

The image is a title card for a documentary or film. The background is a composite of historical war imagery. At the top, a large American flag is shown in a stylized, curved perspective. Below the flag, several military aircraft are depicted in flight. The central focus is the title 'WAR IN THE PACIFIC' in large, bold, white, serif capital letters with a slight shadow effect. Below the title, the subtitle 'The Struggle Against Japan 1941 - 1945' is written in a smaller, white, cursive-style font. The bottom half of the image shows a scene of a city being bombed, with thick black smoke rising from the ground and bright orange and yellow flames. In the foreground, there are several military ships or barges on the water.

WAR IN THE PACIFIC

The Struggle Against Japan 1941 - 1945 TM

American entry into the war against Japan

- During the 1930s the Japanese government was under control of the army (Police State).
- Japan also had aggressive expansionist and foreign policies.
- 1931 Japan takes over the province of Manchuria and attacked China in 1937.
- In 1941 America became concerned when Japan took over more and larger parts of East Asia. This would influence American trade
- The US Government applied trade sanctions and stopped oil supplies to Japan
- Japan now needed to import all the oil they needed for their industries and the war.
- The Japanese decided to attack the American Navy in the Pacific.

Pearl Harbour

- 7 December 1941, Japanese planes attack the American Naval base at Pearl Harbour in Hawaii
- The attack was a complete surprise
- Large amount of the the American Fleet was destroyed and many planes were bombed that was still on the ground.
- Roseveltdt Speech 🎬

Pearl Harbour

- The following day
 - Britain and the US declared war on Japan
 - Germany and Italy declared war on the US
 - Japan attacked large British bases Singapore and Hong Kong, the Phillipines and Indonesia
 - The attack on Pearl Harbour was not as successful as the Japanese hoped
 - America was able to rebuild their navy quickly

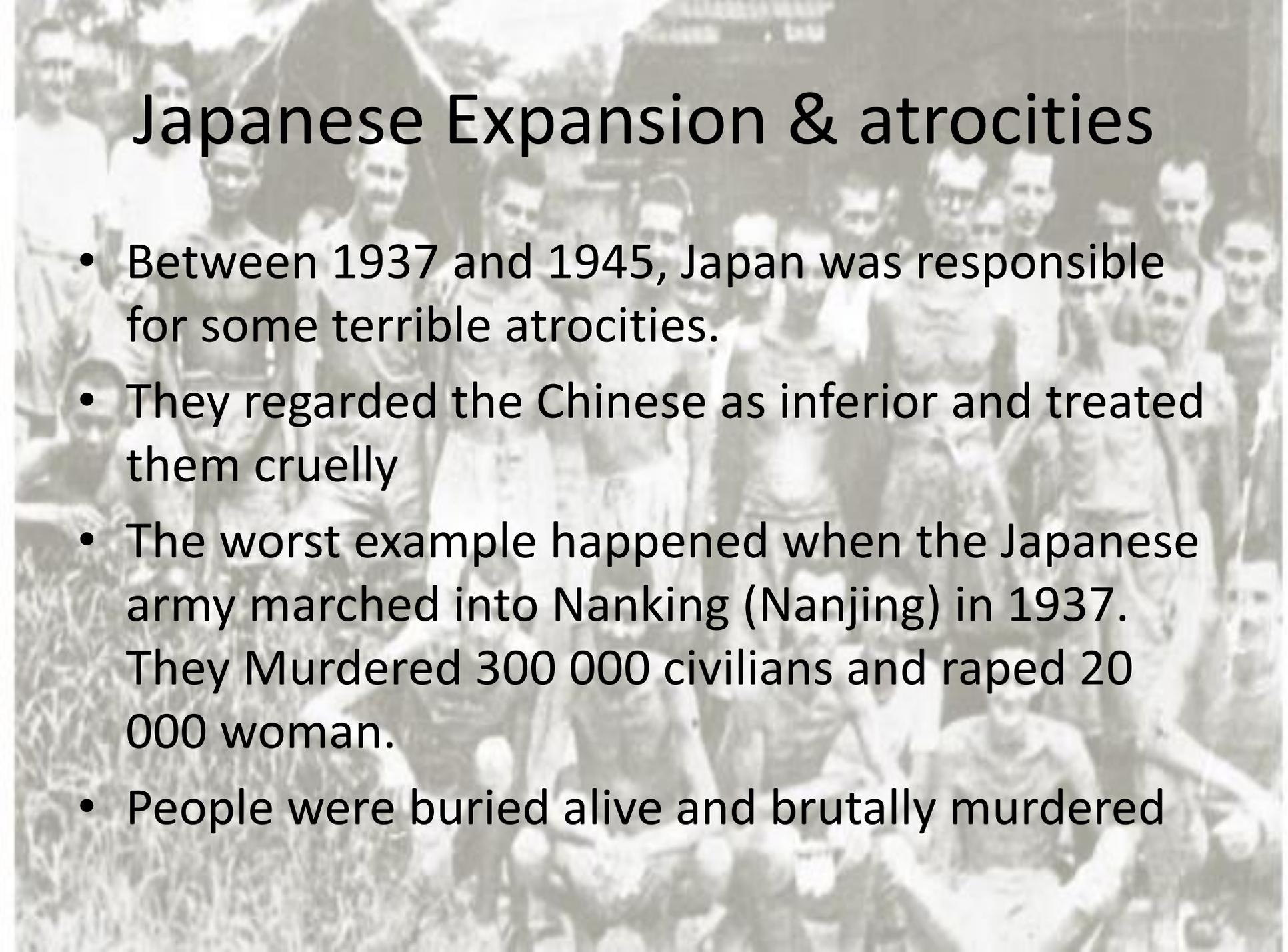
Internment Camps

- Many Japanese Americans lived in the USA
- After the attack on Pearl Harbour many people turned against them.
- This anti Japanese feeling was encouraged by government propaganda
- ± 120 000 Japanese Americans were arrested and placed into Internment Camps in far-off areas.
- The US Government thought they would be spies, disrupt the US war effort.
- Other Japanese Americans were not arrested but many were attacked or even murdered.

