Learning Goals

• Evaluate the international leadership of FDR.

From Isolationism to War

*During the 1920s and 1930s, U.S. policy toward Europe was one of isolationism.*

- Many Americans felt the WWI had not been worth the cost
- Pacifist (Peace) Movement: Believed that war was wrong
### Isolationism

1929
- U.S. signs Kellogg-Briand Pact Outlawing War

1935
- Neutrality Act of 1935 Prohibits Arms Sales to Belligerents (Nations at War)

1936
- Neutrality Act of 1936 Prohibits Loans to Belligerents

1937
- Neutrality Act of 1937 allowed trade of non-military goods to belligerents on a “cash & carry” basis

### U.S. Foreign Policy in the 1920s & 1930s

### U.S. Becomes an “Arsenal for Democracy”

1939
- Congress Repeals Neutrality Acts

1940
- FDR Declares U.S. an Arsenal for Democracy

1941
- Destroyers for Bases Deal

1939
- Jan. 1941 Lend-Lease Act

1941
- August, 1941 U.S. Signs Atlantic Charter

1941
- Dec 7, 1941 Congress Declares War After Pearl Harbor

### Quarantine Speech

- Warned Americans of the growing unrest in the world
- Peaceful nations had to act together to isolate the aggressors
Neutrality Act of 1937
“Cash-and-Carry Act”

- The "cash and carry" policy was a part of the Neutrality Act of 1937. The policy allowed the United States to sell belligerents as long they paid in cash and transported the goods themselves. This act was meant to maintain neutrality with European powers.

Munich Conference (1938)

- The Munich Conference was held in Munich between Germany and other major powers of Europe. The main element of the conference known as "appeasement" allowed Germany annexation of Czechoslovakia’s borders. However, this agreement was a failure because Germany later occupied the rest of Czechoslovakia.

The “Arsenal” Speech

FDR mentioned that "Some of us like to believe that even if Great Britain falls, we are still safe, because of the broad expanse of the Atlantic and of the Pacific." He refuted this saying that modern technology had effectively reduced the distances across those oceans, allowing even for "planes that could fly from the British Isles to New England and back again without refueling."

Marked U.S. approach to involvement in WWII.
Roosevelt’s “Four Freedoms”

Norman Rockwell

- Freedom of Speech
- Freedom from Want
- Freedom from Fear
- Freedom of Worship

Atlantic Charter

- Roosevelt and Churchill announced that their countries sought no territorial gains, freedom of the seas, and an end to war
- Laid foundation for United Nations
Check for Understanding

Which action best illustrates the policy of isolationism followed by the United States before it entered World War II?

A. signing of a collective security pact with Latin American nations
B. passage of neutrality legislation forbidding arms sales to warring nations
C. embargo on the sale of gasoline and steel to Japan
D. President Franklin D. Roosevelt’s exchange of American destroyers for British naval and air bases

Check for Understanding

How did the personal diplomacy conducted by President Franklin D. Roosevelt during World War II affect the Presidency?

A. Subsequent Presidents have refused to use this unsuccessful method.
B. The President’s role in shaping United States foreign policy was strengthened.
C. The President’s war powers as Commander in Chief were sharply reduced.
D. Congress increased its power over the executive branch.

Check for Understanding

The Lend-Lease Act and the Destroyers-for-Bases deal were adopted prior to World War II primarily because these actions would

A. help Allied nations without the United States entering the war
B. stop the spread of communism
C. convince the American people that war was necessary
D. create jobs to end the Great Depression
Check for Understanding

Prior to United States entry into World War II, Congress passed the Cash-and-Carry Act of 1939 and the Lend-Lease Act of 1941. These foreign policy actions showed that the United States

A. gave equal support to both the Allied and Axis Powers
B. attempted to contain the spread of communism
C. maintained a strict policy of isolationism
D. became increasingly drawn into the war in Europe