler joined this in 1920 as he agreed with what the party was saying about getting rid of the Treaty of Versailles. ☐
- Hitler soon became its leader. He re-named it the National Socialist German Workers Party (NSDAP/Nazi Party). ☐
- He gave the party a new flag and a new private army to protect it (the SA/Brownshirts).



Symbol of the Nazis

- The party was small and would meet in beer houses. It began to attract attention because of Hitler's powerful speeches, especially his rants against the Treaty of Versailles. The SA would also beat up opponents, especially the communists.

### 1923 - THE INVASION OF THE RUHR, HYPERINFLATION AND THE MUNICH PUTSCH

- Germany paid her first reparation payment in 1921 but couldn't afford the 1922 payment.
- France and Belgium decided to invade Germany in January 1923 and take the payment by force. They invaded the Ruhr, Germany's main industrial area, to take goods, such as coal.
- The Germans reacted with **passive resistance**. They went on strike and refused to make the goods that the French and Belgians wanted. They sabotaged factories and flooded mines.
- The French and Belgians reacted with violence: shooting some Germans and expelling some others.

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- The Weimar Government supported the strikers by printing more money to pay them so that they could afford to keep striking.



- Too many notes in the economy meant that prices went out of control. **November 1923 was the worst month: bread cost 201,000,000,000 marks.**
- People had to carry their wages home in wheelbarrows. Prices went up so fast that a day's wages would just buy a cup of coffee the next day. The middle classes and the elderly suffered badly as their savings and pensions were wiped out. This was called **hyperinflation**.

### MUNICH PUTSCH (1923)

- Hitler chose **November 1923** as the moment to attempt his **Munich Putsch** (**putsch = take power by force**). He thought people were so fed up of their situation that they would support another leader.
- Hitler knew that he would have to win the support of 4 important men in order to take over the Bavarian government, and then make an attack on the Weimar Government in Berlin.



**von Kahr**  
Head of the  
government  
of Bavaria



**von Lossow**  
The army  
chief in  
Bavaria



**Seisser**  
The police  
chief in  
Bavaria



**Ludendorff**  
Army  
Commander  
in Chief  
during WW1

All of these men had never fully supported the Weimar Republic. The advantage of having Ludendorff on side was that he was extremely popular with the right wing, and might help secure the support of the regular German army—the Reichswehr—which Hitler would need if he was going to take over the German government.

**What were the causes of the Munich Putsch of November 1923?**

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1. Hitler hated the Weimar Republic. He detested the terms of the Treaty of Versailles, and wanted them removed. In 1923, the Hitler and German right wing felt humiliated by the occupation of the Ruhr and hyperinflation. Hitler was confident that the German people would support him over the Weimer Republic.
2. Hitler was also confident that he could gain the support of von Kahr and the Bavarian army. He already had Ludendorff's support.
3. Hitler could use the SA as armed support.

### What happened during the Munich Putsch?

- On the evening of 8th November 1923, Hitler and 600 Nazis seized a beer hall where a meeting between the Bavarian leaders was taking place. Hitler and his men arrested the three leaders (Von Kahr, Bon Seisser and Von Lossow). He made them swear their support for Hitler's takeover before locking them in a room.



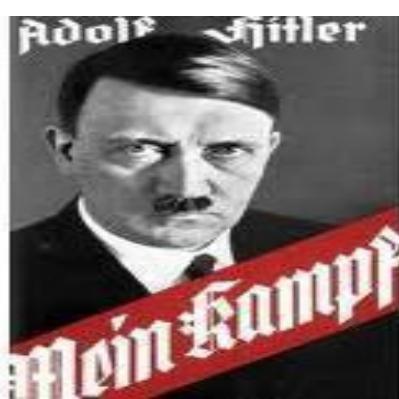
Hitler and 600 Nazis seized a beer hall in Munich where von Kahr, Lossow and Seisser were holding a political meeting. Hitler held the 3 leaders at gunpoint, forcing them to promise they would support his planned takeover.



The three leaders were then allowed to leave! Behind Hitler's back, they organised troops and police to resist Hitler's planned armed march through Munich.



Hitler made his march through Munich. The Nazis were no match for the police force. They only had 2000 rifles. 16 Nazis were killed, and Hitler was arrested. The Putsch had failed to take over the government.



Adolf Hitler

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- The three men escaped and called the police, who went after Hitler and arrested him. The Putsch was easily stopped.

**How was Hitler's trial and imprisonment after the putsch important for the Nazis?**

### **1. Nationwide publicity**

Hitler used his trial as an opportunity to get nationwide publicity for him and the Nazis—via the German press. At his trial (for the crime of treason, in Feb 1924) Hitler gave speeches criticising the November Criminals, the Treaty of Versailles, the Communists and Jews who had 'betrayed' Germany, and the 'weak and feeble' Weimar Government. In this way, he used his trial to put across his political views, as his speeches were reported in German newspapers. Hitler got very useful **publicity from his trial**, and Hitler's name was known all over Germany.

### **2. Mein Kampf & a change in tactics**

Being in prison gave Hitler time to reflect on his plan for getting power. He wrote **Mein Kampf**, a book which outlined his political ideas, earning further publicity. Whilst Hitler was in prison he wrote **Mein Kampf**, in which he explained all his ideas for Germany. He also made the decision to change tactics once he got out of prison, by entering the Nazis into elections instead of trying to gain power through force.

## **1924-9 - THE ECONOMIC BOOM OF THE STRESEMANN YEARS**

Gustav Stresemann was Germany's Chancellor in 1923-4 and her Foreign Secretary after that he helped Germany get back on her feet ☐

- **Economic measures** - replaced the old currency with the Rentenmark, the Dawes Plan 1924 (800,000,000 mark loan from the USA), the Young Plan 1929 (reduced Reparations payments by 67%).
- This increased the amount of money and foreign goods in Germany. People had more money to spend and the standard of living rose. ☐
- This was an age of cinema, clubs, sex, modern art and architecture, industry, radios, cars. Many urban people loved it; many rural people deeply disapproved. ☐
- On the surface, Germany was doing well. Underneath, there were problems: Germany was dependent on foreign loans and not making enough of her own money yet to stay afloat.

## **1929 - THE ECONOMIC BUST AND THE WALL STREET CRASH**

- In 1929, the USA's economy collapsed. They recalled all their loans. Germany's money stopped and they spiralled into Depression. ☐

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- Unemployment rocketed. It peaked at 6,000,000. □
- People lost their homes and had to live on the streets, scavenging on rubbish tips for food.
- The Weimar Government dealt with it poorly - they refused to print more money but raised taxes and cut wages instead. This increased people's suffering.
- Violence began to break out again as people got desperate. The Weimar Government failed to deal with it. □

### THE CHANGES TO THE NAZI PARTY: 1924-1929

- Whilst Hitler was in prison the Party had been banned but operated in secret.
- In February 1924 the ban on the Party was lifted and the Nazi Party was relaunched and Hitler slowly began to take control again. □
- At the Bamberg party Conference in 1926 Hitler strengthened his position as leader. Hitler created the **SS (Blackshirts)** as his private bodyguards, Hitler also set up the **Hitler Youth** to rival other youth groups.
- In 1928 Hitler decided to target rural voters, as well as urban voters. □
- In 1925 the Nazi Party had 27,000 members by 1928 this had increased to 100,000.
- However the Nazis only won 12 seats in the 1928 election, so Hitler appointed **Goebbels** as Party Propaganda Leader.

### 1929-33 - THE INCREASED POPULARITY OF THE NAZIS AND HITLER BECOMING CHANCELLOR

#### Why did people vote for the Nazis?

##### 1. The Great Depression

- The Wall St Crash in America had a big impact on the economy in Germany. □
- The loans from America as part of the Dawes Plan were withdrawn.
- **Unemployment** in Germany reached 6 million people, this meant 40% of the workforce were without a job.
- The Nazis promised '**Work and Bread**' - this meant they were going to provide jobs for people so they could look after their families.
- The Nazis offered a simple promise that appealed to the people.
- The Nazis tried to appeal to workers who would otherwise vote for the Communist Party.

##### 2. The Nazis use of Propaganda

##### 3.



Josef Goebbels  
Head of Propaganda in the Nazi Party

- The Nazis put Josef Goebbels in charge of propaganda. He made sure that their message was clear, simple and easy to understand.
- The Nazis owned 120 daily or weekly newspapers which were read by hundreds of thousands of people and constantly put across a positive message about the Nazis.
- Hitler also made speeches on the radio and at mass rallies.

**Election Posters**  
These targeted specific groups of voters, eg. women, farmers, factory workers, the middle classes (afraid of Communism)

**Public speaking**  
Hitler electrified his audiences at rallies. A powerful speaker, he even practised his poses – body language is important!

**Technology**  
Hitler was one of the first politicians to make use of the radio to transmit his speeches. He also flew all over Germany, speaking at several rallies everyday.

## 4. Industrialists' financial support

Hitler received money from leading industrialists like Bosch (yes, the dishwasher people!) They hoped that Hitler would destroy the Communists and limit the power of the trade unions. Of course, Hitler's war aims also attracted support from industries involved in the manufacture of arms and war materials.

## 5. The role of the SA

- The Weimar Government appeared to be disorganized and were unable to solve the problems in Germany. President Hindenburg had to start running Germany using Article 48 (emergency powers) which was unpopular.

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- In comparison the Nazis appeared as very organized, particularly the SA as they marched in their smart uniforms through the towns and the cities.
- The organisation of the SA and the Nazis encouraged more people to vote for the Nazis.
- The SA also had another role; **they were a violent group that would beat up opposition to the Nazis such as Communists.**
- There were countless battles between the SA and the Red Front Fighters (the Communist private army). Hitler was trying to show the German people that the Communists were violent and the SA could deal with them.

### 4. Hitler's promises

Hitler made promises that appealed to people. Besides the usual points about the Treaty of Versailles and the November Criminals, the Nazis replayed **3 key promises** to German voters: He promised to get rid of the Treaty of Versailles (which made Germany look weak), solve Germany's problems and provide jobs.

### The Election Results

- During the 1930s (the Great Depression years) the Nazi votes rose. □
- Election results: □
  - 1928: 12 seats. o
  - 1930: 107 seats.
  - July 1932: 230 seats (the Nazis were the largest political party, 37%, but they did not have a majority in the Reichstag).
  - Nov 1932: 196 seats (The SA's campaign of violence began to have a negative impact and the vote reduced to 33%).

### HOW DID HITLER BECOME CHANCELLOR?

- It is the President's role to choose the Chancellor of Germany. Hitler asked to be Chancellor but Hindenburg (the President) refused as he didn't trust Hitler. President Hindenburg did not want to offer Hitler the job of Chancellor. He had to give it to someone—Germany was being run pretty much through Article 48, because the Reichstag couldn't agree on any laws.
- Hindenburg chose **von Papen** to be the Chancellor. However as he was not the leader of the largest party he found it very difficult to run the country, as he couldn't pass laws without a majority. He decided to hold another election in November 1932.
- However von Papen could still not get a majority in the Reichstag.

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- Hindenburg then chose von Schleicher as the next Chancellor, after he convinced Hindenburg that the country was moving towards Civil War. However he couldn't get a majority in the Reichstag either. Hindenburg had to keep ruling with Article 48. □
- Von Papen was determined to regain power and so he met with Hitler in early January 1933. They decided that von Papen would help Hitler become Chancellor if Hitler made von Papen vice Chancellor. This is called political scheming. Von Papen convinced Hindenburg that he could control Hitler. Eventually, Hindenburg had no options left and made Hitler Chancellor on 30th January 1933.

### NAZI GERMANY - 1933-45

#### 1933-4 - HITLER'S CONSOLIDATION OF HIS POWER AND HIS RISE TO BECOME FÜHRER (SUPREME LEADER)

- Hitler was now the Chancellor of Germany, and was the leader of the largest political Party in Germany.
- However Hitler and the Nazi Party did not have a majority in the Reichstag (German Parliament). That meant Hitler still needed the support of other political parties to pass laws; he couldn't do what he wanted.
- Hitler decided to call another election for March 1933. He hoped he would get a majority this time.

##### 1. The Reichstag Fire

- One week before the election on February 27th 1933, the Reichstag building was set on fire.
- It is not known for definite who started the fire (people think it was the Nazis), but the Nazis arrested Marinus van der Lubbe, a Dutch Communist.
- Hitler and the Nazis then claimed that the Communists were about to stage a takeover of Germany.
- Hitler then persuaded Hindenburg to sign the 'Decree for the Protection of the People and State'. This allowed the Nazis to imprison large numbers of their political opponents, mainly the Communists. The Communist and Socialists newspapers were also banned.
- This helped the Nazis as their main rivals found it difficult to campaign in the week before the election and lots of Germans were worried about voting for the Communists.

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- At the election the Nazis increased their vote to 288 seats (44%); but they still didn't have a majority in the Reichstag.

## 2. The Enabling Law

- Hitler formed a coalition with the Nationalist Party so that he had a majority in the Reichstag and could start to get things done.
- On 23rd March 1933 Hitler passed the Enabling Bill. He had used some underhand tactics to do this:
  - Communists Party members couldn't vote
  - Anybody who was absent was counted as present and voting in favour of the Bill
  - The SA intimidated members as they entered the Reichstag
  - Hitler made promises to the Catholics (such as no interference with Catholic schools) so that they would vote in his favour
- Due to all of these tactics Hitler was able to pass the **Enabling Act**. **Enabling Act** meant Adolf Hitler could make laws without consulting the Reichstag for the next 4 years. The Act enabled Hitler to turn Germany into a dictatorship.

## HOW DID THE ENABLING ACT (MARCH 1933) REMOVE HITLER'S OPPOSITION WITH THE REICHSTAG?



What was it?

- A law which enabled Hitler to pass any law he wanted, without the Reichstag or President having to agree to that law. Such laws could go against the Weimar Constitution, too.

44%

Why did Hitler need it?

- In the March 1933 election, despite the Nazis' best efforts to rig the outcome, they only got 44% of the vote. This was not the majority that Hitler needed in order to have control over law-making. The Enabling Act would make gaining a majority unnecessary.



How did he get it passed?

- The Enabling Act was a change to the Weimar Constitution. Changes could only be made by a 2/3 majority vote in the Reichstag.
- The Communists were banned from the Reichstag.
- Hitler got the SA to threaten the remaining deputies into voting for the Enabling Act. Some Social Democrats still voted against it!

- With the power of the Enabling Act, Hitler then:
  - Banned opposing parties and put leaders in concentration camps.

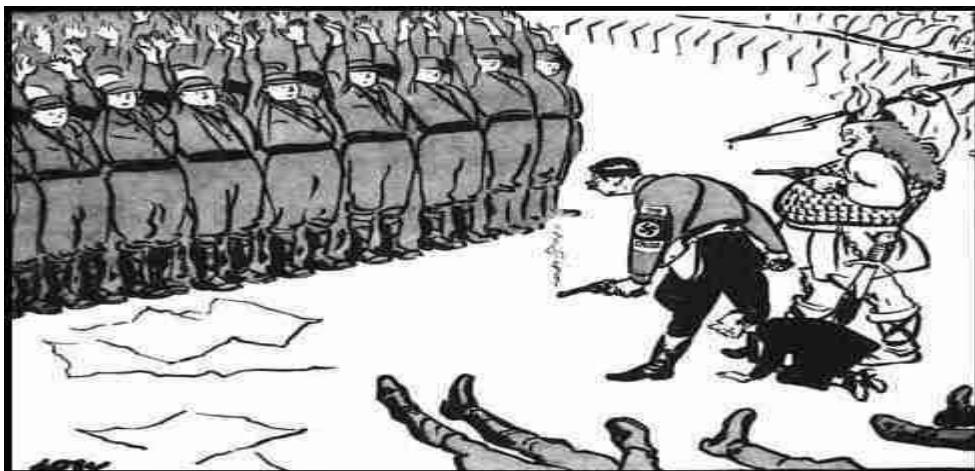
# MALAWI SCHOOL CERTIFICATE OF EDUCATION- WORLD HISTORY

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- b. Banned Trade Unions.
- c. Put Nazis in charge of all state governments.
- d. Used fear and intimidation to make sure people didn't challenge the Nazis.

### 3. THE NIGHT OF THE LONG KNIVES

- Hitler had now increased his control over Germany, so he turned his attention to the threats from within his own Party.
- The SA, under their leader Röhm, became a threat due to their numbers and military training. Röhm also wanted the SA to join with the army as Hitler had previously promised, but this scared Hitler.
- On the 30th June 1934 Hitler had Röhm and 400 leaders of the SA shot by members of the SS (the Blackshirts; Hitler's private bodyguards). This was called the Night of the Long Knives.



- Hitler also used the opportunity to get rid of other enemies such as von Schleicher.
- Hitler told the German people that he had protected them from a takeover.

#### WHAT WAS THE NIGHT OF THE LONG KNIVES?

- It's when the SS killed the leading members of the SA (not the other way round!), including Rohm.
- This secured Hitler the backing of the German army
- Other, political opponents were murdered too - eg. von Schleicher and Gregor Strasser (a Nazi with strong socialist views)
- Around 400 were killed in total

#### REASONS WHY THE NIGHT OF THE LONG KNIVES

1. Rohm was a threat

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- Rohm (leader of SA) wanted to merge the SA and the army. This would have put him in charge of more than 3 million men. This would have enabled Rohm to challenge Hitler's authority.

## 2. The SA were an embarrassment

- The SA were thuggish street brawlers. They beat up political rivals, such as Communists, and started fights at rival parties' election meetings. Hitler, as Chancellor, needed to project a more responsible, respectable image.

