

**SRIMAAN COACHING CENTRE-TRICHY-UG-TRB-HISTORY**

**GRADUATE TEACHERS / BLOCK RESOURCE TEACHER EDUCATOR (BRTE)**

**UNIT-X-STUDY MATERIAL-TO CONTACT:8072230063.**

**2023-24**

**SRIMAAN**

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## UG-TRB

## HISTORY

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- The post I World War developments culminated in tensions and conflicts that ultimately led to another Global war, denoted as II World War.
- This War, more ghastly than the First started in Europe soon assumed a global character.
- It has been denoted in many names – Hitler's war, a War against Fascism and the last European War, the last to quote John Lukacs.
- There were several factors that contributed for the II World War.
- It was primarily the outcome of the Paris Peace conference and the resultant Treaty of Versailles.
- The Treaty imposed on Germany was unjustifiable and irrational, thus it questioned the pride of the Germans, who in turn burnt with vengeance against the Victors. Germany was not given her colonies and territories.
- Therefore, the Germans defied the provisions of the Treaty and they had been waiting for an opportunity to make revenge on the Victors.
- The imperial rivalries among the colonial powers were another factor that ignited the II World War.
- Majority of the global territories and natural resource were under the control of Great Britain, France, the US and Russia.

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- This unequal distribution eventually created resentment among the budding nations like Germany, Italy and Japan.
- These powers had only meagre colonies and natural resources, which really curtailed their economic development.

Thus, almost all nations of this group realized imperialism as the only panacea for all their issues. Thus every budding imperialist nation had an eye on the territories of Africa and Asia. The best specimens are Japan, Germany and Italy.

- Another factor was the Great Depression of the late 1920s. As stated earlier, the outcome of the depression created strong political and economic consequences, which resulted in the intensification of economic nationalism.
  - This in turn led to high tariffs and currency regulations in an attempt to stabilise home markets, devoid of competition and for one's own products. Depression also led to steady increase in the production of armaments.
  - All these amounted to a new wave of militant nationalism directed towards the conquest of territories of economic importance.
- ❖ These powers, either individually or in groups started military aggressions.
  - ❖ The first victim was Spain, in which both Italy and Germany interfered and supported the Fascists of Spain against the Republican government of Spain.
  - ❖ This incident generated much alarm among the thinking men and it is often denoted as the 'dress rehearsal' of the Second World War.
  - ❖ The success of the Spanish incident was a morale booster to Hitler, who realising the psyche of the majority of the Austrians, marched to conquer Austria.
  - ❖ And he accomplished it in 1938. Then he annexed a part of Czechoslovakia, known as Sudetenland. Instead of defending Hitler, the rulers of Britain and France jointly signed an agreement with Hitler.

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- ❖ This was known as the Munich Pact, signed on 29th and 30<sup>th</sup> September 1938; this Pact acknowledged the right of Hitler in Sudetenland.
- ❖ Violating openly the provisions of the Munich Pact, Germany occupied the entire Czechoslovakia soon and both Britain and France did nothing to check the aggression.
- ❖ As noted earlier, it was in these circumstances Germany attacked Poland.
- ❖ Meanwhile, Britain and France realised their appeasement policy and both of them signed a military agreement for extending support to Poland. Soon, on 23rd August 1939, Germany signed a Five Year Non-Aggression Pact with USSR and as already stated, attacked Poland on 1st September 1939.
- ❖ On 3rd September, Britain and France declared war on Germany and often blamed Hitler starting the War.
- ★ In the attack, the Poles were defeated and Poland was partitioned between Germany and the USSR. Since there were no active battles, the early phase of the War is known as the 'Phoney War.' But after one year, the nature of the War began to change.
- ★ In April 1940, Germany invaded Denmark and Norway and by June, Hitler succeeded in subduing Denmark, Norway, Luxemburg, Holland, Belgium and France.
- ★ The fall of France turned the War in favour of Germany.
- ★ This was soon followed by German attack on Britain.
- ★ The battles were fought in the air, better known as the Battle of Britain and in this war, Britain could make heavy losses to Germany, due to her superior air force.
- ★ Italy, soon entered in the war fray, and her main concern was centred on Africa and the Balkan area. In the skirmishes, Italy hardly succeeded, and Germany came to the rescue of Italy.
- ★ The battles were fought in Europe and Germany succeeded in capturing Northern parts of Africa and the whole of the Balkan area. In this event, Germany was given support by Hungary, Rumania, Slovakia and Bulgaria and they became the allies of Axis Powers.
- ★ Having conquered almost all parts of Europe, Hitler turned his attention to conquer the Soviet Union. In blatant violation of the Non-Aggression pact, Germany attacked the USSR in June 1941.
- ★ The initial victory could not be brought forward and Germany began to face defeats. In the battle of Stalingrad fought between 1941 and 1942, the combined forces of Britain and the USSR inflicted defeat on the Germans.

