

been intercepting messages. American officials knew that Japan was planning to seize more territory.

In October 1941, General Hideki Tojo, who supported war with the United States, became prime minister of Japan. Yet Roosevelt still hoped for peace. He proposed to his advisers that trade could be resumed if Japan halted any further troop movements. On November 25, the American government learned that a Japanese fleet was moving toward Southeast Asia. The United States demanded that Japan withdraw from all conquered territory and from its Tripartite Pact with Germany and Italy.

Even as this tough message was being sent, a second Japanese fleet of 6 aircraft carriers and more than 20 other ships was under way. Japan's leaders had decided that their goals in Asia could not be achieved as long as the American fleet remained in Hawaii. That threat had to be destroyed.

Shortly after 7:00 A.M. on December 7, an American army radar operator on the Hawaiian island of Oahu reported to his headquarters that planes were headed toward him. The only officer on duty that Sunday morning decided they were American. "Don't worry about it," the officer told the radar operator, as he hung up the phone. Less than an hour later more than 180 Japanese warplanes streaked overhead. Most of the Pacific Fleet lay at anchor in Pearl Harbor, crowded into an area less than three miles square.

Japanese planes bombed and strafed (attacked with machine-gun fire) the fleet and

the airfields nearby. By 9:45 it was over. In less than two hours some 2,400 Americans had been killed and nearly 1,200 wounded. Nearly 300 American warplanes were damaged or destroyed; 18 warships had been sunk or heavily damaged, including 8 of the fleet's 9 battleships. Japan lost just 29 planes.[†]

The attack on Pearl Harbor stunned the American people. Calling December 7, 1941, "a date which will live in infamy," Roosevelt the next day asked Congress to declare war on Japan:

KEY DOCUMENTS

“Hostilities exist. There is no blinking at the fact that our people, our territory, and our interests are in grave danger. With confidence in our armed forces—with the unbound determination of our people—we will gain the inevitable triumph—so help us God.”

—Franklin D. Roosevelt

Three days later, Germany and Italy declared war on the United States. For the second time in the century, Americans were part of a world war. Their contributions would make the difference between victory and defeat for the Allies.

[†] The Japanese did not achieve their main goal, which was to destroy the three aircraft carriers that were part of the American fleet. Two of the carriers, accompanied by the fleet's heavy cruisers, were at sea during the attack. The third was undergoing repairs in California.

SECTION 1 REVIEW

Comprehension

- 1. Key Terms** Define: (a) totalitarian; (b) fascism; (c) Axis Powers; (d) appeasement; (e) *blitzkrieg*; (f) Allies; (g) Lend-Lease Act.
- 2. Summarizing the Main Idea** What steps did Italy, Germany, and Japan take in the mid-1930s to extend their power?
- 3. Organizing Information** Create a flow map to show how German and Italian aggression led to war. Begin with *October 1935: Italy invades Ethiopia* and end with *September 1939: England and France declare war on Germany*.

Critical Thinking

- 4. Analyzing Time Lines** Review the time line at the start of the section. Which entry was responsible for bringing the United States into World War II?
- 5. Recognizing Cause and Effect** What were some of the reasons behind Japan's desire to build an empire in Asia?

Writing Activity

- 6. Writing an Persuasive Essay** Write a letter to President Roosevelt that expresses support for or opposition to the Lend-Lease Act.

**Sept.
1942**
Battle of
Stalingrad begins

**Nov.
1942**
British win decisive
victory at El
Alamein in Egypt

**July
1943**
American troops
attack Sicily

**June
1944**
D-Day invasion
of Western
Europe begins

**Dec.
1944**
Battle of the
Bulge begins

**May
1945**
Germany
surrenders

1942

1944

1946

2 The Road to Victory in Europe

SECTION PREVIEW

Objectives

- 1 Identify the various groups of Americans who mobilized to fight the war.
- 2 Understand how the Allied decision to begin fighting in North Africa and Italy affected war efforts in the Soviet Union.
- 3 Show how the Allied invasion of Western Europe led to the end of the war in Europe.
- 4 **Key Terms** Define: Atlantic Charter; GI; Battle of Stalingrad; carpet bombing; D-Day; Battle of the Bulge; Yalta Conference.

Main Idea

To secure victory in Europe, the Allies waged war in North Africa, Western Europe, and the Soviet Union between 1941 and 1945.

Reading Strategy

Formulating Questions Skim the section and write down the main headings. Then rewrite each heading as a question. As you read, note the answers to your questions.



