**IV. League of Nations Fails**

1. Japan Builds an Empire
* **1920s –**
* Had prime minister and cabinet
* **1930s –**
* Military leaders won control of the country
* **Emperor Hirohito –**

B. Strike One

* **Manchuria – (1931)**
* First direct challenge to League of Nations
* League protested Japan’s action but had no power to punish or stop them
* **1935 –**

C. Strike Two

* Mussolini attacks Ethiopia in 1935 – Attempt to restore Italy to the glory of ancient Rome
* Ethiopia’s army is easily defeated by the more powerful Italians
* Again, the League condemns the attack but does nothing – Mussolini refused to withdraw from the League of Nations

D. Strike Three

* Hitler defies the Treaty of Versailles
* **1935 –**
* Also sent troops to reoccupy the Rhineland – area along the German/French border
* **1938 –**
* **Appeasement –**
* France and Britain wanted to avoid another war at all cost
* **Rome-Berlin Axis (1936) –**
* **Axis Powers –**
* Each land grab by the Axis Powers that went unchecked emboldened them even more

E. Spanish Civil War (1936-1939)

* **Francisco Franco –**
* 500,000 killed
* Hitler & Mussolini send troops, tanks, and airplanes
* Practice grounds for tactics used in WWII
* Franco becomes Fascist dictator of Spain
* League of Nations once again fails to do anything

F. United State’s Policy

* **Isolationism –**
* U.S. does not want to fight in another war

G. German Reich Expands

* **Third Reich -**
* **1000 Year Reich –**
* **1938 –**
* **September 1938 –**

H. Appeasement

* **Munich Conference –**
* Chamberlain agrees to give Germany the Sudetenland if Hitler would stop there
* On his return to Britain Chamberlain declares “I believe it is peace in our time”
* 5 months later Hitler took all of Czechoslovakia