**I. The New Order in Europe** *(pages 606–607)*

**A.** In 1942, the Nazis controlled Europe from the English Channel in the west to near Moscow in the east. While Germany annexed some areas, most were run by military or civilian officials with help from local citizens who supported them.

**B.** The Nazis were especially ruthless in Eastern Europe. The Nazis saw the Slavic peoples as racially inferior. The Nazis wanted the lands for German settlers. Soon after they conquered Poland, they began to put their plans for an Aryan racial empire into action.

**C. Heinrich Himmler,** the SS leader, was put in charge of German resettlement plans in the east. This meant to move Slavic people out and replace them with Germans. Beginning in western Poland, the Germans moved one million Poles to southern Poland. By 1942, two million ethnic Germans had been moved in to colonize the new German provinces in Poland.

**D.** When the Nazis invaded the Soviet Union, Hitler anticipated turning all the people into slaves and inhabiting the conquered lands with German peasants. Himmler stated that German plans could involve killing 30 million Slavs.

**E.** Due to labor shortages in Germany, the Nazis starting rounding up foreign workers as slave labor. By the summer of 1944, seven million Europeans were laboring in

Germany. Another seven million were forced to work in their own countries.

**F.** Forced labor caused problems for the Germans. Bringing workers to Germany reduced the number of workers left in occupied countries. The Germans’ brutal tactics led more and more people to resist Nazi occupation forces.

**II. The Holocaust** *(pages 607–610)*

**A.** Hitler’s vision divided the world into the Aryan race and those who would destroy it. He was convinced that the Jewish people were the greatest threat to his Aryan Empire. He directed that Jews in Europe be exterminated completely. His plan was called the Final Solution.

**B.** The SS under Himmler was responsible for carrying out the Final Solution. The Final Solution was **genocide,** or the physical extermination, of the Jewish people.

**C. Reinhard Heydrich** was the head of the SS’s Security Service. He was in charge of the Final Solution. He created special forces, called *Einsatzgruppen,* to carry out Nazi plans. When Poland fell, he ordered all Jews rounded up and put in terribly crowded ghettos in a number of cities. The Nazis tried to starve the Jews. Some of the ghettos organized resistance against the Nazis.

**D.** In June 1941, the *Einsatzgruppen* began acting as mobile killing units. They followed the army, rounded up all Jews, and executed them. They buried the victims in mass graves. Perhaps one million Jews were killed in this way. However, the Nazis found that this process was too slow.

**E.** The next step was to build death camps. Beginning in 1942, Jews from countries occupied by or sympathetic to Germany were transported in freight trains like cattle to Poland. Six death camps were built in Poland. The largest was **Auschwitz.** About 30 percent of the arrivals were sent to work in a labor camps. Many of those were starved or worked to death. The rest were exterminated in mass gas chambers.

**F.** By the spring of 1942, the death camps were fully operating. Throughout the war, the Final Solution continued to have top priority. Even as the Nazis were losing the war in 1944, Jews were being shipped from Greece and Hungary to the death camps. The Final Solution had priority over the military for trains.

**G.** Over three million Jews were killed in the death camps. In all, the Germans killed between five and six million Jews. The Holocaust was responsible for the deaths of nearly two out of every three European Jews.

**H.** The Nazis were also responsible for the deaths of at least nine to ten million non- Jewish people. About 40 percent of Europe’s Gypsies were killed, as were Poles, Ukrainians, and Belorussians who lost their lives as slave laborers. The Nazis also probably killed at least three to four million Soviet prisoners of war.

**I.** This mass slaughter of European civilians, particularly European Jews, is called the Holocaust. In a few places, Jews resisted. In some countries, people tried to help Jews to escape from the Nazis. The Danish people were able to protect most of its Jewish citizens.

In many places, **collaborators** (people who assisted the enemy) helped the Nazis find Jews. Though the Allies knew about the death camps, they chose to concentrate on ending the war. They did not learn the full truth until the war was over.

**J.** Young people of all ages were victims of World War II. Jewish children were the first to be put to death in the gas chambers because they could not work. 1.2 million Jewish children died in the Holocaust.

**K.** In Germany, Britain, and Japan, many children were moved from cities that were being bombed. Some who were evacuated never saw their parents again. By 1945 there were 13 million orphaned children in Europe. In Eastern Europe, children suffered terribly. All secondary schools were closed because the Germans did not think Slavic people needed more than a very basic education.

**L.** Children on both sides, particularly at the end of the war, joined the fighting.

Sometimes 14- or 15-year-old children were at the front lines or worked as spies.

**III. The New Order in Asia** *(pages 610–611)*

**A.** Japan hoped to use its newly conquered countries as sources of raw materials, such as tin, oil, and rubber. The possessions would also provide a market for Japanese goods.

**B.** The Japanese used the slogan “Asia for the Asiatics.” They contacted anticolonialist forces and promised them that local governments would be set up under Japanese control. This happened in Burma, the Dutch East Indies, Vietnam, and the Philippines. However, each territory was actually run by the Japanese military. Local people were forced to serve in the military or work on public works projects.

**C.** In Vietnam, the Japanese took rice from the people. A million people starved to death in 1944 and 1945.

**D.** At first, many Southeast Asian nationalists cooperated with the Japanese. Their attitudes changed as the Japanese provoked local people through their arrogance and contempt for local customs. For example, Buddhist pagodas in Burma were used as military latrines.

**E.** Like the Germans, the Japanese had little respect for the lives of people in occupied countries. In Nanjing, China, the Japanese soldiers looted the city and killed and raped its people. The Japanese used labor forces composed of prisoners of war and local peoples. In one case, 12,000 Allied prisoners of war died while constructing the Burma-Thailand railway in 1943.

**F.** Nationalists in occupied countries were conflicted. They did not want the former colonial powers to return, but they did not like the Japanese either. Some, like Ho Chi Minh in French Indochina, turned against the Japanese and worked with the Allies. Others simply did nothing. By the end of the war, few people in occupied Asian countries supported the Japanese.