## 3. The SA were pushing their socialist views

Rohm and the SA were calling for a 'second revolution'. They wanted the Nazi Party to follow a more socialist agenda - giving the workers more rights. Hitler wanted to suppress socialism within the party - it threatened the sponsorship the Nazis received from big business

## 4. Hitler needed the army's support

- Hitler knew that if he didn't have the army's support, the army could overthrow him in a coup.
- Hitler also needed the army's support to fulfil his rearmament and war aims.
- The army generals hated Rohm and the SA

**How did Hitler take advantage of the Reichstag Fire (Feb 1933) to weaken his opposition?**

### 1 Hitler calls new elections

- Hitler wanted a majority in the Reichstag, so he could make laws unopposed.
- He called new elections for March 1933.

### 2 The 48 hour law is passed

- Hitler persuaded Hindenburg to pass a law saying all election meetings had to be notified to the police within 48 hours of them taking place.
- This allowed Hitler to send the SA to Communist meetings & disrupt them – he knew when and where the meetings were taking place.
- The Communists wouldn't be able to campaign for votes ahead of the election.

### 3 The Reichstag Fire

- In February 1933, a week before the election, the Reichstag building burnt down.
- It is not known who started the fire, but a Communist, called van der Lubbe, was arrested.
- This was a great opportunity for Hitler to exploit.....

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## 4 Civil rights are suspended

- Hitler persuades Hindenburg to pass a law suspending civil rights – in order to ‘protect’ the people and government
- This enables the Nazis to imprison 4000 Communists, SDs and other political opponents
- This means the Communists and SDs are given a bad name, and can’t vote/campaign for votes in the forthcoming election

## 5 The election goes ahead

- Hindenburg’s law suspending civil rights allowed the Nazis to tighten the screw on the opposition
- Without the Reichstag Fire, Hitler would not have had the excuse he needed to do this – he presented himself as Germany’s saviour from an attempted Communist takeover.

One effect of the Reichstag Fire was that it weakened Hitler’s communist rivals. After the Dutch communist Van Der Lubbe was found inside the building, Hitler claimed that the fire was part of a much wider communist plot to overthrow the government. This made many Germans, especially the middle classes, afraid, and by creating this climate of fear Hitler persuaded Hindenburg to use Article 48 to pass the Law for the Protection of the People and the State. This law suspended civil liberties, allowing Hitler to lock up 4000 communists and other opponents without trial, and ban communist party meetings. In the short term this damaged the communists’ chances in the March 1933 elections, increasing Hitler’s chances of gaining a majority. In the long term, the law remained in place for the next 12 years, allowing Hitler to deal with his opponents effectively. In this way, Hitler exploited the fear created by the fire to establish his dictatorship.

Another effect of the fire was that it resulted in the weakening of both the Reichstag and the role of other political parties in governing Germany. The emergency law passed by Hindenburg banned the communists from attending the Reichstag. This led to the communists being unable to vote against the Enabling Act in March 1933, which gave Hitler powers to make laws without the Reichstag or president. Therefore, Hitler was able to use the fire to bring an end to democracy in Germany and silence rival parties.

## 5. THE DEATH OF PRESIDENT HINDENBURG

- Hindenburg died in August 1934 (he was old and frail).
- Hitler then combined the role of Chancellor and President to make himself **Führer**, which means **Supreme Leader**. Nobody could stop him due to the Enabling Law.

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- Hitler then made the army swear an oath of loyalty to him, rather than the country. Hitler was now in total control over Germany; he had turned the country into a dictatorship by legal means.

### DOMESTIC POLICIES OF ADOLF HITLER IN GERMANY

#### HOW DID NAZI ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL POLICY AFFECT LIFE IN NAZI GERMANY?

##### 1. The Hitler Youth Movements

Hitler wanted to **indoctrinate (brainwash)** young people to become perfect Nazis.

He did this in two ways: **the Hitler Youth Movements** and through **Education**. ☐

The Hitler Youth Movements:

- 4 different groups, 2 for girls, 2 for boys.
- Boys trained to be soldiers: marching, camping, weapons training, fitness training.
- Girls trained to be good mothers: domestic training, fitness training.
- Both groups trained in utter loyalty to Hitler: listening to Mein Kampf, saluting the swastika, singing Nazi songs, reporting on "anti-Nazi" activities in their families and neighbourhoods.

##### 2. Education

###### New curriculum.

Maths questions promoted messages of war and getting rid of minorities, History focused on the Nazi Party, Geography focused on the "Greater Germany", Biology focused on recognising the Aryan race. Eugenics was introduced which was race studies.

- **New resources:** History books were rewritten without German defeats, Story books were written warning children of the dangers of the Jews. o Boys were educated to be soldiers, girls educated to be mothers. They had separate timetables. Lots of PE lessons for everyone to keep everyone fit and healthy for their new roles.
- Teachers had to join the Nazi Teachers' Association or lose their jobs.
- Jewish pupils were persecuted in lessons, by students and teachers. They had to leave German schools in 1938.
- **Membership of the Hitler Youth became compulsory in 1939.** About 7,500,000 children were members; about 1,000,000 refused.

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- Some young people chose to join anti-Nazi groups like the Swing Movement and the Eidelweiss Pirates.

### 3. Propaganda - Keeping people supporting the Nazis

- Hitler set up the cult of the Führer, presenting himself as the greatest saviour of Germany. His image was used very carefully - he was only ever shown serving Germany.
- Goebbels (Hitler's Propaganda Minister) made sure that people were bombarded with information to keep them loyal to the Nazis. □
- Posters, pictures, art exhibitions and films were all made to show how great the Nazis were.
- Hitler's speeches were regularly broadcast on the radio to remind people of how much the Nazis were improving their lives. Cheap radios were sold to people and connected up to loudspeakers so that everyone could hear.
- The newspapers were banned from printing anything that hadn't been checked by the Nazis first (censorship).
- Great rallies were held, such as those at Nuremberg, to show people how organised and powerful the Party was.
- In 1936, Hitler used the Olympic Games to showcase to the world how efficient, modern and advanced the German nation was.

### 4. Terror / Intimidation - Keeping people supporting the Nazis

- The concentration camps were used to imprison anyone who went against the Nazi state. These were run by the SS. In the camps, people were expected to work to benefit Germany. They were often worked to death with very long hours and insufficient rations.
- The Gestapo (secret police) would go round checking that people were being loyal to the Nazis. People who weren't would often be taken off in the middle of the night for torture or to be taken to a camp.
- The legal system also helped to control Nazi Germany. All judges had to become members of the Nationalist Socialist League for the Maintenance of Law; this meant they had to be members of the Nazi Party who would uphold Nazi views in the law courts. Judges knew that the Minister of Justice would check if they had been lenient and sometimes Hitler would alter sentences if he thought they were too soft.

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- Germany was subdivided into tiny blocks of about 30-40 houses. Each block would have a Nazi living there who would keep an eye on all the families and report to the police and the Gestapo if they noticed anti-Nazi behaviour.
- Children in the Hitler Youth were expected to spy on their parents and neighbours.
- People were too scared to go against the Nazis.

### i. Nazi Racial Policy - 1933-1945

- The Nazis believed that the Aryans were the master race.
- Hitler wanted to keep the master race pure. This meant Aryans and non-Aryans should not have children.
- Hitler wanted a pure Aryan state. He was going to achieve this by:
  - Selective breeding
  - Destroying the Jews
- Hitler and the Nazis believed that Jews were inferior, who could be blamed for all of Germany's problems such as the Treaty of Versailles, hyperinflation and the Great Depression. They were being used as scapegoats.

### ii. 1933-39 - The treatment of the Jews

- Jews suffered badly in Nazi Germany and the longer the Nazis were in power the worse the treatment became.
- Key moments of persecution were:
  - a. 1933: the SA organised boycotts of Jewish shops and businesses.
  - b. 1934: Jews were banned from public places such as parks and swimming pools.
  - c. 1935: the **Nuremberg Laws**. This took away their German citizenship and banned them from marrying or having sex with Germans
  - d. 1938: **Kristallnacht**. This was a physical attack on Jewish businesses, homes and synagogues, causing colossal damage and killing 100 people. The event was supposed to be a spontaneous attack by the German people after a Jew shot a Nazi official in Paris, however it is more likely to be a planned attack by the Nazis. Many Jews were arrested and taken to concentration camps. The survivors were given a 1 billion Reichsmark bill to clear up the mess. After Kristallnacht Jewish children were also banned from German schools

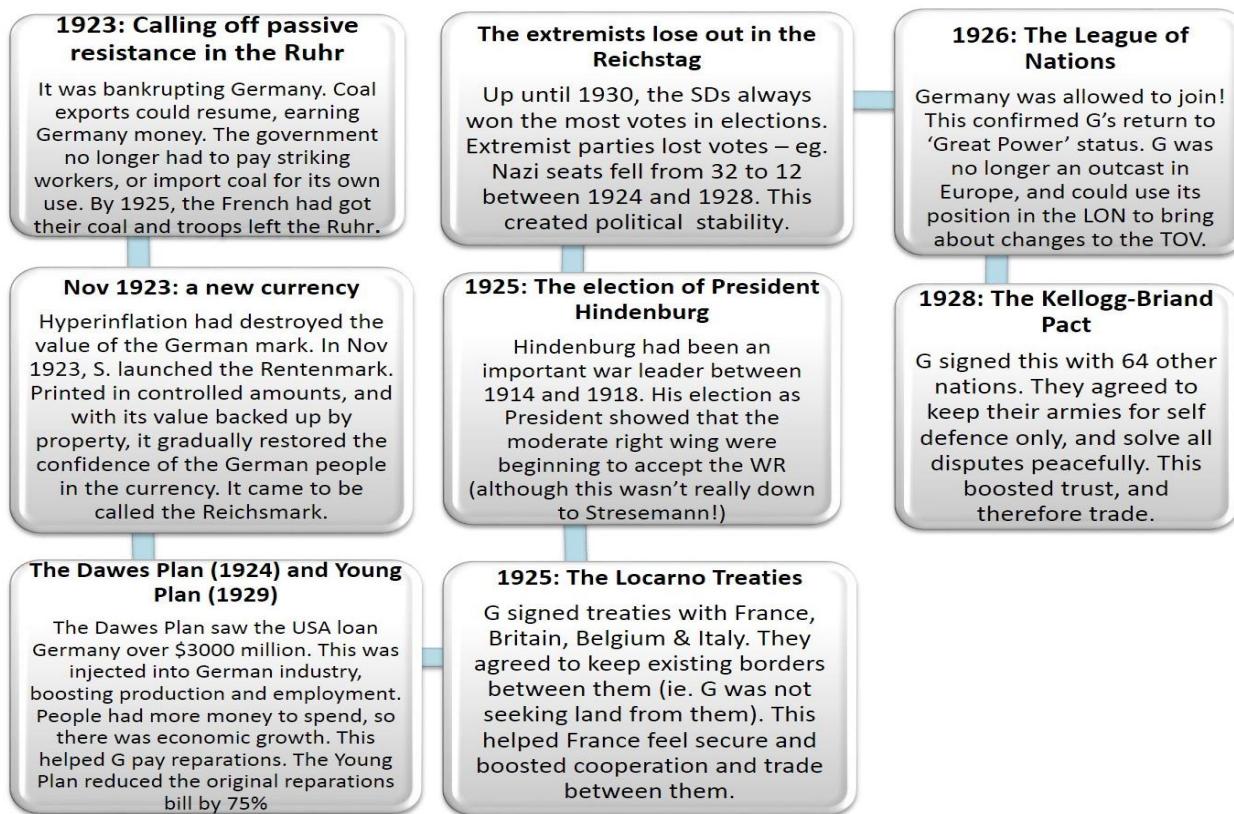
### 1933-9 - How the Nazis changed the Churches

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- Hitler wanted to control the church as he wanted the German people to be loyal to him before anybody else including God.
- In **1933, Hitler signed the Concordat with the Pope**. The Nazis and the Catholic Church agreed to keep out of each others' affairs.
- In 1933 the Protestant Church was reorganised into the **National Reich Church** and given new Nazi bishops. The motto of the Reich Church was 'the swastika on our chests and the cross on our hearts'.
- The church was Nazified - the Bible was replaced with **Mein Kampf** and the cross with the swastika.
- In **1935 the Ministry of Churches** was set up. Church schools were abolished and the Nazis aimed to influence young people by promoting the Hitler Youth rather than the Church youth clubs.
- There were some Protestants who opposed the Nazis. In December **1933 Pastor Martin Niemoller set up the Pastor's Emergency League**, and the following year they set up the Confessional Church, although the Nazis later banned this.
- Hitler broke his promise with the Catholic Church and began to close down catholic schools and youth groups. In **1937 the Pope made his famous statement 'with Burning Anxiety'** in which he attacked the Nazi system for their abuse of human rights. As a result 400 Catholic Priests were arrested and sent to concentration camps.
- Hitler tried to control the church but was not able to get them rid of them completely.

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## DISCUSS HOW HITLER GAINED POWER IN GERMANY.

Event	Event	Details
July 1932	Election	Bruning resigned as Chancellor, Hindenburg appointed Von Papen. As he didn't have much support in the Reichstag he called elections. The Nazis won 230 seats and were now the largest party. Hindenburg refuses to appoint Hitler as Chancellor.
Nov 1932	Election	Von Papen calls another election, he loses even support and resigns. The Nazi win 196 seats but are still the largest party. Hindenburg again refuses to appoint Hitler as Chancellor and instead appoints Von Schleicher.

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30th Jan 1933	Hitler's appointment as Chancellor	Von Schleicher resigns as Chancellor. Hindenburg has little option but to appoint Hitler as Chancellor. To try and control Hitler Hindenburg insists on Von Papen being vice-Chancellor and only having 2 Nazis in the cabinet.
Feb 1933	Reichstag Fire	Communists were accused of burning down the Reichstag
March 1933	Law for Protection of People and State	New law led to the banning of the communist's party from the Reichstag and all elections, communist newspapers were shut down and 4000 communists were put in prison.
23rd March 1933	Enabling Act	Gave Hitler the power to pass any law without needed the approval of the Reichstag.
7th April 1933	Hitler uses new powers.	Nazis were put in charge of all councils and the police. The Gestapo was set up and the first concentration camp was established at Dachau.
2nd May 1933	Trade Unions	Hitler bans all trade unions, took away their money and threw leaders in jail. Hitler had taken power away from the workers.
14th July 1933	Law Against the Formation of New Parties	Hitler passed a law that banned all parties other than the Nazi party. Now Germany was a one party state.
2nd August 1934	Hindenburg's death	President Hindenburg died, Hitler combined the Chancellor and President jobs into a new one -the Führer of Germany. Hitler also made the army swear an oath of loyalty to him personally.

### CAUSES OF KNIGHT OF LONG KNIVES

1	Rohm wanted the Nazi Revolution to go further and this scared business men whom Hitler needed the support of
2	The SA wanted replace the regular Germany army. This worried the army whose support Hitler needed.

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<b>3</b>	Although the SA had helped Hitler into power, they were becoming increasing difficult to control and an embarrassment to Hitler perception of the order he could bring to Germany.
<b>4</b>	There were rumours that Rohm was about to try and seize power from Hitler.
<b>Events Leading To Night Of Long Knives</b>	
<b>Event</b>	<b>Detail</b>
<b>1</b>	Hitler arranged a meeting of SA leaders on 30th June 1934.
<b>2</b>	Hitler turned up at the meeting with the SS and arrested the SA leaders, including Rohm.
<b>3</b>	Over the next few days 400 people were executed, including Rohm and former Chancellor Von Schleicher. Hitler used this as opportunity to settle old scores.
<b>4</b>	Hitler proudly stated what had happened on the radio for all Germany to hear.
<b>Consequences OF Night Of Long Knives</b>	
<b>1</b>	Hitler had managed to eliminate most of his political enemies.
<b>2</b>	Murder was now an accepted part of the Nazi rule of Germany.
<b>3</b>	The SA was never a major force again in Germany.
<b>4</b>	The SS became the main group used by the Nazis for security and control of Germany.
<b>5</b>	Hitler gained the support of the army.

### AIMS OF ADOLF HITLER IN FOREIGN POLICY AND HIS ACHIEVEMENT

Overturn TOV	Hitler felt this treaty humiliated Germany and should be abolished.
Rearm	To make Germany strong again and create jobs in factories and the armed forces
Lebensraum	Take land in the East -recovering land taken from them in the TOV.
Volksdeutsche	10% of Germans found themselves living outside of Germany after the TOV. Hitler wanted to reunite them.
Anschluss	Germany & Austria had been allied for 800 years -he wanted that back.
Destroy	A Jewish man had founded Communism. Hitler felt that

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Communism	Communism would destroy Germany if he didn't destroy it first.
Overtake TOV	Hitler felt this treaty humiliated Germany and should be abolished.
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Anschluss	Germany & Austria had been allied for 800 years -he wanted that back.
Destroy Communism	A Jewish man had founded Communism. Hitler felt that Communism would destroy Germany if he didn't destroy it first.

Date	Event	Description	Reactions
1933	Hitler leaves the disarmament conference	The conference was encouraging disarmament. The French refused to disarm. Hitler left the conference in disgust	Very little -Hitler claimed that the French were being unreasonable.
1934	The Dollfuss Affair	Fearful that Hitler would try to unite with Austria, Austrian Chancellor Dollfuss banned the Nazi Party. Hitler ordered them to cause chaos -they murdered Dollfuss	Mussolini moved his troops to the border to stop Hitler completing his aim.
1935	Jan: The Saar Plebiscite	After being controlled by the LON for 15 years, the Saar voted to return to German control. 90% voted in favour. Hitler gained access to valuable coal and industry.	Hitler used it as a propaganda victory. There was nothing to be done as it was fair and legal.
March: Freedom to Rearm Rally	Hitler announced he'd rebuilt the army and was reintroducing conscription. He also planned a	In April 1935 - Britain, Italy and France joined the Stresa Front, a	

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	Luftwaffe (air force)	pact to work together against Hitler.
June: Anglo-German Naval Agreement	An agreement that allowed Germany to build its navy up to 35% the size of Britain's.	Hitler realised Britain was allowing him to break the TOV.

