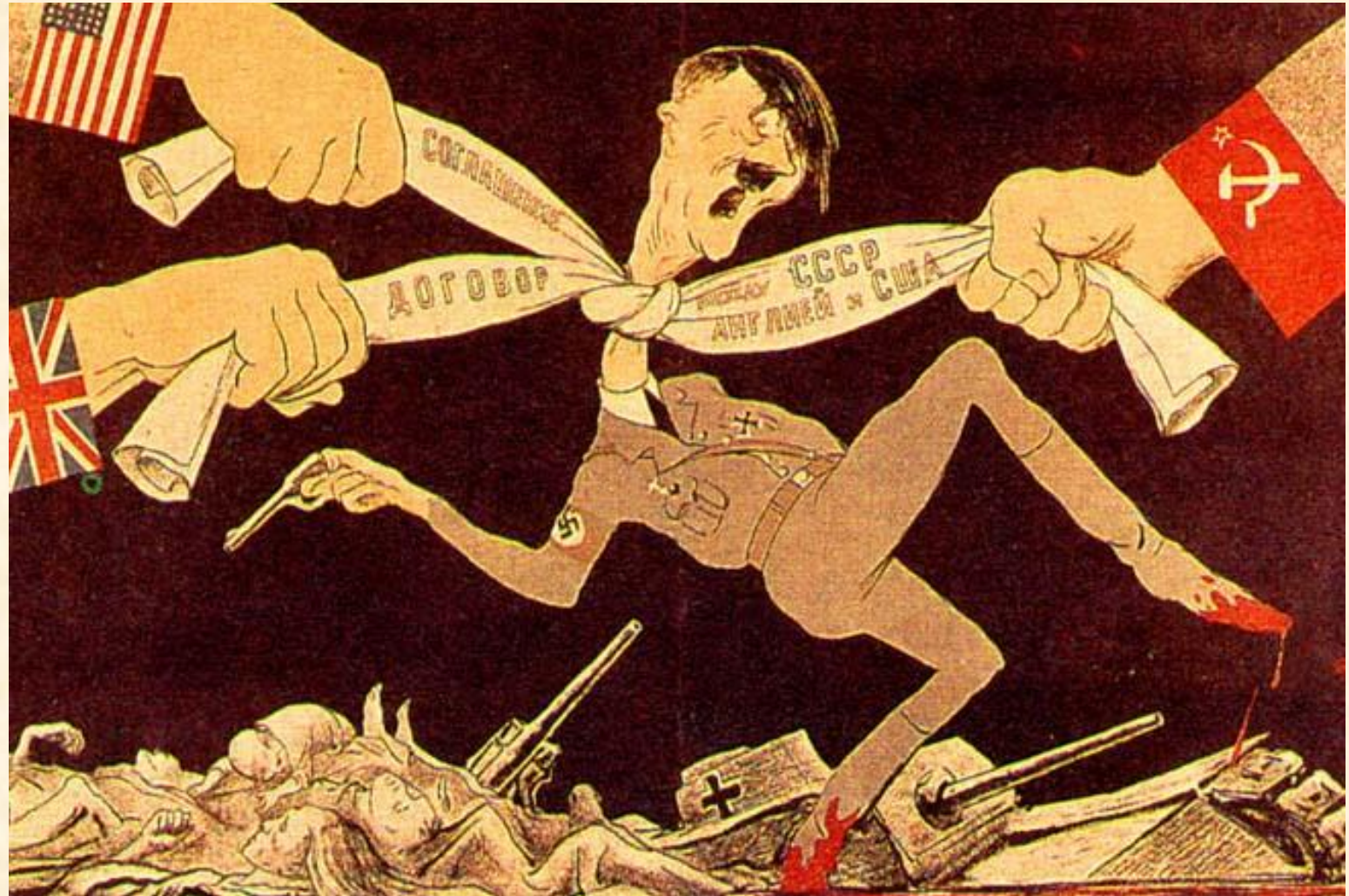


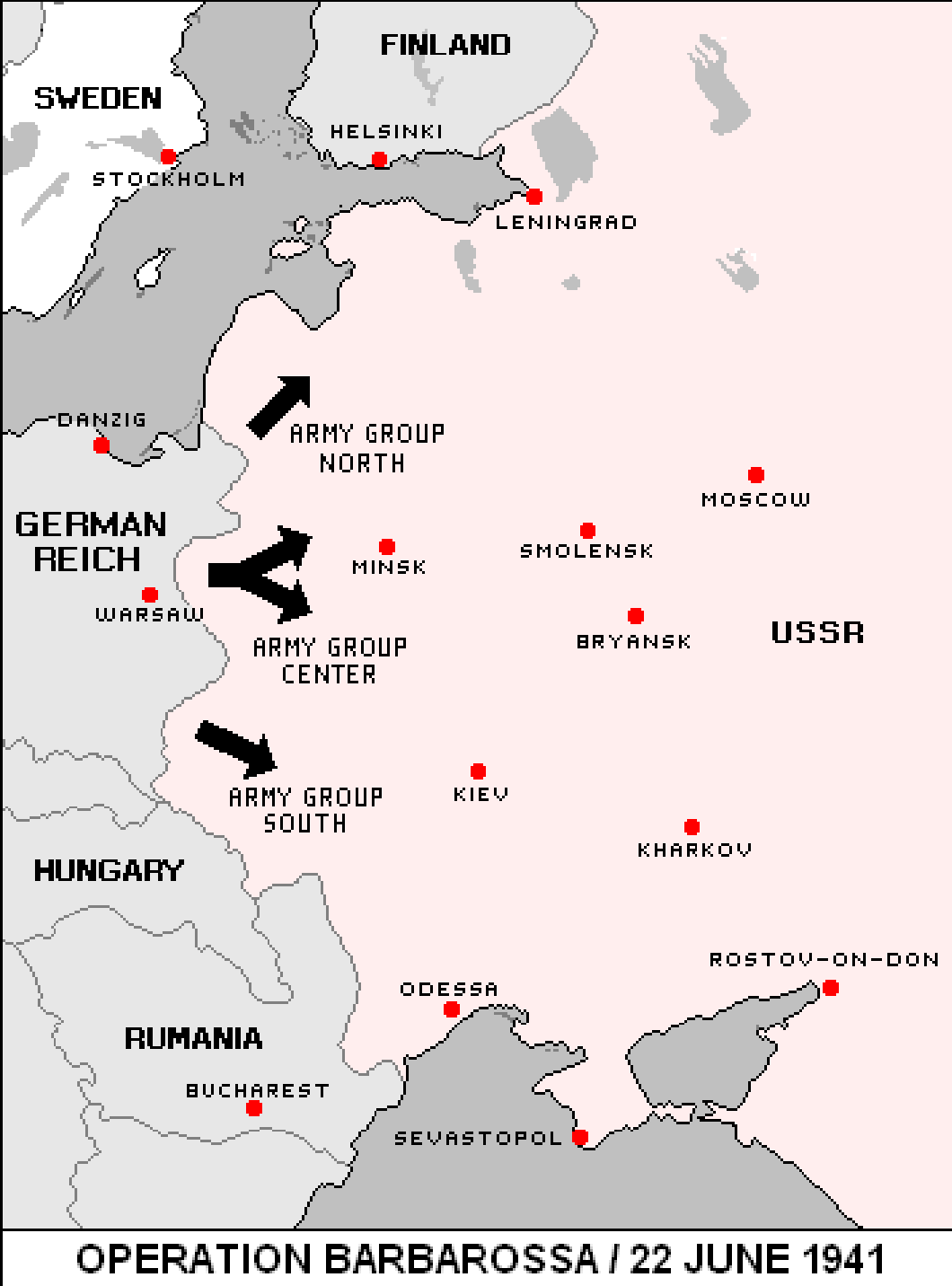
Objective: To examine the major WWII battles from 1942 –1944.



