

Mr Roper

Rota

15.11.52 - No. 3

VISIT OF H.M. THE QUEEN TO HOME AIR COMMAND

When H.M. the Queen visits the Home Air Command at Lee-on-Solent on ~~Friday next (November 21st)~~ she will arrive by train at Fort Brockhurst Station where she will be met by the Lord Lieutenant of Hampshire (His Grace the Duke of Wellington, K.G.) the First Lord of the Admiralty (the Rt. Hon. J.P.L. Thomas, M.P.), the Commander-in-Chief Portsmouth (Admiral Sir John Edelman, K.C.B., C.B.E.) and the Mayor of Gosport (Alderman C.B. Osborn, J.P.).

Her Majesty will proceed to the Royal Naval Barracks, Lee-on-Solent, by motor-car, being escorted by naval helicopters of No.705 Training Squadron. The Royal entourage will enter the Barracks by Albion Gate at 12.15 p.m. and proceed to a reception point near the Control Tower where Her Majesty will be received by the Flag Officer Air (Home) (Vice-Admiral G.E. Lamb, C.B., C.V.O.); a Royal guard of naval airmen will be mounted. Among senior officers to be presented to Her Majesty will be Rear-Admiral C.R.L. Parry, C.B., D.S.O., Flag Officer Ground Training; Rear-Admiral W.T. Couchman, D.S.O., O.B.E., Flag Officer Flying Training; Rear-Admiral (E) L.E. Rebbeck, Rear-Admiral Reserve Aircraft; and Commodore Sir Aubrey St. Clair Ford, Bart., D.S.O., Commodore of the Barracks.

Her Majesty, accompanied by the Flag Officer Air (Home) will subsequently drive slowly down the perimeter track and runway, passing officers and men of the Home Air Command, drawn from each of the 17 Naval Air Stations in Great Britain and Northern Ireland. She will also pass various types of aircraft parked on the edge of the runway and will leave her car to inspect a representative body of officers and men, including Squadron Commanders and ratings of all trades belonging to the Command. She will then proceed to the wardroom, where some Staff Officers and Commanding Officers of Naval Air Stations will be presented to her. Later she will lunch with the Flag Officer Air (Home) at the Admiral's house.

In the afternoon Her Majesty will watch a fly past of Squadrons of the Home Air Command from the control tower of the airfield.

The Queen will leave R.N. Barracks by the Argus Gate at 2.55 p.m. and will proceed to Fareham Station, passing H.M.S. COLLINGWOOD, the Naval Electrical School. Here the Royal car will make a detour to pass between ranks of the ship's company.

NOTICE TO NEWS EDITORS AND PICTURE EDITORS

A Royal Rota Press party, as is usual on such occasions, will follow closely behind Her Majesty during her visit.

There will also be arrangements for other Press representatives to cover either

- (a) Her Majesty's reception on arrival, or
- (b) at a point during her inspection.

These positions will be static and not close-up and one Pressman will not be able to cover both. Choice of positions can be made after arrival at Lee.

- (c) After leaving H.M.S. DAEDALUS and on her way to Fareham Station, Her Majesty will pass H.M.S. COLLINGWOOD the Naval Electrical School, where a guard will be drawn up, and it should be possible for photographers at (a) to get away in time to cover this.

Special opportunities will be made available for photographers to obtain photographs of helicopters escorting Her Majesty's motor-car.

Applications for passes should be made to Chief of Naval Information, Admiralty, Whitehall, S.W.1 (Whitehall 9000, Exts. 1125 or 10).

Admiralty, S.W.1.
15th November, 1952.

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18/11/52 - No.5

H.M. THE QUEEN TO WITNESS HELICOPTER FLY PAST.

Naval helicopters which will shortly go into service in aircraft carriers and at naval air stations will be among aircraft seen by Her Majesty the Queen when she witnesses a fly past during her visit to the Home Air Command at Lee-on-Solent on Friday (November 21st).

The Navy is equipping all aircraft carriers and air stations with this type of aircraft for air-sea rescue duties in place of the amphibian Sea Otter aircraft which has been in service for about nine years.

The type of helicopter adopted for this work is the Westland Sikorsky Dragonfly (351) some of which have performed invaluable service in the Korean war by rescuing crashed pilots from behind the enemy lines.

Her Majesty will see a flight of about eight of these machines from the Control Tower at the Air Station. Two of them will also escort her motor car as she proceeds to the Royal Naval Barracks at Lee-on-Solent from Fort Brockhurst Railway Station.

The helicopters are attached to No. 705 Training Squadron commanded by Lieutenant-Commander H.R. Spedding, of Tenterden (Kent), who took part in Malta convoy operations as a naval fighter pilot in World War II.

NOTE TO PHOTO EDITORS.

Photographers may photograph the Royal car and helicopter escort at any point on the route from Fort Brockhurst Railway Station to the R.N. Barracks, Lee-on-Solent, but they are advised that the best vantage points are likely to be at Fort Brockhurst Station or near the R.M. Small Arms School, Browndown.

Photographers covering the route will NOT be able to get into position for the reception in the air field, but they will be able to witness the fly past in the afternoon.

ADMIRALTY.