

## Table of Contents

1. Introduction to the Committee
2. Timeline of the World War 2
3. Conclusions

## ***1. Introduction to the Committee***

The so-called war to end all wars, the Great War, did not solve any of the problems which had caused it. The instability created in Europe by the Great War (1914-18) set the stage for another international conflict which broke out two decades later and would prove even more devastating. The Great War was the deadliest war which involved more countries and was more expensive than any other war before it. The weapons used during the Great War were also more advanced than any previous war, using tanks, submarines, poison gas, airplanes, and long-range artillery. Over 9 million military personnel died during this war, and over 7 million men were left permanently disabled. It is not surprising that the effects of the Great War were still evident decades later. The aftermath of the Great War saw drastic political, cultural, economic, and social change across Eurasia (Europe and Asia), Africa, and even in areas outside those that were directly involved. The Great War also affected political transformations to most of the principal parties involved, transforming them into electoral democracies such as Germany (1919), Great Britain (1918) and Turkey (1923). Through the period from the armistice on 11 November 1918 until the signing of the peace treaty with Germany on 28 June 1919, the Allies maintained the naval blockade of Germany that had begun during the war. The terms of the Armistice did allow food to be shipped into Germany, but the Allies required that Germany provide the means to do so. The German government was required to use its gold reserves, being unable to secure a loan from the United States. After the Paris Peace Conference of 1919, the signing of the Treaty of Versailles on 28 June 1919, between Germany on the one side and France, Italy, Britain and other minor allied powers on the other, officially ended the war between those countries. Other treaties ended the relationships of the United States and the other Central Powers. Included in the 440 articles of the Treaty of Versailles were the demands that Germany officially accept responsibility for starting the war and pay economic reparations. The Great War ended with Germany signing the Treaty of Versailles. Germany was forced to sign this treaty, because if they did not sign the

treaty, then they would be attacked. There was essentially no compromising. The terms of the Treaty of Versailles focused on Germany itself, and not the other countries that were fighting on Germany's side. Germany got the most punishment because they were the third man in to this war. If Germany had not joined Great War, the war could have been a war between just Austria-Hungary and Serbia. Germany joining the war brought several other countries into the war, and made it into a full World War. This would make it very hard to defend themselves if there were to be another war. Germany also lost land in this treaty, and the League of Nations was set up due to the treaty also. All of these terms led to a very poor economy in Germany, and led to overall chaos. The Great War was the cause of problems in countries all throughout the world. The Treaty of Versailles sent Germany into economic chaos. After the war it seemed that Germany would be the country that would be struggling the most, and they were, but other countries were also struggling from the Great War. Other countries that were having problems were Russia, and Italy. The chaos that Great War brought, and left behind after it was over, was immense. In chaos people often look to powerful people that they will hope will step up and do what is necessary to get their country back to a normal state. The citizens are hoping for an easy fix to the problems that the war caused to their country. In Germany's case this man of power was Adolf Hitler, In Italy that was Mussolini, and in Russia that was Stalin.<sup>2</sup> Mussolini came to power in 1922, three years after the Great War. Mussolini is often seen as the founder of fascism. Mussolini was not very powerful throughout his early life, and came to power through riots, and marches. The government in Italy was so that the King appointed the Prime minister. To get power in Italy, Mussolini had a party of blackshirts that would go around spreading the word about their fascist party. For three years Mussolini ruled constitutionally, until in 1925, Mussolini essentially became a dictator. It was soon illegal to not be a fascist in Italy. The next thing that Mussolini did was to take away what he thought were necessary freedoms. Meanwhile in 1922, Russia became the Soviet Union and they joined with some other territories. Stalin came to power in in 1924, after Lenin died. Stalin had very specific plans for Russia. He

