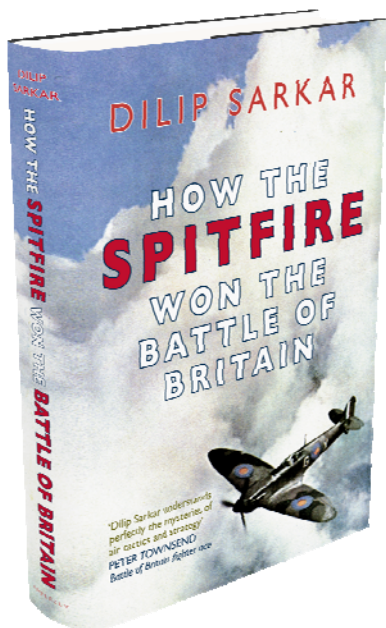


Finally lays to rest the myth that the Hurricane won the Battle of Britain rather than the numerically inferior, yet more glamorous, Spitfire.



## How the Spitfire Won the Battle of Britain

DILIP SARKAR

- Historians have previously argued that it was the Hurricane not the Spitfire that won the Battle of Britain. Although the Spitfire won the hearts of the British population at large 'stealing' the limelight, it was the Hurricane that achieved most during the battle. Dilip Sarkar turns this now established view on its head.
- 'Dilip Sarkar understands perfectly the mysteries of air tactics and strategy, enabling him write authoritatively, lively and deeply touching stories of those days when friend and foe met in the air' PETER TOWNSEND, *Battle of Britain fighter ace*.

Although there were many more Hawker Hurricanes than Supermarine Spitfires engaged in the epic conflict fought over southern England in summer 1940, the public's imagination was captured by the shapely and charismatic Spitfire. According to legend, however, the Hurricane executed far greater damage on the enemy than all other defences combined, and was therefore the unsung hero of our 'Finest Hour'. New research, though, confirms that the Spitfire, although less in number, was in fact supreme, and destroyed an equal number of enemy machines to the more numerous Hurricane force.

Featuring interviews with pilots who flew to war in both Spitfires and Hurricanes, and following a detailed analysis of combat reports and casualty records, Dilip Sarkar shatters the myth and argues a persuasive case proving that the Hurricane was markedly inferior to the Spitfire during the Battle of Britain – which could have been won by Spitfires, but not Hurricanes, alone. A controversial thesis likely to provoke lively debate, the evidence presented by this retired police detective and expert aviation historian is nonetheless indisputable.

### BIBLIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

**Publication:** 15 October 2010  
**Price:** £18.99  
**ISBN:** 978-1-84868-868-1  
**Size:** 234 x 156mm  
**Binding:** Hardback  
**Extent:** 160 pages  
 40 photographs  
**Rights:** World, all languages

### MARKETING, PUBLICITY, PRESS

- Published to coincide with the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations of the Battle of Britain which runs from 10 July to 31 October 2010.
- A highly contentious subject guaranteed to generate publicity, especially publishing during the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary.
- Author has access to Battle of Britain Spitfire and Hurricane veterans who concur with his findings.
- Reviews in the aviation and history press to include *Flypast*, *RAF News* and *BBC History Magazine*.
- Reviews in the national weeklies, national daily and Sunday newspapers, to include: *The Daily Mail* and *The Sunday Telegraph*, *THES*, *TLS* and *The London Review of Books*.

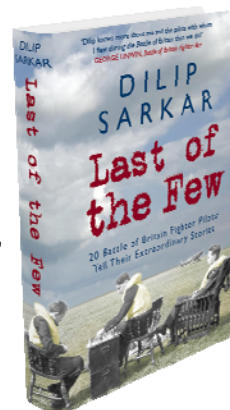
### THE AUTHOR

Fascinated by the Battle of Britain since childhood, Since the 1970s he has met and interviewed more Battle of Britain pilots than any other historian. He has written over twenty books, titles which include the only biographical works formally endorsed by the families of both Group Captain Sir Douglas Bader and Air Vice-Marshal Johnnie Johnson. A retired policeman, in 2003 Dilip was made an MBE for services to aviation history, and elected to the Fellowship of the Royal Historical Society in 2006. He lives in Worcester.

### PRaise FOR DILIP SARKAR



*The Few*  
 'A well-researched, detailed chronicle of the Battle of Britain'  
**HUGH SEBAG MONTEFIORE,**  
 author of *Dunkirk*  
 'Compelling reading'  
**LADY BADER**



*Last of the Few*  
 'Dilip knows more about me and the pilots with whom I flew during the Battle of Britain than we do! If anyone ever needs to know anything about the RAF during the summer of 1940, don't ask the Few, ask him!' **GEORGE 'GRUMPY' UNWIN,**  
*Battle of Britain fighter ace*

### AMBERLEY PUBLISHING PLC

Cirencester Road, Chalford, Stroud  
 Gloucestershire, GL6 8PE  
[www.amberley-books.com](http://www.amberley-books.com)

### Sales and Distribution

Casemate UK  
 17 Cheap Street  
 Newbury RG14 5DD  
**T:** 01635 231091

### Customer Service

Amberley Publishing  
 Cirencester Road, Stroud  
**T:** 01285 760030  
**E:** [orders@amberley-books.com](mailto:orders@amberley-books.com)