DUKE TOURS R.A.F. & U.S. AIR STATIONS

The A.O.C., Fighter Command, Air Marshal Boile, greeted the Duke of Edinburgh when he visited the Royal Canadian Air Force Station at Luffenham. The Canadian airmen mounted a very smart guard of honour. His Royal Highness was in the uniform of Marshal of the Royal Air Force and was making a tour of air stations. Lined up here were Sabre jets, fighter planes of the type which fought well in Korea. Their pilots proceeded to show their paces, executing a slow roll in formation.

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At the R.A.F. fighter station, Wattisham, the Duke saw Meteors in action.

At Brize Norton air station Americans showed the royal visitor some impressive bombers. General Selsir pointed out the giant B-36, which has 6 piston engines and 2 jet pods and is far and away the largest operational aircraft in production.

(pan) Very long range is given the B-36 by its enormous power. The B-50, rubbing along with merely four engines, is no midget either. Prize exhibit among transport planes is the Globemaster fimm C-124, which looks as if it might fly a small road convoy without difficulty. It can also be used as a troop carrier, capable of transporting 120-men 4000 miles.

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(down ramp) A majestic spectacle was provided by half a dozen B-36s in formation.

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The royal visitor to the air station must have received a strong impression of Allied air power. A sizeable deck-lift almost fits the Globemster to be a new sort of aircraft carrier.