**Objective:** To examine the events leading to the end of the war.





### **Election of 1944**

· FDR won an unprecedented fourth term in office in 1944.

· However, in April of 1945, FDR died, forcing Vice-President Harry Truman to assume the Presidency.



Harry S Truman taking the oath of office after the death of Franklin D. Roosevelt, April 12, 1945. The following day, Truman spoke to reporters and said, "...I don't know whether you fellows ever had a load of hay fall on you, but when they told me yesterday what had happened, I felt like the moon, the stars, and all the planets had fallen on me."



# Victory in Europe

- · By April of 1945, American and Soviet troops were closing in on Berlin.
- · Adolf Hitler committed suicide on April 30, and Germany officially surrendered on May 7.

The endless procession of German prisoners marching through the ruined city streets to captivity.



Red army soldiers raising the Soviet flag on the roof of the Reichstag (German Parliament) in Berlin, Germany.

· On May 8, the Allies celebrated V-E Day (Victory in Europe).

Churchill waves to crowds in Britain after broadcasting to the nation that the war with Germany had been won, May 8, 1945.



V-E Day Celebrations in New York City, May 8, 1945.





V-E Day celebrations, Bay Street, Toronto, Canada May 7, 1945



VE-Day Parade, Red Square, Moscow, Russia on 6/24/1945

### **Island Hopping in the Pacific**



- The two main goals of the U.S. in the Pacific were:
- I. to regain the Philippines.
- II. to invade Japan.
- The U.S. began a policy of **island hopping**, using islands as stepping-stones towards Japan.

· By February of 1945, the U.S. had recaptured the Philippines and captured the islands of Iwo Jima and Okinawa.



Raising the Flag on Iwo Jima depicts five United States Marines and a U.S. Navy corpsman raising the flag of the **United States** atop Mount Suribachi during the Battle of Iwo Jima.



The photograph became the only photograph to win the Pulitzer Prize in the same year as its publication, and ultimately came to be regarded as one of the most significant and recognizable images of the war, and possibly the most reproduced photograph of all time.



· The Japanese continued to fight, oftentimes using kamikaze attacks against U.S. ships.



Tosh Yakos Whan DANC hid iv plant be be ploide teith by balt hip fire. Yamaguchi strikes the USS Essex, November 25, 1944.



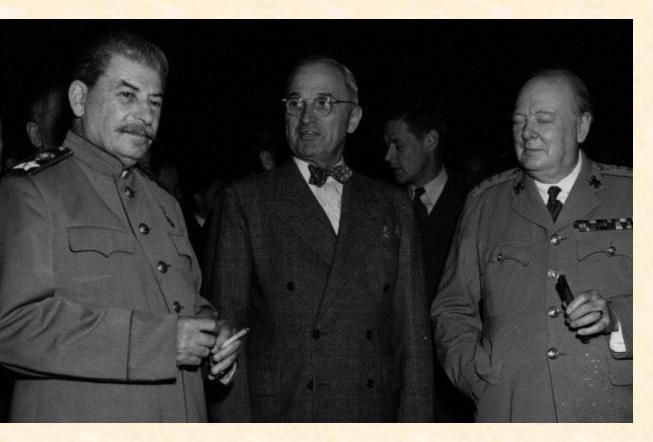
Damage to Essex flight deck.



Burial at sea after the Kamikaze attack. Sixteen men lost their lives as a result of this action.

# **Defeat of Japan**

· The U.S. planned to invade Japan in 1945, though experts warned that the invasion could cost over a million casualties.



Stalin, Truman and Churchill at the Potsdam Conference.

· Upon learning about the atomic bomb, Pres. Truman sent the Japanese the Potsdam Declaration, warning them to surrender or face "prompt and utter destruction."

· Unaware of the atomic bombs, the Japanese ignored the **Potsdam Declaration**.

