

GREAT DEPRESSION

Great Depression: US

- The Great Depression was a severe worldwide economic depression during the decade before World War II.
- In most countries, including the U.S. it started 1929 and lasted until the late 1930s.
- It was the longest, most widespread, and deepest depression of the 20th century.
- Why didn't we see it coming?
 - 1. The booming economy of the 1920s led to overconfidence –Americans thought the good times would last forever
 - 2. Americans bought goods on credit and went into debt.
 - 3. The Stock Market climbed higher, and more people invested in the market (bull market)
- Early Years 1928-1932
 - The stock market went up
 - Consumption went up
 - Gross National Product went up
 - All economic indicators showed increased prosperity (False Prosperity)
 - Republicans had been in the White House for eight years and they took credit for the economic growth.
 - Herbert Hoover (R) easily won election in 1928.
 - Promised continued prosperity “A Chicken in Every Pot”
- The Great Crash of Wall Street, 1929
 - In September 1929 stock prices began to fall rapidly
 - Investors started to sell shares—which led to more decline in the market
 - October 29: Black Tuesday—the bottom fell out of the market. Over 6 million shares were sold, and entire fortunes were lost.
- Major causes of the depression
 - Overproduction and of agricultural crops and consumer goods; farmers were in debt

- Wealth was not evenly divided among Americans
- Lack of diversification in the economy – built on construction and auto industry, Americans were buying on credit
- Declining exports---U.S. trade suffered when Congress passed the Hawley-Smoot Tariff which, reduced international trade
- Weak International economy: WWI debt cycles led to global economic depression.
- Monetary Policy of the Federal Reserve –raised interest rates instead of lowering them
 - WARNING SIGN 1: FARMERS WERE IN TROUBLE
 - WARNING SIGN 2: WEALTH WAS NOT EVENLY DISTRIBUTED
 - WARNING SIGN 3: AMERICANS WERE BUYING ON CREDIT
 - WARNING SIGN 4: SEVERAL MAJOR INDUSTRIES WERE AT RISK
 - WARNING SIGN 5: A WEAK INTERNATIONAL ECONOMY AND TRADE PROBLEMS
- What happened after the market crashed?
 - Americans panicked and took money out of banks
 - Banking system collapsed
 - Money supply dropped
 - Salaries and prices were cut
 - Americans lost their jobs
 - Federal Reserve (government) was slow to act to solve the problem
 - Unemployment rose to 25% and higher
 - Farm income dropped by ½
 - Gross National Product –industrial output fell drastically
 - The entire economy collapsed, and the Great Depression set in and lasted for a decade
- How did the Great Depression impact the American People?
 - Had to seek unemployment and relief benefits from the government
 - Breadlines and soup lines formed. There was hunger in America
 - One third of farmers lost their land

- Unemployment reached 25%
- Mass migrations: Americans moved from place to place (migrated)
- Number of homeless increased: Shanty towns called Hoovervilles sprung up
- Birth rates plummeted to the lowest in American history.
- MINORITIES SUFFERED HARDSHIPS—THEY WERE THE LAST HIRED AND FIRST FIRED
 - Scottsboro boys
- Dust Bowl
 - Droughts and the plowing of plains grasses caused an environmental disaster—”Dirty Thirties”
 - Massive dust storms swept across the Great Plains
 - Led to a mass migration of Americans from the Plains to other regions of the US
- Hoover’s Response to the Depression
 - 1. At first Hoover was hesitant to interfere with what many thought was a natural business cycle that would work itself out in time.
 - 2. As the situation grew worse, Hoover turned to volunteerism and localism.
 - 3. Hoover established the Reconstruction Finance (RFC) to stimulate the economy.
 - As the Depression grew worse, Hoover set up the RFC and provided over a billion dollars in loans to businesses, railroads, and banks to stimulate the economy.
 - Hoover hoped this money would provide jobs and “trickle down” to workers.
 - All these efforts to end the Great Depression failed.
 - Volunteerism- Hoover asked business owners to stop layoffs and pay cuts. He also cut taxes and asked the wealthy to give more money to charities. Volunteerism failed to end the crisis.
 - Localism- Hoover's policy during the Great Depression where he relied on local and state governments to help Americans in need. He believed problems could best be solved at the local level.
- FDR
 - In the 1932 presidential election, FDR was perceived as a man of action.

