

Commissioned at Birkenhead --- is the newest Aircraft Carrier of the Royal Navy --- with an old name that revives a memory of imperishable glory: H.M.S. Ark Royal. Thirty six thousand eight hundred tons displacement --- length, over eight hundred feet. Her total complement will number over two thousand two hundred officers and ratings.

Ark Royal is the first aircraft carrier of the Royal Navy with all new post-war developments --- angled deck, steam catapult, mirror-sight.

~~She is the first aircraft carrier of the Royal Navy~~

*Her name recalls how*

--^ the old Ark Royal of the Second World War ~~that~~ was always in the height and heat of the battle; convoys; the killing of a battleship and four destroyers off Sardinia; helping to sink the Bismarck; until in the Mediterranean that saw her fiercest actions --- they finally got her. *The communique said:*

"The Board of Admiralty regrets to announce that the Aircraft Carrier H.M.S Ark Royal has sunk. She was in tow after having been torpedoed by a U-Boat".

The miracle was --- that of nearly sixteen hundred on board --- only one life was lost.

These officers of the new Ark Royal --- including her captain, Captain Dennis Campbell, D.S.C. --- were among those survivors in the winter of 1941. *Now* --- We wish God Speed to them --- and to all who sail in her.