did not like how many of their people died in the Great War due to lack of advancements, and he wanted to change that. Stalin wanted to Industrialise the Soviet Union so that if there were to be another war, they would not be slaughtered. Stalin thought that he could accomplish industrialisation through his five year plans. These were plans that each were supposed to take five years, which were supposed to help industrialise the Soviet Union, and help the economy. Stalin also introduced collectivisation. The Soviet Union hoped that this would increase efficiency, and supply more food. They also hoped that since they were using more machines, that they would not need as many farmers, and that those farmers would then go to work in factories. Besides Mussolini and Joseph Stalin, there was a man, who took the leading role in the administration of Germany: Adolf Hitler. In the early 1930s, the mood in Germany was grim. The worldwide economic depression had hit the country especially hard, and millions of people were out of work. Still fresh in the minds of many was Germany's humiliating defeat fifteen years earlier during the Great War and Germans lacked confidence in their weak government, known as the Weimar Republic. These conditions provided the chance for the rise of a new leader, Adolf Hitler, and his party, the National Socialist German Workers' Party, or Nazi party for short. Hitler was a powerful and spellbinding speaker who attracted a wide following of Germans desperate for change. He promised the disenchanted a better life and a new and glorious Germany. The Nazis appealed especially to the unemployed, young people, and members of the lower middle class. Before the economic depression struck, the Nazis were practically unknown, winning only 3 percent of the vote to the Reichstag in elections in 1924. In the 1932 elections, the Nazis won 33 percent of the votes, more than any other party. In January 1933 Hitler was appointed chancellor, the head of the German government and many Germans believed that they had found a saviour for their nation. At the Lausanne Conference of 1932, Germany, Britain, and France agreed to the formal suspension of reparations payments imposed on the defeated countries after the Great War. Thus, when Adolf Hitler became chancellor of Germany in 1933, the financial provisions of the Treaty of Versailles had

already been revised. Hitler was determined to reverse the unsettled military and territorial provisions of the treaty and include ethnic Germans in the Reich as a step toward the creation of a German empire in Europe. During 1920s and 30s, in Britain, funding the war had a severe economic cost. The expense of the Great War destroyed British global pre-eminence. From being the world's largest overseas investor, it became one of its biggest debtors with interest payments forming around 40% of all government spending. Reparations in the form of free German coal depressed local industry, precipitating the 1926 General Strike. Material loss was "slight": the most significant being 40% of the British merchant fleet sunk by German U-boats. Most of this was replaced in 1918 and all immediately after the war. The military historian Correlli Barnett has argued that "in objective truth the Great War in no way inflicted crippling economic damage on Britain" but that the war "crippled the British psychologically but in no other way". Less concrete changes include the growing assertiveness of Commonwealth nations. Battles such as Gallipoli for Australia and New Zealand, and Vimy Ridge for Canada led to increased national pride and a greater reluctance to remain subordinate to Britain, leading to the growth of diplomatic autonomy in the 1920s. These battles were often decorated in propaganda in these nations as symbolic of their power during the war. The populations in these countries became increasingly aware of their own power and Britain's fragility. Simply, the main causes of the conflict are related to the agreements made after the Great War. After the Versailles Treaty, Hitler and the Nazis assumed control of Germany by calling for a heroic mass effort to restore past glory allied to the humiliating situation that treaty had put Germany and its people. After the Great War, the German economy was too bad also due to the war fines that were imposed by the victorious nations and also due to the Great Depression. Also, the policy of appeasement, which was directed by the United Kingdom and France after the Great War, and the expansionism of Germany and Japan. The appeasement policy was considered to be a trigger for the tension between sides. The British and French politicians followed a policy that gave Hitler the conditions to reinforce his position within European countries, but also gave the

Germans time to rearm, being able to reoccupy Rhineland and after that launch the Blitzkrieg against major part of Europe. Meanwhile in Asia, Japan's efforts to become a world power and the rise of militarist leadership (in the 1930s, the government in Japan was undermined as militarists rose to power and gained de facto totalitarian control) led to conflicts first with China and later the United States of America. Japan also sought to secure additional natural resources, such as oil and iron ore, due in part to the lack of natural resources on Japan's own home islands. We can simply list the actions and events that had boosted tension between states and conflicts of common interests as;

