

Rachel Clift and Ryen Allen

Mr. Parmenter

World History

20 April 2017

World War II Timeline

Introduction

World War II, also the largest war in history with 40,000,000-50,000,000 recorded deaths, began on September 1, 1939 and ended on September 2, 1945. After a little over two years of fighting, the United States entered the war on December 7, 1941. There were two main sides which fought in the horrendous war; the Allied powers, and the Axis powers.

The Allied powers consisted of France, Great Britain, the United States, the Soviet Union, and China. The Axis powers consisted of Germany, Italy, and Japan. The early parts of the war in 1939 were very much about German dictator Adolf Hitler's plans to attack and conquer Poland, despite Poland having guarantees of French and British military support. On September 1, 1939 at 4:45 in the morning, Hitler's invasion of Poland began. Great Britain and France declared war on Germany on September 3. The war had officially begun.

Conclusion

The Allied powers eventually won the war, and World War II also resulted in the extension of the Soviet Union's power to nations of Eastern Europe. The United States ended the war with some of the first droppings of atomic bombs recorded in history. On August 6, 1945, and American B-29 bomber dropped the first stationed atomic bomb on Hiroshima in Japan, wiping out about ninety percent of the population there. Three days later, another B-29 was dropped on Nagasaki in Japan, killing about 40,000 people. These bombings forced Japan to surrender from the war.

By the end, Poland lost about twenty percent of its population, Yugoslavia and the Soviet Union lost around ten percent, and in East Asia, due to famine and pestilence, deaths are recorded in millions. Parts of Europe were heavily destructed, including Great Britain which was in a huge mess after the German aerial blitz of 1940-41. With many deaths and countless injuries and loss of homes, World War II, to this day, is still considered by many to be the biggest and bloodiest of all time.

- **18 SEPTEMBER 1935:** Japan invades Manchuria. This will play a big role in the end of the war, as the USSR invades Manchuria to stop Japan from still fighting.
- **1 SEPTEMBER 1939:** Germany invades Poland, officially starting WWII. Because Britain and France both had pacts with Poland, they declared war on Germany.
- **27 SEPTEMBER 1940:** Germany, Italy, and Japan sign the Tripartite Pact. The Pact provided for mutual assistance should any of the signatories suffer attack by any nation not already involved in the war.
- **7 DECEMBER 1941:** Due to the fact America stood in Japan's way of being the strongest military power, as well as the ban President Roosevelt placed on trading oils and metals to Japan causing their economy to falter, the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor. The Japanese wiped out 21 ships, 188 planes, and 2400 people.
- **6 JUNE 1944:** The D-Day invasion was officially called Operation Overlord and involved landing 21 American divisions and 26 Polish, British, and Canadian divisions on a 50-mile stretch of beaches in Normandy, France. This gave the Allies a foothold in Europe.
- **8 MAY 1945:** Victory in Europe Day represents the day Hitler's "thousand year reich" or the third reich ended, lasting only 12 years. The Germans surrendered in a French schoolhouse, however the war would not end for America and Japan another 4 months.
- **6 AUGUST 1945:** America bombed Japan as a last final effort to end the retaliation. As well as America bombing Hiroshima and Nagasaki, the USSR also declared war on Japan and invaded Manchuria. With this, the Japanese surrendered.

- **2 SEPTEMBER 1945:** Having agreed in principle to unconditional surrender on August 14, 1945, Japan formally surrenders, ending World War II.
- **29 SEPTEMBER 1938:** Germany, Italy, Great Britain, and France sign the Munich agreement which forces the Czechoslovak Republic to cede the Sudetenland, including the key Czechoslovak military defense positions, to Nazi Germany.
-
- **23 AUGUST 1939:** Nazi Germany and the Soviet Union sign a nonaggression agreement and a secret codicil dividing eastern Europe into spheres of influence.
-
- **21 JUNE 1940:** Italy enters the war and invaded southern France. They eventually take more area.
-
- **13 SEPTEMBER 1940:** The Italians invade British-controlled Egypt from Italian-controlled Libya. They already had invaded Ethiopia in 1935.
-
- **OCTOBER 1940:** After Italy annexed Albania, they used this to get more land and eventually invaded Greece. This was a dire mistake for the Italians as Germany had to save their troops.