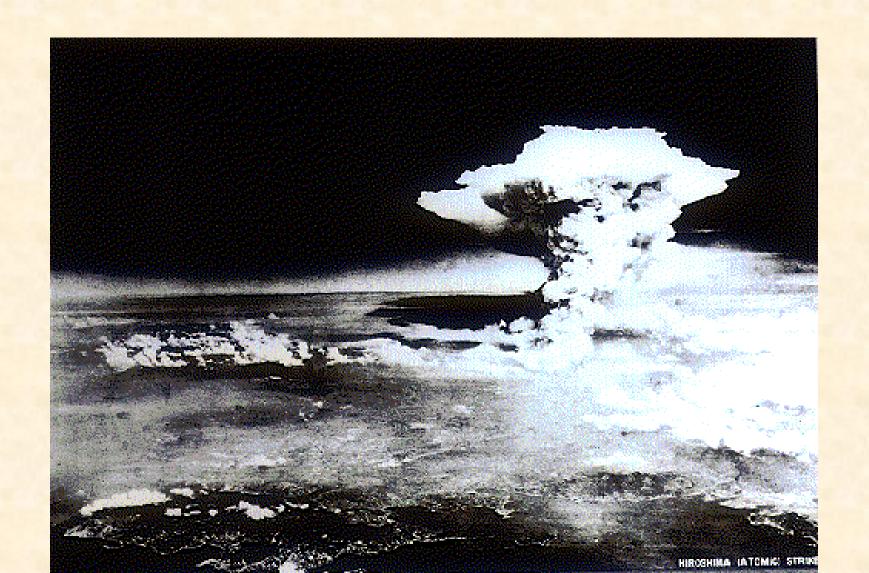


The first atomic bomb ever made was a uranium-enriched bomb. It was dropped on the city of Hiroshima, Japan, on August 6, 1945.

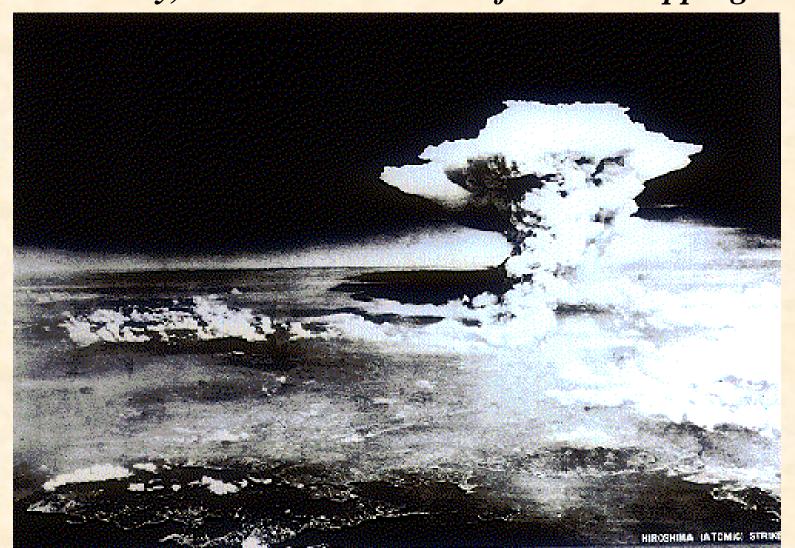


Paul Tibbets, pilot of the Enola Gay, which dropped an atomic bomb on Hiroshima, Japan, on August 6, 1945.

· On August 6, 1945, the U.S. dropped an atomic bomb on Hiroshima, Japan, killing at least 70,000 people and destroying most of the city.



A Uranium bomb, the first nuclear weapon in the world, was dropped in Hiroshima City. It was estimated that its energy was equivalent to 15 kilotons of TNT. Aerial photograph from 80 kilometers away, taken about 1 hour after the dropping.





The aftermath of the atomic bombing of Hiroshima.



Ohmura Navy Hospital: 14 year old girl after the bombing of Hiroshima at Ohmura Navy Hospital on August 10-11.

