

*Japan's Suicide Legions*

# THE SACRED WARRIORS

*Denis Warner  
Peggy Warner  
with  
Commander  
Sadao Seno,  
JMSDF (Ret.)*

# Sacred Warriors Japans Suicide Legions

**Spencer C. Tucker**



## **Sacred Warriors Japans Suicide Legions:**

The Sacred Warriors Denis Warner, Peggy Warner, 1984      *Suicide Warfare* Rosemarie Skaine, 2013-01-09 This book provides up to date coverage of the policies strategies and effects of suicide in war examining this subject from societal and military perspectives to shed light on the justifications for using human beings as expendable weapons Suicide warfare has expanded over the years and become a global phenomenon In some parts of the world it has become rooted in the fabric of society Westerners often find it difficult to grasp why someone would be willing to sacrifice their life in order to take the lives of others *Suicide Warfare Culture the Military and the Individual as a Weapon* provides a thorough examination of the topic that enables readers to understand the justification for suicide warfare and better appreciate how the ideology of the individuals and organizations that resort to suicide warfare greatly complicates security issues in the 21st century The book covers the policies strategies and effects of suicide in war examining suicide warfare in its entirety from a theoretical standpoint and then applying those theories to the actual manifestations of and politico military responses to suicide warfare The author discusses specific organizations such as Al Qaeda and the Chechen rebels analyzing each within its societal context military justification individual motivation and outcomes and addresses principles of sociological and conflict theory to place suicide warfare in a clearer conceptual framework The book presents case studies that allow readers to better understand abstract theories and make distinctions between individual cases of suicide warfare      War without Mercy John Dower, 2012-03-28 WINNER OF THE NATIONAL BOOK CRITICS CIRCLE AWARD AN AMERICAN BOOK AWARD FINALIST A monumental history that has been hailed by The New York Times as one of the most original and important books to be written about the war between Japan and the United States In this monumental history Professor John Dower reveals a hidden explosive dimension of the Pacific War race while writing what John Toland has called a landmark book a powerful moving and evenhanded history that is sorely needed in both America and Japan Drawing on American and Japanese songs slogans cartoons propaganda films secret reports and a wealth of other documents of the time Dower opens up a whole new way of looking at that bitter struggle of four and a half decades ago and its ramifications in our lives today As Edwin O Reischauer former ambassador to Japan has pointed out this book offers a lesson that the postwar generations need most with eloquence crushing detail and power      **Islamic Attitudes to Israel** Efraim Karsh, P.R. Kumaraswamy, 2013-09-13 This book draws on the research of some of the leading scholars in the fields of Jewish Islamic relations the Israeli Arab conflict and political Islam These highly topical essays examine the relationship between Israel and the Islamic world from both a thematic and geo strategic perspective Divided into two distinct sections the first section of the book deals with issues relating to contemporary Jewish Muslim relations and in particular looks at the attitude towards the Jewish state amongst opinion makers religious institutions and leaders in the Muslim world Key issues such as the Islamic attitude to Palestinian suicide bombing and Arab anti Semitism are addressed here The second section examines the attitude of key Muslim nations

Egypt Iran Turkey Indonesia and Pakistan to the Jewish state and charts the evolving bilateral relationship between these nations and Israel from the birth of the Jewish State in 1948 up to the present day This book was previously published as a special issue of the journal Israel Affairs

**Uprooted** Albert Marrin, 2016-10-25 A Publishers Weekly Best Book of the Year A Booklist Editor's Choice On the 75th anniversary of the bombing of Pearl Harbor comes a harrowing and enlightening look at the internment of Japanese Americans during World War II from National Book Award finalist Albert Marrin Just seventy five years ago the American government did something that most would consider unthinkable today it rounded up over 100 000 of its own citizens based on nothing more than their ancestry and suspicious of their loyalty kept them in concentration camps for the better part of four years How could this have happened Uprooted takes a close look at the history of racism in America and carefully follows the treacherous path that led one of our nation's most beloved presidents to make this decision Meanwhile it also illuminates the history of Japan and its own struggles with racism and xenophobia which led to the bombing of Pearl Harbor ultimately tying the two countries together Today America is still filled with racial tension and personal liberty in wartime is as relevant a topic as ever Moving and impactful National Book Award finalist Albert Marrin's sobering exploration of this monumental injustice shines as bright a light on current events as it does on the past

