

Naval Operations Of The Campaign In Norway April June 1940 Naval Staff Histories

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The Campaign in Norway -
Thomas Kingston Derry
2004-08-01

T.K. Derry s official account of the disastrous opening British campaign of the Second World War in April-May 1940, which led to the downfall of Neville

Chamberlain and the elevation of Winston Churchill to the Premiership. Derry describes the rival British and German plans to occupy Norway, the source of vital raw materials. He shows how Hitler, far from missing the bus in Chamberlain

s contemptuous phrase, struck first, invading by air and sea and catching the British on the hop. Derry details the belated British response, with amphibious operations and landings around Trondheim and Narvik in central and northern Norway. Despite losing half their destroyers to the Royal Navy, Germany's speedy occupation of the main population centres and the Luftwaffe's command of the air, made her victory and a humiliating British withdrawal inevitable. The author is unsparing in his analysis of the command and intelligence failures behind Britain's first major military setback of the war, which had such far-reaching political consequences. Illustrated with 11 general and situation maps, 7 sketch maps and five photographs.

Naval Operations of the Campaign in Norway, April-June 1940 - David Brown
2013-11-05

This is the official Naval Staff history of the Norway campaign, originally published

internally in 1951. It covers the period from early April 1940 to the completion of operations in June. The operation involved most of the Royal Navy's ships in the Home theatre at the time.

German Northern Theatre of Operations 1940-45 - Earl F Ziemke 2003-02

This book, written by German Officers in American captivity and produced by the US military intelligence services, looks at two Second World War campaigns which are often forgotten amidst the great battles of Russia and Normandy: operations against Norway in 1940 and the German operations launched from Finland against the Soviet Union from June 1941 to the winter of 1944-45. Part One gives significant details of the planning and execution of the invasion of Norway, and discusses naval participation in the operation. The campaign itself is detailed chronologically, and problems are discussed as well as solutions. The whole campaign in subject to a detailed

analysis, and for this reason alone the book needs to be available to any student of the Second World War. What makes the book even more valuable however is its evaluation in Part Two of German-Finnish co-operation from 1941-44. Planning and preparation are shown in detail, as well as Operations Silberfuchs, Platinfuchs and Polarfuchs. The German mountain troops operating in the area were constantly in danger from the weather and the Russians, and conditions are commented upon in detail. There are also notes on rank distinctions (German and Finnish), a chronology and a list of major participants, together with a glossary. Accompanied by 23 maps, nine of which relate to the campaign in Norway.

Narvik - Alex Buchner

2020-11-20

“An intensely detailed historical account and counterfactual analysis of the strategic dilemmas faced by German and Allied forces at Narvik.” —Naval Historical

Foundation Published for the first time in English, this is a German account of the German invasion of Norway in the spring of 1940. It focuses on the efforts of Group “1” led by Eduard Dietl. This group of Gebirgstruppen—mountain troops—was landed at Narvik in early April by ten destroyers. These ships were then all sunk by the Allies. Dietl’s troops were outnumbered by Allied troops but his defense utilized ammunition, food and sailors from the sunken ships and his men retook Narvik once the Allies abandoned their efforts to push the Germans out of Norway. “The book does provide detailed accounts of the numerous battles and skirmishes around Narvik in the spring of 1940. The maps are useful to help understand the terrain and geography. The focus of the text is at the tactical level, and any historian interested in the tactics of the Norwegian campaign or of German mountain troops at this time would find this especially useful.” —Journal of Military History “The story of

Dietl's improvisation in the face of such inadequacies is quite impressive . . . the best account in English of the German side of Narvik."

—Stone & Stone Second World War Books "A fascinating look at the battle from the German side. While the book does reflect the attitudes of the time it was written, it also reveals what the German troops faced and provides a good account of the various engagements in and around Narvik." —WWII History Magazine

The Practice Of Operational Art In Operation

Weserübung: The German Invasion Of Norway 1940 -

Lieutenant Mark A. Rice
2014-08-15

The planning and execution of Operation Weserübung was the first major joint operation of its kind in history utilizing naval, ground, air, and airborne forces. Its conduct proves to be one of the most noteworthy applications of operational art and the principles of war during all of World War II. The principles of surprise and security were the most critical

in the German success. The German planning taking into account and exploiting the operational factors of time, space and force are another key element in why this operation is worthy of further analysis and study.

Additionally, the operational lessons learned that could be applied from the belligerents' experiences further illustrate several important lessons that can apply today. From the Germans we saw the importance of planning around apparent disadvantages, command and control as it relates to operational objectives and commanders intent, and the importance of initiative in military operations. From the British, the pitfalls of mirror imaging and a lack of decisiveness can prove fatal in military operations. Lastly, from the Norwegian side we see the importance of national defense for maintaining a nations' own self-determination against outside belligerents.

Northwest Africa - George Frederick Howe 1991

The assault on North Africa on

8 November 1942 led to a bitter conflict that finally culminated in the defeat of the Axis forces in Tunisia seven months later. The campaign was, for the U.S. Army, a school in coalition warfare and an introduction to enemy tactics.

Operation Weseruebung - Brian Baxley 2010-09

Operation Weseruebung, the German invasion of Norway during the Second World War, is considered by many military historians to be the first joint military operation involving the combined planning and execution of air, land, and sea forces. After a brief introduction and an explanation of the significance of Norway, Chapter Three will analyze the planning process and strategy used by the Germans in late 1939 and early 1940 for devising this joint operation. Chapter Four examines, primarily from an airpower perspective, the plan itself and its execution during the first day of the operation by the Germans, and the British response. Chapter Five

determines how German airpower was used, and in particular, what effect the Luftwaffe attack on 9 April against the British Home Fleet had against Britain's campaign strategy to control the North Sea. The final chapter examines three important lessons United States military planners should extract from Operation Weseruebung and apply to operations in the 21st century. They are: 1) the joint operation of air, land, and sea assets produce a synergetic effect greater than the sum of their parts; 2) a difficult part of joint operations is the air command and control; and 3) airpower can decisively deny the enemy use of the land or the sea.

Naval Operations of the Campaign in Norway, April-June 1940 - David Brown 2000
This is the official Naval Staff history of the Norway campaign, originally published internally in 1951. It covers the period from early April 1940 to the completion of operations in June. The operation involved most of the Royal Navy's ships

in the Home theatre at the time.

Hitler's Arctic War - Chris Mann 2016-11-30

In the past the German General Staff had taken no interest in the military history of wars in the north and east of Europe. Nobody had ever taken into account the possibility that some day German divisions would have to fight and to winter in northern Karelia and on the Murmansk coast.

(Lieutenant-General Waldemar Erfurth, German Army).

Despite this statement, the German Army's first campaign in the far north was a great success: between April and June 1940 German forces totaling less than 20,000 men seized Norway, a state of three million people, for minimal losses. *Hitler's Arctic War* is a study of the campaign waged by the Germans on the northern periphery of Europe between 1940 and 1945. As *Hitler's Arctic War* makes clear, the emphasis was on small-unit actions, with soldiers carrying everything they needed food, ammunition and medical

supplies on their backs. The terrain placed limitations on the use of tanks and heavy artillery, while lack of airfields restricted the employment of aircraft. *Hitler's Arctic War* also includes a chapter on the campaign fought by Luftwaffe aircraft and Kriegsmarine ships and submarines against the Allied convoys supplying the Soviet Union with aid. However, Wehrmacht resources committed to Norway and Finland were ultimately an unnecessary drain on the German war effort. *Hitler's Arctic War* is a groundbreaking study of how war was waged in the far north and its effects on German strategy.

