

**MacArthur and the Scapegoat Emperor: Lessons in Conflict Resolution,
Compromise, and Diplomacy**

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The Asian-Pacific War raged for years claiming the lives of an estimated 36 million people. Conflict was finally brought to an end by the official surrender of the Japanese Empire. However, resentment towards the Japanese remained at an all time high, as citizens in Allied countries searched for a scapegoat for atrocities such as the Pearl Harbor attacks, the Rape of Nanking, and the mistreatment of prisoners of war. Contemporaneously, 70 million Japanese people feared for the fate of their divine Emperor Hirohito. The Japanese public did not know what to expect of the Americans on the eve of a historic occupation. Supreme Commander MacArthur had a different idea for justice during his occupation of Japan. Wanting to avert civil unrest, MacArthur installed a new and stable Japanese government by issuing a series of controversial compromises protecting Emperor Hirohito. Despite the Japanese mistrust of American leadership, and the international public's desire for Emperor Hirohito's head, MacArthur realized the benefits of Hirohito's cooperation in rebuilding Japan and made a compromise between wartime criminality and nation rebuilding. This resulted in Japan's complete demilitarization, development of a stable food source, and the development of industry. Japan's rebirth and path to the post-war miracle is the reason why it's occupation is considered to be among the most peaceful and successful military occupations in world history.

The enormity of death and destruction inflicted by the Japanese war-machine during its campaign to control the Pacific remain staggering to this day. Statistics are useful to illustrate the extent of Japanese atrocities. During the unprovoked Pearl Harbor attacks, the US suffered 2,403 casualties, with 1,178 sailors injured, and over 200 damaged or destroyed aircraft and two destroyed battleships (Remembering Pearl Harbor). This single event catapulted the United States into war with Japan; however, compared to the toll Japanese militarism inflicted on the Chinese, this was a modest loss of lives. After the Japanese military captured Nanking, Japanese soldiers began the systematic rape and slaughter of at least tens of thousands of Chinese citizens and political prisoners. Though the exact numbers are still the subject of heated debates to this day, estimates of the death toll range from 50,000 to 300,000 Chinese (Nanjing

Massacre). These atrocities as well as the illegal and horrible mistreatment of Allied prisoners of war caused an uproar among representatives from Allied countries.

Representatives and the public of allied nations demanded reparations ranging from large sums of money to the forfeiture of whole islands. However, these representatives had one demand in common: Emperor Hirohito's execution. The American public was particularly outraged by the Japanese military. Events such as the Pearl Harbor Attacks and the mistreatment of prisoners of war were viewed as direct attacks on American nationalism. This caused a hateful perception of Japan as a whole. If not made clear by Japanese internment, some statistics from the time help illustrate how Japan was perceived during and after the war: 33% of Americans at the time were in favor of the execution of Hirohito without a trial; 70% of Americans were in favor of harsh punishment for Hirohito; and 20% of Americans at the time favored severe action against the Japanese public including punitive action, torture, and extermination. (Japan and the Post-War World).

Americans were not alone in their resentment. After suffering through Japanese air raids on Darwin, submarine attacks on Sydney, and 27,073 soldiers killed in action and 30,560 soldiers taken prisoner over the course of the war, Australian hatred towards the Japanese grew greater than ever. According to the Australian Public Opinion Polls taken in the summer of 1945, some 25% of Australians were in favor of executing the Emperor (Japan and the Post-War World). Following the war, Australian political leaders demanded the indictment and execution of Hirohito as a war criminal. As the head of the Japanese state, Australians felt that Hirohito should be held accountable for "systematic barbarities" (Australians Ask Hirohito's Death). Australian authorities submitted to the United Nations War Crimes Commission a report of the Japanese military's mistreatment of Australian and American war prisoners and the natives of New Guinea (Australians Ask Hirohito's Death). In addition to Australians, the people of China also voiced their resentment towards the Japanese. As news of the Nanking Massacre spread across China, so too did a burning hatred towards the Japanese. Chinese officials also called for the the trial and execution of Hirohito. One

unnamed official went so far as to call upon the “civilized humans of the world” to be vengeful against Hirohito and that his body should be put on display on Sun Yat Sen Road near Nanking (Death for Hirohito). The citizenry of Allied powers sought justice through the execution of Emperor Hirohito.

