

Shown above are general directions of the redevelopment rather than exact routes to be followed by sea and land.

be embarking from ports that are cluttered with the wreckage of war that necessarily reduces harbor efficiency. And they will not have full use of all shipping—much of it is needed to keep the Pacific war moving.

These first Pacific-bound units will travel light. They will leave the bulk of their old equipment in Europe and will be completely reequipped at their Pacific base with factory-fresh gear snapped direct from the States. That's the fastest way to get them into action, according to Army experience.

However, those that will follow will bring along their own stuff. About 70% of the supplies now in Europe, according to James F. Byrnes, former War Mobilization Director, will be returned to the States and a goodly portion will be shipped thence to the Pacific. Already, rebuilt French and Belgian factories are at work rehabilitating U. S. equipment. Long after V-E day, Army technicians will be busy at work reconditioning, recreating and reshipping this salvaged war gear from Europe, either for further use in this war or for our peacetime army.

### Some Obstacles

Two factors that will delay shipment of equipment from Europe to the Pacific are the differences in battle and climatic conditions. Corrosion and fungi are relentless enemies of machines in the tropical and sub-tropical Pacific areas. Special waterproofing processes must be given to radio equipment and hundreds of delicate precision instruments before they can be transported into the stormy and humid Far East. And, incidentally, radio and its associated instruments are needed even more critically in the Pacific war, flung out as it is over such large areas, than in the comparatively compact European battleground.

The Pacific supply problem is made more complex by the fact that the war out there is largely amphibious. In the conflict with Germany, once the Navy got Johnny Doughboy onto the European continent, he stayed there.

The Navy didn't have to move him from town to town. And he didn't need ship space again until V-E day.

But, in the Pacific, Johnny Doughboy doesn't stay put . . . like a poker chip, he's forever on the move. It's just one beach after another. And with the establishment of each beach—forces progress with giant jumps, head the supply problem becomes more acute. Enemy shore-based gunfire and unfriendly surf take heavy tolls of vehicles, guns and landing craft.

Even after the beachhead has been expanded, the island secured and its port put into operation, the mortality rate in equipment is severe. As our much of the material that was rushed there has got to be left behind rather

than waste the time to reload it and haul it to the next base of operations. And then, of course, there's the question of mileage. Geography, it has been said, is Japan's greatest ally.

Says Fleet Admiral Nimitz: "The principal obstacle to victory in the Pacific is not the Japs, but distance."

And Rear Admiral DeWitt C. Ramsay, Chief of BuAer, adds:

"To soften up Germany, we had British planes fighting side by side with our bombers and a determined, industrialized England as a base of operations. We have no such base in the Pacific. We must have its equivalent before we can come to grips with the main Japanese armies and cut deeply into Japanese industrial strength. This means more amphibious operations . . . and for every mile we move forward, we add another mile to a supply line that already is the longest in the history of warfare."

Pacific distances are truly staggering. From San Francisco to Guam, Fleet Admiral Nimitz's advance headquarters, it is more than 5,000 miles. From Guam to Okinawa, it is another 1,225 miles; Guam to Manila is 1,380; and Guam to Tokyo is 1,352. Counting turn-around time in port, a slow freighter starting from the West Coast can cover the distance to the Far East no more than two-and-a-half times a year. Shipping from East Coast ports would take longer.

The Pacific Ocean areas over which the U. S. Navy must roam . . . protecting liberated sea lanes, slashing open others . . . cover at least one-third of the earth's surface. In pushing the Japs back to the approaches of their island empire, the Navy has freed over 5,000,000 square miles of water.

Big? Well, even such a proud Texan as Fleet Admiral Nimitz has had to begrudgingly admit:

"If there is one place bigger than Texas, it is the Pacific Ocean. All of us . . . will roam these broad open spaces until our treacherous enemy is roped, tied and properly branded so our descendants may always recognize his true character."

### A Hard Job Ahead . . .

*Statement to the men of the United States Naval Forces by Fleet Admiral Ernest J. King, USN, Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, and Chief of Naval Operations:*

Victory over Nazi organized resistance is not only a source of much gratification, but an occasion for congratulations. I wish to commend every officer and man who has served in the Atlantic on the successful termination of a long, tedious and difficult task. In cooperation with our Allies, your operations have embraced the almost total destruction of Hitler's U-boat fleets, the conveying of the endless streams of men and supplies which made the great European land offensives possible, and the mounting of the invasions of North Africa, Sicily, Italy, Normandy and Southern France. Your work was often unspectacular and unheralded, but it was always hard.