Fatigues were standard wear for American soldiers.

In August 1941, unknown to the rest of the world, two warships quietly lay at anchor off the coast of Newfoundland. Aboard were Prime Minister Winston Churchill and President Franklin Roosevelt. Both men believed the United States would soon be allied with Britain in war, and they were meeting to agree on the war's goals. The two leaders pledged

"a peace that will afford all nations the means of dwelling in safety inside their own boundaries." Roosevelt and Churchill put this and other principles into writing in the **Atlantic Charter**. The agreements reached at this meeting would form the basis for the United Nations.

Americans Mobilize for War

As the United States prepared for war, thousands of American men received official notices to enter the army or navy. After the

bombing of Pearl Harbor, tens of thousands more volunteered to serve. Roosevelt shared his vision of what these troops would be asked to fight for:

AMERICAN VOICES

"We look forward to a world founded upon four essential freedoms. The first is freedom of speech and expression. . . . The second is freedom of every person to worship God in his own way. . . . The third is freedom from want [need]. . . . The fourth is freedom from fear."

—Franklin D. Roosevelt

The GI War World War II greatly changed the lives of the men and women who were uprooted from home and sent far away to fight for freedom. The 15 million Americans who served as soldiers, sailors, and aviators made their way through distant deserts, jungles, swamps, turbulent seas, and forbidding skies. For those on the front lines, the war was often a desperate struggle just to stay alive.

American soldiers called themselves **GIs**, after the "Government Issue" stamp that

appeared on all shoes, clothes, weapons, and other equipment provided by the military. While the “four freedoms” and the Atlantic Charter may have defined the goals of the United States in the war, most GIs served for more personal reasons. As soldiers fought in filthy foxholes overseas, they dreamed of home and a cherished way of life. When asked what he was fighting for, a young marine on the Pacific front replied, “What I’d give for a piece of blueberry pie.”

Diversity in the Armed Forces Americans from all ethnic and racial backgrounds fought during World War II. Among these were more than 300,000 Mexican Americans. Most enlisted in the army. Mexican American troops fought to defend the Philippines, served in the North African campaign, and took part in the D-Day invasion of France in 1944.

Some 25,000 Native Americans also served in the army and other branches of the military. The marines recruited about 300 Navajos to serve as radio operators. They developed a code based on their language that the Japanese could not break when they eavesdropped on marine radio transmissions. The “code talkers,” as they became known, provided a vitally important secure communications link in several key battles in the Pacific.

Although Japanese Americans were not accepted into the armed forces until early 1943, thousands volunteered to fight. Many came from the camps where tens of thousands of Japanese Americans were detained during the war. Eventually some 17,000 Japanese Americans fought in the United States armed services. Most were Nisei, or citizens born in the United States of Japanese immigrant parents. The all-Nisei 442nd Regimental Combat team won so many commendations for bravery while fighting in Europe that it became the most decorated military unit in American history.

African American troops also played an important role in the war. Nearly a million African Americans volunteered or were drafted to serve in the military. At first, most black troops were limited to support roles. However, black leaders pushed to get African Americans into combat. By late 1942, faced with mounting casualties, military authorities reluctantly gave in.

Like Japanese American troops, African Americans fought in segregated units. The African American 761st Tank Battalion captured 30 major towns from the Germans in a grueling 183-day campaign. The Army Air Force 99th Fighter Squadron, known as the Black Eagles,

COMPARING PRIMARY SOURCES

INTEGRATION OF THE ARMED FORCES

Discussion about desegregating the armed forces during World War II aroused strong feelings on both sides. Below are two viewpoints.

In Support of Integration

“Though I have found no Negroes who want to see the United Nations lose this war, I have found many who, before the war ends, want to see the stuffing knocked out of white supremacy. . . . If freedom and equality are not vouchsafed [granted] the peoples of color, the war for democracy will not be won. . . . We demand the abolition of segregation and discrimination in . . . [all] branches of national defense.”

