LYSANDER



138 and 161 Squadron

Secrete Squadron were set up to fly Black Lysanders into France. This unique plane could fly low, skimming treetops under emery radar. They needed a very short landing space, often landing in rough fields. Lysanders could quickly insert and remove special agent. A fixed ladder on the port side of the plane, hastened exit. Operations took place around full moons to aid navigation. The pilot was only equipped with a map and compass The landing strip would be marked out by SOE, with a few torches. Normally the pilot would set fire to a crashed plane But in 1942 one was captured, it was sent by train for analysis in Germany, but the train crashed and the plane was destroyed.