

"Das Boot" by Lothar-Günther Buchheim. Washington, DC. 10,8. 2017.

*"Of the 40,000 German U-boat men in World War II, 30,000 did not return."*

*This book is a novel but not a work of fiction. The author witnessed all the events reported in it; they are the sum of his experiences aboard U-boats. Nevertheless, the description of the characters who take part are not portraits of real persons living or dead.*

*The operations that form the subject of the book took place primarily in the fall and winter of 1941. At that time the turning point was becoming apparent in all the theaters of the war. Before Moscow, the troops of the Wehrmacht—only a few weeks after the battle of encirclement at Kiev—were brought to a standstill for the first time. In North Africa the British troops went on the offensive. The United States was providing supplies for the Soviet Union and itself became—immediately after the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor—a nation at war.*

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