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The senior staff members of the Allied Expeditionary Force meet while planning the Normandy invasion. Standing from left to right are Lt. Gen. Omar Bradley, Senior Commander American Ground Forces; Adm. Sir Bertram Ramsay, Allied Naval Commander; Air Chief Marshal Trafford Leigh-Mallory, Air Commander in Chief; and Lt. Gen. Walter Bedell Smith, Chief of Staff. Seated from left to right are Air Chief Marshal Arthur Tedder, Deputy Supreme Commander; Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower, Supreme Commander; and Gen. Bernard L. Montgomery, Commander in Chief, British Group of Armies.

NATIONAL ARCHIVES

TOP: BAZO FROM LEFT; NATIONAL ARCHIVES; LIBRARY OF CONGRESS PRINTS AND PHOTOGRAPHS DIVISION; LIBRARY OF CONGRESS PRINTS AND PHOTOGRAPHS DIVISION; THE GRANGER COLLECTION, N.Y.; JULLIEN BRIDGEMAN COLLECTION, N.Y.

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Armchair General® [ISSN 1546-055X] is published bimonthly by Armchair General®, LLC, 21100 Erwin Street, Woodland Hills, CA 91367. Periodicals Postage paid at Woodland Hills, CA and at additional mailing offices. Subscription rate is \$39.95 for 6 issues [one year]. Subscriptions sent outside of U.S. must be prepaid in U.S. funds with an additional \$12 for surface postage and \$20 for airmail postage. For Customer Service e-mail us at subscriptions@armchairgeneral.com or call us at (800)755-1366 or (386)246-3456. Canadian Post International Sales Agreement #40852054. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Armchair General®, P.O. Box 420235, Palm Coast, FL 32164-0235. Copyright ©2014 Armchair General®, LLC. All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, including photocopy, recording, or any information storage and retrieval system, without written permission. The views expressed herein are those of the authors and are not necessarily those of Armchair General®, LLC.

“The reckoning would come at Monocacy Junction, where the B&O and the highway to Washington met to form a strategic river crossing.”

— BATTLE STUDIES, “REBELS AT THE GATES!”

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ON THE COVER

A landing craft carrying Soldiers of 2d Battalion, 18th Infantry Regiment, 1st Infantry Division, approaches Easy Red sector of "Bloody Omaha" Beach as the desperate fight for the beachhead rages.

