

Often underrated in favor of the Spitfire, the Hurricane was the main victor of the Battle of Britain. The RAF had at that time 32 Hurricane squadrons, compared with 19 Spitfire squadrons. This meant that 620 Hurricane and Spitfire fighters (with another 84 assorted fighters like the Gloster Gladiator) had to face the German air threat of 3,500 bombers and fighters. During the “Battle of Britain”, along with the Spitfire, it helped to force the Luftwaffe to use the Bf 109 to protect the poor performing twin engine Bf 110 escort fighter.

When it became clear that the Hurricane was becoming outclassed as a pure fighter, other duties were assigned to it. In October 1941 the ‘Hurribomber’ fighter-bomber came into being, carrying either two 113 kg (250 lb) or two 226 kg (500 lb) bombs under its wings. Of the 14,533 production Hurricanes built, some had gone for service with other air forces. In particular, nearly 3,000 were dispatched to the Soviet Union to aid its fight against the Germans on the Eastern Front. The first Hurricane sorties in Russia were made on September 11 1941 in defense of Murmansk, pilots from France, Britain and America helping the Soviets in their task..



The Belgian watch designer Ronald Steffen was born in Zug, near the heart of the Swiss watch industry. He studied photography and graphic design at the Royal Academy of Antwerp, Belgium.

He is also the founder of the exclusive Swiss made brand STEFFEN (WWW.STEFFEN.BE). Passionate about aviation and specifically military aircraft, he designed the unique RSC (Ronald Steffen Creations) collection, with the aura of these nostalgic times.

The result is this unique watch collection, designed with an eye for detail. The back of the watches are engraved with a beautiful etching of the airplane and presented in an original RSC watchbox.



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ARCHIBALD ASHMORE MCKELLAR (1912-1940)

He gained fame in 1940 during the Battle of Britain as squadron leader of No. 605 Squadron RAF, equipped with the Hawker Hurricane fighter. McKellar's combat career proved to be very brief, lasting just over a year. He claimed all but two of his victories within the last two and a half months of his life; 15 August–1 November 1940. On 7 October 1940 he shot down five Messerschmitt Bf 109s, thus becoming an ace in a day; one of only 24 Allied aces to achieve the feat. At the time of his last mission he had claimed 21 aerial victories and another two shared destroyed against enemy aircraft. Included in this total of 21 air victories are 11 Bf 109s. McKellar, along with Brian Carbury, were the only British pilots to achieve the feat of "Ace in a Day" during the Battle of Britain.

On 1 November 1940—one day after the official end of the Battle of Britain—he was killed in action. He took off and engaged a formation of German fighters, one of which he possibly shot down for his 22nd—albeit uncredited—and final victory. McKellar was then shot down himself.



Manufacturer: Hawker Aircraft Ltd

Designer: Sydney Camm

Introduction: 12/10/1937

Number built: 14.583

Crew: 1 pilot

Length: 9,84 m

Wingspan: 12,19 m

Height: 4,0 m

Empty weight: 2605 kg

Loaded weight: 3950 kg

Maximum speed: 545 km/u

Range: 965 km

Armature:

4 x 20mm Hispano Mk II

Powerplant:

Rolls Royce Merlin XX V12



