

Section 13
World War II

STANDARD VII: The student will understand the Great Depression and World War II.

OBJECTIVE 2 Analyze America's involvement in World War II.

ELIGIBLE CONTENT (THIS IS THE STUFF YOU MUST KNOW!)

- Identify and analyze America's involvement in World War II.
 - Causes
 - Europe
 - Munich Conference
 - Invasion of Poland
 - Asia
 - Japanese expansion
 - Attack on Pearl Harbor
 - Homefront
 - Women's participation: industry and volunteerism
 - Rationing
 - War bonds
 - Japanese internment
 - Political leaders
 - Examples: FDR, Stalin, Churchill, Hitler, Mussolini
 - Military participation
 - Turning points

 - Examples: Stalingrad, Midway, North Africa, Normandy
 - Military leaders
 - Eisenhower
 - MacArthur
 - Holocaust
 - Liberation of concentration camps
 - Scientific and technological developments
 - Atomic bomb: Hiroshima and Nagasaki
- Compare America's involvement in World War II to World War I.

Terms and Concepts for

Section 13: World War II

Benito Mussolini	This person came to power in Italy through the people's fear of communism; he called his political ideas "fascism." Mussolini put his ideas into action by banning all political parties, except for the Fascist party, abolishing labor unions, forbidding strikes, and silencing political opponents. By eliminating all opposition, he stopped any communist threat.
National Socialists (Nazis)	This party's leader, Adolf Hitler, preached a message of racist fascism. He claimed that the so-called Aryan race (Caucasian people of non-Jewish descent) was superior and deserved to conquer other nations.
Gestapo	These were Hitler's secret police; they helped Hitler suppress those who disagreed with him.
Joseph Stalin	This person forced many peasants from their own land to work on collective farms in order to produce enough food for Russia to feed its people. In an effort to industrialize the nation, he sent others to work in factories. Stalin's efforts failed, and the Soviet Union produced even less food, leading to a period of famine. Even so, Stalin held onto his power with brutal violence.
Rome-Berlin-Tokyo Axis	This formed when Italy, Germany, and Japan signed an anti communist pact.
Munich Conference	This event was where the British prime minister and the French premier met to attempt to avoid war through a policy of appeasement, or giving in to Hitler's demands. Here, they ignored Stalin's offer of military aid to Czechoslovakia and agreed to Hitler's capture of the Sudetenland. In exchange, Hitler promised to claim no further land in Czechoslovakia or anywhere else.
Blitzkrieg	This tem literally means "lightning war," Hitler used joint forces of armored tanks and bombers to achieve this.
Pearl Harbor	This was surprise attack on this military base that brought the United States into World War II.
War bonds	These were savings bonds used to finance the war Japanese Internment Under Executive Order 9066, the United States military forced 110,000 Japanese Americans from their homes and placed them on federal land, including deserts and in swamp, in the nation's interior. The government built primitive housing, surrounded it with barbed-wire fencing, and forced the

Japanese Americans to live there for the duration of the war.

Battle of Stalingrad The Germans attacked here because it was a supply center for petroleum, and the Germans needed access to oil refineries in order to continue the war.

Dwight D. Eisenhower This was the general who urged an invasion of German-occupied France across the English Channel.

Operation Torch This military engagement began in November of 1942 when troops from Britain and the United States landed on the beaches of North Africa and began fighting the German army.

Operation Overlord This was an attack that was coordinated by Eisenhower. It was the largest amphibian assault ever undertaken. On June 6, 1944, D-Day, a fleet of 6,000 Allied ships launched the great invasion of the beaches of Normandy.

Winston Churchill This was the British prime minister who argued that an attack on North Africa should be launched before an attack on France.

Red Army This was the name give to the Soviet troops.

V-E Day This was Victory in Europe Day, May 8, 1945.

General Douglas MacArthur This General wanted to attack Japan after Pearl Harbor, but was ordered to retreat from the Japanese and surrender the Philippines in May 1942. As he left the shores, he vowed, "I shall return."

