



# Adolf Hitler



**Named Chancellor of Germany in 1933**

**Creates a totalitarian Nazi government**

**Demands "lebensraum" or living space for German people**

# Lebensraum



**Annexes Austria in 1938**



**Next occupies the Sudetenland and the following year all of Czechoslovakia**



# Nazi-Soviet Pact

- 🌍 **August 1939**
- 🌍 **Germany signs non-aggression pact with the Soviet Union**
- 🌍 **Meant to keep Britain from entering a war**
- 🌍 **Agree to split Poland among themselves**



# Nazi Invasion of Poland



**September 1939**



**German blitzkrieg  
overruns Poland**



**Quick German  
victory**



**Britain & France  
declare war on  
Germany**



# France's Maginot Line



**Massive  
defenses  
built along  
France's  
border  
with  
Germany  
after WWI**



# The Fall of France

- May 1940
- Hitler's army moves through the Ardennes and around the Maginot Line
- Reach France's northern coast in 10 days & France surrenders

# Miracle at Dunkirk

- 🌐 **Spring 1940**
- 🌐 **Allied forces pushed to the beaches at Dunkirk**
- 🌐 **French & British troops rescued by 850 British ships**





# The Battle of Britain


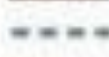
🌍 **Summer of 1940 – May 1941**

🌍 **German Luftwaffe makes  
nightly bomb raids over  
Great Britain**

🌍 **New technology (Enigma,  
Radar) allow British RAF to  
hold off Germany and prove  
Hitler can be stopped**




## Operation Barbarossa, 1941

-  Areas of fierce fighting
-  Front line, Dec. 1941

# Operation Barbarossa

 **June 1941**

 **Germany breaks non-aggression pact & invades the Soviet Union**

 **Soviet Union uses Scorched Earth Policy and holds back Germany at Leningrad**

 **Germany moves on to Moscow and Stalingrad**



# Stalingrad

- August 1942 – February 1943
- Germany wanted to seize oil fields and capture Stalingrad
- German troops surrender to the Soviet Union due to starvation and cold



# Pearl Harbor

- 🌍 **December 7, 1941**
- 🌍 **Japanese surprise attack on the US in retaliation for cutting off their oil supply**
- 🌍 **19 American ships sunk or damaged**
- 🌍 **More than 2,300 Americans killed & the US enters the war**

