John Keegan, *The Second World War* (1989)

Table of Contents

Foreword………………………………………………………………………………………………………………..……5-6

**Prologue**………………………………………………………………………………………………………………..…….10

1. Every Man a Soldier……………………………………………………………………………….……10-30 below mid

Untitled Intro……………………………………………………..….10-12 below mid

The chapter deals with deep social, political, institutional, economic,

technological, cultural conditions that “made possible” WWI and

WWII “rather than why they came about.”

The Militarisation of Europe……………………………………12 below mid-17 below mid

Surplus and War-Making Capacity…………………………..17 below mid-22 below mid

‘No Conscription without Representation’…………….22 below mid-25 btm

The Fruits of Victory [how WWI ended in east & west]……25 btm-27 below top

**Having established these deep roots of war, Keegan turns to the specific consequences of the war ending with German forces still deep in Russian territory and, though on the defensive, not in Germany on the Western Front, which leads to disillusion with dictated peace and the militarization of German society and rise of political extremism**

The Freikorps Phenomenon………………………………………..27 below top-30 below mid

**Having established these Versailles-related roots, Keegan shows how Closely aligned the Nazi party was**

**to these right-wing military groups That set the anti-communist and anti-Western Allies political agenda**

**for the extremist turn in the late 20s and early 30s**

2. Fomenting World War……………………………………………………………………..………………...31-51

Untitled subsection on early days of Nazi Party…………31-34 near btm

Hitler and the Nazi Revolution…………………………………34 near btm-36 mid

Hitler and the Generals…………………………………………….36 mid-44 mid

**HM!** **Sudden appearance of Soviet Union after Munich, leading to N-S pact**

The Campaign in Poland……………………………………………44 mid-47 below top

**The Winter War………………………………………….…………47 below top-49 mid**

The Scandinavian Campaign………………………………………49 mid-51

**Interestingly, the prologue ends with campaign in Poland, suggesting that that is the lead-up to the war in the West, in part one, and the war in the East against Soviet Union. Strange division of material. So, the main line of the narrative of the war really begins with Hitler’s blitz on France, low Countries and GB, because all the other stuff is mere prologue.**

Part 1: **The War in the West 1940-1943 (71 pages)**

3. The Triumph of Blitzkrieg………………………………………………………………………………54-87

4. Air Battle: The Battle of Britain…………………………………………………………….……..88-102

5. War Supply and the Battle of the Atlantic………………………………………………..…..103-123

**Major point of this chapter is the decisive character of US aid to Britain and, after Barbarossa, Lend-Lease aid to Soviet Union and why Hitler would commit to naval battle in Atlantic in hopes of preventing that: how Battle of Atlantic was “a war winning enterprise”(123) because without Allied victory in it “the course, perhaps even the outcome, of the Second World War would have been entirely otherwise” (123) given the scale of US aid to SU which was so massive that “Wartime Russia survived and fought on American aid.” (218)**

Part II: **The War in the East 1941-1943 (Ch 6, 9, 11: 15 + 36 + 18 = 69 pages)**

6. Hitler’s Strategic Dilemma…………………………………………………………………….…………127-141

7. Securing the Eastern Springboard…………………………………………………….………………142-159

8. Airborne Battle: Crete………………………………………………………………………………………160-172

**Depicting these battles (Balkans and Crete) involving German and British forces as associated with the upcoming invasion of the Soviet Union, of which that is clearly a part, yet not told in relation to that but seen in terms of conflict between Italy, and then later Germany, and GB; the effect of this is to reduce amount of space covering S-G war**

9. Barbarossa…………………………………………………………………………………………………………..173-208

10. War Production…………………………………………………………………………………..…………..209-219

**Again, something that diverts attention from S-G war is placed in section on S-G war. (Germany: 209-212 btm; Japan-212 btm-214 top; GB—which has a subsection title—214 btm-215 btm; US lend-lease to GB and Soviet Union—under subtitle on Britain’s War Effort—215 btm-218 btm; USA: 218 btm-219)**

