

PRESCRIBED SUBJECT 3:
THE MOVE TO GLOBAL WAR

JAPANESE EXPANSION IN
EAST ASIA
1931-1941

Name	Class
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AN INTRODUCTION



Emperor Meiji (1852-1912)

Creator of modern Japan

Japan's Quest for Empire 1931 - 1945

By Dr Susan Townsend

(taken from the BBC's History website: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/history> -

This article can be found on the BBC History website at

http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/worldwars/wwtwo/japan_quest_empire_01.shtml.)

Chasing power

Massive changes were unleashed in Japan by the Meiji restoration - a period of radical modernisation - in 1868, and out of these emerged the desire for wealth, power and prestige as a way of redressing the imposition of unequal treaties that had been placed upon Japan by western powers in the past.

Victory in the Sino-Japanese War of 1894-5 also gave Japan its first real foothold on the Asian continent, forcing China to recognise Korean 'independence' and cede Taiwan (Formosa) and the Liaotung peninsula.

However, France, Germany and Russia, in the 'triple intervention', protested that Japanese occupation of Liaotung would pose a constant threat to China, and they forced a deeply humiliated Japan to abandon the peninsula.

Another effect of the war was to expose China's soft underbelly to the world, prompting the United States to formulate the Open Door Policy in 1899 in an attempt to prevent anti-competitive policies in China. But this

didn't prevent the region from remaining one of fierce rivalries, with the US, Russia and Japan all involved, leading Japan to conclude an alliance with Britain in 1902 to counter Russian predominance in the region.

Three years later Japan's victory in the 1904-5 Russo-Japanese War amazed the western world, and encouraged some Asian nationalists (those not directly threatened by Japanese expansion) to regard Japan as the region's natural leader. The Treaty of Portsmouth, which ended the war, allowed Japan to dominate Korea and secure a new sphere of influence in south Manchuria. Maintaining and strengthening this position became a fundamental national commitment.

The threat of still further Japanese expansion into China brought Japan into conflict with the US Open Door Policy but the so-called 'blood-debt' of the costly Russo-Japanese war made it difficult even for moderates in Japan to contemplate a return to the pre-war position, despite the pressure to do so from America.

- 1) *Why did Japan conclude an alliance with Britain in 1902?*
- 2) *Which treaty ended the Russo-Japanese War and what did this treaty allow Japan to do?*
- 3) *What brought Japan into conflict with the US Open Door Policy?*

Seaborne empire

Things didn't move significantly until, after the formal annexation of Korea in 1910, Japan turned its attention to the *Nan'yo-Gunto* - or South Sea Islands. Japan's presence in the South Seas had formerly been limited to an assortment of Japanese traders and adventurers. But during World War One there were an influential few, engaged in business or military concerns - especially the navy - who advocated a southwards advance [*nanshin*] rather than the advance northwards [*hokushin*] favoured by the army. They made it clear that if Japan moved into the South Pacific and south-east Asia, abundant natural resources would become available.

Thus, after joining the victorious Allies in World War One, Japan was granted Germany's Asian colonial territories under a League of Nations' mandate. The territories consisted of Tsingtao, on the Chinese Shantung Peninsula, and the formerly German-held islands in Micronesia.

At long last it seemed that the unequal treaties and the triple intervention had been avenged - Japan had been allowed into the 'big power club', and for now she felt secure. Talk of further expansion died away.

- 4) *What territories was Japan granted under a League of Nations' mandate after joining the victorious allies in World War One? Where did these territories consist of?*
- 5) *What happened to the idea of further expansion after the granting to Japan of these territories?*

Deadlock

Until the late 1920s Japanese leaders generally supported the ideal, if not the practice, of economic liberalism. Their attempts to integrate the Japanese economy into a liberal world order, however, became frustrated in the early 1930s when the depressed western economies placed barriers on Japanese trade to protect their own colonial markets.

Many Japanese believed that the structure of international peace embodied in the League of Nations favoured the western nations that controlled the world's resources. Moreover, the west had acted hypocritically by blocking Japanese emigration through anti-Asian immigration laws in the 1920s.

As a result, the idea began to emerge in Japan of an East Asian federation or cooperative body, based on traditional pan-Asian ideals of universal brotherhood (*hakko ichiu* - eight corners of the world under one roof) and an 'Asia for Asians' liberationist rhetoric.

The Japanese aggression in Manchuria in 1931 was in this context, and was justified on the basis of the Manchurian-Mongolian *seimeisen* or 'lifeline' argument - the idea that Japan's economy was deadlocked. Three factors creating this deadlock loomed large - the shortage of raw materials in Japan, the rapidly expanding Japanese population, and the division of the world into economic blocs.

6) *How were attempts to integrate Japan's economy into a liberal world order frustrated in the early 1930s?*

7) *What did the idea of an East Asian federation result from?*

8) *What 3 main factors created the 'lifeline' argument (i.e. that Japan's economy was deadlocked)?*



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List 3 conclusions that can be made about the above map.

1)

2)

3)

JAPAN AND WWI

Japan entered WWI in the early stages on the side of Britain and France. Japan had a number of ulterior motives – or self-serving reasons for doing so. Japan had wanted a slice of Chinese territory when China was carved up amongst the European powers at the end of the Nineteenth Century. Japan also wanted to be a world power, and she knew that to achieve this, she needed to befriend an established western power or “white nation”.

In joining the war against Germany, Japan hoped she could gain Germany's old territory in China. Indeed, Japan took advantage of the European powers' preoccupation with the war in Europe to take German-owned territory on China's Shandong Peninsula. Japan also took over the German Kaiser's islands in the western Pacific - the Marianas, Carolines and Marshalls. China also tried (with total futility) to exploit wartime confusion by trying to regain control over some of its occupied territory, but an aggressive Japan suppressed any hope of a Chinese resurgence with their Twenty-One Demands. These were a five-category ultimatum designed to impose Japanese regional ascendancy over China and in particular Japanese control over Manchuria and Shandong.



The Twenty-One Demands <http://totallyhistory.com/twenty-one-demands/>

The Japanese had hoped to keep their wartime gains after the end of the war. Certainly Japan had a strong case for German Pacific possessions. At the end of WWI Japan still had physical possession of these territories and Britain and Germany had agreed in secret to divide amongst themselves German island holdings on the equator (Britain would take islands to the south and Japan islands to the North. This agreement however ran contrary to US President Woodrow Wilson's principle at the Treaty of Versailles of self-determination – whereby all nations should be free to rule themselves – as opposed to being ruled as colonies by other powers. Under a newly created mandate system however, the North Pacific German island holdings were granted to Japan, whilst Japan was allowed to keep economic rights over the Shandong Peninsula on the understanding that this later be returned to Chinese control.

As well as war time gains, Japanese involvement in WWI was significant in other ways; namely heavy industry and Siberian intervention.

The western allies needed war material and other industrial goods. For Japan this meant a major industrial boom, which in turn meant a great industrial trade. This was invaluable to the allies greatly profitable to Japan.

After the Bolshevik Revolution in November 1917 (October by the old Russian calendar – hence it was known as the October Revolution), which in turn was followed by a separate peace between Russia and Germany, the allies sent an expeditionary force into Siberia with a view to retrieving war material which could be used by both Germany and the Bolsheviks, and to helping anti-Communist Russian forces fighting to gain control over the country. Japan had a large force in Russia at the time following Japan's victory in the Russo-Japanese War. This large force – along with Japan's reluctance to withdraw its force greatly alienated the allies.

Many Japanese considered their country's role in WWI a success. It had bolstered Japan's industry and therefore her economy. This coincided however with an increase in labor-management strife and the emergence of a vocal leftist political movement at home. Other countries viewed Japan with hatred – especially Korea - which had been under Japanese occupation since 1910, whilst others protested about Japan's opportunism during the war.

Japan was recognized as a great power by the victorious allies, and as such was made a full partner at the Treaty of Versailles. At Versailles Japan was granted mandates over the islands she took during the war, but she did not gain a much-wanted statement of on racial equality in the Covenant of the League of Nations. Britain opposed this for fear that it would lead to equality or independence movements within her own Empire! The USA was sympathetic to Japan in this, but gave in to British pressure and abstained on the vote of racial equality.

Japan had hoped for more to show for her involvement in WWI and felt cheated by the terms of Versailles. Both she and Italy felt they had been given the mere left-overs of the spoils of WWI at Versailles – or the crumbs from under the table. This would cause wide-spread resentment in both nations and both nations would follow a similar path in the years after WWI...

An Overview of Japanese / United States Relations: 1900 - 1930

<http://balzer-eskideas.blogspot.com/2011/04/overview-of-japanese-united-states.html>

Japan and the World War I Era

<http://www.u-s-history.com/pages/h1110.html>

Primary Documents - '21 Demands' Made by Japan to China, 18 January 1915

<http://www.firstworldwar.com/source/21demands.htm>

Szczepanski, Kallie: What Motivated Japanese Aggression in World War II?

<http://asianhistory.about.com/od/warsinasia/fl/What-Motivated-Japanese-Aggression-in-World-War-II.htm>

Fill the table below with a list of gains Japan made, and losses it suffered from WWI

GAINS	LOSSES

- 1) What were two reasons for Japan's entry into WWI on the side of Britain and France?
- 2) How did Japan suppress China's hopes of her own resurgence during this period?
- 3) What was Japan's claim to German Pacific possessions?
- 4) What was the secret agreement between Britain and Japan concerning German island holdings? Why did the USA oppose this? What compromises were made?

5) In what two ways did Japan's presence in Russia alienate the western allies?

6) What was Japan granted by the Treaty of Versailles?

