The War in the Pacific

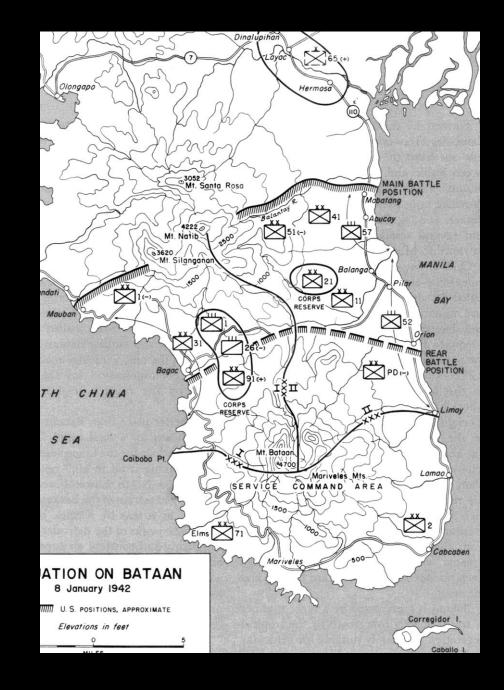
Chapter 12 Section 2
USH Honors

Learning Objectives:

- Students will be able to:
 - Explain how the government mobilized the wartime economy.
 - Identify the early military strategies of the Allied forces in the Pacific, including Doolittle's Raid.
 - Explain the military strategies of the Allied forces in Europe and North Africa.
 - Evaluate the effectiveness of the military strategies, including firebombing, used to end the war with Japan.

1. The Fall of the Philippines

- Hours before Pearl Harbor was attacked, the Japanese began the bombing of American airfields in the Philippines.
- The Japanese landed December 9, 1941.
 - American & Filipino forces defended the islands!
 - Gen. MacArthur attempted to hold the islands – retreating down the Bataan Peninsula.
 - Soldiers held Bataan for 3 months = eventually moving to Corregidor.



General Douglas MacArthur



- April 9, 1942: Philippines surrender to Japan
 - 78,000 Prisoners of War (POWs) marched
 65 miles (Bataan Death March)
 - MacArthur promised to return and free the islands
- Women were also captured during the Fall of the Philippines
 - 66 nurses were taken as POWs
 - 11 Navy nurses & 3,000 civilians were held until 1945



2. The Doolittle Raid

Striking Back at Japan

- What did America do after Pearl Harbor?
 - Began to plan a counter-attack on Japan = increase
 American morale
 - FDR wanted to bomb the capital city: Tokyo!
- How did he begin to plan this attack?
 - 1942: Col. James Doolittle was to command a mission to bomb Tokyo
 - Military planners suggested short-range B-25 bombers taking off on aircraft carriers.
 - Bombers would NOT land on carriers would have to land the planes in CHINA!!!
 - Training facility: Eglin AFB!
- April 18, 1942: American bombs fell on Tokyo!

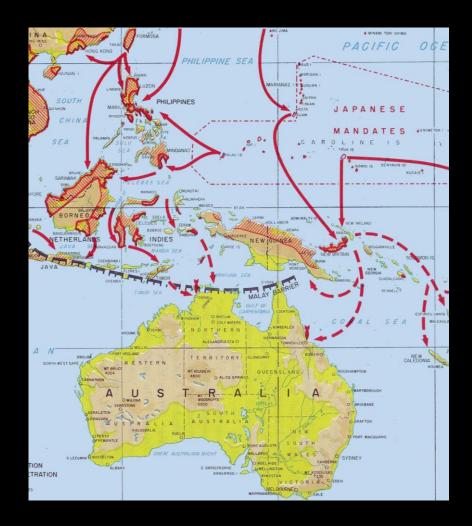


The Doolittle Raid



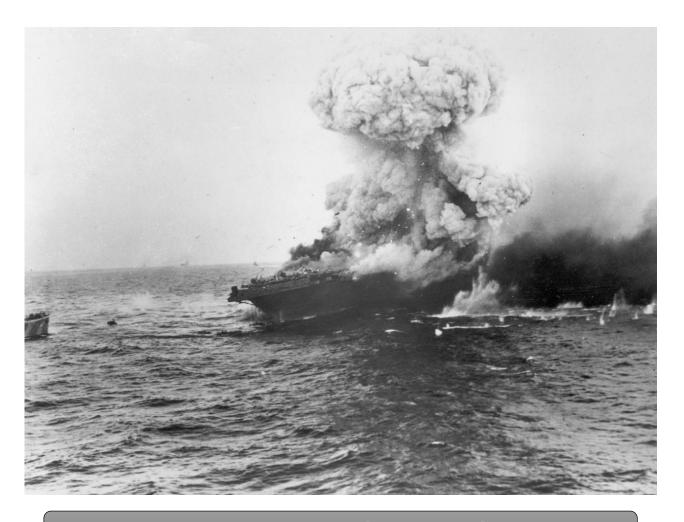
3. The Changing Japanese Strategy

- Did Doolittle's Raid bolster American morale? YES!
 - America rejoiced
 - Japan was STUNNED
- The Doolittle Raid convinced Japan to change their strategy:
 - Before the raid:
 - Japanese leaders wanted to cut supplies to US troops in the South Pacific
 - Admiral Yamamoto wanted to attack Midway (last US base in the North Pacific)
 - After the raid:
 - Japan decided to do BOTH!
 - The US Fleet had to be destroyed to protect Tokyo and the Emperor



The Battle of the Coral Sea

- Why did Japan think they could complete two attacks at once?
 - They thought their operations were SECRET!
- Was this true? NO
 - American code breakers already knew the Japanese code – broken BEFORE Pearl Harbor!



USS Lexington 'Lady Lex' sinking

- March 1942: US was alerted to the Japanese plan to attack New Guinea
 - Nimitz sent the Lexington and the Yorktown to defend the region
- Did the plan work? YES
 - America lost the Lexington, and the Yorktown was badly damaged
 - Japan could NOT continue to New Guinea/Port Moresby
 - The Australian supply lines were protected



USS Yorktown at the Battle of the Coral Sea

Finding the USS Lexington









Battle of Midway

Battle of Midway

- What about the Japanese plan to attack Midway?
 - Pearl Harbor code breakers learned of the plan to attack Midway
 - Yamamoto had transmitted the plans via radio!
- Did Japanese officials change their code? NO
- How did the U.S. prepare for Midway?
 - Carriers were positioned to ambush the Japanese military
 - Troops were put on high alert



- June 4, 1942: Japan attacks Midway
 - Japan launched their attack – America was ready!
 - U.S. Carriers: Hornet, Yorktown, Enterprise launched the counterattack
 - Yamamoto had to order the Japanese ships to retreat
 - Midway was a MAJOR turning point in the war: the US had stopped the Japanese advance!

