**Topic: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Big question:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

 **Reason #1 Reason #2 Reason #3**



**Battle of Stalingrad**

“ . . . ***November 19.*** If we lose this war, they’ll take revenge on us for everything we did. We killed thousands of Russians and Jews with wives and children around Kiev and Kharkov. This is simply unbelievable. But it is for precisely this reason that we need to exert all our strength in order to win the war.

December 6. The weather is getting worse and worse. Clothing freezes on our bodies. We haven’t eaten or slept in three days. Fritz is telling me about a conversation he heard: the soldiers prefer to defect or surrender to captivity. . . .”

From the diary of Field Gendarmerie Sergeant Helmut Megenburg (Nazi soldier)

***Why is the Battle of Stalingrad one of the most major and bloodiest battles in the history of warfare?***

**European Front (European Theater)**

1.) What European countries formed the Axis Powers?

2.) What European countries formed the Allied Powers?

3.) Look at the map: what is concerning (troubling) about the Axis control in Europe by 1941?