

CHAPTER 11 TWO WORLD WARS

I. WORLD WAR I

A. Eve of the War

1. European Discord. The first dozen years or so of the 1900s gave every indication of promising the world a bright future. Superficially, there were ample reasons for this aura of hope for a better tomorrow, but beneath the surface the seed of most twentieth-century dissidence had long been germinating.

The underlying causes for World War I go back at least as far as the early 1800s. The Napoleonic Wars of the post-French Revolution era had spread the ideas of nationalism and ethnic self-determination throughout Europe. In every country, linguistic minorities aspired to form their own separate governments. Superimposed over this ethnic rivalry and stemming from earlier history, the European nations feared and disliked one another. France had been defeated by Germany in the Franco-Prussian War (1870-1871) and was determined to regain the German-held province of Alsace-Lorraine. Great Britain and Germany were jealous of each other's growing power and influence. Austria-Hungary and Russia were involved in a struggle to gain a greater degree of influence among the Slavic nations in the Balkan Peninsula, especially Serbia, Montenegro, and Bulgaria.

Considerable colonial rivalry also existed among various European nations. During the nineteenth century, Great Britain, France, Germany, Italy, and Belgium had established a number of colonies in Africa, and in 1898 Great Britain and France nearly went to war over conflicting claims in the Egyptian Sudan. In 1905 and again in 1911, France and Germany quarreled over Morocco, and in 1912 and 1913, two wars were fought on the Balkan Peninsula. In the First Balkan War, Bulgaria, Greece, Serbia, and Montenegro united to free those parts of their countries that had been dominated by Turkey for centuries. As a result of this war, Albania became an independent nation, but almost immediately after the cessation of hostilities, Bulgaria quarreled with her former allies over the newly won territory. These tensions in the summer of 1913 led to the Second Balkan War. Romania and Turkey joined with Greece, Serbia, Montenegro, and Albania against Bulgaria and Bulgaria was forced to capitulate.

2. Alliances. Further complicating the myriad of ethnic-nationalistic rivalries, Europe was plagued with a confusing spiderweb configuration of military alliances in the early

twentieth century. On the eve of hostilities, Europe polarized into two opposing armed camps centered around the Triple Alliance and the Triple Entente. The Triple Alliance was started as a Dual Alliance between Germany and Austria-Hungary in 1879 and became the Triple Alliance when Italy joined these two countries in 1882. The Triple Alliance was a mutual protection treaty signed by these three countries, promising to come to one another's aid in case of a foreign attack on any one of the *signatories*¹. The Triple Alliance was viewed as a potential threat by other European nations. Attempting to counter the effects of the Triple Alliance, France promulgated a defense pact with Czarist Russia in 1894, which was referred to as the Franco-Russian Alliance. England, fearing the results of total isolation, reached a formal state of Entente Cordiale (cordial understanding) with France in 1904. The final leg of this defensive triangle was constructed in 1907 when England and Russia signed the Anglo-Russian Entente. The amalgamation of the Franco-Russian Alliance (1894), the Entente Cordiale (1904), and the Anglo-Russian Entente (1907) produced the Triple Entente of England, France and Russia. Less powerful nations were also drawn into this treaty network, producing a situation precarious to world peace.

In 1902, unbeknownst to her allies, Italy made a secret treaty with France that would, a decade later, negate her ties with the Triple Alliance. Because of these elaborate military obligations, any conflict that involved one or more of the parties in either alliance would embroil all of Europe in war.

1. The underlying causes for World War I go back as early as the _____s.
2. During the 19th century Great Britain, France, Germany, Italy and Belgium had established a number of colonies in _____.
3. Europe was plagued with a confusing spiderweb configuration of _____
_____ in the early 20th century.

3. Assassination of the Austrian Archduke. The European situation was so potentially volatile that in 1914 the German ambassador to France, Wilhelm von Schoen, made the statement, "Peace remains at the mercy of an accident." That "accident" was not long in coming. Because of the particular unrest in the Balkans, that area had been labeled the "powder keg of Europe." The major area of contention in 1914 centered around the ownership of two

¹ signatories – official signer of a document

small provinces – Bosnia and Herzegovina. Both Austria-Hungary and Serbia laid claim to these provinces. To Serbia, Bosnia and Herzegovina represented the only possible direct outlet to the sea, which she needed to ship her products; but Austria-Hungary had the irritating habit of closing that corridor to the sea whenever it served her purposes.

Archduke of Austria-Hungary, Francis Ferdinand, and his wife Sophie were due to visit Bosnia in June 1914. The Archduke was the nephew of Francis Joseph, Emperor of Austria-Hungary. The Archduke was also the heir apparent to the throne. When his intended visit became known, some young Serbians banded themselves together in a secret terrorist society, which they called “Union or Death” or “The Black Hand,” and planned to assassinate the Archduke. Members of The Black Hand came from all levels of Serbian society and included some high-ranking army officers. As the Archduke and Archduchess rode through the city of Sarajevo, Bosnia, on Sunday June 28, 1914, a Black Hand revolutionary threw a bomb at their car. The bomb exploded harmlessly behind the moving vehicle, and the royal couple escaped without injury. Later that same day, another Black Hand assassin, Gavrilo Princip, leaped onto the running board of the car and fired three shots from a Browning pistol. Two bullets struck the Archduke and one hit his wife. Both victims died almost instantly. Princip was caught and arrested, but his crime was to become the spark that lit the “powder keg of Europe.”

B. Europe Goes to War

Austria-Hungary refused to be placated by the arrest and trial of Princip and other Black Hand conspirators. The Austria-Hungarian authorities, in an attempt to use the Sarajevo Crisis as an opportunity to humiliate Serbia, presented a totally unreasonable set of demands to the Serbian government. Even though the Austria-Hungarian ultimatum was unwarranted, Serbia agreed to accept all but two of the demands. The two requirements that Serbia refused to meet stated that:

(1) *Certain, later to be named, Serbian officials would be dismissed on the demand of Austria-Hungary.*

(2) *Austria-Hungarian authorities would be allowed to participate (for Serbian soil) in the prosecution of certain Serbian political organizations hostile to Austria-Hungary.*

Because of Serbia’s overall readiness to cooperate Kaiser Wilhelm of Germany attempted to persuade Austria-Hungary that there was no longer any valid reason for going to war. On July 28, 1914, however, Serbia and Austria-Hungary declared war on one another. Russia immediately mobilized her army along the Austria-Hungarian frontier, and Germany and Great Britain tried, without success, to contain the war in the Balkans and to keep hostilities from

spreading to the major powers. The German government sent *communiqués*² to Russia and France, asking them to stay neutral. When France and Russia ignored the German demands, Germany declared war on them both. Germany mobilized her army, marched through Luxembourg to the Belgium border, and requested that German troops be allowed to pass through Belgium border, and requested that German troops be allowed to pass through Belgium to France. Belgium refused and her king, Albert I, retorted, "Belgium is a nation, not a road." Not to be stopped, Germany invaded Belgium on August 4, 1914. Because of this flagrant violation of Belgian neutrality, Great Britain declared war on Germany. Through this rapid succession of events, World War I had officially begun!

4. The Triple Alliance was a mutual protection treaty signed by _____, _____, and _____ promising to come to one another's aid in case of a _____ attack.
5. Because of unrest in the Balkans, that area was labeled the "_____."
6. The spark that lit the "powder keg of Europe" was when a Black Hand assassin killed the _____ and _____ of Bosnia.
7.
 - a. In July 1914 Serbia and Austria-Hungary went to _____ against one another.
 - b. Russia mobilized her _____ along the Austria-Hungary frontier.
 - c. Germany and Great Britain tried to contain the war in the _____ without success.
8.
 - a. Germany invaded _____ in August, 1914.
 - b. Because of the flagrant violation of Belgium, _____ declared war on Germany.
 - c. This rapid succession of events was the start of _____.

1. Opening Battles. Because of their centralized position, Germany, Austria-Hungary, Bulgaria, and Turkey became known as the Central Powers. The member nations of the Triple Entente, on the other hand, were called variously – the Associate Powers, the Allied Powers, or simply the Allies. Although Germany had the largest, best-trained, and best-equipped army in Europe, the Central Powers were vastly outnumbered by the Allies. Before World War I

² *communiqués* – official statement or communication

was over, more than 8,000,000 men from both sides would die, many being the victims of new and horrible weapons. Among these innovative instruments of death were tanks, airplanes, submarines, machine guns, hand grenades, barbed wire, and poisonous gas.

