

## Annotated Bibliography

### Primary Sources:

August 9, 1945: Radio report to the American People on the Potsdam Conference (2016). *Miller Center*.

<https://millercenter.org/the-presidency/presidential-speeches/august-9-1945-radio-report-american-people-potsdam-conference>. Accessed 28 Jan. 2024.

This transcript of the radio report to the American People on the Potsdam Conference by Harry Truman helped us analyze the radio report. This transcript allowed us to understand the terms in which the U.S. gave to the Japanese to surrender.

*Brewery Gulch gazette. [volume]* (Bisbee, Ariz.), 08 May 1945. *Chronicling America: Historic American Newspapers*. Lib. of Congress.

<https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn89070012/1945-05-08/ed-1/seq-1/>

We included this American newspaper as it included an American perspective of the circumstances leading up to our turning point. This would help us add context to the final stretch of the war in the Pacific theater following the German defeat in the European theater.

*The Daily Alaska empire. [volume]* (Juneau, Alaska), 27 July 1945. *Chronicling America: Historic American Newspapers*. Lib. of Congress.

<https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn83045499/1945-07-27/ed-1/seq-1/>

This newspaper article was included in our website because it showcased the American perspective of the Japanese “rejection”. This newspaper offers a specific snapshot in time of the Americans receiving this Japanese reply which helps support our argument.

Foreign Relations of the United States: Diplomatic Papers, the Conference of Berlin (the Potsdam Conference), 1945, Volume I - Office of the Historian.

[history.state.gov/historicaldocuments/frus1945Berlinv01/d582](https://history.state.gov/historicaldocuments/frus1945Berlinv01/d582). Accessed 3 Mar. 2024.

This translated transcript of a telegraph sent from the Japanese Minister of Foreign Affairs, Shigenori Togo, to the Japanese Ambassador in the Soviet Union, Naotake Sato discussed how to approach the Soviet side in July of 1945. Text from this document helped us understand Japanese policy towards the Soviets.

Foreign Relations of the United States: Diplomatic Papers, the Conference of Berlin (the Potsdam Conference), 1945, Volume II - Office of the Historian.

[history.state.gov/historicaldocuments/frus1945Berlinv02/d1258](https://history.state.gov/historicaldocuments/frus1945Berlinv02/d1258). Accessed 3 Mar. 2024.

This is a translated extract of Prime Minister Suzuki's press conference statement from foreign radio broadcasts. This is what the Allied, English-speaking, perspective would've seen from Suzuki's 'mokusatsu' statement. It is also the statement of rejection that President Truman references in his radio report to the people, and we quoted a part of it.

National Archives and Records Administration. "Surrender of Germany." National

Archives, <https://www.archives.gov/milestone-documents/surrender-of-germany>  
Accessed 15 Dec. 2023.

This contains the act of military surrender that Germany signed. This website gave the details of when and where this happened, and a photo of the historic event. We used this to establish the context prior to mokusatsu.

*Radio report to the American people on the Potsdam Conference* | Harry S. Truman. (n.d.).

<https://www.trumanlibrary.gov/soundrecording-records/sr61-37-radio-report-american-people-potsdam-conference>. Accessed 28 Jan. 2024.

We used the audio excerpt of the radio report in which President Harry Truman spoke to American Citizens on the poor Japanese response which resulted in the dropping of the atomic bomb. We also used the photo from this website of President Truman.

*Survivors of the atomic bomb share their stories.* (n.d.). TIME.com.

<https://time.com/after-the-bomb/>. Accessed 30 Jan. 2024.

This website allowed us to learn about the survivors of the atomic bombing in Japan and learn about their stories. The first-hand accounts we read from the survivors humanized the survivors of the atomic bomb and were very shocking for us to read about.

### **Primary – Picture Sources:**

“Admiral Kantaro Suzuki wears the Order of the Rising Sun, First Class, and the Gold Kite, Third Class, in his naval uniform.” Circa 1931, Wikimedia Commons.

