

A Worldwide
Depression
Chapter 31

NOTES #1

Postwar Europe

- Late 1920's – European nations were building war torn nations
- Aided by United States
- Nearly every European country was left bankrupt
- Democracy being overthrown
- Unstable government = weak leadership, lacked long-term goals
- People rather have strong authoritarian leader



Germany's New Government

- * Weimar Republic -1919 = new democratic government. Weak traditions, had many political parties, millions blamed gov' (not their wartime leaders) for the country's defeat.
- * Inflation – did not increase taxes during war, to pay for war Germans printed money, after war money lost its value.
- * Cost of living goes up – loaf of bread before the war less than a mark, 1922 more than 160 marks, 200 billion marks in 1923.
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QmZ36uABULY>



German Recovery

- * 1924 Dawes Plan - \$200 million loan from the U.S. banks to strengthen economy.
- * Factories began producing again.
- * Tried to improve relations between France and Germany. Signed treaty Germany would never invade France again.



Financial Collapse

- * Late 1920's U.S. economic prosperity largely sustained the world economy.

- * If the U.S. economy was weakened, the world's economic system could fall. It did!
- * Flawed U.S. Economy- uneven distribution of wealth, overproduction by business and agriculture and Americans were buying less.
- * 60 percent of American families were poor and couldn't afford luxury goods.
- * Farms foreclose
- * Stock market crashes 1929- people paid a smaller percentage of a stock's price as a down payment and borrowed the rest from a stockbroker. Stocks fell, investors had no money to pay off the loan.

