

American History

Talk 29: USA and the 1930's world



USA and the 1930's world

- USA and its neighbours
- Rise of the Totalitarians
 - USSR
 - Fascist Italy
 -Intermission
 - Nazi Germany
 - Imperial Japan
- US and world situation 1939



USA and its neighbours

World 1938

	GDP (\$1990)	Population
USA	\$800Bn	130m
USSR	\$359Bn	167m
Germany	\$351Bn	69m
China	\$320Bn	411m
British Empire	\$284Bn	454m
United Kingdom	\$280Bn	48m
France	\$185Bn	42m
Japan	\$169Bn	72m
Italy	\$100Bn	42m

USA already world's largest economy
....despite Depression

USSR ..rapid growth under Stalin
...5 year plan
...forced labour/ gulags...Terror

Germanyrapid growth
...War economy
...Debt financed...war economy

Japan nearly as large as France

Britain a declining power
...industrial power shift to US Germany
...Financial power has shifted to USA

USA and its neighbours

Economies 1940



	Pop ml	GDP p/p()
USA	132m	\$11,000
Canada	11m	\$9,000
Mexico	20m	\$750

Canada independent from Britain Statute of Westminster 1931

Mexico ...violent 1920, stable 1930's

Caribbean/ South America
....No significant colonial presence
...Cuba "client state"
...South American, independent States, poor, unstable, regional

Canada 1920-1940

➤ Canada in the 19th Century

- Accommodation achieved between French and English speakers
- Constitutional Federal Government established 1867
 - British control foreign policy/Canada Parliament domestic policy
- Economy integrates with USA: 90% population within 50 miles of border

➤ The Independent Nation

- British ally throughout WW1
- Haven for bootleggers 1920's
- 1931 – Statute of Westminster. Full independence
- Depression impact as US...25% unemployment, GDP down 50%

Democratic, affluent, integrated with US economy

Mexico 1920's

- Mexico post Revolution 1920-1926
 - Military leaders Stabilise government power and centralise control
 - ..Revolutionary military leaders take control
 - Enforce Constitution of 1917
- President Calles 1924
 - Secularise Mexican Society
 - Land reform. State seizure of land...from land owners....and church
 - Supress church...create secular state
 - Priests to be licensed and banned from teaching, gov teachers
 - Government seize Catholic land, big estates cooperatives

Los Cristeros War (Supporters of Christ) 1924-1929.

....revolt across central Mexico/,,city vs country, centre vs periphery state vs church

Catholic Revolt: alliance church/peasants/landowners



Teachers murdered, priests shot, peasant hanged



Execution of Catholic Priests...martyrs



Achieving stability

- Federales crush Cristeros armies 1928,...guerrilla war
- Change in regime
 - Calles cannot be re-elected
 - Handpicked Successor assassinated by Catholic and new
 - Replacement seeks to end conflict & accommodate Church
- Agreement between Church and State 1929
 - US concerned interruption of oil US & mediate
 - Knights of Columbus ..support Catholic
 - Most Anti Catholic rules stay.....but not enforced

100,000 deaths....250,000 plus Mexicans flee to USA
...ongoing conflict 1930/s....500 Federal teachers murdered

Mexico and US 1930's

Emigration to US halted by Border controls.....Repatriation

- Mexican government cooperates
- Promises of land and reintegration not met
- Foreigners in US and in Mexico

➤ Mexican President Cardenas power 1934

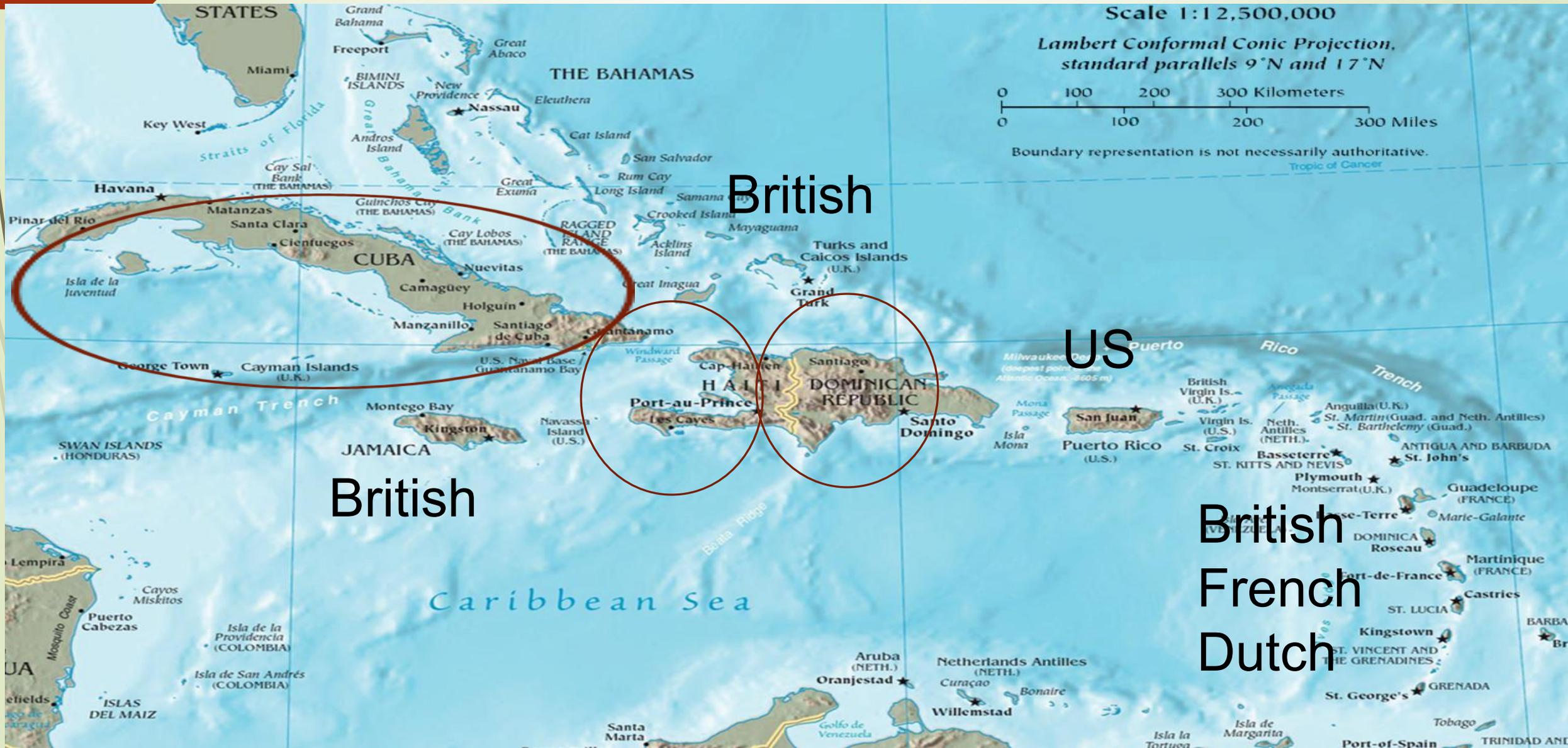
- Focus on nationalising industry, dealing with Depression
- Stabilise government...One Party Rule with “rigged elections”
- Accommodates Catholics/ good relations with US

Nationalised oil industry 1935...seize US assets

.....US “Good Neighbour Policy” averts conflict, deal made.....

