The RAF in a World Transformed, 1945–49

Monday 28 and Tuesday 29 September 2020
Hosted Online from the RAF Museum

TIMES are GIVEN in British Summer Time (GMT/UTC + 1)

Monday 28 September

9:45 AM  Welcome and Introduction
10:00 AM  The RAF and Post-War Industry, Technology and Environmental Perspectives.
          Gary Willis — Wings Over Britain: The relationship between the RAF and the landscape it flew over, 1939-1949
          Hermione Giffard* — Designing for the War or After it? The case of the jet engine
          Patrick Major* — Airmen on the Sun: Luftwaffe and RAF space scientists at the dawn of the Cold War
          Chair: Edward Young
11:00 AM  Break
11:15 AM  Post-War Operational Design and Policy.
          Eric Grove* — A Division of Labour? 'Carrier Strike' versus Bomber Command in the Immediate Post- War Years
          Michael Pryce* — The Fall of Icarus: RAF policy and fighter design 1945-49
          Chair: Dr Maria Burczynska
12:40 PM  Poster Session One.
12:45 PM  Break
1:45 PM   Keynote Address.
          Martin Francis: The Flyer Confronts the Post-War Age: Survival, Guilt and Politics
          Chair: Seb Cox
3:00 PM   Break
3:15 PM   RAF History: People, Meaning and Interpretation.
          Sally McGlone* — WRAF and The Cold War: The promulgation of the Women’s Royal Air Force as a permanent part of the Royal Air Force, 1949
          Stuart Hadaway — Redefining the Missing Problem: The RAF and the search for missing aircrew, 1945-52
Russell Smith — From War to Windrush: The Black British legacy in a changing world
Chair: Dr Kathleen Sherit

4:45 PM  Break
5:00 PM  Virtual discussion and connection event: Twitter Hour featuring speakers and organisers. Follow the conference hashtag #RAFMconference on twitter or tweet at @RAFMhistorian

Tuesday 29 September

09:45 AM  Welcome
10:00 AM  Operations in War and Peace: The RAF in South-East Asia, 1945–49.
            David Omissi — The Royal Air Force in India and South-East Asia, 1945–1948
            David Jordan — The Royal Air Force and the Netherlands East Indies
            Meor Alif Meor Azalan* — Advanced Air HQ Malaya, Trioxone, and ‘jungle garden’ destruction during the Malayan Emergency
            Chair: Professor Wendy Webster

11:30 AM  Break
11:45 AM  Fostering Air Forces? The RAF and its International Relationships.
            Loris Paoletti* — The RAF and the French Air Defence Command
            Bill Pyke — The RAF and USAF ‘Special Relationship’ at a Time of Anglo-American Intergovernmental Strain, 1945-1948
            Chair: Dr Sophy Antrobus

12:45 PM  Poster Session Two.
12:50 PM  Break
2:00 PM  From Raids to Retrospection: Assessments of Strategic Bombing.
            Alastair Noble — Hitting the Heart of Prussian Militarism: The RAF and the Potsdam raid
            Seb Cox — Exercise Thunderbolt: Objective assessment of the Bomber Offensive or the Air Staff view of history?
            Chair: TBC

3:30 PM  Closing Remarks.