

WORLD WAR II: THE WAR



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Complete the questions in yellow

- REWRITE = WRITE IT CORRECTLY
- COMPLETE = FINISH THE SENTENCE
- **SUMMARIZE** = QUICK SUMMARY FOR SUPERSTARS

Send to your teacher to check when complete....



By the end of this BFUs you should know:

- What are the leaders of WWII?
- What are the strategies of WWII?
- What is the D-Day, the Atomic Bomb, Midway?



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

(Isoroku Yamamoto)

izquotes.com

So, who is the Sleeping Giant?

Misconception:

The United States is always getting in every other country's business.

Truth:

The United States DID NOT want to enter World War II. **THE UNITED STATES, FOR MOST OF ITS HISTORY, HAS BEEN ISOLATIONIST.** This means that it didn't want to get in wars or disputes with other countries.

The United States was always reluctant to enter wars. Reluctant means when you really don't want to do something.

- If we go back to 1917...

The United States really didn't really want to enter World War I. Then, the Germans attacked that ship—the Lusitania—and the US entered the war.

- If we go back to 1940, **the United States really didn't want to enter World War II.**

The American people love isolationism.
Isolationism is a diplomatic policy. Diplomatic means how you get along with other countries. So, the United States attitude was: “Ain’t none of my business! We just need to take care of ourselves.”



KEEP U.S.

OUT OF WAR



Rewrite

1. The United States is eager to enter wars.
2. The American policy is internationalism.

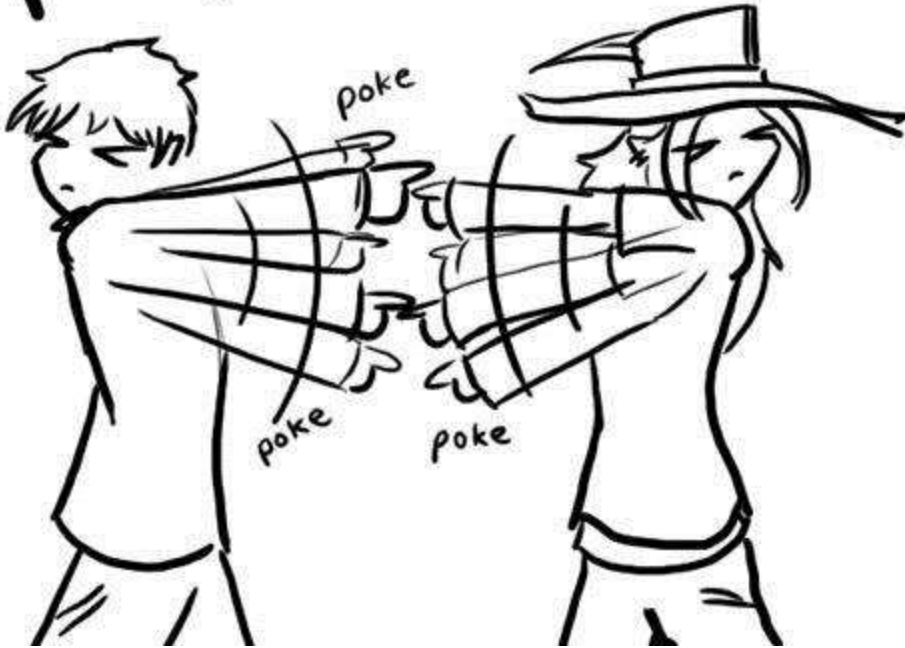
The president of the United States is Franklin Delano Roosevelt. He has been president longer than anyone else—3 terms. By the time he dies, he will be president 4 terms. Roosevelt is angry at Hitler. He is nervous about what Hitler will do in Europe. But the American people don't support a war. They are just getting out of the Great Depression. They want isolationism. They say: "Ain't none of our business what Hitler does in Europe."

The United States is the sleeping giant. It is the most powerful, most industrial country in the world at this time. How do you wake up a Sleeping Giant? You poke it really hard.

Rewrite

1. Germany is a sleeping giant.
2. Before, the American diplomatic policy is...
3. The president of the United States at the time is...
4. Roosevelt doesn't want war with Hitler but the American people do.

