

AAI'26

By the Strike of the Gavel.

ALTRAIN

JCC: PACIFIC WARS AGENDA ITEM: OPEN AGENDA

UNDER SECRETARY-GENERAL:
MUSTAFA DORUK DEMİR

UNDER SECRETARY-GENERAL:
EFE KOÇOĞLU

ACADEMIC ASSISTANT:
EGEMEN AYYILDIZ

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Letter From the Secretary General:

Firstly, it is with immense pride and enthusiasm that I extend my warmest welcomes to all participants of the Antalya Anatolian High School Train Model United Nations Conference 2026, taking place on April 11th-12th in Antalya.

I am Güney Deniz Ala, Secretary-General of this distinguished conference. It is both an honor and a privilege to lead this organization in this position. Model United Nations has always been far more than a simulation, it is a journey. Whether you're a more experienced delegate or a first-timer, with AALTRAIN'26 I promise unparalleled growth and inspiration.

Our Academic Team: Under-Secretary Generals, Academic Assistants, and Board Members, represent the finest minds in Antalya, each meticulously selected to deliver your committees of exceptional caliber. From beginner to advanced committees, every session has been crafted for the maximum impact.

My deepest gratitude goes to our Principal Mr. Kılıç and our dedicated advisor Mrs. Bilici, whose unwavering support made this vision reality. I extend special thanks to the AALTRAIN'26 participants, whose passion set the standard we strive to exceed, and a personal note of appreciation to my Executive Team whose brilliance knows no bounds.

As we gather, let us draw inspiration from the eternal words of Mustafa Kemal Atatürk, founder of modern Turkey:

"Ey Türk gençliği! Birinci vazifen, Türk istiklâlini, Türk Cumhuriyeti'ni, ilelebet muhafaza ve müdafaa etmektir. Mevcudiyetinin ve istikbalinin yegâne temeli budur. Bu temel, senin en kıymetli hazinendir."

To delegates: embrace the challenge, defend your interests, and leave AALTRAIN'26 having elevated your voice on the world stage. I am eager to witness your brilliance.

Sincerely,

Güney Deniz Ala

Secretary-General, AALTRAIN'26

Antalya Anatolian High School

Letter From Co-Under Secretaries General:

Dear delegates,

I am Efe Koçođlu. I am a senior student at Muhittin Mustafa B6cek Anatolian High School. I had the delight of participating in Model United Nations conferences. These conferences taught me how to see from different perspectives, how to debate, and how to make instant decisions. I also gained valuable friendships in my MUN career.

I welcome you all to this glorious committee, *JCC, The Pacific Wars*. This was my dream committee, and my dear academic team, also my friends Doruk and Egemen, helped me through this journey. I really hope you have so much fun and learn new things from this committee. As the undersecretary general of this committee, I want you to read this study guide very carefully. Don't hesitate to ask me any questions; I am online 24/7. We expect glorious things from you. There is no light without a shadow; there is no future without the past.

Efe Koçođlu

Co-Under Secretary General of JCC the Pacific Wars

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Letter from Co-Under Secretaries General:

I'm Doruk. It's a great honor for me to welcome you all to this committee. I have been waiting for this committee for too long. I hope you are as excited as I am. First of all, I kindly request all of you to read the Study Guide at least once; do not let its length intimidate you, because with this committee, you will become the very important generals who determined the next 100 years of world. Throughout the committee, you will need to develop strategies and calculate everything to wipe your opponents off the map and change the fate of Pacific.

And remember that this committee is your chance to test your leadership, challenge your opponents, and make history for your own.

Doruk Demir-05336518843

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Letter from Academic Assistant:

Dear delegates,

It's my absolute honour to be a part of this prestigious conference. My name is Egemen Ayyıldız and I'll be serving as your academic assistant through our committee. I want to start my letter with overflowing thanks to my Co-USGs, Doruk and Efe for giving me the chance to participate in this conference. They were the best academic partners I could ever ask for.

Now, while there's no doubt that we'll have a fruitful time, there are some crucial points you need to lay stress on. The first one being the study guide of ours. It's absolutely vital to read the study guide with excellent care and understand it. It will be our cornerstone to run the committee so by that means, please read it thoroughly. Another point being your attitude, it will be decisively important for the execution of our committee. Our committee relies on your efforts and knowledge suitable for this topic.

Last but not least, please be very eager to contact me on any questions you may have. I wish you the best luck out there.

Egemen AYYILDIZ

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1. What is a JCC Committee

A crisis cabinet is a specialized committee that replicates decision-making during a crisis. Individual delegates or members inside the Crisis Cabinet provide directives to guide their actions and responses to the crisis. Delegates use directives to propose specific courses of action, tactics, or policies to handle the situation. Depending on the committee structure and the course of actions currently happening in the committee, these directives can take many forms, such as individual, joint, committee, intelligence, top secret directive, and press release.

2. Directive Types and How to Write Them

Individual Directive:

Who: I will be operating this attack, and if I fall during the war, my right-hand man, Analus, will take over. 5,000 agoqe soldiers will assault the enemy.

Where: 2,500 of my soldiers will charge from the southeast frontline, and the other 2,500 will charge from the west to capture Tiryns.

How*: Soldiers will check and control their weapons before charging. They will pray, remember how brave they are, and then honour their nation and gods by demolishing the enemy. They will not disobey their commander's orders and apply the doctrine as they say. To avoid being affected by attrition, our soldiers will study their geographical situation as well as the enemy's to use in their favour. Soldiers will use an offensive phalanx formation when I order them to charge, and they will slaughter each enemy troop they face. They will use the offensive formation until they face a larger enemy force to quickly capture as many critical areas as possible. If they face a larger enemy force, to be exact, 1.5 times larger than them, they will quickly change to a defensive phalanx formation and wait for recruitment whilst defending themselves. Their priority will be killing the enemy rather than cutting supply lines. In mountain areas, they will use the highlands in their favour and quickly oppress the enemy to finish them. Once they reach the city, their priority will be killing the cabinet members of Tiryns. If possible, they will defenestrate them to entertain themselves. After the military bases and the city are captured, soldiers will go to the possible conflict areas to recruit other soldiers. Even though we sent spies before, our soldiers will be vigilant for any kind of trap. Their main objective is to capture the city, and for that purpose, they will sacrifice themselves without hesitation.

Joint Directive:

Directives written by more than one individual are considered joint directives. You write joint directives when you can only achieve your purpose in the directive by utilizing the authority of other cabinet members. Assume you are the commander of the army, and you want to take Warsaw. Yet you understand that conquering it without air superiority would be impossible, so you write a joint directive with the general of the air force. So it makes the "from:" part your name and the general of the air forces' name, and instead of a personal directive you write a Joint Directive. Everything else is the same.

Committee Directive:

A committee directive is written when you wish to use everyone's authority or when you are about to deliver your final directive (in most cases). Delegates frequently ask me, "How are we meant to write a committee directive with the other cabinet?" But that's just a common misunderstanding. You write the committee directive with your cabinet; the formal name is "Committee Directive," but it is basically a cabinet directive. So, simply writing a Committee Directive to the "from:" part will do.

Intelligence Directive:

You write intelligence directives when you want to acquire the necessary information about you or your country/cabinet. The format is exactly the same, except for the "WH Questions" part. For example:

From: Winston Churchill Intelligence Directive Date: 1942 May 3
To: Crisis Team Our Troop Counts Time: 16.21
(The Great Britain Cabinet)

How many troops does our country have? Do we possess any nuclear weapons? How many of our military factories are assigned to manufacture infantry weapons, and what kind of weapons are they producing?

Top Secret:

Top Secret directives are those that your chair is not allowed to read. You hand over your top-secret directive to the admin. They are written precisely the same, but you must fold your paper and write "TOP SECRET" on the back side of it. The major reason for writing a top-secret directive is treason, a diabolical strategy to crash one's own cabinet or to switch sides. For instance, if a person secretly kills his cabinet members and becomes the dictator, the winning condition changes, and only that person wins, whereas the cabinet loses. But I don't recommend writing top secret directives unless you're planning on writing a brilliant 10-page long directive, because failing to do so will backfire much worse. You will earn your cabinet's distrust, and you may die and be given an insignificant character. Furthermore,

updates to the Top Secret Directives are only sent to the person who sent them, unless they directly affect the other cabinet members.

3. Procedure of the Committee

The Crisis Cabinet (CC) procedure stands as a captivating and immersive experience that transcends the boundaries of traditional committee simulations. As delegates assume the roles of influential government officials and prominent leaders, they find themselves thrust into the heart of rapidly evolving crises, where decisions carry weight and consequences are immediate. The SCC format showcases the art of crisis management, diplomacy, and collaboration, as participants grapple with fictional or historical scenarios that demand quick thinking and decisive action. Within the exclusive confines of a smaller, select committee, delegates navigate the intricacies of international conflicts, natural disasters, political upheavals, and military interventions, unveiling the true essence of leadership and strategic decision-making.

Tour De Table:

In Model United Nations (MUN) crisis committees, "tour de table" is a term used to describe a specific procedure or phase of the committee session. It is a French term that translates to "turn of the table" in English.

During a tour de table, each delegate representing a country or entity in the committee takes turns speaking and sharing their country's or entity's stance, opinions, or proposed actions on the crisis at hand. This process allows all delegates to express their views and contribute to the discussion in a structured and organized manner.

Tour de table is often used at the beginning of a crisis committee session or at crucial points during the committee's work to gauge the positions and perspectives of each delegation. It helps set the stage for further debate, collaboration, and negotiation among delegates as they work to find solutions to the crisis. In a typical tour de table, the chair or moderator of the

committee will go around the room or call upon delegates in a specific order to speak. Each delegate is given a limited time (usually around 1-2 minutes) to make their statement. This process ensures that all countries or entities have an equal opportunity to be heard and participate actively in the committee's discussions.

