Chapter 11: Between the Wars
Fascism, Communism, Dictators & the Road to WWII
IMAGES
Capturing an Era

[Images of historical figures]
Mussolini
Il Duce
Mussolini’s Goals
Rome Berlin Axis
Hitler and Mussolini
Hitler
My Struggle
Hitler’s Hate

ALL FOOLS’ DAY IN GERMANY.
Der Führer (Leader)
Hitler

http://www.oldhistoricnewspapers.com/hitler.jpg
Emperor Hirohito
The Japanese military leadership, like the Nazi leadership, recognized that children played an important role in controlling the state. Military training was mandatory for both boys and girls, and toys often had militaristic themes.
They almost ruled the world...
STALIN
Stalin as Leader of all People
Stalin... killed 40 million of his own people...

Genocide in Ukraine 1932-33
1919-1939... Between the Wars
Contents of this Lesson

- Rise of Hitler
- Nazi Germany: The Terror State
- Nazi Propaganda
- Stalin
- The Secret Police
- Nazi-Soviet Pact
- Hitler, Stalin… The U.S.
Hitler's Rise to Power

http://hsqm.free.fr/liens/hitler.jpg
Overview

- The Nazi Party was formed in 1919
- Hitler joined the party shortly after its inception
- Germany was in a state of disarray after the First World War
- There were many extremist groups in Germany at the time
Many Germans were disillusioned after the defeat in the First World War. Ex-soldiers felt that they had been ‘Stabbed in the back’ and felt that they had not been defeated on the battlefield. Many of them joined Right Wing groups such as the Freikorps or the Nazi party.
Economic hardship was coupled with humiliation as a result of the terms of the Treaty of Versailles. Right Wing groups gained popularity by saying that they would not adhere to its terms.
Rosa Luxemburg

- The Spartacist rising, amongst others, led to many people fearing a Communist revolution in Germany. People looked to right Wing groups to act against this: the Freikorps in particular.

Polish-born German communist. She helped found the Polish Social Democratic Party in the 1890s, the forerunner of the Polish Communist Party. She was a leader of the left wing of the German Social Democratic Party from 1898 where she collaborated with Karl Liebknecht in founding the Spartacus League in 1918 (see Spartacist). Imprisoned during World War I for opposing the continuation of the war, she was also critical of the decision to launch an uprising in November 1918. She disagreed with leading Polish left-wing ideologists on the issue of Polish nationalism. Luxemburg was also the author of a Marxist critique of capitalist imperialism, The Accumulation of Capital. She was murdered, together with Liebknecht, in January 1919 by the Frei Corps who put down the Spartacist uprising.
How did the Nazi party gain support in this period?

- Military uniforms demonstrated strength at a time when the government was weak.
- Use of force against communists and Trade unionists was popular with businesses.
- Populist policies and rhetoric were employed to discredit opponents and develop support.
- References to traditional values and reminders of ‘Who was to blame’ for the economic crisis builds support.
1923: Violent uprising

- By 1923 the Nazi party had gained much support in Bavaria. Now firmly under the control of Adolf Hitler the group attempts to seize control of the government through use of force.

- Despite having many sympathisers the coup fails and Hitler is imprisoned.

- The failure of the Beer Hall Putsch demonstrates that power needs to be taken through legal means.

http://www.historylearningsite.co.uk/beer_hall_putsch_of_1923.htm
Regrouping

- Whilst in prison Hitler analyses the parties strategy
- Political Strategies are developed and refined
- Shift to winning electoral support
- Development of propaganda tools
- Attempts to win support of big business
1924-1929

- Focus on traditional values
- Builds fear of Left Wing groups
- Continued use of military imagery
- Lack of electoral support due to relative prosperity in Germany at the time
1929-1932 A Change in Fortunes

- Wall Street Crash leads to end of effective financial assistance from USA
- Unemployment rises rapidly
- Hyperinflation recurs
- Threat of Communism increases
- Coalition government fails to address problems successfully
DEATH OF PRESIDENT HINDENBURG

