

CHAPTER
16

World War II, 1939–1945

PREVIEWING THEMES

Science and Technology

Far-reaching developments in science and technology changed the course of World War II. Important improvements in aircraft, tanks, and submarines had occurred since World War I. The invention of radar, aircraft carriers, and especially the atomic bomb changed how war was fought.

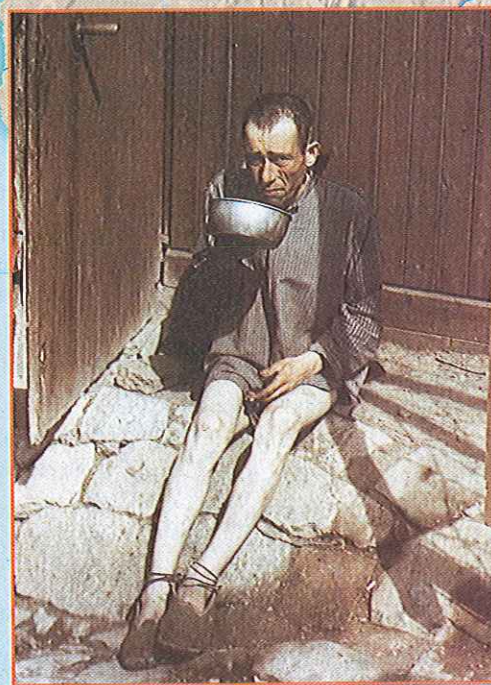
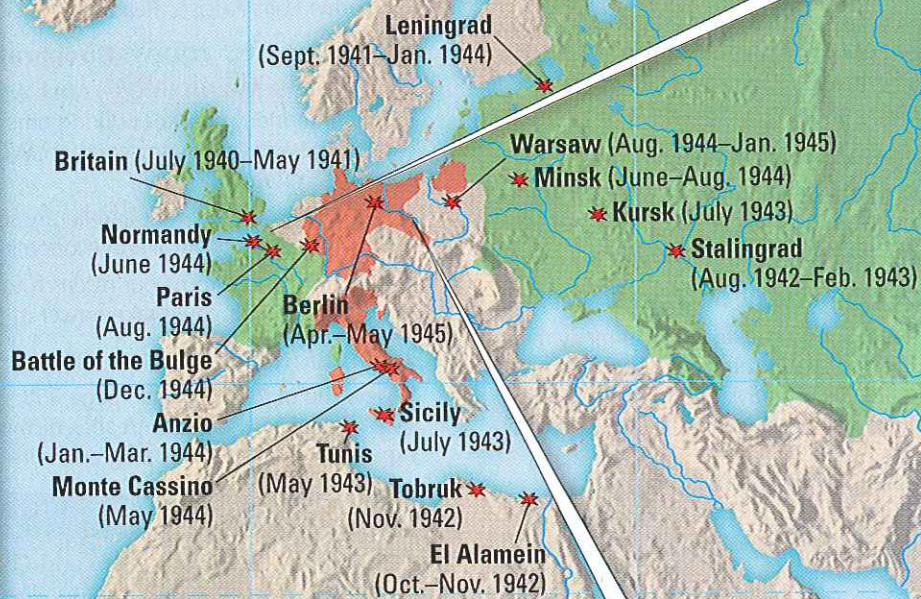
Empire Building

Germany, Italy, and Japan tried to build empires. They began expanding their own territories by conquering other nations and dominating them politically and economically.

Economics

Fighting the Nazi terror weakened the economies of Great Britain, the Soviet Union, and most other European allies. When the United States entered the war, its economy actually grew sharply after years of depression. With the strength of its economy, the United States strengthened the Allied effort with its resources and products.

THE BATTLES OF WORLD WAR II, 1939–1945

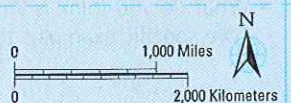


In 1939, construction began on Nazi concentration camps to kill Jews and members of other groups. Prisoners were to die by hard labor, poor nutrition, and disease. Impatient with the pace of the killing, Adolf Hitler later had death camps built. In the camps, millions were killed by poison gas. Survivors of Hitler's **Holocaust** lived to tell the horrors of Nazi brutality.

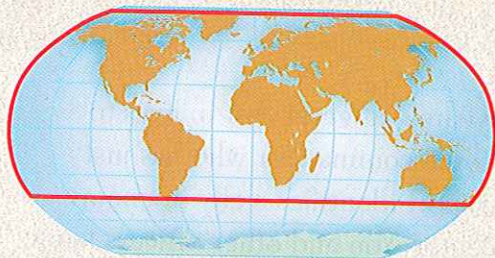
INTERNET CONNECTION

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- Major Allied powers
- Major Axis powers
- Major battle
- Nuclear explosion



ATLANTIC OCEAN



PREVIEWING THE CHAPTER

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On **June 6, 1944**, the Allies launched the greatest naval and land campaign in history against Nazi forces in **Normandy**. Supreme Commander U.S. General Dwight David Eisenhower led the attack against the Nazis with massive air and ground forces. Despite huge losses, the Allies' invasion of Europe spelled the beginning of the end of Adolf Hitler's regime.



- * **Hiroshima** (Aug. 6, 1945)
- * **Nagasaki** (Aug. 9, 1945)
- * **Okinawa** (Apr.–June 1945)
- * **Iwo Jima** (Feb.–March 1945)
- * **Midway** (June 1942)
- * **Wake Island** (Dec. 1941)
- * **Pearl Harbor** (Dec. 1941)
- * **Philippine Sea** (June 1944)
- * **Bataan**
- * **Saipan** (June–July 1944)
- * **Guam** (July–Aug. 1944)
- * **Leyte Gulf** (Oct. 1944)
- * **Singapore** (Feb. 1942)
- * **Hollandia** (Apr. 1944)
- * **Guadalcanal** (Aug. 1942–Feb. 1943)

On **April 9, 1942**, the Bataan Peninsula in the Philippines fell to Japan. After their victory, the Japanese led 70,000 American and Filipino prisoners of war on a 60-mile forced march north—the **Bataan Death March**. The prisoners marched under a blazing sun. They were also starved and brutally beaten. Prisoners who showed signs of weakening were often buried alive.



Interact *with* History

World War II has been going on for several years—at great cost in lives to your side and the enemy's. You are an air force commander who has just received a report from military intelligence. The report identifies a city in enemy territory that is a major weapons manufacturing center. You and other officers know that by destroying the arms factories in the city, the war could be shortened. Thousands of lives could be saved. On the other hand, the bombing will kill hundreds, maybe thousands, of civilians living near the enemy factories. How do you weigh the lives that will be saved against the lives that will be lost?

Would you bomb this city?

One plane-load of bombs will wipe out a vital enemy weapons factory, along with hundreds of civilian homes around it.

Radar tells the pilot where to drop the bombs, but at 10,000 feet, he cannot see the casualties they will cause.

This is a bomb factory in the middle of a residential area.

This raid will probably shorten the war by at least two months.

EXAMINING *the* ISSUES

- Does shortening a war to save lives justify killing civilians?
- How are civilians sometimes as much a part of a war effort as soldiers?
- What percentage of lives saved would justify the deaths caused in the bombing?

As a class, discuss these questions. In your discussion, weigh the arguments for and against both choices.

As you read about World War II, think about the role that civilians play in a situation of total war. Think also about the hard moral choices that people often face in times of war.

Hitler's Lightning War

TERMS & NAMES

- nonaggression pact
- blitzkrieg
- Charles de Gaulle
- Winston Churchill
- Battle of Britain
- Atlantic Charter

MAIN IDEA

Using the sudden, mass attack called the blitzkrieg, Germany overran much of Europe and North Africa.

WHY IT MATTERS NOW

Hitler's actions set off World War II. The results of the war still affect the politics and economics of today's world.

SETTING THE STAGE During the 1930s, Hitler played on the hopes and fears of the Western democracies. Each time the Nazi dictator grabbed new territory, he would declare an end to his demands. Peace seemed guaranteed—until Hitler started expanding again.

Germany Sparks a New War in Europe

After his moves into the Rhineland (March 1936), Austria (March 1938), and Czechoslovakia (September 1938 and March 1939), the Führer turned his eyes to Poland. On April 28, 1939, Hitler spoke before the Reichstag. He demanded that the Polish Corridor, along with its port city of Danzig, be returned to Germany. After World War I, the Allies had cut out the Polish Corridor from German territory to give Poland access to the sea.

This time, Great Britain and France decided to resist this threat of aggression. At this point, as was mentioned in Chapter 15, Soviet dictator Joseph Stalin signed a 10-year **nonaggression pact** with Hitler on August 23. After being excluded from the Munich Conference, Stalin was not eager to join with the West. Also, Hitler was promising him territory. In the public part of the pact, Germany and the Soviet Union promised not to attack each other. Secretly, however, they agreed that they would divide Poland between them. They also secretly agreed that the USSR could take over Finland and the Baltic countries (Lithuania, Latvia, and Estonia).

Germany's Lightning Attack on Poland The new nonaggression pact removed the threat to Germany of a Soviet attack from the east. Hitler then quickly moved ahead with plans to conquer Poland. His surprise attack took place at dawn on September 1, 1939. German warplanes invaded Polish airspace, raining bombs and terror on the Poles. At the same time, German tanks and troop trucks rumbled across the Polish border. The trucks carried more than 1.5 million soldiers into the assault. German aircraft and artillery then began a merciless bombing of Poland's capital, Warsaw. The city crumbled under the assault. A stunned world looked on. No one yet realized that the Polish invasion had unleashed World War II.

France and Great Britain declared war on Germany on September 3. But Poland fell three weeks before those nations could make any military response. After his victory, Hitler annexed the western half of Poland. That region had a large German population.

Background

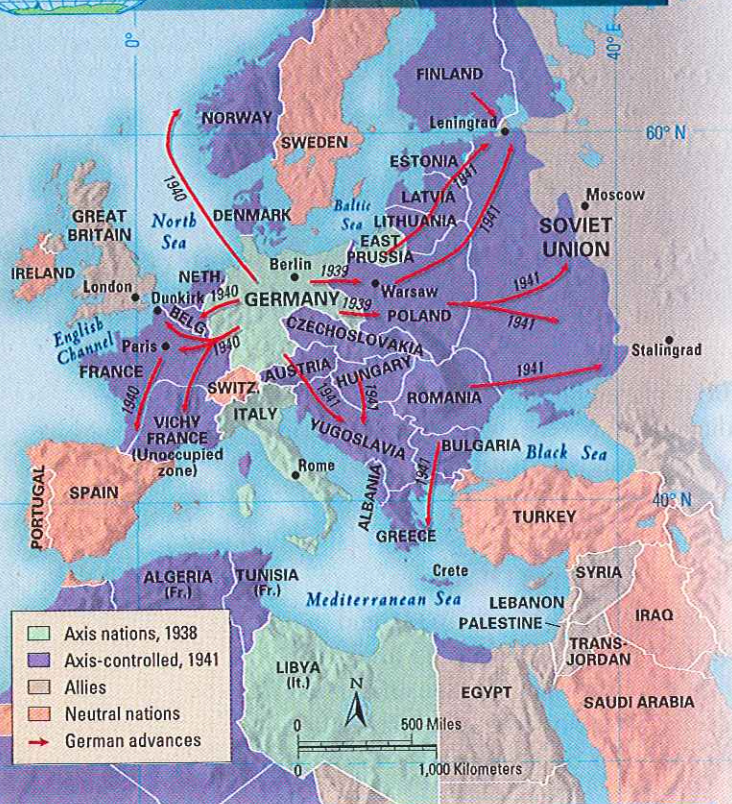
Hitler hated communism, as Stalin despised fascism. Nonetheless, Hitler did not want to fight both the Allies and the Soviet Union. And Stalin wanted to keep his country out of a costly European war.



A propaganda poster proclaims to the German nation: "One People, One Reich, One Führer!"



World War II: German Advances, 1939–1941



GEOGRAPHY SKILLBUILDER: Interpreting Maps

- Region** Which countries did Germany invade?
- Location** In what way was Germany's geographic location an advantage when it was on the offensive in the war?

The German invasion of Poland was the first test of Germany's newest military strategy—the **blitzkrieg** (BLIHTS-kreeg), or “lightning war.” It involved using fast-moving airplanes and tanks, followed by massive infantry forces, to take the enemy by surprise. Then, blitzkrieg forces swiftly crushed all opposition with overwhelming force. In the case of Poland, the strategy worked.

The Soviets Make Their Move On September 17, after his secret agreement with Hitler, Stalin sent Soviet troops to occupy the eastern half of Poland. Stalin then began annexing the regions in the second part of the agreement. Lithuania, Latvia, and Estonia fell without a struggle, but Finland resisted.

In November 1939, Stalin sent nearly 1 million Soviet troops into Finland. He thought that his soldiers would win a quick victory. So, Stalin did not worry about the Finnish winter. This was a crucial mistake. The Finns were outnumbered and outgunned, but they fiercely defended their country. In the freezing weather, they attacked on swift skis. Meanwhile, the Soviets struggled through deep snow, crippled by frost-bite. Despite their losses, the Soviet

invaders finally won through sheer force of numbers. By March 1940, Stalin had forced the Finns to accept his surrender terms.

The Phony War For almost seven months after the fall of Poland, there was a strange calm in the land fighting in Europe. After their declaration of war, the French and British had mobilized their armies. They stationed their troops along the Maginot (MAZH-uh-NOH) Line, a system of fortifications along France's border with Germany. There they waited for Germans to attack—but nothing happened. With little to do, the bored Allied soldiers stared eastward toward the enemy. Equally bored, German soldiers stared back from their Siegfried Line a few miles away. Germans jokingly called it the *sitzkrieg*, or “sitting war.” Some newspapers referred to it simply as “the phony war.”

Suddenly, on April 9, 1940, the phony war ended. Hitler launched a surprise invasion of Denmark and Norway. He planned to build bases along the Norwegian and Danish coasts to strike at Great Britain. In just four hours after the attack, Denmark fell. Two months later, Norway surrendered as well.

