

# Some BRIEF WWII FACTS



- world war II was from **1939 TO 1945**
- **IT BEGAN WHEN GERMANY INVADDED POLAND IN SEPTEMBER 1939** TO START CONQUERING ALL OF EUROPE
- Nearly all the world's nations participated and formed two opposing sides: **THE ALLIED NATIONS AND THE AXIS NATIONS**
- Major events included **THE JEWISH HOLOCAUST** and **THE USE OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS**

# BACKGROUND INFO. WWII



- **World War I ended in 1918** and Germany had lost the war
- They were **unable to rebuild** from all the damage they had done
- **The Great Depression started**, affecting the whole world, including Germany
- **Money** lost all of its value



# BACKGROUND INFO. WWII



- THE Germans, angry FOR LOSING THE war, were **LOOKING FOR SOMEONE TO BLAME**
- THE "**STAB IN THE BACK MYTH**," INVENTED BY THE Germans, CLAIMED THEY WERE BETRAYED BY THEIR OWN SOLDIERS DURING THE END OF THE war
- THESE "**BACKSTABBING SOLDIERS**" WERE SAID TO BE EVERY SOLDIER FIGHTING FOR GERMANY THAT WAS NOT OF GERMAN NATIONALITY, PARTICULARLY THE JEWS

# WHAT DO YOU NOTICE?

ILLUSTRATION  
FROM A **1919  
AUSTRIAN  
POSTCARD**  
SHOWING A  
CARICATURED  
JEW STABBING  
THE GERMAN  
ARMY IN THE  
BACK WITH A  
DAGGER.



# Leading UP TO **WWII**

- **ADOLF HITLER**, who was Austrian, took advantage of the weakened and angry Germans and promised he could **HELP THEM GAIN THEIR POWER BACK**
- **HIS main goal** was to take over Europe and to **make THE "BACKSTABBERS" pay** for their "betrayal"



# Leading up to WWII



- **Germany** was eager to be powerful again and believed in **HITLER'S PLAN**, seeing **Jews as an inferior race** of people who needed to be removed
- They followed every step of his plan and **Began the systematic killing of Jews** throughout Europe

# HOLOCAUST IN POLAND

## Read only

"our war aim consists of the physical destruction of the enemy. Accordingly, I have placed my death-head formations in readiness...with orders to send to death mercilessly and without compassion, men, women, and children of Polish derivation and language. Only thus shall we gain the living space which we need. Who, after all, speaks today of the annihilation of the Armenians? ... Poland will be depopulated and resettled with Germans. ... As for the rest, gentlemen, the fate of Russia will be exactly the same..." - ADOLPH HITLER