A Time of Peril

Germany:

- Germany had conquered most of Europe and invaded the Soviet Union in 1941.
- The Soviets retreated as the Germans advanced on Moscow, burning crops and farm equipment as they went in order to keep them out of German hands.





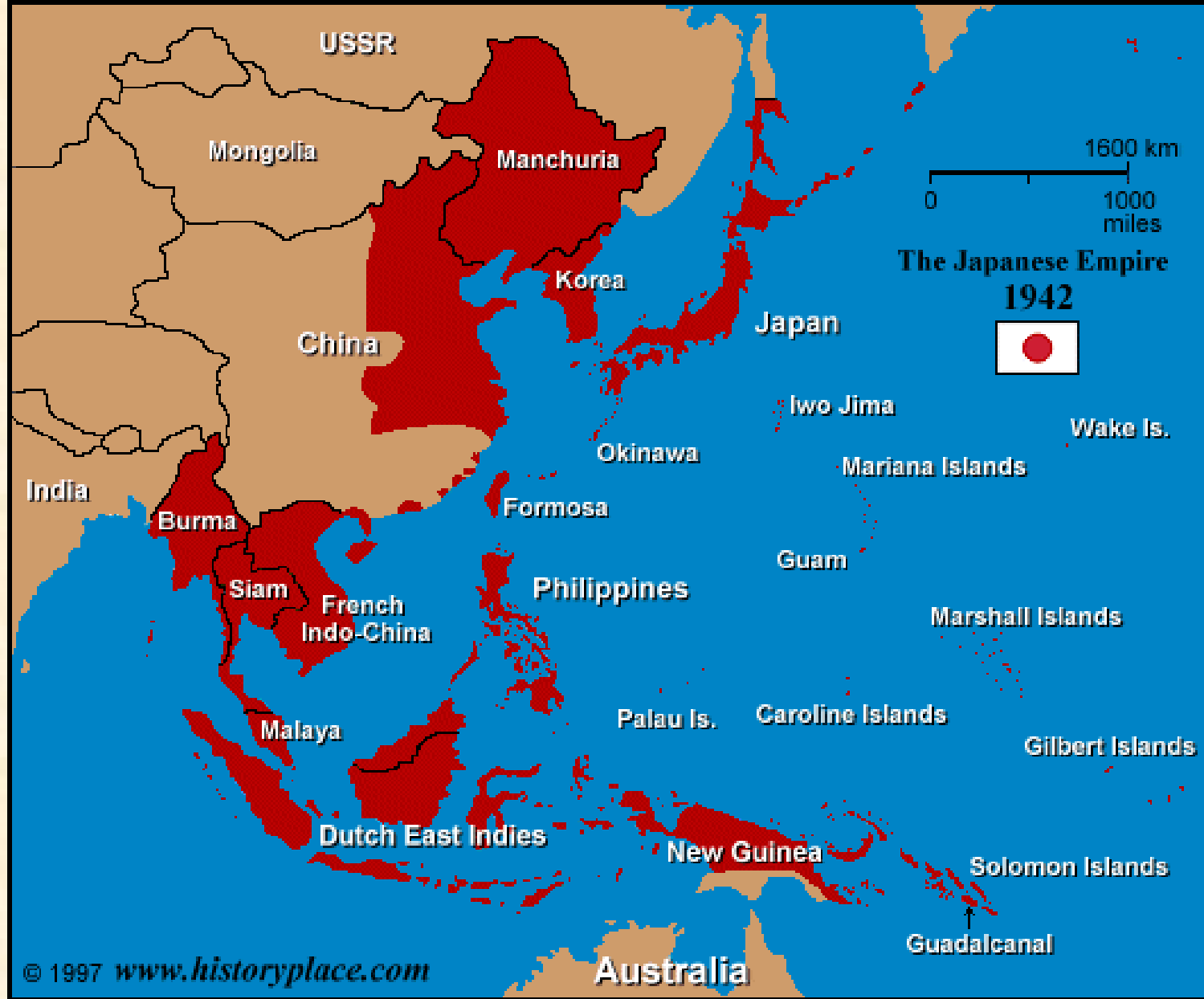
- During the German siege of Leningrad, over one million Soviets were killed.



