

The Pacific War

The Pacific War (1941-1945) was a bloody conflict of World War II in which the United States defeated the Japanese Empire after the attack on Pearl Harbor. Marked by key airborne naval battles such as Midway, the use of kamikazes, and an island-hopping strategy, it concluded with the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

-Beginning: On December 7, 1941, Japan launched a surprise attack on the Pearl Harbor naval base, prompting the immediate entry of the United States into the war.

-Turning Points: The Battle of Midway (June 1942) was decisive, with the U.S. destroying four Japanese aircraft carriers and halting their expansion.

-U.S. Strategy: The "island hopping" tactic was used, advancing toward Japan after intense battles on islands such as Guadalcanal, Saipan, Iwo Jima, and Okinawa.

-End: Faced with fierce Japanese resistance, the U.S. dropped atomic bombs on Hiroshima (August 6, 1945) and Nagasaki, leading to Japan's unconditional surrender on August 15, 1945.

-Consequences: The Japanese defeat resulted in the U.S. occupation of the archipelago and the transformation of Japan into a democratic and pacifist nation.

Interesting things:

-1.8 million Japanese military casualties

-111,000 dead/missing and 250,000 wounded Americans

