

# World War II

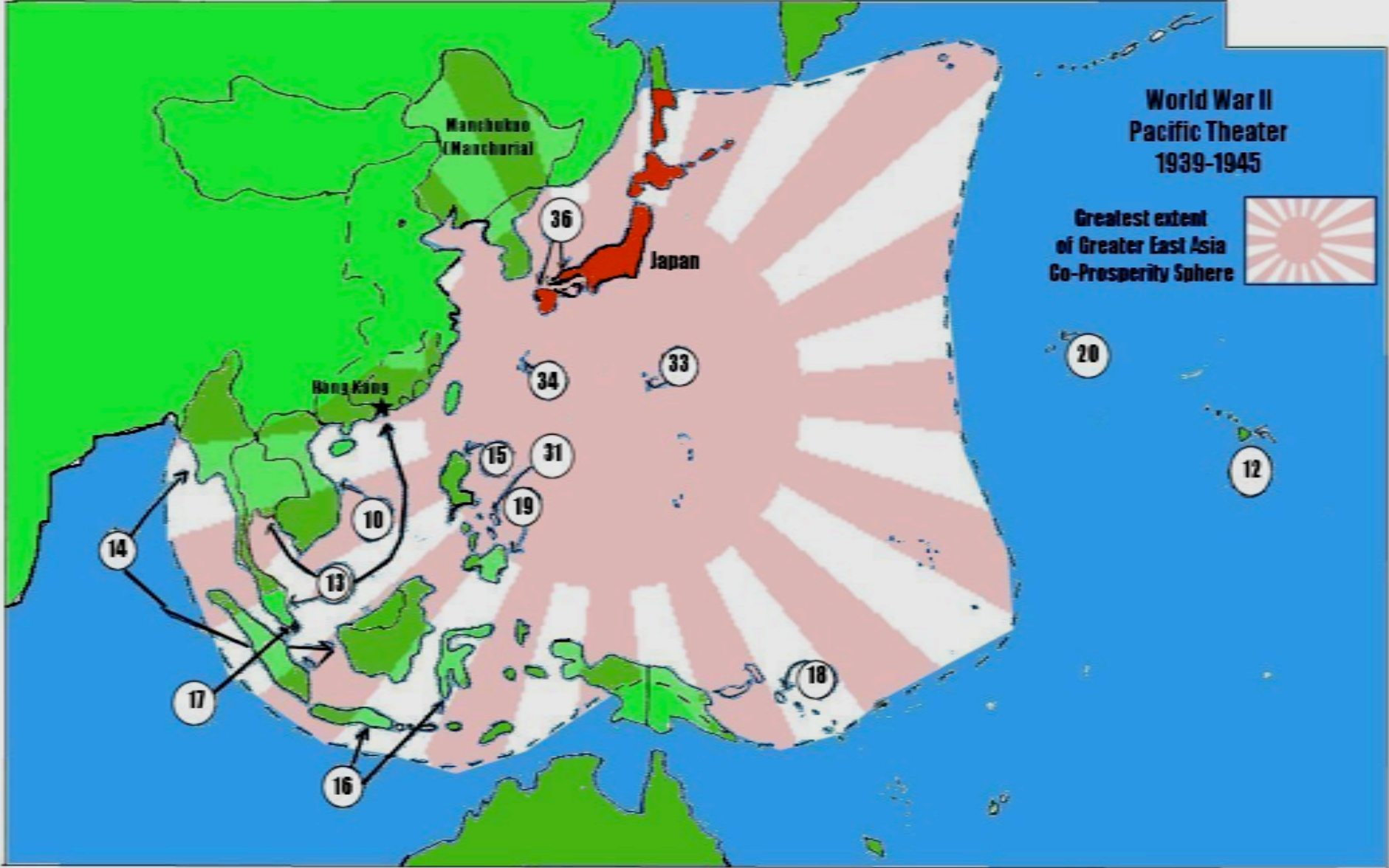
## Outcome: The Pacific Theater



# The Pacific Theater

## 1. Setting the Stage: Aggression in Asia

- a. 1931: Japan invaded Manchuria (NE province of China rich in minerals)
- b. 1937: Japan invaded China who was experiencing a civil war
- c. Japan needed raw materials especially oil to be #1 in Asia



