

“DAMN THE TORPEDOES – FULL STEAM
AHEAD!”
THE CHANGING NATURE OF TORPEDOES
AND MINES DURING THE AMERICAN
CIVIL WAR

“Dovraga i torpeda – punom parom naprijed!”
Promjenjiva priroda torpeda i mina u
Američkome građanskom ratu

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Summary

Admiral David Farragut is said to have made that statement when a fleet of US Naval ships moved up the Mississippi River during the American Civil War. To modern observers, with a modern understanding of torpedo warfare it seems a rash statement. But a closer look at torpedoes and mines used during the Civil War suggests that it wasn't rash but rational. This paper will take a look at the state of torpedo and mine usage at the beginning of the Civil War and how changing technology, including better sealing and the use of guncotton made these weapons more formidable by the end of the war.

Key words: admiral David Farragut, American Civil War, torpedoes and mines

Sažetak

Kažu da je admiral David Farragut izgovorio tu rečenicu kad je flota američkih vojnih brodova zaplovila uzvodno po rijeci Mississippi za vrijeme Američkoga građanskog rata. Suvremenom promatraču, s današnjim poimanjem ratovanja torpedima, ta će se rečenica učiniti nesmotrenom. Pažljivije razmatranje torpeda i

mina korištenih u Američkome građanskom ratu, međutim, navodi nas na zaključak da rečenica nije bila nesmotrena, nego racionalna. U ovome referatu analizirat ćemo primjenu torpeda i mina na početku Građanskog rata te kako su te vrste oružja zbog promjena u tehnologiji, uključujući bolje brtvljenje i upotrebu nitroceluloze, do kraja rata postale još opasnije.

Ključne riječi: *admiral David Farragut, američki građanski rat, torpeda i mine*