

Source 1 (LAP 1/2/4)

Extract from a letter from Sir Lawrence Pattinson to his mother Mary Pattinson in which he comments on seeing his first "real live Hun" and chasing an enemy plane.

23 Aug 1915

Yesterday evening for the first time I encountered a real live Hun in the air needless to say higher and faster than we were so that effective 'strafing' was impossible. They ran and we after them for about 25 minutes but although a lot of shots were loosed off on both sides there seemed to be no damage done either way. It was quite exciting and the most amusing and interesting thing I have done in the flying line.

the

Key Words

Hun - a derogatory term used by British officers in the First World War to describe the German armed forces

Strafing - the military practice of attacking ground targets from low-flying aircraft using aircraft-mounted automatic weapons