

# The Odyssey Of A U Boat Commander Recollections Of Erich Topp

[#Erich Topp](#) [#U-Boat Commander](#) [#WW2 German Submarine](#) [#Naval Warfare Memoirs](#) [#Submarine Odyssey](#)

Dive into the remarkable recollections of Erich Topp, a legendary U-Boat Commander from WW2. This naval warfare memoir offers a gripping personal odyssey through the perilous depths, detailing his experiences commanding German submarines during one of history's most challenging conflicts.

Students can use these lecture notes to reinforce classroom learning or self-study.

Thank you for visiting our website.

We are pleased to inform you that the document Ww2 German Submarine Odyssey you are looking for is available here.

Please feel free to download it for free and enjoy easy access.

This document is authentic and verified from the original source.

We always strive to provide reliable references for our valued visitors.

That way, you can use it without any concern about its authenticity.

We hope this document is useful for your needs.

Keep visiting our website for more helpful resources.

Thank you for your trust in our service.

Many users on the internet are looking for this very document.

Your visit has brought you to the right source.

We provide the full version of this document Ww2 German Submarine Odyssey absolutely free.

## The Odyssey of a U-boat Commander

Admiral Topp's memoirs reflect the faith, hopes, errors, and transformations in a man's life, indeed those of a whole generation whose understanding of history and ideology were held captive by the myth of power. The terrible annihilation in World War II and, even more so, the unimaginable destructive potential of nuclear weapons, have resulted in a change in the use of power. The author's diaries and journals, along with their contemporary interpretation, illustrate the political dimension of this change. Topp wrote this book to illuminate a segment of twentieth century history which can only be portrayed truthfully by those who themselves have lived and suffered through it. Topp also describes freely the era of the Third Reich. Even today, after long years of occupying positions of leadership, the author feels the burden of historical responsibility. In this sense his book is a statement about the ambivalence of human existence. It provides answers to the question of why a whole generation of Germans followed the mesmerizing siren song of a totalitarian regime, an experience which still looms like a shadow over the living.

## Teddy Suhren, Ace of Aces

Reinhard 'Teddy' Suhren fired more successful torpedo shots than any other man during the war, many before he even became a U-boat commander. He was also the U-boat service's most irreverent and rebellious commander; his lack of a military bearing was a constant source of friction with higher authority. Valued for his good humour and ability to lead, his nickname was acquired because he marched like a teddy-bear. Despite his refusal to conform to the rigid thought-patterns of National Socialism, his operational successes protected him, and he found himself accepted in the highest circles of power in Germany. He was one of the lucky third of all U-boat crewmen who survived the war, largely because his abilities led to a senior land-based command. He was also one of the first to publish his reminiscences, his account being typically forthright – its German title, Nasses Eichenlaub, suggesting that although he was decorated with the Oak Leaves, he was always in hot water. He died

in 1984 but interest in his career was revitalized by the discovery of photographs documenting one of his operations in U 564, published with great success in 2004 as *U-Boat War Patrol* by Lawrence Patterson.

