

*TUBE
STATIONS IN
WWII
1939-1945*

A black and white photograph showing a dense crowd of people, mostly women and children, sitting on the floor of a tube station. The scene is crowded and appears to be a historical record of the aftermath of the Blitz. The text is overlaid on the top half of the image.


PEOPLE IN BETHNAL GREEN TUBE STATION

On March 3rd 1943, 173 people, including 62 children died in tragic circumstances and over 90 were injured in a crush on the staircase making this the highest number of casualties in one place.

EIFFEL TOWER

The background of the slide is a grayscale photograph. The upper portion shows the lattice structure of the Eiffel Tower against a bright sky. The lower portion shows a soldier in a trench, wearing a helmet and a dark uniform, looking towards the camera. The soldier's face is partially obscured by shadows.

The Eiffel Tower was a strategic player during World War II as well. Before the Germans overran Paris, the French cut the lift cables to hinder Nazi plans to use the tower as a propaganda tool. As the Allies drove the Germans back out of Paris in 1944, placing it back under French control, Hitler ordered the tower be demolished but the military Governor of Paris, Dietrich von Choltitz, refused to obey.



THE WORST AIR RAID ON LONDON DURING THE BLITZ TOOK PLACE ON 10-11 MAY 1941. DESTRUCTION WAS SPREAD OUT ALL OVER THE CITY, WITH GERMAN BOMBERS TARGETING ALL BRIDGES WEST OF TOWER BRIDGE, FACTORIES ON THE SOUTH SIDE OF THE THAMES, THE WAREHOUSES AT STEPNEY, AND THE RAILWAY LINE THAT RAN NORTH FROM ELEPHANT AND CASTLE. WITH HITLER'S ATTENTION FOCUSED ON PREPARATIONS FOR *OPERATION BARBAROSSA* - HIS ILL-FATED FORAY INTO RUSSIA COMMENCING ON 22 JUNE 1941 - THE FIRST PHASE OF THE BLITZ CAME TO AN END. RAIDS BECAME MUCH LESS COMMON AND MANY CHOSE TO TAKE THEIR CHANCES IN THEIR HOMES RATHER THAN WAIT IT OUT IN THE BOMB SHELTERS, WHERE THE SOUND OF EVERY EXPLOSION WAS AMPLIFIED BY THE CLOSE CONCRETE WALLS.



ST PAULS CATHEDRAL

- DURING THE BATTLE OF BRITAIN, THE GERMAN *LUFTWAFFE* LAUNCHES A HEAVY NIGHT-TIME AIR RAID ON LONDON. THE DOME OF ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL WAS PIERCED BY A NAZI BOMB, LEAVING THE HIGH ALTAR IN RUIN. IT WAS ONE OF THE FEW OCCASIONS THAT THE 17TH-CENTURY CATHEDRAL SUFFERED SIGNIFICANT DAMAGE DURING GERMANY'S NEARLY CEASELESS BOMBING RAIDS ON LONDON IN THE FALL OF 1940.



THE HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT

- BETWEEN 1940 AND 1941, BOTH OF PARLIAMENT WERE IN FACT CONVENED AT CHURCH HOUSE IN WESTMINSTER DUE TO A FEAR THAT THE CHAMBERS MIGHT BE BOMBED WHILE THE HOUSES WERE SITTING. THE PALACE WAS DAMAGED BY AIR RAIDS ON FOURTEEN DIFFERENT OCCASIONS DURING THE WAR

