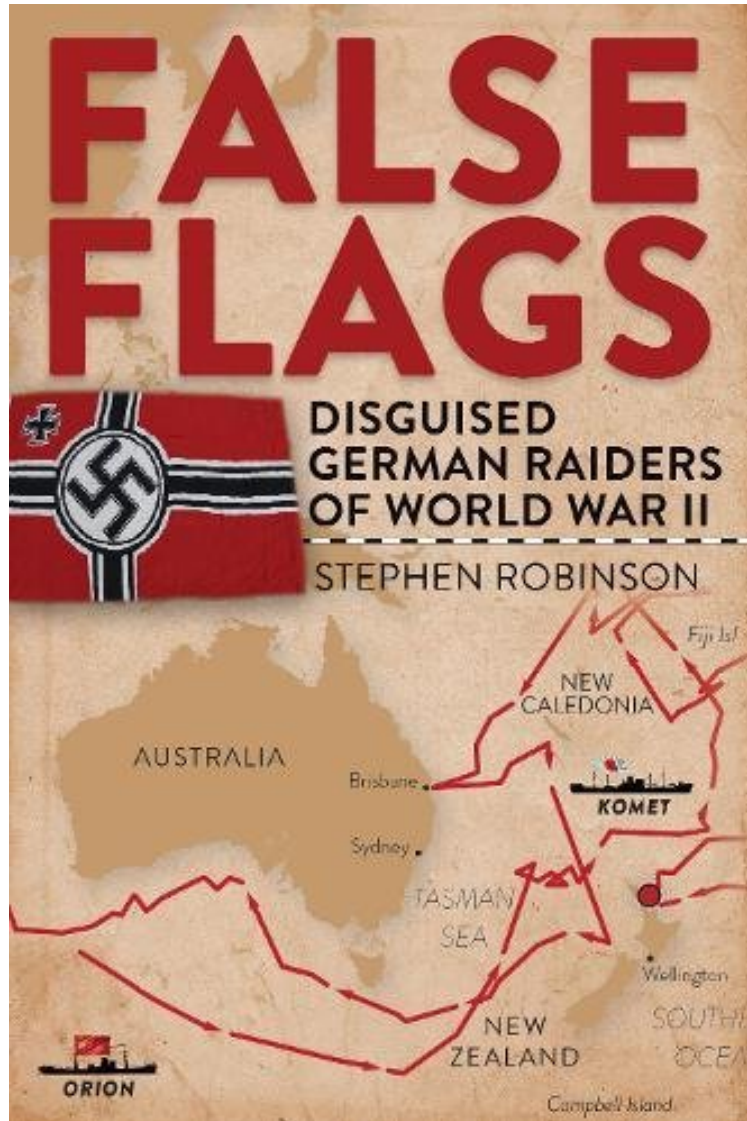


[Free pdf] False Flags: Disguised German Raiders of World War II

## False Flags: Disguised German Raiders of World War II

*Stephen Robinson*

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**Stephen Robinson : False Flags: Disguised German Raiders of World War II** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised False Flags: Disguised German Raiders of World War II:

4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. It is a brilliant, detailedBy KiwiwriterWhen you open this book, you might think...ah, this is the history of ALL the legendary disguised German merchant raiders of World War II, but it actually is a tight focus on four of the 16-odd merchant ships that were turned into auxiliary cruisers, specifically the Komet, Kormoran, Pinguin, and Orion, all of which created chaos in the oceans and waterways off of New Zealand

and Australia. That's all right -- the book came from an Antipodean publisher, and the Antipodean focus is to be expected. With that caveat in hand, the book is utterly fascinating. It is a brilliant, detailed, and highly-researched recounting of how the German raiders operated off of Australia and New Zealand, the damage they did, how they were sunk or otherwise disposed of, at the operational and human levels. It is not just "arrows on a map," it is a story of men of both sides pitting themselves against an unforgiving sea and enemy, with valor and humor. It shows the importance of individuals and teamwork to man ships in battle and dangerous weather, and also displays occasional glimpses of chivalry and humanity amid the squalor and horror of war. Any serious student of World War II should read this fascinating story.

5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. The four it does discuss are covered in great detail here.

By Steven Leenerts If you want to know more about disguised German Commerce Raiders, then you want to add this book to your library. Unfortunately it doesn't cover every raider, the four it does discuss are covered in great detail here. I have read many books about these ships and learned things here I have never heard before.

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. A riveting read!

By Barnacle An engaging story with a strong command of extensive detail. History buffs, military enthusiasts and the general reader with an eye for a good story will all enjoy this well-told tale of disguised raiders and those who sailed in them, whether as crew or captives. Excellent maps and photos.

False Flags tells the epic untold story of German raider voyages to the South Seas during the early years of World War II. In 1940 the raiders Orion, Komet, Pinguin, and Kormoran left Germany and waged a "pirate war" in the South Seas as part of Germany's strategy to attack the British Empire's maritime trade on a global scale. Their extraordinary voyages spanned the globe and are maritime sagas in the finest tradition of seafaring. The four raiders voyaged across the Atlantic, Pacific and Indian oceans as well as the Arctic and Antarctic. They sank or captured 62 ships in a forgotten naval war that is now being told in its entirety for the first time. The Orion and Komet terrorised the South Pacific and New Zealand waters before Pearl Harbor when the war was supposed to be far away. The Pinguin sank numerous Allied merchant ships in the Indian Ocean before mining the approaches to Australian ports and capturing the Norwegian whaling fleet in Antarctica. The Kormoran raided the Atlantic but will always be remembered for sinking the Australian cruiser Sydney off Western Australia, killing all 645 sailors on board in tragic circumstances. False Flags is also the story of the Allied sailors who encountered these raiders and fought suicidal battles against a superior foe as well as the men, women and children who endured captivity on board the raiders as prisoners of the Third Reich. False Flags is an engrossing tale that will appeal to not only military experts, but also to anyone interested in Maritime History.

"Stephen Robinson brings alive the stories of the ships, the men and their victims. Drawing on a range of primary and secondary sources, Robinson engagingly tells the most complete story of these ships. False Flags sings with stories of the last age of independent action at sea, and in many cases of chivalry - Gavin McLean, Senior Historian, NZ Ministry for Culture and Heritage