REVIEW

CALIFORNIA CONTENT STANDARD 11.7.1

America Enters World War II

Specific Objective: Examine the origins of American involvement in the war, with an emphasis on the events that precipitated the attack on Pearl Harbor.

Read the chart to answer questions on the next page.

Year	Events	U.S. and Allied Responses
1930– 1936	Militarists, dictators in control in Japan, Germany, Italy	Isolationism in United States—desire to stay out of European conflicts
1937	• Japan attacks China again.	 United States supports China with supplies and arms (China not formally at war).
1938	Germany takes Austria.	 France and Great Britain try to appease Germany with Munich Pact.
1939	 Germany and USSR sign nonaggression pact. Germany takes Czechoslovakia and Poland; USSR takes part of Poland. 	 United States announces neutrality. U.S. approves cash-and-carry system to provide arms and supplies to allies who used their own ships for transport.
1940	 Germany takes France. Germany attacks Great Britain. Germany, Italy, and Japan join as Axis powers. Germany attacks U.S. and British supply convoys. 	 United States announces it will provide all aid short of war to allies. U.S. begins military draft. U.S. increases defense spending.
1941	 Germany attacks USSR. German submarines continue attacks on U.S. supply ships. Japan increases its attacks in Asia, taking French colonies. United States and Japan enter peace talks about Asia while Japan plans attack on United States. Japan attacks Pearl Harbor. Germany and Italy declare war on United States. 	 United States begins Lend-Lease plan to supply arms and supplies to Great Britain and USSR without immediate payment. U.S. Navy authorized to attack any German submarines on sight—U.S. in undeclared war with Germany U.S. cuts off oil supplies to Japan. U.S. knows Japan will attack, but not when and where; U.S. continues preparing for war with Japan and in Europe. U.S. declares war on Japan. United States formally at war with Germany and Italy; becomes an ally of Great Britain, France, and USSR