The Battles: Pacific Theatre

Pacific Theatre Strategies

1. Island Hopping →

2. Who led the Island Hopping Campaign? _______________________________

3. How did getting both feet to land past the line at each island show the dangers of the Island Hopping strategy?

4. What strategy in the game was more successful? Why?

5. Look at the Island Hopping Campaign Notes provided on the next page...

Write 2 paragraphs explaining how America was able to win the war in the Pacific, and what were the costs?

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## Island Hopping Campaign Notes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Battle</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Casualties</th>
<th>Important Facts</th>
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</table>
| Guadalcanal | 1942 | US Marines: 1,600 killed  
Japanese: 14,000 killed | First offensive by US land forces in the Pacific theater. |
| Tarawa | 1943 | US Marines: 1,000 killed  
Japanese: 4,836 killed | US Marines take the island despite “kamikaze” attacks. |
| Saipan | 1944 | US Marines: 3,426 killed  
Japanese: 24,000 killed | Japanese civilians hide in caves and jump off cliffs after hearing rumors of American atrocities. |
| Philippines | 1944 | Japanese: 300,000 killed or wounded  
Americans: 47,000 killed or wounded | US Army takes Manila; MacArthur returns |
| Iwo Jima | 1945 | Japanese: 21,800 killed  
200 POW’s  
Americans: 7,000 dead, 19,000 wounded | US Marines raise the US flag over Mt. Suribachi.  
Over 25% of the Medals of Honor awarded to US Marines in WW II were given for conduct on Iwo Jima.  
Admiral Chester W. Nimitz says of the Marines: “uncommon valor was a common virtue”  
The US was now in fuel range to successfully bomb the mainland of Japan. |
| Okinawa | 1945 | Japanese: 109,000 killed  
Americans: 49,000 killed or wounded | 500 Japanese surrender (matched the total for the whole war).  
“Kamikazes” sink 36 US ships and damage 200 more.  
Island was to a staging area for a possible invasion of Japan. |