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~~Anthony~~

Secretary Card ✓
Anthony Principi ✓

Dep. Sec. of ✓
Vet Aff. ✓
Dr. Don Wilson, ✓

Archivist of the U.S. ✓
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June 3, 1992
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Adm. David Jeremiah, ✓
Vice Ch. ✓
JCS

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF WORLD WAR II
ROOSEVELT ROOM
THURSDAY, JUNE 4, 1992

Bill Caldwell

General Colin Powell; Deputy Secretary of Defense Don Atwood; Secretary of the Army, Michael Stone; Congressman John Myers, and other Members of Congress with us this morning; Albert McCluskey, Veteran of the Battle of Midway; other veterans here today; Members of the ~~civic and~~ veterans service organizations who, along with local communities, will observe over the next three and a half years various anniversaries of World War II. Members of the Department of Defense's World War II Commemoration Committee. //

Gen. Gordon Sullivan
Chief of Staff
of the Army

Adm. Frank Kelso, Chief
of Naval Op-
erations

Gen. Merrill McPeak
Ch. of S. AF

Gen. Carl Mundy
COS Marine

Vice Admiral Robert Nelson
COS Coast
Guard

Welcome to the White House -- and to the observance of the 50th anniversary of an event which linked American hearts, and minds: The monumental struggle known as the Second World War. //

Overnight, World War II transformed America from a people at peace to a nation at war that would define the course of history for the rest of this century. / The attack on Pearl Harbor forced America to abandon isolationism and take up the mantle of leadership. / World War II was fought for American soil and sovereignty. It was also fought to defend people who, hating war, sought only peace -- people everywhere who yearn for freedom, then and now. /

The year 1942 was crucial to our history. Americans came together. Each citizen sought ways to do his or her part. /

3:30 P.M. NEWS UPDATE

HAITI/MEETING (AP) -- President Bush conferred on the Haiti crisis and trade issues with prime ministers from five Caribbean nations. Afterwards, Prime Minister Simmonds of St. Kitts and Nevis defended the U.S. refusal to admit Haitian refugees. "We are not in a position to take the Haitians ourselves," said Simmonds. He called the crisis in Haiti "a very complex matter" that requires a regional solution.

WWII PROCLAMATION (AP) -- President Bush warned against ever letting America's defenses down as he signed a proclamation marking the 50th anniversary of World War II. Bush said the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor "forced America to abandon isolationism and take up the mantle of leadership." "Weakening our defenses during a time of peace is an open invitation to those with the potential to wage war," Bush said at a signing ceremony in the Roosevelt Room witnessed by generals and lawmakers.

BALANCED-BUDGET AMENDMENT (Reuter) -- Speaker Foley said a constitutional amendment to balance the budget was losing momentum, but Rep. Stenholm said he has the votes to pass it. "I think support is weakening," said Foley, following a one-hour closed discussion among House Democrats. But Stenholm scoffed at the speaker's doubts that the necessary two-thirds majority will be achieved in a scheduled vote next week. "We still have the 290 votes and the battle is on," said Stenholm. "If there are second thoughts, they have not been expressed to me personally."

EARTH SUMMIT (Rio de Janeiro/AP) -- The U.S. said it had offered changes to a treaty on protecting animals and plants from extinction, opening the door to signing an Earth Summit convention that Washington previously opposed. EPA chief William Reilly also said the U.S. was changing its forestry policy to make clear-cutting of U.S. national forests the exception, not the norm. The changes in the U.S. position came as Secretary-General Boutros-Ghali opened signing on a treaty on global climate control.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA (Reuter) -- The U.S., which has learned a painful lesson in Yugoslavia, will not object if Czechs and Slovaks decide peacefully to split after weekend elections, U.S. officials said. "There is general consensus that there isn't a risk of violence so the United States, while indicating that we see some problems in a breakup, is saying that it really isn't our business," said one State Department official. "If that's what they decide to do democratically, so be it."

CUBA/SANCTIONS (AP) -- The House Foreign Affairs Committee voted to water down provisions that would have eased a 30-year U.S. ban on export of food and medicine in Cuba. In considering a measure designed to tighten sanctions on Cuba, the panel on voice votes eviscerated provisions that would have opened the door to shipments of medicines and medical equipment into Cuba. As it worked toward final action on the bill, the committee adopted language offered by Rep. Torricelli that would require on-site monitoring by U.S. officials of the use of any imported medical supplies.

Chapman Co, pres. & CEO of US2

(let.) Lt. Gen. Claude Ricketts, exec. dir. of STRANOR. of
DOD
with Comm. Committee

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

03-Jun-1992 04:18pm

TO: Christina M. Martin
FROM: Rebecca L. Anderson
Office of Legislative Affairs
SUBJECT: Real Work

We've invited a few MC's to the WWII Veteran's Signing Ceremony -- following are confirmed:

★ Congressman John Myers (R-IN) (principle sponsor of legislation)

Congressman Sonny Montgomery (D-MS), Chairman, House Veterans Affairs Committee (NOT CONFIRMED YET)

Congressman Bob Stump (R-AZ), Ranking Republican on the House Veterans Affairs Committee (remember him from the AZ trip?)

