# U.S. Entry to Pacific Theater & Home Front





Watch and listen to the following video/song.

- Who are being depicted?
- How are they being described?
- What happened to the original people holding those jobs?
- What do you think is the message?

B&W: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D2E613J9m0I

## **Rosie the Riveter**





## **Attack on Pearl Harbor**

Pacific Fleet surprise attacked by the Empire of Japan on December 7, 1941

- 353 Japanese fighter planes, bombers, and torpedo planes launched from aircraft carriers attacked the U.S. Pacific Fleet in two waves
- Fleet heavily damaged; 2,403 Americans killed & 1,178 injured
- All 3 aircraft carriers away and played major roles later
- U.S. enters WWII the next day in a twofront war: Pacific and Atlantic



# **Infamy Speech**

- "A date that will live in infamy"
- December 7, 1941
- Delivered by President Franklin D. Roosevelt to Congress on December 8, 1941
- War declared an hour after speech
- One of the most famous American political speeches



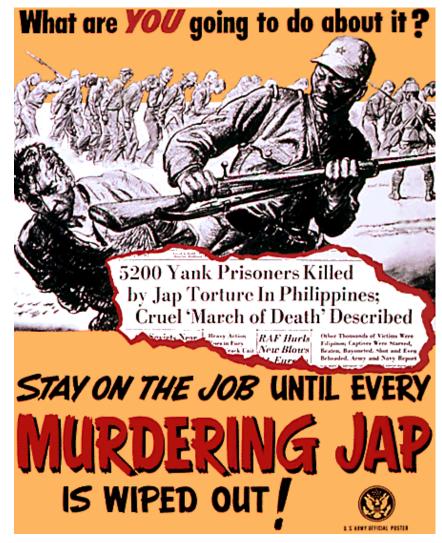
Full Version https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YhtuMrMVJDk

Abridged Version https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3VqQAf74fsE

# **Philippines Campaign**

After Pearl Harbor attack and declaration of war, Japan invades the Philippines.

- U.S. loses the Philippines by May 1942
- General Douglas MacArthur retreats
  - "I shall return"
- Bataan Death March
  - Forced 60,000-80,000 POWs to march 60 miles to another camp with little supplies or support
  - 10,000 died (1,000 Americans & 9,000 Filipinos)



## The Sleeping Giant

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

Supposed quote of Admiral Yamamoto Isoroku, commander-in-chief of Imperial Japanese Navy, who had planned Pearl Harbor

• Later shot down in 1943 after American codebreakers identified his flight plans



# **U.S. Industrial Capacity**

### **The Awakened Sleeping Giant**

- WWII dramatically increased U.S. industrial output (by 96%)
- Created 17 million jobs
  - U.S. economy recovered from the Great Depression
- Created opportunities for minority groups and women
- Advancements in technology, industries, and human skills









# **Liberty Ships**

### Symbolized U.S. wartime industrial output

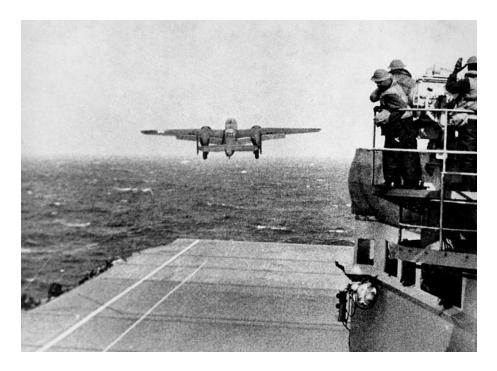
- Cargo ships that were cheap and simple to build
- Could be built in 10 days
- Also symbolized role of female workers in building them
- Over 2,700 built



## **Doolittle Raid**

In April 1942 (a few months after Pearl Harbor), the U.S. wanted to retaliate against Japan for Pearl Harbor

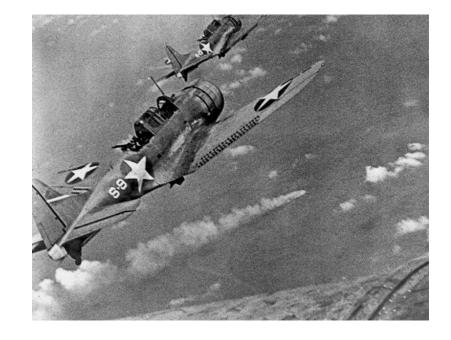
- Lieutenant Colonel James H. Doolittle commanded 16 B-25 bombers to attack the Japanese Home Islands
- Did little damage, but raised American morale
- Psychological damage on Japan
  - Japan's Home Islands are not safe and can be attacked!



