

SS7H3c

Rebuilding Japan

After World War

II



Standards

SS7H3 The student will analyze continuity and change in Southern and Eastern Asia leading to the 21st century.

c. Explain the role of the United States in the rebuilding of Japan after WWII.



Background Information

Pearl Harbor

- On December 7, 1941, Japanese airplanes made a surprise attack on the US naval base at Pearl Harbor in Hawaii.
- More than 2,400 people were killed, and many US battleships and airplanes were destroyed.



The USS Arizona
After the Japanese
Surprise Attack on
Pearl Harbor.



President Roosevelt
called December 7,
1941, “a day that will
live in infamy.”

US Enters WWII

- The next day, President Roosevelt asked Congress to declare war on Japan.
- They agreed and the US officially entered WWII on December 8, 1941.
- On December 11, Germany and Italy declared war on the US.
- The US was now deeply involved in WWII on the side of the Allies.



Roosevelt Signing Declaration of
War Against Japan.

Hitler Declares War on the US – 1941.

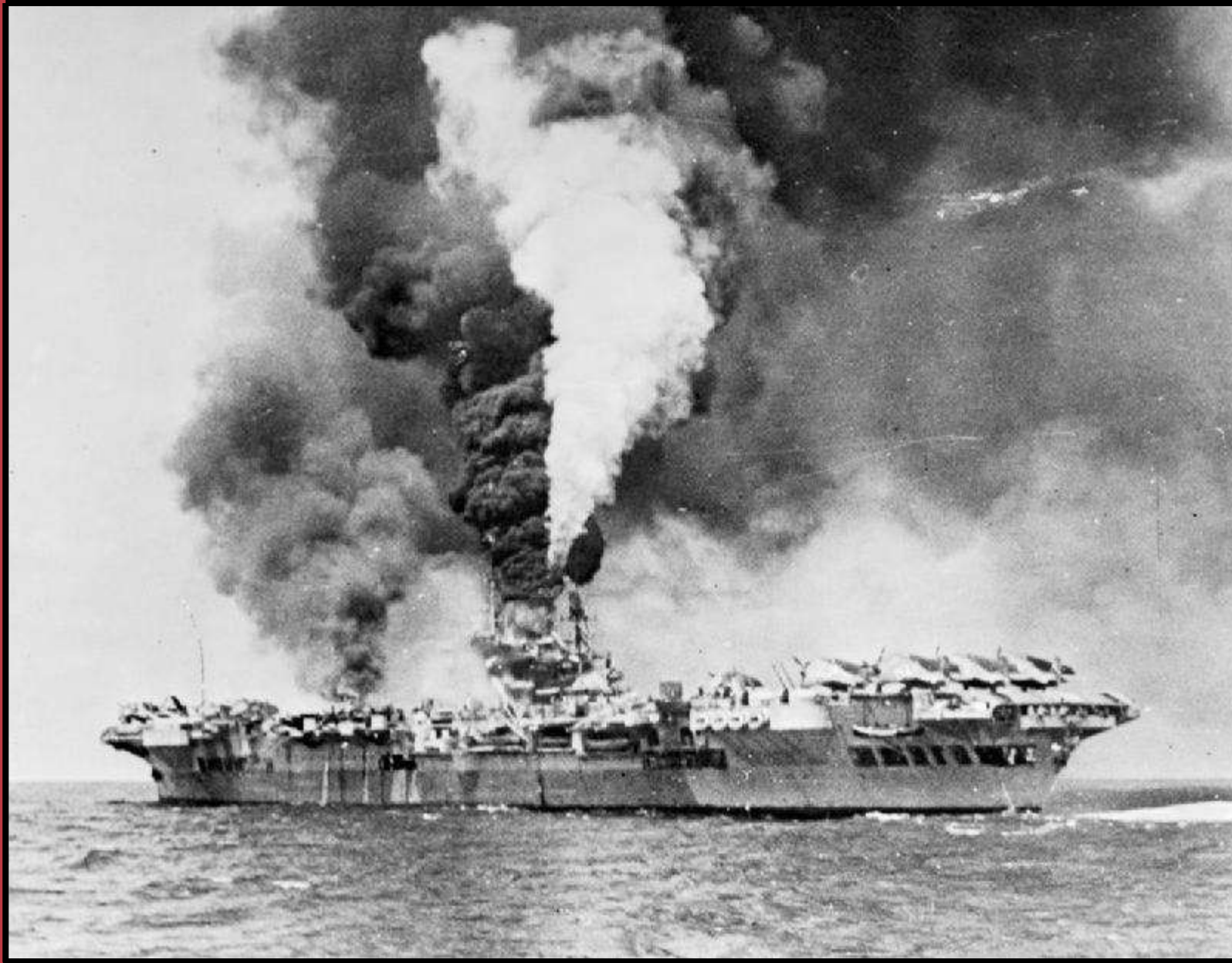


Island Hopping

- In 1944, the US followed an “island-hopping” campaign in the Pacific.
- US forces attacked island after island held by the Japanese.
- This campaign brought American troops closer and closer to Japan.

Japan's Soldiers

- Fighting Japan was difficult because the Japanese were fierce warriors.
- The Japanese soldiers never gave up and were willing to sacrifice themselves for their country.
- Japanese kamikaze pilots crashed their planes into US ships on purpose, fully expecting to die.



An Aircraft Carrier
Hit By Kamikaze
Planes – 1945.

Iwo Jima

- In February 1945, American forces invaded the island of Iwo Jima.
- The island was important because it was close to Japan and it was a good place for US planes to land.
- The Japanese protected the island with traps and underground tunnels.
- It was a fierce battle, but the US Marines eventually took the island.



US Marines Approach Iwo Jima.



US Marines Fire at
Japanese Cave
Positions in Iwo
Jima.



US Marines finally reached the highest point on the island and raised the American flag in victory.

Atomic Bombs

- The Allies thought about invading Japan, but were worried that too many soldiers would die.
- President Harry Truman made a difficult decision to use nuclear weapons against Japan.
- He warned the Japanese government to surrender, but they refused to give up.

