

## **Battle of the Atlantic**

**What:** The fight between the Allies and the Axis to control the Allies shipping route across the Atlantic Ocean.

**Where:** The Atlantic Ocean and sometimes German submarines would sail to the Gulf of the St. Lawrence and up the St. Lawrence River to attack ships there

**When:** 1941 to the end of the war.

**Who:** Germany (Axis) Canada and Britain (Allies)

### **Significance to Canada:**

- In the first 3 years of the war German "wolf packs" were patrolling the Atlantic and soon Germany was dominating the Battle of the Atlantic, however Canada helped turn that around
- The Royal Canadian Navy (RCN) provided about half the escorts across the Atlantic.
- There was better training of Canadian Navy Personnel plus more sophisticated equipment that contributed to allies success .
- Women's Royal Canadian Naval Service (WREN'S) created in 1942 limited to shore based jobs, wireless operators, coders, drivers and operational plotters.
- Allies sailed in convoys to protect vessels carrying vital supplies German torpedoes but this did not stop the attacks. So Canada built small quick war ships (corvettes) to escort convoys.

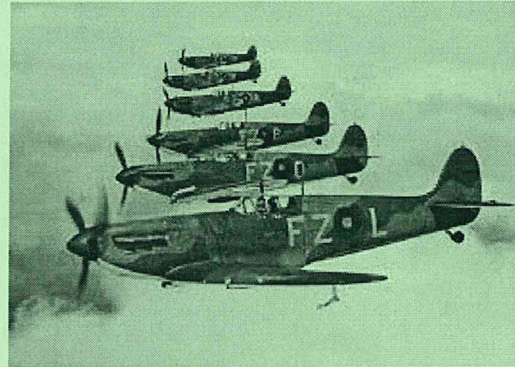
### **Interesting Facts:**

- The RCN had only 13 ships and 1819 sailors when the war broke out and by the end of the war the RCN had grown to 400 vessels and more than 100 000 sailors
- The British had cracked the German naval code allowing the Allies to track German submarine movements easily

## Canadian airborne warfare

### **Who was involved? Royal Canadian Air Force**

**Where?:** The pilots were trained in Canada, and fought in North Africa, Italy, Northwest Europe and Southwest Asia



**Time of event:** 1941 - 1945

### **Who was involved:**

Canada, Britain and Germany

### **What:**

> Canada had a quickly growing air force, with more than 215,000 people enlisting into the RCAF, allowing Canada to have over 35 thousand squadrons overseas at one point.

> Canada's Air Force trained for seven months, then were sent to Britain to fight with the British's **Bomber Command**.

> The RCAF participated in bombing raids in North Africa, Italy, Northwest Europe and Southeast Asia

> The RCAF took part in night bombings, aimed at Germany, which were very dangerous missions.

> Women who enlisted into the RCAF did not fight overseas but instead worked as clerks, instrument mechanics, drivers, telephone operators and engine mechanics.

### **Other interesting and important facts:**

> The casualty rate for Canadian bomber crew members was 7 out of 10, by the end of the war this added up to over ten thousand lost their lives fighting in the air force

> Canada's Air Force bombed German cities as a form of payback for their attacks on British towns.

> The RCAF refused to let licensed women fly until later on in the war, and even then they only ferried bombs to Britain, they never did fight in combat.

> One of the worst attacks was on the city of Hamburg, due to constant bombing creating a firestorm, this attack took over 40,000 civilian lives.

## The Battle of Dieppe



Who: Canada, Britain and U.S.

What: An allied attack on the German-occupied port of Dieppe during the 2<sup>nd</sup> World War.

When: August 19, 1942. Began at 5am... by 10:50am the Allied commanders were forced to call a retreat.

Where: On the northern coast of France.

Significance to Canada: Over 6,000 infantrymen, predominantly Canadian, were supported by a Canadian armored regiment and a strong force of Royal Navy and smaller Royal Air Force landing contingents.

