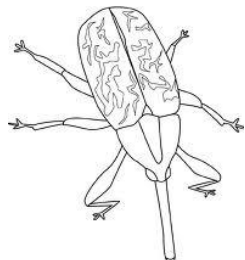


# HISTORY PART 4

**SS8H8 The student will analyze the important events that occurred after World War I and their impact on Georgia.**

- Describe the impact of the boll weevil and drought on Georgia.
- Explain economic factors that resulted in the Great Depression.
- Discuss the impact of the political career of Eugene Talmadge.
- Discuss the effect of the New Deal in terms of the impact of the Civilian Conservation Corps, Agricultural Adjustment Act, rural electrification, and Social Security.



Georgia's dependence on agriculture affected it when it encountered the **boll weevil and a drought** in the 1920s. The boll weevil was a bug that ate cotton "bolls," (bolls are a part of the cotton plant - the bulb before it blooms). This bug wreaked havoc on Georgia's cotton crop. The drought in Georgia affected its cotton crop (that was not destroyed by the boll weevil) as well as the rest of Georgia's crops. After these two issues, Georgia was thrown into a terrible depression.

After WWI, the United States (and Georgia) went through a time of growth and prosperity called the Roaring Twenties. There was overconfidence in the economy, however, and the United States had to deal from the fallout of this. People bought things they could not afford on credit, including stocks. The government did little to help the economy. Because of this, the stock market "crashed." This meant that the value of stocks (or parts of a company) declined sharply in value in a short period of time. Once the stock market crashed, the **Great Depression** occurred. During the Great Depression, many people in the United States (possibly 25 percent or more) were unemployed due to companies losing money from the stock market crash. Banks closed because they ran out of money and there was no government intervention to protect the banks. People lost their life savings in the banks or in the stock market. People lost their homes and lived in shacks. To this day, the Great Depression remains the most terrible economic crisis in United States (and Georgia) History.

A new president came to power who vowed to do something about the Great Depression. His name was Franklin Delano Roosevelt (also known as FDR) and he developed a plan called the "New Deal." The **New Deal** was a series of federal programs designed to put people to work and give federal aid to those in need. The programs that your standards discuss are:

- Civilian Conservation Corps** – This agency was created by Roosevelt and it put young men to do work creating public work projects. It put money in pockets and gave the young men food and shelter.
- Agricultural Adjustment Act** – This was a measure where the government paid farmers to keep them from producing goods (to limit overproduction).
- Rural Electrification** – This agency was created by FDR to bring electricity to the rural (country) areas of the United States (especially the South).
- Social Security** – This agency was created to give retirement benefits to the elderly and still exists today.



**Eugene Talmadge**

One of Georgia's most controversial politicians was Eugene Talmadge. Talmadge was the governor of Georgia during the Great Depression and gained much support from the rural, white population. He used the county unit system to his advantage (he was elected three times) and while governor, he became very powerful. He fired enemies and became an outspoken opponent to FDR's New Deal. Despite his involvement in scandals, Talmadge was elected to a 3<sup>rd</sup> term but died before he could serve that term.

# WORLD WAR II

**SS8H9 The student will describe the impact of World War II on Georgia's development economically, socially, and politically.**

- Describe the impact of events leading up to American involvement in World War II; include Lend-Lease and the bombing of Pearl Harbor.
- Evaluate the importance of Bell Aircraft, military bases, the Savannah and Brunswick shipyards, Richard Russell, and Carl Vinson.
- Explain the impact of the Holocaust on Georgians.
- Discuss President Roosevelt's ties to Georgia including his visits to Warm Springs and his impact on the state.



**Allied Powers – Great Britain, United States, Soviet Union (formerly Russia) and France (they were taken over by the Nazis early on).**

**Axis Powers – Germany, Italy, Japan**

World War II was caused by many factors – the primary ones being the unresolved issues at the end of World War I and the rise of fascism (a government that revolves around a dictator). In Europe, German dictator Adolf Hitler made a pact with Italian dictator Mussolini and Japanese Emperor Hirohito. These countries formed the Axis Powers, an alliance bent on world domination. Most of the world watched as the Axis powers took over territory and countries. Eventually, Britain and France declared war on the Axis Powers, calling themselves the Allies. The US remained neutral at the beginning of World War II, but traded and sold supplies to the Allies.

At the beginning of the war, the United States (once again) declared itself "neutral," but its neutral stance was certainly questionable.

It gave a great deal of aid to the Allies in the form of the **Lend-Lease** program, which was a program created to "lend" or "lease" supplies to the Allies. The U.S. also stopped trading and selling to Japan, which made Japan furious and made them feel as though the U.S. was in the war on the side of the Allies. Japan planned a sneak attack at a Naval Base at **Pearl Harbor, Hawaii on December 7<sup>th</sup>, 1941**. The United States then entered the war on the side of the Allies and sent troops to Europe and Asia to fight the Axis powers.



Georgia had several contributions to the war effort. By contributing to the war, Georgia not only showed its allegiance to the United States, but it also was able to put people to work. (Many historians think that World War II allowed the United States to get out of the Great Depression.) Georgia's contributions consisted of:

- The Bell Aircraft Plant** in Marietta, which dealt with the building of B-29 bombers. This plant put 28,000 Georgians to work.
- The **military bases** like Ft. Benning, Camp Gordon, Hunter Air Field, Glyco Naval Station, Ft. McPherson and Ft. Gillum put local Georgians to work and trained soldiers for World War II.
- The **Savannah and Brunswick shipyards** shipped weapons, supplies, and goods to both the Pacific and European fronts of the war.

