

MILITARY

HISTORY

Fliege Nach England

Propaganda Nursery Rhymes, and Steam Punk Made Real

The First Air Campaign Against UK 1914 to 1918 Part 1

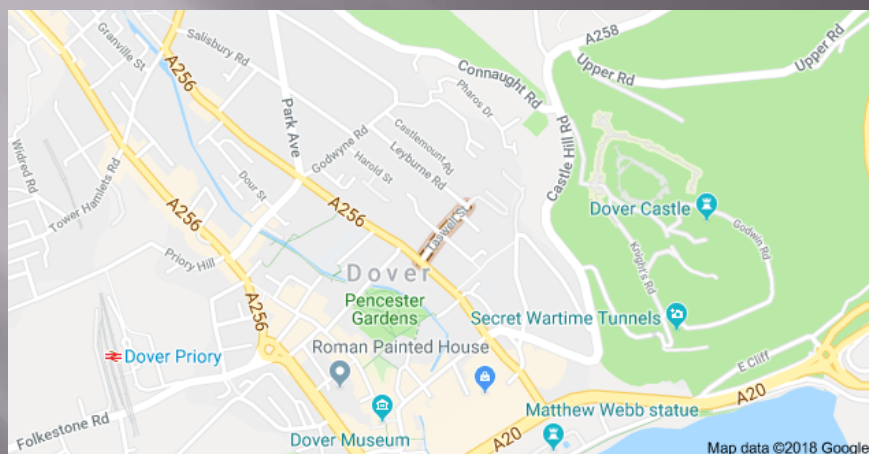
"Flieg, Zeppelin, Flieg,
Hilf uns im Krieg,
Fliege nach England,
England wird abgebrannt,
Zeppelin flieg."

"Gott strafe England"

THE BEGINING

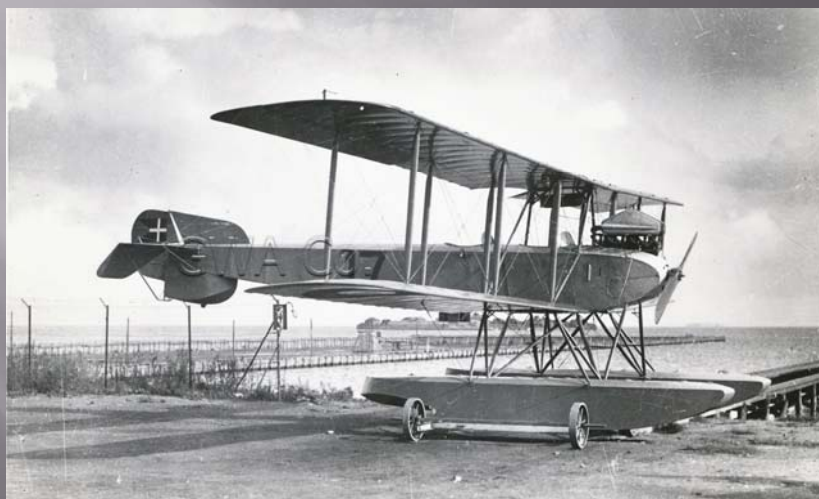
10:45 am 24 December 1914

Dover
Kent





Friedrichshafen FF.29



Vickers F.B 5 "Gun Bus"



St Helen's Church at Cliffe



Eyewitness Account

'We heard a noise like someone banging carpets against the walls of the church. The happy couple and the guests, made an undignified rush for the carriages and home.

Bombs had been dropping; we could not partake of the wedding breakfast because some of the guests fainted.'

UK Government's Take

Their discomfiture would have been of far less concern to the Government than the knowledge that when he turned back, the German raider had been within five miles of Woolwich Arsenal and the start of London's sprawling docklands.

The implication was clear: the nation's vital industries and the capital itself were now within range of German bombs.

BEFORE THE BEGINNING (PART ONE)

Predictions and Reality

The first bombs delivered to their targets by air were launched on unmanned hot air balloons, each carrying a single bomb, by the Austrians against Venice in 1849.

Hague Conventions of 1899 and 1907

(IV,1): Declaration concerning the Prohibition of the Discharge of Projectiles and Explosives from Balloons or by Other New Analogous Methods

This declaration provides that, for a period of five years, in any war between signatory powers, no projectiles or explosives would be launched from balloons, "or by other new methods of a similar nature." The declaration was ratified by all the major powers mentioned above, except the United Kingdom and the United States.

