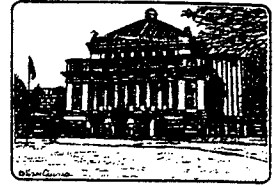


**“Help us Make History”**  
**Soldiers and Sailors National Military Museum and Memorial**  
**Education Department**



**WORLD WAR II TIMELINE**

*September 1, 1939-* Adolf Hitler (Dictator of Germany) invades Poland, and the war in Europe begins.

*December 7, 1941-* “A day which will live in infamy”, Pear Harbor is bombed, and the on the next day, the United States declares war.

*June 3-6, 1942-* Battle of Midway, the largest naval battle of WWII. The battle was a huge defeat for the Japanese, and is considered the turning point of the war in the Pacific.

*June 6, 1944-* D-Day, the Allies invade France. This invasion leads to the Allies liberating Europe and pushing the Germans back into Germany.

*December 16, 1944-* The Battle of the Bulge begins. This is the final German offensive in the West and the largest land battle of WWII. The attack was not successful and the Germans were once again pushed back.

*May 9, 1945-* Victory Europe (VE-Day), Germany surrenders and the war in Europe officially comes to an end.

*August 6 and 9, 1945-* The United States drops an atomic bomb on the Japanese city of Hiroshima and three days later an atomic bomb is dropped on the Japanese city of Nagasaki.

*September 2, 1945-* Victory Japan (VJ-Day), Japan surrenders and the war in the Pacific officially comes to an end.