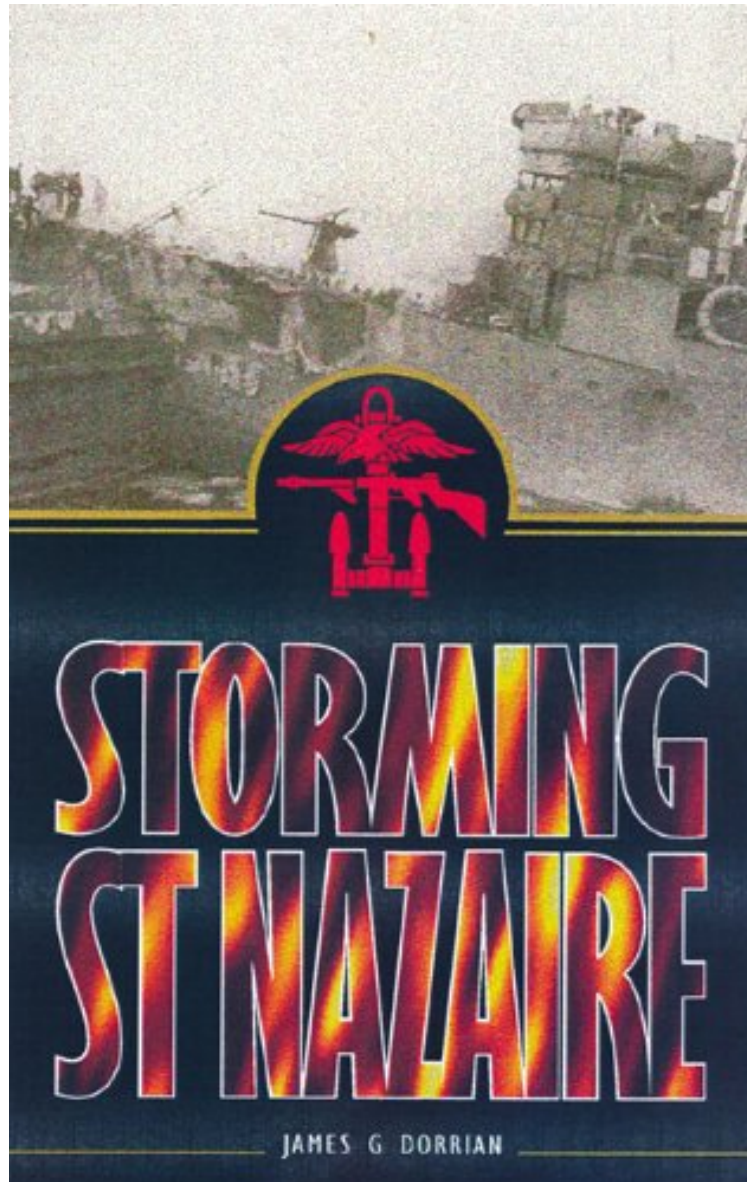


(Download ebook) STORMING ST. NAZAIRE

STORMING ST. NAZAIRE

Von James Dorrian

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Von James Dorrian : STORMING ST. NAZAIRE before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised STORMING ST. NAZAIRE:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Well-written, detailed, and, where necessary, critical.Von Ein KundeAuthor Dorrian tells the story of the raid to destroy the docks at St. Nazaire so as to deny a berth to the German battleship TIRPITZ. He describes the strategic situation,

outlines the plan, and gives some background on the primary individuals involved before getting into a highly-detailed account of the raid itself. He gives full credit to the crews of the British motor torpedo boats who found themselves in a harrowing situation without having volunteered for it, unlike the commandoes they were supporting. Dorrian does not hesitate to criticize the lack of support given to the raiding force by the Admiralty and the RAF. He also shows how the local French suffered as a result of the German response to the raid, side effects that are often overlooked in glowing accounts of World War Two special operations. Ultimately, the book shows how a well-trained, highly-motivated military unit can achieve remarkable success despite great difficulties. Highly recommended to anyone interested in special operations or coastal defense.

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A well-researched and -written book on the British commando attack on the docks in St. Nazaire, France, in March of 1942. Dorrian points out the risky nature of the raid, the limited support given to the raiding force by the Admiralty and the Royal Air Force, and the incredible courage and persistence of the commandos and sailors assigned to the mission. Dorrian also brings the French residents into the story, and shows how the German occupiers took out their revenge on them. Unlike many current military history titles, the maps are useful! The two biggest drawbacks : as this title was originally published in Great Britain, the author does not explain his use of certain British military terms (e.g. "O group", "pongo") and practically no research was done from the German side. Nonetheless, highly recommended to those interested in the Second World War, special operations, or naval history.

KurzbeschreibungThe St. Nazaire raid has not been covered in the detail warranted by its role in the evolution of special warfare tactics. James Dorrian has drawn on interviews with over 100 survivors, both British and German, to present this remarkable account. All aspects of the engagement are covered, including the final ironic incident that resulted in more German casualties than the main battle itself.

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Synopsis The year 1942 opened on the note of virtually unrelieved gloom. Things were already bad enough in Europe; then in February, came the fall of Singapore and few had the foresight or optimism to share Prime Minister Churchill's view that ultimate victory was inevitable from the moment the Americans entered the war. Perhaps the greatest threat to British survival lay in the North Atlantic where shipping losses had reached crisis point, and the most formidable manifestation of that threat was the might German battleship Tirpitz, at the time sheltering in Norwegian waters. Her vast size ordained that nowhere on the Atlantic seaboard could she put in for refit or repair except the 'Normandie' dock at St Nazaire. Destroy that and the Tirpitz would be neutralized. That was the thinking behind Operation Chariot, as the plan to blow up the dock was codenamed. James Dorrian has chosen to see this extraordinary exploit not through the eyes of the brasshats and the politicians but through those of the men who took part in it, particularly those whose fate it was to carry out the orders rather than give them. This lends his narrative an immediacy that bare recitation of the facts could not convey and it is no exaggeration to say that the action comes almost painfully to life in his hands. How it all turned out the reader must discover. Suffice it here to say that it resulted in the award of no less than five Victoria Crosses.