Semi-moderated Caucus: Unlike moderated caucuses, delegates in a semi-moderated caucus are allowed to speak without the chair's permission, as long as they do not interrupt other cabinet members and treat each other with respect.

Unmoderated Caucus:

In an unmoderated caucus, delegates are free to draft any kind of paper they want to achieve their goals and support others. The majority of the cabinet's time should be spent on unmoderated caucuses rather than semi-moderated.

Unlike the General Assembly Committees, at a Joint Crisis Committee, the sessions proceed with semi-moderated caucuses and unmoderated caucuses. The reason for that is to have a smoother experience. Since the participants of a Joint Crisis Committee have already had a few experiences with how committees and MUN conferences proceed, semi and unmoderated caucuses are to advance the efficiency of debates, thus making crucial and quick decisions. It was mentioned earlier, but directives are the primary reason that a JCC's procedure is so unique. So later on with the sessions based on your chair's initiative you needn't take one or two semi-moderated caucuses before an unmoderated caucus to write directives, directly voting for an unmoderated caucus before moderates will be allowed to continue writing directives.

On a Joint Crisis Committee, after the roll call and Tour de Table, delegates take semi-moderated caucuses to discuss future actions, strategies and plans. After determining their move, delegates write down the designated act to put into practice. There isn't a General Speakers' List, resolution paper, or opening speech.

Imperial Edicts and Declarations (Ancient Press Releases)

In a contemporary committee, you would be using press releases to address the general public about any actions or situations. You can use press releases for propaganda to cleanse your own image or black propaganda to tarnish somebody else's image. You can rally the commoners to join the army or try to break apart your opponent's military.

A press release is as its name implies, an act of publishing media. Press releases are important, as a ruler is only as powerful as their flock is loyal.

Now in BCE the printing press or modern media obviously didn't exist. Yet rulers and people in positions of power have always utilized the power of controlling and speaking to the public. This can be done through declarations and edicts.

Imagine a marketplace in ancient times; you've seen it in a lot of movies. Some guy with a fanfare trots in on a horse and plays his tune, then proceeds to read loudly off a piece of parchment, addressing the people in the name of the ruler. This is basically what a declaration is. The where, when, and how are, of course, subject to your imagination, and your creativity is the limit. You may choose to deliver speeches yourself at an important ceremony or in front of your army to boost morale or approval of some sort. You may organize a whole event just for your declaration to be read. Just be creative.

An edict, on the other hand, is a little different. While a declaration is a mere giving of information, something you'd just listen to, an edict is an official order. A press release might say; Come and join your military now to help us beat our foul opponents and save your motherland from invasion!

An edict will say; By the ruler's authority, conscription has begun. Every man capable of holding a weapon must check-in for further procedure at the nearest military outpost in the next week. Citizens who fail to cooperate shall be punished.

Think of it as a "could/should" and a "must." Edicts are direct orders and might even be regarded as legislature. You might issue edicts to conscript members to your army, protect certain areas or properties, protect intellectual property, ban certain things, or allow certain things, etc. They're basically laws in short. ,

5. World Before the War

5.1) Europe Before the Second Big War

The First World War and its subsequent peace settlements gave rise to new ambitions, rivalries, and tensions. People had high expectations that the post-war peace settlement would create a new world order and ensure that the slaughter of the First World War would never be repeated.

The Treaty of Versailles, signed in June 1919, created the League of Nations, an international body intended to promote peace and prevent war. However, the treaty was an uneasy compromise, as each of the victorious Allies, Britain, America, France, and Italy, looked to pursue their own interests. Germany was forced to surrender territory, disarm, and pay for the war's damage. These divisive conditions were criticized as overly vindictive by many in Britain and America. The treaty's terms caused immediate outrage and lasting bitterness in Germany.

The sense of defeat, humiliation, and injustice would have a significant impact on German foreign and domestic policies, and calls to revise the terms of the treaty became a major aspect of international politics in the 1920s and 1930s. The period between the two world wars was one of instability and insecurity. Political, economic, and social unrest was made worse by the collapse of the international economy in 1929.

5.2) Asia Before the Pacific Wars

Before the Pacific Wars started, Asia was full of colonies and under the control of major powers. The purpose of those powers was to gain military power, taking control of the region

and taking all of the mines and resources into their hands. Also, there was a bigger threat than those major powers, and that threat was the Japanese Empire.

Japan had a glorious and powerful army. With the revolution, they quickly upgraded their industry, and with that, they were nearly unstoppable in the region, and no country was powerful enough to stand against them. In 1931, the Mukden Incident happened. Japan conquered the Mukden, and they placed a puppet government named Manchukuo. In 1937, Japan planned an attack on China, and they killed and tortured millions of people. There was a Holocaust-like example, the Nanjing Massacre. Japan was nearly unstoppable.

China was having a civil war. Civil war was damaging their economy and their military power, and that was an opportunity for the most powerful countries. But in the end communist side won the civil war in China.

6. The Situation in Japan Before the War

6.1) Political situation

In 1918, Hara Takashi, the leader of the conservative party Seiyūkai, assumed the position of prime minister. He was the first person of modest origins to take this role, and his success

was taken as a good sign by Western observers. His success ultimately diminished the power of the feudal government's elder statesmen and military leaders. The 1920 elections supported Hara, but Hara was assassinated by a fanatic on 4 November 1921. His finance minister, Takahashi Korekiyo, was then made party president and served for seven months before resigning. Two Genro members then dictated the election of Admiral Katō Tomosaburō as the new Prime Minister.



Kato represented Japan at the Washington Naval Conference, at which the Allied powers made an agreement fixing the proportional number of battleships that each could possess: five for the United States, five for England, and three for

Japan. The Allies compensated Japan with a four-power pact, giving Japan the right of unlimited land armaments without restrictions and protection against Western intervention in East Asia. Kato's program strictly followed the Washington accords, which meant a guarantee of unrestrained Japanese action in the East at the expense of a relatively inferior naval position.

Kato's death in 1923, followed by a terrible earthquake that devastated Japan in the same year, necessitated a reorganization and reconstruction of the nation's damaged economy. At this time, one independent party was formed, while the following governments included moderate elements. But in 1927, this short liberal period ended when Baron Giichi Tanaka, leader of the Seiyūkai, a minority party in the Diet, rose to power.

The Imperial Japanese Army was impatient for control of the Diet, while the political class was anxious to gain power over industrial expansion; previously, the rotation of parties in power had permitted each party a turn at benefiting from generous contracts and corruption, leading to an informal accord between them. A whole sequence of scandals, however, led to an appreciation of the Imperial Army's National Feudal Honor Code as a bulwark against the fraudulent politics of the traditional parties.

Since the Meiji Period, Japan has been a constitutional monarchy. However, the name did not obscure the fact that Japan's form of government was more akin to an aristocracy. technocratic oligarchy.

In World War I, Japan fought alongside the Allied Powers. In 1915, Japan presented its Twenty One Demands to China. The demands used the war as a pretext for gaining additional territorial holdings in China. When the United States entered the war in 1917, Japan signed the Lansing Ishii Agreement, which prevented interference with the Open Door Policy that allowed all nations to engage in commerce with China. With the Allied victory over the Central Powers, Japan gained many German possessions in China, including the Shandong Peninsula. Japan also received the South Seas Mandate from the League of Nations and also actively used the mandate to gain control over various islands in the South Pacific. Japan used economic development and immigration to push its expansionary goals as an empire.

This period of time is widely known as the "reconciliation period," during which great riots occurred, menacing the dominion of government gangs.

The more moderate elements, meeting to form the Minseito democratic party, presented a challenge to the military. In 1930, the Minseito Party obtained a decisive majority in the Diet: 273, against 174 for the military followers. Minseito fielded two prime ministers: Osachi Hamaguchi, who had served as prime minister since July 2, 1929, and Wakatsuki Reijiro, who took over after Hamaguchi retired due to wounds sustained in an assassination attempt. Wakatsuki retired on 13 December 1931 after he could no longer control the army in Manchuria. The Seiyukai Party then took control, installing Inukai Tsuyoshi as prime minister.

The world situation remained unsettled, causing some effects in Japan, which remained in a heavy industrial crisis. Needing to display some drastic action, the military decided to invade Manchuria. One of the military's principal motives was to eliminate the rising spirit of social criticism and insecurity. In 1925, universal suffrage for men was granted, which led to the formation of the Laborists and the Peasant Party. There were more liberals and radicals in the universities. Very few of them accepted the religious myth that the Mikado was the descendant of the eternal ages of Amaterasu Omikami and the religious paraphernalia associated with emperor worship. These Japanese were more modern in their viewpoints on the economy, politics, science, and Western ideas; the militarists and their supporters said they upheld "pernicious and dangerous ideas."

In reality, power passed to General Sadao Araki, a military man with feudal ideas profoundly hostile to Western civilization. During his administration, the police reprisals and prosecutions of independent and advanced thinkers were reminiscent of the days of Tsarism in Imperial Russia. A large proportion of the intellectual class was detained while books and newspapers were reduced to the authoritarian formula.



6.2) Army situation

a) The Beginning 1932 - 1937

In 1932, Admiral Saitō Makoto and War Minister General Araki formed a government with no political parties. Admiral Keisuke Okada succeeded Saito as Prime Minister, continuing the revocation of moderate policy in 1920 when they denounced the then unpopular Washington Naval Treaty.

The Japanese continued to increase their diplomatic pressures over China. The Emperor of Manchukuo gave Henry Puyi the title of Kang Ten and commenced their advance in North China, threatening Peking and Tientsin. Hostilities began in 1932, with one attack on Shanghai, but the Tanggu Truce (1933) between Japan and China fixed a demilitarized zone at the south of the Great Wall, where the Chinese were prohibited from stationing troops.

