

Welcome to V. J. Day

- V. J. Day is Victory Over Japan Day!
- Japan unconditionally surrenders, Aug. 15, 1945
- Formal surrender Sept. 2, 1945

2. What led up to the surrender?

3. We will work from end to end!

4. Tora, Tora, Toro

5. Air Raid: Morse Code

6. Pink sheet from U.S.S. Lexington

7. General Quarters

8. Pearl Harbor. WHY?

9. Map of the Pacific

10. Thousand Yard Store

11. Major Campaigns and Battles

Lyle Lipka

12. Why did we use the Atomic Bomb?

Japanese Ketsu Go!

Pacific Ocean theater of World War II

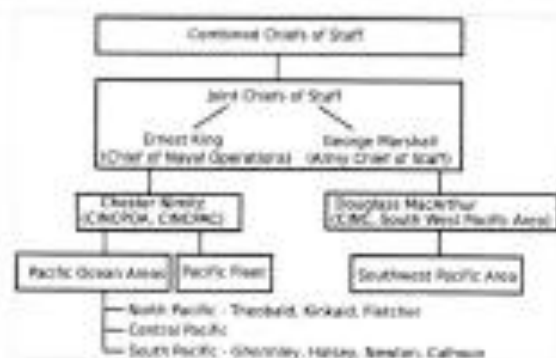
The **Pacific Ocean theater** of World War II was a major theater of the Pacific War, the war between the Allies and the Empire of Japan. It included the U.S. Pacific Ocean Areas (command), which included most of the Pacific Ocean and its islands.

The Philippines, the Dutch East Indies, Borneo, Australia, most of the Territory of New Guinea, and the western part of the Solomon Islands were under a different Allied command.

History

On March 30, 1942, US Admiral Chester Nimitz was appointed Commander-in-Chief, Pacific Ocean Areas. In the other major theater in the Pacific region, known as the South West Pacific theater, Allied forces were commanded by US General Douglas MacArthur. Both Nimitz and MacArthur were overseen by the US Joint Chiefs, and indirectly by the British-American Combined Chiefs of Staff.

Most Japanese forces in the theater were part of the **Combined Fleet** (連合艦隊, *Rengō Kantai*) of the Imperial Japanese Navy (IJN), which was responsible for all Japanese warships, naval aircraft, and marine infantry units. The *Rengō Kantai* was led by Admiral Isoroku Yamamoto, until he was killed in an attack by U.S. fighter planes in April 1943.^[1] Yamamoto was succeeded by Admiral Mineichi Koga (1943–44)^[1] and Admiral Soemu Toyoda (1944–45).^[2] The **General Staff** (参謀本部, *Sanbō Honbu*) of the Imperial Japanese Army (IJA) was responsible for Imperial Japanese Army ground and air units in Southeast Asia and the South Pacific. The IJN and IJA did not formally use joint/combined staff at the operational level, and their command structures/geographical areas of operations overlapped with each other and those of the Allies.



The Western Allies' command structure in the Pacific



Japanese naval aircraft prepare to take off from an aircraft carrier

In the Pacific Ocean theater, Japanese forces fought primarily against the United States Navy, the U.S. Army, which had 6 Corps and 21 Divisions, and the U.S. Marine Corps, which had only 6 Divisions. The United Kingdom (British Pacific Fleet), New Zealand, Australia, Canada, and other Allied nations, also contributed forces.

Major campaigns and battles

▪ Pacific theater

- Attack on Pearl Harbor 7 December 1941^[3]
- Battle of Wake Island 7–23 December 1941^[4]
- Philippines campaign 8 December 1941 – 8 May 1942
 - Battle of Bataan: Falls April 9, 1942
 - Battle of Corregidor: Falls May 5, 1942
- Battle of Ambon
- Battle of Timor
- Battle of Rabaul
- Battle of the Java Sea
- Bombing of Darwin
- Battle of the Coral Sea 4–8 May 1942
- Doolittle Raid 18 April 1942^[3]
- Battle of Midway 4–7 June 1942^[3]
- Guadalcanal campaign 7 August 1942 to 9 February 1943
 - Battle of Savo Island Lyle Lipka
 - Battle of Cape Esperance
 - Second Naval Battle of Guadalcanal : 2 Battles
 - Battle of Tassafaronga
- New Guinea campaign
- Solomon Islands Campaign
- Battle of the Bismark Sea
- Gilbert and Marshall Islands campaign 1943–44



U.S. 5th Marines evacuate injured personnel during actions on Guadalcanal on November 1, 1942



An SBD Dauntless flies patrol over USS Washington and USS Lexington during the Gilbert and Marshall Islands campaign, November 12, 1943

- Makin Island raid 17–18 August 1942^[5]
- Battle of Tarawa 20 November 1943^[3]
- Battle of Makin 20–23 November 1943
- Battle of Kwajalein 14 February 1944^[6]
- Battle of Eniwetok 17 February 1944^[7]
- Attack on Truk Island 17–18 February 1944
- Mariana and Palau Islands campaign 1944
 - Battle of Saipan 15 June 1944^[8]
 - Battle of the Philippine Sea 19–21 June 1944^[9]
 - Battle of Guam 21 July 1944^[10]
 - Battle of Tinian 24 July 1944^[10]
 - Battle of Peleliu 15 September 1944^[11]
 - Battle of Angaur 17 September 1944^[11]
 - Battle of Leyte 17 October 1944 ; *Leyte Gulf: operation Sho/60*
 - Battle of Luzon 9 January 1945
- Battle of Iwo Jima 19 February 1945^[3]
- Battle of Okinawa 1 April 1945^[3]
- North Pacific theater
 - Aleutian Islands Campaign 1942–43
 - Battle of the Komandorski Islands 26 March 1943^[3]



USS *Bunker Hill* hit by two Kamikazes in thirty seconds on 11 May 1945 off Kyushu

Map of World War II In the Pacific



Names in red denote major battle or campaigns of the war in the Pacific.