### ****Germany’s Critical Dates**** The Burden of Victory: Postwar Europe (OLLI, Winter 2012)

1933

 January 30 – Hitler become chancellor

 October 14 - Germany quits League of Nations.

1934

 August 19 – Hitler become fuhrer (all-powerful leader)

1935

 March 16 - Hitler violates Versailles, introduces military conscription.

1936

 March 7 - German troops occupy the Rhineland.

 October 1 - Franco declared head of Spanish state.

1937

 November 5 – Hitler reveals plans for war andlebensraum at Hossback conference. (Hossbach Memorandum used at Nuremberg as evidence of conspiracy to wage war.)

1938

 March 12/13 - [Germany announces 'Anschluss' (union) with Austria.](http://www.historyplace.com/worldwar2/timeline/austria.htm)

 August 12 - German military mobilizes.

 September 30 - Chamberlain appeases Hitler at Munich.

 October 15 - [German troops occupy the Sudetenland](http://www.historyplace.com/worldwar2/timeline/sudet.htm); Czech government resigns.

1939

 May 22 - Nazis sign 'Pact of Steel' with Italy.

 August 23 - [Nazis and Soviets sign Pact.](http://www.historyplace.com/worldwar2/timeline/pact.htm)

 September 1 - Nazis invade Poland.

 September 3, Britain, France, Australia, New Zealand declare war; Canada on Sept. 10.

 September 5 - United States proclaims its neutrality.

 September 10 - Battle of the Atlantic begins (naval blockade of Germany).

 September 17, 1939 - Soviets invade Poland.

 September 29, 1939 - Nazis and Soviets divide up Poland.

 November 30, 1939 - Soviets attack Finland.

1940

 April 9, 1940 - Nazis invade Denmark and Norway.

 May 10, 1940 - Nazis invade France, Belgium, Luxembourg and the Netherlands;

 May 10 - Churchill becomes British Prime Minister.

 May 26, 1940 - Evacuation of Allied troops from Dunkirk begins.

 June 10, 1940 - Italy declares war on Britain and France.

 June 14, 1940 - [Germans enter Paris.](http://www.historyplace.com/worldwar2/timeline/enter.htm)

 June 18, 1940 - Soviets begin occupation of the Baltic States.

 June 22, 1940 - France signs an armistice with Nazi Germany.

 June 28, 1940 - Britain recognizes de Gaulle as the Free French leader.

 July 1, 1940 - German U-boats attack merchant ships in the Atlantic.

 July 10, 1940 - Battle of Britain begins.

 August 15, 1940 - Air battles and daylight raids over Britain.

 August 23/24 - First German air raids on Central London.

 August 25/26 - First British air raid on Berlin.

 September 7, 1940 – Blitz begins – massive German air raids on London and other cities.

 September 16, 1940 - United States military conscription bill passed.

 September 27, 1940 - Tripartite (Axis) Pact signed by Germany, Italy and Japan.

 October 12, 1940 - Germans postpone Operation Sea Lion (invasion of Britain) until spring. December 9/10 - British begin a western desert offensive in North Africa against the Italians.

1941

 March 11, 1941 - President Roosevelt signs the Lend-Lease Act.

 April 17, 1941 - Yugoslavia surrenders to the Nazis.

 April 27, 1941 - Greece surrenders to the Nazis.

 June 22, 1941 – Germany attacks Soviet Union (Barbarossa)

 July 3, 1941 - Stalin calls for a scorched earth policy.

 July 12, 1941 - Mutual assistance agreement between British and Soviets.

 August 14, 1941 – FDR and Churchill announce Atlantic Charter.

 December 5, 1941 - German attack on Moscow is abandoned.

 December 6, 1941 - Soviet Army launches a major counter-offensive.

 December 7, 1941 – Pearl Harbor

 Dec 8 – US and Britain declare war on Japan

 December 11, 1941 – Hitler declares war on US