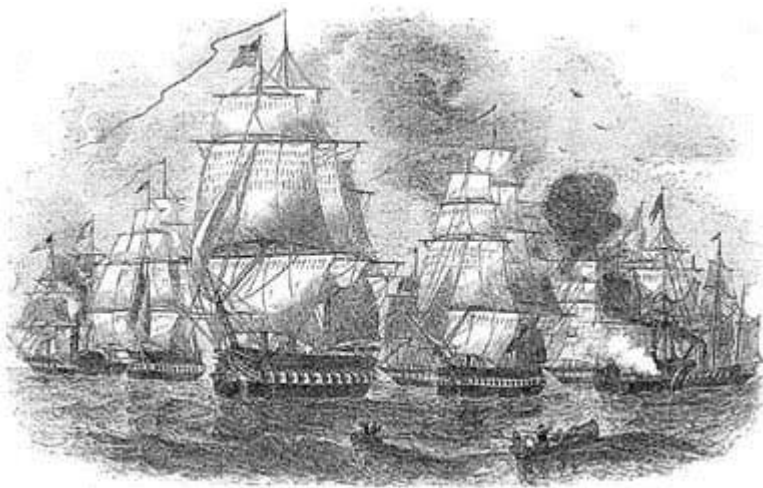
7) What was Japan denied by the treaty of Versailles and why?

WHY DID THE JAPANESE WANT TO EXPAND?

There were three reasons for Japan's aggressive expansion into Asia:

- 1) Outside aggression
- 2) Japanese nationalism
- 3) Japan's need for natural resources

OUTSIDE AGGRESSION: Japan's first taste of western aggression came from the USA in 1853, when Commodore Matthew Perry arrived in Tokyo Bay with an American naval squadron. The feudal Japanese military government – or the Tokugawa shogun – was faced with overwhelming force and greater military technology from the naval squadron that it had no option but to sign an unequal treaty with the USA. This was a time when imperial powers were taking over as much land as they could for themselves – either directly or by trade. The Japanese government had just seen China greatly defeated by Britain in the first Opium War. Japan's rulers were keen to avoid a similar fate, and so reformed their political system through the Meiji Restoration. This entailed power being taken from Tokugawa shogun returning the Emperor to a central role in the country's politics and culture. Japan also modernized its armed forces and industries.



Commodore Perry's Black Ships in Edo Bay in 1854. (Photo from Wikipedia)

<http://asianhistory.about.com/od/japan/fl/Commodore-Matthew-Perry-Opens-Japan-1853-54.htm>

Japan began to act in the same way as European powers. Japanese people even adopted western clothing and haircuts! Japan also wanted a slice of China, which at this time was being carved up by European powers. Japan really announced her arrival on the world stage as a world power with her victories in the First Sino-Japanese War (1894-95) and the Russo-Japanese War (1904-05). It had just been a few decades since Matthew Perry arrived in Tokyo Bay with his American naval squadron, but now Japan was building her own empire. This epitomised the phrase; “the best defence is a good offence”



Japan wanted a share in the carve-up of China along with the European powers.

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NATIONALISM: Japan's victories over China and Russia lead to a development in nationalism amongst the Japanese people. Some intellectuals and military leaders came to believe that the Japanese were ethnically and racially superior to other peoples (so similar to Nazi Germany and Fascist Italy). Many nationalists claimed that the Japanese were descendants of Shinto gods (Shintoism is a Japanese religion that believes in ancestral worship) and that the Emperors of Japan were direct descendants of Sun Goddess - Amaterasu. It was believed by some that with such a direct lineage to Amaterasu, Japan should naturally rule the whole of Asia!

This rise in nationalism in Japan coincided with a similar rise in nationalism in Germany and Italy i.e. Nazism and Fascism. Each of these three countries felt threatened by the established imperial European powers and they all responded with claims of their own superiority.



The Axis leaders. From left to right - Tojo, Mussolini, and Hitler

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NATURAL RESOURCES: Japan lacked natural resources such as oil, iron, rubber sugar, and rice. Japan needed these resources to help develop the commercial aspect of her economy via trade with the USA and Europe. Such needs would induce Japan to take over much of Asia and exploit the natural resources of these countries to the satisfaction of her own requirements! This helped Japan's economy, which along with her military conquests over China and Russia, and a consequently new importance on the international stage, gave some Japanese intellectuals and military their sense of ethnic and racial superiority.

Sources:

Szczepanski, Kallie: What Motivated Japanese Aggression in World War II?

<http://asianhistory.about.com/od/warsinasia/fl/What-Motivated-Japanese-Aggression-in-World-War-II.htm>

Kennedy, Rita: (Demand Media) Japanese Imperialism During the 1930s

<http://classroom.synonym.com/japanese-imperialism-during-1930s-9316.html>

Put a characteristic under the appropriate heading/reason for expansion – as per the example below.

OUTSIDE AGGRESSION	NATIONALISM	NATURAL RESOURCES
Commodore Matthew Perry		

- 1) From which power did Japan get its first taste of foreign aggression? Is there an irony here?
- 2) What was Japan determined to avoid in wake of this act of foreign aggression?
- 3) What major change was made to Japan's political system after this? What was this called?
- 4) What did Japan's victories over China and Russia lead to? What Japanese religion featured in this?
- 5) Which other two countries were developing a sense of superiority? What provoked this in all three cases?

THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS

One of the most important outcomes of WWI was the League of Nations. The task of the League of Nations was simply to ensure that war never broke out again!

The USA had fought in WWI and the country as a whole, and their leader President Woodrow Wilson in particular, were horrified by the scale of the slaughter. It was especially horrifying to Wilson that this should have happened in what was surely the most civilized part of the world! It seemed that the only way to avoid such a catastrophic conflict in the future was to create a body through which all future disputes could be settled diplomatically. This certainly seemed a good idea but History tells us that it failed miserably in its aim! Barely twenty years after the end of WWI, another, even worse conflict broke out – WWII, which was to no small extent a product of the WWI!



The semi-official League of Nations flag.

https://uk.images.search.yahoo.com/search/images;_ylt=AwrSbjVR8JUhOAAhH9LBQx.;_ylu=X3oDMTB1NTElOWF1BHNIYwNzYwRjb2xvA2dxMQR2dGlkA1ZJUFVLMTIfMQ--?_adv_prop=image&fr=yfp-t-403&va=the+league+of+nations+-+photos

The League of Nations could do three things – or impose three sanctions in the event of a dispute:

It could call on disputing nations to discuss their disputes in an orderly manner in the League's Assembly, which could then decide on how to proceed. If one nation was seen to be the offender, the League could impose verbal sanctions and warn the offending nation to reverse their actions or face the consequences.

If this first step did not work, the League could then impose economic sanctions with a view to the offender nation then *having* to do as the League required lest financial sanctions continue to the point of bankruptcy and the offending nation then face the anger of its own citizens.

If economic sanctions failed, the League of Nations could then resort to military force to impose its will.

This seemed okay in theory but in practice it was never going to work. The League of Nations did not have its own army and no member-nation had to provide one. Furthermore, France and Britain's armies (France

and Britain were the most powerful members of the League of Nations) were in a poor state following the end of WWI, and no position to provide the League of Nations with the support it needed.

A further problem was that the USA, who had first thought of the idea of the League of Nations, did not join. The USA was at this time pursuing a policy of isolationism. During the interwar years the USA was determined never again to get involved in another conflict beyond its shores.



What does this cartoon suggest about the USA's non-membership of the League of Nations?

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Germany was not allowed to join the League of Nations. The League of Nations was set up amongst the victors of WWI and Germany was amongst the defeated. Germany was excluded from the international community after WWI and as such not allowed to join. With Germany's exclusion from the League of Nations, the League could not use whatever strength Germany may have had to support its campaign against other nations. The USSR was another country that was excluded from the League of Nations. Her communist government was feared amongst the western nations, and it was on their orders that the Russian Tsar and his family had been murdered. Such a country was not wanted in the League of Nations!

Considering the above factors it is easy to see why the League of Nations ultimately failed and indeed why it had no realistic chance of success in its aim in the first place. Is it any wonder then that the League of Nations was totally ineffective against Japan in wake of Japan's invasion of Manchuria, or that Japan was totally discouraged by the League's condemnation of her actions?

<http://www.historylearningsite.co.uk/leagueofnations.htm>

- 1) What was the aim of the League of Nations?
- 2) What were the *three* sanctions that the League of Nations could impose?
- 3) Why were these sanctions not very effective?
- 4) Who were *not* allowed to join the League of Nations, and why?
- 5) Whose exclusion from the League of Nations was a bad thing for the League, and why?

JAPANESE AMERICANS

By the twentieth century there were people of many different ethnic backgrounds living in the USA. The Japanese were no exception to this. Under the Presidency of Theodore Roosevelt however, racial tensions began to grow in the USA with immigrants from Japan.

Under Theodore Roosevelt, the USA maintained good relations with Japan but Roosevelt himself was not altogether innocent of being racist himself. He had even said that the most righteous war was a war with savages and had publicly spoken of cementing the rule of the dominant world races. American foreign policy in the early Twentieth Century had a quite a few racial overtones in line with attitudes such as the 'manifest destiny' of white Anglo-Americans to conquer lands inhabited by 'inferior races' e.g. Native Americans and Mexicans, and the 'White Man's Burden' of the Europeans' 'obligation' to introduce civilization to the 'primitive' inhabitants of Africa, Asia, and the Pacific. All this was of course very similar to the world-outlook of other Western European powers – especially the British.

Within the USA itself, prejudice was aimed in the Pacific states at the resident Asian immigrants. There were several immigration laws that discriminated against the Asians, and at various points the Chinese or other people of other Asian nationalities were banned from entering the USA. Non-whites were prohibited from testifying against whites, and the Chinese and Japanese were subjected to harder labor on the First Transcontinental Railroad and often carried out the more dangerous tasks. The San Francisco Vigilance movement – which was actually a response to crime and corruption – victimized Irish immigrants and, later changed into mob violence against the Asian immigrants. The perpetrators of these acts were either acquitted or given light sentences for lesser offences because the testimony of Asian witnesses did not carry as much credibility (if any) as that of other witnesses.

