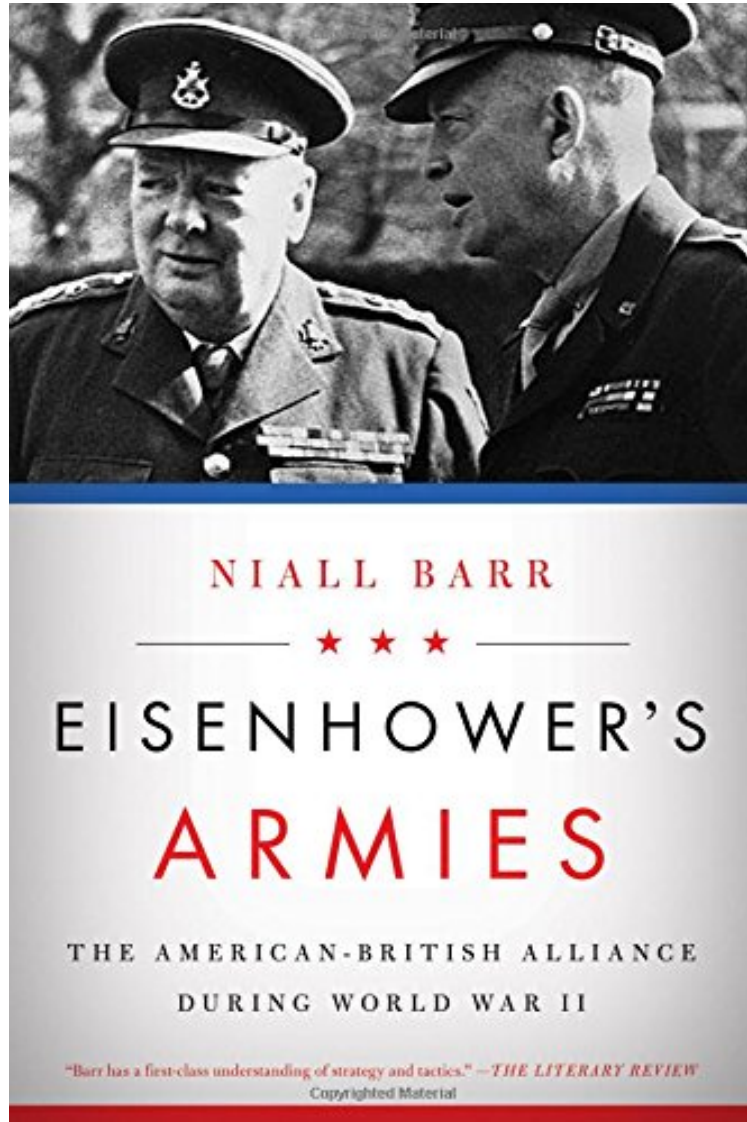


(Mobile pdf) Eisenhower's Armies: The American-British Alliance during World War II

# Eisenhower's Armies: The American-British Alliance during World War II

Niall Barr

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**Niall Barr : Eisenhower's Armies: The American-British Alliance during World War II** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Eisenhower's Armies: The American-British Alliance during World War II:

34 of 34 people found the following review helpful. The Lion and the EagleBy Christian SchlectA British military historian gives his informed take on how two allies--the U.S. and Great Britain--worked together as armies in the

European theater of World War II. This is not a book to learn about the Russian contribution to the war, the German perspective, or the war in the Pacific. Niall Barr starts with some interesting background to the special relationship that reaches back to the days of George Washington. He then focuses on the practical difficulties encountered in coming to a functioning unified command structure given the many differences between the two major allies, Differences in battle experience at the beginning, with the U.S. green and untested; differences in equipment; differences in culture; and so forth. Dr. Barr views General Eisenhower as the person, who in the end, should be given credit for making the military alliance in Europe work in spite of the many headstrong and nationalistic battle commanders, including the difficult Field Marshal Montgomery. And he reminds us of what an unusual thing it was to have two countries work together so closely at time of war. For those wanting a more complete treatment of the war in Europe from an American's perspective, I suggest reading Rick Atkinson's trilogy.

4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. An excellent and not a bit boring. By John This is an amazing book. Mr. Barr has written what I believe to be the definitive work dealing with the SHAEF and army commander's decisions during WWII. It deals with the difficulties associated with bringing an alliance together starting with the very early problems of England before the US entered the war (lend lease, US isolationism, etc) and runs clear through the end of the war and a bit of it's aftermath. He takes no sides but deals with factual information. He identifies with the major decisions and gives background associated with those decisions. Arguments, agreements, suspicions, distrust, trust, etc. are all discussed from the facts associated with them. He also writes of the soldiers and their views of what happened. It is by no means a "dry" read but he pulls you into the SHAEF meetings and into the army Commander's rolls and the movement of armies and divisions as if you were there. I highly recommend this book to anyone who has a desire to learn about the difficulties of making an alliance work and it impact on those who are responsible to fight a war.

