

QUEEN DEPARTS FOR ROYAL TOUR.

At London Airport, the giant B.O.A.C. Stratocruiser "Canopus" is ready for a royal mission - to fly Her Majesty the Queen to the most distant corners of her Commonwealth. The royal car arrives after a drive through London from the Palace. Arc lights blaze down on the scene as cameras record this historic moment. A solemn black cat provides an unexpected omen of good luck as, escorted by B.O.A.C. chairman, Sir Miles Thomas, the Queen walks to the shining silver and white aircraft that is to take her to Bermuda, the first stage of her 50,000 mile tour.

The Queen Mother and Princess Margaret walk with the Duke of Edinburgh to say their last farewells in the privacy of the aircraft. Earlier in the evening, Prince Charles and Princess Anne said goodbye to their parents before the Queen and Prince Philip journeyed through crowd-packed London streets to the airport.

The Queen, who wears a powder-blue three-quarter length coat with matching hat, waves to the crowd as she enters the doorway of Canopus to begin the 4,800 mile flight to the West Indies.

During the journey the Duke, a fully qualified pilot, is expected to take the controls of the 60 ton aircraft. Above the cockpit the Royal Standard flies for the last time in Britain until Her Majesty returns home in May.

The Queen Mother and Princess Margaret leave the aircraft: the moment of departure of near. Canopus is already sixteen minutes behind schedule owing to the huge crowds which delayed the Royal car as it drove to the airport.

A final wave and, out of sight of the crowds, Sir Winston Churchill, who likened the tour to the epic voyage of the Golden Hind, leads the Queen's ministers in a farewell cheer.

The royal party waits only twenty yards away as the pilot, Captain Lorrains, taxis the great aircraft out to the runway. With Canopus go the wishes of all in Britain: "Good Luck, and God Speed"