

Night Fighter Over Germany Flying Beaufighters And Mosquitoes In World War

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WWII Beaufighter and Mosquito Operations in WWII Mosquito: Menacing the
Reich The Men Who Flew the Mosquito A Separate Little War Confounding the
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Aeroplane Beaufighters Over Burma The Doodlebugs Air Arsenal North
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Guinea Dennis Gosling Zbyšek Necas-Pemberton Zbysek Nečas Martin W.
Bowman Martin W. Bowman Andrew Bird Martin W. Bowman Martin W. Bowman
Roger A. Freeman Ian White Grant Peerless Michael John Hardy Philip
Birtles Jerzy B. Cynk David J. Innes Norman Longmate Phil Butler George
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a british royal air force navigator shares his experiences during world
war ii in this compelling memoir yorkshireman dennis gosling joined the
raf on 24 may 1940 having completed his training he was posted to 219
squadron flying the night fighter version of the beaufighter from
tangmere in 1941 as a navigator he became part of a two man team that
would endure throughout his first operational tour in those infant days
of radar interception he honed his skills in the night skies above
southern england and the english channel but without a firm kill on 12
february 1942 he and his pilot were instructed to pick up a brand new
aircraft and deliver it to north africa flying via gibraltar a hazardous

flight at extreme range in march the crew were posted to 1435 flight of 89 squadron with the task of defending the besieged island of malta the flight s four beaufighters flew into incessant bombing raids by the luftwaffe and italian air force because of these raids the damage to aircraft on the ground was devastating and the flight was often reduced to a single serviceable aircraft gosling s first success came in april 1942 with a confirmed kill and then shortly after his twenty first birthday on 13 may a triumphant night on the seventeenth brought three certain kills and one damaged enemy aircraft after being the squadron s virgins they shot into the record books gosling s pilot being awarded the dfc flight sergeant gosling however received no award at this stage he became somewhat embittered by the class system he felt was operated by the raf having endured the torment of constant bombardment serious stomach complaints even flying with a bucket in the aircraft and near starvation he completed his tour and was repatriated to the uk via brazil and canada in the queen mary after a spell instructing new night navigators he joined 604 squadron and in december 1943 he was promoted to warrant officer february 1944 saw the squadron reequipped with the mosquito and assignment to 2 tactical air force in preparation for d day now once again he was flying initially over southern england and the channel the squadron became mobile after the landings and were based in various captured airfields in france but the conditions were so inadequate for operations that the squadron returned to english bases from where they operated over and beyond the advancing allied troops eventually after having been awarded a much deserved dfc he accepted the king s commission this autobiography is written as stated by the author i want my readers to relive my experiences as they happened to me to take their hands and have them walk beside me i want them to feel the joy and the pain share the laughs and the heartache take pleasure in the triumphs agonise with me when things went wrong and understand why my service years influenced so much of my life he has succeeded magnificently

simply put this is an unvarnished account of a dedicated young man who fled his country ahead of the nazi occupation who would never see his family again and who unselfishly fought the germans to protect his adopted homeland the journal of the air force historical foundation zbyšek nečas was just 18 and still a high school student when he escaped from the protectorate of bohemia and moravia a month before the outbreak of war in 1939 he managed to make his way to britain where he had a cousin nečas enlisted in the raf in 1940 initially being posted as an interpreter at the czech depot some of his early duties involved the interrogation of captured german aircrew he was however determined to fly that wish came not as a pilot but as a radar operator in time nečas was posted to 68 squadron which throughout the war had a large number of czech exiles on its strength one flight was entirely czech manned in this moving memoir he details just what it was like to serve as part of

an raf night fighter crew during the second half of the second world war from the organization of squadron and operations to the directing of night fighters in the bomber stream problems of maintaining contact with the target the duration of patrols to interception tactics all and more is revealed in this book having trained on the blenheim mk iv nečas operational patrols began on bristol beaufighters the squadron subsequently converting to de havilland mosquitoes there are of course the graphic accounts of victory in the air this includes combat with a heinkel he 177 grief over north sea or the explosion of a dornier do 217 after another successful interception as well as nighttime intruder operations over europe from the summer of 1944 68 squadron nečas included found itself drawn into the battle against hitler s v weapons particularly the v1 nečas crew ended the war with three confirmed kills one probable and two damaged after the war nečas returned to his homeland where he received the tragic news that that none of his immediate family had survived the german occupation this is zbyšek nečas story of his part in the defense of britain s skies and the final victory against the third reich

