



The Rise and Fall of Imperial Japan

Meiji Restoration and the Decline of the Samurai

- In 1868, **The Meiji Restoration** signaled the beginning of the **end** for the **Samurai**.
 - By the time of the Meiji Restoration there were around 3 million Samurai (10% of the Japanese population)
- Fearing European control of Japan, the Tokugawa Samurai limited contact with foreigners and adopted a policy of strict isolation...the shoguns also restricted trade and prohibited European clergy from entering



Meiji Restoration and the Decline of the Samurai

- Previously known as Sakoku "chained country" was the foreign relations policy of Japan under which no foreigner could enter nor could any Japanese leave the country on penalty of death.



- The policy was enacted by the Tokugawa Shogunate and began in 1633, remaining in effect until 1853.

Meiji Restoration and the Decline of the Samurai

- Japanese were not allowed to travel overseas, however the isolation was shattered in July 1853 when a fleet of American ships lead by Matthew Perry sailed into Edo Bay, demanding trading rights.



- Recognizing the superiority of the United States Navy, the shogun opened Japanese ports to the Americans, with Britain, France, and Russia quickly following.

Meiji Restoration and the Decline of the Samurai

- Upset with the shogun for allowing foreign influences in Japan, some samurai (Not All) overthrew the shogun in 1867 and "restored" the emperor to power.



- Up to then, the emperor had been nothing more than a figurehead...the young emperor took the name Meiji, meaning "enlightened rule."

Meiji Restoration and the Decline of the Samurai

- The samurai however were not going down so easy...the **Satsuma Rebellion** was a revolt of ex-samurai against the Meiji government that occurred about 9 years into the Meiji Era.



- It was the last, and the most serious, of a series of armed uprisings against the new government which culminated with **Battle of Shiroyama**

Meiji Restoration and the Decline of the Samurai

- The Battle of Shiroyama was the final engagement of the Satsuma Rebellion (1877) between the samurai lead by **Saigo Takamori** and the **Imperial Japanese Army**.



- **Takamori** was one of the most influential samurai in Japanese history and has been dubbed *the last true samurai*.

Meiji Restoration and the Decline of the Samurai

- The Battle of Shiroyama cost the rebels their entire force including Takamori, and broke the back of the samurai class.



- The Imperial troops attacked around 3:00 AM, charging the enemy and by 6:00 AM, only 40 of the rebel samurai remained alive.

Meiji Restoration and the Decline of the Samurai

- Wounded in the thigh and stomach, **Takamori** had his friend **Beppu Shinsuke** carry him to a quiet spot where he committed *seppuku*.



- With their leader dead, Beppu led the remaining samurai in a suicidal charge against the enemy, surging forward, they were cut down by the imperial armies Gatling Guns... and the era of the samurai was over.

Meiji Restoration and the Decline of the Samurai

- Out of disregard for death, the Japanese tradition of **Seppuku** evolved...
- Defeated warriors and disgraced government officials would commit suicide by a ritual of disemboweling themselves with a short sword.
- This act would restore honor to their families.
 - **Seppuku** “stomach-cutting”



Meiji Restoration and the Decline of the Samurai

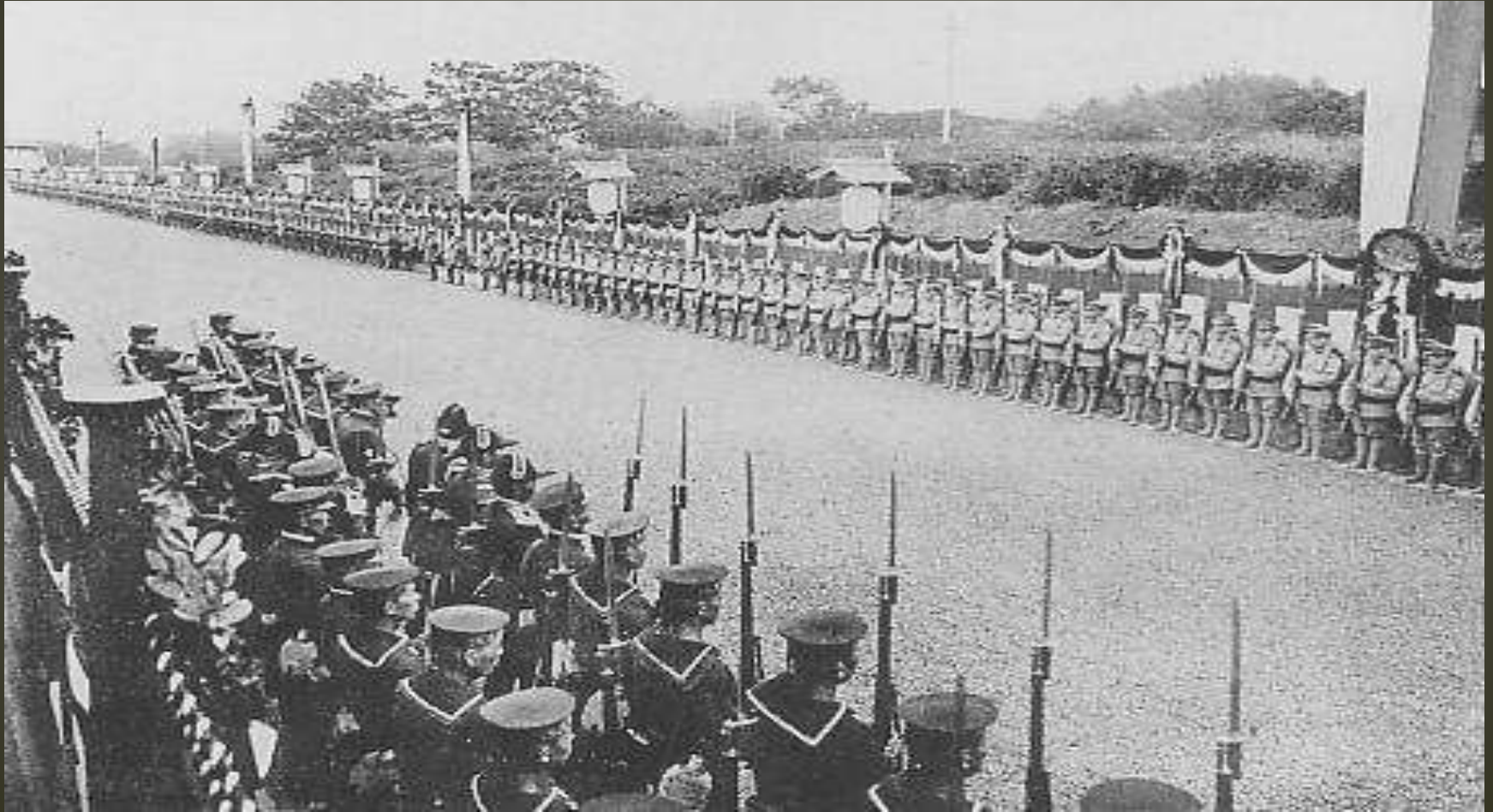
- Ritualized seppuku involved the samurai wearing the proper garments while he was presented with the **ritual knife**, wrapped in paper.



- The samurai would then take the knife and cut open his own stomach, from left to right, with a final upward cut at the end.

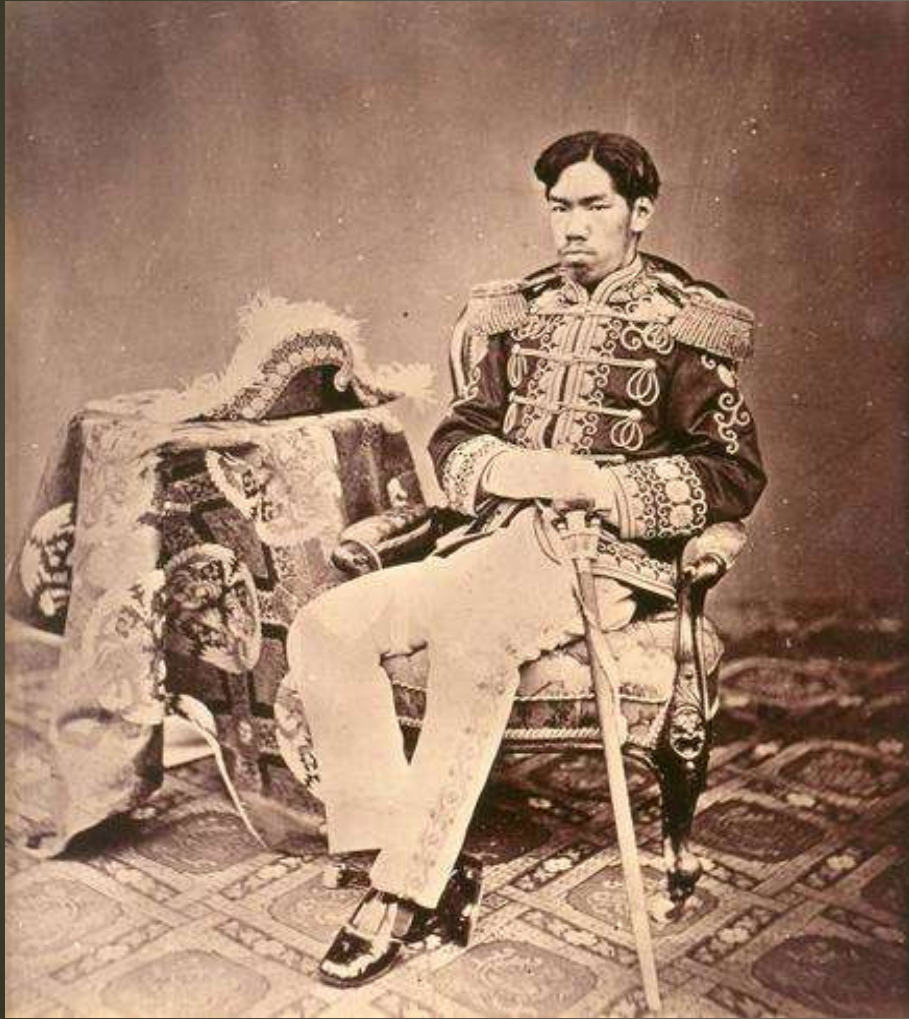
Meiji Period

- After the rebellion the emperor's throne was moved from Kyoto to Tokyo where the ruling **oligarchy** and the emperor, made revolutionary reforms.



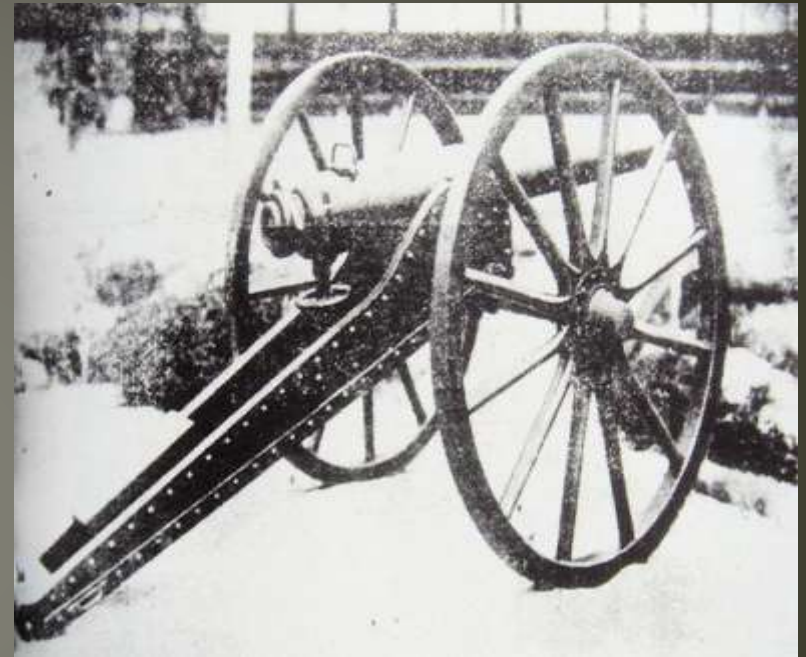
- **Oligarchy** - a form of government in which all power is vested in a few persons or in a dominant class, essentially a dictatorship with a group of people

Meiji Period



- New and improved **Emperor Meiji** vs. Samurai Emperor Meiji.

