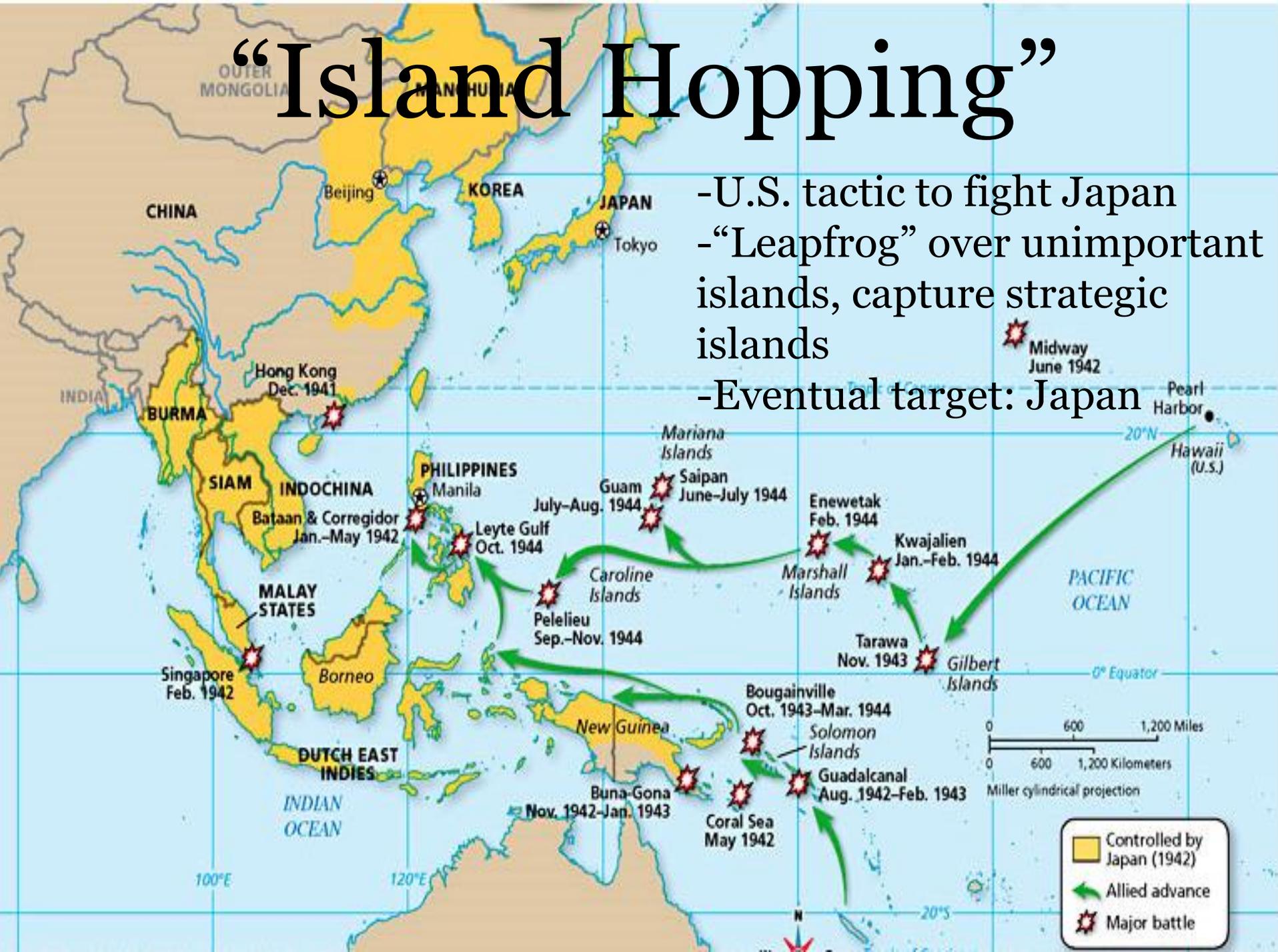


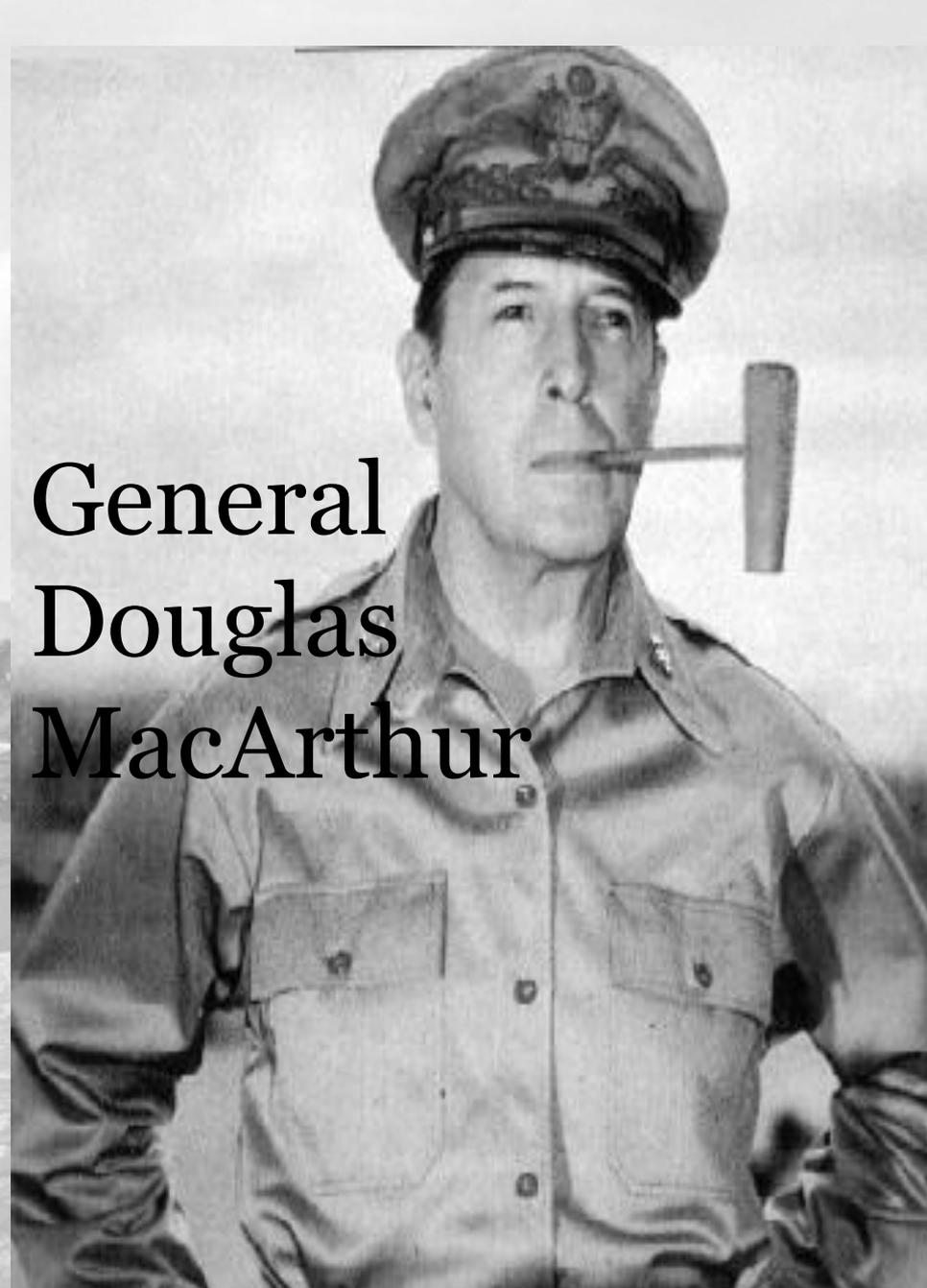
WWII: Pacific Theater



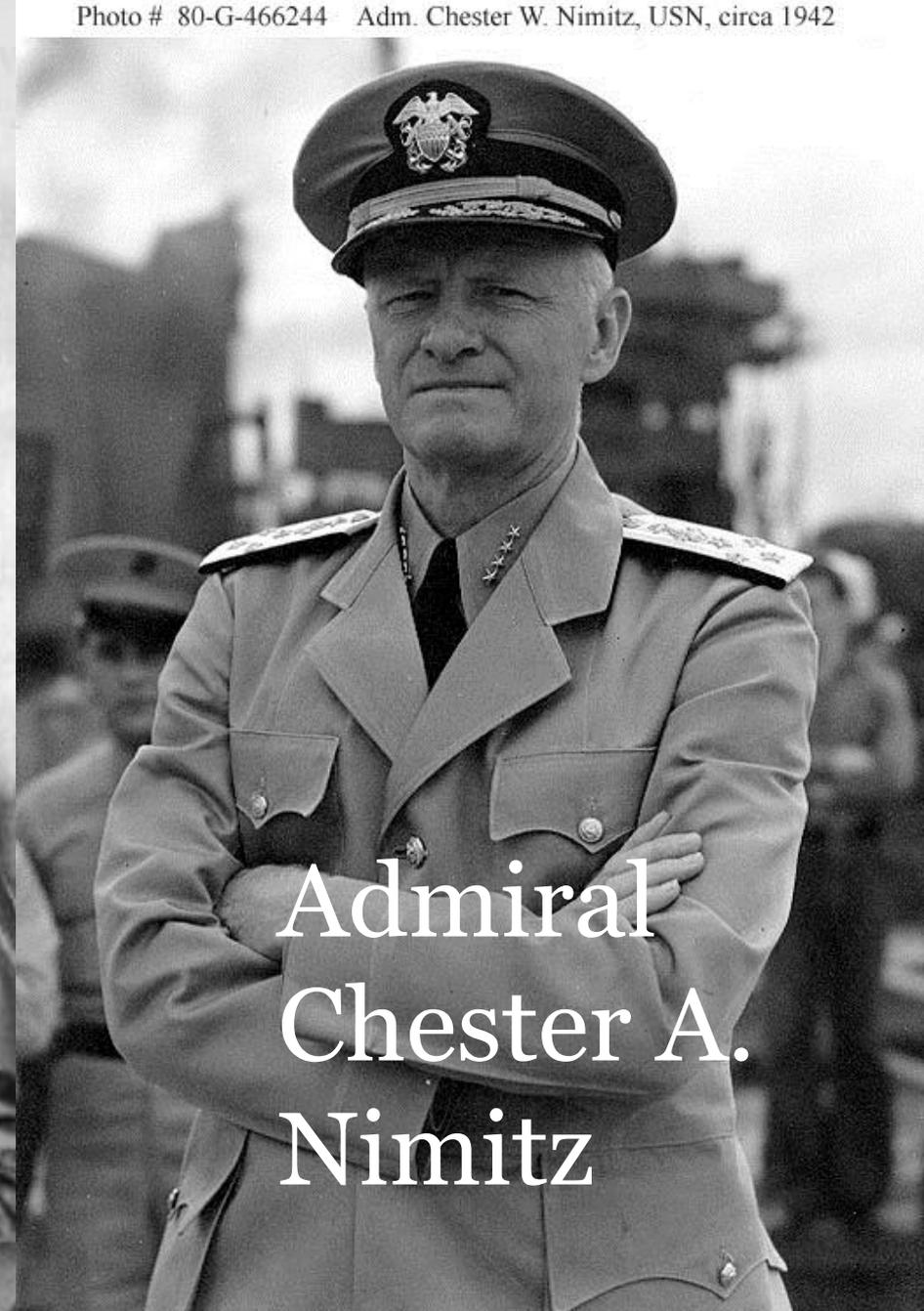
“Island Hopping”

- U.S. tactic to fight Japan
- “Leapfrog” over unimportant islands, capture strategic islands
- Eventual target: Japan





General
Douglas
MacArthur



Admiral
Chester A.
Nimitz

Japan's Plan

Japan seeks to establish “The Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere”

