

Hiroshima

Kyoto Program 2023

The break with China comes in 894.



Fujiwara no Michinaga 966-1028, perhaps
a model for Genji





The Kamakura Period (1192-1333) is marked by the first shogunate, headquartered in Kamakura, and the rise of the samurai class.



The Muromachi (or Ashikaga) period (1338-1573) when the center of power returns to Kyoto. The Ashikaga shoguns developed things we think of as distinctively Japanese, like the wabi-sabi look, and the tea ceremony, the Higashiyama Culture.

The first two “great unifiers”



Oda Nobunaga (1534-1582)



Toyotomi Hideyoshi (1537-1598) succeeds Nobunaga



Tokugawa Ieyasu 1543-1616



Edo Period: 1603-1868



Sakoku “closed country” 1633-1853; Dejima in Nagasaki, Kyushu



Matthew Perry (1854)
commodore of the
US Navy



The opening of Japan 1853



The emperor Meiji 1852-1912

restored to power in 1868, moves
capital to Tokyo (“eastern capital”)

Japan modernizes, and as it does
so, it comes into conflict with
China.



A significant point of tension is Korea. Japan fears Chinese control of the peninsula, so close to Japan.





The first Sino-Japanese war, won, surprisingly, by the Japanese 1894-95. Korea comes under Japanese influence. Japan moves further into the continent, inducing conflict with the Russians.



With the Japanese asserting influence in Korea and Manchuria, tensions arise not only between China and Japan, but also with the Russians, who are keenly interested in the excellent warm water harbor of Port Arthur, also called Dalian. (Vladivostok is ice-free only in the summer.)

Japan seized it during the Sino-Japanese War, but was forced to return it to China because of pressure from France, Germany, and Russia. Russia gained a lease of Port Arthur from the Chinese. The Japanese and Russians negotiated for two years over how to control this region, but this failed. Japan attacked Port Arthur in February 1904.

The war concluded in September 1905 with a complete Japanese victory.



Russo-Japanese War 1904-05; Japan wins.



The Japan-Korea Treaty of 1905 made Korea a protectorate of Japan. It gave Japan complete responsibility for Korean foreign affairs, and also gave complete control over all trade through Korean ports.

The Treaty of 1907 gave Japan complete control over the internal affairs of Korea.

Finally, Japan annexed Korea in 1910, making an official part of Japan.



WAR DECLARED WITH SPAIN — 1898

No registration of title of this book as a preliminary to copyright protection has been found. Jan. 27, 1908

Forwarded to  Date Feb. 12 1968

1546 S. TROTT & J. BROWN

STRATEGIC MAP OF OUR WAR WITH SPAIN

Daily positions of American and Spanish Ships and Troops.

A Birdseye view of the Great Struggle for Free Cuba.

The War Map Publishing Company.

821 Carteret Street, Trenton, N. J.

DIRECTIONS.

Blue pins and discs represent American Navy.

Red pins and discs represent Spanish Navy.

White pins represent Cuban Troops.

Blue pins represent American Troops.

Red pine represent Spanish Troops.

The pins used to represent the navies should be stuck through the discs bearing the names of the vessels.

Stick the pins in the map where the different armies and navies are stationed, changing them each day according to news received.

By following these directions the map will show at a glance the position of the different armies and navies each day.

PRINCIPAL SPANISH VESSELS.

[illegible]

PRINCIPAL AMERICAN VESSELS.

[illegible][illegible]

98-697208

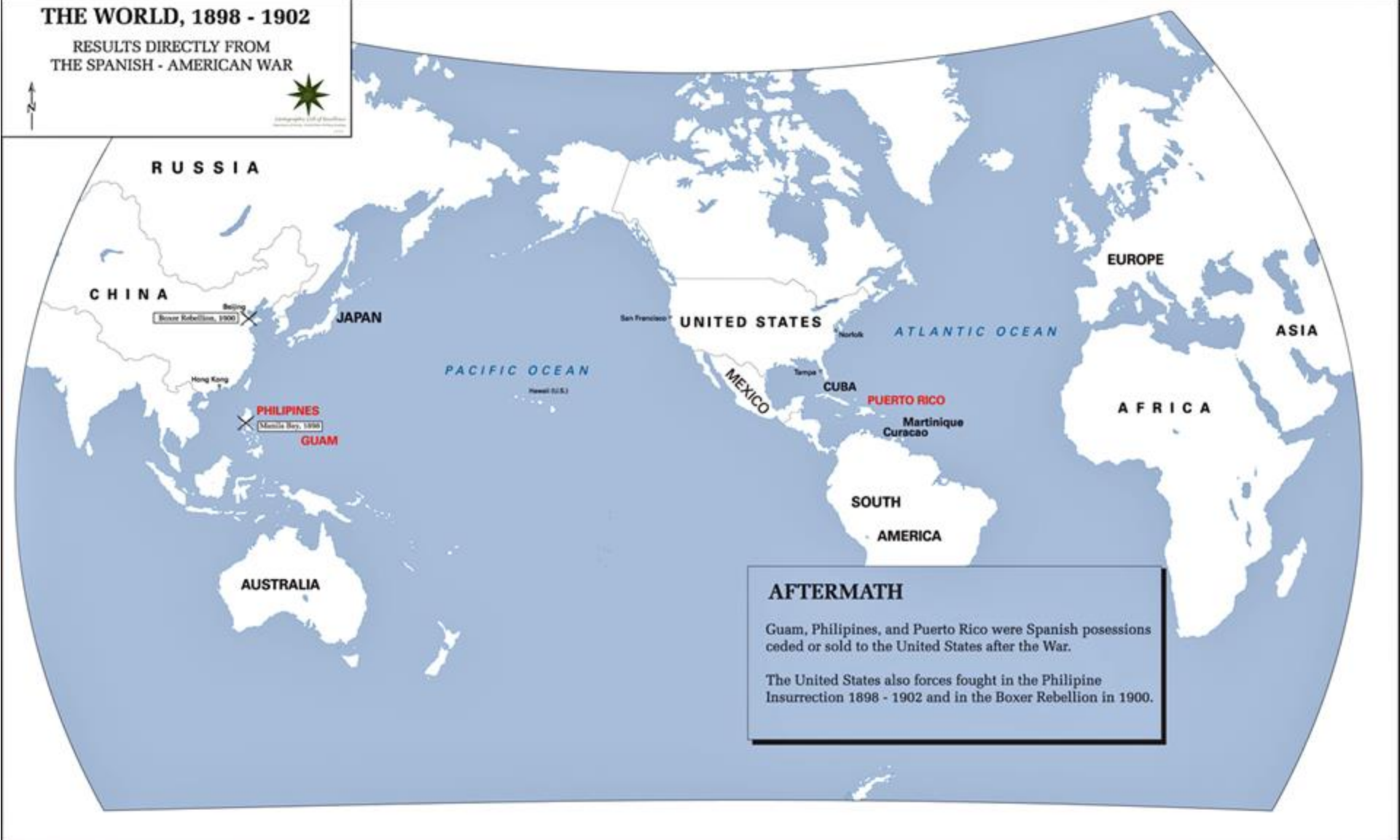
Library of Congress
May 21 1898
Register Copyright