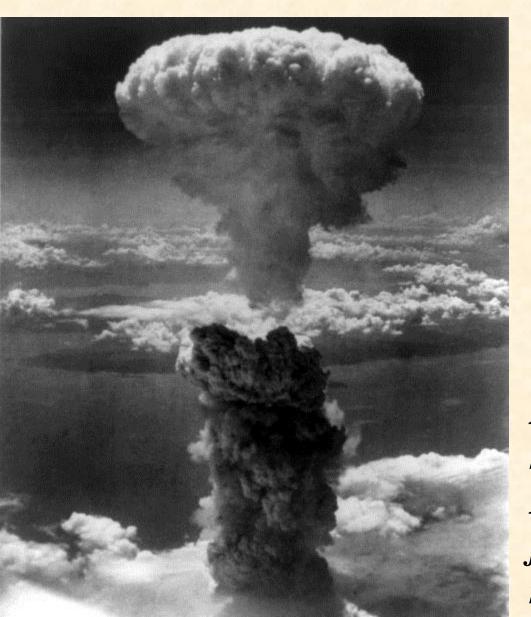


Severe burns. Only his waist was protected from a burn by a waistband he wore (within 1km from the hypocenter).

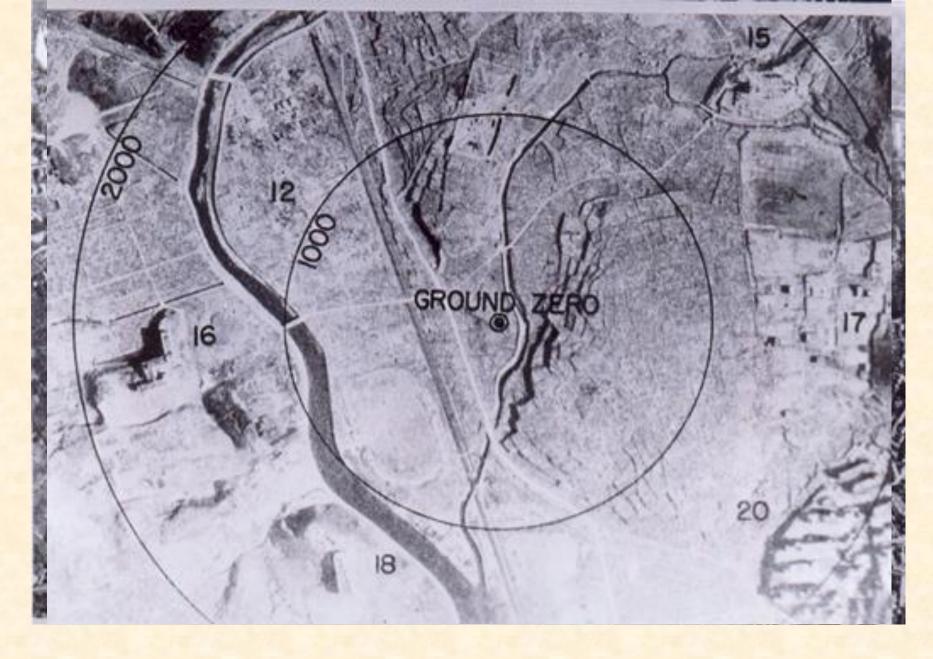


Kimono pattern. Burned areas on the back and on the dorsal portion of the upper arm show that thermal rays penetrated the black or the dark colored parts of kimono she wore.

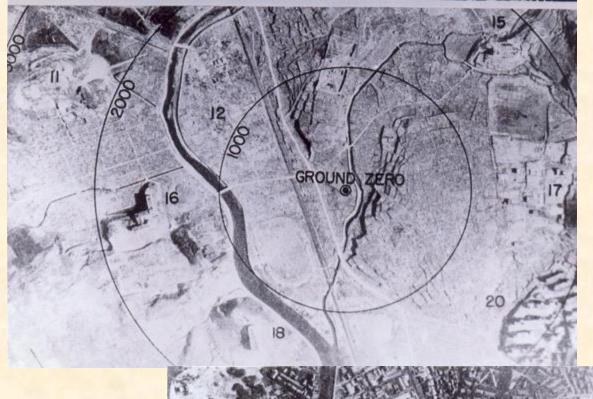
· On August 9, the U.S. dropped another atomic bomb on the city of Nagasaki, killing at least 40,000 people.



