



8th Grade Social Studies

Lead Up to War

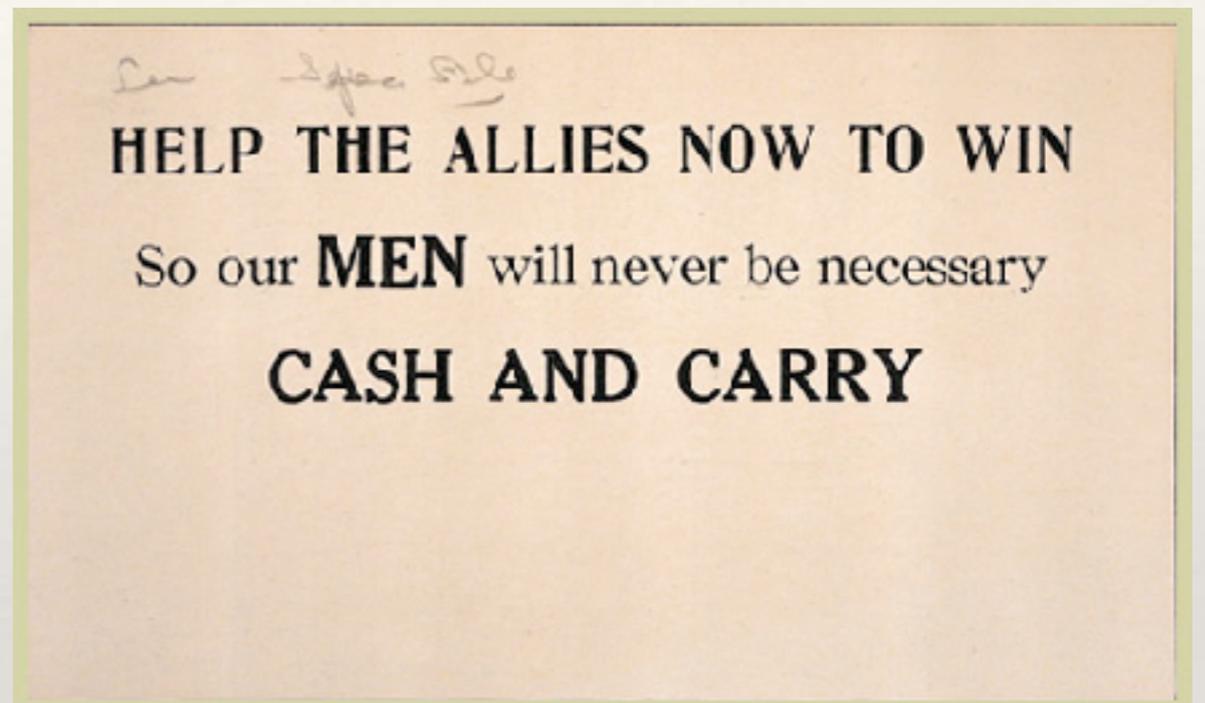
U.S. Neutrality / European
Appeasement

U.S. Neutrality

- ❖ Polls shows Americans don't war
 - ❖ Bitterness left after WWI; Europe ungrateful
 - ❖ How could we be hurt in America?
- ❖ Series of **Neutrality Acts** passed in 1935-1937 showed govt. willingness to side w / the people

