

Appeasement

- **Appeasement:** "giving in to someone's demands as far as is reasonably possible to avoid conflict".
- British foreign policy, 1919-1939
- Associated with Chamberlain (1937)
- Designed to avoid war and show Germany that reasonable claims could be resolved through negotiation

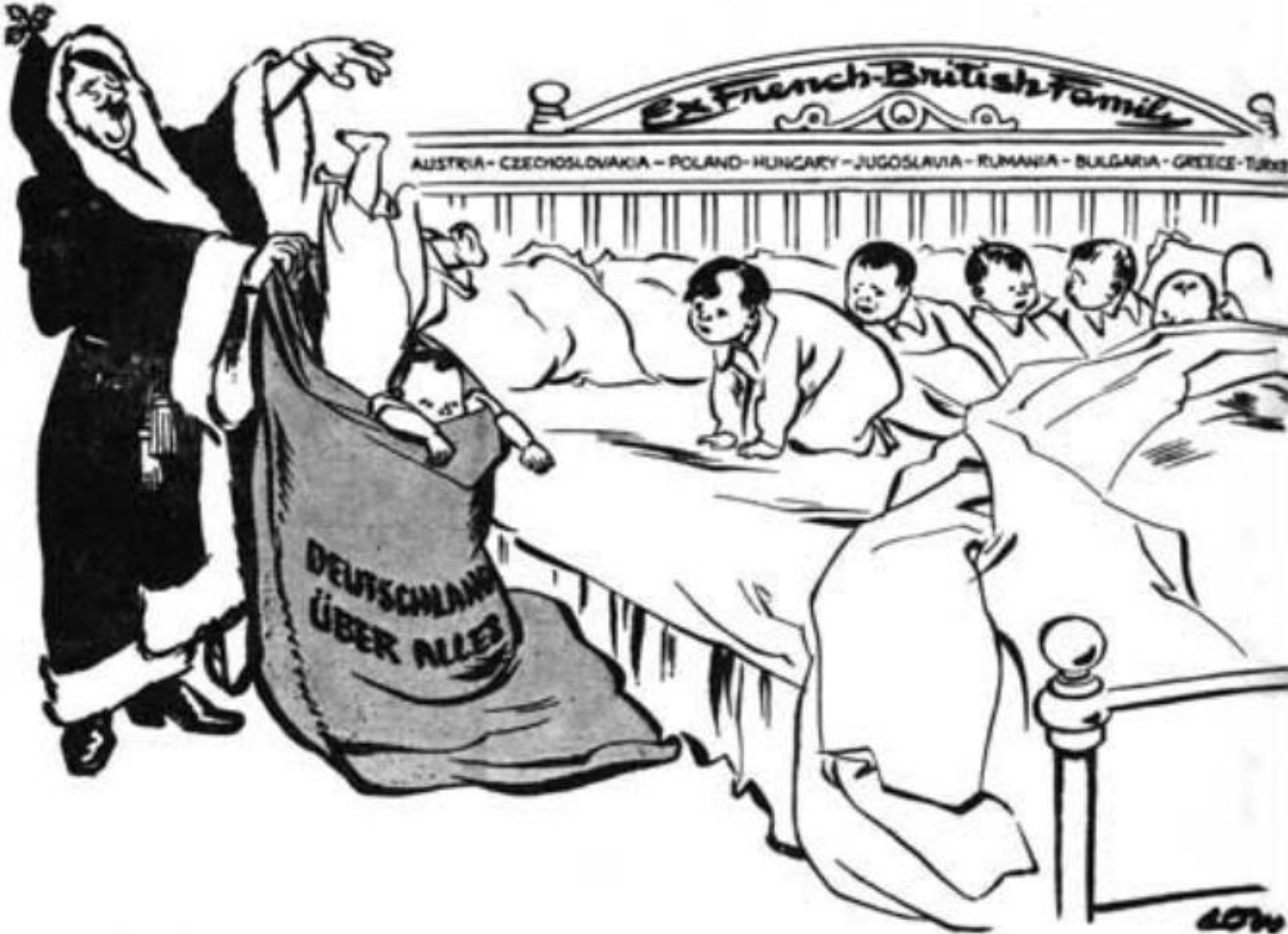




Ex-French-British Family

AUSTRIA - CZECHOSLOVAKIA - POLAND - HUNGARY - JUGOSLAVIA - ROMANIA - BULGARIA - GREECE - TURKEY

DEUTSCHLAND
ÜBER ALLES



Context

Often we look back and think it should have been easy to stop Hitler... So why didn't we?!

- 8,556,315 troops died in WW1
- 16.5 million people (including civilians) died in WW1
- What would you have done?



Task 1:

Decision making

- Imagine you are Neville Chamberlain, the British Prime Minister
- You will be addressed with a series of events
- You must decide how to respond to each situation



Decision One: Joining with with Austria

Hitler wanted to make Germany a great power again and wants to join together with their old ally, Austria.

