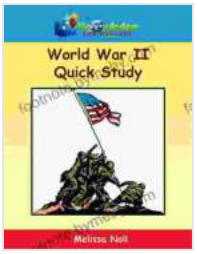
World War II Quick Study: Essential Facts, Maps, and Timeline of the Conflict

: The Global Conflict

World War II was the most widespread war in history, involving more than 30 countries and an estimated 100 million people. It began in 1939 with the German invasion of Poland and ended in 1945 with the surrender of Japan. The war had a profound impact on the world, killing an estimated 40-85 million people and causing widespread destruction.



World War II Quick Study by David Hill

4.7 out of 5

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Screen Reader	: Supported
Print length	: 15 pages
Lending	: Enabled

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Key Facts

- World War II began on September 1, 1939, with the German invasion of Poland.
- The war ended on September 2, 1945, with the surrender of Japan.
- An estimated 40-85 million people were killed during the war.
- The war was fought on a global scale, with battles taking place in Europe, Asia, Africa, and the Pacific.

- The Allies (United States, Great Britain, Soviet Union, China, and France) defeated the Axis powers (Germany, Japan, and Italy).

Maps

The following maps show the major military campaigns of World War II:

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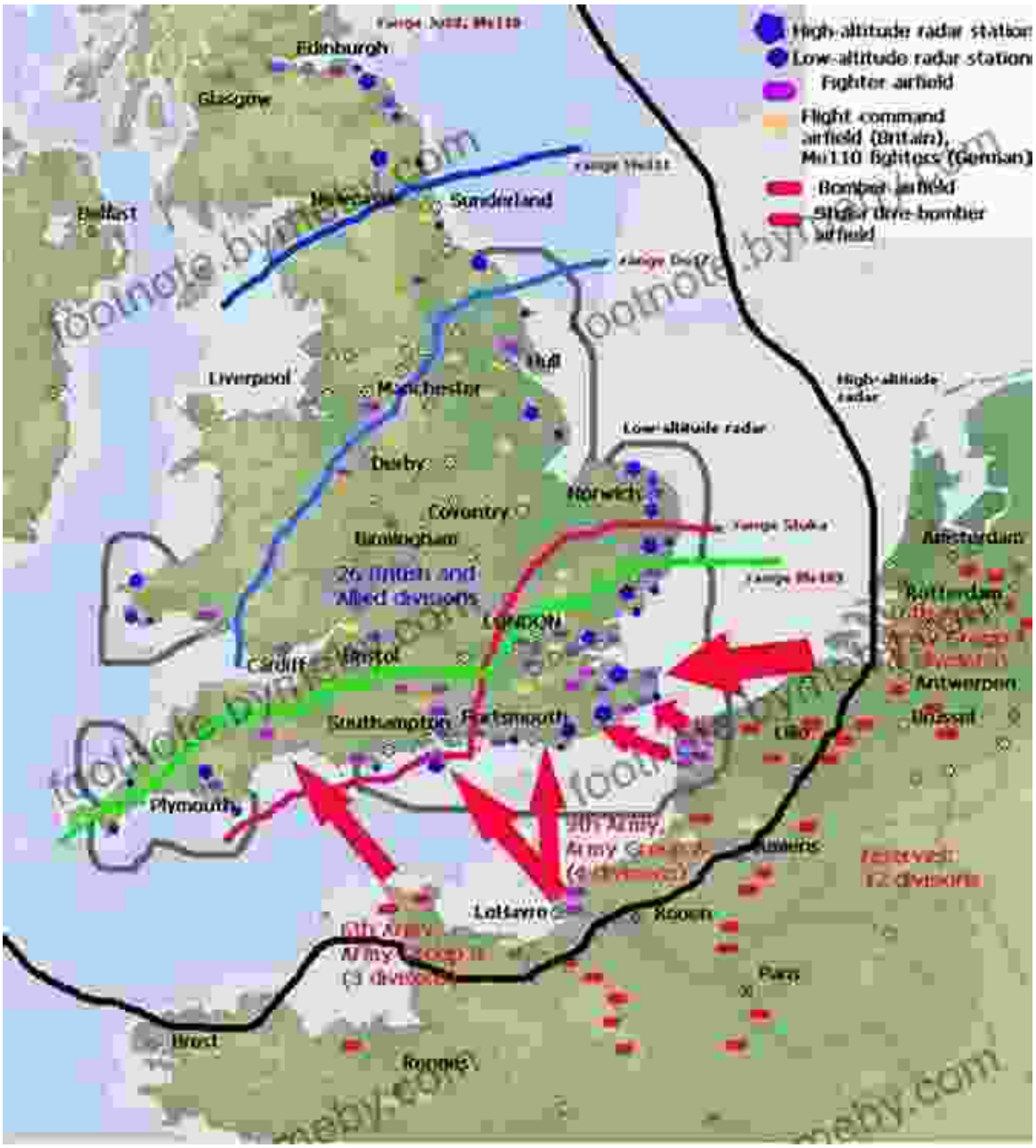
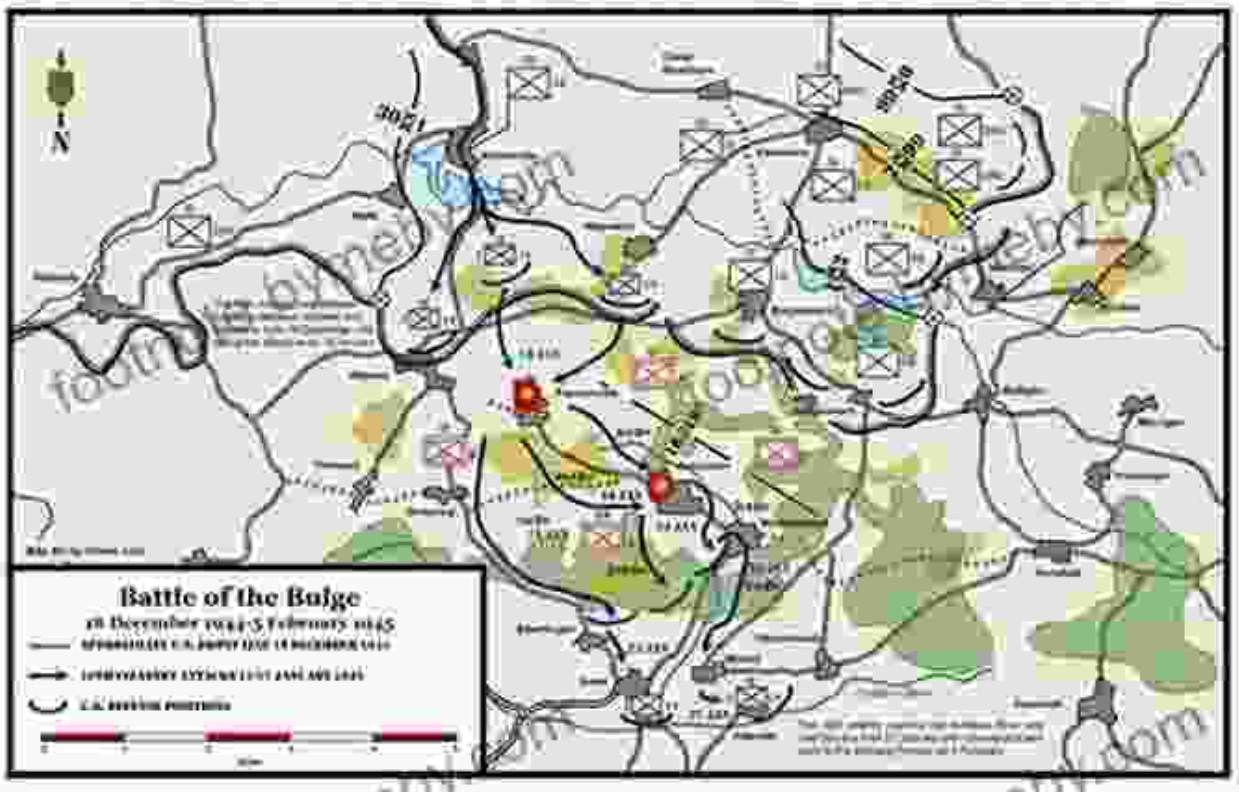

