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Maj. Lufbery American Air King Killed

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U-BOATS

MAJ. LUFBERY, AMERICAN AIR KING, KILLED

(Continued from Page One.)

earth, was a bullet hole through the thumb. Apparently the same bullet punctured one of the gasoline tanks of his machine.

The German machine was under heavy anti-aircraft fire several times, both before and after the air fight, and one explosion of a shell upset the enemy's plane, but it managed to straighten out.

It was about 10 o'clock this morning when a German triplane suddenly descended from the clouds, apparently because of engine trouble, until it was only some 1500 metres over the city of Toul. The American fliers were on the alert and some of them headed for the fighting line to await the enemy on his return.

Lufbery and the pilot of another machine made after the German, who quickly ran away from the direction of the line, the two Americans following him. Eight miles away from the enemy's line Lufbery was seen to attack from under the tail, but then he drew off as if his machine gun had jammed. Two minutes later he attacked again from the same position and almost immediately his machine burst into flames.

Had 17 Victims To His Credit

Maj. Lufbery's feats in the great world war were among the most sensational of those performed by any "ace" in the allied service. From the first day that he donned the uniform of the Lafayette escadrille he amazed his comrades with his amazing courage, resourcefulness and quick wit in situations of unusual danger.

One by one German fliers were met and vanquished by him until he hung up the record of 17 enemy planes.

Maj. Lufbery was born in France 34 years ago. His father is an American, now a resident of Yalesville, Connecticut, and his mother was French. He spent his childhood days in the rugged hills of the Cevennes mountain range. He obtained his first employment in a chocolate factory, but tiring of a colorless existence began his nomadic career, working his way through Algiers, Tunis, Morocco, Egypt, Constantinople, Roumania, Austria and Germany.

Maj. Lufbery came to America in 1907 and took up work in a silverware plant at Wallingford. He left in 1909 for Cuba and began his second trip around the world, passing 18 months in the Philippines in Uncle Sam's service.

He was in French Indo-China when the great war broke out and at once became interested in flying. He enlisted in the foreign legion and later joined the Lafayette escadrille.

Maj. Lufbery had been decorated with four military medals for aerial bravery. At one time the intrepid aviator engaged four enemy planes, shot down one and routed the other three. German airmen knew him and were reluctant to give him battle.

French Put Down 35 Planes

PARIS, May 19—Pronounced aerial activity is reported. On May 17 and 18, the French destroyed 12 airplanes and forced down 23 others in a damaged condition. Four captive balloons were destroyed. In addition three German planes were downed by artillery fire.

French airplanes dropped 44,000 kilograms (more than 48 tons) of explosives on barrack and railway stations in the enemy zone. Explosions and fires resulted, causing great damage.

LONDON, May 19—In aerial fighting Saturday 21 German airplanes were destroyed and two damaged by British aviators. The statement on aerial operations reports continuation of bombing of enemy railway stations, airdromes, ammunition dumps and billets, as well as on the submarine base at Zeebrugge. One British machine failed to return.

Lufbery Has Three Sisters in Boston

WALLINGFORD, Ct., May 20—The family of Maj. Raoul Lufbery, the American aviator whose death has been announced, today received from him some effects which gave them the impression he intended to come here on a visit. An hour later a report came of the death of Maj. Lufbery.

John E. Martin, warden of the borough, this noon ordered that flags in Wallingford be displayed at half staff for three days. He also requests that the clergymen meet to decide upon a date for holding a memorial service.

In behalf of the borough, Warden Martin issued a card extending sympathy to the family.

Maj. Lufbery leaves his father, Edward, and a sister in Yalesville, a brother employed here, a sister in Pennsylvania and three sisters in Boston.