

# World War II

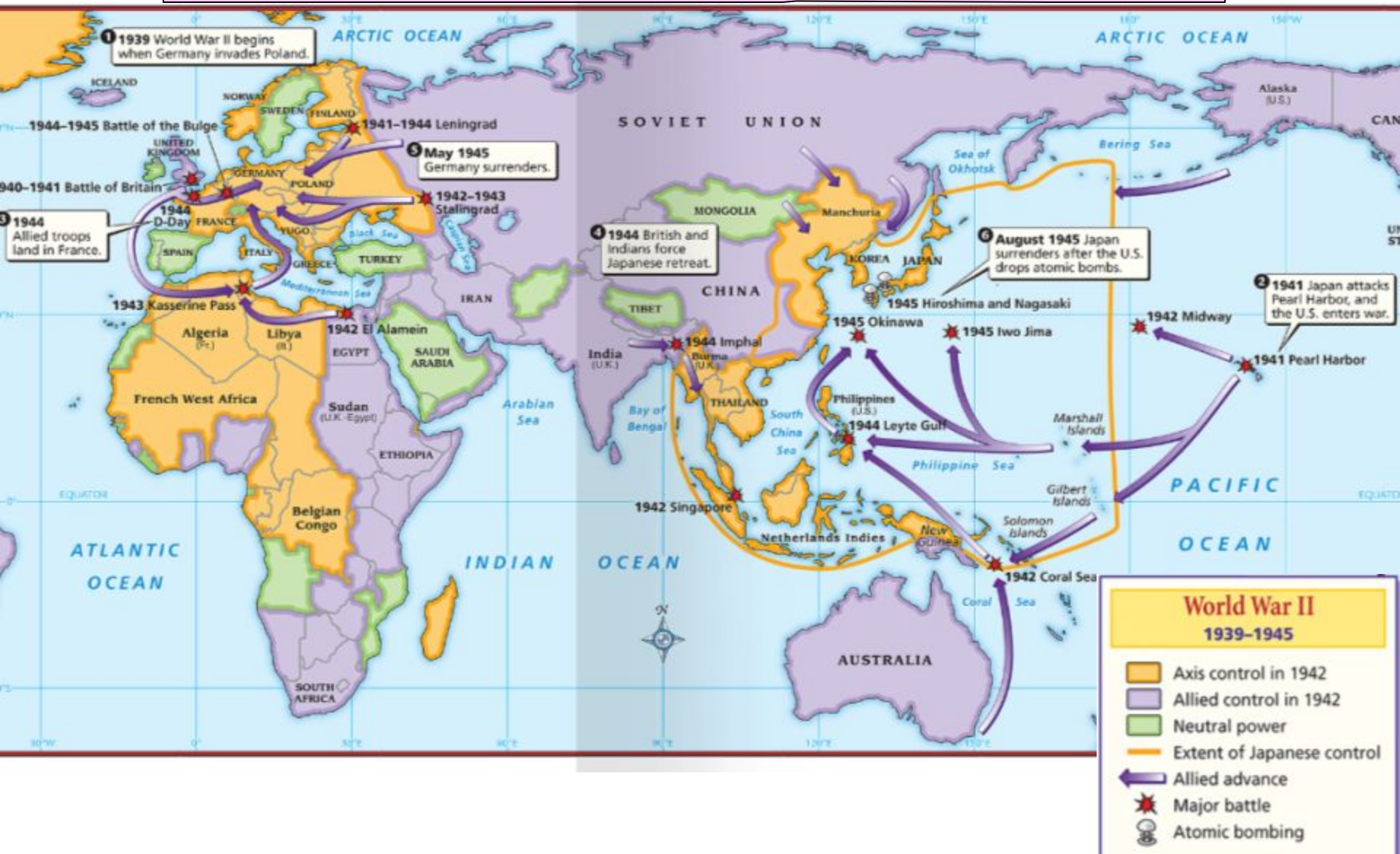
## 1942-1945



### Essential Questions:

***What were the major events of  
World War II from 1942 to 1945?  
How did the Allies win the war***

From 1939 to 1942, the Axis Powers dominated Europe, North Africa, & Asia



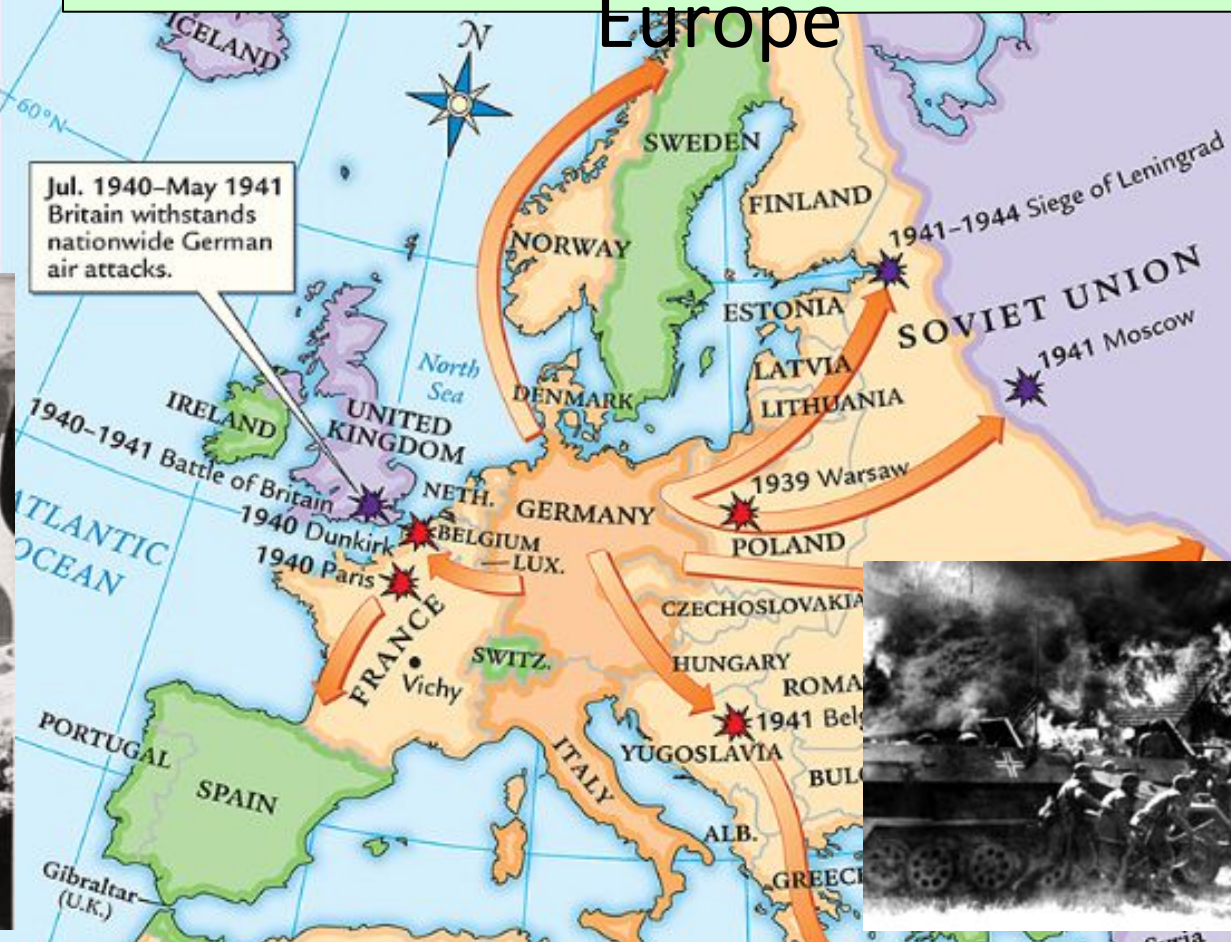
## THE AXIS ATTACKS 1939-1942

- Axis power
- Axis-controlled area, 1942
- Allied power
- Neutral power
- Expansion of Axis control
- Axis victory
- Allied victory

0 250 500 miles

Germany used blitzkrieg tactics to dominate Eastern & Western Europe

Jul. 1940-May 1941  
Britain withstands  
nationwide German  
air attacks.










