

Anglo-German Naval Agreement 1935 - let Germany increase navy up to 35% size of Britain's - broke Stresa Front

1939 - Germany army had 1,000,000 soldiers using conscription



90% of Saar population voted to leave League of Nations to return to German rule



Germany left League of Nations in 1933 after other countries refused to disarm

Dollfuss Affair - Austrian Dictator assassinated by Nazis 25th July 1934

1935 Hitler announced German air force

Stresa Front 1935 - Italy, France and Britain agreed to stop Germany from breaking the Treaty of Versailles

The Rhineland

- Demilitarised by **Locarno and Versailles Treaties**
- **7th March 1936** - German troops moved into **Rhineland**
- Hitler claimed Germany was under threat as France and USSR had defensive alliance against German attack
- **League** condemned Germany but didn't intervene - busy with Abyssinian Crisis



Anti-Comintern Pact 1936 - Germany and Japan agreed to oppose communism - Italy joined in 1937, became 'Axis Alliance'

Anschluss

March 1938 - Austria and Germany unified through Anschluss - forbidden by Versailles Treaty - bolstered German army and industry

For

- Wanted to avoid another **war**
- Hitler obstacle to spread of **communism**
- Wanted to focus on rebuilding economies after the **Depression**

Against

- Germany able to strengthen
- **Hitler** may expand his influence
- Hitler increasingly **aggressive** and broke promises



Outbreak of war

- ➔ **15th Mar 1939** - Hitler ordered invasion of **Czechoslovakia** - Britain and France didn't intervene
- ➔ **Appeasement ended** - Britain and France declared that they would declare war on Germany if they invaded **Poland**
- ➔ **23rd Aug 1939** - **Nazi-Soviet Pact** - Stalin and Hitler agreed not to fight each other, to invade **Poland** and to divide it between their two powers
- ➔ **1st Sep 1939** - German troops invaded **Poland**
- ➔ **3rd Sep 1939** - Britain and France declared war on Germany

3. THE ORIGINS AND OUTBREAK OF THE SECOND WORLD WAR

The Sudeten Crisis

- The **Sudetenland** on **Czech border** had 3 million German speaking residents
- **May 1938** - Hitler demanded **Sudetenland** joined Germany, prepared to fight **Czechoslovakia**
- Hitler told **Chamberlain** he only wanted part of **Sudetenland**, but went back on this a few days later
- **Chamberlain** mobilised **British navy** against Hitler, many European cities began digging **air raid shelters**
- **29th Sep 1938** - **Mussolini** organised meeting, **Munich Agreement** gave Germany all of **Sudetenland**



Hitler

- Caused war through **invasions** of **Czechoslovakia** and **Poland**
- Actions too extreme to use excuse of correcting the harsh **Versailles Treaty**



Stalin

- Germany allowed to grow to act as buffer against **communist** threat
- **Nazi-Soviet Pact** caused attack on **Poland** which triggered war



Chamberlain

- Championed policy of **appeasement**
- Too naive
- Mistakenly trusted **Hitler**

