

ible “sinking” in a photograph taken ten months after she had sunk at her moorings (22). Photographs of said sinking are also not documented in this work save for the heavily obscured view in the aforementioned photograph, which is surprising. The lack of images for the six partially completed or converted vessels in the Specifications section also appears to be an oversight, as several images do exist, such as the *Amagi* in her slip after the Great Kanto Earthquake of 1925. Finally, a note about the naming conventions of the ships would be appreciated, as all battleships were named after either Japan or a specific province, and battle cruisers after specific Japanese mountains.

Battleships and Battle Cruisers is an excellent continuation of this series of Imperial Japanese Navy image repositories, characterized by impressive clear and detailed photographs not often encountered in English language sources. The inclusion of early vessels and modernization images clearly showcases the origins and evolutions of Japanese naval design from beginning to end, from foreign-built warships to the iconic IJN *Yamato* and her sister ship *Musashi*. This work is a welcome addition for scholarly researchers, naval historians, and detail-oriented ship modelers alike.

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Kazushige Todaka and the Kure Maritime Museum (ed.), Robert D. Eldridge and Graham B. Leonard (translation). *Destroyers: Selected Photos from the Archives of the Kure Maritime Museum*. Annapolis, MD: Naval Institute Press, www.usni.org, 2020. 229 pp., illustrations, tables. US \$75.00, cloth; ISBN 978-1-59114-630-8.

Part of the recent effort by the Kure Naval Museum to translate and expand Shizuo Fukui’s two-volume photographic compendium, *Japanese Naval Vessels, 1869-1945* into a more delineated English language format, this work is a visual record of the Imperial Japanese Navy’s destroyers, escort ships, torpedo boats, submarine chasers, and patrol boats from the turn of the century to the end of the Second World War. Paired with captions and tables translated by Robert D. Eldridge and Graham B. Leonard, *Destroyers* provides full page images of the aforementioned vessels, often taken in profile. There are a small number of images that share pages, but these are unusual. The minimalist labels follow the same format as other volumes, listing the image’s identification number, ship’s name and class (if applicable), and a one- or two-line caption containing the date and possibly a short description. Standardized ship and class specifications followed by a brief summary of the Kure Maritime Museum conclude the work.-

The photographs are divided into five subsections by ship type, with a vast majority of images naturally consisting of destroyers. The first subsection of the work covers 104 First Class Destroyers, while the second subsection covers 12 Second Class and seven Third Class vessels. Given the sheer volume of ships covered, most are represented by a single profile image, with just 21 of the 123 destroyers having multiple views. This limits the views largely to profile shots, with few images of construction, modifications, or improvements. The *Fubuki* and *Shiranui* have some of the more interesting dockyard images, with highly detailed sectional views of work on the vessels’ decks during 1936 and 1942, respectively (46, 94-95). Three detail shots of the *Harutsuki* at the end of the war are collected

on a single page as well, showing design reconfigurations for use as “a special transport ship” (123). Precious few Second World War combat images are included, but there are some interesting views of Russian vessels taken during the Russo-Japanese War showcasing battle damage and conditions from that conflict.

As previously mentioned, the work depicts vessels beyond its title focus as well. It includes 16 ocean defense/escort ships, eight pre-London Naval Treaty torpedo ships, five post-treaty “new” torpedo ships, eight submarine chasers, and four patrol boats. Less commonly encountered than destroyers, these vessels are also often reduced to a single image, but their often-unique nature contrasts starkly with the earlier sections. The pre-London Naval Treaty torpedo ships, for example, offer some of the oldest images of almost archaic boat design, while two of the selected Patrol Ships, *No. 101* (formerly HMS *Thracian*) and *No. 102* (formerly USS *Stewart*), offer views of captured allied vessels modified and impressed into Japanese service (204-205).

As with the other volumes of this series, a Technical Specifications section serves as the primary text. Due to the number of vessels involved, however, it requires 22 pages divided into three columns per page to cover 55 ship classes rather than individual vessels. Each class is described by ship type, length, beam, draught, displacement, speed, armament, propulsion, boilers, and power. Following this, a table lists all vessels of the class, detailing name, completion date, shipyard, and brief service notes, the latter often listing dates of decommissioning or combat loss. War prize vessels are also listed in tables after each vessel type, expanding the standard class table to include country of origin, original name and

class, displacement, Japanese refitter, and refitting completion date. There are no photographs for a number of vessels, primarily in the non-destroyer sections.

There are a few possible improvements. As is common in this series, image captions are kept to a minimum, which leads to unnecessary omissions. For example, the caption of the Third Class Destroyer *Akatsuki* fails to mention that it was originally the Russian destroyer *Ryesitelni*, and two photos of the *Shiranui* in dry dock with the hull forward of the main funnel missing merely refer to the vessel as being in “for repairs” (94-95, 157). Given the minimal use of images for each vessel, expanded captions could greatly improve effectiveness. With so many vessels under discussion, the use of only one image is likely due to the need to keep the series’ page count under 200 pages per volume. Expanding this allowance would allow the authors to showcase more vessels and more fully illustrate modifications to certain ships throughout their service lives.

Like the rest of the Kure Maritime Museum series, *Destroyers* is a solid visual guide to the majority of destroyers fielded by Japan during the early- to mid-twentieth century, along with a good representation of select early torpedo vessels, late Second World War escorts, and patrol vessels. The clear profile views offered make the work quite useful as a recognition manual when dealing with images of Imperial Japanese support craft and the specifications sections offer good introductory information for both general classes and individual ships.

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Milan Vego. *General Naval Tactics: Theory and Practice*. Annapolis, MD: