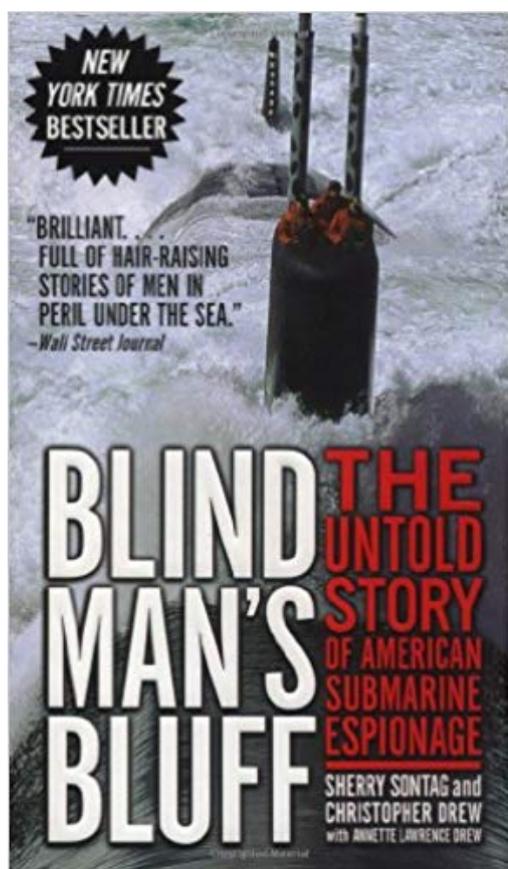


Blind Man's Bluff: The Untold Story of American Submarine Espionage *by* Sherry Sontag



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Includes a new afterword describing submariners' responses and reactions and a new appendix of all award-winning subs honored for service in Cold War espionage operations.

With 16 pages of black-and-white photos



Reviews of the **Blind Man's Bluff: The Untold Story of American Submarine Espionage** *by* Sherry Sontag

Castiel

I am a former US Navy submariner with 4.5 total years submerged (YES I SAID SUMBERGED) aboard 3 different submarines over a 20 year period. An old shipmate asked me to buy "Blind Man's

Bluff" and read Chapter 5 (loss of the USS Scorpion) because of my personal experiences with not only those days in and around the Med but also the events surrounding this particular loss. I was amazed at how much information was included in this particular story and, in fact, learned things that I had not previously know. I now intend to read the entire book.

Adrietius

As an ex-bubblehead/intel officer, I was more than familiar with what happened. I read the book when it first came out and was flabbergasted; how could all of the clandestine op's and procedures be revealed to the general public. It took me chapters to realize that the statute of limitations on classified/secret... data had passed.

While some of the onboard descriptions are questionable, the book reveals some of the thrills of being aboard a nuclear boat operating silent with a tenuous mission. I could not put the book down, it was riveting, but then - it reflected so much of my background to keep America safe during the Cold War.

Ffleg

I was in the Navy, stationed in the Pentagon, when this was going on, and now I could find out everything about this fascinating project. This book is action packed from the very beginning. When I heard of this book, and having known Captain Bradley, definitely a leader of men, I had to read it.... I recommend reading this to see how the Navy operated to keep our country safe.

Yozshujind

I participated in the 1970 Atlantic patrol made by the USS Lapon (SSN 661) commanded by CDR. "Whitey" Mack, described in Chapter Six of this amazing reporting of our exploit and that of many others in the submarine force across a span of many years. I keep this book in a special place in my bookcase as a reminder of those days. Kudos to the authors for taking the time to share what they could about these "adventures."

Brol

Absolutely riveting! I enjoyed the backdrop of history-making decisions, policies and larger-than-life personalities interwoven with the lucid play-by-play accounts of the often-deadly dance between rivals in the high-stakes (and heretofore unacknowledged) game of international espionage under the sea. Enthralling accounts of individual secret missions give the reader a sense of what was truly at stake, as well as putting forth deeply-researched and well-informed hypotheses as to what went wrong when lives were unfortunately lost.

My one criticism is that Amazon says this book was published in 2016. This book was actually copyright in 1998, so it's been available in print for almost 20 years. Don't expect any stories or details from any time after the late 90's.

Nikok

As a qualified Submariner and Submarine Reactor Operator during the Cold War, I was/am fascinated by Blind Mans Bluff. As an Enlisted Man, I had no idea about all the things that were being done by Our Amazing Submarine service. All of our activities were top secret, that I knew - BUT all of the things that were going on around me were totally unknown to me. I was/am a technical wizard but the overview of how this all fit into the world of the Cold War - for some reason it did not even occur to me. I am thankful to now, all these years later, have just a glimpse into the world of value for the USA we were creating. I cannot recommend this book highly enough - guess that sums it up.

Purestone

Sontag and Drew - what an amazing job of reporting and investigational reporting. Some say they are traitors for publicizing the raw courage and guts of America's special project boats (submarines) throughout the Cold War, other think they are heroes. No matter which side of the coin you call, the stories in this book are riveting and make the point that the courage of our submariners and the skills of the Crews who qualify to wear American Navy Dolphins are superb. For added enjoyment, head to Spotify and look for the albums of submarine songs by Tommy Cox (who is mentioned in the

book), and Booby Reed who is not. Their ballads will add a dimension to the book that is unique and should be included with it. Tommy Cox was a 'spook' on the special projects boats - listen to the ballad "Tango Charlie" to get the idea. Look for his albums 'Take Her Deep' and 'In Honor Of.' He served for 21 years in the U.S. Navy and composed the theme song 'Blind Man's Bluff' for the PBS special on Sontag and Drew's book. Bobby Reed, now an electrical engineer, partnered with Tommy Cox to put out 'Brothers of the Dolphin' which captures the humor and intensity of submarining missions. Bobby was on 'Boomers' (Missile Boats) for 6 years. When you get done with this book, you will understand that there is just about nothing a U.S. Fast Attack Crew can't make their boat do. When you pick the book up to read it, you'll hear two klaxon 'Oooogas' and the call to 'Take Her Deep.' Dive, Dive!

As a career military officer, I was surprised at the amount of spy activities undertaken by the Navy, that I had never heard about. This book details many of these missions, and shows what a harrowing experience it was. The prose is smooth and well written, and each chapter is a massive action scene by itself. The only suggestion I have is the inclusion of maps of the operational areas would have been very helpful.

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