

The Allied Victory

BEFORE YOU READ

In the last section, you read about the Holocaust in Europe.

In this section, you will learn how the war was fought and brought to an end around the world.

AS YOU READ

Use the time line below to take notes on key events in the last three years of the war.

TERMS AND NAMES

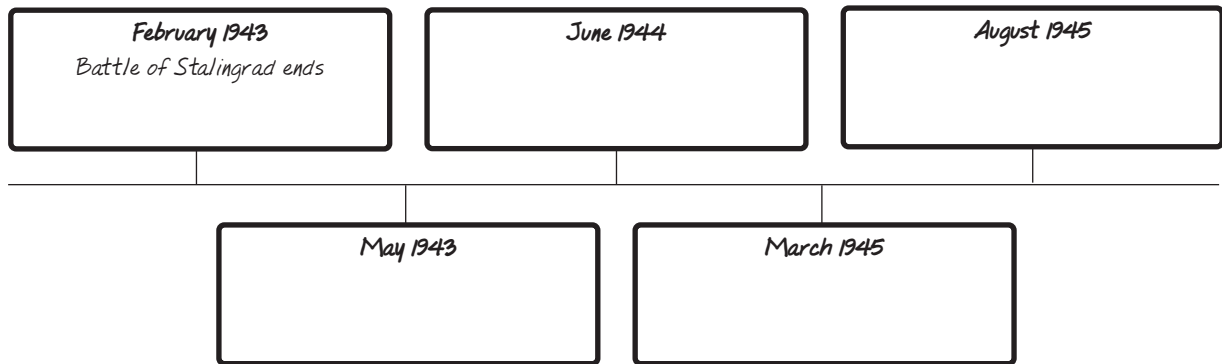
Dwight D. Eisenhower American general who helped drive the Germans out of Africa

Battle of Stalingrad Battle during which the Red Army forced the Germans out of Stalingrad

D-Day Huge Allied invasion mounted to retake France from the Germans

Battle of the Bulge Final large-scale attack by German troops that was forced back by the Allies

kamikaze Japanese suicide pilots



The Tide Turns on Two Fronts

Where did the tide of war turn in favor of the Allies?

In 1942, Roosevelt, Churchill, and Stalin planned the Allies' strategy. Stalin wanted Britain and the United States to open a second front against Germany to relieve the pressure on his armies. Stalin wanted the attack in France. Roosevelt and Churchill agreed to a second front but chose to attack German General Erwin Rommel in North Africa.

In late 1942, the British army led by General Bernard Montgomery drove the Germans out of

Egypt and back to the west. Meanwhile, American troops under the command of General **Dwight D. Eisenhower** landed behind the Germans and began moving east. The Germans were finally forced out of Africa in May 1943.

At the same time, the Soviets gained a major victory as well. German troops had invaded the Soviet city of Stalingrad in 1942. The Red Army forced the Germans to surrender in February 1943, ending the **Battle of Stalingrad**.

American and British soldiers next invaded Italy and captured Sicily in August 1943. Mussolini was driven from power and the new Italian government surrendered. But Hitler did not want to give up Italy. His army fought there until 1945.

1. What major victories did the Allies win?

The Allied Home Fronts

What problems did people face at home?

While the Allies continued to fight, people at home suffered. Some British and Soviet citizens died. In the United States, citizens faced shortages. Goods such as food, tires, gasoline, and clothing were in short supply. The government *rationed* these items. It limited how much a person could have so there would be enough for the military.

Some Americans were even imprisoned. Bitter feelings against the Japanese became widespread. As a result, mistrust of Japanese Americans grew. The U.S. government took thousands of Japanese Americans who lived on the west coast and moved them to relocation camps in the western United States. Two-thirds of these people were American citizens.

2. What happened to Japanese Americans?

Victory in Europe

What were the final battles in Europe?

In early 1944, the Allies built a *massive* force to retake France. In June, an invasion of thousands of ships, planes, and soldiers was launched. It was called **D-Day**. The invasion force suffered heavy losses but gained a foothold in northern France. A month later, Allied forces began to pour through German lines. In August, they marched in triumph into Paris. By September, they had driven the Germans out of France, Belgium, Luxembourg, and much of the Netherlands.

At the same time, the Soviets were pushing the Germans back in eastern Europe. In late 1944, Hitler ordered his army to make one final, large-scale attack in the west. In the **Battle of the Bulge**,

it punched through Allied lines until an Allied counterattack forced it back to Germany. By late April 1945, Soviet troops surrounded Berlin, Hitler's headquarters. Five days later, he killed himself. A week later, the Germans surrendered. Roosevelt did not live to see this victory, however. He had died in early April. Harry Truman was now president.

3. Name three events that led directly to Germany's surrender.

Victory in the Pacific

What led to victory in the Pacific?

In the Pacific, the Allies began to move toward Japan in 1943. They landed troops in the Philippines in the fall of 1944. In the Battle of Leyte Gulf, in October 1944, the Japanese navy was crushed.

As American troops moved closer to Japan, they faced attacks by **kamikaze**. These Japanese suicide pilots sank Allied ships by crashing their bomb-filled planes into them. In March 1945, U.S. Marines captured the island of Iwo Jima, a *strategic* Japanese stronghold. By June, they had won control of Okinawa, an island just 350 miles from Japan.

Japan was the next stop. But the U.S. military feared that an invasion of Japan would cost half a million Allied lives. In August, President Truman ordered that an atomic bomb be dropped on the city of Hiroshima to try to end the war quickly. A second bomb was dropped on Nagasaki three days later. Tens of thousands of Japanese died. Japan surrendered in September.

4. Name two events that led directly to Japan's surrender.
