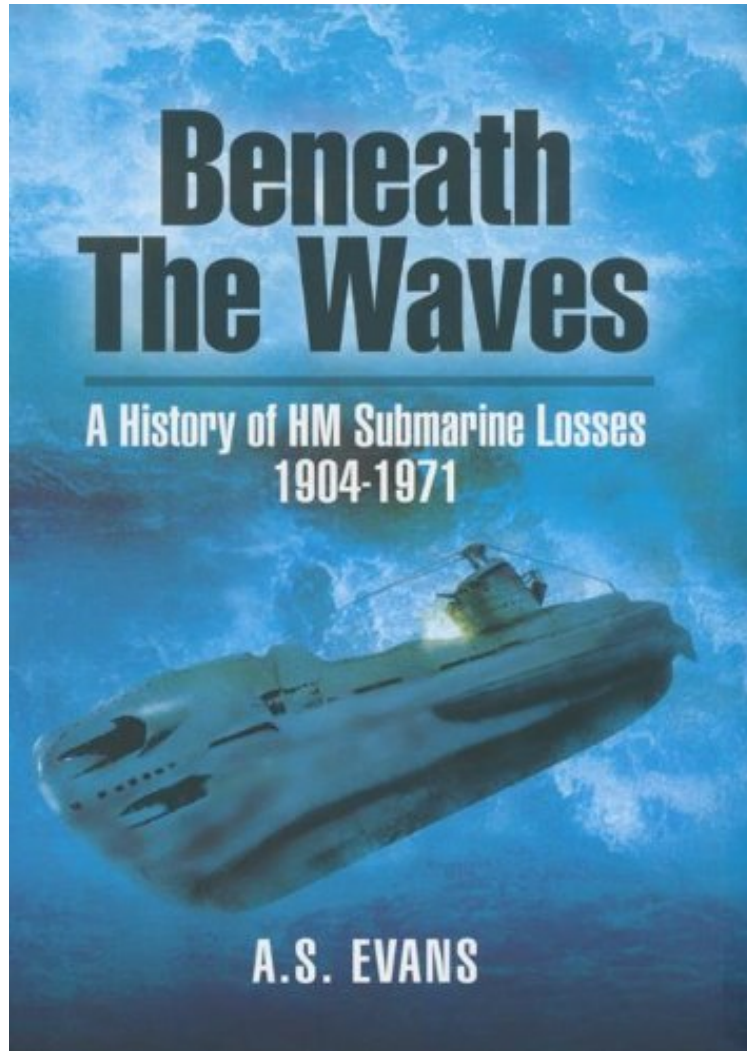


[Library ebook] Beneath the Waves: A History of HM Submarine Losses 1904-1971

Beneath the Waves: A History of HM Submarine Losses 1904-1971

Von A.S Evans

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KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen

KurzbeschreibungSince the beginning of the Royal Navy Submarine Service in 1901, 173 submarines have been lost

and in many circumstances with their entire crew. War inevitably takes a heavy toll: in World War Two alone 341 officer and 2,801 ratings failed to return to harbour. The loss of personnel was roughly equivalent to the strength of the Submarine Arm at the outbreak of war. Between the first loss, A1 in 1904, and the last, Artemis in 1971, lie many stories in which cool nerve was very much in evidence and one can marvel at the escape of the only survivor of Perseus; and of the sinking of Olympus from which the few survivors had to swim seven miles before receiving help; and of Surgeon-Lieutenant Charles Rhodes who died that others may live. These and many other accounts of submarine escape are described within this history and whenever possible in the words of survivors or witnesses.

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Synopsis Since the inception of the Royal Navy Submarine Service it has lost 173 submarines. In many cases they have sunk with their entire crews. Peacetime accidents interspersed with high losses in both World Wars highlight the dangers inherent in submarine operations. The first such disaster occurred in 1904 when HMS A1 was sunk in collision with the liner Berwick Castle. The last submarine to sink was HMS Artemis, which foundered alongside at Gosport in 1971. The stories that lie between these two events portray both tragedy and extreme bravery in equal measure. The reader will marvel at the escape of Leading Stoker John Capes from the sunken Perseus, the tragedy of the twice-sunken Thetis the courage of the survivors of Olympus who swam seven miles to safety. As a unique survey of HM Submarine's losses this book is a fitting testament to the proud history of the 'Silent Service'.