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AEROGRAMME



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SENDER'S NAME AND ADDRESS

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Dear Robert, Many thanks for
your welcome letter of April 8th
with latest news of the film
which sounds exciting. I have
always believed that the very
specious argument in support
of Big Wings was used as an
excuse to get rid of Dowding
and myself in late 1940.

In answer to your
Question 1. I was S.A.S.O. to
Dowding from mid-1938 to
March 1940 so gave a hand
in preparing for War.

On p. 3 I shall give a list of
jobs held from 1919 to 1939.

Q. 2/3 S-Douglas took the
chair on 17 October as described
on my tape - preceding
transcript I acted as
Prosecutor, but did not
ask Dowding his opinion
of the Big Wings.

Q. 4 I was notified of my
posting from 10.11 F. Group
by Charles Portal at Air
Ministry where I was offered
a job in Air Staff.
High-mallory did not
bother to take even from
me so I handed over to my S.A.S.O.

(2)

Q5 In March 1940 Leigh-Mallory came striding into my office after an interview with Dowding who he called an obstinate old B - - . He declared he would "move heaven & earth to get rid of Dowding". Though I was only an Air Commodore I sharply ticked off the Air Vice-Marshal for his disloyalty.

Q6 As Leigh-Mallory failed persistently to respond to requests from me or my staff to send a trace of Squadrons to cover my Sector Area between North also East of London I reported to S.A.S.O. H.Q. F. Cd. Also I gave my Controllers instructions to make all future requests on H.12 Group through Air Staff H.Q. F. Cd. but this made no improvement. Despite the use of Satellite L.G.s the preservation of Sector Stations was vital to winning the battle on account of Ops Rooms, Sigs, Repair Workshops etc.

List of Taks in RA7 1918 ^{E 20 E} to 1939

1918 Nov. } F.T. School Fantele
1919 Mch }
1919 attended Navig. Course
at dawn

1919-20 Command 25 Squadron
1920-21 Capt. Honebinger

1920-21 C/O School of Tech. Training
1921-22 B.O. School of Tech. Training

1921-22 R.A.F. Staff College

1922 Chief Technical Officer
R.A.F. Depot Egypt

1923-26 S.A.S.O. H.P.M. East

1926-27 S/Ldrn Air Staff
H.Q. Air Defence GB

1927
1928

1928 Station Commander
1929 Herchumch

1929 W/ Gen Air Staff
H.Q. Fighting Area
(under D ew ding)

1930 C/O Northolt Base
1932/2

1932/3 Chief Instructor
Oxford Univ Air Sqdn

1933/36 Air Attache
South America

1937 Imperial Defense College
1937 London

1937 C/o Tongmen Sector
1938/40 SASO H. Q. F. Ch.

1938/40 Saso H. P. F. Co.

My regards to Lord Dunsdown
and the Minors.
Yours ever
Keith Park