

Douglas Bader The Biography

A family-authorized biography of one of the top-scoring aces of the Battle of Britain.

"A fine biography of one of the war's greatest unsung heroes," Royal Air Force Commander Keith Park (The Daily Telegraph).

"If ever any one man won the Battle of Britain, he did. I don't believe it is realized how much that one man, with his leadership, his calm judgement and his skill, did to save not only this country, but the world." So wrote Marshal of the RAF Lord

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Tedder of Keith Park in 1947. As commander of No. 11 Group, RAF Fighter Command responsible for the air defense of London and southeast England, Park took charge of the day-to-day direction of the battle. In spotlighting his thoughts and actions during the crisis, this biography reveals a man whose unfailing energy, courage, and cool resourcefulness won not only supreme praise from Winston Churchill, but the lasting respect and admiration of all who served under him. Few officers in any of the services packed more action into their lives, and Park covers the whole of his career: youth in New Zealand,

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success as an ace fighter pilot in World War I, postings to South America and Egypt, the Battle of Britain, command of the RAF in Malta 1942-43, and finally Allied Air Commander-in-Chief of Southeast Asia under Mountbatten in 1945. His contribution to victory and peace was immense and this biography does much to shed light on the Big Wing controversy of 1940 and give insight into the war in Burma, 1945, and how the huge problems remaining after the war's sudden end were dealt with. Drawn largely from unpublished sources and interviews with people who knew Park, and illustrated with

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maps and photographs, this is an authoritative biography of one of the world's greatest unsung heroes.

More than a quarter of a century after his death, Douglas Bader remains the most famous fighter pilot Britain has ever known. He lost both of his legs a flying accident in 1931, but overcame his disability and returned to the RAF in 1939, rising to command a Canadian fighter squadron and then the first RAF fighter wing during the Battle of Britain. Shot down and made prisoner, he made numerous escape attempts and became so aggravating to his German captors that he was

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held in Colditz Castle. Widely recognised for his exploits during the war, he became even more famous from the 1950s onward as a result on a bestselling biography that served as the basis of the hit film *Reach for the Sky*. While he had as many flaws as laudable qualities, Bader undeniably achieved great things, both during the Second World War and in his later work for the disabled. *Bader's War* makes use of new memoirs, interviews, and documents that have only recently become available to shed more light on various episodes in his life and provide a rounded and unbiased portrayal of this fascinating man.

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*Douglas Bader The Biography of the Legendary
World War II Fighter Pilot Pen and Sword
The Struggle for the Skies from the First
World War to the Battle of Britain
Flying Start*

*The Biography of Air Chief Marshal Sir Keith
Park, GCB, KBE, MC, DFC, DCL
The Extraordinary Life of Douglas Bader,
Battle of Britain Hero
Hitler's Last Days*

*Group Captain Sir Douglas Bader, whose
dazzling success as a fighter pilot with
artificial legs made him a national hero,*

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was a British national treasure. His courage was remarkable, as was the way he defied his handicap. The film *Reach for the Sky* brought Bader's life into cinemas, and Robert Jackson's classic biography was the first to document his life. After a lonely childhood Bader's early reputation as a sportsman and a daredevil made him popular with his contemporaries. But he was also an irritation to his superiors, a pattern which continued throughout his life, and hid an academic ability which won him a scholarship to St Edward's

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School and a cadetship at the elite RAF College in Cranwell. After his accident, Bader was determined to rejoin the RAF. As a pilot, he was an tactical innovator, a man who confronted the methods of other pilots. When he was a Prisoner of War, Bader's antagonism toward his guards, and his political pronouncements in later life, sometimes provoked his colleagues, but never lost him their lasting respect and admiration. After retiring from the RAF he combined a full-time job with Shell with all the demands of being a celebrity;