HITLER BECAME CHANCELLOR

THE REICHSTAG FIRE

FUHRER

OATH OF LOYALTY TO HITLER

THE NIGHT OF THE LONG KNIVES

THE ENABLING ACT
January 1933

The depression after the Wall Street Crash made many more people vote for the Nazis. In 1933 Von Papen convinced Hindenburg that Hitler should become Chancellor.
February 1933

THE REICHSTAG FIRE

- The Reichstag building burnt down.
- A communist was found inside the building. He admitted responsibility.
- Chancellor Hitler was able to convince people that the Communists were trying to take power by terrorism.
- He was able to have the Communists banned from the Reichstag.
March 1933

With the Communists banned from the Reichstag, Hitler was able to pass:

THE ENABLING ACT

HITLER CAN RULE ALONE FOR FOUR YEARS. THERE IS NO NEED TO CONSULT THE REICHSTAG.
June 1934

The Night of the Long Knives

- Hitler had to get rid of Roehm. He was too much of a threat.
- On the night of 30th June 1934 Hitler’s S.S. killed over 1000 SA members including Roehm.
- The army were pleased.
- Hitler had gained the support of the army.
HINDENBURG DIES

PRESIDENT HINDENBURG’S DEATH GAVE HITLER THE OPPORTUNITY TO COMBINE THE ROLE OF CHANCELLOR AND PRESIDENT. HE CALLED HIMSELF ‘DER FUHRER’.
Oath of Loyalty: Every soldier swore a personal oath of loyalty to ADOLF HITLER.

"I swear by God this sacred oath that I shall render unconditional obedience to Adolf Hitler, the Führer of the German Reich, supreme commander of the armed forces, and that I shall at all times be prepared, as a brave soldier, to give my life for this oath."
Nazi Germany

Keeping Control:
Terror State

This section adapted from
Mr RJ Huggins
www.SchoolHistory.co.uk
“Terror is the best political weapon for nothing drives people harder than a fear of sudden death.”
How did Hitler keep control of Germany?

**The Terror State**
- Secret police called the Gestapo would spy on and arrest enemies of the state.
- SS were responsible for running the concentration camps.
- Everyone was scared of being arrested by the Gestapo and being put in a concentration camp.

**Propaganda**
- Mass Rallies, Posters and Propaganda films.
- The Nazis controlled and censored the radio & newspapers.
- School children were indoctrinated with Nazi ideas at school.
- Hitler Youth & the Young Maidens.

**Keeping Control of Germany**

**Popularity**
- Ripping up the Treaty of Versailles.

**Creating Jobs**
The Terror State

- Both the Gestapo and the SS were run by Heinrich Himmler.
- The Gestapo employed an army of spies who would inform on people.
Enemies of the State

- Communists
- Social Democrats
- Jews
- Trade Unionists.
- Work Shy
- Homosexuals
- Gypsies
- Germans who bought from Jews
- Pacifists
- Radical Christian Organisation
- Anyone who criticised Hitler or the Nazi Party.
Enemies of the State

- A list of German women who were still purchasing goods from Jewish shops.
- Printed to scare or terrorise other people into not buying from the Jews.
How did the Terror State Work?

You are woken up by the Gestapo at 1 am in the morning and told that you have 5 minutes to pack your bags. You are arrested and thrown into a cell at the police station.

Days or maybe weeks later you are interviewed and asked to sign form D11. By signing this form you are giving your consent to be put into a concentration camp.

You are handed over to the SS who run the concentration camps.

Gestapo Spies inform on you. You are woken up by the Gestapo at 1 am in the morning and told that you have 5 minutes to pack your bags.

Fear

You are imprisoned for up to six months doing hard physical labour.
How did the Terror State Work?

