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ABSTRACT

This document is a study guide to "The Face of War," an exhibition of documents and photographs from the vast World War II holdings of the National Archives. This brochure contains reproductions of selected documents from the exhibit as well as discussion questions. The guide can be used by individuals, families, or school groups while viewing the exhibit or as a basis for separate discussion. The exhibition looks at some of the characteristics of World War II that are present in every monumental conflict. The exhibit and this publication are divided into sections about unity, dissent, courage, fear, endurance, and destruction. The included documents bear testimony to the emotions and experiences of all who face war. World war II could not have been won without the unity of the Allies and the support of U.S. citizens. The first three documents presented each represent a different type of wartime unity: (1) the declaration by the United Nations that created the Allied Forces; (2) a petition from inmates of San Quentin Prison to Secretary of War, Henry L. Stimson; and (3) a message from Louis Novak, Jr. to a fellow marine. The next two documents represent dissent and reveal why two individuals wished to stay out of the conflict. Two more documents are examples of the types of personal courage that emerge pervaded the battlefields and homefront, represent human endurance by describing the experiences of two individuals at different times during the war, and illustrate destruction and change that result from war. (DK)

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ED 378 089

# THE FACE OF WAR



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A STUDY GUIDE FOR THE EXHIBITION AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES

MARCH 1994-SEPTEMBER 1995

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# THE FACE OF WAR

## S T U D Y G U I D E

**THE FACE OF WAR** is an exhibition of documents and photographs from the vast World War II holdings of the National Archives. This brochure contains reproductions of selected documents from the exhibit as well as discussion questions. The guide can be used by individuals, families, or school groups while viewing the exhibit or as a basis for separate discussion. We hope you enjoy learning more about World War II and about the holdings of the National Archives.

### INTRODUCTION

World War II was the pivotal conflict of the 20th century. Its personalities and events are more familiar to Americans than those of any other war: terms like "D-day," "Rosie the Riveter," "Pearl Harbor," "Ike," and "Holocaust" immediately conjure up that era and conflict. But while the Second World War was unique, it also echoed past wars. This exhibition looks at some of the characteristics of World War II that are present in every monumental conflict. Thus, the exhibit and this publication are divided into sections about unity, dissent, courage, fear, endurance, and destruction. The following documents bear testimony to the emotions and experiences of all who face war.

# SECTION I

## THE FACE OF WAR IS UNITY

World War II could not have been won without the unity of the Allies and the support of the American people.

Documents A, B, and C each represent a different type of wartime unity.

### DECLARATION BY UNITED NATIONS:

A JOINT DECLARATION BY THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND, THE UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS, CHINA, AUSTRALIA, BELGIUM, CANADA, COSTA RICA, CUBA, CZECHOSLOVAKIA, DOMINICAN REPUBLIC, EL SALVADOR, GREECE, GUATEMALA, HAITI, HONDURAS, INDIA, LUXEMBOURG, NETHERLANDS, NEW ZEALAND, NICARAGUA, NORWAY, PANAMA, POLAND, SOUTH AFRICA, YUGOSLAVIA.

The Governments signatory hereto,

Having subscribed to a common program of purposes and principles embodied in the Joint Declaration of the President of the United States of America and the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland dated August 14, 1941, known as the Atlantic Charter.

Being convinced that complete victory over their enemies is essential to defend life, liberty, independence and religious freedom, and to preserve human rights and justice in their own lands as well as in other lands, and that they are now engaged in a common struggle against savage and brutal forces seeking to subjugate the world, DECLARE:

(1) Each Government pledges itself to employ its full resources, military or economic, against those members of the Tripartite Pact and its adherents with which such government is at war.

### DOCUMENT A

"Declaration By United Nations," January 1, 1942

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
H. H. HENNINGSEN, Secretary of State  
S. W. WOODRUFF, Assistant Secretary of State  
G. W. WOODRUFF, Assistant Secretary of State  
W. W. WOODRUFF, Assistant Secretary of State  
V. W. WOODRUFF, Assistant Secretary of State  
M. W. WOODRUFF, Assistant Secretary of State  
H. W. WOODRUFF, Assistant Secretary of State  
C. W. WOODRUFF, Assistant Secretary of State  
W. W. WOODRUFF, Assistant Secretary of State

WITH THE DECLARATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

(2) Each Government pledges itself to cooperate with the Governments signatory hereto and not to make a separate armistice or peace with the enemies.

