

**Essential Questions:**

- 1) What were the short and long-term political, economic, and social causes of WWII and the Holocaust?
- 2) What events in WWII proved to be a major turning point in the war in favor of the Allies?
- 3) Was the U.S. decision to drop the A-bombs on Japan justified?
- 4) What were the political, economic, and social effects of WWII and the Holocaust?



## Why did Hitler want Czechoslovakia?

- Over 3 million ethnic Germans lived in the Sudetenland of Czechoslovakia.
- British Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain agreed to meet with Hitler to discuss the matter.
- **Munich Agreement (Sept 1938)**—Germany gets the Sudetenland = *Appeasement*.
- **Appeasement**--Giving in to Germany in the hope that a satisfied Hitler would not drag Europe through another world war.
- Deprived of the Sudetenland, Czechoslovakia could not defend against a German attack. Hitler took Czechoslovakia in March 1939.

## Britain's response was Appeasement: Was this the right choice?

World War I caused the deaths of nearly nine million people and cost huge sums of money. Most countries in Europe were anxious to avoid another costly war - both in terms of money and lives.

The British Prime Minister from 1937, Neville Chamberlain, believed in appeasement. The major aim was to avoid another European war.

'Appease' literally means pacify, soothe or satisfy.



In 1938, Germany and Austria joined together - this was known as the Anschluss. Hitler claimed he was uniting all German speaking people in one 'greater Germany'.

Seeing this, German speaking people in the Czechoslovakia (mainly living in an area known as the Sudetenland - shaded on the map) began to demand they become part of Germany too. Hitler made sure these people received support from Germany. However, Hitler couldn't just take over the area. Czechoslovakia was a powerful new country and had the backing of the Soviet Union.



In September 1938, Hitler demanded that German speakers in Czechoslovakia should be allowed to join his 'greater Germany'. War between Germany and Czechoslovakia seemed likely!

Everything depended on the actions of Britain, France and the Soviet Union.

## Diagram of Appeasement Process: Was appeasement justified?

### British and French foreign policy 1938

PM Chamberlain was determined to avoid war. He made many trips around Europe in September 1938 attempting to make agreements.

Chamberlain took the lead and the French followed. The French also wished to avoid war at all costs. If they didn't go to war, then neither would the Soviet Union.

As a final attempt to avoid war, a conference in Munich was organised.

### THE MUNICH CONFERENCE

Chamberlain, Hitler, Daladier (French PM) and Mussolini (leader of Italy) all met in Munich to discuss Czechoslovakia. The Czechoslovakian government was not invited.

It was decided that Germany would occupy the Sudetenland within 10 days and other parts of Czechoslovakia would go to Poland and Hungary.

The French and British governments agreed. The Czechoslovakian government was told to agree or face Germany alone.

Hitler promised not to take over any more land.

IT WAS GENERALLY FELT GIVING HITLER THE SUDETENLAND WAS A GOOD PRICE TO PAY FOR PEACE.



# “A Marriage made in Hell?”

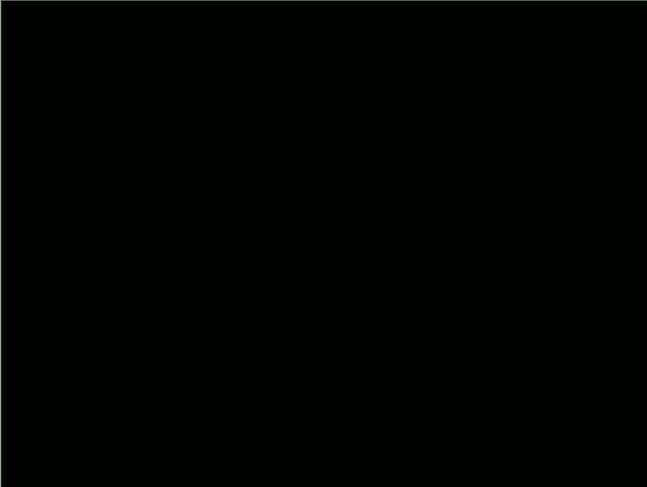


August 1939- **Nazi- Soviet Pact**, or Molotov- Ribbentrop Pact.  
--Hitler and Stalin agree to split Eastern Europe. Stalin promised to allow Hitler to invade Poland without counterattacking .

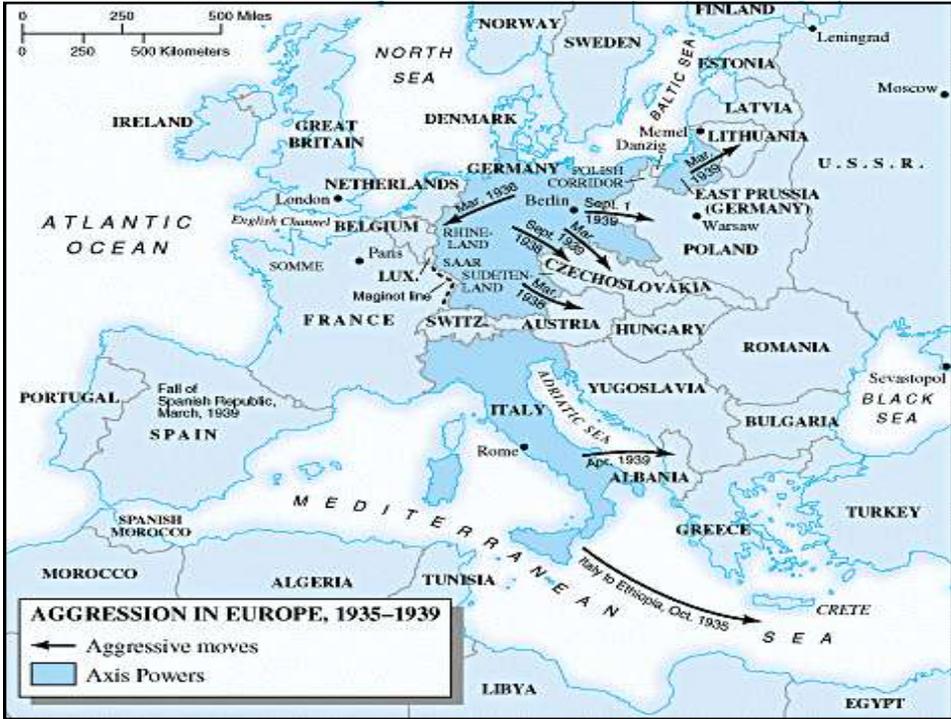
- Hitler turned his attention to Poland. He demanded the return of the city of Danzig and use of the Polish corridor. Poland refused and France and Great Britain warned that they would support Poland if attacked.



# Video: “Warlords: Hitler V. Stalin, 1939-1941” (50 m)



Qs: Compare/contrast the regimes of Hitler and Stalin. Why did Hitler and Stalin sign a non-aggression pact, especially when they both hated each other? Why would Hitler later betray Stalin?





# The Nazi Blitzkrieg: The OUTBREAK OF WWII!

## Poland

- On September 1, 1939, German troops invaded Poland.
- On September 17, Soviet troops invaded Poland from the east. 15,000 of the captured Polish officers are slaughtered by Stalin's NKVD (KGB) in 1940, Katyn Forest Massacre.
- In less than a month, the Nazi blitzkrieg (lightning war) had captured Poland, which surrendered on September 27.



# The War Begins



September 1, 1939—In a radio speech, Hitler justifies invading Poland. Members of Britain and France’s governments would meet and declare war on Germany two days later.



## The Soviet Union Strikes!

- September & October, 1939- Soviet troops occupy Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania.
- November 1939- The Soviet Union attacks Finland. Finland holds out at first, but outnumbered 5 to 1 they surrender in March. Finland keeps its independence, but gives up territory to Stalin.

## Hitler Conquers More of Europe!

**April 1940**- Hitler captured Denmark and Norway through an amphibious assault. 1/3 of the German surface fleet is sunk or heavily damaged in invading Norway.

In **May of 1940**, German troops invaded Belgium, Holland, and Luxembourg and marched into France.

**June 17-29, 1940** - Stalin overthrows the governments in the Baltic States and Eastern Romania and installs communist puppet governments





## War in Europe

- October 28, 1940 - Greece rejects Italy's demands for the use of Greek bases, Italy invades Greece
- December 1940 - Hitler battles Greece.
  - The Greeks break through the Italian defenses and overrun ¼ of Albania . The Greeks take 28,000 Italian prisoners.
  - Hitler has to come to Mussolini's aid and send troops to Greece. Hungary, Rumania, Bulgaria, and Yugoslavia agree to let German troops pass through their countries.
  - A revolution in Yugoslavia forces Hitler to invade Yugoslavia in order to get to Greece, which is eventually conquered.



A Slug in Athens



German machine gunners



## The Fall of France






- On June 22, 1940 France signed an armistice with Germany, agreeing to German occupation of northern France and the coast.
  - The French military was demobilized, and the French government, now located at **Vichy**, would collaborate with the German authorities in occupied France.
- Refusing to recognize defeat, General Charles de Gaulle escaped to London and organized the Free French forces.
- Britain, now headed by Winston Churchill, stood alone against Germany.