- Everyone knew someone who knew someone else who had been in a concentration camp.
- 800,000 Germans were imprisoned from 1933 – 1945 as ‘Enemies of the State.’
- 500,000 were executed by being shot in the neck.
Key Quote: Martin Niemöller, 1945

- When the Nazis came for the Communists I was silent, I was not a Communist.
- When the Nazis came for the Social Democrats I was silent, I was not a Social Democrat.
- When the Nazis came for the Jews I was silent, I was not a Jew.
- When the Nazis came for me there was nobody left to protest.
Nazi Propaganda

Adapted from Mr Moorhouse
www.SchoolHistory.co.uk
Nazi Propaganda

- What is propaganda?
- Propaganda is the use of the Media to aggressively promote one point of view.
- Propaganda is ‘brainwashing’ of the public, convincing them of an ideological viewpoint.
Propaganda

Discussion Point
- Do governments and/or the media use propaganda today? How?
Nazi Propaganda

- The Nazi’s quickly recognised the value of the media. From the early days of the party they used aggressive advertising to promote the nazi ideology

- Goebbels was in charge of ‘enlightening’ the German public
Nazi Propaganda: Methods

- Posters
- Radio
- Film
- Newspapers

"Germany's Victory is Europe's Freedom."
Posters

- Posters are cheap and easy to distribute
- Placed in prominent positions they act as a constant reminder of ideology
- Can be used for many purposes

“Youth serves the Fuhrer. All ten-year-olds join the Hitler Youth.”

www.historywiz.org/ nazi-mm.htm
Examples of Nazi Posters

"All girls join us"

Poster From the Nazi Anti-Semitic Hate Film, *The Eternal Jew*
Hitler is considered to have been one of the greatest public speakers of all time.
Film

Film was used to show Hitler in a positive light as often as possible.

The Nazi’s commissioned several films, each carefully portraying a certain image – try to think what this may have been...

Newspapers

- Censoring newspapers ensures that only the news you want people to read is available to the public.
- Nazi party members wrote many articles for the press, ensuring that the message was always positive.
- Many publications were banned.

Page from Julius Streicher's antisemitic newspaper, "Der Stürmer," in which an illustration from a medieval book depicting ritual murder, a medieval antisemitic myth, is reproduced. This page was submitted as evidence at the Nuremberg trials.

http://fcit.coedu.usf.edu/holocaust/arts/ARTPROP.HTM
STALIN
Stalin’s Rise to Power

- Death of Lenin
- Potential Successors
- The Question of the Economy
- Stalin’s Maneuvers
Industrializing the Soviet Union

- The End of the NEP
- Dekulakization
- 5-Year Plans
- Rapid Industrialization
The Great Purge

- Assassination of Sergei Kirov
- Threat to the Party
- Show Trials
- Purges uncontested
Why Did Stalin Win The Struggle For Power?

The Communist Party in the 1920’s, Stalin’s Rise to Power and the Defeat of His Rivals.
The Communist Party in the Early 1920’s – What Factors Influenced the Power Struggle?

- When Lenin died he left no clear successor to lead the Communist Party.
- Lenin’s Testament criticised all the leading candidates e.g. he described Stalin as ‘not being able to use power with sufficient caution’ and Trotsky for ‘excessive self assurance’.
- A group of leaders emerged; a ‘collective leadership’.
- By 1929 one of these leaders, Stalin had become a dominant force.
- His success was the result of a power struggle.
Factor 1: The Ban on Factionalism.

- In 1921 a resolution was passed banning all groups within the party from putting forward ideas that disagreed with the official party policy.
- Those who showed a tolerance to factionalism could be expelled from the party.
Factor 1: The Ban on Factionalism.

- Consequences:
  - This ban caused a lack of debate within the party.
  - It also resulted in many expulsions: during the power struggles of the 1920s those who succeeded in getting their ideas accepted were quick to accuse their opponents of factionalism.

- Traditionally, Communists did not believe in bureaucracy. However, dealing with the complexities of government forced the party into becoming more centralised.
- The party decided to have a General Secretary to organise matters.
- Who do you think got this job???
Factor 2: A centralised Party machine.

- Consequences:
  - This position and the growing centralisation of the party put Stalin in a unique position to influence job appointments.
Factor 3: The growth in Party membership.

- By 1933 there were 3 and a half million members.
- Many members were young, inexperienced and uneducated.
Factor 3: The growth in Party membership.

- Consequences:
  - These were “malleable recruits”. They were much more likely to obey instructions than some older party members.
Factor 4: No one clear Leader.

