

# World War II Alliances & U.S. Entry



## Journal Activity



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wycARJk-Z6E>

Watch the following video short.

- What kind of characters do you see? Who do each character remind you of? How and why?
- What historical events are referenced?
- Are there any other references you see?

# Axis vs. Allies

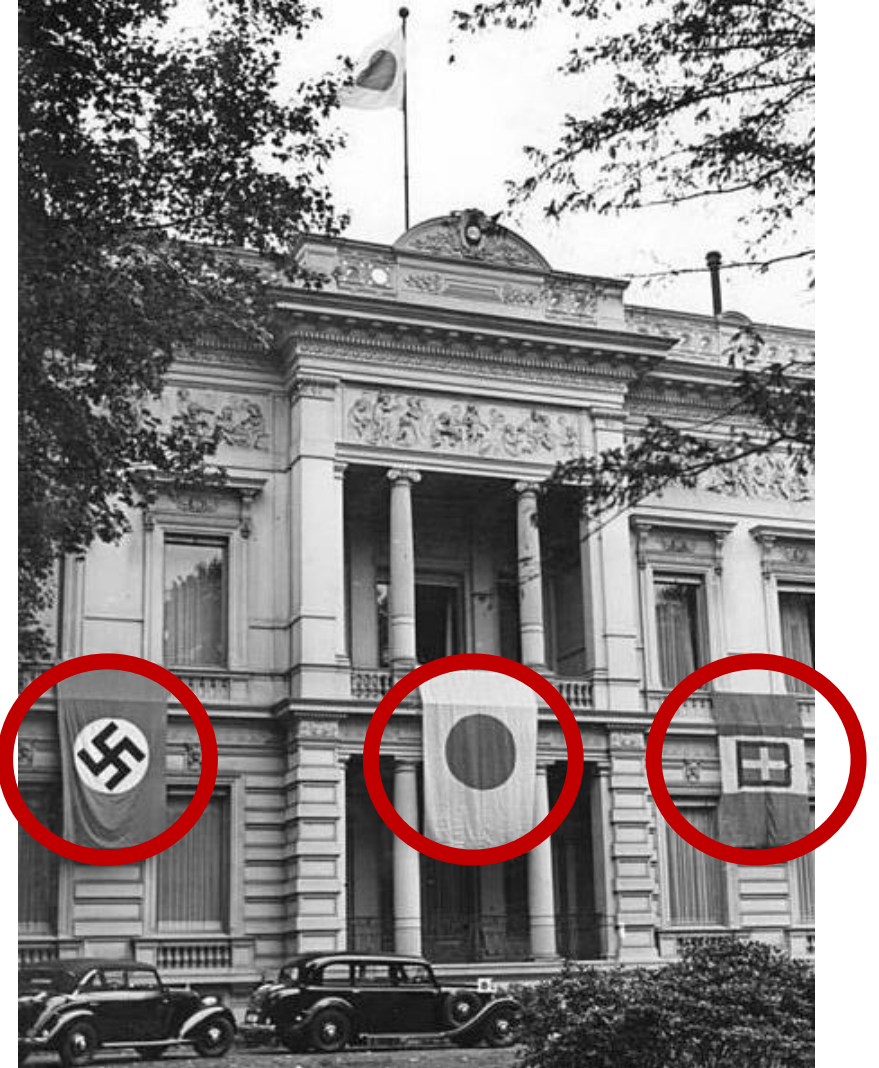
## Axis Powers

**Tripartite Pact**/Berlin Pact (September 1940)

- Nazi Germany
- Fascist Italy
- Imperial Japan (Empire of Japan)

Later joined by:

- Hungary (November 1940)
- Romania (November 1940)
- Bulgaria (March 1941)



# Major Axis Leaders



**Adolf Hitler**  
Führer of Germany



**Benito Mussolini**  
Il Duce of Italy



**Hideki Tojo**  
Prime Minister of Japan

# Axis vs. Allies

## Allied Powers

September 1939

- **Poland** (became minor factor after defeat in 1939)
- **France** (became minor factor after defeat in 1940)
- **Great Britain** (later British Commonwealth countries)

