

# World History since 1500



Wayne E. Sirmon

# History 104

## World History since 1500

April 17	Online Quiz Ch. 25-B
April 18	<u>Article 4 approval</u>
April 24	Online Quiz Ch. 26
April 25	Article Review 4 DUE
May ??	Review Session ?? May 3 should be ok - CHECK
May 4	<b>Exam Four (Ch. 25-27)</b>

## *Chapter 25* – **The Crisis Deepens: World War II**



## *Chapter 25 – The Crisis Deepens: World War II*

# The years of Axis Victory

**1935**

**Saar**

**plebiscite (Nazi over Bolshevism)**

**1936**

**Rhineland**

**remilitarization**

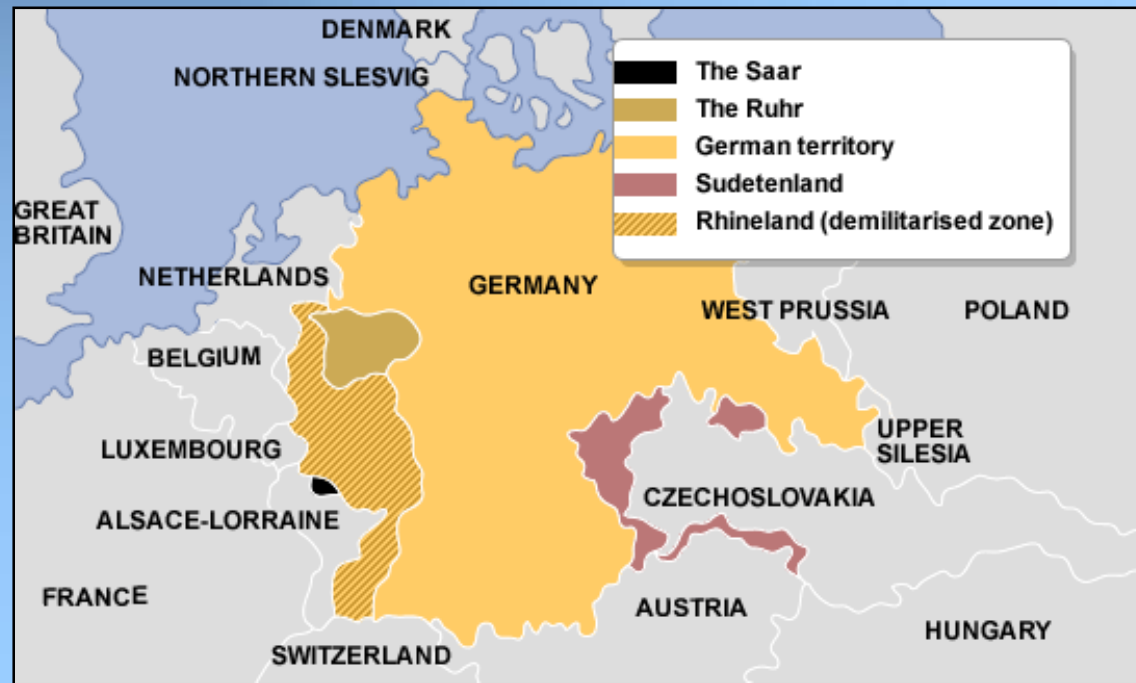
**1938**

**Anschluss**

*annexation of Austria*

**Sudetenland**

*Czechoslovakia*



*Chapter 25* – **The Crisis Deepens: World War II**

# The Munich Agreement

September 29, 1938

**Britain's Neville Chamberlain**

*...peace with honour. I believe it is peace for our time. Now I recommend you go home, and sleep quietly in your beds.*

**Germany's Adolf Hitler**

*"Oh, don't take it so seriously. That piece of paper is of no further significance whatever."*





*Our enemies are small worms. I saw them at Munich.*  
*-- Hitler, August 1939*

The Growth of Nazi Germany, 1933-1939

## *Chapter 25 – The Crisis Deepens: World War II*

# Poland and the Hitler-Stalin Pact

Treaty of Non-Aggression between **Germany** and the **Soviet Union** was signed in Moscow in the early hours of 24 August 1939.





## *Chapter 25 – The Crisis Deepens: World War II*

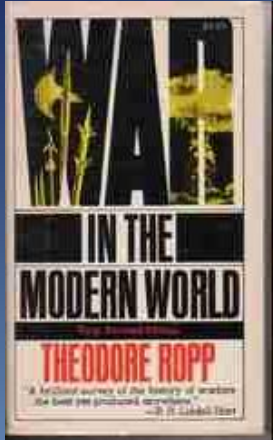
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# World War II or A World full of Wars



## *War in the Modern World*

Theodore Ropp, 1962

**“A brilliant survey of the history of warfare from 1415 to 1958”**

**WWII consisted of 4 related major wars:**

- 1. Second German War**  
(Western Front & Africa)
- 2. Great Patriotic War**  
(Eastern Front – USSR)
- 3. Great Pacific War**  
(Japan vs USA)
- 4. War for East Asia**  
(China-Burma-India, Indonesia)