Another hard job still lies ahead in the Pacific. However, we are now ready to augment further our already effective forces in that area with battle-tested and victorious units from the Atlantic. With this transfer of fighting strength, the Japanese should be as certain of ultimate defeat as we are of final victory.



# LONG ROAD to V-E

Milestones Mark 5 Years, 8 Months, 8 Days  
From Attack on Poland to German Surrender

1939

- 1 Sept.—Germany invades Poland.
- 3 Sept.—Britain, France, New Zealand, Australia, India declare war on Reich.
- 6 Sept.—Ditto Union of South Africa.
- 7 Sept.—British troops land in France.
- 8 Sept.—President Roosevelt declares limited emergency.
- 10 Sept.—Canada declares war on Germany.
- 17 Sept.—Russia occupies eastern Poland.
- 27 Sept. Warsaw falls to Nazi blitz.
- 30 Nov.—Russia invades Finland.
- 13 Dec.—Nazi battleship *Graf Spee* engages in running battle with British cruisers, flees for Montevideo.
- 17 Dec.—*Graf Spee* blown up by its officers off Montevideo.
- 19 Dec.—32,581-ton Nazi liner *Columbus* scuttled off Cape May, N. J.

1940

- 12 March—Finns, Russians sign peace.
- 9 April—Nazis invade Denmark, Norway.
- 10 May—Nazis invade Low Countries. Churchill succeeds Chamberlain as British Prime Minister.
- 15 May—Dutch Army capitulates.



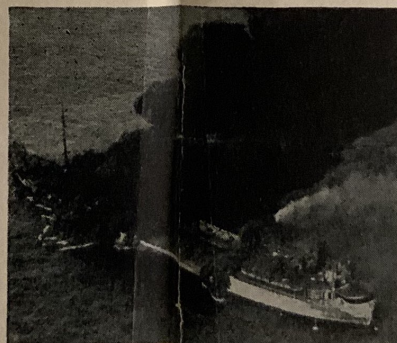
Official U. S. Army Signal Corps photograph  
FIRST Yanks land in North Ireland.  
Irish lads give them "V" greeting.

- 17 May—Nazis smash Maginot Line; Brussels falls.
- 18 May—Nazis take Antwerp.
- 28 May—King surrenders Belgian army.
- 29-31 May—British evacuate Dunkirk.
- 9 June—Norway surrenders.
- 10 June—Italy declares war on France, Britain.
- 14 June—Nazis march into Paris.
- 22 June—French, German armistice signed.
- 24 June—Ditto French-Italian.
- 5 July—France splits with Britain.
- 19 July—President signs two-ocean Navy bill.
- 8 Aug.—500 Nazi planes open Britain blitz.
- 3 Sept.—Announce transfer of 50 over-age destroyers to Britain.
- 16 Sept.—Selective Service becomes law; 16 Oct. for registration.

- 27 Sept.—Japan joins Axis.
- 28 Oct.—Italy invades Greece.
- 29 Oct.—First draft numbers drawn.
- 5 Nov.—President Roosevelt gets third term.
- 20 Nov.—Hungary joins Axis.
- 23 Nov.—So does Rumania.
- 24 Nov.—And Slovakia, too.

1941

- 1 March—Bulgaria signs Axis pact; Nazis parade in.
- 11 March—Lend-lease becomes law.
- 6 April—Nazis invade Greece, Yugoslavia.
- 9 April—Marines land in Greenland.
- 13 April—Japan, Russia in 5-year neutrality pact.
- 17 April—Yugoslav army capitulates.
- 23 April—Greece surrenders to Axis.
- 27 April—Nazis enter Athens.
- 10 May—Rudolph Hess, No. 3 Nazi, parachutes into Scottish field.
- 21 May—U. S. freighter *Robin Moor* torpedoed off Brazil.
- 27 May—President proclaims unlimited emergency.
- 30 May—German air army takes Crete after 10-day fight.
- 16 June—U. S. orders Nazi consulates closed by 10 July.
- 22 June—Germany, Rumania invade Russia.
- 24 June—President pledges all possible aid to Russia.
- 25 June—Finland declares war on Russia.
- 7 July—Marines, invited, occupy Iceland.
- 14 Aug.—President and Churchill meet at sea aboard USS *Augusta*, promulgate "Atlantic Charter."
- 21 Aug.—Russians lose Gomel.
- 19 Sept.—And Kiev.
- 8 Oct.—Orel, too.
- 17 Oct.—USS *Kearny* torpedoed off Iceland. Odessa falls to Nazis.
- 23 Oct.—Nazis in Kharkov.
- 30 Oct.—Navy tanker *Salinas* torpedoed off Newfoundland.
- 31 Oct.—USS *Reuben James* sunk by torpedo; about 100 lost.
- 1 Nov.—Coast Guard made part of Navy.