Interesting Facts: - A total of 3,632 of the 6,086 men (almost 60%) who made it ashore were killed, wounded, or captured.

-The Royal Air Force failed to lure the Luftwaffe into open battle, and lost 96 aircraft compared to 48 lost by the Luftwaffe.

Alexis Holmes

## **DIEPPE**

**Who: Canadian soldiers, German soldiers/a small convoy, British and American soldiers**

**Where: Europe; The French Port of Dieppe**

**When: August 19th, 1942**

**What: A trial raid by Canadian troops against Germany's occupation of Dieppe to test new techniques and equipment**



**Why was this significant to Canada: There was 5000 Canadian soldiers, 1000 British commandos and 50 American rangers; 3,350 Canadians became casualties, 1,950 became prisoners of war, and 916 died, whereas only 210 British and American soldiers lost their lives**

### **Interesting Facts:**

- Germany knew the soldiers were coming**
- They were supposed to land on the beach in the dark of night but ended up arriving in full daylight**
- German machine guns easily mowed down opposing soldiers**
- Tanks could not get traction on pebble covered beaches so they became stuck and were unable to help**
- Commanders thought troops had reached the town because of bad communication so they sent in reinforcements and these soldiers were also trapped on the beaches**
- It was the darkest chapter in Canada's military history**

**Emma Klingspohn**

## **The Italian Campaign**

**Who:** Sicily, Canadian soldiers & Italian, German soldiers  
Ortona, Canadian & German soldiers

**Where/when:** Italy, Sicily July 10, 1943 - August 7, 1943  
Italy, Ortona December 20, 1943 - 28, 1943

**What:** It was an important military effort for Canada, in the second world war

**Why was it significant to Canada:** Prime Minister Winston Churchill thought it would be easy to take Europe back from the Germans but was terribly wrong, the invasion lasted two years and cost thousands of lives.

### ***Interesting/Important facts:***

1. Among the British and American allied troops fighting in the Italian Campaign were Algerians, Indians, French, Moroccans, Canadians, New Zealanders, African American and Japanese Americans.
2. After capturing Ortona, Canadian troops advanced through Italy until they were sent to join the campaign in France. Nearly 6,000 Canadians were killed in Italy.
3. Canadians proved themselves to be fierce opponents once again as they did in WWI.
4. Canadian troops that die in the Italian Campaign were more than 26,000, nearly 6,000 of which were fatal.





**What Happened** In 1944 The Second World War was going badly for the allies, the Nazi's had control over France, and Britain was under attack these were the darkest days of the war. But the allies had a plan to take back Normandy, the Canadian Royal Navy sent over 110 ships and 14,000 troops to help with "Operation Overlord" which turned out to be a large scale invasion. Though it was delayed due to a storm the operation took place on June 6th 1944, a Tuesday, the alliance of Britain, Canada, and the US attacked the German beaches code named Juno, Gold, Sword, Omaha, and Utah.

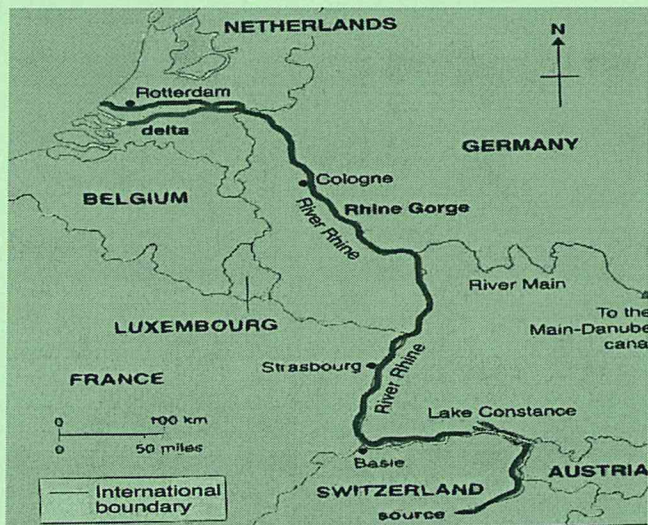
**Why Was it Important to Canada?** The Canadians were attacking Juno Beach led by Major General Rod Keller, the attack was successful despite that 359 Canadians died in the assault with another 715 wounded.