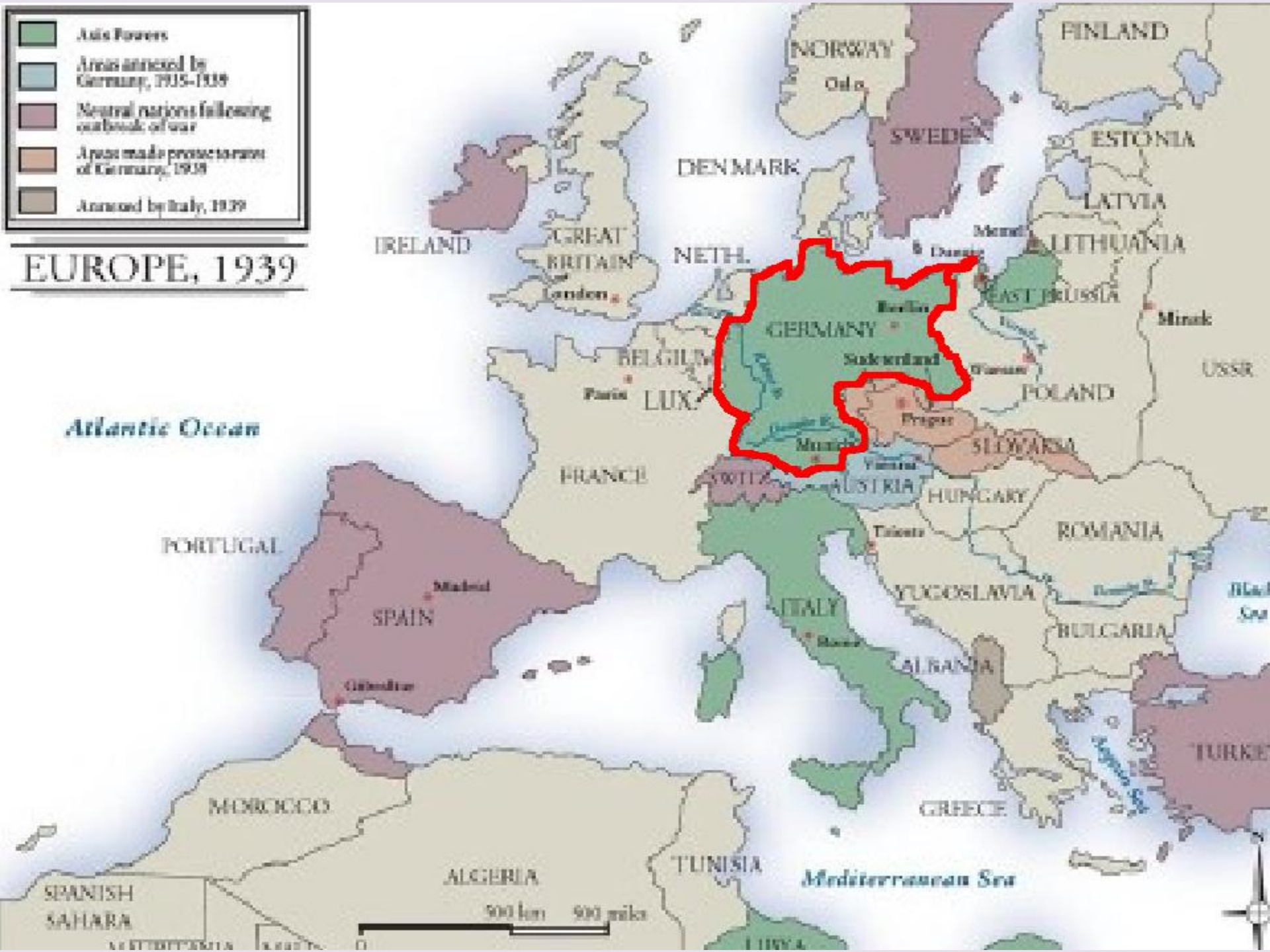
The Chancellor agrees to Hitler's demands.

On 12th March 1938 Nazi troops begin to march into Austria.



- Axis Powers
- Areas annexed by Germany, 1935-1939
- Neutral nations following outbreak of war
- Areas made provinces of Germany, 1939
- Annexed by Italy, 1939

EUROPE, 1939



Atlantic Ocean

Mediterranean Sea

0 500 km 300 miles



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If you were Chamberlain what would you do?

- A** Allow Hitler to continue the Anschluss with Austria, the Austrian people seem positive about the Anschluss.
- B** Begin to think about rearming the country but don't be too aggressive with Hitler (making Britain stronger!)
- C** Start a World War with Hitler even though you aren't strong militarily.

Decision Two: March into the Sudetenland

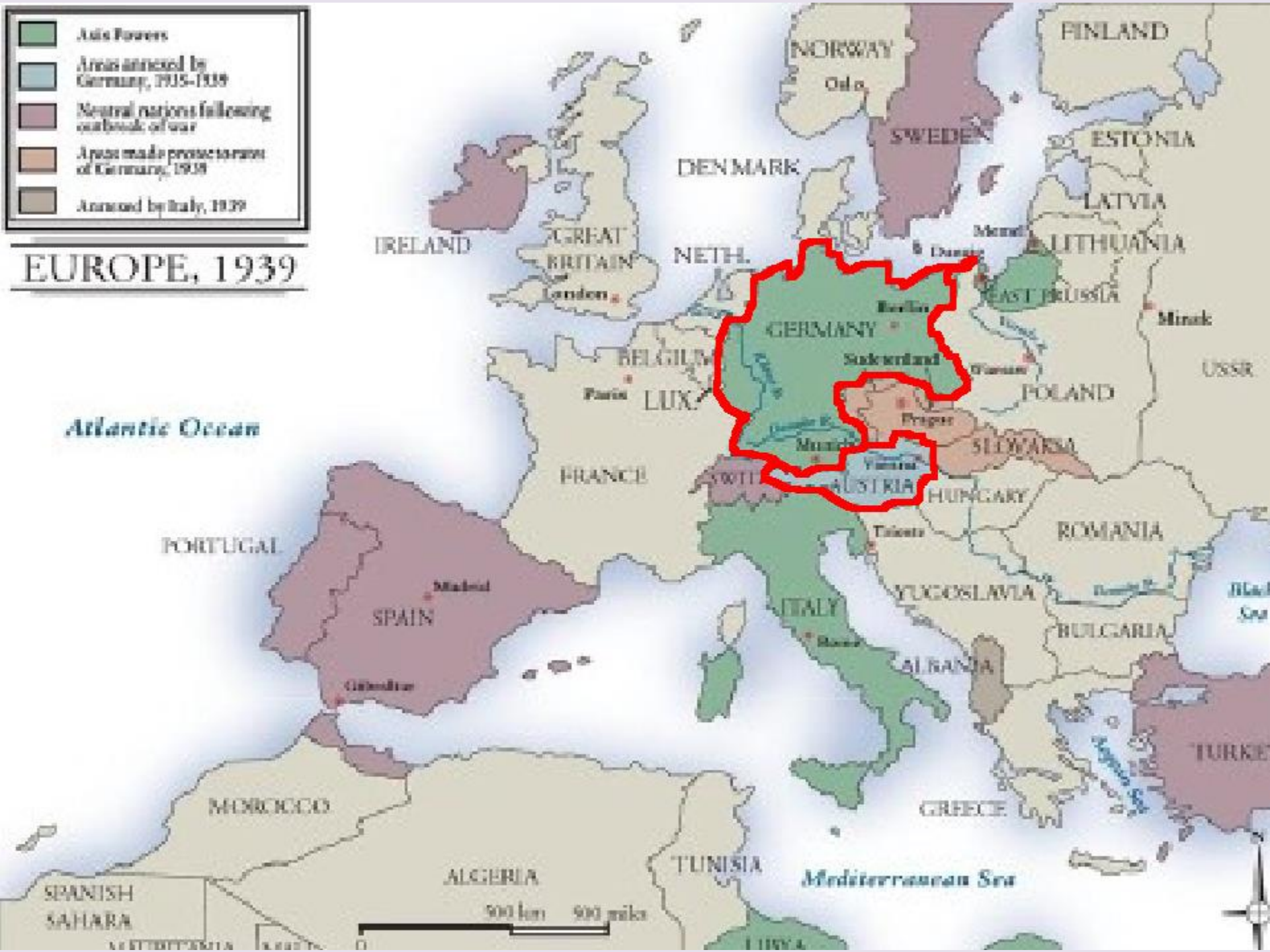
Before the Treaty of Versailles,
Germany owned the
Sudetenland (now part of
Czechoslovakia)