Date	Event	Description	Reaction	Significance
1936	March: Remilitarisation of the Rhineland	22,000 German troops marched in to the Rhineland -many of bikes showing Hitler's poor preparation/lack of planning.	<b>Britain:</b> Impact of the Depression meant Britain was reluctant to do anything. Many felt it was only Hitler 'marching to his own back garden' so none of their business. Leadership were distracted by Abyssinia.	Hitler gained confidence. Britain and France started rearming. France concentrated on protecting its own borders, rather than uphold treaties with other countries. Hitler increased his power. Hitler joined with Mussolini, then Japan.

**France:** Leaders were distracted fighting a general election: no one wanted to be responsible for war. Much of the French army was in Tunisia in case it was needed in the Abyssinian Crisis. Many felt the army was stronger than it really was -they thought they'd lose.

Date	Event	Description	Reaction	Significance
1938	April: Anschluss	A plot was discovered to get rid of the Austrian Chancellor, Schuschnigg, who panicked and made a deal to	<b>Austria:</b> 99% of people voted in favour of the union. Storm troopers intimidated voters.	Hitler's next steps were more likely to be successful after he had control of the Austrian army and resources.

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		<p>give positions to Nazis in government. A plebiscite was planned to prove people didn't want to be ruled by Hitler. Nazi forces entered to joy.</p>		He could more easily access Czechoslovakia through Austria.
<b>Czechoslovakia:</b> Feared they would be next. Britain and France agreed to protect Czechoslovakia.				
<b>Germany:</b> A great propaganda victory, like the Saar. Hitler was achieving Volksdeutsche.				
<b>Britain:</b> Many felt Germany and Austria were the same country so the union was ok & the TOV had been too harsh.				
<b>France:</b> Two days before the invasion, the entire French government had resigned. It was in no place to get involved.				
Sept: Sudetenland	Hitler demanded control of the Sudetenland and the 20% that were German. The defences and industry would have helped the war effort.	The Munich Conference was held as part of Chamberlain's policy of appeasement. Hitler met with Chamberlain, Mussolini & Daladier on 29th Sept 1938. Hitler was given the Sudetenland, neither the Czechs nor the Russians were consulted. Chamberlain said he had guaranteed 'peace in our time'.		Hitler pleased & encouraged. Czechoslovakia grew more frightened. Russia alienated and angry -lost trust in Britain and

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Date	Event	Description	Reaction	Significance
March: 1939	Invasion of Czechoslovakia	Hitler used his base from the Sudetenland to rip up the Munich Agreement and invade Czechoslovakia	Counties realised that appeasing Hitler was not working.	The policy of appeasement was ended and the security of Poland and Romania was guaranteed by Britain and France.
August: Nazi-Soviet Pact		A non-aggression pact that secretly split Poland in two. Hitler: signed to avoid a war on two fronts when he invaded Poland. Stalin: feared a Nazi invasion and thought this pact would buy him time to prepare Russia for a future invasion.	Britain and France realised that the policy of appeasement had in fact failed completely. The alliance fooled no one.	Hitler was guaranteed to avoid a war on two fronts, which effectively gave him the ability to invade Poland without fear. It encouraged him to behave recklessly.
Sept: Invasion of Poland	1st Sept - Hitler invades Poland and bombs Danzig.		3rd Sept - Britain sends an ultimatum - Hitler must leave or they would declare war.	Poland was overrun within 4 weeks. Hitler thought Britain and France would back down - he was wrong!

## Who supported Hitler?

Country	Reactions	
Britain	Hitler liked the British monarchy. He proposed a non-aggression pact in 1936.	Some wanted to cooperate -they needed time to rearm. They needed to persuade people to support the idea of war.
Spain	In 1936 a bloody civil war began between the Fascists led by General Franco.	Franco was delighted to have two new strong allies. By 1939 he was dictator of Spain.

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	Hitler & Mussolini sent troops to support.	
Japan	In 1905 Japan had fought a war against Russia over Manchuria! A potential ally against Russia	Nov 1936 -signed the Anti-CominternPact. This agreed to work together against communism.
Italy	As Fascists, both men had a lot in common, yet, Mussolini had prevented his invasion of Austria in 1934! Made the Pact of Steel in 1939	By 1936, things had changed. Italy had left the LON after Abyssinia and they formed the Rome-Berlin Axis in 1936. Italy, Japan and Germany formalised the <b>Pact of Steel</b> in 1940

### THE CAUSES SECOND WORLD WAR

#### AIMS OF ADOLF HITLER WHEN HE CAME TO POWER

- 1) **Treaty of Versailles**- Hitler hated the Treaty of Versailles which had destroyed Germany, and promised to overturn it.
- 2) **Rearm**- Hitler promised to make Germany's armed forces strong again.
- 3) **Lebensraum**- Hitler wanted to create 'living space' for German-speaking people in Europe.
- 4) **Anschluss**- Hitler wanted to unite Germany and Austria.
- 5) **Destroy Communism**- Hitler wanted to destroy Communism in Europe (Communism was in power in Russia).

#### WHAT WERE THE STEPS TO GERMAN REARMAMENT?

1. **1933, Germany leaves the League of Nations**- Hitler had no respect for the League and withdrew Germany straight away.
2. **1934, The Dollfuss Affair**- Hitler wanted to unite Germany and Austria. Dollfuss, the Austrian Chancellor, banned the Nazi Party in Austria. Hitler told Austrian Nazis to cause havoc in Austria - they murdered Dollfuss.
3. **Jan, 1935, the Saar Plebiscite**- the Saar, a rich industrial area of Germany, had been given to the League of Nations after WW1. The population of the Saar coalfield, separated from Germany by the post-war treaties, were allowed a plebiscite (vote). A plebiscite was held in 1935 and showed that over 90 per cent

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of the population wanted to reunite with Germany. Therefore 90% of the Saar region voted to become part of Germany again.

Hitler regarded this as a great triumph because it was the first of the injustices of the Treaty of Versailles to be reversed.

4. **March, 1935, Rearmament Rally-** Hitler showed off weapons and troops at a rally in Germany, clearly showing the world that he had broken the Treaty of Versailles and rebuilt the German army.

The rearmament of Germany was clearly against the Treaty of Versailles, yet neither Britain nor France, nor any of the other great powers, engaged in any meaningful opposition to it.

The only opposition came with the formation of the short-lived Stresa Front to protest against the introduction of conscription in Germany.

Many British people accepted German re-armament because they thought that the Treaty of Versailles had been too harsh and because they wanted a strong Germany as a buffer against communism. On the other hand, the French were afraid of German rearmament and wanted to see the Treaty strengthened, not weakened, but they did not feel they could act alone.

Differences between Britain and France had emerged because Britain started to sympathise with Germany rather than France. Hitler took advantage of these differences between Britain and France to further his aims in foreign policy.

Another reason why Hitler got away with re-arming was that the League of Nations, the organisation set up in 1919 to keep peace, settle disputes and enforce the Treaty of Versailles, was powerless to stop him because it did not have an army with which to enforce its rulings.

5. **April, 1935, The Stresa Front-** This was an agreement between Britain, France and Italy to refuse to allow Germany and Austria to unite.
6. **June, 1935, The Anglo-Germany Naval Agreement-** Britain allowed Germany to break the terms of the Treaty of Versailles and have a navy, as long as it was only

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35 per cent the size of the British Navy. In 1935, Hitler revealed that he had built up an air force and signed the Anglo-German Naval Agreement that allowed him to enlarge his naval forces.

Hitler called the day of the signing of the treaty 'the happiest day of his life' - it was yet another of those successful bi-lateral agreements:

- ✓ It secured and validated his breaking of the Treaty of Versailles.
- ✓ It continued the undermining of the principle of collective security of the League.
- ✓ Britain signed the treaty without consulting the French, who were furious.
- ✓ It gave him power over Britain, because he could threaten to cancel the treaty whenever the British questioned his actions in Europe.
- ✓ He hoped that the A.G.N.A marked the beginning of an Anglo-German alliance, but, when it came to it, he was able simply to cancel it in 1939.

### **RHINELAND INVASION, MARCH 1936**

For many years the Rhineland area had been a key industrial region of Germany, producing coal, steel and iron resources. The Rhineland also formed a natural barrier to its neighbour and rival, France. In the event of a war, the River Rhine, if properly defended, would be a difficult obstacle for an invading force to cross. One of the terms of the Treaty of Versailles was that the Germans would not be able to keep military forces in a 50 km stretch of the Rhineland. Hitler resented this term as it made Germany vulnerable to invasion. He was determined to enlarge his military capability and strengthen his borders.

Hitler broke the Treaty of Versailles in March 1936 by sending German troops into the Rhineland on the German/French border in a direct contravention of the Treaty of Versailles. Hitler offered France and Britain a 25 year non-aggression pact and claimed 'Germany had no territorial demands to make in Europe'.

- France did nothing as it would be an unpopular decision in France to take the country to war and the French already had troops in other areas already.
- Britain did nothing as they believed it was fair enough for Hitler to reoccupy the Rhineland, and because Britain was suffering in the Depression and could not afford to get involved.
- This showed Hitler that Britain and France would do nothing to stop him, and made him believe he could rip up the Treaty of Versailles.

### **ROME-BERLIN AXIS IN JULY 1936**

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- Italy formed the Rome-Berlin Axis in July 1936.

### ANTI-COMINTERN PACT

- Hitler signed the Anti-Comintern Pact with Japan in November 1936 which formed an anti-Communist alliance between the two nations.
- Britain promised France and Belgium help if they were invaded (reaffirming Locarno).
- Austria now came under more German pressure.
- Britain began rearming its military forces.

### ANSCHLUSS (1938)

- Hitler wanted all German-speaking nations in Europe to be a part of Germany. To this end, he had designs on re-uniting Germany with his native homeland, Austria. Under the terms of the Treaty of Versailles, however, Germany and Austria were forbidden to be unified. In an attempt to realise his goals, Hitler was determined to destabilise Austria and undermine its independence. He would cause chaos, then present himself as the person to restore order through the Anschluss (union with Austria).
- In January 1938, Austrian police raided the Austrian Nazi Party and found plans to overthrow Schuschnigg, the Austrian Chancellor.
- Schuschnigg panicked and met with Hitler. Hitler bullied Schuschnigg into agreeing to have Nazis in all the powerful positions in the Austrian government.
- In 1938, Schuschnigg visited Hitler near the Austrian border. Hitler demanded that Nazis be given key government posts in Austria. Schuschnigg compromised and the Nazi member, **Seyss-Inquart**, was made Minister of the Interior. Hitler ordered Austrian Nazis to create as much trouble and destruction as possible in order to put pressure on Schuschnigg. If Hitler could claim that Austrian law and order had broken down he could justify marching German troops into Vienna to restore peace - despite the fact that he was responsible for the chaos in the first place.
- Schuschnigg arranged a plebiscite so the Austrian people could vote on Anschluss, but Hitler demanded that this plebiscite be cancelled.

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- On March 12th, German Nazi troops invaded Austria. People cheered as they arrived. In April, Hitler held a plebiscite and, after being intimidated by Nazi soldiers, 99 per cent of Austrians voted for Anschluss.

### **FOREIGN REACTION TO THE ANSCHLUSS**

#### **France**

- French politics were in turmoil in March 1938. In fact, two days before Germany invaded Austria, the entire French government had resigned. France was not in a position to oppose the invasion.

#### **Britain**

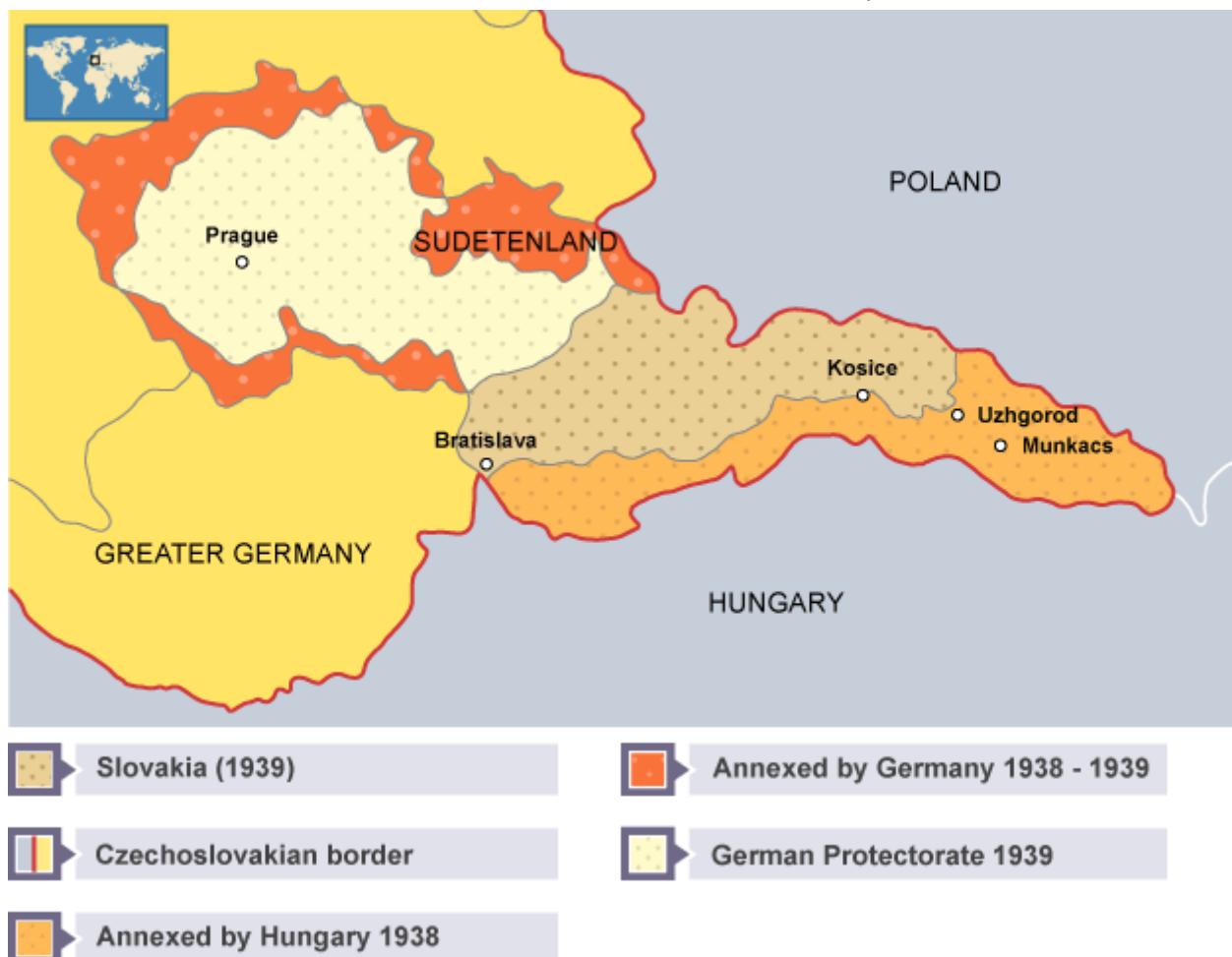
- In March 1938, Britain was having its own political problems. Anthony Eden, the Foreign Secretary, had resigned over Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain's decision to open negotiations with the fascist dictator of Italy, Mussolini. As such, with Chamberlain determined to appease Hitler, there was no political will to oppose Germany.
- Furthermore, the British population were against the idea of another European war. The Anschluss was not seen as a threat to Britain and, as both nations were German-speaking, there was a sense that there was no good reason why Austria and Germany shouldn't unify.

#### **Results**

- Germany added seven million people and an army of 100,000 to its Reich.
- Germany gained useful resources such as steel, iron ore and Austria's foreign exchange reserves.
- The balance of power in south-eastern Europe shifted in favour of Germany, increasing their influence in the Balkans.
- Czechoslovakia was now surrounded on three fronts by Germany.

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## INVASION OF SUDETENLAND IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA, 1938



### APPEASEMENT POLICY

- Chamberlain's policy was to give Hitler what he demanded in order to avoid another war. It was the tactic used by the British Government under British Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain when dealing with Hitler.
- In essence, Appeasement is the giving into demands of an aggressor in the hope that they will eventually be satisfied and content with what they have. This is the strategy Britain used with Hitler, ignored or satisfying demands for territory and rearmament in the hope that one day Hitler would simply stop.
- Appeasement policy led to the outbreak of the Second World because
  - ✓ The more Hitler succeeded the more he demanded, which kept encouraging him. For every victory Hitler had, he was able to demand more next time. Appeasement enabled Hitler to become aggressive.

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- ✓ Appeasement meant that Britain trusted Hitler completely that he would be satisfied with his gains. Appeasement, therefore, was a gamble based on believing that Hitler was trustworthy.
- ✓ Appeasement also allowed Germany to grow into a strong nation with a strong army, which was more powerful than Britain, something the Treaty of Versailles had attempted to stop.
- ✓ Appeasement showed that Britain and France would not stand up to Hitler against Communism, which worried those in the Soviet Union significantly.

As a result of the appeasement policy adopted by Britain

- **30 May 1938** - Hitler orders plans to destroy Czechoslovakia by 1 October.
- **12 September 1938** - Hitler makes a speech attacking Czechoslovakia.
- **15 September 1938** - Neville Chamberlain, the British Prime Minister, flies to see Hitler at the Berghof and agrees that Czechoslovakia should give all areas with 50 per cent German Sudetens to Germany. The British and French persuade the Czechs to agree.
- **22 September 1938** - Chamberlain is successful in persuading Edvard Beneš, President of Czechoslovakia, to accept Germany's demands. Chamberlain meets Hitler at Bad Godesberg confident that the crisis was over. Hitler however had changed his mind and wanted the Sudetenland by 1 October. The talks break down and there is real fear now of a war in Europe. Chamberlain persuades Mussolini, the Italian dictator, to arrange a conference at Munich to discuss the issue of the Sudetenland.
- **29-30 September 1938** - Britain, France, Germany and Italy met in Munich. Crucially Czechoslovakia and the Soviet Union were not present. The four countries agreed to the German occupation of the Sudetenland between 1 and 10 October. German troops occupy the Sudetenland. Britain and France were following a policy of appeasement. Neville Chamberlain returned to Britain claiming he had established peace in our time. However following the agreement both Britain and France speeded up their own rearmament plans. Chamberlain's claim turned out to be a false hope as within a year of the agreement World War Two had started.

