

The Battle of the Atlantic – the long campaign

Between 1939 and 1945 the Battle of the Atlantic claimed the lives of 30,000 allied merchant seamen and defensive guns' crews, and over 20,000 German submariners. The campaign – to destroy the convoys supplying Britain with raw materials to sustain the war effort – lasted 2,073 days, only two days shorter than the war itself. Of 2,232 ships sunk, 2,003 were lost to Germany's most powerful weapon, the U-Boat

