## World War II: America at War & End of War Notes #4

### The Battling Sides

The Allied Powers	The Axis Powers	
<ul> <li>Winston Churchill → Great Britain</li> <li>Charles de Gaulle → France</li> <li>Joseph Stalin → USSR (Russia/Soviet Union)</li> <li>Chiang Kai-Shek → China</li> <li>Franklin Roosevelt → U.S.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Adolf hitler → Germany</li> <li>Benito Mussolini → Italy</li> <li>Emperor Hirohito &amp; Military General</li> <li>Tojo → Japan</li> </ul>	

# Attack at Pearl Harbor & Japanese Internment



- December 7, 1941  $\rightarrow$  a day that will forever live in infamy
- Japan, led by Hideki Tojo, attacked the U.S. at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii
  - U.S. trade embargos had caused shortages of oil & gas (angry)
- The U.S. enters World War II
  - Leads to war in the Pacific
  - Japanese internment camps in the U.S.
    - Fears that Japanese Americans might spy or sabotage for the enemy led to FDR signing Executive Order 9066
    - Forced 110,000 Japanese Americans (most American citizens) to be \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to concentration camps
  - o The dropping of the \_\_\_\_\_\_

### The War in America



- At home, Americans were mostly very united behind the war effort
- People bought war bonds, which kept \_\_\_\_\_\_ down
  and helped pay for the war
  - Victory gardens: allowed people to grow their own food to save supplies for the military and our allies
  - Mandatory \_\_\_\_\_\_ of supplies meant that
     people could only buy certain \_\_\_\_\_\_ of certain
     necessary goods → <u>CONSERVE</u>

### **Propaganda**



• In 1942, FDR created the **Office of War Information** focused on war

\_\_\_\_\_

 Propaganda: official communications meant to influence opinions (posters, movies, and newsreels)

### **War Efforts in America**



- Many \_\_\_\_\_ were needed for success during WWII
  - National War Labor Board: \_\_\_\_\_\_ factories
     into wartime industries
- Conversions:
  - Lipstick case → ammunition cartridges
  - Baby carriages → hospital carts
  - Vacuum cleaners → gas mask parts
  - Beer cans → grenades
  - Cars → airplanes

### **Women & Minorities**



- Roughly 16.6 million Americans served in WWII (more than 12% of the population)
- Women and minorities played an important role at home: women worked traditional \_\_\_\_\_\_
  - Filled jobs that were left behind by soldiers going overseas
  - The war will give women and minorities opportunities
- Women served in the Women's Army Corps (WACs)
  - They served \_\_\_\_\_\_ roles but held
     full military rank
  - General MacArthur said that they were his "best soldiers"
  - Women also served the Navy and civilian WASPS (Women's Air Service \_\_\_\_\_\_ - they ferried military aircraft between bases)

# African-Americans & WWII



- Many African-Americans had served in the military off-and-on since the Civil War (segregated units)
- Airmen an all-black fighter pilot group escorted American bombers
- Bomber groups began \_\_\_\_\_ them by name
- Broke down \_\_\_\_\_ and inspired military changes
- The military will actually be the first to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

### **Vernon Baker**



- African-American Army Lt.
- Received a Medal of \_\_\_\_\_\_ for wiping out German
  machine-gun nest
  - Baker managed to \_\_\_\_\_\_ and use grenades to destroy two German machine gun nests clearing the way for his remaining men to reach the safety of the nearest forward aid station
  - The attacks had lasted \_\_\_\_\_\_ hours and 19 of Baker's men lost their lives
  - o He was a \_\_\_\_\_\_ in the Korean War

### **Mexican-Americans &** WWII





- Roughly 500,000 Latino soldiers served in the U.S. military during WWII
- The majority of those identified as Mexican-Americans
- Latinos would earn 12 Medals of Honor during WWII
  - General MacArthur would also champion some of them in Arizona's 158th Infantry Regiment as "the greatest fighting

\_\_\_\_\_ team ever deployed for battle"

- - Mexican-American combat surgeon
    - Civil rights activist
    - o Founded American G.I. Forum
      - The American G.I. Forum is a congressionally chartered Hispanic veterans and civil rights organization founded in 1948
      - Motto: "Education is Our Freedom and Freedom should be Everybody's Business"
      - Operates chapters throughout the U.S., with a focus on veterans' issues, education, and civil rights