Germany because of her superior army, expected a quick and easy victory. The German army swept swiftly through neutral Belgium and advanced to within fifteen miles of the city of Paris, France. The main German force then wheeled east toward the Marne River, where they encountered Allied Powers. A very confusing and somewhat inconclusive battle was fought, but the Battle of Marne did stop the German advance and was extremely devastating to their morale. The German army was forced to retreat to the Aisne River. Over 1,500,000 troops participated in the First Battle of the Marne. This great battle marked the first turning point of World War I and ended Germany's chances for a quick victory.

In the opening battles against Russia, the Central Powers were more successful. The Germans crushed two Russian armies and drove them from the field. More than 300,000 Russian soldiers were killed, wounded, or reported missing.

2. Trench Warfare on the Western Front. Little actual territory changed hands on the Western Front during the first year of World War I, and the fighting reached a virtual standstill early in 1915. This deadlock remained unchanged for nearly the next two years, largely due to the introduction of such new devices as barbed wire, tanks, and machine guns. These innovations prevented successful use of the cavalry and the massed charge. Instead of being able to attack and retreat, as had previously been the common mode of war, each side dug an extensive network of trenches. Over six hundred miles of these trenches meandered through France and Belgium. Along some parts of the Western Front, less than one hundred yards separated the lines of the Central Powers and the Allies. Often, each side constructed a second and third parallel line of trenches to augment the front lines. Between the trench systems of the opposing sides lay a denuded and unoccupied "no man's land" over which the combatants fought for months without gaining more than a few inches of ground on either side.

Month after month, the men of the opposing armies lived and fought in the trenches, combating not only the enemy but also rain, mud, standing water, rats, vermin, and body fungus. To add to this overall discomfort, on April 22, 1915, the Germans unveiled a new experiment weapon – poisonous chlorine gas.

9. The Central Powers were made up of what countries? _____, _____, _____ and _____.
10. Before World War I ended over 8 _____ men from both sides would die.
11. New and horrible weapons that caused many of the death were: (a) _____, (b) _____, (c) _____ (d) _____ (e) _____ (f) _____ (g) _____.
12. a. Over 1.5 million troops participated in the 1st _____ .
b. This battle marked the 1st _____ of World War I.
c. It also ended _____ chances of a quick victory.
13. The Germans unveiled poisonous _____ in April 1915.

3. Eastern Front. Having not been able to make much headway on the Western Front, in 1915 the Central Powers began concentrating their main assault on the Eastern Front. In February and March of 1915, the allies (especially the British) attempted to capture Constantinople, Turkey. The Dardanelles, a narrow strait of water that separates Europe from Turkey, provided a convenient waterway from the Mediterranean Sea to the Black Sea and Russia. England and Russia wanted to take control of the Dardanelles in order to aid Allied shipping and also to take some pressure away from the Russian front. British troops landed at two points on the Gallipoli Peninsula, but they found themselves pinned down on the beaches – hemmed in by the ocean to their rear and high, steep ridges to their front. A terrible slaughter took place, and the British were forced to evacuate. The failure of the Gallipoli invasion nearly destroyed the political career of the first lord of the Admiralty, Winston S. Churchill. Because Churchill had encouraged the Gallipoli campaign, he took the blame for its failure and resigned his cabinet post. The Gallipoli invasion was undoubtedly the most ill-conducted British campaign of the War. The total loss in lives of this mistake was 214,000 men.

In 1915 Italy made her entrance into the War. Previous to that, Italy had remained neutral, which was a violation of her military agreement through the Triple Alliance; but one will recall that Italy had made a secret treaty with France in 1902. Doing so had made Italy an ally of the Triple Entente with France in 1902. Doing so had made Italy an ally of the Triple entente as well the Triple Alliance. When Italy decided to join the Allies, Austria-Hungary was forced into the position of fighting a two-front war.

4. War on the High Seas. The year 1915 was a year of escalation in the war on the high seas. On February 4 Germany declared that all the waters around the British Isles were part of a war zone. Any ship, combatant or merchant, Allied or neutral, would be sunk without warning if found in that war zone. Pursuant to that end, German submarines prowled the waters of the war zone. The United States warned that she would hold Germany solely responsible for any damage to American ships caused by a German *U-boat*³.

5. Lusitania Incident. Some have desired to make Germany the villain of World War I, but for several reasons this is not totally equitable. In actuality, the various treaty alliances entangled most of Europe by placing the countries into armed camps. Following the assassination of Archduke Ferdinand in Sarajevo, there seemed little way to extinguish the conflagration until the blaze burned itself out. Even though nearly all of Europe was involved in the War, it was the sinking of the *Lusitania* that caused most of the blame to be placed on Germany.

The *Lusitania* was a vessel of British registry. She sailed under the British national flag and was registered as an armed auxiliary cruiser of the British admiralty fleet. On the same day that England entered the War, the *Lusitania* entered dry dock. When she left dry dock for sea duty, it was as an “unarmed” passenger liner; however, the *Lusitania* was outfitted with twelve six-inch guns. In addition, on every voyage the vessel made, including her last, the *Lusitania* carried two sets of cargo manifests. A falsified set was always presented to customs officials in United States ports, while the real set was kept-hidden. These real cargo manifests clearly showed that the *Lusitania* was a major carrier of munitions and other contraband destined to become part of the British war effort. All such was the case when the *Lusitania* was attacked.

On May 1, 1915, the *Lusitania* sailed from New York Harbor. On that day a general notice had appeared in United States newspapers warning Americans not to sail on British ships because those ships were subject to attack. It was almost as if the whole world were holding its breath, just waiting and daring German U-boats to torpedo the ship. As the *Lusitania* sailed into the war zone, known to be infested with German submarines, the British Admiralty was strangely negligent in protecting the *Lusitania*. They had been advised to change course every few minutes as an evasive move, but this suggestion was ignored. On May 7, 1915, the *Lusitania* was struck by two torpedoes. It sank within eighteen minutes. When the *Lusitania* sank, 1,198 persons, of whom 128 were Americans, drowned in the Irish Sea. If the sinking of the *Lusitania* did not take

³ U-boat – German submarine

the United States to war, it certainly pushed the country farther down that inevitable road and probably made the return trip impossible.

In the United States, there were men who sincerely desired for this country to remain neutral, but there were also some who definitely wanted America to join the War. President Woodrow Wilson appears to have been one of those who genuinely wanted peace. Sadly, there were men around him who were of a different mind. Although the United States did not actually declare war until nearly two years after the sinking of the *Lusitania*, nearly every American apologist for entry into World War I lists this incident as one of the main reasons for that decision.

A rather mysterious personage known as Colonel Edward Mandell House seems to have figured highly into the proceedings leading up to the sinking of the *Lusitania*. Colonel House was in England as the personal representative of President Wilson. On the very day the *Lusitania* was torpedoed, House was asked two very important questions. The first came shortly after breakfast when British Foreign Secretary Sir Edward Grey suddenly asked House, "What will America do if the Germans sink an ocean liner with American passengers on board?"

Colonel House quickly replied, "I believe that a flame of indignation would sweep the United States and that [incident] by itself would be sufficient to carry us into the War."

At noon Colonel House had an audience with King George V, and at that meeting the King of England asked House, "Colonel, what will America do if the Germans sink the *Lusitania*?" By two-thirty that afternoon, the *Lusitania* was resting on the bottom of the Irish Sea.

Two days later Colonel House wrote to President Wilson, "America has come to the parting of the ways . . . We can no longer remain neutral spectators."

The efforts of President Wilson, Secretary of State William Jennings Bryan, and others who wanted peace kept America out of the War until 1917, but finally this nation entered World War I as an ally of Great Britain and France.

14. Italy joined the War in _____.
15. a. 1915 saw an escalation in the war on the _____.
- b. On February 4th Germany declared that all waters around the _____ were part of a war zone.
16. The United States warned that she would hold Germany solely responsible for any damage to _____ caused by German U-boats.

17. a. The *Lusitania* was a carrier of _____ and other _____.
- b. The vessel sailed from _____ and seven days later was struck by two _____.
- c. It sank in 18 _____.
18. The United States entered World War I in _____ becoming allies with Great Britain and France.

6. Third Year. In 1916 both the Central Powers and the Allies made renewed efforts on all fronts. Germany attempted to penetrate the French lines by launching a massive attack on the French city of Verdun. Beginning on February 21, Verdun was shelled by German artillery for twenty-four hours. The German army then mobilized along a twenty-mile front, but the French commander defending Verdun, General Henri Pétain, vowed in regard to the Germans, “They shall not pass!” During the subsequent four months of monumental fighting, the French held the German forces, who managed to advance only four miles. By the end of June, the Germans had exhausted their resources and went on the defensive. They slowly retreated as the French mounted a counterattack, and both sides sustained devastating losses in this ten-month engagement.