- A bloc of Asian nations led by the Japanese and free of “Western powers”
- Began with the invasions of Manchuria and Korea

Three political forces in Japan:

- Emperor Hirohito
- Civilian govt trying to push for democratic reforms
- Military General & Prime Minister: Hideki Tojo

The army informs the civilian govt of the Manchuria campaign two months after it begins





1940: FDR moves U.S.
fleet to Pearl Harbor

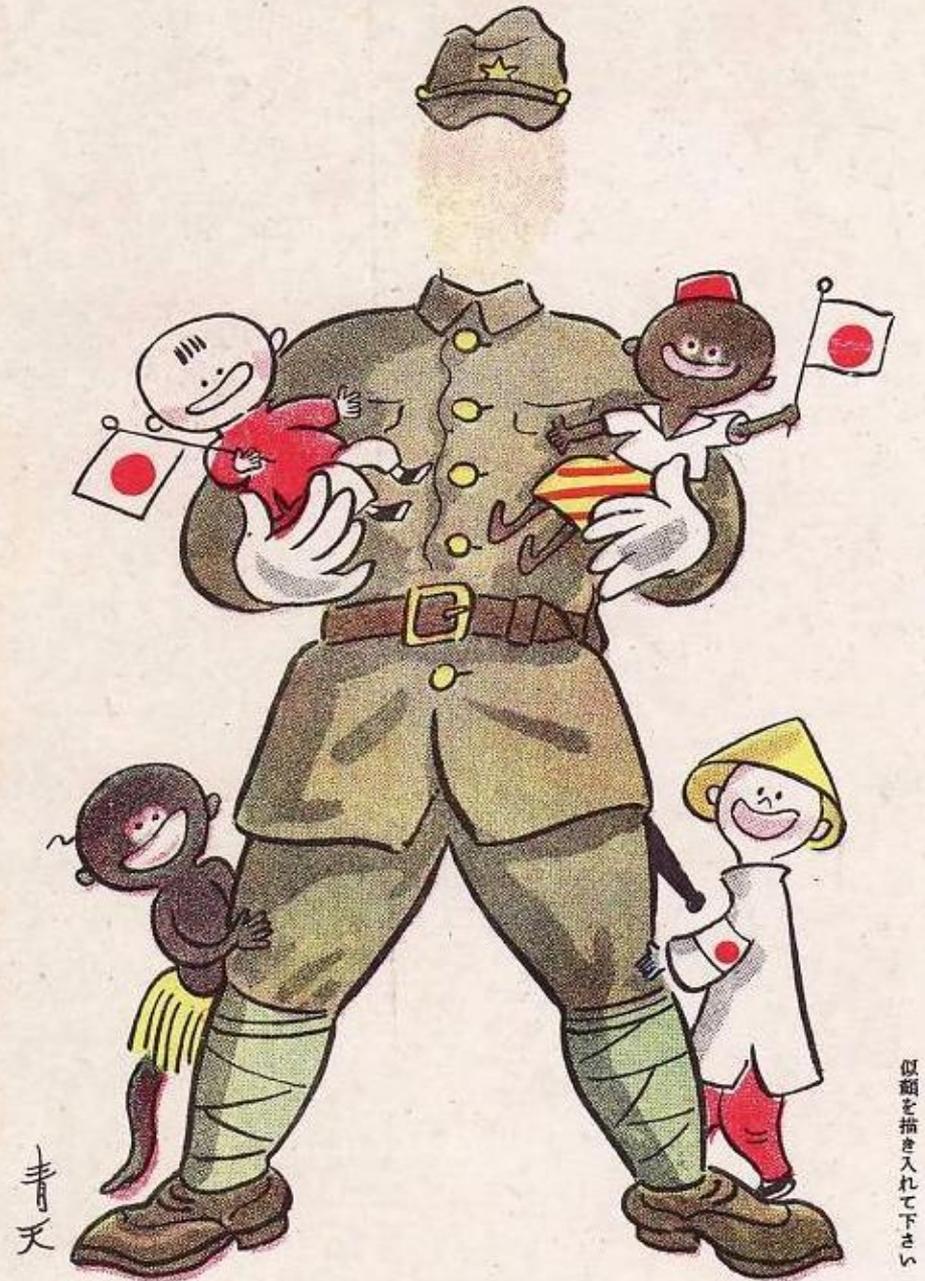
Japan's Dilemma:

-Japan bought oil and scrap metal from U.S.

