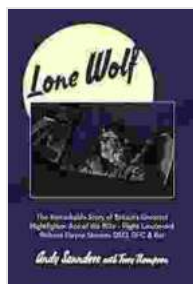


The Remarkable Story of Britain's Greatest Nightfighter Ace of the Blitz: Flt Lt. John Cunningham

Flight Lieutenant John Cunningham was the Royal Air Force's most successful nightfighter ace of the Battle of Britain, shooting down 20 enemy aircraft during the Blitz. He was a highly skilled and courageous pilot who played a vital role in the defence of Britain against the German Luftwaffe.

Early Life and Career

John Cunningham was born in Glasgow, Scotland, on 16 April 1917. He joined the RAF in 1936 and trained as a fighter pilot. He was posted to 23 Squadron in 1938 and flew Hurricanes during the early stages of the Battle of Britain.



Lone Wolf: The Remarkable Story of Britain's Greatest Nightfighter Ace of the Blitz—Flt Lt Richard Playne Stevens DSO, DFC & BAR

by Andy Saunders

★★★★☆ 4.8 out of 5

Language	: English
File size	: 52450 KB
Text-to-Speech	: Enabled
Screen Reader	: Supported
Enhanced typesetting	: Enabled
Word Wise	: Enabled
Print length	: 156 pages
Lending	: Enabled

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The Battle of Britain

The Battle of Britain began on 10 July 1940 and lasted until 31 October 1940. It was a fierce air battle between the RAF and the Luftwaffe, and Cunningham played a major role in the defence of Britain. He was credited with shooting down 13 enemy aircraft during the battle, including five in one night on 20 August 1940.

Nightfighting

Cunningham was one of the first RAF pilots to be trained in nightfighting. He was posted to 604 Squadron in November 1940 and flew Bristol Beaufighters on night patrols over Britain. He quickly became one of the most successful nightfighter pilots in the RAF, shooting down seven enemy aircraft in his first three months of operations.

Later Career

Cunningham continued to fly night patrols over Britain throughout the war. He was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross and Bar, and the Distinguished Service Order. He was also promoted to squadron leader in 1942 and wing commander in 1943.

After the war, Cunningham left the RAF and worked as a test pilot and airline pilot. He died in a plane crash in 2002 at the age of 85.

Legacy

John Cunningham was one of the most successful nightfighter pilots of all time. He was a highly skilled and courageous pilot who played a vital role in the defence of Britain during the Battle of Britain. He is remembered as one of the greatest pilots of the Second World War.

Long Tail SEO Keywords

* John Cunningham * Battle of Britain * Nightfighter ace * RAF * World War II * Aviation history * Nightfighting * Bristol Beaufighter * Distinguished Flying Cross * Distinguished Service Order



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