

World War II

1935 - 1949

The War In Europe

Invasion of Poland

- September 1, 1939
- September 3, 1939: Great Britain and France declare war on Germany
- German excuse: "Poles" attacked German fortifications/radio towers along the border
- **Blitzkrieg:** Lightning Warfare
 - Hitler's war strategy
 - use of overwhelming force
 - goal is a quick victory
- GB and France do nothing





BLITZKRIEG

When you only stop for kittens

Winter War



- Results:
- USSR kicked out of League of Nations
- Soviets lost many men
- Finland gave up territory to USSR
- no military action from Britain or France



Phony War



- September 1939 - April 1940
- **"Sitzkrieg" or "Bore War"**
- period between the time France and GB declared war and the time when they actually started fighting

■ Early 1940: Nazis occupied

■ Holland

■ Denmark

■ Norway

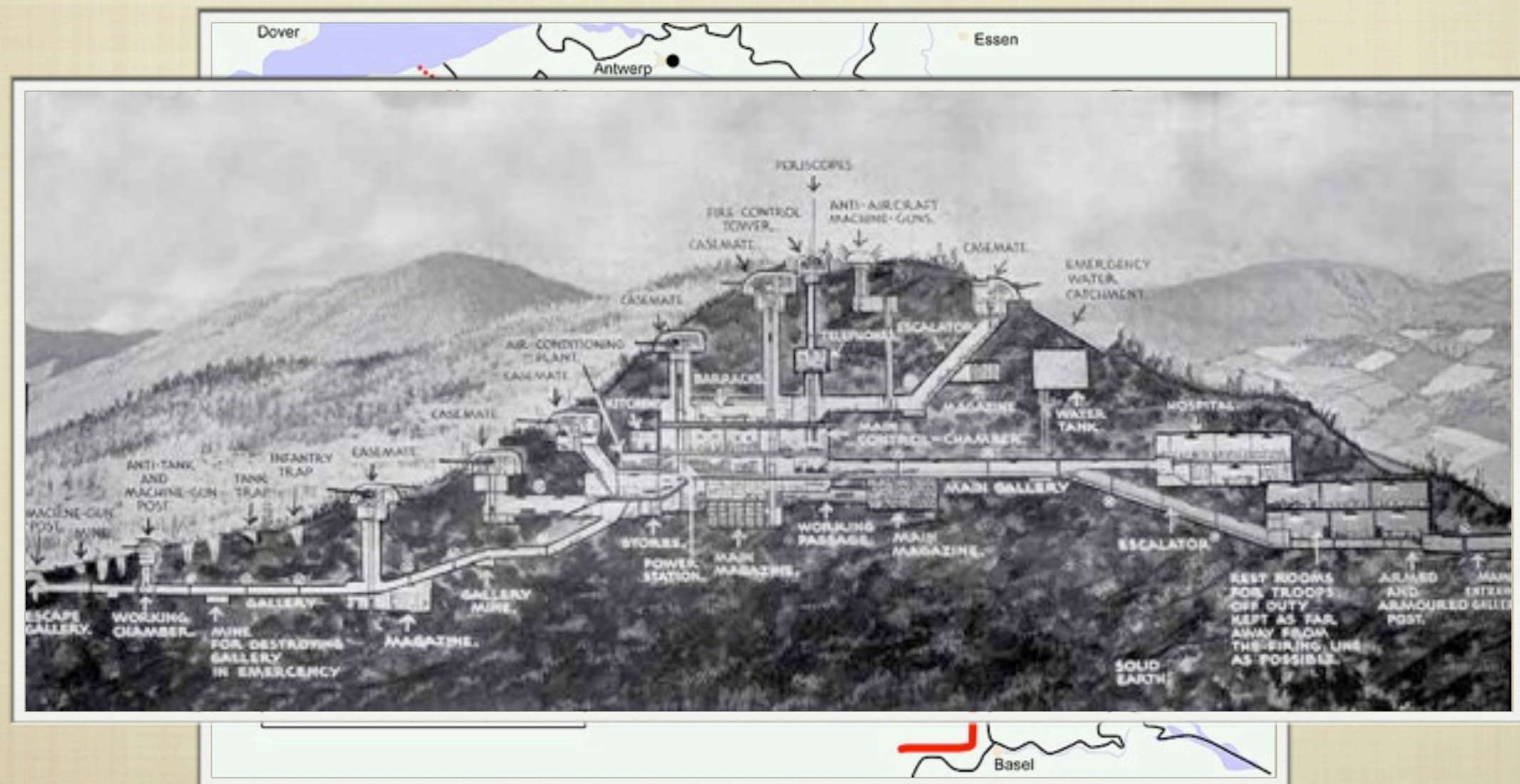


Hitler & Quisling

■ Norway gave up with almost no fighting due to Vidkun Quisling, a Nazi-supporter in the government

Maginot Line

- extensive French line of defense along its borders with Germany and Italy



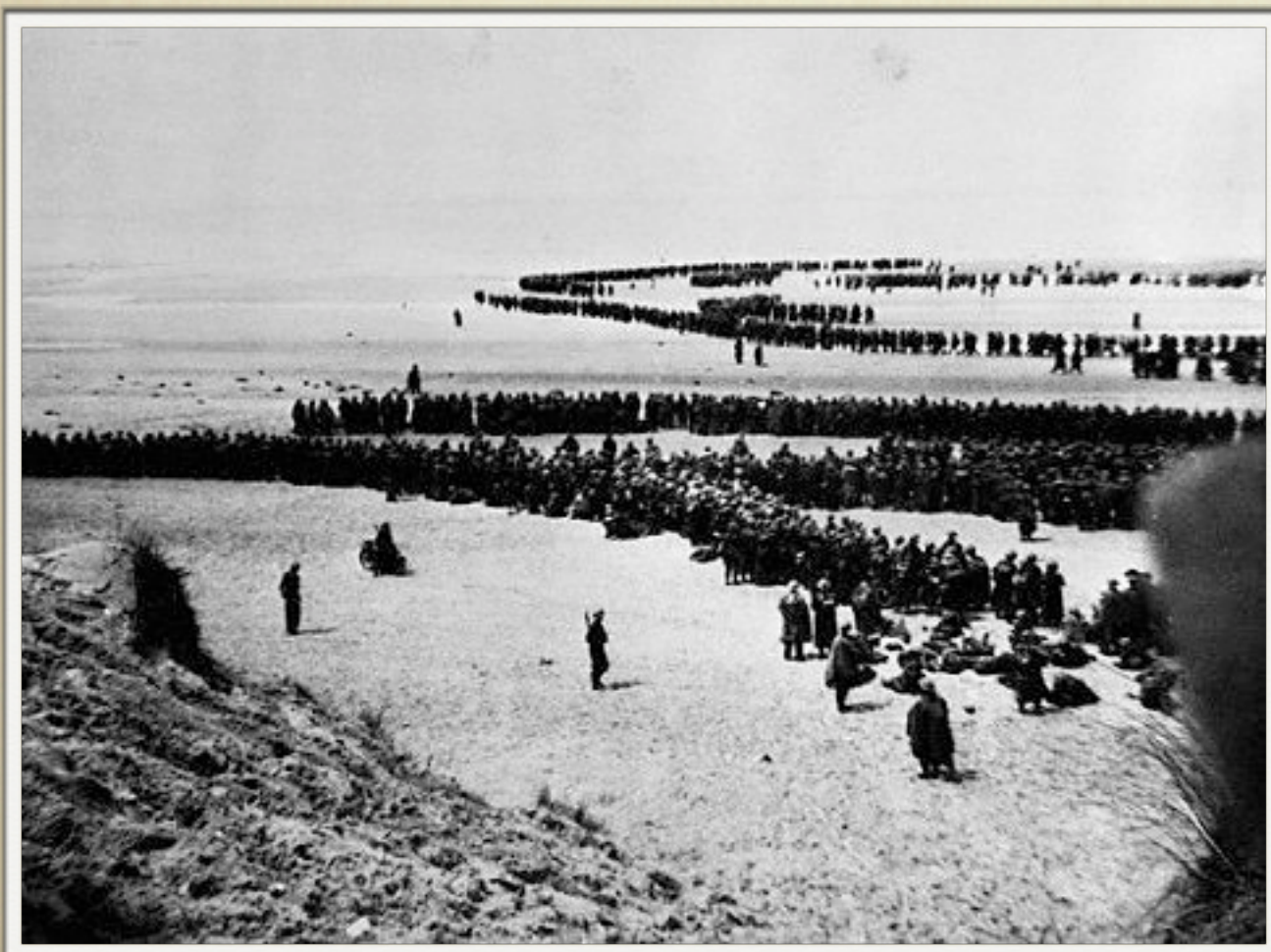
Nazi Aggression in the West

- April 1940: invaded Denmark & Norway
- May 1940: blitzkrieg into Belgium, Luxembourg, & Netherlands
- invades France through the Arden Forest
- avoids Maginot Line
- French and British flee



Dunkirk Evacuation

- British & French were surrounded by the Nazis
- trapped at the port of Dunkirk
- all types of British boats evacuated 350,000 soldiers from Dunkirk in 9 days



Fall of France

- after surrounding the Allies at Dunkirk, Nazis push deep into France
- June 14, 1940: Nazis took Paris
- June 22, 1940: France under Marshall Pétain surrendered



FRANCE OCCUPIED BY AXIS POWERS 1940-1944



Vichy France



- puppet state set up by Nazis
- cooperated with Nazi Germany
- led by Marshall Pétain

