



Who's Who of Ballooning

By Ecbert Eecks

TROTTER, Frank A. USA #-1051 (1901-1942) K (GB)

See APPENDIX-AH/AR. Sport balloonist 1930-40 era.

b: 26 Feb.1901 Talihina, OH;

d: 8 Jun.1942 Atlantic Ocean.

e: U.S.Naval Academy at Annapolis.

s: Officer in the U.S.Navy, Balloon & Airship pilot & instructor; outstanding airship career.

p: Airship pilot for Goodyear 1930-40; Goodyear representative in the "Hindenberg," 1936.

f: Received B-Training at Goodyear-Akron, OH.

l: 1930, Aide (w/BLAIR) in U.S.National B-Race, placed First; Aide in U.S.National B-Race 1930, 32, & 33; 1936, Pilot (w/Smith) in U.S.National B-Race, placed First. ***Epic flight 4 Jul.1936 (w/V.SMITH) from Denver, CO. Flight in the U.S.National B-Elimination Race ended with a landing near Presho North Dakota, giving him the winning distance of 115 miles. The shortest distance ever recorded for a winner. ***Epic flight 8 Jun.1942 (w/4-crew) from Lakehurst, NJ in "Defender." Airship (L-2) on a night search mission, collided with another airship (G-1). Entire crew was killed. NOTE: reports indicate the crew consisted of several civilian scientists; the mission was to test a new method of detecting submarines with light emitting explosives.

r: BF-S/O 1984p11.