Subject: Re: independence day Posted by GoArmy44 on Sun, 06 Jul 2008 04:51:54 GMT

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Goztow wrote on Sat, 05 July 2008 03:12I got a theory that the Soviet Union could have won WW II on its own.

That's very debatable considering how many German troops were pinned down in Western Europe and North Africa fighting. It is very probable that the Germans could have won entirely or at least produced a stalemate on the Eastern Front if the Western Allies had not invaded Europe or North Africa.

One of the best examples of this (although a bit later in the war, 1943) is the Allied Invasion of Sicily which occurred during the same time as the Battle of Kursk in Russia, this prompted Hitler to reposition large numbers of forces to the Mediterranean theater at a crucial time in the Battle of Kursk. General Von Manstein who had a fantastic record of successes in the Battle of France and the salvation of the Eastern German Army after Stalingrad, asserted that if the Panzer forces had remained in the battle it would have been possible to in fact win the battle and cut off a huge chunk of the Soviet Army from their other forces which was the entire reason for the battle in the first place.

Another example is the Western Front after the Allied breakout of Normandy and the subsequent race across France, by the time Market Garden rolled around (Sept. 1944) more of the SS units (elite) were facing the US and UK than were the Russians who were the more considerable ground threat. This would have never been possible had the US never entered the war since it was the US who gave the much needed material and manpower push that gave the Allies the chance to invade France to begin with.

Edit: If anyone cares to read it, "How Hitler Could Have Won World War 2: The Fatal Errors That Led To Nazi Defeat" is a fascinating book about all of the mistakes and wrong turns Hitler and his minions took during the war and how they could have instead succeeded in their quest for conquest.