Meiji Period



- With feudalism abolished, the samurai were stripped of their domains, and the samurai warrior army was replaced with a modern army recruited from the Japanese peasant class. (Armstrong Gun)

Meiji Period



Meiji Period

- Many Japanese were sent to the West to study customs and to be educated in Western Culture.



- A system of required education was introduced and modern industries were created to move Japan into a technological age.

Continental Expansion

- Due to attempts by European nations to force concessions from China, Japan feared the West.



- However, Japan followed the Western example, and went to war with China over the question of control of Korea, in the **Sino-Japanese War** of 1894–1895.

Continental Expansion



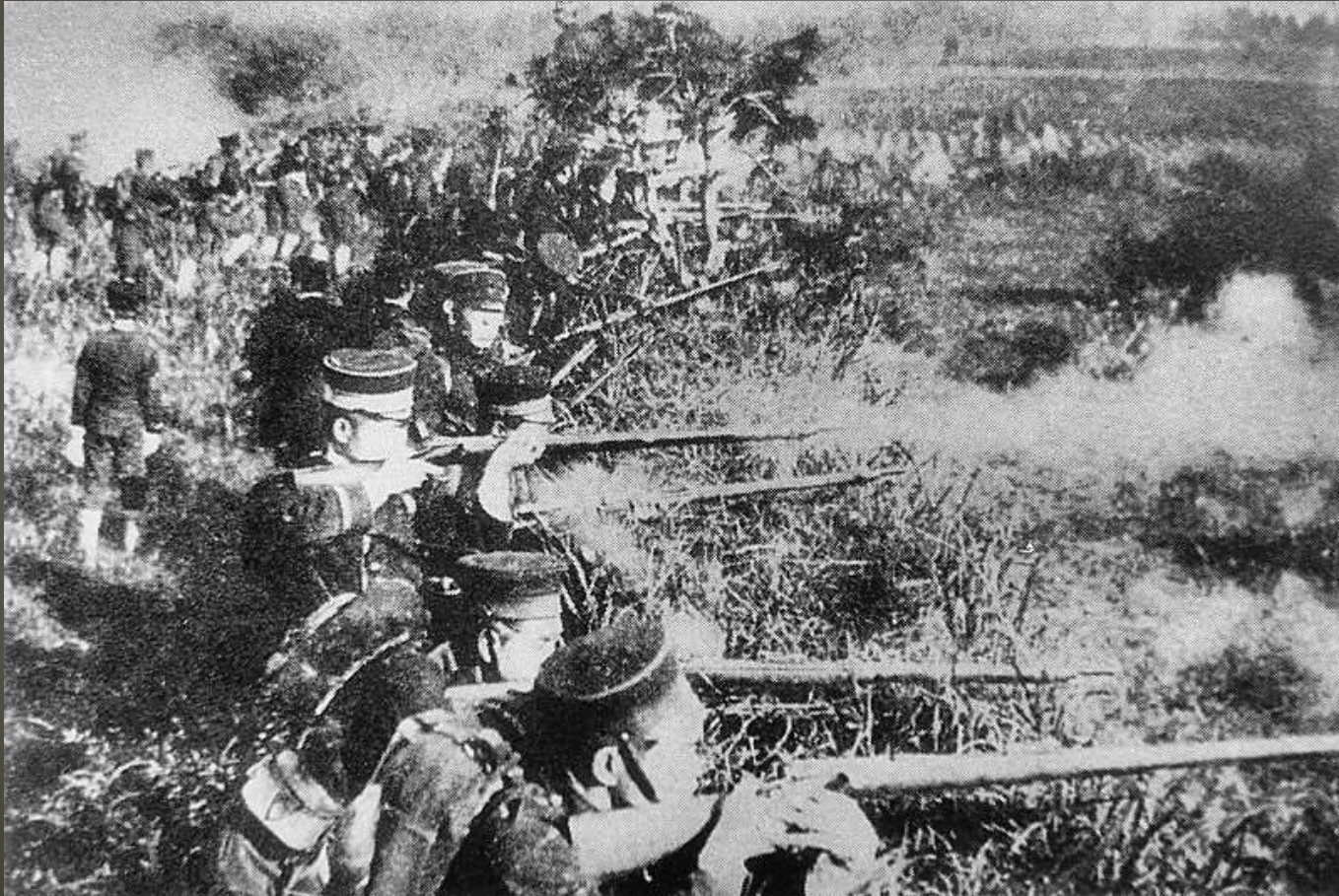
Chinese firing from building near P. Station



- The Li-Ito Convention, was an agreement that was reached in 1885, allowing both China and Japan to put their own troops in separate areas of Korea.

Continental Expansion

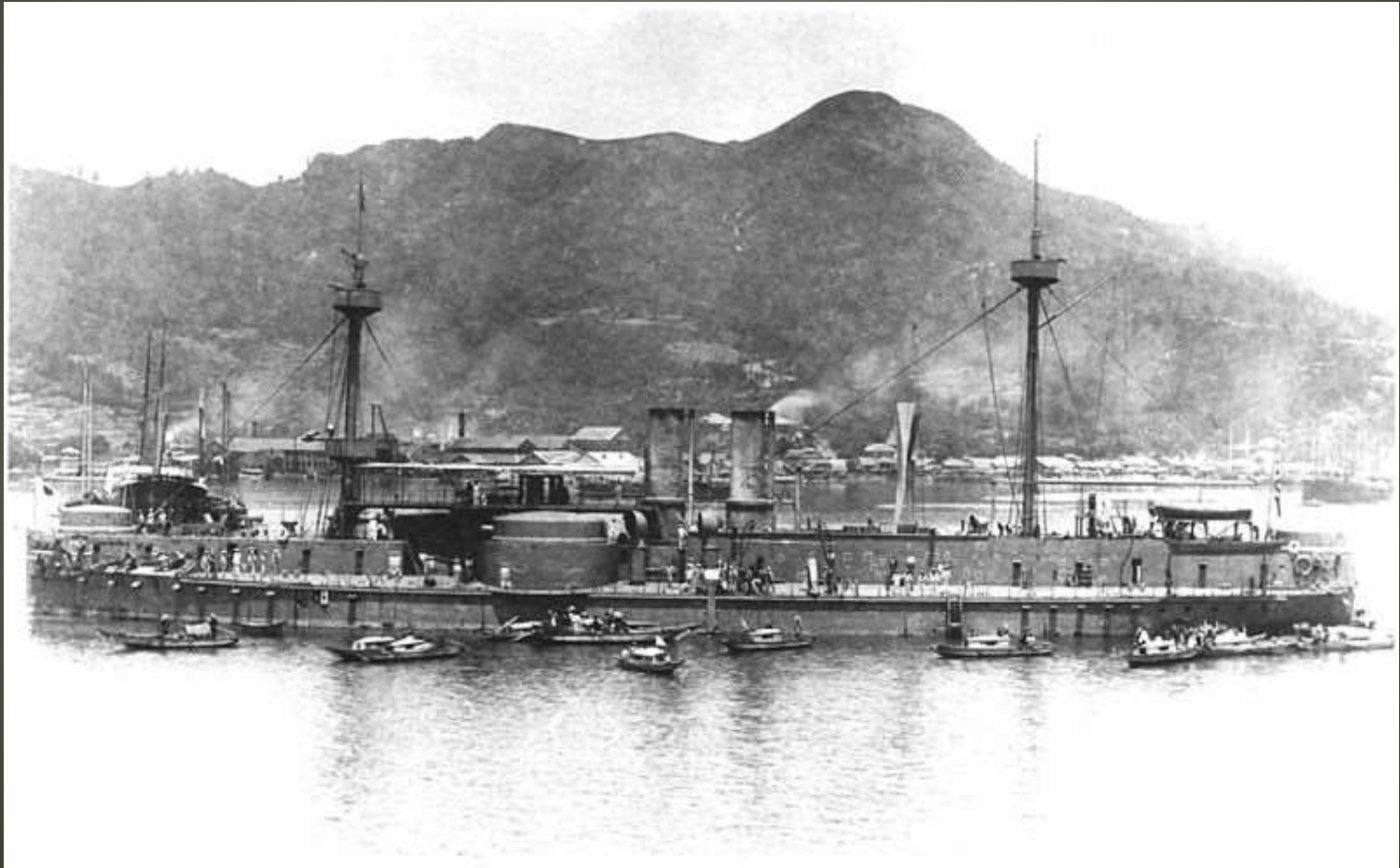
- Nine years later, some Koreans revolted against this unacceptable government and so both China and Japan sent more troops to help suppress the Korean rebellion.



- However, after the job was done, Japan refused to withdraw its troops from the then Chinese controlled sector of Korea, resulting in an aggressive war with China.

Continental Expansion

- This war between China and Japan was fought in both naval and land battles, with key victories on Japans side allowing a full blown invasion of China.



- This is where Japan shows their imperial strength completing changing from a feudal society to a military super power within only 30 short years.

Continental Expansion



- China's losses in the First Sino-Japanese War...which was surprising because China had more resources, a much larger population, a larger army, better battleships, and had spent much more of an effort on modernizing its military.

Continental Expansion

- Despite all this, China's military fell apart, soldiers pillaged their fellow citizens' villages, and repeatedly abandoned the battlefields.



- The organizational side of things was also in disarray, as officials were often corrupt and more interested in fighting each other than in trying to win the war.

Continental Expansion

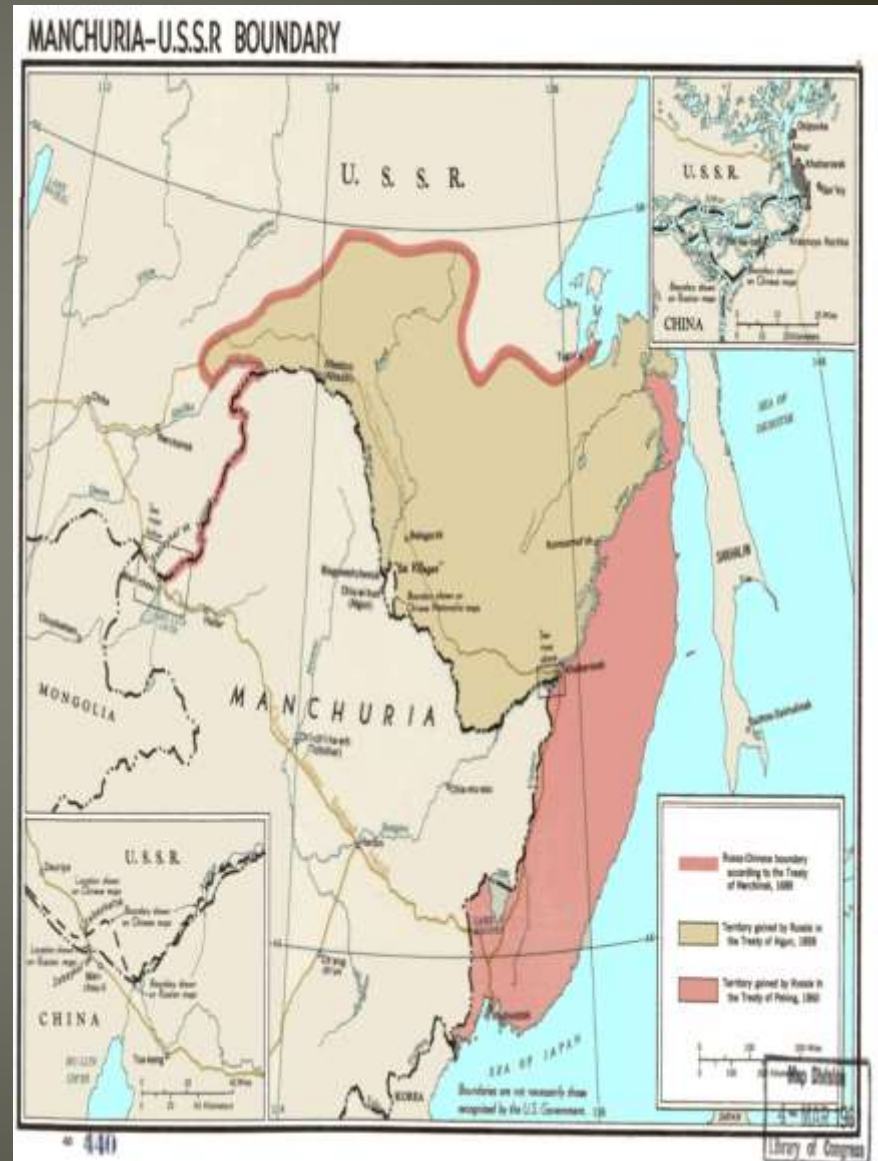
- In 1895, the countries finally tried diplomacy, and both Japan and China signed the **Treaty of Simonsoki** to end the War.



