

Strategic Bombing Campaign Analysis

Group One: January 1942 - June 1942

1. Go to http://www.abmc.gov/sites/default/files/interactive/interactive_files/SBC_Web/index.html.

2. Click "Prelude" and answer the questions below:

a. Military theorists devised the concept of strategic bombing because of which war?

b. Name and explain two reasons a military would choose to use strategic bombing.

c. What is the name of the plane the U.S. developed?

3. Click on **January 1942- June 1942** and watch "The U.S. Joins the Strategic Air War." Answer the following questions about the video and be prepared to share what you learned with other groups.

a. Who was in charge of the U.S. 8th Air Force?

b. Where was the 8th Air Force deployed?

c. What is marked as the first strategic air attack by Americans on the European continent?

Strategic Bombing Campaign Analysis cont.

Group One: January 1942 - June 1942

d. Who is the leader of the British Bomber Command?

e. Arthur Harris said, "They [the Germans] sowed the wind and now they are going to feel the whirlwind." What do you think Harris meant by this?

f. What does incendiary mean?

g. List two interesting facts from the video.

Strategic Bombing Campaign Analysis

Group Two: July 1942 - November 1942

1. Go to http://www.abmc.gov/sites/default/files/interactive/interactive_files/SBC_Web/index.html.

2. Click "Prelude" and answer the questions below:

a. Military theorists devised the concept of strategic bombing because of which war?

b. Name and explain two reasons a military would choose to use strategic bombing.

c. What is the name of the plane the U.S. developed?

3. Click on **July 1942- November 1942** and watch "The 8th Air Force Builds." Answer the following questions about the video and be prepared to share what you learned with other groups.

a. On what date did six American crews become the first contingent of the 8th Air Force to bomb German facilities in Europe? What did this contingent bomb?

b. What was the date of the 8th Air Force's first independent mission? What type of planes were used? What did they bomb?

Strategic Bombing Campaign Analysis cont.

Group Two: July 1942 - November 1942

c. What is a turret gunner?

d. Describe the route that American B-17s had to take to arrive in England.

e. Why did the 8th Air Force bomb France during this time?

f. What types of installations were top priority for bombings?

g. Who was in charge of the 12th Air Force?

h. What was the 12th Air Force's major role?

i. List two interesting facts from the video.

Strategic Bombing Campaign Analysis

Group Three: December 1942 - May 1943

1. Go to http://www.abmc.gov/sites/default/files/interactive/interactive_files/SBC_Web/index.html.

2. Click "Prelude" and answer the questions below:

a. Military theorists devised the concept of strategic bombing because of which war?

b. Name and explain two reasons a military would choose to use strategic bombing.

c. What is the name of the plane the U.S. developed?

3. Click on **December 1942-May 1943** and watch "The 8th Air Force: Tough Experience." Answer the following questions about the video and be prepared to share what you learned with other groups.

a. On what date did American strategic bombing start in Germany?

b. What did the 8th Air Force and British Bomber Command focus on bombing?

Strategic Bombing Campaign Analysis cont.

Group Three: December 1942 - May 1943

c. How did American forces try to survive daylight raids?

d. What is flak?

e. What two Air Forces were aiding in the Mediterranean theater?

f. What helped tilt the Battle of the Atlantic in the Allies' favor?

g. How did American industry at home help the 8th Air Force?

h. List two interesting facts from the video.

Strategic Bombing Campaign Analysis

Group Four: June 1943 - October 1943

1. Go to http://www.abmc.gov/sites/default/files/interactive/interactive_files/SBC_Web/index.html.

2. Click "Prelude" and answer the questions below:

a. Military theorists devised the concept of strategic bombing because of which war?

b. Name and explain two reasons a military would choose to use strategic bombing.

c. What is the name of the plane the U.S. developed?

3. Click on **June 1943-October 1943** and watch "The High Cost." Answer the following questions about the video and be prepared to share what you learned with other groups.

a. What was the Combined Bomber Offensive?

b. Why was the destruction of industry supporting the Luftwaffe high priority?

c. How many 8th Air Force bombers were shot down in the raids on Schweinfurt and Regensburg?

Strategic Bombing Campaign Analysis cont.

Group Four: June 1943 - October 1943

d. Why did the British Bomber Command suffer comparably less than the 8th Air Force?

e. What happened on July 27, 1943?

f. What does incendiary mean?

g. How many crew members were lost in the Raids on Ploesti Oil Fields? Why were so many lives lost?

h. What campaigns helped topple Benito Mussolini and make Italian air force bases available to the Allies?

i. List two interesting facts from the video.
