

Summary

1. Foreword (by Tsuneo Watanabe)
2. Introduction: An overview of Japan's wars in the Showa era
3. Japan's wars in 1931-45

The Manchurian Incident and expansion in North China

The Sino-Japanese War

Diplomacy, military influence and the erosion of civilian government

4. Road to the Pacific War

The Tripartite Pact and alignment with Germany and Italy

The oil embargo, southern advance and miscalculation

5. The Pacific War (1941-45)

Strategic mis-judgments (e.g., Midway)

Army-Navy rivalry, kamikaze operations

Okinawa and the island war

6. Moves to End the War

Peace-making efforts, Soviet entry, atomic bombs

Japan's surrender and aftermath

7. Conclusion: Who's Responsible for the Showa War?