Hitler Strikes North - Jack Greene 2013-03-19

A detailed account of Germany's groundbreaking Operation Weserübung, the first three dimensional—land, sea, air—strategic invasion in history. The German invasion of Denmark and Norway in April 1940 brought a sudden and shocking end to the “Phoney War” in the West. In a

single day, multiple seaborne and airborne landings established German forces ashore in Norway, overwhelming the unprepared Norwegian forces and catching the Allied Powers completely by surprise. Their belated response was ill-thought-out and badly organized, and by June 9 all resistance had formally ended. The strategic importance of Scandinavian iron ore, shipped through the port of Narvik to Germany, was the main cause of the campaign. The authors show how Allied attempts to interdict these supplies provoked German plans to secure them, and also how political developments in the inter-war years resulted in both Denmark and Norway being unable to deter threats to their neutrality despite having done so successfully in the First World War. The German attack was their first “joint” air, sea, and land operation, making large-scale use of air-landing and parachute forces, and the Luftwaffe’s control of the air throughout the campaign

would prove decisive. Although costly, particularly for the Kriegsmarine, it was a triumph of good planning, improvisation and aggressive, determined action by the troops on the ground. Making full use of Norwegian, Danish, and German sources, this book is a full and fascinating account of this highly significant campaign and its aftermath both for the course of the Second World War and the post-war history of the two countries conquered with such unprecedented speed.

British Destroyer Vs German Destroyer - David Greentree
2018-10-23

In April 1940, British and German destroyers clashed at Narvik, a strategically vital harbor on the Norwegian coast. David Greentree charts both sides’ development of destroyer tactics and technologies, the battles themselves and their impact on subsequent naval operations in this absorbing study.

The Battle for Norway: April-June 1940 - Geirr Haarr
2010-05-10

The acclaimed historian and author of *The Gathering Storm* continues his in-depth study of Northern European naval warfare during WWII. The Nazi invasion of Norway in 1940 was the first modern campaign in which sea, air and ground forces interacted decisively. In this detailed history, Gierr H. Haarr presents a comprehensive study of the naval aspects of the operation. He begins with the events off the coast of southern and western Norway where Norwegian and British forces attempted to halt the German advance out of the invasion ports as well as the stream of supplies and reinforcements across the Skagerrak Strait. Haarr then focuses on the British landings in Central Norway, where the Royal Navy first had its mastery challenged by air superiority from land-based aircraft. Next, he examines the events in and around Narvik where Allied naval, air and land forces were engaged in the first combined amphibious landings of World War II. Finally, Haarr sums up

the the evacuation in June, in which the first carrier task force operations of the war, including the loss of the HMS *Glorious*, figure prominently. As Haarr's previous volume, *The Gathering Storm*, the narration shifts between strategic and operational issues, and the experiences of the officers and soldiers on the frontlines. Extensive research and use of primary sources reveal the many sides of this battle, some of which remain controversial to this day.

Denmark and Norway 1940 -
Doug Dildy 2007-04-24

On 9 April 1940, German forces invaded Denmark, and then Norway, in an attempt to secure the vital mineral resources of Scandinavia for their war industry. This assault, Operation *Weserübung*, represents the first joint air-land-and-sea campaign in the history of warfare, and was the only such campaign planned, launched, and completed by the three services of the Wehrmacht. It also included the use of the rarest of German armoured

vehicles, the Naubafahrzeug NbFz.A/B (PzKw V/VI) experimental 'land battleship'. This book describes the events of this tumultuous campaign of World War II (1939-1945) that not only led to Winston Churchill's appointment as British Prime Minister, but also saw the crippling of the German Kriegsmarine as a fighting force, as it was reduced to a fleet of submarines and a handful of heavy warships used as commerce raiders.

