

Prelude to World War II and America's Responses		
Act	Response	Result
1931 - Japan invades North Manchuria	League of Nations reprimand; U.S. issues <i>Stimson Doctrine</i> , refuses to recognize Japan's claim to these territories	Japan quits League of Nations, annexes Chinese conquests
1935 - Italy invades Ethiopia	U.S. passes <i>Neutrality Act</i> , no arms sales to aggressors. League of Nations reprimand	Italy conquers and annexes part of Ethiopia
1936 - Germany invades Rhineland Region	No response	Germany builds fortifications along the Rhine River in violation of the Treaty of Versailles
1936 - Germany and Italy back Franco in the Spanish Civil War	U.S. broadens <i>Neutrality Acts</i> to include arms trade ban for civil war aggressors	Franco is victorious, becomes "silent partner" for Axis alliance
1937 - Japan invades China	FDR calls for "quarantine" of aggressor nations. League of Nations fails with trade embargo against Japan	Japan conquers and occupies most of N.E. China
1938 - Germany invades Austria	No response	Germany proclaims "Anschluss" – unification of Germany and Austria
1938 - Germany claims Czech Territory	Britain and France appease Hitler, allow Germans to take over area at Munich Conference	Germany annexes Sudetenland region
1939- Italy invades Albania	No response	Italy conquers and occupies Albania
1939 - Germany and U.S.S.R. invade Poland	Britain and France declare war; U.S. modifies <i>Neutrality Acts</i> to allow "cash and carry"	World War II begins