

American Military Experience



Wayne E. Sirmon

World War II or **A World full of Wars**

WWII consisted of 4 related major wars:

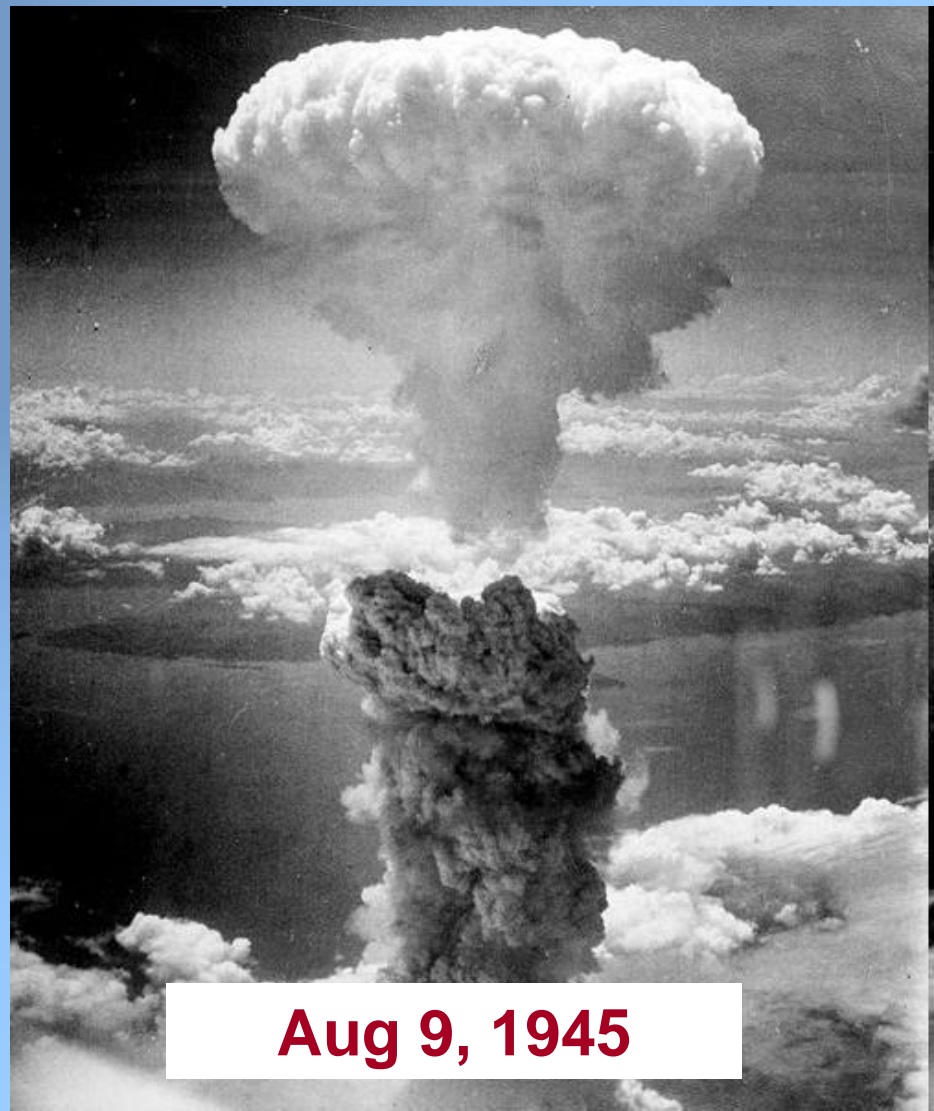
- 1. Second German War**
(Western Front & Africa)
Invasion of Poland 1 SEP 1939
- 2. Great Patriotic War**
(Eastern Front – USSR)
OPNS Barbarossa – 22 JUN 1941
- 3. Great Pacific War**
(Japan vs USA)
Attack on Pearl Harbor 7 DEC 1941
- 4. War for East Asia**
(China-Burma-India, Indonesia)
Manchurian Incident 18 SEP 1931