Later joined by:

- **Soviet Union** (1941 with Nazi invasion)
- **United States** (December 1941 with Pearl Harbor)
- **China** (1941, have been at war with Japan since at least 1931 - 1937)



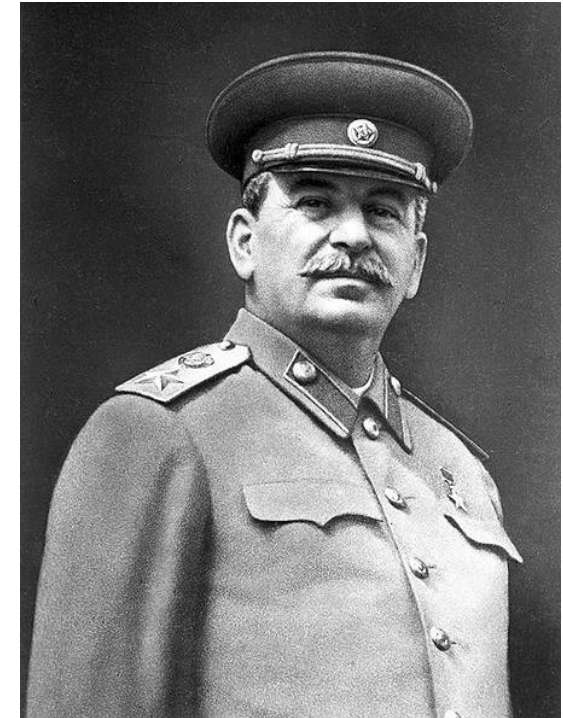
# Major Allied Leaders



**Winston Churchill**  
Prime Minister of Great  
Britain



**Franklin D. Roosevelt (FDR)**  
POTUS



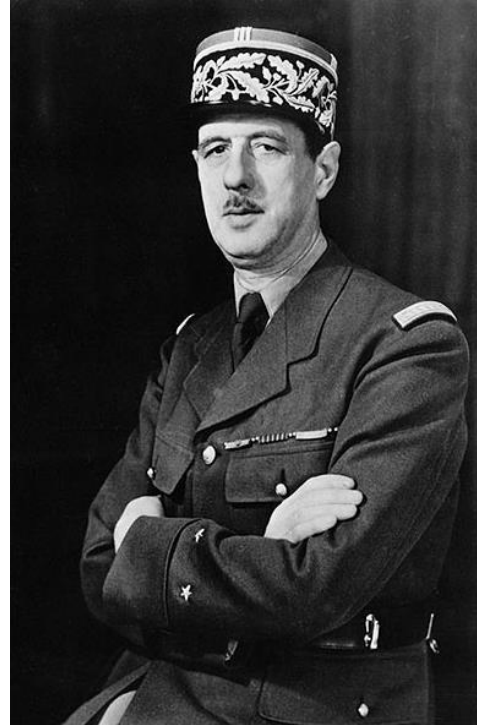
**Joseph Stalin**  
Leader of Soviet Union

# Major Allied Leaders



**Chiang Kai-shek**

Chairman of the Nationalist China  
(Republic of China)



**Charles de Gaulle**

Leader of French  
government-in-exile

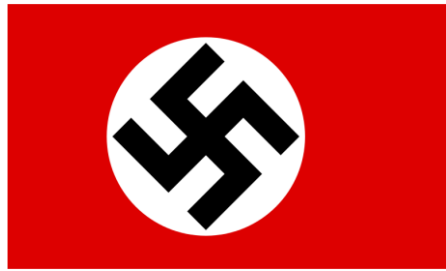


**Mao Zedong**

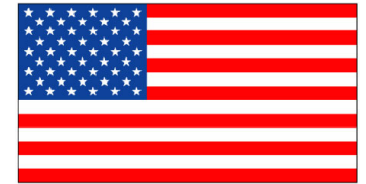
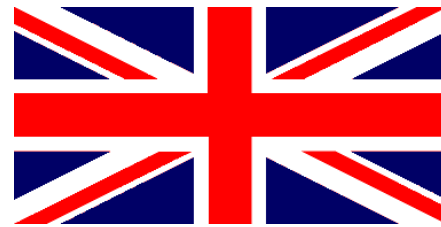
Leader of Chinese  
Communist Party