One of Hitler's main aims was to
reunite all German speaking
people and the majority was
still 'German' and demanded
the Sudetenland back.



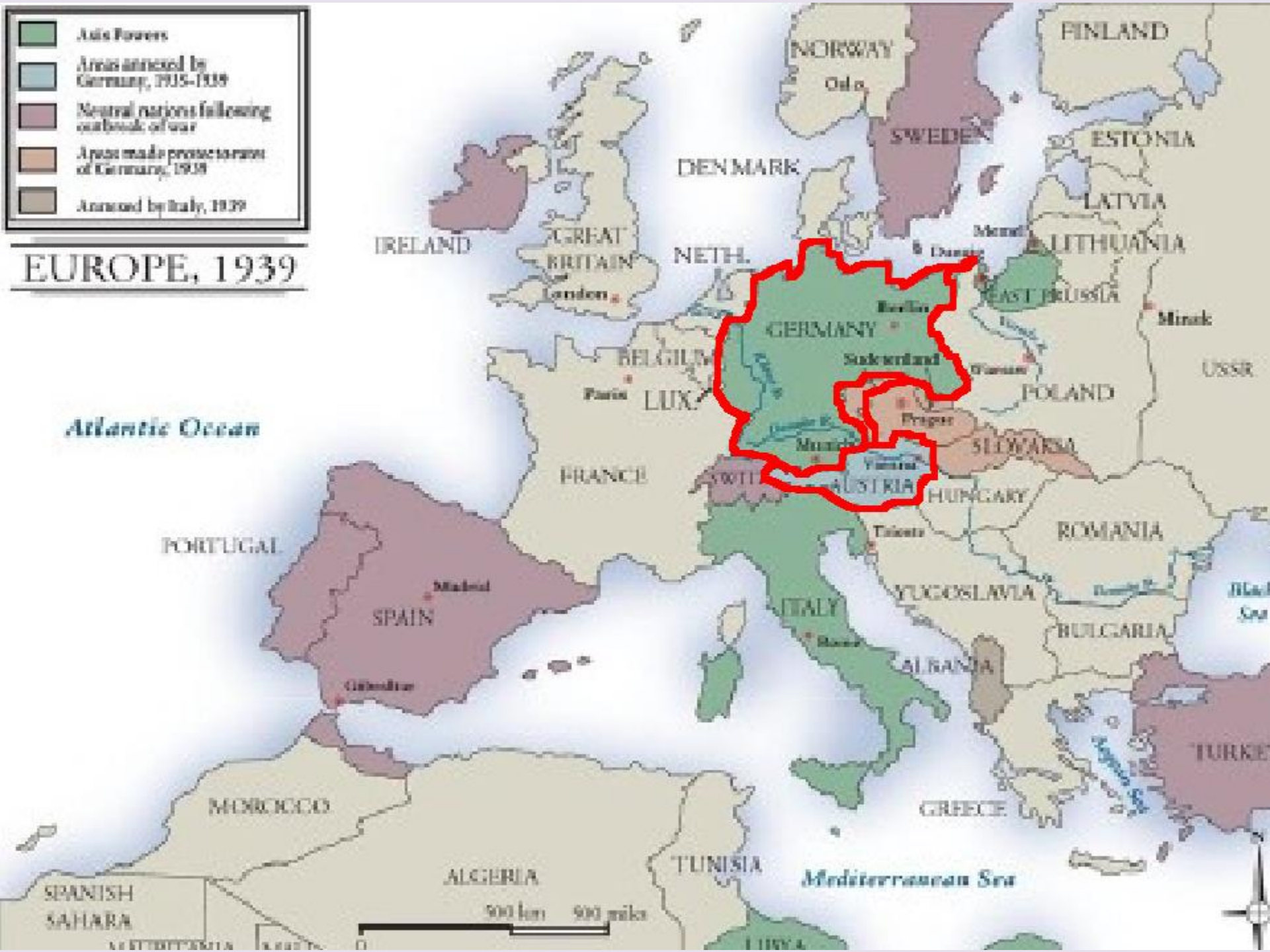
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If you were Chamberlain what would you do?

A

Allow Hitler to take the Sudetenland. After all it is mostly German anyway.

B

Agree to meet with Hitler to slow his aggressive policies and start to begin rearming the country. Allow Hitler to take Sudetenland.

