

**AIR SERVICE BOYS FLYING
FOR FRANCE, OR, THE
YOUNG HEROES OF THE
LAFAYETTE ESCADRILLE**

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Air Service Boys Flying for France, or, the Young Heroes of the Lafayette Escadrille by Charles Amory Beach & Robert Gaston Herbert

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CHARLES AMORY BEACH & ROBERT GASTON HERBERT

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Blowing up the German munition factory

AIR SERVICE BOYS FLYING FOR FRANCE

OR

THE YOUNG HEROES OF THE
LAFAYETTE ESCADRILLE

BY

CHARLES AMORY BEACH

AUTHOR OF

"AIR SERVICE BOYS OVER THE ENEMY'S LINES"

ILLUSTRATED BY

ROBERT GASTON HERBERT

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BOOKS FOR BOYS

AIR SERVICE BOYS SERIES

By CHARLES AMORY BEACH

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AIR SERVICE BOYS FLYING FOR FRANCE

Or the Young Heroes of the Lafayette
Escadrille

**AIR SERVICE BOYS OVER THE ENEMY'S
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Or The Longest Flight on Record

GEORGE SULLY & CO.

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AIR SERVICE BOYS
FLYING FOR FRANCE

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AIR SERVICE BOYS FLYING FOR FRANCE

CHAPTER I

THE AIRPLANE CHUMS

"Now then, good luck to you, Tom! Tell me how it feels to look down on the world from the clouds."

"Oh, I expect to have a high old time, Jack—three thousand feet of it, in fact. And my nerves seem to be as steady as ever."

"You're a lucky boy, all right, to get this chance to try for altitude after being in the harness at the aviation field for only two months."

"But my instructor tells me I was born for the life of a birdman, Jack."

"I know you've talked, read, and dreamed of little else these two years back. And now, Tom, at last the germ has caught me almost as fiercely in its grip."

"Yes, old boy, it means the pair of us working tooth and nail now, learning to fly, so when the time comes, we can take our places for Uncle Sam in the great game. And it isn't going to be so very far off now, with that fearful war raging across the sea."

"Well, look out for yourself, Tom. I'm going

to keep you in focus with my binoculars every minute of the time. Whenever you take a dip my heart will jump right up into my throat, I know. Lieutenant Carson gave you a limit, of course?"

"I'm to keep one eye on my recording barometer, and when it registers a full three thousand feet in height I'm to commence to volplane down. And my instructor is a man whose orders you've got to obey to the letter."

"No trouble for you to do the trick, Tom, because you come of a family of inventors and dabblers in mechanics. It's different with me, for I have to pound things into this dull head of mine. I'll wait around till you drop down again."

"Wish you would, Jack, for I've got something to tell you; news that has been giving me something to worry about."

"I knew that letter you had must have contained bad news, Tom; and I've been waiting to hear you say something about it. There! Lieutenant Carson is waving his hand for you to get a move on. I envy you, that's a fact. So-long, Tom."

Another minute, and the airplane in which Tom Raymond sat was trundling along over the even surface of the aviation field, gaining speed as its engine warmed to the work.