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## To Rule the Winds: Prelude to Air War - the Years to 1914 v. 1: The Evolution of the British Fighter Force Through Two World Wars (Hardback)

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By Michael C. Fox

Helion Company, United Kingdom, 2014. Hardback. Book Condition: New. 238 x 160 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book. To Rule the Winds is the story of how a co-ordinated force of the Royal Air Force's fighter squadrons came into being as Fighter Command in 1936 and what became of it after the Battle of Britain. It is a large story, to be told in a series of volumes. This first volume recounts the origins of military aviation in Britain, up to the beginning of the First World War in the August of 1914. By the 18th and 19th centuries, balloons had been tried in various conflicts on the Continent of Europe, during Britain's involvements in the Napoleonic wars, the Crimea, South Africa and elsewhere, as well as during the American Civil War. The aeroplane flights in the USA by the Wright brothers from December 1903 changed the direction of military aviation. It would not be until 1908 that similar flights would begin in Britain, some way behind flights by aeronauts in Europe and especially France that culminated, momentarily, in Bleriot's crossing of the English Channel in 1909 that proved beyond doubt that Britain could be invaded...



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