Norway 1940 - Harry Plevy
2017-06-23

A comprehensive, chronologically arranged account of the two-month campaign Embraces viewpoints of all the combatants: British, French, German, Norwegian and Polish Many first-hand accounts, previously unpublished or not in general circulation Ostensibly fought for control of Swedish iron ore to Germany, the Norwegian campaign made an important but largely overlooked contribution to the conduct of the Second World War. It

convincingly proved the supremacy of air power in modern warfare and, particularly, the vulnerability of land and sea forces to sustained undefended air assault. It was the first conflict in which one side, the Germans, used all three arms of their forces in integrated combined assault - Blitzkrieg - and in which parachute and glider-borne troops were used to secure airfields and strategic targets. In contrast, the Allies tried to conduct the campaign on land, with an overreliance on infantrymen and inadequate air support. Norway 1940: Chronicle of a Chaotic Campaign deals with the strategic and political imperatives in an integrated and comprehensive manner, as well as operations, in a complex and rapidly changing two-month campaign. While other books on the campaign have tended to focus on a limited perspective, such as naval operations or the higher levels of political decision-making with no combatant or personal perspective, this book

makes much use of many previously unpublished contemporary writings and eyewitness accounts of the people involved in the Norwegian campaign. 32 black-and-white photographs

9 April 1940 German Invasion Of Norway - The Dawn Of Decisive Airpower During Joint Military Operations - Major Brian T. Baxley 2014-08-15

Operation Weserübung, the German invasion of Norway during the Second World War, is considered by many military historians to be the first joint military operation involving the combined planning and execution of air, land, and sea forces. After a brief introduction and an explanation of the significance of Norway, Chapter Three will analyze the planning process and strategy used by the Germans in late 1939 and early 1940 for devising this joint operation. Chapter Four examines, primarily from an airpower perspective, the plan itself and its execution during the first day of the operation by the Germans, and the British

response. Chapter Five determines how German airpower was used, and in particular, what effect the Luftwaffe attack on 9 April against the British Home Fleet had against Britain's campaign strategy to control the North Sea. The final chapter examines three important lessons United States military planners should extract from Operation Weserübung and apply to operations in the 21st century. They are: 1) the joint operation of air, land, and sea assets produce a synergetic effect greater than the sum of their parts; 2) a difficult part of joint operations is the air command and control; and 3) airpower can decisively deny the enemy use of the land or the sea.

[History of the Second World War United Kingdom Military Series. The Campaign in Norway](#) - T K Derry 2020-06-18

T. K. Derry's official account of the disastrous opening British campaign of the Second World War in April-May 1940, which led to the downfall of Neville Chamberlain and the elevation

of Winston Churchill to the Premiership. Derry describes the rival British and German plans to occupy Norway, the source of vital raw materials. He shows how Hitler, far from 'missing the bus' in Chamberlain's contemptuous phrase, struck first, invading by air and sea and catching the British on the hop. Derry details the belated British response, with amphibious operations and landings around Trondheim and Narvik in central and northern Norway. Despite losing half their destroyers to the Royal Navy, Germany's speedy occupation of the main population centres and the Luftwaffe's command of the air, made her victory and a humiliating British withdrawal inevitable. The author is unsparing in his analysis of the command and intelligence failures behind Britain's first major military setback of the war, which had such far-reaching political consequences. Illustrated with 11 general and situation maps, 7 sketch maps and five photographs.

Churchill and the Norway Campaign 1940 - Graham Rhys-Jones 2008

"This new study of the Norway Campaign tells the story of the first great test for British leaders and fighting men during the Second World War. It examines the making of grand strategy in a Cabinet of reluctant warriors, and contrasts their painfully deliberate methods with the ruthless efficiency of the German High Command. It shows an irrepressible Winston Churchill trying to grasp the levers of British strategy and, at the same time, to micro-manage the succession of military crises that followed the German initiative." "Although Churchill and the Norway Campaign draws primarily on British sources, German and Norwegian perspectives are covered in all necessary detail. An even balance is preserved between land, sea and air operations. This is an important study of a military and political debacle that has received inadequate analysis."--
BOOK JACKET.

Limiting Risk in America's Wars - Phillip S. Meilinger

2017-11-15

The United States has the most expensive and seemingly military forces in the world.

Yet, since World War II its military success rate has been fairly meager. The Korean War was a draw, Vietnam, Mogadishu, Afghanistan and Iraq were clear losses.

Successes include: Iraq in 1991, the Balkans (Croatia and Kosovo), Panama, the initial takedowns of Afghanistan in 2001 and Iraq in 2003, and Libya. Failures have been marked by the introduction of large numbers of conventional American ground troops, while successes have been characterized by the use of airpower, special operations forces, robust intelligence and sensor platforms, and the use of indigenous ground troops. The vital interests of the United States are seldom at stake; instead, the US intervenes to punish aggressors or topple particularly inhumane dictators. As a result, the US

and its allies strive to maintain public support, both at home and abroad. One of the surest ways to lose this support is to suffer high casualties or, worse, inflict them on the societies we are ostensibly attempting to help. The goal of limiting cost and casualties is hindered by the introduction of large numbers of conventional ground troops—especially in the xenophobic societies of the Middle East. This desire to limit risk and cost, while still achieving definable political goals, results in a quandary. This is not a new problem, and as early as two millennia ago nations sought to achieve these dual and often contradictory goals against enemies with asymmetric strengths. Often, nations rejected taking on a powerful enemy head-to-head; instead, belligerents launched “second front operations”—they moved the war elsewhere to achieve local superiority. Not surprisingly, this strategy was especially appealing to nations possessing powerful navies. Britain, who controlled the seas for several

centuries, was especially adept at using this “second front” strategy. Today we find that although second fronts may not be necessary, the reasons for conducting such operations are still with us—the desire to limit risk while achieving measurable goals. For America that means eschewing the use of massive numbers of ground troops to invade and occupy a subject country, but instead using its asymmetric strengths—a combination of airpower, SOF, intelligence and indigenous ground troops to achieve political goals.

Hitler's Arctic War - Chris Mann 2016-11-30

□In the past the German General Staff had taken no interest in the military history of wars in the north and east of Europe. Nobody had ever taken into account the possibility that some day German divisions would have to fight and to winter in northern Karelia and on the Murmansk coast.□ (Lieutenant-General Waldemar Erfurth, German Army). Despite this statement, the German Army's first campaign

in the far north was a great success: between April and June 1940 German forces totaling less than 20,000 men seized Norway, a state of three million people, for minimal losses. Hitler's Arctic War is a study of the campaign waged by the Germans on the northern periphery of Europe between 1940 and 1945. As Hitler's Arctic War makes clear, the emphasis was on small-unit actions, with soldiers carrying everything they needed □ food, ammunition and medical supplies □ on their backs. The terrain placed limitations on the use of tanks and heavy artillery, while lack of airfields restricted the employment of aircraft. Hitler's Arctic War also includes a chapter on the campaign fought by Luftwaffe aircraft and Kriegsmarine ships and submarines against the Allied convoys supplying the Soviet Union with aid. However, Wehrmacht resources committed to Norway and Finland were ultimately an unnecessary drain on the German war

effort. Hitler's Arctic War is a groundbreaking study of how war was waged in the far north and its effects on German strategy.

Forcible Entry And The German Invasion Of Norway, 1940 - Major Michael W. Richardson 2015-11-06

The air-sea-land forcible entry of Norway in 1940 utilized German operational innovation and boldness to secure victory. The Germans clearly met, and understood, the conditions that were necessary to achieve victory. The central research question of this thesis is: What lessons concerning setting the conditions for present day forcible entry operations can be gleaned from the successful German invasion of Norway in 1940? Forcible entry is the introduction of an aggregation of military personnel, weapons systems, vehicles, and necessary support, or a combination thereof, embarked for the purpose of gaining access through land, air, or amphibious operations into an objective area against resistance. This aggregation of

military force attempts to set conditions that cripple the enemy's ability to react decisively to, or interfere with, the forcible entry operation. The German emphasis on surprise and speed, an effective psychological campaign, and combined operations under a unified command in the invasion of Norway rendered the Norwegian and Allied intervention forces (including the Royal Navy which dominated the seas in the area) incapable of seriously interfering with the German forcible entry.

