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K.W.HO – 歷史集

第二次世界大戰 World War II

K.W.HO

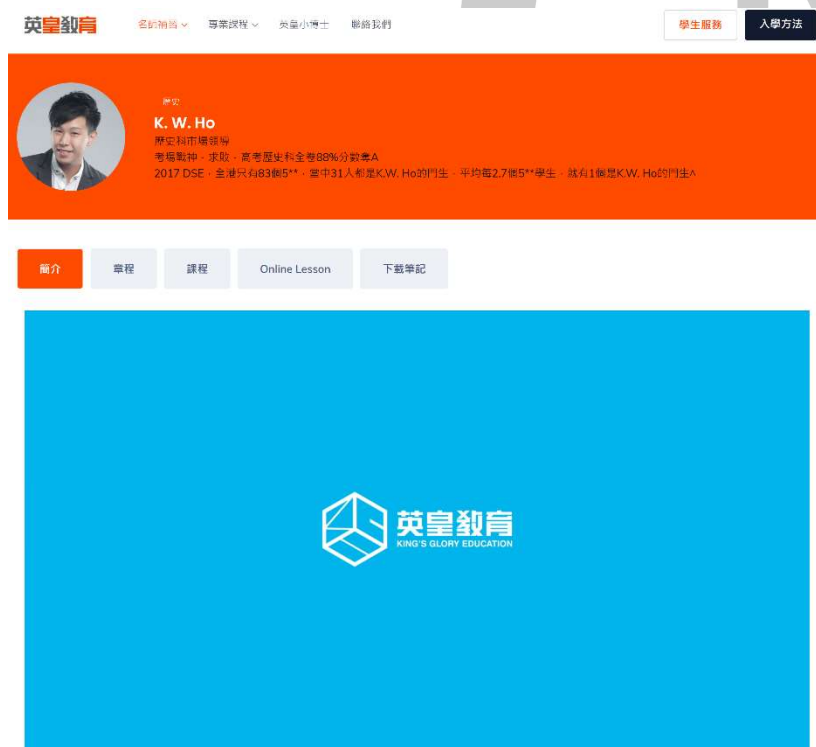
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HISTORY

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## Background & Development of History – MAJOR EXAMPLES

### 1. Paris Peace Conference 巴黎和會 (1919)

#### A. Background of calling Paris Peace Conference:

The great powers started to discuss post-war arrangements and punishing treaties for defeated nations after the end of WWI in November 1918. Paris Peace Conference was thus held in *Palace of Versailles* 凡爾賽宮 in January 1919. Power of controlling the conference and making decisions fell only on “Big Three” 三巨頭 – Woodrow Wilson 威爾遜 (President of United States), Lloyd George 勞萊喬治 (Prime Minister of Britain) and Clemenceau 克里孟梭 (Prime Minister of France) though there were 32 participating countries. Defeated nations and Russia were not invited to the conference as defeated nations were considered as those initiated the war, together with the Russian withdrawal of war in 1918.

#### B. Missions and Stances of “Big Three” in the Conference:

- **Clemenceau (France):** He required harsh punishment on Germany as Germany invaded France twice in *Franco-Prussian War* 普法戰爭 (1870-71) and WWI (1914-18). As a result, France could take revenge on its defeat in Franco-Prussian War, as well as retrieving *Alsace* 阿爾薩斯 and *Lorraine* 洛林. Tough treaties could also help keep Germany weak to prevent future war.
- **Woodrow Wilson (United States):** He suggested using fair and appropriate methods to set treaties for defeated nations under the principle of Wilson’s *Fourteen Points* 和平十四點 with less harsh treaties as United States did not suffer from great loss during war and did not wish to see outbreak of war in future due to tough treaties set on defeated nations.
- **Lloyd George (Britain):** He required strong punishment on Germany as Britain suffered from large number of deaths and injuries. However, Lloyd chose to be a mediator to balance opinion between France and US as setting harsh treaties on Germany would not be good in terms of economic benefits given that Germany was the second greatest trading partner of Britain before war.

## C. Treaty of Versailles (June 1919) (For Germany)

Harsh treaty was adopted in punishing Germany.

### I. Regarding Germany's territory:

- **East** : Germany was required to give up territory from Russia and establish new nations such as *Finland* and *Lithuania*. *West Prussia* and *Posen* was required to be given to *Poland* for establishing *Polish Corridor*. Polish Corridor made East Prussia to be divided from Germany's territory.
- **South** : Germany was prohibited to ally with or annex *Austria*.
- **West** : *Alsace* and *Lorraine* were required to be returned to France. Mining site in *Saar* was given to France for extraction and to be managed by League of Nations for 15 years. The right of management will be determined by referendum afterwards.
- **North** : *Northern Schleswig* was given to *Denmark*.
- **Overall**: Germany lost more than 10% of its population and territory (13% of its territory and 12% of its population in exact).

### II. Regarding Germany's military:

- **Land Forces**: *Conscription* scheme was required to be abolished, together with the number of land soldiers to be limited to 100,000 as well as prohibition of use of heavy weapons such as tankers.
- **Naval Forces**: Only 6 *battleships* were required to be possessed with prohibition of use of *submarines*.
- **Air Forces** : Germany was not allowed to build or possess any military-use airplanes.
- **Territory** : *Demilitarization* in *Rhineland* was required with 15-year invasion by Allies.

### III. Regarding Germany's colonies:

- Germany was required to abandon colonies in Pacific Ocean, Africa and China which were to be managed by victorious nations under the name of League of Nations

### IV. Regarding Germany's indemnities:

- Germany was required to pay an indemnity of 6.6 billion pounds (33 billion USD)

### V. Regarding War Guilt Clause:

- Germany was required to accept *War Guilt Clause*.

## D. Treaty of Saint Germain 聖澤門條約 (September 1919) (For Austria)

- Austria-Hungary was officially split up and divided into *Austria* 奧地利 and *Hungary* 匈牙利 as two independent states.
- Territory of Austria-Hungary was divided under the principle of “*The Right of Nations to Self-determination*” 民族自決 with the establishment of *Czechoslovakia* 捷克斯洛伐克 (*Czechs* 捷克人 and *Slovak* 斯洛伐克人) and *Yugoslavia* 南斯拉夫 (*Serb* 塞爾維亞人, *Croat* 克羅地亞人 and *Slovak*).
- *Sudetenland* 蘇台德區 was granted to Czechoslovakia; *Istria* 伊斯特里亞 and *South Tyrol* 南提洛爾 were given to Italy.
- Annexation of Austria and Germany was prohibited.
- Austria was required to pay certain war indemnities.
- Austria was required to disarm its land and naval forces.

## E. Treaties on other defeated nations (Bulgaria, Hungary and Turkey) (1919-20)

- ***Treaty of Sèvres* 賽佛爾條約 on Turkey:** Sudan and Egypt were granted independence away from Turkey’s rule. Pakistan, Syria, Iraq and Lebanon were to be managed by Britain and France.
- ***Treaty of Trianon* 特里亞農條約 on Hungary:** *Transylvania* was ceded to Romania.
- ***Treaty of Neuilly-sur-Seine* 納伊條約 on Bulgaria:** *Western Tharce* was ceded to Greece with western part of its territory to be given to Yugoslavia.

## 2. ***Establishment of League of Nations (1920)***

### **A. Background and Reasons of establishing League of Nations:**

Wilson's *Fourteen Points* 和平十四點 proposed the establishment of a peace-keeping international organization given the huge economic loss, deaths and injuries of WWI. League of Nations was thus set up in January 1920.

### **B. Objectives of League of Nations:**

- Resolve international conflicts to prevent outbreak of war
- Promote international cooperation
- Promote disarmament of each nation

### **C. Three-step mechanism adopted by the League in face of invasions:**

- *Moral Condemnation* 譴責;
- *Economic Sanctions* 經濟制裁;
- *Military Action* 軍事行動.

