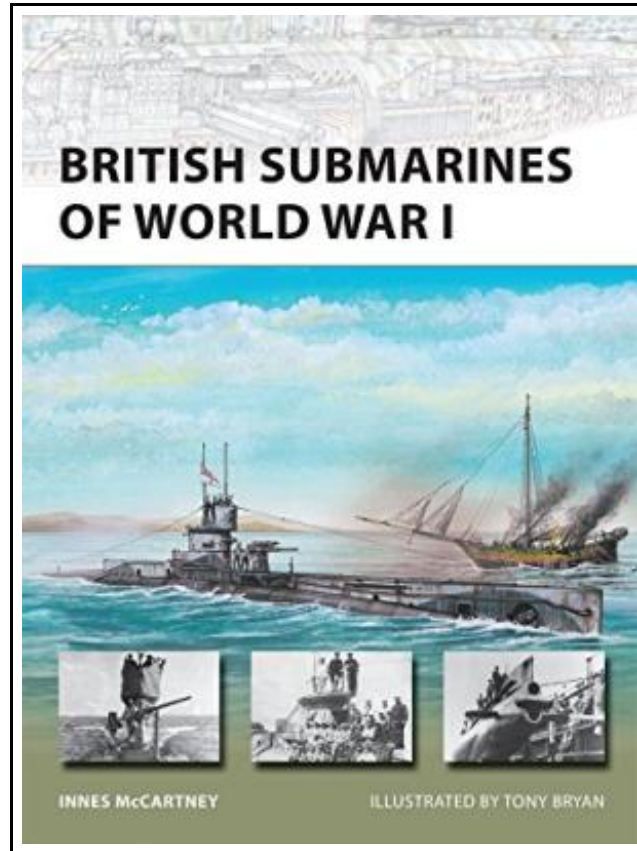


British Submarines of World War I



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Reviews

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Osprey Publishing. Paperback. Book Condition: new. BRAND NEW, British Submarines of World War I, Innes McCartney, Tony Bryan, As the major powers engaged in an arms race in the early years of the 20th century, the Admiralty was tasked with developing that deadly stalker of the high seas - the submarine. In 1905, briefed with creating a vessel that could be employed on an enemy's coastline, the Admiralty took several technological leaps forward to match the German revolutionary vessels. Several classes were launched but the most successful was the E-Class, which were built in 1914 and would prove to be the supreme British submarines of the war. In operations it was the most successful British submarine class in actions against enemy warships, which included the destruction of one battleship, three cruisers and five U-boats. Three E-Class commanders were to win the Victoria Cross - Britain's highest award for gallantry. Submarine operations were particularly successful in the Baltics. Here the British fleet could not operate safely - the waters were dangerous, heavily mined and there were no bases. However, for British submarines operating out of Russia this was a happy hunting ground. Although only a total of six were permanently stationed here, they did a disproportionately high amount of damage to the enemy than their more numerous counterparts in the North Sea. Ironically, another area of remarkable success was the Dardanelles which is generally associated with a colossal Allied loss. Despite the difficult conditions of enemy minefields, torpedoes and searchlights; British submarines valiantly attacked and harassed the Turkish supply effort. Another type of submarine - the K-Class - was developed purely for operations against Germany's rival U-boats. Playing a dangerous game of 'hunt the hunter', K-Class submarines were deployed in known U-boat transit routes, in their patrol areas and outside their bases. A...



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