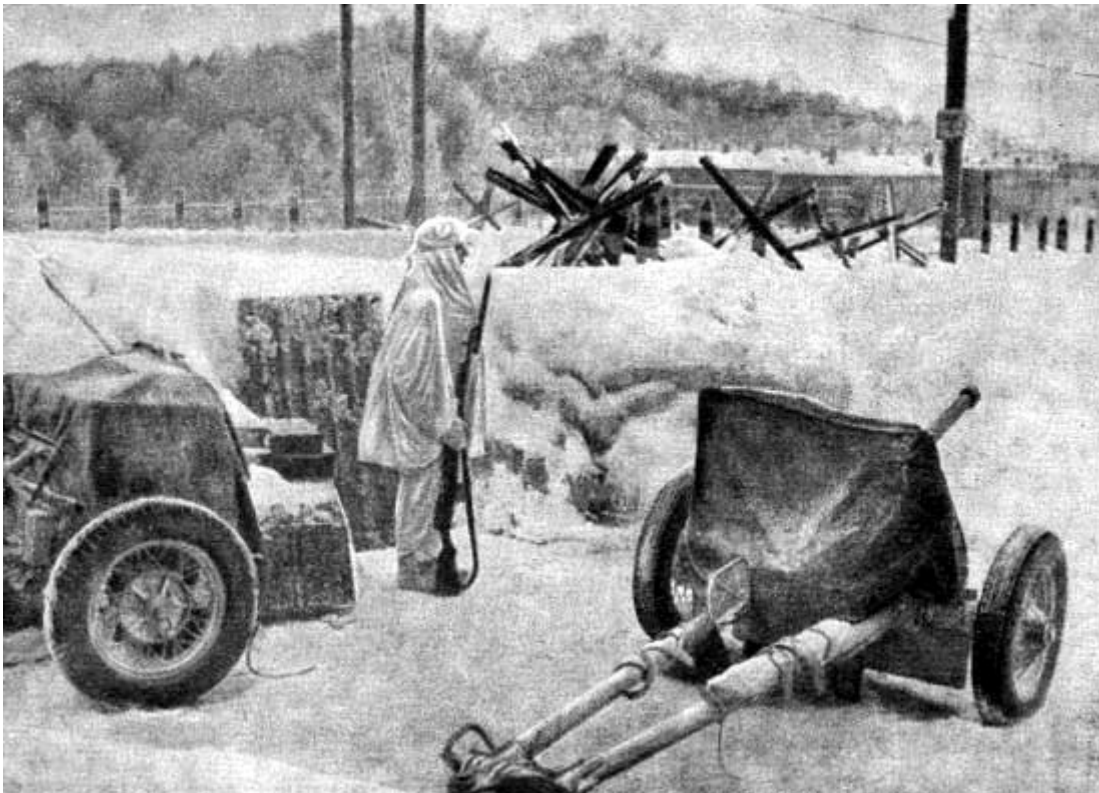


Centre for Comparative and Public History
Department of History
Chinese University of Hong Kong
In-Service Teacher Training Course
Conflicts and Cooperation in the Twentieth-Century World

Lecture 3:3: “World War II”

Source 6

The Battle of Moscow



Context:

To the German Fuhrer Adolf Hitler, Moscow was the key to bringing about the surrender of the Soviet Union. From October 1941 to January 1942, the Soviet capital served as the key battle ground between the German Wehrmacht and the Soviet Red Army. The successful defense of Moscow became a

rallying point for opponents of the Axis and sowed seeds of mistrust and dissension at German military headquarters.

Source: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Image:Battle_of_moscow05.jpg

Questions:

1. Given Germany's remarkable success in the first two years of World War II, how were the Allies able to turn the tide and defeat the Nazi forces?
2. What advances in technologies and tactics altered military tactics and outcomes during World War II.

Assignment:

Divide the class into groups and assign them each a notable World War II military battle or campaign, e.g. the invasion of Poland (Operation Fall Weiss), Battle of France (*Fall Gelb*), Battle of Britain (plus Operation Sealion), Siege of Leningrad, Battle of Moscow, North African Campaign (the Desert War), Battle of Sicily, Battle of Normandy, Battle of the Bulge, Battle of Berlin. Require each group to report on the combatants' tactics, the importance of the encounter, and the outcome. Their reports can be fashioned in a variety of ways - dispatches to headquarters, letters to relatives, or newspaper accounts.

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