

For release By Major A.H. Thiessen
Dec. 7, 1939 Science Service Meteorologist

War balloons! These are of the captive type and are used for observing either the activities of the enemy or those of friendly troops. Visibility is the controlling factor in determining whether an ascent will be made or not; the wind is seldom too strong for balloons of the improved shape. Balloons are used for visual signalling, for marking positions for airplane landings in a fog, for range-finding when used in pairs, and for other kinds of observation work. They are especially adapted to obtain weather data aloft.