11. Crimean Summer, Stalingrad Winter……………………………………………………………….…220-237

Part III: **The War in the Pacific 1941-1943 (ch 12-14 & 16: 47 pages)**

12. Tojo’s Strategic Dilemma………………………………………………………………………….………….240-250

Untitled Intro section on the dilemma of going north vs. USSR or going south vs. US/GB and roots of the war in deep Japanese cultural hatred of the West, going back to 16th century…………………………………………………………..240-242 below top

Japan’s Designs on China………………………………242 below top-245 below mid

Preparations for War………………………………..245 below mid-250

**The early narrative of causality: German behavior in response to urge to undo Versailles up to initiation of WWII with German invasion of Poland; origin of Asia-Pacific War intersecting with origins of WWII only told in relation to lead-up to Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor.**

13. From Pearl Harbor to Midway……………………………………………………..……………251-267 near btm

Untitled Intro on Japanese plan to create vast perimeter to keep US and GB out of the Western

Pacific and the Pacific Rim of Asia……………………………..251-254 top

The Strike on Pearl Harbor……………………………………..….254 top-256 top

The tide of Japanese Conquest [GB “possessions”]……256 top-261 btm

Unlocking the [Dutch] East Indies Treasure-House……….261 btm-265 top

The Fall of Philippines…………………………………………………..265 top-267 near btm

14. Carrier Battle: Midway…………………………………………………………………………………………….268-278

15. Occupation and Repression……………………………..….……………………………………279-289 near btm

Untitled subsection on Japan’s GEACPS……….. 279-281 btm

Hitler’s ‘New Order’……………………………………….281 btm-284 btm

Largely slave labor and exploitation, mostly in Western Europe as an organized conscious

German policy

Exploitation of the East………………………………….284 btm-288 below top

Same in the East but with much greater violence because these were *untermenschen*

**The Fate of the Jews**……………………………………….288 below top-289 below mid

16. The War for the Islands………………………………………………………………………………………….290-307

Part IV**: The War in the West 1943-1945 (Africa, Italy, D-Day-Rhine, St. Bombing; 138 pages)**

17. Churchill’s Dilemma………………………………………………………………………………………………310-319

Churchill’s role in shifting Allied policy away from invasion of France early to doing the Mediterranean

approach first and putting Normandy after

18. Three Wars in Africa……………………………………………………………………………..……………..320-343

19. Italy and the Balkans……………………………………………………………………………..………………344-368

20. Overlord……………………………………………………………………………………………………………….369-395

21. Tank Battle: Falaise……………………………………………………………………………..……………….396-414

22. Strategic Bombing……………………………………………………………………………………..………..415-435

23. The Ardennes and the Rhine………………………………………………………………………………..436-447

Part V: **The War in the East 1943-1945 (chs 24, 25, 27, 28: 33 pages + 31)**

24. Stalin’s Strategic Dilemma………………………………450-457

25. Kursk and the Recapture of Western Russia……………458-482

26. Resistance and Espionage………………………………..483-502 mid (mixed stuff)

Intro section covering German occupation of France and places in Eastern Europe, and resistance and Western Allied espionage in the occupied territories………483-486 below mid

Hitler’s Philosophy of Empire……………………………..486 below mid-492 top

The Yugoslavian Partisans…………………………………..492 top-496 top

The Bacillus of Espionage……………………………………496 top-497 mid

The Role of Ultra……………………………………………497 mid-502 mid

**Again, a diversion from S-G war:**

27. The Vistula and the Danube………………………………………………………..…………………….503-515

28. City Battle: The Siege of Berlin…………………………………………………………………………..516-533

Part VI: **The War in the Pacific 1943-1945 (50 pages)**

29. Roosevelt’s Strategic Dilemma…………………………536-545

30. Japan’s Defeat in the South……………………………….546-560

31. Amphibious Battle: Okinawa……………………..561-573

32. Super-Weapons and the Defeat of Japan………………..574-585

**Epilogue**

33. The Legacy of the Second World War…………………588-595 mid