England was wounded from German attacks in the Battle of Britain

Hitler broke the Nazi-Soviet Nonaggression Pact & marched into Russia



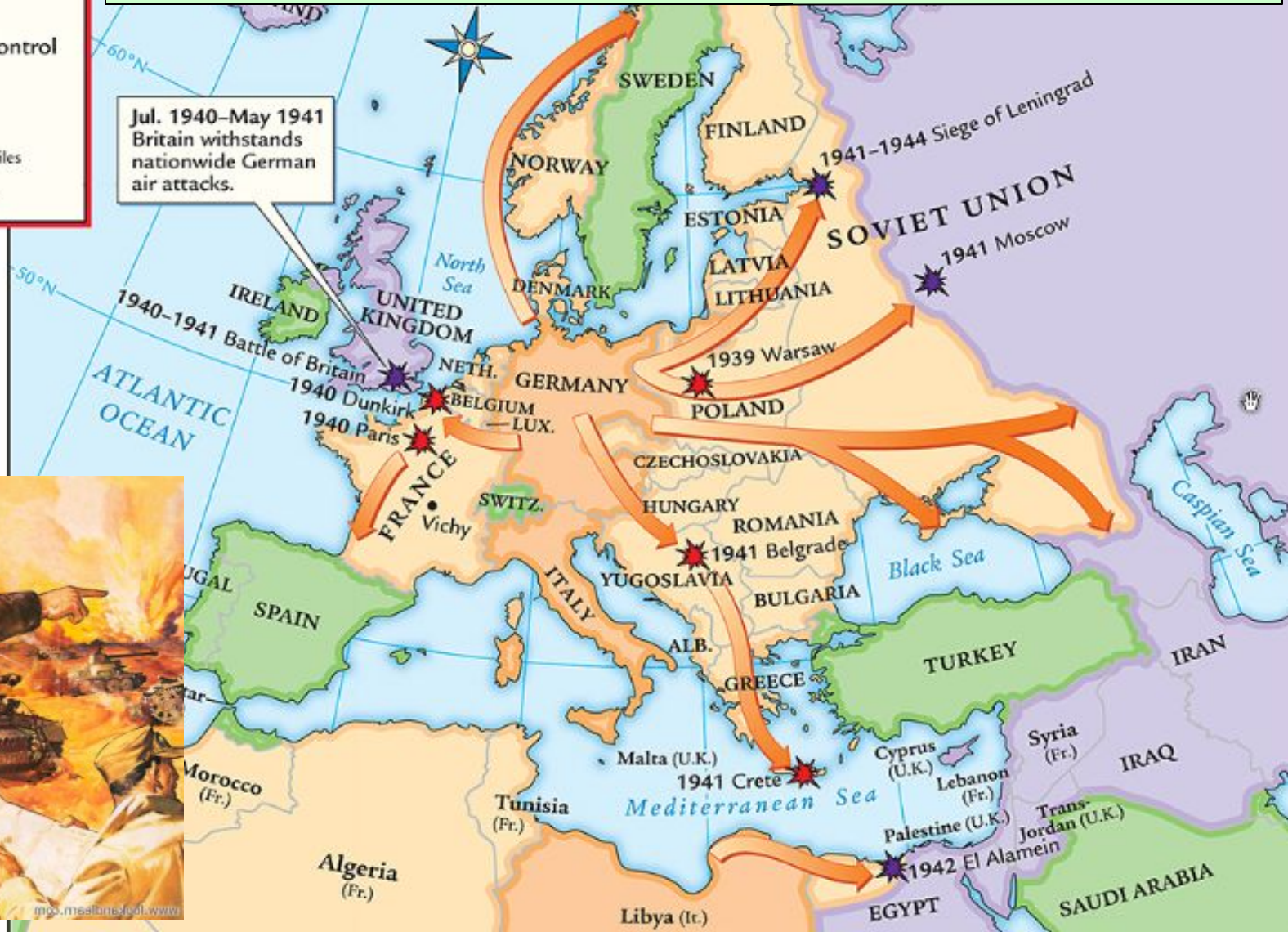
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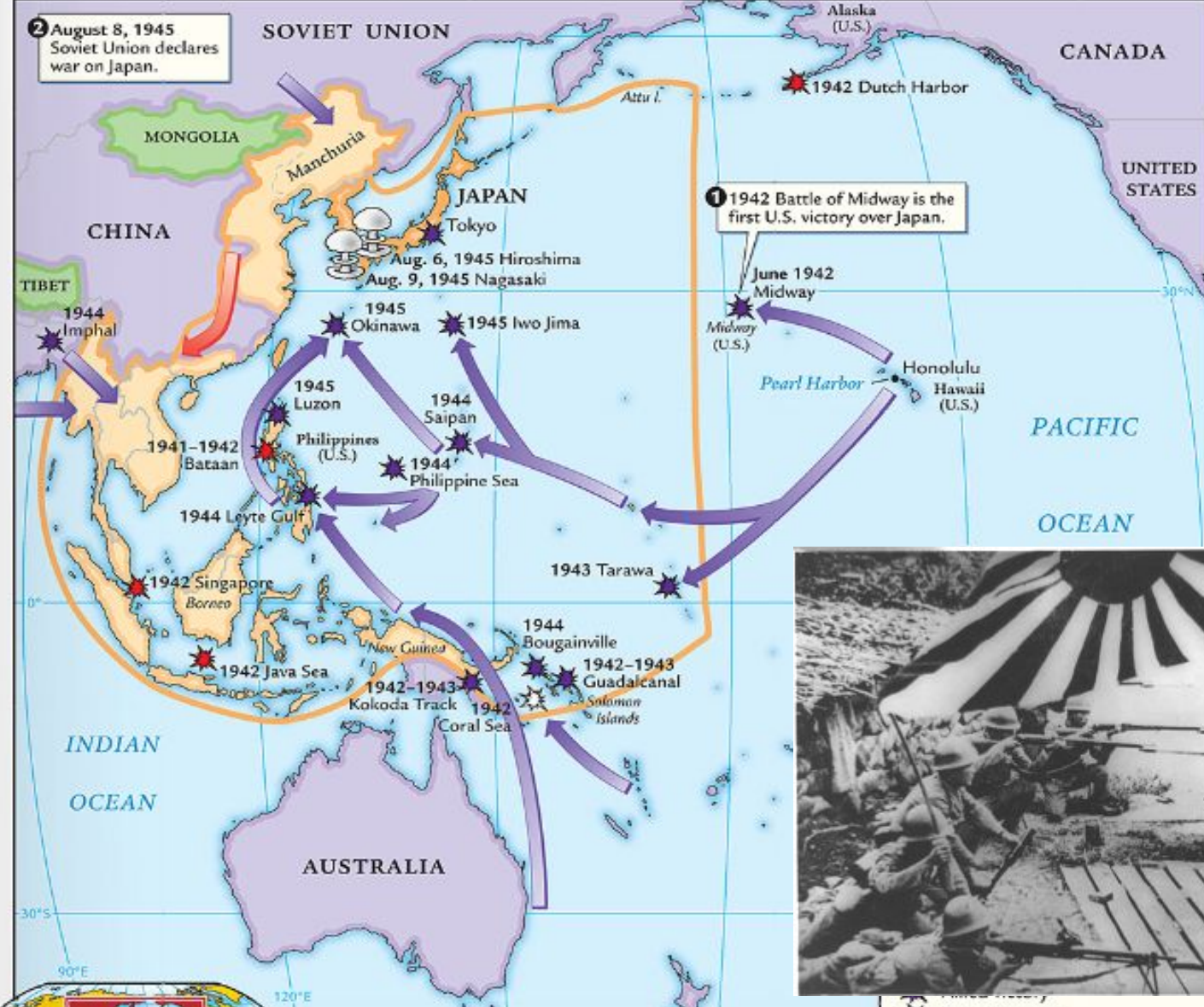
0 250 500 miles  
0 250 500 kilometers

The German & Italian armies dominated Northern Africa, threatened the Suez Canal & the oil fields in the Middle East

Jul. 1940-May 1941  
Britain withstands  
nationwide German  
air attacks.







The Japanese dominated Asia, crippled the U.S. navy after the Pearl Harbor attack, & seized most Western colonies in the Pacific

However, the Allied Powers began to turn the tide of the war in 1942 & defeated the Axis Powers by

1945

## Events of World War II

### EUROPE

**AUG 1939** Nonaggression pact between Germany and the Soviet Union

**SEPT 1939** Germany invades Poland; World War II begins

**MAY 1940** Britain evacuates forces from Dunkirk

**JUNE 1940** France surrenders; the Battle of Britain begins

**JUNE 1941** Germany invades the Soviet Union

**AUG 1942** Hitler orders attack on Stalingrad

**NOV 1942** Allies land in North Africa

**FEB 1943** Germans surrender at Stalingrad

**JUNE 1944** Allies invade Europe on D-Day

**DEC 1944** Battle of the Bulge begins

**MAY 1945** Germany surrenders

### PACIFIC

**DEC 1941** Japanese attack Pearl Harbor; U.S. declares war on Japan

**APR 1942** Bataan Death March begins

**MAY 1942** Allies turn back Japanese fleet in Battle of the Coral Sea; Allies surrender in Philippines

**JUNE 1942** Allies defeat Japan in Battle of Midway

**FEB 1943** Japanese suffer defeat at Battle of Guadalcanal

**OCT 1944** Allies defeat Japan in Battle of Leyte Gulf

**MAR 1945** Allies capture Iwo Jima

**JUNE 1945** Okinawa falls to Allies

**AUG 1945** Allies drop atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki

**SEPT 1945** Japan surrenders





When the USA entered WWII, Stalin wanted the Allies to open a Western Front & divide German army

Instead, Britain & USA agreed to fight the Axis Powers in North Africa (Stalin was angry)

**VICTORY IN EUROPE  
1942-1945**

- Axis power and occupied area, January 1, 1945
- Allied power
- Neutral power
- Allied advance on Germany
- Axis victory
- Allied victory
- No clear victor



American & British troops invaded Italy, took Sicily in 1943, seized Rome in 1944



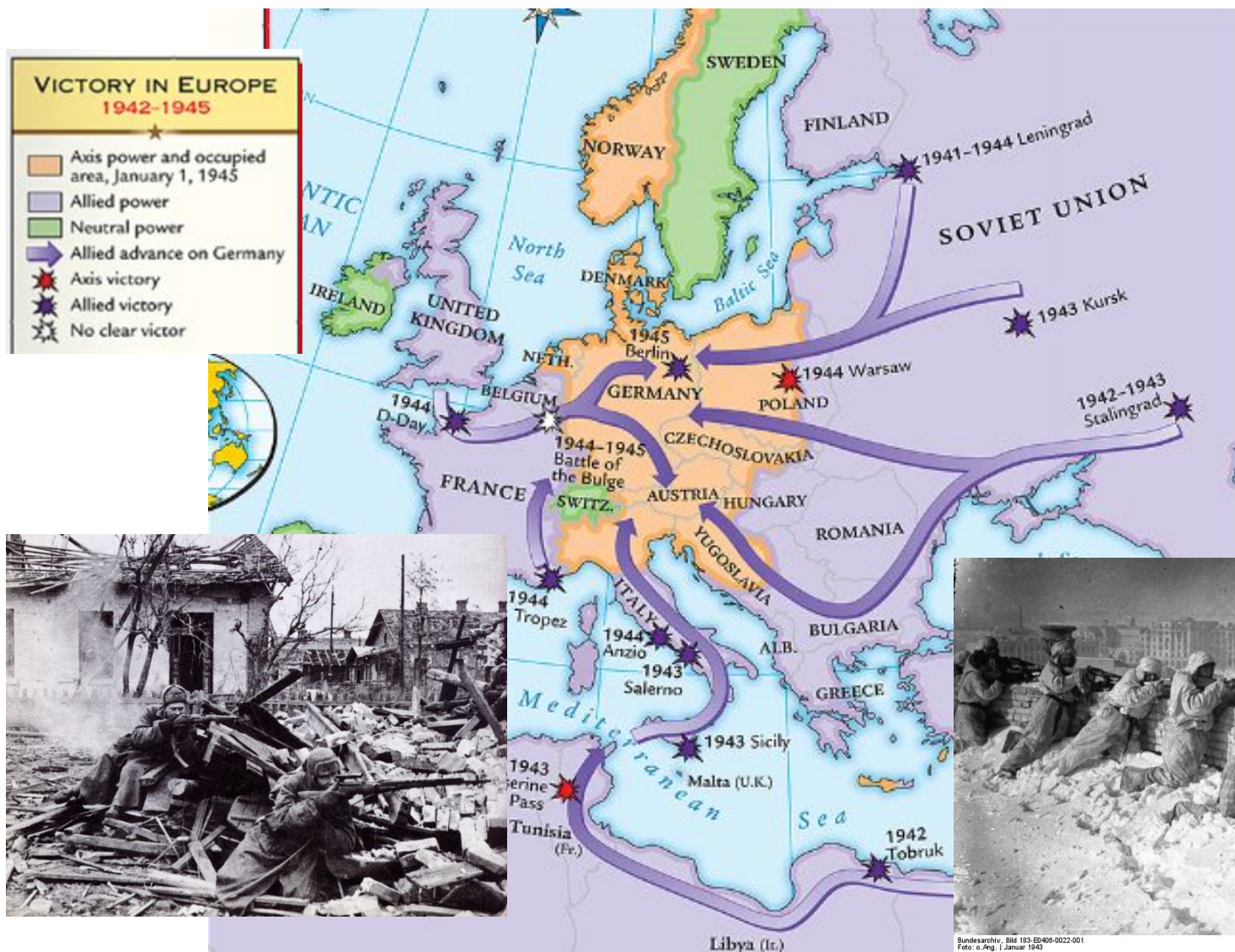
The Allies defeated Germany at the Battle of El Alamein in 1942 & then pushed the Axis Powers out of Africa

In 1945, Mussolini was captured & executed by the Italian resistance

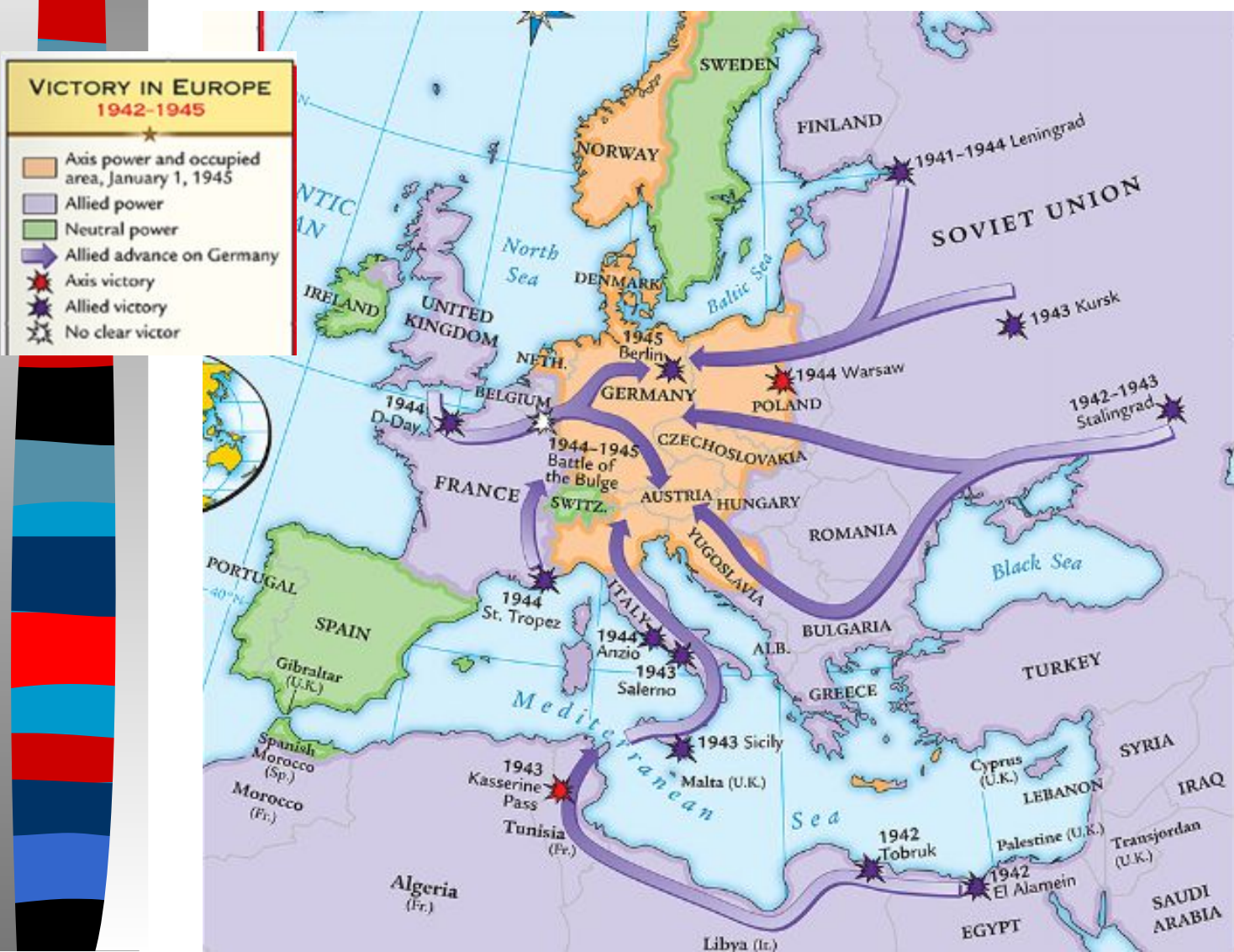


Meanwhile, the Soviet army stopped the German attack at Moscow & Leningrad in 1942

The Soviets defeated the German army at the Battle of Stalingrad



The Soviet victory at Stalingrad was a turning point in World War II because the Russians began pushing towards Germany from the East by 1943





In 1943, Joseph Stalin (USSR), Franklin Roosevelt (USA), & Winston Churchill (Britain)  
met in Tehran to coordinate  
a plan to defeat Germany

At the Tehran Conference, the  
“Big Three” agreed to open a  
second front to divide the  
German army



By 1944, the Allies decided to open a Western Front by invading Nazi-occupied France

Operation Overlord (called D-Day) in June 1944 was the largest land & sea attack in history



The invasion at Normandy, the largest sea invasion in history, launched the Allied western assault. German forces, expecting the invasion at the Strait of Dover, were caught short-handed at Normandy.



The Normandy invasion was deadly, but the Allied victory created a Western Front...



### BEACHES OF NORMANDY JUNE 6, 1944

➔ Allied invasion force

Utah Code name for beach

Paratroops landing site

Fortified German Positions

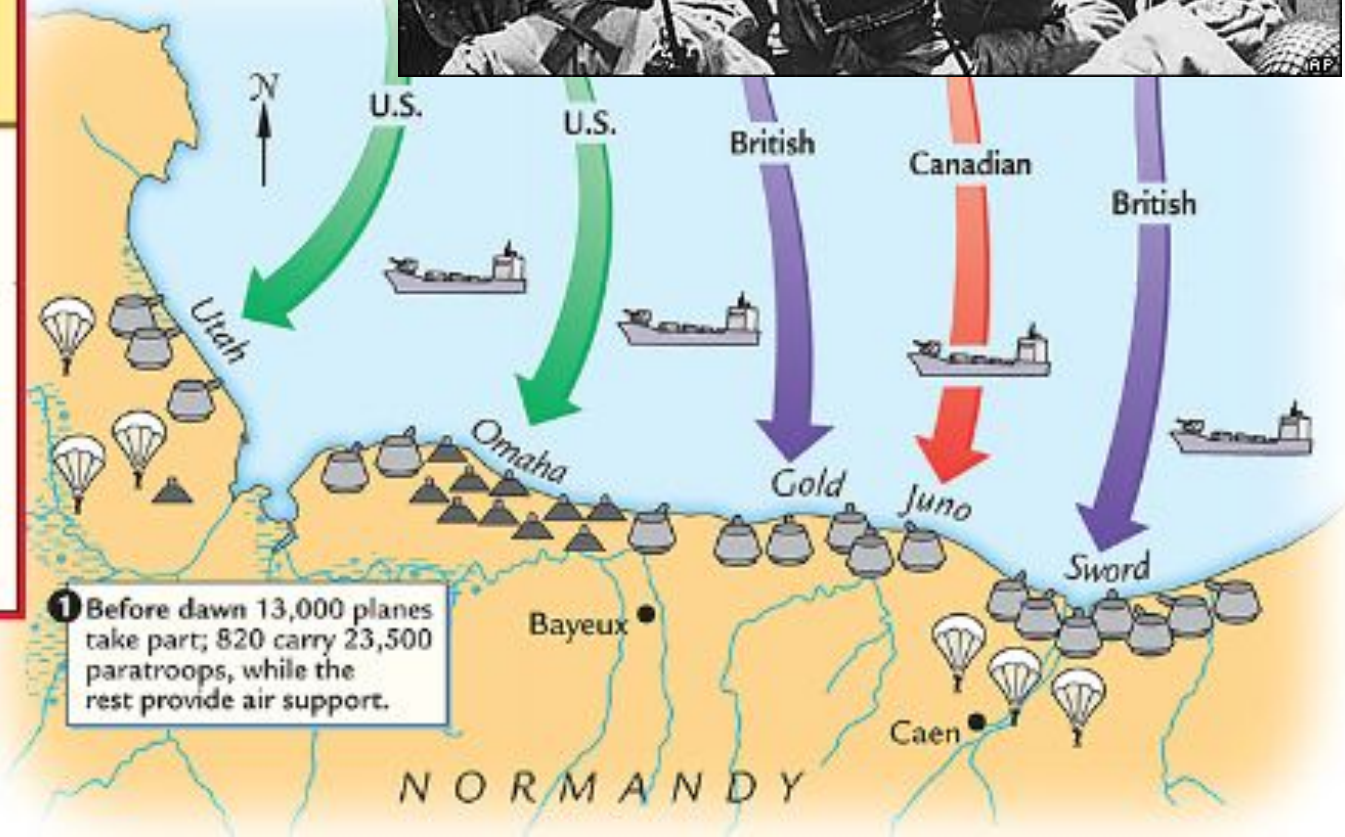
Artillery

Machine guns

0 5 10 15 miles

0 5 10 15 kilometers

Allied troops met the most resistance at Omaha Beach. However, by the end of the day, the Allies controlled all five beaches in Normandy.