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his inspiration to the disabled gained him many accolades and finally a knighthood. Both aggressive and charming, Bader's outward personality was famous. Robert Jackson describes the evolution of that forceful character, and the motivation behind his remarkable achievements. 'Its style and structure make it readily accessible and, like your favourite armchair, it is easy to relax into at the end of a busy day.' Frank Burns Robert Jackson has been a full-time author since 1969, specializing in aviation and

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military history. A retired member of the Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, he has flown a wide variety of aircraft, ranging from jets to gliders. A prolific author, he has written both fiction and non-fiction Endeavour Press is the UK's leading independent digital publisher. For more information on our titles please sign up to our newsletter at www.endeavourpress.com. Each week you will receive updates on free and discounted ebooks. Follow us on Twitter: @EndeavourPress and on Facebook via

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<http://on.fb.me/1HweQV7>. We are always interested in hearing from our readers. Endeavour Press believes that the future is now.

The history of the Battle of Britain in the words of the pilots from a unique archive of first hand accounts.

Dogfights in the sky, ruthless political maneuvers, legendary heroes of the air like Richthofen (the "Red Baron") and Douglas Bader, this book combines all of these colorful, dramatic, and evocative accounts of the furious air conflicts that

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saved Britain from German invasion. Towards the end of a long and distinguished career, Sir Fred Rosier was persuaded by his son David to write his autobiography. He did so and the result is an extremely engaging and enlightening account of his life to the end of the Second World War. Starting with his humble beginnings to his time as a prewar fighter pilot on 43 Squadron at Tangmere; seeing action in France with 229 Squadron where he was shot down and burnt; his return as CO of that squadron during the Battle of

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Britain; taking 229 to the Western Desert, becoming one of two Fighter Wing commanders there; and then being appointed Group Captain Ops in 84 Fighter Group for the invasion, on through Europe, to the demise of Germany. David Rosier and his mother then completed the story up to Sir Fred's final appointments in the RAF as the last C-in-C of Fighter Command in 1968 and Deputy C-in-C Allied Forces Central Europe in 1973. Sir Fred was an inveterate letter writer, extracts from many of which appear in the book, and with a superb

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collection of photographs, this long-overdue account will be welcomed by anyone interested in one of the RAF's major personalities.

With Wings Like Eagles

R.J. Mitchell: Schooldays to Spitfire

The Inspirational Story of a Spitfire Ace

Life's Too Short to Cry

Stuka Pilot

The Life of Battle of Britain Ace Bob Doe

Pen & Sword Books are proud to be re-issuing this the only book that the legendary 'legless' ace Douglas Bader (immortalised by the film Reach For The Sky) wrote. He tells the inspiring story of the

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Battle of Britain from the viewpoint of 'The Few'. Using superb illustrations he traces the development of the Spitfire and Hurricane and describes the nail-biting actions of those who flew them against far superior numbers of enemy aircraft. As an added bonus, other well-known fighter aces including Johnnie Johnson, 'Laddie' Lucas and Max Aikten contribute to Douglas's book, no doubt out of affection and respect. This is a really important contribution to RAF history by one of the greatest -and certainly the most famous - pilot of the Second World War.

Non-fiction that reads like a novel! A thrilling, moment by moment account of an epic escape and the real-life adventures that followed.

Stephen Bungay's magisterial history is acclaimed as the account of the Battle of Britain. Unrivalled for its synthesis of all previous

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historical accounts, for the quality of its strategic analysis and its truly compulsive narrative, this is a book ultimately distinguished by its conclusions – that it was the British in the Battle who displayed all the virtues of efficiency, organisation and even ruthlessness we habitually attribute to the Germans, and they who fell short in their amateurism, ill-preparedness, poor engineering and even in their old-fashioned notions of gallantry. An engrossing read for the military scholar and the general reader alike, this is a classic of military history that looks beyond the mythology, to explore all the tragedy and comedy; the brutality and compassion of war.

