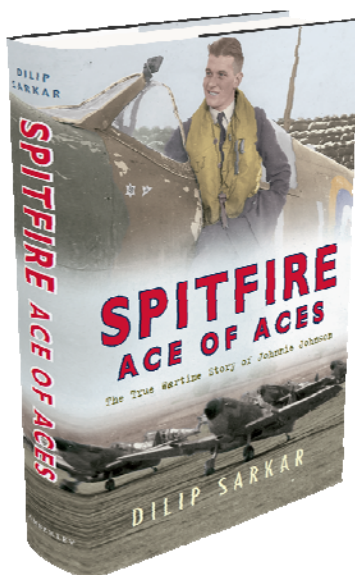


The biography of the RAF's top fighter pilot, Johnnie Johnson who shot down more enemy aircraft than any other RAF pilot during the Second World War.



Spitfire Ace of Aces

The True Wartime Story of Johnnie Johnson

DILIP SARKAR

- The only official biography, written with the co-operation of Johnson's family.
- A remarkable pilot, he flew 1000 missions, was never shot down and notched up 38 enemy 'kills' the highest total of any RAF pilot.
- Over 120 historic photographs, from Johnson's family records, many have never been reproduced before.
- Author is a major authority on British fighter pilots of the Second World War.

Johnnie Johnson is a character literally straight out of the pages of 'Boys Own'. By the end of the Second World War the RAF Spitfire pilot was a household name in Britain, feted by Churchill and Eisenhower. Although he missed the Battle of Britain when slow flying bombers were abundant and easy targets for fighters, by 1945 he had notched up 38 enemy 'kills' – all fighters which took far more skill to shoot down - and was officially the RAF's top-scoring fighter ace. One of his most impressive achievements was that despite over 1000 combat missions, he was never shot down. His Spitfire was damaged once and on his return to base he apologised to his fitter saying 'I was surrounded by six of them'.

Aviation historian Dilip Sarkar spent many hours with Johnson in the final years of the great man's life, recording the last interviews Johnson would ever give. The book is infused with breath-taking first-hand accounts from Johnnie himself and many of his fellow Spitfire pilots also interviewed by the author and profusely illustrated with photographs from Johnson's personal albums.

BIBLIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

Publication: 15 July 2011

Price: £25

ISBN: 978-1-4456-0475-6

Size: 248 x 172mm

Binding: Hardback

Extent: 320 pages

127 photographs

Rights: World, all languages

MARKETING, PUBLICITY, PRESS

- Reviews in the aviation and history press to include *Flypast*, *RAF News* and *BBC History Magazine*.

THE AUTHOR

Dilip Sarkar has published over thirty books, mostly on the Battle of Britain and human experience of flying and fighting in the Supermarine Spitfire. These titles include the only biographical works formally endorsed by the families of Group Captain Sir Douglas Bader and AVM Johnnie Johnson. A retired police detective, in 2003 Dilip was made an MBE for services to aviation history, and elected to the Fellowship of the Royal Historical Society in 2006. A history graduate with First Class Honours, Dilip is currently reading for his PhD at the University of Worcester. For further information please see www.dilipsarkar.com.

PRaise FOR DILIP SARKAR



'Captivating... written by an acknowledged expert on the Battle of Britain' **PROF. GARY SHEFFIELD**

'A well-researched, detailed chronicle of the Battle of Britain' **HUGH SEBAG MONTEFIORE**

'Compelling reading' **LADY BADER**



'Carefully argued & thoroughly convincing... a very fine volume' **PROF. PAUL MACKENZIE**, author of *Bader: A Life*



'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*



'A very fine and vivid account of his actions over France in 1940 and of the of the Battle of Britain.' **MAX ARTHUR**



'The Battle of Britain rethought' **THE TIMES**
'Lively & deeply touching stories of those days when friend & foe met in the air' **PETER TOWNSEND**, *Battle of Britain fighter ace*



'A must' **INTERCOM: THE AIRCREW ASSOCIATION**



'This book deserves to achieve success' **DAME VERA LYNN**

AMBERLEY PUBLISHING PLC

Cirencester Road, Chalford, Stroud
Gloucestershire, GL6 8PE
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