In 1934, the Japanese challenged China with a sovereign demand over North China, which included Japanese advisers in the Chinese central government. With these successes, the Japanese government called for general elections in 1936. Despite strong police suppression

of "dangerous ideas," the most moderate party, Minseito, defeated the government with a vote of 205 to 124, and they also gained support from the Labor Party. The extremist militarist party, supported by the Fascists, elected 20 members, or 15 percent of the Diet.

Six days after the elections, there was a wave of political assassinations in Japan. Among the victims were Admiral Saito, Viscount Takahashi, and General Jōtarō Watanabe. Prime Minister Okada was saved when one of the assassins confused him for another person. The Emperor was alarmed at the magnitude of these actions.

The army, concerned about losing control, reorganized itself. Kōki Hirota became prime minister, but the army controlled the War Ministry. Hirota knew why the Chinese situation would wait no longer. The Manchukuo disillusionment over the economic needs of Japan, still with their railway developed, establishing petrol and coal monopolies, and some intents of colonization, the Japanese buying of Soviet Russia of the East Chinese Railway, and other developments. But the double way in the Soviet line in the Trans-Siberian Railway and industrial expansion in the Far East and Siberia meant Japan had to go into debt in order to maintain a presence on the Russian frontier.

The fight against "bandits" had a cost in money and lives, maintained for all these countries a virtually disordered situation like the times of the "warlord" Zhang Zuolin before 1928. Diplomatic pressures of Prime Minister Hirota over China caused the militarists to overthrow him in 1936. Japan signed the Anti Comintern Pact in November 1936, becoming an ally of Germany. The treaty, a provocation to the Soviets, added to several incidents between Japan and Russia, and Senjūrō Hayashi formed a right wing government. In the 1937 elections, the Japanese electorate indicated its opposition to expansionism. The government then abolished elections, and Fumimaro Konoe formed a government on May 31, 1937.

b) Confusion within the empire 1937 - 1944

In July 1937, Prime Minister Konoë began open hostilities against China, which escalated into a full scale, undeclared war the following month. The Japanese called it the "Chinese Incident" to downplay their invasion. In October 1937, Konoë approved the National Mobilization Law. Since 1935, Japanese leaders had declared the country's intention to establish "a new order in Asia". China wanted to replace Chiang Kai-shek, and Western interests wanted the Soviets to retreat west of Lake Baikal. The Japanese government and the military proposed the Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere. Despite efforts to "put ... the aggressor in quarantine", the USS Panay was deliberately sunk by Japanese Navy dive bombers in the Yangtze River.

Two Japanese incursions were made into Soviet territory during the spring of 1938 and 1939: the Battle of Lake Khasan and the Manchurian Mongolian; both were Japanese defeats. More right wing activity began when Hiranuma Kiichirō became prime minister, and the August 23, 1939, Molotov Ribbentrop Pact rattled Japanese diplomacy. Nobuyuki Abe became prime minister, and the United States denounced the defunct Anglo Japanese Alliance. Mitsumasa Yonai succeeded Abe as prime minister. In turn, Fumimaro Konoë succeeded Yonai as prime minister and formed a totalitarian, right wing government in July 1940.

On September 27, 1940, Japan signed the Tripartite Pact, primarily directed against the United States. Foreign Minister Yōsuke Matsuoka, who withdrew Japan from the League of Nations in 1933, engineered the April 13, 1941, Soviet Japanese Neutrality Pact. Special envoy Saburō Kurusu and Japanese ambassador to the United States Kichisaburō Nomura attempted to negotiate peace in Washington weeks before the December 7, 1941, attack on Pearl Harbor. The Japanese were initially successful in the Pacific and Southeast Asia, sinking the Royal Navy's Prince of Wales and the Repulse three days after Pearl Harbor, invading the Philippines, the Dutch East Indies, Malaya, and Burma, and threatening northern Australia and eastern India. Hideki Tojo had become prime minister on October 17, 1941; before his replacement by Kuniaki Koiso on July 22, 1944, the war had turned against Japan in the summer of 1943, except for some aspects of the Chinese campaign.

7. The Situation in the USA Before the War

7.1) Political Situation

a)Isolationism and Lend Lease Act

Following World War I, the lost generation and the prices paid had pushed America into a long-lasting policy of Isolationism, and the wounds of the Great Depression had not yet healed. The public and Congress were of the opinion that the wars in Europe and Asia "did not concern America," and the military moves being made were frequently criticized by public opinion. The most distinct evidence of this period was the Neutrality Acts enacted in 1935; this law largely prevented America's arms trade, and credit and arms trade to countries in active war were banned. However, upon Germany's invasion of Poland in 1939, this law was relaxed for the allies (especially Britain and France), and the way was cleared for these states to receive weapons and credit.



However, as the war in Europe grew, the **Lend-Lease Act** was approved by the Senate to help the allied states, which were crushed under the financial burden brought by the war and whose cash reserves were exhausted; in this way, the USA: The law allowed the sending of weapons, ammunition, aircraft, ships, and foodstuffs to any country whose defense was deemed vital to the security of the USA. Furthermore, this law ended the **Isolationism** policy of the USA and played a critical role in the Western States' holding on throughout the war; this situation increased the USA's tension with Germany and, although the de facto war had not started, it formed the

parties.

b)The Invasion of China and the USA

By the end of the 1930s, Japan had completed its industrial leap and become a regional power; with this aim, it wanted to expand and close the raw material deficit brought by the Japanese mainland. Its first step on this path was the invasion of Manchuria. Following this, Japan declared war against China in 1937 to take control of China's raw materials and manpower and to sustain its industrialization.

However, this situation was restricting the USA's trade in China and the Pacific and threatening its security in the Philippines; yet the USA could not launch a military operation due to domestic politics and policy requirements. For this reason, various embargo decisions were taken starting from 1938; these were, primarily, the limitation of the export of aviation fuel and some strategic materials, followed by steel and metal, and finally, the Oil Embargo in 1941.

The most critical problem for Japan was oil; in this period, Japan met 80% of all its oil through the USA, and the continuity of the China war was completely dependent on American oil. All alternative oil sources were in the hands of the Allies. In this case, the oil stocks would be exhausted within 1-2 years, and the China war would reach an unsustainable dead end. Under these circumstances, Japan either had to withdraw from China or reach the oil resources in Southeast Asia. During this process, the tension between Japan and the USA continued, and the USA's demands were evaluated as impossible by Japanese policy; these requests were fundamentally focused on withdrawing from China.

7.2) Army situation

Until the USA was drawn into World War II, it had an army that could be considered small; this was fundamentally a result of military doctrine. Especially until 1939, the number of active infantry was limited to 190,000, and the number of armored units in active service was much fewer. In January 1939, only 9 divisions were actively in service and ready for active duty; additionally, since World War I, modernization for the ground army could not be carried out fast enough, and the army was having difficulty getting used to new generation rifles. Furthermore, compared to the giants of Europe, armored units and their usage were almost non-existent. Moreover, policies indicated that this situation would not change in a short time.

When the war started in Europe in 1939, modernization in the army gained momentum, but



there were still no major breakthroughs until September 16, 1940; on this date, the Selective Training and Service Act was published, and this act was the USA's first peacetime mandatory military service law. This law made service mandatory for those between the ages of 21–35. This law caused a massive leap in the number of active personnel. The USA made the fastest mobilization and industrial breakthroughs history has ever seen and quadrupled the number of active personnel in 4 years.

The USA proceeded with several basic principles throughout the war; these were fundamentally Industrial

Warfare and Combined Arms. These doctrines basically involved leaving Japan behind industrially through its resource problems and isolation, and using Air, Naval, and Ground forces in full coordination. Especially the attrition of the Japanese army in the China war caused it to be unable to catch up with US industry. Furthermore, the Pacific war, unlike a normal land war, required overcoming thousands of small islands and vast distances; this made the logistical aspect of the war more important than ever. In this direction, the Americans adapted their doctrines accordingly:

Island Hopping: This doctrine viewed the islands not as a target but as strategic supply points. In this direction, most Japanese islands were bypassed, and only strategic islands suitable for

the army's resupply were targeted. This allowed forces to be concentrated at certain points, and these islands were later used as supply points for Southeast Asia.

Additionally, the US army was equipped with specialized equipment for amphibious operations. Especially this equipment was designed for making landings in the mild and rainy climate of the Pacific

8. Outbreak of the Pacific War

8.1) Diplomatic Tensions and the War Declaration

Diplomatic relations between Japan and the United States go back a somewhat long way in history. US Commodore Matthew Perry opened trade relations with Japan in 1854. President Theodore Roosevelt played a respectable role in the signing of the 1905 peace treaty in the Russo-Japanese War that ended favorable to Japan. The two signed a Commerce and Navigation Treaty in 1911. It's worth mentioning that Japan also sided along with France, US, and Great Britain during World War 1.

During that time, Japan also aimed to form an empire modeled after Britain. It was no secret that they wanted economic control of the Asia-Pacific Region.

By 1931 however, the relationship between the US and Japan started to go sour. Japan's civilian government, unable to cope with the strains of the global Great Depression, had given way to a militarist government. The regime was prepared to reinforce the Japanese in terms of economy and more by annexing areas in the Asia-Pacific and it started with China.

In 1931, the Japanese launched attacks on Manchuria, overpowering them with ease. Japan announced that they annexed Manchuria and renamed it as "Manchukuo". The United States refused to diplomatically recognize the addition of Manchuria to Japan as Secretary of State Henry Stimson stated it in the so-called "Stimson Doctrine." However, the response was only diplomatic and the US didn't mean any economic or military sanction.

If we need to speak the truth, it was obvious that the US did not want to disrupt its trading relations with Japan. In addition to a variety of consumer goods, the U.S. supplied

resource-poor Japan with most of its scrap iron and steel. Most importantly, it sold Japan 80 percent of its oil.

