# World War 2

| Date | Key Events |
|---|---|
| 1st September 1939 | Germany invades Poland |
| 3rd September 1939 | Britain and France declare war on Germany (start of WW2) |
| January 1940 | Rationing introduced across the UK |
| May to Jun 1940 | Dunkirk evacuated and France surrenders to Germany<br>Germany uses blitzkrieg to take over much of Western Europe |
| July 1940 | Germany launches air attacks on Great Britain (The Battle of Britain and the Blitz begins)<br>Germany, Italy and Japan signed the Tripartite Pact creating the axis alliance |
| 7th December 1941 | The Japanese attack the US navy in Pearl Harbour. The next day, the USA enters the war fighting the allies |
| 6th June 1944 | D-day and the Normandy invasion. Allied forces invade France and push back the Germans |
| 30th April 1945 | Adolf Hitler commits suicide |
| 7th May 1945 | Germany surrenders and victory in Europe is declared the next day |
| August 1945 | Atomic bombs dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki, Japan by the US killing approximately 226,000 people |
| 2nd September 1945 | Japan surrenders signalling the end of WW2 |
| July 1954 | Rationing ends in the UK |

Swastika (symbol of Nazis)

Enigma Machine

Remains of a house after a bombing raid during the Blitz

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| Leaders | |
|---|---|
| Adolf Hitler | Leader of the Nazi Party and Chancellor of Germany, 1933 – 1945 (also referred to as the Führer meaning leader) |
| Winston Churchill | UK Prime Minister, 1940 – 1945 (and again from 1951 – 1955) |
| Neville Chamberlain | UK Prime Minister, 1937 – 1940 (infamous for failed attempts to satisfy Hitler's demands prior to the war) |
| Franklin D. Roosevelt | US President, 1933 – 1945 (took the US into the war following the Pearl Harbour attacks) |
| Harry S. Truman | US President, 1945 – 1953 (responsible for the decision to drop Atomic bombs on Japan) |
| Joseph Stalin | General Secretary of the Communist Party and Leader of the USSR, 1929 - 1953 |
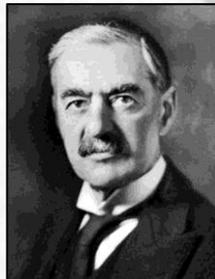
## Key Vocabulary

| Allies | Evacuee | Black out | Rationing |
|---|---|---|---|
| Trenches | Axis | Nazi | Blitz |
| Fascism | Blitzkrieg | Luftwaffe | Enigma |
| | Air raid shelter | Holocaust | |