1933

January 30
Hitler becomes chancellor of Germany.

February 12
Franklin Delano Roosevelt is inaugurated as president of the United States.

March 4
A Nazi edict declares that all American film studios operating in Germany must fire all German Jews.

March 12
The Nazis limit the distribution of Hollywood films in Germany.

April
Hitler becomes chancellor of Germany.

June 28
The Nazis impose a second Neutrality Act, which prohibits the extension of loans or credit to foreign nations at war.

September 18
MGM, Paramount and Twentieth Century Fox continue business in Germany until 1939.

December 22
Members of the Black Legion, a neo-fascist organization based in Detroit, assassinate George Marchuk, secretary of the United Auto Workers.

1934

January 30
The Production Code Administration (PCA) under Joseph Breen institutes new self-policing restrictions on the film industry, banning films that do not represent national regimes or leaders fairly.

July 15
Worner Bros. is the first Hollywood studio to pull all business operations out of Germany. MGM, Paramount and Twentieth Century Fox continue business in Germany until 1939.

May 23
Black Fury premiers at The Strand.

August 31
The United States passes its first Neutrality Act, which allowed the president to place embargoes on arms shipments to warring nations.

September 15
Warner Bros. is stipped of rights by Nuremberg Race Laws.

1935

February 29
The U.S. passes a second Neutrality Act, which prohibits the extension of loans or credit to foreign nations at war.

March 7
Nazi troops occupy the Rhineland.

June 8
The Anti-Nazi League is organized in Hollywood.

July 18
Civil war erupts in Spain.

October 20
Charge of the Light Brigade is released.

November 3
FDR wins a landslide election to a second term.

1936

February 16
Harry Warner begins filming patriotic short subjects, starting with Give Me Liberty.

March 7
The U.S. passes a second Neutrality Act, which prohibits the extension of loans or credit to foreign nations at war.

March 8
The Anti-Nazi League is organized in Hollywood.

July 18
Civil war erupts in Spain.

October 20
Charge of the Light Brigade is released.

November 3
FDR wins a landslide election to a second term.

1937

January 16
Errol Flynn makes a trip to Spain during the Civil War, embarrassing the Warner brothers, who believe he was supporting the Loyalists.

February 29
The U.S. passes its third Neutrality Act, which prohibits selling strategic materials to foreign belligerents.

May 1
The U.S. passes its third Neutrality Act, which prohibits selling strategic materials to foreign belligerents.

July 14
They Won’t Forget premiers in New York.

August 11
The Life of Emile Zola premiers in New York.

1938

January 16
Black Legion opens in New York.

May 1
The U.S. passes its third Neutrality Act, which prohibits selling strategic materials to foreign belligerents.

July 14
They Won’t Forget premiers in New York.

August 11
The Life of Emile Zola premiers in New York.
1938

February 26
Harry Warner creates the Warner Club to evacuate children from Europe.

April 12
Senator Gerald Nye (R, North Dakota), Bennett Champ Clark (R, Missouri) and Burton K. Wheeler (R, Montana) introduce the Nye Committee to look into Hollywood’s anti-Nazi activities.

April 13
Dive Bomber opens in New York.

May 8
Great Britain and France declare war on Germany.

May 13

June 22
The Nazis invade Poland.

September 15
Led by Will Hays, the PCA bans the production of anti-Nazi films.

November 20
Immediately after Pearl Harbor is bombed, the Office of War Information is created. Part of its mission is to help shape the war content in motion pictures. The Nazis begin V-1 rocket attacks on London.

1939

February 7
Warner Bros. begins filming Confessions of a Nazi Spy.

March 10
The Nazis take Cracow (Krakow).

March 28
Spanish Civil War ends with victory of Franco.

April 25
J. Edgar Hoover announces that the FBI has uncovered a Nazi spy ring in the United States.

April 28
Confessions of a Nazi Spy opens in New York.

August
Confessions of a Nazi Spy is banned in Germany, Italy, Japan, Holland, Norway and Sweden.

August 23
The Nazis and the Soviets sign a nonaggression treaty.

September 1
The Nazis invade Poland.

September 15
Great Britain and France declare war on Germany.

