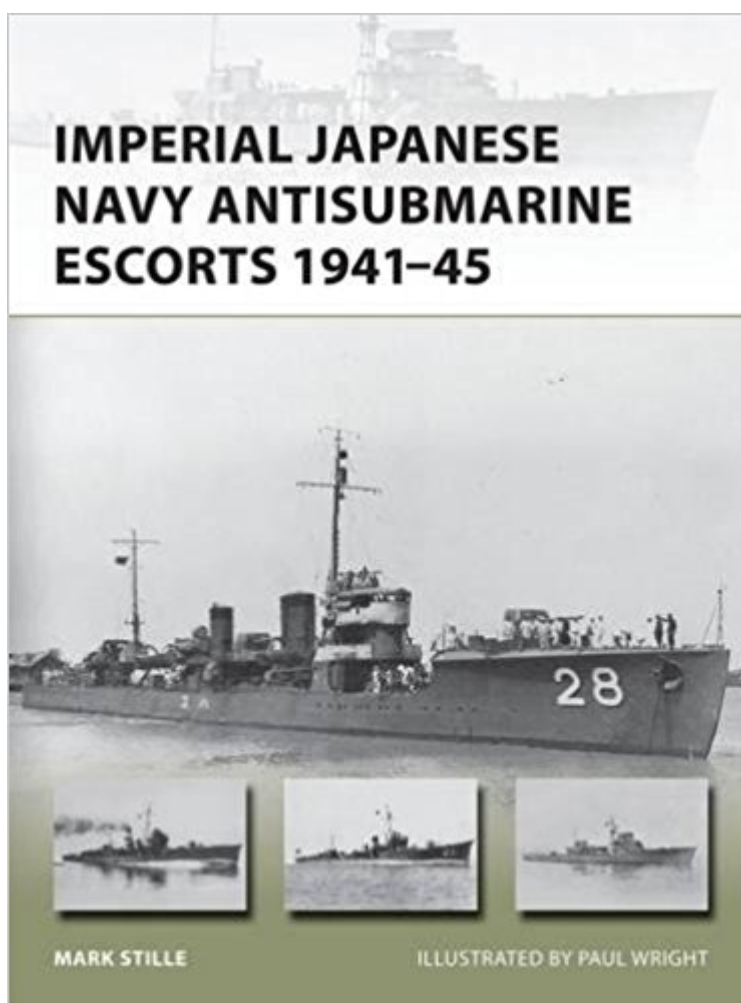


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Imperial Japanese Navy Antisubmarine Escorts 1941-45 (New Vanguard)



Synopsis

In 1941, the Imperial Japanese Navy (IJN) went to war with a marginal anti-submarine warfare (ASW) capability. This was a lamentable state of affairs for a nation dependent upon imports to sustain its war economy. There were only a few purpose-built ASW escorts available at the start of the war and these were augmented by a handful of second-class destroyers and a dozen torpedo boats. Once the magnitude of the threat to Japan's shipping became fully apparent in 1943, the IJN made plans for mass production of ASW escorts. These arrived in 1944, but could not stop the massacre of Japanese shipping by increasingly bold and effective American submarines. This volume will detail the history, weapons and tactics of the IJN's ASW escorts. These include the Momi class of second-rate destroyers, the Tomodzuru and Ootori classes of torpedo boats, and the several types of ASW escorts built from 1937 up through the end of the war.

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Customer Reviews

Mark E. Stille (Commander, United States Navy, retired) received his BA in History from the University of Maryland and also holds an MA from the Naval War College. He has worked in the intelligence community for 35 years including tours on the faculty of the Naval War College, on the Joint Staff and on US Navy ships. He is currently a senior analyst working in the Washington DC area. He is the author of numerous Osprey titles, focusing on naval history in the Pacific.

The Imperial Japanese Navy was unprepared for a sustained war at sea in 1941. As author Mark

Stille suggests, the IJN seems to have expected that one decisive naval victory would obviate the need for such mundane warships as antisubmarine escorts. In the event, Japan found itself critically short of the escorts and never closed the gap...Imperial Japanese Navy Antisubmarine Escorts 1941-45" is an Osprey New Vanguard Series book about a fairly specific vessel type. The author sets the stage in terms of what was available after Pearl Harbor, and describes the classes of ASW escorts that Japan built over the course of the war. The escorts became gradually more capable, but as the author points out, they were never really very effective against the USN submarines that were their principal opponent. Of note, the author is able to account for some of the ASW escorts classes by individual vessel. It is shocking to notice how many did not survive the war. The narrative is backed by a nice selection of period photographs and color plates. Highly recommended as a concise but readable introduction to the topic, for the general reader and the student of the conflict.

Ships that are covered Sare done very well like the rest of this series. Surprised sub chasers and other small ASW craft were not covered in this book. Maybe they will be in another book.

thankyou

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