

JAPAN AT WAR AN ORAL HISTORY

JAPAN AT WAR AN ORAL HISTORY IS A COMPELLING EXPLORATION INTO JAPAN'S EXPERIENCES DURING WARTIME, TOLD THROUGH THE AUTHENTIC VOICES OF THOSE WHO LIVED THROUGH ITS MOST TURBULENT DECADES. THIS ARTICLE OFFERS A COMPREHENSIVE LOOK AT HOW ORAL HISTORIES ILLUMINATE THE REALITIES BEHIND JAPAN'S MILITARY CONFLICTS, FROM THE SINO-JAPANESE WAR TO WORLD WAR II AND BEYOND. READERS WILL DISCOVER HOW PERSONAL TESTIMONIES REVEAL THE SOCIAL, POLITICAL, AND EMOTIONAL IMPACTS OF WAR, PROVIDING A NUANCED UNDERSTANDING THAT GOES BEYOND OFFICIAL RECORDS. BY EXAMINING THE PERSPECTIVES OF SOLDIERS, CIVILIANS, SURVIVORS, AND LEADERS, WE UNCOVER THE CULTURAL AND HISTORICAL LEGACY LEFT BY THESE EVENTS. THE ARTICLE ALSO DELVES INTO THE CHALLENGES AND METHODOLOGIES INVOLVED IN COLLECTING AND INTERPRETING ORAL HISTORIES IN JAPAN. WITH A FOCUS ON KEY THEMES SUCH AS REMEMBRANCE, TRAUMA, AND COLLECTIVE MEMORY, THIS GUIDE BRINGS CLARITY TO JAPAN'S WARTIME NARRATIVE AND ITS ENDURING SIGNIFICANCE. WHETHER YOU ARE A STUDENT, HISTORIAN, OR SIMPLY CURIOUS ABOUT JAPAN'S PAST, THIS RESOURCE OFFERS VALUABLE INSIGHTS INTO THE VOICES THAT SHAPED HISTORY. EXPLORE THE POWER OF STORYTELLING AND DISCOVER WHY ORAL ACCOUNTS ARE ESSENTIAL FOR PRESERVING JAPAN'S UNIQUE WARTIME HERITAGE.

- UNDERSTANDING ORAL HISTORY IN JAPAN'S WARTIME CONTEXT
- THE ROLE OF PERSONAL TESTIMONY IN JAPAN AT WAR
- MAJOR CONFLICTS EXPLORED THROUGH ORAL HISTORIES
- COLLECTING AND INTERPRETING JAPANESE WARTIME ORAL ACCOUNTS
- KEY THEMES IN JAPAN AT WAR: TRAUMA, REMEMBRANCE, AND MEMORY
- IMPACT OF ORAL HISTORY ON MODERN JAPANESE SOCIETY
- CHALLENGES AND ETHICAL CONSIDERATIONS IN WARTIME ORAL HISTORIES

UNDERSTANDING ORAL HISTORY IN JAPAN'S WARTIME CONTEXT

ORAL HISTORY PLAYS A VITAL ROLE IN UNCOVERING THE LIVED EXPERIENCES OF PEOPLE DURING JAPAN'S TUMULTUOUS WARTIME PERIODS. UNLIKE OFFICIAL DOCUMENTS OR GOVERNMENTAL RECORDS, ORAL HISTORIES PROVIDE FIRST-HAND ACCOUNTS, CAPTURING PERSONAL PERSPECTIVES AND EMOTIONS THAT ARE OFTEN ABSENT FROM TRADITIONAL SOURCES. IN THE CONTEXT OF JAPAN AT WAR, THESE TESTIMONIES REVEAL THE EVERYDAY REALITIES FACED BY SOLDIERS, CIVILIANS, AND SURVIVORS. ORAL HISTORY PROJECTS IN JAPAN BEGAN TO FLOURISH POST-WORLD WAR II, FOCUSING ON RECOLLECTIONS FROM A DIVERSE RANGE OF PARTICIPANTS. THE COLLECTION OF THESE NARRATIVES ENABLES RESEARCHERS TO RECONSTRUCT EVENTS WITH GREATER NUANCE, HIGHLIGHTING REGIONAL DIFFERENCES AND THE WIDE SPECTRUM OF EXPERIENCES. BY PRIORITIZING THE VOICES OF THOSE WHO OFTEN WENT UNHEARD, ORAL HISTORY HAS BECOME AN INDISPENSABLE TOOL FOR UNDERSTANDING THE COMPLEXITIES OF JAPAN'S WARTIME HISTORY AND CULTURAL IDENTITY.

THE ROLE OF PERSONAL TESTIMONY IN JAPAN AT WAR

PERSONAL TESTIMONY FORMS THE BACKBONE OF JAPAN AT WAR AN ORAL HISTORY, PROVIDING UNIQUE INSIGHTS THAT WRITTEN RECORDS ALONE CANNOT DELIVER. TESTIMONIES FROM JAPANESE SOLDIERS, NURSES, FACTORY WORKERS, AND ATOMIC BOMB SURVIVORS OFFER A VIVID TAPESTRY OF EMOTIONS AND EVENTS. THESE ACCOUNTS OFTEN REFLECT THEMES OF HARDSHIP, RESILIENCE, LOSS, AND HOPE. FOR EXAMPLE, SURVIVORS OF THE HIROSHIMA AND NAGASAKI BOMBINGS RECOUNT NOT ONLY THE PHYSICAL DEVASTATION BUT ALSO THE PSYCHOLOGICAL SCARS LEFT BY THE EXPERIENCE. SOLDIERS FROM THE IMPERIAL JAPANESE ARMY SHARE STORIES OF CAMARADERIE, CONFLICT, AND THE ETHICAL DILEMMAS FACED DURING WARTIME. THROUGH THESE ORAL HISTORIES, WE GAIN A DEEPER APPRECIATION FOR THE DIVERSITY OF EXPERIENCES AND THE LASTING IMPACT OF WAR ON INDIVIDUALS AND COMMUNITIES.

MAJOR CONFLICTS EXPLORED THROUGH ORAL HISTORIES

THE SINO-JAPANESE WAR AND ITS LEGACY

ORAL HISTORIES FROM THE SINO-JAPANESE WAR (1937–1945) PRESENT A COMPLEX PICTURE OF MILITARY CAMPAIGNS, OCCUPATION, AND CIVILIAN SUFFERING. TESTIMONIES FROM BOTH JAPANESE AND CHINESE PERSPECTIVES HELP TO HIGHLIGHT THE MULTIFACETED NATURE OF THE CONFLICT, INCLUDING THE NANJING MASSACRE AND THE WIDESPREAD DISPLACEMENT OF POPULATIONS. THESE ACCOUNTS REVEAL NOT ONLY THE BRUTALITY OF WAR BUT ALSO MOMENTS OF COMPASSION AND RESISTANCE AMONG THOSE AFFECTED.