- Hoover was viewed as a “do-nothing president.”
- Results: a landslide for Democrats and a mandate to use the government as an agency for human welfare.
- In his inaugural address, he said “*The only thing we have to fear is fear itself....*”
- FDR’S BANK HOLIDAY
 - Congress passed the *Emergency Banking Act*, which authorized the government to inspect the financial health of all banks.
 - temporarily closed banks for four days for inspection
 - Many of its key provisions have endured to this day
- GLASS-STEAGALL ACT (GSA)
 - The Glass-Steagall Act was passed in 1933 and separated investment and commercial banking activities
- The New Deal
 - Purposes
 - **Relief**- to provide jobs for the unemployed and to protect farmers from foreclosure
 - **Recovery**- to get the economy back into high gear, “priming the pump”
 - **Reform**- To regulate banks, to abolish child labor, and to conserve farmlands
 - Overall objective: to save capitalism
- First New Deal 1933-34
 - Emphasis: reform
 - Political Position: conservative
 - Primary aim: economic recovery
 - Philosophy: economic nationalism and economic scarcity (i.e., raise prices by creating the illusion of scarcity)
 - Objectives: higher prices for agriculture and business
 - Beneficiaries: big business and agricultural business
 - **CCC**- Civilian Conservation Corps- put young men, ages 18-25, to work in environmental type job
 - **NIRA**- National Industrial Recovery Act –encouraged fair business practices, such as a fair wage, price controls, and working conditions

- **AAA**- Agricultural Adjustment Administration- paid farmers not to plant part of their fields and not to breed their animals AND to destroy the crops planted on certain fields that year; criticized by many
 - **TVA**- Tennessee Valley Authority- created jobs and cheap electricity by damming rivers to create hydroelectric power; also created many tourism job
- Second New Deal (1934-1941)
 - Emphasis: reform
 - Political Position: liberal
 - Primary aim: permanent reform
 - Philosophy: international economic cooperation and economic abundance
 - Objectives: increased purchasing power and social security for public
 - Beneficiaries: small farmers and labor
 - **Social Security Act**
 - Purpose: reform
 - Gave money to states for aid to dependent children, established unemployment insurance through payroll deduction, set up old-age pensions for retirees.
 - **Conservative Opposition To the New Deal**
 - Conservative opponents said the New Deal went too far:
 - It was socialism (killed individualism)
 - It added to the national debt (\$35 billion)
 - Steps FDR took to protect New Deal accomplishments (both failed):
 - Court-Packing Plan (proposed increasing Supreme Court from 9 to 15 members, caused in revolt in Dem. Party)
 - Democracy
 - The New Deal maintained a democratic system of government and society in a world threatened by totalitarianism.
- Opposition
 - Opposition from the New Deal came from both sides.
 - Some critics argue that FDR's policies destroyed the American belief in freedom;

others argued they did not go far enough to tackle the problems.

