CHAPTER 10

The End of World War II

The Axis Powers had been winning World War II when the United States entered the war. The Battle of Stalingrad in 1943 marked an important change in the war. After this battle, the Allies began to win World War II.

Great Britain, the United States, and the Soviet Union worked hard to create a plan to defeat the Axis Powers in Europe. First, they planned to push the Germans and the Italians from northern Africa. From Africa, the Allies would conquer Italy. Then they would invade France. Their plan worked.

General Dwight Eisenhower was from the United States. He led the Allied soldiers in northern Africa and in Europe. The Allies freed Africa from the Axis nations. Then the Allied soldiers went to Italy. Italy surrendered to the Allies in 1943.

NEW WORDS

♦ D-Day
♦ Holocaust
♦ atomic bomb
♦ isolationism
♦ rebuild

PEOPLE & PLACES

♦ Dwight Eisenhower
♦ Normandy
♦ Philippines
♦ Douglas MacArthur
♦ Harry Truman
♦ Hiroshima
♦ Nagasaki
♦ Anne Frank
♦ Jewish Germans

Allied soldiers were welcomed by the French people after the soldiers defeated the Germans at Normandy.
The Allies worked hard to plan a way to defeat the Axis Powers. To which nation did most of their routes of attack finally lead?

The Allies planned to free France from Germany. General Eisenhower led the Allied soldiers in these attacks. On June 6, 1944, the Allies invaded France. This important date is known as D-Day. On D-Day, thousands of Allied soldiers sailed from Great Britain across the English Channel. They landed on the beaches of Normandy, an area of northern France.

The Allies surprised the Germans in France on D-Day. But the Germans fought hard against the Allies. Thousands of soldiers died. The Allies fought their way through France. In August the Allies freed the city of Paris from the Germans.

The Germans were losing the war. But they were not ready to surrender. Then the Allies attacked Germany. Allied planes dropped bombs on German cities. Many cities were destroyed. At last, the Germans knew they could not win. Adolf Hitler killed himself. A few days later, on May 7, 1945, Germany surrendered. The war in Europe had ended.

The world soon learned about the terrible things the Nazis had done during the war. Hitler had planned to kill all Jews as he conquered the world.
Jews and other people in the concentration camps were forced to live in terrible conditions.

About six million Jews from all over Europe were killed by Nazis during the war. At least five million other people were also killed. Most were killed in concentration camps. People in the concentration camps were starved, beaten, and forced to work as slaves. Millions were shot or were killed with poison gas. People who spoke out against Hitler were also sent to the concentration camps. This killing of six million Jews and so many other people is now called the **Holocaust**.

World War II was not over. The war against Japan went on after the war in Europe had ended. The Japanese had captured parts of China. They also had captured islands in the Pacific Ocean, including Guam and the Philippines. The Allies fought hard to free Asia from Japan's control. American soldiers were an important part of these battles.

General Douglas MacArthur of the United States led the Allied soldiers in Asia. MacArthur had promised to help the Philippines become free. He kept his promise. He captured the Philippine capital
in 1945. There were many other battles. Americans and other Allies slowly recaptured islands from the Japanese.

In 1945 the Allies were winning the war against Japan. But Japan would not surrender. The Japanese believed it was better to die than to surrender. Every day more Allied soldiers were killed in the war with the Japanese.

President Roosevelt had died during the war. Harry Truman was the new President of the United States. He decided to use a powerful weapon to force Japan to surrender. This weapon was called the **atomic bomb**. The atomic bomb was much more dangerous than any other weapon ever used.

President Truman warned Japan. He told Japan that the United States would drop an atomic bomb on a Japanese city. He told Japan that it was time to surrender. But Japan refused.

On August 6, 1945, an American plane dropped an atomic bomb on Hiroshima, a Japanese city. Thousands of people were killed. Most of the city was destroyed. But Japan would not surrender. Three days later, Americans dropped an atomic bomb on the Japanese city of Nagasaki. This time, the Japanese surrendered. There was peace in the world again.

World War II caused the deaths of millions of people. Many cities and roads were destroyed. Many Europeans and Asians were starving and homeless.
Powerful nations like Japan and Germany were now weak. Communist nations began in Eastern Europe. After the war, the United States and the Soviet Union were the two strongest world powers. A lot of tension between these two powerful nations would soon lead to a different type of war.

After World War I, Americans did not want to be involved in the problems of other countries. They did not want to fight in another war. This isolationism ended when the United States entered World War II. After World War II, the United States did not return to isolationism. Instead, Americans helped their allies become stronger. The United States worked to spread democracy in nations such as Japan and Italy. The United States also helped rebuild many nations in Europe.

People around the world decided it was time to work for peace. They did not want another world war. In the next chapter, you will learn how nations worked together for peace.
Anne Frank (1929–1945)

Anne Frank was a Jewish girl who lived during World War II. She and her family hid from the Nazis during the Holocaust. The diary that Anne wrote while in hiding tells what life was like for many Jews during this terrible time.