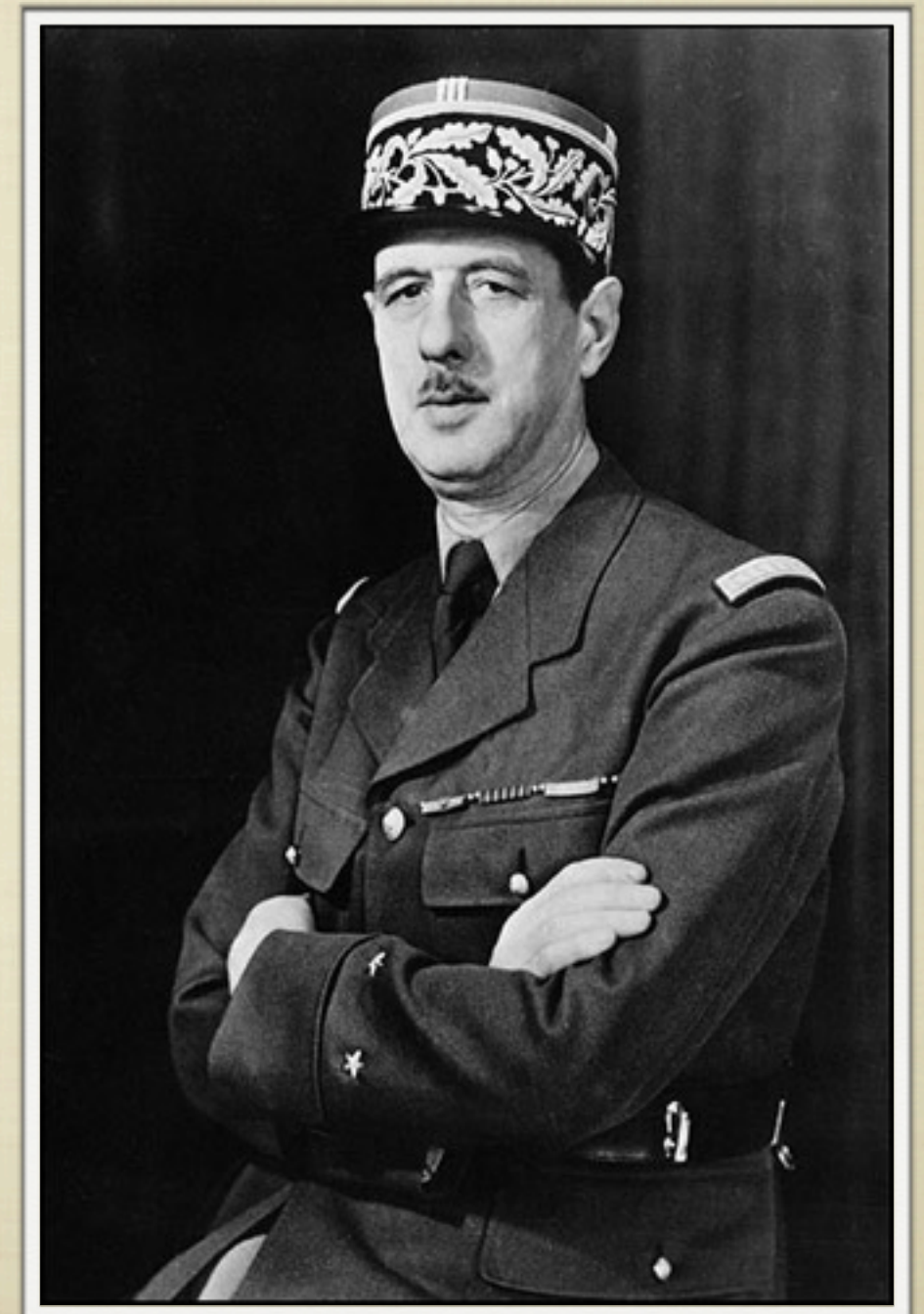


Marshall Pétain & Adolf Hitler

Free French

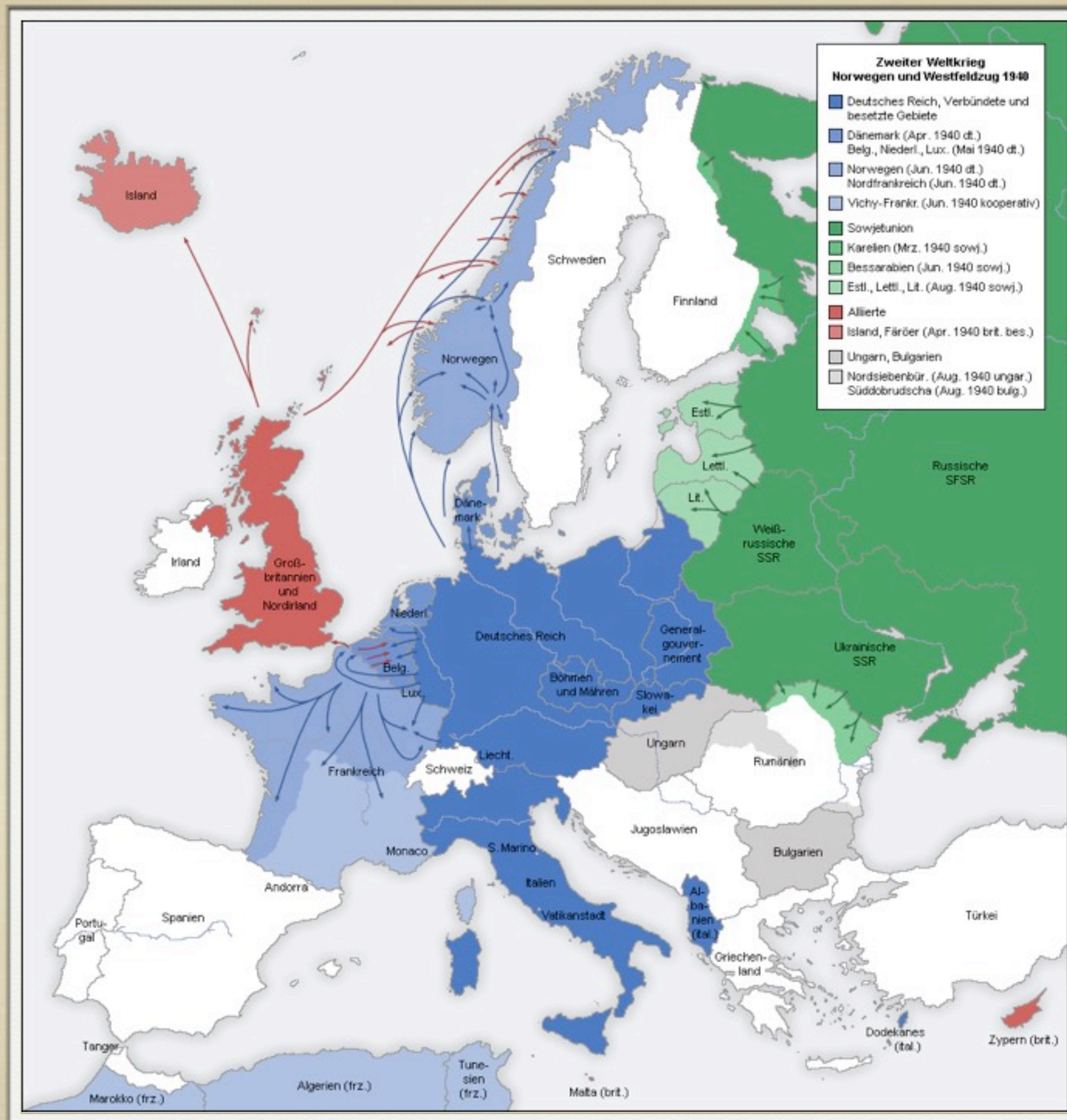


- French who decided to continue fighting the Nazis after the official surrender.
- General Charles de Gaulle created a government in exile in London
- some acts of sabotage but generally ineffective
- **partisan**: a member of an armed group formed to fight secretly against an occupying force



Nazi Europe

- By the end of 1940, Germans controlled all of continental Europe except:
 - Portugal
 - Spain
 - Sweden
 - Switzerland
- to defeat the Nazis, the Allies must invade the continent at some point



Battle of Britain

- May 1940: Prime Minister Chamberlain replaced by Winston Churchill
- Churchill: forceful critic of Hitler
- August 1940: Germany begins bombing Britain to prepare for a future invasion
- **Operation Sea Lion:** Nazi plan to invade Britain
- Results:
 - destroyed much of London & killed 15,000 Britons
 - Nazis lost twice as many planes as Britain
 - German forced to abandon invasion plan



Winston Churchill

■ **RAF:** British Royal Air Force

■ **Luftwaffe:** Nazi German Air Force





St. Paul's Cathedral during the bombardment





*Never in the field of
human conflict was so much
owed by so many to so few.*

-Winston Churchill

Atlantic Charter

- created at the Atlantic Conference held on ships off the coast of Newfoundland
- August 1941
- Winston Churchill & Franklin D. Roosevelt
- defined Allies' goals for the war



Atlantic Charter's Principles

- no territorial aggrandizement
- no territorial changes made against wishes of the people
- restoration of self-government to those deprived of it
- free access to raw materials
- reduction of trade restrictions
- freedom of the seas
- freedom from want & fear
- disarmament of aggressor nations
- global cooperation

Lebensraum

- German term for “living space”
- Hitler wanted to take Ukraine and Caucasus
- why?
 - *lebensraum*
 - food (Ukraine - wheat)
 - oil (Baku)



Operation Barbarossa

- June 22, 1941: Germany invaded the USSR
 - goal: destroy Russia before the winter set in
- Stalin didn't expect Hitler to violate their pact
- 1st 2 days: 2,000 Russian planes destroyed
- August: Hitler delayed advance to decide on strategy
 - diverted troops south
 - when he began attacking Moscow, winter had set in & city was better fortified
 - became a war of attrition.
- by November, 2.5 million Russians killed
- Nov. & Dec.: Russians begin a counterattack



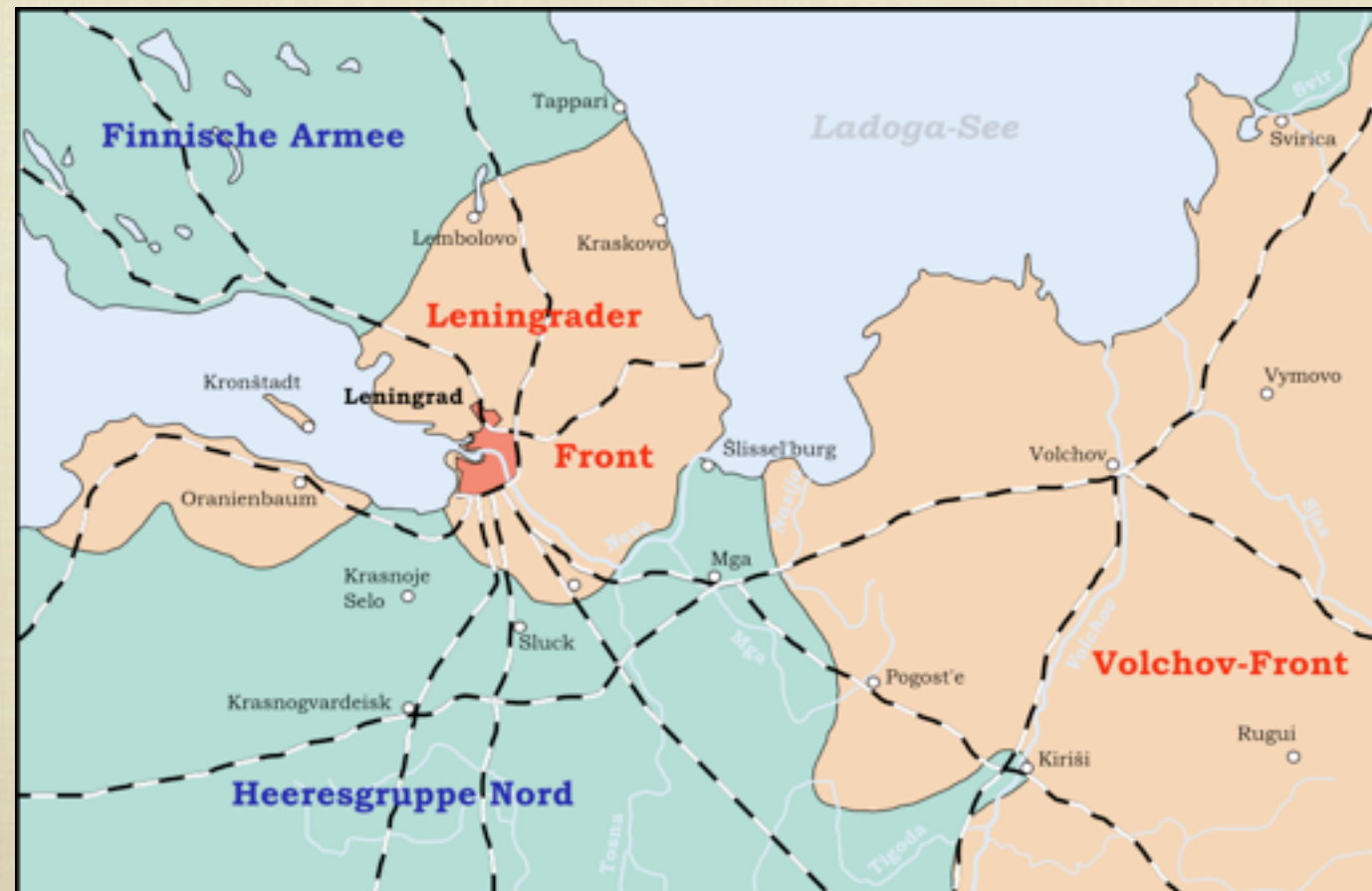
Scorched Earth Policy

- practice used by the Soviets in which they burned everything left behind as they retreated so that it could not be used by the enemy.



