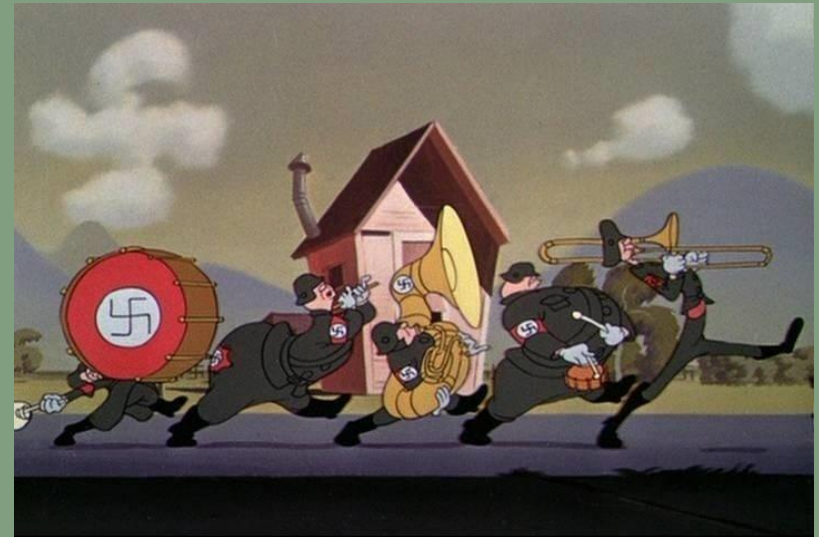




Raising Money and Support Via Animated Features?

- By 1942, when the U.S. Treasury Department was running low on funds for the war effort, it contacted Disney, Merry Melodies, and other production companies to produce propagandist cartoons to mobilize support at home.

These cartoons tended to depict the Germans and Japanese in highly stereotypical ways.



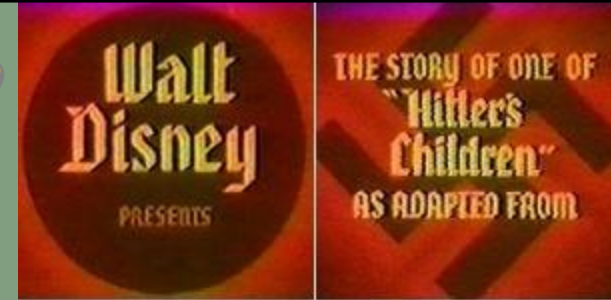
How are the Germans and Japanese stereotypically treated below?



- The Swastika-dotted landscape of Der Fuehrer's Face (1942) was the perfect brass band musical vehicle for Donald Duck, a Nazi munitions worker who "alternates between screwing nose cones onto bombs and saluting framed portraits of Adolf Hitler".
- The Japanese make a cameo appearance too - and wouldn't you know it, they've got lime green skin, big bulbous eyeglasses, Tupperware haircuts and protruding dentures rivaling those of Bugs Bunny.

Did Disney go too far?


- Topping the charts of historical cartoon propaganda is without a doubt Disney's Education For Death, which graphically details the life and times of Hitler youth. The narrator solemnly intones the distorted text of Gregor Ziemer's The Making of The Nazi.
- German adults are portrayed in classic Disney "sinister bulldog" style: barrel chest, small rear end, bowed legs, and no neck. The bellowing, red-faced instructor's jowls flop around like coattails as he berates a kindergarten classroom full of Bambi-eyed waifs in lederhosen, whose pluckish heads are delightfully oversized. The military professor's singular goal: get these scatterbrained kids to appreciate Hitler's way of thinking.
- The lesson plan is presented at the blackboard. Chalk drawings of a fox eating a rabbit illustrate nature's intended course: the weaker species (i.e. Jews and bunnies) are justly but inevitably devoured without mercy by superior forces.





MR. C'S DISCLAIMER:

- I AM NOT PROMOTING ANY OF THE MATERIAL PRESENTED IN THE FOLLOWING CARTOONS. RATHER, I AM SHOWING HOW DISNEY, WARNER BROTHERS AND OTHER ANIMATION STUDIOS JOINED THE WAR EFFORT BY CREATING PROPAGANDA, OFTEN CONSIDERED RACIST BY TODAY'S STANDARDS. IN FACT, ONE SUCH CARTOON-- **DER FUEHRER'S FACE (1942)**—WON A SPECIAL ACADEMY AWARD FOR CARTOON SHORT! WE WILL CRITICALLY ANALYZE THE CARTOONS, POINTING OUT THEIR EDUCATIONAL VALUE AS WELL AS FAULTS.



WWII Propaganda

Cartoons Persuasive Essay:

- **DIRECTIONS:** You will write a three-paragraph essay, in response to the following questions: 1) Which series of cartoons – Disney, Warner Brothers or Superman – was the MOST effective in mobilizing U.S. support for the War? 2) Are the cartoons racist by today's standards and do they hold any value for us to view today?
- After viewing the cartoons, you will follow the directions and outline format for writing a three-paragraph essay (see the following pages). Remember, each paragraph should be at least eight sentences in length. Times New Roman, 12-point font, and APA bibliography are required.
- **Helpful Resources:** 1)
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Walt_Disney%27s_World_War_II_propaganda_production,
2) <http://www.teacheroz.com/WWIIpropaganda.htm>,
3) http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/American_propaganda_during_World_War_II,
4) <http://www.spiegel.de/international/germany/0,1518,641547,00.html>

The Three Paragraph Essay

Introductory paragraph

The introductory paragraph should also include the thesis statement, a kind of mini-outline for the essay. This is where the writer grabs the reader's attention. It tells the reader what the paper is about. The last sentence of this paragraph must also include a transitional "hook" which moves the reader to the first paragraph of the body of the essay. (click on the link above for more information)

Body - second paragraph

This paragraph should include the strongest argument, most significant example, cleverest illustration, or an obvious beginning point. The subject for this paragraph should be in the first or second sentence. This subject should relate to the thesis statement in the introductory paragraph. The last sentence in this paragraph should include a transition that signals the reader that this is the final major point being made in this essay.

Concluding - third paragraph

The third paragraph is the summary paragraph. It is important to restate the thesis and the supporting idea in an original and powerful way as this is the last chance the writer has to convince the reader of the validity of the information presented.

This paragraph should include the following:

- an allusion to the pattern used in the introductory paragraph,
- a restatement of the thesis statement, using some of the original language or language that "echoes" the original language. (The restatement, however, must not be a duplicate thesis statement.)
- a summary of the main point from the body of the essay.
- a final statement that gives the reader signals that the discussion has come to an end.

3 Paragraph Essay Outline

Introduction

Thesis

Body Paragraph

Topic Sentence/Subject/Argument:

Supporting Details:

Transition to conclusion:

Conclusion