- The opposition took two forms: those who believed that the New Deal interfered too much with the American 'way of life' and those who felt it did not go far enough.
- Many Americans believed that it was not the business of the government to create jobs,
- Some critics of the New Deal argued that the measures undermined the values of American freedom, while others accused FDR of moving the US towards socialism
- Many Republicans thought it was not the government's role to deal with wages
- The most well-known group on the right of the political spectrum that challenged the New Deal was the Liberty League
 - were concerned that the legislation reduced individual liberty
 - Since the New Deal had achieved its original aim of saving capitalism, it was time to once again encourage private property and enterprise unregulated by law.
- Father Charles Coughlin, a priest (Left)
 - He was convinced that the banking reforms did not go far enough and that the New Deal had failed to provide social justice
- The most serious individual challenge to Roosevelt came from Huey Long
 - produced a radical plan, known as the 'Share our Wealth.'
 - Through this national scheme, he planned to confiscate individual wealth over \$3m and limit income to a maximum of \$1m
 - He proposed to use the proceeds to allow everyone to buy a home, car and radio. .
 - assassinated in 1935
- Upton Sinclair proposed that the unemployed should work in state-run co-ops and be paid in a currency that could only be spent in the other co-ops.
- The greatest challenge to the New Deal came from the Supreme Court.
 - More importantly, it found the National Industrial Recovery Act to be unconstitutional
 - The Supreme Court's ruling suggested that the government had no powers to oversee nationwide economic affairs, undermining much of the New Deal legislation.

- FDR attempted to tackle the problem by reforming the court, increasing the numbers of judges from nine to fifteen.
- Minorities and Women
 - 1920's Southern Blacks economic stagnation
 - ½ of all blacks lived in the South
 - Compromised many low wage high labor jobs
 - Still reeling from impacts of Slavery and Jim Crow
 - Effects On african americans
 - Lost farms as cotton prices and other crops dropped
 - Blacks would be fired from low pay jobs to open the job for white men
 - Black women would lose domestic servant jobs to white women
 - 1932 General Population: 25% unemployment African American: 75%
 - 40% of Black workers lost their jobs
 - New deal effects on african americans
 - They did benefit from Federal aid programs
 - One-fifth of all Americans receiving federal relief during the Great Depression were black, most in the rural South
 - Public Works Administration & Works Progress Administrations
 - A stipulation in these programs was to hire minorities
 - Blacks made ¼ of residents in Federal Housing Project
 - Yet farm workers and domestic workers—the two main places you found black women— had no pension or safety net due to their exclusion from the 1935 Social Security Act.
 - Rather than fire domestic help, private employers could simply pay them less without legal repercussions.
 - All federal relief programs were administered locally, meaning discrimination was rife
 - AAA- Denied support to tenant farms because they did not own land
 - Federal programs at the local level would deny relief for blacks
 - Racist managers at the local level made this choice and would not

be caught

- Intimidations and lynching increased during the Great Depression
- The Black Cabinet
 - Despite these obstacles, Roosevelt's "Black Cabinet," led by Mary McLeod Bethune, ensured nearly every New Deal agency had a black advisor.
 - Black Cabinet- Group of African American leaders under Roosevelt.
 - Advised President on race issues and getting New Deal support to Blacks
 - Pushed by Eleanor Roosevelt
 - FDR forced nondiscrimination in hiring of Fed jobs
 - The number of African-Americans working in government tripled.
- NAACP
 - Pushed Federal Law outlawing lynching but did not pass
 - White southern Democrats did not allow it to pass
 - South was unsafe for many blacks
- The Great Migration
 - Worsening social and economic inequality in the South forced ½ million to move to northern cities to find work.
 - Factories and business began closing down and unemployment continued.
 - Overall, Blacks suffered more during the Great Depression
- Labor Unions
 - NAACP supported striking white union workers
 - IN Return White Unions began allowing blacks into the unions
 - 500,000 blacks joined labor unions
- 1932 Election
 - For decades prior to the Great Depression, African Americans had traditionally voted for the Republican Party, which was still seen as the party of emancipation from the days of Abraham Lincoln.

