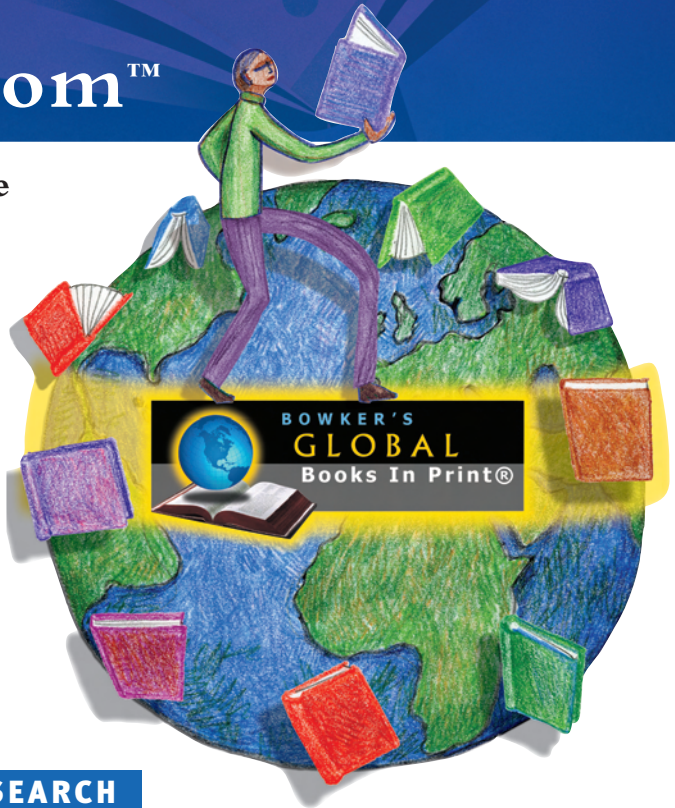


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**Library Journal**  
(September 1, 2002; 0-7887-9009-9)

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Ambrose's latest, and perhaps most controversial, book purports to be about those who flew in the B-24 heavy bombers against the Third Reich. Actually, its focus is very much on the service of one pilot: former Sen. George McGovern. While the story of McGovern's commendable service is quite interesting and sometimes moving, the author could have given more space to others who flew in the B-24s. This work is certainly not on a par with Ambrose's earlier *Band of Brothers*. Jeffrey DeMunn's delivery is steady and his voice smooth. Ambrose himself reads a foreword and an afterword that display his usual enthusiasm for his subject. Public libraries should seriously consider this program, despite its flaws.—Michael T. Fein, Central Virginia Community Coll., Lynchburg Copyright 2002 Cahners Business Information.

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**Choice**  
(February 1, 2002; 0-7432-0339-9)

The latest from the pen of prolific and popular military historian Ambrose (*D-Day*, June 6, 1944, 1994, and *Citizen Soldiers*, 1997) tells the story of the ordinary men who became US airmen and flew Liberator bombers against Germany/Austria from Italy in WW II. The book, smaller in size than the usual Ambrose tome, recounts the cramped and often freezing high-level aerial work; the danger, stress, and fatigue of missions; the aircraft; and the prerequisite training from the viewpoint of one B-24 crew led by former US senator and presidential candidate George McGovern, then just 22 years old. The future politician and his men were among the lucky 50 percent of the Liberator crews who survived their operations from the improvised fields of Italy into the flak and fighter filled skies to, from, and over such targets as Palesti and Berlin. Loaded with anecdote, illustrated with mostly unpublished photos, and based on interviews and primary and secondary works, this book might best be read as the airborne equivalent of the television

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