

## Chapter 26: America In A World at War

### Overview

After The United States entered World War II ideologically unified but militarily ill-prepared. A corporate-government partnership solved most of the production and manpower problems, and the massive wartime output brought an end to the Great Depression. Labor troubles, racial friction, and social tensions were not absent, but they were kept to a minimum. Roosevelt and the American generals made the decision that Germany must be defeated first, since it presented a more serious threat than Japan. Gradually American production and American military might turned the tide in the Pacific and on the western front in Europe.

The key to victory in Europe was an invasion of France that would coincide with a Russian offensive on the eastern front. Less than a year after D-Day, the war in Europe was over. In the Pacific, American forces—with some aid from the British and Australians—first stopped the Japanese advance and then went on the offensive. The strategy for victory involved long island-to-island leaps that bypassed and isolated large enemy concentrations and drew progressively closer to the Japanese homeland. Conventional bombing raids pulverized Japanese cities, and American forces were readied for an invasion that the atomic bomb made unnecessary.

### Vocabulary Terms

Gen. Douglas MacArthur	Braceros	Adm. Chester Nimitz
Zoot-Suit Riot	Gen. George C. Marshall	“Rosie the Riveter”
Gen. George S. Patton	USO	Siege of Stalingrad
The Swing Era	The Holocaust	Japanese Internment
Anti-Semitism	Election of 1944	Union Power
Dresden firebombing	Office of Price Administration	Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower
War Production Board	D-Day	Battle of the Bulge
Phillip Randolph	V-E Day	Battle of Okinawa
Fair Employment Practices Commission	Congress of Racial Equality (CORE)	Manhattan

### Focus Questions

Answer these questions on a separate sheet of paper AFTER you have finished reading the chapter. DO NOT simply Google the questions. This will not aid you in your understanding of the text, reading strategies, or long-term comprehension. Include and **highlight** the vocabulary terms.

1. How isolationist was the United States in the 1920s? Was the dual policy of economic penetration and arms limitation an effective approach?
2. Compare and contrast the American reactions to World Wars I and II. Explain the relationship between attitudes toward World War I and the isolationist sentiment and neutrality legislation of the 1930s.
3. How close to full involvement in World War II in Europe and/or Asia was the United States prior to the attack on Pearl Harbor! Was full entry likely?

**Reading Notes**

As you read, write AT LEAST 5 important facts from the section referenced on the left. All vocabulary terms used should be highlighted.

Containing the Japanese	
Holding off the Germans	
America and the Holocaust	

<p>Prosperity</p> <p>The War and the West</p>	
<p>Labor and the War</p> <p>Stabilizing the Boom</p>	
<p>Mobilizing Production</p>	

African Americans  
and the War

Native Americans  
and the War

Mexican-  
American War  
Workers

Women and  
Children at War

<p>Wartime Life and Culture</p>	
<p>The Internment of Japanese Americans</p>	
<p>Chinese Americans and the West</p>	

The Retreat from Reform

The Liberation of France

The Pacific Offensive

The Manhattan Project	
Atomic Warfare	