

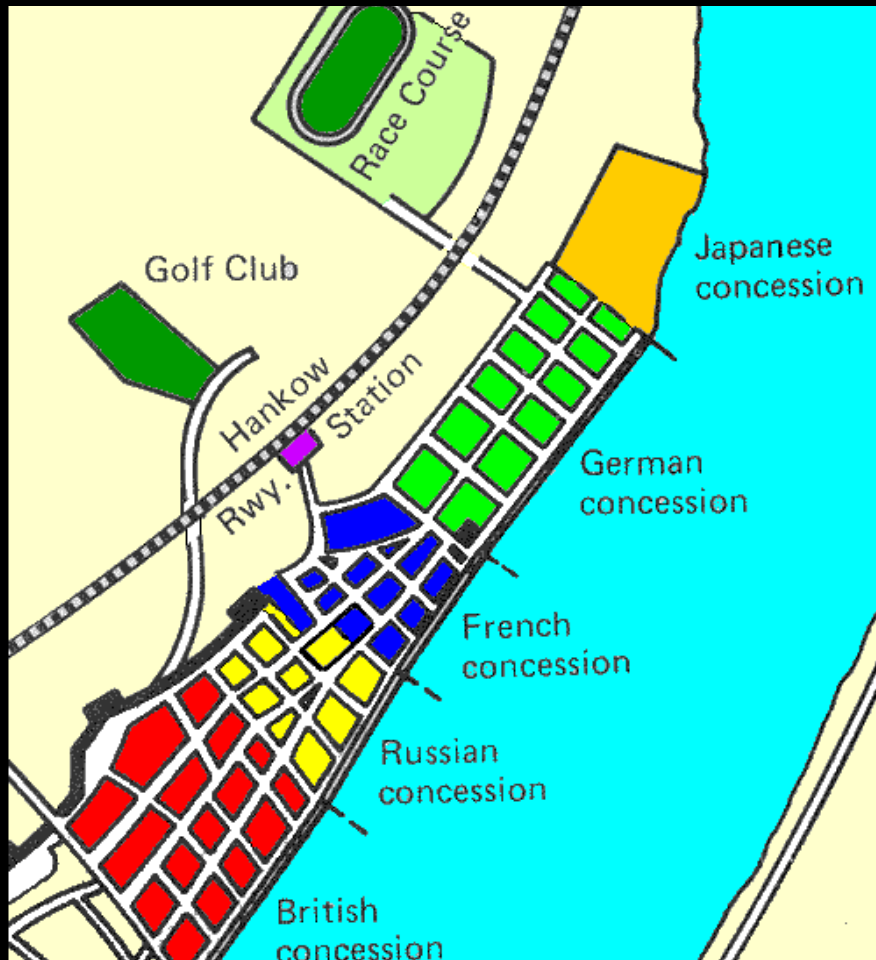
# Manchuria 1931

Utopia and Dystopia





# The “China Problem”



- China seen as essential to Japan's economic well-being (factories, labor, export market)
- But: anti-Japanese nationalism & political instability: China divided:
  - Nationalist party
  - warlords
  - Communists
  - Criminal bands

# Chinese Nationalism

Chiang kai-shek 蒋介石





# Problem of Manchuria

Zhang Xueliang 張學良



- Soviet influence in Mongolia
- 1928 Assassination of local warlord Zhang Zuolin
- His son, Zhang Xueliang aligns himself with Chinese nationalists, threatens extra taxes on Japanese residents, starts building separate railroads, threats to Japanese
- Japanese view: Zhang breaks treaty breaches

