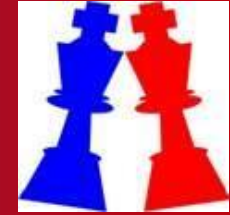


Sekigahara

October 21, 1600



Strategic Context

Toyotomi Hideyoshi unifies Japan in 1590 but dies in 1598 after his disastrous invasion of Korea, leaving his infant son, Toyotomi Hideyori, to rule a now-weakened Japan. Tokugawa Ieyasu, regent to the king, steps in

To view animation on PC: hit F5

To view animation on Mac: hit ⌘ + enter



Stakes

+ A Western victory would weaken the perception of Tokugawa's hold on power, drawing more *daimyo* to Ishida's side.

+ An Eastern victory would allow Tokugawa to strike Ishida's power base, drawing more *daimyo* to Tokugawa's side.



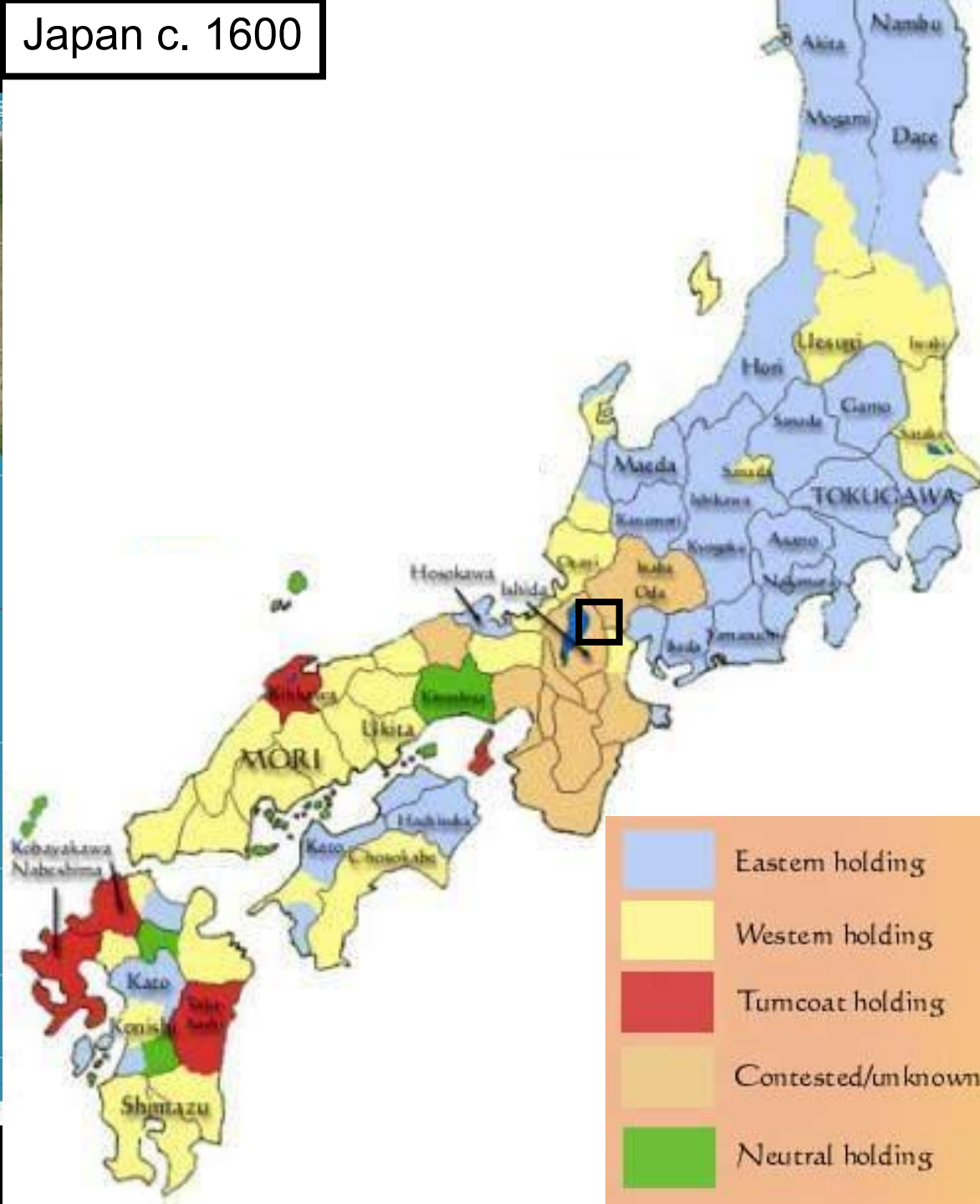


Sekigahara, 1600

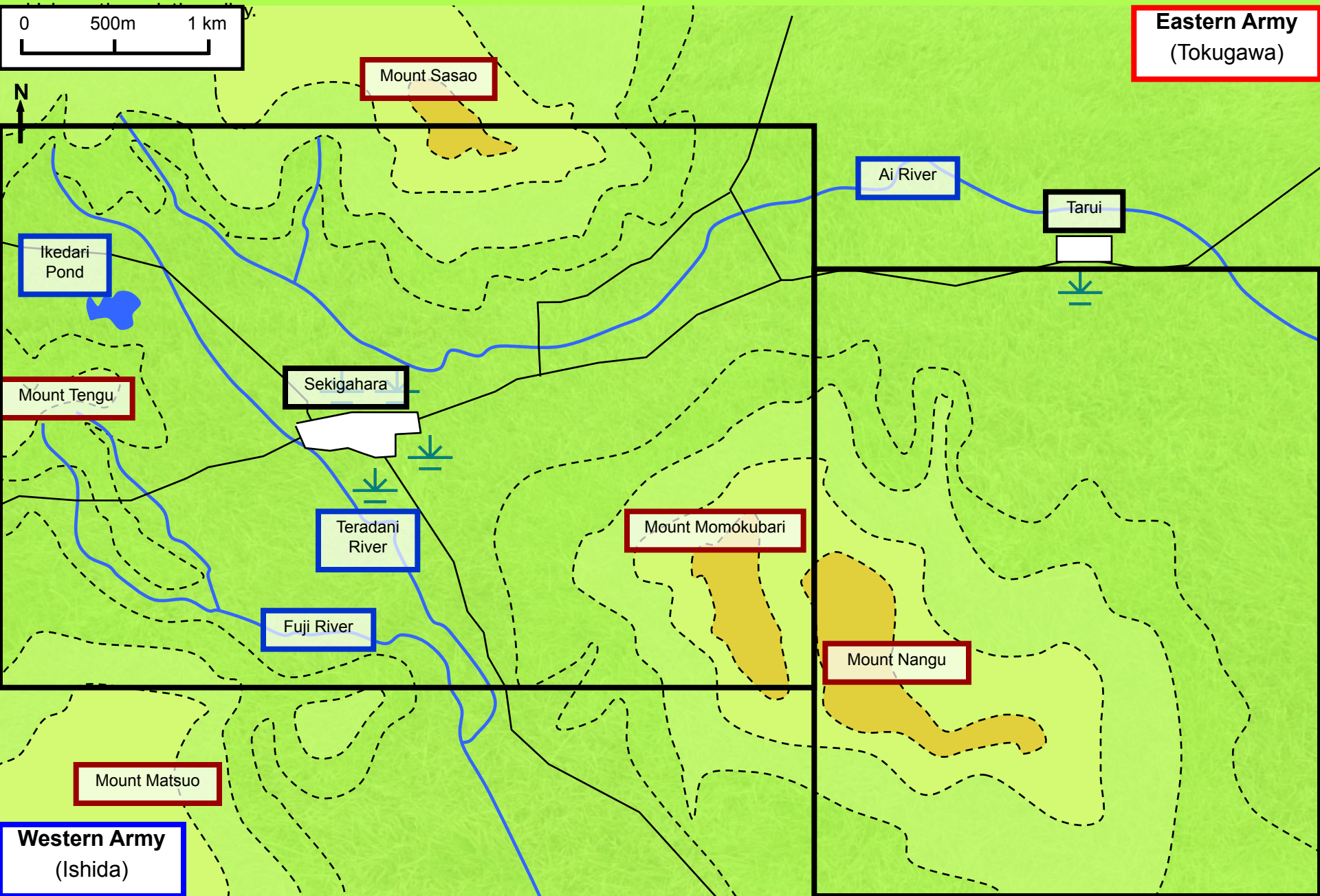
Strength



Japan c. 1600



