

Further Reading for War Eagles

War Eagles is, first and last, a game. It's entertainment, not education. But the story of the strategy of air power, and how it developed before and during World War II, is a fascinating one. Its lessons persist to the present day, and have influenced many of the events of this century and the last decade of the last. No game about that period would be worth playing if it wasn't rooted in the discoveries, triumphs, and brutal tragedies of that learning process. If you're interested in learning more, these books can provide an outline of what happened, why it happened, and what the principals thought they were doing. Maybe most importantly, the stories of the pilots and commanders who fought that war can help you imagine what it was like to be in the center of that bloody and terrifying time.

The Command of the Air by Giulio Douhet

The pioneering work on air power theory, laying the groundwork for how nations used aircraft in WWII.

The Birth of British Air Power by Peter Dye

Explores how Britain built its air forces, setting the stage for epic battles like the Battle of Britain.

The Battle of Britain by James Holland

A gripping account of the 1940 air campaign that turned the tide against the Luftwaffe.

Hitler's Luftwaffe by Bill Gunston

Details the rise and fall of Germany's air force before and during WWII, from its early dominance to its ultimate defeat.

The Bombing War: Europe 1939-1945 by Richard Overy

A comprehensive look at the strategic bombing campaigns that reshaped Europe during WWII.

Japan 1944-45 by Mark Lardas

An in-depth treatment of the end of the Japanese war in the Pacific with an emphasis on the bloody and fiery bombing campaign that brought Japan to its knees.

The First and the Last by Adolph Galland

The story of the German war in the air, told firsthand by a man who was one of the highest-scoring aces of the war and became the Luftwaffe's General of Fighters at age 30.

Thunderbolt! by Robert Johnson

The story of an American P-47 pilot, capturing the intensity of air combat in Europe.

Samurai! by Saburo Sakai

A Japanese pilot's riveting account of survival and skill in the Pacific theater.

Wing Leader by J.E. Johnson

One of the highest-scoring aces of the Battle of Britain, Johnson rose to command a fighter wing in record time, and tells the story of Britain's air war, and his own.

Fight for the Sky by Douglas Bader

The inspiring story of a legless RAF pilot who became a legend in the Battle of Britain and the development and the employment of the British fighter force.