U.S. warns Japan to stop expanding into SE Asia, or the U.S. will embargo essential products

**Question:
Expand or trade?**

-Decision: Japan will only last 2 yrs. without U.S. oil
-Upon the embargo, they decide they must wipe out Pearl Harbor and quickly take SE Asia



Fleet Admiral Yamamoto



I fear all we have done is to awaken a sleeping giant and fill him with a terrible resolve.

(Isoroku Yamamoto)

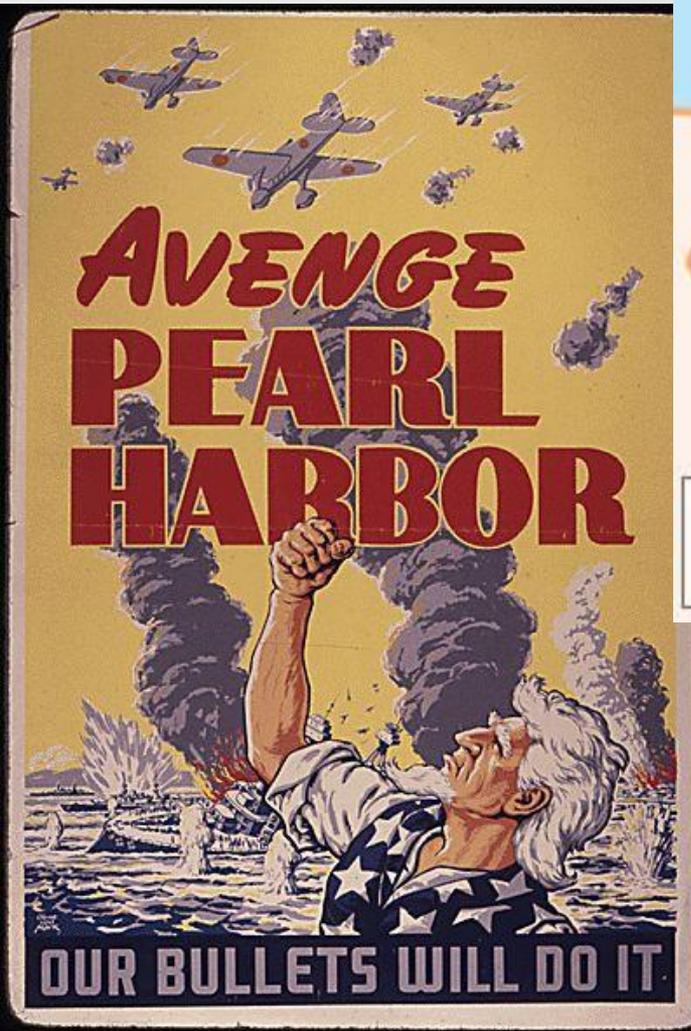
izquotes.com

“The U.S. fleet is a dagger pointed at our throat and must be destroyed.”

“I can run wild for six months, after that, I have no expectation of success.”

- Yamamoto, during discussions on the planned Pearl Harbor Attack

Aftermath



"Being saturated and satiated with emotion and sensation, I went to bed and slept the sleep of the saved and thankful."

- Winston Churchill

MacArthur – “I shall return.”

- The day after Pearl Harbor, Japan launched its invasion of the Philippines
- March 1942: Gen. MacArthur forced to abandon the Philippine island fortress of Corregidor under orders from FDR

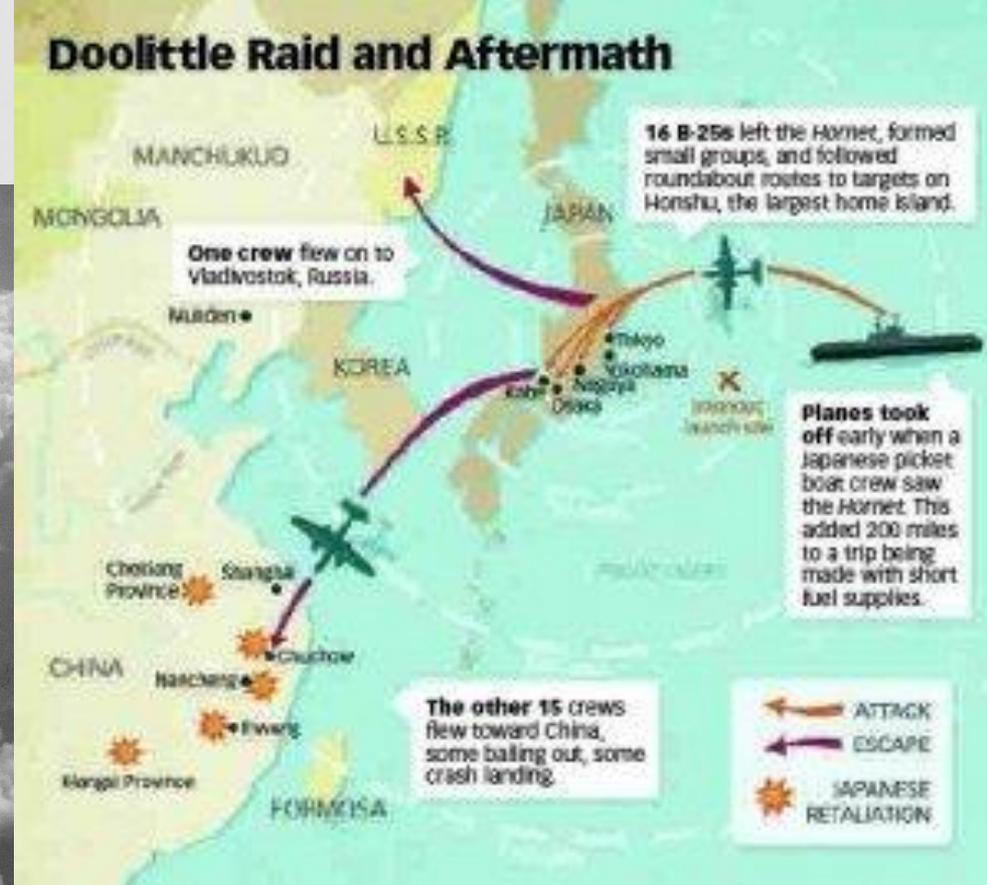


Bataan Death March: April 1942



- Left behind at Corregidor and on the Bataan Peninsula were 90,000 American and Filipino troops, who, lacking food, supplies, and support, would soon succumb to the Japanese offensive
- 12,000 Americans walked 60 miles to a POW camp
- No food or water
- 5,000 died

Doolittle Raids



18 April '42

- U.S. air raids over Japan
- Incendiary bombs
- 1st attack on Japanese home islands
- U.S. propaganda victory
- Embarrassment to Yamamoto
- Redirected supplies to Japan's mainland
- U.S. morale heightened

