

World War II (1939 - 1945)



Journal Activity



Watch the following video short. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l14WDZCnz-w>

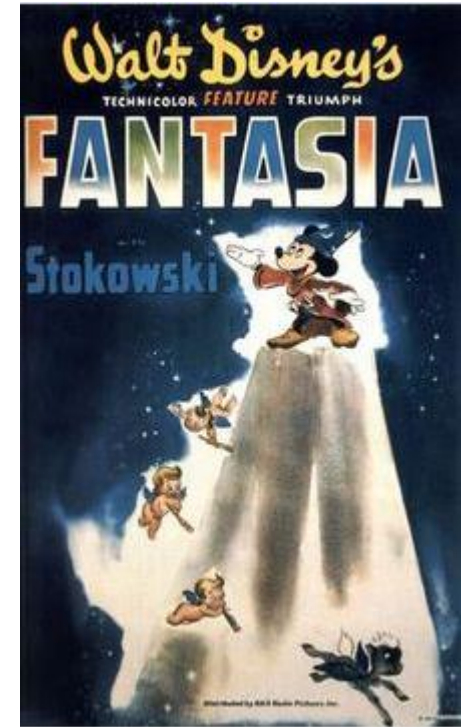
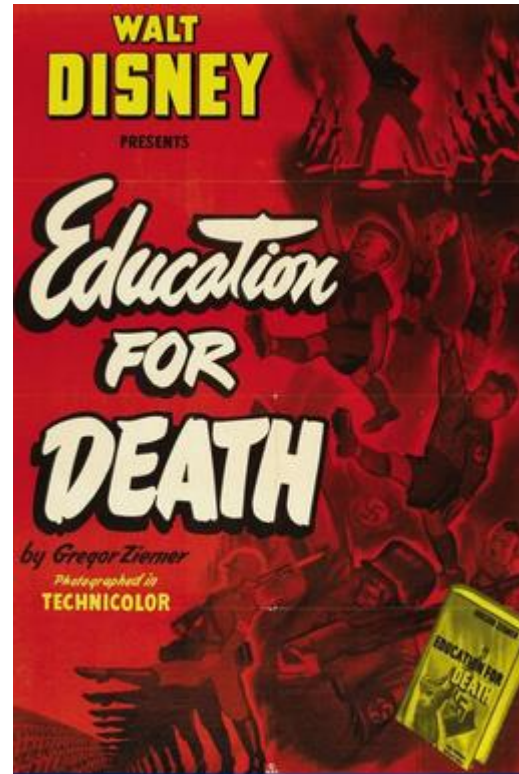
- What makes a Nazi? How?
- How are the Nazis portrayed in the short?
- How are the German people portrayed in the short (before becoming Nazis)?
- What have we covered in the class that is also shown in the short?

Education for Death (1943)

Disney propaganda film

- *Fantasia* went over budget and Disney Studios was close to bankruptcy

Disney received government contracts to produce propaganda films, which saved Disney



Appeasement

European powers adopted a policy of **appeasement** towards Axis expansionism

- Czechs were not invited to Munich Conference

Hitler demands return of German territory from Poland

- Britain and France agreed to protect Polish independence
- Hitler and Stalin signs nonaggression pact in August 1939
- Poland refuses to return former German territory



War in Europe Begins

Hitler invades Poland on September 1, 1939

- Poland's refusal for return of German lands
- Blitzkrieg strategy used
- Joint invasion allowed Poland to be defeated

