

The War Ends

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PDN

Enduring Understanding:

The D-Day invasion and Atomic Bomb helped to secure an Allied Victory in the war

Essential Questions:

1. What type of strategy was used in the invasion of Normandy on D-Day?
2. Why were the Allies able to defeat the Axis Powers in Europe?

Objectives

- Describe the Normandy landings and the Allied advance toward Germany
- Understand the reasons for the final defeat of the Nazis
- Explain how the dropping of the atomic bombs ended the war

War Ends in Europe

- Soviet Victories
 - 1943 → won Battle of Stalingrad
 - end of 1943 → advanced & pushed back Germans
 - early 1944 → Siege of Leningrad ended
 - January 1945 → Soviets within 40 miles of Berlin

War Ends in Europe

- D-Day
 - invasion required two things:
 - 1) attack from sea
 - 2) attack directly against strong German positions
 - June 6, 1944 → Allied forces invaded France at Normandy & triumphed
 - Allies quickly re-conquered France

D-Day Invasion

- Allied preparations led by American generals George Marshall and Dwight Eisenhower
- 150,000 troops landed on first day at Normandy
- Triumph at Normandy allowed for more troops to come in through that beach → by July 1944, around 1 million troops had come in

War Ends in Europe

- Battle of the Bulge
 - December 1944 → massive German counterattack in Belgium
 - January 1945 → Allies crushed German counterattack
 - Allies closed in on Germans from east & west

War Ends in Europe

- Germans surrender
 - late April 1945 → Soviets surrounded Berlin
 - May 2, 1945 → Hitler found dead in bunker
 - May 7, 1945 → Germany surrendered
 - V-E Day = Victory in Europe Day

War Ends in the Pacific

- Final Battles
 - American forces regularly bombed Japanese cities
 - pilots had to travel long distances to targets = risky
 - Battle of Iwo Jima → Japanese island conquered by American forces
 - Battle of Okinawa → another Japanese island conquered by American forces after 3 months of fighting

Have you seen this photo before?

American troops raised the flag on Okinawa
celebrating the victory!



War Ends in the Pacific

- Atomic Bomb
 - Japanese soldiers would fight to the death
 - invasion of Japan would be too costly
 - May 1945 → Harry Truman became President following FDR's death
 - made decision to use atomic bomb
 - July 1945 → Allies demanded surrender from Japan
 - atomic bombs dropped on Hiroshima & Nagasaki
 - Hiroshima: August 6th & Nagasaki: August 9th





