# OPERATION DYNAMO

# The real story behind the Hollywood blockbuster DUNKIRK



**1<sup>st</sup> SEPTEMBER 1939** Nazi Germany invades Poland

EBENSRA

# **10<sup>TH</sup> MAY 1940** Nazi Germany invades France and the Low Countries (the Netherlands and Belgium)

**21<sup>st</sup> MAY 1940** German forces trap Allied forces in an area along the northern coast of France **3<sup>RD</sup> SEPTEMBER 1939** Britain and France declare war on Nazi Germany

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MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUGUST

### **3<sup>RD</sup> SEPTEMBER 1939 – 10<sup>TH</sup> MAY 1940** The 'Phoney War'



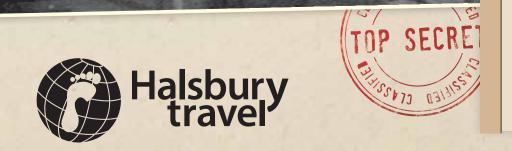
**22<sup>№</sup> MAY 1940** Halt order issued by German High Command

**28<sup>TH</sup> – 31<sup>ST</sup> MAY 1940** The Siege of Lille **27<sup>TH</sup> MAY 1940** Evacuation of Allied forces begins – just 7,669 men rescued on this first day of the operation

### 4<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 1940

Operation Dynamo ends with more than 338,000 troops rescued by a fleet of over 800 boats.





## 4<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 1940

Winston Churchill gives famous 'We Shall Fight on the Beaches' speech to the House of Commons.