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#36958 in Books 2017-09-19 2017-09-19 Original language: English PDF # 1 249.43 x 7.11 x 7.30l, #File Name: 147281889X80 pages | File size: 42.Mb

Doug Dildy, Pablo Calcaterra : Sea Harrier FRS 1 vs Mirage III/Dagger: South Atlantic 1982 (Duel) before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Sea Harrier FRS 1 vs Mirage III/Dagger: South Atlantic 1982 (Duel):

4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Air combat, South Atlantic, 1982...By HMS Warspite
The Falklands War was a lifetime ago, but it was a ground-breaking event in its time, with the United Kingdom and Argentina fighting in the South Atlantic at the limits of their respective military reaches. Of particular interest was the match-up between the British subsonic Sea Harrier VTOL fighters, based on Royal Navy ships, and Argentina's land-based supersonic Mirage III fighter bombers. This Osprey Duel Series book is the story of that match-up, delivered in a meticulously evenhanded manner by two authors, one British, one Argentinian. The authors pointedly spend little time on the political backdrop to the Falklands War, which has been extensively argued elsewhere. Instead, they walk the

reader through the development and acquisition of the respective aircraft and the training of their pilots. The scene is carefully set for the actual air combat. In the event, Argentina's Mirage III's did some significant damage to the British fleet. They were however operating at the limit of their fuel, allowing only minutes on station to perform their missions. The Sea Harriers had the benefit of more loiter time and of operating inside an air defense environment, but only clever tactics kept them from being outmatched by the faster Mirage III's. The result is a fascinating and detailed narrative that adds something significant to accounts of the Falklands War. The text is nicely supported by a good selection of period and modern photographs, maps, and modern illustrations. The diagrams of air tactics were especially interesting to this reviewer. Also of interest was the concluding statistical analysis of the air combat. Highly recommended to students of the conflict.

Following Argentina's military operation to take possession of the Falkland Islands/Islas Malvinas, British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's government launched a major naval operation to return them to British rule. Defending the Royal Navy task force were two small squadrons totalling 20 Sea Harriers (SHARs). Initial clashes between SHARs and Argentine Mirages and Daggers on 1 May 1982 failed to eliminate the Sea Harrier defenders. FAA fighter-bomber pilots relied on daring and courageous ultra-low level attacks, frequently escaping the Sea Harrier's limited capabilities, against Royal Navy warships and auxiliaries, causing considerable damage during Operation Corporate, the large-scale amphibious operation to repossess the islands. Publishing 35 years after the end of the conflict, this fully illustrated volume offers a balanced and objective examination of the SHAR and the Argentine Mirage and Dagger aircraft, highlighting the attributes of both and the skills and courage of the pilots flying them.

About the Author Doug Dildy is a retired USAF colonel and former F-15 pilot who worked with SHARs operationally and in air-to-air training during his first NATO tour of duty. During his writing career, he has written and co-authored ten Osprey books including the highly successful Osprey Duel 72: F-15C Eagle vs MiG-23/-25: Iraq 1991. Dildy lives in Albuquerque, NM. Pablo Calcaterra is a Canadian citizen from Argentina. He is an avid and award winning aircraft modeler, with direct access to the Argentine Air Force archives and contact with many veterans of the conflict. Calcaterra lives in London, Ontario. Jim Laurier is a native of New England and lives in New Hampshire. He attended Paier School of Art in Hamden, Connecticut, in 1978. He has been commissioned to paint for the US Air Force and has aviation paintings on permanent display at the Pentagon. Gareth Hector is a digital artist of international standing as well as an aviation history enthusiast. Gareth completed the battlescene artwork and cover artwork for this book.