# Video Clip: France Gives Up



**UNIVERSAL NEWSREEL**

## FRANCE GIVES UP!

— Graham McNamee —



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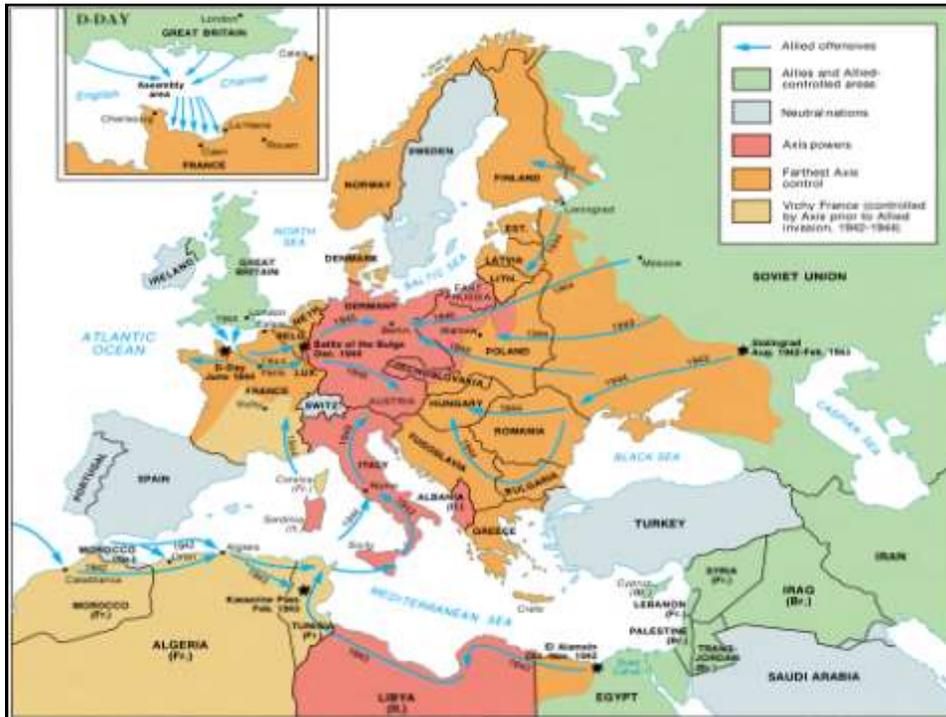
**THE BACKGROUND**

This cartoon was published on June 24<sup>th</sup> 1940, during the Second World War. Two days earlier, France had signed a surrender after the Germans invaded. Britain continued to fight against the Germans

Who is the woman and what does she represent?

Look at the way she is portrayed. What does this say to us?

Hitler and Mussolini are standing either side of her. How does Illingworth portray them?





## The Battle of Britain July-September, 1940

- The new British Prime Minister, **Winston Churchill**, vowed never to surrender.
- During the **Battle of Britain**, the **Luftwaffe**—German air force--began massive attacks on Britain to destroy its air defenses.
- Britain held firm during the **Blitz** despite devastating destruction to English cities.
  - The British resistance convinced Hitler to postpone the invasion but he continued the bombing attacks.





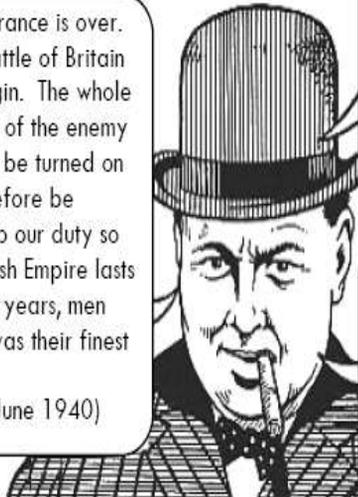
## Battle of Britain Video Clip



### Source A: British Prime minister, Winston Churchill

The Battle of France is over. I expect the Battle of Britain is about to begin. The whole fury and might of the enemy must very soon be turned on us. Let us therefore be prepared to do our duty so that, if the British Empire lasts for a thousand years, men will say, 'This was their finest hour'.

(18th June 1940)



Never in the field of human conflict was so much owed by so many to so few.

(20th August 1940)

We shall fight them on the beaches, we shall fight them on the landing grounds, we shall fight them in the field and in the street, we shall fight them in the hills. We shall never surrender.

(3rd June 1940)



- July-September, 1940 Battle of Britain

## Who really won/lost the Battle of Britain?



**Source E: RAF aircraft losses.**

Spitfires	357
Hurricanes	601
Blenheims	53
Other	74



**Source F:  
Luftwaffe aircraft losses.**

Messerschmitt Bf 109	533
Messerschmitt Bf 110	229
Heinkel He 111	246
Junkers Ju 88	281
Domier Do 17	171
Junkers Ju 87	74
Domier Do 215	6
Heinkel He 115	28
Henschel Hs 126	7
Heinkel He 59	31
Other	46

**RAF**—Great Britain’s Royal Airforce

## Who really won/lost the Battle of Britain?

Source G: RAF casualties in 1940.

Total	Origin	Killed
1822	RAF	339
56	Fleet AIR ARM	9
21	Australian	14
73	New Zealander	11
88	Canadian	20
21	South African	9
2	Southern Rhodesian	0
8	Irish	0
7	American	1
141	Polish	29
86	Czech	8
26	Belgian	6
13	Free French	0
1	Israeli	0



Source H:  
German Aircraft Pilots  
Killed in action.

Bomber Crews	1176
Stuka Crews	85
Fighter bomber crews	212
Fighter pilots	171

## Is Hitler Unstoppable?

- April 1941-  
German troops pour into Yugoslavia and Greece and both fall quickly. But Hitler delays his plan to invade Russia .





# Trouble in the Pacific!

- What is the meaning of this cartoon by Dr. Seuss?




## Would You Have Been Able to Prevent the Japanese Attack?



President Roosevelt



Emperor Hirohito

**THINK!!!:**

Imagine that it is late November 1941. You are a special foreign policy advisor to U.S. President Franklin D. Roosevelt. Political tensions between the U.S. and Japan have been increasing over the past several years. While you are unaware that Hirohito and his military have been planning to attack Pearl Harbor, you fear that war is about to break out. What would your foreign policy proposal to Roosevelt look like, considering the following?:

- 1) Why have tensions between the U.S. and Japan increased.
- 2) What are Japan's military strengths? Could it cause great harm to the U.S. navy as well as innocent civilians?
- 3) What's the best solution? Can you prevent war? Or, should the U.S. strike first if peace talks continue to fail? Explain.

## THINK!!! What if you were there?

**Introduction:** It is early morning, December 7, 1941. Just a few miles from the naval base, the *Condor*, a U.S. Navy minesweeper, is on patrol. As the ship slides through the ocean's black waters, an officer sites a submarine's periscope. The *Condor* follows its wake for several minutes, then alerts the *Ward*, a nearby destroyer. The *Ward's* skipper, Lieutenant William Outerbridge, wakes his sleepy crew, and they scramble.

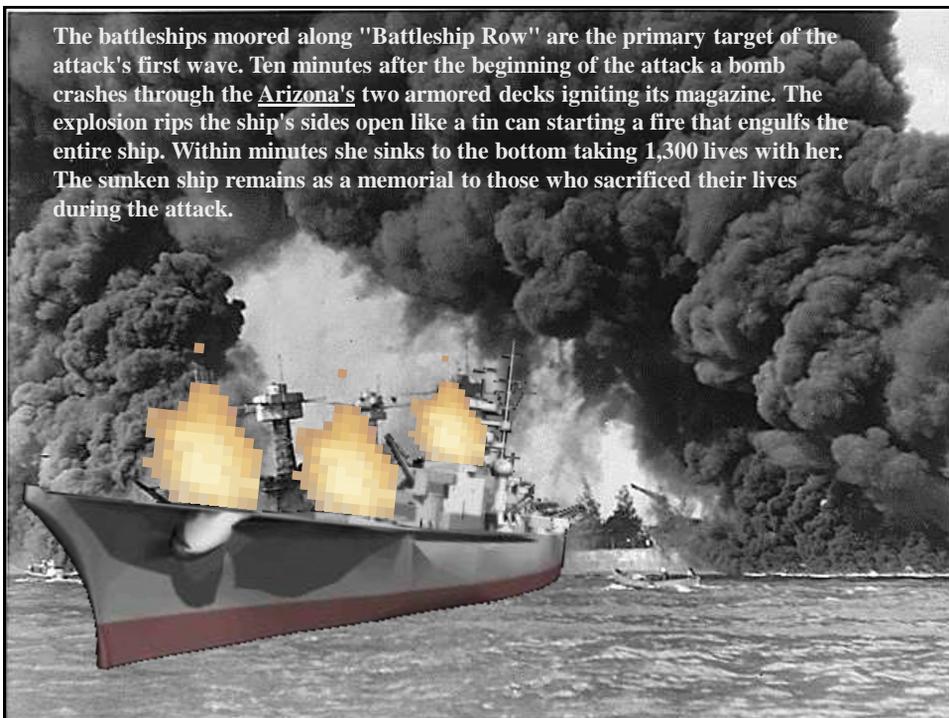
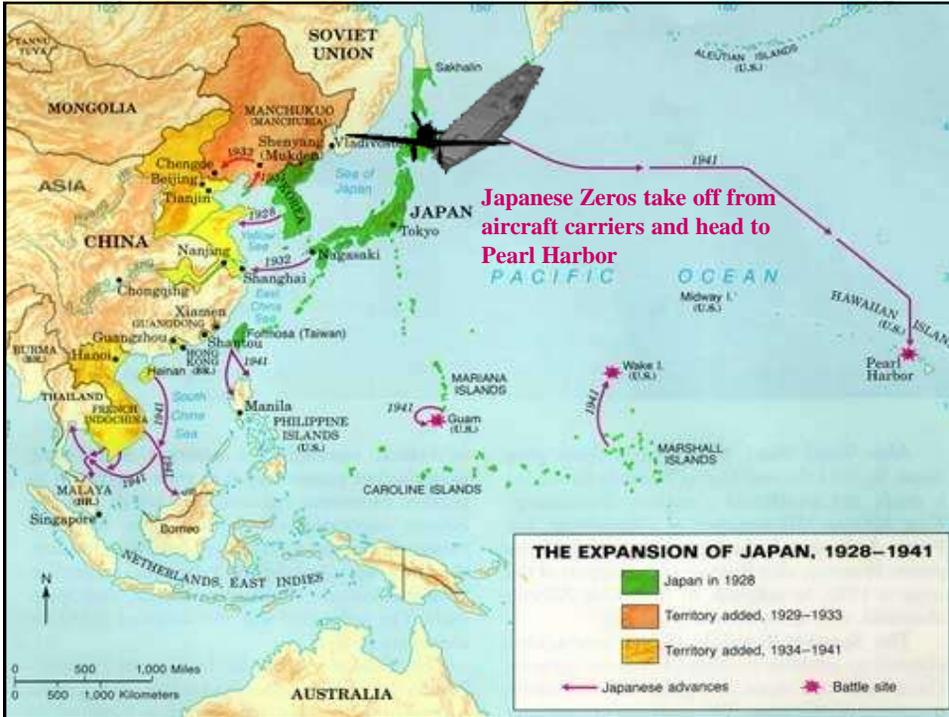
- Imagine you are Lieutenant William Outerbridge, skipper of the destroyer, the *Ward*. You've just received the following signal from minesweeper *Condor*: "Sighted submerged submarine on a westerly course, speed nine knots."
- You have only a few moments to decide what to do. Make a list of the reasons why you should attack and another list of why you shouldn't. What would happen if you did attack? What would happen if you didn't?