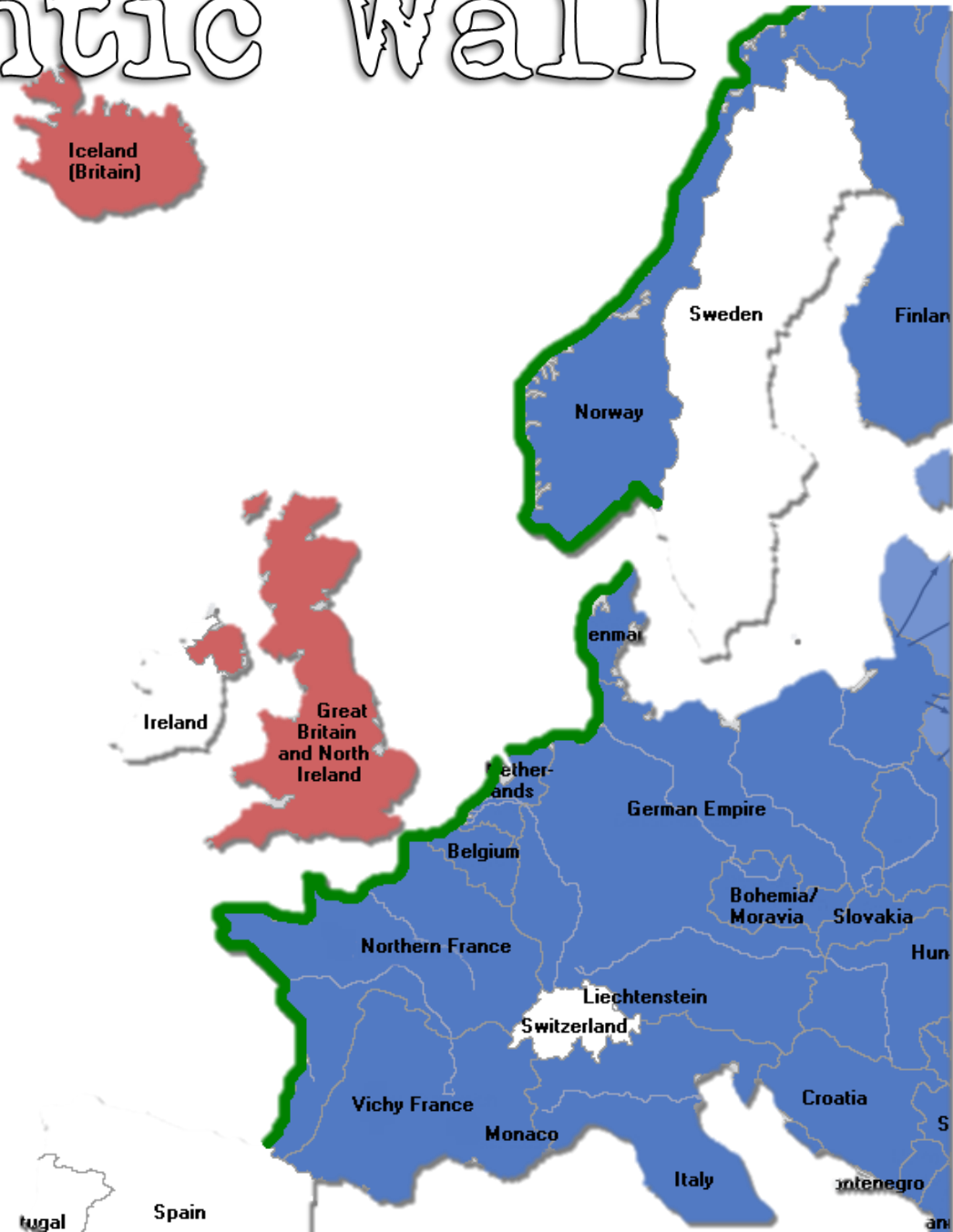
# The Atlantic Wall



**1942-1945**



**Hitler had massive defenses built along Europe's western coast against invasion**



# D-Day



**Massive invasion of Europe planned by Supreme Allied Commander Dwight D. Eisenhower**



**Normandy, France is selected as the best location**

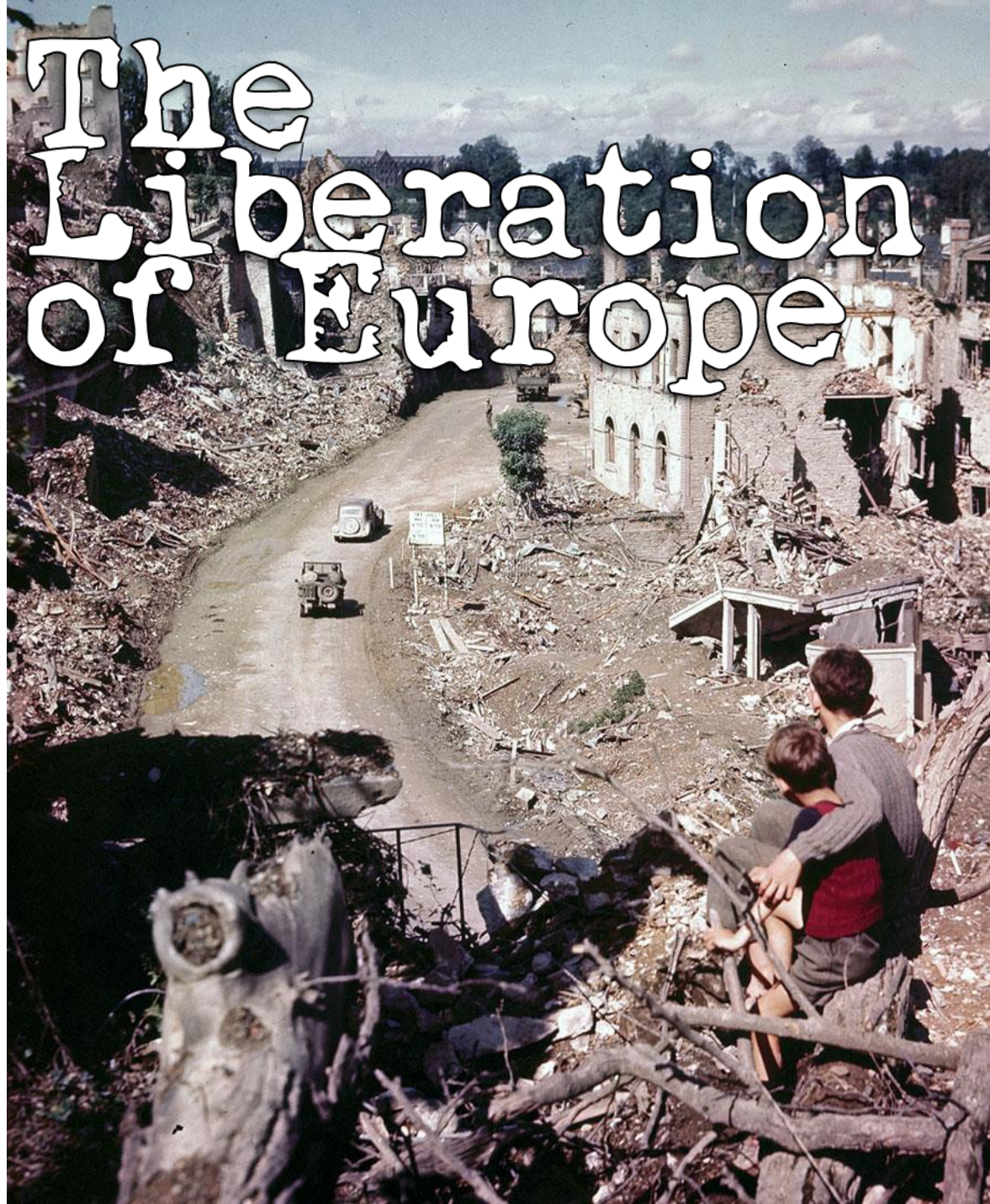
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# The D-Day Invasion

- 🌍 **Invasion is June 6, 1944**
- 🌍 **Troops land in France to push into Germany**
- 🌍 **Largest land and sea attack in history**
- 🌍 **Leads to the eventual liberation of Belgium, France, and Luxembourg**