### **D. Major organizations of League of Nations:**

- *Assembly* 會員大會: made up of all member nations, each with rights to vote
- *Council* 理事會: responsible for guiding Assembly – made up of permanent (France, Britain, Italy and Japan; with Germany as well during 1926-33) and non-permanent states (elected in Assembly, increased in the number from 4 in 1920 to 9 in 1926)
- *Secretariat* 秘書處: responsible for dealing affairs of League of Nations, arranging agenda and contacting each nation's government
- *Permanent Court of International Justice (PCIJ)* 國際法庭: resolving international disputes in a lawful manner

## E. Worth-looking member states in League of Nations:

- United States : Not joining the League due to citizens' opposition.
- Soviet Union : Being invited to join when better relationship was weaved with Western states in 1934 given the fear of communism, yet its membership was cancelled when *Nazi-Soviet Non-aggression Pact* 互不侵犯條約 was signed in 1939.
- Japan : Served as permanent member state since establishment, yet withdrew in 1933 after being condemned in *September 18<sup>th</sup> Incident* 九一八事變 and *January 28<sup>th</sup> Incident* 一二八事變.
- Germany : Served as *permanent member state* 常任理事國 since 1926, yet withdrew when Hitler started ruling in 1933.
- Italy : Served as a member state since establishment, however condemnation and economic sanction were granted after its invasion in *Abyssinia* 阿比西尼亞 in 1935, and withdrew in 1937.

## F. Achievements of League of Nations in solving international conflicts

- Year 1920: Conflict between *Finland* 芬蘭 and *Sweden* 瑞典 in fighting for *Aaland Islands* 阿蘭群島 was solved under the assistance of League of Nations. Finland was granted the right to rule Aaland Islands.
- Year 1921: Conflict between Germany and *Poland* 波蘭 regarding sovereignty of *Upper Silesia* 上西里西亞 was solved under the assistance of League of Nations. Large portion of Upper Silesia was under the rule of Germany, while small yet the more resourceful part of Upper Silesia was under the rule of Poland.
- Year 1923: Italy bombarded *Greece's Corfu Island* 希臘科孚島. Italy conceded after mediation of League of Nations.
- Year 1925: Greece's invasion into *Bulgaria* 保加利亞 was condemned by League of Nations, leading to Greece's concession
- Year 1932: Japan initiated war with China for several months after *January 28<sup>th</sup> Incident* 一二八事變. The war was successfully mediated by League of Nations and United States. *Shanghai Ceasefire Agreement* 上海停戰協定 was signed, yet this did not effectively solve Japanese invasion in China in the long run.

## **G. Achievements of League of Nations in solving social and economic issues:**

- Social : Advocating the prohibition of slavery system, solution of refugee conflicts, ban of international drugs trade, stopping of infectious diseases, etc.
- Economic: Advocating laws in protecting labour, etc.

## **H. Examples of League of Nations failing to solve international conflicts:**

- Year 1931 : Despite League of Nations conducted an one-year investigation in proving Japanese act in *September 18<sup>th</sup> Incident* 九一八事變 as an invasion, condemned Japan and required Japanese soldiers to evacuate from China, Japan ignored the League and considered the League as their hurdle to initiate invasions. Thus, Japan withdrew from the League in 1933.
- Year 1935 : Germany remilitarized *Rhineland* 萊茵河區, resulting in the League's condemnation as it contravened *Locarno Treaties* 羅加諾公約.
- Year 1935 : Condemnation and economic sanction made on Italy's invasion into *Abyssinia* 阿比西尼亞 were not effective as the economic sanction did not include military products such as iron, steel and coal. The sanction also did not prohibit interaction between Italy and United States
- Year 1937 : League of Nations requested Japan to temporarily return as a member state to seek for solution to the conflict rose from Japanese full invasion into China after *July 7<sup>th</sup> Incident* 七七事變. Yet, Japan rejected. The council then requested each member state to make individual invasion against Japan. However, it resulted with low effectiveness which enabled Japan to continue its invasion.
- Year 1938-39: League of Nations failed to stop Germany's invasion into *Austria* 奧地利, *Sudetenland* 蘇台德區, *Czechoslovakia* 捷克斯洛伐克 and sudden attack to *Poland* 波蘭.



## I. Reasons for the failure of League of Nations in solving disputes:

- **Great powers did not enter League of Nations at the same time:** United States did not enter the League, while Germany and Soviet Union joined during 1926-33 and 1934-39 respectively. Japan and Italy withdrew in 1933 and 1937 respectively. League of Nations lost its representativeness when there was absence of support by great powers. In addition, as some of the nations were not member states, economic sanction from the League lost effectiveness in reducing aggression.
- **Lack of military strength:** Granted League of Nations was supported by Britain and France, it did not have its individual army. Hence, the League grew weak and failed to stop aggressive acts with military strength when international competitiveness of Britain and France reduced. This was illustrated by the League failing to mediate with military power in Japan's invasion into China and Italy's invasion into *Abyssinia* 阿比西尼亞.
- **Support made by member state depended merely on its own interest:** *January 28<sup>th</sup> Incident* 一二八事變 of Japan into Shanghai in 1932 affected interests of Britain and France, thus forcing the League to make more effective mediation. However, during Italy's invasion into *Abyssinia* 阿比西尼亞 in 1935, Britain and France sacrificed it in return for peace as the two countries were not in conflict of interest with Italy.
- **Decisions made by League of Nations were of low effectiveness:** As the League was lenient in setting punishing consequences, with most of them being economic sanctions and condemnations, leading to aggressive states not complying with the League's decisions. This was illustrated by Japan ignoring the League's decision of being required to evacuate from *Manchuria* 滿洲 even there were 13 supporting and 1 opposing vote(s) when Japan invaded northeastern China in 1931 (*September 18<sup>th</sup> Incident* 九一八事變). Japan even withdrew from the League in 1933.

### 3. **Washington Conference (1921-22)**

#### **A. Background and Reasons for calling Washington Conference:**

United States called for Washington Conference in November 1921. United States adopted isolationism policy after WWI to prevent participation in international affairs. However, as Japanese naval strength grew rapidly in Pacific Ocean, together with Paris Peace Conference failing to solve interest issue of Manchuria well, United States called for conference with the participation by Britain, France, Italy, Belgium, Netherlands, Portugal, China and Japan. *Four-Power Treaty* 四國公約, *Five-Power Treaty* 五國公約, *Nine Power Agreement* 九國公約 were signed.

#### **B. Content of Four-Power Treaty 四國公約 (United States, Britain, France, Japan):**

- When two of the signed nations were in conflict in the Pacific, it should be solved with conference held amongst all signed nations.
- Mutually respect each signed nation's interest in the Pacific.

#### **C. Content of Five-Power Treaty 五國公約 (United States, Britain, France, Japan, Italy):**

- Agree to stop constructing *battleships* 主力艦 with 35,000 tons or more displacement.
- Restrict the five nations' battleships' tonnage: 5(US): 5(Britain) : 3(Japan) : 1.75(France) : 1.75(Italy)
- Restrict the five nations' *aircraft carriers* 航空母艦 tonnage to be 135000 for US and Britain, 81000 for Japan and 60000 for both France and Italy.
- United States, Japan and Britain remained control of its own islands in the Pacific

#### **D. Content of Nine-Power Treaty 九國公約 (Signed by all participating nations):**

- All nations were required to respect China's sovereignty and territorial unity.
- Equal business opportunities in China should be remained for each nation.
- Each nation was not allowed to harm another's interest in China in light of own profits.
- Each nation was not allowed to seek for patent in China or privileges in China.

## E. Significance of Washington Conference:

- Four-Power Treaty broke Anglo-Japanese Entente, making Britain and Japan having distant relationship.
- Five-Power Treaty only restricted tonnage of *battleship* and *aircraft carrier* 航空母艦, yet did not pose any restrictions on land, air power or assistant cruisers under *small cruisers* 巡洋艦. This resulted in low effectiveness.
- Five-Power Treaty only restricted tonnage ratio of battleships yet did not establish any significant punishments. This resulted in simply zero effectiveness.
- Nine-Power Treaty infuriated Japan as it was forced to give up its interest in China.
- In general, Japan thought that Washington Conference was held to restrict its armaments and Far East Invasion, thus increasing its grudge against Western countries and paving the way for the rise of militarism in Japan.