The foregoing declaration may be adhered to by other nations which are, or which may be, rendering material assistance and contributions in the struggle for victory over Hitlerism.

*Done at Washington  
January First, 1942*

*The United States of America  
by Franklin D. Roosevelt  
The United Kingdom of Great Britain  
& Northern Ireland  
by Winston Churchill  
in behalf of the United Kingdom  
of the Middle East & India  
& Burma*

*National Government of the Republic of China  
The Foreign Office  
Minister for Foreign Affairs*

*The Government of Australia  
by [Signature]*

*The Kingdom of Belgium  
by [Signature]  
Canada  
by Lester B. Pearson*



Petition from Inmates of San Quentin Prison, California, to Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson, January 2, 1942

JAN 1 1942  
San Quentin, Calif.  
January 2, 1942.

To: Hon. Henry L. Stimson  
War Department  
Washington, D. C.

MAIL

... of ...  
... rvised ...  
... which ...  
... and ...  
... 33.0

(9)

1 ...  
2 ...  
3 ...  
4 ...  
5 J.A. Gregory 66554 Army - N 451 84 - Flier  
6 J. J. ... 584245 J.N.  
7 W.M. Mante - 66553. U. S. N. - Seaman.  
8 Phillips A. Ferrell 64547 cook or rigger  
9 Russell L. Murray #67283 Truck Driver  
10 John ... #67325 U.S.M.C.  
11 William ... 67141 Hospital Apprentice  
James Bodolahi #64616 National Guard  
... #65037

MAIL  
JAN 22 1942

4



Name  
 Rate  
 Organization  
 Duty  
 Amt.  
 Place  
 Home address  
 Home phone

Remarks: It seems that a few months ago I had everything I would ever need to keep me happy; now, since the Japs started this process, I've lost everything - but, this has caused me to gain something new -- your friendships - and humor - many times it has kept me from "going under".

"lets go home"

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VOCABULARY

Allies Axis United Nations armistice Hitlerism Franklin D. Roosevelt Winston Churchill fracas

FOR DISCUSSION

How would you describe the different types of wartime unity that these documents represent?  
How was each important to the war effort?

FOR HIGH SCHOOL AND COLLEGE STUDENTS

Discuss the importance of the alliance created by Document A, "Declaration By United Nations," both during the war and today.



SECTION II

THE FACE OF WAR IS DISSENT

Some Americans did not want to participate in World War II. These documents reveal why two individuals wished to stay out of the conflict.

DOCUMENT D  
 "Special Form for Conscientious Objector" for Kemper Nomland, Jr.  
 May 21, 1941

**SPECIAL FORM FOR CONSCIENTIOUS OBJECTOR**

Order No. 1711

LOCAL BOARD NO. 166  
 School, 615 East Calaveras St.  
 (MAY 17 1941)  
 (STAMP OF LOCAL BOARD)  
 Altadena, Los Angeles Co.  
 California

Name KEMPER - NOMLAND, JR.  
(First) (Middle) (Last)

Address 2132 NAVARRO AVE.  
(Number and street or R. F. D. route)

ALTADENA LOS ANGELES California  
(City, town, or village) (Country) (State)

This form must be returned on or before May 21, 1941  
(Five days after date of mailing or issue)

**INSTRUCTIONS**

A registrant who claims to be a conscientious objector shall offer information in substantiation of his claim on this special form, which when filed shall become a part of his Questionnaire. The questions in Series II through V in this form are intended to obtain evidence of the genuineness of the claim made in Series I, and the answers given by the registrant shall be for the information only of the officials duly authorized under the regulations to examine them.

In the case of any registrant who claims to be a conscientious objector, the Local Board shall proceed in the ordinary course to classify him upon all other grounds of deferment, and shall consider and pass upon his claim as a conscientious objector only if, but for such claim, he would have been placed in Class I. The procedure for appeal from a decision of the Local Board on a claim for conscientious objection is provided for in the Selective Service Regulations.

Failure by the registrant to file this special form on or before the date indicated above may be regarded as a waiver by the registrant of his claim as a conscientious objector: *Provided, however,* That the Local Board, in its discretion, and for good cause shown by the registrant, may grant a reasonable extension of time for filing this special form.

