

The Allied leaders agreed even before the attack on Pearl Harbor on a strategy to defeat the Axis powers. The American and British planners decided that they must defeat the German and Italian armies first, and then send a combined force to battle the Japanese. Therefore, a 75/25 policy came to be. 75% of all Allied soldiers, materials and money went to Europe to face the Nazi threat, leaving the remaining 25% to battle the Japanese in the Pacific. To defeat the powerful German army, a second and third "front" (area of fighting) must be opened. The logic was that if we make Hitler fight in more than one place he will be forced to split his powerful army and be significantly weakened. Another key to defeating the Germany army was through the air. The Allies felt that we must use our overwhelming air forces to bomb German held cities, factories, and farms thus destroying the Nazis' ability to produce weapons and equipment for their armies.