The Battle for France and Great Britain

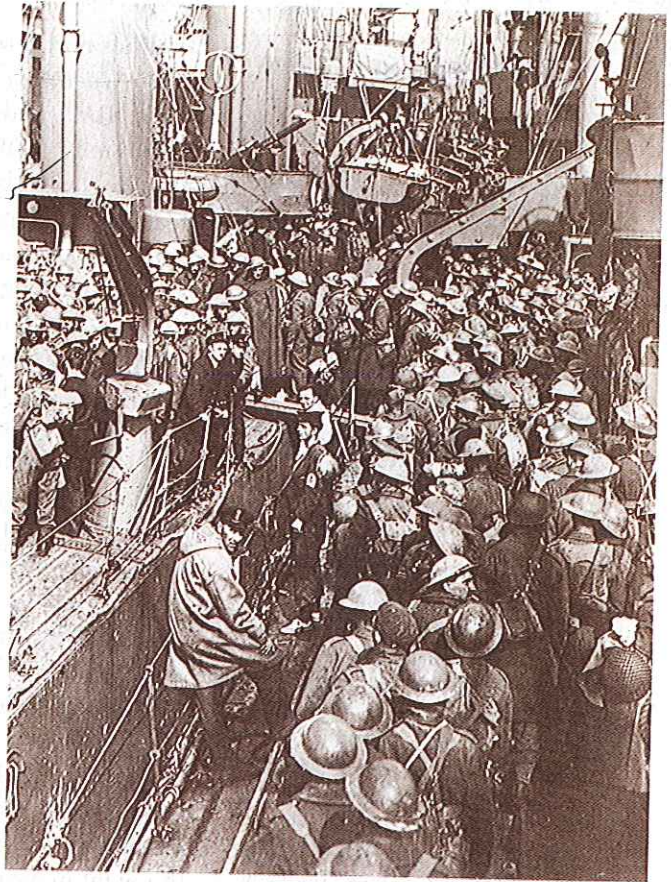
In May of 1940, Hitler began a dramatic sweep through Holland, Belgium, and Luxembourg. This was part of a strategy to strike at France. Keeping the Allies' attention on those countries, Hitler then sent an even larger force of tanks and troop trucks to slice through the Ardennes (ahr-DEHN). This was a heavily wooded area in northeastern France and Luxembourg. Moving through the forest, the

THINK THROUGH HISTORY
A. Analyzing Motives What would you say were the political reasons behind Stalin's actions in Europe at the beginning of World War II?

Germans “squeezed between” the Maginot Line. From there, they moved across France and reached France’s northern coast in 10 days.

France Battles Back When the Germans reached the French coast, they swung north again and joined forces with German troops in Belgium. By May 26, 1940, the Germans had trapped the Allied forces around the northern French city of Lille (leel). With a German victory inevitable, Belgium surrendered. Outnumbered, outgunned, and pounded from the air, the Allies escaped to the beaches of Dunkirk, a French port city on the English Channel. They were trapped with their backs to the sea.

In one of the most heroic acts of the war, Great Britain set out to rescue the army. It sent a fleet of some 850 ships across the English Channel to Dunkirk. Along with Royal Navy ships, civilian craft—yachts, lifeboats, motorboats, paddle steamers, and fishing boats—joined the rescue effort. From May 26 to June 4, this amateur armada, under heavy fire from German bombers, sailed back and forth from Britain to Dunkirk. The boats carried an incredible 338,000 battle-weary soldiers to safety.



Hundreds of British soldiers crowd aboard ship during the mass evacuation at Dunkirk.

France Falls Following Dunkirk, France seemed doomed to defeat. On June 10, sensing a quick victory, Italy’s Benito Mussolini joined forces with Hitler and declared war on both Great Britain and France. Italy then attacked France from the south. By June 14, Paris had fallen to the Germans. Nazi troops marched triumphantly down the city’s main boulevard.

Two days later, seeing defeat approaching, the French parliament asked Marshal Henri Pétain (pay-TAN), an aging hero from World War I, to become prime minister. On June 22, 1940, France surrendered. The Germans took control of the northern part of the country. They left the southern part to a puppet government headed by Pétain. The headquarters of this government was in the city of Vichy (VEESH-ee).

After France fell, a French general named **Charles de Gaulle** (duh GOHL) fled to London. There, he set up a government-in-exile committed to reconquering France. On June 18, 1940, he delivered a broadcast from England. He called on the people of France to resist:

A VOICE FROM THE PAST

It is the bounden [obligatory] duty of all Frenchmen who still bear arms to continue the struggle. For them to lay down their arms, to evacuate any position of military importance, or agree to hand over any part of French territory, however small, to enemy control would be a crime against our country. . . .

GENERAL CHARLES DE GAULLE, quoted in *Charles de Gaulle: A Biography*

De Gaulle went on to organize the Free French military forces that battled the Nazis until France was liberated in 1944.

Germany Attacks Great Britain With the fall of France, Great Britain stood alone against the Nazis. **Winston Churchill**, the new British prime minister, had already declared that his nation would never give in. In a speech, he said, “We shall fight on the beaches, we shall fight on the landing grounds, we shall fight in the fields and in the streets . . . we shall never surrender.”

Background

Hitler demanded that the surrender take place in the same railroad car where the French had dictated terms to the Germans in World War I.

HISTORY MAKER



Winston Churchill
1874–1965

Probably the greatest weapon the British had as they stood alone against Hitler's Germany was the nation's prime minister—Winston Churchill. "Big Winnie," Londoners boasted, "was the lad for us. . . ."

Although as a youngster Churchill had a speech defect, he grew to become one of the greatest orators of all time. He used all his gifts as a speaker to rally the people behind the effort to crush Germany. He declared that Britain would

. . . wage war, by sea, land, and air, with all our might and with all the strength that God can give us . . . against monstrous tyranny.

Hitler now turned his mind to an invasion of Great Britain. His plan—*Operation Sea Lion*—was first to knock out the Royal Air Force (RAF) and then to land 250,000 soldiers on England's shores. In the summer of 1940, the Luftwaffe (LOOFT-VAHF-uh), Germany's air force, began bombing Great Britain. Badly outnumbered, the RAF had 2,900 planes to the Luftwaffe's 4,500. At first, the Germans targeted British airfields and aircraft factories. Then, on September 7, 1940, they began focusing on the cities, especially London—to break British morale. Bombs exploded daily in city streets. They killed civilians and set buildings ablaze. However, despite the destruction and loss of life, the British fought on.

With the pressure off the airfields, the RAF hit back hard. Two secret weapons helped turn the tide in their favor. One was an electronic tracking system known as radar. Developed in the late 1930s, radar could tell the number, speed, and direction of incoming warplanes. The other was a German code-making machine named Enigma. A complete Enigma machine was smuggled to Great Britain in 1938. With Enigma in their possession, the British had German secret messages open to them. With information gathered by these devices, RAF fliers could quickly get to their airplanes and inflict deadly harm on the enemy.

To avoid the RAF's attacks, the Germans gave up daylight raids in October 1940 in favor of night bombing. At sunset, the wail of sirens filled the air as Londoners flocked to the subways. There they spent the night in air-raid shelters. Some rode out the blasts at home in basements or in smaller air-raid shelters.

The **Battle of Britain** continued until May 10, 1941. Stunned by British resistance, Hitler decided to call off his attacks. Instead, he focused his attention on Eastern Europe and the Mediterranean. The Battle of Britain had ended. And, from it, the Allies had learned a crucial lesson: Hitler's advances could be blocked.

The Eastern Front and the Mediterranean

The stubborn resistance of the British in the Battle of Britain caused a shift in Hitler's strategy in Europe. Although the resistance surprised Hitler, it did not defeat him. He would deal with Great Britain later. Instead, he turned his attention east to the Balkans and the Mediterranean area—and to the ultimate prize, the Soviet Union.

Germany and Italy Attack North Africa Germany's first objective in the Mediterranean region was North Africa—mainly because of Hitler's partner Mussolini. Despite Italy's alliance with Germany, the country had remained neutral at the beginning of the war. With Hitler's conquest of France, however, Mussolini knew he had to take action. Otherwise, Italy would not share in Germany's victories. "I need a few thousand dead," he told a member of his staff. After declaring war on France and Great Britain, Italy became Germany's most important Axis ally. Then, Mussolini moved into France along with the Nazis.

Mussolini took his next step in September 1940. While the Battle of Britain was raging, he ordered Italy's North African army to move east from Libya. His goal was to seize British-controlled Egypt. Egypt's Suez Canal was key to reaching the oil fields of the Middle East. Within a week, Italian troops had pushed 60 miles inside Egypt, forcing British units back. Then both sides dug in and waited.

Great Britain Strikes Back Finally, in December, the British decided to strike back. The result was a disaster for the Italians. By February 1941, the British had swept 500 miles across North Africa. They had taken 130,000 Italian prisoners.

Background
Luftwaffe in German means "air weapon."

Vocabulary
morale: state of mind.

THINK THROUGH HISTORY
B. Drawing Conclusions How could "a few thousand dead" have helped Mussolini's position in the Axis powers?

Background
The Middle East is an area that includes the countries of Southwest Asia and northeast Africa.

Hitler had to step in to save his Axis partner. In February 1941, he sent General Erwin Rommel, later known as the "Desert Fox," to Libya. His mission was to command a newly formed tank corps, the Afrika Korps. Determined to take control of Egypt and the Suez Canal, Rommel attacked the British at Agheila (uh-GAY-luh) on March 24. Caught by surprise, British forces retreated 500 miles east to Tobruk.

However, by mid-January 1942, after fierce fighting for Tobruk, the British drove Rommel back to where he had started. By June, the tide of battle turned again. Rommel regrouped, pushed the British back across the desert, and seized Tobruk. This was a shattering loss for the Allies. Rommel later wrote, "To every man of us, Tobruk was a symbol of British resistance, and we were now going to finish with it for good."

The War in the Balkans While Rommel campaigned in North Africa, Hitler was active in the Balkans. As early as the summer of 1940, Hitler had begun planning to attack his ally, the USSR, by the following spring. The Balkan countries of southeastern Europe were key to Hitler's invasion plan. Hitler wanted to build bases in southeastern Europe for the attack on the Soviet Union. He also wanted to make sure that the British did not interfere.

To prepare for his invasion, Hitler moved to expand his influence in the Balkans. In the face of overwhelming German strength, Bulgaria, Romania, and Hungary cooperated by joining the Axis powers in early 1941. Yugoslavia and Greece, which had pro-British governments, resisted. On Sunday, April 6, 1941, Hitler invaded both countries. Yugoslavia fell in 11 days. Greece surrendered in 17. In Athens, the Nazis celebrated their victory by raising swastikas on the Acropolis.

Hitler Invades the Soviet Union With the Balkans firmly in control, Hitler could move ahead with his plan to invade the Soviet Union. He called that plan *Operation Barbarossa*. Early on Sunday morning, June 22, 1941, the roar of German tanks and aircraft announced the beginning of the blitzkrieg invasion. The Soviet Union was not prepared for this attack. With its 5 million men, the Red Army was the largest in the world. But it was neither well equipped nor well trained.

The invasion rolled on week after week until the Germans had pushed 500 miles inside the Soviet Union. As the Russians retreated, they burned and destroyed everything in the enemy's path. Russians had used this same strategy against Napoleon.

By September 8, Germans had surrounded Leningrad and isolated the city from the rest of the world. If necessary, Hitler would starve the city's 2.5 million inhabitants. German bombs destroyed warehouses where food was stored. Desperately hungry, people began eating cattle and horse feed, as well as cats and dogs and, finally, crows and rats. More than 1 million people died in Leningrad that terrible winter. Yet the city refused to fall.

Seeing that Leningrad would not surrender, Hitler looked to Moscow, the capital and heart of the Soviet Union. A Nazi drive on the capital began on October 2, 1941.

Background

The Balkan countries include Albania, Bulgaria, Greece, parts of Romania and Turkey, and most of the former Yugoslavia.



A Soviet photo taken in 1942 shows the horrors of the war in the Soviet Union. Civilians in the Crimea search over a barren field for their dead loved ones.

By December, the Germans had advanced to the outskirts of Moscow. Soviet General Georgi Zhukov (ZHOO-kuhf) counterattacked. He had 100 fresh Siberian divisions and the harsh Soviet winter on his side.

As temperatures fell, the Germans, in summer uniforms, retreated. Their fuel and oil froze. Tanks, trucks, and weapons became useless. Ignoring Napoleon's winter defeat 130 years before, the Führer sent his generals a stunning order: "No retreat!" German troops dug in about 125 miles west of the capital. They held the line against the Soviets until March 1943. Nonetheless, Moscow had been saved and had cost the Germans 500,000 lives.

THINK THROUGH HISTORY

C. Making Inferences What does the fact that German armies were not prepared for the Russian winter indicate about Hitler's expectations for the campaign in the Soviet Union?

U.S. industry achieved amazing rates of speed when it began to produce for the war effort. This ship, for example, was produced in a U.S. shipyard in only 10 days.

The United States Aids Its Allies

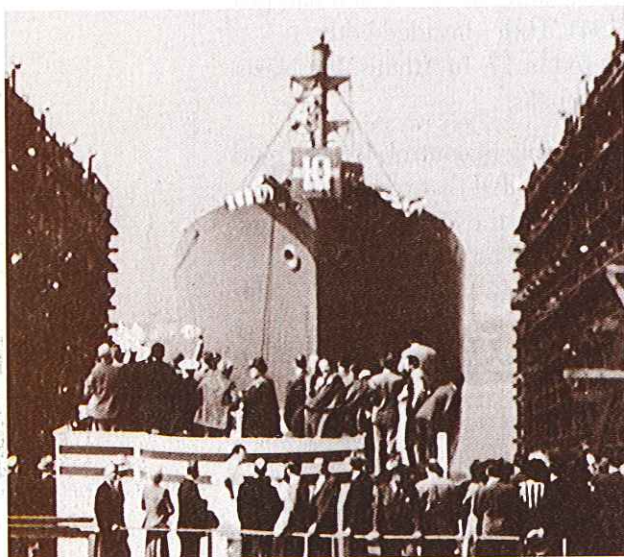
As disturbing as these events were to Americans, bitter memories of World War I convinced most people in the United States that their country should not get involved. Between 1935 and 1937, Congress passed a series of Neutrality Acts. The laws made it illegal to sell arms or lend money to nations at war. But President Roosevelt knew that if the Allies fell, the United States would be drawn into the war. In September 1939, he persuaded Congress to allow the Allies to buy American arms. According to his plan, they would pay cash and then carry the goods on their own ships.