**Other Information** The Germans assumed that the allies would land during high tide so they created a "devils garden" (large metal spikes) to sink the ships, as well as barbed wire and land mines. The Canadian forces made 9 kilometers progress inland in the first day with the help of the British air force who dropped paratroopers behind enemy lines and bombed the German infantry.

## **Liberation of the Netherlands**

**Who:** The first Canadian army, Dutch civilians, The Germans (Nazi army)

**Where:** This event took place throughout the Netherlands but started at the Rhine river and Germany



**When:** From September 1944 to April 1945

**What:** Once the allied forces reached the Rhine river and Germany, Canadian forces were given a different objective, to liberate the Netherlands. This was a difficult job, an earlier attempt to free Holland had failed, and the Germans had basically destroyed Amsterdam and Rotterdam. By the end of 1944, food and supplies to the Dutch civilians had been cut off, causing many people to starve to death. The harsh winter of 1944-1945 only made the conditions worse.

**Why was this significant to Canada:** Canadians won the battle and achieved a task that others had failed, the Canadians were hailed as heroes by the Dutch people.

**Interesting facts:** To this day, if you are Canadian and go to the Netherlands, you will be thanked because the people are so grateful.

# Canada on the Home Front



**Political-** Politics in Canada during WW2 were lead by prime minister King whom was looking for anyway to earn money for the war effort one way he did this was by creating if day which was a fake attack on winnipeg that was suppose to represent what would happen if the germans attacked which hugely helped raise money for victory bonds.  
-Mackenzie King allowed conscription in 1942 for overseas servicemen by amending the national resources mobilization act this lead to many Quebecois feeling betrayed by their prime minister. King avoided conscription until 1944 when there were so few soldiers left he called it into action.

**Economically-** With increased employment and production, people had money to spend but with most of Canada's supplies going to Britain King feared inflation could rise hugely.

-The government pushed on people to buy victory bonds to finance the war which in turn could be cashed in for profit later,.

-King also introduced food rations so people would not waste food during the war.

-A key point for Canada was there factories which helped produce enormous amounts of machinery for use in WW2.

**Socially-** Women were in high demand as factory workers working mainly as welders and drillers

-they were given the name "Rosie the Riveter" factories would pull women from rural areas and build dormitories to house them.



## Canadian women's wartime role

Anouk Pabst

### Political:

- woman also joined the Canadian women's army corps serving as clerks, drivers and nurses
- 1945, over 43000 women were serving in Canada's armed forces

### Social:

- Daycare centres were built in Ontario and Quebec
- Their jobs earned them still less authority and lower pay than men's jobs
- Women were adopting new roles and improving their social status ( But at the end of the war, many women gave up their jobs)
- Women were also important in entertainment

### Economic:

- woman joined war industries (building ships, airplanes, and weapons)
- they worked as welders, drillers, and punchpress or machine operators
- women were in high demand as factory workers
- National selective service program registered women for work in factories



sources: textbook, worksheet, [http://www.historylearningsite.co.uk/women\\_WW2.htm](http://www.historylearningsite.co.uk/women_WW2.htm)

# Women in WW2

Kiley Gold

## Social Studies 11

### 1. What was the event?

It is about Women's roles when men were at War in World War II.

Women would fill non-combative positions such as radio operators, aid workers, nurses, and ambulance drivers to serve their country, while men went overseas to fight. They also volunteered to work in war industries to build ships, airplanes, and weapons. In rural areas women operated farms, and across the country they filled positions that were traditionally held by men.