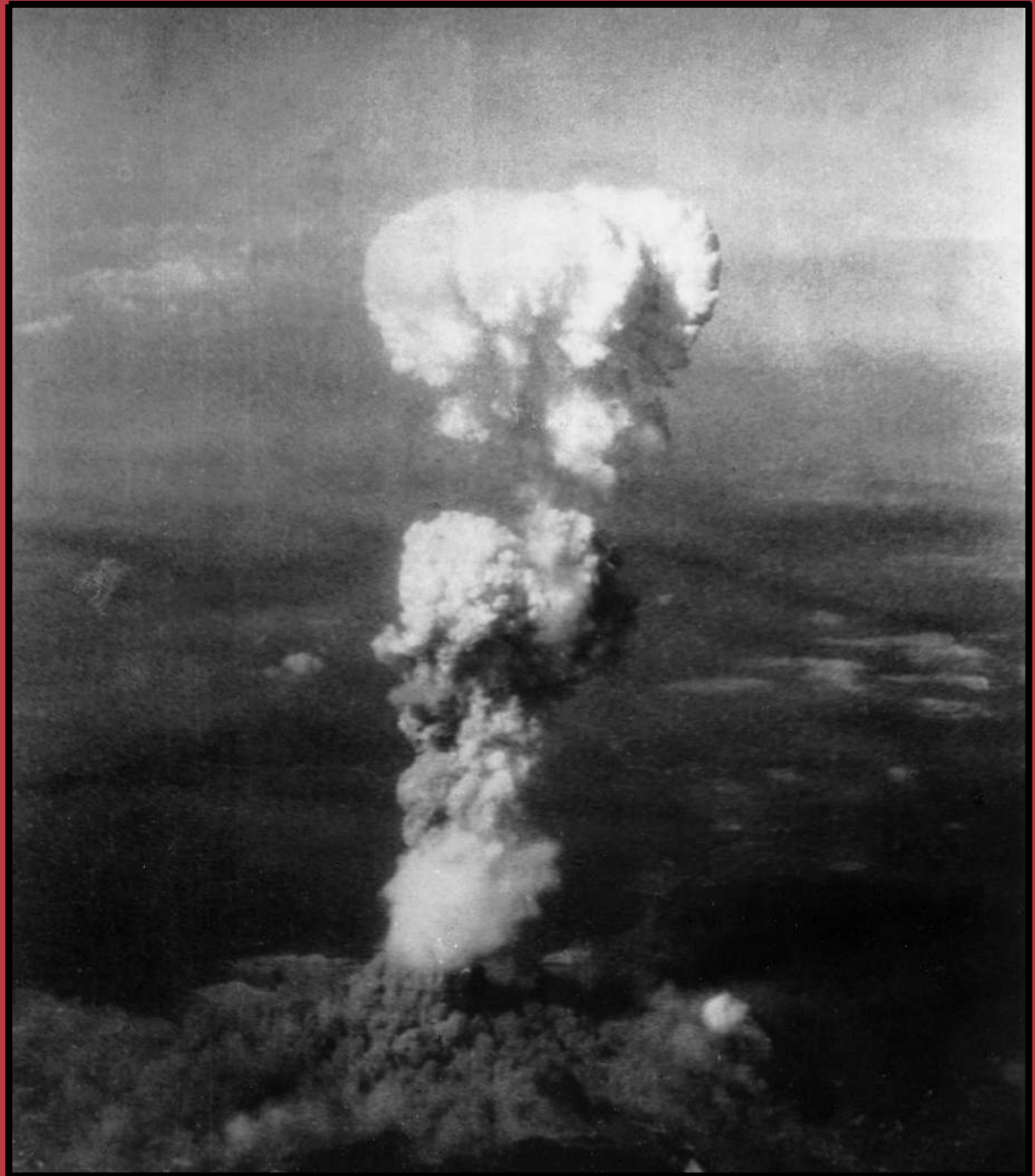
Atomic Bombs

- On August 6, 1945, an American bomber plane dropped the first atomic bomb ever used in war on the Japanese city of Hiroshima.
- A few days later, the US dropped a second bomb on Nagasaki.
- Both cities were completely devastated, and the Japanese finally agreed to surrender.
- Japan is the only country in the world that has been attacked by nuclear weapons.

The Enola Gay
dropped the “Little Boy”
Atomic Bomb on
Hiroshima.



Mushroom Cloud Over Hiroshima.





Hiroshima Aftermath

Mushroom Cloud Over Nagasaki.




VJ Day

- The two sides signed formal surrender papers on the US battleship *Missouri* on September 2, 1945.
- This day is officially known as VJ Day – Victory in Japan Day.

Japan Surrenders
Aboard the USS
Missouri,
September 2, 1945.