Leningrad Blockade

- Siege of Leningrad
- Nazi siege of Leningrad (St. Petersburg) that lasted from September 8, 1941 - January 27, 1944



Reich = Empire

- Three Reichs according to Hitler
 - 1st: Holy Roman Empire
 - 2nd: Bismarck's Germany
 - 3rd: Nazi Germany





United States

- isolationist
- didn't participate on either side in the early war
- Roosevelt realized that long range interests of the US favored the Allies
- Lend Lease Policy: allowed Allies to buy US goods on credit



Turning Points in the War

Battle of Stalingrad

- August 23, 1942 - February 2, 1943
- August: German army captured Stalingrad
- September: Soviets trapped the Germans in the city cutting off all supply routes
- February, 1943: German in Stalingrad surrender
 - 90,000 of 300,000 Nazi soldiers survived
- German army is now on the defensive for the first time.

Second Battle of El Alamein

- in Egypt
- Oct. 23 - Nov. 5
- fighting between Allies & Axis Powers in stalemate



GENERAL MONTGOMERY

Second Battle of El Alamein

| AXIS | ALLIES |
|--|---|
| BASE: LIBYA | BASE: EGYPT |
| COMMANDER: GENERAL ERWIN ROMMEL “DESERT FOX” LEADER OF “AFRICA KORPS” | COMMANDER: GENERAL BERNARD MONTGOMERY “MONTY” |

■ Allies win Battle of El Alamein

Operation Torch

- Operation Torch: Allies landed in Morocco and Algeria
- Commander: Dwight Eisenhower (Ike)
- Germans caught in the middle
- Germans retreat to Italian Peninsula



Operation Torch

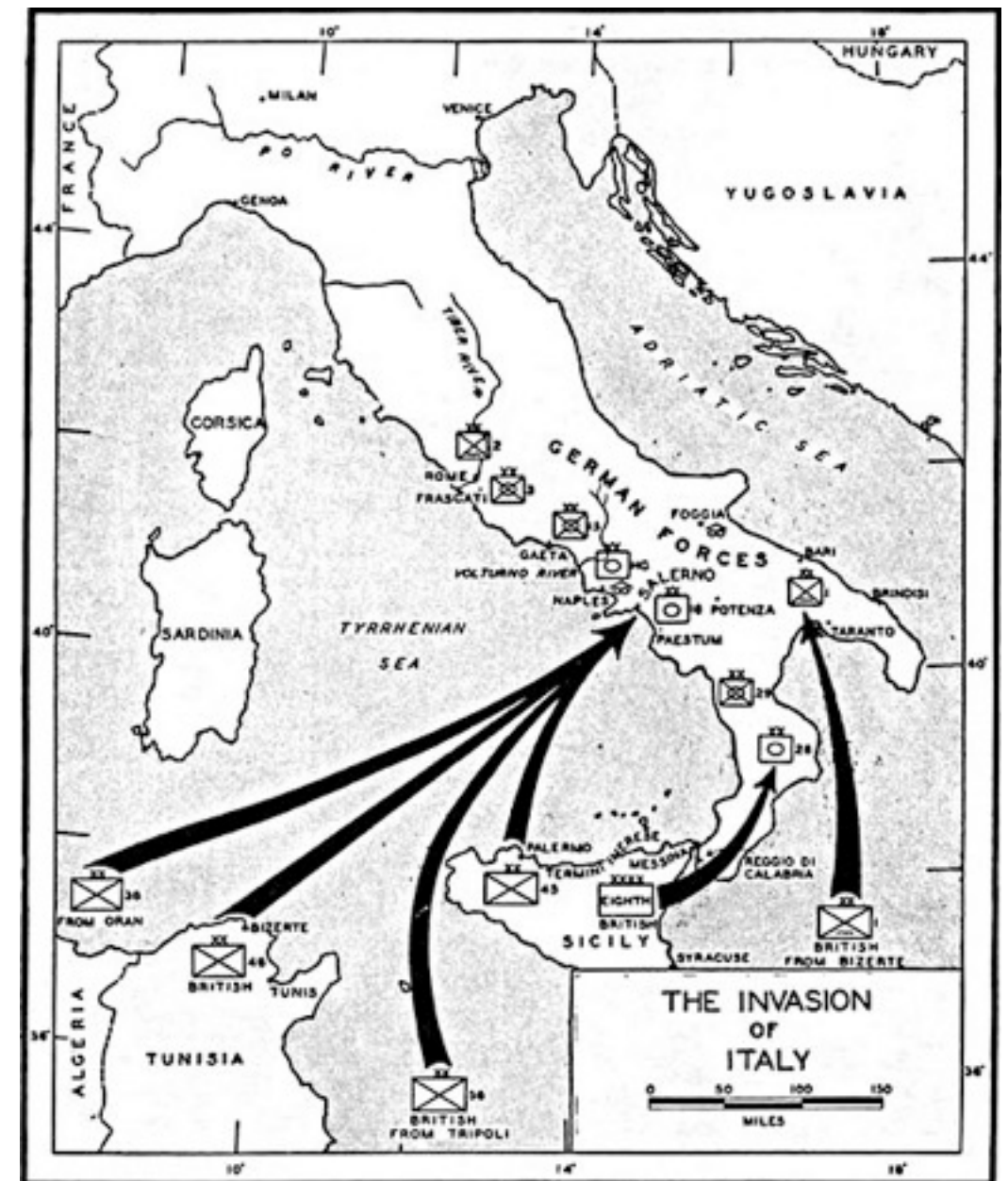
- pushed Nazis out of North Africa
- ended Nazi effort to:
 - get control of Suez Canal
 - control oil from the Middle East



GENERALS MONTGOMERY & EISENHOWER

Allied Invasion of Italy

- July 9 - Aug. 17, 1943:
Allies invade Sicily
- Operation Husky
- September 3, 1943:
Allies invade mainland Italy





Tehran Conference

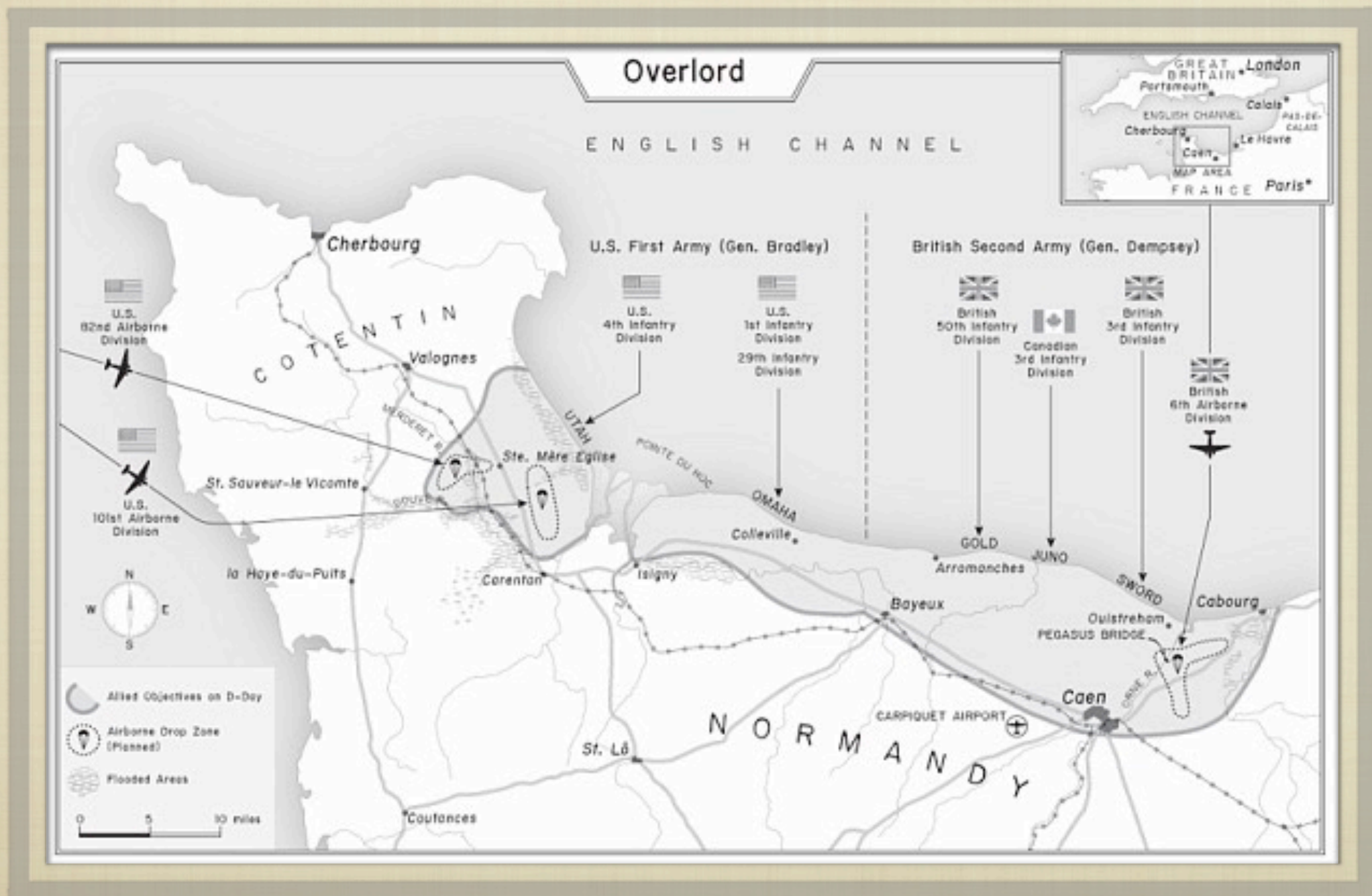
- November 28 - December 1, 1943
- Churchill, Stalin, & Roosevelt agree on who would capture what territory.
- agreed an attack on the western coast of Europe to begin the following year.



