

Victory Ends Long Rule by Military Might

Combined Strength of United Nations Drives Nazism To Defeat.

Victory for the Allies in Europe—the most anxiously awaited event in modern history—means the liberation of a continent which has been under the domination of military might ever since the German blitz rolled into Poland in the fall of 1939.

Starting with Hitler's bloodless conquests of trustful neighbors, the threat which has hung over the world has finally been dissipated by an overwhelming superiority of the Allies in men, materials, air power, sea power and the overwhelming desire of free peoples to rid the world of the tyranny which has "blacked out the lights of Europe."

The Allied victory and the restoration of Germany has once more restored freedom to Europe. Victory is sweet after the period of despotism which has prevailed but, as in 1918, the world must appreciate that victory is one of arms alone so far and must be followed by a peace that will ensure the world against anything like the rise of National Socialism again.

June Invasion Started It.

Today the Allies have beaten Germany to her knees something that was beyond the comprehension of most of the world little less than a year ago. The invasion of Europe started it in June, 1944, and the quick success in France and the drive to the heart of the Reich itself blasted the theory of a "European fortress" that Hitler said was impregnable.

Battle-hardened veterans of Britain who stopped Rommel in Egypt, the husky young Yanks in their superb equipment, Frenchmen fighting to win back their homeland, the bitter Poles who remembered how they tried to fight the Wehrmacht with nothing but rifles—all these are responsible for the downfall of what was supposed to be an "invincible" army.

And hammering away on the other side of Germany were the Russians, who took the heat the Germans could strike them with, and then came back to drive the hated Hun out of Russia and beat him back until there was no retreat and there finish off Germany as a military power.

The victory in Europe is won but what years of suffering that continent has seen since the day that Adolf Hitler first became chancellor of Germany in January, 1933.

Forming of Axis Was First Phase Of Long Struggle

Hitler made his first move in the long chain of events that was to lead to World War II in 1933, after he had secretly built up a German army and had rearmend the country in direct violation of the Versailles treaty.

In March, 1936, Hitler ordered the first of his goose-stepping legions into the Rhineland, cutting France off from her eastern allies and setting up a barrier that could not be circumvented by anything short of total war—which he knew France was not ready to declare.

Then in October, 1938, Hitler and Mussolini formed the Rome-Berlin pact, giving both fascist nations the agreement they needed to bully the world. Mussolini had already taken Ethiopia and had defied the British navy to try to enforce sanctions against him—the only threat which the democratic nations of the world were able to make.

In March, 1939, Hitler grabbed Austria and he now found himself with a perfect gateway to Czechoslovakia, where the only real threat in arms was to be found in the well-equipped Czech army.

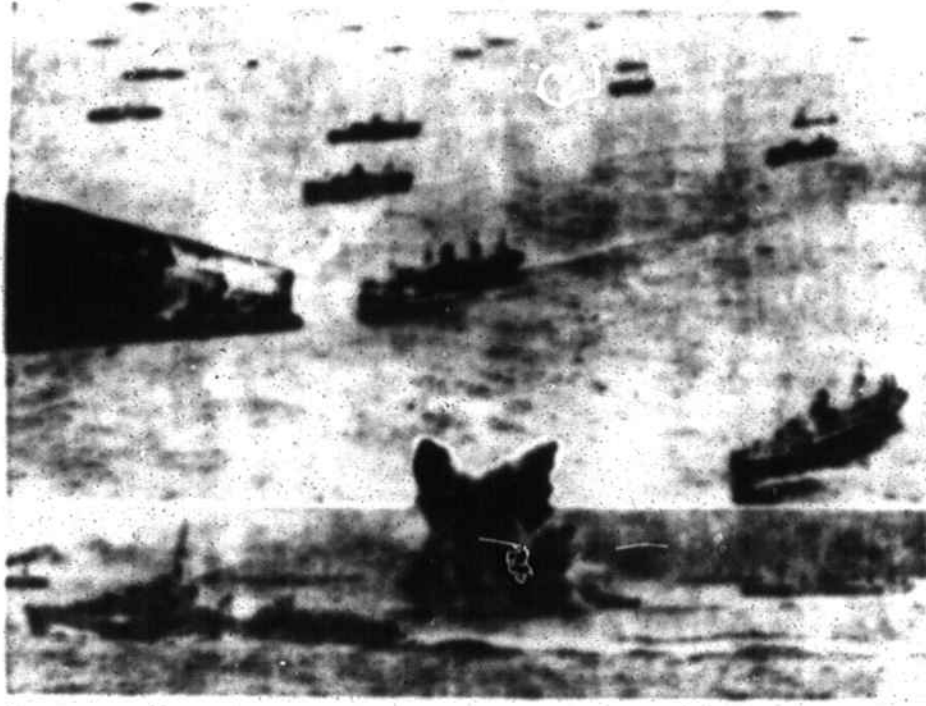
Munich Agreement.