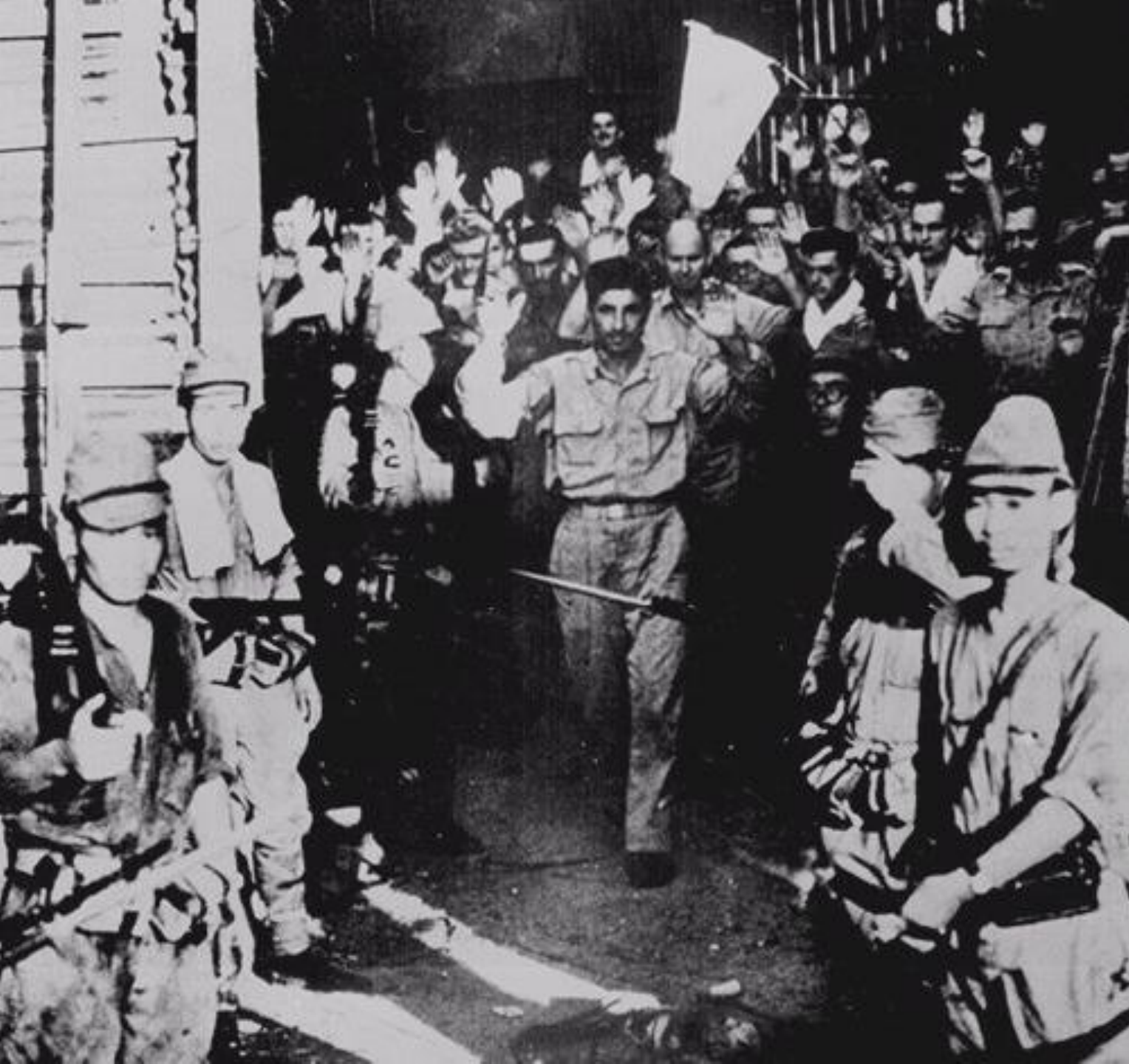
More than half a million victims are buried at the Piskarevskoye Memorial Cemetery.

