ADOLF HITLER: BENITO MUSSOLINI: WINSTON CHURCHILL: **EMPEROR HIROHITO: JOSEPH STALIN:** FRANKLIN ROOSEVELT: **USSR / Russia / Soviet Union** Germany **United States of America** Japan Britain Italy

An Austrian, was by far the most powerful and terrifying statesman in German history. By the time he killed himself in his bunker beneath a battered Berlin on April 30, 1945, he had led Germany to the heights of military triumph and the depths of depravity and defeat. He brought the world into the most destructive war of all time and made the word NAZI synonymous with brutality, terror, mass slaughter, and destruction.

The only USA president re-elected three times, used his power to lift the nation back to prosperity following the Depression. He then led the USA to victory in the war, but died weeks before the defeat of Germany. He built up the USA military, cut off supplies to Japan, and sent weapons to the British. He was a strong advocate for democracy and freedom.

He is comparable to Hitler for his ruthless tactics. He reigned USSR for 25 years as a dictator. He transformed a divided, poverty stricken nation into a world superpower. His signing of the non-aggression pact with Hitler's Germany enabled the USSR to swallow the Baltic states and bully Finland. He supplied Hitler with food and war materials when Germany took over Poland. Much to his disbelief, Hitler turned on him in 1941. Stalin's perseverance on the Eastern Front played a major role in the Allies' victory.

He built up one of the most powerful and fanatical militaries in the world before and during WWII. He led Japan into a great conflict with China, whom was nearly defeated. Upset with USA economic sanctions against his nation, retaliated by bombing the USA naval port of Pearl Harbour on December 7, 1941. This brought the USA into the war and eventually Japan's unconditional surrender on September 2, 1945 - about one month after Japan was devastated by the first use of the atomic bomb on Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

He became one of Italy's most respected and loved leaders and then one of its most hated. He was eventually shot and hung by his own people in 1945. He was Europe's first fascist dictator and the movement's model. His goal: to restore the unity of the nation and lead it forward to unparalleled greatness (like the Roman Empire). He ruled Italy for more than 20 years - allying himself with Hitler in 1939 - and led Italy to humiliating defeat in 1943.

He demonstrated heroic leadership in Britain's most desperate times and rallied a nation with his stirring words. He was a sea lord when Britain went to war in 1914, and became Prime Minister in 1940. Virtually alone, Britain faced a NAZI empire that controlled almost all of Europe. As the main architect of the British - American - Soviet alliance, he demonstrated his military and political expertise - despite denouncing USSR for its communist ideals.