**II. War in the Pacific**

1. Atlantic Charter

* American people did not want to get involved in WWII
* **Lend-Lease Act (1941) –**
* **Atlantic Charter –**
* Would allow all countries to choose their own government after the war
* Agreed that the Nazis must be defeated first

B. Day of Infamy

* U.S. did not enter the war but they cut off aid to all Axis powers
* **Rape of Nanking –**
* Refused to sell oil to Japan (80% of Japanese imports) which stalled their war efforts – Japan felt that their only option was to attack the U.S.
* **December 7, 1941 –**
* More than 2,300 Americans were killed
* President Roosevelt proclaimed that it would be a “date which will live in infamy”
* America declared war on Japan the next day
* Three days later Hitler declares war on the US hoping this will force the Japanese to declare war on the Soviet Union

C. Japanese Victories

* **85% -**
* Resulted in many early Japanese victories
* Japanese believed that they could not be defeated
* Took over much of Southeast Asia from 1941-1942

D. Allies Strike Back

* **James H. Doolittle –**
* Helped raise American moral and showed the Japanese that they could be defeated
* **Battle of the Coral Sea –**
* **Kamikaze –**
* Japanese were able to kill more Allied troops, but Allies were able to stop Japanese advances

E. Battle of Midway

* **Admiral Chester Nimitz –**
* Decoded Japanese messages revealed they would attack Midway
* Nimitz let the Japanese attack the island
* As the first Japanese planes returned to their ships to refuel
* Most Japanese planes were still on deck refueling when the Americans attacked
* Turning point in the Pacific War – Much of Japan’s navy was destroyed

F. Allied Offensive

* After Midway the Allies went on the offensive for the first time
* **Douglas MacArthur -**
* **Island-Hopping –**
* Allies were able to gain key victories in the Pacific
* Battles described as simply hell