



## **Discarded weapons kick-start Britain's space program**

Clip courtesy of British Pathe.

*NEWSCASTER:*

Zero hour at Woomera, South Australia. Black Knight, Britain's first space rocket, had its cables released and was all set for the take off.

The Australian Ministry of Supply cooperated with another country on an adventure. The cost up to this stage between four and five million pounds.

The chequered history of space rockets posed the question to all present: Would the attempt succeed? A few seconds later Black Knight was airborne.

It was a triumph for all concerned. The research rocket went 300 miles up and the nose cone was recovered about 50 miles away at the expected spot. It was a brilliant beginning of the commonwealth campaign for the exploration of space.