

ROYAL TOUR BEGINS

At London Airport the B.O.A.C. strato-cruiser CANOPUS is ready. It's nearly midnight as the Royal party arrives, and leaving the King's bedside the Queen, with Princess Margaret, comes to speed Princess Elizabeth and the Duke of Edinburgh on their journey to Canada.

But for the King's operation, Princess Elizabeth would have travelled by sea. By deciding to fly, the Princess avoids extensive alterations to the five-weeks schedule planned for her and the Duke in Canada and the U.S.A. The fact that she is leaving on schedule is one more proof that the King is making good progress to complete recovery.

After the presentation of V.I.P.s by Sir Miles Thomas, head of B.O.A.C., the Queen goes ahead to inspect the Royal plane, which has been specially refitted for the trip. Now Princess Elizabeth and the Duke follow, and her Royal Highness's standard breaks at the jack-staff, as Princess Elizabeth goes onboard.

For Canada the Princess's trip is the end of long uncertainty. Eager as they were to welcome her Royal Highness, the people of Canada suggested postponement of her visit. Now, as the Princess enters CANOPUS their hopes come true. The Royal Tour is on ... a journey by air that makes Royal history.

The Queen and Princess Margaret leave ... only minutes to go now.

Take-off time is here ... The Queen waves ... somewhere in CANOPUS her daughter replies ... the gangway is drawn clear ... and the first air journey of a British heir apparent to one of the dominions is about to begin. The Queen walks clear ... to return in a few moments to her sick husband ... the engines start up ... and CANOPUS, with veteran chief pilot Captain O. P. Jones at the controls is on her way.

As we go to press, the Princess is reported safely in Canada, with a triumphant progress looming happily ahead.