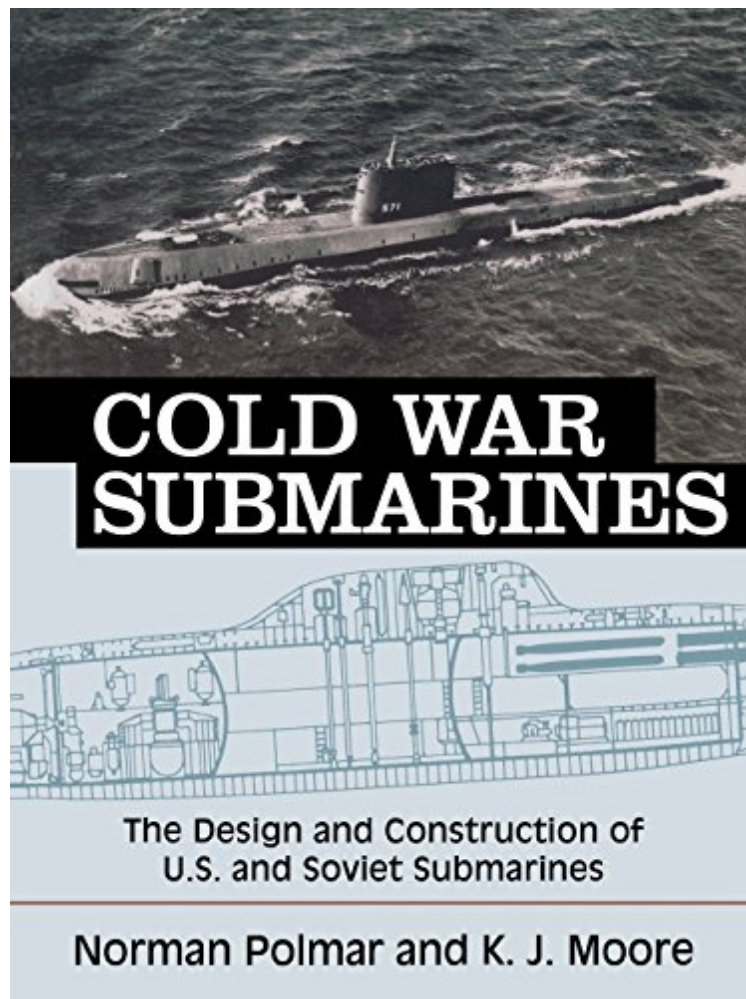


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## Cold War Submarines: The Design and Construction of U.S. and Soviet Submarines, 1945-2001

*Norman Polmar, K. J. Moore*

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**Norman Polmar, K. J. Moore : Cold War Submarines: The Design and Construction of U.S. and Soviet Submarines, 1945-2001** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Cold War Submarines: The Design and Construction of U.S. and Soviet Submarines, 1945-2001:

94 of 94 people found the following review helpful. Outstanding look at submarine technical history By Thomas J. Dougherty I just received my copy of the long-awaited book "Cold War Submarines: US Soviet Design Construction" by Norman Polmar and Kenneth Moore. I found I could not put it down, and it was well worth the wait. The authors

