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F-15C Eagle Vs MiG-23/25: Iraq 1991 (Duel)



Synopsis

Designed following the relative poor performance of America's multi-role fighters during the Vietnam War, the F-15 Eagle was conceived as a dedicated air superiority fighter. But having trained for fifteen years in the Eagle, it wasn't Eastern Bloc-operated MiGs that the F-15 eventually came up against, but pilots of Saddam Hussein's Iraqi air force. This book analyzes the combat between the American and Soviet "Cold War fighters" in a balanced and objective fashion, examining how the technical abilities of the aircraft combined with the different levels of training available to opposing pilots and ground crews allowed the F-15s to destroy the Iraqi offensive abilities within weeks of the start of the First Gulf War. Packed with artwork, illustrations, and photographs, this book places the reader in the cockpit during one of the last major dogfighting air wars in modern history.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Doug Dildy served the USAF for twenty-six years and commanded the 32nd Fighter Squadron. He writes for Aviation Classics and lives in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Tom Cooper is the recognized expert on Arab MiG operators and Iraqi Air Force combat operations. Cooper lives in Olbendorf, Austria. Jim Laurier's aviation paintings are on permanent display at the Pentagon. He lives in New Hampshire. Digital artist and aviation history enthusiast Gareth Hector completed the battle-scene and cover artwork.

Both the Soviet Union and the United States fielded highly capable jet fighter interceptors for the

Cold War, However, it wasn't until the Coalition initiated the air war against Saddam's Iraq that the most advanced aircraft on each side had a real chance to tangle in the skies. A variety of coalition aircraft flew combat sorties over Iraq, but the key match-up in terms of the air superiority fight had been the F-15C against the MiG-23/25. "F15C vs MiG-23/25" is an Osprey Duel Series book, authored by Douglas Dildy and Tom Cooper, with illustrations by Jim Laurier and Gareth Hector. The book opens with a development history and technical specifications of each aircraft type, before transitioning to the situation in Iraq in 1991. The heart of the narrative is of course the air to air combat between the two aircraft types. Several combats are described in detail. The combats come off as distinctly one-sided in terms of their results. There is a nice summary at the end. Recommended as a concise but very readable account of the match-up.

As far as this series goes it is fairly standard for them but entertaining. What you get is a brief history of each aircraft and some historical context for the development of each programs. From there you get some entertaining stories on these aircraft in action. The actual analysis is pretty limited. You won't find a comprehensive analysis of which aircraft is better however if that doesn't bother you and you are after a more light form of entertainment then pick this up.

Thoroughly enjoyed the detailed perspectives from both sides. Excellent research of Iraqi Air Force aviator view of the air war.

Interesting read, provided good technical details and a good look at air combat in the modern age. another good book in a very well written series.

A very interesting account of the 1991 air war, albeit limited only to certain jet types. The ground war was an absolute slaughter, but Iraqi pilots were not so hapless. Even though they got only one kill, they sometimes evaded superior Eagles and other jets.

Would have preferred it was a single match up with MiG 25 only!

The Book is ok will be too technical for young readers

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