The Global War, 1942-45



Aug 6, 1945

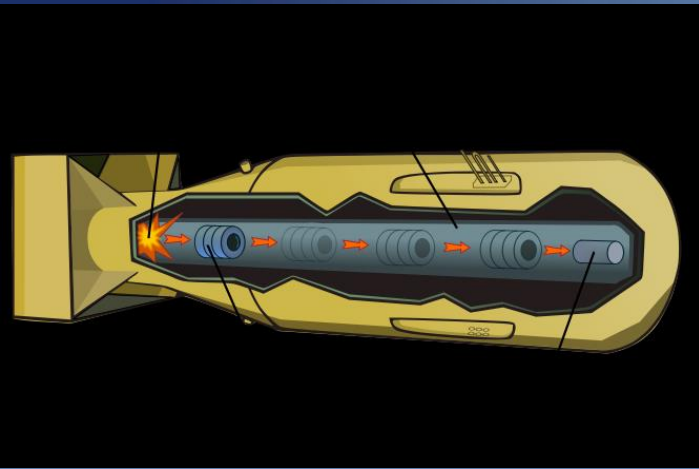


Aug 9, 1945

The Atomic Bomb

Hiroshima, 6 Aug 1945

Nagasaki, 9 Aug 1945



U-235 "Thin Man"

13 KT HOB = 1,670

70,000 deaths – blast, initial radiation

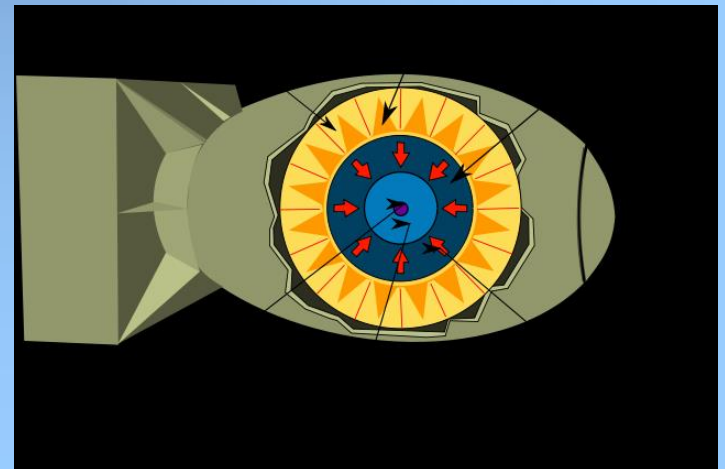
118,661 total deaths (12 months)

P-239 "Fat Boy"

22 KT HOB = 1,640 ft

40,000 deaths – blast, initial radiation

73,884 total deaths (12 months)



Morality of Using the Atomic Bomb

- **27 July 1943 Hamburg Raid: 50,000 dead**
- **13-14 February 1944 Dresden Raid: 80,000 dead**
- **9 Mar 1945 Tokyo Raid: 84,000 dead**
- **Hiroshima Atomic Bomb: 66,000 dead**
- **Nagasaki Atomic Bomb: 39,000 dead**
- **Total Japanese bombing casualties (Nov 44-Aug 45): 330,000 dead**

Ketsu-Go: Suicide Attacks

Japanese Projections

Suicide boats

712 total

67 hits

Kamikaze

4,000 total

400 hits

**Destroy 5 US divisions on the transports
(60,000 men)**

Olympic / Ketsu-Go: Casualties

US

- 175,000 total KWM land and sea
- 39,000 KIA
- 100,000 Allied POWs to be killed
- *US dead in war to date ~300,000*

Japanese

- 250,000 military dead
- 380,000 civilian dead
- *Atomic bombs killed <200,000*

The Atomic Bomb

A question of morality?

