

Invasion of Poland- Arpan

Randhawa:

- There were two groups attacking Poland.
- This siege marked the first use of **Blitzkrieg**, or lightning warfare.
- The Polish were overwhelmed by the surprise and speed of the attack
- On September 17, 1939, Russia invaded eastern Poland as part of the terms of the **Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact**
- Approximately 70,000 Poles died and 30,000 were wounded.
- Approximately 11,000 Germans were killed, 30,000 wounded, and 34,000 were missing.
- During this period, the more important event was the cracking of German Enigma codes by Polish intelligence which eventually contributed to the Allies' victory.

American Neutrality in 1939

- During the 1920's, the **isolationist movement** in America grew due to pacifism, corporate profiteering, and a distrust of European powers.

-During the 1930's, a series of Neutrality acts forbade supplying munitions and ports for belligerent nations during the state of war and allowed the president to warn citizens about traveling on belligerent ships.

-However, the start of the war started an American movement to help the Allies by supplying munitions, but not directly going to war.

The Attack on France-Will

Obiajulu

* The assault on France began on May 10, 1940- through the Ardennes Forest

* Lasted until May 13 when French government fled to Great Britain

* German leaders decided to attack on France

* **Erwin Rommel** was the commander of the German forces

*The attack on France worsened when neighbors, Italy, declared war on France

*The independent part of France became know as **Vichy France**.

***Charles de Gaulle** supported further French resistance in different colonies such

as those in Africa.

*The resistance by the French government became know as Free France.

The Battle of Britain- Lily Millar:

- On July 16, 1940, Hitler ordered the Luftwaffe to achieve air superiority before any ground or naval forces would be sent in.
- There were 3 major flaws in the German plan of attack: The Luftwaffe never had a cohesive plan of attack against the British, the British were fighting over their own land, giving them the ability to conserve fuel and pilots, and finally, the British had a fantastic radar system.
- The Battle of Britain was from July-October of 1940.
- By September 17, 1940, Hitler postponed any invasion of Britain, and turned to bombing British cities.

Operation Barbarossa- Lily Millar:

- The massive military invasion of the Soviet Union was codenamed Operation Barbarossa
- Germany put to the Battlefield over 3 million soldiers, and nearly 2,000 planes.
- On June 22, 1941, Germany launched its invasion, but by the end of 1941, the war in the Soviet Union was becoming a stalemate.

- The Soviets recovered so quickly from the invasion because they had evacuated whole factories, and moved them elsewhere to keep producing war materials.
- As well as that, Communist spies had informed the Soviets that the Japanese had no intent of attacking, which allowed transfer of troops.
- Finally, the Soviet Union was the beneficiary of **American Lend-Lease material aid**, in which the U.S provided trucks and jeeps for the Soviet army

Changing Attitudes in America:

- In September 1940, Roosevelt concluded the **Destroyers for Bases agreement** with the British.
- This gave the British fifty World War-I era destroyers that were necessary to fighting German submarines in the Atlantic.
- As Roosevelt was elected into his third term in office, he introduced the Lend-Lease Legislation.
- This made the U.S. into a supplier of war materials for fighting Nazi Germany, or **"The arsenal of democracy"**
- In August, Roosevelt and Churchill issued the **Atlantic Charter.**

- This charter was comprised of 8 points that signaled a shared commitment to the ideals of self-determination, free trade, and international cooperation.

The Holocaust: Roots

- The Nazi state killed **six million Jews** during the Holocaust.
- Holocaust means **"sacrifice by fire"**
- Nazis believed that Germans were racially superior, and that Jews were racially inferior.
- Groups such as Gypsies (Roma), the disabled, Slavs, Communists, Socialists, Jehovah's Witnesses, and homosexuals were persecuted.
- The eugenics movement of the early 20th century further strengthened anti-semitic feelings.
- The **eugenics movement** emphasized on bettering society through selective breeding and forced sterilization of those deemed unworthy of reproducing.
- The Nazis took discrimination further when they treated the **Jews biologically different**.

- In 1935, the Nuremberg Laws revoked German citizenship for Jews, prohibited Jews from marrying a German, and defined a Jew with someone with three or four Jewish grandparents.
- In 1937, Jews were stripped of their right to operate public business and forced to register personal property with authorities.
- In 1938, Jewish passports were deemed invalid, and Jews were forced to apply for new passports that had a large J stamped on them.
- Nov. 9-10, 1938- Kristallnacht, or The Night of Broken Glass.
- During Kristallnacht, Jewish businesses had storefront windows smashed, synagogues were burned and attacked, and Jews were attacked on the streets.
- 30,00 Jews were arrested across the country, and placed into state-sponsored camps, where many would die.

"Final Solution"

- Following the invasion of the Soviet Union, **Einstazgruppen**, or mobile killing units, were sent behind lines to carry out mass-murder operations against Jews, Roma, and Soviet State/Communist Party officials.