# Axis vs. Allies

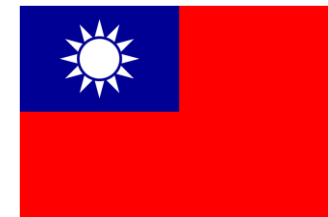
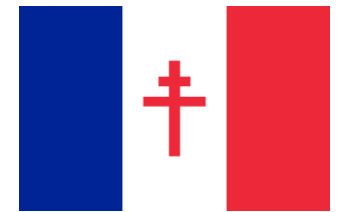
## Axis Powers



## Allied Powers



VS





# Empire of Japan in WW2

- Few natural resources, need colonies
- Adopted some form of fascism
  - Militarism
- Aggressively expanded in Asia
  - Invaded Manchuria (part of China) in September 1931
    - Mukden Incident
    - Set up puppet state of Manchukuo
  - Withdrew from League of Nations after protests from the League in 1933



# Japanese Continued Expansion

## Greater East Asian Co-prosperity Sphere

- Imperialist propaganda vision
- bloc of Asian nations led by the Japanese and free of Western powers
- “Asia ruled by Asians”

## Marco Polo Bridge Incident (July 7, 1937)

- Clash between Imperial Japanese Army (IJA) and Republic of China forces near Beijing
- August 1937 – IJA invades Shanghai
  - Shanghai conquered November 1937