D-Day Invasion

May-June 1944

Operation Overlord



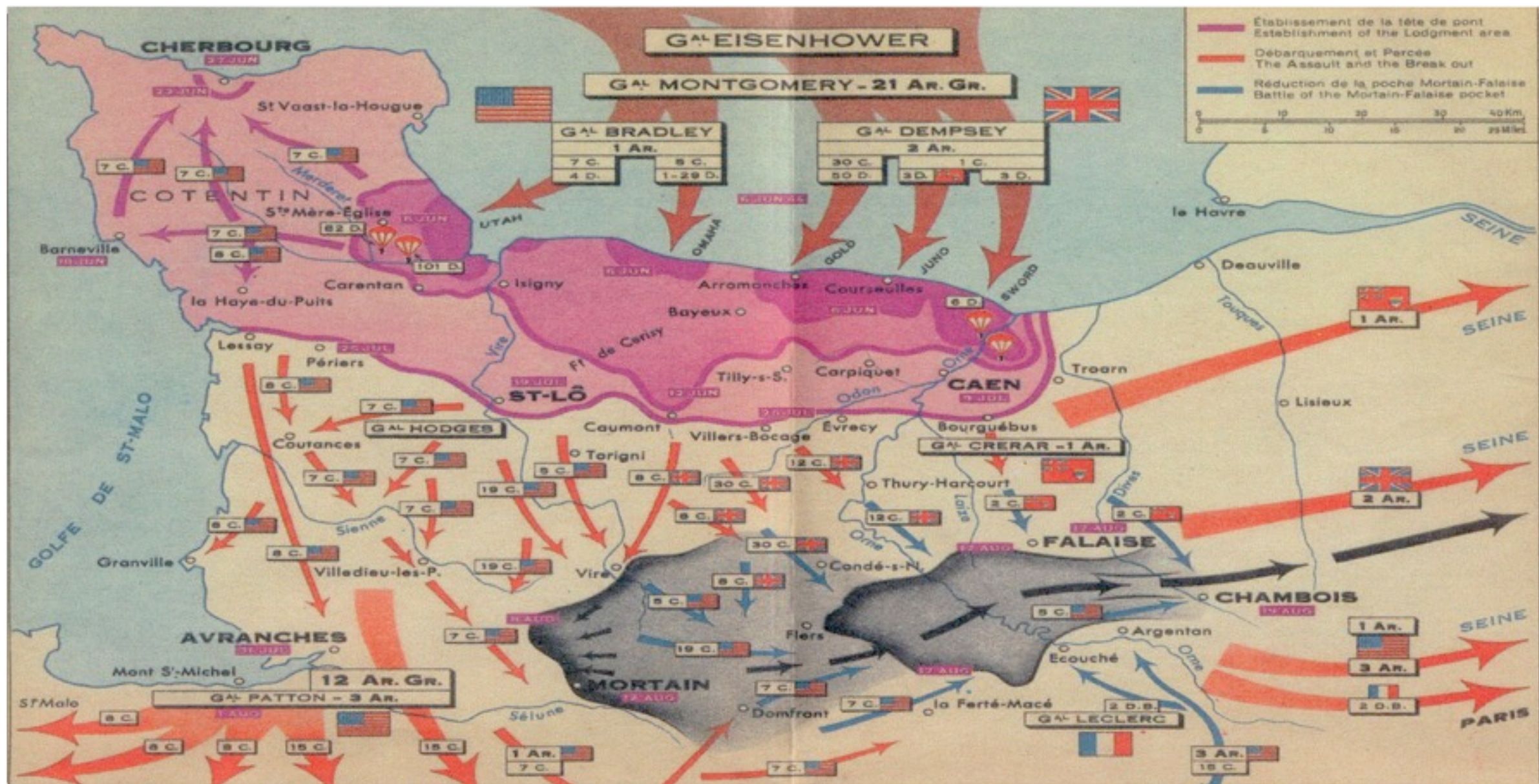
D-Day Invasion



D-Day Invasion







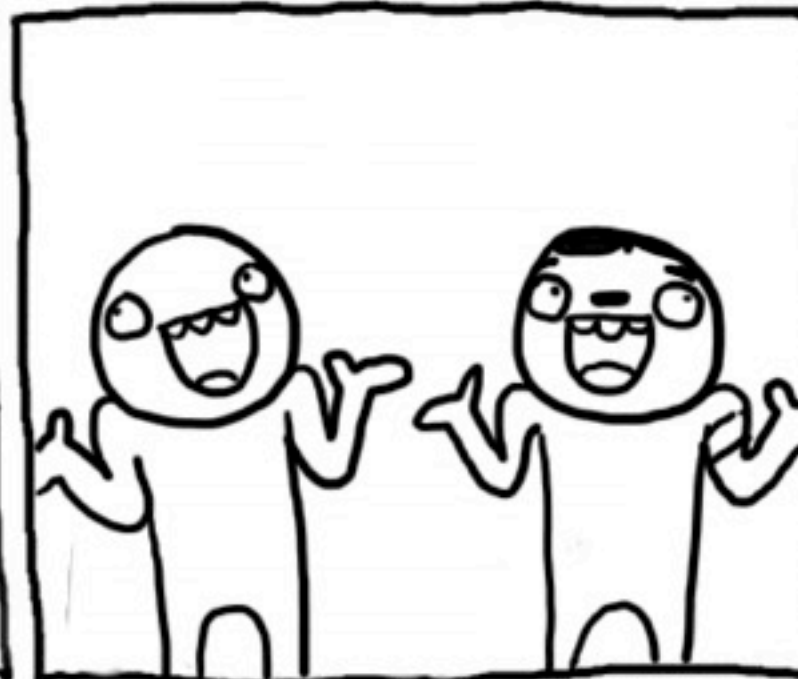
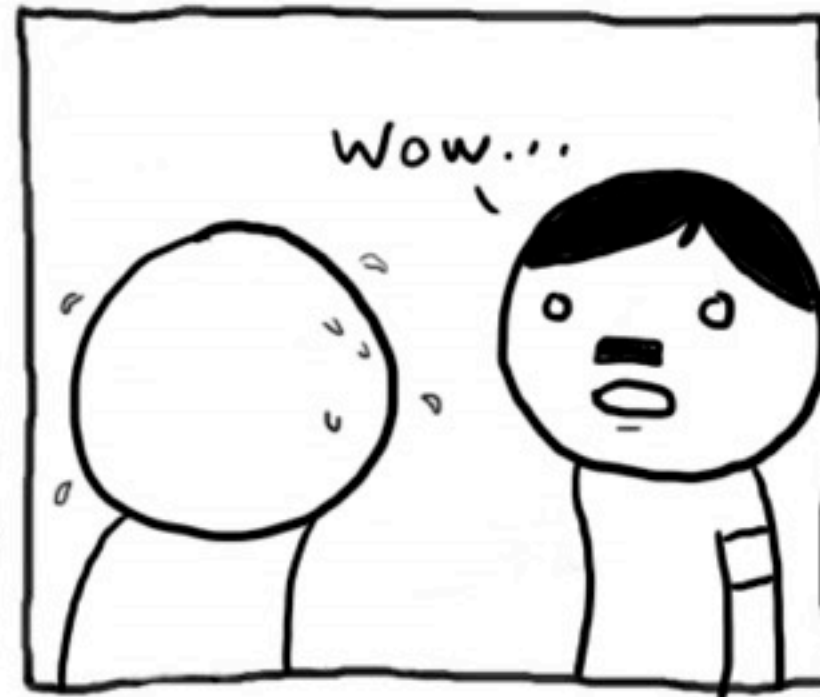
D-Day Invasion

May 1944

- led by Dwight Eisenhower
- Paris liberated in August 1944

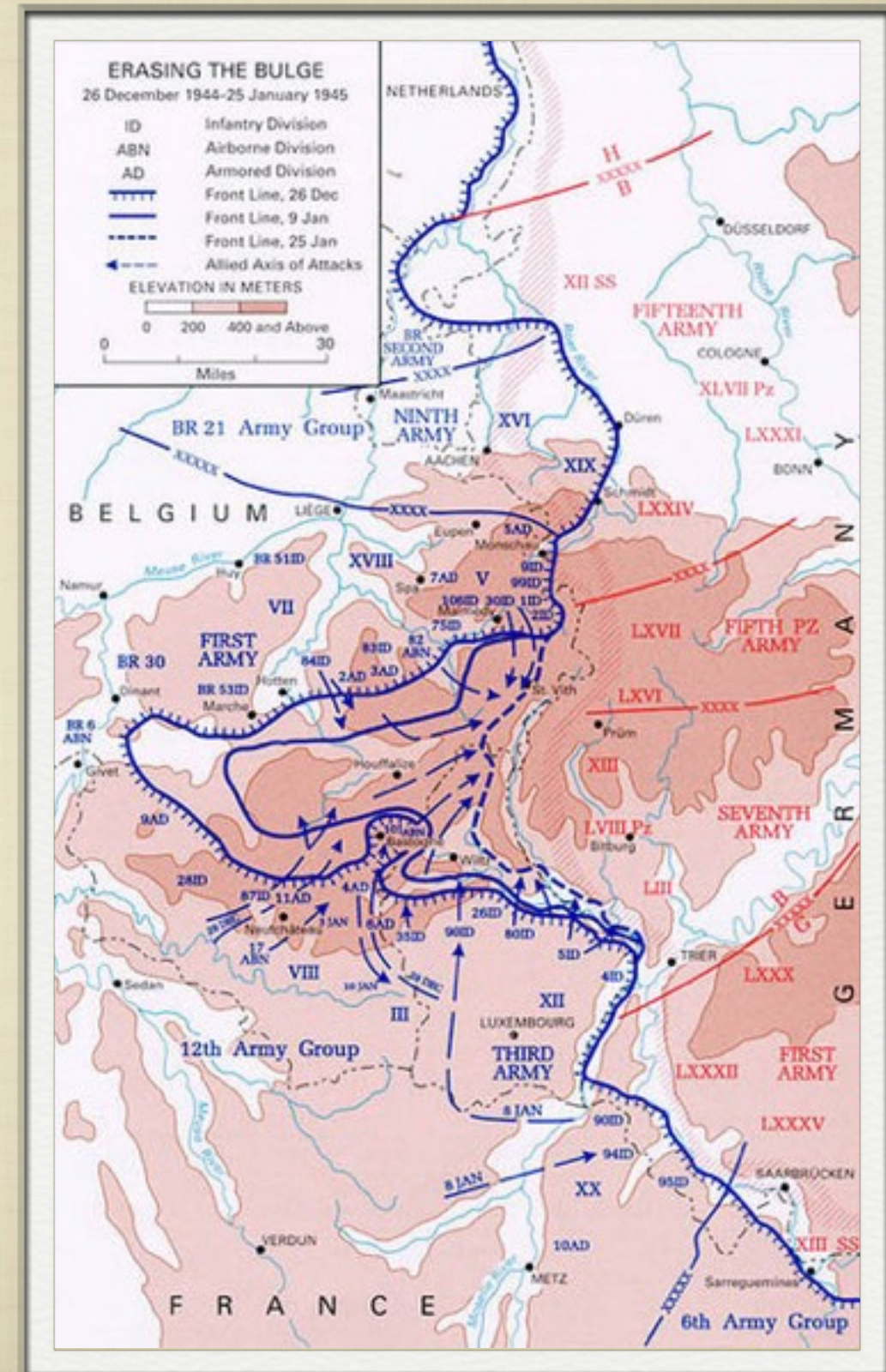


The Perfect Pun



Battle of the Bulge

- December 1944
- Germans launch a counter-offensive in the Ardennes Forest in Eastern France & Belgium.
- Germans ran out of fuel and were defeated.



■ Allies capture the bridges over the Rhein River.

