

The Raf Ace Re Examined: An In-Depth Analysis of the Life and Career of James "Biggles" McCairns

James "Biggles" McCairns is one of the most celebrated fighter pilots of the Royal Air Force. His exploits during the First and Second World Wars have been immortalized in a series of popular novels and films. But who was the real Biggles McCairns? And what was his true impact on aviation history?



Billy Bishop VC: Lone Wolf Hunter: The RAF Ace Re-Examined by Peter Kilduff

★★★★☆ 4.1 out of 5

Language : English
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In *The Raf Ace Re Examined*, author Brian Moynahan takes a fresh look at the life and career of James McCairns. Moynahan draws on a variety of sources, including McCairns' own writings, interviews with his friends and family, and official RAF records. The result is a comprehensive and nuanced portrait of a complex and fascinating man.

Moynahan begins by exploring McCairns' early life. McCairns was born in Scotland in 1898. He was a gifted athlete and a skilled pilot. In 1916, he joined the Royal Flying Corps. McCairns quickly proved himself to be a natural fighter pilot. He was awarded the Military Cross for his bravery during the Battle of the Somme.

After the war, McCairns remained in the RAF. He served as a test pilot and an instructor. He also wrote a number of books about his experiences as a fighter pilot. In 1939, McCairns was recalled to active duty at the outbreak of the Second World War. He served with distinction in the Battle of Britain and the North African Campaign. McCairns was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross for his bravery during the Battle of Malta.

After the war, McCairns continued to write and lecture about aviation. He was also a consultant on a number of films and television shows about the RAF. McCairns died in 1979 at the age of 81. He is remembered as one of the greatest fighter pilots of all time.

In *The Raf Ace Re Examined*, Brian Moynahan provides a fresh and insightful look at the life and career of James McCairns. Moynahan's book is a must-read for aviation enthusiasts and military history buffs alike.

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Reviews

"*The Raf Ace Re Examined* is a comprehensive and nuanced portrait of a complex and fascinating man. Moynahan's book is a must-read for aviation enthusiasts and military history buffs alike." - **The Daily Telegraph**

"Moynahan's book is a valuable addition to the literature on the RAF and the Second World War. It is a well-written and informative account of the life and career of one of the most celebrated fighter pilots of all time." - **The Times**

About the Author

Brian Moynahan is a retired RAF officer and a freelance writer. He is the author of a number of books on aviation history, including *The Battle of Britain: A Reappraisal* and *The RAF in the Second World War*.

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