

# World War II: 1929-1941

# Germany's Depression

- ▶ Germany is one of the hardest hit by the depression
  - ▶ a wheel barrel of money to buy a loaf of bread
- ▶ Germans wanted change and would choose any leader who promised it
- ▶ Several parties vied for power in Germany
- ▶ Adolf Hitler was National Socialist German Workers (Nazi) Party leader
- ▶ Hitler appointed Chancellor in Jan 1933; later makes himself dictator
- ▶ 1933 - Nazi Party takes control
- ▶ Hitler policies help bring Germany out of depression through manufacturing and military spending
  - ▶ Military spending broke Treaty of Versailles agreement



# Italy

- ▶ Benito Mussolini (Il Duce) and Fascist party take over as dictator in 1922
- ▶ all other political parties were outlawed



# Germany expands

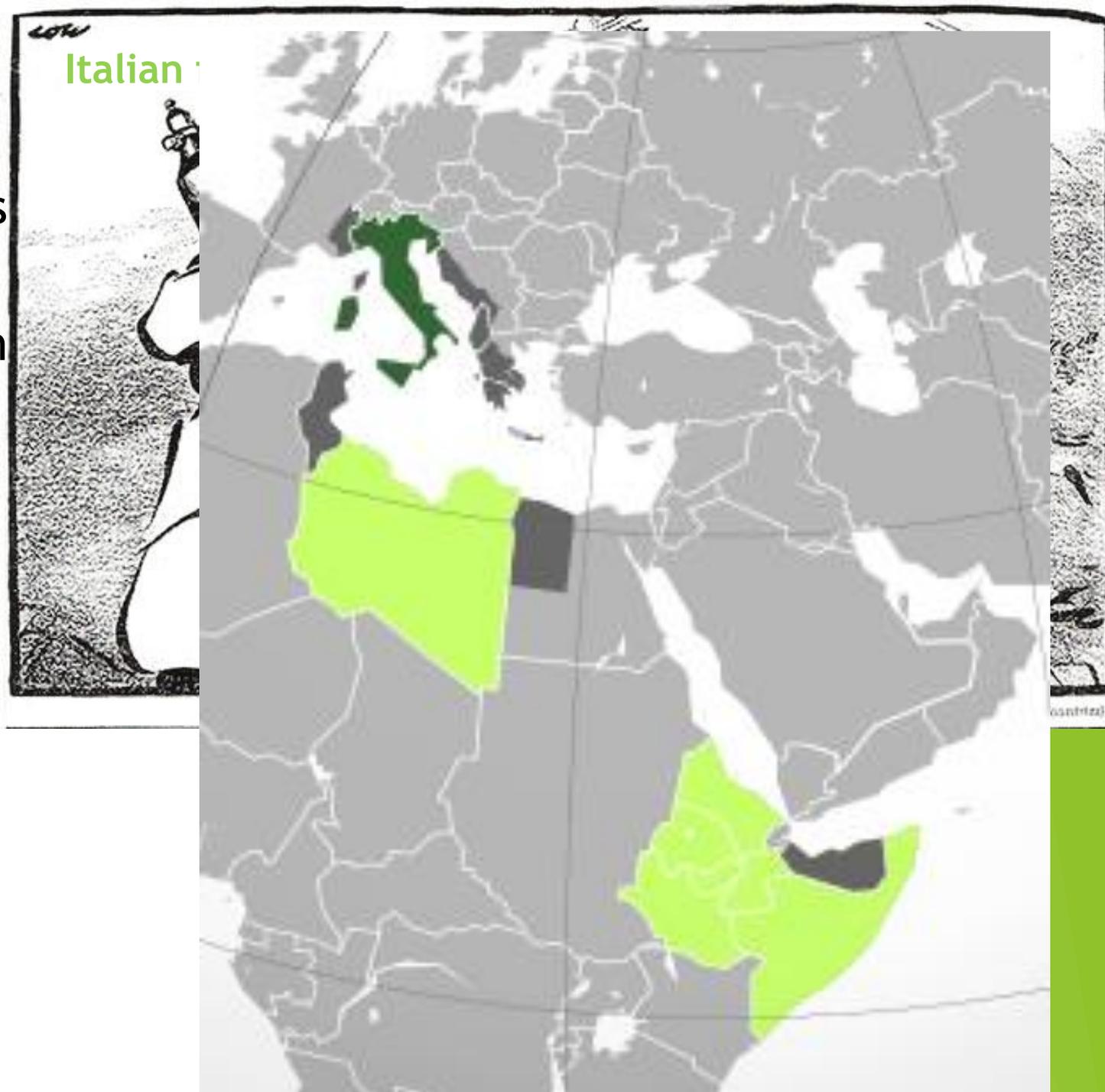


- ▶ Takes control of Rhineland (1936)
- ▶ Annexes Austria w/o a fight (1938)
- ▶ Munich Conference (Sep. 1938): Britain and France try to keep peace (Czechoslovakia was not invited)
  - ▶ Germany annexes Sudetenland from Czechoslovakia
- ▶ Annexes all of Czechoslovakia (1939)
- ▶ Invades Poland (Sept. 1939); World War II begins
  - ▶ Germany defeats Poland in 26 days
- ▶ Britain and France Declare war on Germany



