

NEWS OF THE DAY

LABORATORY ORDER NO. *SECRET*

CAMERA MAN'S DOPE SHEET

CAMERA MAN _____

SOUND MAN _____

CREW NO. _____

DATE & LOCATION *Frank Vail*

FOOTAGE _____

Sept. 15th 1950 Wendover, Utah.

500' EK 5250 color neg.

"BLUEBIRD SPEED TRIAL ENDS IN WRECK"

LIGHT CONDITIONS

flat -

QUALITY OF SOUND

silent

An accurate description of each individual scene including names of persons figuring therein is necessary.

In group shots always give names from left to right, making certain they are spelled correctly.

Give phonetic pronunciation of all doubtful proper names.

Send all newspaper clippings or other information.

In an attempt to set a new land speed record, Donald Campbell brings his 4½ million dollar bluebird racer to the salt flats of Utah. Utmost care of the car is taken, and a very careful preliminary preparation is underway. Housed in an unused hangar at the Wendover Bombing Range, the Bluebird is given every attention. Finally, it is moved out onto a lorry, and taken to the course on the salt flats. Several trial runs are made at low speeds 100 to 200 m.p.h., and then some adjustments were made. At 1 am on Sept. 16th, the car is made ready for a dawn run, just at sunrise, Donald Campbell speeds thru the measured mile at his highest speed to date, 250 m.p.h. Then, on the return trip, at about 4 miles from his southbound start, the car goes out of control, and in seconds it is skidded to its end, smashed, wheels gone. Campbell suffered only a few cuts and bruises, and was rushed to a hospital immediately. Press cars were frozen to their positions by the police and race officials, and no fots of Campbell or his release from the car were allowed. A few bits of the car at rest were all we could grab, before they closed off the area. The actual spin-out was out of sight of any of our camera positions. It had been planned that closeup shots of the car, cockpit, Campbell entering, etc., was to have been permitted at the end of this fatal south run, having been prohibited prior to this for reasons best known to the race officials, but at a meeting had agreed the night before to grant us 15 minutes at the south end - but the car, or Campbell never made it.

WHEN AND HOW SHIPPED:-

With 1 to 5 EK Color Neg. 5250. Bluebird is taken out of hangar and the crew poses with it, along with all the vehicles of the project. High shots, low shots etc. Bluebird is taken to the salt flats on a huge trailer or truck. Taken off and placed under a protective canopy. First trials on the course, with a run in each direction. (late afternoon Sept. 15) Dawn run Sept. 17th south to north at 250 m.p.h. Observer on course charts car as it roars by, talks on phone. Scene of wreck. Various shots of the wrecked Bluebird from different angles, showing damage, skid marks, the safety belt that probably saved Campbell's life. Long shots as mechanics look it over, etc. Police car barring way to where other debris thrown from car is along the skid mark, tires, parts, etc., we were told that we could not make pics of this area, and under the circumstances (we actually working for the project) did not force the matter.

REMARKS:

this color material made for ~~the project~~ I believe British Pathé - Norm Al READ CAREFULLY

clips enclosed....

- has this information.
Be sure this dope sheet is accurate and shipped, in duplicate, with the negative. Shipments should be made via Air Express addressed to News of the Day, 450 West 56th Street, New York 19, N. Y.

Film Title: ~~URAN~~Story: \$4,500,000. BLUEBIRD NEARLY TOTAL LOSS AFTER
300 MPH CRACKUPFootage: 20
Time: 33sec.

<u>SC NO</u>	<u>TL FT</u>	<u>TL TM</u>	<u>SC TM</u>	<u>P I X</u>	<u>N A R R A T I O N</u>
A.	2	3	3	(TITLE)	
1.	6	9	6	BLUEBIRD IN ON TRUCK	The sleek four and a half million dollar
2.	8	13	4	CU SAME	Bluebird the second arrives at the
3.	10	17	4	SHADOW S.	Bonneville Salt Flats in Western Utah for
4.	12	20	3	CU TRAVEL SIDE OF ROAD	trial runs before ace speedster Donald
5.	14	22	2	LS WRECKD CAR	Campbell tries to establish a new land
6.	15	25	3	MS SAME	record. In its second test, the three
7.	17	28	3	CU COCKPIT	thousand horsepower gas-turbined machine
8.	18	30	2	CU WHEELS	hits three hundred miles an hour, plus,
9.	20	33	3	LS GROUP	but, the Bluebird goes into a spin for a
					half mile and winds up as almost a total
					loss. Campbell, fortunately, makes out a
					bit better than his car--with cuts,
					bruises and a hairline fracture to show
					for the accident. Anybody interested in
					a good used car?