

“We Shall Fight on the Beaches”

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Individual Website

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Process Paper Website: 434

British Prime Minister Winston S. Churchill's speech, "We Shall Fight on the Beaches", was one of many great turning points in history (Churchill). Winston Churchill delivered his speech after the Dunkirk Evacuation on June 04, 1940 at the House of Commons (Churchill). The speech impacted morale and provided hope to the World War II Allied forces that the war could be won (History.com Editors). Churchill's speech did not just have a short term effect; it also had a long term effect (National WWII Museum). The speech influenced the Allied forces several years later when fighting in the last battle of World War II, the Battle of Okinawa on June 22, 1945 (National WWII Museum). Churchill's speech was important because it showed the determination of Great Britain despite the odds against them ("A Brave Speech").

Last summer I traveled to London, England where I had the opportunity to visit the Churchill War Rooms. While I was in the war rooms I learned about World War II and how Churchill played a major role in the community and world. Which is why I chose one of Winston Churchill's speeches called "We Shall Fight on the Beaches". By having selected that speech my goal was to learn how the speech "We Shall Fight on the Beaches" affected London and all Allied communities during the long run of World War II.

I conducted my research by first finding websites devoted to Winston Churchill like the National Churchill Society, then by finding websites that contain information about him like the *New York Times* "A Brave Speech". Finally I found articles from the time periods before the Dunkirk Battle. The most useful primary source was the *New York Times* article called "A Brave Speech" because it helped me see what the public's opinion was about Winston Churchill's "We shall Fight on the Beaches". The other primary source that was useful was the transcription of Winston Churchill's speech "We Shall Fight on the Beaches" because it showed that Churchill was sincerely addressing the public with his promises to help win World War II.

I created my website using the layout of organized sections starting with the home, thesis, background, impact, influence, importance, timeline, and process paper page. For the design of the website I had the color scheme of white, black, and different shades of blue, because of the ironic fact that Churchill's speech is called "We Shall Fight on the Beaches". I used four images to show the event during WWII, I did so because it helps put an image of what was really going on during that time.

Annotated Bibliography

Primary:

“A Brave Speech.” *The New York Times*, 5 June 1940, p. 24,
<https://timesmachine.nytimes.com/timesmachine/1940/06/05/113087684.html?pageNumber=24>. TimesMachine. Accessed 10 Oct. 2023.

This newspaper article called “A Brave Speech” is a primary source, it is used to help understand the viewpoint of the British citizens after the Dunkirk Evacuation. It can be found in the impact, timeline, and introduction of the process paper sections of the website.

Churchill, Winston. “We Shall Fight on the Beaches.” June 04 1940, House of Commons, The Palace of Westminster, London, UK. Speech.
<https://winstonchurchill.org/resources/speeches/1940-the-finest-hour/we-shall-fight-on-the-beaches/>

This transcript of Winston S. Churchill’s speech “We Shall Fight on the Beaches” is a primary source, it is used to help understand the viewpoint of the British after the Dunkirk Evacuation. It can be found in the thesis, impact, influence, and process paper sections of the website.

Getty Images. “Picture of British Army at Dunkirk.” January 1, 1939.
<https://www.gettyimages.com/detail/news-photo/undated-picture-of-troops-crossing-the-mids-of-debris-of-news-photo/695513574?phrase=Battle+of+Dunkirk&adppopup=true>.
 Accessed January 6, 2024.

This photograph is a primary source, it shows the British Army in a town that was bombed. It can be found in the thesis and background sections of the website.

Horton, Captain. Prime Minister Winston Churchill Walks with a Guard and Members of the Anglican Clergy through the Ruins of Coventry Cathedral Which Was Bombed by the Germans in 1940. 28 Sept. 1941, <https://www.loc.gov/item/2003690086/>. Accessed January 6, 2024.

This photograph is a primary source, it shows Winston Churchill walking through a cathedral that was bombed by the Germans. This can be found in the impact section of the website.

Karsh, Yousuf. "Winston Churchill, 1941." 30 Dec. 1941, <https://karsh.org/overview/#0>. Accessed 14 Dec. 2023.

This photograph is a primary source, it depicts Winston Churchill as a strong leader which helps show his great knowledge while he looks adequately at the camera . This can be found on the homepage of the website.

"War--." *The New York Times*, September 03, 1939, p. 45, <https://timesmachine.nytimes.com/timesmachine/1939/09/03/112717015.html?pageNumber=45> TimesMachine. Accessed 21 January. 2024.

This is a primary source, it is used to show the public's opinion of the start of World War II and the economics aspect of the war. This can be found in the timeline section of the website.

Secondary:

"Great Depression and World War II, 1929 to 1945." The Library of Congress; Congress.gov. <https://www.loc.gov/classroom-materials/united-states-history-primary-source-timeline/great-depression-and-world-war-ii-1929-1945/overview/> Accessed January 6, 2024.

This website article is a secondary source, it is used to help understand what was happening before World War II. It is used in the background, and timeline sections of the website.

History.com Editors. "Battle of Dunkirk." *History*, A&E Television Networks, 25 Jan. 2018, https://www.history.com/topics/world-war-ii/dunkirk#section_8. Accessed 10 October. 2023.

This website article is a secondary source, it is used to help the reader understand what the Dunkirk Battle and the Dunkirk Evacuation was. It can be found in the background, timeline, and process paper section of the website.

The National WWII Museum. "Battle of Okinawa." *The National WWII Museum | New Orleans*, 01 May 2020, <https://www.nationalww2museum.org/war/topics/battle-of-okinawa>. Accessed 22 September. 2023.

This website is a secondary source, it is used to help the reader understand the last battle of World War II, the Battle of Okinawa. It can be found in the thesis, influence, importance, timeline, and process paper sections of the website.

"Winston Churchill Day Voted." *The New York Times*, April 06, 1966, p. 84, <https://timesmachine.nytimes.com/timesmachine/1966/04/06/79992246.html?pageNumber=84> TimesMachine. Accessed 17 January. 2024.

This is a primary source, it is used to show that Churchill had a sufficient effect on World War II that they named a day after him. This can be found on the timeline Section of the website.