### 2. Where and when did the event take place or happen?

WWII was worldwide and took place between 1939-1945.

### 3. Who was involved?

House wives, mothers, or single women.

### 4. Why was the event significant to Canada?

Because while men were out fighting in the war, women were doing jobs that they were usual with at the time. They would work on farms, build ships, airplanes, and weapons, welders, drillers, punch press or machine operators, and more. Women wouldn't get paid as much as men would but they were happy to do these jobs to serve their country.

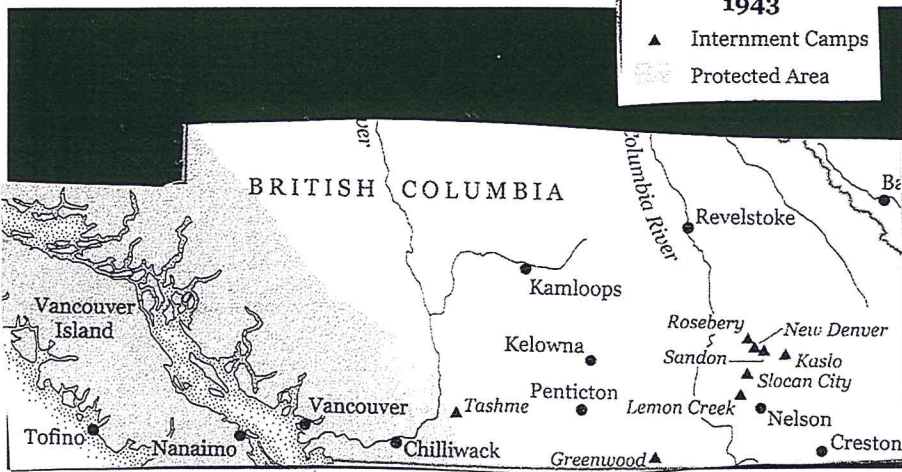
### 5. Interesting/important facts.

- Women didn't get paid the same amount of money as men would get paid for doing these jobs.
- With so much increased production and employment, people suddenly had more money to spend.
- Women had to look after their homes, as well as work, when men were at war.
- When the war changed everything, attitudes had to change as well.

Your #1 source for learning from the past!

# Historical News Digest

## Japanese Internment Camps: A Dark Chapter in Canadian History!



**British Columbia 1943**

- ▲ Internment Camps
- Protected Area

### Significance to Canada

- In later years the Canadian Government issued a formal apology and restitution was given to Japanese Canadians. The Canadian Government vowed it would never let something like what happened to the Japanese during WW2, happen again to any culture living in Canada. As Quoted by PM Brian Mulroney in 1988, "for those past injustices against them, their families and heritage it is our solemn promise to all Canadians of all origins that such violations will never again be repeated."
- Canada is now widely known as a multicultural country with the integration and inclusion of many cultures.

### What

Imagine police banging on doors ordering your family, innocent of any crimes, to gather up what you can carry and sent to an unfamiliar place far from home and everything you know. Some of your family members are being sent elsewhere, miles away and you are told you can't find them. Your days are now spent in animal stalls, sleeping on a bed of straw. You discover your home, business and most of your possessions have been sold off without your consent or looted. You have nothing to go back to! A scene from Nazi Germany? No, it was the internment of the Japanese in B.C. during World War 2.

- British Columbia already had a long history of discrimination against its Asian residents. After the attack on Pearl Harbour on Dec 7, 1941, The Canadian government used the War Measures Act to categorize Japanese Canadians as enemy aliens.

### Where

- Japanese Canadians were sent to 8 different camps. 7 were in located in the Interior and Kootenay regions and one was located in the Fraser Canyon. The camps were set up in abandoned mining towns in primitive conditions. Most had to stay in tents and cabins without running water or electricity. Overcrowding was common in the bunkhouses.
- The map in the photo shows where the camps were located.

