

CHRONOLOGY

1931	September: Japan occupies Manchuria		Fair Employment Practices Committee formed
1933	March: Adolf Hitler seizes power May: Japan quits League of Nations		August: The United States and Great Britain agree to the Atlantic Charter
1935	October: Italy invades Ethiopia		December: Japanese attack Pearl Harbor; United States enters the war
1935–1937	Neutrality Acts authorize the president to block the sale of munitions to belligerent nations		
1937	August: Japan invades China October: Franklin D. Roosevelt calls for international cooperation against aggression		
1938	March: Germany annexes Austria September: Munich Agreement lets Germany annex Sudetenland of Czechoslovakia November: <i>Kristallnacht</i> , Nazis attack Jews and destroy Jewish property		1942 January: War mobilization begins February: Executive order mandates internment of Japanese Americans May–June: Battles of Coral Sea and Midway give the United States naval superiority in the Pacific August: Manhattan Project begins November: United States stages amphibious landing in North Africa; Operation Torch begins
1939	March: Germany annexes remainder of Czechoslovakia August: Germany and the Soviet Union sign nonaggression pact September: Germany invades Poland; World War II begins November: Soviet Union invades Finland		1943 January: Casablanca Conference announces unconditional surrender policy February: Soviet victory over Germans at Stalingrad April–May: Coal miners strike May: German Afrika Korps troops surrender in Tunis July: Allied invasion of Italy Summer: Race riots break out in nearly fifty cities
1940	April–June: Germany's <i>Blitzkrieg</i> sweeps over Western Europe September: Germany, Italy, and Japan—the Axis powers—conclude a military alliance First peacetime military draft in American history November: Roosevelt is elected to an unprecedented third term		1944 June–August: Operation Overlord and liberation of Paris November: Roosevelt elected to fourth term
1941	March: Lend-Lease Act extends aid to Great Britain May: German troops secure the Balkans A. Philip Randolph plans March on Washington movement for July June: Germany invades Soviet Union		1945 February: Yalta Conference renews American-Soviet alliance February–June: United States captures Iwo Jima and Okinawa in Pacific April: Roosevelt dies in office; Harry Truman becomes president May: Germany surrenders July–August: Potsdam Conference August: United States drops atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki; Japan surrenders