

1939-1945 World War II

German nationalism was used by Adolph Hitler in an attempt to conquer most of the European world. Japanese nationalists attempted to seize control of much of Asia as a colonial asset. The U.S. was forced into the war by a surprise attack on December 7, 1941 by the Japanese at Pearl Harbor Hawaii.

Allied forces (especially the U.S., Britain, and France) defeated the Axis powers (especially Germany and Japan) in a war fought globally.

The Japanese surrender was secured with the utilization of atomic weapons (at Hiroshima and Nagasaki) for the first time in history.