Caribbean 1920's

Roosevelt (Teddy) Corollary: Right to intervene as and when



Cuba and Dominica

➤ Cuba

- US withdraws 1902 but retains control via Platt Amendment
- Military interventions (1912 & 1921) to ensure “right government” in power
- US dominates economy
 - 60% Cuban sugar, take 95% Cuba trade replace
 - Supports coup by General Batista 1933...in control till 1959 (crime + tourist)

➤ Dominica

- US controls customs and taxes 1902+
- Invades 1915-1924..establishes civil gov
- ...installs General Trujillo as President...dictator till 1962

The problem of Haiti

Pre World War One

- 80% budget paid direct to France for freedom/ ...unstable government
 - Unstable government, corrupt, brutal, unable to fund services
 - Land, business owned and operated by US and European elite
 - German elite threaten control/ growing unrest
-
- Invasion and Occupation 1915-1934
 - US marines land...seize Haitian treasury, move gold to New York
 - Managed by National Bank of New York
 - Forced labour programs -150,000 Haitians die from disease. Overwork
 - Cacos revolt

... White Supremacist/ resistance crushed/ military rule



Cacos War

Charlemagne Peralte 1919



Haitian Nationalist Charlemagne Peralte leads resistance
...captured 1917/..escapes

US increases military presence
...concentration camps
...forced labour
...infrastructure/ schools
...captures and executes Peralte

US distributes picture....symbolic Crucifixion.....increases revolt

Peaceful demonstration of 1,000 at Lay Cays 1929
Massacred by US marines

A change in policy

Hoover Administration 1928-1932

- Commissions investigation of massacre at Lay Cays
- Removes National Bank...stops Forced Labour

➤ FDR Administration

- Recognises anti US Caribbean a threat `to US
- Ends occupation of Haiti.....no institutions left in place
- Good will visits to Latin and South AmericaNo US interventions till Cold War 1945

Good Neighbour Policy

→ Policies

- No US military interventions till Cold War
- Good Will visits to South and Central America
- Encourages media to change image of Latin Society

→ Impact

- Reduces hostility....secures cooperation during WW2
- Trivialises Latin American differences ...Central/ South/
- Stabilises relations....till Cold War

Good Neighbour...meeting as “equals”
...with Brazilian President 1935
...first and first of many



Carmen Miranda



FDR encourages
Favourable portrayal of
“Latin”..reduce stereot
As dangerous, violent

New stereotype
Movies depict Latin
As “fun”, friendly”, smart

Brazilian singer Carme
Miranda...to NY 1940
...highest paid star
1940-1945

“Down Argentine Way”
“Streets of Paris”
“That night in Rio”



Rise of Totalitarian regimes in Europe

US and Europe 1920's

US disengages

- Abandons interference with Russia
- Refuses to join League of Nations
- Reduces trade,
 - Tariffs increased from 15% to 30% on key goods
 - Trade shrinks by 60% from 15% to 10% of economy
- Focus: Disarmament and Finance
 - Chairs Disarmament Conferences/ Famine Relief
 - Loans to Germany to fund reparations/ moderate reparations
 - Debt collection from Allies

Golden Age of American Tourist

American ex pat artist Paris 1925

Europe as place to go
For wealthy artists
... 15,000 prior to 1914
400,000 year 1920's

Escape from prohibition
Constraints, conformism
...lost generation, disillusion
....Fitzgerald, Hemingway

Black musicians welcomed
...exotic to French
...shocking to American



Black Americans in Europe welcomed and thrive

Josephine Baker Paris 1930



Eugene Bollard, American fighter pilot
Night club entrepreneur





For Americans in 1920's Europe

....a place to lend money to and escape

....no threat to US prosperity or security

....US isolated, internally focused... "roaring 20's"

Rise of Totalitarianism in the USSR, Italy and Germany
.....make that impossible



USSR

Soviet Union 1920's

War Communism 1918-1921...defeat of "Whites"

- Secure revolution and spread "Proletarian Revolution" across world
- Abolition of private property/Forced labour/ seizure of food
- Destruction and murder of upper class Red Terror: killings by quota

➤ The cost of "Victory"

- Famine 3-10 million deaths from starvation
- Economic collapse. Food reduced 50%, industry 80%
- Depopulation of cities (St Petersburg from 2.7m to 750,000)
- Loss of "Empire"...Poland, Baltics, Lithuania, loss /recovery Ukraine

New Economic Policy 1921-1928

Lenin ...change in policy required to save Revolution

- ➔ “State Capitalism” introduced
 - ➔ Agriculture and small businesses re-privatized
 - ➔ Stable currency established
 - ➔ State ownership of large manufacturers, railroads
 - ➔ Financed by “shadow banks,” seizure of assets, progressive taxation
- ➔ Government during NEP
 - ➔ Collective leadership after Lenin’s death 1924 (Stalin & Trotsky)
 - ➔ Goal of achieving world revolution abandoned after defeat by Poland
 - ➔ Limited press/artistic freedom
 - ➔ Destruction of Orthodox Church/seizure property. Exile/execution of priests

“Stalin” (1878-1953)

Joseph Dzhugashvili..1920



Born to poor Georgian family

....seminary school

... socialist, bandit

....committed Bolshevik & writer

Path to “Supreme Leader”

....General Secretary of USSR 1920

...increases control of Police

...discredits rivals at Lenin’s death

...controls promotions

...achieves leadership 1928

...removes all opposition

Committed communist & nationalist

...supresses minorities

...”make Russia great again”

... “100 years behind the west”

Stalin and 5 year plans

- ▶ Greatness to be achieved by industrialisation
 - ▶ Total state ownership of all industry
 - ▶ Enforced collectivization of agriculture
- ▶ Deliberately unachievable plans....500% increase in industrial output
....Constant replacement of the “failed”/ hire...then blame foreigners
- ▶ Management techniques
 - ▶ Plans deliberately unachievable. Failures due to foreigners/ traitors
 - ▶ Forced labour, Gulags, use of Terror
 - ▶ Compulsory savings

Impact: Soviet Union: 2nd largest economy 1940

	1914	1940
Steel (Million Tons)	4	18
Coal (Million Tons)	29	166
Oil	10	31
% industrial workers	10%	45%

Minimal increase in agriculture automation offset by collectivization

	1914	1940
Wheat (million tons)	36	39
Agricultural workforce	80%	40%

Population

140m

160m

Cost of 5 Year Plan

- ▶ Collectivisation 1928-1933 Holodomor Ukraine ---3 -7 million deaths
- ▶ Forced Labour Gulags 1928-1950
 - ▶ 18 million sent to camps for forced labour
 - ▶ 2 million deaths
- ▶ Great Terror 1938/1940..800,000 shot, (including Bolshevik leadership)
- ▶ Costs hidden by effective Propaganda
 -Western Socialists view USSR and 5 year plan great success
 -Stalin as visionary man of the future