September 22
The United States proclaims neutrality.

September 25
Laid in Will Hays, the PCA bans the production of anti-Nazi films.

September 30
The U.S. passes its fourth Neutrality Act, which allows belligerents to purchase American arms and strategic materials if they pay cash and transport the goods themselves (known as “cash and carry”).

1940

April

The Nazis invade Denmark and Norway.

May 10
The Nazis invade France, Belgium, Luxembourg and the Netherlands; Winston Churchill becomes British Prime Minister.

May 20
Jack Warner calls an emergency meeting of all studio department heads regarding the war.

June 19
France surrenders to the Nazis.

August 9
The Axis Host is released.

September 4
The Axis hosts the exhibition of Hollywood films in France and Belgium.

September 27
Hollywood studios sign a consent decree with the Justice Department, temporarily suspending an investigation of antitrust violations.

November 5
Roosevelt is re-elected.

1941

February


April 6
The Nazis invade Yugoslavia and Greece.

April 12

June 21
Underground is released.

June 22
The Nazis invade the Soviet Union.

July 2
German V-1 rockets in London.

July 23
Harry Warner urges FBI to send troops to Britain.

July 26
Senator Gerald Nye (R, North Dakota), Bennett Champ Clark (R, Missouri) and Burton K. Wheeler (R, Montana) call for an investigation of the motion picture industry, accusing Hollywood of warmeromanticism.

August 15
Dive Bomber is released.

September 1
The Nazis order Jews to wear yellow stars in Germany and occupied Poland.

September 9
The Senate subcommittee investigation of motion pictures begins. The subcommittee accuses the industry of being a Jewish-controlled monopoly that violated the official neutrality policy of the U.S.

September 10
Charles Lindbergh attacks the film industry and makes anti-Semitic remarks at an America First rally.

October 17
Tojo becomes prime minister of Japan.

December 7
The Japanese bomb Pearl Harbor.

December 8
The United States and Britain declare war on Japan. The Senate investigation of the motion picture industry ends with the cancellation of its January hearings.

December 11
The Axis powers declare war on the United States.

1942

January

All Through the Night is released.

January 1
Across the Pacific is released.

January 20
The Nazis plan the “Final Solution” at Wannsee.

April

Japanese-Americans are sent to relocation centers.

May 12
First mass gassing of Jews at Auschwitz concentration camp.

June 4
The Japanese are defeated at the Battle of Midway.

June 13
The Office of War Information is created. Part of its mission is to help shape the war content in motion pictures.

July 2
Jack Warner receives orders to assume command of the First Motion Pictures Unit, the Army’s film-making division.

October 22
Gas Chambers in New York and Allied Forces land in North Africa.

1943

February 7
The Nazis surrender to the Soviets at Stalingrad.

May 19
Axis troops in North Africa surrender to the Allies.

June 12
Axis forces in North Atlantic surrender to the Allies.

August 14
This is the Merryway, premieres in Washington, D.C.; Warner Bros. donates proceeds from the film to the Army Emergency Relief Fund.

November 28
Station, Churchill and FDR meet in Tehran.

December 31
Destination Tokyo is released.

1944

June 5
150,000 Allied troops land on D-Day.

June 13
The Nazis begin V-1 rocket attacks on London.

July 20
Heller receives an assassination attempt organized by German Army officers.

August 25
Liberation of Paris.

October 2
The Allies advance into Germany.

October 30
Last use of gas chambers at Auschwitz.

1945

January 20
The Soviets liberate Auschwitz.

January 28
The Battle of the Bulge ends with an Allied victory.

April 12
Allied German Buchenwald and Bergen-Belsen concentration camps; President Roosevelt dies and Harry Truman becomes president.

April 21
The Soviets reach Berlin.

April 28
Massacres are captured and hanged by Italian partisans; Allied forces take Venice.

April 30
Aoked Hitler commits suicide.

May 8
V-E (Victory in Europe) Day.

August 6
First atomic bomb is dropped on Hiroshima and a second on Nagasaki two days later.

September 2
Japanese sign the surrender agreement: V-J (Victory over Japan) Day.

November 20
Nuremberg war crimes tribunal begins.