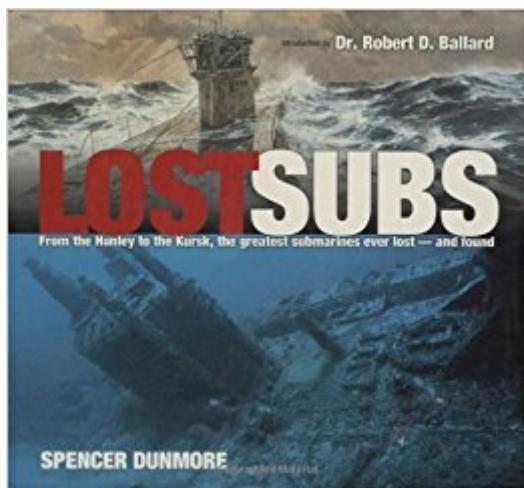


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# Lost Subs: From The Henley To The Kursk, The Greatest Submarines Ever Lost -- And Found



## **Synopsis**

From the ghostly wreck of the Civil War submersible Hunley to the grave of the Kursk beneath the Barents Sea, here is a riveting saga of life and death that has been played out below the surface of the earth's oceans for more than a hundred years. Now, for the first time, the gripping stories of the world's most famous lost subs are matched with amazing underwater images in this unforgettable illustrated history.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

From the ghostly wreck of the Civil War submersible Hunley to the grave of the Kursk beneath the Barents Sea, here is a riveting saga of life and death that has been played out below the surface of the earth's oceans for more than a hundred years. Now, for the first time, the gripping stories of the world's most famous lost subs are matched with amazing underwater images in this unforgettable illustrated history.

Love this submarine book! Beautiful pictures and great information. Found this book to be very helpful in writing a paper on submarines in the Civil War.

Being a former submariner I have enjoyed the pictures and stories of submarines and their crews. This is by no means a definitive work on the subject of lost subs but it is informative and has great pictures.

This book commences with a foreword by Dr Bob Ballard and contains examples of the artwork by Ken Marschall found within some of Ballard's own books. With such credentials, I began reading the work with great expectations. Overall, it is a good read and some readers will probably learn something they did not previously know. The question is whether or not we can trust what is written! What is lacking is the correct detail of the subject in hand. In short, this author seeks to get away with a peripheral overview of some of the world's greatest submarine stories. It is only when the reader comes across a specific subject he knows well (in my case, the loss of HMS Royal Oak in 1939) that we find far too many errors. Prien never claimed to have sunk HMS Repulse. It is a well-established fact he never mentioned the Repulse at any time - not even in his log. During his first attack on the Royal Oak, Prien aimed one torpedo to pass in front of the Battleship's bows to strike another vessel moored in the far distance. That torpedo, however, struck the Royal Oak's anchor chains and exploded. When he mounted his second attack, therefore, Prien was genuinely under the impression he had sunk that distant vessel - which he had not identified. On his return to Germany, it was the Goebbels and the Nazi propaganda machine that put a name to that other ship and publicly announced Prien had sunk both the Royal Oak and the Repulse. This was because the Repulse had been photographed moored in Scapa Flow a few days before Prien's attack and was missing from the post-attack photographs. What the German high command did not know, however, was that HMS Repulse had sailed for Rosyth for a refit where she arrived at 0946 hrs on the day Prien entered Scapa Flow. That ship in the distance, incidentally, was HMS Pegasus. On the up side, the artwork, photographs and readability all score well. On the down side, my problem is that perennial complaint about accuracy of information. If the details pertaining to the attack on HMS Royal Oak are incorrect (and there are more errors!), then it is difficult to trust anything written elsewhere. Quite frankly, this book might just as well be categorised under "fiction." Altogether, I was left with the indelible impression this author seeks to include the names of more established (and more reliable) authors alongside his own in a bid to give false credibility to his own work. NM

I'm a fan of WWII Naval history, and I bought a copy of this book at a reduced price--about 10 bucks. I'm glad I paid no more than that. Some of the pictures are compelling, but overall, the book is a very cursory look at a pretty sizeable topic. It might make for a good coffee table book, but there aren't enough pictures. It's certainly not a detailed history--more information on any of the sinkings listed can easily be found on any of a dozen general websites. The war in the Pacific gets half as many pages as the sinking of the Kursk? There seems to be a lack of effort/research on the author's part toward anything comprehensive, or to really put together a definitive pictorial history. What you

get is a smattering of both, which is, after reading this from cover to cover in less than an hour and a half, unsatisfying.

This book allows us to share , in a powerful manner , the lives of the men and women who risk their lives aboard submarines. It is a remarkable compilation of chronological facts , a history of submarines , if you will , accompanied by a treasure trove of photographs , paintings , and technical illustrations, which will, to say the least, satisfy both our curiosity , and stimulate our imagination .An astonishing accomplishment in such a small volume.

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