Senator John McCain (R-AZ) [he's Chairman of BQ Veteran's Coalition - but I'm not sure it's appropriate to mention at this event]

Thanks pal, I'll let you know for sure tomorrow!

★ other Members of Congress

Bill Caldwell, OPL
x7845

veterans service organizations

WWII vets in audience

4 people who will be seated during speech will come up for signing:

- ③ Sec. of Army Michael Stone
- ① Don Atwood, Dep. Sec. Defense (Cheney - last minute)
- ② Gen. Powell
- ④ Albert McCuskey, WWII vet in Battle of Midway

ack? →

**50TH ANNIVERSARY OF WORLD WAR II \ ROOSEVELT ROOM
THURSDAY, JUNE 4, 1992 \ 11:00 A.M.**

**GENERAL COLIN POWELL; DEPUTY SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
DON ATWOOD; SECRETARY OF THE ARMY, MICHAEL STONE;
CONGRESSMAN JOHN MYERS, AND OTHER MEMBERS OF CONGRESS
WITH US THIS MORNING; ALBERT McCLUSKEY, VETERAN OF THE
BATTLE OF MIDWAY; OTHER VETERANS HERE TODAY; MEMBERS OF
THE CIVIC AND VETERANS SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS WHO, ALONG
WITH LOCAL COMMUNITIES, WILL OBSERVE OVER THE NEXT
THREE AND A HALF YEARS VARIOUS ANNIVERSARIES OF WORLD
WAR II. MEMBERS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE'S WORLD
WAR II COMMEMORATION COMMITTEE. //**

- 2 -

**WELCOME TO THE WHITE HOUSE -- AND TO THE OBSERVANCE
OF THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF AN EVENT WHICH LINKED
AMERICAN HEARTS, AND MINDS: THE MONUMENTAL STRUGGLE
KNOWN AS THE SECOND WORLD WAR. //**

**OVERNIGHT, WORLD WAR II TRANSFORMED AMERICA FROM A
PEOPLE AT PEACE TO A NATION AT WAR THAT WOULD DEFINE
THE COURSE OF HISTORY FOR THE REST OF THIS CENTURY. /
THE ATTACK ON PEARL HARBOR FORCED AMERICA TO ABANDON
ISOLATIONISM AND TAKE UP THE MANTLE OF LEADERSHIP. /**

- 3 -

WORLD WAR II WAS FOUGHT FOR AMERICAN SOIL AND SOVEREIGNTY. IT WAS ALSO FOUGHT TO DEFEND PEOPLE WHO, HATING WAR, SOUGHT ONLY PEACE -- PEOPLE EVERYWHERE WHO YEARN FOR FREEDOM, THEN AND NOW. /

THE YEAR 1942 WAS CRUCIAL TO OUR HISTORY. AMERICANS CAME TOGETHER. EACH CITIZEN SOUGHT WAYS TO DO HIS OR HER PART. /

- 4 -

FACTORIES DESIGNED TO BUILD THE TOOLS OF PEACE PRODUCED THE TOOLS OF WAR -- SHIPS, PLANES, TANKS, AND AMMUNITION -- ALL CRUCIAL TO THE ALLIED EFFORT. / IT WASN'T EASY -- BUT WE DID IT. WE DID THE HARD WORK OF FREEDOM. //

I WAS SEVENTEEN ON DECEMBER 7, 1941, AND ENLISTED ON MY EIGHTEENTH BIRTHDAY. I RECALL HOW FOR THE FIRST FEW MONTHS OF THE WAR, NEWS FROM THE PACIFIC WAS GRIM. GUAM WAS OVERRUN.

- 5 -

BATAAN AND CORREGIDOR FELL IN THE PHILIPPINES. / YET THE BATTLE OF THE CORAL SEA FOILED JAPANESE PLANS TO INVADE PORT MORESBY IN NEW GUINEA. AND FIFTY YEARS AGO THIS WEEK, OUR FORCES BEGAN WHAT MAY HAVE BEEN THE GREATEST NAVAL BATTLE OF ALL TIME. //

WE REMEMBER, EVEN NOW. FIRST, WE BROKE THE NAVAL CODES ARMED WITH CRITICAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE ENEMY'S PLANS.

- 6 -

THEN, ADMIRAL NIMITZ SENT HIS CARRIER TASK FORCE TO INTERCEPT THE JAPANESE FLEET THAT HAD BEEN SENT TO ATTACK MIDWAY. / FOR FOUR DAYS THE FIGHTING RAGED. FINALLY, THE INVASION FORCE WAS DRIVEN OFF. WHILE AMERICA LOST THE AIRCRAFT CARRIER YORKTOWN AND A DESTROYER, FOUR ENEMY CARRIERS WERE SUNK AND 250 ENEMY AIRCRAFT DOWNED -- DESTROYING THEIR FLEET. EXACTLY SIX MONTHS AFTER PEARL, VICTORY WAS NOT IMMINENT -- BUT IT WAS INEVITABLE. THE ENEMY'S TIDE WAS RUNNING OUT.

- 7 -

THE ALLIES' TIDE WAS RUNNING IN.