C

Start a World War with Hitler even though you still aren't strong militarily.

Decision Three: Aggressive takeover of Czechoslovakia

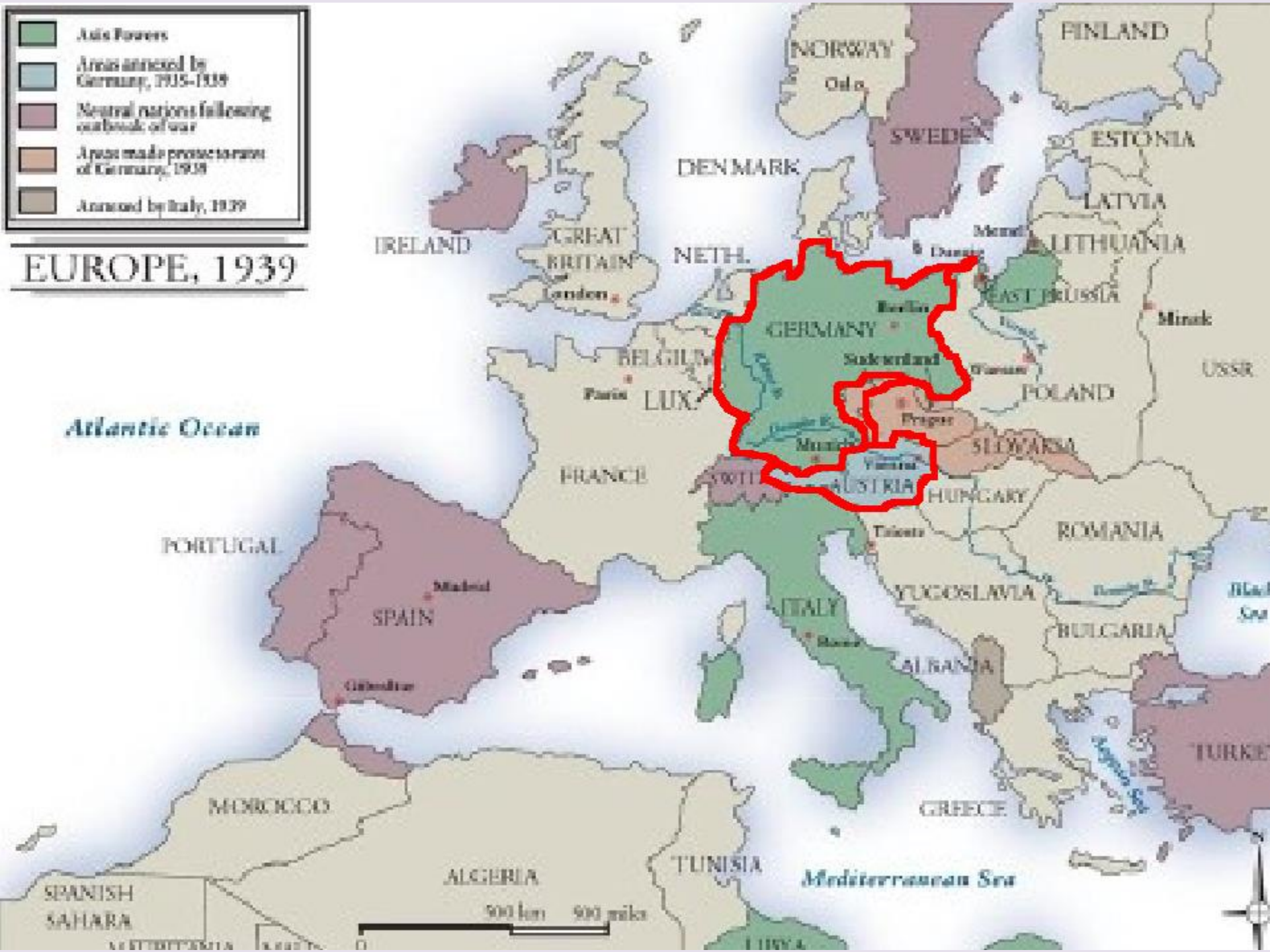
The Sudetenland was allowed to become part of Germany, however Hitler had to promise not to carry on with his aggressive actions.

Despite this, by March 1939 Hitler had marched and taken over parts of Czechoslovakia.