Poland defeated in a month; split between Soviet Union and Nazi Germany

- Great Britain and France declare war on Nazi Germany on September 3, 1939

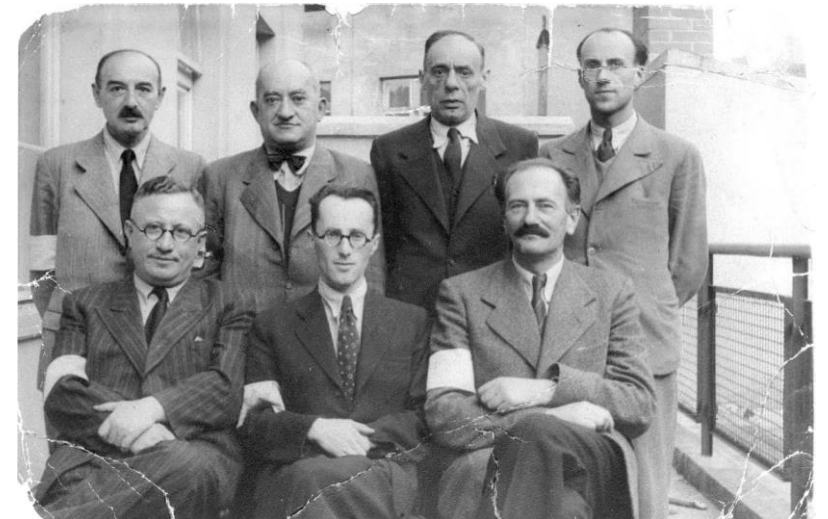
World War II in Europe begins



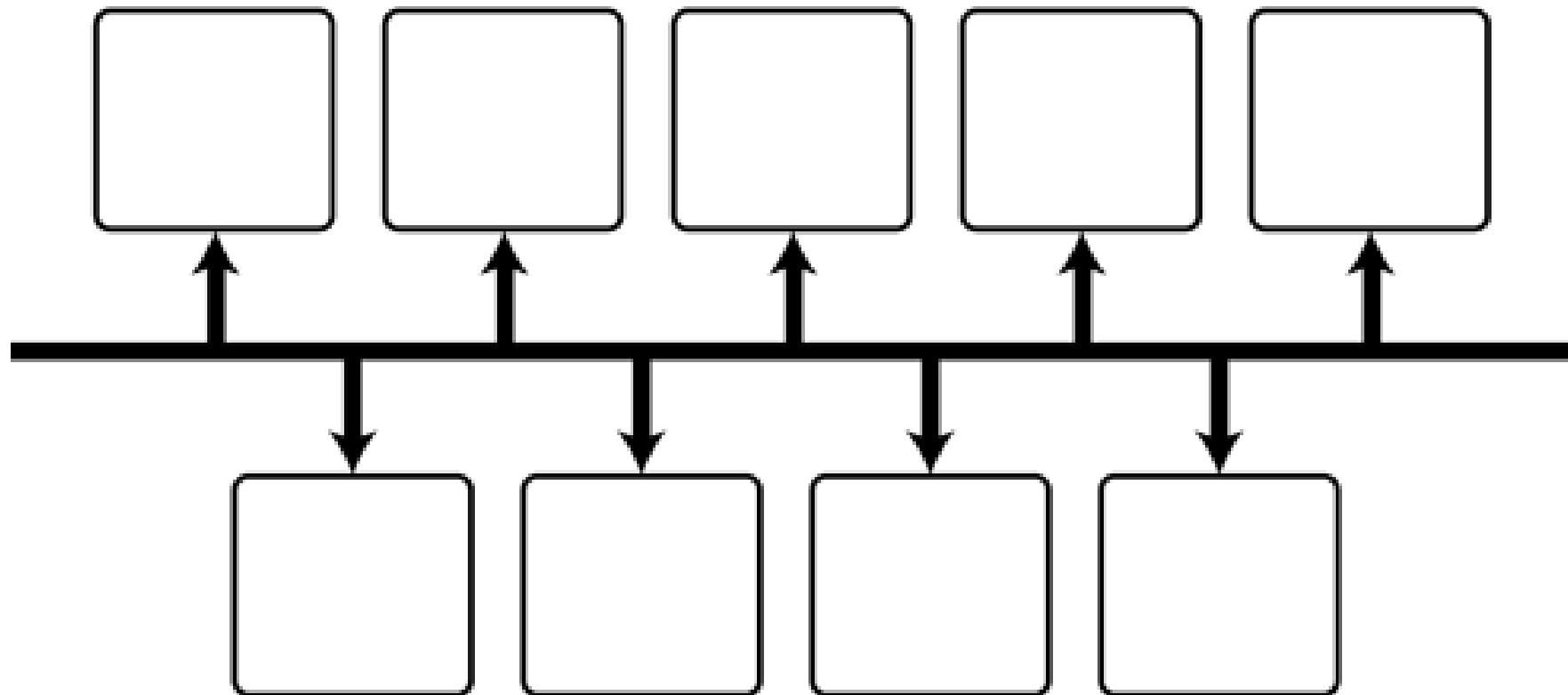
Judenrat

Jewish administrative organization set up in Nazi-occupied Europe

- Intermediary between Nazis and Jews
 - Formed the elite of Jewish ghetto communities
- Worked with Nazis to report Jewish population, clear residences, turn them over for forced labor
 - Refusal to comply resulted in execution
- Jewish Ghetto Police
- Some resisted; others cooperated with Nazis