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- ★ It was in this context that a new block, the British - Soviet - American amity emerged, while Japan joined the Axis Powers. On 7th December 1941, Japan attacked Pearl Harbour, the US naval base and the US army was in the losing side.
- ★ This situation compelled the US to enter formally in the Second World War. The next day witnessed the declaration of war by the US against Japan.
- ★ This made Japan back footed, after gaining victories in Asia, particularly in Hong Kong, Singapore, Java, Burma and Philippines.
- ★ With these developments, the war became a global war. With this, the Allied powers began to taste success. Thus, in 1943, the invasion of Italy by the Allied powers brought about the ousting of Mussolini from power in July 1943.
- ★ Italy surrendered to the Allies on 9th September 1943 and thus began the liberation of the countries like Poland, Rumania, Bulgaria, Hungary and Czechoslovakia. Soon France was recaptured from the Germans and this was followed by the capture of Germany by the end of April 1945 and Hitler ended his life on 7th May of the same year.
- ★ But in Asia, the aggression of Japan continued incessantly and she rejected all the call for truce. This provoked the US and the US dropped atom bombs at Hiroshima on 6<sup>th</sup> August and at Nagasaki on 9th August.
- ★ The dropping of atom bombs made unprecedented havocs to the people of these two cities and it still continues. By the middle of August, Japan surrendered unconditionally.

### **RESULTS OF THE SECOND WORLD WAR**

- ✧ The war had produced far reaching consequences in the history of mankind.
- ✧ The foremost result of the war was the emergence of two conflicting power blocks- the capitalist block under the US and the socialist block under the USSR.
- ✧ This divided the world into two conflicting power zones from which most of the nation's cannot escape.
- ✧ Another result was the end of European dominance over the world.
- ✧ This space was fully and aptly utilised by the US and the USSR.
- ✧ The emergence of Cold war was another effect of the War.

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- ✳ The power blocks began to engage themselves in fearing the other group that resulted in waging war at the time of peace.
- ✳ The liberation of the colonies of the imperial powers was another remarkable outcome of the War.
- ✳ The decolonisation process received a boom after the war. Almost all colonies gained or seized independence by 1950; the most formidable was the liberation of India from the clutches of British colonialism.
- ♣ The formation of the UNO is yet another significant result of the Second World War.
- ♣ In the wake of the failure of the League of Nations and in keeping the promise of materialising international peace and security and safeguarding the world from another global war, the UNO came into existence on 24th October 1945.
- ♣ The growth and development of Third World countries and the formation of Non-Alignment Movement were the other results of the War. Along with the UN, the NAM had and has been playing a vital role in safeguarding humanity from the outbreak of another global war.
- ♣ The concerted efforts to control arms and ammunitions are yet another outcome of the war.
- ♣ The question of disarmament became a topic of heated discussions after the War that eventually resulted in the programme of NPT –Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty.

## **Formation of UNO**

### **UNITED NATIONS ORGANISATION OR THE U N**

- One of outcomes of the Second World War was the formation of the UNO for safeguarding the world from another world war and the preserving peace in the globe.
- The failure of the League of Nations and the outbreak of the War prompted the thinking men of the times for setting up of a more powerful international organisation for global peace and security.
- It was in 1941 that Franklin Roosevelt, the president of the U S and Winston Churchill, the prime minister of England made the first effort and resultant Atlantic Charter was published.

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- This Charter envisaged the setting up of a permanent system of global security against aggression and war. In the following year, an international conference was held in January in Washington.
- This conference attended by 26 nations accepted the Atlantic Charter and issued the Washington Declaration.
- It is in this Declaration that the term 'United Nations' was used for the first time.
- The detailed plan and structure of the body were discussed and prepared at the subsequent conferences held in Moscow, Dumbarton Oaks and Yalta.
- These were followed by the San Francisco Conference. This Conference met in April 1945, completed the task of making final drafting and adopting the Charter of the United Nations.
- It was signed and approved by 51 member nations and the UNO formally came into existence on 24<sup>th</sup> October 1945.
- The Article 1 of the Charter enumerates the basic objectives of the UN. They include:
  - To maintain international peace and security
  - To develop friendly relations among nations of the world
  - To solve economic, social and other problems through international co-operation
  - And 4) To serve as centre for harmonising collective action in order to achieve these common objectives.
- To achieve these objectives, the UN has different organs: The General Assembly, The Security Council, The Secretariat, The International Court of Justice, The Trusteeship Council and The Economic and Social Council. Besides these, the UN has other specialised organs as well.
- **The General Assembly** is composed of all the members of the UN. Each nation has one vote and it is not a legislative body and is entitled to discuss all questions falling within the scope of the UN Charter.
- **The Security Council** is the most powerful organ of the UN. It is designed to provide instructions and leadership to the functions of the UN as a whole.
- It is the powerful body and has been bestowed with real powers. The membership of this organ consists of Five Permanent and Ten Non-permanent members.