—A. Philip Randolph, African-American labor and civil rights leader, November 1942

In Opposition to Integration

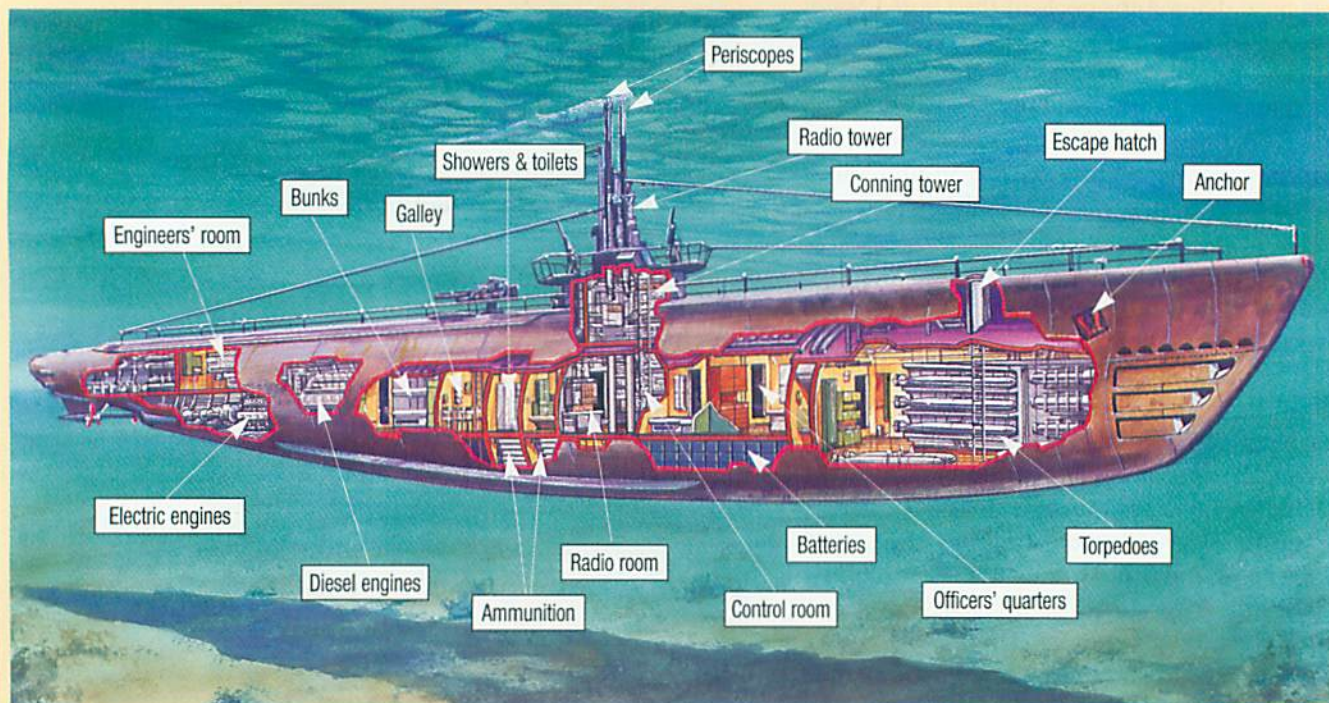
“In this hour of national crisis, it is much more important that we have the full-hearted co-operation of the thirty million white southern Americans than that we satisfy the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. . . . If they be forced to serve with Negroes, they will cease to volunteer; and when drafted, they will not serve with that enthusiasm and high morale that has always characterized the soldiers and sailors of the southern states.”

—W. R. Poage, Texas state representative, 1941

ANALYZING VIEWPOINTS What arguments does each side use to support its viewpoint?



To defeat the Japanese in the Pacific, United States Marines had to keep their strategies from the enemy. Navajo code talkers like these allowed the Allies to stay one step ahead of the Japanese. **Diversity** How else did the armed forces benefit from diversity?



Both the Germans and the Allies used subs to attack enemy merchant convoys. The Allies used asdic, a form of echo-location, to detect enemy subs and began to develop radar toward the end of the war.

Science and Technology How does one development in war technology often lead to another?

shot down more than 110 enemy planes over Italy. In late 1944, when heavy casualties in Europe forced the army to accept African Americans into white combat units, nearly 5,000 additional black volunteers stepped forward.

Women in the Armed Forces Not all soldiers were men. By the war's end, nearly 275,000 American women had volunteered for military service. Faced with a personnel shortage, officials were willing to use women in almost all areas except combat. About 13,000 women marines worked as clerks, typists, airfield control tower operators, mechanics, photographers, and drivers. Another 10,000 women served in the Coast Guard.

