

# The Second World War

*“Never in the field of human conflict was so much owed by so many to so few.”*

-Winston Churchill

Prime Minister of Great Britain

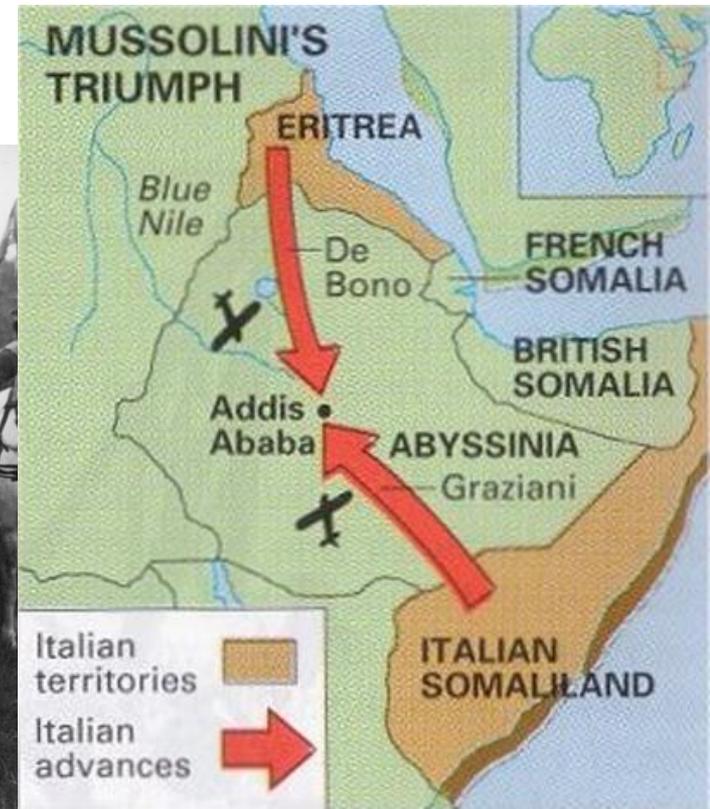
*Speech in the House of Commons, also known as "The Few", made on 20 August 1940.*

# Global Imperialism Rises

- Totalitarian regimes seek land/resources
- Italy
  - Ethiopia (1935)

