



Midway: The Battle That Doomed Japan, the Japanese Navy's Story (Bluejacket Books)

By Mitsuo Fuchida, Masatake Okumiya

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This landmark study was first published in English by the Naval Institute in 1955 and was added to the Classics of Naval Literature series in 1992. Widely acknowledged for its valuable Japanese insights into the battle that turned that tide of war in the Pacific, the book has made a great impact on American readers over the years. Two Japanese naval aviators who participated in the operation provide an unsparing analysis of what caused Japan's staggering defeat.

Mitsuo Fuchida, who led the first air strike on Pearl Harbor, commanded the Akagi carrier air group and later made a study of the battle at the Japanese Naval War College. Masatake Okumiya, one of Japan's first dive-bomber pilots, was aboard the light carrier *Ryujo* and later served as a staff officer in a carrier division. Armed with knowledge of top-secret documents destroyed by the Japanese and access to private papers, they show the operation to be ill-conceived and poorly planned and executed, and fault their flag officers for lacking initiative, leadership, and clear thinking. With an introduction by an author known for his study of the battle from the American perspective, the work continues to make a significant contribution to World War II literature.

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Editorial Review

Review

"...by knowing what went on aboard the Japanese warships, some of the mysteries of the battle can be explained." -- *Baltimore Sun*

"An enlightening account of the Japanese naval leaders of the time..." --*Military Review*

Language Notes

Text: English (translation)

Original Language: Japanese

From the Inside Flap

The great air and sea battle of the Pacific, as seen through Japanese eyes . . .

On June 4, 1942, Admiral Yamamoto launched his attack on Midway with the largest fleet yet assembled in the Pacific. His strike force included 350 ships and over 100,000 officers and men. His objective: to smash the U.S. aircraft carriers based at Midway and break the Navy's power in World War II.

Now, for the first time, Japanese officers open the sealed archives to tell the authoritative, dramatic story of what really happened at Midway -- the battle that doomed Japan!

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