

LB 2496

America: Rising with the sun at Ontario, California, four Voodoo reconnaissance aircraft roared away - bound for New York, in a non-stop coast-to-coast flight.

Two of the jets have a longer mission. They're making a round trip - flying non-stop to New York and back...so they refuel en route - an operation carried out at \pm 35,000 feet.

These reconnaissance jets can top one thousand miles an hour - ~~so~~^{so} the leading plane reached New York in three hours five and a half minutes - a new West to East record.

After circling the Floyd Bennett airfield, two streak back towards the West - racing to get home before the sun sets...

The race is won. The round trip takes six hours forty-two minutes.

California to New York and back - and home before sun-set...

Three trans-America speed records were broken.

With increasing aircraft-speed making fighter interception difficult - Britain is hastening plans for push-button defence.

This is the English Electric "Thunderbird" - a ground-to-air guided missile ~~(scheduled for the Army and Air Force)~~ during recent tests on the Woomera Rocket Range, in Australia.

The actual test was the interception of a single target aircraft... and ~~the~~^{soon} the Thunderbird jettisons its booster rockets.

Now the missile is deliberately set off-course to prove that the guidance-system can master any evasive action... by the target.

~~Interception~~
~~despite the fact that the missile is still top security, it is~~
~~importantly at 50,000 feet.~~

On this occasion, no war-head was fitted, but the Thunderbird destroyed the target by a direct hit ~~mainly used to defend Britain.~~