WORLD WAR II AND THE PACIFIC THEATER

WORLD WAR II REMAINS A CENTRAL FOCUS FOR JAPAN AT WAR AN ORAL HISTORY, WITH COUNTLESS INTERVIEWS CONDUCTED WITH VETERANS, SURVIVORS, AND WITNESSES. TOPICS INCLUDE THE BATTLE OF OKINAWA, THE EXPERIENCE OF JAPANESE PRISONERS OF WAR, AND THE IMPACT OF AIR RAIDS ON CITIES LIKE TOKYO. ORAL HISTORIES SHED LIGHT ON THE DAY-TO-DAY STRUGGLES OF CIVILIANS UNDER WARTIME RATIONING, FORCED LABOR, AND EVACUATION. THE VOICES OF ATOMIC BOMB SURVIVORS (HIBAKUSHA) ARE PARTICULARLY POIGNANT, REVEALING THE LONG-TERM CONSEQUENCES OF NUCLEAR WARFARE.

POSTWAR OCCUPATION AND RECONSTRUCTION

THE POSTWAR PERIOD SAW DRAMATIC SOCIAL AND POLITICAL CHANGES IN JAPAN. ORAL HISTORIES FROM THIS ERA DOCUMENT THE CHALLENGES OF REBUILDING, THE INFLUENCE OF AMERICAN OCCUPATION FORCES, AND THE COMPLEX PROCESS OF SOCIETAL HEALING. TESTIMONIES EXPLORE HOW COMMUNITIES DEALT WITH LOSS, ADJUSTED TO NEW NORMS, AND PARTICIPATED IN THE DEMOCRATIZATION OF JAPANESE SOCIETY.

COLLECTING AND INTERPRETING JAPANESE WARTIME ORAL ACCOUNTS

METHODOLOGIES FOR GATHERING ORAL HISTORIES

RESEARCHERS USE A VARIETY OF METHODS TO COLLECT ORAL HISTORIES IN JAPAN, INCLUDING STRUCTURED INTERVIEWS, LIFE HISTORY NARRATIVES, AND GROUP DISCUSSIONS. PREPARATION OFTEN INVOLVES BUILDING TRUST WITH INTERVIEWEES AND ENSURING CULTURAL SENSITIVITY. THE PROCESS CAN INCLUDE AUDIO OR VIDEO RECORDINGS, TRANSCRIPTION, AND TRANSLATION, ESPECIALLY WHEN DEALING WITH DIALECTS OR OLDER LANGUAGE FORMS.

- ONE-ON-ONE INTERVIEWS WITH SURVIVORS AND VETERANS
- GROUP SESSIONS WITHIN AFFECTED COMMUNITIES
- COLLABORATIONS WITH MUSEUMS AND ACADEMIC INSTITUTIONS
- ARCHIVAL RESEARCH TO SUPPLEMENT ORAL ACCOUNTS
- DIGITAL PRESERVATION FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS

CHALLENGES IN INTERPRETATION

INTERPRETING ORAL HISTORIES REQUIRES AWARENESS OF SUBJECTIVITY AND MEMORY DISTORTION. PERSONAL TESTIMONIES MAY BE INFLUENCED BY TRAUMA, NOSTALGIA, OR SOCIAL PRESSURES. RESEARCHERS MUST CROSS-REFERENCE ACCOUNTS WITH OTHER SOURCES TO CONSTRUCT ACCURATE HISTORICAL NARRATIVES. LINGUISTIC NUANCES AND CULTURAL CONTEXT ALSO PLAY

CRITICAL ROLES IN UNDERSTANDING THE FULL MEANING OF EACH TESTIMONY.

KEY THEMES IN JAPAN AT WAR: TRAUMA, REMEMBRANCE, AND MEMORY

THE PSYCHOLOGICAL IMPACT OF WAR

JAPAN AT WAR AN ORAL HISTORY OFTEN HIGHLIGHTS THE PROFOUND PSYCHOLOGICAL EFFECTS OF CONFLICT. MANY INTERVIEWEES DESCRIBE LONG-TERM TRAUMA, SURVIVOR'S GUILT, AND THE STRUGGLE TO FIND MEANING AFTER LOSS. THESE EMOTIONAL NARRATIVES OFFER VALUABLE INSIGHTS INTO HOW JAPANESE SOCIETY HAS PROCESSED AND COPED WITH THE AFTERMATH OF WAR.

REMEMBRANCE AND COMMEMORATION

REMEMBRANCE IS A RECURRING THEME IN ORAL HISTORIES, AS COMMUNITIES STRIVE TO HONOR THOSE WHO SUFFERED AND DIED. ANNUAL MEMORIAL SERVICES, MONUMENTS, AND STORYTELLING TRADITIONS HELP PRESERVE THE MEMORIES OF WARTIME EXPERIENCES. ORAL HISTORIES SERVE AS A LIVING LEGACY, ENSURING THAT THE LESSONS OF THE PAST CONTINUE TO INFORM FUTURE GENERATIONS.

COLLECTIVE MEMORY AND NATIONAL IDENTITY

ORAL TESTIMONY CONTRIBUTES TO THE SHAPING OF JAPAN'S COLLECTIVE MEMORY AND NATIONAL IDENTITY. THE WAY WARTIME STORIES ARE TOLD AND REMEMBERED REFLECTS BROADER SOCIETAL DEBATES ABOUT RESPONSIBILITY, RECONCILIATION, AND PEACE. ORAL HISTORIES HELP FOSTER UNDERSTANDING ACROSS GENERATIONS AND CULTURES, PROMOTING DIALOGUE AND EMPATHY.

IMPACT OF ORAL HISTORY ON MODERN JAPANESE SOCIETY

ORAL HISTORIES HAVE INFLUENCED MODERN JAPANESE SOCIETY IN VARIOUS WAYS. THEY FOSTER GREATER AWARENESS OF HISTORICAL EVENTS AMONG YOUNGER GENERATIONS, ENCOURAGE PUBLIC DEBATE ABOUT WAR RESPONSIBILITY, AND SUPPORT PEACE EDUCATION INITIATIVES. MUSEUMS AND EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS UTILIZE ORAL ACCOUNTS TO CREATE ENGAGING EXHIBITS AND LEARNING MATERIALS. THE PRESERVATION OF THESE VOICES ENSURES THAT THE REALITIES OF JAPAN AT WAR REMAIN ACCESSIBLE, SHAPING CONTEMPORARY DISCUSSIONS ABOUT CONFLICT, PEACE, AND HUMAN RIGHTS.

CHALLENGES AND ETHICAL CONSIDERATIONS IN WARTIME ORAL HISTORIES

COLLECTING AND PRESENTING WARTIME ORAL HISTORIES IN JAPAN INVOLVES NUMEROUS ETHICAL DILEMMAS. INTERVIEWING SURVIVORS AND VETERANS REQUIRES SENSITIVITY TO TRAUMA AND PRIVACY CONCERNS. RESEARCHERS MUST NAVIGATE ISSUES OF CONSENT, REPRESENTATION, AND THE RISK OF RE-TRAUMATIZATION. THE ACCURACY OF MEMORIES, POTENTIAL BIASES, AND THE NEED FOR RESPECTFUL STORYTELLING ARE ALL CRITICAL FACTORS. ETHICAL ORAL HISTORY PRACTICES AIM TO HONOR THE DIGNITY OF PARTICIPANTS WHILE PROVIDING TRUTHFUL AND MEANINGFUL ACCOUNTS THAT CONTRIBUTE TO HISTORICAL UNDERSTANDING.

Q: WHAT IS THE SIGNIFICANCE OF ORAL HISTORY IN UNDERSTANDING JAPAN'S WARTIME EXPERIENCES?