### S.S. Nerissa, the Final Crossing

A remarkable human story, one that is worth reading. - Maritime Engineering Journal Fascinating story is told in a thorough and interesting manner, highly recommended. - Action Stations magazine, Canadian Naval Memorial Trust, HMCS Sackville Book is intriguing. Recommended for navy enthusiasts and more casual readers alike. - Starshell magazine, Naval Association of Canada --- Second Edition, with an Addendum. In the written histories of the Battle of the Atlantic, the S.S. Nerissa is overlooked. She was the only ship transporting Canadian Army troops to be lost to enemy action during the entire Second World War. The details of the sinking were highly classified until almost 50 years after the event. The tragic loss of this ship resulted in the third largest loss of life for a ship sunk by U-boats in the approaches to the British Isles. These human losses touched not only Canadian families, but also families in allied nations and in the neutral United States ... and these losses are largely unknown to our current generation. Two hundred and seven lives were lost: 81 Merchant Navy; 73 Canadian Army; 10 Royal Canadian Navy; 4 Royal Navy; 8 Royal Air Force; 11 American pilots (UK Air Transport Auxiliary); 3 Royal Norwegian Air Force; 3 Canadian government employees; and 14 civilian passengers (including 3 children). After these many years, their stories deserve to be told. Included are eye-witness accounts from many of the survivors and some stories of those who perished. The first torpedo exploded into the Engine Room. Six minutes later, as the lifeboats were being lowered, U-552 (Erich Topp) fired a coup de grâce torpedo into the already stricken Nerissa. Of the ship's eight lifeboats, only one was successfully launched, one was upright but flooded, four were capsized and two were pulled down with the ship. Much of this true story is based on the analysis of testimony, recollections and official reports taken from survivors, as well as declassified Canadian, British and German documents. Nerissa usually sailed independently, not in escorted convoys. This book focuses on the events which led up to the sinking by U-552 and the deadly 10 hours awaiting rescue about 80 miles off the coast of Ireland. Only eighty-four survivors were alive to be rescued by HMS Veteran, while HMS Hurricane and RAF 502 Squadron aircraft provided anti-submarine sweeps. The book also provides humanizing details to a very tragic story. Addressed is the public relations dilemma related to informing families of their losses, while the allied authorities enforced security restrictions related to a major wartime incident. Also included is relevant historical context of Britain's overall war efforts at that time; and in particular Bletchley Park's significant advances in decrypting German naval Enigma encoded messages ... in the few weeks before and after the sinking. --- The Addendum summarizes results of recent collaborative analysis, by the author and a retired Irish journalist, of various historical records which may now allow identification of bodies from the S.S. Nerissa which washed ashore onto the Irish coast, but had not been identified during the war.

### Wolf

Cultivated by the Allied press during the war and fostered by movies and novels ever since, the image of a U-boat skipper held by most Americans is the personification of evil: the wolf who stalks innocents. Quite the opposite image is shared by U-boat veterans and others sympathetic to their work: the knight who endures unrivaled danger and fights nobly. Yet another popular image depicts the submarine operator as a beleaguered sailor swept along by events beyond his control. This book examines the lives of many U-Bootwaffe officers, including the famous and the not-so-well known, to see if a pattern emerges. Drawing on a wealth of primary documents and, when possible, interviews or correspondence with the U-boat commanders themselves, Jordan Vause follows individual officers from their youths and early naval training through their wartime experiences and into the often bitter peace that followed. His close examination of their lives reveals that many were extremely different from the pictures typically drawn of them and as varied in their thoughts and actions as other fighting men on both sides of the war. Particularly valuable is the author's use of new information in his portrayal of Karl Doenitz and other prominent commanders to correct and enhance pictures presented in earlier books. His use of personal correspondence and unpublished manuscripts loaned to him in Germany adds special significance to this study and its appeal to all those interested in World War II, submarines, and the U-Bootwaffe.

### Count Not the Dead

Basing his study on some two-hundred-and-fifty German novels, memoirs, fictionalized histories, and films (including *Das Boot*), Michael Hadley examines the popular image of the German submarine and weighs the values, purposes, and perceptions of German writers and film makers. He considers the idea of the submarine as a war-winning weapon and the exploits of the "band of brothers" who made up the U-boat crews. He also describes the perceptions of the German public about the role of the U-boat in the war effort and the hopes that it carried for victory in two world wars against the Allied forces. Analysed in context, the U-boat emerges as a central factor and metaphor in Germany's ongoing struggle with its political and military past. In *Count Not the Dead* Hadley explores the complex relationships between political reality and cultural myth, and draws important conclusions about the way in which Germans have interpreted their past and how present concerns change these views.

