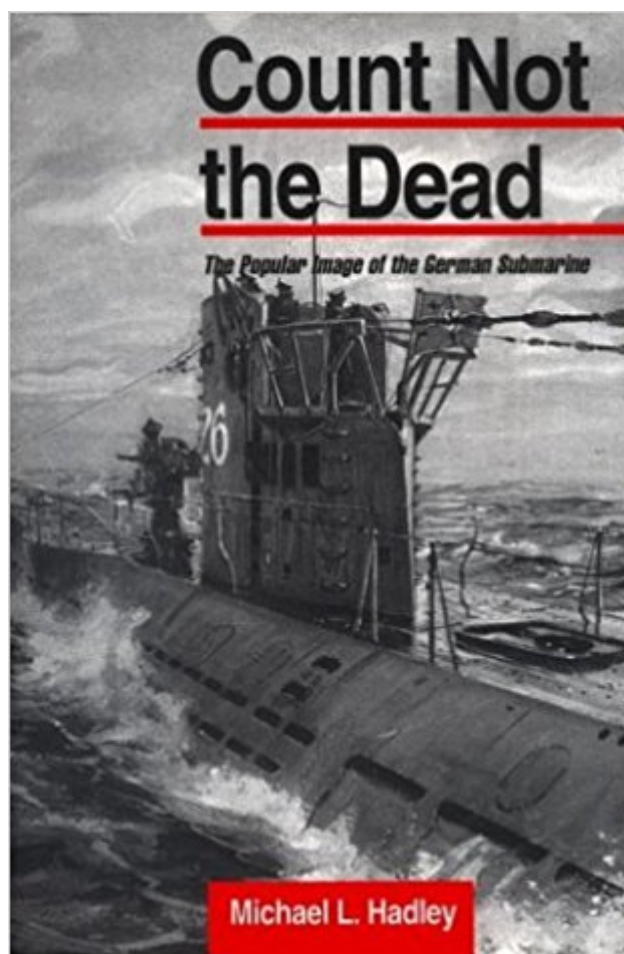


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Count Not The Dead: The Popular Image Of The German Submarine



Synopsis

Basing his study on some two-hundred-and-fifty German novels, memoirs, fictionalized histories, and films (including *Das Boot*), Michael Hadley examines the popular image of the German submarine and weighs the values, purposes, and perceptions of German writers and film makers. He considers the idea of the submarine as a war-winning weapon and the exploits of the "band of brothers" who made up the U-boat crews. He also describes the perceptions of the German public about the role of the U-boat in the war effort and the hopes that it carried for victory in two world wars against the Allied forces. Analysed in context, the U-boat emerges as a central factor and metaphor in Germany's ongoing struggle with its political and military past. In *Count Not the Dead* Hadley explores the complex relationships between political reality and cultural myth, and draws important conclusions about the way in which Germans have interpreted their past and how present concerns change these views. --This text refers to an alternate Hardcover edition.

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Customer Reviews

"A fascinating and carefully crafted look at the image of the German submarine and the U-boat crews. The book draws some very important conclusions about changing ideas about 'duty' and 'service,' obedience to orders, the 'nur-soldat' question, U-boat crews as victims, the place of tradition in the armed forces of the German Republic, perhaps all armed forces, and the way in which we interpret our history." Robert Vogel, Department of History, McGill University. --This text refers to an alternate Hardcover edition.

i do agree that there has yet to be a work like this and in that the authors basis is very interesting.to have reveiwed all of these works at times i felt the author had little understanding of the kreigsmarine of ww2.and for some one who he devots so much time to the author clearly should have known that herbert werner never received the knights cross much less from the hands of donitz.a little disappointed in that he dismisses nearly all of the wartime works as "nazi" propaganda. alot of monday morning quarterbacking the decisions made in the conduct of the german naval war.this book really is more for the literature historian not the military or u-boat

Excelent book

Professor Hadley's 1995 historiography of a century of writings about the German U-Boat in history, cinema and fiction is a groundbreaking account. For the first time the ordinary reader is able to see a country's entire efforts in a popular and complex field of work. The reader is also allowed into the worlds of the veteran, the theorist, the writer, the publisher and filmmaker, and the commercial and academic scenes they inhabit. By simply using a chronological approach, Hadley covers almost all the books, documentaries, novels, and much other media about the U-Boat from 1895 to 1995. He however does more than compile a large set of book reviews. Hadley places each book in a theoretical framework, of interest to both the literary academic and the general reader. He places each work in the context of its times, the other works of its era, and the changing social, emotional and political situation. We are given in this few hundred pages a history of Germany's relationship to the sea, to its armed forces, and above all its submarine forces and men, in a book open to all yet firmly grounded in literary theory and academic study. Apart from a few subjects not covered [such as books about other navies, and a brief equivalent discussion of other national naval genres], there is little to criticise in it. Hadley for one does not link or compare controversies in the English-speaking maritime world with those of the German scene. Hadley's privileged position as a Canadian naval historian and professor of German literature combine in the book of a lifetime. No-one in this subject has done this before or since.

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