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# World War II

(1939-1945)

**Student research guide**

**History | Year 10**

Cover: [Naval recruits march along Melbourne Street, South Brisbane, 1941](#), John Oxley Library, State Library of Queensland.

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This guide is designed to help you discover items on World War II that you can access on site, from your school or home.

## Before you get started

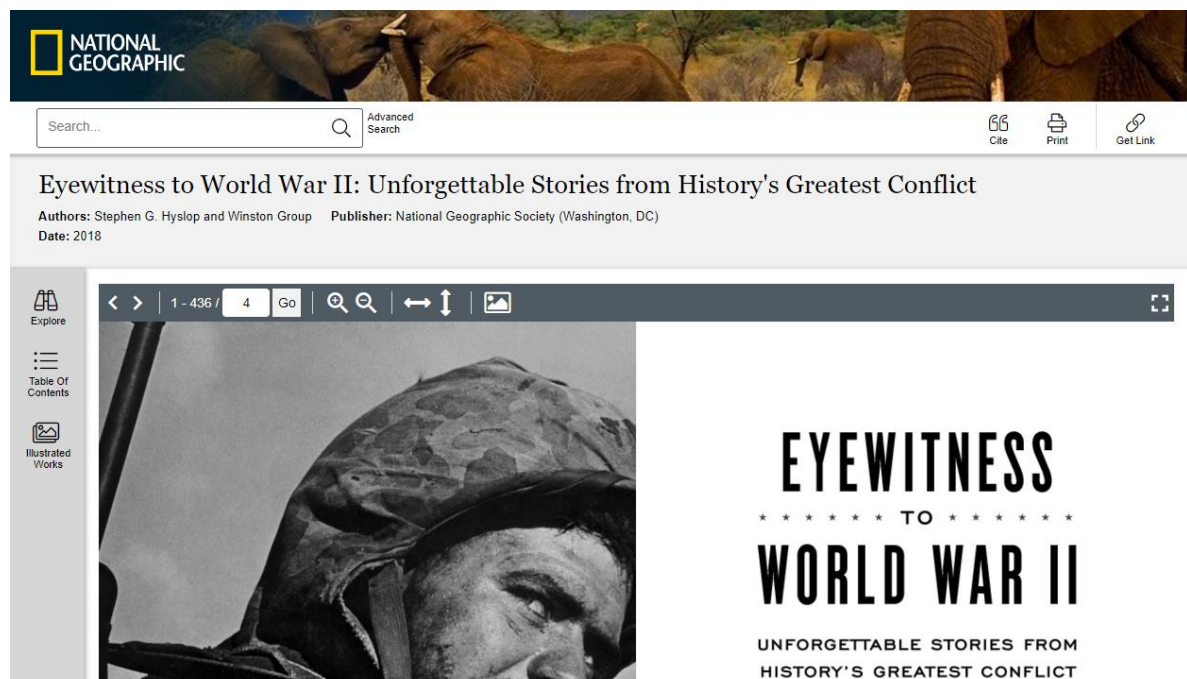
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You can search our catalogue for [all items on World War II](#) or begin exploring by clicking on some of the featured items contained in this research guide.

## Featured Databases

The Virtual Library of [National Geographic](#) has magazine articles, books and more on World War II.



The screenshot displays the National Geographic Virtual Library interface. At the top, there is a search bar with the text "Search..." and a magnifying glass icon. To the right of the search bar are icons for "Advanced Search", "Cite", "Print", and "Get Link". Below the search bar, the title of the featured article is "Eyewitness to World War II: Unforgettable Stories from History's Greatest Conflict". Underneath the title, the authors are listed as "Stephen G. Hyslop and Winston Group" and the publisher as "National Geographic Society (Washington, DC)". The date is listed as "Date: 2018". On the left side of the interface, there are navigation icons for "Explore", "Table Of Contents", and "Illustrated Works". The main content area shows a large image of a soldier in a camouflage hood, with the text "EYEWITNESS TO WORLD WAR II" and "UNFORGETTABLE STORIES FROM HISTORY'S GREATEST CONFLICT" overlaid on the right side.

The [Britannica Library](#) has articles, images, videos, primary sources, eBooks and more on World War II with a selection of resources especially for teenagers.

250 Britannica Library Teens

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World War II

Introduction

Buildup to War

The War Year by Year

Key Campaigns and Battles of World War II

Consequences of the War

The Hard Road to Peace

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Introduction

Some 20 years after the end of [World War I](#), lingering disputes erupted in an even larger and bloodier conflict—World War II. The war began in Europe in 1939, but by its end in 1945 it had involved

[Oxford Reference](#) has a helpful, searchable online encyclopedia on World War II.

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**The Oxford Companion to World War II**

Edited by: **I. C. B. Dear** and **M. R. D. Foot**

This online edition was reviewed and selectively updated by the original editors in 2011.

Written by more than 140 specialist contributors from Italy, Germany, and Japan, as well as the Allied nations, the *Companion* provides unique world-wide coverage of the subject. Every aspect of the war is covered including, detailed surveys of major countries; politics and grand strategy; domestic and economic issues; resistance and intelligence services; campaigns, battles, and military operations; warfare and weapons; wartime leaders and influential people; and slogans and phrases.