**World War II in Asia and the Pacific and the War's Aftermath, with General Themes** Loyd Lee, 1998-10-23 A companion to World War II in Europe Africa and the Americas this volume reevaluates the most enduring literature on basic aspects of the war in Asia and the Pacific It also covers themes pertaining to societies at war culture the arts and science and technology as well as international relations and the postwar world Included are not only grand strategy military and naval campaigns and matters of diplomacy but also resistance collaboration prisoners of war and broad topics of the home front including chapters on gender issues film literature popular culture and propaganda This volume and its companion provide the first comprehensive historiographic reference work on the war Each chapter describes the state of knowledge on the topic relating each bibliographic reference to the chapter's themes and issues and concludes with a bibliography Recent original scholarship is included when it aids new understanding and older works of enduring value also find a place The essays in this volume will interest scholars and college teachers as well as advanced students and serious amateurs seeking insight into the history of the war and its literature

**Danger's Hour** Maxwell Taylor Kennedy, 2009-11-03 Drawing on years of research and firsthand interviews with both American and Japanese survivors Maxwell Taylor Kennedy draws a gripping portrait of men bravely serving their countries in war and the advent of a terrifying new weapon suicide bombing that nearly halted the most powerful nation in the world In the closing months of World War II Americans found themselves facing a new weapon kamikazes the first men to use airplanes as suicide weapons By the beginning of 1945 facing imminent invasion Japan turned to its most idealistic young men and demanded of them the greatest sacrifice On May 11 1945 days after Germany's surrender the USS Bunker Hill with thousands of crewmen and the most sophisticated naval technology available was 70

miles off the coast of Okinawa when pilot Kiyoshi Ogawa flew his plane into the ship killing 393 Americans in the worst suicide attack against America until September 11 From publisher description *World War II* Spencer C.

Tucker,2016-09-06 With more than 1 700 cross referenced entries covering every aspect of World War II the events and developments of the era and myriad related subjects as well as a documents volume this is the most comprehensive reference work available on the war This encyclopedia represents a single source of authoritative information on World War II that provides accessible coverage of the causes course and consequences of the war Its introductory overview essays and cross referenced A Z entries explain how various sources of friction culminated in a second worldwide conflict document the events of the war and why individual battles were won and lost and identify numerous ways the war has permanently changed the world The coverage addresses the individuals campaigns battles key weapons systems strategic decisions and technological developments of the conflict as well as the diplomatic economic and cultural aspects of World War II The five volume set provides comprehensive information that gives readers insight into the reasons for the war s direction and outcome Readers will understand the motivations behind Japan s decision to attack the United States appreciate how the concentration of German military resources on the Eastern Front affected the war s outcome understand the major strategic decisions of the war and the factors behind them grasp how the Second Sino Japanese War contributed to the start of World War II and see the direct impact of new military technology on the outcomes of the battles during the conflict The lengthy documents volume represents a valuable repository of additional information for student research **The Enola Gay and the**

**Smithsonian Institution** Charles T. O'Reilly,William A. Rooney,2015-01-24 On August 6 1945 the B 29 Enola Gay dropped an atomic bomb on Hiroshima Japan which ushered on the end of World War II For the 50th anniversary of this major event in world history the National Air and Space Museum of the Smithsonian Institution produced an exhibit A controversy erupted however over the exhibit s historical authenticity Veterans for example complained that the museum displayed a misrepresented version of history After concisely covering the background of the Enola Gay and its mission this study focuses on the controversy surrounding the museum exhibit Issues covered include casualty figures ethical questions and political correctness among others The viewpoints of such groups as museum personnel exhibit organizers veterans and historians are covered Appendices offer information on content analysis of the National Air and Space Museum exhibit script non museum materials that were intended to complement the exhibit script and the importance of full disclosure in research *Blossoms in the Wind* M. G. Sheftall,2023-05-09 A revelatory and groundbreaking account of Imperial Japan s kamikaze the suicide pilots of World War II as told through the eyes of the survivors In the final year of World War II a horrific new weapon was unleashed in the Pacific the kamikaze Idealistic young Japanese men had been taught that there was no greater glory than to sacrifice one s life to defend the homeland Now with the war all but lost thousands of these determined warriors were hastily trained in the basics of piloting an airplane then sent out in waves to crash into enemy warships suicide attacks that killed