**HERE IS WHAT HISTORY WILL SAY OF THE GREATEST WAR
IN MAN'S TIDE OF TIMES: WHEN ATTACKED, AMERICA'S SONS
AND DAUGHTERS TOOK UP ARMS, AND BORE OUR BURDEN, FOR A
CAUSE LARGER THAN OURSELVES. THEY FOUGHT AT BATAAN AND
THE BULGE / FOUGHT IN UNKNOWN LANDS, AMID THE SHROUD OF
DARKNESS, TO ILLUMINATE THE NIGHT. /**

- 8 -

**THEY FOUGHT IN FORESTS AND ON FARMLAND / IN SWAMPS AND
DESERTS / IN THE AIR, ON AND UNDER THE SEA / GIVING OF
THEMSELVES -- AND OFTEN, OF THEIR LIVES. //**

**THINK OF THE CEMETERY IN ARLINGTON. THINK OF
OTHERS IN BOISE / BANGOR / NORMANDY / AND NETTUNO.
THINK OF WORLD WAR II'S HONOR ROLL: MORE THAN 400,000
AMERICANS DEAD, AND TWO-THIRDS OF A MILLION WOUNDED.
OR THE COUNTLESS MILLIONS WORLDWIDE -- MANY HELPLESS
INNOCENTS. /**

WORLD WAR II TAUGHT US THAT WHAT HAPPENED IN BERLIN AND TOKYO COULD NOT BE DIVORCED FROM WASHINGTON -- JUST AS EVENTS IN EUROPE AND ASIA AFFECT EACH AMERICAN TODAY.

//

WINSTON CHURCHILL ONCE SAID OF WORLD WAR II, "THERE NEVER WAS A WAR IN ALL HISTORY EASIER TO PREVENT..." TODAY, LET US RECALL WHAT THAT LION CRIED AS A VOICE IN THE WILDERNESS: NO ONE EVER WALKS AWAY FROM APPEASING AN AGGRESSOR. HE ONLY CRAWLS. /

WEAKENING OUR DEFENSES DURING A TIME OF PEACE IS AN OPEN INVITATION TO THOSE WITH THE POTENTIAL TO WAGE WAR. //

AS LONG AS I AM PRESIDENT, THE MILITARY'S COMMITMENT TO DEFENDING FREEDOM WILL BE MATCHED BY MY COMMITMENT TO DEFENDING THE MILITARY. // SOME SAY OUR VICTORY IN THE COLD WAR ALLOWS US TO RETREAT BEHIND THE WATER'S EDGE.

- 11 -

**I SAY: JUST AS AMERICA'S VIGILANCE HELPED WIN THAT WAR
-- SO A STRONG AMERICA CAN NOW HELP WIN THE PEACE. //**

**WE SEEK A WORLD WHERE DIFFERENCES ARE SOLVED
PEACEFULLY -- WHERE THE FORCE OF LAW OUTLASTS THE USE
OF FORCE. SACRIFICES MADE HEROICALLY FIFTY YEARS AGO
HAVE HELPED BRING ABOUT A NEW AND BETTER WORLD. /**

- 12 -

**IT IS A WORLD I THOUGHT OF LAST DECEMBER, WHERE ON THE
50TH ANNIVERSARY OF PEARL HARBOR, BARBARA AND I LOOKED
AT THE SHRUNKEN WELL OF THE USS ARIZONA -- TOMB TO MORE
THAN A THOUSAND OF THE GREATEST HEROES ANY NATION HAS
EVER KNOWN. //**

**THERE, I THOUGHT OF THE WIFE WHOSE BEST FRIEND WAS
HER HUSBAND. OR THE LITTLE BOY WHOSE BROTHER -- HIS
IDOL -- ONCE VOWED TO TAKE HIM FISHING AFTER THE
FIGHTING STOPPED. /**

- 13 -

I THOUGHT OF THE FATHER WHOSE SON OR DAUGHTER WOULD NOW KNOW HIM AS A MARTYR, BUT NEVER AS A DAD. / AND I RESOLVED ONCE AGAIN: WE MUST NEVER -- EVER -- LET AMERICA'S DEFENSES DOWN. //

THE MEN WHO DIED IN WORLD WAR II WOULD TODAY BE PROUD OF AMERICA. PROUD OF WHAT WE HAVE BECOME AS A NATION -- BECAUSE OF THEIR SERVICE AND SACRIFICE. PROUD OF HOW THEIR FATE -- AND FAITH -- STIR AND SHAPE US STILL. /

- 14 -

SO LET US HONOR THEM, REMEMBER THEM -- SO THAT FUTURE GENERATIONS WILL SAY OF US WHAT WE NOW SAY OF THEM: GOD BLESS THIS WONDROUS LAND -- THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA. //

WORLD WAR II WAS A FIGHT WE DID NOT SEEK, AGAINST ENEMIES WE DID NOT CHOOSE, FOR A CAUSE THAT IS FIRST AMONG ALL: THE RIGHT OF PEOPLE EVERYWHERE TO BE FREE.

**IN THAT SPIRIT, IT IS MY HONOR TO SIGN THE PROCLAMATION
DESIGNATING THE NATIONAL OBSERVANCE OF THE 50TH
ANNIVERSARY OF WORLD WAR II.**

#

VOLUME 29

Wilmot Proviso to Zygote

T H E E N C Y C L O P E D I A
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WORLD WAR

As World War II opened with the Nazi attack on Poland in 1939, German troops advanced a deeply rutted, sandy road to Warsaw.

