

WHOLE WORLD COMES WITHIN ATOM RANGE

On a lonely Texas airfield, fourteen American airmen prepare for a flight that is to make history. Their mission - to fly round the world - non stop. Their trip is shrouded in wartime-like secrecy and there is no publicity fanfare as "Lucky Lady" - the latest type of Superfortress - takes off. Key to the mission's success is mid-air refuelling. Fortresses, converted into flying petrol stations, meet the "Lucky Lady" at pre-selected rendezvous and (while the big plane keeps on its course) pump in thousands of gallons. A British invention, the refuelling operation's details are kept a secret by the U.S. Air Force. Once passed over, the petrol line, which streams out of the tanker's tail, is hauled aboard through the tail turret.

Flying a course that keeps her well clear of Russian territory, "Lucky Lady" makes four aerial refuelling dates - over the Azores and Saudi Arabia (both at night) the Phillipines at dusk and Hawaii at dawn. After 23,452 non-stop miles, she flashes triumphantly across the finish line. Air Force high-ups watch her touch down at the same airfield, just four days after taking off.

The record-breaking flight brings the whole world within range of American-based, atom-bomb carrying Superforts. The Western World's first line of defence now circles the globe.