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## MUNICH CONFERENCE

- Hitler demanded that he should be given the Sudetenland. Chamberlain agreed on 22 September 1938 because Hitler promised not to invade any more countries.
- British people were glad because Chamberlain had avoided war.
- Hitler felt confident because no one had stopped him.
- Russia felt vulnerable because Germany was being allowed to grow stronger.
- Czechoslovakia felt betrayed.
- Britain appeased Hitler to avoid war as the British people could not face another war so soon after the last one.
- France appeased Hitler because France feared this new, strong Germany and felt they had no choice but to give Hitler what he wanted.
- Hitler demanded that the Czechoslovakian army leave the Sudetenland by 1 October. This was a demand designed to provoke the Czechs and provide an excuse for invasion of the whole country.
- 29 and 30 of September 1938, representatives of France, Britain, Italy and Germany met at **Munich** to discuss the Sudetenland problem. Neither the Czechs, nor their allies Russia, were consulted. Hitler traded the promise of peace in Europe for the Sudetenland. The Czechs had to either accept or face the might of the German army alone. They accepted.

## REASONS FOR INVADING SUDETENLAND

1. **German speaking people-** A lot of German speakers lived in the Sudetenland
2. **Treaty of Versailles-** Hitler saw this as the next step in overturning the Treaty of Versailles.
3. **Further invasion-** Hitler thought the Sudetenland would be a good base from which to invade the rest of Czechoslovakia in the future.
  - Hitler had made no secret of the fact that he wanted to overturn the Treaty of Versailles. It was morally wrong to leave weaker countries such as Czechoslovakia and Austria to be occupied by the Germans without anyone to defend them.
  - Giving in to Hitler angered Stalin, the Russian Communist leader, and led him to form an alliance with Hitler (the Nazi-Soviet Pact)

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- The Munich agreement dealt only with the Germans in the Sudetenland. It said nothing of the nearly 2 million Germans living in Bohemia and Moravia. Hitler now moved to bring them under German control.
- Using the same tactics as in other events, he claimed that Germans were being treated unfairly. He claimed that the Czech government had lost control and that the German army should be sent in to restore order.
- Hitler invited President Hacha to Berlin on 14 March 1939. Hitler demanded that Hacha agreed to split Czechoslovakia within a few hours. At 04:00, President Hacha caved in to Hitler's demands and German troops marched into Prague on 15 March 1939. This was conquest pure and simple.
- Germany expanded and gained valuable resources as Czechoslovakia was rich in coal and possessed the huge Skoda armaments factory.

### NAZIS-SOVIET PACT

Hitler wanted the restoration of Danzig to Germany and also the return of the Polish Corridor. Britain and France had realised by now that it was not possible to appease Hitler and made a commitment to defend Poland. Hitler had broken the Munich Agreement by taking over the rest of Czechoslovakia.



In August 1939, Hitler sent Ribbentrop, a senior Nazi, to Russia. He offered a Nazi-Soviet alliance - Russia and Germany would not go to war, but would divide Poland

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between them. Germany would allow Russia to annex Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania and Poland.

Stalin knew Hitler was lying, but he did not trust the British either - the Munich Agreement had convinced him that Britain and France would never dare to go to war with Hitler.

Stalin had two choices:

- If he made an alliance with Britain, he would end up fighting a war with Hitler over Poland.
- If he made an alliance with Germany, he would get half of Poland, and time to prepare for the coming war with Germany.

On 23 August, 1939, Nazi Germany and the Soviet Union signed a non-aggression pact known as **Nazi-Soviet Pact**. This was a promise not to fight each other. The agreement publicly stated that there would be non-aggression for ten years and made economic agreements. There were however secret elements to the agreement. Both countries agree to help each other if there is a war against Poland. Crucially this gave Hitler the freedom to invade Poland without having to worry about the Soviet Union. This meant that the USSR could not support Britain or France against Germany, so in effect it created a divide between the enemies of Germany.

Historians have argued that the Nazi-Soviet Pact was instrumental in causing the Second World War, inasmuch as it:

1. Freed up Hitler to invade Poland - he knew that Britain couldn't do anything to defend Poland (he invaded 9 days later).
2. Ended Britain's hopes of an alliance with Russia to stop Hitler - people in Britain realised that nothing would stop Hitler now but war.
3. Improved morale of British people for war - showed Hitler as an opportunist and a trickster, who could never be trusted.

**Hitler made a Nazis- Soviet Pact with Russia because**

1. He wanted to invade Poland and believed Britain and France would do nothing.
2. He feared, however, that Russia would try to stop Germany conquering Poland.
3. He wanted to invade France in the West, so wanted to avoid war with Russia in the east.

**Stalin made a pact with Germany because**

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1. He believed France and Britain had shown themselves to be weak by appeasing Hitler.
2. He was angry that he had not been invited to the Munich Conference.
3. He expected Hitler to invade Russia eventually, but new this Pact would help to delay that.

### **TERMS OF NAZIS-SOVIET PACT INVOLVED**

1. Hitler and Stalin agreed to split Poland. Half would go to Germany and half to Stalin.
2. Germany would carry out the invasion.
3. Russia and Germany would not attack each other.

### **SIGNIFICANCE OF NAZIS-SOVIET PACT**

1. It made Hitler's invasion of France inevitable.
2. It showed that appeasement had failed to stop Hitler
3. It meant Britain and France would have to fight Germany alone, without Russia's help.
4. It made Britain promise to defend Poland.

**Nazis-Soviet Pact was a masterstroke because:**

- It left Poland isolated
- It destroyed attempts by the West to bring the Soviet Union into an alliance against Germany
- Germany avoided being dragged into a war on two fronts
- Germany gained vital raw materials from the Soviet Union that helped rearmament

### **INVASION OF POLAND AND ITS IMPACT**

- On 1st September 1939, German battleship the Schleswig-Holstein attacked the Polish city of Danzig (invaded Poland).
- On the same day, 62 divisions of the German army and 1,300 Luftwaffe planes invaded Poland.
- Hitler was convinced that Britain would do nothing again.

### **RESPONSE TO THE INVASION OF POLAND**

- On 3rd September, Chamberlain sent an ultimatum to Germany to withdraw from Poland or be at war with Britain. He set a deadline of 11am.
- The Germans failed to respond to this, and Chamberlain declared war on Germany.

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- France declared war on Germany on the same day.

## WHY DID THE SECOND WORLD WAR BREAK OUT

1. **Hitler's aggression-** He openly said that he wanted to create Lebensraum and that the only way to do this was through war. He aimed to overturn the Treaty of Versailles and was aggressive to other countries.
2. **Failure of the League of Nations-** The League was set up to keep peace. In the 1920s it largely managed to do this, but in the 1930s it failed to stop powerful countries (Japan and Italy) during the Manchurian Crisis and the Abyssinian Crisis. It showed itself to be weak, and it made Hitler confident he could ignore the League.
3. **Appeasement Policy-** Chamberlain's policy allowed Hitler to build Germany's army up and expand Germany's territory. People were desperate to avoid a war but Hitler could have been stopped much earlier if it hadn't been for the policy of appeasement, which allowed him to get away with rearmament, occupation of the Rhineland, Anschluss and the invasion of the Sudetenland.
4. **The Treaty of Versailles-** It was far too harsh on Germany and made a backlash inevitable. Many leaders then thought Hitler had every right to claim back land taken away from him in the Treaty.
5. **The Great Economic Depression-** This caused people in Germany to turn away from peaceful organisations like the League of Nations and turn to an extreme dictator - Adolf Hitler. This made war likelier.
6. **Nazis-Soviet Pact** This deal between Hitler and Stalin made it inevitable that Hitler would invade France in the West. It also gave Hitler the confidence to invade Poland, which directly started World War Two.

## Causes of the Second World War

The Second World War was caused by:

### a. Hitler's Aims

1. To unite German speaking people (using NSD which had been denied at the Treaty of Versailles).
2. He wanted lebensraum (living space) in order to gain self-sufficiency (autarky)
3. He wanted to dominate Europe and the World

To achieve any of these aims would involve breaking the Treaty of Versailles (28/6/1919), and this could lead to war.

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## **b. The aggression of Hitler's Allies**

1. **Italy** – Mussolini wanted a Fascist-Roman empire in the Mediterranean and Africa (e.g. Abyssinian invasion in 1935.)
2. **Japan** – Japan wanted a Nipponese empire in the Pacific, extending into China and Australia (e.g. Manchurian invasion in 1931)

Germany, Italy and Japan were hostile to Communism (USSR), and this way a cause of war and vice versa.

## **c. Democratic powers were passive**

1. **USA** – Isolated
2. **France** – France was unlikely, and reluctant, to intervene against Germany, because she could not rely on Britain's and America's support.
3. **Britain** – Between 1934 and 1937, Britain was sympathetic to German recovery. Between May 1937 and March 1939, Britain appeased Germany.

These powers could have stopped Fascist aggression earlier than 1939.

## **d. The League of Nations failed to keep peace**

See other notes.

## **Conclusion**

War was caused by a combination of 'a' to 'd', but Hitler's aims and actions were the main cause of war.

## **Reasons for Causes of War**

The Second World War was caused by Fascist aggression and the failure of democratic powers to stop this aggression.

1. The rearmament of Germany was a cause for war because it broke the Treaty of Versailles (28<sup>th</sup> June, 1919)
2. The remilitarization of the Rhineland (7<sup>th</sup> march, 1936) was a cause of war because it broke the Treaty of Versailles and the Locarno Pacts (1925)
3. The Rome-Berlin Axis (October 1936) was a cause of war because it united the aggressive fascist powers and divided Europe into hostile camps.
4. Chamberlain's appeasement policy (after may 1937 – March 1939) was a cause of war because it broke the Treaty of Versailles and Treaty of St. Germain (10<sup>th</sup> September, 1919)

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5. The Anschluss of Germany with Austria (13<sup>th</sup> march, 1938) was a cause of war because it broke the Treaty of Versailles and Treaty of St. Germain (10<sup>th</sup> September, 1919)
6. The Nazi annexation of the Sudetenland after the Munich conference (29<sup>th</sup> September 1938) was a cause of war, because it broke the Treaty of St. Germain.
7. The Nazi occupation of Czechoslovakia in March 1939, cause war because it defied the Munich agreement and ended Britain's appeasement policy.
8. The Nazi-Soviet Pact (29<sup>th</sup> August 1939) caused war because it sealed Poland's downfall.
9. The Nazi invasion of Poland (1<sup>st</sup> September 1939) caused war because Britain had guaranteed Poland's borders.

### **CAUSES OF THE SECOND WORLD WAR (DETAIL)- NINE STEPS TO WAR**

#### **1. The Rearmament of Germany**

German rearmament began after Hitler left 1932-4 Geneva Disarmament Conference, stating that as the powers would not disarm to his level, he would rearm Germany to their level. By 1935 rearmament was well underway. This involved conscription and munitions factories.

Rearmament alarmed the French who, feeling insecure, reinforced the Maginot line (built between 1929 and 1934). This was a line of steel and concrete fortifications stretching from Belgium to Switzerland and was called 'a gate without a fence' because Germany would be able to avoid it and invade France via Belgium. France remained passive without Britain's support.

Britain was sympathetic towards Germany and even signed an Anglo German naval Treaty (June 1935) allowing Germany's navy to be 35% of the size of the Royal Navy. Hitler used his new found arms to support Franco in the Spanish Civil War (1936-9) Hitler sent the Condor Legion of the Luftwaffe to bomb Guernica on 26<sup>th</sup> April, 1937. Guernica was razed to the ground and Franco went on to conquer the Basque areas of Spain. Hitler had used Spain as a practise ground.

#### **2. The Remilitarization of the Rhineland (1936)**

Having broken the Treaty of Versailles once, Hitler risked doing it a second time by marching 30,000 troops into Cologne on 7<sup>th</sup> March 1936. France, with 250,000 troops

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mobilised, remained passive because Britain would not support her. Britain took the view that Germany was ‘marching into her own back yard.’

To show that his remilitarization was popular, Hitler held a plebiscite, which showed that 98.8% were in favour. He went on to build his own defensive fortification, the Siegfried Line.

### **3. The Rome Berlin Axis (October 1936)**

Originally Mussolini did not want to be Hitler’s ally and in 1935 talks were held with Britain and France at the Stresa Front, but these came to nothing when Anthony Eden of Britain threatened oil sanctions against Mussolini during the Abyssinian crisis. This caused the Rome-Berlin Axis in 1936. Mussolini and Hitler strengthened their alliance on two occasions

- a. The Anti-Commintern Pact (November 1937) with Japan.
- b. The Pact of Steel (May 1939).

### **4. Britain’s policy of Appeasement (May/June 1937 – March 1939)**

Neville Chamberlain became British Prime Minister on 28<sup>th</sup> May 1937, and followed the policy of appeasing Germany, believing that all Hitler wanted to do was unite German speaking people. In so doing, Hitler would break the Treaty of Versailles (28<sup>th</sup> June 1919) but Chamberlain did not believe Hitler would cause war. Churchill disagreed, citing Mein Kampf (1924) where Hitler had written that Germany must regain lands ‘in the East ... by the power of the sword.’

Chamberlain had misinterpreted Hitler’s aims. (We have the benefit of hindsight.)

### **5. The Anschluss with Austria (13<sup>th</sup> March, 1938)**

Austrian Fascists wanted to unite with Germany but Schuschnigg, the Austrian Chancellor, wanted Austria to be independent. He was unable to gain support from abroad (France and the Little Entente) so agreed to meet Hitler in Berlin. He was persuaded to accept Hitler’s henchman Seyss-Inquart as Minister of the Interior. Rioting in Vienna increased under Seyss-Inquart’s leadership and Schuschnigg resigned. Seyss-Inquart invited Hitler to assist him and on 13<sup>th</sup> March, 1938 troops from the Wermacht entered Austria. In a plebiscite on the Anschluss a vote of 99.75% in favour was recorded. This was ‘rigged’ by biased questioning. Hitler made it seem that he had been invited into Austria, in fact he had incited the union.

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### **6. Hitler Gained the Sudetenland (29<sup>th</sup> September, 1938)**

The Sudetenland was lost by Austria in the Treaty of St. Germain (10<sup>th</sup> September 1919) and hereby Czechoslovakia gained 3 million German speaking people. After the Anschluss the Sudeten German leader, Konrad Henlein, demanded a union with Germany. Unable to receive help from France, the Czech Premier, Benes, mobilised alone. Fearing war, Chamberlain met Hitler on three occasions at Berchtesgaden, Godesburg and at Munich.

### **Munich Agreement (29<sup>th</sup> September, 1938)**

This was signed by Hitler, Mussolini, Chamberlain and Daladier. Benes was not present.

It said:

- a. Hitler could take the Sudetenland the following day without a plebiscite
- b. Hungary and Poland could take border districts from Czechoslovakia
- c. Britain and Germany would never go to war.

### **Chamberlain's Reaction**

On his return to England, Chamberlain announced that he had gained 'peace with honour, peace in our time'. The majority rejoiced, except Churchill.

### **Hitler's Reaction**

In public Hitler seemed satisfied, but in private he exploded saying 'that fellow Chamberlain has spoiled my entry into Prague.'

### **7. The Fall of Czechoslovakia (March 1939)**

In March 1939, Hitler forced Lithuania to give him Memel where most people spoke German. So far Hitler had only taken German speaking territory, so Chamberlain could still appease Hitler. However, in March 1939, Hitler threatened to bomb Prague, so the Czechs surrendered. Chamberlain realised appeasement had failed, so he began to rearm Britain and guarantee peace in Poland.

### **8. Nazi-Soviet Pact (29<sup>th</sup> August, 1939) – The Ribbentrop-Molotov Pact**

By the summer of 1939, Hitler's plans to invade Poland were complete. He realised that to invade Poland might cause Britain to attack him from the West but he was more concerned to avoid a Russian attack from the east. Therefore to avoid a war on two fronts, he arranged the Nazi-Soviet Pact, which said that if either country went to war the other would remain neutral.

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Hitler gained the chance to invade Poland with a war on one front, if Britain supported Poland.

Stalin of USSR gained time to rearm in case Hitler attacked him later, and the chance to gain the eastern half of Poland. This would provide the USSR with a bufferzone.

## **9. German Invasion of Poland (1<sup>st</sup> September, 1939)**

German tanks invaded West Prussia and Posen on the 1<sup>st</sup> September 1939 using blitzkrieg tactics. (This is a lightning, sudden attack co-ordinating air, then land forces). Chamberlain sent an ultimatum (a warning with a threat) saying that if Hitler did not withdraw from Poland by 11am, 3<sup>rd</sup> September 1939, Britain would declare war. On 3<sup>rd</sup> September, Britain, followed by France, declared war on Germany.