## Japanese Attack on Pearl Harbor-- December 7, 1941

- **Japan attacks Pearl Harbor in Hawaii**
  - U.S. fleet caught unprepared
  - 2400 sailors died, 1200 wounded, 18 ships sunk, and 160 aircraft damaged and 200 destroyed.
  - Only the aircraft carriers, by chance on maneuvers, escaped the worst naval defeat in American history.
- Later the same day, Japan attacks the Philippines, Guam, and Midway and attacks British forces in Hong Kong and the Malay Peninsula (Singapore)









The explosion of the USS Shaw DD-373

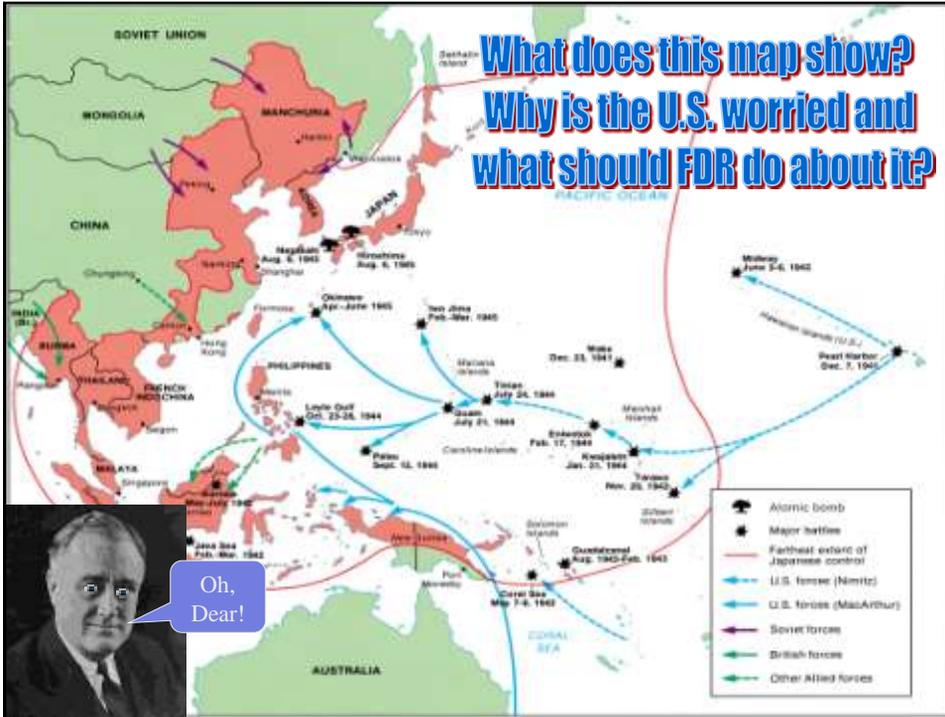
<b>Pearl Harbor Losses</b>		
<b>Personnel Killed</b>		
	U. S.	Japan
Navy	2,001	64
Marine Corps	105	0
Army	240	0
Civilians	58	0
<b>Personnel Wounded</b>		
Navy	710	unknown
Marine Corps	69	unknown
Army	364	unknown
Civilians	35	unknown
<b>Ships</b>		
Sunk or beached	12	5
Damaged	9	0
<b>Aircraft</b>		
Destroyed	164	29
Damaged	159	74
<b>Critical Mistakes by the Japanese</b>		
* The Japanese failed to destroy the ship repair facility at Pearl Harbor.		
* The Japanese did not seek out and destroy the two aircraft carriers <i>Lexington</i> and <i>Enterprise</i> (Battle of Midway).		



## The American Response to Japanese Attack

- FDR – “a date that will live in infamy.”
  - Dec. 8, 1941 - U.S. declares war on Japan
  - The economy and military are mobilized for war
- Germany and Italy declare war on U.S.
  - **World War II became a global war.**
- Japan soon develops a new empire in the Pacific. American military leaders focused on halting the Japanese advance and mobilizing the whole nation for war.
- Inside America itself, Japanese Americans were rounded up and sent to internment camps.





## Mobilization in the U.S.

- The war effort required all of America's huge productive capacity and full employment of the workforce.
  - Government expenditures soared.
- U.S. budget increases
  - 1940 \$9 million
  - 1944 \$100 million
  - Expenditures in WWII greater than all previous government budgets combined (150 years)
  - GNP 1939 91 billion
  - 1945 166 million





## Restoration of U.S. Prosperity

- World War II ended the Great Depression.
- Factories run at full capacity
  - Ford Motor Company – one bomber plane per hour
- People save money (rationing)
- Army bases in South provide economic boom (most bases in South b/c of climate)
- The national debt grew to \$260 billion (6 times its size on Dec. 7, 1941)



## 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.

## 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.





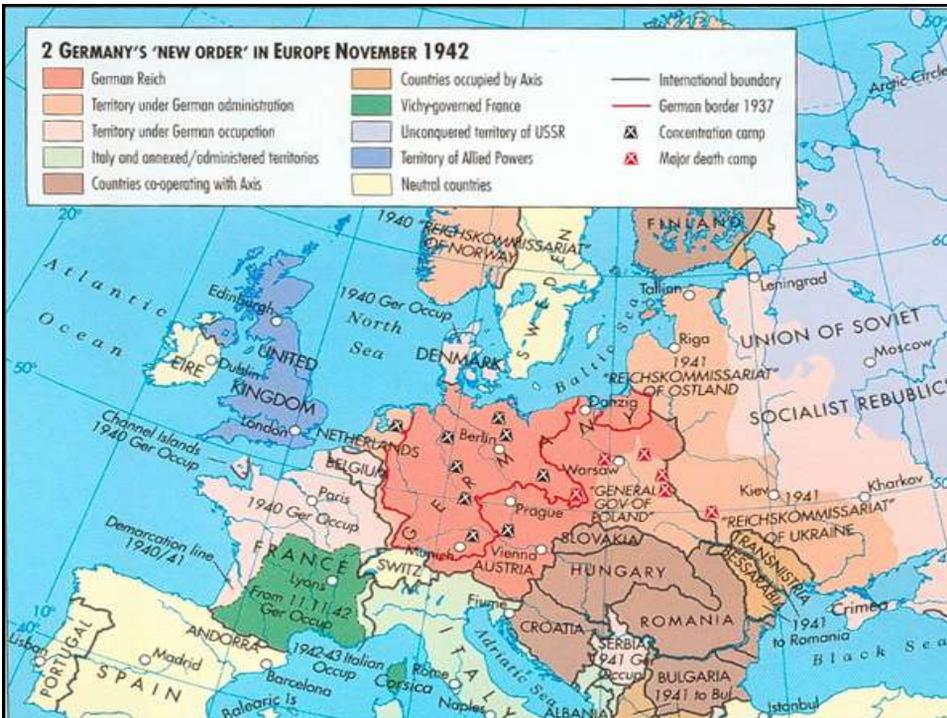


# Can the Allies Win?

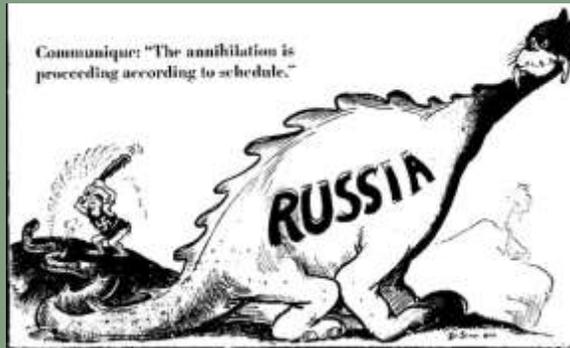
By the end of 1942, the Allies faced defeat  
 But Japan and Germany fought separate wars, each on two fronts. They never coordinated strategies.