In your notes or a separate sheet of paper, create a timeline chart similar to the one below



March 1938
Nazi Germany annexes
Austria

March 1939
Nazi Germany annexes the
rest of Czechoslovakia

September 1939
Hitler invades Poland
France and Great Britain
declare war

September 1938
Munich Conference
Nazi Germany receives
Sudetenland from
Czechoslovakia

August 1939
Nazi Germany and
Soviet Union sign
nonaggression pact

Early Stages

Soviet Union continues to expand and annexes Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, and Finland by June 1940

Great Britain and France mobilize armies, seemingly doing nothing for about 8 months on the Western Front - **Phoney War**

- Germany invades Norway and Denmark in April 1940
 - Norway fell after about 2 months
 - Denmark fell within 6 hours





Invasion of France

Nazi Germany invades France on May 10, 1940; also Belgium, Luxembourg, the Netherlands

After WWI, France built the **Maginot Line** along the German-Belgian-French border

- An extensive line of defense, impervious to most attacks
- Underground railways, state-of-the-art living conditions, air conditioning

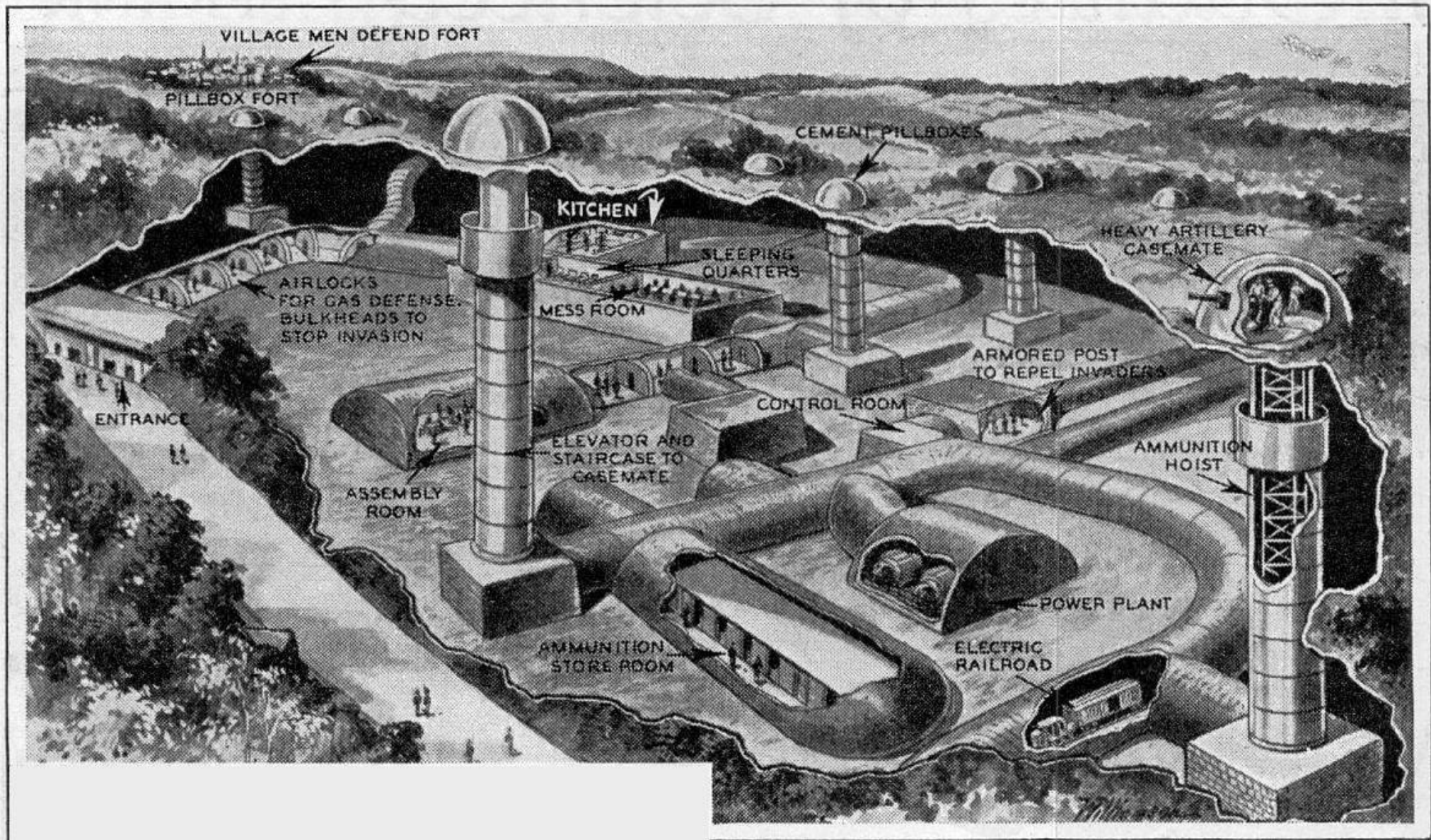
Truly a work of genius!