Under the Lend-Lease Act, passed in March 1941, the president could lend or lease arms and other supplies to any country vital to the United States. By the summer of 1941, the U.S. Navy was escorting British ships carrying U.S. arms. In response, Hitler ordered his submarines to sink any cargo ships they met.

Although the United States had not yet entered the war, Roosevelt and Churchill met secretly on a battleship off Newfoundland on August 9. The two leaders issued a joint declaration called the **Atlantic Charter**. It upheld free trade among nations and the right of people to choose their own government. The charter later served as the Allies' peace plan at the end of World War II.

On September 4, a German U-boat suddenly fired on a U.S. destroyer in the Atlantic.

Roosevelt ordered navy commanders to respond. They were to shoot German submarines on sight. The United States was now involved in an undeclared naval war with Hitler. To almost everyone's surprise, however, the attack that actually drew the United States into the war did not come from Germany. It came from Japan.



Background
Newfoundland is a province of Canada.

Section 1 Assessment

1. TERMS & NAMES

Identify

- nonaggression pact
- blitzkrieg
- Charles de Gaulle
- Winston Churchill
- Battle of Britain
- Atlantic Charter

2. TAKING NOTES

Create a chart like the one below. Identify the effects of each of these early events of World War II.

Cause	Effect
First blitzkrieg	
Allies stranded at Dunkirk	
British radar detects German aircraft	
Lend-Lease Act	

3. MAKING INFERENCES

Great Britain and the Soviet city of Leningrad each fought off a German invasion. Other countries gave in to the Germans without much resistance. What factors do you think a country's leaders consider when deciding whether to surrender or to fight?

THINK ABOUT:

- the country's ability to fight
- the costs of resisting
- the costs of surrendering

4. THEME ACTIVITY

Economics In groups of 3 or 4, prepare a dramatic scene for a play or film that focuses on an economic problem that might have been suffered by Europeans during World War II.

Japan Strikes in the Pacific

TERMS & NAMES

- Isoroku Yamamoto
- Pearl Harbor
- Battle of Midway
- Douglas MacArthur
- Battle of Guadalcanal

MAIN IDEA

Carving out an empire, Japan attacked Pearl Harbor in Hawaii and brought the United States into World War II.

WHY IT MATTERS NOW

World War II established the role of the United States as a leading player in international affairs.

SETTING THE STAGE Like Hitler, Japan's military leaders also had dreams of empire. Japan was overcrowded and faced shortages of raw materials. To solve these problems—and to encourage nationalism—the Japanese began a program of empire building that would lead to war.

Japan Seeks a Pacific Empire

Japan's expansion began in 1931. In that year, Japanese troops took over Manchuria in northeastern China. Six years later, Japanese armies swept into the heartland of China. They expected quick victory. Chinese resistance, however, caused the war to drag on. This caused a strain on Japan's economy. To increase their resources, Japanese leaders looked toward the rich European colonies of Southeast Asia.

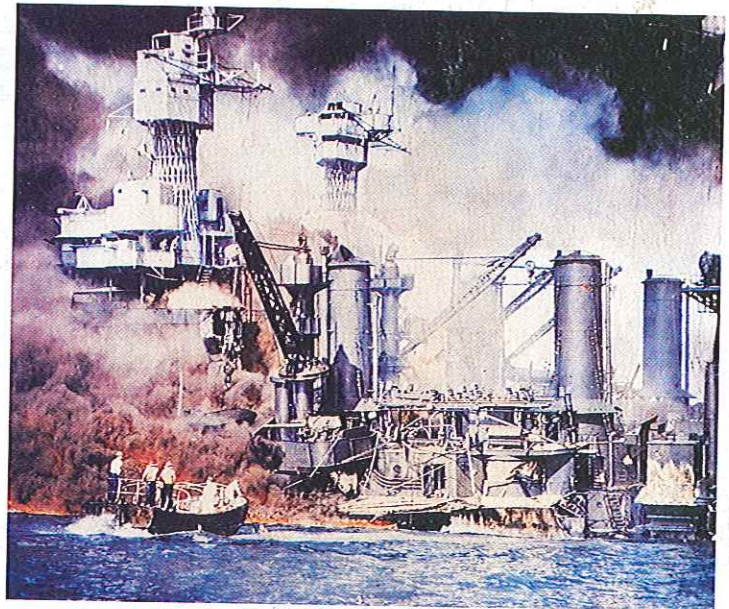
The Surprise Attack on Pearl Harbor By August 1940, Americans had cracked a Japanese secret code. They were well aware of Japanese plans for Southeast Asia. If Japan conquered European colonies there, it could also threaten the American-controlled Philippine Islands and Guam. To stop the Japanese advance, the U.S. government sent aid to strengthen Chinese resistance. And when the Japanese overran French Indochina in July 1941, Roosevelt cut off oil shipments to Japan.

Despite an oil shortage, the Japanese continued their conquests. They hoped to catch the United States by surprise. So they planned massive attacks in Southeast Asia and in the Pacific—both at the same time. Japan's greatest naval strategist, Admiral **Isoroku Yamamoto** (ih-soh-ROO-koo YAH-muh-MOH-toh), also argued that the U.S. fleet in Hawaii was "a dagger pointed at our throat" and must be destroyed.

Early in the morning of December 7, 1941, American sailors at **Pearl Harbor** in Hawaii awoke to the roar of explosives. A Japanese attack was underway! The United States had known from a coded Japanese message that an attack might come. But they did not know when or where it would occur. Within two hours, the Japanese had sunk or damaged 18 ships, including 8 battleships—nearly the whole U.S. Pacific fleet. Some 2,400 Americans were killed—with more than 1,000 wounded. News of the attack stunned the American people. The next day, Congress declared war on Japan. In his speech to Congress, President Roosevelt described December 7 as "a date which will live in infamy."

Background

French Indochina was an area now made up by Vietnam, Cambodia, and Laos.



The U.S.S. *West Virginia* in flames after taking a direct hit during the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor.

The Tide of Japanese Victories The Japanese had planned a series of strikes at the United States in the Pacific. After the bombing at Pearl Harbor, the Japanese seized Guam and Wake Island in the western Pacific. They then launched an attack on the Philippines. In January 1942, the Japanese marched into the Philippine capital of Manila. They overwhelmed American and Filipino defenders on the Bataan Peninsula (buh-TAN) in April—and in May, on the island of Corregidor.

The Japanese also hit the British, seizing Hong Kong and invading Malaya. By February 1942, the Japanese had reached Singapore. After a fierce pounding, the colony surrendered. By March, the Japanese had conquered the resource-rich Dutch East Indies (now Indonesia), including the islands of Java, Sumatra, Borneo, and Celebes (SEHLuh-BEEZ). After Malaya, the Japanese took Burma, between China and India. China received supplies by way of the Burma Road. The Japanese could now close off the road. Now they might force the Chinese to surrender.

By the time Burma fell, Japan had conquered more than 1 million square miles of land with about 150 million people. Before these conquests, the Japanese had tried to win the support of Asians with the anticolonialist idea of “Asia for the Asians.” After victory, however, the Japanese quickly made it clear that they had come as conquerors.

Native peoples often received the same brutal treatment as the 150,000 prisoners of war. On what is called the Bataan Death March, the Japanese subjected prisoners to terrible cruelties. One American soldier reported:

A VOICE FROM THE PAST

I was questioned by a Japanese officer who found out that I had been in a Philippine Scout Battalion. The [Japanese] hated the Scouts. . . . Anyway, they took me outside and I was forced to watch as they buried six of my Scouts alive. They made the men dig their own graves, and then had them kneel down in a pit. The guards hit them over the head with shovels to stun them and piled earth on top.

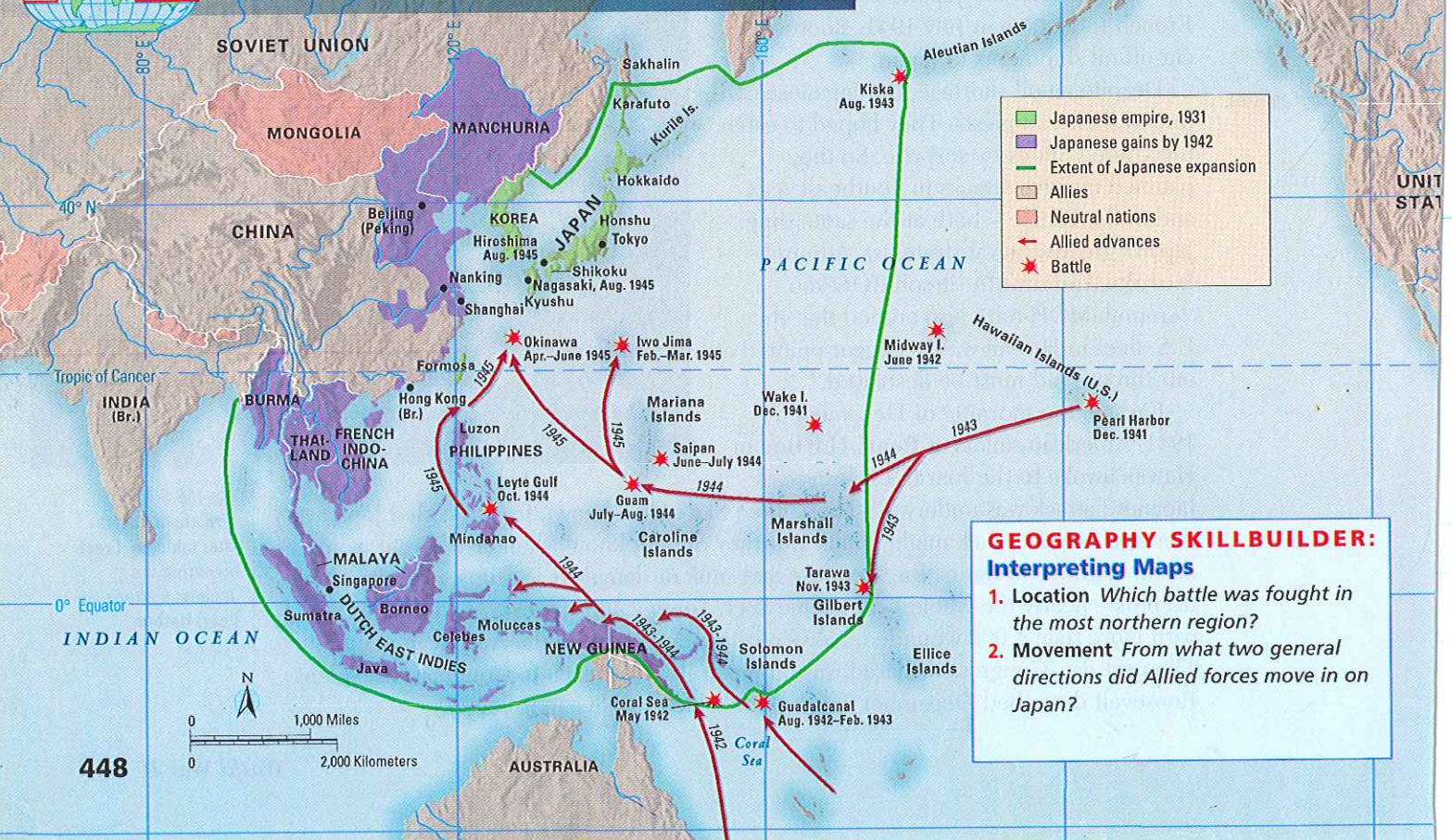
LIEUTENANT JOHN SPAINHOWER, quoted in *War Diary 1939–1945*

Background

According to the centuries-old warrior code called *Bushido*, a Japanese soldier must commit suicide, or *hari-kari*, rather than surrender. So Japanese soldiers had contempt for Allied prisoners of war.



World War II in Asia and the Pacific, 1941–1945



GEOGRAPHY SKILLBUILDER:
Interpreting Maps

1. **Location** Which battle was fought in the most northern region?
2. **Movement** From what two general directions did Allied forces move in on Japan?

The Allies Strike Back

After a string of victories, the Japanese seemed unbeatable. Nonetheless, the Allies—mainly Americans and Australians—were anxious to strike back in the Pacific. In April 1942, the United States wanted revenge for Pearl Harbor. So the United States sent 16 B-25 bombers under the command of Lieutenant Colonel James H. Doolittle to bomb Tokyo and other major Japanese cities. The bombs did little damage. The attack, however, made an important psychological point: the Japanese could be attacked.

The Allies Turn the Tide of War Doolittle's raid on Japan raised American morale and shook the confidence of some Japanese. As one Japanese citizen described it, "We started to doubt that we were invincible." In addition, Japan had won a vast empire that was becoming difficult to defend and control.

Slowly, the Allies began to turn the tide of war. Early in May 1942, an American fleet with Australian support intercepted a Japanese strike force. The force had been about to attack Port Moresby. The city housed a critical Allied air base in southeastern New Guinea (GIHN-ee). From this base, the Japanese could have easily invaded Australia.

