

The Liner Queen Elizabeth Sails From Here; May Carry Anzac Air Recruits to Canada

The great 85,000-ton liner Queen Elizabeth, the largest and probably the fastest in the world, sailed out of New York harbor last night to join the company of merchant ships that have preceded her in His Majesty's service.

As the early dusk was settling down over the river, the ship's thunderous horns sounded over the city and the lines were released from the stringpiece at West Fiftieth Street. A traffic light on the river end of the pier turned green and two tugs of the Barrett Towing Company, with their hemp-covered bows muzzling against the graceful, raked bow, started churning the water in the slip.

The big ship, which came here eight months ago to tie up in safe waters, moved out into the stream under her own power.

Captain J. C. Townley, who brought the Elizabeth here in March, was on the bridge when she sailed. Harold Bennett, veteran purser of the Cunard White Star Line, was another officer. The ship came here with a crew of 378. She had 385 men on board ten days ago

and within the past few days about 80 or 100 men arrived from Canada to complete her crew. She had 10 deck officers and about 86 engineers under Chief Engineer William Sutcliffe.

On March 20 the new Cunarder Mauretania sailed from New York for war duty and was followed within twelve hours, on the following morning, by the big Queen Mary, the companion vessel with which the Queen Elizabeth was to have operated in a weekly service between New York and Southampton. Since their departure the two ships have been reported in transport service between Australia and the Near East.

At 5 P. M. she passed Quarantine and an hour later the marine ticker reported "clear Sandy Hook Bar." After that she disappeared into the night for an unknown destination.

Although British shipping circles maintained their customary silence regarding the ship's destination, it is understood that she will go to Australia and New Zealand to carry air recruits to western ports of Canada.