[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Suzuki\\_Kantaro.jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Suzuki_Kantaro.jpg)

We used this picture of Suzuki Kantaro who was the Japanese Prime Minister at the time of our turning point. He was the very person who adopted the use of the phrase mokusatsu so including a photo of him was very relevant.

Atomic Bomb Dome | Photographs | Media Gallery. (n.d.).

<https://www.atomicarchive.com/media/photographs/hiroshima/image-6.html>. Accessed 4 Feb. 2024.

In this website, we used many photos which helped us visualize the devastating impacts of the atomic bombing on Hiroshima. This archive included many great images that we used in our website.

"Atomic Damage, Hiroshima." *The Cold War*, edited by Walter Hixson, Primary

Source Media, 2000. American Journey. Gale In Context: U.S. History, 1  
ink.gale.com/apps/doc/EJ2210036400/UHIC?u=carmelhs&sid=bookmark-UHIC&xid=c  
5b7f0e7. Accessed 17 Dec. 2023.

This is a photo of the damage that the atomic bomb created on Hiroshima. It allowed us  
to envision what the dropping of the atomic bomb created and, in turn, what the  
mistranslation led to.

“Battle of Okinawa | the National WWII Museum | New Orleans.” *The National WWII Museum* |  
*New Orleans*, 20 May 2001,

[www.nationalww2museum.org/war/topics/battle-of-okinawa](http://www.nationalww2museum.org/war/topics/battle-of-okinawa). Accessed 15 Feb. 2024.

We included pictures of the Battle of Okinawa in our Japan in War page to set up context  
of the war.

Belair, F. (1945, August 9). Truman reveals move of Moscow; announces war declaration soon  
after Russian action --capital is startled Truman reveals action by Moscow. *The New  
York Times*.

<https://www.nytimes.com/1945/08/09/archives/truman-reveals-move-of-moscow-announces-war-declaration-soon-after.html>. Accessed 15 Feb. 2024.

This was a newspaper archive from the New York Times that had headlines on Russia  
declaring war against Japan which is a huge effect caused by mokusatsu.

Cacicia, Lisa. “July 27, 1945: Japan Ignores Potsdam Ultimatum to Surrender.” *Vintage*

*Johnstown*, 27 July 2016,

<https://johnstownhistory.blogspot.com/2016/07/july-27-1945-japan-ignores-potsdam.html>  
. Accessed 13 May 2024.

DOE Photo. "Atomic Energy Act of 1946 signing." The Atomic Energy Act of 1946, 1 August, 2021. Accessed 13 Apr. 2024.

This was a photo that showcased the signing of the Atomic Energy Act of 1946 which we used in Hiroshima's Legacy for atomic diplomacy.

"Japan Officially Turns Down Allied Surrender Ultimatum; Ultimatum Called Propaganda

JAPANESE REJECT SURRENDER APPEAL Stock Rise Is Reported." *The New York Times*, 30 July 1945,

[www.nytimes.com/1945/07/30/archives/japan-officially-turns-down-allied-surrender-ultimatum-ultimatum.html?searchResultPosition=1](http://www.nytimes.com/1945/07/30/archives/japan-officially-turns-down-allied-surrender-ultimatum-ultimatum.html?searchResultPosition=1). Accessed 2 Mar. 2024.

We used the New York Times newspaper from July 30, 1945, to help convey the American perception of the mistranslation.

*The Key West citizen. [volume]* (Key West, Fla.), 27 July 1945. *Chronicling America: Historic American Newspapers*. Lib. of Congress.

<https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn83016244/1945-07-27/ed-1/seq-1/>

This source was a newspaper article that showcased the American perspective on this supposed Japanese "rejection". We used this newspaper

Kish, S., & Turner, B. (2023, August 1). Why did the atomic bomb dropped on Hiroshima leave shadows of people etched on sidewalks?

