

THE MONTCLAIR BIRD CLUB

QUIZ 160

October 30, 2022

Why were parrots kept in the Eiffel Tower during World War I?



Lilac-crowned Parrot

Link to ponder: An early traveler in [New Jersey and Pennsylvania](#).

THE ANSWER IS ON THE NEXT PAGE

Parrots were used in World War One because they have amazing hearing ability.

Sitting atop the Eiffel tower these feathered little soldiers had a special ability and an important duty. During World War I, parrots were enlisted due to their superior hearing ability, to detect any incoming aircraft long before any human could pick up the sound. The Parrots were trained to loudly squawk if any aircraft was heard coming, and amazingly they could detect them coming from 20 miles away! These beautiful and colorful birds were able to pick up the sounds of many different aircrafts such as biplanes, Boeings, helicopters and even blimps!

Alas, they eventually stopped the project because as amazing as these Parrots were, the only thing they couldn't detect with their amazing hearing ability was if the aircraft was German or Allied.



Orange-winged Parrots

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Southwest Wings