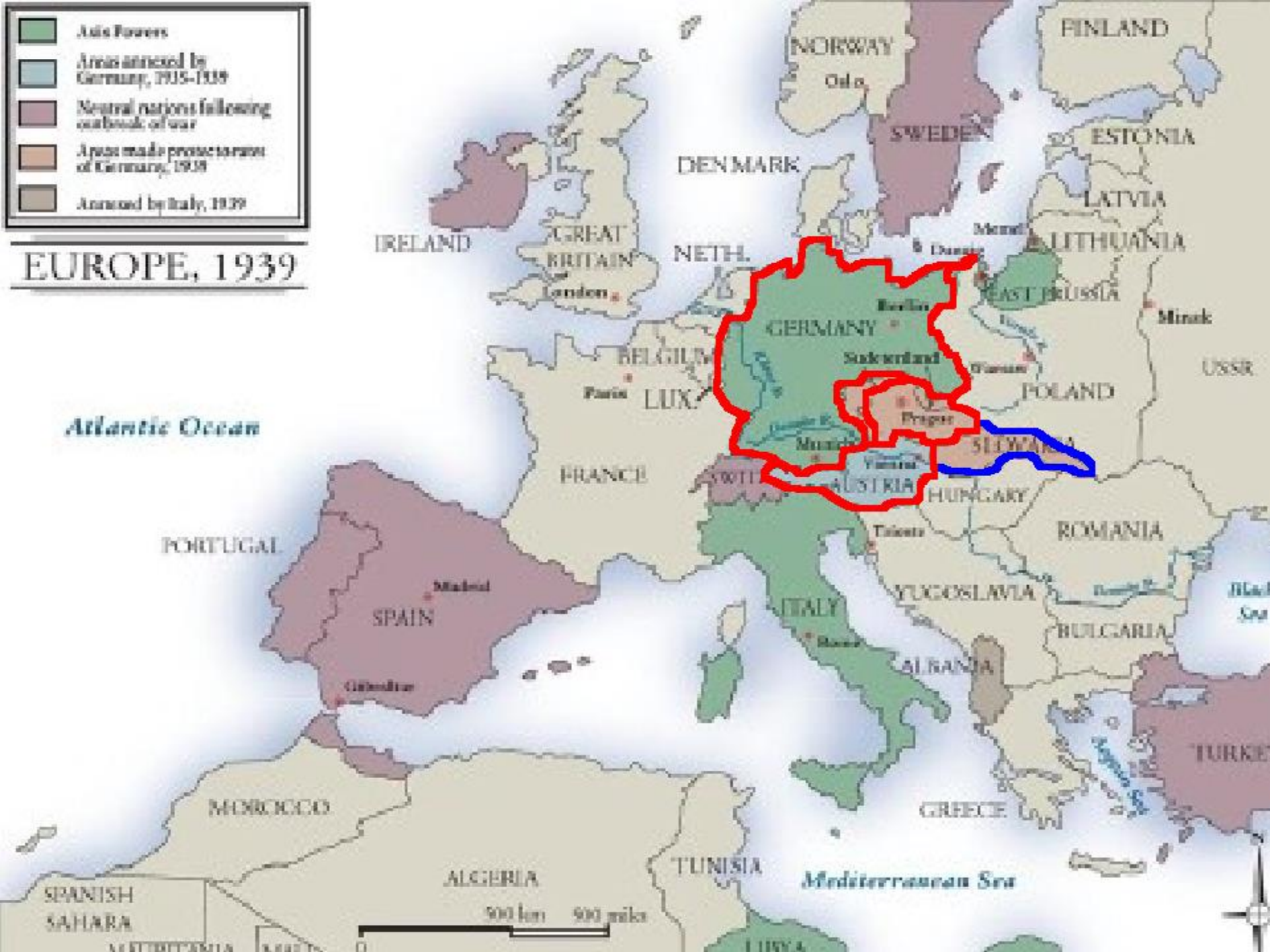
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EUROPE, 1939



Atlantic Ocean

Mediterranean Sea

900 km 900 miles



If you were Chamberlain what would you do?

A

Resign. You have effectively been made a fool out of and there is a strong politician attacking you in parliament - Winston Churchill

B

Continue with rearming. You have no choice but to allow Hitler to take Czechoslovakia.

C

Start a World War with Hitler even though you still aren't strong militarily but you are nearly ready!

Decision Four: Invasion of Poland

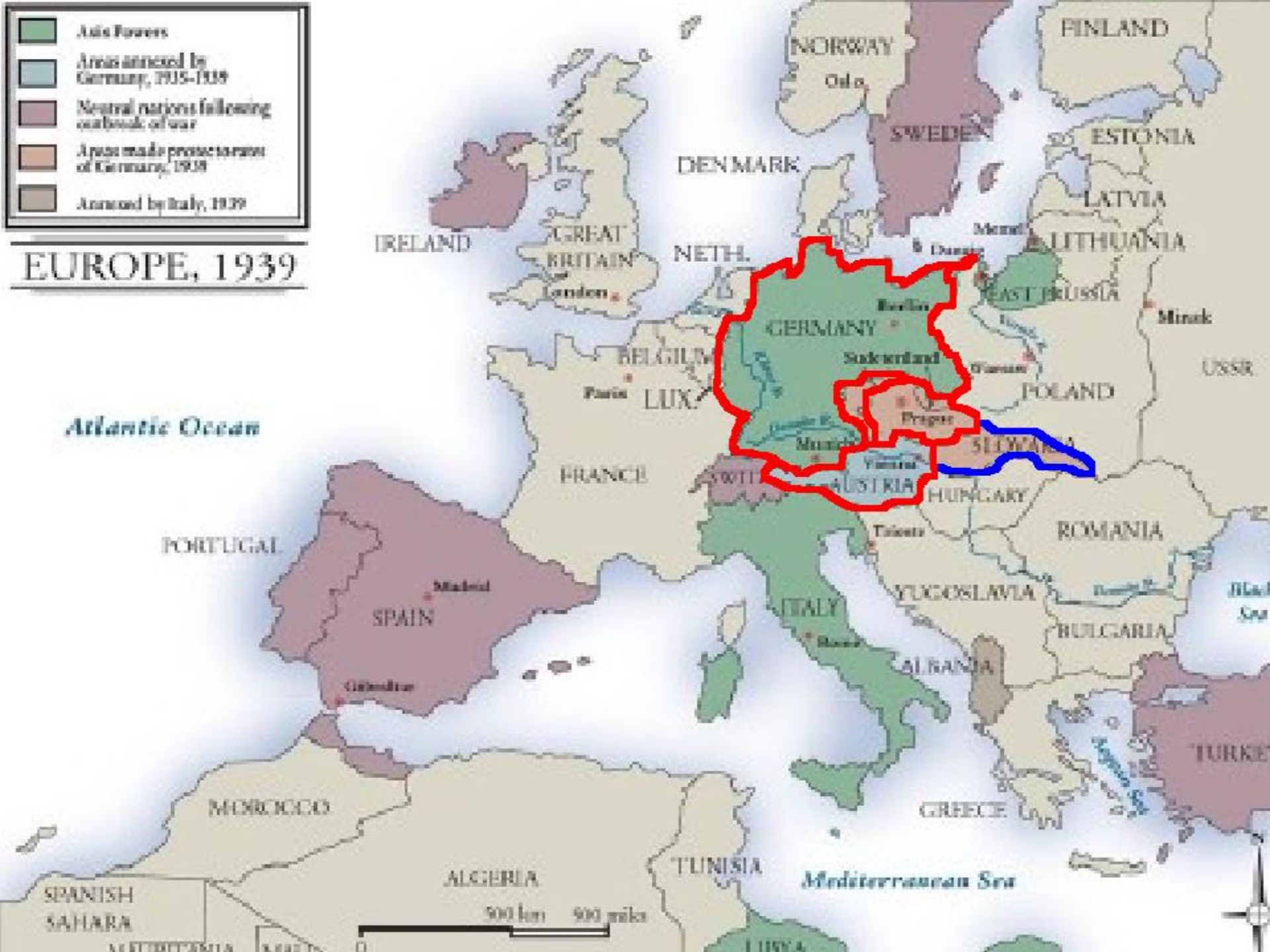
Having taken vast amounts of land, by the end of March 1939 Hitler was still not satisfied with his amount of land and made plans to invade Poland.