Manhattan Project This was a military research project undertaken by the United States to build the first atomic bomb. This special project involved over 120,000 people in 37 factories and laboratories spread over the United States and Canada. Overall, the United States government spent \$2 billion to design and build three atomic bombs.

Enola Gay This was the specially equipped B-29 bomber that dropped an atomic bomb on Hiroshima, Japan, leveling the city on August 6, 1945.

Nagasaki This refers to the events of August 9, 1945. A second atomic bomb was dropped here. Over 150,000 Japanese died in the two explosions. Thousands of other civilians suffered sickness and death from the radiation left after the bombing. In the face of these disasters, and the Soviet declaration of war, Japan surrendered to General Douglas MacArthur on August 14, 1945. World War II was over.

Amphibious Attack This was an attack launched from ships on a coastline.

Atlantic Charter (1941)	This was a statement of war aims signed by Franklin Roosevelt and Winston Churchill (and later by leaders of other Allied nations, including the Soviet Union) in which those who signed pledged to work for a world free from aggression.
Atrocity	This is a very cruel, brutal behavior.
Ballistic Missile	This is a long-range missile that is guided and powered only at the beginning of its flight.
Beachhead	This is a portion of the shoreline which has been seized by an invading amphibious force.
Bi-partisan	This means having the support of or being represented by members of two political parties. (For example, Franklin Roosevelt's efforts to establish a United Nations Organization received bi-partisan support.)
Charter	This is a document setting forth certain rules or principles.
Command Economy	This is an economic system in which government, instead of private individuals, makes basic economic decisions regarding production and prices.
Conscientious Objector	This is a person who objects to military service which requires a person to kill the enemy.
Convoy	This is a group of ships or vehicles traveling together for protection from attack.
Cryptography	This is the writing or decoding of a secret system of writing or communication.
D-Day (June 6,1944):	the day on which a large Allied amphibious force attacked Axis military positions on the coast of northern France.
French Indochina	This is a French colony in Southeast Asia (now Vietnam, Cambodia, and Laos) established around 1887 and ruled by the French until 1954, except for the years of Japanese occupation (1941-1945).
General Assembly	This is a body of the United Nations which is made up of delegates of all member nations and which discusses solutions to world problems.
Genocide	This is the destruction or extermination of an entire group of people. The word was first applied to the attempted extermination of Jews by Nazi Germany.
Great-Power Veto	This is the power granted to the five permanent members of the Security Council to veto or block any proposed action by the Security Council.
Holocaust	This was the systematic destruction of over six million European Jews by the Nazis before and during

World War II.

Internment Camps	These were camps in which many Japanese-Americans were placed during World War II -- also called relocation camps.
Liberate	This means to set free. (For example, Allied troops liberated many countries from Axis rule.)
Manhattan Project	This was America's Research program which built the world's first atomic bomb in 1945.
Medic	This is a member of a military medical unit.
Morale	This is a feeling of enthusiasm, optimism, and willingness to accomplish a goal.
Nuremberg Trials (1945-1946)	These were trials during which Nazi leaders were judged for war crimes, including crimes against humanity.
Occupation Zone	This is an area of land which foreign troops attempt to keep under control.
Pacifist	This is a person who is opposed to war or the use of deadly force.
Radar (Radio-Detection-and-Ranging)	This is a device that can detect distant objects using radio waves.
Relocation Camps	These were camps in which many Japanese-Americans were kept during World War II -- also called internment camps.
Security Council	This is a body of the United Nations Organization made up of 15 members (five of which are permanent) which has the responsibility of maintaining international peace.
Semite	This is a member of one of the peoples of the Middle East such as the Jews and Arabs. The term is most commonly used when referring to Jews (e.g., Hitler was an anti-Semite).
Sonar (Sound-Navigation-Ranging)	This is a device (similar to radar, but using sound waves rather than radio waves) used to detect submarines or other underwater objects.
Strategy	This is a plan for a large-scale military action.
Theater of War	This refers to a place where part of a war takes place. (For example, U.S. forces battled the Japanese in the Pacific theater of war during World War II.)
Tribunal	This is a military style court of justice.
United Nations	This is a world association of nations created after World War II with the object of preserving world

peace.

