**III. Stalin Builds Totalitarian State**

* **Joseph Stalin –**
* Wants to create a perfect Communist state

1. Police State

* Stalin’s secret police force monitored telephone lines and read mail to find traitors
* **Great Purge –**
* 13 million Russians are killed

B. Propaganda and Censorship

* Stalin’s government controlled all newspapers, radios, and movies
* Did not allow anything published that criticized Stalin’s government
* **Propaganda –**

C. Russian Education

* Government controlled every aspect of education
* People who taught something not approved by Stalin were fired or killed
* Taught the importance of sacrifice and hard work to build a Communist state

D. Religious Persecution

* **Atheism** –
* Taught that religion was mere superstition
* Religious leaders were killed or sent to Siberian labor camps

E. Stalin’s Economy

* **Command Economy –**
* **Five-Year Plan –**
* Goal to help the Soviet Union catch up with Europe’s great powers

F. Daily Life under Stalin

* People became better educated and gained new technologies
* Women also gained new rights under Stalin
* **1950 -**
* Personal liberties were taken away during Stalin’s rule
* People who disagree with the government were usually killed
* By 1935, Stalin had successfully eliminated his opponents
* Stalin used terror to keep absolute power until his death