Meanwhile, the citizenry of Japan struggled with different issues. Prior to Hirohito’s “Jewel Voice Broadcast”, in which the emperor announced his plans to surrender, the only form of news available to the Japanese populace was inflated militaristic propaganda. Though propaganda took many forms, it often depicted Japan’s victory over allied nations (Japanese Soldier). Because of this, many were stunned to hear of the Empire’s unconditional surrender to the Allies. However, based on the scale of allied air raids as well as a lack of quality rations, a large portion of the Japanese populace realized that the Empire could not win the war (Koji Oba). Although many welcomed the idea of an occupation, Japanese militarists were strongly opposed to anything of the sort. An American presence in Japan would directly threaten the militarists’ control over the public. However, the militarists found themselves rapidly losing their grip over the Japanese people. Immediately following the bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, the Japanese people began expressing enormous outrage. However, this outrage was not directed towards the Americans. Instead, the Japanese public began rejecting the Imperial militarists (Morris 49). The Japanese people were outraged, as they felt that the military had started a war that they could not possibly win.

Additionally to the militarists’ dismay, MacArthur had made it clear in the Japanese Instrument of Surrender that among his first priorities in the occupation was the total demilitarisation of Japan (Japanese Instrument). He realized that the disenfranchisement of the militarists was imperative to implementing a post-war government. Because of this, he had planned for the indictment and purging of the Japanese militarists (Morris 49). However, the militarists still sought to control the public. The Japanese War Ministry made an enemy out of MacArthur when they gave orders to destroy records of Japanese war crimes (Morris 49). The militarists did not stop there. They began stealing American stockpiles of food and materials in order to

win political support (Morris 49). MacArthur was determined to find a way to minimize the future role the militarists would have on the Japanese public.

As the Japanese began to realize that an American occupation was inevitable, the militarists began losing what little control they had left over the public. Militarists attempted to inspire fear among the public in a desperate attempt to regain their control. One way they did this was by spreading rumors about American soldiers. Initially, this proved effective as the vast majority of Japanese people knew little about America. Japanese people began to fear abuse at the hands of the Americans (Koji Oba). However, MacArthur was extremely cautious in making a good impression on the Japanese public. Mere days after Hirohito's "Jewel Voice Broadcast", and before the official surrender of Japan, MacArthur, along with his most trusted advisors, were greeted by hundreds of kamikaze pilots and anti-aircraft guns as they landed at the Atsugi Air Base (MacArthur 272). Armed with nothing more than his corn cob pipe, MacArthur demonstrated to the Japanese his determination for peace. As the occupation continued, MacArthur took extreme measures in order to ensure respect and discipline among American soldiers. MacArthur personally gave orders barring his troops from eating from Japan's meager food supply and confiscating ceremonial officer swords (MacArthur 283). Fears of abuse soon dissipated as American soldiers were increasingly seen giving away food in public (Koji Oba). Thus ended the era of the militarists' control over the Japanese public.

Japan's post-war situation remained to be dire, however. The country was in desperate need of humanitarian aid and strong, moral leadership. Due to constant firebombing from the Allies, all of Japan's major cities including Tokyo, Yokohama, Osaka, and Nagoya were reduced to rubble (The Reconstruction). Due to the war effort, the Japanese government maintained exclusive control of the national food supply. This led to massive food shortages throughout the country causing millions of Japanese citizens to be vulnerable to hunger if not death by starvation. MacArthur, realizing the severity of this situation, ordered 3.5 million tons of relief food from Washington, famously saying "give me bread or give me bullets" (Morris 50). In doing so, MacArthur

proved that he was capable of feeding Japan; a task that proved to be impossible for the Imperialists (Koji Oba). The occupation was off to a good start. However, this was not Japan's only crisis.

