

World War II

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**Our foreign policy
changed when Pearl
harbor was bombed**

**From isolationism to
involvement**

**Between World War I and
World War II the U.S.
believed we could avoid
getting into a war by
isolating ourselves.**

**Events proved this theory
to be wrong!**

Before Japan bombed

Pearl Harbor the U.S.

began helping Great

Britain more and more.

U.S. was supplying Great Britain and others fighting against Germany with war supplies.

Because of this, we became known as the

Arsenal of Democracy

Arsenal of Democracy (continued)

**Our vast material resources
meant we could produce a
large quantity of goods**

**Our factories were not being
bombed and destroyed like
those in Europe**

**Powers of the President
increase during a war!**

**Just like Lincoln's powers
increased during the Civil
War, F.D.R.'s powers
increased during WW II**

**It is important that the President
has a great deal of authority for
making decisions.**

**During a war decisions need to be
made **quickly** and in **secret**
(not by debating them in
Congress).**

Specific Powers that increased:

**Commander in Chief -
military decisions**

**At the end of WWII the President
was in command of Nuclear
weapons**

Chief Diplomat (Negotiator)

**- treaties and plans with
our allies**

**F.D.R. met with Churchill (G.B.) and
Stalin (U.S.S.R.) at Yalta and
Potsdam to plan military and peace
time strategies.**

**Remember:
U.S.S.R. was our ally
during WW II
We had mutual self
interest -
defeating Hitler**

**F.D.R. died soon after
being re-elected in 1944**

**His Vice-President, Harry
Truman took over for him.**

**Truman faced a tough
decision:**

**drop the atomic bombs or
not?**

Reasons for dropping the bombs:

**1. In the long run it would
save lives**

**Hundreds of thousands of
American soldiers would be
killed.**

**Plus... one bombing
raid on Tokyo killed
more Japanese than
either Atomic bomb**

2. Another reason - we would be sending a clear message to Russia and the rest of the world to watch out. This show of force might have prevented a war between the U.S. and the U.S.S.R. after WWII.

Domestic Issues during WW II

During times of war, people experience restrictions on their freedoms

During the Civil War, Lincoln suspended Habeas Corpus

People can be arrested without the usual Constitutional rights being applied.

**Japanese Americans were
put into internment camps
during WW II**

**Pearl Harbor created a fear of
the Japanese being spies. Thus
they were forced to move to
“camps” to live.**

Election during a war:

**just like Lincoln being
elected during the
Civil War**

**Women gained opportunities
during WW II**

**Women worked in factories
and in jobs they would
normally have been unable to
fill**

**(while the men were
off at war)**

**Women proved they
could do “men’s”
work. They used this
for leverage in opening
occupations to them
later.**

Rationing

**During the war people were
limited in buying certain
products:**

beef, tires, and other goods

Patriotism

Incredible support for the war effort - even from the isolationists.

People bought war bonds and cooperated in the war effort.

**After the war the men
returned home, got married,
and built homes in the
Suburbs.**

**The new roads built allowed
faster travel so they did not
have to live right in the city.**

**The
End**

