

WORLD WAR II

THE DEADLIEST WAR IN HUMAN HISTORY

TOTAL CASUALTIES BY NATION

Figure 1

MILLIONS



Dulce et Decorum Est

BY Wilfred Owen

Bent double, like old beggars under sacks,
Knock-kneed, coughing like hags,
we cursed through sludge,

Till on the haunting flares we turned our backs,
And towards our distant rest began to trudge.
Men marched asleep. Many had lost their boots,
But limped on, blood-shod. All went lame; all blind;
Drunk with fatigue; deaf even to the hoots
Of gas-shells dropping softly behind.

Gas! GAS! Quick, boys!—An ecstasy of fumbling
Fitting the clumsy helmets just in time,

But someone still was yelling out and stumbling
And flound'ring like a man in fire or lime.—
Dim through the misty panes and thick green light,
As under a green sea, I saw him drowning.

In all my dreams before my helpless sight,
He plunges at me, guttering, choking, drowning.

If in some smothering dreams, you too could pace
Behind the wagon that we flung him in,
And watch the white eyes writhing in his face,
His hanging face, like a devil's sick of sin;
If you could hear, at every jolt, the blood

Come gargling from the froth-corrupted lungs,
Obscene as cancer, bitter as the cud
Of vile, incurable sores on innocent tongues,—

My friend, you would not tell with such high zest
To children ardent for some desperate glory,
The old Lie: Dulce et decorum est
Pro patria mori

Ways that World War II changed the world

By Stephen Kaufman in *Share America* - May 5, 2015

The Gedächtniskirche, or Kaiser Wilhelm Memorial Church, in Berlin stands as an anti-war memorial to peace and reconciliation after World War II.

Seventy years ago, Victory in Europe Day marked the beginning of the end of World War II. May 8, 1945, also marked the birth of a new international system of norms and ideals, conceived to ensure peace, security and prosperity for all nations.

That order continues to serve global interests through a system of shared institutions and partnerships designed to prevent the atrocities and devastation of the war from ever happening again.

As the war drew to a close, the Allied powers agreed to establish an international body that

would be stronger than the ill-fated League of Nations, which failed to prevent the conflict. The charter that established the United Nations was the combined effort of 50 nations whose representatives met at the April 1945 San Francisco Conference.

With the end of European colonialism in sight, especially in Africa and Asia, smaller nations were ensured a voice, and the United Nations assumed responsibility to promote economic and social cooperation and the independence of formerly colonial peoples.

At the same time, economic organizations like the International Monetary Fund and the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (today's World

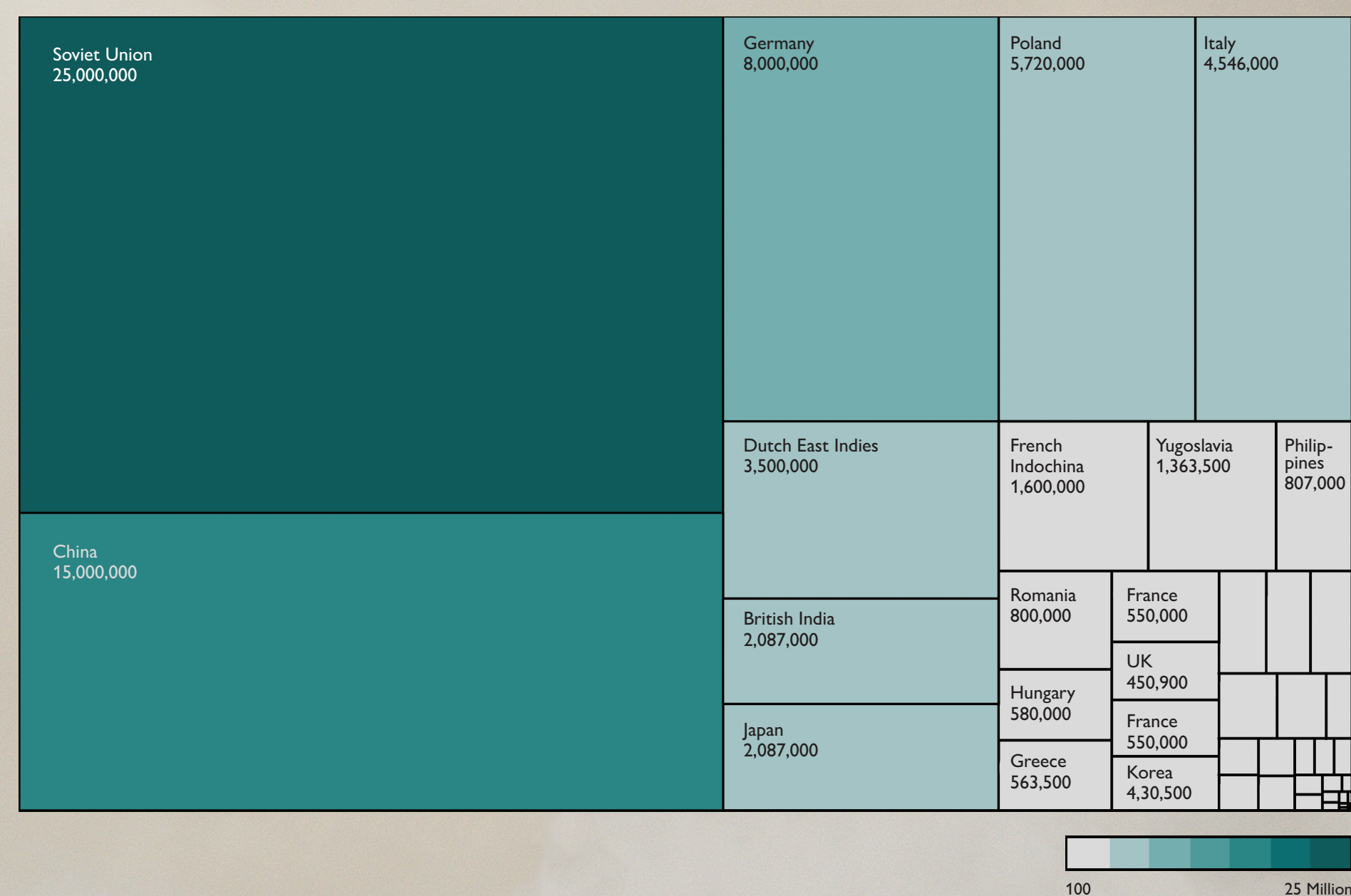
Trade Organization) were created to help open markets and avoid a worldwide depression, like the one that helped set the stage for the war.

