### 1981

#### 81/ban.1  Bantam Books

*The Right Stuff, Tom Wolfe*


*Printers:* made and printed in the USA

*Price:* £1.50

*ISBN:* 0 553 17734 6

*Front cover:* col. painting, pilot and X.15, unsigned

*Rear cover:* synopsis, small illus.

*Notes:* Bantam Books are published in Great Britain by Transworld Publishers, London (and advert for Corgi Books)

*Tom Wolfe* is generally regarded as one of the most brilliant observers of the American social scene. Since the mid-sixties, when post-war affluent America exploded into radically different lifestyles and subcultures, Wolfe has been its faithful chronicler with a steady stream of books … In 1980 Tom Wolfe received the Harold D. Vursell Memorial Award for recent writing in book form that merits recognition for the quality of its prose style from the American Academy of Arts and Letters.

### 81/bat.1  Batsford Paperbacks

*Surviving World War II Aircraft, Chaz Bowyer, B.T. Batsford Ltd, London*

First published 1981. 20 x 19.5cm. pp. [iv] 5-64. Col. photos

*Printers:* printed in Hong Kong

*Price:* £1.25

*ISBN:* 0 7134 3431 7

*Front cover:* col. photo Fairey Swordfish

*Rear cover:* synopsis and col. photo DH Mosquito

*Notes:* There are now more aircraft museums than ever before … This book is a concise guide to some of the World War II aircraft that can be seen in Britain, and contains photographs and descriptions of 30 aircraft that still survive.

*Notes:* Books on aviation published by B.T. Batsford are covered more fully in a separate catalogue of Batsford (mainly topographical and historical) books. An earlier attempt by the firm at the more popular aviation market, albeit in hardback:

**[2] Pocket Book series:**

*The Bomber Aircraft Pocketbook, Compiled and Edited by Roy Cross, London, B.T. Batsford Ltd*


*Printers:* Jarrold and Sons Ltd, London and Norwich

*Price:* 9/6

*Notes:* [p.5] … concentrates on the entire technical evolution of the carrying vehicle itself in all the major air forces.


### 81/dlm.1  Dalesman Heritage

*Yorkshire’s Early Flying Days, A Pictorial History by Ronald Nelson Redman, Dalesman Books, 1981*

17.5 x 21cm. pp. [iii] 4-80. Photos

*Printers:* Fretwell & Brian Ltd, Keighley

*Price:* £0 85206 646 5

*Front cover:* monochrome photo [Blackburn monoplane on Filey Beach]. Dalesman Heritage

*Rear cover:* monochrome photo [Cayley replica launched over Brompton Dale 1974]

*Notes:* volume in a much wider series of early photographs on various subjects

### 81/fnt.1  Fontana Paperbacks

*Alistair MacLean’s Air Force One is Down, written by John Denis, Fontana/Collins*


*Printers:* William Collins Sons & Co Ltd, Glasgow

*Price:* £1.25

*ISBN:* 0 00 616335 1

*Front and rear covers:* col. painting Boeing 707 Air Force 1 exploding

*Rear cover:* synopsis

*Notes:* p.[i] Alistair MacLean writes: *Air Force One is Down* is based on the second of a series of story outlines I wrote in 1977, with a view to their being developed into a series of films. I was very happy for John Denis to write the novel of *Hostage Tower*, the first of the series to be filmed, because I was completing my novel *Athabasca* at the time Fontana wanted the novel written. I believe that John Denis made such a good job of *Hostage Tower* that he should also write the novel of *Air Force One is Down*. … I hope this explanation … will illustrate that neither of the books is an ‘Alistair MacLean novel.’ …

### 81/fnt.2  Fontana Paperbacks

*Flying Concorde, Brian Calvert, Fontana*
Brian Calvert was born in 1933 in China (where his family was later interned by the Japanese during the Second World War) and educated at Stowe School, Buckinghamshire. He joined BOAC (now part of British Airways) in 1957, after National Service in the Fleet Air Arm. For his first two years with the airline he flew as a navigator, and this led to a lifelong interest in the subject. He is now a Fellow of the Royal Institute of Navigation. He has taken part in a fascinating part of aviation history, flying such famous civil aircraft as Boeing Stratocruisers, Britannias, Comet IVs and VC-10s, as well as Concorde. In 1966 he joined the airline’s Flight Development unit, where he became closely involved with the introduction of new aircraft and flight systems, and where his interpretations of the needs of aircrew had a significant influence on aircraft design. For his work in this field, and on the introduction and trials of new navigations systems, he received the Airlines Avionics Institute’s Volare Award.