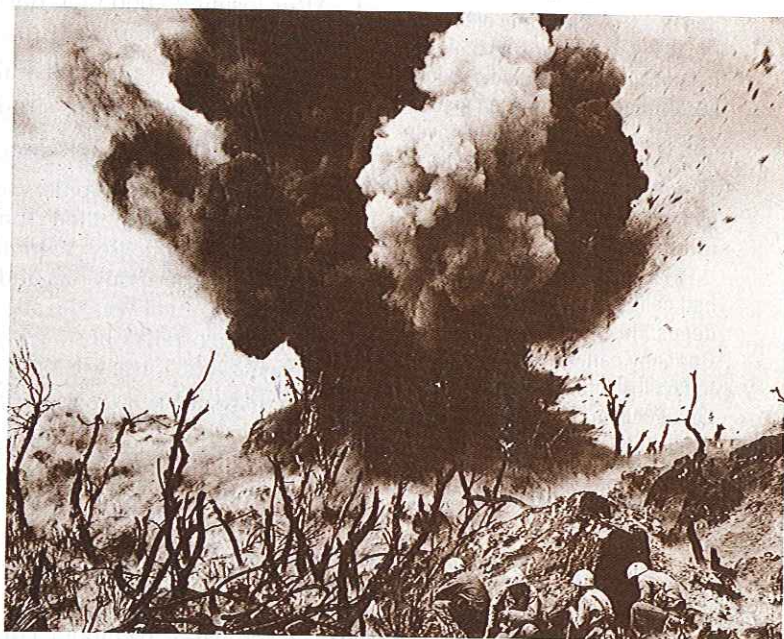
In the battle that followed—the Battle of the Coral Sea—both fleets fought using a new kind of naval warfare. The opposing ships did not fire a single shot. In fact, they often could not see one other. Instead, airplanes taking off from huge aircraft carriers did all the fighting. In the end, the battle was something of a draw. The Allies lost more ships than the Japanese, who claimed victory. But the Allies had stopped Japan's southward expansion for the first time.

The Battle of Midway Japan next targeted Midway Island, west of Hawaii. The island was home to a key American airfield. However, by June 1942, yet another Japanese code had been broken. As a result, the new commander in chief of the U.S. Pacific Fleet, Admiral Chester Nimitz, knew that a force of over 150 ships was heading toward Midway. The Japanese fleet was the largest naval force ever assembled. It

could also boast the world's largest battleship, carrying Admiral Yamamoto himself. Yamamoto hoped not only to seize Midway but also to finish off the U.S. Pacific fleet. He hoped the American force would come from Pearl Harbor to defend the island.

Nimitz was outnumbered four to one in ships and planes. Even so, he was preparing an ambush for the Japanese at Midway. On June 4, with American forces hidden beyond the horizon, Nimitz allowed the enemy to launch the first strike. As Japanese planes roared over Midway Island, American carrier planes swooped in to attack Japanese ships. Many Japanese planes were still on the decks of the ships. The strategy was a success. American pilots destroyed 332 Japanese planes, all four aircraft carriers, and one support ship. Yamamoto ordered his crippled fleet to withdraw. By June 6, 1942, the battle was over. One Japanese official commented, "The Americans had avenged Pearl Harbor." The **Battle of Midway** had also turned the tide of war in the Pacific against the Japanese.

The Allies Go on the Offensive With morale high after their Midway victory, the Allies took the offensive. The Pacific war was one of vast distances. Japanese troops had dug in on hundreds of islands across the ocean. General **Douglas MacArthur** was



As happened in other battles of the Pacific war, U.S. Marines destroy a cave connected to a Japanese fort on the island of Iwo Jima.

Vocabulary
invincible:
unconquerable.

THINK THROUGH HISTORY

A. Analyzing

Motives What reasons might Admiral Yamamoto have had for thinking the Americans would send their entire Pacific fleet to defend Midway Island?

commander of the Allied land forces in the Pacific. He believed that storming each island would be a long, costly effort. Instead, he wanted to “island-hop” past Japanese strongpoints. He would then seize islands that were not well defended but were closer

to Japan. After taking the islands, MacArthur would use air power to cut supply lines and starve enemy troops. “Hit ’em where they ain’t, let ’em die on the vine,” MacArthur declared.

MacArthur’s first target soon presented itself. The U.S. government had learned that the Japanese were building a huge air base on the island of Guadalcanal in the Solomon Islands. The Allies had to strike fast before the base was completed and became another Japanese strongpoint. At dawn on August 7, 1942, about 19,000 U.S. Marines, with Australian support, landed on Guadalcanal and a few nearby islands. Caught unprepared, the Japanese at Guadalcanal radioed, “Enemy forces overwhelming. We will defend our posts to the death.”

The marines had easily taken the Japanese airfield. But the battle for control of the island turned into a savage struggle as both sides poured in fresh troops. In February 1943, after six months of fighting on land and at sea, the **Battle of Guadalcanal** finally ended. After losing 23,000 men out of 36,000, the Japanese abandoned the island they came to call “the Island of Death.”

To war correspondent Ralph Martin and the soldiers who fought there, Guadalcanal was simply “hell”:

A VOICE FROM THE PAST

Hell was furry red spiders as big as your fist, giant lizards as long as your leg, leeches falling from trees to suck blood, armies of white ants with bites of fire, scurrying scorpions inflaming any flesh they touched, enormous rats and bats everywhere, and rivers with waiting crocodiles. Hell was the sour, foul smell of the squishy jungle, humidity that rotted a body within hours. . . . Hell was an enemy . . . so fanatic that it used its own dead as booby traps.

RALPH G. MARTIN, quoted in *The GI War*

As Japan worked to establish a new order in Southeast Asia and the Pacific, the Nazis moved ahead with Hitler’s plan for a new order in Europe. Hitler’s goal was not only the conquest of Europe. He

also aimed at enslaving Europe’s people and forcing them to work for Germany’s prosperity. In particular, the Führer had plans for dealing with those he considered unfit for the Third Reich. You will learn about Hitler’s plans in Section 3.

HISTORY MAKERS



Douglas MacArthur
1880–1964

Son of a Civil War army officer, Douglas MacArthur said that his first memory was the “sound of bugles.” MacArthur yearned, even at an early age, for a life of action and adventure. With a strong will and his mother’s encouragement, he grew to become one of the most brilliant military strategists of World War II.

MacArthur believed that destiny had called him to perform great deeds. He once boasted, “All Germany cannot fabricate the shell that will kill me.” The general had his critics, but he also inspired deep loyalty among his men. One remarked, “His first thought was always for the soldier.”

THINK THROUGH HISTORY

B. Identifying Problems If the vast distances of the Pacific caused problems for the Allies, how might they have also caused problems for the Japanese?

THINK THROUGH HISTORY

C. Analyzing Causes What reasons could have made the Japanese fight until they lost 23,000 out of 36,000 defending the island of Guadalcanal?

Section 2 Assessment

1. TERMS & NAMES

Identify

- Isoroku Yamamoto
- Pearl Harbor
- Battle of Midway
- Douglas MacArthur
- Battle of Guadalcanal

2. TAKING NOTES

Create a chart like the one below. List four major events of the war in the Pacific between 1941 and 1943.

Event 1:	
Event 2:	
Event 3:	
Event 4:	

Which event was most important in turning the tide of the war in the Pacific against the Japanese? Why?

3. EVALUATING DECISIONS

Judging from the effects of the attack on Pearl Harbor, do you think Yamamoto made a wise decision in bombing Pearl Harbor? Why or why not?

THINK ABOUT

- Yamamoto’s goals in the bombing
- U.S. involvement in World War II
- the effects of the bombing

4. ANALYZING THEMES

Empire Building What do you think Yamamoto’s biggest problems were in building the Japanese empire in the Pacific?

THINK ABOUT

- geographical problems
- European/American interests in the Pacific
- psychological factors

TERMS & NAMES

- Aryans
- Holocaust
- *Kristallnacht*
- ghettos
- "Final Solution"
- genocide

MAIN IDEA

During the Holocaust, Hitler's Nazis killed 6 million Jews and 5 million other "non-Aryans."

WHY IT MATTERS NOW

The violence against Jews during the Holocaust led to the founding of Israel after World War II.

Background

Hitler misused the term *Aryan* to mean "Germanic." In fact, the term refers to the Indo-European peoples.

SETTING THE STAGE As part of their new order for Europe, Nazis proclaimed that **Aryans**, or Germanic peoples, were a "master race." They claimed that Jews and other non-Aryan peoples were inferior. This racist message would eventually lead to the **Holocaust**—the mass slaughter of civilians, especially Jews.

The Holocaust Begins

Nazi propaganda started as an ugly campaign of anti-Semitism. It eventually flared into persecution across Germany. Hitler knowingly tapped into a hatred for Jews that had deep roots in European history.

For generations, many Germans, along with other Europeans, had targeted Jews as the cause of their failures. The Nazis even blamed Jews for Germany's defeat in World War I and for its economic problems after that war.

In 1933, the Nazis made persecution a government policy. They first passed laws forbidding Jews to hold public office. Then, in 1935, the Nuremberg Laws deprived Jews of their rights to German citizenship, jobs, and property. To make it easier for the Nazis to identify them, Jews had to wear a bright yellow star attached to their clothing.

Kristallnacht: "Night of Broken Glass"

Worse was yet to come. Early in November 1938, 17-year-old Herschel Grynszpan (GRIN-shpahn), a Jewish youth from Germany, was visiting an uncle in Paris. While Grynszpan was there, he received a postcard. It said that after living in Germany for 27 years, his father had been deported to his native Poland. On November 7, wishing to avenge his father's deportation, Grynszpan shot an employee of the German Embassy in Paris.

When Nazi leaders heard the news, they launched a violent attack on the Jewish community. On November 9, Nazi storm troopers attacked Jewish homes, businesses, and synagogues across Germany and murdered around 100 Jews. An American in Leipzig wrote, "Jewish shop windows by the hundreds were systematically . . . smashed. . . . The main streets of the city were a positive litter of shattered plate glass." It is for this reason that the night of November 9 became known as **Kristallnacht** (Krih-STAHL-NAHKT), or "Night of Broken Glass."

THINK THROUGH HISTORY

A. Analyzing

Motives Why might the people of a country want to blame a minority group for most of its problems?



Hitler's special troops helped spread the message of the government's anti-Semitic policy. The sign these troops are putting up reads, "Germans! Protect yourselves! Don't buy in Jewish stores!"

Young M.I. Libau was only 14 years old when Nazis attacked his family's home. Libau described what the Nazis did:

A VOICE FROM THE PAST

All the things for which my parents had worked for eighteen long years were destroyed in less than ten minutes. Piles of valuable glasses, expensive furniture, linens—in short, everything was destroyed. . . . The Nazis left us, yelling, "Don't try to leave this house! We'll soon be back again and take you to a concentration camp to be shot."

M.I. LIBAU, quoted in *Never to Forget: The Jews of the Holocaust*

Kristallnacht marked a major step-up in the Nazi policy of Jewish persecution. The future for Jews in Germany looked grim.

The Flood of Refugees After Kristallnacht, some Jews realized that violence against them was bound to increase. By the end of 1939, a number of Jews in Germany had fled for safety to other countries. Many of them, however, remained in Germany. Later, there would be millions more in territories conquered by Hitler. At first, Hitler favored emigration as a solution to what he called "the Jewish problem." The Nazis sped up the process. They forced Jews who did not want to leave into emigrating.

Getting other countries to continue admitting Germany's Jews became a problem. France had admitted 25,000 Jewish refugees and wanted no more. The British, who had accepted 80,000 Jews, worried about fueling anti-Semitism if that number increased. Some 40,000 Jews found homes in Latin America, but that region had closed its doors by the end of 1938. The United States took in around 100,000 refugees (including German scientist Albert Einstein). Many Americans, however, wanted U.S. doors closed. Germany's foreign minister observed: "We all want to get rid of our Jews. The difficulty is that no country wishes to receive them."

Isolating the Jews Hitler found that he could not get rid of Jews through emigration. So he put another part of his plan into effect. Hitler ordered Jews in all countries under his control to be moved into certain cities in Poland. In those cities, they were herded into dismal, overcrowded **ghettos**, or segregated Jewish areas. The Nazis then sealed off the ghettos with barbed wire and stone walls. They wanted the Jews inside to starve or die from disease. One survivor wrote, "One sees people dying, lying with arms and legs outstretched in the middle of the road. Their legs are bloated, often frostbitten, and their faces distorted with pain."

Even under these horrible conditions, the Jews hung on. Some formed resistance organizations within the ghettos. They smuggled in food and other needed items. In the midst of chaos, Jews also struggled to keep their traditions. Ghetto theaters produced plays and concerts. Teachers taught lessons in secret schools. Scholars kept records so that one day people would find out the truth.

THINK THROUGH HISTORY

B. Analyzing Causes Why might Hitler have chosen Poland to put his ghetto policy for "the Jewish problem" into effect?

This pile of shoes taken from Nazi victims represents the murder of thousands of Jews. The inset shows the living inmates at Auschwitz trying to salvage shoes left by the dead.



Hitler's "Final Solution"

Hitler soon grew impatient waiting for Jews to die from starvation or disease in the ghettos. He decided to take more direct action. His plan was called the "Final Solution." It was actually a program of **genocide**, the systematic killing of an entire people.

Hitler believed that his plan of conquest depended on the purity of the Aryan race. To protect racial purity, the Nazis not only had to eliminate the Jews, but also other races, nationalities, or groups they viewed as inferior—as "subhumans." They included gypsies, Poles, Russians, homosexuals, the insane, the disabled, and the incurably ill. But the Nazis focused especially on the Jews.

The Mass Killings Begin After Hitler invaded Poland in 1939, it was still not clear that the Führer meant to eliminate Jews totally. As Nazi armies swept across Eastern Europe, Hitler sent SS units from town to town to hunt Jews down. The SS (Hitler's elite security force) and some thousands of collaborators rounded up Jews—men, women, young children, and even babies—and took them to isolated spots. They then shot their prisoners in pits that became the prisoners' grave.

Jews in communities not reached by the killing squads were rounded up and taken to concentration camps, or slave-labor prisons. These camps were located mainly in Germany and Poland. Later, Nazis built camps in other countries they occupied. (See the map on page 467.) Hitler hoped that the horrible conditions in the camps would speed the total elimination of the Jews.

The prisoners worked seven days a week as slaves for the SS or for German businesses. Guards severely beat or killed their prisoners for not working fast enough. With meals of thin soup, a scrap of bread, and potato peelings, most prisoners lost 50 pounds the first month. "Hunger was so intense," recalled one survivor, "that if a bit of soup spilled over, prisoners would . . . dig their spoons into the mud and stuff the mess into their mouths."

