Why was the USA so important
If the USA was part of the LON no country would dare to invade any other country as there would be no trading and armies will be mobilized. With the USA there could be a powerful peace as the LON would have the backing of the American economy and its army. Sanctions would be affected because of the magnitude of USA’s trade and it’s army was the strongest in the world.

Why did America not join LON?
Wilson’s democratic party had run the USA for 8 years and they had not been the most pleasant. His opponents saw the LON as a way to beat him, and sure enough congress voted against joining in 1920.

In 1920 Wilson was too ill to campaign and his successor also tried to get the USA into the LON. But the Republican opponent wanted the opposite (isolationism) and won by a landslide. Ordinary Americans also didn’t want to join the league. Many German immigrants didn’t like the ToV, reparations and the LON. People didn’t want to send Americans to war. They also thought that they should not safeguard Britain and France as they would be controlling USA. There would also be economic liability, by ensuring that they could solve all the world’s problems without thinking of the cost, business leaders argued that the US had become powerful thanks to being isolationist.
The Americans also disliked the French and the British hence they disliked their colonies and empires. The USA would not agree to expand the French and British empires.

Membership of the LON
France, Britain, Italy and Japan were permanent members of the LON, the latter 2 left it, and the former had the most power.

France and Britain both had other priorities, Britain wanted to re-build trade and it’s empire. France was worried that Germany would invade again. Both were not as powerful as before and nobody could fill the gap that the USA left; they were too weak from the war. USA was needed as they had the money and resources, the military and the political influence to make the LON successful. The permanent members also believed that trade sanctions would have worked only if the USA applied them.

Structure of the LON
Aims
-discourage aggression
Outcomes

● Italy took Addis Ababa
● Mussolini and Hitler signed Rome Berlin axis in November

UNIT 3: Germany and the Rise of Hitler

The Spartacist Uprising

After the November revolution the Social Democrats were the strongest party as its leader, Friedrich Ebert, was the head of government. He ordered improvement in living conditions, ended censorship and allowed free speech. According to the Spartacists none of the changes went far enough, they renamed themselves to the German communist Party and made plans to seize power.

Many Germans were alarmed at the Spartacists, a year earlier the Bolsheviks overthrew the Russian government and made radical changes. They took away land from owners and gave it to peasants, made everything from banks to factories government owned, used a campaign of terror against opponents (killing, torturing political prisoners) and killed the Russian royals. This created fear throughout Europe, including Germany middle and upper class people became fearful of the communists.

On Jan 5 1919 the Spartacists tried to overthrow the government. They occupied public buildings, drilled and fired guns in the street. A day prior to this, Ebert had made a force of 4,000 volunteers who were soldiers. These were the Freikorps and they were disciplined and well armed.

On Jan 10th they took a newspaper building shooting several Spartacists and beat up others. On the next day they captured. On 19 January 1919, some 30 million Germans went to the polls to elect the parliament. The vast majority of the votes went to these three parties: the Social Democratic Party, the Centre Party, and the Democrats. This new parliament met February 6th. Due to the fighting between the Spartacists and the Free Corps, they met in a town South of Berlin called Weimar. The first action was to elect Ebert as President of Germany. The second thing they did was create a constitution for Germany.

other occupied buildings in Berlin and 2 days after that they killed the Spartacist leaders.

The Weimar Republic

How did the constitution of Germany change?
Revolution’ had begun. He held a gun to Kahr’s head, and forced him to tell the audience that he would support Hitler’s revolution. Then General Ludendorff, a very well known war hero entered, who was in on the plot, also declared his support for Hitler’s plans. These promises persuaded the audience that Hitler was for real with this revolution.

- Next day, Kahr went back on his promise to support Hitler. Regardless, Hitler went through with the marching through city with 2,000 Stormtroopers plan. He was hoping to win the public support with this.
- However, as they neared the city on the morning of 9 November, they were greeted by armed police in their way. A gun battle broke out between them, and lead to the death of 16 Nazi’s and hundreds, including Hitler, left injured.
- The Putsch failed and Hitler and Ludendorff were taken to court and charged with High Treason.

