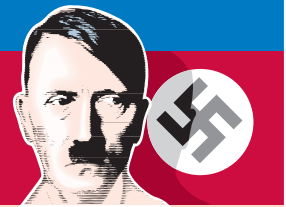


War in Europe








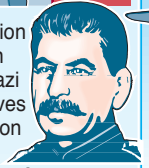

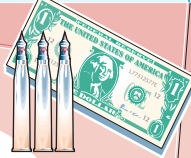


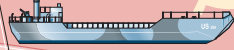










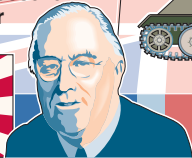


The build up to war 1933: Nazis start sending Jews, gypsies and political opponents to concentration camps
 1936: Germany reoccupies demilitarised Rhineland



1938: Anschluss – Hitler seizes Austria. Appeasing the Nazis, Britain and France cede the Czech Sudetenland. British PM Neville Chamberlain promises 'peace in our time'



| 1939 | | 1940 | | 1941 | | 1942 | | 1943 | | The road to Berlin | | | |
|--|--|--|--|---|--|---|--|---|--|--|--|--|--|
| Hitler and Mussolini form Fascist Axis  | | Nazis invade Norway and Denmark Churchill heads UK coalition government Blitzkrieg – France and Low Countries invaded  | | The Desert War Germans reinforce Italian troops after defeats in North Africa. Rommel forces Eighth Army to retreat. Yugoslavia and Greece fall  | | The Final Solution – industrialised mass murder begins in Auschwitz and other death camps  | | Germans on the retreat in Russia Allied air raids target German cities Allies triumph in North Africa U-Boats withdrawn from Atlantic 100,000 Allied troops invade Sicily Mussolini arrested in coup  | | 1944 Red Army enters Poland and Romania Allies capture Rome D-Day 155,000 Allied troops landed in Operation Overlord Despite massive resistance the Allies advance out of Normandy  | | 1945 Churchill, Roosevelt and Stalin shape post-war Europe at Yalta Conference Nazis destroy evidence of war crimes as Red Army liberates Auschwitz Bombing of Dresden – 50,000 killed 'Dambusters' hit heart of Germany U.S. Army crosses Rhine Roosevelt dies – Harry Truman becomes President  | |
| Non-aggression pact between Stalin and Nazi Germany paves way for division of Poland Germany invades Poland  | | British withdraw from Dunkirk France surrenders  | | U.S. Congress loans over \$7bn for military support for Britain  | | Montgomery defeats Rommel at El Alamein Escalation of the Battle of the Atlantic  | | Savage suppression of Jewish revolt in Warsaw Ghetto  | | Second front opened as U.S. troops land in southern France  | | Allies capture the Ruhr U.S. and Soviet troops meet at River Elbe Mussolini executed Berlin falls to Red Army Hitler commits suicide May 7: Germany signs unconditional surrender May 8: VE-Day  | |
| Britain and France declare war on Germany Soviet Union attacks Poland and Finland  | | De Gaulle leads Free French in UK exile  | | Germany invades Russia – lengthy sieges of Moscow and Leningrad  | | The turning point Siege of Stalingrad turns into German defeat in second winter of Russian campaign  | | Uprisings in occupied Norway and Denmark Germans captured in Russia stand trial for war crimes  | | V1 flying bombs target London  | | Paris and Brussels liberated. Attempt by German officers to assassinate Hitler fails Allies reach Germany Setbacks at Arnhem and Battle of the Bulge  | |
| The Battle of Britain Britain stands alone as Hitler prepares to invade. RAF pilots repel over 1,000 Nazi aircraft in Britain's 'finest hour'. Invasion abandoned. Japan joins Axis powers  | | Japan destroys U.S. fleet at Pearl Harbour President Roosevelt declares war on Axis  | |  | | | | | | | | | |