



A SHORT HISTORY OF
AIR
POWER

James L. Stokesbury

Author of A Short History of World War I and A Short History of World War II

A SHORT HISTORY OF AIR POWER

James L. Stokesbury

This superb account of the military use of the airplane over the last seventy-five years is the work of a professional historian with an impressive knowledge of his subject. It is a balanced and wholly captivating panorama of war in the air over both land and sea from Libya in 1911 to the Falklands in 1982. The author's skillful analysis of the men and machines, the tactics and changing patterns of aerial combat, give this book special value not only as a reference source but also as exciting reading.

Although the emphasis is on the two world wars, *A Short History of Air Power* covers the major conflicts in Spain, Korea, and Vietnam. It also provides a clearer view of a number of wars that have been neglected by the historical establishment. A book for the general reader, aviation enthusiasts, and veterans of our last three wars, it includes information that modern readers will find incredible: For instance, fourteen German Gotha planes bombed London from eighteen thousand feet in June 1917, and the next year, a British four-engine Handley-Page was capable of carrying three tons of bombs for twelve hundred miles. *A Short History of Air Power* is filled with many equally obscure yet significant facts about the history of military and naval aviation. It is a worthy addition to the author's highly esteemed *A Short History of World War I* and *A Short History of World War II*.



A SHORT HISTORY OF AIR POWER

James L. Stokesbury

William Morrow and Company, Inc.
New York

ALSO BY JAMES L. STOKESBURY

MASTERS OF THE ART OF COMMAND
(with Martin Blumenson)

A SHORT HISTORY OF WORLD WAR II

A SHORT HISTORY OF WORLD WAR I

NAVY AND EMPIRE