

# A Diary of The Main Events

Papua, and bombed Northern Queensland. Germans took Rostov.

**AUGUST:** Battle of the Solomons began. Gandhi demanded that the British leave India, and Gandhi and other leaders were arrested. Churchill went to Moscow to confer with Stalin. Brazil and Uruguay entered the war against the Axis Powers.

**SEPTEMBER:** Japanese landed on Guadalcanal. Fierce fighting continued around Stalingrad. British forces occupied the capital of Madagascar. Allied position in New Guinea improved.

**OCTOBER:** Friction developed between Germany and Denmark. U.S. troops landed in Liberia. Eighth Army launched heavy assault in Egypt.

**NOVEMBER:** Eighth Army advanced in Egypt. U.S. troops landed in French Morocco and Algeria. Algiers capitulated. Armistice with French was signed in North Africa. Germans invaded unoccupied France and Italians entered Southern France. Germans landed in Tunisia. Japanese were forced back in Solomons. Darlan declared for the Fighting French. French fleet was scuttled at Toulon.

**DECEMBER:** Germans suffered heavy losses in Russia. Americans took Buna, in Papua. Eighth Army advanced into Tripolitania. Darlan was assassinated.

## 1943

**JANUARY:** U-boat menace increased. Iraq declared war on Axis Powers. Russians raised siege of Leningrad. Eighth Army occupied Tripoli, and entered Tunisia. Allied leaders held conference in Casablanca. Russians defeated the Germans at Stalingrad.

**FEBRUARY:** All Libya conquered. U.S. forces cleared Guadalcanal of Japanese. Russians took Rostov and Kharkov.

**MARCH:** Japanese convoy approaching New Guinea was annihilated. Russians took Rjev and Vyazma, but were forced to evacuate Kharkov. Battle for Tunisia began.

**APRIL:** Allied forces in Tunisia advanced steadily. Relations were suspended between Poland and Russia.

**MAY:** Allies captured Tunis and Bizerta. British forces in Burma withdrew to the Indian frontier. North African campaign ended with surrender of the German and Italian armies. R.A.F. bombed dams in the Ruhr. Russia disbanded the Comintern.

**JUNE:** Pantellaria, Lampedusa and Linosa surrendered to the Allies. Japanese suffered reverse in China. United Nations launched air attack on Sicily. Allies opened new offensive in the Pacific.

**JULY:** British made a commando raid on Crete. British, American and Canadian forces invaded Sicily, and took Syracuse and Palermo. Americans advanced in New Guinea and New Georgia. Rome had its first air-raid. Germans were forced back in Russia.

Mussolini resigned and Badoglio became head of the Government. Fascist organisation disbanded.

**AUGUST:** Sicilian campaign ended with a British and American victory. Russians retook Orel, Kharkov and Taganrog. Revolt started in Denmark, and King Christian was arrested. King Boris of Bulgaria died. Americans forced Japanese from New Georgia.

**SEPTEMBER:** Eighth Army invaded Italy, and Italy surrendered unconditionally. Germans continued fighting in Italy. Iran declared war on Germany. Australian and American troops took Lae in New Guinea. Italians drove Germans from Sardinia. Germans withdrew in Russia.

**OCTOBER:** French forced enemy troops from Corsica. Portugal granted Britain naval and air bases in the Azores. Italy declared war on Germany. Czech troops landed in Dalmatia to help partisans attacked by Germans. Russians advanced in the Ukraine area.

**NOVEMBER:** U.S. forces landed on Bougainville. Germans suffered heavy defeats in Russia. German forces recaptured Leros and Samos Islands. U.S. forces landed on islands in the Gilbert group. Eighth Army launched a new attack on the German line in Italy.

**DECEMBER:** Allied leaders met at Cairo and Teheran. Australians took Wareo and Americans landed on Arawe Peninsula. Internal unrest developed in Bulgaria. Russia and Czechoslovakia signed a 20-year friendship pact.

## 1944

**JANUARY:** Russians crossed 1939 Polish frontier. Allied forces made a new landing in Italy at Nettuno and Anzio. Argentina severed diplomatic relations with the Axis powers. After heavy fighting, Leningrad was liberated. Air-raids over Germany increased. U.S. forces invaded Marshall Islands.

