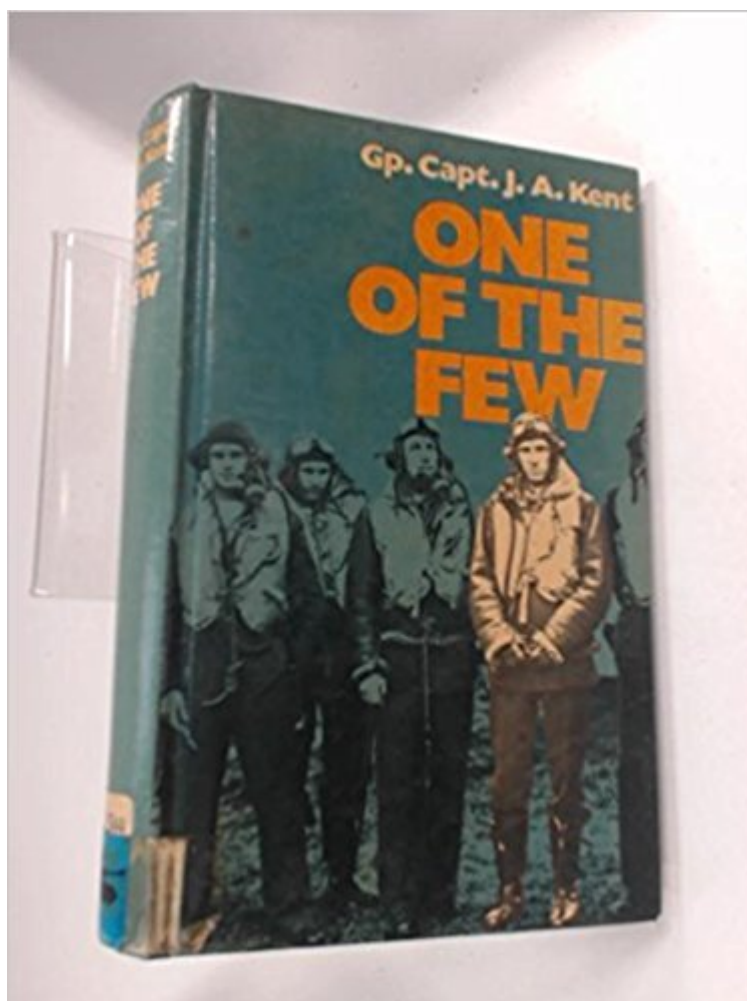


The book was found

One Of The Few



Synopsis

Group Captain Johnny Kent joined the RAF in the 1930s and went on to become the leader of one of the most successful fighter squadrons of World War II. His skillful leadership helped the famous 303 Squadron to play such a decisive part in the Battle of Britain, and won him the highest Polish military award, the Virtuti Militari. This is Captain Kent's story of his life in the RAF, from his struggles as a boy in the wilds of Canada to get into the air, through his experiences as a test pilot in Farnborough and his constant efforts to fly wherever the action was. It is a story of triumphant achievement in combat, and of a man whose air force career certainly picked him out as "One of the Few." --This text refers to an alternate Hardcover edition.

Book Information

Hardcover: 255 pages

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Shipping Weight: 1.7 pounds

Average Customer Review: 3.9 out of 5 stars 7 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #1,163,403 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #137 in Books > History > Americas > Canada > 20th Century

Customer Reviews

Johnny Kent the youngest licensed pilot in Canada when he was 17 years old. He was offered an RAF commission in the 1930s, published his memoirs in 1971, and died in 1985. --This text refers to an alternate Hardcover edition.

The author's account of becoming a pilot, and his entire RAF career, including the Battle of Britain. I bought the book specifically to read more about his experience with RAF 303 (Polish) squadron, during the Battle of Britain. Rather than forcing the experienced Polish pilots to learn English before they could see combat, this officer learned enough Polish to communicate with the Polish pilots he commanded, while in the air and in combat. An excellent account of Battle of Britain, but his entire career is interesting.

I was gambling that Kent might have rich observations about the cultural clash of the Polish pilots

with the British and North Americans In the RAF. That is not this book. Kent writes about Kent; no surprise and no fault in that. He had a full career that included many other experiences beside his time with Squadron 303. And much of what he writes about in the Battle of Britain is his own time skirmishing. I have to disagree with the other comments. If you are interested in 303, this book only offers a handful of comments.

A very pleasing memoir by One of the Few, with helpful new material added by his daughter, an anthropologist, who writes persuasively about the somewhat mysterious, kindly, clearly heroic man who was the father she didn't know as well as she would have liked.

I bought this book to get some background on 303 Polish squadron RAF. Mr. Kent was their XO. It was a wonderful book and Mr. Kent was unstinting in his praise of the Poles. Glad I bought it, it was a great read. Recommended for fans of 303!

I found it a bit superficial. Not really informative

A great book.

The title is a reference to Churchill's famous comments of the Battle of Britain. Kent is the man who made the free Polish squadrons one of the best of the war. The book covers his life from his first flight in Canada to the post war years. His wit and humor make for some fun reading. Some of the things he did had quite an effect on the outcome of the Battle of Britain.

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