



**From Europe  
to America:  
World War II  
Begins**

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*Chapter 11 Section 2*

*USH Honors*

# Francisco Franco and Guernica



- Guernica is in the Basque region of northern Spain.
- This region was resisting/opposing Francisco Franco.
- Franco allowed Hitler to test his “blitzkrieg” warfare if he would destroy this town and its resistance.
- Pablo Picasso – who usually avoids politics – was furious!

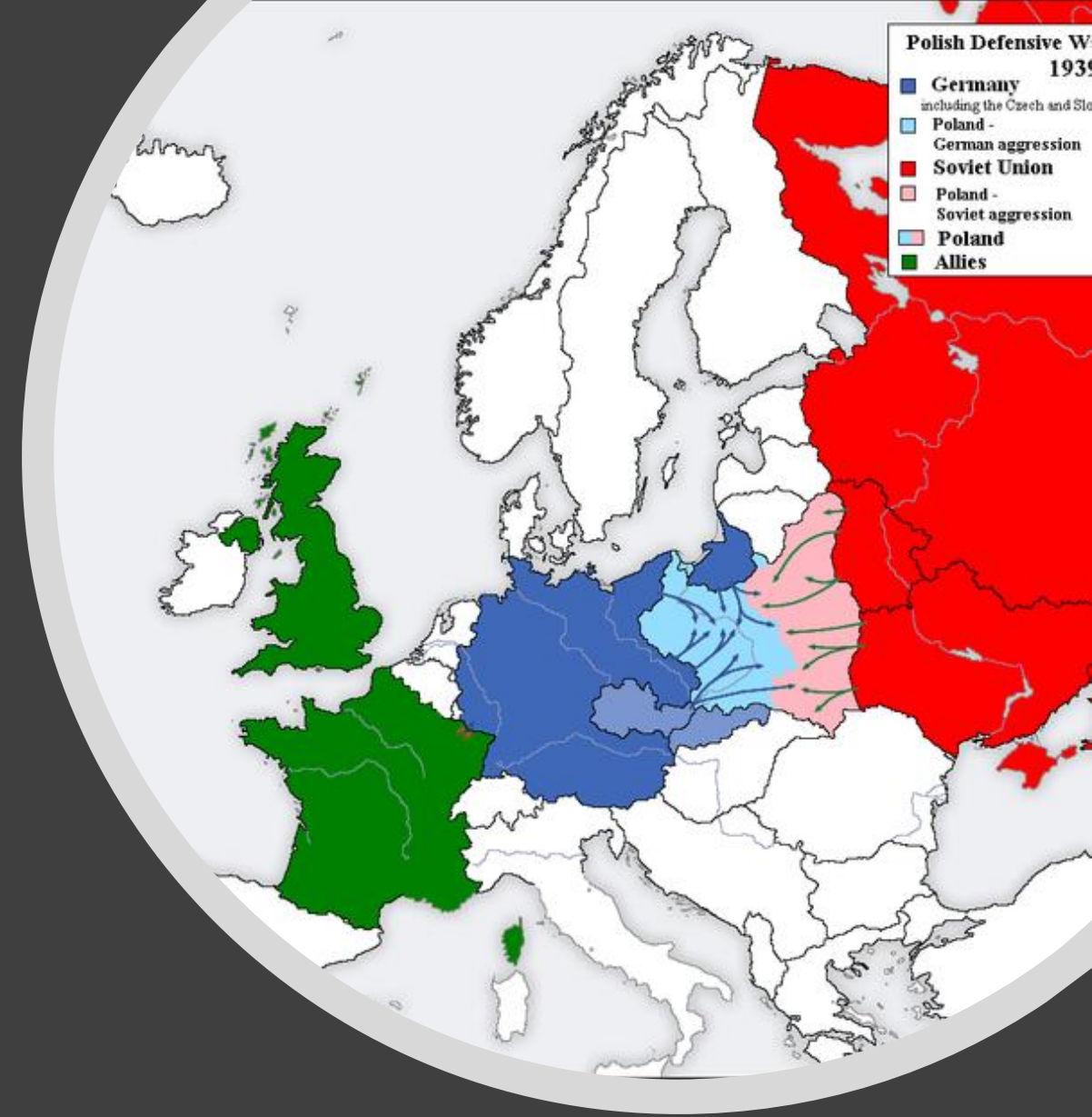


## **Guernica by Pablo Picasso**

- Painted for the Spanish Pavilion at the 1937 World's Fair
- Documents the atrocities committed at the city of Guernica in Spain.
- Calls out Francisco Franco for the attack and destruction.

# The Invasion of Poland

- Sept. 1, 1939 = Poland is attacked!
  - World War II officially begins here!
  - Germany used blitzkrieg (“lightning warfare”)!
    - It took 3 weeks for Germany to conquer Poland.
- What happened after the attack and takeover?
  - Europe is QUIET! 1939–1940: Do we really have to go to war?
  - May 1940: Hitler launched new blitz = Belgium, Netherlands, Luxembourg!



# The Invasion of France

- Because France had promised to protect Poland, Hitler also attacked through Luxembourg, the Netherlands and **BELGIUM!**
- This attack began on **May 10, 1940!**
- British and French forces raced through Belgium in an attempt to **STOP** German forces.



# The Maginot Line of Defense



- What was France's plan for defense in the 1920s and 1930s?
  - The Maginot Line of defense.
- Did the Maginot Line work?
  - **NO!** Germany went around the line and attacked France through Belgium.
- German troops drove the British and French forces towards the English Channel.

