

Beat: Local

## **THE YEARS 1939-1944 WERE THE BLACK YEARS & GREY YEARS ON INTERNATIONAL LEVEL**

**STORY GIVEN BY THE FRENCH ARMY MUSEUM**

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**USPA NEWS** - The years 1939-1942 were the "Black years" and the years 1942-1944 were the "Grey Years". They saw the defeats, victories from the French side. Following the capitulation of Germany, the Cold War began and led to the partition of the former capital until the fall to the Berlin Wall in 1989...

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The Leclerc Room represents the "Black Years" dating from 1939 to 1942. The defeat of 1940, the Battle of Britain, the occupation of part of France, the Vichy Government, the success of German forces in Russia and North Africa and the start of the engagement of the Free French Forces alongside General De Gaulle.

The Juin Room represents the "Grey Years" lasting from 1942 to 1944. They saw the first victories of the Allied armies, which regained the initiative on all fronts, the collections of the French Resistance movements being repressed increasingly fiercely by the occupying troops, and lastly the rebirth, alongside the Allies, of the French army in North Africa.

The Delattre Room represents the "Light Years" going from 1944 to 1945. They saw the landings of the Allies in Normandy and Provence, and then the liberation of the French territory, the offensives of the Allied armies against Berlin, the discovery of the concentration camps and the end of the Pacific War.

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