Some 1,200 WASPs (Women Air Force Service Pilots) ferried planes around the country and towed practice targets for anti-aircraft gunners. The Navy had a similar organization, the WAVES (Women Accepted for Volunteer Emergency Service). One quarter of the 86,000 WAVES served in naval aviation. With nearly 100,000 officers and

enlisted personnel, the Women's Army Corps (WAC) was the largest of the women's military groups. The WAC's commander, Colonel Oveta Culp Hobby, led more people than many army generals.

Fighting in North Africa and Italy

When the United States entered the war in 1941, the situation was critical. London and other major British cities had suffered heavy damage during the Battle of Britain. The Germans' *blitzkrieg* had extended Nazi control across most of Europe. In North Africa a German army led by General Erwin Rommel, known as the "Desert Fox" for his shrewd tactics, was equally successful. Many people feared that Germany could not be stopped.

The Battle of the Atlantic At sea a desperate struggle developed in the effort to keep German submarines from isolating Great Britain. To deliver the food and supplies that the British needed, merchant ships formed

Main Idea CONNECTIONS

Describe the roles that women played during World War II.

convoys. American warships often served as escorts. The Germans countered with groups of as many as 30 submarines, called wolf packs, that carried out coordinated attacks on the convoys. After the United States entered the war, the Battle of the Atlantic spread as German submarines began attacking merchant ships off the American coast.

Although Allied warships used sonar (underwater sound equipment) to locate and attack submarines, the wolf packs were highly effective. In the Atlantic they sank nearly 175 ships in June 1942 alone.

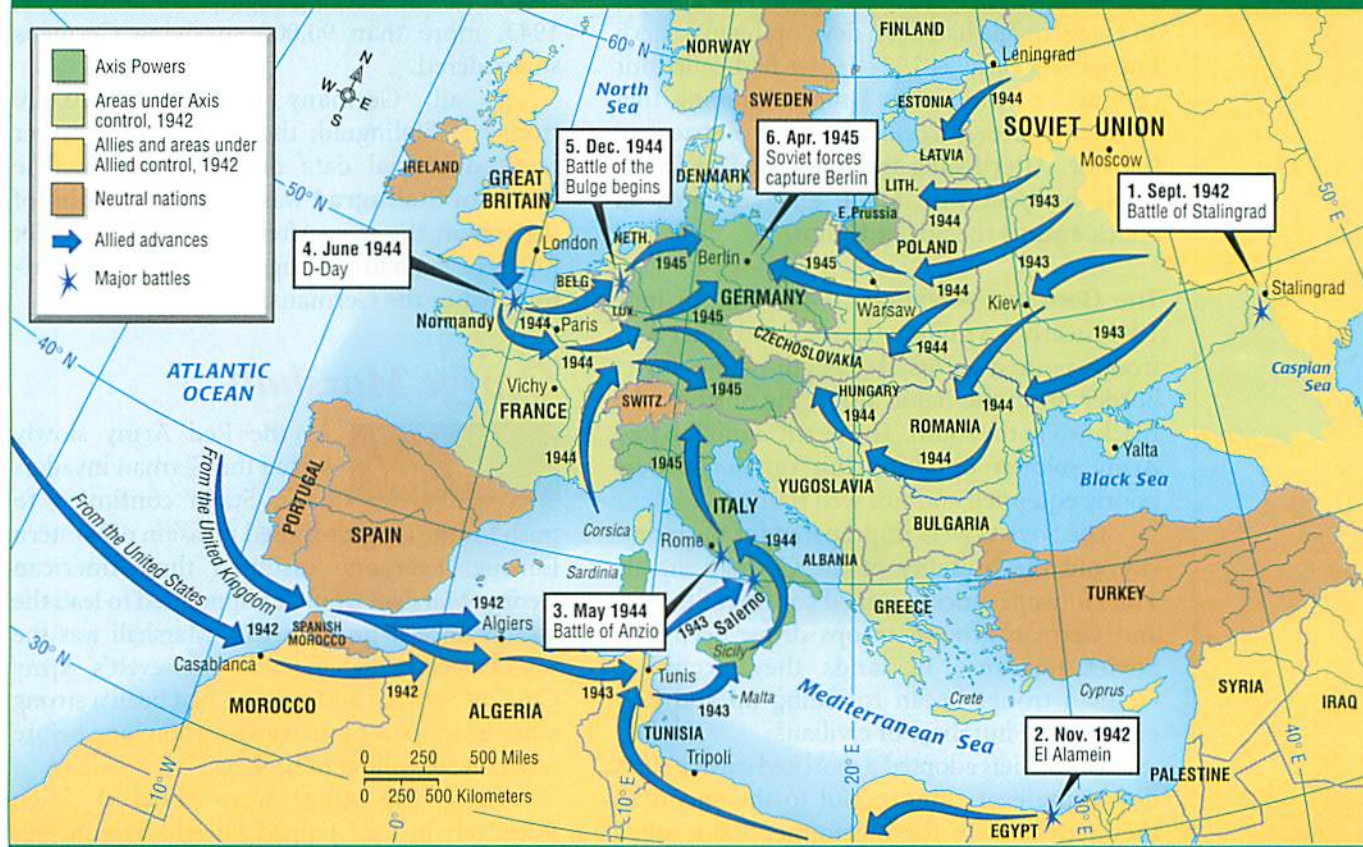
The North Africa Campaign Since August 1940, a British army had been battling Italian and German troops in North Africa. In November 1942 the British, under General Bernard Montgomery, won a decisive victory at El Alamein in Egypt. The Germans began to retreat west. A few days later, British and American troops commanded by American gen-