The British had agreed to support Poland in the face of German invasion. On September 1st 1939 the Nazi troops invaded Poland.



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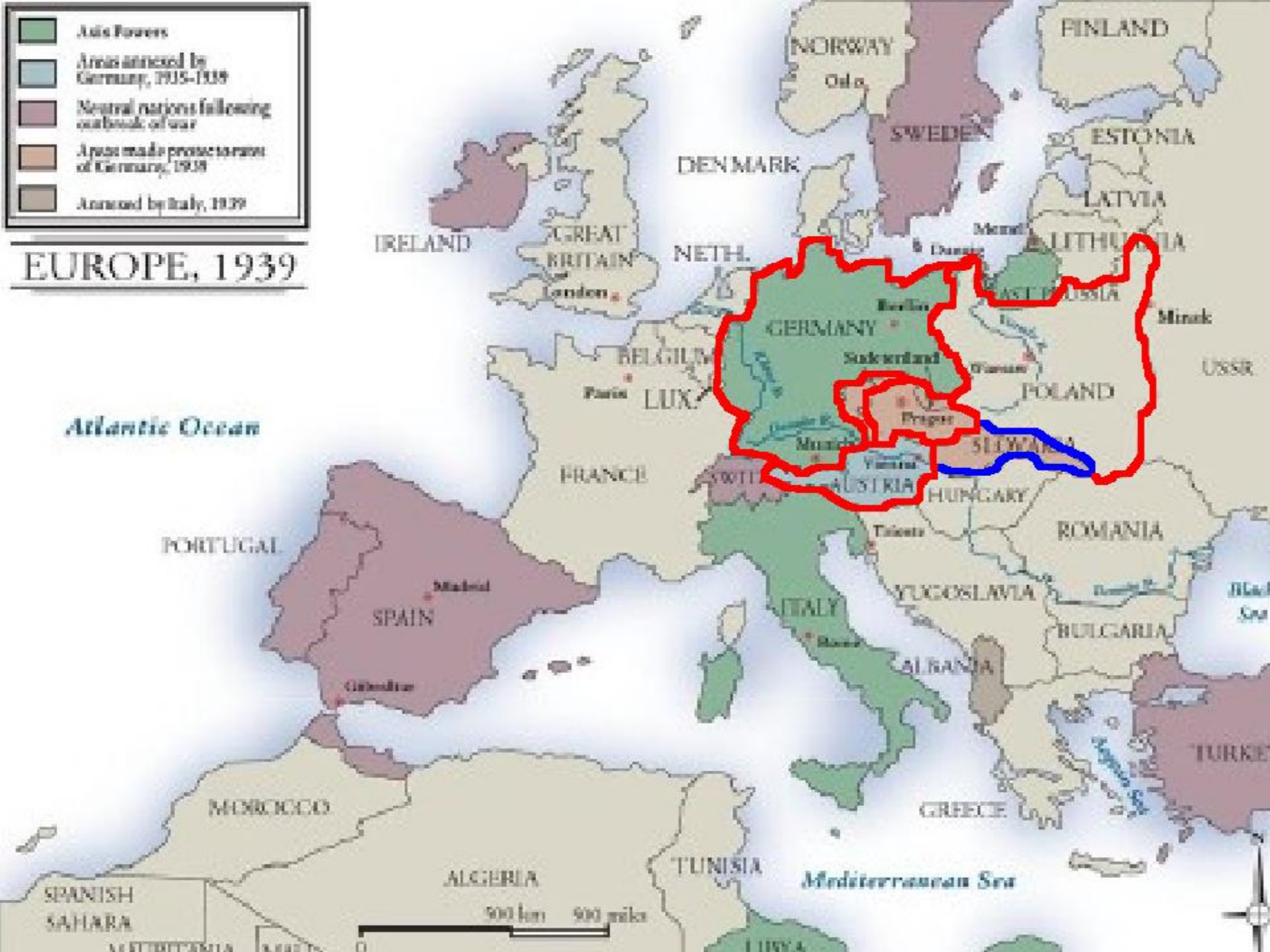
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If you were Chamberlain what would you do?

A

Now start a war. Since March 1939 you have worked on civil defences (home defences) and you need to support Poland.