- Versailles Treaty
- Appeasement Policy
- Great Depression
- Anti-semitism
- Expansionism
- Militarism

## ***2-Timeline Of The World War 2***

<b><i>Date</i></b>	<b><i>Summary</i></b>	<b><i>Detailed Information</i></b>

<b>1938</b>	<b>German Anschluss with Austria?</b>	<i>Hitler went ahead with his plans to unify all German-speaking people. He annexed Austria then demanded the liberation of German people in the Sudetenland region of Czechoslovakia. Neville Chamberlain flew to Germany to attempt a settlement before war broke out.</i>
<b>30 Sept 1938</b>	<b>Treaty of Munich</b>	<i>Hitler, Chamberlain, Daladier of France and Mussolini of Italy met in Munich and agreed that Hitler should have the Sudetenland of Czechoslovakia. The Czechs were not represented at the meeting and realising that no country would come to their aid were forced to surrender the Sudetenland to Germany. Hitler assured those at the meeting that this was the extent of his ambitions for expansion. Chamberlain returned to England with a piece of paper signed by Hitler, proclaiming 'peace in our time.'?</i>
<b>March /April 1939</b>	<b>Britain rearms and reassures Poland</b>	<i>Britain had begun re-arming and a highly secret radar early warning system was installed along the east coast. Conscription was introduced and assurances were given to Poland, who was</i>

		<i>being threatened by the Fuhrer.</i>
<i>late Aug 1939</i>	<i>Russia and Germany sign pact?</i>	<i>Hitler and Stalin signed a non-aggression pact which included secret clauses for the division of Poland.</i>
<i>1 Sept 1939</i>	<i>Hitler invades Poland</i>	<i>Adolf Hitler invaded Poland.</i>
<i>3 Sept 1939</i>	<i>Britain and France declare war on</i>	<i>Britain and France declared war on Germany. Neville Chamberlain broadcast the announcement that the country was at war.</i>
<i>April/May 1940</i>	<i>Hitler invades Denmark and Norway</i>	<i>Hitler invaded and occupied Denmark and Norway to safeguard supply routes of Swedish ore and also to establish a Norwegian base from which to break the British naval blockade on Germany.</i>
<i>10 May 1940</i>	<i>Blitzkrieg</i>	<i>Hitler launched his blitzkrieg (lightning war) against Holland and Belgium. Rotterdam was bombed almost to extinction. Both countries were occupied.</i>
<i>13 May 1940</i>	<i>Chamberlain resigns</i>	<i>Neville Chamberlain resigned after pressure from Labour members for a more active prosecution of the war and Winston Churchill became the new head of the wartime coalition government. Chamberlain gave Churchill his</i>



		<i>unreserved support. Ernest Bevin was made minister of labour and recruited workers for the factories and stepped up coal production. Lord Beaverbrook, minister of Aircraft Production increased production of fighter aircraft.</i>
<b>26 May 1940</b>	<b>Dunkirk (Operation Dynamo)</b>	<i>The British commander-in-chief, General Gort, had been forced to retreat to the coast at Dunkirk. The troops waited, under merciless fire, to be taken off the beaches. A call went out to all owners of sea-worthy vessels to travel to Dunkirk to take the troops off the beaches of Dunkirk. More than 338,000 men were rescued, among them some 140,000 French who would form the nucleus of the Free French army under a little known general, Charles de Gaulle.</i>
<b>11 June 1940</b>	<b>Italy enter war on side of Axis powers</b>	<i>Italy entered the war on the side of the Axis powers. Italy's motive for entering the war was the hope of rich pickings from the spoils of war.?</i>
<b>22 June 1940</b>	<b>France signs armistice with Germany</b>	<i>The French, Marshall Petain, signed an armistice with Germany taking France, which had been devastated,</i>

