World War II

Outcome: The Rise of Adolf Hitler

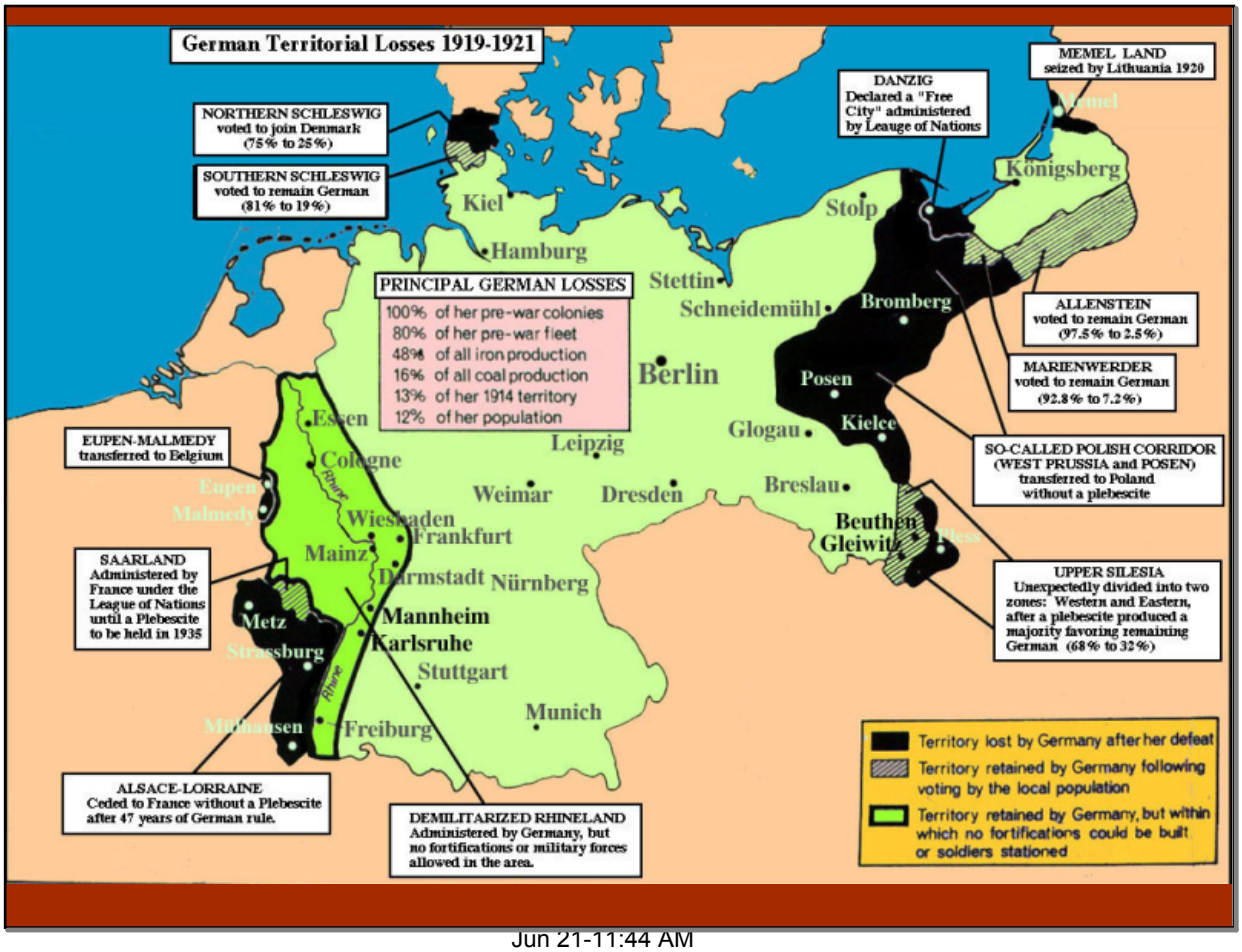
Jun 16-11:48 AM

1. Setting the Stage: World War I
   a. Although an Austrian, Hitler joined the German army in WWI
   b. Hitler was never an officer and was wounded in leg
   c. Temporarily blinded by mustard gas; while in hospital he became convinced that his purpose in life was to "save Germany"
   d. On Nov 11, 1918, Germany agreed to an armistice ---> angered Hitler
   e. Hitler called those who surrendered "November Criminals"
   f. In 1919 Germany forced to accept terms of the Treaty of Versailles:
      i. War Guilt clause: Blame
      ii. Loss of land
      iii. Loss of $$$
      iv. Disarmament
      v. Had to form a democracy: Weimar Republic

Jun 16-11:48 AM

Hitler as a frontline soldier in World War I

Jun 21-11:46 AM



Jun 21-11:44 AM

2. Rise of the Nazi Party
   a. In 1920, Hitler helps form the Nazi Party (German Nationalist Socialists Party)
   b. Beer Hall Putsch: Hitler and his Nazis try to overthrow the new democracy in a large beer hall in Munich.
   c. 16 of his men are killed. Hitler flees and is later arrested on high treason.
   d. While in prison Hilter writes "Mein Kampf"
   e. Learns lesson: Must destroy democracy from within
   f. Served 8 months and was released

Jun 16-11:48 AM

Paul von Hindenburg elected President of the Weimar Republic

Jun 21-11:51 AM

3. Hitler Takes Control
   a. In 1925 Paul von Hindenburg elected President of the Weimar Republic
   b. By 1932 the Nazi Party had become largest party in the Reichstag;
      38 % majority (Similar to Parliament or Congress)
   c. Hitler was appointed Chancellor in 1933 (2nd in command)
   d. February 1933 the Reichstag burned down; blamed on Communists
   e. Reichstag responded by suppressing communists and others and passed the "Enabling Act" which transferred its power to the president (dissolved power of Reichstag)
