

1939-1945

WORLD WAR II

WWII United States At War

War in the Pacific

- Pearl Harbor
 - Dec 7 1941
 - "A Day that will live in infamy"
 - Sank 5 battleships, 3 destroyers, 250 aircraft
 - 4500 casualties
 - Philipines were considered a target
 - December 8th, 1941 FDR declares war on Japan
 - One Dissenting Vote
 - Axis Powers Declare War on US

United States at War

- Early Japanese Success
 - Destruction of the Pacific Fleet left no obstacles
 - Wake Island, Guam fall
 - April 1942 Bataan (Philippines) Surrenders
 - Bataan Death March
 - 65 mile Forced March
 - US & Philipino massacred/starved along the way (5000 US)
 - Japanese not ready for number of POW's
 - Saw surrendering as ultimate of lows, unhuman.

United States At War

- It took time for Pacific Fleet to catch up to pre-Pearl Harbor strengths.
- Japanese Empire at its peak in 1942
- Feb 23, 1942 Japanese subs shell California oil refinery
- Sep. 9/10 Japanese drop incendiary bombs on forest of Oregon
 - Aleutian Islands attacked
- Japanese bomb Calcutta, Darwin Australia
- Turning point of Pacific Theatre: Midway and Guadalcanal-summer 1942

United States At War

- German Success
 - Axis control nearly all of Europe
 - Britain is seiged
 - AfrikaKorps
 - Suez Canal
 - Field Marshall Erwin Rommel "Desert Fox"
 - 7th Panzer Division
 - Well-respected by troops and enemies
 - Never accused of War Crimes, actually challenged Hitler's plans

United States at War

- Summer of 1942
 - Siege Stalingrad
 - Leningrad (St. Petersburg)
 - Moscow
- Strategists recommended taking Hitler out first
 - Allies were there
 - Direct threat to Western Hemisphere

United States At War

- European Turning Point
 - Germans move to Caspian Sea
 - Churchill & FDR inform Stalin that second front is at least 1 year away
 - Stalingrad-September 1942
 - Four months of house-to-house fighting
 - Snipers used heavily
 - German Invasion is halted
 - Stalingrad is practically destroyed, Russia suffers more casualties than the US will for the entire war.
 - Stalin never forgives FDR and Churchill

United States at War

- Feb 1943,
 - With help from Russian winter, the Russian counterattack forces the invading Germans to surrender (1/3 of the force)



United States at War

- Victory in Europe
 - U.S and British troops force 250,000 Axis troops to surrender in North Africa