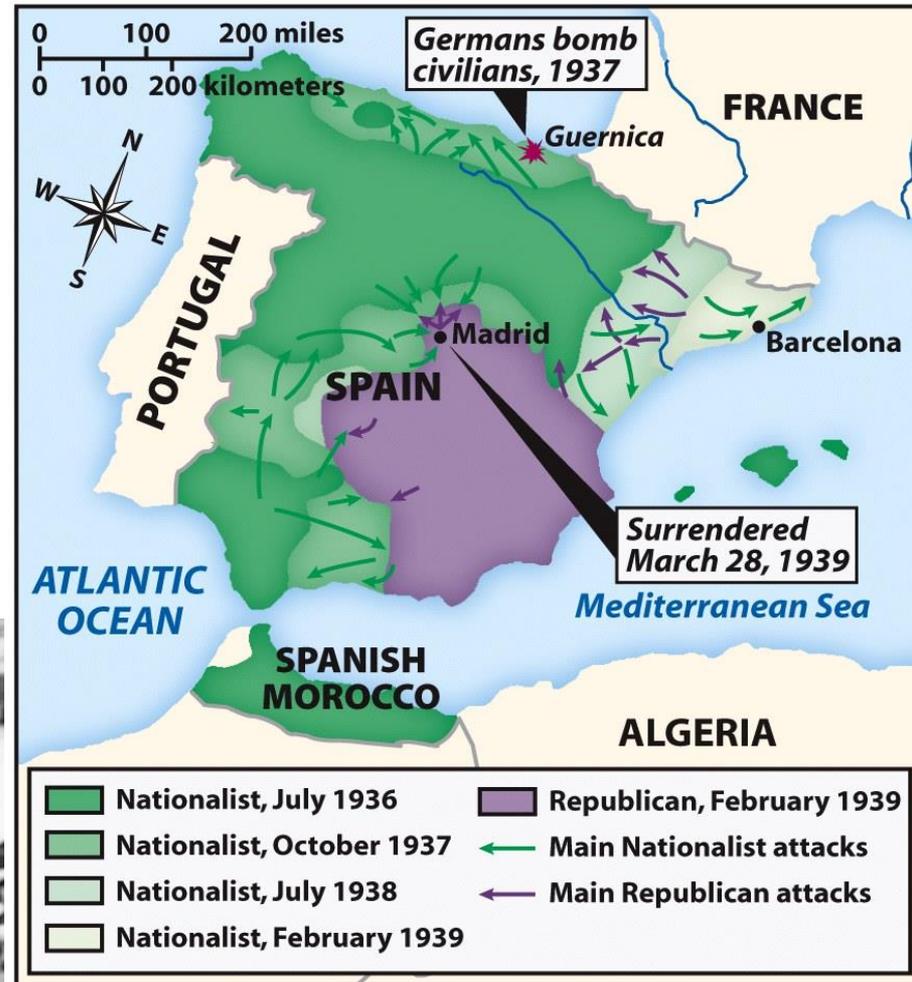


Abyssinian soldiers, 1936



# Spanish Civil War (1936-9)

- Republicans overthrow monarchy
  - Popular Front (1936) v. Falange Party
  - Francisco Franco
  - *Guernica*



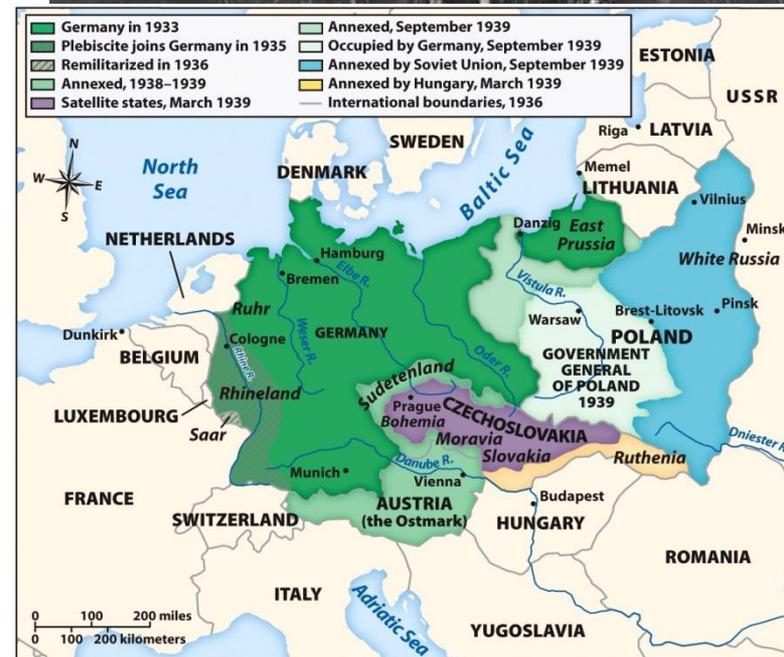
MAP 26.2 The Spanish Civil War, 1936–1939  
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*"Guernica", Pablo Picasso, 1937*

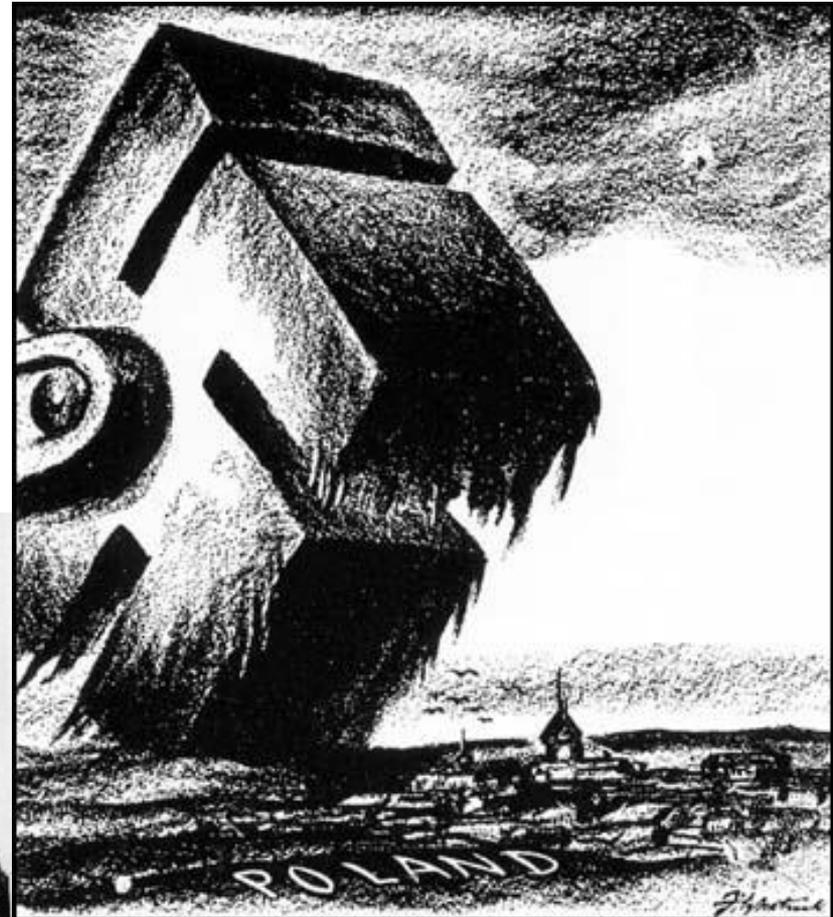
# The Final Straws (1938-9)