### The Complete Knight's Cross

The Knight's Cross of the Iron Cross, to give it its full name, owes its origins to the 'Pour le Merite' (Blue Max), an imperial award dating back to 1740. The Complete Knight's Cross volumes tell the story of all 7,364 men who were granted the award (including all the disputed awards). The three volumes have over 200 photos of holders of the medal and over 100 photos of their graves. Volume One deals with 1939-41 (numbers 1-1267) and is subtitled 'The Years of Victory'. Volume Two deals with 1942-43 (numbers 1268-3685) and is subtitled 'The Years of Stalemate'. Volume Three deals with 1944-45 (numbers 3686-7364) and is subtitled 'The Years of Defeat'. The recipients are listed in the order of the date of award. Each entry starts with the recipient's rank and name, followed by details of the action or actions for which they were granted the award. Other interesting facts and stories are also included for many of the awards. Burial locations, where known, are also given. Any higher awards (Oak Leaves, Swords, Diamonds and the ultimate Golden award) are also covered.

### World War II in Literature for Youth

This comprehensive volume provides a wealth of information with annotated listings of more than 3,500 titles--a broad sampling of books on the war years 1939-1945. Includes both fiction and nonfiction works about all aspects of the war. Professional resources for educators aligned to the educational standards for social studies; technical references; periodicals and electronic resources; a directory of WWII museums, memorials, and other institutions; and topics for exploration complement this excellent library and classroom resource.

### Parameters

Submariners are a tight knit group of men bound together by training and experience, and with a language all their own. That language is perhaps a little vulgar, but never intentionally demeaning, and a little irreverent but still worldly. This work is an attempt to preserve and explain some of these curious guys who so proudly wear a shiny metal pin that looks like a strange pair of fish on their left breast. This process of accumulating this new language begins in Boot Camp, and is added to with every change of duty station the sailor undergoes. It is heard aboard the boats and, unknowingly, by family members who can't understand terms like head, deck, and overhead, and who think SOS is a distress signal.

### The Submariner's Dictionary Or Submariner's Compendium of Terms & Tar's Handbook of Naval Verbiage and Retired Guy's Re-familiarization Manual

To his enlisted men on U-154, Lieutenant Oskar Kusch was the ideal skipper--bright, experienced, successful, caring, tolerably eccentric--and a popular captain who always brought his boat home safely when so many others vanished without a trace. To most of his officers Kusch came across as someone very different--a Nazi-hating intellectual with an artistic bent given to lengthy criticisms of the regime, its leaders and its propaganda, a suspected coward and potential traitor unfit for command. Early in 1944, after his second patrol under Kusch, his executive officer, a reservist with a doctorate in law and member of the Nazi party, denounced him on charges of sedition and cowardice. A hastily arranged court-martial cleared Kusch of the cowardice accusation but sentenced him to death on purely ideological grounds for "undermining the fighting spirit" of his boat, even though the prosecutor had only recommended a ten-year jail sentence. Abandoned by all but his closest friends and relatives, coldly sacrificed by Grand Admiral Karl Dönitz, unwilling to plead for mercy, and to the end tormented by a naval legal bureaucracy acting in collusion with the brown regime, Oskar Kusch was executed in May 1944. This study, the first scholarly work on Kusch in English, traces his career and ordeal from his upbringing in Berlin to his tragic death and beyond, including the fifty-year struggle to rehabilitate his name and

restore his honor in a postwar Germany long loath to confront the darker dimensions of its past. The passing of the wartime generation and the emergence of a new school of historians dedicated to critical research and inspired historiography have finally combined to rectify our picture of the Kriegsmarine and to appreciate the sacrifice of men like Oskar Kusch.

