

Wake throughout the
world. many believe
that

[Economics](#), [Trade](#)



Wake a Sleeping Giant Every president of the United States takes an oath, to protect, preserve, and defend the nation they serve.

Presidents are faced with the world's most difficult of challenges; they must make decisions for the good of the country. Their choices can change the course of history. Franklin D. Roosevelt's decisions greatly impacted the world, and still do; specifically, his involvement in President Harry S.

Truman's bold decision to drop not one but two atomic bombs on Japan.

This action stuck controversy throughout the world. Many believe that this action was inhumane. While others believe that it brought honor to those men and women who were killed during the attack of Pearl Harbor.

This action was justified and here is why. When World War II began, the United States was a neutral country. That is until Japan attacked U. S.

soil. The reasons for the Japanese attack had been building up for over a decade. The Japanese were seeing themselves as an imperial force and had ambitions to expand into China. The United States responded to Japan's declaration of war on China by enforcing trade embargos and economic sanctions. What pushed Japan over the edge was when the U. S. organized with the British and Dutch to implement an oil embargo. This hurt Japan because 90% of Japanese oil was imported.

Without oil, Japan's military was impaired; all of their war efforts came to a sudden halt. This action deeply upset Japan, which led them to one of the most disastrous decisions in history. On December 7, 1941 the United States was attacked at Pearl Harbor Naval Base near Honolulu, Hawaii. This was the setting of a devastating unforeseen attack. The attack took place just

<https://assignbuster.com/wake-throughout-the-world-many-believe-that/>

before 8am, on a Sunday, hundreds of Japanese fighter planes descended on the base, where they succeeded in destroying and damaging 20 American Naval vessels including 8 massive battleships, and more than 300 airplanes.

This heartbreaking event shook Americans when they found out that the Japanese killed over 2,400 Americans and wounded over 1,000. These men and women were sailors, soldiers, and civilians. The very next day the President of the United States, Franklin D. Roosevelt asked congress to declare war on Japan.

Following the assault, for the first time, after years of debate Americans were equally determined to go to war. Japan attacked the U. S. with the intention to lift the sanctions and deter the U. S.

from involvement with their endeavors. What happened was the exact opposite instead they set off a domino effect that led to global conflict. On December 8, Congress approved Franklin D.

Roosevelt's declaration of war. Three days after congress approved going to war, Japan's allies Germany and Italy declared war against the United States. The United States entered World War II two years after the war began because of Japan.

A general rule in war is to never go against a power that can outmatch you; it is common sense to not wage war with a country that can completely obliterate your country entirely. It is important for World leaders to not blindly make drastic or impulsive decisions without fully taking into account the consequences of those decisions and how it can affect their people. Which is why Japan was foolish to believe that the United States would react cohesively in response to the attack of Pearl Harbor. Just like the Japanese, Americans are proud people; the U.

S. considered Japan to be an inferior enemy. That was a mistake that cost the U. S. greatly, a mistake that would not be made again.

President Franklin D. Roosevelt set out to avenge Pearl Harbor and hit the heart of Japan.

That decision was justified when Japan attacked U. S. soil. It was a decision that was influenced by their actions. The atomic bombs that were dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki, Japan were not the orders of President Franklin D.

Roosevelt, but the orders his Vice President Harry S. Truman when he assumed Presidency after FDR's death on April 12, 1945 in the midst of World War II. Only a few months into his Presidency the bombs were dropped. This stuck controversy throughout the world and Harry S. Truman receives criticism to this day for this collaborative decision, although, this criticism is based on limited historical knowledge on the matter.

President Truman's basis for his decision to drop bombs was to avoid the invasion of Japan, which would in turn lead to more casualties on both ends. By 1945 Japan had already been subjected to months of attacks by American aircraft and Japan's home islands had been on an American naval blockade. The result was the loss of an estimated 3 million. This was a conflict that seemed endless because of Japan's leaders' refusal to back down. The leaders gathered a large part of the population to defend their home islands to create a national militia. That is when President Truman dropped the atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki the significance of dropping the

bombs in those locations was because it was a military installation and a strong industrial area.

Just to demonstrate and fully understand Japan's relentlessness, Japan's military still wanted to make a desperate attempt to fight back. The atomic bombs were necessary to clearly make Emperor Hirohito understand that the defense of his homelands was hopeless. It was only the dropping of the atomic bomb's that made the leaders of Japan finally negotiate surrender. Any other option that would have secured American victory would have led to many more American and Japanese casualties. Japan's losses would have been far greater without the bombs. Therefore, although it may not seem like it in the eyes of many people around the world including some Americans, the moral solution to the end of the war and secure the safety of the United States was to drop the atomic bombs. Which is why the collaborative decision to both wage war on Japan and drop two atomic bombs was the right thing to do.