

Meadow Barn,
Priorsfield, Godalming,
Surrey, England.

20th. August, 1956

Air Chief Marshal Sir Keith Park,
P.O. Box 2340,
120 Lucerne Road,
Remuera, Auckland,
New Zealand.

Dear Sir Keith:

I heard the other day, quite by chance, that you are now living in New Zealand. It is a country of which I am very fond. I don't know if I ever told you that I was, in the course of my wanderings after leaving school, a reporter for two and a half years on the staff of that excellent newspaper "The Evening Post", in Wellington. I still maintain a very pleasant correspondence with the people I knew in Wellington during that time. One of them, Neil Blundell, is now General Manager and part owner of "The Evening Post". He was a navigator in bombers during the war and was awarded a D.F.C.

It might interest you to know that Collins, the well known publishers, are bringing out a book I have written with Jimmy Rawnsley about night fighting. It is somewhat naturally entitled "Night Fighter", and it is the story of the greatest team in that business: John Cunningham and his navigator, Jimmy Rawnsley. I served with them in the two squadrons commanded by Cunningham - 604 and 85. As you probably know, John Cunningham is now Chief Test Pilot of de Havillands, and has done all the development work on the Comet. The book will be issued throughout the Empire, naturally including New Zealand where the publishers tell me they find a very good market for books on flying, next February.

My time since we exchanged letters last - while I was in hospital after being burnt - has been very full. After leaving hospital I went back to Sholto Douglas's staff. I was in Germany with him for two years as his P.S.O., finishing as a Wing Commander. In 1947 I left the R.A.F. and returned to my civilian pursuits as a writer. I also got married - my wife was a driver in the A.T.S. during the war - and we now have three children. My wife, incidentally, visited New Zealand after she left the Army, and she also loves the country. We have often talked about visiting it again.

I trust that you are well, and with kindest regards,

Yours sincerely,

