**­­­­Dropping the A-Bombs**

Notes from 3/11- 3/12

1. **Firebombing Japan**: The United States has carried out a campaign of dropping “firebombs”- (gasoline, oil, napalm) on Japan’s major cities. The combination of houses (made of wood and paper), housing density and successful bomb raids have decimated 67 of Japan’s largest cities and factories.

51% Tokyo, 99% Toyama, 72% Hitachi, 70% Nara, 58% Yokohama, 56% Kobe have been DESTROYED.

The people of Japan are running out of food and oil. Japan’s air force has been crippled and can’t defend the islands from attack. Its’ navy has also been decimated. The people are demoralized and most believe the war is lost. Japan has even sent reps to conditionally surrender to Russia, but Russia will declare war on Japan soon.

1. **Operation Downfall**: Six separate waves will assault the mainland of Japan. The U.S. intends to use one million plus soldiers to storm Japan in a massive invasion covering the entire island. Japan has 71.3 million residents but they have lost 4% due to the firebombing, and are starving and running low on everything. They would however, protect the Emperor with their lives to save him from capture or harm.
2. **Atomic Bombs**: The U.S. will drop two atomic bombs on the untouched targets of Hiroshima, and two days later, Nagasaki. Then, they plan to target Tokyo and other major cities and continue to drop atomic bombs until Japan surrenders or is destroyed.

There is some evidence that Japan is also attempting to build an atomic bomb…they are not very close to a working model, but Russia knows about the US bombs and is rapidly building their own. It will be ready in about a year…the US does not know about it, and is not aware spy’s have sent Russia our a-bomb plans.

1. **OTHER? :** Can you think of other options to end the war?
* *Which of these options seems like the best choice? Explain why you think your choice is best* ***and*** *why the other choices are not as good.*
* *Make a thinking map and diagram these choices highlighting your choice and why? Then explain why the other choices are not as good as the choice you made.*