7 May 1942

-1st naval battle
carried out
entirely by
aircraft

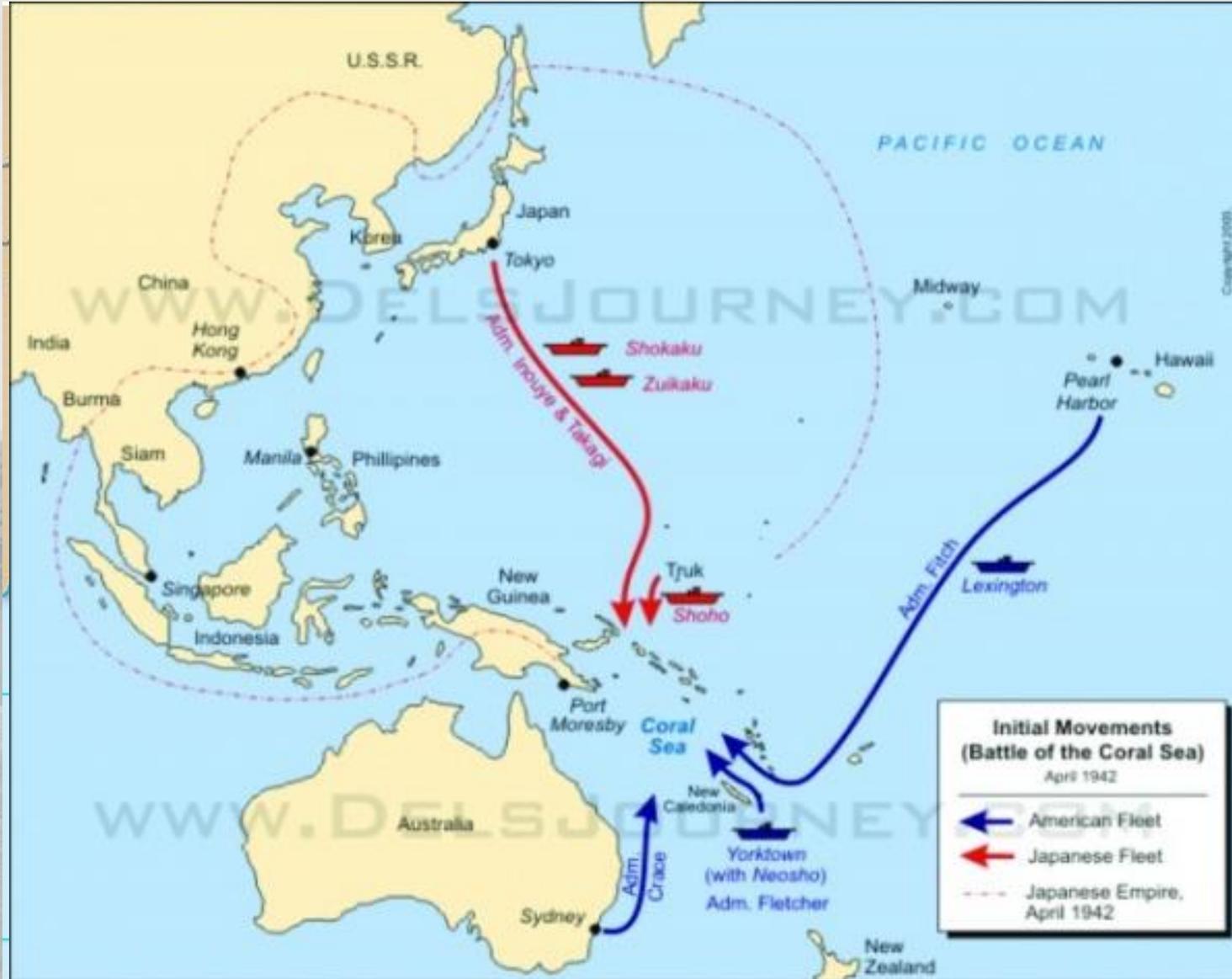
-Ships never
even came into
contact with
each other

-U.S. victory

Significance:

Halted the
Japanese
advance on
Australia &
lessened troop
strength for
Midway

Battle of Coral Sea



The Battle Of Midway

4-7 June 1942

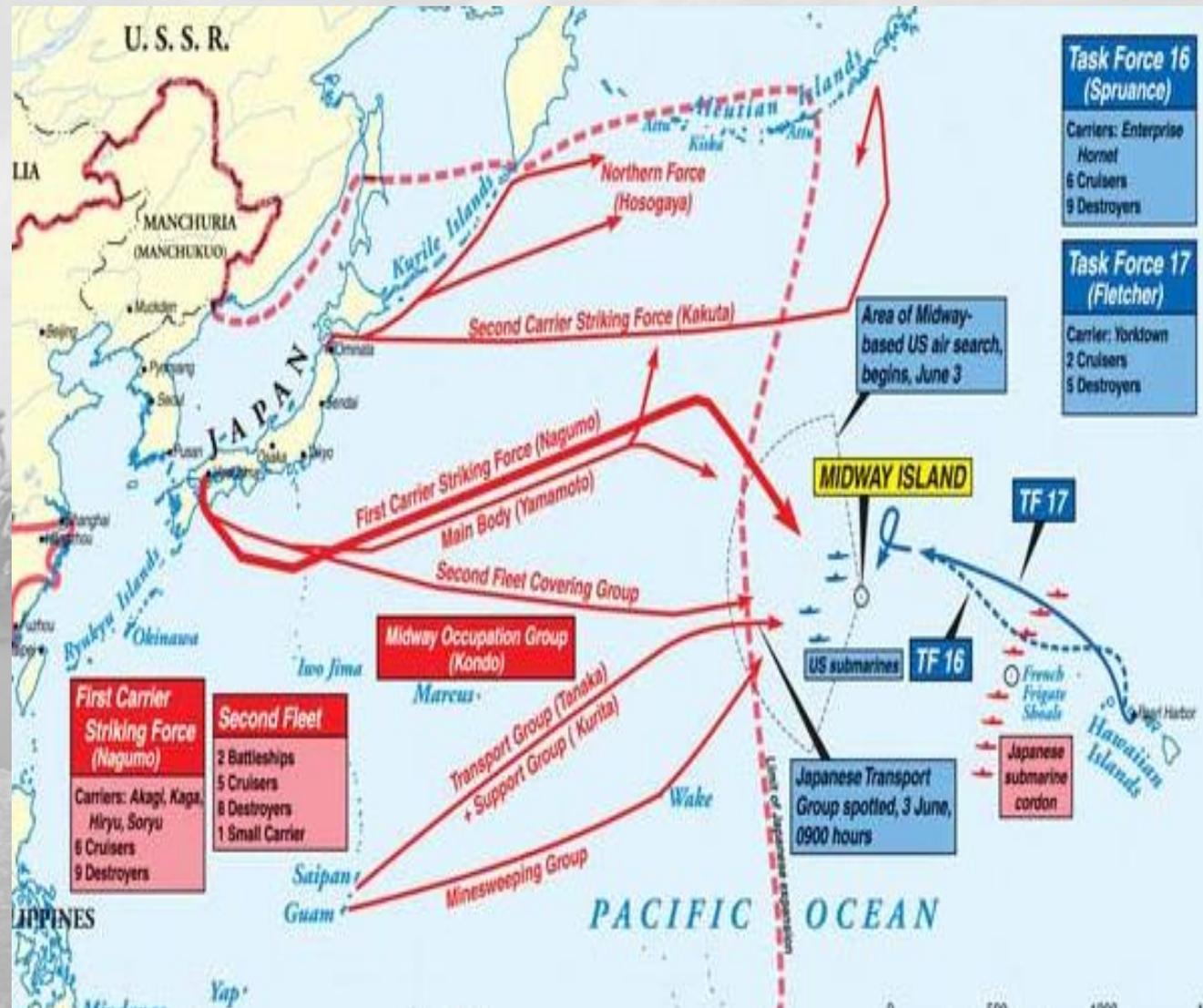
(6 months after Pearl Harbor)