The Final Stage: Mass Extermination The "Final Solution" officially reached its final stage in early 1942. At that time, the Nazis built extermination camps equipped with gas chambers for mass murder. The Nazis built the first six death camps in Poland. The first, Chelmno, actually began operating in late 1941. (See the map on

Unresolved Problems

Defending Human Rights and Freedoms

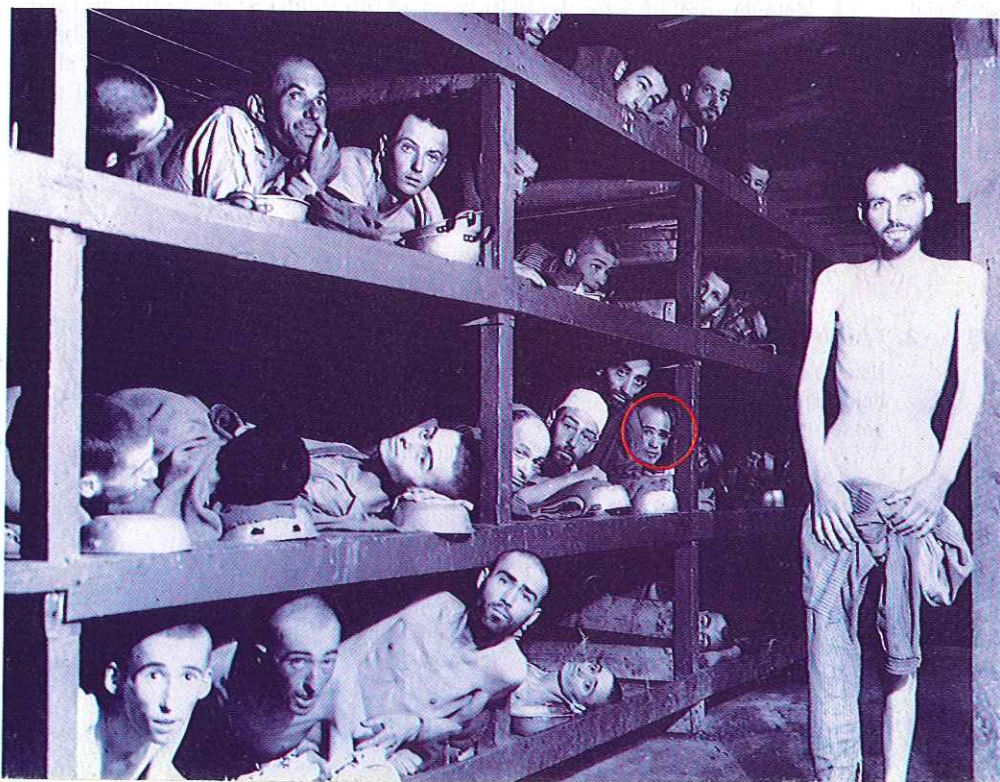
After the horrible crimes of the Final Solution were revealed at the end of World War II, nations of the world resolved to work for the protection of human rights for people in every nation. The Universal Declaration of Human Rights was adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in 1948. The declaration identifies the basic political, economic, and social rights and freedoms of every person.

In that same year, the UN drew up an agreement that made genocide an international war crime. The United States approved the Genocide Convention in 1986.

See *Epilogue*, p. 606.

Vocabulary
collaborators: people who assist an occupying enemy force.

Background
Nazis also slaughtered 5 million Poles, Soviets, and others they considered as "undesirables."



Slave workers in the Buchenwald concentration camp in Germany. They were among the lucky to have survived to the end of the war. The prisoner highlighted with a circle is Nobel Prize winning author Elie Wiesel. (See "A Voice from the Past," page 454.)



In 1941, Hitler's government required all Jews in German-controlled territories to wear a yellow Star of David when appearing in public places.

Jews Killed under Nazi Rule*

	Original Jewish Population	Jews Killed	Percent Surviving
Poland	3,300,000	3,000,000	10%
Soviet Union	2,850,000	1,252,000	56%
Hungary	650,000	450,000	30%
Romania	600,000	300,000	50%
Germany/Austria	240,000	200,000	16½%

*Estimates

page 467.) The huge gas chambers in the camps could kill as many as 6,000 human beings in a day.

When prisoners arrived at the largest of the death camps, Auschwitz (OUSH-vihts), they paraded before a committee of SS doctors. With a wave of the hand, these doctors separated the strong (mostly men) from the weak, who would die that day. Those chosen to die (mostly women, young children, the elderly, and the sick) were told to undress for a shower. They were led into a chamber with fake showerheads, and the doors closed. The prisoners were then poisoned with cyanide gas that poured from the showerheads. Later, the Nazis installed crematoriums, or ovens, to burn the bodies.

THINK THROUGH HISTORY

C. Analyzing Motives How could concentration camp doctors and guards have justified to themselves the death and suffering they caused other human beings?

SPOTLIGHT ON

Jewish Resistance

The 700 members of the Jewish Fighting Organization in the Warsaw ghetto were among the Jews who resisted the horrors of Nazism. In April 1943, most of these young people lost their lives battling Nazi tanks and troops who were destroying the ghetto.

Even in the death camps, Jews rose up against the Nazis. In August 1943 at Treblinka, Poland, a small group of Jews revolted. Breaking into the armory, they stole guns and grenades. They then attacked guards and set fire to the gas chambers. Most of these brave fighters died. They had paid the highest price possible to combat Nazi atrocities.

The Survivors Six million Jews died in the death camps and in Nazi massacres. Fewer than 4 million European Jews survived the horrors of the Holocaust. Many had help from non-Jewish people who were against the Nazis' treatment of Jews. Swedish businessman Raoul Wallenberg and Protestant religious thinker Dietrich Bonhoeffer are just two examples of Christians who risked their lives to oppose Hitler's policies. These people risked their lives by hiding Jews or by helping them escape to neutral countries such as Switzerland or Sweden.

Those who survived the camps were changed forever by what they had seen. For Elie Wiesel, 15 years old when he entered Auschwitz, the light had gone out:

A VOICE FROM THE PAST

Never shall I forget the little faces of the children, whose bodies I saw turned into wreaths of smoke beneath a silent blue sky. Never shall I forget those flames which consumed my faith forever. . . . Never shall I forget those moments which murdered my God and my soul and turned my dreams to dust. . . . Never.

ELIE WIESEL, quoted in *Night*

Section 3 Assessment

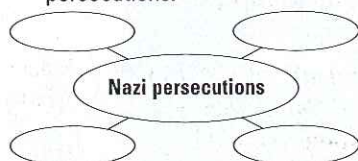
1. TERMS & NAMES

Identify

- Aryans
- Holocaust
- Kristallnacht
- ghettos
- "Final Solution"
- genocide

2. TAKING NOTES

Using a web diagram like the one below, give examples of Nazi persecutions.



3. MAKING INFERENCES

Why do you think German soldiers and the German people went along with the Nazi policy of persecution of the Jews?

THINK ABOUT

- Nazi treatment of those who disagreed
- Nazi propaganda
- the political and social conditions in Germany at the time

4. THEME ACTIVITY

Science and Technology In groups of three or four students, discuss the ethical dilemmas of German scientists, engineers, and doctors asked to organize and participate in the Holocaust.

How might they have opposed Hitler's policy? In public? In secret? What might have been the consequences of public opposition?

The Allies Are Victorious

TERMS & NAMES

- Erwin Rommel
- Bernard Montgomery
- Dwight D. Eisenhower
- Battle of Stalingrad
- D-Day
- Battle of the Bulge
- kamikaze

MAIN IDEA

Led by the United States, Great Britain, and the Soviet Union, the Allies scored key victories and won the war.

WHY IT MATTERS NOW

The Allies' victory in World War II set up conditions for both the Cold War and today's post-Cold War world.

SETTING THE STAGE As 1941 came to an end, Hitler said, "Let's hope 1942 brings me as much good fortune as 1941." Despite the Führer's hopes, Germany's victories slowed considerably during 1942. The United States had entered the war, boosting the Allies' morale and strength.

The Allies Plan for Victory

On December 22, 1941, just after Pearl Harbor, Winston Churchill and President Roosevelt met at the White House to develop a joint war policy. Stalin had asked his allies to relieve German pressure on his armies in the east. He wanted them to open a second front in the west. The second front would split the Germans' strength by forcing them to fight major battles in two regions instead of one. Churchill agreed with Stalin's strategy: The Allies would weaken Germany on two fronts before dealing a deathblow. At first, Roosevelt was torn, but ultimately he agreed.

The Tide Turns on Two Fronts

Churchill urged that Britain and the United States strike first at North Africa and southern Europe. The strategy angered Stalin. He wanted the Allies to open the second front in France. In the meantime, the Soviet Union would have to hold out on its own against the Germans—with the help of some supplies from its partners. Nevertheless, late in 1942, the Allies began to turn the tide of war both in the Mediterranean and on the Eastern Front.

The North African Campaign German forces had been advancing and retreating across the North African desert since early 1941. Finally, General **Erwin Rommel** took the key port city of Tobruk in June 1942. With Tobruk's fall, London sent General **Bernard Montgomery**—"Monty" to his men—to take control of British forces in North Africa. By this time, the Germans had advanced to an Egyptian village called El Alamein (AL-uh-MAYN), west of Alexandria. They were dug in so well that British forces could not go around them. So, Montgomery had to launch the Battle of El Alamein with a massive attack from the front. On the night of October 23, the roar of more than 1,700 British guns took the Axis soldiers totally by surprise. They fought back fiercely, but by November 3, Rommel's army had been beaten. He and his forces retreated westward.

As Rommel retreated west, the Allies launched *Operation Torch*. On November 8, an Allied force of more than 107,000 troops—mostly Americans—landed in Morocco and Algeria. This force was led by American General **Dwight D. Eisenhower**. Caught between the two armies, the Desert Fox's Afrika Korps was finally smashed in May 1943.

Background

Montgomery, like Rommel himself, used dummy regiments built from timber and canvas. They were intended to fool the enemy into thinking that forces were stationed where, in fact, they were not.

HISTORY MAKERS



General Erwin Rommel
1891–1944

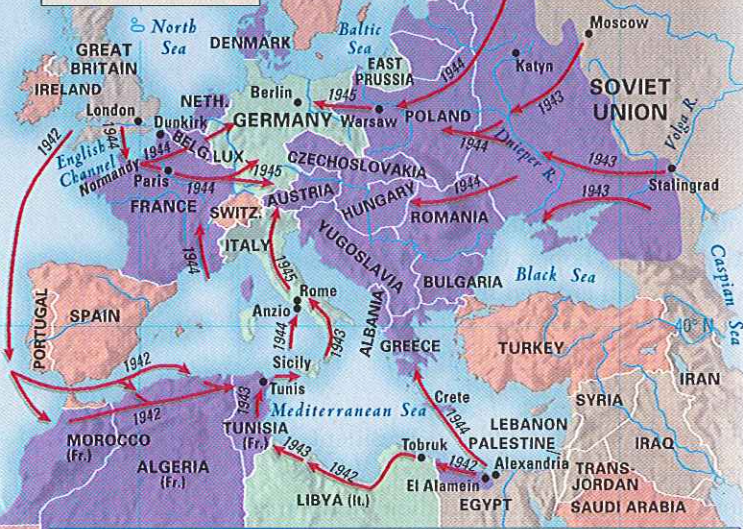
On July 20, 1944, a plot to assassinate Hitler by a group of German officers failed. Under torture, one conspirator accused war hero General Erwin Rommel of involvement in the plot. The news shook and enraged Hitler, since Rommel had always been devoted to him.

Was Rommel actually involved? Evidence indicates that he was ready to bypass Hitler and personally negotiate for peace with the Allies. However, many believe that he knew nothing of the plot. Hitler believed that he did. He offered Rommel a choice—a public trial or suicide and a state funeral. On October 14, 1944, Rommel took poison and died.



World War II: Allied Advances, 1942–1945

- Axis nations, 1938
- Axis-controlled, 1942
- Allies
- Neutral nations
- Allied advances



GEOGRAPHY SKILLBUILDER: Interpreting Maps

1. **Region** Which European countries remained neutral during World War II?
2. **Movement** What seems to be the destination for most of the Allied advances that took place in Europe during 1943–1944?

Turning Point at Stalingrad As Rommel suffered defeats in North Africa, German armies also met their match in the Soviet Union. They had stalled at Leningrad and Moscow. Germans suffered heavy losses in battle because of the Russian winter. When the summer of 1942 arrived, German tanks were again ready to roll. Hitler sent his Sixth Army south to seize the rich oil fields in the Caucasus Mountains. The army was also to capture Stalingrad (now Volgograd) on the Volga River. With its 500,000 people, Stalingrad was a major industrial center.

The **Battle of Stalingrad** began on August 23, 1942. The Luftwaffe went on nightly bombing raids that set much of the city ablaze and reduced the rest to rubble. The situation looked desperate. Nonetheless, Stalin had already told his commanders to defend the city named after him at all costs. “Not one step backward,” he ordered.

By early November 1942,

Germans controlled 90 percent of the ruined city. Stalingrad was an “enormous cloud of burning, blinding smoke,” as one German officer wrote. Then, another Russian winter set in. On November 19, Soviet troops outside the city launched a counterattack. Closing in around Stalingrad, they trapped the Germans inside and cut off their supplies. Hitler’s commander, General Friedrich von Paulus, begged him to order a retreat. But Hitler refused, saying the city was “to be held at all costs.”

On February 2, 1943, some 90,000 frostbitten, half-starved German troops surrendered to the Soviets. These pitiful survivors were all that remained of an army of 330,000. Stalingrad’s defense had cost the Soviets over 1 million soldiers. The city they defended was 99 percent destroyed. After Stalingrad, however, the Germans were on the defensive, with the Soviets pushing them steadily westward.

The Invasion of Italy As the Battle of Stalingrad raged, Stalin continued to urge the British and the Americans to invade France. In January 1943, Roosevelt and Churchill met at Casablanca, Morocco, and decided to attack Italy first. On July 10, 1943, Allied forces of 180,000 soldiers landed on Sicily and captured it from Italian and German troops by August.

