



## Before Topgun Days: The Making of a Jet Fighter Instructor

By Dave Baranek

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**Before Topgun Days: The Making of a Jet Fighter Instructor** By Dave Baranek

**Becoming the best doesn't happen overnight; you've got to work for it.**

Before becoming an instructor in the Navy's Topgun program, Dave "Bio" Baranek was just another kid with a dream. Upon graduating from college, he joined the Navy with the goal of becoming a fighter pilot. But, his eyesight waning, he knew that he would never be able to reach that goal. Undaunted, he plowed ahead and found his niche as a radar intercept operator in the backseat of the sleek, new Grumman F-14 Tomcat.

Join Baranek in *Before Topgun Days* as he takes you along for this greatest, most exciting time of his young life: training to become a naval flight officer. Taking place before the events recounted in his previous memoir, *Topgun Days*, Baranek brings to life the anxieties and excitement of entering the fast-paced world of fighter jocks. From a green recruit to an experienced flyer, discover what it took to become a Topgun instructor.

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### Editorial Review

#### Review

"Many may dream of one day wearing Navy Wings of Gold, but few truly appreciate what is required to earn those wings and move from the street to the Fleet. In this book, "Bio" shows how he climbed from college student to experienced naval flight officer. Aircraft have changed, but that process continues on. Here's a great read for any aviation enthusiast, and especially for anyone considering a career in Naval Aviation."

—**Vice Admiral "Streak" Chanik, USN (Ret.)**, former F-14 pilot and Topgun instructor

"I couldn't put Dave Baranek's book down—he put me right in the cockpit of his aircraft and made me feel like I was a Navy RIO running intercepts on bad guys. Dave wanted to be a pilot; so did I, but our eyesight wasn't quite good enough, so we both chose to become backseaters. It doesn't matter where you sit in a fighter or bomber or reconnaissance plane—it's all about flying; military flying; taking planes to the edge of the envelope. It's about tough training and besting the bad guys if and when you meet up with them. In *Before Topgun Days* Dave takes you from the day he reports to NAS Pensacola as an utter novice until he straps on an F-14 Tomcat and flies with a carrier at sea. What I liked best about the book is being part of his demanding training—day by day, event by event. I love the book. This is an aviator's book—for anyone who loves to reach for the sky." —**Wolfgang W Samuel, Colonel, USAF (Ret.)**, author of *German Boy* and *In Defense of Freedom*

"Baranek describes a relatively little-known area of Navy flight training, that of the F-14 radar intercept officer or RIO, the guy-in-the-back, as skilled as his pilot up front but not as familiar to the average reader of modern aviation literature. Only someone who has actually experienced the demanding instruction required to earn this unique position in a flight crew, followed by the months of deployments in the Fleet in a combat-ready F-14 squadron could hope to tell this story in such deeply personal detail. Even after a life-long association with aviation, I found myself filling in many of the blanks as I read this lively adventure story. Great job, Bio!"

- **Commander Peter Mersky, USNR (Ret.)**, author of *WHITEY, F-8 vs. MiG-17*, and *U.S. MARINE CORPS AVIATION SINCE 1912*

About the Author

No Bio

No Bio

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#### Clarence Danner:

Have you spare time for any day? What do you do when you have far more or little spare time? That's why, you can choose the suitable activity intended for spend your time. Any person spent all their spare time to take a move, shopping, or went to the particular Mall. How about open or perhaps read a book entitled *Before Topgun Days: The Making of a Jet Fighter Instructor*? Maybe it is to be best activity for you. You know beside you can spend your time along with your favorite's book, you can cleverer than before. Do you

agree with its opinion or you have other opinion?

**Alejandro Wisdom:**

Your reading sixth sense will not betray a person, why because this Before Topgun Days: The Making of a Jet Fighter Instructor reserve written by well-known writer we are excited for well how to make book which can be understand by anyone who read the book. Written within good manner for you, leaking every ideas and composing skill only for eliminate your own personal hunger then you still doubt Before Topgun Days: The Making of a Jet Fighter Instructor as good book not simply by the cover but also by the content. This is one reserve that can break don't ascertain book by its cover, so do you still needing a different sixth sense to pick this specific!/? Oh come on your examining sixth sense already told you so why you have to listening to yet another sixth sense.

**William Quesada:**

This Before Topgun Days: The Making of a Jet Fighter Instructor is great guide for you because the content which is full of information for you who all always deal with world and get to make decision every minute. This specific book reveal it data accurately using great coordinate word or we can state no rambling sentences included. So if you are read the item hurriedly you can have whole data in it. Doesn't mean it only offers you straight forward sentences but challenging core information with wonderful delivering sentences. Having Before Topgun Days: The Making of a Jet Fighter Instructor in your hand like getting the world in your arm, details in it is not ridiculous a single. We can say that no publication that offer you world inside ten or fifteen minute right but this e-book already do that. So , this really is good reading book. Hey Mr. and Mrs. stressful do you still doubt which?

**Brenda Moulton:**

In this era which is the greater man or woman or who has ability to do something more are more important than other. Do you want to become considered one of it? It is just simple strategy to have that. What you need to do is just spending your time not very much but quite enough to have a look at some books. One of many books in the top checklist in your reading list is usually Before Topgun Days: The Making of a Jet Fighter Instructor. This book which is qualified as The Hungry Mountains can get you closer in becoming precious person. By looking right up and review this book you can get many advantages.

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