### Interesting Facts:

- Anyone objection to separation or resisting orders was shipped to remote Prisoner of War camps in Ontario.
- All Japanese Canadians over 16 had to carry identity cards that were either stamped "naturalized" or "Canadian born" and were signed by the RCMP.

### What

- Japanese Canadians were detained without charge or trial and their homes, businesses and possessions confiscated.
- Many Canadians felt that Japanese Canadians would feel loyalty to Japan and become spies.

### Interesting Facts

- 27,000 Japanese Canadians were interned at the camps.
- Students who were going to school in the camps had to speak English only,

### WHEN

- Beginning a month after the attack on Pearl Harbour on Dec 7, 1941 and lasting until 1949.

### WHO

- Japanese Canadians
- Canadian Government

### What does internment mean?

The practice of detaining persons considered dangerous during a war is often called internment, even though they may not be enemy nationals.

Source: encyclopedia.com

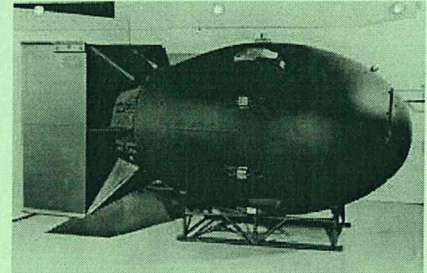
### Interesting Facts:

- David Suzuki, who was interned as a young boy, went on to become a famous Canadian scientist,
- After the war 3,964 Japanese Canadians chose to leave Canada and return to Japan even though many of them were born in Canada.

## World War 2 Weapons

### Atomic bomb

- Invented by the U.S.
- Core of the bomb was \_\_\_\_\_
- Dropped on Japan ( Hiroshima and Nagasaki)
- devastating after effects (flash burns, radiation injuries, psychosomatic disorders)
- baseball sized bomb could destroy a city



### Secret Codes

- Aka \_\_\_\_\_
- Converted radio messages into codes
- Spurred the development of computers
- Was able to decode German signals
- Enigma was invented by the German engineer \_\_\_\_\_

### V-2 German Rockets

- Invented by the Germans
- Range of \_\_\_\_\_
- Used against Britain with high success
- Inventor \_\_\_\_\_ fled the country and moves to the U.S. and later invents the design for the rockets that fly the U.S. to the moon

### Treating the Wounded

- \_\_\_\_\_, an antibiotic discovered in 1929 by British scientist \_\_\_\_\_
- Recovery rates were increased due to the discovery
- Wasn't used until 1941 to treat infections

### Finding the Enemy

- Radio detection and ranging
- used radio waves to detect things beyond eye range
- gives information about \_\_\_\_\_ and speed of approaching aircrafts
- was a deciding factor in the Battle of Britain

## The end of the war

### In Europe

**Who:** Germany, Soviet Union, Canada , France

**Where:** throughout Germany

**When:** Germany surrendered may 7th 1945, Allies declared victory may 8th

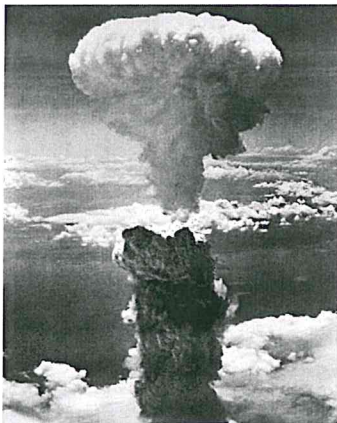
**What:** The allies invaded germany from the north and the west, while the soviet union invaded from the east. Knowing they could not win Germany surrendered to the allies on the 7th of May 1945. The war in europe was over and the allies declared victory on the 8th of May 1945.

**Why was this significant to Canada:** Finally after six long years of fighting and the loss of thousand of Canadian lives the war was over.