But even that army found itself hemmed in on three sides and Hitler and Mussolini were ready to dictate the terms to Czechoslovakia and Daladier at Munich—where Great Britain and France agreed to the surrender of the Sudetenland and with it all of Czechoslovakia's industrial areas and armed power.

While all this had been going on in central Europe, Spain had been fighting a bitter civil war that was the testing ground for many of the German and Italian armies' plans for "blitzkrieg." The lightning war that was to sweep Europe, Spain found itself in the fascist camp, and the Allies found that the Mediterranean had suddenly become an Axis "lake" with the British fleet still bottled by Italy.

In the United States, a wordy civil war was being fought on the threat of being drawn into the madstream that was developing across the Atlantic. This country was not yet sure that it could stay out of war, but there was a decided sentiment that this time "the Yanks aren't coming" and a good percentage of the population believed that we should stay out of the fight.

Submarine Warfare Whipped



At the start of the war considerable damage was done by submarines as shown in the towering pillar of smoke which announced the end of one of the cargo ships. Use of convoys and strong air protection together with the use of secret weapons whipped the submarine menace after many fateful months. Then the full strength of U. S. productive power poured in a constant stream across the Atlantic to the preinvasion bases.

Operation Chief



Admiral Ernest Joseph King served as chief of naval operations. He had formerly served as commander of the Atlantic and of the U. S. Fleet.

Island Defender



The first role of General Douglas MacArthur was as defender of the Philippine Islands. His role as commander of troops in the Pacific operations soon resulted in a role of aggression.

Desert Commander



The successful campaign in Africa placed General Dwight D. Eisenhower as an outstanding Allied commander. He was early placed second in command to General MacArthur in the European invasion strategy.

Use X-Ray in Industry

Today million-volt X-rays are in widespread industrial use. Material examined with the equipment has included castings as much as eight inches thick. Among the faults revealed by the X-rays have been blow holes, tears, shrinkage cavities, inclusions, and cracks.

Cover Foods

A meat refrigerator it's best to cover all foods except those like melons which have their own cover of thick skin. Moisture and flavors from uncovered food escape and freeze on the cooling unit. As the frost gets thicker, the temperature goes up.

1941 Saw America Plunged Into War As Japan Struck

The year 1941 was a bleak one for the democratic nations of the world.

England impatiently asked the United States when we were coming in, while we went out of our way in the effort to stay out of the war and mind our own business.

In the spring of 1941, the Germans invaded Yugoslavia and drove the British out of Greece, after Mussolini's troops were run ragged by the poorly equipped Greeks.

Things had reached such a pass that Rudolf Hess, the "deputy fuhrer," flew to England and parachuted to safety with what is reliably reported to have been peace proposals to a waning England.

German paratroopers took the strategic island of Crete and it looked as though nothing would stop the all-out assault across the Aegean.

Hitler Turns on Russia.

But Hitler, backed in the west by England's submarines, decided to attack Russia.

On June 22, 1941, went into a previous declaration of war. Hitler sent his troops storming into Russia in the old familiar pattern of the blitz.

In the early days of that campaign in the east, everything followed the neat pattern drawn for it by the cold military scientists of the German general staff—the Prussians of ancient war lineage, and the ruthless Nazis who put into practice what they had learned in Spain, Poland, France, the Netherlands and Belgium.

Russia was supposed to fall in three weeks, or at the most in three months. It was generally supposed to be an awkward giant, but clumsy on its feet and unable to stand up against the rapid, heavy blows of the "invincible" and invulnerable German war machine.

Japan Strikes U. S.

While the Germans swept into Russia and closed in on the East, Japan was readying a sneak attack of her own.

On December 7, 1941, the Japs attacked the U. S. military and naval bases at Pearl Harbor and knocked us, with one foul blow, into the middle of the world war.

Thus 1941 drew to a close, with the Germans winning in the battle against Russia, and the confident Jap military machine moving steadily and remorselessly to its objective—the complete subjugation of the western Pacific and a Japanese domination of Asia.

The United States was in the war, but it was in a defensive role and was not supposed to be able to do anything offensive before everything would be over in Europe and we would be alone against Germany, Italy and Japan.

'Beginning of End' Came With Allied Victory in Africa

Hitler committed his second strategic blunder in 1942 when he failed to conquer Egypt and seize control of the Mediterranean.

The Axis knew the value of the Mediterranean and by keeping control of the western end through use of the Italian fleet and Tunisia, kept the British from using it as a supply line for Egypt and the Suez canal. But that was not enough. British convoys dared the Italian fleet and brought supplies to embattled Malta, bombed day and night like nothing was ever bombed before. But the supplies went through and Malta stood, giving the British a base.

