

# HIROHITO AND THE MAKING OF MODERN JAPAN

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HERBERT P. BIX



HarperCollinsPublishers

H. marriage - arranged  
color blindness  
tried to break it up.

1958 What do shows rule  
mean  
pseudo public opinion  
purified films  
a dirty

Could or would a Japanese person write  
and publish this book in Japan today?  
"War of Greater East Asia"

What is the history  
of the monarchy  
Empress Meiji  
fathered 15 children  
for first 10 years  
women  
11 died

What difference with you and John Downer  
was Chamsky helpful

b. April 29, 1901  
d. 1989

Hirohito - 62 year reign - from 1926 - 1989

fudged his role as military lead and head of state

He was one of most disingenuous persons to ever occupy modern throne

What new documents, diaries etc have been published

H.'s grandfather Meiji - 1868

American occupation ended 1952

H. involved in war planning from 1937 on.

What was his *modus operandi* as supreme commander?

Religion  
political leadership  
military

### HIROHITO AND THE MAKING OF

He never once  
admitted guilt for  
the war of aggression

### MODERN JAPAN

Before Hirohito

The Meiji - what was the status of the monarchy

8 years of undeclared war with China

Religion of emperor worship p28  
Shinto mythology

China War - mid 1937  
Marco Polo Bridge blow-up  
Soviet intervention?

heartless cruel Japanese - image  
Americans have not forgotten because  
of atrocities of POW's p360

Isokite - responsibility for poison gas

630. Herbert Bix  
Hirohito and the Making of  
Modern Japan

Taped: July 11, 2001 (11a)

Aired: 9/2/01

Tape #:

The emperor  
admitted guilt for  
the war of aggression

Political leadership  
Mitsuyoshi  
Kobayashi

Japan's  
The ship - What was the state of the country  
Japan's relationship with China

Japan's  
China's  
Japan's  
China's

Japan's  
China's  
Japan's  
China's

BOOKNOTES  
2001-09-02

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FIRST EDITION

*Designed by Jackie McKee*

*Maps by Paul Pugliese*

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

Bix, Herbert P.

Hirohito and the making of modern Japan / Herbert P. Bix.

p. cm.

Includes bibliographical references and index.

ISBN 0-06-019314-X

1. Hirohito, Emperor of Japan, 1901-89.
2. Emperors—Japan—Biography.
3. Japan—History—Shōwa period, 1926-1989. I. Title.

DS889.8.B59 2000

952.03'3'092—dc21

[B]

99-089427

00 01 02 03 04 ❖/HC 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3

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Russia      Tripartite Pact - Japan  
 China -      Italy  
 Chung Kai-shek      Germany

Britain  
 France - French Indochina

1941 - Hirohito - 44 yrs. old

11 year old Akihito - diary entry Sept 1945 (p534)  
 Hard to believe he wrote it

end of 52 - 250,000 military still in Japan

What's Article #9 constitution

after 52 - constitutional states nothing more than a "symbol"

Japanese political double standard about the lost war

How often did Japanese media censor itself about Hiroshima's  
role in war

H dir Jan 7, 1989

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MacArthur and Hirohito p 545

What a dark side - extreme egoism and pomposity - unlike H.

The Photograph

Jap. people learned H with 16 Bil yen

What is a receipt

a factor of defeat - top command spending so much  
time keeping H. informed. p 392

July 21, 1941 - Americans froze Japan's assets and followed  
with oil embargo.

The Tokyo Trial - 17 years of alleged conspirators  
1928-1945

- ① Japan aggression against China  
Manchurian incident  
Kido  
Tojo

Judge Webb - handed down guilty verdicts on all 25 principal defendants

7 executed by hanging including Tojo

What's the "Hull note"

- ② mistreatment and murder of allied prisoners of war
- ③ mass atrocities at Nanking  
Bataan / Thai-Burma railway over River Kwai
- ④ Japanese killing of civilians in Manila  
did not pursue indictment of Japanese on chemical warfare

What were the imperial conferences  
8 of them 1938 - Dec 1941 P 328

Used by Emperor to mislead Public into thinking he was passive when military decisions were made

- ① powerless cabinet
- ② emasculated constitution
- ③ dynamic Emperor involved in all planning for military actions

p441

H. did not visit any theatres of war

Japan destroyed all records of POWs

Habitually cautious  
a deeply suspicious leader  
his stubborn persistence  
rigid character  
traveled to shrine to pray  
fixated on the sword.

insatiable appetite for Japan and German Newsreels  
loved auto/mobility - bugs  
he collected films for H. including Disney cartoons