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Jutland: The German Perspective - A New View Of The Great Battle, 31 May 1916



Synopsis

This work, based on German official reports, unofficial papers, diaries and statements by German crew, provides an analysis of the Battle of Jutland from the German perspective. Appendices list the personnel, vessels and weaponry involved in the battle. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Book Information

Hardcover: 320 pages

Publisher: Caxton Editions; First Thus edition (January 1, 2000)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1860199178

ISBN-13: 978-1860199172

Product Dimensions: 9.2 x 6.1 x 1.4 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.5 pounds

Average Customer Review: 3.7 out of 5 starsÂ Â See all reviewsÂ (3 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #2,920,448 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #120 inÂ Books > History > Europe > Scandinavia > Denmark #5153 inÂ Books > History > Military > World War I #9386 inÂ Books > History > Europe > Germany

Customer Reviews

Really worth getting this one for the obvious reason -- it uses official German sources that many histories written from the Brit perspective ignore -- but also because it gives an unusual amount of attention to the small ship actions involving TBs, DDs & CLs. The raw data in the appendices is also very valuable. I was trying to figure out whether a certain German TB half flotilla list in a game scenario REALLY participated in the actual action as opposed to merely being ordered to take part. The text was ambiguous but the appendix revealed that the flotilla returned to base with all but one of their torpedoes aboard, thus answering the question to my satisfaction.

This book offers an excellent overview of the battle and I believe it does concentrate on the views of Admirals Scheer and Hipper. I won't go so far so it say it was a 5- star book but the maps were better than most of the maps I have seen of the battle. The situational maps cover the battle sometimes in segments as little as 15 minutes. Yes, the detail of ships speeds, the details involving guns, and armor must drive the generalist to distraction, but for us who claim no more than to be buffs it is the stuff we live for.

The title makes a big promise that has probably sold a lot of copies but in my opinion the writer lost an opportunity to create a unique text. The information provided is as far as I can tell completely accurate. However the book has too many references to ships courses, speeds etc. It reaches the point that one must go back and read over information to keep events straight in your mind. No information is provided as to how the German commanders perceived events or why they made decisions. This is really a great opportunity that is missed. While the book is neutral and accurate I can see no reason why one would read it over say Castles of Steel. Do not expect to gain any insight into the decisions or impressions made by the German commanders.

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