altogether some seven thousand American sailors But what of those men who took the sacred oath to die in battle and lived In the wake of 9 11 ethnographer M G Sheftall was given unprecedented access to the cloistered community of Japan's last remaining kamikaze survivors As an American fluent in Japanese Sheftall was the only westerner to ever sit face to face with these men and hear their stories The result is a fascinating journey into the lives indoctrination and mindsets of the kamikaze through the eyes of participants who are now lost to time

**The Battle for Leyte, 1944** Milan Vego, 2013-03-11 One of the largest and most complex military efforts ever undertaken the Leyte Operation was the Allies first and most important major combined operation to liberate the Philippine archipelago The stakes were high a successful landing at Leyte was critical to a subsequent assault on Luzon and total control of the Philippines If Japan lost the Philippines its supply of oil and other strategic raw materials would be cut off and its Navy doomed to an inglorious end In this comprehensive study one of the world's leading authorities on the subject addresses all aspects of the two month long ground sea and air invasion and presents a complete evaluation of theater wide command organization intelligence and logistics Drawing on a wealth of Allied and Japanese primary documents and countless secondary sources Milan Vego describes and analyzes the operational planning and preparation as well as the execution of actions on both sides Focusing on the operational versus tactical aspects of the struggle he critically assesses the major decisions made by the senior commanders His access to the Allied Magic radio intercepts allows him to shed light on what Allied and Japanese commanders knew and did not know about each other Unlike other books on the subject Vego draws conclusions and provides operational lessons learned based on his conclusions A large number of maps figures and tables enhance the text

*Fire From the Sky* Robert C. Stem, 2020-01-31 By late 1944 the war in the Pacific had turned decisively against the Japanese and overwhelming Allied forces began to close in on the home islands At this point Japan unveiled a terrifying new tactic the suicide attack or Kamikaze named after the Divine Wind which had once before in medieval times saved Japan from invasion Intentionally crashing bomb laden aircraft into Allied warships these piloted guided missiles at first seemed unstoppable calling into question the naval strategy on which the whole war effort was based This book looks at the origins of the campaign at its strategic goals the organization of the Japanese special attack forces and the culture that made suicide not just acceptable but honourable Inevitably much mythology has grown up around the subject and the book attempts to sort the wheat from the chaff One story that does stand up is the reported massive stock piling of kamikaze aircraft for use against any Allied invasion of the home islands if the atomic bombs had not forced Japan's surrender However its principal focus is on the experience of those in the Allied fleets on the receiving end of this peculiarly alien and unnerving weapon how they learnt to endure and eventually counter a threat whose potential was over estimated by both sides In this respect it has a very modern resonance

**A Thousand Stitches** Constance O'Keefe, 2014-10-16 Based on the true story of an American born Kamikaze Pilot The central story of this novel is told as a memoir written by the main character Isamu Sam Imagawa who was born in America but who served as a pilot for the

Imperial Japanese Navy during World War II The story recounts the time Sam spent in Japan from 1932 to 1963 spanning his early school days his boyhood crush and young love for Michiko Miyazawa his military career his unhappy marriage and his final escape to the U S A with his second wife The secondary plot is told from the perspective of Michiko who recounts her life in Japan during wartime and reconstruction The two alternating plots are held together symbolically by a senninbari a belt with a thousand stitches which Michiko made for Sam while Sam was a pilot for the Japanese Kamikaze Corps A Thousand Stitches makes a strong anti war statement summed up by Michiko s friend Keiko How stupid stupid stupid everything about this war is This novel was inspired by a memoir Shig The True Story of an American Kamikaze written by Shigeo Imamura whose life closely paralleled that of the hero of A Thousand Stitches