- The presidential election of 1932, however, saw a sea-change as African Americans began to switch their political allegiance to the Democratic Party.
 - Hispanic Americans
 - There were roughly 2 million Latinos in the US most in the Southwest
 - Most Latinos worked low wage labor jobs in agriculture or industry
 - Families would follow the crops working in various areas yearly
 - First Fired Last Hired
 - Jobs went to migrant whites
 - Many relocated to cities creating ethnic neighborhoods “Barrios”
 - “The attitude was ‘they’re taking our jobs,’” says historian Natalia Molina.
 - Denied Basic Rights
 - New Deal Program Managers denied giving Latinos benefits and jobs claiming they were not citizens
 - Many were citizens and still were denied rights
 - Some areas Mexican Americans were denied access to school or service at hospitals
 - Seen as unwanted immigrants and competition for jobs (despite many being citizens)
 - Deportations and relocations
 - With an influx of Latinos entering cities in search of jobs like LA, raids would gather up Mexican Americans and deport to Mexico
 - Some 400,000 Mexican-Americans moved out of the United States to Mexico in the 1930s, many against their will due to intimidation and deportation.
 - Thousands of those deported were American-born US citizens
 - Nearly half of all Latinos were forced to relocate during the Great Depression
- Women
 - There was an increased responsibility to fend for themselves and family when men went out to find work

- The view was jobs should go to men
 - Women should remain at home take care of family
- Women made up only 25% of the work force
- Men, unions, and government were not ready to accept working women
 - This bias caused females intense hardship during the Great Depression.
- Working Women
 - It was a catch 22 – women’s industries were typically not affected by the stock market crash, so they were less inclined to lose their job.
 - The problem was, for women entering the work force for the first time, very few jobs were available
 - If a job did come up, it usually went to a man and women were forced to work below their talent level, as we will see.
 - From 1930 to 1940, the number of employed women in the United States rose 24 percent from 10.5 million to 13 million.
 - The main reason for women’s higher employment rates was the fact that the jobs available to women—so called “women’s work”— were in industries that were less impacted by the stock market.
 - But the Great Depression drove women to find work with a renewed sense of urgency as thousands of men who were once family breadwinners lost their jobs.
 - A 22 percent decline in marriage rates between 1929 and 1939 also meant more single women had to support themselves.
 - While jobs available to women paid less, they were less volatile.
 - By 1940, 90 percent of all women’s jobs could be cataloged into 10 categories like nursing, teaching and civil service for white women, while black and Hispanic women were largely constrained to domestic work
 - The rapid expansion of the government under the New Deal increased demand for secretarial roles that women rushed to fill and created other employment opportunities, albeit limited ones, for women.
 - Necessity to work
 - The poorest needed to keep food n the table for family
 - Middle Class- women worked to maintain level of life.

- Standard of living went up in the 1920's families had to work harder to keep that standard
 - They were trying to maintain the consumerism and material comforts of the 1920's
- Working wives also expected to maintain the household
- Eleanor Roosevelt and Frances Perkins
 - Women during the Great Depression had a strong advocate in First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt.
 - She lobbied her husband, President Franklin D. Roosevelt, for more women in office—like Secretary of Labor Frances Perkins, the first woman to ever hold a cabinet position and the driving force behind the Social Security Act.
- Discrimination Against Women
 - For those women who managed to stay employed, meanwhile, the fight for decent compensation got tougher.
 - Over 25 percent of the National Recovery Administration's wage codes set lower wages for women.
 - And jobs created under the Works Progress Administration confined women to fields like sewing and nursing that paid less than roles reserved for men.
 - While women were permitted to join certain unions, they were given limited impact on policy.
 - Ultimately, smaller wages and fewer benefits were the norm for women in the workforce—and this was especially true for women of color.
- Change
 - By 1940, only 15 percent of married women were employed vs. nearly 50 percent of single women.
 - But the stigma around married women taking jobs from men was set aside as America hurtled toward World War II.
 - As men were deployed overseas, women were called to take their places in manufacturing roles on the home front.
 - Icons like Rosie the Riveter celebrated women's newly expanded contributions in the workforce—at least until the war's end.