Japanese immigrants were welcomed in California, Oregon, and Washington in the late Nineteenth Century. They were renowned for their clean habits, entrepreneurial spirit, and strong work ethic. In time however, Japanese farm workers engaged in collective labor actions when they felt that they were being cheated. From there they moved from contract labor to sharecropping, and then to purchase of farmland. This made people living on the West Coast uncomfortable. Japanese businesses began competing with white-owned businesses e.g. restaurants. Some Japanese businesses began to acquire wealth, which was a source of resentment amongst white business owners. There existed an unspoken caste system; non-white immigrants were lower down the pecking order.

In 1905, both houses in the California legislature asked the US Congress - with a unanimous resolution - to limit Japanese Immigration. The resolution stated that Japanese laborers were undesirable because of their race habits, and added nothing to the state's prosperity.



An unwelcoming sign that greeted Japanese immigrants in many neighbourhoods.

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These conditions of legislation and segregation would continue up to the outbreak of WWII. This already existing hatred of Japanese Americans by which these actions had happened possibly made the creation of Internment Camps for the imprisonment of Japanese Americans more realistic.



Japanese incarcerated in an internment camp.

https://uk.images.search.yahoo.com/search/images;_ylt=AwrSbjRLSMtUIvwAuKhLBQx.;_ylu=X3oDMTB1c2cyADBByBHNIYwNzYwRjb2xvA2dxMQR2dG1kA1ZJUFVLMThfMQ--?adv_prop=image&fr=yfp-t-403&va=japanese+americans

Despite this anti-Japanese feeling, Japan was able to fly under the radar with her expansionist policy because in the years immediately after WWI, much focus was on Europe, otherwise war between Japan and the USA could have broken out within two years of the end of WWI.

It is clear then, that there had been a bad feeling between the USA and Japan for some time before the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbour, but the Japanese were not the only aggressors. We have seen that the American leaders also had some rather imperialist and racist views that shaped *their* foreign policy, and this had been put into practice with the USA's holdings in the Philippines, Hawaii, and Guam.

Over time, Japan became more militaristic in its leaders. The progressives were pushed out and replaced by conservative, imperialist elements. During this time, however the USA had economically been slowly

preparing for war and her leaders had been pursuing *their* expansionist aims in the Pacific. It is worth mentioning again the USA's holdings in the Pacific in the Philippines, Hawaii, and Guam during the 1920s and 30s. Both the USA and Japan then, wanted the same land. Japan wanted to expand in the Pacific but so did the USA, and to this end the USA got the best deal that she could of the treaties from the Washington Naval Conference.

Balzer, William R: An Overview of Japanese/United States Relations: 1900 – 1930
<http://balzer-eskideas.blogspot.com/2011/04/overview-of-japanese-united-states.html>

Milestones: 1921–1936: The Washington Naval Conference, 1921–1922
<https://history.state.gov/milestones/1921-1936/naval-conference>

- 1) What examples were there of racist elements in the USA's foreign policy?
- 2) What specific examples of prejudice were there in the USA against Asian immigrants?
- 3) Why were the Japanese initially welcomed in California, Oregon, and Washington in the late Nineteenth Century?
- 4) Why did people in the West Coast come to feel uncomfortable with the Japanese immigrants?
- 5) In 1905, both houses in the California legislature asked the US Congress - with a unanimous resolution - to limit Japanese Immigration. What did the resolution say about Japanese immigrants?

JAPAN'S PRE-WAR RELATIONS WITH THE USA

Following the end of WWI the world was keen to prevent the outbreak of another war. WWI had changed the world's outlook on war. Before, war had been desirable and a means of honouring your country. WWI however, had shown the world how horrific war could be. WWI brought fighting and combat much closer to home with ordinary people encouraged to join up and fight for their country – as opposed to professional soldiers. Moreover, WWI resulted in an unprecedented death-toll. Millions died in the trenches. Little wonder that so many people were keen to prevent another war, and that Churchill prior to 1939 - when another war *was* threatening Europe – Churchill, by his warnings about Hitler, was dismissed amongst many quarters as warmonger.

In keeping with the spirit of a lasting peace after WWI, the world was keen to launch a number of disarmament programmes. This happened in Europe with Europe's armies, and further afield e.g. in the Pacific.

Along with a desire for lasting peace, rising tensions caused by Japanese expansion at this time, along with an international arms race. All three of these issues were addressed by the Washington Naval Conference in 1921-22. Japan and Britain were the USA's principle competitors in the naval arms race. Idaho's Republican Senator William Borah led a Congressional effort to demand that the USA engage Britain and Japan in negotiations for disarmament.



The signing of the Washington Naval Conference

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Three main treaties came out of the Washington Naval Conference; The Five Power Treaty, The Four Power Treaty, and the Nine Power Treaty.

The Five-Power Treaty called for the five powers; the USA, Britain, Japan, France, and Italy to keep a set tonnage ratio of warships, which allowed the USA and Britain the joint-biggest share of tonnage – with Japan coming second. The USA and Britain got the highest tonnage because they were active in both the Atlantic and the Pacific. This treaty controlled the tonnage of each Navy's warships but some classes of ship

were left un-restricted, which left a loophole with which enabled a new race for cruiser ships after 1922. These loopholes were closed in negotiations in 1927 and in 1930.



What does this cartoon suggest Japan thought of the terms of the Five Power Treaty?

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By the terms of the Four-Power Treaty, the USA, Britain, France, and Japan agreed to consult with each other in the event of a future crisis before taking any action. This replaced an earlier treaty between Britain and Japan and Britain back in 1902, which left the USA concerned that in the event of a crisis Britain might have an obligation to side with Japan against the USA. Following WWI, Japan was seen by many policy-makers as the biggest rising threat, and indeed by now Japan was greatly militarized and looking to expand its influence and territory.

The Nine-Power Treaty marked the internationalization of the USA's Open Door Policy in China. The treaty promised each of its signatories; the United States, Britain, Japan, France, Italy, Belgium, the Netherlands, Portugal, and China would respect China's territorial integrity. China in return promised by this treaty not to discriminate against any countries doing business there. This treaty recognized Japanese dominance over Manchuria at the same time as otherwise affirming equal opportunity for all nations doing business in China. This treaty, like the Four-Power Treaty called on consultation in the event of violation as opposed to forcing signatories to a specific response.

There was also Shandong Treaty – signed by Japan and China – which returned Shandong Province and its railway to China. Japan had taken this from Japan during WWI but was now being returned to Japan. Japan additionally agreed to withdraw troops from Siberia, and the USA and Japan agreed on equal access cable and radio facilities on the Japanese-occupied island of Yap. The Shandong Treaty and Nine-Power Treaty were both meant as reassurance to China that Japanese expansion was not going to further compromise Chinese territory.

All these treaties served to uphold the Status Quo in the Pacific, recognized existing interests without making major changes to them. The USA simultaneously secured agreements which reinforced her existing policy in the Pacific including her Open Door Policy in China at the same time as limiting Japanese imperial expansion as much as was possible.

The USA too, had holdings in the Pacific during the 1920s and 30s. She had holdings in territories there including the Philippines, Hawaii, and Guam. Little wonder then that she was keen to uphold her interests in the region with the above treaties. It was for this reason that the USA did not want too much limitation on her own navy in the Five-Power Treaty.

When Japan attacked Manchuria in 1931 however, the USA did not see military intervention to be in her interests. In light of the Great Depression there was also little interest in economic sanctions. The USA therefore turned instead to the League of Nations (sitting in on a League of Nations meeting for the first time) and called upon the League to enforce the Kellogg-Briand Pact – a pact signed initially by fifteen nations – and then more nations later, including the USA, Britain, China, and Japan – to outlaw war. This however, was ineffective.

The Stimson Doctrine (named after Secretary Stimson) was therefore issued in early 1932, and it declared that the USA would not recognize any agreement between Japan and China that violated American rights or agreements which the USA had signed. Japan's attack on Manchuria was such a violation of the terms of the Nine-Power Treaty – which of course the USA had also signed. In 1932 Japan attacked Shanghai – home to China's largest international settlements. This was a threat to foreign concessions. In response Stimson declared that in light of Japan's violation of the Nine-Power Treaty, the USA was no longer bound by the Treaty's naval limitations agreements. This created the potential for a new naval arms race into which would inevitably draw in the Japanese, but it did not change the Manchurian situation.

The League of Nations investigated the Japanese attack on Manchuria and reported their findings in Lytton Report. The Lytton Report blamed the attack on both Japanese militarism and Chinese nationalism. The report also said however, that it would not recognize the new Japanese puppet state of Manchukuo as it violated China's and the Nine-Power Treaty, which many of the League of Nations Members had signed. China and Japan signed a truce – but it was one that left Japan very firmly in charge of Manchuria.

The Manchurian Crisis had proven the disarmament treaties and agreements on peace and non-aggression for a lasting peace a total failure. It had all been a noble ideal but it had also all been proven unenforceable.

Milestones: 1921–1936: The Washington Naval Conference, 1921–1922
<https://history.state.gov/milestones/1921-1936/naval-conference>

Milestones: 1921–1936: The Kellogg-Briand Pact, 1928
<http://history.state.gov/milestones/1921-1936/kellogg>



Trial by Geneva.

Judge: "The Court orders you to respect the law and sentences you to a good talking to."

Japan: "And I order the court to mind its own business and I sentence it to go and chase itself."

Trial by Geneva: British cartoon by David Lowe published in the *Evening Standard* – a British Newspaper on 24th November 1932. http://www.cartoons.ac.uk/search/cartoon_item/trial%20by%20geneva

What does this cartoon suggest about both the authority of the League of Nations, and Imperial Japan's attitude towards the League?

With reference its origin and purpose, discuss the values and limitations of the cartoon for Historians studying Japanese Expansion in the years 1931-41 (two values and two limitations).

Origin:

Purpose:

Values:

Limitations:

- 1) Japan was trying to expand in the Pacific. Did the USA have an unquestionable right to criticise Japan for this? Why/Why not?

- 2) What were the basic terms of:
 - a) The Five Power Treaty?

 - b) The Four Power Treaty?

