

CONTENTS

Glossary of Terms and Abbreviations	6
Foreword	7
Introduction and Acknowledgements	8
<hr/>	
Chapter 1 EARLY DAYS <i>The Birth of Naval Aviation</i>	10
<hr/>	
Chapter 2 AND SO TO WAR <i>Naval Air Power in the Great War</i>	20
<hr/>	
Chapter 3 GUARDING THE REALM <i>The Air Defence of Great Britain</i>	30
<hr/>	
Chapter 4 HEAT AND DUST <i>War in the Middle East</i>	34
<hr/>	
Chapter 5 WINGS OVER WATER <i>North Sea Air Operations</i>	38
<hr/>	
Chapter 6 KILLING FIELDS <i>Over the Western Front</i>	48
<hr/>	
Chapter 7 WAKE-UP CALL <i>The Smuts Report</i>	58
<hr/>	
Chapter 8 PER ARDUA <i>The Royal Air Force Takes Over</i>	66
<hr/>	
Chapter 9 SERVICE RIVALRY <i>The Fleet Air Arm of the RAF</i>	70
<hr/>	
Chapter 10 CALL TO ARMS <i>The Second World War – the Opening Shots</i>	88
<hr/>	
Chapter 11 WAR IN NORWAY <i>First Blood to the Skua</i>	96
<hr/>	
Chapter 12 BRITAIN ALONE <i>Dunkirk and the Battle of Britain</i>	110
<hr/>	
Chapter 13 IN THE MED <i>Force ‘H’ and the Mediterranean Fleet</i>	116
<hr/>	

Chapter 14 THE U-BOAT WAR <i>The Battle of the Atlantic</i>	152
<hr/>	
Chapter 15 ENTER THE JAPANESE <i>Fighting a Fearless Foe</i>	162
<hr/>	
Chapter 16 BACK TO THE MED <i>Operations ‘Pedestal’ and ‘Torch’</i>	170
<hr/>	
Chapter 17 EAST OF MALTA <i>Operations in the Med and the Far East</i>	176
<hr/>	
Chapter 18 TURNING THE CORNER <i>Gaining the Upper Hand in Atlantic Waters</i>	180
<hr/>	
Chapter 19 UNFINISHED BUSINESS <i>War of Attrition in the Far East</i>	188
<hr/>	
Chapter 20 FLYING NUMBERS <i>Aircraft for the Fleet</i>	200
<hr/>	
Chapter 21 DIVE-BOMBING <i>An Afterthought</i>	206
<hr/>	
Chapter 22 PEACE DAWNS <i>But Storm Clouds Gather</i>	210
<hr/>	
Chapter 23 THE 38th PARALLEL <i>War in Korea</i>	214
<hr/>	
Chapter 24 FASTER AND FASTER <i>The Coming of the Jets</i>	222
<hr/>	
Chapter 25 BIGGER AND BETTER <i>The New Carriers</i>	236
<hr/>	
Chapter 26 END OF EMPIRE <i>Operation ‘Musketeer’ and the Suez Debacle</i>	240
<hr/>	
Chapter 27 AFTER SUEZ <i>The World’s Policeman</i>	246
<hr/>	
Chapter 28 A VERTICAL SERVICE <i>The Amazing Harrier</i>	268
<hr/>	
Chapter 29 TASK FORCE <i>Operation ‘Corporate’ and the Falklands War</i>	276
<hr/>	
Chapter 30 NEW WORLD ORDER <i>New Enemies, New Dangers</i>	292
<hr/>	
Bibliography	306
Index	307