

# F.2 IH Note (HK entrepot & JP occupation)

## Entrepot

- Good geography condition
- Free-port policy
- The opening of the Suez Canal in 1869

## Unfavorable factors

- Labour movements
  - Seamen's Skrike 海员大罢工
  - Carton-Hong Kong General Skrike and Boycott 省港大罢工
- Great Depression
  - American stock market collapsed

## Favourable factors

- Population growth
  - Commonwealth tax concessions 英联邦税务优惠
    - Ottawa Agreement 渥太华协定
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## Japanese invasion

### Timeline

#### World

- 1937, Full-scale invasion

- 1941, Attacked the American naval base of Pearl Harbour

## **Hong Kong**

| JT = Japanese Troops / forces

| NT = the New Territories

1. 8/12 JT crossed Shenzhen river.
2. 11/12 JT broke the defence line at Lap Sap Bay and captured NT
3. 13/12 JT captured Kowloon & British troops retreated to Hong Kong Island.
4. 18/12 JT landed HK Island
5. 25/12 Governor Mark Young surrendered to Japan

## **Reason**

- Stop Hong Kong's supplies to the mainland China
- invade Southeast Asia & Pacific regions
- A midway station for supplies

## **Hong Kong during Japanese occupation**

| O.G. = Japanese  
occupation government

| JP = Japanese

| CN = Chinese

## **Administration**

### **Military rule**

- JP set up a temporary military government 临时军政府
- O.G.
  - Governor → Isogai Rensuke 矶谷廉介
  - Important offices → JP
  - The headquarters building → The Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation
    - in Central 中环

## District administration

- Divided into 3 administration regions 行政区
  - Subdivided into 28 districts
    - The district bureaux 区政所
      - The heads and deputy heads → CN
      - **Aim**
        - tighten control over HK & CN

## Policy of rule

- O.G. appointed Chinese leaders
  - Two Chinese consultative councils
  - chiefs of district
- ↓ **To**
  - Help O.G. implement 实施 easily
  - Reduce the anti-Japanese sentiment 反日情绪
- Prison Camp
  - British soldiers & officials
- O.G. encouraged the Indian

- organize anti-colonial 反殖民 activities

↓To

- weaken British rule

## Economic policies

### Issuing military notes

- aim
  - Get resource to support the war
- Action
  - 1947/7 Only used M.N. (**M.N. = Military Note**)
  - M.N. → official currency
- Problem
  - O.G. over-issued 超发 M.N.
  - M.N. depreciated 贬值
    - serious 严重的 inflation 通货膨胀

### Control over economic activities

- O.G. control the territory's trade 区域贸易 & business
- Set up a business
  - apply 申请 to the O.G.
- Chinese-owned factories & shops
  - Re-open in 1942

↓But

- Closed down 倒闭
  - Shortage of raw materials

### Food Rationing

- get food buying tickets from district bureau every month
  - 1 ticket → 6.4 taels (0.24 kg) of rice
  - small amount of salt, oil, sugar and flour
- 1944, rationing system was abolished 废除
  - why?
    - food shortage became more serious
- Result
  - died of starvation 饥饿
    - why?
      - serious inflation
      - food shortage

## Forced Repatriation

- Aim
  - Solve the problem of shortage of food and resources
- Action
  - Reduce the population
    - Local Chinese were forced to return to the mainland
- Result
  - Population:
    - 1941 → 1.6 millions
  - ↓ 5 years later (Reduced 1 million)
  - 1945 → 0.6 millions

## Education and social policies

### Japanization

- Aim
  - spread JP culture
  - uproot Western cultural influence
- Action for enforced Japanization
  - Japanese replaced English as official language.
  - School
    - taught the Japanese language & culture
    - saluted the JP flag
    - Sang JP national anthem.
  - Constructed 建造 Japanese-style building.
  - Demolished 拆毀 Western-style buildings & English signs.
  - Buildings, streets & districts → JP names
    - Replace old CN & EN names

## **Control over the mass media**

- spread pro-Japanese messages

## **Time Line**