...and allowed the Allies to push towards Germany from the West

At the same time, the Soviet army pushed from the East



### VICTORY IN EUROPE 1942-1945

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Forced to fight a two-front war, Hitler ordered a massive counter-attack at the Battle of the Bulge..but lost

By March 1945, the Allies were fighting in Germany & pushing towards Berlin



In February 1945, the “Big Three” met at the Yalta Conference to create a plan for Europe after the war was over

Stalin agreed to send troops to help the U.S. invade Japan

They agreed to allow self-determination (free elections) in nations freed from Nazi rule

They agreed to occupy Germany after the war

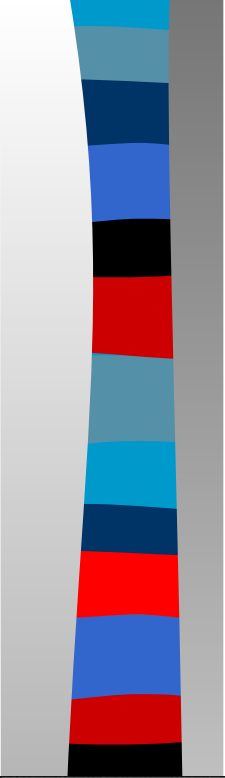
They agreed to create & join a United Nations

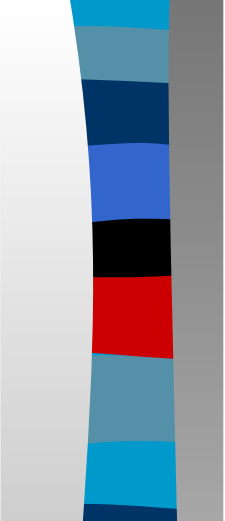


As the Allies pushed into Germany & Poland, troops discovered & liberated concentration & death camps











In April 1945, the Soviet army captured Berlin



# HITLER DEAD

**Fuehrer Fell at CP, German Radio Says;  
Doenitz at Helm, Vows War Will Continue**

German radio announced last night that Adolf Hitler had died. Adm. Karl Doenitz, former commander-in-chief of the German Navy, has succeeded him as ruler of the Reich, the radio announcer went on.

Doenitz made a radio speech immediately after the announcement, Hitler said, and declared that Germany would continue to wage war. His statement spiked peace rumors which had been prevalent for more than a week in all world capitals.

**Churchill  
Hints Peace  
Is at Hand**



Churchill's speech, broadcast in London, was the first since the announcement of Hitler's death. He said that the British people should be prepared for the possibility of a long and hard struggle, but that he believed peace was within reach. He also mentioned that the British people should be prepared for the possibility of a long and hard struggle, but that he believed peace was within reach.

The announcement did not give any details of how the Reich Fuehrer died. The news was broadcast after solemn Wagnerian music, including "Eulogie of the Gods," was played.

"Ich bin, ich bleibe," a voice said, "in a few minutes you will hear a solemn and important message to the German people. We are now going to play a movement of Beethoven's Seventh Symphony." Finally, the report of Hitler's death was given.

Hitler's death came three days after his last radio broadcast, Berlin broadcast of Italy, was killed by Italian partisans near the village of Durnau on Lake Garda.

Doenitz, in his speech, said that Hitler "had fallen at his command post," while standing calm and that he died in the Reich Chancellery in Berlin yesterday afternoon. Had long groups of German boys and girls in Berlin.

(Continued on Page A2)



On April 30, 1945,  
Hitler committed suicide



On May 9, 1945, the German government signed an unconditional surrender to the Allies



# The world celebrated V-E Day (Victory in Europe)





While the war was coming to an end in Europe, the Allies continued to fight the Japanese in the Pacific

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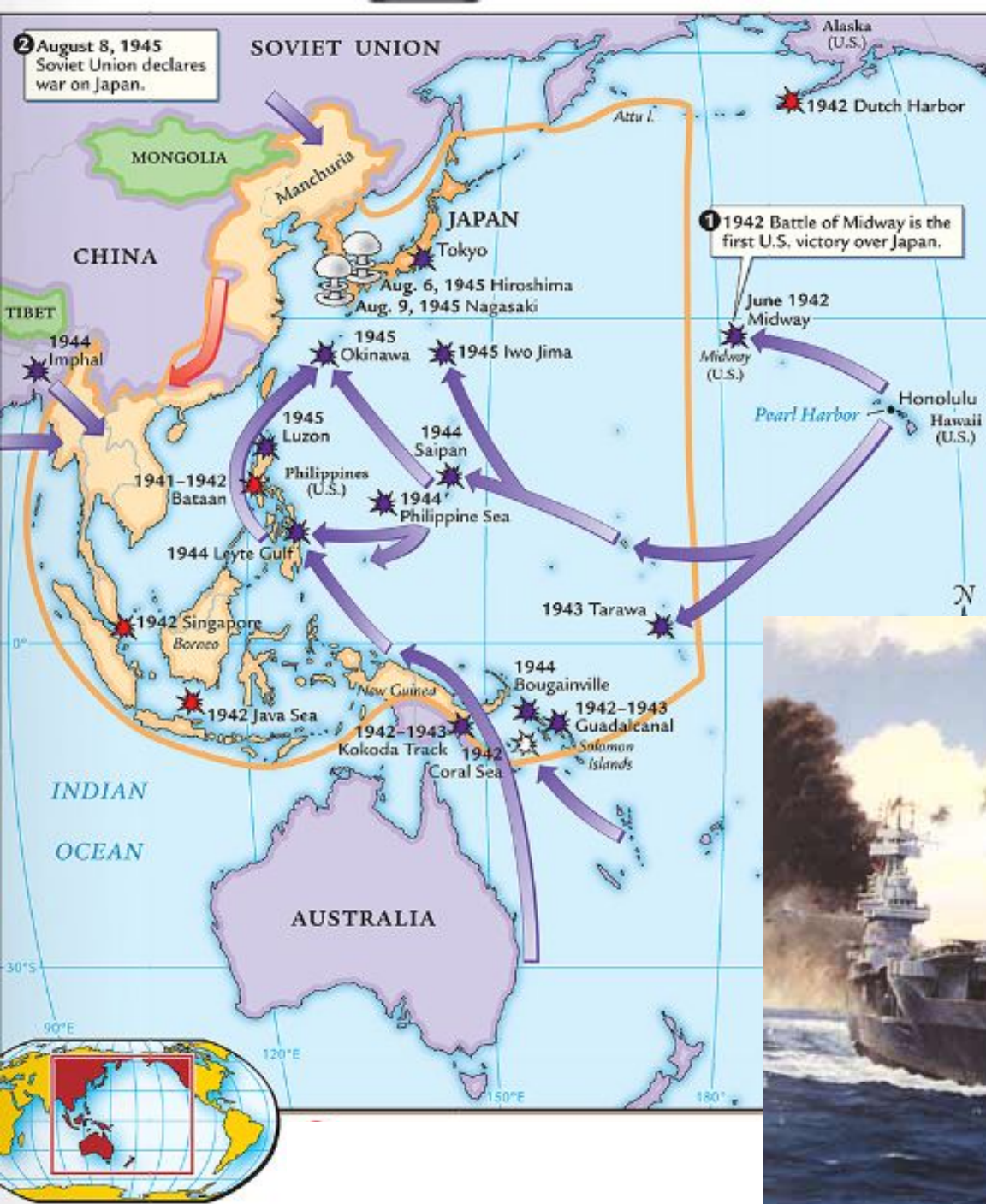
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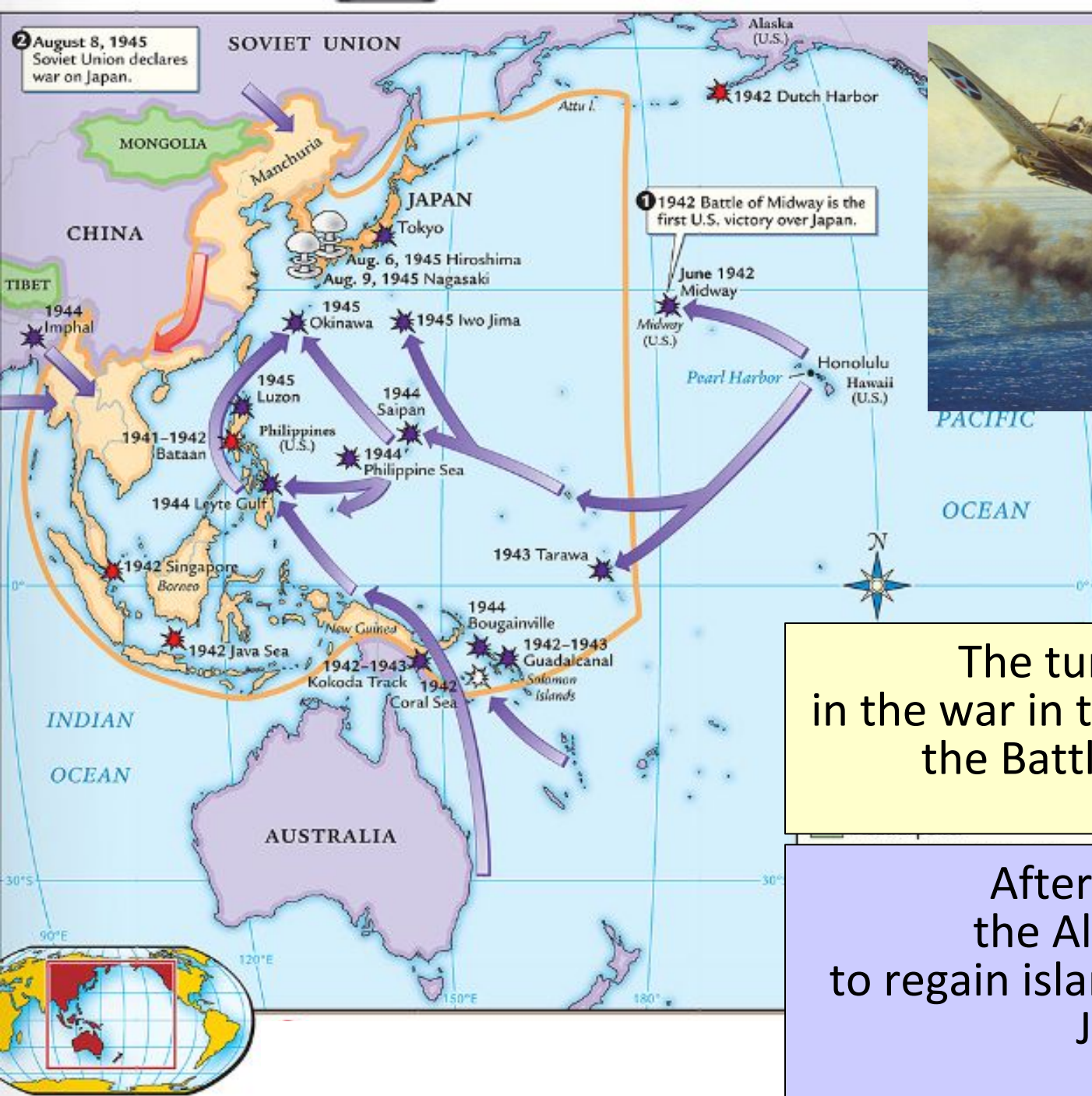