In the wake of the Holocaust and other horrific crimes, countries recognized the benefits of a world with established norms and shared values.

The Allies established the International Military Tribunal to prosecute crimes against peace, war crimes and crimes against humanity, culminating in the 1945–1946 Nuremberg trials. It was the precursor to today's International Criminal Court. The shared dismay also helped to create the 1948 Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the 1949 Geneva Conventions on protection of military and civilians during war.

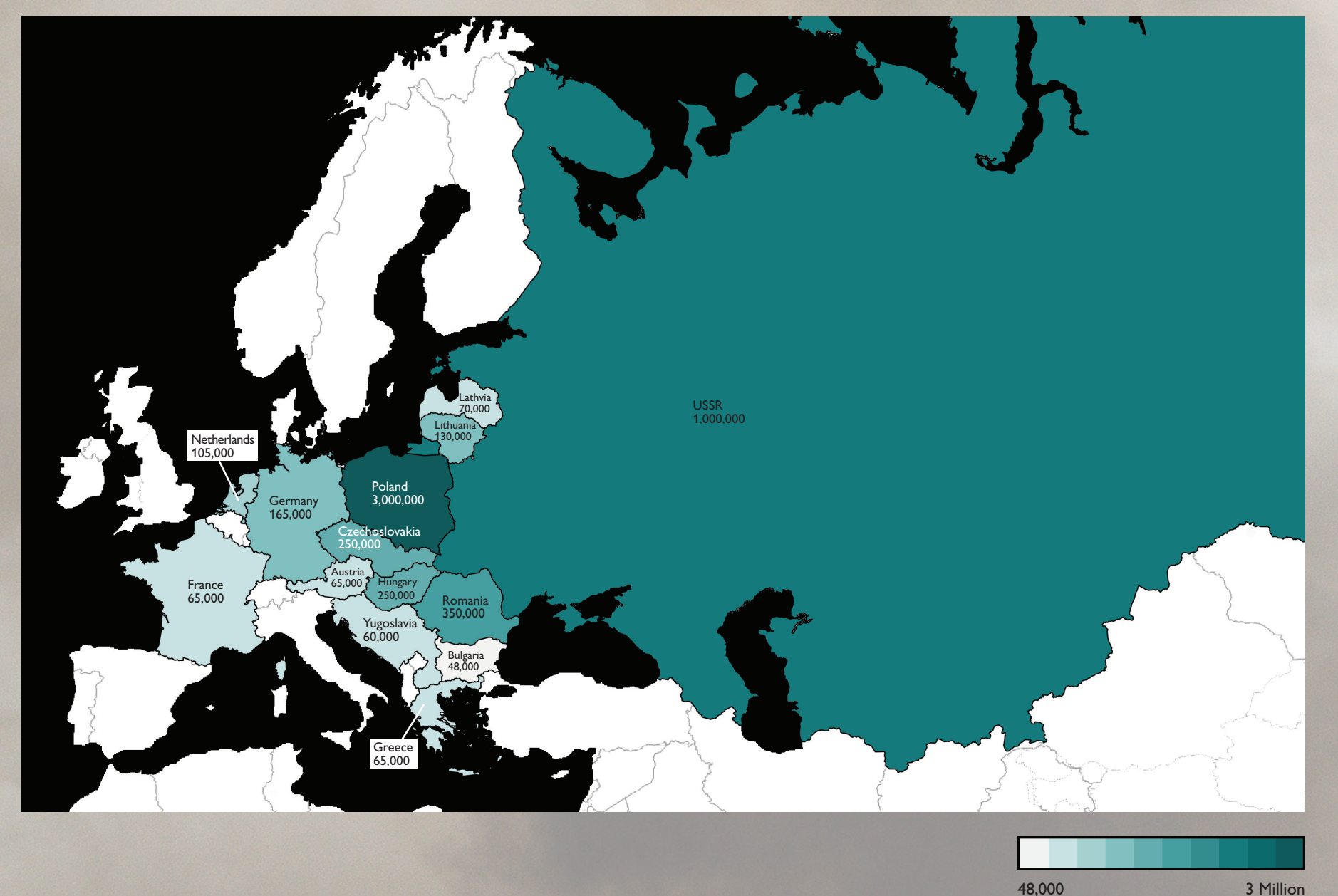
TOTAL CASUALTIES BY NATION

Figure 2



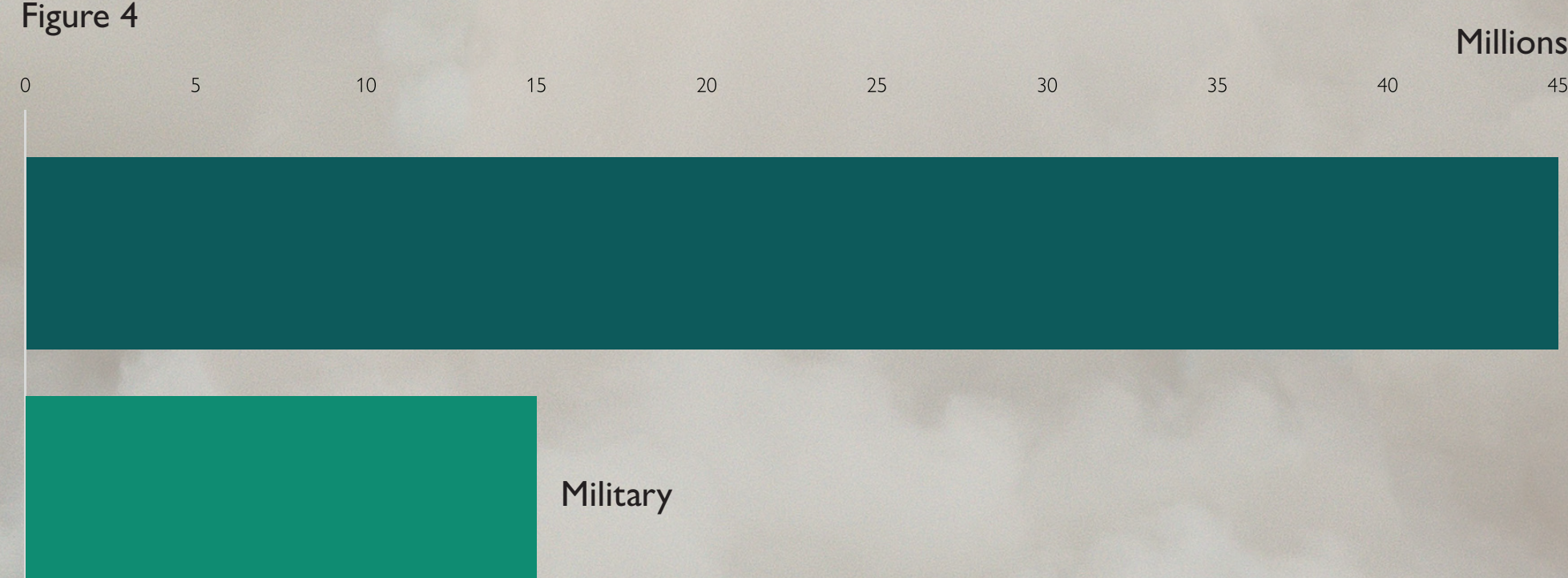
HOLOCAUST DEATHS BY COUNTRY

Figure 3



CIVILIAN VS. MILITARY CASUALTIES WORLDWIDE

Figure 4



TOTAL CASUALTIES BY NATION

Figures 1 & 2

These graphs demonstrate the total number of deaths, civilian and military, that each country suffered between the years of 1939–1945. This data is derived from secondworldwarhistory.com.

HOLOCAUST DEATHS BY COUNTRY

Figure 3

This map illustrates the number of deaths worldwide as a result of the Holocaust. Between 1941 and 1945, approximately 6 million Jews were systematically murdered. Poland claimed the most victims at 3 million deaths and the USSR is next with 1 million victims. This data is derived from "World War 2 Facts" History on the Net.

CIVILIAN VS. MILITARY CASUALTIES WORLDWIDE

Figure 4

This graph compares the casualties of military and civilian personnel during World War Two—between the years of 1939–1945. Note: Worldwide casualty estimates vary widely in several sources. The number of civilian deaths in China alone might well be more than 50,000,000. Data is derived from the National WWII Museum in New Orleans.