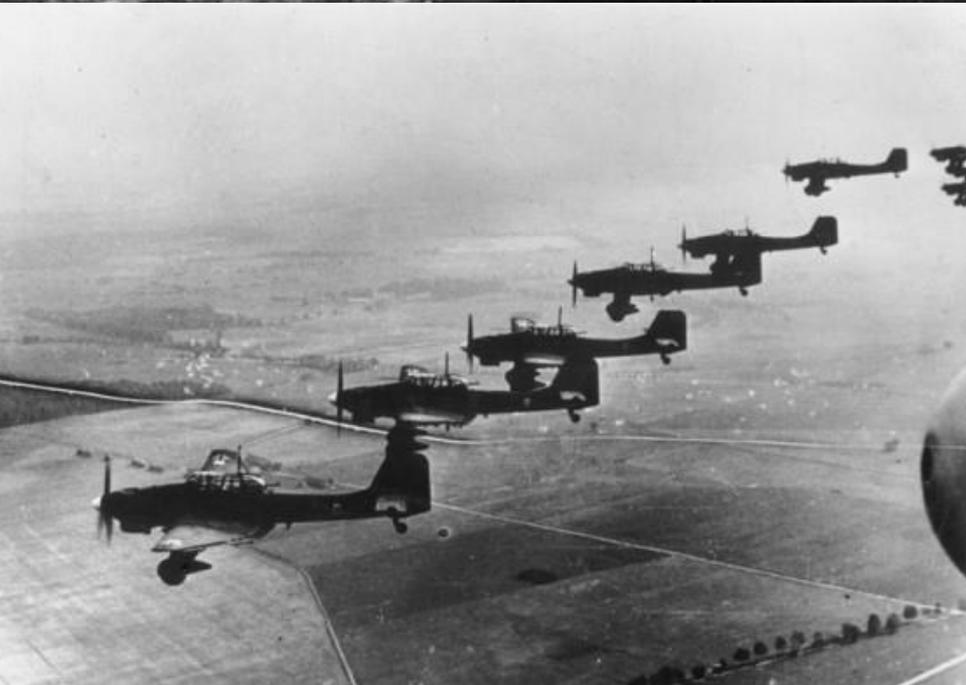
- **Lebensraum**
  - Austria (*Anschluss*, 1938)
  - Czechoslovakia (Sudetenland)
- **Appeasement**
  - Neville Chamberlain
- **Alliances**
  - Nazi-Soviet Pact (Aug 1939)



# War and Europe

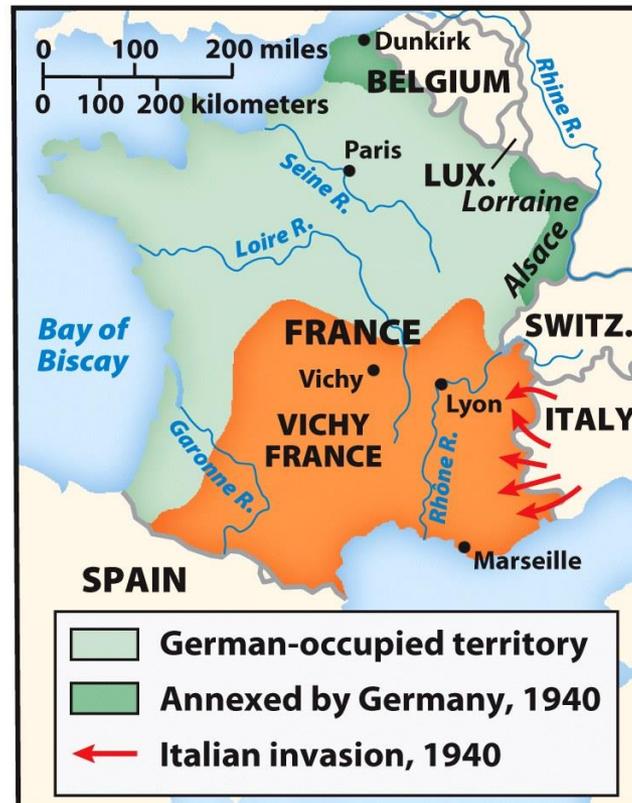
- **Blitzkrieg**
- Poland (Sept 1939)
- Mainland Europe (June 1940)





