



Military & Aviation History, Medals & Militaria (MIL21a)

Thu, 20th May 2021

Lot 629 *

Estimate: £120000 - £160000 + Fees

Battle of Britain Medal Group - Air Commodore Peter Brothers

“Never in the field of human conflict was so much owed by so many to so few” – Sir Winston Churchill, 20 August 1940

**‘This officer’s flight encountered about one hundred enemy aircraft. He led the flight in attack against them.’
DFC *London Gazette* 13 September 1940**

The outstanding Battle of Britain gallantry group awarded to Hurricane ‘Ace’, Air Commodore Peter Malam ‘Pete’ Brothers, CBE, DSO, DFC & Bar, credited with 16 aerial victories, 10 of them for the Battle of Britain. Brothers also participated in the ill-fated Dieppe Raid as well as over the beaches of Normandy during D-Day Landings and was known to unwind after a sortie by sliding his cockpit hood back and smoking a cigarette. In all, he flew an astonishing 875 operational hours.

This remarkable group, together with its set of logbooks, is being sold on behalf of the family, and offers a rare opportunity to acquire one of the last Battle of Britain Ace groups to have remained in private hands.

- a) The Most Excellent Order of the British Empire, 2nd type, Military Division, Commander’s (CBE) neck Badge, silver-gilt and enamel, with neck riband in *Garrard & Co* case of issue
- b) Distinguished Service Order, G VI R, silver-gilt and enamel
- c) Distinguished Flying Cross, G VI R, reverse officially dated ‘1940’, with Second Award Bar officially dated ‘1943’
- d) 1939-1945 Star, with Battle of Britain Clasp
- e) Air Crew Europe Star, with France and Germany Clasp
- f) Defence and War Medals
- g) General Service 1918-62, G VI R, 1 clasp, Malaya (Act. Wg. Cdr. P.M. Brothers. R.A.F.), officially engraved in the normal RAF style, contact marks to last 3, therefore good very fine and better, mounted court style as worn, with a number of personal belongings including five logbooks, a Guild of Air Pilots and Air Navigators medal engraved to Brothers dated 1974-75, cased, bestowal documents for the CBE & DSO plus some general ephemera including a short history of No.32 Squadron plus a Battle of Britain thanksgiving booklet (Westminster Abbey 17 Sept 2000).

Logbook 1: commencing 27 January 1936 - 31 October 1938

Logbook 2: commencing 14 October 1933 - 28 April 1949

Logbook 3 : commencing 1 September 1938 - 6 October

1944, it is this logbook which records all Brothers WWII service including the Battle of Britain, Dieppe Raids, D-Day and later service, aerial victories have been confirmed by a red swastika, various comments written by Brothers, some at the time and others retrospectively, various ephemera items pasted or tipped-in including menu dated 27 May 1942 signed

by Brothers and other distinguished pilots, original newspaper cutting etc, original cloth boards, spine damaged and crudely repaired with brown tape, some surface loss to upper cover
Logbook 4: commencing 22 March 1945 -12 December 1952
Logbook 5: commencing 23 January 1953 - 6 May 1970
(although there is very final entry dated 13 August 2000 which records an aerobatics flight with Nigel Lamb)

Qty: 8