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THE RIVETING TRUE STORY OF JAPAN'S TOP SECRET PLAN TO CHANGE THE COURSE OF
WORLD WAR II USING A SQUADRON OF UNDERWATER AIRCRAFT CARRIERS A GENERATION
AHEAD OF THEIR TIME.

OPERATION STORM

*JAPAN'S TOP SECRET SUBMARINES AND ITS PLAN TO CHANGE THE COURSE
OF WORLD WAR II*

By John J. Geoghegan

“A great historical read, scrupulously researched and brilliantly written. Geoghegan has produced a marvelous insight into the men on both sides who fought a brutal underwater war in the Pacific in WWII.”

—CLIVE CUSSLER

“Aviation historian Geoghegan’s virtuoso research turns up surviving witnesses and obscure documents to corroborate this engrossing story of politics, logistics, and the technological leaps and bounds made during wartime, and the resulting tale is a thrilling take on a little-known aspect of the conflict in the Pacific theater.”

—PUBLISHERS WEEKLY

“Geoghegan has scoured the archives to present a little-touted facet of Japanese naval history that offers a fascinating glimpse into the workings of the Japanese mindset at the endgame of the war. An exciting narrative of a naval showdown revealing hubris and humility on both sides.”

—KIRKUS REVIEWS



In 1941, the architects of Japan’s sneak attack on Pearl Harbor planned a bold follow-up: a classified program to build a squadron of underwater aircraft carriers designed to launch another surprise and incredibly destructive air raid—this time against New York City and Washington, DC. The top-secret program involved developing a special fleet of submarines—the *Sen-toku* or *I-400* class—which were by far the largest and among the most deadly of World War II. Each one carried three Aichi M6A1 attack planes armed with the largest bomb in the Imperial Navy and painted to look like US aircraft. Called *Seiran*, the planes were concealed in a huge, watertight deck hangar and were meant to appear suddenly over the American targets, as their Japanese name suggests, like “a storm from a clear sky.” The mission remained unknown to US intelligence, despite having broken the Japanese naval code, and even more startling is just how close the Japanese came to pulling it off.

A thrilling and until now little known story of the war in the Pacific, **OPERATION STORM: *Japan's Top Secret Submarines and Its Plan to Change the Course of World War II*** by **John J. Geoghegan** (Crown; March 19, 2013) tells the fascinating story of the *Sen-toku* from conception to deployment, their desperate push into Allied waters, and the dramatic chase of the squadron's juggernaut flagship by the US Navy. Based on years of meticulous research—including interviews with the last surviving members of the *Sen-toku* crews and the US submariners who pursued them—**OPERATION STORM** brings to thrilling light this forgotten corner of World War II history.

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ABOUT THE AUTHOR

JOHN J. GEOGHEGAN reports on unusual inventions that fail to succeed in the marketplace despite their innovative nature. He has written extensively about these “white elephant technologies” for the *New York Times* Science section, *Smithsonian Air & Space*, *WIRED*, *Popular Science*, *Aviation History*, and the *San Francisco Chronicle* Sunday Magazine among other publications. This is his first book.

ABOUT THE BOOK

OPERATION STORM: *Japan's Top Secret Submarines and Its Plan to Change the Course of World War II*
By **John J. Geoghegan**
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