- This treaty made Korea an independent country and gave control of Taiwan, to Japan and specified that China must pay Japan 200 million **Tael's** (Chinese Currency).

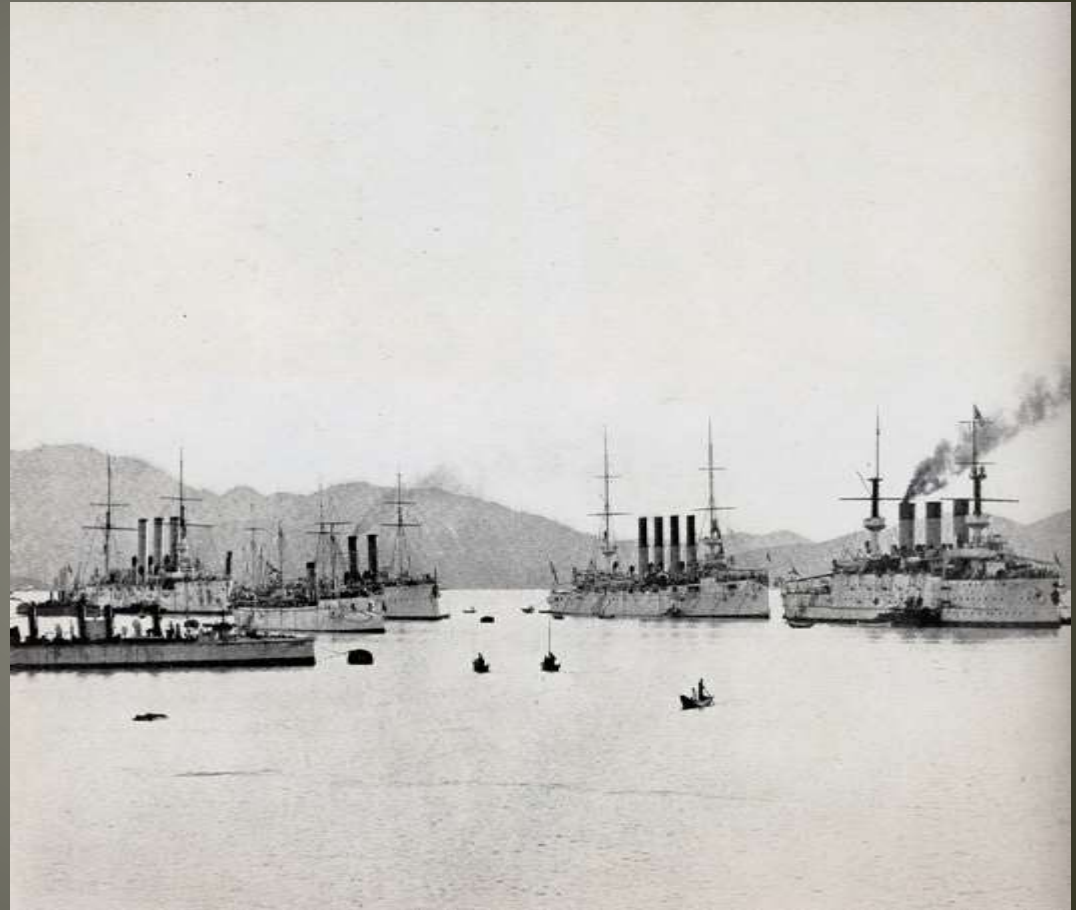
Continental Expansion

- Japan quickly gears up for another modern war with the Super Power of Russia during the Russo-Japanese War Of 1904-1905 in which Russia was defeated.
- Russia had long pursued an ice free, year round port on the Pacific because most Russian ports would freeze during their harsh winters, making trade almost impossible...Manchuria provided a perfect spot for a port.



Continental Expansion

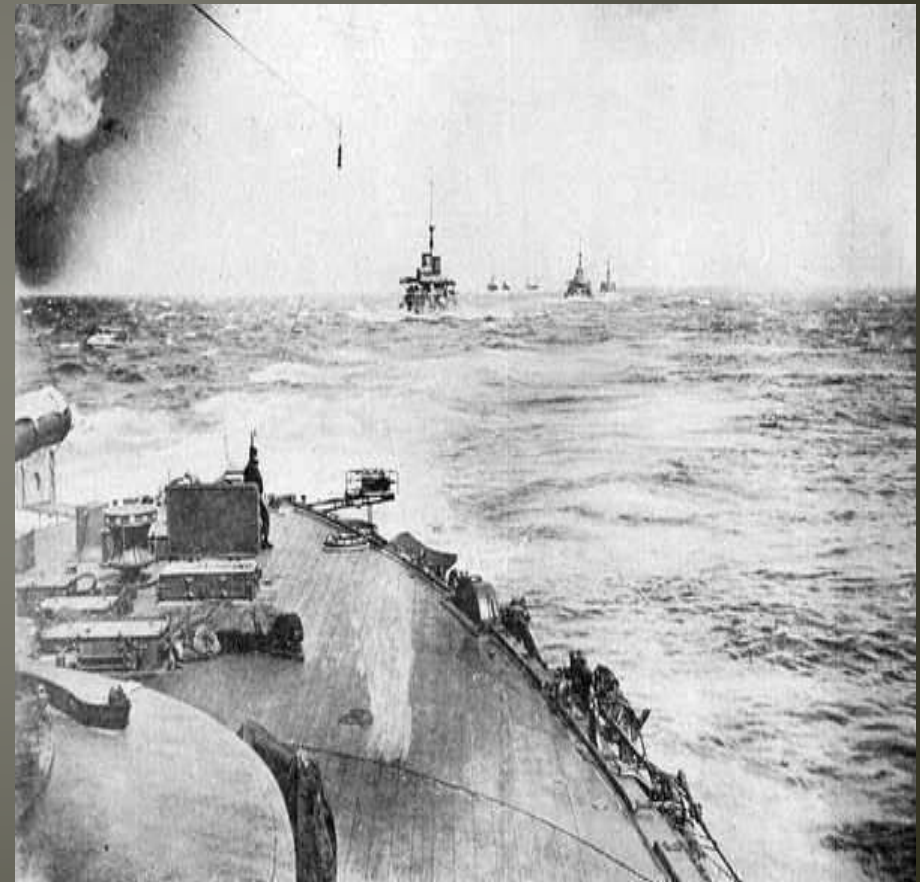
- In 1898, Russia took over the Manchurian Peninsula including the ice free port of **Port Arthur**.



- Technically, Russia was only leasing the peninsula, but the presence of Russian troops and the extension of the Trans-Siberian Railway through Manchuria made it obvious that Russia intended to hold the area permanently.

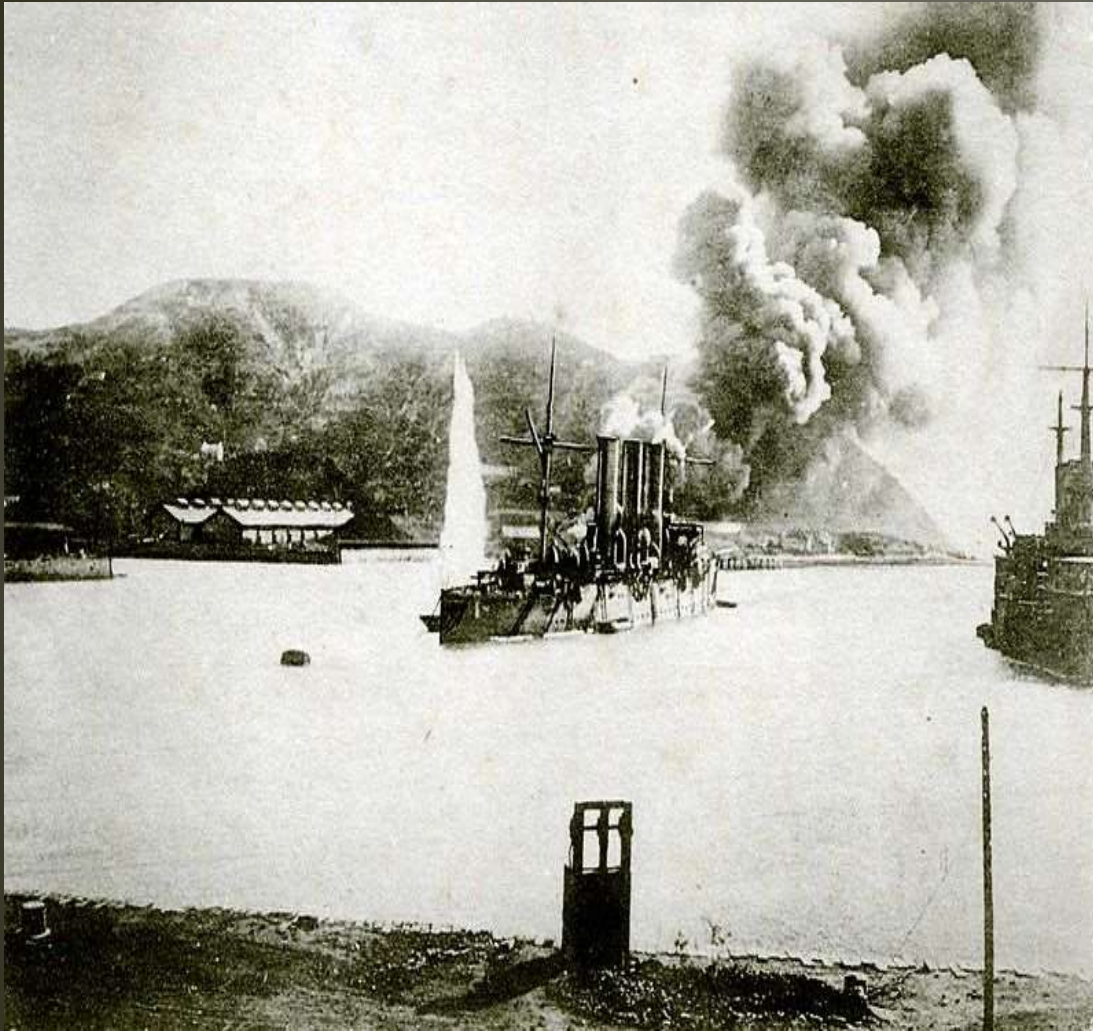
Continental Expansion

- Japan objected to Russia's moves and, after unsuccessful negotiations, broke off relations on February 6, 1904, two days later Japan opened the war.



- The superior Russian fleet sailed to Port Arthur and was destroyed on arrival by the Japanese in a devastating battle at **Tsushima Straits** on 27th May 1905.