# The Fall of France



- June 1940: Hitler invaded France
  - Charles de Gaulle fled to England
  - set up a French government in exile
- France was divided into 2 parts after June 22, 1940:
  - Occupied France (North)
  - Vichy France (South): a puppet government
- At this point, Germany felt they could defeat Britain through air raids.



# The Miracle at Dunkirk

- **How rapidly did Hitler take France? 6 weeks! (May 10-June 22, 1940)**
  - **June 4: British and French troops were driven to the shores of the English Channel**
  - **Hitler ordered the advance to stop**
- **Was this a true STOP? NO**
  - **Britain evacuated 338,000 soldiers during the break in fighting**
  - **As this event ended, Hitler ordered the area bombed ☹️**



# The Battle of Britain

- Germany used France as a base of operation for its Luftwaffe (Air Force).
- The Luftwaffe concentrated on:
  - Airstrips, Aircraft Factories, & Cities
- The Royal Air Force (RAF) fought every night to defeat Germany.
- English cities defended themselves by using dirigibles.
- Dirigibles are balloons filled with helium or hydrogen that cause planes to explode in the air.
- Churchill said: 'Never... was so much owed by so many to so few.'



# Our Finest Hour...

This was their finest hour



# Roosevelt's Internationalism

- **Internationalism**: national policy of actively trading with foreign countries to foster peace.
- **Why did Roosevelt support internationalism?**
  - Increased trade would increase prosperity!
  - This would help PREVENT war!
- **Did Roosevelt think the Neutrality Acts would work? NO!**
  - “...might drag us into war instead of keeping us out.”
- **Did Roosevelt break the Neutrality Acts? YES! China**



# The Axis Threat: American Neutrality that is “decidedly un-neutral”

- Why was America afraid?
  - France has fallen & Britain is under siege!
  - FDR scrambled to provide Britain “all aid short of war”
- Destroyers-for-Bases Deal:
  - Britain asked America for 50 old US destroyers
  - Britain could trade something of “equal” value...
  - Britain offered the US 99-year (rent free) leases on naval bases in British territories.

## BRITAIN GETS 50 DESTROYERS: U.S.

IN is to get fifty American destroyers immediately to reinforce the Royal Navy. In exchange the United States will get ninety-nine-year leases of eight air bases on British possessions in the North Atlantic.

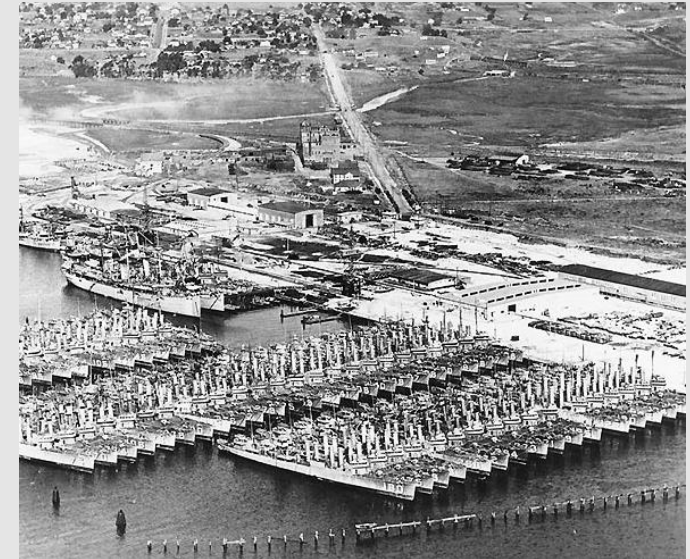
A historic defence agreement between the two democracies was announced last night—on the very day of the outbreak of Britain's war against Nazi

The first eight of the destroyers, which are all fully armed and ready for action, will be ready for delivery to Britain next week. They are now at Boston, and will be sent to Canada. Crews who have already been sent over will man the vessels being taken to Britain. The three further groups of eight will be released at fortnightly intervals and the remainder will be ready when asked for.

## 8 BASES

**Do 30 Knots—Ready for Action**

The fifty destroyers are of the 1200-ton class, can do thirty knots, and carry six guns, A.A. guns, and six torpedoes—the size used by the British Navy. They have been recently reconditioned and are in good condition and ready for action. An expert stated that they are particularly easy to manœuvre, which means that with their depth charges they will take heavy toll of the U-boats.



# Tripartite Pact: Axis Powers Form



- The German response:
  - Germany, Italy, and Japan signed the Tripartite Pact
  - This is the formation of the AXIS powers.
  - The goal: Keep the US out of the war!
  - No nation could fight a 2-ocean war...
- Is PEACE possible?
  - Not with Hitler!
  - FDR addressed this in his fireside chat...negotiation with Hitler is impossible.

# FDR: Arsenal of Democracy



- December 1940: Roosevelt's "Arsenal of Democracy" speech: a call to "arm and support" the Allies!
- March 1941: Hitler's aggression had not stopped, FDR proposed a new act:
- Lend-Lease Act:
  - This act gives the president power to sell, transfer, exchange, or lend war equipment to any country he chooses on certain conditions:
  - These countries had to be "vital to the defense of the United States"

# The Atlantic Charter



- America was not in this war...YET!
- August 1941: Roosevelt and Churchill agreed to a post-war world that would include:
  - Democracy
  - Nonaggression
  - Free trade
  - Economic advancement
  - Freedom of the seas.