The Allies' strengths:

- 1) The manpower of the Soviet Union, which Hitler had betrayed
- 2) The productive capacity of the United States.
- 3) Brilliant generals



## Turning Point of the War! Why?



- Hitler made a mistake by invading the Soviet Union!
- On June 22, 1941, Hitler launched **Operation Barbarossa**—4 million German soldiers spread out along a 2,000-mile front launch three massive offensives. German lack of preparedness for a long winter campaign leads to over 1 million men being lost by late March 1942.



### Joseph Stalin on Germany's invasion of Russia:

"Brothers and sisters: the German invasion continues. The German Army has taken Lithuania, a large part of Latvia, part of Byelorussia and part of the Ukraine. A great danger hangs over the nation."





# Turning Point of the War



- The German army quickly advanced into Russia, but at a terrifying cost.
- For the next three years, 90 percent of German deaths would happen on the eastern front due to war and the brutal Russian winter.



# German Invasion of Stalingrad



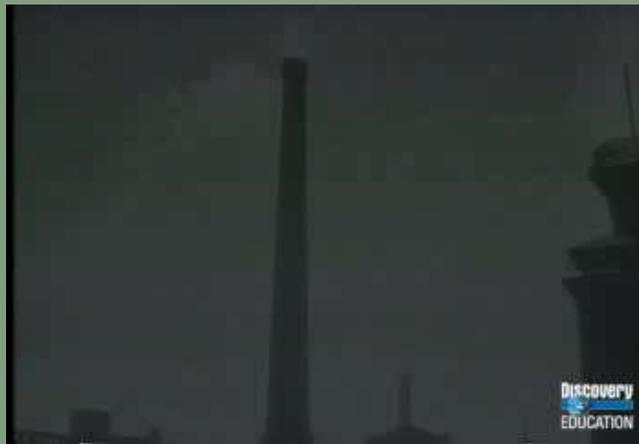
- August 22, 1942- The Germans start assault on Stalingrad.

## Defeat at Stalingrad!



- November 19, 1942- Soviet counter-attack in pincer drives begins. The German Sixth Army under General von Paulus at Stalingrad is surrounded
- In 1942-43, a German army of over 300,000 was defeated and captured at the [Battle of Stalingrad](#).

## Video Clip: German Defeat at Stalingrad (8 minutes)



- Q.** How did the Russians defeat the Germany army in the Battle of Stalingrad and why this is considered a major turning point of the war.



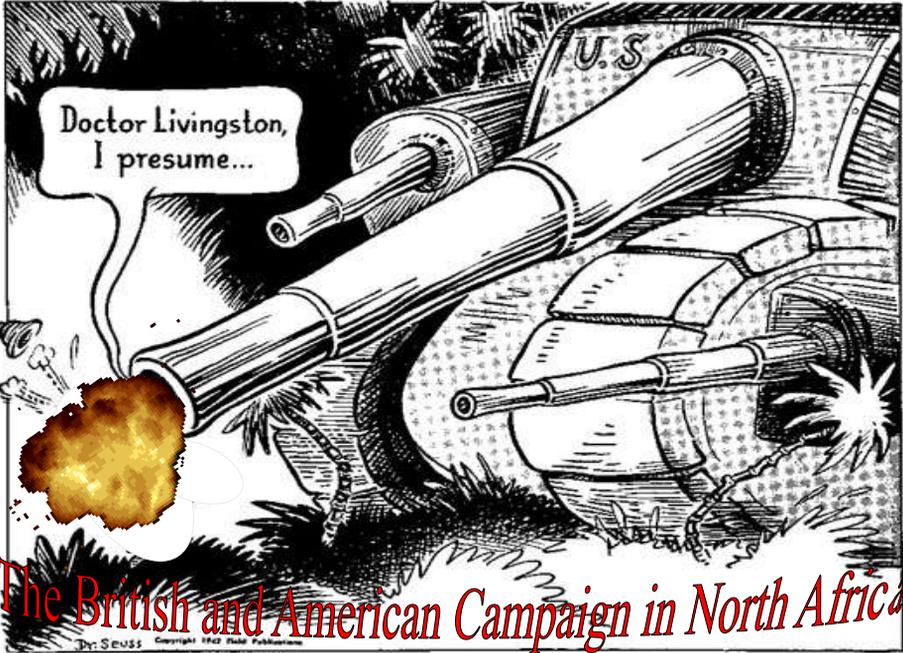
Images from the Eastern Front

# Battle of Kursk

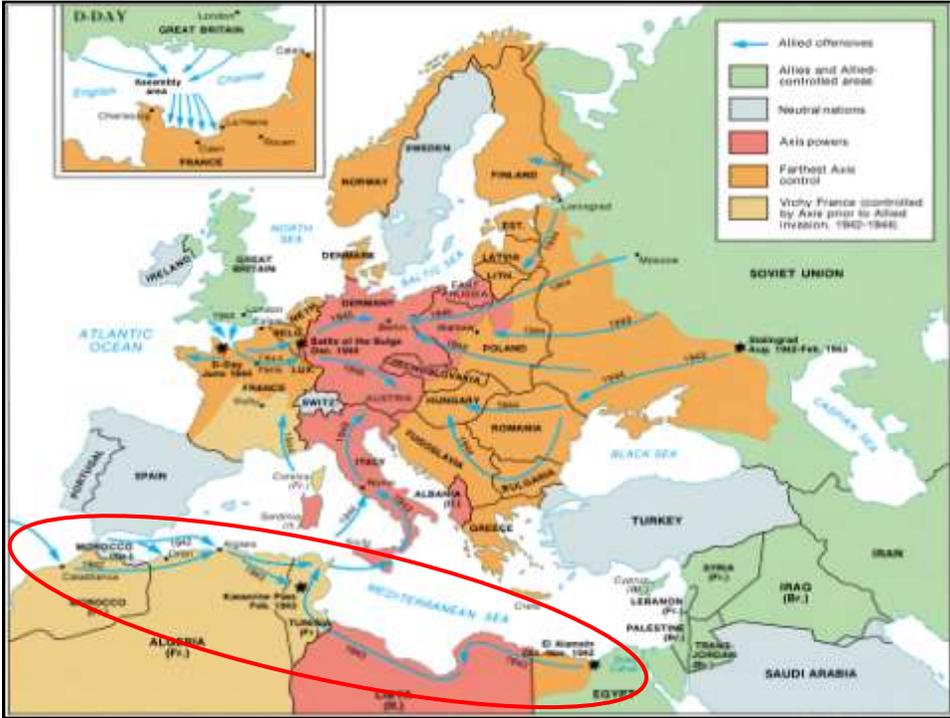
- July 1943- Battle of Kursk, last major German offensive in the Eastern Front, is stopped.
- The largest tank battle in history.
- Germans began a long retreat.
- The Red Army crosses into Poland in January 1944.



# Unexpected Meeting in Darkest Africa



*The British and American Campaign in North Africa*



## Campaign in Africa



Panzer 3 in North Africa



British artillery in North Africa

- October to November 1942- **Battle of El Alamein**-- German Field Marshal Erwin **Rommel** is defeated in Egypt by Montgomery's British Eighth Army
- November 8, 1942- **Operation Torch**, the U.S. forces land in North Africa and put the "squeeze" or pressure on Rommel

## The Allies Retake North Africa!



## Wanna watch Superman fight the Nazis in Africa?

- 1) Why can the cartoon be considered a work of propaganda?
- 2) Is there racism embedded in this cartoon?
- 3) What's the overall purpose of the cartoon?



## Superman Cartoon: Superman fights the Nazis in Africa!



**Who are the Nazis being compared to? How are Africans portrayed? Why is the ending significant and how is it meant to boost American morale?**



## THE ITALIAN CAMPAIGN, 1943-1945

- **Introduction:** After defeating the Axis armies in North Africa, the Allies under Generals Montgomery and Patton moved onto Sicily.
- **Question:**
- Why was the capture of Italy the next logical step and a crucial part of the Allied military strategy in 1943?



We're gonna get Mussolini!






ILW0604

**THE BACKGROUND**

This cartoon was published on 13 August 1943, during the Second World War. British and American soldiers had just won the battle for Sicily and were about to invade Italy...

Benito Mussolini, Franklin D. Roosevelt and Winston Churchill are the three characters in the cartoon. Say which character is which and explain who they were.

What is happening in the cartoon?

- a) Mussolini is in jail and Churchill and Roosevelt are looking for Hitler
- b) Churchill is going to shoot Roosevelt
- c) Churchill and Roosevelt are planning their summer holiday

Churchill and Roosevelt are portrayed as 'Mounties'. What are 'Mounties' and what does this say about them?

What does the cartoon say about the relationship between the different countries at the time?



## The Invasion of Sicily





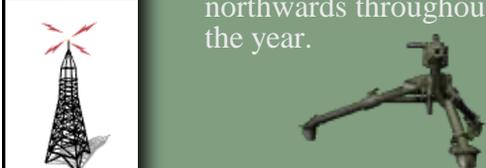

- **Sicily Campaign, July 9 - August 1943.** The 5th US and 8th British Armies landed on Sicily. **General Patton** led the attack along with British **General Montgomery**. On 25 July, the Italian King Emanuele overthrew Mussolini. The monarchy tried to make an armistice with the Allies. The Germans rescued Mussolini from prison and set him up as a puppet leader over a new Republic

## Italy Surrenders






- **Invasion of Italy, September 1943.** On the 3rd, British General Montgomery landed in southern Italy.
  - Allied armies then captured the lower part of Italy, including the port of Naples.
  - The Italian government surrendered on September 8, but the German forces continued to defend Italy.
- During **Operation Avalanche** and **Operation Slapstick**, the Allies continued to push the Germans northwards throughout the rest of the year.



