

THE FALLEN OF WWII

An animated data-driven documentary about war and peace, The Fallen of World War II looks at the human cost of the second World War and sizes up the numbers to other wars in history, including trends in recent conflicts.

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Watch the video at this link <https://vimeo.com/128373915> or use the "interactive version" at this link <http://www.fallen.io/>.

Note: The "interactive version" is recommended so you can scroll across the data to get the specific numbers you are looking for. However, don't lose sight of the bigger picture this video is trying to portray. Also, it asks for payment for the video but you can watch it and use the interactive part without paying for it.

Answer the following questions in brief but sufficient detail and by citing specific evidence

<p>What does each person icon represent?</p> <p>Civilians = 1,000 Soldiers = 1,000 killed + 1,000 injured</p>	<p>What two types of deaths are counted in this video?</p> <p>Civilians + Soldiers</p>	<p>How many American soldiers died in WWII?</p> <p>400,000</p>	<p>How many soldiers died on "D-Day" in the European Theatre?</p> <p>2,500</p>
<p>How many American soldiers died at the "Battle of Okinawa" in the Pacific Theater?</p> <p>12,500</p>	<p>How many German Deaths on the "Western Front" fighting Britain and the U.S.?</p> <p>500,000</p>	<p>What happened at Stalingrad and how many Germans died there?</p> <p>500,000 Germans surrounded by Russians + cut off from food/ammunition</p>	<p>How many Germans died overall on the Eastern Front?</p> <p>2.3 million</p>
<p>How many Soviets/Russians died on the Eastern Front?</p> <p>8.7 million</p>	<p>How many Jewish people were killed during the "Holocaust"?</p> <p>6 million</p>	<p>How many Jews were killed in the Death Camps vs. how many were killed by shooting?</p> <p>3 million vs. 1.4 million</p>	<p>What other groups, including totals, were killed as part of the Holocaust? Include totals.</p> <p>130,000-500,000 Gypsies 250,000 disabilities</p>

Poland lost the highest percentage of its citizenry during WWII. What percentage died? How are they also part of the "Holocaust"? Elaborate/explain.

16%

2 million non-Jewish Poles killed in camps

Which country, including totals, lost the most people (citizens/non-combatants and soldiers) overall during WWII?

Russia

How was Stalin's cruelty towards his own people part of the total deaths?

Wouldn't let people leave cities that were being attacked.

Which countries were guilty of targeting civilians, including totals?

Most warring countries
United Kingdom lost 60,000
Germany lost 600,000

Who targeted cities (urban centers) most?

Great Britain in Germany

Overall, how many soldiers and civilians died in the European Theater during WWII?

41 million

From which two nations did the majority of deaths come from in the Pacific Theater? Include totals.

China & Japan

How many civilian deaths in the Pacific Theater can be attributed to Japanese War Crimes?

6 million

What country had the 2nd largest casualty total in the war (second only to Soviet Union)? Include totals.

China

How did the country from #21 show a willingness to sacrifice its own people to the war effort as is evidenced by the "Yellow River Flood"? Include totals and elaborate and explain (consider comparing to 2004 Tsunami totals).

opened a dike to create a flood that killed half a million civilians or more (2-3 times more than died in 2004)

How many Japanese soldiers died fighting Chinese vs. fighting Americans in the Pacific Theatre? Include totals.

200,000 fighting Chinese

How many Japanese citizens died during American firebombing and/or nuclear bombing? Include totals.

192,000 nuclear strikes
172,000 firebombing

How many people (soldiers & citizens) were killed in the Pacific Theatre? Include totals. (Caution: you may have to do math here).

How many total deaths (soldiers and civilians) were killed during WWII?

70 million

How does the death toll in WWII compared to previous wars in history? Compare WWII to 2+ previous wars in history using both raw statistics and statistics adjusted for population growth (proportional statistics).

70 million compared w/ 15 million in WWI
70 million compared w/ 9 million in Russia Civil War

The period after WWII has been coined "The Long Peace". The authors of this film state that "saying anything" about post-WWII conflicts can be "controversial". Explain this. Has it been a "Long Peace" or is this "too strong of a word" or is it a bit of both? Cite specific statistics and examples of the conflicts since WWII and how they compare.

No conflicts/wars btwn. Great (rich) powers - there have been conflicts w/ small (poorer) countries.

Name _____

Date _____

Answer Key

Post WWII PowerPoint Take Away Questions

1950's America

1. What was the Baby Boom? The birthrate soared after WWII due to a strong economy, returning soldiers wanting to "settle down", benefits of GI Bill + affordable housing.

