**Battle of Stalingrad**

* + - 1. Beginning of War

Air raids and air battles with both sides. Stalin prevents the civilians from leaving the city. Germans broke defenses. Inside the city having a “Rat War”, fighting on streets, in every part of a house, and in factories. Germans fighting tactics were mechanized (artillery, air Support, tanks, etc.) warfare with soldiers. Soviets adopted “hugging” tactic. Fight hand-to-hand or bomb teammates and enemies.

* + - 1. Importance

The city was important to Hitler because it was a major industrial plant and a vital transport spot near the Volga River. It would ensure the left flanks defense and would make great advances into the oil-rich region of the Caucasus, cutting of Stalin’s fuel. It as well had the name Stalin in it. Stalin, however knew Hitler would try something like this and ordered anyone who could hold a rifle to join the fight.

* + - 1. Counter Offense

The Russians saw a weak inspired unit (Hungarians) pierced the line of defense and circled the German 6th Army

* + - 1. End of War

German soldiers were dying and Hitler expected them to either continue fighting or commit suicide but the Leader of the 6th Army surrendered

* + - 1. Aftermath

The city was reduced to ashes and blocks, the number of deaths (wounded, missing, etc.) will remain unknown due to a high number, it is said to reach the 2 million

* + - 1. Effect of WWII

It bled the German Army dry of troops and resources, causing the Germans to poke “the Sleeping Bear” Russia. This started the Red Armies war path to Berlin and the fall of Dictator Adolf Hitler.

<https://www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/jsource/ww2/Stalingrad.html>

<http://www.history.com/topics/world-war-ii/battle-of-stalingrad>

<http://www.historylearningsite.co.uk/battle_of_stalingrad.htm>

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