

# Second World War

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I. The Twenty Year Crisis

II. Outbreak of War in Europe

III. Outbreak of War in Asia

IV. Explaining the War

V. Turning Points of the War

VI. Fallout



# Global Level Causes

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- **A. Problem of German Power:**
- **Status Quo Powers:** France and United Kingdom
- **Revisionist Powers:** Germany and Italy
- **Isolated Powers:** Soviet Union and United States

# Interwar Europe



# A. Global Level Causes

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## ■ B. Failure of Collective Security

- Exclusion of USSR (except 1934-39), Germany (except 1926-33), United States *never* in League.
- Failure to resolve Manchuria (1931) and Ethiopia (1935)

## ■ C. Collapse of the World Economy (Great Depression)

- Smoot-Hawley Tariff

## B. Domestic Level Factors

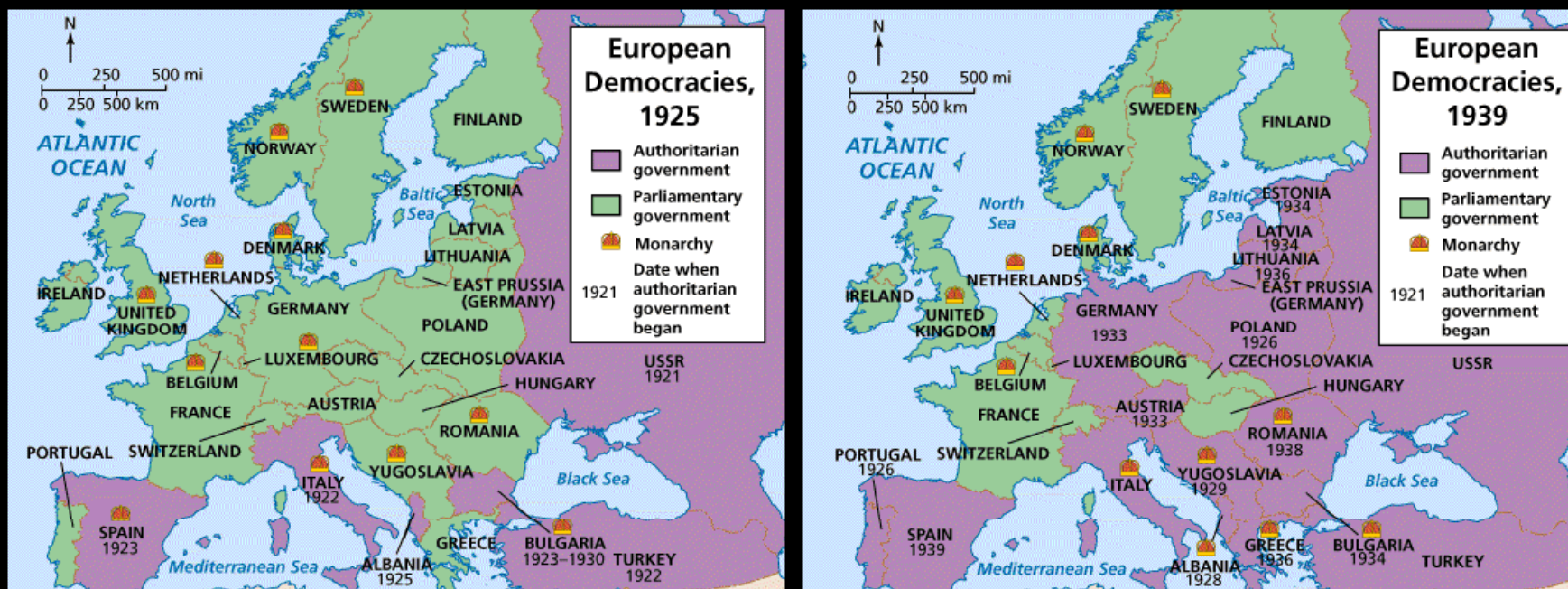
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- Collapse of Democracy & Rise of Fascism
  - Benito Mussolini – Italy (1922)
  - Adolph Hitler – Germany (1933)
  - Francisco Franco – Spain (1936)
- Class Conflict
  - “Better Hitler than Blum”
- Pacifism
  - Appeasement



