

Wright State University

CORE Scholar

Raoul Lufbery Newspapers

Raoul Lufbery Collection (MS-502)

5-21-1918

Men of Nerve are Needed in Aero Service

W. S. Forrest

Follow this and additional works at: https://corescholar.libraries.wright.edu/special_ms502_newspapers



Part of the [Military History Commons](#)

Repository Citation

Forrest , W. S. (1918). *Men of Nerve are Needed in Aero Service.* .

This Newspaper is brought to you for free and open access by the Raoul Lufbery Collection (MS-502) at CORE Scholar. It has been accepted for inclusion in Raoul Lufbery Newspapers by an authorized administrator of CORE Scholar. For more information, please contact library-corescholar@wright.edu.

MEN OF NERVE ARE NEEDED IN AERO SERVICE

Lufberry Says Coolness Is Principal Requisite for Successful Air Fighter.

By W. S. FORREST

[United Press Staff Correspondent.]

PARIS, Aug. 7—Work to be done by American aviators which may mean success or failure of artillery and infantry was described by Lt. Raoul Lufberry, premier fighter of the Lafayette Escadrille, today, as he outlined to the United Press further qualifications the "cream of American youth" must have to carry the United States to success in the air.

"Men working in machines carrying two or more passengers must have many of the qualities of the chasers I described yesterday," said Lufberry. They can weigh 200 pounds, but success depends less on perfect physique for this type of airman than on perfect nerves.

"Though constantly under fire, the airman must develop a painstaking eye for detail. He must have persistence and an enormous sense of self-discipline.

"Observations made from his machine may mean success or failure for his infantry or artillery.

"His nerves must hold him steadily to his task regardless of the guns that will be trying to bring him down.

"The observers carried in such machines are generally young artillery officers who have mastered the handling of machine guns, wireless telegraphy and even photography.

"The pilots of these slower, heavier machines can be men lacking in the qualities of eye and temperament necessary to the faster game.

"The third general type of aviator is the bombardier. He must be capable of rapid, accurate handling of machine guns and small cannon, and be proficient in the extremely complicated art of aerial warfare.

"In this there are three principal factors. He must be able to gauge his own and his enemy's speed, and the velocity of the wind.

"It is frequently necessary to aim 100 feet in front of an enemy machine to make a hit.

"On board a battle plane all depends upon the bombardier's eye, his coolness and his ability to shoot. If he becomes rattled all is lost. For example, a German gunner recently lost his nerve and hid in the body of the machine. The pilot became rattled, gave up and landed inside the French lines."

K

hol
the

K

El