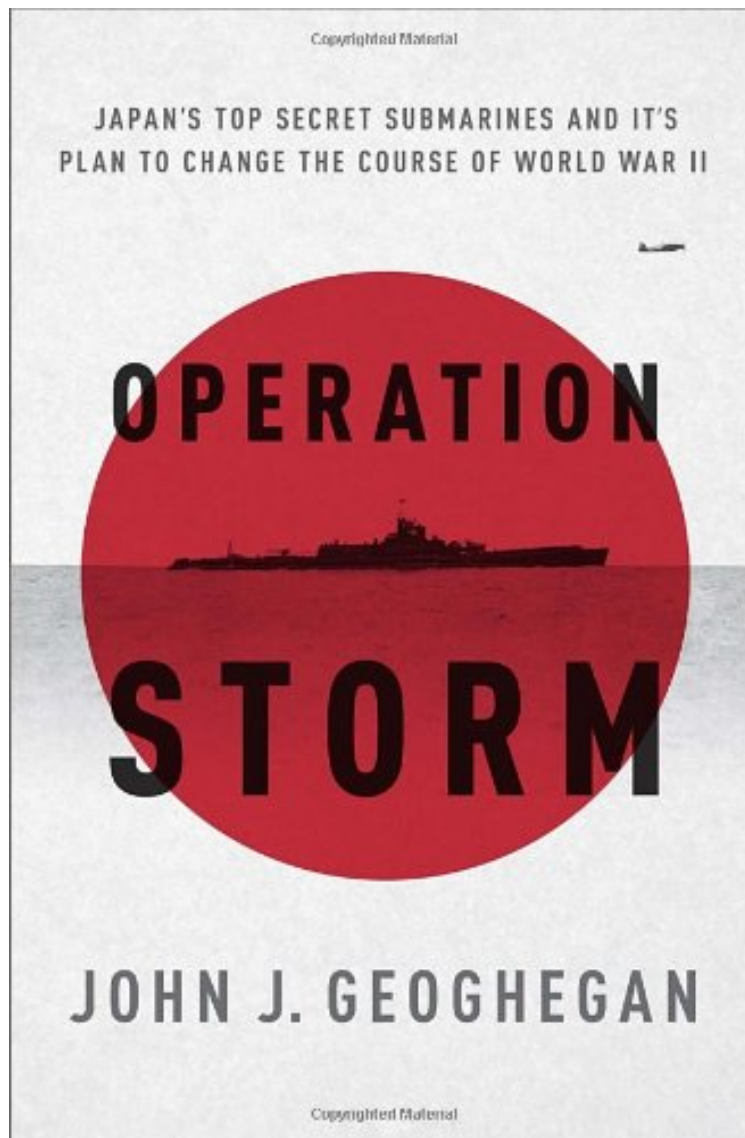


(Read download) Operation Storm: Japan's Top Secret Submarines and Its Plan to Change the Course of World War II

Operation Storm: Japan's Top Secret Submarines and Its Plan to Change the Course of World War II

John Geoghegan

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John Geoghegan : Operation Storm: Japan's Top Secret Submarines and Its Plan to Change the Course of World War II before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Operation Storm: Japan's Top Secret Submarines and Its Plan to Change the Course of World War II:

41 of 41 people found the following review helpful. A scrupulously researched, remarkable tale of a little known

operation. I had heard of these huge Japanese submarines but had come up short on details. John Geoghegan's book changes this forever. This is a gripping page-turner that I read in one sitting on a flight from LA to Mumbai. It not only provides all the facts but personalizes Yamamoto's vision of a game changing operation to bomb the US East Coast from underwater aircraft carriers. The story has many twists and turns that keep you wondering, what would have happened if this had been pulled off before the A-bombs were dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki? The writing is vivid and brings to life both sides of this incredible tale. The book reads like a great espionage novel. What makes it all the more amazing is that it really happened! I highly recommend this book to anyone interested in a Japanese technological "Hail Mary" that almost worked. 24 of 24 people found the following review helpful. I couldn't put this down!

By Lynn Murphy I bought this book because I had seen the documentary on PBS that Mr. Geoghegan produced about this fascinating topic. I don't generally read military history books, but I was so intrigued by this little historical piece of WWII history, that I bought it and read it in a few days. It reads like a novel, in that the characters are so richly developed and the story is so captivating. What makes it even more awesome, is that this is all true! I could see this book being turned into the next big WWII movie. It would be great on the big screen! Buy it! You won't be disappointed!

14 of 14 people found the following review helpful. Submarine Aircraft Carriers By Rick Cook It sounds like war time pulp fiction, but the Japanese I class submarines were very real -- although all things considered the Japanese would have done better to leave them on the pages of the pulps. The brain child of Admiral Yamamoto just after Pearl Harbor, these giants each carried two or three single-seat bombers (floats for return optional) and had enough range to attack New York or Washington. They were finished too late to perform their mission. As the war evolved so did the plans for their use. From pinprick attacks on American cities, their mission was switched to attacking the Panama Canal in an effort to close the vital lifeline. Although they were a technological marvel, they weren't very practical. The American crew that brought one back to the US for study after the war found them uncomfortable and cranky boats to handle. Their construction consumed enormous amounts of resources the Japanese couldn't spare. Their fuel demands were insupportable by the time they were finished. And their military value was questionable at best. Still, it was a fascinating concept.