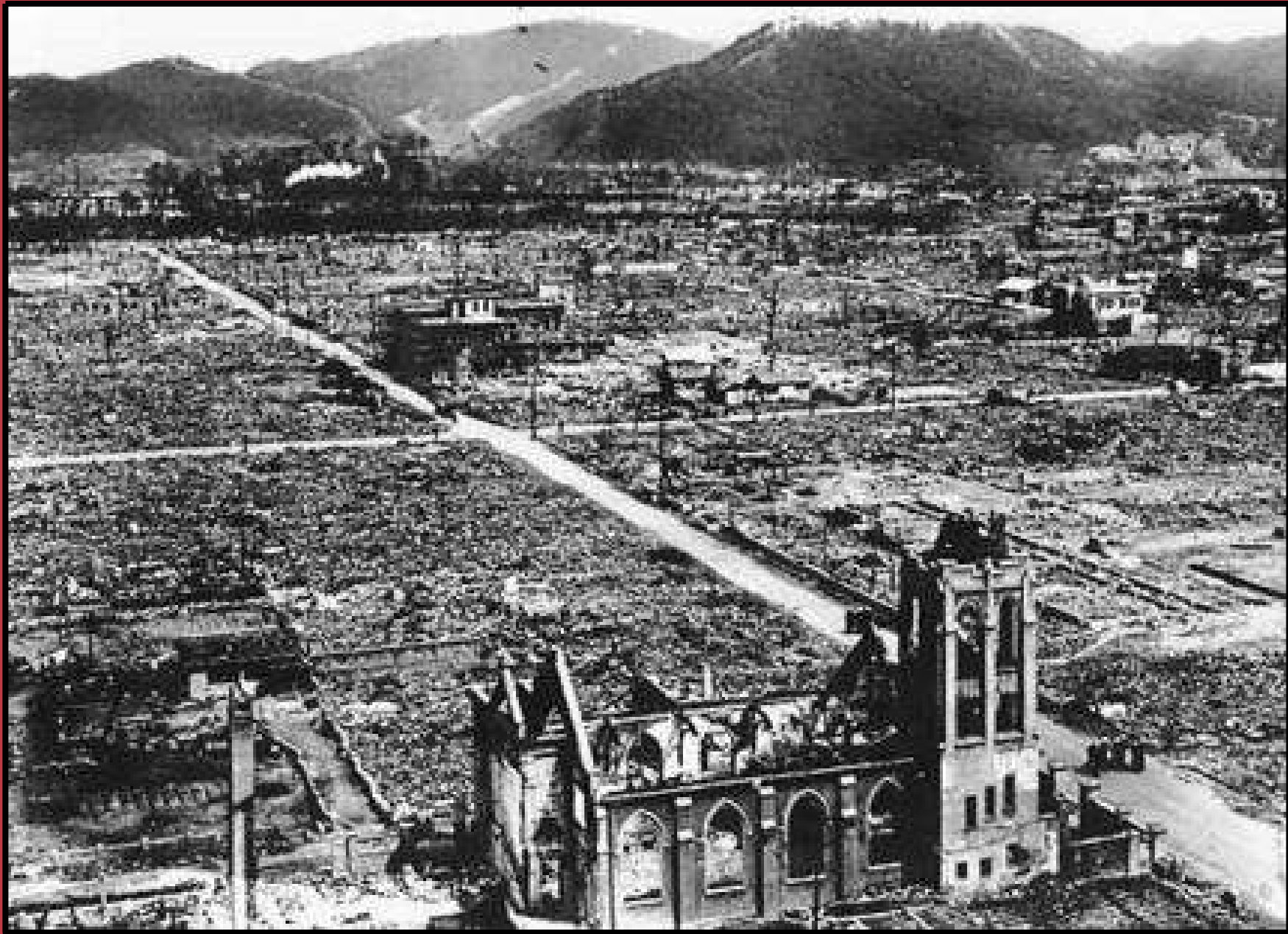




Rebuilding Japan

Destruction

- After Japan's surrender, Japan's economy and government were devastated.
- Industries and farms were destroyed and the emperor was exposed as a mere mortal and not a god.
- The country's infrastructure (transportation, communication, sewage, water, and electric systems) was demolished.



US Occupation

- The US had a plan to occupy and rebuild Japan in a way that would guarantee the country would not pose a military threat to others in the future.
- General Douglas MacArthur was sent to oversee Japan's restoration.
- The US occupied Japan from 1945 to 1952.

MacArthur's Help

- General MacArthur ordered Japan's military to be disbanded and closed all weapons factories.
- He also directed that government and military leaders involved in World War II were brought to trial and punished.
- In addition, MacArthur helped Japan install a new democratic government.

General Douglas
MacArthur
and
Emperor Hirohito



Government

- MacArthur decided that Japan would be a constitutional monarchy in order to preserve the emperor's role in the country's culture.
- He wrote Japan's constitution, still referred to as The MacArthur Constitution, and it is still considered one of the most democratic documents in the world today.
- The constitution set up a two-house parliament called a Diet.
- Japanese citizens were granted many of the same rights as American citizens.



Elections in Tokyo 1952

Reparations

- Japan's constitution also prevents the country from declaring war or fighting with other countries (unless they are attacked first).
- After signing the new constitution, the Japanese government pledged to pay reparations to the countries that they harmed during WWII.
- The Japanese were also not allowed to rebuild their military in any way.

Japan's Constitution

裕仁



昭和二十一年十一月三日

内閣總理大臣 吉田 茂
國務大臣 東鄉 平八郎

司 法 大 臣	內 務 大 臣	文 部 大 臣	農 林 大 臣	國 務 大 臣	遞 信 大 臣	商 工 大 臣	厚 生 大 臣	國 務 大 臣	運 輸 大 臣
木村 篤太郎	大村 清一	田中 耕太郎	高橋 隆夫	一 輝 定吉	星 亨二	河合 良成	植原 悦二	平 廣 幸吉	平 廣 幸吉

Economy

- The US offered financial support to help kick start Japan's economy after WWII.
- This money coupled with a strong Japanese work ethic led to a boom in Japan's economic growth.
- Much like the US, Japan leans towards a market economy, which motivates its citizens to develop new ideas and expand businesses.

