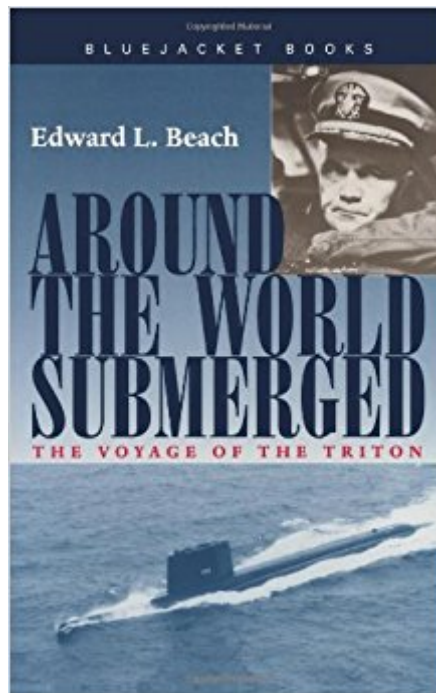




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Around The World Submerged: The Voyage Of The Triton (Bluejacket Books)



Synopsis

When the nuclear-powered submarine USS Triton was commissioned in November 1959, its commanding officer, Captain Edward L. Beach, planned a routine shakedown cruise in the North Atlantic. Two weeks before the scheduled cruise, however, Beach was summoned to Washington and told of the immediate necessity to prove the reliability of the Rickover-conceived submarine. His new secret orders were to take the Triton around the world, entirely submerged the total distance. This is Beach's gripping firsthand account of what went on during the 36,000 nautical-mile voyage whose record for speed and endurance still stands today. It brings to life the many tense events in the historic journey: the malfunction of the essential fathometer that indicated the location of undersea mountains and shallow waters, the sudden agonizing illness of a senior petty officer, and the serious problems with the ship's main hydraulic oil system. Intensely dramatic, Beach's chronicle also describes the psychological stresses of the journey and some touching moments shared by the crew. A skillful story teller, he recounts the experience in such detail that readers feel they have been along for the ride of a lifetime.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Edward L. Beach graduated from the US Navy's submarine school in December 1941, two weeks after Pearl Harbor. He commanded submarines in the Pacific throughout the rest of the war. His first novel, *Run Silent Run Deep*, became an immediate bestseller, and was later made into a Hollywood blockbuster.

Being X Navy and having worked on the outsides of subs at Holy Loch Scotland I had great interest in this book. I also read the late Captain Beach's *Cold Is The Sea*, and *Dust On The Sea* both 5 stars. I have purchased his *Submarine* and *Run Silent Run Deep* Books but still have to read them. The *Run Silent Run Deep* movie starring Clark Gable was 5 stars. The late retired Captain Edward Beach wrote a great book *Around The World Submerged*. We see him getting command of the Triton SSRN 586, the largest sub at that time with two nuclear reactors. The sub was so huge as not to be a nautical term "boat" but a ship. Captain Beach had been a WW2 submariner with medals of heroism. Plus a Navy aid to President Eisenhower and Captain of an oiler ship. Lots of experience. We see the Navy giving him and Triton's crew a "top secret" mission. They are to take Triton around the world submerged. Magellan was the first to circumnavigate the world and a cast plaque is made to give Spain of both the achievements. We see the problems of some faulty equipment (some serious) and how the problems were resolved as well as a major hydraulic leak repaired. A crewman gets the Navy Commendation ribbon for his quick thinking. The crew get a Presidential Unit Citation given by the secretary of the Navy and Beach gets the Legion of Merit medal. This was going during the height of the cold war when a US U2 plane was shot down. Eisenhower is delighted when Captain Beach gives him a letter from the completed mission. The President laughs as the letter is covered with toilet paper because of drying ship made slow drying ink. Beach forgot to take off the toilet paper. The President is delighted the world will know the world's seas are open with the circumnavigation of the earth by the USS Triton and crew. Job well done. An excellent book describing crossing the equator "King Neptune, wife and grand baby" ceremony for Polliwogs to become Shell backs. Also we see the human side of keeping moral up with a ship "newspaper" and other planned activities. Lots of good food supplied, as well as many scientific experiments on long time confinement of the men, two weeks no smoking tests and more. Lots of photos through the periscope of ships and interesting land sites for National Geographic. A crewman from Guam who had not been home in 14 years, sees his new house by his father through the periscope and is promised leave after the mission. Beach keeps his promise and the crewman gets 60 days leave at Guam. We see a sick crewman (kidney stones) evacuated to another US ship through the sail with Triton's hull still underwater. A truly great mission and a huge shake down cruise to find equipment problems on the new sub. Lots of new deep sea science done by scientists aboard, plus new underwater sites found. Anyone interested in submarine history and the skill and dedication of submarine crews will like this book. 5 stars

Great read. Edward Beach uses the information available to him from the ships log to provide the reader with opportunity to learn about the first submerged circumference of the earth, including how they handled the issues that happened during the deployment. If you are interested in Naval History, submarine novels or just an interesting read, suggest that you read this and any other of Edward Beach's books! Enjoy

Great read . Amazing How these guys could stay submerged for that period of time and also keep morale in forward motion. Capt. Beach was a true leader.

It was a fascinating story, how they made every effort to complete the mission. It was hard to put the book down.

I have read a number of books by this author about his life experience in the Navy. He is a good writer and has lead an exciting life worth writing about. This book deals with a very important event in the history of the submarine navy and is worth reading.

As a Diesel Sub vet, and 16 Poseidon Patrols on 3 boats, this was a very good read.

Capt. Beach gave a lot more than staying submerged for this trip; he gave plenty of his experiences in WWII. And description of some of major players in the submarine navy during the war. He seems to the kind of skipper I would have liked to ship with.

This book provided a continuing personal perspective of activities and issues that arose during the long submerged journey in an incitefull and interesting manner.

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