

Source 2 : Diary of events and report of action taken, by Major Robert Hall, Fire Commander Humber Defences 1916 (AIR 1/569/16/15/142/B)

8.40 p.m. 6th Message received from C.R.A. as follows:-m

"Following from Headquarters begins - 'Admiralty reports
"zeppelin reported at 7.5 p.m. in the North Sea seen about 100
"miles East of Humber. Tonge lightship reports that the Boulogne
"wireless is receiving from two Zeppelins there are in the
"North Sea and seen to be proceeding towards England' message ends

The above was despatched 8.53 p.m. to all Batteries.

11.50 p.m. 6th Bomb explosions were heard in the direction of Hull. Rifle
fire heard in the direction of Stallingborough whilst bomb
dropping was going on.

12.10 a.m. 7th Red glare in sky seen in a North-Westerly direction, taken to
be flames.

12.15 to 12.25 a.m. Zeppelin in full sight from the Battery, direction
7th. North West to South-East down the river.

12.20 a.m. Sunk and Stallingborough Batteries opened fire with Maxims.
7th Number of rounds fired from Sunk being 152, & Stallingborough 49.

12.21 a.m. 7th. Pom-poms heard to open fire, at Killingholme or Immingham
About this time a red rocket was sent up from the Examination
vessel and also hoisting was heard either from the Boom boats
or the Examination vessel.

12.30 a.m. 7th The following message sent by F.C. from Sunk to C.R.A. and
Headquarters Humber Defences - "Zeppelin passed over Battery
between 12.15 and 12.25 a.m. Sunk and Stallingborough Batteries
opened fire 12.20 a.m. Killingholme 12.21 a.m. Effects of fire
not seen as Zeppelin was flying high towards Grimsby "

About 12.30 a.m. Rifle firing and one explosion heard in the direction of
7th. Grimsby. We could get no communication by either telegraph or
telephone to Hull from the time the explosions were heard at
11.50 p.m. 6th, till the Zeppelin was seen at 12.15 a.m. 7th
over the Battery.
From two approximate angles taken from the top of the P.N.S.S.
at the time the Zeppelin was passing, the height of the Zeppelin
was approximately 10,000 feet. One reading gives just below
10000 ft. and the other reading just over. It is obvious there-
fore that the fire from our M.guns could not possibly be effect
ive.
(in) Robert Hall Major
R. E. Amundson before

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From two approximate angles taken from the tip of the P.W.S.S. at the time the Zeppelin was passing, the height of the Zeppelin was approximately 10,000 feet. One reading gives just below 10000 ft. and the other reading just over. It is obvious therefore that the fire from our M.guns could not possibly be effective.

Glossary:

Maxim: a machine-gun; pom-pom: nickname for a machine-gun

Sunk: gun battery 5 miles south east of Hull.

Stallingborough: gun battery 10 miles south east of Hull;

Killingholme, Immingham: gun batteries 8 and 9 miles south east of Hull.

CRA = Commander, Royal Artillery