Meanwhile, in an attempt to take some of the pressure away from Verdun, British troops under command of General Sir Douglas Haig initiated an offensive farther north in France along the Somme River. The fighting in the Somme Valley was not a single battle but a series of engagements known collectively as the Battles of the Somme. From July to November of 1916, success by the German and the British forces teetered back and forth. During one of these Somme battles, the British introduced the tank as a battlefield weapon. While it gave some advantage, little actual territory changed hands. The fighting raged on for four weary months, and over 1,100,000 men lost their lives in the combined Battles of the Somme.

7. Battle of Jutland. The naval aspects of World War I were primarily a duel between Germany and Great Britain for supremacy on the seas. On May 31 and June 1 of 1916, the major sea battle between those two powers took place. Admiral Reinhard Scheer, commander of the German High Seas Fleet, had in mind and attempted to divide the British Grand Fleet into two parts and defeat each half separately. Scheer first sent Vice-Admiral Franz Hipper to decoy off a portion of the British fleet. Having accomplished this, Hipper and his German naval force sailed out to meet and do battle with the British cruiser fleet under command of Vice Admiral David Beatty. When it appeared the Germans were winning, the main German fleet under

Scheer's personal command joined with Hipper. The British Vice Admiral Beatty was then forced to flee northward. Beatty's hope was to make contact with the remainder of the British fleet commanded by Admiral John Jellicoe. When Jellicoe was advised of Beatty's precarious position, he immediately sped southward toward the combatants. Before German Admiral Scheer was aware of what was happening, the combined English naval forces had him outnumbered, outgunned, and surrounded. This time it was the German's turn to flee the scene of battle. The German fleet managed to escape safely to her own waters, but not without suffering a severe mauling. Because the British sustained heavier losses, the Germans claimed the Battle of Jutland as a great victory. In reality, however, Great Britain maintained a position of undisputed mistress on the high seas, and the German fleet remained nearly inactive for the duration of the War.

8. Russian Revolution. The two Russian Revolutions in 1917 helped change the course of the War. In March 1917 Czar Nicholas II was forced to abdicate his throne, and a new republican government was established with Alexander Kerensky as Prime minister. This government was to be a parliamentary government such as existed in many of the other European countries, but it did not last long. In November Nikolai Lenin, who had been escorted into Russia by the Germans and Leo Trotsky – both communist revolutionaries – led the Bolsheviks in the overthrow of Kerensky's government. The new government put an end to hostilities with Germany on December 3, 1917, and on March 3, 1918, signed the Treaty of Brest-Litovsk, making peace with the Central Powers. With Russia out of the War, Germany was freed from fighting a two-front war and was able to concentrate full military might on the English and French at the Western Front. Many began to fear the Allies would lose the War. However, another event took place in 1917 that greatly impacted the final outcome of the War – the United States entered World War I.

19. The fighting in the Somme Valley was not a single battle, but a series of engagements known as the _____.
20. In 1916 the British introduced the _____ as a battlefield weapon.
21. The naval aspects of World War I were primarily a duel between _____ and _____ for supremacy on the seas.
22. a. Two _____ in 1917 helped change the course of the War.
b. Czar Nicholas II was forced to _____ his throne.

- c. Nikolai Lenin led the _____ in the overthrow of Kerensky's government.

C. United States Enters the War

1. Background to United States Involvement. At the beginning of World War I, the American people had only one desire – to stay out of the European conflict. Woodrow Wilson was elected president twice (1912 and 1916) on the solemn promise that he would keep America neutral.

Slowly, however, the United States moved closer and closer to war. The *Lusitania* incident greatly aroused American anti-German feeling. Due to American protest, Germany temporarily ceased her policy of unrestricted submarine warfare, but by 1917 German U-boats were once again sinking, without warning, any and all vessels found in the war zone. Many American merchant vessels were torpedoed in the process. Also, in 1917 British intelligence intercepted a German communiqué to Mexico. This note, written by German Foreign Secretary Alfred Zimmerman, proposed a mutual military pact between Mexico and Germany to the effect that if the United States went to war with Germany, Mexico would attack her northern neighbor. In return, Germany promised to restore to Mexico the American states of Texas, New Mexico, and Arizona. The revelation of the Zimmerman Note infuriated Americans, and by spring 1917 events were moving with amazing speed. On March 18 no less than three American ships were victims of German submarine attacks. Two days later Wilson's cabinet unanimously advised the President to request that Congress issue a declaration of war. On April 2, 1917, the President of the United States asked Congress for a declaration of war. Claiming that Germany had "thrust" this war upon a reluctant United States, Wilson said that American troops would enter the conflict to "make the world safe for democracy" and fight "the war to all wars." The President further told the American Congress: It is a fearful thing to lead this great peaceful people into war, into the most terrible and disastrous of all wars, civilization itself seeming to be in the balance. But the right is more precious than peace, and we shall fight for the things which we have always carried nearest our hearts - for democracy, for the right of those who submit to authority to have a voice in their own governments, for the rights and liberties of small nations, for a universal dominion of right by such a concert of free peoples as shall bring peace and safety to all nations and make the world itself at last free . . .

On April 6, 1917, the United States of America made a formal declaration of war on Germany and entered World War I on the side of the Allies.

2. American Mobilization. It is easier to declare war than it is to prepare for war. According to Proverbs 20:18, those who purposed to enter into a war need both counsel and advice. The American government immediately set in motion the machinery to raise, train, and equip an army. A massive recruitment campaign was launched, and a Selective Service Act was hastily passed to provide for a draft. Before World War I was over, 4,800,000 American men would wear the uniform of their country. Of that number 2,800,000 were drafted under the provisions of the Selective Service Act.

The first United States troops to reach war-torn Europe were those of the American Expeditionary Forces under General John J. (Black Jack) Pershing. Pershing's men landed in France on June 26, 1917. Reflecting on the Frenchman who had helped the United States win her independence, Colonel Charles E. Stanton of Pershing's staff announced on July 4, 1917, "Lafayette we are here!" By October, American "doughboys" had joined their allies in the trenches. The American Expeditionary Forces participated in thirteen major operations in World War I. The American forces fought along side French and British units for the remainder of 1917.

Marquis de Lafayette was a noted Frenchman who fought for the colonies in the American War for Independence. The words "Lafayette, we are here!" were spoken at Lafayette's tomb when the Americans arrived in France to fight with the Allies. The statement conveyed the American sentiment that she was repaying her debt of freedom to France.

23. a. The American people's only desire at the beginning of World War I was to _____.
- b. President Woodrow Wilson gave a solemn _____ that America would stay _____.
24. German U-boats sank many American _____ vessels with _____
25. a. On March 18, 1917, no less than three _____ ships were victims of _____ submarine attacks.
- b. On March 20, 1917, President Wilson's _____ advised him to request that _____ issue a declaration of war.
26. a. The US made a formal declaration of _____ on _____ on April 6, 1917.
- b. The US entered World War I on the side of the _____.

27. a. After the declaration the American government set in motion to _____, _____ and _____ an army.
- b. A massive _____ campaign was launched and a _____ _____ was passed to provide for a draft.
28. a. Before the War was over _____ million men would wear the uniform of their country.
- b. Under the provisions of the Selective Service Act _____ million were drafted.
29. a. The first troops to reach Europe were the _____ _____ _____.
- b. They landed in _____ on June 26, 1917.
- c. These troops participated in _____ major operations in World War I.
30. The American forces fought along side _____ and _____ units for the remainder of 1917.

3. Final Year. At the beginning of 1918, the Allies found themselves on the defensive. The Peace of Brest-Litovsk freed an ever-increasing number of German troops for use on the Western Front, and during the spring months, Germany launched an all-out offensive. Slowly, the Allies retreated back to the Marne River. The German objective was nothing less than Paris, the capital city of France. In April all Allied forces were placed under the unified command of French general Marshall Ferdinand Foch. The American-supported Allied forces were able to hold off a savage German drive to Paris at Château-Thierry, and a unit of American Marines broke through the German lines with a fierce counterattack at Belleau Wood. Finally, on July 15, 1918, the Germans launched their last major offensive, which was met by a massive Allied counteroffensive. The two weeks of solid fighting that followed became known as the Second Battle of the Marne. The decisive Allied victory at this Second Battle of the Marne marked the beginning of the end of the War. Slowly and painfully Germany and her allies were beaten back by way of Saint-Mihiel, across the Meuse River, and through the Argonne Forest. One by one the other Central Power surrendered. By November 4, 1918, Germany stood alone.

