

Chapter Summary

Section 1: The Allies Turn the Tide

The Allies developed a “Europe First” plan to defeat Hitler. Victories at Stalingrad and Midway proved to be key turning points. Allied dominance in North Africa, the invasion of Italy, and bombing raids in Germany increased pressure on the Axis.

Section 2: The Home Front

Women and minorities benefited from new job opportunities in wartime industries. Civil liberties, however, suffered, as Japanese Americans were sent to internment camps. Daily life changed as Americans made sacrifices to support the war effort.



Chapter Summary (continued)

Section 3: Victory in Europe and the Pacific

The D-Day invasion opened a second front in Europe. Allied troops advanced to Berlin from east and west. Hitler committed suicide, and Germany surrendered. Truman decided to drop two atomic bombs on Japan. Japan surrendered, and the war finally ended.

Section 4: The Holocaust

Hitler's racist and anti-Semitic beliefs led to a systematic persecution of the Jews. His "final solution" was to exterminate all Jews. More than six million died in concentration camps. The Allies, occupied with battle plans, were slow to respond to the ongoing tragedy.

Chapter Summary (continued)

Section 5: Effects of the War

Despite agreements at Yalta and Potsdam, Stalin eventually created communist states in much of Eastern Europe. A new commitment to international cooperation was reflected in the founding of the UN. The U.S. embraced its new role as a global superpower.