A: ORAL HISTORY PROVIDES DIRECT, PERSONAL INSIGHTS INTO JAPAN'S WARTIME EXPERIENCES, CAPTURING EMOTIONS AND PERSPECTIVES OFTEN MISSING FROM OFFICIAL RECORDS. IT HELPS RECONSTRUCT EVENTS WITH GREATER NUANCE AND SHEDS LIGHT ON THE SOCIAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL IMPACT OF WAR.

Q: WHICH MAJOR CONFLICTS ARE COVERED IN JAPAN AT WAR AN ORAL HISTORY?

A: MAJOR CONFLICTS INCLUDE THE SINO-JAPANESE WAR, WORLD WAR II, THE PACIFIC THEATER, AND THE POSTWAR OCCUPATION AND RECONSTRUCTION PERIOD. EACH CONFLICT IS EXPLORED THROUGH SURVIVOR TESTIMONIES AND PERSONAL ACCOUNTS.

Q: HOW ARE ORAL HISTORIES COLLECTED IN JAPAN?

A: ORAL HISTORIES ARE GATHERED THROUGH ONE-ON-ONE INTERVIEWS, GROUP DISCUSSIONS, COLLABORATIONS WITH MUSEUMS AND ACADEMIC INSTITUTIONS, ARCHIVAL RESEARCH, AND DIGITAL PRESERVATION METHODS.

Q: WHAT ROLE DO ATOMIC BOMB SURVIVORS PLAY IN JAPANESE WARTIME ORAL HISTORY?

A: ATOMIC BOMB SURVIVORS, KNOWN AS HIBAKUSHA, PROVIDE CRUCIAL TESTIMONIES ABOUT THE PHYSICAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL CONSEQUENCES OF NUCLEAR WARFARE, CONTRIBUTING TO PEACE EDUCATION AND REMEMBRANCE EFFORTS.

Q: WHAT CHALLENGES EXIST IN INTERPRETING JAPANESE WARTIME ORAL HISTORIES?

A: CHALLENGES INCLUDE MEMORY DISTORTION, SUBJECTIVITY, TRAUMA, LINGUISTIC NUANCES, AND THE NEED TO CROSS-REFERENCE ACCOUNTS WITH OTHER HISTORICAL SOURCES FOR ACCURACY.

Q: HOW DOES ORAL HISTORY INFLUENCE MODERN JAPANESE SOCIETY?

A: ORAL HISTORY FOSTERS HISTORICAL AWARENESS AMONG YOUTH, SUPPORTS PEACE EDUCATION, ENCOURAGES PUBLIC DEBATE, AND AIDS IN THE PRESERVATION OF JAPAN'S WARTIME LEGACY.

Q: WHAT ETHICAL CONSIDERATIONS MUST RESEARCHERS ADDRESS WHEN COLLECTING WARTIME ORAL HISTORIES?

A: ETHICAL CONCERNS INCLUDE SENSITIVITY TO TRAUMA, PRIVACY, INFORMED CONSENT, ACCURATE REPRESENTATION, AND THE RISK OF RE-TRAUMATIZATION FOR INTERVIEWEES.

Q: WHY IS REMEMBRANCE A KEY THEME IN JAPAN AT WAR AN ORAL HISTORY?

A: REMEMBRANCE HELPS HONOR THOSE AFFECTED BY WAR, PRESERVES THEIR STORIES FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS, AND PROMOTES REFLECTION AND RECONCILIATION WITHIN SOCIETY.

Q: HOW DO ORAL HISTORIES DIFFER FROM OFFICIAL WARTIME RECORDS IN JAPAN?

A: ORAL HISTORIES OFFER PERSONAL, EMOTIONAL PERSPECTIVES AND FOCUS ON THE EXPERIENCES OF ORDINARY PEOPLE, WHILE OFFICIAL RECORDS TEND TO PRESENT FACTUAL, ADMINISTRATIVE ACCOUNTS.

Q: WHAT IS THE IMPACT OF ORAL HISTORY ON JAPAN'S COLLECTIVE MEMORY AND IDENTITY?

A: ORAL HISTORY SHAPES COLLECTIVE MEMORY AND NATIONAL IDENTITY BY INFLUENCING HOW WARTIME EVENTS ARE REMEMBERED, DISCUSSED, AND TAUGHT, FOSTERING EMPATHY AND DIALOGUE ACROSS GENERATIONS.

Japan At War An Oral History

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Japan at War: An Oral History - Unveiling Untold Stories

The roar of cannons, the chilling wind of winter battles, the quiet desperation of a nation at war – these are not just historical facts; they are lived experiences. This post delves into the compelling world of Japan at War: An Oral History, exploring the power of firsthand accounts to illuminate a pivotal period in global history. We'll examine what makes oral histories invaluable for understanding this complex conflict, discuss key themes revealed through these narratives, and highlight some of the impactful voices that bring this turbulent era to life. Forget dry textbooks and sterile statistics; prepare to hear the human story of Japan at war.

The Power of Personal Narratives in Understanding War

Traditional historical accounts, while crucial, often present a macro view of events. They focus on strategic decisions, political maneuvering, and large-scale battles. While important, this approach sometimes obscures the human cost and the lived realities of those who experienced the war firsthand. Japan at War: An Oral History offers a vital corrective. By centering the narratives of ordinary Japanese citizens – soldiers, civilians, women, and children – it offers a profoundly intimate understanding of the war's impact. These stories humanize the conflict, revealing the complexities of individual experiences within the larger context of national struggle.

Beyond the Battlefield: Civilian Experiences

The war's impact wasn't confined to the battlefield. Oral histories reveal the devastating consequences for Japanese civilians, who endured air raids, food shortages, and the psychological trauma of constant fear and uncertainty. These narratives uncover stories of resilience, survival, and the devastating loss experienced by families separated by war or loss. We learn about the daily struggles of maintaining hope amidst the chaos, and the profound impact of the war on subsequent generations. These accounts challenge simplistic narratives of wartime Japan, highlighting the diversity of experiences and perspectives.

The Soldier's Perspective: Beyond Propaganda

Official accounts often glorify war, presenting a sanitized version of events that omits the brutality and trauma. Oral histories from Japanese soldiers provide a starkly different perspective, revealing the realities of combat, the psychological toll of prolonged fighting, and the moral dilemmas faced by individuals caught in the machinery of war. These accounts challenge the romanticized image of the soldier and offer a more nuanced understanding of the human cost of conflict. We hear tales of bravery and despair, triumph and loss, painted with the raw emotion only a firsthand account can convey.

Women's Voices: Often Overlooked, Never Silent

Women's experiences during wartime are frequently overlooked in traditional historical analyses. *Japan at War: An Oral History* actively seeks to rectify this imbalance. These narratives reveal the crucial roles women played in the war effort, from working in factories to supporting their families under immense hardship. We hear about their contributions to the home front, their struggles against societal expectations, and the impact of the war on their lives and those of their children. Their stories offer a unique perspective on the war, demonstrating the profound impact it had on gender roles and social structures.

Challenges and Considerations of Oral History Research

While incredibly valuable, oral histories present unique challenges. Memory is fallible, and accounts may be influenced by time, personal biases, and cultural perspectives. It's crucial to approach these narratives with critical awareness, recognizing the potential for inaccuracies or subjective interpretations. However, these limitations do not diminish the value of oral history. Instead, they highlight the importance of contextualizing these accounts within the broader historical record and considering multiple perspectives.