THE WORLD, 1898 - 1902

RESULTS DIRECTLY FROM
THE SPANISH - AMERICAN WAR



Cartography: © 2000 by National Geographic Society



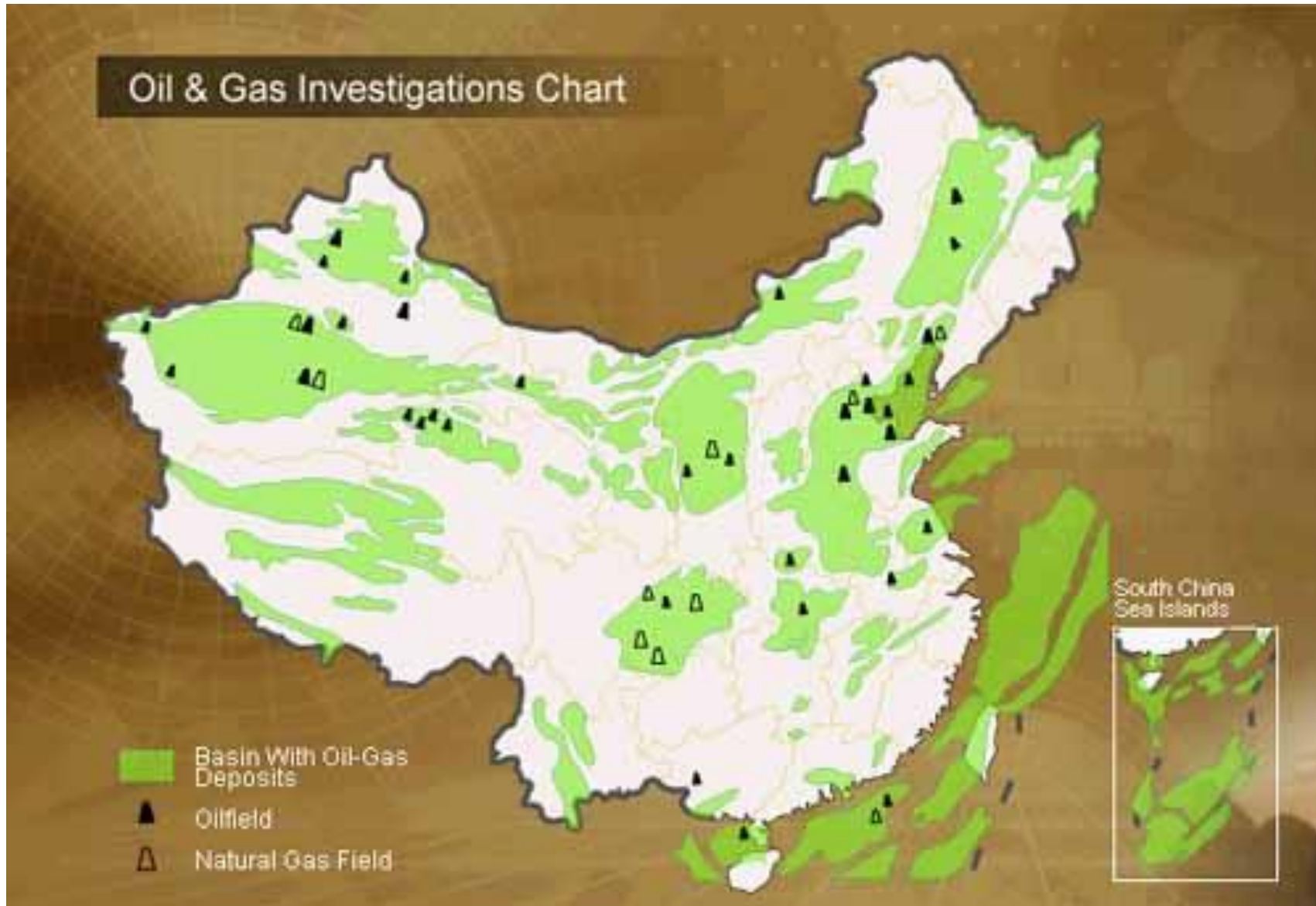
AFTERMATH

Guam, Philippines, and Puerto Rico were Spanish possessions ceded or sold to the United States after the War.

The United States also forces fought in the Philippine Insurrection 1898 - 1902 and in the Boxer Rebellion in 1900.



SPANISH-AMERICAN WAR: PACIFIC THEATER



Following the Russo-Japanese War, Japan became more industrialized and militant. This brought them into conflict with the United States, who had earlier gained control of the Philippines (important for our story later). The Americans imposed sanctions on Japan, in particular restricting access to American oil, which the Japanese desperately needed for its continued modernization.

Manchuria had it.



After the Mukden incident, Japan invades and takes Manchuria in 1931.







On Sunday morning, December 7th [1941] more than a hundred ships, roughly half the Pacific Fleet, were in the harbor. At 7:55 am, as the *Arizona's* band and a Marine color guard prepared to raise the flag, a hundred and eighty-three Japanese fighters, bombers, and torpedo planes – launched from six carriers two hundred and thirty miles to the north – began a surprise attack on Pearl and military facilities all over Oahu. At 8:10 am, a bomb set off an explosion in the *Arizona's* forward magazine. The ship blew up and, nine minutes later, sank to the bottom, with the loss of 1,177 officers and men from its crew of 1,514; nine hundred of the dead were entombed in the wreckage, their bodies never recovered.

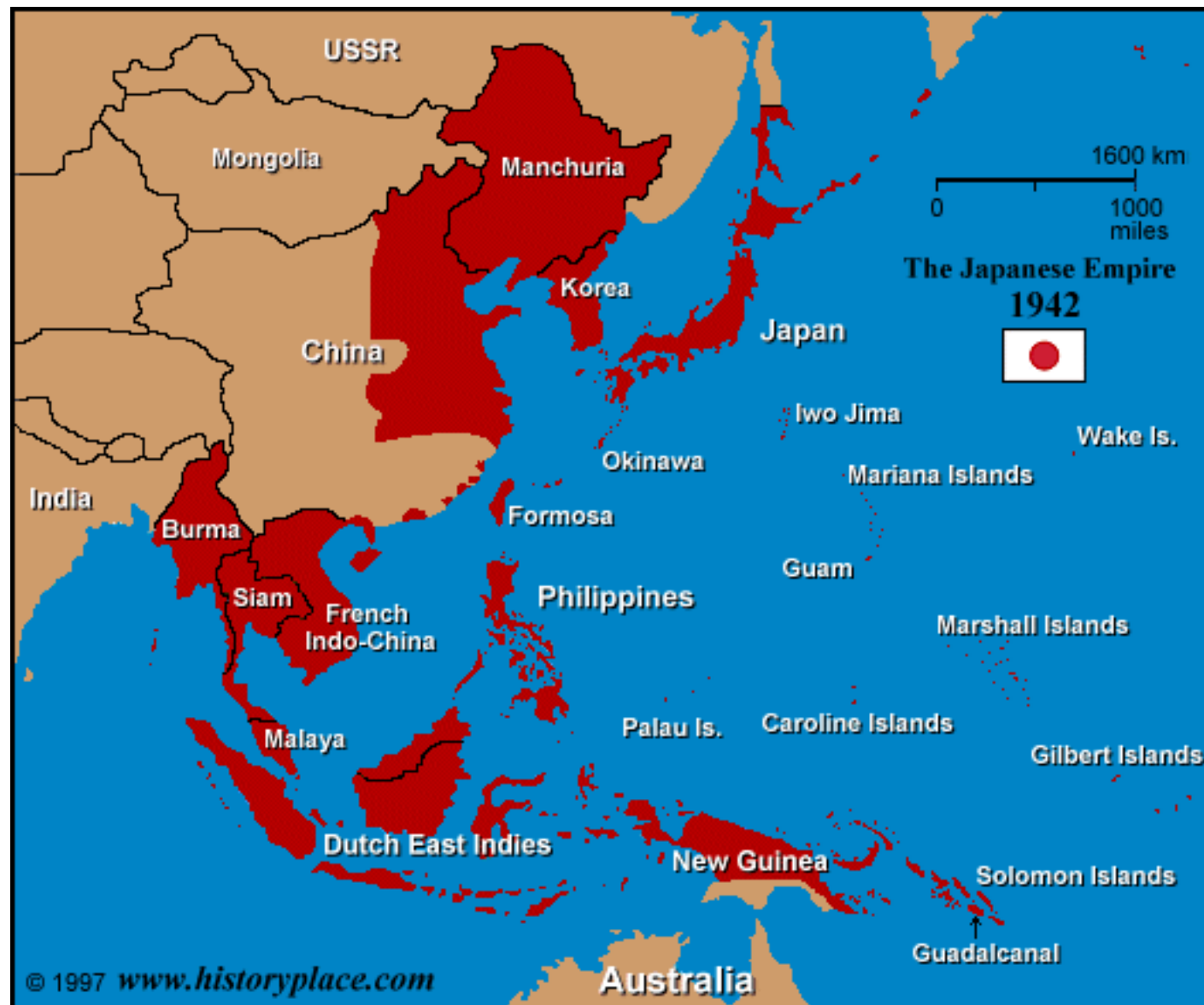
John Gregory Dunne, writing in *The New Yorker* May 7, 2001. “The American Raj: Pearl Harbor as metaphor.”



Right after the attack on Pearl Harbor, Japan attacks the Philippines (among other places).

April 1942, Philippine and American troops surrender to the Japanese, 75,000 are made to make the 65 mile march to prison camps; perhaps several thousand Filipino troops and hundreds of American die en route. There is severe physical abuse, later determined to be a Japanese war crime by an Allied military commission.

