

BRITAIN'S ROCKET PROGRESS.

This is the Bristol-Ferranti Bloodhound - Britain's foremost ground-to-air missile, now in quantity production for the R.A.F. It's powered by four booster rockets and a built-in ram-jet.

The booster rockets build up the missile's speed, then drop away, leaving the Bloodhound to hunt down its quarry automatically.

On the Test Bed at De Havilland's, a new British rocket engine - the Spectre.

The powerful little Spectre - it's only 56 by 32 inches - is designed as a booster for turbo-jet aircraft. And not only a take-off booster; it can be switched on and off during flight, whenever its help is wanted - and it can operate at full thrust for several minutes.

Here's the inside of the Spectre. It runs on a mixture of hydrogen peroxide and kerosene - which simplifies fuel supply, for kerosene is the fuel used by turbo-jet engines. And here's the Super-Sprite, a rocket booster which can be jettisoned by an aircraft after take off.

An Australian missile which is still so secret it hasn't even got a name. It's a short-range anti-tank weapon, used like field artillery fired over open sights - but accurate within inches!

And here's the Royal Artillery's ground-to-air missile the English-Electric Thunderbird. Simple to assemble and operate, the Thunderbird does a similar job to the R.A.F's Bloodhound - but unlike the rocket-and-jet Bloodhound, it's an all-rocket affair. The Army's ack-ack weapons have to be mobile, and the Thunderbird can be brought into action wherever it's needed.

The Thunderbird's launching ramp is laid on a bearing and angle transmitted from the radar set, and the missile's fired. Like the Bloodhound, it seeks out the target by its own electronic brain.

There is no escape from these latest additions to Britain's rocket armoury.