

Warm Up #3

What do you think the world would be like today if Hitler had won the war?

Major Battles & Turning Points (pt.1)

FLT: I will be able to explain the major battles and turning points in the European theatre during WWII.



Hitler's Lightning War

- **Theatre** = where the war took place
 - **European theatre:**
G.B. and USSR vs. Germany and Italy
 - **Pacific theatre:** USA vs. Japan
- **Blitzkrieg** = “lightning war”
 - Swift, forceful, and from all sides



European Theatre

The Phony War

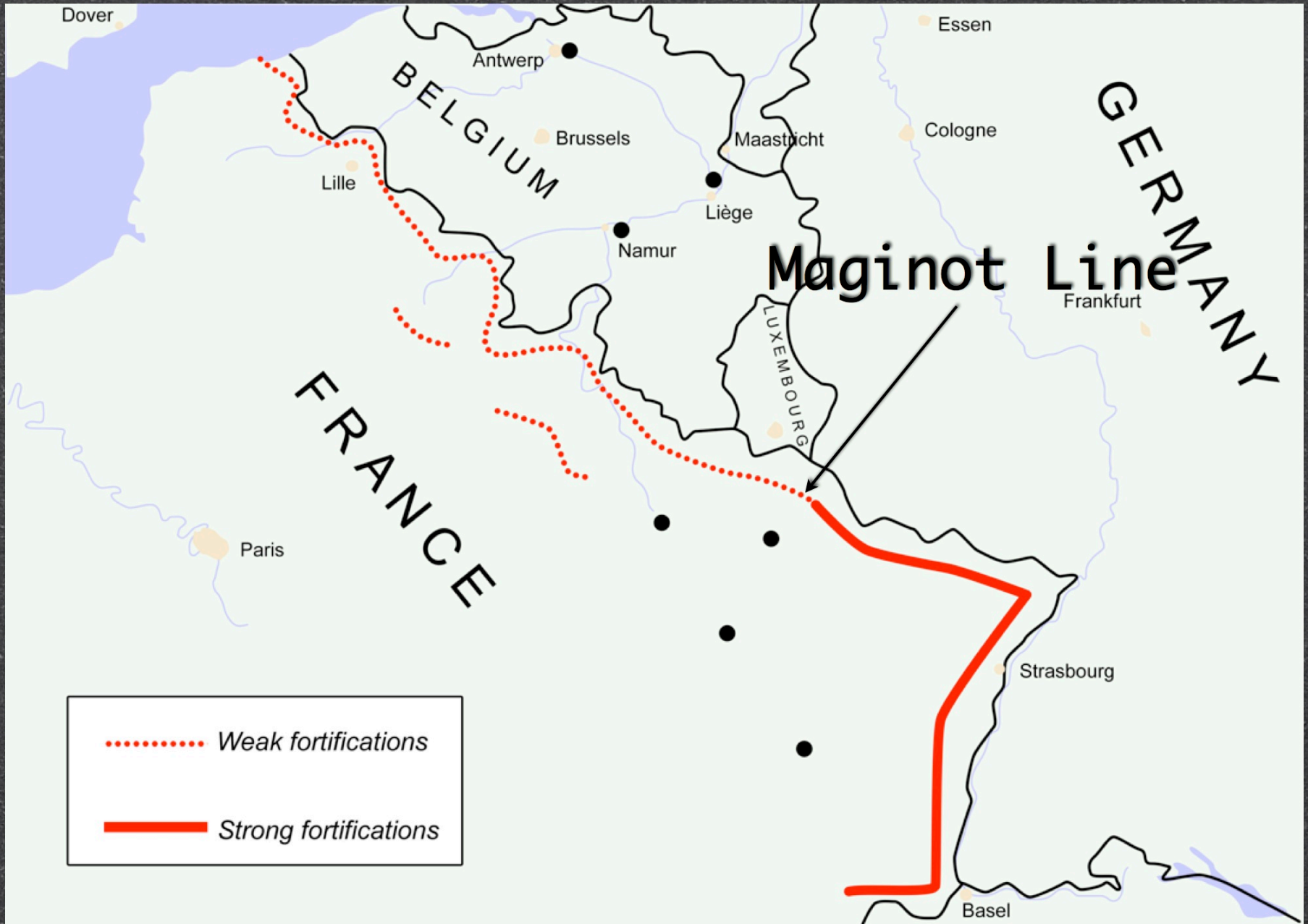
- No fighting for six months after France & Britain declared war
- **“Sitzkrieg”** = sitting war
- **Denmark and Norway** fell to Hitler
 - Used to strike **Great Britain**