- What to know for african americans in the great depression
 - 1932 General Population: 25% unemployment African American: 75%
 - 40% of Black workers lost their jobs
 - One-fifth of all Americans receiving federal relief during the Great Depression were black, but there was discrimination because competition was fierce
 - AAA- Denied support to tenant farms because they did not own land
 - Black Cabinet- Group of African American leaders under Roosevelt.
 - Advised President on race issues and getting New Deal support to Blacks
 - The Great Migration
 - The swing from Republican to Democrat
- What to know for women in the great depression
 - For first time female job seekers, it was harder to find work during the Great Depression
 - The main reason for women's higher employment rates was the fact that the jobs available to women—so called “women's work”— were in industries that were less impacted by the stock market
 - Eleanor Roosevelt lobbied for women
 - Ultimately, smaller wages and fewer benefits were the norm for women in the workforce—and this was especially true for women of color.

Great Depression: Latin America

- Latin America relied on the export of raw materials for economic stability
- Relied on foreign trade and investment with USA and Britain
- New-colonialism: where developed countries controlled aspects of other countries as if they were apart of their empire
- Dependence on Foreign Trade
 - Geographical features such as mountains, jungles, and deserts made it difficult to trade
 - Most populations remained remained poor and were not able to buy manufactured goods
 - Latin America struggled to industrialize with large Industrialized nations

- Countries of Latin America simply could not compete with the cheaply produced European and US manufactures and, therefore, made few sustained efforts to industrialize.
- Until the 1930s, most governments obtained the bulk of their revenues from tariffs rather than directed taxes.
- Political Developments
 - From the late nineteenth century, many Latin American countries, notably Argentina, Brazil, Uruguay, Chile and Costa Rica developed some notion of democracy
 - Effective power largely still lay with powerful landowners, and most people were not educated.
- Organized Labor
 - The industrial unrest over 1917-1920 influenced developments during the 1920s.
 - The Russian Revolution and the fall of dictator Porfirio Diaz stimulated militant activity.
 - The extent of industrial unrest often caught governments by surprise.

Great Depression: Brazil

- Brazil in 1920's
 - The 1920s in Brazil saw the final decade of the “Old Republic”
 - The Old Republic covers a period of Brazilian history from 1889 to 1930, during which Brazil was a nominal constitutional democracy.
 - In 1920, the government reintroduced valorization: a scheme first introduced in 1906 whereby the government would buy coffee and hold stocks until the international price rose.
- Political Problems
 - Additionally, the army was the one national institution which combined a growing involvement in politics with the same desire for modernization.
 - It was the junior officers (tenentes) who took direct action and sought modernization and reform.
 - Until the 1920s, the military was generally content to allow the civilian politicians to rule as long as they granted them generous budgets.
- The Coup of 1930
 - At the end of his four-year term, President Luís wanted to hand over power to the governor of São Paulo, Júlio Prestes.
 - Opponents of Prestes formed the Liberal Alliance, nominating Getúlio Vargas as their candidate.
 - In a non-violent election, Prestes won one million of the 1.9 million votes cast.
 - The Liberal Alliances refused to accept the validity of the elections, claiming that Prestes' victory was due to fraud.

- A military-led rebellion resulted in the appointment of Vargas as the new president and the scene was set for a new regime influenced by European Fascism.

WORLD WAR II

World War II: US

- Interwar period
 - US assisted in the development of the League of Nations which later became the UN- though US was not apart of it at the time
- Good Neighbor Policy
 - The US had no intention of being involved in any further conflict after WWI
 - Especially in Europe
 - Good Neighbor Policy was implemented to strengthen relations with Latin American countries to avoid a “Western Conflict,” if war did happen
 - **Inter-American Conference at Montevideo (1933):** Agreement between many countries of the Americas that none would intervene with internal/external affairs of others
 - **The Panama Canal Treaty (1936):** Gave greater independence to Panama, but US gained rights to additional land for the canal for material transportation
 - **Buenos Aires Conference (1936):** Called by FDR to discuss the spread of Fascism in Europe- Led to further agreement that American countries would consult each other if threat of war came to the WEST
 - **THE GOOD NEIGHBOR POLICY WAS SUCCESSFUL**
- Neutrality Acts
 - Fear of the nasty effect of war (based on WWI) left US questioning their position in the 1930s
 - Congress and FDR agreed and instated neutrality acts to keep US out of future wars
 - First act passed in 1935
 - The US population had different views on the neutrality acts (good or bad)
 - Many more acts were passed that prevented loans to countries at war, international shipment of munitions, and lack of overall communication with European countries
 - Exception of banning munitions shipment was “**CASH AND CARRY,**” in which countries would have to pay for them in cash and transport using their own ships

