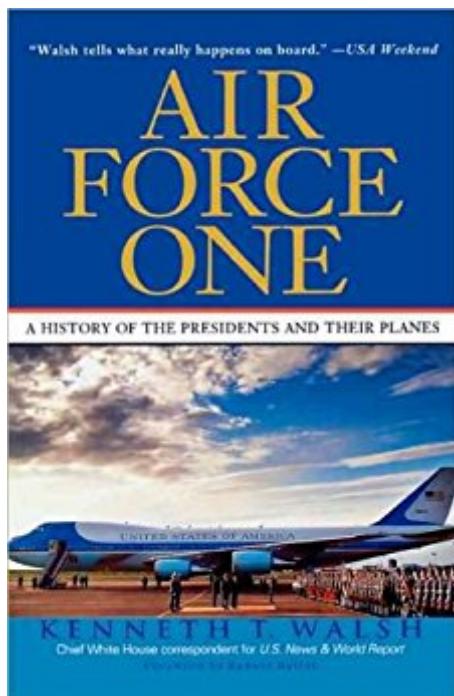


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Air Force One: A History Of The Presidents And Their Planes



Synopsis

Now in paperback, this definitive history of Air Force One by the award-winning chief White House correspondent for U.S. News & World Report is a "marvelous book brimming with unforgettable anecdotes" (David Brinkley). From FDR's prop-driven Pan Am to the glimmering blue-and-white jumbo 747 on which George W. Bush travels, the president's plane has captured the public's awe and imagination and is recognized around the world as a symbol of American power. In this unique book, Air Force One is revealed as a very special habitat that functions as an invaluable window on each of the presidents who occupy it. Based on interviews with five living presidents, scores of past and present government officials, and staff and crew members of Air Force One, Walsh's book features countless fascinating and often outrageous stories of life aboard the "flying White House."

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Like Planes of the Presidents, this book focuses on the planes made famous. Such as the 2nd presidential jet that became famous when Kennedy was killed in Dallas. Yes, it has important history but the 1st 707 has an impressive resume that was not even touched. I have also had the

privilege to learn facts from some pilots and other officers aboard Air Force One and they say Mr. Walsh takes some creative liberties to many of his stories and some they said were flat out "did not happen". I cannot say who is accurate but logic would say if you want to sell a book, make it "good".

This was a short and easy read about the atmosphere on Air Force One. I found it very fascinating to look into what went on behind the scenes of Air Force One. The book was filled with several such little stories of presidential practical jokes, awkward moments, scary situations, etc. One thing that it seemed that every president and every aide who was interviewed for this book said was that Air Force One had a very different atmosphere than rest of the Presidents moments. It was more laid-back and private, and many presidents looked forward to the solidarity of Air Force One and getting away from all of the formalities and the press. Although it did not cover a lot about each presidents history, it did provide a nice, short overview of what policies each president who flew on Air Force One had. Recommended for anyone interested in Air Force jets or presidential history.

Enlightening

Although I am not yet finished reading it - so far with a chapter for each president - it is fun to read and informative.

I loved this book. It gave enough detail about each President, but not too much to make it boring and overdone. Kenneth Walsh gives the reader a true insight into the planes that represent our country and serve as working offices for the Presidents. This book gives a real insight into the men who were elected to lead this country, as well as their wives and children. I could almost picture the atmosphere inside the plane with Walsh's descriptions. Most of the analysis of the Presidents wasn't a great surprise since there has been so much written about these men already. We knew Nixon was a reclusive and uptight type of guy. We knew that Clinton was a fun loving guy who changed his demeanor when Hillary was around him. There are some insights into the personalities of Carter, George 41 and Truman, but for the most part we already knew the personalities of our Presidents. A good book for anyone who likes to read about details of the Presidency and the people who close to the scenes. Insightful and well written.

I almost quit reading this book in the first chapter. It was like Mr. Walsh was trying to explain to a child over and over that Air Force One is a special plane. I know it is, that is why I bought the book,

and I could understand one explanation, but over and over for pages was almost too much. Mr. Walsh brought out some interesting little facts about quirks of Presidents and their travels. I have read a few books about Air Force One, and like this one, each of them brings something new to the picture. It was however, a bit disappointing in the fact that Mr. Walsh actually flew on AF1, but really never told of his experience, where he flew to, and how one boards the aircraft and exit's it (is it before the President, and do you deplane after he does?). Overall the book was readable. Don't expect any revelations in this book. And skim or skip the first chapter.

Enjoyable book... a little out of date but interesting.

Awesome book

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