Official U. S. Navy photograph  
TORPEDOED tanker burns in Atlantic. Nazis counted on U-boats to win.

- 17 Nov.—Part of Neutrality Act repealed to permit arming of merchant ships, passage to belligerent ports.
- 6 Dec.—German blitz stalls outside Moscow.
- 7 Dec.—Axis partner Japan attacks U. S. at Pearl Harbor.
- 11 Dec.—Germany, Italy declare war on U. S.; Congress answers with unanimous declarations; Nicaragua, Cuba, Guatemala, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic join U. S.
- 12 Dec.—Panama, Haiti, Honduras declare war on Germany, Italy.
- 13 Dec.—Russians drive Nazis back from Moscow. El Salvador declares war on Germany, Italy.
- 16 Dec.—Czechoslovakia joins Allies.
- 17 Dec.—Albania declares war on U. S.



Official U. S. Coast Guard photograph  
CAPTURE by Coast Guard spiked  
Nazi weather station in Greenland.

- 30 Dec.—Admiral Ernest J. King assumes post as Cominch.
- 31 Dec.—Venezuela breaks with Axis.

1942

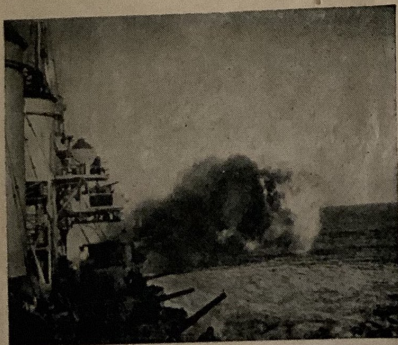
- 14 Jan.—First ship torpedoed off U. S.
- 24 Jan.—Peru ends relations with Axis.
- 25 Jan.—Uruguay also.
- 26 Jan.—First U. S. troops land in northern Ireland.
- 28 Jan.—Paraguay, Brazil end relations with Axis.
- 29 Jan.—So does Ecuador.
- 22 May—Mexico declares war on Axis.
- 30 May—First 1,000-plane RAF raid; 3,000 tons dropped on Cologne.
- 5 June—U. S. declares war on Hungary, Bulgaria, Rumania.
- 10 June—Lidice, Czechoslovakia, wiped out in reprisal for Gestapo slaying.
- 20 June—British lose Tobruk, Libyan port, to Rommel's Afrika Korps.
- 27 June—Arrest of 8 sub-landed saboteurs on Atlantic coast announced.
- 1 July—British check German advance at El Alamein.
- 2 July—Nazis seize Sevastopol after 8-month siege.
- 4 July—U. S. bombers in first raid on western Europe.
- 16 July—U. S., Finland end consular relationships.
- 21 July—President Roosevelt names Admiral Leahy his Chief of Staff.
- 28 July—Rostov falls.
- 30 July—Women's Reserve founded.
- 8 Aug.—6 sub-landed saboteurs executed, one gets life, one 30 years.
- 19 Aug.—Commandos raid Dieppe.
- 22 Aug.—Brazil declares war on Germany, Italy.
- 23 Aug.—Nazis begin siege of Stalingrad.



- 9 Sept.—Iran declares war on Germany.
- 24 Oct.—British break through Axis line at El Alamein.
- 4 Nov.—Axis in full retreat from Egypt.
- 8 Nov.—Allies land in North Africa.
- 10 Nov.—Yanks take Oran; Nazi troops enter unoccupied France.
- 11 Nov.—Americans capture Casablanca.
- 15 Nov.—Admiral Darlan assumes control of French Africa.
- 19 Nov.—Red Army launches offensive north of Stalingrad.
- 27 Nov.—French warships scuttled at Toulon.
- 1 Dec.—Ethiopia declares war on Axis.
- 14 Dec.—Abyssinia declares war on Axis.
- 20 Dec.—Russians open offensive in Caucasus.
- 24 Dec.—Darlan assassinated; Gen. Giraud named successor.