Germany invades France through Belgium, going around the Maginot Line

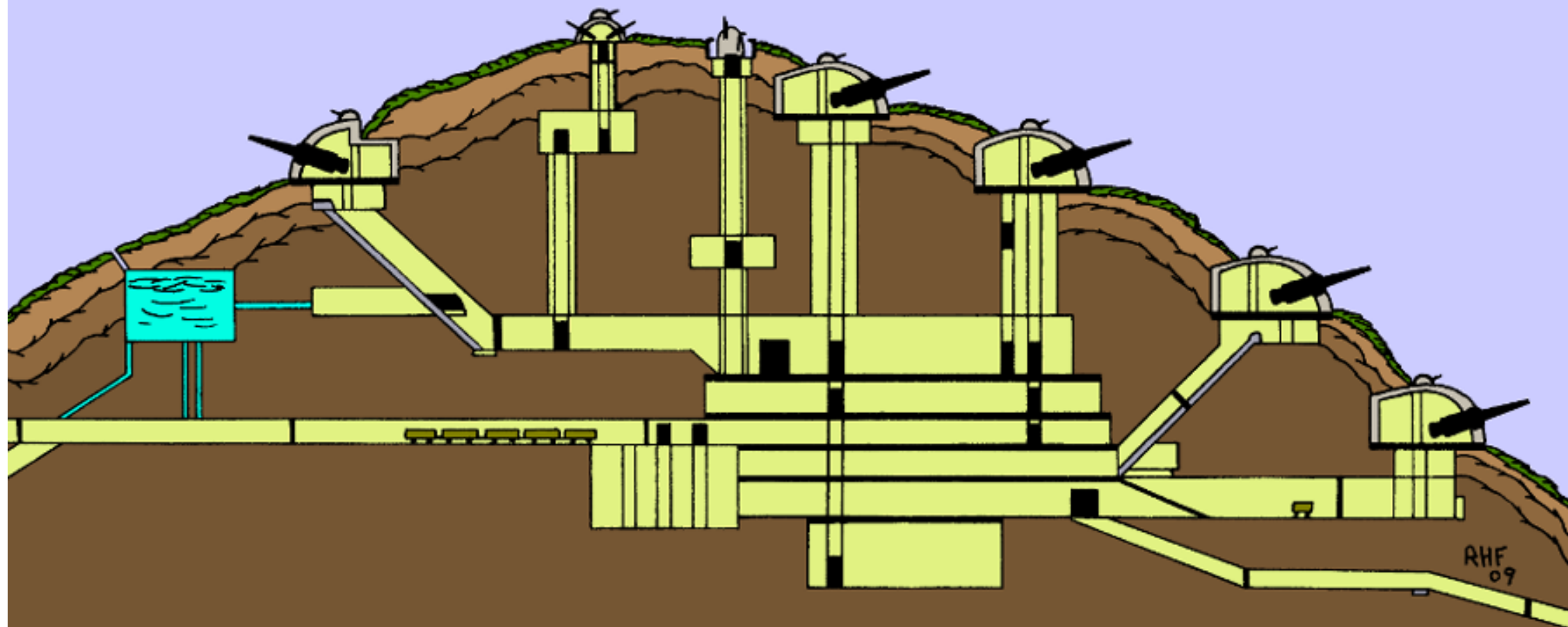
- France falls in about one month



World's Greatest Underground Fortifications Guard France



Maginot Line Fortification Cross-Section





**HEIGHT OF NAZI POWER
DURING WORLD WAR II
1940-1941**





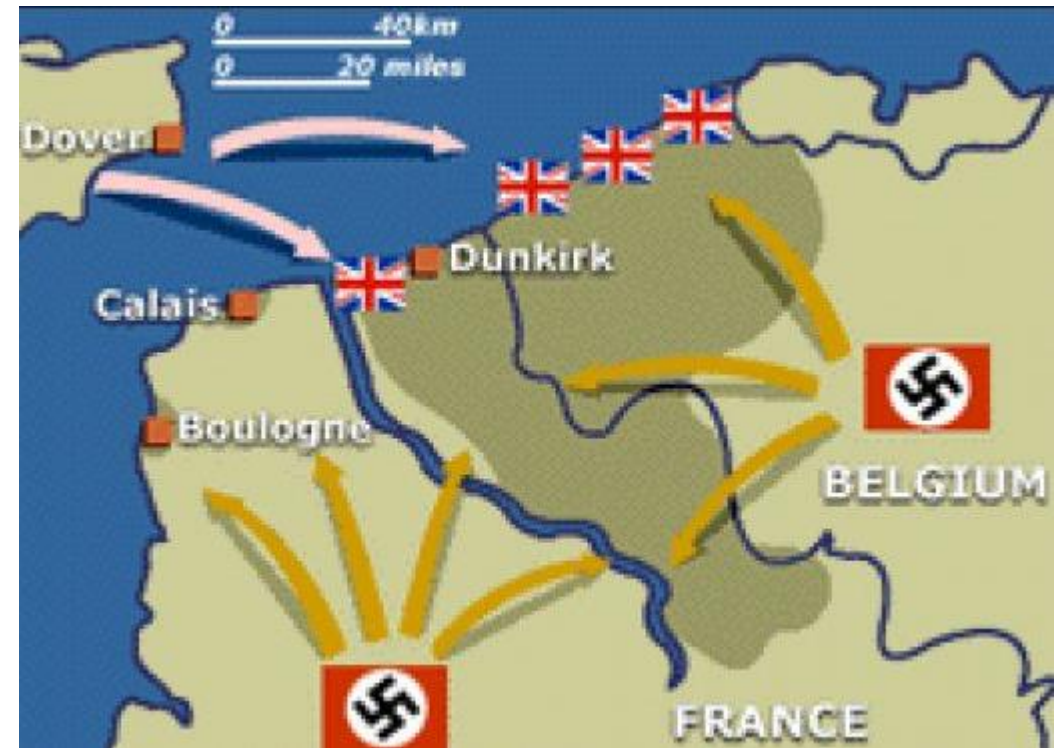
- Belgium falls after 18 days
- Luxembourg falls after 1 day
- The Netherlands falls after 4 days

Miracle of Dunkirk

Rapid German advance trapped about 400,000 Allies at the beaches of Dunkirk in May 1940 during invasion of France

Great Britain mustered a huge fleet of 850 ships and evacuated 338,000 soldiers in about a week by June 1940

- Italy takes advantage, declares war, and invades southern France in June 1940
- Vichy France, Nazi puppet government is established