The call to revolution



5 Year Plan 2+2 = 5



**АРИФМЕТИКА
ВСТРЕЧНОГО
ПРОМФИНПЛАНА**

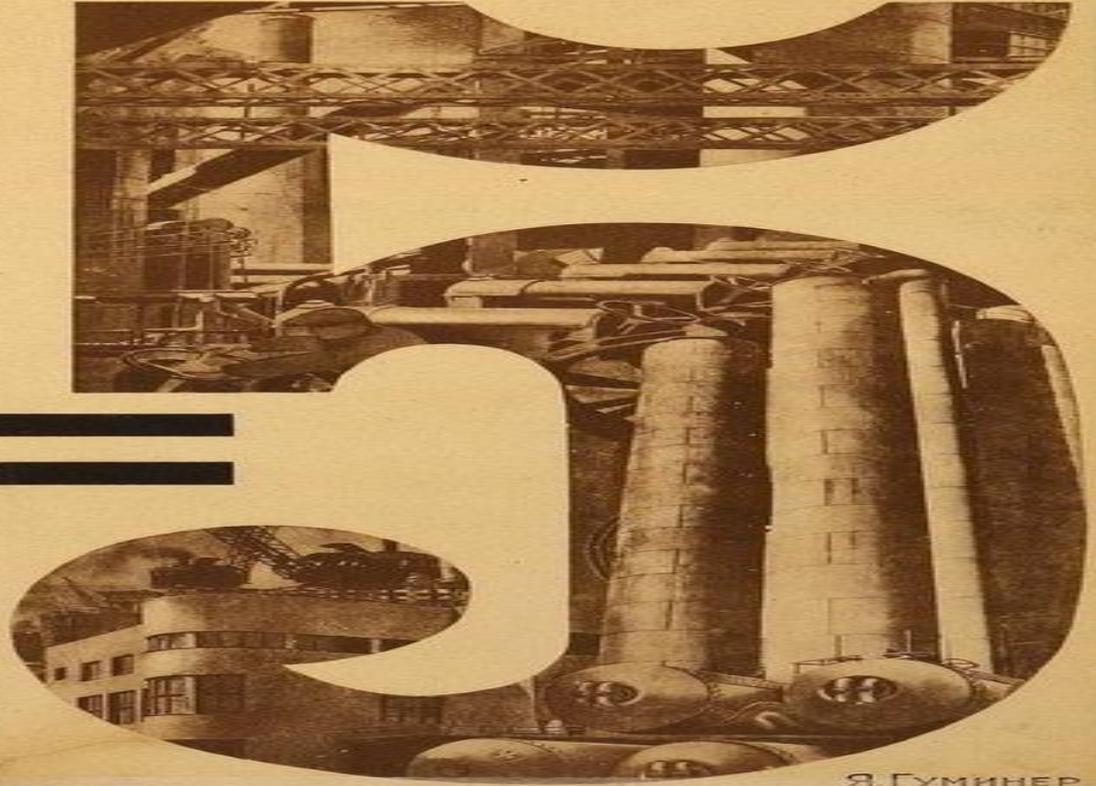
**1929
1930**

**1931
1932**

2+2

**ПЛЮС
ЭНТУЗИАЗМ
РАБОЧИХ**

= 5



Я. ГУМИНЕР

The Great Helmsman



КАПИТАН СТРАНЫ СОВЕТОВ
ВЕДЕТ НАС ОТ ПОБЕДЫ
К ПОБЕДЕ!

Destruction of old world...Cathedral



Virtuous Designers making new world



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Credit: Heritage Images

К НОВЫМ УСПЕХАМ МОЛОДЫЕ СТРОИТЕЛИ КОММУНИЗМА!

Hard work to be rewarded



“Father of the People”



USSR View 1939

(Stalin) convinced either West or Nazi Germany will invade

Seeks to recover “lost” empire ...Poland, Baltics, Finland and domination of Eastern Europe

5 Year plan has become “war economy”, ignore civilian wants

War inevitable....unclear with whom, wants to avoid war with Both West and Nazi Germany

American History

Talk 29: USA and the 1930's world
Part two





Rise of Fascism: Italy

Italy 1870-1918

United 1870

- Disunited....regions act autonomously/ North South divide
- Poor, under developed...mass migration to USA and Argentina
- Constitutional monarchy....“fragile Liberal democracy”
- Govt seeks unity by invasion: Libya, East Africa (Somalia)
- Invasion of Ethiopia fails. Army destroyed...national humiliation

- Italy and World War One
 - Allied with Germany 1914..does not join war
 - Joins war on side of British/ French in exchange for promised territory
 - Loses 600,000 men 500,000 civilians....defeats Austrians 1918
 - “Promised” territories not delivered....14 Points: “Mutilated Victory”

1920's...high unemployment, communist revolts vs Catholic conservatives

Benito Mussolini (1883-1945)

Mussolini 1932



Humble family

..mother devout Catholic/..father blacksmith. Soci
...religious school. Expelled for stabbing student
...boarding school. Qualifies as school master

Committed Socialist

..reader of Marx/ Nietzsche. Superman
...Opposes invasion of Libya
...journalist. Editor of Avanti/anti church
...joins Socialists
..expelled for supporting WW1

Creation of Italian Fascists

..joins army 1915..wounded 1917
...forms party—1919

Anti egalitarian, anti church,

“Make Italy Great Again”...new Rome

Rise of Italian Fascists

➤ Growth of Fascists

- Unemployment, rise of communism...fears of revolution church/landowners/middle class
- Fascists popular...accommodate with Church
- Form "National Fascist Party"---25% of vote

➤ Rise to power

- "March on Rome" 1923
- King appoints Mussolini Prime Minister
- Acerbo Law ...one party, arranged murder of opposition

Italian Fascism 1922-1939

- Opposition murdered/ imprisoned, control of media
- Public works, land reclamation, youth groups
..... trains run on time/ 60% military
- Alliance with church/Papal state, Catholic national religion
- Compulsory savings, bonds based on future wealth funded by recreating Ancient Rome: "Mare Nostrum"

Italian Empire & Test of League

Italian Empire 1939



Italian colonies in Libya 1911

....Cyrenaic and Tripoli

...Mussolini invades 1931

...50,000 population killed

..use of mustard gas

Invades Ethiopia 1938....revenge

...Mussolini invades 1931

...750,000 population killed

..use of mustard gas, mass killings

Sanctions imposed by League

....abandoned British French

...Mussolini 'hero'. Wants more

Mussolini the all powerful leader



“The New Rome”: Fascist architecture



The glorious future beckons



Children's exercise book...