**1943**

- 14 Jan.—President Roosevelt, Churchill meet at Casablanca.
- 18 Jan.—Russians break 17-month siege of Leningrad.
- 20 Jan.—Chile breaks with Axis.
- 27 Jan.—U. S. bombers in first attack on Reich.
- 30 Jan.—British make first daylight raid on Berlin.
- 31 Jan.—Nazi 6th Army destroyed at Stalingrad.
- 2 Feb.—Fighting at Stalingrad ceases. Nazi losses: 330,000.
- 8 Feb.—Russians take Kursk, held by Nazis since Nov. 1941.
- 14 Feb.—Nazis break through U. S. lines in central Tunisia.
- 20 Feb.—Nazis take Kasserine Pass.
- 25 Feb.—U. S. regains Kasserine.
- 7 April—Bolivia declares war on Germany and Italy.
- 7 May—Allies take Bizerte, Tunis.
- 11 May—Nazi resistance in Africa ends.
- 12 May—President, Churchill confer in Washington.
- 16 May—RAF blasts two Ruhr dams.
- 11 June—Pantelleria in Mediterranean surrenders to Allied force.
- 5 July—Nazis launch Russian summer offensive.
- 10 July—Allies invade Sicily.
- 23 July—Americans take Palermo.
- 24 July—Stalin announces Nazi offensive shattered.
- 25 July—Mussolini ousted.



Official U. S. Navy photograph

SICILY was softened by Navy guns for Allied hop across Mediterranean.

**JUNE 1945**



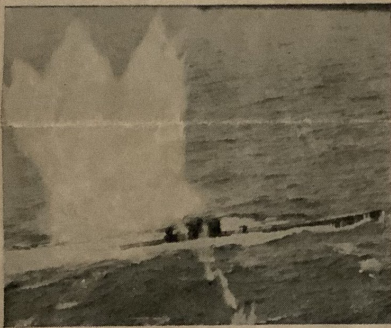
**ATTACK AND COUNTERATTACK:** Gray areas show farthest Nazi advance. Milestones in Allies' counterassault are indicated by dates (see text for details). Black areas show Nazi positions when U. S. and Russian armies met.

**1944**

- 1 Aug.—175 U. S. Liberators in record low-level bombing of Ploesti refineries.
- 5—Orel, Belgorod taken; Red Army snatches offensive.
- 11-24 Aug.—President, Churchill confer at Quebec.
- 17 Aug.—Navy takes islands of Lipari and Stromboli north of Sicily.
- 3 Sept.—Allies invade Italy across Messina Straits.
- 8 Sept.—Italy surrenders.
- 9 Sept.—Allies land at Salerno.
- 11 Sept.—Five BBs among 53 Italian warships surrendered to Allies.
- 12 Sept.—Mussolini "rescued" by Nazi paratroopers.
- 25 Sept.—Smolensk falls to Russians.
- 1 Oct.—Naples taken by Allies.
- 13 Oct.—Italy declares war on Germany.
- 7 Nov.—Russians retake Kiev.
- 26 Nov.—Colombia declares "state of belligerency" with Germany.
- 28 Nov.—President, Churchill, Stalin begin Teheran conferences.
- 24 Dec.—Eisenhower named Supreme Allied Commander in Europe.
- 25 Dec.—Russians open offensive west of Kiev.
- 26 Dec.—Nazi battleship *Scharnhorst* sunk off Norway by British.
- 30 Dec.—Russians crumble Nazi defense line west of Kiev.
- 6 Jan.—Russians drive into pre-war Poland.
- 9 Jan.—U. S. 5th Army captures San Giusta, Italy.
- 10 Jan.—President announces U-boat toll dropped 60% in 1943.
- 11 Jan.—Ciano, Mussolini's son-in-law, executed for treason.
- 20 Jan.—Germans quit Novgorod.
- 21 Jan.—Leningrad siege lifted; RAF gives Berlin biggest raid.
- 22 Jan.—Allies land in Anzio-Nettuno area.
- 27 Jan.—Liberia declares war on Germany.
- 2 Feb.—Yanks breach Gustav Line in Cassino push.
- 4 Feb.—Navy reveals three Nazi blockade runners sunk in South Atlantic.
- 9 Feb.—Navy announces USS *Ranger*, "sunk" by Nazis 10 months ago, has since destroyed 40,000 tons of German shipping.
- 14 Feb.—Allies bomb, shell Mt. Cassino's ancient Benedictine Abbey.
- 2 March—U. S., Britain stop military shipments to Turkey.
- 5 March—Russians start Ukraine drive.
- 8 March—Heaviest Berlin daylight raid (360,000 bombs).