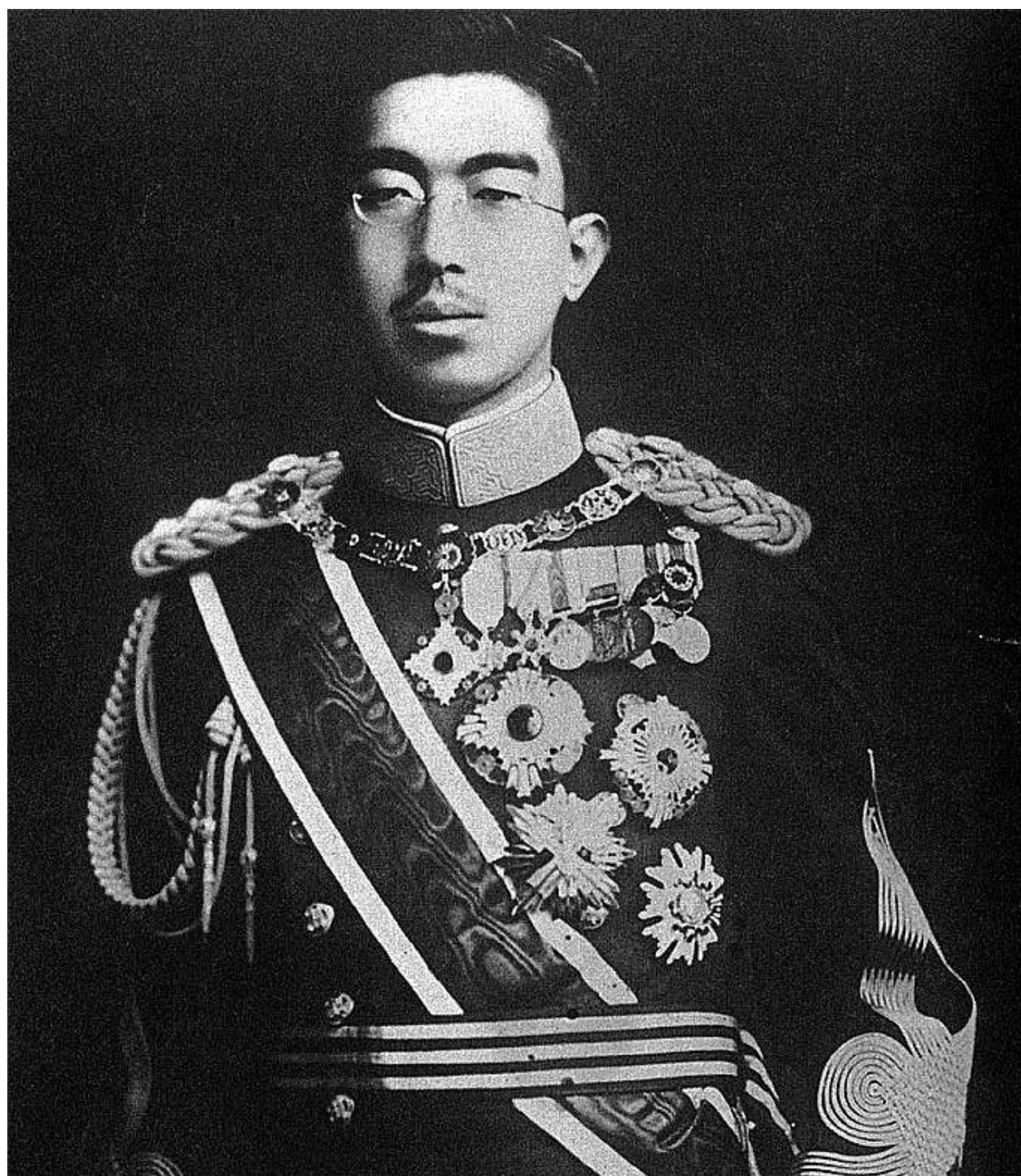
poke WAR!



Japan is going to “poke” the Sleeping Giant, and they are going to pay for it!

Japan is expanding into the Pacific. They are taking island after island. They need oil for their ships. They need resources.

The leaders of Japan are Tojo and Hirohito. Tojo is in charge of the army. Hirohito is the Emperor.



The Japanese army is strategic. They know how to make a good strategy. They know that Japan is very close to controlling all of the Pacific Ocean.



The Japanese want to control the Pacific. But there is one problem: **The United States has a very large fleet that is stationed in Pearl Harbor.** Pearl Harbor is on the island of Hawaii. Fleet refers to a group of warships (boats) and airplanes. So, the other big power in the Pacific is the United States. And they are isolationist.

Rewrite

1. China is the biggest power in the Pacific.
2. The other big power in the Pacific is...
3. The largest American army is located in Pearl Harbor.
4. Pearl Harbor is in Japan.



Tojo

The military leader Tojo makes a plan for Japan. He knows about Pearl Harbor. He knows that the Americans are nervous about Europe. He thinks that he can surprise attack them.

Tojo sends his bombers to Pearl Harbor. They take the Americans by surprise. They succeed! The American Fleet is destroyed. Will the Americans surrender? Or Will the Sleeping Giant wake up?

