

Timeline of Events

October 1929 The Great Depression arrives, leading to high unemployment rates and social unrest; over the next few years the Depression spreads worldwide, hitting Germany particularly hard.

September 18, 1931 Japan invades and occupies Manchuria to gain access to its natural resources, beginning Japan's military expansion in the Far East through the next decade.

January 30, 1933 Adolf Hitler becomes Germany's head of government.

March 4, 1933 Franklin D. Roosevelt is inaugurated as the thirty-second president.

1935 Germany introduces a military draft and begins mobilizing its industries to produce military materials, including tanks and war planes.

October 3, 1935 Italy invades Ethiopia and gains control by May 1936.

July 7, 1937 Japan invades China, capturing many of its major cities including its capital, Peking (Beijing).

