

## Key Figures and People

### People-Country-Side

Mussolini –Italy-AXIS Power

Hitler – Germany- AXIS Power

Hirohito, Tojo – Japan-AXIS Power

Stalin - USSR - starts with Axis goes to Allies

Franklin D. Roosevelt (FDR) - United States-Allies

Winston Churchill - Great Britain –Allies

Charles De Gaulle – France- Allies

Nazi's and Fascists both convinced the people of their countries that they needed to place the interests of the nation above there own individual rights, they wanted them to have strong sense of Nationalism

**Nazi**– known also as “Brownshirts”, headed by Hitler

Who they hated

### *Italian Fascist Party*

Headed by Mussolini.

Known also as “Blackshirts”

Followed Hitler's Nazi party in ideas and hatred

Jews

Some 11 million Jews lived in Europe

They owned stores, businesses, and other prominent jobs.

Were subject to **GENOCIDE** - the deliberate annihilation of an entire race of people or religious group.

Some 6 million Jews will be killed at close of the war.

Militarists Gain Control in Japan

**1931, Nationalist military leaders seize Manchuria**

**League of Nations condemns action; Japan quits League**

**Militarists take control of Japanese government**

Aggression in Europe and Africa

**1933, Hitler quits League; 1935, begins military buildup**

**sends troops into Rhineland, League does nothing to stop him**

**1935, League fails to stop Mussolini's invasion of Ethiopia**

Civil War Breaks Out in Spain

**1936, General Francisco Franco rebels against Spanish republic**

**Hitler, Mussolini back Franco; Stalin aids opposition**

**Western democracies remain neutral**

**1939, Franco wins war**

**War leads to Rome-Berlin Axis—alliance between Italy and Germany**

Americans Cling to Isolationism

**Public is outraged at profits of banks, arms dealers during WW I**

**1935 Neutrality Acts try to keep U.S. out of future wars**

**1937 Japan launches new attack on China; FDR sends aid to China**  
**FDR wants to isolate aggressor nations to stop war**

Austria and Czechoslovakia Fall, Union with Austria and Bargaining for the Sudetenland

**Post WW I division of Austria-Hungary creates fairly small Austria**  
**Majority of Austrians are German, favor unification with Germany**  
**1938, German troops march into Austria unopposed, union complete**  
**3 million German-speakers in Sudetenland**  
**Hitler claims Czechs abuse Sudeten Germans, masses troops on border**  
**1938, Prime Ministers Daladier, Neville Chamberlain meet with Hitler**  
**Sign Munich Agreement, hand Sudetenland over to Germany**  
**Winston Churchill condemns appeasement policy, warns war will follow**  
**Appeasement—giving up principles to pacify an aggressor**

The German Offensive Begins-The Soviet Union Declares Neutrality

**March 1939, German troops occupy rest of Czechoslovakia**  
**Many think he's bluffing; invading Poland would bring two-front war**  
**Stalin, Hitler sign nonaggression pact—will not attack each other, agreeing to divide Poland between them**

The Phony War

**French, British soldiers on Maginot Line face Germans in sitzkrieg**  
**Stalin annexes Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania; defeats Finland**  
**1940, Hitler invades Denmark, Norway, then Low Countries**  
**German army goes through Ardennes, bypassing French, British**  
**British, French trapped on Dunkirk; ferried to safety in UK**  
**1940, Italy invades France from south; Germans approach Paris and over take it.**  
**General Charles de Gaulle sets up government-in-exile in England**

Blitzkrieg in Poland

**Sept. 1939, Hitler overruns Poland in blitzkrieg, lightning war**

The Battle of Britain

**Summer 1940, Germany prepares fleet to invade Britain**  
**Battle of Britain—German planes bomb British targets**  
**Britain uses radar to track, shoot down German planes**  
**Hitler calls off invasion of Britain**  
**Germans, British continue to bomb each other's cities**