- 15 March—U. S. bombers level Casino.
- 19 March—Red Army crosses Dniester into Bessarabia.
- 21 March—Navy reveals British get 38 CVEs by lend-lease.
- 27 March—Russians cross Dniester into pre-war Rumania.
- 1 April—Britain's eastern coastal area closed to visitors.
- 3 April—Carrier planes fire *Tirpitz* in Norwegian haven.
- 10 April—Russians recapture Odessa.
- 17 April—Foreign diplomats forbidden to leave England.
- 24 April—Overseas travel banned by British as pre-invasion precaution.
- 28 April—Secretary of Navy Frank Knox dies of heart attack at 70.
- 9 May—Russians retake Sevastopol.
- 11 May—Allies open central Italy offensive.
- 17 May—Senate confirms appointment of James Forrestal as SecNav.
- 18 May—Cassino falls to Allies.
- 20 May—6,000 Allied planes bomb 150-mile Brittany-Belgium strip.
- 25 May—Anzio beachhead joined with main U. S. forces.
- 3 June—1,000 U. S. planes bomb Calais, Boulogne areas.
- 4 June—Allies take Rome. Calais, Boulogne areas blasted again.
- 6 June—Allies land in Navy-bombarded Normandy.



Official U. S. Navy photograph

**HUNTED** by air and sea, Nazis lost sub war. Supplies got through.

- 7 June—Naval gunfire helps invasion forces push five miles inland.
- 8 June—First robot-bomb attack on London.
- 14 June—Nazis counterattack fiercely in Normandy.
- 17 June—Navy lands French troops on Elba.
- 25 June—Navy bombards Cherbourg.
- 26 June—Cherbourg falls to Yanks.
- 30 June—U. S. severs relations with Finland due to Nazi alliance.
- 6 July—Von Kluge replaces von Rundstedt as Nazi commander in West.
- 9 July—Caen falls to British, Canadians.
- 18 July—Yanks take St. Lo.
- 20 July—Hitler injured in bomb plot.
- 25 July—Yanks slash through Nazis in Normandy 40-mile front.
- 26 July—Double-size robots hit London.
- 28 July—Russians take Brest-Litovsk.
- 31 July—Yanks seize Avranches.
- 1 Aug.—Yanks drive into Brittany plains.



Official U. S. Army Air Forces photograph

**BIG THREE** met for first time at Teheran. They planned second front.

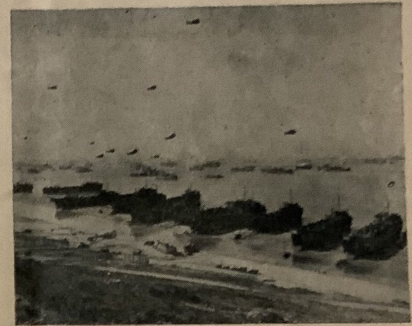
- 2 Aug.—Turkey severs diplomatic, economic relations with Reich.
- 3 Aug.—Russians cross Vistula.
- 4 Aug.—Yank patrols enter Florence.
- 5 Aug.—Yank tanks in Brest, 138-mile advance in four days.
- 7 Aug.—Yanks cut off Brittany.
- 8 Aug.—8 German officers executed in Hitler death plot.
- 11 Aug.—Yanks cross Loire River.
- 12 Aug.—Nazis yield Florence.
- 13 Aug.—Nazis begin Normandy withdrawal.
- 15 Aug.—Allies invade southern France along Riviera.
- 17 Aug.—Russians at Prussian border.
- 19 Aug.—Yank tanks reach Paris suburbs.
- 20 Aug.—Free French enter Toulon.
- 22 Aug.—Yank tanks slash within 150 miles of Germany.
- 23 Aug.—Marseille and Grenoble fall in southern France.
- 25 Aug.—Paris liberated.
- 26 Aug.—Nazis evacuating LeHavre. Rouen under U. S. fire. Yanks begin land, sea attack on Brest. 10,000 Nazis near Bordeaux quit.
- 27 Aug.—Allied spearhead reaches Marne.
- 28 Aug.—U. S. 3d marches into Chateau-Thierry.
- 29 Aug.—Allies cross Aisne River.
- 30 Aug.—Nazis evacuate Rouen. Russians take Ploesti in Rumania.
- 31 Aug.—British in Amiens, Yanks cross Meuse.
- 1 Sept.—St. Mihiel, Dieppe, Verdun fall.
- 2 Sept.—Yanks in Belgium. U. S. 5th captures Pisa in Italy.



