Manchurian Crisis, 1931

**Background**

* Japan´s need for raw materials ( G.D)
* Japanese aggressive foreign approach
* U.S approach: they let the Japanese to increase their influence ( Washington Conference, questions on Korea, China)

**The invasion and the impact**

* The Mukden incident, 9/ 1931- An Explosion on the railway :The Japanese blamed the Chinese for the sabotage ( actually Japanese in charge)
* The Japanese used the Mukden incident as a justification for their full-scale attack on Manchuria ( brutality, killings taking place..)
* by 2/ 1932 Manchuria under the Japanese control., 70 000 troops in Shanghai ( renamed Manchuko, Pu-yi)

**The Reaction of the League of Nations**

* China appealed to the League for help
* Britain and France faced economic problems→ trading interests more important than the Chinese point of view
* U. S not willing to condemn, or at least not ready for economic sanctions
* Manchuria was a long way from Europe: domestic problems more important
* The Lytton Inquiry ( Br, Fr, Italy, U.s and Germany): condemned Japan but not military or economic sanctions on Japan, Manchuria should be gaining self-determination
* Japan against the results of the Lytton Inquiry: more troops sent to Manchuria, no actions by the League
* A failure for the League, paved the way for the future problems ( Disarmament Conference 1932-34, Abyssinia)

**Historians view´s**

* Taylor
* Thorne