

### Interwar Foreign Policy

Theme: America in the World

**Learning Objective 7.B:** Explain the similarities and differences in attitudes about the nation's proper role in the world.

#### Unilateral Foreign Policy

**KC-7.3.II.D:** In the years following World War I, the United States pursued a unilateral foreign policy that used international investment, peace treaties, and select military intervention to promote a vision of international order, even while maintaining U.S. isolationism.

- International Investment
  - \_\_\_\_\_ \$ to GER, pay reparations to GB and FRA to repay loans to US
  - Reciprocal trade agreement under FDR
- Peace Treaties
  - Washington Conference - \_\_\_\_\_ to limit militarization
  - Ineffectiveness of \_\_\_\_\_
    - Permitted defensive wars, no repercussions
- Select Military Intervention
  - No action when Japan invades Manchuria - \_\_\_\_\_
  - Invasion of \_\_\_\_\_ in 1927-32
- Maintaining \_\_\_\_\_
  - \_\_\_\_\_
  - FDR's calls to "\_\_\_\_\_ " aggressors while leading \_\_\_\_\_ movement
    - \_\_\_\_\_ 1940

#### Entry in WWII

**KC-7.3.II.E:** In the 1930s, while many Americans were concerned about the rise of fascism and totalitarianism, most opposed taking military action against the aggression of Nazi Germany and Japan until the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor drew the United States into World War II.

- Rise of fascism and totalitarianism
  - \_\_\_\_\_ in Italy, \_\_\_\_\_ in Germany, \_\_\_\_\_ in Spain, \_\_\_\_\_ in Japan
- Shift in policy - \_\_\_\_\_
  - FDR call to protect "\_\_\_\_\_ "
  - \_\_\_\_\_, Destroyers for Bases, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_

- Opposition to action
  - \_\_\_\_\_ - Lindbergh, Nazi Sympathizers in US
  - Dec. 7, 1941: \_\_\_\_\_ - "Day that will live in infamy"

**Recap**

- US tried to maintain peaceful relations without joining League of Nations
- Unilateral treaties unsuccessful in maintaining peace abroad
- As Fascist leaders became more aggressive, US policy shifted to support democracies and old allies
- December 7, 1941 - US enters into war over Pearl Harbor attack

**Part II**

**Short Answer Questions**

Answer the following in AT LEAST three sentences.

1. Explain the similarities and differences in attitudes about the nation's proper role in the world.

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**Charles A. Lindbergh, "America First" (1941)**

Retrieved from: <http://www.americanvawp.com/reader/24-world-war-ii/charles-a-lindbergh-america-first-1941/>

There are many ... interventionists in America, but there are more people among us of a different type. That is why you and I are assembled here tonight. There is a policy open to this nation that will lead to success—a policy that leaves us free to follow our own way of life, and to develop our own civilization. It is not a new and untried idea. It was advocated by Washington. It was incorporated in the Monroe Doctrine. Under its guidance, the United States became the greatest nation in the world.

It is based upon the belief that the security of a nation lies in the strength and character of its own people. It recommends the maintenance of armed forces sufficient to defend this hemisphere from attack by any combination of foreign powers. It demands faith in an independent American destiny. This is the policy of the America First Committee today. It is a policy not of isolation, but of independence; not of defeat, but of courage. It is a policy that led this nation to success during the most trying years of our history, and it is a policy that will lead us to success again.

We have weakened ourselves for many months, and still worse, we have divided our own people by this dabbling in Europe's wars. While we should have been concentrating on American defense we have been forced to argue over foreign quarrels. We must turn our eyes and our faith back to our own country before it is too late. And when we do this, a different vista opens before us. Practically every difficulty we would face in invading Europe becomes an asset to us in defending America. Our enemy, and not we, would then have the problem of transporting millions of troops across the ocean and landing them on a hostile shore. They, and not we, would have to furnish the convoys to transport guns and trucks and munitions and fuel across three thousand miles of water. Our battleships and submarines would then be fighting close to their home bases. We would then do the bombing from the air and the torpedoing at sea. And if any part of an enemy convoy should ever pass our Navy and our air force, they would still be faced with the guns of our coast artillery and behind them the divisions of our Army.

The United States is better situated from a military standpoint than any other nation in the world. Even in our present condition of unpreparedness no foreign power is in a position to invade us today. If we concentrate on our own defenses and build the strength that this nation should maintain, no foreign army will ever attempt to land on American shores.

