

2065

How the great Air Race finished

16th Oct. 53

This is how the five Canberras flew across the Indian Ocean during the great Air Race to New Zealand. Four of them refuelled at the Cocos Islands - after a 1770-mile flight, including ^{No 3 -} the winning plane. But the No. 1 R.A.F. Canberra flew non-stop to Perth - a record 3,600 mile flight

~~ON THE LEFT OF THE RUNWAY IS~~ No. 3 Canberra (now lying in third place) ^{IS OFF AGAIN} ~~65~~ one of the two Australian entries. First to arrive at Cocos - it burst a tyre on landing and abandoned the race.

There were roughly 5,000 miles to go to Christchurch. And, with mechanical trouble delaying the leaders - Flight-Lieutenant Roland Burton landed at Harewood Airport, Christchurch, the winner by 41 minutes, of the world's longest air race.

It was 5-30 A.M. - the total flight from London had taken under 24 hours - and Mr Holland, the Prime Minister of New Zealand, was waiting to greet the

^{VICTORIOUS} ~~RA-F 3 CREW~~ ^{CREW...}

And Maoris, too, who performed a traditional dance of welcome (3)

And when the second plane landed, the two ^{CREWS} ~~CREWS~~ (after flying half-way round the world in a day) found time for a well-earned drink. 31