## 4. French and Belgian Occupation of Ruhr (1923) (*Ruhr Event* 魯爾事件)

### A. Background and Reasons causing French and Belgian Occupation of Ruhr:

Granted Germany was required to pay an indemnity of USD33 billion from Treaty of Versailles, Germany could not pay the indemnity until the year 1923. France and Belgium then together initiated the invasion of *Ruhr* 魯爾 of Germany with a joint-nation army with 100000 soldiers in view of its rich coal resources.

### B. Results of French and Belgian Occupation of Ruhr:

Weimar Republic responded with passive policy and supported labour conducting strikes and not paying taxes which lasted for 8 months. United States, Britain, France, Belgium, Italy and other nations then established Dawes Plan – United States providing loans to Germany for its economic reconstruction and submission of indemnities.

### C. Significance of French and Belgian Occupation of Ruhr:

- France's harsh military approach intensified Germany's dissatisfaction towards France.
- Weimar Republic induced severe inflation as it printed lots of banknotes to support labour strikes. Economic crisis with Inflation occurred as shown from 4 *Mark* 馬克 being equivalent to 1 USD during post-WWI period to 4.2 Mark being equivalent to 1 USD in November 1923.
- This promoted the establishment of *Dawes Plan* 道茲計劃 with United States providing a loan of USD200 million to Germany. *Young Plan* 楊格計劃 was also established subsequent to Dawes Plan.
- With economic betterment after Germany receiving loans from Dawes Plan, Weimar Republic wished to improve relationships with other nations.
- Poor economic environment encouraged Hitler to attempt to attain political popularity through initiating the *Beer Hall Putsch* 啤酒間叛變 in October 1923. Though he failed, Hitler got more well-known after publishing *My Struggle* 我的奮鬥 in jail.

## 5. Italy bombarding Corfu Island, Greece (1923) (*Corfu Incident* 科孚事件)

### A. Background and Reasons causing Corfu Incident:

Mussolini 墨索里尼 would like to portray its strong diplomatic policy through crises after he started ruling in 1922 in order to fight for national glory. Hence, Mussolini used the death of an Italian soldier in Greece as pretext to start bombardment of Corfu Island in August 1923.

### B. Results of Corfu Incident:

- Mussolini agreed to disarm under the mediation of League of Nations.
- Greece retrieved Corfu Island, yet was required to pay 50 million *Lira* to Italy

### C. Significance of Corfu Incident:

- An example of Mussolini developing strong invasion plans as he rose to power.

## 6. Italy's acquisition of Fiume 意大利取得阜姆 (1924)

### A. Background and Reasons causing Italy's acquisition of Fiume:

Italy had long been greatly interested with *Fiume* 阜姆 as it was the promised territorial interest by Britain and France that attracted Italy to join the Allies in 1915. *Treaty of London* 倫敦條約 also included Fiume to be promised land for Italy. However, Britain, France and United States refused to let Italy acquire Fiume in Paris Peace Conference as they feared that Italy would be too strong in power in Mediterranean Sea and the Balkans. After such, Italian nationalist *D'Annunzio* 鄧南遮 successfully led 2500 volunteering soldiers to gain control of Fiume in September 1919. Yet, Italy did not admit the acts of the volunteering army and dismissed *D'Annunzio* out of Fiume. Fiume then became a *free city* 自由市 after international mediation.

### B. Process of Italy's acquisition of Fiume:

Mussolini used "the majority of population in Fiume was Italians" as pretext to fore *Yugoslavia* 南斯拉夫 (known as *Kingdom of Serbs, Croats, and Slovenes* 塞爾維亞—克羅地亞—斯洛文尼亞王國) to initiate conferences about Fiume after he rose to power. *Treaty of Rome* 羅馬條約 was signed in January 1924 with Yugoslavia granting Fiume to Italy.

### C. Significance of Italy's acquisition of Fiume

- An example of Mussolini developing strong invasion plans as he rose to power.

## 7. **Locarno Treaties** 羅加諾公約 (1925)

### A. **Background and Reasons for signing Locarno Treaties:**

Germany would like to mend relationships with its neighbouring countries after WWI. Thus, Germany's foreign minister *Gustav Stresemann* 斯特萊斯曼 actively proposed the confirmation of Germany's western boundary as mentioned in Treaty of Versailles. Germany, Britain, France, Italy and Belgium called the Locarno Conference in October 1925 and invited Poland and Czechoslovakia to join. Locarno Treaties were established with *Rhineland Pact* 萊茵保安公約, *Arbitration Treaty* 仲裁條約 and *Treaty of Mutual Assistance* 互助條約.

### B. **Content of Rhineland Pact** 萊茵保安公約 (Germany, Britain, France, Italy and Belgium):

- Boundaries of Germany, France and Belgium should be maintained as present.
- Germany should keep Rhineland demilitarized as stated in Treaty of Versailles.
- Britain and France were to be guarantors assisting countries which are under attack.

### C. **Content of Arbitration Treaty** 仲裁條約 (Germany with Belgium, France, Poland, Czechoslovakia):

- Territorial conflicts between Germany and signed nations should be solved by *Permanent Court of International Justice (PCIJ)*

### D. **Content of Treaty of Mutual Assistance** 互助條約 (France with Poland and Czechoslovakia):

- When signed nation was under attack of Germany, another nation should be responsible for providing assistance

### E. **Significance of Locarno Treaties:**

- It reflected that Weimar's Republic wishing to mend relationships with other nations, enabling Germany to join League of Nations in 1926 to become permanent member nation of the Council
- *Locarno Spirit* 羅加諾精神 started to emerge in Europe that conflicts should not be solved with military force, leading to more peaceful atmosphere in Europe filled with hopes. Thus, 1920s was considered as "honeymoon period".
- Locarno Treaties only confirmed Germany's western boundary yet not eastern. With many newly established nations without economic and military strength along Germany's eastern boundary, Germany could easily expand eastward. For instance, Germany invaded *Czechoslovakia* 捷克斯洛伐克 in 1939 and launched a sudden attack on *Poland* 波蘭.

## 8. *Albania became protectorate of Italy* 阿爾巴尼亞成為意大利的保護

國 (1926)

### A. Background of Albania becoming protectorate of Italy

*Albania* 阿爾巴尼亞 was considered as a great military advantage to Italy with its location. When Italy was able to control *Port of Vlore* 夫羅勒港口 of Albania, Italy could control the entrance of *Adriatic Sea* 亞得里亞海 completely. Hence, Italy had attempted to invade Albania starting from WWI. Mussolini had great interest in gaining Albania, firstly by affecting Albania's economy by granting large loans in 1925. *Treaty of Tirana* 地拉那條約 was signed in 1926 and 1927 making Albania as the *Protectorate State* 保護國 of Italy.

### B. Content of First Treaty of Tirana 第一次地拉那條約:

- Signing of treaties that would harm Italo-Albanian mutual interest with other nations was prohibited

### C. Content of Second Treaty of Tirana 第二次地拉那條約:

- Italy was to assist Albania's training of army
- Albania was allowed Italy's navy to enter Port of Vlore.

### D. Significance of Albania becoming protectorate of Italy:

- Italy's act was not stopped by great powers as Italy used economic interest to attract Albania to become its protectorate instead of using military power
- It was an example of Italy's expansion in 1920s. Italy even invaded into Albania in 1939 to become part of its nation

## 9. Kellogg-Briand Pact 凱格—白里安條約 (1928)

### A. Background and Reasons for signing Kellogg-Briand Pact:

Europe was becoming more peaceful after the signature of *Locarno Treaties* 羅加諾公約. France's Foreign Minister *Briand* 白里安 purposed signing of mutual agreement with United States' Secretary of State *Kellogg* 凱格 to condemn wars and advocate peaceful approach to solve conflicts. However, Kellogg feared that the agreement would be considered as an allied agreement between the two nations. Thus, more nations were invited to sign, resulting in 65 nations signing Kellogg-Briand Pact in 1928

### B. Content of Kellogg-Briand Pact:

- Each nation promised to condemn nations that solved conflicts by military power, and ceased wars between nations.