2. What was the GI Bill of Rights?

It helped returning Veterans:

- ① Receive loans to pay for college and a house
- ② Provide full year of unemployment benefits.

3. Who was Bill Levitt? And how did he contribute to the growth of the Suburbs after WWII?

"Father of Suburbia" - Real estate developer who produced 150 houses a week - housing affordable - single family homes

4. What new invention from the late 40's was in every household in America by 1950???

Television - 1946 - 7,000 sets
1950 - 50,000,000 TV sets > WOW!

5. How did "Car Culture" change in the 1950's? (New businesses, new ways to make driving easier, how did it change America?)

15 million new cars btwn 1945 + 1960 - some families now had 2 cars - 1956 - Interstate Highway Act - 41,000 miles of new roads built - now need restaurants - hotels - more gas stations - driving to vacations
America (1955 - Disney opens in Calif)

The Yalta and Potsdam conferences

#1
The Yalta and Potsdam conferences were called to help the Allies decide what would happen to Europe, and in particular Germany, at the end of the Second World War. This worksheet will help you understand the decisions made at these two important conferences and the differences that emerged between the allied leaders.

Yalta and Potsdam - the basics

Yalta - February 1945: Germany was not yet defeated, so, although there were tensions about Poland, the big three - Stalin, Roosevelt and Churchill - managed to agree to **split Germany** into four zones of occupation, and to allow **free elections** in Eastern European countries. Russia was invited to join the United Nations, and Russia promised to join the war against Japan when Germany was defeated.

Potsdam - July 1945: Germany had been defeated, Roosevelt had died and Churchill had lost the 1945 election - so there were **open disagreements**. Truman came away angry about the size of reparations and the fact that a communist government was being set up in Poland. Truman did not tell Stalin that he had the atomic bomb.

#6
#7

Yalta



(Churchill, FDR, Stalin)

Potsdam



(Attlee-Britain, Harry S. Truman, Stalin)

Differences between Yalta and Potsdam

It will help if you are able to describe the huge differences between Yalta and Potsdam - the issues were the same, but the goodwill to overcome them was gone, because the countries no longer needed to stick together. Note how not all the broken promises were by Stalin:

Comparison of Yalta and Potsdam

Yalta	Potsdam
<p>#3 Churchill, Roosevelt, & Stalin (England) (U.S.) (Russia)</p> <p>Germany to be split into four zones.</p> <p>Germany will pay reparations.</p>	<p>Attlee, Truman and Stalin</p> <p>Arguments about the details of the boundaries between the zones.</p> <p>Disagreements about the amount of reparations Russia wanted to take. It was agreed that Russia could take whatever it wanted from the Soviet zone, and 10 per cent of the industrial equipment of the western zones, but Britain and the US thought this was too much. #8</p>
<p>A government of 'national unity' to be set up in Poland, comprising both communists and non-communists.</p>	<p>Truman was angry because Stalin had arrested the non-communist leaders of Poland.</p>
<p>Free elections in the countries of eastern Europe. This part of the agreement was called the Declaration of Liberated Europe.</p>	<p>America and Britain were alarmed because communists were coming to power in the countries of Eastern Europe.</p>
<p>Russia would help against Japan when Germany was defeated.</p>	<p>Truman dropped the atomic bomb so that Japan would surrender before Russian troops could go into Japan. America had the bomb in July 1945, but Truman did not tell Stalin about it. When he saw how he had been tricked, Stalin was furious.</p>

REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. Why did the Allies decide to have to have a conference at Yalta?

To help the allies decide what would happen in Europe at end of war.

2. Where is Yalta? Why there?

Russian resort town in Crimea (Soviet Union)

3. Who were the three main countries at Yalta? Their leaders?

Churchill - Great Britain

Roosevelt - U.S.

Stalin - Russia

4. They decided to divide up both Germany and Berlin into four sectors. Describe the division.

They divided it into 4 zones among the allies.

5. Why do you suppose the allies chose to divide up Germany and keep troops there to occupy their 'sector' following the end of WWII?

Your opinion.

6. Truman, the American President, who took over after Roosevelt's death, was angry leaving the Potsdam Conference. What was he angry about?

About the size of reparations + the fact that a communist gov't. was being set up in Poland.

7. What small piece of information did Truman keep from Stalin? Why?

That we had atomic bomb

8. What was the disagreement over reparations? Why would the Soviets need/want a lot of reparations from the Germans?

→ Russia wanted a bigger share of it.

Russia wanted to use \$ from Germany to make itself strong + keep Germany weak.

Yalta and Potsdam are going to be major factors in the Cold War which we will be covering next.