- Stalin
- Trotsky
- Zinoviev
- Kamenev
- Bukharin
Leon Trotsky

- Trotsky was the man most feared by the other senior members.
- BUT…..
- Trotsky refused to compete for leadership. He was absent at Lenin’s funeral saying that Stalin had told him the wrong date (hummmm). In reality he seems to have lacked the political will to fight.
- This left the door open for…….
Leon Trotsky

- Trotsky was exiled to Turkey. 1 down.....3 to go.
- Stalin played the other members of the politburo off against each other until they lost their government posts.

http://www.okay.com/dunc/gulag.htm

Trotsky on his Deathbed
Stalin’s victory was not inevitable, nor was it a result of his political skills alone.
Stalin’s Victory

- The centralised nature of the party made it relatively easy to control. This had begun under Lenin.
- The opposition to factionalism established by Lenin led other leading members to their political death as they were seen to not be towing the party line.
- Poorly educated new party members were easy to dominate.
- Stalin’s own political skills aided his rise. By shifting allegiances, using the secret police and putting his people in key jobs there was no opposition for him to encounter.
The Stalinist Purges

- Followed the First Five Year Plan and the famines and social upheaval of 1931-32
- Fears of renewed civil war
- Opposition to Stalin increased
  - Trotsky called for change from abroad
  - Internal opposition groups called for Stalin’s removal from below
  - Stalin’s wife publicly criticized him and committed suicide
STALIN’S TERROR

Solzhenitsyn: "Any adult inhabitant of this country, from a collective farmer up to a member of the Politburo, always knew that it would take only one careless word or gesture and he would fly off irrevocably into the abyss." (The Gulag Archipelago, vol. 2, p. 633.)
Factors That Created the Purges

- Stalin
  - Role and function
  - Leadership and power
- Party
  - Development and structure
- Ideology
  - Values and language
- Oppositions
  - Leftist Opposition of 1927
  - Rightist Opposition of 1930
Stalin’s Rise

- Why had Stalin risen to the top?
- Distinct and invaluable
  - Practitioner, not a theorist
  - Common man, not an elitist
  - Plain spoken, not an intellectual
Counterweight

- Lenin leaned on him to do the work others would not
  - Stalin balanced the competing egos and interests in the Politburo
  - Perceived as man of moderation, compromise, and level-headedness
  - Dedicated, ruthless, brutal if necessary
Stalin’s Position

- Organizer and workhorse
  - Commissar for Nationalities
  - Member of Politburo, Orgburo, Secretariat (all subsets of the Central Committee) and the party Control Commission
  - Controlled party membership and local elections
  - Minimized criticisms of Central Committee by closely structuring attendance at party congresses
Lenin’s Last Years

- **Given more “unwanted” jobs**
  - Enforced political isolation on Lenin after his stroke on doctor’s (and the Politburo’s) orders
  - Positions opened opportunities, but also carried dangers
  - The others in the leadership thought he would trip up and they could dispose of him

- **Stalin’s self-image**
  - Indispensable
  - Beset by opponents
Stalin in the 1930s

- The leader, but not absolute
  - Had to exist in a system of conflicting groups and interests
  - Dependent upon, but also powerful over, the personnel of the party

- The *nomenklatura* (party political elites)
  - Moscow had accumulated much centralized power
  - Stalin had not really created the system but he was its chief representative and patron
Party and Society

- Party’s control insecure in countryside
  - Had been ‘lesser of two evils’ in 1921
  - Intense rural opposition to collectivization

- Party’s responses had been massive recruitment drives
  - ‘Lenin Levy’ of 1924 brought in 200,000 members, mainly ill-educated, Russian-ethnic, industrial workers
  - Membership reached about 2 million, mostly recruited between 1929-1932
Fissures in the Party

- The results of growth and centralization led to major divisions
- Four distinct levels
  - Stalin and Politburo
  - Central Moscow leadership
  - Regional and local leaders
  - Rank and file party members

The following is drawn mainly from J. Arch Getty and Oleg V. Naumov, *The Road to Terror: Stalin and the Self-Destruction of the Bolsheviks, 1932-1939*, Yale University Press, 1999.
Antecedents