Field Marshal Erwin Rommel, the German commander in North Africa, had made two attempts to end British resistance in Libya. The Axis forces had almost been successful in the first two attempts but had been checked and then driven back. Now, Rommel decided to try again.

Rommel's Final Attempt.

Rommel launched the third and final Axis offensive against Egypt in May, 1942. Nothing happened at first and then the British were ambushed and lost almost all its armor—a tragic blow at that stage. The British fell back to El Alamein, only 60 miles from Alexandria, with their backs to the wall.

Rommel tried in vain for the final breakthrough, but victory eluded him. The British aerial bombardment of German home industry and transportation, Hitler's failure to crush the Russians, and the steady growth of Allied air power in the eastern Mediterranean reduced the assistance that Rommel was able to get and kept him from getting all the supplies he needed.

The Axis was beaten in the Mediterranean when the British broke through in a counterattack at El Alamein and then drove the Afrika Korps west to the final defeat in the fall of '42 and the crushing Allied victories following the landing of American troops in North Africa on November 8, 1942.

Progress in Pacific.

In the Pacific, the U. S. fleet had won notable victories during that fateful year of 1942. We had beaten the Japs decisively in the Coral sea battle in May and had whipped them again in the battle of the Midway—whipped them so badly that the imperial Jap fleet was to retire to home ports and concentrate on the defense of the homeland.

Holding Stalingrad Was Turning Point

By September 7, 1942, the Germans and their Germanized Gopnik army had forced the Russians back 110 miles from their borders. The Japs by sweeping to the north had cut off the Russian supply lines. Here the Japs intended to make a final thrust. With equal strength the Russians decided to take the offensive. A major military engagement would be dictated by passing it. As the months dragged on, the city became a symbol and a point of honor on both sides. Hitler gave orders to capture Stalingrad at any cost. Stalin told his troops to die in place rather than yield an inch.

Slowly the Germans cleared the suburbs. Then the battle for the city itself opened. Attack and counterattack held the fighting to the outskirts day after day. Sometimes the Nazis would claim a small advance. Then the Russians would announce that they had repulsed the enemy. The slaughter was frightful, with neither side apparently caring what the cost in lives would finally be.

Street Fighting Begins.

Fighting in the streets started about the 17th, in the northwestern corner. Bitter hand-to-hand struggles held the Germans at the borders. Meanwhile bombing planes and artillery were leveling the buildings as the Nazis blasted at the stout defenders. All the civilian population had long since evacuated. There was an army in the city, and one without.

On November 9 the Russians launched an offensive south of Stalingrad and a smaller one north of the city. Gradually the prongs of these curved together, cutting the Nazi supply lines. Nevertheless, fighting of unprecedented ferocity continued within the city. Every weapon known was employed, from siege artillery to bayonets. Men struggled from building to building, month after month. The dead lay where they fell. There was little heed paid to wounded. It was savage beyond description.

Nazi Feet Pinch.

By the end of the year the isolated Nazis were beginning to feel the pinch. The generals in the field advised abandoning the siege, fearing a disaster. But Adolf Hitler, always mindful of prestige, sternly ordered that the city be taken. His "intuition" told him to tell his men to hold on, to continue fighting in bitter cold, without supplies, against an enemy who had no thought of yielding.

January, 1943, saw the collapse of the German besiegers. Many Germans were dead. The remainder became pinned up in a corner of the city, fighting merely for their lives. The Russians attacked relentlessly from all sides. The battle turned to a slaughter. At last the Germans realized the futility of their position and began surrendering, division by division. The last stubborn holdouts gave in on February 2. The Germans lost more than half a million men, killed, wounded or captured.

The holding of Stalingrad marks the turning point in the Russian war. During the summer and autumn of 1942, the Red army rolled the Nazis back nearly 600 miles. It was the beginning of the end for Germany.

Phone Calls Jump

Three-quarters of a billion more telephone conversations were handled in 1942 than in any previous year. The average number of conversations per day, 57,000,000, was a record high and an increase of 2,500,000 over 1941. Longer haul long distance calls jumped to 114,000,000 for the year, compared with 85,000,000 in 1941.

Air Raids Test British Resistance



The months of air raids upon London proved not only the ability of the English to resist but also that it was impossible to defeat the British commonwealth from the air. Large sections of the city were laid barren and thousands upon thousands were killed and injured, but a high order of resistance was maintained at all times.

The American Eagle Flies High



Germany Is Out

LET'S KEEP THE EAGLE—THE EMBLEM OF DEMOCRACY—SOARING UNTIL COMPLETE VICTORY.

Keep On Backing The Attack Until Japan Is Out

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