

## Robert Ballard

Deep-Sea Explorer and Discoverer of the Titanic and Life at the Bottom of the Sea

Dr. Robert Ballard is one of the greatest undersea explorers of our times, having conducted over 140 deep sea expeditions during his 54 year career of going to sea.

He is not only an oceanographer with numerous important discoveries in the natural sciences including the first manned exploration of the Mid-Ocean Ridge and the discovery of the first hydrothermal vents along with their exotic life forms that have helped to explain the origin of life on our planet and where to look for life beyond the earth but also the discoverer of keys chapters of human history. Those have included the RMS TITANIC, the German Battleship BISMARCK, the aircraft carrier the USS YORKTOWN from the Battle of Midway, and President John F. Kennedy's PT-109 as well as ancient shipwrecks dating as far back to the time of ancient Greece.

In addition to being an explorer and oceanography, Dr. Ballard served in the US Navy for more 30 years; applying his underwater skills to a number of highly classified Cold War Missions.

He a well known author with two *New York Times* and *London Times* #1 best-sellers, a film producers of documentaries that have won numerous Emmys, as well as an Explorer in Residence for the National Geographic Society and past host of their TV program, Explorer.

He has received numerous honors and awards from the US Navy including the Lone Sailor Award, 21 Honorary Doctorates, the Newcomb Cleveland Award from the Journal Science for the best science article of the Year, the Explorers Medal from the Explorer's Club, the National Geographic Society's most prestigious Hubbard Medal, the Lindberg Medal, and the National Endowment for the Humanities Medal presented to him in the Oval Office of White House by President George W. Bush.

Each year, you will find Dr. Ballard at sea aboard his ship of exploration the E/V NAUTILUS along with his Corps of Exploration continuing to unlock the secrets of the sea.