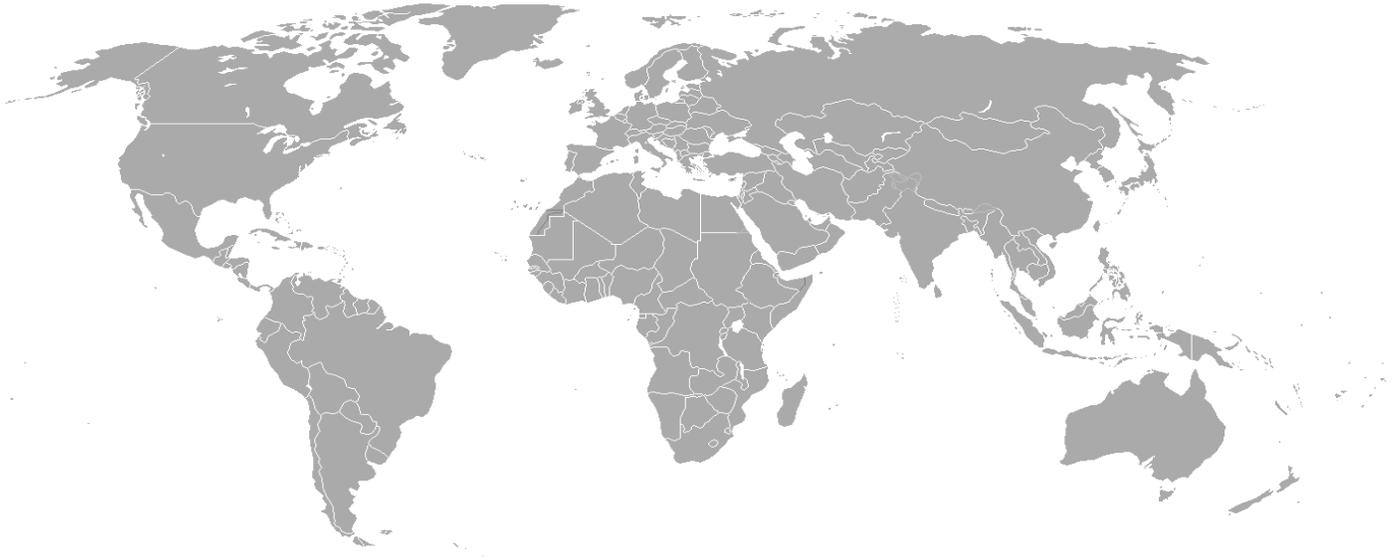




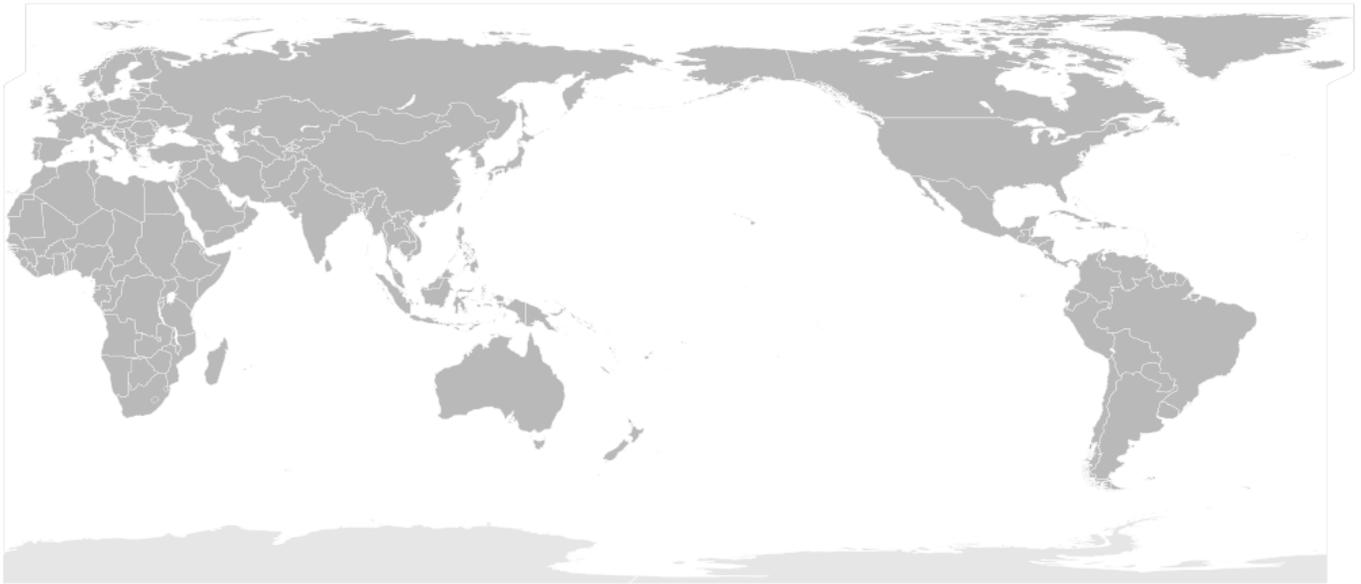
## MacArthur Memorial Education Programs