Between June 1940 and December 1942, Malta became one of the most bombed places on earth. The battle for this tiny island proved to be one of the most decisive turning points of World War II. In this

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book the author uses first-hand experience of the conflict to describe the pressures of combat. As the commanding officer of the island's top-scoring Spitfire squadron he gives an insight into the tactics that reversed the overwhelming odds stacked against Allied successes, as well as featuring miraculous escapes and the darker hours - the intense bombing campaign that destroyed 39 newly-arrived Spitfires, the hardships endured by the islanders and the enormous cost in human life. Laddie Lucas recounts individual stories of heroism and gives an insight into the behaviour of the pilots.

Sailor' Malan - Freedom Fighter

The Few

The Compelling Story of a Battle of Britain Ace

Zero Night: The Untold Story of World War Two's Greatest Escape

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Douglas Bader - A Life

Ginger Lacey

Michael Korda's brilliant work of history takes the reader back to the summer of 1940, when fewer than three thousand young fighter pilots of the Royal Air Force—often no more than nine hundred on any given day—stood between Hitler and the victory that seemed almost within his grasp. Korda recreates the intensity of combat in "the long, delirious, burning blue" of the sky above southern England, and at the same time—perhaps for the first time—traces the entire complex web of political, diplomatic, scientific, industrial, and human decisions during the 1930s that led inexorably to the world's first, greatest, and most decisive air battle. Korda deftly interweaves the critical strands of the story—the invention of

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radar (the most important of Britain's military secrets); the developments by such visionary aircraft designers as R. J. Mitchell, Sidney Camm, and Willy Messerschmitt of the revolutionary, all-metal, high-speed monoplane fighters the British Spitfire and Hurricane and the German Bf 109; the rise of the theory of air bombing as the decisive weapon of modern warfare and the prevailing belief that "the bomber will always get through" (in the words of British prime minister Stanley Baldwin). As Nazi Germany rearmed swiftly after 1933, building up its bomber force, only one man, the central figure of Korda's book, Air Chief Marshal Sir Hugh Dowding, the eccentric, infuriating, obstinate, difficult, and astonishingly foresighted creator and leader of RAF Fighter Command, did not believe that the bomber would always get through and

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was determined to provide Britain with a weapon few people wanted to believe was needed or even possible. Dowding persevered—despite opposition, shortage of funding, and bureaucratic infighting—to perfect the British fighter force just in time to meet and defeat the German onslaught. Korda brings to life the extraordinary men and women on both sides of the conflict, from such major historical figures as Winston Churchill, Neville Chamberlain, and Reichsmarschall Herman Göring (and his disputatious and bitterly feuding generals) to the British and German pilots, the American airmen who joined the RAF just in time for the Battle of Britain, the young airwomen of the RAF, the ground crews who refueled and rearmed the fighters in the middle of heavy German raids, and such heroic figures as Douglas Bader, Josef František,

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and the Luftwaffe aces Adolf Galland and his archrival Werner Mölders. Winston Churchill memorably said about the Battle of Britain, "Never in the field of human conflict was so much owed by so many to so few." Here is the story of "the few," and how they prevailed against the odds, deprived Hitler of victory, and saved the world during three epic months in 1940.

The truth & the myths about the legless Battle of Britain fighter ace.

"That he overcame his disability and flew into battle-leading squadrons of Spitfires and Hurricanes in the epic air battle of summer 1940 - is truly remarkable. Bader's first aerial victory - a Messerschmitt 109 - was recorded over Dunkirk on 1 July 1940. During the subsequent Battle of Britain this remarkable

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airman claimed the destruction of seven more enemy aircraft: Me 110s, Do 17s, Ju 88s and another Me 109 falling to his guns. The legless airman was, of course, rich material for the propagandists, who lost no time in manipulating his exploits to increase Britain's morale. Newspaper reports and radio broadcasts of his aerial victories abounded." --- from back cover.

Group Captain Sir Douglas Bader remains one of the most famous RAF fighter pilots to date, perhaps even the most famous of all, thanks to Paul Brickhill's best-selling 1950s yarn *Reach for the Sky* and Dany Angel's box office hit of the same name, starring Kenneth Moore. Bader, a graduate of the RAF College Cranwell and a professional, career officer, was a gifted sportsman and aerobatic pilot – but headstrong.

