

PEARL HARBOR ATTACKED

Picture Description

The picture to the shows what Pearl Harbor may have looked like in mid-attack. The picture below shows an explosion at Pearl Harbor during the attack.



The Unexpected Attack

On the date December 7, 1941, the American naval base, Pearl Harbor, was attacked by Japanese Air Force. 21 U.S. ships were sunk or damaged. 188 U.S. aircraft were destroyed. 2,403 U.S. soldiers were killed. There was smoke that just rolled across the water. There was a ship that had been



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The picture below shows the battleship, USS Arizona, after it was sunk and the smoke went away.

destroyed, but the flag on the ship was still flying high.

The Japanese had spent many weeks on planning this attack on Pearl Harbor. The Japanese wanted to have 80% accuracy or higher before attacking Pearl Harbor. Japan sent 6 aircraft carriers, 9 destroyers, 2 battleships, 2 heavy cruisers, 1 light cruiser, and 3 submarines across the Pacific oceans. The journey took a week and a half to cross the Pacific Ocean.

When Japan attacked America, it completely took the U.S. by surprise. When the soldiers saw the planes fly over Hawaii, they thought that it was just American planes taking a flight test. The Japanese were smart enough to know that if they were to fly low enough over Hawaii that American radars wouldn't be able to spot them. With the American radars not able to spot the planes, the attack was an even bigger surprise.

After the attack on Pearl Harbor, you heard about the attack everywhere. You would hear about it on the radio, you would read about it in the newspapers, and magazines. On December 8, 1941, President Franklin D. Roosevelt asked Congress to go to war. After WWI ended, America was a neutral country. After the attack on Pearl Harbor, America went from being a neutral country to wanting to go to war and wanting to take out Japan. Shortly after the attack on Pearl Harbor, America would go into war and join WWII.

