Donald Clifford Tyndall Bennett

Pathfinder: A War Autobiography


Donald Bennett was born the youngest son of a grazier and businessman in Toowoomba, Queensland. Later in the war, the Pathfinder Force would be equipped with a range of newly developed and often highly effective aircraft. Bennett's contributions to the Pathfinder Force were significant, as he was one of the most outstanding figures of the 2nd World War and the creator and leader of the legendary Pathfinder Force of 8.


Bennett was one of the most outstanding figures of the 2nd World War and the creator and leader of the legendary Pathfinder Force of 8. He was appointed a Companion of the Order of the Bath (C.B.), Companion of the Order of the Bath (C.B.E.), and awarded the Distinguished Service Order (DSO) in recognition of his service with the Pathfinder Force.

Bennett's memoir, "Pathfinder: A War Autobiography," provides a detailed account of his experiences and contributions to the 2nd World War. It is a valuable resource for anyone interested in the history of the 2nd World War and the role of the Pathfinder Force in achieving victory.
The Pathfinders were target-marking squadrons in RAF Bomber Command during World War II. They located and marked targets with flares, which a main bomber force could aim at, increasing the accuracy of their bombing. The Pathfinders were normally the first to receive new blind bombing aids like Gee, Oboe and the H2S radar. The early Pathfinder Force (PFF) squadrons was expanded to become a group, No. 8 (Pathfinder Force) Group in January 1943. The initial Pathfinder Force was five squadrons, while No