Operation Downfall

Operation Coronet – Oct 1945

Operation Olympic – Spring 1946

Estimated US KIA – 109,000 to 800,000

Est. Japanese KIA - 500,000 to 10,000,000



Truman's View, Late 1945



“It occurred to me that a quarter of a million of the flower of our young manhood was worth a couple of Japanese cities, and I still think they were, and are.”

Unconditional Surrender



Building On The Ruins

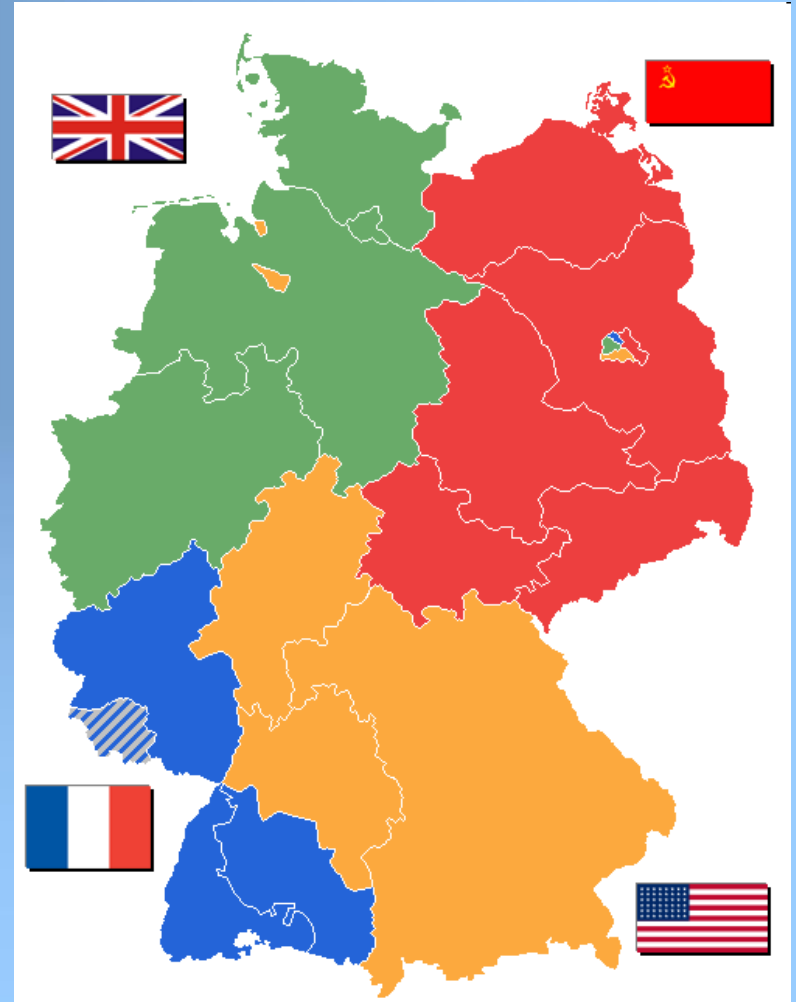
Occupation Zones

Surrender – May 8, 1945

Allied Control Council – July 5, 1945

Federal Republic of Germany – May, 1949

German Democratic Republic – Oct. 1949

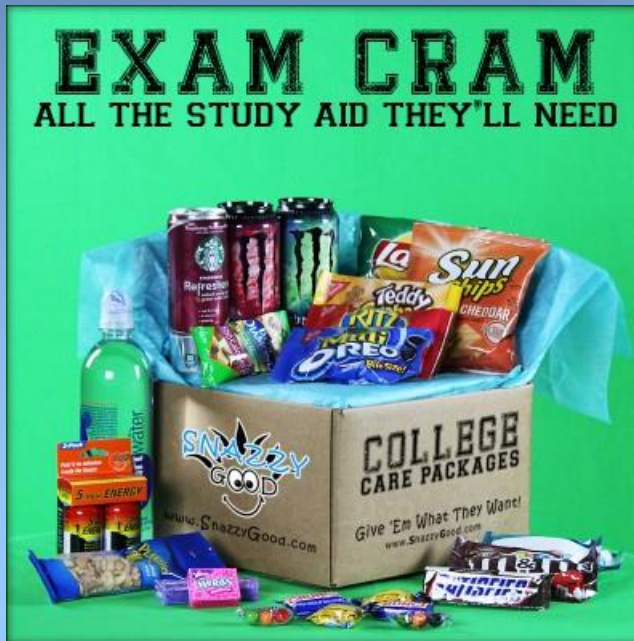


CARE Packages...



THE ULTIMATE
CARE PACKAGE
GUIDE

Going away to college can be tough on both students and parents. Remind your college student that they are loved and missed by crafting the perfect care package.



16 COOL COLLEGE CARE PACKAGES



Building On The Ruins

C.A.R.E

Cooperative for American Remittances to Europe

1945 -- \$10 and send package to family/friends

20,000 arrive May 11, 1946

100 million packages world-wide by 1965

one pound of beef in broth
one pound of steak and kidneys
8 ounces of liver loaf
8 ounces of corned beef
12 ounces of luncheon loaf (like Spam)
8 ounces of bacon
2 pounds of margarine
one pound of lard
one pound of fruit preserves
one pound of honey
one pound of raisins
one pound of chocolate
2 pounds of sugar
8 ounces of egg powder
2 pounds of whole-milk powder
2 pounds of coffee
1 Bible and journal
CRU sunglasses
1 CRU (black) water bottle
1 KGP booklet



Building On The Ruins

Marshall Plan

(European Recovery Program – ERP)

1947 – 1951

JCS 1779

"an orderly and prosperous Europe requires the economic contributions of a stable and productive Germany"

1945-1949 - \$12 billion

1949 – 1951 - \$13 billion

Beginning of Foreign Aid by US