# ***“EASY” VICTORY IN POLAND***

## ***1-30 SEPTEMBER 1939***



### **Losses:**

#### **German**

**11,000 KIA**

**3400 MIA**

**27,000 WIA**

**400 Aircraft**

**shotdown/badly damaged**

#### **Poland**

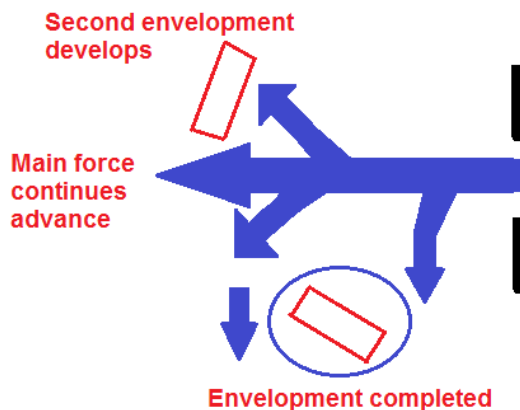
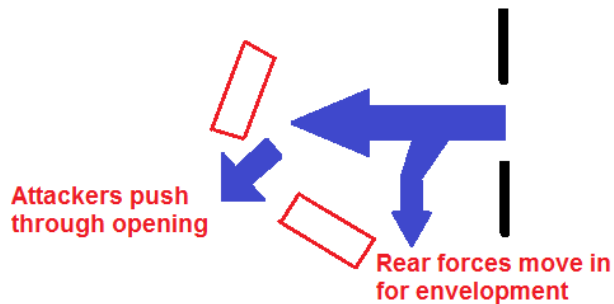
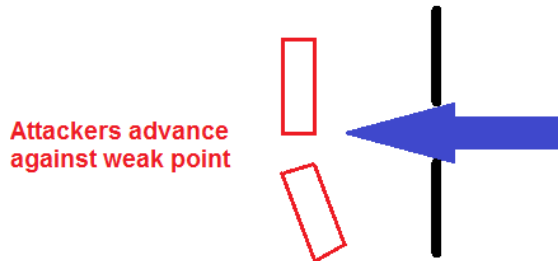
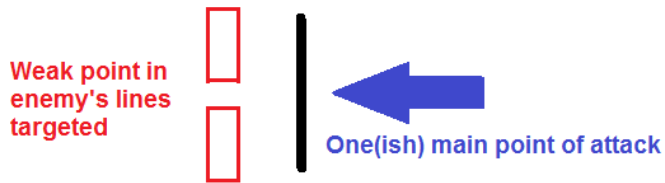
**70,000 KIA**

**133,000 WIA**

**700,000 POW**



# Blitzkrieg



## Blitzkrieg Basics

- though "blitzkrieg" is a German word (literally "lightning war", meaning "a war as fast as a lightning"), the word did not originate from within the German military
- first used by a journalist in the American newsmagazine *TIME* describing 1939 German invasion of Poland
- based on speed and surprise
- organized around light tank units supported by planes and infantry (foot soldiers)

# September-November 1939

- 1 SEP Germany invades Poland  
Norway and Switzerland declare their neutrality
- 3 SEP UK, Australia, India, New Zealand & France declare war on Germany
- 4 SEP Dominion of Newfoundland declares war on Germany  
Japan announces its neutrality
- 5 SEP United States publicly declares neutrality
- 6 SEP South Africa declares war on Germany
- 10 SEP Canada declares war on Germany
- 17 SEP Soviet Union invades Poland from the east
- 28 SEP German-Soviet Boundary and Friendship Treaty  
(partition of Poland originally defined in Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact (August 23, 1939))
- 10 OCT British Prime Minister Chamberlain declines Hitler's offer of peace
- 12 OCT French Premier Édouard Daladier declines Hitler's offer of peace
- 30 NOV The Soviet Union attacks Finland – the “Winter War”



# Phoney War -- Sitzkrieg

- From September 1939 to April 1940 the war in the West was strangely inactive.
- German and French forces hunkered down in defensive positions behind the West Wall and the Maginot Line.
- Both expected their opponent to launch a major push that did not occur.



Disappearing artillery copula, Fort Hackenberg, Maginot Line

# COMPARISON OF FORCES

MAY 1940

	<u>ALLIED</u>	<u>GERMAN</u>
TANKS (ALL TYPES)	2631	2439
AIRCRAFT	2000	3700
Artillery	10,700	7,400
TYPES OF UNITS:		
INFANTRY DIVISIONS	126	134
ARMORED DIVISIONS	6	10
MOTORIZED DIVISIONS	0	4
TANK BRIGADE	1	0
TANK BATTALION (INDEP)	27	0
LIGHT MECH BATTALION	10	0

# **“EASY” GERMAN VICTORY OVER FRANCE**

**10 MAY- 22 JUNE 1940**



## **Losses:**

### **German**

**30,000 KIA**

**133,000 WIA**

### **French**

**90,000 KIA**

**200,000 WIA**

**1.9 Million POW**

### **British**

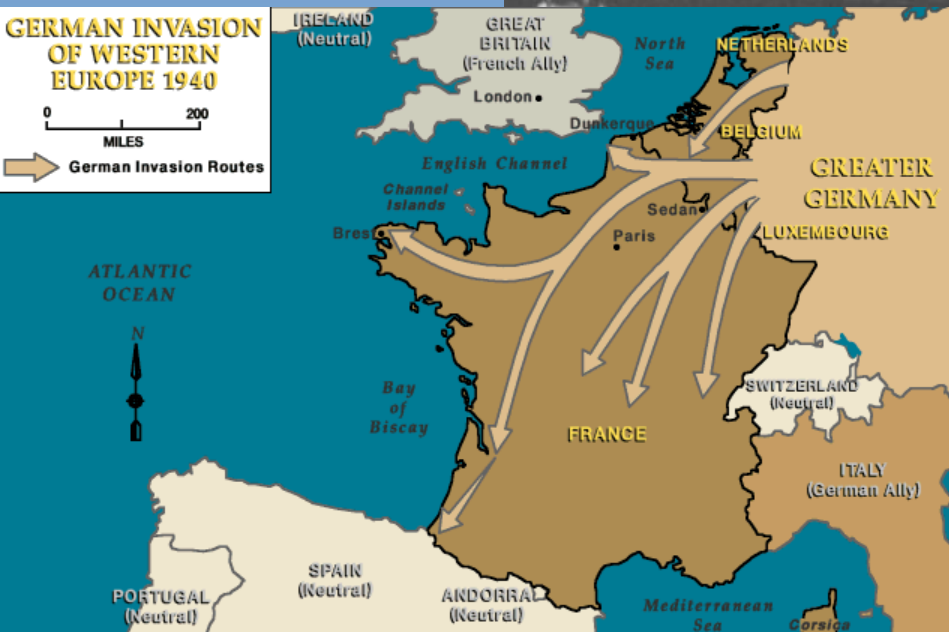
**4,206 KIA**

**16,815 WIA**

**47,959 POW**

## **GERMAN INVASION OF WESTERN EUROPE 1940**

0 200  
MILES  
German Invasion Routes





# DUNKIRK EVACUATION MAY 26–June 4, 1940



## LOCATION



Present-day boundaries shown

The evacuation of the British Expeditionary Force (BEF) and other Allied troops from the French seaport of Dunkirk (Dunkerque) to England. Operation Dynamo used hundreds of naval vessels and civilian boats in the evacuation.

## TIMELINE

### SUNDAY, MAY 26

- German forces resume offensive toward Dunkirk
- Operation Dynamo is ordered to commence

### MONDAY, MAY 27

- Operation Dynamo's first full day
- Luftwaffe destroys Dunkirk harbour
- 7,669 troops rescued

### TUESDAY, MAY 28

- Belgian army surrenders
- Clouds and smoke-filled coastline increase evacuation effort
- 17,804 troops rescued

### WEDNESDAY, MAY 29

- Maximum effort launched by Luftwaffe
- French army joins evacuation effort
- 47,310 troops rescued

### THURSDAY, MAY 30

- Bad weather interferes with the Luftwaffe
- German Panzers withdraw from Dunkirk
- 53,823 troops rescued

### FRIDAY, MAY 31

- 35,000 troops captured at Lille
- Dynamo sees its biggest day
- 68,014 troops rescued

### SATURDAY, JUNE 1

- Clear weather gives Luftwaffe its biggest day
- Four destroyers and 27 other vessels sunk
- 62,429 troops rescued

