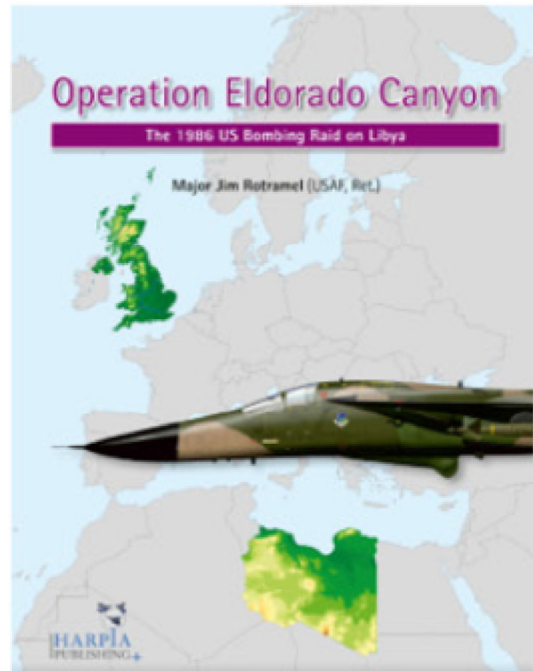


Famous air strike

OPERATION ELDORADO CANYON- THE 1986 US BOMBING RAID ON LIBYA, Maj Jim Rotramel, www.harpia-publishing.com, SBK, ILLUS, 256PP, £43.50

Former Lakenheath-based 48th Tactical Fighter Wing weapons systems officer Maj Jim Rotramel has provided a detailed account of the planning and execution of Operation Eldorado Canyon, the April 1986 US air strikes against Libya flown in retaliation for a terrorist bomb attack which killed two US servicemen in West Berlin.

Maj Rotramel participated in the mission planning and his recollections of how the attack was pieced together make this a very interesting read. All the participating aircraft types are featured, and each individual airframe is listed, including – for



the strike aircraft – their weapon load. The US Navy's attack phase is detailed in a 22-page chapter and the author also outlines Libyan defences. Through a day-by-day account, the author strikes the right balance between the aircrews' personal recollections and the technical details of the strike which, published on very high quality paper, means it fully justifies its £43.50 UK price tag.

Tom Allett