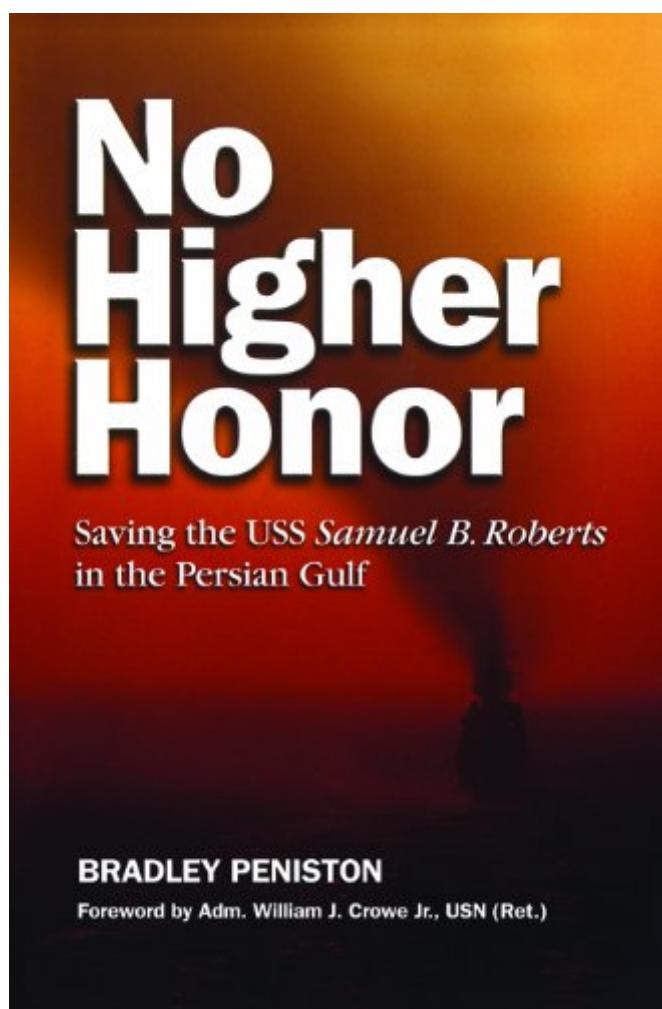


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No Higher Honor: Saving The USS Samuel Roberts In The Persian Gulf



Synopsis

Like its World War II namesake of Leyte Gulf fame, USS Samuel B. Roberts (FFG 58) was a small combatant built for escort duty. But its skipper imbued his brand-new crew with a fighting spirit to match their forebears, and in 1988 when the guided missile frigate was thrust into the Persian Gulf at the height of the Iran-Iraq War, there was no better ship for the job. Forbidden to fire unless fired upon, Captain Paul Rinn and his crew sailed amid the chaos in the Gulf for two months, relying on wit and nerve to face down fighter jets and warships bent on the destruction of civilian vessels. Their sternest test came when an Iranian mine ripped open the ship's engine room, ignited fires on four decks, and plunged the ship into darkness. The crew's bravery and cool competence was credited with keeping the ship afloat, and its actions have become part of Navy lore and a staple of naval leadership courses ever since. This is the first book to record the Roberts' extraordinary tale. After years of research and interviews with crewmembers, journalist Bradley Peniston chronicles the crew's heroic efforts to save the ship as they fought flames and flooding well into the night. The author also describes the frigate's origins, its operational history, and the crew's training. Peniston's personal approach to the subject not only breathes life into the historical narrative but gives readers an opportunity to get to know the individuals involved and understand the U.S. retaliation to the mining and the battle that evolved, setting the stage for conflicts to come.

Book Information

File Size: 1729 KB

Print Length: 316 pages

Page Numbers Source ISBN: 1591146763

Publisher: Naval Institute Press (March 21, 2013)

Publication Date: March 21, 2013

Sold by: Digital Services LLC

Language: English

ASIN: B00C0JIY16

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

X-Ray: Not Enabled

Word Wise: Enabled

Lending: Not Enabled

Enhanced Typesetting: Not Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #244,031 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #16

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Customer Reviews

I work for the shipyard that repaired the Sammy B. I spent countless hours working to rebuild this great ship. I am so proud to have taken part of an engineering mile stone like this. The whole crew of the Roberts were Hero's. Each sailor played a part of saving this ship. I loved the first hand account of this book. I will never forget meeting several of the hero's and working with them on a daily basis. This is a good read and means a lot more to the men and woman of Bath Iron Works. I will pass this on to my fellow co workers to enjoy and remember. I continue to help build the most technologically advanced ships in the world.

I find it hard to believe that this commander didn't reach flag rank. I have read the Kirk Lippold's book regarding the Cole (Kirk is a friend) and cant help but reach the conclusion that the US Navy missed an opportunity by not lifting both these fine officers to flag rank. There is a reading list at Annapolis both these books, although written years apart, should be a must for plebs and young officers.

An immensely enjoyable book, I almost can't put it down!No higher honor provides an informative and fascinating view in to navy life, both during slow times and in the most trying of times. It details the heroism, bravery, and whits, and sense of humor of the crew of the U.S.S. Samuel B Roberts during the ships construction, peace, and dire danger of the ships loss. It's one of those really entertaining books that makes you think and that you learn things from as you read it. It a true story, but it reads like the best of nautical fiction.It was well worth the cost.

Read it in one day, story was great and author did a good job o explaining everything in detail. Helps if you know some Navy jargon but don't worry if you don't.Story shows what it means to be prepared and how dangerous life at sea can be.Worth Your time and money to purchase and read, you will not be disappointed.

This is an important piece of history to read, especially for anyone in the Surface Navy. The only slow part of the book for me was toward the end, as there was a lengthy section on restoring the

SBR. Time spent detailing the ship being built at Bath Iron Works was worth it to put all the pieces together in explaining the focus of the leadership and essential preparations and drill that readied the crew to the best of their abilities well before the mine explosion. The author also did a great job explaining the operating environment in the Gulf during the time period, along with key details on the Tanker Wars and Operation Praying Mantis.

Used book in greater condition than advertised. Great story. Personally met Sonar Technician 1st Class Joseph Boyd here in Spring, Texas.

This book showed how the U.S. Navy prepares for battle and uncertainty in general. Being a leader does not mean you are popular, it means you treat people fairly and do not micro-manage people who work for you. It includes being receptive to ideas. You also will likely make mistakes along the way and should learn from them. Under difficult circumstances, a ship was saved due to sound preparation in damage control and frequent drills. As a result I will drill more often on my own duties.

A really meaty and detailed look at the attack and repair of the Roberts. It digs deep into the detail of naval architecture and management. But it's not just about naval history, it's about leadership - you could use this book as a case study in a class about leadership.

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