The Golden Jubilee of Aviation (2082) 15th Dec. 53

The loud and insistent impact of supersonic flight on the world to-day, makes it hard to realise that, only fifty years ago, man was making his first halting attempts to fly. This was when the Wright Brothers flew forty yards, ten feet above the ground in North Carolina, in 1903... HALF A CENTURY AGO — AND THE FIRST POWERED FLIGHT.

Six years later, the famous Frenchman, Blériot, flew the channel, in 37 minutes, helped by a rain-storm that conveniently cooled his over-heated engine...

Men had taken up the challenge of the air. Flight became not only a past-time - but a service - embracing the four corners of the earth... 1914 - and [redacted], the needs of war brought progress. Instead of dropping hand grenades - a real bomber was evolved. The pilot's revolver was replaced by an air-gunner. [redacted]

The Navy began catapulting [redacted] planes into the air. Yes, even in the first World War...

Yet, perhaps, it was the peace-time flight of Alcock and Whitten-Brown, who crashed in Ireland, after flying the Atlantic, that marked the turning point of aviation. A new horizon loomed for man - the conquest of distance. Individual feats BLAZED THE TRAILS. [redacted]. In 1928, Bert Hinkler flew [redacted] solo from Croydon to Australia in 15½ days. (2) [redacted]

Into the 1930's, [redacted] with Imperial Airways Regular Passenger and Air Mail services - [redacted] setting a new standard in passenger comfort.

The problems of distance and petrol-consumption were first overcome by the [redacted] pick-a-back plane, which made the first commercial crossing of the Atlantic.

World War II. And again, [redacted] aviation made great strides. The Spitfire and Hurricane became the speedy chariots of "the Few" [redacted] living their "finest hour". MAGNIFICENT FIGHTERS [redacted] that [redacted] were, in part, developed from the racing seaplanes which won the Schneider Cup Trophy outright - many years before [redacted] Towards the end of the war came planes which launched [redacted] the jet age in the days of peace. Now the problem of consumption was answered by mid-air refuelling.

Sheet Two

2082

(~~The~~) Factories were turned over to Civil needs and produced the "Comet jet-liner". After eighteen months of service, still without an equal on the skyways of the world.

IN 1953 [redacted], both the "Swift" and the Hunter" have ~~held~~ held the world air speed record...

Speeds of 700-plus called for new designs to withstand the immense strain. Prototypes appeared - featuring revolutionary wing-structures FOR [redacted] the planes of the future.

And high above their memorial in North Carolina, the world of aviation ~~salutes the pioneers of flight, Wilbur and Orville Wright~~

~~salutes [redacted] the [redacted] pioneers of [redacted]~~ SALUTES THE PIONEERS OF THAT FIRST FLIGHT FIFTY YEARS AGO.