After the attack on Pearl Harbor, the USA sent troops to the Pacific theater

The Pacific war revealed a new kind of fighting by using aircraft carriers







The turning point  
in the war in the Pacific came at  
the Battle of Midway

After Midway,  
the Allies began  
to regain islands controlled by  
Japan

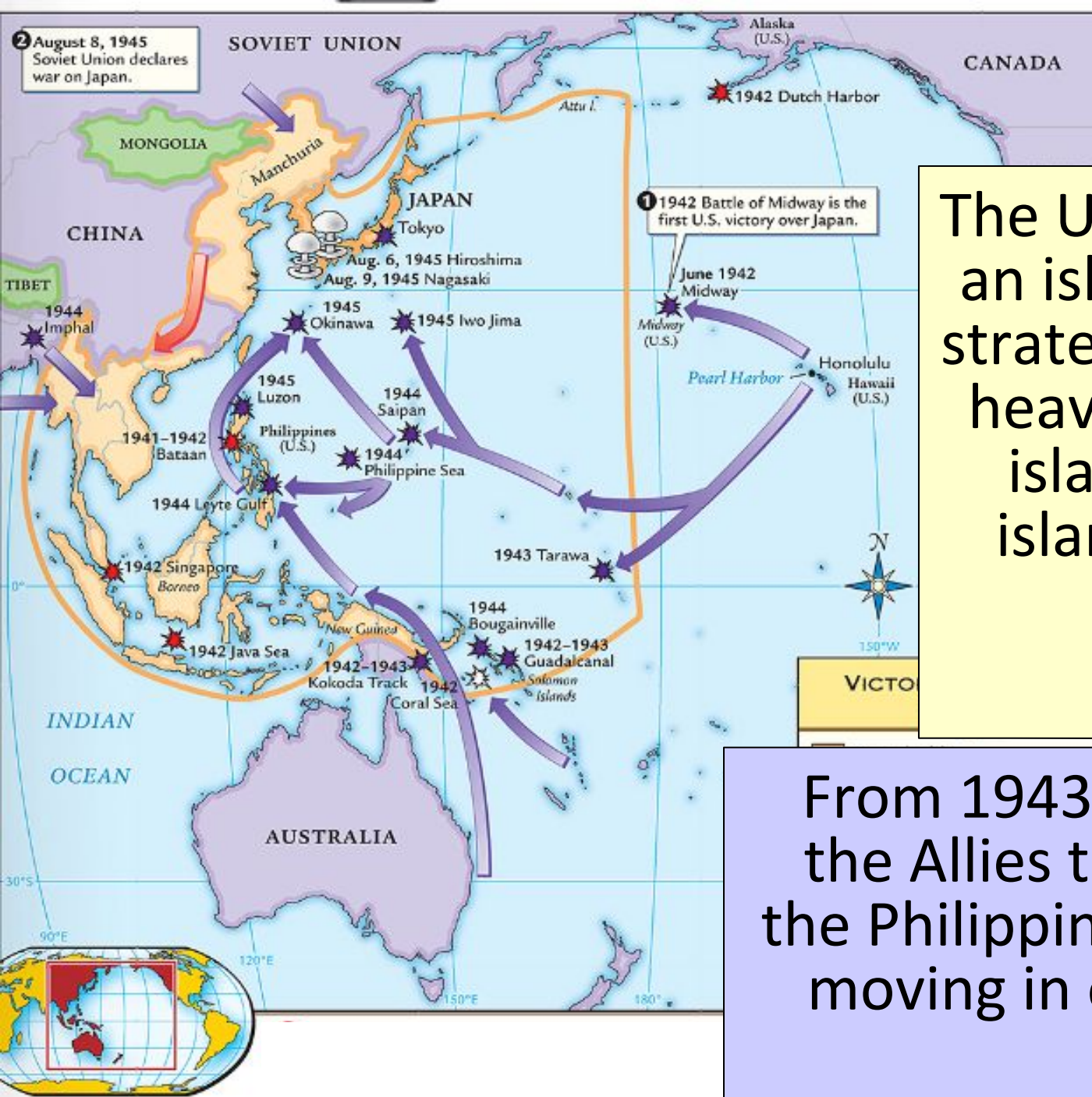
# Japan did not play by traditional rules in war



“Kamikaze” pilots flew planes into battleships & aircraft carriers

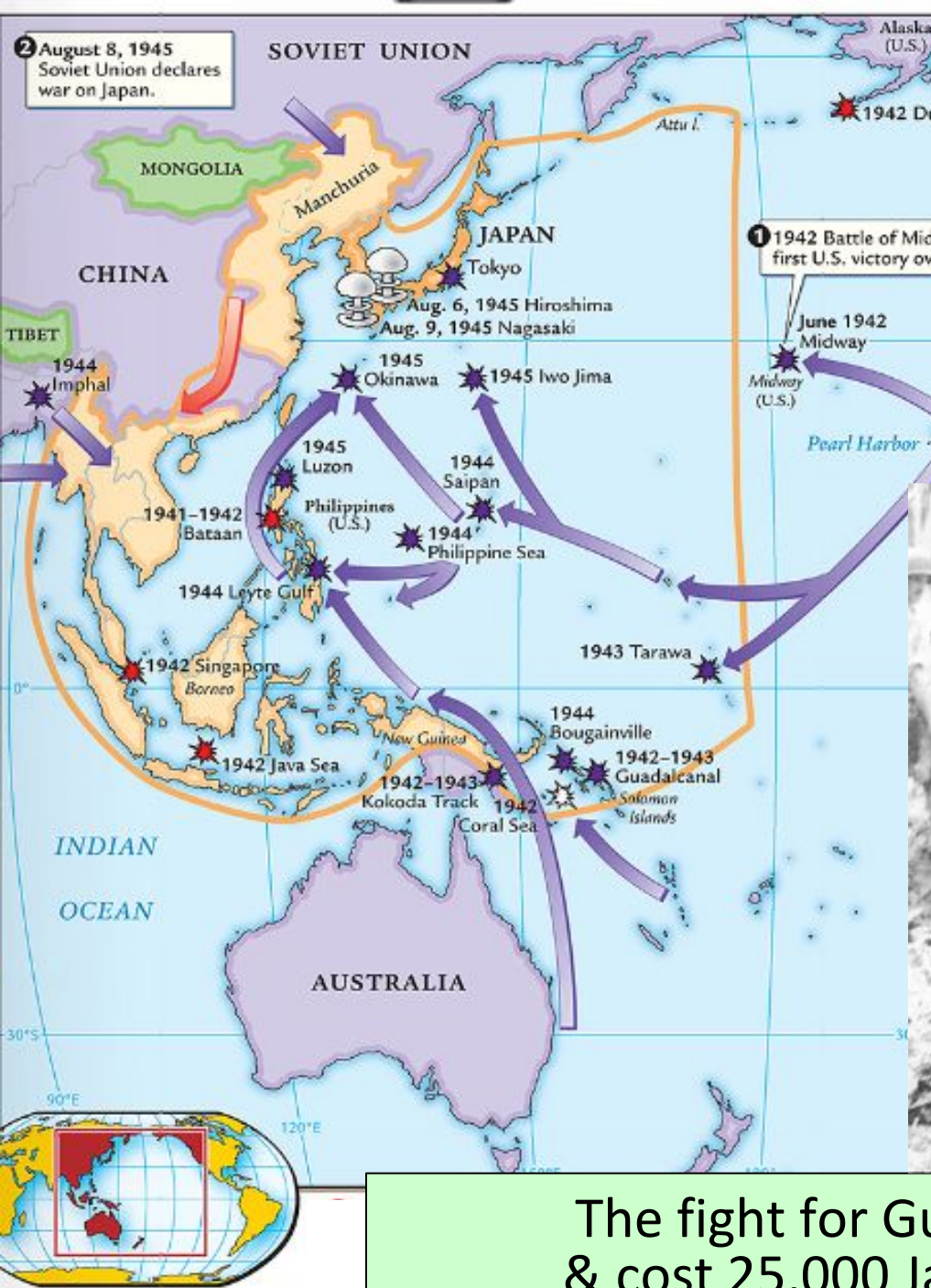
Japanese soldiers refused to surrender & tortured Allied prisoners of war





