**WWII: Chapter 11 Section 4 and 5**

1. Allies on the Move
   1. The U.S., Britain, the Soviet Union, and 23 other Allied nations pledged to defeat the Axis Powers.
   2. The Allied leaders decided to try to defeat Hitler before going to Japan.
      1. The Germans controlled most of Europe and much of North Africa.
      2. They had to be stopped before they succeeded in controlling the Soviet Union.
      3. The Allies decided to attack the Axis forces in North Africa first.
         1. The British prevented the Axis Powers from capturing the Suez Canal.
            1. This was an important victory because the Suez Canal connects Europe and Asia via a sea route.
         2. American general Eisenhower led American, British, and Canadian troops into Algeria and Morocco.
            1. The Americans were defeated in Tunisia.
         3. American general Paton’s forces and British air and naval forces finally drove the Germans out of North Africa in May 1943.
      4. The Allied nations invaded Italy in September 1943.
         1. Sicily fell first then the Allies move on to the mainland.
         2. The people of Italy eventually overthrew Mussolini and surrendered to the Allies.
         3. The Allies moved to capture Rome, but they were met with resistance from German troops.
            1. German forces held off Allied forces at Anzio, a seaport near Rome, for four months.
            2. In June 1944 the Allied forces finally broke through German lines and freed Rome.
      5. The British and American forces mounted a powerful bombing assault against Germany in the summer of 1942.
         1. German factories and cities were bombed by hundreds of American bombers day after day.
         2. Thousands of German civilians were killed and cities were destroyed.
2. Eastern Front
   1. For months Germany had focused most of it’s energy on the Soviet Union.
   2. Leningrad, Moscow, and Stalingrad were Germany’s main targets.
      1. Leningrad
         1. Germany set up a military blockade around the city and continued to attack it for 900 days.
         2. The people of the town were forced to eat horses, cats, and dogs after their food supplies ran out.
         3. Thousands died
         4. The Germans could not take the city and the siege ended in 1944.
      2. Moscow
         1. The German’s tried to capture the Soviet capital city of Moscow in 1941.
         2. Heavy losses and bad weather slowed their advance, but the Germans reached the outskirts of Moscow
         3. The Soviets staged a counterattack and forced a German retreat.
      3. Stalingrad
         1. Germany attacked Stalingrad in the spring of 1942
         2. Stalingrad was a key city because it led to the oil-rich lands to the south.
         3. The Germans had to fight street to street and house by house.
         4. No sooner had the Germans won Stalingrad than Soviet forces surrounded the city.
            1. The Soviets cut off the German supply lines.
            2. Cold and starving, the German troops fought on until February 1943 when the tattered remains of their army finally surrendered.
         5. The German defeat at Stalingrad was a major turning point in the war.
3. Invasion of France
   1. As the Soviets worked their way toward Germany from the east, the Allies made plans to invade Nazi controlled France.
   2. June 6, 1944 “D-Day”
      1. General Eisenhower, the commander of Allied forces in Europe, directed an invasion in Normandy, France.
         1. The invasion was known as Operation Overlord.
         2. 5 separate beaches were attacked
            1. Utah Beach : Americans
            2. Omaha Beach: Americans
            3. Gold Beach: British
            4. Sword Beach: British
            5. Juno Beach: Canadians
      2. The troops arrived on ships, waded to shore, and were met with German fire and land mines.
         1. Many soldiers were killed as they tried to run for higher ground.
         2. A million Allied forces landed at Normandy within a 3 week period.
         3. The Allies unloaded more than 560,000 tons of supplies and 170,000 vehicles.
      3. All 5 beaches were taken from the Germans and this gave the Allies a foothold on the west coast of Europe.
   3. Paris
      1. From Normandy, the Allies traveled quickly on to Paris.
      2. On August 25 Paris was freed from the Germans.
      3. As American and French troops marched through Paris they were met by joyful crowds.
4. Victory in Europe
   1. By late 1944, Germany had basically been pushed back to it’s original borders.
      1. The Soviet Union pushed them back from the east.
      2. American and British troops pushed them back from the west and south.
   2. The Battle of the Bulge
      1. In December 1944, the Germans made on last effort to attack the Allies.
         1. German’s surprised Allied forces by attacking Belgium.
         2. The Battle of the Bulge lasted for several weeks and caused more than 75,000 casualties.
         3. The Allies eventually were able to push the German’s back into Germany.
      2. This was the last major German offensive of the war.
   3. Battle for Berlin
      1. The Soviets surrounded the German capital of Berlin in April of 1945.
      2. Knowing there was no way to win the war, Hitler committed suicide in his underground bunker.
      3. On May 7, 1945, the Germans surrendered unconditionally.
      4. On May 8, 1945, the Allied forces declared V-E Day for “Victory in Europe”
5. The U.S. Mourns
   1. FDR died suddenly before the Allied forces ended the war in Europe.
      1. FDR led the U.S. for 12 years as president.
      2. Harry S. Truman became president.
6. Holocaust
   1. Hitler and the Nazi leaders had attempted genocide to rid the world of Jews.
      1. Thousands of Jews were killed and buried in mass graves.
      2. Millions were sent to concentration camps, where they lived under inhumane conditions
         1. Thousands died of illness and starvation.
         2. Nazis killed Jews in gas chambers and burned their bodies in ovens.
         3. Approximately 6 million Jews were killed by the Nazis during the Holocaust.
         4. Besides Jews, millions of Soviet prisoners, Poles, Gypsies, and people with handicaps were killed at concentration camps.