In addition to the humanitarian emergency, the Japanese population also had a major leadership crisis. Due to promises of victory and dominance over Asia, the Japanese public's perception of the Imperial government crumbled at the prospect of defeat. Despite what most, including MacArthur, had expected, the total annihilation of Hiroshima and Nagasaki as well as ranging levels of destruction in all major Japanese cities led to outrage against Japanese militarists for having instigated such a conflict (Morris 49). The Japanese public began rejecting the Imperial government in favor of occupational leadership (Morris 49). MacArthur's popularity among the Japanese people soared as he was able to provide for the public where the Empire could not.

As MacArthur's occupation progressed, the Hirohito question arose. What would the Supreme Commander do with the controversial Emperor? Leaders from Allied nations urged MacArthur to execute Hirohito. However, MacArthur, famously an excellent student of history, knew that popularity was key to a successful occupation. Although he had won temporary popularity after his demonstration of peace at Atsugi and providing much needed food to the starving public, he knew that any harsh actions towards the Emperor would be met with a nationwide uprising against the Allies. This put MacArthur in a precarious situation. Hirohito could not be more than a ceremonial power in the new Japanese government, but neither could he be humiliated by the Allies; thereby, losing his standing amongst the Japanese citizens.

MacArthur knew that one misstep very well could lead to another war. "Summon[ing] the Emperor to my headquarters as a show of power ... would be to outrage the feelings of the Japanese people and make a martyr of the Emperor in their eyes" (MacArthur 287). At the time, the Imperial family's rule over Japan was considered to be divine by the Japanese people (Koji Oba). The Japanese people were especially devoted to the Emperor, and continued to believe that Hirohito represented the Japanese identity, even after his surrender. To imprison and subject the Emperor to

a trial as a war criminal would have been blasphemous to the Japanese people , as he was the “incarnation of national spirit, and incapable of wrong” (Memorandum to the Commander-In-Chief). Any punitive actions towards the Emperor would have been seen as an infringement upon the Japanese right to religious freedom (Memorandum to the Commander-In-Chief). Despite this, allied nations, mainly the US, expressed extreme hatred towards the Emperor (Japan and the Post-War World). Because of this, many Japanese citizens suspected that MacArthur too would follow through in this hatred in his decision of the fate of the Emperor. However, MacArthur did not share the beliefs of his colleagues in Washington. MacArthur believed that he should meet with the Emperor before making his decision.

To his luck, Hirohito felt similarly. Shortly after MacArthur’s arrival in Japan, the Emperor requested to meet with the Supreme Commander (MacArthur 287). Upon Hirohito’s arrival at MacArthur’s headquarters, the Commander promptly dismissed everyone but his own interpreter. Though visibly fearful, Hirohito declared to MacArthur, “I come to you, General MacArthur, to offer myself to the judgement of the powers you represent as the one to bear sole responsibility for every political and military decision made and action taken by my people in the conduct of war” (MacArthur 288). Though Hirohito’s role during the war is hotly debated to this day, his lack of control over the militaristic government is indisputable. Despite this fact, Hirohito’s willingness to “bear sole responsibility” for the atrocious actions taken by the Japanese government and military is indicative of a leader who was devoted to the welfare of his country above all else. Upon hearing these words, MacArthur, a man well-known for his narcissism, comments that “he was an Emperor by inherent birth, but in that instant I knew I faced the First Gentleman of Japan in his own right” (MacArthur 288). Though MacArthur waited to announce his decision, he would not execute the emperor. Instead, in his Humanity Declaration, Hirohito himself declared the concept of the Emperor’s divinity to be false, thereby renouncing his divine rule over Japan (Imperial Rescript). Hirohito maintained his cultural role of Japan as a spiritual leader. He would hold no real political power in Japan, much like the Queen of England.

MacArthur's decision to preserve Emperor Hirohito's symbolic reign over Japan was a key factor that led to the successful occupation and reconstruction of Japan. Hirohito was not known to be a sophisticated politician. British ambassadors who worked closely with the Emperor claim that he had always shown a distaste for his position. Some reports show that the Emperor's temperament made him ill-suited for the job (Declassified British Document). However, Hirohito was exceedingly successful as a cultural leader. Following the advice of Brigadier General Elliot Thorpe, the Emperor transformed his public image by renouncing the divine right of the Chrysanthemum Throne. The Emperor transformed from a mysterious divine figure to a beloved spiritual leader through events such as the "Jewel Voice Broadcast", in which the Japanese public heard the voice of Hirohito for the first time. Additionally, in the historic photo titled "MacArthur and the Emperor", the Japanese public saw the unaltered face and figure of Hirohito for the first time. Hirohito's tours throughout the rebuilding Japanese territories humanized his character (Koji Oba). By adopting a new identity, the Emperor was able to adapt, modernize, and most importantly, transform the Japanese national identity. His prowess as a cultural leader enabled political and cultural transformations, paving the way for the new Japanese constitution, and for the post-war miracle that defines modern Japan.