- Civil War values
  - Implacable and pitiless character rewarded
  - Civil rights and legality as bourgeois liberal nostrums
  - The peasants as the enemy of the revolution
  - Mass terror as legitimate, if not respectable
  - Secret police (*Cheka*, later OGPU) first employed
Language and Politics

- The use of flexible and loosely-defined metaphors in official discourse to identify enemies
  - Kulak
  - Trotskyist
  - Saboteur
  - Counter-revolutionary
  - Traitor
The Party and Purges

- Purges of enemies were accepted, if not promoted, by many in the party
  - Fearful for their positions if the regime collapsed
  - True believers in communism and the chosen role of the Bolshevik party
Ideology and Truth

- The historical destiny and inevitability of Communism
- Deaths, setbacks and complications could not be the result of erroneous policies
- Had to be the consequence of sabotage, class enemies and internal party traitors
Two Oppositions

- The United Opposition of 1927
  - Trotsky, Zinoviev and Kamenev’s threat to take matters to the street after losing out to Stalin-Bukharin
  - Broke cardinal rule of keeping disputes within the party, behind closed doors
  - Refused to publicly recant, admit errors, and accept judgment
  - Kamenev was severely demoted; Zinoviev and Trotsky were expelled; Trotsky deported in 1929
Two Oppositions

- Rightist Opposition of 1930
  - Bukharin, Rykov, and Tomsky recanted their errors in private speeches to the party
  - Performed what was to become a basic apology ritual
  - Lost their Politburo seats, but stayed in the party and Central Committee
The Secret Police

History

Functions

Structure
History

- **Tsarist Secret Police: Okhrana**
- **Under Lenin: Cheka (1917-1922)**
  - Head: Felix Dzerzhinsky
  - Purpose: Prevent counterrevolutionary activities
  - First camp for political prisoners: Solovki Monastery
  - 1922: made part of NKVD (Commissariat of Internal Affairs)
The Great Terror

- 1934--assasination of Kirov
- Purge of the Leningrad Party
- Yezhov 1936-38
- Enemies of the People
- Public trials of important figures
- Beria 1938-1953
KGB

- Committee for State Security
- 1954 to end of Soviet period
- Functions
  - Foreign intelligence
  - Activities of foreigners on Soviet territory
  - Ideological control of Soviet population
    - Secret informers
    - dissidents
GULAG

- State Directorate of (Labor) Camps
- Corrective Labor: White Sea Canal project 1930-31
  - Work reforges anti-social people
  - Cheap labor
- Solzhenitsyn: Gulag Archipelago
- Death camps
- Kolyma
- Political prisoners: Article 58
Death Toll

- Solzhenitsyn: 66 million
- 1927-29: 1 mil., political opposition
- 1930-33: Collectivization
  - 12 mil. Peasants deported to Siberia
- 1932-33: Famine
  - 6-7 mil. Die of starvation
  - 1.5-2 mil. Arrested for “crimes against state property”

http://www.personal.psu.edu/users/w/x/wxk116/sjk/kolyma3.htm
Death Toll (cont.)

- Great Terror 1937-38: 5-7 mil. Arrested, shot, sent to labor camps
- 50% of Party, 70% of Central Committee, 66% of military, including nearly all generals
- 1939-41: Mass repressions in the Baltic states and western Ukraine, Belorussia

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**TABLE 1.4**
This Century’s Bloodiest Dictators

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DICTATOR</th>
<th>IDEOLOGY</th>
<th>REGIME</th>
<th>YEARS</th>
<th>MURDERED (000)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Joseph Stalin</td>
<td>Communist</td>
<td>USSR</td>
<td>1929-53</td>
<td>42,672 [2]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mao Tse-tung</td>
<td>Communist</td>
<td>China</td>
<td>1923-76</td>
<td>37,828 [3]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adolf Hitler</td>
<td>Fascist</td>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>1933-45</td>
<td>20,946</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vladimir Ilich Lenin</td>
<td>Communist</td>
<td>USSR</td>
<td>1917-24</td>
<td>4,017 [5]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pol Pot</td>
<td>Communist</td>
<td>Cambodia</td>
<td>1968-87</td>
<td>2,397 [3]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yahya Khan</td>
<td>Militant</td>
<td>Pakistan</td>
<td>1971</td>
<td>1,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Josip Broz Tito</td>
<td>Communist</td>
<td>Yugoslavia</td>
<td>1941-87</td>
<td>1,172 [3]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. Most probable estimates in a low to high range. Estimates are from or based on Rummel (1990, 1991, 1992) and various chapter appendices to this book.
2. Citizens only.
3. Includes his guerrilla period.
4. Includes his warlord period.
5. Includes one-third the democide for the NEP period 1923-1928.
6. Estimated as one-half the 1937-1945 democide in China plus the World War II democide.