#### U-boat Commander Oskar Kusch

Wolfgang Luth was one of only seven men to win Germany's highest combat decoration. He operated in almost every theater of the undersea war from Norway to the Indian Ocean and he was the second most successful German U-boat ace in World War II. Luth is credited with sinking 47 Allied ships and a submarine – a record topped only by Otto Kretschmer. In 1944, after 16 war patrols, including one that lasted a record 203 days at sea, he was named the youngest Commandant of the German Naval Academy at age 30. Until the publication of this comprehensive study his accomplishments were overshadowed by other aces, to correct the neglect, Jordan Vause provides an entertaining, authoritative biography. Vause was intrigued after seeing a portrait of Luth as a midshipman on display and set out to learn all he could, tracking down some of Luth's crewmen and fellow U-boat commanders. He draws on their firsthand information and a variety of written documents to provide a fascinating character analysis. In doing so, he encapsulates the paradoxes inherent in so many German submarine commanders, men spawned by the Nazi regime yet not entirely of it. Vause portrays Luth as a man of contradictions: an agent Nazi ideologue who could bend the rules for a slack sailor, a U-boat ace who could treat survivors of his attacks with clemency but then impetuously gun down other victims in cold blood. Even his best friend admitted that Luth had no remorse for the misery he inflicted on the crews of sunken ships. On the night of May 13th 1945 he was accidentally shot and killed by a German sentry. On May 16th 1945 he was given the Third Reich's last state funeral.

#### U-Boat Ace

One of WWII's pivotal events was the capture of U-505 on June 4, 1944. The top secret seizure of this massive Type IX submarine provided the Allies with priceless information on German technology and innovation. After the war, U-505 was transported to Chicago, where today several hundred thousand visitors a year pass through its well-preserved hull at the Museum of Science and Industry. Now in paperback, *Hunt and Kill* offers the first definitive study of U-505. Chapters include her construction, crew and commanders, combat history, an assessment of Type IX operations, naval intelligence, the eight fatal German mistakes that doomed the ill-fated boat, her capture, and final transportation and restoration for posterity. The contributors to this fascinating volume--a Who's Who of U-boat historians--include: Erich Topp (U-552, *Odyssey of a U-boat Commander*); Eric Rust (*Naval Officers Under Hitler*); Timothy Mulligan (*Neither Sharks Nor Wolves*); Jak Mallmann Showell (*Hitler's U-boat Bases*); Jordan Vause (*Wolf*); Lawrence Patterson (*First U-boat Flotilla*); Mark Wise (*Enigma and the Battle of the Atlantic*); Keith R. Gill (former Curator, U-505, Museum of Science and Industry), and Theodore P. Savas (editor, *Silent Hunters: German U-boat Commanders of World War II*; author, *Nazi Millionaires*).

#### Hunt and Kill

When World War II erupted across Europe in 1939, Germany knew it could not hope to compete with the Royal Navy in a head-to-head naval war. Left with no viable alternatives, the U-Bootwaffe wagered everything on the submarine in a desperate attempt to sink more tonnage than the Allies could construct. Some of these "silent hunters" who slipped out of their shelters along Europe's shores to stalk their prey have enjoyed considerable recognition in the years since. While most aspects of the bitter struggle have been told and retold from both the Axis and Allied points of view, the careers of some highly effective U-boat commanders have languished in undeserved obscurity. The profiles of six such commanders are presented in this collection of essays. They include Englebert Endrass, whose spectacular career before being lost off the coast of Gibraltar is described here by his best friend and fellow ace Erich Topp, who wrote this while on his 15th War Patrol; Karl-Friedrich Merten, who was ranked among the war's top tonnage aces; Ralph Kapitsky, whose U-615 suicidal surface-to-air battle in the Caribbean allowed many of his fellow submariners to escape into the Atlantic; Fritz Guggenberger, who sank an aircraft carrier and organized the biggest POW escape attempt in American history; Victor Oehrn, a former staff officer of Karl Dönitz's; and Heinz Eck, who was executed by the British.

#### Silent Hunters

Includes scholarly articles and book reviews on topics in military history.

