**Document 4**

**MILITARY EFFECTS OF THE MEIJI RESTORATION**

**As Japan became more of a Western style country that was similar to Great Britain and Germany, Japan also copied their imperial goals as well. Japan created an army similar in style to Germany, and like the European nations they created a forced enlistment for all males. This made all males join the army for 3 years once they turned 21. Japan had also created the right to own weapons for all citizens, something that was only allowed for the samurai. While the samurai would rebel against these changes, they were quickly put down by the new military forces.**

**Because Japan was modernizing so quickly, they were in need of raw resources to help industrialized. They soon looked to Korea, who had not yet modernized at the level of other Asian countries. Japan soon took over Korea, creating tension with China and Russia. Japan went to war with China first in 1894 called the Sino-Japanese War, resulting in a Chinese defeat and Japanese occupation of Korea and northern China.**

**Russia took notice of Japanese victories against Korea and China, and marched their troops in Northern China, called Manchuria at the time. Because Russia refused to move their force, the Russo-Japanese War 1905 took place. Ending with Japan’s complete control of Manchuria and Russia’s withdrawal from China.**

**The significance of this war was an Asian force defeating a main European power, something that had never been done before.**