### C. Significance of Kellogg-Briand Pact:

- Great Depression happened 1 year after the signature of Kellogg-Briand Pact, thus the international atmosphere greatly changed due to economic issues, which restrained effectiveness of the Pact.
- Signature of the Pact from most nations came with limiting conditions — when the signed nation faced attack, *legitimate defense* 合法的防衛權 could be reserved. Legitimate defense became the pretext for countries to initiate invasions, such as Hitler using protection of Germanic people in *Sudetenland* 蘇台德區 as pretext to invade Sudetenland.
- The Pact was similar to Locarno Treaties that each nation could flexibly follow or not follow as it was not followed with any punishment.



## 10. **Great Depression** 世界經濟大蕭條 (1929-32)

### **A. Background and Reasons for Great Depression:**

United States replaced UK and became the most affluent nation in the world after WWI. People considered consumption as a kind of showing-off as Americans were confident with the economic development prospect. Thus, Americans invested largely in the stock market, and even borrowed loans for investments, leading to the disproportion between growth in stock market and actual economic growth.

Some Americans started to earn profits through selling off their stocks in October 1929, which was followed by large amount of Americans. Wall Street stock market drastically dropped. USD30 billion was lost in the stock market in two weeks, which was equivalent to United States' total expenditure in WWI. Drop in stock market led to depression in each field in United States, with closure of large amount of banks and large amount of jobless workers

### **B. Reasons of Great Depression triggering chain effects:**

United States made large amount of loans to Europe during WWI and after such as *Dawes Plan* 道茲計劃 and *Young Plan* 楊格計劃 to Germany. Hence, when United States took back loans from other nations during Great Depression as its economic status collapsed, chain effect affected nations that received US loans.

In addition, trade protection policies with trade barriers were set up after Great Depression to protect domestic industries. Economic conditions became even worse with lowering trades

## C. Significance of chain effects triggered by Great Depression:

- Severe economic harm: loss of USD250 billion during Great Depression, with large amount of unemployment workers (13.7 million unemployed in US and 5.6 million unemployed in 1932)
- Rise of totalitarianism: Hitler's Nazism gained public support after Great Depression and took rule in 1933, together with Communism gaining wide support from lower class (Germany's Communist Party's seats in Parliament: 54 in 1928 to 100 in 1932)
- Emergence of appeasement policy: With Britain and France concentrated themselves in economic recovery, appeasing attitude was adopted towards invasion plans, hoping to attain peace with concessions such as sacrificing *Sudetenland* 蘇台德區 to Germany in *Munich Conference* 慕尼黑會議(1938) to fulfill its aggression.
- Failure of collective security system: Great Depression had both weakened democratic nations such as Britain and France, as well as induced expansion from totalitarian states such as Italy and Germany, leading to the failure of collective security system (e.g. failure of Geneva Disarmament Conference (1932-34) and League of Nations' failure in stopping Italy's invasion in *Abyssinia* 阿比西尼亞 (1935).
- Isolation of United States: United States had to focus on domestic economy due to Great Depression, thus reducing participation in international affairs unless they are related to its own interests.
- Trade protection policies: reducing cooperation amongst different nations

## 11. London Naval Conference 倫敦海軍會議 (1930)

### A. Background and Reasons for calling London Naval Conference

Washington Conference only restricted tonnages of *battleship* 主力艦 and *aircraft carriers* 航空母艦. Different nations would like to extend the restriction in limiting ratio of assistant cruisers under *small cruisers*. London Naval Conference was held in January 1930. United States, Britain, Japan, France and Italy participated in the Conference, yet France and Italy refused to sign *London Naval Treaty* 倫敦海軍條約.

### B. Content of London Naval Treaty:

- Extending the prohibition of building *battleship* 主力艦 with 35,000 or above tonnage to 1936;
- Ratio of *small cruisers* 小型巡洋艦 and *destroyers* 驅逐艦: 10 (United States) : 10 (Britain) : 7 (Japan)
- Ratio of *large cruisers* 大型巡洋艦: 5 (United States) : 5 (Britain) : 3 (Japan)
- Additional condition: When a non-signed nation initiated military expansion, signed nations could start its military expansion as well

### C. Significance of London Naval Treaty:

- Treaty lacked punishment, resulting in low effectiveness as countries could flexibly choose to follow or not.
- Additional condition enabled signed nations to use "a non-signed nation initiated military expansion" as pretext to disregard Treaty's restriction.
- Treaty only focused on navy, yet not air and land forces.

## 12. September 18<sup>th</sup> Incident 九一八事變 (1931)

### A. Background and Reasons of September 18 Incident:

Japanese army stationing in Manchuria used "Chinese army destroyed *South Manchuria Railway* 南滿鐵路 constructed by Japan" as pretext to fire with Chinese army on 18<sup>th</sup> September 1931. Japan eventually invaded *Shenyang* 瀋陽.

### B. Significance of September 18 Incident:

- Reflected the failure of League of Nations: though League of Nations pointed out that Japanese act was considered as invasion after investigation and required Japan to leave China, Japan ignored League of Nations and even initiated full invasion in China in 1937.
- Japan intensified its invasion in China after September 18 Incident, leading to January 28<sup>th</sup> Incident in 1932.
- Japanese-Soviet relationship was worsened after September 18 Incident as Soviet Union was dissatisfied with Japanese invasion, making Manchuria's interest being catalyst towards the worsening relationship.

## 13. January 28<sup>th</sup> Incident 一二八事變 (1932)

### A. Background and Results of January 28<sup>th</sup> Incident:

Japan intensified its invasion in China after September 18 Incident. Japan used "protecting Japanese in China" as pretext to invade Shanghai and nearby areas on 28<sup>th</sup> January 1932. *Shanghai Ceasefire Agreement* 上海停戰協定 was signed between China and Japan under the mediation of United States and League of Nations on 5<sup>th</sup> May. Japan agreed to evacuate without any condition.

### B. Significance of January 28<sup>th</sup> Incident

- Japanese invasion in China was somehow hindered by the resistance of Chinese army, making its invasion become slightly milder.
- League of Nations pressurized Japan in January 28<sup>th</sup> Incident as great powers had strong interest in Shanghai (80% of the capital invested in China by Britain was in Shanghai). It was necessary for the League to put a halt to Japanese invasion in Shanghai.
- Japan withdrew from the League in 1933 as it perceived the League as impeding its invasion plan.
- Japanese-Soviet relationship was worsened after January 28<sup>th</sup> Incident as Soviet Union was dissatisfied with Japanese invasion, making Manchuria's interest being catalyst towards the worsening relationship

## 14. **Geneva Disarmament Conference** 日內瓦裁軍會議 (1932-34)

### **A. Background and Reasons for calling Geneva Disarmament Conference:**

Armaments race brought great economic pressure to each nation and worsened international atmosphere. League of Nations called for Geneva Disarmament Conference in February 1932. The coverage of the Conference included navy, air and land forces. 61 countries participated, and was hosted by large countries such as United States, Britain and France.

### **B. Results of Geneva Disarmament Conference:**

The Conference was a failure. With the withdrawal of Germany in 1933, the fear of each nation towards the re-emerging Germany was intensified and made them more actively initiate military preparation

### **C. Reasons for the failure of Geneva Disarmament Conference:**

- Major dispute fell in the disarmament issues of Germany and France. France would not disarm unless there was absolute guarantee of security. At the same time, Germany had already greatly disarmed in accordance to *Treaty of Versailles* 凡爾賽條約, thus equality should be achieved by requiring disarmament of other nations, or else Germany's re-armament should be permitted. Consensus could not be achieved and the Conference was even forced to stop for a period.
- After Hitler rose to power in March 1933, he greatly resisted Germany's plan of disarmament and even decided to withdraw from the Conference. Different nations feared that Germany was back on its pathway for aggressions, thus also abandoned the determination in disarmament.

