FURTHER READING

Although China's war with Japan has generated far less scholarship in English than the European and Pacific fronts of the Second World War, there is still a substantial body of work for those who wish to go further. This short guide to further reading is not intended to be comprehensive. Rather, it provides pointers to useful books and articles in the English-language scholarship that in turn could stimulate further reading and research.

OVERALL HISTORY OF THE WAR

This book has taken a new approach by examining China's war with Japan as one continuous narrative combining the viewpoints of the Nationalists, the Communists, and the collaborators. However, there have of course been previous very important accounts that bring together various of these elements, usually through combining edited essays by different authors. The volume by Lloyd Eastman et al., *The Nationalist Era in China, 1927–1949* (Cambridge, 1991), has two excellent overview essays, by Lloyd Eastman on the Nationalists and Lyman van Slyke on the Communists, that cover the wartime period. (These essays are also to be found in volume 13 of *The Cambridge History of China.* ) James Hsiung and Steven Levine's volume *China's Bitter Victory: The War with Japan, 1937–1945* (Armonk, NY, 1992), contains superb essays by leading scholars on topics including China's wartime diplomacy, its economy, and changes in its political system. Chinese politics in the period leading up to the war is dealt with in Parks M. Coble Jr., *Facing Japan: Chinese Politics and Japanese Imperialism, 1931–1937* (Cambridge, MA, 1991). On the fate of Hong Kong, see Philip Snow, *The Fall of Hong Kong: Britain, China, and the Japanese Occupation* (New Haven, 2004); for a daring episode within that story, Tim Luard, *Escape from Hong Kong: Admiral Chan Chak's Christmas Day Dash, 1941* (Hong Kong, 2012). There is a wealth of literature on the Japanese side of the war in China and in the Pacific more broadly. Akira Iriye, *The Origins of the Second World War in Asia and the Pacific* (London, 1987), is a compelling analysis of the key factors that led to Japan's decision for war, as well as giving a detailed account of the scholarly debates underlying this issue.
BIographies

For many years there were few biographies of Chiang Kai-shek. Access to new sources, in particular the Chiang Kai-shek diaries at the Hoover Institution, has enriched the fine biography by Jay Taylor, *The Generalissimo: Chiang Kai-shek and the Struggle for Modern China* (Cambridge, MA, 2007), which gives comprehensive coverage of Chiang’s whole life, including his period on Taiwan. An earlier biography by Jonathan Fenby, *Generalissimo: Chiang Kai-shek and the China He Lost* (London, 2003), broke new ground in reassessing Chiang outside the existing Cold War templates. Mao Zedong has been reassessed in several major biographies in recent years. All are marked by a great deal of assiduous research, but take different views on this most controversial of figures. Jung Chang and Jon Halliday’s *Mao: The Unknown Story* (London, 2006) provides a great deal of new detail, and assesses Mao in ultimately negative terms. Philip Short, *Mao: A Life* (London, 2001), and Alexander Pantsov and Steven Levine, *Mao: The Real Story* (New York, 2012), suggest that Mao both made important contributions to the revolution and committed terrible crimes. A fine guide to the controversies over Mao is Timothy Cheek, ed., *A Critical Introduction to Mao* (Cambridge, 2010).

It is still difficult, though no longer impossible, to discuss Wang Jingwei in China without his being dismissed as a mere traitor and therefore of no further interest. One of the earliest biographies is still among the very best and most nuanced works on Wang: John Hunter Boyle’s *China and Japan at War, 1937–1945: The Politics of Collaboration* (Stanford, CA, 1972). There are also useful insights in Gerald Bunker, *The Peace Conspiracy: Wang Ching-wei and the China War, 1937–1941* (Cambridge, MA, 1972).

THE NATIONALISTS: THE POLITICAL, SOCIAL, AND MILITARY HISTORY OF WARTIME

Perhaps the most significant military history of the war in recent years is Hans J. van de Ven, *War and Nationalism in China, 1925–1945* (London, 2003), which draws important revisionist conclusions on a whole variety of topics from the relationship between Stilwell and Chiang to military and food security during the war, embedded in an argument that revises

Morris Bian, *The Making of the State Enterprise System in Modern China: The Dynamics of Institutional Change* (Cambridge, MA, 2005), and Mark W. Frazier, *The Making of the Chinese Industrial Workplace: State, Revolution, and Labor Management* (Cambridge, 2002), are examples of revisionist work that attributes significant social formations in the post-1949 era to wartime changes under the Nationalists.

**THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE WEST AND CHINA**


**WAR ATROCITIES**

On the Nanjing Massacre, rigorous studies have emerged in recent years that give a clear account of what the historically valid parameters of debate on these and related questions are. Among them are Bob Tadashi Wakabayashi, *The Nanking Atrocity, 1937–1938: Complicating the Picture* (Oxford, 2007); Joshua Fogel, ed., *The Nanjing Massacre in History and Historiography* (Berkeley, CA, 2000); Takashi Yoshida, *The Making of the ‘Rape of Nanking’: History and Memory in Japan, China, and the United States* (New York, 2006); and Daqing Yang, “Convergence or Divergence? Recent Historical Writings on the Rape of Nanjing,” *American Historical Review* 104:3 (1999). Although some of this work takes issue with it, a significant proportion of the Anglophone debate in the 2000s was stimulated by the publication of Iris Chang’s *The Rape of Nanking* (New York, 1997). Accounts of other war atrocities are to be found in Diana Lary and Stephen R. MacKinnon, eds., *The Scars of War: The Impact of Warfare on Modern China*, and James Flath and Norman Smith, eds., *Beyond Suffering: Recounting War in Modern China* (Vancouver, 2011).

**THE COMMUNISTS AND THEIR REVOLUTION**

The origins of the Communist peasant revolution in wartime China have been a central theme in the study of modern Chinese political and social history for some decades. The debate was started by Chalmers Johnson’s classic *Peasant Nationalism and Communist Power: The Emergence of Revolutionary China, 1937–1945* (Stanford, CA, 1962), which argued for the CCP’s ability to stimulate anti-Japanese nationalism as the key factor in the rise of the Communists. This was answered by Mark Selden in *The Yenan Way in Revolutionary China* (Cambridge, MA, 1971), which argued instead for social revolution and a more self-sufficient economic model as the reasons for Mao’s success. A variety of important studies


The opening of new sources in Russia and China has revived a debate about how far Mao’s revolution drew on Stalin and how far it was indigenous. Although it is clear that neither explanation is sufficient in itself, a necessary and useful corrective to any idea that Mao’s revolution was entirely separate from that of Stalin’s is Michael Sheng, *Battling Western Imperialism: Mao, Stalin, and the United States* (Princeton, NJ, 1997).

**INTELLIGENCE**

Wartime China was the scene of a variety of murky intelligence operations, many of which remain mysterious to this day. The China sections of Richard Aldrich, *Intelligence and the War against Japan: Britain, America, and the Politics of Secret Service* (Cambridge, 2000), are very useful
for understanding the position from the Western point of view, as is Yu Maochun, OSS in China: Prelude to Cold War (New Haven, CT, 1997). Chinese intelligence efforts are detailed in essays in the special edition of Intelligence and National Security 16:4 (2001), ed. Hans van de Ven. Dai Li’s role is analyzed in Frederic Wakeman Jr., Spymaster: Dai Li and the Chinese Secret Service (Berkeley, CA, 2003).

COLLABORATION WITH THE JAPANESE


ARTS AND CULTURE

The war saw the transformation of the cultural and artistic world in China. So far there has been more work on the Communist contributions to cultural change during that period than on the Nationalists. Chang-tai Hung, War and Popular Culture: Resistance in Modern China, 1937–1945 (Berkeley, CA, 1994), analyzes a variety of wartime cultural forms including the press, cartoons, and performance art. The dilemmas of literary

**SOCIAL HISTORY**


LEGACY

The legacy of the conflict between China and Japan has been explored in a variety of studies. James Reilly’s Strong Society, Smart State: The Rise of Public Opinion in China’s Japan Policy (New York, 2011) and Peter Hays Gries’s China’s New Nationalism: Pride, Politics, and Diplomacy (Berkeley, CA, 2004) give insights into the links between memory of wartime and contemporary international relations. Caroline Rose’s Sino-Japanese Relations: Facing the Past, Looking to the Future? (London, 2004) and Interpreting History in Sino-Japanese Relations (London, 1998) give valuable insights into the relevance of the “history debates” between the two sides in the present day. Yinan He’s The Search for Reconciliation: Sino-Japanese and German-Polish Relations since World War II (Cambridge, 2009) gives a welcome comparative perspective. War and memory in China and in the region more widely is addressed in Sheila Jager and Rana Mitter, eds., War, Memory, and the Post–Cold War in Asia (Cambridge, MA, 2007).