### **Causes of the Second World War - Vocabulary**

- **Lebensraum** – living space, e.g. Hitler's aim to take land from bordering states to achieve self-sufficiency (autarky)
- **Anschluss** – union, e.g. Austria and Germany (March, 1938)
- **Appeasement** – to give into an aggressor little by little, in the hope of preventing war.  
E.g. Britain appeased Germany (May/June 1937 – March 1939)
- **Blitzkrieg** – lightning attack, co-ordinating air and land forces. e.g. Germany's attack on Poland (1<sup>st</sup> September 1939)
- **Remilitarization** – rearming and area, e.g. Germany remilitarized the Rhineland (1936)
- **Plebiscite (referendum)** – a vote on an issue, e.g. Hitler's plebiscites on remilitarization and the Anschluss of Austria and Germany (Hitler fixed his referendums in 1936 and for the Anschluss in 1938, so no-one expected him to have a plebiscite for the Sudetenland. He fixed them by biased questioning.)
- **Ultimatum** – a warning with a threat, e.g. Britain's ultimatum for Hitler to leave Poland by 11am on the 3<sup>rd</sup> September 1939.
- **Buffer zone** – a protective barrier of land, e.g. Eastern Poland taken by the USSR as protection against a future German attack.
- **Rearmament** – manufacturing of weapons and conscription, e.g. Germany (after 1934), Britain after the taking of Sudetenland

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- **Autarky** – self-sufficiency economically, e.g. Germany under Hitler and Schacht to enable Germany to avoid imports
- **Aggression** – hostile or violent action, e.g. Germany was aggressive towards Czechoslovakia (March, 1939) and Poland (1<sup>st</sup> September, 1939)
- **Diktat** – non-negotiated decision/arrangement, e.g. The Munich Agreement, forced onto Czechoslovakia (1938)
- **Passive** – to spectate, i.e. not take part in the action, e.g. Britain and France were passive towards the German remilitarization of the Rhineland (March 1936)
- **Incite** – devious planning, e.g. Hitler incited the Anschluss (March, 1938)

### **THE UNITED NATIONS ORGANISATION**

#### **THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

- All members of the United Nations (currently 192) are represented in the General Assembly.
- Each nation, rich or poor, large or small, has one vote. Decisions on such issues as international peace and security, admitting new members and the UN budget are decided by a two thirds majority. Other matters are decided by simple majority. In recent years, a special effort has been made to reach decisions through consensus, rather than by taking a formal vote.
- The General Assembly's regular session begins each year in September and continues throughout the year. At the beginning of each regular session, the Assembly holds a general debate at which Heads of State or Government and others present views on a wide-ranging agenda of issues of concern to the international community, from war and terrorism to disease and poverty.

#### **Functions**

- To discuss and make recommendations on any subject (except those being dealt with at the same time by the Security Council);
- To discuss questions related to military conflicts and the arms race;
- To discuss ways and means to improve the state of children, youth, women and others;
- To discuss the issues of sustainable development and human rights;
- To decide how much each Member country should pay to run the United Nations and how this money is spent.

### **THE SECURITY COUNCIL**

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- While the General Assembly can discuss any world concern, the Security Council has primary responsibility for questions of peace and security.

### **Membership**

- The Security Council has fifteen members.
- Five are permanent members: **China, France, the Russian Federation, the United Kingdom and the United States.**
- The other ten non-permanent members are elected by the General Assembly for two-year terms and are chosen on the basis of geographical representation.

### **Functions**

- To investigate any dispute or situation which might lead to international conflict;
- To recommend methods and terms of settlement;
- To recommend actions against any threat or act of aggression;
- To recommend to the General Assembly who should be appointed Secretary-General of the United Nations.

### **Meetings**

- The Security Council, unlike the General Assembly, does not hold regular meetings. It can be called to meet at any time on short notice. The members take turns at being President of the Council for a month at a time. They serve in the English alphabetical order of the names of their countries.
- To pass a resolution in the Security Council, nine members of the Council must vote "yes", but if any of the five permanent members votes "no", it is called a veto, and the resolution does not pass.

## **ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL (ECOSOC)**

- The Economic and Social Council is the forum to discuss economic problems, such as trade, transport, economic development, and social issues.
- It also helps countries reach agreement on how to improve education and health conditions and to promote respect for and observance of universal human rights and freedoms of people everywhere.

### **Functions**

- Serves as the main forum for international economic and social issues;
- Promotes higher standards of living, full employment and economic and social progress;
- Advances solutions to international economic, social and health-related problems, as well as international cultural and educational cooperation.

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### **Membership**

- The Council has 54 members, who serve for three-year terms. Voting in the Council is by simple majority; each member has one vote.
- Each year, the Council holds several short sessions with regard to the organization of its work, often including representatives of civil society.
- The Economic and Social Council also holds an annual four-week substantive session in July, alternating the venue between Geneva and New York.

### **THE TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL**

- In 1945, when the United Nations was established, there were eleven territories (mostly in Africa and in the Pacific Ocean) that were placed under international supervision.
- The major goals of the Trusteeship System were to promote the advancement of the inhabitants of Trust Territories and their progressive development towards self-government or independence.

### **Membership**

- The Trusteeship Council is composed of the permanent members of the Security Council (China, France, the Russian Federation, the United Kingdom and the United States).
- Each member has one vote, and decisions are made by a simple majority.

### **Meetings**

- Since the last Trust Territory — Palau, formerly administered by the United States — achieved self-government in 1994, the Council has formally suspended operations after nearly half a century. It will meet only as the need arises.

### **THE INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE**

- The International Court of Justice (ICJ) was established in 1946 as the main UN organ for handing down legal judgments. Only countries, not individuals, can take cases before the Court. Once a country agrees to let the Court act on a case, it must agree to comply with the Court's decision.
- In addition, other organs of the UN may seek an advisory opinion from the Court.
- As of June 2006, the ICJ had delivered 92 judgments on disputes between states, including cases on territorial boundaries, diplomatic relations, not interfering in countries' domestic affairs, and hostage-taking.

### **Composition**

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The Court sits at the Peace Palace in The Hague, Netherlands. It has fifteen judges who are elected by the General Assembly and the Security Council. No two judges can come from the same country. Nine judges have to agree before a decision can be made. All the judgments passed by the Court are final and without appeal. If one of the states involved fails to comply with the decision, the other party may take the issue to the Security Council. On 6 February 2006, Judge Rosalyn Higgins (United Kingdom), the sole woman Member of the Court, was elected the first female President of the International Court for a term of three years.

### **THE SECRETARIAT**

- The Secretariat, headed by the Secretary-General, consists of an international staff working at the United Nations Headquarters in New York, and all over the world.
- It carries out the day-to-day work of the Organization.
- Its duties are as varied as the problems dealt with by the United Nations. These range from administering peacekeeping operations to mediating international disputes or surveying social and economic trends and problems.
- The Secretariat is responsible for servicing the other organs of the United Nations and administering the programmes and policies laid down by them.

#### **Functions**

- ✓ To gather and prepare background information on various problems so that the government delegates can study the facts and make their recommendations;
- ✓ To help carry out the decisions of the United Nations;
- ✓ To organize international conferences;
- ✓ To interpret speeches and translate documents into the UN's official languages.

#### **Composition**

- The Secretary-General is the chief officer of the United Nations. He or she is assisted by a staff of international civil servants. Unlike diplomats, who represent a particular country, the civil servants work for all 192 Member countries and take their orders not from governments, but from the Secretary-General.

#### **How is the UN Secretary-General appointed?**

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- The Secretary-General is appointed for a period of five years by the General Assembly on the recommendation of the Security Council. There have been eight Secretaries-General since the UN was created. The appointment of the Secretary-General follows a regional rotation.

1. Trygve Lie (Norway) 1946-1952
2. Dag Hammarskjöld (Sweden) 1953-1961
3. U Thant (Myanmar) 1961-1971
4. Kurt Waldheim (Austria) 1972-1981
5. Javier Pérez de Cuéllar (Peru) 1982-1991
6. Boutros Boutros-Ghali (Egypt) 1992-1996
7. Kofi Annan (Ghana) 1997-2006
8. Ban Ki-moon (South Korea) 2007
9. Antonio Guterrez (current secretary general)

### **Some functions of the Secretary-General**

The UN Charter describes the Secretary-General as the "chief administrative officer" of the Organization, who shall act in the capacity and perform "functions as are entrusted" to him or her by the General Assembly, Security Council, Economic and Social Council and other United Nations organs. The Charter also empowers the Secretary-General to bring to the attention of the Security Council any matter that threatens international peace and security.

1. To propose issues to be discussed by the General Assembly or any other organ of the United Nations;
2. To bring to the attention of the Security Council any problem which the Secretary-General feels may threaten world peace;
3. To act as a "referee" in disputes between Member States;
4. To offer his or her "good offices"

### **Some UN Specialized Agencies, Funds and Programmes**

The Economic and Social Council considers reports from several specialized agencies, funds and programmes, each of which is a separate organization with its own membership, budget and headquarters. A partial list follows.

#### **UNDP**

The United Nations Development Programme is the UN's global development network, advocating for change and connecting countries to knowledge, experience and resources to help people build a better life. UNDP is on the ground in 166

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countries, working with them on their own solutions to global and national development challenges.

### **UNICEF**

The United Nations Children's Fund is the main UN organization defending, promoting and protecting children's rights. It also works towards protecting the world's most disadvantaged children.

### **UNEP**

The United Nations Environment Programme provides leadership and encourages partnership in caring for the environment. It supports environmental monitoring, assessment and early warning.

### **UNFPA**

The United Nations Population Fund promotes the right of women, men and children to enjoy a healthy life. UNFPA supports countries in using population data for policies and programmes to reduce poverty and to ensure that every pregnancy is wanted, every birth is safe and every girl and woman is treated with dignity and respect.

### **UNHCR**

The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees provides legal protection for refugees and seeks durable solutions to their problems, either by helping them to return voluntarily to their homes or to settle in other countries.

### **ILO**

The International Labour Organization formulates policies and programmes to promote basic human rights of workers, improve working and living conditions and enhance employment opportunities.

### **IMF**

The International Monetary Fund ensures that the global monetary and financial system is stable. It advises on key economic policies, provides temporary financial assistance and training, promote

### **UNESCO**

The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization promotes international cooperation and facilitates the exchange of information in the fields of education, science, culture and communications.

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The World Health Organization directs and coordinates international health work. It also promotes and coordinates research on preventing disease.

### World Bank

The World Bank provides low-interest loans and interest-free credits and grants to developing countries for education, health, infrastructure, communications and other purposes.

## THE COLD WAR

The end of the Second World War saw the emergence of two superpowers, the USA and the USSR, who were locked in a struggle which lasted for 45 years. This was known as the Cold War.

### What was the Cold War?

The term **Cold War** was first used in 1947 to describe the conflict. **It was a war of words, of propaganda and of threat between the USA and the USSR, but it did not involve the two Superpowers in direct confrontation.** They both took part in proxy wars - that is they helped their allies to fight the other Superpower or their allies but did not become directly involved in the conflict themselves.

The end of the Second World War saw the emergence of two superpowers, the USA and the USSR, who were locked in a struggle which lasted for 45 years. This was known as the Cold War.

### Why did the cold war begin?

#### 1. Differing Ideologies:

In 1917 Russia became the first communist country in the world. Both the USA and the USSR believed that their system was the best way of organising a country and that other countries should follow their example.

**The USSR** - one party state, no free elections, state owned industry and agriculture. The government planned the economy and what should be produced. There is a lack of freedom and strict censorship.

**The USA** - democratic and capitalist, free elections, industry and agriculture were privately owned and run for profit. Free press and freedom of movement.

Both sides feared the other was out to destroy it. The Soviets believed the west was out to destroy communism. The West believed Soviets wanted to spread communism around the globe.

#### 2. Stalin's Suspicion of the West

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The USSR had been attacked previously, Germany had invaded Russia in 1914, in 1918, Allied forces had invaded Russia during the Civil War. Hitler had invaded in 1941. Stalin believed it was essential to have friendly countries on his border to prevent this happening again



Joseph Stalin

Stalin did not trust the West. The West had been appeased Hitler in the 1930s - Stalin believed they had wanted Hitler to destroy communism. The West was also slow to open a Second Front during the Second World War to help the Russians fight Hitler.

### 1. The Grand Alliance

The Grand Alliance was established by USSR, USA and Britain from 1941 to defeat the axis powers led by Germany, Japan and Italy. Following the end of the Second World War the Big 3 hoped to continue their friendship but as it became clearer that the Germany was defeated the Big 3 began to have conflicting aims and objectives.

### THE ORIGINS OF THE COLD WAR, 1941-58

#### Causes of tension

##### 1. Ideological differences

- During **World War Two** the USSR and USA were **allies**. To a large extent this was not a strong alliance. They were only allies because they had a **common enemy**-Nazi Germany.
- Towards the end of the war, **suspicions** between the USA and USSR **began to grow** mainly because they had **different ideologies** and the alliance began to fall apart.
- The USA was **capitalist** and the USSR was **communist**. Both the Americans and the Soviets believed their way of life was better and feared the other way of life.

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- Ideological differences were important in the development of the Cold War because:
- The USA believed the USSR wanted to **make the world communist** and so it was suspicious of anything the USSR did.
- The USSR believed the USA wanted to **destroy communism** and **spread capitalism** and so it was suspicious of anything the USA did.
- Russia was a Communist country, ruled by a dictator who cared little about human rights. America was a capitalist democracy, which valued freedom.
- For example, at the end of WW2, the Soviet Union took control of countries in **Eastern Europe**. The Americans and the West believed this was because **Stalin wanted world communism** and that they needed to stop the spread of communism. However, the Soviets argued all they wanted to do was **protect the Soviet Union** from a future invasion. The USSR had been twice invaded by Germany and Stalin wanted to build a **buffer zone of friendly states** around the USSR to protect it.

## 2. Differences between leaders

- **Franklin D. Roosevelt (1933-45) of USA** Strongly believed in democracy, but formed an alliance with the Soviet Union to protect the USA against Japan. Was not as tough with Stalin as Churchill wanted him to be.
- **Winston Churchill (1940-45, 1951-55) of Britain** he was more conservative with traditional values. Strongly believed in democracy, the British Empire and was very suspicious of Stalin.
- **Joseph Stalin (1920s-1953) of Soviet Union** strengthened one-party rule in the USSR and cut back on personal freedoms for Soviet citizens. Stalin was convinced the West wanted to destroy communism

3. **Aims:** Stalin wanted reparations from Germany/ a buffer of friendly states. Britain and the USA [led by President Truman] wanted to help Germany recover/ to prevent large areas of Europe from coming under Communist control.

4. **Resentment about history:** The USSR did not trust Britain and the USA - They had tried to destroy the Russian Revolution in 1918/ Stalin thought they had not helped the USSR enough in WW2. Britain & USA did not trust USSR - Stalin had signed the Nazi-Soviet pact in 1939.

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**5. Events turned the mistrust into war: Yalta/ Potsdam/ Salami tactics/ Fulton (Churchill's speech)/ Greece/ Truman Doctrine/ Marshall Plan/ Cominform/ Czechoslovakia**

### **6. A new world order**

After the Second World War, the 'old powers' like Britain and France were now less important. Two new 'superpowers', the Soviet Union and the USA had emerged. Their strong militaries and economies created rivalry between them.

### **7. The grand alliance**

Although Britain, the USA, and the Soviet Union united against Germany and Japan in the Second World War, there was no real change in how they viewed each other. The USA and Britain were still suspicious of the communist Soviet Union, whilst the USSR distrusted the capitalist world.

#### **THE TEHRAN CONFERENCE, 1943**

**Leaders: Roosevelt (USA), Stalin (USSR), Churchill (UK)**

#### **Agreements made**

- The USA and Britain would attack Germany from the West landing in France and opening a second front (D-Day)
- The USSR would join the war against Japan when Germany was defeated
- Germany would be weakened
- Poland would gain land from Germany and the USSR would keep the land they had taken from Poland
- A League of Nations was discussed

#### **Consequences and importance of Tehran Conference**

1. •Stalin is very happy a second front to fight Germany would be opened up in the West
2. •Churchill is not happy as he wanted a second front opened in the Balkans (South East Europe) to stop communism spreading there when the USSR went through there removing the Nazis
3. There was tension between the USA and Britain. The USA wanted Britain to end the British Empire
4. •The USSR and USA were becoming the 2 real superpowers as British influence was ending as seen with Churchill's Balkans idea being ignored

#### **YALTA CONFERENCE, FEBRUARY 1945**

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The leaders of Britain (Churchill), America (Roosevelt) & USSR (Stalin) met at Yalta in early 1945 to discuss what was going to happen to **Germany and the rest of Europe after WW2.**

Churchill, Stalin and Roosevelt agreed to Divide Germany into 4 zones (France, Britain, USA, and USSR)/ to hold free elections in Eastern European countries. / To set up the United Nations. / To set up a government of Communists and non Communists in Poland.

The Germans were near to defeat.

Second Front had been opened; Germany in full retreat, Soviet Union controls most of Eastern Europe.

### **Agreements made**

- Germany would be split into 4 zones (a zone each to be controlled by USA, USSR, UK and France)
- Germany to pay £20 billion in reparations
- Nazi Party banned and war criminals punished
- A United Nations to be set up & USSR to join the war against Japan
- Part of Poland to be swallowed up into the Soviet Union
- Free elections for Eastern European countries
- The Soviet Union would enter war against Japan once Germany was defeated.

### **Disagreement**

- Stalin believed free elections of Eastern Europe would bring communist governments. The USA & UK now supported the non communist parties

**The Yalta Conference was important in the development of the Cold War because:**

It revealed tensions over Germany & Europe:

1. Stalin wanted to **secure the Soviet Union** from a further invasion
2. However, **western powers** (especially Churchill) **feared** the Soviet Union wanted to dominate Europe and **spread communism**.
3. Western powers also feared the Soviet Union wanted a Soviet controlled govt. in Poland. Polish borders were agreed, and free elections were guaranteed.

### **THE POTSDAM CONFERENCE, JULY-AUGUST 1945**

**Leaders: Truman (USA), Stalin (USSR), Attlee (UK)**

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- Roosevelt had died and was replaced by Harry Truman and Churchill replaced by new Prime Minister Clement Attlee
- **Personality clash:** Truman, the new President of the USA, was fiercely anti-communist. He was not prepared to negotiate with Stalin. This, in turn, angered Stalin
- **Germany had been defeated** and had surrendered May 1945; **Soviet troops** had liberated countries in **Eastern Europe** but had not removed troops.
- A United Nations had been set up
- USA had successfully tested an atomic bomb
- **Germany had been defeated; Soviet troops** had liberated countries in **Eastern Europe** but had not removed troops.
- Stalin had set up a **communist government in Poland** (ignoring Yalta).
- **Roosevelt had died** and was replaced by Truman who was more **suspicious of Stalin**.