### **D. Significance of Geneva Disarmament Conference:**

- Though the Conference could not achieve the anticipated results, it was a large-scale disarmament conference with greater coverage when compared to previous ones.
- Consensus could not be attained, and even led to intensive military expansion by many nations to prevent being invaded.
- Great Powers lost confidence towards disarmament conferences, thus there was absence of disarmament conference before the outbreak of WWII in 1939.

## 15. *Germany's reintroduction of conscription* 德國重新實行徵兵制 (1935)

### A. Background and Reasons for Germany reintroducing Conscription:

Hitler had intensively trained youth's physique and military knowledge through *Hitler Youth Scheme* 希特拉青年團 before its reintroduction of *Conscription*. Hitler openly offended military restrictions of *Treaty of Versailles* 凡爾賽條約 and reintroduced conscription on 16<sup>th</sup> March 1935 with 36 army divisions. Germany once again offended Treaty of Versailles by establishing air forces on 19<sup>th</sup> March

### B. Responses by Britain and France:

- France: Expressed its protest and regret, yet did not do much due to its own economic issues and failure in getting Britain's support. France signed *Treaty of Mutual Assistance* 互助條約 with Soviet Union (May 1935) to protect themselves against Germany's invasion Britain.
- Britain: Expressed its regret, yet showed its sympathy towards the harsh conditions set for Germany in Treaty of Versailles, thus did not take practical action. Britain then signed *Anglo-German Naval Agreement* 英德海軍協定 in June 1935, restricting that tonnage of Germany's navy could not exceed 35% of Britain's due to the fear of Germany's naval expansion.

### C. Significance of Germany's reintroduction of Conscription:

- First step of Germany offending Treaty of Versailles: reintroduction of conscription was not greatly hindered, positively encouraging Hitler's further expansion.
- It signified the failure of appeasement policy of Britain and France, leading to Germany's expansion into Rhineland in 1936.
- It led to the formation of *Stresa Front* 史特萊沙陣線 formed by Britain, France and Italy in April 1935, signifying the three nations would like to unanimously safeguard peace.
- It provided military basis for Germany's expansion, favouring large amount of soldiers available in Germany.

## 16. *Signature of Treaty of Mutual Assistance between France & USSR* 法

### 蘇簽訂《互助條約》(1935)

#### A. Background and Reasons for signing Treaty of Mutual Assistance:

France and Soviet Union believed that Germany would re-emerge as Germany offended *Treaty of Versailles* 凡爾賽條約 by reintroducing *conscriptio* 徵兵制. France would like to collaborate with Soviet Union as it failed to come up with solution with Britain. Treaty of Mutual Assistance was signed in May 1935 to prevent Germany's invasion with a 5-year effectiveness

#### B. Content of Treaty of Mutual Assistance

- When the signed nation faced invasion by a European nation, another nation must provide immediate back-up and assistance.

#### C. Significance of Treaty of Mutual Assistance

- Treaty of Mutual Assistance increased vigilance of Germany towards France and Soviet Union, leading to the signature of *Anti-Comintern Pact* 反共產國際協定 between Germany and Japan in 1936 which pointed at Soviet Union.
- France and Britain still carried out appeasement policy after signature of Treaty of Mutual Assistance, leading to Soviet Union's vigilance towards Britain and France, paving the signature of *Nazi-Soviet Non-Aggression Pact* 互不侵略條約, making the Treaty ineffective

## 17. *Italy's invasion of Abyssinia* 意大利侵佔阿比西尼亞 (1935-36)

### A. Background and Reasons for Italy invading Abyssinia:

Mussolini initiated mild expansion such as invasions into *Fiume* 阜姆(1924) and *Albania* 阿爾巴尼亞(1926) since he took rule, yet restricted its expansion due to peaceful atmosphere. After Great Depression, Italy witnessed Japanese's invasion (*September 18<sup>th</sup> Incident* 九一八事件 and *January 28<sup>th</sup> Incident* 一二八事變) and Germany's reintroduction of *conscriptio* 徵兵制 in March 1935 did not face great resistance, thus giving confidence for Italy to expand into *Abyssinia* 阿比西尼亞. Italy would like to take the opportunity to invade into *Abyssinia* 阿比西尼亞 as they were having military conflicts at that time.

### B. Responses of Britain and France:

- Britain thought that prohibiting Italy's invasion in Abyssinia would enable closer relationship between Hitler and Mussolini, thus granting 2/3 of the territory to Italy as an *appeasement policy* 綏靖政策 to satisfy its aggression.

### C. Development of Italy invading Abyssinia:

- Agreement drafted by Britain and France could not satisfy Italy's aggression as Italy had decided in sending troops to Abyssinia. Italy sent troops to Abyssinia in October 1935.
- League of Nations declared Italy as invading nation, condemned Italy with economic sanction, yet the sanction did not include important military resources such as crude oil, iron, steel and coal. League of Nations even stopped economic sanction towards Italy in July 1936.

### D. Significance of Italy invading Abyssinia:

- It reflected failure of appeasement policy, making Hitler more confident in militarizing *Rhineland* 萊茵河區.
- It reflected failure of League of Nations: its effectiveness only existed in economic sanction yet not in practical measures, with Italy's withdrawal from League of Nations in 1937.



## 18. *Germany's remilitarization of Rhineland* 德軍進入萊茵河區 (1936)

### A. Background of Remilitarization of Rhineland:

Hitler thought that *Treaty of Mutual Assistance* 互助條約 in May 1935 by France and Soviet Union was focusing on Germany. Thus, Germany used that as pretext to neglect *Locarno Treaties* 羅加諾公約 and once again offend Treaty of Versailles and remilitarized *Rhineland* 萊茵河區 in March 1936.

### B. Responses of Britain, France and League of Nations:

- Though as a *guarantor* 保證國 of Locarno Treaties, Britain tended to show sympathy to Germany and claimed that it was acceptable for Germany to militarize its own territory. Britain rejected forceful action in prohibiting Germany.
- France became more intense as northeastern part of France would be easily under attack due to the withdrawal of Belgium from the allied treaty with France in 1920. Yet, France dared not to take actions independently due to Britain's opposition.
- League of Nations: Council condemned Germany's act had offended international agreement, yet did not do any practical sanction

### C. Significance of Remilitarization of Rhineland:

- It signified failure of appeasement policy, paving way for Germany's further expansion.
- It signified failure of League of Nations: only able to make condemnation

## 19. Spanish Civil War 西班牙內戰 (1936-39)

### A. Content of Spanish Civil War:

Spanish Civil War broke out in July 1936 between Republicans led by *Franco* 佛朗哥 and the communist Nationalists. Spanish Civil War was highly involved by Germany and Italy. Germany and Italy offered military assistance with 69,000 soldiers and armaments to Franco in expanding influence of Nazism and Fascism in Europe. Republicans led by Franco won the war in April 1939

### B. Significance of Spanish Civil War:

- Spanish Civil War offered platform for German-Italian mutual cooperation and enabled them to become axis powers.
- Spanish Civil War offered platform for Germany to test its weapons.
- Spanish Civil War was the first war broke out after WWI in Europe, its intense atmosphere made Britain and France keen on making concessions with Hitler and adopted appeasement policy to prevent further war.

## 20. Berlin-Rome Axis 柏林—羅馬軸心 (1936)

### A. Background and Reasons for forming Berlin-Rome Axis:

German-Italian relationship was not too good in the early 21<sup>st</sup> century as Italy joined the Allies during WWI. Yet, the ruling of Hitler and Mussolini drew the two countries together as they shared common ideologies and were both anti-communists. Spanish Civil War provided opportunity for them to collaborate in supporting *Franco* 佛朗哥 who advocated Fascism. Berlin-Rome Axis was formed as a secret agreement between Germany and Italy in October 1936

### B. Collaboration Content of Berlin-Rome Axis:

- Germany admitted Italy's invasion in *Abyssinia* 阿比西尼亞.
- Germany and Italy adopted same approach in international issues.
- Germany and Italy strengthened mutual air forces cooperation.