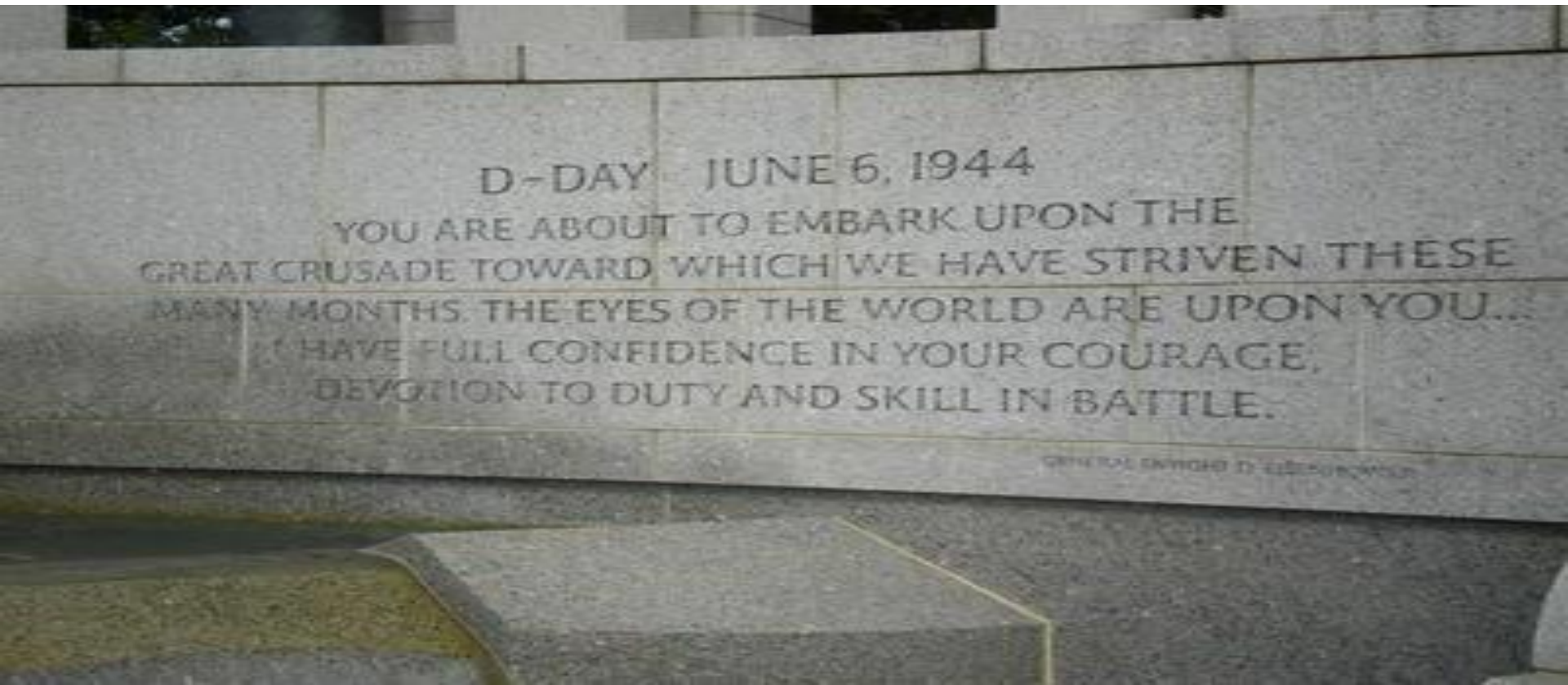
United States at War

- August 1943, Italian peninsula attacked
 - Mussolini overthrown, beheaded
 - German troops resist, harsh fighting
 - June 1944, Allied Forces liberate Rome



United States at War

- Normandy Invasion , 6 June 1944- August 1944



Battle of Normandy (Operation Overlord)

- By the this time German cities and infrastructure were being heavily bombed
- Germans knew invasion was inevitable, not sure on location
 - Normandy Beach
 - Pas de Calais
 - Cherbourg Peninsula
 - [Operation Fortitude](#)

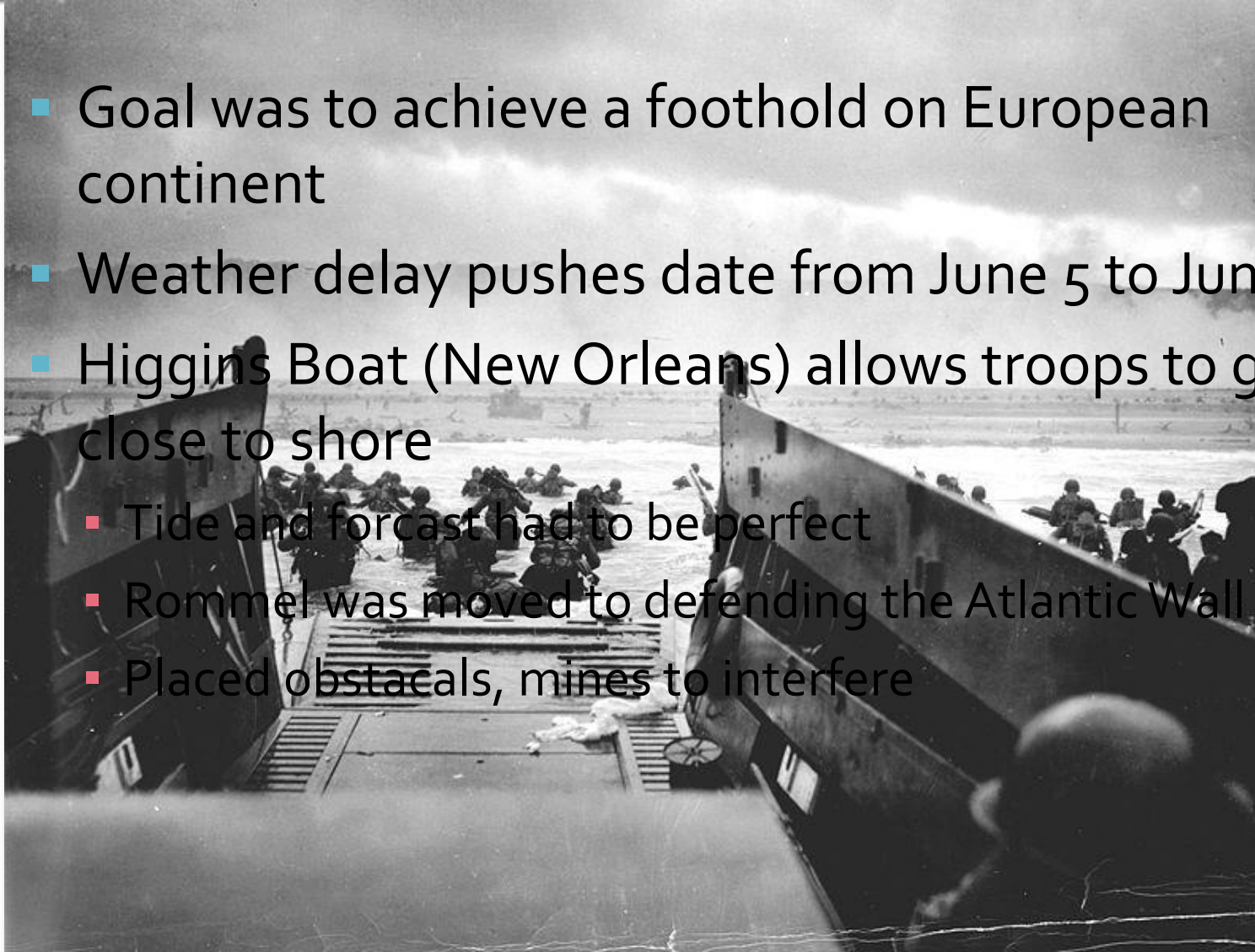
Normandy Invasion

- Operation Neptune
 - 176,000 troops; 5000 vessels invade 60 miles of Normandy Beach
 - Utah, Omaha, Gold, Juno and Sword