Despite facing international pressure, while stabilizing a country that was shattered by war, MacArthur's compromises directly led to Japan's overwhelming post-war success and are now considered to be one of the greatest acts of American leadership. These events occurred only two generations ago and though not part of the current political discourse, provide fascinating insights regarding international diplomacy and nation-building in post-war circumstances.

Process Paper

The relationship between MacArthur and Hirohito is my focus because these two leaders played a pivotal role in post-war Japanese reconstruction. Additionally, having Japanese language skills, I used Japanese sources in my paper.

I began my research by evaluating sources inaccessible to most students. Having lived in Japan, I focused on Japanese-American history. Specifically, I focused on MacArthur's occupation of Japan. The occupation of Japan may not exactly fit the theme of Conflict and Compromise; however, upon conducting research, I learned about numerous compromises made by MacArthur's leadership in order to stabilize Japan. MacArthur's decision to protect Hirohito was a critical compromise. Some sources depicted the Emperor in opposing ways. According to some sources, Hirohito held little power over the Japanese government and military. Despite this, Hirohito actively attempted to prevent war, going so far as to personally announce the Japanese surrender on his own initiative. However, this directly contradicts events described by other sources. According to other sources, Hirohito held considerable power in the government and military and personally supported expansion into Chinese territory. Though this is still a hotly debated issue, the more credible sources tend to support the first stance. Additionally, some primary sources suggest Hirohito's distaste for war. For the interview portion of my project, I interviewed a retired Japanese banker who grew up during the occupation. Due to harsh conditions during reconstruction, Koji Oba was unable to pursue higher education in his youth. In his retirement, he has since earned his master's degree in Sociology. His personal experiences, as well as his sociological background, paint a vivid image of what living in post-war Japan was like.

Writing a research paper gives me experiences that I think will help me in college. I intend to address MacArthur's and Hirohito's backgrounds in both the pre- and post-war periods comparing Japanese and American sources.

Following the conflict between Japan and the US, MacArthur's compromise which protected Hirohito from prosecution helped set the stage for Japan's success in reconstruction. MacArthur faced extreme pressure from both Japanese and Allied leaders. While the Japanese prepared for conflict in the event of the Emperor's execution, leaders throughout the world called for Hirohito's death. Not wanting to cause further conflict, this put MacArthur in a precarious situation. While killing the symbol of a unified Japan would be catastrophic, a drastic change to the Japanese government was needed to prevent further conflict. MacArthur realized that a compromise could be made. Hirohito had already demonstrated a willingness to come to a compromise with the Allies. Despite outrage from his advisors, Hirohito himself decided to surrender to the US in his *Jewel Voice Broadcast*. Additionally, as Emperor, Hirohito had immense influence over the Japanese public. However, he feared that his execution would lead to the destruction of Japan. MacArthur realized that he could use Hirohito's influence to push for pro-democratic and demilitarization reforms in return for letting him reign as a symbolic Emperor.

Primary Sources (11)

“Declassified British Document Depicts Emperor Hirohito as Being Wary of WWII Military Aggression.”

The Japan Times, 20 July 2017,

www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2017/07/20/national/declassified-british-document-depicts-emperor-hirohito-as-being-wary-of-wwii-military-aggression/#article_history.