Japan Today

- On April 28, 1952, Japan became a fully sovereign nation.
- America's occupation and MacArthur's rebuilding of Japan has had a positive lasting effect.
- Today, the country has one of the most stable democratic governments in the world.
- Japan also has one of the most powerful industrialized economies in the world.

Tokyo, Japan



Teacher Info – Comprehension Questions

- Students should answer the questions after discussing the presentation. Afterwards, check and share answers as a class.
- *You can also use this as a quiz!

Comprehension Questions

1. What happened on December 7, 1941?
2. How did the US react to the Japanese bombing of Pearl Harbor?
3. Why did President Truman decide to drop the atomic bombs on Japan?
4. On which Japanese city was the first atomic bomb ever used in war dropped?
5. The Japanese surrendered after the second atomic bomb was dropped on this city:
6. The day that Japan surrendered is known as:
7. Why did the US occupy Japan from 1945 to 1952?
8. What US General was given the job of rebuilding Japan?
9. What type of government was established in Japan?
10. What does Japan's new constitution say about war?

Comprehension

Questions - KEY

1. What happened on December 7, 1941?
Japanese bombed Pearl Harbor
2. How did the US react to the Japanese bombing of Pearl Harbor?
President Roosevelt asked Congress to declare war on Japan—they agreed
3. Why did President Truman decide to drop the atomic bombs on Japan?
He knew that it would save many American lives and that Japan would eventually surrender.
4. On which Japanese city was the first atomic bomb ever used in war dropped?
Hiroshima
5. The Japanese surrendered after the second atomic bomb was dropped on this city:
Nagasaki
6. The day that Japan surrendered is known as:
VJ Day (Victory in Japan Day)
7. Why did the US occupy Japan from 1945 to 1952?
Japan's government, economy, and infrastructure was completely demolished. They needed help rebuilding & the US want to make sure that they wouldn't be a military threat to other countries in the future.
8. What US General was given the job of rebuilding Japan?
General Douglas MacArthur
9. What type of government was established in Japan?
Constitutional Monarchy
10. What does Japan's new constitution say about war?
Japan can never declare war on another country – can only fight if they are attacked first.

Teacher Directions – I Spy...

- Have the students draw one of the major events from Japan's history (during this time period) in one of the binocular lenses.
 - Examples: Atomic bombings, Surrender/VJ Day, New Constitution, etc.
- In the other lens, they will write a paragraph from their perspective of the event—as if they were right there spying on the event.

I Spy...

Directions: In one of the binocular lenses below, draw an event that occurred in Japan during this time period. In the other lens, write a paragraph from your perspective of the event—as if you were right there spying on the event.