**Series I.—CLAIM FOR EXEMPTION**

**INSTRUCTIONS.**—The registrant must sign his name to either Statement A or Statement B in this series but not to both of them. The registrant should strike out the statement in this series which he does not sign.

*A. I claim the exemption provided by the Selective Training and Service Act of 1940 for conscientious objectors, because I am conscientiously opposed by reason of my religious training and belief to participation in war in any form and to participation in combatant military service or training therefor, but I am willing to participate in noncombatant service or training therefor under the direction of military authorities.*

(Signature of registrant)  
*Kemper Nomland Jr.*  
(Signature of registrant)

*B. I claim the exemption provided by the Selective Training and Service Act of 1940 for conscientious objectors, because I am conscientiously opposed by reason of my religious training and belief to participation in war in any form and to participation in any service which is under the direction of military authorities.*

**Series II.—RELIGIOUS TRAINING AND BELIEFS**

**INSTRUCTIONS.**—Every question in this series must be fully answered. If more space is necessary, attach extra sheets of paper to this page.

1. Describe the nature of your belief which is the basis of your claim made in Series I above.

*I believe that war in any form is diametrically opposed to the life and teachings of Christ. His teachings tell us that love conquers hate and evil will fall in the face of good. Fighting bad with bad will only cause more hate and evil.*

2. Explain how, when, and from whom or from what source you received the training and acquired the belief which is the basis of your claim made in Series I above.

*The principal source of my belief came from many years of bible study in the Sunday school of the First Congregational Church. The specific case of the conscientious objector was never discussed but the lessons from Christ's teachings and His life of love can in my opinion lead only to the conclusion that a true and absolute Christian can follow no other course.*

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WA29 156 NT 6 EXTRA

AW NEWYORK NY JUN 23 1942

PRESIDENT FRANKLIN D ROOSEVELT

THE WHITE HOUSE

DEAR SIR ON APR 6 1942 I MADE AN APPEAL TO YOU BY LETTER.  
SINCE I HAVE RECEIVED NO REPLY I AM MAKING A SECOND APPEAL  
BY TELEGRAPH.

I AM EAGER TO SHOULDER A GUN AGAINST HITLERISM AND ITS  
RACIAL SUPERIORITY MYTH BUT AM UNCOMPROMISINGLY OPPOSED  
TO SERVING IN MILITARY FORCES THAT SEGREGATE NEGROES ALONE  
INTO SEPARATE UNITS SOLELY BECAUSE OF RACE.

MY LOCAL BOARD 62 MANHATTAN NEWYORKCITY WAS NOTIFIED OF

JUN 23 1942  
MISC. DIV. ADD  
2-11-42  
2-11-42  
2-11-42  
2-11-42

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WA29/2

MY STAND MANY MONTHS PRIOR TO PEARL HARBOR.

I HAVE REQUESTED AND BEEN DENIED PERMISSION TO ENLIST  
IN THE CANADIAN ARMY WHERE JIM CROW IS NOT TOLERATED.

ON JUNE 20 I RECEIVED NOTICE TO REPORT FOR INDUCTION  
ON JUNE 27.

MR PRESIDENT I AGAIN APPEAL TO YOU PERSONALLY FOR  
PERMISSION TO ENLIST IN THE CANADIAN ARMY BECAUSE MY  
CONSCIENCE REGARDLESS OF THE CONSEQUENCES WILL NOT ALLOW  
ME TO SERVE MY COUNTRY IN AN UNDEMOCRATIC JIM CROW

CAPACITY SINCERELY YOURS

JAMES E DAVIS 415 WEST 154TH ST NEWYORK NY.

VOCABULARY

dissent draft conscientious objector segregation Jim Crow

FOR DISCUSSION

Why did these individuals not want to fight for the United States?  
If you were drafted, why would you want—or not want—to fight?

FOR HIGH SCHOOL AND COLLEGE STUDENTS

If you were deciding these cases, what would you have done? What guidelines would you have used to make your decision? How are these two cases similar and dissimilar?

# SECTION III

## THE FACE OF WAR IS COURAGE

As in all wars, great courage could be found in both the actions and character of many of the men and women who participated in World War II. Documents F and G are two examples of the types of personal courage that emerge in wartime.

DOCUMENT F  
Recommendation for  
award of Medal of Honor  
(posthumously) for Pfc.  
William A. McWhorter.  
April 3, 1945

Recommendation for award of Medal of Honor (Posthumously)

Name of individual: William A. McWhorter, Pfc. 34123301, Co. M, 126th Inf.

