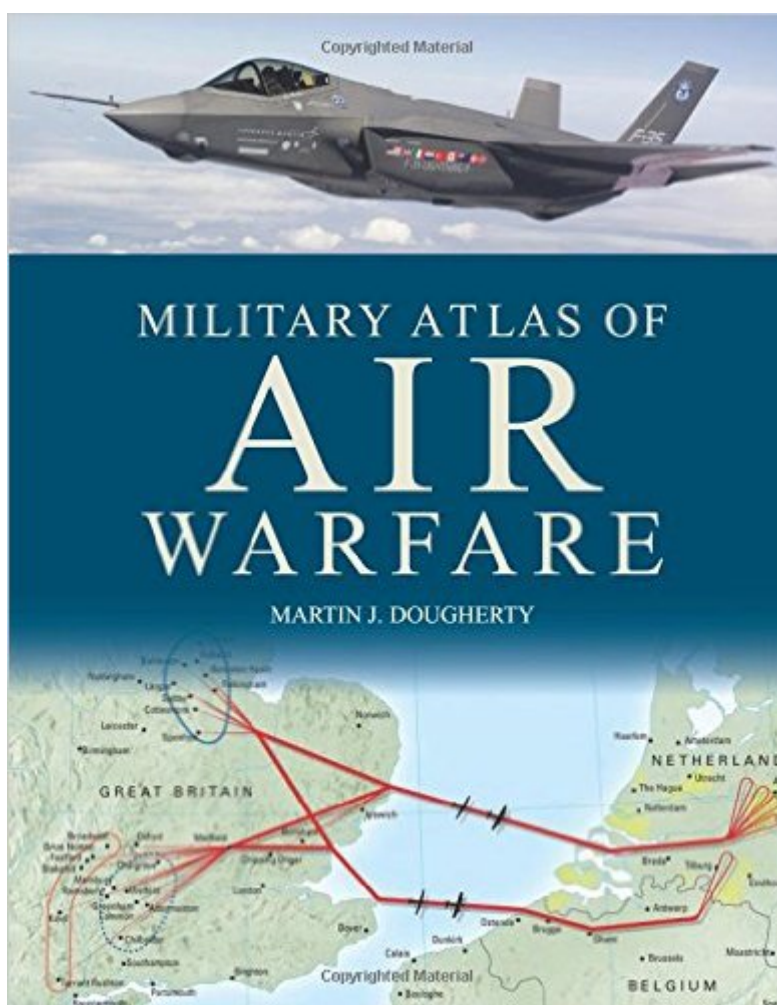


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Military Atlas Of Air Warfare



Synopsis

The Military Atlas of Air Warfare is a highly illustrated and accessible account of the development of aerial warfare, from the first skirmishes over the Western Front in World War I to today's hi-tech net centric aerial battlespace. Developing from unpowered observation hot air balloons in the 18th century and the ancient kite, aerial warfare has become a multibillion-dollar industry and has led to many advances in technology and techniques such as aerodynamics, propulsion, radar and use of composites and engineered materials such as carbon fiber. Featuring more than 120 complex computer-generated battle maps and graphics, The Military Atlas of Air Warfare explores every major air battle to have taken place in the world's skies, as well as documenting the air element of campaigns such as Operation Barbarossa and Operation Desert Storm. Extensively researched text tells the history and the stories behind these battles concisely and clearly.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

First, there is a lot I don't know about air warfare, especially as it's been used strategically in war. I wish a pilot or someone with firsthand flying knowledge would write a review, but since no review has yet been written I'll have to start it because this atlas is beyond stunning. To begin with, the map colors are subtle and perfectly coordinated for a very professional look: light green for plains, brown or tan for highlands, light blue for ocean. There are tiny tree silhouettes where needed to delineate forests, and mountains shaded in relief. There are longitude and latitude lines where important, small airplane icons for flight formations. Yellow-and-red explosion bursts with minute zeppelin icons

mark downed airships. Some pages even show three dimensional representations of fighter squadrons amidst clouds to depict dogfights. Brightly colored arrows show bombing runs. Above all, everything is perfectly clear, as if expertly focused by a fine spotter's scope. And the book is HUGE, one of the largest atlases in my vast collection of military atlases, yet still can be comfortably read in an easy chair. I find the size essential: it's necessary to do full justice to the two world wars. The second war gets heaviest coverage, naturally, (both theaters) but outstanding coverage is given the first war, as well. Also touched on are the Spanish Civil War, Korea, Vietnam, Arab-Israeli, Falklands, the Gulf War, and Afghanistan. Yet it's the 100 pages of full-color maps given to WW II that most astonishes. Many of you will be familiar with the magnificent "War at Sea" atlas by the Naval Institute Press, an atlas so highly praised that virtually every review on this website is a five-star one, effusive with glowing praise. This "Atlas of Air Warfare" does exactly for air warfare mapping what "War at Sea" does for naval warfare maps, and it comes at less than half the price of the naval one. Chartwell Books is to be commended for such an effort. There are standard unit designations on the map for infantry, parachute, glider, and specific locations for paratroops. Also vividly denoted are torpedo nets, flares, balloon barrage, and ship icons, including sunken U-boat icons. I could go on and on and on. What's not here? Virtually nothing, that's what. This atlas is simply a must for anyone who loves military atlases.

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