

The South African Air Force, 1920-2012: A Review of its History and an Indication of its Cultural Heritage.

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Abstract

Although a South African Aviation Corps existed for a few months in 1915, and although several South as members of Britain's Royal Flying Corps, the history of the South African Air Force (SAAF) – the wo: speaking only dates back to 1 February 1920. In this article, a review is provided of the history of the S operational deployments in the 1920s; the difficult years of the great depression and its aftermath and important role played by the SAAF in the course of World War II (for example in patrolling South Africa in the campaigns in East Africa and Abyssinia, as well as in North Africa, Madagascar, Italy, over the M the post-war rationalisation; its small but important role in the Korean War; the acquisition of a large : helicopters from the mid-1950s to the mid-1970s; the impact that sanctions had on the SAAF; the SAAF Angola during the war years, 1966–1989, and the SAAF in post-apartheid South Africa. Throughout the are mentioned by means of references – either in the text or in footnotes – to the most important avail

Keywords: South African Air Force, Second World War, Korean War, Border War, South African air force museums, aviation/cultural heritage

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