Rewrite

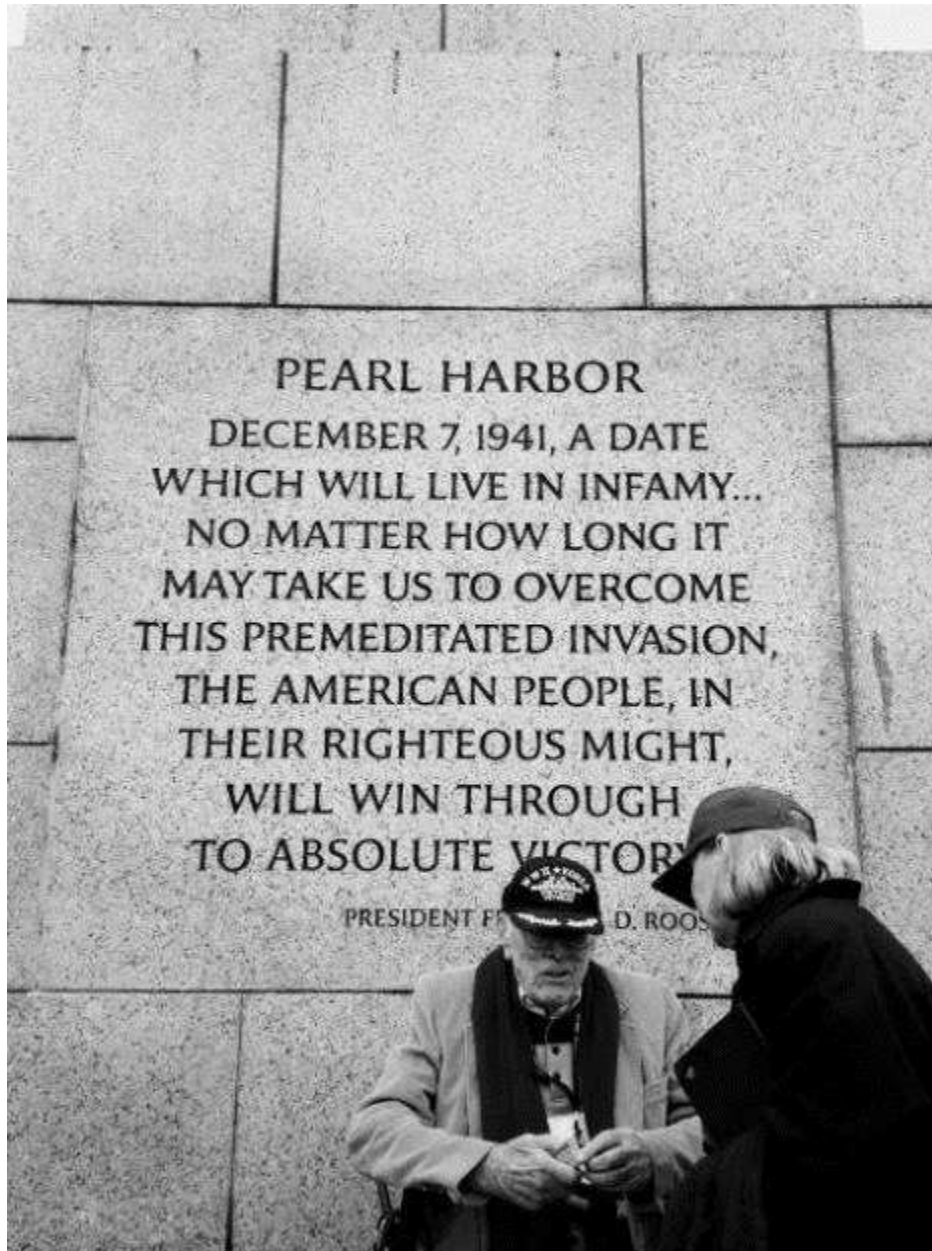
1. Tojo is the leader of the American forces.
2. Tojo's plan is to declare war on the United States first, then attack Pearl Harbor.
3. The Pearl Harbor mission is a failure for the Japanese.

On December 7, 1941, the Empire of Japan attacked the United States of America. They attacked Pearl Harbor. They didn't declare war first. They just attacked.

The results:

4 battleships sunk
3 battleships damaged
1 battleship grounded
2 other ships sunk^[nb 2]
3 cruisers damaged^[nb 3]
3 destroyers damaged
3 other ships damaged
188 aircraft destroyed
159^[3] aircraft damaged
2,403 killed
1,178 wounded^{[4][5]}





President Roosevelt gave a speech in which he said:

“December 7, 1941, is a day that will live in infamy.”

Infamy means being famous for bad, evil things. **The USA declared war on Japan.**

Rewrite

1. Pearl Harbor was devastating for Japan.
2. President Roosevelt called the attack of Pearl Harbor a day that...
3. Infamy means –
4. Japan declared war on the USA.

Complete

1. What event propelled the USA into World War 2?

So, the USA is in the war with Japan. Japan is allied with Germany and Japan. **They are called the Axis Powers.** The USA joins with England and USSR. They are the allied powers!

NOW WE HAVE A WORLD WAR!

It's 1942. America is in the war. Roosevelt is president. They need to make a strategy to stop BOTH Hitler in Europe and Tojo in Japan. They decide to **STOP HITLER FIRST**. This is the American strategy. Focus on Hitler, save England, and then they can go after the Japanese.

America's goal is to stop Hitler. Hitler seems unstoppable. He is destroying the Soviet Union. He controls all of Europe and much of Russia.

Hitler is invading deep into Russia. He gets stuck at a city called Stalingrad. The Soviets stop Hitler at this city. The battle lasts for 5 months. Each side has about 1,000,000 deaths.



Rewrite

1. Hitler controls most of...
2. The Americans stop Hitler at the battle of Stalingrad.
3. 1,000 people die at Stalingrad.
4. The Americans strategy is to _____.

The Americans have to fight two wars. They have to fight in the Pacific against the Japanese. They have to fight in Europe against the Nazis. They focus on Europe first. But what do they do about the Japanese?



They divide the command:

The Commander in Europe is Dwight Eisenhower. He is a great general. He later becomes president of the USA.



The Commander in Japan is Douglas MacArthur. He is also great. He later is put in control of Japan after the war.



The American strategy in the Pacific is called island-hopping. They want to hop from island to island with their planes, ships, and soldiers. Slowly, they will get closer and closer to Japan.