Photograph from Press Association, Inc.

**STALINGRAD** (above) ended Nazi drive to east as Reds turned tide.

- 4 Sept.—Belgian Yanks reach Reich border. Finns, Russians sign armistice.
- 5 Sept.—Russia declares war on Bulgaria.
- 6 Sept.—Allied patrols cross Reich border from Luxembourg to Nancy.
- 7 Sept.—U. S. 1st occupies Sedan.
- 8 Sept.—Yanks take Liege. Russians invade Bulgaria.
- 9 Sept.—Armistice ends four-day Russian-Bulgarian war.
- 10 Sept.—First U. S. shells drop on Reich near Aachen. President, Churchill meet at Quebec.
- 11 Sept.—U. S. 1st crosses into Germany at Trier.
- 12 Sept.—First German town falls to Yanks—Roetgen. Rumania signs armistice with United Nations.
- 14 Sept.—Allies cross German border at three points.



Official U. S. Navy photograph

**NORMANDY** invasion was first hole in Hitler's "impregnable" West Wall.

- 17 Sept.—British airborne troops land near Arnhem in Holland.
- 17-19 Sept.—Allied carrier planes attack Crete.
- 20 Sept.—Yanks win Brest after 46-day siege.
- 22 Sept.—Russians in Tallinn, Estonian capital.
- 24 Sept.—British airborne forces land in Greece.
- 25-26 Sept.—British trapped at Arnhem evacuated.
- 27 Sept.—Russians at Gulf of Riga.
- 2 Oct.—U. S. 1st breaches Siegfried Line north of Aachen.
- 6 Oct.—Russians cross into Hungary.
- 9 Oct.—Dumbarton Oaks Conference results in recommendation of international peace organization.
- 10 Oct.—British enter Corinth, Greece.
- 11 Oct.—Coast Guard seizes Nazi radio-weather stations in Greenland.
- 13 Oct.—Russians take Riga, Latvia.
- 15 Oct.—Hungary asks armistice.
- 18 Oct.—Hitler creates Home Army of males between 16 and 60.
- 20 Oct.—Russians take Belgrade. Aachen falls to U. S. 1st.
- 28 Oct.—Bulgaria signs armistice.
- 1 Nov.—British storm Walcheren Island, guarding Antwerp.
- 3 Nov.—Port of Antwerp opened.
- 7 Nov.—President Roosevelt reelected for fourth term.
- 9 Nov.—U. S. 3d crosses Moselle.
- 10 Nov.—Churchill reveals V-2 (rocket bomb) attacks.
- 12 Nov.—RAF sinks Nazi battleship *Tirpitz* in Norwegian fjord.



- 16 Nov.—Six Allied armies attack from Holland to Alps.
- 18 Nov.—Nazis quit Tirana, Albania.
- 19 Nov.—Geilenkirchen falls—largest German city taken to date.
- 20 Nov.—Yanks seize Metz.
- 25 Nov.—Allies burst through Huertgen Forest onto Cologne plain.
- 28 Nov.—U. S. 3d surges into Saar.
- 2 Dec.—U. S. 3d enters Sauerlautern.
- 15 Dec.—U. S. 7th penetrates Reich at three places in Palatinate.
- 16 Dec.—Nazis counterattack through Ardennes Forest.
- 17 Dec.—Nazis gain 20 miles in Belgium, reach Stavelot.
- 19 Dec.—Allies recapture Stavelot, Nazis head for Bastogne.
- 20 Dec.—Yanks in Bastogne fight off Nazis.
- 22 Dec.—Russian winter drive opens.
- 23 Dec.—5,000 Allied planes hammer Nazi bulge.
- 24 Dec.—6,500 planes continue battering of Nazis.
- 25-26 Dec.—Nazi bulge reaches Meuse. Russians encircle Budapest.
- 27 Dec.—U. S. armored column relieves Bastogne.
- 28 Dec.—Nazi offensive stalls.