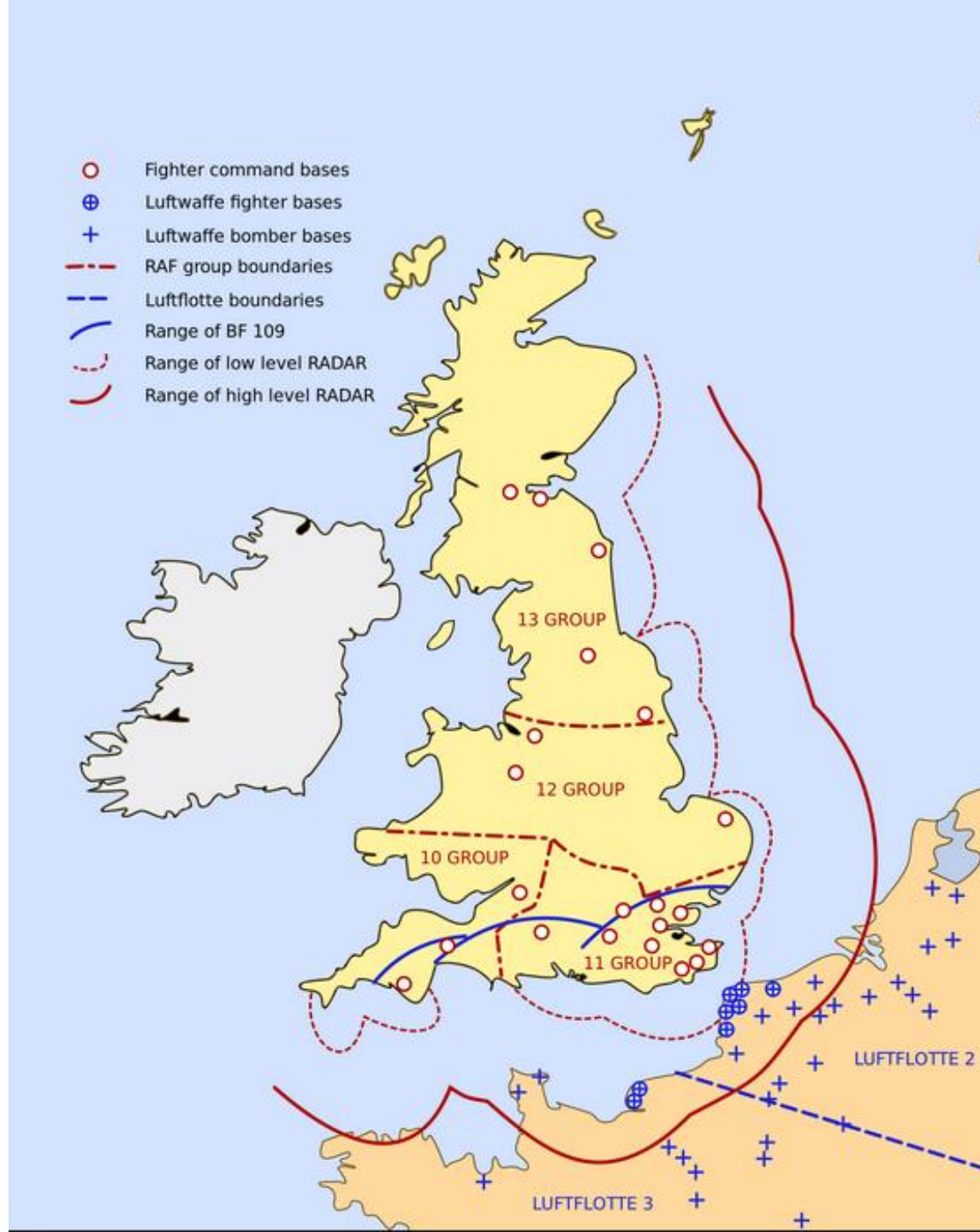
Battle of Britain (Operation Sea Lion)

In summer of 1940, German Luftwaffe (air force) begins bombing Great Britain

- First airfields and factories, then cities, such as London
- First German defeat
- Proved air superiority as a key to victory

Radar & cracking Enigma helped defend Great Britain from German invasion







Enigma Machine



**Alan Turing
Mathematician
/Code Breaker**

Depicted in 2014 film, The Imitation Game, starring Benedict Cumberbatch

Axis Expansion into North Africa and Balkans

Italy, not wanting to fall behind, invades North Africa in September 1940

- Great Britain fights back and defeats Italy
- Hitler sends Erwin Rommel, the Desert Fox, to assist Italy

Hitler invades the Balkans in 1940/1941

- Gains foothold to invade the Soviet Union



World War II in Europe 1939–1941





Operation Barbarossa

On June 22, 1941, Nazi Germany invades the Soviet Union, breaking the nonaggression pact