In a series of treaties in the 1920s, the US and Great Britain tried to limit the size of Japan's naval fleet. Except they did not attempt to cut Japan's supply of oil. When Japan was going against China, they did it with American oil.

In 1937, Japan began an all-out war with China, attacking near Peking and Nanking. The Japanese did not only kill Chinese soldiers, but also women and children. The so-called "Rape of Nanking" was a total disgrace of human rights.

In 1935 and 1936, the US Congress passed Neutrality Acts to prevent the US from selling material to countries at war. These acts were taken to inhibit the US from going into another conflict such as World War I. President D. Roosevelt signed the acts even though he did not like them as they blocked the US from helping allies in need.

Still, the acts weren't in effect until President Roosevelt implemented them which he did not in the case of Japan and China. He favored China in the crisis. By not invoking the 1936 act, he could still shuttle aid to the Chinese.

The US didn't directly oppose Japan's actions until 1939. That year, the US declared that they were withdrawing from the 1911 Treaty of Commerce and Navigation with Japan, referring to the upcoming end of trade with Japan. Japan continued its path of seizing China and in 1940, Roosevelt put up a partial embargo consisting of oil, gasoline and metals. This move dragged Japan to consider radical options. They had no intention in giving up on their expansion plan and they were getting ready to move into French Indochina. With a total American embargo on their door, Japanese militarists started to investigate oil fields in the Dutch East Indies to replace American oil. That idea also meant militarical challenges, as American-governed Philippines and American Pacific Fleet -which was based at Pearl Harbor- were between Japan and the Dutch possessions.

In July 1941, the inevitable happened and the US declared a total embargo on resources against Japan and froze all Japanese assets in American institutions. American policies got Japan to the corner; with the approval of Japanese Emperor Hirohito, the navy started to plan an attack on Pearl Harbor, the Philippines and other bases located in the Pacific in December to open the route leading to the Dutch East Indies.

The Japanese still kept some doors open in terms of diplomacy in any chance of negotiation to end the embargo. However, all and any hope vanished on November 26, 1941,

When US Secretary of State Cordell Hull handed Japanese ambassadors the “Hull Note” in Washington DC.

The note claimed that any chance to end the embargoes for Japan was to:

- Withdraw all troops from China,
- Withdraw all troops from Indochina,
- End the alliance they signed with Germany and Italy the previous year.

Obviously, Japan could not accept these terms. By the time the Hull was delivered to Japanese diplomats, the imperial armadas were on their way to Hawaii and the Philippines. World War II in the Pacific was only about time now.

8.2) Mobilisation, Early and Late Campaigns

On 7th December 1941, the Japanese Empire started the Pacific War with a surprise attack on Pearl Harbor, heavily damaging the US Pacific Fleet. And with the declaration of war coming from Germany and Italy, the USA found itself in a global conflict. Japan launched a cruel attack that swept out the US territories of Guam, Wake Island, and the Philippines, as well as British-controlled Hong Kong, Malaya, and Burma. Even with a damaged fleet and a nation unprepared for a war, the US and its allies decided to save Britain and eliminate the German threat first.

On the other side however, the Japanese grayed out their eyes; they were determined to finish what they started at Pearl Harbor and wanted to knock out the USA's fleet so badly, they would yearn for peace. With its battleship fleet crippled in Hawaii, the US Navy turned to two surviving assets. Aircraft carriers and submarines mounted a serious challenge to Japan's triumphant fleet and were critical to protecting mainland America. While America's attacks on merchant fleets and naval forces of Japan turned from basic plundering to all-out attacks, the lessons learned in the process were deadly and important.

In 1942, the situation was a mess in the Pacific. Upcoming news arrived in the USA was all about how Japan was forging a great empire; and how they secured a defensive perimeter reaching Solomon Island from Alaska. In the southwest Pacific, the Japanese threatened to cut USA's supply lines with Australia, making it hard to use Australia as a base for offensive action.

But within months, the tide started to turn. Allies in Australia and New Zealand managed to halt Japanese offense and put up some long counterattacks across the Pacific. As they advanced through Japan, they made sure to bomb Japanese territory, especially little islands and jungles of New Guinea and Philippines. The goal was to secure airfields which then later could become the bases for their offensive.

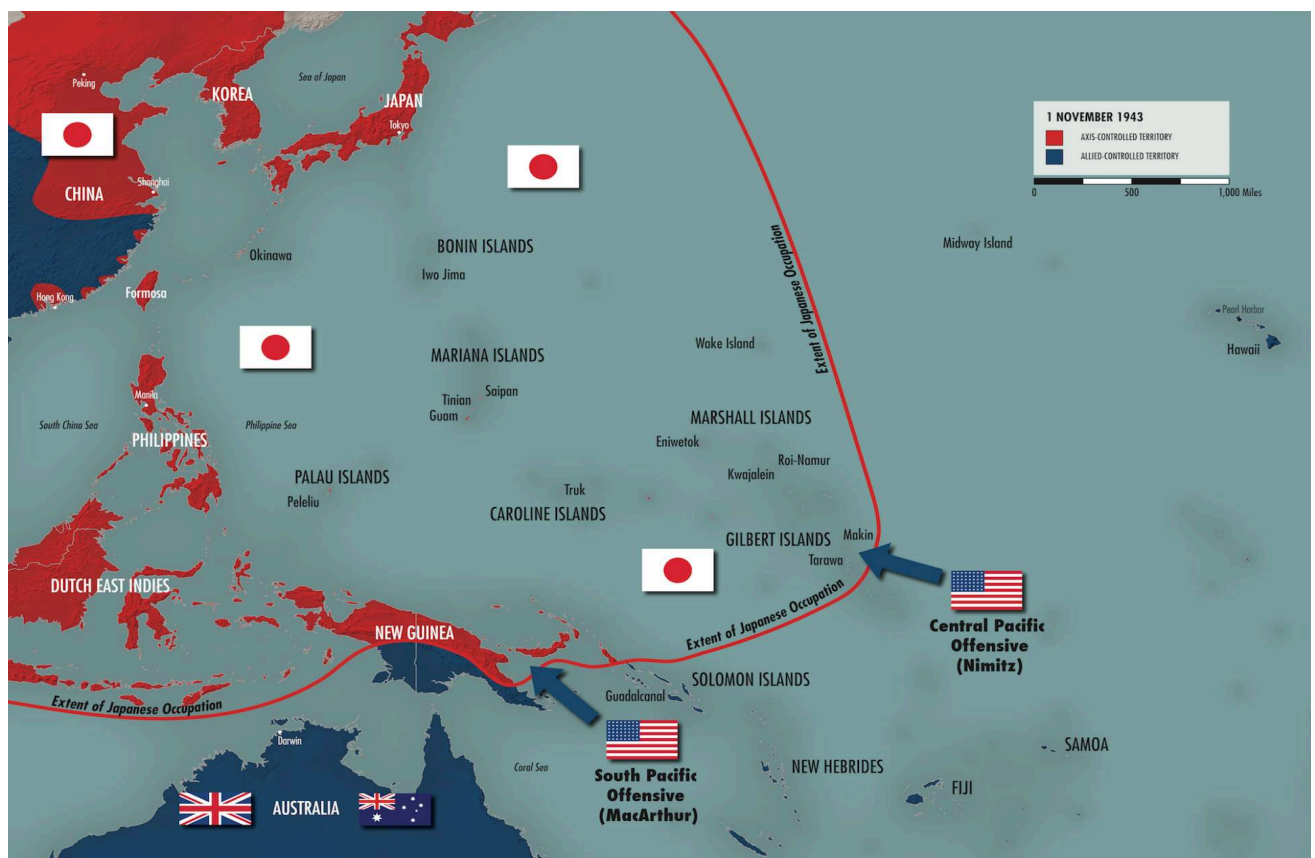
In early May 1942, US and Japanese carrier forces clashed in the Battle of the Coral Sea. While both sides gave major losses, it helped the Americans understand the Japanese offensive as it was the first major one they encountered yet. And the next month in the battle of Midway, the USA gained significant victory; dealing a large blow to the Japanese navy and sinking four aircraft carriers. This was the turning point of the Pacific War. Shifting the power from one another, Midway Battle allowed US forces to take offensive for the first time. The Allies soon set their sights on Guadalcanal in the Solomon Islands and on New Guinea.

In August 1942, with the USA using one-of-a-kind landing ships made by Higgins Industries; they pinned their first amphibious landing in World War II at Guadalcanal. By capturing a strategic airfield at the island, the USA halted Japanese attempts to cut their supply chains leading to Australia and New Zealand. The invasion ignited a ferocious struggle marked by seven major naval battles, three major land battles, and almost continuous air combat as both sides sought to control Henderson Field, named after Loy Henderson, an aviator killed at the Battle of Midway. For six months the US soldiers clashed bravely to keep the island for themselves, and in the end, this battle became the first vital step for allies to drive Japan back in the Pacific War.

With Guadalcanal in America's hands, allies pushed to Rabaul in New Britain. As forces under the command of Admiral William F. "Bull" Halsey moved north through the Solomons, General Douglas MacArthur's troops pushed west along the northern coast of Papua New Guinea, grinding out a hard-fought victory by March 1943. But rather than risking a possible loss with an invasion on heavily guarded Rabaul, the US generals came up with a genius plan: Allied ships and air forces would keep Rabaul busy with constant striking leading to a neutralization while MacArthur's forces pushed westward to invade less guarded islands. This practice was later called "island hopping." As Japanese strongholds were in isolation because of the heavy bombardment, they would shatter in hunger and

disease. This technique made long distances US allies and they used it to manage over the vast Pacific.