### 1945

- 8 Jan.—Nazis begin Belgian withdrawal.
- 12 Jan.—Nazis in full retreat from bulge.
- 13 Jan.—2,300 planes rake fleeing Nazis. Russians open Polish drive.
- 17 Jan.—Warsaw falls to Russians.
- 19 Jan.—So do Lodz, Cracow.
- 21 Jan.—Russians invade Silesia.



**SIEGFRIED LINE** was another hurdle Yank doughboys took in their stride.

- 23 Jan.—Russians reach Oder River.
- 29 Jan.—Yanks break through Ardennes into Reich.
- 2 Feb.—“Big Three” meet at Yalta.
- 6 Feb.—Russians cross Oder.
- 7 Feb.—Yanks attack along 70-mile front in Reich.
- 10 Feb.—Yanks seize main Roer dam.
- 13 Feb.—Budapest falls after 50-day siege.
- 14 Feb.—8,000 Allied planes blast Nazis in Russians’ path.
- 21 Feb.—U. S. planes bomb Berchtesgaden; ignore Hitler’s retreat.
- 23 Feb.—U. S. 1st and 9th cross Roer.
- 2 March—U. S. 9th reaches Rhine opposite Duesseldorf.
- 6 March—Cologne falls to U. S. 1st.
- 7 March—U. S. 1st crosses Ludendorff Bridge, establishes bridgehead across Rhine at Remagen.



**BELGIAN BULGE** was Nazi’s final bolt of lightning war on grand scale.

- 12 March—Kuestrin falls to Russians.
- 15 March—U. S. 7th opens Saar drive.
- 18 March—Coblentz falls to U. S. 3d. Center span of Remagen’s Ludendorff Bridge collapses, but pontoon spans supply bridgehead.
- 20 March—Nazis routed in Saar; Saarbruecken, Mainz, Worms fall.
- 22 March—Ferried in landing craft by specially trained U. S. Navy units, 3d Army crosses Rhine.
- 23-24 March—U. S. 9th, British 2d cross Rhine, ferried by U. S. Navy.
- 25 March—U. S. 3d crosses Main. Russians aim at Vienna.
- 26 March—Seven Allied armies advance through Reich against ragged resistance.
- 27 March—Eisenhower says Nazis on western front “are a whipped army.”
- 30 March—Russians invade Austria, capture Danzig. 1,000 U. S. bombers blast sub bases at Bremen, Wilhelmshaven, Farge, Hamburg.
- 31 March—London says Nazis resuming intensive sub warfare.
- 1 April—Nazis trapped in Ruhr. German radio announces formation of “Werewolves” to wage guerrilla warfare.
- 4 April—British 2d crosses Weser, heads for Bremen.
- 5 April—Russians lay siege to Vienna.
- 7 April—U. S. 3d seizes \$100,000,000 Nazi gold hoard in salt mine.
- 9 April—Russians in Vienna. Allies open new Italian offensive.
- 10 April—U. S. 9th captures Hanover.
- 11 April—U. S. 9th reaches Elbe River.
- 12 April—President Roosevelt dies of cerebral hemorrhage, Vice President Truman sworn in. Yanks cross Elbe. Russians in Berlin drive.



Official U. S. Army Signal Corps photographs

**AIR BOMBS** cut Germany’s supply arteries, tore holes in her industry.

- 13 April—Vienna falls to Russians.
- 16 April—Allies open all-out drive in Italy.
- 17 April—Yanks halt at Elbe. Russians within 18-20 miles of Berlin.
- 18 April—U. S. 3d drives into Czechoslovakia, cuts Germany in two.
- 19 April—Leipzig falls to U. S. 1st. Ruhr pocket wiped out. Nazis report huge tank battle outside Berlin.
- 20 April—Nuernberg falls to U. S. 7th. RAF sinks last Nazi pocket battleship, *Luetzow*, in Baltic port.
- 21 April—Russians inside Berlin. Allies take Bologna in Italy.
- 22 April—Russians hold one-sixth of Berlin. U. S. 1st, 3d, 9th mark time waiting juncture with Red Army.
- 24 April—1st White Russian, 1st Ukrainian Armies join inside Berlin.