### The Diary of A U-Boat Commander - 1920

On June 15, 1942, as thousands of vacationers lounged in the sun at Virginia Beach, two massive fireballs erupted just offshore from a convoy of oil tankers steaming into Chesapeake Bay. While men, women, and children gaped from the shore, two damaged oil tankers fell out of line and began to sink. Then a small escort warship blew apart in a violent explosion. Navy warships and aircraft peppered the water with depth charges, but to no avail. Within the next twenty-four hours, a fourth ship lay at the bottom of the channel -- all victims of twenty-nine-year-old Kapitänleutnant Horst Degen and his crew aboard the German U-boat U-701. In *The Burning Shore*, acclaimed military reporter Ed Offley presents a thrilling account of the bloody U-boat offensive along America's east coast during the first half of 1942, using the story of Degen's three war patrols as a lens through which to view this forgotten chapter of World War II. For six months, German U-boats prowled the waters off the eastern seaboard, sinking merchant ships with impunity, and threatening to sever the lifeline of supplies flowing from America to Great Britain. Degen's successful infiltration of the Chesapeake Bay in mid-June drove home the U-boats' success, and his spectacular attack terrified the American public as never before. But Degen's cruise was interrupted less than a month later, when U.S. Army Air Forces Lieutenant Harry J. Kane and his aircrew spotted the silhouette of U-701 offshore. The ensuing clash signaled a critical turning point in the Battle of the Atlantic -- and set the stage for an unlikely friendship between two of the episode's survivors. A gripping tale of heroism and sacrifice, *The Burning Shore* leads readers into a little-known theater of World War II, where Hitler's U-boats came close to winning the Battle of the Atlantic before American sailors and airmen could finally drive them away.

### The Journal of Military History

Exploring World War II, this reference presents 15 excerpts from primary sources related to this period, including speeches, diary entries, newspaper accounts, novels, poems and memoirs.

### Diary of a U-Boat Commander

Are you ready for the truth about World War Two? The Second World War is the most cataclysmic and violent sequence of events in recent times. But for the past seven decades, our understanding of it has relied upon conventional wisdom, propaganda and an interpretation skewed by the information available. James Holland has spent over twelve years conducting new research, interviewing survivors, visiting battlefields and archives that have never before been so accessible and challenging too-long-held assumptions about the war that shaped our world. In *Germany Ascendant*, the first part of this ground-breaking new history, James Holland introduces the war, beginning with the lead-up to its outbreak in 1939 and taking us up to mid-1941 as the Nazis prepared to unleash Operation Barbarossa, the invasion of Russia. To tell the real story, he weaves together the experiences of dozens of individuals, from civilians and soldiers, to sailors, pilots, leading military strategists, industrialists and heads of state, and uncovers the strategy, tactics and events that informed not only the military aspects of the war but also the economic, political, and social aspects too. *The War in the West* is a truly monumental history of the war on land, in the air, and at sea. In it, James Holland has created a captivating and epic narrative which redefines and enhances our understanding of one of the most significant conflicts in history.

## Naval War College Review

"[A] book of rare photographs . . . detailing life aboard a German Second World War submarine" from the author of Operation Colossus (History Today). This unique account charts the complete story of a single U-boat patrol through the summer of 1942 based around a remarkable collection of photographs that were "liberated" from a concrete U-boat pen in Brest at the end of the war and which had, until recently, remained hidden in a shoe box. The boat in question, U-564, carried the famous three black cat motif of Reinhard "Teddy" Suhren who, along with Prien and Kretschmer, was one of the top U-boat commanders during the battles of the Atlantic. This remarkable book provides unique access into both the day-to-day life of a U-boat at sea and into the detailed workings of the Kriegsmarine. Through the successes and trials of U-564 the reader is transported to that vast and watery battlefield that was perhaps the most significant theatre of the Second World War. "The text tells the story of U 564, and the images display the cramped conditions and the way of life on a war patrol. This is an absorbing story with the most memorable and unique collection of images filmed under patrol conditions." —Firetrench