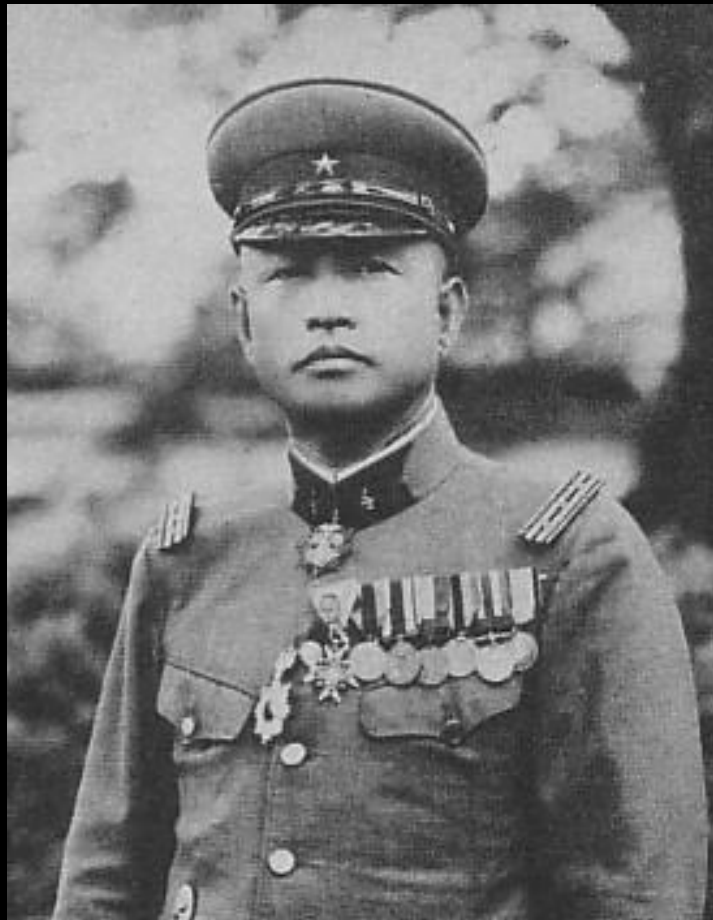
# Economic crisis

- Wall street crash 1929
- Great Britain, United States, etc. turn to protectionist measures
- Japanese exports fall to 40%
- Price of silk falls to 25%
- Rural impoverishment, famines in North-Eastern Japan
- Combined with past “humiliations” of Japan, a growing perception of international system & free-market capitalism as unfair, and unreliable

# Population pressure

- Japanese Population growth:
  - 1910: 50m
  - 1915: 54m
  - 1920: 55m
  - 1925: 59m
  - 1930: 64m

# Ishiwara Kanji



# KWANTUNG ARMY (關東軍) HQ



# “Manchurian Incident” (1931)

- Economic crisis > idea of autarky & block economy (independent from world economy)
- Kwantung army takeover of Manchuria
- Government in Tokyo faced
- Establishment of “Manchukuo”
- Legitimation:
  - 1) treaty breaches,
  - 2) Manchuria not part of “China” proper,
  - 3) US does the same in Latin America



105°W

90°W

75°W

60°W

UNITED STATES

**CUBA**

U.S. occupation, 1898-1902, 1906-1909, 1912, 1917-1922  
Platt Amendment in effect, 1901-1934  
U.S. lease of naval base at Guantanamo Bay begins, 1903

**HAITI**

U.S. control over customs collection, 1915  
U.S. occupation, 1915-1934

**DOMINICAN REPUBLIC**

U.S. control over customs collection, 1905  
U.S. occupation, 1916-1924

**PUERTO RICO**

U.S. acquisition from Spain, 1898  
Self-governing commonwealth, 1949

**MEXICO**

U.S. intervention at Tampico and Veracruz, 1914  
General Pershing's expedition, 1916-1917

Gulf of Mexico

Atlantic Ocean

Pacific Ocean

**NICARAGUA**

U.S. control over customs collection, 1911  
U.S. occupation, 1909-1910, 1912-1925, 1927-1933

BRITISH HONDURAS  
HONDURAS

JAMAICA

**VIRGIN ISLANDS**

U.S. purchase from Denmark, 1917

GUATEMALA  
EL SALVADOR

Panama Canal

COSTA-RICA

COLOMBIA

BRITISH GUIANA

**PANAMA**

U.S. support of Panamanian revolt, and recognition of new government, 1903  
Hay-Bunau-Varilla Treaty (Panama Canal Zone), 1903  
Completion of Panama Canal, 1914

**VENEZUELA**

U.S. settlement of boundary dispute between Venezuela and British Guiana, 1895-1896