The riveting true story of Japan's top secret plan to change the course of World War II using a squadron of mammoth submarines a generation ahead of their time. In 1941, the architects of Japan's sneak attack on Pearl Harbor planned a bold follow-up: a potentially devastating air raid—this time against New York City and Washington, DC. The classified Japanese program required developing a squadron of top secret submarines—the Sen-toku or I-400 class—designed as underwater aircraft carriers, each equipped with three Aichi M6A1 attack bombers painted to look like U.S. aircraft. The bombers, called Seiran (which translates as “storm from a clear sky”), were tucked in a huge, water-tight hanger on the sub's deck. The subs' mission was to travel more than halfway around the world, surface on the U.S. coast, and launch their deadly air attack. This entire operation was unknown to U.S. intelligence. And the amazing thing is how close the Japanese came to pulling it off. John Geoghegan's meticulous research, including first-person accounts from the I-401 crew and the U.S. capturing party, creates a fascinating portrait of the Sen-toku's desperate push into Allied waters and the U.S. Navy's dramatic pursuit, masterfully illuminating a previously forgotten story of the Pacific war.

From Booklist *Starred* This meticulously researched piece of WWII naval history spectacularly fleshes out an episode that even naval buffs may have only heard sketched. It is the story of the largest conventional submarines ever built, intended to carry seaplane bombers within striking range of American targets. Those targets changed as the war progressed and Japan's position regressed, from American cities to the Panama Canal to American fleet anchorages. Plagued by shortages of materials, the slow development of the seaplane bombers, and personality clashes of the officers of the “special submarines,” the I-400s (like so many Axis wonder weapons) never drew Allied blood, let alone having a major effect on the war. However, the Japanese persevered and sent to sea remarkable achievements in naval architecture. The thoroughness with which the author has covered his subject speaks of a Labor of Hercules, although readers who are not fairly serious students of naval history may find the book slow going before the story takes hold of them. --Roland Green “John Geoghegan's 'Operation Storm' is a fascinating, meticulously researched and deft account of this bizarre chapter.” —The Wall Street Journal “An exciting narrative of a naval showdown revealing hubris and humility on both sides...Geoghegan has scoured the archives to present a little-touted facet of Japanese naval history that offers a fascinating glimpse into the workings of the Japanese mindset at the endgame of the war.” —Kirkus “Operation Storm is an exciting page turner comparable to the best of Tom Clancy's techno-thrillers--except this tale happens to be true...Geoghegan has delved deeply into...(the) records to tell a fascinating story.” —Aviation History “Aviation historian Geoghegan's virtuoso research turns up surviving witnesses and obscure documents to corroborate this engrossing story of politics, logistics, and the technological leaps and bounds made during wartime, and the resulting tale is a thrilling take on a little-known aspect of the conflict in the Pacific theater.” —Publishers Weekly “A magnificent page-turner that reveals the inside story of a remarkable top secret program, Operation Storm is a powerful, towering achievement.” —David King, bestselling author of Death in the City of Light “A great

historical read, scrupulously researched and brilliantly written. Geoghegan has produced a marvelous insight into the men on both sides who fought a brutal underwater war beneath the waters of the Pacific in WWII.” —Clive Cussler, bestselling author of the Dirk Pitt and NUMA Series “The Imperial Navy’s submarine force in WWII is still barely understood in the West. Geoghegan has given us one of the first detailed glimpses into the workings of Japan’s undersea fleet. His detailed coverage of the Imperial Navy’s I-400 program is uniquely interesting.” —Jonathan Parshall, author of *Shattered Sword* “Anyone who believes there are no more hidden secrets to World War II will feel differently on seeing this book. I’ve been reading about the war all my life, but knew nothing of the extraordinary weapon whose story John Geoghegan tells here. And tells, I might add, in a riveting, vivid, suspenseful way that makes it hard to stop reading once you’ve begun...it’s a remarkable tale.” —Adam Hochschild, bestselling historian and author of *To End All Wars* and *King Leopold’s Ghost* “Just when we were beginning to think that every conceivable World War Two topic worthy of study has already had a shelf’s worth of books devoted to it...John Geoghegan’s *Operation Storm* combines painstaking research and crisp writing to bring to life, for the first time in English, the fascinating story of Japan’s late war I-400 experimental submarine program.” —M.G. Sheftall, author of *Blossoms in the Wind: Human Legacies of the Kamikaze* “Operation Storm does for Japanese submarines what *Das Boot* did for U-boats showing the human side of a remarkable story no less extraordinary for being true. Geoghegan’s splendid research combined with his writing skill makes *Storm* a genuine page turner.” —Col. (ret.) Walter J. Boyne, former head of the Smithsonian Air Space Museum “Impressively documented and lucidly written, here is a lively, well-balanced account of the Imperial Japanese Navy’s huge I-400 class submarines and their eleventh hour ‘game-changer’ mission.” —Carl Boyd, co-author of *The Japanese Submarine Force and World War II*; Professor Emeritus, Old Dominion University; and U.S. Navy submariner 1954-58

About the Author JOHN J. GEOGHEGAN has written extensively about aviation history, underwater exploration and marine engineering for the New York Times Science Section, Smithsonian Air Space, WIRED, Popular Science, Aviation History, Military Heritage, Flight Journal, and the San Francisco Chronicle Sunday Magazine.