Summary of actions: On 5 December 1944, a section of heavy machine guns from Company M, 126th Infantry were emplaced in a defensive position about 75 yards from the Tacloben-Ormoc Road, which, at that time was controlled by the enemy. Pfc McWhorter was a machine gunner in the section and with his assistant gunner was manning the weapon when the enemy launched a determined attack on our positions. When his position was assaulted by an enemy demolition squad of six men, Pfc McWhorter opened fire and killed several of the enemy. One enemy soldier succeeded in throwing a demolition charge which fell into the entrenchment occupied by Pfc McWhorter and the assistant gunner. Realizing that the charge was jeopardizing the lives of his assistant gunner and himself, Pfc McWhorter picked up the improvised grenade, held it close to his chest and bent over, at the same time turning his back toward his assistant gunner to shield him from the effects of the explosion. Just as he bent over, the charge exploded, killing him and leaving the other man in the emplacement uninjured.

REMARKS: It is believed that the evidence presented establishes that degree of conspicuous gallantry and heroism above and beyond the call of duty considered essential to the award of a Medal of Honor. It is apparent that this man could have endeavored to throw back the grenade, but rather than expose his comrade to the risk of the explosion, which was certain to occur, he chose to sacrifice his life in a supreme effort, thus saving the life of his comrade.

RECOMMENDATIONS: Approval. *U.S.*

3 APR 1945  
*W. A. McWhorter*

*W. A. McWhorter*  
REG. S  
Colonel

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Our landings in the  
Cherbourg - Have our  
have failed to gain a  
satisfactory foothold and  
~~I have with them~~  
~~the troops have been~~  
~~withdrawn.~~ This particular  
operation | my decision to  
attack at this time and place  
was based upon the best  
information available, ~~and~~  
the troops, the air and the  
Navy did all that ~~was~~  
Bravery and devotion to duty  
could do. If any blame  
or fault attaches to the attempt  
it is mine alone.

July 5

DOCUMENT G  
Note by Gen. Dwight D.  
Eisenhower, Supreme  
Commander of the Allied  
Expeditionary Forces, written  
the night before D-day, June 5,  
1944, but not dated July 5.

VOCABULARY

Medal of Honor Allied Expeditionary Forces D-day

FOR DISCUSSION

Describe the types of courage shown by individuals in each of these documents.  
How are they alike? How are they different?

FOR HIGH SCHOOL AND COLLEGE STUDENTS

General Eisenhower was one of the great military leaders of both World War II and this century.  
What does his note, Document G, tell you about his style of leadership?



Eddie D. Slovik 2092446  
to the Desertion of The  
United States Army. At The Time  
of my DeserTion We Were in  
ALbuff in France. I Come to  
ALbuff as a Replacement. They  
Were Shikking The Town and we  
Were Told to dig in for The night  
The Flowin; Morning, They were  
shilling us again. I was so  
scared nerves and Troubling  
that at The Time The other  
Replacements moved out I  
couldnt move. I stayed there  
in my fox hole till it was quite  
and I was able to move. I then  
walked in town. Not seeing any of  
our troops so I stayed over night at  
a French hospital. The next morning I  
turned myself over to the Canadian  
Provost Corp. After bein, with them six  
weeks I was turned over to American  
M.P. They turned me loose. I told my  
commanding my story. I said that if  
I had to go out there again. I'd  
Run away. He said there was nothing he  
could do for me so I ran away again  
AND I'll RUN AWAY AGAIN IF I  
HAVE TO GO OUT THERE  
SIGNED Ed. Slovik

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VOCABULARY

Japanese relocation espionage sabotage desertion

FOR DISCUSSION

What did the authors of these documents fear?  
What did their fears cause them to do?

FOR HIGH SCHOOL AND COLLEGE STUDENTS

In addition to fear, what other emotions do the petitioners express in Document H, "**Protest Against the Return ... of the Japanese**"? How do you explain their feelings?

In Document I, Private Slovik confessed to deserting his Army unit. He was executed for his crime in 1944. Do you think the U.S. military should threaten execution for desertion? Why or why not?