Norway 1940 - James S. Corum 2021-07-22

The German invasion of Norway was a pivotal moment in modern warfare, the first joint campaign that featured air power as an equal element of all operations. It was, in fact, the superior use of their air force that gave the Germans the decisive margin of victory and ensured the failure of the Allied counter-offensive in central Norway in April and May 1940. All aspects of air

power were employed in Norway, from long-range bombing and reconnaissance to air transport, with the Luftwaffe's ability to transport large numbers of troops and supply ground forces over great distances being particularly important. Norway was the first campaign in history in which key targets were seized by airborne forces, and the first in which air superiority was able to overcome the overwhelming naval superiority of an enemy. Researched from primary sources, this engaging history by air power expert Dr James Corum skilfully draws out where and why air power made the difference in Norway, and analyses the campaign's influence on the coming months and years of World War II.

[Britain and Norway in the Second World War](#) - Patrick Salmon 1995

Anglo-Norwegian alliance, navy, air forces, Operation Jupiter, Spitsbergen, allies.

Naval Operations of the Campaign in Norway, April-

June 1940 - David Brown
2014-08-12

This is the official Naval Staff history of the Norway campaign, originally published internally in 1951. It covers the period from early April 1940 to the completion of operations in June. The operation involved most of the Royal Navy's ships in the Home theatre at the time. This is the official Naval Staff history of the Norway campaign, originally published internally in 1951. It covers the period from early April 1940 to the completion of operations in June. The operation involved most of the Royal Navy's ships in the Home theatre at the time.

The German Decision to Invade Norway and Denmark - Earl F. Ziemke 1960

[The German Invasion of Norway, April 1940](#) - Geirr H Haarr 2011-03-30

“Tremendous . . . zeroes in on the critical first days of Weserübung and offers a minutely detailed account of the unfolding action.”—World War II This book documents

the German invasion of Norway, focusing on the events at sea. More than most other campaigns of WWII, Operation Weserübung has been shrouded in mystery, legend and flawed knowledge. Strategic, political and legal issues were at best unclear, while military issues were dominated by risk; the German success was the result of improvisation and the application of available forces far beyond the comprehension of British and Norwegian military and civilian authorities. Weserübung was the first combined operation ever where air force, army and navy operated closely together. Troops were transported directly into battle simultaneously by warship and aircraft, and success required cooperation between normally fiercely competing services. It was also the first time that paratroopers were used. The following days were to witness the first dive bomber attack to sink a major warship and the first carrier task-force operations. The narrative is

based on primary sources from British, German and Norwegian archives, and it gives a balanced account of the reasons behind the invasion. With its unrivalled collection of photographs, many of which have never before appeared in print, this is a major new WWII history and a definitive account of Germany's first and last major seaborne invasion. "This is the author's first book but he has a fine natural talent for maritime history. This is a magnificent work."—Work Boat World "A very impressive piece of work that comes highly recommended."—HistoryOfWar.org

The German Campaign in Russia - George E. Blau 1955
The purpose of this study is to describe German planning and operations in the first part of the campaign against Russia. The narrative starts with Hitler's initial plans for an invasion of Russia and ends at the time of Germany's maximum territorial gains during the battle for Stalingrad.

Churchill and Sea Power -

Christopher M. Bell 2014-05
Examines the leader's record as a naval strategist and his impact on naval power, seeking to debunk misconceptions about his failed campaigns and devastating losses during both World Wars.

Norway 1940 - Franöois

Kersaudy 1998-01-01

En forholdsvis nyforsket redegørelse for det, som det, som anmelderne benævner den ødelæggende og inkompetente allierede kampagne, som franske og engelske styrker, støttet af nordmændene udførte til Norges forsvar i 1940. Der er fokus på politiske og militære fejl i kampagnen og dennes konsekvenser.

Anatomy of a Campaign - John Kiszely 2017-04-27

Senior military commander assesses the reasons behind the ignominious failure of the British campaign in Norway in 1940.

