

**14.3**

# **The United States Enters WWII**

- **Explain why Japan decided to attack Pearl Harbor, and describe the attack itself.**
- **Outline how the United States mobilized for war after the attack on Pearl Harbor.**
- **Summarize the course of the war in the Pacific through the summer of 1942.**

# **Tensions with Japan**

**Japan & the U.S. had been allies in WWI,  
but tensions in the Pacific had been  
brewing**

**Japan felt that U.S. involvement in Guam  
& the Philippines was a threat**

**The U.S. also supported China by giving  
military aid during Japan's conquest**

**Roosevelt placed an embargo on important  
naval & aviation supplies to Japan**

# Peace Fails

**1941- Hideki Tojo** (The Razor) becomes the Japanese prime minister.

**Peace talks with U.S. attempted, but U.S. strongly disagreed with Japan's military expansions**

**As diplomacy failed, Tojo began the plan to attack the U.S.**

**Dec. 7<sup>th</sup>, 1941- American radar operators in Hawaii notice an unknown presence in the sky...**

# **Attack on Pearl Harbor**

**Japan sends 6 aircraft carriers, 360  
airplanes, & assorted subs &  
battleships**

**At dawn, they attack Pearl Harbor, a U.S.  
naval base in Hawaii**

**After 2 attack waves from Japan:**

**2,500 people killed**

**8 battleships severely damaged**

**3 destroyers unusable**

**160 aircrafts destroyed.**

**This knocked out the U.S. battlefleet for 6  
months while Japan began an aggressive  
expansion in the Pacific**



# **War Begins**

**News spread around the nation of the attack  
& Americans begin to rally together**

**Germany betrays the Soviet Union & breaks  
the treaty, Soviet Union joins the allied  
forces**

**Roosevelt speaks before Congress on  
December 8<sup>th</sup>, voting almost  
unanimously to declare war**

**Germany & Italy then declare war on the  
U.S. World War II had begun**

# Mobilization

**The U.S. was now fighting a war on two fronts: *The European & Pacific Theatres***

**Americans began to mobilize: joining the military, working in war factories, or volunteering with the red cross**

**38.8% of nation volunteered for military, organized by General George Marshall**

**During the course of the war 16 million Americans served, also first war where it became full integrated**

# Production Miracle

The **Women's Army Corps (WAC)** drove trucks & did clerical work for the army

Roosevelt mobilized the War Effort using the War Production Board & other agencies.

Office of War Mobilization oversaw the production of civilian goods & allocation of materials to industry

The war time economy created a “production miracle” & helped end the Great Depression.



# The War with Japan

General **Douglas MacArthur** lead the U.S. in East Asia.

Unable to stop Japan's advancement in the region, MacArthur leaves to take control over military forces in the Southwest Pacific

*-MacArthur-"I shall return"*

Japan forces U.S. surrender on Bataan Peninsula, forces the **Bataan Death March**.

Japan forced the sick & malnourished prisoners of war to march inland, breaking Geneva rules

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**Doolittle's Raid and the Flying Tigers helped boost U.S. morale**

**The **Battle of Coral Sea**, a draw, proved the Pacific war was dependent on aircraft carriers & planes-turning point for U.S. forces**