-Yamamoto seeks to capture Midway Atoll and thus confront and destroy the U.S. Navy's carrier forces at Pearl Harbor; his "last-ditch" attempt

-Japanese codes deciphered in advance, countering their planned ambush

-**U.S. victory** that crippled Japan's navy and allowed the U.S. to move into an offensive position

Turning point in the Pacific Theatre



Guadalcanal: August '42 – February '43

Island near
Australia — one of
Solomon Islands

-U.S. Marines
launch surprise
attack to take a
Japanese air base

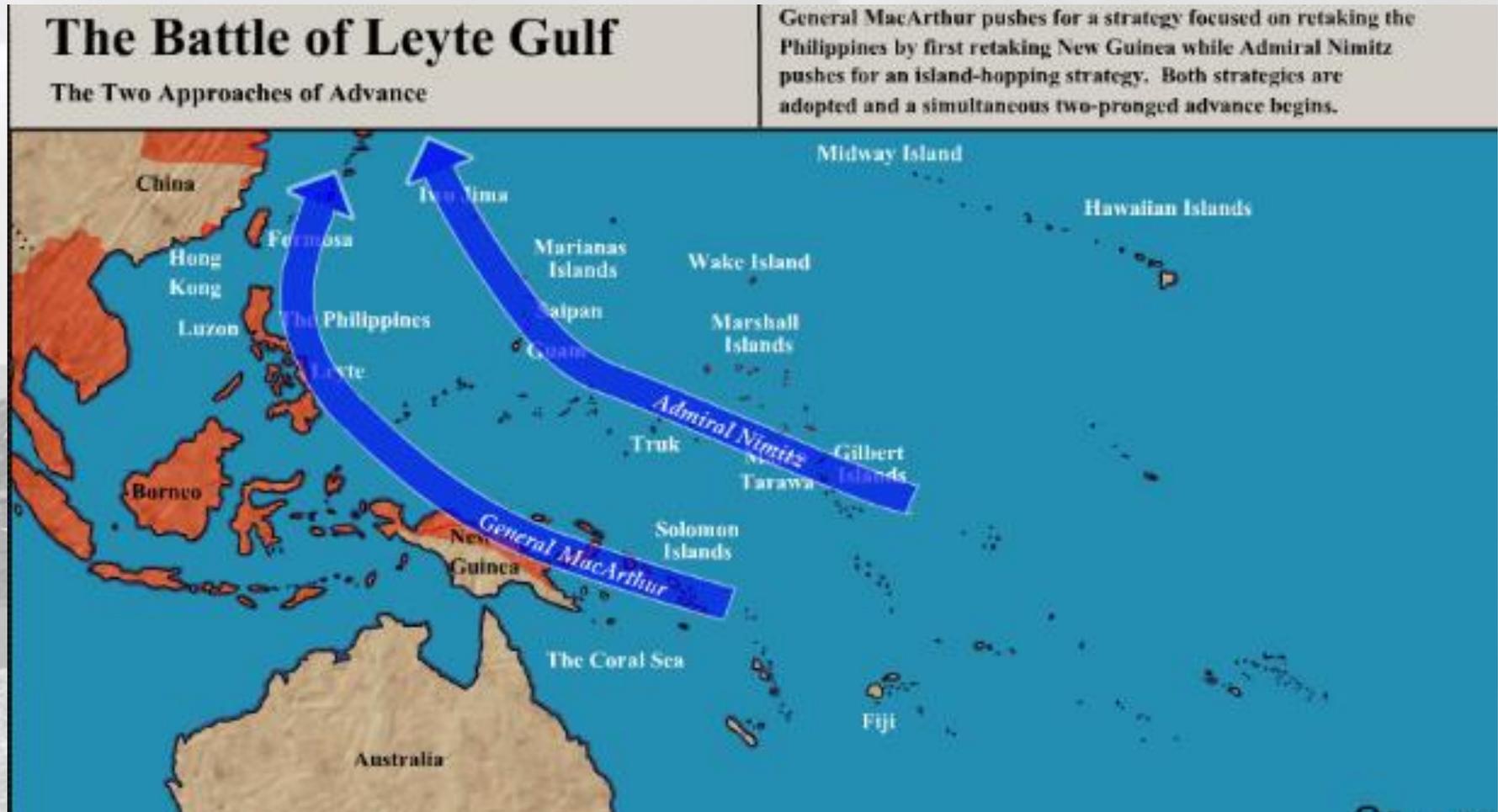
-Battles on land
and sea over 6
months;
casualties on both
sides

Results:

- 1st time U.S.
land troops
defeat
Japanese
- Americans are
able to secure
the island



23–26 October 1944 U.S. Strategy (using air and naval attack): Isolate Japan from countries it had occupied in SE Asia & deprive military and industry of vital oil supplies



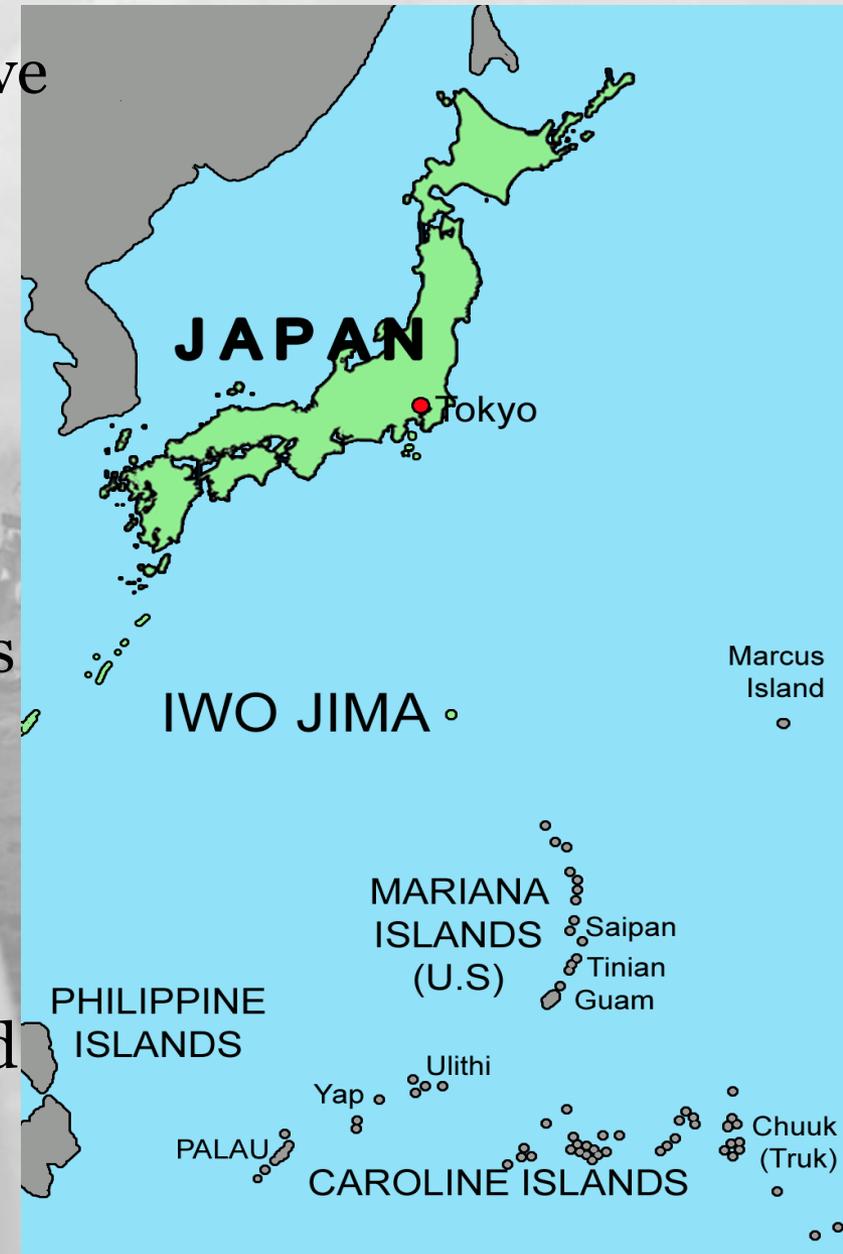
Leyte Gulf

-Japan mobilized nearly all of its remaining major naval vessels to defeat the Allied invasion but suffered a massive loss
-Kamikazes used