## Naval War College Review

Winning the Battle of the Atlantic was critical to Britain's survival in the Second World War. The British Merchant Navy suffered enormous losses of both ships and men, particularly in the early years of the war. Sailing through U-boat wolf-packs across the Atlantic, or on the perilous routes to Malta and Murmansk, took a special kind of courage. Ships often sank within minutes of being torpedoed. Survivors is the history of this epic struggle. It is a graphic account of how the ships were attacked and sunk, how crews reacted, how they attempted to launch their lifeboats and how they ended up swimming or clinging to debris, or making long voyages in lifeboats or on rafts. Death might come at any stage, yet the will to live and the resourcefulness and skill of the seamen enabled a surprising number to survive. "There was a terrific smash and everything was pandemonium on deck. The wheel house collapsed on top of me and I was trapped by the concrete slabs which had fallen on me and pinned me to the deck. I think that the ship sank in about thirty seconds after breaking in two ... Although I was trapped, I could see everything over my head. The stern burst into flames and I saw flames forward. I could see the water coming up and coming over my head. The ship hit the bottom and turned over, the debris was thrown off me and I was released and I came to the surface."--Sinking of SS Abukir, 28 May 1940

## The Burning Shore

An extraordinarily detailed reference book, *The World At War: 1939-1945* offers the reader an in-depth guide to the greatest conflict of the 20th Century. Meticulously researched with over 1,200 identifications and a bibliography of over 4,000 sources, the book examines the people, places, and events that changed our world forever. William Scott spent three years carefully researching and compiling the information for this book. He worked exclusively from military archives and university libraries to produce this one of a kind World War II reference book. Including an easy to follow chronology of events, a list of military and naval abbreviations, and an organizational chart of U.S. Army units, *The World At War: 1939-1945* is a must for military historians, academics, history buffs, and veterans.

## World War II

The diary of a World War One U-Boat commander. As well as being a fascinating glimpse of life on the German U-boats during the intense submarine blockade, this also reminds us there were humans involved - on both sides of the action - as we read too of the intimate thoughts and intense love of a man longing for his sweetheart. We are delighted to publish this classic book as part of our extensive Classic Library collection. Many of the books in our collection have been out of print for decades, and therefore have not been accessible to the general public. The aim of our publishing program is to facilitate rapid access to this vast reservoir of literature, and our view is that this is a significant literary work, which deserves to be brought back into print after many decades. The contents of the vast majority of titles in the Classic Library have been scanned from the original works. To ensure a high quality product, each title has been meticulously hand curated by our staff. Our philosophy has been guided by a desire to provide the reader with a book that is as close as possible to ownership of the original work. We hope that you will enjoy this wonderful classic work, and that for you it becomes an enriching experience.

## Armor

A true-life war thriller by the famed U-boat ace who presents an authentic view of the notorious wolf packs and their encounters with the Allies.

## U122

Excerpt from *The Diary of an U-Boat Commander: With an Introduction and Explanatory Notes* "I would ask you a favour," said the German captain, as we sat in the cabin of a U-boat which had just been added to the long line of bedraggled captives which stretched themselves for a mile or more in Harwich Harbour, in November, 1918. I made no reply; I had just granted him a favour by allowing him to leave the upper deck of the submarine, in order that he might await the motor launch in some sort of privacy; why should he ask for more? Undeterred by my silence, he continued: "I have a great friend, Lieutenant-zu-See Von Schenk, who brought U.122 over last week; he has lost a diary, quite private, he left it in error; can he have it?" About the Publisher Forgotten Books publishes hundreds of thousands of rare and classic books. Find more at [www.forgottenbooks.com](http://www.forgottenbooks.com) This book is a reproduction of an important historical work. Forgotten Books uses state-of-the-art technology to digitally reconstruct the work, preserving the original format whilst repairing imperfections present in the aged copy. In rare cases, an imperfection in the original, such as a blemish or missing page, may be replicated in our edition. We do, however, repair the vast majority of imperfections successfully; any imperfections that remain are intentionally left to preserve the state of such historical works.