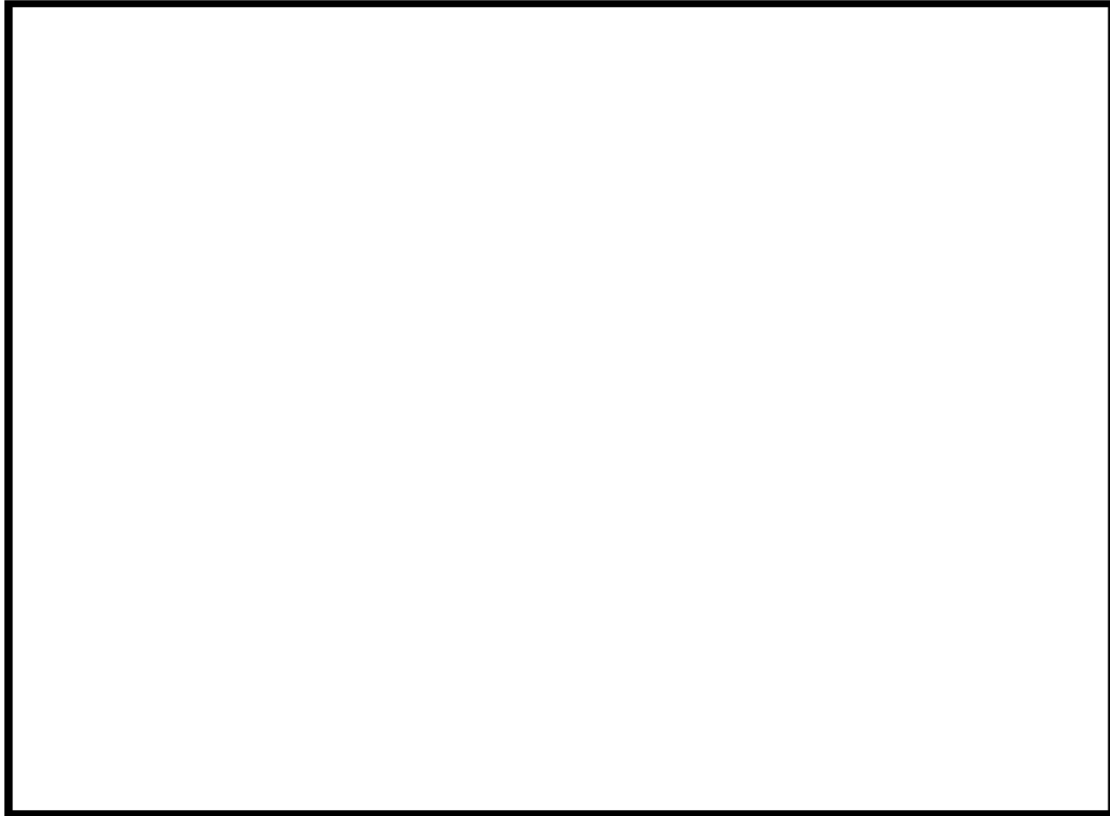
Teacher Directions – Japan: Before & After Mascots

- Have the students create mascots to represent Japan before and after US occupation.
- They will name & draw an illustration of the mascot.
- They will also write a description about how/why the mascot represents time period in Japan's history.

Japan: Before & After Mascots

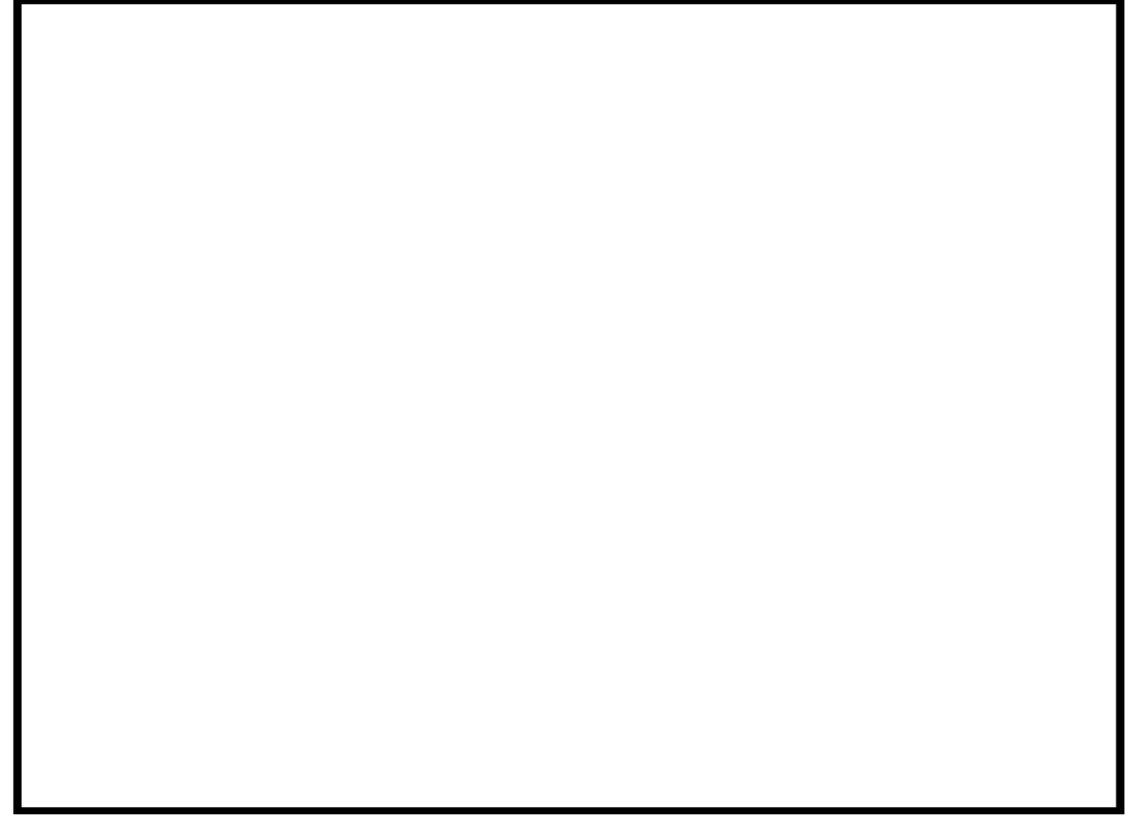
Directions: Create mascots to represent Japan before and after US occupation (and rebuilding). Think about all of the information that you have learned about the destruction in Japan after WWII and the ways that Japan changed after US occupation. You will create an illustration of each mascot. You will also write an explanation as to why the mascots were chosen to represent each time in Japan's history.