# The Pacific Theater

## 2. Attack at Pearl Harbor

- a. Japan had hoped to cripple the U.S. Pacific fleet
- b. Several carriers were out to sea when Japan attacked on Dec. 7, '49
- c. Japan also attacked Guam, Wake Island, Midway Islands, and the Philippine Islands on the same day
- d. Once the home front mobilization hit high production, Japan truly did awaken a sleeping giant

# James Doolittle





# The Pacific Theater

## 3. Doolittle Raid

- a. James Doolittle led a raid on Tokyo with B-25 bombers
- b. Helped boost American Morale
- c. Showed the Japanese were not invincible
- d. Inflicted little damage to the city



# General Douglas MacArthur



# The Pacific Theater

## 4. Island Hopping

- a. The **Supreme Allied Commander** for the Pacific Theater was Gen. Douglas MacArthur
- b. The U.S. adopted the Island Hopping or Leap Frog strategy moving from island to island
- c. The Fighting in the Pacific was difficult for several reasons:
  - i. 100 degree heat ---> humidity caused jungle rot & diseases
  - ii. Many islands
  - iii. Japanese motto "Death before dishonor"
  - iv. Kamikaze attacks: suicide attacks damaged 300 ships and caused 15,000 casualties





# Kamikaze



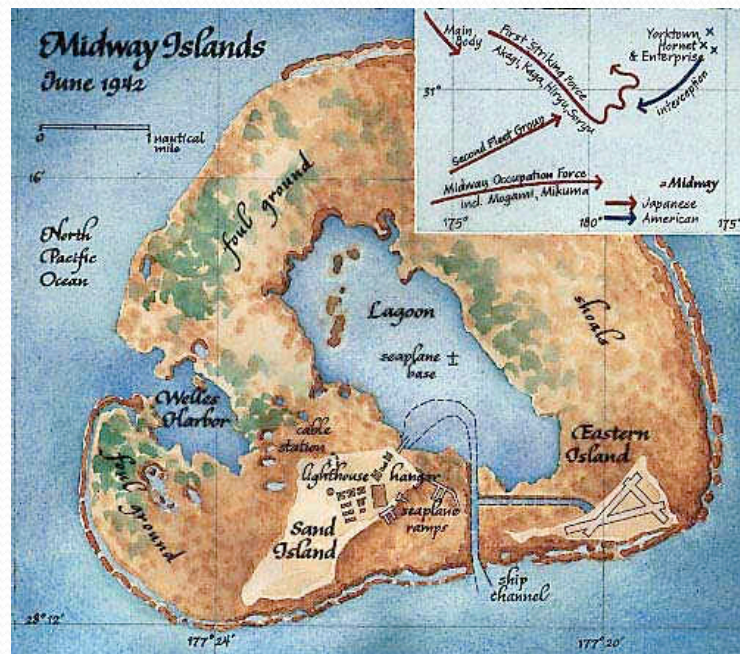


# The Pacific Theater

## 5. Key Victories for the Allies

### a. Battle of Midway

- i. Japanese hoped to use Midway as a base to neutralize Pearl Harbor
- ii. Balance of power in the Pacific shifted towards the Allies



