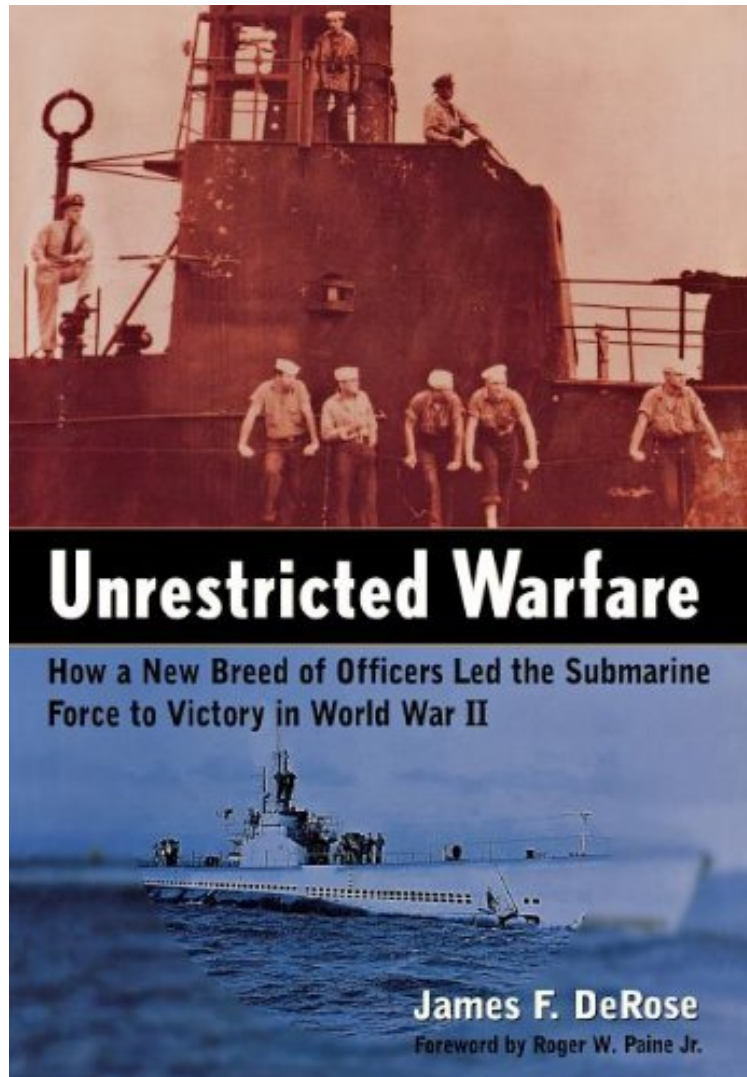


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James F. DeRose

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James F. DeRose : Unrestricted Warfare: How a New Breed of Officers Led the Submarine Force to Victory in World War II before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Unrestricted Warfare: How a New Breed of Officers Led the Submarine Force to Victory in World War II:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Excellent Overview of WWII Silent ServiceBy Daniel L.

Taylor "Unrestricted Warfare" by James F. DeRose is an excellent overview of U.S. submarine operations against the Japanese in the Pacific during World War II. While the book is not intended to convey the depth of detail of Clay Blair's epic "Silent Victory," it provides a first-rate and highly readable examination of the three major problems faced by the United States in executing "unrestricted submarine warfare" against the Japanese after the Dec. 7, 1941 surprise attack on Pearl Harbor: Faulty doctrine, faulty skippers, and faulty torpedoes. The Navy, once it realized the magnitude of the problem, moved fairly quickly to solve the faulty skippers problem, replacing cautious, older, largely peacetime-trained skippers with more aggressive younger men who hadn't been molded by a pre-war performance system that punished captains whose submarines were detected during fleet exercises. These younger skippers crafted and cobbled together their own, more successful doctrine, often on the fly, as the war progressed. The torpedo problem was another matter and was met with incredible bureaucratic intransigence from desk-bound officials safely back in the U.S. It was never fully solved during the war and was only partially rectified by December 1943 - two full years into the conflict - and only then by stop-gap measures undertaken by the fighting forces themselves. (It is known from survivor testimony that two U.S. subs, the Tang and the Tullibee, were sunk by their own circular-running torpedoes and a recent analysis of wreckage photos from a third boat, the USS Grunion, strongly suggest a third. The loss of the Grunion, possibly to its own torpedoes, is not covered in "Unrestricted Warfare" since the wreck was not discovered until well-after publication of the book). "Unrestricted Warfare" provides an excellent insight into the undersea warriors who suffered the highest casualty rate of any branch of the American armed forces in World War II and are still largely under-recognized by history.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. The New Breed
By Dominic R. Both of my sons are submariners in the U.S. Navy. I was happy to provide this book to them both.
4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. A great book for those looking for a limited exposure to the Pacific Submarine war.
By Bradford This book was well written and researched. It is written in a very easy to read and enjoyable style. My only gripe about this book is its' limited scope. The title implies that you will learn about many of the submarine commanders in WWII, but in reality you really only hear of the exploits of a few submarines and their men. If you are a fan of WAHOO, TANG, Mush Morton or Dick O'Kane (which I am) you will enjoy this book. As a matter of fact it probably does a better job than any other book I've seen at covering the controversial treatment of the troop ship incident on WAHOOs' third patrol the end of Wahoos' illustrious career. If however you are looking for a book that covers more than 3-4 WWII commanders and their exploits then this is not the book for you. Overall an entertaining book, but again be aware that if you are looking for a book that covers several submarines and/or their commanders their are better choices out there.

