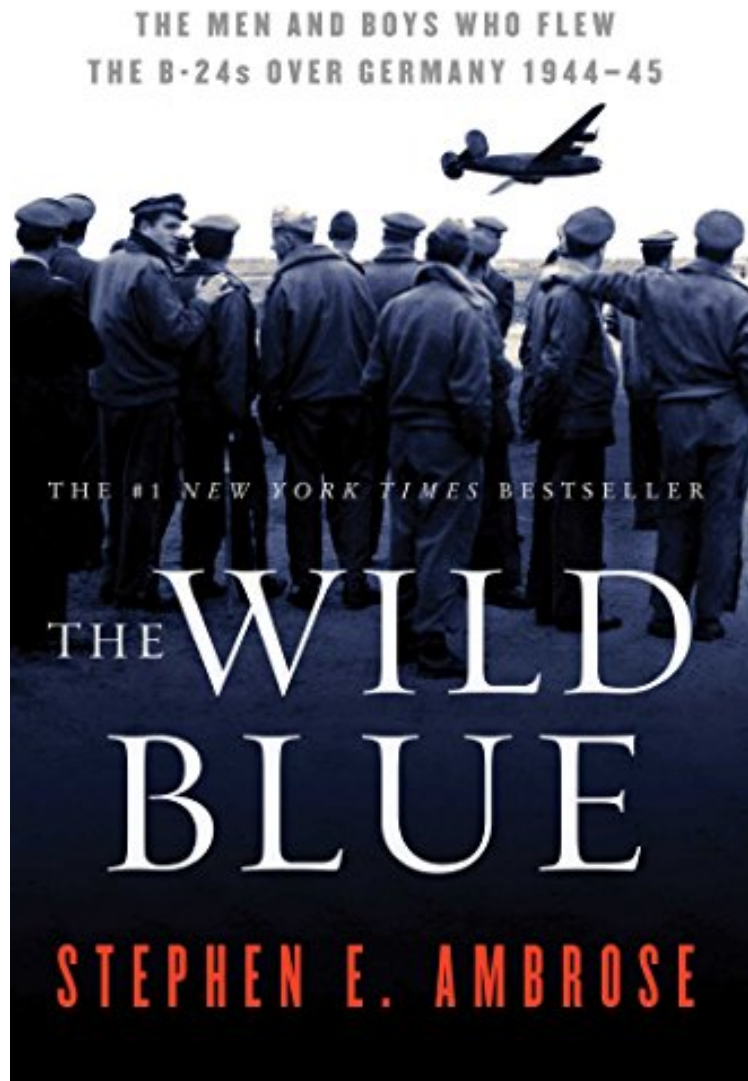


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The Wild Blue: The Men and Boys Who Flew the B-24s Over Germany 1944-45

Stephen E. Ambrose

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Stephen E. Ambrose : The Wild Blue: The Men and Boys Who Flew the B-24s Over Germany 1944-45 before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Wild Blue: The Men and Boys Who Flew the B-24s Over Germany 1944-45:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Lightweight wartime bio of George McGovern By Customer This sketchy bio of the early life and war experiences of George McGovern, the very prominent American politician, does

not give much insight into anything. The author, who has had much success elsewhere, seems unable to make up his mind exactly what he wants this book to be - a bio, a wartime tale of a bomber pilot, or a close look at the B-24. Consequently it is just a bit of each. It is well edited, without the abysmal grammar found in many other Kindle editions. and so can be read quite quickly. We are left knowing that McGovern was a very brave and skilful pilot, the B-24 was a lumbering but effective pig of a plane, and the Germans were at that time still quite formidable. However I was not left thinking this was one of the great WWII novels, and maybe it was never meant to be. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Who knew George McGovern was a B-24 pilot? By Alphachief...for that matter, Who is George McGovern? In 1972 he was the Democrat presidential candidate, but he lost to Richard Nixon. McGovern was anti-Vietnam War and anti-bombing North Vietnam. Before he was a politician he was a decorated officer and pilot of a B-24 Liberator who completed dozens of bombing missions during WWII. The Wild Blue by Stephen Ambrose is primarily about McGovern, his crew and Eleanor, the B-24 they flew. I picked this book to expose myself to the writing of Stephen Ambrose. Also, I wanted to learn more details about our nation's WWII bombing campaign in Europe. By reading this book, I accomplished both. I will be back for more from the author and I gained an amazed appreciation about (so called) precision daylight bombing in Europe amidst enemy fighter aircraft and intense anti-aircraft fire. If I knew then in 1972 what I know now; I would have voted for Lieutenant McGovern. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Wonderful book, great story By Warren Olfert This is a fabulous story. I've always loved Stephen Ambrose's writing and while I'd heard about George McGovern's flying in World War II, I had not read the story. Frankly, I was almost completely unaware of the B-24's role in the war, so this book was a completely new insight for me into the conflict. Ambrose has a way with not only educating us but also keeping our attention through great storytelling. He does this by focusing less on the historical aspects and more on the people, all of who have something to add. The result is a book I can't recommend more highly.

Stephen E. Ambrose, acclaimed author of *Band of Brothers* and *Undaunted Courage*, carries us along in the crowded and dangerous B-24s as their crews fought to destroy the German war machine during World War II. The young men who flew the B-24s over Germany in World War II fought against horrific odds, and, in *The Wild Blue*, Ambrose recounts their extraordinary heroism, skill, daring, and comradeship with vivid detail and affection. Ambrose describes how the Army Air Forces recruited, trained, and selected the elite few who would undertake the most demanding and dangerous jobs in the war. These are the boys—turned pilots, bombardiers, navigators, and gunners of the B-24s—who suffered over fifty percent casualties. With his remarkable gift for bringing alive the action and tension of combat, Ambrose carries us along in the crowded, uncomfortable, and dangerous B-24s as their crews fought to the death through thick black smoke and deadly flak to reach their targets and destroy the German war machine. Twenty-two-year-old George McGovern, who was to become a United States senator and a presidential candidate, flew thirty-five combat missions (all the Army would allow) and won the Distinguished Flying Cross. We meet him and his mates, his co-pilot killed in action, and crews of other planes. Many went down in flames. As *Band of Brothers* and *Citizen Soldiers* portrayed the bravery and ultimate victory of the American soldiers from Normandy on to Germany, *The Wild Blue* illustrates the enormous contribution that these young men of the Army Air Forces made to the Allied victory.

Dorman T. Shindler *The Denver Post* [*The Wild Blue*] demands our attention...page-turning reading. Calvin L. Christman *The Dallas Morning News* *The Wild Blue* is right on target...[the book] finally gives those men of the 15th Air Force the tribute they so richly earned. Larry King *USA Today* Brilliant...It is a terrific story. About the Author Stephen E. Ambrose was a renowned historian and acclaimed author of more than thirty books. Among his *New York Times* bestsellers are *Nothing Like It in the World*, *Citizen Soldiers*, *Band of Brothers*, *D-Day - June 6, 1944*, and *Undaunted Courage*. Dr. Ambrose was a retired Boyd Professor of History at the University of New Orleans and a contributing editor for the *Quarterly Journal of Military History*.