














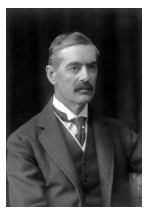





# Invasion & Warfare

## Timeline

<p><b>1940 - 1941</b> Germany invaded France, the Netherlands, Belgium, Norway and other countries</p> 	<p><b>27<sup>th</sup> May 1940</b> 340,000 British and French troops were evacuated from Dunkirk in France, unable to hold out against the advancing German forces.</p> 
<p><b>10<sup>th</sup> June 1940</b> Italy declared war on France and Britain.</p> 	
<p><b>20<sup>th</sup> September 1940</b> Germany, Italy and Japan signed an agreement called the Tripartite Pact, where they agreed to join forces.</p> 	<p><b>7<sup>th</sup> September 1940</b> The London Blitz began. Other British cities including Plymouth, Cardiff, Liverpool and Coventry were badly bombed during the war, with huge loss of life.</p> 
<p><b>7<sup>th</sup> December 1941</b> The Japanese bombed Pearl Harbour in Hawaii, USA. The following day, the USA joined the war on the side of the Allies.</p> 	
<p><b>15<sup>th</sup> February 1942</b> Japan invaded Singapore.</p> 	
<p><b>8<sup>th</sup> November 1942</b> The Allies seized back control of North Africa</p>	
<p><b>6<sup>th</sup> June 1944</b> Allied troops landed in northern France and began seizing control of more of Europe.</p>	
<p><b>January 1945</b> Russian allied troops continued to fight from the east. By January 1945, they had control of much of Poland and Hungary. The Allies continued to defeat Axis forces and it was clear that an allied victory was only a matter of time</p> 	<p><b>30<sup>th</sup> April 1945</b> Hitler committed suicide in his underground bunker in Berlin</p> 
<p><b>7<sup>th</sup> May 1945</b> Germany surrendered to the Allies.</p> 	<p><b>8<sup>th</sup> May 1945</b> VE Day (Victory in Europe Day).</p>
<p><b>6<sup>th</sup> August 1945</b> The USA drop atomic bombs on the Japanese cities Hiroshima and Nagasaki</p> 	<p><b>15<sup>th</sup> August 1945</b> VJ Day (Victory over Japan Day). Japan announced they were going to surrender although their surrender wasn't official until the 2nd of September 1945.</p> 

## Significant individuals

Neville Chamberlain (Prime Minister of Britain 1937-1940)	Winston Churchill (Prime Minister of Britain 1940-1945 & 1951-1955)	Adolf Hitler (Chancellor & Fuhrer of Germany 1933-1945)	Josef Stalin (Dictator of Soviet Union Russia 1922-1953)
			
<p><b>Other world leaders:</b> Franklin D. Roosevelt (President USA), Charles de Gaulle (French General from 1940), Benito Mussolini (Prime Minister Italy), Hideki Tojo (Prime Minister of Japan)</p>			

## Useful Vocabulary

- invasion:** an instance of invading a country or region with an armed force
- allies:** a state or country which formally cooperates with another for military purposes
- evacuation:** the removal of a person to another place, usually for safety
- blitzkrieg:** an intense military campaign intended to bring about a swift victory (*from German: lightning war*)
- D Day:** also known as the Normandy landings. The largest seaborne invasion in history, carried out by allied forces to begin the liberation of France from German occupation
- Dunkirk:** the place in France from which many British and allied troops were evacuated in May & June 1940
- Holocaust:** the genocide of European Jews by the Nazis from 1933-1945
- Battle of Britain:** a battle fought July-October 1940, in which the RAF and the Fleet Air Arm of the Royal Navy defeated the Luftwaffe
- propaganda:** misleading information publicised to promote a particular political point of view
- RAF:** Royal Air Force, British force
- Luftwaffe:** Nazi Air Force ('air weapon')

## The Spanish Armada

### What was the Spanish Armada?

The Spanish Armada was one part of a planned invasion of England by King Philip II of Spain. It was a fleet of roughly 150 ships and 18,000 men.

### Key facts

The Spanish Armada was formed in 1588. At this time, Spain was a very powerful nation and was constantly at odds with Britain. This was often because of religious reasons. Spain was a Catholic country, whereas England remained firmly Protestant.

In addition, King Phillip II of Spain was furious at the beheading of Mary Queen of Scots in 1587 and formed a plan to attack Britain. He would oversee the formation of an Armada which would sail to the Netherlands, collect an army and from there invade Britain.

### Why did the Spanish Armada fail?

The Spanish fleet had already been weakened by Drake's attack in Cádiz in 1587.

It also had to turn back on its first voyage from Lisbon because of bad weather.

The Spanish were foiled by Drake's use of the strategy of fire ships, where old boats were set alight and directed into the Spanish ships. The fire boats cut through the Spanish crescent formation which resulted in further heavy losses.

Although the British had fewer boats, they carried more ammunition and were easier to manoeuvre in the heavy seas.

Finally, the terrible British weather of storms and high winds meant many of the remaining Spanish ships were sunk in British waters.