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- The Permanent members are China, Russia, the US, France and Britain, who are denoted as 'Big Five'. Both these groups are elected for a period of two years. The Permanent members enjoy veto power that often mal administers this body.
- The Security Council is primarily responsible for the maintenance and preservation of international peace and security. It has the actual power to investigate any disputes or conflicts that may lead to tension or war. It is the apex body that controls the UN.
- **The Secretariat** is in charge of administrative and technical works of the UN.
- It is the office staff and amounts to almost 50,000 employees.
- Its head is the Secretary General elected for a period of five years by the General Assembly on the basis of the recommendations of the Security Council.
- The Secretary General chairs all meetings and he is the spokesperson of the UN. More than an administrator and a technocrat, the Secretary General is a diplomat in the sense that rather than interfering, he intervenes and tries to settle issues.
- **The Trusteeship Council** is the supervisory body to administer territories, whose people have not yet won self-government in its modern sense. Thus, the council works for the governance of these non-self-governing territories and prepare themselves for getting independence.
- **The International Court of Justice** is the judicial organ of the UN and works for settling all legal issues. It has 15 judges elected for nine years by the General Assembly and Security Council jointly. But it has no power to arrest and punish those who violate the norms of the UN.
- **The Economic and Social Council** is the Co-ordinating body of almost all UN activities.
- It is concerned with all non-political activities like health, education, empowerment and other matters of social and economic significance.
- Thus, it manages and appoints various commissions for settling population problems, drug problems, the issues of human right violations and travails of women.
- It is now known as ECOSOC Apart from these agencies, the UN has number of specialised bodies, most of which are under the jurisdiction of the ECOSOC.

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- The most important agencies are the Universal Postal Union (UNUPU), the International Telecommunications Union (UNITU), the International Labour Organisation (ILO), the World Health Organisation (WHO), the Food and Agricultural Organisation (FAO). The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) and the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA)
- The specialised agencies of the UN also include certain financial and economic bodies like the World Bank or the International Bank for Rural Development (IBRD), International Monetary Fund (IMF), and the General Agreement on Tariff and Trade (GATT).
- The activities and functions of the UN are threefold: Peace keeping, decolonisation and socio economic and humanitarian concerns. As an international organisation, the UN has been and continues to be in the forefront of preventing another World War as well as preventing many wars and conflicts. It also stands in the main stream in settling disputes and conflicts, arranging cease fires, negotiations and mediations and deputing peace keeping force to maintain peace and security. It also plays a dominant role in curtailing arms and ammunitions and practicing disarmament.
- In the non-political field, the UN has excelled in many ways. It has been making concerted efforts to accomplish socio economic and humanitarian reforms at their maximum by providing basic amenities to almost all people around the globe.
- With the support of the international community, the UN has been in the forefront of safeguarding and protecting human rights all over the world.
- This doesn't mean that the UN has nothing to achieve.
- The structure itself is a big limitation of the UN. The dominance of the big powers, the question of veto power and the shortage of army personnel have contributing for its minnow performance.
- It has become a 'Talking Body' has raised questions regarding its existence. Moreover, it has
- become a tool in the hands of the US and a non-united organisation.
- But despite these, in the unipolar world of domination, the UN has its own relevance.
- To certain extent it could prevent conflicts among nations ad with its glamour as an agency safeguarding human rights and providing basic amenities to the needy, the UN has an integral part of international politics and relations.

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## Military Alliances

- \* The period of cold war witnessed the formation of military alliances all over the world under the leadership of the two super powers - USA and USSR.
- \* Formed on regional basis- primarily as military alliance or defensive alliances.
- \* Ensure collective security in particular geographical region to effect economic development through economic cooperation
- \* and to establish authority of powerful nation over the smaller states of a particular region.

