

## World War II in the Pacific Map

1. Using page 587 label and color the following places.

### Important Places

Philippine Islands  
Japan  
Australia  
China  
Hawaii (large rectangle)  
USSR (Soviet Union)  
Korea  
Dutch East Indies  
Manchuria  
French Indochina

### Important Cities

Tokyo  
Hiroshima  
Nagasaki

### Important Battles: Color the squares RED and label

Tarawa  
Iwo Jima  
Guam  
Guadalcanal  
Okinawa  
Midway  
Pearl Harbor (small circle in Hawaii)  
Leyte Gulf

2. Draw a GREEN line to show the extent of Japanese controlled area in the Pacific Ocean by 1942.
3. Look at Okinawa and Iwo Jima, why do you think those two Islands were important to capture?
4. Draw YELLOW lines to chart the Allied island-hopping strategy from Hawaii to Japan.
5. Which nation do you think was most threatened by the Japanese? Explain.

## War in the Pacific Diary Readings: Read the two accounts and answer the questions below

June 27<sup>th</sup>, 1945

Mary,

"This terrible war is almost over. We have pushed these foul creatures off of every island in the Pacific. They refuse to surrender. It didn't matter how many of us Marines there were; these freaks wanted to die on the battlefield. Any reasonable person would have given up months ago. We led an invasion onto Okinawa where we outnumbered them fifty-to-one. The cowards hid underground until we fell asleep to start shooting. They are the scum of the earth and deserve the worst kind of death. Truman finished the Potsdam Declaration yesterday. He told the Japanese that the war had gone on long enough and they should surrender. If they don't, Truman promised them 'prompt and utter destruction.' I hope we give them that destruction. Maybe it is hard to tell back in the States, but these people will never quit. If we don't drop these bombs, this war will go on for years more. The people will fight on their own homeland until every last one is dead. It sounds crazy, but dropping the bomb will save lives. Whatever it takes to end the war and get me home as soon as possible. If we don't drop this bomb, then my unit is getting ready to invade Japan. If I go on that island, I'm sure they will kill me. I pray for the bombs, regardless of the cost to Japan."

### Diary Questions:

1. Why did the Marine (first author) hate the Japanese?
2. What is the term for pushing the Japanese soldiers off of each island in the Pacific?
3. How would you have felt about the Japanese if you had to fight against them?
4. Where did the Americans bomb in Japan (list the two cities)?
5. What was it like for the citizens in the areas that were bombed?
6. Should the Americans have dropped the bombs? Why or why not? Defend your answer with at least 3 reasons.

August 10, 1945

"Everyone is gone. We thought the Americans only had one bomb. Our scientists have been working for years on one and haven't figured it out. None of that matters now. I was on my way to town from the farm. We had the rest of the crop in and needed to sell it before it spoiled. I was still at least two hours away from Hiroshima when I heard the plane fly over-head. I hid off the side of the road, but it just kept flying alone. It was very high up, much higher than the normal bombers. It faded off into the clouds and I hoped I wouldn't see it again. It was a few minutes later I saw the flash. It was like all the lightning in the world crashed down at the same time. I squinted and turned away, afraid I would go blind if I opened my eyes even a little. The blast hit me like a speeding truck. I was knocked off my feet and thrown back-wards in the air. The earth shook below me. I was sure I would die there, right on that road. I was lucky to have lived. The entire city, all of its people, are gone. They have been wiped from the earth as if they never existed. Yesterday, they hit Nagasaki as well. And the Americans have the audacity to say that we are the evil side of this war. Schools, hospitals, shelters... everything is gone. It is like the sun died in Japan today."

# 51 The Pacific Area in World War II

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

