

[PDF] Scorpion Down: Sunk By The Soviets, Buried By The Pentagon: The Untold Story Of The USS Scorpion

Ed Offley - pdf download free book

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Description:

From Publishers Weekly The U.S.S. Scorpion SSN 589, a 99-man fast attack submarine, sank 400 miles southwest of the Azores on May 22, 1968, a time during the Cold War when the Soviet Navy was expanding and becoming more aggressive. The Navy's top secret court of inquiry, however, theorized that the Scorpion was sunk by its own hot-running torpedo, not an enemy vessel. In this thorough post-mortem, military beat reporter Offley challenges the Navy's official report-including details like when the wreckage was found and what the sub's mission had been-with a succinct

charge: "It was all a lie." Offley believes the Scorpion was sunk by the Soviets, in retaliation for the loss of one of their subs two months prior. Using the U.S.S. Pueblo incident of January, 1968, in which key cryptography gear was lost, Offley connects the dots between the Navy, the John Walker spy ring, and Soviet intelligence to conclude that the Russians had access to all of the Navy's most secret communications, allowing them to ambush the Scorpion. Most of Offley's argument, while compelling, is based solely on interviews with former Navy personnel, and a lack of factual evidence weakens it. Still, this well-told narrative history holds much appeal for naval historians and conspiracy buffs.

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From On May 22, 1968, the submarine *Scorpion* exploded and sank 400 miles southeast of the Azores, killing all 99 men aboard. It had been torpedoed by a Soviet submarine in retaliation for its suspected involvement in the disappearance 11 weeks earlier of the Soviet submarine *K-129*. Oilley believes that admirals in the U.S and Soviet navies--fearing what could become World War III--agreed to hide the truth of the two sinkings. Only 91 seconds after the torpedo struck, the *Scorpion* plunged 1,300 feet below the surface. By May 31, a search force had increased to 55 surface ships and submarines and three dozen land-based patrol aircraft. On June 5, the U.S. declared that it was lost at sea, and on October 30, the navy announced the discovery of the vessel. Based on 25 years of research, which included investigating declassified navy documents, Offley reveals details of the events that led to the vessel's sinking and the cover-up that followed. He has written a searing account of this tragedy at sea. *George Cohen*

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