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# Oklahoma: Land of Opportunity

## Chapter 15: Wars and Baby Boomers QuickNotes

Slide 1



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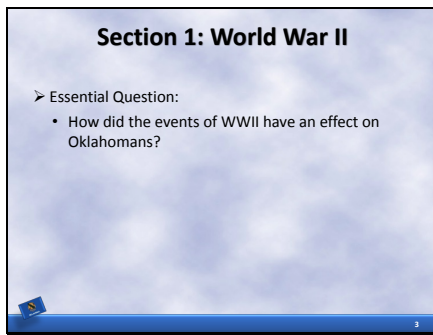
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Slide 3



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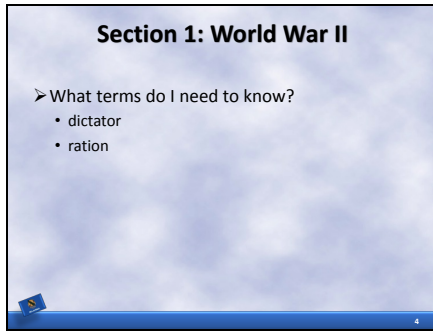
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Slide 4



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Slide 5



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Tensions Increase in Asia and Europe		
	Country	Leader
Allies	Great Britain	Winston Churchill
	Russia	Joseph Stalin
	United States	Franklin D. Roosevelt
Axis Powers	Germany	Adolf Hitler
	Italy	Benito Mussolini
	Japan	Hideki Tojo

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Slide 7

**War Engulfs the United States**

- Most Americans wanted to stay out of the troubles in Europe as we were still in recovery from WWI and the Great Depression.
- 1939: The U.S. began rebuilding the army and navy; the U.S. continued to assist Russia and Britain.
- December 7, 1941: 180 Japanese planes attacked the navy base at **Pearl Harbor, Hawaii**. Over 2,400 were killed, 12 ships sunk, and 188 aircraft destroyed.
- The U.S. joined the Allied powers three days later.

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Slide 8

**A Nation Mobilizes**

- Oklahoma's climate, location, and workforce made it a good location for arms and ammunition plants and military training centers.
- April 1941: Oklahoma City was named site of a supply and maintenance depot; Tinker Field opened in 1942.
- Douglas Aircraft built military planes at Tinker and Tulsa.

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Slide 9

**A Nation Mobilizes: Oklahoma Military Facilities**

- 80 military facilities were built in Oklahoma including Camp Gruber, Air Corps Basic Flying School, Clinton Naval Air Station, and Altus Army Air Field.
- A British flying school was also in OK.
- The U.S. Army accidentally bombed Boise City (July, 1943).

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**A Nation Mobilizes: Oklahomans in the War**

- Nearly 200,000 Oklahomans enlisted for the war and 300,000 were drafted.
- Women joined the Army and Navy Nurse Corps, Women's Army Corps (WAC) and other groups.
- The 45<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division was formed of men from OK, NM, and AZ (the Thunderbirds).
  - Over 20,000 of these men were killed
  - 8 received the Medal of Honor
  - One regiment helped liberate Dachau Concentration Camp
  - Bill Mauldin: Thunderbird who won Pulitzer Prize for his wartime cartoons
- The 90<sup>th</sup> Infantry was mostly Texans and Oklahomans (T-O)
  - landed on Utah Beach at Normandy
  - Battle of the Bulge

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Slide 11

**A Nation Mobilizes: World War II Code Talkers**

- Different groups of Indians were used to code messages due to the success of the method in WWI.
- Navajo were used in the Pacific.
- Comanche were used in Europe.
- The codes of these unwritten languages remained unbroken.

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Slide 12

**A Nation Mobilizes: Oklahoma Camps**

- Many Japanese-Americans were moved to relocation camps because of their race.
- The government was unsure of their loyalty to the U.S.
- Fort Sill, McAlester, and Stringtown were relocation camps in Oklahoma.
- Prisoner of War (POW) camps were also in Oklahoma. 5,000 prisoners from Germany and Italy were at Alva camp.

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Slide 13

**A Nation Mobilizes: The Home Front**

- While soldiers were at war, others took over their jobs at home.
- Women took jobs that had been men's jobs. "Rosies" for Rosie the Riveter represented those in factories.
- Victory gardens were encouraged to supplement the food supply.
- Goods were rationed to make sure there was enough to go around.
- Many patriotic movies and posters were made.

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## Chapter 15: Wars and Baby Boomers QuickNotes

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**The War Ends**

- June 6, 1944: D-Day, Allies began attack on the Axis at Normandy, France.
- 3,000,000 Allied troops poured in and after 2 months liberated Paris.
- The march continued until April 1945 with the Allied capture of Berlin.
- War in the Pacific pushed the Japanese back toward their homeland.
- The Manhattan Project was a secret U.S. effort to develop a nuclear weapon.
- President Truman ordered bombings of Japan with nuclear weapons (Hiroshima and Nagasaki).
- Over 100,000 were killed and Japan surrendered.
- More than 62,000,000 were killed in the war, including over 6,000 Oklahomans.