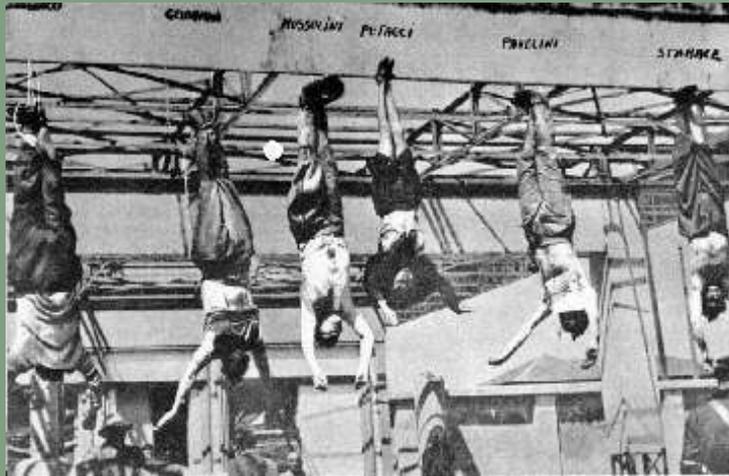
General Dwight D. Eisenhower

## The Allies Capture Rome from the Germans

- **Spring Offensive & Capture of Rome, May - June 1944.** The British and American allies linked up and advanced into Rome. The Germans surrendered in Rome without causing further damage.
- The Germans retreated north.



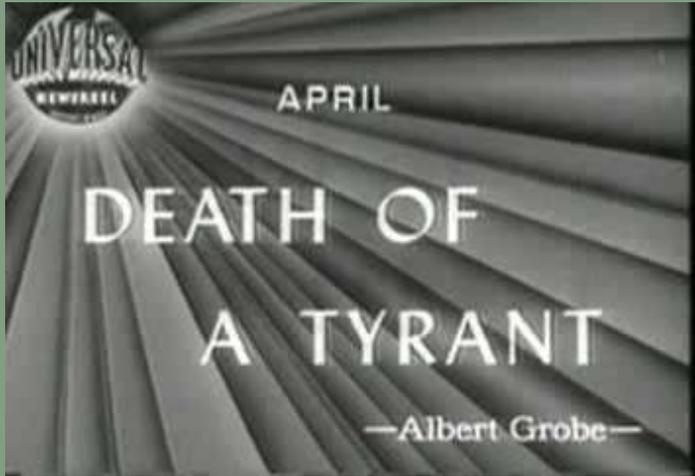
## End of the Italian Campaign: Mussolini is executed!



- Mussolini and 15 other Fascist leaders were executed by Italian partisans.



Let's watch Mussolini's brutal execution!



**American Involvement in World War II**

**Understanding Goal:**  
War has consequences.




Pearl Harbor, Dec. 7, 1941





**Investigative Question:**  
Were the sacrifices made by U.S. citizens during World War II needed?

**Explore:** What evidence of sacrifice can you find in these documents?

**Connect:** What makes a war worth fighting? Given the sacrifices required, do you think that the United States' involvement in this war was good for the country?



## Turning Points of the War: Western Front



- **D-Day: Operation Overlord**

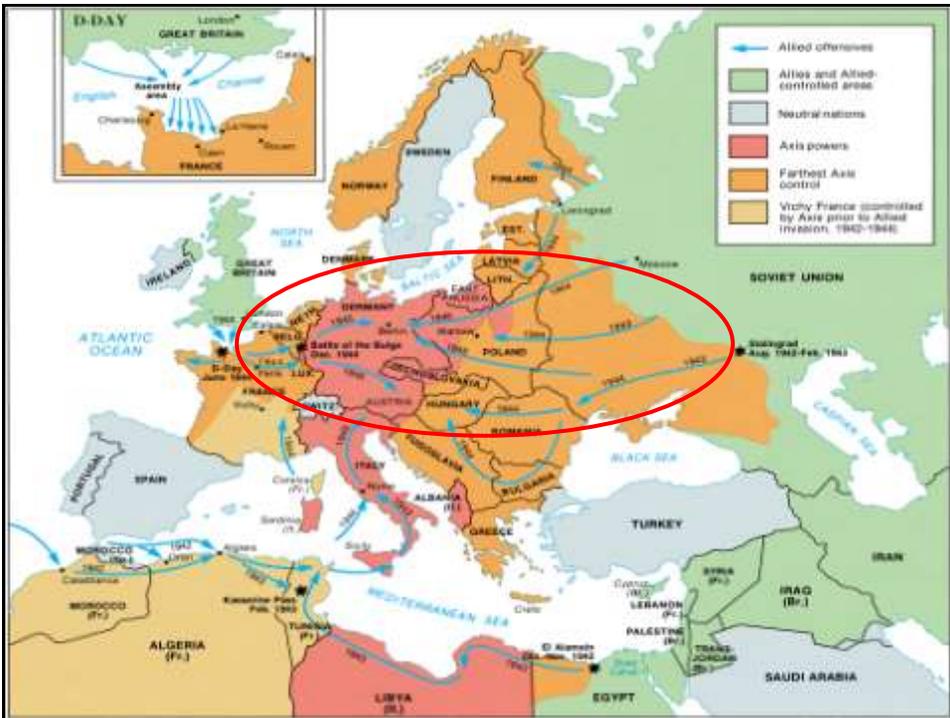
- The Allied needed to establish a second front.
- General Dwight Eisenhower launched an invasion of Normandy on **June 6, 1944**.
- An invasion fleet of some 4,000 ships and 150,000 men (57,000 U.S.)

**June 6, 1944- Operation Overlord, The Normandy Invasion.** The biggest naval invasion in history American and British forces land in France. Casualties were high on both sides--**5,000 killed and wounded Allied troops**. Was it worth it? What if the invasion had gone differently? Prepare for the Normandy Beach simulation: [http://www.saskschools.ca/curr\\_content/history20/unit3/sec2\\_05.html](http://www.saskschools.ca/curr_content/history20/unit3/sec2_05.html)

**Legend:**  
 - American (Dark Blue Arrow)  
 - British (Medium Blue Arrow)  
 - Canadian (Light Blue Arrow)

# Race to Berlin

- D-Day was the turning point of the western front. Invasion successful. It allowed them to gain a foothold on the continent from which they could push Germany back.
- Stalingrad was the turning point of the eastern front.
- The British, U.S., and Free French armies began to press into western Germany as the Soviets invaded eastern Germany.
- Both sides raced to Berlin.



## Hitler loses Paris



- August 1944 - Paris is retaken by the Allies

## Battle of the Bulge



- December 1944 to January 1945 - The Battle of the Bulge. Hitler's last gamble and offensive of the war

## Why is it called a “bulge?”

- At first, the Germans punched a **“bulge”**—a bell-shaped curve—into the Allied front line. The Germans based their attack on a massive armoured onslaught, but the Germans began to run out of fuel!
- On Christmas Eve 1944, the Allies experienced the first ever attack by jet bombers. Sixteen German Me-262’s attacked rail yards in order to stop the Allies from supplying themselves.
- For several weeks, there was a **stalemate**—in which neither side achieved any military success. Each side remained stuck in trenches.
- By **mid-January 1945**, the Germans abandoned their vehicles due to lack of fuel and continued to be pushed back towards Berlin, Germany.
- The Battle of the Bulge was the **largest battle** fought by the Americans in World War Two. 600,000 American troops were involved in the battle. The Americans lost 81,000 men while the Germans lost 100,000 killed, wounded and captured.



## A Grand Alliance to Defeat Germany!

**The Big Three** meet in Yalta

- Great Britain (Winston Churchill)
- The U.S. (FDR)
- The Soviet Union (Joseph Stalin)—joined Allies after German invasion

They develop strategies for the end of the War

- Defeat Germany first!





## Crossing the Rhine



- March 7, 1945- American forces cross the Rhine River at Remagen



## President Roosevelt dies!



- April 12, 1945 - President Roosevelt dies, Harry Truman is sworn in as the new president

## President Roosevelt's Funeral



## American and Russian forces meet and close in on Berlin!



- April 25 1945 - American and Russian forces meet at Torgau
- Hitler is now hiding in his bunker in Berlin, knowing that defeat is inevitable.



## Hitler dies!



- April 30, 1945 - Adolf Hitler and his new bride Eva Braun commit suicide in their Berlin bunker.
  - Since Hitler's bunker was lit on fire or destroyed by an explosion his body was never officially identified.
  - Some conspiracy theories suggest that Hitler never died that day, and instead, fled somewhere in hiding. (Rubbish!)



A Soviet soldier raises the hammer & sickle atop the Reichstag

- May 2, 1945 - Russians take Berlin





# Victory in Europe



- **V-E Day** -- Germany surrendered unconditionally on May 7, 1945
- Fighting in the Pacific would continue until August.

Hitler's corpse?  
Allied Propaganda?





