

X. New Fashioned War: Total War

Once Hitler consolidated his Power through Domestic Policy, a new Foreign Policy Emerged: Sign Treaties when you aren't ready to fight and break them when you are.

I. Rearmament

26 Jan. 1934 → Polish-German Non-Aggression Pact

8 March 1935 → New Air force (Luftwasse)

15 March 1935 → Drafting of 550K

21 March 1935 → Hitler's Peace Speech

18 June 1935 → Anglo-German Naval Pact (Negated Versailles)

Nov 1937: Britain agrees to let Germany have Austria, Czechoslovakia, and regain Danzig.

II. Hossbach Conference

5 Nov. 1937

Aggression in the East for Lebensraum

Pro: Raeder, Göring

Doubts: Blomberg, Fritsch

Con: Neurath

Results:

Jan 1938

Ribbentrop replaces Neurath

Blomberg replaced by Keitel (formation of OKW)

Fritsch replaced by von Brauchitsch

III. Anschluss

Feb 1938 Kurt von Schuschnigg agrees to Anschluss

9 March 1938 → von Schuschnigg replaced by Artur Seyss-Inquart

12 March 1938 → Nazis march into a triumphant Vienna

IV. Operation Green

30 May 1938 → Germany threatens to retake the Sudetenland (Konrad Henlein)

15 Sept. 1938 → Chamberland refuses. Hitler threatens War.

1 Oct. 1938 → Mussolini's Conference (Czech not invited)

10 Oct. 1938 → Germany Occupies Czechoslovakia

14 March 1939 → Emil Hacha pressured to sign the protectorate

3 April 1939 → Hitler revokes Polish-German Non-Aggression Pact

23 Aug. 1939 → Soviet-German Non-Aggression Pact

V. Total War

1 Sept. 1939 → Germany invades Poland

Total War is a suspension of all the formal rules and conventions of war.

Civilians, public and private buildings, personal and public property.

Blitzkrieg tactics

9 April 1940 → Denmark in one day

10 May 1940 → Churchill replaces Chamberlin

10 May 1940 → Germany invades France through Luxemborg and the Ardennes
creates the Vichy Government (Henri Petain)

9 June 1940 → Germany occupies Norway (Vidkun Quisling)

22 June 1940 → signed armistice with France in the same rail car in which they signed Versailles.

VI. Operation Sea Lion

16 July 1940 → Air and Sea battle with Britain before ground war, under Göring who is quickly sacked.

Beginning of the Emotional war with Britain.

15 Sept. 1940 → Battle of Britain

Meanwhile, Russia has subsumed Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, and Finland as a price for their Neutrality.

VII. Operation Barbarossa

17 Dec. 1940 → Barbarossa planned.

Balkan Problems: Romania, Hungary, Bulgaria contested between Germany and Italy.

28 Oct. 1940 → Italy attacks Greece

16 April 1941 → Germany attacks Yugoslavia (9 days)

22 June 1941 → Germany Invades Soviet Union (6 months later than planned)

Soviet war is Ideological/Racial War. Germans v. Slavs/Nazis v. Bolsheviks. Goal was to destroy the enemy, not capture their territory.

Three Phases:

1. North (von Leeb): Baltic → Leningrad. Not Successful

2. Center (von Bock): Smolensk → Moscow. Partial Success

3. South (von Rundstedt): Ukraine → Crimea. Successful

Nazis face average temperatures of -30F. Coldest winter on record.

VIII. American Intervention

7 Dec. 1941 → Japan Attacks Pearl Harbor. US partially commits to Pacific.

1942 → Fighting in N. Africa. Italy defeated.

Nov. 1942 → Resistance in Stalingrad.

Feb. 1943 → Von Paulus loses the entire 6th Army. Beginning of the End.

10 July 1943 → Patton and Montgomery defeat von Kesselring in Italy

6 June 1944 → D-Day (Operation Overlord). Allies Invade France.

20 July 1944 → Assassination attempt on Hitler. Generals sacked.

Jan. 1945 → Hitler completes the Bunker under the Chancellery in Berlin

March 1945 → Allies reach the Rhineland

13 April 1945 → Roosevelt dies

22 April 1945 → Hitler declares defeat and scorched earth policy. Speer refuses.

30 April 1945 → Hitler commits suicide

IX. OKW v. Field Marshals

OKW: War is a game played on a tabletop. Keitel, Jodl, Göring, Raeder, Dönitz

are all Hitler's Yes-men. They have no respect for soldier's lives because they do not serve on the front lines. Soldiers are tools. Weakness is a sign of betrayal.

Filed Marshals: War is real. All the von's fought on the front lines with their men. Retreat is a tactical option that saves lives, money, resources, and allows you to fight another day.