The Royal British Legion remembers the Second World War and significant events between 1939 and 1945. The war spread across Europe into Africa, the Middle East, the Far East and the Pacific. In 1941, the USA joined the Allied forces after Japan attacked the US naval base at Pearl Harbor on the island of Oahu in Hawaii. The longest battle of the war – the Battle of the Atlantic – lasted for five years, eight months and five days between 1939 and 1945. One of the most significant events of the war was the Holocaust – the Nazis’ systematic murder of over six million people. The people who were targeted included Jewish people, Romani people, disabled people, Slavic people and Polish people –

We pick the best World War II films you need to see. From 'Dunkirk' to 'Schindler's List', here are 50 WWII movies you need to watch. No film evokes the everyday British experience of WWII better than Sidney Gilliat and Frank Launder's stiff-upper-lipped drama. It's a masterpiece of social observation, reflecting the national shift towards social inclusion in its depiction of the lives, loves and heartrending losses endured by the lower-middle-class Crowson family. Those of us who grew up with national treasure Dame Thora Hird being frightfully lovely on the BBC can only watch in amazement as, at the climax of Alberto Cavalcanti's masterful wartime chiller, she gamely starts picking off invading Nazis with a rusty old hunting rifle.