**Trial, Prison and Release**

**Trial**

The trial meant that the nazi party got banned and its leaders were arrested. This may have been the end of Hitler’s political career (spoil-sport) but it wasn’t. The trial got Hitler huge publicity. For the 24 days it lasted, it made the front page of every national newspaper. Millions of people could now read what Hitler had to say in his defence and therefore his ideas. His fame had spread to parts of Germany it had never spread before. This lead to growth of the Nazi’s. He was found guilty of high treason and was sentenced to 5 years of fortress detention (place where political prisoners go), but he was eligible for release due to good behaviour. This was a rather easy sentence for high treason, because Hitler got the judge to empathise. He made himself look like a German patriot and took a shit on the “November Criminals”, claiming that any treason against isn’t treason and that they are the real criminals.

**Prison**

Hitler began his sentence on April 1st 1924, Landsberg Fortress, not too far from Munich. He got a cell which looked more like a room. He wore his own clothes, he was also allowed visitors and mail everyday. However, possibly the most important thing Hitler did in prison was write. He spent most his time writing *Mein Kampf* (My Struggle). It was partly his autobiography and part a way to show his ideas. These ideas were about politics, history, future of Germany and, most famously, race. He also spent time thinking about the future of the Nazi Party and how to gain power.
How Christian were the Nazis?
They claim to have beliefs of Positive Christianity, yet they persecuted Christians of all kinds. Prayers in any where run by the Nazi's had prayers with the Fuhrer as their saviour, rather than Christ. It has references to heaven and everything. It was all Nazi propaganda as the whole point of Nazi's was too glorify the Fuhrer alone, which actually conflicted with Christianity. They even say that Christ is nothing and neither is the Pope in some prayers. They basically twisted religion into a Nazi propagating technique.

Women
Women encouraged to have as many children as possible to raise a generation of future Nazis for the army. This was done through marriage loans.

However those deemed ‘unfit’ to have children were sterilized, the groups included: mentally ill, women whose offspring were not strong and those with low resistance.

Bringing women into line
Like every other group in Germany, they were forced to be brought into line in 1933. They were merged into the German women enterprises which trained girls in household and parenting skills. It organised courses and radio programs on household topics. This was not the only way, many female civil servants and docs were sacked, as well as teachers. In 1936 women could not be judges or prosecutors or serve on juries.

Women were suppose to stick to children, church and kitchen. But when the war came in 1939 they were encouraged to support the war. The nazis even started to control how the women dressed, and looked.

People
- Himmler
  - anti-semite
  - in charge of Hitler’s bodyguards and concentration camps
  - played role in ridding Germany of SA
  - minister of the interior, courts, civil service jobs
- Goebbels
  - arranged parades, made party strong in North Germany
  - responsible for Fuhrer myth, made Hitler ‘god’
  - helped gained seats
○ worked in factories to support the war effort

Opposition to Nazi party

- Left wing
  ○ wanted to eliminate facism, empower working class
  ○ like the red orchestra, gave intel to the soviets
  ○ carried out sabotage, strikes and encouraged people to desert from the army

- Conservative
  ○ Kreisau circle, consisting of officers, professionals and aristocrats
  ○ planned to rule Germany after Hitler was overthrown with democratic values

- Youth groups
  ○ thousands of youths started to oppose the Nazis, and joined groups like the Edelweiss Pirates or Navajos
  ○ The most active group was led by Sophie, Hans Scholl, called the White Rose
    ■ Distributed leaflets, put up graffiti and posters.

- Religious
  ○ Martin Neimoller led many protestant pastors to form a confessional church, Neimoller was held in a concentration camp from 1937-45
  ○ Dietrich Bonhoeffer, another protestant pastor was part of the Julybomb plot, he was executed in 1945.
  ○ Cardinal Gallen: he successfully led a campaign against euthanasia in 1941. He was always seen as an outspoken critic of the Third Reich

Persecution of the Jews and ‘Undesirables’

Timeline

1933 - Boycott of Jewish Businesses, like cafes and shops, they urged them not to enter and beat those who tried. Jews sacked from government posts, university professors, and lawyers. During the summer placards saying ‘Jews forbidden’ appeared outside cafes, swimming pools and other public places. Nazi controlled press spread a hate campaign against the Jews and schools sacked Jewish teachers. Actors and musicians were forbidden to perform in public, and over the next 2 years Jews were at the receiving end of organized hate.