eral Dwight D. Eisenhower landed in Morocco and Algeria and quickly pushed eastward. In May 1943 the two Allied armies came together in Tunisia, trapping Rommel's forces. Despite Hitler's instructions to fight to the death, nearly 240,000 Germans and Italians surrendered.

Churchill and Roosevelt met once again in January 1943, this time at Casablanca, Morocco. At this Casablanca Conference they planned strategy for fighting much of the rest of the war. The decision was made to continue concentrating Allied resources on Europe before trying to win the war in the Pacific. Churchill and Roosevelt also agreed to accept only the unconditional surrender of Italy, Germany, and Japan.

The Invasion of Italy In July 1943, American troops under General George S. Patton attacked Sicily, just south of the Italian mainland. When the island fell in just 38 days, Mussolini was overthrown. In September, as

Allied Advances in Europe and Northern Africa, 1942–1945



Axis Powers controlled most of Europe by the time the United States entered the war in 1941.

Location What geographic advantage did the United Kingdom have over other European nations that helped protect it from German aggression?

Allied troops threatened the rest of Italy, its new government surrendered.

German troops in Italy, however, continued to resist, blocking roads and destroying bridges as they retreated up the Italian peninsula. By November, German defenses stiffened and the Allied advance stalled. In January, to get it moving again, an Allied force landed behind the German lines at Anzio, just south of Rome. For the next four months Allied soldiers fought to move more than a few miles beyond the beach. Before they finally broke through German defenses in May 1944, some 72,000 American soldiers had been killed or wounded.

After winning the Battle of Anzio, the Allies quickly captured Rome. However, many more months of heavy fighting were required before the Germans in northern Italy finally surrendered in April 1945. The Americans suffered nearly 190,000 casualties during the Italian campaign. German losses approached half a million troops.

War in the Soviet Union

Meanwhile, as the Allies battled their way across northern Africa and southern Europe, an epic struggle had been developing in eastern Europe. As early as 1924 Hitler had called for conquest of the Soviet Union, claiming that Germany needed *lebensraum* (living space) to the east. After losing the Battle of Britain, he broke his pact with Stalin and launched an attack against the Soviet Union.

The Germans Advance, 1941–1942 In June 1941, nearly 3.6 million German and other Axis troops poured across the length of the Soviet border, from the Baltic Sea in the north to the Black Sea in the south. The nearly 3 million Red Army soldiers opposing this onslaught were poorly equipped and not well trained.

The Soviets were unprepared for the intensity and the brutality of the German attack. The *Luftwaffe* quickly gained control of the air, and German ground troops drove deep into Soviet territory. In lands they occupied, German troops began rounding up and executing large numbers of civilians.

The Soviets adopted a scorched earth policy, destroying everything useful to the enemy as they retreated. In the meantime, Stalin asked Roosevelt for help through the Lend-Lease program. However, Congress blocked this request for many months. American aid did not begin to flow until June 1942.

By that summer, German armies threatened major cities deep inside the Soviet Union. Stalin desperately urged his allies to launch an attack on Western Europe. He believed such an attack would take pressure off the Soviet Union's Red Army in the east by forcing Hitler to divide his forces. Churchill, however, hesitated to make such a risky invasion. At Casablanca he persuaded Roosevelt instead to invade Italy, which he called the "soft underbelly" of Europe. The Soviets would have to confront the bulk of the German army on their own.

