WORLD WAR II

After World War I and the Great Depression, many countries all over the world were trying to come back from an economic recession. In certain countries, such as Germany, political parties were formed in response to this problem. Adolf Hitler, the leader of such a party, made the decision to take matters into his own hands. He developed a philosophy for Germany and ignored the Treaty of Versailles. Soon, Germany was at war with many European countries and so began the reign of the Nazi Party. Germany soon invaded Poland and World War II was set in motion.

The United States had a foreign policy of isolationism, but after the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor in 1941, the U.S. declared war on Japan, an Axis Power. This marked the entrance of the United States into WWII. The United States became an important force in the war; the development of an atomic bomb and the use of the bomb in Hiroshima were two significant events during this time.
By the end of the war, many countries had seen devastation and the Nazi’s were responsible for killing millions of people, including 6 million Jews in what is known as the Holocaust. Following WWII, several Nazi leaders responsible for much of the genocide were put on trial and charged with crimes against humanity.

The aftermath of the war did have some positive effects on the world; certain countries were finally pulled out of an economic depression that had lasted from the 1920s, and the United Nations was created, replacing the former League of Nations as a force of peace and cooperation in the world.