		<b>out of the war and into German occupation.?</b>
<b>10 July – 31 October 1940</b>	<b>Battle of Britain</b>	<p><b>The Battle of Britain comprised four phases:</b></p> <p><b>1. During July Hitler sent his Luftwaffe bombers to attack British ports. His aim was also to assess the speed and quality of response by the RAF.?</b></p> <p><b>2. During August the attacks on shipping continued but bombing raids were concentrated on RAF airfields.</b></p> <p><b>3. The Blitz – From September 7th the city of London was heavily bombed. Hitler hoped to destroy the morale of the British people.</b></p> <p><b>4. Night Bombing – With the failure of daylight bombing raids Hitler began a series of nightly bombing raids on London and other important industrial cities.</b></p> <p><b>The RAF defended the skies and by October 31 the raids had ceased.</b></p>
<b>22 Sept 1940</b>	<b>Tripartite Pact</b>	<b>This pact of mutual alliance was signed by Germany, Italy and Japan.</b>
<b>early 1941</b>	<b>Italy and Germany attack Yugoslavia</b>	<p><b>German and Italian troops attacked Yugoslavia, Greece and the island of Crete.</b></p> <p><b>German field Marshall Erwin Rommel led the axis powers back to North Africa.</b></p>

<b>22 June 1941</b>	<b>Hitler attacks Russia – Operation Barbarossa</b>	<b><u>Hitler sent 3 million soldiers and 3,500 tanks into Russia. The Russians were taken by surprise as they had signed a treaty with Germany in 1939. Stalin immediately signed a mutual assistance treaty with Britain and launched an Eastern front battle that would claim 20 million casualties. The USA, which had been supplying arms to Britain under a 'Lend-Lease' agreement, offered similar aid to USSR.</u></b>
<b>7 Dec 1941</b>	<b>Pearl Harbor</b>	<b>The Japanese, who were already waging war against the Chinese, attacked the US pacific fleet at Pearl Harbour, Hawaii, as a preliminary to taking British, French and Dutch colonies in South East Asia.</b>
<b>8 Dec 1941</b>	<b>Britain and US declare war on Japan</b>	<b>Britain and the United States declared war on Japan.</b>
<b>Feb 1942</b>	<b>Japanese take Singapore</b>	<b>The Japanese captured Singapore from the British, taking some 60,000 prisoners.</b>

<b>June 1942</b>	<b>Battle of Midway</b>	<b>The USA defeated the Japanese navy at the</b>
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		<i><b>Battle of Midway. Following this victory, the US navy was able to push the Japanese back.</b></i>
<i><b>Nov 1942</b></i>	<i><b>Battle of Stalingrad</b></i>	<i><b>The Russians won their first victory against Germany at the Battle of Stalingrad.</b></i>
<i><b>Aug 1943</b></i>	<i><b>Allies take Sicily</b></i>	<i><b>The allied troops had won the island of Sicily.</b></i>
<i><b>3 Sept 1943</b></i>	<i><b>Italy surrenders</b></i>	<i><b>Mussolini had been thrown out of office and the new government of Italy surrendered to the British and the USA. They then agreed to join the allies. The Germans took control of the Italian army, freed Mussolini from imprisonment and set him up as head of a puppet government in Northern Italy. This blocked any further allied advance through Italy.</b></i>
<i><b>Jan 1944</b></i>	<i><b>Leningrad relieved</b></i>	<i><b>The siege of Leningrad was lifted by the Soviet army.</b></i>
<i><b>June 1944</b></i>	<i><b>Rome liberated</b></i>	<i><b>Although Italy had surrendered in September, it was only now that the allies were able to liberate Rome from the Germans.</b></i>
<i><b>6 June 1944</b></i>	<i><b>D-Day</b></i>	<i><b>The allies launched an attack on Germany's forces in Normandy, Western France. Thousands of transports carried an</b></i>