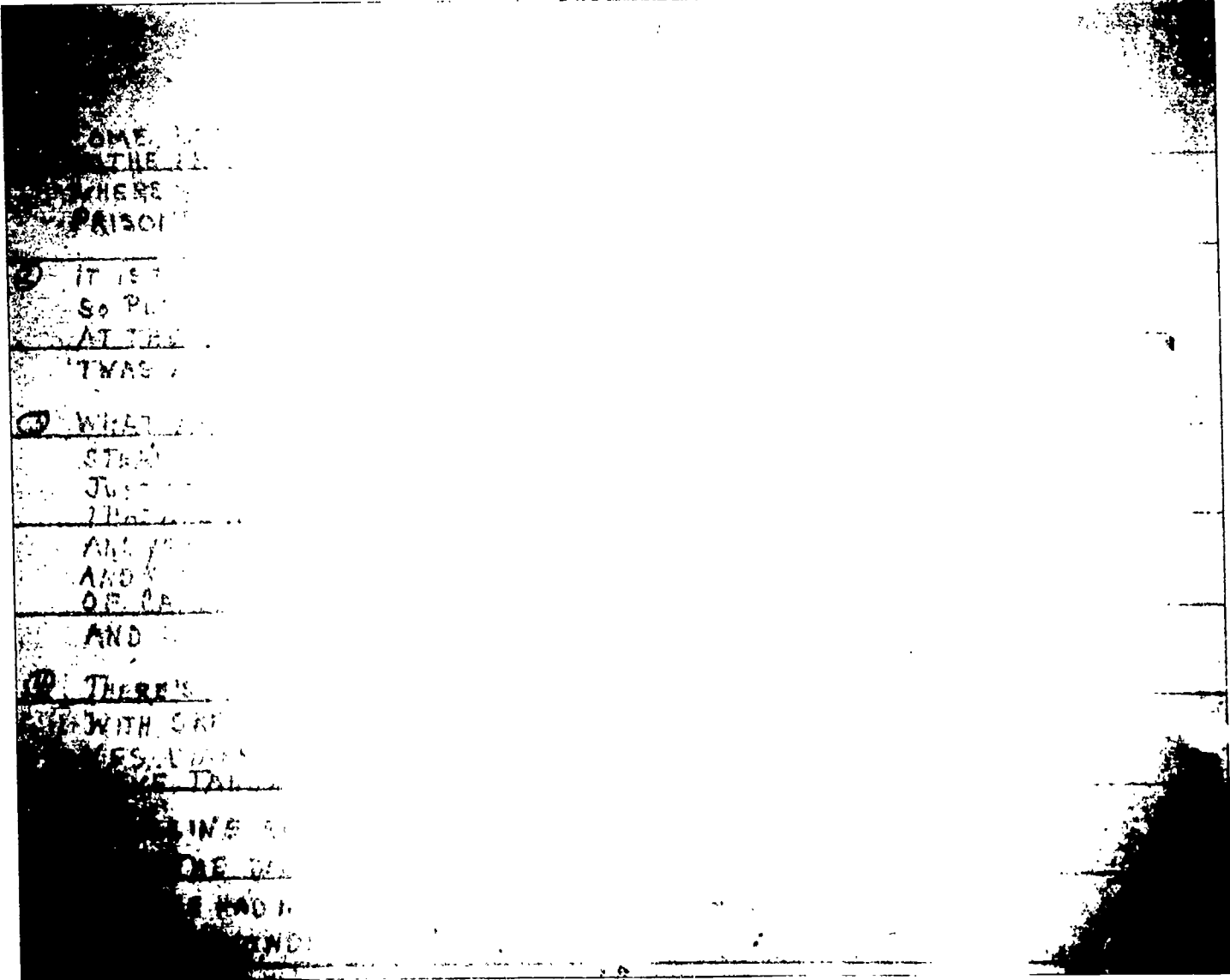
SECTION V

THE FACE OF WAR IS ENDURANCE

War asks soldiers to endure the most brutal experiences. Documents I and K describe the experiences of two individuals at different times during the Second World War.

DOCUMENT J  
"After the Dawn," by Joseph Cassin, not dated  
Records of the Adjutant General's Office, 1917-1918  
Cabanatuan was a prison camp in the Philippines for Allied prisoners of war.

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FOR DISCUSSION

- What situations did the soldiers who wrote these documents have to endure?
- What feelings are revealed in each document?
- Why do you think soldiers kept diaries and wrote poems?

