

THE READING LIST

Josiah Bunting III

Chairman of Friends of the National World War II Memorial, an organization dedicated to honoring and preserving America's memory of World War II, Si Bunting knows a thing or two about accomplishment. President of the Harry Frank Guggenheim Foundation, Bunting is a Rhodes Scholar with a degree in Modern History from Oxford University. He served in Vietnam in the 9th Infantry Division, taught history at West Point, and was professor of Strategy at the Naval War College. Here, Bunting focuses on works of rare accomplishment.

The Guns at Last Light

The War in Western Europe, 1944-1945
Rick Atkinson (2014)

"The definitive, most elegant, most comprehensive survey of America's war in Europe. Atkinson's book combines exhaustive research with a very graceful blend of anecdote and meaning. It is the best we have: compellingly readable."

Ardennes 1944

The Battle of the Bulge
Antony Beevor (2015)

"Among the five or six impressive works on the Battle of the Bulge, Beevor's stands out in its richness of detail and depth of research, combined to convey a clear sense of how the battle was fought on both sides and the consequences. The majority of the soldiers in this battle were very young—and it is important that people remember that. It shows what 18- and 19-year-old American kids can accomplish when they're up against it."

Engineers of Victory

The Problem Solvers Who Turned the Tide in the Second World War
Paul Kennedy (2013)

"Most histories of World War II are devoted to shows of valor and grand strategy, and we lose sight of the role and consequences of the war's technological developments. Kennedy's book is by far the best examination of the theme of Technological Determinism: that the weapons we build determine how we fight. The book is particularly strong in its coverage of the Pacific, and the steep and rapid learning curve it depicts in mastering amphibious landings."

Masters and Commanders

How Four Titans Won the War in the West, 1941-1945
Andrew Roberts (2009)

"By far the standard for military history on the making of the grand strategy for World War II. Roberts provides a detailed accounting of all the great war conferences, and the personalities, politics, and interactions of the British, the American, and—beginning in 1943—the Russian participants. A terrific read."

Eisenhower in War and Peace

Jean Edward Smith (2012)

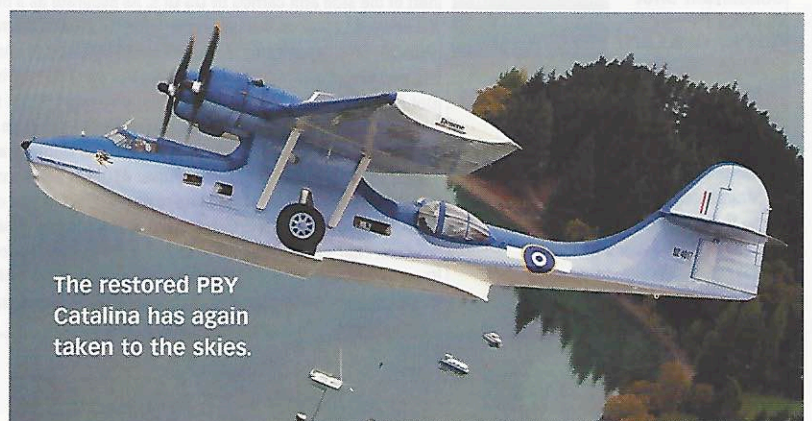
"The last word on Ike. A comprehensive biography, from Abilene through Ike's presidency and beyond. Smith's work goes beyond offering a portrait of Ike—and what made him the way he was—to creating a portrait of Eisenhower's extraordinarily agile mind and what shaped it. Ike always kept learning and kept changing. The British regarded Eisenhower—and rightly so—as a beau ideal of what an American gentleman should be: 'Nature's Gentleman,' historian Max Hastings called him. An extraordinarily good book."

Josiah Bunting III is the author of *Ulysses S. Grant* (2004)—part of Arthur M. Schlesinger's American Presidents Series. His biography of George C. Marshall, *Marshall*, will be published by Knopf early next year.



DISPATCHES

★ One hundred New Zealand volunteers dedicated \$240,000 and 100,000 hours of work over four years to get a Consolidated PBV Catalina flying boat—the last flyable version of the amphibious patrol plane in the southern hemisphere—back in the air. The 1944 plane, which had been grounded for six years before the refurbishment, took off at the Warbirds Over Wanaka international air show on New Zealand's south island in March.



The restored PBV Catalina has again taken to the skies.

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