### Agreements

- Germany would be divided into 4 zones
- Capital City Berlin also to be divided into 4
- Each country to take their reparations from the zone they controlled
- USSR to gain eastern Poland and Poland to be compensated with some German territory - the German border was settled at the Oder-Neisse Line.
- Nazi Party to be banned and Nazi war criminals to be put on trial. Stalin, Truman and Atlee agreed to bring Nazi war criminals to trial

### Disagreement

- Truman was not happy that the Soviet army was still occupying the countries they had just freed from the Nazis
- Stalin demanded harsh reparations from Germany for the USSR - demanded \$20 billion compensation. This figure was rejected by Truman and Attlee - they did not want to make the same mistakes as at Versailles.
- Stalin denied a naval base in the Mediterranean
- Stalin had set up a communist government in Poland without free elections being held - this angered Truman and Attlee and made them suspicious of Stalin's motives. Truman was not happy that the USSR was gaining some Polish territory.

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## CONSEQUENCES AND IMPORTANCE OF POTSDAM CONFERENCE

- Old mistrust had come back
- Relationship worsens as Truman disliked Stalin and wanted to act tough
- The USA's successful test of the atomic bomb threatened the USSR
- It was clear that the Soviet Union wanted to control Eastern Europe.
- Stalin said he needed friendly countries around him for protection
- Truman saw the Soviets in Eastern Europe as an example of communist desires to take over Europe
- The war time alliance (Grand Alliance) was ending

### THE POTSDAM CONFERENCE WAS IMPORTANT BECAUSE:

- It revealed differences over Germany & Europe: Stalin wanted to keep Germany weak, the west wanted to make Germany strong.
- It further developed tension as Truman wanted free elections in E. Europe but Stalin refused.
- It convinced Truman that Stalin wanted to take over the whole of Europe and made Truman determined to stand up to Stalin. He said he was going to „get tough“ with Stalin.
- It revealed a lack of trust between the USSR and USA; Potsdam saw both sides take an aggressive stance especially as the USA had not told Stalin about the atomic bomb.

## CONSEQUENCES AND IMPORTANCE OF THE ATOMIC BOMB

- USA dropped 2 bombs on Japan in WW2
- The USA may have used nukes to show the USSR how powerful they were
- It made the Western European countries feel they had US protection
- Made Stalin determined to control Eastern Europe to feel more secure
- The USSR soon tested their own atomic bomb by 1949
- The atomic bomb increased tensions as both countries got into an arms race
- Knowing how deadly an atomic war was may have stopped both from using those sorts of weapons
- With tensions rising Stalin and Truman asked their embassies in the other's country to report on what the other was up to. The replies came in telegrams

## THE SECRET TELEGRAMS

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TRUMAN and STALIN both feared the breakdown of the GRAND ALLIANCE and the subsequent threat of a new war. Both had secret reports from their embassies for information on the other leader and their plans. The reports were sent as telegrams.

### THE LONG TELEGRAM

TRUMAN received a worrying telegram from Kennan - he was Americas ambassador in Moscow. Kennan reported that:

- Stalin had given a speech calling for destruction of capitalism
- America could have NO peace with Russia while it opposed capitalism
- Russia was building military power.
- The USA should seek to contain communism.

### THE NOVIKOV TELEGRAM

- Stalin received a worrying telegram from Novikov - he was Russia's ambassador in Washington.
- Novikov reported that:
  - ✓ America desired to dominate the world.
  - ✓ Following Roosevelt's death, the American government was no longer interested in co-operation with the USSR.
  - ✓ The American public were being prepared for war with the USSR.
- Following both telegrams, both countries believed that there was a great possibility of war. The USSR believed that war was inevitable whereas the Americans had labelled Stalin as 'the new Hitler'. By the end of 1946, the Grand Alliance was all but over. America believed the USSR were preparing for world domination and vice versa. This was the unofficial start of the Cold War.

### EVENTS 1946-1948

#### 1. FULTON SPEECH (March 1946)

- Churchill described the Soviet bloc as an 'iron curtain' - Stalin believed this was necessary to maintain the safety of the USSR.
- After Fulton, the Cold War worsened. Russia called the speech a declaration of war.

#### 2. GREECE (February 1947). US supplied arms and money to defeat the Communists.

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3. **TRUMAN DOCTRINE** (March 1947) - The USA implemented a policy of 'containment' towards the USSR - to prevent Communism spreading any further.
4. **MARSHALL PLAN** (June 1947) - Marshall believed poverty was a breeding ground for Communism. American introduced 'Marshall Aid' - \$17 billion to get Europe's economy going.
5. **COMINFORM** (October 1947) - Stalin forbade Communist countries to accept Marshall Aid. (October 1947) Cominform was set up to control all Communist countries in Europe.
6. **CZECHOSLOVAKIA** (February 1948) - Communists took control
7. Panicked the US Senate into granting Marshall Aid (31 March 1948)

### WINSTON CHURCHILL'S IRON CURTAIN SPEECH

- Ex-British Prime Minister Winston Churchill stressed the Soviet Union was a threat to world peace on a visit to the USA in 1946
- Churchill said an Iron Curtain now separated East and West Europe. The west, people were free. The east, there was only communism & no freedom

**Importance of speech:** Showed Europe was now divided

### HOW DID JOSEPH STALIN CREATE SOVIET SATELLITE STATES IN EASTERN EUROPE?

- The USSR responded to its nuclear inferiority by strengthening its control over Eastern Europe.
- Using **SALAMI TACTICS** (1945-48) 'Slice-by-slice', Stalin ensured all Eastern European countries had Communist governments
  1. Albania (1945) - the Communists took power after the war without opposition
  2. Bulgaria (1945) - the Communists executed the leaders of all the other parties.
  3. Poland (1947) - the Communists forced the non-Communist leaders into exile.
  4. Hungary (1947) - Russian troops stayed / Stalin allowed elections (non-communists won a big majority)/ Communists led by the pro-Russian Rakosi./ Rakosi demanded that groups which opposed him should be banned./ He got control of the police, and arrested his opponents./ He set up a secret police unit, the AVH.
  5. Romania (1945-1947) - the Communists gradually took over control.
  6. Czechoslovakia (1948) - the Communists banned all other parties/ killed their leaders.

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7. East Germany (1949) - Russians turned their zone into German Democratic Republic.
- Rigged elections, violence, intimidation and other methods were used to gain control over Eastern European states including Bulgaria, Hungary, Poland and Romania.
  - No free elections had been held as agreed to at Yalta.

**By 1949 all eastern European states had communist governments** The USSR argued they needed friendly states (countries) around them for protection (known as satellite states). USSR occupied most Eastern European countries after kicking out the Nazis. Stalin forced these countries to set up communist

The USSR justified its actions:

- ✓ It had created a buffer zone against the West.
- ✓ It was afraid of the USA's atomic power
- ✓ It was afraid of an attack by the West in the near future.
- ✓ It had created a '*sphere of influence*' as agreed at Yalta

The USA claimed:

- ✓ The USSR had seized control of Eastern Europe and rejected free elections as agreed at Yalta.
- ✓ The USA feared that the USSR was determined to extend its influence into Western Europe (and then the rest of the world!!)
- ✓ The USSR claimed that their measures were defensive, but the USA claimed they were aggressive and a threat to the west.
- Truman saw this as evidence of Stalin trying to spread Communism

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- The countries that the Soviet Union freed from Nazi occupation between 1944 and 1945 became satellite states under Soviet control after the end of the war. Stalin was reluctant to give up control of these countries as they were a useful buffer zone between the Soviet Union and Germany. Truman saw this as evidence that the Soviet Union wanted to spread communism worldwide.
- The Soviet Union saw a „buffer zone“ as essential to the security of the Soviet Union to prevent a future invasion.

**The expansion of the Soviet Union was important because:**

- Major differences began to develop.
- The Soviet takeover of E.Europe was seen by the West as just the beginning of Soviet expansion and the spread of communism.
- It led to the development of an „Iron Curtain“
- It led to the US policy of containment which was first expressed in The Truman Doctrine.

After the creation of the Soviet Satellite States and the warning from Kennan's Long Telegram the US President Truman felt he had to act

## TRUMAN'S FEARS

- Truman knew the USSR was too weak after WW2 to invade any more European countries
- Truman also knew that many European countries were in a terrible state after WW2 and may be attracted to the idea of Communism
- Stalin may try and convince them to turn communist and it may work

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- Truman acted by declaring his Truman Doctrine.

### THE IRON CURTAIN (SOVIET EXPANSION IN EASTERN EUROPE)

- At the end of the war it was clear that Europe was divided between the democratic west and countries occupied by the Soviet Union in the East.
- Churchill called this division an iron curtain.
- Between 1945 -1948 the Soviets went about taking over countries in Eastern Europe (Poland, Romania, Hungary and Czechoslovakia).
- The Red Army had remained in these countries when they liberated them from the Nazis. They then helped a communist takeover, by arresting opposition and fixing elections so that the communists won.
- They were known as satellite states because although countries like Poland appeared to be independent they were actually controlled by the Soviet Union.
- Although Yugoslavia became communist, it was not controlled by the Soviet Union.

### CHURCHILL'S 'IRON CURTAIN' SPEECH

- In March 1946, on a visit to the USA, Churchill made a speech criticising the Soviet Union as a threat to world peace. Stalin took this to be a reflection of American beliefs, which encouraged the USSR to strengthen its forces and increase anti-Western propaganda.

## 2) THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE COLD WAR

Between 1945 and 1949 the USA sought to contain the spread of communism, first in Europe but later around the globe. The USA believed that the USSR was determined to expand and that the USA should use any means possible to stop that expansion.



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Harry S. Truman said, "I believe that it must be the policy of the United States to support free peoples who are resisting attempted subjugation by armed minorities or by outside pressures."

**Greece was the first country to benefit from this policy.** During WW2 the Greek resistance to the German occupation had been divided into supporters of the monarchy and the communists. At the end of the war British troops had helped to restore the monarchy but were now under attack from the communists. By 1947, Britain could no longer afford to continue to keep troops in Greece and so they asked for help from the USA. The USA provided money to keep the British troops in Greece

In 1947 President Truman outlined the USA's response in what became known as the **Truman Doctrine**. This policy was designed to stop the spread of communism - it was called **containment**

### THE TRUMAN DOCTRINE

- On 12th March 1947, Truman delivered a speech to the US congress announcing a \$400 million aid package to Greece and Turkey. In the same speech, he voiced his opinion on communism as 'evil' and said that he intended to use American aid and troops to stop it from spreading throughout the world, especially the countries of Europe which had been devastated by war and were particularly vulnerable to an extreme ideology such as communism. This speech became known as the 'Truman Doctrine' and signalled the beginning of the US policy of *containment*.

### TRUMAN DOCTRINE, MARCH 1947

- This was a **policy of containment**. Truman announced the **US would support countries needing protection** from threats inside/outside their border. He basically meant the US would protect countries threatened by **communism**.
- Truman's Doctrine means Truman's idea or belief. Truman said people must choose between the freedom of democracy or the non freedom of communism
- Truman said communism must be **CONTAINED**. It should not be allowed to spread. This was the main message from his doctrine. This was first seen in action when the USA helped Britain to stop Greece going communist in 1947
- Britain had been trying to stop communism growing in Greece but was nearly bankrupt after WW2 so could not continue. The USA gave \$400 million to help Greece and Turkey resist communism. They also sent soldiers to help too!

**The Truman Doctrine was announced because:**

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- Britain was unable to continue to support the **Greek government** in a civil war against communist rebels. If the USA did not step in, Greece was at risk of turning communist.
- The US wanted to **stop the spread of communism**.
- The US was concerned about Soviet expansion in Europe because they saw **communism as a threat**.

The Truman Doctrine was important in the development of the Cold war because:

- It marked a **turning point** in US foreign policy by **committing the USA** to a policy of **containment**. This marked the start of the USA getting directly involved to stop the spread of communism
- It showed that America was willing to **use force** to stop the spread of communism.
- It increased tension as Truman publicly stated that the **world was divided** between two ways of life: Free and un-free.
- It led to the introduction of the **Marshall Plan**.
- It made Stalin suspicious of the USA as he saw this as a **declaration of war against communism**.
- As a consequence Stalin formed **Cominform** to tighten his control over Eastern Europe.

### MARSHALL PLAN, JUNE 1947

US Secretary of State George Marshall believed that countries suffering from poverty and unemployment were more likely to turn to communism. The aim of the Marshall Plan was therefore to rebuild the shattered European economy so that it could contain the spread of communism. A fund of \$15 billion was made available to any nation who applied for it.

- Three months after Truman's speech, George Marshall, the US Secretary of State, announced in a speech that the USA would provide economic aid to the war-torn countries of Europe to help them recover from the damage suffered in conflict, and to keep them tied to the USA instead of falling to communist ideology. Officially called the **European Recovery Plan**.
- Supported the Truman Doctrine by providing economic aid to countries in Europe
- Aid was in the form of cash, machinery, food, technology.

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- Between 1948 and 1952, the USA gave \$12.7 billion in aid, mainly to countries in Western Europe. Many Eastern European countries refused America's offer, under Stalin's orders

**The Marshall Plan was introduced because:**

- ✓ The US wanted to stop the spread of communism to Western Europe.
- ✓ Truman believed communism generally thrived in poor areas where there were high unemployment & poverty.
- ✓ To rebuild Germany
- ✓ The plan also boosted the US economy by providing them with markets to sell their products to.

**The Marshall Plan was important in the development of the Cold War because:**

- It increased tension between the USA and USSR. Stalin accused the USA of using the plan for their own selfish interests. He believed the USA wanted to dominate Europe, promote capitalism & boost the US economy. **Stalin called the Marshall Plan dollar imperialism.**
- It strengthened the division in Europe as Stalin prevented European countries like Czechoslovakia and Poland from becoming involved.
- It contributed to the first major crisis of the Cold War, **The Berlin Crisis of "48-49** when West Berlin started receiving Marshall Aid.
- Led to **Comecon (The Molotov Plan).**

### **CONSEQUENCE 1 OF THE MARSHALL PLAN (DOLLAR IMPERIALISM)**

- Stalin believed the USA was trying to buy countries' favour so they could control them. He called it Dollar imperialism (which meant by accepting the American dollar you were enslaved to them).
- The Grand Alliance was clearly gone and there was no longer trust

### **CONSEQUENCE 2 OF THE MARSHALL PLAN. COMINFORM AND COMECON**

- To stop the Communist countries being attracted to the Marshall Plan Stalin created Cominform and Comecon

### **CONSEQUENCES OF THE TRUMAN DOCTRINE AND THE MARSHALL PLAN:**

Stalin called the Marshall Plan 'dollar imperialism' and claimed the USA was trying to control industry and trade in Europe. He believed that it sought to undermine communism and to promote the spread of capitalism across the globe. He refused to accept any economic aid and stopped any Eastern bloc country applying for it.

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Stalin did not react well to the Marshall Plan. Rather than a defensive policy to stop the spread of communism, he saw American aid to Europe as a way for the USA to spread its own influence and to undermine the United Nations. This so-called 'dollar imperialism', as the Soviets referred to it, was perceived as America's way of splitting Europe in two and establishing an economic empire in Western Europe. A clear divide had been established between the Soviet Bloc and the USA. Stalin's suspicions of the USA as trying to crush the Soviet Union were reinforced, and a rivalry between the two superpowers that would last for over 50 years had begun.

### **STALIN'S REACTION TO THE MARSHALL PLAN**

To try to prevent any eastern European countries applying for Marshall Aid, Stalin offered help and support to Eastern Europe by setting up two organisations, **Cominform (1947)** and **Comecon (1949)**.

#### **COMINFORM**

- It was created on 22nd September 1947 by Stalin to **spread communism and protect communist states from US aggression**. It was a response to the **Truman Doctrine & Marshall Plan**.
  - **Cominform** (Communist Information Bureau) was an alliance of European communist parties to help them plan and to work together and spread Stalin's ideas. It increased the control Stalin had over these countries, and limited their independence. Only Marshal Tito, the communist leader of Yugoslavia, would not accept Stalin's total leadership and split with Moscow
  - It encouraged communist countries to trade with each other and avoid contact with non-communist countries
  - Ensured that the satellite states followed the orders from Stalin in Moscow
  - It gave orders to the communist parties of other countries.
  - Allowed USSR leader to control Communist parties throughout Europe
  - It was set up to ensure that countries like Poland and Czechoslovakia followed Soviet rules
  - It also ensured leaders of Communist countries ruled as they were told to
- Purpose**
- Political organisation. Gave Stalin the power to control the governments of his satellite states and ensure they followed orders from Moscow.

#### **Members**

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- The Communist Parties of: The Soviet Union, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Poland, Romania, Yugoslavia, France and Italy
- In **1948 Yugoslavia was expelled** from Cominform because its leader, Tito, would not follow Stalin's wishes. This suggested to the West that **Stalin wanted complete control** of the communist world and **increased suspicion** that he just wanted to increase Soviet control.

### **COMECON (THE COUNCIL FOR MUTUAL ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE)**

- It was created on 25th January 1949 by USSR. It was also known as **The Molotov Plan**.
- Comecon was the Soviet response to the Marshall Plan and provided countries with economic aid from the USSR.
- **Comecon** (Council for Mutual Economic Aid) was set up to coordinate the production and trade of the eastern European communist countries. They were expected to trade with each other and not the West. However, it favoured the USSR more than any of its other members.
- Designed to stop countries being tempted by the Marshall Plan and again encouraged communist countries to only trade with one another
- All communist countries had to support each other and joint industrial planning across all satellite states was put into action to increase production
- **Comecon and Cominform were important in the development of the Cold War because:**
  1. The USA saw Cominform & Comecon as serious threats as they **strengthened the Soviet's control** over communist countries and also suggested that the Soviet Union wanted to spread communism.
  2. They also **strengthened the division of Europe** between those in Cominform, controlled by the Soviet Union and those that were free. It worsened tension and was a large part in why the USA and western Europe formed a military alliance called NATO

### **MEMBERS**

- The Soviet Union, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Poland, Romania, East Germany, and Albania.