# The Pacific Theater

## b. Battle of Guadalcanal

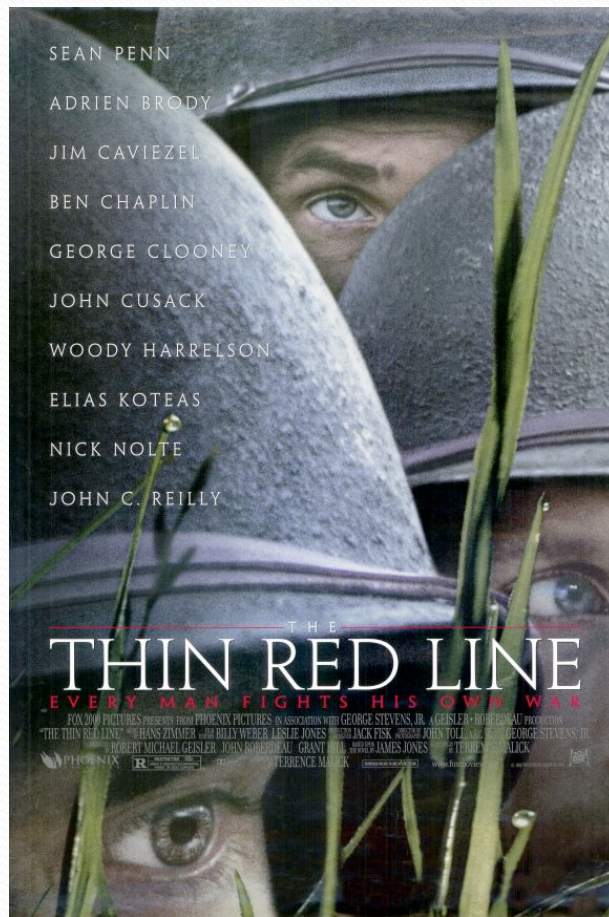
- i. The Japanese advance was stopped
- ii. All momentum shifted to the U.S.

Photo # 80-G-20683 U.S. Marines resting in the field on Guadalcanal, 1942





# The Battle of Guadalcanal as seen in...





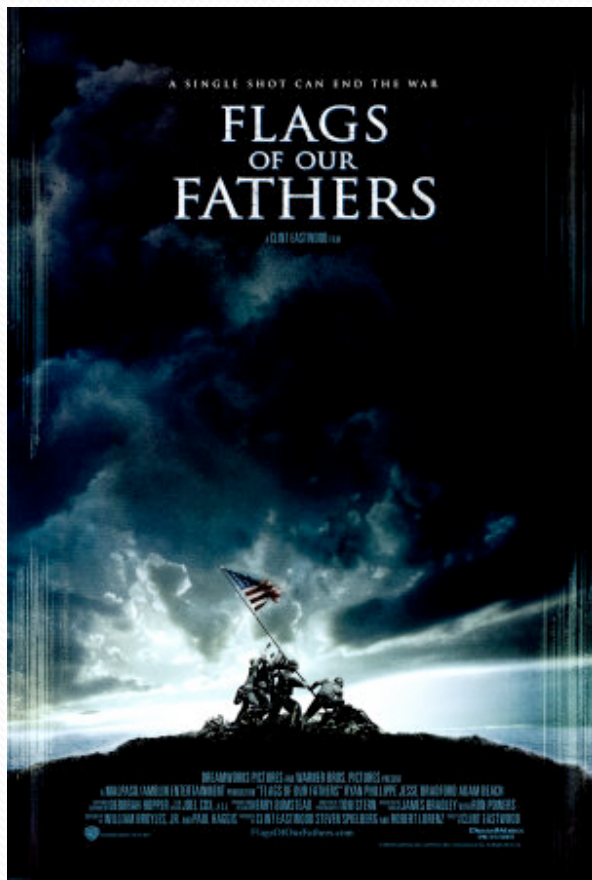
# The Pacific Theater

## c. Battle of Iwo Jima

- i. 20,500 Japanese killed and 6,000 U.S. lives lost
- ii. Put Americans within striking distance of Japanese home islands



# The Battle of Iwo Jima as seen in...



# The Pacific Theater

6. Possible Options for Finishing off the Japanese
  - a. Invasion of Japan which could cost over 1,000,000 Allied soldiers
  - b. Use of the Atomic Bomb (secret)

