

Birkenhead: Nearly five years ago, Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother launched a new aircraft-carrier at the Cammell-Laird Shipyards. To-day, the "Ark Royal", ~~the~~ bearer of a proud name in Naval history, is commissioned - ready to begin sea-going trials.

Over thirty-six thousand tons of British skill and ~~enterprise~~ ^{INVENTION}, this "floating airfield" (from the crew's quarters to the sick bays) incorporates the many lessons learned at sea during World War Two. and to lead the Navy into the hydrogen-bomb era - the Ark Royal ~~ix~~ can operate within a radio-active area - sailing by remote-control - her crew adequately protected in closed compartments.

Yet side by side with modern development lives the tradition of the past. The story of brave ships. The first Ark Royal helped to defeat the Spanish Armada. And in the last war, the third Ark Royal won undying fame for her battle exploits in the Mediterranean.

^{THEN IN} ~~the~~ November 1941 ~~the~~ tragic communique.

(SOUND EFFECT)

SOUND - COMMUNIQUE

The Ark Royal (sunk so many times by Nazi ^{WAS NO MORE} propaganda) ~~had~~ gone; but the imperishable spirit of her crew lived on.

~~And the new Ark Royal, the fourth of the name and greatest of the line, was this company - described by their commander as "one of the finest that ever put to sea" - the fourth of the name and greatest of the line.~~

^{So} ~~as~~ the new Ark Royal goes into service, ^{WITH} her Commander, Captain Cambell and other survivors of that war-time company, (described by their then Commander as "one of the finest ^{CREWS} that ever put to sea"), ~~go with her.~~
God Speed Ark Royal - the fourth of the name and greatest of the line.