

5-FFS101

BEHIND THE NEWS

AIR SPEED RECORD - THE INSIDE STORY

In the news are Britain's high-speed record flights. Here, we take you behind the headlines to the inside story of jet propulsion. Into a world of mechanical wonders. A world where precision is measured in a fifty-thousandth of an inch. From the young men of Britain comes the craftsman's skill of their fathers and the scientific knowledge won in wartime's seven-year race to mechanized perfection. Split second bursts across the measured mile of sky are made possible here. Rolls Royce Derwent engineers, the Supply Minister's Farnborough's research station and aircraft builders of the Gloster Meteor jet open their secrets to the camera.

Test after test. At 600 miles an hour a slip in manufacture spells death to a pilot. Britain's young men plan to lead the world in jet propulsion.

Men like H. G. Wells once dreamed of the triumph of a scientific age. That age is here now. And Britain (which the world once thought finished) leads the race to outstrip the speed of sound.

At Farnborough wind tunnel, where design and construction are planned under industry's keenest eyes.

This is the story behind that of the fastest man on earth. To give you an experts brief comment we bring the Director of the National Gas Turbine Establishment, Dr. Roxbee-Cox,