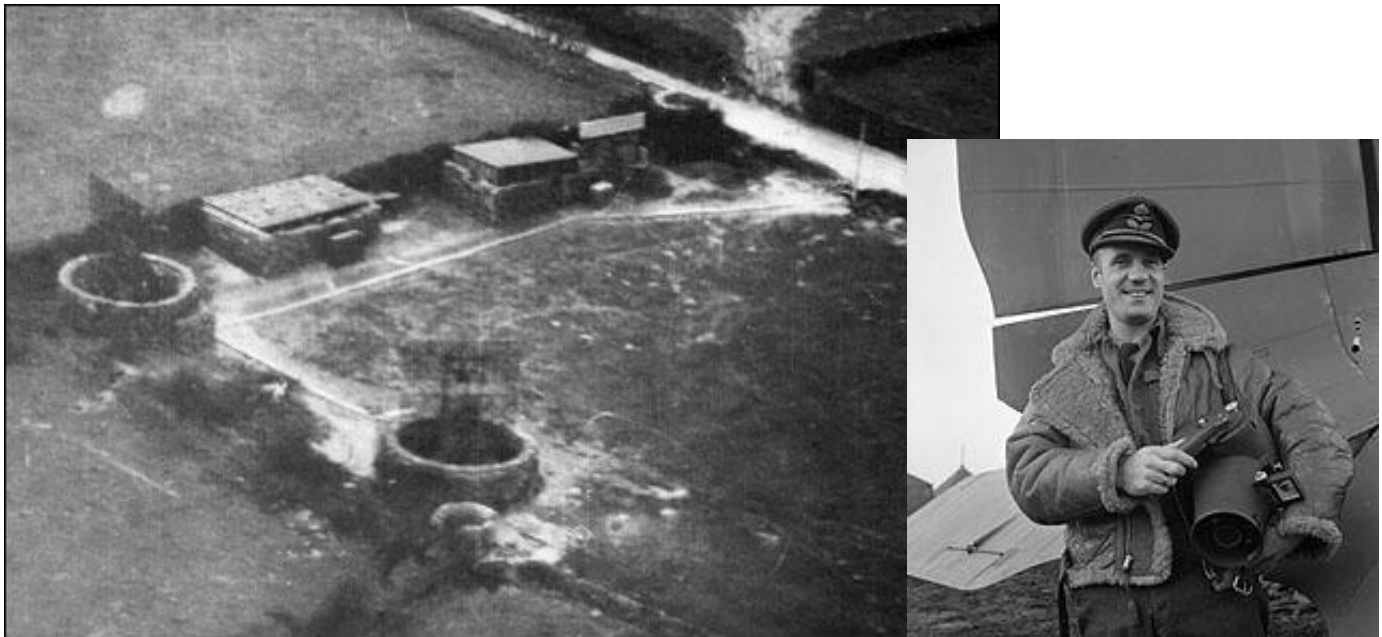


K20 Recognisance Camera



Radar installation in France

Often recognisance photos were required before a mission
Drop sites for **Special Agents** were taken at low level in advance
The camera on display is American Fairchild K20 used by the RAF
It is a lightweight hand held camera, with 4 x 5-inch negative.
Pictures were taken through an opening in the side or floor of the plane.
The camera came with its own developing equipment.

British cameras and lenses were extremely poor before the war
The RAF had to result, to using downed German plane cameras
for high level recognisance photography

The Americans came to the rescue
The Fairchild K range of Cameras used a copy of the German Zeiss lens
This K20 is one of the smallest with variants up to 9 x 18 inch negatives
Film lengths were 20 to 200 feet, vacuum kept the film flat.

Enola Gay's K20, pictured the mushroom cloud over Hiroshima