## NATO, SEATO, BAGHDAD PACT

### North Atlantic Treaty Organization

- One of the early military alliance- defensive organization under the leadership of the USA against Soviet blocks.
- One of the largest alliance in non communist world.
- It was Churchill's "Iron-curtain speech that provided the idea of a military alliance" between the Atlantic states as a bulwark against the Soviet Union
- The credit for its formation is best given to Ernest Bevin, British Foreign Secretary.
- Alarmed about Soviet intension in Germany, Bevin proposed a treaty proposal for unified western Europe.
  - ❖ Accordingly, Britain, France, Belgium, Netherland and Luxemburg met in Brussels to consider new security measures for western Europe.
  - ❖ On March 17 1948 they signed a treaty for economic, social and cultural collaboration and collective self-defense.
  - ❖ The Brussels Pact was not strong enough for the defense of western Europe. Hence, they made an attempt to bring America into the pact. - result was the formation of the NATO.
  - ❖ The North Atlantic Treaty was signed in Washington in April 1949 by 12 countries.

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- ❖ Great Britain, France, Belgium, the Netherlands, Luxemburg, Denmark, Norway, Iceland, Italy, Portugal, Canada, and the United Nations.
  - ❖ Greece and turkey joined this treaty in 1952 and western Germany in 1955.
  - ❖ Spain also became its members in 1982.
  - ❖ It contains 14 provisions. Major provisions are:
    - ❖ 1 mutual financial help to be provided to each other
    - ❖ 2. mutual conflicts to be solved through mutual talks.
    - ❖ 3. an armed attack against one member state or more shall be taken as an attack against all and shall be resisted by all means including the use of armed force.
  - ❖ NATO transacts its business through civil and military agencies.
  - ❖ North Atlantic Council – supreme executive organ of the NATO. - consists of permanent representatives of all the member states.
  - ❖ A NATO army was also created.
  - ❖ NATO was primarily a Military body.
  - ❖ The Secretariat was the permanent civilian bureaucracy of NATO and its headquarters was at Brussels.
  - ❖ The Military committee with its headquarters at Washington was most important section of the NATO.
  - ❖ It was established to counter the perceived military threat from Soviet Union.
  - ❖ The creation of NATO brought an immediate increase in tension which prompted Soviet Union to set up counter military alliance.
- 
- ❖ South-East Asian Treaty Organization (SEATO)
  - ❖ Another military alliance formed on the pattern of NATO to contain communist expansion in South East Asia.
  - ❖ The USA- the initiative for the formation of SEATO especially in the context of the establishment of the communist government in China.

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- ❖ Failure of France in Indo- China to hold against the communist forces and the stalemate on the Korean issue also aroused fear of the growing menace of communism in south east Asia.
- ❖ In order to check the spread of communism in Southeast Asia, the US and Western powers proceeded to establish a regional collective defense system.
- ❖ Earlier initiative – Chian Kai sheik, nationalist leader of China
- ❖ America initiated measures for the establishment of the proposed organization.
- ❖ John Foster Dulles, the US Secretary of state, played a significant role in the formation of SEATO. - brainchild.
- ❖ It was formed on 8 September 1954 at the conference held at Manila, attended by the representatives of USA, France, Britain, Australia, New eland, Philippines, Thailand and Pakistan.
- ❖ The Treaty consisted a preamble and 11 articles.
- ❖ They undertook to settle international disputes through peaceful means and to resist armed attack through collective security.

### **SEATO**

- SEATO established its headquarters at Bangkok.
- Unlike the NATO, SEATO had no permanent army of its own.
- SEATO failed to achieve its aim of collective security for Southeast Asia.
- Pakistan completely withdrew from SEATO in September 1972.
- SEATO was formally dissolved on 30 June 1977.
- NATO was the first peacetime military alliance the United States entered into outside of the Western Hemisphere. After the destruction of the Second World War, the nations of Europe struggled to rebuild their economies and ensure their security.
- The former required a massive influx of aid to help the war-torn landscapes re-establish industries and produce food, and the latter required assurances against a resurgent Germany or incursions from the Soviet Union.