Continental Expansion



- “*Battle of Tsushima Strait*”, was the major naval battle fought between Russia and Japan during the Russo-Japanese War...a battle that Japan completely dominated.

Continental Expansion



Continental Expansion

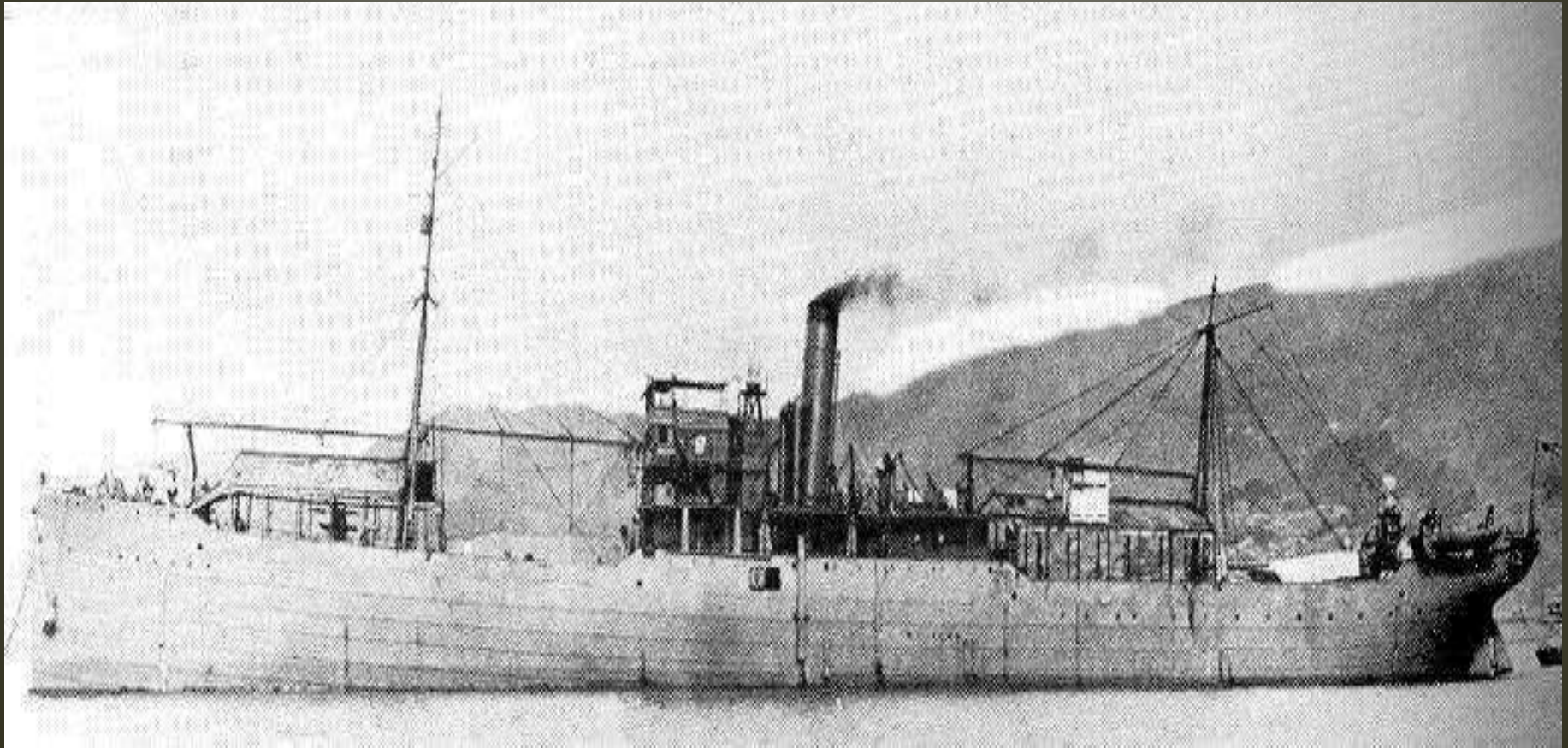
- After the Russian defeat Japan had officially emerged as a World Power, displaying for the first time that an Asian country was able to defeat a European Super Power.



- Japan's victory essentially started the rise of Asian and African nationalism that eventually led to the breakup of the European colonial empires throughout the globe.

Japan during World War I

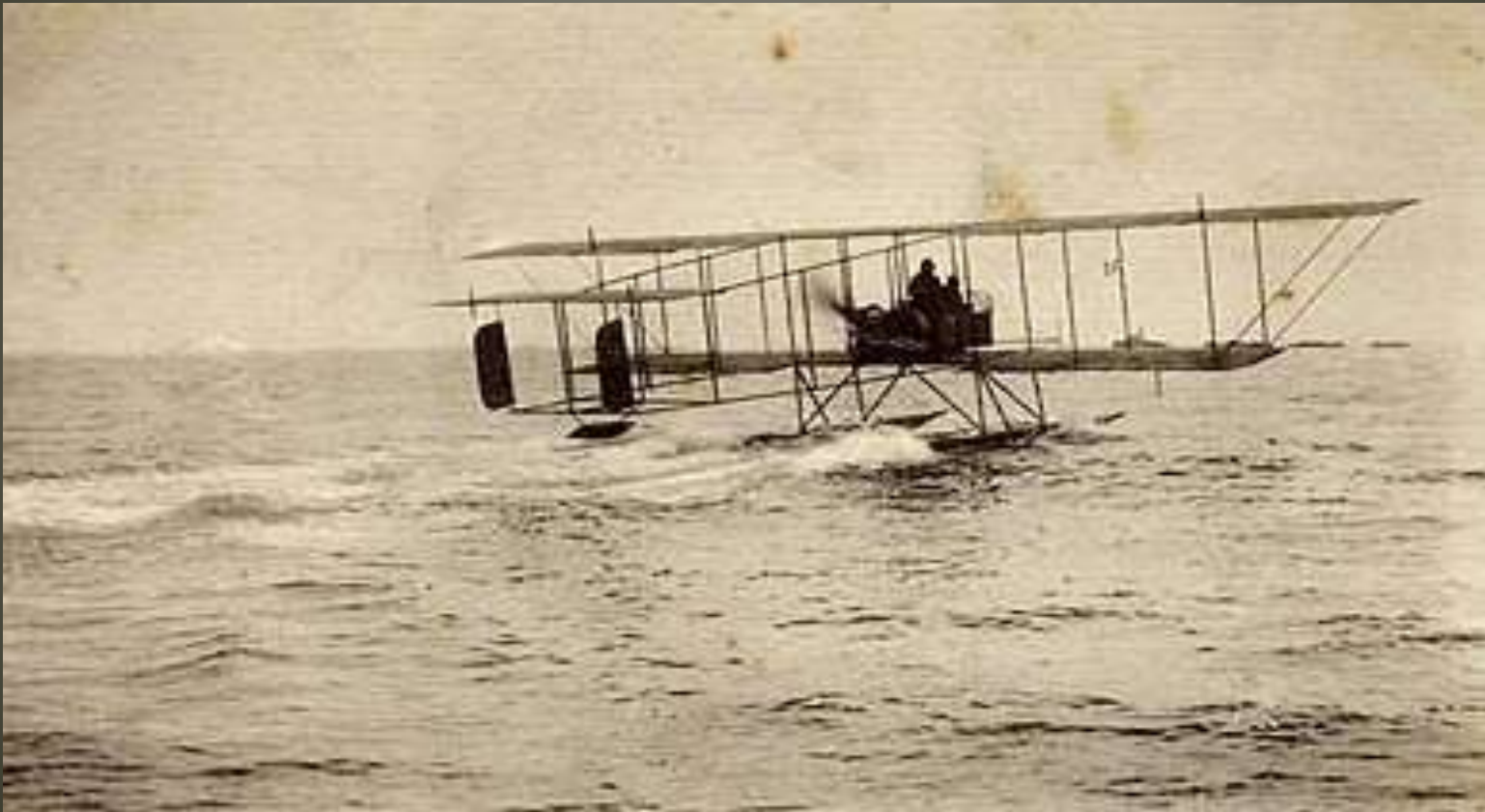
- In 1914 Japan joined Great Britain and the other Allies in the war against Germany, but played only a minor role in fighting German colonial forces in East Asia.



- Japan essentially came to an agreement with Britain that allowed them to maintain control of any German territories they liberated. (Japanese seaplane carrier WWI)

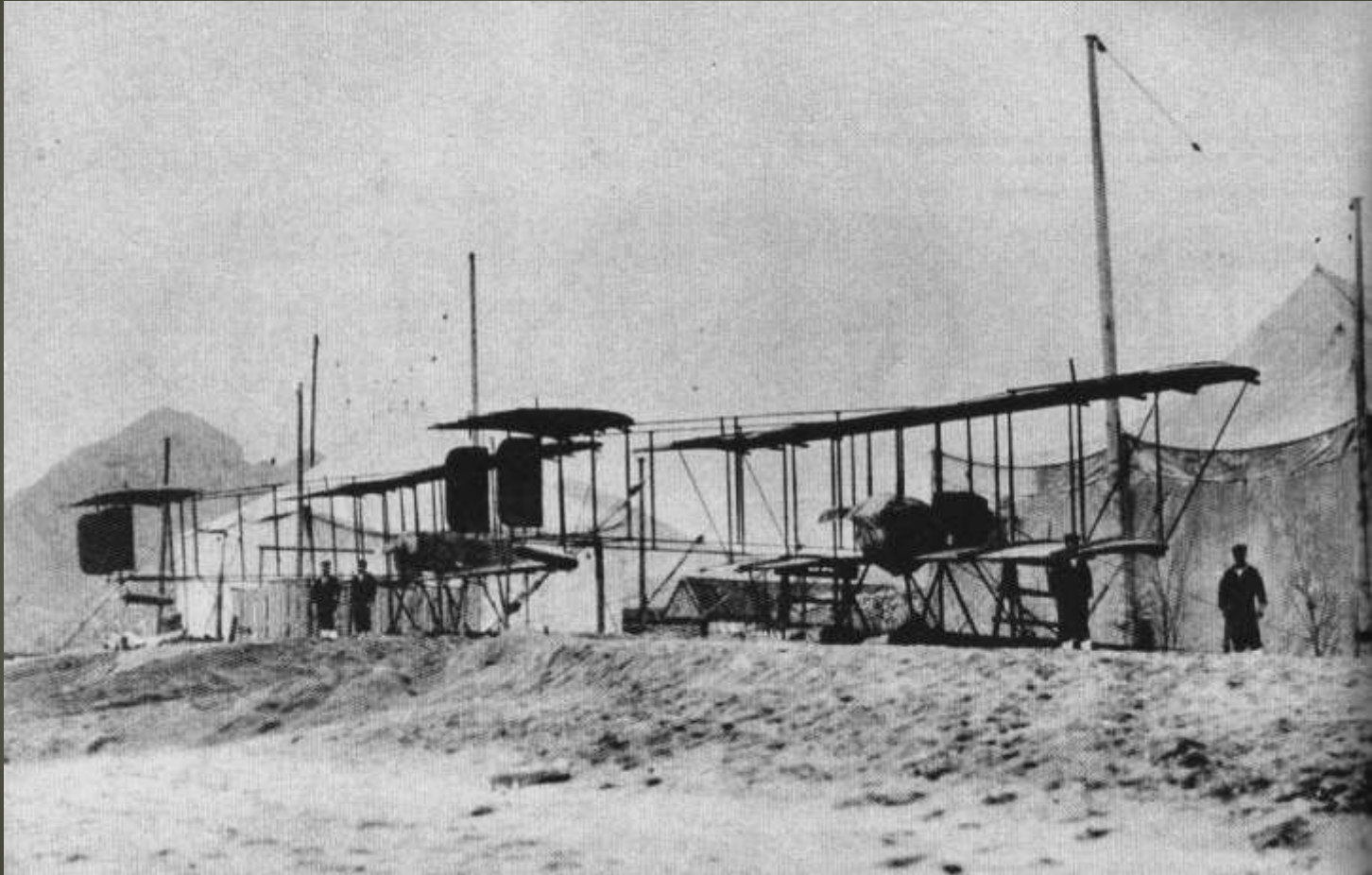
Japan during World War I

- Japan basically created the first Naval airborne attacks against the German occupied islands in the Pacific.



