SPRINGTIME FOR HITLER

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IiryTUCtLNA
CHANGES IN BEHAVIOR

-Staunch difference
-No longer Versailles
-”Bolder Course”
-prepared to move against Austria and Czechoslovakia as early as 1938
- Army heads worried about France
- Lack of fortification on western front
- Czech defenses
- Blomberg, Fritsch, Neurath (Foreign Minister)
- All removed from positions within 3 months
- Hjalmar Schacht able to finance the rearmament
- Thought Hitler was wasting money and resources
- Hitler too consumed with arms
- Schacht continued to warn
- Allowed to stay for his mastery of the market
- Göring appointed as Commissioner for Raw Materials and Foreign Exchange by Hjamar
- Plenipotentiary for 4 year plan
- Plan to make Germany self-sufficient
- Shacht resigns 8 December 1937
- Hitler begins to raise the strength of the army from 21 to 36 divisions
- Surprise to most within the Army
- 1936, talks about Rhineland again
- Generals felt disconnected from Hitler and his ideology
- Warry of Franco-Russian Pact
Saw army as a specialized narrow minded group of men that had limited use

- Blomberg and Fritsch both opposed Hitler, unprepared for the gear-up
- Hitler ignores them
- Blomberg marries the wrong woman and gets fired
- Fritsch to take place, wild accusations
Fritsch “resigns” leaving Commander in Chief open
Hitler announces his plan
No more War Ministry, its duties flow to the OKW (a high command of armed forces)
Hitler now takes the position of Commander in Chief
OKW becomes Hitler’s personal staff
-Neurath as Foreign Minister replaced by a loyal Ribbentrop
-Hitler now assumes power in everything
- Papen as ambassador to Vienna called back on February 4th
- Wanted to use leverage of the Agreement of July 1936 to undermine Austrian independence
- Still a party cooking in Austria, Hitler decides to wait on using them
Schuschnigg freaking out

- Papen can get back in business, proposes meeting in Germany, Hitler enticed and accepts
- Tea time on February 11th
- Things look like they will go well when all of a sudden...
HITLER ANGRY!!! HITLER SMASH!!!
- Criticized fortifying defenses on the German-Austrian border, this can be mirrored
- Austria is alone, no one will come
- Agree to my demands or there will be force
- Lunch with generals (not awkward)
Austrians to lift ban on Nazi Party, National socialism could be compatible with loyalty to Austria
-Seyss-In-quart to be Minister of the Interior
-Amnesty for all imprisoned Nazis, reinstatement
-Exchange of officers
-Economics to be intertwined
- Schuschnigg calls for plebiscite to be held on March 13
- Hitler angered that Schuschnigg would try to oppose him, invades at 2am on the 11th
- Hitler calls for resignation of Schuschnigg, resigns
- President Miklas refuses to make Seyss-Inquart Chancellor
- Acts like it anyways
Sends telegram to ask for German troops
Citizens prevented from leaving
Large seizure by force
Hitler waiting for Mussolini’s approval
SI on the 13th issues law to Hitler about Austria becoming German province
He cried, arrested 26,000 people
- German approval rating 99.08%
- Austrian approval rating 99.75%

“PROUDEST HOUR OF MY LIFE”
- Britain and France begin to worry
- France supports Czechs again
- Britain refuses to
- Mussolini reaffirms strength of the Axis
- Really pressing on Czechs now
- Army grows to 55 divisions
I KNOW GUAC IS EXTRA!
(ARMY COSTS A LOT)
-Czechs know what’s up…
- Sudeten Germans being headed by Henlein
- Rumors of imminent invasion were correct
- Britain and France desperate
- Czechs mobilize near border
- France and Russia deter Hitler for now
- 23 May Hitler sends a note to the ambassador saying there are no intentions of invading.
- France and Britain kinda mad at Benes.
- Everyone wants a piece of Czechoslovakia.
- Czechs try to appease Sudetens.
- In response they issue ultimatum.
- Hitler moves X-day to Sept 30, makes a speech.
- Leads to uprising
- Some shot in Sudetenland
- Declaration of Martial law in Czechoslovakia
- Hitler talks with Chamberlain, Chamberlain giving him the benefit of the doubt
- Hitler delightedly says he doesn’t care if there is war or not
- Hitler continually makes preparations, sure Britain and France won’t attack
- Chamberlain brings plan to Hitler on the 22 of September
- Hitler shuts him down completely
- Doesn’t really want Sudetenland, wants to destroy Czech
- Last land demand, October 1st last deadline
- Czechs panic and start killing Germans inside Sudetenland
France agrees to most German demands, Czechs would be forced to accept

- Munich conference occurs with the prime ministers and the dictators
- Ends with Hitler making nearly no concessions, invasion occurs 1 October
- Czechs defeated

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9-axJfTzj0VU
Hitler returns home to amaze and wonderment

-Some in Europe begin to recognize the gravity of the situation

-Hitler did not get the violent victory he wanted

-Killing of more Jews

-Strengthens relationship with Italy
- Plans for Ukraine shut down by Poland and Russia
- Move for Danzing
- Czechs firmly under German hands
- Exploitation of Slovakia
- Hitler is now realized
When was the latest Hitler could have been stopped?

A. Never
B. Before the Anchluss
C. Before Sudetenland
D. Before the very end