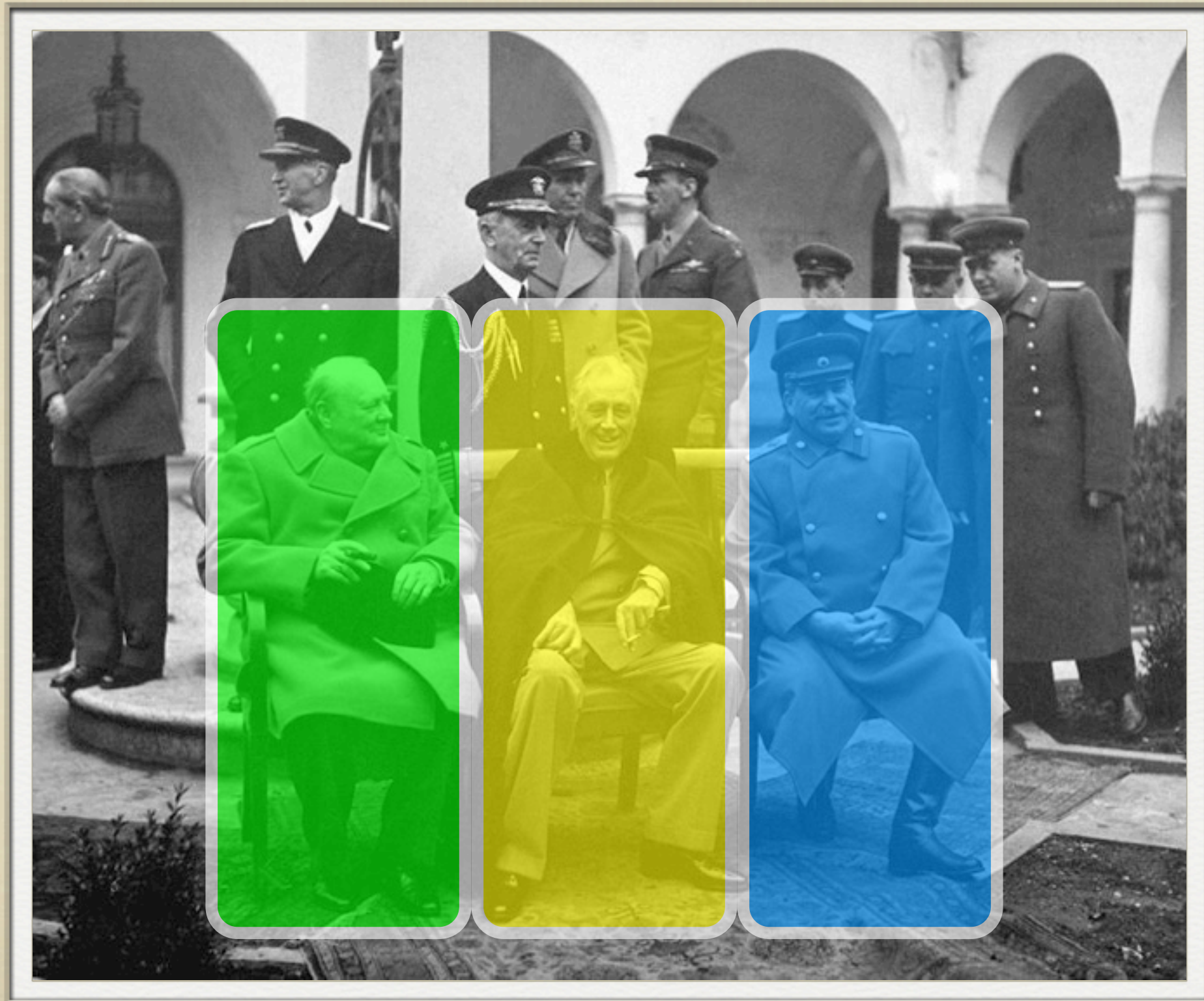
■ signaled the end for the Germans.



Yalta Conference

- February 1945
- Churchill, Stalin, & Truman
- Germany divided up for post-war occupation
 - Eastern European governments were to be freely elected
 - governments were guaranteed to be pro-Russian
- USA encouraged Russia to join the war against Japan

Yalta Conference



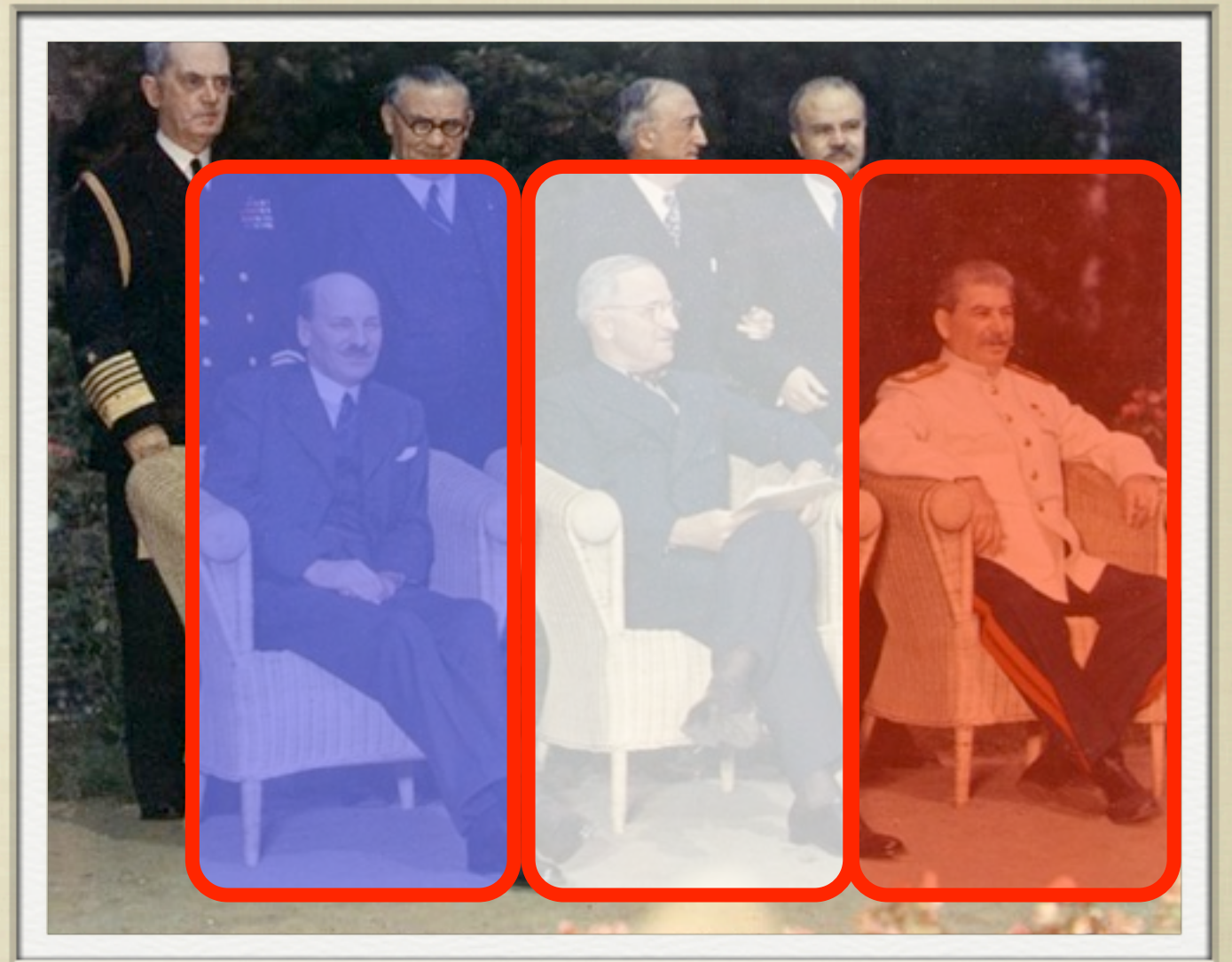
- March 1945:
Allies are approaching Berlin
- April 30, 1945:
Hitler committed suicide.
- May 8, 1945:
Germany surrendered.





Pötttsdam Conference

- July 16 - August 2, 1945
- Stalin, Truman, & Clement Attlee (Churchill)
- Goal: to establish a post-war Europe
- German carved up into zones







The War In Asia

Civil War in China

- Nationalists (Guomintang or **Kuomintang**) vs. Communists
- Nationalists: Chiang Kai-shek
- Communists: Mao Zedong
- They cooperated under Sun Yat-sen but once Chiang Kai-shek took power he began to attack Communists

Long March

October 1934 - November 1935



Japanese Aggression

- 1931: Japan invaded Manchuria
- 1932: Manchukuo declared independent
 - Japanese Puppet State
 - Henry Pu Yi as puppet ruler





Japanese Propaganda

Manchukuo

Flags of Japan, Munchukuo, & China

Emperor Hirohito

- 1926-1989
- Emperor Showa of Japan
- had complete control over
commanded complete loyalty
from his subjects
- responsible for starting and
ending wars against China,
USA, & Britain.
- protected from prosecution in
1945 by USA who needed him
to keep Japan from collapsing.



General Hideki Tojō

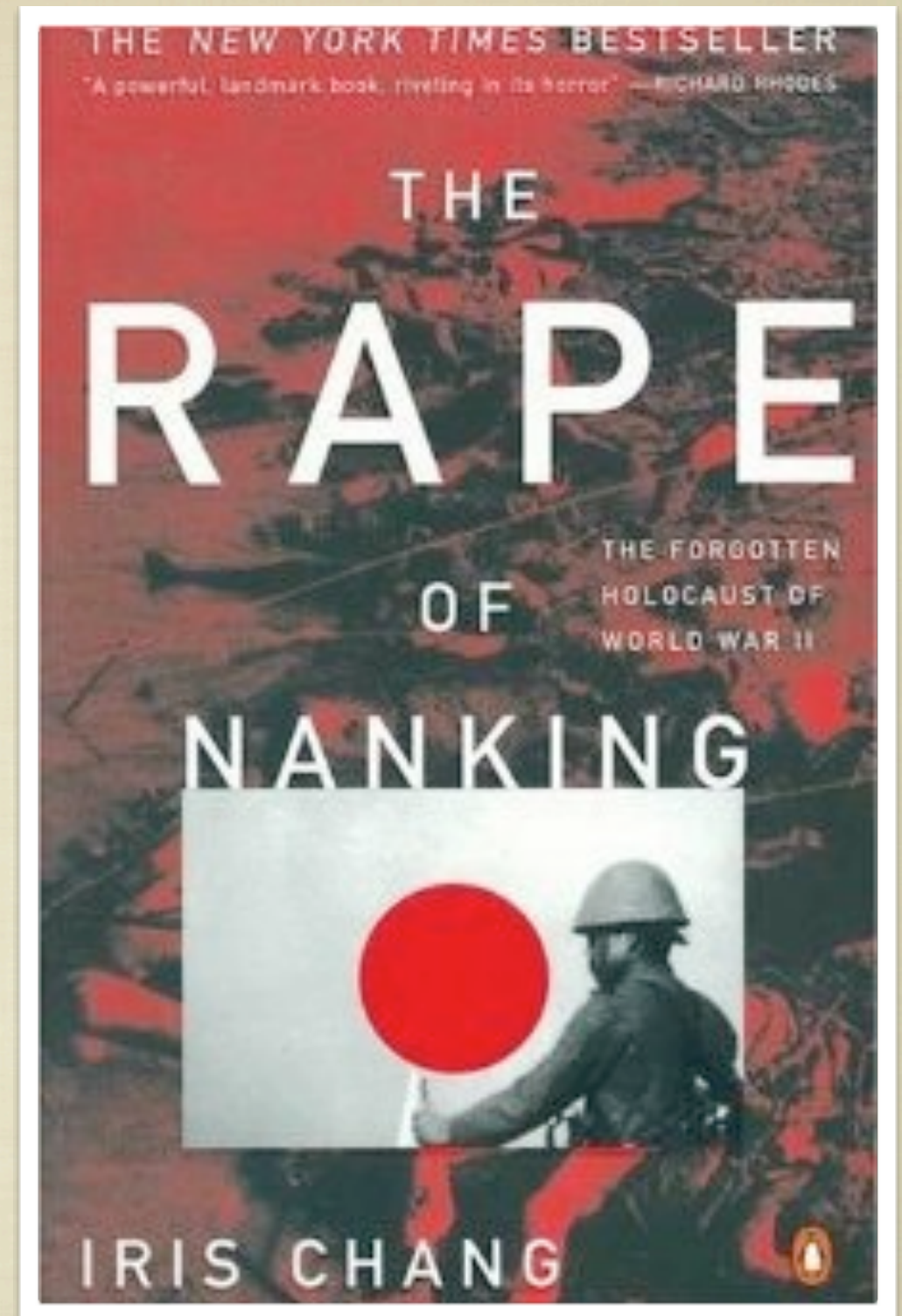


- Prime Minister of Japan & primary military leader
- nicknamed *The Razor*
- promoted ultra-nationalistic secret societies
- responsible for 8,000,000 civilian deaths and medical experiments on prisoners of war
- commemorated at the Yasakuni Shrine
- Apologized for atrocities at his death
- 1948: executed for war crimes

