

Was the U.S. justified in its
use of nuclear weapons on
civilians in Japan?

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Outline

- Position statement (thesis), e.g. “The U.S. [was or was not] justified...”
 - Supporting claim 1
 - Evidence for supporting claim 1 (include source)
 - Evidence for supporting claim 1 (include source)
 - Supporting claim 2
 - Evidence for supporting claim 2 (include source)
 - Evidence for supporting claim 2 (include source)
 - Supporting claim 3
 - Evidence for supporting claim 3 (include source)
 - Evidence for supporting claim 3 (include source)
- Your response should include an appeal to Just War theory

Was the U.S. justified in its use of nuclear weapons on civilians in Japan?

Outline (Example)

- The U.S. was justified in its use of nuclear weapons to defeat Japan.
 - Dropping the nuclear bombs was the best way to save American lives
 - US Generals estimated that a ground invasion of Japan could cost the US as many as 500,000 lives (Source: Ending the War Against Japan, p. 14)
 - Evidence for supporting claim 1 (include source)
 - Supporting claim 2
 - Evidence for supporting claim 2 (include source)
 - Evidence for supporting claim 2 (include source)
 - Supporting claim 3
 - Evidence for supporting claim 3 (include source)
 - Evidence for supporting claim 3 (include source)
- Your response should include an appeal to Just War theory

Sources you could use:

- Crash Course WWII video
- BBC article on Nanjing
- Class notes, including Just War Theory, Japanese internment, island hopping, fire bombing, Potsdam Declaration, etc.
- Fog of War video clip
- Ending the War Against Japan: Science, Morality, and the Atomic Bomb
- The textbook
- The Decision to Use the Bomb
- Op-Ed: U.S. leaders knew we didn't have to drop the atomic bombs...

What you turn in to me should include:

- Your outline—handwritten or typed and printed
- All sources cited—format doesn't matter as long as it is clear to me what sources were used
- Readings:
 - *Ending the War Against Japan: Science, Morality, and the Atomic Bomb; The Decision to Use the Bomb; and Op-Ed: U.S. leaders knew we didn't have to drop the atomic bombs...* **with annotations**
- **You will have class time to work on this 9/21, 9/22, 9/26, and 9/27. Consider this due at the beginning of class, Wednesday, 9/28.**