



Last Flight from Singapore

Arthur Donahue DFC

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“Donahue makes no attempt either to dramatize or underplay his experiences. He tells them in a simple, unvarnished manner, much as if he were sitting down with some friends back home. The result is pretty close to what the real thing must have been.” — *New York Times*

In June 1940 a young commercial pilot from Minnesota, Arthur Donahue, signed up to become a pilot in the R.A.F.

He would spend the next two years fighting for the British in their Spitfire and Hurricane planes over the Channel and in the Far East.

During the Battle of Britain and Battle for Singapore he distinguished himself and was greatly respected by his comrades who flew alongside him.

Eventually he would lose his life fighting for the Allied cause.

Last Flight from Singapore documents Donahue’s life from the autumn of 1941 through to the evacuation of Java after being wounded in “the greatest military disaster ever suffered by British arms.”

It is an incredibly personal account that highlights the dangers of the path that Donahue had taken.

With his vivid description of the dogfights, the humor of the pilot’s mess, technical details of the planes and the constant threat of danger *Last Flight from Singapore* transports the reader back to the skies of World War Two.

As a bonus for the reader the publisher has also included Donahue’s previous work *Tally Ho! A Yankee in a Spitfire* at the end of this book, which covers his life during the Battle of Britain. These two memoirs truly show the bravery of those to whom “Never in the field of human conflict was so much owed by so many to so few”.

While in Singapore Donahue won the Distinguished Flying Cross, his citation reads: “This officer carried out many low level reconnaissance sorties and successfully attacked enemy shipping and ground objectives. On one occasion while attacking enemy troops who were attempting a landing in the Singapore area, he silenced the enemy’s fire and enabled the rest of the squadron to press home attacks with impunity. He has destroyed several enemy planes.”

Arthur Donahue was an American fighter pilot who volunteered to fly for the British Royal Air Force in World War II. He was killed in action in September 1942. Donahue wrote two books about his RAF service, Tally-Ho! Yankee in a Spitfire (published in 1941) and Last Flight from Singapore (published in 1943).

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