

	Miracle at Dunkirk	Battle of the Atlantic	Battle of Britain	
Content	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> From May to June 1940, the Germans invade and conquer France, pushing Allied soldiers (mostly French and British) back to the Atlantic Coast. Allied soldiers were surrounded and pinned, the subject of constant bombardment by the Germans (“like shooting fish in a barrel”) 800 privately owned “little ships”, and 222 Naval Vessels including 4 Royal Canadian Navy destroyers, arrive off the coast to evacuate 338,000 troops in a matter of days. = “Miracle” The boats managed to pick up the Allied troops and ferry them to safety across the British Channel On June 25, 1940 – France Surrenders A French government was set up in the South in a town called Vichy = a puppet government controlled by Germany Hitler turns on his next target: Britain 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Britain looks to Canada as the source of food, raw materials and weapons of war but the Germans were determined to cut off this lifeline. German U-Boats (submarines) hunted Allied ships in “wolf packs,” so we developed the Convoy System to protect cargo ships with armed naval vessels In 1941 – Sonar systems were invented and installed to find U-Boats underwater At the beginning of WWII: Canada had only 8 warships and 5 minesweepers to protect coastlines, with a Naval personnel of only 13,000 By the end of WWII: Canada has the 4th largest navy in the world with 375 ships and 110 000 members The Ship: <i>Corvette</i> – 120 built in Canada, best against U-Boat attack – each had the name of a Canadian city 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Luftwaffe, German Air Force, was ordered to gain control of the air by destroying aircraft factories, airfields, and radar stations in Britain. Called the Battle of Britain, this operation was launched on July 10, 1940. In 1940, the Luftwaffe had over 2500 planes, whereas the Royal Air Force, RAF, had only 1200 planes (including over 300 Canadian pilots, and even more ground crew) The “Blitz” began when a German bomber accidentally bombed London, and the Allies responded by bombing Berlin. Hitler was so angered by the bombing of Germany’s capital that he redirected all attacks towards London The “Blitz” lasted 57 consecutive nights, and reduced parts of the city to rubble As many as 43,000 were killed in London, but it gave the struggling RAF the chance to regroup, rebuild and reinforce. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none">
Quotation	<p>“As we rounded the point to the beach at Dunkirk, you became aware of the shelling – the Germans were only 12 miles inland... But you came to the beach and the uniforms of 400 000 waiting [Allied] soldiers stood out on the white sand. These were disciplined troops, even with shelling and bombing there was no panic. They were impressive.”</p> <p>Robert Walter Timbrell, Canadian-born British naval officer recalling his part in the rescue at Dunkirk</p>	<p>“The Battle of the Atlantic was the dominating factor all through the war. Never for one moment could we forget that everything happening elsewhere, on land, at sea, or in the air, depended ultimately on its outcome, and amid all other cares we viewed its changing fortunes day by day with hope or apprehension.”</p> <p>Sir Winston Churchill, describing the importance of the Battle of the Atlantic</p>	<p>“About one o’clock, I heard the sound of an approaching bomber, for the first time, an appalling shriek, like a train whistle growing nearer and nearer, and then a sickening crash reverberating through the earth. At intervals through the night, we heard the same, dreaded sound, and each time, as we held our breaths in relief at our own escape, we know that somewhere else agony and horror had struck.”</p> <p>Phyllis Warner, journalist reporting from London during the Blitz in 1940</p>	<p>This Wh not at s nee nee sha</p>
Discussion Question	Why do you think the troops were considered so “impressive” at Dunkirk?	What made the Battle of the Atlantic so important? Why did British Prime Minister Churchill say this?	What word best describes the emotion behind this quotation, and why did you choose it? How would you have felt if you were part of the “Blitz?”	How can you have wh

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