**Benito Mussolini**

# Collapse of European Democracies

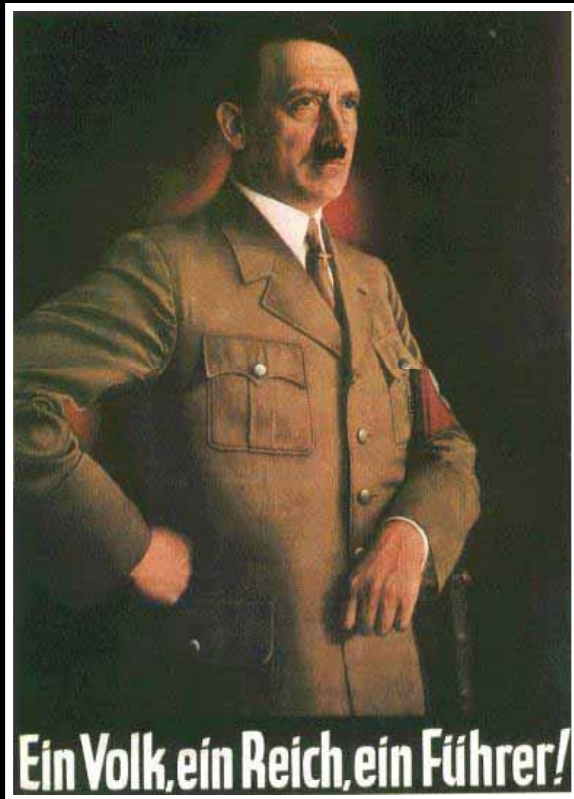




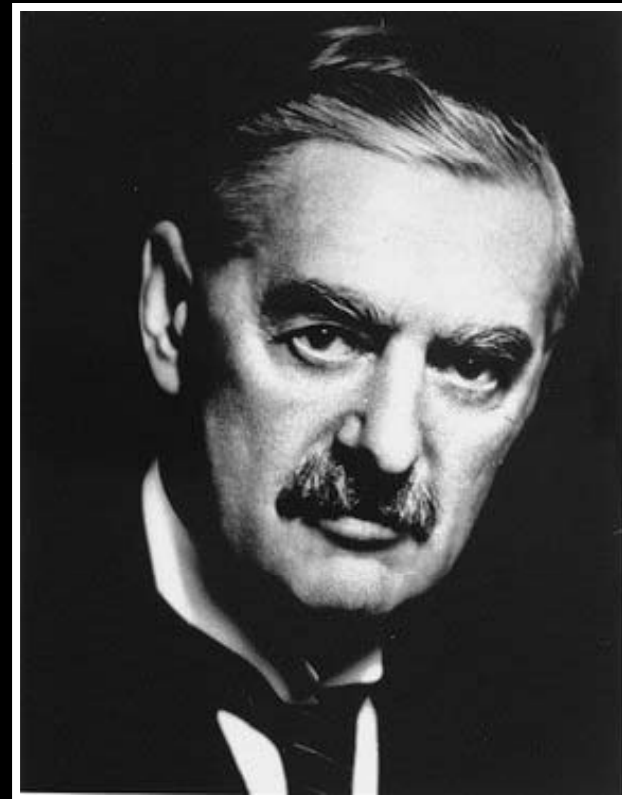
# C. Individual Level Causes

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**Adolph Hitler**



**Neville Chamberlain**



## II. Outbreak of War in Europe

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- German Rearmament (1935)
- Reoccupation of the Rhineland (1936)
- *Anschluss* with Austria (1938)
- Sudetenland Crisis (1938)
- Munich Conference (1938)
- Nazi-Soviet Pact (1939)
- Invasion of Poland (1939)



