

Yeovil: To a keen pilot, a tour of an aircraft factory with the biggest helicopter output in Europe - is a headline occasion.

Especially when he's invited to fly one of the latest machines in production. Prince Philip was visiting the Westland Aircraft Works - and the helicopter he flew was the "Wigeon" - a five-seater, now in production for the Royal Navy and civil airlines.

Travelling on to Filton, the Duke visited another busy ^{aircraft} centre of ~~aircraft~~ production - the home of the "Bristol Britannia" ^{1/5}

A sign of the times - the "Bloodhound" rocket is sharing the assembly workshops with the famous "Whispering Giant" - ~~which is~~ also in full production.

With rocket development monopolising the headlines, the U.S. Air Force Deputy Chief of Staff, General Le May, set out on a long-range mission from ~~Wastover, Massachusetts~~.

Piloting America's newest jet tanker, the General was flying to Buenos Aires, (6,350 miles non-stop), to prove that the bomber is still a vital defence need... ^{1/5}

After a record thirteen hour flight, the General Flew back to Washington - non-stop... A timely morale-booster that ^{has won him a decoration. /cae} ~~was the Distinguished Flying~~ Cross.

Our last aviation story features a new version of ground-air rescue.

On Georgetown Field, Delaware, Harry Conway prepares ^{for a daring test} ~~to take a test~~

~~wearing a specially-strengthened nylon rope~~
^{he wears} wearing a rescue harness - made from specially-strengthened nylon rope

And here comes a twin-engined amphibious plane to make a "snatch-rescue" at 150 miles per hour... ^{1/5}

Here's the actual moment of "rescue" again - with the camera slowed down

~~imagining the intense strain on Conway's face as he's yanked away~~

Watch the intense strain on Conway's face as he's yanked away into space - in a dramatic high-speed rescue. ^{1/5}