

# The Politics of War

Allied military efforts were accompanied by a series of important international meetings on the political objectives of the war. In January 1943 at Casablanca, Morocco, an Anglo-American conference decided that no peace would be concluded with the Axis and its Balkan satellites except on the basis of "unconditional surrender." This term, insisted upon by Roosevelt, sought to assure the people of all the fighting nations that no separate peace negotiations would be carried on with representatives of Fascism and Nazism and there would be no compromise of the war's idealistic objectives. Axis propagandists, of course, used it to assert that the Allies were engaged in a war of extermination.

1. At what city, in January of 1943, did the English and Americans agree that they would accept nothing less than unconditional surrender from the Axis powers?
  - a. Cairo, Egypt
  - b. Casablanca, Morocco
  - c. Istanbul, Turkey
  - d. Tehran, Iran

At Cairo, in November 1943, Roosevelt and Churchill met with Nationalist Chinese leader Chiang Kai-shek to agree on terms for Japan, including the relinquishment of gains from past aggression. At Tehran, shortly afterward, Roosevelt, Churchill, and Soviet leader Joseph Stalin made basic agreements on the postwar occupation of Germany and the establishment

of a new international organization, the United Nations.

2. Which of the following did **not** meet in Cairo to discuss terms for Japan?
  - a. Chiang Kai-shek
  - b. Franklin D. Roosevelt
  - c. Hideki Tojo
  - d. Winston Churchill
3. Which of the following was **not** at the Tehran Conference?
  - a. Adolf Hitler
  - b. Franklin Roosevelt
  - c. Joseph Stalin
  - d. Winston Churchill

In February 1945, the three Allied leaders met again at Yalta (now in Ukraine), with victory seemingly secure. There, the Soviet Union secretly agreed to enter the war against Japan three months after the surrender of Germany. In return, the USSR would gain effective control of Manchuria and receive the Japanese Kurile Islands as well as the southern half of Sakhalin Island. The eastern boundary of Poland was set roughly at the Curzon line of 1919, thus giving the USSR half its prewar territory. Discussion of reparations to be collected from Germany – payment demanded by Stalin and opposed by Roosevelt and Churchill – was inconclusive. Specific arrangements were made concerning Allied occupation in Germany and the trial and punishment of war criminals. Also at Yalta it

