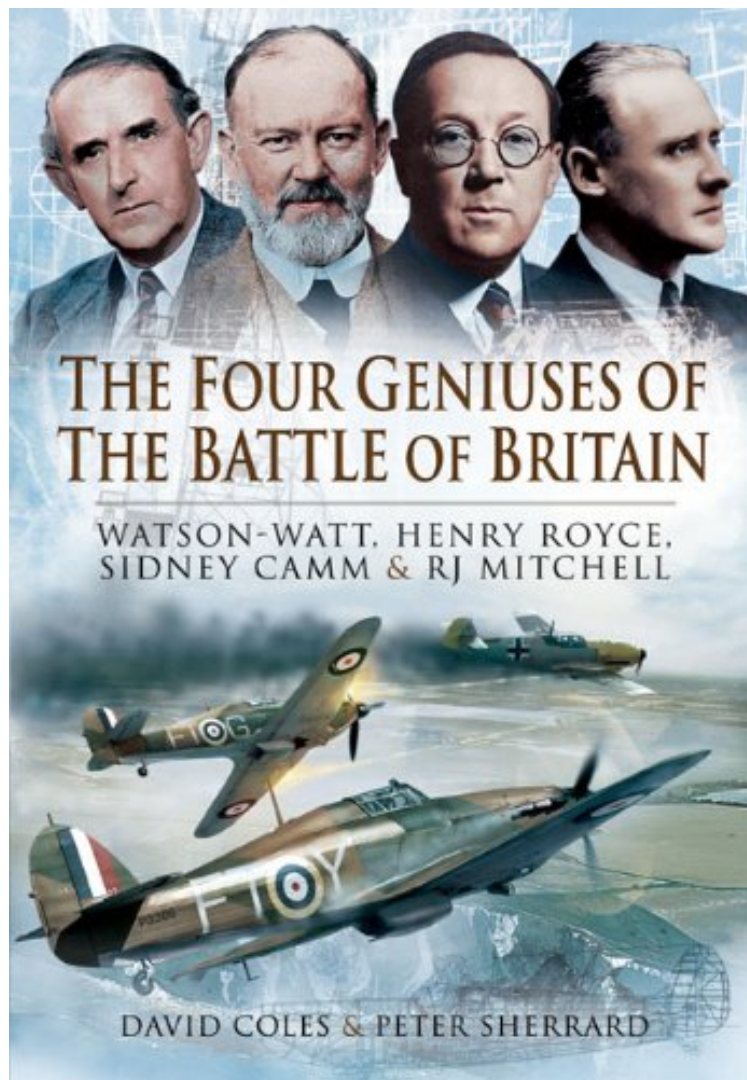


[Library ebook] The Four Geniuses of the Battle of Britain: Watson-Watt, Henry Royce, Sydney Camm and RJ Mitchell

The Four Geniuses of the Battle of Britain: Watson-Watt, Henry Royce, Sydney Camm and RJ Mitchell

David Coles, Peter Sherrard

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#1545394 in Books 2012-10-24 Original language: English PDF # 1 9.20 x .80 x 6.20l, 1.14 #File Name: 1848847599256 pages | File size: 79.Mb

David Coles, Peter Sherrard : The Four Geniuses of the Battle of Britain: Watson-Watt, Henry Royce, Sydney Camm and RJ Mitchell before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Four Geniuses of the Battle of Britain: Watson-Watt, Henry Royce, Sydney Camm and RJ Mitchell:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Excellent detailed account of inventions and their inventors that led to the allied victory in the Battle of Britain and WWII By Neil Isenberg Review for: The Four Geniuses of the Battle of

Britain: Watson-Watt, Henry Royce, Sydney Camm and RJ Mitchell England would not have won the Battle of Britain without the work of these 4 men and the engineering teams they brought together, and it is unlikely World War II would have been won by the allies if Germany had conquered England. For example, the 70%+ of German fighter strength defending Germany from air attacks from England would have instead been deployed in Russia. Another example would have been the loss of the northern and southern supply routes to Russia. This is an excellent, detailed account of four major characters of engineering and commerce and their teams that built several inventions that allowed the British to win the Battle of Britain and thus ultimately made possible the Allied victory in World War II. Covered in great detail: (1) Radar (2) The Rolls-Royce Merlin aircraft engine (3) The Hawker Hurricane (4) The Spitfire Also covered in less detail were a number of related stories like that of the American P-51 Mustang fighter changing the air war once their engine was changed to the Rolls Royce Merlin engine. In some places the book goes into extraordinary TECHNICAL DETAIL, and if that isn't your thing you can speed skip through those portions and still get a lot out of the book. The book offers many insights, beyond the expected stories of the people and the engineering. One example is that Neville Chamberlain's policy of appeasement bought the British just enough time to deploy their first Spitfire squadrons. If England had gone to war without their spitfires, Germany's Messerschmidt Bf 109's, produced for 4 years before the war, would surely have made quick work of the British Fighter Command, and thus led to the invasion of England. While the book doesn't specifically note this, the production details leading to this conclusion does. There's also lots of detail here tangentially relevant to the subject, for example I didn't realize that the focus on building fighters over bombers was made possible by Neville Chamberlain's approval, against the recommendations of some senior military officers at the time. I'm impressed by the book's coverage of several of the coworkers and engineering team members these men worked with. In some cases the detail written on their accomplishments went well beyond the usual quick overview and tip of the hat. I highly suggest this book to anyone interested in the subject. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. A bit too technical By PETER Not an easy read. I regard myself as reasonably technical minded but it lost me in a number of places

Had it not been for the vital contributions of the four men and their inventions described in this book the Battle of Britain could not have been won by the Royal Air Force. Each of these brilliant men contributed enormously to the aircraft and equipment upon which the gallant RAF fighter pilots depended to take on and defeat the hitherto overpowering Luftwaffe during Hitler's European onslaught. Watson Watt was the moving force behind Britain's vital early warning radar network that allowed Allied fighter aircraft to intercept the incoming German bomber raids. Henry Royce was the driving force throughout the development of the Merlin engine that powered both the Hurricane and Spitfire. Sydney Camm persevered with the design of the Hawker Hurricane which was to destroy more Luftwaffe bombers in the Battle than any other type. It was amazingly resilient and provided an extremely stable gun platform. Never living long enough to see the success of his beautiful Spitfire, RJ Mitchell was the designer of the only British aircraft that could outperform the Nazi Bf 109s fighters and which allowed the attacking Hurricanes a little more safety while doing their job below. This is the story of those men behind the scene of the greatest air battle in history.

About the Author David Coles is an author and historian.