Building On The Ruins

Berlin Blockade

June, 1948 – May, 1949

4,000 tons/day

TOTALS

200,000 flights

13,000,000 tons of food



Building On The Ruins

War Crime Trials

Nuremberg Trials

24 charged / 12 executed



Tokyo Tribunals

28 charged / 7 executed

Nuremberg Military Tribunals

War Criminals

24 charged - 12 executed*
3 life imprisonment
4 10-20 years
3 acquitted
1 suicide before trial
1 medically unfit

Criminal Organizations

7 charged / 4 guilty
Leadership of Nazi Party
Gestapo, SS, SD (intelligence service)
Reich Cabinet
SA (Stormtroopers)
General Staff and High Command

Together, over 5,000 people were tried resulting in 806 death sentences. The USSR is estimated to have conducted “tens of thousands” of trials.

Indictments for:

Participation in a common plan or conspiracy for the accomplishment of a crime against peace.

Planning, initiating and waging wars of aggression and other crimes against peace.

War crimes.

Crimes against humanity.

Other Trials

Auschwitz Trial, Belsen Trial, Belzec Trial, Chelmno Trials, Dachau, Trials Frankfurt Auschwitz Trials, Majdanek Trials, Mauthausen-Gusen Trials, Ravenbruck Trial, Sobibor Trial, Treblinka Trials

International Military Tribunal for the Far East

Class "A"

joint conspiracy to start and wage war
28 charged / 7 executed

Class "B"

"conventional" atrocities or crimes
against humanity

Class "C"

"the planning, ordering,
authorization, or failure to prevent
such transgression

5,700+ charged

984 condemned to death

475 life imprisonment

2,944 finite imprisonment sentences

1,018 acquitted

279 not brought to trial/sentenced.

CHINA

13 tribunals

504 convictions / 149 executed

Post War Landscape

Iron Curtain

From Stettin in the Baltic to Trieste in the Adriatic an "iron curtain" has descended across the Continent.

Winston Churchill

March 1946