These dazed, freezing, and starved German prisoners were actually lucky to be alive. About 240,000 Germans died during the battle for the city of Stalingrad.

THINK THROUGH HISTORY

A. Making Inferences What advantages might a weaker army fighting on its home soil have over a stronger invading army?



Background

As the Allies advanced, the Italian resistance aided them by blowing up bridges, roads, and rail lines; cutting telephone lines; and ambushing German trucks.

The conquest of Sicily toppled Mussolini from power. On July 25, King Victor Emmanuel III fired the dictator and had him arrested. On September 3, Italy surrendered. But the Germans seized control of northern Italy and put Mussolini back in charge. Finally, the Germans retreated northward, and the victorious Allies entered Rome on June 4, 1944. Fighting in Italy, however, continued until Germany fell in May 1945. On April 28, 1945, as the Germans were retreating from northern Italy, the Italian resistance ambushed some trucks. Inside one of them, resistance fighters found Mussolini disguised as a German soldier. The following day, he was shot, and his body was hanged in the Milan town square.

Life on Allied Home Fronts

Wherever Allied forces fought, people on the home fronts rallied to support them. In war-torn countries like the Soviet Union or Great Britain, civilians lost their lives and endured extreme hardships. Except for a few of its territories, such as Hawaii, the United States did not suffer invasion or bombing. Nonetheless, Americans at home made a crucial contribution to the Allied war effort. Americans produced the weapons and equipment that would help win the war.

Mobilizing for Total War Defeating the Axis powers required mobilizing for total war. In the United States, factories converted their peacetime operations to wartime production and made everything from machine guns to boots. Automobile factories produced tanks. A U.S. typewriter company made armor-piercing shells. By 1944, almost 18 million U.S. workers—many of them women—were working in war industries.

With factories turning out products for the war, a shortage of consumer goods hit the United States. From meat and sugar to tires and gasoline, from nylon stockings to laundry soap, the American government rationed scarce items. Setting the speed limit at 35 miles per hour also helped to save on gasoline and rubber. In European countries directly affected by the war, rationing was even more drastic.

To inspire their people to greater efforts, Allied governments conducted highly effective propaganda campaigns. In the Soviet Union, a Moscow youngster collected enough scrap metal to produce 14,000 artillery shells. Another Russian family, the Shirmanovs, used their life savings to buy a tank for the Red Army. In the United States, youngsters saved their pennies and bought government war stamps and bonds to help finance the war.

Japanese Americans Imprisoned Government propaganda also had a negative effect. After Pearl Harbor, a wave of prejudice arose in the United States against the 127,000 Japanese Americans. Most lived in Hawaii and on the West Coast. The bombing of Pearl Harbor frightened Americans. This fear, encouraged by government propaganda, was turned against Japanese Americans. They were suddenly seen as “the enemy.” On February 19, 1942, President Roosevelt set up a program of internment and loss of property, since Japanese Americans were considered a threat to the country.

In March, the military began rounding up “aliens” and shipping them to relocation camps. Two-thirds of those interned were Nisei, or Japanese Americans who were native-born American citizens. The camps were restricted military areas located away



Armed soldiers stand guard over Japanese Americans in an internment camp. In one camp, some of the occupants used horse stalls as living quarters. In other camps, hastily constructed barracks housed people considered “enemy aliens.”

Vocabulary

rationed: distributed in limited amounts.

THINK THROUGH HISTORY

B. Analyzing

Motives Why did U.S. government propaganda try to portray the Japanese as sinister?

Vocabulary

internment: detention.

from the coast. With such a location, it was thought that the Nisei could not participate in an invasion. From 1941 until 1946, the United States imprisoned some 31,275 people it wrongly considered “enemy aliens (foreigners).” Most of those prisoners were American citizens of Japanese descent.

HISTORY MAKERS



General Dwight Eisenhower
1890–1969

In his career, U.S. General Dwight Eisenhower had shown an uncommon ability to work with all kinds of people—even competitive Allies. His Chief of Staff said of Eisenhower, “The sun rises and sets on him for me.” He was also wildly popular with the troops, who affectionately called him “Uncle Ike.”

So, it was not a surprise when in December 1943, U.S. Army Chief of Staff George Marshall named Eisenhower as supreme commander of the Allied forces in Europe. The new commander’s “people skills” enabled him to join American and British forces together to put a permanent end to Nazi aggression.

Allied Victory in Europe

While the Allies were dealing with issues on the home front, they were preparing to push toward victory in Europe. By the end of 1942, the war had begun to turn in favor of the Allies. By 1943, the Allies began secretly building a force in Great Britain. Their plan was to attack the Germans across the English Channel.

The D-Day Invasion By May 1944, the invasion force was ready. Thousands of planes, ships, tanks, landing craft, and 3.5 million troops awaited orders to attack. American General Dwight D. Eisenhower, the commander of this enormous force, planned to strike on the coast of Normandy, in northwestern France. The Germans knew that an attack was coming. But they did not know where it would be launched. To keep Hitler guessing, the Allies set up a huge dummy army with its own headquarters and equipment. They ordered the make-believe army to attack at the French seaport of Calais (ka-LAY).

Code-named *Operation Overlord*, the invasion of Normandy was the greatest land and sea attack in history. The day chosen for the invasion to begin—called **D-Day**—was June 6, 1944.

At dawn on June 6, British, American, French, and Canadian troops fought their way onto a 60-mile stretch of beach in Normandy. The Germans had dug in with machine guns, rocket launchers, and cannons. They protected themselves behind concrete walls three feet thick. Among the Americans alone, 3,000 soldiers died on the beach that day. Captain Joseph Dawson said, “The beach was a total chaos, with men’s bodies everywhere, with wounded men crying both in the water and on the shingle [coarse gravel].”

Despite heavy casualties, the Allies held the beachheads. A month later, more than 1 million additional troops had landed. On July 25, the Allies punched a hole in the German defenses near Saint-Lô (san-LOH), and General George Patton’s Third Army raced through.

Background

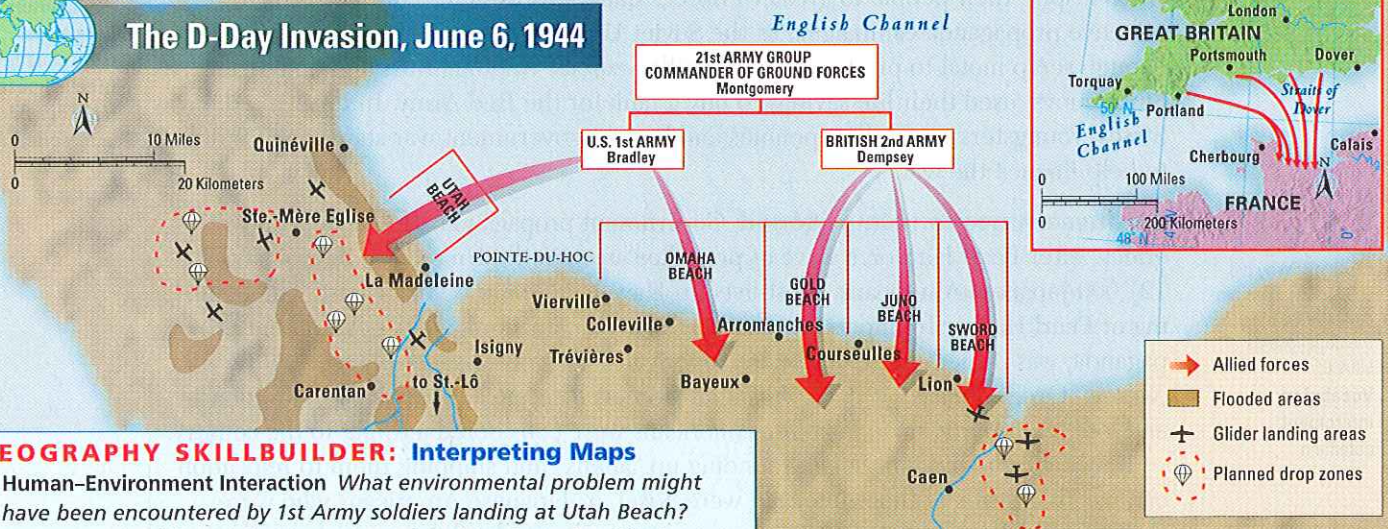
The name *D-Day* came from the words *designated* + *day*.

Vocabulary

beachheads: enemy shoreline captured just before invading forces move inland.



The D-Day Invasion, June 6, 1944



GEOGRAPHY SKILLBUILDER: Interpreting Maps

- Human–Environment Interaction** What environmental problem might have been encountered by 1st Army soldiers landing at Utah Beach?
- Movement** Looking at the map, what might have been the Allied strategy behind parachuting troops into France?

Soon, the Germans were retreating. On August 25, the Allies marched triumphantly into Paris. By September, they had liberated France, Belgium, Luxembourg, and much of the Netherlands. They then set their sights on Germany.

The Battle of the Bulge As Allied forces moved toward Germany from the west, the Soviet army was advancing toward Germany from the east. Hitler now faced a war on two fronts. In a desperate gamble, the Führer decided to counterattack in the west. The Führer hoped a victory would split American and British forces and break up Allied supply lines. Explaining the reasoning behind his plan, Hitler said, “This battle is to decide whether we shall live or die. . . . All resistance must be broken in a wave of terror.”

On December 16, German tanks broke through weak American defenses along an 85-mile front in the Ardennes. The push into the Allied lines gave the campaign its name—the **Battle of the Bulge**. Although caught off guard, the Allies eventually pushed the Germans back and won. The Nazis could do little but retreat, since Hitler had lost men that he could no longer replace.

Germany’s Unconditional Surrender After the Battle of the Bulge, the war in Europe neared its end. In late March 1945, the Allies rolled across the Rhine River into Germany. By the middle of April, a noose was closing around Berlin. Three million Allied soldiers approached Berlin from the southwest. Six million Soviet troops approached from the east—some of them just 40 miles from the capital. By April 25, 1945, the Soviets had surrounded the capital, as their artillery pounded the city.

While Soviet shells burst over Berlin, Hitler prepared for his end in an underground headquarters beneath the crumbling city. On April 29, he married his long-time companion, Eva Braun. He also wrote his final address to the German people. In it, he blamed Jews for starting the war and his generals for losing it. “I myself and my wife choose to die in order to escape the disgrace of . . . capitulation,” he said. “I die with a happy heart aware of the immeasurable deeds of our soldiers at the front.” Two days later, Hitler shot himself after taking poison. His new wife simply swallowed poison. The bodies were then carried outside and burned.

On May 7, 1945, General Eisenhower accepted the unconditional surrender of the Third Reich from the German military. President Roosevelt, however, did not live to witness the long-awaited victory. He had died suddenly on April 12, as Allied armies were advancing toward Berlin. Roosevelt’s successor, Harry Truman, received the news of the Nazi surrender. On May 8, the surrender was officially signed in Berlin. The United States and other Allied powers celebrated V-E Day—Victory in Europe Day. The war in Europe had ended at last.

Victory in the Pacific

Although the war in Europe was over, the Allies were still fighting the Japanese in the Pacific. With the Allied victory at Guadalcanal, however, the Japanese advances in the Pacific had been stopped. For the rest of the war, the Japanese retreated before the counterattack of the Allied powers.

The Japanese Retreat By the fall of 1944, the Allies were moving in on Japan. In October, Allied forces landed on the island of Leyte (LAY-tee) in the Philippines. General MacArthur, who had been forced to surrender the islands in February 1942, waded ashore. He then declared, “People of the Philippines, I have returned.”

Actually, the takeover would not be quite that easy. The Japanese had decided to destroy the American fleet. The Allies could not then resupply their ground troops. To

SPOTLIGHT ON

Dresden

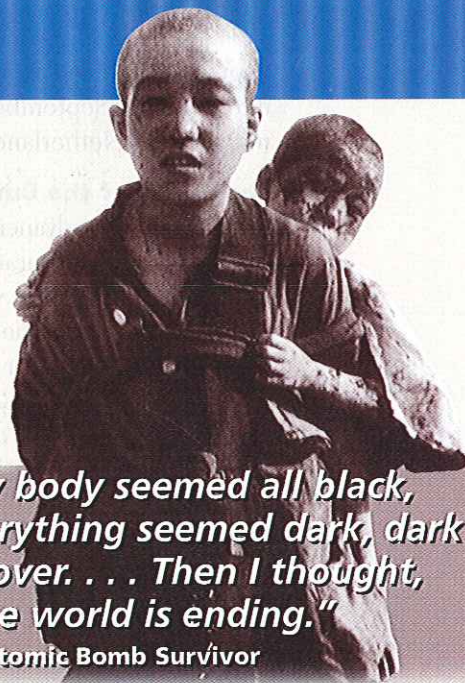
On the night of February 13, 1945, 800 British and American bombers launched a massive air attack on Dresden, a German city southeast of Berlin. During the bombing, some 4,000 tons of explosives were dropped, creating raging firestorms. One author described the city as a “furnace fueled by people,” as its citizens—mostly women, children, and the elderly—burned to death. Estimates of those killed vary from 35,000 to 135,000.

The firestorm reduced Dresden to rubble, accomplishing no important military goals but killing many civilians. Dresden has come to symbolize the strategy of “total war”: massive attacks on both military and civilian targets to break a country’s fighting spirit.

Vocabulary
capitulation:
surrender.

The Atomic Bomb

On the eve of World War II, scientists in Germany succeeded in splitting the nucleus of a uranium atom, releasing a huge amount of energy. Albert Einstein wrote to President Franklin Roosevelt and warned him that Nazi Germany might be working to develop atomic weapons. Roosevelt responded by giving his approval for an American program, later code-named the Manhattan Project, to develop an atomic bomb. Roosevelt's decision set off a race to assure that the United States would be the first to develop the bomb.



My body seemed all black, everything seemed dark, dark all over. . . Then I thought, "The world is ending."

An Atomic Bomb Survivor

A boy carries his brother through the leveled city of Nagasaki. This is one of a series of photos taken by Japanese photographer Yosuke Yamahata soon after the atomic bomb devastated the city on August 9, 1945.



