

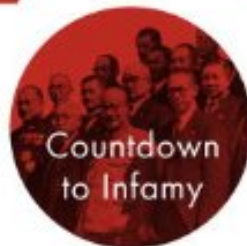
[FREE] Japan 1941: Countdown to Infamy

Japan 1941: Countdown to Infamy

Eri Hotta

*DOC | *audiobook | ebooks | Download PDF | ePub*

JAPAN 1941



ERI HOTTA

"Chilling . . . Constitutes a warning of the literally earth-shattering dangers that can emerge when the political system of a powerful nation fails to work."

—The New York Times Book Review

DOWNLOAD



READ ONLINE

#279617 in Books Eri Hotta 2014-08-12 2014-08-12Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 8.00 x .70 x 5.10l, .0
#File Name: 0307739740368 pagesJapan 1941 Countdown to Infamy | File size: 30.Mb

Eri Hotta : Japan 1941: Countdown to Infamy before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Japan 1941: Countdown to Infamy:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. fascinating book on a little-known subjectBy tribecanHotta's book is an almost day-by-day account of the deliberations of the Japanese government during the year leading up to the attack on Pearl Harbor. Using surprisingly detailed notes of the highest-level meetings she takes us through the tortured process which led to the infamous, and ultimately self-destructive, launching of the war against the US, a war, the

author makes clear, many high officials knew Japan could not win. The degree of debate and uncertainty, the powerful forces trying to avoid the war, the indecision and -- to a westerner -- surprising influence of the emperor, were all to this reader unknown, and extremely interesting. The fact that the US had broken Japan's diplomatic codes meant that FDR knew that Japan was preparing for war even as they sent their ambassadors to try to negotiate a guarantee of peace. The fact that we hadn't yet broken their military codes explains why we didn't know when or where they were planning to attack. This book debunks the old idea that FDR knew the attack on Pearl Harbor was coming and let it happen, in order to get us into the war. He did indeed predict an attack, on December 1, but was not only wrong about the date but had no idea Japan was capable of attacking Hawaii. A wonderfully readable and important book.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Infamy on TrialBy DoginfollowThis is an excellent account of the lead-up to Pearl Harbor from the perspective of Japan's military and political leaders. By Hotta's account, a war with the U.S. was not inevitable; nor did most Japanese leaders believe they were likely to win it. Even those who favored the attack recognized it as a tremendous gamble. So how did it happen? Hotta blames a combination of groupthink, institutional weaknesses, and individual cowardice. She dissects the formal and informal deliberations of the key players to show that Japan did not make the decision blindly or quickly. Officials afraid to put their reservations on the record, preferring to talk tough and hope that someone else would stop the march to war. Last-minute peace feelers -- though sincerely intended as such by many -- were so vaguely defined that they became a smokescreen for war preparations, lending further color to Pearl Harbor's stain of treachery.Hotta presents a damning case against the Japanese leadership. However, she goes a bit easy on the Americans, particularly President Roosevelt and Secretary of State Cordell Hull, whose "Hull Note" in late November 1941 seems hardly to have been calculated to grasp what possibilities for peace remained. Still, even if the U.S. took a hard line to provoke the Japanese, that doesn't excuse Japan's leaders from the reckless miscalculations that would drive their country to ruin within four years.3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Poor writing style detracts from the story of what prompted ...By CustomerPoor writing style detracts from the story of what prompted Japan's decision to attack the USA at Pearl Harbor. Written exclusively from the Japanese point of view. Good research of a difficult topic. Worth the money and time to buy and read.

A Kirkus Reviews Best Nonfiction Book of the YearA groundbreaking history that considers the attack on Pearl Harbor from the Japanese perspective and is certain to revolutionize how we think of the war in the Pacific.When Japan attacked the United States in 1941, its leaders, in large part, understood they were entering a war they were almost certain to lose. In a groundbreaking history that considers Pearl Harbor from the Japanese perspective, certain to revolutionize how we think of the war in the Pacific, Eri Hotta poses essential questions overlooked for the last seventy years: Why did these men—military men, civilian politicians, diplomats, the emperor—put their country and its citizens in harm's way? Why did they make a decision that was doomed from the start? Introducing us to the doubters, bluffers, and schemers who led their nation into this conflagration, Hotta brilliantly shows us a hidden Japan—eager to avoid war but fraught with tensions with the West, deluded by reckless militarism, tempted by the gambler's dream of scoring the biggest win against impossible odds and nearly escaping disaster before it finally proved inevitable.

