

2-PS8f01
56/79.

LUFTWAFFE FLIES AGAIN.

At Fuerstenfeldbruck Airfield, in Western Germany, in new Luftwaffe is given its first real teeth. Theodor Blank, Federal Defence Minister, hands diplomas and wings to the first German jet-fighter pilots. Some of them received their jet training in Britain with the R.A.F.

Ground crews unveil the fighter's insignia - which may be a surprise for some people, but at least the Iron Crosses are of First World War pattern. Perhaps that was considered rather more tactful. German pilots now wear grey uniforms instead of the former blue by this change, they declare the last links with the old Luftwaffe tradition have been broken.

Minister Blank looks on as Germany's "first of the many" prove that their jet training has been well absorbed. Most of us hope that that isn't the only lesson they've learned from their ex-enemies - and that they are right about the break with old traditions.