

Japan in the 1930s

The Roots
of the
Pacific War

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Nagasaki

Basics to Remember

- Japan lacks the needed resources for modern industrialization.
- No oil. (energy)
- No hard coal. (energy)
- No iron ore. (steel)
- PLUS-- in the 1920s and 1930s there was a fear of overpopulation and basic lack of food due to limited productive farm land.

“Japanism,” Fascism & Communism

Characteristics of Fascism

- Leader who intuitively understands the needs of his people.
- Nationalism
- Race
- Admiration of military; glorification of war.
- Emphasis on class-- elite should rule.
- Emphasis on agrarian values.
- Suspicion of urban laboring class.
- Attitude toward women

Progression of Events
Leading to
Pearl Harbor



Japanese Fear of Rising Chinese Nationalism



Chiang Kaishek and the Unification of China

(The Northern Expedition)
1926-1928

CHINA, 1900 - 1949
NATIONALIST CHINA, 1928-1937

CHINA, 1900 - 1949
LEGEND

- ① GREAT WALL
- ② HOLD BY NATIONALIST GOVERNMENT
EXCEPT BY LOCAL COALITIONS
- ③ ALL TERRITORY CONTROLLED BY LOCAL
OR FOREIGN COALITIONS



First Japanese attempt to take control of Manchuria!

Assassination of Zhang Zuolin
1928



Zhang Zoulin

- Cabinet leaders fail to support Manchurian Invasion in 1928; fear of Chinese Nationalism.
- Prime Minister signs Kellogg-Briand pact.
- Prime Minister leads deflationary policy.
- Stock market crashes in U.S.; Japan has double depression!
- Parliament leaders appear corrupt.
- Big Business prospers; the People suffer.
- Depression deepens

Call for a Showa Restoration Emperor Showa (Hirohito)



(r. 1926-1989)

Showa Restoration

- Cherry Society (Sakura-kai) founded 1930
- Manchurian Incident (Sept. 18, 1931)
- Shanghai Incident (January, 1932)
- Manchukuo proclaimed (March 9, 1932)
- League of Nations & Lytton Commission
- Japan leaves the League in 1933 in protest.

Manchurian Incident 1931



Zhang Xueliang
“The Young Marshal”



Henry P'u Yi (1906-1967)



ca. 1934



1922

Internal Japanese Political Strife over Manchuria

- Inukai ki (Tsuyoshi) becomes Prime Minister and opposes military policies of expansion.
- Military factions talk of “Restoration”

The End of Party Rule

The Assassination of Inukai Ki

March 15, 1932



Meiji Constitution gives military the tools to take control

- Meiji Constitution like German Constitution.
- Meiji Constitution protects power of the government.
- Government ministers appointed by Emperor.
- Actually, *genro* (oligarchs) choose ministers.
- All ministers have direct access to Emperor.
- Army minister must be an active duty officer.
- All cabinet posts must be filled for cabinet to function.

Japanese troops shout "Banzai!" atop
the Great Wall of China

March 10, 1933



"With the help of
Japan, China, and
Japan, the world can be in
peace."



