

The Ketsu-Go (Operation Decisive) plans for the defense of Japan against the anticipated Allied invasion focused on **inflicting maximum casualties to break the American will to continue the war, rather than on holding territory**. This involved a multi-pronged strategy utilizing all available forces, including kamikaze attacks, suicide boats and submarines, and a fanatical defense of the beaches and interior. [🔗](#)

Here's a more detailed breakdown:

Kamikaze Attacks:

The core of the plan relied on waves of kamikaze attacks against the Allied invasion fleet, particularly the troop transports, both before and during the landings. [🔗](#)

Naval and Submarine Warfare:

The Japanese planned to deploy their remaining surface fleet, hundreds of midget submarines, and thousands of suicide boats in attacks on the Allied ships. [🔗](#)

Beach Defense:

If the Allied forces managed to land, they would face fierce resistance from Japanese troops, including suicide frogmen, and a network of fortified positions in the interior. [🔗](#)

Breaking the Will to Fight:

The Japanese leadership believed that inflicting massive casualties on the invading forces, particularly on the beaches, would lead to a decline in American public support for the war, potentially leading to a negotiated peace. [🔗](#)

No Prisoners:

The plan also reflected a no-prisoners policy, with the expectation that captured American soldiers would be treated brutally or killed. [🔗](#)

All-Out Effort:

Ketsu-Go involved the mobilization of virtually all remaining Japanese forces and resources, including civilians, for the defense of the homeland. [🔗](#)

The plan was based on the assumption that the American public would not tolerate the high casualties expected from the invasion of Japan and would be willing to negotiate a peace settlement that preserved Japan's political system. [🔗](#)



Operation Downfall - Wikipedia

Ketsu plans for Kyushu envisioned committing nearly 9,000 aircraft...

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OPERATION KETSU-GO

(5) The basic plan for the operation called for the Navy to defend the coasts by attacking the invasion fleets w...

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Japan's Plan | American Experience | Official Site | PBS

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H-057-1: Operations Downfall and Ketsugo – November 1945

7 janv. 2021 — The strategy for Operation Ketsugo was delineated in a...

N Naval History and Heritage Command [⋮](#)



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The Costly Kyushu Invasion of Operation Olympic?

15 févr. 2023 — The Ketsu-Go plan was drawn up to meet that eventuality. The...

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