**Atomic Salvation** Tom Lewis,2020-07-20 A thought provoking analysis of the bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki and what might have happened if conventional weapons were used instead It has always been a difficult concept to stomach that the atomic bombs dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki in 1945 causing such horrific suffering and destruction also brought about peace Attitudes toward the event have changed through the years from grateful relief that World War II was ended to widespread condemnation of the United States Atomic Salvation investigates the full situation examining documents from both Japanese and Allied sources but also using in depth analysis to extend beyond the mere recounting of statistics It charts the full extent of the possible casualties on both sides had a conventional assault akin to D Day gone ahead against Japan The work is not concerned solely with the military necessity to use the bombs it also investigates why that necessity has been increasingly challenged over the successive decades Controversially the book demonstrates that Japan would have suffered far greater casualties likely around 28 million if the nation had been attacked in the manner by which Germany was defeated by amphibious assault artillery and air attacks preceding infantry insertion and finally by subduing the last of the defenders of the enemy capital It also investigates the enormous political pressure placed on America as a result of their military situation The Truman administration had little choice but to use the new weapon given the more than a million deaths that Allied forces would undoubtedly have suffered through conventional assault By charting reaction to the bombings over time Atomic Salvation shows that there has been relentless pressure on the world to condemn what at the time was seen as the best and only military solution to end the conflict Never has such an exhaustive analysis been made of the necessity behind bringing World War II to a halt

**Banking and Finance Collections** Ash Lee,2016-02-04 A wide range of special librarians from banking finance and government provide descriptive accounts of their respective collections in this comprehensive volume They provide an introduction to some of the major library and archival resources available to bankers financiers and investors as well as offer access to the historian and scholar doing research in some aspect of business The collections represented include the Federal Reserve System the Joint Bank Fund Library of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank Standard Poor s the Wells Fargo Corporation the Lippincott Library of the Wharton School and more Leyte

Gulf Mark Stille,2023-06-08 A fascinating re examination of the battle of Leyte Gulf the largest naval encounter in history and probably the most decisive naval battle of the entire Pacific War and one that saw the Imperial Japanese Navy eliminated as an effective fighting force and forced to resort to suicide tactics Leyte was a huge and complex action actually consisting of four major battles each of which are broken down in detail in this book using original sources The plans of both sides and how they dictated the events that followed are also examined critically So much of the accepted wisdom of the battle has developed from the many myths that surround it myths that have become more firmly established over time In this new study Pacific War expert Mark Stille examines the key aspects of this complex battle with new and insightful analysis and dismantles the myths surrounding the respective actions and overall performances of the two most important commanders in the battle and the lost victory of the Japanese advance into Leyte Gulf that never happened     The Anguish of Surrender

Ulrich A. Straus,2011-10-01 On December 6 1941 Ensign Kazuo Sakamaki was one of a handful of men selected to skipper midget subs on a suicide mission to breach Pearl Harbor s defenses When his equipment malfunctioned he couldn t find the entrance to the harbor He hit several reefs eventually splitting the sub and swam to shore some miles from Pearl Harbor In the early dawn of December 8 he was picked up on the beach by two Japanese American MPs on patrol Sakamaki became Prisoner No 1 of the Pacific War Japan s no surrender policy did not permit becoming a POW Sakamaki and his fellow soldiers and sailors had been indoctrinated to choose between victory and a heroic death While his comrades had perished he had survived By becoming a prisoner of war Sakamaki believed he had brought shame and dishonor on himself his family his community and his nation in effect relinquishing his citizenship Sakamaki fell into despair and like so many Japanese POWs begged his captors to kill him Based on the author s interviews with dozens of former Japanese POWs along with memoirs only recently coming to light The Anguish of Surrender tells one of the great unknown stories of World War II Beginning with an examination of Japan s prewar ultranationalist climate and the harsh code that precluded the possibility of capture the author investigates the circumstances of surrender and capture of men like Sakamaki and their experiences in POW camps Many POWs ill and starving after days wandering in the jungles or hiding out in caves were astonished at the superior quality of food and medical treatment they received Contrary to expectations most Japanese POWs psychologically unprepared to deal with interrogations provided information to their captors Trained Allied linguists especially Japanese Americans learned how to extract intelligence by treating the POWs humanely Allied intelligence personnel took advantage of lax Japanese security precautions to gain extensive information from captured documents A few POWs recognizing Japan s certain defeat even assisted the Allied war effort to shorten the war Far larger numbers staged uprisings in an effort to commit suicide Most sought to survive suffered mental anguish and feared what awaited them in their homeland These deeply human stories follow Japanese prisoners through their camp experiences to their return to their welcoming families and reintegration into postwar society These stories are told here for the first time in English     Martyrdom in Modern Islam Meir



