

# Pictorial Souvenir

OF THE

## “STRAFED” ZEPPELIN L. 48

---

WHICH WAS BROUGHT DOWN IN  
FLAMES IN EAST ANGLIA ON THE  
MORNING OF SUNDAY, JUNE 17, 1917

---



PUBLISHED BY

J. S. WADDELL, PHOTOGRAPHER, THE HAYLING STUDIO, LEISTON.

Price One Shilling



# ZEPPELIN

Falls in Flames in East Anglia.

---

**O**N Saturday night, June 16, 1917, the quiet, picturesque little village of T—retired as usual and woke early on the following Sunday morning to find itself famous. The reason is given in Lord French's Official Report :—

"Sunday, 5-30 p.m. Last night's air raid was carried out by two enemy airships . . . The second raider made an attack on a coast town of East Anglia at about 2-30 a.m. She was heavily shelled by the guns of the anti-aircraft defences and was driven off. It is probable she was damaged by gunfire. Shortly afterwards, the raider, after dropping a number of bombs in open places, was engaged and brought down in flames by a pilot of the Royal Flying Corps. The airship was destroyed."

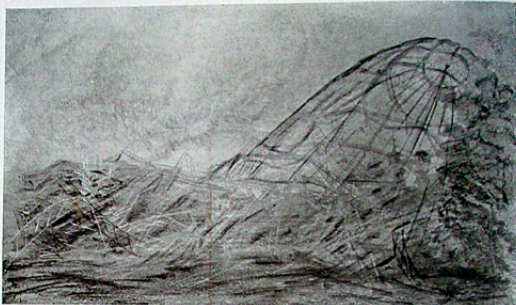
Such is the Official record of an event which disturbed the serenity of this quiet spot and brought a crowd of sightseers from near and far to the estimated number of nearly 30,000 on Sunday alone. Many had been awakened by the gunfire and had watched the course of the Airship as she turned and twisted, now upwards; now down; in her vain endeavour to evade the furious shelling and escape to sea. Others awoke to consciousness with a vague

---

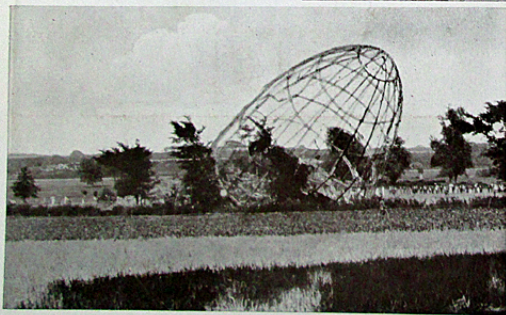


The "Strafed" Zepp. 3-21 a.m., 17th June, 1917. No. 1. Published by J. S. Waddell, Photographer, Leiston

impression that their neighbours had gone mad, else why should respectable human beings be cheering themselves hoarse at this time of morning? The great Airship had again turned seawards in a final frantic effort to escape when "spits" of fire from the machine gun of a



The Smoking Wreck at 3.45 a.m.



Sightseers at a respectful distance.

pursuing aeroplane seemed mysteriously to transfer themselves to the "gasbag," and in less time than it takes to tell the tale she burst into flames from end to end. Then,—a gasp! then,—the most spontaneous burst of cheering one has heard for many a day, and the monster slowly



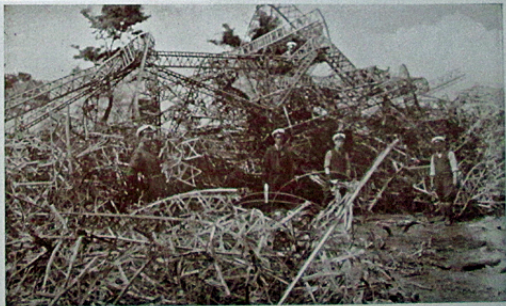


PEACE . . . AND WAR.

sank to earth leaving only a long trail of smoke to mark the course to final destruction of the "pride of the Fatherland." A general stampede from all directions followed, and although everyone appeared very definitely to have "somewhere to go" how few were "all dressed

up"! There was many a quiet chuckle as friend greeted friend on that auspicious June morning, about 4 a.m.

Probably the first on the spot was Petty Officer B—— (home on leave) who promptly took charge of



WHERE MANY BODIES WERE FOUND.



the Commander of the raiding Squadron who was alive and practically unharmed. Others quickly arrived and helped to remove three of the crew who were still alive. Some of the crew had attempted to jump clear of the final smash, their mangled bodies being found in a field near



THE CORONER AND JURY.