The Prophets

Jules Verne

Herbert George Wells

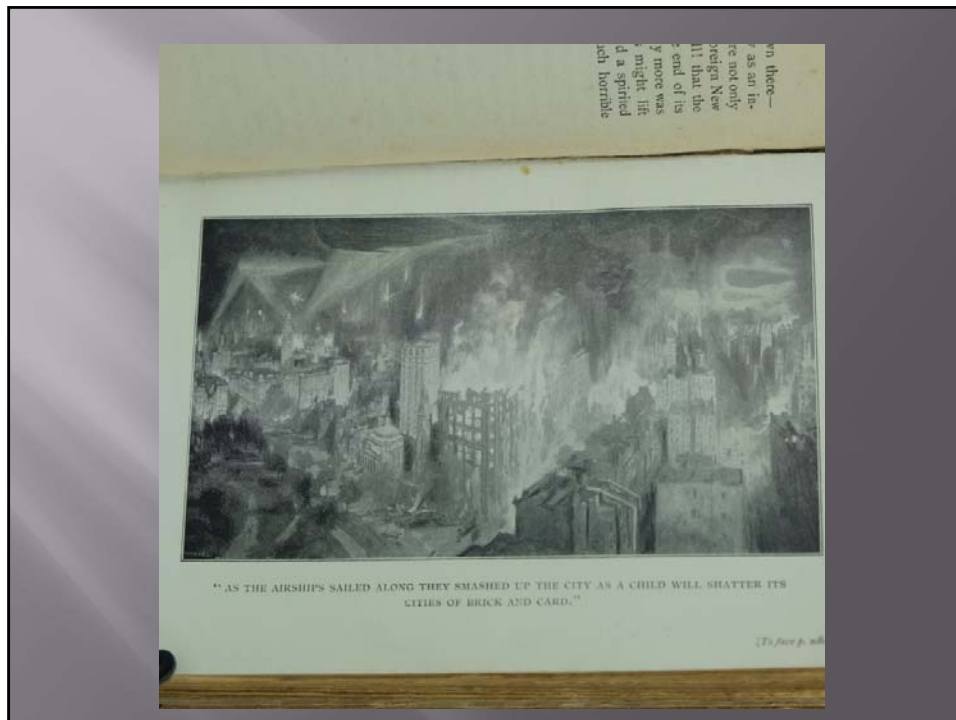
Also lesser known ones such as Pierre Giffard, Rudolf Martin, and others.

The War in the Air, a military science fiction novel by H. G. Wells, written in four months in 1907 and serialised and published in 1908 in The Pall Mall Magazine, is like many of Wells' works notable for its prophetic ideas, images, and concepts.

In this case, the use of the aircraft for the purpose of warfare and the coming of World War I. The novel's hero is Bert Smallways, a "forward-thinking young man" and a "kind of bicycle engineer of the let's-'ave-a-look-at-it and enamel-chipping variety."

The War in the Air





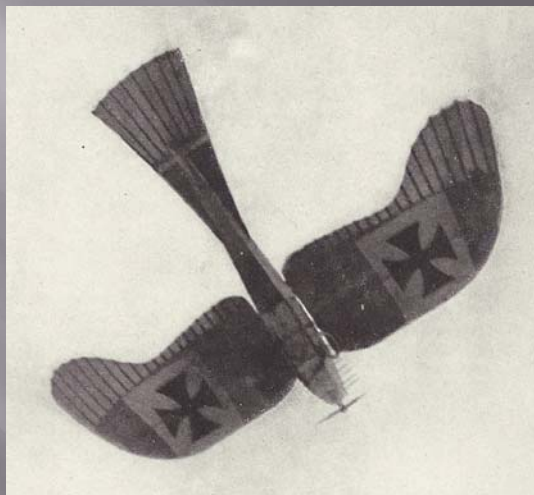


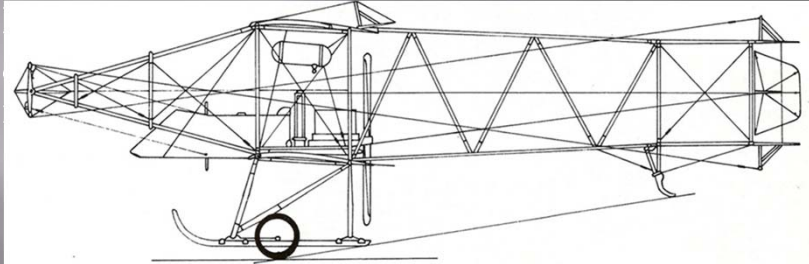
First Blows Giulio Gavotti



Etrich Taube







Albatros F2

Comparable Performances 2nd Generation Aeroplane



Comparable Performances 3rd Generation Aeroplane



Competing Technologies

- ▣ Lighter than air aircraft
- ▣ Heavier than air aircraft

Competing Technologies

- ▣ The former was at first seen as the future of a brave new world. Whilst the latter was viewed as a mere novelty.
- ▣ However, subsequent events consigned the former to near extinction, and the latter to be the basis of one of the largest industries the world has ever known.