<https://www.livescience.com/nuclear-bomb-wwii-shadows.html>. Accessed 4 Mar. 2024.

This source included photos of afterimage shadows left of humans in Hiroshima. We included these photos to help our viewers envision the horrible conditions that the atomic bombs inflicted upon people.

*Kodiak mirror. (Kodiak, Alaska) 1940-1976, August 11, 1945, Image 1.*

<https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn83045298/1945-08-11/ed-1/seq-1/>. Accessed 28 Jan. 2024.

We used this newspaper article in our End of WWII page as it showed the American Newspapers headline the Japanese surrender and thus, the end of WWII.

“May 7, 1945 | Nazi Germany Surrenders in World War II.” *The Learning Network*, 7 May 2012, [archive.nytimes.com/learning.blogs.nytimes.com/2012/05/07/may-7-1945-nazi-germany-surrenders-in-world-war-ii](https://archive.nytimes.com/learning.blogs.nytimes.com/2012/05/07/may-7-1945-nazi-germany-surrenders-in-world-war-ii). Accessed 15 Feb. 2024.

In this source, we used the picture of Germany surrendering in the war which we used as context of the war leading up to our turning point.

*President Truman’s Travel Logs, 1945 | Harry S. Truman. (n.d.).*

<https://www.trumanlibrary.gov/library/personal-papers/subject-file-1943-1980/president-trumans-travel-logs-1945?documentid=NA&pagenumber=117>. Accessed 28 Jan. 2024.

This resource was a picture of the Potsdam Declaration documents which we used for our Potsdam Declaration page on our website.

“Sato Naotake | Portraits of Modern Japanese Historical Figures | National Diet Library, Japan.” Portraits of Modern Japanese Historical Figures, [www.ndl.go.jp/portrait/e/datas/413](http://www.ndl.go.jp/portrait/e/datas/413). Accessed 15 Feb. 2024.

This was where we found the picture of Ambassador Sato which was included in our website.

Sherman, Forrest. “Japanese Foreign Minister Mamoru Shigemitsu Signs the Instrument of Surrender Terms While General Richard K. Sutherland Looks on.” August 1945, Truman Library Institute.

<https://www.trumanlibraryinstitute.org/library-museum/museum-exhibits/photos-japan-surrenders/>

*Solomon Lozovsky - Wikimedia Commons.*

[commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Category:Solomon\\_Lozovsky](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Category:Solomon_Lozovsky). Accessed 4 Mar. 2024.

This source included a picture of Solomon Lozovsky, a prominent figure in the Russian government.

Taylor, A. (2016, May 13). Hiroshima: Before and after the atomic bombing. *The Atlantic*.

<https://www.theatlantic.com/photo/2016/05/hiroshima-before-and-after-the-atomic-bombing/482526/>. Accessed 2 Mar. 2024.

This website contained a lot of pictures of Hiroshima, Japan both before and after the bombing of Little Boy. We used a lot of these pictures on our website to emphasize the contrast.

Un Photo. "First Meeting of the Preparatory Committee for the Review Conference of the parties to the NPT." 1 April 1974, Audiovisual Library of International Law.

<https://legal.un.org/avl/ha/tnpt/tnpt.html>

We used this photo in our website for the NPT conference on the proliferation of nuclear arms.

*Why Hiroshima?* (n.d.).

<https://www.atomicarchive.com/history/atomic-bombing/hiroshima/page-4.html>.

Accessed 4 Feb. 2024.

In this archive, we used a lot of photos on our website. This resource included a lot of good photos regarding the before and after of the atomic bombing of Hiroshima, Japan.

“The Yalta Conference, 1945.” *Milestones: 1937–1945 - Office of the Historian*.

history.state.gov/milestones/1937-1945/yalta-conf. Accessed 25 Jan. 2024.

We used the picture of the Allied Powers meeting together during the Yalta Conference.

This website included information on the Yalta Conference which we used to understand the political situation for Russia.