Il popolo italiano vuole avanzare
sotto il segno del Littorio che si-
gnifica unità, volontà, disciplina.
MUSSOLINI



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Quaderno

Forward to victory

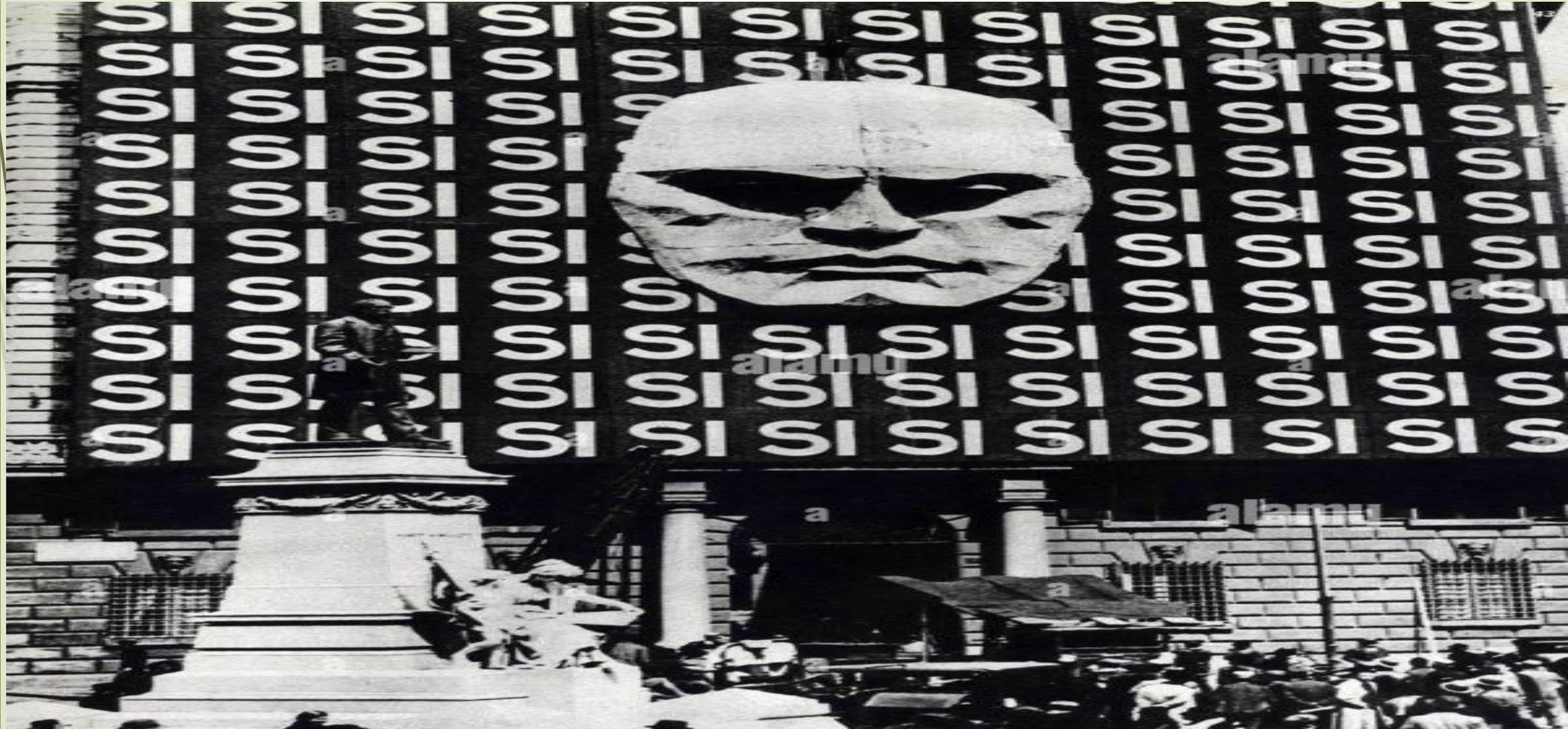


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Fascist propaganda: "protect me from Communists, Jews and Masons



Mussolini...One Party, master race, primacy of force



Legacy of Italian Fascism

Proven modern alternative to Communism

- 80% of economy under direct control of state
- Cartel capitalism/compulsory savings, capital controls
- Apparent success...social order, territorial gains ...admired in USA
- League of Nations/ World Government e impotent
- Ambition constrained by weaknesses
 - Rampant corruption, underinvestment in quality, effectiveness
 - Still agrarian economy...50% workforce agriculture vs 25% German

Inspiration and guide to far more powerful German fascists

There will be trouble ahead Irving Berlin 1936



There may be trouble ahead
But while there's moonlight
And music and love and romance
Let's face the music and dance



Soon, we'll be without the moon
Humming a different tune and then
There may be tear drops to shed
So while there's moonlight
And music and love and romance
Let's face the music and dance



➤ Before the fiddlers have fled
Before they ask us to pay the bill
And while we still have the chance
Let's face the music and dance



➤ Soon, we'll be without the moon
Humming a different tune and then
There may be tear drops to shed
So while there's moonlight
And music and love and romance
Let's face the music and dance
Let's face the music and dance

Germany 1870 -1914

- 39 independent German Kingdoms united 1871 by Bismarck
- Rapid industrialisation and urbanisation 1870-1914
 - Germany industrial super power by 1914
 - Colonial Empire established in Africa, outpost in China
 - Highest literacy, education, healthcare, technology
- Disguised dictatorship
 - Kaiser retains supreme power, ruled via Chancellor
 - Prussian Military dominate upper house
 - Bundestratt debate/approve but subordinate to Chancellor

Germany After World War One

Defeated in West, victorious in East

- Military delegate “Armistice “ in the West
- “Armistice” becomes surrender....”stab in the back” claim by military
- Political chaos 1918/1921
 - Kaiser deposed, Constitutional Republic formed at “Weimer”
 - Civil war 1918-1919: Communist led revolt, crushed
- Weimer Republic : first democratic government
 - Revolts crushed by para military force FreiKorps
 - Approves Versailles Treaty May 1919...after Allies threaten invasion

Weimer Republic 1918-1933

Years of Crisis 1919-1923

- Violent reaction to Versailles Treaty/Political assassinations
- National Workers Party established...3% vote 1923
- Industrial chaos...inability to pay reparations
- French & Belgian army occupies Ruhr Valley 1923

➤ Hyper inflation 1923-1924

- War financed by bonds...not taxation
- Reichsmark collapses...middle class impoverished
- Attempted coup 1923 by

➤ Recovery 1924-1929

- US "Dawes Plan": US loans fund reduced/rescheduled reparations
- German "Golden Age" / Joins League of Nations

Weimer Collapse, Rise of Hitler

➤ US Stock market Crash & Depression 1929

- US ends loans, demands recall

- Imposes trade bans

➤ German economy collapses

- Unemployment rises to 30%/ no finance to offset

- Social unrest, rise of Communists and Nazi Party

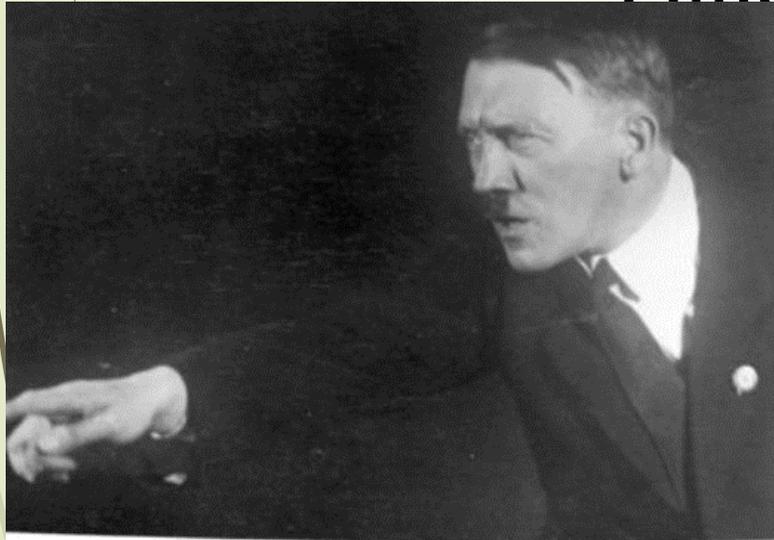
➤ Dictatorship

- Nazis 37% vote 1932 vs Socialist 20% Communists....15%

- Hitler made Chancellor/ abolishes/murders opposition

Adolph Hitler (1889-1945)