February-March 1945; U.S. needed a close-by Japanese island to establish a “bomber base”

- Longest sustained aerial offensive
- More Marines sent than in any other battle in the Pacific
- 100,000 men fighting on an island a 1/3rd the size of Manhattan
- Japanese dug 1,500 rooms into the rock connected with 16 miles of tunnels
- Japanese strategy: “No survivors,” each soldier instructed to kill 10 Americans before they themselves are killed
- **U.S. victory** but won “inch-by-inch”

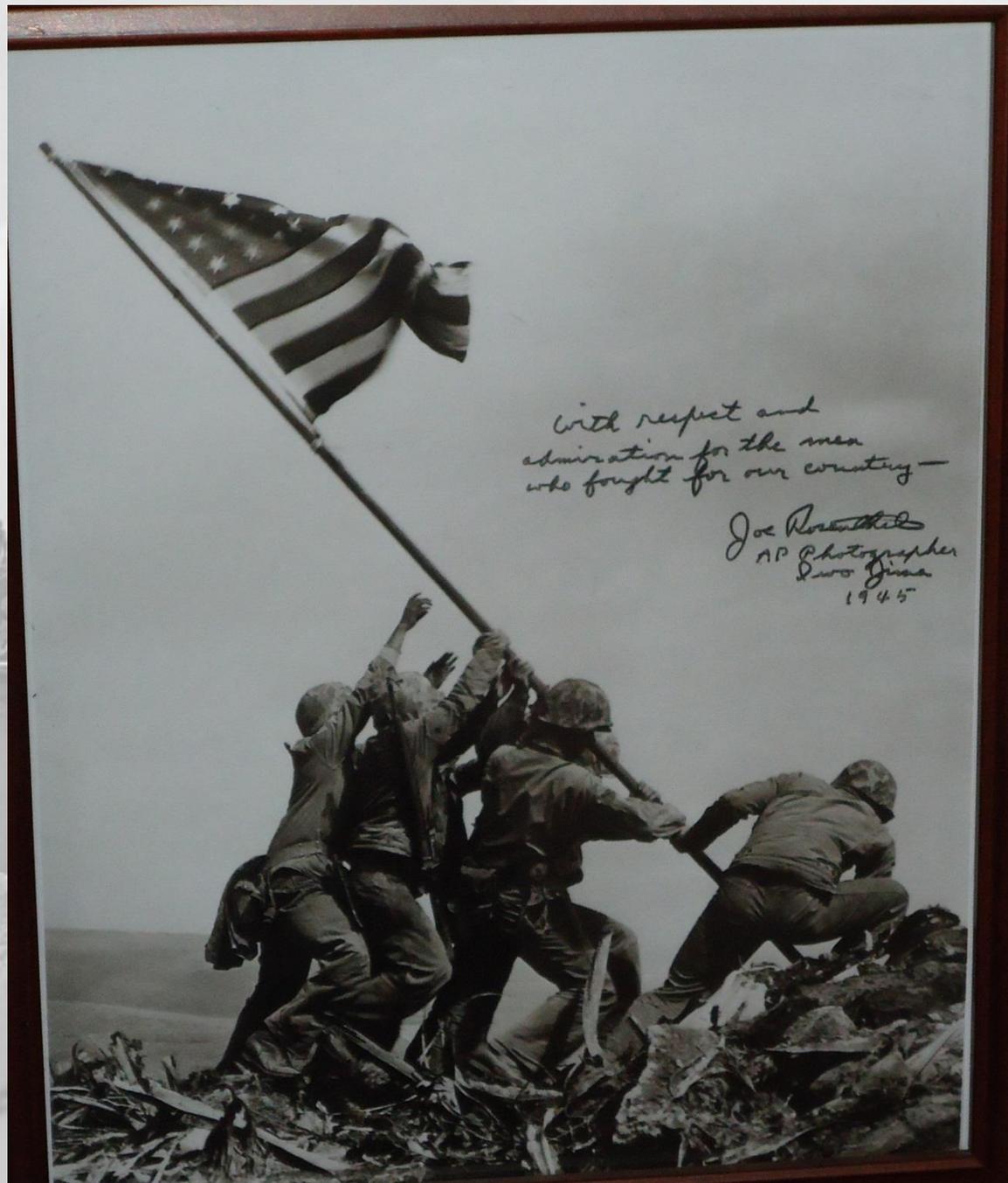
Iwo Jima



Significance:

Provides a link in the chain of bomber bases

- By the war's end, 2,400 B-29 bombers and 27,000 crewmen made emergency landings there



Okinawa

1 April – 22 June '45

Last battle before invasion of Japan; island to be used as an allied airbase

- Casualties:

- U.S. - 12,500 killed; 36,000 wounded

- Japan - 93,000 troops killed; 94,000 civilians killed (many killed themselves)

