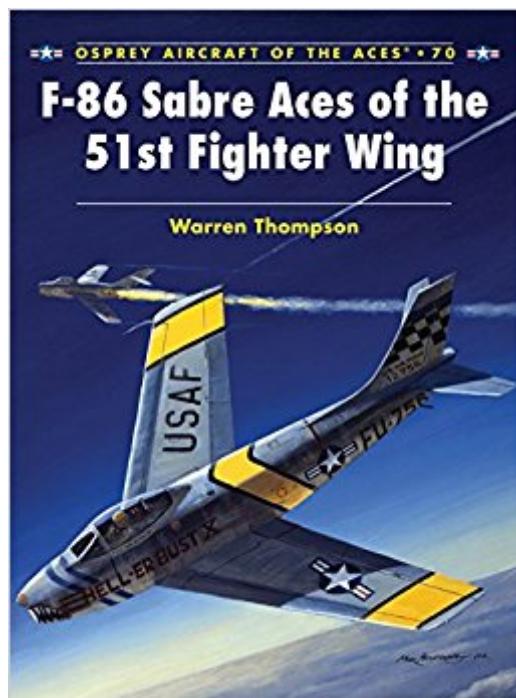


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# F-86 Sabre Aces Of The 51st Fighter Wing



## Synopsis

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.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

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

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.

Excellent Book!

I met one of the service members while camping last summer. Amazing man.

Good item, good shipping.. everything fine.. Thanks

Interesting

Very interesting and helpful to understand the reasons various missions were flown. Fairly good knowledge of the pilots themselves.

Warren Thompson can lay claim to being THE historian of the Korean air war. In the last 15 years he has written many fine, well-researched and well-illustrated books on various aspects of that long-ago war for Osprey, Specialty Press, etc. along with articles for 'Airpower,' 'Flight Journal' and other mags. In this Osprey 'Aircraft of the Aces' book he chronicles the combat exploits of the 51st FW from late 1951 to war's end. The 51st was 'Brand X,' the second F-86 wing to go into combat but its pilots were second-to-none in killing MiGs. Wing aces included 'Gabby' Gabreski, the unit's first CO, Bill Whisner, Cecil Foster, Hal Fischer and top ace Joe McConnell. Thompson does a marvelous job of charting the wing's combats, including many first-person narratives from the MiG killers themselves that put the reader right in the cockpit. Visually the book is a delight with many color photos and 14 pages of color profiles including 3 pages of nose art close-ups by Mark Styling. Very nicely done! All in all, it's a fine tribute to the fighter jocks of the 51st FW well worth the \$20.95 price tag.

Good read.

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