**WWII Research Topics and Sources**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Topic** | **Sources** |
| Power and Planning in the Third Reich: Hitler’s power as a dictator | * Kershaw, “Hitler: ‘Master in the Third Reich’ or ‘Weak Dictator’?” * Speer, “A Day in the Chancellery” |
| ‘Their Finest Hour’: The Battle of Britain | * Klee, “The Battle of Britain” * Smith, “The Blitz” |
| The Battle of the Atlantic | * Mulligan, “Patterns of the U-Boat War, 1939-1945” * Calvocoressi, Wint, and Pritchard, “The Battle of the Seas” * Bell, “Convoys and Wolfpacks: Decision in the Atlantic, March-May 1943,” from *Twelve Turning Points of the Second World War* |
| The War for North Africa | * Jackson, “The Rising American Tide (July and August 1942)” * Smyth, “The Campaign in North Africa: Second Phase” * Fraser, “Watershed” |
| Propaganda and Morale | * Welch, “Nazi Propaganda at War, 1939-45” * Donnelly, “Wartime Media – Press, Radio and Cinema” * Harman, “How the News Was Told” * Kirwin, “Allied Bombing and Nazi Domestic Propaganda” |
| Strategic Bombing and the Allied Bomber Offensive in Europe | * Beaumont, “The Bomber Offensive as a Second Front” * Neillands, “The Battle of Berlin and Big Week, November 1943 – March 1944” * Levine, “Conclusions from the Strategic Bombing of Germany 1940 – 1945” * Burleigh, Michael. “The King’s Thunderbolts are Righteous,” from *Moral Combat* |
| Operation Barbarossa: Germany’s invasion of the USSR | * Burleigh, Michael. “Barbarossa,” from *Moral Combat*. * Kahn, “’Russia Will Assuredly Be Defeated’: Anglo-American Government Assessments of Soviet War Potential Before Operation Barbarossa” * Roberts, “Planning for War: The Red Army and the Catastrophe of 1941” * Bell, “Operation Barbarossa: The German Attack on the Soviet Union, 1941,” from *Twelve Turning Points in the Second World War* |
| The Holocaust: *Einsatzgruppen* and the beginning of genocide in the USSR | * Matthaus, “Controlled Escalation: Himmler’s Men in the Summer of 1941 and the Holocaust in the Occupied Soviet Territories” * Kay, “Transition to Genocide, July 1941: Einsatzkommando 9 and the Annihilation of Soviet Jewry” |
| The Holocaust: The Final Solution | * Marrus, “The Final Solution” * Noakes and Pridham, “Transition to the Systematic Extermination of the Jews [Article 849]” * Sofsky, “The SS Personnel” |
| Operation Overlord: The Invasion of Normandy | * Villa, “The Bare Facts of a Historical Tragedy” (Dieppe) * Powers, “The Battle of Normandy: The Lingering Controversy” * Bell, “D-Day and the Battle of Normandy, June-July 1944,” from *Twelve Turning Points of the Second World War* * Lewis, “The Failure of Allied Planning and Doctrine for Operation Overlord: The Case of Minefield and Obstacle Clearance” |
| The Intelligence War – Technology and Espionage | * Bennett, “Ultra and Some Command Decisions” * Richelson, “Black Magic” * Foot, “What SOE Was” |
| European Resistance | * Gerolymatos, “Armed Resistance and Guerilla Warfare” * Dean, “Partisan Warfare, 1942-44” * Taylor, “Collective Action in Northern France, 1940-1944” * Burleigh, Michael. “The Resistance,” from *Moral Combat*. |
| Rattenkrieg: The Battle of Stalingrad | * Schneider and Gullans, “Last Letters from Stalingrad” * Fenyo, “The Allied Axis Armies of Stalingrad” * Stone, “Stalingrad and the Evolution of Soviet Warfare” * Hayward, “Too Little, Too Late: An Analysis of Hitler’s Failure in August 1942 to Damage Soviet Oil Production” * Kimball, “Stalingrad: A Chance for Choices” * Craig, William. *Enemy at the Gates* (Excerpts) |
| ‘Little Stalingrad’: Canadians at Ortona | * Zuehlke, Mark. *Ortona*. (Excerpts) * Gooderson, “Assimilating Urban Battle Experience – The Canadians at Ortona” |
| “The Rape of Poland”: Nazi Occupation of Poland | * Burleigh, Michael. “The Rape of Poland” and/or “Trampling the Remains,” from *Moral Combat*. * Gniazdowski, “Losses Inflicted on Poland by Germany during World War II: Assessments and Estimates – an Outline” * Roger, “The Sexual Policies and Sexual Realities of the German Occupiers in Poland in the Second World War” |