**I. C. B. Dear**, *editor in chief*  
**M. R. D. Foot**, *author*

I. C. B. Dear served in the Royal Marines from 1953 to 1957 and saw active service in Cyprus. He subsequently worked in book publishing for 16 years before becoming a full-time writer in 1979. His books on military subjects include *Ten Commando, 1942–1945* (1987), *Sabotage and Subversion* (1999), and *Escape and Evasion* (2000).

[JSTOR](#) provides access to a wide range of international primary sources from World War II.

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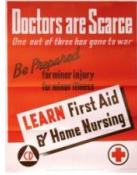
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Free Labor Will Win  
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Doctors are Scarce  
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### Featured Map

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World War II, Pacific Theater, 1941-1945

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World War II, Pacific Theater, 1941-1945

The map shows the Pacific Theater of World War II from 1941 to 1945. It highlights Japanese military operations with red arrows and starburst markers. Key locations include Mongolia, Manchukuo (Manchuria), China, Japan, Burma, French Indochina, Thailand, and the Philippines. Specific operations are marked: Okinawa (Apr.-June 1945), Iwo Jima (Feb. 1945), and Saipan, Tinian, & Guam (June-Aug. 1944). Major cities like Peking, Shanghai, Canton, and Manila are also labeled.

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### Britain

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[British Library newspapers \(1732-1950\)](#)

[The Illustrated London News Historical Archive, 1842-2003](#)

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Match text

tain had declared war on Germany, having hon

ored her pledge to Poland, which country was at

tacked by the most ruthless and bloody-minded in

ternational bully of all time.

Several heartening factors stand out. As for

instance Mr. Chamberlain's statement that "Never

was a challenge of war received by the British

people with a mind so equable, and in the same

time so sternly and grimly set. Britain is pre

pared; and, more closely than in 1914, Britain is

united.

And the Empire is united. Messages of joy

ally and assistance come from all parts of the world.

What of Germany? Do the people echo the sentiments of Hitler, Goering, Goebbels and the

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## WAR

### Japan Guarantees Her Neutrality to England.

New York

A New York station inter

cepted a B B announceme

that Japan has guarante

her neutrality to England

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## Adolf Hitler

Date: Wednesday, May 2, 1945 Publication: The Times (London, England) Issue: 50132

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Illustrated Works

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Nazi Germany over the world. The process was continuous, and the methods were the same. Hitler effected the triumph of the Nazi Party in Germany by a mixture of deceit and violence; he then employed the same devices to destroy other nations. From the time he became master of Germany he made lies, cruelty, and terror his principal means to achieve his ends; and he became in the eyes of virtually the whole world an incarnation of absolute evil.

Hitler was unimpressive to meet on informal occasions, but became transformed when he was face to face with a crowd, especially if it was an audience of his followers. He would speak to them like a man possessed and give the appearance of utter exhaustion when his speech was over. His speeches betrayed few if any original ideas, and even his belief in the suggestive power of reiteration scarcely justified the repetitions of past history with which most of his public orations were overlaid. He was, however, a propagandist of the first order, and his uncanny subtle and acute understanding of the mind of his own people was the ultimate source of his power for evil.

### EARLY YEARS

Papen, who regarded him as the cause of his own fall from power. Schleicher in December made a bid for independence. He thought to propitiate the Nazi strength by attracting to himself in a semi-Socialist administration Gregor Strasser.

### CHANCELLOR AT LAST

#### REICHSTAG FIRE

It was a critical moment. Hitler, who had borne the recent setbacks with surprising calm, now lost heart. "If the party breaks up," he confided to Goebbels, "I'll end matters with my pistol in three minutes." Schism indeed seemed imminent. But Strasser himself spoiled the scheme. He dallied and hesitated. The discussions were deferred, and before they could be resumed Schleicher had fallen. The tables had been suddenly turned by von Papen, who in January made an alliance with Hitler in order to overthrow Schleicher. The Nazi leader, whom he regarded as humbled by recent ill-fortune, was to be Chancellor and he himself Vice-Chancellor, with a majority of non-Nazi colleagues, the good will of the President, and, he confidently hoped, the real power. The plan took shape, and on January 30, 1933, Adolf Hitler was formally invested with the seals of office as Reichskanzler.

The new Government was a minority one.

America had pla 1943. Just bef Field-Marshal v mander-in-Chief, himself. A pro two months he had not been it were retiring he felt, perhaps, th for the failure i his own troops. headquarters in previously, amon Hitler's New far less confident all," he said, " 1945 will bring rumours of disag of pressure from ranks. In Marc keep the party close cooperation efforts to build to the number of f and to procure offensive. In April he Reichstag the tit and measured the mystical number tremendous ease of 1947 was 46

GALE PRIMARY SOURCES The Illustrated London News

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## The Illustrated London News

Date: Saturday, May 12, 1945 Publication: The Illustrated London News (London, England) Volume: 206, Issue: 5534

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500 THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS MAY 12, 1945

## SOME OF THE MILLIONS OF GERMAN PRISONERS—A GREAT PROBLEM.

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