http://www.mega.nu:8080/ampp/rummel/dbg.tab1.4.gif
Death Toll (cont.)

- During World War II
  - 2 mil. Ethnic Germans deported
  - 3 mil. Moslems
  - 2-3 mil. Arrested for reporting late for work
- War casualties: 20 mil.
- Post-war: 10-12 mil. Deprived of rights or sent to labor camps for living in areas occupied by Nazis during war
Reasons

- Eliminate rivals and potential rivals
- Intensify the mood of terror
- Blame government failures on “enemies”
- Cheap labor for government projects
The Nazi-Soviet Pact

Adapted from Sean Connolly
And
Nick Wildey
“I must confess to the most profound distrust of Russia. And I distrust her motives, which seem to me to have little connection with our ideas of liberty, and to be concerned only with getting everyone else by the ears....”
“Moreover, she is both **hated** and **suspected** by many of the smaller States, notably by **Poland, Romania** and **Finland.**”

- Neville Chamberlain
Communication between both governments was key so as to address problems reflecting on their country’s common interests.

Non-aggression was the main component, assuring that neither side would attack the other and any violence was strictly forbidden.
The treaty would last for ten years, after that it would continue for five more years if neither party expressed disinterest in the relationship.

Any conflicts between parties would not be settled through violence, but rather through exchanging opinions or arbitration commissions.
Not an Alliance

- The treaty or pact was definitely not an alliance. The two powers did not agree to international efforts.

- The economic agreement of August 13, 1939 named USSR to provide Germany with food and raw materials.

- Germany would supply the U.S.S.R. with finished products.
A Shock to the World

- The Nazi's were known for hating **Communists**. With the **USSR** a Communist body, the world was shocked that these two governments would sign any sort of agreement, much less a non-aggression one.
Two Terms that *Don’t* Mix

- **Ideological Differences**
  - Fascism – embraces private property
  - Communism – nationalizes (takes away) private property
Hitler and Stalin

- Hitler and Stalin were seeking power by abusing the citizens of their countries, aspiring to world domination.
- In both Hitler’s Germany and Stalin’s U.S.S.R., the populations were split down the middle.
Hitler/\textbf{Stalin} Population Effects

- In the \textbf{U.S.S.R.} “Stalinism” made the people paranoid about \textit{not} helping the Soviet cause. The “Great Purge” led to the deaths of millions of Soviets.

- In Germany, Hitler created massive rifts between races leading to the deaths of millions of Jews.
The secret protocol of the agreement gave the Soviets control of the Baltic States, blocked the Soviets from entering a war against Germany, and split Poland between the two countries.
About a week after the signing of the pact, German forces entered Poland.

Throughout September of 1939, Poland was subject to occupation in the west from German forces and from the east by Soviet forces.

The British and French honored their ally system by declaring war on Germany.
“Bloodthirsty”

- The Polish were forced into labour camps and their military officers were brutally murdered.
- The goal of German/Soviet occupation was to enslave the Polish and erase their sense of nationalism and identity.
“A great myth developed that only the fascist enemy was capable of genocide, of mass crime. If the crimes of the Soviet Union were to be put into the same category as those of the Nazis, the whole moral story of why we fought the Second World War would have been ruined. We now know that during the war, Stalin actually killed more of his own people than Hitler killed during the Holocaust.”

