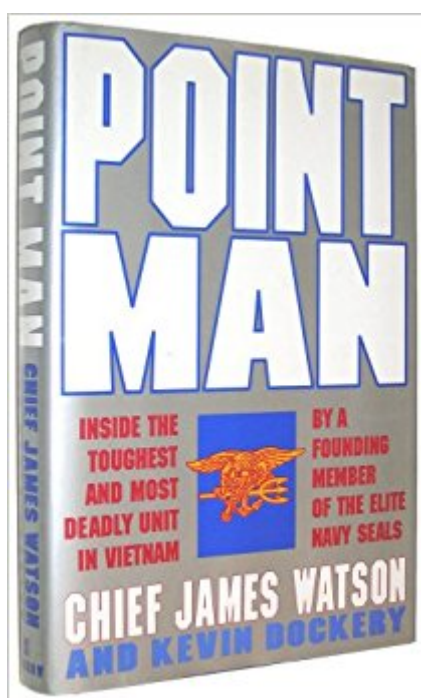


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Point Man: Inside The Toughest And Most Deadly Unit In Vietnam By A Founding Member Of The Elite Navy Seals



Synopsis

A member of the U.S. Navy SEAL Team II offers a history of the SEALs from their inception in 1962 and describes his experiences leading men through three Vietnam tours of duty. 35,000 first printing. \$15,000 ad/promo.

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Customer Reviews

Watson led a Navy SEAL unit through three harrowing Vietnam tours between 1967 and 1970, conducting raids, ambushes and prisoner-snatching missions. His memoir, written with freelancer Kevin Dockery, is packed with exciting behind-enemy-lines action sequences, and readers will find the pre-Vietnam material--dealing with the rigorous training the SEALs had to endure--engrossing as well. The narrative, however, is replete with seemingly exaggerated anecdotes glorifying the pluck of the enlisted man: "We'll be all right, Admiral. Just keep the three Bs coming." "And what might those be, son?" "Beer, bullets, and broads!" And Watson occasionally succumbs to delusions of grandeur: a lowly Navy Chief, he convinces himself that the entire State Department "wanted my head on a platter." Yet for all its macho hot air, this self-portrait of a sailor proud of his deadly accomplishments in the jungles and swamps of the Mekong Delta is highly entertaining. Photos. Copyright 1993 Reed Business Information, Inc.

After reading this work, one understands why the U.S. Navy SEALs (Sea, Air, Land Commandos) are considered to be the best special forces in the world. The book tells the story of the formation of

the SEALS and their baptism by fire in Vietnam as seen by chief petty officer Watson, who is a "plank owner," or founding member of the SEALS. The book's title comes from Watson's habit of taking the dangerous lead on patrols during his three tours of duty in Vietnam. His account is as exciting to read as any military thriller. For the lay reader, Watson does a good job of explaining military terms and slang used by the SEALS. This book would make a good companion to SEAL teammate Richard Marcinko's *Rogue Warrior* (LJ 9/1/92) and E.J. Jernigan's *Tin Can Man* (LJ 2/1/93), other histories of navy enlisted men during wartime. Recommended for most libraries and strongly recommended for libraries with military sciences collections.- Terry Wirick, Erie Cty. Lib. System, Pa. Copyright 1993 Reed Business Information, Inc.

A real eye opener to one like me, who really knew little about SEAL action in Vet Nan. I like the story since the missions were written without being flowered up with BS. Almost just like reading a after action report, "Just the facts, mam". What I do not like to read in any book is repeating facts. This book did that a lot. Some items were said more than twice. Example he mentioned a SEAL who carried and modified a M 60. How it was modified was stated 2 or more times at different points. How his shotgun was modified was also mentioned again and again. As a reader once is great, repeating stuff can take away from the story by thinking I already read this fact is there a reason that now it should be said again. And the answer is normally NO. My hats off to all SEALs past and present. Without men like them this great country would be much less than it is.

This was a really good book about the life of a real Navy Seal. I enjoyed reading about the actual beginning of how the Seals came into existence. The Author was a really brave man. Not many humans can endure all the suffering it takes to train a Seal. Keep up the good work.

Enjoyed reading about the various missions discussed in the book. Heard about James Watson in the book *Rogue Warrior* by Richard Marcinko. Some of book covers missions that are also in the *Rogue Warrior* book and it is interesting to read about those from another perspective. Watson's coverage of those missions is less bombastic than in *Rogue Warrior*. Overall I really liked the book, deducting one star as the writing is a little rough in places.

I've read most of the books dealing with Vietnam SEALs and this book rates right at the top. The author was UDT and "drafted" into the first SEAL team before anyone knew what SEALs would evolve into. "Mrs Watson's Little Boy" was an operator and a CPO and his stories are not to be

missed. As a Navy vet I will attest to something every Navy vet knows.....the chiefs run the Navy. No career-minded officer has a chance at making it 20 years without good chiefs (CPOs) in his corner. The author is one such man. Hard book to put down so don't start reading this expecting to fall asleep 20 minutes later. I couldn't put it down and am planning a reread in the near future. You won't be disappointed.

I thought this was a well written, exciting book with lots of detail. I learned a lot about early SEAL training that I didn't know before. His battle experiences were also very detailed with one exception; when on his first mission to rescue POWs, his helicopter was shot down and that entire story was told in one sentence! Wish he had given more details on that mission, but other than that I thoroughly enjoyed his book. I hope to someday visit the SEAL museum and perhaps get to meet Mr. Watson. Thank you for your service, sir!

Great book by someone that was there.

Awesome writing and spot on...War is no fun at all read this and you'll understand

The was well written

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