| Blitzkrieg: The Invasions of Poland and France in the Initial Phase of the War | * Keegan, John. “The Triumph of Blitzkrieg,” from *The Second World War*. * Calvocoressi, “From Poland to the North Cape” * Strawson, “Sichelshnitt – Cut of the Sickle” |
| Morality and the Individual Soldier | * Burleigh, Michael. “’We Were Savages’: Combat Soldiers,” from *Moral Combat*. * Derickson, “’No Such Thing as a Night’s Sleep’: The Embattled Sleep of American Fighting Men from World War II to the Present” * Givens, “Liberating the Germans: The US Army and Looting in Germany during the Second World War” |
| Kursk: The Largest Tank Battle in History | * Wykes, “Kursk (1943)” * Frieser, “Kursk: Sixty Years On” * Liedtke, “Furor Teutonicus: German Offensives and Counter-Attacks on the Eastern Front, August 1943 to March 1945” |
| Europe Under Nazi Occupation | * Burleigh, Michael. “Under the Swastika: Nazi Occupied Europe,” from *Moral Combat*. * Calvocoressi, “Exploitation” * Bennett, “The Moral Grey Zone: Collaboration” |
| The Manhattan Project: Creating the Atomic Bomb | * Veys, Lucy. “Joseph Rotblat: Moral Dilemmas and the Manhattan Project” * Fetter-vorm, Jonathan. *Trinity*. * Kiernan, Denise. “Rhythms of Life” or “Curiosity and Silence,” from *The Girls of Atomic City*. |
| Honour and the Mindset of the Japanese | * Bradley, James. “Spirit War,” from *Flyboys*. * Bulgrin, Dixon and Gilda, “The Archaeology of World War II: Japanese Stragglers on the Island of Guam and the Bushido Code” * Giangreco, “What is Defeat?,” from *Hell to Pay: Operation Downfall and the Invasion of Japan, 1945-47* |
| The Bombing of Japan | * Bradley, James. “Airpower,” from *Flyboys*. * Bradley, James. “Fire War,” from *Flyboys*. * Ralph, “Improvised Destruction: Arnold, LeMay, and the Firebombing of Japan” * Bell, “The Defeat of Japan and the Atomic Bombs, 1945,” from *Twelve Turning Points of the Second World War* |
| The Battle for Guadalcanal | * “The Battle of the Tenaru, August 21, 1942,” by Robert Leckie (Poem) * Cyr, “Campaigning in a wet land: water, militarized landscapes, and the Battle of Guadalcanal” * Miller, “Crisis on Guadalcanal” * Tregaskis, *Guadalcanal Diary* (Excerpts) |
| The Battle for Okinawa | * Sledge, E. B. “Of Mud and Maggots,” from *With the Old Breed*. * McLauchlan, “War Crimes and Crimes Against Humanity on Okinawa: Guilt on Both Sides” * Keegan, John. “Okinawa,” from *The Second World War*. |
| Naval Warfare in the Pacific | * Hone, “Replacing Battleships with Aircrafts Carriers in the Pacific in World War II” * Hone, “’Give Them Hell!’: The US Navy’s Night Combat Doctrine and the Campaign for Guadalcanal” * Bell, “The Battle of Midway, 4 June 1942,” from *Twelve Turning Points of the Second World War* * Mahnken, “Assymetric Warfare at Sea: The Naval Battles of Guadalcanal, 1942-43” * Sturma, “Atrocities, Conscience, and Unrestricted Warfare: US Submarines during the Second World War” |
| Pearl Harbour: A Surprise Attack? | * Hanyok, “’Catching the Fox Unaware’: Japanese Radio Denial and Deception and the Attack on Pearl Harbour” * Jacobsen, “Radio Silence and Radio Deception: Secrecy Insurance for the Pearl Harbour Strike Force” * Villa and Wilford, “Signals Intelligence and Pearl Harbour: The State of the Question” * Bell, “Pearl Harbour, December 1941: The War Becomes a World War,” from *Twelve Turning Points of the Second World War* |
| Pharmacology and War: Soldiers on Drugs | * Rasmussen, “Speed and Total War,” from *On Speed: The Many Lived of Amphetamine* * Rasmussen, “Medical Science and the Military: The Allies’ Use of Amphetamine during World War II” * Pieters and Snelders, “Speed in the Third Reich: Methamphetamine (Pervitin) Use and a Drug History From Below” |
| Religion in the Reich | * Michael, “Christian Antisemitism, the German People, and Adolf Hitler,” from *Holy Hatred: Christianity, Antisemitism, and the Holocaust* * Koehne, “Were the National Socialists a *Völkisch* Party? Paganism, Christianity, and the Nazi Christmas” * Steigman-Gall, *Holy Reich* |