Norman Davies
At the Katyn forests in 1943, nearly 4,000 Polish military officers were discovered in a mass grave; a massacre which was recently claimed in responsibility in 1991 by the Soviets.
The concentration camps killed Jews on Polish soil at infamous camps such as Auschwitz, Majdanek, and Treblinka. Almost all of the 3 million Jews living in Poland were annihilated by the ruthless Germans and Soviets.
On November 30th, 1939 the USSR attacked Finland, expecting an easy victory. However Finland was able to hold them off and retain its independence. This scuttle was known as the Winter War.
The End of the Pact

- The pact between the two countries was severed as a result of Hitler invading the U.S.S.R. on June 22\textsuperscript{nd}, 1941.
Failure of the pact

- The Germans were avoiding fighting a two front war.

- The attack on the Soviets may have helped to win the war for the allies, as the Germans then had two fronts to supply, occupy, and fight.
“They should have known…”

The attack on the **USSR** shocked few people. It was assumed that this pact would last only long enough to give Germany the advantage of not having to fight on two fronts.
USSR Enters WWII

- Following the German invasion of the USSR, the Soviets were involved in WWII, as well as defeating the German powers.
The U.S. soon became involved in the war. If the U.S. was involved in the war prior to June 22\textsuperscript{nd}, 1941, many people believe that Germany would not have attacked Russia.
The combination of the United States and the USSR joining allied efforts in a matter of months apart, morale among British and French troops skyrocketed, and the Soviets fought as if there had been no negotiations between their government and Germany at all.
“Ours is a righteous cause. The enemy shall be defeated. Victory will be ours.”

- Vyacheslav Molotov - June 22, 1941
  - (Foreign minister of the USSR during time of signing of pact as well as time of attack.)
Evaluation

- What were the provisions of the Nazi-Soviet Pact?
- Was it a treaty of alliance? If not, what was its purpose?
- Why was the world shocked when it was announced? What were the ideological differences between Hitler and Stalin?
- What effect would the pact have on the nations who were targeted?
- When and how would the Pact be broken?
Works Cited

- **German-Soviet Non-Aggression Treaty, 1939**
  - [http://www.ess.uwe.ac.uk/documents/German_Soviet_Pact.htm](http://www.ess.uwe.ac.uk/documents/German_Soviet_Pact.htm)
  - Accessed 5-30-03
  - Site contained articles of provisions of the pact.

- **Picture**
  - Accessed 5-30-03

- **Grolier Multimedia Encyclopedia**
  - [http://go.grolier.com](http://go.grolier.com)
  - Accessed 5-30-03
  - Good general background information, combined with great graphics of Hitler and Stalin.

- **Poland’s Holocaust**
  - [www.polandsholocaust.org/](http://www.polandsholocaust.org/)
  - Accessed 6/06/03
  - Excellent source for information regarding a country whose “holocaust” was not quite as known about as was Germany’s.

- **Nazi-Soviet Pact**
  - [http://www.spartacus.schoolnet.co.uk/RUSnazipact.htm](http://www.spartacus.schoolnet.co.uk/RUSnazipact.htm)
  - Accessed 5-30-03
  - Site contained information on both Hitler and Stalin, as well as several primary source documents.
Works Cited Cont’d

- **The Avalon Project**
  - [http://www.yale.edu/lawweb/avalon/nazsov/nonagres.htm](http://www.yale.edu/lawweb/avalon/nazsov/nonagres.htm)
  - Accessed 5-30-03
  - Contained articles of the pact.
  - Excellent web site for information on a wide array of topics.

- **Germany and the Soviet Union sign a non-aggression pact**
  - [http://campus.northpark.edu/history/WebChron/World/HitlerStalin.html](http://campus.northpark.edu/history/WebChron/World/HitlerStalin.html)
  - Accessed 5-30-03
  - Site talked slightly about the signing of the pact, but focused mainly on the invasion of Poland.

- **German and Soviet Rule**
  - [http://www.1upinfo.com](http://www.1upinfo.com)
  - Accessed 6/6/03
  - Detailed outline of the pact, definitely a source to use again for many other topics.

- **Nazi-Soviet Pact**
  - [http://www.johndclare.net/RoadtoWWII8.htm](http://www.johndclare.net/RoadtoWWII8.htm)
  - Accessed 5-30-03
  - Site contained information on the shock that this pact caused to the rest of the world. Also contained some pictures.