# Sudetenland Crisis and Munich Conference



# Chamberlain Returns from Munich

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**“I believe it is peace in our time...”**



# Nazi-Soviet (Ribbentrop-Molotov) Pact



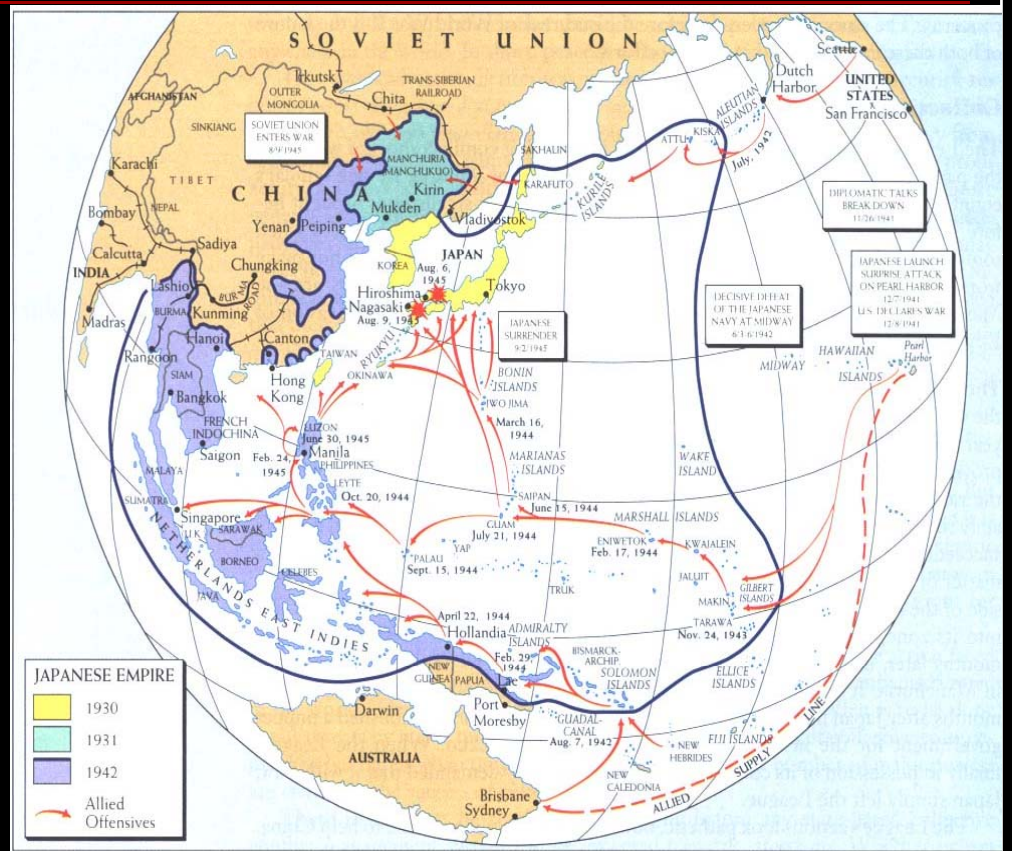
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# III. Outbreak of War in Pacific

- 1931: Invade Manchuria
- 1933: Invade rest of China
- 1937: 'Rape of Nanking'
- 1940: Occupy French Indochina (Vietnam)
- 1941: Take Dutch East Indies (Indonesia)
- Dec. 7, 1941: Pearl Harbor