United Nations Alliance

This is the military alliance of the U.S. and other nations joined together in opposition to the Axis during World War II.

Withholding Tax

This is a tax deducted (withheld) from a person's income as an advanced payment on income tax.

Yalta Conference (1945)

This was a meeting at Yalta where Churchill, Roosevelt and Stalin agreed on post-war policy, such as the treatment of Germany, its occupied nations, and the creation of the United Nations.

Timeline for

Section 13: World War II

- September 1 - Germany invades Poland. Italy declares neutrality. World War II officially begins.
- September 3 - England, France, Australia and New Zealand declare war on Germany.
- September 5 - Two Neutrality Proclamations issued by President Roosevelt. Roosevelt also orders Navy to perform a neutrality patrol to track any belligerent naval force approaching the U.S.'s Atlantic coast or the West Indies. German troops cross the Vistula River in Poland.
- September 6 - Neutrality patrol for Atlantic ocean formed under Rear Admiral A.W. Johnson, Commander Atlantic Squadron.
- September 8 - Roosevelt declares a limited national emergency and increases the enlisted strengths of all armed forces and authorizes retired officers, men and nurses to be recalled to active duty to the Navy and Marines. Long range blockade of Germany announced by Allies.
- September 10 - Canada declares war on Germany.
- September 11 - Germany announces counter-blockade of Allies.
- September 16 - British establish convoy system for merchant shipping.
- September 17 - Poland invaded by Russia.
- September 21 - Roosevelt asks for arms embargo provisions of Neutrality Act to be repealed.
- September 27 - Warsaw surrenders. Reinhard Heydrich named the leader of the new Reich Main Security Office (RSHA).
- September 29 - Russia and Germany partition Poland.
- October - Euthanasia of sick and disabled begins in Germany.
- October 2 - Conference of Foreign Ministers of American Republics approves Act of Panama. U.S. Navy to patrol a neutrality zone 300 miles wide. U.S. notified by Germany the merchant ships must submit to visit and search.
- October 8 - Assassination attempt on Hitler fails.
- October 9 - U.S. freighter City of Flint seized as contraband carrier by Deutschland, a German armored cruiser.
- November 4 - Neutrality Act of 1939. Arms embargo repealed. Roosevelt declares area around British Isles to be a combat zone.

1940

- November 28 - Russia denounces 1932 Non-Aggression Pact with Finland.
- November 30 - Finland invaded by Russia.
- December 14 - Russia is expelled from the League of Nations.
- December 17 - The Admiral Graf Spee, a German armored cruiser, is scuttled off of Montevideo, Uruguay.
- December 19 - A British destroyer intercepts Columbus, a German passenger liner, 450 miles east of Cape May, New Jersey. Columbus is subsequently scuttled.
- December 27 - U.S. protests seizure of mail to Europe by British.