- These planes were carried on Japanese seaplane carriers and then placed in the water where they would take off and participate in bombings.

Japan during World War I



- The real relevance for Japan during World War I was that it elevated the small country to becoming one of the major powers of the world.

Japan after World War I



(影撮館真寫林小)

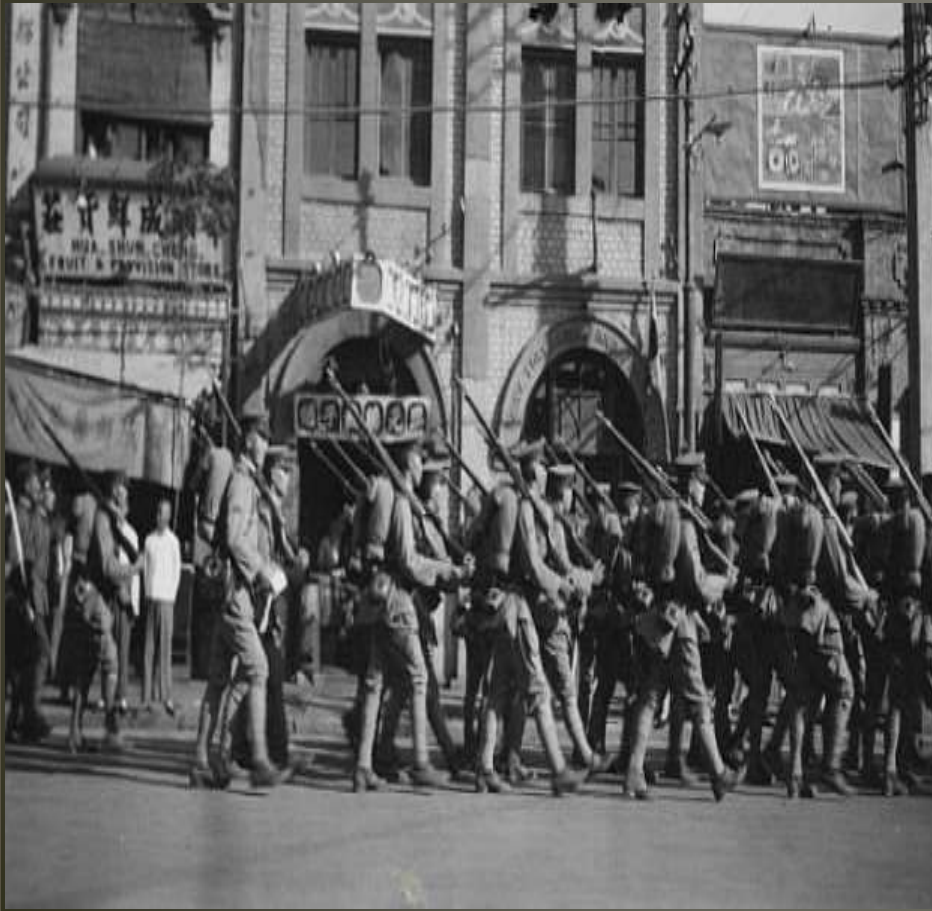
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(隊聯六十第兵騎)

- During the 1930s, the military established almost complete control over the government and all aspects of life...many political enemies were assassinated, and communists persecuted.

Japan during World War I

- Propaganda and censorship in education and media were further intensified throughout the 30's.



- Military officers soon occupied most of the important political offices, including the one of the prime minister...basically Japan was becoming a military state.

Japan after World War I

- Using their military might Japan forced China into unequal economical and political treaties as well as being unwillingly occupied.



- And by 1933, Japan withdrew from the League of Nations after being heavily criticized for their mistreatment of China.

Japan after World War I

- In July 1937, the second **Sino-Japanese War** broke out, which was a conflict between Japanese and Chinese forces for control of the Chinese mainland.



- The war sapped **China's Nationalist government's** strength while allowing the **Communists** to gain control over large areas through organization of guerrilla units, basically leading to the eventual **Communist** defeat of the **Nationalist forces** in 1949.

Japan after World War I



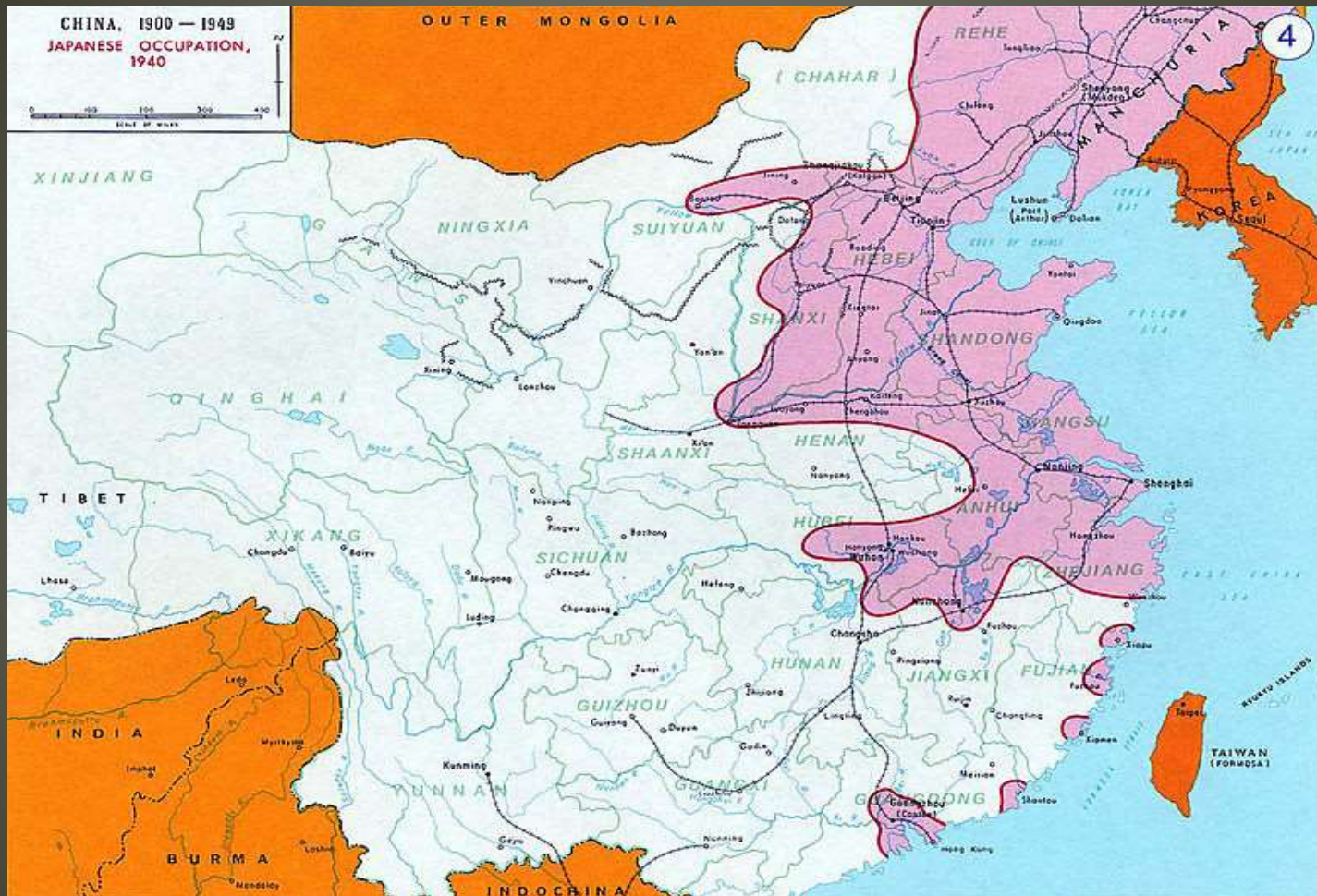
- Japanese soldiers wearing gas masks and rubber gloves during a chemical attack in the Battle of Shanghai.

Japan after World War I



- Japanese troops stage a poison gas attack in China on Shanghai.

Japan after World War I



- The Japanese forces succeeded in occupying almost the whole coast of China and committed severe war atrocities on the Chinese population, especially during the fall of the capital Nanking.

Japan after World War I

- The **Rape of Nanking**, was an episode of mass murder and mass rape committed by Japanese troops against Nanking during the Second Sino-Japanese War.



- The massacre occurred during a six week period starting December 13, 1937, the day that the Japanese captured Nanking, which was then the Chinese capital.

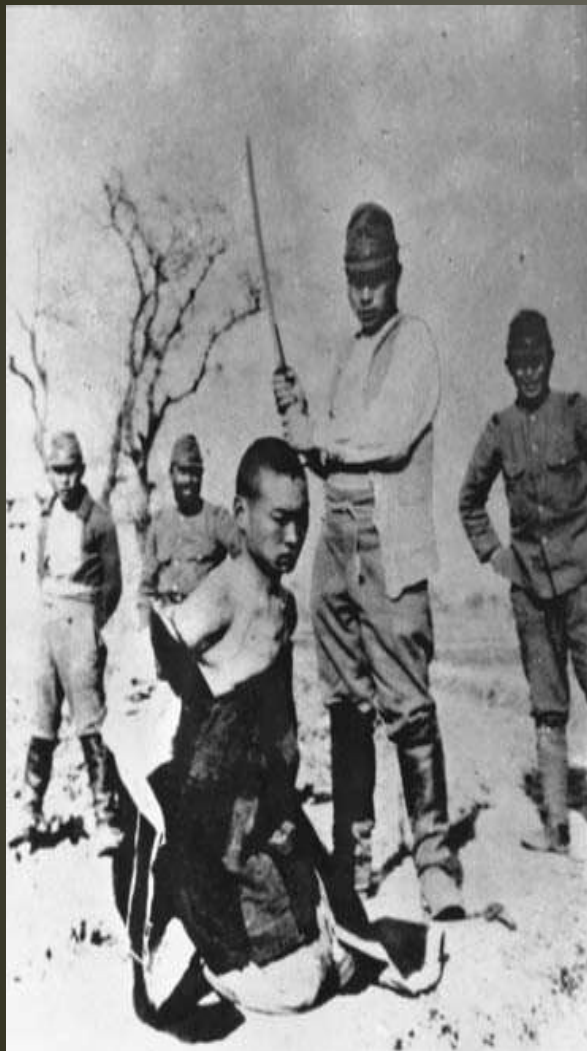
Japan after World War I

- During this period, tens of thousands if not hundreds of thousands of Chinese civilians and disarmed combatants were murdered by soldiers of the Imperial Japanese Army.



- Widespread rape and looting also occurred.