4. War in the Air. World War I was unique in its use of air power. Airplanes had only recently been invented (1903), and this war was the first in which they were used. In the beginning, airplanes were not used in battle but only for observation purpose. Later they were equipped with machine guns, and the airplanes became lethal weapons. In September 1918 at the

Battle of Saint-Mihiel, American Brigadier General Billy Mitchell commanded World War I's largest aerial assault. Allied airplanes involved in the action over Saint-Mihiel numbered 1,481.

The aircraft pilots became highly romanticized figures. Any of the "Knights of the Air" who shot down five or more enemy planes became known as "flying aces." Among these "aces" were René Fonck of France, Billy Bishop of Canada, and Albert Ball of Great Britain. The two most legendary figures, however, were Captain Eddie Rickenbacker of the United States and Baron Manfred von Richthofen of Germany. Captain Rickenbacker shot down twenty-two enemy planes and four observation balloons. Baron von Richthofen shot down seventy-nine British planes and one Belgian plane before he himself was killed in action. Baron von Richthofen's skill and his famous Fokker Triplane, painted red, earned him the title "the Red Baron" or "the Red Knight."

5. Armistice. When the Germans realized they were fighting alone, morale in the German ranks collapsed. Sailors in the German High Seas Fleet stationed at Kiel mutinied. Soon German soldiers at the front threw down their arms, and civilians in Germany revolted. In order to stave off complete disaster, Kaiser Wilhelm II agreed to a cessation of fighting. The Allies presented Germany with the following five demands:

- (a). All German-occupied territory would be evacuated.
- (b). Germany would surrender all arms and warships.
- (c). All German forces would withdraw from west of the Rhine River.
- (d). All Allied prisoners would be returned.
- (e). Allied troops would occupy Germany.

On November 11, 1918, German representatives met with Allied representatives in a railroad car in the Compiègne Forest in France. The armistice was signed by both sides, bringing an end to World War I.

In Germany, Kaiser Wilhelm II simply abdicated and went into exile in The Netherlands, and German socialists declared Germany a republic. By the end of 1918, the Austria-Hungarian Empire was split up. The Baltic peoples – Czechs, Yugoslavs, Poles, and Hungarians – declared their independence from the former Empire. Emperor Charles I abdicated the throne of Austria, and Austria became a republic. Many other geographical changes took place due to World War I, and the map of Europe was redrawn.

During the years from 1914 to 1918, twice as many fighting men were killed as all those killed in all the major wars from 1790 to 1913 combined. Civilian deaths totaled over 5,000,000

persons. The total dollar and cents cost of this first global conflict was 337 billion dollars. In every way, World War I was the most costly war to that date.

31. The decisive Allied _____ of the Second Battle of the Marne marked the _____ of the _____ of the War.
32. World War I was the first war that used _____.
33. a. Any of the “Knights of the Air” who shot down _____ or more enemy planes became known as “_____.”
b. Captain Eddie Rickenbacker of the US shot down _____ enemy planes and _____ observation balloons and was considered a _____ figure.
c. Another legendary figure was Baron Manfred von Richthofen of Germany shot down _____ British planes and one Belgium plane before he was _____ in action.
34. a. On November 11, 1918 German representatives met with Allied representatives in a _____ car in Compiègne Forest in _____.
b. The _____ was signed by both sides, bringing an end to _____.
35. a. During 1914 to 1918 _____ as many fighting men were killed as all those killed in all major _____ from 1790 to 1913 combined.
b. The first global conflict cost was 337 _____ dollars.

II. INTERWAR PERIOD

A. Paris Peace Conference

On January 18, 1919, a peace conference was held in Paris, France, and all countries who had been at war with the Central Powers were represented. Among those who attended were Woodrow Wilson of the United States, David Lloyd George of Great Britain, Georges Clemenceau of France, and Vittorio Orlando of Italy. These leaders became known as the “Big Four.” The purpose of the Paris Peace Conference was to draft peace treaties with countries of the Central Powers and attempt the task of reconstruction. At the Conference President Wilson presented his famous Fourteen Points, which proposed the following:

1. Open covenants of peace openly arrived at, and no future secret international agreements.

2. Freedom of the seas both in peace and in war unless international action is needed to enforce international treaties.
3. An end to economic barriers with the establishment of equal trade conditions among nations.
4. Reduction of nations armaments to a point that is only needed for domestic safety.
5. Impartial decisions and adjustments where colonial claims are concerned.
6. Removal of German troops from all Russian territory, and freedom for Russia to determine her own political developments and national policy.
7. Removal of German troops from Belgium, giving her freedom to rebuild as a nation.
8. Removal of German troops from all French territory, and the restoration of Alsace-Lorraine.
9. Readjustment of Italian borders along lines of nationality.
10. Freedom to develop self-government for the people of Austria-Hungary.
11. Removal of German troops from Romania, Serbia, and Montenegro, and guaranteed independence for the Balkan Countries.
12. Turkish independence with the opportunity for other nationalities under Turkish rule to develop self-government, and a guarantee that the Dardanelles should always be an open waterway to ships of all nations.
13. Polish independence with guaranteed access to the sea.
14. Formation of a general association of nations to afford mutual guarantees of political independence and territorial integrity - a League of Nations.

Many of Wilson's points were adopted by the Conference, but Great Britain could not accept freedom of the seas, and France insisted on severe punishment of Germany, especially concerning *reparations*⁴ to other countries for damages caused by World War I.

The fourteenth of Wilson's famous Fourteen Points proposed the formation of a League of Nations. Wilson himself felt very strongly about the need for such a league, but his idea was generally very unpopular in the United States. Nevertheless, along with many of his other points, the fourteenth point did become part of the treaties signed at the Conference.

Five separate treaties between Allied nations and defeated nations came out of the Paris Peace Conference. These were the Treaty of Versailles with Germany, the Treaty of St. German

⁴ reparations – payments made by a defeated country

with Austria, the Treaty of Trianon with Hungary, the Treaty of Neuilly with Bulgarian, and the Treaty of Sevres with Turkey.

Reflecting the general American consensus, conservatives in the United States Congress, led by Senator Henry Cabot Lodge of Massachusetts, did not accept the Treaty of Versailles. In addition, the United States retreated to her previous policy of relative *isolationism*⁵ except for one or two disarmament conferences.

Although the evidence verifies that all European nations who sided with Germany were in part responsible for the outbreak of hostilities, it is not surprising that the European Allies desired to place the entire blame for World War I on Germany. As a result provisions of the Versailles Treaty were quite severe:

- (a). The size of *Germany* was reduced by one-eighth, and her population by 6,500,000.
- (b). All of *Germany's* overseas colonies and investments were taken away.
- (c). The *German* navy was abolished, and the army was severely limited in size.
- (d). *Germany* was required to make heavy reparations to the Allied Powers.

B. “Roaring Twenties”

The 1920s in the United States are often called the “roaring twenties.” World War I was over, the nation was eager for change, and change did come. But with that change came strong division as a new culture and set of values endeavored to sweep away all semblance of Victorianism and Biblical principles. The prewar American way of life faded, and a new societal influence emerged. The rural-urban population shift continued, being augmented by young people, often the children of recent immigrants from Central and Eastern Europe, who desired to disassociate themselves from foreign ancestry. This younger generation found the “hustle and bustle” of eastern cities, such as New York and Boston, very attractive. Industry also continued to expand, and the development of mass production, such as that developed by the Ford Motor Company, intensified population concentration.

⁵ isolationism – avoidance of political and economic alliances with other nations

36. a. The “Big Four” leaders at the Paris Peace Conference were: (a) _____
(b) _____, (c) _____ (d) _____.
- b. The purpose of the Conference was to _____
_____.
37. Five separate treaties between _____ nations and _____ nations came out of the Paris Peace Conference.
38. The 1920s in the US are often called the “_____.”

1. Changing Lifestyle of Americans. While most adult Americans of the 1920s called themselves Protestants and were basically conservative in faith and practice, new lifestyles emerged alongside the older more conservative Puritan and Victorian ones. Many of the younger generation were taken up in the so-called freedoms and advancements of “roaring twenties” society. New fashion styles, music, and inventions were generally accepted.

