

Loss of Country: The Case of France

District of Columbia, Washington, D.C, Aug 17, 2021 ([Issuewire.com](http://www.Issuewire.com)) - [A Webcast titled "Loss of Country."](#) presented by the American Academy of Distance Learning on June 13, 2020, examined the loss of China in 1644 to the Mongol invasion, the loss of France in 1940, and Poland in 1939.

Dr. John Tierney reprises his presentation in 2020 with a closer look at what it means to say that France was "lost." Please visit his presentation at

<http://www.academydl.com/the-loss-of-france>

John Tierney has been a Professor at the Institute of World Politics, Washington DC since 1998 and has taught at The Catholic University of America, the University of Virginia, and The Johns Hopkins University. He has also served as staff in the US House of Representatives (1976- 1980) and in the US Department of State (1981-1993). He is the author of books on US history, including Chasing Ghosts, Unconventional Warfare in US History (Potomac Books, 2006) and Conceived in Liberty, The US Worldview Theory and Practice (Routledge, 2017).

In a new and original essay titled "To Lose a Country" Tierney demonstrates what "Loss" has meant to countries that have suffered defeat either through foreign invasion or domestic erosion.

Tierney examines both the internal and external conditions that saw France surrender to Nazi Germany in six weeks (May 10-June 24, 1940) compared to the same country that battled Imperial Germany within four terrible years in the First World War (1914-1918).

Tierney concludes that both internal and external conditions determined the French defeat in the Second World War.

France suffered internal injury from fatigue and the tragedy of German occupation in the first war. This created a defeatist and defensive mentality in France, exemplified by the Maginot Line.

Externally, Nazi Germany was able to use the experience of the first war to improvise and expand its offensive capabilities into a dynamic Blitzkrieg ("lightning war").

In short, one side rested on history, the other left it behind. One, France, depended on a defensive "wall," the other, Nazi Germany, depended on tanks and planes.

Conclusion: If France had been able to defend itself, the world would probably have been spared another war. Had Hitler been stopped in France he would never have attacked England, invaded Russia, or declared war on the United States.

Contact Dr. Tierney at JTierney@iwp.edu

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Media Contact

Jack Tierney

jackt@iwp.edu

Source : Jack Tierney

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