

## **US History**

### **World War II - Pacific**

#### **Learning Target:**

*I can assess the reason why Japan launched their attack on Pearl Harbor and brought the United States into WWII.*

#### **1. The Pearl Harbor Attack**

##### *Japanese Expansion –*

- As war continued in Europe, Japan continued its expansion in Asia
- After Japan occupied Indochina, Roosevelt froze all Japanese assets in the US
- Roosevelt also issued an embargo on gasoline and steel for Japan

##### *Japan Plan's An Attack –*

###### October 1941 –

- Minister of War Hideki Tojo, became prime minister
- Tojo was committed to expansion and wanted to attack the United States

###### November 20, 1941 –

- Japanese peace mission visited Washington D.C.
- Demanded the US unfreeze Japanese assets, supply Japan's gas needs, and cease all aid to China

###### The US Breaks The Code –

- US had broken the secret code used to send messages to the Japanese embassy from Tokyo
- US knew Japan planned to attack but they didn't know where or when

##### *The Attack on Pear Harbor –*

###### December 7, 1941 –

- Shortly before 8:00 AM the Japanese attacked the US naval base at Pearl Harbor
- The core of the US Pacific Fleet was anchored at Pearl Harbor
- Over 100 US planes were also located at Pearl Harbor

###### Destruction –

- 20 US warships and 200 aircrafts were destroyed
- 2,400 Americans were killed (1103 entombed on the USS Arizona)

###### American Reaction –

- The bombing shocked the country and Roosevelt addressed the nation
- He labeled Dec. 7 as "a date which will live in infamy"
- Called on Congress to pass a declaration of war against Japan