Japan after World War I

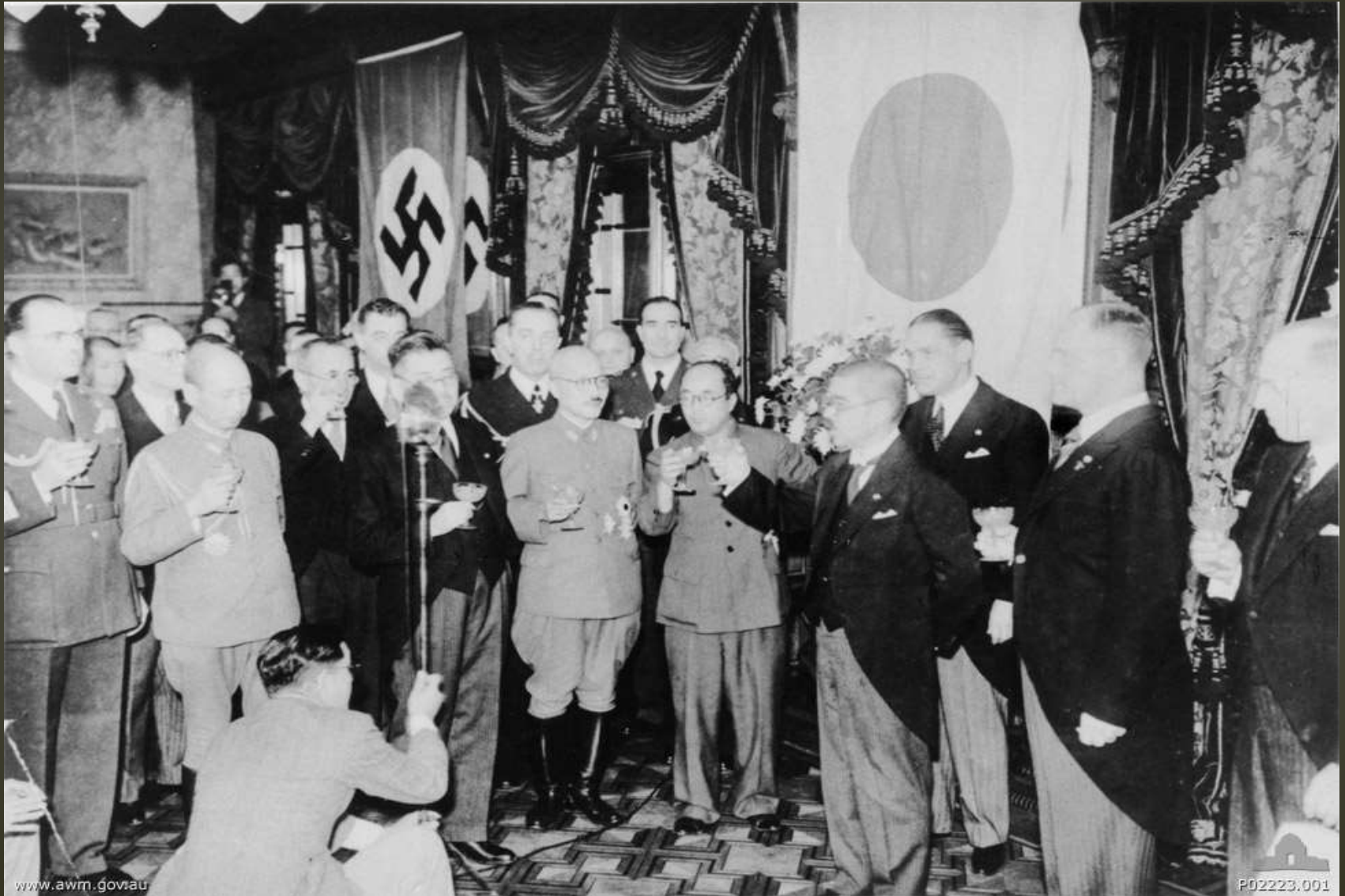


- The estimated total number of deaths are between 40,000 and 200,000 Chinese killed in the incident.

Japan after World War I



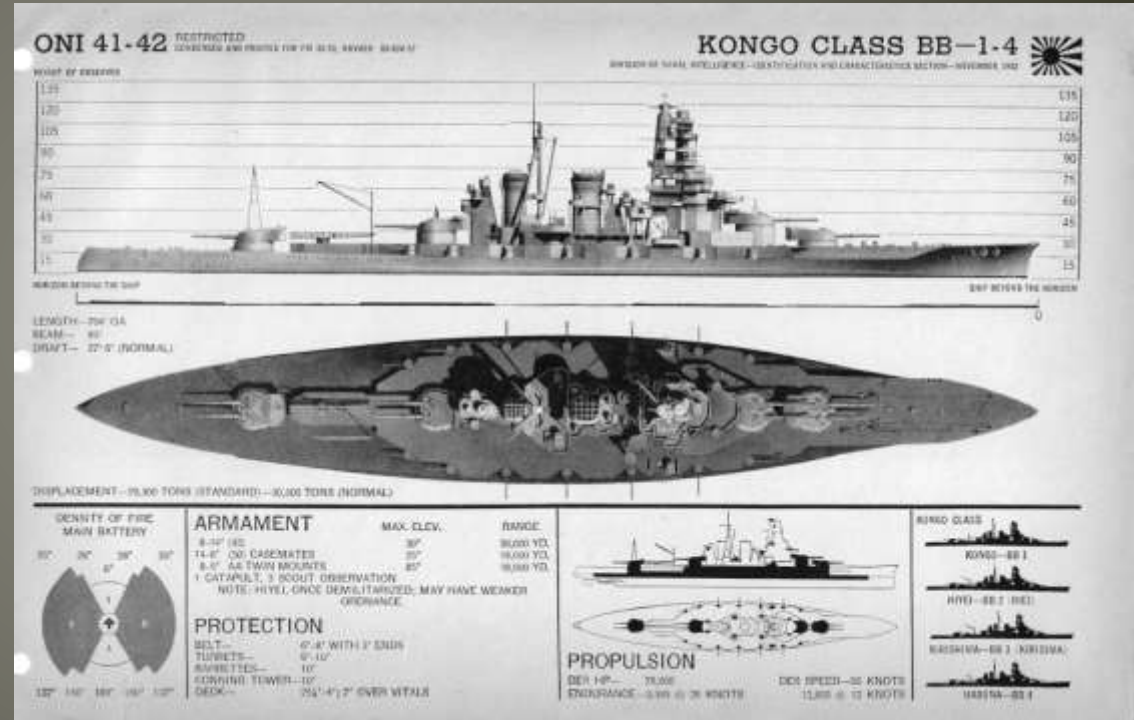
Japan during World War II



- In 1940, Japan officially joined the Axis powers with Germany and Italy.

Japan during World War II

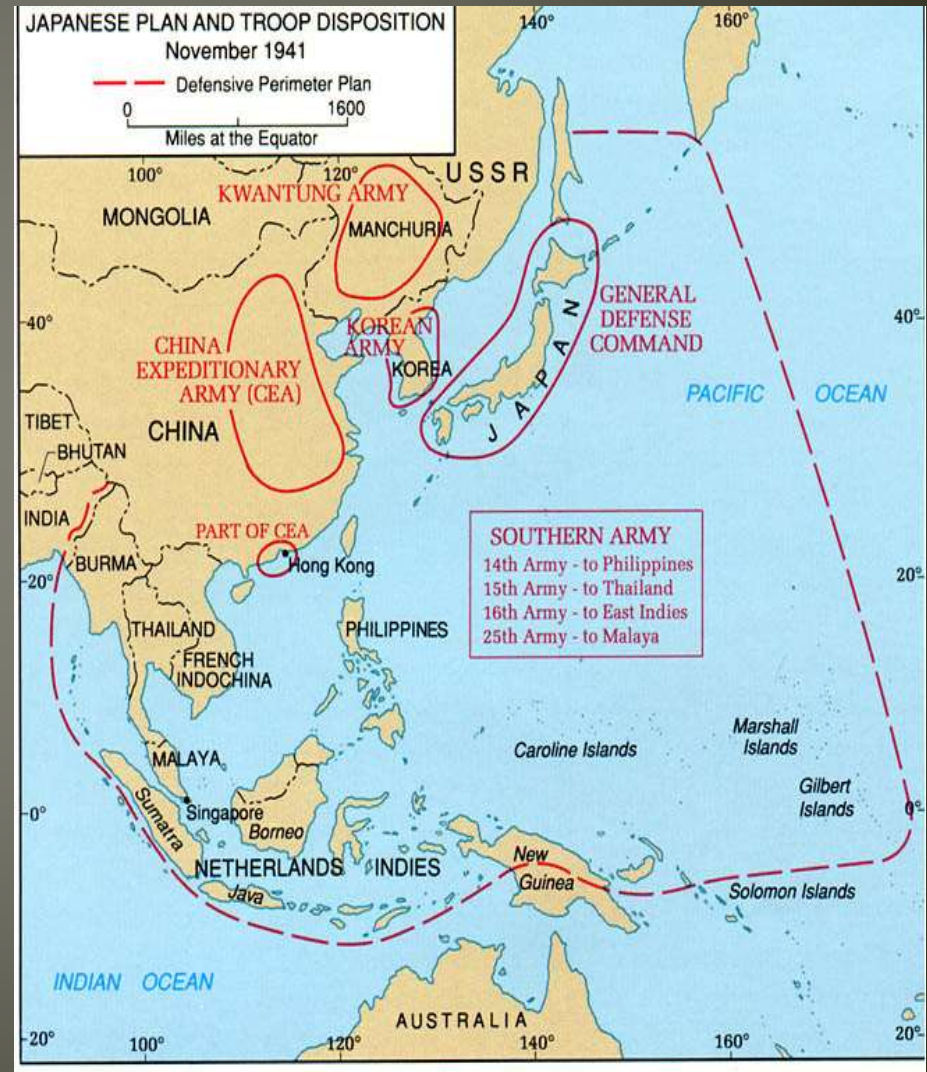
- These actions intensified Japan's conflict with the United States and Great Britain which reacted with an oil boycott.



- The resulting oil shortage and failures to solve the conflict diplomatically made Japan decide to capture the oil rich **Dutch East Indies** (Indonesia) which was the first declaration of war against US and Great Britain.

Japan during World War II

- In December 1941, Japan attacked the Allied powers at Pearl Harbor as well as several other points throughout the Pacific.
- Japan was able to increase her control over a large territory that expanded throughout South East Asia within the following six months.



Japan during World War II

- Allied nations had placed trade embargoes on Japan to check its expansion, but toward the end of 1941, Japan had managed to capture key territories and oil resources in parts of Asia.



- America had refused to lift existing embargoes unless Japan left some of these territories, so an all out attack was planned to take out the American Pacific Fleet... **Admiral Yamamoto** understood this had to be perfectly planned.

Japan during World War II

- Maintaining complete radio silence the Japanese fleet moved into attack range of Pearl harbor.



- Air Craft Carriers changed the way war worked. **HOW?**

Japan during World War II



- On December 7th 1941 Japan commenced the attack.

Japan during World War II



- Photograph from a Japanese plane of **Battleship Row** at the beginning of the attack.

Japan during World War II



- Japanese Mitsubishi A6M2 "Zero" fighter airplanes were during the strike on Pearl Harbor.

Japan during World War II

- Aftermath of the attack: **American casualties**



- **2,388** Americans died in the attack, **1,178** Americans were wounded, **21** American ships were sunk or damaged, **323** American aircraft were destroyed or damaged

Japan during World War II

- Aftermath of the attack : Japanese casualties



- 64 Japanese died during the attack, though the number of injuries is unknown, 5 Japanese ships were destroyed, 103 Japanese aircraft were destroyed or damaged.

Japan during World War II



Japan during World War II



Japan during World War II

- By luck, the Carriers of the U.S. Fleet were at sea during the time of the attack on a stranded drill...and all four carriers survived.



- **Yamamoto** needed these carriers destroyed, that was actually the main focus of the attack on Pearl Harbor...Japan would deeply regret this unfortunate stroke of luck for the Americans.

Japan during World War II

- **Kamikaze** - A Japanese pilot trained in World War II to make a suicidal crash attack, especially upon a ship.



- In some cases the planes were loaded with explosives to increase damages.

Japan during World War II



Japan during World War II

- **Japanese American internment** was the relocation and imprisonment by the United States government in 1942 of about 110,000 Japanese Americans and Japanese.



- These camps were called "War Relocation Camps," in the wake of Imperial Japan's attack on Pearl Harbor.

Japan during World War II

- The internment of Japanese Americans was applied unequally throughout the United States.



- Of those interned, 62% were American citizens.

