

CHAPTER
30

Section 3

GEOGRAPHY APPLICATION: MOVEMENT

Nationalists Battle Warlords and Communists

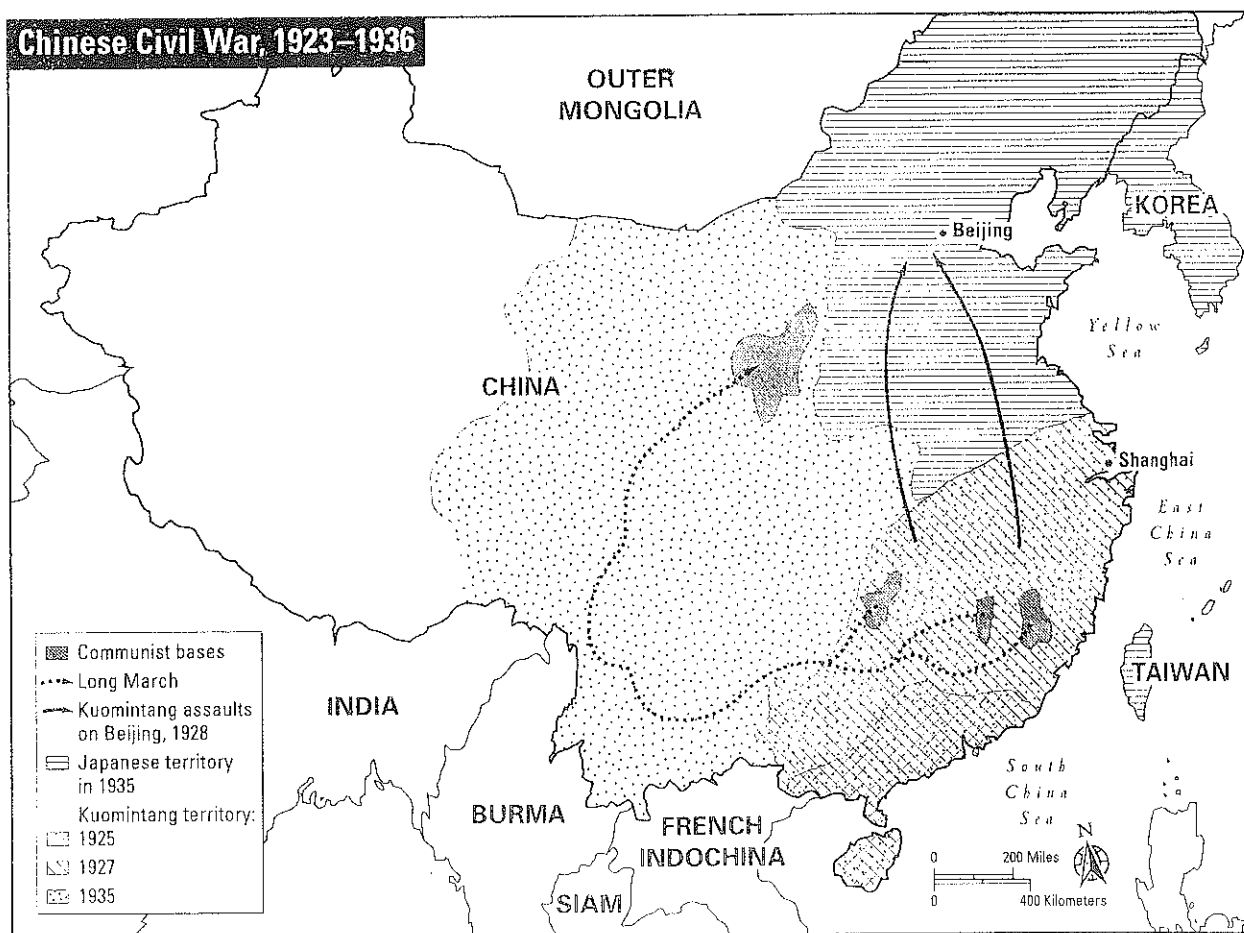
Directions: Read the paragraphs below and study the map carefully. Then answer the questions that follow.

From 1923 through 1936, China's Nationalists waged successive wars while trying to achieve national unity. At first, they battled territorial rulers—warlords—and later they fought local Communists.

At one time, both Nationalists and Communists were united in the Kuomintang, the Nationalist People's Party. From 1923 to 1927, the party battled to end warlord rule in the provinces. By 1925 the Kuomintang had driven the warlords out of extreme southern China in 1925 and then launched a campaign called the Northern Expedition. Its goal was to conquer the remaining warlords to the north, free Beijing, and bring China under one government.

At this time, however, the Nationalists came to fear the political goals of their Communist allies. As a result, the Nationalists, while fighting in northern China in 1927, began an anti-Communist drive in their own ranks. Nationalists attacked Communist strongholds in Shanghai and other large cities. They drove them into scattered bases in the hills of south-central China. Finally, in 1934, the Communists under Mao Zedong embarked on the year-long, life-and-death Long March into the protective caves of northern China.

A final confrontation between Nationalists and Communists in the north never took place, however. In 1936, the threat of a Japanese takeover of China forced the enemies into unified action once again.



Interpreting Text and Visuals

1. What two Chinese groups made up the Kuomintang? _____

2. What was the intent of the Northern Expedition? _____

3. Whom were the Nationalists fighting in 1927? _____

4. Beijing was freed from warlord control in 1928. Using the map key, determine how long, at the most, Beijing's freedom lasted and why. _____

5. Describe the route of the Long March. _____

6. Why do you suppose that the Nationalists and Communists in 1936 became allies once again? Use both text and map to answer this question. _____

7. If the Japanese had not invaded China, what can you infer from the map would have been the Communists' ultimate fate in a final confrontation with the Nationalists? Why? _____