Lighter than Air Craft

- ▣ These break down into two major types.
- ▣ Captive (tethered to an object on the surface of the Earth).
- ▣ Dirigible (Free flying and to a greater, or lesser degree, steerable)

Tethered Observation Balloon



Tethered Observation Balloon



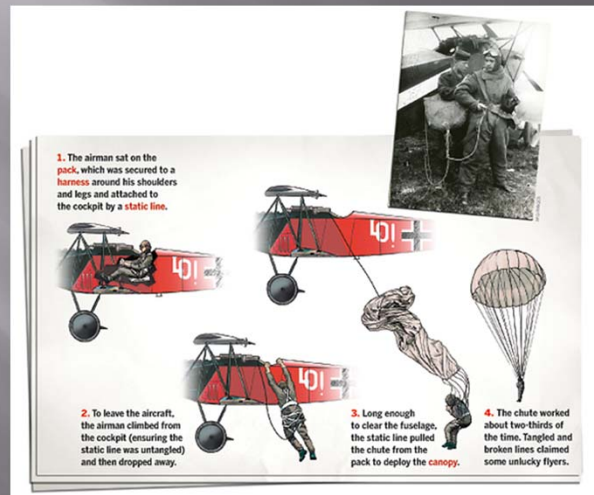
Tethered Observation Balloon



Balloon Parachute



Aeroplane Parachutes



Dirigibles

- ▣ These break down into three major sub types
- ▣ Pressure Airship
- ▣ Semi Rigid Construction
- ▣ Rigid Construction