Japan during World War II



Japan during World War II



Japan during World War II

- The turning point in the Pacific War was the Battle of Coral Sea and the Battle of Midway in June 1942.



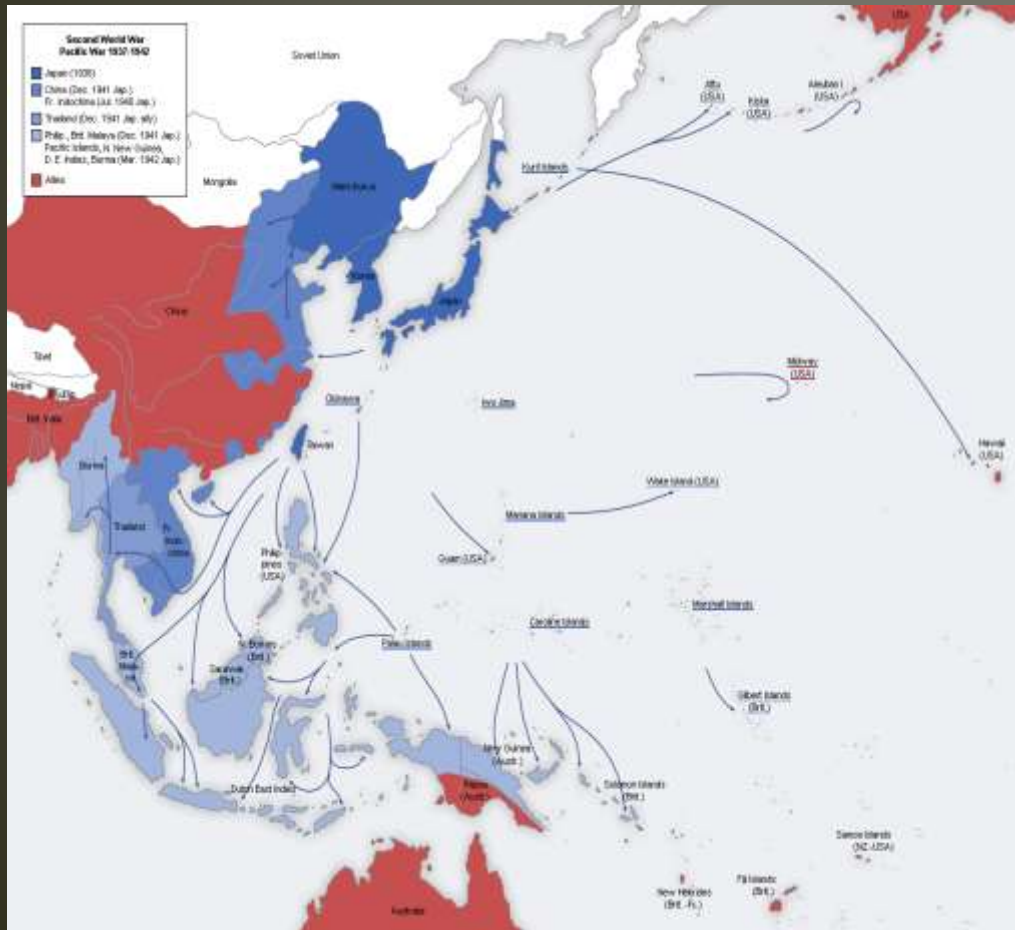
- Battles which are widely regarded as the most important naval battle of the Pacific Campaign during World War II

Japan during World War II



Japan during World War II

- The Battle of Coral Sea took place in May 1942... If the Japanese had succeeded at Coral Sea, the Japanese would have an open door to capture Australia.



- The Battle of Coral Sea was fought entirely by planes...no ship on either side made any visual contact with any enemy ship.

Japan during World War II

- The Battle of Midway, fought in June 1942, must be considered one of the most decisive battles of World War Two.



- The Battle of Midway effectively destroyed Japan's naval strength when the Americans destroyed four of its aircraft carriers...Japan's navy never recovered from its mauling at Midway and it was on the defensive after this battle.

Japan during World War II

- From then on, the Allied forces slowly won back the territories occupied by Japan.



- In 1944, intensive air raids started over Japan's mainland...including Tokyo.

Japan during World War II



Japan during World War II

- In spring 1945, US forces invaded **Okinawa** in one of the war's bloodiest battles.



- Okinawa was a fierce battle between the United States and Japan, codenamed **Operation Iceberg**, it was the largest amphibious assault in the Pacific Theater of World War II

Japan during World War II



- The battle had one of the highest number of casualties of any World War Two engagements: the Japanese lost over **100,000** troops, and the Allies suffered more than **50,000** casualties, with over 12,000 killed in action.

Japan during World War II

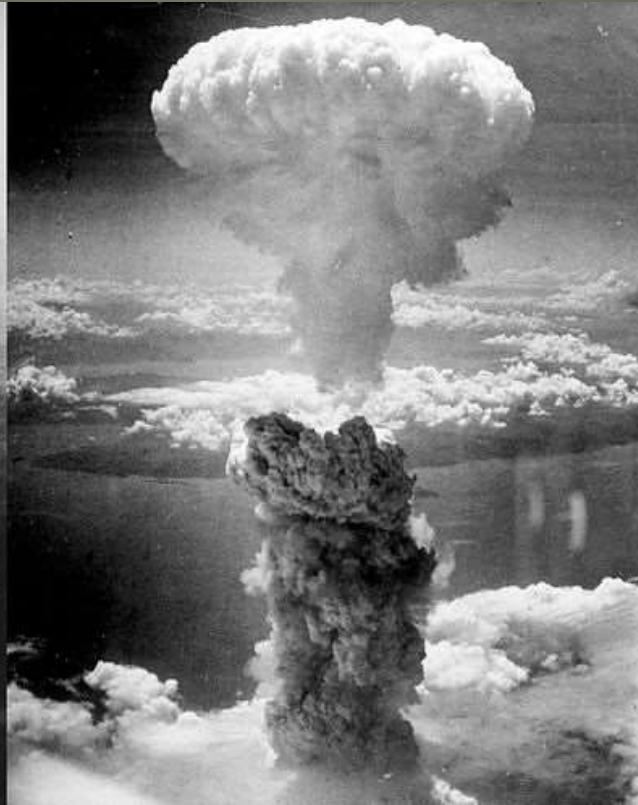
- The main objective of the operation was to seize a large island only 340 miles away from mainland Japan.



- After a long campaign, the Allies were approaching Japan, and planned to use Okinawa as a base for air operations during the Allied invasion of Japan which never took place...Why???

Japan during World War II

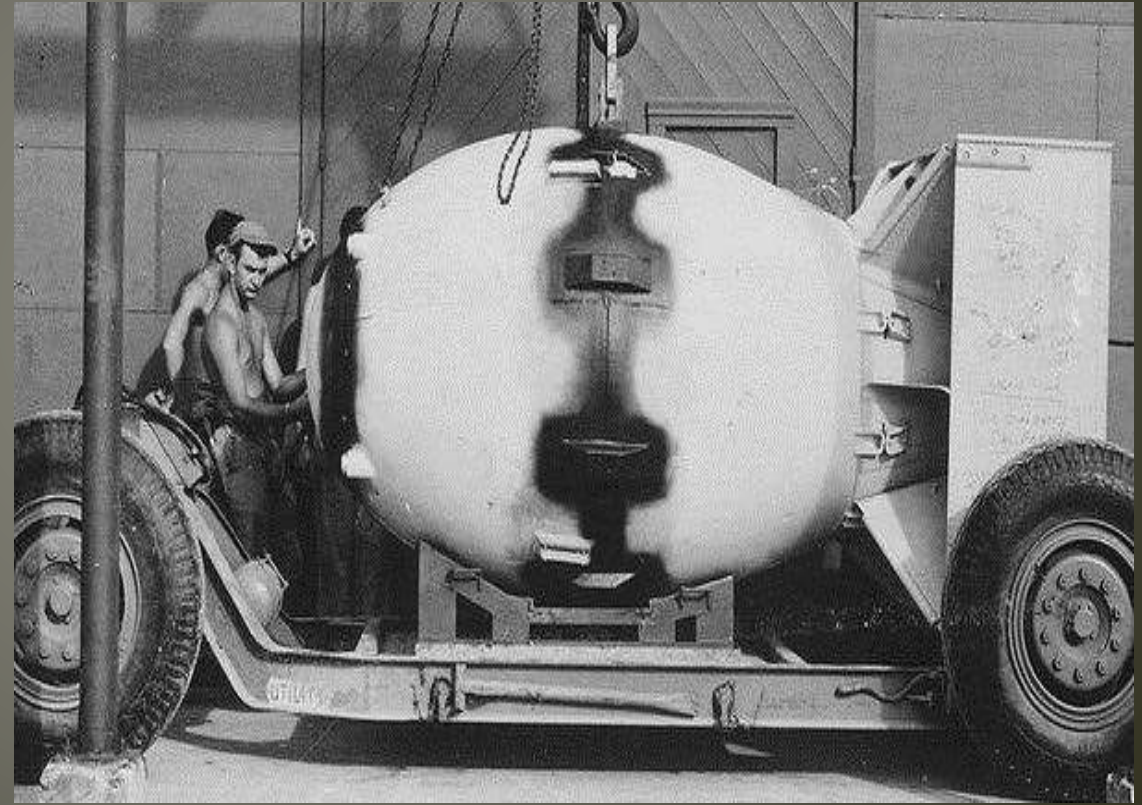
- To saving American lives the use of Atomic Force was authorized.



- US military forces dropped two atomic bombs on **Hiroshima** and **Nagasaki** on August 6 and 9 in an attempt to force Japan into a surrender.

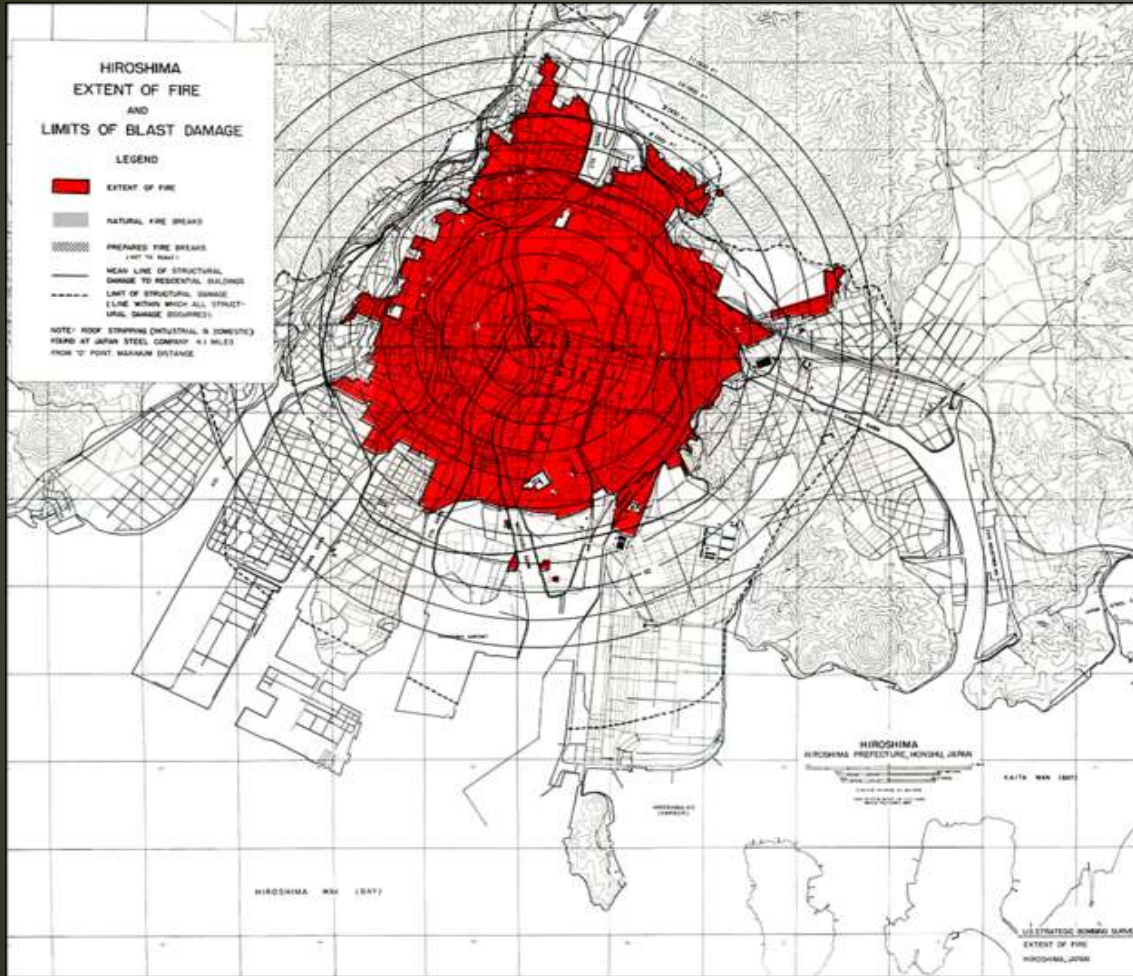
Japan during World War II

- On August 6, 1945, the United States used a massive, atomic weapon against Hiroshima, Japan...a bomb equivalent to 20,000 tons of TNT, flattened the city, killing tens of thousands of civilians.