Forced to Act

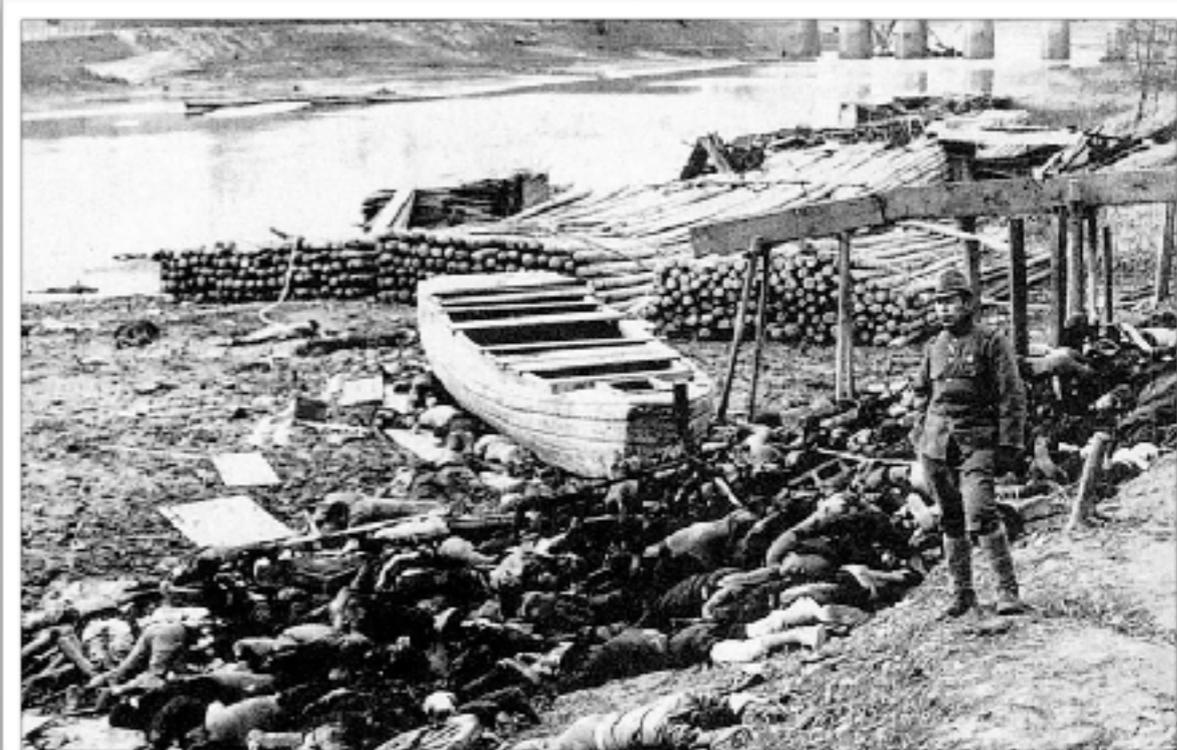
- ❖ England will become single line between US & Germany
- ❖ Neutrality Act of 1937—**cash and carry** (use their ships to transport goods)