- Japanese gradually fought their way south into China
- 1933: captured the Great Wall
- 1937: Japanese reach the gates of Beijing
- considered the beginning of the official invasion of China (July 7, 1937)
- and the beginning of WORLD WAR II



- November 1937:
Japanese capture Nanjing
- Rape of Nanjing
- over 200,000 killed
in 6 weeks



- Japan did not have enough troops to occupy all of China
- could only hold key areas & cities
- Three-All Campaign
 - adopted out of fear
 - Kill All - Burn All - Loot All

Chinese Nationalists & Communists joined forces to fight the Japanese Invaders

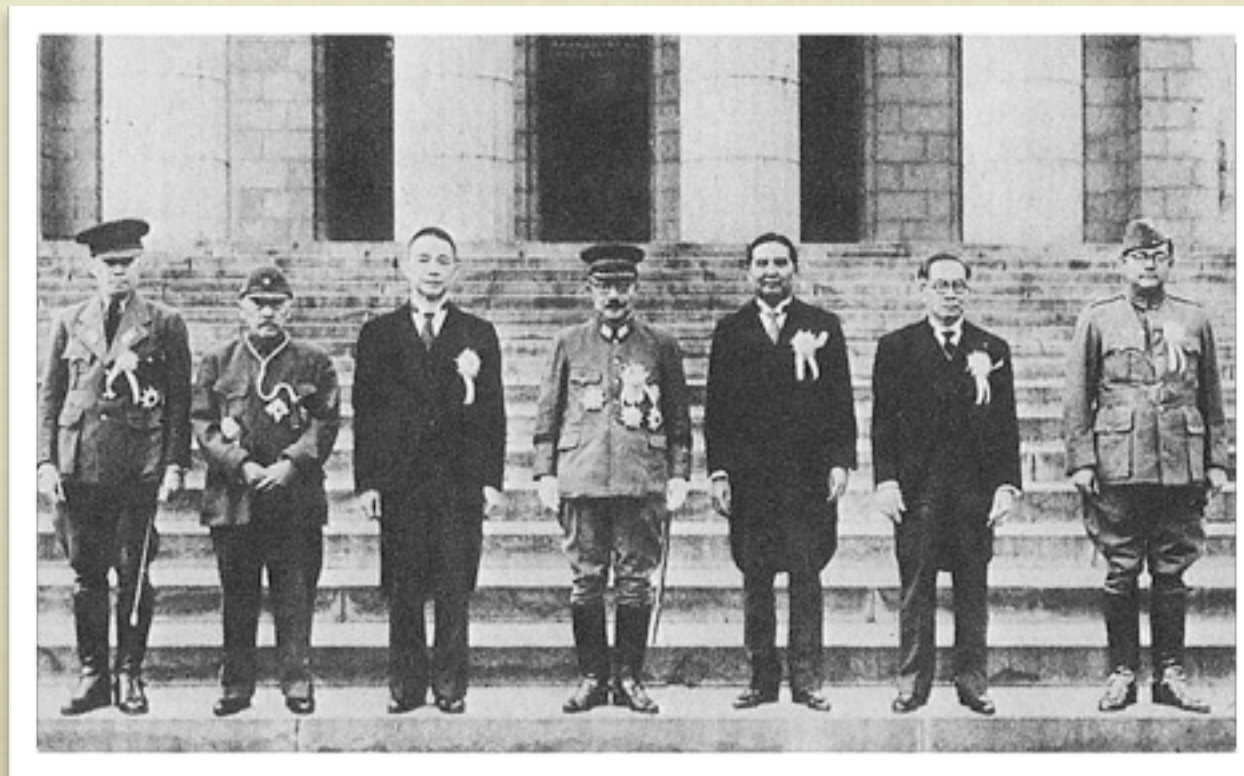




JAPANESE EXPANSION BEFORE 1941

Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere

- July 1940
- Asia for Asians
- goal: replace European/American imperialism in Asia with Japanese imperialism



American Oil Embargo

- August 1941
- USA bans the sale of oil to Japan
- 80% of Japan's oil came from the USA





- British alarmed at Japanese aggression.
- feared for Australia
- sent 2 warships to the area
- both were sunk by Japanese bombers in December 1941
- marked change in British naval superiority

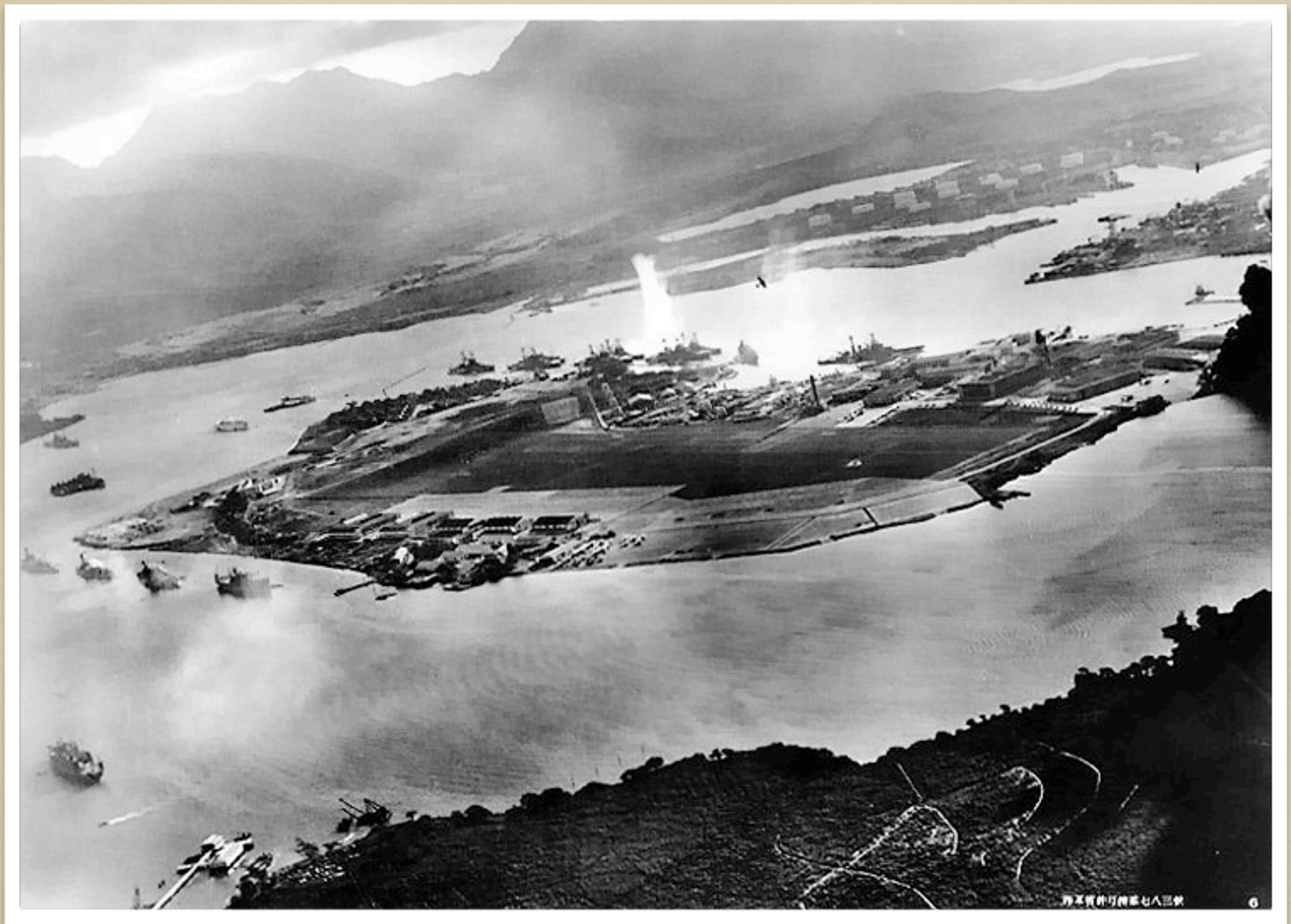




December 7, 1941

- “a date which will live in infamy.” -FDR
- Japanese bombed Pearl Harbor in Hawaii





- December 8:
USA & Britain
declared war on
Japan
- Germany & Italy
declared war on
the USA



Japanese Advantages in the war

1. Zero Fighter Plane

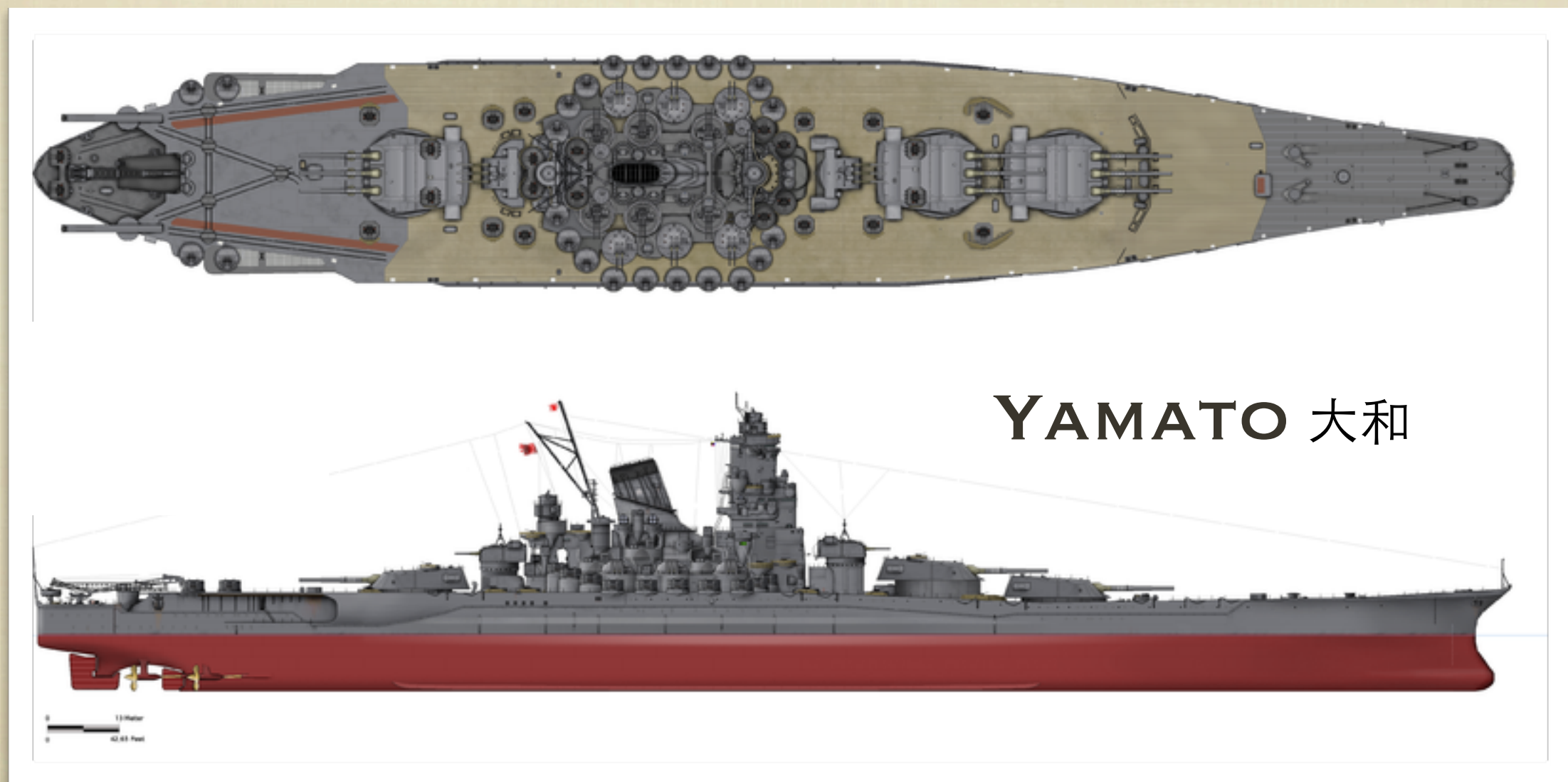
- Long range
- Easy to maneuver
- 12:1 kill ratio (1940-1942)





2. two most powerful battleships ever built

- *Yamato & Musashi*
- neither survived the war



3. Use of Aircraft Carriers

- planes made battleships ineffective
- ACs were necessary in the Pacific



A black and white photograph showing Japanese soldiers in a field. One soldier in the foreground is kneeling and aiming a machine gun mounted on a bicycle. Another soldier is kneeling to the left, and a third is partially visible behind the gunner. They are wearing military uniforms and caps.