One perceptible evidence of change in the twenties was the non-conventional fashion styles of many women. During the “roaring twenties,” many women began to wear shorter, immodest skirts in contrast to the conservative ankle-length or floor-length skirts of the previous generations. Beauty shops came into existence, and many women cut their beautiful long hair into boyish-looking bobs. Other young women began to smoke cigarettes and do things that former generations had considered a sign of ill-breeding. Those who adopted these new fashions and lifestyles were called “flappers.” It was a time when Biblical standards of modesty and womanhood no longer seemed relevant.

Changes in the department of young ladies also reflected a growing change in the role of women in America society. Previous to the 1920s – in great part due to the beneficial influence of America’s Protestant-Biblical heritage – women had played a more private and passive role in American society. Men took the lead, and women were comfortable to be discreet chaste, keepers at home, good, obedient to their own husbands. It was not unusual for women to be less educated than men. More commonly, they were trained in domestic responsibilities and the refinements of being a lady and, to a lesser degree, in academic subjects or in business. With the new times, however, the attitudes of women, and the attitudes of society toward them, were changing. When the Nineteenth Amendment to the Constitution was passed in 1920, it gave women the right to vote. At the same time, more and more women began to work outside the

home. It was at this point in history that the role of women in American society began a process of change that continues even to today.

Other contributions to and reflections of the changing lifestyles in America were evidenced in the music of the times. The age of jazz began. Music with a distinctive beat became popular in many circles, and with jazz music came such dances as the Charleston with its fast steps and high rhythm. The “jazz craze” went along with the whole “flapper” motif – a radical undoing of the traditional mores of American society.

Added to the above changes was the growth in some circles of radicalism. Socialism and Communism were gaining adherents in the labor movement and among some intellectuals.

2. Prohibition of the Liquor Traffic. For many years such organizations as the Anti-Saloon League and the Woman’s Christian Temperance union had centered their attention and efforts on local, state, and federal legislation against the distribution and consumption of alcoholic beverages: beer, gin, whiskey, rum, and wine.

Almost two-thirds of the states did have prohibition laws in place, but in 1917 the Eighteenth Amendment, instituting national prohibition, was passed by Congress.

Section 1. After one year from the ratification of this article, the manufacture sale, or transportation of intoxicating liquors within, the importation thereof into, or the exportation thereof from the United States and all territory subject to the jurisdiction thereof for beverage purposes is hereby prohibited.

Section 2. The Congress and the several states shall have concurrent power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.

Section 3. This article shall be inoperative unless it shall have been ratified as an amendment to the Constitution by the legislatures of the several sates, as provided in the Constitution, within seven years from the date of the submission hereof to the states by the Congress.

In 1919 the Volstead Act, prohibiting liquors containing more than one-half of one percent of alcohol, was passed to enforce the Eighteenth Amendment. Although many Americans, willingly or unwillingly, complied with these measures, an illegal market involving alcoholic beverages developed. Liquor was smuggled in from Europe, and some people made liquor in homemade *stills*,⁶ sometimes even in bathtubs. Liquor was sold in illegal bars and clubs known as “speakeasies.” Sometimes entrance was gained by code words such as “Joe sent me.”

⁶ Still – an apparatus for making illegal liquor

Much of this illegal liquor traffic was controlled by crime syndicates or gangsters and this stimulated the growth of J. Edgar Hoover's Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI).

The problems stemming from the illegal liquor traffic arose from the mistaken philosophy that society can be changed by legislating morality. Even if such legislation reflects a correct point of view, it is powerless to change the desires or the character of those it is intended to help. Legislation cannot change the heart of wicked mankind. Government may legislate against the revealed and generally agreed moral evil, but laws cannot change a heart.

Local communities may vote and pass restrictive laws on distribution and consumption of liquor, but to attempt to enforce such a law among a population that is basically hostile to it is an exercise in futility and an invitation for organized crime and illegal marketing. Such was the case with national prohibition.

Although Americans were sharply divided on the issue of prohibition, more and more people began to oppose it, and in 1933 prohibition was repealed by the Twenty-First Amendment.

Section 1. The eighteenth article of amendment to the Constitution of the United States is hereby repealed.

Section 2. The transportation or importation into any state, territory, or possession of the United States for delivery or use therein of intoxicating liquors, in violation of the laws thereof, is hereby prohibited.

Section 3. This article shall be inoperative unless it shall have been ratified as an amendment to the Constitution, within seven years from the date of the submission hereof to the states by the Congress.

The passing of the Twenty-First Amendment was not a statement that consumption of alcoholic beverages was healthful or Biblically acceptable. It simply placed the responsibility and decision in the hands of each individual and within the law.

39. Some of the changes in the 20s were:

- (a) many women began to wear _____ skirts.
- (b) _____ shops came into existence.
- (c) many women _____ their hair into boyish-looking bobs.
- (d) some young women began to _____ cigarettes.

40. The 19th Amendment was passed in 1920 and gave _____
_____.

41. At this point in history more and more _____ began to work _____ the home.
42. a. Music with a distinctive beat called _____ became popular in many circles.
b. With jazz music came dances like the _____ with its fast steps and high rhythm.
43. The 18th Amendment in 1917 prohibited the distribution and consumption of _____.
44. a. Liquor was smuggled in from _____.
b. Some people made liquor in homemade _____.
c. Liquor was sold in illegal bars and clubs known as “_____.”
d. Illegal liquor traffic was controlled by _____ syndications or _____.
45. In 1933 the 21st Amendment _____ the 18th Amendment.

3. Rise of Aviation. Airplanes were used in combat during World War I, and the 1920s (and 30s) saw many advancements in air travel. Airmail service had begun in 1919 from Omaha, Nebraska, to Chicago, Illinois. The first crop-dusting plane flew in 1921, and radios were first used on planes in 1925. On May 8-9, 1926, Admiral Richard Byrd and his pilot, Floyd Bennett, were the first to fly over the North Pole.

The most famous flight was that of Charles A. Lindbergh on May 20-21, 1927. As the “Lone Eagle,” he flew from New York to Paris in thirty-three hours and thirty minutes, the first nonstop, solo transatlantic flight. His plane, the *Spirit of St. Louis*, is now on display in the National Air and Space Museum of the Smithsonian in Washington, D.C.

4. The Scopes Trial. One of the most familiar incidents in the fundamentalist-modernist controversy of that time was the Scopes trial, also called the “Monkey Trial,” in Dayton, Tennessee. This trial received great notoriety because of the involvement of the renowned Populist and Christian orator, William Jennings Bryan, and the agnostic criminal lawyer, Clarence Darrow.

In 1925 the state of Tennessee passed a law forbidding the teaching of evolution in the schools. Specifically forbidden was “any theory that denies the story of the Divine Creation of man as taught in the Bible” or “instead that man had descended from a lower order of animals.”

The American Civil Liberties Union desired to test this law and for that purpose persuaded John T. Scopes, a biology teacher and coach, to violate the law. In return they promised to provide him with legal aid at the trial that was certain to follow.

The seven-day trial attracted hundreds to the little town of Dayton, Tennessee, and became a word duel between Darrow and Bryan over the veracity or error of the theory of evolution. The debate was a futile undertaking because it was totally dependent on subjective philosophical-theological presuppositions regarding the supernatural; it was also a battle of modernists against traditionalists. At one point, Bryan himself took the stand to be cross-examined by Darrow. The day was stifling hot, and Bryan sweated and fanned himself as he gave his defense of the Bible. But as often happens in arguments of this sort, he was derided and his testimony was not taken seriously. The national press sensationalized every aspect of the trial and used the situation to ridicule fundamentalism in general and Bryan in particular. Even though John Scopes was convicted, the evolutionists claimed the proceedings to be a victory for their cause.

Whether because of his age, his health, or the demoralization of the trial, William Jennings Bryan died unexpectedly five days later. The great "silver-tongued orator from the Platte" had been the personification of Populism. Three times he had run for President of the United States on the Democratic ticket. He had been Secretary of State under President Woodrow Wilson, and with justification, he was called the "Peerless Leader" of the Democratic Party. The Scopes trial was Bryan's last battle.

46. a. Airmail service began in 1919 from _____, Nebraska to _____, Illinois.
- b. The first _____ plane flew in 1921.
- c. _____ were first used on planes in 1925.
- d. In 1926 Admiral Byrd and Floyd Bennett were the first to fly over the _____.
47. a. Charles Lindberg flew his plane, the _____ in the first nonstop _____ flight in 1927.
- b. The flight was from _____ to _____ in 33 hours and 30 minutes.
- c. The plane is now on display in the National Air & Space Museum of the _____ in _____.

48. a. In 1925 the state of _____ passed a law forbidding the teachings of _____ in the schools.
- b. The ACLU persuaded John Scopes, a biology teacher, to _____ the law and _____ on evolution.
- c. The ACLU promised to provide Scopes with _____ at the trial.