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on 15 november it came suddenly out of nowhere inches above the hangars with a crackling thunderclap of twin merlins as we watched bewitched it was flung about the sky in a beyond belief display for a bomber that could out perform any fighter well bred whisper of a touch down a door opened and down the ladder came suede shoes yellow socks and the rest of geoffrey de havilland the memories of sergeant later flight lieutenant dfc mike carreck who was an observer with 105 squadron when he first laid eyes on the new de havilland mosquito this was an aircraft that would prove itself to be one of the most versatile and revered aircraft to fly with the raf in world war ii this book is full of firsthand accounts from the crews that flew the mossie in its roles as a bomber long range reconnaissance and low level strike aircraft the author has gathered together many of the most exciting operational reports that cover the period from the types introduction until the end of world war ii the text is interwoven with the background history of the personnel and squadrons the purpose of the operations undertaken and their often devastating results

the twin engined mosquito was one of the classic aircraft of the second world war famously wooden built its graceful lines and powerful performance have made it into an airborne icon its operational versatility as a fighter low level bomber and reconnaissance aircraft was unsurpassed in this book we get the firsthand crew accounts of a selection of the actions and missions that the mossie undertook these include audacious raids on nazi hqs and gestapo jails real precision attacks carried out by ace fliers

every day for nine months from september 1944 to the end of the war young british commonwealth and norwegian airmen flew from banff aerodrome in northern scotland in their mosquitoes and beaufighters to target the german u boats merchantmen and freighters plying along the coast and in the fjords and leads of southwest norway encountering the luftwaffe and flakships every step of the way this scottish strike wing fought in some of the bitterest and bloodiest attacks of the war all at very low level and at close quarters their contribution to winning the war was crucial and while the cost in precious lives and equipment was in the same proportion as bomber command they inflicted far greater damage to the enemy in relation to their losses with group captain the hon max aitken dso dfc as station commander banff was eventually to become the base for a total of six mosquito squadrons including 235 248 and 143 together with b flight of the elite 333 norwegian squadron and would team up on missions with the nearby dallachy beaufighter strike wing 404 rcac 455 raaf 489 rnzac and 144 squadrons a separate little war then is a well researched and detailed history of a microcosm of coastal command supported by many photographs maps and charts the vast majority never published before the author has drawn on the personal accounts of amongst others british and norwegian pilots ground crew and civilians

which augment the official sources to give a compelling accurate and fascinating depiction of an aerodrome at war it is a subject which will be of great interest and value to the general reader and to those students of the luftwaffe kriegsmarine raf and former commonwealth air forces the polish air force and of maritime air operations during world war two

a history of the british raf s 100 group the airmen ground crew and technicians who supported the strategic bomber offensive during world war ii on 23 november 1943 100 bomber support group of raf bomber command was formed the object was to consolidate the various squadrons and units that had been fighting a secret war of electronics and radar countermeasures attempting to reduce the losses of the heavy bombers and their hard pressed crews in bomber command this secret war involved the use of air and ground radars homing and jamming equipment special radio and navigational aids and intruding night fighters to seek out and destroy their opposite numbers the ju 88s and bf 110s of the nachtjagdgeschwader who defended the night skies of the third reich with ever increasing success the book contains many first hand accounts from pilots and crew and provides a fascinating record of 100 group s wartime history

de havilland s mosquito is a legendary airplane conceived in 1938 as a high speed unarmed bomber its adaptability saw it used as a nightfighter bomber photoreconnaissance airplane high speed courier aircraft target marker and anti shipping strike aircraft built mainly from wood the design team produced a masterpiece