In addition to “hopping” from one island to a less guarded another, the Americans also seized a new key feature, pressing on two fronts. As MacArthur’s troops leapt from island to island in the southwest Pacific, a central Pacific campaign began with the invasion of Tarawa in the Gilbert Islands in November 1943. By the end of the year, a two-pronged assault on Japan was well underway.




In the beginning of 1944, the Pacific was largely under allied control. By February, the Allies were pushing over in the central Pacific. Naval and air strikes broke Japanese power in the area, swiping out their bases and strongholds, and after some intense battles and bloody campaigns, most of the Central Pacific was secure. As the islands in the Marshall and Mariana chains fell to US Army and Marines forces by that summer, troops constructed airfields in preparation for air strikes on Japan itself. The Marianas were a respectable valuable asset since they were located close enough to Japan in order for the USA to use their technologically improved B-29 bombers on the mainland.

As the United States geared up for this aerial bombardment of Japan, military leaders lobbied to continue their campaigns in the southwest and central Pacific. In the southwest, General Douglas MacArthur and Admiral Chester W. Nimitz pushed for an assault on the Philippines, while in the central Pacific, Admiral Ernest J. King pressed for an attack on Formosa (now Taiwan).

You can see an example of Pacific War timeline below:

TIMELINE

- 
- 1941
 - Japanese invade Pearl Harbor, 7 Dec.
 - U.S. declares war on Japan, 8 Dec.
 - Japanese invade Philippines, 10 Dec.
 - Hong Kong surrenders, 25 Dec.
 - 1942
 - Japanese take Singapore, 15 Feb.
 - Battle of Java Sea, 27-29 Feb.
 - Netherlands East Indies falls to Japan
 - U.S. troops on Bataan forced to surrender, 9 Apr.
 - Doolittle bombing raid on Tokyo, 18 Apr.
 - Battle of Coral Sea, 6-8 May
 - Battle of Midway, 3-6 June
 - Japan seizes Attu & Kiska in Aleutians, 7 June
 - Guadalcanal Campaign, 7 Aug. 1942- 9 Feb. 1943
 - 1943
 - Buna captured, 22 Jan
 - “Island hopping” in Solomon Islands begins, 30 June
 - Lae falls, 4 Sept.
 - Boughanville invaded, 1 Nov.
 - U.S. takes Tarawa & Makin, 20-23 Nov.
 - New Britain invaded, 29 Dec.
 - 1944
 - Operations on Kwajalein, 31 Jan.-4 Feb.
 - Invasion of Eniwetok, 17-20 Feb.
 - Admiralty Islands invaded, 29 Feb.
 - Amphibious assault at Hollandia, 22 April
 - Invasion of Saipan, 15 June-9 July
 - Battle of the Philippine Sea, 18-19 June
 - Tojo resigns, 18 July
 - Invasion of Guam, 21 July-8 August
 - Invasions of Morotai & Palau Islands, 15 Sept.
 - MacArthur lands in Philippines, 20 Oct.
 - Battle of Leyte Gul, 23-26 Oct.
 - 1945
 - Allies land on Luzon, 9 Jan.
 - Invasion of Iwo Jima, 19 Feb.-26 Mar.
 - Okinawa bombed, 24-27 Mar.
 - Roosevelt dies, Truman becomes President, 12 Apr.
 - Invasion of Mindanao, 17 Apr.
 - Okinawa captured, 21 June
 - Atomic bomb dropped on Hiroshima, 6 Aug
 - Atomic bomb dropped on Nagasaki, 9 Aug.
 - Japan agrees to surrender, 14 Aug
 - Japan surrenders aboard *U.S.S. Missouri*, 2 Sept

9. Major Battles and Turning Points in the Pacific Wars

9.1) Pearl Harbour

The complicated relationship between America and Japan started to crack open in the nineteenth century when Japan began to open up to the world, leaving its traditions behind and becoming a great power with a powerful military, technologically advanced industries, and modern governments.

Japan's rise to power was fast, after beating China in 1895, Russia in 1905, and also playing a remarkable role in World War I, they gained noteworthy power. Japan was quickly overturning their foes, beating larger and more powerful opponents every time. This rise however, dragged the attention to themselves. They found themselves in a conflict for the domination of the Pacific against America.

We can call that the "long fuse" of the Great Pacific War and the background of Pearl Harbour.

On that faithful day, not only was the US fleet the target of the Japanese, it was the Hawaiian Islands. After the rebels in Hawaii requested an annexation by the United States -which happened in 1898-, a new society was born in the Islands, Americans, Japanese and natives.

The economy of Hawaii was alright with many sugar cane plantations and it saw a huge US naval presence. The fateful moment came in 1940 when President D. Roosevelt ordered the US Pacific Fleet to transfer from its homeport in San Diego, CA to Pearl Harbor, HI.

From mid-1940, the tension between the US and Japan reached a new point of concentration with the Pacific fleet moving to Pearl Harbor. Japan was in a brutal conquest campaign against China from the year 1937. With the Japanese army being badly overstretched, they neither could protect their supply lanes nor be effective on the conquered areas; so they put up the war policy known as “three alls”, kill all, burn all, loot all. Japan was hoping to daunt their subjected lands with terror and fear, slaughtering all the resisting civilians.

President Roosevelt put up some embargoes against Japan on arms (1937), scrap iron (1938) and oil (1941) wounding the Japan economy enough to cease the war in China. Roosevelt’s advisors were unsure how to proceed, should they show Japan their power to warn them about the consequences if they continued their aggression, or should there be negotiations leading to long term understandings?

Japan however, was growing impatient. They needed to find a solution to this crisis when they were trapped in a war they couldn't win against China with over one million soldiers. That’s when they realised something. Adolf Hitler was absolutely devouring Europe, threatening the British to invade their isles. Ergo, the colonies in Europe laid unprotected. The Malay Peninsula, the Dutch East Indies, Indochina was overflowing with rubber, tin and the lifeblood of an economy, oil. Maybe it was finally time to end this tiring war, maybe it was time to secure those most-wanted materials and pack the bag. Japan knew this policy would end up in a war with the USA, so they sent negotiators to Washington to talk with US Secretary Cordell Hull. But in Tokyo, everything was already settled. Military planners decided they needed to launch a great strike, taking control of the colonies and ensuring that the US couldn't agonize. As the military planners were looking attentively at the map of the Pacific, their eyes caught the glimpse of one little spot: Pearl Harbor.

The attack was a great obscurity for Japan, but it was also a product of brilliant planning. Japan dispatched all of their beloved fleet carriers across 3,000 miles of ocean in pure stealth. When the carriers arrived a few hundred miles north of Hawaii, they launched their aircraft early on a Sunday morning. We can say the attack was very entertaining for the Japanese, the Americans hadn't had a single thought of what's going on as the Japanese killed over 2,400 servicemen and damaged or destroyed 19 US warships. With the US navy provisionally out of the way, they launched an all out attack on the colonies. The attacks seemed irresistible; at

Singapore on the tip of Malaya, 80,000 British, Australian and Indian troops went into custody. But that wasn't the worst part of the attack.

In the Philippines, the Japanese outmaneuvered a combined US/Filipino army under General Douglas MacArthur. The defenders weren't ought to leave without their little fight but with the Japanese overrunning them, they first retreated back to Bataan Peninsula and finally to the tiny Corregidor Island. As MacArthur was leaving the islands, he vowed "I shall return." only to see his men surrender in April 1942, marking the worst defeat in American naval history. Their Japanese captors forced them to walk a 65 mile brutal march to their POW's known as the Bataan Death March. In the matter of five days, 5,000 people or maybe more died. This was only a teaser of what would happen in the Japanese-called Great Pacific War.

9.2) Midway Battle

After the attack on Pearl Harbour on 7 December 1941, the Japanese began striking against allied territories in the Pacific. The Japanese were all powerful after expanding their empire greatly; capturing island after island. The Philippines, Guam, Wake Island, and the Dutch East Indies were just starters as they had been captured within 6 months. But in April 1942, a breaking point occurred for America as their cryptanalysts made a breakthrough in the JN-25 code. This breakthrough wasn't just about some valuable intel; it changed the tide of one of the most critical battles of the Pacific War: the Battle of Midway; also stopping the enemy's advance in the ocean.

Most allies were busy putting their own fight in Europe and the Pearl Harbour disaster took a toll on America; with their sudden participation into the battle, it was nothing but difficult to organize a naval defence fleet against Japan. In early 1942, US Commander Joseph Rochefort and his team at station HYPO in Hawaii succeeded in breaking the JN-25b code. The code gave up how Japan planned an attack on Port Moresby, which the US rushed to prevent. Even though the Battle of Coral Sea was a tactical victory for Japan who also sunk the US carrier

USS Lexington, it was the first time in the war Americans halted a major Japanese offensive. Thereupon the Japanese weren't aware that their code had been broken, so the Americans continued to use it to their advantage.

Commander Rochefort and Lieutenant Commander Edwin Layton, Pacific Fleet Staff intelligence officer, classified Midway as a possible point of interest for Japan and predicted an attack there. When Station HYPO began catching signals about an attack on "AF" they were sure it meant Midway. To confirm this thought, they send an uncoded message saying "Midway is low on drinkable water". After a while the Japanese send a coded message that goes "AF is low on drinkable water". With Japan still unaware about their code being broken, Nimitz began setting up a defence strategy for Midway. The USS Hornet and Enterprise, just back from the Doolittle Raid in April, were sent in late May to intercept the Japanese fleet. The USS Yorktown, severely damaged from the Battle of Coral Sea, underwent cursory repairs at Pearl Harbor before being dispatched to join them. Also, intercepted messages confirmed that the Japanese were planning an attack on Aleutian Islands in Alaska. Nimitz believed this was a decoy to retain America from putting their forces in Midway; but to make sure, he sent a defence consisting of cruisers and destroyers, keeping his interest in Midway.