### C. Significance of Berlin-Rome Axis:

- Official establishment of German-Italian cooperation that signified the beginning of setting up military alliances.
- Increased Germany's and Italy's aggression in making invasions.
- Increased Germany and Italy military cooperation and signed Pact of Steel 鋼鐵條約(1939).

## 21. **Anti-Comintern Pact** 《反共產國際協定》 (1936)

### A. **Background of forming Anti-Comintern Pact:**

Germany and Japan were not close initially. Yet, with the ruling of Hitler starting from 1933 and the rise of militarism in 1930s Japan, both nations shared similar ideologies and considered the communist Soviet Union as a great threat. As for Japan, Soviet Union had long been competitor with Japan in Manchuria, the spread of Communism made Japan to be afraid of it. Regarding Germany, *Treaty of Mutual Assistance* 互助條約 between Soviet Union and France (1935) made Germany to be afraid of the re-emergence of Franco-Russian alliance, thus drawing Japan together in fighting against Soviet Union. Anti-Comintern Pact was signed in November 1936.

### B. **Content of Anti-Comintern Pact:**

- The signed nations should exchange information about *Communist International* 共產國際.
- The signed nations should provide preventive measures to countries that are under threat of Communism or invite them to join the Pact.
- When one signed nation faced attack or threat of Soviet Union, another nation should at least maintain neutrality.

### C. **Significance of Anti-Comintern Pact:**

- Alliance was established between Germany and Japan that encouraged both nations' invasion plans.
- Basis of Berlin-Rome-Tokyo Axis was formed as Germany made allies with Italy and Japan

## 22. July 7<sup>th</sup> Incident 七七事變 and Outbreak of Sino-Japanese War (1937)

### A. Background and Reasons for causing July 7<sup>th</sup> Incident:

Militarists took great power in Japan during the 1930s that intensified Japan's invasion in China. Japanese army stationing in China used "finding missing Japanese soldiers" as pretext to request for entering areas that were controlled by China for investigation. China rejected, thus Japan initiated invasion to China in 8<sup>th</sup> July 1937

### B. Significance of July 7<sup>th</sup> Incident:

- Official beginning of Sino-Japanese War that lasted for 8 years.
- Reflected the failure of League of Nations: Japan rejected League of Nations' request to temporarily return as a member state in discussing solution to the conflict after China's request for help, while Japan continued its invasion though Council requested member nations to make sanction against Japan.

## 23. Berlin-Rome-Tokyo Axis 柏林—羅馬—東京軸心 (1937)

### A. Background and Reasons for forming Berlin-Rome-Tokyo Axis:

Basis of Berlin-Rome-Tokyo Axis was formed before with Berlin-Rome Axis (1936) and the signature of *Anti-Comintern Pact* 反共產國際協定. Italy joined the Anti-Comintern Pact in November 1937, forming Berlin-Rome-Tokyo Axis

### B. Content of Italy's participation in Anti-Comintern Pact:

- Germany and Italy agreed with Japanese invasion in China.
- Japan admitted Italy's invasion in Abyssinia.

### C. Significance of Berlin-Rome-Tokyo Axis:

- Three nations were more confident in initiating invasions, making them being countries who led to the outbreak of WWII.
- Italy withdrew from League of Nations in December 1937 to intensify its invasion, to be freed from restrictions of League of Nations. All three nations withdrew from League of Nations at that time.

## 24. Anschluss 德國合併奧地利 (1938)

### A. Background and Reasons for Anschluss:

Germany recovered its military power through military constructions made during 1935-37 together with the establishment of military alliances. Germany was more confident in initiating more large-scale and aggressive expansions. Austria was forced to reduce its territory and population in *Treaty of Saint Germain* 聖澤門條約, leading to the loss of strength as it became a small nation with 6 million people.

### B. Process of Anschluss:

Hitler requested Austria's Prime Minister *Schuschnigg* 舒施尼格 to accept the following conditions in February 1938: Releasing all imprisoned Nazis and appointing Austria's Nazis as Chancellor and Minister for Security. At the same time, German troops were set in Austria's boundary to provide military pressure.

Schuschnigg used referendum to ensure Austria's independence though he knew Austria could not stand Germany's invasion. Schuschnigg resigned and was taken over by a Nazi, leading to Austria being invaded by Germany within a short period of time. Austria's union with Germany was successful in 10<sup>th</sup> March.

### C. Significance of Anschluss:

- Germany once again offended Treaty of Versailles in uniting with Austria.
- Czechoslovakia faced the situation of being 3-sided surrounded by Germany, making it being next invasion plan for Germany.
- Britain and France showed its weak side again in face of Germany's invasion with the continuation of appeasement policy in satisfying Germany's ambition.

## 25. **Munich Conference** 慕尼黑會議 (1938)

### A. **Background and Reasons for calling Munich Conference:**

Hitler placed its target to invading *Sudetenland* 蘇台德區 after taking Austria. Yet, it was unwise to take immediate actions as 35 divisions of soldiers were placed in Sudetenland by Czechoslovakia and Czechoslovakia had military defense agreement with France and Soviet Union. However, over 3 million Germanic people lived in Sudetenland, making it the best pretext for Hitler's invasion. Hitler made a speech about Czechoslovakia's abuse of Germanic people in September 1938 to ask for Sudetenland's union due to "national self-determination", stating that war would be one of its approaches.

### B. **Development of Crisis:**

British Prime Minister *Chamberlain* 張伯倫 feared that Germany would lead to outbreak of war, thus visiting Munich with France's Prime Minister *Daladier* 達拉第. Munich Conference was held with Mussolini and Hitler. Agreement was made that Germany was granted Sudetenland. Czechoslovakia was not invited to the Conference, leading to its strong protest after the signature of Munich Agreement. Yet, Czechoslovakia was forced to accept the agreement as Britain and France informed Czechoslovakia that they would not have obligation in protecting it if it did not accept the agreement

### C. **Significance of Munich Conference:**

- Example of appeasement policy: though Chamberlain thought that the Conference was a success of appeasement policy, Germany ironically took over whole of Czechoslovakia in March 1939.
- Reduced Czechoslovakia's defense: Munich Conference directly granted Sudetenland to Germany though there was large amount of troops along German-Czechoslovakian boundaries which could greatly impede Germany's process in taking over Czechoslovakia. Moreover, Poland and Hungary invaded Czechoslovakia after the Conference, greatly reducing its defensive ability.
- Soviet Union thought that sacrifice of Sudetenland made by Britain and France was "redirect the troubles towards the east" 禍水東引, making Germany's expansion to focus on Soviet Union, leading to the *Nazi-Soviet Non-Aggression Pact* 互不侵略條約.

## 26. *Germany's occupation of the whole Czechoslovakia* 德國吞佔捷克全

### 境 (1939)

#### **A. Background and Reasons for Germany's occupation of the whole Czechoslovakia:**

Germany immediately planned to take over rest of *Czechoslovakia* 捷克 after being granted Sudetenland. Germany used "protecting Czechoslovakia" as pretext to send troops to *Slovakia* 斯洛伐克 in suppressing the independence campaign in March 1939. Hitler announced the establishment of *Protectorate of Bohemia and Moravia* 波希米亞—摩爾達維亞保護國, making Czechoslovakia being the protectorate of Germany

#### **B. Significance of Germany's occupation of the whole Czechoslovakia:**

- Germany used its military force to invade areas that are not inhabited by Germanic people for the first time, showing Hitler's aggression did not only involve lands of Germanic people.
- Britain and France realized that strong military approach should be adopted to stop Germany's expansion, thus they issued ultimatum to Germany after its expansion in September 1939.
- Germany and Italy knew that their invasion in Czechoslovakia and Albania had raised vigilance of Britain and France which may pose further military actions. Thus Germany and Italy signed *Pact of Steel* 鋼鐵條約 in enhancing mutual military collaboration to fight against Britain and France.

## 27. *Italy's annexation of Albania* 意大利吞併阿爾巴尼亞 (1939)

#### **A. Background of Italy's annexation of Albania:**

*Treaty of Tirana* 地拉那條約 was signed in 1926 to confirm that Albania was the protectorate of Italy. Yet, Mussolini would like to show its military strength after Hitler occupied Sudetenland, Czechoslovakia and Austria. Italy thus annexed Albania within days in April 1939.

