

# U Boat 977

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*Heinz J. Schaefer Jerome Corsi Ron Martini Heinz Schaeffer Eric Wiberg Heinz SCHAEFFER Maximillien De Lafayette Ron Martini JUAN J. FLORES Brian Lavery Nachman Ben-Yehuda Wereldtentoonstelling Jordan Vause*

this is the story of u 977 the german submarine that escaped to argentina at the end of world war ii before surfacing near the west coast of africa the vessel had spent a remarkable sixty six days submerged when it was first published in 1953 opinions were sharply divided between those who deplored the apparent extolling of a vicious form of warfare and those who found heinz schaeffer s account a revealing picture of the german navy s training and methods the author depicts the grueling aspects of a submariner s life in the final months of the war schaeffer and his crew came under constant attacks from allied aircraft and surface ships

u boat 977 is a terrible heroic record from the other side of the battle of the atlantic it is a tale of allied ships sunk of attack of counterattack and finally of defeat of the u boats it was written by one of the few desperate men who survived that defeat completely authentic intensely dramatic it is a personal record of hitler s most insidious and effective military arm it begins when the author was a young man starting his training for u boat service and carries through the sinkings of allied ships and the miraculous escapes that brought him his fame it tells of our growing anti u boat war and the horror of the coming of the worst enemy radar and finally he recounts his last incredible dash across the atlantic with its stretch of sixty six days under the sea to surrender in the argentine and face the charge that u 977 had been hitler s escape ship here also both in the words and between the lines is a view of the nazi military machine as seen by one of its human cogs a moving terrible and valuable picture presented in terms of dramatic action

startling evidence that adolf hitler did not commit suicide but instead managed to flee germany at the end of world war

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starting weeks after hitler declared war on the united states in mid december 1941 and lasting until the war with germany was all but over 73 german u boats sustainably attacked new england waters from montauk new york to the tip of nova scotia at cape sable fifteen percent of these boats were sunk by allied counter attacks five surrendered in the region and three were sunk off new england block island massachusetts bay and off nantucket these have proven appealing to divers with a result that at least three german naval officers or ratings are buried in new england one having killed himself in the boston jail cell there were 34 allied merchant or naval ships sunk by these subs one of them the eagle was not admitted to have been sunk by the germans until decades later over 1 100 men were thrown in the water and 545 of them made it ashore in new england ports 428 were killed importantly saboteurs were landed three places long island frenchman s bay maine and new brunswick canada and boston was mined very little was known about this

volume two from a set of two volumes set approx 650 pages with hundreds of photos and documents published by times square press timessquarepress com new york author s website maximilliendelafrayettebibliography com this book is the most authoritative documented and convincing book on hitler s escape from berlin to argentina packed with testimonies affidavits and statements by insiders the bunker s survivors and american russian and french intelligence agents astonishing revelations and

powerful testimonies which will convince even the most ardent skeptics that indeed hitler escaped from his bunker and lived in argentina with his ss entourage until his death in 1965

submariners are a tight knit group of men bound together by training and experience and with a language all their own that language is perhaps a little vulgar but never intentionally demeaning and a little irreverent but still worldly this work is an attempt to preserve and explain some of these curious guys who so proudly wear a shiny metal pin that looks like a strange pair of fish on their left breast this process of accumulating this new language begins in boot camp and is added to with every change of duty station the sailor undergoes it is heard aboard the boats and unknowingly by family members who can t understand terms like head deck and overhead and who think sos is a distress signal

on august 17 1945 four months after germany s defeat in world war ii the famous u 977 commanded by captain heinz schaffer surrendered at the mar del plata submarine base the argentine naval force managed to recover numerous documents from the ship which years later were translated and published in an internal instruction manual called use of german submarines and their weapons the writer enrique amarante reveals part of this unpublished documentation in this fascinating book

the title is derived from george bernard shaw s comment that england and america are two countries divided by a common language it is not intended to imply that the two navies were seriously at odds with one another but rather to suggest as in the case of language that common roots and usages varied significantly and the second world war is a pertinent moment for comparison they fought on the same side against a common enemy for nearly four years but britain fought the war for the survival of itself and its empire though in the long term it failed with the latter while the american government fought to maintain its influence through the balance of power its

people fought for revenge for pearl harbor and out of a sense of justice in this new book brian lavery describes and analyzes the differences and similarities between the two navies and in doing so sheds fascinating light on how the naval war was fought for example both navies had spectacular failures after entering the war the royal navy off norway the usn at pearl harbor and savo island paradoxically both commenced the war with quite amateur performances by professional navies and ended with highly skilled performances by largely amateur manned forces the training systems for regular officers had flaws in both countries in britain entry was largely dependent on family income in america on political influence but american officers probably had a broader perspective by the time they entered active service the book covers ships and weapons systems for instance the british used too many gun types in the 4 to 6in range while the americans concentrated on the well designed 5in and the author describes conditions onboard ships british vessels were awash with alcohol which had its attractions for americans when alongside the americans offered ice cream in return these examples represent only a tiny proportion of the subjects covered in this stimulating analysis aviation the marines of both navies anti submarine and mine warfare uniforms propulsion systems shipbuilding and building programs commanders and national leaders ratings and officers ship design geographical environments naval bases hammocks and bunks the deployment of women these are among the myriad big and small themes that will open the eyes of naval historians and enthusiasts and show anyone with an interest in the second world war how these two great allies came together to defeat the axis forces

in the early 20th century the diesel electric submarine made possible a new type of unrestricted naval warfare such brutal practices as targeting passenger cargo and hospital ships not only violated previous international agreements they were targeted explicitly at civilians a deviant form of warfare quickly became the norm in atrocity deviance and submarine warfare nachman ben yehuda recounts the evolution of submarine warfare explains the nature of its deviance documents its atrocities and places these developments in the context of changing national identities and definitions of the ethical at both social and individual levels introducing the concept of cultural cores he traces the changes in cultural myths collective memory and the understanding of unconventionality and deviance prior to the outbreak of world war i

significant changes in cultural cores ben yehuda concludes permitted the rise of wartime atrocities at sea

that followed his close examination of their lives reveals that many were extremely different from the pictures typically drawn of them they were as varied in their thoughts and actions as other fighting men on both sides of the war particularly valuable is the author s use of new information in his portrayal of karl donitz and other prominent commanders to correct and enhance characterizations presented in earlier books his use of personal letters and unpublished

current decisions of courts of last resort relating to the law of automobiles negligence generally workmen s compensation and insurance with complete annotations and forms of pleadings and approved instructions varies

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