### Mapping World War II in the Pacific

This type of map is probably very familiar to you:

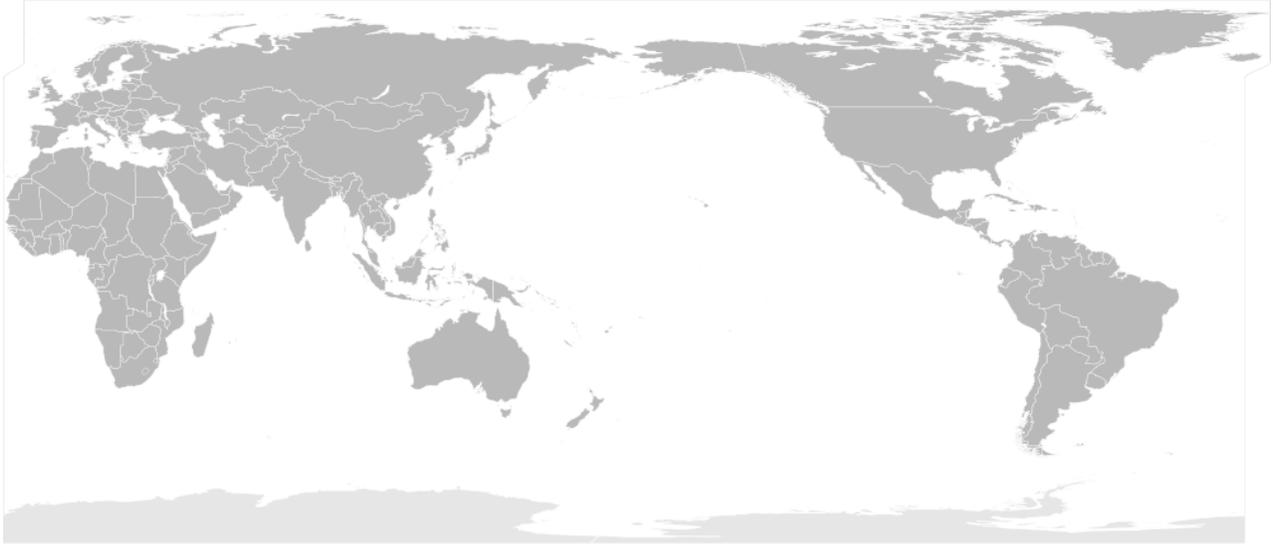


This type of map may be less familiar to you:



Maps are typically created with an audience in mind. If you are from the United States or Europe, most maps you see will feature Europe or the United States at the center. Sometimes this is called Euro-Centrism and it can be criticized for marginalizing places like Asia. While Euro-Centrism can be a problem, different types of maps also *help* historians. It's natural for people to see their country at the "center" of the map. That's where they live! By investigating how people around the world view *their* world, historians can better understand historic events and perspectives.

**Using the map below, answer the following questions:**



1. Based on this Pacific centric map, why do you think Japan saw the Pacific as a Japanese sphere of influence? Why do you think the United States saw the Pacific as a U.S. sphere of influence?
2. Using the map above, draw a star where Montana is located. Then draw a circle around the Philippines and label the island nation. Do the same for Japan. Then draw a line showing Ben Steele's movement from place to place. Do you think a journey like this was unique? Why or why not?
3. Think about why people named the war "World War II." Do you think it was truly a world war? How many continents saw fighting?