S. Motivated Loyal Soldiers

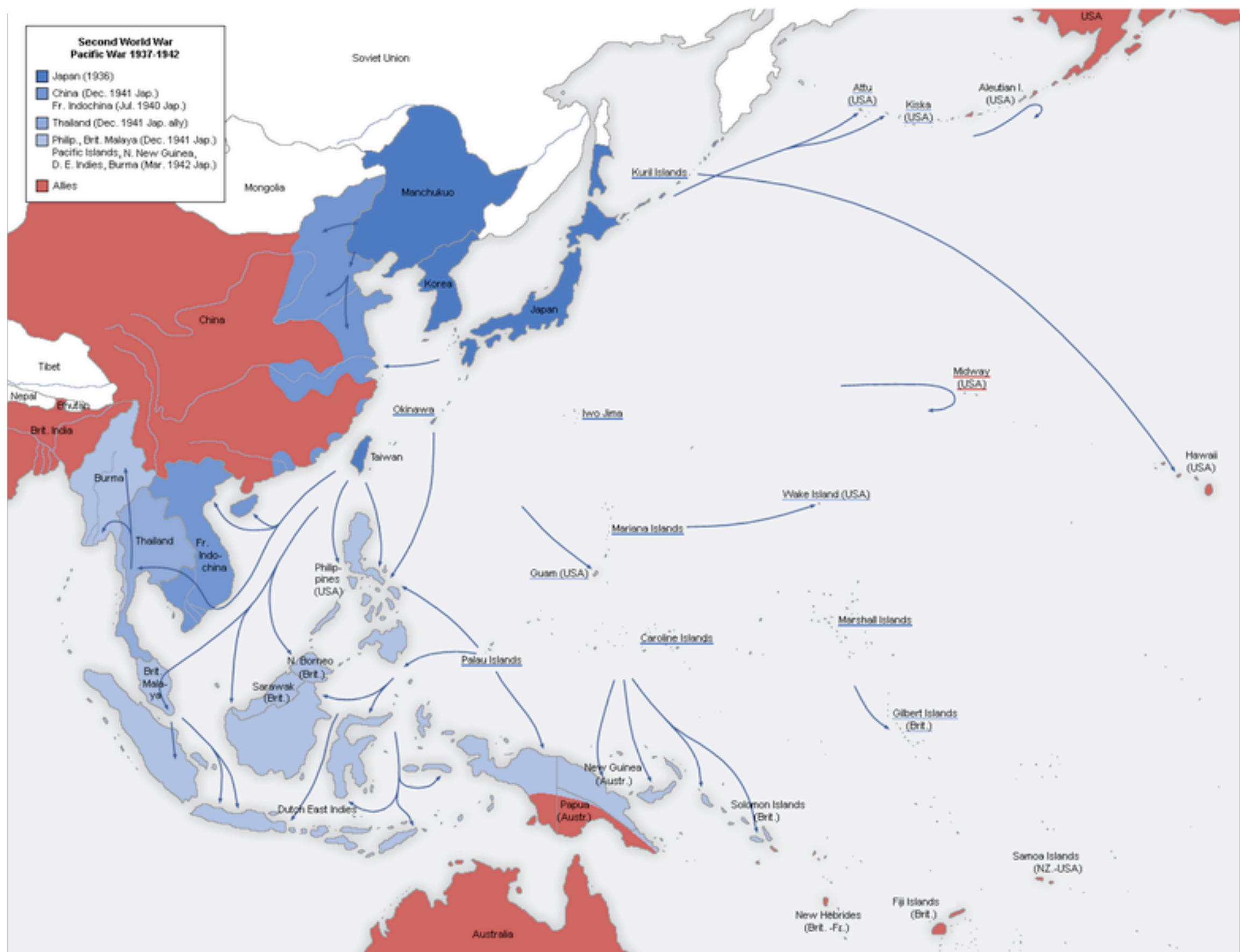






by 1942
Japanese seem
unstoppable

Empire stretched from
South Pacific to the
USSR



Pacific Battles

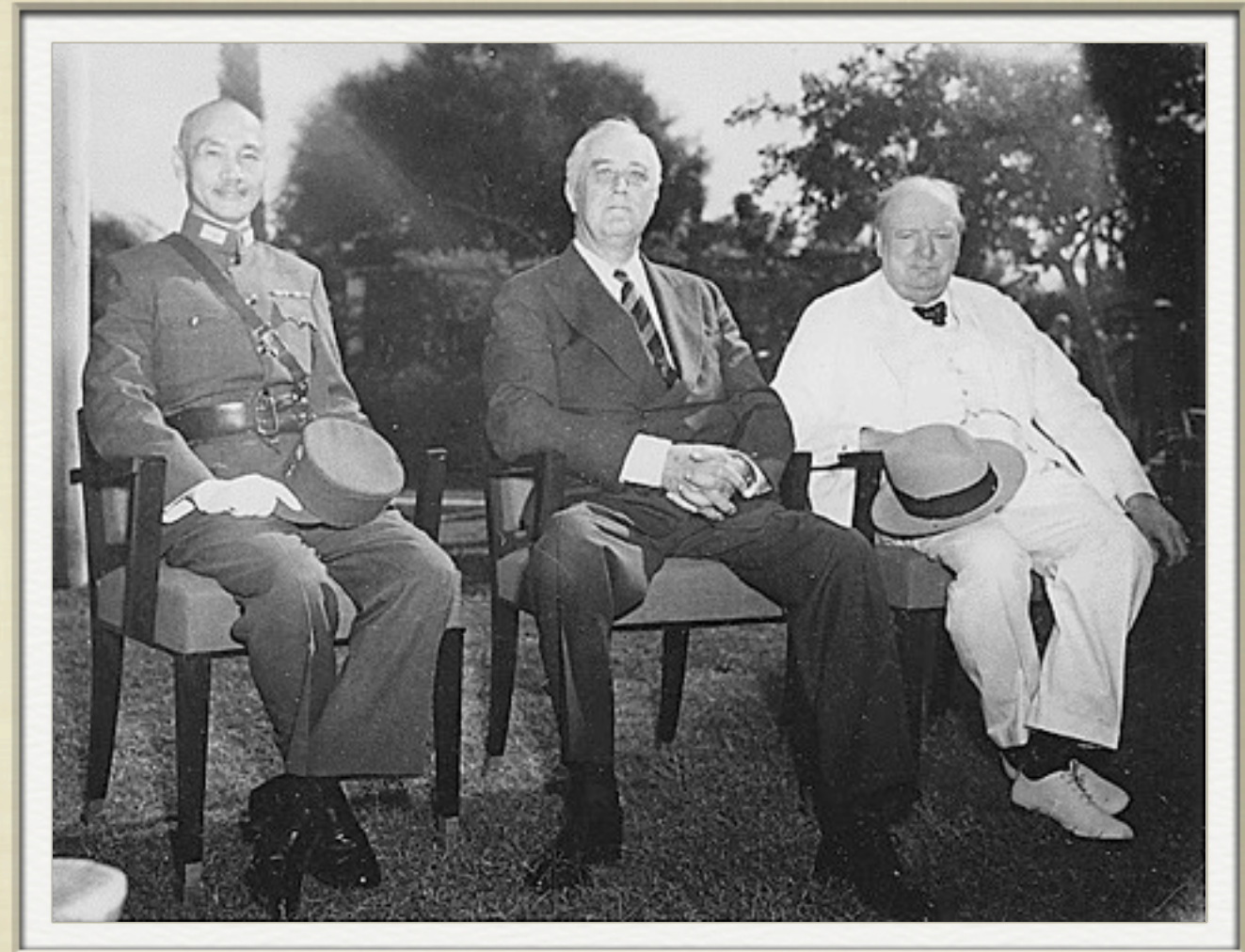
- May 4 - 8, 1942: **Battle of Coral Sea**
 - US & Australians stop Japanese drive to Australia (5 day battle)
- June 4 - 7, 1942: **Battle of Midway**
 - stopped Japanese push to middle of Pacific
 - cracked Japanese code, we knew they were coming
 - turning point in the War in the Pacific

Pacific Battles

- *Island Hopping Campaign*
- July 1942 - February 1943: **Battle of Guadalcanal**
 - first Allied offensive in Pacific
 - in Solomon Islands
 - Allies eventually won
- By 1945 the Allies had retaken most of the Pacific

Cairo Conference

- November 1943
- held a few days before the Tehran Conference to address the Allied position against Japan and make decisions about a post-war Asia
- Churchill, Roosevelt, & Chiang Kai-Shek (China)
- Stalin refused to attend because of Chiang and *Soviet-Japanese Neutrality Act of 1941*.