### **Native Americans &** WWII



- for the military at a higher percentage than any other minority group
- Navajo Code Talkers:
  - o Used the \_\_\_\_\_ language to encode military communications for \_\_\_\_\_ (secret) transmission
    - Sent messages in their native language
    - The Japanese could never \_\_\_\_\_ (instrumental for success in the Pacific)

### **Island Hopping**



- The U.S. strategy of taking over islands one-by-one on the way to
  - - Avoided the \_\_\_\_\_\_ islands
    - o U.S. cut off the Japanese \_\_\_\_\_\_ to the islands (successful strategy)

# The Philippines On the same day Japan attacked Pearl Harbor, they also attacked the **Philippines** • This was a U.S. territory since 1898 General Douglas \_\_\_\_\_ (commander of the Army) in the Pacific, had been forced to retreat from the Philippines in 1942 • He came back again to take the islands in 1945 The Bataan Death March: o Americans and Filipinos \_\_\_\_\_\_ by the Japanese were forced on a single, \_\_\_\_\_ march ■ As many as 5,000 Americans and possibly 10,000 Filipinos The Japanese planned a surprise attack at \_\_\_\_\_\_ Island The Battle of Midway The U.S. cracked the Japanese secret codes and know about the attack ahead of time • Under the command of Admiral Chester Nimitz (the Commander-in-Chief of the U.S. Pacific Fleet) o The U.S. destroyed 4 of Japan's \_\_\_\_\_ carriers The Battle of Midway is considered the turning point of the Pacific War because it \_\_\_\_\_\_ the Japanese Navy • Iwo Jima was the only battle by the U.S. \_\_\_\_\_ in The Battle of Iwo Jima which the overall American casualties (killed and wounded) exceeded (more)

than those of the Japanese

o Of the 70,000 Americans that attacked, nearly 7,000 died and 19,000

wounded; while 18,000 of the 22,000 Japanese were killed

# The Manhattan Project Allies Win

• In 1942, the U.S. Army Corps		rmy Corps of Engineers began a top-secret project code-
	named The	Project

- The goal of this project was to create an \_\_\_\_\_\_bomb

  (a weapon that gets its power from a reaction involving the nucleus of an atom)
- The idea for this project came from a letter sent to President FDR in 1939:
  - The letter, called the Einstein-Szilard letter, told FDR that other countries, such as Germany and Italy, were close to

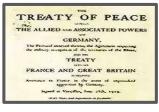
    an atomic bomb and that the U.S. should get to it first



• At the signing of the agreement that brought an end to 2,194 days of global war, MacArthur told the world in a radio broadcast:

"Today the guns are silent. A great tragedy has ended. A great victory has been won."

### **The Paris Peace Treaties**



- The Paris Peace Treaties were signed on February 10, 1947 following the end of WWII in 1945
- The Paris Peace Conference lasted from July 29 October 15, 1945

### **Dividing Up Germany**



- Germany is going to be divided into \_\_\_\_\_\_ zones to be temporarily governed by the Allies (Soviet Union, Great Britain, France, and U.S.)
  - The capital, \_\_\_\_\_\_, will also be divided into 4
     zones, even though it lay within the Soviet zone (this will have impact

### on the future)

### Death Toll & The Nuremberg Trials



- Most common estimate of the Holocaust death toll: 6 million Jews
  - This is a **VERY** conservative, but widely accepted estimate
  - Other studies have concluded that as many as 21 million were killed and possibly 27 million Soviet civilians

### • Nuremberg Trials:

- The Holocaust began in Nuremberg, so it was perhaps poetic justice that the Nuremberg Trials (war-crimes trials for Nazi leaders) (Nov. 20, 1945 - Oct. 1, 1946)
- These trials were very important because they set the principle that individuals are responsible for their actions, even if they were just "following orders"
- The most important defendant was <u>Hermann Goring</u> (Hitler's highest officer)
  - He was found guilty and sentenced to hanging
  - A Nazi sympathizer in the U.S. Army snuck a cyanide pill into his cell so that he could commit suicide on his own terms