# War in Europe

- Fall of France (May-June 1940)
  - Maginot Line
  - **Dunkirk**
  - Vichy France





# War in Europe

- Battle of Britain (July- October 1940)
  - Winston Churchill
  - RAF (Royal Air Force) outlasts *Luftwaffe*
  - **Ultra**



# War in Europe

- American neutrality
  - Franklin Roosevelt
  - **Lend-Lease Act** (March 1941)
- Operation Barbarossa (June 1941)
  - Hitler's mistakes:
    - Overstretched supply lines
    - *Einsatzgruppen*
    - Army unprepared for winter



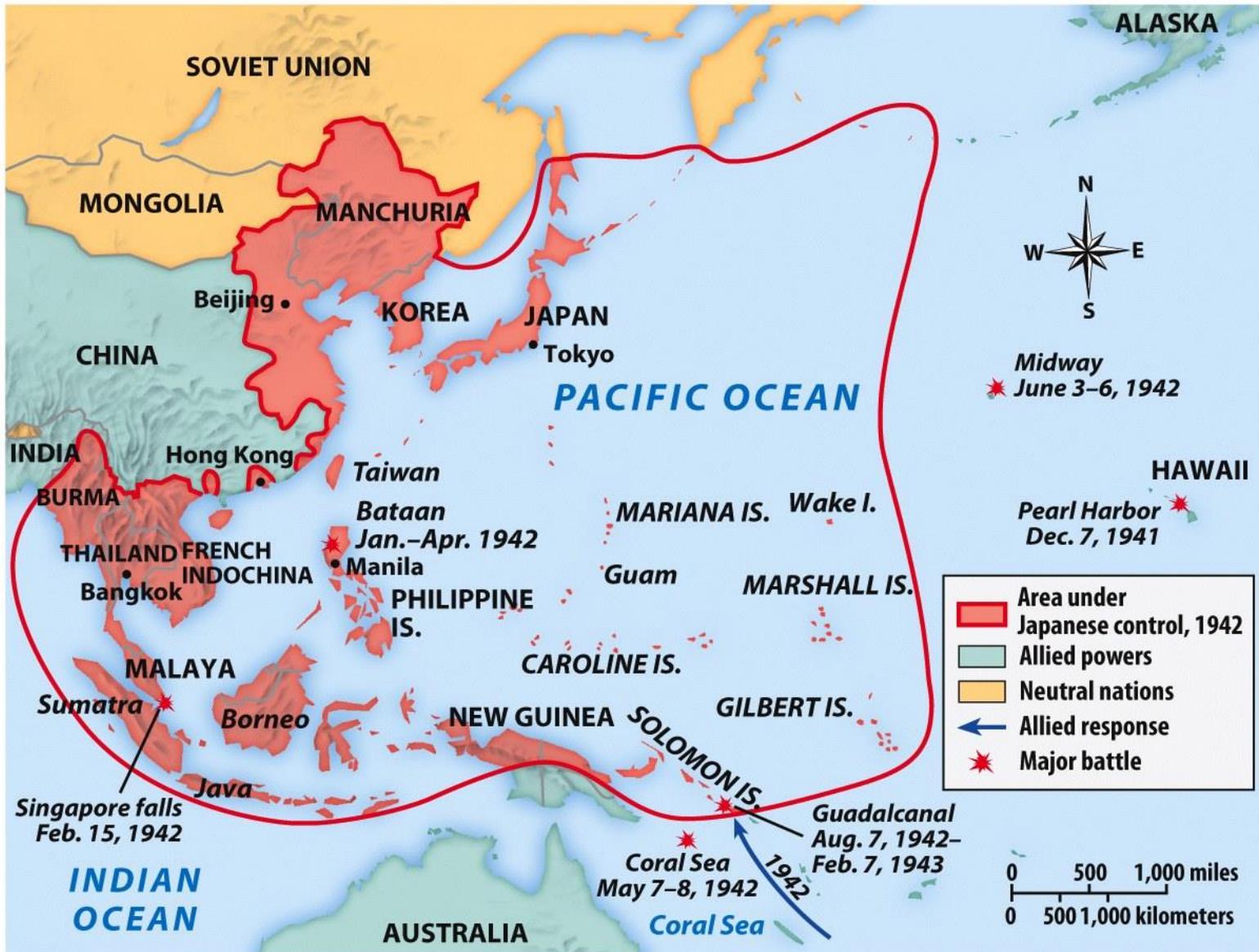


German soldiers caught in blizzard;  
Russian winter 1941-2



# War outside Europe





Map 24.5 World War II in the Pacific, 1941-1942  
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	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945
<b>Aircraft</b>							
Great Britain	7,940	15,049	20,094	23,672	26,263	26,461	12,070
United States	5,856	12,804	26,277	47,826	85,998	96,318	49,761
USSR	10,382	10,565	15,735	25,436	34,900	40,300	20,900
Germany	8,295	10,247	11,776	15,409	24,807	39,807	7,540
Japan	4,467	4,768	5,088	8,861	16,693	28,180	11,066