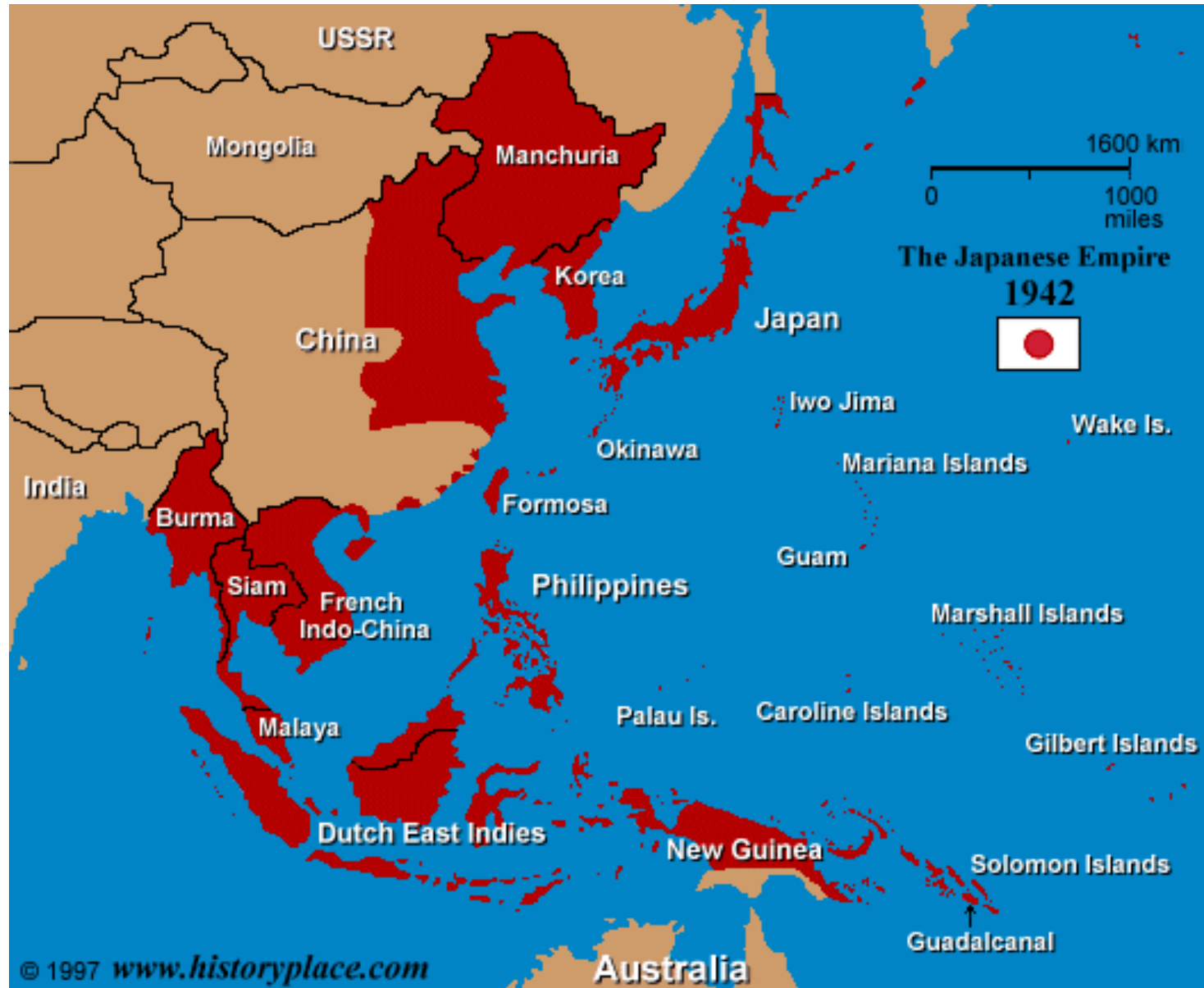


# Nanjing Massacre

December 1937 — January 1938

- Japan attacks and captures Nanjing, capital of China
- IJA attacks and massacres 40,000 to 300,000 civilians
  - Commits numerous atrocities
- Prince Asaka, key perpetrator, was not prosecuted after the war
- Controversial and still disputed historical issue today
  - Some deny it happened





# U.S. Neutrality

Influenced by the Great Depression and memories of WWI

- Isolationist attitude

Neutrality Acts of 1930s

- Illegal to sell arms or lend money to nations at war

*Shifting attitudes in later years steers away from non-interventionist*

- Begins offering aid to Allies: selling war supplies

**Lend-Lease Act** (March 1941)

- U.S. lends arms and other supplies to Allies in return for leases on military bases in Allied territory



# U.S.-Japan Relations

Japanese continued expansion in Asia

- Hindered and stopped American shipments to China
- The Philippines threatened (U.S. territory)
- U.S. puts **trade embargos** on Japan (1940)
  - Japan continues expansion to capture resources in 1941
  - U.S. puts more embargos – scrap metal, oil
    - United States shifts from neutral nation to one preparing for war



# U.S.-Japan Trade

1930s and 1940s

- U.S. controlled Panama Canal, major shipping lane
- Japan heavily depended on the United States for resources
  - About 75% of scrap metal imports
  - About 93% of copper imports
  - More than 80% of oil imports





# Attack on Pearl Harbor

Pacific Fleet relocated from San Diego to Hawaii to “restrain Japanese influence”

Negotiations attempt to restore relations during 1941 failed. War was imminent.

- Japan started making plans in early 1941

Morning of December 7, 1941 (Day of Infamy)

- 353 Japanese fighter planes, bombers, and torpedo planes launched from aircraft carriers attacked the U.S. Pacific Fleet
- U.S. enters WWII the next day