Rewrite

1. The Americans focus on punishing Japan for bombing Pearl Harbor first.
2. The American commander in Europe is...
3. The American commander in the Pacific is...
4. The American strategy in the Pacific is called...

The American strategy in the Pacific is called island-hopping. The way to get to Japan is to conquer island after island. Why? Because between Japan and the USA is mostly ocean... and a whole bunch of islands. The Americans take over an island. They move their soldiers, ships, and planes there. Then, they got to the next island. But the Japanese fight fierce. Island-hopping takes a long time and costs many lives.

Rewrite

1. The American strategy in the Pacific is to attack Japan right away.
2. Island-hopping is a good strategy because...

The American strategy in Europe is to stop Hitler ASAP. As soon as possible, because England is in trouble and they don't really trust the USSR, even if they are allies!

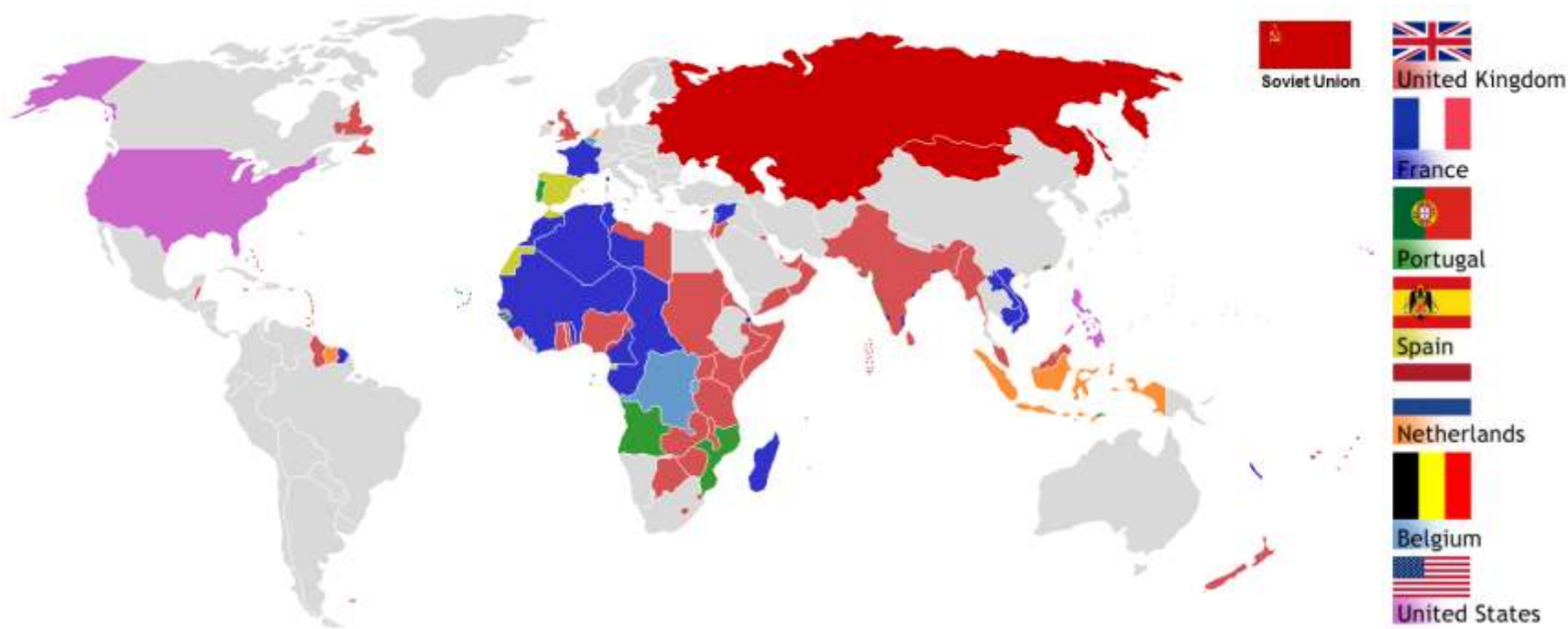


They do this in a few ways:

First, the USA attacks the Nazis in Africa. What are the Nazis doing in Africa? They are taking over French and British colonies. Remember how we talked about Germany being jealous about colonies....

The famous battle in Africa is called El Alamein.





Rewrite

1. The American strategy is to concentrate on Japan first.
2. The Americans attack Hitler in Northern France first.
3. Hitler is in North Africa because...

Next, they attack Italy. Germany and Italy are allies. Italy is much weaker than Germany. The USA quickly beats the Italians. Hitler has to help the Italians.



At the same time, Hitler is losing is Russia. **NEVER
MESS WITH RUSSIA!** He is stopped at a city called
Stalingrad.

Hitler is losing to the Soviets. He was winning... but
he got overstretched. The Soviets are coming back.
Hitler is forced to retreat. He must help Italy. He
must attack North Africa.

Rewrite

1. The Americans attack Germany first.
2. Hitler wins Stalingrad easily.
3. The Nazi troops are not spread out too far.

Dwight Eisenhower is General for the USA in Europe. He makes a plan with the English generals. Together, they command a huge army of English, American, and Canadian soldiers.

But where should they invade? They are stuck in England. Hitler controls all of Europe except parts of Italy and Russia.



Rewrite

1. The American General in charge of Europe is called General MacArthur.

Where should they attack? Do they continue in Italy?
Do they invade Germany? What do they do?

**THEY INVADE FRANCE. THIS IS THE BATTLE CALLED
D-DAY.**



They decide to attack Hitler in the best defended place in Europe. This is the coast of Normandy. Normandy is in the North of France. Hitler has put lots of defenses up. He doesn't think the Allies will attack there because if they do, they will lose many lives. It is really well defended.



FORTIFICATIONS!

The Allies fool Hitler. They send a fake message that they are going to attack Italy again. But they don't. They invade Normandy. This is called D-Day. D-Day is the invasion of Normandy.



D-Day happens in 1944.

24,000 American, British, and Canadian troops invade. It is an amphibious invasion. This means it starts in the sea and ends in land.



The Allies win. They are now in France. Little by little, they move soldiers into France.

**THE GOAL IS TO FREE FRANCE FROM THE NAZIS,
THEN TAKE HITLER OUT!**

Rewrite

1. Normandy is in northern Germany.
2. The Allies invade Normandy with a small force.
3. The attack on Normandy is called...
4. The Allies fool Hitler into thinking they are going to attack Greece.
5. The attack on Normandy is called F-Day.
6. D-Day is a total failure for the Allies.

Now, Hitler is surrounded. The USA is winning in the WEST. The USSR is winning in the EAST!

The Soviets are moving fast from the East towards Germany. The Americans and British are moving fast from the West. It is a race.



Hitler is going to lose. But who is going to win?

The Allies aren't really allies, after all. **Stalin is a Communist totalitarian leader.** Stalin is the leader of the USSR. He has nothing in common with Churchill's England or Roosevelt's America. They are free countries. They hate Communists. **AWKWARD!**



Josef Stalin, Franklin Roosevelt, and Winston Churchill meet in the Russian city of Yalta. They meet in Yalta because they know they are going to win. The Yalta Conference is where they decide what to do about Hitler. But really, the bigger tension is between Democracy and Communism. Will Europe be Democratic or Communist?

Can you guess what will happen?



Rewrite

1. The Soviets come from the West.
2. The Americans and British come from the East.
3. After D-Day and Stalingrad, Hitler is going to lose.
4. The USSR is a democracy; England and USA are Communist.
5. The major tension at the Conference of Yalta is over what to do about Hitler.

Stalin and the Soviet Union want the liberated countries to be Communist. Liberated means free—like the places that the Nazis conquered.

COMMUNIST



What my friends think I do.



What my mom thinks I do.



What society thinks I do.



What other communists think I do.



What I think I do.



What I actually do.

Churchill and Roosevelt want the liberated countries to be Democratic. They want to bring freedom to these countries.



**So, the Western countries will become free. And
the Eastern countries will become communist! At
least Hitler loses the war, though!**

Hitler never surrenders. He and his girlfriend kills themselves. Thursday May 8 is called V-E Day. It stands for Victory in Europe. This is the day when Germany surrenders. The year is 1945.



But the war isn't over yet. There is still war in the Pacific. The island-hopping isn't very easy. It's actually not going as well as they wanted it to. Japan is tough! And the US doesn't have them surrounded, like they did with Germany.

Rewrite

1. V-E day is...
2. Hitler ends up...
3. The war isn't over when Hitler dies because...
4. Stalin wants liberated countries to be...
5. Roosevelt wants liberated countries to be...

But there will be.... **VICTORY IN JAPAN!**



The war in the Pacific is the USA versus Japan. It takes place on little islands. The USA takes each island after a lot of fighting. This strategy is called Island-Hopping.

The Japanese never give up. They are famous for fighting to the death.

They even have Banzai suicide planes that crash into their targets! Americans underestimate the Japanese. The “Japs” —they call them this—are the toughest enemy.



Rewrite

1. The USA strategy in the Pacific is stop Hitler first.
2. The Japanese are an easy enemy to defeat.
3. The Japanese have suicide fighters called _____

The USA gets closer and closer to Japan. They go island by island. Hawaii, Guam, Samoa, Iwo Jima. These are names of islands. Finally, they are close enough to attack the Japanese on their own island. They are close enough to the island of Japan.

One really big battle that you should know is Midway. The Americans tricked the Japanese into moving their ships in harm's way. Then they destroyed these ships. So, the Japanese couldn't really attack anymore. They had to defend! Because of this battle, the American army could focus on Europe for a little while.