BLACK TUESDAY

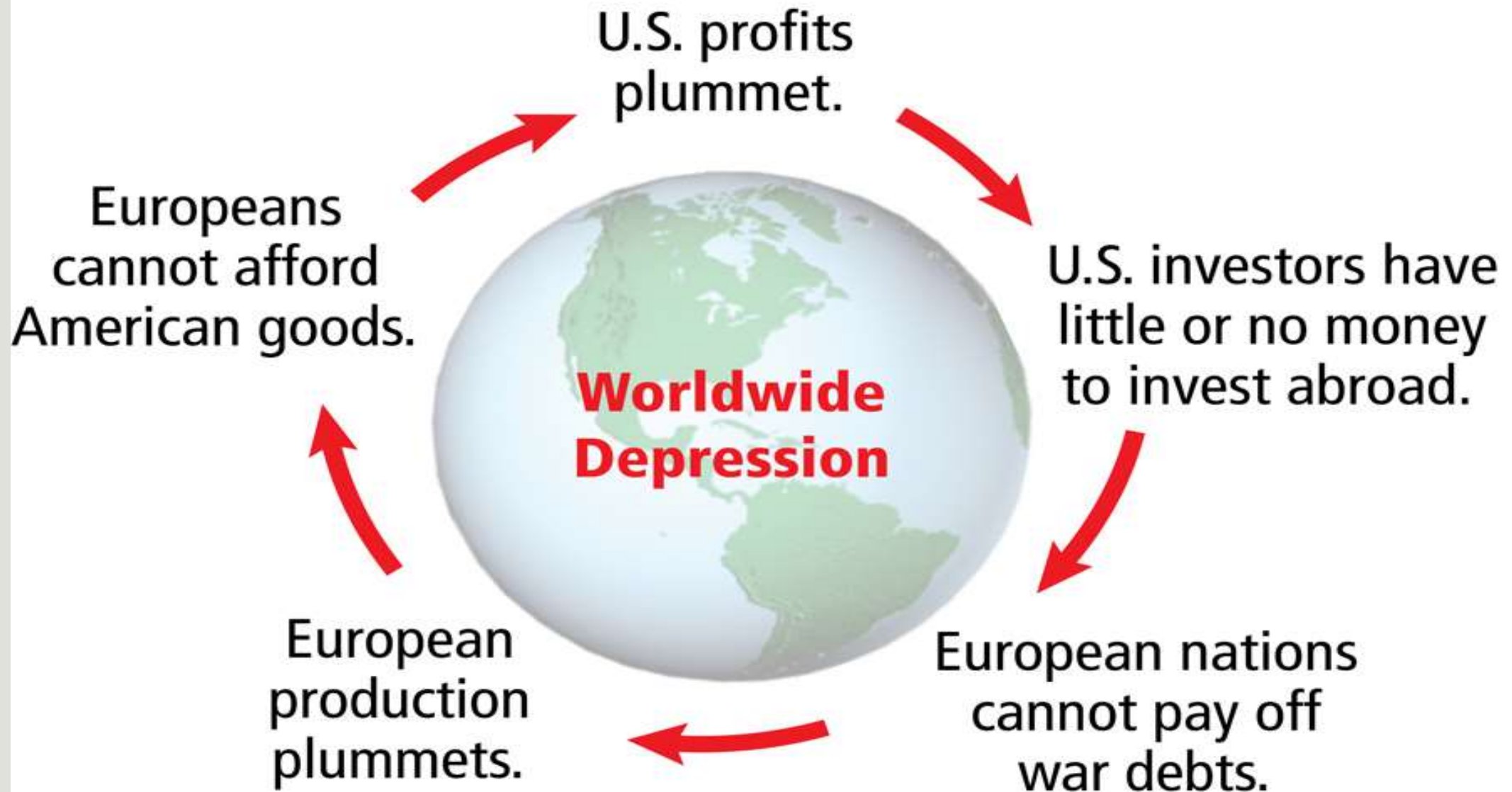
THE STOCK MARKET CRASH OF 1929



Global Depression

- * American market for European goods dropped as U.S. Congress placed high tariffs on imported goods so American dollars would stay in the U.S.
- World trade dropped by 65 percent.
- *Unemployment rates soared.
- Europe takes steps to rebuild finances.
- * United States – recovery with FDR's New Deal. Reform economic system and established him as a leader of democracy in a world threatened by dictators.....





Fascism Rise in Europe

#2



Italy

- * Fascism – pledge loyalty to the state and obedience to its leader
- * No cleared defined theory or program
- * Extreme nationalism
- * Fascists wore uniforms, used special salutes, and held mass rallies
- * Ruled by dictators, and state was supreme.

* Rise in Italy – after loss of territory in 1919

* Rising inflation, unemployment, and social unrest

* Felt their democratic government was no help wanted a leader to take action

* Mussolini – promised to revive economy and rebuild armed forces

* Founded fascist party in 1919

* Took power “legally” 1922

* Mussolini- abolished democracy, jailed opponents, censored radio, and published material.



