

The Drive for Empire

Standard 10.8.1

Compare the German, Italian, and Japanese drives for empire in the 1930s, including the “Rape of Nanking”, other atrocities in China, and the Hitler Stalin pact of 1939.

The Drive For Empire - Germany

- Reasons why...
 - Wanted to rebuild its army
 - Regain strength

- Motivating factor
 - Nationalism
 - *excessive or fanatical devotion to a nation and its interests, often driven by a belief that it's country is superior to all other countries*

The Drive for Empire - Germany

- Rhineland (1936)
 - Area between France and Germany
 - This was part of the area taken away by the treaty of Versailles

- Austria (1938)
 - *Anschluss* - Annexation, to add on to
 - Hitler had lots of political support here



The Drive for Empire - Germany



- Sudetenland area of Czechoslovakia (1938)
 - Area bordering Germany and Czechoslovakia (1938)
 - Hitler *promised* he would stop here



- Czechoslovakia (1939)
 - Hitler broke his promise

The Drive for Empire - Germany



- Hitler-Stalin Pact (1939)
 - Agreement between Soviet Union and Germany
 - This was a secret agreement to not fight each other
 - Hitler wanted to avoid a two front war while he built up his military

The Drive for Empire - Italy

- Reasons why...
 - Wanted a “New Roman Empire”
 - Needed colonies to create an Empire

- Motivating Factor
 - Nationalism
 - Looked back to their greatness in History - wanted to rebuild the Empire

The Drive for Empire - Italy

- Ethiopia (1935)
 - Claimed as a colony after only 7 months of warfare
- Albania (1939)
 - Response to Hitler's invasion of Czechoslovakia
 - Offered money before invading



The Drive for Empire - Japan

- Reasons why...
 - Needed natural resources, new markets for goods, and room for population growth

- Motivating factor
 - Economics driven by nationalism

The Drive for Empire - Japan

- Manchuria (1931)
 - Area rich in natural resources
- China (1937)
 - Border incident
 - Beginning of full blown war between the two nations



The Drive for Empire - Japan



■ Rape of Nanking

- In a little over 4 months (Dec. 1937-March 1938) Japanese soldiers massacred an estimated 350,000 Chinese Civilians.
- Public beheadings, rapes, and torture