War is not inevitable for this country. Such a claim is defeatism in the true sense. No one can make us fight abroad unless we ourselves are willing to do so. No one will attempt to fight us here if we arm ourselves as a great nation should be armed. Over a hundred million people in this nation are opposed to entering the war. If the principles of democracy mean anything at all, that is reason enough for us to stay out. If we are forced into a war against the wishes of an overwhelming majority of our people, we will have proved democracy such a failure at home that there will be little use of fighting for it abroad.

The time has come when those of us who believe in an independent American destiny must band together and organize for strength. We have been led toward war by a minority of our people. This minority has power. It has influence. It has a loud voice. But it does not represent the American people. During the last several years I have traveled over this country from one end to the other. I have talked to many hundreds of men and women, and I have letters from tens of thousands more, who feel the same way as you and I.

Most of these people have no influence or power. Most of them have no means of expressing their convictions, except by their vote which has always been against this war. They are the citizens who have had to work too hard at their daily jobs to organize political meetings. Hitherto, they have relied upon their vote to express their feelings; but now they find that it is hardly remembered except in the oratory of a political campaign. These people—the majority of hardworking American citizens, are with us. They are the true strength of our country. And they are beginning to realize, as you and I, that there are times when we must sacrifice our normal interests in life in order to insure the safety and the welfare of our nation.

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Such a time has come. Such a crisis is here. That is why the America First Committee has been formed—to give voice to the people who have no newspaper, or newsreel, or radio station at their command; to the people who must do the paying, and the fighting, and the dying if this country enters the war.

Whether or not we do enter the war rests upon the shoulders of you in this audience, upon us here on this platform, upon meetings of this kind that are being held by Americans in every section of the United States today. It depends upon the action we take, and the courage we show at this time. If you believe in an independent destiny for America, if you believe that this country should not enter the war in Europe, we ask you to join the America First Committee in its stand. We ask you to share our faith in the ability of this nation to defend itself, to develop its own civilization, and to contribute to the progress of mankind in a more constructive and intelligent way than has yet been found by the warring nations of Europe. We need your support, and we need it now. The time to act is here.

1. **Provide an Attribution for the document:**
2. **Use the document to support the thesis: “ America’s foreign policy in the 1930s was largely isolationist, though it became more active as fascist powers became more aggressive”**
3. **Choose one of the analysis topics from HAPP and provide a 2 sentence analysis of the document.**
4. **Give an A-C-E response on a piece of outside evidence that is relevant to the document and topic of the thesis**

### **The Atlantic Charter (1941)**

Retrieved from: <http://www.americanvawp.com/reader/24-world-war-ii/charles-a-lindbergh-america-first-1941/>

AUGUST 14, 1941

The President of the United States of America and the Prime Minister, Mr. Churchill, representing His Majesty’s Government in the United Kingdom, being met together, deem it right to make known certain common principles in the national policies of their respective countries on which they base their hopes for a better future for the world.

First, their countries seek no aggrandizement, territorial or other;

Second, they desire to see no territorial changes that do not accord with the freely expressed wishes of the peoples concerned;

Third, they respect the right of all peoples to choose the form of government under which they will live; and they wish to see sovereign rights and self-government restored to those who have been forcibly deprived of them;

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Fourth, they will endeavor, with due respect for their existing obligations, to further the enjoyment by all States, great or small, victor or vanquished, of access, on equal terms, to the trade and to the raw materials of the world which are needed for their economic prosperity;

Fifth, they desire to bring about the fullest collaboration between all nations in the economic field with the object of securing, for all, improved labor standards, economic advancement and social security;

Sixth, after the final destruction of the Nazi tyranny, they hope to see established a peace which will afford to all nations the means of dwelling in safety within their own boundaries, and which will afford assurance that all the men in all lands may live out their lives in freedom from fear and want;

Seventh, such a peace should enable all men to traverse the high seas and oceans without hindrance;

Eighth, they believe that all of the nations of the world, for realistic as well as spiritual reasons must come to the abandonment of the use of force. Since no future peace can be maintained if land, sea or air armaments continue to be employed by nations which threaten, or may threaten, aggression outside of their frontiers, they believe, pending the establishment of a wider and permanent system of general security, that the disarmament of such nations is essential. They will likewise aid and encourage all other practicable measure which will lighten for peace-loving peoples the crushing burden of armaments.

Franklin D. Roosevelt

Winston S. Churchill

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