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- The United States viewed an economically strong, rearmed, and integrated Europe as vital to the prevention of communist expansion across the continent. As a result, Secretary of State George Marshall proposed a program of large-scale economic aid to Europe.
- The resulting European Recovery Program, or Marshall Plan, not only facilitated European economic integration but promoted the idea of shared interests and cooperation between the United States and Europe. Soviet refusal either to participate in the Marshall Plan or to allow its satellite states in Eastern Europe to accept the economic assistance helped to reinforce the growing division between east and west in Europe.
- In 1947–1948, a series of events caused the nations of Western Europe to become concerned about their physical and political security and the United States to become more closely involved with European affairs. The ongoing civil war in Greece, along with tensions in Turkey, led President Harry S. Truman to assert that the United States would provide economic and military aid to both countries, as well as to any other nation struggling against an attempt at subjugation.
- A Soviet-sponsored coup in Czechoslovakia resulted in a communist government coming to power on the borders of Germany. Attention also focused on elections in Italy as the communist party had made significant gains among Italian voters.
- Furthermore, events in Germany also caused concern. The occupation and governance of Germany after the war had long been disputed, and in mid-1948, Soviet premier Joseph Stalin chose to test Western resolve by implementing a blockade against West Berlin, which was then under joint U.S., British, and French control but surrounded by Soviet-controlled East Germany.
- This Berlin Crisis brought the United States and the Soviet Union to the brink of conflict, although a massive airlift to resupply the city for the duration of the blockade helped to prevent an outright confrontation. These events caused U.S. officials to grow increasingly wary of the possibility that the countries of Western Europe might deal with their security concerns by negotiating with the Soviets.

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- To counter this possible turn of events, the Truman Administration considered the possibility of forming a European-American alliance that would commit the United States to bolstering the security of Western Europe.

### **Signing of the Brussels Treaty**

- The Western European countries were willing to consider a collective security solution. In response to increasing tensions and security concerns, representatives of several countries of Western Europe gathered together to create a military alliance.
- Great Britain, France, Belgium, the Netherlands and Luxembourg signed the Brussels Treaty in March, 1948. Their treaty provided collective defines; if any one of these nations was attacked, the others were bound to help defend it.
- At the same time, the Truman Administration instituted a peacetime draft, increased military spending, and called upon the historically isolationist Republican Congress to consider a military alliance with Europe. In May of 1948, Republican Senator Arthur H. Vandenburg proposed a resolution suggesting that the President seek a security treaty with Western Europe that would adhere to the United Nations charter but exist outside of the Security Council where the Soviet Union held veto power. The Vandenburg Resolution passed, and negotiations began for the North Atlantic Treaty.
- In spite of general agreement on the concept behind the treaty, it took several months to work out the exact terms. The U.S. Congress had embraced the pursuit of the international alliance, but it remained concerned about the wording of the treaty.
- The nations of Western Europe wanted assurances that the United States would intervene automatically in the event of an attack, but under the U.S. Constitution the power to declare war rested with Congress. Negotiations worked toward finding language that would reassure the European states but not obligate the United States to act in a way that violated its own laws.
- Additionally, European contributions to collective security would require large-scale military assistance from the United States to help rebuild Western Europe's defines capabilities. While the European nations

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argued for individual grants and aid, the United States wanted to make aid conditional on regional coordination. A third issue was the question of scope.

- The Brussels Treaty signatories preferred that membership in the alliance be restricted to the members of that treaty plus the United States.
- The U.S. negotiators felt there was more to be gained from enlarging the new treaty to include the countries of the North Atlantic, including Canada, Iceland, Denmark, Norway, Ireland, and Portugal. Together, these countries held territory that formed a bridge between the opposite shores of the Atlantic Ocean, which would facilitate military action if it became necessary.
- ✓ President Truman inspecting a tank produced under the Mutual Défense Assistance Program.
- ✓ The result of these extensive negotiations was the signing of the North Atlantic Treaty in 1949.
- ✓ In this agreement, the United States, Canada, Belgium, Denmark, France, Iceland, Italy, Luxemburg, the Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, and the United Kingdom agreed to consider attack against one an attack against all, along with consultations about threats and defence matters.
- ✓ This collective Défense arrangement only formally applied to attacks against the signatories that occurred in Europe or North America; it did not include conflicts in colonial territories. After the treaty was signed, a number of the signatories made requests to the United States for military aid.
- ✓ Later in 1949, President Truman proposed a military assistance program, and the Mutual defence Assistance Program passed the U.S. Congress in October, appropriating some \$1.4 billion dollars for the purpose of building Western European defences.
- ✓ Soon after the creation of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, the outbreak of the Korean War led the members to move quickly to integrate and coordinate their defence forces through a centralized headquarters.
- ✓ The North Korean attack on South Korea was widely viewed at the time to be an example of communist aggression directed by Moscow, so the United States bolstered its troop commitments to Europe to provide assurances against Soviet aggression on the European continent.

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- ✓ In 1952, the members agreed to admit Greece and Turkey to NATO and added the Federal Republic of Germany in 1955. West German entry led the Soviet Union to retaliate with its own regional alliance, which took the form of the Warsaw Treaty Organization and included the Soviet satellite states of Eastern Europe as members.

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