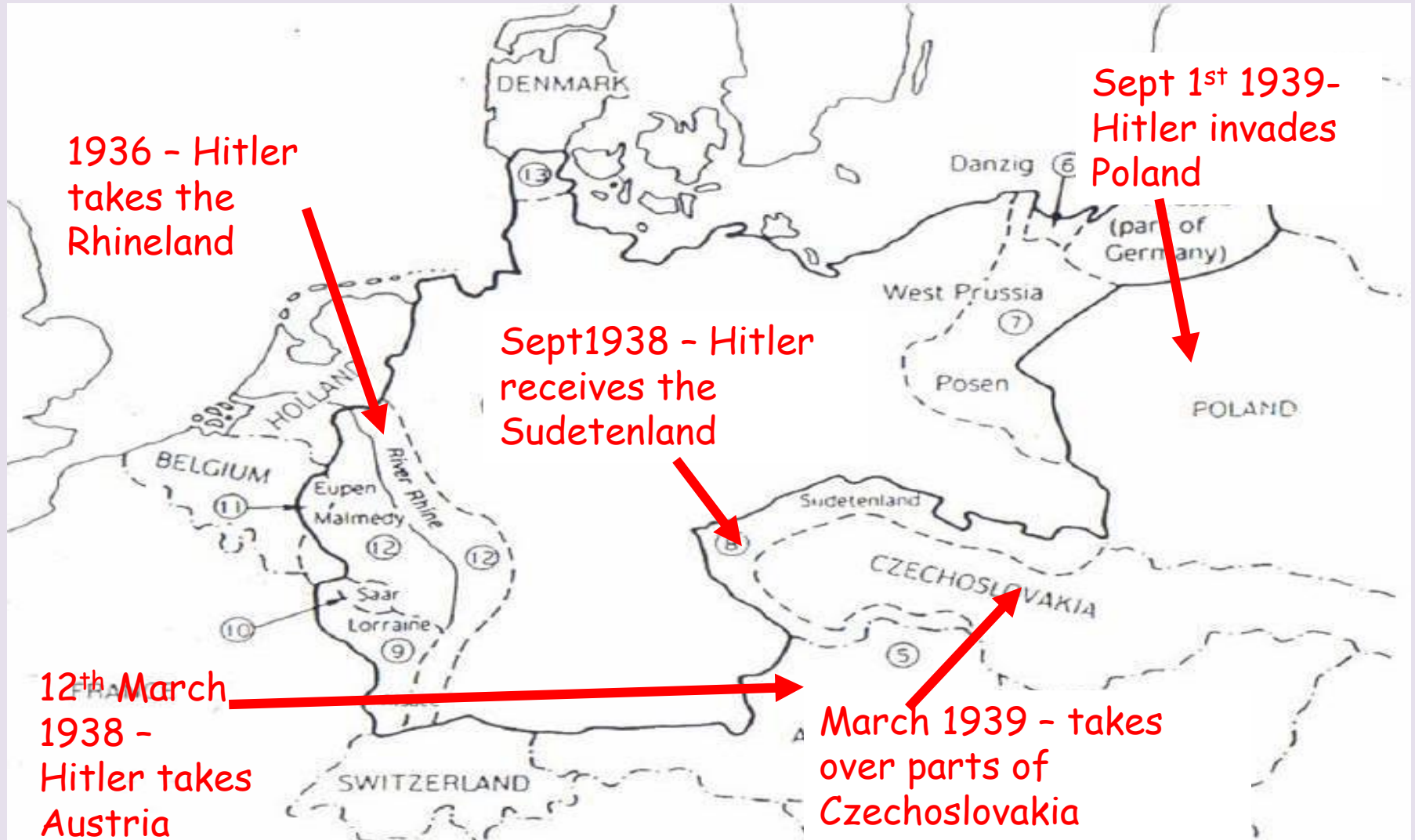
B

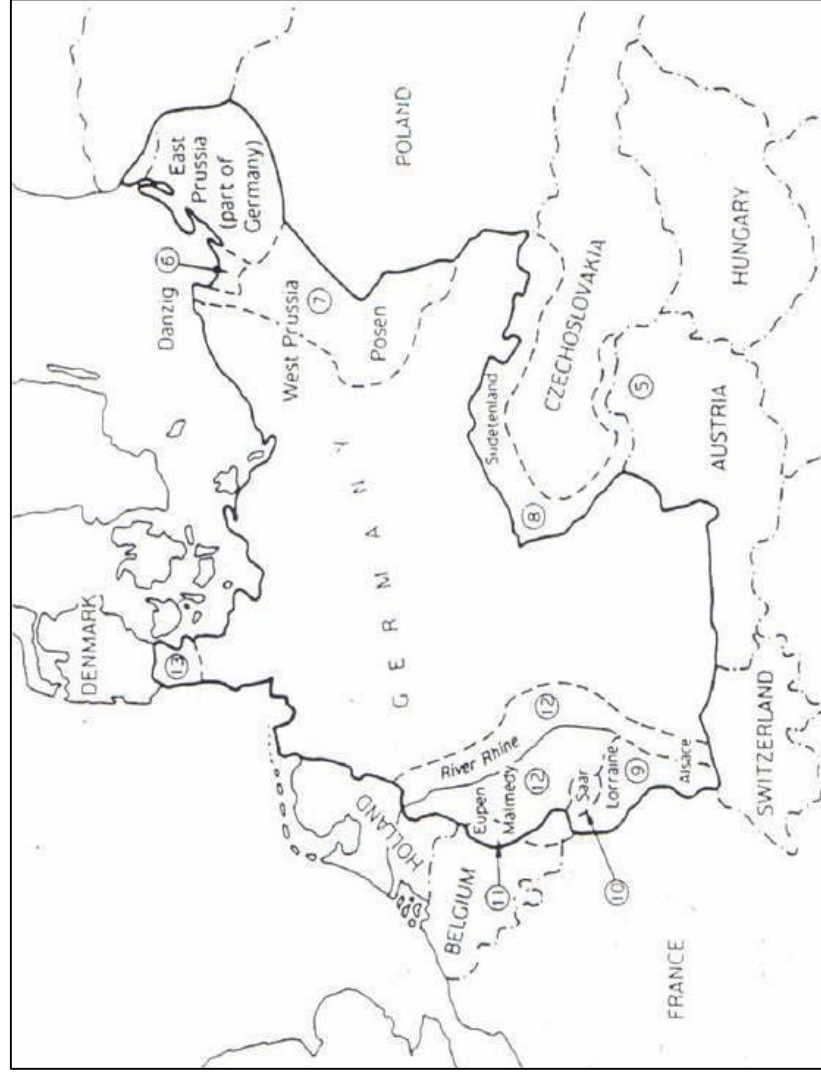
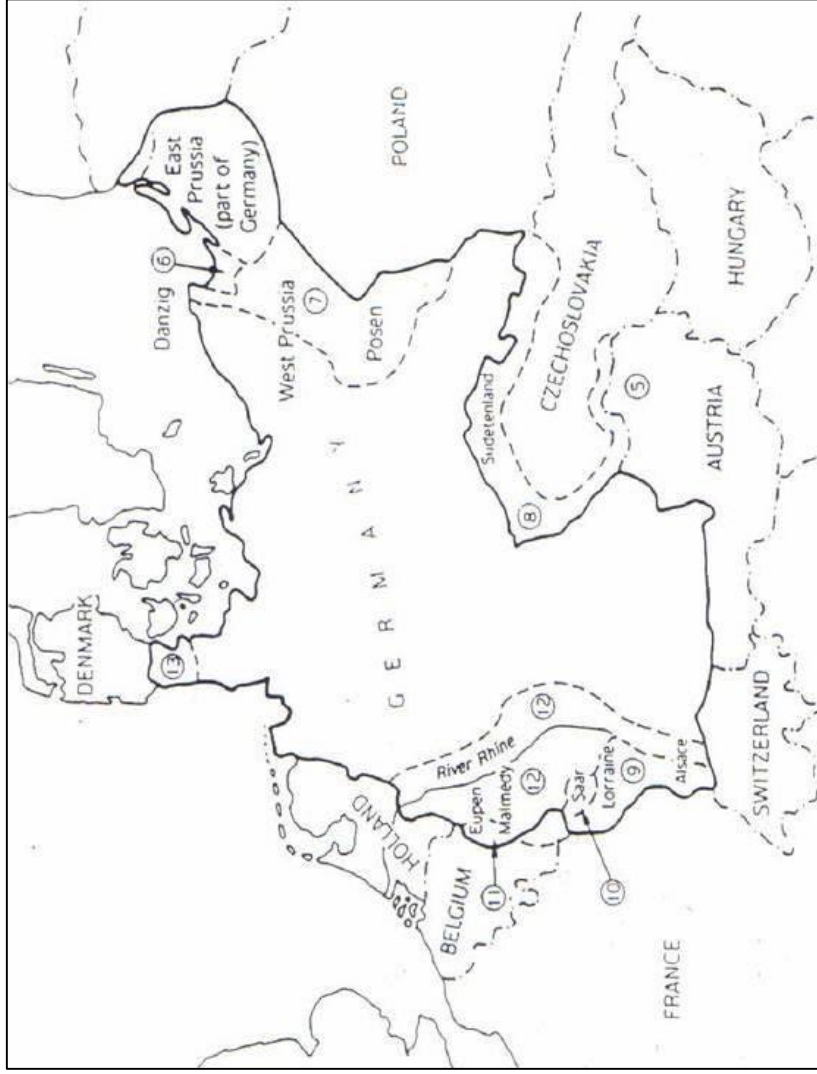
Continue with rearming. You have been rearming a while, but a bit more wont hurt will it?

