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BOMBERS OVER BERLIN

THE RAF OFFENSIVE

NOVEMBER 1943 - MARCH 1944

ALAN W. COOPER



“What makes this book so remarkable and interesting is its anthology of short but graphic accounts of the trials and tribulations of the dozens of bomber crews involved.... ‘Bombers Over Berlin’ is unique in its compilations of such a large number of personal anecdotes covering the hazards of sustained fighter and flak attacks... a thoroughly well researched chronicle.”

- Ken Batchelor, former chairman of the Bomber Command Association.

With the 70th anniversary of the outset of the raids approaching, this book is a timely memorial to the Bomber crews and the part they played in the wider history of the war.

Berlin was ‘The Big City’ - deep in the heart of Germany and heavily defended with flak and nightfighters, not only because it was the administrative capital but because it was vital for the war production machine. Heavy losses could be expected on any raid to Berlin so whenever plans were revealed for targeting the City there was always added tension for the bomber crews. Between November 1943 and March 1944 Berlin was the target 16 times. 9,112 sorties were flown and 495 aircraft were lost.

Alan Cooper tells the story of individual crews who flew the bombing raids, of those who returned home safely, and of those who were shot down, becoming POWs or evading capture, either returning home to the UK or remaining at large in occupied Europe. He tells of the heroism of the pilots and crews grappling with heavily loaded bombers against nightfighters, often nursing stricken aircraft back to base, with many failing to return.

Alan Cooper has been an avid aviation historian and writer for some years. His previous titles, published by Pen & Sword, include *Air Gunner: The Men who Manned the Turrets*, *Target Leipzig: The RAF's Disastrous Raid of 19/20 February 1944*, and *Free to Fight Again: RAF Escapes and Evasions 1940-1945*.

Please find enclosed a review copy of this title. If you would like further information or images for review / feature purposes please don't hesitate to contact me.

NEW BOOK RELEASE

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PEN & SWORD AVIATION

KEY POINTS

- A painstakingly researched account.
- Personal accounts relay tales of heroism and bravery ad work to create a sense of atmosphere.
- These raids were some of the most costly in the war. Bomber Command lost 560 bombers, including 70 crashes on return, and 3000 aircrew.

MARKETING COORDINATOR

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