- “Kamikazes”—suicide pilots

- Crashed planes loaded with explosives
 - Sank 30 U.S. vessels

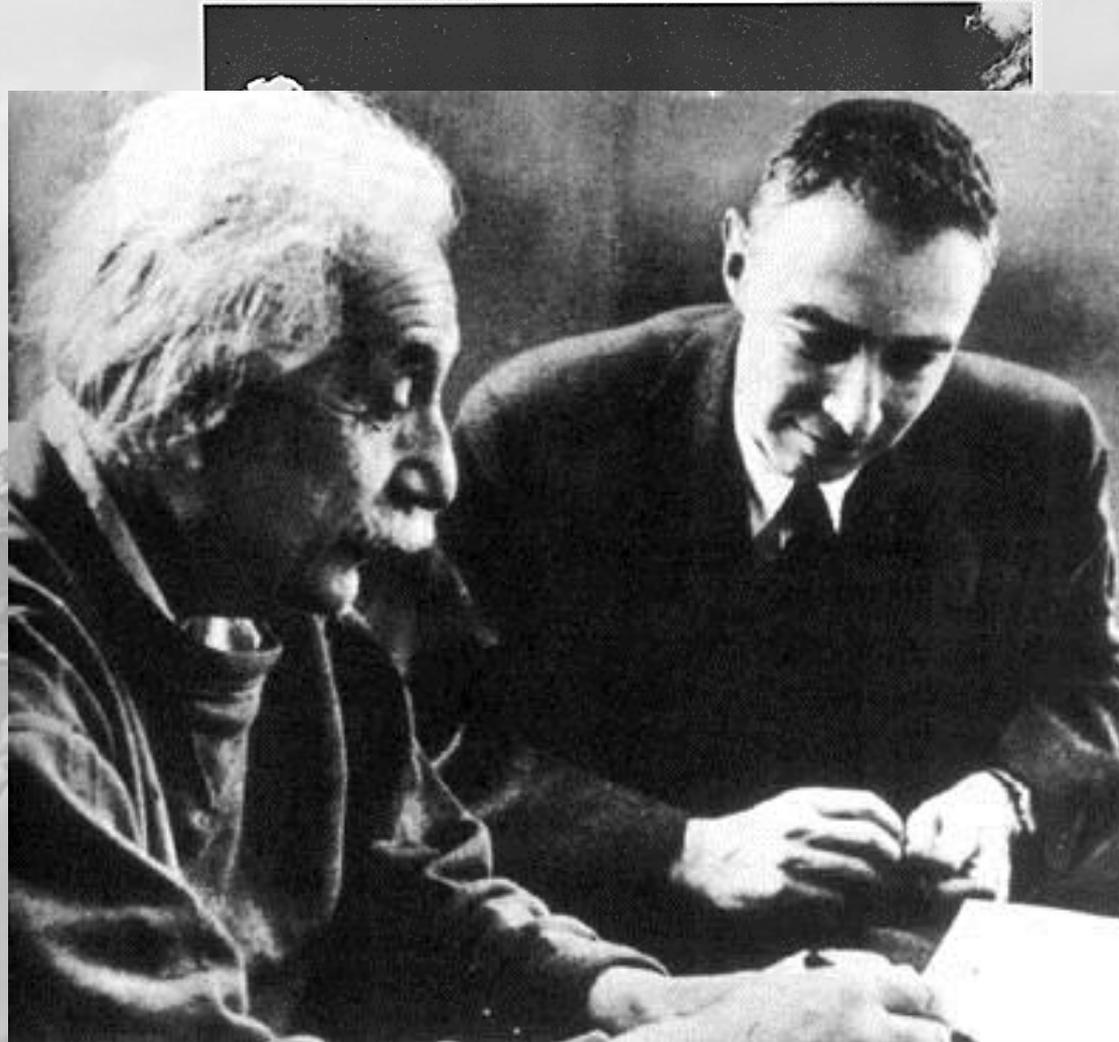
Result: **U.S. victory**

Okinawa is taken and occupied by the U.S. until '72



“Atomic Diplomacy”

- FDR had funded the top-secret “Manhattan Project” to develop an atomic bomb
- Albert Einstein wrote a letter to warn FDR about Hitler’s plan to make one
- Dr. Robert Oppenheimer successfully tested in the summer of ‘45 at Trinity Site, White Sands, NM
- FDR had died on 12 April 1945, and the decision was left to Truman
- Truman made a “moral decision” to use the bomb to save millions of lives and end the war quickly
- An amphibious invasion could cost over 350,000 Allied casualties



Hiroshima

6 August '45 - Uranium

**90,000 to 100,000 persons were
killed immediately**

145,000 killed by the end of 1945

Nagasaki

9 August '45 - Plutonium

**Leveled Area: 6.7 million
square meters**

Damaged Houses: 18,409

Casualties

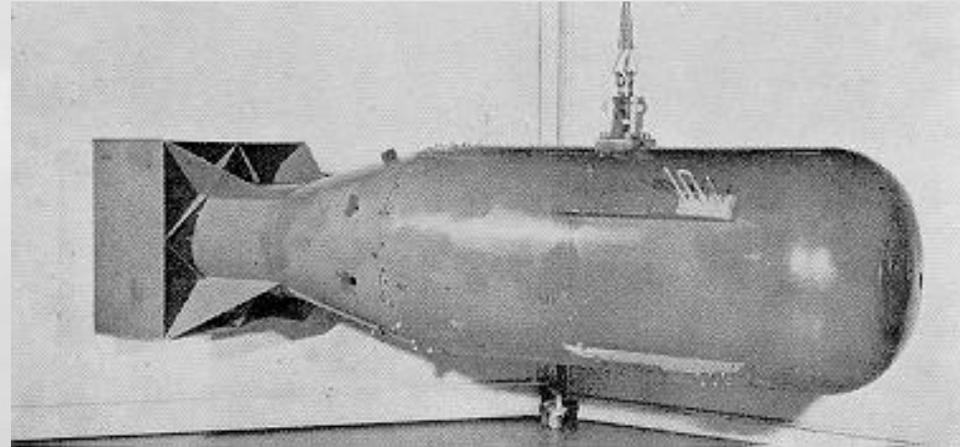
Killed: 73,884

Injured: 74,909

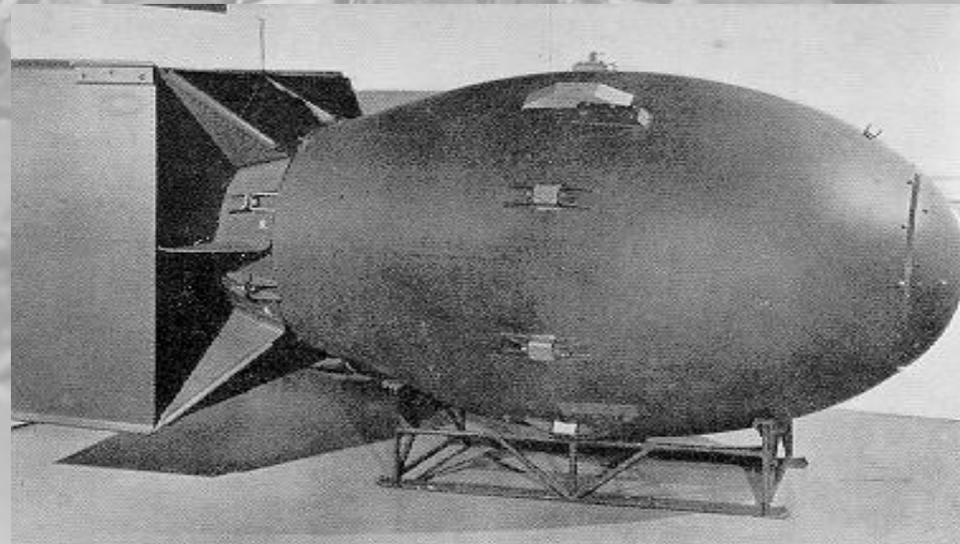
Total: 148,793

**(Large numbers of people
died in the following years
from the effects of
radioactive poisoning)**

“Little Boy”



“Fat Man”