AN OPEN-AIR INQUEST

("Daily Sketch" Photos)

by; the remainder were buried in the wreckage. And, what a wreckage! She seemed to have broken in two; the tail portion being piled in a mass of inextricable confusion, while the "nose" stuck jauntily in the air like the end of a huge cucumber. Amongst the crowd



THE FUNERAL

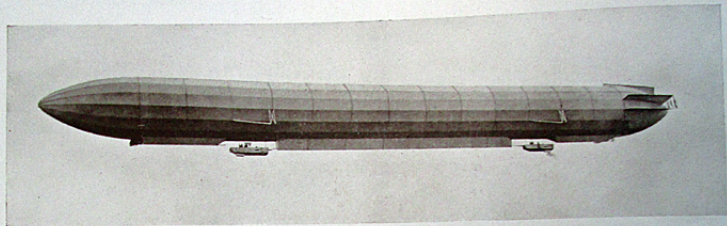
("Daily Sketch" Photos)

could be seen the R.F.C. Pilot who had administered the *coup de grace* and who had alighted in a field near by. The Military arrived and took possession, and from henceforth the public view was only to be had at a respectful distance. Then came the R.N.A.S. men who proceeded to

clear up, and by the following Tuesday 14 bodies had been recovered. On Wednesday the inquest was held at the farm house, in the open air. The names of four of the men had been ascertained, the other bodies were numbered. The medical evidence showed that five



COFFIN OF COMMANDER OF L48 WITH R.F.C. WREATH.



A "ZEPPELIN" AIRSHIP.



WRECKAGE OF L48 READY FOR REMOVAL.





MILES OF ALUMINIUM.

of the men, whose bodies were found in the fields, had died from injuries; the remaining nine had died from burns received in the blazing Zeppelin. The jury, whose foreman was the Vicar of the parish, returned a verdict in accordance with the medical evidence.

The same afternoon the funeral of the victims took place in the village cemetery. The ceremony was of the simplest character. The bodies were borne on gun carriages and army waggons, the 14 bodies being buried in one grave. The Rector of the Parish, a Brigade Chaplin and a



A GONDOLA IN THE FOREGROUND.

[ ]

Roman Catholic Clergyman, officiated in view of a large concourse of sightseers from all parts.

L-48 was one of the very latest type of Zeppelin Airship, and had many features not noticeable in the earlier types. Some of these it is not



A GONDOLA, AND ENGINE PARTS.



ONCE THE PRIDE OF THE FATHERLAND.

permissible to mention, but attention may be called to the blunt nose of L 48 as compared with the illustration on p. 6, which is of an earlier type. These Airships are of vast dimensions from 500 to 600 feet long and 40 to 50 feet in diameter. They have a very strong framework

[ ]



RADIATORS IN THE FOREGROUND.

of aluminium, divided into compartments in each of which is a balloon inflated with hydrogen. The outer envelope is of rubberised silk, the whole weighing from 20 tons upwards, and the larger ones capable of carrying a crew of 40 men.



PETROL TANKS AND SUPPLY CANS.

A fortnight after the downfall of L48, the War Office announced that "His Majesty the King has been graciously pleased to confer the Military Cross on the under-mentioned Officers in recognition of their conspicuous gallantry in



attacking and destroying an enemy Airship :—

Captain R. H. M. S. Saundby, R.F.C.,  
and  
Sec. Lieut. L. P. Watkins, R.F.C.”

The only enemy Airship officially reported destroyed recently by the R.F.C. was L 48, and unofficial reports stated that two Aeroplanes took part in the destruction of the raider.



R.N.A.S. MEN AT WORK.



THE NOSE.

As we go to press the interest is heightened even if the air of mystery remains clouded by the further announcement that “the King has approved the award of the Military Cross and Military Medal respectively to 2nd Lt. F. D. Holder, E. Kent Regt. and R.F.C., and No. 506 Sergt. S. Ashby, R.F.C.” in recognition of conspicuous gallantry and determination in connection with the destruction of an enemy Airship.”



LOADING UP "THE NOSE."



DEPARTURE OF L48 FROM EAST ANGLIA.



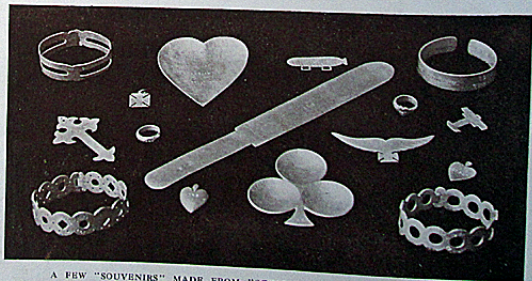
THE TAIL



A COLLECTING BOX FOR IPSWICH AND  
E. SUFFOLK HOSPITAL YIELDED £20.



FARMER S ——— AND SOME OF THE OFFICERS WHO SUPERINTENDED THE  
"HARVESTING" OF HIS UNIQUE "CROP."



A FEW "SOUVENIRS" MADE FROM "SCRAPS" OF THE WRECKED ZEPPELIN.



