

Japanese Military Build-Up from 1929 to 1941

| Year | Major Events |
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| 1929 | The Great Depression devastates the Japanese Economy |
| 1931 | The Japanese military invade Manchuria in northeast China, making it part of the Japanese empire |
| 1932 | Japanese military officers stage an unsuccessful coup in Tokyo, killing Prime Minister Inukai Tsuyoshi |
| 1933 | The League of Nations requests Japan's withdrawal from Manchuria; Japan pulls out of the League |
| 1936 | Ultrnationalist military officers stage a second, brief, unsuccessful coup |
| 1936 | Japan allies itself with Germany and Italy |
| 1937 | Japan's government accepts military domination |
| 1939 | Japan needs natural resources for its war effort. They plan to expand their influence to Southeast Asia |
| 1941 | Japan had over 1 million trained soldiers |

