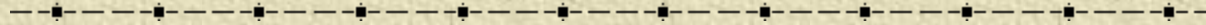
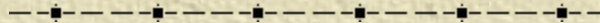




# Chapter Twenty-Five

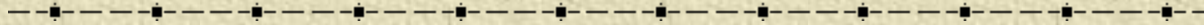


## **World War II, 1941–1945**

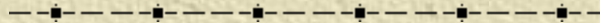




Part One:



**Introduction**



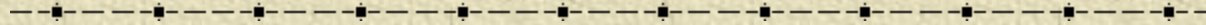
# Chapter Focus Questions

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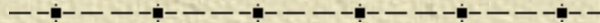
- ✦ What events led to Pearl Harbor and the declaration of war?
- ✦ How were national resources marshaled for war?
- ✦ What characterized American society during wartime?
- ✦ How were Americans mobilized into the armed forces?
- ✦ How was the war pursued in Europe and Asia?
- ✦ How did the atomic bomb affect diplomacy?



Part Two:



**Los Alamos, New Mexico**



# Los Alamos

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- ✦ The Manhattan Project created a community of scientists whose mission was to build the atomic bomb.
- ✦ The scientists and their families lived in the remote, isolated community of Los Alamos.
- ✦ They formed a close-knit community, united by antagonism toward the Army and secrecy from the outside world.
- ✦ Led by J. Robert Oppenheimer, the scientists developed a strong sense of camaraderie as they struggled to develop the atomic bomb.



Part Three:

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**The Coming of  
World War II**

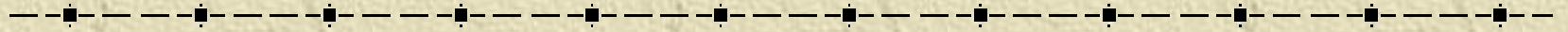
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# The Shadows of War

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- ✦ The global character of the Great Depression accelerated a breakdown in the political order.
- ✦ Militaristic authoritarian regimes that had emerged in Japan, Italy, and Germany threatened peace throughout the world.
- ✦ Japan took over Manchuria and then invaded China.
- ✦ Italy made Ethiopia a colony.
- ✦ German aggression against Czechoslovakia threatened to force Britain and France into the war.

# American Opinion on the European War



✦ Media: Gallup Polls



# Isolationism

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- ✦ By the mid-1930s many Americans had concluded that entry into WWI and an active foreign role for the United States had been a serious mistake.
- ✦ College students protested against the war.
- ✦ Congress passed the Neutrality Acts to limit the sale of munitions to warring countries.
- ✦ Prominent Americans urged a policy of “America First” to promote non-intervention. FDR promoted military preparedness, despite little national support.

# Roosevelt Readies for War

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- ✦ The combined German-Soviet invasion of Poland plunged Europe into war.
- ✦ German *blitzkrieg* techniques quickly led to takeovers of Denmark, Norway, and later Belgium and France.
- ✦ As the Nazi air force pounded Britain, FDR pushed for increased military expenditures.
- ✦ Since 1940 was an election year, FDR claimed these were for “hemispheric defense.” After winning his third term, FDR expanded American involvement.
- ✦ FDR met with British Prime Minister Winston Churchill and drafted the Atlantic Charter—a statement of war aims.

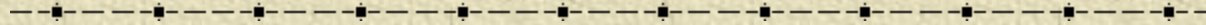
# Pearl Harbor

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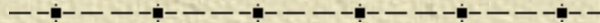
- ✦ The Japanese threatened to seize Europe's Asian colonies.
- ✦ FDR cut off trade with Japan.
- ✦ Japan attacked the base in Pearl Harbor.
- ✦ The United States declared war; declarations against Germany and Italy followed.



Part Four:



**Arsenal of Democracy**



# Mobilizing for War

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- ✦ Congress and FDR created laws and new agencies to promote mobilization.
- ✦ The Office of War Information controlled war news and promoted morale at home. War bonds were used to promote support as well as raise funds.
- ✦ As mobilization proceeded, New Deal agencies vanished.

