

Aviation Enthusiast Book Club (a closed Facebook group)

Russia's Air-Launched Weapons (Piotr Butowski)

A review by Simon Jakubowski (15 November 2017)

Those already familiar with Harpia's works will probably stop reading now, this title is of their usual standard and as usual that standard happens to be (world) class leading! This is an extremely informative book from Piotr Butowski, I'd heard he gets access to parts of the Russian defence organisation that others don't seem to achieve, and I'm inclined to believe it given some of the information and imagery compiled within the books cover.

I imagine countless well-thumbed copies of this title reside in Squadron ready rooms the world over as this must be the 'go to' volume for those interested in the subject material.

The book covers so much and there's little in the way of guesswork or speculation, of course nuclear armed weapons will always have their secrets but that aside the author has still managed to include a wealth of useful information on those currently in service. Domestic and export versions of numerous air to air/air to surface missiles along with free fall/guided bombs and gun/gun pods are all included with comprehensive specifications listed for them.

Full colour photos throughout illustrate the text (with the exception of one B&W image) as well as technical profiles all on the familiar high grade glossy paper stock complete the package nicely which I found incredibly good value for this books sub £20 price range!

A remarkably educational read for those who want to know more about the subject and an extremely useful reference for those who are already well informed, this book should deservedly find its way into many libraries and collections outside of military installations being a perfect addition for anyone interested in Russian Aviation.

Available via Casemate and The Aviation Bookshop in the U.K.