- While Japan was still trying to comprehend this devastation three days later, the United States struck again, this time, on Nagasaki. (Little Boy Hiroshima / Fat Man Nagasaki)

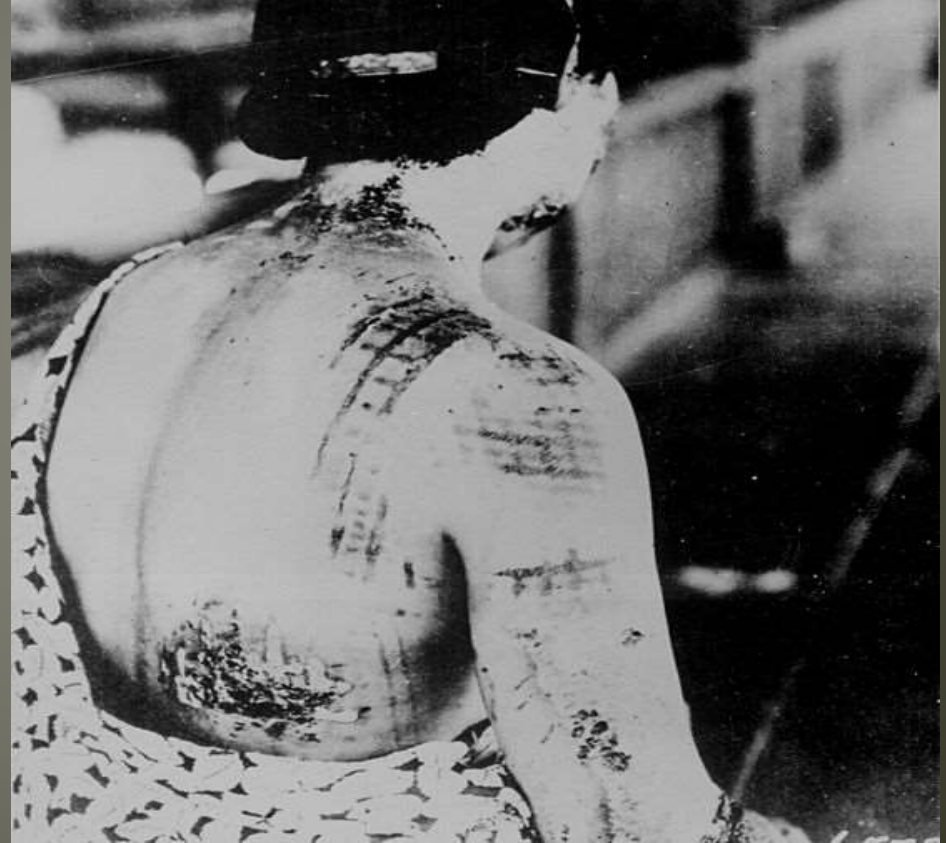
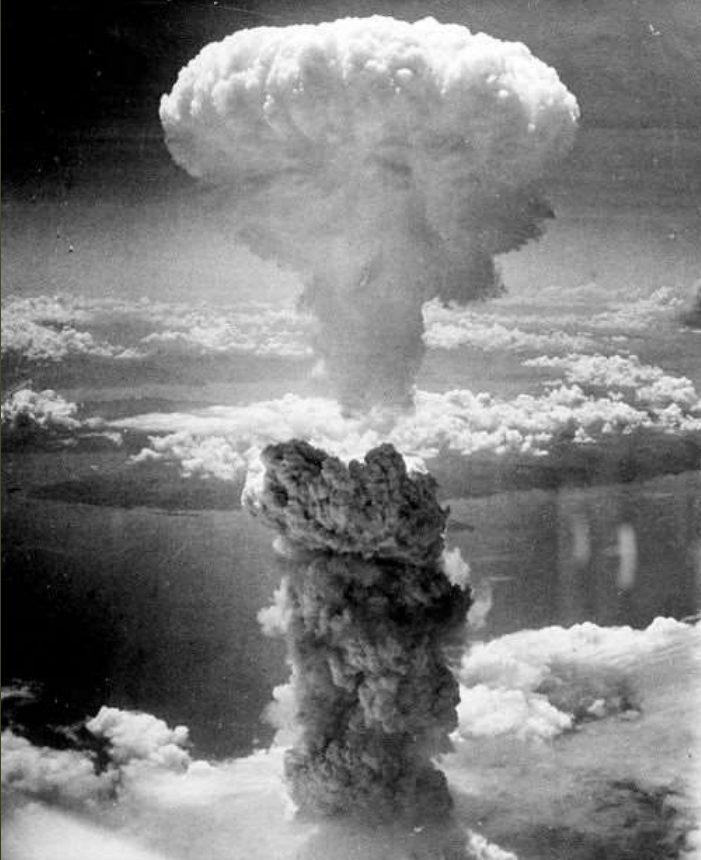
Japan during World War II



- The “Little Boy” was estimated to have killed between 130,000 to 150,000 by the end of December 1945.

Japan during World War II

- An estimated 39,000 people were killed outright by the bombing at Nagasaki by the "Fat Man, and a further 25,000 were injured.



- Thousands more died later from related blast and burn injuries, and hundreds more from radiation illnesses from exposure to the bomb's initial radiation.

Japan during World War II



Japan during World War II



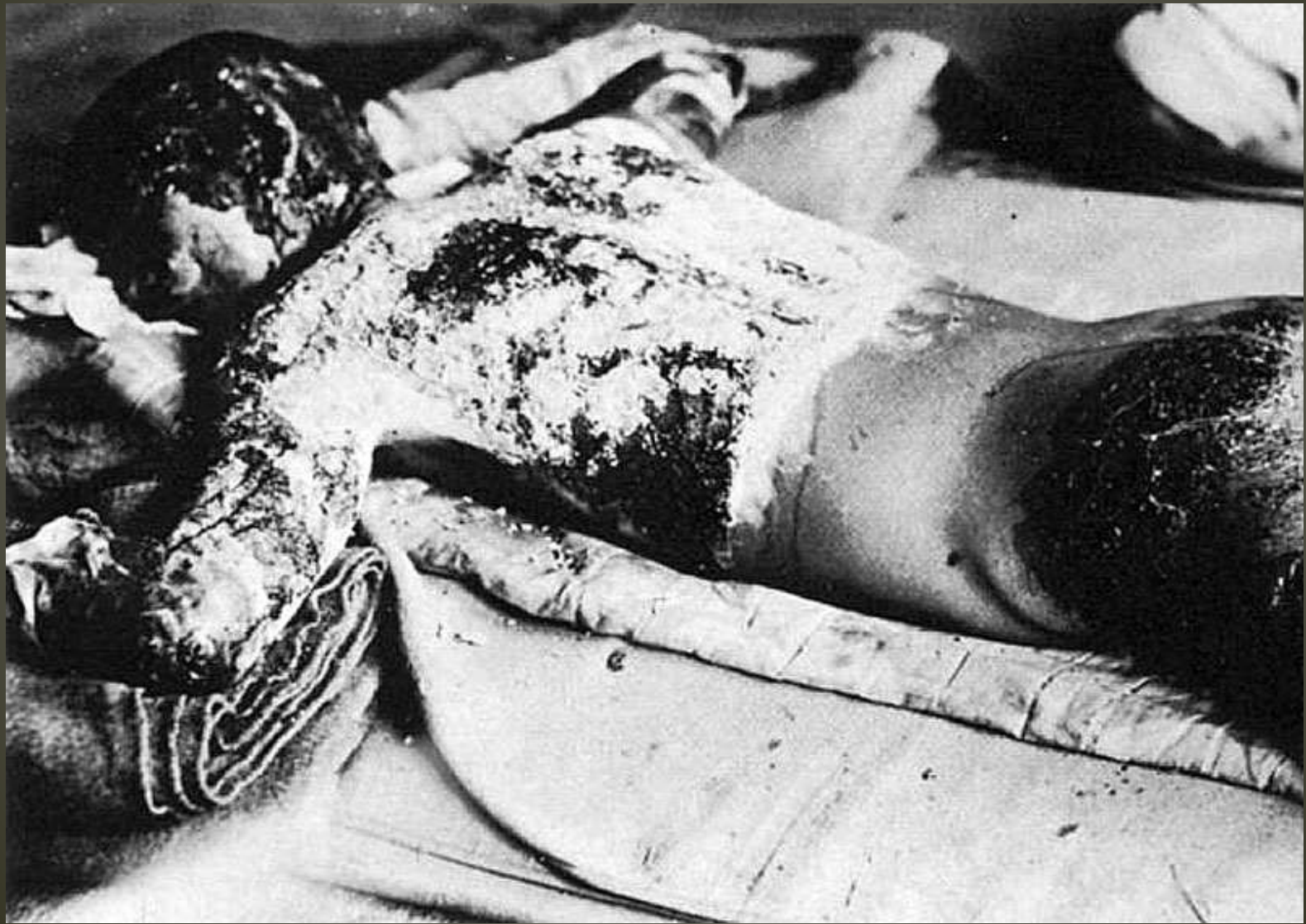
Japan during World War II



Japan during World War II



Japan during World War II



Japan during World War II



Japan during World War II

- On July 27, 1945, the Allied powers requested Japan in the **Potsdam Declaration** to surrender unconditionally, or destruction would continue.



- The Japanese military did not consider surrendering under such terms, even after US military forces dropped two atomic bombs, even with the Soviet Union entering the war against Japan on August 8. (The *Enola Gay* and its crew, who dropped the "Little Boy" atomic bomb on Hiroshima)

Japan during World War II



- On August 14, however, Emperor Showa finally decided to surrender unconditionally with the **Treaty of San Francisco** on the USS Missouri.

Japan during World War II



- **Treaty of San Francisco** is a humiliating document for Japan, abolishing their military, forcing United States troops to be constantly stationed there and taking all imperial power away from the emperor.

Long Term Effects of Nuclear Weapons

- Atomic Radiation long term effect...Graphic!

Long Term Effects of Nuclear Weapons



Long Term Effects of Nuclear Weapons



Long Term Effects of Nuclear Weapons



Japan during World War II



- Nagasaki Today...

Japan during World War II



Japan during World War II



- Hiroshima Today...

Japan during World War II



Japan during World War II



Japan during World War II



- Just in comparison lets look at Detroit today...

Japan during World War II



Japan during World War II



Japan during World War II

- Quiz on Japan Tuesday