

DELTA CV-880 SETS NEW SPEED RECORD OVER SOUTHERN TRANSCONTINENTAL ROUTE



Before CV-880 takes off Convair president J. V. Naish, left, presents golden key to pilot's compartment to Delta president C. E. Woolman. Stewardess Maryanne Kowaleski looks on with admiration.

This is the moment. Official of the National Aeronautic Association clocks take-off of CV-880 as it begins Southern Transcontinental speed run.



▲ At 1:11 P.M. Friday, February 10, Delta's first CV-880 lifted off the ground at Lindbergh Field San Diego on delivery flight. Exactly three hours, 31 minutes and 54 seconds later, it whistled by the Miami control tower and a new Southern Transcontinental speed record was set.

Delta thus became the world's first airline to take delivery of the world's fastest airliner.

The day before President C. E. Woolman officially received the CV-880 at Convair's San Diego plant. The plane was christened simultaneously by Miss Leona McCurdy ("Miss San Diego of 1960") and stewardess Maryanne Kowaleski with bottles of mixed waters gathered from the oceans, bays and



rivers throughout the system.

Hitting a top ground speed of 779 miles per hour between El Paso and San Antonio, Texas, the CV-880 averaged 665 miles per hour on the historic 2359 mile flight across the continent. The flight slashed by 27 minutes the previous Southern Transcontinental record set by a Douglas DC-8 from Santa Monica to Miami in January.

In Miami the CV-880 was met by city representatives and a crowd of several hundred spectators eager for a look at the all-white 615 MPH "Delta Queen." Following arrival ceremonies the 880 sped on to Atlanta for yet another enthusiastic reception in what was a mighty full day for this youngest addition to the Delta fleet.



Miss Leona McCurdy, "Miss San Diego of 1960" christens the 880 with a bottle of water that blended samples from water sources throughout the Delta system.



1st CV-880 draws up to ramp at Miami following record breaking flight across the continent.



Flight crew of maiden CV-880 flight pose in Atlanta before placard proclaiming the undisputed speed champion. From left: Captain J. H. Longino, Stewardess Maryanne Kowaleski, Captain T. P. Ball, and 1st officer R. E. Tidwell.