The Midway Islands are located at the sweet spot between Hawaii and the Japanese Islands. Before the war, it had little importance to America in terms of military. But after the fall of Wake Islands to the Japanese in 1941, it became the westernmost outpost for America. Japanese admiral Isoroku Yamamoto wanted to use the attack against Midway to draw out the American aircraft carriers they had missed at Pearl Harbor. Yamamoto was so confident with his plan on Midway that he would declare his resignation if higher command didn't give permission for the attack. Furthermore, the Japanese thought about establishing a base there; improving their plan and giving the thumbs up signal. The Japanese attack force "Kido Butai" would sail under the command of Admiral Chiuchi Nagumo to eliminate Americans and take control of Midway.

The first Japanese attacks occurred on 4 June 1942, with planes from the carriers Akagi, Soryu, Kaga, and Hiryu bombing the base on Midway. The radar at Midway spotted the inbound planes way before they reached the island. Marine corp fighters were quick to

interfere against the Japanese, but American F2A-3 “Buffalos” were not in the same league with Japanese Zeroes. They were shot down in no time and Japan continued their campaign towards their objective. Because Americans had the upper hand when it came to intelligence, they launched all their aircrafts from the base, leaving Japan with an empty airfield to target. They only damaged the empty base and returned to their carriers for restock and refuelment. Admiral Nagumo has been informed about a need for a second attack to successfully eliminate Midway as a threat. Nagumo ordered the carrier planes, already equipped to strike against American ships, to change their ordnance for another land attack. The Japanese rushed to get the planes reequipped and often laid aside the bombs and torpedoes removed from the planes rather than take extra time to stow them below decks. The decision to change the ordnance also delayed deployment of the aircraft, which not only delayed departing aircraft but also cluttered the runways and prevented incoming aircraft from landing. The Japanese ships weren't equipped with radars, so they were relying on their scout planes to gain information about US forces' whereabouts. A delay on launching their scout cluster meant unawareness for Japan and how close the US ships were.

The Americans were successful in locating the Kido Butai and launching multiple waves of torpedo and dive bombers. When Admiral Nagumo heard of the incoming American aircrafts, he reversed his decision once again and ordered his planes to rearm for antiship attacks. The American attack was highly ineffective, unescorted planes were shot down from the sky and the explosives they managed to release missed their targets. But Japanese ships had to maneuver to avoid the repeated attacks, evading the American torpedoes but moving further apart as a result.

Americans continued to strike Japanese carriers without any affection through the morning of 4th June due to lack of coordination and Japanese superiority. However the Japanese carriers were separated and their fighters were busy fighting American bombers all morning. When the rearmament of Japanese aircrafts were completed, bombers from US ships Enterprise, Hornet and Yorktown spotted Japanese carriers and closed in. Strikes made from these planes were a success, setting ablaze the first three carriers in minutes. Bombs and torpedoes detonated, fuel lines ignited, and the waiting carrier aircraft set off secondary explosions that turned the carriers into a “flaming inferno.”

Hiryu, the sole surviving Japanese carrier, managed to deploy his bombers, which then made their way to USS Yorktown. Even though the American radars informed the navy about incoming aircraft, they managed to drop their explosives, critically injuring the ship. Hours later, bombers who took off from USS Enterprise delivered destructive impacts to Hiryu. The order to abandon ship was given later in the morning of 5th June, and the operation was cancelled with Admiral Yamamoto's backtrack.

Ships named Soryu and Kaga ended up in Davy Jones' locker on the evening of 4th June, while Akagi managed to hang on till 5th. Hiryu's destiny was no different, as it ran aground just a few hours later. Salvage crews went to work on the Yorktown, attempting to correct its twenty-six-degree list, but on 6 June, Japanese submarine I-168 launched torpedoes that struck the carrier and sliced the accompanying destroyer USS Hammann in half. Hammann sank immediately, but Yorktown, almost impossibly, survived for several more hours until she finally capsized and sank on the morning of 7 June. The battle of Midway had finally come to an end.

The Japanese lost half of their carrier force just to turn back empty handed. With this war, the balance in the Pacific began to turn in America's way; they started to create their own offensives against Japan. The Imperial Japanese Navy lost four of its carriers and hundreds of experienced pilots who they weren't able to replace. It has become obvious that carrier battles would decide the fate of this theater. The US continued to improve their carriers and aircraft technology to gain air superiority in battles. American intelligence, radar, and a generous amount of luck had let them win the battle of Midway, marking the turning point of the Pacific War.

9.3) Guadalcanal Battle

After their success in Pearl Harbor, the Japanese continued expanding through the western Pacific Ocean. Japan's primary goal was to establish a solid defence line against America and its allies, ensuring Japanese dominance over east Asia and southern Pacific. After US strategic victories at the Coral Sea battles and the Midway Battle, Japan was no

longer capable of holding major offensives, which was a great opportunity for allies to start their own offensive campaign in the Pacific.

In August 1942, America mounted its first major amphibious landing of World War II at Guadalcanal, using an innovative landing craft built by Higgins Industries in New Orleans. By confiscating the airfield at the island, the US managed to disrupt Japanese supply routes linked to Australia and New Zealand. The invasion led an extraordinary struggle backed up by seven naval battles, many clashes and continuous air combat. For six months US forces clashed with all their might to hold the island and in the end, they managed to prevail over Japan; taking the first important step in driving Japan back in the Pacific theatre.

On the morning of August 7 1942, the US forces first landed on the Solomon Islands of Guadalcanal, Tulagi and Florida. After intense combat, they managed to clear Tulagi and Florida by August 9. Main forces headed for Guadalcanal were welcomed with little resistance, making it an ease to secure the airfield at Lunga Point, which was soon renamed as Henderson Field. Almost immediately, however, Japanese naval aircraft attacked transport and escort ships, and Japanese reinforcements arrived in the area.

Over the following days of the invasion, several deadly naval battles have occurred in the area, the first one being the Naval Battle of Savo Island. The heavy combat for controlling Guadalcanal and its strategic airfield continued for months with neither side taking the win while losing men, ships and aircraft.

During their first amphibious invasion in the Pacific, the US made many mistakes including not having the essential materials for logistics and transportation; ending up in a difficult situation in terms of them. Difficult muddy jungle terrain, lack of infrastructure and an enemy that fights till the last breath really showed what was to come in the Pacific Wars. It seemed like when the US was getting close to victory, the Japanese would supply the island and be ready for a fight again the next day.

In a determined search for a decisive victory, the Japanese forces made an all out attack in October 1942; just when the marines were getting fresh reinforcements and even new men to put up a fight from the US army. The Americans with their strengthened defences held Henderson Field and launched aggressive attacks to keep Japanese off-balance.

When the Japanese Seventeenth Army launched the assault on October 23, 1942, striking at multiple points along the airfield perimeter over four days, fabulous fighting by US Marines and soldiers threw back the attacks. American losses were significant, but Japanese losses were devastating.

The battle at sea also heated up in the fall of 1942. On October 26, Japanese and American forces battled off the Santa Cruz Islands. Japan gained a strategic win but lost aircraft and skilled pilots. Then from November 12-15, US men blocked Japan's last efforts to wipe them out of Henderson Field from the sea at a burdensome price. As one Japanese officer noted, "This was the fork in the road." While fighting continued on the island, the Japanese withdrew their final men and left the island to the Allies in February 1943.

The Solomon Islands Campaign cost allies approximately 7,100 men, 38 ships and 683 aircraft. Over the next two and a half years, US forces captured the Gilbert Islands (Tarawa and Makin), the Marshall Islands (Kwajalein and Eniwetok), the Mariana Islands (Saipan, Guam, and Tinian), Iwo Jima, and Okinawa. With each battle won, the US moved closer to Japan, growing their superiority in sea and air as well as men in service gave America great advantage against Japan. But we must admire, wherever the US forces clashed Japan, they didn't give up before putting out a serious fight.

9.4) Okinawa Battle

The Battle of Okinawa (April 1-June 21 1945) is the battle that happened on Okinawa, the largest of the Ryukyu Islands. Okinawa is just 563 kilometers away south from Kyushu, which was accepted as a pioneer to the ground invasion of Japanese home islands. As one of the deadliest battles in the Pacific War, It earned the title of "the Typhoon of Steel", with claiming more than 12,000 American and 100,000 Japanese lives; including generals and more. In addition to that number, at least 100,000 civilians were killed either in combat or being forced to suicide by the Japanese army.

The plan to seize a base at the Ryukyu Islands has been a big deal and a long part of their strategy in western Pacific Ocean for the Americans. Occupying a location between Japanese home islands and the island of Formosa would split the Japanese from their South

Asian empire. A base there would also be strategically important for America, as it would provide airbases and safe anchoring places to make it easy to reach the southern island of Kyushu. As the largest island within the Ryukhus, the 60-mile-long island was perfect for airbase construction, rehabilitation and training camp installments, and anchorages protected from the Pacific's swells where the US Navy could both stage shipping and make repairs to vessels damaged in the invasion.

The Japanese was also aware of the islands importance, they heavily reinforced the island with two full divisions and several attached regimental and brigade-sized units; also preparing defensive positions -which are mostly underground- in the islands porous coral and limestone. Instead of garrisoning risked areas by the sea which are vulnerable to naval gunfire and can be overrun in case of a successful attack, the Japanese built a succession of strong defensive lines stretching across the southern end of the island. Knowing they had little chance of winning this battle, their goal was to kill enough foes to keep the enemy from going into the homeland itself in the future. They actually succeeded in this purpose, maybe too well... As it was undoubtedly one of the reasons why President Harry S. Truman gave the orders to use nuclear weapons against Japan.

We may also say the battle of Okinawa was a joint operation. Carrier-based naval aircraft providing command on the seas, even sinking Japanese super battleship Yamato, coupled with the navy's use of its own battleships only in a gunfire support role placed a final nail in the coffin of the battleship as the arbiter of naval combat, ushering in the modern era of aircraft and guided missiles as the primary weapons of naval combat.

