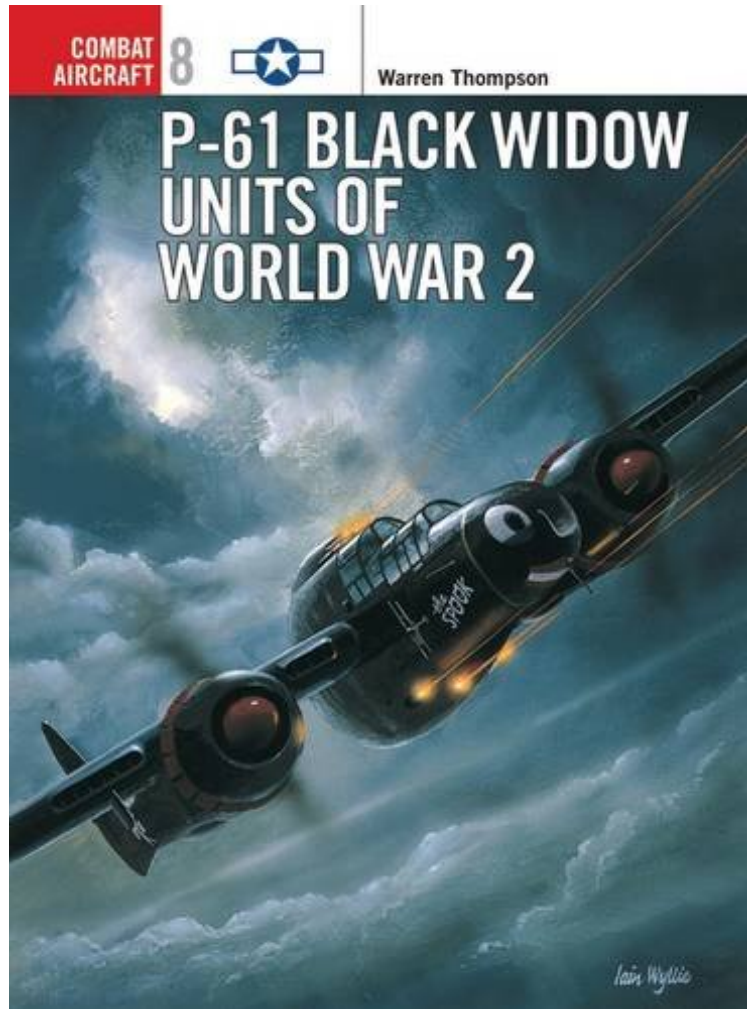


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P-61 Black Widow Units of World War 2 (Osprey Combat Aircraft 8)

Warren Thompson

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Warren Thompson : P-61 Black Widow Units of World War 2 (Osprey Combat Aircraft 8) before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised P-61 Black Widow Units of World War 2 (Osprey Combat Aircraft 8):

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. The P-61, A Unique Aircraft By Carl Robinson The P-61 was a night fighter aircraft. It had a radar and other special equipment to find and shoot down enemy aircraft at night. It is important to note that the technology of the day did not have a single all-weather, day and night fighter. My interest in this book stems from the fact that my Grandfather served in a P-61 squadron during WWII. His outfit—the 422nd Night Fighter Squadron. He was the squadron photographer, and his image is in several photographs. Several of the pictures

are attributed to him. This book is heavy on pictures and drawings but is light on the whole story of the night fighter squadrons. The actions of ground crews aren't recorded. How the squadrons moved their aircraft from the States to the Theaters of Operations remain unknown. The maintenance of the aircraft is a dark area, as well as the staff sections, and all-important radar operators. During the epic Battle of the Bulge, the 422nd and 425th's actions are only described in terms of air-to-air fighting. What about close air support? A good picture book and overall account but tragically lacking the full story of the Night Fighter Squadrons. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Nice Book By RavSilver I ordered this book as I am interested in WWII aircraft and as a reference for modeling. This is a very nice book with lots of photos and interesting text. Very fast shipping. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. P-61 BLACK WIDOW UNITS OF WORLD WAR 2 By D. Campbell I really enjoyed this book, the P-61 is my favorite plane of WW2. I really enjoyed the fact that a friend of mine, (who has since passed on), was quoted several times in the text. His name is Phillip Guba and he was the squadron intelligence officer for the 422NFS. The author does an excellent job of covering all theatres that the P-61 flew in during WW2.

The first aircraft to be purposely designed as a radar-equipped nightfighter, Northrop's P-61 Black Widow was heavily influenced by early RAF combat experience with radar-equipped aircraft in the years 1940/41 of World War II (1939-1945). Built essentially around the bulky Radiation Laboratory SCR-720 radar, which was mounted in the aircraft's nose, the P-61 proved to be the largest fighter ever produced for frontline service by the USAAF. Twin-engined and twin-boomed, the Black Widow was armed with a dorsal barbette of four 0.50-in Browning machine guns and two ventrally-mounted 20 mm cannon. This volume features all the frontline users of the mighty P-61, and includes many first-hand accounts from pilots and gunners who saw action in the Pacific, Mediterranean and Western Europe.

"The P-61 Black Widow is one of the most interesting aircraft of WWII. Although it did not serve in great numbers, this technologically advanced aircraft had a pioneering role as a night fighter using radar and heavy armament to intercept enemy planes... The book has an appendix of P-61 victories, units and specifications of the different variants. Illustrated with many wartime photographs, the book also includes an extensive color plate and aircraft profile section." -www.pacificwrecks.com From the Publisher Osprey's Combat series combines the best archival photography available with specially commissioned artworks and first hand accounts, making these books favourites amongst historians, modellers and aviation enthusiasts everywhere. About the Author Warren Thompson has written three books on the Korean War for Osprey in the past, including the best-selling Korean War Aces in the Aircraft of the Aces series. He is also an official historian of the P-61 aircrew association.