 - c) The Nine Power Treaty?

- 3) What was the Kellogg-Briand Pact?

4) What was the Stimson Doctrine? For what did this create the potential?

5) What were the findings of the Lytton Report?

6) Who did the truce between Japan and China leave in charge of Manchuria?

THE MILITARISTS TAKE OVER IN JAPAN

Following the end of WWI, Japan was involved in a struggle between liberals and leftists on one side, and ultra conservatives on the other. It was against this backdrop that Emperor Hirohito ascended the Japanese throne in 1926.

In 1925 universal male suffrage was introduced i.e. all men were now allowed to vote in Japan. The left pushed for further democratic reforms but as they did so, right-wing politicians pushed for legislation to ban organizations that they felt threatened the state by measures such as wealth distribution or political change. This brought about the 'Peace Preservation Law' of 1925 – a law which greatly reduced political freedom. The left disintegrated after this and as it did so, ultra-nationalism prevailed. Nationalism in Japan started at the end of the nineteenth century, but now it evolved into ultra-nationalism. During the Meiji period industrialization, education, centralization and military conscription moved loyalties from feudalism to loyalty to the Emperor-personified state.

The 1922 Five Power Naval Limitation Agreement saw western powers criticize Japan's imperial ambitions and limit her military expansion. The 1924 Japanese Exclusion Act banned Japanese immigration to the USA. These actions were seen by Japanese ultra-nationalists as provocative and their position became more xenophobic, emperor-centred, and Asia-centric. They portrayed the USA, Britain, China, and the Netherlands (or 'ABCD Powers') as a threat to the Japanese Empire.

The Great Depression of the 1930s hit Japan hard. Japan suffered from economic collapse, rapidly increased prices, high unemployment, decreased exports, and social unrest. The civilian government was ineffective in its actions to address these problems. In recent years Japan's government had applied western style economic policies, but these were now ineffective, and even those who had not supported the military - and even hated it before - looked to them as an alternative. This was a parallel to events in Germany taking place at the same time for the same reason.

In 1930 Prime Minister Osachi was assassinated by an ultra-nationalist and by the summer of 1931, the military was gaining more and more influence over the government and the army invaded Manchuria and took over its entire border region. The League of Nations condemned this action but was powerless to take any effective action. Japan left the League of Nations and its consequent international isolation fed its ultra-nationalism. The ultra-nationalists recruited mayors, teachers and Shinto priests to indoctrinate Japanese citizens on ultra-nationalists lines. An attempt was made on the life of Osachi's successor as Prime Minister. This failed and did not become a coup, but the episode ended rule by political parties. Between 1932 and 1936, Japan was effectively under military dictatorship as Admirals ruled the country.

On 26th February 1936, a coup *did* take place. In what is known as the February 26th Incident, nationalistic army officers led troops in a staged military coup in an attempt to overthrow the government and begin a new regime. Three ministers were assassinated during this coup; Korekiyo Takahashi, the finance minister, Makoto Saito, the interior minister, and Jotaro Watanabe, the education minister. The coup lasted for four days, during which it occupied central Tokyo. This action was at first approved by the army headquarters but then they disowned the officers after Emperor Showa told the military to put down the rebellion. The coup thus failed, but after the failed coup attempt the party government was marginalized from now Japanese politics was now under military control.

The 1930s and War Economy http://www.grips.ac.jp/teacher/oono/hp/lecture_J/lec09.htm
Imperial Japan – 12/1926 to 09/1945 <http://www.history.co.uk/study-topics/history-of-ww2/imperial-japan>

Insert the correct events or situations/dates to complete the chart.

1925	Introduction of Universal Male Suffrage
1925	
1926	
	Prime Minister Osachi assassinated
1932-36	
	February 26 th Incident



Army mutineers surround the Japanese Foreign Ministry in Tokyo in the February 26th Incident in 1936.

<http://www.pacificwar.org.au/historicalbackground/JapMilaggro.html>



Korekiyo Takahashi http://www.grips.ac.jp/teacher/oono/hp/lecture_J/lec09.htm

- 1) Between which factions was Japan involved in a struggle after the end of WWI?
- 2) In which year was universal male suffrage introduced in Japan?
- 3) How did the right feel about the left's pushes for further democratic reforms?
- 4) What did the 'Peace Preservation Law' of 1925 do to political freedom?
- 5) Who were the ABCD Powers?
- 6) Who did the ultra-nationalists recruit to indoctrinate Japanese citizens on ultra-nationalist lines?
- 7) What was the February 26th Incident?

MANCHURIA

Manchuria in its entirety covers spreads over China and Russia. It sometimes refers to the area covered only by China (which includes Harbin – a part of China taken by Russia during the carve-up of China by the European powers during the Nineteenth Century), but strictly speaking, Manchuria covers North-East China and the Russian territory bordering it.



Map of Manchuria

(Manchuria marked in green)

https://uk.images.search.yahoo.com/search/images;_ylt=AwrSbjR4OhFVnRYACFFLBQx.;_ylu=X3oDMTBsOXB2YTRjBHNIYwNzYwRjb2xvA2dxMQR2dGIkAw--?adv_prop=image&fr=yfp-t-699&va=manchuria

Manchuria was part of the territory the Japanese won from the Russians in the Russo-Japanese War. As such Japan had a large economic presence and political interest in Manchuria and these had expanded ever since the end of that war.

By 1931, Japan had invested a lot of money in the region. By this time Japan controlled the South Manchuria Railway (which ran into Chinese Manchuria). Japan used the need to guard its large investment in Manchuria as an excuse to keep a large army there.



Poster for the South Manchuria Railway http://www.grips.ac.jp/teacher/oono/hp/lecture_J/lec09.htm

Japan had not been much affected by WWI in terms of its infrastructure, but in the years that followed Japan became increasingly crowded by a combination of its small geographical size and its growing population. By 1931, Japan was also very badly hit by the Great Depression.

Manchuria was nearly 200,000 square km in size and Japan also thought that the region had much to offer in raw materials, including minerals, forestry, and rich agricultural land. This seemed to Japan the perfect solution to both her growing population problem and to the ill effects from the Great Depression.

On the night of 18th September 1931 an explosion was heard on a section of the South Manchuria Railway. The Japanese used this as an excuse to take over the nearest Chinese Manchurian town of Shenyang. China called upon the League of Nations to come to her aid, and The League requested Japanese forces to withdraw, but this request was rejected by the Japanese invaders (even though it was agreed to by the Japanese government – which was by this time heavily under the influence of Japanese military), and Japan left the League of Nations so she was no longer subject to the League of Nations' jurisdiction – although the League, as we have seen above, was ill-equipped to deal with an aggressor such as Japan – even when it came to imposing its will by force.

Japan Invades Manchuria <http://inter-wars.weebly.com/japan-invades-manchuria-1931.html>



https://uk.images.search.yahoo.com/search/images;_ylt=AwrSbjRCRstUC1QAjMhLBQx.;_ylu=X3oDMTB1c2cyADBvBHNIYwNzYwRjb2xvA2dxMQR2dGlkA1ZJUFVLMThfMQ--?_adv_prop=image&fr=yfp-t-403&va=the+league+of+nations+-+cartoons

- 1) Which railway in Japan did Manchuria control?
- 2) What did Japan use as an excuse to keep a large army in Manchuria?
- 3) What did the Japanese use the explosion on a section of the South Manchuria Railway as an excuse for?
- 4) Was the League of Nations well-equipped to deal with Japan as an aggressive force?

POLITICAL INSTABILITY IN CHINA

In the 1930s, China was a divided country. In 1927 Chiang Kai-Shek had formed a Nationalist Government – the Kuomintang (the KMT), but his dictatorial regime was opposed by Mao Tse Tung's Communists (CCP). Civil war between the Communists and Nationalists erupted in 1930 – the period of Mao's legendary 'Long March'. In 1931, Japan, eager for the vast natural resources to be found in China and seeing her obvious weakness, invaded and occupied Manchuria. It was turned into a nominally independent state called Manchukuo, but the Chinese Emperor who ruled it was a puppet of the Japanese. When China appealed to the League of Nations to intervene it published the Lytton Report which condemned Japanese aggression. The only real consequence of this was that an outraged Japanese delegation stormed out of the League of Nations, never to return. The League of Nations proved once again that it was a useless organization. Today the League of Nations is called the United Nations.

In the 1930's the Chinese suffered continued territorial encroachment from the Japanese, using their Manchurian base. The whole north of the country was gradually taken over. The official strategy of the KMT was to secure control of China by defeating her internal enemies first (Communists and various warlords), and only then turning attention to the defense of the frontier. This meant the Japanese encountered virtually no resistance, apart from some popular uprisings by Chinese peasants which were brutally suppressed.

In 1937 skirmishing between Japanese and Chinese troops on the frontier led to what became known as the Marco Polo Bridge Incident. This fighting sparked a full-blown conflict, the Second Sino-Japanese War. Under the terms of the Sian Agreement, the Chinese Nationalists (KMT) and the CCP now agreed to fight side by side against Japan. The Communists had been encouraged to negotiate with the KMT by Stalin, who saw Japan as an increasing threat on his Far Eastern border, and began supplying arms to China.

THE FLYING TIGERS



http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/e/eb/Flying_Tigers_personnel.jpg

China began to get support from western democracies, where public opinion was strongly anti-Japanese. Britain, France and the US all sent aid (the latter including the famous 'Flying Tigers' fighter-pilot volunteers). Because of historic ties, China also received aid from Nazi Germany for a short period, until Hitler decided to make an alliance with Japan in 1938.

What does the photograph say about the spirit of the airmen? What reasons did they decide to help China in the war?

FOREIGN HELP

Americans have not always waited for their country to enter a war formally to fight for causes they supported, make money, or find adventure. At times, some enlisted with foreign militaries, often forming units composed solely of Americans. During both World War I and the Spanish Civil War, Americans formed units to help their allies. The tradition continued during the early days of World War II before the United States officially became a combatant. Some Americans joined the Royal Air Force, forming the Eagle Squadrons and fighting alongside English pilots in the Battle of Britain and other early conflicts. But it was another group of Americans, the American Volunteer Group (AVG) in China, which gained the most fame and notoriety in the early months of the war.