Unrestricted Warfare reveals the dramatic story of the harsh baptism by fire faced by U.S. submarine commanders in World War II. The first skippers went to battle hamstrung by conservative peacetime training and plagued by defective torpedoes. Drawing extensively from now declassified files, Japanese archives, and the testimony of surviving veterans, James DeRose has written a fascinating account of the men and vessels responsible for the only successful submarine campaign of the war. They clearly charted a new course to victory in the Pacific.

ADVANCE PRAISE FOR UNRESTRICTED WARFARE

""James DeRose has done an excellent job-- surprisingly so, in view of his lack of true WWII submarine experience. He obviously contacted everyone he could find who served on one of the three boats he concentrated on, and he read, as well, everything he could find that was written about them. . . . DeRose shines by his interpretation of events as the Japanese must have seen them. . . . His reconstruction of how Wahoo came to her end may well be pretty close to correct. . . . He does the same with Tang.""-CAPTAIN EDWARD L. BEACH, USN author of Submarine! and Run Silent, Run Deep

""An outstanding addition to the literature of the Silent Service. . . . The depth of research is wonderful. . . . This is fine history . . . that rivals Blair's Silent Victory.""-PAUL CROZIER, sitemaster, ""Legends of the Deep"" (www.warfish.com) Web site on the USS Wahoo

""I knew all of the book's main characters quite well. . . . I am also completely familiar with submarine operations in the Pacific. With that background I couldn't fail to thoroughly enjoy DeRose's book. It is well written and has the right feel.""-CHESTER W. NIMITZ JR., rear admiral, USN (Ret.)

""Sail with American submariners into tightly guarded Japanese home waters; undergo the horror of a depth charge attack; experience the thrill of victory with some of the U.S. Navy's ace submarine skippers. All this--and much more--is contained in James F. DeRose's compelling Unrestricted Warfare. No one interested in the naval side of World War II should be without it.""-NATHAN MILLER author of War at Sea: A Naval History of World War II

From Booklist IBM-exec-turned-historian DeRose focuses on officers associated with the legendary USS Wahoo. Headed by Dudley W. Morton and his executive officer, Richard O'Kane, they included George Grider, author of the classic Warfish (1958), and Roger Paine, DeRose's principal informant. Numbering about a dozen in all, they did more than their share to establish the aggressive submarine tactics used in the war against Japan. Some of the material DeRose presents will be familiar to all but naval-history novices, but by drawing on oral history and untapped Japanese sources, DeRose adds considerably to readily available knowledge on his subject. For example, DeRose discloses that most of the men in the water attacked by Wahoo during a controversial episode of Morton's career were

Indian POWs being shipped to New Guinea as slave laborers. DeRose also provides a balanced account of the small-group politics of submarine command and a harrowing one of the last hours of the men trapped aboard Tang, which was sunk by one of her own torpedoes. Roland Green Copyright © American Library Association. All rights reserved

From the Inside Flap At the outbreak of World War II, the performance of America's growing submarine fleet was handicapped by the conservative peacetime training of its commanders. Avoiding risk and evading detection by the enemy were emphasized over engagement in combat. A new type of aggressive, daring leadership was needed. Unrestricted Warfare dramatically documents the transformation of the "Silent Service" into the deadliest fighting force in the Pacific theater. The initial focus is on Dudley "Mush" Morton, who virtually seized command of the submarine Wahoo, breaking ingrained patterns of tentative leadership. Morton devised combat techniques so effective that they set the standard for every other sub patrolling in harm's way. Handicapped by torpedoes that frequently failed to detonate, Morton risked a down-the-throat shot at an oncoming destroyer and conducted slashing surface battles won by fire from Wahoo's deck guns. Following his furious attacks on a four-ship convoy, Morton returned to port with a broom affixed to the periscope shears: clean sweep. His motto, famous in the submariner's elite fraternity, was the terse "Shoot the Sunzabitches." Wahoo sank seven ships in ten days on her next patrol, and six ships on her last. Dubbed a "one-boat wolfpack" by navy brass, Wahoo sailed into the Sea of Japan on her seventh patrol, never to return. Yet, before the tragic loss, Morton had unleashed a final devastating salvo in the form of the officers who apprenticed under him. In an intriguing feat of investigation, author James DeRose traces the legacy of Wahoo through the officers who served under Morton. Many went on to their own commands on such subs as Flasher, Grayback, and Tang. They followed Morton's aggressive philosophy aboard their subs, while developing their own tactics. DeRose, in particular, follows the exploits of the absolutely fearless Medal of Honor—winner Dick O'Kane and the more prudent, often overlooked George Grider. Only Flasher would survive the war, and Tang's heartbreaking loss is poignantly told. In exploring the decisive impact of Wahoo's officers on submarine combat, Unrestricted Warfare vividly re-creates the daring deeds of this new breed of hunter/killer commanders. Readers will experience a bravado torpedo attack made in hull-scraping shallow water, and emergency dives to rivet-popping depths while evading a barrage of depth charges in "Ashcan Alley." By reconciling wartime combat reports, personal memoirs, and declassified postwar documents from both the United States and Japan, DeRose provides a definitive account of the undersea warriors who waged a new brand of warfare in the Pacific theater of World War II.

From the Back Cover Unrestricted Warfare reveals the dramatic story of the harsh baptism by fire faced by U.S. submarine commanders in World War II. The first skippers went to battle hamstrung by conservative peacetime training and plagued by defective torpedoes. Drawing extensively from now declassified files, Japanese archives, and the testimony of surviving veterans, James DeRose has written a fascinating account of the men and vessels responsible for the only successful submarine campaign of the war. They clearly charted a new course to victory in the Pacific.

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