



SINK THE TIRPITZ

CONVOY PQ 18, SOVIET-BASED RAF BOMBERS AND
THE BATTLE AGAINST HITLER'S LAST GREAT WARSHIP



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Sink The Tirpitz

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Sink The Tirpitz:

Sink the Tirpitz Léonce Peillard, 1968 On January 18 1942 in London Winston Churchill gave the order to sink the Tirpitz announcing that the whole strategy of the war turns at this point on this ship On November 12 1944 at Troms the Tirpitz sank with the loss of 700 lives Between these two events stretches an epic story of courage and endeavor almost unequalled in the history of the last war The Tirpitz the most powerful enemy ship afloat in the Western Hemisphere was based deep in the Norwegian fjords where it presented a major threat to Allied naval action Jacket **Sink the Tirpitz** Jim Eldridge, 2010-02 The Tirpitz is the Nazis most lethal battleship It is moored heavily guarded in a Norwegian fjord The only way to attack it is to plant bombs underneath using mini submarines But who will go on this suicide mission and will they ever manage to sink the Tirpitz [Sink the Tirpitz 1942-44](#) Angus Konstam, 2018-10-18 When Germany invaded the Soviet Union in the summer of 1941 Stalin requested help from the Western Allies The result was the Arctic Convoys the opening of a sea route from Britain to Northern Russia used to supply the Soviets with vitally needed war materials This route passed close to German occupied Norway and so in January 1942 the newly completed battleship Tirpitz sister of the Bismarck was sent there to form the core of the naval force stationed in Northern Norway to intercept these convoys For more than two years Tirpitz remained a latent threat to the Allies and despite fuel shortages her occasional sorties posed a grave threat to Allied shipping So the sinking of the battleship became a major priority for the British The fjords where she lurked were strongly defended rendering naval attack virtually impossible So unless she could be caught at sea she had to be destroyed by other means In the spring of 1942 the Royal Air Force launched three heavy bombing raids on the battleship's anchorage but no hits were scored The following autumn she was damaged during a midget submarine attack and moved to a more secure anchorage A lack of bombers caused a hiatus in these air attacks but they were resumed in 1944 by which time the Fleet Air Arm had the resources to join in the air campaign The most sustained of these naval air operations was Operation Goodwood but like the others its results were disappointing It was now clear that only heavy bombers dropping especially heavy bombs could do the job So that autumn the RAF launched the first of three large scale attacks using Lancaster bombers armed with enormous Tallboy bombs In the first codenamed Operation Parvane the Tirpitz was badly damaged In the third air attack carried out in November 1944 the battleship was hit three times and she capsized and sank taking most of her crew down with her Her passing broke German naval power in Arctic waters which in turn allowed the Allies to divert their naval resources to the Pacific where the ocean wide campaign was reaching its climax The air campaign against the Tirpitz was one of vital strategic importance and while low key compared to air operations over mainland Europe it was one where a single bomb could dramatically influence the course of the war These British airmen faced tough opposition from the weather terrain ground defences the Luftwaffe and from the well armed battleship herself which while rendering it tough for them made this a dramatic story of air power's triumph against the odds Technically the 1944 air campaign was a test bed

for a new generation of super bomb The Tallboy designed by Barnes Wallis of Dambuster fame was a five ton seismic bomb capable of destroying the battleship when other more conventional ordnance had failed These ground breaking bombs were the forerunners of the devastating bunker busting weaponry of the post war era *The Night Air War* Martin W.

Bowman,2015-07-31 Of the 7 953 Bomber Command aircraft lost on night operations during the Second World War an estimated 5 833 fell victim to Luftwaffe night fighters In this detailed re enactment of the air war over Western Europe and the raids flown by the men of RAF Bomber Command the author has pieced together official data and the words and memories of the pilots and air crew who participated in the proceedings Across fifteen chapters many unique experiences are regaled enlivening the history of the night bombing raids that were hurled against Hitler s war machine during the latter half of the Second World War They span the period between November 1943 and 1945 and cover the encounters between the Luftwaffe and RAF Bomber Command during their heyday No Operation Was Easy was a commonly coined phrase amongst this group who night after night struck out at targets such as the The Big City Berlin Stuttgart and the Ruhr These truly epic stories gleaned from the memories of the men who made up Bomber Command serve as an appropriate epitaph to their collective effort **Sinking the Beast: The RAF 1944 Lancaster Raids Against Tirpitz** Jan Forsgren,2017-01-24