The Legacy of Japan at War: An Oral History

Japan at War: An Oral History serves as a powerful reminder of the human consequences of war and the importance of understanding history from diverse viewpoints. It challenges simplistic narratives, offering a more nuanced and complex understanding of a crucial historical period. By giving voice to those who lived through this tumultuous time, this oral history allows us to connect with the past on

a deeply human level and learn valuable lessons for the future. The project's lasting legacy lies in its ability to foster empathy, critical thinking, and a deeper appreciation for the human cost of conflict.

Conclusion

The stories recounted in *Japan at War: An Oral History* are not just historical anecdotes; they are testaments to human resilience, suffering, and the enduring power of the human spirit. By listening to these voices, we gain a profound understanding of a pivotal moment in history, moving beyond sterile statistics to grasp the human experience of war in all its complexity and heartbreaking beauty.

FAQs

Q1: Where can I find these oral histories?

A1: Many archives and libraries hold collections of oral histories related to World War II in Japan. You can also find digitized versions online through various academic databases and digital archives. Searching for "Japan World War II oral histories" will provide several promising avenues.

Q2: Are these oral histories translated into English?

A2: Many are, but the availability varies. Some projects specifically focus on translating these accounts, while others may require language skills or the use of translation services.

Q3: How reliable are oral histories compared to written accounts?

A3: Both have limitations. Written accounts can be influenced by biases and political agendas, while oral histories can be affected by memory and perspective. The most complete understanding often comes from considering both types of sources alongside other historical evidence.

Q4: What ethical considerations are involved in using oral histories?

A4: Respecting the privacy and wishes of the individuals involved is paramount. Their consent and the proper attribution of their stories are crucial. Researchers must also be mindful of potentially sensitive or traumatic content.

Q5: How can I contribute to the preservation of these oral histories?

A5: You can support institutions that preserve oral histories, participate in oral history projects, or donate to organizations dedicated to archiving and making these valuable records accessible to future generations.

japan at war an oral history: *Japan at War* Haruko Taya Cook, Theodore Failer Cook, 1992 An oral history of Japan during World War II recounts this terrible conflict through the eyes of the Japanese--soldiers, laborers, newspapermen, artists, musicians, women--who lived through it. 20,000 first printing.

japan at war an oral history: Japan at War Haruko Taya Cook, Theodore F. Cook, 1992-10-30 This pathbreaking work of oral history captures the remarkable story of ordinary Japanese people during WW2. Takes us from the Japanese attacks on China in the 1930s to the Japanese homefront during the inhuman raids on Tokyo, Hiroshima, & Nagasaki, offering the first glimpses of how the 20th century's most violent conflict affected the lives of the Japanese population. In the oral histories, the authors encountered every form of response: those who held to their principles & those who gave in to opportunism, those who controlled events as well as the many -- including women & children -- who were caught up in the horrific whirlpool. A monumental work of history that captures the complex range of Japanese experiences & emotions.

japan at war an oral history: Japan at War Haruko Taya Cook, Theodore Failer Cook, 1995-08-01

japan at war an oral history: Japanese War Brides in America Miki Ward Crawford, Katie Kaori Hayashi, Shizuko Suenaga, 2009-11-25 Following the end of World War II, 500,000 American troops occupied every prefecture of Japan and interracial marriages occurred. The sudden influx of 50,000 Japanese war brides during 1946-1965 created social tension in the United States, while opening up one of the country's largest cross-cultural integrations. This book reveals the stories of 19 Japanese war brides whose assimilation into American culture forever influenced future generations, depicting love, strength, and perseverance in the face of incredible odds. The Japanese war brides hold a unique place in American history and have been called ambassadors to the United States. For the first time in English these women share their triumphs, sorrows, successes, and identity in a time when their own future was tainted by social segregation. This oral history focuses mainly on women's lives in the period following World War II and the occupation of Japan. It illuminates the cultural expectations, the situations brought about by the war, and effects of the occupation, and also include quotes from various war brides regarding this time. Chapter interviews are set up in chronological fashion and laid out in the following format: introduction of the war bride, how she met her husband, her initial travels to America, and life thereafter. Where needed, explanations, translations, and background history with references are provided.

japan at war an oral history: Saipan Bruce M. Petty, 2016-05-01 The battle for Saipan is remembered as one of the bloodiest battles fought in the Pacific during World War II, and was a turning point on the road to the defeat of Japan. In this work, the survivors--including Pacific Islanders on whose land the Americans and Japanese fought their war--have the opportunity to tell their stories in their own words. The author offers an introduction to the volume and arranges the oral histories by location--Saipan, Yap and Tinian, Rota, Palau Islands, and Guam--in the first half, and by branch of service in the second half.

japan at war an oral history: Embracing Defeat: Japan in the Wake of World War II John W. Dower, 2000-06-17 Winner of the Pulitzer Prize and the National Book Award for Nonfiction Finalist for the Lionel Gelber Prize and the Kiriya Pacific Rim Book Prize *Embracing Defeat* is John W. Dower's brilliant examination of Japan in the immediate, shattering aftermath of World War II. Drawing on a vast range of Japanese sources and illustrated with dozens of astonishing documentary photographs, *Embracing Defeat* is the fullest and most important history of the more than six years of American occupation, which affected every level of Japanese society, often in ways neither side could anticipate. Dower, whom Stephen E. Ambrose has called America's foremost historian of the Second World War in the Pacific, gives us the rich and turbulent interplay between West and East, the victor and the vanquished, in a way never before attempted, from top-level manipulations concerning the fate of Emperor Hirohito to the hopes and fears of men and women in every walk of life. Already regarded as the benchmark in its field, *Embracing Defeat* is a work of colossal scholarship and history of the very first order.

japan at war an oral history: *Japanese Reflections on World War II and the American Occupation* Edgar A. Porter, Ran Ying Porter, 2018 This book presents an unforgettably honest account of the effects of World War II and the ensuing American occupation in Japan's Oita prefecture, from the perspective of the Japanese citizens who experienced it. Through harrowing firsthand accounts from more than forty Japanese men and women who lived in the region, we get a strikingly detailed picture of the dreadful experiences of wartime life in Japan. The interviewees are wide-ranging and include students, housewives, nurses, teachers, journalists, soldiers, sailors, Kamikaze pilots, and munitions factory workers. And their collective stories range from early, spirited support for the war on to more reflective later views in the wake of the devastating losses of friends and family members to air raids, and finally into periods of hunger and fear of the American occupiers. Detailed archival materials buttress the personal accounts, and the result is an unprecedented picture of the war as felt in a single region of Japan.

japan at war an oral history: Women of Okinawa Ruth Ann Keyso, 2000 Three of the women were born before the Pacific War, and their first memories of Americans are of troops coming ashore with bayonets fixed. A second group, now middle-aged, grew up in the 1950s and 1960s, when massive American bases were a fixture of the landscape. The youngest women, for whom the bases are a historical accident, are in their twenties and thirties, raised in a country increasingly confident of its status as a world power..

japan at war an oral history: The Pacific War, 1931-1945 Saburo Ienaga, 2010-06-16 A portrayal of how and why Japan waged war from 1931-1945 and what life was like for the Japanese people in a society engaged in total war.