#### **Interesting facts:**

- Hitler committed suicide in Berlin before the allies had a chance to capture him

### In Japan



**Who:** Canadian government, imperial japanese army, united states military

**Where:** Hiroshima, Nagasaki

**When:** Mid 1945 - August 14th 1945

**What:** After the allies victory in europe the war in the pacific intensified. By mid 1945 the japanese navy and air force were demolished, but the army was still strong. The United states

began bombing japanese cities trying to force them to surrender. The United states started project Manhattan and dropped 2 atomic bombs on Japan, one in Hiroshima and the other in Nagasaki. These claimed the lives of an estimated 100 000 people and injured 100 000 more. Realizing they could not deal with the bombs Japan surrendered on August 14th, 1945.

# The British Commonwealth Air Training Plan

**What:** The BCATP were airfields where pilots from all over the Commonwealth came to train with British instructors.

**Who:** Canadian workers, British instructors, and over 130 000 pilots, navigators, flight engineers, and ground crew from all over the commonwealth.

**Where:** Airfields in Canada were built on the prairies and in other locations near small towns and villages.

**When:** When agreed to host it in December, 1939. The air program lasted throughout the war.

**Significance to Canada:** This event was significant to Canada because Prime Minister Mackenzie King wanted to avoid conscription in Canada by contributing to the war effort mostly through supplies and training. This program became a major contribution to the war effort. Canada paid 70% of the 2.2 billion that the program cost.

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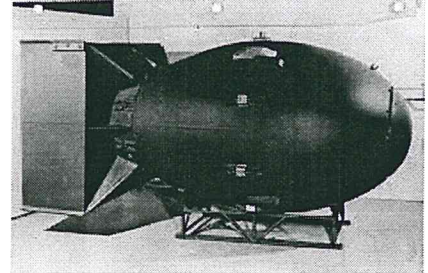
- Canada's contribution of the BCATP was Mackenzie King's way of avoiding conscription, but it still happened during the war anyways.
- The BCATP was one of the single largest air training programs in history.
- Canada was chosen to host the program because of its ideal weather and large, open areas.
- Economically, the BCATP helped bring Canada out of the depression.



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Mariah Anweiler and Harlen Kruger.



## The Battle of **Hong Kong** and the Evacuation of **Dunkirk**

### Hong Kong:

**Who:** Canada, Britain, and commonwealths.

**Where:** Hong Kong, China

**When:** December 7-25, 1941



**What:** -Experienced Japan troops attacked over 20 000 allied soldiers in Hong Kong: killing or capturing every single Canadian soldier.

- The fight lasted for 18 days being named “*Black Christmas*” the date the Japanese took Hong Kong

-Around 1700 Canadian POW’s (Prisoners of War) were used as slave labor or faced brutal conditions. Most died after three and a half years.

**Facts and Significance:** -Canadians at home were angered by the treatment of soldiers by the Japanese. This helped lead to anti-Japanese sentiment and racism later on.

- Canada sent two battalions: The Winnipeg Grenadiers and The Royal Rifles
- Over 1900 Canadians that were sent in 1941 to battle never returned.

### Evacuation of Dunkirk:

**Who:** Germany vs. Allies (Britain, France, Commonwealth countries)

**Where:** French port of Dunkirk, France

**When:** Evacuation began on May 26, 1940. Two days later, German **Luftwaffe** bombed the port. Evacuation complete on June 4, 1940

**What:** - Allied troops decided to evacuate when German troops cut them off and surrounded them during the Battle of France.

- If allies did not escape, Britain would lose the bulk of its army. So they rounded up every available boat that is capable of navigating the English Channel, and evacuated people to Britain.
- After, German army continued to go through France and on June 22, 1940, France surrendered to Germany.

**Facts and Significance:** - Canada was part of the Commonwealth countries in the Allies. Therefore their troops were evacuated too.

- It was a dramatic rescue: 340 000 Allied soldiers, thousands more than anticipated were brought to safety in Britain.
- Evacuation was seen as a “miracle” and help boost morale.
- Also known as Operation Dynamo.