The Air War at Sea in the Second World War Martin W. Bowman,2023-06-30 Martin Bowman s considerable experience as a military historian has spanned over forty years during which time he has spent hundreds of hours interviewing and corresponding with numerous men and women and their relatives in Britain America and beyond resulting in a wealth of material on the war at sea from World War One to the Falklands and the wars on terror All these narratives have been woven into a highly readable and emotional outpouring of life and death in action in all his titles as here in World War Two where the men of the Fleet Air Arm and the US Navy fighter operating bomber and torpedo carrying aircraft describe the compelling gripping and thought provoking narrative of the air war in the freezing Atlantic wastes to the waters of the mighty Pacific **The 50 Greatest Shipwrecks** Richard Jones,2023-01-04 When you think of a shipwreck what image

springs to mind A tall sailing ship on the rocks or perhaps the sinking Titanic surrounded by lifeboats Historian Richard M Jones has put together 50 stories of lost ships throughout history that are among the most important infamous and in some cases tragic ships in the whole of history When did two liners collide and lead to one of the greatest rescues in history How did a Scotsman become an American hero against his own country Which warship sank with gold bullion on board during the Second World War This book tells the story of these fascinating cases plus many more explores the largest shipwrecks the treasure wrecks and the ones that are talked about still as the most famous Starting at the tiny island of Alderney in 1592 we take a journey through history through the First and Second World Wars into the age of the passenger ferry and finally to the modern day migrant issues in the Mediterranean Sea Never before have these fifty wrecks come together in a book that really brings home to the reader just how many lost vessels there are how deadly many can be and what this teaches us today

about our own history **The Small Scale Raiding Force** Brian Lett,2013-10-23 The Small Scale Raiding Force SSRF was formed in February 1942 by Gus March Phillips with Major General Gubbins SOE European chief s approval March Phillips and his Maid of Honor Force had just had complete success with their operation POSTMASTER off West Africa Equipped with a specially adapted motor torpedo boat the SSRF immediately started planning for operations Op FROUDESLEY with the aim of destroying the battleship Tirpitz ran into technical problems and was delayed but in August and September three daring cross Channel missions were successfully carried out without loss The author describes these and the disastrous fourth operation ACQUATINT when all 10 SSRF men including March Phillips were killed or captured Despite this hammerblow SSRF now commanded by Geoffrey Appleyard made two raids on Sark a week later Again their story is fully told in this fascinating book along with those of three further 1942 raids Inter service rivalry the war within led to the break up of the SSRF in early 1943 The Author describes the many colourful characters who made up this special force including Anders Lassen VC Graham Hayes and Andre Desgranges the Free Frenchman whom the Gestapo turned This superbly researched book lifts the veil on a little known but highly effective special force unit and the gallant individuals who served in it As seen in Dorset Magazine Book of the Month Britain at War Magazine April 2014 [Torpedoes: Hunting the Enemy in World War II](#) Pasquale De Marco,2025-04-09 In the vast expanse of the North Atlantic a silent and deadly battle raged during the Second World War It was a battle between the Allies and Germany a battle for control of the vital sea lanes upon which the war effort depended The German U boats or submarines were the scourge of the Atlantic They operated in large numbers often forming wolfpacks that could overwhelm and sink Allied merchant ships with impunity The U boat threat was so severe at times that it brought Britain to the brink of starvation and forced the United States to enter the war This book tells the story of the U boat sailors the men who fought in these deadly submarines It is a story of courage sacrifice and determination These were men from all walks of life brought together by a common cause They were highly trained and skilled and they faced incredible dangers on a daily basis They knew that every patrol could be their last but they never gave up They fought in cramped and dangerous conditions often submerged for weeks at a time They endured the constant threat of depth charges and aerial attack They witnessed the death of their comrades and they knew that they could be next But they never gave up They continued to fight even when the odds were stacked against them They knew that they were fighting for their country and they were determined to win This is their story It is a story that deserves to be told and remembered If you like this book write a review **The Ghost Ships of Archangel** William Geroux,2022-05-03 An extraordinary story of survival and alliance during World War II the icy journey of four Allied ships crossing the Arctic to deliver much needed supplies to the Soviet war effort On the fourth of July 1942 four Allied ships traversing the Arctic split from their decimated convoy to head further north into the ice field of the North Pole They were seeking safety from Nazi bombers and U boats in the perilous white maze of ice floes growlers and giant bergs Despite the many risks of their chosen route the four vessels had a

better chance of reaching their destination than the rest of the remains of convoy PQ 17 The convoy had started as a fleet of thirty five cargo ships carrying 1 billion worth of war supplies to the Soviet port of Archangel the only help Roosevelt and Churchill had extended to Joseph Stalin to maintain their fragile alliance against Germany At the most dangerous point of the voyage the ships had received a startling order to scatter and had quickly become easy prey for the Nazis The crews of the four ships focused on their mission U S Navy Ensign Howard Carraway aboard the SS Troubadour was a farm boy from South Carolina and one of the many Americans for whom the convoy was a first taste of war from the Royal Navy Reserve Lt Leo Gradwell was given command of the HMT Ayrshire a British fishing trawler that had been converted into an antisubmarine vessel The twenty four hour Arctic daylight in midsummer gave them no respite from bombers or submarines and they all feared the giant German battleship Tirpitz nicknamed the Big Bad Wolf Icebergs were as dangerous as Nazis as the remnants of convoy PQ 17 tried to slip through the Arctic to deliver their cargo in one of the most dramatic escapes of World War II At Archangel they found a traumatized starving city and a disturbing preview of the Cold War ahead

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