# IV. Explaining the War: Realist Perspective

Table 4-2

The Causes of World War II: The Realist Perspective and Levels of Analysis

Level of analysis		Realist perspective
<b>Systemic</b>	<i>Structure</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Distribution/balance of power:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>—Rise of German and Japanese power</li> <li>—Versailles Treaty alienated rather than reintegrated Germany</li> <li>—Power vacuum caused by many new, weak states in eastern Europe, and a weak China in Asia</li> <li>—Major powers such as the United States and Soviet Union not involved to create balance</li> <li>—Tripolarity sets off scramble between Germany, Russia, and the United States to ally with third country</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
	<i>Process</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Failure of UK, France, Poland, Russia, and United States to align against the greater power (Germany). Why did they buckpass?:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>—Kept off-balance by adept (compared to clumsy, before World War I) German diplomacy—Hitler’s pact with Poland, naval treaty with Britain, and alliance with Italy</li> <li>—Threats based on different national (geopolitical) not common institutional interests</li> <li>—France formed alliances with Poland, Yugoslavia, Czechoslovakia, and Romania—all weak states—instead of the Soviet Union</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Foreign policy</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Germany’s assessment of Soviet power (present and future) was accurate and not distorted by domestic bureaucratic or ideological factors</li> </ul>
<b>Domestic</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Aggressive interests of various domestic groups in Germany</li> </ul>
<b>Individual</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hitler’s war</li> </ul>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Roosevelt’s embargo</li> </ul>

# IV. Explaining the War: Liberal Perspective

Table 4-1

The Causes of World War II: The Liberal Perspective and Levels of Analysis

Level of analysis		Liberal perspective
Systemic	Structure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Collective security problems and the failure of the League of Nations:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>—Major powers not involved to create preponderance of power</li> <li>—Weak centralized security commitments and hence no incentives to disarm</li> <li>—Aggressor states not members of League and hence not subject to institutional constraints</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Economic depression</li> </ul>
	Process	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Misperceptions of threat:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>—UK saw France as stronger than Germany</li> <li>—France thought defense dominant and “chain-ganged” with UK and Poland (left initiative to Hitler)</li> <li>—UK appeased instead of balanced Hitler at Munich (1938) and failed to align with Soviet Union after Hitler invaded Czechoslovakia in March 1939</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Spread of immoderate goals: Germany and Japan were revisionist states, sought to overturn Versailles and create Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere</li> </ul>
Foreign policy		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• British foreign minister resigns from domestic opposition to plan to divide Ethiopia</li> </ul>
Domestic		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Divided domestic interests in United States reject League</li> </ul>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Economic collapse in Germany</li> </ul>
Individual		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ineffective leadership of Congress by a dying President Wilson</li> </ul>



# IV. Explaining the War: Identity Perspective

Table 4-3

The Causes of World War II: The Identity Perspective and Levels of Analysis

Level of analysis		Identity perspective
<b>Systemic</b>	<i>Structure</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Change in individual and collective identity:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>—Shared norms of self-determination not uniformly practiced or applied, created many small, weak states (rather than weak states themselves being the cause, as realist perspectives emphasize)</li> <li>—National identities diverged—different nationalisms drove security dilemma (not geopolitics, as realist perspectives emphasize)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
	<i>Process</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Spread of fascism, socialism, and racism</li> <li>• Decline of democracies</li> </ul>
<b>Foreign policy</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Racist views of German decision makers exaggerate Soviet or Bolshevik threat</li> </ul>
<b>Domestic</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bolshevism/communism in Russia</li> </ul>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Racism/militarism in Germany and Japan</li> </ul>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Exceptionalism in the United States</li> </ul>
<b>Individual</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stalin's communist beliefs that Germany and other capitalist countries would fight one another and that the Soviet Union could stay out of it</li> </ul>

# 'Rape of Nanking' 1937

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- Between 200K and 300K Chinese Civilians Slaughtered by the Japanese Army