# Organizing the Economy

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- ✦ The industrial capacity of the United States was the decisive factor in the war.
- ✦ Civilian firms were converted to war purposes and American industries were primed for all-out production.
- ✦ An unprecedented economic boom pulled the country out of the depression.
- ✦ The largest firms, especially those in the West and South, received large shares of wartime contracts.
- ✦ The war increased farm profits, but thousands of small farms disappeared.
- ✦ Chart: Effects of War Spending

# New Workers

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- ✦ The demand for labor brought Mexicans, Indians, African Americans, and women into the industrial labor force.
- ✦ The entry of these new female workers broke down many stereotypes.
- ✦ Workers' wages went up, but not as fast as profits or prices.

# Wartime Strikes

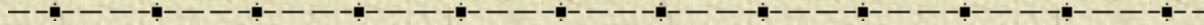
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- ✦ Prior to American entry, militant unions had led a number of strikes.
- ✦ Once the United States entered the war, the major unions:
  - ◆ agreed to no-strike pledges
  - ◆ increased their membership and won new benefits
- ✦ African-American union membership doubled.
- ✦ Some illegal strikes did break out, leading to federal antistrike legislation.

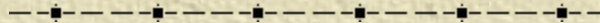




Part Five:



**The Home Front**



# Families in Wartime

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- ✦ The war spurred marriage rates.
- ✦ Shortages of housing and retail goods added to the difficulties families encountered.
- ✦ With one-parent households increasing, child-care issues arose. Some day-care assistance was available, though it scarcely met people's needs.
- ✦ The rise in unsupervised youths created problems with juvenile crime. The availability of jobs led to higher high school dropout rates.
- ✦ Public health improved greatly during the war.

# The Internment of Japanese Americans

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- ✦ In 1942, more than 112,000 Japanese were removed from their homes in the West to relocation centers, often enduring harsh living conditions.
- ✦ The Supreme Court upheld the policy, though in 1988 the U.S. Congress voted for reparations and public apologies.

# “Double V”: Victory at Home & Abroad

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- ✦ African-American activists launched a “Double V” campaign calling for victory overseas and equal rights at home.
- ✦ FDR responded to a threatened march on Washington by banning racial discrimination in defense industries.
- ✦ New civil rights organizations emerged while older ones grew.
- ✦ More than 1 million blacks left the South to take jobs in war industries.
- ✦ They often encountered violent resistance from local whites.

# Zoot-Suit Riots

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- ✦ Whites' bitter resentment against Mexican Americans exploded in 1943.
- ✦ The zoot-suit riots erupted when whites concluded that Mexican youths who wore the flamboyant clothes were unpatriotic.
- ✦ Most Mexican Americans served in the military or worked in war industries.

# Popular Culture and the “Good War”

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- ✦ Popular culture seemed to bridge the racial divisions.
- ✦ Southerners moving to northern cities brought musical styles and changed the sound of popular culture.
- ✦ Popular entertainment, whether in film or comic books, emphasized the wartime spirit, as did fashion.



Part Six:

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**Men and Women in  
Uniform**

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# Creating the Armed Forces

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## ✦ Maps: Wartime Army Camps

- ✦ Even before formally entering the war, the government had begun a draft.
- ✦ The officer corps, except for General Eisenhower, tended to be professional, conservative, and autocratic.
- ✦ Junior officers were trained in special military schools and developed close ties with their troops.



# Women Enter the Military

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- ✦ For the first time, the War Department created women's divisions of the major services.
- ✦ Most women stayed in the country and performed clerical or health-related duties. Some flew planes and others went into combat with the troops.
- ✦ The military closely monitored sexual activity and practiced racial segregation.

# Old Practices and New Horizons

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- ✦ Despite suspicions of the military's racism, 1 million African Americans served in the armed forces.
- ✦ These soldiers encountered segregation at every point.
- ✦ Many racial or ethnic minorities (along with homosexuals) also served and often found their experience made them feel more included in American society.
- ✦ In Europe, American troops met a mixed welcome, in part dictated by their actions.

# The Medical Corps

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- ✦ The risk of injury was much higher than that of getting killed in battle.
- ✦ Battle fatigue also was a problem.
- ✦ The Army depended on a variety of medical personnel to care for sick and wounded soldiers.
- ✦ The true heroes of the battlefield were the medics attached to each infantry battalion.