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After a crash that led to the amputation of both of his legs, the Second World War was this man of action's salvation: passing a flying test, he returned to the RAF, first flying Spitfires with 19 Squadron at Duxford. In due course he was posted to 222 Squadron as a flight commander, seeing action over Dunkirk. Already newsworthy, the swashbuckling, legless, fighter pilot was also a favorite of his Station Commander, Wing Commander A.B. 'Woody' Woodhall, and, more importantly, his 12 Group Air Officer Commanding, Air Vice-Marshal Leigh-Mallory. In short order, therefore, Bader was soon elevated to Acting Squadron Leader and given command of 242 Squadron, a Canadian Hurricane squadron which he led throughout the Battle of Britain. On 30 August 1940, 12 Group was requested to reinforce 11 Group and

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intercept a raid on an aircraft factory at Hatfield. This was Bader and 242 Squadron's first experience of a mass German raid, and many combat claims were subsequently filed. The events that day led Bader to submit a report arguing that the more fighters he had at his disposal, the greater would be the execution of the enemy that could be achieved. It was a concept that received support from Leigh-Mallory, who recognised an opportunity for 12 Group to play a greater part in what was clearly an historic battle. Leigh-Mallory authorised Bader to lead three, then five, squadrons – a controversial formation that came to be known as the 'Duxford Wing' or 'Big Wing'. In Bader's Big Wing Controversy, Dilip Sarkar not only explores the full story of the people and events that led to the creation of the 'Big Wing' at

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Duxford, he also fully investigates the part that its men and machines played in the Battle of Britain story. Whilst Bader was not personally intending disloyalty, as such, to his Air Officer Commander-in-Chief, Air Chief Marshal Sir Hugh Dowding, he was, as the latter once commented, 'the cause of a lot of the trouble'. In his burning desire to propel 242 Squadron and himself, its leader, into the forefront of the action, the newsworthy acting squadron leader found himself used by darker forces, men with axes to grind and personal ambitions to further.

Malta, the Thorn in Rommel's Side

British Aircraft of World War II with Colour Photographs

A Biography of the Legendary World War II Fighter Pilot

The Death of the Nazi Regime and the World's Most

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Notorious Dictator

The Story of Douglas Bader

Duel of Eagles

Wonderful account of one of the top Battle of Britain fighter pilots. Written by one of the foremost military aviation authors who was an RAF Officer himself and personally knew Lacey.

Adolph Gysbert Malan was born in Wellington, South Africa. A natural leader and driven individual with a totally positive outlook, aged fourteen Malan became an officer cadet in the South African Merchant Navy, before being commissioned into the Royal Navy Reserve. Well-travelled and worldly-wise, aged twenty-five the intrepid

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adventurer applied for a Short Service Commission in the RAF. Universally known as ‘Sailor’ in the RAF, Malan became a fighter pilot. Shortly after war was declared, Malan was involved in the infamous ‘Battle of Barking Creek’, in which 74 Squadron mistakenly destroyed friendly Hurricanes. Then, over Dunkirk in May 1940, Malan’s exceptional ability was immediately demonstrated in combat and a string of confirmed aerial victories rapidly accumulated. The following month, Malan scored the Spitfire’s first nocturnal kill. By August 1940 he was commanding 74 Squadron, which he led with great distinction during the Battle of Britain. In March 1941, Malan was promoted and became the first Wing

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Commander (Flying) at Biggin Hill, leading the three-squadron-strong Spitfire wing during operations over northern France. After a break from operations, Malan went on to command a succession of fighter training units, passing on his tactical genius and experience, and producing his famous ‘Ten Rules of Air Fighting’ which are still cited today. By the war’s end, Group Captain Malan was the RAF’s tenth top-scoring fighter pilot. Leaving the RAF in 1945 and returning to South Africa, he was disgusted by Apartheid and founded the ‘Torch Commando’ of ex-servicemen against this appalling racist policy. This part of Malan’s life is equally as inspirational, in fact, as his wartime service, and actually tells us more

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about the man than just his RAF record. Tragically, in 1963, he died, prematurely, aged just fifty-three, of Parkinson's. Written with the support of the Malan family, this biography is the full story of a remarkable airman and politician.

