

# The Fall of France



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Period 6

# Summary

Germany (the Axis Powers) attacked France (Allied Powers) on May 10, 1940. Only 46 days later, France gave into Germany on June 22, 1940. This was a huge loss for the Allied Powers. As the British were stranded in Dunkirk, the French were left alone fighting the Germans. France remained under German rule until the end of the war in 1945.



# Key dates and Events

- The Fall of France began on May 20, 1940.
  - The act began June 5, with Germans striking southwards from the River Somme.
- France surrendered on June 22, 1940.
- In 1939 France declared war on Germany.



# Primary people/groups



Adolf Hitler- Hitler was the one who decided to attack France on May 10, 1940.



Winston Churchill- Churchill was the Prime Minister of England, who was supporting France in the fight against Germany. He also tried to convince France to “never surrender”.



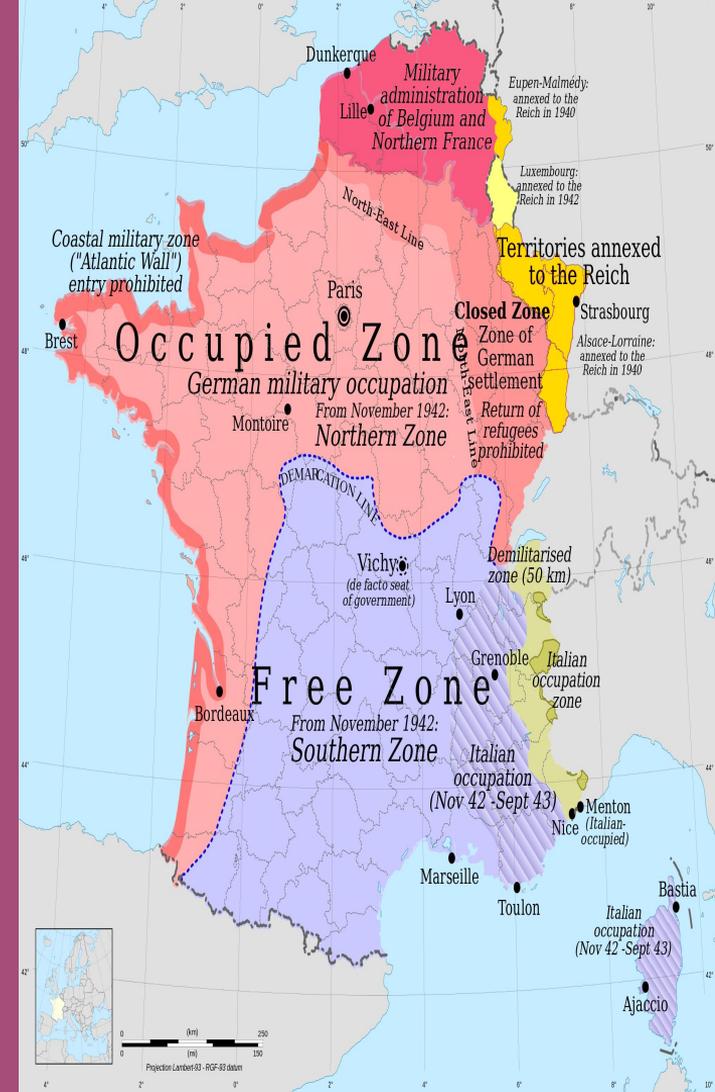
Maurice Gamelin- Gamelin was the French prime minister at the time of the German attack. He retired two days after France surrendered.



General Erich Von Manstein- He gave Hitler advice on how to attack France. He used the lightning war strategy and it worked. He is the only reason Germany won the battle.

# Primary countries

- France and Britain declared against Germany in 1939.
- Germany pushed France & Britain forces back to sea.
- Hitler went through Holland and Belgium to get to France, and gave the French the main blow.
- After they invaded France, Germany got cocky and tried to invade Russia, but failed.
- Russia, Belgium, Britain, and Holland were all part of the same alliance, and helped each other in the battle.



# Importance and Effects!

- During the fall of France 150,000 people died during 46 days.
  - Hitler attacking France is still considered Hitler's greatest gamble along with trying to take over the Soviet Union.
- At first France lost land, but in the end they got more land.
- France's Magot line (their protection wall) was destroyed during the attack.



# Extra information!

- To this day the French military is called Surrender Monkeys.
- When Germany and France signed an armistice Hitler insisted it was done in the same place as it was during WW1
- Paris was liberated on August 24, 1944



# Video!

<https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=plOr53n6sbq>



# Works Cited page!!!

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