Rewrite

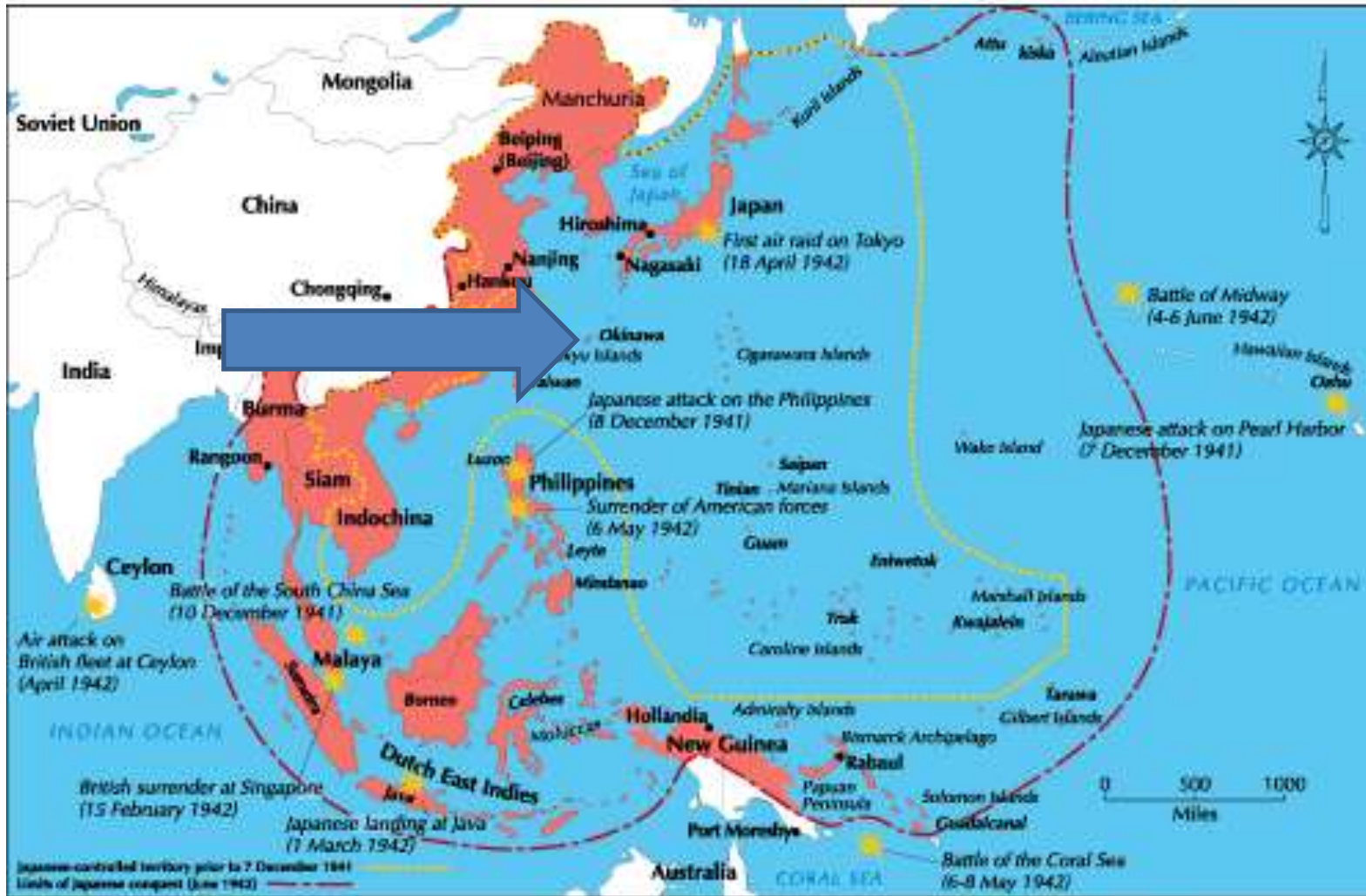
1. The American strategy in Japan is called..
2. Some names of islands include...
3. The Battle of _____ is important because it gives the US time to focus on Hitler and Europe.

The Americans get close to Japan. The Americans control Okinawa. This island is right next to Japan.

From this little island, THE USA can now invade Japan.

They can make an amphibious invasion, like in D-Day. When you do this, you go with your boats and soldiers to the enemy's territory.

WWII Pacific Theatre of Operations (7 December 1941 – Summer 1942)



Maps prepared by Jacqueline Goins, UK Cartography Lab

Rewrite

1. Through island-hopping, the Americans make it to the island of...
2. The Americans are close enough to _____ the island of Japan. (This word means when you move your soldiers into the enemies land)

The leader of the Americans in the Pacific is Douglas MacArthur. Will MacArthur invade Japan? The Americans are nervous. The Japanese have a reputation for never giving up. If they invade Japan, millions of people might have to die.

Someone needs to make a decision.

They do some calculations. They estimate that if America invades Japan, millions of people will die.

Rewrite

1. If the United States invades Japan, they will win easily.
2. The leader of the American forces in the Pacific is...

BEFORE THEY CAN DECIDE WHAT TO DO, A TRAGEDY
HAPPENS: **Franklin Roosevelt dies.** The beloved
president of the US dies. **He is succeeded by Harry
Truman.** Americans are nervous without their leader.
They don't know what to expect.

Rewrite

1. President Harry Truman dies in 1944.
2. The next president of the USA is...
3. The death of Roosevelt makes Americans feel relaxed about the situation in the Pacific.