#### **B. Significance of Italy's annexation of Albania:**

- Italy's occupation was not stopped militarily by Britain and France, yet raised their awareness towards invasion plans of Italy.
- Germany and Italy knew that their invasion in Czechoslovakia and Albania had raised vigilance of Britain and France which may pose further military actions. Thus Germany and Italy signed *Pact of Steel* 鋼鐵條約 in enhancing mutual military collaboration to fight against Britain and France.

## 28. Signature of *Pact of Steel* 鋼鐵條約 between Germany & Italy (1939)

### A. Background and Reasons for signature of Pact of Steel:

Berlin-Rome-Tokyo Axis was simply a diplomatic agreement, yet there was absence of any military conditions. Germany and Italy would like to enhance mutual military collaboration as they knew there would possibly be military actions taken by Britain and France due to their occupation in Czechoslovakia and Albania. Pact of Steel was signed in May 1939.

### B. Content of Pact of Steel:

- Mutual assistance to be provided during wartime with enhancement in military production.
- Signatories were not allowed to cease fire or draft peace settlements independently when joined in the same war.

### C. Significance of Pact of Steel:

- The military-based pact reflected that Germany and Italy were prepared for wars.
- Japan was not included as Japan thought that the alliance should only focus on Soviet Union instead of Britain and France, thus rejected to join so as to prevent from having more enemies.



## 29. **Nazi-Soviet Non-Aggression Pact** 德蘇《互不侵犯條約》 (1939)

### **A. Background and Reasons for signing Nazi-Soviet Non-Aggression Pact:**

Germany treated Poland as the next invasion target after invading Czechoslovakia. Yet, Germany feared that its invasion in Poland would lead to outbreak of German-Soviet war which became a repetition of WWI with Germany being defeated. Thus, Germany wished to sign Non-Aggression Pact with Soviet Union. At the same time, Soviet Union failed to construct defensive allies with Britain and France as Soviet Union thought that Britain and France was " *redirect the troubles towards the east* " 禍水東引 in Munich Conference. Hence, Soviet Union agreed to sign Non-Aggression Pact with Germany to ensure Soviet Union's interest in August 1939

### **B. Content of Nazi-Soviet Non-Aggression Pact:**

- Not invading each other within ten years, requiring neutrality when a signed nation broke out war with another nation(s).
- In case of territorial changes in East Europe, Germany could take western Poland and Lithuania, while Soviet Union could take eastern Poland, Estonia and Finland.

### **C. Significance of Nazi-Soviet Non-Aggression Pact:**

- Germany prevented repetition of history as in WWI, and invaded Poland in 1 September 1939 that led to outbreak of WWII.
- Soviet Union stopped collaboration with Britain and France, and self-enhanced its military power to prevent Germany's invasion.
- Non-Aggression Pact was not strong as Germany attempted to attack Soviet Union in 1941 that made Soviet Union to take part in WWII.

## 30. Germany assaulting Poland, leading to outbreak of WWII (1939)

### A. Background and Reasons for Germany assaulting Poland:

As the ally of Britain and France, Poland was ensured by Britain in March 1939 that assistance would be given to them in case of threat. France signed defensive treaty with Poland starting from 1925. Yet, Germany must first invade Poland to remove threat in the east when Germany broke out war with France. In addition, land granted to Poland as stated in Treaty of Versailles made the splitting of East Prussia away from Germany. Hence, Hitler thought it was necessary to first invade Poland to take back lands given away in Treaty of Versailles and linked East Prussia back to Germany.

### B. Process of Germany assaulting Poland to the outbreak of WWII:

Germany assaulted Poland in 1<sup>st</sup> September 1939 without prior declaration. Britain and France issued ultimatum, requiring evacuation of German army away from Poland, but was rejected by Hitler. Britain and France declared war with Germany on 3<sup>rd</sup> September, signifying the official outbreak of Second World War

## 31. Soviet Union joining the Second World War (1941)

### A. Background of Soviet Union joining the Second World War:

Soviet Union was not involved in WWII due to the signature of Non-Aggression Pact. However, Germany faced lack of military strength due to consistent wars with the Allies, yet Soviet Union remained strong military strength. Knowing that Soviet Union being a future target, together with success in western wars in early 1941, Hitler initiated *Operation Barbarossa* 巴巴羅薩作戰 to use "Biltzkrieg" 閃電戰 tactic to defeat Soviet Union. Germany assaulted Soviet Union in June 1941, making Soviet Union to join WWII.

### B. Significance of Soviet Union joining the Second World War:

- Showed failure of Nazi-Soviet Non-Aggression Pact: Germany offended the Pact.
- Soviet Union's involvement in WWII led to emergence of cold war due to post-war issues in redistributing interests.
- Soviet Union was not as weak as Hitler imagined, its "Biltzkrieg" tactic could not successfully defeat Soviet Union and was even defeated.

## 32. *Atlantic Charter* 大西洋憲章 (1941)

### A. Background and Reasons for signature of Atlantic Charter:

WWII expanded its scale and coverage with Soviet Union joining the War. Britain and United States had to meet up in setting tactics to fight back the Axis Powers. Roosevelt and Churchill met up on August 1941 on the Atlantic Ocean.

### B. Main Content of Atlantic Charter:

- Britain and United States would not seek expansion in territory or other aspects.
- Respect the right of national self-determination and independence.
- Establish a more long-lasting peace-keeping organization with broader coverage.

### C. Significance of Atlantic Charter:

- Established the basis for the establishment of United Nations.
- United States showed the tendency to assist the Allies, thus making Japan to think that United States was a future target to fight against with.

## 33. United States joining the Second World War (1941)

### A. Background of United States joining the Second World War:

United States did not join WWII initially that reserved its military strength - Yet, Japan's national strength was decreasing due to consistent wars with China - Japan wished to invade colonies of United States, Britain and Netherlands in Southeast Asia in gaining resources such as oil and rice. With worsening Japanese-US relationship, United States froze Japanese assets in United States in July 1941 and adopted oil embargo and economic sanction towards Japan. Japan thought that it was necessary to fight against United States given the similar reason as Germany assaulting Soviet Union, thus assaulted *Pearl Harbour* 珍珠港 (naval base of United States in Hawaii), leading to outbreak of Pacific War.

### B. Significance of United States joining the Second World War:

- Greatly contributed to the success of the Allies in 1945.
- Post-war issues led to great divergence between United States and Soviet Union, leading to the occurrence of Cold War.

## 34. *Casablanca Conference* 卡薩布蘭卡會議 (1943)

### A. Background and Reasons for calling Casablanca Conference:

Casablanca Conference was held by President of United States Roosevelt and Prime Minister of Britain Churchill in Morocco in January 1943. The Conference mainly covered tactics in fighting against Germany and Italy.

### B. Major decisions made in Casablanca Conference:

- To intensify attack made towards Germany's submarines;
- To intensify attack made towards Italy;
- To force the Axis Powers to unconditionally surrender.

### C. Significance of Casablanca Conference:

- Violent attack towards Italy made Italy surrender in September 1943.

## 35. *Quebec Conference* 魁北克會議 (1943)

### A. Background and Reasons for calling Quebec Conference:

Roosevelt and Churchill met up in Quebec, Canada in August 1943. United States and Britain discussed further war arrangements as Mussolini was thrown upon in July 1943

### B. Major decisions of Quebec Conference:

- To continue its tactic in making violent attack towards Italy, and come up with Italy's conditions for surrender;
- To capture Japan a year after Germany's surrender;
- Discussed issues about France's liberation.

### C. Significance of Quebec Conference:

- Violent attack towards Italy made Italy surrender in September 1943.