Biografi over den fra 2. verdenskrig kendte RAF-jagerpilot, der fløj med et kunstig ben

Based on extensive interviews which the author had with Douglas Bader during the last thirteen years of his Bader's life, this biography tells the full story from his childhood to his work with the disabled in later life. After a flying accident in which he lost his legs, Douglas Bader was invalided out of the RAF. At the outbreak of war in 1939

he was recalled to the RAF and returned to flying. He fought in the Battle of Britain and later in nearly one hundred offensive fighter patrols. Following a mid-air collision he was captured and became a prisoner-of-war and was imprisoned in Colditz. The story of his war-time activities, both in the air and as a POW, is told in some detail and makes fascinating reading. These activities helped him to achieve celebrity status and in later life much of his time was given to promoting causes for the disabled. John Frayn Turner's account of a remarkable life is a fitting tribute to one of the country's most heroic figures.

Reach for the Sky

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Duxford 1940

First Light

The Story of the Battle of Britain in the Words of the Pilots

The Most Dangerous Enemy

A Fighter Pilot's War Years

Biography of an English hero in World War II who lost both legs in an air crash, learned to walk again, and became a fighter pilot during the Battle of Britain. He was captured but managed to escape from the enemy.

The Spitfire began as a near disaster. The developments of this famous aircraft took it from uncompromising beginnings to become the legendary

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last memorial to a great man - an elegant and, with its pilots, a highly effective, weapon of war. The Spitfire would not have happened at all, however, without Mitchell's indomitable courage and determination in the face of severe physical and psychological adversity resulting from cancer. His contribution to the Battle of Britain, and thereafter to the achievement of final victory in 1945, was so great that our debt to him can never be repaid. This poignant story is written from a uniquely personal viewpoint by his son, Gordon Mitchell.

Despite losing both legs in a pre-war accident, Douglas Bader returned to active service, leading squadrons to victory in the Battle of Britain. This

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volume portrays Bader as a pilot and leader, whose endeavours and techniques were emulated by his colleagues.

“A personal and vivid view of the Royal Air Force’s (RAF) engagement of the Luftwaffe in World War II . . .

Exciting, valuable, and good reading.” —Library

Journal This is the autobiography of Group Captain Sir Hugh Dundas CBE, DSO, DFC, who was one of the most distinguished fighter pilots of World War II. He writes of his wartime experiences, and particularly of his period as Squadron Leader and Wing Commander and his involvement in the Battle of Britain. “It was a stirring life of comradeship and high adventure but with death ever-present, riding on the wings of these

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knights of the sky. Dundas captures the atmosphere of those days and the feelings and fears of the men who flew in combat. The world should never forget what the RAF did and it is good that books such as this are being republished to a new generation of readers who never lived through the days of Hugh Dundas.” —Yorkshire Gazette and Herald “It stands out from many other accounts of war-time air operations because of its very clear coverage of events both at the fighting and at the operational levels . . . It is a gripping tale well told, and one that easily holds the reader’s attention throughout.” —The Bulletin (Military Historical Society) “This is an important book for historians and enthusiasts, but it is

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also an important social history of a period that is rapidly passing into history as those who were there and survived now approach the end of their life.”

—Firetrench

Fighter Ace

Douglas Bader, His Life Story

Flying Colours

The Story of Douglas Bader, Legless Ace of the Battle of Britain

Be Bold

Douglas Bader

In 1931 a brilliant 21-year-old Royal Air Force pilot crashed his Bristol Bulldog fighter near Reading. The pilot officer was

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Douglas Bader and the result of the accident was the loss of both of his legs. In this intimate and lively biography, authorized by Bader himself and complemented by his private papers, flying log-books and personal notes, Laddie Lucas documents the extraordinary life - in war and in peace - of the man he knew intimately for more than 50 years.

