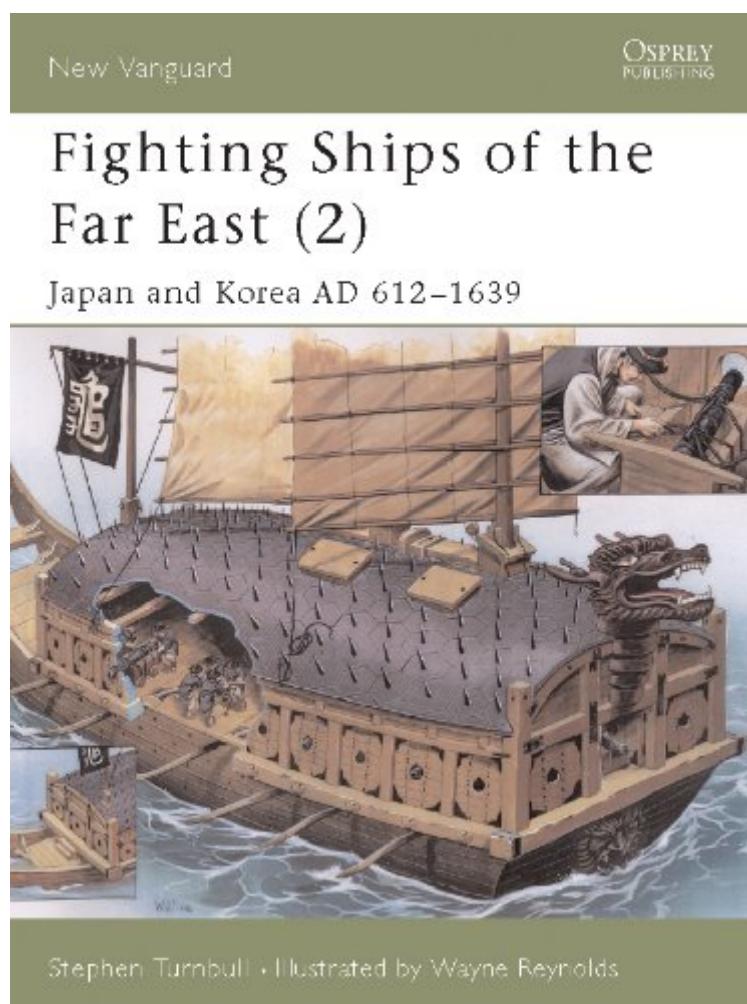


The book was found

Fighting Ships Of The Far East (2): Japan And Korea AD 612?1639: Japan And Korea AD 612-1639 V. 2 (New Vanguard)



Synopsis

Over the centuries, naval relations between Japan and Korea appear to have alternated between peaceful trade and outright hostility. However, this impression can be misleading, as much of what passed for mercantile activity was in fact conducted by Japanese pirate fleets, who pillaged the coasts of Korea and China in a long-lasting tradition that culminated in the greatest pirate raid of all: Hideyoshi's invasion of Korea in 1592. This was the conflict that involved Ming China and almost dragged in Siam. It also led to Korea developing East Asia's most famous warship: the legendary turtle ship, which is described for the first time in full technical detail in this book.

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Customer Reviews

I am rating this book for what it is...a guide to specific ship designs. Turnbull is the premier popular historian of Japanese and Korean military history. This book is excellent when combined with Turnbull's other works, including "Samurai Invasion" and "The Samurai, A Military History." Japan's Korean War experience at the beginning of the 17th century is an eerie foretaste of America's experience in the 20th century. This book is an invaluable addition to the library of any student of the era, and the maps, pictures and diagrams make Turnbull's other works come to life.

Search the web on this subject and almost every hit will bring you back to Steven Turnbull's work. I live in Korea and even the Koreans don't have this much information. Great illustrations, very well written, and THE affordable reference.

You are not going to build big and powerful navies without money and resources. Empires like China clearly spent much on their navy. This is a very short book but there is much detail here. It had many fine illustrations. It could have used more. With subject matter like this, no matter how much you explain it in words, you need a diagram. It did stun me the use of paddle wheels by the Chinese. I would have liked to have seen more the relative merits of oars like Westerns used vs paddle wheels. The Korean turtles were interesting too. So more details on the battles would have been nice too. Maybe this could be book three.

This book covers a later period than its companion, Fighting Ships of the Far East (1), including the amazing Dragon Ships of Korea that were used to expel the Japanese invaders. Any student of naval warfare would do well to purchase this book.

My interest in this book was regarding the Turtle Ship. Of course, the book covers more fighting ships than just the Turtle Ship, but learning about all the other fighting ships of Korea and Japan provided a great context for the Turtle Ship. I also learned a great deal from the author's explanation of the Japanese pirates of the time period covered in the book. I'm about to start Fighting Ships of the Far East, part 1 now...out of order.

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