Bibliothek für Zeitgeschichte

WORLD WAR II, the name commonly given to the global conflict of 1939–1945. It was the greatest and most destructive war in history. Whereas military operations in World War I were conducted primarily on the European continent, World War II included gigantic struggles not only in Europe but in Asia, Africa, and the far-flung islands of the Pacific as well. More than 17 million members of the armed forces of the various belligerents perished during the conflict. Its conduct strained the economic capabilities of the major nations and left many countries on the edge of collapse.

The events leading to World War II, its military operations, diplomacy, statistical data, and results, are discussed under the following headings:

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. The War in Brief | 10. War in the Central and Northern Pacific |
| 2. Between World Wars | 11. War in Eastern Asia |
| 3. Early Campaigns | 12. Developments in Naval Warfare |
| 4. Fall of the Low Countries and France | 13. Developments in Air Warfare |
| 5. Recovery of France and Advance into Germany | 14. Diplomatic History |
| 6. German Invasion of the USSR | 15. Postwar World |
| 7. Balkan Campaigns | 16. Chronology |
| 8. Mediterranean Operations | 17. Costs, Casualties, and Other Data |
| 9. War in the Southern and Southwestern Pacific | 18. Bibliography |

1. The War in Brief

Events Leading to War.—At the end of World War I the victorious nations formed the League of Nations for the purpose of airing international disputes, and of mobilizing its members for a collective effort to keep the peace in the event of aggression by any nation against another or of a breach of the peace treaties. The United States, imbued with isolationism, did not become a member. The League failed in its first test. In 1931 the Japanese, using as an excuse the explosion of a small bomb under a section of track of the South Manchuria Railroad (over which they had virtual control), initiated military operations designed to conquer all of Manchuria. After receiving the report of its commission of inquiry, the League adopted a resolution in 1933 calling on the Japanese to withdraw. Thereupon, Japan resigned from the League. Meanwhile, Manchuria had

been overrun and transformed into a puppet state under the name of Manchukuo, by friction and dissension among its members the League took no further action.

In 1933 also, Adolf Hitler came to power as dictator of Germany and began to rearm the country in contravention of the provisions of the treaty of Versailles. He denounced the provisions of that treaty that limited German armaments in 1935 and reinstated compulsory military service. That year the Italian dictator Benito Mussolini began his long-contemplated invasion of Ethiopia which he desired as an economic colony. The League voted minor sanctions against Italy, but these had slight practical effect. British and French efforts to effect a compromise settlement failed, and Ethiopia was completely occupied by the Italians in 1936.

Alarmed by German rearmament, Britain sought an alliance with the USSR. Under the pretext that this endangered Germany, Hitler militarized the Rhineland in 1936. It was a dangerous venture, for Britain and France could not overwhelm Germany, but, resolved to keep the peace, they took no action. Emboldened by success, Hitler intensified his campaign for *Lebensraum* (space for living) for the German people. He forcibly annexed Austria in March 1938, then, charging abuse of German minorities, threatened Czechoslovakia. In September, Hitler increased his demands on the Czechs and seemed imminent, the British and French arranged a conference with Hitler and Mussolini. At the Munich Conference they agreed to German occupation of the Sudetenland, Hitler's asserted claim, in the hope of maintaining peace. This hope was short lived, for in March 1939 Hitler took over the rest of Czechoslovakia and seized the former German port of Memel (Klaipėda) from Lithuania. There followed demands on Poland with regard to Danzig (Gdansk) and the Polish Corridor. The Poles remained adamant, and it became clear to Hitler that he could attain his objectives only by force. After surprising the world with the announcement of a nonaggression pact with his sworn foe, the Soviet Union, he sent his armies across the Polish border on September 1, 1939. Britain and France, pledged to support

