

Americans in World War II

GEOGRAPHY ACTIVITY

Hitler's War Machine

Germany's early success in World War II brought most of Europe under Axis control. In addition to the Axis nations and their satellites (puppet governments), most of Europe was ruled directly by Germany or occupied by German forces in control of local governments.

Only a small portion of Europe and North Africa was controlled by the Allies. The map below shows Axis and Allied occupation in 1942. Examine the map, and answer the questions that follow.



1. What Allied nations or Allied-occupied lands are shown on this map?

2. Which countries were Axis satellites? What raw materials did they provide to Germany?

3. What mineral did the Germans obtain from Poland? From what area were the Germans able to get manganese?

4. What neutral country existed in the heart of Europe? How was the status of Sweden different from that of Norway?

5. **Critical Thinking: Human Systems** Hitler's ultimate goal was to control all of Europe. How does the map illustrate his efforts? Is it possible for a leader to successfully impose his or her own rule over an unwilling population composed of many diverse peoples?

ACTIVITY



Interview someone who was alive during 1942 about his or her experiences in the military or on the home front during World War II. As a result of Germany's early successes in Europe, did the person fear that Hitler would succeed? Record the interview on audiotape (no more than 10 minutes), and share it with the class.

CHAPTER 26

GEOGRAPHY WORKSHEET 26

1. Central America: Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, British Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Panama; Caribbean: Cuba, Haiti, Dominican Republic, Jamaica, Puerto Rico
2. Toward Cuba, the United States canceled the Platt Amendment but retained its base at Guantánamo. Toward Panama, it renounced intervention but retained control over the canal. In both cases, the United States stated that it would not intervene, but maintained a strong presence in the country.
3. Mexico nationalized foreign oil holdings; the United States accepted it.
4. 1926–33; a war broke out with rebels led by Augusto Sandino, followed by the Somoza dictatorship, 1937
5. Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Cuba, Dominican Republic
6. **Critical Thinking: Places and Regions**
Answers will vary. The United States wanted to influence Latin American militaries and governments and to maintain control over the region. Some students may say they would have done the same to protect American interests; others may argue that this policy helped keep dictators in power.

ACTIVITY

Answers will vary, but all students should find that the United States has had a great influence on popular culture, from the adoption of American sports such as baseball in countries such as Cuba and Nicaragua, to the presence in most Latin American countries of American movies, music, fast food, fashions, and multinational corporations.

CHAPTER 27

GEOGRAPHY WORKSHEET 27

1. Allied nations: Great Britain, USSR, Cyprus, Palestine, Transjordan; Allied-occupied lands: Morocco, Algeria, part of Tunisia, part of Egypt, Syria, Lebanon, Iraq

2. Finland, Slovakia, Hungary, Romania, Bulgaria, Vichy France; iron ore, bauxite, oil, lead, zinc
3. coal; from the Ukraine
4. Switzerland; Sweden was neutral, while Norway was under German rule
5. **Critical Thinking: Human Systems**
Answers will vary, but students should note that Hitler had imposed his rule over most of Europe by 1942. Some students may argue that this shows the goal is feasible. Others may feel that Hitler would not have been able to keep control of vast expanses of territory, and that such an opinion is supported by Germany's eventual defeat. Students may feel that a short-lived tyranny proves that diverse peoples can be controlled by one ruler temporarily.

ACTIVITY

Students can interview relatives or family friends who were alive at the time. Students without access to audiotape recorders can record their interviews on paper. Encourage students to prepare questions before their interviews.

CHAPTER 28

GEOGRAPHY WORKSHEET 28

1. Balkan Mts., Rhodope Mts., Taurus Mts.; Nile R., Jordan R.; Black Sea, Aegean Sea, Mediterranean Sea, Red Sea; Egypt; in northeast Egypt between the Suez Canal and Israel
2. Yugoslavia, Bulgaria (Sofia), Greece (Athens), Albania (Tirana), Turkey (Ankara), Cyprus (Nicosía), Syria (Damascus), Lebanon (Beirut), Jordan (Amman), Israel (Tel Aviv), Egypt (Cairo), Libya
3. Palestine; Israel was founded, sparking the first Arab-Israeli War.
4. the Bosphorus, the Dardanelles; Turkey
5. **Critical Thinking: Human Systems**
Answers will vary, but students should note that Soviet control of the Dardanelles would have allowed the USSR to reach the Mediterranean via the Black Sea. Truman worried that this