

# **World War II: The Pacific**

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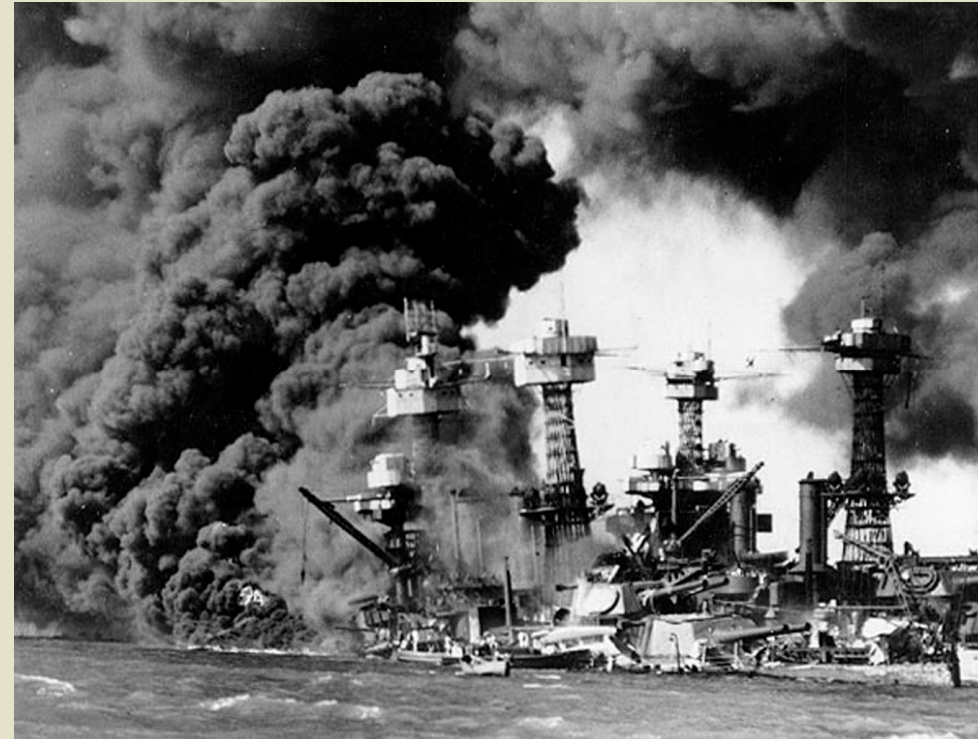
**1939 - 1945**

# Japan's Pacific Campaign

Like Hitler, Japanese leaders dreamed of an empire.

## Surprise Attack on Pearl Harbor

- In July 1941, Japan overran French Indochina. U.S. President Roosevelt cut off oil shipments to Japan.
- Japan refused to stop and made plans for bigger attacks.
- On December 7, 1941, Japanese aircraft bombed Pearl Harbor in Hawaii.



# Japan's Pacific Campaign

## Surprise Attack on Pearl Harbor

- The Japanese sunk or damaged 19 ships and killed 2,403 Americans.
- The next day the United States declared war on Japan and its allies.



**Pearl Harbor  
Hickam Field  
Wheeler Field  
Ford Island  
Kaneohe Naval Air Station  
Bellows Field  
Ewa Marine Corps Station**



# Japan's Pacific Campaign

## Japanese Victories

- During the first months of 1942, Japanese forces swept across the islands of Southeast Asia.
- Japan had control of over 1 million square miles of Asian land and 150 million people.





# Japan's Pacific Campaign

## Japanese Victories

- The Japanese treated their new colonies with extreme cruelty.
- The Japanese had contempt for prisoners of war and subjected their captives to terrible cruelties.
- In the Philippines, 16,000 prisoners died during a forced march, later called the Bataan Death March.



# Japan's Pacific Campaign



# Japan's Pacific Campaign

## The Allies Strike Back

- May 1942. Near Australia, the two sides engaged in the Battle of the Coral Sea. The Allies suffered heavy losses, but stopped Japan's southward advance.





# Japan's Pacific Campaign

## The Allies Strike Back

- June 1942. American code breakers warned of Japanese plans to attack Midway Island. American forces waited and surprised the Japanese, destroying 4 aircraft carriers. The Japanese were forced to withdraw, turning the tide of the war in the Pacific.



# Japan's Pacific Campaign

## An Allied Offensive

- General Douglas MacArthur developed a plan to take back the islands occupied by Japan. He called his plan “island-hopping,” moving past Japanese strongholds to take islands that were not well defended but closer to Japan.
- Over the next three years, the Allies slowly worked to capture many islands as they steadily marched toward Japan.