Mushroom cloud from the nuclear explosion over Nagasaki rising 60,000 feet into the air on the morning of August 9, 1945



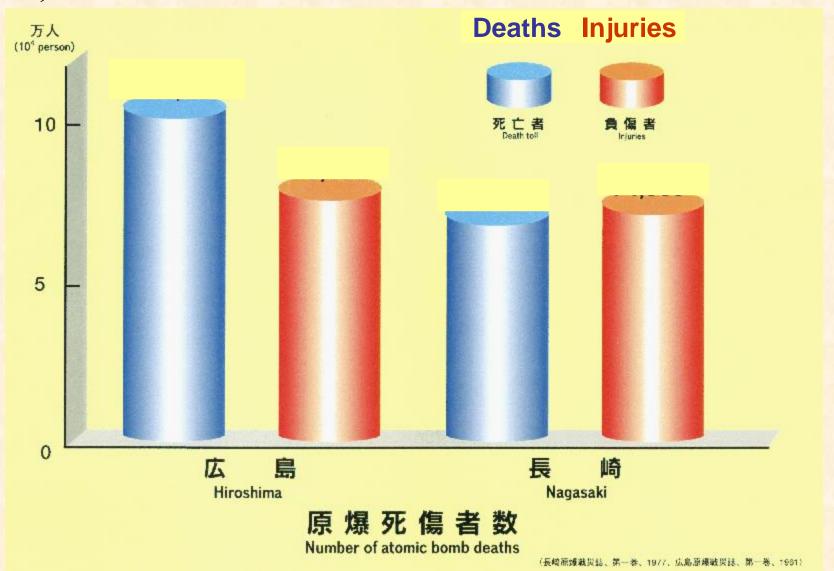
Before and after photos of downtown Nagasaki.

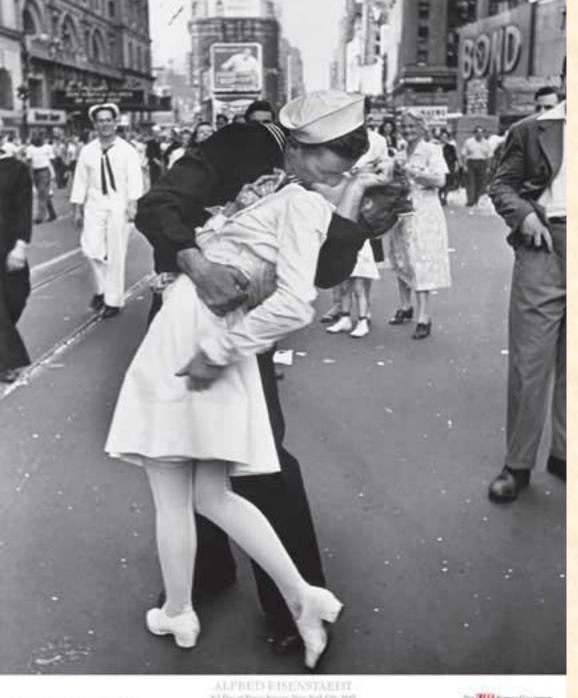




## Number of Atomic Bomb Casualties: Hiroshima and Nagasaki

### In 10,000's





· On August 14, Japan officially surrendered ending World War II. This date became known as V-J Day (Victory over Japan).

For millions of Americans, Alfred Eisenstaedt's 1945 LIFE photograph of a sailor stamping a masterly kiss on a nurse symbolized the cathartic joy of V-J Day.

Crowds outside the White House celebrate V-J Day, the Japanese surrender and the end of World War II. August 1945