Germany

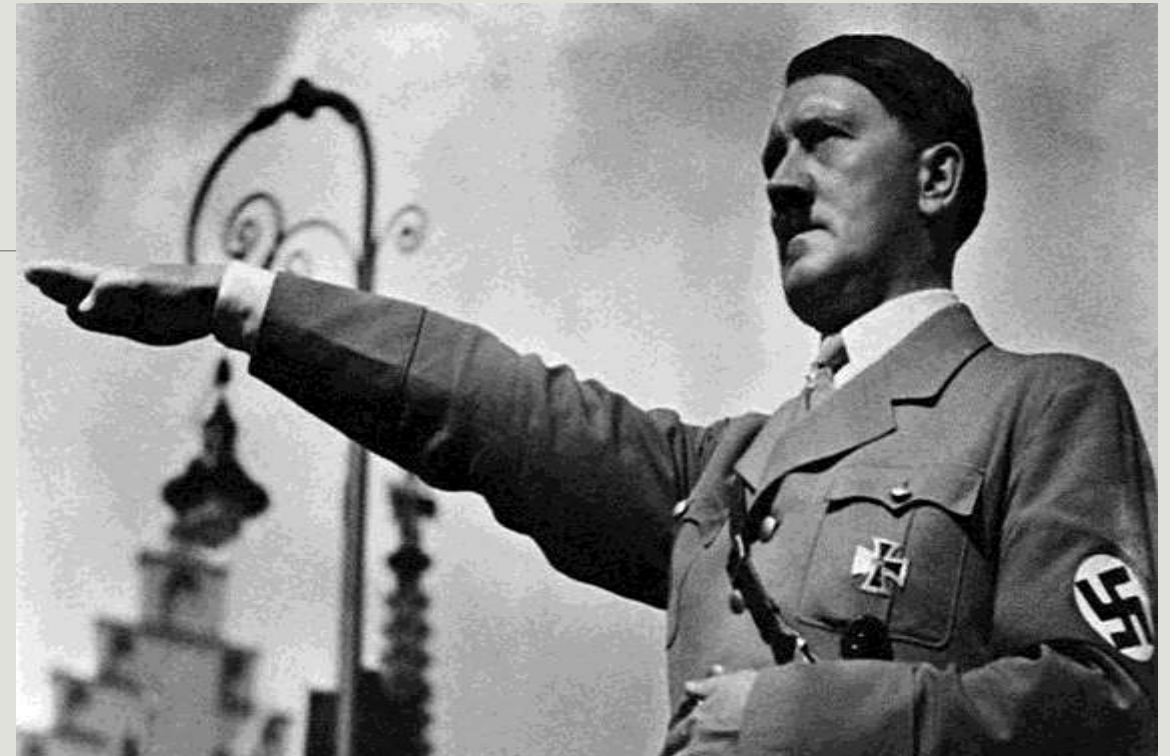
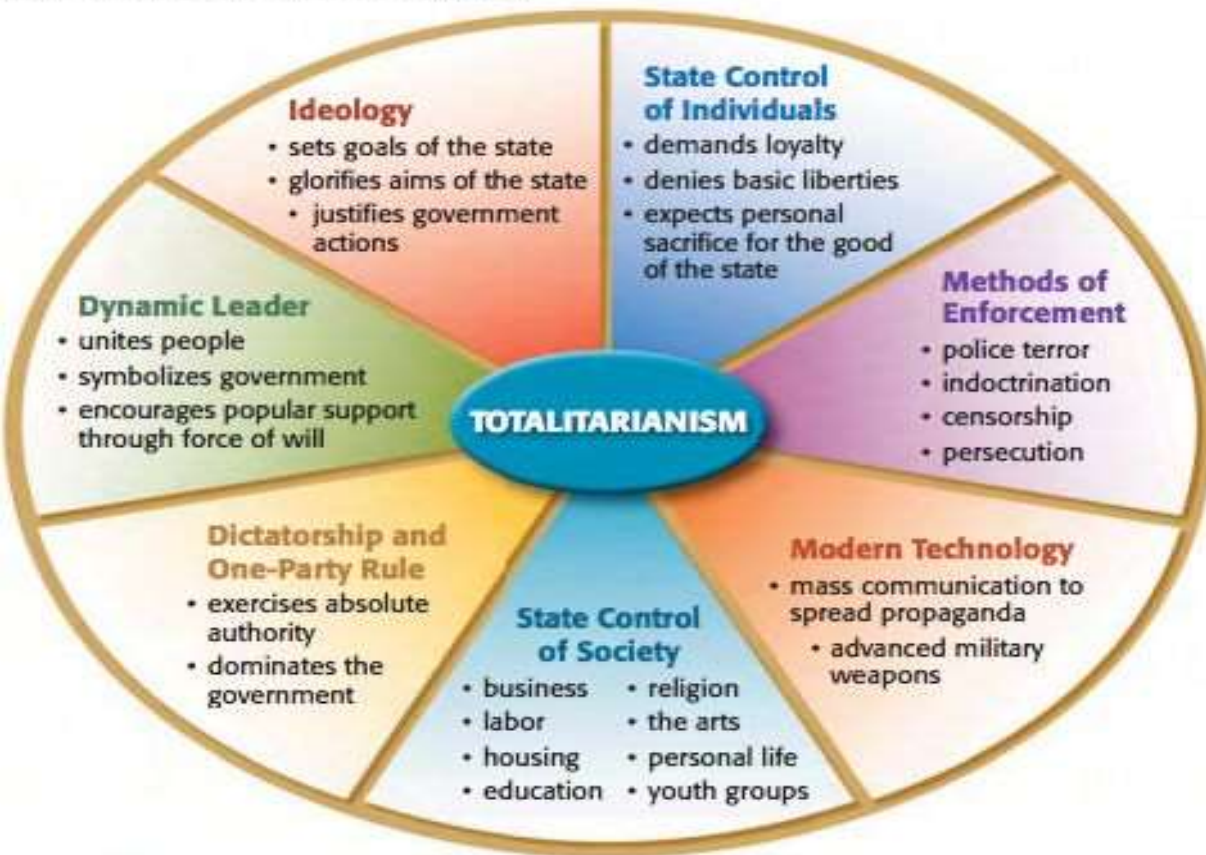
- * Post WWI Hitler joined a group who shared common belief that Germany had to overturn the Treaty of Versailles and combat communism
- * Group later called its self National Socialist German Workers' Party = Nazi for short
- * Adopted the swastika, set up private militia called the storm troopers.
- * Was the chosen der Fuher = or leader
- * Believed the "master race" would help regain Germany's power.
- * Hitler turned Germany into a totalitarian state, banned all other political parties, and had opponents arrested
- * Created the SS arrested and murdered Hitler's enemies.
- * Nazis commanded the economy, dissolved labor unions, and gave the gov' authority over business and economy.
- * Hitler controlled all aspects of life, radio, press, literature, paintings and propaganda.
- * Anti-Semitism

Totalitarianism

Totalitarianism is a form of government in which the national government takes control of all aspects of both public and private life. Thus, totalitarianism seeks to erase the line between government and society. It has an ideology, or set of beliefs, that all citizens are expected to approve. It is often led by a dynamic leader and a single political party.

Mass communication technology helps a totalitarian government spread its aims and support its policies. Also, surveillance technology makes it possible to keep track of the activities of many people. Finally, violence, such as police terror, discourages those who disagree with the goals of the government.

Key Traits of Totalitarianism



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yEk6zGYwyhc>