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Slide 15

**Section 2: Social Change**

➤ Essential Question:

- What social changes made life in Oklahoma different after World War II?

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Slide 16

**Section 2: Social Change**

➤ What terms do I need to know?

- suburbs
- baby boomer

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Slide 17

**Postwar Society**

- Steady jobs with good incomes and hours were found in or near cities.
- These jobs were more reliable than farming.
- 1944: Servicemen's Readjustment Act (GI Bill) gave war veterans money for education, home and farm loans.
- Urban growth caused a growth in housing.
- Many children born after the war (1946-1964) were called "Baby Boomers"; nearly one million babies were born in Oklahoma.
- More children increased the need for schools.
- The number of schools has declined as small schools closed and combined to make larger ones.
- Penicillin was invented to fight infections (1940s).
- A polio vaccine stopped the spread of this crippling disease.
- The smallpox vaccine rid our nation of this killer (1950s).

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## Chapter 15: Wars and Baby Boomers QuickNotes

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**Social Change**

Year	Population	% urban
1910	1,657,155	19
1920	2,028,283	27
1930	2,396,040	34
1940	2,336,434	51

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Slide 19

- Popular Entertainment**
- Television grew in popularity in the 1950s. It was more affordable for homes, so more stations were created.
  - Half of homes had TV by 1954; 90% in 1964.
  - 1949: WKY-TV channel 4 in Oklahoma City
  - 1953: First state education channel KETA channel 13
  - Rock-and-roll music was a new style made popular by Elvis Presley.
  - The invention of pocket-sized transistor radios spread access to music radio stations.
  - KOMA was large rock-and-roll format station.

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Slide 20

- Prosperity**
- [The Gilcrease Museum](#) opened in 1949 and displays over 10,000 works of art.
  - The Cowboy Hall of Fame opened in 1955 and is now the [National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum](#).
  - Mickey Mantle, Allie Reynolds and Warren Spain were famous Oklahoma baseball players.
  - Coach Henry Iba's Oklahoma State University won national basketball championships in 1945 and 1946.

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Slide 21

- Segregation Laws Challenged**
- Blacks began to demand more equality after WWII.
  - Ada Lois Sipuel of Chickasha was a black woman denied admission to the University of Oklahoma because she was black.
  - Sipuel's lawsuit and others led to the *Brown v. Board of Education* decision outlawing segregated schools.
  - George W. McLaurin won a case in 1950 that Oklahoma University could not treat him differently because of his race; he had been forced to sit outside the main classroom for lectures.
  - 1949: Nancy Randolph Davis was enrolled in Oklahoma A&M College but had to sit in the back of the room or in the hall.

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# Oklahoma: Land of Opportunity

## Chapter 15: Wars and Baby Boomers QuickNotes

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**Section 3: The Postwar Period**

➤ Essential Question:

- In what ways was the Cold War different from other American wars?

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Slide 23

**Section 3: The Postwar Period**

➤ What terms do I need to know?

- Cold War
- sit-in

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Slide 24

**The Cold War**

➤ After World War II, the United States and the Soviet Union were the two big superpowers; both had nuclear missiles.

➤ Political differences caused divisions between the two resulting in the Cold War.

➤ The United States wanted to stop Soviet communism from spreading.

➤ The U.S. supported South Korea against communist North Korea in a police action known as the Korean War.

➤ 400,000 U.S. troops participated; 450 Oklahomans were killed.

➤ Fears of nuclear attack caused many to build nuclear shelters and practice nuclear attack drills.

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Slide 25

**Political Leaders**

➤ Gov. Johnston Murray required all state employees to swear an oath of loyalty to the U.S. and Oklahoma due to the communist scare; women were allowed on juries.

➤ Gov. Raymond Gary improved interstate highways and abolished segregation laws.

➤ Clara Luper led sit-ins to break down segregation and was arrested 26 times.

➤ J. Howard Edmondson was governor when voters repealed prohibition (1959).

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# Oklahoma: Land of Opportunity

## Chapter 15: Wars and Baby Boomers QuickNotes

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**The Space Age Dawns**

- In 1957, the Soviet Union launched earth's first satellite: *Sputnik I*.
- The U.S. feared getting behind and a space race occurred.
- 1958: The *Explorer* satellite was launched by the U.S. and NASA was created.
- The Mercury program was designed to put the first man in space.
- Capt. Leroy Gordon Cooper, Jr. of Shawnee was pilot of Faith 7.
- Geraldyn M. "Jerrie" Cobb of Oklahoma successfully completed screening to be a Mercury pilot, but rules were changed to block women astronauts.

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