

The Dieppe Raid

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What:

- Joseph Stalin demanded the Allies to invade Europe from the west by forcing Germany to fight on two fronts.
- The main attack force on the French port of Dieppe was The 2nd Canadian Division.
- The plan was to launch four attacks along the coast before dawn on the coast of France.
- The main weapons used in the raid was air force bombers and tanks.
- Consisted of 237 ships, 4 destroyers, RAF bombers, 4963 Canadians 1075 British, 50 American Rangers, 1179 Air Force, 3875 Navy.
- Canada's plan was to destroy German defences by waiting for German soldiers then taking them down with machine guns.
- The German's were alerted by the allied attack and the ships and troops landed in the daylight.
- Tanks were ineffective because they were unable to move through the pebbled beaches.
- The German's were to an advantage because they were on top of hills and Canadian soldiers were easily machine-gunned.
- The RCAF lost 13 aircraft and 10 pilots.
- Approximately 5000 Canadians were involved, 907 killed, 600 wounded, and 1946 taken prisoner.
- The Dieppe Raid was a failure with 907 killed, 600 wounded and 1946 taken prisoner.

Who:

- Canadians, Germans, Soviet Union.

When:

- On the morning of August 19th, 1942.

Where:

- Dieppe, France.

Why:

- The purpose was for the Canadian soldiers to gain experience to launch assault.
- Canadians were trying to help France regain their land that the German's took over.
- The Allies knew what to do from failures at Dieppe to make D-Day successful



Italian Campaign

Who- Canadian Army

Where- Sicily, Ortona, Italy

When- July 10, 1943 to December 28, 1943

Why- Canadians fought in it and were successful in taking back Italy which gave another front that Germans had to fight against

What-

- The Italian Campaign 1943, allied battles to recapture Europe from the south, through Sicily and Italy

- Winston Churchill felt that the best way for the allies to recapture Europe was through what he called the "soft underbelly" of Europe (Sicily, Italy)

- the invasion ended up lasting almost 2 years and costed thousands of lives

- There were two big battles in the Italian Campaign :

- Battle of Sicily- July 10, 1943

- Canadians proved themselves to be fierce opponents

- fought Italians and German soldiers through 240km of mountainous terrain

- lost 562 soldiers in the battle

- they had captured the island after battling for 38 days

- this victory led to Mussolini's downfall, he was overthrown and new Italian

government surrendered

- Germans continued to defend their Italian territory

- Battle of Ortona- December 8th and 9th

- Canadians were given the task of capturing the medieval town of Ortona in the Adriatic Sea

- called "Slaughterhouse hill"

- fighting was confusing

- once they reached Ortona advances were slow and battles often fought house by house

- Canadians captured the town on December 28, 1943 but lost 1372 soldiers

- nearly 6000 Canadians were killed in Italy