- January 1 - Tenth Naval District, headquartered in San Juan, Puerto Rico, is established.
- January 2 - Charles Edison named Secretary of the Navy.
- January 6 - Admiral J.O. Richardson named Commander in Chief, United States Fleet.
- January 8 - British begin rationing.
- January 20 - Delay of American shipping at Gibraltar protested by United States.
- January 23 - Britain and France announce that they will attack any German vessel found in the Pan-American Safety Zone.
- January 26 - United State-Japanese Trade Treaty of 1911 expires.
- March 3 - Russo-Finnish War ends.
- March 12 - Finland and Russia sign peace treaty.
- March 16 - Scapa Flow naval base near Scotland is bombed by the Germans.
- April 2 - U.S. Fleet leaves for maneuvers near the Hawaiian Islands.
- April 9 - Denmark and Norway invaded by Germany.
- April 10 - Roosevelt extends maritime danger zone to Scandinavia.
- April 25 - The carrier USS Wasp CV-7 is commissioned in Boston.
- May 3 - Greenland asks U.S. for protection.
- May 7 - Pacific Fleet ordered to remain indefinitely in Hawaiian waters by Roosevelt.
- May 10 - Germany invades France, Belgium, Luxembourg and the Netherlands. Neutrality act expanded to Belgium, Luxembourg and the Netherlands by Roosevelt. Churchill becomes Prime Minister of Britain after Chamberlain resigns.
- May 11 - French and British forces land in Netherlands West Indies. Maintenance of political and economic status quo in Netherlands East Indies demanded by Japanese Foreign Minister.
- May 14 - Netherlands surrenders to Germany. Germany breaks through French lines at Sedan, France.
- May 15 - Holland surrenders to Germany.
- May 16 - Roosevelt asks for \$1,182,000,000.00 in national defense funds.

- May 17 - Plan for recommissioning 35 destroyers announced by Roosevelt.
- May 21 - Allied armies encircled as Germans reach the English Channel at Abbeville, France.
- May 26 - Allied evacuation at Dunkirk begins.
- May 28 - Belgium surrenders. National Defense Advisory Committee is established.
- June 1 - The battleship USS Washington (BB-56) is launched at Philadelphia.
- June 4 - Dunkirk evacuation completed. Germans bomb Paris.
- June 9 - Norway evacuated by Allies.
- June 10 - Italy invades France after declaring war on France and England. Canada declares war on Italy. Norway surrenders to Germany.
- June 12 - Navy awards contracts for 22 new warships. Japan-Thailand Non-Aggression Pact is announced.
- June 13 - The battleship USS North Carolina (BB-55) is launched at New York Naval Yard.
- June 14 - Germany occupies Paris. Roosevelt signs 11% Naval Expansion Act, increasing the carrier, cruiser, and submarine tonnage of the Navy by 167,000 tons, and auxiliary shipping by 75,000 tons.
- June 15 - An act to increase naval aviation to a strength of not more than 10,000 aircraft is approved by Roosevelt.
- June 16 - Marshal Petain become the Prime Minister of France.
- June 17 - France asks for armistice with Germany. Russia occupies Latvia and Estonia. U.S. Chief of Naval Operations asks for \$4,000,000,000 for a two ocean navy.
- June 18 - Hitler meets with Mussolini in Munich.
- June 20 - France opens northern Indochina to the Japanese. Under Secretary of the Navy, a new office, is established for the duration of the war.
- June 22 - France and Germany sign armistice at Compiegne, France. New Japanese cabinet formed.
- June 23 - Hitler tours Paris.
- June 24 - France and Italy sign armistice. Britain asked by Japanese to close the Burma Road. Charles Edison resigns as Secretary of the Navy; Lewis Compton named acting Secretary.
- June 25 - Hostilities cease as Franco-German armistice becomes effective.
- June 27 - Romania cedes Bessarabia and northern Bukovina to Russia. Roosevelt declares a national emergency.
- June 28 - General Charles de Gaulle is recognized by the British as the Free French Leader.
- June 30 - Germany begins occupation of the Channel Islands.
- July 1 - Navy awards contracts for 44 vessels. Headquarters, Marine Corps Air Wing, is established in San Diego, California. German U-boats attack merchant ships in the Atlantic.