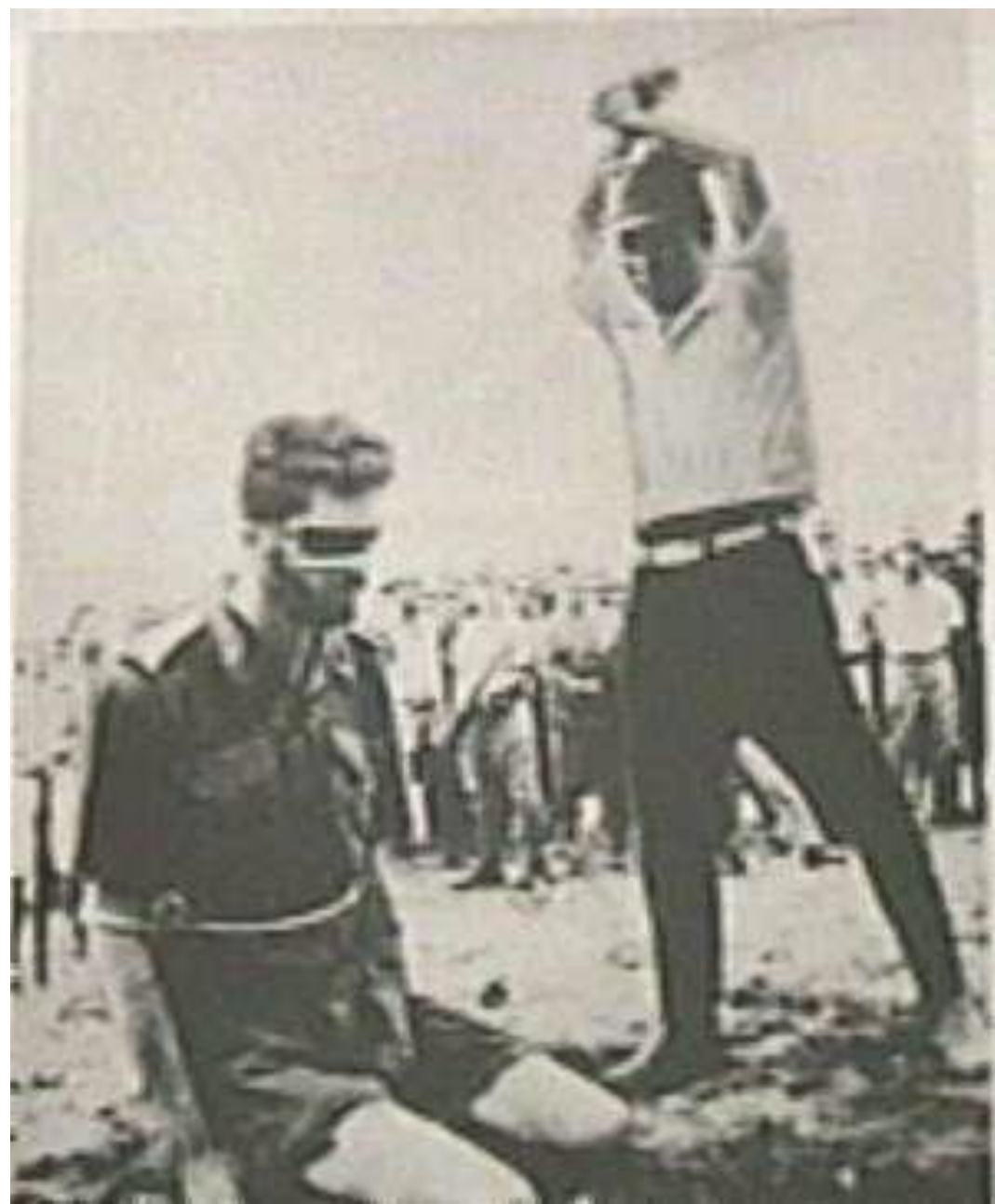
This is the Bataan Death March.

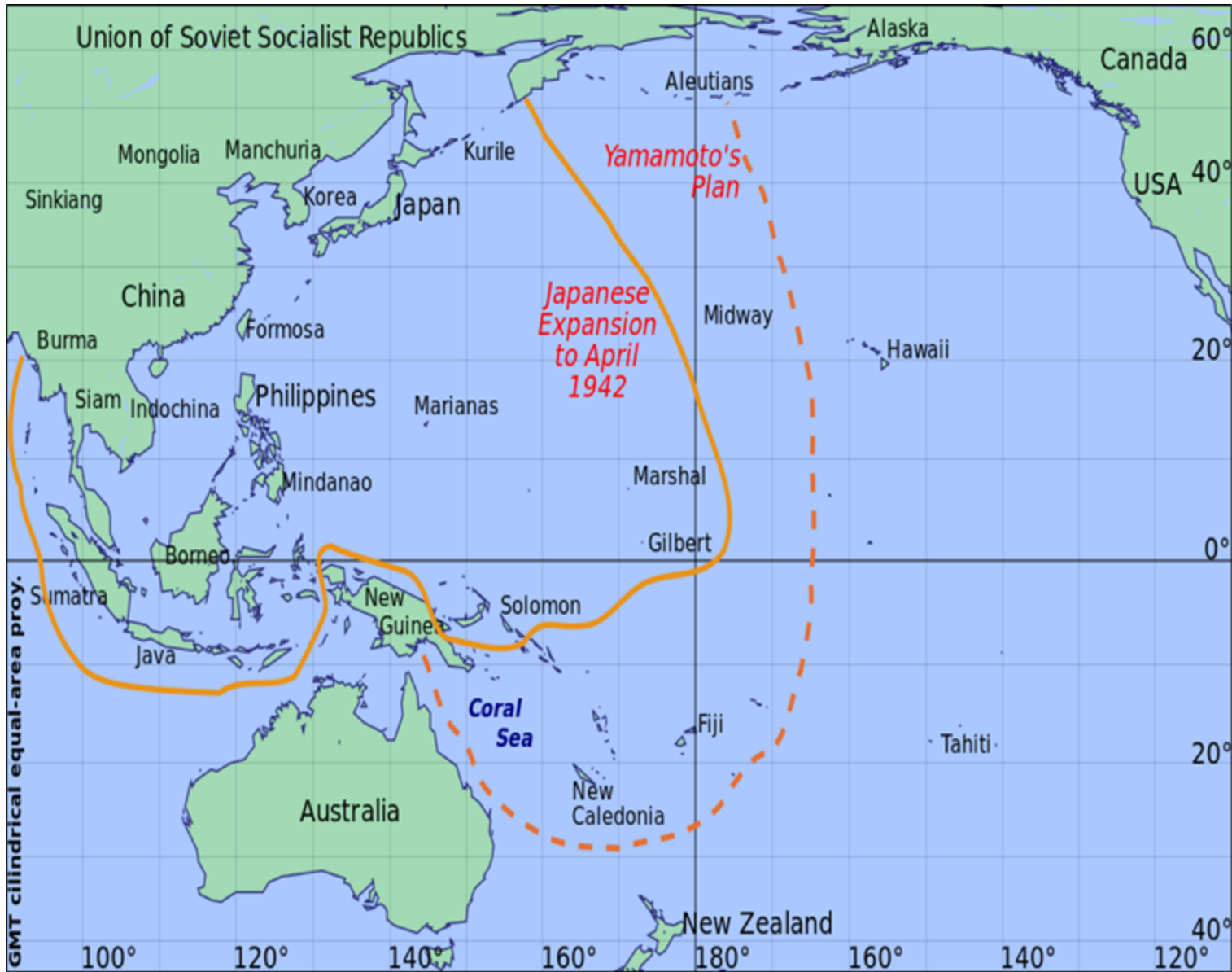




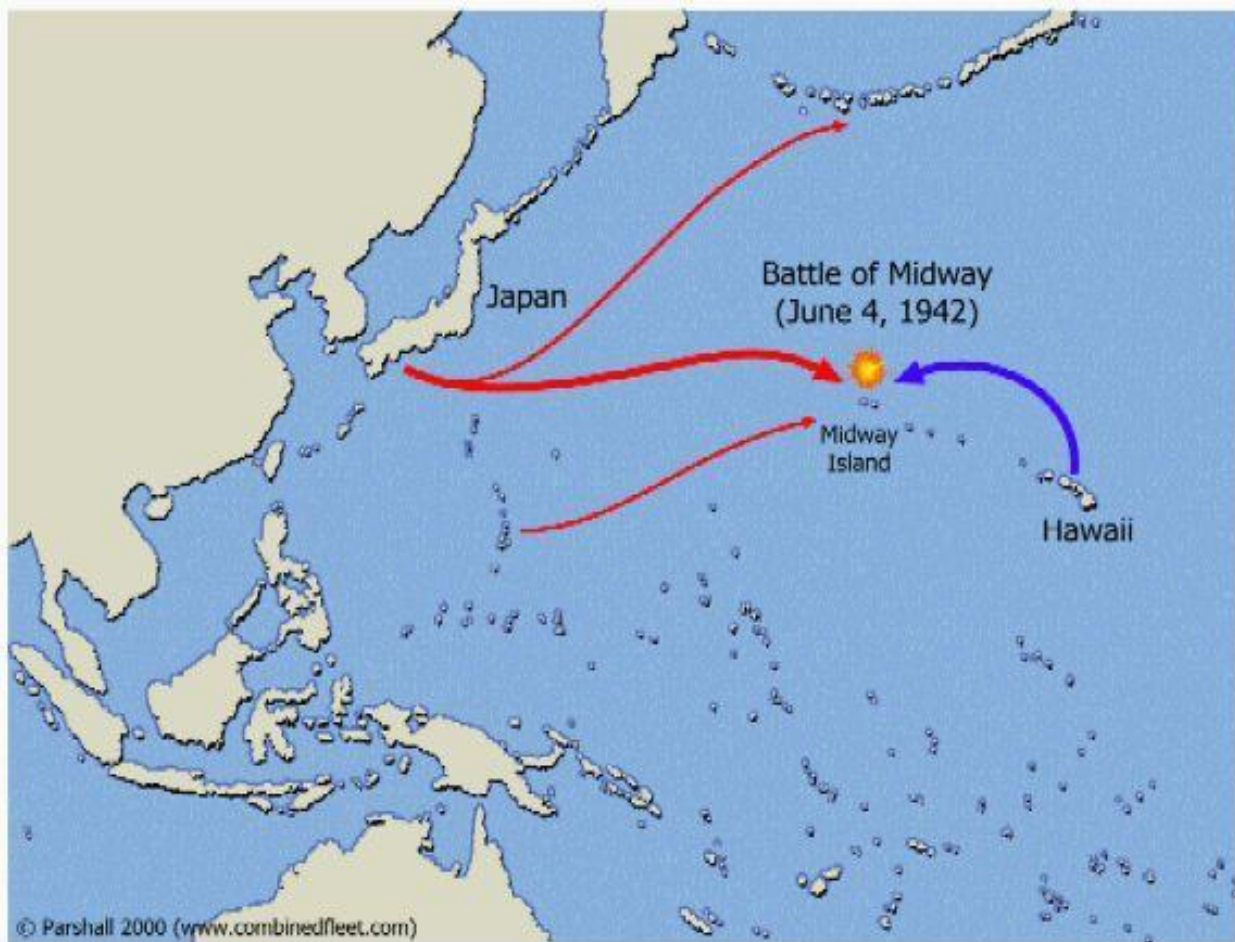








The Japanese navy was formidable, and up to this point very successful. Midway is held by the Americans, but the Japanese wanted to take it both to expand their defense perimeter and in preparation for further attacks on other islands including Hawaii.