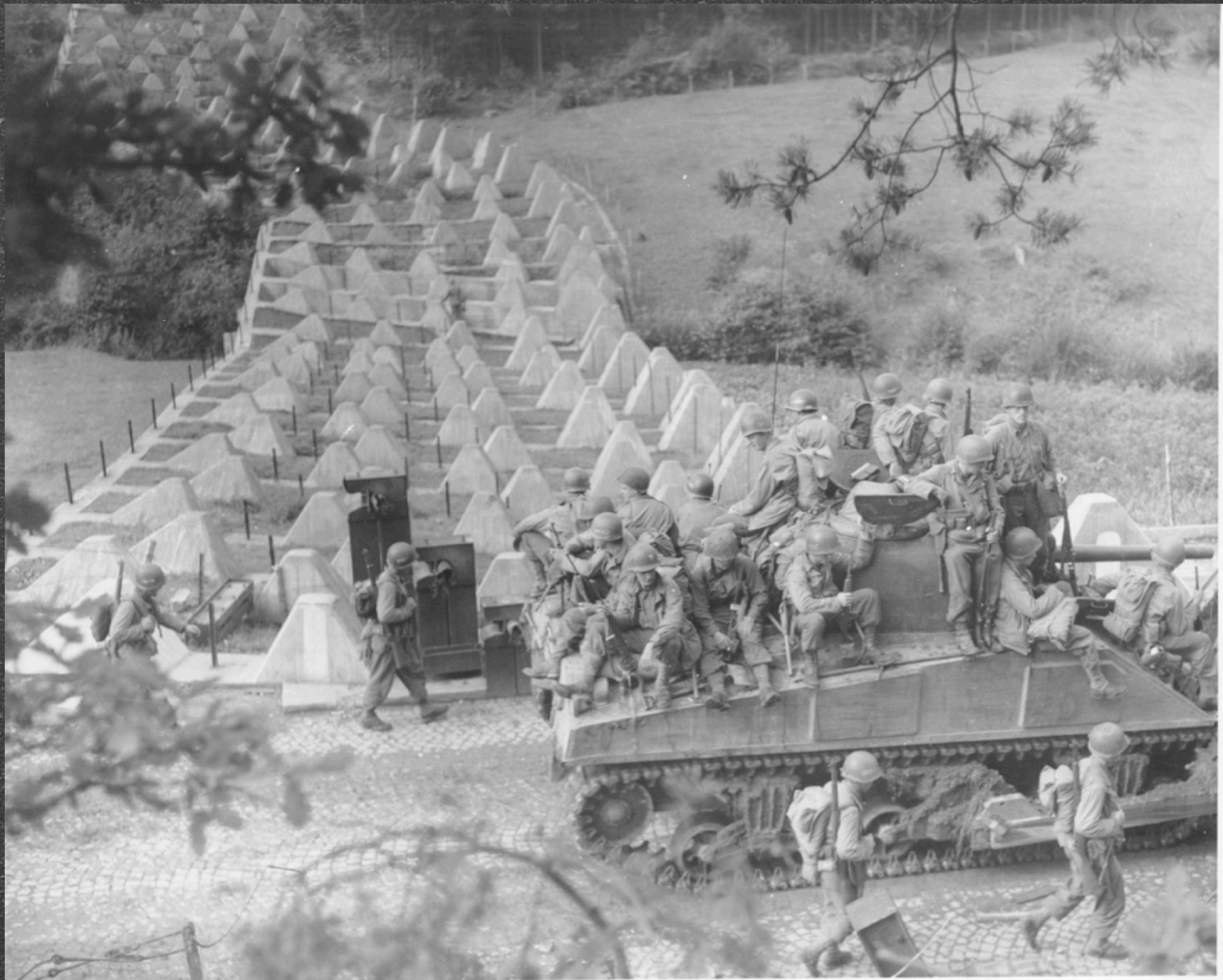


Maginot Line

- Created after WWI
- Barrier between France and Germany
- German/French sit and stare







Soviets Move

- Took eastern half of **Poland**
- **Lithuania, Latvia, & Estonia** fell to the Soviets
- Invaded **Finland** – Finland resisted
 - Conquered in March, 1940