spent years interviewing key figures and reading material from both sides of the Cold War. It starts just after the Second World War, and looks at each side's diesel and exotic propulsion plants and designs. Early submarine cruise missile and ballistic missile programs on both sides are detailed. In the section on submerged speed, the US Albacore and Skipjack class are highlighted, as is the early Soviet Papa class and the Alfa class. The book examines each generation of nuclear submarines, both attack and missile firing, on the two sides (US Soviet). The design decisions and compromises made with each class are detailed. The text is complemented with some excellent photographs. Several but not all of the very good photos are familiar to those of us who have massive sub book collections, but will probably be new to most with "casual" submarine interests. There are newly drawn, superb line drawings of both US and Soviet submarines throughout the book, complete with some (non-classified) details of internal layouts. These drawings include some "might have been" designs. Such long sought after details as the 1960's CONFORM submarine, a truly remarkable design concept are covered, and there is a picture of a model of the submarine (now I can die in peace). This is the innovative Concept Formulation submarine that Rickover had killed in favor of the 688 class. In the process of killing the program, he ordered almost all details and documents on CONFORM destroyed. The book also delves into other fascinating topics on both sides, such mini-subs, special purpose submarines, and an amazing section on aircraft carrier submarines (with some unique line drawings!). The two "gold standard" books in submarine design history are Friedman's two volume account of US Submarines ("US Submarines through 1945" and "US Submarines since 1945") and Polmar's one volume "Submarines of the Russian and Soviet Navies 1718-1990". This book easily belongs with these other volumes. The overall production is extremely good, printed on glossy paper. On a scale of 1-10, I gave it a 15! (and I'm a harsh grader!) 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Great gift for a great nephew By GrayTiger Loved the forward and 1st chapter, then my nephew picked it up while I was mowing the yard. Now he taunts me with his reviews of the book via email. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. How German Third Reich technology ended up contributing to both sides during the subsequent cold war. By Kalikiano Kalei Excellent. One of the best sources on 'Cold War' era (post WW2) submarines developed by the USA and The USSR, and a (not-surprising) testimony to the incredibly advancements made by Germany in its final 'Elektro-boots' (the Types XXI and XXIII submarines), in that both nations used the XXI and the XXIII as basic starting points for building their own advanced submarine craft (one of the great things about defeating and plundering the Germans....you get high quality loot!).

Submarines had a vital, if often unheralded, role in the superpower navies during the Cold War. Their crews carried out intelligence-collection operations, sought out and stood ready to destroy opposing submarines, and, from the early 1960s, threatened missile attacks on their adversary's homeland, providing in many respects the most survivable nuclear deterrent of the Cold War. For both East and West, the modern submarine originated in German U-boat designs obtained at the end of World War II. Although enjoying a similar technology base, by the 1990s the superpowers had created submarine fleets of radically different designs and capabilities. Written in collaboration with the former Soviet submarine design bureaus, Norman Polmar and K. J. Moore authoritatively demonstrate in this landmark study how differing submarine missions, antisubmarine priorities, levels of technical competence, and approaches to submarine design organizations and management caused the divergence.

"Polmar and Moore have produced an excellent history of the American and Soviet submarine forces that is both well-written and musters effective evidence to support its arguments...an excellent work for those interested in American and Soviet submarines, and it will be a valuable resource for amateur and academic historians alike for many years to come." "A compelling reference material and chronology of submarine designs as well as a look at the radically different approaches of the two competing superpowers." "Outlining the evolution of the modern submarine in meticulous detail, Cold War Submarines is a serious reference for naval historians and a tribute to sub crews, designers, and builders. . . . The detailed research, personal interviews, and excerpts from declassified reports give the reader great insights into the contrasting ideologies and disparate political-economic systems that drove both navies in the Cold War." About the Author Norman Polmar is a leading expert on naval and aviation matters. An internationally known analyst, consultant, and award-winning author, Polmar has written more than 40 books, including, with K. J. Moore, Cold War Submarines: The Design and Construction of U.S. and Soviet Submarines (Brassey's, ISBN 1-57488-594-4) and Historic Naval Aircraft: From the Pages of Naval History Magazine (Brassey's, ISBN 1-57488-572-3). He is a columnist for the U.S. Naval Institute's Proceedings and Naval History magazines. Polmar lives in the Washington, DC, area. K. J. Moore is the founder of the Cortana Corporation, a high-technology applications firm concerned with submarine development. While on duty with the U.S. Navy, he served on board submarines in the positions of weapons officer, engineering officer, and operations officer. For the Navy and in private industry, he has held analytical assignments that involved the study of Soviet and Western submarines and submarine tactics.