### SUNDAY, JUNE 2

- BEF evacuation complete
- 26,256 troops rescued

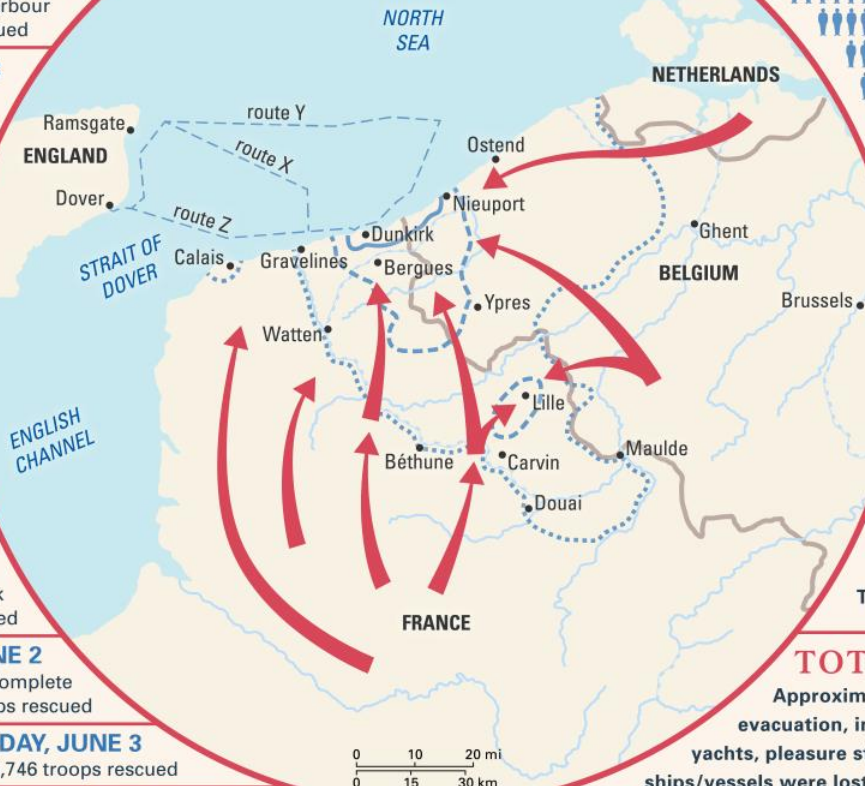
### MONDAY, JUNE 3

- 26,746 troops rescued

### TUESDAY, JUNE 4

- Last night of Dynamo; 26,175 troops rescued

- ..... Front line, May 25
- - - Front line, May 28
- Front line, May 31
- Evacuation route
- ◀ German attack
- International boundary



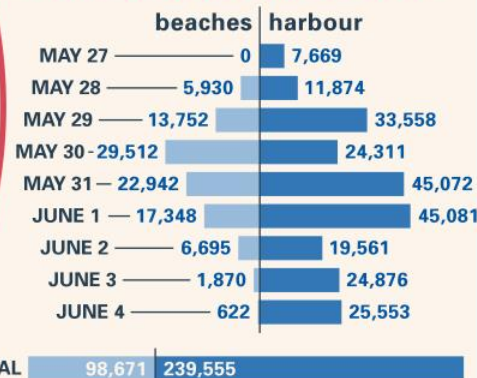
## INITIAL PLAN/ACTUAL OUTCOME

1 icon = 1,500 troops

2 days 45,000 troops

9 days 338,226 troops

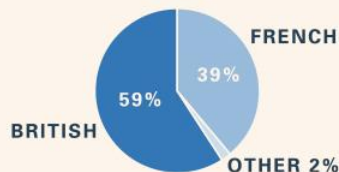
## EVACUATIONS BY DAY



## TOTAL ALLIED SHIPS/VESSELS

Approximately **1,000** ships/vessels participated in the evacuation, including some **700** civilian craft (rowing lifeboats, yachts, pleasure steamers, fishing boats, barges, etc.). Around **240** ships/vessels were lost and another **45** damaged. This includes **6** British destroyers and **3** French destroyers sunk and another **26** damaged.

## PERCENTAGE OF TROOPS EVACUATED BY COUNTRY



## PLANES LOST

BRITISH ROYAL AIR FORCE **84** 78 GERMAN LUFTWAFFE





# Battle of Britain



# Battle of Britain



**10 July – 31 October 1940**

**British Losses**

**544 KIA**

**422 WIA**

**1,547 aircraft destroyed**

**German Losses**

**2,698 KIA**

**967 POW**

**1,887 aircraft destroyed**

**Civilian (British)**

**40,000 killed**

**50,000 wounded**





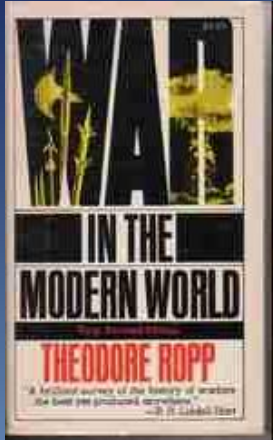
# The Eastern Front: The Real War in Europe !



