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Angus Konstam

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New Vanguard

OSPREY
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Kriegsmarine U-boats 1939–45 (2)



Gordon Williamson • Illustrated by Ian Palmer

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Angus Konstam : Union River Ironclad 1861–65 (New Vanguard) before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Union River Ironclad 1861–65 (New Vanguard):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Very Good Introduction to the Ironclads By KJAG This product is more like a concise, yet relatively substantial guide, and can be read in a couple of sittings. It provides a brief history on their evolution and on some key engagements of the "ironclads," as well as what were referred to as the "tinclads," and the river monitors. Good photos and illustrations are included, and stats of some of the key or representative boats such as dimensions, displacement, armament, crew size, commanders, notable actions or campaigns involved in, and when and where they were damaged or sunk, if applicable. Be aware this product does not pertain to the "timberclads" or rams, which also played an important role on the riverways. Personally, I was hoping for a bit more information on the crews, life on board, and activities when engaged in battle. If you are looking for an abbreviated, but very good

introduction and overview of the ironclads with photos and illustrations, then this product is for you. If you want more in-depth information on their design and evolution, key engagements/campaigns, and backgrounds and actions of those responsible for procuring, designing, building, and leading them, etc.--there are other sources. Consider the outstanding books "War on the Waters: The Union and Confederate Navies, 1861-1865" and/or "The USS Carondelet." The latter book delves further into the crews, life on board, and activities and what it was like on board when engaged in battle. It also has substantial information on the activities and those responsible for procuring, designing, building the ironclads. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Union River Ironclad by Angus Konstam By Peter F. Lesses This book is an Osprey publication and part of a series the author, a distinguished naval historian, has written. Others are being worked on as stated in the short biography section at the beginning. This book is valuable as a summary of the subject and a must for Civil War buffs interested in ships. I learned that the first ironclads used in this war were designed for inland rivers especially the Mississippi and its tributaries. Particularly useful, are the specifications of the Union ironclads like the Benton at the end. It seems as if all Konstam's books on Civil War navies are only 47 pages but some rare photographs are squeezed in. The paintings by Tony Bryan are very good and in conformity. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Ironclads of the Western Rivers. By Carol/Bill This book met my needs. It told about how the first ironclads were developed, where they were constructed, the materials used, their engines and speeds, and their guns. It also told of the different classes of the ironclads. I learned a lot from this book.

At the start of the American Civil War, neither side had warships on the Mississippi River, which was a vital strategic artery. In what would prove the vital naval campaign of the war, both sides fought for control of the river. While the Confederates relied on field fortifications and small gunboats, the Union built a series of revolutionary river ironclads. First commissioned in January 1862, these ironclads spent the next two years battling for control of the Mississippi, fighting in a string of decisive engagements that altered the entire course of the war. This book explains how these vessels worked, how they were constructed, how they were manned and how they were fought.

From the Publisher The unrivalled illustrated reference on fighting vehicles, transport and artillery through the ages. Each volume is illustrated throughout, making these books uniquely accessible to history enthusiasts of all ages. About the Author Angus Konstam is an experienced Osprey author with over 20 books in print. Formerly the Curator of Weapons in the Royal Armouries at the Tower of London, he also served as the Chief Curator of the Mel Fisher Maritime Museum in Key West, Florida. His maritime titles for Osprey include New Vanguard 45: Union Monitor 1861-65 and New Vanguard 49: Mississippi River Gunboats of the American Civil War 1861-65. Angus lives in London, where he combines a freelance museum consultancy business with a career as a historian and writer.