- Between 1941 and 1944, millions of Jews were sent to ghettos and killing centers, where they were murdered in special gassing facilities.
- The Holocaust ended on May 7, 1945, the day Germany surrendered unconditionally to the Nazis.
- At the end of the war, concentration camp prisoners were taken on "death marches" away from the Allies.
- By the end of the war, there were thousands of people displaced, and many Jews moved to Israel.

The Battle of Stalingrad:

- In July 1942, Hitler ordered for the seizure of Stalingrad.
- This had no tactical value to Germany- Hitler just wanted to capture it cause it was Stalin's city.
- Operation Uranus was the operation that fed groups into Stalingrad, but had a force built up around Stalingrad that encircled the German forces.
- By November 24, Soviet forces had completely encircled the city, cutting off the German army.

- Rather than tell the army to retreat, Hitler ordered them to stand fast.
- By January 15, 1943, the Soviets began to crack through the German defenses.
- By January 31, the German forces had surrendered.
- Stalingrad turned the balance of the war permanently on the Eastern Front.

The Battle of the Atlantic:

- There were 4 stages of The Battle of the Atlantic:
- First, where German submarines focused on Great Britain,
- Second, when German forces focused on the eastern Atlantic to stop the flow of supplies and men to Britain.
- Third, when they extended their patrol to central and western parts of the Atlantic.
- Fourth, when they operated off the coast of the U.S.
- In 1942, the battle had a turning point when the B-24 Liberator bomber was introduced

German Retreat in the East

- Operation Citadel was the attack on the Soviet city of Kursk.

- The battle of Kursk was one of the largest battles fought in human history, and the loss of it was a deathblow to

1944: War in Italy

- * Casablanca, Morocco in January 1943, Allied leaders launch an invasion of Italy
- * Called "soft underbelly of Europe"
- * Objectives remove Italy from World War II
- * Secure Mediterranean Sea
- * Force Germany divert divisions from Russian front and other German divisions from northern France
- * Where allies were planning landing at Normandy, France
- * Italian Campaign, July 10, 1943, to May 2, 1945
- * Series of allied beach landings
- * Land battles Sicily and southern Italy up the Italian mainland
- * July 10, 1943, Operation Husky
- * Code name for invasion of Sicily
- * Began air born and amphibious landings

- * On island's southern shore
- * Italian fascist regime fell rapidly into disrepute
- * July 24, 1943, Benito Mussolini deposed and arrested
- * German command deployed 16 new divisions
- * Adolf Hitler didn't want to let the Allies establish air bases in Italy
- * Instructed Field Marshal Albert Kesselring make Allies pay dearly for every in of advance
- * It took Allied soldiers four grueling battles over several months to break through
- * Allied breakout in May 1944 exposed Kesselring main forces to a potential trap
- * General Mark Clark went to Rome instead of cutting the Army off in result it allowed a German army to escape and gave an opportunity for a quick resolution of the grinding Italian Campaign

The Second Front in France and the Drive on Germany [Lily Millar]

- **January, 1944-** Dwight D. Eisenhower was appointed commander of Operation Overlord.
- June 5, 1944 was the estimated date of D-Day, but was delayed due to bad weather.
- On **June 6, 1944, at 6:30 a.m.**, the invasion began.
- Soldiers stormed beaches codenamed Gold, Juno, Sword, and Utah with little resistance.
- At Omaha beach, 2000 American soldiers lost their lives.
- By the end of June 6, 1944, 156,000 Allied soldiers stormed Normandy.

Drive on Germany, 1944

- Field Marshal Bernard Montgomery of the 21st Army Group wanted to attack over the Lower Rhine into Ruhr Valley.
- To accomplish this, leaders developed **Operation Market-Garden**. In this operation, the goal was to break through German lines and move the whole of the British army across the Rhine river into Germany.
- **Battle of the Bulge**- the largest battle fought on the Western Front during World War II.
- In this battle, the Germans wanted to recapture the Port of Antwerp to deny the Allies the use of its facilities.
- The attack began on **December 16, 1944**, in the Ardennes

- The crux of the battle was fought on a vital junction at Bastogne.
- On December 26, George Patton's 3rd Army provided relief support to Bastogne's allied forces and saved Bastogne.
- Meanwhile, on August 1 in Warsaw, protesters rose up. However, Soviet forces did not aid them, in order to weaken anti-communist forces in the city.

The Yalta conference: Hailey Foggiato

- * From February 4-11, 19-45, the war enter its last phase
- * On the Crimean peninsula over looking the black sea
- * Divided Germany into zones of occupation
- * United nation to replace the failed league of nations
 - Reparations were set at \$20 billion, 50% of which would go to the Soviets.
- * Other Europeans nations ruled

Section 2 Summary

1939

- * German invasion on Poland

1940

- * Germany invades Norway, France, Holland and Luxembourg
- * Winston Churchill elected British Prime Minister

1941

- * The siege of Lenigrad
- * Japan attacks Pearl Harbor

1942

* Doolittle's Raid

* Battle of midway

1945

* Hitler suicide in private residence

* Italy, Germany, Japan, Netherlands and Denmark surrender

* Franklin D. Roosevelt dies

* U.S drops 2 bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki