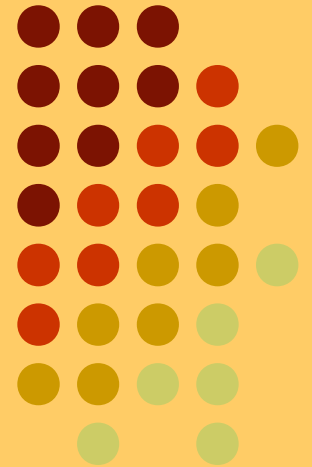


Unit 13

The Second World War (1939-1945)

Social Studies – ESO-4



The Second World War



- **Causes**
- **New features**
- **The way to the war**
- **The German offensive**
 - **The Western front**
 - **The Balkans and North Africa**
 - **The Russian front**
- **The end of war in Europe**
 - **The far East front**
- **Occupation and resistance**
- **The consequences of war**
- **The holocaust**
- **The aftermath**



The Second World War



- **Causes:**
 - **Defeated countries from WW1-treated unfairly**
 - **Paris Peace Treaties**
 - **League of Nations to solve quarrels peacefully**
 - **not powerful enough**
 - **Adolf Hitler aimed to:**
 - **change agreements – regain German lost lands**
 - **create a Greater Germany**
 - **win territories in the East (*lebensraum*)**

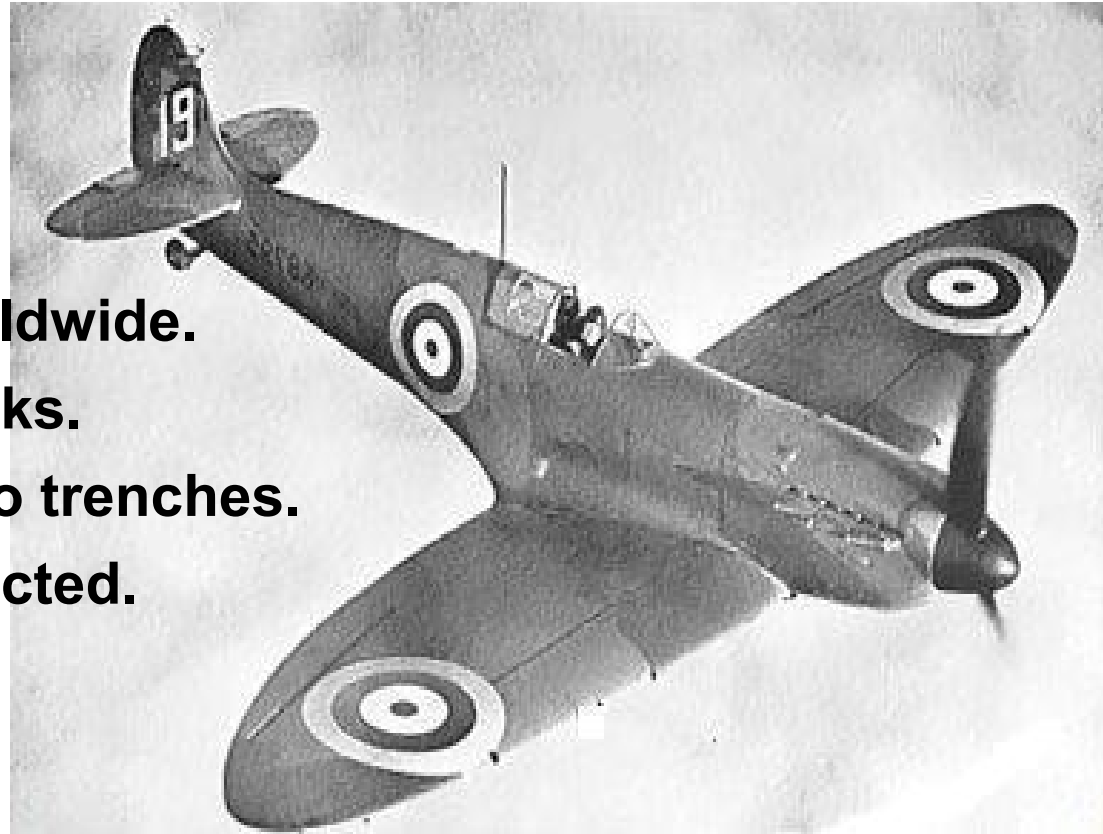


The Second World War



- **New Features:**

- **War was worldwide.**
- **Aircrafts, tanks.**
- **Rapid war, no trenches.**
- **Civilians affected.**



