



F-86 Sabre Aces of the 51st Fighter Wing

By Warren Thompson

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The 51st Fighter Wing initially flew the F-80C in the Korean War, but in 1951, the 51st brought in high-scoring World War 2 ace Colonel Francis Gabreski to assume command when it converted from the F-80 over to the newly arrived F-86E. His recruits included his elite 4th Wing pilots, and by the end of the war, the 51st had two pilots who achieved the status of "Double Ace" as well as the highest scoring ace of the war, Joe McConnell. This book describes the 51st Wing's tenure with the Sabre that led to their high scoring sprees of 1953.

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Review

“Well printed at an adequate size to reveal the details, [the photographs] are a sure-fire inspiration for models of spectacular Sabres from this rather overlooked conflict... Osprey's book is excellent value for money and deserves a place on the shelves of anyone interested in early jet combat.” ?Rowan Baylis, *AeroScale*

“[An] account of [the F-86's] operations in the Korean conflict with the 51st Fighter Wing is an essential for any student of air warfare.” ?Scott Van Aken, *modelingmadness.com*

From the Publisher

Osprey's Aircraft of the Aces series combines full colour artwork, the best archival contemporary photography, and first hand accounts from aces to bring history's greatest airborne conflicts to life.

About the Author

Warren Thompson has written three books on the Korean War for Osprey in the past, including Aircraft of the Aces 4: 'Korean War Aces'. He is also an official historian of the P-61 aircrew association. He lives in Tennessee.

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