- 17—British and Soviet troops occupy Teheran, Iran.
- Aug. 8—Japan declares war on the United States and Great Britain; the United States and Great Britain declare war on Japan.
- Sept. 9—China declares war on Japan, Germany, and Italy.
- Sept. 11—Germany and Italy declare war on the United States, which then declares war on them.
- Nov. 24—British-American Arcadia conferences open in Washington (end Jan. 14, 1942).
- 1943
- Jan. 1—Declaration by United Nations is signed by 26 countries.
- April 8—Bolero Conference begins in London (ends April 14).
- April 22—To clear way for Operation Torch (Allied invasion of French North Africa), Maj. Gen. Mark W. Clark lands from submarine for secret meeting with pro-Allied French officers.
- Dec. 24—Admiral Darlan is assassinated.
- 1943
- Jan. 14—British-United States conference opens at Casablanca (ends Jan. 24).
- May 12—Trident Conference opens in Washington (ends May 25).
- July 25—King Victor Emmanuel III of Italy proclaims fall of Mussolini, replacing him with Marshal Pietro Badoglio.
- Aug. 14—Quadrant Conference opens in Quebec, Canada (ends Aug. 24).
- Sept. 3—Italian government signs armistice (effective Sept. 8).
- Oct. 13—Italy declares war on Germany.
- Nov. 22—Sextant Conference opens at Cairo, Egypt (recesses Nov. 26).
- Nov. 28—Eureka Conference opens at Teheran, Iran (closes Dec. 1).
- Dec. 1—Cairo Declaration is issued.
- Dec. 3—Sextant Conference reopens at Cairo (closes Dec. 7).
- 1944
- July 20—Attempt to assassinate Hitler fails.
- Aug. 21—Dumbarton Oaks Conference opens (ends Oct. 7).
- Aug. 23—Rumania surrenders unconditionally.
- Aug. 25—Rumania declares war on Germany.
- Aug. 26—Bulgaria opens negotiations for surrender with Allies.
- Sept. 5—The USSR declares war on Bulgaria.
- Sept. 8—Bulgaria declares war on Germany.
- Sept. 9—The USSR grants Bulgaria an armistice.
- Sept. 12—Rumania signs armistice; Octagon Conference opens in Quebec (ends Sept. 16).
- Sept. 19—Allied-Finnish armistice is signed.
- Oct. 23—Great Britain, the USSR, and the United States grant *de jure* recognition to French provisional government headed by Gen. Charles de Gaulle.
- 1945
- Jan. 30—Preliminary Anglo-American phase (Cricket) of Argonaut Conference begins at Malta (ends Feb. 2).
- Feb. 4—Second phase (Magneto) of Argonaut Conference opens at Yalta (ends Feb. 11).
- March 3—Finland declares war on Germany.
- March 10—Japanese place French Indochina under direct military administration.
- April 5—The USSR notifies Japan that it intends to denounce their 1941 neutrality pact.
- April 12—President Roosevelt dies.
- April 23—Heinrich Himmler's offer to surrender German forces to Western Allies is rejected.
- April 25—San Francisco Conference opens (adopts United Nations Charter June 26).
- April 28—Mussolini is captured and killed by Italian partisans.
- April 30—Hitler commits suicide.
- May 7—German High Command surrenders all forces unconditionally at Reims.
- July 17—Terminal Conference begins at Potsdam, Germany (ends Aug. 2).
- July 26—Terminal Conference issues Potsdam Declaration, presenting surrender ultimatum to Japan.
- July 28—Japanese announce that they will reject surrender ultimatum (rejected July 30).
- Aug. 8—The USSR declares war on Japan (effective Aug. 9).
- Aug. 10—Japan offers to surrender.
- Aug. 14—Japan surrenders.
- Sept. 2—Japanese representatives sign instrument of surrender aboard the battleship *Missouri* in Tokyo Bay.
- Sept. 11—Big Four foreign ministers' meeting opens in London (ends Oct. 2).
- Dec. 16—Foreign ministers' meeting opens in Moscow (ends Dec. 26).
- 1946
- April 25—Foreign ministers' meeting opens in Paris (ends May 16).

- June 15—Foreign ministers' meeting reconvenes in Paris, reaching substantial agreement on treaties for Italy, Bulgaria, Rumania, Hungary, and Finland (ends July 12).
- July 16—Peace conference opens in Paris (ends Oct. 15).
- Nov. 4—Foreign ministers meet in New York to complete treaties (meeting ends Dec. 12).
- 1947
- Feb. 10—Italian, Bulgarian, Rumanian, Hungarian, and Finnish peace treaties are signed in Paris.
- Sept. 15—Five peace treaties come into force.
- 1950
- June 25—Korean War begins.
- 1951
- Sept. 4—Conference meets in San Francisco to draw up Japanese Peace Treaty.
- 1952
- April 28—Japanese Peace Treaty comes into force.
- 1953
- July 27—Armistice ends Korean War.
- 1954
- Oct. 5—Free Territory of Trieste is divided between Italy and Yugoslavia.
- 1955
- May 15—Austrian State Treaty is signed in Vienna.
- July 27—Austrian treaty comes into force.

JOHN R. ELTING,
Colonel, United States Army; Department of
Military Art, United States Military Academy.

17. Costs, Casualties, and Other Data

World War II spread death and devastation throughout most of the world to an extent never before experienced. The loss of life can be only generally summarized; an attempt to express the value of property and livelihoods destroyed in terms of money is futile: the resulting sums reach astronomical figures that have little if any practical meaning.

Military Casualties.—Probably the best documented and most meaningful figures are the battle casualties. Those for the United States, Great Britain, and the Commonwealth nations are accurate; those for other nations, Allied or Axis, vary in reliability. Chinese figures are largely estimates because of the lack of documentation, information on Soviet losses has been given only grudgingly and in very general terms, and many records of the Axis nations were lost when those countries were overrun. The most accurate available figures are shown in Tables 1, 2, and 3.

Table 1—UNITED STATES ARMED FORCES TOTAL STRENGTH AND CASUALTIES IN WORLD WAR II, DEC. 7, 1941—DEC. 31, 1946

Service	Total strength	Battle deaths	Deaths from other causes	Wounds ¹ missing	Captured or
Army ²	11,260,000	234,874	83,400	565,861	135,524
Navy	4,183,466	36,950	25,664	37,778	2,429
Marine Corps	669,100	19,733	4,778	67,207	1,756
Coast Guard	241,093	574	1,345	955	
Total	16,353,659	292,131	115,187	671,801	139,709

¹ Not mortal. ² Includes Army Air Forces.