### **Secondary Sources:**

*The Avalon Project : Soviet Declaration of War on Japan*. avalon.law.yale.edu/wwii/s4.asp.

Accessed 2 Mar. 2024.

We used this source on the Soviet transmission of their declaration of war to help us understand their rationale and attitude towards Japan at that time. It changed our idea of their position at that time – they were much more hostile towards Japan than the neutrality pact suggested.

Bamford, Tyler. “The Most Fearsome Sight: The Atomic Bombing of Hiroshima.” The

National WWII Museum, 6 August 2020,

<https://www.nationalww2museum.org/war/articles/atomic-bomb-hiroshima>. Accessed 17 Dec. 2023.

This was a chronological summary of the events that led to the atomic bombing, what the atomic bomb did, and what happened after. This helped us understand the circumstances of what led to the decision to drop the atomic bomb on Hiroshima.

*Chapter 20: Decision to Surrender*.

history.army.mil/books/wwii/macarthur%20reports/macarthur%20v2%20p2/ch20.htm.

Accessed 28 Jan. 2024.



We used this book for historical context and quotes. It gave an extremely detailed narrative about the internal affairs of the Japanese government and a timeline of their diplomatic initiatives during the time of the Potsdam Declaration.

“The Cold War.” *JFK Library*,

<https://www.jfklibrary.org/learn/about-jfk/jfk-in-history/the-cold-war>. Accessed 13 Apr. 2024.

This source was helpful in helping us establish the context of the events that took place during the Cold War such as learning about the proxy wars that took place and how there was never a real confrontation between the Soviet Union and the United States.

Coughlin, William Jeremiah. “The Great Mokusatsu Mistake.” *Harper’s Magazine*, 6 Aug. 2020, [harpers.org/archive/1953/03/the-great-mokusatsu-mistake](https://harpers.org/archive/1953/03/the-great-mokusatsu-mistake). Accessed 2 Mar. 2024.

William Coughlin, a former United Press foreign correspondent covering the Pacific, summarizes his research of the mistranslation of the word ‘mokusatsu’. His insight into the topic was extremely useful, and his own speculation on some unanswered questions regarding the event was very thought-provoking for us. Coughlin also included numerous pieces of evidence that show various perspectives.

“Debate over the Bomb - Nuclear Museum.” Atomic Heritage Foundation, Atomic Heritage Foundation, 6 June 2014, <https://ahf.nuclearmuseum.org/ahf/history/debate-over-bomb/>. Accessed 17 Dec. 2023.

We got an understanding on the different perspectives of the atomic bombing. This article developed the public opinion on the ethical controversies over the atomic bombing.

"The Decision to Use the Atomic Bomb." U.S. Department of State - Office of the Historian, <https://history.state.gov/milestones/1945-1952/atomic>. Accessed 10 Dec. 2023.

This site explains the use of atomic diplomacy and its real-world significance. While we didn't use any of the information in our project, it was still relevant as the topic of the usage of nuclear warfare were direct consequences of the mistranslation of mokusatsu.

Emmerson, John K. "The Japanese Thread : A Life in the U.S. Foreign Service" *Internet Archive*, 1978, [archive.org/details/japanesethreadli0000emme](https://archive.org/details/japanesethreadli0000emme). Accessed 28 Jan. 2024.

This book helped us figure out the Russian side of the situation. It clearly explained how the Japanese were still holding out hope for a Russian alliance which directly impacted the decision of replying to the Potsdam Declaration with the attitude of mokusatsu.