**THE FACE OF WAR IS DESTRUCTION**

All wars destroy. World War II resulted in the deaths of 60 million people and in the ruin of hundreds of cities. Documents L and M provide evidence of some of that destruction.

315

III. Damage

1. The Dead and Missing. The damaged area was so extensive and the degree of damage so severe that at first the number of the dead was

PAGE NO. 5      SECRET

19 XL      Lesled  
 Red underscore case 181

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 By 2/28/82 NARA DRR/ML/22

not ascertained but computations to 1 September 1945 show that the identified dead numbered 10,723, the missing numbered 1,927, and the seriously and superficially wounded numbered 40,993. Since the area around Ground Zero was almost completely obliterated and the heads of the various district and neighborhood administrations were either dead or missing, it is difficult to determine the exact number of casualties. At first it was believed that the number of dead would not drop below 25 or 20 thousand. At present a detailed investigation is being made of commodity distribution lists and the lists of persons living in the devastated area.

2. Wounded. The seriously injured are continuing to receive medical treatment at rescue stations, but fatal ailments are being discovered among these cases. Considerable numbers have died from tetanus, and there are numerous cases of patients who are superficially wounded and persons with hardly any external injuries who are dying as the days pass, after showing a green discoloration of the face, difficulty in eating and drinking, and a tendency toward delirium. The death rate among these cases is very high and is anticipated to increase. It is believed that two-thirds of the seriously wounded will die.

3. Dwellings Damaged. As of August 1945, victims of the disaster numbered 89,400 persons from 11,174 households.

<u>Dwellings Damaged</u>	
Totally damaged or burned (covered by fire 11,494).	11,146 houses
Partly burned and seriously damaged	5,441 houses.
Partly damaged	All the houses in the city.

PAGE NO. 6      SECRET

DOCUMENT L  
 Translation of a Japanese account of damages done to Nagasaki by the atomic bomb. September 7, 1945

World War II... with Japan... States dropped atomic bombs on the cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki on August 1945. Japanese population September 7, 1945



No.	Nr.	Zu- und Vorname	Geburts- Tag u. Ort
2448	12305/5	Aletrino Luis	10.4.92. Amsterdam
2449	10687/sr	Pafluch Wasili	8.10.23. Nogorana
2450	10747/sr	Seliwanow Aleksej	22.11.75. Kannienopodolsk
2451	11527/18	Rojek Teofil	6.7.97. Schadek
2452	9668/sr	Adam Felicien	5.3.77. Seraing
2453	4325/sr	Moreno-Barrios, Dositeo	6.7.77. Tarancon
2454	B.T. 310/18	Bergner Franz	4.3.07. Dortmund
2455	J.-Jude 12126/5	Schulhof Franz	22.2.09. Prag
2456	Jugosl. 11850/18	Resch Ernst	12.7.88. Zenica
2457	Jude 12602/5	Rosenkranz Michael, Moritz	6.4.65. Reichensachsen
2458	Nl.-Jude 12551/5	Engelsman Elias	5.4.97. Amsterdam
2459	J.-Jude 12016/5	Elsner Otto	18.6.08. Lammitz
2460	Nl.-Jude 12552/5	de Haan Jakob	31.10.76. Amsterdam

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Register number	National or ethnic origin	Camp number	Name	Birthdate and place
2448	Dutch	12305/5	Aletrino, Luis	April 10, 1892, Amsterdam
2449	Russian	10687/sr	Pafluch, Wasili	October 8, 1923, Nogorana
2450	Russian	10747/sr	Seliwanow, Aleksej	November 22, 1915, Kannienopodolsk
2451	Pole	11527/18	Rojek, Teofil	June 6, 1897, Schadek
2452	Belgian	9668/sr	Adam, Felicien	March 5, 1877, Seraing
2453	Spaniard	4325/sr	Moreno Barrios, Dositeo	July 6, 1877, Tarancon
2454	Criminal	310/18	Bergner, Franz	March 4, 1907, Dortmund
2455	Czech Jew	12126/5	Schulhof, Franz	February 22, 1909, Prague
2456	Yugoslav	11850/18	Resch, Ernst	July 12, 1888, Zenica
2457	Jew	12602/5	Rosenkranz Michael, Moritz	April 6, 1865, Reichensachsen
2458	Dutch Jew	12551/5	Engelsman, Elias	April 5, 1897, Amsterdam
2459	Czech Jew	12016/5	Elsner, Otto	June 18, 1908, Lammitz
2460	Dutch Jew	12552/5	de Haan, Jakob	October 31, 1916, Amsterdam

