

21 January 2016

A century of military photographic images goes on show at Cosford

Date: On display until 13 March 2016

Cost: FREE entry

A century of military photographic images from Her Majesty's Armed Forces is now on display at the Royal Air Force Museum Cosford in a new exhibition entitled 'Defence through the lens – 100 years of military photography', curated by the Defence School of Photography.

The photographic display showcases the very best work of photographers from the Royal Navy, Army and Royal Air Force, with striking images from World War One through to more recent conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan. The display also includes images taken during peacetime training at the school and at nearby locations.

A timeline highlights the many achievements of the school and its students over the last century which includes winning two Academy Awards for films in World War Two.

In addition to an impressive selection of images, the display includes a Vinten Vipa aerial reconnaissance pod. This pod carried 3 F.95 aerial cameras and was fitted to the underneath of the aircraft and could produce around 1500 images from one sortie.

The collection of images was commissioned to not only mark a centenary of photography by members of the Armed Forces, but also to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the School's move to RAF Cosford in Shropshire in 1965. The popular display has previously been showcased at Shrewsbury Museum & Art Gallery and bosses at the RAF Museum are confident it will prove just as popular with visitors, especially with its Cosford connections.

Head of the Defence School of Photography (DSOP), Jon Jarvis said:

*"The images on display offer a small selection of the wide and varied work carried out by the professional military photographer. DSOP is proud of its 100 year heritage, teaching photographic trainees to 'write with light' and of the partnerships we have created within the local community in the 50 years the school has been at RAF Cosford. The exhibit timeline, produced by Flight Sergeant Andy Malthouse, highlights notable events throughout the period, both photographic and historical, which may touch a nerve or bring back a memory to a wide audience, with an age range from 1 to 100....
Luce Scribimus"*

RAF Museum Cosford Assistant Director, Paul Pomfret said:

"The Royal Air Force Museum at Cosford is delighted to host this display which illustrates both the long history and work of the Defence School of Photography, and the vital role undertaken by military photographers across the globe. The Museum at Cosford is a fitting location for the display and we hope it will be enjoyed by all our visitors."

Visitors can now view 'Defence through the lens – 100 years of military photography' daily from 10am in the Museums Visitor Centre until 13 March 2016. Entry to the Museum is free of charge. For more information visit: www.rafmuseum.org/cosford.

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Ends...

Notes to Editors:

- For more information on the Defence School of Photography visit: <http://www.raf.mod.uk/rafcosford/aboutus/dsop.cfm>
- PHOTOS: CROWN COPYRIGHT
- Royal Air Force Museum Cosford, Shifnal, Shropshire, TF11 8UP
- Open daily from 10am
- Admission to the Royal Air Force Museum is free of charge.
- RAF Museum Cosford images & logo available at: <http://www.rafmuseum.org.uk/research/media-vault.aspx>
- For further information and all media enquiries please contact Michelle Morgans on 01902 376212 or email michelle.morgans@rafmuseum.org