

Lecture 8

Suffering and Survival on the Slavic Home Fronts

Czechoslovakia, Yugoslavia, the USSR

I. Czechoslovakia

A. A Tenuous Democracy

1. Founding in Philly
2. Ethnic Divisions

B. The Sudetenland

1. Konrad Henlein
2. The Munich Agreement
 - a. Nazi Electoral Victory in Sudetenland
 - b. Czech Flight
 - c. The Fate of the Jews

C. German Takeover of Rump Czechoslovakia

1. The Protectorate of Bohemia and Moravia
2. London-based Government in Exile
3. Reinhard Heydrich as *Reichsprotektor*

D. The Assassination of Heydrich

1. Reprisals: Lidice
2. Postwar Revenge: A "Final Solution to the German Problem"

II. Yugoslavia

A. A Mini-Habsburg Empire

B. A Fateful Date and the Serbian Victim Narrative

C. Serbs vs. Croats

1. Stjepan Radić

D. Royal Coup, 1929

E. Croatian Fascism: Ante Pavelić and the Ustaše

F. Mussolini: "Yugoslavia Does Not Exist"

G. Assassination of King Alexander, 1934

H. Hitler and Yugoslavia: Benign Intentions

- I. Early Wartime Neutrality: 1939-April 1941
- J. Palace Coup and German Invasion
- K. A Dismembered Homefront
 - 1. State Terror in Serbia
 - 2. Varieties of Resistance: Mihailovic vs. Tito
 - 3. Murder and Mayhem in Croatia
 - 4. Living and Fighting under Tito
- III. The USSR**
 - A. The Context of Vulnerability: Stalin's Red Army Purge
 - 1. Taking out Tukhachevsky
 - B. Operation Barbarossa
 - 1. Soviet Shock and Early Losses
 - 2. Rally for the Motherland
 - 3. Arming the Partisans
 - C. Failure on All Fronts: The Blunders of Barbarossa and a Land Laid Waste
 - D. A Homefront Case Study: Leningrad under Siege
 - 1. Vital Statistics
 - 2. Cannibalism and Cold
 - 3. The "Road of Life"
 - 4. Children at War
 - 5. Shostakovich's Seventh: "Light at the End of the Symphony?"
 - E. Stalin and the Legacy of the Great Patriotic War