japan at war an oral history: *Chinese Comfort Women* Peipei Qiu, Zhiliang Su, Lifei Chen, 2014-07-01 Accountability and redress for Imperial Japan's wartime "comfort women" have provoked international debate in the past two decades. Yet there has been a dearth of first-hand accounts available in English from the women abducted and enslaved by the Japanese military in Mainland China—the major theatre of the Asia-Pacific War. *Chinese Comfort Women* features the personal stories of the survivors of this devastating system of sexual enslavement. Offering insight into the conditions of these women's lives before and after the war, it points to the social, cultural, and political environments that prolonged their suffering. Through personal narratives from twelve Chinese "comfort station" survivors, this book reveals the unfathomable atrocities committed against women during the war and correlates the proliferation of "comfort stations" with the progression of Japan's military offensive. Drawing on investigative reports, local histories, and witness testimony, *Chinese Comfort Women* puts a human face on China's war experience and on the injustices suffered by hundreds of thousands of Chinese women.

japan at war an oral history: *Grassroots Fascism* Yoshimi Yoshiaki, 2015-03-24 *Grassroots Fascism* profiles the Asia Pacific War (1937-1945)—the most important though least understood experience of Japan's modern history—through the lens of ordinary Japanese life. Moving deftly from the struggles of the home front to the occupied territories to the ravages of the front line, the book offers rare insights into popular experiences from the war's troubled beginnings through Japan's disastrous defeat in 1945 and the new beginning it heralded. Yoshimi Yoshiaki mobilizes diaries, letters, memoirs, and government documents to portray the ambivalent position of ordinary Japanese as both wartime victims and active participants. He also provides penetrating accounts of the war experiences of Japan's minorities and imperial subjects, including Koreans and Taiwanese. His book challenges the idea that the Japanese people operated as a mere conduit for the military during the war, passively accepting an imperial ideology imposed upon them by the political elite. Viewed from the bottom up, wartime Japan unfolds as a complex modern mass society, with a corresponding variety of popular roles and agendas. In chronicling the diversity of wartime Japanese social experience, Yoshimi's account elevates our understanding of Japanese Fascism. In its relation of World War II to the evolution—and destruction—of empire, it makes a fresh contribution to the global history of the war. Ethan Mark's translation supplements the Japanese original with explanatory notes and an in-depth introduction that situates the work within Japanese studies and

global history.

japan at war an oral history: Japan's Pacific War Peter Williams, 2021-06-30 'I had no qualms fighting the Australians, just as I have killed without remorse any of the Emperor's enemies: the British, the Americans and the Dutch', so admits Takahiro Sato in this ground-breaking oral history of Japan's Pacific War. Thanks to years of research and over 100 interviews with veterans, the Author has compiled a fascinating collection of personal accounts by former Japanese soldiers, sailors and airmen. Their candid views are often provocative and shocking. There are admissions of brutality, the killing of prisoners and cannibalism. Stark descriptions of appalling conditions and bitter fighting blend with descriptions of family life. Their views on the prowess of the enemy differ with some like air ace Kazuo Tsunoda who believed the Australians 'worthy'. Some remain unrepentant while others such as Hideo Abe are ashamed of his part in Japan's war of aggression. The result is a revealing insight into the minds of a ruthless and formidable enemy which provides the reader with a fresh perspective on the Second World War.

japan at war an oral history: MacArthur in Asia Hiroshi Masuda, 2012-11-15 General Douglas MacArthur's storied career is inextricably linked to Asia. His father, Arthur, served as Military Governor of the Philippines while Douglas was a student at West Point, and the younger MacArthur would serve several tours of duty in that country over the next four decades, becoming friends with several influential Filipinos, including the country's future president, Emanuel L. Quezon. In 1935, he became Quezon's military advisor, a post he held after retiring from the U.S. Army and at the time of Japan's invasion of 1941. As Supreme Commander for the Southwest Pacific, MacArthur led American forces throughout the Pacific War. He officially accepted Japan's surrender in 1945 and would later oversee the Allied occupation of Japan from 1945 to 1951. He then led the UN Command in the Korean War from 1950 to 1951, until he was dismissed from his post by President Truman. In *MacArthur in Asia*, the distinguished Japanese historian Hiroshi Masuda offers a new perspective on the American icon, focusing on his experiences in the Philippines, Japan, and Korea and highlighting the importance of the general's staff—the famous Bataan Boys who served alongside MacArthur throughout the Asian arc of his career—to both MacArthur's and the region's history. First published to wide acclaim in Japanese in 2009 and translated into English for the first time, this book uses a wide range of sources—American and Japanese, official records and oral histories—to present a complex view of MacArthur, one that illuminates his military decisions during the Pacific campaign and his administration of the Japanese Occupation.

japan at war an oral history: In a Sea of Bitterness R. Keith Schoppa, 2011-11-30 The Japanese invasion of Shanghai in 1937 led some thirty million Chinese to flee their homes in terror, and live—in the words of artist and writer Feng Zikai—"in a sea of bitterness" as refugees. Keith Schoppa paints a comprehensive picture of the refugee experience in one province—Zhejiang, on the central Chinese coast—where the Japanese launched major early offensives as well as notorious later campaigns. He recounts stories of both heroes and villains, of choices poorly made amid war's bewildering violence, of risks bravely taken despite an almost palpable quaking fear. As they traveled south into China's interior, refugees stepped backward in time, sometimes as far as the nineteenth century, their journeys revealing the superficiality of China's modernization. Memoirs and oral histories allow Schoppa to follow the footsteps of the young and old, elite and non-elite, as they fled through unfamiliar terrain and coped with unimaginable physical and psychological difficulties. Within the context of Chinese culture, being forced to leave home was profoundly threatening to one's sense of identity. Not just people but whole institutions also fled from Japanese occupation, and Schoppa considers schools, governments, and businesses as refugees with narratives of their own. Local governments responded variously to Japanese attacks, from enacting scorched-earth policies to offering rewards for the capture of plague-infected rats in the aftermath of germ warfare. While at times these official procedures improved the situation for refugees, more often—as Schoppa describes in moving detail—they only deepened the tragedy.

japan at war an oral history: "The Good War" Studs Terkel, 2011-07-26 Winner of the Pulitzer Prize: "The richest and most powerful single document of the American experience in World War II"