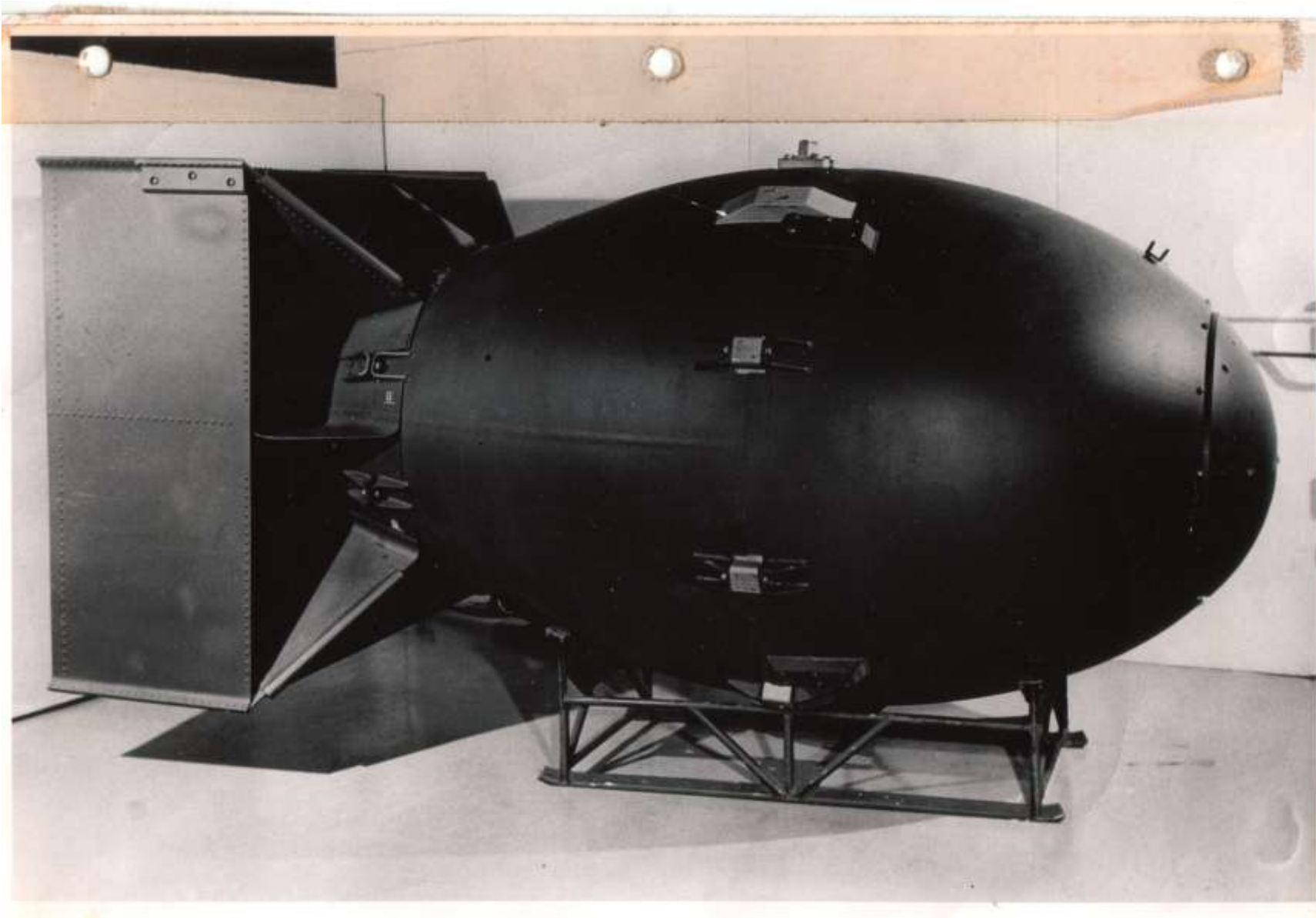
THE GOOD NEWS IS THE AMERICANS HAVE A NEW WEAPON. THE AMERICANS HAVE THE ATOMIC BOMB!

They made a secret project--- it is called the Manhattan Project—to make an atomic weapon. Atomic weapons are much more powerful than regular weapons. Many famous scientists worked on this Atomic Bomb. Many of them were Germans. They were German Jews who left Germany because of Hitler. Albert Einstein is one example.



An atomic bomb is hard to describe. It uses nuclear fission, which causes this huge explosion and radiation. Radiation stays in the place where the bomb is dropped. So, it not only kills a lot of people, but leaves the land unusable.

Harry Truman decides to drop the Atomic Bombs on Japan. He drops two. They have nicknames: “Fat Man” and “Little Boy.” He drops them on the Japanese cities Hiroshima and Nagasaki.



Hiroshima and Nagasaki Bombs Were Like These



The first atomic bomb, dropped on Hiroshima in 1945, was the "Fat Man" uranium type.



Rewrite

1. The Americans develop a terrible weapon called the...
2. The Atomic Bomb is developed in the Queens Workshop.
3. Many French scientists who escaped Hitler helped develop the Atomic Bomb.
4. Franklin Roosevelt orders the bomb to be dropped.

The Japanese are terrorized. The first bomb on Hiroshima destroys 90 percent of the city; it kills 80,000 people. Many more die later of radiation poisoning. Nagasaki destroys 40,000 people.

Japan was finished. The world was aghast! The world was shocked.



Emperor Hirohito of Japan announces his unconditional surrender. Now the war is over.

Rewrite

1. The first atomic bomb is dropped on...
2. The second atomic bomb is dropped on...
3. The Japanese do not react to the atomic bombs.
4. Emperor _____ orders an unconditional _____.
5. The war in Japan is over, and so _____ over.