In 1937, Japan invaded China. The Chinese government looked to the United States for assistance, hiring U.S. Army Air Corps veteran Claire Chennault to train its pilots. Chennault was a leading developer of combat tactics for pursuit aircraft whose ideas had fallen out of favor. When he was forced to retire in 1937 from the Air Tactical School because of bronchitis, Madame Chiang Kai-Shek, the head of the Chinese Air Force, offered him the job. He accepted and left for China, where his health rapidly improved.

1. Who were the Flying Tigers?
2. How would you describe the League of Nations at this time?
3. What did Madam Chiang Kai-Shek do?
4. Who was Claire Chennault and what did he do?
5. What was happening in Europe at his time?

SELF IMPOSED EXILE

In the summer of 1938 Chennault went to Kunming, the capital of Yunnan Province in Western China, to forge, at the request of Madame Chiang, a new Chinese Air Force from an American mold.

It was during these years of self-imposed exile in the Chinese hinterland, that Chennault laid the foundation for the unique American air operations that featured the final three years of the Japanese war in China. In addition to his solid relations with Chinese of both high and low estate, these operations were based on clusters of strategically located air fields and an air-raid warning system that covered Free China. Without those three solid supports American air power could hardly have functioned in China.

AIR-RAID WARNING

Describing the Chinese air-raid warning net, Chennault states: The Chinese air-raid warning system was a vast spidernet of people, radios, telephones, and telegraph lines that covered all of Free China accessible to enemy aircraft. In addition to continuous intelligence of enemy attacks, the net served to locate and guide lost friendly planes, direct aid to friendly pilots who had crashed or bailed out, and helped guide our technical intelligence experts to wrecks of crashed enemy aircraft."

Most efficient sector of the net was developed in Yunnan as a dire necessity. It was the Yunnan net that was a key to the early A.V.G. successes and the defense of Chinese terminals on this side of the Hump against fantastic numerical odds."*



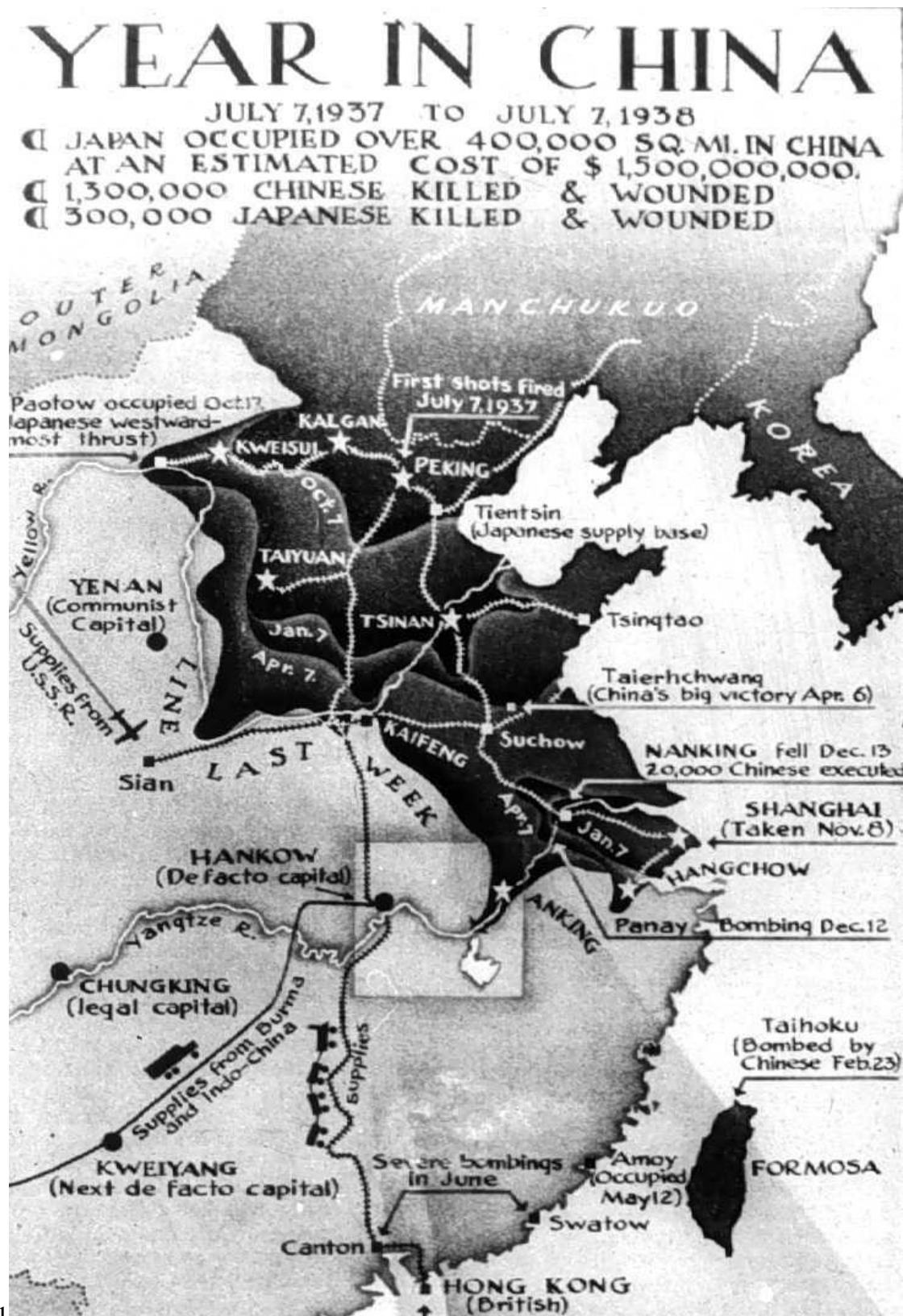
<http://www.dpreview.com/forums/post/29232626?image=0>

Early in 1939 the Japanese began their tremendous effort to break the back of Chinese resistance by sustained bombing of every major population center in Free China. It was the virtually unopposed and continuous bombing of the major centers of Free China by Japanese Air Force that directly led to the organization of the American Volunteer Group. In the fall of 1940 the Generalissimo instructed Chennault to go to the United States for the purpose of obtaining American planes and American pilots to end the

Japanese bombing.

By 1940 the Chinese air force had almost ceased to exist. Many pilots were dead and the aircraft obsolete. When the Japanese pushed the Chinese government to the western city of Kuming, Madame Chiang sent Chennault home to solicit pilots to try to save the country. Ultimately, the war would spread to the Pacific.

Film in China. Chinese Film Industry Close Up. *The Flying Tigers Hold High Honor in China*
<http://www.china.org.cn/english/NM->



1937 SHANGHAI AND NANKING

Although the Japanese quickly captured all key Chinese ports and industrial centers, including cities such as the Chinese capital Nanking and Shanghai, CCP and KMT forces continued resisting. In the brutal conflict, both sides used 'scorched earth' tactics. Massacres and atrocities were common. The most infamous came after the fall of Nanking in December 1937, when Japanese troops slaughtered an estimated 300,000 civilians and raped 80,000 women. Many thousands of Chinese were killed in the indiscriminate bombing of cities by the Japanese air force. There were also savage reprisals carried out against Chinese peasants, in retaliation for attacks by partisans who waged a guerrilla war against the invader, ambushing supply columns and attacking isolated units. Warfare of this nature led, by the war's end, to an estimated 10 to 20 million Chinese civilians deaths.



Shanghai in 1936

<http://www.willysthomas.net/ShanghaiPlaneWeb.jpg>

BATTLE OF SHANGHAI

In 1937, the first major clash of forces of the Imperial Japanese Army and the Chinese National Republican Army during the Second Sino-Japanese War was recorded in the Battle of Shanghai, or also known as the Battle of Songhu.

During the Japanese onslaught, the terrifying might of the Japanese Army was revealed. Apparently, Japan was far more superior in air power and number of combat troops and China was helpless at stopping the Japanese forces from occupying Shanghai. China had to brave hell and high waters to prevent the invasion of Japan on the capital.

China, despite its bold stand against Japan, was at the losing end. Japan had been making attempts into Chinese territory since 1932. The Chinese are no strangers to the military might of Japan. They tried to protect important industries by removing them from the capital and into the interior China. They aimed their defenses at Shanghai to buy time to move their industries and make allies of the Western powers.

The Battle of Shanghai lasted for three months in three strategic areas in the city — downtown Shanghai, the towns surrounding the city, and the Jiangsu coast where the Japanese amphibians made their offensive landings. The Chinese desperately relied on small caliber weapons against the heavy artillery fire power, air and naval might and armored defenses of Japan. The bravery, stubbornness and determination of China made it possible for the country to withstand three months defending Shanghai.



History Images. Shanghai Attacked

<http://bhoffert.faculty.noctrl.edu/HST265/Shanghai.1937.Zhabei.jpg>

FIRST PHASE

The Battle of Shanghai occurred in three phases. The first stage, which occurred in downtown Shanghai, lasted from August 13 to August 22 of that year. During the initial phase of the battle, the Chinese planned to take control back from the Japanese who had established fortifications into the center of the city. The Japanese had already launched attacks and the Chinese were already at the disadvantage with only one heavy weapon. The 150 mm howitzers did not stand a chance against heavily fortified Japanese defenses.

The Chinese troops tried their best to do damage by getting their troops close to the fortifications and throwing hand grenades into enemy forces. While they did not destroy the fortifications, they killed many Japanese that way.

The Japanese also rained fire power on Shanghai using their air force. The invading power was, in contrast to China, far more advanced in the quality of planes and aerial weaponry as well as in numbers. China's air power tackled the Japanese doing what damage it could with its planes.