<b>Major Vessels</b>							
Great Britain	57	148	236	239	224	188	64
United States	—	—	544	1,854	2,654	2,247	1,513
USSR	—	33	62	19	13	23	11
Germany (U-boats only)	15	40	196	244	270	189	0
Japan	21	30	49	68	122	248	51
<b>Tanks</b>							
Great Britain	969	1,399	4,841	8,611	7,476	5,000	2,100
United States	—	c. 400	4,052	24,997	29,497	17,565	11,968
USSR	2,950	2,794	6,590	24,446	24,089	28,963	15,400
Germany	c. 1,300	2,200	5,200	9,200	17,300	22,100	4,400
Japan	c. 200	1,023	1,024	1,191	790	401	142

FIGURE 26.1 Weapons Production of the Major Powers, 1939–1945

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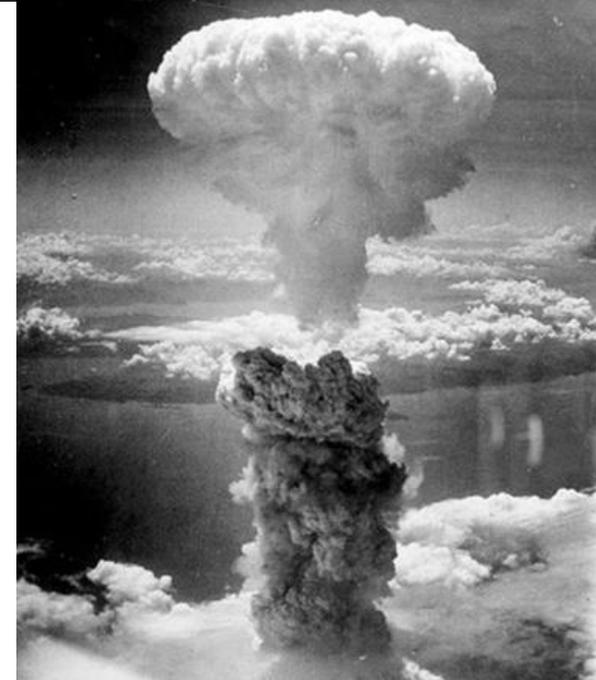
# Collapse of the Axis

- **Stalingrad (Aug 1942-Feb 1943)**
  - General Paulus, German 6<sup>th</sup> army



# Collapse of the Axis

- **Normandy Invasion** (June 1944)
  - German forces tied up in east
- **Nazi surrender** (May 1945)
  - Russians crush Berlin
- **Manhattan Project**
  - Japan surrenders (August 1945)





# The Dust Settles

- **Final Solution (1941-5)**
  - Holocaust (Shoah)
  - Jews, Gypsies (Roma)
  - Dachau camp







