

# The Battle of Jutland

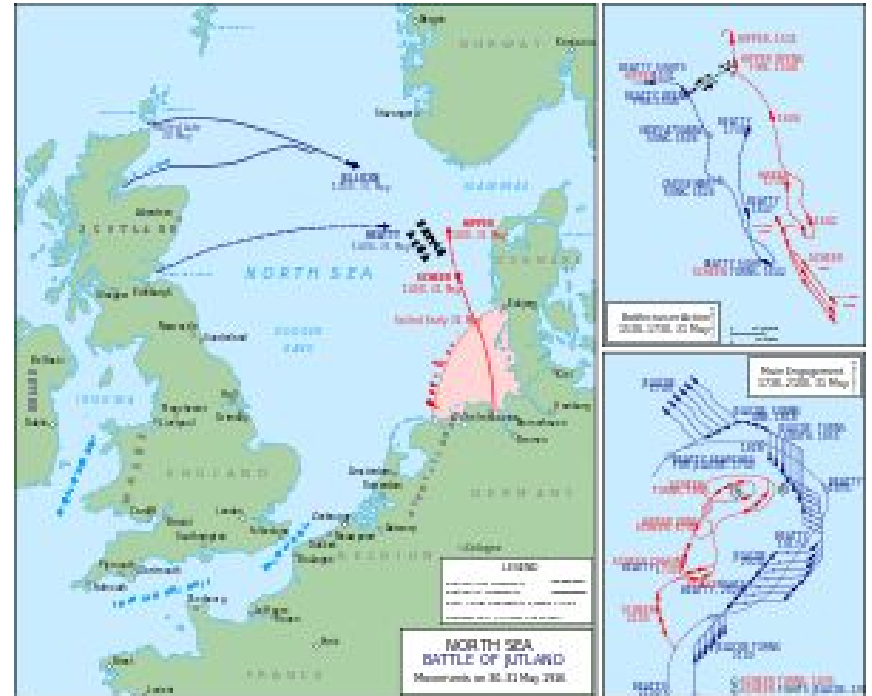
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# Introduction

The Battle of Jutland was a Naval Warfare Battle that took place from May 31, 1916 to June 1, 1916 on the North Sea off the coast of Denmark's Jutland Peninsula. It is considered to be one of the largest and most important naval battles of World War One and at the time it was the battle with the largest amount of battleships in history. The battle was fought between the British Royal Navy's Grand Fleet led by Admiral John Jellicoe (who commanded a total of one hundred and fifty one battleships) and the Imperial German Navy's High Seas Fleet under Vice Admiral Reinhard Scheer (who commanded a total of 99 battle ships). Although both sides claimed victory in this rather indecisive battle, the British Navy are considered to be the most victorious because they eventually forced the German Army to retreat and used this battle to regain control of the North Sea.

# Location

- As previously stated on the introduction slide the battle took place off the Coast of Jutland
- In the North Sea
- The British Forces mostly came from Moray Firth and Firth of Forth
- Majority of German Forces came from the Wilhelmshaven port
- A small amount of the battle and planning took place near Skagerrak
- The German forces retreated through Dogger Bank
- Exact coordinates are  $56^{\circ}42'N5^{\circ}52'E$



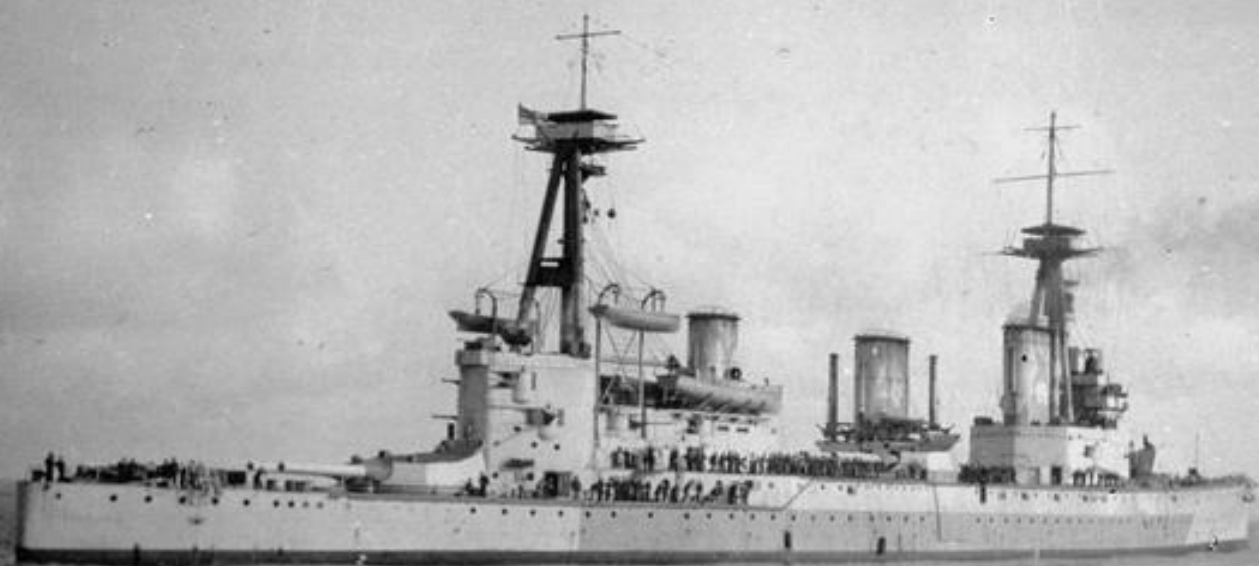
# Overall Military Strength (at start of battle)