- By October, the German military is closing onto Moscow, the capital
- Soviet Union followed similar tactics when Napoleon invaded back in the 1800s





April 1940

**Nazi Germany invades
Denmark & Norway**

June 1940

**Italy joins the Nazis
France falls**

September 1940

**Italy invades North Africa
Great Britain resists**

May 1940

**Nazi Germany invades
France, Belgium,
Luxembourg, & The
Netherlands**

Summer 1940

**Nazi Germany begins
bombing Great Britain
Battle of Britain**

June 1941

**Operation Barbarossa
Nazi Germany invades the
Soviet Union**

Axis vs. Allies

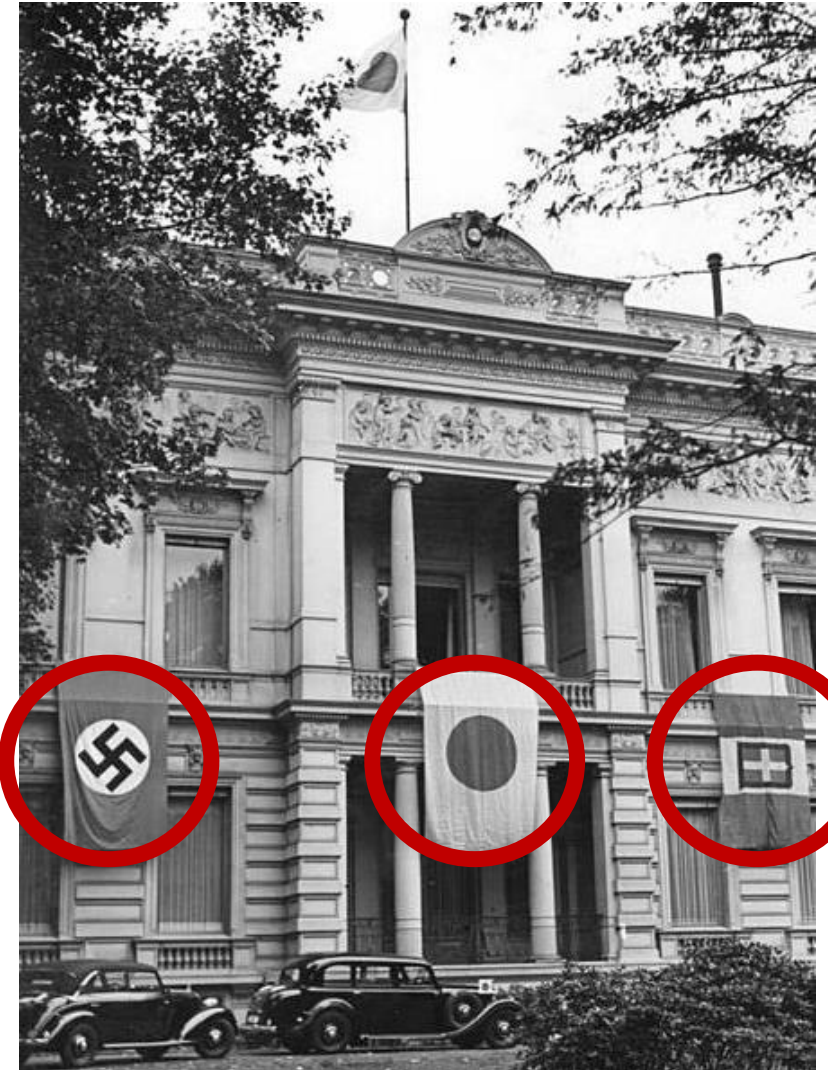
Axis Powers

Tripartite Pact/Berlin Pact (September 1940)

- Nazi Germany
- Fascist Italy
- Imperial Japan (Empire of Japan)

Later joined by:

- Hungary (November 1940)
- Romania (November 1940)
- Bulgaria (March 1941)



Major Axis Leaders



Adolf Hitler
Führer of Germany



Benito Mussolini
Il Duce of Italy



Hideki Tojo
Prime Minister of Japan

Axis vs. Allies

Allied Powers

September 1939

- **Poland** (became minor factor after defeat in 1939)
- **France** (became minor factor after defeat in 1940)
- **Great Britain** (later British Commonwealth countries)

