

The Daily Telegraph 25th September 1916

Another Zeppelin Raid Seven Airships Visit North Midland and other Districts Driven Off By Anti-Aircraft Guns Twenty-Nine Deaths No Munitions' Works Damaged.

The Field Marshal Commanding-in-Chief the Home Forces reports as follows:

TUESDAY, 12.10 p.m. Seven airships carried out a raid on England last night and in the early hours of this morning.

The districts attacked were the South Coast, East Coast, North-East Coast, and the North Midlands.

The principal attack was aimed against the industrial centres in the last mentioned area.

Up to the present no damage to factories or works of military importance has been reported. It is regretted, however, that a number of small houses, and cottages were wrecked or damaged, and some places, and 29 deaths have been reported.

No attempt was made to approach London.

The raiders were engaged by the anti-aircraft defences, and were successfully driven off from several large industrial centres.

In The Danger Zone Graphic Story by an Eye-Witness.

A member of a newspaper staff who lives within a couple of hundred yards of where the first bomb dropped, retired to rest about 12.15, and a few minutes later had a fine view of the awe-Inspiring spectacle.

"Before I was nicely settled," he said, "I was startled by a vivid light blue glare followed immediately by a terrific reverberating roar. I jumped out of bed and went to the window, and was in time to see a second flash, and hear another explosion succeeded quickly by a third within a radius of a few hundred yards.

"The sound of the bombs dropping was like nothing so much as a clean shot from a gun which, preceded by a glare, seemed to indicate that the anti-aircraft guns had got to work. Each report was clear and well defined. I hastily dressed myself and joined my father, who had been an outside witness of the affair.

"The raid did not last more than four minutes. I saw no sign of raider or raiders. I heard

eleven projectiles explode. To their credit folk seemed to take the business with characteristic British phlegm.

The only really damaging raid on Sheffield during the Great War came on September 25, 1916. The next day, The Star reported that 29 people had been killed when a Zeppelin airship bombed a North Midlands town.

The North Midlands town was Sheffield but the paper wasn't allowed to say so.

The report also mentioned that the principal attack was aimed against the industrial centres of this North Midlands town. That was Sheffield's East End, which escaped relatively unscathed.

The Zeppelin dropped more than 30 bombs that night and among the dead were eight victims found in the cellar of a bombed house at Burngreave.