Hitler's Pre-emptive War -

Henrik O. Lunde 2009-01-01

En grundig gennemgang af en af historiens revolutionerende kampagner, kampagnen mod Norge.

German Light Cruisers of World War II - Gerhard Koop
2014-07-22

The warships of the World War II era German Navy are among the most popular subject in naval history with an almost uncountable number of books devoted to them. However, for a concise but authoritative summary of the design history and careers of the major surface ships it is difficult to beat a series of six volumes written by Gerhard Koop and illustrated by Klaus-Peter Schmolke. Each contains an account of the development of a particular class, a detailed description of the ships, with full technical details, and an outline of their service, heavily illustrated with plans, battle maps and a substantial collection of photographs. These have been out of print for ten years or more and are now much sought after by enthusiasts and collectors, so this new modestly priced reprint of the series will be widely welcomed.??This volume is devoted to the six ships from Emden to Nürnberg

that were built between the wars. They were primarily intended for commerce-raiding, but the war gave them few opportunities for such employment, although they did provide useful support for key naval operations in the Baltic and North Sea. Two were lost in the 1940 Norway campaign, but the remainder survived for most of the conflict.

German Northern Theater of Operations 1940-1945

[Illustrated Edition] - Earl Ziemke 2015-11-06

[Includes 23 maps and 31 illustrations] This volume describes two campaigns that the Germans conducted in their Northern Theater of Operations. The first they launched, on 9 April 1940, against Denmark and Norway. The second they conducted out of Finland in partnership with the Finns against the Soviet Union. The latter campaign began on 22 June 1941 and ended in the winter of 1944-45 after the Finnish Government had sued for peace. The scene of these campaigns by the end of 1941 stretched from the

North Sea to the Arctic Ocean and from Bergen on the west coast of Norway, to Petrozavodsk, the former capital of the Karelo-Finnish Soviet Socialist Republic. It faced east into the Soviet Union on a 700-mile-long front, and west on a 1,300-mile sea frontier. Hitler regarded this theater as the keystone of his empire, and, after 1941, maintained in it two armies totaling over a half million men. In spite of its vast area and the effort and worry which Hitler lavished on it, the Northern Theater throughout most of the war constituted something of a military backwater. The major operations which took place in the theater were overshadowed by events on other fronts, and public attention focused on the theaters in which the strategically decisive operations were expected to take place. Remoteness, German security measures, and the Russians' well-known penchant for secrecy combined to keep information concerning the Northern Theater down to

a mere trickle, much of that inaccurate. Since the war, through official and private publications, a great deal more has become known. The present volume is based in the main on the greatest remaining source of unexploited information, the captured German military and naval records. In addition a number of the participants on the German side have very generously contributed from their personal knowledge and experience.

Churchill and Sea Power -

Christopher M. Bell 2013

Examines the leader's record as a naval strategist and his impact on naval power, seeking to debunk misconceptions about his failed campaigns and devastating losses during both World Wars.

Hitler's Northern War -

Adam R. A. Claasen 2001

Adolf Hitler had high hopes for his conquest of Norway, which held both great symbolic and great strategic value for the Fuhrer. Despite early successes, however, his ambitious northern campaign

foundered and ultimately failed. Adam Claasen for the first time reveals the full story of this neglected episode and shows how it helped doom the Third Reich to defeat. Hitler and Raeder, the chief of the German navy, were determined to take and keep Norway. By doing so, they hoped to preempt Allied attempts to outflank Germany, protect sea lanes for German ships, access precious Scandinavian minerals for war production, and provide a launchpad for Luftwaffe and naval operations against Great Britain. Beyond those strategic objectives, Hitler also envisioned Norway as part of a pan-Nordic stronghold—a centerpiece of his new world order. But, as Claasen shows, Hitler's grand expectations were never realized. Gring's Luftwaffe was the vital spearhead in the invasion of Norway, which marked a number of wartime firsts. Among other things, it involved the first large-scale aerial operations over sea rather than land, the first time operational objectives and