The Second World War



- The way to the war -1:
 - 1929 crisis → aggressive, expansionist policies
 - Japan invaded **Manchuria** (1931)
 - Italy wanted to conquer **Abyssinia**
 - **Greater German Empire** → towards east
 - Germany out of the League
 - Troops to the **Rheinland** (1936)
 - Civil War in **Spain** (1936-1939)
 - Germans – Guernica
 - Soviet Union helped National Front
 - **Rome-Berlin-Tokio** Axis

The Second World War



- The way to the war -2:
 - 1929 crisis → aggressive, expansionist policies:
 - Referendum in **Austria** → German invasion
 - Hitler wanted to invade Czechoslovakia
 - Britain & France – policy of appeasement
 - Munich agreement
 - Invasion of **Czechoslovakia**
 - Invasion of Lithuanian port of **Memel**
 - **Poland** was the next target:
 - Hitler's pact with the Soviet Union
 - Invasion of Poland (1st Sept. 1939)
 - Britain and France declared **war on Germany**.

The Second World War



- The way to the war -3:



The Second World War



- **The German offensive: a) The Western Front**
 - **Poland defeated rapidly – (*Blitzkrieg*) *lightning war***
 - **Tanks, aircrafts, paratroops**
 - **Phoney war**
 - **April: Invasion of Denmark and Norway**
 - **May: Holland, Belgium, Luxembourg and France**
 - **Puppet government**
 - **Britain has no allies**
 - **Battle of Britain (August & September 1940)**
 - **Britain won**
 - **Germans bombed cities**

The Second World War



- **The German offensive: b) The Balkans and North Africa**
 - **Romania, Hungary & Bulgaria forced into the war**
 - **Yugoslavia was invaded**
 - **Germany & Italy wanted the Suez Canal (Africa)**
 - **To cut oil supplies**
 - **Allied forces won in El Alamein**
 - **First serious German defeat**
 - **Allied forces took Sicily and Mussolini was defeated**
 - **Italy declared war on Germany**
 - **German forces resisted until May 1945**

The Second World War



- **The German offensive: c) The Russian front**
 - **Stalin had made a pact with Hitler but Hitler wanted to attack the USSR:**
 - He needed living space
 - Destroy Communist system
 - Resources
 - Slave labourers
 - **Operation Barbarossa**
 - **Attacks on Leningrad, Moscow & Stalingrad**
 - **USSR not ready for war**
 - **Rapid and massive attack**
 - **Deadly winter campaign (1941-1942)**
 - **Red Army**
 - **20 million soviets died**
 - **Britain and USA recovered**

The Second World War



- The end of war in Europe
 - 1942:
 - German forces were retreating
 - Italian forces were defeated
 - D-Day landings (6th June 1944)
 - 1 million allied troops in Normandy
 - Paris liberated (August 1944)
 - On 1st April 1945 advance to Berlin
 - 30th April 1945 - Hitler's suicide
 - 7th May 1945 – Germany surrendered
 - 15th August 1945 – Japan surrendered



The Second World War



- **The German offensive: c) The Far East Front -1**
 - **It began later - background**
Japan:
 - **Major industrial power**
 - **Japan controlled Korea & Manchuria**
 - **Treaty with Hitler (1936)**
 - **Invasion of China (1937)**
 - **1941 – expansion in Eastern China**
 - **Indo-China: coal, rubber, oil & raw materials**
 - **USA banned trade with Japan (oil supplies)**

