

Japanese Aggression

I. Japan after WWI

- Japan was on the winning side in WWI and began to experience rapid growth economically
- Japan demanded trading rights and control over some aspects of the Chinese gov't and economy
- When the Depression hit, Japanese militarists gained control and planned to create a new empire in China

II. Sino-Japanese War

- Japan began expanding into Korea
- Japan established control over Manchuria in 1931
- The Sino-Japanese war started because Japan wanted to expand further into Asia

III. The Battle

- Japan signed an alliance with Germany in 1936
- Japan was more advanced technologically
- Japan was stronger but China was able to force the war into a stalemate
- Most costly loss was the City of Nanking (Nanjing)
- Fighting ensued again in 1941

A. Rape of Nanking

- 300,000 civilians were murdered
- 20,000 women were raped, most of whom were murdered thereafter
- Rapes were committed in broad daylight, in front of spouses, children, or other family members, and with appalling frequency.
- Japanese officials condoned the murder of women after the rape
- One outstandingly revolting account: