

**AIRFIELDS & AIRMEN YPRES BATTLEGROUND SERIES**

**Mike O'Connor**

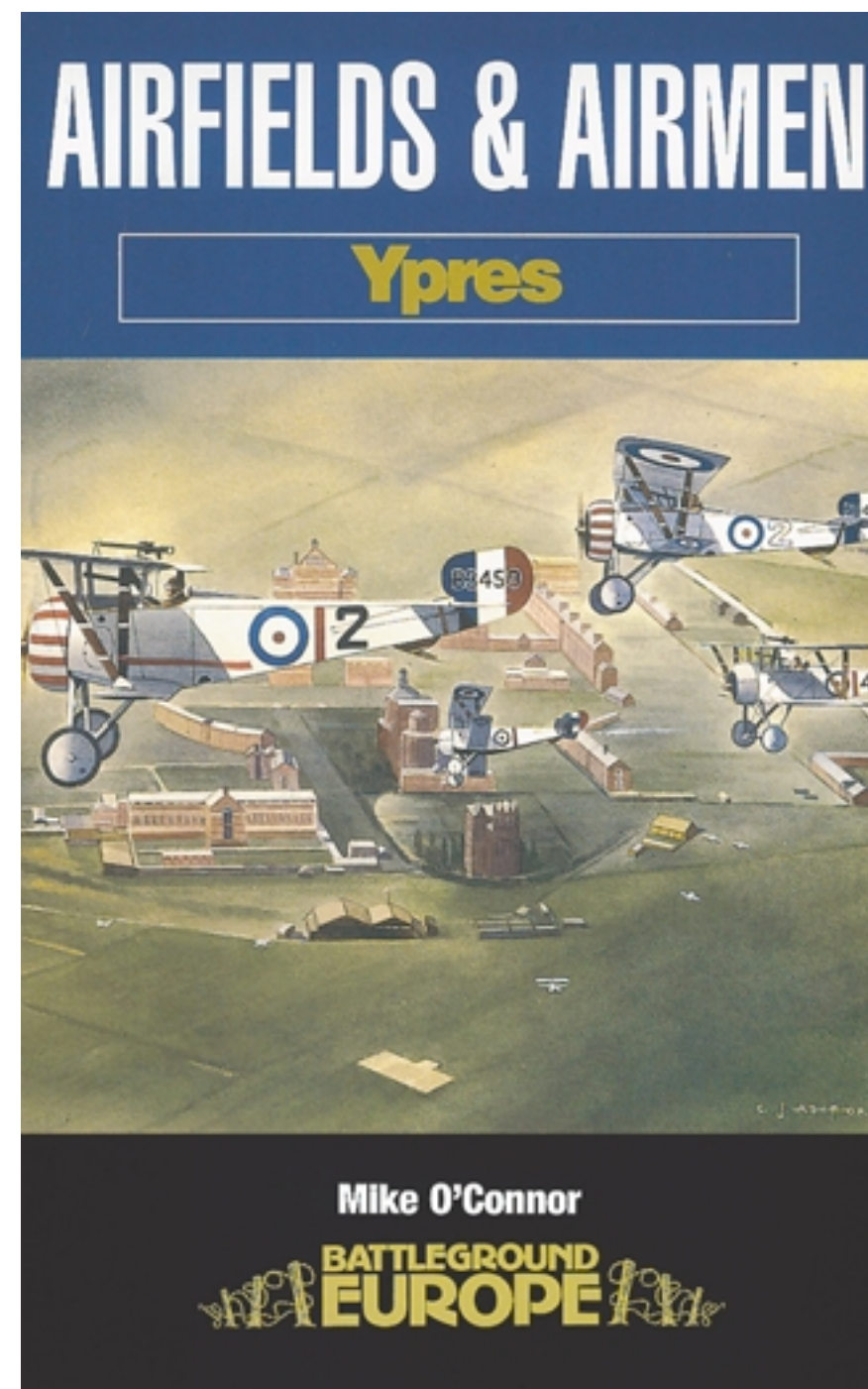
This is the first book in the Battleground Series discovering the airfields and airmen of the Great War. It is sometimes forgotten that the Wright Brothers' first flight took place in only 1903; yet fifteen years later the Royal Air Force had over 20,000 aircraft of all types including night bombers.

This book takes the reader to the sites of the airfields used by the Royal Flying Corps in the vicinity of Ypres Salient. These fields were basic in the extreme compared with airbases of WW2 and today; flattish ground hitherto used for agriculture purposes tramped down by men and vehicles. It was here that the primitive aircraft were based, surrounded by a tented camp and temporary buildings. Yet out of such places the great legendary air aces of the war operated.

The book also reveals the locations of many killed whilst engaged in combat flying. Pilots from other countries such as Germany and France are also covered.

Readers will be fascinated not only by the stories of aerial combats, but also with the technology that first succeeded in the twentieth century so rapidly being turned into an instrument of war that developed with bewildering speed from flimsy aircraft, poorly armed, into well equipped well armed machines, performing astounding manoeuvres with bombing capabilities that became quite significant by the end of the war.

**Leo Cooper,**  
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