The Second World War

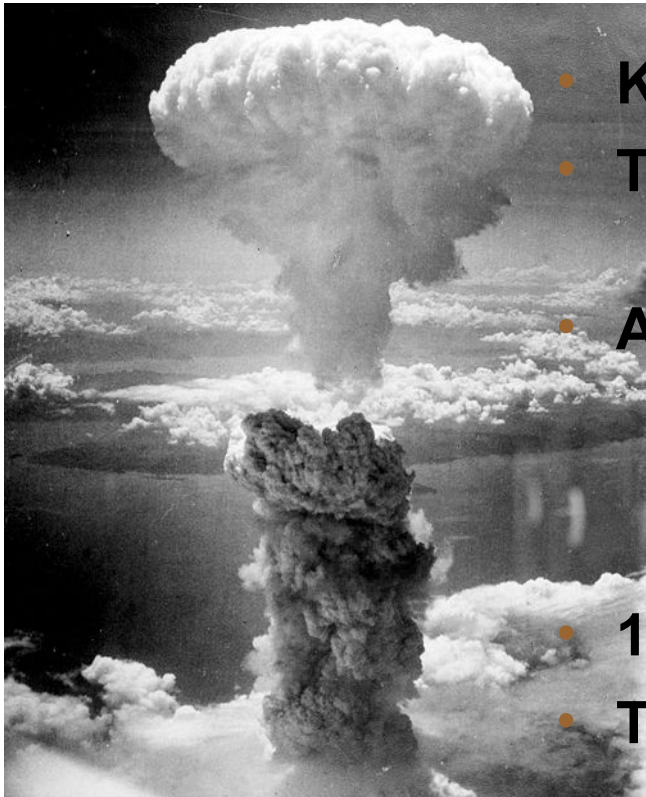


- **The German offensive: c) The Far East Front -2**
 - **7th Dec 1941 – Pearl Harbor attack (Hawaii – USA)**
 - **2400 men killed**
 - **Aircraft carriers at sea – missed fuel supplies**
 - **Germany declared war on USA**
 - **Japan occupied the Philippines, the Dutch East Indies, Singapore, Malaya, Burma.**
 - **Success: surprise attacks, good equipment, well-trained pilots, large army.**
 - **Battle of Midway – turning point**
 - **June 1942 Japanese naval supremacy ended**

The Second World War



- **The German offensive: c) The Far East Front -3**
 - **Allies – *Island-hopping***
 - **Iwo Jima – Japanese fought to the last man**
 - **Kamikaze pilots**
 - **Truman's choice (invasion of Japan or losses)**
 - **Atomic bombs:**
 - **6th August 1945 – Hiroshima**
 - **8th August 1945 – Nagasaki**
 - **Consequences of destruction and radiation**
 - **14th August 1945 – Japan surrendered**
 - **THE WAR WAS OVER**



The Second World War

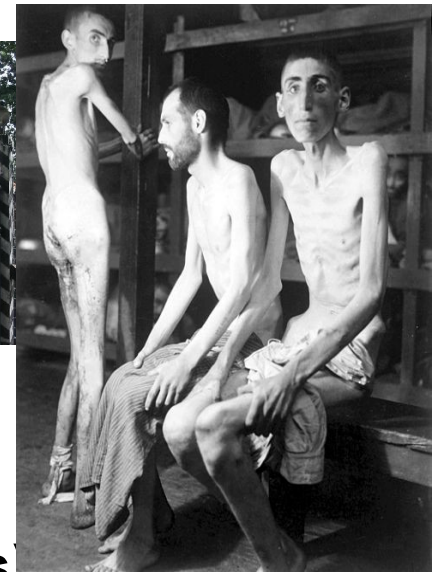


- **Occupation and resistance**
 - **750 million people lived under occupation**
 - **People were forced to collaborate**
 - **Resistance movements**
- **The consequences of the war**
 - **Prison camps**
 - **Eastern Europe – 4 million soviets tortured, frozen or starved to death**
 - **Asia – people removed from home**
 - **Allied countries – internment camps**

The Second World War



- **The holocaust**
 - **Jews – anti-semitism**
 - **Nazis: Aryans – master race & others – subhuman**
 - **Ghettos**
 - **60 million people died (starvation, disease)**
 - **35 million injured, mutilated**
 - **3 million disappeared**
- **Reasons for the German defeat**
 - **Failure to defeat Britain**
 - **Poor war strategy in Russia**
 - **Resistance**
 - **US impact on war (supplies and troops)**



The Second World War



- **The aftermath**
 - **Germany was divided**
 - **Communist East Germany – Berlin- capital**
 - **German democratic republic**
 - **Berlin was divided**
 - **United Nations (replaced the League of Nations)**
 - **USA aid - Marshall Plan**
 - **NATO (1949) & Warsaw Pact (1955)**
 - **Massive debt in Europe**
 - **Lost of overseas markets**
 - **USA & USSR – leaders – tense relations**
 - **Ration books**
 - **Legal trials at Nuremberg (Nazi war crimes)**