On August 14, the Chinese did bombing runs on a supposed target, the Japanese cruiser Idzumo. The cruiser was docked near an International Settlement controlled by the British and where many Chinese also reside.

However, during the raid, four bombs accidentally landed on the settlement killing 700 and injuring 3,000 on-site. Two of these landed in Nanjing road and the other two in front of the Great World Amusement Center on Avenue Edward VII. The latter bombs killed around 2,000 shoppers.

China tried its best to counter Japan's air force. However, its planes were of lesser quality. Most were second hand and lack the necessary parts. The Chinese were not able to replace the planes they have lost because they did not manufacture spare parts and planes. About half of the China's air force was lost at the end of the battle. Still, China managed to do damage to Japan's planes.

SECOND PHASE

The second phase occurred on August 23 until October 26 of the same year. The Japanese forces focused their assaults at the Jiangsu beaches. From house to house, the Chinese fought to defend their city and the surrounding towns while the Japanese tried to invade. The second phase, which occurred along the 40 kilometer stretch from downtown Shanghai to Liuhe village, was said to be the bloodiest. The Japanese forces landed wave upon wave at the village of Liuhe while the Chinese defended at the metropolitan area of Shanghai. Thousands were said to have died during the intense combat.

THIRD PHASE

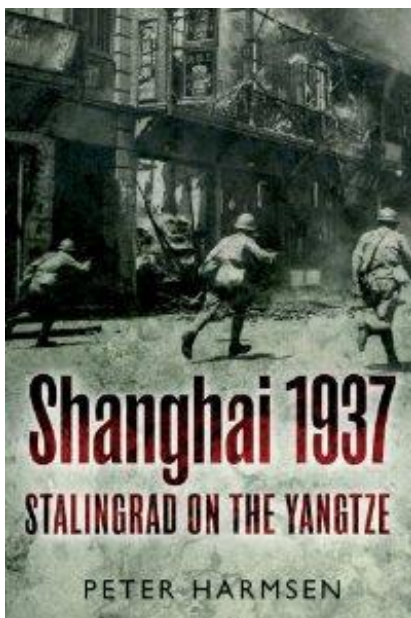
The third stage occurred on October 27 and lasted through the end of November. During this period in 1937, the Chinese were retreating towards the provincial capital of Nanjing while Japanese chased them on the road hurling volleys of fire at every encounter aiming to crush the withdrawing forces. During the third phase, China's forces retreated from the metropolitan center of Shanghai. They left the areas they fought hard to defend for 75 days to withdraw.

Then General Chiang Kai-shek of China summoned all of the best divisions to defend Shanghai. At the end of the battle, these elite divisions lost 60% of their forces including 10,000 of the 25,000 junior officers. The battle crippled China's forces making recovery next to impossible. The Chinese fought to buy time and time they did have at the expense of hundreds of thousands of lives. But help never came and many fell to a strategy that failed to woo foreign allies.

The Chinese, however, were successful in relocating many of their industries to the interior. The Japanese also suffered losses that they were not able to immediately penetrate into Nanjing. China also proved in history that its citizens do not easily give in to invading powers despite its inferiority in armaments. The intense and full-scale battle was very costly in terms of military as well as civilian casualties.

War History Online. The place for military history news and views.

<http://www.warhistoryonline.com/war-articles/1937-battle-shanghai-japans-brutal-attack-china.html>

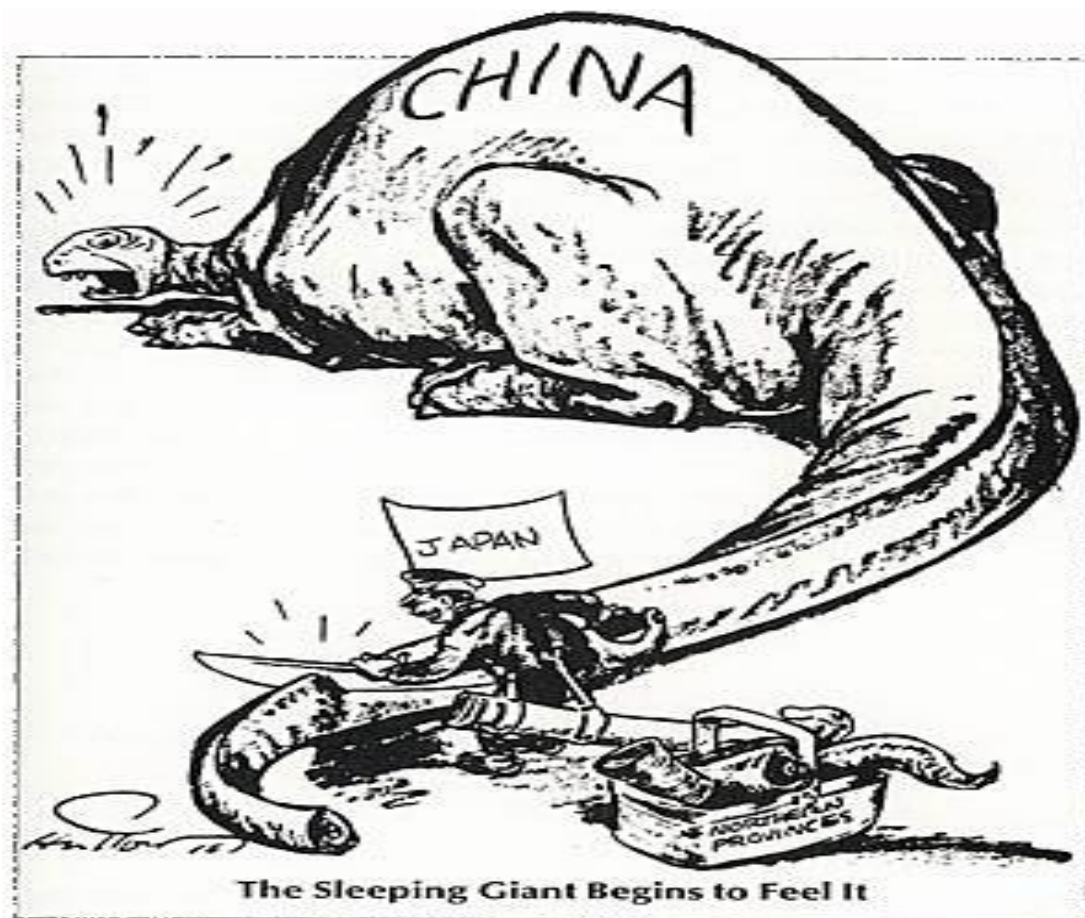


http://ecx.images-amazon.com/images/I/517Ld-hDRrL_SY300.jpg

Briefly describe the significance of the title of Peter Harmsen's book, *Shanghai 1937 Stalingrad on the Yangtze*.

At the end of the battle, Shanghai fell and Japan gained control over the city. The best of its troops were defeated. However, the Japanese were surprised at the length of time that the Chinese troops were able to make a stand in the city. They expected a short battle and a swift victory given their military superiority. They did not expect to receive such a blow from China and even tried to grab victory using all means at their dispense even the “less honorable” actions. Their morale drastically fell over the heavy losses they incurred.

SOURCE EVALUATION



With reference its origin and purpose, discuss the values and limitations of the cartoon for Historians studying Japanese Expansion in the years 1931-41 (two values and two limitations).

Origin:

Purpose:

Values:

Limitations:



Map of Manchuria

<http://justrememberthepast.weebly.com/uploads/3/2/0/1/32010583/333302044.jpg>

NANKING MASSACRE

In late 1937, over a period of six weeks, Imperial Japanese Army forces brutally murdered hundreds of thousands of people—including both soldiers and civilians—in the Chinese city of Nanking (or Nanjing). The horrific events are known as the Nanjing Massacre or the Rape of Nanjing, as between 20,000 and 80,000 women were sexually assaulted. Nanking, then the capital of Nationalist China, was left in ruins, and it would take decades for the city and its citizens to recover from the savage attacks.

PREPARING FOR INVASION

Following a bloody victory in Shanghai during the Sino-Japanese War, the Japanese turned their attention towards Nanking. Fearful of losing them in battle, Nationalist leader Chiang Kai-Shek ordered the removal of nearly all official Chinese troops from the city, leaving it defended by untrained auxiliary troops. Chiang also ordered the city held at any cost, and forbade the official evacuation of its citizens. Many ignored this order and fled, but the rest were left to the mercy of the approaching enemy. A small group of Western businessmen and missionaries, the International Committee for the Nanjing Safety Zone, attempted to set up a neutral area of the city that would provide refuge for Nanjing's citizens. The safety zone, opened in November 1937, was roughly the size of New York's Central Park and consisted of more than a dozen small refugee camps. On December 1, the Chinese government abandoned Nanking, leaving the International Committee in charge. All remaining citizens were ordered into the safety zone for their protection.

ARRIVAL OF THE TROOPS

On December 13, the first troops of Japan's Central China Front Army, commanded by General Matsui Iwane, entered the city. Even before their arrival, word had begun spreading of the numerous atrocities they had committed on their way through China, including killing contests and pillaging. Chinese soldiers were hunted down and killed by the thousands, and left in mass graves. Entire families were massacred, and even the elderly and infants were targeted for execution, while tens of thousands of women raped. Bodies littered the streets for months after the attack. Determined to destroy the city, the Japanese looted and burned at least one-third of Nanjing's buildings.

Though the Japanese initially agreed to respect the Nanjing Safety Zone, ultimately not even these refugees were safe from the vicious attacks. In January 1938, the Japanese declared that order had been restored in the city, and dismantled the safety zone; killings continued until the first week of February. A puppet government was installed, which would rule Nanjing until the end of World War II.



http://si.wsj.net/public/resources/images/BN-GG134_bkrvch_M_20150102105009.jpg

With reference its origin and purpose, discuss the values and limitations of the poster for Historians studying Japanese Expansion in the years 1931-41 (two values and two limitations).