**GEORGIA ALSO HAD MEN WHO CONTRIBUTED TO THE WAR EFFORT AND HELPED THEM GET MILITARY INSTALLATIONS IN THE STATE...**

## WWII, CONTINUED...

**Richard Russell** was a Georgia man who was in the U.S. Senate. While serving in the U.S. Senate, he was appointed to the Naval Affairs Committee, and was able to use his position to bring military installations (or training camps and bases) to the state of Georgia. This helped Georgia tremendously. It brought jobs, resources, and troops to our state (who, in turn, spent money in Georgia).



Georgia +  
ports = \$!  
Just call me  
"FoTON!"



**Carl Vinson** was another Georgian who supported the military effort in Georgia during World War II. Vinson's focus was building a huge naval influence in the Pacific Ocean and in the Atlantic Ocean. Because of this, he is given the nickname, "The Father of the Two-Ocean Navy." He focused heavily on trade during the Lend-Lease program and supported funding that built up the ports of Savannah and Brunswick. Vinson contributed to Georgia's economy by bringing more military installations into the state.

**The Holocaust** was an event that did not take place in Georgia, but affected Georgians in many ways. The Holocaust was the systematic killing of Jews in Europe by Nazi Germany. Adolf Hitler, the dictator of Germany, created this system to rid the European continent of Jews. He was almost successful. Six million Jews were killed throughout Europe. They were rounded up through processes of identification and sent to concentration camps to work or to extermination camps to be killed. Many of the survivors of the Holocaust later immigrated to the United States to live, and some of them lived and continue to live in Georgia.

**Franklin Delano Roosevelt**, who was the president during the Great Depression, New Deal, and World War II, suffered a stroke in his home in Warm Springs, Georgia in 1945 before the war ended. He had a home in Warm Springs that he called the Little White House. During his life, he visited Warm Springs and the Little White House often to use the springs there to comfort his polio-stricken legs. Roosevelt was a friend to Georgia, bringing electricity to the state, creating jobs for Georgians through Bell Aircraft Plant, and through the tourism he brought to Warm Springs. After his death, many Georgians mourned the loss of a beloved president.



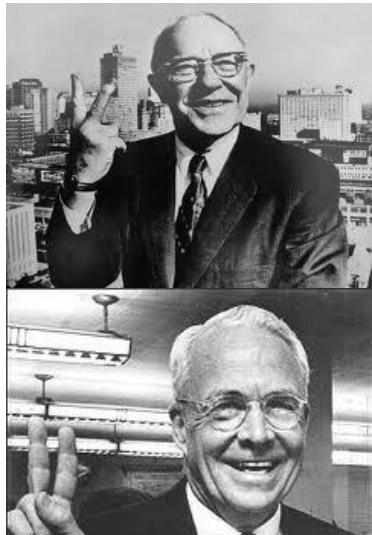
Soon after Roosevelt's death, World War II ended. After D-Day, the Allies invaded France and soon stopped Hitler in Germany, which surrendered soon after Hitler's suicide. President Harry Truman took over after Roosevelt died and learned of the Manhattan Project, which developed the atomic bomb. The Allies dropped two atomic bombs on Japan, the only Axis power left. World War II ended in 1945 after the dropping of the atomic bombs and Georgia's troops who survived came back home victorious.

# POST WWII

**SS8H10 The student will evaluate key post-World War II developments of Georgia from 1945 to 1970.**

- Analyze the impact of the transformation of agriculture on Georgia's growth.
- Explain how the development of Atlanta, including the roles of mayors William B. Hartsfield and Ivan Allen, Jr., and major league sports, contributed to the growth of Georgia.
- Discuss the impact of Ellis Arnall.

After World War II, Georgians experienced a time of happiness and growth. For many Georgians, **they finally turned away from agriculture and moved into Georgia's cities.** Today, around 50 percent of Georgia's population lives in the Piedmont Region, which contains the Atlanta Metropolitan Area, and very little money is made from farming. For those who stayed in agriculture, they found new inventions and ways to farm (via pesticides, irrigation, and machinery) that helped them to be more profitable. The era of sharecropping and tenant farming subsided (went away) and more Georgians were working in industry than ever before.



**Hartsfield and Allen**

Atlanta became a center of progress for the South. This era was led by two very famous mayors – **William Hartsfield and Ivan Allen, Jr.** Both of these mayors were instrumental in several ways. First, both of these mayors were able to bring about a time of growth for Georgia. **William Hartsfield was instrumental in making Atlanta a center for aviation, and Ivan Allen, Jr. was able to bring major league sports teams to Atlanta.** Both mayors were also very helpful during the civil rights movement. They kept the city calm and integrated the city relatively peacefully. Both mayors are acknowledged for making Atlanta a very progressive city.

**Atlanta's major league sports teams** also contributed to the state. Ivan Allen, Jr. was instrumental in bringing Georgia the Braves, the Falcons, and the Hawks. These teams brought in money for the state (by building stadiums which put people to work building and then working at the stadium) and by bringing people in to watch the teams. This also brought in many tourists to come and watch the teams. Throughout the years, fans all over the United States have traveled to watch our major league teams play.



**Ellis Arnall** was a governor of Georgia who worked to bring the state out of debt and reformed the state to get rid of the white primary. He also came to be known during the 1946 Governor's race as the "lame duck" governor who refused to leave his seat. Arnall was knocked out of office in 1946 by Eugene Talmadge (probably because of Arnall's views on the white primary), but wanted to stay in his governor's position after Talmadge died and could not serve. Arnall, despite controversy, helped Georgia in many ways.

