1 April Law for Restoration of Professional Civil Service

5 March Elections
- Government uses control of radio, police, along with unofficial pressure, to intimidate opponents in election
- Highest-ever voter turnout at 88.8%
- Nazi election slogan: 'The battle against Marxism'
- Nazis surprisingly only got 49% of the vote, their Nationalist allies got 8%

27 February Reichstag building destroyed by fire
- Probably arson by the Dutch Communist Marius van der Lubbe acting alone
- Exploited by Nazis to show danger of communist threat

10 January Hitler appointed Chancellor
- Initially was only three Nazis (Holz, Göring, Frick) in the cabinet with Papan at Vice-Chancellor
- President Hindenburg agrees to dissolve the Reichstag on 1 February and hold new elections
- Hitler hopes to gain a two-thirds majority

1 April One day boycott of Jewish shops

5 April One day boycott of Jewish shops

1 May May-day holiday
- International Labour Day turned into 'Day of National Labour'
- 2 May Trade union officers arrested, all unions incorporated into new German Labour Front (DAF)

13 April New Ministry for Public Enlightenment and Propaganda

14 April Law against the Formation of New Parties

7 May Law against the Formation of New Parties

24 March Enabling Act: 'Law for Terminating the Suffering of the People and the Nation'

1 March Enabling Act: 'Law for Restoring the Protection of the Nation and the State'
- Issued by Hindenburg using Article 48
- Suspended constitutional civil rights
- Gave secret police power to hold people indefinitely in preventive custody
- Used to repress the KPD
- Remained in force throughout the Third Reich in effect the basis of the Third Reich

28 February Emergency decree

30 March New Ministry for Public Enlightenment and Propaganda
- Goebbels appointed as its head
- Exercised control of all media

12 March Enabling Act: 'Law for Rescuing the Suffering of the People and the Nation'
- Passed by Reichstag 'in violation of the constitution and under duress'
- SA and SS surround building and intimidate deputies
- Gave emergency powers to government for four years
- Cabinet (in effect, Hitler) could pass decrees without the President's involvement
- Needed a two-thirds majority since it was a constitutional amendment
- Passed by 441 votes to 94 (only SPD voted against; KPD banned)
- Centre Party supported it after Hitler made promises
- Ratified in 1936
- Became the virtual constitution of the Third Reich

1 April Law against the Formation of New Parties
- KPD and SPD already banned
- Other parties had dissolved themselves
- No new parties allowed, so Germany becomes a one-party state

12 November Nazi Handelskammer for Reichstagswahl 92% of votes

12 November Law for the Reconstruction of the State

20 July Concordat agreement between state and Vatican
- Church banned from political activity
- Government to protect religious freedom

5 January Law for the Reconstruction of the State
- From March 1933 many state (local) governments overthrown by SA violence allowing the Reich government to appoint commissioners. New laws formate the situation
- Electoral state assemblies dissolved
- Reich Governors (often Nazi Gauleiter) created to run states

17 August Hindenburg dies. Hitler becomes Head of State

14 June Night of the Long Knives

15 June Employment Law
- Major public works schemes

1 October Reichstag dissolved

14 October Reichstag dissolved

16 June Night of the Long Knives
- SS shoot many SA leaders and other people seen as threat

30 June Night of the Long Knives

14 November Law for the Reconstruction of the State

12 November Nazi list of candidates for Reichstag win 92% of votes

15 October Reichstag dissolved

15 October Reichstag dissolved

20 February Emergency decree

13 February Reichstag fire

130 January Hitler appointed Chancellor

1 January 1933

1934

17 August Hitler becomes undisputed head of government
- 1 August Law Concerning the Head of State of the German Reich et the offices of the President and the Chancellor in the new position of 'Führer and Reich Chancellor'. Confirmed by a plebiscite
- 2 August Hindenburg dies
- Army takes oath of personal loyalty to Hitler: 'I swear by God this sacred oath I will render unconditional obedience to Adolf Hitler, the Führer of the German nation and people, Supreme Commander of the armed forces, and will be ready at any time to risk my life at any time for this oath.'

Activity
1) Study Chart 10A. Compare your predictions (in the Activity on page 169) with what actually happened.
2) Which groups did Hitler appear to conciliate and which did he suppress?
3) Why did he treat them differently?
4) With which of the following statements on the period 1933-4 would you agree?
   a) 'Once in power, nothing prevented Hitler from imposing his ideas on Germany.'
   b) 'Hitler took a mixture of radical and more cautious measures.'
   c) 'Where he took more drastic measures, it tended to be policies which the elites welcomed, and which weakened the Left.'
   d) 'Within the first year Hitler established complete control of all key institutions.'
   e) 'Hitler was prepared to compromise on areas not crucial to him.'