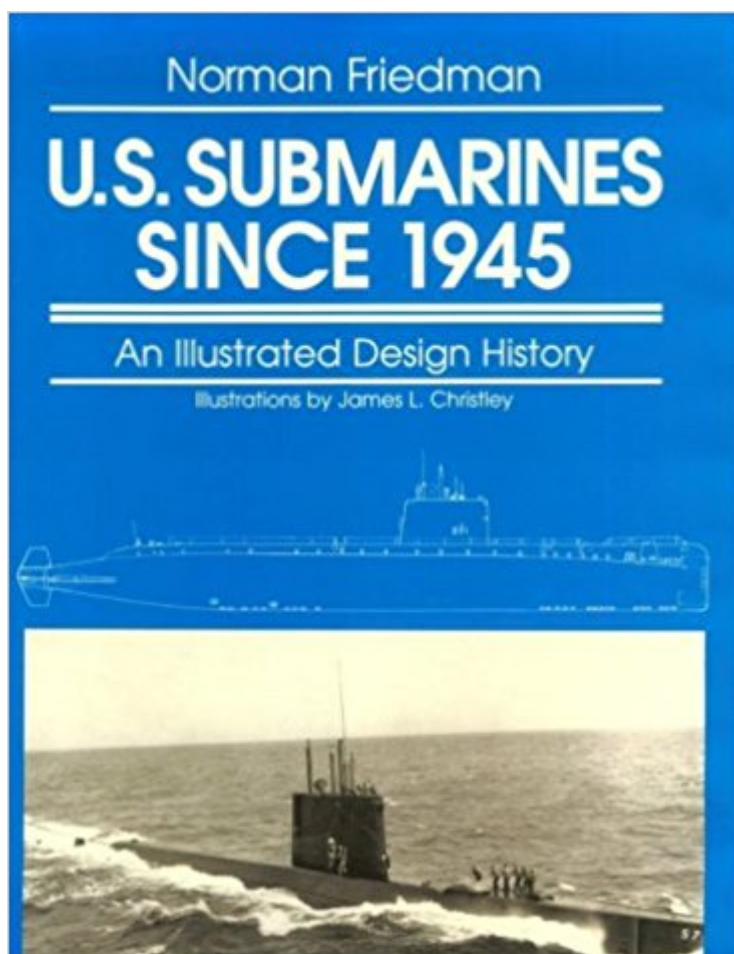


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U.S. Submarines Since 1945: An Illustrated Design History



Synopsis

Book by Friedman, Norman

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Book by Friedman, Norman

Starting immediately where Friedman's "US Submarines Through 1945" left off, this book traces the breathtaking pace of the evolution of American submarine design, tactics, weapons, and electronics during the Cold War. As with the other books in the "Illustrated Design History" series, it relies heavily on previously classified documents to give the reader a detailed "behind the scenes" insight to the design of these vessels, and how they fit into the overall scheme of American defense policy. The key word here is detail - lots and lots of detail. Every paragraph and photo caption is thick with it, as are the 24 pages of technical notes, and the numerous drawings by the author and James Christley. Numerous paper projects and unbuilt weapons and systems are described, as well as just about every sonar and sensor system installed aboard American submarines between 1945 and 1995. This book is stripped and lean; there aren't wondering tangents to be found here. It's a technical history through and through and doesn't pretend to be anything else. Although I'd recommend this book to anyone seriously interested in submarine design, it's not for the faint of heart. It's "only" 280 pages long, but those 280 pages are incredibly dense and rich. I'd seriously recommend reading Friedman's "Submarine Design & Development" and Polmar's "Cold War Submarines" before tackling this work. Still, this an excellent book for the hardcore submarine buff,

who will delight in all the unclassified details not readily found anywhere else. If only Friedman and the USNI would publish a revised and updated edition so people wouldn't have to spend \$70 for a used copy...

Dad loves to read it he was on the USS Drum

Like Friedman's other books on US warship design, his description of the play between evolving doctrine, organizational imperatives and technical issues to arrive at each class of submarine gives the reader insight not just in what a ship became but also why a ship became. I was a plank owner (original crew) of a SSN-637 class submarine in the early seventies. It was fascinating to see why my ship was built and what her predecessors and successors became. Being interested in Naval Science without being a professional practitioner, Friedman's book hits just the right level of technical detail. This is not a buff book. It is a serious effort to document the design evolution of (mostly) nuclear submarines.

Very thorough book, with good detail

If you're not interested in naval vessels of the U. S. Navy, this would be a terrible book. If you are interested in U. S. naval vessels, it's indispensable. I have several of the authors illustrated design histories already (battleships, aircraft carriers, destroyers, and the post-1945 submarine volume, and they are all great.

It was just as advertised - the sequel to Friedman's first volume, "U.S. Submarines Through 1945". Authoritative and copiously illustrated with pictures and diagrams. Excellent.

Book arrived in excellent shape. The book covers submarines that were first introduced to the US Navy up to 1945. Covers all aspects of the submarine. Would have liked more pictures of WWII subs.

Very educational about the history

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