



303 SQUADRON

Commanders

3 Aug 1940 **Z. Krasnodebski** 7 Sep 1940 **W. Urbanowicz** 21 Oct 1940 **Z. Henneberg** 7 Nov 1940
A. Kowalczyk 20 Feb 1941 **Z. Henneberg** 12 Apr 1941 **A. Arentowicz** 5 May 1941 **W. Lapkowski**
3 July 1941 **A. Arentowicz** 10 July 1941 **J. Jankiewicz** 20 Nov 1941 **W. Kolaczowski** 6 May 1942
W. Zak 18 May 1942 **J. Zumbach** 1 Dec 1942 **Z. Bienkowski** 3 July 1943 **J. Falkowski** 20 Nov
1943 **T. Koc** 25 Sep 1944 **B. Drobinski** 1 Feb 1946 **W. Lokuciewski**.

Locations

2 Aug 1940 **Northolt** 11 Oct 1940 **Leconsfield** 3 Jan 1941 **Northolt** 15 July 1941 **Speke** 7 Oct
1041 **Northolt** 9 Nov 1943 **Ballyhalbert** 30 Apr 1944 **Hornechurch** 19 June 1944
Westhampnett 27 June 1944 **Merston** 9 Aug 1944 **Westhampnett** 25 Sep 1944 **Coltishall** 1
Jan 1945 **Andrews Field** 16 May 1945 **Coltishall**.

Aircraft

10 Aug 1940 **Hurricane MkI** 21 Jan 1941 **Spitfire MkI** 2 Feb 1941 **Spitfire MkII** 7 Oct 1941
Hurricane MkII 7 July 1941 **Spitfire MkII** 15 May 1943 **Spitfire MkIXF** 12 Nov 1943 **Spitfire MkV**
19 July 1944 **Spitfire MkIXL** 4 April 1945 **MustangIV**

History

No.303 Squadron was formed at Northolt on 22 July 1940, with Polish personnel evacuated from France and became operational with Hurricanes before the end of the month. It took part in the Battle of Britain until mid-October, when it was withdrawn to Yorkshire for defensive duties. 303 ended up as the top scoring Allied squadron during the Battle. In January 1941 it returned to Northolt to re-equip with Spitfires and began offensive sweeps over France. In July 1941 it moved to Speke for the defense of Merseyside returning south in October to resume offensive operations. In June 1942, No.303 moved to Lincolnshire and in February 1943, came back to the south for a period of sweeps. In November 1943, the squadron was transferred to Northern Ireland where it provided protection for shipping arriving in the Clyde and Irish Sea areas. In April 1944, it joined Second TAF in readiness for the landings in Normandy but remained in England, moving to East Anglia to provide fighter escort for Bomber Command raids, and carry out armed reconnaissance missions over the Netherlands. In April 1945, No.303 converted to Mustangs but flew only two operations with these before the end of the war. On 26 November 1946, all flying ceased and the squadron disbanded on 11 December 1946.