Hatina,2014-04-28 An in depth analysis of modern Islamic martyrdom and its various interpretations positing martyrdom as a vital component of contemporary identity politics and power struggles

**Bloody Okinawa** Joseph Wheelan,2020-03-03 A stirring narrative of World War II s final major battle the Pacific war s largest bloodiest most savagely fought campaign the last of its kind On Easter Sunday April 1 1945 more than 184 000 US troops began landing on the only Japanese home soil invaded during the Pacific war Just 350 miles from mainland Japan Okinawa was to serve as a forward base for Japan s invasion in the fall of 1945 Nearly 140 000 Japanese and auxiliary soldiers fought with suicidal tenacity from hollowed out fortified hills and ridges Under constant fire and in the rain and mud the Americans battered the defenders with artillery aerial bombing naval gunfire and every infantry tool Waves of Japanese kamikaze and conventional warplanes sank 36 warships damaged 368 others and killed nearly 5 000 US seamen When the slugfest ended after 82 days more than 125 000 enemy soldiers lay dead along with 7 500 US ground troops Tragically more than 100 000 Okinawa civilians perished while trapped between the armies The brutal campaign persuaded US leaders to drop the atomic bomb instead of invading Japan Utilizing accounts by US combatants and Japanese sources author Joseph Wheelan endows this riveting story of the war s last great battle with a compelling human dimension

**The Elusive Enemy** Douglas Ford,2011-10-15 The Elusive Enemy explores the evolution of U S intelligence concerning the combat capabilities of the Imperial Japanese Navy and its air arm during the interwar period and the Pacific War Ford contends that the US Navy could not accurately determine the fighting efficiency of Japan s forces until it engaged them in actual battle conditions over an extended period As the conflict progressed the Americans were able to rely on a growing array of intelligence material including POWs captured documents and specimens of captured enemy weapons These sources often revealed valuable information on the characteristics of Japanese equipment as well as some of the ideas and doctrines which governed how they carried out their operations First hand observations of the Japanese navy s performance in battle were the most frequently used source of intelligence which enabled the US Navy to develop a more informed assessment of its opponent Ship crews along with US aviators were tasked to collect information by making a thorough observation of how the Japanese fought Action reports described how the Imperial fleet demonstrated a number of weaknesses the most important of which was a shortage of modern equipment and after 1942 diminished air power Yet he demonstrates how the Japanese remained a resilient enemy who could be defeated only when the Americans deployed sufficient equipment and used it in an appropriate manner The Office of Naval Intelligence as well as the intelligence services operating in the Pacific theater thus had to assess a wide array of conflicting characteristics and provide a balanced evaluation concerning the strengths and weaknesses of the Imperial navy At the same time a large part of the intelligence analysis was undertaken by commanders in the Pacific Fleet Naval personnel and aircrews assessed the information gained through encounters with the enemy so that they could develop a set of methods whereby US forces were able defeat the Japanese without incurring excessive casualties and losses The intelligence services

in turn played an important role in disseminating the information on the most efficient tactics and weapons that could be used to defeat the Imperial Fleet The Elusive Enemy aims to explain how American perceptions concerning the Japanese navy evolved during the conflict with a particular focus on the role of intelligence It also seeks to introduce a new perspective on the question as to why the U S Navy carried out its campaigns during the Pacific War in the manner that it did

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