In utilizing strength figures, it should be noted that total strength means the total number of personnel belonging to the armed forces during the entire war, whereas peak strength is the greatest strength reached at any one time during the war. Several methods of classifying and computing casualties are in use, and other variations result from the differing periods covered by the various computations. Consequently, different reputable reference works sometimes show slightly different figures even for United States casualties. Non-battle deaths include deaths from accidents and disease.

ry naval-air bombardm
ls. begins.
Marines land on
21st Bomber Command
-bomb raid on Tokyo
position in Manila is
id on Mindanao, Philippi
declared secure.
ates carrier aircraft
bases in preparation
te recapture of Manila
d on Kerama-retto near
ly occupied March 28.
nth Army lands on Okin
l sortie toward Okina
East China Sea). Okina
n furious air offensive
ainst United States ship
angoon.
ilt Japanese drive on Ch
na begin moving troops
ir army in Manchuria
se resistance on Okina
l secure (mopping up
atch begin operations
y and Army aircraft
st Japan in preparation
ts successful atomic bomb
eet joins United States
opped on Hiroshima
war in Japan (effective
opped on Nagasaki
northern Korea.
ATOMIC DEVELOPMENTS OF
POSTWAR PERIODS
France declare war on Ger
USSR revise nonaggression
s, signing Treaty of Moscow
becomes prime minister
on France and Great Britain
s seizure of Lithuania, Latvia
nistic is signed (fighting
re of Italo-French armistice
ia and northern Bucovina
embargo on shipment of
50 destroyers for navil
ons.
igns first American peace
ation of northern French
s total embargo on scrap
ipartite Pact).
-Lease Act.
stat takes place in Yugo
sign neutrality pact.
nlimited national emer
ets in the United States
umania declare war on
the USSR.
on the USSR.
Indochina.
nited States are frozen.
issue Atlantic Charter.

Table 2—ARMED FORCES PEAK STRENGTHS AND BATTLE DEATHS OF THE PRINCIPAL ALLIED POWERS

Nation	Peak strength	Battle deaths
Australia	680,000	23,365
Belgium	650,000	7,760
Canada	780,000	37,476
China	5,000,000	2,200,000 ¹
Denmark	25,000	3,006 ²
France	5,000,000	210,671
Greece	414,000	73,700 ²
India	2,150,000	24,338
Netherlands	410,000	6,238
New Zealand	157,000	10,033
Norway	45,000	1,000
Poland	1,000,000	320,000
USSR	12,500,000	7,500,000
Union of South Africa	140,000	6,840
United Kingdom	5,120,000	244,723
United States	12,300,000	292,131
Yugoslavia	500,000	410,000 ²

¹ Casualties beginning with the Japanese invasion in 1937. ² Most of these casualties were suffered in guerrilla warfare that followed German occupation of the country. In the case of Denmark they include more than 1,200 merchant sailors in the service of the Allied powers.

Table 3—ARMED FORCES PEAK STRENGTHS AND BATTLE DEATHS OF THE AXIS POWERS

Nation	Peak strength	Battle deaths
Bulgaria	450,000	10,000 ¹
Finland	250,000	82,000
Germany	10,200,000	3,500,000
Hungary	350,000	140,000
Italy	3,750,000	77,494 ²
Japan	6,095,000	1,219,000
Rumania	600,000	300,000 ¹

¹ A limited number of these casualties occurred after the country joined the Allies. ² Of these, 17,494 were killed after Italy became a cobelligerent with the Allies.

Civilian Casualties.—Casualties among civilians were much less accurately recorded than military losses. In part, this was unavoidable because of the population shifts that took place as civilians fled before invading armies or the continual air attacks on major industrial centers, or were sent to Germany or the Soviet Union for forced labor.

Civilian casualties in the United Kingdom, slightly over half of which were inflicted in the London area, were as follows:

Agent	Killed	Seriously injured	Total
Aircraft bombs	51,509	61,423	112,932
V-1 (flying bombs)	6,184	17,981	24,165
V-2	2,754	6,523	9,277
Artillery fire	148	255	403
Total	60,595	86,182	146,777

Civilian casualties in the USSR have been placed roughly at 2,500,000 killed. The loss of population (including both military and civilian casualties) caused directly or indirectly by the war has been stated at 20,000,000. Air raids against Germany killed approximately 300,000 Germans and seriously injured about 780,000 more. Numerous additional casualties occurred during the Soviet invasion of 1944-1945, but no specific estimates are available. Japanese civilian casualties probably approached 500,000 killed and 625,000 seriously injured, plus a considerable number reported as missing after the fire raids and atomic bombings. In addition, about 360,000 Japanese captured by the Russians in Manchuria, Korea, and the Kuril Islands were still missing in 1950; a large number of them have never been accounted for. Chinese civilian losses are unknown but probably numbered several million.

Industrial Conversion and War Production.—In the final analysis, victory was won by the Allied powers' technological superiority—the ability to raise, arm, equip, move, and supply superior forces throughout the world—and through them to break up and destroy the technological resources (as well as much of the armed forces) of the Axis nations. Of all the Allies it was the United States that possessed the raw materials, skilled manpower, and industries that made their victory possible. This potential American technological power, however, required precious time to change from peacetime to military production. The process of conversion, and of reconversion at the war's end, is illustrated in Table 4.