“Before” Mascot Name:



“Before” Mascot Description:

“After” Mascot Name:



“After” Mascot Description:

Teacher Directions – TIME Man of the Year

- The students will create a *Time Magazine* “Man of the Year” spread for General Douglas MacArthur.
- They will draw a picture of MacArthur and write a paragraph about why he was chosen for this honor.
- *The slide with red text has helpful hints for the students so that they know what to write/draw in each section.

Year

TIME

Draw an illustration of General Douglas MacArthur OR of something that he did when rebuilding Japan.

Write a short caption that includes MacArthur's full name & what he's known for.

Man of the Year

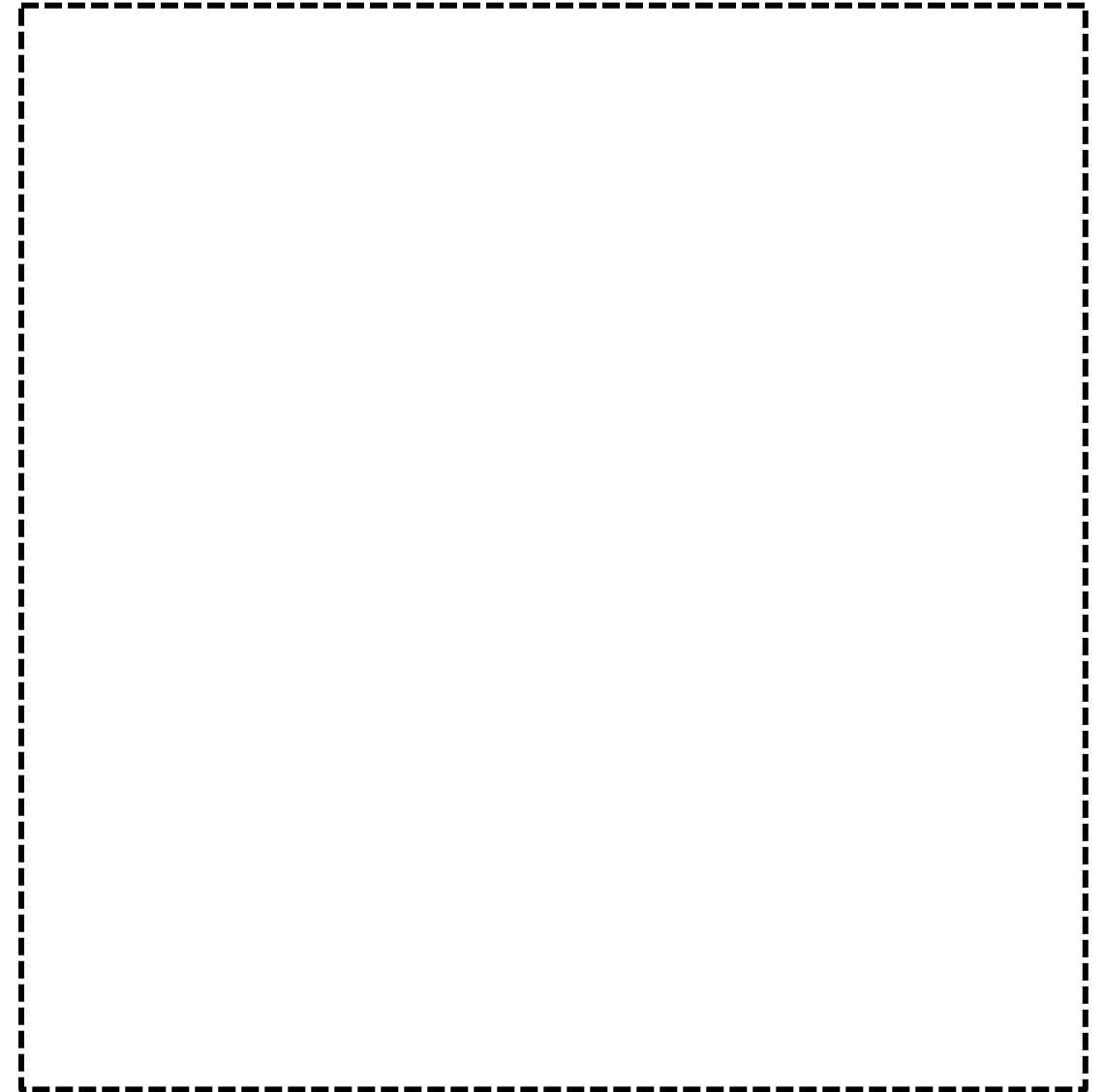
Write a description that includes who MacArthur is and why he was selected as the Man of the Year.



