Name:_____

Pearl Harbor: A Day Remembered

In history books, there's a chapter that tells the story of a day that changed America forever—December 7, 1941. On that fateful Sunday morning, a place called Pearl Harbor in Hawaii became the center of an important moment in World War II.

Without warning, Japanese warplanes launched a surprise attack on Pearl Harbor. Bombs rained down, and the deafening sounds of explosions shattered the calmness of the morning. The attack was swift and devastating, catching the American military by surprise.

Drawing of the USS Arizona before the attack.

The Japanese planes targeted ships and military installations, causing widespread destruction. The USS Arizona battleship was struck by a massive explosion and sank, taking the lives of over 1,000 brave sailors. Other ships were damaged or destroyed, and airplanes on the ground were left in ruins.

Drawing of Pearl Harbor during the attack.

The attack on Pearl Harbor was a turning point for the United States. It caused the country to join World War II, marking the beginning of America's active involvement in the conflict. President Franklin D. Roosevelt called December 7th "a date which will live in infamy" in his speech to Congress, rallying the nation to unite against the forces threatening freedom.

The bravery and sacrifice of the servicemen and civilians during the attack became a symbol of resilience and determination for the entire nation. The country rallied together, rebuilding and dedicating itself to the war effort.

Today, Pearl Harbor stands as a memorial—a place to honor the lives lost and to remember the importance of peace, unity, and the courage shown on that historic day. It serves as a reminder of the sacrifices made and the resilience of a nation in the face of adversity.

1. How did the attack on Pearl Harbor affect World War II? _____

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2. What do you think Roosevelt meant by December 7th being "a date which will live in infamy" in his speech to

Congress? _____

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3. Why is Pearl Harbor important today? _____

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