

Fashion Economics: FM 4339
Quiz #3: The Introduction
Dr. Adomaitis

_____Brandon Coreas_____ (name)

Rosen, E. I. (2002). The Globalization of the U.S. Apparel Industry: Making Sweatshops. University of California Press.

Please answer to the best of your knowledge the following essay question. Use detail where appropriate. Remember grammar, punctuation & spelling count.

- a. Why did the United States assist Japan in rebuilding its country after WWII in 1945? What was the role of the Supreme Commander of the Allied forces (SCAP) in Japanese reconstruction? (2 pts).**

The United States assisted Japan in rebuilding their country after WWII because after the nuclear bombings in Hiroshima and Nagasaki Japan was utterly shattered and defeated. The U.S. was trying to essentially become allies with Japan to prevent another world war. Additionally, the United States did not want Japan to become communist in the ever so emerging Cold War. The role of Supreme Commander General Douglass McArthur was to oversee the occupation of Japan by the U.S. military. According to Rosen “A major part of SCAP’s mission in Japan was to organize the population and materials to revitalize the country’s industrial production and find markets for the new manufactured goods”. (Rosen, 2002, P.27, Par.1).

- b. How did Japan become an exporter of cotton textiles? Why was there a conflict about textile production in Japan? Defend your answer with citations from the book. (2 pts).**

After WWII Japan became an exporter of cotton textiles because the United States had given Japan cotton to be able to revitalize their textile production and manufacturing, before WWII in the early 19th century textiles had been among Japan’s most important Industrial products. Although this may have been the case by late 1937 cotton had added little to nothing to Japan’s foreign exchange reserves. There was a conflict about textile production in Japan because there was simply difficulty finding them. According to Rosen “The United States had

made efforts to try and encourage Asian countries to sell raw materials like cotton to Japan. Yet many southeast Asian countries had been Japanese colonies before the war and had suffered and had suffered economical and political exploitation that had enriched the Japanese at their expense”. (Rosen, 2002, P.30, Par.2). So as a result of this Rosen states that “It was decided that the United States would finance the sale of its supplies of raw cotton to Japan. Reestablishment of the textile trade was not left to market forces but was managed by SCAP and the U.S.”. (Rosen, 2002, P.30, Par.3).

c. What did communism have to do with U.S. trade policy with Japan? China? (2pts)

Communism played a role in U.S. trade policy with Japan because during that time Mao’s Communist China was gaining huge traction therefore in Japan the U.S. wanted to stabilize its democratic foothold of Western capitalism in the Pacific. As a result of this according to Rosen “Japan was to become the hub of a new free world and free trade network in this region and this required rapid economic growth and political stability”. (Rosen, 2002, P.33, Par.4).

d. Give two (2) reasons why the US had difficulty finding trading partners for Japan’s textile exports.

Two reasons why the U.S. had difficulty finding trade partners for Japan’s textile exports for one they had lost a trading partner In China considering that the State Department was trying desperately to stop all contact between China and Japan as trading partners. In 1951 the U.S. imposed a trade embargo on trade between Japan and China. Another reason why it was difficult for the U.S. to find trading partners was that they didn’t know “How to sell in sterling areas and still pay dollars for American cotton. Only countries with dollars ---- The United States and those strategically important to U.S. policy objectives could buy Japanese textiles”. (Rosen, 2002, P.36, Par.1).

e. What were Hong Kong, South Korea, and Taiwan's roles in the textile trade in the East?

The roles of Hong Kong, South Korea, and Taiwan in the textile trade in the east were that they were linked to Japanese "workshop" and thereby to Western-dominated free world networks of trade and Investment. According to Rosen "All of these efforts were tied to the development and growth of export-led industrialization which laid the groundwork for globalization in the U.S apparel industry". (Rosen, 2002, P.43, Par.1). All of these nations have engaged in military interventions with the United States to protect those countries from communist incursions.