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Mao Zedong, Founding Father of the People's Republic of China,  
Conspired with the Japanese Army  
Response

This article presents evidence that Mao Zedong and the Japanese military conspired together during the Sino-Japanese War. The author claims that by looking at historical events with the presumption that they were indeed conspiring, many of the actions taken by Mao Zedong that seem nonsensical out of context suddenly make more sense. For example, staying out of a battle that involved the Japanese military shows he did not desire to fight Japan and not celebrating the end of the Sino-Japanese War shows that

Additionally, this article also provides reasons why Mao Zedong and the Japanese military would cooperate with each other. From Mao Zedong's point of view, conspiring with the Japanese military and prolonging the war created more opportunity to weaken his opposition's forces while at the same time strengthening his own. Apparently, these actions went so far as for Mao Zedong to propose a truce. From Japan's position, conspiring with Mao Zedong allowed them to gain information on their opposition during the war through the purchase of military intelligence.

More proof of Mao Zedong and the Japanese military's conspiracy is seen in how Mao Zedong treated his spies afterward—by imprisoning around one thousand because they “knew too much.” However, this type of action fits Mao Zedong's character, according to this article. Additionally, the author does not place judgement on his actions as a man who did anything to achieve his goal.

I agree with this idea of not placing judgement on whether one's past actions are good or evil. If you can look at all past actions logically and connect the dots between cause and effect, I believe you are able to see history with eyes unclouded. That is not to say that certain actions are not evil, but that setting aside the moral judgement, you can see the larger map.

In my opinion, the most interesting part of this article was near the end, where the author spoke about China playing the “history card” and the relations between China and Japan today. By playing the history card, China is asking Japan to face its past wrongdoings, but in this article there is a lot of evidence that China and Japan were cooperative somewhat, which makes any demands related to their shared history hypocritical in a way. Despite that, I think that the author's words about how both China and Japan have to work together to create a better relationship are very true.