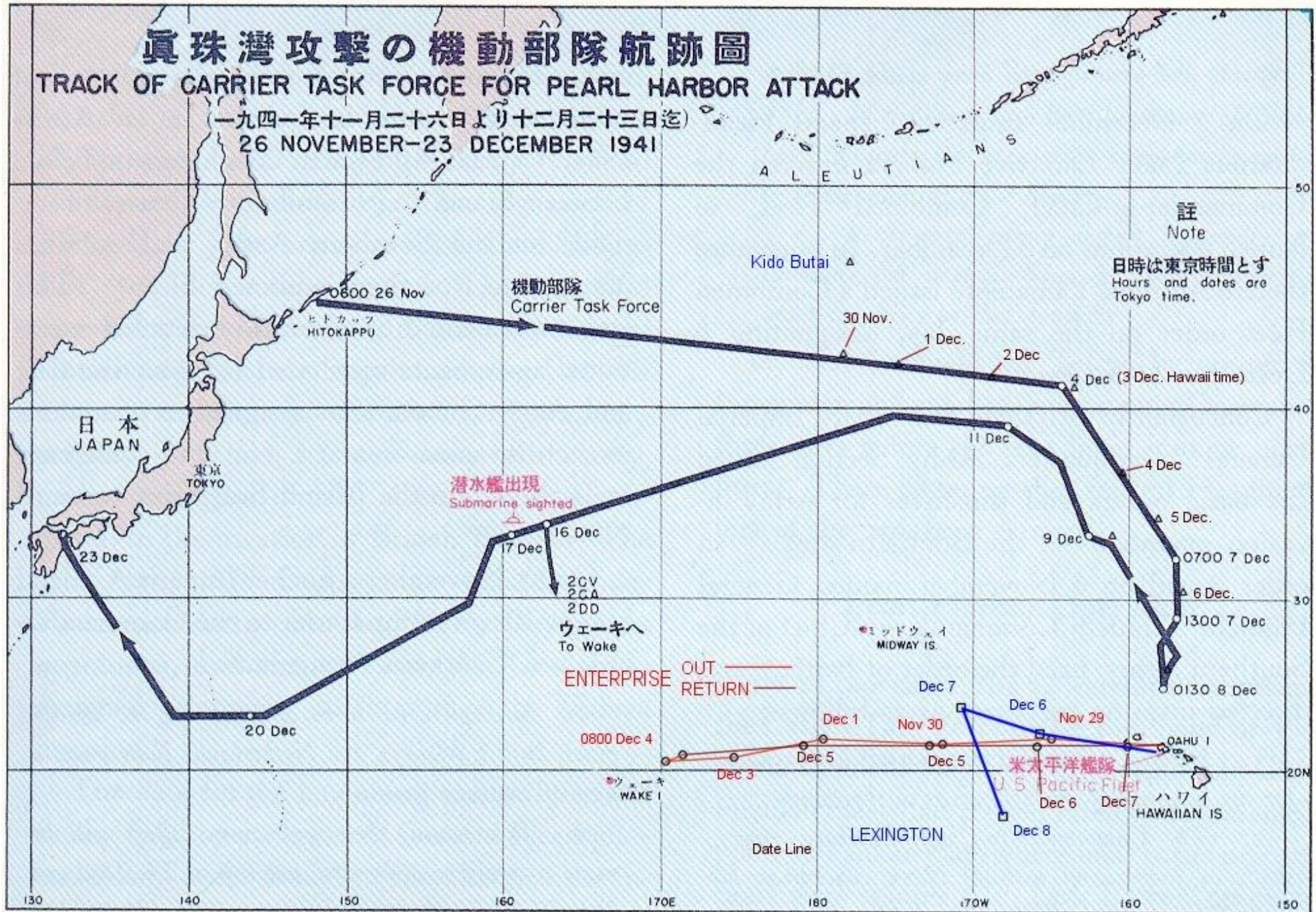


# 真珠灣攻撃の機動部隊航跡圖

## TRACK OF CARRIER TASK FORCE FOR PEARL HARBOR ATTACK

(一九四一年十一月二十六日より十二月二十三日迄)

26 NOVEMBER-23 DECEMBER 1941



# Pearl Harbor Casualties

## U.S. Pacific Fleet

- All 8 U.S. Navy battleships damaged
  - 4 sunk
- 3 cruisers & 3 destroyers sunk or damaged
- 188 aircraft destroyed
- 2,403 Americans killed & 1,178 injured
- All 3 aircraft carriers away and played major roles later



# 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>

Japan naval doctrine still closely followed Alfred Thayer Mahan's naval doctrine of battleships

- "Decisive battle"

Japan specifically targeted battleships

- Major flaw in military warfare by WW2





Japanese Mitsubishi A6M2 "Zero" fighter played an important role.

Known as one of the best WW2 fighters planes

Known to be an "invincible" plane



USS Arizona  
Memorial in Hawaii  
today

# 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