## Tide Turns in Pacific War

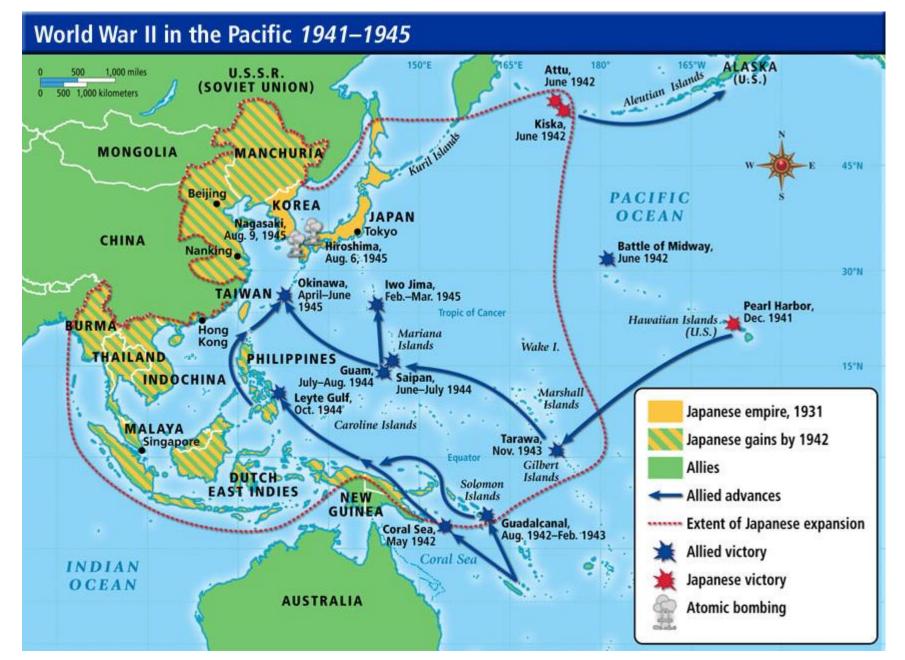
### Battle of Midway (June 1942)

- Large Japanese fleet assembled to destroy Pacific Fleet once and for all
- American fleet outnumbered 3:1
- American codebreakers discover plan and plans own ambush
  - Aircraft carriers and planes play major role
- Japanese suffers major defeat
  - Japan unable to replenish casualties while U.S. can easily do so
- Considered turning point in the Pacific War





- Japan begins to fight on the defensive and heavily fortifies island bases
- U.S. military adopts "island-hopping" strategy
  - Avoid heavilydefended bases and attack weaker bases as they approach Japan Home Islands



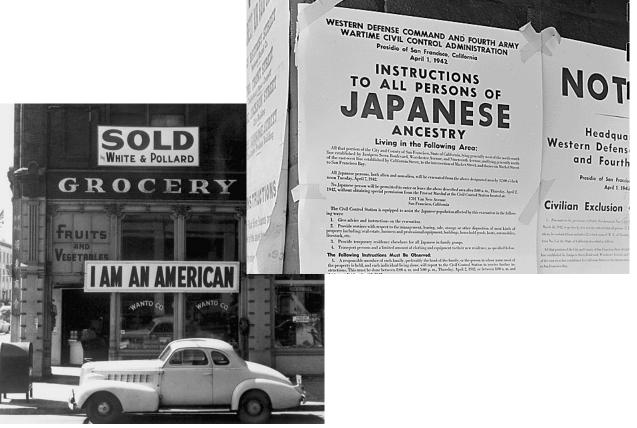
# Japanese Internment (1942 - 1946)

During WWII, US forcibly put 110,000 – 120,000 people of Japanese ancestry in internment camps

• Executive Order 9066

Suspected Japanese of disloyalty and being spies for the Empire of Japan

- Evidence later showed it was based on racism and hysteria rather than evidence-based military necessity
- Government made up or withheld important information in court



Watch the following videos. Create a T-Table chart. On the left side, take notes on the propaganda film. On the right, take notes on the testimonies. Compare the two.

#### **U.S. Propaganda Film Explaining Japanese Internment**

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=\_OiPldKsM5w&nohtml5=False

#### **Japanese Internment Documentary**

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6mr97qyKA2s

**George Takei: Why I Love A Country That Once Betrayed Me** 

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LeBKBFAPwNc <u>George Takei's Memory of Japanese Internment</u> https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yogXJI9H9z0

#### <u>Pat Morita's Memory of Japanese Internment</u> https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2XpPbBoxBME



A British commentary on the Jopanese soldier

#### **How Tough Are the Japanese?**

They are not tougher than other soldiers, says a veteran observer, but brutality is part of their fighting equipment.