# Italy Expands

- ▶ Oct. 1935 - Italy invades Ethiopia  
Apr. 1939 - Italy invades Albania (to the east)
- ▶ Aug, 1940 - Italy occupies British Somaliland in East Africa
- ▶ Sep, 1940 - Italy invades Egypt to capture Suez Canal
- ▶ Oct, 1940 - Italy invades Greece



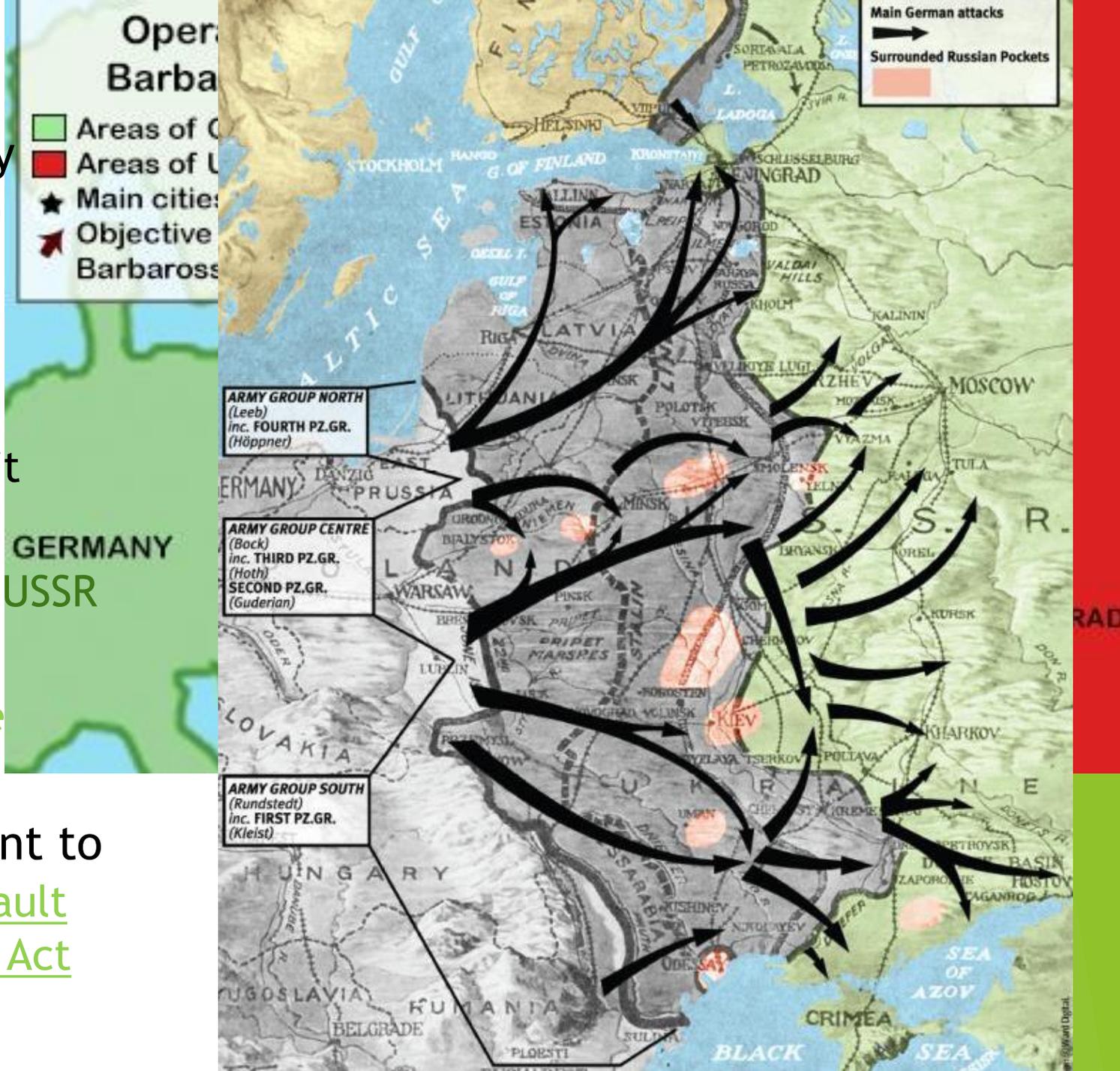
# World War II (Europe)

- ▶ Blitzkrieg - New “lightning war” used by Germany
  - ▶ quick surprise attacks by armored vehicles & aerial bombardment causes enemy confusion
  - ▶ followed by infantry to “clean up”
- ▶ Germany conquers Denmark (4 hrs) and Norway (1940)
- ▶ Germany conquers Netherlands, Belgium & Luxembourg (1940)
- ▶ Germany defeats France in 6 ½ weeks (1940)
- ▶ Britain left alone to fight Germany
- ▶ Germany defeats Yugoslavia (11 days) & Greece (17 days) (has to come to Italy’s aid)



# World War II (Europe)

- ▶ Operation Barbarossa - Germany invades Soviet Union, (U.S.S.R.) June 1941
  - ▶ Germany pushed 500 miles into U.S.S.R.
  - ▶ Germany seized Leningrad but it never fell
  - ▶ Germany advanced to Moscow (USSR Capital) but failed to take it
  - ▶ German mistake was they came as conquerors, not liberators
- ▶ U.S. helps Allies but doesn't want to enter the war (Johnson Debt-Default Act of 1934 lead to the Lend-lease Act of 1941)





# World War II: German Advances, 1939–1941

