

What You Need to Know on Pearl Harbor



A distant look as the USS Arizona explodes and sinks.

- Japan attacked Pearl Harbor in Hawaii and brought the US into World War II.
- Roosevelt cut off Japan's oil supply when they overran French Indochina—Vietnam, Cambodia, and Laos.
- Admiral Isoroku Yamamoto was Japan's best naval strategist, who also had called the attack on Hawaii.
- On December 7, 1941, President Roosevelt requested to enter the war. He called this day the "Day of Infamy" when giving a speech to congress.
- Congress quickly accepted his request for a declaration of war on Japan and its allies.
- All 8 American battleships were severely damaged, with three sinking. The USS Arizona was the worst damaged of them all, and held the most casualties.
- WWII made the United States a leading player in international affairs.

Research and Answer the following questions:

1. What time did Pearl Harbor occur? Why is this significant?
2. How many people died during Pearl Harbor?
3. Why was this location, Pearl Harbor chosen to attack over other islands?
4. Do you think Admiral Isoroku Yamamoto was justified in attacking Pearl Harbor? Explain.
5. What happened to Japanese Americans after the attack on Pearl Harbor?