In a dispatch written by the British ambassador during the Allied occupation of Japan, John Whitehead wrote about the life of Emperor Hirohito. Whitehead described Hirohito to be “ill-suited” for his position because of his personality and temperament. In the dispatch, Whitehead wrote that Hirohito cared little for military studies and was physically hesitant. The ambassador believed that Hirohito’s display of humility was fundamental to the Japanese acceptance of the American occupation and the new constitution. The ambassador went on to write that Hirohito influenced the Japanese military indirectly. In a statement, Whitehead wrote, “The contemporary diary evidence suggests that Hirohito was uncomfortable with the direction of Japanese policy.” However, Whitehead wrote in the dispatch that the reason why Hirohito did not do more to prevent war was because there was a real possibility that if Hirohito expressed too much anti-war sentiment, he could have been replaced by a more nationalistic family member. Additionally, although the Emperor was seen as divine, his power was limited by ministers and the military. This first hand account of Hirohito’s temperament helps uncover the conditions of his upbringing, and what type of person he was.

“Emperor, Imperial Rescript Denying His Divinity (Professing His Humanity).” 国立国会図書館

—*National Diet Library*, www.ndl.go.jp/constitution/e/shiryu/03/056shoshi.html.

For 2,000 years Japan had been ruled by divine emperors. However, in his Humanity Declaration on January 1, 1946, Emperor Hirohito declared the concept of the Emperor’s divinity to be false, thereby renouncing his divine rule over Japan and breaking ancient traditions. To the Japanese people at the time, such an act was unimaginable. However, Hirohito maintained his title as Emperor of Japan. Instead of ruling Japan as a divine Emperor, Hirohito would lead Japan as a cultural symbol.

Fellers, Bonner F. “Hirohito's Struggle to Surrender.” *Foreign Service*, July 1947.

In an official publication of the *Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States*, Bonner Fellers recounts “the well-nigh incredible facts” behind the surrender of Japan.

Fellers writes about Hirohito’s initial attempt at making peace with the USSR, the USSR’s refusal of peace, Hirohito’s orders to the Supreme Council to accept the Potsdam Declaration as well as separate Japan from the means to wage war, and many more fascinating acts of peace by Hirohito. This source illustrates Hirohito’s true colors, and what kind of leader he was.

Fellers, Bonner F. “Memorandum to the Commander-In-Chief.” Received by Douglas MacArthur, 2 Oct. 1945.

Bonner F. Fellers was a Brigadier General working directly under MacArthur as a military secretary and the Chief of Psychological Operations. In this letter to MacArthur, Fellers writes about the unique worship of Emperor Hirohito. He goes on to state that trying the Emperor would be blasphemous, and infringes upon the

Japanese right to religious freedom. This gives a unique perspective from MacArthur's occupational leadership, and how his decisions came to fruition.

"Japan and the Post-War World." National Opinion Research Center, Aug. 1946.

Published by the National Opinion Research Center in 1946, this report details the many attitudes expressed by Americans during and after WWII. Though only two generation ago, many of the recorded opinions prove to be exceedingly horrific. According to their 1946 Gallup poll, 20% of Americans were in favor of punitive actions towards the Japanese people. This punitive action includes torture and extermination.

"Japanese Instrument of Surrender, 1945." *National Archives Foundation*,

www.archivesfoundation.org/documents/japanese-instrument-surrender-1945/.

Signed by representatives from Japan, the US, the UK, the USSR, China, and other allies, the Japanese Instrument of Surrender formalized the surrender of the Japanese Empire. Additionally, this document placed the authority of the Emperor and the Government of Japan under the control of the Supreme Commander MacArthur.

"Japanese Soldier Stepping on US and UK Flags." *Michigan State University*,

msu.edu/~navarro6/Charge6.gif.

In this Japanese militaristic propaganda poster, a Japanese soldier is shown stepping on British and American flags. Despite the general public's understanding that winning the war would be nearly impossible, propaganda depicting similar scenes was common during Imperial Japan. This is relevant to my essay because this type of propaganda shows a disconnect between the intentions of the Japanese Militarists/Imperialists and the general public.

Kodera, Atsushi. *Master Recording of Hirohito's War-End Speech Released in Digital Form*. The Japan Times, 1 Aug. 2015,

www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2015/08/01/national/history/master-recording-hirohitos-war-end-speech-released-digital-form/#.WdGcp0yZO5Q.