C. Great Depression

In 1928 Republican Herbert Hoover, who ran against Democrat Al Smith, was elected President. Hoover was a famous engineer and had been a food administrator in Europe during World War I. He was also an extremely efficient Secretary of Commerce under Presidents Harding and Coolidge. In the year that Hoover was inaugurated, however, the United States, and also the rest of the world, experienced a grave economic depression (decline in business or trade). The Great Depression, as it was called in the United States, was known as the World Depression in Europe. Many blamed President Herbert Hoover for this economic catastrophe, but he could hardly have prevented it.

1. Causes. Many things happened to cause the Great Depression. The world had experienced a period of great prosperity after World War I. As the nations of Europe endeavored to repair the damage caused by the conflict, many workers and products were needed for the rebuilding process. When people spend that money, there becomes a demand for more products, and the need for more products provides profits for suppliers. This process of supply and demand is natural and beneficial when properly managed. The dilemma in the 1920s was that the demand for products, and therefore the growth of income, was only a temporary “economic bubble” caused by the aftermath of World War I. It was to last only as long as there was a need for repairs, rebuilding, and reestablishment of resources.

Compounding the effects of this temporary prosperity was the problem created by the extension of large amounts of credit. Banks were lending injudiciously, and numbers of individuals were imprudently borrowing. Many people became convinced that stocks were a sure thing and borrowed heavily to invest in the stock market. This often led to the price of stocks being inflated to unrealistic levels.

Prices can change very quickly in the stock market; in a short time stocks can rise or fall drastically in value. In early 1929 the price of stocks was rising to never-before-seen levels.

Hoping to “get rich quick,” many people borrowed money to purchase stock, expecting to sell it later for a large profit. However, at the stock market in New York City in October 1929, stock prices suddenly began falling. Stockholders panicked and began selling off stock. This only compounded the problem by flooding the market with stock, naturally leading to its devaluation. Realizing the dilemma and where it could lead, banks began calling in their loans. Very quickly funds ran out and banks closed, leaving people in desperate financial straits. This financial disaster is known as the 1929 Stock Market Crash.

Other factors undoubtedly also played a part in the Stock Market Crash in the United States and the World Depression that followed. Some economists and economic historians have pointed out that several bad decisions were made by the Federal Reserve System, the banking system in the United States that controls the total amount of money available in the economy. These economists feel that the Federal Reserve System caused the money supply to be contracted when the money supply should have been expanded.

Another factor, especially in Europe, was the huge war debt charged to Central Powers such as Germany and Austria-Hungary. These nations, struggling to recover from war damages, could not afford heavy reparations.

In 1929 the United States and other countries made the problems worse by raising tariffs – taxes on goods brought into countries. These tariffs made trade difficult and hurt countries that depended upon foreign markets for their goods.

49. a. In 1928 _____ became President.
b. That same year, the world experiences a grave economic depression which was called “_____.”
50. The process of supply and demand is _____ and _____ when properly managed.
51. a. In early 1929 the price of _____ was rising to never-before-seen levels.
b. By October, 1929 stock prices suddenly began _____.
c. Stockholders _____ and began selling off sock.
d. Banks began calling in their _____.
e. Funds ran _____ and banks _____.
f. People were left in desperate _____ straits.
g. This financial disaster is known as the _____
_____.

2. Results. The World Depression resulted in much hardship throughout Europe and the United States. Banks failed; men were unemployed; currencies were devalued. To devalue a country's currency is to pass a law saying that the currency is worth less in terms of gold or some other standard. When a currency is devalued, prices rise due to the fact that it takes more of the lower-valued currency to buy a product. Another reason prices go up when money is devalued is that other national currencies are worth more and are competing for the same products.

Because a large amount of money buys much less, devalued money will lead to a lack of food and other life necessities. In these situations, people often expect the government to help.

When the government does not provide the expected help, people tend to blame the government for the adverse economic situation, and this often leads to political instability, in Europe, the World Depression helped give rise to at least two dictators - Benito Mussolini of Italy and Adolf Hitler of Germany. In the United States, President Hoover did what he could to alleviate the privation caused by the calamitous depression, but he could not do enough to escape blame in the eyes of public. In 1932 he lost the Presidential election to Franklin D. Roosevelt.

III. WORLD WAR II

A. Failure of the Peace

1. League of Nations. The immediate outgrowth of attempts to promote peace after World War I was the League of Nations. This organization was provided for in the Treaty of Versailles and was given the responsibility of carrying out the Treaty of Versailles and other treaties signed at the end of World War I. The League of Nations provided a means for settling international disputes peacefully. All international conflicts were to be brought before the League, and the basic principle of collective security was that peace-loving nations could come together and defeat any nation that would break the peace.

2. Organization. At its height the League of Nations had fifty-eight member nations and was comprised of an Assembly, a Council, and a Secretariat. The Assembly was composed of representatives from all the member nations and met once a year to consider international disputes. Each member nation had one vote. The Council was made up of the most powerful nations and a few temporarily elected smaller nations. The Council carried the real power and the League of Nations because it reflected the views of the powerful nations. The Secretariat was

composed of the Secretary General and a staff of several hundred lesser officials from many different nations. The function of this body was to keep records and otherwise assist the Secretary General in running the League.

3. World Court. The League of Nations created a number of international agencies to help promote peace, including the permanent Court of International Justice. Although the Court was brought into being by the League of Nations, it was not a part of the League. Its two-fold purpose was to settle international disputes and clarify aspects of international law among the nations. Also called the World Court, it existed from 1922 to 1946.

4. Failure. The League of Nations failed in keeping the peace because it had no way of enforcing the World Court's decisions on nations who rejected those decisions. The League was weak and could not enforce the Treaty of Versailles and other treaties made at the end of World War I. Some of the Central Powers loudly protested the loss of territory and resources within their lands. Germany did not make all the reparations that France demanded, and when France occupied the rich industrial area of Germany called the Ruhr Valley, Germany stopped making reparations altogether. She briefly resumed the payments later when she obtained loans, mostly from the United States, but all reparations stopped in 1929 when the World Depression began. Germany also began to secretly rebuild her armed forces.

52. To devalue a country's currency is to pass a _____ saying that the _____ is worth _____ in terms of gold or some other standard.
53. When there is devalued money it takes _____ money which buys _____.
54. The _____ helped give rise to at least two dictators:
(a) _____ of Italy and (b) _____ of Germany.
55. a. The League of Nations provided a means for settling _____ peacefully.
b. The basic principle of collective security was that _____ nations could come together and _____ any nation that would break the _____.
c. The Assembly met once a year to consider _____ disputes.
56. a. The League of Nations failed in keeping the _____.
b. The League was weak and could not enforce the _____.

B. Rise of the Fascist Dictatorships

1. Germany's Government (1918-1933). Between the end of World War I and the rise of Nazism, Germany was ruled by democratic political parties such as the Social Democratic Party, the Catholic Centre Party, and the Democratic Party. The Social Democrats ruled Germany until 1929 and even put down extremists like the Nazis and the Communists. However, the worldwide depression that began in 1929 fatally harmed the democratic government in Germany. Because the German economy began to suffer so greatly, people turned to drastic solutions, thus opening the way for dictatorship.

2. Rise of the Nazis. Adolf Hitler (1889-1945) was born into a German family in Braunau-am-Inn, Austria. Hitler's early childhood was very unhappy, and in his youth he went from job to job and lived in extreme poverty. As a young man, he moved to Munich, Germany, and when World War I began, he became a German soldier, fighting vigorously for the German cause.

After the War Hitler could not accept Germany's defeat and blamed German governmental leadership and the Jews. In Munich he soon joined a small party called the German Workers' Party. The group changed its name in 1920 from the National Socialist German Workers' Party to the Nazi Party (*na* from national; *zi* from the German *sozialistische*). The German state of Bavaria, in which Munich is located, was an ideal place for the development of this new party as this region held much resentment over the War and despised the seated German government. The Nazi Party was socialistic, but unlike the communists who were internationalists, the Nazi Party outlook was only national. In 1923 Hitler was arrested during an attempt by the Nazis to seize political power. While in prison he wrote *Mein Kampf* (My Struggle). This book was his personal political manifesto, and it became the bible of the Nazis.

Germany was still suffering greatly from the World Depression in 1932, and German President Paul von Hindenburg was having trouble maintaining a stable government. In that year the Nazi Party gained 230 seats in the Reichstage (legislative body), making it one of the more important parties. By January 1933 the Nazis had become powerful enough that Hitler was appointed Chancellor.

