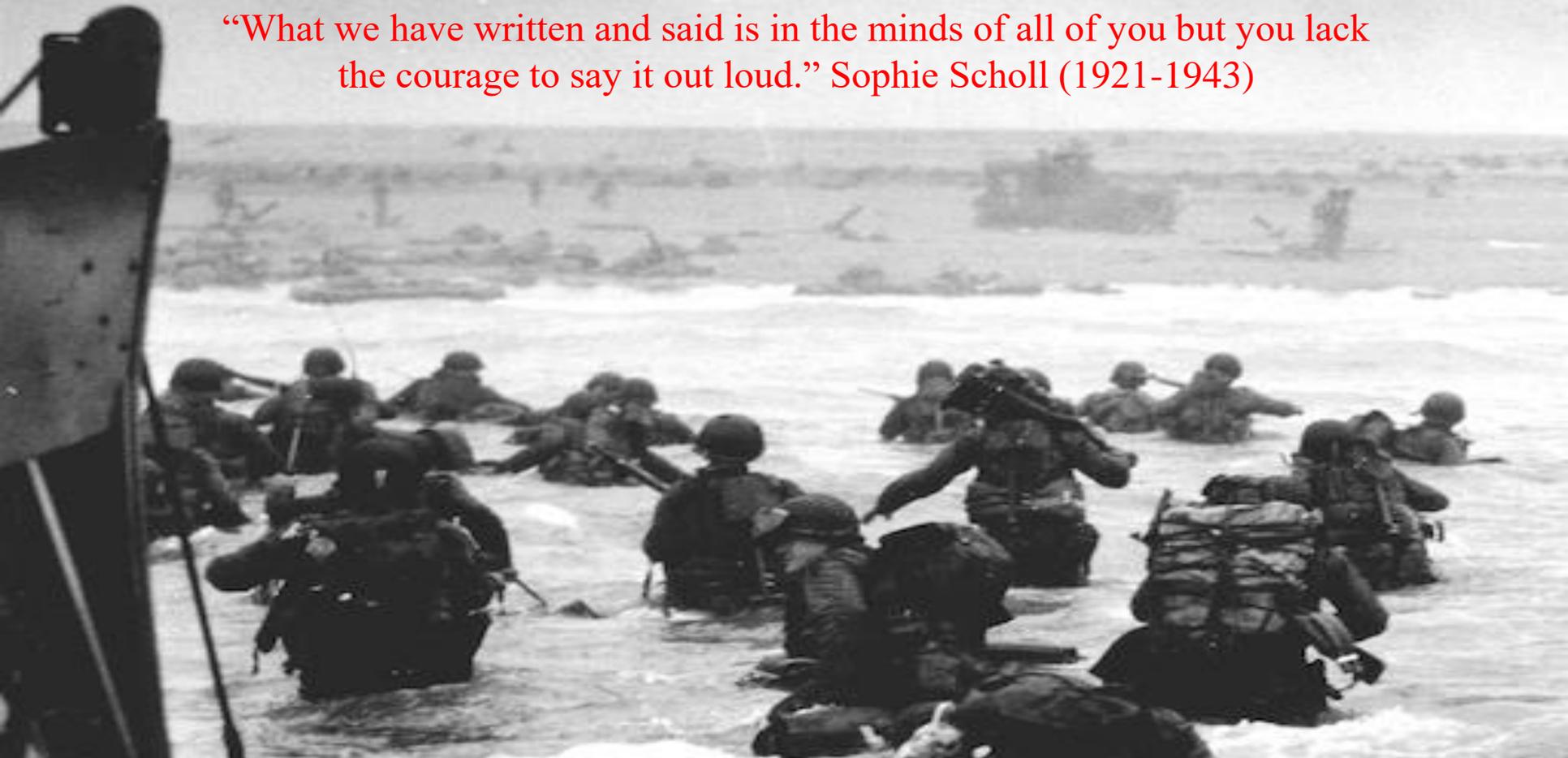


# World War II

1939 - 1945

“What we have written and said is in the minds of all of you but you lack the courage to say it out loud.” Sophie Scholl (1921-1943)



# Nazi Germany

- Nazi Germany's policies were aggressive and expansionist
  - They would use force to take over land belonging to other countries.
  - This led to the outbreak of war in Europe 1939



Foreign Policy 1933-1939

# 3 Aims of Hitler's Policy

- To undo the terms of the treaty of Versailles, by re-arming Germany and getting land back that they were forced to give up
- To unite all German speaking people in Europe, by taking over areas where they lived in Czechoslovakia and Poland and uniting with Austria
- To build a large German Empire, by taking over areas of Eastern Europe. He referred to this as *lebensraum* 'living space'

In the eyes of Germans, the Slavs who lived in eastern Europe were 'inferior' and should make room for German expansion

# 1933 ... onwards

- Germany built up an army, navy and air force until they were the strongest in Europe
- In 1936 they took over the Rhineland, which had been 'demilitarised' in the Treaty of Versailles.
- In 1938 they united with Austria and took over the Sudetenland (German-speaking area of Czechoslovakia)
- In 1939, they took over the rest of Czechoslovakia and then invaded Poland

It became clear that Germany would not stop their aggressive advance. Britain and France declared war on Germany. This was the start of World War 2

# Outbreak of World War 2

- World War 2 started as a European War in September 1939
- Soon became a World War that lasted 6 years
- Fighting took place across
  - Europe
  - Asia
  - Africa
  - Atlantic and Pacific Ocean

HELP

START

RESUME



# The Axis



- This was Germany and its allies (Japan and Italy)
- They Formed an alliance in 1936
- Japan and Italy had certain mutual things in common
  - They weren't democratic: Italy was under Benito Mussolini (fascist dictator), and the Japanese government was controlled by the army
  - They had expansionist foreign policies: Italy wanted to build an Empire in Africa, they invaded Ethiopia. The Japanese wanted to build an Empire in Asia, and were fighting for control of China 

# The Allies

- The Allies were Britain and France at first and their overseas empires:
- This included: all the countries in the commonwealth (South Africa, India, Australia, Canada, New Zealand and colonies in Africa and the West Indies)
- From 1941, the Soviet Union and the United States of America joined the war on the Allied side
- This made it a World War

# 1939-1941

- Germany invaded and occupied most of Europe
- The only country that they couldn't defeat was Britain, they continued fighting from their Island position
- USA and Soviet Union joined in 1941
- Nazi rule continued to be very harsh.
- Policies of discrimination and persecution was introduced against inferior races
- Large Jewish populations of Eastern Europe were the main target.



