

MUZEUM II WOJNY
ŚWIATOWEJ W GDANSKU

POLAND IN WORLD WAR 2
NATIONAL LIBERATION
MUSEUM MARIBOR

FIRST FIGHT

- 1. September 1939
- German forces attack Poland
- Polish had to back up
- Red army joined in



IMPORTANT BATTLES OF THE POLISH ARMY

- The fight for the capital Warsaw
- The battle of Bzurl
- Konstanty Jezierski (first fallen soldier)



EXODUS-STRUGGLE FOR SURVIVAL

- War frequently forced people to leave their homes and live in exile



GENESIS -IDEOLOGY

- National Socialism and Communism
- Great third Reich



GERMANISM

- Destroying Polish social elite was one of the first priority goals of the invaders.



FORMS OF EXTERMINATION

- Victims were tortured and murdered
- Germans killed more than 1700 Polish citizens
- Village Piasnica



THE HOLOCAUST

- Destruction of the Jewish people
- Imprisoned in ghettos and camps
- December 1941- toxic gases
- 1939-1945 killed around 2.7-3 million Polish Jews



TWO FRONTS

- 1939-Great Britain, France
- 1940- Norway
- 1941- attack on the Soviet Union



THE ARMED FORCES

- May 1945, more than 200 soldiers were deployed
- Stanislaw Maczek



RESISTANCE AT HOME

- Largest underground resistance movement
- First ghetto- 1942
- Home-made gasoline bottles



Private First Class Eugene Davis (375th Engineer Battalion) paints over the swastika on a railroad car in Pallenberg, Germany
Date: undated Source: NARA, College Park, MD