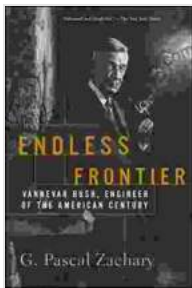


Vannevar Bush: Engineer of the American Century

Vannevar Bush was an American engineer, scientist, and government official who played a major role in the development of the atomic bomb and the computer. He is also known for his work on the Memex, a hypothetical device that would allow users to store and retrieve information in a more efficient and intuitive way.



Endless Frontier: Vannevar Bush, Engineer of the American Century by G. Pascal Zachary

★★★★☆ 4.4 out of 5

Language : English
File size : 26611 KB
Text-to-Speech : Enabled
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled
X-Ray : Enabled
Word Wise : Enabled
Print length : 561 pages
Screen Reader : Supported



Bush was born in Everett, Massachusetts, in 1890. He graduated from Tufts University in 1913 with a degree in electrical engineering. After working for a few years in the electrical industry, he joined the faculty of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) in 1919. At MIT, Bush quickly rose through the ranks, becoming head of the electrical engineering department in 1923 and dean of engineering in 1932.

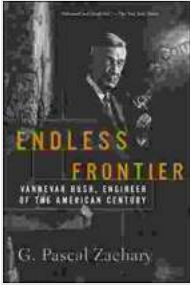
In 1940, Bush was appointed by President Franklin D. Roosevelt to head the National Defense Research Committee. This committee was responsible for coordinating research on new weapons and technologies for the war effort. Bush played a key role in the development of the atomic bomb, and he was present at the Trinity test site in New Mexico when the first atomic bomb was detonated in 1945.

After the war, Bush served as the first director of the Office of Scientific Research and Development (OSRD). The OSRD was responsible for funding and coordinating research in the physical and biological sciences. Bush also played a major role in the establishment of the National Science Foundation (NSF) in 1950. The NSF is an independent agency of the United States government that supports basic research in all fields of science and engineering.

In addition to his work on the atomic bomb and the computer, Bush is also known for his work on the Memex. The Memex was a hypothetical device that would allow users to store and retrieve information in a more efficient and intuitive way. Bush described the Memex in a 1945 article in the *Atlantic Monthly*. He envisioned the Memex as a personal library that would be able to store all of a user's documents, notes, and other information. The Memex would also be able to search through this information and retrieve relevant items based on user queries.

The Memex was never built, but it is considered to be one of the first concepts for a hypertext system. Bush's work on the Memex has had a major influence on the development of the World Wide Web.

Vannevar Bush was a brilliant engineer and scientist who made major contributions to the development of the United States. He was a key figure in the development of the atomic bomb and the computer, and his work on the Memex laid the foundation for the development of the World Wide Web.



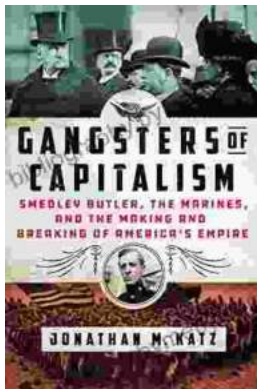
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