During Concorde’s entry into service, as Flight Manager (Technical), he was responsible for deciding on the methods by which Concorde would be flown, the flying qualities of the aircraft and the suitability of potential routes, and played an active role in complicated and protracted negotiations with foreign governments (including that of the USA). He carried out acceptance trials on the new aircraft and flew several of its inaugural flights. In 1977 he received the Guild of Air Pilots and Navigators’ Brackley Trophy, and in 1979 was awarded the Queen’s Commendation for Valuable Services in the Air. Captain Calvert is married to the writer Mary Danby and has three children. He lives in an eighteenth-century cottage in West Berkshire, and his spare-time interests include navigation, producing mariners’ radio charts, antique restoring and village cricket.

81/khc Keyhole Crime 27

Pilot Error, Bill Knox, Keyhole Crime, London Sydney
Printers: Cox & Wyman Ltd, Reading
Price: 95p
ISBN: 0 263 73708 X
Front cover: black with col. illus. of model aeroplane in keyhole design
Rear cover: synopsis
Notes: Murder mystery featuring crash of a Beagle Pup and a flying club in Scotland

81/pan.1 Pan Books
Christopher Robbins. The Invisible Air Force, The story of the CIA’s secret airlines.
Price: £1.75
ISBN: 0 330 26256 4
Front cover: David Scutt. Black DC.3
Rear cover: For thirty years, the CIA ran the largest flying company in the world as cover for its spying operations. Known as Air America, this secret airline’s exploits read like the best adventure fiction. It provided air support for three invasions of Communist China. It supplied a mercenary army of 30,000 opium farmers and carried their dope to market. It made illegal flights over Russia and China. It played a heroic role during the fall of South Vietnam. Plus countless other hair-raising missions. With its flying cowboys in the cockpits - hard-drinking adventurers only happy when surrounded by danger - Air America carved itself a remarkable legend of flying history that makes enthralling reading.
Born in Bristol, Christopher Robbins was educated at Taunton School. He has written for many magazines and newspapers in Britain, America and Europe, including the Sunday Times and Observer. Besides television documentaries and three film scripts, he has previously published a volume of short stories, and a non-fiction book, Assassin. At the moment he lives in California.
[2] original edition:
[not held]
[3] Corgi Books
Air America, The True Story of the CIA’s Mercenary Fliers In Covert Operations From Pre-War China to Present Day Nicaragua,
originally published in Great Britain as ‘The Invisible Airforce’, Christopher Robbins, Corgi Books


Printers: The Guernsey Press Co Ltd

Price: £3.99

ISBN: 0 552 12821 X

Front cover: monochrome photo of helicopters. From World War II to Vietnam – the explosive inside story of the CIA’s supersecret airline. Soon to be a major film

Rear cover: synopsis, reviews


Printers: Cox & Wyman Ltd, Reading

Price: £3.99

ISBN: 0 552 13722 7

Front cover: col. still from film and two stars. Christopher Robbins, Bestselling author of The Ravens. … Basis for the motion picture Air America starring Mel Gibson and Robert Downey, Jr.

Rear cover: synopsis, reviews

Christopher Robbins was born in Bristol in 1946 and educated at Taunton School. He began his career in journalism at he age of 16 when he started writing jazz criticism for the Daily Telegraph. Since then he has written for numerous newspapers and magazines in Britain, Europe and the USA. He has spent most of the past decade in the USA, working as a journalist and film script writer.

