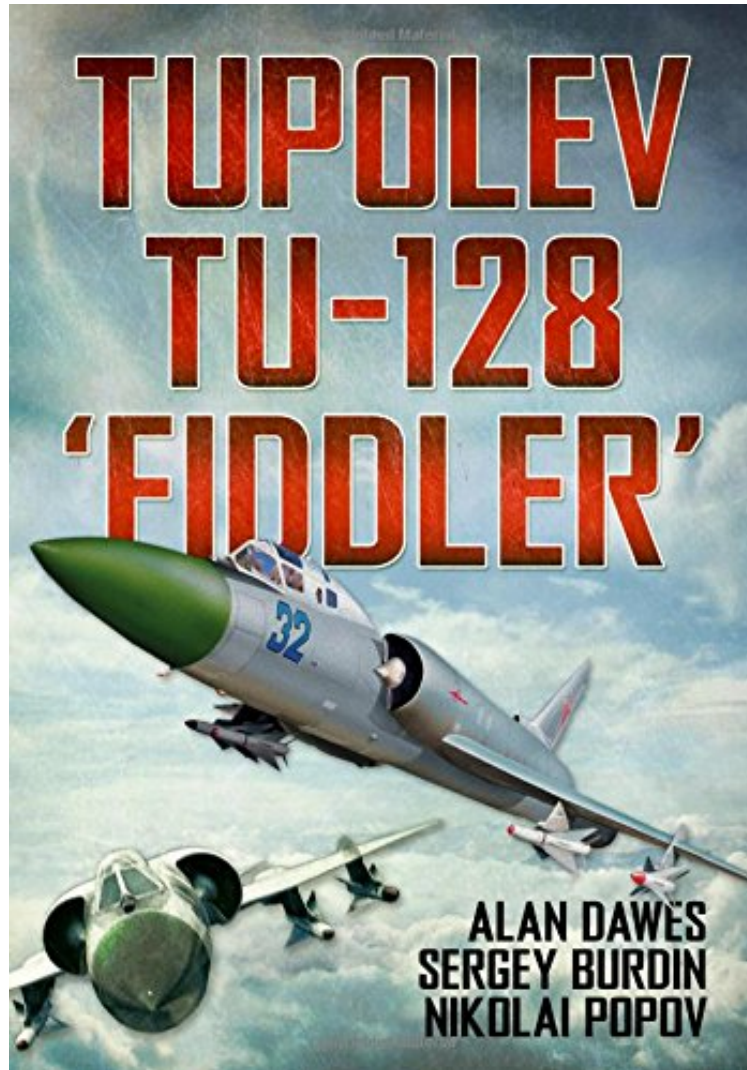


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Tupolev Tu-128 Fiddler

Alan Dawes, Sergey Burdin

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Alan Dawes, Sergey Burdin : Tupolev Tu-128 Fiddler before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Tupolev Tu-128 Fiddler:

5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. An Important Book on Soviet-era Air DefenseBy Ronald EasleyThis new book is not only the definitive work on an important yet under-appreciated airplane, it sheds considerable light on Soviet air defenses as burgeoning technologies brought to the field new capabilities. Much has been written about air defense missile systems of the era, and a number of largely technical works are available on contemporary aircraft such as the Yak-28 "Fiddler", Su-15 "Flagon", and MiG-25 "Foxbat", but this work by Alan Dawes, Sergey Burdin, and Nikolai Popov meets and exceeds their stated purpose of "putting flesh to the bones" of the story of the

"Fiddler." The book is rich in technical detail, although not as conveniently distilled and categorized as is the case in their colleague Yefim Gordon's works. However, this book goes much deeper in that regard and presents a stunning breadth of such detail as well. Conceived to perform much the same mission for the Soviet defense establishment as the McDonnell F-101B was for its Air Defense Command, it is very interesting to note the similarities and differences in their respective design approaches, technological capabilities, operational employment, and training to meet similar missions. I was struck by how different teams using different approaches came up with very similar solutions to the various problems faced by supersonic interceptors against high-performance targets, and also at some of the areas where those approaches, and their relative levels of success, diverged. The book is often not an easy read as it is so rich and dense with information, and some of the terms and place names are unfamiliar to the Western reader. However, the effort in exploring and clarifying these details is very well spent and represents one of the truly valuable qualities of this book, in that it seems to continually lead to more questions. The chapters are well organized and the story is told in more or less chronological order. It serves admirably as a reference work on this giant among interceptor aircraft, but more than that represents a work of impeccable scholarship and provides a base of knowledge with which to begin to truly plumb the depths of Soviet air defense in general. Sergey Burdin and his co-author, Tu-128 pilot Nikolai Popov are to be commended for their dedicated research in telling this story, and Alan Dawes for bringing this work to the Anglophone audience and crafting it into a fascinating and at times gripping narrative. This book on the long-ignored Tu-128 "Fiddler" stands as a truly outstanding work in aviation history. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Good read for anyone wanting to know more about the aircraft. By Scott Bailey Finished this book a few weeks ago and found it a very good read. This book describes the operational history from its beginning to its withdrawal from service with the Russian Air Force. Very in detail book on this aircraft communication and design properties. Follows the aircraft deployments to the far reaches of the Russian airfields and the intercept mission that this aircraft conducted. I was impressed also by the limitations this aircraft had until the arrival of the successor aircraft the MiG-31. Covers everything you need to know about this aircraft. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Fantastic book on little known Soviet interceptor. By Jay Ferris A very well written book about a little known but important Soviet aircraft. The authors go into the development and production of the Tu-128 in detail. Also covered are the operational aspects along with firsthand stories from pilots and others on what it was like to fly the bird. An interesting section on mishaps and accidents is provided as well as plenty of photos, most not previously seen. Anyone interested in aviation, especially Cold War era, will enjoy this book and scale modellers will find it particularly interesting and informative.

The first comprehensive account in English of the development and operation of Russia's least known postwar jet fighter. Only ever operated over the former Soviet Union's vast northern territory by an elite group of Soviet Air Force aircrew, it was little known even to most Russian military personnel and the majority of Soviet citizens. Although never flown in anger, the Tu-128 played a hugely important part in protecting the nation's Arctic approaches against foreign incursions for almost a quarter of a century. The reader will discover the rationale behind its selection as the principal Soviet air defense fighter of the day in a critical period of the Cold War. This includes selection and training of aircrew, operation of quick reaction alerts, manual and automated ground controlled intercepts and cooperation with the Soviet Union's first AWACS, its stable-mate the Tu-126 Moss. With numerous previously unpublished photographs, diagrams and expert text, the Tu-128 Fiddler will prove indispensable to enthusiasts and historians alike.

About the Author Alan Dawes is a former staff writer on Air Forces Monthly and Air International, having previously had a long career in the Royal Air Force as an intelligence analyst, where he was able to develop his Russian translation skills. He has specialised in the study of modern Russian military aviation and written on a wide range of related military and civilian topics, being shortlisted twice for the Royal Aeronautical Society Aerospace Journalist of the Year award. He is married and lives in Cambridgeshire, England