**Hitler break pact  
with Stalin and  
attacks USSR on  
June 22, 1941**



# World War II or A World full of Wars



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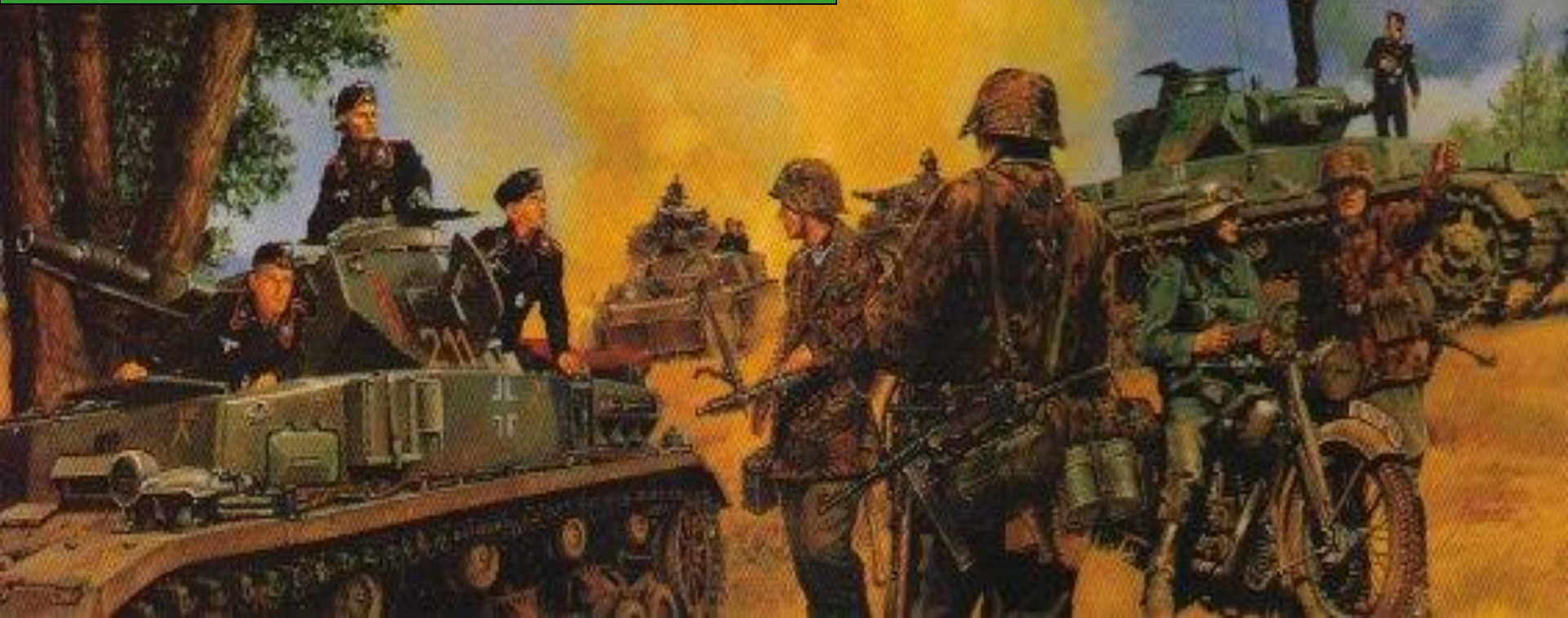
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“We have only to kick  
in the door and the whole  
rotten structure will  
come crashing down.”

Hitler on Russia (1941)



# *Logistical Support Status*

22 June 1941 - Operation Barbarossa begins.



[19 days]



11 July 1941 - Roughly 25% of German supply vehicles  
had *permanently* broken down.

# Keil und Kessel

## Campaign

## Encircled Soviets

- Bialystock - Minsk 340,000
- Smolensk 310,000
- Uman 406,000
- Kiev 675,000
- Bryansk - Vyazma 658,000



# *Ideology and POWs*

## Soviet Prisoners in German Hands

**June - December 1941 - 3.9 million captured**

**By February 1942 - 1.1 million still alive**

**Capable of hard labor in Feb 42 - 400,000**

**Alive in May 1945 - 100,000 of original 3.9 mil**

Source: Williamson Murray, "Barbarossa," *Military History Quarterly*  
Vol 4, No. 3 (Spring 1992)



