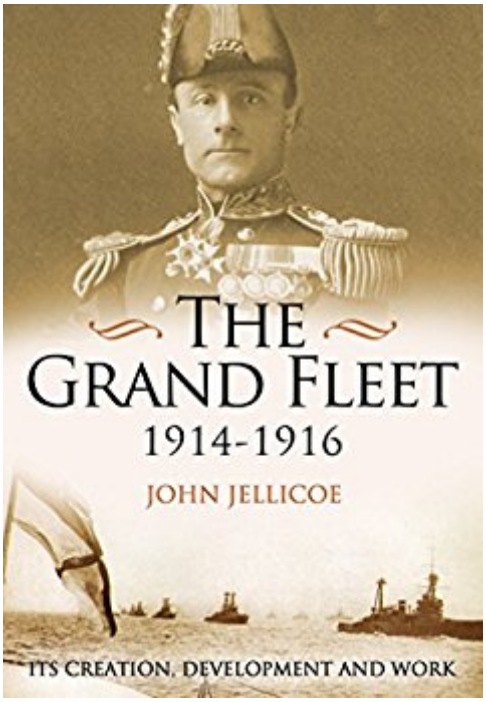
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The Grand Fleet, 1914-1916: Its Creation, Development And Work



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Synopsis

’Lord Jellicoe has won the affection and esteem of the whole of the Grand Fleet. The book is throughout magnanimous, direct, and transparently honest.’ - The SpectatorIn 1914, Great Britain had one of the most formidable navies the world had ever seen.At the outset of the war the Grand Fleet, under the leadership of Admirals like John Jellicoe, moved to contain their enemyÃ¢â ¬â„¢s High Seas Fleet and blockade Germany.Yet, despite the sophistication of the British fleet, it was never able to fully restrict the German navy who led daring raids to bombard the English coast at Yarmouth and Lowestoft and came into conflict with the British at Heligoland Bight and Dogger Bank.Jellicoe, who was commander of the British Grand Fleet at the time, provides fascinating insight into the most famous naval battle of World War One, Jutland. In a step-by-step analysis of the battle, he explained why the British were unable to strike the decisive blow on that day.As well as covering the naval engagements of the first two years of the war, Jellicoe explains how naval warfare developed during this period, with the advent of submarines and the use of mines. The Grand Fleet, 1914-1916 sheds light onto the British navy of the First World War, how it developed, the battles that if fought and the leadership behind it. Admiral of the Fleet John Rushworth Jellicoe, 1st Earl Jellicoe, GCB, OM, GCVO, SGM, DL (5 December 1859 Ã¢â ¬â œ 20 November 1935) was a Royal Navy officer. He fought in the Anglo-Egyptian War and the Boxer Rebellion and commanded the Grand Fleet during the First World War. In 1919, he published The Grand Fleet, detailing his wartime experiences.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Jellicoe's book is a tough read. As the subtitle correctly states, the book documents the "creation, development and work" of the Grand Fleet starting in 1914. True to its purpose, the text documents -- in sometimes excruciating detail -- the basing and deployments of various combinations of Royal Navy ships in the first years of the First World War. This book makes wonderful reading for a serious student of naval operations, especially if that student is interested in the details of fleet maneuvers; it makes tedious reading for a reader whose interest is in obtaining a strategic-level perspective of the confrontations between the Royal Navy's Grand Fleet and the German's High Seas fleet. Jellicoe's narrative, originally published in 1919, reads like an after-action report to the Admiralty, which it may have been. It identifies the individual ships in each division of the Fleet and their commanders. It details the work of trawlers and other smaller merchant ships converted to naval use in enforcing the blockade of Germany. In short: lots of detailed, almost day-to-day information; a treasure trove for a naval historian but not for a general reader.

This was a laborious read. A good book to read when you're having problems falling asleep, at least the first 9 chapters or so. A good description of the Battle of Jutland by Jellicoe, starting at about chapter 10 and throughout the balance of the book. Prior chapters tell where various ships of the fleet were almost each day by longitude and latitude and verbal descriptions that probably mean something to Englishmen around 1920. And when they came back for coaling. Historically, Jellicoe was both praised and criticized for his actions at Jutland; praised for not allowing the German fleet to break out and keeping them bottled up (and enabling England to keep the blockade and win the war), and criticized by others for not delivering a decisive knockout blow AKA Nelson at Trafalgar. Jellicoe's writings on occasion seem to try to somewhat justify his decisions. Historically, very accurate for the time it was written, but extremely dry. I got the Kindle book for free, so in essence, it was worth every penny.

During his lifetime, Adrmial of the Fleet John Jellicoe, victor of the Battle of Jutland, was famous for his meticulous mind and sangfroid. The present book reflects these qualities. If you want to know where HMS X was at 0541 hours on 1 June 1916, what course it was taking and at what speed it was sailing, go ahead and buy and read this book. If not, not.

Admiral Jellicoe said flat out this really wasn't for civilians. And he was right.Get it if you really, really want all of the details.

Of you like Very detailed accounts of things, you will like this. Only picture is on the cover.

Tedious writting as an old bore only part read would not recomend , it still gets my look in at 3am reading

The boring details of training sorties of the Grand Fleet become tiresome very quickly.

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