BRAZIL

**U.S. Activities in Latin America and The Caribbean, 1895-1930's**



0 500 mi  
0 800 km

# International reaction

- Initially muted reaction
- Churchill: ““I hope we shall try in England to understand the position of Japan.....On the one side they have the dark menace of Soviet Russia. On the other the chaos of China, four or five provinces of which are being tortured under Communist rule”.”
- International commission & Condemnation of Japan by the League of Nations
- 1933 Japan leaves the League of Nations
- International recognition only by El Salvador, Dominican Republic, and later by Soviet Union, Italy, Germany, Spain



## AFTERMATH OF MANCHURIAN INCIDENT

- ▶ Battle of Shanghai, 1932
- ▶ Annexation of Jehol, 1933
- ▶ Tanggu Truce, 1933
- ▶ Japan leaves League of Nations
- ▶ Insurgency war in Manchukuo
- ▶ Beginning of "Fifteen Year War"?



# SHANGHAI INCIDENT 1932



# **BUILDING MANCHUKUO'S UTOPIA**

# Pu Yi “The Last Emperor”

## 愛新覺羅溥儀



# Manchukuo Imperial Army



# Flag of Manchuria: Ideal of Racial Harmony



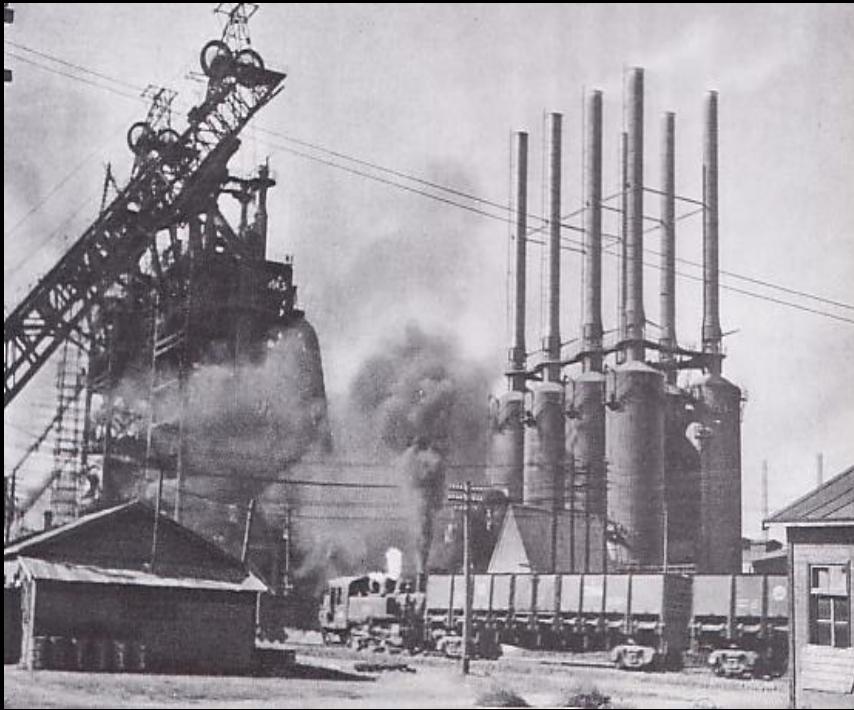
- Yellow represents the Manchu people and unity.
- Red represents the Japanese (Yamato) people and bravery.
- Blue represents the Han Chinese and justice.
- White represents the Mongol people and purity.
- Black represents the Korean people and determination.



日華協助天下太平

# Developing Manchukuo





- Industrialization
- Involvement of Nissan zaibatsu
- Urbanization
- Population growth and Chinese immigration

# Japanese emigration to Manchuria



# 野沃大の洲滿け拓

軍勇義年少青拓開蒙滿



省

# Yamaguchi Yoshiko / Li Xianglan



# Manchukuo dystopia

- Continuous guerilla warfare and crime
- Drug smuggling
- Prostitution
- Forced labor
- Medical experiments:
  - Unit 731 (731部隊)

**Amakasu Masahiko**

