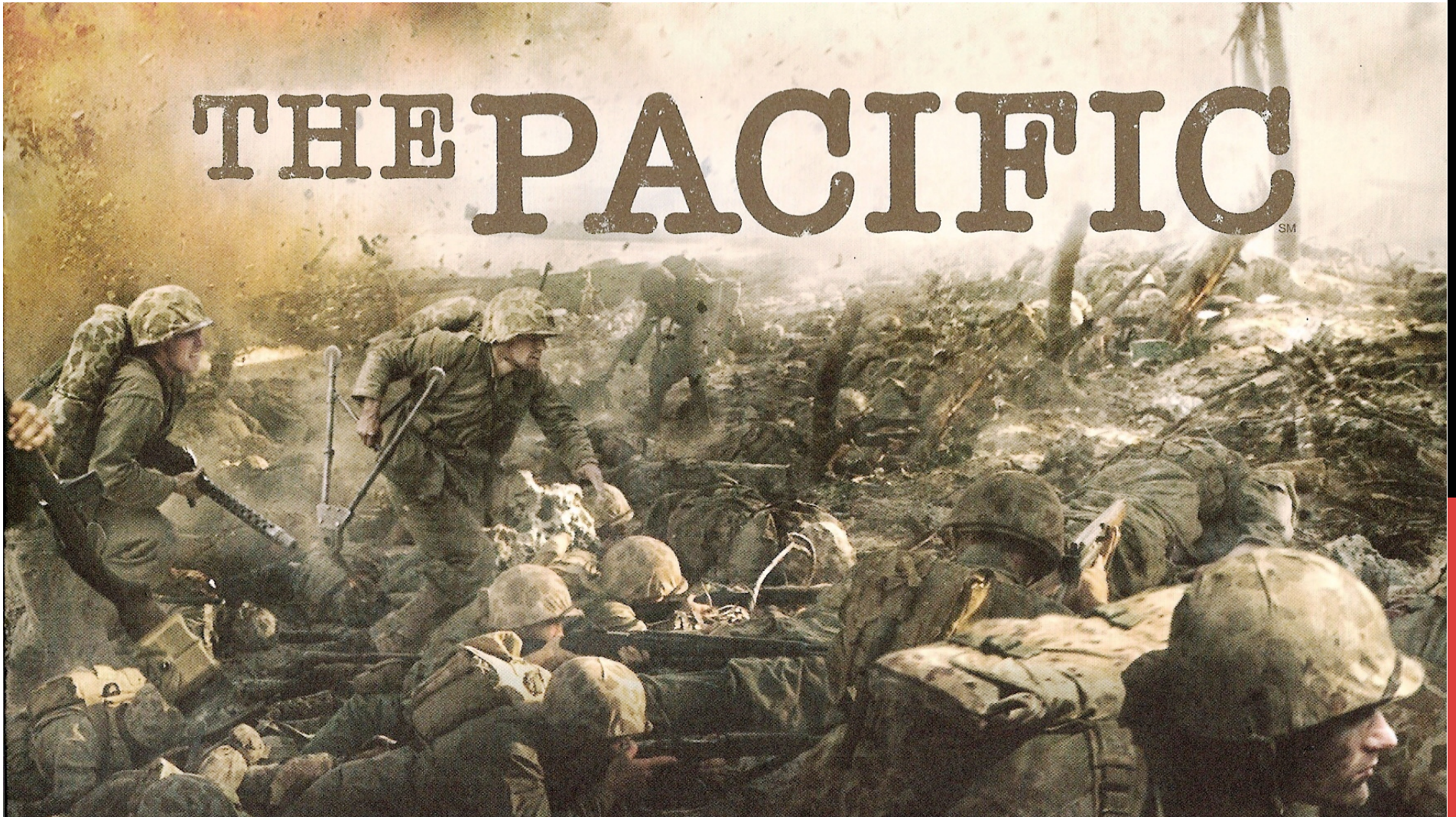


THE WAR IN

THE PACIFIC



# JAPAN ATTACKS

- **1940: Invades Vietnam, Indochina (French territories)**
- **US places embargo on JAP (ends trade)**
- **JAP warns war if embargo isn't stopped**
- **Dec 7, 1941: 180 Japanese planes bomb Pearl Harbor**
  - Planned by Japanese Admiral Isoroku Yamamoto
  - 2,400 dead; 18 ships destroyed
- **US declares war**



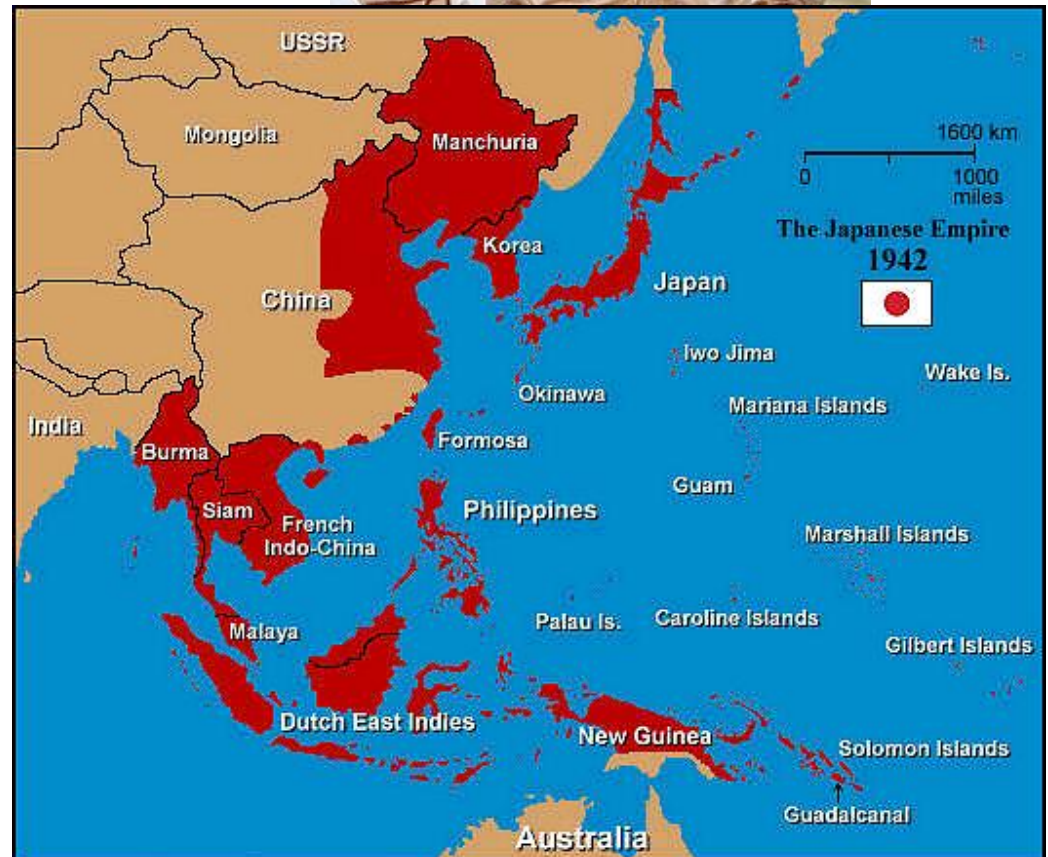
USS Arizona, Pearl Harbor Memorial, Hawaii, 9/8/2001

Photo: Anders Brownworth - <http://www.anders.com/>

# JAPAN BUILDS AN EMPIRE



- **Dec 1941: US loses Philippines to Japan**
  - Douglas MacArthur = commander of Allied forces in Philippines
  - Bataan Death March = 80,000 Phil./US POWs forced to march 80 mi.
  - Approx 10,000 die before reaching camp
- **6 mo. After PH, JAP expands across Pacific**



# BATTLE OF MIDWAY

- **June 1942: Battle of Midway**
  - Strategic island
  - “midway” across Pacific
  - If JAP controls → invade Hawaii
- **US attacks aircraft carriers**
- **JAP losses 4 carriers, 250 planes**
- **Turning point for Allies!**



# GUADALCANAL & IWO JIMA

- **Aug 1942: Battle of Guadalcanal**
  - Allies want to capture JAP airfield built on island
  - JAP abandon island after 6 mo. (Feb 1943)
  - “island of death” – 7,000 US, 31,000 Japanese
- **Next 2 years: Both sides regroup; rebuild; Allies slowly move closer to Japan**
- **Feb 1945: Battle of Iwo Jima**
  - Strategic = launch bombers that would reach JAP
  - Most defended = 20,700 Japanese
  - US successful
  - 6000+ Marines die
  - Only 200 Japanese survive



# BATTLE OF OKINAWA

- **Apr – Jun 1945: US invades Okinawa**
  - Strategic island for attack on JAP mainland
  - Largest amphibious attack in the Pacific
- **JAP uses kamikaze attacks, mass suicides**
- **Deadliest battle in the Pacific**
  - 65,000 US casualties
  - 100,000 Japanese casualties
  - 40,000 – 150,000 civilians
- **Gives US idea of what an invasion of JAP would be like – estimates 1.5 million Allies lost**



# THE MANHATTAN PROJECT

- **1939: Einstein and other Ger. scientists warn US that GER was on the verge of “extremely powerful bombs of a new type”**
- **1942 – 1944: Manhattan Project in New Mexico’s desert**
  - Head scientist: Robert Oppenheimer
  - Developed the atomic bomb
  - Extremely secretive project
- **1945: US decides to use atomic bomb on Japan**



**ATOMIC BOMB ARTICLE: SHARE  
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