The U.S. developed an island-hopping strategy to skip the heavily defended islands & seize islands close to Japan

From 1943 to 1945, the Allies took back the Philippines & were moving in on Japan



The problem for the Allies was the time & troops it would cost to retake the thousands of islands the Japanese controlled in the Pacific



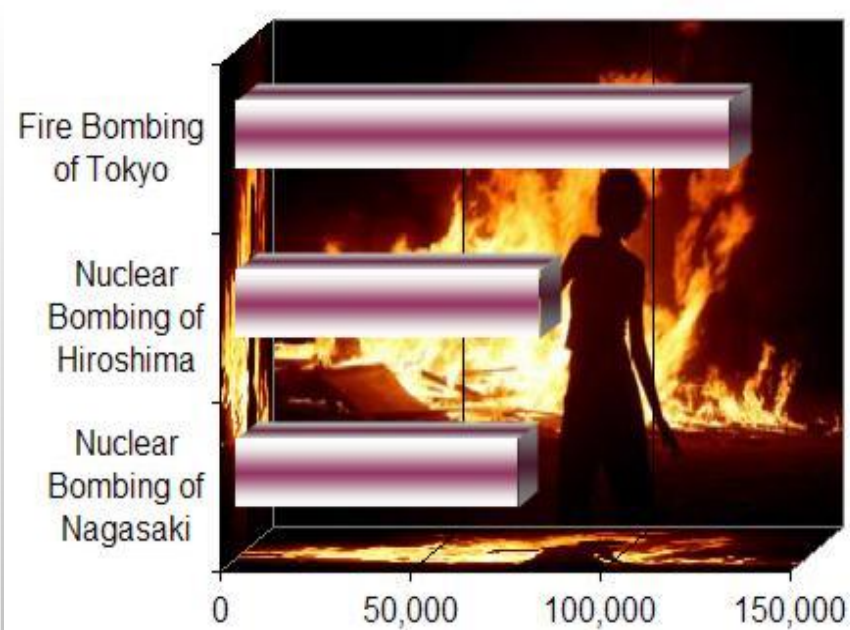
The fight for Guadalcanal took 6 months & cost 25,000 Japanese & 2,000 U.S. lives



In 1945, the Allies won the islands of Iwo Jima & Okinawa







From these islands, the U.S. began firebombing Japanese cities

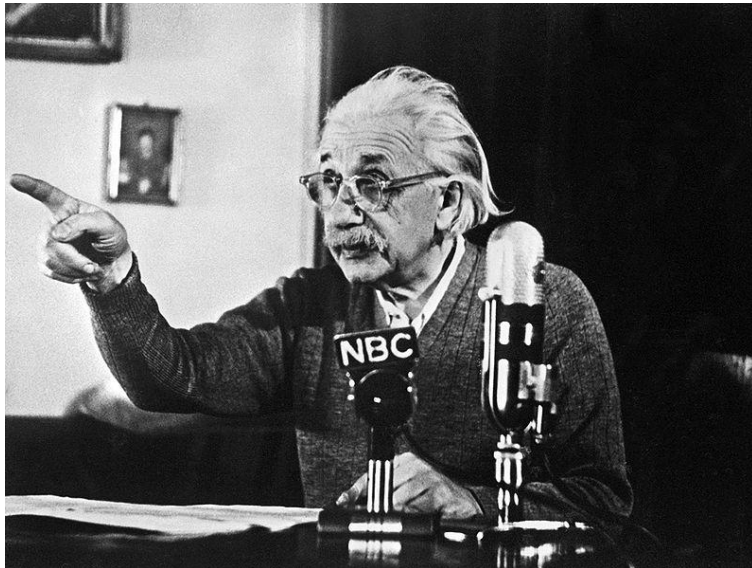






In 1939, Albert Einstein wrote  
U.S. President Franklin  
Roosevelt  
about the potential to build a  
nuclear weapon

FDR created a top-secret  
program called the Manhattan  
Project



Albert Einstein  
Old Grove Rd.  
Massau Point  
Peconic, Long Island

August 2nd, 1939

F.D. Roosevelt,  
President of the United States,  
White House  
Washington, D.C.

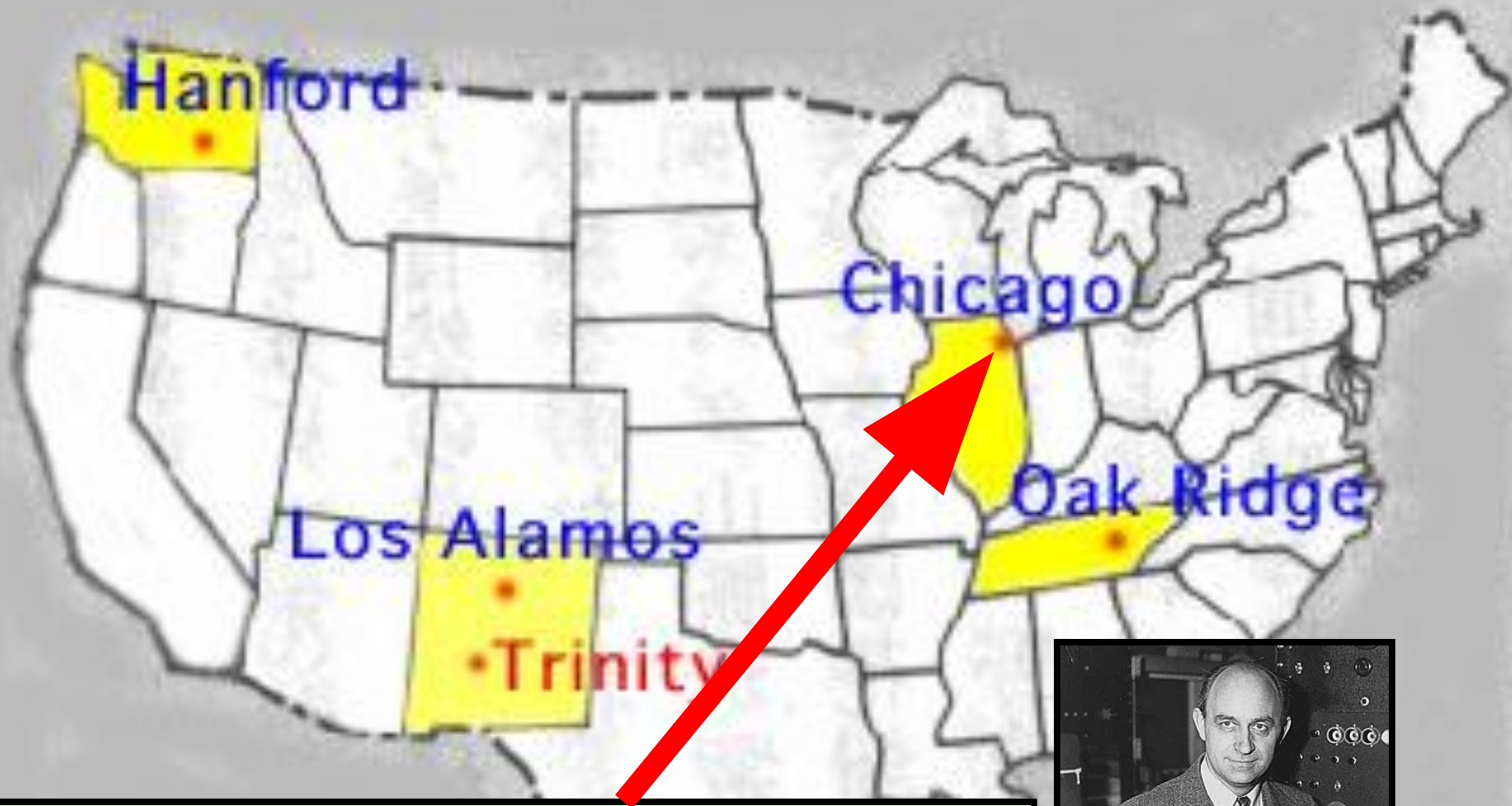
Sir:

Some recent work by E. Fermi and L. Szilard, which has been communicated to me in manuscript, leads me to expect that the element uranium may be turned into a new and important source of energy in the immediate future. Certain aspects of the situation which has arisen seem to call for watchfulness and, if necessary, quick action on the part of the Administration. I believe therefore that it is my duty to bring to your attention the following facts and recommendations:

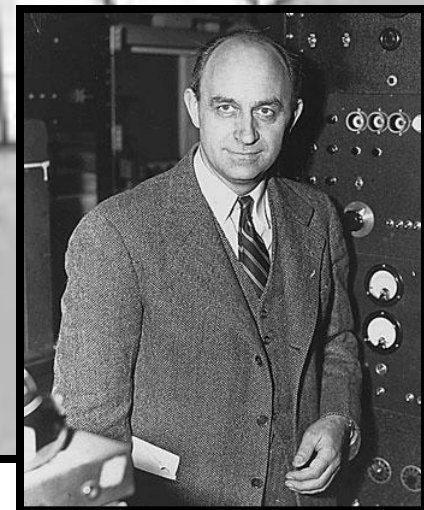
In the course of the last four months it has been made probable - through the work of Joliot in France as well as Fermi and Szilard in America - that it may become possible to set up a nuclear chain reaction in a large mass of uranium, by which vast amounts of power and large quantities of new radium-like elements would be generated. Now it appears almost certain that this could be achieved in the immediate future.

This new phenomenon would also lead to the construction of bombs, and it is conceivable - though much less certain - that extremely powerful bombs of a new type may thus be constructed. A single bomb of this type, carried by boat and exploded in a port, might very well destroy the whole port together with some of the surrounding territory. However, such bombs might very well prove to be too heavy for transportation by air.

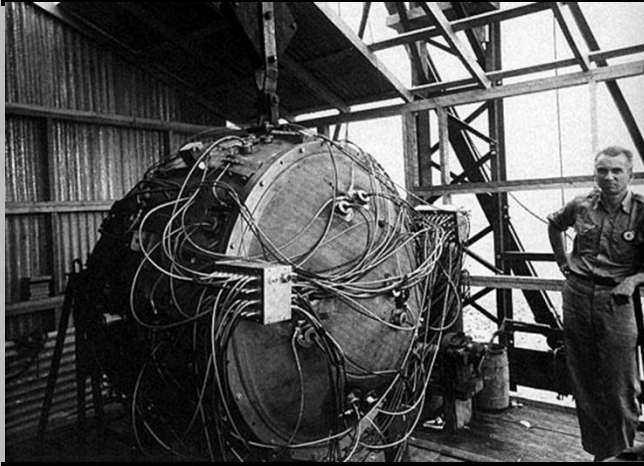




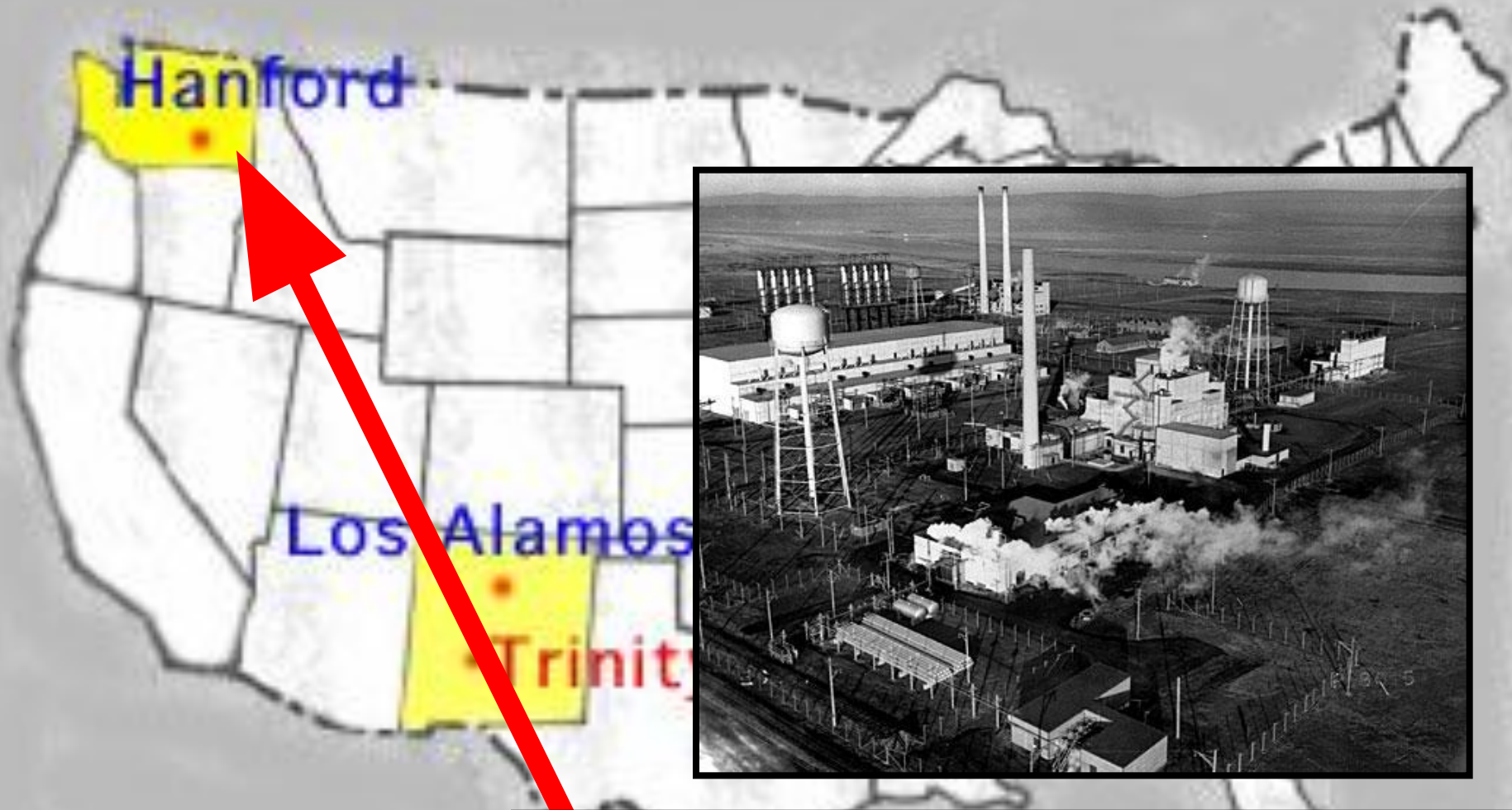
Physicist Enrico Fermi at the University of Chicago developed the nuclear reaction



The bomb was constructed in a secret city in Oak Ridge, TN

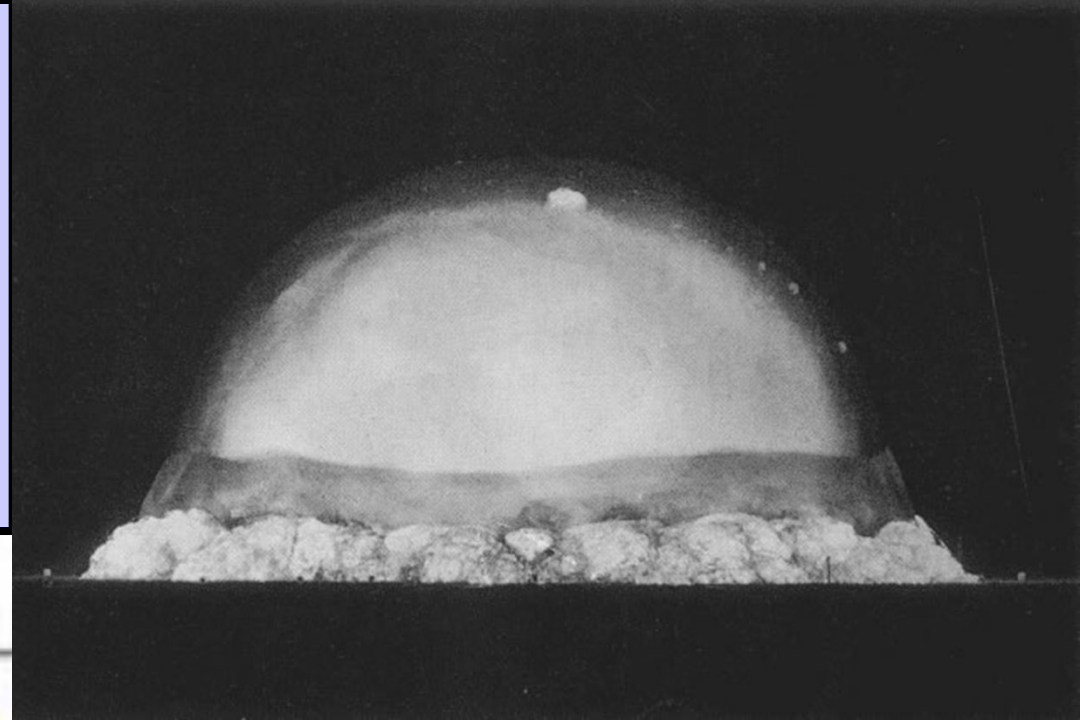




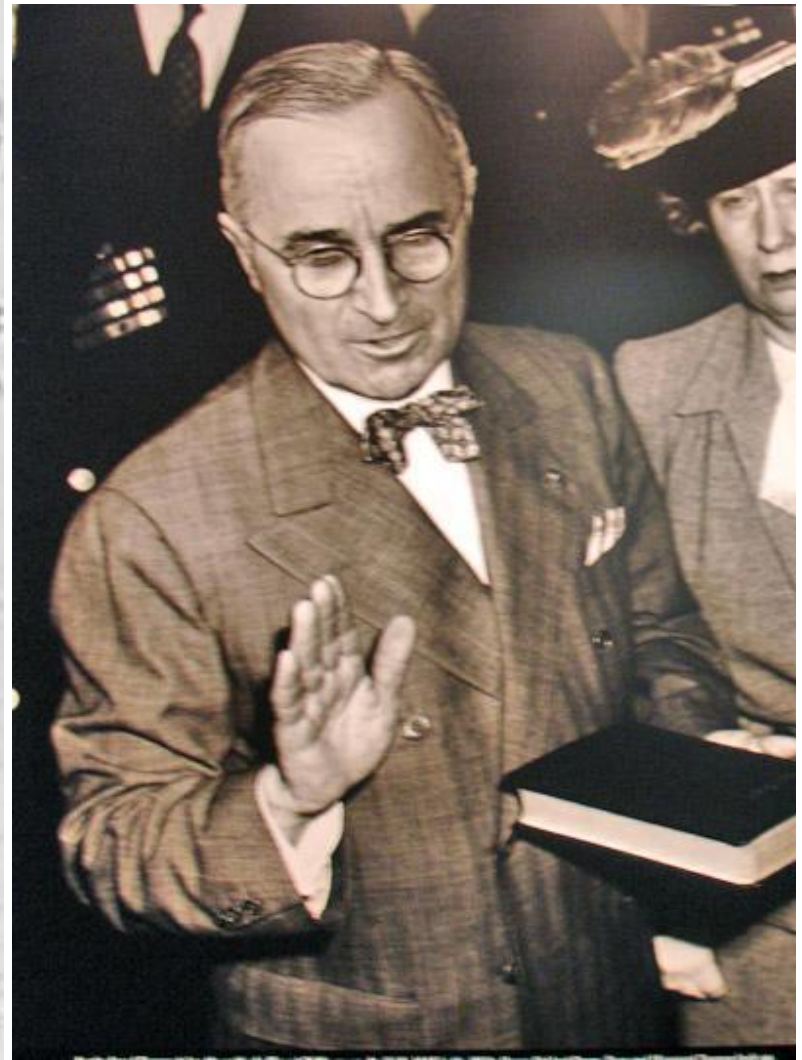


Nuclear plant in Hanford, WA  
developed the plutonium

In July 1945, the bomb was successfully tested at Los Alamos, New Mexico during Project Trinity