This article contains the full transcript of Emperor Hirohito's Jewel Voice Broadcast. This was the very speech broadcasted to the world announcing Japan's surrender. This source clearly shows Hirohito's willingness for compromise after a terrible conflict. Hirohito's decision to surrender in the first place angered many Japanese. They saw this act as disgraceful and many called for more conflict. However, seeing that the US had resorted to use of a "new and most cruel bomb", Hirohito knew that more conflict would only lead to further bloodshed. Additionally, Hirohito goes as far as to express remorse, and calls for peace.

MacArthur, Douglas. *Reminiscences*. Ishi Press, 2010.

Finished mere weeks before his death, Douglas MacArthur shares a one of a kind look into the life of one of the most influential men in the 20th century. Though MacArthur left quite a controversial legacy, his accomplishments in the Philippines,

Japan, and Korea are nothing short of heroic. MacArthur's writing on details such as setting, thought process, outward appearances of others, and many more show the truly masterful levels of consideration and calculation MacArthur's every step involved during his time in Japan.

Selwyn-Holmes, Alex. "When MacArthur Met the Emperor." *Iconic Photos*, 28 Sept. 2012, iconicphotos.org/2012/09/28/when-macarthur-met-the-emperor/.

This article focuses on Gaetano Faillace's famous photo of MacArthur and Hirohito's first meeting. The author describes the historical context in which this photo was taken, and why it was so significant to both the Japanese and American people. To the Japanese, seeing an unaltered photo of the emperor was unheard of. People were seeing their emperor and living god being humbled next to MacArthur. For the Americans, this photo was MacArthur's way of showing power over the defeated country. The author goes on to cite several sources explaining details of this historic meeting. This source is relevant because it analyzes one of the most significant events in reconstruction of Japan. This photo set the stage for a stable and peaceful Japan.

Weissman, Alexander D. "Koji Oba's Account of the Occupation of Japan." 7 Jan. 2018.

Koji Oba is a retired banker who, in his youth, was unable to pursue higher education due to dire conditions during Japan's occupation and reconstruction. In his retirement, Oba has since received his master's degree in Sociology. Oba was six years old during the Pearl Harbor attacks and ten years old during the official surrender of the Japanese Empire. Oba's first hand accounts of the occupation as well as background knowledge through his sociological studies help illustrate what life was like for millions of Japanese people during this time period.

Secondary Sources (15)

"The American Occupation of Japan, 1945-1952." *Asia for Educators*, Columbia University, 2009, afe.easia.columbia.edu/special/japan_1900_occupation.htm.

The political, economic, and social changes brought on by the American occupation of Japan are explored in this article. Instead of focusing on specific events by specific people, the author focuses on the effect that such events had on Japanese society. This is fascinating because it shows the extent to which MacArthur's leadership affected the reconstruction of Japan. For example, the author explains how the main objective of the Allies was to fully demilitarise Japan. However, MacArthur's main objective was to fully integrate democratic values into Japanese culture. This is made clear by societal changes included in the article such as western education, redistribution of farmland, and a complete overhaul of news and media.

"AUSTRALIANS ASK HIROHITO'S DEATH; List of Japanese Atrocities Reported Filed in London to Support Demand Precedent Set in Germany Some Atrocities Unprintable." *The New York Times*, *The New York Times*,

timesmachine.nytimes.com/timesmachine/1945/05/25/88233731.html?pageNumber=2.

This source is a New York Times article from 1945. In this article, the Australian demand for Hirohito's execution is discussed. The article focuses on Japanese wartime criminality. The author brings up the numerous atrocities committed by the Japanese military to the Allied soldiers and natives of New Guinea. The article also speaks about the Australian perception that the responsibility for these atrocities should be bared by the Emperor himself. This article shows the international outrage against Japan and the Emperor following the end of WWII, and the position of many Allies despite MacArthur's decision to protect Hirohito.

"Conflicts." *National Archives of Australia*, 9 May 2016,

www.naa.gov.au/collection/explore/defence/conflicts.aspx.

Under the "Conflicts" page in the National Archives of Australia website can be found a list of every war in Australian history. Detailed descriptions of conflict between Japanese and Australians can be found under the site's WWII section including Japanese air raids and midget submarine attacks on Australian soil. This archive provides the extent of damage the Japanese conquest over the Pacific ocean had on Australians.