Building U.S. Defenses

**Nazi victories in 1940 lead to increased U.S. defense spending**  
**FDR reelected with 55% of votes**  
**"The Great Arsenal of Democracy"-**

The Lend-Lease Plan

**FDR tells nation if Britain falls, Axis powers free to conquer world**

U.S. must become "arsenal of democracy"

**1941 Lend-Lease Act—U.S. to lend or lease supplies for defense**

**1941, Hitler breaks pact with Stalin, invades Soviet Union**

**Roosevelt sends lend-lease supplies to Soviet Union**

**German Wolf Packs**

**Hitler deploys U-boats to attack supply convoys**

**Wolf packs—groups of up to 40 submarines patrol North Atlantic**

**FDR Plans for War-The Atlantic Charter**

**FDR, Churchill issue Atlantic Charter—joint declaration of war aims**

**Japan's Ambitions in the Pacific**

**Hideki Tojo—chief of staff of army that invades China, prime minister**

**Japan seizes French bases in Indochina; U.S. cuts off trade**

**Japan needs oil from U.S. or must take Dutch East Indies oil fields**

**Peace Talks are Questioned**

**1941 U.S. breaks Japanese codes; learns Japan planning to attack U.S.**

**Peace talks with Japan last about 1 month**

**December 6, Japanese envoy instructed to reject all U.S. proposals**

**The War in the Pacific**

**In first 6 months after Pearl Harbor, Japan conquers empire**

**Gen. Douglas MacArthur leads Allied forces in Philippines**

**March 1942 U.S., Filipino troops trapped on Bataan Peninsula**

**FDR orders MacArthur to leave; thousands of troops remain**

**Doolittle's Raid**

**April 1942, Lt. Col. James Doolittle leads raid on Tokyo**

**The United States and Britain Join Forces-War Plans**

**Churchill convinces FDR to strike first against Hitler**

**The Battle of the Atlantic**

**Hitler orders submarine attacks against supply ships to Britain**

**- wolf packs destroy hundreds of ships in 1942**

**Allies organize convoys of cargo ships with escort:**

**- destroyers with sonar; planes with radar**

**Construction of Liberty ships (cargo carriers) speeds up**

**Mobilization**

**Manhattan Project develops atomic bomb**

**Office of Price Administration (OPA) freezes prices, fights inflation**

**War Production Board (WPB) says which companies convert production**

**Rationing—fixed allotments of goods needed by military**

**The North African Front**

**General Dwight D. Eisenhower commands invasion of North Africa**

**Afrika Korps, led by General Erwin Rommel, surrenders May 1943**

The Eastern Front and the Mediterranean-The Battle of Stalingrad

***Hitler wants to capture Caucasus oil fields and destroy Stalingrad***

***Battle of Stalingrad a turning point:***

**Over 230,000 Germans, 1,100,000 Soviets die**

***Soviets defeat Germans in bitter winter campaign***

*The Italian Campaign*

**Allies decide they will accept only unconditional surrender from Axis**

**Summer 1943, capture Sicily; Mussolini forced to resign, move into Italy**

The Allies Liberate Europe-D-Day

***Allies set up phantom army, send fake radio messages to fool Germans***

***Eisenhower directs Allied invasion of Normandy on D-Day June 6, 1944***

***General Omar Bradley bombs to create gap in enemy defense line***

***General George Patton leads Third Army, reach Paris in August***

***FDR reelected for 4th term with running mate Harry S. Truman***

The Battle of the Bulge

***October 1944, Allies capture first German town, Aachen***

***December German tank divisions drive 60 miles into Allied area***

***Battle of the Bulge—Germans push back but have irreplaceable losses***

Unconditional Surrender

**April 1945, Soviet army storms Berlin; Hitler commits suicide**

**Eisenhower accepts unconditional surrender of German Reich**

**May 8, 1945, V-E Day: Victory in Europe Day**

*Roosevelt's Death*

FDR dies April 12; Vice President Harry S. Truman becomes president

Tension at home