1935 - The Nuremberg laws added to the plight of jews, it stripped them of citizenship and took away some of their most basic rights. The next 5 years saw them stripped of all rights.
Control
One of the Nazis main tasks was controlling people’s lives. Doing so would allows them to put their aims into affect more people. They did this mainly through two organizations: the Nazi Party and the police.

Police control
Run by SS. SS was a branch of SA which started as Hitler’s bodyguard and led by Heinrich Himmler. As a reward for getting rid of SA leaders in the Night of the Long Knives, Hitler made them independent from the SA. Two years later Himmler was got control of the entire police network.

Party control
By 1938 there were 5 million Nazi Party members and over half a million officials. They were allowed to supervise every citizen. Of 400,000 Block Leaders there was one on every street and every block of flats in every town and city. The spied on neighbours and reported any suspicious activity to Party bosses to root out political opponents and petty criminals.

Methods of control
Block Leaders were expected to be loyal Nazis, who remind Party members of their duties, report people who spread ‘damaging rumours’, and ensure that all the people became members of the Nazi organizations. Any reported people’s names were passed to the police. The claims were not verified and the police had to follow up every case; anyone was at risk of being denounced so one had to keep everything to themselves. As such, the police and block leaders controlled the people through fear; denounced people were silently arrested in the night, with no faith from their family they would legally be set free or if they did, alive at all. Some cases had people returning starved and crazy.

Rearmament and the Economy
Rearmament
In 1934, a year after the Nazi’s and Hitler got power, Hitler ordered the army to grow from the 100,000 it was limited to in the ToV to 300,000 men. The navy was to rebuild the some submarines and 2 battleships. An air force was created.

As you hopefully know, this was all banned under the ToV. Hitler knew, at least initially, that if the allies found out about this they would get pretty pissed and Hitler would have the risk of them
possible through acts of aggression from his new German military. The Allies largely followed a policy of appeasement, and allowed Hitler to do such things with little to no opposition.

**German Armed Forces limited**

In 1933, Hitler came to power and rearmed secretly, and later left the League of Nations. He did this due to the failure of the Disarmament Conference in 1932-1934, and with the reason that the other countries were not disarming so Germany will rearm. In 1935, conscription was reintroduced after the Treaty of Versailles had banned it. While this was against the terms of the treaty, it helped to curb the unemployment plaguing Germany. In 1939, there was an open military rally celebrating the German armed forces.

The British allowed this rearmament as they felt that the restrictions put on them by the ToV were too harsh, and that this much rearmament would not be enough to defend them from Allied forces should they attack again. They also thought improved German armed forces would be a better buffer against the threat of communism. In 1935, the British signed an agreement with Germany which allowed them to build up their navy to 35% of the French navy. France was furious about this arrangement as they had not been consulted but there was nothing they could do about it.

**Rhineland demilitarized**

Hitler moved troops into the Rhineland in March 1936 even though it was a huge risk - the generals were unsure about his plan which goes against the Locarno Treaty and the ToV and if he was forced to withdraw he would have lost support. The reason he gave for moving troops back into the Rhineland was that the treaty signed by France and the USSR to protect each other from Germany was posing a threat to Germany, and that he should be able to station troops on his own frontier. Even though if he was forced to withdraw he would have lost support, he was met with no opposition. Britain felt it allowable and the LoN were too busy dealing with the Abyssinian Crisis. France, while dissatisfied, did not want to risk a losing war without LoN support so they did not act against it.

**Saarland given to the League of Nations**

In 1935, the League of Nations held a plebiscite (public voting) on whether or not the Saar should return to German ownership. 90% voted in favour of returning the Saar to Germany and this was within the treaty terms and boosted Hitler’s morale. Hitler wanted the land for the coal, but the voting a major success he said that it was what the people wanted.
Hungary and Romania fought against the USSR during WW2.

- Percentages Deal
  - Stalin and Churchill reached the understanding called the percentages deal which basically quantified the influence of the west and USSR on specific countries close to the Soviets.
  - Stalin believed that Churchill was accepting Soviet influence in eastern Europe.

- Strategic Importance of Poland
  - The USSR’s security depended on a friendly polish government.
  - In 1945 Stalin wanted Poland to become part of the USSR, and a communist government to be retained.

- Security
  - USSR had been invaded by Germany in 1914 and 1941 and suffered greatly both times.
  - Stalin wanted a zone of friendly or better still soviet controlled states in eastern Europe to buffer future invasions.

- Soviet expansionism
  - US, UK, France thought that Stalin’s motives were political, the expansion of communism and of the soviet empire throughout western europe.

How was Soviet control carried out, 1945-1949

The Soviet red Army remained in occupation in many of the eastern European countries they had liberated from Axis control during WW2, and they established communist governments that could be controlled from Moscow. A similar pattern for how the Soviets took control was seen in many of the countries which became satellite states:

- Coalitions governments set up where the communists shared power with other parties.
- The communists took over media, civil service, security and defence with Stalin’s support.
- Leaders of opposition arrested or forced to flee.
- Elections fixed to ensure communist victory.
- ‘People’s democracies’ (countries adhering to communism) were set up.

Poland


Romania
Greece
Britain had influence in Greece as was agreed in Yalta, and since 1944 there was a civil war there. Britain was helping the royalist government fight against communist forces. The communists lost heavily to the royalists in the 1946 Greek election but continued to wage a guerilla war against the government and they were helped by neighbouring communist countries. Britain had already given money to the Greek government as well as Turkey’s government (who were also under threat from communist rebels), and had 40,000 troops station in Greece, but by early 1947 Britain told the USA that they could not afford to keep supporting the two governments. The US provided needed financial aid fearing that these two nations would become communist.

The Truman Doctrine
President Truman began a US policy of containment known as the Truman Doctrine in March 1947. This is a drastic change in the foreign policy of the USA, as between the wars and the first two years after the Potsdam conference, the US did little in European affairs, but from now on the US were now going to try to contain communism in Europe. In his speech announcing the US support, Truman said that the world was being split into two camps: the capitalist camp (which he said was the free camp), and the communist camp, and that the US would use it’s military and economic strength to ‘protect’ the Western world from communism.

He did this because:
- The US and Truman especially believed that the USSR intended to spread communism throughout the whole world, firstly in eastern Europe.
- With the possession of the atom bomb and a superior economic strength, Truman wanted to put pressure on the Soviet Union to prevent them from expanding any further.
- Events that happened in Greece.

Because of the Truman Doctrine:
- The royalist government in Greece defeated the communists.
- US-USSR tensions increased.
- USA committed to policy of containment and now more involved in European affairs.
- USA announced Marshall Plan.
- 1947, Cominform set up by Stalin to link communist parties in eastern Europe and worldwide in common action.

The Marshall Plan
15 April- US bombed part of the Cuban airforce
16 April- Second waves of bombs were called off. The rest of the Cuban airforce was able to fight the next day.
La Brigada 2506 landed at Bay of Pigs and encountered 20k force of Cuban military.
19 April- Fighting ended with 100 La Brigada dead and 1.1k imprisoned.
   December- La Brigada prisoners released after $53m worth of food and medicine given to Cuba through ordinary people in the USA.

Results of the Bay of Pigs:
- Humiliation for the USA and Kennedy
- Castro’s position strengthened in Cuba and became an example for the developing world
- Castro became closer to USSR
- USA begin covert ops to remove castro (Operation Mongoose)
- Developing countries saw USA as imperialist
- Kennedy determined to resist growth of communism in the Americas

The Cuban Missile Crisis
At the end of 1961, Castro declared his conversion to communism after the Bay of Pigs pushed him closer to the USSR. By mid-1962, there were Soviet combat units and military advisers in Cuba. Khrushchev saw this as the beginning of the spread of communism into Latin America. Concerned about the missile bases in Turkey and Italy, missile bases were set up in Cuba to restore the balance of power, and after the Bay of Pigs, he could claim to be doing so in defense against any other US invasions.