Pacific Battles

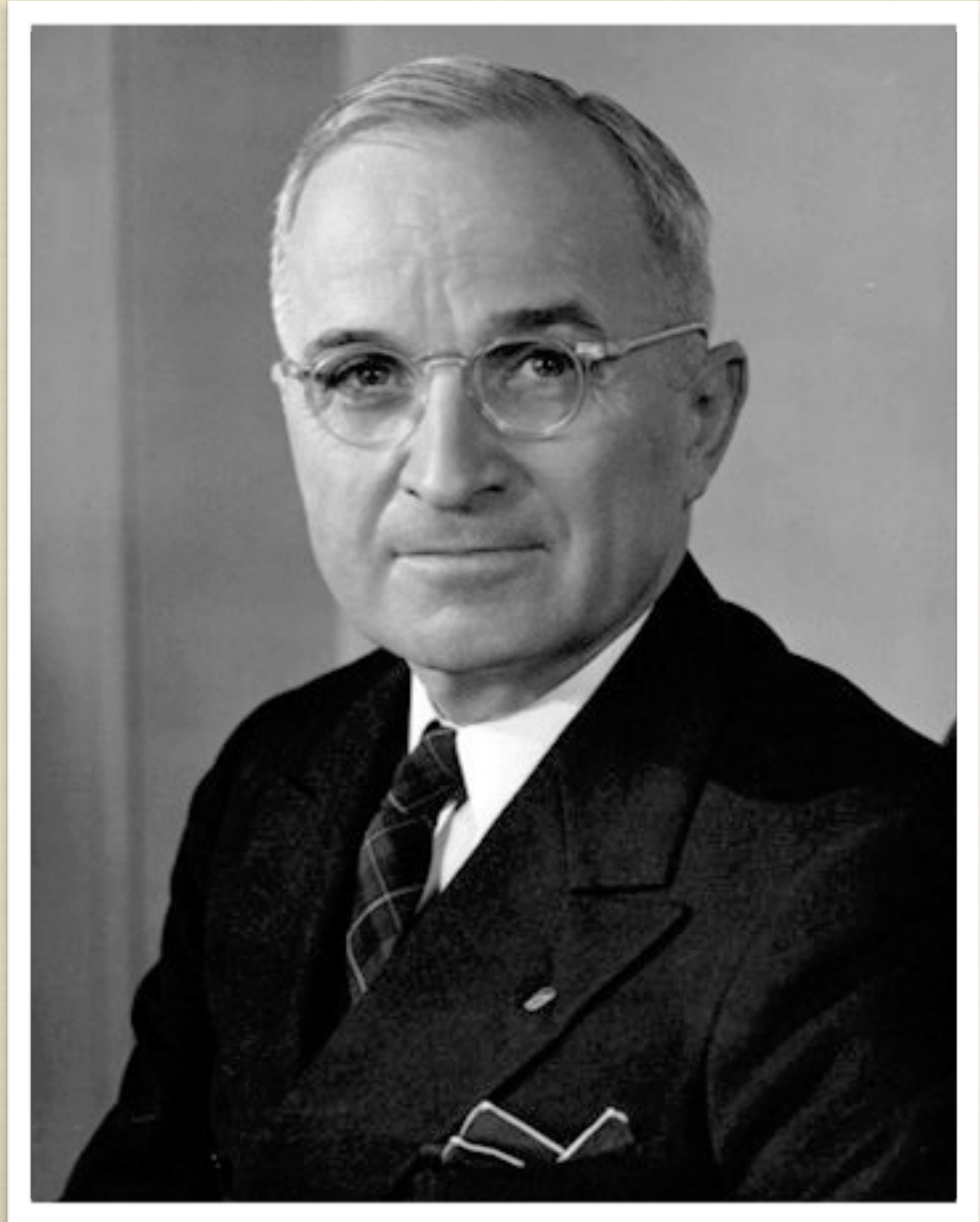
- February 1945: Americans took Iwo Jima
 - an island 750 miles from Tokyo
 - 22,844 American soldiers killed
 - month of bitter fighting

- April 1, 1945:
 - Ryukyu Islands



Harry Truman

- Decision?
 - continue with a landing on the Japanese mainland
 - drop an atomic bomb on Japan



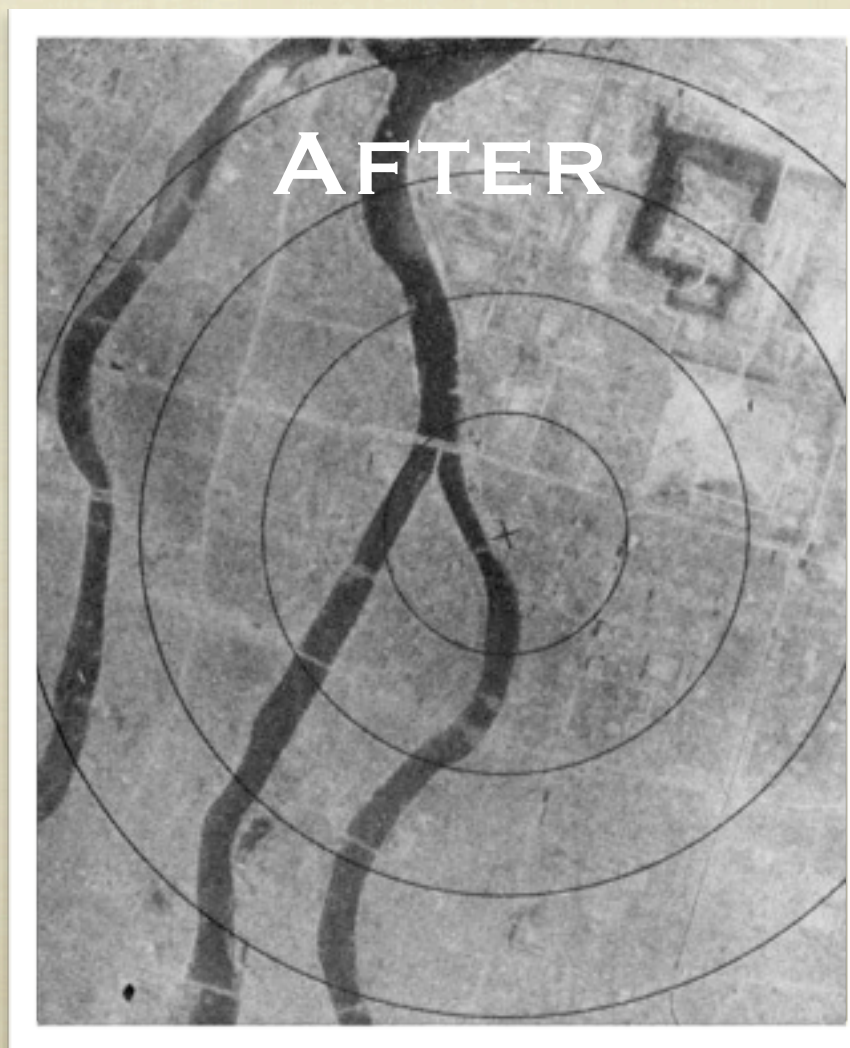
Pötttsdam Conference

- July 26, 1945
- Truman warned Japanese they faced “prompt and utter destruction” unless they surrendered at once.
- meant to scare Stalin & USSR?



Hiroshima

- August 6, 1945
- USA dropped an atomic bomb on the city
- 80,000 killed in the initial blast



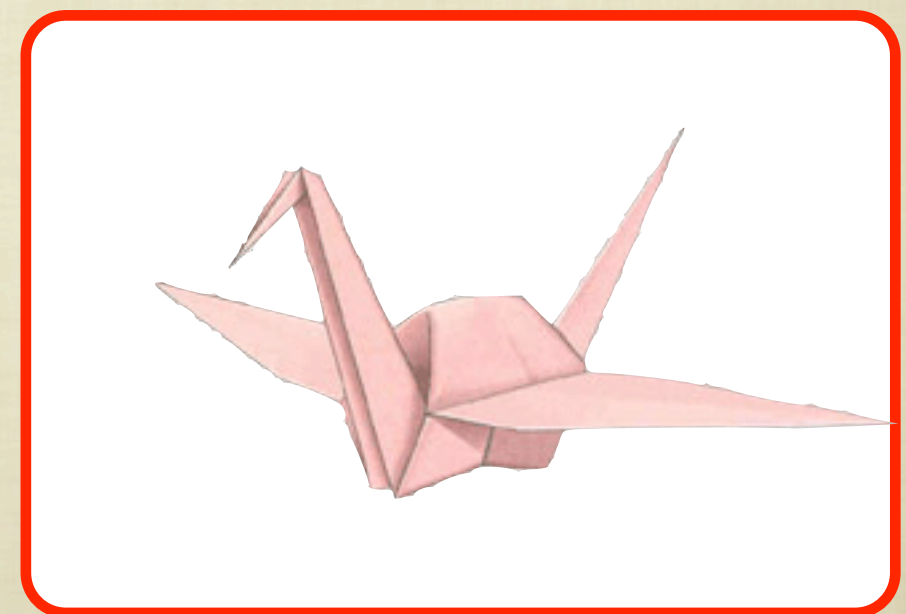
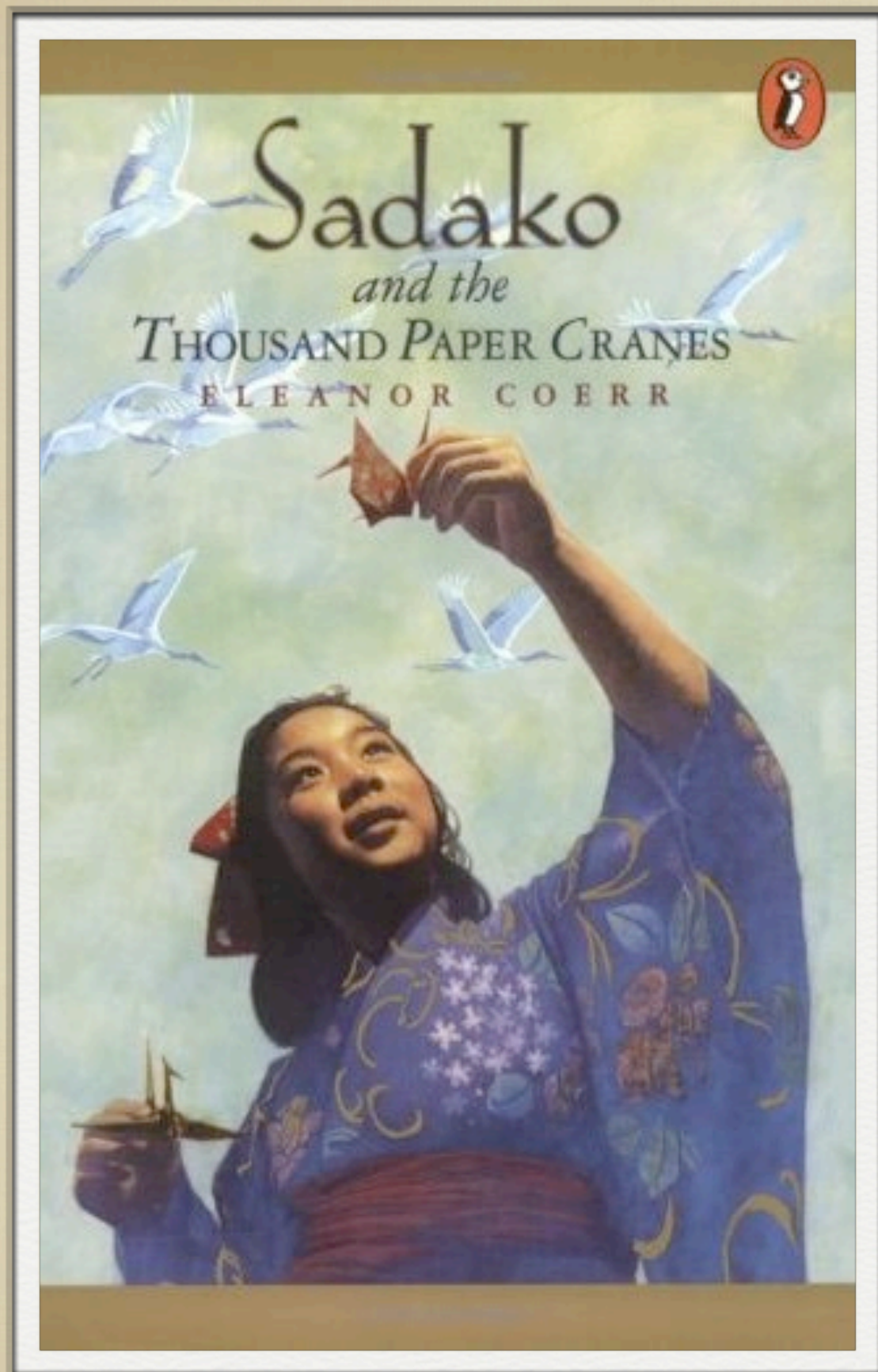
Nagasaki

- August 9, 1945
- USA dropped an atomic bomb
- killing 40,000 in the initial blast



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TOP DOCUMENTARY



September 2, 1945

- Japanese foreign minister officially surrendered on the deck of the battleship *Missouri* in Tokyo Bay.



MACAURTHUR AT THE
SURRENDER CEREMONY

FLAG THAT COMMODORE PERRY
FLEW IS HANGING IN BACKGROUND



The End