**FEBRUARY:** Russian forces crossed Estonian border. Germans suffered a major defeat at Kanev. Allies attacked Monte Cassino monastery. Americans attacked Truk. Allied forces were successful in Burma. Russia offered Finland peace terms.

**MARCH:** Russians forced German troops back. German forces occupied Hungary. Finland rejected Russian terms. Japanese entered Manipur State, India. Heavy fighting continued at Cassino. Russian forces entered Rumania.

**APRIL:** American forces took Hollandia in Dutch New Guinea. Russo-Finnish peace negotiations were broken off. Allied forces gained decisive victories in British New Guinea. Japanese launched a new attack in Honan Province in China.

**MAY:** Russians liberated the Crimea. Allies launched new offensive against Gustav Line in Italy. Cassino was bypassed, and the Germans were forced to evacuate. U.S. troops took Wake Island. Allies made advances in Burma.

**JUNE:** Fifth Army took Rome. Allies landed in Normandy, and made rapid advances to the south and west, liberating Cherbourg. Russians launched a new

offensive in Finland. U.S. planes raided Japan. Flying bombs were used against England. U.S. forces landed on Saipan.

**JULY:** Caen was liberated. Russians crossed the Latvian border. Allies progress in Normandy and Italy was steady. Saipan surrendered, and U.S. forces attacked Guam. Tojo was removed from his position as Chief of Staff, and his Cabinet resigned.

**AUGUST:** Allied forces landed in the South of France and thrust inland. Japanese fell back slightly in Burma and the South Pacific. There was a Polish rising in Warsaw when the Russians reached the capital. French forces rose, and Paris was liberated. Russia forced Rumania to surrender, and invaded Transylvania.

**SEPTEMBER:** Allies entered Belgium, Holland, and Luxembourg. Finland made an armistice with Russia. Allies crossed the German frontier. Airborne troops landed at Arnhem, but were forced to retreat.

**OCTOBER:** Warsaw underground forces surrendered to Germans. Allies landed in Greece and Germans evacuated the country. Allied forces invaded the Philippines. Red Army entered Czechoslovakia and Norway.

**NOVEMBER:** British landed on Walcheren. Roosevelt was elected for fourth term. U.S. planes bombed Japan. Polish Cabinet resigned.

**DECEMBER:** U.S. forces crossed the Saar River. Russians advanced in Hungary. There was fighting among factions in Greece. United States forces made progress in the Philippines. Germans made progress in Belgium.

## 1945

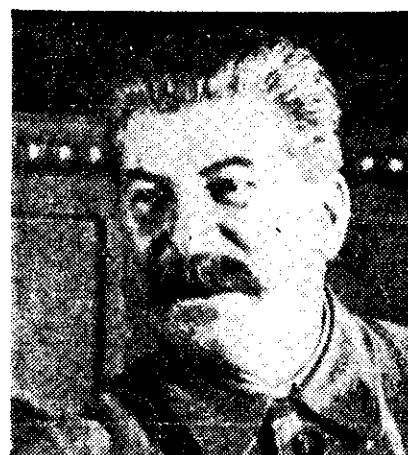
**JANUARY:** ELAS troops withdrew from Athens. Huge American forces opened the invasion of Luzon. Truce terms were agreed to in Athens. Red Army freed Warsaw from Germans. Russians crossed the German border, 90 miles from Berlin.

**FEBRUARY:** American First Army captured three miles of the Siegfried Line. The roar of Russian guns was heard in Berlin. American troops entered Manila. The "Big Three" met at Yalta. Polish Government in London rejected the Yalta policy. U.S. task force attacked Tokio.

**MARCH:** German armies routed between Maas and Rhine. Drive to Berlin started. Heart of Tokio bombed. Montgomery launched offensive on lower Rhine.

**APRIL:** U.S. Forces advanced on Okinawa. British crossed the Weser. Russia denounced Soviet-Japanese neutrality pact. Russians liberated Vienna. Death of Roosevelt. Russians within Berlin. Link-up of Allies from East and West. Mussolini executed.

**MAY:** Persistent rumours of surrender offers by Germany. Germans announced Hitler's death. Unconditional surrender in Italy and Western Austria. Fall of Berlin.



JOSEF STALIN



CHIANG-KAI-SHEK



GENERAL DE GAULLE



FIELD-MARSHAL SMUTS