More military supplies were sent to Cuba throughout 1962. In September 1962, Soviet technicians began to install ballistic missiles in Cuba. Khrushchev could say that the missiles being installed were defensive and not offensive like the US missiles in Turkey. On 14 October, a US U2 spy plane took photos of IRBM (intermediate range ballistic missile) bases in Cuba under construction. The missiles were estimated to be operational by November, and when they were they were able to hit almost all US cities, posing a serious threat to the United States.

Key features of the crisis
From the point of Kennedy seeing the U2 photos to the dismantling of the missiles as per the USSR’s decision lasted thirteen days. Kennedy set up EXCOMM, a committee of twelve
and pursue when they retreat. The whole point of this type of warfare was to destroy the enemy’s morale. Winning in open combat was unlikely, but when the enemy was ambushed, afraid, paranoid, and tired, the odds turn to their favour. Viet Cong General Vo Nguyen Giap recognised this, and saw the US’ predictable patterns. They would use artillery to create a landing zone, then the soldiers would land. Using an intricate series of tunnels, Giap was able to have the soldiers bunker down and ambush right when the soldiers land. Ambushes, grenade booby traps, and snipers decimated American troops, and they were hard to spot. The Viet Cong worked in small numbers with limited weaponry, had no headquarters, and had no uniforms; you couldn’t tell a Viet Cong soldier apart from an innocent villager. After an attack, they would just disappear into villages, their tunnels, or the dense jungle.

However, depending on guerilla tactics means that the Viet Cong forces would never be prepared for an open conflict. If they were to get stuck in an open firefight, they wouldn’t stand a chance. In the battle of la Drang, which was largely an open combat situation, the Viet Cong lost 2000 while the US troops lost 300.

Stay Close to the Enemy
The Viet Cong had inferior firepower and numbers and very importantly, no free air space. The US and South Vietnamese dominated the skies of Indo-China. General Vo Nguyen Giap saw this hole in their strategy and the Viet Cong created a way to counter this advantage. General Westmoreland had previously served in World War 2, and he saw Vietnam like a game of Chess, where there were specific places to strike. This way of thinking worked in World War 2, were this was the case, and he tried to reapply his methods to the Vietnam War. However, the Vietnam War wasn’t like World War 2. The Viet Cong had no headquarters and therefore there were no real places to strike hard at the Viet Cong. Giap also developed a strategy of having the Viet Cong soldiers stay incredibly close to the American and South Vietnamese soldiers. He knew that once their positions were given away, their death was an airstrike away. By staying danger close to the enemies, there was no way that they could call in an airstrike, leaving them open to ambush. Having the option of air support taken away from them helped to reduce their morale as well, leaving them more tired and more open.

Unfortunately for the Viet Cong, being so close to American and South Vietnamese platoons makes them more vulnerable as well. With their inferior firepower and small numbers, being discovered by a larger, better equipped enemy squad would be disastrous. It would also be more difficult to retreat from the battle if they were discovered, being so close to the enemy in the first place, it would take longer to run from the battle.
• The Americans put Diem in power and he made unpopular policies.
• The cost of the war was $20 billion a year.

Viet Cong Strengths and Weaknesses in the Vietnam War

Strengths
• They had supplies from the USSR and China, like tanks, planes, guns and money. The VC was supplied by the Ho Chi Minh trail, no matter what it was always open.
• They had a terror campaign to get people onto their side in the south, but was insignificant compared to the amount of civilians killed by the Americans.
• They had good relations with the local population. The locals gave them food, hid their weapons and soldiers. This was in return for the courtesy shown by the VC who even helped them with farming duties.
• Their guerilla tactics were very effective, their system of tunnels, booby traps, hits and runs, ambushes and small unit fighting proved too much for the Americans. They didn’t have a uniform and therefore US troops could not distinguish a VC from a civilian.
• They were experience in jungle combat and were very motivated to escape from any sort of occupation (coming from being a French cult, then under Japan). They would pay the high price.

