

For release
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Balloons at sea! Balloons are a valuable addition to the equipment of a destroyer. When required, the observation balloon of a destroyer is towed, and the observer from his advantageous and elevated position can discern submerged submarines which could not be seen from the deck of the vessel, and he can best judge when a depth charge should be released. The balloon used in this way is superior to an airplane. Balloon observers are all experienced balloonists, for when the cable breaks, the balloon is then free and must be piloted by the crew who know how to use ballast and valve gas, thus keeping the balloon aloft until a suitable landing can be made.
