

## Major Battles

- **Battle of Britain** July 10, 1940 to October 31, 1940 The largest air battle in history. Germany aim to crush the RAF before invasion of England fails. Germany loses 3,000 pilots and England loses 1,800 pilots. 20,000 British civilians are killed.
- **Battle of Stalingrad** (Dec '41): August 23, 1942 to February 2, 1943 The Bloodiest battle ever fought in history and the greatest urban battle ever fought. The biggest defeat on the German Army since the war began. Germany lost 300,000 killed/wounded/captured and Soviet Union lost 1,200,000 killed. Soviets and the winter stopped the Germans. By mid-'42, Soviets began pushing Germans back
- **Battle of El Alamein** (Egypt, Oct '42): British forces pushed German forces toward Tunisia. US troops (Gen. Eisenhower) pushed German forces from Morocco and Algeria. Germany, pushed from both east and west sides, forced to surrender!
- **Battle of Midway** (1942): US forces beat Japan & took away Japanese military dominance in the Pacific
- **Battle of Normandy/D-Day** (6/6/44): 155,000 Allied troops came from UK to beaches of Normandy in France. Beach at Omaha was fierce & deadly. Over the course of the battle: June 6, 1944 to July 24, 1944 The Invasion of Western Europe by the Allied forces. Germany lost 216,000 men killed/wounded/captured and Allies lost 209,000 killed/wounded/captured. Allied forces ultimately victorious.
- **Battle of the Bulge** (Dec '44): German forces broke the Allied line, but it held and turned the tide on German success in Europe [Aka, **Battle of Ardennes** December 16, 1944 to January 28, 1945 The last great German offensive in World War II. Germany lost 100,000 killed and USA lost 81,000 killed/wounded/captured and 1,400 British losses.]
- Island-hopping: Gradual takeover of Japanese interests in the Pacific, going island by island
- **Battle of Iwo Jima** February 19, 1945 to March 25, 1945 The most intense and bloody and compact battle in the Pacific War. With over 100,000 US Soldiers fighting 25,000 Japanese on a small island. In the end, USA had 30,000 Casualties and Japan had 20,000.
- **Battle of Okinawa** April 1, 1945 to June 16, 1945 The Last Battle of World War II and the bloodiest battle in the Pacific War. USA attempt to use Okinawa as a stepping stone for the Invasion of Japan. Japan lost 120,000 soldiers defending the Island and 100,000 Japanese civilians also die. USA had 58,000 Casualties.