The story of the battle is a complicated one, including the crucial decipherment of the Japanese code by the Americans.

It was a decisive victory for the Americans. Japan lost four aircraft carriers, and their naval capacity was severely compromised.

Military historian [John Keegan](#) called it "the most stunning and decisive blow in the history of naval warfare". (Wikipedia)



By February 1945, the Americans had taken many islands once held by the Japanese, whose navy and air force by this time were practically nonexistent. The Japanese still held Iwo Jima, which was the site of two airfields. It was heavily fortified.

The battle lasted from February 19th to March 26th. It was one of the bloodiest of the war. Over 20,000 Japanese soldiers were killed, as well as 6,800 Americans. 20,000 Americans were wounded.

The cost of the American victory was very high, and the value of the island to them is doubtful. The airfields were never used, and by then the Japanese had no air force.



It was during this battle that saw the famous planting of the American flag on Mt. Suribachi, captured in a photo taken by Joe Rosenthal.

It is said that it is possibly the most reproduced photograph of all time. (Wikipedia)



By March of 1945, Japan is basically defenseless. American B-29s dropped thousands of bombs on almost every Japanese city.

The raid on Tokyo targeted mainly the “low city” east of the Sumida River. 279 bombers dropped 1,665 tons of napalm on the city. The idea was to set the area on fire, and this worked.

Over 100,000 people died, mostly civilians. A million were left homeless.

March 10, 1945

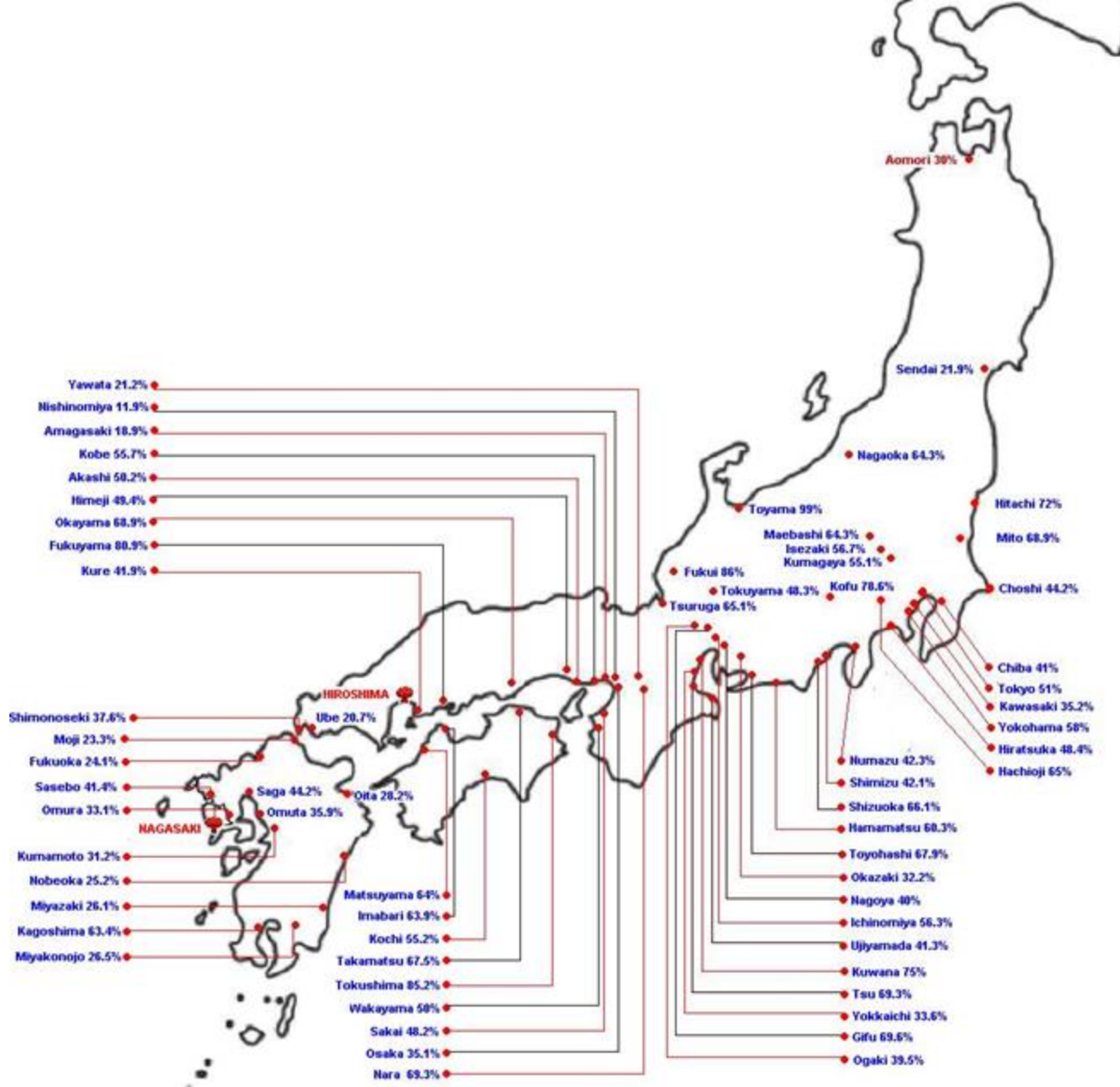


The next two slides are hard to look at.





A map of the cities bombed by the Americans during the war.



<http://populargusts.blogspot.jp/2013/06/some-links-related-to-korea-and-wwii.html>

Accessed April 14, 2016



Okinawa was strategically important because the Americans planned to use it as a base to attack the Japanese home islands.

The Battle of Okinawa lasted from April 1st to June 22nd.

It was the bloodiest battle of the Pacific War. 240,000 people lost their lives, half of which were civilians.

"All the News
That's Fit to Print"

The New York Times.

LATE CITY EDITION

Cloudy with showers today. Partly
cloudy and cooler tomorrow.
Temperature Tuesday—Max, 64; Min., 47
Barometer today, 30.4; at 9 A. M., 30.3; at 5 P. M., 30.2

Copyright, 1945, by The New York Times Company.

VOL. XCIV...No. 31,881.

Printed at Second-Class Matter,
Postoffice, New York, N. Y.

NEW YORK, TUESDAY, MAY 8, 1945.

THREE CENTS NEW YORK CITY

THE WAR IN EUROPE IS ENDED! SURRENDER IS UNCONDITIONAL; V-E WILL BE PROCLAIMED TODAY; OUR TROOPS ON OKINAWA GAIN

ISLAND-WIDE DRIVE

Marines Reach Village a
Mile From Naha and
Army Lines Advance

7 MORE SHIPS SUNK

Search Planes Again Hit
Japan's Life Line—
Kyushu Bombed

The Pulitzer Awards For 1944 Announced

The Pulitzer Prize awards announced yesterday by the trustees of Columbia University included: For a distinguished novel, to "A Bell for Adano," by John Hersey; for an original American play of the current season, to "Harvey," by Mary Chase.