- Quarantine Speech- by FDR, stated that aggressors bringing harm should be removed from the world
- The US slowly dragging themselves into the war
 - After Munich Agreement, US started secretly communicating with France (1938)
 - Start of WWII on Sep. 1, 1939: US renounced its neutrality and through Pan-American conference, set up a security zone on the coasts of Americas
 - FDR still wanted to assist UK and France
 - The Committee to Defend America (CDA)- supported FDRs aspirations to help UK
 - The American First Committee (AFC)- opposed anything that threatened US neutrality
 - Two Ocean Navy Act- Led to US increasing the size of Navy by 70%
 - **ALTHOUGH US WAS NOT AT WAR, THEY WERE TAKING ALL THE PRECAUTIONS**
 - Selective Training Service Act- required all men 21-35 to register in military
 - FDR utilized all of these conditions to run for a third presidential term
 - Lend Lease Agreement- gave FDR power to transfer/lend arms and other goods to countries who defense was necessary for US defense
 - Extended after USSR switched to the Allies after operation Barbarossa
 - By 1941, US and Britain had been secretly meeting to discuss military strategies against Germany
 - The Atlantic Charter- Roosevelt and Churchill met in Newfoundland to discuss aid to Stalin and USSR
- US and Japan
 - In 1924, US banned immigration from Japan
 - Previous US alliances with China put them at odds with Japan when the Japanese invaded.
- How were Minorities Treated
 - African Americans
 - Banned from fighting on the front lines
 - Assigned menial tasks in place of positions in combat
 - Emergency shortage was an exception
 - Many African-Americans wrote/described the great disparities in treatment between themselves and white soldiers
 - Poorer quality gear
 - Received fewer provisions
 - General Disorganization
 - Racial Tensions within different groups in the army
 - Japanese
 - Internment/Labor Camps

- Many Japanese Americans, even citizens, were incarcerated with no real reason

COLD WAR

Cold War: US

- the open yet restricted rivalry that developed after World War II between the United States and the Soviet Union and their respective allies.
- Followed the surrender of Nazi Germany – alliances between Soviet Union and the U.S. unraveled
- The Americans and the British feared the permanent Soviet domination of eastern Europe and the threat of Soviet-influenced communist parties
- After WWII, Churchill wanted free and fair elections which would lead to democratic governments in Central and Eastern Europe
 - Stalin wanted governments who were loyal and friendly to the Soviet Union
- **Yalta Conference**
- **Atom Bomb**
- **Containment**
 - A geopolitical strategic foreign policy pursued by the United States
- Foreign Policy
 - Kennedy's approach to containment was a policy of 'flexible response'
 - The New Look approach relied heavily on the capacity for a devastating assault with nuclear weapons—the strategy of massive retaliation—to fight Soviet military provocations, regardless of whether they involved nuclear weapons or not.
 - The new administration strongly believed that the United States should have a wide variety of military and nonmilitary responses to communist provocations.
 - His Alliance for progress promoted democracy in Latin America
 - Eisenhower's policy focused on the use of nuclear weapons
 - Nixon
 - His key aim was to end the war in Vietnam, and he also wanted the United States to follow a more realistic foreign policy, which would take account of the changing international situation: this was known as realpolitik.
 - His policies in other parts of the world, such as Chile, Bangladesh and Angola, involved covert use of the CIA in giving support to dictators.
 - Nixon's covert operations in Chile, at first in an attempt to prevent, and then in fostering the overthrow of Salvador Allende Gossens

