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Cleveland

TRAGEDY MARKS U.S. AIR SHOW

A sky-full of Superforts leads an Air Force salute to the National Air Races in Cleveland.

Then come the intercontinental B-36's.

The huge crowd sees the famed Air Force "Aerojets" put their F-80 jets through incredible precision patterns.

And the Vampires, Canada's crack exhibition team, take over where the Aerojets left off.

Now comes the Navy's turn.

The exhibition flying winds up as Air Force F-86 Sabres, the fastest thing on wings, strut their amazing stuff.

The three-day air show reaches its climax in the Thompson Trophy Race - this year flown over a widened course to eliminate sharp turns and increase safety. But a first-lap report sends cameramen racing for Berea, twelve miles away - where Captain Bill Odom, round-the-world flier, crashes at four hundred miles an hour, killing himself, a young mother and her infant son. As these pictures were made, the race itself is ending. Cook Cleland, averaging nearly four hundred miles an hour, wins what may be - because of the tragedy - the last of the Thompson Trophy Races.