

## SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

### BATTLE OF BRITAIN

The following is a list of some books that I have used in preparation for this class. In one case I did not use the book; however, it comes as highly recommended as a source for this topic.

Bungay, Stephen *The Most Dangerous Enemy: A History of the Battle of Britain*, Aurum Press Ltd. London (2009). Excellent newer book on this event. Well-written and an easy read. A lot of stories of individual RAF pilots.

Dempster, Derek and Wood, Derek *The Narrow Margin: The Battle of Britain and the Rise of Air Power, 1930-1940*, 416 pp. New York, McGraw Hill Book, Co., 1961. Somewhat dated but still an excellent source for this subject. May be out of print.

Dilley, Dudley C. *Battle of Britain 1940, The Luftwaffe's 'Eagle Attack'* 94 pages, Osprey Publishing, Oxford, U.K., 2018. Most recent book. Uses latest examinations of the German records. Very thorough; but there is no filler. Just the facts, m'am, just the facts.

Overy, Richard, *The Battle of Britain: The Myth and the Reality*, 135 pp. Penguin Books, London, 2000. Very short and concise work on the battle. Uses good sources and makes good points about both the significance of the battle and myth of the "few against the many". May also be out of print.

Korda, Michael, *With Wings Like Eagles: A History of the Battle of Britain*, 299 pp. New York, Harper- Collins Publishers, 2009. New and very excellent book where the author is a great fan of Air Marshall Dowding. He is very thorough and does a good job of describing the battle and the strengths and weaknesses of Dowding's personality.

Holland, James, *The Battle of Britain: Five Months That Changed History, May-October 1940*, 613 pp. New York, St. Martin's Press, 2010. Probably the best at describing the invasion of France and the Allied disaster that followed. He is not complimentary about the French Military. From the title you can see that he regards the Battle of Britain as one of the turning points of WWII; somewhat different from Overy's conclusion.

Corum, James S. *The Luftwaffe: Creating the Operational Air War, 1918-1940*, 287 pp. Lawrence, KS, University Press of Kansas, 1997. This book is a must-read for any serious student of WWII air warfare. The author takes issue with the theory that the Luftwaffe had no strategic air warfare plan. He uses many original German documents and does a great job tracing the rise of the Luftwaffe and its leaders. That being said, I would only recommend this book for real history buffs; others may find his in-depth treatment of a narrow area boring.

Deighton, Len *Fighter: The True Story of the Battle of Britain*. London, Cape Publishing, 1977. This is the book that I have not read. I am always leery of books that say "the true story" because in history there tends to be more than one version of that story. Despite that, this book is used by just about every author in writing about this battle. Based on that fact, I would recommend this book for your consideration.

There are obviously many other books on this subject. The bibliography in any one of these books runs for at least 2-5 pages. New books are coming out every day. For out of print books there are many on-line sources. I would recommend both Amazon and Alibris as excellent sources for these books. If you have a Kindle, Nook or any other e-reader all of these books may be hard to find in an electronic version.