Hitler proceeded to use his power to exert control, and in March 1933 the Reichstag granted the government dictatorial powers for four years. The following year President Hindenburg died, giving Hitler the opportunity for which he had been waiting. At that point Hitler had enough power to combine the offices of Chancellor and President into one, calling

himself der Führer, which means “the leader.” Hitler called his dictatorship the Third Reich. Hitler and the Nazis ruled Germany until 1945 when World War II ended.

Hitler headed one of the most ruthless dictatorships the world has ever seen. He not only ended freedom in Germany, but he attempted to expand German territory to include at least the rest of Europe and, perhaps, the world. The worst of Hitler’s extreme measures was the Holocaust, or persecution and extermination of Jews, both in Germany and in lands the German occupied. Hitler believed that northern Europeans were a superior race. He was convinced that the Aryan race, of which Germans were a part, was the “master race.” He further said that the Jews should be eliminated for two reasons: first, the Jews were responsible for Germany’s problems, and second, the Jews were not members of the “master race.”

Hitler’s first move was to take away Jewish-German citizenship. Later many Jews, as well as those who helped them, were put into concentration camps, and millions were systematically exterminated. The atrocities of the Holocaust were completely against the Bible since the Jews are God’s chosen people. God gave a promise to Abraham and his descendants, the Jews.

57. a. Adolf Hitler was born into a _____ family in Austria.
b. He became a German _____ in World War I.
58. After the War, Hitler blamed German governmental _____ and the _____ for Germany’s defeat.
59. While in prison Hitler wrote a book which was his personal _____ manifesto and became the bible of the _____.
60. a. In 1932 the _____ Party gained enough seats to make it one of the more important _____ in the legislative body of German government.
b. By 1933 the Nazis had become powerful enough that Hitler was appointed _____.
61. a. Hitler called his dictatorship the _____.
b. Hitler and the Nazis ruled Germany until _____ when World War II ended.
62. Hitler headed one of the most ruthless _____ the _____ has ever seen.
63. a. The worst of Hitler’s extreme measures was the _____.
b. Jews and those who helped them were put into _____ and millions were systematically _____.

3. Fascism in Italy. After World War I, many problems related to the War manifested themselves in Italy. The Italian people were greatly dissatisfied with the terms of the peace settlements. The Italian government expected to receive large territorial gains in return for Italy's participation in the War on the side of the Allies. In truth, they received very little and, as a result, were bitterly disappointed. Another problem plaguing the country was their poor economy. A third problem stemmed from the fact that Italy had a weak government. All these conditions helped give rise to another dictator, Benito Mussolini (1883-1945). In his early childhood, Mussolini had been known as a vagrant and street fighter. This made him a perfect candidate for the Fascist party, which he joined and of which he soon became leader. Mussolini and the Italian Fascists, known as the "Black Shirts," marched on Rome in 1922 and overthrew the Italian government of King Victor Emmanuel III.

4. Fascist Dictatorship (1922-1945). Mussolini and the Fascists destroyed Italian freedom in gradual stages by eliminating the power of the Italian parliament by taking more and more power themselves. Censorship of the press and radio was instituted, and freedom of speech was restricted. While Mussolini's economic policy helped the Italian economy recover from World War I, the government strictly controlled labor and business. Mussolini's foreign policy involved military aggression and alliances with Germany and Japan.

Mussolini's first victim was Ethiopia, which he conquered in 1936. His next step was to join with Hitler and intervene in the Spanish Civil War (1936-1939). In that conflict he helped Fascist rebels who were led by Dictator Franco. When entering World War II, Mussolini joined the side of Germany and Japan because he believed they would win. In 1943 Mussolini was deposed when Italy signed an armistice with the Allies. He retreated to northern Italy until 1945 when he was caught, tried, and executed.

64. Four conditions that helped the rise of Benito Mussolini were:

- (a) Italian people were dissatisfied with the terms of the _____ settlement.
- (b) The government was disappointed it did not receive large _____ gains.
- (c) The country was plagued by a poor _____.
- (d) Italy had a weak _____.

65. a. Mussolini and the Italian Fascists were known as the " _____
_____."

- b. They marched to Rome in 1922 and overthrew the _____
of King Victor Emmanuel III.
66. Italian freedom was eliminated in gradual stages
- (a) Censorship of the _____ and _____ were instituted.
- (b) Freedom of speech was _____.
- (c) The government strictly _____ labor and business.
67. a. Mussolini's foreign policy involved military aggression and alliances with
_____ and _____.
- b. He conquered _____ in 1936.
- c. He joined with _____.
68. a. Mussolini was deposed when _____ signed an armistice with the
_____.
- b. He retreated in northern Italy when he was _____, _____, and _____.

C. Beginnings of the War

1. Munich Pact. In accordance with the terms of the Treaty of Versailles. Germany was not permitted to reestablish an army, yet Hitler did so and received no retaliation from Great Britain or France. Having made Benito Mussolini of Italy his confederate, Hitler proceeded to invade Austria, taking it over and threatening to do the same in Czechoslovakia. A conference was then held in Munich, Germany, where British Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain met with Hitler in an effort to prevent war. They negotiated an agreement called the Munich pact. This pact gave Hitler the Sudetenland, which was the German-speaking part of Czechoslovakia. After the conference Prime Minister Chamberlain returned to England declaring that he had achieved "peace in our time," but such was certainly not the case. Hitler violated the Pact within a few months by subjugating all of Czechoslovakia and continuing his advance into Europe.

2. German Attack on Poland. On September 1, 1939, Europe was inextricably swept into World War II as Germany invaded Poland. Great Britain and France had both previously pledged their support to Poland, and with Germany's aggression, they came to the defense of Poland and declared war on Germany. Undeterred, Germany ruthlessly continued her advance into Europe with little resistance and was later joined by Italy, Japan, and a few other countries; thus forming the Axis Powers. Great Britain, France, and several other countries, including the United States, who opposed the Axis Powers and fought for freedom, were known as the Allied Powers.

Earlier in 1939 Hitler had negotiated the German-Soviet Nonaggression Pact with Russian dictator Joseph Stalin. This guaranteed that Germany would not have to fight on two fronts, but it gave little guarantee to Russia. In fact, Hitler loathed Stalin and would later advance troops into Russia and attack Stalingrad.

3. Nazi Conquests in Western Europe (April-June 1940). Little further aggression took place in Western Europe during the fall and winter of 1939-1940, but this changed drastically in the spring of 1940. At that time Hitler instituted the blitzkrieg, or lightning war. By the beginning of June 1940, the Nazi army had overrun much of Europe, including Belgium, Norway, Denmark, and The Netherlands. Due to the speed of their advance, the Germans managed to trap the bulk of Allied troops in the port city of Dunkirk in northern France. If the trapped British and French troops were to be rescued, it would have to be by water across the English Channel. Between May 26 and June 4 of 1940, the British navy, assisted by volunteers using their own crafts, accomplished a spectacular rescue. Much military equipment was left on the beaches of Dunkirk, but more than 300,000 Allied troops were rescued. During June the Germans continued their invasion and occupation of France.

4. Battle of Britain. Beginning in July 1940, the German Luftwaffe (air force) began crossing the English channel from France to attack airfields and other important targets in southern England. Hitler's purpose was to destroy the Royal Air Force prior to his invasion of Great Britain. Wave upon wave of Nazi fighter planes and dive bombers flew over Britain, destroying airplanes and landing fields. British fighter planes defended England by shooting down the German aircraft, and eventually they defeated the German Luftwaffe. By the end of the War, the number of German planes destroyed compared to the number of British planes was almost two to one. Hitler gradually gave up his plans to invade Britain and turned to indiscriminate bombing of civilian targets. These raids, which were upon cities and towns, usually took place at night and caused great destruction, especially in London. Many Englishmen lost their lives, and thousands of buildings of all types were destroyed.

Winston Churchill, Britain's Prime Minister, led the British in this dark hour by exhorting them to stand firm. In one of his speeches, Churchill concluded by saying, ". . .if the British Empire and its Common wealth last for a thousand years, men will still say, "This was their Finest Hour?."