On the morning of August 6, 1945, the B-29 bomber *Enola Gay*, flown by commander Colonel Paul W. Tibbets, Jr., took off from Tinian Island in the Mariana Islands. At precisely 8:16 A.M., the atomic bomb exploded above Hiroshima, a city on the Japanese island of Honshu.

Hiroshima: Day of Fire

Effects of the bombing

Ground temperatures	7,000°F
Hurricane force winds	980 miles per hour
Energy released	20,000 tons of TNT
Buildings destroyed	62,000 buildings
Killed immediately	70,000 people
Dead by the end of 1945	140,000 people
Total deaths related to A-bomb	200,000 people

The overwhelming destructive power of the Hiroshima bomb, and of the bomb dropped on Nagasaki three days later, changed the nature of war forever. Nuclear destruction also led to questions about the ethics of scientists and politicians who chose to use the bomb.

Patterns of Interaction

Just as in World War I, the conflicts of World War II spurred the development of ever more powerful weapons. Mightier tanks, more elusive submarines, faster fighter planes—all emerged from this period. From ancient times to the present day, the pattern remains the same: Every new weapon causes other countries to develop others of similar or greater force. This pattern results in a deadly race for an ultimate weapon: for example, the atomic bomb.

 **VIDEO** *Arming for War: Modern and Medieval Weapons*

Connect to History

Making Inferences What advantages did the United States have over Germany in the race to develop the atomic bomb?

 SEE SKILLBUILDER HANDBOOK, PAGE 663

Connect to Today

Contrast If you had to design a memorial to the victims of the Hiroshima and Nagasaki bombings, what symbol would you use? Make a sketch of your memorial.

Nagasaki citizens trudge through the still smoldering ruins of their city in another photo by Yosuke Yamahata.

carry out this strategy, the Japanese had to risk almost their entire fleet. They gambled everything on October 23, in the Battle of Leyte Gulf. Within three days, the Japanese navy had lost disastrously—eliminating it as a fighting force in the war. Now, only the Japanese army and the feared kamikaze stood between the Allies and Japan. The **kamikaze** were Japanese suicide pilots. They would sink Allied ships by crash-diving into them in their bomb-filled planes.

In March 1945, after a month of bitter fighting and heavy losses, American Marines took Iwo Jima (EE-wuh JEE-muh), an island 660 miles from Tokyo. On April 1, U.S. troops moved to the island of Okinawa, only about 350 miles from southern Japan. The Japanese put up a desperate fight. Nevertheless, on June 22, the bloodiest land battle of the war ended. The Japanese lost 110,000 troops, and the Americans, 12,500.

The Atomic Bomb Brings Japanese Surrender After Okinawa, the next stop had to be Japan. President Truman's advisers had informed him that an invasion of the Japanese homeland might cost the Allies half a million lives. Truman had to make a decision whether to use a powerful new weapon called the atomic bomb, or A-bomb. The A-bomb would bring the war to the quickest possible end. It had been developed by the top-secret Manhattan Project, headed by General Leslie Groves and chief scientist J. Robert Oppenheimer. The Manhattan Project became a major spending item in U.S. military budgets. Truman only learned of the new bomb's existence when he became president.

The first atomic bomb was exploded in a desert in New Mexico on July 16, 1945. President Truman then warned the Japanese. He told them that unless they surrendered, they could expect a "rain of ruin from the air." The Japanese did not reply. So, on August 6, 1945, the United States dropped an atomic bomb on Hiroshima, a Japanese city of 365,000 people. Almost 73,000 people died in the attack. Three days later, on August 9, a second bomb was dropped on Nagasaki, a city of 200,000. It killed about 37,500 people. Radiation killed many more. A Japanese journalist described the horror in Hiroshima:

A VOICE FROM THE PAST

Within a few seconds the thousands of people in the streets and the gardens in the center of the town were scorched by a wave of searing heat. Many were killed instantly, others lay writhing on the ground, screaming in agony from the intolerable pain of their burns. Everything standing upright in the way of the blast, walls, houses, factories, and other buildings, was annihilated.

JAPANESE JOURNALIST, quoted in *The American Heritage Picture History of World War II*

The Japanese surrendered to General Douglas MacArthur on September 2. The surrender took place aboard the United States battleship *Missouri* in Tokyo Bay. With Japan's surrender, the war had ended. Now, countries faced the task of rebuilding a war-torn world.

THINK THROUGH HISTORY

C. Forming an Opinion Was it necessary to drop the second atomic bomb on Nagasaki?

Section 4 Assessment

1. TERMS & NAMES

Identify

- Erwin Rommel
- Bernard Montgomery
- Dwight Eisenhower
- Battle of Stalingrad
- D-Day
- Battle of the Bulge
- kamikaze

2. TAKING NOTES

Create a chart like the one below, listing outcomes of the following World War II battles.

Battle	Outcome
Battle of El Alamein	
Battle of Stalingrad	
D-Day Invasion	
Battle of the Bulge	

Which battle do you think was most important in turning the war in favor of the Allies? Why?

3. SUMMARIZING

Based on what you have read in this section, how do governments gather support for a war effort on the home front?

THINK ABOUT

- the economy
- forms of propaganda
- individual participation in the war effort

4. ANALYZING THEMES

Science and Technology Do you think President Truman made the correct decision by ordering the atomic bomb dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki? Why or why not?

THINK ABOUT

- the likely consequences if the atomic bomb had not been dropped
- the destruction caused by the atomic bomb
- World War II after the dropping of the atomic bomb

The Devastation of Europe and Japan

TERMS & NAMES

- Nuremberg Trials
- demilitarization

MAIN IDEA

World War II cost millions of human lives and billions of dollars in damages. It left Europe and Japan in ruins.

WHY IT MATTERS NOW

The United States survived World War II undamaged, allowing it to become a world leader.

SETTING THE STAGE Allied victory in the war had been achieved at a high price. World War II had caused more death and destruction than any other conflict in history. It left 60 million dead, 50 million uprooted from their homes, and property damage that ran into billions of U.S. dollars.

Europe in Ruins

By the end of World War II, Europe lay in ruins. Close to 40 million Europeans had died—two-thirds of them civilians. Constant bombing and shelling had reduced hundreds of cities to rubble. The ground war had destroyed much of the countryside. Displaced persons from many nations were struggling to get home.

A Harvest of Destruction A few of the great cities of Europe—Paris, Rome, Brussels—remained undamaged by war. Many, however, had suffered terrible destruction. The Blitz left blackened ruins in London. Over five years, 60,595 London civilians had died in the German bombings. Eastern Europe and Germany were far worse off. Warsaw, the capital of Poland, was almost wiped from the face of the earth. In 1939, Warsaw had a population of 1,289,000 people. When the Soviets entered the city in January 1945, only 153,000 people remained. In Berlin, 25,000 tons of Allied bombs had demolished 95 percent of the central city. One U.S. officer stationed in Berlin reported, “Wherever we looked we saw desolation. It was like a city of the dead.”

Background

Two-thirds of the deaths in the war occurred in Europe, making the war there far bloodier than in Asia.

Winston Churchill looks at Nazi firebomb damage to the British House of Commons.

After the bombings, many civilians stayed where they were and tried to get on with their lives. Some lived in partially destroyed homes or apartments. Others huddled in caves and cellars beneath the rubble. They had no water, no electricity, and very little food. Hunger was a constant companion. With factories destroyed or damaged, most people had no earnings to buy the food that was available.

Although many remained in the cities, a large number of city dwellers fled. They joined the army of displaced persons wandering Europe following the war. These displaced persons included the survivors of concentration camps, prisoners of war, and refugees fleeing the Soviet army. Millions found themselves in the wrong country when the postwar treaties changed national borders. They jammed the roads trying to get home, hoping to find their families or to find a safe place.



Simon Weisenthal described the search made by survivors of the Holocaust:

A VOICE FROM THE PAST

Across Europe a wild tide of frantic survivors was flowing. . . . Many of them didn't really know where to go. . . . And yet the survivors continued their pilgrimage of despair, sleeping on highways or in railroad stations, waiting for another train, another horse-drawn cart to come along, always driven to hope. "Perhaps someone is still alive. . . ." Someone might tell where to find a wife, a mother, children, a brother—or whether they were dead. . . . The desire to find one's people was stronger than hunger, thirst, fatigue.

SIMON WEISENTHAL, quoted in *Never to Forget: The Jews of the Holocaust*

Misery Continues After the War Although the war had ended, misery in Europe continued for years. Europe lay ravaged by the fighting. Agriculture was disrupted. Most able-bodied men had served in the military and the women had worked in war production. Few remained to plant the fields. With the transportation system destroyed, the meager harvests often did not reach the cities. Thousands died as famine and disease spread through the bombed-out cities. In August 1945, 4,000 citizens of Berlin died every day. To get a few potatoes, people would barter any valuable items they had left. The first post-war winter brought more suffering as people went without shoes and coats.

Vocabulary

barter: to trade goods and services without money.

THINK THROUGH HISTORY

A. Identifying

Problems Why might it have been difficult to find democratic government leaders in post-Nazi Germany?

Postwar Governments and Politics

Despairing Europeans often blamed their leaders for the war and its aftermath. Once the Germans had lost, some prewar governments—like those in Belgium, Holland, Denmark, and Norway—returned quickly. In countries like Germany, Italy, and France, however, a return to the old leadership was not so simple. Hitler's Nazi government had brought Germany to ruins. Mussolini had led Italy to defeat. The Vichy government had collaborated with the Nazis. Much of the old leadership was in disgrace. Besides, in Italy and France, many resistance fighters were Communists.

After the war, the Communist Party promised change, and millions were ready to listen. In both France and Italy, Communist Party membership skyrocketed. The Communists made huge gains in the first postwar elections. Anxious to speed up a political takeover, the Communists staged a series of violent strikes. Alarmed French and Italians reacted by voting for anti-Communist parties. Communist membership and influence then began to decline. And they declined even more so as the economies of France and Italy began to recover.

An Attempt at Justice: The Nuremberg Trials While nations were struggling to recover politically and economically, they also were trying to deal with Germany's guilt in the Holocaust. To make sure that such crimes would never happen again, the Allies put Nazis on trial. In 1946, an International Military Tribunal representing 23 nations put Nazi war criminals on trial in Nuremberg, Germany. In the first of the **Nuremberg Trials**, 22 Nazi leaders were charged with waging a war of aggression. They were also accused of violating the laws of war and of committing "crimes against humanity"—the murder of 11 million people.

Führer Adolf Hitler, SS chief Heinrich Himmler, and Minister of Propaganda Joseph Goebbels had escaped trial by committing suicide. However, Marshal Hermann Göring, Deputy Führer Rudolf Hess, and other high ranking Nazi leaders had to face the charges.

Of the 22 defendants, 12 were sentenced to death. Göring cheated the executioner by killing himself. The rest were hanged on October 16, 1946. Hans Frank, the "Slayer of Poles," was the only convicted Nazi to express remorse: "A thousand years will pass," he said, "and still this guilt of Germany

CONNECT to TODAY

Genocide in Rwanda

Genocide is a crime that human beings have committed against one another throughout history. In April 1994, the president of the East African nation of Rwanda died in a suspicious plane crash. The president was a member of the Hutu tribe. In Rwanda, the Hutu and Tutsi tribes have long hated and fought each other.

After the president's death, about 1 million Tutsis were slaughtered by the majority Hutus. In the end, Tutsi rebels ended the worst of the genocide.

The United Nations has set up an international war crimes tribunal to judge the worst acts of genocide. Yet, many criminals are still at large, and ethnic conflict in Rwanda continues.

will not have been erased.” The bodies of those executed were burned at the concentration camp of Dachau (DAHK-ow). They were cremated in the same ovens that had burned so many of their victims.

The Effects of Defeat in Japan

The defeat suffered by Japan in World War II left the country in ruins. Two million lives had been lost in the war. The country’s major cities had been largely destroyed by Allied bombing raids, including the capital, Tokyo. The atomic bomb had left Hiroshima and Nagasaki as blackened wastelands. The Allies had stripped Japan of its colonial empire. They even took away areas that had belonged to the Japanese for centuries.

The United States Occupies Japan Even after these disasters, some Japanese military leaders wanted to continue the fight. In a radio broadcast on August 15, 1945, Emperor Hirohito urged the Japanese people to lay down their arms and work together to rebuild Japan. “Should we continue to fight,” he declared, “it would only

result in an ultimate collapse . . . of the Japanese nation.” Two weeks after that broadcast, General Douglas MacArthur, now supreme commander for the Allied powers, accepted the Japanese surrender. He took charge of the U.S. occupation.

Demilitarization in Japan MacArthur was determined to be fair and not to plant the seeds for a future war. Nevertheless, to ensure that fighting would end, he began a process of **demilitarization**—disbanding the Japanese armed forces. He achieved this quickly, leaving the Japanese with only a small police force. MacArthur also began bringing war criminals to trial. Out of 25 surviving defendants, former Premier Hideki Tojo and six others were condemned to hang.

The general then turned his attention to democratization—the process of creating a government elected by the people. In February 1946, MacArthur and his American political advisers drew up a new constitution. It changed the empire into a parliamentary democracy like that of Great Britain. The Japanese accepted the constitution. It went into effect on May 3, 1947.