Table 4—UNITED STATES BUDGET EXPENDITURES, JULY 1, 1940—AUG. 31, 1945 (Billions of dollars)

Expenditures	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945
Defense expenditures:						
War Department	\$0.9	\$ 7.3	\$29.5	\$46.5	\$49.2	\$34.0
Navy Department	0.9	4.2	14.0	24.6	29.6	19.4
Other departments	0.1	2.7	8.9	14.1	12.1	6.4
Total	1.9	14.2	52.4	85.2	90.9	59.8
Nondefense expenditures	3.4	6.0	5.4	5.0	6.3	6.2
Total	\$5.3	\$20.2	\$57.8	\$90.2	\$97.2	\$66.0

Among the varied items purchased by United States defense expenditures were 57,027 medium tanks (9 different types), 676,433 two-and-one-half-ton, six-wheel-drive trucks (11 types), 1,054 eight-inch howitzers (48 of them self-propelled), 476,628 2.36-inch rocket launchers (bazookas), 4,014,731 Garand rifles, 106,658 gunner's quadrants, 4,072,000,000 rounds of .45-caliber ammunition, 57,488,000 wool undershirts, 116,000,000 pounds of peanut butter, 206,753 SCR-536 (Handie-Talkie) radio sets, 500,754 30-dose bottles of influenza virus vaccine, 7,570 locomotives (48 types), 23,510,030 military gas masks (2 types), and 3,898 B-29 (Superfortress) very heavy bombers. One of the best indications of the growing tempo of American military production during the war is the following data on machine-gun production, covering the period July 1, 1940—Aug. 31, 1945:

Year	.50 Caliber ¹	.30 Caliber	Year	.50 Caliber	.30 Caliber
1940	5,155	3,633	1943	641,638	188,311
1941	49,479	27,672	1944	677,011	121,771
1942	347,492	314,839	1945	239,821	62,977

¹ The increasing preponderance of .50-caliber machine guns reflects their growing use as aircraft and armored vehicle armament.

Shipping Losses.—Allied merchant shipping losses during the war were as follows:

Year	Number of vessels	Tonnage
1939	221	755,237
1940	1,059	3,991,641
1941	1,299	4,328,558
1942	1,664	7,790,697
1943	597	3,220,137
1944	205	1,045,629
1945	105	438,821
Total	5,150	21,570,720

Of the 5,150 Allied merchant vessels sunk, 2,828 were victims of Axis submarines, principally German. The parallel German submarine losses (revised according to the latest British Admiralty assessment) therefore furnish an interesting in-

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Draft Two

June 2, 1992

WAR

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: WW II ANNIVERSARY
ROSE GARDEN
THURSDAY, JUNE 4, 1992

Fellow veterans. Fellow Americans. Welcome to the White House -- and to the ~~observance~~^{observance} of the 50th anniversary of an event which linked American hearts, and minds. A just cause that was democracy's cause: ← The monumental struggle known as World War

II: III

Overnight, World War II transformed America from a people at peace to a nation at war that would define the course of history for the rest of this century. //

The attack on Pearl Harbor forced America to abandon isolationism and take up the mantle of leadership. Yes, World War II was fought for American soil and sovereignty. / It was also fought to defend people who, hating war, sought only peace - people everywhere who yearn for freedom, then and now. /

The year 1942 was crucial to our history. Americans came together. Each citizen sought ways to do their part. / Factories designed to build the tools of peace produced the tools of war -- ships, planes, tanks, and ammunition -- all crucial to the Allied effort. / It wasn't easy -- but we did it. We did the hard work of freedom. //

I was seventeen on December 7, 1941. For the next ~~six~~^{few} months of the war, news from the Pacific was grim. Guam was overrun. Bataan and Corregidor fell in the Philippines. / Yet

the Battle of the Coral Sea foiled Japanese plans to invade Port Moresby in New Guinea. And fifty years ago this week, our forces began what may have been the greatest naval battle of all time.

Midway

I remember, even now. First, we broke the ^{naval} war code. Then, Admiral Nimitz sent his carrier task forces to intercept the fleet that had been sent to attack Midway — a small group of islands just one thousand miles northwest of Honolulu.

? more defense

Japanese thought they were mounting a surprise attack instead of landing troops an ambush.

June 3-6

For four days the fighting raged. Finally, the invasion force was driven off. While America lost the aircraft carrier Yorktown and ~~the destroyer Hammann,~~ ^{one destroyer,} four enemy carriers were sunk -- ^{250 aircraft} ~~downed.~~

destroying their fleet. Exactly six months after Pearl, victory was not imminent -- but inevitable. The enemy's tide was running out. The Allies' tide was running in. //

Here is what history will say of the greatest war in man's tide of times: When attacked, America's sons and daughters took up arms, and bore our burden, for a cause larger than ourselves. They fought at Bataan and ~~the Bulge~~ ^{Battle of the Bulge (Stet)} / fought in unknown lands, amid the shroud of darkness, to illuminate the night. / They fought in swamps and deserts / in the sea and air / giving of themselves -- and often, of their lives. //

Think of the cemetery in Arlington. Think of plots of land in Boise / Bangor / Dallas / Des Moines. Think of World War II's honor roll: ^{more than 400,000} Americans dead, and ^{more than 600,000} wounded. Or the ⁴⁵ million worldwide -- many helpless innocents. / World War II taught us that what happened in Berlin and Tokyo could not be



divorced from Washington -- just as events in Europe and Asia affect each American today. //