## U.S. Military Victories in the Pacific Theater

Why are the Battles of Coral Sea and Midway considered a turning point in the war?



- American Forces halted the Japanese advances in two decisive naval battles.
  - **Coral Sea (May 1942)**
    - U.S. stopped a fleet conveying Japanese troops to New Guinea
    - Japanese designs on Australia ended
  - **Battle of Midway (June 1942)**
    - Japanese Admiral Yamamoto hoped to capture Midway Island as a base to attack Pearl Harbor again
    - U.S. Admiral Chester Nimitz caught the Japanese by surprise and sank 3 of the 4 aircraft carriers, 332 planes, and 3500 men



## Clip: Battle of Midway in Color!



# Importance of Midway



## The Japanese defeat at Midway was the turning point in the Pacific!

- Japanese advances stopped.
- U.S. assumes initiative.
- Japanese have shortage of able pilots.

### Censorship and Propaganda

- News of the defeat was kept from the Japanese public. Government attempts to keep morale high.





# Turning the Tide in the Pacific



**June 1942** - Battle of Midway—Considered the “turning point” of the Pacific war, the U.S. wins back Midway Island from the Japanese who suffer heavy losses of ships and aircraft.

- **August 1942** - American forces invade Guadalcanal
- **July 1943** - The start of the United States’ South Pacific offensive
- **February 1944** - American forces invade the Marshall Islands

## The Beginning of the End in the Pacific



- **April 1943** --Yamamoto, the Japanese admiral, is assassinated by the U.S. (A)
- **October 1944** - The liberation of the Philippines under U.S. General MacArthur and the last major naval action for the Japanese
- **Loss of Saipan** (August 1944)
  - “the naval and military heart and brain of Japanese defense strategy”
  - **Political crisis in Japan**
    - The government could no longer hide the fact that they were losing the war.
    - Tōjō resigns on July 18, 1944

## Iwo Jima



### **Iwo Jima** (February, 1945)

- American marines invaded this island, which was needed to provide fighter escort for bombings over Japan

# Okinawa

- **April to June 1945** - Invasion of Okinawa
- On April 6, 1945 waves of planes made hundreds of kamikaze attacks, in **Operation Kikusui** ("floating chrysanthemums"). Kamikaze attacks focused at first on Allied destroyers on picket duty, and then on the carriers in the middle of the fleet.





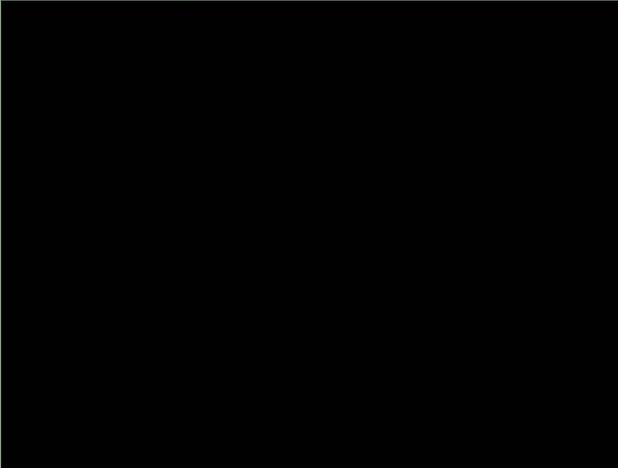
## Video Clip: The Philosophy of the Kamikaze



With an increasing number of defeats in the Pacific, Japan turns to a new weapon: the **Kamikaze**. What is the philosophy of the Kamikaze?



## More Video Footage: Japan's New Weapon--The Kamikaze!

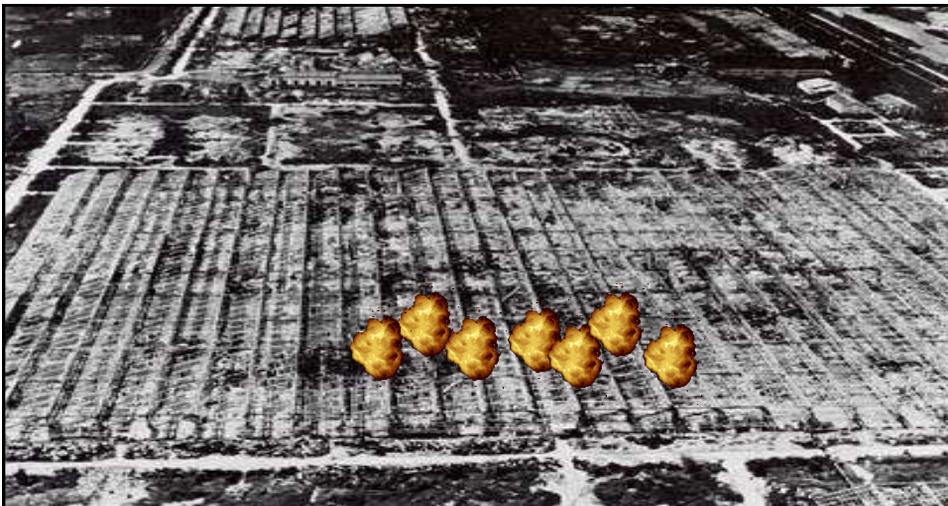


Read "Kamikaze Attack, 1944" from [eyewitnesstohistory.com](http://eyewitnesstohistory.com), which describes how American sailors felt about the attacks. Do you think the kamikazes successfully accomplished their objectives?

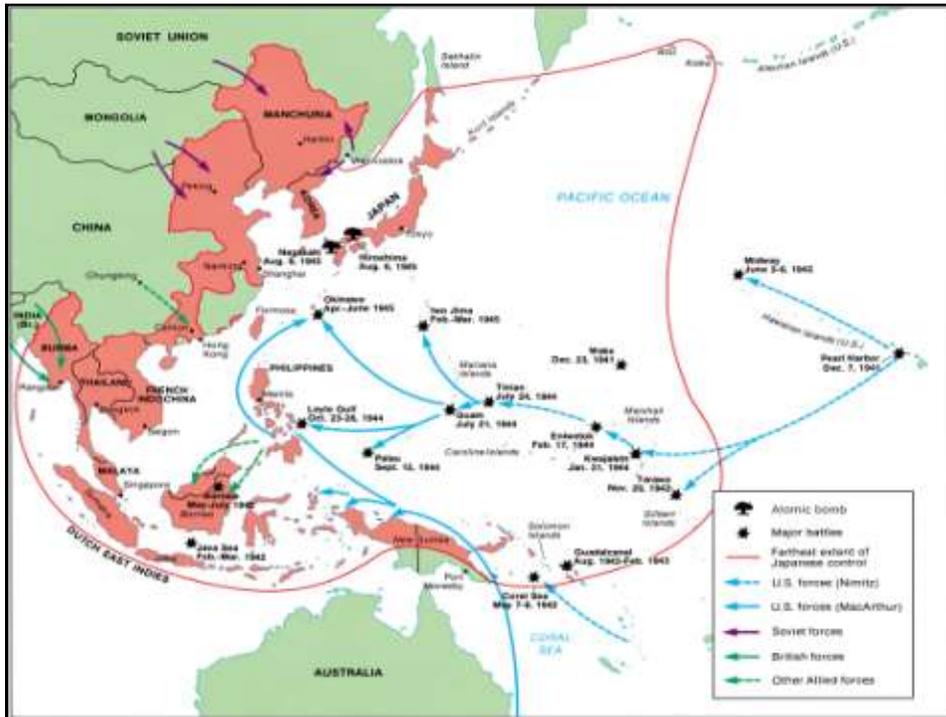


## U.S. Victory at Okinawa

- Suicide attacks by planes or boats at Okinawa sank or put out of action at least 30 US warships and at least three US merchant ships.
- The attacks expended 1,465 Japanese planes. No US aircraft carriers, battleships or cruisers were sunk or severely damaged by kamikazes at Okinawa, and most of the ships destroyed were destroyers or smaller vessels.
- 110,000 Japanese soldiers killed
- 12,600 American soldiers and sailors killed



- **March to August 1945** – The bombing of Tokyo! Greatest air offensive in history. One raid on Tokyo on March 10 killed 100,000 and wounded 125,000 with 300 B-29 Superfortress heavy bombers



## Atom Diplomacy

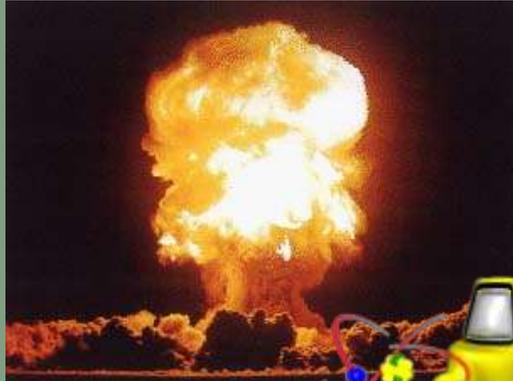


- FDR had funded the top-secret **Manhattan Project** to develop an atomic bomb
- Dr. **Robert Oppenheimer** successfully tested in the summer of 1945.
- FDR had died on April 12, 1945, and the decision was left to Harry Truman.
- An amphibious invasion could cost over 350,000 Allied casualties.

# The First Successful Atomic Bomb Tests



Truman at Potsdam



- **July 16, 1945** - The first atomic bomb is detonated at Los Alamos New Mexico
- Truman issues Potsdam ultimatum to Japanese on July 26<sup>th</sup>, warning Japan to surrender or else!