(The Boston Globe). "The Good War" is a testament not only to the experience of war but to the extraordinary skill of Studs Terkel as an interviewer and oral historian. From a pipe fitter's apprentice at Pearl Harbor to a crew member of the flight that dropped the atomic bomb on Nagasaki, his subjects are open and unrelenting in their analyses of themselves and their experiences, producing what People magazine has called "a splendid epic history" of WWII. With this volume Terkel expanded his scope to the global and the historical, and the result is a masterpiece of oral history. "Tremendously compelling, somehow dramatic and intimate at the same time, as if one has stumbled on private accounts in letters locked in attic trunks . . . In terms of plain human interest, Mr. Terkel may well have put together the most vivid collection of World War II sketches ever gathered between covers." —The New York Times Book Review "I promise you will remember your war years, if you were alive then, with extraordinary vividness as you go through Studs Terkel's book. Or, if you are too young to remember, this is the best place to get a sense of what people were feeling." —Chicago Tribune "A powerful book, repeatedly moving and profoundly disturbing." —People

japan at war an oral history: Daily Life in Wartime Japan, 1940-1945 Samuel Hideo Yamashita, 2017-02-19 The population of wartime Japan (1940-1945) has remained a largely faceless enemy to most Americans thanks to the distortions of US wartime propaganda, popular culture, and news reports. At a time when this country's wartime experiences are slowly and belatedly coming into focus, this remarkable book by Samuel Yamashita offers an intimate picture of what life was like for ordinary Japanese during the war. Drawing upon diaries and letters written by servicemen, kamikaze pilots, evacuated children, and teenagers and adults mobilized for war work in the big cities, provincial towns, and rural communities, Yamashita lets us hear for the first time the rich mix of voices speaking in every register during the course of the war. Here is the housewife struggling to feed her family while supporting the war effort; the eager conscript from snow country enduring the harshest, most abusive training imaginable in order to learn how to fly; the Tokyo teenagers made to work in wartime factories; the children taken from cities to live in the countryside away from their families and with little food and no privacy; the Kyushu farmers pressured to grow ever more rice and wheat with fewer hands and less fertilizer; and the Kyoto octogenarian driven to thoughts of suicide by his inability to contribute to the war. How these ordinary Japanese coped with wartime hardships and dangers, and how their views changed over time as disillusionment, impatience, and sometimes despair set in, is the story that Yamashita's book brings to the American reader. A history of life during war, Daily Life in Wartime Japan, 1940-1945 is also a glimpse of a now-vanished world.

japan at war an oral history: The Sino-Japanese War and Youth Literature Minjie Chen, 2016-01-22 The Sino-Japanese War (1937 - 1945) was fought in the Asia-Pacific theatre between Imperial Japan and China, with the United States as the latter's major military ally. An important line of investigation remains, questioning how the history of this war has been passed on to post-war generations' consciousness, and how information sources, particularly those exposed to young people in their formative years, shape their knowledge and bias of the conflict as well as World War II more generally. This book is the first to focus on how the Sino-Japanese War has been represented in non-English and English sources for children and young adults. As a cross-cultural study and an interdisciplinary endeavour, it not only examines youth-orientated publications in China and the United States, but also draws upon popular culture, novelists' memoirs, and family oral narratives to make comparisons between fiction and history, Chinese and American sources, and published materials and private memories of the war. Through quantitative narrative analysis, literary and visual analysis, and socio-political critique, it shows the dominant pattern of war stories, traces chronological changes over the seven decades from 1937 to 2007, and teases out the ways in which the history of the Sino-Japanese War has been constructed, censored, and utilized to serve shifting agendas. Providing a much needed examination of public memory, literary representation, and popular imagination of the Sino-Japanese War, this book will have huge interdisciplinary appeal, particularly for students and scholars of Asian history, literature, society and education.

japan at war an oral history: Tombstone Tom Clavin, 2020-04-21 THE INSTANT NATIONAL BESTSELLER Tombstone is written in a distinctly American voice. —T.J. Stiles, The New York Times “With a former newsman’s nose for the truth, Clavin has sifted the facts, myths, and lies to produce what might be as accurate an account as we will ever get of the old West’s most famous feud.” —Associated Press The true story of the Earp brothers, Doc Holliday, and the famous Battle at the OK Corral, by the New York Times bestselling author of Dodge City and Wild Bill. On the afternoon of October 26, 1881, eight men clashed in what would be known as the most famous shootout in American frontier history. Thirty bullets were exchanged in thirty seconds, killing three men and wounding three others. The fight sprang forth from a tense, hot summer. Cattle rustlers had been terrorizing the back country of Mexico and selling the livestock they stole to corrupt ranchers. The Mexican government built forts along the border to try to thwart American outlaws, while Arizona citizens became increasingly agitated. Rustlers, who became known as the cow-boys, began to kill each other as well as innocent citizens. That October, tensions boiled over with Ike and Billy Clanton, Tom and Frank McLaury, and Billy Claiborne confronting the Tombstone marshal, Virgil Earp, and the suddenly deputized Wyatt and Morgan Earp and shotgun-toting Doc Holliday. Bestselling author Tom Clavin peers behind decades of legend surrounding the story of Tombstone to reveal the true story of the drama and violence that made it famous. Tombstone also digs deep into the vendetta ride that followed the tragic gunfight, when Wyatt and Warren Earp and Holliday went vigilante to track down the likes of Johnny Ringo, Curly Bill Brocius, and other cowboys who had cowardly gunned down his brothers. That vendetta ride would make the myth of Wyatt Earp complete and punctuate the struggle for power in the American frontier's last boom town.

japan at war an oral history: Pearl Harbor Survivors Harry Spiller, 2002-01-02 On December 7, 1941, Japan waged a surprise attack on the United States Naval Base at Pearl Harbor. It was a major victory for the Japanese Navy, which in less than two hours destroyed 188 American planes, damaged another 159, and sunk or seriously damaged 18 U.S. warships. The battleships Arizona and Oklahoma were sunk. The battleships California, West Virginia and Tennessee were badly damaged and would not rejoin the United States fleet for months. Over 2,400 American military personnel were killed and 1,178 were wounded. The Japanese lost 29 planes and pilots, five midget submarines and one large sub with their crews. Here are 24 personal accounts of servicemen who survived the attack on Pearl Harbor. These accounts cover in detail the location of each man and his experience during and after the actual attack. Also included is general information about Pearl Harbor.

japan at war an oral history: Manzanar Martyr Harry Yoshio Ueno, 1986

japan at war an oral history: French War Brides in America Hilary Kaiser, 2008 In 1944 and 1945, millions of American soldiers took part in the Liberation of France. It was impossible for these GIs, who brought with them freedom, health, and wealth, to avoid fraternizing with French women. Some 6,500 Franco-American marriages would later take place. Many of these women would cross the Atlantic to join their husbands, following the example of their compatriots who had wed doughboys after World War I. This book, a collection of oral histories, tells the story of mademoiselle and the GI by following the destinies of 15 French war brides—three from World War I and 12 from World War II. All of the women encountered cultural shock as they discovered an opulent and open society, but one which was also materialistic and racially segregated. But these women, like the many others who came to America, got on with it and survived. Although about half of the marriages ended in divorce, only about 150 of the women returned to France. Most of them, in their own way, lived the American Dream. Today these women are both French and American. They reflect the image of a successful betrothal between two cultures.