Anne Frank was born in Frankfurt, Germany, in 1929. Anne and her mother, father, and sister moved to Holland in 1933. They moved when the Nazis began to take away the rights of Jewish Germans.

In 1942 the Nazis took control of Holland. To hide from the Nazis, Anne's family began living in a secret place behind the office of her father's business. Four other Jewish people hid with the Franks. They all had to be very quiet so that they would not be discovered. Sometimes they would have to sit for hours without moving. They could not turn on lights at night. Friends who were not Jewish would sneak food, clothing, and books to the families.

While in hiding, Anne Frank wrote her thoughts in a diary. She described what it was like to live in hiding. She wrote about her hopes for the future.

Two years later the Nazis discovered the secret hiding place. The Franks and the other Jewish people were sent to concentration camps. Anne died in a camp when she was 15 years old.

After World War II ended, people were looking through the ruins of the office building where Anne had hid. There they found Anne’s diary. In 1947 her diary was made into a book called The Diary of a Young Girl. It was also made into a movie.

Anne’s diary is famous throughout the world. Today the place where Anne and her family hid is the Anne Frank Museum. Near the museum is a statue that honors the memory of Anne Frank.
Using Vocabulary

Finish the Paragraph  Use the words in dark print to finish the paragraph below. Write on the correct blank lines the words you choose.

rebuild  D-Day  atomic bomb  isolationism

Before World War II, Americans did not want to be involved with the problems of other nations. This was called ______________. But after Japan attacked Pearl Harbor, the United States entered the war. On June 6, 1944, or ______________, American soldiers and Allied soldiers landed in France. They conquered Germany by 1945. To force Japan to surrender, the United States dropped a deadly weapon called the ______________ on two Japanese cities. After the war, Americans helped ______________ many European cities and towns that had been destroyed.

Read and Remember

Finish Up  Choose words in dark print to best complete the sentences. Write the words on the correct blank lines.

Anne Frank  concentration  Hitler
Eisenhower  world powers

1. ______________ led the Allied soldiers to free France from Germany.
2. ______________ planned to kill all Jews as he conquered the world.
3. Millions of Jews were killed in ______________ camps during the Holocaust.
4. ______________ wrote a diary about her life during the Holocaust.
5. After World War II, the United States and the Soviet Union were the two strongest ______________.
Think and Apply

**Distinguishing Relevant Information** Information that is relevant is information that is important for what you want to say or write. Imagine that you want to tell a friend about World War II in the Pacific. Read each sentence below. Decide which sentences are relevant to what you will say. Put a check (✓) next to the relevant sentences. There are three relevant sentences.

___ 1. The Allies went to Africa to fight Germany and Italy.
___ 2. The Japanese captured many islands in the Pacific Ocean.
___ 3. On D-Day the Allies began their fight to free France.
___ 4. General Douglas MacArthur led the Allied soldiers to free the Philippines.
___ 5. American planes dropped atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

**Skill Builder**

**Reading a Time Line** Dates tell us when events in history happened. A time line helps us show which events happened first. Look at the time line below. Then write the answer to each question.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A.D.</th>
<th>1939</th>
<th>1940</th>
<th>1941</th>
<th>1942</th>
<th>1943</th>
<th>1944</th>
<th>1945</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

1. When did World War II begin? ________________
2. When did Italy surrender to the Allies? ________________
3. Did Germany invade the Soviet Union or Poland first? ________________
4. What happened in 1944? ________________
5. How many years passed between Japan's attack on Pearl Harbor and Japan's surrender? ________________
**Reading a Flow Chart**  A *flow chart* is a chart that shows you facts in the correct order they occur. The flow chart on this page shows how *sonar* was sometimes used to destroy submarines in World War II. Sonar is a type of technology that can allow ships to locate objects underwater. Ships send *sound waves* that bounce off of an object that is in the path of the waves. Read the flow chart. Then circle the words that best complete the sentences.

**Using Sonar in World War II**

1. The ship sends sound waves into the water.
2. Some sound waves strike the submarine.
3. The sound waves bounce off the submarine.
4. The ship receives the sound waves that bounced off the submarine.
5. The ship uses the signals to locate the submarine.
6. The ship or an airplane sends a bomb into the water to the submarine.
7. The submarine is destroyed.

1. In the first step, the ____ sends sound waves into the water:
   - submarine
   - airplane
   - ship

2. In Step 3, the ____ bounce off the submarine:
   - sound waves
   - bombs
   - fish

3. The ship receives the sound waves in ____.
   - Step 2
   - Step 4
   - Step 6

4. After the ship locates the submarine, it ____.
   - sends a bomb into the water
   - sends more sound waves
   - flees

5. In the final step, the submarine ____.
   - bombs the ship
   - goes to the top of the water
   - is destroyed

**Journal Writing**

Write a paragraph about the Allies' plan to defeat the Axis Powers in Europe.