

# Preemptive Strike

## The Secret Plan That Would Have Prevented the Attack on Pearl Harbor

Could a plan to bomb Japan, destroy Japanese supply lines, communications, and staging areas in China have averted the horrendous and devastating attack on Pearl Harbor? On July 23, 1941--some five months before Pearl Harbor-- President Franklin Delano Roosevelt endorsed a plan calling for the United States to provide China with 150 manned bombers and 350 fighter planes to wreak havoc on Japan's growing presence in China. "Joint Board Plan 335" had been proposed to Roosevelt and his cabinet by Generalissimo Chiang Kai-Shek; Dr. T. V. Soong, China's special envoy to the United States; and Captain Claire Lee Chennault, a retired Air Corps pilot now in the employ of Chiang. Such a preemptive strike on Japanese interests had been under discussion for several months. Although initially blocked by General George C. Marshall, the plan was resurrected in the spring of 1941. So why then was it never employed?

**PREEMPTIVE STRIKE** raises new questions about intrigues between the American, Chinese, Japanese and British governments during the months before December 7, 1941. It also presents new insights into the facts and circumstances surrounding the formation of the American Volunteer Group more commonly known as the *Flying Tigers*.

Painstakingly researched and colorfully written, **PREEMPTIVE STRIKE** (Lyons Press, \$22.95 Trade Cloth, June 2006) offers a seldom-seen glimpse of the political and moral pressures brought to bear on Roosevelt's prewar cabinet. It is sure to prompt debate, as much as the decision to use this wartime strategy does today.

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

ALAN ARMSTRONG is an aviation attorney, an active pilot, and a contributing editor to the *Lawyer Pilots Bar Association Journal*. He has written articles on aviation law for various journals. Armstrong has testified before the House Aviation Subcommittee of the House of Representatives, is chairman of the

Aviation Section for the State Bar of Georgia, and is a founding member of the National Transportation Safety Board Bar Association

## **Preemptive Strike**

### **The Secret Plan That Would Have Prevented the Attack on Pearl Harbor**

\$22.95 Trade Cloth

\$31.95 IN CANADA

304 PAGES

6 X 9

8-page b&w insert

ISBN: 1-59228-913-4

June 2006

Worldwide

Signed copies available for purchase at [www.preemptivestrikethebook.com](http://www.preemptivestrikethebook.com)