The Battle of Stalingrad The Red Army decided to make its stand at Stalingrad, a major industrial railroad center. In mid-September 1942 the Germans began a campaign of bombing and shelling that lasted more than two months. The Soviets took up positions in the rubble that remained of Stalingrad and engaged the advancing German troops in bitter house-to-house fighting.

In mid-November, taking advantage of the harsh Russian weather, Soviet forces counter-attacked and surrounded the German army. In late January, the Red Army launched a final assault on the freezing enemy. On January 31, 1943, more than 90,000 surviving Germans surrendered.

In all, Germany lost some 330,000 troops at Stalingrad; the Soviet Union never released official data on its casualties. The **Battle of Stalingrad** was the turning point of the war in the east. After their victory, Soviet forces began a long struggle to regain the territory lost to the Germans.

George Marshall



As the Red Army slowly forced the German invaders back, Stalin continued to push for the long-promised invasion of Western Europe. Everyone assumed that American George Marshall would be appointed to lead the assault once it finally began. Marshall was the top American general and Roosevelt's Army Chief of Staff. In addition, he had been a strong voice in support of such an invasion long before others were willing to back it.


Thus, the Allies were shocked when Roosevelt instead tapped Dwight Eisenhower to lead the invasion. Marshall was so important to the overall war effort, the President said in explaining his decision, that he would not sleep well if the general were out of the country.



George Marshall
(1880–1959)

A graduate of Virginia Military Institute, Marshall had served in France during World War I, where he aided in planning major Allied victories. Promotions were slow after the war, however, until Marshall came to Washington, D.C. There he became Deputy Chief of Staff in 1938 and was named to the army's top job just a year later.

As Army Chief of Staff, Marshall pushed the President to prepare for war by strengthening the army. Soon after America's entry into World War II, Marshall called for an invasion of Western Europe. He opposed Churchill's plan to focus on North Africa and Italy first. Churchill later credited Marshall with being "the true organizer of [the Allies'] victory."

After the war ended in 1945, Marshall resigned. However, President Harry Truman quickly called him back to public service. As Secretary of State, Marshall launched a massive effort to rebuild postwar Europe. Today that program is known as the Marshall Plan. For this work Marshall received the Nobel Peace Prize in 1953. 

The Invasion of Western Europe

At every conference of Allied leaders after the United States entered the war, Marshall pushed for an attack on the German forces occupying France. Allied planes were already bombing Germany. In late 1943 the British finally agreed to go along with Marshall's proposal to launch a land invasion as well.

The Air War The RAF had begun bombing Germany in 1940. However, the *Luftwaffe* quickly forced the British to give up daylight missions for safer but less accurate nighttime raids. When the Germans started to target cities during the Battle of Britain, the RAF responded in kind. It abandoned attempts to pinpoint targets and developed a technique called **carpet bombing**, in which large numbers of bombs were scattered over a wide area. German cities suffered heavy damage as a result.

Allied bombing of Germany had intensified after the United States entered the war. In the spring of 1943 the bombing campaign was stepped up yet again in order to soften Germany for the planned Allied invasion. By 1944 British and American commanders were conducting coordinated air raids—American planes bombing by day and the RAF by night. At its height, some 3,000 planes were involved in this campaign.

Preparation for Invasion A massive buildup of troops began in southern England as American, British, and Canadian forces were joined by Polish, Dutch, Belgian, and French troops. In response, the Germans strengthened their defenses along the French coastline. As they waited for the invasion to begin, German soldiers added machine-gun emplacements, barbed wire fences on beaches, land and water mines, and underwater obstructions.

D-Day Shortly after midnight on June 6, 1944, the largest landing by sea in history began as some 4,600 invasion craft and warships slipped out of their harbors in southern England. As the ships crossed the English Channel, about 1,000 RAF bombers pounded German defenses at Normandy. Meanwhile,



General Dwight Eisenhower (left) commanded many Allied initiatives in Europe, including the D-Day landing at Normandy in 1944. **Geography** Why was Hitler expecting the main thrust of the invasion to be at Calais, and not Normandy?

some 23,000 airborne British and American soldiers, in a daring nighttime maneuver, were dropped behind enemy lines.

At dawn on **D-Day**, the code name for the day the invasion began, Allied warships in the channel began a massive shelling of the coast. Some 1,000 American planes continued the RAF's air bombardment. Then around 150,000 Allied troops and their equipment began to come ashore along 60 miles of Normandy coast.

Despite the advice of his generals to launch a counterattack, Hitler hesitated. He feared a larger invasion at the narrowest part of the English Channel near Calais. Nevertheless, German resistance at Normandy was fierce. At Omaha Beach, the code name for one landing site, the Allies suffered some 2,000 casualties.

In spite of the heavy casualties of D-Day, within a week a half million men came ashore. By late July the Allied force in France numbered some 2 million troops.

The Battle of the Bulge Bitter fighting followed as the Allies broke through German defenses at Normandy and pushed across France. In late August 1944, American troops liberated Paris. British and Canadian forces freed Brussels and Antwerp in Belgium a few days later. In mid-September, a combined

Allied force attacked the Germans occupying Holland. At about the same time, Americans crossed the western border of Germany.

The Nazis fought desperately to defend their homeland. After reinforcing the army with thousands of additional draftees, some as young as 15, they launched a counterattack in Belgium and Luxembourg in December 1944. This battle came to be known as the **Battle of the Bulge**.

As the German attack overwhelmed the American forces and pushed them back, many small units became cut off from the rest of the army. The soldiers of these isolated units fought gallantly. From his headquarters near Paris, Eisenhower ordered more troops to the scene. The most spectacular of these reinforcement actions was carried out by General Patton. In just a few days he moved his entire army of 250,000 soldiers from western France to help stop the German advance.

The Battle of the Bulge was the largest battle in Western Europe during World War II and the largest ever fought by the United States Army. It involved some 600,000 GIs, of whom about 80,000 were killed, wounded, or captured. German losses totaled about 100,000 troops. After this battle, most Nazi leaders recognized that the war was lost.

War Ends in Europe

In March 1945, as Allied bombers continued to hammer German cities, American ground forces crossed the Rhine River and advanced toward Berlin from the west. Meanwhile, the Soviets pushed into Germany from the east.

The Soviets Advance The fighting between German and Soviet forces from 1941 to 1945 was the greatest conflict ever fought on a single front. At any given time it involved more than 9 million troops. The costs of this struggle were horrific. The 13.6 million Soviet and 3 million German military killed accounted for more than two thirds the total dead for all World War II. Current research in records in the former Soviet Union places the total of Soviet civilian and military deaths at 27 million.

After the hardships their nation had endured, Soviet leaders considered the capture of Berlin, Germany's capital, a matter of honor. In late April 1945 the Soviets fought their way into Berlin. They found a city more than 80 percent destroyed by Allied bombing.

While some Soviet troops attacked Berlin, other elements of the Red Army continued to

CAUSE AND EFFECT: World War II

CAUSES

- Fascism takes hold in Italy and Germany.
- Germany invades the Rhineland and annexes Austria and Czechoslovakia.
- Germany invades Poland.
- Japan aggressively builds an empire in Asia.

WORLD WAR II

EFFECTS

- Europe and Japan are left in ruins.
- Two thirds of Europe's Jewish population is killed.
- The United States and the Soviet Union emerge as world powers.
- The cold war begins.



Interpreting Charts Foreign aggression on both sides of the world erupted into global war. **Foreign Relations** How was the world changed by the end of the war?

drive west. On April 25, they met American troops at the Elbe River.

Germany Surrenders In Berlin, Hitler had refused to take his generals' advice to flee as the Soviets closed in on the city. Instead he fulfilled a vow he had made in 1939: "I shall stand or fall in this struggle. I shall never survive the defeat of my people." On May 1, the German government announced that Hitler had committed suicide. A few days later, on May 8, 1945, Germany surrendered.

American soldiers rejoiced and civilians celebrated V-E Day (Victory in Europe Day) at home as the war in Europe came to an end. The war was not over yet, however, as Japan was still to be defeated.

The Yalta Conference In February 1945, two months before the fall of Berlin, Roosevelt, Churchill, and Stalin met at Yalta, a city in the Soviet Union near the Black Sea. The purpose of the **Yalta Conference** was to plan for the post-war world. The leaders agreed to split Germany into four zones, each under the control of one of the major Allies. The city of Berlin, which would lie in the Soviet zone, would be similarly divided. Stalin promised to allow elections in the nations his army liberated from the Germans. He also promised to enter the war against Japan soon after Germany surrendered.



A United States soldier and Russian soldier (left and right) share a moment of camaraderie after meeting at the Elbe River in April 1945. **Foreign Relations** How did Soviet assaults in 1945 help end the war?

