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Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum Archives

Arthur Raymond Brooks Collection - Diary, 1917-1918

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hundred feet to one side and at a different level from any other plane. That allowed space for maneuvering on turns.

The wireless work was good fun because after letting out the aerial and pressing on a key it was mighty good sport looking down and seeing things happen as a result of your speechless talking. For instance one trial is called "ground strips" - by which signals are directed to the aeroplane from the ground. The strips are canvas frames 12 feet by one foot and they form code letters which are discernable at a remarkable distance and height. After sending preliminary calls it is fascinating to watch a black speck of a man run from a white tent and form a letter or character with the strips. The meaning of the characters are sent down and the next turn of the line of flight shows a new one mysteriously in place of the former. The T (T or "Toc" signal) is the last of the lot

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