The Rise of Imperial Japan
In the 1930s, a group of ultra-nationalists & a young-officers’ revolt, put Japan under the rule of the military.
• Prime ministers and leaders were assassinated for having liberal views and for favoring better relations with the U.S. or other democratic nations

• The military tried to eliminate all western influences in Japan
• The military even controlled the education system in Japan
• Everyone in Japan had to wear a national uniform
• Movie theaters played films that glorified war
• Japan had a one-party political system—The Military’s Party
Furthermore, the Japanese viewed their emperor as a god.
The greatest thing that could happen to any family was to be able to give their sons to the service of their country & to **die for the Emperor**
• The army wanted to solve Japan’s economic problems by expanding onto the Asian mainland—IMPERIALISM!!!!!!!!!!!

They started with Manchuria
• Manchuria had raw materials such as (iron ore & coal) that Japan lacked
• When Japan invaded Manchuria, the League of Nations did nothing but state their disapproval

• Japan responded by withdrawing from the League of Nations in 1933
• The next place Japan went was China
• In Nanking China 1937, 200,000 Chinese were killed by the Japanese
• Disgusting and terribly violent act
• Japan still refuses to apologize for this act.
• Japan’s expansion raises the suspicion of the Soviet Union
• The two countries have some skirmishes, which the **Soviet Union** wins
• These loses pushed Japan closer to Germany & Italy
• Next Japan expanded into French-controlled **Indochina** (Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia, Thailand, Burma)
• The French didn’t resist.
• America did respond, however.
• The U.S. issued an oil embargo against the Japanese.
• Japan planned to respond by expanding into the oil fields of the Dutch East Indies.
• One thing stood in their way of this
  – The American Naval Force at Pearl Harbor--Hawaii