"The Harper's Magazine Article From 1947, 'the Decision to Use the Atomic Bomb' by Henry Stimson, to Accompany Peter Frost's Article, 'Teaching Mr. Stimson.' - Association for Asian Studies." *Association for Asian Studies*, 12 Oct. 2022, [www.asianstudies.org/publications/ea/archives/the-harpers-magazine-article-from-1947-the-decision-to-use-the-atomic-bomb-by-henry-stimson-to-accompany-peter-frosts-article-teaching-mr-stimson](https://www.asianstudies.org/publications/ea/archives/the-harpers-magazine-article-from-1947-the-decision-to-use-the-atomic-bomb-by-henry-stimson-to-accompany-peter-frosts-article-teaching-mr-stimson). Accessed 2 Mar. 2024.

Henry Stimson, former U.S. Secretary of War, recounts his reasoning behind the decision to use the atomic bomb, strongly citing the Japanese rejection of the Potsdam's terms. His powerful words put into perspective the importance of the mistranslation.

Helmig, Lacey. "WWII 75: Marching to Victory." *Truman Library Institute*, 17 Feb. 2022, [www.trumanlibraryinstitute.org/wwii-75-marching-victory-17/#:~:text=The%20Potsdam%20Declaration%20thus%20gave,of%20thousands%20of%20their%20countrymen](https://www.trumanlibraryinstitute.org/wwii-75-marching-victory-17/#:~:text=The%20Potsdam%20Declaration%20thus%20gave,of%20thousands%20of%20their%20countrymen). Accessed 28 Jan. 2024.

This resource contained information on the Potsdam Declaration and helped us piece together the events that led up to it and the events that occurred because of it. It helped us

understand the terms at which the Japanese were held and what swayed them to act the way in which they did.

*Hiroshima Archive*. (n.d.). [https://hiroshima.archiving.jp/index\\_en.html](https://hiroshima.archiving.jp/index_en.html). Accessed 28 Jan. 2024.

This website gave us insight on the casualties and survivors that surrounded the area of the bomb. It helped us visualize the amount of people affected by the atomic bomb.

“The Japanese port was not the US's. first choice for a nuclear attack in August 1945, but shifting circumstances and last-minute choices doomed the city.” National Geographic.

<https://www.nationalgeographic.co.uk/history-and-civilisation/2020/08/twists-of-fate-made-nagasaki-a-target-75-years-ago>. Accessed 2 Mar. 2024.

This source helped us understand the choices that the US Government made when determining where the atomic bomb would be dropped. It helped us understand why Hiroshima and Nagasaki were chosen as the bombing sights and we were very surprised at the fact that these locations were never really set in stone and could change depending on factors such as the weather.

Johnson, Chalmers. “Omote (Explicit) and Ura (Implicit): Translating Japanese Political Terms.” *Journal of Japanese Studies*, vol. 6, no. 1, Jan. 1980, p. 89.

<https://doi.org/10.2307/132001>. Accessed 28 Jan. 2024.

Johnson’s book studies Japanese politics as a political scientist himself, and has a chapter on the difficulty of properly translating their jargon. He mentions the usage of the phrase ‘mokusatsu suru’ and gives us leads to sources that go further in depth.

Kawai, Kazuo. “Mokusatsu, Japan’s Response to the Potsdam Declaration.” *Pacific Historical Review*, vol. 19, no. 4, Nov. 1950, pp. 409–14. <https://doi.org/10.2307/3635822>.

Accessed 17 Dec. 2024.

This book helped us understand the mistranslation of mokusatsu and the state of Japan during and after the Japanese reply to the Potsdam Declaration. It helped us dive into the linguistics of the phrase mokusatsu and it explained what the Japanese actually wanted to reply to the Allied Forces compared to what actually took place.

National Security Agency. "Mokusatsu: One Word, Two Lessons" National Security Agency, <https://www.nsa.gov/portals/75/documents/news-features/declassified-documents/tech-journals/mokusatsu.pdf>. Accessed 10 Dec. 2023.

This essay helped us understand the linguistics behind the different meanings of the word mokusatsu and the erred translation of it. It also gave a quick description of the context leading up to this moment – the Allied forces had written surrender terms and were tensely waiting for a response.