## The War in the West - A New History

The Sound of Music endeared Georg von Trapp (1880?1947) and his singing family to the world, and it also showed how desperately the Nazis wanted Captain von Trapp for their navy. In *To the Last Salute* we learn why. Trapp's own story of his exploits as a submarine commander during the First World War is as exciting as it is instructive, bringing to stirring life a little-known chapter in the naval history of that war. In his many guises, Trapp describes life as captain of Austro-Hungarian U-boats in the Mediterranean and Adriatic seas, emerging by turn as the Imperial Austrian naval officer, the witty observer of international politics, and the indefatigable and ultimately heartbroken patriot opposing the Allied enemy. He relates deadly duels with submarine sweepers, narrow escapes and excruciatingly close calls, and the spectacular sinking of cargo and war ships?all while maintaining a keen sense of the camaraderie of seamen from every corner of the Austro-Hungarian Empire. Trapp's story, in English for the first time, offers a rare combination of human interest, historical insight, and true life-and-death adventure.

## U-Boat War Patrol

The M.S. of this amazing diary of a German U-Boat Commander has fallen into our hands under somewhat unusual and mysterious circumstances, the name of the writer being withheld for reasons which will be readily apparent to all who read his astounding experiences. It is, however, a story so thrilling and sensational that we have no hesitation in offering it as it stands to the public, kept so long in ignorance by the necessary evil of a rigid censorship. A particularly human and intriguing touch is given to the book by the Author's very frank account of his mad infatuation for a beautiful girl of his own country who was inextricably involved in his incredible exploits and adventures on the high seas.

## SURVIVORS: BRITISH MERCHANT SEAMEN

Assigned to one of the German navy's new U-Boats in 1916, Karl von Schenk patriotically sets to sea, certain in his conviction that victory will soon be Germany's. The harsh truth of life at sea and the nature of naval warfare soon blunts Karl's idealism, while at home, he fights another more personal battle for the heart of his beloved Zoe.

## The World at War, 1939-1945

*The Diary of a U-boat Commander.* A true account of naval warfare and the scourge of the German U-Boats. Just like in WWII Germany deployed a large U-boat force against the western powers. But the main difference during the two wars was that in World War One the Germany Navy had a very large surface (battleships, destroyers, cruisers) fleet while in WWII the U-boats had to shoulder the fight pretty much alone. This is just one of their stories.....

## The Diary of a U-Boat Commander

A world list of books in the English language.

#### Newsletter

The diary of a World War One U-Boat commander. As well as being a fascinating glimpse of life on the German U-boats during the intense submarine blockade, this also reminds us there were humans involved - on both sides of the action - as we read too of the intimate thoughts and intense love of a man longing for his sweetheart. Sir William Stephen Richard King-Hall, Baron King-Hall of Headley (21 January 1893 - 1 June 1966) was a British journalist, politician and playwright.

#### U-boat Commander

The Diary of a U-boat Commander is a classic and fascinating World War One history text about the life of a German U-boat commander and a gripping war biography. This venerable WW1 history text contains the following excerpt: "I would ask you a favour," said the German captain, as we sat in the cabin of a U-boat which had just been added to the long line of bedraggled captives which stretched themselves for a mile or more in Harwich Harbour, in November, 1918. I made no reply; I had just granted him a favour by allowing him to leave the upper deck of the submarine, in order that he might await the motor launch in some sort of privacy; why should he ask for more? Undeterred by my silence, he continued: "I have a great friend, Lieutenant-zu-See Von Schenk, who brought U.122 over last week; he has lost a diary, quite private, he left it in error; can he have it?" I deliberated, felt a certain pity, then remembered the Belgian Prince and other things, and so, looking the German in the face, I said: "I can do nothing."

#### The Diary of a U-Boat Commander

Weuner Fÿrbringer (Fips) became one of the most successful U-Boat commanders in WW1 through a blend of skill, daring and, by his own typically modest admission, sheer luck. This vivid memoir, never before published in English, makes compelling reading. This is an inspiring and chivalrous story; it is ironic then that, when finally sunk by the Royal Navy off the East Coast of England, Fips was machine-gunned in the water, contrary to repeated Government denials of such behaviour.

#### The Diary of an U-Boat Commander

To the Last Salute