

Item name: Conclusion



Description:

With the German invasion of the Soviet Union in 1941, the Soviets abandoned their pact with Germany and switched to the Allied side in the war.

They fought the Germans in brutal battles, including the siege of Stalingrad, which lasted from August 1942 until February 1943 when the Soviet army captured ninety thousand Germans. This defeat greatly weakened the German Army.

Meanwhile, Allied troops defeated Germany in North Africa and began planning an invasion of Western Europe while the Soviet Red Army forced a German retreat westward.

By 1945, then, it was German civilians, most of whom were women and the elderly, who feared the experience of conquest and occupation from the invading Red Army, who arrived at the gates of Berlin in April 1945.

Hitler, the man responsible for these horrors of an unimaginable scale, committed suicide in his bunker with his wife Eva Braun just before the Russians arrived.