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Todesursache	Tag u. Stunde des Todes		
auf der Flucht erschossen	29.8.42	1:10	auf d. Flucht erschossen
Infurunktion	29.8.42	3:50	
Ext. Dickdarmkatarrh	29.8.42	3:55	
Extremus inflammation, akute Herzschwäche	30.8.42	6:35	
Ext. Dickdarmkatarrh	30.8.42	6:35	
Lungen-Öd	30.8.42	6:40	
Inflammation Herzmuskel	30.8.42	6:50	
Lungenentzündung	30.8.42	7:00	
Herzkrampf	30.8.42	1:30	
Herzkrampf	30.8.42	2:30	
Lungenentzündung	30.8.42	2:35	
Lungenentzündung	30.8.42	2:45	

Cause of death

- shot while escaping
- infected furuncle
- extreme inflammation of the large intestine
- acute heart failure
- extreme inflammation of the large intestine
- tuberculosis
- inflammation of heart lining
- inflammation of the lungs
- heart attack
- stroke
- heart attack
- inflammation of the lungs
- pneumonia

Date and hour of death

- August 29, 1942, 1:10 p.m.
- August 29, 1942, 3:50 p.m.
- August 29, 1942, 3:55 p.m.
- August 30, 1942, 6:30 a.m.
- August 30, 1942, 6:35 a.m.
- August 30, 1942, 6:40 a.m.
- August 30, 1942, 6:50 a.m.
- August 30, 1942, 7:00 a.m.
- August 30, 1942, 1:30 p.m.
- August 30, 1942, 2:30 p.m.
- August 30, 1942, 2:35 p.m.
- August 30, 1942, 2:40 p.m.
- August 30, 1942, 2:45 p.m.

[Notes]

- shot while escaping

VOCABULARY

atomic bomb   Ground Zero   radiation sickness   concentration camp   Nazis   Holocaust

FOR DISCUSSION

After reading Document L, describe what you think Nagasaki must have looked like after it was hit by an atomic bomb.

What was the purpose of Document M, "**Totenbuch Mauthausen**"? What does it tell you about the people who died at Mauthausen?

FOR HIGH SCHOOL AND COLLEGE STUDENTS

Do you think the United States should have used atomic weaponry to win the war? Why or why not?

Discuss the importance of documentary evidence in relation to Document M, "**Totenbuch Mauthausen**."



SECTION VII

THE FACE OF WAR IS CHANGE

War can change everything— boundaries, technology, and the way people live. Document N describes some of the personal changes soldiers went through during World War II.

RESTRICTED

"I have learned how to live with my fellow men, and patience, and other things."  
"Being more considerate of others, and will be more adapted to live a peaceful, normal life."  
"Understanding human nature and the value of living a settled life."  
"I have learned to mix with men of every race and color."

4. Experiences in the Army have caused me to become bitter, cynical, calloused

"I've become very hard to get along with after a lifetime to the so-called superior officers."  
"The Army has probably made me hard and I wish I could be as soft as I'll get over it."  
"To be a killer, when you're not a killer, that's a bitter thing that bit into me."  
"I don't care any more what people say."  
"I used to be a hard-headed fellow, but now I'm soft."  
"The bitter part of the war is that you're in a position where you're not supposed to be there."  
"I'm a different person now."  
"I have learned to live with my fellow men, and patience, and other things."  
"I have become more considerate of others, and will be more adapted to live a peaceful, normal life."  
"I appreciate the value of human nature and the value of living a settled life, but when you know it."

1. Experiences in the Army have caused me to become bitter, cynical, calloused  
"I'm a different person now."  
"I've become frustrated, callous, hard-headed, and a little bit more cynical."  
"I'm 19 and feel like an old man."

RESTRICTED

DOCUMENT N  
Excerpt from "Changes in Enlisted Men Caused by Their Army Experiences," 1945  
Records of the Office of the Adjutant General, Department of Defense

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FOR DISCUSSION

How does it seem that World War II changed soldiers for the better? For the worse?  
Do you think living through a war would change you? How?

FOR HIGH SCHOOL AND COLLEGE STUDENTS

Why do you think the U.S. Army made a survey of this nature?

*For other school programs or tours, please contact the National Archives  
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