Causes of WW II

**The Treaty of Versailles**

Germany resented the terms of the treaty – it was humiliating and blamed Germany for WW I.

**1930s Depression**

Germany suffered hyperinflation = no value to Germany’s currency. Germany took out loans to cover debt. Germany admitted to League of Nations. Investment failed – 6 million Germans unemployed.

**The Rise of the Nazis**

Political party – only the strong survive

* Don’t like Jewish people
* Defeat racial enemies
* Take over non-Aryan nations for expanding population
* Opposition must be crushed and total obedience to leaders

**Appeasement**

Giving in so the countries would be satisfied = no second war.

**League of Nations**

* Group of countries
* Conflict resolution
* Meetings
* Decisions take too long
* Choose against decision

**Japanese Militarism**

Japan = expand empire into South Pacific

Military took control of the government

**Australian’s in the South Pacific War**

Australia had lack of ships & plans – Japan had insufficient troops and ships to invade Australia

**Kokoda**

* Steep, muddy, jungle, rivers and mountainous terrain
* 39th battalion, 18-19 year olds, not well trained and ill equipped
* Lack of food for the Japanese troops forced them to withdraw eventually
* 2nd Nov 1942 Australian’s regained Kokoda
* Many Australians and Papuans lost their lives.