

Chapter 32-5 Notes

- WWII caused more death and destruction than any other conflict in history
 - o 60 Million dead
 - o 50 Million uprooted from their homes
 - o Billions of dollars in property damage
 - o 60, 595 Civilians died in London alone
 - o Poland's prewar population = 1,289,000, Postwar Population = 153,000
 - o Berlin 25,000 tons of allied bombs destroyed 95% of the central city
- Civilians lived in partially destroyed homes, apartments, caves or cellars – they had no water or electricity and very little food
- Factories were destroyed/damaged so there were no places to work and earn money to buy available food
- In August 1945 – 4,000 citizens of Berlin died every day
- People traded valuables for a few potatoes
- Europe's first post war winter was terrible – No shoes, coats, and shelter

Postwar Governments

- After the war, communist party leaders promised change
- Communist party gained support for a while
- Communist party began to lose ground quickly after communist leaders staged a series of violent strikes (Peasant/workers revolution and a classless society)
- People had enough of violence and voted for non-Communist parties
- Economies recovered very quickly after the Communist influence declined

Nuremberg Trials

- An International Military Tribunal representing 23 nations put Nazi war criminals on trial for “crimes against humanity”
- 22 Defendants – 12 were sentenced to death
- Hitler and some other leaders escaped trial by committing suicide

Postwar Japan

- Japan lost 2 million lives
- Major cities were destroyed including Tokyo (capital)
- Hiroshima/Nagasaki were left as blackened wastelands (after A-Bombs)
- *Demilitarization* – Ordered by MacArthur – Disbanding of Japanese armed forces but leaving a small police force
- War criminals brought on trial – Out of 25 surviving defendants –7 were condemned to hang
- May 3, 1947 – Parliamentary Government goes into effect in Japan
- The Constitution was drawn up by MacArthur and U.S. Advisors
- U.S. sends 2 Billion dollars in emergency relief (Still bitter over Pearl Harbor)

Japans New Government

- Bicameral – Having two houses or parts – Known as the Diet
- Constitutional Bill of Rights – Protected basic freedoms
 - o Article 9 – Japan could no longer make war – they could fight only if they were attacked first
- September 1951 – The U.S. and 48 other nations signed a formal peace agreement with Japan officially ending the war
- The U.S. and Japan became Allies
- Although some Enemies became Allies, some Allies became Enemies.
- The U.S. and Russia came out of the war as Allies
- Countries came out of the war with different postwar goals, these would lead to new conflicts