Among the newspaper awards were those to Hal Boyle, Associated Press war reporter, for distinguished correspondence; to James H. Reston of THE NEW YORK TIMES for his reporting of the Dumbarton Oaks Security Conference; to Joe Rosenthal, Associated Press photographer, for his photograph of marines raising the American flag at Iwo and to The Detroit Free Press for "distinguished and meritorious public service" in its investi-

GERMANY SURRENDERS: NEW YORKERS MASSED UNDER SYMBOL OF LIBERTY



GERMANS CAPITULATE ON ALL FRONTS

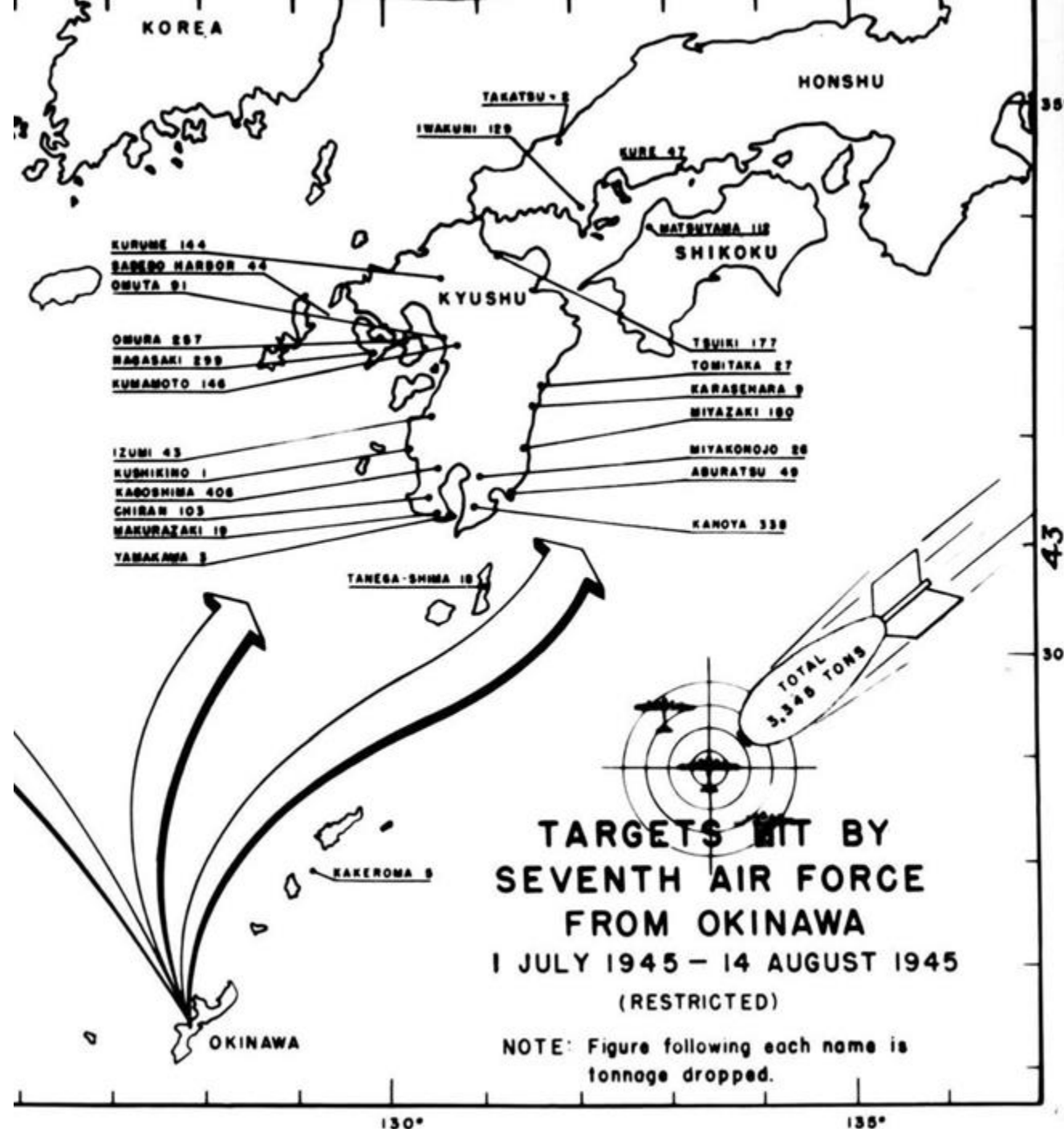
American, Russian and French Generals
Accept Surrender in Eisenhower
Headquarters, a Reims School

REICH CHIEF OF STAFF ASKS FOR MERCY

Doenitz Orders All Military Forces of Germany
To Drop Arms—Troops in Norway Give Up
—Churchill and Truman on Radio Today

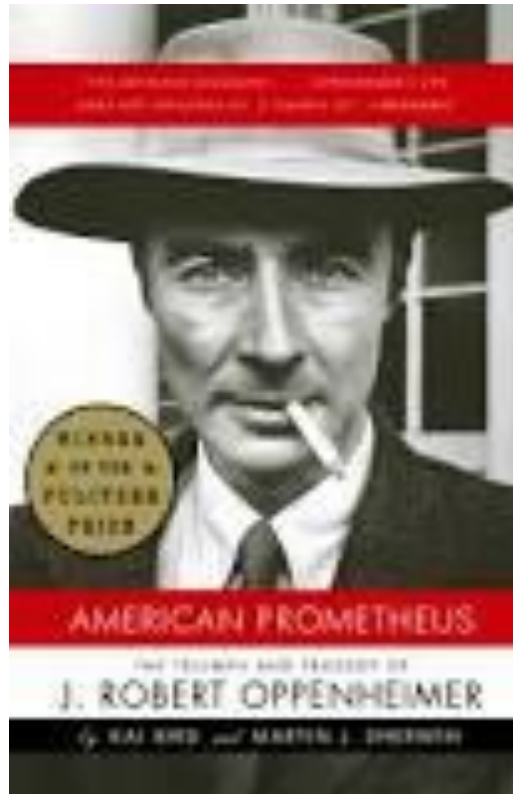
The New York Times.

1. **Identify the main idea of the passage.**
 2. **Identify the supporting details.**
 3. **Identify the author's purpose.**
 4. **Identify the author's tone.**
 5. **Identify the author's bias.**
 6. **Identify the author's point of view.**
 7. **Identify the author's audience.**
 8. **Identify the author's style.**
 9. **Identify the author's structure.**
 10. **Identify the author's language.**





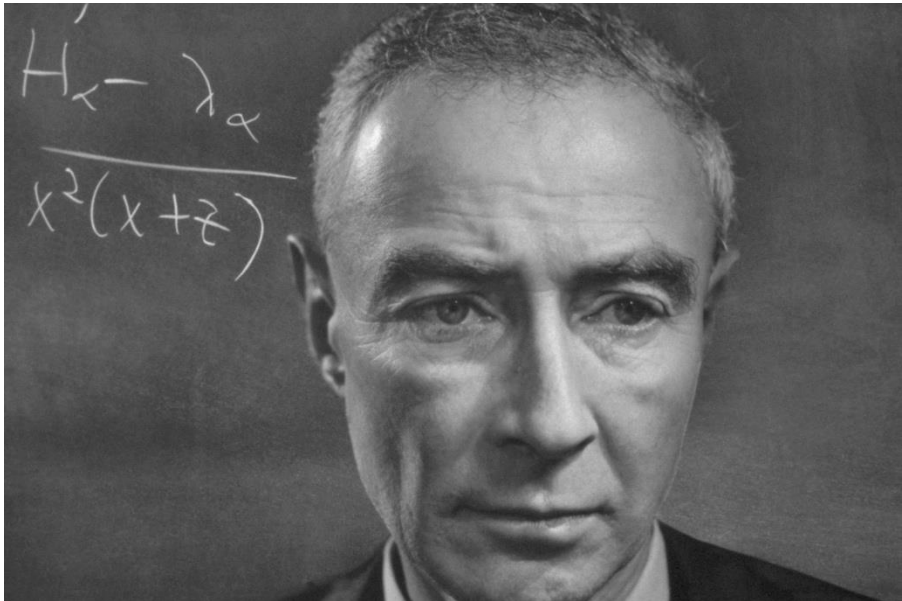
Trinity, July 16, 1945 at Los Alamos Laboratory, New Mexico



This is a brilliant biography of J. Robert Oppenheimer, who was the director of the Manhattan Project, i.e. the research and development effort that led to the existence of the atomic bomb. One of the authors was Kai Bird Carleton class of 1973 (history). By the way, he married a Carl, Susan Goldmark (history), also from the class of 1973.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=25BvU5ASo0Y>

Robert J. Oppenheimer (1904-1967) brilliant theoretical physicist. Head of the Manhattan Project, that developed the atomic bomb. He was a very eccentric person, given to pork pie hats, cigarettes, and ice cold gin martinis.