Hitler 1933



Born Austria, father
customs officer. fails
exams, drops out

Moves to Munich 1908
...fails Art exams
...German nationalist

WW1 "hero"

Joins Workers Party 1920
...becomes chairman 1921
....failed Putsch 1923
...writes "Mein Kampf"
...re-joins party

Nazi Germany 1933-1939

Nazi Economy

- Cartels, central planning, price and wage controls, rationing
- Self dependency, high tariffs
- “Public Works and Rearmament “:autobahns and military
- Unsustainable deficit spending, arms 60% national budge, 10%

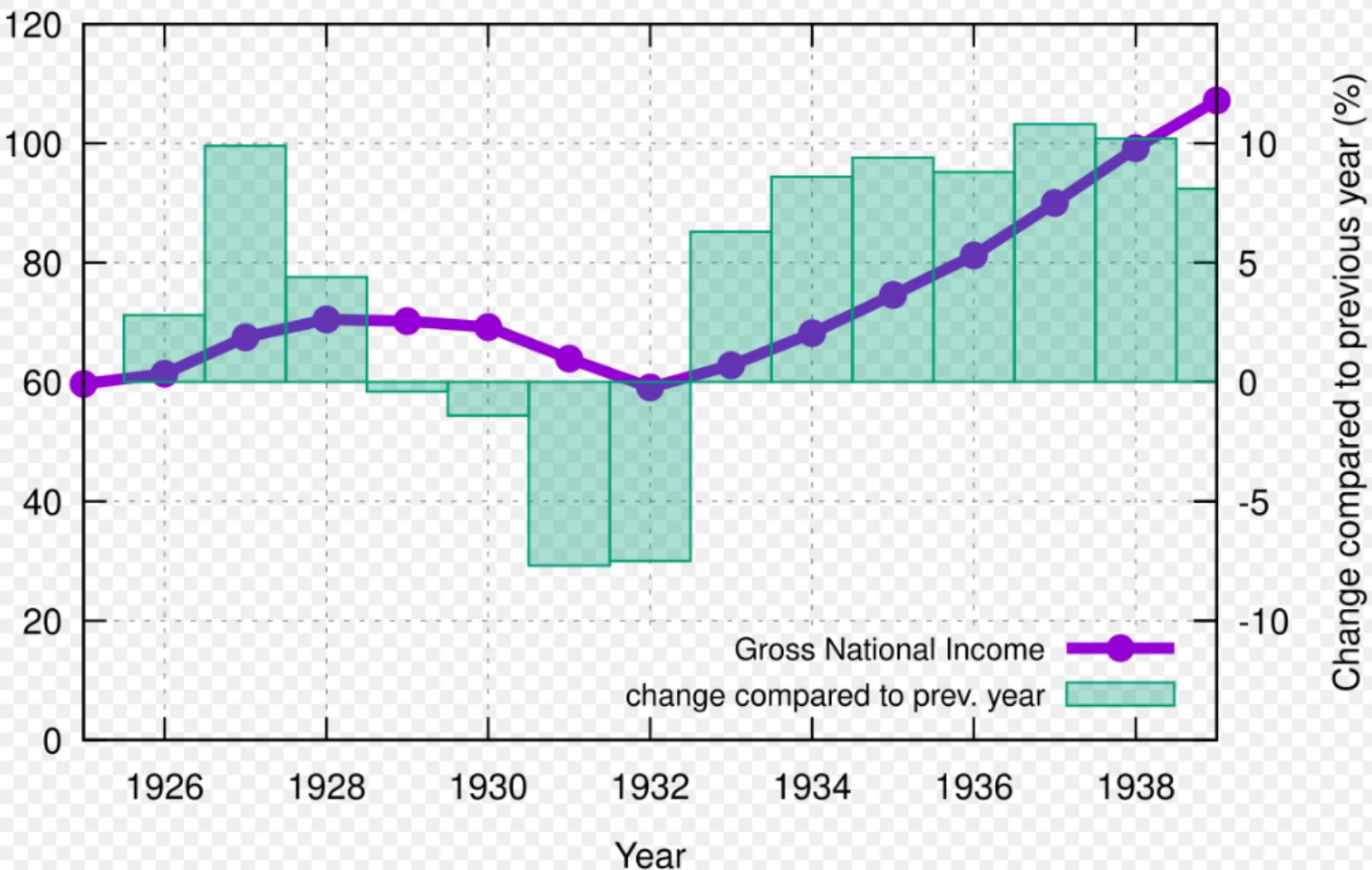


➤ Techniques

- Opposition suppressed/murdered +Labour unions supressed,
- Use of forced labour
- Anti Semitic laws, murder of “unemployable”, communists, socialists, and disabled...secure wealth, maximise employment

Nazi Economics

GNP in the German Reich (adjusted to 1936)



Economic growth
5%-10% per year
Regains #2 economy
Unemployment reduced
To 1% by 1938

Funded by
Deficit spending
Compulsory saving
Collateral....conquest
Of lands to East
“Lebensraum”

Nazi Germany: Route to war

- Offer of “world peace” 1933...if simultaneous disarmament
- Germany leaves League 1933 when “offer” rejected
- Occupies Rhineland 1935....no response from League
- Union with Austria 1938
- Partition Czechoslovakia 1938/ Munich “Agreement”