Some strategies that were considered by scientists and the Truman Administration.		A. For this idea:	B. Against this idea:
	<p>Question: What would be the pros and cons of each?</p> 	<p>1. Keep our invention of the bomb a complete secret and do not use it in this war.</p>	
<p>2. Detonate the bomb in an American desert so that the Japanese can hear about its power.</p>			
<p>3. As above, but specifically invite members of Japan over and then give them a new opportunity to surrender before full use of the weapon is employed.</p>			
<p>4. Give a military demonstration in a deserted part of Japan followed by a renewed opportunity to surrender before we drop the bomb on a Japanese city.</p>			
<p>5. Use the bomb immediately and mercilessly on a Japanese City.</p>			

### Judgements

We had the means to end the war quickly, with a great savings of human life. I believed it was the sensible thing to do, and I still do.

-Luis W. Alvarez, physicist

We were afraid that Hitler had the bomb first, and we made this bomb, which shortened the war and saved a lot of American and Japanese lives in the Japanese war.

-Victor Weisskopf, physicist

If I had known that the Germans would not succeed in constructing the atom bomb, I would have never lifted a finger.

-Albert Einstein, physicist

I think it was necessary to drop one, but the second one could have easily been avoided. I think Japan would have capitulated anyway.

-Hans Bethe, physicist

I believe it was an error that Truman did not ask Stalin to carry on further talks with Japan, and also that the warning to Japan was completely inadequate

- J. Robert Oppenheimer, physicist

### Discussion Points:

"Scientists should continually push the boundaries of what is possible and not consider the potential effects of their research"

"There are no circumstances in which a government has the right to keep secrets from its citizenry"





# The Decision to Drop the A-Bombs: Was it the right thing to do?



Col. Tibbets waves from the cockpit of his B-29 prior to takeoff



- **August 6, 1945** – Enola Gay drops bomb on Hiroshima
  - 140,000 dead; tens of thousands injured; radiation sickness; 80% of buildings destroyed
- **August 9, 1945** – second bomb dropped on Nagasaki
  - 70,000 dead; 60,000 injured



# Enola Gay 3-Minute Video





### The Atomic Bomb

- Just 4 days after the end of the Potsdam Conference, the US dropped an atomic bomb on Hiroshima (6 August).
- Three days later, another was dropped on Nagasaki (9 August), the same day that Soviet forces invaded Japanese-occupied Manchuria in China. Japan finally surrendered on 2<sup>nd</sup> September and World War Two was over.
- Within three years, the USSR would have an atomic bomb of its own, and the course of the Cold War dictated the fate of the world.

Putaba Kitayama, then 33 years of age, was 1.7 kilometres from the centre of the explosion at Hiroshima. Here are her memories:

"Someone shouted, "A parachute is coming down." I responded by turning in the direction she pointed. Just at that moment the sky I was facing flashed. I do not know how to describe that light. I wondered if a fire had been set in my eyes. I don't remember which came first - the flash of light or the sound of an explosion that roared down to my belly. Anyhow, the next moment I was knocked down flat on the ground. Immediately things started falling down around my head and shoulders. I couldn't see anything; it seemed pitch dark. I managed to crawl out of the debris.

Soon I noticed that the air smelled terrible. Then I was shocked by the feeling that the skin of my face had come off. Then, the hands and arms too. Starting from the elbow to my fingertips, all the skin of my right hand came off and hung down grotesquely. The skin of my left hand, all my five fingers, also came off. What happened to the sky that had been such a clear blue one only a moment ago? It was now dark, like dusk. I ran like mad toward to bridge, jumping over the piles of debris.

What I saw under the bridge was shocking. Hundreds of people were squirming in the stream. I could not tell if they were men or women. They looked all alike. Their faces were swollen and grey, their hair was standing up. Holding their hands high, groaning people were rushing to the river. I felt the same urge because the pain was all over my body which had been exposed to a heat ray strong enough to burn my pants to pieces. I was about to jump into the river only to remember that I could not swim.

I went back up to the bridge. There, school girls, like sleep walkers, were wandering around in confusion. Upon crossing it, I looked back and found the Takeyacho-Hatchobori area suddenly had burst into flame. I had thought that the bomb had hit only the area where I was. When crossing the bridge, which I did not recognise, I found all its parapets of solid ferro-concrete had gone. The bridge looked terribly unsafe. Under the bridge were floating, like dead cats and dogs, many corpses barely covered by tattered clothes. In the shallow water near the bank, a woman was lying face upward, her breasts torn away and blood spurting. A horrifying scene. How in the world could such a cruel thing happen? I wondered if the Hell my grandmother had told me so much about in my childhood had fallen upon the Earth.

I found myself squatting on the centre of a parade ground. I must not have taken my more than two hours to get to the parade ground. The darkness of the sky lessened somewhat. Still the sun, as it was covered with a heavy cloud, was dim and gloomy. My burns starting paining me. It was a kind of pain different from an ordinary burn which might be unbearable. Mine was a dull pain that was coming somewhere far apart from my body. A yellow secretion came from my hands. I imagined that my face also must be in a dreadful shape. By my side many high school students were squirming in agony.

They were crying insanely "mother, mother". They were so severely burned and blood-stained that one could scarcely dare to look at them. I could do nothing for them but watch them die one by one, seeking their mothers in vain.

As far as I could see with my declining eyesight was all in flames. Steadily, my face became stiffer. I put my hands carefully on my cheeks and felt my face. It seemed to have swollen to twice its size. Now I could see less and less. Soon I would not be able to see at all. I kept walking. I saw on the street many victims being carried away by stretcher. Carts and trucks heavily loaded with corpses and wounded who looked like beasts, came and passed me. On both sides of the street, many people were wandering about like sleepwalkers.

## Key Facts and Consequences of the A-Bomb

- On August 6th 1945, the Enola Gay, a USA bomber, dropped a bomb called "Little Boy" on Hiroshima.
- Hiroshima was the first city ever targeted to be bombed by an atomic weapon. The battles at Dunkirk, the Battle of Britain and even Stalingrad seemed to pale into comparison with what took place in Hiroshima.
- The initial heat blast was 900 times hotter than the surface of the sun.
- 80,000 people were killed instantly – many vaporized underneath the bomb blast.
- By 1950, 200,000 people had died as a result of the bomb.
- Between 1950-1980, a further 97,000 people died from cancers associated with the radiation caused by "Little Boy"





## Activity: What if the U.S. had not dropped the A-bombs on Japan?



- Guidelines:** You are special foreign policy advisor to President Truman. Using the following sources provided, outline two different strategies to end the war: 1) Use the A-Bombs 2) Your own proposal to force the Japanese to surrender. Describe the consequences of implementing each strategy. Which strategy would you advocate more and why?



- How useful are Sources A and B to explain why President Truman ordered the dropping of the atomic bombs on Japan in 1945?

### PRIMARY SOURCES—DO YOU AGREE WITH THESE ARGUMENTS?

**Source A: James Byrne, US Secretary of State, speaking in 1945.**

Any weapon that would bring an end to the war and save a million casualties among American boys was justified, and we were talking about people who hadn't hesitated at Pearl Harbor to make a sneak attack destroying not only ships but the lives of many American sailors. I would have been satisfied had the Russians determined not to enter the war against Japan. I believed the A-bomb would be successful and would force the Japanese to accept surrender on our terms. I feared what would happen when the Red Army entered Manchuria.

**Source B: An extract from *The Roots of European Security* by the Russian historian Vadim Nekrasov, 1984.**

Officially the Americans claimed that the bombings on Hiroshima and Nagasaki was aimed at bringing the end of the war nearer and avoiding unnecessary bloodshed and casualties. But they had entirely different objectives. The purpose of the bombings was to intimidate other countries, above all the Soviet Union. In other words the US decision to use atomic energy for military purposes was meant to produce a diplomatic and psychological impact, and this has since involved the world in a nuclear arms race.

2. How reliable is Source C to an historian why the Americans dropped the Atomic Bomb on the Japanese in 1945?

**Source C:** an extract from *Sanity –the voice of CND* (the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament), 1985.

The Japanese were on the verge of surrender. General Groves, the engineer director of the atom bomb project was desperate to try the bomb. The military equipment was available and had been developed at a cost of \$2,000 million. It would have been difficult to justify not using it after such a vast financial investment. Truman was very impressed with what he heard and believed the bomb should be used. For some reason the scientists failed to mention the long-term dangers of radiation.

3. 'Truman was fully justified in dropping the atomic bombs on Japan to end the war in the Pacific.' Is there sufficient evidence in Sources A to J support this interpretation? Use the Sources and your own knowledge to explain your answer.

**Source D:** Letter from Truman to Irv Kupcinet, August 5, 1963

HARRY S. TRUMAN  
INDEPENDENCE, MISSOURI  
August 5, 1963

Dear Kup:

I appreciated most highly your column of July 30th, a copy of which you sent me. I have been rather careful not to comment on the articles that have been written on the dropping of the bomb for the simple reason that the dropping of the bomb was completely and thoroughly explained in my Memoirs, and it was done to save 125,000 youngsters on the American side and 125,000 on the Japanese side from getting killed and that is what it did. It probably also saved a half million youngsters on both sides from being maimed for life.

You must always remember that people forget, as you said in your column, that the bombing of Pearl Harbor was done while we were at peace with Japan and trying our best to negotiate a treaty with them.