McCarthyism is the practice of making false or unfounded accusations of subversion and treason, especially when related to anarchism, communism and socialism, and especially when done in a public and attention-grabbing manner.^{[1][2]} The term originally referred to the controversial practices and policies of U.S. Senator Joseph McCarthy, and has its origins in the period in the United States known as the Second Red Scare, lasting from the late 1940s through the 1950s.^[3] It was characterized by heightened political repression and persecution of left-wing individuals, and a campaign spreading fear of alleged communist and socialist influence on American institutions and of espionage by Soviet agents

Wikipedia, accessed 12/22. 2022



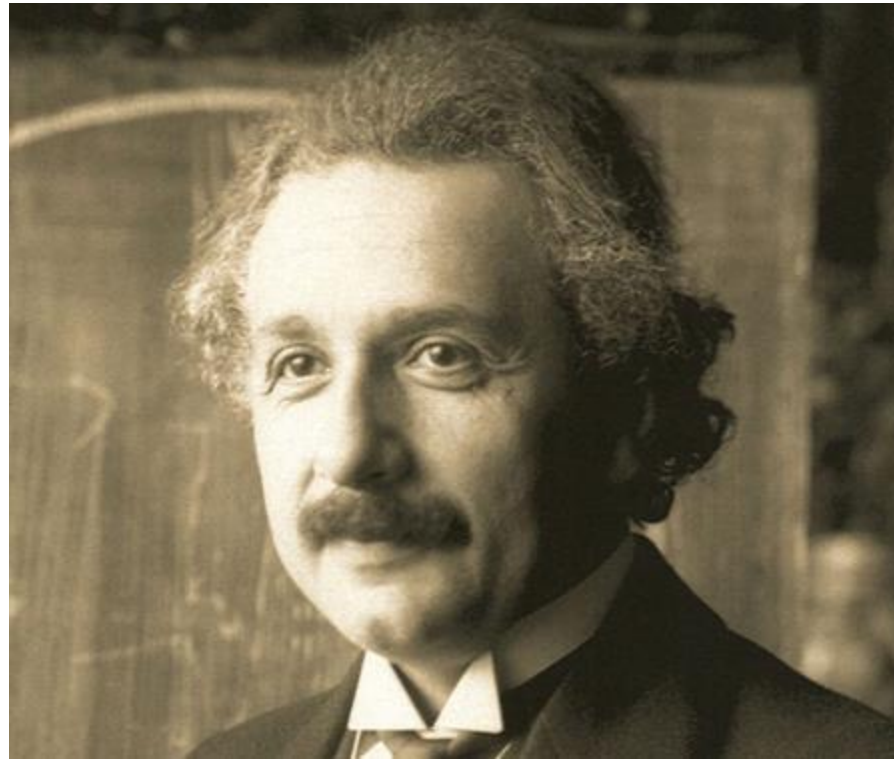
After the war ended, Oppenheimer became chairman of the influential General Advisory Committee of the newly created [United States Atomic Energy Commission](#). He used that position to lobby for international control of [nuclear power](#) to avert [nuclear proliferation](#) and a [nuclear arms race](#) with the [Soviet Union](#). He opposed the development of the [hydrogen bomb](#) during a 1949–1950 governmental debate on the question and subsequently took stances on defense-related issues that provoked the ire of some factions in the U.S. government and military. During the [Second Red Scare](#), those stances, together with past associations Oppenheimer had with people and organizations affiliated with the [Communist Party](#), led to him suffering the revocation of his [security clearance](#) in a [much-written-about hearing](#) in 1954. Effectively stripped of his direct political influence, he continued to lecture, write, and work in physics. Nine years later, President [John F. Kennedy](#) awarded (and [Lyndon B. Johnson](#) presented) him with the [Enrico Fermi Award](#) as a gesture of [political rehabilitation](#).

<https://www.nytimes.com/2022/12/16/science/j-robert-oppenheimer-energy-department.html?searchResultPosition=1>

J. Robert Oppenheimer Cleared of 'Black Mark' After 68 Years

New York Times, December 16, 2022

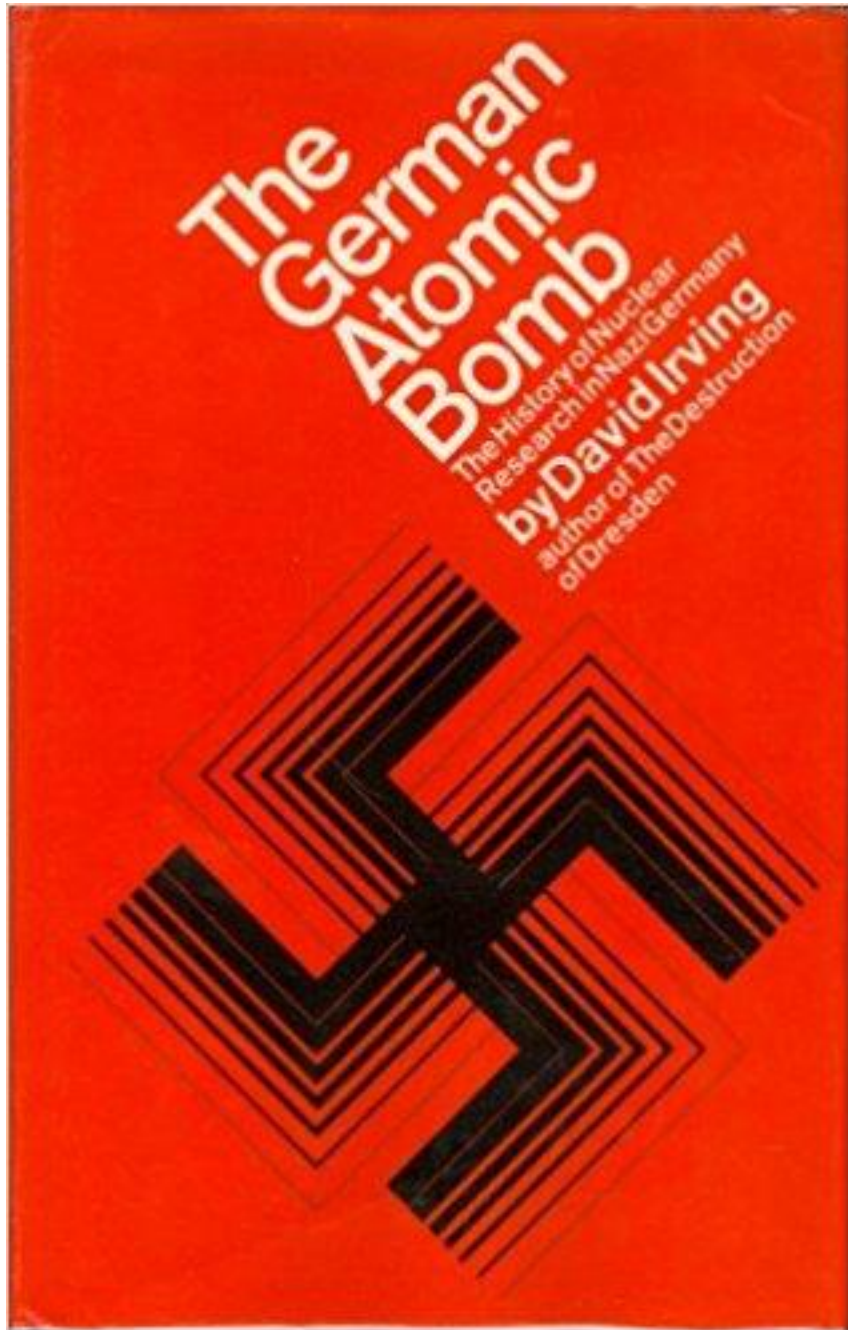
https://www.nytimes.com/2022/12/16/science/j-robert-oppenheimer-energy-department.html?unlocked_article_code=H4lxUGnXomxp1YGz_aKjQytH4U3wUeCr2h-LHb_0OSNI2QAd1r7WgNgkoITIHRTqAyXAUyffgic2kIPR26ZvfMyBVFBN5s901rtFusoOLbRswxeaKCxbti5Uf420vEq4w-XJ4CnofZJvA7BNgD3H6IBnNWwSPx2KfbCKiwzrvIZNZdfSYEsIjrjY-1M9ONzsj2y15WD1azgaOZRt5jVbOQISx-lTwQokOU7ORBrYpbQPcd2UvvHRIPTl-XaxU2k8Zqg9gY-wxAsU6UBB_X79YGxGoBk02MpDt6HEskOJWyS4jluOYKfVOTo-A-IaJ4TM66lT-aQgSgZID8t2p6-e5LIoDG1z1WQL94duGhWJe04&smid=share-url



In 1939, the theoretical possibility of an atomic bomb was known to physicists. War would break out in Europe on September 1, 1939, but a month before that Einstein had signed a letter (written by the physicist Leo Szilard) warning President Roosevelt about the bomb.

“a single bomb of this type, carried by boat and exploded in port, might very well destroy the whole port together with some of the surrounding territory” Ominously, he suggested that the Germans might already be working on such a bomb: “I understand Germany has actually stopped the sale of uranium from the Czechoslovakian mines which she has taken over...”

Bird and Sherwin, p. 179.



This was the great fear, that Germany would develop the bomb before the Allies. The Germans had the physics know-how, and the industrial capacity.



There was a heavy emphasis on secrecy at Los Alamos. It was decided early that progress on the bomb would not be shared with the American ally Russia. The Russians had spies working on the project anyway, which eventually lead to the humiliating downfall of Robert Oppenheimer during the McCarthy era of anti-Communism.

Here's an interesting side note.

In 1926, Oppenheimer travels to Göttingen, Germany, where he meets many German physicists, including Werner Heisenberg, who would later head up the German bomb project, and a Dutch-Austrian-German physicist Friedrich Georg Houtermans, known as "Fritz".



Heisenberg



Houtermans

Also in Göttingen was a brilliant physics student, Charlotte Riefenstahl.



Oppie (as Oppenheimer was called) and Fritz were both in love with Charlotte, and both seriously courted her.

