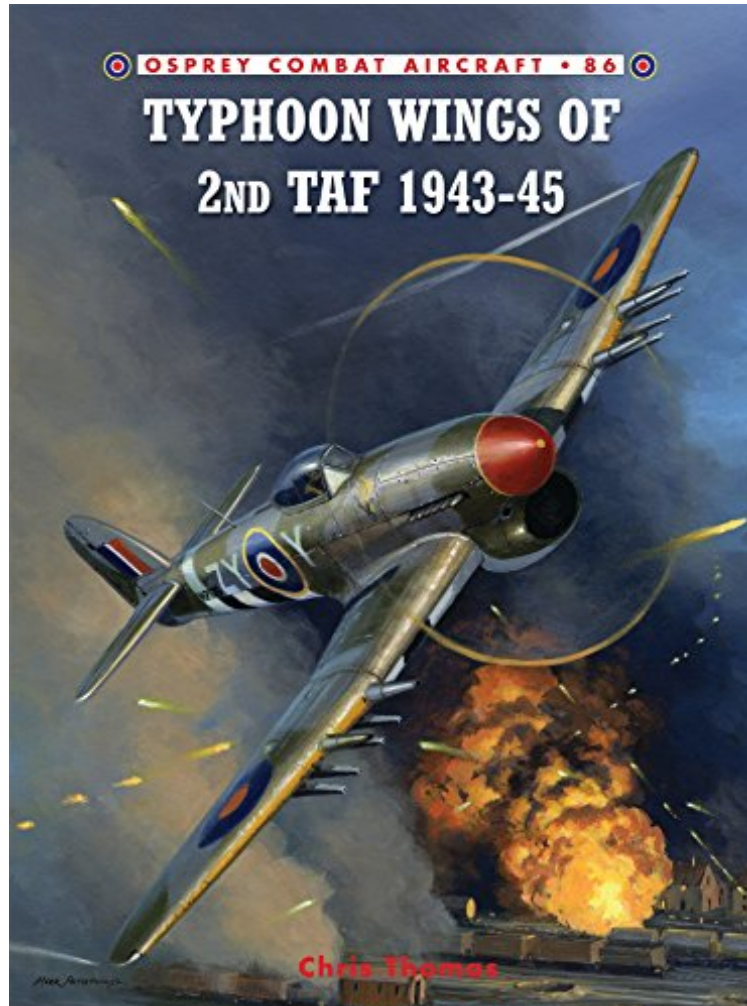


(Download ebook) Typhoon Wings of 2nd TAF 1943–45 (Combat Aircraft)

## Typhoon Wings of 2nd TAF 1943–45 (Combat Aircraft)

*Chris Thomas*

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**Chris Thomas : Typhoon Wings of 2nd TAF 1943–45 (Combat Aircraft)** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Typhoon Wings of 2nd TAF 1943–45 (Combat Aircraft):

5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. "Once-Over Lightly" History of 2nd TAF Typhoon Ops! By Mike O'Connor Though a failure in its original fighter role, Hawker's brutish, thick-winged Typhoon was transformed into the RAF's premier ground-attack aircraft. Armed with four 20mm cannons, bombs and rockets, the 18 Tiffy squadrons assigned to the RAF's 2nd Tactical Air Force savaged Wehrmacht troops, MT and other targets as the Allies advanced across Europe. Author-illustrator Chris Thomas presents an overview of Typhoon ground-attack ops in this Osprey 'Combat Aircraft' book, #86 in the series. Prior to D-Day, the Allied Air Forces, realizing the need for effective close-air-support, had cooperatively developed army-air force CAS tactics, revamped the Typhoon for the CAS mission and created the units that furnish that support. Some seven wings - 121 Wing, 123 Wing, 136 Wing, etc. - were parcelled

out between 83 and 84 Groups. Prior to D-Day, the units struck various targets in Normandy including radar sites. After D-Day, the units moved to France and followed closely behind the advancing ground units, striking German Army columns, HQs and other hard targets. By war's end, the Tiffy units had destroyed thousands of tanks, trucks and other MET, killed countless enemy soldiers and made a significant contribution to victory in Europe. All that effort came at great cost, the "low-down-and-dirty" attacks carried out by Typhoon units costing 500+ aircraft and over 200 pilots to the hellacious German AA batteries. Given the wide canvas he has to cover - one year's worth of combat by 18 squadrons - author Thomas does an admirable job of summarizing the Tiffy's ground attack career. He traces the Typhoon's make-over, creation of the various wings and some notable Tiffy commanders/pilots and highlights of the aircraft in combat. He also contributes ten pages of nicely-done color profiles of various Typhoons. I gave the book four stars - actually 4 1/2 - simply because I felt more pages were needed to adequately tell the Typhoon story. In any case, TYPHOON WINGS OF 2nd TAF 1943-45 is a comprehensive, well-illustrated and exciting summary of some of the hairiest missions flown by Allied pilots during World War II. Recommended. \*\*\*\*\*Review #1150.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Good and worth the money By Robert P. Dyer This book is good, I must say that. I would have liked a few more colour profiles of the Typhoons. I was looking for more on the 245 Squadron. {shark mouth} A lot of behind the scenes problems from initial introduction, to pilot shortages due to the nature of operations. I would buy it again. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Excellent By p51djm22 Very informative with great photos. If you've any interest in the Hawker Typhoon or the 2nd TAF you'll enjoy this reference.

The Typhoon was the RAF's chosen heavyweight fighter-bomber to support the British and Canadian Armies during the invasion of northwest Europe in World War II (1939-1945). A specialist in the aircraft (his father flew them in WWII), author Chris Thomas has done much research on the Typhoon's operations with 2nd TAF during this crucial period of the war. His research reveals for the first time the extent, and chronology, of the struggle to equip 18 RAF and RCAF squadrons in time for D-Day, and how this feat was only narrowly achieved. These 18 squadrons (later increased to 20) were organised into highly mobile, self-supporting wings that provided devastating close support for the British and Canadian armies in their advance across northwest Europe. Thomas' book analyzes the tactics employed by the Typhoon squadrons during these epic events, supported by the words of the pilots themselves. These battles were by no means one-sided, with the Typhoons' nemesis - the highly effective German flak units - exacting a terrible toll on 2nd TAF units. Indeed, some 400 aircraft and 150 pilots were lost during the Normandy campaign alone. Losses such as these led Air Chief Marshal Sir Harry Broadhurst, Air Officer Commanding 83 Group (which controlled more than half of 2nd TAF's Typhoon squadrons), to remark 'I suppose that flying one of these aircraft was the most dangerous task the Air Force has ever asked anybody to do'. Along with photographs and diagrams, the book includes artwork by the author as well, making for a comprehensive and authoritative guide.

"Typical of Osprey books, there are a superlative number of period photos of the planes and those who flew them. This is further enhanced by a large selection of color profiles by author that show examples of the Typhoon as the war progressed. This is an outstanding book on the subject and is one that I can easily recommend to you." ?Scott Van Aken, Modeling Madness (October 2010) "Military holdings considering strategy and equipment will find this a fine survey from an aircraft specialist who provides much research on the history and development of the Typhoon." ?The Midwest Book About the Author This is Chris Thomas' second book for Osprey, the first being the highly successful ACE 27 Typhoon and Tempest Aces. He has previously co-authored (with Christopher Shores) Typhoon and Tempest Story (1988) and four volumes of 2nd Tactical Air Force (2004-09). He is the Air-Britain specialist on the Hawker Typhoon and wrote The Typhoon File and Warpaint No 5 - Typhoon.