## Britian:

- 28 Battleships
- 9 Battlecruisers
- 8 Armoured Cruisers
- 26 Light Cruisers
- 78 Destroyers
- 1 Minelayer
- Seaplane Carrier

## Germany:

- 16 Battleships
- 5 Battlecruisers
- 6 Pre-dreadnoughts
- 11 Light Cruisers
- 61 Torpedo Boats



# Outline

- On April 24 and 25th, 1916, the German army attacked the coastal towns of Lowestoft and Yarmouth (both located in Norfolk, England) in an attempt to lure the British Navy away from German trade routes
  - They also planned a surprise attack on the coast of Denmark to regain control of Dogger Bay
  - In May, Vice Admiral Scheer sent Admiral Von Hipper across the Danish Coast
- British Intelligence officers quickly sent news of this to Admiral Jellicoe who ordered the British fleet and officially started the battle in May 31, 1916
- Both the British and German Navy sent multiple cruiser ships in place of reconnaissance planes as a way of locating the enemy
- At 4:48 P.M., the scouting forces of both navies commenced a running artillery duel at the edge of Skagerrak

# Outline

- Due to a weakness in their defensive armor, many British ships were sunk
- The British forces were joined by a fleet of fifty-two ships based in Scapa Flow commanded by Sir David Beatty
  - Admiral Jellicoe used this as an opportunity to turn north and lure the German fleet towards the reinforcements
- The German Navy destroyed the Indefatigable when a powder magazine exploded and nearly one thousand soldiers were killed
  - Just thirty minutes later, Queen Mary was sunk in just ninety seconds
- Admiral Hipper was then joined by reinforcements from Vice Admiral Scheer's High Seas Fleet

# Outline

- The British lost a third warship when Invincible was sunk
- Unexpectedly, Admiral Hipper ordered the German Navy to sail north
  - Interpreting this as an attempt to lure the British fleet into a submarine trap or a German minefield, Admiral Jellicoe did not follow the Germans but sailed south to cut them off when they attempted to reach home
- Both fleets clashed and the German Navy took seventy direct hits
  - The German warship Lutzow sank while warships Seydlitz and Derfflinger were badly damaged
- At exactly 10:00 German forces retreated to escape certain defeat





# Significance of the Battle in World War One

- Many Historians have compared the Battle of Jutland to being as strategically decisive as the Battle of Trafalgar
- Although both sides claim victory for this battle, the fact remains that the German Navy was never able to regain any former power and did not go to any sea battles for quite some time.
- The German Navy was only able to participate in minor sweeps and failed almost every naval attack they attempted
  - The German Fleet only took part in small scale commerce raiding operations
- They were never able to fully recover when it came to repairs and did not have a fully functioning fighting force for some time
- This had a major impact on the German Army because the amount of supplies they were shipped went down
- "War may be senseless and the Battle of Jutland may have been inconclusive, but there can be no doubt that their sacrifice was not in vain." - Duke of Edinburgh
- "Historians may differ in their opinions about who won and who lost, but the fact remains that the German High Seas Fleet was unable to effectively challenge the Royal Navy's dominance at sea for the rest of the war."



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# Reasons for Success and Failure

- Both German and British newspapers claimed victory for the battle
  - German newspapers used the fact that they had sunk more ships to justify their victory
  - Scheer stated that the German fleet won due to its “great material superiority” and “military-geographical position”
- It should be noted that the British Army was larger and thus they would naturally have more casualties
- Hipper’s fleet had honeycomb hull construction that helped minimize damage done by bombings
  - The German ships were also easier to maneuver
- British ships did not have a sufficient amount of anti-flash protection which lead to many of their ships exploding once German fire reached their powder magazines
- The British Navy’s armour piercing shells often exploded outside of German battleships which led to little to no damage whatsoever
- During the beginning of the battle, the Germans had the advantage due to light visibility by the lay of the sun
  - However this advantage shifted to the British in the second phase of the battle

# Reasons for Success and Failure

- At 7:15 P.M., Admiral Jellicoe made the brilliant decision to take a ninety degree turn to port to take advantage of the remaining daylight and taking away the German Navy's visibility
  - This also cut off Hipper's Fleet from Scheer's Fleet
  - Also cut off the Germans from their home base
- Admiral Jellicoe also crossed the "T area" of Scheer's Fleet to give them seventy direct hits and break up their formation
- The British Navy also had people capable of doing almost full repairs on board
- Whereas the German Navy could only do minor repairs on board and had to go to port to do anything resembling full time repairs