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## **PURPOSE OF MOLOTOV PLAN**

To provide economic aid as an alternative to the Marshall Plan, and later to organise industrial planning and encourage trade between members.

## **THE CREATION OF THE NORTH ATLANTIC ORGANISATION TREATY (NATO):**

In response to the creation of **Cominform** and **Comecon**, the USA and Western European countries created a new military alliance, NATO.

## **CAUSES, EVENTS AND RESULTS OF THE BERLIN BLOCKADE -CAUSES**

### **1. Causes [CABAN]**

- Cold War was beginning to bite - created tension.
  - Aims - USA+UK wanted Germany to recover/ Stalin looting German industrial capacity.
  - Bizonia - USA, UK, France merged zones - became more prosperous than the Soviet.
  - American Aid - Marshall Aid was voted 31 March 1948.
  - New Currency - Britain and America introduced new currency - destabilised the East German economy. Stalin said that this was the cause of the blockade.
- 3. Events - (24 June 1948) - Stalin closed rail + road links to Berlin / Lasted 11 months/ Allies airlifted supplies to Berlin - 275,000 flights, 1.5m tons/ In winter, Berliners lived on dried eggs and potatoes/ 4 hours of electricity a day./ US had B29 bombers on standby./ (12 May 1949) - Stalin re-opened the borders.**

### **3. Results [CENA]**

- Cold War got worse.
- East/West Germany: German Democratic Republic/ Federal Republic of Germany.
- NATO and Warsaw Pact - NATO (1949) defensive alliance against USSR/ Warsaw Pact 1955 by Russia
- Arms Race. The USA and USSR competed for world domination.

## **THE 1948 BERLIN CRISIS**

- 4. Now that Germany had been divided between the four occupying powers, disagreements emerged over how these should be run. Whilst the Soviets wanted to take as much material as possible from their zone to help rebuild the Soviet Union, the Western powers wanted to help to rebuild Germany's economy.**

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5. By March 1948, Britain, France and the USA had combined their zones to create 'Trizonia', and three months later created a single currency for this zone, the Deutschmark.
6. Germany and its capital Berlin was now effectively split in two.
7. This annoyed the Soviets, as Germany was now effectively divided into two countries: East and West. Stalin felt he was being ganged up on & West Germany and Berlin was being built up to make Communism look bad. He was determined to act.



**The four zones of Berlin in 1948**

### **BERLIN BLOCKADE & AIRLIFT 1948-49**

Causes	Events	Consequences
1. Trizonia - USA, UK and French zones of West Berlin become 1. This would make them stronger and more powerful as they could combine their resources 2. New Currency - in Trizonia a new currency was created called the	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stalin blocked off roads and railways entering WEST Berlin FROM EAST Germany</li> <li>• Stalin shut off power stations in EAST Berlin supplying power to the WESTERN sectors</li> </ul>	1. Berlin Airlift - for 10 months the USA and UK flew supplies in to WEST Berlin from WEST Germany. 1M tonnes of coal, necessities and even luxury items like cars! 1 plane landed every 90 seconds 2. Stalin called off the

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<p>Deutschmark. This made the economy of WEST Berlin was stronger and more stable</p> <p>3. Marshall Aid - as WEST Berlin was CAPITALIST, it could receive Marshall Aid. This meant West Berlin was recovering more quickly than East Berlin</p>		<p>Blockade in May 1949 - he had to accept defeat. This made him look weak</p> <p>3.NATO - formed in April 1949 (see next page)</p> <p>4.East and West Germany become different countries - the GDR (EAST) and FRG (WEST)</p>
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### THE BERLIN BLOCKADE

- Berlin was in the USSR controlled east side of Germany
- Stalin cut all road and rail paths into Berlin in the hope he could force the Western allies out and turn it communist
- June 1948 Stalin **blockaded all routes** by road, rail and canal to **West Berlin** to try and force the Allies out of Berlin. Stalin decided to shut off land routes across the Soviet-controlled zone of Germany into the Western-controlled areas of Berlin. The Western zone of Berlin was now cut off from the Western part of Germany, with no communication and food running out.

### THE BERLIN AIRLIFT

Consequently, the Western powers launched 'Operation Vittles', or the Berlin Airlift, where they flew food, coal and other necessities into the Western zone of Berlin, in order to avoid the land blockade imposed by Stalin



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Nearly a year later, on 9th May 1949, the Soviets gave in and lifted the blockade. Stalin's attempt to provoke the West had backfired: the West had responded to the blockade peacefully, and he was now portrayed as unwise and aggressive. **12th May 1949** Stalin called off the blockade because the allies got round the blockade by carrying out the airlift, dropping supplies over Berlin.

**Berlin** was in the heart of the **Soviet zone** and Stalin wanted the Allies out:

- Western powers could observe the Soviets.
- Stalin didn't want capitalist way of life on show.
- West Berlin was receiving Marshall Aid.
- The trigger for the Berlin Blockade was the **introduction of the Deutschmark**.
- The Soviet Union was annoyed at the formation of **Bizonia** and the Western powers plans to create a **West German State**.

**The Berlin Blockade was important in the development of the Cold War because:**

- It massively increased tension as it showed how divided the USA and USSR were over **Germany (Strong V weak)**
- It led to the **Berlin Airlift** which showed Truman was **determined to stand up to** the Soviet Union and was serious about **containment**. Truman wanted **Berlin** to be a **symbol of freedom** behind the Iron Curtain.
- It made Stalin even more determined to get the atomic bomb. Stalin had not dared shoot down the planes in the airlift as he could not risk a war because the USA had the atomic bomb.
- It convinced the allies that the Soviet Union was a threat and led to the **creation of NATO in 1949** which turned the Cold War from an ideological conflict to one involving military alliances.
- It led to the **official division of Germany**: GDR (East Germany) and FGR (West Germany) in 1949.

### **West Germany (Federal Republic of West Germany)**

- Bigger than East Germany and Capital in Bonn
- First leader was Konrad Adenauer

### **East Germany (German Democratic Republic)**

- First leader was Walter Ulbricht and capital was Berlin
- West Germany refused to accept East Germany as a country

## **CONSEQUENCES OF THE BERLIN CRISIS**

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## 1. THE CREATION OF EAST AND WEST GERMANY

Three days after the blockade was lifted, the British, French, and American zones came together to form a state, the *Federal Republic of Germany (FRG)*.

This was a democratic state, and the chancellor, Konrad Adenauer, was elected on 15th September 1949. The FRG was much larger than East Germany. In October 1949, Stalin responded by creating the *German Democratic Republic (GDR)*.

This was a country only recognised by the communist bloc countries.

## 2. THE CREATION OF NATO AND THE WARSAW PACT:

The Cold War and Superpower rivalry increased in the years after the Berlin Crisis of 1948-49 as rival alliance systems were formed.

By the mid 50s the Superpowers were members of two rival alliance systems, NATO and the Warsaw Pact.

### NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANISATION (NATO)

- In April 1949, the USA, Britain, France, and nine other Western countries formed the **North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO)**. This was a military alliance intended to protect western countries from the communist threat. It was a **defensive alliance** meaning if one member was attacked all other members would defend it. However its main purpose was to **prevent Soviet expansion**. All members agreed that if one was attacked, the others would come to its aid.
- The **Berlin Crisis** triggered the formation of NATO as the Berlin Blockade highlighted the **Soviet threat to Western Europe**.
- It showed that **western European states** even joined together were no match for the Soviet Union and showed they **needed the formal support of the USA**.
- In carrying out the **Berlin Airlift**, Truman confirmed he wanted to **contain communism**.

**NATO was important in the development of the Cold War because:**

- It increased the chances of an actual war as it meant that the USA could build air bases in Western Europe where planes equipped with **nuclear bombs** could be stationed **ready for use**.
- The **Soviet Union saw it as an aggressive move** as NATO was formed as an alliance against the Soviet Union.
- It led to the formation of the **Warsaw Pact**, a Soviet military alliance, which resulted in Europe being divided into two armed camps.

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## THE WARSAW PACT (1955)

In response to the FRG joining NATO in May 1955, Stalin created the Warsaw Pact, the equivalent of NATO for eastern communist countries. This is now seen as a defining moment in the split of Europe into two blocs: the capitalist West and communist East.

The Warsaw Pact was a military alliance for mutual defence which the USSR signed with her satellites Poland, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Bulgaria, Romania, East Germany and Albania. All the forces of the pact countries were placed under the leadership of the Soviet Union and Soviet troops were stationed in the countries of the pact. It was formed when West Germany joined NATO in 1955 as the Soviet Union was concerned about the re-emergence of a strong Germany.

## DEATH OF STALIN, KHRUSHCHEV & THE „THAW“ IN RELATIONS

- **Stalin died in 1953.** After Stalin's death there was an improvement in relations. This became known as a „thaw“ in the Cold War.
- There was also an improvement in relations because Khrushchev was in power. Khrushchev criticised Stalin and spoke of peaceful coexistence.
- **The death of Stalin was important in the development of the Cold War because:**
  1. It improved relations as the West saw Stalin as a main cause of the Cold War and were more willing to work with the Soviet Union following his death.
  2. It led to Khrushchev coming to power and Khrushchev's policies were not seen as aggressive by the West. Khrushchev changed Soviet foreign policy from one of confrontation to peaceful coexistence. Khrushchev argued that the USSR had to live in peace with the USA. The USA believed this new approach could end the Cold War.
  3. Khrushchev also pulled the Red Army out of the Soviet occupied zone of Austria. (Austria had been divided like Germany at the end of the war). Khrushchev seemed to be a man that did not want to dominate the world.
  4. Khrushchev also criticised Stalin in his secret speech in 1956 and began a policy of destalinisation, reversing some of Stalin's measures. This made him popular with the West.

**The Warsaw Pact was important in the development of the Cold War because:**

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- It meant that Europe was now divided into two rival alliances and if there was a war all the countries in NATO and the Warsaw Pact would be involved. It made it look like the Cold War was going to be a permanent state.
- It increased the Soviet Union's power over its satellite states as it placed Soviet troops in those countries.
- It showed that even though there was a thaw in relations (following Stalin's death) Khrushchev was committed to maintaining the security of the communist states that surrounded the Soviet Union and the Soviet Union itself.

### THE KOREAN WAR 1950-53

- Between 1950 and 1953 there was a war between North Korea and South Korea.
- Background to the war:
  - After WW2 Korea was divided into two along the 38th parallel.
  - The North was communist and the South was anti-communist.
  - Both the leaders of North and South claimed to be the rightful government of all Korea and there were frequent clashes along the border.
  - Before 1950, America did not see Korea as in its „sphere of interest”.
  - However after China became communist in 1949, the USA became determined to contain communism in Asia. They believed that if they didn't communism would spread and countries would fall to communism like dominoes (domino theory).
- In 1950 the leader of North Korea, Kim II Sung got Stalin's permission to invade South Korea. The Soviet Union provided North Korea with military equipment.
- The war:
  - In June 1950 the North Korean People's Army (NKPA) invaded South Korea and gained control of all of South Korea apart from the Pusan Pocket.
  - South Korea asked the United Nations for help and a UN force led by America forced back the North Koreans.
  - UN troops advanced towards China and China warned UN troops not to move further north.
  - General MacArthur ignored China and China sent in troops to help push the UN troops back beyond the 38th parallel.
  - The Americans deployed more men & drove the Chinese back to the 38th parallel.
  - There was a stalemate and in 1953 a cease-fire was agreed.

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- The Korean War was important in the development of the Cold War because:
  1. It intensified the Cold War because it spread the conflict to Asia.
  2. It led to the formation of SEATO (South East Asian Treaty Organisation) in 1954 which increased tension between the USA and USSR as it showed the USA were committed to containing communism in Asia.
  3. It led America to believe that they could contain communism and made them consider moving to a policy of „roll-back“.
  4. It showed China was not scared of the West and brought China closer to the USSR.

## THE BERLIN WALL, 1958-70

### U2 CRISIS

1 May 1960 Soviets shot down American U2 spy plane over USSR, and captured pilot Gary Powers./ Americans had to admit he was a spy./ Khrushchev demanded apology + end to spy flights./ Eisenhower refused.

### Results

Khrushchev walks out of Paris summit (14 May 1960)/ Eisenhower's planned visit to Russia cancelled/ Khrushchev demands US leaves West Berlin/ Americans came off badly - been caught lying- propaganda victory for USSR./ New American president Kennedy promises to get tough on Communism.

## BERLIN WALL

### 1. Causes

- Growing tension (U2 crisis/ Kennedy finances anti-Communist forces in Laos and Vietnam)
- Refugees (West Berlin enjoyed much higher standard than East Berlin./ 1945 - 1960 3 million people crossed the border - a propaganda point for the US - most were skilled workers)
- Sabotage -The Russians claimed that America used West Berlin for spies and sabotage in east Germany..
- The Berlin Ultimatum (November 27, 1958) Krushchev accused the U.S., Great Britain, and France of breaking Potsdam Agreement. Allies given six months to demilitarize West Berlin and declare it a "free city."

### 2. Events

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13 August 1961- East Germans erected a barbed wire wall overnight (later stone)/ All East - West movement was stopped./ Wall fortified with barbed wire and guns./Western powers could do nothing.

### CREATION OF BERLIN WALL AND ITS RESULTS

A photograph of the Berlin Wall below:



The wall was often built through streets and even buildings meaning it split apart friends and families who could no longer visit each other. It is estimated that over 130 people were killed by the East German police trying to cross the wall into the West.

By 1958, three million East Germans (over 1/6 of East Germany's population) had left for West Germany as they knew the standard of living was much higher there. Skilled workers left the oppressive eastern regime for the more prosperous, democratic West, causing yet worse problems in the GDR.

#### Khrushchev's Berlin ultimatum

On 27th November 1958, Khrushchev issued an ultimatum to Britain, France, and the USA, demanding:

- Berlin should be demilitarised and Western troops withdrawn.
- Berlin should become a free city (with its own independent government - although Khrushchev really wanted it to be under Soviet control)

Khrushchev's aim was to force Britain, France, and the USA to give up West Berlin, thus making it much harder for East Germans to leave for the FRG. He gave them six months to agree to these changes, or he would hand over control of all routes into Berlin to the government of East Germany. If this happened, the West would be

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forced to negotiate with the East German government, thereby recognising it as an independent country.

Whilst the West was outraged at what they saw as Khrushchev's attempt to spread communism in Germany, the Soviet Union perceived their actions as a reasonable attempt to stop the flow of East Germans leaving for West Germany. As both sides now had large nuclear arsenals, they were willing to discuss the Berlin problem and a series of talks were held between 1959 and 1961.

Tensions increased between the USA and the Soviet Union after the Berlin Wall was built. It became a powerful symbol of the stark differences between East and West for almost 30 years, and showed that the two sides had been unable to come to an agreement over Germany.

However, now that the border between East and West Berlin was closed, the likelihood of 'hot' war between the USA and Soviet Union decreased. As both sides now had clear zones of control and a concrete border between them, they were much less likely to go to war over Berlin.

**Geneva, May 1959:** No agreement reached over Berlin.

**Camp David, September 1959:** The Soviets agreed to withdraw the Berlin ultimatum.

**Paris, May 1960:** Khrushchev walked out of the meeting due to his frustration at Eisenhower's refusal to apologise for sending a spy over the Soviet Union. The Soviets had shot down an American U-2 spy-plane on 1st May and interrogated the pilot, Gary Powers.

**Vienna, June 1961:** Khrushchev renewed the Berlin ultimatum as he believed the new US president, John F. Kennedy, was young and inexperienced. Kennedy refused to make concessions and the meeting ended without any agreement

### NEGATIVE OUTCOMES TO THE USA

- The Soviet Union closed the border between East and West Berlin without consulting the USA
- People in East Berlin could no longer escape from communism if they wanted to

### POSITIVE OUTCOMES TO THE USA

- Khrushchev had been forced to accept Western control in Berlin - he knew he could only contain communism in the Soviet zone, rather than taking over all of Germany.

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- The prosperity and popularity of West Berlin for East Berliners became a symbol of defiance against communism

## NEGATIVE OUTCOMES TO THE SOVIET UNION

- Khrushchev had to abandon plans to unite Germany under Soviet control.
- The Wall showed that the only way the Soviets could control their zone was to 'lock' people in and prevent them from leaving.

## POSITIVE OUTCOMES TO THE SOVIET UNION

- The wall stopped people leaving East Berlin, preventing further damage to the economy.
- Showed the West that communism would remain in East Berlin and that Germany could not be united under Western control

### THE BERLIN CRISIS, 1961

- West Berlin (which was capitalist) was in the Soviet zone of Germany. As a result of the Marshall Plan living standards were better than in East Berlin so **West Berlin** was like an advert for capitalism.
- Between 1945 and 1961, 2 million **East Berliners** crossed the border to live in West Berlin. Many of those were skilled or educated people whom the East needed.
- In 1961 at the Vienna summit, Khrushchev **demanded Kennedy** (the new President of America) **give up Berlin**, Kennedy refused.
- On 13th August 1961, Khrushchev then decided to make it impossible for East Berliners to travel to West Berlin by placing **barbed wire** between East and West Berlin; this was protected with **machine guns**.
- The wire was then replaced with a **wall**. This wall remained until 1989.
- The wall **separated friends and family**. Anyone trying to cross the wall was shot. More than 40 Germans were shot trying to cross into West Berlin in the first year.
- Khrushchev argued that by building the wall he was protecting the security of the Soviet Union.
- The Berlin Crisis threatened world peace because:
  1. It was a **propaganda victory** for the USA but there was pressure on **Kennedy** to react by **taking direct action**. Kennedy did not want to go to war over Berlin, but he was concerned that he **did not want to be seen as weak**. This may have encouraged his reaction in the Cuban Missile Crisis.