In April 1945, FDR died & his VP Harry Truman had to decide how to end the war in the Pacific

# How to End the War?

## Critical Thinking Activity

- Assume the role of an advisor to President Truman & help him decide how to end the war:
  - Identify the main problem
  - Brainstorm possible alternatives to solve the problem
  - For each possibility, think of one positive & one negative consequence
  - Identify the one best solution & be prepared to present your advice



In July 1945, the Big Three met at the Potsdam Conference to discuss the end of WWII

Truman learned the atomic bomb was ready & issued the Potsdam Declaration to Japan: "surrender or face destruction"



When Japan refused to surrender, Truman ordered the bombing of Hiroshima on August 6, 1945



## Hiroshima: Day of Fire

### Impact of the Bombing

Ground temperatures	7,000°F
Hurricane force winds	980 miles per hour
Energy released	20,000 tons of TNT
Buildings destroyed	62,000 buildings
Killed immediately	70,000 people
Dead by the end of 1945	140,000 people
Total deaths related to A-bomb	200,000 people



After 3 days, Japan did not  
surrender so a  
2<sup>nd</sup> atomic bomb was  
dropped on Nagasaki



**THE STARS AND STRIPES** EXTRA  
CAIRO Wednesday, August 18, 1945 1945

# IT'S ALL OVER!

## Truman Announces Japs' Unconditional Surrender



GEN. HARRY S. TRUMAN  
Commander in Chief

**WASHINGTON, Aug. 15 (Army News Service)—**Japan has officially accepted the Allied terms for unconditional surrender without qualification, President Truman announced Tuesday, at 1900 hours.

The surrender will be accepted by General MacArthur when arrangements can be completed. The terms provide that authority of the Emperor shall be subject to the Supreme Commander of the Allied Forces with the Japanese laying such orders as the Emperor (Emperor) requires.

Gen. MacArthur will be Allied Supreme Commander in Japan.

Other terms as set forth in the Potsdam Declaration call for elimination of militarism and influence of those "who have deceived and misled people of Japan into embarking on world conquest," occupation by Allied of designated points in Japanese territory, ending of Japanese sovereignty in land, sea and air, disarmament, complete disarmament of all the military forces, removal of all obstacles to control of "democratic institutions" among Japanese people, and withdrawal of all Japanese forces from all other Japanese lands from surrendered and occupied Japanese Government has long established.



GEN. DOUGLAS A. MACARTHUR  
Supreme Allied Commander

**REMARKS MADE BY THE PRESIDENT AT 10:00 P. M. AT THE WHITE HOUSE**  
At 10:00 p. m. today, the President announced the acceptance of the Japanese surrender without qualification. The President said that the Japanese had accepted the terms of the Potsdam Declaration. The President said that the Japanese had accepted the terms of the Potsdam Declaration. The President said that the Japanese had accepted the terms of the Potsdam Declaration.

**THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE TO THE CONGRESS**  
The President's message to the Congress is as follows: "I have the honor to announce to you that the Japanese have accepted the terms of the Potsdam Declaration without qualification. This is a day of great rejoicing for the American people and for the people of all the nations which have fought bravely against the Japanese aggressor."



After the second atomic bomb, Emperor Hirohito agreed to a surrender



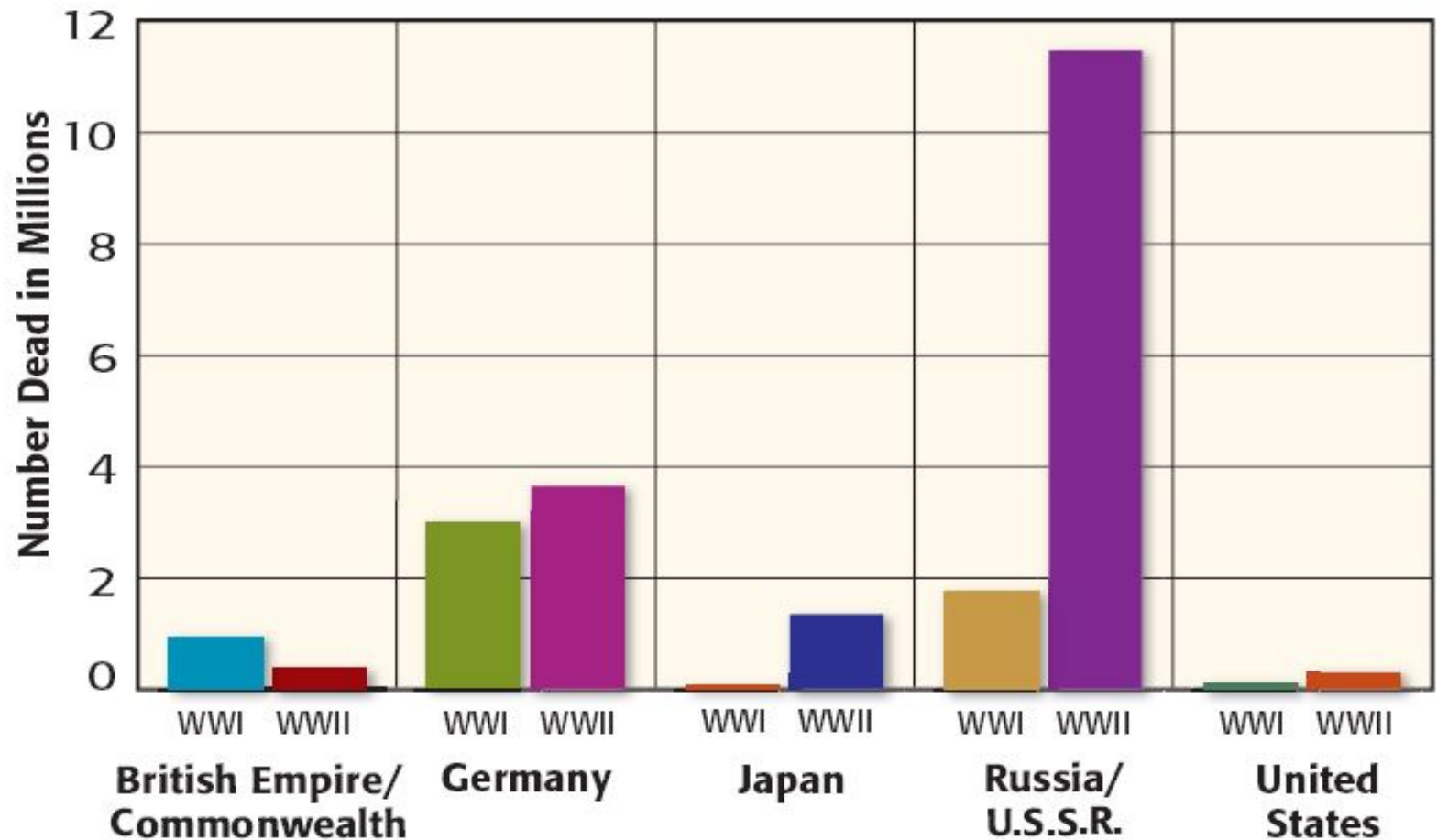


# World War II was over



# Conclusions: The Impact of World War II

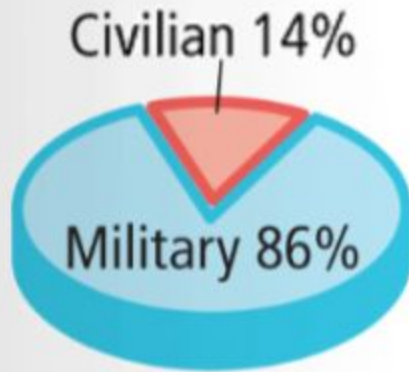
**Military Casualties, World War I and World War II**



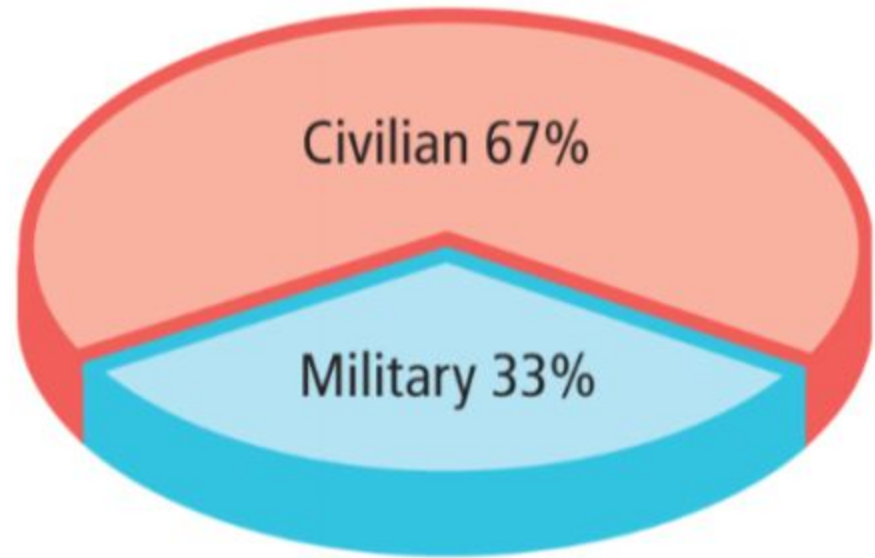


# Conclusions: The Impact of World War II

## Lives Lost in World Wars



**World War I**  
10 million dead



**World War II**  
51 million dead



Worldwide, World War II took the lives of more people, mostly civilians, than any other war.

# Conclusions: The Impact of World War II

- World War II was the biggest, most deadly, & most impactful war in world history:
  - Europe was destroyed by the war & lost its place as the epicenter of power in the world
  - The USA & USSR emerged as super powers & rivals competing for influence in the world
  - A United Nations was formed to replace the League of Nations to help promote peace
  - Colonized nation began to demand independence from Europeans