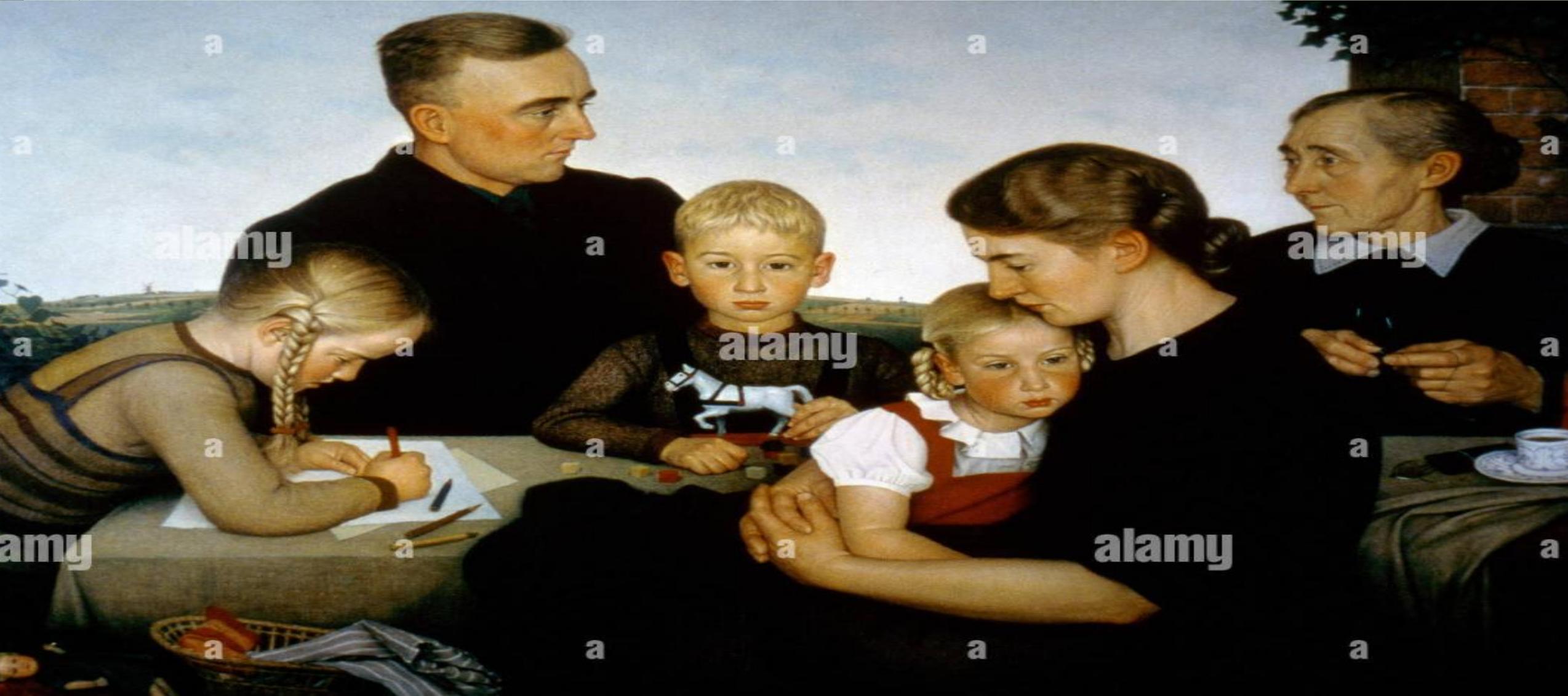
Alliance with USSR Molotov Ribbentrop Pact August 1939

The Great Leader



13-MÄRZ 1938
EIN VOLK EIN REICH
EIN FÜHRER

The ideal family



Fund raising for hostels



The New Germany: Young, invincible



Children protected by strength



The glamour of Fascism “Fight for the cause”



Fascism can be sexy
“I am waiting for you....”



Fascist made great movies

“Triumph of the Will (1935) Lena Riefenstahl



The enemy: "The eternal Jew"



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DER
EWIGE JUDE

GROSSE POLITISCHE SCHAU IM BIBLIOTHEKSBAU DES DEUTSCHEN MUSEUMS
ZU MÜNCHEN - AB 8. NOVEMBER 1937 - TÄGLICH GEÖFFNET VON 10-21 UHR

American History

Talk 29: USA and the 1930's world Part three





Imperial Japan

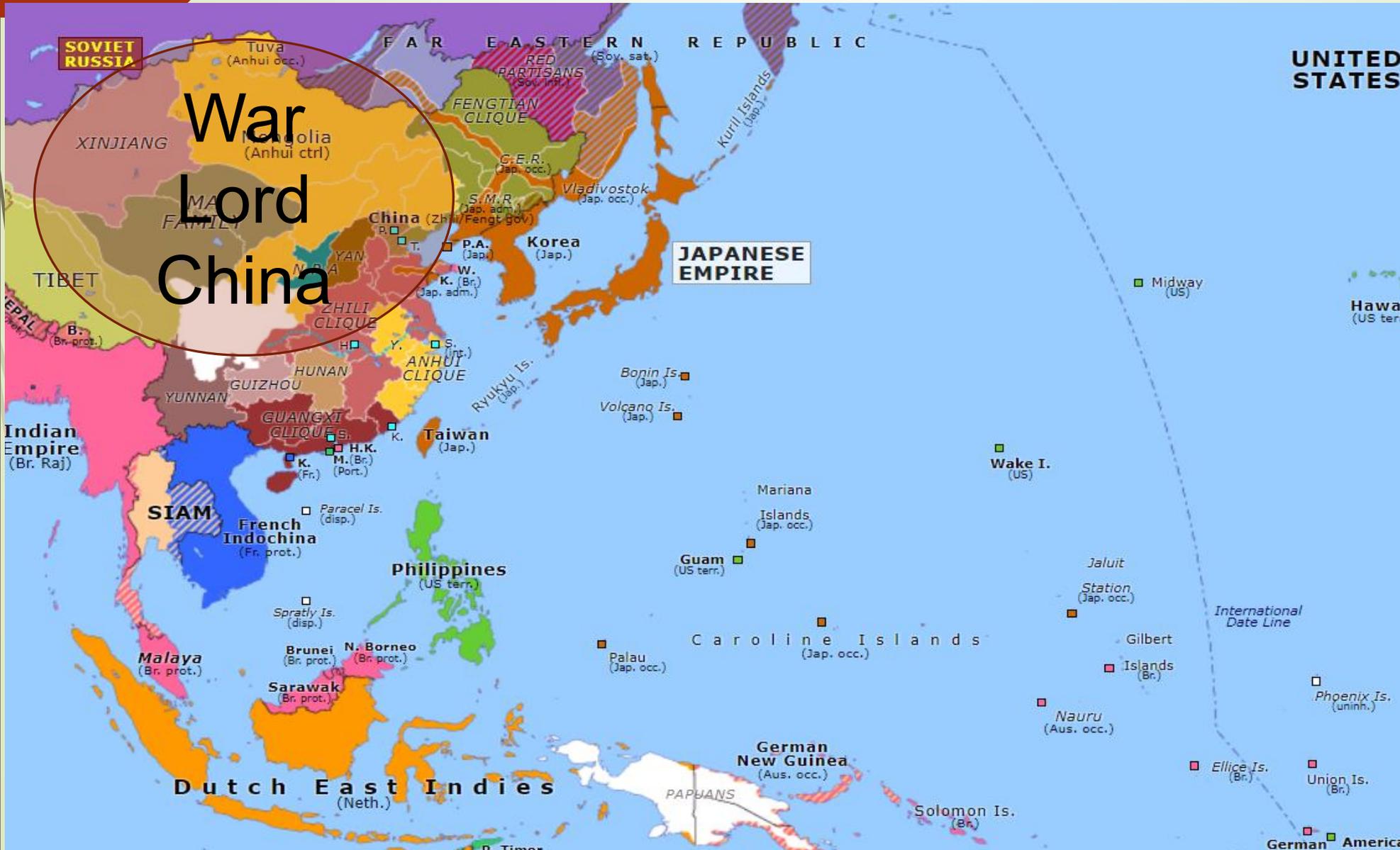
Japan 1868-1890

- Feudal isolated island 1550- 1868
 - Ruled by “Shoguns”...Samurai culture, Emperor symbol only
 - Humiliated by American navy Perry 1854 and British 1861
- Civil war, “restoration” of emperor Meija 1868
 - Emperor a God...citizens reflections of God, foreigners subhuman
 - European colonies unacceptable and unnatural threat
- Modernisation 1868 -1890
 - Industrialisation rapid, supported by civil service, rule of law
 - Destruction of old temples, castles
 - Constitution of 1889
 - Emperor maintains control military and superior and independent of Diet
 - House of Peers (aristocrats), House of Representatives (1%) debate/ enforce