Winter War





Hitler Attacks West

- Hitler sweeps through **Holland, Belgium, & Luxembourg** (May 1940)
- Used to strike France
- Britain sends navy to battle Germany



France Falls



- Germans trapped Allies
 - Allies escape to **Dunkirk** (French city)
- Italy joins war with Germany (June, 1940)
- France surrenders (June 22)
- Southern France becomes a puppet government
 - **Vichy France**



Occupied Zone

German military occupation
From November 1942:
Northern Zone

Free Zone

From November 1942:
Southern Zone

Vichy France

Charles de Gaulle

- French general
- Escapes France to London, England
- Leads the Free French military forces



Germany attacks Great Britain

- “Operation Sea Lion”
- Massive bombings in England
- British use **radar** and crack German secret codes (**Enigma machine**)



Battle of Britain

- Long air war over England (until May 10, 1941)
- Prevents invasion of Britain
- **Allies learned Hitler's advances could be blocked**





Axis Turns East

- Mussolini invades North Africa
 - Wanted Egypt's **Suez Canal**
- Fight the British in Egypt



British Fight Back!

- Sweep through North Africa
- Defeat Italians
- Hitler steps in to save Mussolini



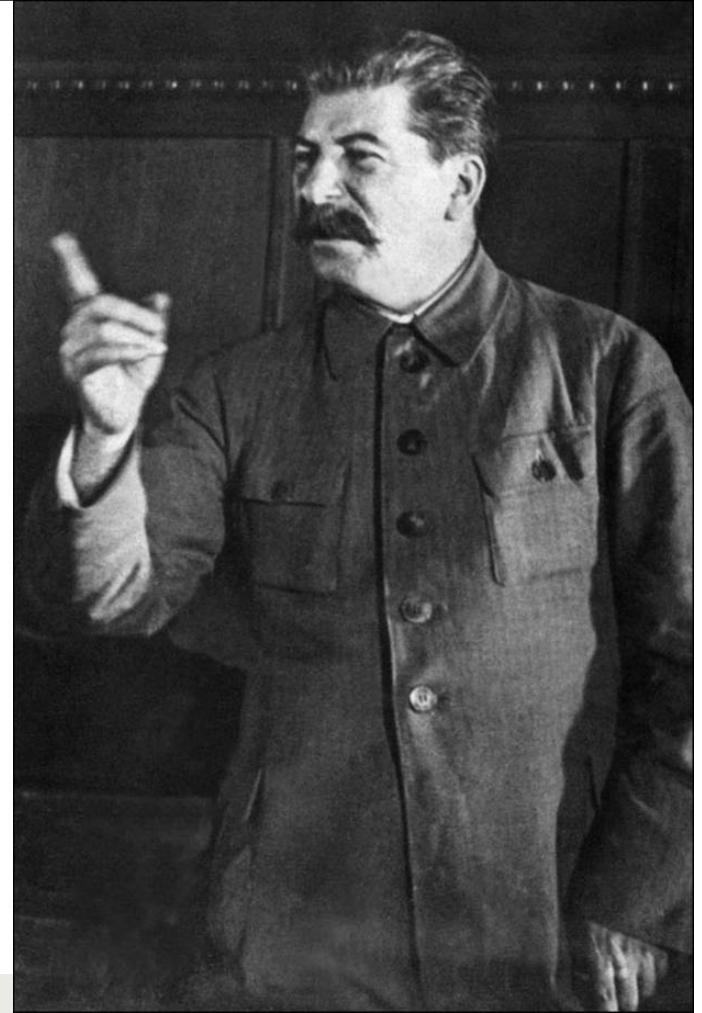
Erwin Rommel

- “The Desert Fox”
- German General
 - Afrika Korps commander
- Drives British back





Hitler invades USSR

- “Operation Barbarossa”
(June 22, 1941)
- Russians retreat, burn everything
 - **Scorched earth**
- Over 1 million died in **Leningrad**



Operation Barbarossa, 1941

-  Areas of fierce fighting
-  Front line, Dec. 1941



Germans retreat; Moscow saved

- Germans move into Moscow
- Hitler ignores harsh winter
 - “No retreat!”
- 500,000 German soldiers killed



The U.S. aids Allies

- **Lend-Lease Act** (March 1941)
 - Allowed president to supply any country with weapons and resources
- **Atlantic Charter:** goals for peace at the end of war made by FDR and Churchill