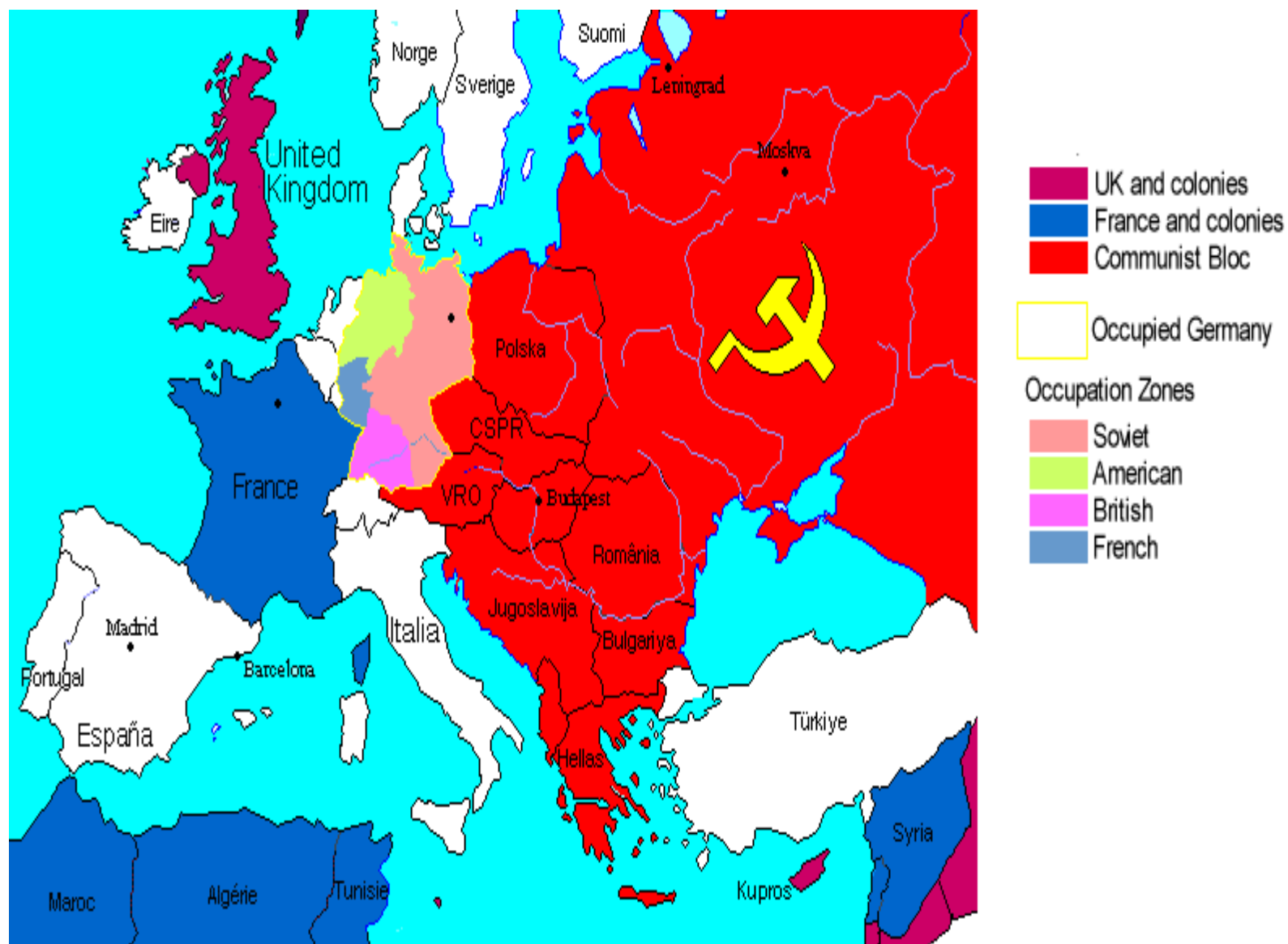
The Atomic Bombs didn't kill more people than other events in the war.

For example, many more people died in the Battle of Stalingrad.

But the Atomic Bomb scared the Japanese. It scared the world. It had so much power!

There's a secret that nobody found out until much later. The President of the USA, Harry Truman, actually considered **dropping nuclear bombs on the USSR**. Even though they were allies, the USA knew that now there were two big powers in the world: THE USA and THE USSR.

Like I said before, **nobody trusted the USSR. Nobody trusted Stalin. Nobody trusted Communism.**



This is the Cold War. USSR versus USA. And at the center is the Atomic Bomb. And it starts right when World War II ends. But it's not a war with fighting. It's a Cold War. There isn't DIRECT fighting. It's a little bit like a poke war.

POKE WAR

VICTORY IS MINE.

BEFORE WE DO THE COLD WAR, WE
NEED TO LEARN ABOUT...

IN OUR NEXT EPISODE, WE WILL FOCUS ON THE USA
AND HOW IT GETS IN THE WAR, LIFE AT HOME, AND
THE BEGINNING OF THE COLD WAR.

NEXT EPISODE... We WILL SEE:

Life AT HOME



AFRICAN-AMERICAN CONTRIBUTIONS:





JAPANESE INTERNMENT CAMPS AT HOME:



NAVAJO (INDIAN) CODEBREAKERS:



NAZI GENOCIDE:



ALLIED VICTORIES LIKE D-DAY

AND VICTORY!