Released in 1969, the film Battle of Britain went on to become one of the most iconic war movies ever produced. The film drew many respected British actors to accept roles as key figures of the battle, including Sir Laurence Olivier as Hugh Dowding and Trevor

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Howard as Keith Park. It also starred Michael Caine, Christopher Plummer and Robert Shaw as squadron leaders. As well as its large all-star international cast, the film was notable for its spectacular flying sequences which were on a far grander scale than anything that had been seen on film before. At the time of its release, Battle of Britain was singled out for its efforts to portray the events of the summer of 1940 in great accuracy. To achieve this, Battle of Britain veterans such as Group Captain Tom Gleave, Wing Commander Robert Stanford Tuck, Wing Commander Douglas Bader, Squadron Leader

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Boleslaw Drobiński and Luftwaffe General Adolf Galland were all involved as consultants. This detailed description of the making of the film is supported by a mouth-watering selection of pictures that were taken during the production stages. The images cover not only the many vintage aircraft used in the film, but also the airfields, the actors, and even the merchandise which accompanied the film's release in 1969 - plus a whole lot more. There are numerous air-to-air shots of the Spitfires, Messerschmitts, Hurricanes and Heinkels that were brought together for the

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film. There are also images that capture the moment that Battle of Britain veterans, some of whom were acting as consultants, visited the sets. Interviews with people who worked on the film, such as Hamish Mahaddie, John Blake and Ron Goodwin, among others, bring the story to life.

Two months before the outbreak of the Second World War, eighteen-year-old Geoffrey Wellum becomes a fighter pilot with the RAF . . . Desperate to get in the air, he makes it through basic training to become the youngest Spitfire pilot in the prestigious 92 Squadron. Thrust into combat almost

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immediately, Wellum finds himself flying several sorties a day, caught up in terrifying dogfights with German Me 109s. Over the coming months he and his fellow pilots play a crucial role in the Battle of Britain. But of the friends that take to the air alongside Wellum many never return. This biography is of Britain's most famous airman and hero of World War II. Forced to have his legs amputated following a flying accident in 1931, Douglas Bader went on to command his own squadron in World War II, leading them to kill after kill. Bader faced it all, disability, leadership and capture,

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with the same charm, charisma and determination that was an inspiration to all around him.

A History of the Battle of Britain

'have a Go at Everything'

Fighter Pilot

Best Foot Forward

The Bader Wing

The Men and Machines of One of the Greatest War Films Ever Made

A biography of heroic RAF fighter pilot Douglas Bader who fought throughout the Battle of Britain despite having lost both his legs in an earlier aircraft

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crash. Without doubt the most famous RAF fighter ace of World War II, Douglas Bader joined the airforce in 1928, but was invalided out after an horrific crash in 1931 cost him both his legs. After learning to walk and fly again, Bader rejoined the RAF in 1939, fighting over Dunkir and in the Battle of Britain. In August 1941 Bader was brought down over German-occupied France and captured. After a number of escape attempts, Bader was moved to Colditz. This book chronicles Bader's amazing career. Almost 100 years before Rosa Parks refused to give up her bus seat, Sojourner Truth was mistreated by a

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streetcar conductor. She took him to court--and won! Before she was Sojourner Truth, she was known simply as Belle. Born a slave in New York sometime around 1797, she was later sold and separated from her family. Even after she escaped from slavery, she knew her work was not yet done. She changed her name and traveled, inspiring everyone she met and sharing her story until her death in 1883 at age eighty-six. In this easy-to-read biography, Yona Zeldis McDonough continues to share that remarkable story. By early 1945, the destruction of the German Nazi State seems certain. The Allied forces, led by

