

RHODESIAN PILOTS SHOOT DOWN A JU,88

While two Southern Rhodesian fighter-pilots were flying over a French airfield to shoot down a Ju.88, the commanding officer of their squadron saw gunners on a flak-tower shooting at his colleagues. He turned his guns on the tower and protected the attacking aircraft by silencing the German gunners.

The incident happened when Typhoons of the Southern Rhodesian Squadron were near Rennes airfield. F/O G.M. Eastwood, of Marewa, near Salisbury, Rhodesia, and F/Sgt. I.O. Hulley, of Quebec, Rhodesia, spotted the Ju.88. It had its wheels down as though going in to land. While it was still at about 2,000 feet, Eastwood and Hulley, dived on it and, weaving under and over it with their guns firing, they sent it crashing in flames.

Describing the attack later, F/O Eastwood said: "All the time this was going on the airfield defences were shooting at us with everything they had - and that was plenty. As we broke formation to attack, the crew of a wooden flak-tower were firing at us, but the Commanding Officer, S/Ldr Holmes, got behind them and silenced them before they could silence us."

The Typhoons all returned safely.

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