Costly, Andrew. "Election Central ." *Bringing Democracy to Japan - Constitutional Rights*

Foundation, www.crf-usa.org/election-central/bringing-democracy-to-japan.html.

In this article, the author discusses the process in which MacArthur integrated democracy into the defeated Japanese government. In the article, the author writes about British and Russian politicians calling for Hirohito's execution. Realizing the conflicts that would result from the execution of the emperor, MacArthur instead decided to allow Hirohito to keep his position under the condition that he renounce his title of a living god. Though lacking in detail, this source will help develop the theme of conflict and compromise because it illustrates the nature of this political alliance. After a brutal conflict between the US and Japan, the series of compromises made by MacArthur and Hirohito's leadership is what lead to stability in the nation.

"Death for Hirohito Asked As Japan's No. 1 Criminal." *The New York Times*, *The New York Times*,

timesmachine.nytimes.com/timesmachine/1945/05/07/88224837.html?pageNumber=8.

This source is from a 1945 New York Times article about the Chinese outrage against the Japanese government and military, and the Chinese demand for Hirohito's war crime trial and execution. This source quotes a Chinese diplomat who states that the "civilized" people of the world should show no sympathy to the Emperor. He goes on to say that Hirohito should be tried, executed, and his body should be put on display on "Sun Yat Sen Road near Nanking". This shows the understandable hatred towards the Japanese military from the Chinese people. Additionally, it is an example of the international perception of Japan.

“Douglas MacArthur, America's Emperor of Japan.” *Association for Diplomatic Studies and Training*, 2 July 2015, adst.org/2015/07/douglas-macarthur-americas-emperor-of-japan/#.WbnL-6ZNYw. This article is a compilation of multiple interviews of westerners who were working/deployed in Japan at the time of General MacArthur's occupation. The interviewees include a military intelligence officer, a member of MacArthur's staff, a political officer working in Tokyo, and the Chief of News Division for MacArthur's Headquarters. The interviews shed light onto the situation of post-war Japan and first-hand accounts of specific political compromises made in order to insure political stability. This article shows the nature of the conflict between Japan and the US, and the various strategies used by MacArthur's leadership to make a compromise with the Japanese.

The Editors of Encyclopædia Britannica. “Nanjing Massacre.” *Encyclopædia Britannica*, Encyclopædia Britannica, Inc., 28 Dec. 2017, www.britannica.com/event/Nanjing-Massacre. Written by the editors of Encyclopedia Britannica, this article provides an overview of the mass killings and rapes of Chinese citizens and prisoners of war. This source touches on the fact that exact statistics are hotly debated to this day. Regardless, it is clear that the people of China suffered greatly at the hands of the Japanese Empire.

“Emperor Hirohito.” *Atomic Heritage Foundation*, 29 Apr. 1901, www.atomicheritage.org/profile/emperor-hirohito. This article provides a brief background on Hirohito, and takes an in-depth view of the hotly debated actions of Hirohito during this period. A great number of sources suggest that Hirohito was powerless in stopping war against Pacific Asia and the US. However, according to this article, numerous scholars argue that Hirohito played a large role in many decisions made by the Japanese military during the conflict. This article shows a unique perspective which directly contradicts other sources on Hirohito.

Hamada, Koichi, and Munehisa Kasuya. “The Reconstruction and Stabilization of the Postwar Japanese Economy: Possible Lessons for Eastern Europe?” Yale University, Sept. 1992. Munehisa Kasuya, an economist at the Institute for Monetary and Economic Studies at the Bank of Japan, and Koichi Hamada, a student at Yale University at the time, presented their thesis about Japanese reconstruction at the Hamburg Conference on Post-War Reconstruction in 1991. This paper is a revised version of their 1991 presentation at Hamburg. In this paper, the authors write about the disastrous context in which reconstruction occurred. The authors wrote how Japan had lost all of its colonial territories, productive capacities were reduced to a mere two thirds of the prewar peak, and the country was plagued with starvation and severe economic inflation. However, because of Japanese support for Idealism pressed forward by “missionary fervor”, MacArthur's decision to symbolically preserve the Emperor system and to delegate implementation of occupation policies to the new Japanese government is what lead to both Japanese acceptance of the new system, and the tremendous success of said system.

