

Air Minister Sir Kingsley Wood was at Kidbrooke in south-east London for a balloon barrage demonstration. Are we too close? We'll move back a bit. These floating sausages are part of the scheme for defending London against air raids in time of war. Steel chains, ~~practically invisible~~, hang a mile below each balloon --- no raiding plane could possibly get through. ~~However, the balloons themselves are bullet-proof.~~ <sup>Don't trust the string!</sup> The Air Minister has appealed for recruits for this service --- 5,000 are wanted to help make our capital safe, 1,500 of them in the Kidbrooke centre. ~~Don't trust the string!~~ ~~They're floating monsters, these balloons of London's aerial barrage.~~ ~~And it's a happy thought that they are purely weapons of defence.~~ Britain is the only country to possess such a defence plan, but a few more men are still needed to work it. It is particularly suitable service for men between the ages of 35 and 50.