

GREAT WAR ON CANVAS

THE WORK OF NAVY COMBAT ARTISTS DURING THE GREAT WAR - BY ROBERT PAYNESVILLE
PAINTINGS COURTESY OF THE NAVAL HISTORY AND HERITAGE COMMAND



Edwin Simmons oil and canvas painting *Sinking of U-58 by USS Fanning* (framed 12 inches high by 24 inches wide) illustrates how Germany began a campaign of unrestricted warfare against all merchant shipping and how the Navy set out to put an end to such activities. On 17 November 1917, the destroyer USS *Fanning* (DD-37) was the first US Navy ship to sink a German U-Boat. The destroyer accomplished this feat by firing a pattern of depth charges, a tactic that became standard in anti-submarine warfare. Simmons was an American painter best remembered for his mural work.



USS San Diego Sinking is an oil and canvas painting (unframed 29 inches high by 44 inches wide) by Francis Muller. While serving as a convoy escort on 19 July 1918, USS *San Diego* struck a mine off the southern coast of Long Island, New York. The ship sank in 30 minutes with six casualties. She was the only major warship lost by the United States during the Great War. Muller was a Danish/American artist in demand for his maritime scenes.



Gouache on paper painting by Charles Malfroy titled *World War I Battle, Ship Torpedoed* (unframed 18 inches high by 28 inches wide) depicts the deadly new torpedo warfare taking place in the North Atlantic. Malfroy, a French citizen, was an accomplished artist that specialized in marine and landscape painting.