War's Beginnings

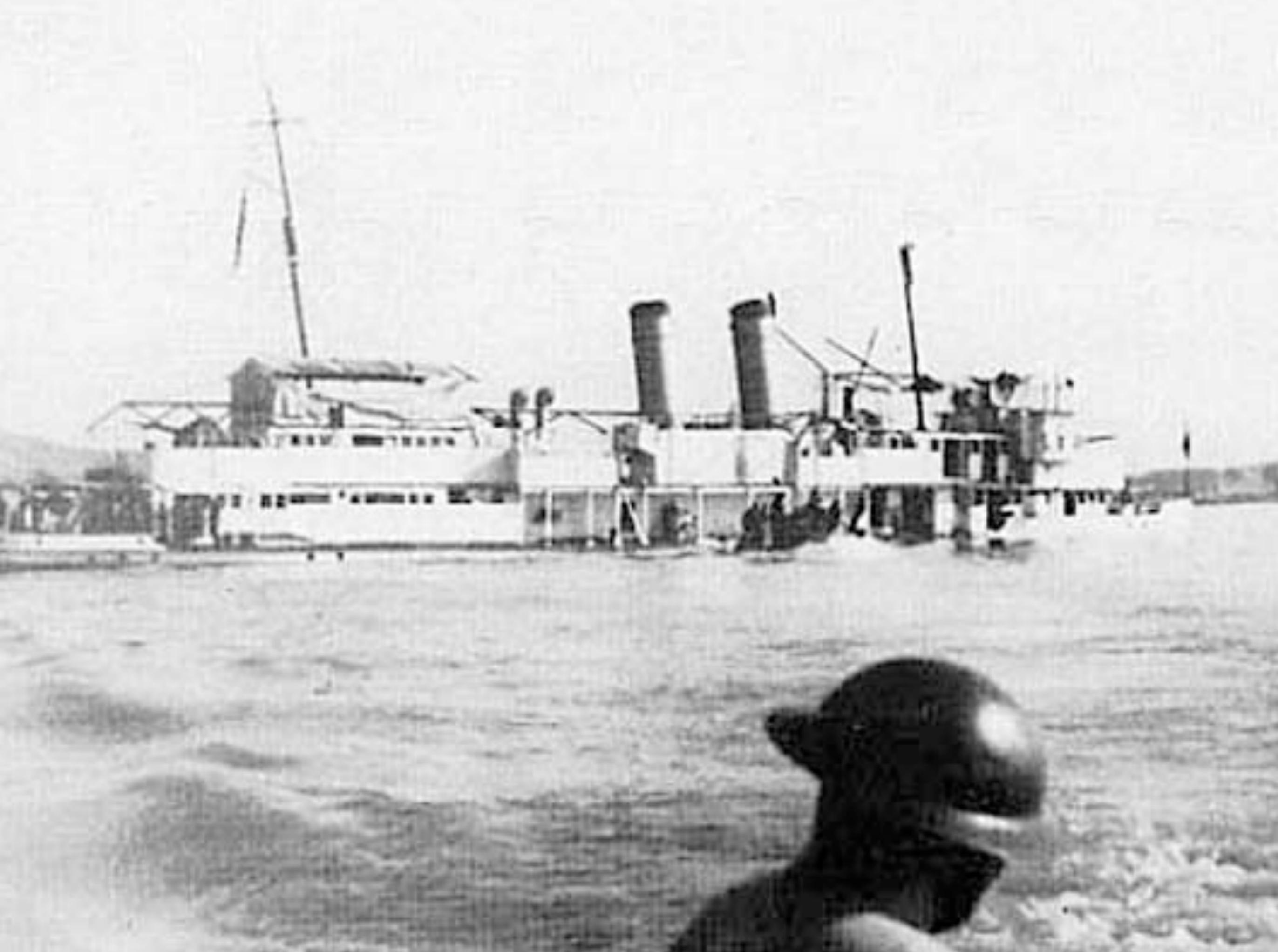
- ❖ Started before Hitler's attack in Sept. 1939
- ❖ Japan attacks China in 1931 and 1937—need resources because of Depression
- ❖ **Rape of Nanking**—conquering of Chinese capital; 300,000 dead (<http://www.historyplace.com/worldhistory/genocide/nanking.htm>)
- ❖ FDR imposes harsher policies against Japan





Roosevelt Desires Tighter Policies

- ❖ Delivers **Quarantine Speech** in Chicago (Oct. 1937), calling for action to stop these actions
- ❖ Hoped America would respond positively; they don't
- ❖ Japanese bomb *U.S.S. Panay* in December 1937; still Americans don't want war



Hitler's Advancements

- ❖ Hitler is emboldened by western inaction
- ❖ Annexes Austria in March 1938; sets eyes on Sudetenland in Czechoslovakia
 - ❖ Has 3.5 million German citizens
- ❖ European powers meet at **Munich Conference** in fall of 1938

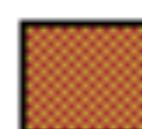


Munich Conference

- ❖ Meeting to settle tensions amongst European nations
- ❖ England, France, and others ceded the Sudetenland to Germany and Ethiopia to Italy
- ❖ Both Hitler and Mussolini promised they wouldn't take any further aggressive acts—**policy of appeasement**
- ❖ P.M. Neville Chamberlain claims “peace in our time”