Even though they had limited naval forces, the Japanese managed to cause serious harm to the US Navy with their signature "Kamikaze" attacks. We can say these aircrafts and their pilots was the very first, and primitive, version of guided missiles; as the aircrafts which were full to their brim with bombs were driven directly into Allied ships. The anti-air fire put out by the fire-support vessels in the anchorages greatly increased their chance of survival but isolated radar picket ships, set out like spokes of a wheel to provide early detection of aircraft inbound from Japan or Formosa, were extremely vulnerable and bore the brunt of these attacks.

On April 11, a Japanese plane crashed into USS Kidd while it was on picket duty; killing 38 of her crew and leaving 55 wounded (which is basically $\frac{1}{3}$ of her crew). The remaining crew bravely fought subsequent attacks and fires, ultimately returning it to the USA for repairs. Throughout the campaign, the Navy lost 36 ships sunk, and 368 damaged, much smaller vessels. But with the loss of 5,000 sailors and 5,000 wounded; making the total a 10,000, the Okinawa battle remains as the bloodiest battle of the Pacific War, even greater than the Pearl Harbor disaster.

The battle at land was far worse than at the sea. After the US forces captured a couple of surrounding islands and made a demonstration with the 2nd Marine Division against beaches on Okinawa's southeast coast; the US forces faced minimal opposition as the Japanese remained in their interior fortress and only fired a few artillery rounds at the invasion beaches. The Army's XXIV Corps, consisting of the veteran 7th and 96th Infantry Divisions, cut across the island's narrow waist and quickly reached the eastern shore, isolating the Japanese defenders in the northern half of the island. As army forces repositioned south to eliminate Japanese defences, the III Marine Amphibious Corps, consisting of the 1st and 6th Marine Divisions, moved north with short notice eliminating all resistance on the lightly guarded northern part of the island. However, the army soon found out the Japanese barricaded themselves in their defensive lines going through the island to the south. The first of these, called the Cactus Line, did not offer sustained opposition as it was only an outpost screening the stronger positions on Kakazu Ridge and the main defenses of the Shuri Line.

After their quick progress in the island, American advance soon turned into an attritional nightmare, as the island's narrow width pushed their attacks into the terrain the Japanese had mined which was appointed for artillery, and traversed with prepared fighting positions. The gained land was measured in yards after flamethrowers and heavy artillery fire ravaged the Japanese defensive lines; and those hard-earned soil should be protected against Japanese counterattacks as more and more soldiers kept emerging from their underground bunkers. The continuous attack eventually wasted away the 7th and 96th divisions, leading them to a replacement by the 27th and 77th Infantry Divisions in less than a month. After completing their campaign to the north, two more marine divisions also joined the forces at the south side. On two occasions, first on May 4 and again on May 23, Japanese troops

launched major nighttime counterattacks that drew them out into the open but also struck terror in overwhelmed infantrymen who were either pushed back or overrun.

In the middle of May, with the opening of monsoon season in Okinawa, the soldiers also started to fight with mud. They suffered from ammunition shortage and armored vehicles were stranded on the roads. But as bad as it was for the Americans, the same conditions went for the Japanese too. They were suffering irreplaceable losses and slowly giving ground. In late May, unable to use his remaining forces to maintain positions on the Shuri Line, the Japanese 32nd Army commander Mitsuru Ushijima, chose to secure his remaining forces in a smaller perimeter at the southern tip of the island.

The withdrawal from the Shuri Line on May 23 both surprised and heartened the Americans. It was the turning point of this war and locked the Japanese troops into a tight perimeter. The attrition was still a big pain. On June 22 Ushijima realized he could no longer hold the line and committed seppuku -ritual suicide- which many of his soldiers followed. The campaign finally closed officially on July 2, just two weeks before the successful Trinity nuclear test at the Alamogordo Range in New Mexico.

Unlike naval campaigns, it wasn't all about air superiority in Okinawa. Despite capturing Yontan and Kadena fields on the first day of the campaign, Allies never gained air superiority, nor used it effectively; leading to serious logistic losses and stalemate on land. The airfields constructed and expanded in the operation remain in use today, and Kadena Air Base is one of the largest and most important in the Pacific, but the continued American military presence on Okinawa remains a sticking point in US–Japan relations.

10. Military Formations and Strategies

10.1) U.S. Military Organisation and Technology

There were many small arms variants produced for use by U.S. forces during the war. Under the Lend-Lease Program, other Allied forces also gained access to a plethora of US

weaponry. Common small arms used by rifle companies during the war included the M1 Garand, M1 Carbine, and the .45 caliber pistol. Mortar teams had 60 mm mortars, and snipers were issued a scoped M1903 Springfield.

The US entered the war with the M1 Garand as its service rifle. However, due to its size and weight, it was not an ideal weapon for some specialist roles such as engineers, tank crew, radio operators, etc. So the lighter and smaller M1 Carbine was introduced in mid-1942.

The standard US submachine gun was the Thompson. Designed in 1919, it was a reliable weapon but expensive and not suited to mass production. Work on a cheaper, simpler alternative along the lines of the British Sten or German MP40 began in 1942. The M3 submachine gun was introduced in 1944, but problems lingered, and it never completely replaced the Thompson.

All soldiers were equipped with hand grenades. Special units such as flamethrower teams, wire cutter teams, and 81mm mortar teams could be assigned to companies, as well as medics joining a battalion. These teams usually consisted of anywhere from two to five people with special training using their weapons. Soldiers could carry a total of 16 US issued guns during battle.

The M4 Sherman became the standard American military tank in World War II. Due to a lack of development before the war, leading to inexperience in tank design, the first large scale production of a medium tank was the M3 Lee, built for the US and the British, a compromise design with the main weapon mounted in the hull. It did have a stabilized 37mm gun in the turret, which was effective against antitank guns, able to fire and hit, even when moving. By contrast, no German tanks had stabilized guns.

The M6 series was the first of the heavy tanks used during the war. This particular tank series weighed approximately 50 to 80 tons. While there was demand for heavy tanks by some elements within the US Army, opposing views held predominated. Only one US heavy tank was produced during the war and it only reached Europe in the final months.

As well as the US Army it was used to equip other western Allies serving alongside their own designs. Over 50,000 tanks were produced during the time of the war. Tanks like these were used during combat in mainly North Africa.

On 6 and 9 August 1945, an atomic bomb was dropped on the Japanese cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki instantly killing 120,000 people. Roughly 100,000 more people died of radiation poisoning in the following years. Six days after the dropping of the bomb on Nagasaki, the Japanese surrendered. The Manhattan Project was the leading collaborative scientific effort and the most secretive of the time. At first, several different labs had scientists working on smaller parts of the atom bomb, but they had no idea as to the magnitude of the project. Later, the project was moved to Los Alamos, New Mexico, led by renowned physicist J. Robert Oppenheimer.

10.2) Japan's Military Organisation and Technology

Imagine it's 1945, but a different, counterfactual 1945. World War II rages on. The U.S. strategic bombing campaign is escalating in intensity as its attempts to destroy the enemy's means of production face increasingly determined resistance. Unexpectedly, American forces are encountering radically new and dangerous foreign aircraft. Generations of exotic, high-performance propeller-driven aircraft are challenging the best the U.S. can produce. More ominously, revolutionary jet-powered and rocket-powered fighters are wreaking havoc with American bombers and fighters while sophisticated guided missiles strike hard against the Allies. These last-minute "wonder weapons" are changing the momentum of the war and threaten to prolong this deadly conflict or even overturn what was widely seen as a decided Allied victory. Is this the technologically advanced Germany as envisioned by countless "what if" historians? No, it's actually Japan as it would have been if enough of its planned new weapons had successfully taken to the skies in sufficient numbers to make a difference.

Thankfully for the Allies, the scenario described above didn't happen. In reality, Japan was running out of raw materials, skilled manpower, and time. Nonetheless, it was developing a host of advanced aircraft in the closing months of the war in hopes of stopping the relentlessly encroaching Allies. Faced with the challenge of superb American fighters and

bombers, Japanese aircraft manufacturers first looked to modifying existing designs and creating new aircraft that incorporated high-powered, turbo-, and supercharged engines, comparable or superior to America's best. Already, the Imperial Japanese Army Air Force was operating the superlative Nakajima Ki-84 (Allied name Frank), a fighter that was a match for the North American P-51D, in China and the Philippines. But better aircraft were necessary if Japan was to counter the growing Allied threat, especially from the B-29s that were striking at the heart of the country.

To face this challenge, the Nakajima Aircraft Company turned its attention to building the Ki-87, a high-altitude, heavily armed fighter powered by a single 2,400 horsepower turbosupercharged engine. It had a 440 miles per hour top speed, but engine problems delayed production, and only one prototype was produced. Meanwhile, Tachikawa built its own similar looking fighter, the Ki-94-II, that had an estimated top speed of 450 miles per hour. It seemed promising, and an order was placed for 18 service test aircraft. But the first flight was scheduled for August 18, 1945, three days after Japan surrendered.

There were many other advanced propeller-driven fighters under construction or on the drawing board from Kawasaki and Mitsubishi during this time. But perhaps the most intriguing design was the Kyushu J7W1 Shinden, a canard design driving a six-bladed pusher propeller built for the Imperial Japanese Navy. With its engine in the rear and its elevators in the nose, the J7W1 was the only canard design ordered into production by any combatant during the war. Navy Captain Masaoki Tsuruno conceived the idea with the hope that, when developed, a jet engine could replace the 2,130 horsepower Mitsubishi 18-cylinder radial. In the meantime, construction was authorized in June 1944 for this desperately needed high-altitude fighter. The first prototype was ready 10 months later. Unfortunately for Japan, engine and propeller vibration problems delayed flight tests until early August 1945, so only two were built. With an estimated top speed of 466 miles per hour, the Shinden would have been a formidable opponent, the jet-powered version (J7W2) even more so.