		<i>invasion army under the supreme command of general Eisenhower to the Normandy beaches. The Germans who had been fed false information about a landing near Calais, rushed troops to the area but were unable to prevent the allies from forming a solid bridgehead. For the allies it was essential to first capture a port.</i>
<b>25 Aug 1944</b>	<b>Paris liberated</b>	<i>The French capital of Paris was liberated from the Germans.</i>
<b>8 Sept 1944</b>	<b>V2 Flying Bombs</b>	<i>The first V2 flying bombs killed three people in London.</i>
<b>Dec 1944</b>	<b>Battle of the Bulge</b>	<i>Germany launched its final defensive through the Ardennes region of Belgium. However, they were beaten back by the allies.</i>
<b>March 1945</b>	<b>Allies cross the Rhine</b>	<i>The Allies crossed the Rhine while Soviet forces were approaching Berlin from the East.</i>
<b>April 1945</b>	<b>Russians reach Berlin</b>	<i>The Russians reached Berlin shortly before the US forces.</i>
<b>28 April 1945</b>	<b>Mussolini captured and executed</b>	<i>Italian partisans captured Mussolini and executed him.</i>
<b>30 April 1945</b>	<b>Hitler commits suicide</b>	<i>The German leader, Adolf Hitler committed suicide in his bombproof shelter</i>

		<i>together with his mistress, Eva Braun, who he had, at the last minute, made his wife.</i>
<b>4 May 1945</b>	<b>German forces surrender</b>	<b>German forces in Italy surrendered to the Allies.</b>
<b>8 May 1945</b>	<b>V.E. day</b>	<b>Victory in Europe was celebrated.</b>
<b>5 July 1945</b>	<b>Churchill loses election</b>	<b>Winston Churchill lost the election to Clement Atlee's Labour Party. The Labour party promised sweeping social reforms including nationalisation of the coal and railway industries and the creation of a welfare state. The Labour party gained 393 seats to the Conservatives 213. It was generally accepted that the landslide victory for Labour was due to the men and women of the armed services who did not want to resume civilian life under the conditions that they had before they entered service.?</b>
<b>6 Aug 1945</b>	<b>Atomic bomb dropped on Hiroshima</b>	<b>The Japanese generals refused to surrender. The US dropped an atomic bomb on the city of Hiroshima.</b>
<b>8 Aug 1945</b>	<b>Russia declares war on Japan</b>	<b>Russia declared war on Japan and invaded Japanese-ruled Manchuria.</b>

<b>9 Aug 1945</b>	<b><i>Atomic bomb dropped on Nagasaki</i></b>	<b><i>The US dropped an atomic bomb on the city of Nagasaki as the Japanese had not surrendered following Hiroshima.</i></b>
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<b>14 Aug 1945</b>	<b><i>Japanese surrender</i></b>	<b><i>The Japanese unconditionally surrendered to the allies ending the second world war.</i></b>
<b>2 Sept 1945</b>	<b><i>MacArthur accepts Japan's surrender</i></b>	<b><i>US General, Douglas MacArthur, accepted Japan's surrender thus formally ending the second world war.</i></b>

### ***3-Conclusion***

The period after the Great War is unquestionably one of the hardest time periods in the history of the world. The outcome of the Great War mainly described and determined the scenery of diplomatic relations during the period. During ten years between 1920-1930, large blocks of regions in Eastern Europe were taken apart among countries, drawing the boundaries for independent countries. Moreover; Italy, UK, Germany, France and other countries participated in the Great War suffered for political and economic instability. Also, rising radical and extremist oppositions put Europe in a vagueness, caused by difference ideologies. Communism and fascism crested during the period, exciting more supporters than ever. This destruction led to inefficient administration and corrupted government decisions. Various European Countries were left to dictatorial governments, making them an open target for the Hitler's Germany. The Treaty of Versailles urged the military and economic dismemberment of Germany while including heavy reparations to Britain, France and other allied nations. German people were unfriendly to foreign states and desired the return of the great German Nation. Adolf Hitler's leadership was a hope for them. Nazi Party came into power with encouraging desires of people with the objective of a European invasion. It can easily be understood that Germany was threatening the peace and future stability in Europe and in the world, twenty years after the Great War. In 1939, Germany stirred the world up, and the war had begun.