Warships Of The Imperial Japanese Navy 1869 1945

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the interim lsm r or landing ship medium rocket was a revolutionary development in rocket warfare in world war ii and the u s navy s first true rocket ship an entirely new class of commissioned warship and the forerunners of today s missile firing naval combatants these ships began as improvised conversions of conventional amphibious landing craft in south carolina s charleston navy yard during late 1944 they were rushed to the pacific theatre to support the u s army and marines with heavy rocket bombardments that devastated japanese forces on okinawa in 1945 their primary mission was to deliver maximum firepower to enemy targets ashore yet lsm r s also repulsed explosive japanese speed boats rescued crippled warships recovered hundreds of survivors at sea and were deployed as antisubmarine hunter killers casualties were staggering enemy gunfire blasted one while kamikaze attacks sank three crippled a fourth and grazed two more this book provides a comprehensive operational history of the navy s 12 original interim lsm r s

innovating victory naval technology in three wars studies how the world s navies incorporated new technologies into their ships

their practices and their doctrine it does this by examining six core technologies fundamental to twentieth century naval warfare including new platforms submarines and aircraft new weapons torpedoes and mines and new tools radar and radio each chapter considers the state of a subject technology when it was first used in war and what navies expected of it it then looks at the way navies discovered and developed the technology s best use in many cases overcoming disappointed expectations it considers how a new technology threatened its opponents not to mention its users and how those threats were managed innovating victory shows that the use of technology is more than introducing and mastering a new weapon or system differences in national resources force mixtures priorities perceptions and missions forced nations to approach the problems presented by new technologies in different ways navies that specialized in specific technologies often held advantages over enemies in some areas but found themselves disadvantaged in others vincent p o hara and leonard r heinz present new perspectives and explore the process of technological introduction and innovation in a way that is relevant to today s navies which face challenges and questions even greater than those of 1904 1914 and 1939

though few realize it the netherlands east indies were the object of japan s attack on pearl harbor in december 1941 likewise their invasions of guam wake island and the philippines were mainly diversionary operations to safeguard their main assault on dutch and british colonies since the end of world war i japan had coveted the vast east indies oil reserves and the colony had feared invasion since germany overran holland in may 1940 isolated politically the weakly defended archipelago was a tempting prize the east indies government initially maintained a strict policy of neutrality while desperately working to build up its military strength as japanese actions pushed the region toward war the dutch reluctantly embraced closer ties with america and britain for a brief period the east indies were key players in pacific war strategy this book details for the first time in english the dutch prewar strategy their efforts to counter japanese espionage and their sizable though largely forgotten military contribution in the early months of the pacific war

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