History 20

Unit 3: National Sovereignty

**National Sovereignty and Collective Security**

**Big Questions:**

1. The most essential and traditional purpose of a government is to protect its people. Is this still true today?
2. What are some of the reasons a nation chooses to take over a particular piece of land that does not belong to them?
3. Nations use alliances as a form of security. Is this true of Canada today?
4. During a period of crisis, can a society ensure the civil rights of its people are respected?
5. Do the criteria for leadership change during a time of war?
6. Is it possible to ‘play by the rules’ and win during a time of war?
7. How do we decide who is good and who is evil during a time of war? Is this even possible?

a. **Allies** - Alliance of Great Britain (and its commonwealth) and France against Germany in 1939. The Allies eventually included many other nations around the world (ex. United States, Soviet Union, etc.)

b. **Anschluss** – Chancellor Adolf Hitler’s doctrine of German political union with Austria, which effectively enabled Germany to annex that nation in March 1938.

c. **Appeasement** – The British and French policy of conceding to Adolf Hitler’s territorial demands prior to the outbreak of World War II.

d. **Axis** - Alliance of Germany, Italy and Japan in WW2

e. **Blitzkrieg** – Literally “lightning war,” the term for Hitler’s invasion strategy of attacking a nation suddenly and with overwhelming force.

f. **Einsatzgruppen** - units of the Nazi security forces composed of members of the SS, and the Ordnungspolizei (Orpo; “Order Police”) that acted as mobile killing units during the German invasions of Poland (1939) and the Soviet Union (1941).

g. **‘Final Solution’** - The Nazi’s euphemistic term for their plan to exterminate the Jews of Germany and other German-controlled territories during World War II.

h. **Gestapo** - The brutal Nazi secret police force, headed by the infamous Hermann Göring. The Gestapo was responsible for the relocation of many European Jews to Nazi Concentration Camps during the war.

i. **Holocaust** - the systematic murder of around 6 million Jews and other racial groups by the Nazis during WW2.

j. **Lebensraum** - Literally “living space,” Adolf Hitler’s justification for Germany’s aggressive territorial conquests in the late 1930s.

k. **Luftwaffe** - The German air force, which was used heavily in campaigns such as the Battle Of Britain in 1940.

l. **Manhattan Project** - The code name for the U.S. government’s secret program to develop an Atomic Bomb. Begun in 1942, the Manhattan Project utilized the expertise of world-famous physicists, including Albert Einstein and Enrico Fermi, to develop the weapon.

m. **Munich Agreement** - A September 30, 1938, agreement among Germany, Britain, Italy, and France that allowed Germany to annex the region of western Czechoslovakia called the Sudetenland.

n. **Pogrom** - a riot directed against a particular group, ethnic, religious or other, usually involving the destruction of homes, businesses and religious centres. This term is most often used in reference to violence against the Jews.

o. **S.A.** - In German, Sturmabteilung was the Nazi Party's original paramilitary wing. It played a significant role in Adolf Hitler's rise to power in the 1920s and 1930s.

p. **S.S.** - In German, Schutzstaffel (“protection detachment”), the elite German paramilitary unit. Originally formed as a unit to serve as Hitler’s personal bodyguards, the S.S. grew and took on the duties of an elite military formation. During World War II, the Nazi regime used the S.S. to handle the extermination of Jews and other racial minorities, among other duties.

q. **Vichy France** - Vichy France, or the Vichy regime, was the government of France from July 1940 to August 1944 led by Marshal Patain after the fall of France in 1940.

r. **Wannsee Conference** - A January 1942 conference during which Nazi officials decided to implement the “Final Solution” to the “Jewish question”.

s. **Wehrmacht** - The term used for regular German army.