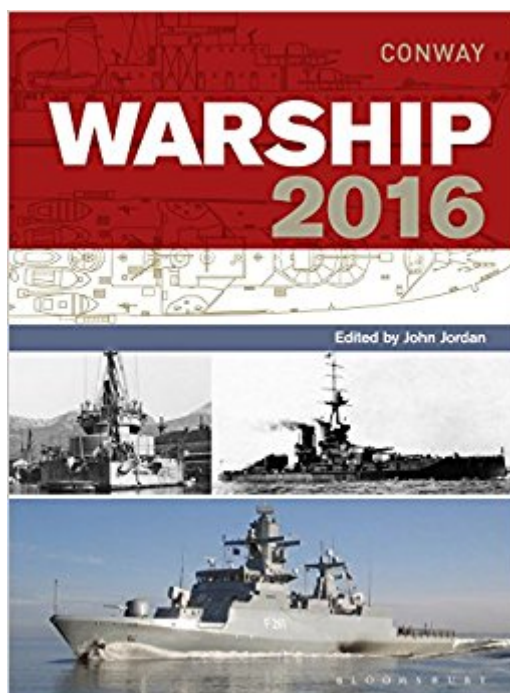


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# Warship 2016



## Synopsis

Warship 2016 is devoted to the design, development and service history of the world's combat ships. Featuring a broad range of articles from a select panel of distinguished international contributors, this latest volume combines original research, new book reviews, warship notes, an image gallery, and much more to maintain the impressive standards of scholarship and research from the field of warship history. This 38th edition features the usual range of diverse articles spanning the subject by an international array of expert authors.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"Few naval publications can be considered indispensable, but this book is one of them. I would expect any naval history enthusiast will learn something new from reading this, and even dedicated specialists of a particular historical period or ship type will want it as a permanent reference." - Warship International". . . a work that will interest not only naval buffs but also anyone interested in military history." - Military Heritage

John Jordan is a former language teacher. He is the author of two major books on the Soviet Navy, and more recently he co-authored French Battleships 1922-56 (Seaforth, 2009) with Robert Dumas. He has been associated with Warship from its earliest beginnings and took over the editorship full time in 2004.

The 2016 edition of the long running Warship annual finds it being issued by a new publisher, Bloomsbury, although the Conway title is retained. It seems to be just "Conway" these days not "Conway Maritime Press". The Warship annual seems to be the only thing left of the once large Conway line. A new publisher has had two obvious consequences. First, there does not appear to be a US Naval Institute edition for the North American market any longer. Secondly, the trade dress has changed for the first time since 2008. The book no longer has a dust jacket; the boards are decorated and the information previously on the jacket flaps is now on the endpapers. The effect is attractive but the impression is of a somewhat cheaper product. Inside, however very little has changed. The articles are as informative, well researched, and well illustrated as always. Smaller warships are highlighted this year with outstanding articles by editor John Jordan covering the Bougainville colonial sloops, an Italian colonial sloop Eritrea by Michele Cosentino, the Japanese Asashio class destroyers by Hans Lengerer, Fugas class minesweepers, and Conrad Walters contrasts and compares modern littoral surface warships. The anniversary of the Battle of Jutland is acknowledged by an article on divisional tactics by Stephen McLaughlin. We also get the conclusion of the article covering the Adriatic theater in WWI. I had recently read a monograph on the DeHavilland Mosquito aircraft which highlighted the "Highball" antiship bouncing bombs it was modified to carry so it was a pleasure to get the "Highball" story from the perspective of the target ship, the French battleship Courbet. The least successful article in my opinion was "Post-War AIO and Command Systems in the Royal Navy" by Peter Marland. It seemed over ambitious and hard to take in, like drinking from a fire hose. All the usual Warship features are present but pride of place to my thinking are always the book reviews. There are always good suggestions on books to check out and occasionally, avoid. This annual can not be recommended too highly.

WARSHIP 2016 is out and they are getting close to their 40th edition. It is still a MUST HAVE IMO. Two excellent articles on French & Italian colonial sloops. A short but nice history with photographs and plans of HMS Colossus (1911) – a ship that I doubt would ever get a book or booklet written about it. Part II of the fighting in the Adriatic in World War One is covered (with maps that are too small) by Cernuschi & O'Hara. There are lots of good book reviews and other articles. The best essay is from Stephen McLaughlin (I doubt he writes anything poorly) on "DIVISIONAL TACTICS AND THE GRAND FLEET." Great insight, great research and goes into a bunch on the prewar doctrine. He touches on how divisional (or really Battle Sqd.) tactics might have been used to defeat Scheer's Gefechtskehrtwendung at Jutland (see bottom right p114). The only thing missing is the German

tactical unit USE of their Battle Sqds. as INDEPENDENT UNITS is not even mentioned in passing. An English language in depth discussion of German pre-war tactical thought and how it would translate into German operations in World War One has yet to be written. The problem with WARSHIP 2016, and for that matter WARSHIP INTERNATIONAL (INRO), is many of the articles are on lesser craft. The first WARSHIP had part one on the LITTORIO class battleship. This issue has an article on interwar Soviet Fugas - class minesweepers (yawn). I can understand a person's interest dropping off over the years . . .

as always

Another winning entry into the long line of Warship Annuals.

the warship series is the one book I know that I must get every year and this one does not dissappoint

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