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American generals George S. Patton and Dwight D. Eisenhower, are gaining control of Europe, leaving German leaders scrambling. Facing defeat, Adolf Hitler flees to a secret bunker with his new wife, Eva Braun, and his beloved dog, Blondi. It is there that all three would meet their end, thus ending the Third Reich and one of the darkest chapters of history. Hitler's Last Days is a gripping account of the death of one of the most reviled villains of the 20th century—a man whose regime of murder and terror haunts the world even today. Adapted from Bill O'Reilly's historical thriller Killing Patton, this book will have

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young readers—and grown-ups too—hooked on history. This thoroughly-researched and documented book can be worked into multiple aspects of the common core curriculum.

Douglas Bader was a legend in his lifetime and remains one today 100 years after his birth. A charismatic leader and fearless pilot he refused to let his severe disability (loss of both legs in a flying accident) ground him. He fought the authorities as ruthless as he did the enemy and not only managed to return to the front line but became a top scoring ace. His innovative tactics (The Big Wing) ensured his

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promotion and he led a key group of squadrons during the dark days of the Battle of Britain. His luck ran out when he was shot down and captured; he only escaped his burning fighter by cutting away one of his artificial legs. As a POW he was a thorn in the Germans side and he was sent to Colditz Castle. As this perceptive book reveals Bader, the hero, was at times a difficult overbearing man, no doubt in part due to the pain he suffered. But his strengths far outweighed his weaknesses and his place in the annals of British history is secure. This is a timely republication of an important biography.

Bader's Big Wing Controversy Six Months that Turned the War The Biography of the Legendary World War II Fighter Pilot The Epic Story of Douglas Bader Fight for the Sky Bader

Douglas Bader remains a legendary figure, and the best known of all the Battle of Britain aces. Having lost both his legs in a pre-war flying accident, Bader overcame this disability to become not just a superb fighter pilot but a tough and charismatic leader. At a critical time in the War, Bader persuaded his superiors

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that fighters were best employed in Big Wings and was given the chance to lead five squadrons. This he did with conspicuous success until shot down over France and captured. In addition to describing the dramatic aerial actions of the pilots involved, this book examines the tactics and strategy of the Big Wing principle drawing on the views and opinions of some of the greatest pilots of the Second World War including Johnnie Johnson, Laddie Lucas, Hugh Dundas, Alan Deere and Sholto Douglas.

Autobiography of World War Two Luftwaffe pilot Hans Ulrich Rudel, the most highly decorated German serviceman of WW2. Shot down over 24 times, he destroyed over 500 tanks, 2,000 ground targets, the

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Russian battleship Marat, two cruisers and a destroyer. His flying record of over 2,500 combat missions remains unmatched by any pilot since. A newly discovered “exhilarating and moving memoir” of an RAF fighter pilot in World War II (Daily Mail). It is not often that a long-hidden gem of a manuscript is published, bringing a moment in WWII history to vivid life for today’s readers. Geoffrey Wellum’s *First Light* was one example. The memoir of Timothy Vigors is another. Born in Hatfield but raised in Ireland and educated at Eton and Cranwell, Vigors found himself in France in 1940 flying Fairey Battle bombers. After the Fall he joined the fighters of 222 Squadron, with whom he saw frantic and

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distinguished service over Dunkirk and persevered through the dangerous days of the Battle of Britain, when he became an ace. Vigors transferred to the Far East in January 1941 as a flight commander with 243, then to 453 Squadron RAAF, and on December 10 of that year he led a flight of Buffaloes to cover the sinking Prince of Wales and Repulse. Dramatically shot down, burnt and attacked on his parachute, he was evacuated to Java, and from there, to India. As he describes these experiences in his handwritten account, the author provides a fascinating and valuable record, a newly discovered personal narrative of air combat destined to be seen as a classic.

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The Story of How the Spitfire Was Designed, Built and Tested and How Close it Came to Not Happening at All

Who Was Sojourner Truth?

The Autobiography of Colin Hodgkinson

The Man and His Men

Park

The Centenary Collection