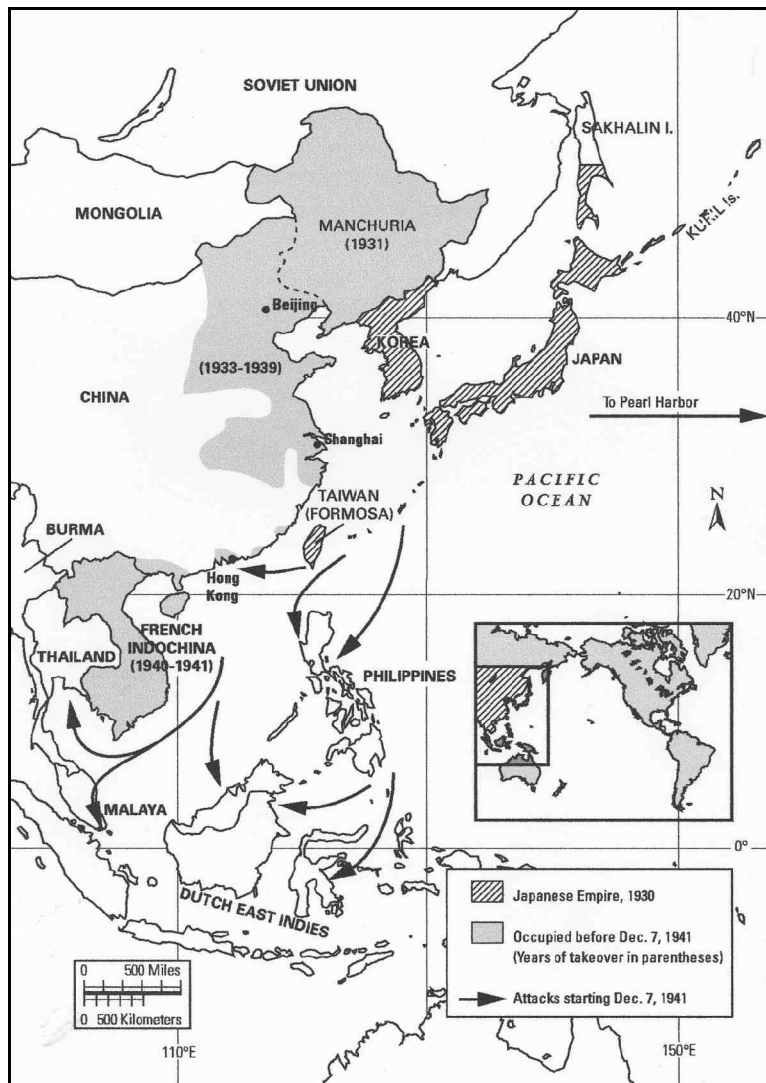


Japan Expands in Asia 1930 – 1941

Japan, a densely populated country with few natural resources, substantially increased its territory in the late 1800s and early 1900s. Primarily as a result of wars with Russia and China, Japan gained “living space” during these years: the Kuril Islands (1875), the island of Taiwan (1895), Korea (1905), and the southern half of Sakhalin Island (1905).

By 1931, Japanese militarists had thwarted the civilian government and begun seizing still more land. This time the emphasis was on controlling areas that held resources vital to the Japanese economy. Over the next ten years, targets included the Chinese region of Manchuria, rich in coal and iron, and the Dutch East Indies, with its abundant oil fields.



Assign # _____ Name _____ Due Date _____ Pts _____

1. Describe Japan's empire as it existed in 1930.

2. Where did Japan first expand its empire after 1930?

3. Why do you think Japan targeted this region?

4. Describe the extent of Japanese influence in China in 1938.

5. What advantage did its control of French Indochina give Japan in attacks starting on December 7, 1941?

6. Japan seized Hong Kong on December 8, 1941. From where was the attack mounted?

7. Which objective of the attacks starting on December 7, 1941 is outside the area shown in the map?

8. What do you think made the Philippines a particularly attractive target for Japanese expansion?