# Russo-German War 1941 - 45

## US & British Lend Lease Aid

18,700 Aircraft

10,800 Tanks

9,600 Artillery tubes

2,600,000 tons POL

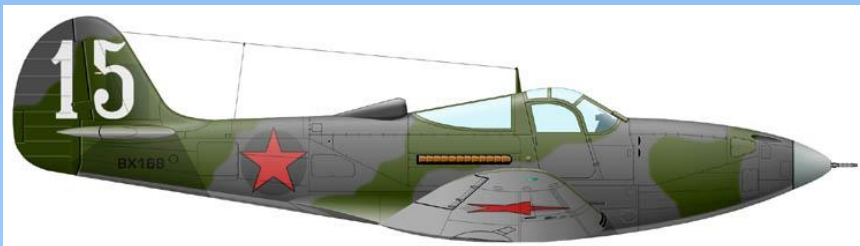
427,000 motor vehicle

1900 Locomotive engines

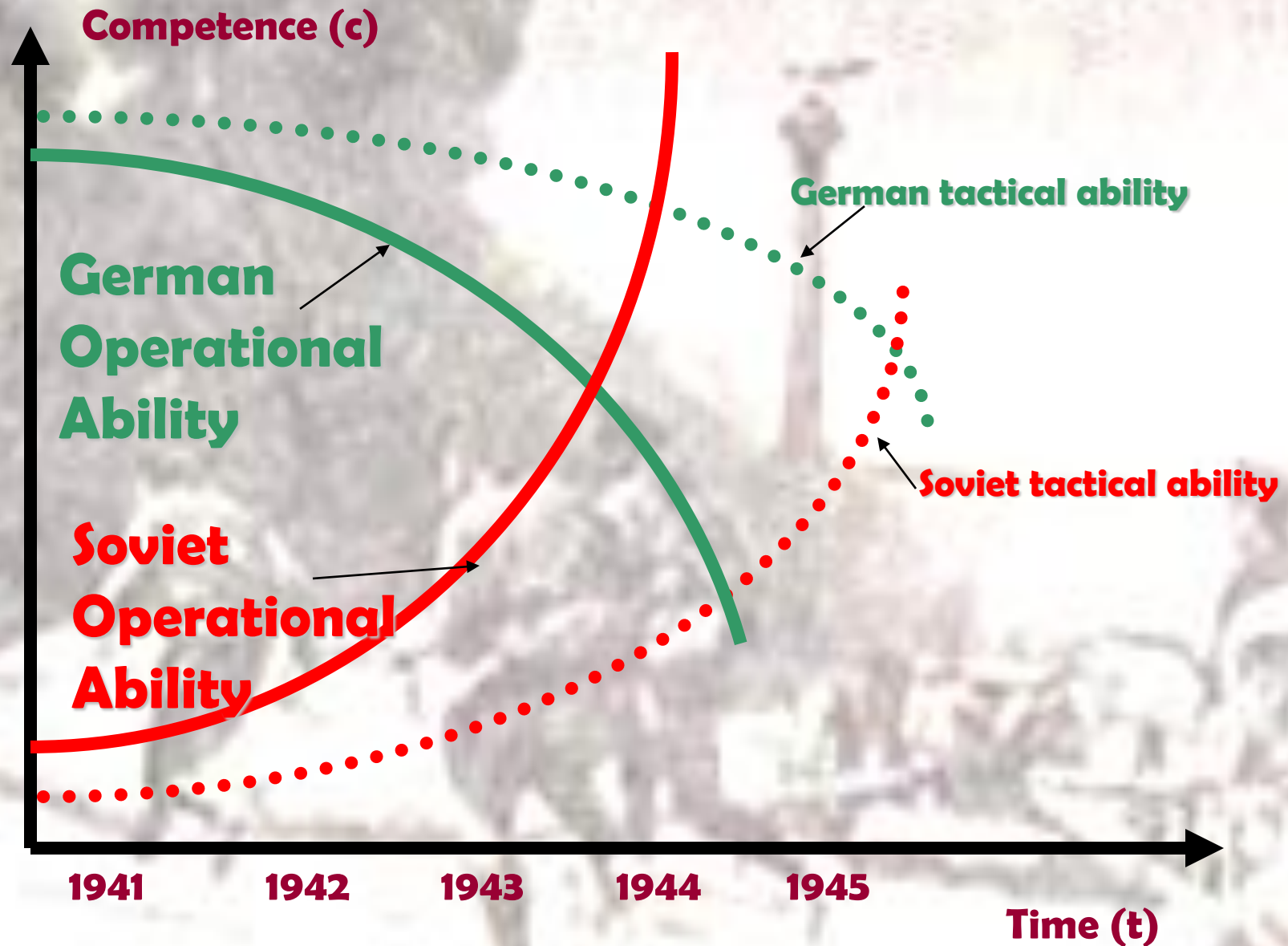
4 million tons of foodstuff

6 million tons of raw materials

15 million pairs of boots



# Comparative Ability: A Model





**Soviet Deaths in WWII:**  
**27,000 per day (average)**  
**June 1941 - May 1945**

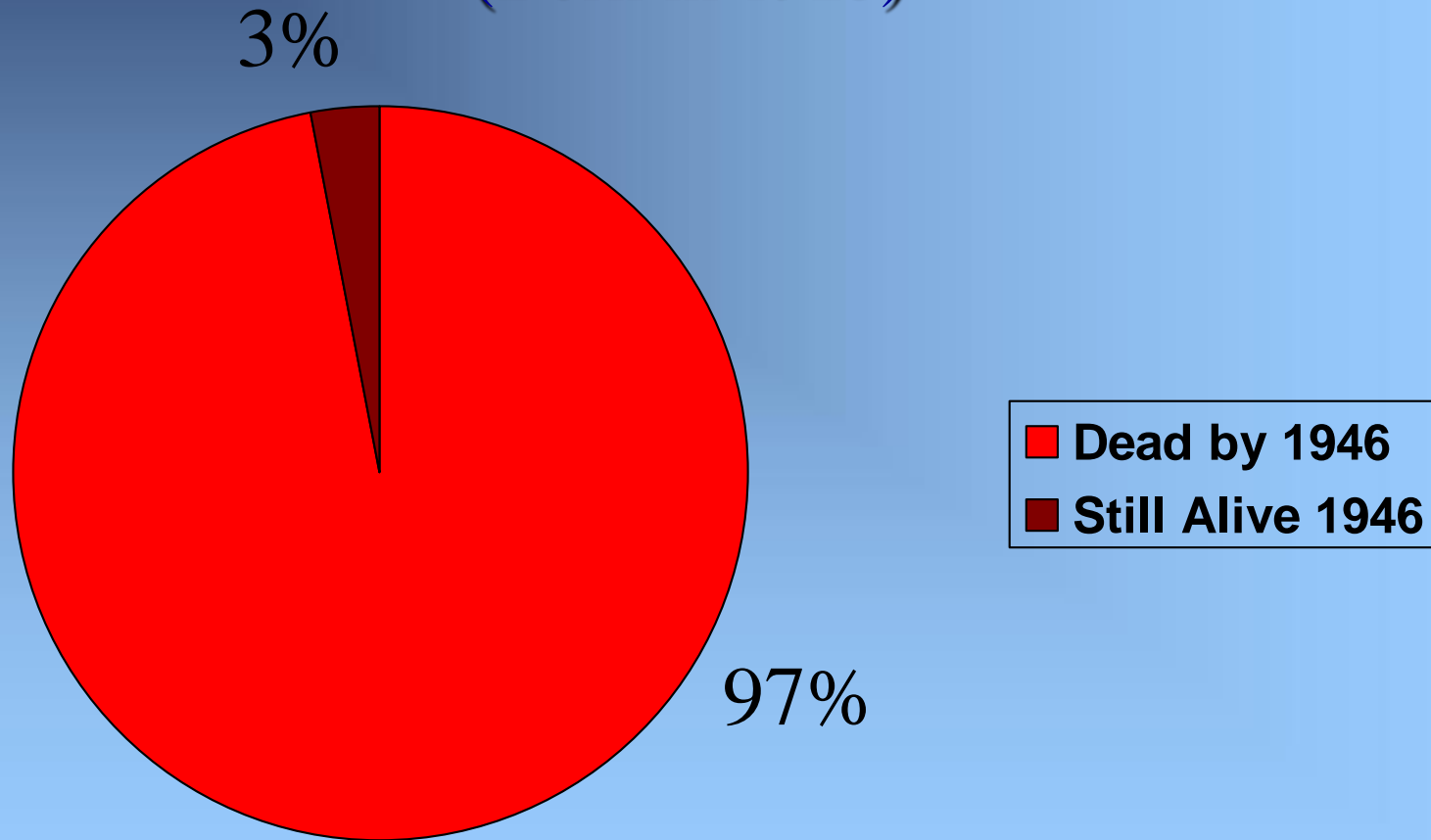




# Effective Political Will??

## Soviet Males--Class of 1941

(Born in 1923)