# Extermination Camp, Genocide, Holocaust & Final Solution

- The Nazi policy of persecution developed into one of genocide this was the Holocaust
- At first Eastern European and Soviet Union Jews were rounded up and shot and buried in mass graves. 
- In 1939, the Nazis set up extermination camps (death camps), where Jews were systematically killed. This was known as the 'final solution'
- Most of these camps were build in Poland. (largest Jewish population lived)

# Extermination Camps

- Jewish people from all over Europe were taken to these camps in overcrowded cattle trucks and trains.
- At these camps they were forced to do hard labour in harsh circumstances once they were no longer able to do so, they were killed.
- Most were killed by poison gas
- The most well known camp was Auschwitz in Poland (2 000 000 Jews were killed here)
- 6 million of the 9 million Jews in Europe were killed in the Holocaust
- Schindlers Tribute 

 - Death Camps

 - Concentration Camps

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# The Holocaust

- Not only Jews were killed in the Holocaust
- There was 5 million other victims as well:
  - 250 000 mentally or physically disabled
  - Intellectuals (Albert Einstein was a survivor)
  - Political opponents
  - Homosexuals
  - Jehovah's Witnesses and
  - 500 000 Roma (Gypsies)

# Mad Experimentation by Scientists

- Medical Experiments were also carried out on 350 000 people without their consent
- The Most Famous and ruthless Nazi Doctor was Josef Mengele
  - Experiments on twins
  - Making twin conjoined
  - Changing Eye colour 🎥



# Resistance to Nazism

- Not all German people supported the Nazis
- But most were too scared to criticise openly
- It was easier not to know, so they closed their eyes and ears
- Others hid Jews in their homes and helped them escape. ([Anne Frank](#) 🎬) ([The List of Life](#) 🎬 )
- People who opposed them were killed or imprisoned ([Schindler needs to Run](#) 🎬)

# The White Rose Movement

- Sophie Scholl (1921-1943) and her brother Hans were members along with others at the Munich University.
- They were influenced by their professor Kurt Huber.
- They made pamphlets criticising the Nazis.
- In 1943, they were arrested, placed on trial and found guilty of treason



# The Confessing Church

- Dietrich Bonhoeffer (1906-1945) was a minister in the Lutheran Church
- Dietrich and other church ministers with similar views opposing the Nazis formed the 'Confessing Church'
- They supported resistance against the Nazis
- Some leaders were arrested but many of them started to work underground helping many Jews to escape
- They also tried to overthrow Hitler
- This was Discovered by the Gestapo
- Bonhoeffer was executed at Flossenberg Concentration Camp in April 1945

# Warsaw Ghetto Up rise

- In 1939 Germany captured Warsaw, the capital of Poland.
- All Jewish people were forced to move and live in small walled part of the city 'the Warsaw Ghetto'
- Any Jew who left the gates of the Ghetto was shot.
- In 1941 nearly 500 000 Jews lived in very overcrowded conditions (13 people per room)
- People were starving, sick and cold
- Jewish people lifted their spirits in these times by teaching their own children, having concerts, reading groups and forming secret historical groups to record daily live in the Ghetto ([The Pianist](#) 🎹🎬)



# Warsaw Ghetto Up rise

- During 1942, the Nazis started moving people from the Ghetto to the Death Camps
- More than 300 000 Warsaw Jews were taken to Treblinka death camp and killed.
- In 1943 Jewish people received news that all other Jewish ghettos were destroyed in the other cities
- The remaining 65 000 people decided to fight back. Only 130 survived a month after all their food water and ammunition ran out.
- They were shot, burned out of buildings and gassed

# End of World War 2



- Germany seemed unbeatable in the first two years
- Germany defeated and occupied most of Europe.
- In 1941 Germany attacked the USSR (Allied Forces) Germany hoped for another easy victory and did not realise how strong the Russians were.
- The next 4 years was a losing battle against a fierce resistance
- The Soviet Red Army pushed Germany back out of the USSR and other parts of Eastern Europe

# End of World War 2



- When Germany's ally, Japan, attacked the USA in December 1941
- This brought another strong country into the war on the Allied side.
- The USA sent vast amounts of weapons and equipment to help Britain and the USSR. They also sent large amounts of soldiers to help fight the war against Germany.
- In 1943, the Allies began to liberate Nazi-occupied Europe from the south through Italy

# D-Day

- On D-Day in June 1944, troops landed in France and started to liberate Western Europe.
- Germany had to fight 3 Fronts
- In Early 1945, the Allied armies entered Germany from the east and the west.
- They discovered the concentration and death camps, and only then realised the full horror of what was happening under Nazi rule.
- When the Allied forces reached Berlin (German Capital). Hitler realised that he lost the war
- Hitler committed suicide and the German Government surrendered unconditionally

# VE-Day

- On the 8<sup>th</sup> of May 1945 Victory in Europe World war 2 finally ended
- But the war Against Japan in the Pacific was still going on...

(...War in the Pacific 🇺🇸)