“History - Historic Figures: Emperor Hirohito (1901-1989).” *BBC*, BBC, www.bbc.co.uk/history/historic_figures/hirohito_emperor.shtml.

This article provides a very general overview of Hirohito's life. According to this article, despite Hirohito's position as a living god and emperor of Japan, he held very little power over the Japanese government and military. Because of this, he had little choice but to support the Japanese military. Additionally, the author states that upon the allied occupation of Japan, Hirohito favored peace and made many compromises with Japanese political leaders in order to surrender to the US. This source is interesting because it directly contradicts other sources claiming that Hirohito held immense power in the military, and actively committed war crimes in the name of the Japanese Empire. Additionally, this source comes from BBC, a highly credible source.

Journal, The Asia Pacific. "War Responsibility and Historical Memory: Hirohito's Apparition." *The Asia-Pacific Journal: Japan Focus*, apjif.org/-Herbert-P.-Bix/2741/article.html. Author Herbert P. Bix writes about the numerous morally questionable acts done by Hirohito throughout the conflict between Japan and its neighboring countries. Additionally, the book continues to give an explanation as to why MacArthur "failed" to try or question the emperor. According to Bix, Hirohito, along with Japan's elite, began destroying evidence linking him to any war crimes before the American occupation. This is a stark contrast to other sources claiming that Hirohito attempted to take the blame for all Japanese war crimes to MacArthur in person.

Morris, Seymour. SUPREME COMMANDER: MacArthur's Triumph in Japan. HARPER, 2014. Seymour Morris Jr. is an international business entrepreneur and historian. In his second book, he writes not only of the events leading to, during, and after the occupation of Japan, but also why it had been successful. Morris, being a businessman, is able to illustrate the nature of MacArthur's occupation management. Additionally, Morris presents MacArthur with having major personal flaws despite his astronomical achievements. This source includes primary sources of MacArthur and Hirohito's partnership, including events such as their first meeting.

"Remembering Pearl Harbor." The National WWII Museum , 7 Dec. 2001. This source recounts the horrific events that transpired during the Pearl Harbor attacks. The exhibit illustrates the nature of these attacks through its use of statistics and photographs. This source comes from the National WWII Museum, and seems to be a credible source.

Swenson-Wright, Dr John. "Why Is Japan's WW2 Surrender Still a Sensitive Subject?" *BBC News*, BBC, 14 Aug. 2015, www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-33881427. Dr John Swenson-Wright published this article on August 14th, 2015: the day before the 70th anniversary of Japan's surrender. The author writes how 70 years ago, the Emperor ended both the war in the Pacific and colonial rule of the Korean peninsula and China. To the Japanese at the time, this statement was unprecedented. Due to the strict, government controlled media, the people of Japan legitimately thought that the Japanese military was winning the war. Being completely unprepared for the possibility of surrender, the Japanese people were shocked. Also, to add to this, it was unheard of for the divine Emperor to speak in public. However, this decision was made in order to protect the Japanese mainland from complete destruction by the Allied forces. Swenson-Wright helps illustrate the impact Hirohito had on the

Japanese people, and his ability to come to a compromise in order to help the well being of his country.

Trumbull, Robert. "A Leader Who Took Japan to War, to Surrender, and Finally to Peace." *The New York Times*, The New York Times, 6 Jan. 1989, www.nytimes.com/1989/01/07/obituaries/a-leader-who-took-japan-to-war-to-surrender-and-finally-to-peace.html?pagewanted=all&mcubz=0.

Robert Trumbull was a correspondent for the New York Times for over thirty years and chief of the Tokyo bureau. Trumbull writes about Hirohito's reign over a fully militarised Japan, a Japan in ruins, and a Japan that had become an economic superpower. This source will help in supporting the theme of conflict and compromise because it sheds light on the kind of leader Hirohito was. Trumbull cites many sources explaining how Hirohito had no choice but to support the military, but whenever he was given the chance, he fought for peace.