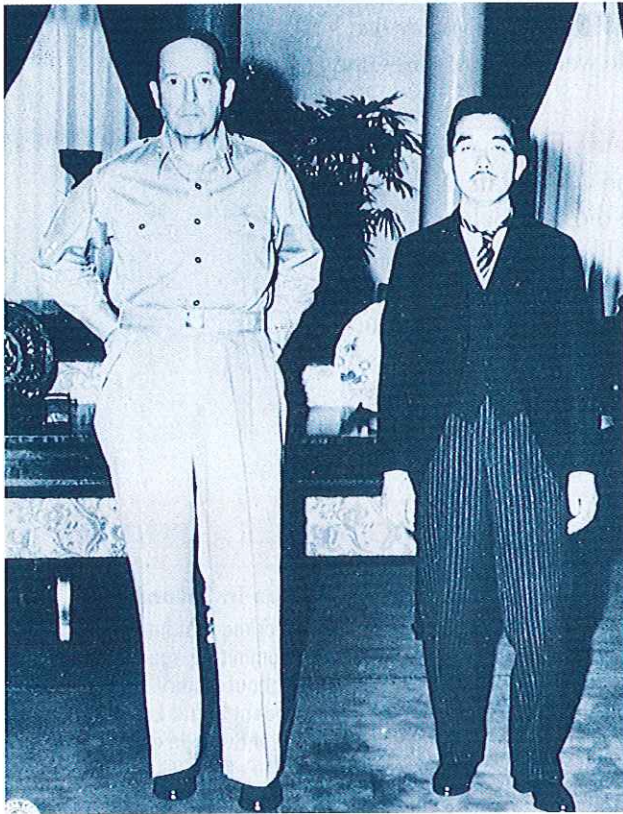
MacArthur was not told to revive the Japanese economy. However, he was instructed to broaden

land ownership and increase the participation of workers and farmers in the new democracy. Absentee landlords with huge estates had to sell land to tenant farmers at reasonable prices. Workers could now create independent labor unions. Still bitter over Pearl Harbor, Americans did not provide much aid for rebuilding Japan. The United States did send 2 billion dollars in emergency relief. This was a small amount, however, considering the task that lay ahead.

U.S. Occupation Brings Deep Changes

The new constitution was the most important achievement of the occupation. It brought deep changes to Japanese society. In 1945, the Japanese had agreed to surrender. They insisted, however, that “the supreme power of the emperor not be compromised.” The Allies agreed, but now things had changed. A long Japanese tradition had viewed the emperor as a god. He was also an absolute ruler whose divine will was law. The emperor now had to declare that he was not a god. That admission was as

Emperor Hirohito and U.S. General Douglas MacArthur look distant and uncomfortable as they pose for a photo. The photo was taken in the American Embassy in Tokyo on September 27, 1945.



THINK THROUGH HISTORY
B. Making Inferences How would demilitarization and a revived economy help Japan achieve democracy?

Costs of World War II: Allies and Axis

	Direct War Costs	Military Killed/Missing	Civilians Killed
United States	\$288.0 billion*	292,131**	—
Great Britain	\$117.0 billion	271,311	60,595
France	\$111.3 billion	205,707***	173,260†
USSR	\$93.0 billion	13,600,000	7,720,000
Germany	\$212.3 billion	3,300,000	2,893,000††
Japan	\$41.3 billion	1,140,429	953,000

*In 1994 dollars.

**An additional 115,187 servicemen died from non-battle causes.

***Before surrender to Nazis.

†Includes 65,000 murdered Jews.

††Includes about 170,000 murdered Jews and 56,000 foreign civilians in Germany.

SKILLBUILDER: Interpreting Charts

- Which of the nations listed in the chart suffered the greatest human costs?
- How does U.S. spending on the war compare with the spending of Germany and Japan?

THINK THROUGH HISTORY

C. Analyzing

Causes Why did the Americans choose the British system of government for the Japanese, instead of the American system?

shocking to the Japanese as defeat. His power was also dramatically reduced as he became a constitutional monarch. Like the ruler of Great Britain, the emperor became largely a figurehead—a symbol of Japan.

The new constitution guaranteed that real political power in Japan rested with the people. The people elected a two-house parliament, called the Diet. All citizens over the age of 20, including women, had the right to vote. The government was led by a prime minister chosen by a majority of the Diet. A constitutional bill of rights protected basic freedoms. One more key provision—Article 9—stated that the Japanese could no longer make war. They could only fight if attacked.

In September 1951, the United States and 48 other nations signed a formal peace treaty with Japan. The treaty officially ended the war. With no armed forces, the Japanese also agreed to continuing U.S. military protection for their country. Six months later, the U.S. occupation of Japan was over. Relieved of the burden of paying for the occupation, Japan's economy recovered more quickly. With the official end of the war, the United States and Japan became allies.

In the postwar world, however, enemies not only became allies. Allies also became enemies. World War II had changed the political landscape of Europe. It weakened some nations and strengthened others. The Soviet Union and the United States had come out of the war as allies. Nevertheless, once the fighting was over, the differences in their postwar goals emerged. These differences stirred up conflicts that would shape the modern world for decades.

Section 5 Assessment

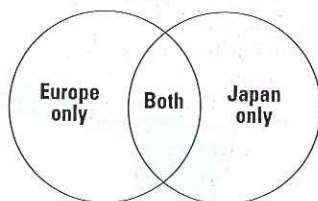
1. TERMS & NAMES

Identify

- Nuremberg Trials
- demilitarization

2. TAKING NOTES

Using a Venn diagram like the one below, compare and contrast the aftermath of World War II in Europe and Japan.



3. ANALYZING CAUSES

Why do you think that many Europeans favored communism directly following World War II?

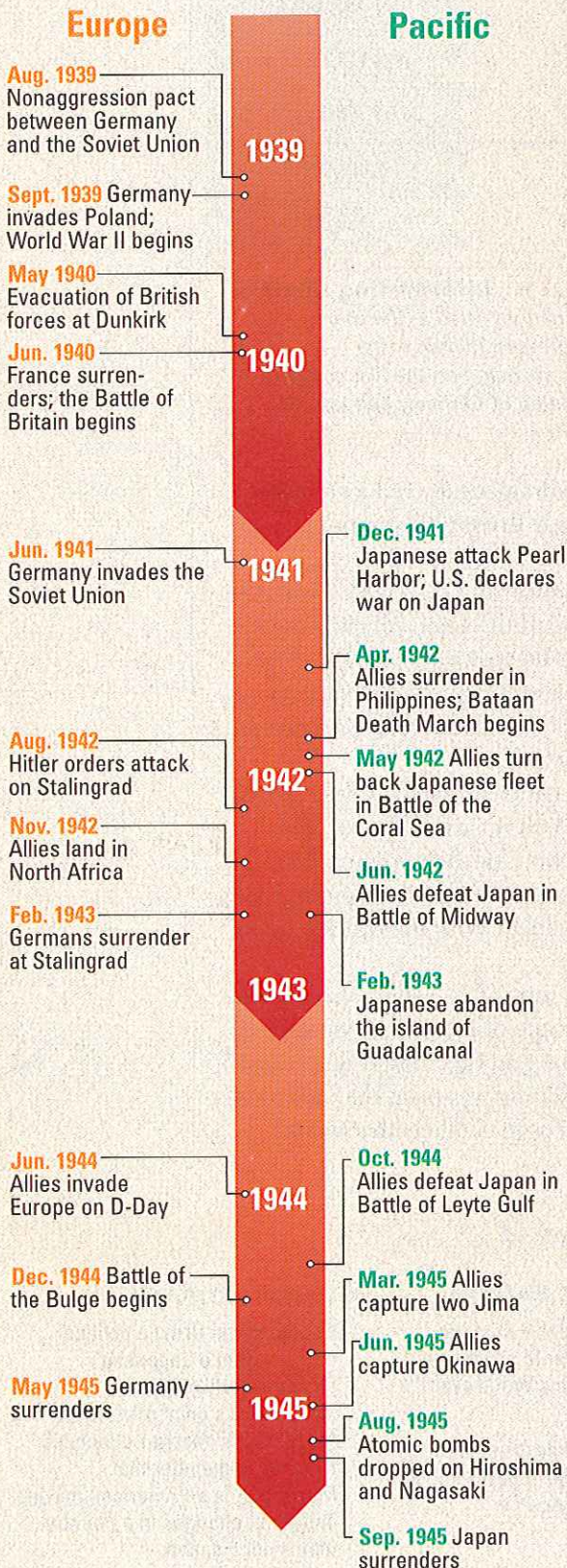
THINK ABOUT

- World War II destruction
- pre-World War II governments
- economic concerns

4. THEME ACTIVITY

Economics Draw a political cartoon from a Japanese absentee landlord's or industrialist's point of view on MacArthur's postwar economic reforms. Remember that MacArthur is an American making important changes in a country that is not his own.

Events of World War II



TERMS & NAMES

Briefly explain the importance of each of the following during and after World War II.

- blitzkrieg
- Atlantic Charter
- Isoroku Yamamoto
- Battle of Midway
- Holocaust
- Final Solution
- genocide
- D-Day
- Nuremberg Trials
- demilitarization

REVIEW QUESTIONS

SECTION 1 (pages 441–446)

Hitler's Lightning War

- What event finally unleashed World War II?
- Why was capturing Egypt's Suez Canal so important to the Axis powers?

SECTION 2 (pages 447–450)

Japan Strikes in the Pacific

- What was Yamamoto's objective at Pearl Harbor?
- How did Japan try to win support from other Asian countries?

SECTION 3 (pages 451–454)

The Holocaust

- Name two tactics that Hitler used to rid Germany of Jews before creating his "Final Solution."
- What tactics did Hitler use during the "Final Solution"?

SECTION 4 (pages 455–461)

The Allies Are Victorious

- Why were items rationed during the war?
- What was *Operation Overlord*?

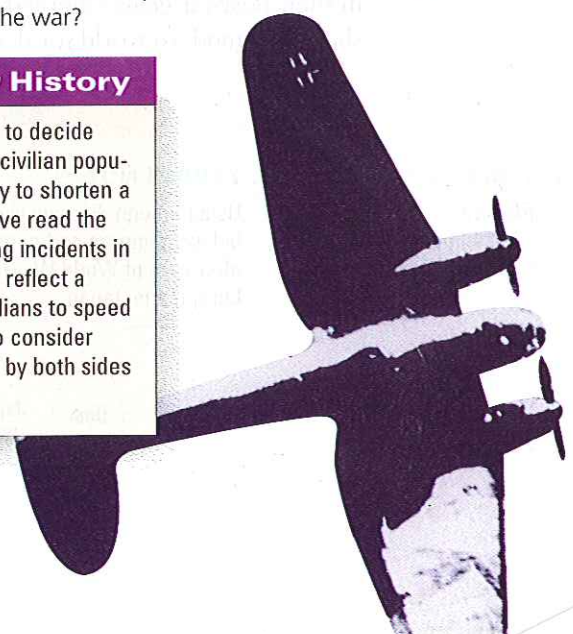
SECTION 5 (pages 462–465)

The Devastation of Europe and Japan

- Why did Europeans leave their homes following the war?
- What were two of the most important steps that MacArthur took in Japan following the war?

Interact with History

On page 440, you had to decide whether to bomb the civilian population in an enemy city to shorten a war. Now that you have read the chapter, what bombing incidents in World War II seem to reflect a decision to bomb civilians to speed victory? Remember to consider bombings carried out by both sides in the war.



CRITICAL THINKING

1. WAR LEADERS

Consider the personalities, tactics, and policies of Hitler, Rommel, MacArthur, and Churchill. What qualities do you think make a successful leader in war? Explain your answer.

2. WORLD WAR II BATTLES

Below is a list of World War II battles/conflicts. Copy the chart on your paper and specify for each whether the Axis powers or the Allied powers gained an advantage over their enemies.

Battle/Conflict	Allied or Axis Powers?
Battle of Britain	
War in the Balkans	
Pearl Harbor	
Battle of the Coral Sea	
Battle of Midway	
Battle of Stalingrad	

3. WAR GOALS

THEME EMPIRE BUILDING Compare and contrast Japan's and Germany's goals in World War II.

4. ANALYZING PRIMARY SOURCES

The following quotation comes from the August 29, 1945 edition of *The Christian Century*, a prominent Protestant journal. In this passage, the writer raises questions about the American use of the atomic bomb on the Japanese.

A VOICE FROM THE PAST

Perhaps it was inevitable that the bomb would ultimately be employed to bring Japan to the point of surrender. . . . But there was no military advantage in hurling the bomb upon Japan without warning. The least we might have done was to announce to our foe that we possessed the atomic bomb; that its destructive power was beyond anything known in warfare; and that its terrible effectiveness had been experimentally demonstrated in this country. . . . If she [Japan] doubted the good faith of our representations, it would have been a simple matter to select a demonstration target in the enemy's own country at a place where the loss of human life would be at a minimum. If, despite such warning, Japan had still held out, we would have been in a far less questionable position had we then dropped the bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

- Does *The Christian Century* oppose all use of the atomic bomb as a weapon of war? Explain.
- What advantages might the alternative proposed by *The Christian Century* have had in ending World War II?

CHAPTER ACTIVITIES

1. LIVING HISTORY: Unit Portfolio Project

THEME SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY Your unit portfolio project focuses on how science and technology influence history. For Chapter 16, you might use one of the following ideas to add to your portfolio:

- Do research and create a set of science and technology cards for important inventions developed or perfected during World War II. Include the following categories on your cards: *Name of Invention, Country, Year, Use in the War, Use Today.*
- Write a list of five questions that you would ask Robert Oppenheimer if you were on a committee deciding whether to develop an atomic bomb.
- Do research and create a science and technology time line for 1935–1945. Include major events of the war and five scientific and technological developments.

2. CONNECT TO TODAY: Cooperative Learning

THEME ECONOMICS During World War II, many nations, including the United States, converted their consumer-goods factories to produce vital products for the war effort. Today many of those factories still exist but are back to producing consumer goods.

Work with a team to prepare a short "company history."



Using the Internet, library, magazines, or Chamber of Commerce, do research on a consumer-goods company. (A consumer-goods company makes products for personal use or enjoyment—for example, cars, radios, clothing.) Look for a company that was around before 1945. (Several of today's important car and appliance manufacturers, as well as manufacturers of steel, tires, detergents, etc., existed before 1945.)

As you come up with ideas, try to find answers to questions such as: What products did the company make before World War II? During the war? After? What were working conditions like during the war? After the war? In a two- to three-page paper, write your company history. Include copies of any articles, photographs, or pictures that you find about the company.

3. INTERPRETING A TIME LINE

Revisit the unit time line on pages 358–359. Which two leaders do you think had the largest impact on events between 1939 and 1945? Why?

FOCUS ON GEOGRAPHY

Notice the locations in Europe of German death camps and labor camps.

- Which country had the most labor camps?
- Which country had the most death camps?

Connect to History

In what year did most of the death camps begin to operate? Why?