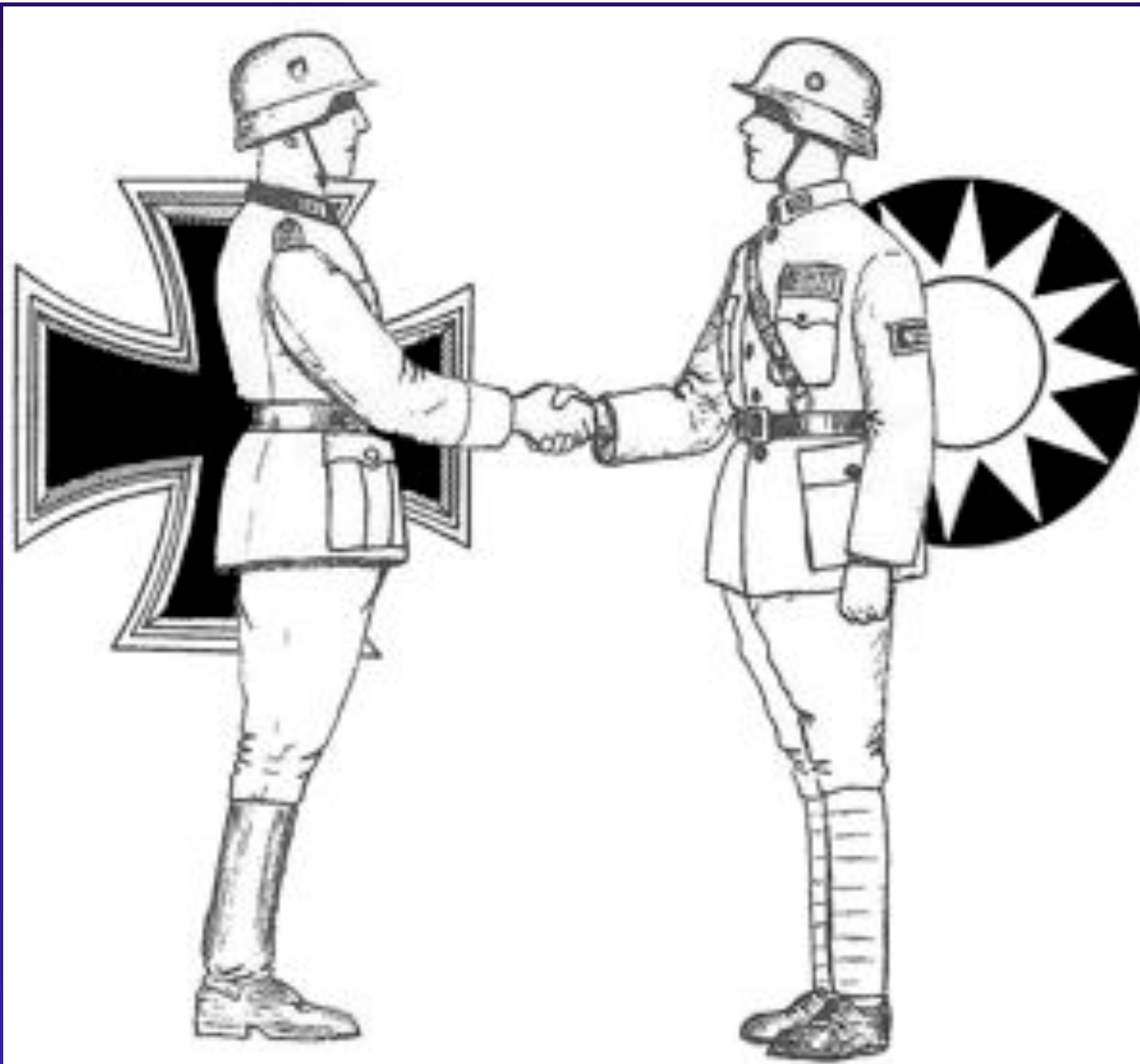






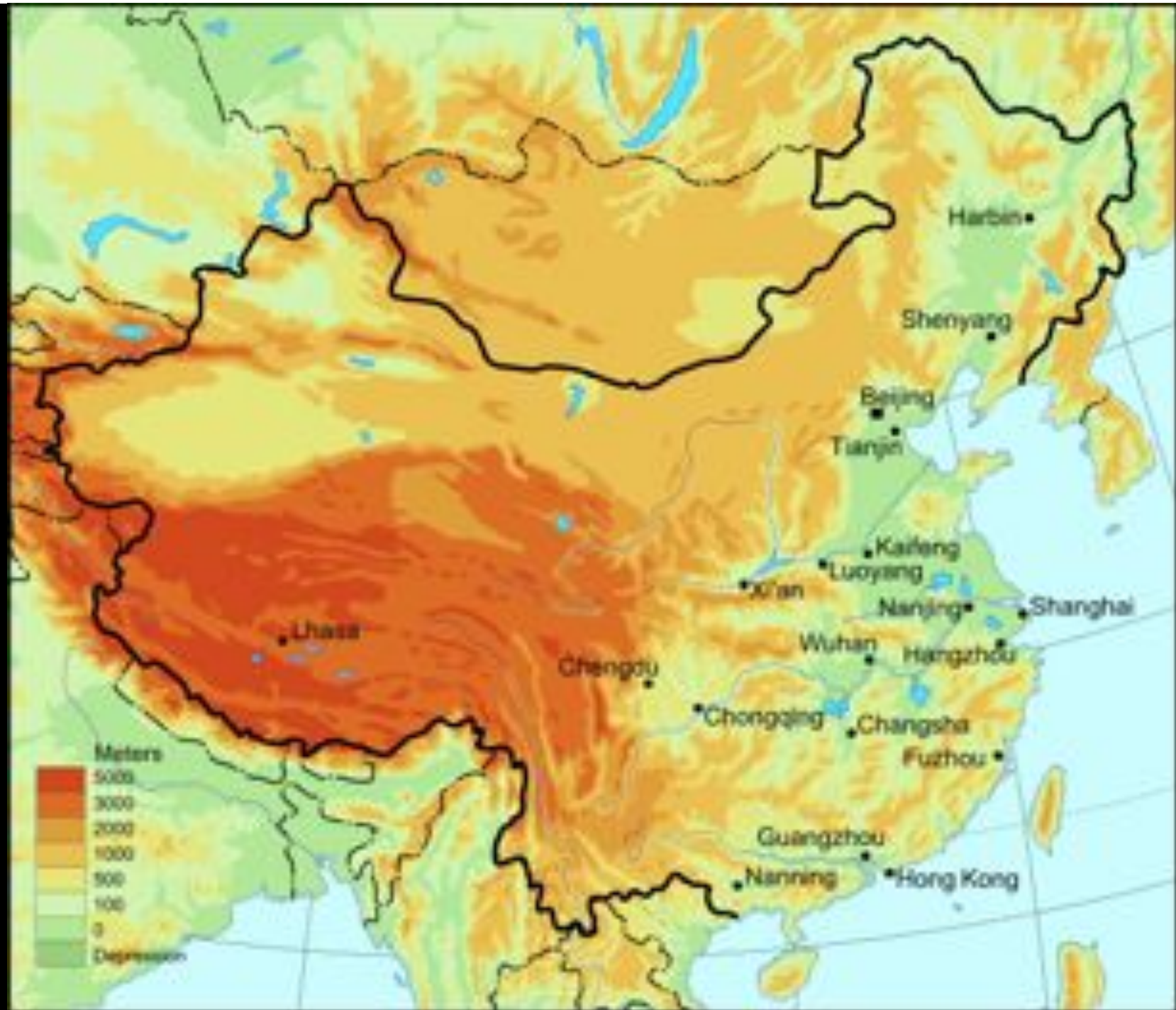


Marco Polo Bridge Today



KMT Army trained by German Army

Chiang & KMT move capital to Chongqing



Rape of Nanjing (December, 1937)



The China Quagmire 1937-1940

Japan's Situation in 1940

CHINA, 1900 - 1943
JAPANESE OCCUPATION, 1940



Propaganda played an important part of every country's war effort. China was receiving relief from the United States through legal and illegal means before the war began.

This poster reminded Americans that China had been fighting the Japanese for ten years before Pearl Harbor.





Chinese soldier guards Flying Tiger P-40s

October 1941



Ledo Road
Burma

