

## Hitler's Plans

### The Thousand Year Reich:

- Dream was for an empire that would span from the Atlantic to the Urals, and the Baltic to the Mediterranean
- Autarky, all control centred in Germany, other nations would supply her with goods, and Germany would have guaranteed markets.
- Power = surge in population.
- Lebensraum satisfied through annexation of other nations, local populations removed to ensure purity of race.
- War needed to achieve these goals
- After, New Order would take place, where there were labour shortages people would be forced to move there and work, economy designed to benefit the German people. Racial purity was of key importance, and all 300,000 Germans living outside of the country would be encouraged to return.
- Nordic peoples (English and Scandinavian) would be a part of the New Order, with no political or civil rights.

### Kristallnacht (glass night):

- Nov. 7, 1938, a 17 year old Jewish youth shot and killed a German diplomat in Paris to bring awareness to the treatment of German Jews.
- Result, over 200 synagogues were destroyed, 26000 male Jews sent to concentration (work) camps, 70 people murdered, tonnes of glass was broken that night, thus the name.
- Jews fined 25 million marks to repair the damage, and another 1 billion marks.
- German Jews now bankrupt, could not afford to leave the country.
- Jews denied right to using public facilities.

### Nazi Economy:

- Wanted to be self-sufficient.

- Could not become an autarky by itself needed, other nations, therefore war.
- 1939, spending 16 times more on military than in 1933.
- 1938, unemployment down to 200,000, 1933 was 5.6 million.
- Tried to replace oil, rubber and wool with synthetics = new technology that we use today.
- 1939, Germany still imported 2/3 of its oil and iron ore.

#### Hitler Youth:

- Compulsory for all boys aged 15 to 18.
- Learned flag signalling, arms drills, 2-day cross-country hikes, learn Nazi rules = create loyal supporters of Hitler.

#### Rearmament:

- 1933, argued Germany should be able to rearm to the same level as France, or France should decrease to German levels, pulled out of World Disarmament Conference when they refused, made the allies look bad.
- Withdrew from League of Nations in 1933.
- 1935 military conscription
- 1936 remilitarized the Rhineland.
- 1936, Four Year Plan
  - o Developed by Herman Goering
  - o Set production quotas for rearmament
- 1936 Anglo-German Naval Agreement:
  - o Could have a surface naval fleet 1/3 the size of Britain's
  - o 1<sup>st</sup> example of British Appeasement towards Germany.
- Large weapons manufacturing equalled close to no unemployment by 1937.
- Did not build a vast supply of weapons, believed the wars he needed would be short, therefore no need of large supplies = concentrated more on quality and advanced technology.

- 1939 Wehrmacht = 2.75 million, Luftwaffe = 270,000 with 3600 planes, Kriegsmarine were building huge battleships (including the famous Bismarck)

#### Foreign Policy:

- July, 1936, The Spanish Civil War, took attention away from Hitler reversing the ToFV. Is considered to have been a dress rehearsal for WWII. Germany and Italy supported Franco's Nationalists, and the USSR supported the Republicans.
- July, 1936, Austro-German Agreement, agreed to discuss foreign policy together.
- October, 1936, Hitler and Mussolini created the Rome-Berlin Axis. Agreed on how to deal with Ethiopia, common policies towards the Spanish Civil War, the USSR and the League of Nations (not listen to them).
- November 1936, signed the Anti-Comintern Pact with Japan, halt spread of communism. Japan gained support in the event of an attack by the Soviets, Germany wanted Japan to keep Britain and France occupied in the Pacific to take their attention away from European affairs. Italy joined in November of 1937.
- August 23, 1939, signed the Nazi-Soviet Non-Aggression Pact, negotiated quickly between Molotov and Ribbentrop. Supposed to last for 10 years. Soviets would help split Poland instead of aiding them when attacked. Agreed to split Eastern Europe between them. Stunned the world. Stalin worried about a two-front war, knew this would guarantee him time to prepare for a German invasion.