Origin:

Purpose:

Values:

Limitations:

AFTERMATH OF THE MASSACRE

There are no official numbers for the death toll in the Nanjing Massacre, though estimates range from 200,000 to 300,000 people. Soon after the end of the war, Matsui and his lieutenant Tani Hisao, were tried and convicted for war crimes by the International Military Tribunal for the Far East and were executed. Anger over the events at Nanking continues to color Sino-Japanese relations to this day. The true nature of the massacre has been disputed and exploited for propaganda purposes by historical revisionists, apologists and Japanese nationalists. Some claim the numbers of deaths have been inflated, while others have denied that any massacre occurred.

HISTORY.COM. *NANJING MASSACRE*

<http://www.history.com/topics/nanjing-massacre>

<http://www.wsj.com/articles/book-review-china-1945-by-richard-bernstein-1420237669>

1. When was the Nanjin massacre?
2. Who was left to defend the city?
3. What was the safety zone?
4. What were Chiang's orders and what was his reasoning?
5. What did the Japanese do to one-third of Nanjing's buildings?
6. Explain why is there no official death toll for the Nanjing Massacre?
7. Who was the Japanese commander?
8. Explain the meaning of the terms; historical revisionist, apologist, and nationalist.

9. How long did it take for the city to recover?

10. How do you think this event has influenced Sino-Japanese relations today?

CONCLUSION

In 1937 Japan had used Manchuria as a base to attack eastern and southern China to secure more resources and raw materials. Shanghai and the Chinese capital of the time Nanking were seized very quickly. In Nanjing terrible war crimes were committed with the estimates of total dead between 40,000 and 300,000. Moreover, the Rape of Nanking gained international notoriety, but no significant response. The League of Nations showed its uselessness and ineffectiveness once again. By 1940, the war descended into stalemate. The Japanese seemed unable to force victory, nor the Chinese to evict the Japanese from the territory they had conquered. But western intervention in the form of economic sanctions (most importantly oil) against Japan would transform the nature of the war. It was in response to these sanctions that Japan decided to attack America at Pearl Harbor, and so initiate World War II in the Far East.

THE ROAD TO WAR

The escalating conflict between Japan and China in the years between 1937 and 1941 impacted the USA's relations with both of these countries, and culminated in the USA being at war with both Nazi Germany and Imperial Japan.

The USA initially took a middle-of-the-road view regarding developments in China. The USA did not condone Japan's incursions into northeast China because of the her sense of a long-standing friendship with China, but at the same time the USA did not feel that there were any vital interests in China worth going to war over. There was also the issue of internal disputes within China between Nationalists and Communists. This left American policy makers uncertain of success in assisting a nation that was so internally divided. As such, many American officials were against the idea of a strong stance before 1937 for fear that this would provoke Japan.

American aid to China looked more likely after Chinese and Japanese forces clashed on Marco Polo Bridge. Popular opinion went greatly in favour of China as Japanese forces swept down the coast into Nanjing. Tensions with Japan were raised by the Japanese Army's bombing of the American warship USS Panay as it was evacuating American citizens from Nanjing (three people were killed in the bombing of USS Panay). Even now however, the American Government avoided conflict with Japan and, instead accepted an apology and indemnity from the Japanese. A tense truce remained intact between the USA and Japan until 1940.

In 1940 and 1941 Roosevelt formalised American aid to China, whilst at the same time started to tighten restrictions on Japan. The USA was the main supplier of oil, iron, steel, and other commodities that the Japanese military needed as it got more and more engaged by Chinese resistance. This was not an immediate embargo but it did mean that the USA could restrict the flow of military supplies into Japan and thus have leverage to force Japan to stop its aggression in China. This was followed by a gradual move by the USA towards an embargo on all trade in militarily useful goods with Japan.

Japan's government was unable or unwilling to control the military and as such in 1940 they established the "Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere" to try and gain greater security. In doing this they announced their intention drive all western colonial powers out of Asia. Japan's leaders were also hereby trying to enhance their country's economic and material wealth so as not to be reliant on supplies from the west. To this end Japan would need to launch a major campaign of conquest and rule.

Japan appeared more of a threat to the USA as she signed agreements with western powers. First she signed the Tripartite Act with Nazi Germany and Fascist Italy – a move which linked the war in Europe with the Sino-Japanese War in the East, and then she signed a Neutrality Pact with the USSR – making it clear that Japanese military forces were planning to move into South East Asia. Japan then signed an agreement with Vichy France – the southern half of France which was then under occupation by the French, pro-Nazi Vichy regime – which enables Japanese forces to move into the French Colony of French Indochina (made up of Cambodia, Laos, and Vietnam), and from there begin their Southern Advance. The USA's response to this was to temporarily halt negotiations with Japanese diplomats, impose a full embargo on exports to Japan, freeze Japanese assets in American banks, and sending supplies along the Burma Road to China.

Negotiations did re-start between the USA and Japan after the USA's increasingly reinforced embargo, but these made little progress. A settlement was unlikely to be reached without Japanese withdrawal from China – an unacceptable condition to Japan's military leaders. This all left Japan faced with serious shortages and what with this and retreat not being an option, Japanese leaders feeling that they needed to act quickly. The

USA's leaders were still hopeful of a negotiated settlement and did not think that the Japanese were militarily strong enough to attack American territory. American leaders were in for a shock...



In September 1940, Japan, Italy, and Germany sign the Tripartite Pact.

Photo: AP/Wide World

Signing of Tripartite Act <http://teacher.scholastic.com/pearl/timeline/time6.htm>



Signing of Soviet-Japanese Neutrality Pact

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Soviet%E2%80%93Japanese_Neutrality_Pact

Oil was one of the exports to Japan affected by the embargo. Japan had relied on the USA for 80% of her oil supply, so the embargo caused Japan a serious crisis. Japan was faced with three options: She could withdraw her troops from China – which would have restored her oil supply from the USA, she could negotiate an end to the conflict with China, or she could go to war to obtain from elsewhere the resources she needed. The Japanese Prime Minister – Konoe – turned to American President Roosevelt for a summit to discuss the issues. Roosevelt's reply was that a meeting would only be held after Japan withdrew from China. Konoe sought a diplomatic solution but even as he did so, the Japanese military was preparing for war. They were looking to attack the Dutch East Indies (now Indonesia) and *their* rich supplies of oil and rubber. The Japanese military believed that such an attack would provoke war with the USA, and began preparing for such a war. On 6th October 1941, having failed to gain more time to negotiate Konoe resigned as Japanese Prime Minister. He was succeeded by the pro-military General Hideki Tojo.



Fumimaro Konoe

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fumimaro_Konoe



Hideki Tojo

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hideki_Tojo

The military had been organizing its war plans even as Konoe had been striving for a diplomatic solution to the crisis in China and the consequent oil embargo. These plans called for a pre-emptive attack on the American Pacific port of Pearl Harbour on the American island of Hawaii against the American Pacific fleet, and simultaneous attacks on the Philippines, Dutch East Indies, and British colonies in the region. Japan's goal by this was to eliminate the threat by the USA so she could secure the Dutch and British colonies without American intervention. The Chief of Staff of the Imperial Japanese Navy (or IJN), Admiral Osami Nagano, presented the plan of attack to Japanese Emperor Hirohito on 3rd November. On 5th November Hirohito approved the plan and ordered the attack to take place in early December unless any diplomatic breakthroughs were achieved in the meantime. American leaders had hoped all the time for such a diplomatic breakthrough - not thinking the Japanese had the military strength to attack American territory. Great was their shock when on Sunday 7th December 1941, Japan planes attacked Pearl Harbour, and thus brought the USA into the Second World War.



Admiral Osami Nagano



Emperor Hirohito

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Events_leading_to_the_attack_on_Pearl_Harbor



Eurasian landmass showing territory under Axis rule.

https://uk.images.search.yahoo.com/search/images;_ylt=A0SO82G8Q8JUIVKAEl5LBQx.;_ylu=X3oDMTB1NTFlOWF1BHNIYwNzYwRjb2xvA2dxMQR2dGlkA1ZJUFVLMTIfMQ--?_adv_prop=image&fr=yfp-t-403&va=axis+powers+-+WW2

Milestones: 1937-1945: Japan, China, the United States and the Road to Pearl Harbor, 1937–41

<https://history.state.gov/milestones/1937-1945/pearl-harbor>

World War II Pacific: Moving Towards War

http://militaryhistory.about.com/od/worldwarii/a/wwiipaccauses_2.htm

- 1) For what *two* reasons did the USA not go to war with China back in 1937?
- 2) Which incident increased tensions between the USA and Japan? The USA did not go to war with Japan over this, what happened instead?
- 3) How did the USA try to force Japan to stop her aggression against China?
- 4) How did Japan intend to drive all western colonial powers out of Asia?
- 5) What agreements did Japan make with which western powers? How did this appear to the USA, and what was the USA's response to this?

- 6) Why was a negotiated settlement between the USA and Japan unlikely?
- 7) Why did the oil embargo by the USA cause Japan such a serious crisis?
- 8) What were Japan's *three* options in light of this crisis?
- 9) Roosevelt would only agree to a summit to discuss these issues under what circumstance?
- 10) What did the Japanese military's war plans call for?
- 11) Why was the USA taken by surprise by Japan's attack on Pearl Harbour?

There were a number of steps towards/causes of the final outbreak of war between the USA and Imperial Japan. Organise the steps on the next page (this is not an exhaustive list) from what you consider to be the longest-term cause to the shortest term cause. There is no right or wrong answer, it is what you think and why:

- The oil embargo
- The attack on Pearl Harbour
- Emperor Hirohito of the Japanese military's war plans
- The resignation of Konoe
- The Japanese invasion of China in 1937
- The accession to the Japanese Premiership of General Tojo
- The war plans of the Japanese military

LONGEST TERM CAUSE

SHORTEST TERM CAUSE

Now rank the same causes in terms of importance:
LEAST IMPORTANT

MOST IMPORTANT

These events and incidents above were all steps that finally led to the final outbreak of war between the USA and Japan, and thus brought the USA in the Second World War – a major turning point in the war. In the table write in the appropriate column which steps towards/causes of war the USA was responsible for, and which steps the Japanese were responsible for:

USA	JAPAN

PEARL HARBOR ATTACK

On December 7, 1941, the Japanese military launched a surprise attack on the United States Naval Base at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. Since early 1941 the U.S. had been supplying Great Britain in its fight against the Nazis. It had also been pressuring Japan to halt its military expansion in Asia and the Pacific. With the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, the U.S. could no longer avoid war. On December 8, U.S. President Franklin Delano Roosevelt asked Congress for and received a declaration of war against Japan. On December 11, Germany and Italy, allied with Japan, declared war on the U.S. The United States had entered World War II.

