

Lecture 4

France: The French against Themselves (and Sometimes the *Boche*)

I. Backstory: A Heritage of Division

A. Legacies of 1789

B. 1930s: Decade of Discord

1. The Popular Front

2. Rightist Leagues and *Action Française*

3. Antisemitism and the Stavisky Affair

4. Parliament Under Attack: February 6, 1934

II. War with Germany, September 1939-June 1940

A. France's Belated Declaration of War

B. "Drôle de Guerre"

1. Internment Camps

2. Slump in Morale

C. The German Invasion and "Strange Defeat"

1. Surprise Push through the Ardennes

2. Enter Marshal Pétain

3. The British "Betrayal" at Dunkirk

4. Refugees on the Roads: "Like Kicking an Anthill"

5. Armistice: A "Reasonable" Arrangement?

6. Administrative Division: Occupied North and "Sovereign" South under Vichy

III. German Occupation in the North

A. German Goals for and Views of France

1. Compliance and Cooperation

2. Paris in the Eyes of the Boche

3. The Boche in the Eyes of Paris: “Ils sont gentiles”

4. Points of German Control in Paris

a. The Wehrmacht HQ

b. Goebbels and the Propaganda Abteilung

c. Otto Abetz and the German Embassy

B. Cultural Life under the Boche Boot

1. Sasha Guitry

2. Jean Cocteau

3. La Comedie Française and Garnier Opera

4. The Cinema

C. Museums, Private Collections, and German Art Looting

1. Einsatzstab Reichsleiter Alfred Rosenberg

2. Art-Looter-in-Chief: Hermann Göring

3. The Fate of “Decadent” Art: Pablo Picasso

D. *La Nouvelle Revue Française*

1. Gallimard’s Deal with the Devil

2. Drieu la Rochelle

E. Acting, Singing, and Spying for the Enemy

1. Arletty

2. Maurice Chevalier

3. Coco Chanel

F. Literary Fascists

1. Louis-Ferdinand Céline

2. Robert Brasillach and *Je Suis Partout*

IV. Daily Life in Occupied Paris

A. Constricted Spaces and Rationing of Food

B. Signs of Protest in Paris

1. Writing on the Walls

2. The Musée de l’Homme

3. Armistice Day March and First Martyr

- C. Operation Barbarossa and the Situation for France
 - 1. Birth of a Communist Resistance
 - 2. Crackdown on Jews
 - a. Restrictions and the Yellow Star
 - b. The “Grand Rafle” and the “Vel d’Hiv”
 - 3. The STO (Obligatory Labor Service)
 - a. Rush to the Hills: The “Maquis”
- D. The Place of Women in the Parisian Resistance
- E. Americans in Paris
 - 1. Sylvia Beach and *Shakespeare & Company*
 - 2. Clara Longworth de Chabrun and the American Library in Paris
 - 3. Dr. Sumner Jackson and the American Hospital in Paris
 - 4. The Fate of African-Americans
- F. Literary Resistance: Albert Camus and Jean-Paul Sartre
- V. The Vichy Homefront**
 - A. The Promises of Pétain
 - 1. Catholics and the “Values Society”
 - 2. The Family: Ideal and Reality
 - 3. France for the French: Closing the Doors and Battening the Hatches
 - B. Vichy France and the Jews
 - 1. Antisemitic Regulations
 - 2. “Aryanization” of Businesses and Property
 - 3. Escalation: Louis de Pellepoix
 - 4. Deportations and the “Final Solution”
- VI. Survival and Resistance, 1942-1944**
 - A. Hunger, Forced Labor, and the Expansion of Resistance
 - B. The Milice
 - C. Divisions within the Resistance

- D. De Gaulle and Jean Moulin
- E. D-Day and Its Costs
 - 1. Le Havre
 - 2. Oradour-sur-Glane
- F. The Liberation of Paris, August 1944
 - 1. Domestic Uprisings and Strikes
 - 2. "Is Paris Burning?"
 - 3. The Cavalry Commeth: Leclerc's Free French 2nd Armored Division Arrives in Paris (and Hemingway Liberates the Ritz Bar)

VII. Legacies

- A. Purges, Trials and Executions
- B. Postwar Discord
- C. The Battle Continues