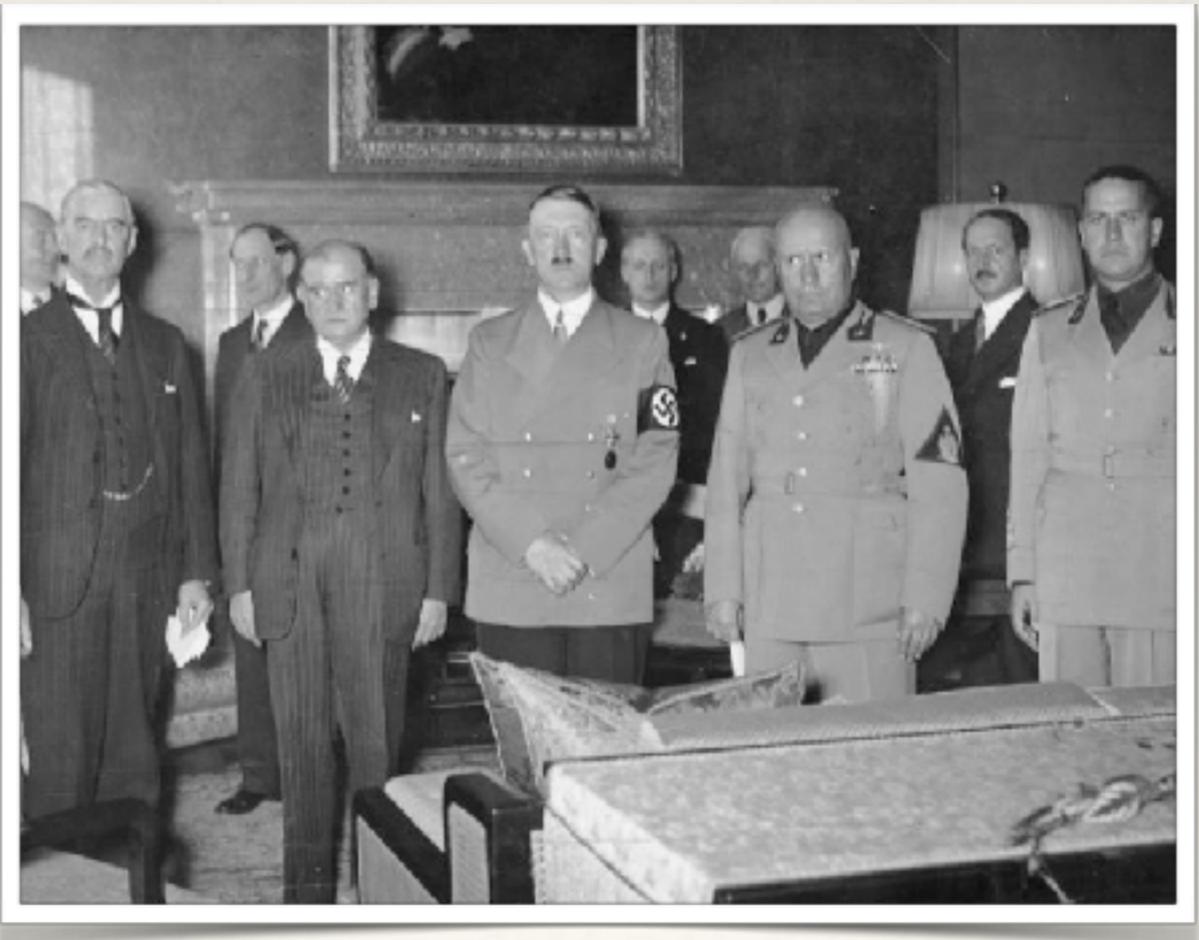
SUDETENLAND: Czech Territory ceded to Germany at Munich, September 30, 1938



Czech Territory Annexed by Poland November 1, 1938



Czech Territory Given to Hungary by Germany and Italy at Vienna, October 2, 1938



Not So Fast...

- ❖ Hitler mocks Europe by conquering the rest of Czechoslovakia in Spring of 1939
- ❖ FDR urges Congress to lift arms embargo previously set in Neutrality Acts—Senate refuses



A Harrowing Agreement

- ❖ Both the Nazis and Soviets hate each other; recognize themselves as threats, so they become allies
- ❖ Sign 10 year **Nonaggression Pact** (Nazi-Soviet Pact) in August 1939
- ❖ If war breaks out, neither country would attack the other



War Begins

- ❖ Once Hitler had the Soviets on his side, he seized territory lost to Poland after WWI
- ❖ War officially begins on **September 1, 1939**
- ❖ France and G.B. declare war against Nazis on Sept. 3