81/pan.2

Pan Books

Alexander Fullerton, Last Lift from Crete, Pan Books, London and Sydney

Printers: Hunt Barnard Printing Ltd, Aylesbury

Price: £1.50

ISBN: 0 330 26501 6

Front cover: col. painting by Stephen Crisp of Ju.87 attacking ships. Latest adventure in the superb Everard series

Rear cover: synopsis

Notes: novel about naval evacuation of Crete 1941

Born into a naval family in 1924, Alexander Fullerton went to the Royal Naval College, Dartmouth, at the age of 13. He first went to sea as a midshipman in 1941, serving first in the Mediterranean aboard the battleship Queen Elizabeth, the cruiser Orion and the destroyer Hero. He joined the submarines at Malta and later served in the North Sea and the Far East. He ended the war as a lieutenant with a mention-in-despatches for distinguished service. Resigning from the Navy in 1949, he went to South Africa where he worked for ten years. During this period his first novel Surface! Was published. Based on his own experiences as gunnery and torpedo officer aboard the submarine Seadog, it has sold nearly a million copies worldwide. Since Surface! he has published a number of naval books … He returned to England in 1959 and now plans to concentrate solely on naval writing.

81/pan.3

Pan Books

Max Hastings, Bomber Command, Pan Books London and Sydney

Printers: Hazell Watson & Viney Ltd, Aylesbury

Price: £2.50

ISBN: 0 330 26236 x

Front cover: black, photo of Lancaster. Review quote

Rear cover: synopsis. Review quotes

Max Hastings has been studying warfare in libraries and on the battlefield since he left school. A scholar at Charterhouse and University College, Oxford, he has reported from more than fifty countries for the London Evening Standard and BBC TV’s 24 Hours and Panorama. He has seen action in the Middle East, India, southern Africa and Vietnam, where he flew on several air force ground attack sorties. Bomber Command is his fifth book. Most recently he has published a biography of Montrose, Charles I’s brilliant commander in Scotland during the Civil War, and made a special study of the Israeli Army for a biography of one of their most distinguished commando officers who was killed at Entebbe. Now thirty-five, he is married with two children. Bomber Command was awarded the W. Somerset Maugham Award for Non-Fiction in 1980. His new book on D-Day and the French Resistance in June 1944 will be published in 1981
Max Hastings, Bomber Command, Pan Grand Strategy Series, Pan Books


Printers: Mackays of Chatham plc
Price: £7.99
ISBN: 0 330 39204 2

Front cover: photog. illus.
Rear cover: synopsis, review quotes, photo

Max Hastings was born in 1945 and has been studying warfare in libraries and on the battlefield since he left school. A scholar at Charterhouse and University College, Oxford, he has reported from more than fifty countries for the London Evening Standard and BBC TV’s 24 Hours and Panorama. He has seen action in the Middle East, India, southern Africa, Vietnam where he flew on several air force ground attack sorties, and the Falklands. In 1982 he was named Journalist of the Year for his dispatches from the South Atlantic. His book The Battle for the Falklands became a bestseller and won the Yorkshire Post Book of the Year award, as did Overlord. Bomber Command was awarded the Somerset Maugham Award in 1979. Max Hastings is the editor of the Evening Standard.


Printers: Cox and Wyman Ltd, Reading
Price: £1.25

Front and rear covers: col. painting by Peter Elson of F.84F in clouds
Front cover: Richard Bach, Author of Jonathan Livingston Seagull
Rear cover: synopsis. … published for the first time in a British paperback edition …

Notes: first UK publication 1964 by Cassell, 178pp.

Reviews: [Gerald J. Pollinger. Air Pic., March 1964, p.92] … eulogy of flying a jet fighter … the associate editor of Flying attempts to convey to the reader all he feels, thinks and sees … This is not a latter-day Saint-Exupery, but just an ordinary man who feels part and parcel of his steed … only a pilot who has flown above the clouds and heard the music there will understand what Bach is really trying to express. To others, all is wonderment.