



# An open letter

TO PARENTS OF AMBITIOUS YOUNG MEN

**From: Air Marshal Sir John Whitley, K.B.E., C.B., D.S.O., A.F.C.**

AIR MINISTRY (GR3b),  
ADASTRAL HOUSE,  
THEOBALDS ROAD,  
LONDON, W.C.1.



Dear Sir,

Suggesting a career is always a big responsibility—not least for parents with a son growing up. In the final analysis, the choice must lie with your son himself. But you can help him in his choice.

Here, therefore, are some facts about one career which is particularly attractive to an ambitious young man. I refer to a flying career in the Royal Air Force.

First, let me assure you that flying will continue in the Royal Air Force for as far as can be foreseen. The Royal Air Force has the prime responsibility for the air defence of this country. For young men therefore who are trained to tackle the problems of the air in the air, there will be more—not fewer—opportunities in the missile age. This is especially true of those who qualify now for a permanent or short service commission and come successfully through their Pilot's, Navigator's or Air Electronics Officer's training.

It is a well-paid job. In how many callings can a man of 25 earn £1,500 a year? It is a job of high responsibility. Quite apart from flying and its fascinating skills, there are the manifold duties of an officer; to men under him; in staff, liaison or training jobs; and, perhaps, in high command.

You know yourself if your son has the character, intelligence and fitness for this magnificent (but exacting) life. If he is over 17½ and has G.C.E. or equivalent to the required standard, you may be doing him a service if you write to the Air Ministry for fuller information.

Let me add that the country needs the right kind of young men for this vitally important job, and it needs them now.

Yours faithfully,

Air Member for Personnel.

TO ANY YOUNG MAN WHO WANTS TO FLY . . . For further information write stating age and educational qualifications to: Air Ministry (GR 3b), Adastral House, London, W.C.1.