

Week Five

Outline Lecture Twelve—Prelude to Another World War

Key Questions:

- 1) How did another world war break out twenty years after the horrors of WWI?
- 2) Was this war inevitable? If so, what factors contributed to its inevitability and magnitude?

I) Germany in the Inter-war Years

- a) The Legacy of Versailles and the Weimar Republic
 - i) Coalition of Liberals and Social Democrats
 - (1) New constitution for Germany
 - (2) Article 48
 - ii) Policy for Domestic Stability and Economic Recovery
 - (1) 1924 Dawes Plan
 - (2) 1925 Locarno Treaty
 - (3) 1928 Kellogg-Briand Pact
- b) Hitler's Entry into German Politics
 - i) The Platform of the National Socialist German Workers' Party
 - ii) 1923 Beer Hall Putsch in Munich
 - (1) *Mein Kampf*
- c) Hitler's Ideology of Race
 - i) Darwinian ideas applied to race
 - (1) Three categories of humanity
 - ii) Echoes of Nietzsche
- d) Myth-making through Propaganda
 - i) "Volk" philosophy
 - ii) Leader as Psychologist/Agitator
- e) Hitler's Gain of Power
 - i) Economic crisis
 - (1) Unemployment: 1930—2 and ¼ million; 1932—6 million
 - (2) Nazi storm-troops: 1930—100,000; 1933—almost one million
 - ii) President Hindenburg appoints Hitler Chancellor in 1933
 - iii) Consolidation of Power
 - iv) Immediate withdrawal from League in 1933

II) Stage Set for War

- a) Precedents of Totalitarian Expansion
 - i) Japan's intrusion into Manchuria 1931
 - (1) Greater Co-Prosperity Sphere

- ii) Mussolini's invasion of Ethiopia in 1935

- b) German Expansion and Hitler's idea of "Lebensraum"
 - i) "Anschluss"—Unification of Germany and Austria
 - ii) "Lebensraum"

- c) British policy of Appeasement
 - i) Legacy of W.W. I
 - (1) Neville Chamberlain's diplomacy
 - (2) France's Maginot Line
 - ii) The Sudetenland Crisis in September 1938
 - (1) Munich Pact September 29, 1938
 - iii) Czechoslovakia and Poland 1939
 - (1) Nazi-Soviet Pact
 - (2) British Public Opinion