Japanese Admiral Isoroku Yamamoto conceived the Pearl Harbor attack and Captain Minoru Genda planned it. Two things inspired Yamamoto's Pearl Harbor idea: a prophetic book and a historic attack. The book was *The Great Pacific War*, written in 1925 by Hector Bywater, a British naval authority. It was a realistic account of a clash between the United States and Japan that begins with the Japanese destruction of the U.S. fleet and proceeds to a Japanese attack on Guam and the Philippines. When Britain's Royal Air Force successfully attacked the Italian fleet at harbor in Taranto, Italy on November 11, 1940, Yamamoto was convinced that Bywater's fiction could become reality.

On December 6, 1941, the U.S. intercepted a Japanese message that inquired about ship movements and berthing positions at Pearl Harbor. The cryptologist gave the message to her superior who said he would get back to her on Monday, December 8. On Sunday, December 7, a radar operator on Oahu saw a large group of airplanes on his screen heading toward the island. He called his superior who told him it was probably a group of U.S. B-17 bombers that had been scheduled to arrive that day and not to worry about it.

The Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor began at 7:55 that morning. The entire attack took only one hour and 15 minutes. Captain Mitsuo Fuchida sent the code message, "Tora, Tora, Tora," to the Japanese fleet after flying over Oahu to indicate the Americans had been caught by surprise. The Japanese planned to give the U.S. a declaration of war before the attack began so they would not violate the first article of the Hague Convention of 1907. But the message was delayed and not relayed to U.S. officials in Washington until the attack was already in progress, turning Pearl Harbor into a sneak attack!

The Japanese strike force consisted of 353 aircraft launched from four heavy carriers. These included 40 torpedo planes, 103 level bombers, 131 dive-bombers, and 79 fighters. The attack also consisted of two heavy cruisers, 35 submarines, two light cruisers, nine oilers, two battleships, and 11 destroyers.

The attack killed 2,403 U.S. personnel, including 68 civilians, and destroyed or damaged 19 U.S. Navy ships, including 8 battleships. The three aircraft carriers of the U.S. Pacific Fleet were out to sea on maneuvers. The Japanese were unable to locate them and a planned 3rd wave of attack planes was never launched. The U.S. still had their carrier fleet intact.

The battleship USS Arizona remains sunken in Pearl Harbor with its crew onboard. Half of the dead at Pearl Harbor were on the Arizona. A United States flag flies above the sunken battleship, which serves as a memorial to all Americans who died in the attack. (A piece of the Arizona is displayed at the start of the Pacific Galleries)

Dorie Miller, a steward on the USS West Virginia, distinguished himself by courageous conduct and devotion to duty during the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor. He first assisted his mortally wounded captain and then manned a machine gun, which he was not accustomed to operating, successfully destroying two

Japanese aircraft. He was the first African American awarded the Navy Cross, the service's highest award, for his actions during the attack.

The Japanese lost 29 aircraft and 5 midget submarines in the attack. One Japanese soldier was taken prisoner and 129 Japanese sailors and airmen were killed. Out of all the Japanese ships that participated in the attack on Pearl Harbor only one, the Ushio, survived until the end of the war. It was surrendered to the U.S. at Yokosuka Naval Base. When Admiral Yamamoto learned that his forces had not destroyed the U.S. aircraft carriers or completely destroyed the U.S. fleet, he feared that the United States, with its enormous industrial potential, would soon recover and fight back.

The United States did recover—and quicker than Yamamoto could have imagined. After only six months, the U.S. carrier fleet dealt a decisive blow to Yamamoto's navy in June 1942 at the Battle of Midway, sinking four Japanese aircraft carriers. After this victory came the three-year U.S. island-hopping campaign and the eventual defeat of the Japanese Empire in August 1945.



A USA-created propaganda poster implores Americans to remember December 7, 1941 - the date of Pearl Harbor.

With reference its origin and purpose, discuss the values and limitations of the poster for Historians studying Japanese Expansion in the years 1931-41 (two values and two limitations).

Origin:

Purpose:

Values:

Limitations:

TWO EYEWITNESS ACCOUNTS OF THE ATTACK: ONE AMERICAN

AND ONE JAPANESE

Aboard the USS Arizona

The battleships moored along "Battleship Row" are the primary target of the attack's first wave. Ten minutes after the beginning of the attack a bomb crashes through the Arizona's two armored decks igniting its magazine. The explosion rips the ship's sides open like a tin can starting a fire that engulfs the entire ship. Within minutes she sinks to the bottom taking 1,300 lives with her. The sunken ship remains as a memorial to those who sacrificed their lives during the attack.

Marine Corporal E.C. Nightingale was aboard the Arizona that fateful Sunday morning:

"There was a lot of talking going on and I shouted for silence which came immediately. I had only been there a short time when a terrible explosion caused the ship to shake violently. I looked at the boat deck and everything seemed aflame forward of the mainmast. I reported to the Major that the ship was aflame, which was rather needless, and after looking about, the Major ordered us to leave.

I was the last man to leave secondary aft because I looked around and there was no one left. I followed the Major down the port side of the tripod mast. The railings, as we ascended, were very hot and as we reached the boat deck I noted that it was torn up and burned. The bodies of the dead were thick, and badly burned men were heading for the quarterdeck, only to fall apparently dead or badly wounded."

"Surprise Attack Successful!"

Commander Mitsuo Fuchida led the first wave of the air attack and published his recollections in 1951. These were later published in English in 1955. His story as he approaches the Hawaiian coast:

As we closed in, enemy antiaircraft fire began to concentrate on us. Dark gray puffs burst all around. Most of them came from ships' batteries, but land batteries were also active. Suddenly my plane bounced as if struck by a club. When I looked back to see what had happened, the radioman said: 'The fuselage is holed and the rudder wire damaged.' We were fortunate that the plane was still under control, for it was imperative to fly a steady course as we approached the target. Now it was nearly time for 'Ready to release,' and I concentrated my attention on the lead plane to note the instant his bomb was dropped. Suddenly a cloud came between the bombsight and the target, and just as I was thinking that we had already overshot, the lead plane banked slightly and turned right toward Honolulu. We had missed the release point because of the cloud and would have to try again.

While my group circled for another attempt, others made their runs, some trying as many as three before succeeding. We were about to begin our second bombing run when there was a colossal explosion in battleship row. A huge column of dark red smoke rose to 1000 meters. It must have been the explosion of a ship's powder magazine. [This was the Battleship Arizona] The shock wave was felt even in my plane, several miles away from the harbor.

This image shows a blank sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

ROOSEVELTS PEARL HARBOUR SPEECH

FDR's famous request for Congress to declare war following the Japanese attacks of December 7th -- the "day that will live in infamy." - December 8, 1941

Yesterday, Dec. 7, 1941 -- a date which will live in infamy -- the United States of America was suddenly and deliberately attacked by naval and air forces of the Empire of Japan.

The United States was at peace with that nation and, at the solicitation of Japan, was still in conversation with the government and its emperor looking toward the maintenance of peace in the Pacific.

Indeed, one hour after Japanese air squadrons had commenced bombing in Oahu, the Japanese ambassador to the United States and his colleagues delivered to the Secretary of State a formal reply to a recent American message. While this reply stated that it seemed useless to continue the existing diplomatic negotiations, it contained no threat or hint of war or armed attack.

It will be recorded that the distance of Hawaii from Japan makes it obvious that the attack was deliberately planned many days or even weeks ago. During the intervening time, the Japanese government has deliberately sought to deceive the United States by false statements and expressions of hope for continued peace.

The attack yesterday on the Hawaiian islands has caused severe damage to American naval and military forces. Very many American lives have been lost. In addition, American ships have been reported torpedoed on the high seas between San Francisco and Honolulu.

Yesterday, the Japanese government also launched an attack against Malaya.

Last night, Japanese forces attacked Hong Kong.

Last night, Japanese forces attacked Guam.

Last night, Japanese forces attacked the Philippine Islands.

Last night, the Japanese attacked Wake Island.

This morning, the Japanese attacked Midway Island.

Japan has, therefore, undertaken a surprise offensive extending throughout the Pacific area. The facts of yesterday speak for themselves. The people of the United States have already formed their opinions and well understand the implications to the very life and safety of our nation.

As commander in chief of the Army and Navy, I have directed that all measures be taken for our defense.

Always will we remember the character of the onslaught against us.

No matter how long it may take us to overcome this premeditated invasion, the American people in their righteous might will win through to absolute victory.

I believe I interpret the will of the Congress and of the people when I assert that we will not only defend ourselves to the uttermost, but will make very certain that this form of treachery shall never endanger us again.

Hostilities exist. There is no blinking at the fact that our people, our territory and our interests are in grave danger.

With confidence in our armed forces -- with the unbending determination of our people -- we will gain the inevitable triumph -- so help us God.

I ask that the Congress declare that since the unprovoked and dastardly attack by Japan on Sunday, Dec. 7, a state of war has existed between the United States and the Japanese empire.

Answer the following questions:

1. During the time of the Pearl Harbor attack, what other places, according to Roosevelt, were attacked by the Japanese? Also, where else were USA navy ships attacked?
2. How do we know that Japan planned this attack for weeks or months before it happened?
3. Why does Roosevelt feel that the Japanese lied to U.S.A.?
4. What is Roosevelt asking congress to do?