

# Death Rocket Rains Fiery Metal

## A Terrific New Weapon of Defense against Air Attacks



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The new death-dealing rocket in the hands of its inventor, Ernest Welsh, of East Yorkshire, England. In place of the stick commonly used at the base of rockets are three vanes carefully made and adjusted to insure accurate flight. Mr. Welsh claims that the rocket, propelled by successive charges, can climb to a height of five miles



Our artist's conception of how batteries of the rockets might be used effectively by the defenders of a besieged city to throw up a heavy barrage of flaming metal against attacking air forces



Below: Preparing to discharge the death rocket from its launching cradle. The rocket is three feet long and contains a destructive charge of pellets which, on bursting, throw out a shower of molten metal

## How a Rocket Barrage Might Shower Molten Destruction in the Sky

**R**IVALING the widely discussed "death ray" of H. Grindell Matthews, a terrific new weapon of offensive and defensive warfare recently has been developed in the form of a "death rocket" designed to throw out a flaming shower of molten metal miles above the earth's surface. The inventor is Ernest Welsh of North Ferriby, East Yorkshire, England.

From demonstrations and descriptions of the new war machine by Mr. Welsh, our artist has drawn the dramatic picture above, showing how the defenders of a city might repel an attack from the air by raining flaming molten pellets on the invaders. The inventor's recent experiments with medium-sized rockets is said to have proved that

each shower, bursting high in the air, can cover an area of 100 square yards, and can ignite any object within that region. The experimental rockets, it is claimed, can climb to a height of five miles.

The rocket contains a destructive charge of 700 pellets, a regulating charge, a detonator, and a propelling charge. When it is to be sent aloft, it rests in a diagonal launching cradle, somewhat similar to those used for ordinary sky-rockets. When the fuse is ignited, the propelling charge sends the rocket soaring out of its cradle. Thereafter, at regular intervals, it is given fresh impetus by the bursting of additional successive charges.

**F**OR use as defense against raiding aircraft, the inventor says that batteries of the rockets could be shot upward in the form of a barrage. The pellets quickly burn themselves out, he adds, so that the rockets could be used over a city.

Mr. Welsh is at work on a modification of the same weapon that can be fired from airplanes or airships, falling about 300 feet before bursting.

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