## 36. **Moscow Conferences** 莫斯科會議 (1943)

### **A. Background and Reasons for calling Moscow Conferences:**

The period between November 1942 and March 1943 was the watershed of development of war status. United States and Britain successfully landed on North Africa with Britain's success in Libya. Soviet Union successfully defeated Germany in Battle of Stalingrad. Japan's invasion was greatly stopped in Southeastern Pacific Ocean. The Allies started to take hold of WWII in various battlefields, thus Ministers for Foreign Affairs of United States, Soviet Union and Britain called for Moscow Conferences for better military posture and more well-planned military actions - Representative from China also joined the Conferences.

### **B. Major decisions of Moscow Conferences:**

- Announced the necessity in establishing a peace-keeping international organization, setting the basis for the establishment of United Nations;
- Austria was granted independence after war.

### **C. Significance of Moscow Conferences:**

- Improved relationship between Soviet Union and Britain, United States.
- Established the basis for United Nations.

## 37. *Cairo Conference* 開羅會議 (1943)

### A. Background and Reasons for calling Cairo Conference:

After Quebec Conference, President of United States *Roosevelt* 羅斯福 would like to call for 4-power conference with Soviet Union, Britain and China. Yet, as the leader of Soviet Union *Stalin* 史太林 refused to join in conferences participated by Chiang Kai-Shek, thus the 4-power conference was held twice. Cairo Conference was held amongst Roosevelt (United States), *Churchill* 邱吉爾 (Britain), *Chiang Kai-Shek* 蔣介石 (China) in November 1943, while Tehran Conference was held amongst Roosevelt (United States), Churchill (Britain) and Stalin (Soviet Union) in Iran in November 1943.

### B. Major decisions of Cairo Conference:

- Japan should return all invaded lands since 1894 to China;
- Japan should return all invaded Pacific Islands since WWI;
- North Korea was granted independence after war.

### C. Significance of Cairo Conference:

- It focused on settling war affairs of Japan in East Asia and Pacific Ocean.
- It planned post-war territorial arrangements of East Asia and Pacific Ocean.

## 38. *Tehran Conference* 德黑蘭會議 (1943)

### A. Background and Reasons for calling Tehran Conference:

After Quebec Conference, President of United States *Roosevelt* would like to call for 4-power conference with Soviet Union, Britain and China. Yet, as the leader of Soviet Union *Stalin* refused to join in conferences participated by Chiang Kai-Shek, thus the 4-power conference was held twice. Cairo Conference was held amongst Roosevelt (United States), *Churchill* (Britain), *Chiang Kai-Shek* (China) in November 1943, while Tehran Conference was held amongst Roosevelt (United States), *Churchill* (Britain) and *Stalin* (Soviet Union) in Iran in November 1943.

### B. Major decisions of Tehran Conference:

- A new peace-keeping organization should be established in replacement of League of Nations;
- Soviet Union could be granted some territory in Poland and East Prussia;
- Britain and France to start invasions in West Europe in 1<sup>st</sup> May 1944;
- Soviet Union to participate war with Japan after the end of war with Germany.

### C. Significance of Tehran Conference:

- Improved relationship between Soviet Union and Britain, United States.
- Established the basis for United Nations.

## 39. **Yalta Conference 雅爾達會議 (1945)**

### **A. Background and Reasons for calling Yalta Conference:**

The Allies was successful in wars along the Eastern and Western Fronts of Europe in 1944. Roosevelt (United States), Churchill (Britain) and Stalin (Soviet Union) met up in Yalta, Soviet Union in February 1945 in discussing post-war territorial and other affairs

### **B. Major decisions of Yalta Conference:**

- Germany: Post-war Germany should be divided into 4 districts which were to be occupied by United States, Britain, France and Soviet Union respectively;
- Germany: Germany should undergo demilitarization and denazification;
- Germany: Germany should compensate its destruction made during WWII;
- Poland: To be granted independence with democratic elections taking place;
- Japan: Japan should return Southern Sakhalin and the Kuril Islands to Soviet Union;
- “United Nations Conference” was announced to be held two months later in San Francisco;
- Soviet Union to join the war against Japan 3 months after the surrender of Germany.

### **C. Significance of Yalta Conference:**

- Set up the basis for the establishment of United Nations.
- Germany to be divided into Western and Eastern Germany until 1990.
- It portrayed contradictions between Soviet Union and Britain, United States: Britain and United States wished to stop Soviet Union’s wish to expand its interest in Eastern Europe and Far East with anxiety expressed.



## 40. *San Francisco Conference* 舊金山會議 (1945)

### Major happenings in San Francisco Conference:

Dumbarton Oaks Conference (Britain, United States and Soviet Union) (1944) was held in Washington to settle brief arrangements for establishing United Nations. Yalta Conference enabled the three nations to reach consensus about United Nations' veto power. San Francisco Conference was held in April 1945 with 50 participating countries which were all the Allies. "United Nations Charter" was passed through and officially established United Nations

## 41. *Potsdam Conference* 波茨坦會議 (1945)

### A. Background and Reasons for calling Potsdam Conference:

Germany surrendered in May 1945. Truman (United States), *Attlee* 艾德禮 (Britain) and Stalin called Potsdam Conference to discuss post-war arrangements

### B. Major decisions in Potsdam Conference:

- Germany: Post-war Germany should be divided into 4 districts which were to be occupied by United States, Britain, France and Soviet Union respectively;
- Germany: Nazi Party should be replaced with democracy introduced under the guidance of the Allies;
- Germany: All lands invaded by Hitler should be returned;
- Germany: All industrial infrastructures should be considered as war indemnities;
- Germany: Demilitarization was to be adopted with the removal of military infrastructures and weapons;
- Japan: To be temporarily occupied by the Allies after its surrender.

### C. Significance of Potsdam Conference:

- Confirmed post-war arrangements of Germany and temporary arrangements for Japan.
- Germany to be divided into Western and Eastern Germany until 1990.
- It portrayed contradictions between Soviet Union and Britain, United States: Britain and United States wished to stop Soviet Union's wish to expand its interest in Eastern Europe and Far East with anxiety expressed.

## 42. End of Second World War (1945)

### A. Background and Reasons for the end of Second World War:

Germany and Japan continued to fight in WWII after Italy's surrender in September 1943. Germany surrendered in May 1945 when the joint-army (formed by Soviet Union, United States, Britain and France) attacked and took control of Berlin with an end in European wars. Yet, Japan did not surrender. United States then threw two atomic bombs in Hiroshima and Nagasaki in August 1945, forcing Japan to surrender without conditions and signified the end of Second World War

## 43. Establishment of United Nations 聯合國的成立 (1945)

### A. Background of establishment of United Nations:

United Nations was the international organization set up after WWII in October 1945. 51 countries pledged to achieve peace through international cooperation and collective security, as well as develop mutual positive relationships, promote social advancements, uplift quality of life and protect human rights.

### B. Four Objectives of United Nations:

- To keep peace throughout the world;
- To develop friendly relations among nations;
- To help nations work together to improve the lives of poor people, to conquer hunger, diseases and illiteracy, and to encourage respect for each other's rights and freedom;
- To be a centre for organizing the actions of nations to achieve these goals.

### C. Main organ of United Nations – General Assembly 會員大會:

General Assembly serves as the major adjudicating body of United Nations that consists of all member nations. It serves as an all-round forum for making multilateral discussions on international issues under the Charter.

### D. Main organ of United Nations – Security Council 安全理事會:

Its major aim was to safeguard international peace and security. It consisted of 5 permanent member nations (Britain, United States, Soviet Union, China and France) and 6 non-permanent member nations (increased to 10 afterwards). Permanent member nations possess veto power that could overthrow non-acceptable decisions. Non-permanent member nations were elected from General Assembly with a 2-year period and no veto power

**E. Main organ of United Nations – International Court of Justice 國際法庭:**

It serves as a major judicial department of United Nations. It aims to resolve judicial disputes handed from each nation in accordance with International Law. It aims to provide advices for legal affairs raised by United Nations departments and organizations

**F. Main organ of United Nations – Economic and Social Council 經濟及社會理事會:**

The Council concerns challenges related world's economy, society and environment. It was established in 1946 in accordance with the Charter. It serves as a forum discussing and debating the aforementioned issues and issuing policy advices.

課文、技巧部分請參考 K.W.HO 常規班筆記