

27th May, 1957.

EMBARGO. ON NO ACCOUNT TO BE RELEASED BEFORE THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE OFFICIAL COMMUNIQUE REPORTING THE SECOND NUCLEAR TEST EXPLOSION.

FILM OF BRITAIN'S FIRST NUCLEAR TEST EXPLOSION. DOPE SHEET.

BRITAIN'S SECOND NUCLEAR TEST EXPLOSION NEAR CHRISTMAS ISLAND, CENTRAL PACIFIC, HAS JUST BEEN ANNOUNCED.

THIS FILM SHOWS THE FIRST EXPLOSION WHICH TOOK PLACE ON 15th MAY, 1957.

THE BOMB CONTAINING THE NUCLEAR DEVICE WAS DROPPED FROM A VALIANT AIRCRAFT OF THE R.A.F. IN CLEAR WEATHER IN AN AREA CAREFULLY CHOSEN TO AVOID ANY DANGER TO INHABITED AREAS, SHIPPING AND AIRCRAFT.

THE EXPLOSION TOOK PLACE HIGH IN THE AIR OVER THE SEA. FALL-OUT WAS INSIGNIFICANT, AND SAFETY ARRANGEMENTS WERE ENTIRELY SUCCESSFUL. OFFICIAL OBSERVERS FROM CANADA, AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND AND FROM THE U.S.A. WITNESSED THE EXPLOSION FROM A SHIP OF THE TASK FORCE.

THE FILM IS 285 ft. LONG AND COMPRISES SIX SHOTS TAKEN ALTERNATELY FROM THE GROUND AND FROM A SHACKLETON AIRCRAFT.

THE FLASH OF THE EXPLOSION WAS TOO BRILLIANT TO BE FACED. THOSE PRESENT MANY MILES DISTANT FROM IT, WITH BACKS TURNED, SENSED ITS INTENSITY THROUGH CLOSED EYELIDS.

THE BALL OF FIRE SEEN IN THE SECOND SHOT IS WHAT MET THE EYES OF SPECTATORS WHEN THEY TURNED TEN SECONDS AFTER THE EXPLOSION. ITS BASE WELL ABOVE THE SEA AND RISING RAPIDLY, THIS ENORMOUS FIERY SPHERE CHANGED SWIFTLY INTO A CAULDRON OF COPPERY RED.

SUCCEEDING SHOTS SHOW THE BIZARRE IMPRESSIVE SHAPE TAKEN UP BY THE WHITE CLOUD THAT FOLLOWED THE EXPLOSION AND THE STEM THAT FORMED BELOW IT.

FINALLY, THE CLOUD FLATTENED OFF AND THE STEM DISAPPEARED. BRITAIN HAD SIGNALLED TO THE WORLD HER EMERGENCE AS A TOP-RANKING POWER OF THE NUCLEAR AGE.

*Handwritten:* No Shots to be taken!

*Handwritten:* [Signature]