Churchill
Speaker of the
James C. Humes
P. 207
March, 1945

Winston Churchill once said, "Never was any conflict more preventable." Today, let us recall what that lion in winter

of WWII,
There never was a war in all history

cried as a 1930s voice in the wilderness: No one ever walks away from appeasing an aggressor. He only crawls. / Weakening our defenses during a time of peace is an open invitation to those with the potential to wage war. //

As long as I am President, the military's commitment to defending freedom will be matched by my commitment to defending the military. // Some say our victory in the Cold War allows us to retreat behind the water's edge. I say: Just as America's vigilance helped win that war -- so a strong America can now help win the peace. //

I speak of a world where differences are solved peacefully - not violently -- where the force of law outlasts the use of force. / It is a world I thought of last December, where on the 50th anniversary of Pearl Harbor, Barbara and I looked at the shrunken well of the USS Arizona -- tomb to more than a thousand of the greatest heroes any Nation has ever known. //

There, I thought of the wife whose best friend was her husband. Or the little boy whose brother -- his idol -- once vowed to take him fishing after the fighting stopped. / I thought of the father whose son or daughter would now know him as a martyr, but never as a dad. / I thought to myself: I will never -- ever -- let America's defenses down. //

The men who died in World War II would today be proud of America. Proud of how their fate -- and faith -- stir and shape us still. / So let us honor them, remember them -- so that future generations will say of us what we now say of them: God bless this wondrous land -- the United States of America. //

World War II was a fight we did not seek, against enemies we did not choose, for a cause that is first among all: The right of people to be free. In that spirit, it is my honor to sign the proclamation designating the national observance of the 50th anniversary of World War II.

#

The US & WWII by Robert James Maddox
The 21st CW by Martin Gilbert

THE
ENCYCLOPEDIA
OF MILITARY
HISTORY

from 3500 B.C. to the present

R. ERNEST DUPUY and TREVOR N. DUPUY

Revised Edition



1817

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ever, that there were only 2 or 3 planes overhead, many people came out, and so most of the population was in the open, without protection, when the bomb exploded over the center of the city. Two-thirds of the city was destroyed; 78,150 people were killed (most of them outright, in explosion or in fires, though some died later from radiation effects); nearly 70,000 others were injured and most of the remainder of the population suffered some long-term radiation damage.

1945, August 9. Nagasaki. The second bomb was exploded over this seaport and industrial city of 230,000 people. Because hills protected portions of the town, less than half the city was destroyed; nearly 40,000 people were killed, about 25,000 injured.

THE SURRENDER OF JAPAN

1945, August 10. Japan Offers to Surrender. The effect of the atomic bombs was what Stimson's group and the JCS had expected. One can never tell how long a fanatically militaristic Japan, on the verge of collapse, could have continued the war if the bombs had not been dropped. It is clear, however, that these weapons convinced the Japanese emperor and his government that further resistance was hope-

less. After brief negotiations by radio, Japan accepted Allied terms for "unconditional surrender," which actually included conditions which the Japanese were eager to accept. They were permitted to retain their imperial form of government, and were assured of the integrity of the 4 main islands of the Japanese Empire.

1945, August 15. Cease-Fire. Japanese forces throughout Asia and the islands of the Western Pacific laid down their arms. General MacArthur and American troops flew in to Japan to begin the occupation (August 28).

1945, September 2. The Official Surrender. Representatives of the Japanese government surrendered on board the battleship U.S.S. *Missouri* in the heart of the Pacific Fleet, anchored in Tokyo Bay, while American planes filled the air overhead. General MacArthur, appointed by the Allied governments as Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers to initiate the occupation of Japan, received the official surrender of Foreign Minister **Mamoru Shigemetsu**. Among the observers of the ceremony were released prisoners American General Wainwright and British General Percival, whose respective commands in the Philippines and Malaya had been overrun at the outset of the war.

*The Cost of World War II**

Nations	Total Forces Mobilized (million)	Military Dead	Military Wounded	Civilian Dead	Economic and Financial Costs (\$ billion)
United States	14.9	292,100	571,822	Negligible	350
United Kingdom	6.2	397,762	475,000	65,000	150
France	6	210,671	400,000	108,000	100
Soviet Union	20	7,500,000	14,012,000	10-15,000,000	200
China	6-10	500,000	1,700,000	1,000,000	No estimate
Germany	12.5	2,850,000	7,250,000	500,000	300
Italy	4.5	77,500	120,000	40-100,000	50
Japan	7.4	1,506,000	500,000	300,000	100
All other participants	20	1,500,000	No estimate	14-17,000,000 ^b	350
Total^c	100	15,000,000	No estimate	26-34,000,000	1,600

* Many of these figures are approximations or estimates, since official figures are misleading, missing, or contradictory in many instances.

^b This includes approximately 6,000,000 Jews of Germany and all occupied European nations, and approximately 4,500,000 Poles.

^c In economic and financial costs, World War II was about 5 times as expensive as World War I; in military deaths alone, it was almost twice as costly; it was about 3 times as destructive in total deaths.