

"DAM BUSTERS" PREMIERE

In London, the bright lights of Leicester Square receive an added glitter as personalities like Mr. Alexander Gibson - father of the real life hero of the film "Dam Busters" - arrives for the film's Royal Premiere.

The film tells the story of the air raid led by Wing Commander Guy Gibson (played by Richard Todd) on the great Ruhr Dams of Mohne and Sorpe.

Young star Janette Scott is given an enthusiastic welcome by the crowds who brave the rain to watch the personalities arrive.

Film and Television star Patrick Barr arrives at the theatre as Richard Todd chats to film industry executives. The camera follows Air Commodore Mills, new chief of Bomber Command.

*Marshal*  
Dr. Barnes Wallis, the inventor of the special dam-busting bomb, and Air Marshal Sir Robert Saundby and with Lady Saundby.

Chatting to Marshal of the Royal Air Force, Lord and Lady Tedder is Lord de L'Isle and Dudley, as the guests of honour arrives - Her Royal Highness Princess Margaret escorted by Mr. Billy Wallace.

Cheers and admiration greet the Princess who wears for the premiere a diamente embroidered strapless gown of heavy satin, under an ermine stole.

Princess Margaret does indeed present a radiant figure as she enters the theatre to meet Lord de L'Isle and Dudley, (who is Secretary of State for Air) And Lord and Lady Tedder.

Now Her Royal Highness meets the film industry executives who have helped organise the premiere or are connected with the film, while survivors of the real life dam-busters wait in the lounge to be presented.

An R.A.F. guard of honour lines the Princess's route through the theatre as she goes on to receive a bouquet from Susan Thorne, daughter of the secretary general of the Pathfinders Association. The Association, together with the Royal Air Force Association and other R.A.F. charities, will benefit by about £7,000 from tonight's show.

From Dr. Wallis, the Princess learns of the 5-ton bomb he invented to breach the dams - a crippling blow to the German war effort of which these men (actual survivors of the raid) can always be proud.

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The Princess's father, the late King George, personally decorated these men for their part in the raid - giving the V.C. to the leader Guy Gibson who was killed in the war and whose widow the Princess now meets.

A proud moment for the men of the dam-busting 617 squadron and those they left behind - their widows and mothers here tonight by special invitation.

A fitting commencement to the premiere of a film about their men's heroic exploits.

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