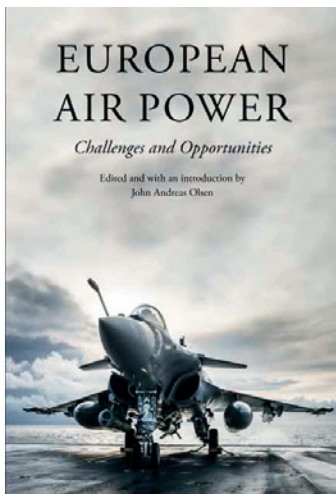


‘European Air Power – Challenges and Opportunities’



Potomac Books/
University of Nebraska Press 2014

Reviewed by:

CMS Gaetano Pasqua, Ph.D. ITA AF, JAPCC

European Air Power-Challenges and Opportunities, edited by Colonel Professor John Olsen, provides a good analysis and understanding on the current Air Power situation in Europe.

There are eight contributions from Air Chiefs and independent experts examining the current status of eight air forces in Europe, including Norway, Denmark, Sweden, Finland, France, Germany, Turkey, and Great Britain. Each contribution takes into account the geopolitical, operational infrastructures and national military organizations. It is evident that, if nations want to compete in the current geopolitical international arena, there is a cost impact to do so. There is a real need to deal with the financial restraints imposed by national governments and dictated by economic scenarios.

According to the authors, it is clear that Air Power will continue to play a vital and important role in coming decades. This book is a great work and is aimed at professionals, academics, or simply individuals who wish to approach the fundamentals of European Air Power from a layman perspective. A must read for politicians who deal in defence matters! ●

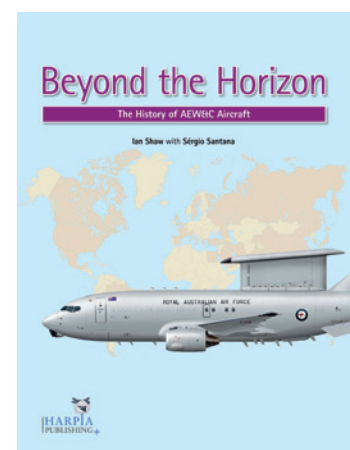
‘Beyond the Horizon – The History of AEW&C Aircraft’

A search of the extensive library on Air Power reveals something of a void – where are the books on Airborne Early Warning and Control, past present and future? ‘Beyond the Horizon’ seeks to address this gap.

The book provides a comprehensive, tech-lite, narrative-rich, history of AEW&C from its rudimentary beginnings in the 1940s to the present day. It accurately maps the non-linear evolution of the capability, a pace of which has been driven by both strategic imperative and technological advancement. The narrative is cleverly lightened and lifted by use of personal accounts to illuminate the history.

The final section looks at current capability, by nation and aircraft type, and provides a tempting glimpse of the future. The sophistication and specification of modern AEW&C platforms means much of this information is classified and cannot be included. Nevertheless, this section remains a rich source of reference.

The fact that it took nine years to write the book illustrates the dearth of readily accessible material on the subject, but it is also a strong indication of the depth and breadth of the author’s research. This is a book which will have wide appeal to anyone with an interest in Air Power. For military airmen it provides an essential knowledge of the capability. For those within the AEW&C community it is a reaffirmation of what we all know – AEW&C is not an enabling function but a core Air Power capability in its own right. ●



By Ian Shaw with Sergio Santana
Houston TX

2014 Harpia Publishing L.L.C

Reviewed by:

Air Commodore Paddy Teakle,
Deputy Commander NAEW&C
Force Command



Transforming Joint Air Power **The Journal of the JAPCC**



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