



Image of the Imperial Japanese Navy submarine I-71 (later renumbered I-171.) She had a crew of seventy officers and men and could dive to a depth of 250ft. (75.0m.) Commissioned on December 24, 1935, she was based out of the Kure Naval District. The I-171 was lost with all hands on February 1, 1944 off the Solomon Islands following an attack by American destroyers.

This unusual Imperial Japanese sailor's silk *yosegaki hinomaru* was signed and presented by Vice Admiral Shigeoka Nabujiro to a navy submariner by the name of Takada Hiroshi-san (or Takada Minoru-san.) The flag is dated Kouki 2605 which puts the year at 1945. Vice Admiral Shigeoka Nobujiro served aboard numerous surface ships and submarines and eventually became Schoolmaster of the Imperial Japanese Navy Submarine School at the Kaigun Heigakko.

The large, dark characters placed horizontally across the top of the flag read "Sacrifice And Loyalty To The Country." The flag is in beautiful condition and measures approximately 27.0"x39.0" (69.5cm by 99.0).



The Japanese Navy torpedo firing proficiency badge, second class was awarded to junior non-commissioned officer's and other enlisted ratings.