

# Chapter 14 - Section 2

The Road to Victory in Europe

A decorative graphic consisting of several horizontal lines of varying lengths and colors (teal, light blue, white) extending from the right side of the text area towards the right edge of the slide.

# The Atlantic Charter

- **Agreement drawn up by FDR and Winston Churchill** (the leader of Gr. Britain)
- Met secretly to discuss goals for peace
- August 1941 (when we knew we'd soon be entering the war)



# After Pearl Harbor...

- Thousands of men **received official notices** to enter the army or navy
- Tens of thousands more **volunteered** to serve



# The 4 Freedoms

- FDR said these were what we are fighting for
- **Freedom of speech** and expression
- **Freedom to worship** God in their own way
- **Freedom from want** or need
- **Freedom from fear**







# G.I.'s

- What **American soldiers** called themselves
- After the “**government issue**” stamp that appeared on all uniforms, weapons, etc.



# Diverse armed forces

- **Mexican, African, Japanese, and Native Americans** all served in our military





# Challenges

- **African and Japanese Americans initially not allowed to join**
- Had to fight in segregated units
- Not initially allowed in combat (finally needed them due to increased casualties)



# Navajo “Code Talkers”

- **Native American marines who served as radio operators** using a code based on their native language that the Japanese couldn't break when they eavesdropped on marine radio transmissions



# Women in the Armed Forces

- **Served in all capacities except combat**
- Air tower operators, mechanics, drivers, photographers – 275,000 women



# Situation in Europe in 1941

- **Most of the continent had been overrun by Germany**
- Many feared they could not be stopped



# Battle of the Atlantic

- Groups of up to 30 **German subs** (called “wolfpacks”) **tried to isolate Great Britain by using subs to sink American convoys** and merchant ships carrying needed supplies



# North Africa

- **British & U.S. forces together defeated thousands of Italians & Germans**



- FDR and Churchill meet again in N. Africa
- They **agree to continue to concentrate on winning in Europe before trying to win the war in the Pacific against the Japanese**
- Also agree to only accept *unconditional surrender* of Germany, Italy and Japan

Casablanca, Morocco



# Invasion of Italy

- American troops attack through N. Africa
- **Mussolini is overthrown, but the German troops fiercely resist**
- After many months and many casualties, the Americans finally capture Rome





# Broken Pact

- After losing the Battle of Britain **Hitler breaks his neutrality pact with Stalin** and attacks the Soviet Union



# Red Army

- **Soviet soldiers (Red Army) were overwhelmed by the Germans** because they were unprepared, poorly equipped, and had no support from the allies



# Battle of Stalingrad

- **Turning point in the war**
- During harsh Russian winter the **Red Army finally defeats the Germans** and begins pushing them back out of their territory



# The Air War

- American planes **bombed Germany** by day and British RAF bombed them by night to **“soften” the country for the planned land invasion**



# Carpet Bombing

- Planes dropped a **large number of bombs over a large area rather than specific targets**
- **Led to heavy damage in cities and many civilian deaths**



# Preparation for Invasion

- **Massive buildup of troops** in southern England as American, British, and Canadian forces were joined by Polish, Dutch, Belgian, and French troops
- **Germans strengthened their defenses** along the French coastline in anticipation of an invasion
- Germans added **machine-gun emplacements, barbed wire fences, land and water mines,** and underwater obstructions to prepare for the imminent attack

# D-Day



- The largest landing by sea in history (4,600 invasion craft and warships)
- **Allied forces crossed the English Channel and invaded German-controlled France**
- Dwight Eisenhower (future President) ran the operation
- 23,000 airborne British and American soldiers, in a nighttime daring maneuver, were dropped behind enemy lines

- **The coast of France where the Allies landed and attacked (150,000 troops)**
- Thousands of Allied deaths, but a half a million men came ashore in one week

Normandy





# Omaha Beach

- Code name for one of the landing sites
- Fierce fighting led to 2,000 Allied casualties



# Liberated Europe

- American, British, French and Canadian **forces free Paris, Belgium, and Holland from German control**



# Battle of the Bulge

- Fierce counterattack by the Germans in Belgium
- Largest battle of the war – over 600,000 G.I.s
- 80,000 killed or wounded

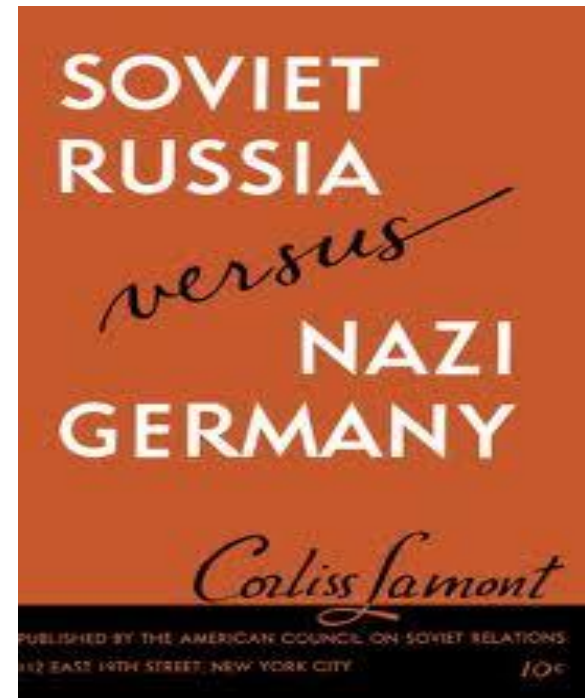


- **Turning point in the war because most Nazi leaders realized the war was lost after this**
- Allies pushed into German homeland after this
- Led by the war's finest general, George S. Patton



# Germany vs. Soviet Union

- **Fighting from 1941-1945 was horrific**
- 3 million German soldiers
- 27 million Soviet soldiers and civilians killed



# Final Outcome

- **Soviets captured the German capital of Berlin**
- Even though it had already been bombed out by the Allied planes, it was **a matter of pride**



# Fate of Hitler & Germany?

- On May 1, 1945 **Hitler commits suicide** rather than surrender
- May 8<sup>th</sup> **Germany surrenders** despite Hitler's command to fight to the death



# V-E Day

- **Victory in Europe Day** when soldiers and civilians celebrated the end of the war in Europe
- **War wasn't over yet – still had to defeat Japan**





# Yalta Conference

- **Meeting between FDR, Churchill and Stalin** in city in Soviet Union near the Black Sea
- Discussed the **plan for the post-war world**



# What was decided?

- **Split Germany into 4 zones controlled by each of the Allies**
- Soviets were supposed to allow free elections in the zone they controlled (since they were totalitarian) – it didn't happen
- **Soviets end up dominating Eastern Europe**



# 4 Freedoms Poster

- Divide a piece of paper into 4 Squares
- In each square create a drawing that depicts one of the 4 Freedoms that FDR said we were fighting for in World War II
- **Freedom of speech** and expression
- **Freedom to worship** God in their own way
- **Freedom from want** or need
- **Freedom from fear**