All you have to do is to go out and stand on the keel of the Battleship in Pearl Harbor with the 3,000 youngsters underneath it who had no chance whatever of saving their lives. That is true of two or three other battleships that were sunk in Pearl Harbor. Altogether, there were between 3,000 and 6,000 youngsters killed at that time without any declaration of war. It was plain murder.

I knew what I was doing when I stopped the war that would have killed a half million youngsters on both sides if those bombs had not been dropped. I have no regrets and, under the same circumstances, I would do it again - and this letter is not confidential.

Sincerely yours,

Harry Truman  
Mr. Irv Kupcinet  
Chicago Sun-Times  
Chicago, Illinois

**Source E: An extract from *The Collins Encyclopaedia of Military History*, 1993.**

No one knows how long a fanatical Japan could have continued the war if the bombs had not been dropped. It is clear that these weapons combined with Soviet entry into the war, convinced the Japanese Emperor and Government that further resistance was hopeless.

**Source F: An extract from President Truman's memoirs, 1958.**

All of us realised that the fighting would be fierce and the losses heavy. General Marshall told me it might cost half a million American lives.

**Source G: An Allied prisoner of war in Japan speaking after the war – from *The Emperor's Guest*, by Fletcher Cooke, 1972.**

There is no doubt in my mind that these atomic bombs saved many more lives than the tens of thousands that they had killed. They saved the lives of tens of thousands of Japanese – for, let there be no mistake, if the Emperor had decided to fight on, the Japanese would have fought to the last man.

**Source H: Secretary to the Japanese war cabinet speaking in 1974.**

At that time the army felt it would be a great shame to surrender. The A-bomb sacrificed many people other than military men. This provided us with an excuse – to stop the war to save innocent civilians. If the A-bomb had not been dropped we would have had great difficulty finding a good reason to end the war.

**Source I: American scientist advising the government, June 1945**

A demonstration of the bomb might best be made on the desert or on a barren island. Japan could then be asked to surrender.

**Source J: Henry Stimson, American Secretary for War, writing in 1945.**

A demonstration in an uninhabited area was not regarded as likely to make Japan surrender. There was the danger of the test being a dud. Also we had no bombs to waste.

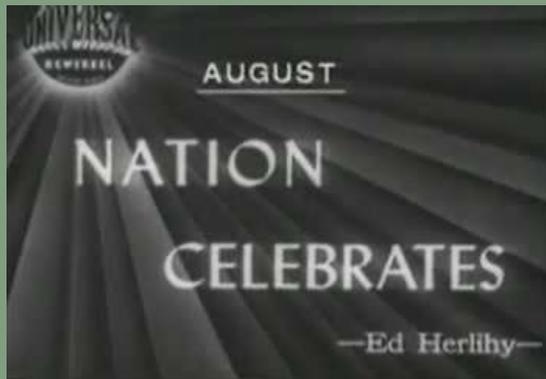


# Japan Surrenders!

- **V-J Day:** Emperor Hirohito unofficially surrenders on Aug. 14, 1945.



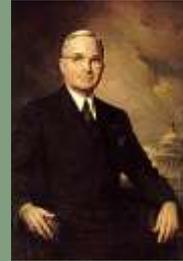
# America and the World Celebrate the End of the War!



## Japanese “Unconditional” Surrender and Truman’s Reflections on War



Photo © 80-G-117201 Gen.issimo signs instrument of surrender, 2 Sept. 1945



- September 2, 1945** -The formal Japanese surrender ceremony is held in Tokyo harbor on the U.S.S. Missouri

Truman--“We shall not forget Pearl Harbor.”

## Review Sheet on WWII Battles

<p><b>DUNKIRK</b> The Allied forces were cornered by the advancing German armies at Dunkirk. 338,000 managed to escape across the English Channel. Naval craft and personnel were sacrificed by hundreds of "little ships" and their civilian crews who had volunteered to take part. The escape was a major achievement, but as the Allies had been pushed out of Europe, there was a real threat of a German invasion of Britain.</p>	<p><b>D-DAY</b> On June 6, 1944, codenamed D-Day, the Allied conquest of Western Europe began. Allied forces landed on the Normandy beaches in Northern France. Stormy weather made landing conditions very difficult. The invasion caught the Germans by surprise. It was described by Churchill as 'the greatest amphibious operation in history'. Despite huge casualties, this was the beginning of the Allied invasion of Europe.</p>	<p><b>OPERATION BARBAROSSA</b> Nazi Germany and Russia had agreed not to fight in 1939. But in June 1941 Germany invaded, and Russia became an ally of Britain and France.  Churchill denounces Hitler as a "bloodthirsty gutter-snipe" as Germany invades Russia</p>	<p><b>PEARL HARBOR</b> Japan wanted to build up her Empire in Asia, which was dominated by the Western powers (Britain, France &amp; USA). With Britain and France occupied by war in Western Europe, the only country who could stand up to Japan was America.  On 7 December 1941 Japanese aircraft attacked Pearl Harbor where a large part of the US army was based and caused major damage.  The attack on Pearl Harbor was greeted with shock and indignation in the United States. President Roosevelt declared war on Japan and Germany and Italy soon declared war on the United States.</p>
<p><b>BATTLE OF BRITAIN</b> To allow an invasion of Britain the German surface (Luftwaffe) had to get control of the skies. Fiercely challenged by RAF, it attacked military targets. The raids were effective, but Hitler's decision to change tactics and begin bombing British cities allowed the RAF to recover.  The British invention of radar meant German aircraft could be detected and intercepted early. Then, and the slightly superior visibility of the British planes, meant that Germany was unable to gain control of the skies and had to delay invasion plans.  Found at www.SchoolHistory.co.uk</p>			<p><b>HIROSHIMA</b> Although devastated by the Allied bombing attacks, Japan's defenses threatened to make an amphibious invasion extremely costly. The USA decided to use the recently developed atomic bomb to force Japan's surrender. On 8 August 1945 an atomic bomb was dropped on Hiroshima and three days later, a second fell on Nagasaki. The catastrophic effect of the new weapon forced the Japanese to surrender.</p>
<p><b>WAR AT SEA</b> Britain's survival depended upon the flow of supplies from North America. German submarines, known as U-boats, posed the biggest threat to the supply routes. The Royal Navy tried to protect and escort supply convoys but for much of the war, U-boats caused serious damage to shipping in the Atlantic.  Better anti-submarine weapons and detection devices, trained convoy support groups, long-range aircraft and secret ciphers all helped to eventually defeat the threat of the U-boats.</p>			<p><b>DESERT WAR</b> Although it was a brilliant series of victories in North Africa. But shortages of equipment and fuel, along with supply lines under Allied attack meant the Allies were able to eventually win the desert war at the battle of El Alamein.</p>

## WWII Quiz

1. Date Spanish Civil War started: \_\_\_\_\_
2. Picasso's famous painting depicted the Luftwaffe's strafing of the little market town in northern Spain called \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Western European nations appeased and appeased Hitler. In 1938, the "climax of appeasement" was \_\_\_\_\_.
4. On Sept 1, 1939, Germany started WWII by attacking \_\_\_\_\_ with new tactics called \_\_\_\_\_ (German word) including the lightningfast air power from it \_\_\_\_\_ (German word).
5. The fall of \_\_\_\_\_ (a nation) in one month "left the world aghast."
6. In France, the \_\_\_\_\_ Republic had to move its capital southward to \_\_\_\_\_ where the very slogan "\_\_\_\_\_ , \_\_\_\_\_ , \_\_\_\_\_" was banned from official use.
7. By late 1940, Hitler controlled almost exactly the same geographical area that \_\_\_\_\_ had controlled in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century. He called it F \_\_\_\_\_ E \_\_\_\_\_.
8. In 1940, as in 1807, only \_\_\_\_\_ remained at war with the conqueror of Europe. Its new leader, \_\_\_\_\_, promised nothing but "blood, toil, tears, and sweat."
9. Meanwhile, FDR promised that the USA would serve as "the great \_\_\_\_\_ of democracy."
10. Hitler decided, like Napoleon before him, that before invading England he must dispose of another country: \_\_\_\_\_.
11. Two of four major cities that either came under siege or fell: \_\_\_\_\_.
12. Of all European countries, which one suffered the most casualties of the Holocaust? \_\_\_\_\_.
13. A famous Holocaust survivor, author of *Night* : \_\_\_\_\_.
14. Primo Levi, one of the few Auschwitz survivors, later wrote that most people who carried out the Holocaust "were not born torturers" and not usually "monsters" but instead \_\_\_\_\_.

**Answers:**

- 1) 1936
- 2) Guernica
- 3) Munich
- 4) Poland, Blitzkrieg, Luftwaffe
- 5) France
- 6) 3<sup>rd</sup>, Vichy, liberte, egalite, fraternite
- 7) Napoleon, Festung Europa
- 8) Britain, Churchill
- 9) Arsenal
- 10)USSR
- 11) Moscow, Stalingrad, etc.
- 12) Poland
- 13) Elie Wiesel
- 14) Regular everyday people



## Quiz: Rise of Dictators & World War II

- Directions—Answer the following in complete sentences. 20 minutes. (Next week Monday will be the last quiz!)
- 1) Explain the economic, cultural and political conditions which allowed Hitler to come to power in Germany in 1933. Please be specific.
- 2) Describe several causes of World War II.
- 3) Explain why the Axis Powers enjoyed great success during the early part of World War II. What event(s) began to turn the tide in favor of the Allies?
- 4) Describe the Allied military strategy which eventually led to the defeat of the Axis Powers by 1945. Please make specific references to people and events.