logistical needs were fulfilled by air power, and the first deployment of paratroopers. Although it got off to a promising start, the German effort, particularly against British and arctic convoys, was greatly hampered by flawed strategic thinking, interservice rivalries between the Luftwaffe and navy, the failure to develop a long-range heavy bomber, the diversion of planes and personnel to shore up the German war effort elsewhere, and the northern theater's harsh climate and terrain. Claassen's study covers every aspect of this ill-fated campaign from the 1940 invasion until war's end and shows how it was eventually relegated to a backwater status as Germany fought to survive in an increasingly unwinnable war. His compelling account sharpens our picture of the German air force and widens our understanding of the Third Reich's way of war.

A Forgotten Offensive -

Christina J. M. Goulter 1995

This book argues that the preoccupation with strategic

bombing doctrine was responsible for the lack of an offence on Germany's merchant shipping, resulting in the effective exclusion of all other ideas on the employment of air power.

Dog Boats at War - Leonard C Reynolds 2009-05-29

Built of plywood and measuring 115 feet long, powered by four supercharged petrol engines and armed to the teeth with heavy weapons, the 'D' Class Motor Gun Boats (MGBs) and Motor Torpedo Boats (MTBs) were better known as Dog Boats and played havoc with enemy shipping in home and foreign waters. During three years of war they engaged the enemy on more than 350 occasions, sinking and damaging many ships. Dog Boats at War is the authoritative account of operations by the Royal Navy's 'D' Class MGBs and MTBs in the Second World War in Home, Mediterranean and Norwegian waters. As well as drawing on official records - both British and German - the author has contacted several

hundred Dog Boat veterans whose eye witness accounts add drama to the unfolding story.

Hitler's Pre-emptive War -

Henrik O. Lunde 2009-05-11

An "excellent" history of the often overlooked WWII campaign in which Hitler secured a vital resource lifeline for the Third Reich (Library Journal). After Hitler conquered Poland and was still fine-tuning his plans against France, the British began to exert control over the coastline of neutral Norway, an action that threatened to cut off Germany's iron-ore conduit to Sweden and outflank from the start its hegemony on the Continent. The Germans responded with a dizzying series of assaults, using every tool of modern warfare developed in the previous generation. Airlifted infantry, mountain troops, and paratroopers were dispatched to the north, seizing Norwegian strongpoints while forestalling larger but more cumbersome Allied units. The German navy also set sail, taking a brutal

beating at the hands of Britannia, but ensuring with its sacrifice that key harbors would be held open for resupply. As dive-bombers soared overhead, small but elite German units traversed forbidding terrain to ambush Allied units trying to forge inland. At Narvik, some six thousand German troops battled twenty thousand French and British until the Allies were finally forced to withdraw by the great disaster in France, which had then gotten underway. Henrik Lunde, a native Norwegian and former US Special Operations colonel, has written the most objective account to date of a campaign in which twentieth-century military innovation found its first fertile playing field.

Battle for the North Atlantic

- John Bruning 2013-06-15

The Battle of the North Atlantic was the longest continuous military campaign of World War II, running from 1939 until the defeat of Nazi Germany in 1945, though it reached its peak from mid-1940 through

the end of 1943. The Battle of the North Atlantic pitted German U-boats and other warships of the German navy against Allied merchant shipping. Initially, convoys of merchant ships were protected for the most part by the British and Canadian navies and air forces. Starting in the early fall of 1941, before Pearl Harbor, these forces were aided by ships and aircraft of the United States. The Battle for the North Atlantic began on the first day of the European war and lasted for six years, involving thousands of ships and stretching over hundreds of miles of the vast ocean and seas in a succession of more than a hundred convoy battles and as many as a thousand single-ship encounters. Tactical advantage switched back and

forth over the six years as new weapons, tactics, and countermeasures were developed by both sides. The Allies gradually gained the upper hand, driving the German surface raiders from the ocean by the end of 1942 and decisively defeating the U-boats in a series of convoy battles between March and May 1943.

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