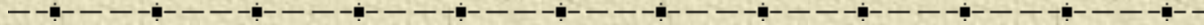
# Prisoners of War

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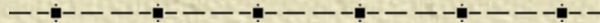
- ✦ POWs held in German camps were treated much better than those held by the Japanese.
- ✦ This treatment, along with racism, led Americans to treat Japanese POWs more harshly than those captured in the European theater.



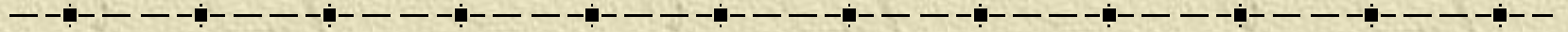
# Part Seven:



## **The World at War**



# The War in Europe



✠ Map: The War in Europe

# Soviets Halt Nazi Drive

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- ✦ During the first year of American involvement, FDR called the war news “all bad.” The burden of fighting the Nazis fell to the Soviets who blocked the German advance on Moscow.
- ✦ The Soviets broke the siege of Stalingrad in February 1943 and began to push the Germans back.

# The Allied Offensive

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- ✦ Although the Soviets appealed for the Allies to open up a “second front” in western Europe, they instead attacked North Africa and Italy.
- ✦ Churchill and FDR met in Casablanca and agreed to seek an unconditional German surrender.
- ✦ American and British planes poured bombs on German cities that:
  - ◆ weakened the economy
  - ◆ undermined civilian morale
  - ◆ crippled the German air force



# The Allied Invasion of Europe

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- ✦ The Allied invasion forced Italy out of the war, though German troops stalled Allied advances.
- ✦ Uprisings against Nazi rule tied up German power.
- ✦ By early 1944, Allied units were preparing for the D-Day assault on France.
- ✦ Paris was taken on August 25, 1944. France and other occupied countries fell as Allied units overran the Germans.
- ✦ The Battle of the Bulge temporarily halted the Allied advance.
- ✦ On May 8, 1945, Germany surrendered.

# The War in Asia and the Pacific

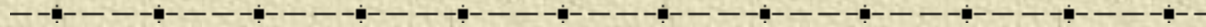
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## ✧ Map: The War in the Pacific

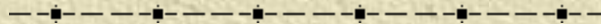
- ✧ In the Pacific theater Allied forces stopped Japanese advances by June 1942.
- ✧ Naval battles and island hopping brought U.S. forces closer to the Japanese home islands.
- ✧ Victories in the Philippines, Iwo Jima, and Okinawa enabled the Allies to bomb Japanese cities.
- ✧ Britain and the United States pressed for rapid surrender to prevent the Soviets from taking any Japanese-held territories.



Part Eight:



**The Last Stages of  
the War**



# The Holocaust

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- ✦ The horror of the Nazi's systematic extermination of Jews, Gypsies, homosexuals, and other "inferior" races was slow to enter American consciousness.
- ✦ Although Jewish refugees pleaded for a military strike to stop the killings, the War Department vetoed any such plans.

# The Yalta Conference

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- ✦ The “Big Three” attempted to hammer out the shape of the postwar world.
- ✦ The ideals of the Atlantic Charter fell before Soviet and British demands for spheres of influence.
- ✦ FDR continued to hold on to his idealism, but his death in April cast a shadow over hopes for peaceful solutions to global problems.

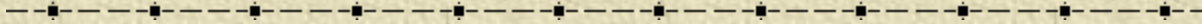
# The Atomic Bomb

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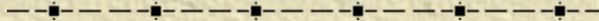
- ✦ The new president, Harry S. Truman, lacked FDR's finesse and planned a get-tough policy with the Soviet Union.
- ✦ At Potsdam, little progress was made on planning the future.
- ✦ Truman decided to use nuclear weapons against the Japanese.
- ✦ Truman was aware that the war could have been brought to a peaceful conclusion with only a slight modification in policy.
- ✦ Truman claimed the use of the bomb would substantially shorten the war and save American lives.



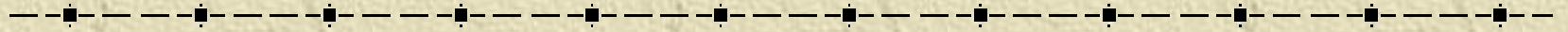
Part Nine:



**Conclusion**



# World War II



## ✦ Media: Chronology