

Chapter 19 - Day 2

- Hitler invade Norway, Belgium, and Luxembourg
- British and French troops trapped at Dunkirk Beach, Belgium.
- “Miracle of Dunkirk” British use 850 vessels of all types from navy warships to sailboats to rescue all 338,000 British and French troops. 3 weeks later France falls and Germany installs a puppet gov’t called the Vichy gov’t
- Hitler expected GB to fall but new Prime Minister Winston Churchill would not consider it
- Germany had to defeat the RAF (Royal Air Force) before Germany could invade GB
- Battle of Britain—all out air battle starting June 1940-Oct. 1940. Germany concentrated on London dropping bombs 24/7 for 4 months hoping to terrorize GB into surrendering. GB had one advantage, radar. They were able to inflict more losses on Germany than they suffered. Oct. 1940 Hitler cancels invasion of Great Britain.

Section 3 The Holocaust

- During Holocaust the Nazis killed 6 million Jews and millions of people they considered inferior, Gypsies, homosexuals, mentally and physically handicapped, and Slavic people.
- Sept. 1935—Nuremberg Law stripped German Jews of citizenship
- Hitler ordered spontaneous attacks against Jews
- Nov. 9, 1935 “Kristallnacht” (night of broken glass) anti Jewish violence broke out in Germany and Austria
- Nov. 10, 1935 Gestapo (German Secret Police) arrested 20,000 wealthy Jews, releasing them after surrendering all possessions and agreeing to emigrate.
- Jan. 1942 Nazi leaders met at the Wannsee Conference to discuss the “final solution” of the Jewish problem
- Build concentration camps where they worked as slave labor until they died. Elderly, young, sick put to death immediately in gas chambers
- The most infamous were built in Poland, Treblinka and Auschwitz. Auschwitz’s gas chambers killed 2,000 people at a time sometimes 12,000 killed per day.

Section 4 America Enters the War

- FDR runs for an unprecedented 3rd term and won
- America saw Germany as the greater threat. Great Britain was fighting for democracy and we needed to help.
- Dec. 1940—Lend-Lease Act, US could lend or lease arms to any country considered “vital to the defense of the U.S.” we gave help to GB
- June 1941 Hitler invaded Soviet Union and FDR gives aid to them to fight the Nazis