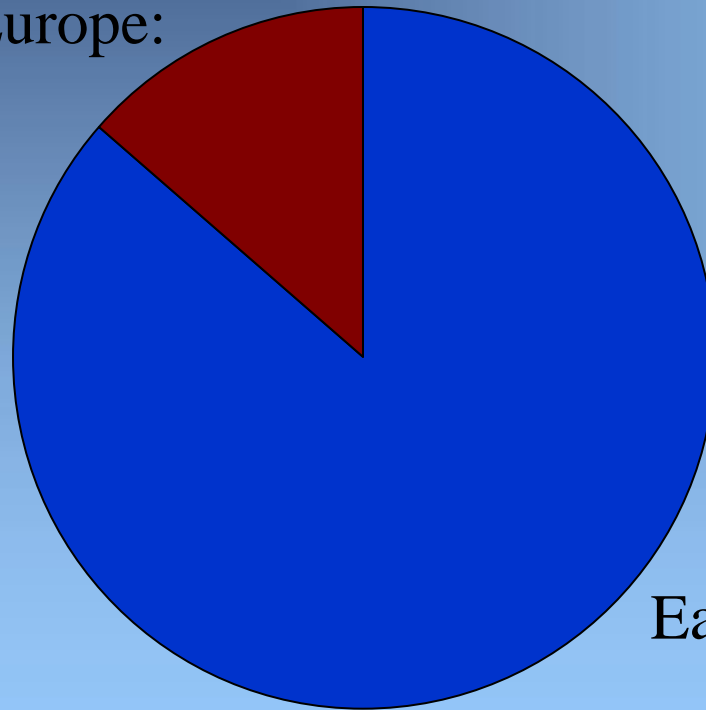
Willmott, *Great Crusade*

# Where was the German Army killed?

Division Combat-Months

Ger. Army and Waffen SS

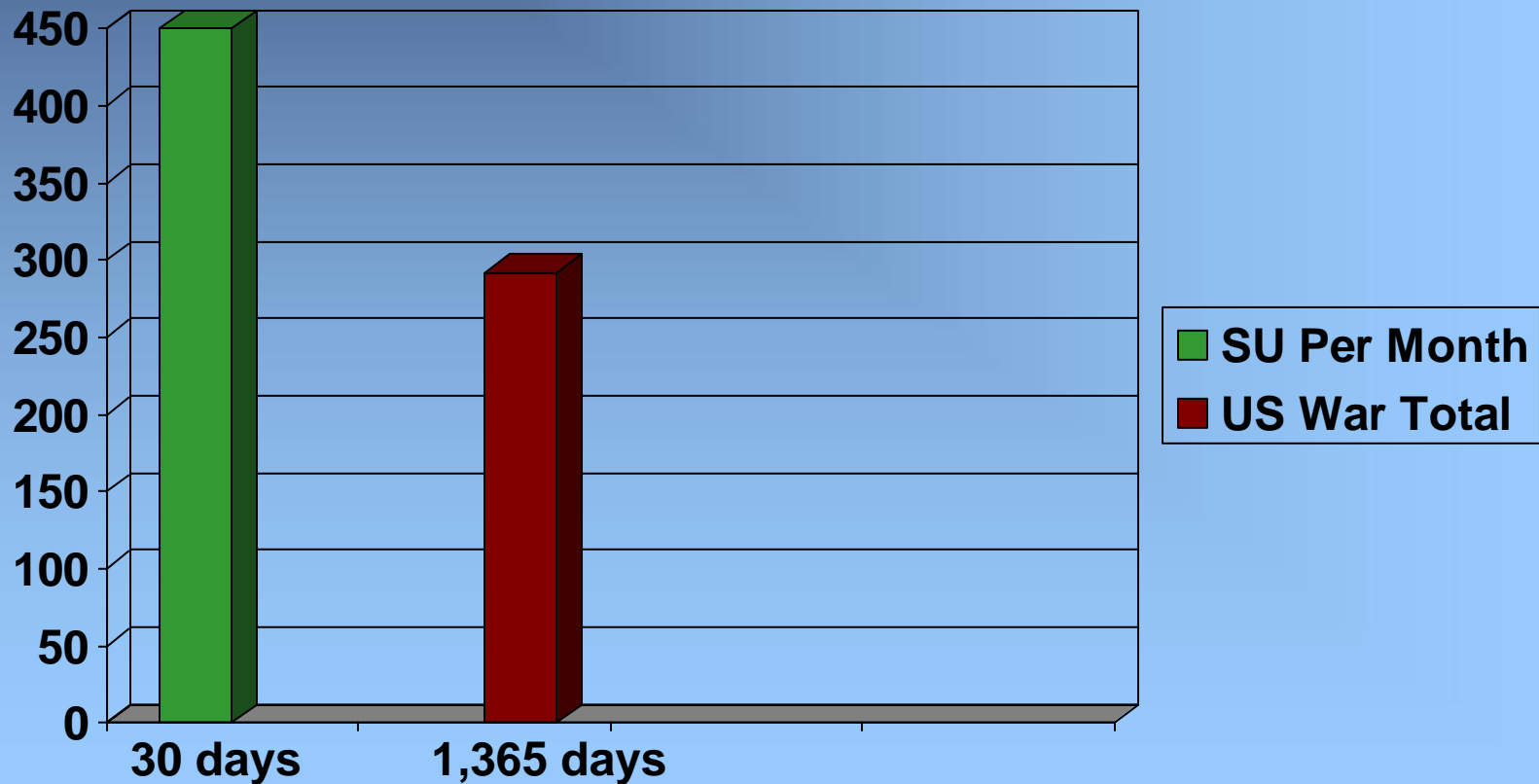
Africa, Italy,  
Northwest Europe:  
1,121



Eastern Front:  
7,146

# Comparison of Soviet and US Mortality In World War II

Thousands





# Stalingrad

17 July 1942 - 2 February 1943

**Soviets evacuate food and supplies**

**Luftwaffe turns city into rubble**

**Urban fighting reduces German armor advantage**



# Stalingrad

17 July 1942 - 2 February 1943

**750,000 killed or wounded**  
**91,000 captured**  
**Aircraft: 900**  
**Total: 841,000 casualties**



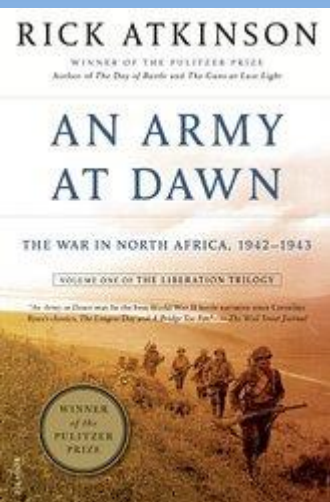
**478,741 killed or missing**  
**650,878 wounded and sick**  
**40,000+ civilian dead**  
**4,341 tanks**  
**2,769 aircraft**  
**Total: 1,129,619 casualties**





## Chapter 25 – The Crisis Deepens: World War II

### More than “Sideshow”



**Gets US into the war in European Theater**

**Open Suez Canal – greatly shorten supply lines**

**Eliminate Vichy French military**

**Establish base of operation to advance on Sicily and Italy**



## Chapter 25 – The Crisis Deepens: World War II

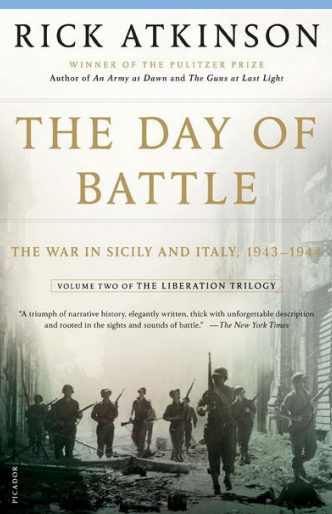
### More than “Sideshow”

UK favors peripheral strategy to gradually weaken Germany

Knock Italy out of war

Secure Mediterranean Sea lines of communication

Establish airbases for bomber offensive operations



*Chapter 25* – **The Crisis Deepens: World War II**





***NEXT...***

# World War II In Europe D-Day to VE

Chapter 25-C