Japan:

- After attacking Pearl Harbor, the Japanese seized Guam, Wake Island, Hong Kong, Malaya, Burma and the Dutch East Indies.



- The Japanese also defeated American and Filipino forces, led by U.S. General Douglas MacArthur, in the Philippines.



*U.S. troops
surrender
to the
Japanese
in the
Philippine
Islands,
May 6,
1942. A
total of
11,500
Americans
and
Filipinos
became
POWs.*

The Tide Turns

- The Allies enjoyed victories in the Pacific, North Africa, Italy and Russia.
- In Italy, Mussolini had been overthrown and the new government joined the Allies.



*April 29, 1945
Mussolini and
15 other fascist
leaders are
executed and
hanged at an
Esso gas
station in the
Piazzale Loreto
in Milan.*

- In 1943, the Allies invaded Italy from North Africa, eventually liberating Rome from Nazi control in June of 1944.



*Allied
advance in
El Guettar,
Tunisia,
North
Africa,
3/21/43.*

Opening a Second Front

Help!! Attack the Nazis on the Western Front, quick!

- In order to ease pressure on the Soviet Union, Joseph Stalin asked the Allies to open a second front by crossing the English Channel and attacking the Germans in France.





Alright,
but you'd
better
appreciate
this!

- The planned invasion of Europe was called Operation Overlord, and General Eisenhower was named commander of the Allied forces in Europe.

- Eisenhower had to organize the eventual invasion of Normandy France, known as D-Day, which involved over 3 million Allied forces.



General Eisenhower gives the order of the day "Full victory - Nothing else" to paratroopers in England just before they board airplanes in the first D-Day assault.

World War II: Major Battles (1942 – 1944)

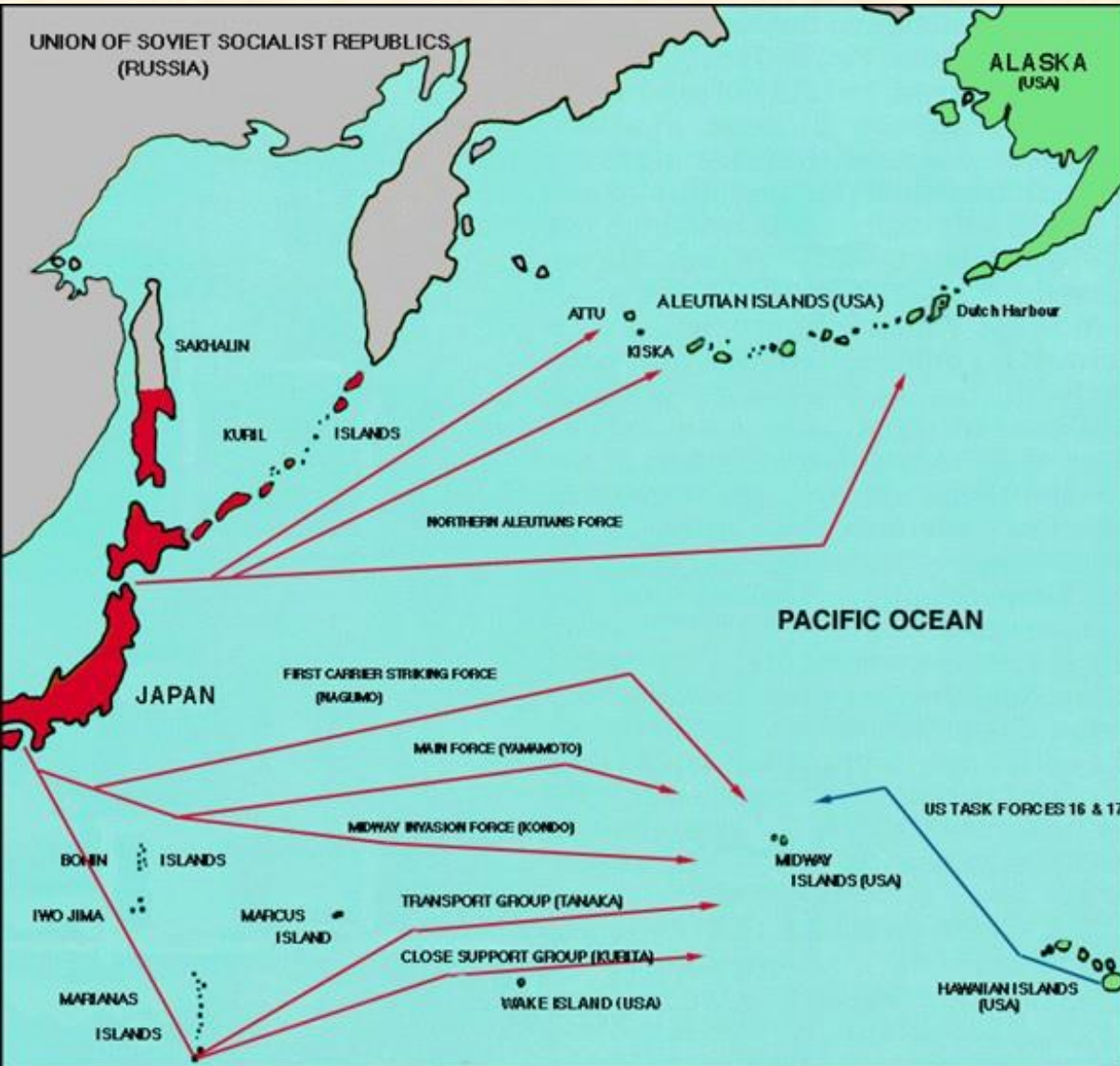
Battle of Midway Island:

When? – June 1942

Where? – Midway Island (Pacific Islands)

Results? - The U.S. sank four Japanese aircraft carriers.

Importance? – It limited Japan's ability to attack Hawaii again or other Allied positions.



Campaign for Guadalcanal:

- **When?** – August 1942
- **Where?** Guadalcanal, Solomon Islands (Pacific Islands)
- **Results?** – The U.S. defeated the Japanese, gaining control of the island.
- **Importance?** – Guadalcanal became a military base from which to counterattack the Japanese.



Soldiers take a breather after making camp. The 25th Infantry Division was a large part of the effort to force the Japanese off Guadalcanal.

Battle of El Alamein:

- **When?** – October 1942
- **Where?** - El Alamein, Egypt
- **Results?** – British and U.S. forces drove the German army, led by General Rommel, from Egypt west into Tunisia.
- **Importance?** – U.S. Gen. Eisenhower led the Allies in an invasion of Tunisia, from Algeria, forcing Rommel to surrender in May of 1943.



*Australian
soldiers at the
Battle of El
Alamein*

D-Day:

- **When?** – June 6, 1944
- **Where?** – Normandy, France
- **Results?** – A fleet of 4,000 ships carried Allied troops to Normandy in order to invade France in an attempt to defeat the Germans.
- **Importance?** – On August 25, 1944, Allied forces liberated Paris from Nazi rule.



American soldiers wading through water into Nazi machine-gun fire on the coast of France.



At Utah Beach, members of an American landing party help others whose landing craft was sunk by the Germans off the coast of France. The survivors reached Utah Beach, near Cherbourg, by using a life raft.



Crossed rifles in the sand placed as a tribute to this fallen soldier.



Medics help an injured American soldier.



American assault troops of the 16th Infantry Regiment, injured while storming Omaha Beach, wait by the Chalk Cliffs for evacuation to a field hospital for further medical treatment. Collville-sur-Mer, Normandy.

Battle of the Bulge:

- **When?** – December 16, 1944
- **Where?** – border areas near Luxembourg, France and Germany
- **Results?** – The Germans began a counterattack against the Allies as the Allies attempted to drive the Germans completely out of France.
- **Importance?** – This battle showed the desperation of the German forces. While the Germans were able to slow down the Allied advance, they could not stop it completely.