**NAVY** craft ferried Allied armies—and Mr. Churchill—across the Rhine.

- Allies close in on southern redoubt. Allied troops in Italy cross Po; take La Spezia, Modena, Ferrara.
- 25 April—U. S. and Red Armies link fronts at Torgau, on Elbe.
- 26 April—Britain announces V-bomb toll: 2,754 dead, 6,523 seriously injured. Petain surrenders in France.
- 27 April—Genoa entered. Berlin 3/4ths in Russian hands.
- 28 April—Mussolini executed by Italian partisans. President Truman announces no truth to wide-spread surrender reports. U. S. 7th Army crosses Austrian border.
- 29 April—Nazi troops in Italy surrender unconditionally; Milan, Venice taken. 7th Army enters Munich.
- 1 May—Nazi radio announces death of Hitler; Grand Admiral Doenitz named as successor.
- 2 May—Red Army conquers Berlin.
- 3 May—Americans and French mop up Bavarian pocket.
- 4 May—Germans in Holland, Denmark and northern Germany surrender.
- 5 May—German 1st, 19th, 24th Armies surrender, leaving only 7th still fighting in Czechoslovakia. Czech patriots free Prague, ask for Allied help as fighting continues.
- 6 May—Danish patriots clash with pro-Nazis in Copenhagen.
- 7 May—Germany surrenders unconditionally to Allies at 2:41 A. M. in Eisenhower’s headquarters in Reims.
- 8 May—German surrender ratified in Berlin; German resistance ends officially at 2301.



# BATTLE OF ATLANTIC



Official U. S. Navy photograph

SAFE ACROSS the Atlantic, a United Nations convoy steams into port. A Navy escort stands watch at left.

BY ADMIRAL JONAS H. INGRAM, USN  
Commander-in-Chief, U. S. Atlantic Fleet.

**T**HE Battle of the Atlantic, one of the most decisive campaigns of the war, was a fight to the finish. The Nazis carried on their U-boat warfare to the bitter end.

Only three weeks before the Germans surrendered, a formidable wolf pack of U-boats was intercepted and badly mauled by one of the most powerful forces of carriers and destroyer escorts ever to operate in the mid-Atlantic. From prisoners we learned that this pack had orders to blanket the East Coast from Maine to Florida. We sank five U-boats in this blitz of the Nazis.

We had four carriers and 46 destroyer escorts hounding U-boats in the mid-Atlantic after their presence was discovered.

In addition to this blitz there was considerable U-boat activity along the East Coast. For the first time in more than a year U-boats operated off the East Coast in numbers.

Only 24 hours before Germany surrendered we sank a U-boat in our own back yard, off Block Island. We also got another sub south of Nova Scotia in the middle of April. And we had a probable kill off Cape Hatteras just

two weeks before the surrender.

These U-boat actions undoubtedly were the Nazis' last fanatical attempts to panic us before the collapse. They did manage to torpedo five merchantmen off the East Coast in the last three weeks, all but two reaching port.

We were ready for them. When we disposed our forces several months ago to take into account the possibility of buzz-bomb attacks we closed the gaps. Those precautions paid dividends. Buzz bombs never buzzed but the subs were there and we smashed their attack. We got a total of eight U-boats and kept the others down where they could do no harm.

Since V-E Day the U-boats have been surrendering. Until they are all accounted for and the Atlantic is definitely clear we will maintain our patrols out there.

Fleet Admiral Ernest J. King was Commander-in-Chief of the Atlantic Fleet until 30 Dec. 1941, when he was succeeded by Admiral Royal E. Ingersoll. I relieved Admiral Ingersoll on 15 Nov. 1944.

To Fleet Admiral King and Admiral Ingersoll should go full credit for the splendid organization of the Atlantic Fleet and for the magnificent record established in this bitter silent sea war.

From Cape Cod to Capetown, from Reykjavik to Rio, Atlantic Fleet air and sea groups tracked and destroyed the U-boats. Each kill was a small war of its own. The "unpredictable" incident became routine in this most baffling of all types of warfare.

The success of the antisubmarine warfare groups may be attributed to teamwork. Each group was finely trained to operate together, as a team and not as an individual unit. The efficiency of such a group is probably three or four times greater than if each ship had been trained separately.

Now that the Battle of the Atlantic is over, it is possible to tell of some of the exploits of the boys in blue.

For example, we captured a U-boat intact last June. We refer to it as Yehudi. The story of that capture is one of the most interesting to come out of the Atlantic. Captain D. V.

**Now It Can Be Told: The Story of the Navy's Exploits  
In the Campaign That Made Possible Victory in Europe**