But Oppenheimer was homesick, and chose to leave for the US. He threw a going-away party for himself, and “among many others, the lovely dark-haired Charlotte Riefenstahl came to say goodbye” (Bird and Sherwin, p.68). Oppie gave her a suitcase, the suitcase she had earlier admired and which had led to their meeting, which she named, “The Oppenheimer”. She kept it for three decades.

Charlotte would later teach at Vassar College, but she returned to Germany and in 1931 married Fritz.

They fled Germany after Hitler came to power in 1933. They went to England, and then the Soviet Union. Fritz was imprisoned by the Russians, but Charlotte escaped to England, and then to the US.

Beginning in 1940, she taught at Wellesley College.

One night I was reading Bird and Sherwin's biography of Oppenheimer, and I decided to try to find a picture of Charlotte. So, naturally, I went to Wikipedia, and here's what I found:

Charlotte Houtermans born: Charlotte Riefenstahl (24 May 1899 in Bielefeld, Germany – 6 January 1993 in Northfield, Minnesota, United States) was a German physicist.

Charlotte had come to Northfield in 1986, to be close to her daughter, Giovanna Fjelstad. Giovanna was here because she married a St. Olaf math professor Paul Fjelstad. They were divorced, and he died in 2013, but Giovanna stayed in Northfield.

My wife Angelique was sitting in the same room with me, and I told her this story. She opened her computer and in a few minutes, she told me that she and Giovanna had a mutual friend on Facebook. So Angelique wrote to that friend, and told her the whole story.

The friend wrote back almost immediately. She knew Giovanna well. She said it would be wonderful for me to meet her, but just this very morning, Giovanna had a massive stroke, and was in the hospital. The doctors did not expect her to live more than a day or two.

Records/Nation

Wednesday, July 3, 2019

NORTHFIELD NEWS

THE OBITUARIES

Giovanna Ruth Fjelstad

1932-2019

NORTHFIELD—Fjelstad, Giovanna passed away June 20, 2019, following a stroke. Born in Berlin, she learned resilience early as her family faced Stalin's purges while living in the Ukraine. After many moves, she studied at Sarah Lawrence, earning a Master's in math at Harvard. She taught math in many settings including St. Catherine's and St. Olaf College. After living in Norway, Germany and Switzerland she settled in Northfield, Minnesota, where she pursued interests in weaving, spinning, gardening, learning languages, and reading. She is survived by her brother Jan; children Per (Lu), Annika (Heather Ferguson), Kaj and Lars (Martha Richards); and grandchildren Ian, Soljan, Josiah and Gabe. Services have been held.



Well, were Giovanna to live and be aware of the world, she would love to meet Mike, and you, and to tell the story of her family.

Some small details:

Her father was concerned about his safety in Germany in the early days of Hitler, so moved the family to Russia. Something there led him to be concerned there also (cannot recall details). For some reason, he was unable to leave, so sent the family (wife, Giovanna, younger brother) to England. From there they went to US.

Through their travels, they had an old suitcase that they called the Oppenheimer. At some point, Giovanna asked her mother why it was called that. She explained that Robert O had given it to them as they were headed to Russia. Giovanna was very excited when some recent (last 15 years) book came out and had a picture of her mother and the two children standing in a depot (I think) with the Oppenheimer.

At some point, family reunited, I think in Europe somewhere, but marriage was over. Giovanna's mother taught at Sarah Lawrence. Family was quite poor.

I think younger brother went into physics also, so Giovanna chose route of math. Cannot recall how she met Paul. They had a wild and crazy life due to Paul eccentricities for years—here and sabbaticals in Europe. They divorced late in life.

Giovanna taught math part time at Olaf and Normandale. She has been a part of the Friends Meeting for years. She has always been pleased that, though her health and body have failed, her mind has continued onward. She has been frustrated in recent weeks that even with magnifying glass, she has difficulties reading.

She is a delightful person. The doctor yesterday, said he did not expect her to live more than 24 hours. Sadly, her daughter in the Twin Cities, her wife, and one of their two sons are in Glacier. As of yesterday, contact with them had not yet been achieved. Their other son was home and able to come down and be with her through the day. Her Northfield son was out of the country. The two other children were scheduled to arrive last night and this morning.

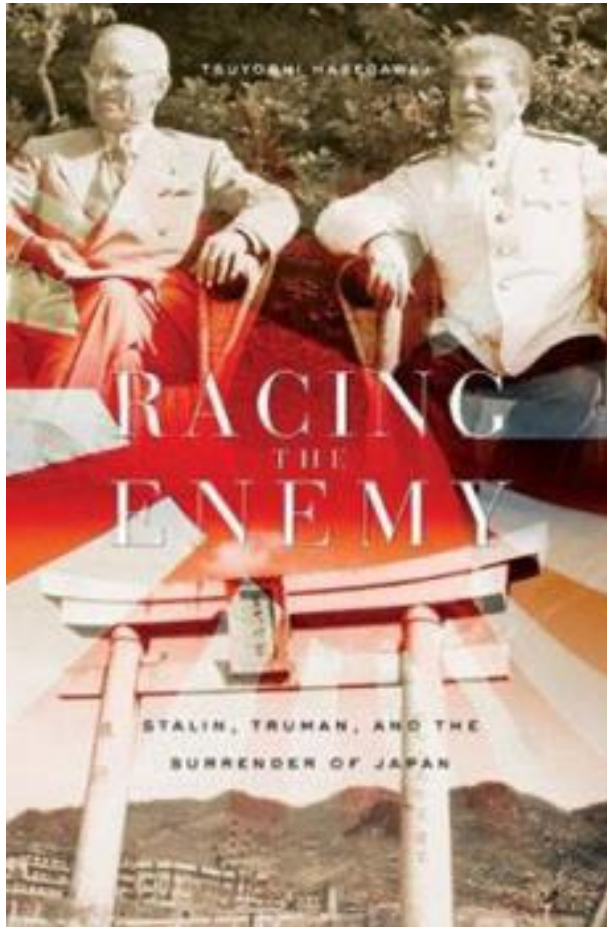
I regret that Mike is only now learning of her, because I know how rewarding it would have been for her to tell her story to him, and for him to have enough knowledge of that time to hold a good conversation with her about it.

(message from Giovanna's friend Corinne Smith to my wife Angelique, shared with you with Corinne's permission as well as Annika Fjelstad, Charlotte's granddaughter.)



Annika Fjelstad





Tsuyoshi Hasegawa (2005) *Racing the Enemy: Stalin Truman and the Surrender of Japan*. Harvard University Press.

July 16: Americans have the bomb

August 6: Americans drop it on Hiroshima

There is no reaction from Tokyo. Hasegawa hypothesizes that many in the Japanese leadership saw the bomb as just another attack on a city, something the American had been doing for months.

August 9: Americans bomb Nagasaki

August 15: Japanese surrender



April 1941, the Japanese-Soviet Non-Aggression pact. Russia wants to protect its eastern boarder while it concentrates on the war in Europe. Japan is keen to keep the Soviets of out Manchuria. The pact is to remain in force for five years, i.e. until April 1946. But the Americans are eager for Russia to enter the war against the Japanese. Russia agrees to do that three months after the cessation of war in the European theater, unbeknownst to Japan, of course. The date of the Russian intervention is set for August 15. In the meantime, the Japanese are trying to use Russia as an intermediary to sue for peace. The sticking point for the Japanese is the preservation of the role of the Emperor, Americans demand unconditional surrender. Paul Ham, Hiroshima Nagasaki (2014)



Koichi Kido, a close advisor to the Emperor Showa during the whole of the Pacific War. In June 1945, he convinces the Emperor to appeal to the USSR to end the war.



Naotake Sato



Vyacheslav Mikhaylovich Molotov
Russian Minister of Foreign Affairs

On July 12, the emperor sends a message to the Japanese ambassador in Moscow Naotake Sato, urging him to arrange a meeting with Molotov to convey that Japan was prepared to surrender all lands conquered during the war, accept an occupation government, so long as the Imperial House could remain. This message was intercepted by American forces, and thus known to high ranking American officials, though it is unclear if Truman had read them. . They were known as the “Magic Intercepts”.