this detailed history of air intercept radar traces the development of this vital military technology with the royal air force during wwii in the years after world war i the united kingdom was desperate to develop some form of protection from an enemy air strike as early as 1923 the british army had devised sound mirrors that could detect aircraft up to twelve miles away this technical history traces the development of military radar technology from this early experimental phase to the creation of the first air to air radar systems and their uses in battle historian ian white sets this fascinating narrative within the larger political military economic and technological context of the era through world war ii air intercept radar was a vital asset in protecting raf bomber forces as well as the country itself but developing the technology required the tireless work of physicists and engineers in the air ministry research establishment particularly members of the establishment s airborne group working under dr edward bowen their airborne interception radars such as the ai mk iv were used in blenheim night fighters during the winter blitz and by mosquito during the baedeker raids this in depth history covers the introduction of centimetric technology at the telecommunications research establishment

the creation of centimetric ai and their installation in the beaufighter and later marks of the mosquito it describes the creation of the radiation laboratory at mit and concludes with a section on further developments during the cold war

a great many books have been written over the years about individual airfields or those in particular counties areas but this one covers a good proportion of them in one publication from abbots bromley to zeals it provides brief details of over 1700 airfields from before the first world war to the present day and describes the main activities carried out based units operators and current status it includes military bases civil airports airfields gliding sites microlight sites and larger farm strips together with the probable number of based aircraft an appendix lists over 500 books which have been published about individual airfields and this together with the details provided in this book affords a convenient source of reference for further research it does not pretend to include every flying site that ever existed as this would require a much larger volume but covers what are considered to be the most significant airfields of the past 110 years it includes over one hundred photographs in colour and black white most of which have not been published previously

this pictorial history of the dh98 bomber the mosquito is very fully illustrated with many hitherto unpublished photographs from a unique collection of pictures from the de havilland archives wartime sources and individual collections

after being overrun during the early blitzkrieg in september 1939 and later in france in 1940 the polish air force flying british and american made fighters and bombers out of england in their own units made a tremendous contribution to the allied air victory the pafs gallant lonely fight in september 1939 inflicted the first losses on the mighty luftwaffe and allowed britain a nine month grace to strengthen her air defenses their part in the battle of britain became legend and its contribution to the early raf bomber offensive on germany was equally great paf exploits over dieppe north africa and during the invasion of europe received special commendations from the raf this two volume set is the result of years painstaking research of the official raf and paf documentation and is fully supported by the polish air force association after a brief introduction to the paf s formative years and to the political background to the war itself the factors shaping paf operations in great britain and to the abandonment by britain of her most faithful ally are discussed the book also provides a wealth of information about all paf squadrons their participation in operations the great variety of aircraft flown by the paf hurricanes spitfires mustangs warhawks mosquitoes lancasters wellingtons bostons liberators and many others their achievements and disappointments victories and

losses these are supplemented by operational statistics in detailed appendices lists charts maps and over 700 black and white and color photographs and color profiles volume 1 covers the origins of polish aviation the air war against the luftwaffe during the initial blitzkrieg the air battles over france and the formation of the polish squadrons the establishment and development of the paf squadrons in britain after the battles in france the battle of britain paf units over dieppe and north africa expansion of the paf and operations in 1941 1943 and paf bomber squadrons and bomber operations 1940 1943

eskadrillen udførte long range offensive air support og interdiction og var i stand til at operere i ugunstigere vejrforhold end andre allierede og japanske enheder i området

bombardementerne over london skildres med dertilhørende skadevirkninger og befolkningens oplevelser og reaktioner indkøbskvarterer skoler og hospitaler sønderbombes

the book provides a detailed analysis of aircraft purchases made in north america by the subsequent operation of the lend lease acts and canadian mutual aid whereby thousands of aircraft were delivered to many allied countries including the soviet union in the years to 1945 there is also significant coverage of aircraft supply and operation in latin america describes and illustrates all of the many aircraft types these descriptions are supplemented by sections covering their operation by each of the countries involved including aircraft serials also includes descriptions of how the lend lease act operated details of delivery routes and an analysis of the various governmental and other organizations involved includes various appendices including statistics

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