

0. FIRE BOMBS OVER TOKYO - Story Preface
1. A PACIFIC EMPIRE
2. DANGEROUS OPPONENTS
3. DEATH IN CHINA
4. ATROCITIES IN CHINA
5. ABOUT IWO JIMA
6. THE ARMADA ARRIVES
7. JAPAN'S IWO JIMA DEFENSES
8. LETTERS FROM IWO JIMA
9. JUST A MOP-UP?
10. D-DAY: 19 FEBRUARY 1945
11. THE UNBROKEN CODE
12. INCHING TOWARD SURIBACHI
13. A FLAG-RAISING ON SURIBACHI
14. THE REPLACEMENT FLAG RAISERS
15. THE FAMOUS PHOTOGRAPH
16. FLAG RAISERS DIE IN BATTLE
17. KURIBAYASHI'S LAST LETTERS
18. SECURING IWO JIMA
19. IWO JIMA MEDALS OF HONOR
20. SURVIVORS RAISE CASH via WAR BONDS
21. WHY IWO JIMA WAS CAPTURED
- 22. FIRE BOMBS OVER TOKYO**
23. RESULTS of WAR
24. THE REST OF THEIR LIVES
25. EPILOGUE - EARTHQUAKE in JAPAN
26. Awesome Guide to 21st Century Research



Impact of B-29 incendiary bombing of Tokyo on May 26, 1945. Library of Congress.

Pictures from the Library of Congress, the U.S. National Archives and official military histories show bombers in action and depict the damage they caused:

- B-29s (known as the “Superfortress”) dropping fire bombs over Japan.
- Bombers visit the industrial section of Yokohama on May 29, 1945. Widespread destruction is clearly visible in the city’s harbor area in September, after the Japanese surrender.
- Incendiary bombs shower the Kobe dock area, and other parts of the city, during June of 1945.
- Amongst the burned-out ruins of Tokyo, a survivor tries to drink from a broken water pipe.
- An oil refinery in the Tokyo area was another major B-29 target.
- Not much was left of a power and generator plant in Ube.

Japanese aircraft production dramatically fell after the B-29s began their attacks. Still, the hardened military rulers of the country refused to end the war.

When President Truman learned how many lives would likely be lost if the Allies had to invade Japan’s home islands, he believed the cost would be too great for both sides. Instead, he authorized the use of nuclear bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

Many of the men who fought on the Pacific Islands, like Iwo Jima, rarely (if ever) spoke about their experiences to family members. What happened to the flag-raising survivors? What happened to the Japanese defenders?

See [Alignments to State and Common Core standards for this story online at:](http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicAlignment/FIRE-BOMBS-OVER-TOKYO-Flags-Of-Our-Fathers)

<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicAlignment/FIRE-BOMBS-OVER-TOKYO-Flags-Of-Our-Fathers>

See [Learning Tasks for this story online at:](http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicActivities/FIRE-BOMBS-OVER-TOKYO-Flags-Of-Our-Fathers)

<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicActivities/FIRE-BOMBS-OVER-TOKYO-Flags-Of-Our-Fathers>



B-29 "Superfortress" Dropped Fire Bombs Over Japan

Image online, courtesy Wikimedia Commons.

View this asset at:

<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/B-29-Superfortress-Dropped-Fire-Bombs-Over-Japan>



B-29s Dropping Fire Bombs over Japan

Image online, courtesy Wikimedia Commons.

View this asset at: <http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/B-29s-Dropping-Fire-Bombs-over-Japan>



Fire Bombs to be Dropped Over Japan by B-29s

Image online, courtesy the [ibiblio.org](http://www.ibiblio.org) website.

View this asset at:

<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Fire-Bombs-to-be-Dropped-Over-Japan-by-B-29s>



U.S. Bombing of Yokohama on May 29, 1945

Image online, courtesy the [ibiblio.org](http://www.ibiblio.org) website.

View this asset at: <http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/U.S.-Bombing-of-Yokohama-on-May-29-1945>

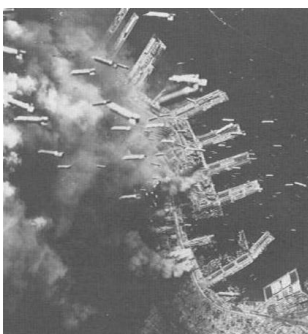


Yokohama's Harbor Area Destroyed by U.S. Bombing

Image online, courtesy the [ibiblio.org](http://www.ibiblio.org) website.

View this asset at:

<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Yokohama-s-Harbor-Area-Destroyed-by-U.S.-Bombing->



Bombs Shower Kobe Dock Area, June 1945

Image online, courtesy the [ibiblio.org](http://www.ibiblio.org) website.

View this asset at: <http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Bombs-Shower-Kobe-Dock-Area-June-1945>



Destruction at Yokohama After U.S. Bombing

Image online, courtesy the [ibiblio.org](http://www.ibiblio.org) website.

View this asset at: <http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Destruction-at-Yokohama-After-U.S.-Bombing>



Bombs Destroy Kobe, Japan in June, 1945

Image online, courtesy the [ibiblio.org](http://www.ibiblio.org) website.

View this asset at: <http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Bombs-Destroy-Kobe-Japan-in-June-1945>



Survivor of U.S. Bombing in Tokyo Tries to Drink from Water Pipe

Image online, courtesy the [ibiblio.org](http://www.ibiblio.org) website.

View this asset at:

<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Survivor-of-U.S.-Bombing-in-Tokyo-Tries-to-Drink-from-Water-Pipe>



Oil Refinery in Tokyo that was Target of U.S. Bombing

Image online, courtesy the [ibiblio.org](http://www.ibiblio.org) website.

View this asset at:

<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Oil-Refinery-in-Tokyo-that-was-Target-of-U.S.-Bombing>

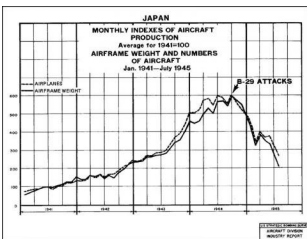


Power and Generator Plant in Ube, Japan, After U.S. Bombing

Image online, courtesy the [ibiblio.org](http://www.ibiblio.org) website.

View this asset at:

<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Power-and-Generator-Plant-in-Ube-Japan-After-U.S.-Bombing>



Japanese Aircraft Production Before and After B-29 Attacks

Image online, courtesy the [ibiblio.org](http://www.ibiblio.org) website.

View this asset at:

<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Japanese-Aircraft-Production-Before-and-After-B-29-Attacks>