The tide of the war turned in the Allies’ favor with the Normandy invasion in June 1944. But it was more than a year before hostilities ceased in the Pacific Theater and the world was forever changed by the deployment of America’s nuclear arsenal.

**APRIL 1, 1945**
Operation Iceberg begins with the invasion of Okinawa, the largest amphibious assault in the Pacific Theater of World War II.

**APRIL 12, 1945**
U.S. President Franklin D. Roosevelt dies; Harry Truman becomes president.

**APRIL 30, 1945**
Führer Adolf Hitler commits suicide in a bunker in Berlin.

**MAY 7, 1945**
Germany surrenders to the Allies in Reims, France.

**MAY 8, 1945**
Victory in Europe Day as the ceasefire takes effect.

**JUNE 22, 1945**
Americans complete defeat of Japan in Okinawa.

**JULY 16, 1945**
United States conducts the Trinity Test in New Mexico, the first test of a nuclear bomb.

**JULY 17, 1945**
The Potsdam Conference begins under British Prime Minister Winston Churchill, Soviet Premier Joseph Stalin and U.S. President Harry Truman, all calling for the surrender of Japan.

**AUG. 6, 1945**
The B-29 bomber Enola Gay drops the first atomic bomb, "Little Boy," on Hiroshima, Japan.

**AUG. 9, 1945**
The B-29 bomber Bockscar drops the second atomic bomb, "Fat Man," on Nagasaki, Japan.

**SEP. 2, 1945**
The Japanese Instrument of Surrender is signed on the deck of the USS Missouri in Tokyo Bay.

**NOV. 20, 1945**
Nuremberg War Crimes tribunal for Nazis begins.

**THE WAR WAS OVER ... BUT THE COST WAS GREAT.**

- **AMERICANS KILLED IN THE CONFLICT**: 405,000
- **PEOPLE DIED ACROSS THE GLOBE**: 65 million
- **IN THE HOLOCAUST**: 11 million

**GERMANY DIVIDED**
Post-war Germany was divided into four occupation zones, to be controlled by the SOVIET UNION, BRITAIN, the UNITED STATES and FRANCE.

**JULY 30, 1945**
The USS Indianapolis is sunk shortly after midnight by a Japanese submarine after having delivered atomic bomb material to Tinian, Mariana Islands.

**LITTLE BOY**
Carried by the Enola Gay and detonated 1,800 feet over Hiroshima, Japan, at 8:15 a.m.
- **Yield**: 16 kilotons
- **Core**: Uranium 235
- **Killed**: 90,000 that day; 140,000 within months

**FAT MAN**
Carried by the Bockscar and detonated 1,800 feet over Nagasaki, Japan, at 11:02 a.m.
- **Yield**: 21 kilotons
- **Core**: Plutonium 239
- **Killed**: 40,000 that day; 70,000 within months

**VICTORY OVER JAPAN DAY**
Rhode Island is the only state that celebrates the end of World War II as a legal holiday. Victory Day falls on the second Monday of August.

**NEW YORK CITY CELEBRATING THE SURRENDER OF JAPAN**

"The enemy has begun to employ a new and most cruel bomb, the power of which to do damage is, indeed, incalculable, taking the toll of many innocent lives."
- **Emperor Hirohito of Japan**

"This is the day we have been waiting for since Pearl Harbor. This is the day when fascism finally dies, as we always knew it would."
- **U.S. President Harry Truman on Aug. 14, 1945**

**75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE END OF WORLD WAR II**

**THE MARCH TOWARD ALLIED VICTORY**