TIME



Man of the Year



Teacher Directions – Ticket Out the Door:

- Cut up (4 to a page) and pass out the Ticket Out the Door to each student.
- They should answer the question at the end of the lesson and turn it in to you on the way out of class.
- Quickly read through the responses and share a few of the best during class the next day.

Ticket Out the Door

What do you think Japan would look like today if the U.S. had not helped in the rebuilding process?

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Ticket Out the Door

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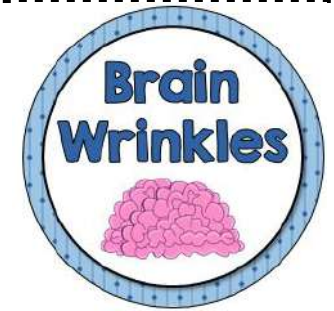
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Ticket Out the Door

What do you think Japan would look like today if the U.S. had not helped in the rebuilding process?

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Thank You!

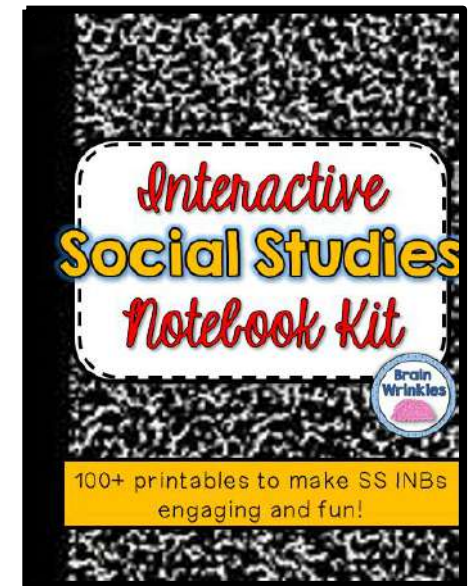
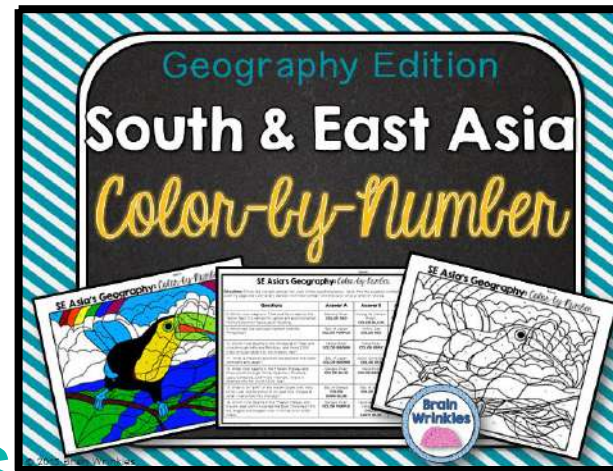


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Best of luck to you this school year,

Ansley at Brain Wrinkles



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