

TALKING PLANES

The "voice flight" of the R.A.F. in Malaya recently made its 10,000th broadcast. Each of the planes carries four loudspeakers mounted under its belly, and flying low and very slowly over the jungle, plays a tape recording of its message.

The aircraft used are Dakotas flown at 2,500 feet and at almost stalling speed to reduce engine noise. The loudspeakers' range is 2,500 yards, and the voice speaks in low, measured tones for a period of 30 seconds. Every word is heard clearly on the ground.

The planes have broadcast to terrorists, calling on them to surrender, have given messages to Army patrols, and not long ago made an appeal to Malayan Aborigines for information about a spotter aircraft that was thought to have crash-landed in the interior. Hundreds of replies came from the primitive jungle-dwellers who had heard the appeal in their own language.

Toad in the cellar

For 20 years Riccomini, a toad, has lived in the cellar in a farm at Tenterden, Kent. But Riccomini had to wait until the other day before he went to school. He was wanted for a natural history exhibition at a Cranbrook school, and the family pet was carried there in a plastic bag.

Riccomini has the house cellar all to himself and lives on a diet of flies.

House in the Clouds



This strange dwelling facing the sea at Thorpeness, Suffolk, is known locally as the House in the Clouds.

LONG FLIGHT

A petrel recovered from the water at Albany, Western Australia, bore a tag marked "Inform Falkland Islands Dependencies Survey, British Museum of Natural History, London." The bird must have flown 12,000 miles.

Free trips to Ceylon

A big adventure awaits the four young winners of this year's Brooke Bond National Travel Scholarships. They are due to leave by Comet from London Airport on 2nd August for 16 days in Ceylon.

The winners are Angela Gallon, aged 18, of Reading; James Malpress, 15, of Belfast, who won travel scholarships with paintings; and May Jones, of Aberystwyth, and Andrew Gilliam, of Guernsey, both 17, with essays.

The sightseeing of Ceylon will include ancient cities in the jungle, a tea estate 6,000 feet up in the mountains, and the annual Buddhist Festival at Kandy.

New Ship for the Sea Rangers

Princess Margaret, the Chief Ranger, is to name the Sea Rangers' new training ship at Dartmouth on 28th July. The vessel served in the Royal Navy as a motor anti-submarine boat.

One important item is being transferred to the new vessel from a former motor-torpedo boat. This is a piece of bulkhead bearing the signatures of the Queen and Princess Margaret written during their week's seamanship training on board in 1946.

The new boat, like the old one, is on permanent loan from the Admiralty.

Posted from the driver's seat



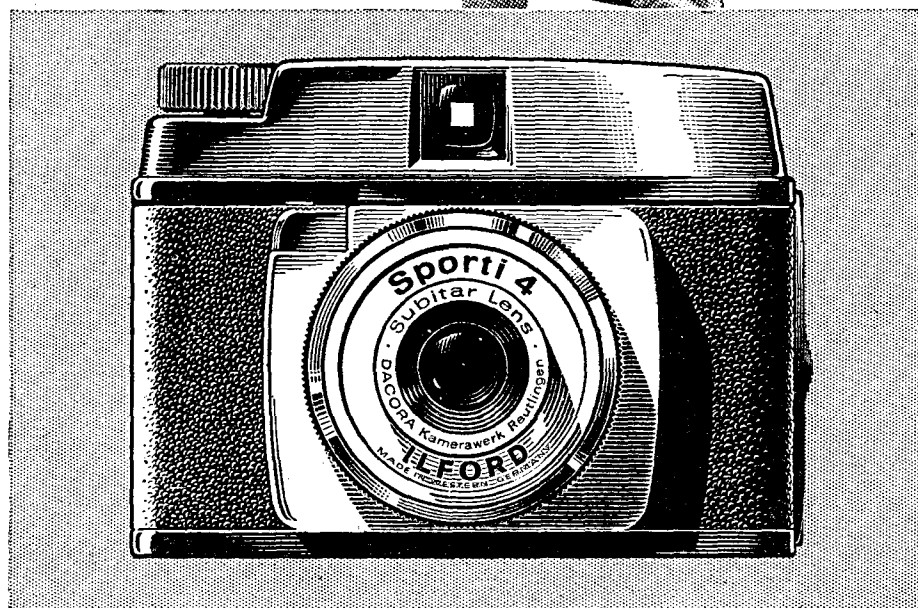
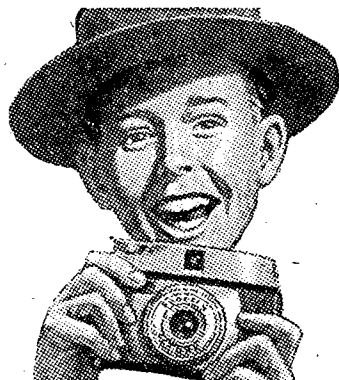
The Post Office authorities are trying a new service of special use to motorists. At Luton, Bedfordshire, they have set up a frame which contains a letter box and slot machines delivering stamps, stamped envelopes, letter-cards, and postal orders. The machines are interchangeable and others, delivering different items, could be put in if needed.

For model-makers

Plastic modellers everywhere will be interested in the new monthly magazine *Airfix*. Profusely illustrated, it deals with every aspect of their fascinating hobby, and welcomes letters and photographs from readers.

Airfix is obtainable for a shilling from model shops and from Woolworth's.

SPOT ON with the ILFORD Sporti 4



This new 'Sporti 4' is certainly some camera. A really smart job, strongly made, with a big eye-level viewfinder. Even if you've never had a camera before, you can't go wrong with the Ilford 'Sporti 4'. In daylight, set the aperture to SUNNY or CLOUDY and squeeze the button.

And you can easily take flash pictures, too, with the 'Sporti 4'. You get twelve pictures from every roll of 127 film. Spot-on—every time. What a wonderful present the 'Sporti' would make! Or you could soon save your pocket money and buy it yourself—it'll give you a lifetime of fun, and it costs so little.

ILFORD SELOCHROME PAN

That's the film to ask for—whether you have a 'Sporti 4' or any other roll-film camera. Selochrome Pan is the all-purpose film made by Ilford, who also make the special films for nuclear research. So remember always to say "Ilford Selochrome Pan, please".

You'll get super pictures with this classy camera

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