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Magnificent Book. By Michael Lapelosa This book delves into the British-American alliance during WWII that was the most effective military alliance in history. However the author makes crystal clear that there were also constant tensions and disagreements that threatened to pull the alliance apart. The author's narrative highlights why the very different American and British forces eventually were led to victory while illustrating the tensions and controversies which inevitably arose. The book views these events from high-level strategic decisions, the rivalries and personalities of the commanders and the ordinary British and American soldiers who fought alongside one another. Included is an analysis of how previous experience between the two military cultures from the French and Indian war, the American Revolution and WWI shaped the strategic philosophies and decisions of the war. The author spins a vibrant tale of two very different armies learning to live, work, and fight together even in the face of serious strategic disagreements. The book focuses on the alliances' Indispensable Man, Eisenhower, who molded the team that won the war. The author also provides significant details regarding well known personalities of the struggle; Montgomery, Patton, and Bradley, as well as other lesser known, but truly important individuals like Dill, Alexander and Wilson. The book is comprehensive and well written but not cluttered with extraneous detail. The author's narrative is balanced and objective which provides with perspective, context and insight. Overall, an excellent, informative book!

An authoritative and dramatic behind-the-scenes history of 'the Atlantic Alliance' during World War II. The Anglo-American relationship from 1941-1945 proved to be the most effective military alliance in history. Yet there were also constant tensions and disagreements that threatened to pull the alliance apart. This book highlights why the unprecedented level of cooperation between the very different American and British forces eventually led to victory but also emphasizes the tensions and controversies which inevitably arose. Based on considerable archival research on both sides of the Atlantic, this work considers the breadth and depth of the relationship from high-level strategic decisions, the rivalries and personalities of the commanders to the ordinary British and American soldiers who fought alongside one another. The book also looks back and demonstrates how the legacy of previous experience shaped the decisions of the war. Eisenhower's Armies is the story of two very different armies learning to live, work, and fight together even in the face of serious strategic disagreements. The book is also a very human story about the efforts of many individuals? famous or otherwise? who worked and argued together to defeat Hitler's Germany. In highlighting the cooperation, tensions, and disagreements inherent in this military alliance, this work shows that Allied victory was far from pre-ordained and proves that the business of making this alliance work was vital for eventual success. Thus this dynamic new history provides a fresh perspective on many of the controversies and critical strategic decisions of World War II. As such, this book provides expert analysis of the Anglo-American military alliance as well as new insights into the 'special relationship' of the mid-twentieth century. 16 pages of BW photographs

"An astute, always engrossing account of how civilian leaders and their army chiefs recruited, trained, and deployed two immense armies. A detailed, entertaining history of a successful, if bumpy, military alliance." - Kirkus s (starred review) "An authoritative and highly readable account." - The Economist "In Eisenhower's Armies, British military historian Niall Barr shows how two very different military structures were welded into a single military force. His long view, along with his ability to appreciate the perspectives of both bulldog and tomcat, is instructive to readers interested in the military side of the Anglo-American alliance. An admirable study of the bayonet's edge of the

‘Special Relationship.’” - Wall Street Journal “In a splendid new book, Niall Barr provides us with an engrossing account.” - BBC History Magazine “An astute and engrossing history of how two separate nations deployed two immense armies in a war of freedom.” - Bookreporter “Barr becomes the current standard for a comprehensive history of the campaign.” - Booklist (starred review) “A riveting, knowledgeable account. A fresh perspective into this ‘special relationship’ between Britain and the United States at a pivotal point in time. This dramatic work isn’t just for military historians or World War II scholars. Highly recommended for students of World War II and of the Atlantic Alliance of the mid-20th century and is a great read for anyone interested in leadership, decision making, international relations and diplomacy, and 20th-century history.” - Library Journal “Offers an in-depth and engrossing study of the relationship between Britain and the U.S. from 1941 to 1945. Where many other studies adopt a singular approach in the process, this wider-reaching examination delves into the relationship between British and American armies themselves throughout the conflict. The result is a powerful survey that succeeds where others fail: in pinpointing the underlying influences, controversies, and struggles made on both sides during World War II. No military history collection should be without this.” - Midwest Book “A detailed yet accessible military history. Relying on sound scholarship and writing for a general audience, Barr guides readers through the numerous ups and downs of the fraught relationship and highlights dramatic moments of both crisis and success.” - Publishers Weekly “Excellent and engaging. This is a fascinating and dramatic tale and Barr tells it very well. Recommended.” - The Journal of Military History “A very considerable achievement by one of the best of the younger generation of British military historians.” - Gary Sheffield, *Military Illustrated* “Barr makes his specific focus the army: as a military historian, he is strong on strategy, tactics, consequences, and the manifold frustrations and disasters that could be caused by simple accidents of weather or geography. Barr is keen to demonstrate that the troops on the ground usually ? after initial wariness -? found a great deal of mutual admiration. The shared respect between these servicemen from different nations who fought for a free world is an inspirational story.” - The Telegraph (London) “Niall Barr's prose is lean and his narrative moves quickly. He has produced a masterful, impressively researched history detailing the machinery of wartime decision-making, as well as the military alliance, led by Eisenhower, that defeated Hitler's Germany.” - The Weekly Standard

About the Author Niall Barr is a Senior Lecturer in Defence Studies at the Defence Studies Department, King's College, London. He has previously taught at St Andrews and the Royal Military Academy. His main research focus concerns twentieth century military history. He has published numerous military histories including *Amiens to the Armistice*; *Flodden 1513*; *Pendulum of War: The Three Battles of El Alamein*; and *The Lion and the Poppy*. He lives in Oxfordshire with his family.