Pressure Airship



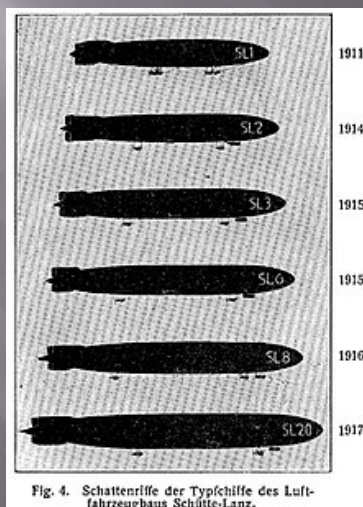
Semi Rigid Construction



Rigid Construction



Schütte-Lanz Airships



Ferdinand Graf von Zeppelin



The first flight of LZ 1 over Lake Constance (the Bodensee) in 1900



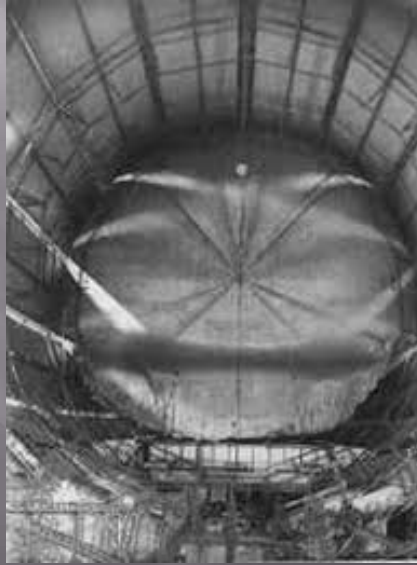
Rigid Construction



Rigid Construction



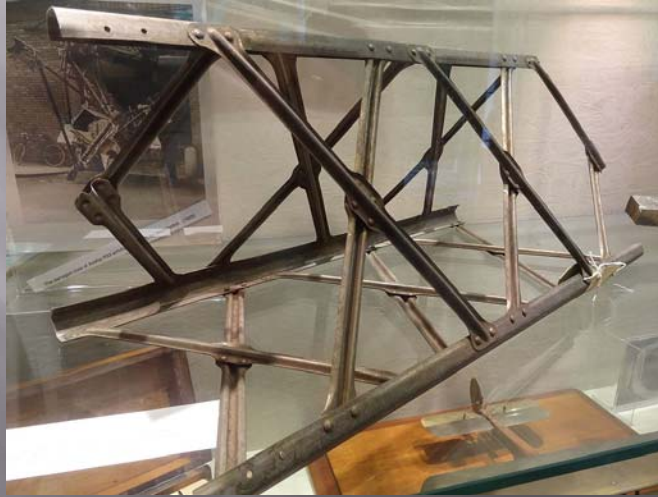
Rigid Construction



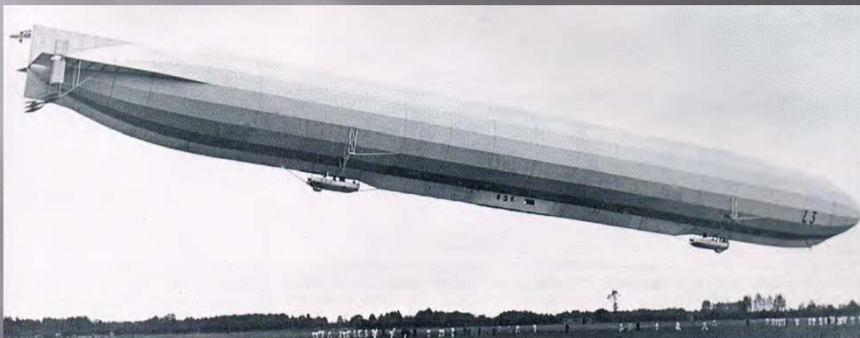
Rigid Construction



Airframe Construction



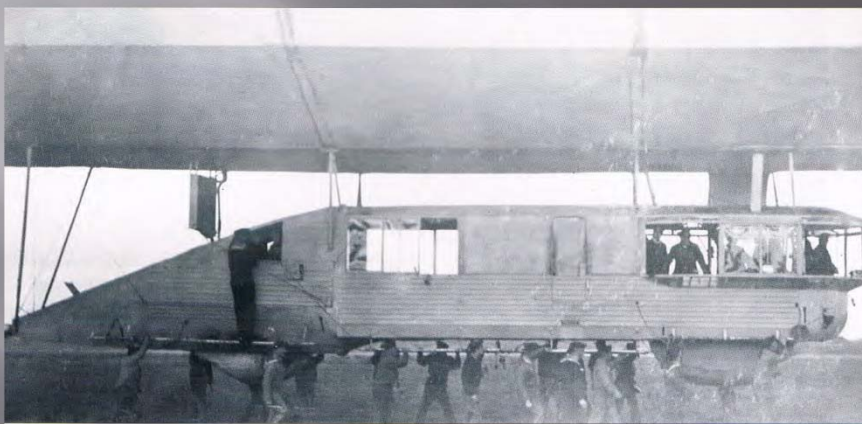
L3 Keel



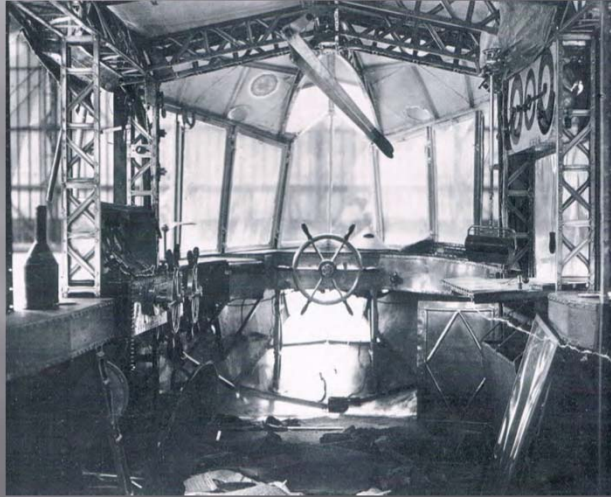
Early Gondolas



Later Gondolas



Control



Keeping Trim



Weaponry (Offensive)



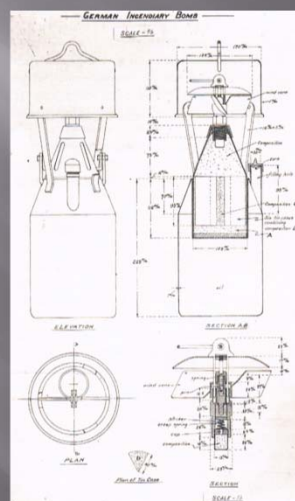
More UXB



When they Worked



Brandbomben



WW2 B 24 Waist Gunner



Weaponry (Defensive)



