

# Japanese Balloon Bombs

## UAV (Drones) Inquiry Unit

Visit Source:

Fig 1: <http://www.nationalmuseum.af.mil/Upcoming/Photos/igphoto/2000572693/>

Fig 2: <http://www.warmuseum.ca/collections/artifact/1040046/>

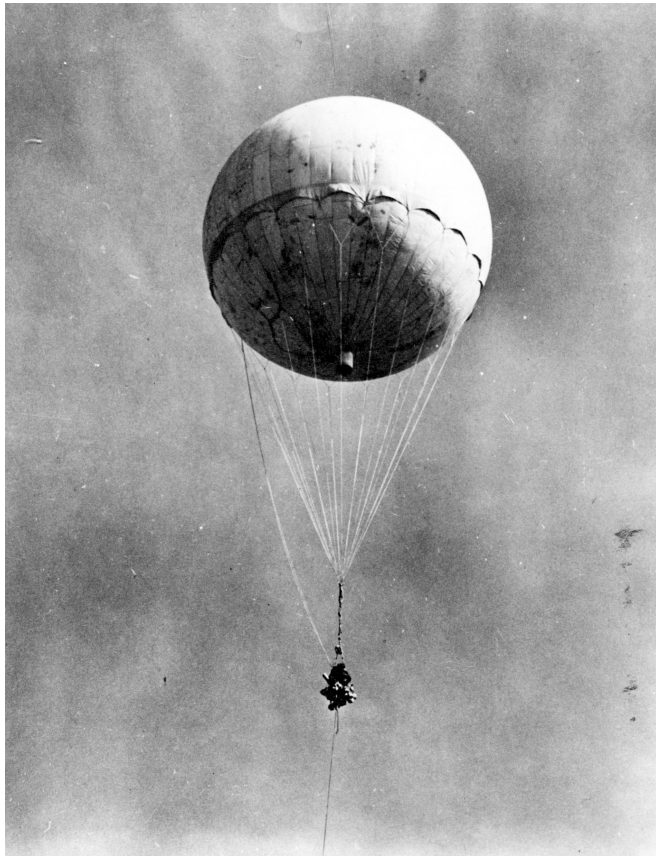


Fig. 1: Photo Credit: National Museum of the U.S. Air Force.

Made of paper or rubberized silk, the Japanese Balloon Bombs, carried anti-personnel and incendiary bombs.

"The first operational launches took place on Nov. 3, 1944, and two days later a U.S. Navy patrol boat spotted a balloon floating on the water off the coast of California. Japan launched some 9,000 balloons during a five-month period, to be carried by high altitude winds more than 6,000 miles eastward across the Pacific to North America...

As more sightings occurred, the government, with the cooperation of the news media, adopted a policy of silence to reduce the chance of panic among U.S. residents and to deny the Japanese any information on the success of the launches. Discouraged by the apparent failure of their effort, the Japanese halted their balloon attacks in April 1945."

National Museum of the U.S. Air Force

<http://www.nationalmuseum.af.mil/Visit/Museum-Exhibits/Fact-Sheets/Display/Article/196210/>



Fig. 2: Photo Credit: Japanese Balloon Chandelier  
CWM 19460001-001 Canadian War Museum

## Japanese Balloon Chandelier

OBJECT NUMBER: 19460001-001

Date Made: 1944-1945

Place of Use: Continent: North America...

Department: Arms and Technology

Materials: Steele, Wood, Rubber, Fibre Unidentified

Service Component: Japanese Army

Measurements: Height 80.0 cm, Outside Diameter 120.0 cm

"Three hundred are known to have reached this continent. More than 80 landed in Canada, some as far east as Manitoba."

Canadian War Museum

[http://www.warmuseum.ca/collections/artifact/1040046/?media\\_irn=5483150](http://www.warmuseum.ca/collections/artifact/1040046/?media_irn=5483150)

On 5 May 1945, six picnickers were killed when they found a balloon bomb in the woods in near Bly, Oregon. They are the only known casualties.