It seems there was no area of an aircraft that Japanese engineers were not willing to tweak and change, and jet engine technology was no exception. In September 1944, design work began on the Nakajima Kikka, the only Japanese jet-powered aircraft to fly during the war. Based loosely on the outline of the Messerschmitt Me 262, the Kikka was smaller and built with folding wings to hide it in caves. When the Ne-12 turbojet engines failed to produce

enough thrust, imaginative engineers designed and built the Ne-20 engine, based solely on photographs of the German BMW 003. Producing 1,047 pounds of thrust each, the Kikka was fitted with two engines that gave the aircraft the requisite top speed of 435 miles per hour. The Kikka's first flight came on August 7, 1945, another example of "too little, too late." A second prototype was also built but never flown, with 18 others under construction. A faster version was envisioned with two Ne-130 engines, which were to produce twice the thrust, but the war ended before tests were made.

11. Weather conditions in the Pacific Ocean

11.1) Sea Depth

The Pacific Ocean has a depth of 10,678 meters. The Pacific Ocean contains 247 different animal types, and most of them are categorized as deadly. Sea is very hard to pass, and it was the scariest thing for the seamen among that time. People were scared to death to cross that ocean. The Pacific Ocean has an area of 165.25 million square kilometers so it is not an easy thing to pass. The Pacific Ocean is the world's largest ocean basin, stretching from the Arctic Ocean in the north to the Southern Ocean in the south and roughly bounded by Asia and Australia to the west and the Americas to the east.

Covering approximately one-third of the Earth's surface, the Pacific Ocean dominates the planet's ocean geography and climate. It includes vast deep-sea plains and deep trenches (particularly the Mariana Trench) and is surrounded by the volcanically active "Pacific Ring of Fire," where tectonic plate interactions frequently lead to earthquakes, volcanic activity, and island arcs.

Ecologically, the Pacific encompasses an extraordinary range of habitats and productivity regimes. Warm, clear tropical waters support coral reefs and atolls in Polynesia, Micronesia, and Melanesia, while cooler mid-latitudes host algal forests and rich continental shelf ecosystems. In the eastern and equatorial Pacific, wind-driven upstream currents feed some of

the world's most productive fishing grounds, and high-latitude waters in the North Pacific support seasonal blooms and globally significant populations of seabirds and marine mammals.

The Pacific Ocean also holds central importance in global ocean-atmosphere dynamics. The El Niño-Southern Oscillation (ENSO), resulting from interactions between trade winds, sea surface temperatures, and circulation in the tropical Pacific, can alter rainfall patterns, storm paths, and marine food webs worldwide, highlighting the basin's extraordinary role in Earth's climate system.

11.2) Natural disasters

Asia and the Pacific are among the most disaster-prone regions in the world. Every year, disasters of all kinds cause huge loss of lives and property in the region, causing a severe setback to the development process. The region accounts for only 30% of the world's landmass but receives disproportionately higher disaster impacts. The annual average numbers of people killed, affected, made homeless, and injured by disasters presented in Table 1 indicate that the disaster impacts in the region are significantly higher than those in the other regions. Statistics for the Pacific island countries may be low due to their much smaller size, but the impacts in proportion to the size of their national economies are very high.

Asia and the Pacific are affected by almost every conceivable hazard, including geological hazards such as earthquakes, landslides, and volcanoes; hydro-meteorological hazards such as floods, cyclones, and droughts; and other hazards such as epidemics, insect infestations, hot and cold waves, and forest fires. The annual average number of reported disasters by region and type for the period 1988 to 1997, presented in Table 3, clearly indicates that the occurrence of disasters from almost all kinds of hazards is among the highest in Asia and the Pacific.

Windstorms are the most common of all hazards in the region. Of the total of 2,244 disasters that were reported in the last decade in Asia and the Pacific, 398 were by windstorms. In the last decade, over 186,001 people were reported killed, and over US\$ 6.0 million in economic losses were incurred due to windstorms. Cyclones generated in the Western Pacific basin move westward and sometimes turn northwest and can affect the Philippines, the Asian mainland, and Japan. Around 15% of the world's tropical cyclones originate in the Bay of Bengal and cause severe flooding and devastating tidal surges to the east coast of India and Bangladesh. The windstorms generated in the Pacific Ocean frequently cause devastation to the island countries of Fiji, Tonga, Vanuatu, Solomon Islands, and Samoa. In the past decade, the most costly cyclones were in Bangladesh (1991) and Orissa, India (1999). The cyclone that hit the eastern state of Orissa on 29 October 1999 killed more than 10,000 people and affected more than 10 million people in 12 coastal belt districts. The effects of the disaster were so immense that even after two years, the poor coastal communities are struggling to recover.

Floods account for forty percent of the natural hazards affecting the Asia and Pacific regions. In Asia alone, in the last decade, more than 83% of the total reported disasters were due to floods. Unlike cyclones, floods are common to all countries, causing heavy economic and human losses. Floods include seasonal flooding, flash flooding, urban flooding, and tidal flooding induced by typhoons in the coastal areas. In Bangladesh, as many as 80 million people are vulnerable to flooding. In India, 40 million hectares of agricultural land are at risk from flooding, and the annual average damage has been estimated at US\$240 million. According to CRED data for the last ten years, 377 floods were reported in this region, killing more than 55,946 people and incurring economic losses of over US \$113,371,000. Recent occurrences of floods in Bangladesh, China, Thailand, Vietnam, and Pakistan have brought with them immense losses to life and property. In 1998, China experienced its worst flooding in 50 years when the Yangtze River swelled and killed 4,150 people in one instance, displaced 223 million, predominantly a rural population, and inundated 25 million hectares of cropland.

Earthquake Over the last decade, earthquakes caused the maximum economic damage in Asia and Pacific regions. About two-thirds of all large earthquakes are located in the so-called 'Ring of Fire' around the Pacific. The Himalayan region also represents one of the most seismically active regions in the world. Countries lying in a highly seismic region are India,

Pakistan, Nepal, Japan, Papua New Guinea, Indonesia, the Philippines, China, and Afghanistan. Some of the major earthquakes of the decade occurred in Kobe, Japan, in 1995; Turkey in 1998 and 1999; Latur, India, in 1993; Chamoli, India, in 1999; and Gujarat, India, in 2001. The most recent earthquake in Gujarat, India, on 26 January 2001, was the worst earthquake of the decade. The impact of the earthquake was felt in the neighboring countries of Pakistan and Afghanistan, too. According to the World Bank and ADB estimates, the private loss of assets was \$1.6 billion, and the public loss was \$0.5 billion. The earthquake killed as many as 20,000 people and injured 167,000.

Volcanoes. The years 1990-99 witnessed over 21 volcanic eruptions in the region. Japan, the Philippines, and Indonesia are considered the most vulnerable to volcanic eruptions. The Philippines has more than 200 volcanoes distributed along five volcanic belts. Of these, at least 17 are considered active. The 5 most active and destructive are Mayon, Taal, Hibok-Hibok, Bulusan, and Canlaon. The 1991 Mt. Pinatubo eruption in the Philippines was one of the most devastating ones. Indonesia has 129 active volcanoes, of which 70 are classified as dangerous. Between 1972 and 1991, twenty-nine volcanic eruptions were recorded, mostly in Java.

12. The Aftermath of the War

Sixty million people, mostly civilians who lived on all continents, were killed in World War II, marking the highest kill count among every war ever made. Nearly every family felt the deprivation in one or another way.

Millions of people were not citizens of any country after the war. Expelled from their former nations, they were unable to return; marking the beginning of a long refugee problem, naming them as “displaced persons.” Hundreds of thousands of European Jews who survived the Holocaust faced exile from their historic communities. They struggled to rebuild their lives in many countries or continents, including: South America, Mexico, the USA, Palestine etc.

The struggle to re-settle led people to undernourish. In many countries around the world such as England, Germany, Russia, Japan and many other nations, people couldn't cater enough food to look after themselves properly. Absenteeism from work and family duties was rampant, just as the necessary effort for survival increased. The war was devastating for everyone, it doesn't matter if they're rich or poor.

Many of the world's cities were turned to dust after intense bombardment or fighting. Every industrial country came out of the war with large amounts of their agriculture and manufacturing destroyed -except the United States-. In the abnormally frigid winter of 1945-46, once prosperous citizens starved; those fortunate enough to survive confronted a future of suffering and fear. The war was so devastating that even the victors couldn't celebrate much.

For Americans especially, World War II was engraved in memories with the Great Depression. "The greatest generation" had lived through the world's deepest economic decline; more than a quarter of Americans losing their jobs and millions losing their homes. These children of the Depression recognized that economic difficulties had contributed to the appeal of violent dictatorships abroad, and they feared a return to similar difficulties and the rise of new dictatorships after the war.

The Soviet Union grew greatly and more dominant in the Eastern half of Europe with the defeat of Germany. Even though Joseph Stalin acted as an American ally in the war, he was now threatened to exploit difficult conditions of the post-war period by force. His communist government helped defeat fascists which then he used as a leverage to promote communism as an alternate way to capitalism and democracy.

American society proved themselves to be remarkably resilient, although the cost of war was heavy, industry and agriculture expanded to serve newly opened markets. Every other post-war society took longer to recover; some never did. Britain and France lost most of their territories and marked the beginning of their downfall. Germany, Italy, and Japan were conquered and occupied. The Soviets lost their most productive citizens. Even though the costs were heavy for the USA, it was worse for other countries.

As Americans returned home from the battlefields, the mix of sacrifice and opportunity set the stage for postwar growth. World War II destroyed the “Old World,” and it birthed what Henry Luce called “the American Century.”

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