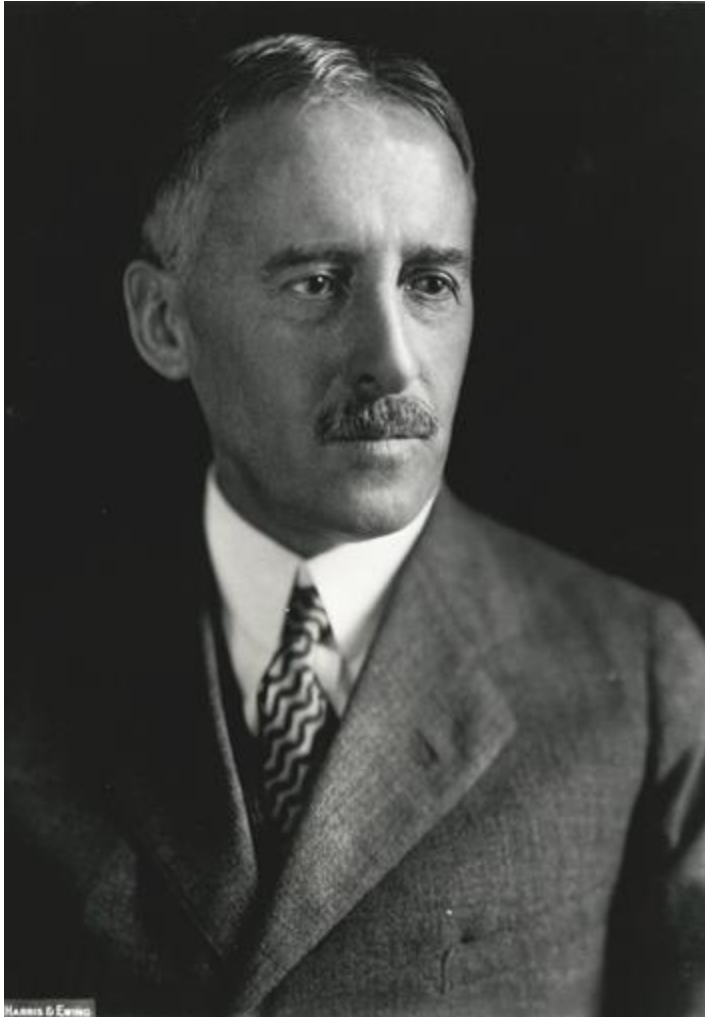
Hideki Tojo, prime minister of Japan through most of the Pacific War. He ordered the attack on Pearl Harbor, and before that, as a high ranking officer in the Japanese army, ordered many attacks in China. In May 1945, he formed the Supreme War Council, which consisted of the prime minister, the foreign minister, army and navy ministers, army and navy chiefs of staff, or the Big Six as they were known. Tojo was the army Chief of Staff. After the war, Tojo tried to commit suicide before his arrest by Americans, but he failed. He was tried by the International Military Tribunal for the Far East for war crimes, was convicted as a class A war criminal, and hanged on December 23, 1948. His ashes are enshrined at both the Yasukuni Shrine and Zōshigaya Cemetery in Toshima ward, Tokyo.

In May 1945, Togo convened the Big Six, to consider their relationship with the Soviet Union.

Tojo wrote:

At the present moment, when Japan is waging a life-or-death struggle against the United States and Britain, Soviet entry into the war will deal a death Blow to the Empire. Therefore, whatever development the war against the United States and Britain might take, it is necessary for the empire to try its best to prevent Soviet entry into the war.

Translation in Hasegawa, p. 72-72



Henry Stimson was Secretary of War from 1940 to 1945. He had been Secretary of War thirty years before, and also Secretary of State from 1929 to 1933. He also was in charge of the Manhattan Project, the goal of which was to develop an atomic weapon, and which involved thousands of scientists and other workers. In early July 1945, Stimson gave to Truman a draft declaration to Japan, which modified the terms of “unconditional surrender” to potentially allow Japan to maintain the Emperor, as a kind of figurehead. It was hoped that this would induce Japan to surrender before an invasion of the “homeland”, or the dropping of the atomic bomb, was necessary. Stimson knew then that two bombs would likely be ready in early August.



Vyacheslav Mikhailovich Molotov, an important advisor to Stalin. Together with Stalin, they made a plan to enter the war against Japan as soon as enough troops and equipment could be moved from the European theater to East Asia. Molotov's goal was to keep the war going long enough so that the USSR could enter it, and thus claim territory. He knew about Japan's eagerness to end the war through Soviet mediation, and took steps to give the impression that the Soviets could help the Japanese, all the while knowing that they had no such intention.



Potsdam is a city near Berlin, and it is there that Truman met Stalin for the first time. The meeting took place from July 17 to August 2. At this meeting, Stalin confirmed his intention to declare war on Japan on August 15. The Americans had long hoped for the Soviet entering the war, as this would certainly have a decisive effect on Japan. But at Potsdam, Truman knew that the atomic bomb was ready, and thought that it would force a Japanese unconditional surrender without the Soviet entry into the war.



There is debate within the Truman administration about what to do with the bomb.

Don't drop it at all

Drop in the sea as a demonstration

Drop it on Hiroshima, but give a warning

Drop it on Hiroshima, no warning



MESSAGE FROM HIROSHIMA
COURTESY OF CINEMA LIBRE STUDIO







August 6: Americans bomb Hiroshima

August 8: Russia declares war on Japan

August 9: Americans bomb Nagasaki

August 15: Japanese surrender



This is Korechika Anami, a general in the Imperial Army and the War Minister during the final days of the war. He was strongly opposed to surrender even though he knew that defeat was inevitable. He asked Prime Minister Suzuki to wait at least two days before announcing the surrender, but Suzuki refused.

Anami hurried to Suzuki to ask him to wait two more days before holding the imperial conference [at which the surrender would be approved]. Suzuki refused. “Now is the time to act. I am sorry to say that there is no time to waste.” In the prime minister’s office a naval doctor named Gyota Kobayashi happened to be attending to the elderly prime minister. After Anami left the room, Kobayashi asked Suzuki, “If it is at all possible, why don’t you wait for a few days?” Suzuki replied, “I can’t do that. If we miss today, the Soviet Union will take not only Manchuria, Korea, Karafuto, but also Hokkaido. This would destroy the foundation of Japan. We must end the war when we can deal with the United States.” Kobayashi said, “You know that Anami will commit suicide,” Yes, I know, and I am sorry,” the prime minister said.

Hasegawa, p. 237.

Anami committed seppuku on the morning of August 15.



The islands in red once belonged to Japan, and were taken by Russia at the end of the war. The possession of these islands is still in dispute.

The world will note that the first atomic bomb was dropped on Hiroshima, a military base. That was because we wished in this first attack to avoid, insofar as possible, the killing of civilians. But that attack is only a warning of things to come. If Japan does not surrender, bombs will have to be dropped on her war industries and, unfortunately, thousands of civilian lives will be lost. I urge Japanese civilians to leave industrial cities immediately, and save themselves from destruction.

President Truman addressed the nation on August 9, 1945.

...

Having found the bomb we have used it. We have used it against those who attacked us without warning at Pearl Harbor, against those who have starved and beaten and executed American prisoners of war, against those who have abandoned all pretense of obeying international laws of warfare. We have used it in order to shorten the agony of war, in order to save the lives of thousands and thousands of young Americans.

<http://www.trumanlibrary.org/publicpapers/?pid=104> accessed January 13, 2016



Emperor Showa in 1946;

During his lifetime, he was known as Hirohito.

He was not indicted by the allied powers in the Tokyo War Crimes Tribunal based on the argument that he was cautious about war and wanted peace, and that he reluctantly agreed to the war pushed by the government.

But the recent publication of the diary of Saburo Hyakutake, the grand chamberlain for the emperor, has cast serious doubt about Hirohito's view.

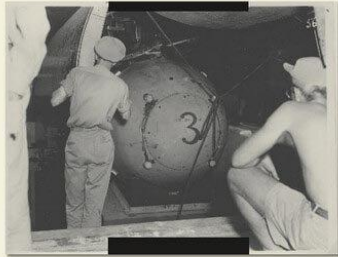
According to the Asahi Shimbun (December 6, 2021):

Emperor Hirohito appeared to be preparing for war against the United States about two months before Japan's attack on Pearl Harbor, according to a diary that raises further questions about his wartime responsibilities.



ATOMIC DOCTORS

*Conscience and Complicity
at the Dawn of the Nuclear Age*



James L. Nolan, Jr.



James L. Nolan Jr. (2020) *Atomic Doctors: Conscience and Complicity at the Dawn of the Nuclear Age*. Belknap Press.

The author is the grandson of Dr. James F. Nolan, who worked on the Manhattan Project.

Not much was known about the effects of radiation, but the scientists at Los Alamos knew the explosion would release it, which worried the doctors. The military was keen to suppress this, because of the fear that radiation could be regarded as a biological or chemical weapon, and thus releasing it could be regarded as a war crime.

Once at Tinian, [General Thomas] Farrell explained the operation to the assembled doctors and scientists. As [Lieutenant Donald] Collins recollected, “We were addressed by General Farrell who told us more specifically that our mission was to prove there was no radioactivity from the bomb.” Collins, who regarded himself as more of a scientist than a military man, then impertinently asked, “I thought we were going to measure the radioactivity.” Farrell “sputtered and stammered” in response, and Stafford Warren had to quietly warn Collins about talking back to a superior officer. Collins perceived that Farrell was “concerned about public relations” and that their finding were predetermined. With biting irony, he concluded, “While we were sitting, waiting to get into Japan...we read in the Stars and Stripes the results of our findings!” (p.86)

This book is in our library in the dorm at Doshisha.

Did the bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki shorten the war?

My personal opinion at this point is that they did not. Japan was defeated, and knew it. The entry of Russia into the war put Hokkaido and even northern Honshu at risk. There was no choice but to surrender at that point.

There is one sense in which we could think of the bombing as shortening the war. Maybe Russia thought that the Japanese would be induced to surrender because of the bomb, and that's why they moved up their declaration date from August 15 to August 8. If that declaration was what brought the Japanese to surrender, then it is true that the did shorten the war, by about a week.