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"METEOR" BEATS HEIGHT RECORD

At Hereford Valence, Gloucester, test pilot Richard Frickett waits whilst a Royal Aero Club official fixes the mechanism which will start the camera that's to film the height readings. The camera is put in position and when connections are made, the compartment is sealed, ready for Flight Lieutenant Frickett to attack the speed-of-climb record.

From a standing start the Sapphire jets - most powerful in the world - take the Meteor nearly seven-and-a-half miles high in a little over three minutes (nearly seven times as fast as the old Spitfires!), shattering four world records.