From BooklistThis is an interesting, sometimes admirable, but frustratingly flawed effort to examine the lead up to the attack on Pearl Harbor from a Japanese perspective. Hotta, born in Tokyo and educated in Japan and the U.S., portrays the dilemma faced by the Japanese government and military in 1941. The war with China had no end in sight and drained Japan of men and limited resources. The political class was divided over the wisdom of territorial expansion, and even the military had its share of doubters, including some who feared the Soviet Union more than the U.S. Even among the military "hawks" there was concern that war with the U.S. was doomed to fail. Unfortunately, Hotta comes close to blaming the victim when she indicts American policy makers for their failure to understand Japan's views. For example, she condemns U.S. demands that Japan withdraw from China as "high-handed," as if Japan's wanton, savage behavior there was acceptable. This is a useful look at the other side of the story, but the fact remains that Japan bears the full responsibility for launching a self-destructive war. --Jay Freeman "Hotta illuminates the extraordinary ideological and military predicament in which Japan found itself in the months before the attack on Pearl Harbor...[She] brings to life the key figures of a deeply divided Japanese leadership...[and] scrupulously details [their] negotiations and squabbles...against a backdrop of dauntingly complex domestic and international maneuverings." —The New Yorker"Outstanding...In lucid prose, Hotta...persuasively sketches the very distinct personalities shaping the decisions that drove Japan toward war....She makes it clear that there are two versions of the Asia-Pacific War in China and Japan that hardly meet at all...[and] concludes that after 1945, Japan's actual 'past, with its improbable story of how the war came to pass, became another country.' It is a country that policymakers in Tokyo, Beijing, and Washington should seek to understand, not least through this humane and fair-minded book." —Rana Mitter, The New York of Books"Chilling...Constitutes a warning of the literally earth-shattering dangers that can emerge when the political system of a powerful nation fails to work." —The New York

Times Book “Hotta’s groundbreaking work is both a fascinating history and a cautionary tale for those who wield power today.” —The Dallas Morning News “[Hotta’s] account is a warning to any country that would talk itself into a foolish war.” —The Seattle Times “In this focused, informed and persuasive book...Hotta effortlessly returns us to the moment just before the dice were so disastrously rolled. From a perspective little known to Americans, a masterful account of how and why World War II began.” —Kirkus “A fascinating read for anyone interested in Japan’s involvement in World War II...While scholarly and thoroughly researched, it’s also a highly enjoyable read...A real page turner.” —Library Journal “In this fast-moving, persuasive account of Japan’s road to Pearl Harbor, Eri Hotta describes the pathetic leadership of a country who argue among themselves endlessly when the crisis across the Pacific requires decisive action to preserve the peace. It is a story of self-delusion, irresponsibility, and ignorance from which Japan is not entirely free even today.” —Akira Iriye, author of *Pearl Harbor and the Coming of the Pacific War* “This ambitious, groundbreaking history builds new layers atop a story that we thought we knew.” —Everyday eBook “Finely nuanced...[Hotta] forcefully reframes how we should consider the Japanese with respect to their positions as emerging world powers in [an]...era of international turmoil. —Asian American Literature Fans “Riveting...This important book should be in every major library. It will interest anyone attempting to make sense of Pearl Harbor, the Pacific War, or bureaucratic dysfunction and its possibly tragic consequences.” —Choice From the Hardcover edition. About the Author Eri Hotta, born in Tokyo and educated in Japan, the U.S., and the U.K., has taught at Oxford, in Tokyo, and in Jerusalem, specializing in international relations.