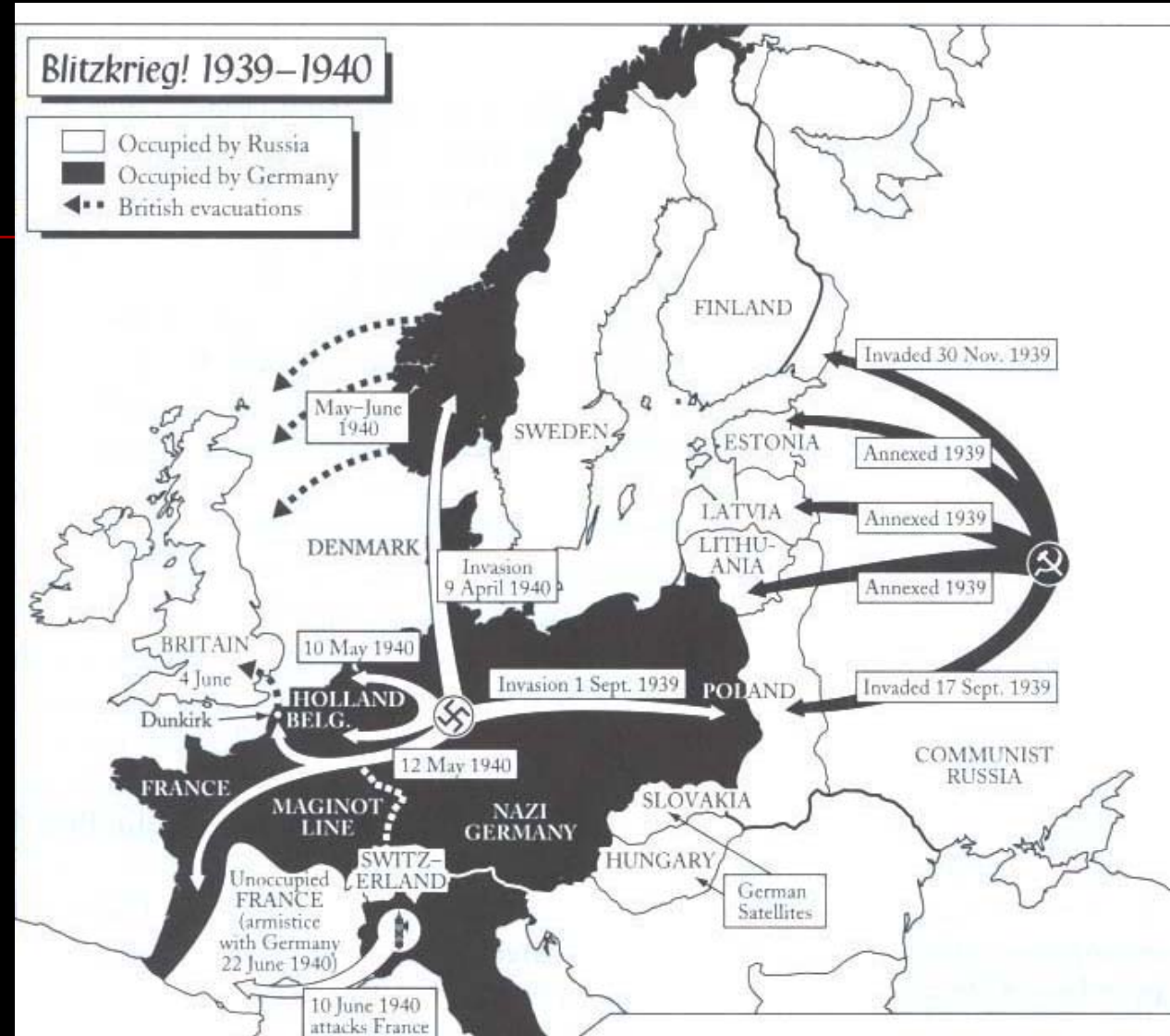


# V. Turning Points of the War

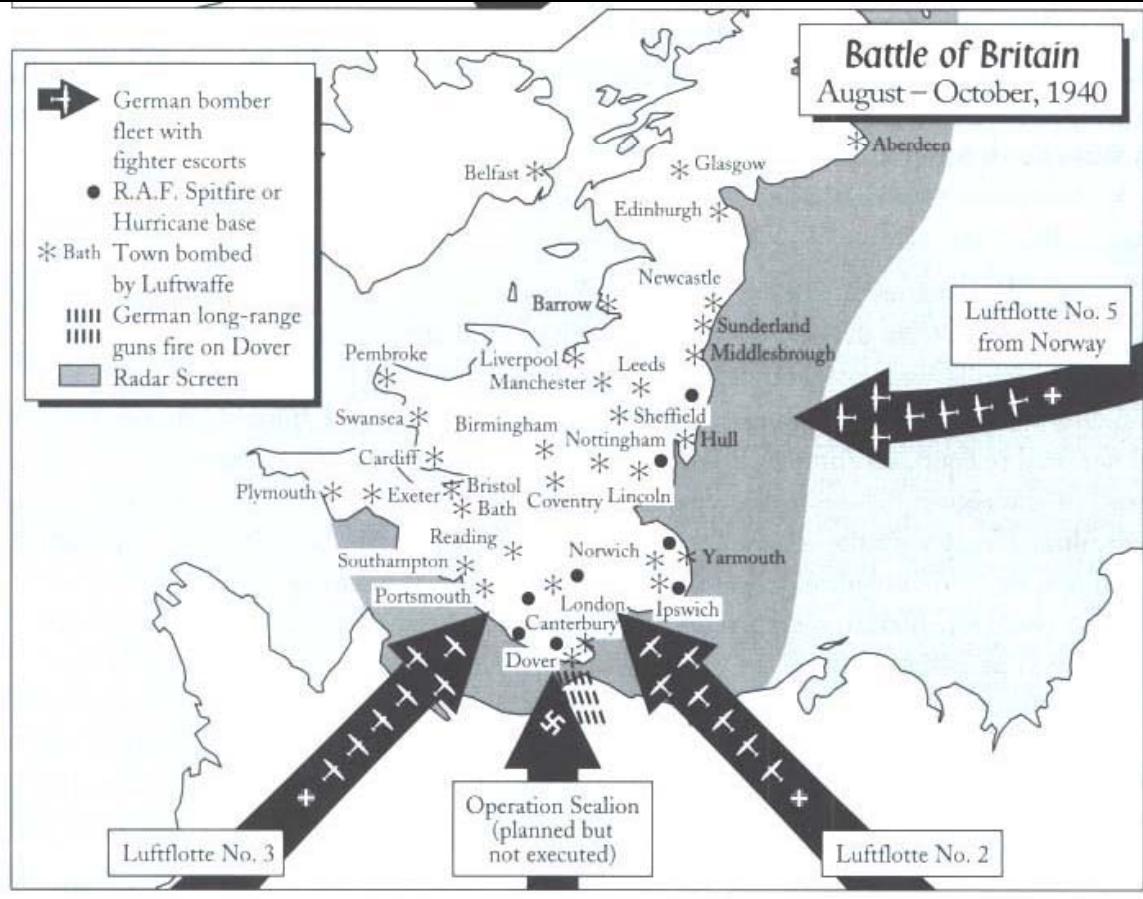
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- Phoney War (September 1939-May 1940)
- Battle of France (May-June 1940)
- Battle of Britain (July 1940-June 1941)
- Invasion of Russia (June 1941)
- Pearl Harbor (December 1941)
- Battle of Stalingrad (1942)
- Midway (June 1942)

# German Blitzkrieg



# Battle of Britain



“...we shall fight on the beaches, we shall fight on the landing grounds, we shall fight in the fields and in the streets, we shall fight in the hills; *we shall never surrender.*”