The agreements at Yalta were only partially fulfilled. Stalin refused, for example, to honor his promise for free elections. Roosevelt and Churchill were accused of not doing enough to prevent Soviet domination of Eastern Europe. The issue of Eastern Europe would be at the heart of the problems that later arose between the Soviet Union and the Western Allies.

SECTION 2 REVIEW

Comprehension

- 1. Key Terms** Define: (a) Atlantic Charter; (b) GI; (c) Battle of Stalingrad; (d) carpet bombing; (e) D-Day; (f) Battle of the Bulge; (g) Yalta Conference.
- 2. Summarizing the Main Idea** What events helped turn the tide of war in favor of the Allies?
- 3. Organizing Information** Create a four-column chart on a sheet of paper. Label the columns 1942, 1943, 1944, and 1945. In each column list the major battles and events in the European and North African theaters of war for that year.

Critical Thinking

- 4. Analyzing Time Lines** Review the time line at the start of the section. Explain how the Allied decision to delay an invasion of Western Europe and fight instead in North Africa and Italy affected war efforts in the Soviet Union.
- 5. Checking Consistency** Why do you think Americans who were denied full rights at home were eager to take part in the war against fascism?

Writing Activity

- 6. Writing an Expository Essay** Joseph Stalin repeatedly asked the Allies to invade Western Europe in order to take the pressure off the Soviet Union. Write an essay convincing the Allied leaders to support this plan, or write a reply explaining why the invasion had to be delayed.

**May
1942**
*Battle of the
Coral Sea*

**June
1942**
*Battle of
Midway*

**Feb.
1943**
*Japanese abandon
Guadalcanal*

**June
1944**
*Americans capture
Mariana Islands*

**Feb.
1945**
*Land invasion
at Iwo Jima*

**Aug.
1945**
*Atomic bomb dropped
on Hiroshima*

1942

1944

1946

3 The War in the Pacific

SECTION PREVIEW

Objectives

- 1 Summarize the Japanese advance in the Pacific in 1941 and 1942 and describe Allied victories that turned the tide of the war.
- 2 Describe the Allied struggle for the Pacific islands, including Iwo Jima and Okinawa.
- 3 Describe the Manhattan Project and its effect in bringing an end to the war.
- 4 **Key Terms** Define: Bataan Death March; Battle of the Coral Sea; Battle of Midway; Battle of Guadalcanal; *kamikaze*; Battle of Iwo Jima; Battle of Okinawa; Manhattan Project.

Main Idea

Fierce fighting and heavy casualties characterized the war in the Pacific Ocean as the Allied forces struggled to turn back Japanese advances.

Reading Strategy

Organizing Information Sketch a map that shows the areas where fighting took place in the Pacific Ocean. As you read the section, mark the major battle sites on your map. Also note who won each battle.

The bombing of Pearl Harbor was only the first of several Japanese offensives across the Pacific. Just hours after the attack on Pearl Harbor, Japanese warplanes based in China hit Clark Field, the main American air base in the Philippine Islands. (American troops had occupied the Philippines since the Spanish-American War in 1898.) The American planes sat neatly parked along the runways at Clark Field. As Japanese planes swept over the airfield, strings of bombs fell toward their targets. Planes and buildings were blown to pieces. Returning to their base, the Japanese attackers rejoiced over their success. Many were puzzled, however. They asked, What was the matter with the enemy? Didn't the Americans know the war had started?

The Japanese Advance, 1941–1942

Although news of Pearl Harbor had reached Douglas MacArthur, the commanding general, the Americans at Clark Field had not expected

an immediate attack. About half of General MacArthur's air force was destroyed as it sat on the ground.

Within days, a large Japanese force landed in the Philippines. MacArthur withdrew most of his troops to the Bataan Peninsula on Manila Bay. There he set up defenses, hoping the navy would be able to evacuate his army to safety.

The Philippines Fall For some four months, American and Filipino troops held out on the Bataan Peninsula. In March, realizing the situation was hopeless, President Roosevelt ordered MacArthur to escape to Australia. The general was reluctant to abandon his soldiers to the Japanese, but promised, "I shall return."

When the peninsula's gallant troops surrendered to Japanese forces in early April, about 2,000 soldiers and nurses escaped to the fortified island of Corregidor in Manila Bay. Joining the fort's defenders, they fought on for another month. The holdouts survived nearly constant Japanese bombing and artillery barrages by living in the rock tunnels of the