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303 SQUADRON **The Legendary Battle of Britain Fighter Squadron**

By Arkady Fiedler

Translated by Jarek Garliński

The summer of 1940 and the Battle of Britain—the darkest days of World War II. France, Poland, Denmark, Belgium, the Netherlands, Luxembourg and Norway had all been crushed by the powerful Nazi German war machine. Great Britain stood alone, fighting for its life.

303 Squadron is the thrilling story of the celebrated squadron of Polish fighter pilots whose superb skill in the air helped save England during its most desperate hours. They were the highest-scoring Allied fighter squadron in the Battle of Britain, downing three times the average RAF score while incurring only one-third the average casualties. The dashing and gallant 303 Squadron was lionized by the British press, congratulated by the King, and adored by the British public.

With an immediacy that vividly brings to life those harrowing days, Fiedler paints the bravery, the poignancy, the breathtaking gambles with death risked daily by this exceptional group of young men far from home, who fought to preserve freedom for all.

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HURRICANE



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“Wonderful account of the Poles’ heroic deeds.”

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“Compelling.”

— *Flying Magazine*



AUTHOR BIO

Author **ARKADY FIEDLER** (1894-1985) was born in Poznań Poland, educated at the Jagiellonian University in Kraków, in Poznań and at the University of Leipzig.

A best-selling travel writer researching in Tahiti when World War II began, Fiedler made his way back to Europe and joined the Polish Army in France after Poland had fallen to the Germans. Fiedler managed to get to England with other Polish forces after the fall of France. He undertook to chronicle the extraordinary achievements of 303 Squadron during the Battle of Britain with the blessing of Polish Prime Minister and Commander-in-Chief General Władysław Sikorski.

TRANSLATOR BIO

Translator **JAREK GARLIŃSKI** was born in London, England, and grew up bilingual in English and Polish. His father was noted historian and author Józef Garliński, a former prisoner at Auschwitz-Birkenau. His mother Eileen Short-Garlińska was one of only a few Britons who spent World War II in Warsaw. Both parents served in the Polish Underground army during the war.

Educated at the University of Nottingham, the University of Grenoble, and the School of Slavonic and East European Studies at the University of London, Garliński is fluent in English, French, Polish and Russian, with a distinguished career in education.

Garliński is a member of the Polish Institute of Arts and Sciences of America and has been decorated by the Polish Ministry of Defense and the Knights of Malta for services to Polish culture.

He has translated numerous books of Polish literature and history, specializing in the World War II era.

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