Later joined by:

- **Soviet Union** (1941 with Nazi invasion)
- **United States** (December 1941 with Pearl Harbor)
- **China** (1941, have been at war with Japan since at least 1931 - 1937)



Major Allied Leaders



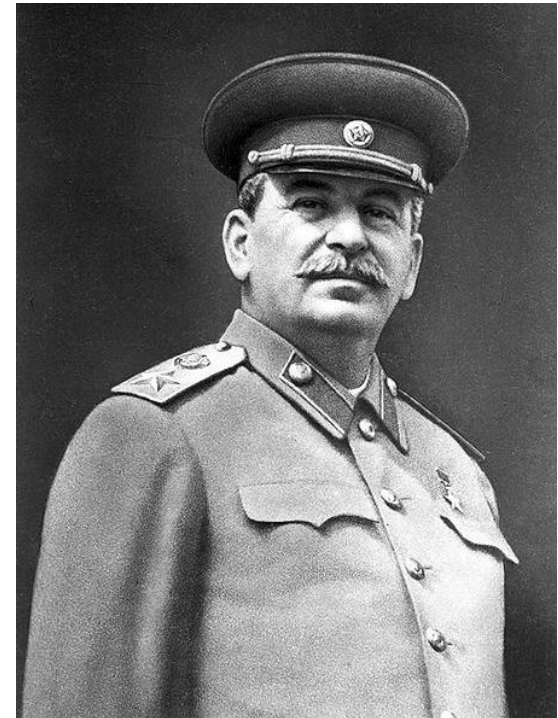
Winston Churchill

Prime Minister of Great
Britain



Franklin D. Roosevelt (FDR)

POTUS



Joseph Stalin

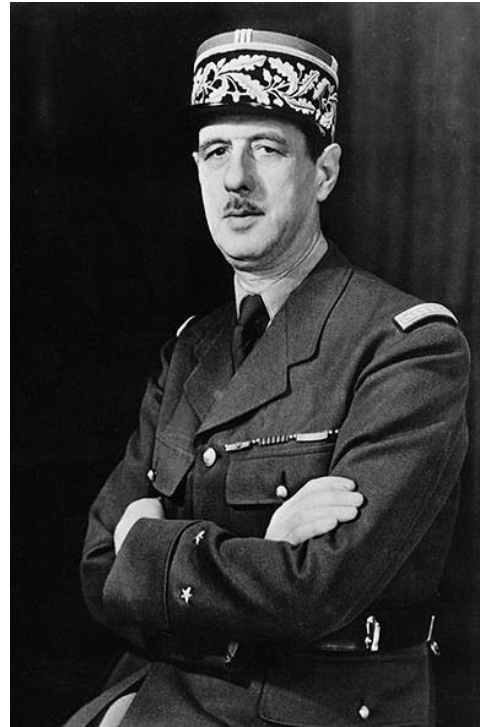
Leader of Soviet Union

Major Allied Leaders



Chiang Kai-shek

Chairman of the Nationalist China
(Republic of China)



Charles de Gaulle

Leader of French
government-in-exile

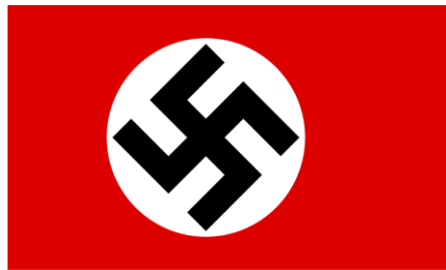


Mao Zedong

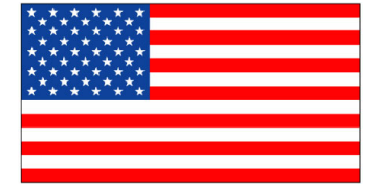
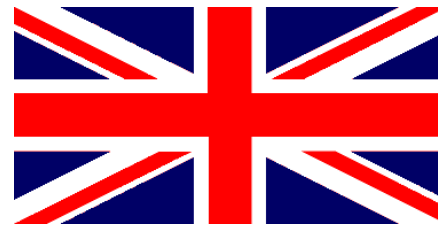
Leader of Chinese
Communist Party

Axis vs. Allies

Axis Powers



Allied Powers



VS