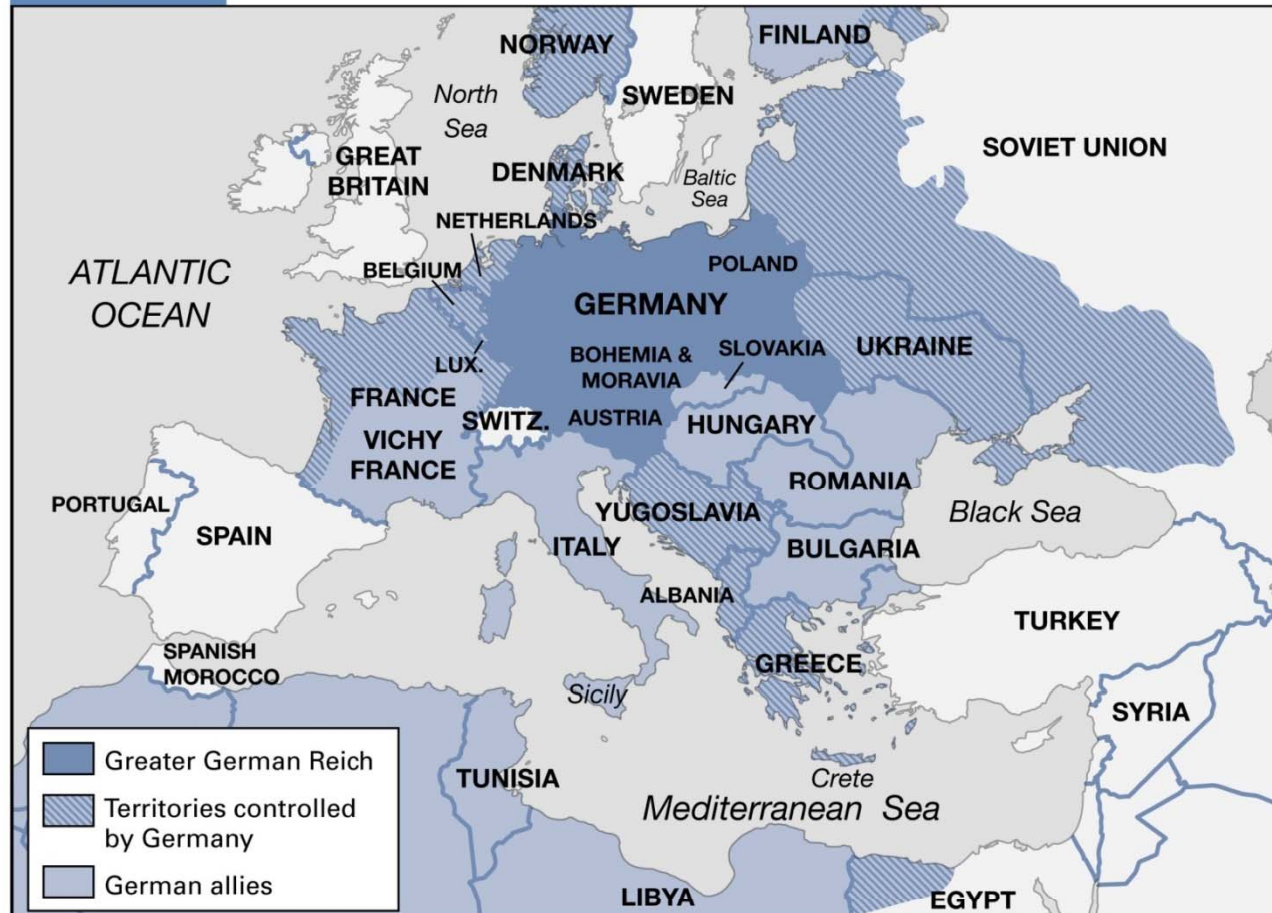


# Axis Advances when US Enters War

## ■ Europe

Map 4-2

Germany and Occupied Territories, 1942



# Axis Advances when US Enters War

## ■ Pacific





# V. Turning Points in War

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- North Africa Invasion (November 1942)
- Italy Invasion (September 1943)
- Normandy Invasion (June 1944)
- Battle of the Bulge (Dec 1944- Jan 1945)
- Okinawa (April 1945) and Saipan (June 1945)
- Atomic Bombs (Hiroshima/ Nagasaki) August 1945



## IV. Fallout of War

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- Germany and Japan destroyed as Great Powers
- Britain and France Further Weakened
- Border Changes
- US and USSR as 'Superpowers'

# Border Changes