Emergence of Imperial Japan 1890-1920

- ▶ From island to Empire 1890-1905
 - ▶ First Sino Japanese War 1894/1895 –seize Korea and Taiwan
 - ▶ Boxer Rebellion. 1900. Japanese dominant force retaining European concessions, secure access to China
- ▶ Transition to major Asian Power 1905-1920
 - ▶ Defeats Russia 1905, expand into Manchuria, demand Siberia
 - ▶ “Great Betrayal” US negotiated Treaty of Portsmouth to end war
 - ...keep outposts in China, but withdraw from Siberia and Manchuria
 - ▶ 1914-1918 ..alliance with allies, secure German colonies in China
 - ▶ 1920 ...Japanese dominant army of Allied intervention to Siberia

East Asia 1920....war seemed inevitable



War
Lord
China



France



British



Netherland



USA



Japan

Washington Peace Conferences 1921

- US intervention...President Harding
 - Non interference China
 - Non interference USSR
- Washington Peace Treaties 1921
 - Freeze territorial expansion in China
 - Reduce navy sizes to agreed ratio
- Japanese join League of Nations
 - War averted
 - Focus on internal modernization and democracy

Democratic Japan 1921-1931

- Rapid industrialization continues
- Growing middle class demand political reform
- Universal Male suffrage 1925
- Parliament redesigned to mimic British government
 - Upper house...nobility
 - Lower House multi party system Socialists/Conservatives

Japanese industrialisation

	1870	1920	1930
GDP (1990 \$) billion	\$11.0	\$90.0	£135.0
GDP per capita	\$730	\$2,000	£2,350
Merchant ships	26	1,500	5,900
Coal production (million tons)	0.6	21.0	30.0
Population	30 million	60 million	65 million
Agricultural workforce	80%	60%	50%

The key difference to West: Military report direct to Emperor

.....military formed by ex samurai, warrior culture

..... lost power since Restoration: democracy Western imposition

Transition to Military State

Impact of 1929 economic crash

- Elite discredited/ mass sudden impoverishment
- Army view: prosperity only secured by conquest, invade Manchuria
- Parliament order army to withdraw, ignored
- League of Nations banishes Japan, isolated Japan blames West
- Military take over 1931-1936
 - Army collude with Emperor Hirohito in 1931 to invade Manchuria without approval of parliament....expelled from League...blame West
 - “Government by assassination” 1932-1936, murder of PM and moderates
 - One party state established 1936: its mission “Make Japan Great”

Japanese Fascism

No one leader/writer....deep cultural view by “warrior class”

- Emperors God, Japanese made in his image, others non human
 - The ultimate goal of individual to serve/ die for emperor
- Economy / Political
 - Cartels (Honda, Mitsubishi, Toshiba) which follow warrior goals of dominance
 - Unions replace by state run organisations
 - Parliament replace by “Imperial Assistance Association”
- Destiny of Japan dominate Asia
 - Evict Europeans and colonise
 - Native people to become slaves to Japanese elite....and be grateful’

The state of China

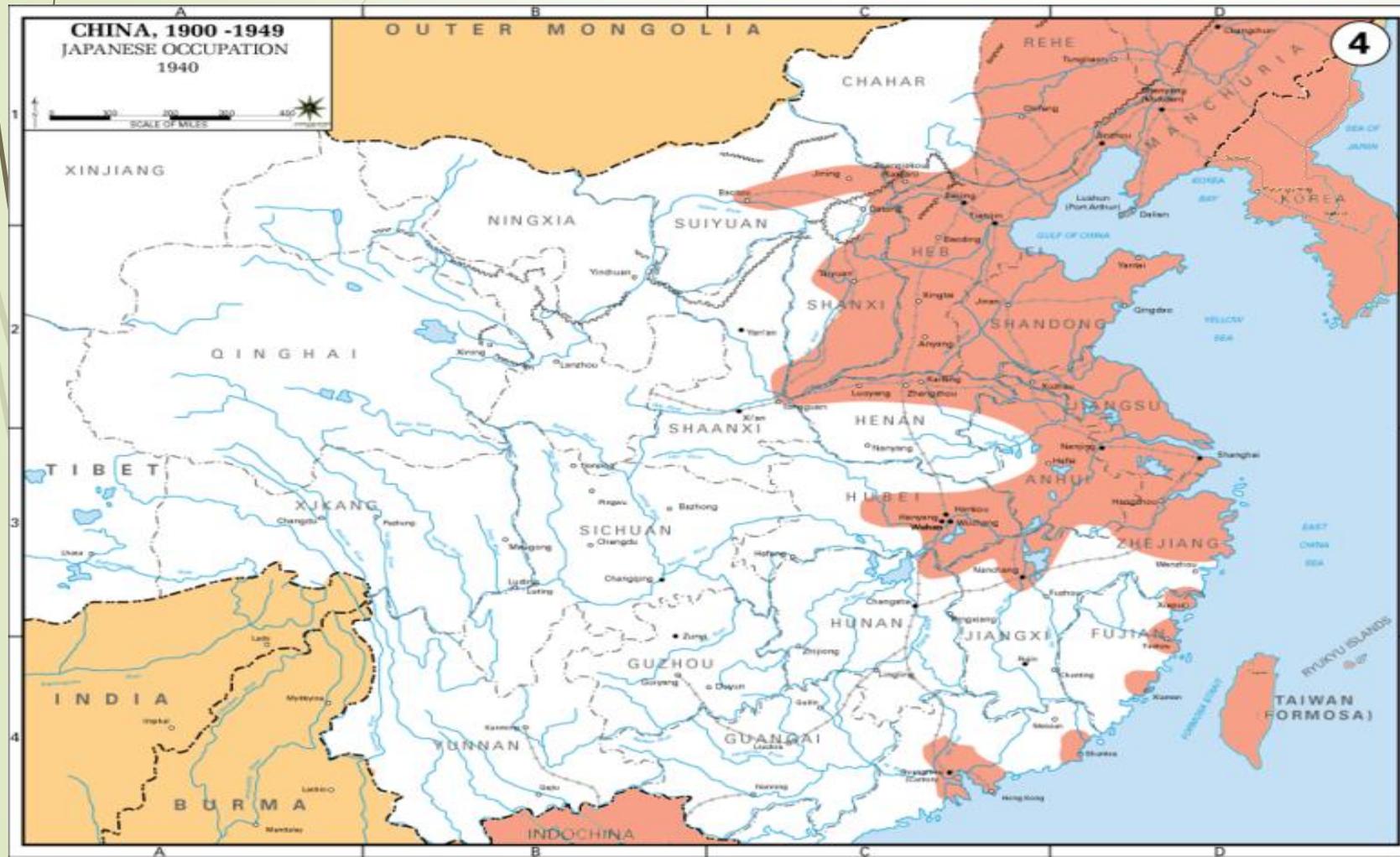
Collapse of Empire 1912.....disintegration into multiple war lords

- Central government re-established 1923
 - National government (KMT) led by Chiang Kai Shek
 - KMT unites socialists, communists, democrats vs “war lords”
 - Control Central South China, abandons Manchuria, Tibet, Far west
- Civil War 1927-1938
 - KMT massacre Communists 1927
 - Mao Tse Sung leads communist army (CCP)
 - KMT dominate, Communists banished to interior by 1935

