

PIONEERS OF AVIATION

The Story of Aviation From its Beginnings to the Wright Brothers

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CHAPTER I  
Introduction

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Two years ago the entire country celebrated the 50th Anniversary of Powered Flight. One does not realize the great part airplanes play in our daily existence.

There has been handed down to us a great number of legends and myths telling of man's constant dream to fly. Ever since Adam and Eve man has looked wonderingly to the air and has tried to design an apparatus or means for him to fly as a bird.

As you know man's dream came completely true when on a cold December morning in the year of 1903 at a remote spot in North Carolina called Kitty Hawk, the Wright Brothers became the first men to fly in a heavier-than-air machine.

But the story of man's ancient dream goes back far beyond the time of the Wright Brothers to the stages of the balloons and gliders. Just think of the hundreds and thousands of men who kept trying until two of them finally succeeded.

This term paper lists just a few of the more important men who have contributed by experimenting their knowledge, ideas and theories to the world's Aviation. These great, unhonored men, who received no glory for their efforts, left off where the Wright Brothers began.

My story ends where the story of the Wright Brothers begins. It does not include the Wright Brothers because that is a story in itself.

Many of the men listed here accomplished some great feats after the invention of the airplane. These feats are listed under the paragraphs on these men.