The battlefield consists of a somewhat marshy valley with hills on most sides. The steepest hills are Mount Sasao to the north and Mounts Momokubari and Nangu to the south, with the more gradual Mounts Tengu and Matsuo to the west. The widest lane into the valley is to the east along two roads, as well as three narrower lanes to the west and south along single roads. The only urban features are the towns of Tarui in the clearing to the east, and Sekigahara which sits directly in the center of the valley and all roads. Significant water features include Ikedari pond in the west as well as three rivers





Sekigahara, 1600

Casualties & Aftermath



Western Army:

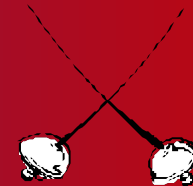


40,000

or

48%

Eastern Army:

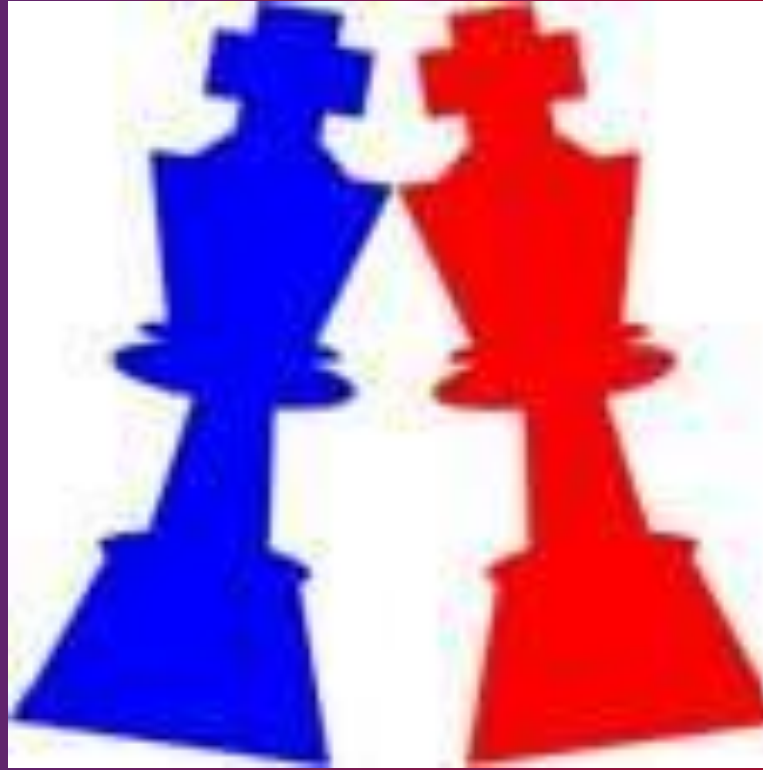


~7,500

or

8%

Tokugawa quickly exploited his victory, besieging and capturing Ishida's home castle of Sawayama, Kobayakawa leading the main assault. Tokugawa captured and executed Ishida soon after. Tokugawa rewarded his supporting *daimyo* rich with lands from his enemies but, keeping in mind the conflicting loyalties many *daimyo* held toward the Toyotomi family, Tokugawa promised his granddaughter's hand in marriage to Toyotomi Hideyori. In 1603, Tokugawa established himself as shogun. In 1615, Tokugawa attacked Osaka Castle and defeated a now teenaged Toyotomi Hideyori, removing the last obstacle to a lasting, stable regime under his leadership. The Tokugawa shogunate survived until 1857 when it was overthrown in the Meiji Restoration.



The Art of Battle: Animated Battle Maps

<http://www.theartofbattle.com>