

WALSSENDPRINCESS LAUNCHES BRITAIN'S BIGGEST TANKER

Princess Margaret goes to Wallsend - famed shipyard town on Tyneside. Launching Britain's biggest oil tanker, the VELUTINA, is occasion for her visit - her first to Northumberland. The tanker is one of nine similar ships now building. A tenth is to be laid immediately in this same berth. When completed, they will carry 26,000 tons of crude oil from the Middle East to newly-built refineries in Britain. Royally launched, the VELUTINA glides down the slipway - the world's most-up-to-date tanker.

During the war years, Britain's tanker fleet carved a famous niche for itself in Mercantile history. In so doing, it suffered grievously. The giant VELUTINA, a steam-turbine tanker, will be a powerful addition to its depleted ranks.