THE CAMBRIDGE HISTORY OF
THE SECOND WORLD WAR

War is often described as an extension of politics by violent means. With contributions from twenty-eight eminent historians, Volume II of The Cambridge History of the Second World War examines the relationship between ideology and politics in the war’s origins, dynamics and consequences. Part I examines the ideologies of the combatants and shows how the war can be understood as a struggle of words, ideas and values, with the rival powers expressing divergent claims to justice and controlling news from the front in order to sustain morale and influence international opinion. Part II looks at politics from the perspective of pre-war and wartime diplomacy, as well as examining the way in which neutrals were treated and behaved. The volume concludes by assessing the impact of states, politics and ideology on the fate of individuals as occupied and liberated peoples, collaborators and resisters, and as British and French colonial subjects.

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The Cambridge History of the Second World War is an authoritative new account of the conflict that unfolded between 1939 and 1945. With contributions from a team of leading historians, the three volumes adopt a transnational approach, to offer a comprehensive, global analysis of the military, political, social, economic and cultural aspects of the war. Volume I provides an operational perspective on the course of the war, examining strategies, military cultures and organization, and the key campaigns, whilst Volume II reviews the ‘politics’ of war, the global aspirations of the rival alliances, and the role of diplomacy. Volume III considers the war as an economic, social and cultural event, exploring how entire nations mobilized their economies and populations, and dealt with the catastrophic losses that followed. The volumes conclude by considering the lasting impact of the Second World War and the memory of war across different cultures of commemoration.

Volume I
Fighting the War
Edited by John Ferris and Evan Mawdsley

Volume II
Politics and Ideology
Edited by Richard J. B. Bosworth and Joseph A. Maiolo

Volume III
Total War: Economy, Society and Culture
Edited by Michael Geyer and Adam Tooze
THE CAMBRIDGE
HISTORY OF
THE SECOND WORLD WAR

* 

VOLUME II
Politics and Ideology

* 

Edited by
RICHARD J. B. BOSWORTH
and
JOSEPH A. MAILOLO
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21.1 Japanese navy conception of the Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere

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0.1 The old world order, 1937
The border incident at Khalkin Gol (Nomonhan) in the summer of 1939 involved full-scale fighting between Russian and Japanese forces.

The border incident at Lake Khasan (Zhanggufeng) in the summer of 1938 involved full-scale fighting between Russian and Japanese forces.

The ‘100 Regiments Offensive’ was mounted by the Communist 8th Route Army against Japanese communication lines in Shanxi (Shensi) province in 1940. It had only limited success.

A major concentration of Communist strength was the 8th Route Army, based in Shaanxi (Shensi) province. The communists had moved their main forces to the remote northwest after the Long March.

The Communist ‘New 4th Army’ became involved in fighting with Nationalist troops in Jiangsu province in January 1940, seriously weakening the anti-Japanese ‘united front’.

Japanese advances by diplomacy and conquest, 1937–41

0.2 Japanese advances by diplomacy and conquest, 1937–41
Swedish iron ore deposits, located near Gällivare and Kiruna, were a resource of great importance. In the summer the ore was moved by rail to Luleå, but in the winter, when the Baltic was frozen, it was sent through Narvik in Norway.

The Curzon line demarcated regions that were predominantly Polish and regions that were predominantly Belorussian or Ukrainian. It was laid out by the British Foreign Secretary, Lord Curzon, in 1920 and played an important part in determining the boundary between Poland and the USSR in 1939 and 1945.

0.3 German advances by diplomacy and conquest, 1936–41