   f. 1934 President Von Hindenburg died & Hitler was declared "The Fuhrer" -The Dictator

Jun 16-11:49 AM

The German Reichstag Today

The Reichstag fire

Jun 21-11:54 AM

4. Prelude to the Holocaust & World War II
   a. Anti-Semitism, or hatred of Jews, already existed in the hearts of many Europeans
   b. Nuremberg Laws were passed allowing gov't to legally discriminate against Jews
   c. Examples of Nuremberg Laws:
      i. Jews were stripped of German citizenship (could no longer vote)
      ii. Marriage between Jews & Germans was forbidden
      iii. Jews were excluded from public office, practicing law, medicine, teaching
      iv. Jews had curfews, had to wear yellow star for public ID
      v. Allowed for open & legal terrorism against Jews

Jun 16-11:49 AM

Jun 21-11:58 AM

d. This led to a 3 step process (aka The Holocaust):
   i. Development of Jewish __ghettos__ in cities
   ii. Concentration Camps became sites of forced __labor__ and murder
   iii. __Genocide__ - mass killing of over 6 million Jews

e. 1938 __Kristallnacht__:
   i. The Night of __Broken Glass__ - anti-semitic riots in Germany and Austria.
   ii. __30,000__ Jews rounded up and taken to concentration camps
   iii. Homes, businesses, and synagogues __destroyed__

Jun 16-11:49 AM

The New York Times.

NAZIS SMASH, LOOT AND BURN JEWISH SHOPS AND TEMPLES UNTIL GOEBBELS CALLS HALT

All Vienna's Synagogues Attacked; Fires and Bombs Wreck 18 of 21

BANDS ROVE CITIES

Thousands Arrested for 'Protection' as Gangs Avenge Paris Death

Jun 21-11:59 AM

f. 1939 Hitler invaded Poland and starts World War II
g. He continued efforts to unite all people of German blood or Aryans under "The Master Race"
h. He called his empire the Third Reich

Jun 16-11:49 AM

German invasion of Poland in 1939

Jun 21-12:11 PM

Jun 21-12:01 PM