High-altitude radar station
Low-altitude radar station
Fighter airfield
Flight command airfield (Britain), Me110 fighters (German)
Bomber airfield
Stuka dive-bomber airfield
Edinburgh
Glasgow
Belfast
Newcastle
Sunderland
Liverpool
Manchester
Hull
Derby
Norwich
Coventry
Birmingham
26 British and Allied divisions
LONDON
Cardiff
Bristol
Southampton
Portsmouth
Plymouth
Lillo
Amsterdam
Rotterdam
Antwerpen
Brussel
Amiens
Rouen
Paris
Lottavre
Brest
Rennes
High-altitude radar
Low-altitude radar
Reserves: 12 divisions

WORONEZH FRONT
SOUTH WEST FRONT
DON FRONT
ITALIAN VIII ARMY
ARMY GROUP B
SURROUNDED 6th ARMY
ARMY GROUP SOUTH
Stalingrad
STALINGRAD FRONT
ARMY GROUP DON
SEA of AZOV
ARMY GROUP A
FIRST TANK ARMY
CASPIAN SEA
BLACK SEA
CAUCASUS MOUNTAINS
CAUCASUS FRONT
TURKEY
Soviet advances 19 Nov - 19 Jan
German counterattack 12/18 Dec
German 6th Army
Argos Unit, 18 Nov

