

## Germany and WWII

### Timeline leading up to WWII

- 1914-1918 WWI
- 1919 Treaty of Versailles
- 1919 Hitler gives his 1<sup>st</sup> public speech re: the Jews
- 1920 League of Nations meets for 1<sup>st</sup> time
- 1921 US signs treaty w/Germany & Austria-Hungary
- 1925 Hitler arrested for treason; writes *Mein Kampf*
- 1926 Germany joins League of Nations
- 1929 US goes into Great Depression
- 1932 Hitler defeated for presidency by Hindenburg
- 1933 Hitler appointed as Chancellor of Germany
- 1933 Dachau – Germany's 1<sup>st</sup> concentration camp – built
- 1933 Enabling Act passed in Germany

### Timeline leading up to WWII

- 1934 Police forces come under command of Heinrich Himmler
- 1934 Night of the Long Knives – prominent anti-Nazis killed
- 1934 After death of Pres. Hindenburg, Hitler names himself Fuhrer
- 1936 Germany hosts winter & summer Olympics
- 1936 Germany re-militarizes demilitarized zones
- 1936 all German males 10-18 req. to join Hitler Youth
- 1938 Germany annexes several nearby countries
- 1938 FDR tries to appease Hitler w/the Munich Agreement
- 1939 Germany publicly renounces all treaties they've made
- 1939 US is concerned Germany will develop atomic bomb
- 1939 Germany invades Poland, which starts WWII

### Terms to know...

- Fascism – putting the state (country) above all else
- Nazi – “National Socialist German Workers Party;” “NSDAP;” a political party; a fascist group with a focus on race as the defining part of a person's character
- Third Reich – Nazi Germany from 1933-1945 (Hitler's rule until end of WWII); Third “Kingdom” or “Realm”

### Concentration Camps

- A prison where work is often required & conditions are very harsh & without regard to normal rules that apply to jails/prisons
- Some were strictly death camps w/very few prisoners
- Some specialized in medical experimenting
- Avg. length of stay 274 days
- Hitler sends 1<sup>st</sup> prisoners 1933

### The SS

- The Schutzstaffel – elite Nazi police force



## Invasion of Poland 1939

- Before Germany's invasion Poland was very multi-ethnic
- Pre-WWII: 3 million Jews
- Today: 9,000 Jews

## Warsaw Ghettos 1939

- Ghetto: area of a city where certain minorities are forced to live
- Example: Warsaw ghettos were sealed off w/10 foot wall
  - When Jews there rebelled, they were killed or sent to Treblinka
  - Ghetto was burned to the ground

## Rounding up Jewish Poles



## Rounding up Jewish Poles



## Burning of Warsaw



## Burning of Warsaw



## Leaping out of buildings



## Warsaw Ghetto after attacks



## Other countries' reactions to Germany's invasion:

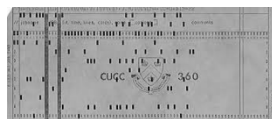
- UK and France – appeasement; give Hitler what he wants and he'll go away; don't want another war
- USA – this is not our problem; isolationism
- Japan – had been given some German islands & areas in China after WWI; wanted to expand on those areas

## Concentration Camps

- During Hitler's time in power over 100 camps were opened
  - Some for political prisoners (ie. Dachau)
- Most for "undesirables"
  - Jews
  - Catholics
  - Homosexuals
  - Disabled
  - Gypsies

## Concentration Camps

- Kept very detailed records
- Technology created by IBM to do record keeping
  - Some of first "computers"
  - Punch card technology



## Work Makes You Free





## Buchenwald



### As witnessed by US forces 1945



### Various Historical Film Clips

- <http://www.ushmm.org/wlc/en/gallery.php?ModuleId=10005475&MediaType=FI>

### Interview with Holocaust Survivors (34:45 & 12:22)

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HeixVrnS7r8>
- [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rsV\\_MTnhpfw](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rsV_MTnhpfw)
  - Pianist Interviewed at age 108