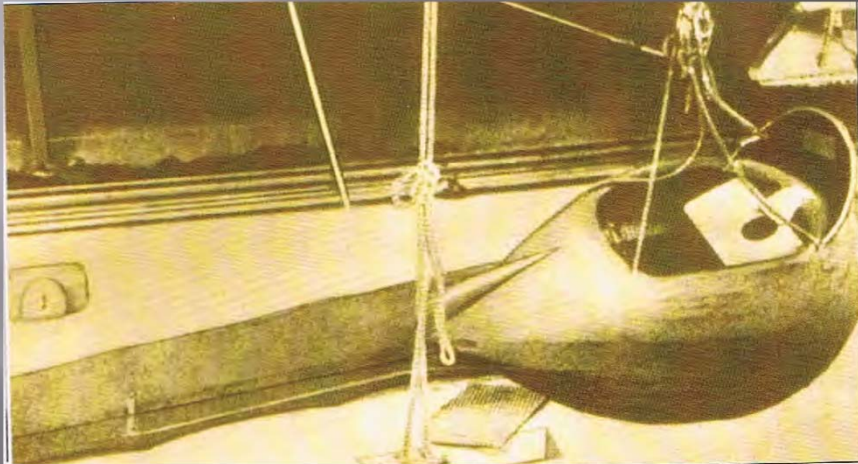
Weaponry (Defensive)



Weaponry (Defensive)



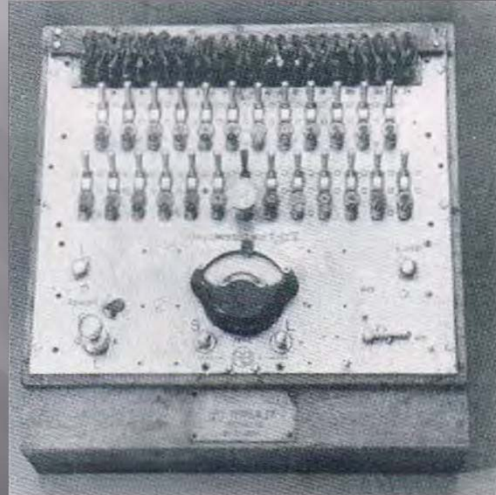
Navigating in Cloud



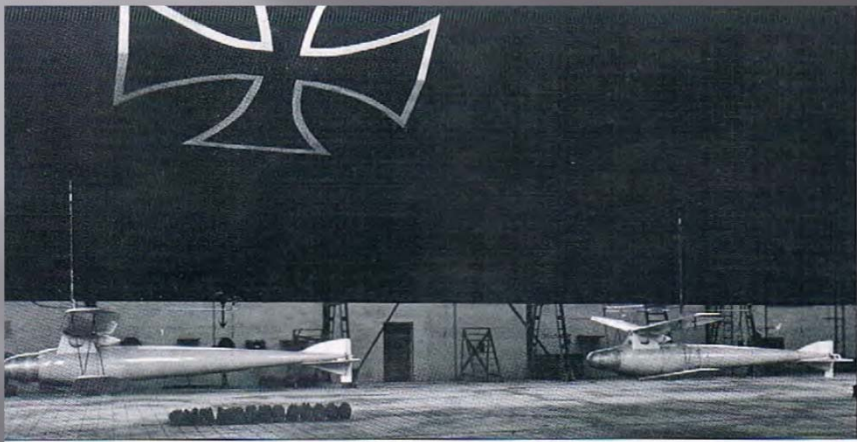
Navigating in Cloud



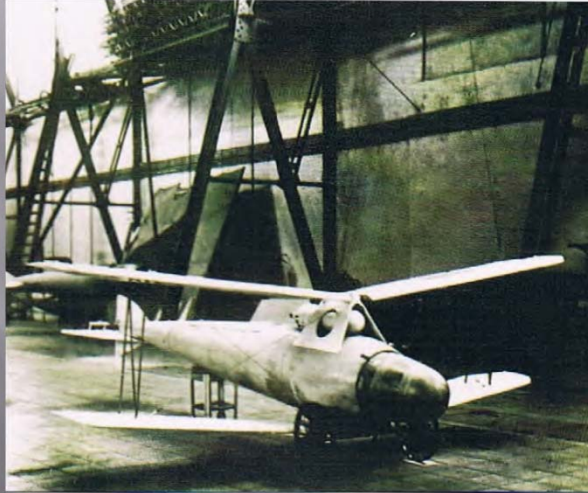
Technological Advances



Air to Surface Guided Missile



Siemens-Schuckert 'Torpedogleiter'





TO BE CONTINUED