

World War II
The War in the Pacific

After April of 1945 the Allied Powers during WWII had successfully defeated both Germany and Italy, however Japan still remained.

Japan was unwilling to surrender because they viewed their Emperor as a god and thus giving up was the ultimate shame. They vowed to fight until the end, whatever that would be.

Because it was a series of islands Japan would be harder to conquer than mainland Europe...

Allied counter-offensive strategy: ISLAND-HOPPING!!!



Farthest extent of Japanese conquest



Kamikaze attack on allied ships



Kamikaze (suicide) bombers




How will the U.S. beat Japan and win the war?

**Continue to fight using
only island-hopping**

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**Develop and use atomic
energy to end the war**

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The Dropping of The Atomic Bomb at Hiroshima and Nagasaki

The atom bomb was no great decision. It was merely another powerful weapon in the arsenal of righteousness.

~ Harry S. Truman



Truman's Motivations:

-  Non-combatants were dying throughout Asia at the rate of 200,000 per month.
-  The complete naval blockade of Japan would have resulted in hundreds of thousands of deaths due to malnutrition, dehydration, and famine.
-  The atomic bomb saved thousands of American soldier's lives

Russian Influences on Truman's Decision

- The US carefully considered Russia in the development of the Atomic Bomb.
- Truman's advisors convinced him that if the Atom bomb was used, it would keep the US's enemy Russia at bay.
- Postwar use of the bomb as a bargaining chip for territory was highly valued.

Was there a chance for peace?

- ❑ Japan believed “unconditional surrender” was not tolerable.
- ❑ Japan would fight to the end.
- ❑ Battle of Okinawa, known as “Typhoon of Steel”, was a failed attempt at invading mainland Japan where 48,000 Americans and 150,000 Japanese civilians died.

Official Order To Drop Bomb

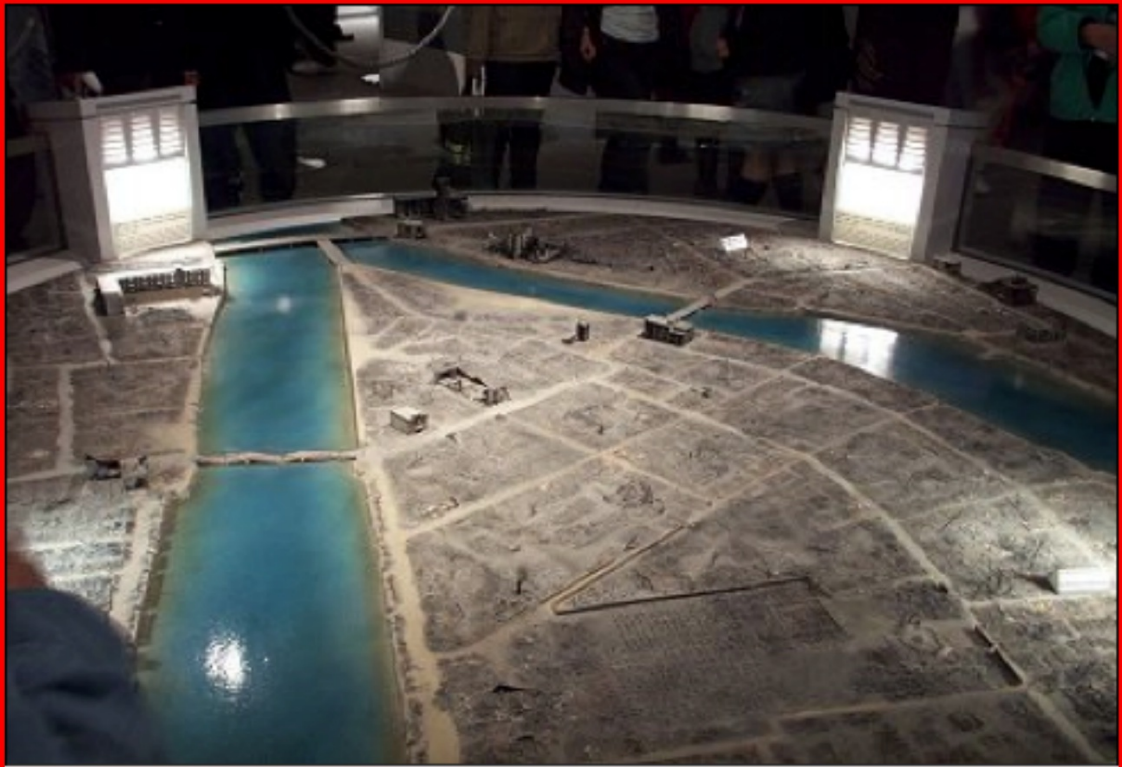
1. Official order was issued on July 25th.
2. The first bomb, "Little Boy" was dropped on Hiroshima August 6, 1945.
3. The bomb was dropped from the Enola Gay. It killed 66,000 people instantly.



Hiroshima Before The Atomic Bomb



Hiroshima After The Atomic Bomb



The Mushroom Cloud



- ☢ 8:15 AM, "The Little Boy" was dropped over the center of Hiroshima
- ☢ It exploded about 2,000 ft. above the city and had a blast the equivalent to 13 kilotons of TNT.
- ☢ Due to radiation, approximately 152,437 additional people have died.

Hindsight





Many survivors of Hiroshima and Nagasaki succumbed to radiation poisoning, killing an estimated 90,000-166,000 people in Hiroshima and 60,000-80,000 in Nagasaki.

**Was this the right thing
to do?**