japan at war an oral history: Silence Broken Dai Sil Kim-Gibson, 1999

japan at war an oral history: Nomonhan, 1939 Stuart Goldman, 2013-10-15 Stuart Goldman convincingly argues that a little-known, but intense Soviet-Japanese conflict along the Manchurian-Mongolian frontier at Nomonhan influenced the outbreak of World War II and shaped the course of the war. The author draws on Japanese, Soviet, and western sources to put the

seemingly obscure conflict—actually a small undeclared war— into its proper global geo-strategic perspective. The book describes how the Soviets, in response to a border conflict provoked by Japan, launched an offensive in August 1939 that wiped out the Japanese forces at Nomonhan. At the same time, Stalin signed the German—Soviet Nonaggression Pact, allowing Hitler to invade Poland. The timing of these military and diplomatic strikes was not coincidental, according to the author. In forming an alliance with Hitler that left Tokyo diplomatically isolated, Stalin succeeded in avoiding a two-front war. He saw the pact with the Nazis as a way to pit Germany against Britain and France, leaving the Soviet Union on the sidelines to eventually pick up the spoils from the European conflict, while at the same time giving him a free hand to smash the Japanese at Nomonhan. Goldman not only demonstrates the linkage between the Nomonhan conflict, the German-Soviet Nonaggression Pact, and the outbreak of World War II , but also shows how Nomonhan influenced Japan's decision to go to war with the United States and thus change the course of history. The book details Gen. Georgy Zhukov's brilliant victory at Nomonhan that led to his command of the Red Army in 1941 and his success in stopping the Germans at Moscow with reinforcements from the Soviet Far East. Such a strategy was possible, the author contends, only because of Japan's decision not to attack the Soviet Far East but to seize the oil-rich Dutch East Indies and attack Pearl Harbor instead. Goldman credits Tsuji Masanobu, an influential Japanese officer who instigated the Nomonhan conflict and survived the debacle, with urging his superiors not to take on the Soviets again in 1941, but instead to go to war with the United States.

japan at war an oral history: A People's History of World War II Marc Favreau, 2011 Presents interviews, photographs, letters, oral histories, stories, eyewitness accounts, and excerpts from historical writings from different perspectives on a wide variety of topics related to the Second World War.

japan at war an oral history: World War Z Max Brooks, 2013 An account of the decade-long conflict between humankind and hordes of the predatory undead is told from the perspective of dozens of survivors who describe in their own words the epic human battle for survival, in a novel that is the basis for the June 2013 film starring Brad Pitt. Reissue. Movie Tie-In.

japan at war an oral history: Japan's Struggle to End the War United States Strategic Bombing Survey, 1946

japan at war an oral history: A Gathering Darkness Haruo Tohmatsu, H. P. Willmott, 2004-09-14 The United States' involvement in World War II began with the Japanese bombing of Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941. But for Japan, the conflict began at a much earlier date. This book focuses on Japan and the events in its military history leading up to and including Pearl Harbor. Unique in its perspective, *A Gathering Darkness* shows how historical events in the 1920s and 1930s steered the country into war with America and its allies. *A Gathering Darkness* looks at what happened inside Japan in the 1920s to change its outlook on the West. There was a general repudiation of western values by Japanese society, and Japan turned its back on the outside world and an international order that were making life difficult for the country. The treaties made in Washington in the 1920s left Japan with a local supremacy that no other power, including Britain and the United States, could challenge on the account of their lack of forward bases and their commitments that precluded full deployment of forces in the western Pacific. *A Gathering Darkness* shows why Japan became increasingly militant in the 1930s. The authors look at Japanese military involvement in Manchuria beginning in September 1931. They cover the beginning of Japan's involvement in China in 1937, a conflict in which Japan would end up in a deadlock with the China theater of operations in the period 1939-1941. The book then analyzes the first five months of the Pacific War, including the Pearl Harbor strike and the synchronization of offensive operations across more than four thousand miles of ocean. It also investigates the dilemma Japan faced as it realized in early 1942 that the United States was not going to collapse. *A Gathering Darkness* is the first volume in SR Books' trilogy on the Pacific War. This book offers a fascinating look at the prelude to the Pacific War and the early stages of the conflict that no one interested in World War II, military history, or Japanese history will want to miss.

japan at war an oral history: Hell to Pay D. M. Giangreco, 2017-10-15 Two years before the atomic attacks on Hiroshima and Nagasaki helped bring a quick end to hostilities in the summer of 1945, U.S. planners began work on Operation Downfall, codename for the Allied invasions of Kyushu and Honshu, in the Japanese home islands. While other books have examined Operation Downfall, D. M. Giangreco offers the most complete and exhaustively researched consideration of the plans and their implications. He explores related issues of the first operational use of the atomic bomb and the Soviet Union's entry into the war, including the controversy surrounding estimates of potential U.S. casualties. Following years of intense research at numerous archives, Giangreco now paints a convincing and horrific picture of the veritable hell that awaited invader and defender. In the process, he demolishes the myths that Japan was trying to surrender during the summer of 1945 and that U.S. officials later wildly exaggerated casualty figures to justify using the atomic bombs to influence the Soviet Union. As Giangreco writes, "Both sides were rushing headlong toward a disastrous confrontation in the Home Islands in which poison gas and atomic weapons were to be employed as MacArthur's intelligence chief, Charles Willoughby, succinctly put it, 'a hard and bitter struggle with no quarter asked or given.' Hell to Pay examines the invasion of Japan in light of the large body of Japanese and American operational and tactical planning documents the author unearthed in familiar and obscure archives. It includes postwar interrogations and reports that senior Japanese commanders and their staffs were ordered to produce for General MacArthur's headquarters. This groundbreaking history counters the revisionist interpretations questioning the rationale for the use of the atomic bomb and shows that President Truman's decision was based on real estimates of the enormous human cost of a conventional invasion. This revised edition of Hell to Pay expands on several areas covered in the previous book and deals with three new topics: U.S.-Soviet cooperation in the war against Imperial Japan; U.S., Soviet, and Japanese plans for the invasion and defense of the northernmost Home Island of Hokkaido; and Operation Blacklist, the three-phase insertion of American occupation forces into Japan. It also contains additional text, relevant archival material, supplemental photos, and new maps, making this the definitive edition of an important historical work.

japan at war an oral history: Children of the Occupation Walter Hamilton, 2012 This is a beautifully written, deeply moving and well-researched account of the lives of mixed-race children of occupied Japan. The author artfully blends oral histories with an historical and political analysis of international race relations and immigration policy in North America and Australia, to highlight the little-known story of the thousands of children that resulted from the unions of Japanese women and Allied servicemen posted to Japan following WWII. It is a powerful narrative of loss, longing and reconnection, written by the ABC's long-time Tokyo correspondent, Walter Hamilton.

japan at war an oral history: A Boy Called H Kappa Senoo, 2002 This fictionalized autobiography...recreates the boyhood years of the eponymous H or Hajime Senoh. The Senohs, a Kobe family of modest means, were distinguished by their Christian faith and their extensive contact with foreigners....Precocious, inquisitive, and irreverent, H came of age during the dark years of Japan's descent into the abyss of war [World War II] and was a middle-school student during the conflict. The 50 vignettes that comprise this book provide an accessible, unforgettable, and intimate introduction to the effects of the war upon Japanese family life, friendships, school and society. Libr J.

japan at war an oral history: The Comfort Women C. Sarah Soh, 2020-05-15 In an era marked by atrocities perpetrated on a grand scale, the tragedy of the so-called comfort women—mostly Korean women forced into prostitution by the Japanese army—endures as one of the darkest events of World War II. These women have usually been labeled victims of a war crime, a simplistic view that makes it easy to pin blame on the policies of imperial Japan and therefore easier to consign the episode to a war-torn past. In this revelatory study, C. Sarah Soh provocatively disputes this master narrative. Soh reveals that the forces of Japanese colonialism and Korean patriarchy together shaped the fate of Korean comfort women—a double bind made strikingly apparent in the cases of women cast into sexual slavery after fleeing abuse at home. Other victims were press-ganged into

prostitution, sometimes with the help of Korean procurers. Drawing on historical research and interviews with survivors, Soh tells the stories of these women from girlhood through their subjugation and beyond to their efforts to overcome the traumas of their past. Finally, Soh examines the array of factors— from South Korean nationalist politics to the aims of the international women's human rights movement—that have contributed to the incomplete view of the tragedy that still dominates today.