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2. In 1963 Kennedy visited Berlin and declared "Ich bin ein Berliner" promising to defend Berlin against the Soviets. This made the Soviets angry.
3. It showed the USA that Khrushchev could be just as cruel and brutal system as Stalin.
4. However in some ways it removed an area of conflict between the superpowers as the USA no longer feared a repeat of the Berlin Blockade (1948-49) and the USSR showed it was no longer committed to removing the West from Berlin. It also reduced the number of defectors

### **CAUSES OF THE CUBAN MISSILE CRISIS SUMMARY**

In 1962, the Cold War was at its coldest. The Russians had built the Berlin Wall the previous year. Kennedy who had been elected because he promised to get tough with the Communists felt that Khrushchev had got one over on him at the Vienna Summit in 1961. In April 1962, the Americans put nuclear missiles in Turkey.

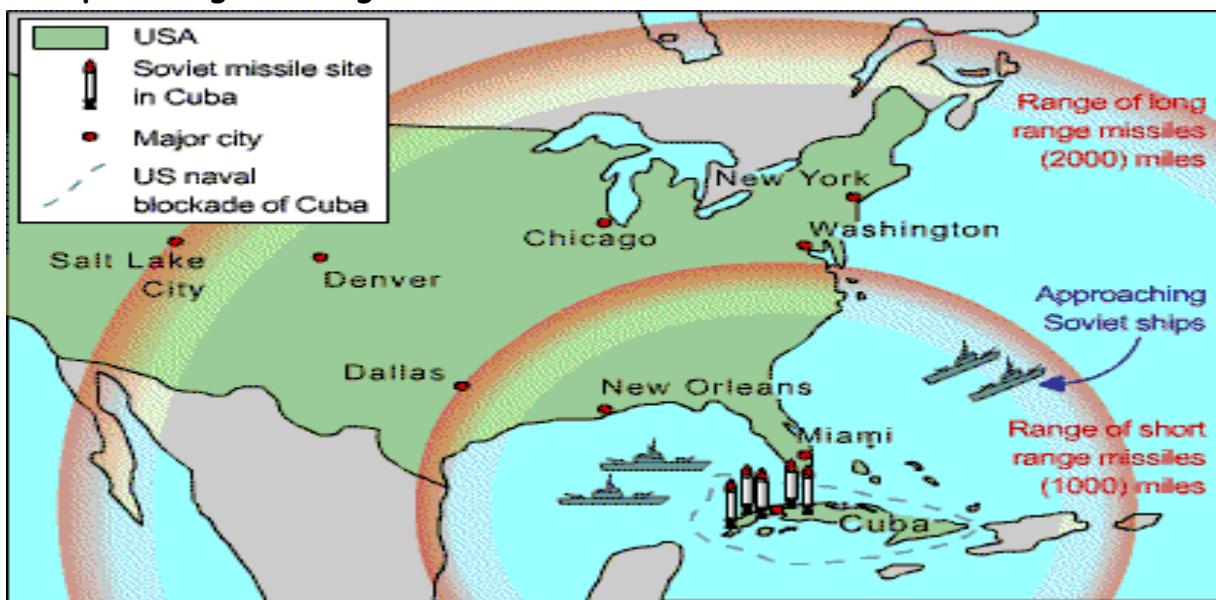
Also, in 1959, a rebel named Fidel Castro took power in Cuba, an island just 90 miles away from Florida. Before Castro took over, the government - led by Colonel Batista - had been a corrupt and right-wing military dictatorship, but the Americans had many business interests in Cuba.

When Castro came to power, however, he nationalised American companies in Cuba. In retaliation, the Americans stopped all aid to Cuba, and all imports of Cuban sugar. This was a blow to Castro as sugar was the mainstay of the Cuban economy. Castro was forced to look to the USSR for help, and, in 1960, the USSR signed an agreement to buy 1 million tonnes of Cuban sugar every year. Castro, who had not been a Communist when he took power, became a Communist.

America was alarmed. In April 1961, with Kennedy's knowledge, the CIA funded trained, armed and transported 1,300 Cuban exiles to invade Cuba. They landed at the Bay of Pigs and made an attempt to overthrow Castro. The invasion was a disaster, and President Kennedy was humiliated.

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A map showing the range of missiles fired from Cuba below



In September 1961, Castro asked for - and Russia publicly promised - **weapons** to defend Cuba against America. Which is why on 14 October 1962, the Americans discovered the **missile sites** in Cuba. These sites brought every town in the US within **range** of Soviet nuclear missiles. President Kennedy called a meeting of the National Security Council and on 22 October went on TV to tell the American people that they were under threat.

The crisis had begun.

## KENNEDY VERSUS KHRUSHCHEV

President Kennedy did not dare to invade Cuba, because that action could have started a world war - yet he could **not** let the missile sites be completed. With his advisers, he decided on a **naval blockade** to prevent Russian ships delivering the missiles for the Cuban sites.

Khrushchev warned that Russia would see the blockade as an **act of war**. Russian forces were put on **alert**; US bombers were put in the air carrying **nuclear bombs**; preparations were made to **invade** Cuba. There was **massive tension** in both Washington and Moscow. Everybody thought the world was going to come to an end. Secretly, the Americans suggested a **trade-off** of missile bases - US bases in Turkey for Russian bases in Cuba.

The Russians made the first public move. The ships heading for Cuba **turned back**, and Khrushchev sent a telegram offering to **dismantle** the Cuban bases if Kennedy lifted the blockade and promised not to invade Cuba. Then, as though having second

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thoughts, he sent a second letter **demanding** the dismantling of the Turkish bases. At the vital moment, a US U2 spy plane was shot down.

However, Kennedy ignored the U2 attack and **agreed** publicly to the first letter, and secretly to the second. The crisis was over.

<b>One week in October 1962</b> <b>Day</b>	<b>Events</b>
Monday 22 October	Kennedy announces a naval blockade of Cuba. B52 nuclear bombers are deployed, so that one-eighth of them are airborne all the time. Kennedy warns of a full retaliatory response, if any missile is launched from Cuba.
Tuesday 23 October	Khrushchev explains that the missile sites are "solely to defend Cuba against the attack of an aggressor".
Wednesday 24 October	Twenty Russian ships head for Cuba. Khrushchev tells the captains to ignore the blockade. Khrushchev warns that Russia will have "a fitting reply to the aggressor".
Thursday 25 October	The first Russian ship reaches the naval blockade. It is an oil ship and is allowed through. The other Russian ships turn back. Secretly, the US government floats the idea of removing the missiles in Turkey in exchange for those in Cuba.
Friday 26 October	Russia is still building the missile bases. In the morning, Kennedy considers an invasion of Cuba. It seems that war is about to break out. But at 6pm, Kennedy gets a telegram from Khrushchev offering to dismantle the sites if Kennedy lifts the blockade and promises not to invade Cuba.

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Saturday 27 October	However, at 11am Khrushchev sends a second letter, demanding that Kennedy also dismantles American missile bases in Turkey. At noon on the same day, a U2 plane is shot down over Cuba. It looks as if a war is about to start after all. At 8.05pm, Kennedy sends a letter to Khrushchev, offering that if Khrushchev dismantles the missile bases in Cuba, America will lift the blockade and promise not to invade Cuba - and also dismantle the Turkish missile bases (as long as this is kept a secret).
Sunday 28 October	Khrushchev agrees to Kennedy's proposals. The crisis is over.
Tuesday 20 November	Russian bombers leave Cuba, and Kennedy lifts the naval blockade.

### THE CUBAN MISSILE CRISIS

- From 1952-59 Cuba was ruled by a dictator called General Batista. The USA supported Batista for most of the time because American companies controlled most of Cuban business- sugar, tobacco. America supplied Batista with weapons: his rule was brutal and corrupt. Batista used secret police to destroy opposition and misused American aid by spending it on his family and friends.
- As a result of this corruption the USA stopped supplying arms to Batista in 1957 and began encouraging a resistance/opposition movement led by Fidel Castro .In 1959 Castro overthrew Batista's government and became president.
- By this time Castro was a communist and therefore relations with the USA became difficult.
- Castro began a series of reforms including nationalising industries that had previously been controlled by the USA. Castro also: took over much American owned land, gave the land to ordinary Cuban farmers -he blamed the USA for poverty in Cuba. Castro forged close links with the USSR. The Russians, led by Nikita Khrushchev sent Castro advisers, economic aid and military equipment.

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When the USA refused to buy Cuban sugar, the USSR agreed to take the sugar in return for oil and machinery.

### BAY OF PIGS

- From 1959 to 1961 there was a tense, frosty atmosphere between the USA and Cuba. The USA gave support to Cuban exiles (Cubans who had left Cuba to get away from Castro). President Eisenhower allowed supporters of Batista to train for an invasion of Cuba. \*The CIA was encouraged to get rid of Castro.
- When Kennedy became President in 1961 he allowed the plan to invade Cuba to go ahead.
- In 1961, President Kennedy supported a plan hatched by Eisenhower and the CIA before he was elected to overthrow the new Cuban regime.

On 17th April 1961, the USA sent around 1400 Cuban exiles to the Bay of Pigs in Cuba. Sending Cuban exiles would make the invasion look like a counterrevolution and the USA could deny any involvement. The opponents of Castro landed at the Bay of Pigs

However, the attempted coup failed and was a huge embarrassment for President Kennedy. The invasion backfired as Khrushchev and Castro became closer, with the Cuban leader declaring himself a communist and the Soviet Union openly declaring that it would provide arms to Cuba. Whilst Kennedy warned Khrushchev that he could not use Cuba as a base for nuclear weapons as it was too close to the USA. Khrushchev promised this would not happen.

The Invasion was a disastrous failure because:

1. The rebels had told the CIA that other Cubans would support the invasion-they did not.
2. The rebels were outnumbered
3. The group were badly equipped and had out of date maps.

### RESULTS OF THE BAY OF PIGS INCIDENT.

1. Castro became even more popular in Cuba
2. Castro asked Krushchev to help Cuba from another American backed attack.
3. Kennedy felt humiliated by the failure of the invasion.
4. Kennedy feared other countries might become Communist and enemies of the USA.
5. Krushchev-an older and more experienced leader than Kennedy, thought the American

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6. President was weak and would not use force over Cuba.
7. Although Kennedy and Krushchev met in Vienna in June 1961 the talks did not go well.

### **THE BEGINNING OF THE MISSILE CRISIS.**

1. After the Bay of Pigs Khrushchev gave Castro large amounts of military equipment- see 2 above.
2. America became increasingly worried about the Soviet military build-up in Cuba.
3. By July 1962 Cuba had the best -equipped army in Latin America.

### **THE OCTOBER CRISIS**

On 14th October 1962 an American U-2 spy plane flew over Cuba:

- Photographs taken by the plane showed there were nuclear missile sites on Cuba and that they were being built by the USSR.
- Over the next two days more photos confirmed that some sites were already supplied with missiles and could be ready to launch missiles in seven days. 20 Soviet ships were on the way to Cuba carrying missiles.

**Khrushchev broke his promise for several reasons:**

- 1) NATO had based missiles in Turkey, close to the Soviet Union. Khrushchev felt threatened by this and may have wanted revenge on the USA, or to pressure Kennedy into removing the NATO missiles.
- 2) Khrushchev wanted to prove his strength to Kennedy and the rest of the world after the humiliation of the Berlin Wall and mass migration from communist East Germany.
- 3) To try to prevent the USA from attacking Cuba and removing the pro-communist government there.

### **WHY DID KHRUSHCHEV PUT MISSILES IN CUBA?**

1. Khrushchev wanted to produce more nuclear warheads and close the "missile gap" between the USA and USSR.
2. The USA had missiles in Western Europe and Turkey, well within range of the USSR.
3. The USSR had many more cheap, medium-range missiles than the USA so a launch site in Cuba, close to the US coast, was an ideal place to put missiles.
4. Soviet missiles in Cuba would strengthen Khrushchev's bargaining power against the USA.

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5. Khrushchev was very keen to support Castro. Cuba was the only Communist country in the western hemisphere and had just survived the Bay of Pigs attack.
6. Khrushchev was keen to strengthen his own political position in the USSR. Missiles in Cuba would be seen as another major propaganda victory against the USA.

Kennedy was faced with the problem of how to react to the missiles in Cuba without causing a full-blown war, but still appearing as a strong leader who could out-smart the Soviets.

### THE THIRTEEN DAYS, 16TH-28TH OCTOBER 1962

The thirteen days in which Kennedy and his team deliberated over their response to the Soviet Union were a tense period during which the world faced a very real possibility of nuclear war. Kennedy assembled a committee to decide on which action to take. On 22nd October, they decided not to attack Cuba, but to set up a naval blockade around the country. No ships could pass through without US permission. Many people expected the Soviet Union to ignore the blockade, which would lead to an American attack and start a full-blown war. However, on 24th October, when Soviet ships reached the blockade, they turned around, avoiding triggering a nuclear war.

**Outcomes:** Whilst confrontation had been narrowly avoided, the problem of the Soviet weapons in Cuba persisted. On 26th October, Khrushchev sent a telegram to Kennedy promising to remove the missiles if the US agreed not to invade Cuba. He followed this the next day with another telegram promising to remove the missiles if the NATO missiles were removed from Turkey. Kennedy decided to ignore the second telegram, accepting the conditions of the first. In secret, Kennedy's brother Robert met with the Soviet ambassador in Washington and agreed to remove NATO missiles from Turkey, although the public did not know this.

### WHAT WERE KENNEDY'S OPTIONS?

1. **Do nothing.**
  - **For-** The USA still had a much larger nuclear force than the USSR. Overreacting to the Cuban missiles might lead to a nuclear war between the USA and USSR.
  - **Against-** To do nothing would be seen as a sign of weakness and encourage the Soviets to challenge the Americans elsewhere in the world-possibly Berlin.
2. **A surgical air strike:** an immediate air strike against missile sites in Cuba.
  - **For-** Destroy the missiles before they became operational

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- **Against-** The US air force could not guarantee to destroy all the missiles. Some might be launched against US cities and kill millions of people. Bombing Cuban missile sites would inevitably kill Soviet soldiers too and this would cause Khrushchev to respond. Bombing a small country like Cuba without any warning would be seen as a very aggressive act by many countries.
3. **Invasion:** a full-scale US invasion of Cuba.
    - **For-** Remove the missile bases and Castro from power.
    - **Against-** This would cause an inevitable Soviet response-possibly an invasion of West Berlin and nuclear war.
  4. **Diplomatic pressure:** to involve the United Nations and other international organizations to resolve the dispute.
    - **For-** Involvement of other countries might force the Soviets to remove the missiles.
    - **Against-** It was very unlikely that diplomacy would cause Khrushchev to give way, so this option was seen as very weak.
  5. **Blockade (quarantine).** : US navy to stop Soviet ships delivering any further weapons to Cuba, along with a demand for missiles already in Cuba to be removed.
    - **For-** This would show firm action by the USA without using immediate force. It would give Khrushchev time to consider his next actions, and the USA the option of an air strike or invasion later if the blockade did not work.
    - **Against-** A blockade would not remove the weapons already in Cuba. Action was likely to be slow in producing results. It did not rule out Soviet retaliation in other parts of the world-for example Berlin.

### WHY DID KENNEDY REACT AS HE DID?

1. Kennedy was under serious pressure from US military leaders to bomb and invade Cuba immediately. This would almost certainly have led to war with the USSR.
2. Kennedy tried to give himself and Krushchev a means of solving the crisis without immediate conflict. This is why he chose a blockade.
3. Kennedy also realised that he needed to give Khrushchev a way out without appearing to humiliate the Soviet leader-that is why, in private, he agreed not to invade Cuba and later removed US missiles from Turkey.
4. Kennedy used the opportunity of Khrushchev's first letter to explore ways to solve the crisis whilst at the same time convincing the Soviets that he was prepared for war.

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**Four other major outcomes resulted from the Cuban Missile Crisis:**

- 1) In June 1963, a direct communication line was set up between Moscow and Washington, known as the 'hotline'.
- 2) In August 1963, a Test Ban Treaty was signed by the US, the USSR, and Britain. This prohibited the testing of nuclear weapons in outer space, underwater, or in the atmosphere.
- 3) In 1967, the Outer Space Treaty was signed. This prohibited putting nuclear weapons in outer space.
- 4) In 1968, the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty was signed. This was intended to stop the spread of nuclear weapons, as countries who signed the treaty could not share their nuclear technology with others.

Whilst the Cuban Missile Crisis made Kennedy more popular at home as he had stood up to the Soviet leader, Khrushchev's humiliating defeat played a major role in his dismissal as leader in 1964.

### **THE END OF THE CRISIS AND ITS CONSEQUENCES**

- On the morning of 28th October Radio Moscow broadcast that the USSR was prepared to remove the missiles from Cuba. The missile crisis was over BUT important lessons had been learned by both sides.
  1. Firstly, it is widely agreed that the Cuban missile crisis was the closest that the USA and USSR came to conflict throughout the whole of the COLD WAR. There was general agreement that future disputes like this had to be avoided, so the missile crisis actually helped improve US-USSR relations.
  2. Secondly, the USA and USSR decided to set up a telephone link (hotline) between Moscow and Washington DC so that problems could be discussed to avoid future crises.
  3. Thirdly, nuclear arms talks began and in 1963 a Test Ban Treaty was signed by the USSR, the USA and Britain.

**The Cuban Missile Crisis threatened world peace because:**

- The way Kennedy responded to the crisis caused tension. When Soviet ships continued to sail towards Cuba after Kennedy imposed a **naval blockade**, the world watched **expecting war**.

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- It brought the superpowers to the brink of nuclear war. Kennedy had considered a nuclear attack as an option when responding to the photos of missile sites in Cuba.
- During the crisis, there were moments when the possibility of war was high- once when Cubans shot down a U2 plane and once when Americans stopped and boarded a Soviet ship containing nuclear bombs.