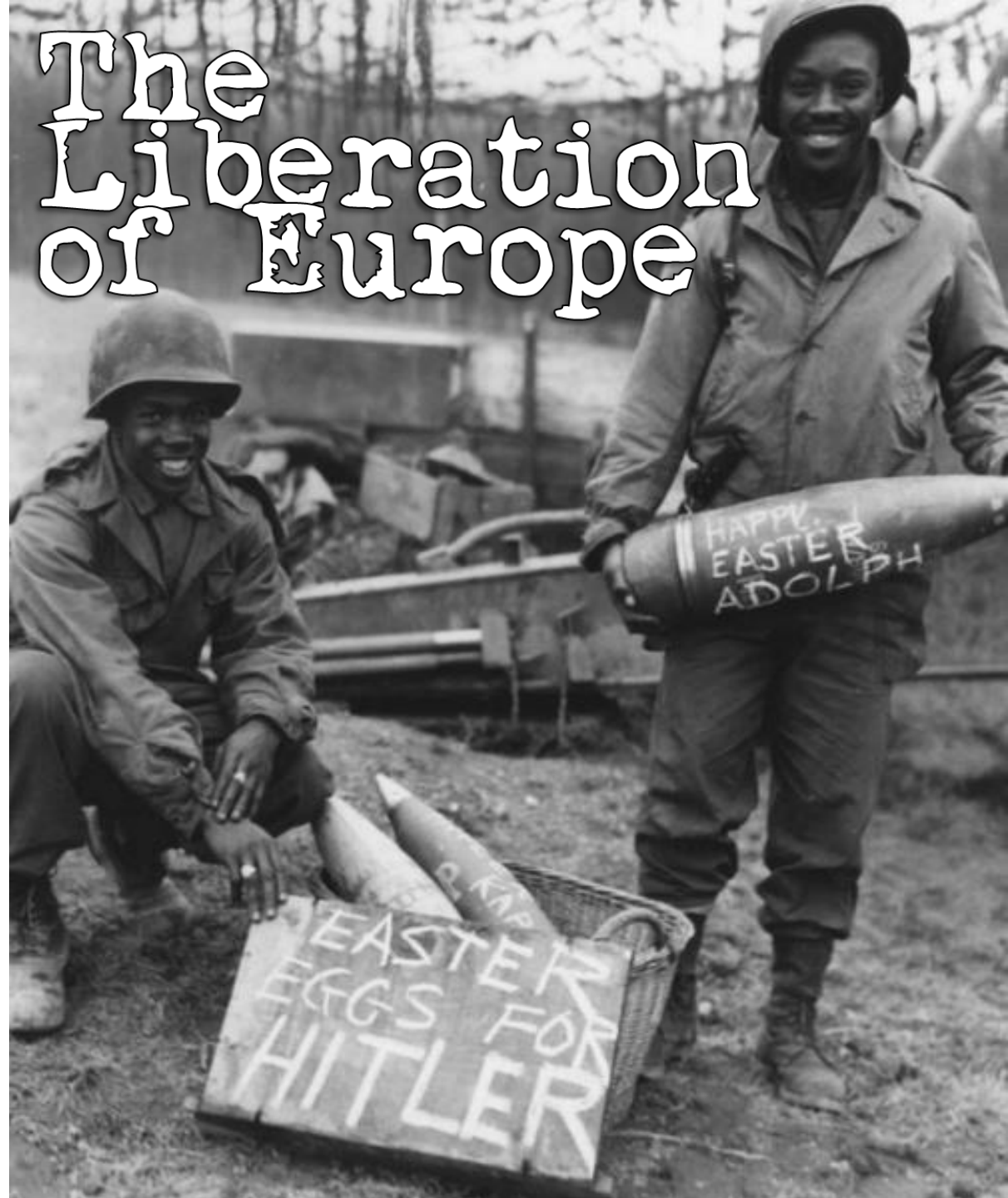


- 🌍 Allied soldiers push into Paris and free France
- 🌍 Soviet army closes in on Germany from the east
- 🌍 US & British forces advance from the west





- 🌍 **The Battle of Berlin begins in April 1945**
- 🌍 **Hitler commits suicide that month**
- 🌍 **Germany surrenders in May**



# The Battle of Midway



- 🌍 **June 4, 1942**
- 🌍 **Japan targeted Midway to get the whole US fleet to the island.**
- 🌍 **US attack on Japanese aircraft carriers and was successful**
- 🌍 **Turning point of the war in the Pacific**

# Battle of Guadalcanal

A tropical beach scene with palm trees and a shipwreck. The background shows a sandy beach with several palm trees, some leaning. In the distance, a large, rusted metal shipwreck is partially submerged in the ocean. The sky is overcast.

- 🌍 **August 1942 – February 1943**
- 🌍 **Allies attacked Japanese airbase in Solomon Islands**
- 🌍 **Battle turned into a savage struggle & ended with more than 24,000 dead**

# Battles of Iwo Jima & Okinawa

- 🌍 **February – June 1945**
- 🌍 **Brutal fighting over small islands close to Japan**
- 🌍 **Extremely high casualties on both sides**



# Hiroshima & Nagasaki

- **August 6 & 9th, 1945**
- **President Truman informed an invasion of Japan might cost a million lives**
- **Dropping the bomb would be the quickest possible end to war**
- **Approximately 140,000+ Japanese civilians died in the atomic bombs**
- **Radiation fallout killed more. Led to Japanese surrender**