- Allende was a Marxist and Allende had good relations with Castro's Cuba after 1959.
 - The US had already intervened to prevent Allende's victory in the 1964 election
 - When Allende became President, Nixon authorized the CIA to covertly assist in the organization of a military coup. This became known as Project FUBELT.
 - Nixon attempted to distance his administration from the coup, although subsequently offering support to General Pinochet's regime.
 - Carter and Human Rights
 - Jimmy Carter campaigned for the presidency in 1976 on the promise that he would make human rights the basis of US foreign policy.
- Bay of Pigs and Cuban Missile Crisis
- Nuclear Arms Race
 - Why tensions did not reduce in the 1950s and why the Cold War lasted so long
 - The two crises of Berlin 1961 and Cuba 1962 both brought the risk of a nuclear showdown.
 - The growing danger of nuclear war and the Berlin and Cuba crises helped push the US and the USSR into a period of more relaxed tensions; this was known as détente.
 - This was known as 'realpolitik' (remember: politics based on practical rather than moral considerations)
 - The 'high-point' of détente was the Helsinki Agreement of 1973. Three so-called baskets:
 - Basket 1 (Security Basket): recognized that Europe's frontiers were 'inviolable': that is, they could not be altered by force.
 - Basket 2 (Co-operation Basket): called for closer ties and collaboration in economic, scientific, and cultural fields.
 - Basket 3 (Human Rights Basket): All of the signatories agreed to respect human rights
- Second Cold War
 - Reagan's language towards the USSR was aggressive; he called them 'an evil empire' and 'the focus of evil in the modern world'
 - A turning point in East-West relations came in 1985 when Mikhail Gorbachev became President of the USSR.
 - Gorbachev aimed through these policies to make the Soviet system more productive
 - Reagan was also interested in disarmament
- Collapse of Soviet Union

- Bush publicly condemned the coup as “extra-constitutional,” but Gorbachev’s weakened position became obvious to all.
- He resigned his leadership as head of the Communist party shortly thereafter—separating the power of the party from that of the presidency of the Soviet Union.

Cold War: Canda

- Minorities during the great depression
 - world's least hospitable destinations for Jewish refugees during the war
 - Recruiting centers rejected blacks and other minorities who sought to enlist
 - some racial minorities were permitted to enlist in the Armed Forces, Chinese and Japanese men were still banned from serving in the air force and navy
- Women
 - Canada needed women to pitch in and support the war effort from their homes, to work at jobs that were traditionally held by men, and to serve in the military.
 - Canadian women enthusiastically embraced their new roles and responsibilities and helped contribute to the success of Canada's Victory Campaign
 - This level of female participation in the workplace was a first for Canada - thousands of Canadian women proving they had the skills, strength, and ability to do the work that men did.

Cold War: Latin America

- Cuban Missile Crisis
 - Castro made a contract with the Soviets
 - Eisenhower put the Cuban economy under pressure by boycotting Cuban goods and ordered the CIA to begin equipping anti-Castro refuges for future operations
 - In August 1962, a secret Soviet-Cuban treaty was signed permitting the USSR to place missiles in Cuba
 - He did this to gain a base which the US could be threatened by medium-range Soviet missiles and to defend Cuba’s socialist revolution
 - Plans were created for a possible full-scale invasion of Cuba by US forces, but these would only be activated after the dispatch of an ultimatum to the USSR, demanding withdrawal of the missiles
 - The “Quarantine Zone”
 - the US Navy established a quarantine zone 800 miles from Cuba’s coast where Soviet ships would be stopped and searched for any weapons bound for Cuba
 - On October 25, a compromise was suggested: the USSR would withdraw its missiles from Cuba, and in return, the US agreed to not invade Cuba