69. In September 1939 Europe was inextricably swept into World War II as Germany invaded _____.
70. a. The _____ consisted of Germany, Italy, Japan, and a few other countries.
b. The _____ consisted of Great Britain, France, US and several other countries.
71. By June 1940 the Nazi army had overrun much of Europe which included _____, _____, _____, and the _____.
72. a. Hitler tried to destroy the _____ prior to his invasion of Great Britain.
b. British fighter planes eventually _____ the German air force.
73. During World War II who was the British Prime Minister? _____

5. Invasion of Russia. When it became obvious that Hitler could not invade England, he turned to the east and in June 1941 – counter to his pact with Stalin – invaded Russia. Nazi forces continued their conquest until the Russian winter halted their advance in December 1941. This situation became a stalemate until the winter of 1942 when the Russians launched massive counterattacks and began driving the Germans back westward.

The single greatest battle and turning point of World War II in Europe took place in Stalingrad, Russia, in the winter of 1942-1943. Hitler was desirous of oil fields located in the region and attacked Stalingrad. He was met with stubborn resistance as the Russians defended their city. The Russians counterattacked and surrounded the Germans, causing them to surrender.

D. American Entry into the War

1. Isolationism. In the 1930s the memories of World War I were still poignant in the minds of many. For this and other reasons, the United States desired to avoid the developing conflicts in Europe and Asia. Although many wanted to help the Allied countries, they strongly believed America should stay out of the War altogether and maintain a policy of strict neutrality. However, American isolationism was eventually brought to an end when the United States was forced to enter World War II.

The United States had unofficially departed from neutrality in March 1941 when Congress passed the Lend-Lease Act authorizing President Roosevelt to lend or lease war materials to nations fighting the Axis Powers. Until the United States officially entered World

War II, and undeclared war took place as German U-boats attacked American supply ships going to Britain, and the American navy was authorized to protect these ships at all cost.

2. Japanese Empire and Pearl Harbor. Japan had been building up her forces since World War I. On December 7, 1941 – without warning or provocation – Japan attacked United States warships at the Pearl Harbor naval base in Hawaii, sinking or crippling six ships and killing more than 2,000 Americans. President Franklin D. Roosevelt called December 7, 1941, “a date which will live in infamy.” With this horrible act of aggression on the part of Japan, the United States was thrust into World War II. Congress officially declared war on the Axis Powers on December 8, 1941.

74. When Hitler realized he could not invade England he invaded _____ in 1941.
75. a. The single greatest battle and turning point of World War II in Europe took place in _____, _____.
- b. Hitler met with stubborn _____ and caused him to _____.
76. German U-boats attacked _____ supply _____ going to Britain and the American _____ was authorized to protect these ships at all cost.
77. a. December 7, 1941 saw an attack on the US by _____.
- b. Japan attacked US warships at the _____ _____ naval base in _____.
- c. Six _____ were sank or crippled and more than _____ Americans were killed.
78. Congress declared war on the _____ _____ on December 8, 1941.

3. Pacific Battles. On the same day the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor, they also attacked in the Philippine Islands. United States and Filipino forces fought together from island to island, but at that point in the War, Americans were not prepared to fight in the Pacific. In May 1942 the Philippines surrendered to Japan, and it did not take long for the Japanese to gain control of most of the remaining Pacific Islands. They even went so far as to launch air strikes on Australia.

The turning point came, however, at Midway Island in June 1942 when American warplanes attacked and destroyed much of the Japanese naval fleet. Allied forces, led by General

Douglas MacArthur, then aggressively fought the Japanese from island to island. When an island was captured, Allied troops secured the island and built a landing strip. Famous battles took place on Midway Island and at Guadalcanal. The two bloodiest battles in the Pacific took place on the Japanese islands of Iwo Jima and Okinawa. The Japanese fiercely resisted the Allied forces, and *kamikazes*⁷ attacked United States ships, but eventually the Allies succeeded in capturing both islands.

4. D-Day and the “Battle of the Bulge.” United States troops fighting in cooperation with Allied troops in Europe and North Africa continued to advance against the Axis Powers on all fronts through 1943 and the first half of 1944. The big rush to defeat the Axis Powers in Europe came on D-day – June 6, 1944. At that time Allied forces landed on France’s Normandy Beach and began pushing the Axis forces eastward toward Germany. The Allied forces were led by General Dwight D. Eisenhower, the American commander.

In the months that followed, the Allies continued pushing into Europe. However, this advance was halted in December 1944 when German forces pushed the Allies backward at one point, creating a bulge in the line of American troops along the Belgium border. At the “Battle of Bulge,” heavy fighting took place, and American troops were not fully prepared for the rain, snow, and bitter cold they encountered. In this seemingly impossible situation, it is recorded that in early December, United States General George S. Patton sent out a Christmas greeting to his men that included a prayer cloud cover if they were to be able to bomb German objectives. Part of the prayer stated, “Grant us fair weather for battle. Graciously hearken to us soldiers who call upon thee that armed with they power, we may advance from victory to victory and crush the oppression and wickedness of our enemies, and establish justice among men and nations.” The soldiers received the card and prayer just before Christmas. Patton and his men saw the clouds part just long enough for American aircraft to pound the German front lines, allowing the American troops to advance.

⁷ kamikazes – Japanese suicide pilot assigned to dive his plane into an enemy naval vessel or some other selected target.

War always brings challenges and affects a total population. World War II was no exception. To meet the demands of the United States military war offensive, rationing became necessary. Food staples, certain clothing items, rubber, and gasoline all became rationed. The rationing affected young and old alike and literally changed the American way of life. Suddenly, whether or not one had money to buy items was not the issue, and social status meant nothing. Availability and having a War Ration Book and tokens issued by the government determined how much one could buy. Ration stamps became a kind of currency. Certain food items, such as sugar, meat, cheese, and coffee were strictly rationed and sometimes not available at all. Thousands of people grew “victory gardens” in order to have fresh vegetables for their families and to share with others. Citizens took the War seriously, and for the most part were willing to do with less so that those fighting abroad would have what they needed to press forward and be victorious.

5. End of the War. Following D-Day and the Battle of the Bulge, Germany fought a losing battle as Soviet armies entered Germany from the east and Allied armies pushed from the west. On May 8, 1945, Germany was forced to surrender. Just before the German surrender, German dictator Adolf Hitler escaped to his underground shelter, and it was later discovered that he had committed suicide. The life and death of this cruel dictator bear out the truth of Job 4:8.

World War II in the Pacific ended a few months later. To force Japan to surrender, Americans dropped two atomic bombs on Japanese cities: one on Hiroshima on August 6, 1945, and one on Nagasaki on August 9, 1945. Japan signed the documents of surrender on September 2, 1945.

World War II involved nearly every part of the world and was tremendously costly both in the destruction of property and in the loss of countless millions of human lives. It was a “total war” stemming from the fact that all resources, both economic and military, were used in the conflict, and soldiers and civilians alike on both sides were placed in “harm’s way.” Some of the countries who fought in World War II were defending false ideologies and were trying to spread this ideology by aggressively subjugating other nations, taking away their freedom. On the other hand, the objective of the United States and most of the Allied Powers was not to take away but to preserve and bestow freedom.

79. a. On the same day that Pearl Harbor was attacked, the Japanese attacked the _____.
- b. Americans were not prepared to fight in the _____.
- c. In 1942 the Philippines _____ to Japan.
- d. Japan even launched air strikes on _____.

80. The turning point came at _____ Island in 1942 when American _____ attacked and destroyed much of the Japanese _____ fleet.
81. a. Famous battles took place on _____ and at _____.
b. Two bloodiest battles in the Pacific took place on the Japanese islands of _____ and _____.
82. What were kamikazes? _____

83. a. The big rush to defeat the Axis Powers in Europe came on _____, June 6, 1944.
b. Allied forces landed on France's _____ and began pushing the Axis forces toward _____.
c. Allied forces were led by _____.
84. a. To meet the demands of the US military war, _____ became necessary.
b. Food _____, certain _____ items, rubber, & gasoline all became _____.
c. Availability and having a _____ and tokens issued by the government determined how much one could buy.
d. Ration stamps became a kind of _____.
e. Sugar, meat, cheese and coffee were _____ rationed and sometimes not _____ at all.
f. Many had " _____ " in order to have fresh vegetables for their families and others.
85. a. On May 8, 1945 Germany was forced to _____.
b. Just before the surrender Adolf Hitler _____ to his underground _____.
c. It was later discovered he had committed _____.
d. World War II in the _____ ended a few months later.
86. a. Japan was forced to surrender after Americans dropped two _____ bombs on Japan.
b. The first one on _____ on August 6, 1945.
c. The second one on _____ on August 9, 1945.
d. Japan signed the documents of _____ on September 2, 1945.

87. a. World War II involved nearly every part of the _____.
- b. It was tremendously _____ both in the destruction of _____ and the loss of countless _____ of lives.