Japanese military fears United China will emerge....and invade

Japanese Invasion of China

Situation 1939



Japan invades 1938
...army 1 million plus
...Nationalist 2 million
...Communist 1 million

KMT & CCP unite vs Japan
...CCP avoids most

Japanese policy
...mass murder (Nanking)
...use of gas, tanks,
...conquer cities and countryside

Stalemate 1939

US “Asian Policy” 1939

- Support united “National” China...but want the “right China”
- Commits to Philippine independence ...retain bases
- Recognise Japan threat to Pacific dominance
 - Too weak to attack US, Japan dependent on US for oil
 - Expand Pearl Harbour
 - Commission expansion of Pacific fleet

Women supporting the men off to war



The new Japan : Industrial exhibition: Manchuria 1936



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Japanese military power will dominate



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Military Government propaganda to Chinese “Absolutely trust the Japanese, down with the KMT”



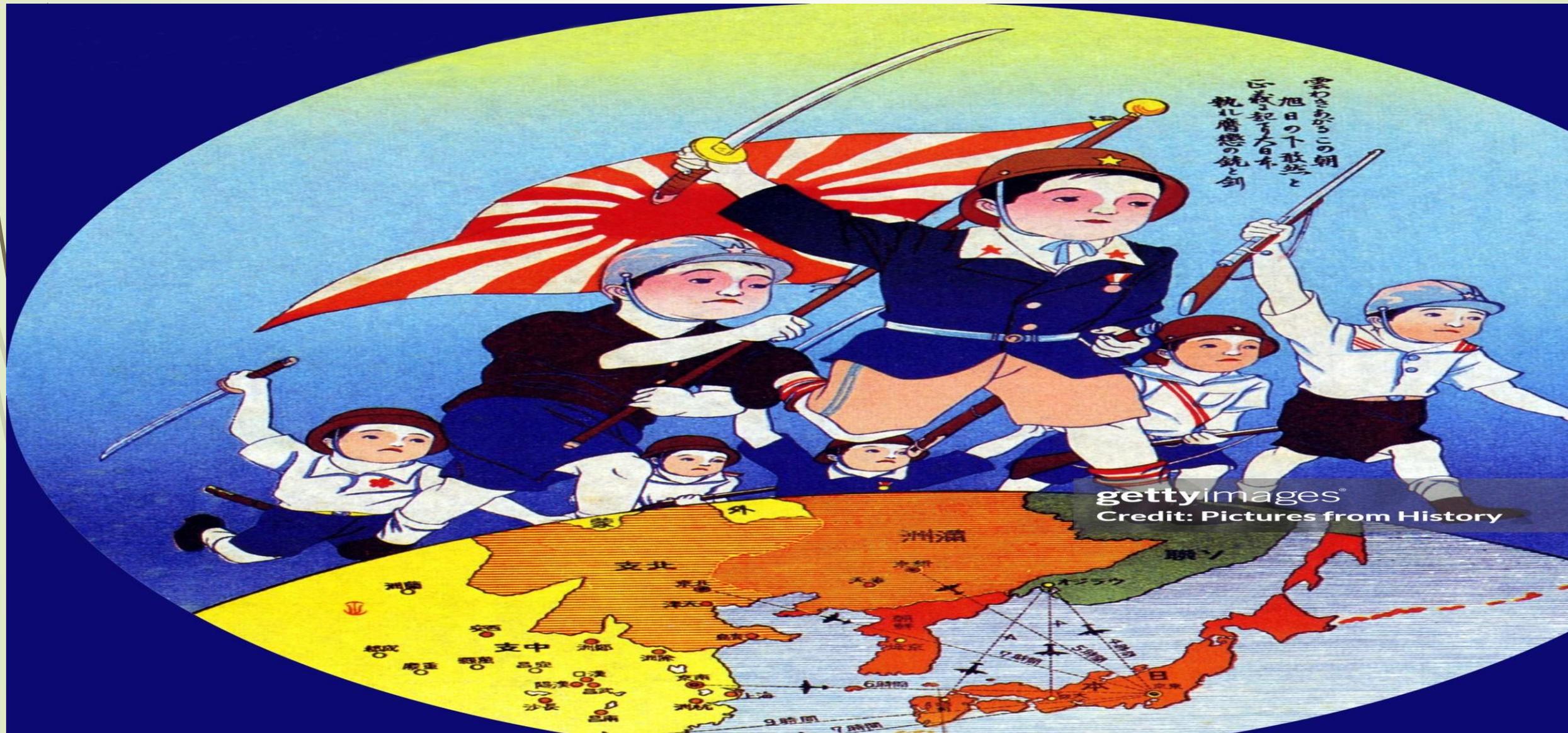
Japanese soldier with Chinese child.
...(Nanking 300,000 Chinese killed)



“Bring new order, ring the peace bell”
...(war justified by future peace)



Forward children of Japan



“Defence for country, tobacco for society” (?)



The new Japanese order: "Co Prosperity Sphere" "Japan the guardian of Asians...West removed"





USA and 1930's world



USA and world 1939

US “stuck” in depression

- 18% unemployment 1939 and not falling
- New Deal seen to be failing
- Strict immigration controls in place....despite increasing Jewish refugees
- US public:
 - 65% public believe war inevitable/ 75% demand neutrality
 - 60% oppose totalitarians but will not accept US involvement
 - Fascist cause limited support among Italian and German immigrants
 - Enough to influence 1940 election

FDR pro British but cannot demonstrate support

US Nazi Party...September 1939

....20,000 attend....public revulsion

....Roosevelt depicted as “Jew lover”



St Louis incident

SS St Louis New York



US 1924 Immigration act
Limits Jewish refugees
27,000 allowed
11,000 processed
Backlog 240,000

SS St Louis leaves Germany
For Cuba..970 on board

Cuba refuses entry
Captain sails to US

Refused entry, quota met
Plea to FDR/Rejected
Return to Europe
UK accepts 300

300 out of 600 will be gas

Most successful royal tour...ever

Queen Elizabeth and Eleanor Roosevelt



FDR wants to “nudge” US public to
Support UK

Suggest King George VI! include
To US during tour of Canada

First visit to USA by reigning monarch
.....huge crowds
....George and the hot dogs
.... Support from press and public

George V1 and FDR June 1939



The Visit: triumph of informality

- Royal family invited to country fair
- FDRoffers George & Elizabeth hot dog
 - queen supposedly asked Roosevelt how one
 - “Very simple. Push it into your mouth and keep pushing it until all gone,” have told her.
 - She elected to use a knife and fork instead
- FDR invites family to Hyde Park.. For three days
 - Informal talks, FDR and US position / inevitability of war
 - Basis established for future

The path to war in Europe

- August 1939.....Ribbentrop Molotov pact...non aggression pact
- September 1st...Germany and USSR invade Poland
.....simultaneously
- British ultimatum ignored...war September 3rd
- US declares neutrality



US public expects future war but hope to remain is
.....that hope will not be met!

To be continued January 20th :
Module 5, Talk 31 “Isolation interrupted”



Irving Berlin 1942

I'm dreaming of a white Christmas
Just like the ones I used to know
Where the treetops glisten
And children listen
To hear sleigh bells in the snow

I'm dreaming of a white Christmas
With every Christmas card I write
May your days be merry and bright
And may all your Christmases be white



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