**MAPPING THE WEST** Europe at War's End, 1945  
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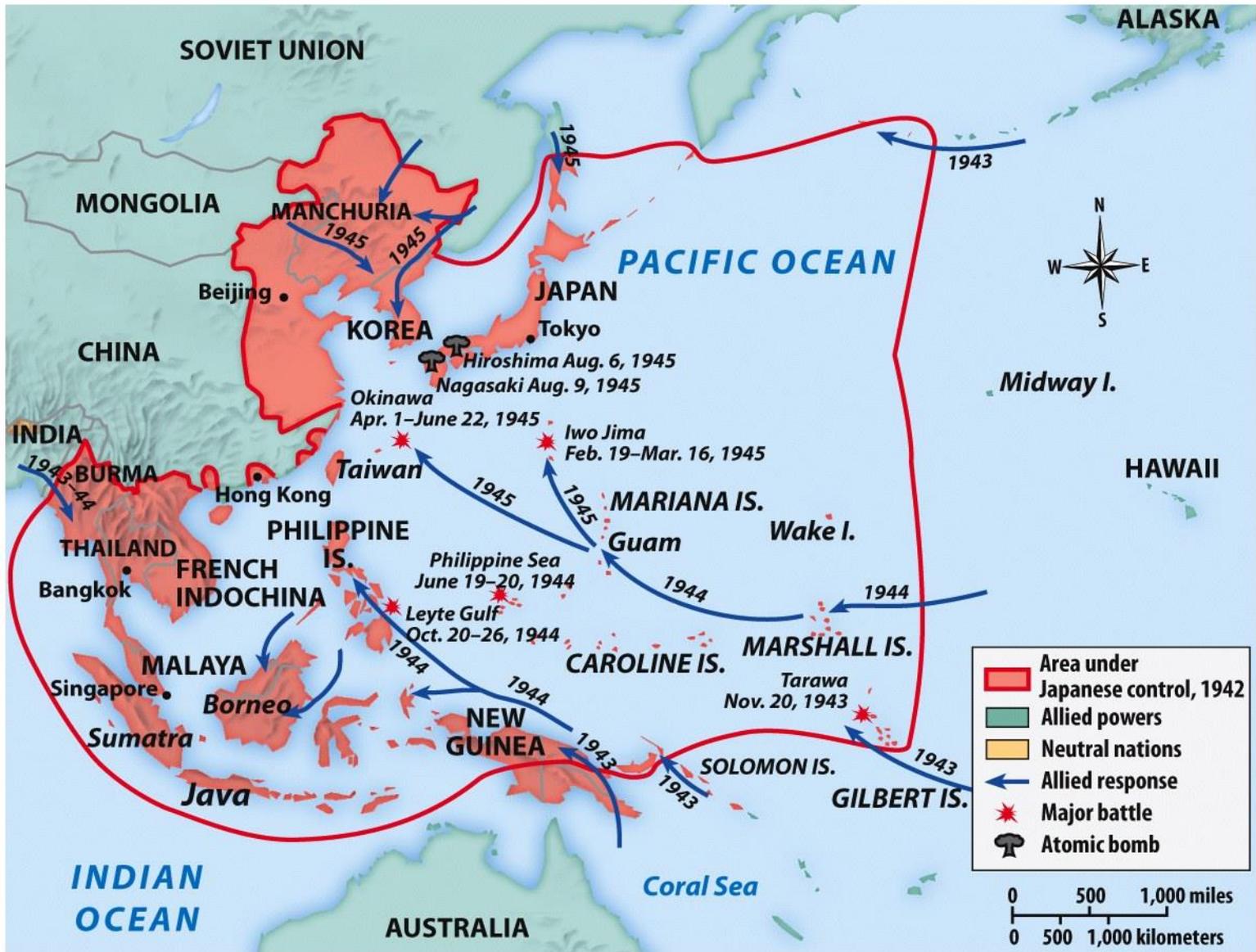


*Göring:* **Why, of course, the people don't want war.** Why would some poor slob on a farm want to risk his life in a war when the best that he can get out of it is to come back to his farm in one piece? **Naturally, the common people don't want war; neither in Russia nor in England nor in America, nor for that matter in Germany. That is understood.** But, after all, it is the leaders of the country who determine the policy and it is always a simple matter to drag the people along, whether it is a democracy or a fascist dictatorship or a Parliament or a Communist dictatorship.

*Gilbert:* There is one difference. In a democracy, the people have some say in the matter through their elected representatives, and in the United States only Congress can declare wars.

*Göring:* Oh, that is all well and good, but, voice or no voice, **the people can always be brought to the bidding of the leaders. That is easy. All you have to do is tell them they are being attacked and denounce the pacifists for lack of patriotism and exposing the country to danger. It works the same way in any country.**

In an interview with prison psychologist Gustave Gilbert in Göring's jail cell during the Nuremberg War Crimes Trials (18 April 1946)



Map 24.6 World War II in the Pacific, 1941-1942  
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