**In Los Angeles-Anti-Mexican zoot-suit riots involve thousands servicemen, civilians**

***Internment of Japanese Americans***

***U.S. Army forces 110,000 Japanese Americans into prison camps or Internment Camps***

***California has 2 camps-Tule Lake and Manzanar/Owen Valley***

***1944 Korematsu v. United States—Court rules in favor of internment***

***After war, Japanese American Citizens League pushes for compensation***

***1988, Congress grants \$20,000 to everyone sent to relocation camp***

The Home Front-Economic Gains

*Population Shifts*

**War triggers mass migrations to towns with defense industries**

***Percentage of women in work force rises to 35%***

*Social Adjustments*

**Many couples rush to marry before husband goes overseas**  
**1944 GI Bill of Rights or Servicemen's Readjustment Act:**  
**pays education; loan guarantees for homes, new businesses**  
The War in the Pacific(cont.)

*Battle of the Coral Sea*

**May 1942, U.S., Australian soldiers stop Japanese drive to Australia**  
**For first time since Pearl Harbor, Japanese invasion turned back**

*The Battle of Midway*

**Admiral Chester Nimitz commands U.S. naval forces in Pacific**  
**Allies break Japanese code, win Battle of Midway, stop Japan again and**  
**Japanese stop further advances, this battle is Key and a Turning Point of the**  
**Pacific War.**  
**Allies advance island by island to Japan**

*The Allied Offensive*

***Allied offensive begins August 1942 in Guadalcanal***  
***October 1944, Allies converge on Leyte Island in Philippines***  
***Japan uses kamikaze attack—pilots crash bomb-laden planes into ships***  
***Battle of Leyte Gulf is a disaster for Japan-Navy severely damaged***  
***Continued The Allies Go on the Offensive***  
**Iwo Jima and Okinawa critical as base from which planes can reach Japan**  
*Iwo Jima*  
**6,000 marines die taking island; to 20,700 Japanese, 200 survive**  
*The Battle for Okinawa*  
**April 1945 U.S. Marines invade Okinawa**  
**April–June: 7,600 U.S. troops, 110,000 Japanese die**  
**Allies fear invasion of Japan may mean 1.5 million Allied casualties**  
**Pacific and the Philippine Islands**  
**Island Hopping- taking certain strategic islands to cut off the supplies and forces to**  
**islands or starve them out**  
**Battle of the Philippines Sea- crucial victory where hundreds of Japan's planes**  
**destroyed.**  
**supplies to other Japanese controlled islands.**  
**Battle of Leyte Gulf- destroyed Japan naval force which is no longer a threat.**  
**Island used as air strips to attack Japan.**

*Rebuilding Begins-The Yalta Conference*

***February 1945, FDR, Churchill, Stalin meet in Yalta***  
**- discuss post-war world**  
***FDR, Churchill concession: temporarily divide Germany into 4 parts***  
***Stalin promises free elections in Eastern Europe; will fight Japan***  
***FDR gets support for conference to establish United Nations***  
***WW II most destructive war in human history***  
**The Atomic Bomb Ends the War**

*The Manhattan Project*

**J. Robert Oppenheimer is research director of Manhattan Project**

**July 1945, atomic bomb tested in New Mexico desert**

**President Truman orders military to drop 2 atomic bombs on Japan- in order to save American lives**

*Hiroshima and Nagasaki*

**August 6, Hiroshima, major military center, destroyed by bomb**

**3 days later, bomb dropped on city of Nagasaki**

**September 2, 1945 Japan surrenders**

*The Nuremberg War Trials*

**Nuremberg trials—24 Nazi leaders tried, sentenced**

**- charged with crimes against humanity, against the peace, war crimes**

**Establish principle that people responsible for own actions in war**

*The Occupation of Japan*

**MacArthur commands U.S. occupation forces in Japan**

**Over 1,100 Japanese tried, sentenced**

**MacArthur reshapes Japan's economy, government**