# Canada's Contribution

- During the beginning of World War One, the majority of the naval conflicts were between the German and British Navy
  - Using multiple successful blockades, the British Navy kept most of the German fleet stuck in port with few supplies
- As a way of retaliating, the German Navy resorted to using submarines to sink supply ships of Ally forces and even neutral ships
- Despite an unstable treaty made with America to not sink neutral watercraft, the German army continued and ramped up the forces on their blockade with the intention of starving Britain in five months
- This was surprisingly effective with losses peaking at 869,000 tons of cargo
- In 1914 when Canada joined the war, they hastily shambled together a Naval force that was rudimentary at best
  - Consisted of less than 350 men
  - And two ships: the HMCS Rainbow and the HMCS Niobe
    - Due to this, it was decided by the Allies that Canada's best war effort would be spent on the Army
    - So all control of the Canadian Navy as well as the duty of protecting Canadian waters and shipping routes was handed over to the British Navy
- The Royal Canadian Navy assumed responsibility for shipping supplies to and from Canada and Britain, developing a telegraphic communications system that was incredibly helpful to the Allies' counter intelligence force and operating a auxiliary fleet that engaged in minesweeping operations
- Most importantly, the Royal Canadian Army formed a patrol of thirty six ships that made a significant dent in the German blockade and helped reduce the damage of lost cargo
- This in and of itself helped reduce the burden on the British Navy which helped them in a battle of such a large scale
- There was also many Canadian sailors on the ships as well

# Overall Cost

Losses	British Navy	German Navy
Dreadnoughts	0	0
Pre-dreadnoughts	0	1
Battle Cruisers	3	1
Armoured Cruisers	3	0
Light Cruisers	0	4
Destroyers	8	5





# Overall Casualties: British

- 6,094 killed
- 674 wounded
- 177 captured
- 3 battlecruisers
- 3 armoured cruisers
- 8 destroyers
- 113,000 tons sunk



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# Overall Casualties: British

Ship	Wounded	Killed
Barham	26	37
Colossus	5	
Malaya	33	63
Marlborough	2	
Valiant	1	
Warspite	16	14
Indefatigable	2	1,017
Invincible		1,026
Lion	44	99

Ship	Wounded	Killed
Princess Royal	78	22
Queen Mary	1,266	7
Tiger	37	24
Black Prince		857
Defence		903
Warrior	27	71
Calliope	9	10
Castor	24	13
Chester	42	35

SACRED  
 TO THE MEMORY OF  
 THE MEN OF H.M.S. BARRHAM  
 WHO LOST THEIR LIVES IN  
 THE BATTLE OF JUTLAND  
 31<sup>ST</sup> MAY 1916  
 BURIED IN THIS CEMETERY

W. DENT S.R.A.	E. YOUNG S.T.M.
R. J. MERRIN S.R.A.	C. BINSTEAD A.S.
W. HICKMAN A.S.	

BURIED AT SEA

A. RIDDINGTON S.O.L.	H. BRIGGS S.R.A.
W. E. GEORGE A.S.	T. DAVIDSON A.S.
T. HEAP S.S.	C. P. TYRRELL S.S.
A. ELLIS TEL.	H. LAVERECK TEL.
F. S. MANSON TEL.	B. G. INESON BOY TEL.
C. EASTER BOY	E. C. WAKE BOY TEL.
W. J. LAMBORN S.T.M.	JOHNSON BOY
W. Y. JONES BOY	TAYLOR BOY
	E. J. TULLY BOY

ALSO SEEN IN THE LIST  
 EFFECTIVE LIST

Young  
 Star  
 H.M.S. Barrham

William Livingston  
 A.R.R.  
 H.M.S. Barrham

# Overall Casualties: British

Ship	Wounded	Killed
Dublin	24	3
Southampton	41	35
Broke	36	47
Tipperary	2	185
Acasta	1	6
Ardent	2	78
Defender	2	1
Fortune	1	67
Morsom	1	
Nessus	7	7

Ship	Wounded	Killed
Nestor	4	6
Nomad	7	8
Onslaught	2	5
Onslow	3	2
Petard	6	9
Porpoise	2	2
Shark	2	86
Sparrowhawk		6
Spitfire	19	6
Turbulent	13	90

# Overall Casualties: German

- 2,551 killed
- 507 wounded
- 1 battlecruiser
- 1 pre-dreadnought
- 4 light cruisers
- 5 torpedo boats
- 62,300 tons





# Overall Casualties: German

Ship	Wounded	Killed
Grosser Kurfurst	11	15
Kaiser	1	
König	27	45
Markgraf	13	11
Nassau	15	12
Oldenburg	14	8
Ostfriesland	10	1
Pommern		840
Rheinland	20	10
Schliesien		

Ship	Wounded	Killed
Schleswig-Holstein	8	3
Westphalen	8	2
Derfflinger	26	154
Lützow	54	111
Moltke	22	17
Seydlitz	50	98
Von der Tann	35	12
Elbing	10	4
Frankfurt	21	3
Frauenlob		342





# Overall Casualties: German

Ship	Wounded	Killed
Hamburg	25	14
München	19	8
Pillau	23	4
Rostock	6	14
Stettin	27	9
Wiesbaden		570
B98	10	2
G40	1	1
S32	1	3
V4	3	18

# Sources

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