II. The Early Battles

1. Holding the Line against Japan
2. The Fall of the Philippines

**-**American airfields in the Philippines were attacked right after Pearl Harbor

**-**2 days later Japanese forces landed, outnumbered defending America and Filipino troops

**-**General Douglas MacArthur- retreated to Bataan Peninsula held out for more than 3 months. Lack of supplies, diseases: malaria, scurvy, dysentery

**-** Roosevelt ordered MacArthur to evacuate to Australia “I Shall Return”

**-**April 9, 1942 defenders of Bataan surrendered

**-**Bataan Death March

**-**May 1942-the last Allied troops on the island of Corregidor surrendered

 2. The Doolittle Raid

 **-**B25 bombers- could take off from aircraft carrier but not land on it. They would land

 In China.

 **-**Lieutenant Colonel James H. Doolittle commanded the mission

  **-**April 18, 1942 bombs fell on Japan for the 1st time

 3. A Change in Japanese Strategy

 **-**Before the Doolittle Raid

 a. Officers planning strategy wanted to cut Americas supply lines to Australia near the southern coast of New Guinea

 b. Admiral Yamamoto (commander of Japanese fleet) wanted to attack the last American base west of Hawaii- Midway island. Lure American fleet into battle and destroy it.

  **-** After the Raid priority was to destroy American fleet to protect Tokyo

 4. The Battle of the Coral Sea

 **-**American team of code breakers broke the Japanese navy’s secret code. Alerted United States to the Japanese attack on New Guinea. Admiral Nimitz sent 2 carriers to intercept Japan in the Coral Sea. Carriers launched all-out airstrikes against each other. Japan forced to call off their landing, United States supply lines stayed open.

 5. The Battle of Midway

  **-**Code breaking team (at Pearl Harbor) alerted Nimitz, sent carriers to Midway

  **-**Japan launched aircraft against Midway –June 4, 1942- met with blizzard of

 antiaircraft fire. 38 shot down.

  **-**American planes caught Japanese carriers with fuel, bombs, and aircraft exposed on their flight decks.

 **-**Battle of Midway- turning point in the war. Japans navy lost 4 of its largest carriers. United States stopped the Japanese advance in the Pacific

 B. Turning back the German Army

  **-**Stalin wanted Roosevelt to open a second front in Europe. Take pressure off the

 Soviet Union. Churchill and FDR decided to attack the periphery of the German

 Empire.

1. The Struggle for North America

 **-**American troops invaded Morocco and Algeria

1. Give army some experience
2. Would be able to help British troops fighting in Egypt. It was important for the British to keep the Suez Canal open for shipping supplies

 **-**German forces, Africa Korps led by General Erwin Rommel (Desert Fox) brilliant

 leader

  **-**Rommel forced to retreat at Battle of El Alamein

  **-**General Dwight D. Eisenhower commanded America’s invasion. Forces in Morocco

 led by General George Patton. Captured Casablanca (other troops conquered

 Oran, Algiers)

 **-**Americans headed east, British headed west. Trapped Rommel between the 2

 Forces. May 13, 1943 German forces in North Africa surrendered

1. The Battle of the Atlantic

 **-**brownout and the convoy system helped lower shipping losses **-**beginning July 1942 America’s shipyards produced more ships then the u-boats could sink

 **-**American airplanes and warships began to use new technology to locate and

 attack subs. Radar, sensor, depth charges.

 **-**Battle of the Atlantic slowly turned in favor of the Allies

 3. Stalingrad

 **-**To defeat Soviet Union, Hitler wanted to destroy its economy.

 **-**Ordered his army to capture strategic oil fields, industries and farmlands in

southern Russia and Ukraine.

 **-**Stalingrad controlled the Volga River, was a major railroad junction. If Germans

captured city, Soviets would be cut off from resources needed to stay in war.

 **-**German troops forced to fight house to house, losing thousands of soldiers.

(September 1942)

 **-**November 23 Soviet reinforcements arrived and surrounded Stalingrad trapped

 250,000 German troops.

 **-**Ended February 1943. 91,000 German troops surrendered. Only 5,000 survived

 the Soviet POW camps and returned home.

 **-**Turning point in war. Germans were now on the defensive, being pushed back.