C

Set another meeting with Hitler where you plan to try and sort another treaty with him.

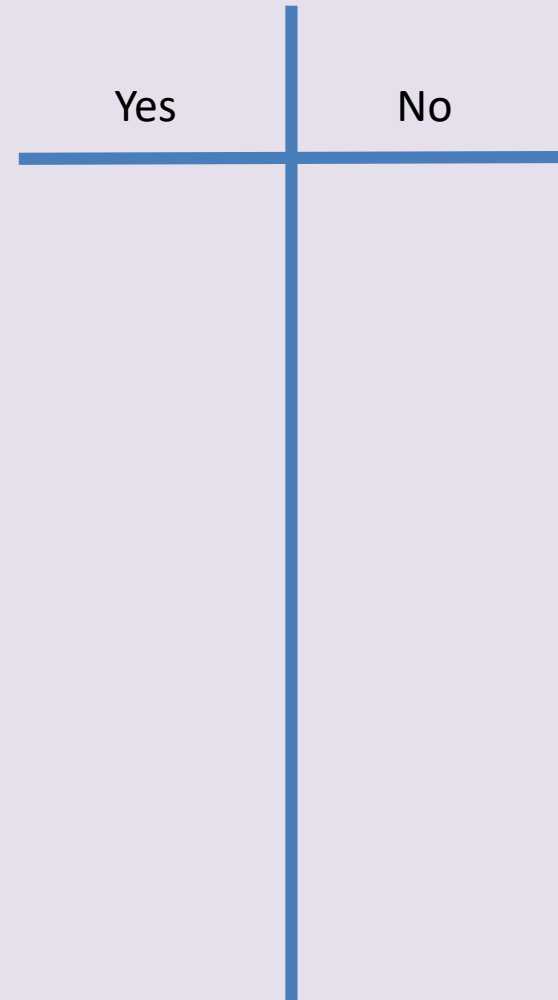
Task 2: Mapping Hitler's power





Task 3: Was appeasement the right decision?

<p><u>Germany deserved a fair deal</u> Germany treated too harshly at Versailles, so were only being given their rightful land.</p>	<p><u>It encouraged Hitler</u> Giving into Hitler only made him feel he could do what he wanted - without fear of being stopped.</p>
<p><u>Germany was growing stronger</u> Allowing Germany to grow stronger meant it would be far more difficult to defeat.</p>	<p><u>Britain needed time</u> By giving Hitler what he wanted, Britain had more time to build up her armed forces.</p>
<p><u>The British people had to want war</u> In 1938 British public opinion was against war - so the policy of appeasement was sensible.</p>	<p><u>Fear of Communism</u> It was felt better to support a strong leader of Germany rather than risk Communist takeover.</p>
<p><u>Fear of another war</u> People wanted to avoid another terrible war and did everything possible.</p>	<p><u>Munich agreement was a disaster</u> Churchill said Czechoslovakia was sacrificed for nothing - Hitler had fooled everyone.</p>
<p><u>Appeasement scared the USSR</u> When Britain and France did not stand up to Hitler, the USSR became worried about German power - and began thinking about deals with Hitler.</p>	<p><u>Hitler was determined to conquer Eastern Europe</u> Hitler had made his plans clear - the policy of appeasement was clearly doomed from the start - Hitler just lied.</p>



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