

# *BEHIND JAPAN'S SURRENDER*

*The Secret Struggle  
That Ended an Empire*

by **Lester Brooks**

*with a Foreword by Fumihiko Togo*

# Behind Japans Surrender The Secret Struggle That Ended An Empire

**Barbara Gifford Shimer, Guy Hobbs**



## **Behind Japan's Surrender The Secret Struggle That Ended An Empire:**

**Behind Japan's Surrender** Lester Brooks, 1995      **The Last Mission** Jim Smith, Malcolm McConnell, 2007-12-18 A gripping account of the final American bombing mission of World War II and how it prevented a military coup that would have kept Japan in the war How close did the Japanese come to not surrendering to Allied forces on August 15 1945 The Last Mission explores this question through two previously neglected strands of late World War II history whose very interconnections could have caused a harrowing shift in the course of the postwar world On the final night of the war as Emperor Hirohito recorded a message of surrender for the Japanese people a band of Japanese rebels commanded by War Minister Anami's elite staff burst into the palace They had plotted a massive coup that aimed to destroy the recordings of the Imperial Rescript of surrender and issue false orders forged with the Emperor's seal commanding the widely dispersed Japanese military to continue the war If this rebellion had succeeded the military would have proceeded with large scale kamikaze attacks on Allied forces costing huge casualties and just possibly provoking the Americans to drop a third atomic bomb on Japan over Tokyo and continue to drop more bombs as Japanese resistance stiffened Meanwhile in the midst of an end of war celebration on Guam Air Force radio operator Jim Smith and his fellow crewmen received urgent orders for a bombing mission over Japan's sole remaining oil refinery north of Tokyo As a stream of American B 29B bombers approached Tokyo Japanese air defenses fearing the approaching planes signaled the threat of a third atomic bomb ordered a total blackout in Tokyo and the Imperial Palace completely disrupting the rebels plans Smith and his fellow crewmembers completed the mission and a few hours later the Emperor announced the surrender over Japan's airwaves dictating the end of the war The Last Mission is an insightful piece of speculative investigation that combines narrative storytelling with historical contingency and explores how two seemingly unrelated events could have profoundly changed the course of modern history

**140 Days to Hiroshima** David Dean Barrett, 2020-04-07 A WWII history told from US and Japanese perspectives an impressively researched chronicle of the months leading up to the atomic bombing of Hiroshima Publishers Weekly During the closing months of World War II two military giants locked in a death embrace of cultural differences and diplomatic intransigence While developing history's deadliest weapon and weighing an invasion that would have dwarfed D Day the US called for the unconditional surrender of Japan The Japanese Empire responded with a last ditch plan termed Ketsu Go which called for the suicidal resistance of every able bodied man and woman in The Decisive Battle for the homeland In 140 Days to Hiroshima historian David Dean Barrett captures war room drama on both sides of the conflict Here are the secret strategy sessions fierce debates looming assassinations and planned invasions that resulted in Armageddon on August 6 1945 Barrett then examines the next nine chaotic days as the Japanese government struggled to respond to the reality of nuclear war

**The Kurillian Knot** Hiroshi Kimura, 2008-03-28 This book provides an answer to the mystery of why no peace treaty has yet been signed between Japan and Russia after more than sixty years since the end of World War Two

The author a leading authority on Japanese Russian diplomatic history was trained at the Russian Institute of Columbia University This volume contributes to our understanding of not only the intricacies of bilateral relations between Moscow and Tokyo but more generally of Russia s and Japan s modes of foreign policy formation The author also discusses the U S factor which helped make Russia and Japan distant neighbors and the threat from China which might help these countries come closer in the near future It would be hardly possible to discuss the future prospects of Northeast Asia without having first read this book

**The Heroes We Needed** Trevor B McIntyre,2024-10-31 McIntyre recounts the stories of many airmen who did not return which are undeniably touching as are the photographs he includes Because of their size the B 29s were able to drop the atomic bombs that ended the war But it is the human stories that resonate the most A heartfelt account of the men who flew the combat airplane known as the Superfortress Kirkus Reviews During World War II there were many ways that a B 29er could be killed a ruthless enemy an unforgiving ocean that stretched for thousands of miles or the faulty engines of their own airplanes But they all volunteered for it and they continued flying and dying until they brought the war to an early end and saved hundreds of thousands of American lives They were The Heroes We Needed In this riveting saga of sacrifice and salvation Trevor McIntyre brings to life the courageous American airmen who brought the Japanese Empire to its knees and ended World War II with the greatest bombers the world had ever seen the Boeing B 29 Superfortress and his fight 70 years later to save their stories from being forgotten

George F. Kennan and the Origins of Containment, 1944-1946 George Frost Kennan,John Lukacs,1997 These letters show Kennan s fear of the extent to which the United States misunderstood the Soviet regime Especially in 1944 at the time of the Russians betrayal of the Warsaw Uprising it became evident that the Soviets were interested in establishing their rigid domination of Eastern and Central Europe and dividing the continent

**From War To Cold War** Robert James Maddox,2019-04-08 This book reviews the strains between the United States and Great Britain that led to the Cold War as the result of personal characteristics of the leaders of the United States the Soviet Union and Great Britain as well as of historical and ideological forces

**The Kenpeitai in Java and Sumatra** Barbara Gifford Shimer,Guy Hobbs,2010 This collection of memoirs by the Japanese military police the Kenpeitai of World War II is often infuriating and frustrating these disciplined and fanatical former officers freely terrorized and repressed the native populations of Southeast Asia for such crimes as Marxism Islam and nationalism Yet they are documents of great historical significance The men are self deceiving and self glorifying rather than apologetic or self critical but the reader is allowed a rare glimpse of what a mind or mind set justifies to itself during a state of war These memoirs only certain Indonesian sections are published here clarify obscure motives and historical moments of the events during the Pacific War and the Japanese occupation

*The First Atomic Bomb* Jim Mangi,2022-06-20 While German and Japanese scientists also labored unsuccessfully to create an atomic bomb by the summer of 1945 the American led team was ready to test its first weapon As the clock ticked down to the detonation time of 05 30 hours on 16 July 1945 the nervous team of technicians and

scientists waited ten miles away from Ground Zero deep in the New Mexico desert. No one knew how powerful the explosion would be or whether even at such a distance they would be safe from the blast. Even so, some chose to observe the detonation from a point four miles nearer at the control bunker, but then no one was even sure that the bomb would work. What if that is actually what happened? Under schedule pressure from the White House, the scientists assembled the device in part with tape and tissue paper, knowing some components were flawed. These are verifiable facts. It means that as many of those who gathered in the New Mexico desert feared at the time the bomb might not have worked during that first test. In *The First Atomic Bomb*, Jim Mangi explores what might have happened in the event that the world's first atomic bomb had not been ready for use when it was. How would this have affected the end of the war in the Pacific and indeed the Second World War as a whole? Would Emperor Hirohito's armed forces have battled on? When might Colonel Paul W. Tibbets, at the controls of his Boeing B-29 Superfortress *Enola Gay*, have then made his historic flight over Hiroshima and would that city even have remained the target? How would Stalin and the Soviets have reacted to such developments and how would this have played out in the post-war world? *A Democracy at War* William L. O'Neill, 1995. Surveys the bureaucratic mistakes including poor weapons and strategic blunders that marked America's entry into World War II, showing how these errors were overcome by the citizens waging the war.

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