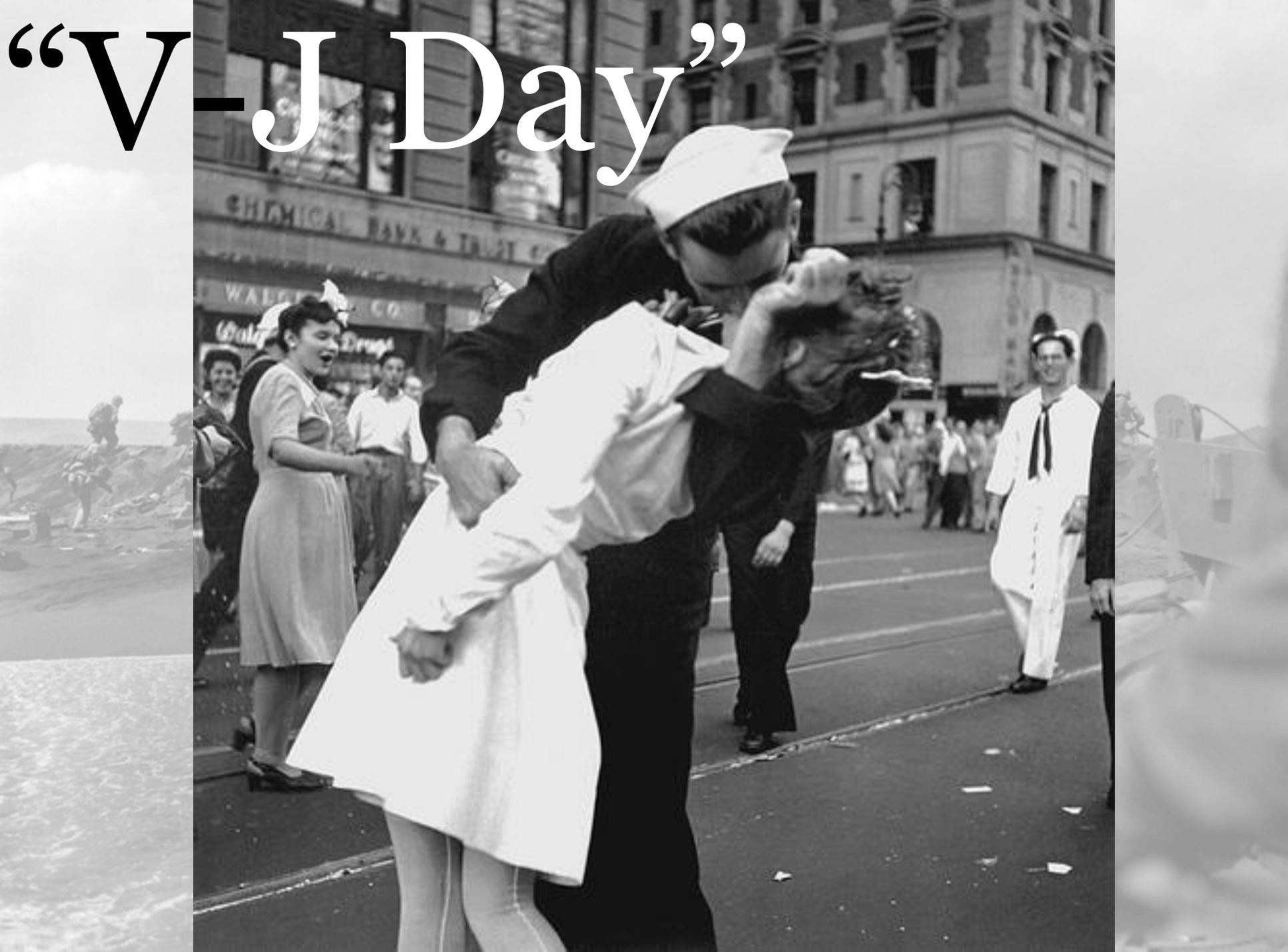


Japan Surrenders 2 September 1945



Representatives of Japan's Foreign Ministry, Army and Navy appear to sign the surrender aboard *USS Missouri* in Tokyo Bay

“V-J Day”



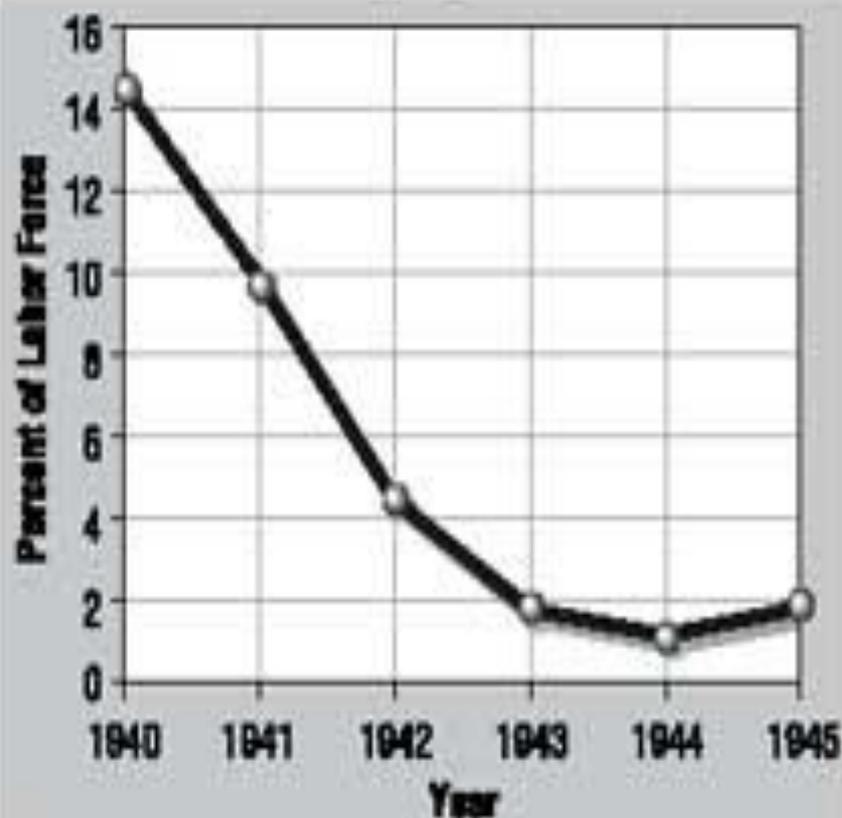
WWII – Pacific: The Cost

- Psychological, physical toll on U.S. soldiers
- Massive devastation of Japanese infrastructure
- Indigenous people of north and western Pacific islands devastated by disease, cultural contamination, collateral damage, and atrocities



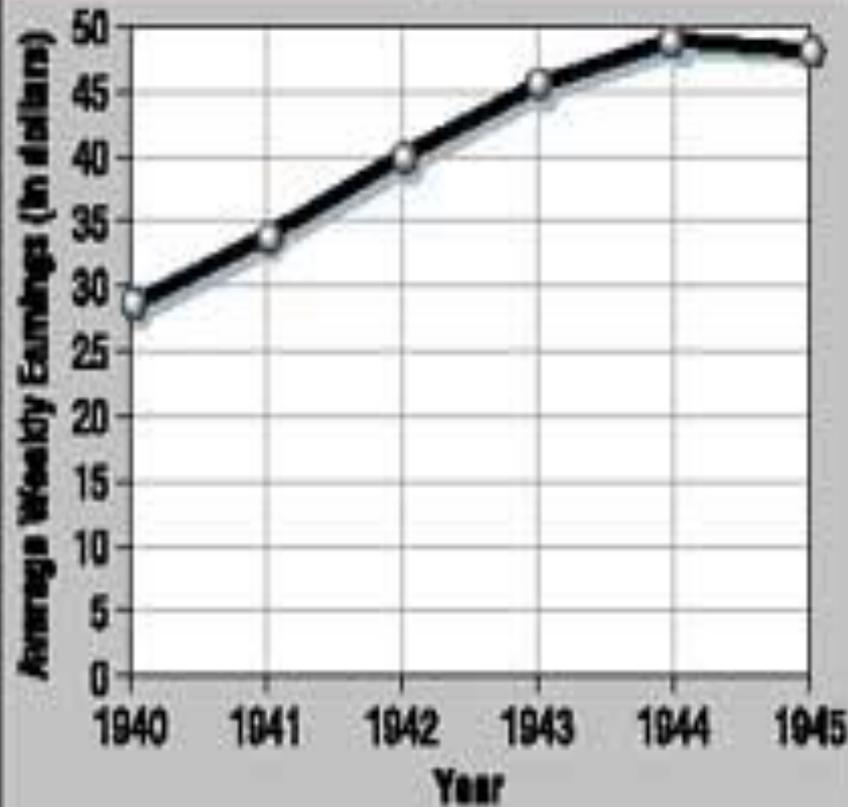
The Wartime Workers

Unemployment



Source: *Historical Statistics of the United States, Colonial Times to 1970*

Wages



Source: *Historical Statistics of the United States, Colonial Times to 1970*

Consequences of WWII:

- Soviet Union now has an agenda against the U.S.
- Unlike the isolation after WWI, the U.S. was now engaged in world affairs
- Triumph of Communists in China
- Decolonization: The independence of nations from European colonial powers