Name _____

Date _____

Overview

- The **United Nations (UN)** was created at the end of World War II as an international peacekeeping organization and a forum for resolving conflicts between nations.
- The UN replaced the ineffective League of Nations, which had failed to prevent the outbreak of the Second World War.
- The UN was established on October 24, 1945, with headquarters in Manhattan, New York City, and reflected the rise of the United States to global leadership in the postwar period.

#1

building is still there
(cool place to visit)

Negotiating a postwar world order

In 1944, delegations from the United States, the United Kingdom, the Soviet Union, and the Republic of China—four of the main Allied powers in World War II—met in Washington, DC to negotiate the parameters of the postwar world and to discuss the establishment of the international organization that would become known as the **United Nations (UN)**.



Emblem of the United Nations, featuring a globe surrounded by olive branches.

The United Nations replaced the League of Nations, which had been created at the end of the First World War to provide states with an international forum for the peaceful resolution of disputes. Even though US President Woodrow Wilson was one of the key supporters of the League of Nations, the United States never officially joined the organization due to intense opposition from isolationist members of Congress. The League of Nations ultimately proved ineffective in preventing the outbreak of another world war and was formally dissolved in 1946.

Finally, the **International Court of Justice (ICJ)** is the judicial organ of the UN. At its headquarters at the

#2

The United States played an instrumental role in the founding of the United Nations. The UN Charter, with its emphasis on peace, security, international law, economic development, and human rights, reflected the influence of US President Franklin D. Roosevelt and British Prime Minister Winston Churchill, who shared a vision for the postwar world. In 1941, the two leaders drafted the **Atlantic Charter**, which declared that there would be no territory lost as a result of the war, that postwar international relations would be cooperative, and that disputes between states would be resolved through peaceful negotiation and not the use or threat of force. The Atlantic Charter eventually became the basis for the UN Charter.

The extent of US involvement in the creation of the United Nations, as well as the location of its main headquarters in New York City, demonstrates the rise of the United States to global leadership in the postwar period.

The structure and function of the United Nations

The United Nations has several main bodies that serve different purposes. The **Secretariat** is the main administrative organ of the UN. It commissions research and applies the findings of studies to making the UN a more effective and efficient organization.

The **General Assembly** is the main deliberative body of the UN. Every country that is a member of the UN is represented in the General Assembly. The UN General Assembly convenes annually to deliberate and vote on important issues affecting world peace and security. The General Assembly can only make recommendations to member-states; it cannot make binding decisions, nor can it enforce those decisions – only the Security Council has the authority to do that.

The **Security Council** is composed of five permanent members—the United States, Great Britain, France, Russia, and China— which were the five main Allied powers in the Second World War. There are also ten non-permanent seats on the Security Council that rotate between different countries every two years. The purpose of the Security Council is to peacefully resolve international conflicts and prevent the outbreak of war. UN Security Council resolutions are binding and are enforced by UN peacekeepers, which are military forces contributed by member-states.

The **Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)** was created to promote international economic and social cooperation and development, particularly in the developing world, or what was referred to during the Cold War as the “Third World.”

Finally, the **International Court of Justice (ICJ)** is the judicial organ of the UN. At its headquarters at the Hague, Netherlands, the court hears legal disputes between states and issues opinions on legal matters submitted by members of the General Assembly or other UN agencies.

The United Nations in the Cold War

#3 Because the Soviet Union and the United States both held permanent seats on the UN Security Council, as the Cold War heated up, disunity between the two great powers interfered with the international organization's basic peacekeeping mission. This was partly due to the dual nature of the UN as a forum for negotiating disputes among states and a platform for influencing international opinion. The Soviet Union and the United States both used the UN as a propaganda platform, to win hearts and minds in the Cold War. Many of the proposals submitted by US and Soviet officials were aimed primarily at criticizing each other, and since each superpower had a veto in the Security Council, disputes could not be resolved unless both Cold War rivals agreed, which was rare. This had the effect of stalling negotiations and prolonging conflict. # 3

Questions:

Why was the United Nations founded? Where is its headquarters? ↗ N.Y.C.

↳ to replace League of Nations which was ineffective in preventing WWII

What does the UN Charter tell us about its main goals?

It tells us the main goals were to keep peace (no wars), make sure people treated fairly, international crimes are prosecuted + to assist in economic stability of countries.

How did the Cold War affect the functioning and purpose of the United Nations?

As both had a veto vote in security council - it had the effect of stalling negotiations + prolonging conflict.

How did the UN evolve over the course of the twentieth century? extra info

There are now 193 members - helps to assist in resolving conflicts + providing aid where needed