- MAP BY BATTLEFIELD DESIGN FOR BBC HISTORY MAGAZINE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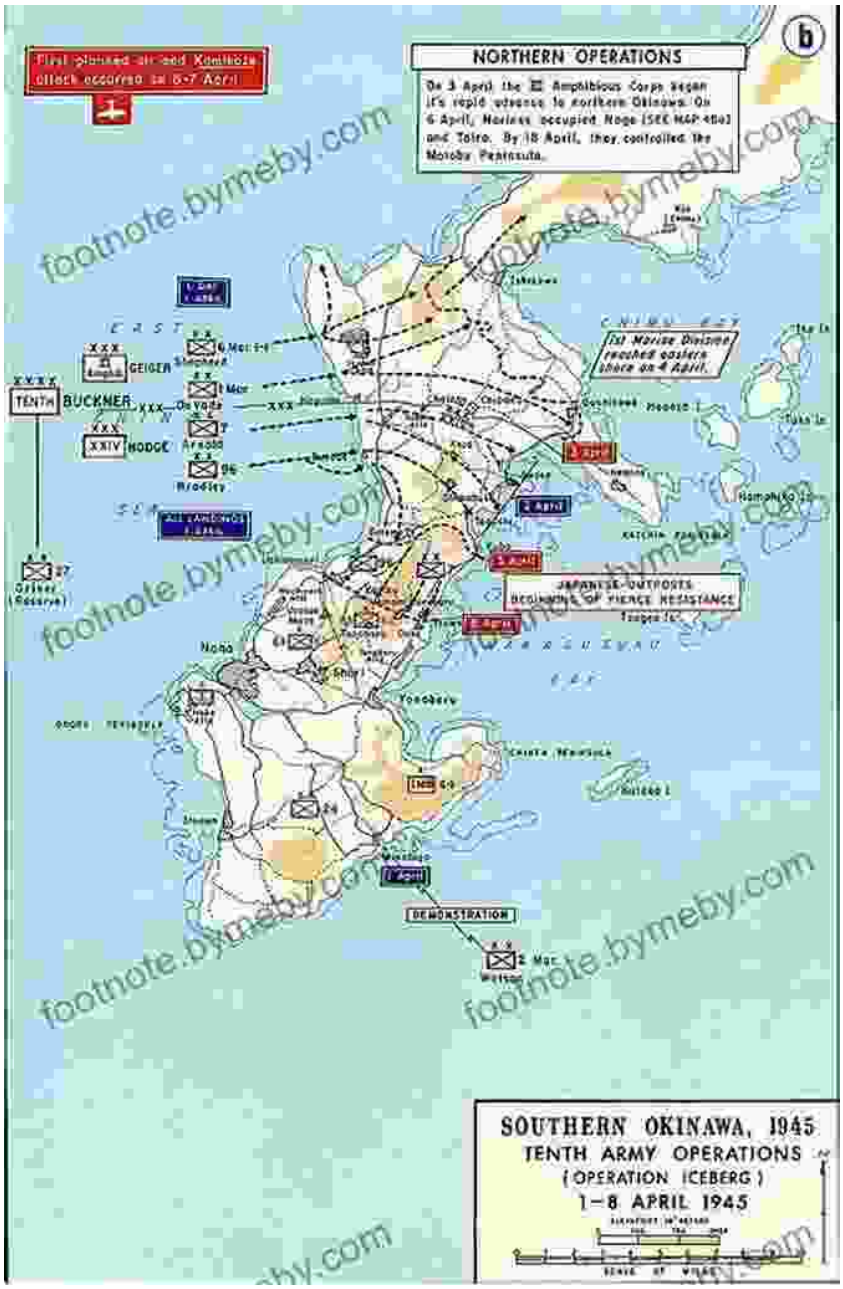
Battle of the Bulge



Timeline

The following timeline shows the major events of World War II:

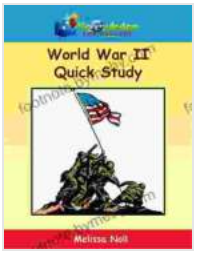
- **1939:** Germany invades Poland, starting World War II.
- **1940:** Germany conquers Denmark, Norway, the Netherlands, Belgium, and France.

- **1941:** Germany invades the Soviet Union and Japan attacks Pearl Harbor.
- **1942:** The United States defeats Japan at the Battle of Midway.
- **1943:** The Allies liberate North Africa and Italy.
- **1944:** The Allies land in Normandy and liberate Paris.
- **1945:** The Allies liberate the Philippines and Iwo Jima.
- **1945:** The United States drops atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki, Japan.
- **1945:** Japan surrenders, ending World War II.

: The Legacy of the War

World War II had a profound impact on the world. It led to the deaths of millions of people, the destruction of cities, and the redrawing of the political map of the world. The war also led to the rise of the United States and the Soviet Union as superpowers.

The legacy of World War II is still felt today. The war taught us the importance of peace and the dangers of aggression. It also showed us the resilience of the human spirit and the power of cooperation.



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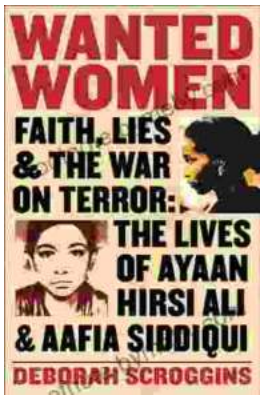

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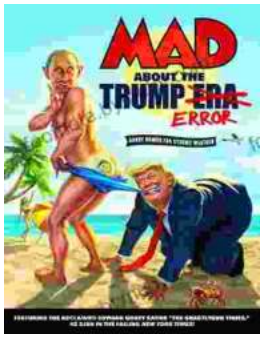

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