7. The Pacific Front
   1. Not only was the U.S. military base at Pearl Harbor attacked on December 7, 1941, but so was Wake Island, Guam Island, and the Philippines Islands
      1. In the Philippines, Japanese forces captured the capital city of Manila and fiercely attacked American and Filipino troops
         1. The American and Filipino troops were forced to surrender after supplies ran low.
         2. The sick and starving prisoners of war were forced to walk 60 miles to prison camps by the Japanese
            1. The walk became known as the Bataan Death March.
            2. More than 20,000 prisoners died along the way.
            3. The Japanese shot or stabbed those who were too weak to continue the march.
   2. Battle of the Coral Sea
      1. Americans prevented Japan from attacking Australia.
   3. Battle of Midway
      1. This was the first major loss for Japan
      2. Americans destroyed 4 Japanese aircraft carriers and hundreds of airplanes in the battle.
   4. Island Hopping
      1. A strategy used by General MacArthur and Admiral Chester Nimitz, commanders of the Allied forces in the Pacific.
      2. The idea was to capture strategic islands that could be used as bases from which they moved to others closer to the Philippines and Japan.
   5. Guadalcanal
      1. Heavy fighting occurred on this Solomon Island from August 1942 until February 1943.
      2. In the end, Americans finally seized control of this strategic island from the Japanese.
   6. Guam
      1. Guam was seized fro the Japanese in June of 1944.
      2. It was an important base from where bomb strikes against Japan were launched.
   7. Battle of Leyte Gulf
      1. Leyte Gulf is located in the Philippines
      2. This was the largest naval battle in the history of the U.S.
         1. The battle involved 282 ships.
      3. Most of the Japanese fleet was destroyed by the American ships.
   8. Iwo Jima and Okinawa
      1. These islands were captured in March and June of 1945 after fierce fighting.
      2. Thousands of Americans were killed, and many thousands more were wounded.
      3. The Americans had destroyed most of Japan’s air force and navy by the end of these battles.
   9. Japan and Tokyo
      1. The Americans bombed Tokyo and other Japanese cities.
         1. Thousands of Japanese civilians died and their economy was ruined.
      2. Japan used kamikaze pilots to crash planes loaded with explosives into American ships, sinking several.
         1. The kamikaze pilots were well aware of their missions.
8. The Atomic Bomb
   1. Albert Einstein, a German-born physicist, informed FDR of the existence of technology that could create a powerful bomb made from the power of atoms.
      1. FDR created a top secret mission to build an atomic bomb first before the Nazis, who also were working on the same project.
         1. It was called the Manhattan Project
         2. The atom bomb was tested in the desert in New Mexico in July 1945.
   2. The Japanese refused to surrender even though it had little chance of winning.
      1. The Allied nations warned Japan in the Potsdam Declaration that, if they did not surrender, they would be completely destroyed.
      2. When the Japanese refused to surrender, President Truman approved the use of the atomic bomb.
         1. The atomic bomb was dropped on Hiroshima, Japan, on August 6, 1945.
            1. It killed 70,000 people
         2. Three days after the first, another atomic bomb was dropped on Nagasaki, Japan.
            1. It killed more than 40,000 people
   3. The atomic bombs were extremely powerful and cities were completely destroyed.
      1. Many more people died years later from radiation given off by the bombs.
9. The War Ends
   1. V-J Day
      1. Japan surrendered after the bombings.
      2. April 15, 1945, was declared V-J Day for “Victory in Japan”
      3. WWII officially ended when Japan signed the formal surrender on September 2, 1945.
         1. It took place on board the U.S.S. *Missouri*.
   2. Japanese and Nazi leaders were tried for war crimes and crimes against humanity.
      1. Allied authorities led the trials
      2. The trials took place in Nuremberg, Germany and Tokyo, Japan
   3. Results of the war
      1. WWII was the most destructive was in history.
         1. More than 40 million people who died during the war were civilians.
            1. Due to bombing, starvation, disease, torture, and murder.
         2. About 322,000 Americans died and 800,000 were injured.
         3. More than 20 million people from the Soviet Union died.
         4. Survivors had to rebuild their countries and lives after the war.