Internment Camps

- Japanese Americans in these camps were forced to sell their properties and even stay in these camps till the war was over.
- In 1943 when America allowed Japanese to serve in the US army, 33 000 volunteered including thousands from the camps.
- Some of the units were all-Japanese and received above average number of awards for bravery.
- In 1988 the US Government formally apologised for the treatment of Japanese Americans during the war and paid compensation.



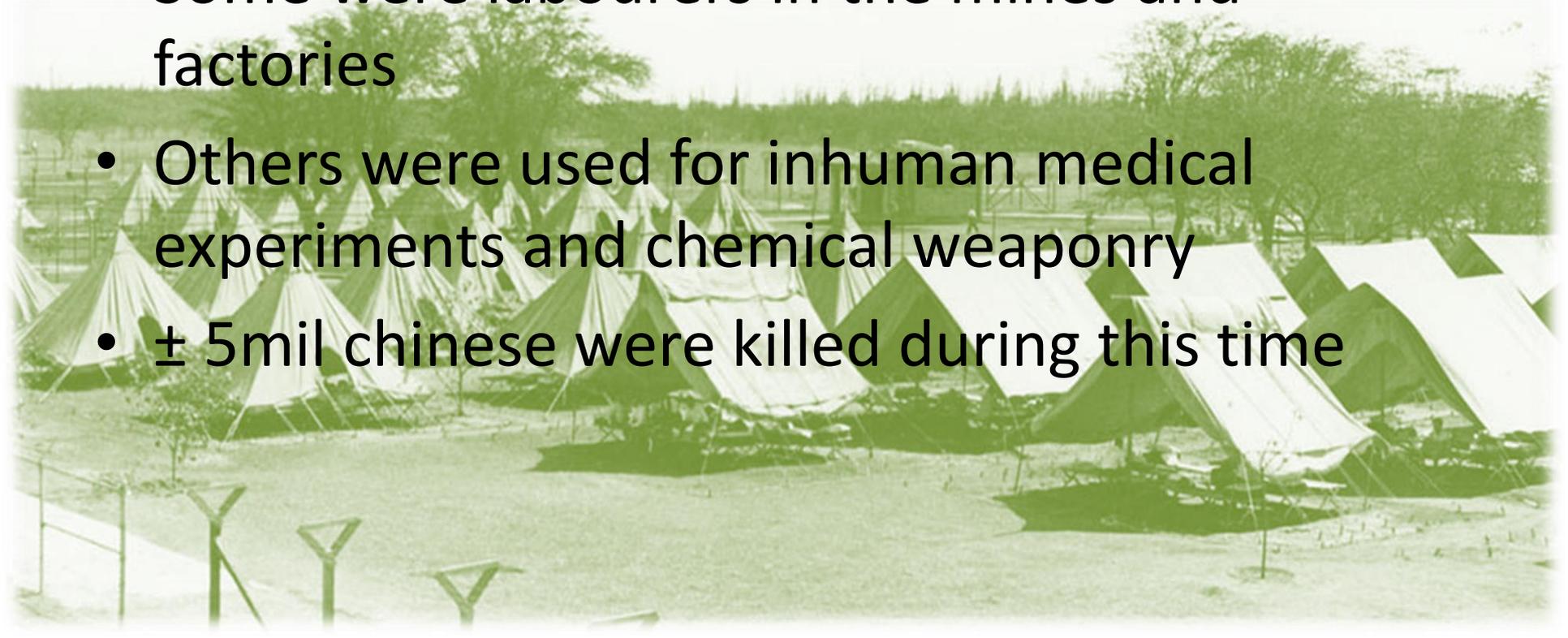


Japanese Expansion & atrocities

- Between 1937 and 1945, Japan was responsible for some terrible atrocities.
- They regarded the Chinese as inferior and treated them cruelly
- The worst example happened when the Japanese army marched into Nanking (Nanjing) in 1937. They Murdered 300 000 civilians and raped 20 000 woman.
- People were buried alive and brutally murdered

Japanese Expansion & atrocities

- Women were forced to be sex slaves for the Japanese Army 'comfort woman'
- Some were labourers in the mines and factories
- Others were used for inhuman medical experiments and chemical weaponry
- ± 5mil chinese were killed during this time



Prisoners of War

- Prisoners of war are soldiers captured in fighting between countries at war.
- Most countries followed the rules set out in the Geneva convention like food and medical care. Not Japan
 - Prisoners died of starvation, hard labour and punishment or disease
 - Prisoners were severely beaten and punished
 - Prisoners who tried to escape were executed. In some camps ten were executed for every one that tried
 - Prisoners were forced to work in mines and shipyards
 - They worked 12 hours and given little food this made them ill. Then they were forced into death marches where many died.
 - 61 000 prisoners buildt a railway line from Thailand to Burma that was laid by hand through mountains and forest
- Political leaders who were responsible were put on trail for their war crimes