Office of the Historian, Foreign Service Institute. "Milestones: 1945–1952" *Milestones: 1945–1952 - Office of the Historian*, <https://history.state.gov/milestones/1945-1952/atomic>. Accessed 13 Apr. 2024.

We used this source to learn about what atomic diplomacy is. We used this to connect the dropping of the atomic bomb to the tensions that arose after the end of WWII. This was very helpful because it helped us set the status of the Cold War and the implications that the atomic bomb had.

"Potsdam Conference." U.S. Department of State - Office of the Historian, *Milestones: 1937–1945*, <https://history.state.gov/milestones/1937-1945/potsdam-conf>. Accessed 15 Dec. 2023.

We got a quick summary of the monumental Potsdam conference from this website, which helped us understand how Japan's surrender terms were issued and the historical context. We also used the picture of the world leaders together at the conference.

Shillony, Ben-Ami. "Fifty Years of Light and Dark, the Hirohito Era." *Monumenta Nipponica*, vol. 31, no. 2, Jan. 1976, p. 182. <https://doi.org/10.2307/2384467>. Accessed 28 Jan. 2024.

Published by Mainichi Newspapers, Shillony's book builds a strong account of what preceded the mistranslation. We found this source very useful as it allowed us put many events in order.

Slavinsky, Boris. *The Japanese-Soviet Neutrality Pact: A Diplomatic History 1941-1945*. 2003, [ci.nii.ac.jp/ncid/BA64522950](http://ci.nii.ac.jp/ncid/BA64522950). Accessed 28 Jan. 2024.

This book was a very useful source that focused on the Russian perspective of the Japanese-Soviet neutrality pact and their motivations behind breaking it such as the reacquisition of land and vengeance. It dove into Russian archives, translated them, and scrutinized them.

Spangrud, Truman. *The United States Strategic Bombing Surveys - European War, Pacific War*. 2012, [apps.dtic.mil/sti/pdfs/ADA421958.pdf](https://apps.dtic.mil/sti/pdfs/ADA421958.pdf). Accessed 28 Jan. 2024.

This report from 1984 was written with an impartial perspective and analyzes the effects of the bombing on both Nazi Germany and Imperial Japan. Importantly, Marquess Kido testified insights to them and its conclusion gave us a good summary of the state of Japan during that time period.

Tanoshi Japanese,

[https://www.tanoshijapanese.com/dictionary/entry\\_details.cfm?entry\\_id=51644&j=mokusatsu](https://www.tanoshijapanese.com/dictionary/entry_details.cfm?entry_id=51644&j=mokusatsu). Accessed 13 May 2024.

We used this Japanese dictionary to translate mokusatsu and find the definition of it for our home page to create a visual representation.

Torikai, Kumiko (2009). *Voices of the Invisible Presence: Diplomatic interpreters in post-World War II Japan*. John Benjamins Publishing. ISBN 978-9-027-29002-1 – via Google Books.

This was a very crucial source that we used since it explained to us the very organization that made the mistranslation of mokusatsu and later sent it to the US government.

United States Environmental Protection Agency. “Summary of the Atomic Energy Act | US EPA.” *Environmental Protection Agency*, 14 February 2024, <https://www.epa.gov/laws-regulations/summary-atomic-energy-act>. Accessed 13 Apr. 2024.

This source, published by the United States Environmental Protection Agency gave a detailed explanation on what the Atomic Energy Act of 1946 contained. We used this in our website to showcase a formal example of the atomic diplomacy present after the creation of the atomic bomb.

Wilson, Ward. “Five Myths About Nuclear Weapons.” *Carnegie Council for Ethics in International Affairs*, <https://www.carnegiecouncil.org/media/series/39/20130116-five-myths-about-nuclear-weapons>. Accessed 13 May 2024.

This source explained the nuance on the decision for the Japanese government to surrender very well. This helped us gain a lot of insight and background information on the Japanese government and their unwillingness to accept the terms given by the Potsdam Declaration.