japan at war an oral history: Kamikaze Steven J. Zaloga, 2011-09-20 The destruction of much of the remainder of the Japanese fleet and its air arm in the later half of 1944 left the Japanese Home Islands vulnerable to attack by US naval and air forces. In desperation, the Imperial Japanese Navy proposed using "special attack" formations, or suicide attacks. These initially consisted of crude improvisations of conventional aircraft fitted with high-explosive bombs that could be crashed into US warships. Called "Divine Wind" (Kamikaze), the special attack formations first saw action in 1944, and became the scourge of the US fleet in the battles for Iwo Jima and Okinawa in 1945. In view of the success of these attacks, the Japanese armed forces began to develop an entire range of new special attack weapons. This book will begin by examining the initial kamikaze aircraft attacks, but the focus of the book will be on the dedicated special attack weapons developed in 1944. It also covers specialized suicide attack weapons such as anti-tank lunge mines.

japan at war an oral history: Landscapes of Communism Owen Hatherley, 2016-03-01 When communism took power in Eastern Europe it remade cities in its own image, transforming everyday life and creating sweeping boulevards and vast, epic housing estates in an emphatic declaration of a noncapitalist idea. The regimes that built them are now dead and long gone, but from Warsaw to Berlin, Moscow to postrevolutionary Kiev, the buildings remain, often populated by people whose lives were scattered by the collapse of communism. *Landscapes of Communism* is a journey of historical discovery, plunging us into the lost world of socialist architecture. Owen Hatherley, a brilliant, witty, young urban critic shows how power was wielded in these societies by tracing the sharp, sudden zigzags of official communist architectural style: the superstitious despotic rococo of high Stalinism, with its jingoistic memorials, palaces, and secret policemen's castles; East Germany's obsession with prefabricated concrete panels; and the metro systems of Moscow and Prague, a spectacular vindication of public space that went further than any avant-garde ever dared. Throughout his journeys across the former Soviet empire, Hatherley asks what, if anything, can be reclaimed from the ruins of Communism—what residue can inform our contemporary ideas of urban life?

japan at war an oral history: Subversion as Foreign Policy Audrey Kahin, George McTurnan Kahin, 1997 Based on access to secret documents and interviews with many of the participants, *Subversion as Foreign Policy* is an extraordinary account of civil war in Indonesia provoked by President Eisenhower and Secretary of State John Foster Dulles, and resulting in the killing of thousands of Indonesians and the destruction of much of the country's air force and navy. This startling new book reveals a covert intervention by the United States in Indonesia in the late 1950s involving, among other things, the supply of thousands of weapons, the creation and deployment of a secret CIA air force and logistical support from the Seventh Fleet. The intervention occurred on such a massive scale that it is difficult to believe it has been kept almost totally secret from the American public for nearly 40 years. And this CIA operation proved to be even more disastrous than the Bay of Pigs. -- San Francisco Chronicle An exemplary study of an ignominious chapter of the Cold War in Southeast Asia. -- Journal of Asian Studies *Subversion as Foreign Policy* is a remarkable book.... The Kahins have provided a rare insight into the workings of U.S. policy towards Indonesia, both clandestine and official. -- London Times Literary Supplement

japan at war an oral history: China at War Stephen R. MacKinnon, 2007 This book describes, in vivid detail, the history of the Japanese invasion and occupation and of different parts of China, from the viewpoints of scholars in China, Japan, and the West

japan at war an oral history: China's Good War Rana Mitter, 2020-09-15 A Foreign Affairs Book of the Year A Spectator Book of the Year "Insightful...a deft, textured work of intellectual

history.” —Foreign Affairs “A timely insight into how memories and ideas about the second world war play a hugely important role in conceptualizations about the past and the present in contemporary China.” —Peter Frankopan, *The Spectator* For most of its history, China frowned on public discussion of the war against Japan. But as the country has grown more powerful, a wide-ranging reassessment of the war years has been central to new confidence abroad and mounting nationalism at home. Encouraged by reforms under Deng Xiaoping, Chinese scholars began to examine the long-taboo Guomindang war effort, and to investigate collaboration with the Japanese and China’s role in the post-war global order. Today museums, television shows, magazines, and social media present the war as a founding myth for an ascendant China that emerges as victor rather than victim. One narrative positions Beijing as creator and protector of the international order—a virtuous system that many in China now believe to be under threat from the United States. China’s radical reassessment of its own past is a new founding myth for a nation that sees itself as destined to shape the world. “A detailed and fascinating account of how the Chinese leadership’s strategy has evolved across eras...At its most interesting when probing Beijing’s motives for undertaking such an ambitious retooling of its past.” —Wall Street Journal “The range of evidence that Mitter marshals is impressive. The argument he makes about war, memory, and the international order is...original.” —The Economist

japan at war an oral history: *The Long Defeat* Akiko Hashimoto, 2015 In *The Long Defeat*, Akiko Hashimoto explores the stakes of war memory in Japan after its catastrophic defeat in World War II, showing how and why defeat has become an indelible part of national collective life, especially in recent decades. Divisive war memories lie at the root of the contentious politics surrounding Japan's pacifist constitution and remilitarization, and fuel the escalating frictions in East Asia known collectively as Japan's history problem. Drawing on ethnography, interviews, and a wealth of popular memory data, this book identifies three preoccupations - national belonging, healing, and justice - in Japan's discourses of defeat. Hashimoto uncovers the key war memory narratives that are shaping Japan's choices - nationalism, pacifism, or reconciliation - for addressing the rising international tensions and finally overcoming its dark history.

japan at war an oral history: *Prisoners of the Japanese* Gavan Daws, 2007-05 A devastating portrait of the suffering of Japanese-held POWs in the Second World War.

japan at war an oral history: *Japan in War and Peace* John W. Dower, 1996 This collection of essays highlights the resemblances between wartime, postwar and contemporary Japan. The essays are particularly concerned with the nature of Japanese capitalism and the country's nationalistic doctrines of racial superiority.

japan at war an oral history: *Showa 1944-1953* Shigeru Mizuki, 2022-10-11 A sweeping yet intimate portrait of World War II’s legacy in Japan *Showa 1944-1953: A History of Japan* continues Eisner award-winning author Shigeru Mizuki's historical and autobiographical account of Japanese life in the twentieth century. In this volume, the tail-end of the Pacific War and its devastating consequences upon the author and his compatriots loom large. Two rival navies engage in a deadly game of feint and thrust, waging a series of ruthless military campaigns across the Pacific islands. From Guadalcanal to Okinawa, Japan slowly loses ground. When the United States unleashes the atomic bomb—then still a new and now enduringly terrible weapon—it is the ultimate, definitive blow. The catastrophic fallout from both explosions surpasses the limits of popular imagination. Mizuki's own life is irrevocably changed in the shadow of history. After losing an arm during his time in service, the author struggles to forge a path into the future. Should he remain on the island of Rabaul as an honored friend of the local Tolai? Or should he return to the rubble of Japan and return to his earliest artistic inclinations? This penultimate installment of a landmark series is a searing condemnation of war, told with the deft hand of Japan's most celebrated cartoonist.

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