- July 2 - Export Control Act is passed.
- July 3 - British seize French naval vessels in British ports and attack French naval vessels in Oran and Mers-el-Kebir.
- July 5 - Roosevelt invokes Export Control Act against Japan. Vichy France breaks off diplomatic relations with Great Britain.
- July 10 - Battle of Britain begins.
- July 11 - Petain becomes head of the French Vichy government. Frank Knox named Secretary of Navy.
- July 19 - Roosevelt signs Naval Expansion Act.
- July 23 - Soviets complete occupation of the Baltics.
- July 30 - Conference of Foreign Ministers of the American Republics signs the Act of Havana calling for unified action.
- August 1 - Alaskan Sector established as a military command within the Thirteenth Naval District.
- August 3-19 - Italian troops occupy British Somaliland.
- August 5 - U.S. and France reach Green-Slade-Robert Agreement, an understanding on the status of French warships and aircraft in the French West Indies.
- August 13 - German bombing offensive against airfields and factories in Britain.
- August 15 - American officers arrive in London for informal staff conversations with British officers. Naval Air Station at Miami is established.
- August 17 - Hitler declares a blockade of the British Isles.
- August 18 - Permanent Joint Board for the Defense of the U.S. and Canada provided for by Ogdensburg Agreement.
- August 22 - James Forrestal named first Under Secretary of the Navy.
- August 23-24 - First German air raids on central London.
- August 25-26 - First British air raids on Berlin.
- August 27 - Roosevelt authorized to call Army Reserve and National Guard components into Federal service for 1 year.
- August 30 - Japanese military occupation of ports, airfields and railroads in northern Indochina agreed to by France.
- August 31 - Sixty thousand National Guardsmen called to Federal service.
- September 3 - Destroyers for Bases agreement with Britain. Operation Sealion, the invasion of Britain, planned by Hitler.
- September 6 - Eight destroyers transferred to Britain.
- September 7 - German Blitz against Britain begins.
- September 9 - Germany warns that all ships within war zones are subject to attack, regardless of

nationality. U.S. Navy awards contracts for 210 ships, including 12 carriers and 7 battleships.

- September 13 - Italy invades Egypt.
- September 15 - Massive German air raids on London, Southampton, Bristol, Cardiff, Liverpool and Manchester.
- September 16 - Selective Training and Service Act signed by Roosevelt.
- September 22 - France cedes airfields and agrees to admission of Japanese troops into northern Indochina.
- September 24 - Defense Communications Board is established.
- September 27 - Tripartite Pact signed by Germany, Italy and Japan.
- September 29 - U.S. Marines arrive at Midway Island to install defenses.
- October 5 - Organized Naval Reserves placed on short notice for call to active duty.
- October 7 - German troops enter Romania.
- October 8 - Japan protests U.S. embargo on aviation fuel and scrap metal. U.S. citizens advised to leave the Far East.
- October 12 - Operation Sealion postponed until spring, 1941.
- October 15 - Naval Air Station established at Jacksonville, Florida.
- October 16 - Sixteen million men register for the draft.
- October 28 - Italy invades Greece.
- October 31 - Britain occupies Crete.
- November 1 - Naval Air Station is established at Alameda, California.
- November 5 - Roosevelt re-elected.
- November 8 - USS City of Rayville hits a German mine off Cape Otway, Australia and sinks. Admiral Nomura named Japanese Ambassador to the U.S.
- November 11-12 - Torpedo attack by British naval aircraft against Italian fleet at Taranto.
- November 14 - Greeks repel Italians back into Albania.
- November 20 - Hungary joins the Axis.
- November 22 - Italian 9th Army defeated by Greeks.
- November 23 - Romania joins the Axis. Retired Admiral W.D. Leahy named Ambassador to France.
- November 30 - U.S. lends \$50 million to China for currency stabilization, and grants an additional \$50 million credit for purchase of supplies.
- December 9-10 - The British begin the western desert offensive against the Italians in North Africa.
- December 11 - The British capture Sidi Barrani, Egypt from the Italians.
- December 12 - Alaskan Units of the Coast Guard establish Headquarters at Ketchikan.
- December 17 - Rear Admiral E.J. King named Commander Patrol Force, U.S. Fleet. The British

recapture Sollum, Egypt.

- December 19 - Secretary of the Navy is given control and jurisdiction over the Pacific island of Palmyra.
- December 23 - Naval Air Station established at Key West.
- December 29-30 - Germans stage a massive air raid on London.