

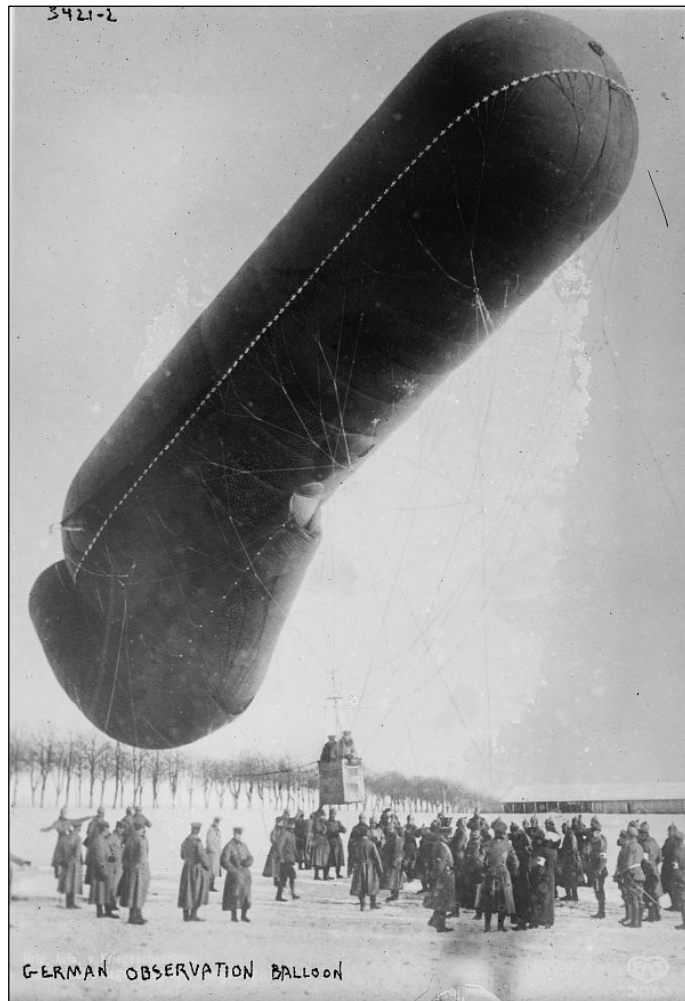
German World War I observation balloon

UAV (Drones) Inquiry Unit

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The United States was not the only country to employ aerial balloons for reconnaissance. Even after airplanes were in use during World War I, all participating countries used reconnaissance balloons. These hydrogen-filled

balloons were not free-flying like the Goodyear Blimp. They were tethered by long ropes to a drum on a large truck and reeled in after the balloon after the observers on board were finished or in case attack seemed imminent.



Source: Bain News Service, Publisher. *German Observation Balloon.* , ca. 1915. [Between 1914 and] Photograph. Retrieved from the Library of Congress Prints and Photographs Collection. No known restrictions.

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(Accessed 1 June 2017.)