**Germany In Transition 1919-39**

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| **After WW1 – 1919-23**  T of V:   * £6.6 billion reparations * 100,000 soldiers * 13% of land lost * Article 231 – blamed for WW1   Weak Government:   * Lots of coalitions * Blamed for signing T of V * Article 48 – undemocratic   Uprisings:   * 1919 – Spartacist. Communist revolt, Rose Luxemburg and Karl Liebknecht. Put down by Freikorps (ex soldiers) * 1920 – Kapp Putsch. Right-wing – Freikorps. Forced government to run away, led by Wolfgang Kapp. Stopped by a strike by general population. * 1923 – Munich Putsch. Started in Beer Hall, plan was to march to Munich. Betrayed by local politicians. 16 Nazis and 4 police officers killed, Hitler shot in shoulder.   Occupation of Ruhr:   * Germany missed reparations payment. French took over factories. Germany told workers to strike and sabotage. More money printed to pay workers, causing hyperinflation. | **Golden Years – 1924-29**  Economic Recovery:   * Rentenmark – new temporary currency ends hyperinflation. * 1924 – Dawes Plan – loans from America to pay reparations. * 1929 – Young Plan – reparations reduced to £1.85 billion. * Industrial production increased. * Unemployment still high. * Stresemann said they were ‘dancing on a volcano’.   International Recovery:   * 1925 - Locarno Pact – keep existing borders. * 1926 – League of Nations – Germany allowed to join. * 1928 – Kellogg-Briand Pact – 63 countries keep armies for self-defence.   Social recovery:   * Censorship removed. * Women given rights. * 60% less people homeless. * Bauhaus architecture. * Modern Art   End of Golden Years:   * WSC in America – 1929. * America call in loans. * Germany fall into depression. * Unemployment reaches 6 million. | | **Nazi Rise to power**  Early Years 1919-23:   * Small local party * Hitler joins and produced 25 point programme in 1920, setting out beliefs. * Hitler rebrands party – swastika. * SA used to intimidate opponents.   Munich Putsch 1923:   * Attempt to takeover failed. * Hitler put on trial for treason. * Went to prison for 9 months. * Treated well and allowed guests. * Wrote his book – Mein Kampf.   Between 1925-29 the Nazis were not popular – government was doing well.  Reasons for growing support:   * 1929 – Depression. * Propaganda – Goebbels. * SA intimidation. * Financial support from industrialists. * Hitler’s speeches.   Hitler becomes Chancellor:   * Nazis were biggest party but Hindenburg hated Hitler. * Agreed to make him Chancellor with Von Papen as vice – both believed could control Hitler. | | **Consolidation of power**  Reichstag Fire – 27th Feb 1933:   * Blamed on a Communist – Van der Lubbe. * Hitler used it to persuade Hindenburg to pass a law to imprison opponents. * This was important as there was an election a week later.   Enabling Act – 23rd March 1933:   * Gave Hitler full power for four years. * Passed through intimidation and not allowing communists to vote in parliament. * Hitler used this to ban trade unions and other political parties.   Night of Long Knives – 30th June 1934   * Hitler’s purge of opponents. * 400 people killed, including SA leader Ernst Rohm. * Hitler feared the SA were loyal to Rohm instead of him. * This secured support of the German army.   Death of Hindenburg – August 1934   * Hitler merges the role of Chancellor and President. * Approved through a referendum – 90% of people voted in favour. |
| **Nazi Policies**  Economic:   * National service – RAD for 18-25 year olds, building motorways * Invisible unemployment – not counting certain groups – women, Jews, communists. * Rearmament – ignored T of V and built army up to 1.4 million. * Unemployment went from 6 million to 35,000 officially. * Volkswagen scheme – conned people to pay for cars they never received. * Trade unions were replaced with the DAF – under Nazi control/Strength through Joy gave people cheap tickets and holidays.   Women:   * Rights taken away – jobs. * Encouraged to have children – loans, medals, Lebensborn Programme (SS men). * Expected to have at least four children. * Three Ks – Kinder, Kirche, Kuche. * Eventually they needed women back in work – duty year. Helping on a farm for no pay.   Young people:   * Education was controlled – textbooks re-written, teachers replaced. * Lessons like ‘race study’ and ‘eugenics’. * Boys focused on military, girls focused on preparing them to be mothers. * Hitler Youth – controlled free time.   Jews:   * 1933 – Boycott of businesses. * 1935 – Nuremburg Laws – lost citizenship * 1938 – Kristallnacht – violent attacks. * 1939 – Began removing Jews from Germany. | | **Terror and Persuasion**  Terror – led by Himmler:   * Gestapo – Secret State Police. Plain clothes, open letters, tapped phones. Gave impression of always listening. * SS – Wore black, began as Hitler’s bodyguard. Responsible for removing of all opposition within Germany. * SD – Intelligence body. Aimed to discover enemies. Professional and educated. * Concentration camps – all opponents would be sent here. Gestapo sent people, SS would run these.   Control:   * Legal system – all judges were loyal to Hitler, and he could alter sentences.   Propaganda – led by Goebbels:   * Posters – targeting Jews and depicting perfect aryans. * Radio – Nazi controlled. Cheap radios were sold. * Cinema – all scripts approved by Goebbels, 40 minute Nazi advert at start. * Rallies – showed off power of Nazis. Most famous in Nuremburg. * Books – any opposing books were burnt, and writers left.   Censorship:   * Newspapers – all put under Nazi control. * Music – Jazz banned. * Art – Modern art was banned, old fashioned was promoted. * Architecture – Bauhaus was replaced with grander style. | | **Foreign Policy**  Aims:   * Reverse T of V, Unite Germany speakers, Lebensraum – living space, Anschluss – union with Austria, destroy communism.   Rearmament:   * Hitler began to rearm Germany – built army to 1.4 million by 1939. * Introduced conscription in 1935 – no-one stopped him.   Rhineland – 1936   * T of V said Germany wasn’t allowed troops there. * Hitler put troops in, was ready to withdraw. No-one stopped him – became confident.   Anschluss – 1938   * Had attempted this before in 1934, but was scared of Mussolini. * Stirred up trouble, then sent in troops to restored order. 99.75% approved in vote.   Sudetenland and Czechoslovakia:   * Sudetenland was German speaking. Hitler demanded it back. * Met with Britain, Italy and France and agreed to give Hitler Sudetenland in Sept 1938. * March 1939 – Hitler took rest of Czechoslovakia – breaks agreement.   Nazi-Soviet Pact and War   * August 1923 Hitler and Stalin make an agreement to take half of Poland each. This will avoid Hitler fighting on two fronts. * 1st September Hitler invades Poland, causing Britain to declared war. | |