



The main battles in the Great Patriotic War (1941-1945)

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The Great Patriotic War (1941-1945) - liberation war of the USSR against the Third Reich.

The main battles:

- ❖ **Defense of Brest Fortress**
(22 June 1941 – 20 July 1941)
- ❖ **Siege of Leningrad**
(8 September 1941 – 27 January 1944)
- ❖ **Battle of Moscow**
(30 September 1941 – 20 April 1942)
- ❖ **Battle of Stalingrad**
(17 July 1942 – 2 February 1943)
- ❖ **Battle of Kursk**
(5 July 1943 – 23 August 1943)
- ❖ **Battle of Berlin**
(23 April 1945 – 2 May 1945)



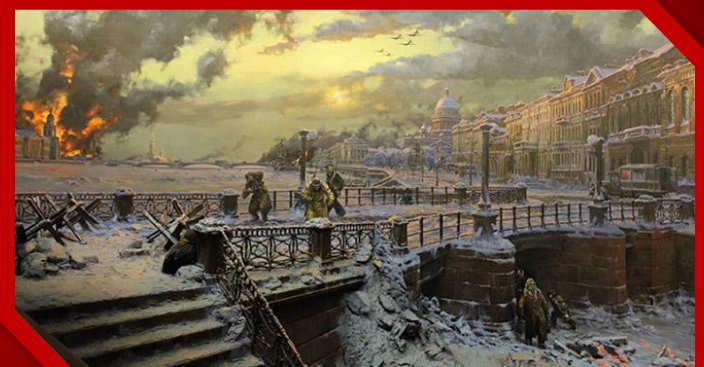
Defense of Brest Fortress

The Defense of Brest Fortress is one of the very first battles of the Great Patriotic War. The Wehrmacht has wanted to take control over this fortress because it would have opened the path to the further conquest of the USSR. However, the siege has taken much more time than expected. The Wehrmacht was planning to overrun the fortress in less than a week, but it took almost one month. Although garrison of Brest has lost the battle, it has won a time for the Soviet Union to prepare and reinforce defense.



Siege of Leningrad

The Siege of Leningrad is a prolonged military blockade. It continued for almost 900 days. The siege started on 8 September 1941, when the last road to the city was blocked. Although the Soviet forces managed to open a narrow corridor to the city on 18 January 1943 during the Operation Iskra, the siege was not lifted until 27 January 1944. It is considered as the most destructive and longest siege in history. More than half a million people died of hunger and air raids.



Battle of Moscow

The Battle of Moscow is crucial battle of The Great Patriotic War. It consist of 2 parts: defensive and offensive. During the defensive part soldiers of the Red Army showed the great resolve and courage. Suffering heavy loses they have protected the city and stopped Nazi invasion. Enemy forces were weakened and Operation Barbarossa has failed. The offensive part has given a start to the counter-attack of the Soviet forces.



Battle of Stalingrad

The Battle of Stalingrad is the largest confrontation of World War II. The main attributes of this battle are: close quarters combat and air raids. These actions have led to complete destruction of the city. Battle of Stalingrad is also considered as the bloodiest battle in history. Both sides suffered heavy losses. Because of this Nazi soldiers were forced to fallback and regroup. Soviet Army has taken control over the city of Stalingrad and started massive counter-attack.

Casualties and losses	
+1 000 000 soldiers	+1 100 000 soldiers
+1 500 tanks	+4 000 tanks
+900 aircrafts	+ 2 700 aircrafts



Battle of Stalingrad



Battle of Kursk

The Battle of Kursk is the largest tank battle in history. More than 9 000 tanks, 4 000 planes and 3 000 000 soldiers have taken part in this battle. It was the last chance for the Third Reich to take back the control and stop the advance of USSR forces. But because of the bravery of the Soviet soldiers and strategic skills of Red Army Command, plans of the Wehrmacht have collapsed. Soviet Union continued the liberation of its territories from the Nazi invaders.

Strength	
+1 000 000 soldiers	+2 500 000 soldiers
+3 500 tanks	+6 400 tanks
+2 100 aircrafts	+ 2 800 aircrafts



Battle of Kursk



Battle of Berlin

The Battle of Berlin is the final major offensive operation of the Great Patriotic War. After several successful battles Red Army has encircled the city. Soviet soldiers has captured the Reichstag building and raised the Victory Banner on top of it. The victory in the Battle of Berlin has led to Complete Surrender of the Third Reich and end to the Great Patriotic War.



Thanks for your attention!



Source Materials:
<https://en.wikipedia.org>
<https://megabook.ru>