

Hampshire: Soon after dawn, an immense airlift began at Hurn Airport and Blackbushe, as Britain takes military precautions while seeking international agreement on the Suez Canal - at the conference table. And for these Infantrymen - it was an airlift in luxury - for they were travelling in turbo-prop Bristol Britannias of B.O.A.C. - ~~that were making~~ - making their first operational flight.

So the first Britannia took off - in a round-the-clock trooping operation that continued throughout the week - taking thousands of fully-trained troops to "somewhere in the Middle East".

In all - a total of sixty flights were made, with the troops enjoying a new standard in luxury transport for British servicemen.

~~A little different to the cattle trucks, in France, in 1914 - no doubt, thinks the Old Contemptible - but this is troop travel in the jet age - and here's a Britannia load of one hundred men - flying in comfort... Besides the Britannias, the men were also carried in Hermes and Viking aircraft - the chartered air fleet made short work of transporting the huge military force.~~

Meanwhile, British families who have been evacuated from the Canal Zone are settling down amid the peace and tranquility of Richmond Park...

The wives and children of technicians still in Egypt, they will stay here until they find suitable accommodation.

~~News~~ News from Cairo is that Egypt has refused to attend the London Conference, ~~while~~ Colonel Nasser has called up a million men - and he reviewed ~~units~~ detachments as they paraded through the City.

Holding a Press Meeting, the Egyptian President gave his reasons for refusing to attend the London Conference...and told the three hundred journalists present - his plans for a different Conference - embracing a wider selection of Nations.

But the London Meeting goes ahead as planned - with only two of the ~~twenty-four~~ <sup>-Greece and Egypt -</sup> countries invited, refusing invitations. Mr Krishna Menon - leader of the Indian delegation - arrives at London Airport ~~Followed~~ <sup>New Zealand's</sup> by Mr MacDonald - Minister of Defence, ~~representing New Zealand.~~

A warm welcome for Professor Cunha - the Foreign Minister of Portugal - Britain's oldest ally..

A Middle East representative - Dr. ~~Aligheli~~ Ardalan - Persia's Foreign Minister. /

Arriving in several planes - a huge delegation came from Moscow - composed ~~mainly~~ chiefly, of experts and advisers...on Middle East affairs...

The leader of the party making his first visit to Britain is Mr Shepilov - who succeeded Mr Molotov as the Soviet Foreign Minister. /

So Lancaster House becomes the centre of the most fateful Maritime Conference of modern times...with Britain leading the way, to secure international control, and a right of way for all Nations, through the Suez Canal ...for all time. /