**The End of the War - The Liberation of Europe, VE & VJ Day**

**Liberation of Europe**

From D-Day to April 1945 pushed the Germans back to Berlin

The final defence of Berlin included young boys and the elderly – The German army was defeated

**The End of the Dictators**

In Italy Mussolini is captured and hanged by his own people (April 1945)

**Hitler’s Death**

Hitler commits suicide and orders his body burned afterwards – April 30, 1945

Nazi propaganda says he died a hero’s death leading his troops in battle.

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**Victory Europe Day**

One of Hitler’s final orders is to fight to the death

Germany formally surrenders May 8, 1945

Although very important, war still continues in Japan

**Dropping the Bomb and Victory Japan Day**

**Background – The Manhattan Project**

TMP was the U.S. government research project (1942–45) that produced the first atomic bombs.

****Canada supplied and refined uranium for use in U.S. facilities.

**C.D. Howe was Canada's wartime cabinet minister who formally entered Canada into the nuclear age.**

On August 6th 1945 the Americans dropped the world’s first atomic bomb on Hiroshima

* August 9th they dropped another bomb on Nagasaki
* The Japanese surrender on August 10th.
* The pilot was Paul Tibbets
* The plane that dropped the bomb was the Enola Gay
* It was named after the pilot’s mother
* Fat Man was dropped on Nagasaki
* Little Boy was dropped on Hiroshima

**Casualties**

It estimated that at Hiroshima 70,000+ died instantly – Over 250,000 died later from results of the explosion or radiation sickness.

At Nagasaki over 50,000 were killed instantly with many more after as well