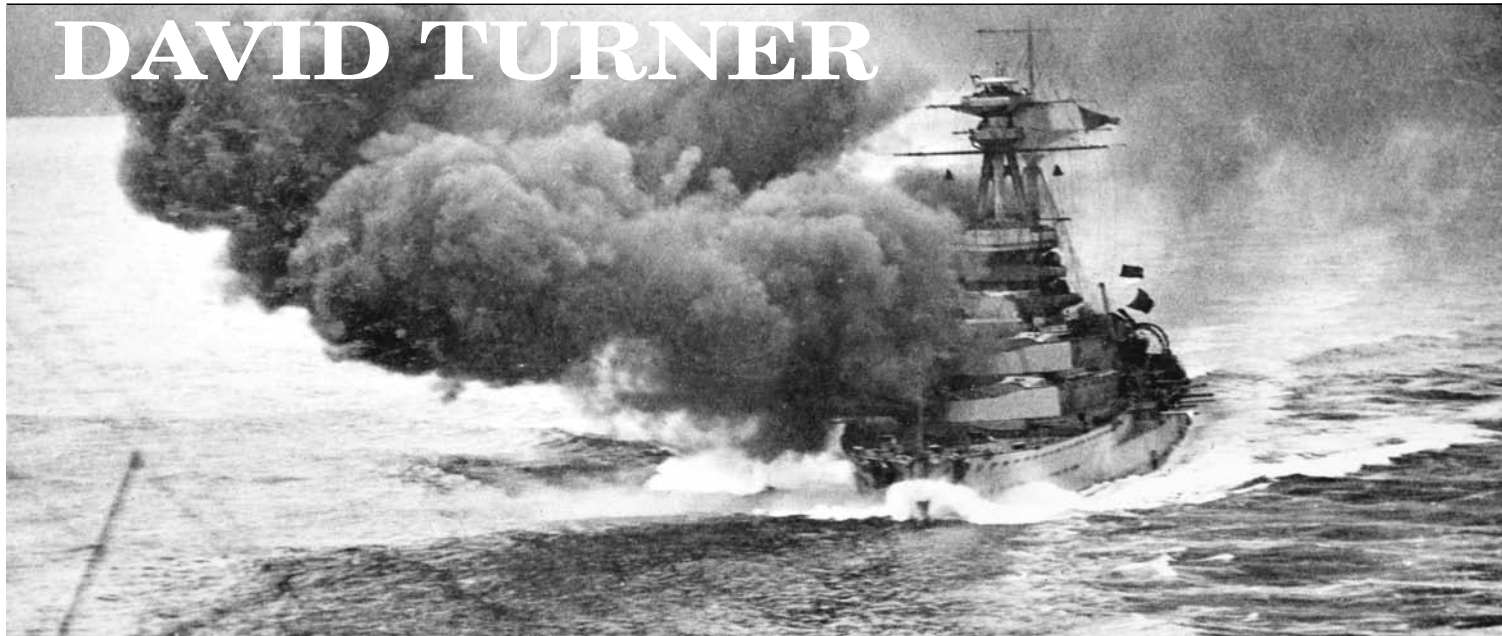


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# LAST DAWN

The Royal Oak Tragedy at Scapa Flow

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## LAST DAWN The Royal Oak Tragedy at Scapa Flow

October 13th 1929. German U-boat U-47 silently penetrates the defences of Scapa Flow, Orkney. As in the 1914-18 war, the pride of Britain's wartime fleet had sailed leaving behind only HMS *Royal Oak* and a few smaller ships.

Kapitan-Leutenant Günther Prien, commander of U-47, ordered the attack on *Royal Oak*. His first salvo of three torpedoes failed to do any damage. After an interval to reload, Prien fired another salvo and this time there was a huge explosion underneath *Royal Oak* and she rolled over and sank within minutes. A total of 833 men died with her.

**Last Dawn** is a revealing account of the tragedy that was the sinking of the mighty battleship HMS *Royal Oak*. Told through declassified photographs and naval records, as well as statements from survivors, this is a dramatic and moving reassessment of the biggest loss of boy sailors in a single naval event in World War II.

**David Turner**, originally from Plymouth, now retired from aviation and industry, researched this book motivated by the memory of his uncle who died on HMS *Royal Oak*.

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