Normandy Invasion

- Goal was to achieve a foothold on European continent
- Weather delay pushes date from June 5 to June 6
- Higgins Boat (New Orleans) allows troops to get close to shore
 - Tide and forecast had to be perfect
 - Rommel was moved to defending the Atlantic Wall
 - Placed obstacles, mines to interfere



Normandy Invasion

- Rangers and Airborne, 101st and 82nd, drop 5 hours before mass invasion. Goal is to secure communications and delay German reinforcements
 - Most miss target landing, some by several miles
 - Point du Hoc
 - Mission: Climb 100 foot cliff, eliminate Nazi artillery that would be able to reach Omaha and Utah Beach
 - Landing was delayed, had to be done after sunrise
 - Artillery moved inland

Point du Hoc



Point du Hoc



Point du Hoc



Point du Hoc Memorial



Normand Invasion

- Out of the five beachfronts, Omaha is the most deadly with the United States experiencing 5000 deaths out of 50,000

End of the Third Reich

- Battle of the Bulge
 - Nazi's last attempt
 - Tough fighting, but ultimately unsuccessful.

End of the Third Reich

- April 1945
 - Soviets take Berlin
 - A few days prior, Hitler and his wife, Eva Braun, commit suicide with defeat eminent.
 - May 7, 1945 Germany officially surrenders
 - V-E Day

Holocaust

- As Soviets and Americans enter Germany and Poland they discover labor camps
- Extermination camps
 - 6 out of 10 Jews in Europe
 - Communist, Slavs, Gypsies, intellectuals, artists, homosexuals, political enemies, various religions
 - Auschwitz & Dachau
 - Anne Frank
 - 12 million killed

Victory in the Pacific

- Turning Points
 - Midway, first major naval victory
 - Guadalcanal
 - August 1942 to Feb 1943
 - Land, Air and Sea battle
 - By Dec 1942, all ships destroyed at Pearl harbor were returned to duty and then some

Victory in the Pacific

- Island Hopping
 - Iwo Jima
 - 20,000 casualties
 - Marine Flag raising on Mt Suribachi
 - Okinawa
 - Last of the Japanese Islands to fall
 - Japanese resorted to Kamikazes, 279 hits at Okinawa alone

Victory in the Pacific

- Russia declares war on Japan
 - Manchuria
 - United States responsible for Japanese Islands

Victory in the Pacific

- Atomic Bombs
 - Manhattan Project
 - J Robert Oppenheimer
 - Los Alamos, NM
 - US Government felt that a mass invasion would be too costly
 - Truman brought up to speed after Roosevelt's death in April 1945

Atomic Bombs

- Hiroshima
 - Japan rejected Truman's threat of "utter destruction"
 - One raid on Tokyo alone resulted in the incineration of 83,000 civilians
 - 60% of Hiroshima is destroyed on August 6 1945
 - Enola Gay and Little Boy
- Nagasaki
 - Japan still refused to surrender
 - "Fat man" dropped on August 9, 1945
 - 150,000 total immediate casualties
 - Many more from cancer
 - Burns
 - Birth defects
 - Was a second bomb necessary?

War at Home

- Mass Production
 - FDR wanted 50,000 planes, by 1944 100,000 being produced a year.
 - War Production Board had control over who and what is produced.
 - Beercans, refrigerators and more than 300 others items cut or banned
 - 33% of American production went to war effort in 1942, 50% by 1944

War at home

- Office of Scientific Research and Development
 - DDT
 - Bazooka
 - Radar

War at Home

- Financing the War
 - Raise taxes
 - First time income tax was extended to middle and lower income people
 - Gov't began to automatically withdraw taxes from payroll checks in 1943

War at Home

- Office of Price Administration
 - Price Ceilings
 - Rations
 - 20 items including sugar, coffee, gas, fuel, meat, butter
 - Coupons required
 - Three different classes
 - Cost of living increased 29%
- No Strike Pledge

War at Home

- Women
 - Rosie the Riveter
 - Women assumed roles left by men
 - Joined WAVES, WACS, and WASPS
 - Child Care Provided
 - Female Liberation
 - Were expected to return home quietly

War at Home

- Minorities
 - African Americans found work
 - Japanese Americans
 - 2/3 were citizens
 - 110,000 detained in camps
 - 48 hours to make arrangements
 - Many houses and businesses were lost
 - 10 Detention centers
 - Korematsu v. United States
 - Thousands served in Military