Weaknesses
• They could be ruthless. VC threatened or killed anybody who opposed them or cooperated with the enemy. They threatened south Vietnamese tax collectors, teachers and police officers.
• The Tet offensive was a major blow to the VC, they lost over 10,000 fighters.

How did the Vietnam war affect the policy of containment?

Positively
• The attitude towards communism improved in America
  - USA and USSR and USA and China got on much better over the course of the 70’s, the president even visited China.
  - They realized that they shouldn’t enter wars that they couldn’t win.

Negatively
• Even with America’s strong army, they failed to contain communism and therefore the policy failed
• They failed militarily, the Americans couldn’t beat the guerilla tactics of the VC.
Turkey then expelled from the Communist Party entirely. Photos featuring him had him edited out.

**Brezhnev Doctrine**
After Czechoslovakia’s incident, the essentials of Communism were now defined as:
- one-party system
- remain Warsaw Pact member

After the Soviet invasion, the mood of the Czechs changed from optimism to despair. They were once pro-Soviet but now they resented the Czech-Soviet connection. Ideas that could potentially reform Communism were silenced. Gorbachev, twenty years later, questioned the invasion and he himself spread the Prague Spring ideas in 1968.

**Berlin Wall**
In 1961, Berlin became the main focus of the Soviet's attempts to maintain their control in east Europe. After the Hungarian uprising, many saw that it was impossible to fight the communists, and that the only way to escape communism is just to leave. Many left Berlin because politically, they hated the communists. Many left for economic reasons, the standard of living in east Europe fell behind the west, and moving to capitalist states was more appealing. This was amplified in Berlin especially. While living standards in east Berlin were tolerable, just over the border east Berlin shops were filled with goods and the people lived comfortably. The allies did this on purpose, they invested massively into Berlin to draw people to them. East Berliners could watch west Berlin television. In the 50s East Germans could still go freely into West Berlin and on to West Germany, and this was a very tempting option considering the harsh communist regime under hardline leader, Walter Ulbricht in East Germany. By the late 50s thousands were leaving and never returning.

Those leaving were often highly skilled people in the workforce. Losing them meant economic crisis.

**Solidarity (42) - Poland 1980-1989 (anytime it says 42, means Solidarity)**
**What was it?**
- It was a trade Union that was in Poland and started in 1980. Unlike the events in Hungary and Czechoslovakia, this did not actually challenge Soviet rule, they just wanted to improve working conditions
In overall charge of UN’s social and economic work done by UN commissions and agencies. Consists of 27 members of the UN elected by the General Assembly.

The General Assembly
‘Parliament’ of the UN. Consists of all members. Each country has one vote. Decisions made are recommendations only, countries choose whether or not to act on them. Meets regularly once a year and also in special sessions.

The Security Council
Responsible for keeping world peace. Consisted of originally 11 (now 15) members of UN. China, France, the USSR, the US and Britain were elected as the 5 permanent members. The General Assembly elected the 6 (now 10) others. Each member has one vote. Decisions originally needed 7 (now 9) ‘yes’ votes including all five permanent members.

The Trusteeship Council
Supervises progress of certain colonies (‘trust territories’) towards independence. Each member has one vote. Decisions made by majority vote.

The International Court of Justice
ICJ deals with disputes between member countries

Belgians in the Congo (we didn't start the fire it was always burning since the world been turning)

Chaos in the Congo
The Congo was a Belgian colony until 1960. In 1960 Belgium announced that it would grant the Congo its independence. Even though their economy had grown throughout the 50s, they were still a poor country. After drafting a plan, the Congolese government determined they would need 30 more years to prepare for independence. Belgian gave them five months. On 30 June 1960, the newly independent Congolese Republic was formed with Patrice Lumumba as the Prime Minister and Joseph Kasavubu as President. Within one week, Congolese soldiers in the