

P R E M I E R E

of

"THE DAM BUSTERS"

MONDAY. 16th MAY. 1955

THE EMPIRE THEATRE, LEICESTER SQUARE

ORDER OF PROCEDURE

- 7.15 p.m. Doors open.
- 7.45 p.m. Performance by the Central Band of the Royal Air Force, conducted by the Organising Director of Music, Wing Commander A.E.Sims, OBE. and Miss Gladys Ripley and the Royal Air Forces Association Choir.
- 8.20 p.m. Arrival of Her Royal Highness The Princess Margaret accompanied by a party of seven. On arrival Her Royal Highness will be met by Mr.C.Penley, Manager of the Empire Theatre, who will escort Her Royal Highness into the foyer to The Rt.Hon.The Lord De L'Isle & Dudley, V.C. Secretary of State for Air, and Marshal of the R.A.F. The Lord Tedder, GCB., DCL., LL.D., President of the Premiere Committee, who will present:-
- ✓ (a) Lady Tedder
 - ✓ (b) Mr.S.Eckman, CBE., Chairman of the Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer and Mrs.Eckman.
 - ✓ (c) Mr.Robert Clark, MA., LL.B., Director of Production. Elstree Studios and member of Board of Associated British Picture Corporation and Mrs.Clark.

The party will then proceed up the stairs to the main lounge where Susan Thorne, aged 6 years will present a bouquet to Her Royal Highness. Susan is a daughter of Flight Lieutenant G.A.Thorne, DSO, DFC, who is Secretary General of the Pathfinder Association. He was awarded the DSO and DFC whilst serving in the Pathfinder Force as Master Bomber.

Her Royal Highness The Princess Margaret will remain standing while the following are presented to her and after being presented will proceed into the circle to their seats.

- (a) ✓ The Rt.Hon.Viscount Knollys, GCMG, MBE, DFC. Chairman of the R.A.F.Benevolent Fund and Lady Knollys.
- (b) ✓ Air Marshal Sir Robert Saundby, KBE, CB, MC, DFC, AFC. Chairman of the National Council of the Royal Air Forces Association and Lady Saundby.
- (c) ✓ Air Chief Marshal Sir Basil Embry, KCB, KBE, DSO, DFC, AFC. Chairman of the R.A.F. Escaping Society and Lady Embry.
- (d) Dr.J.C.MacGown, DFC. President of the Pathfinder Association and Mrs. MacGown.

Mr.Robert Clark will present:-

- (a) Richard Todd, who will represent the actors.
- (b) Michael Anderson, Director of the film.
- (c) ✓ Mr.W.A.Whittaker. Production Supervisor of the film.

Lord Tedder will present:-

- (a) ✓ Dr. Barnes Wallis, CBE., FRS., the inventor of the bomb that breached the dams and Mrs. Barnes Wallis.

Dr. Barnes Wallis will then present the following:-

- (1) ✓ Mary Eyre Wallis, now Mrs.H.V.Stopes Roe, eldest daughter of Dr. Barnes Wallis.
- (2) Elizabeth Abel Wallis, youngest daughter of Dr. Barnes Wallis, aged 22 years.

and the following children of the Royal Air Force Foundation at Christ's Hospital.. This Foundation was formed by Dr.Barnes Wallis with the award that he received for the invention of the bomb:-

- (a) William George Shreeves - aged 15: son of Flying Officer ✓ E.G.Shreeves - Air Observer No. 77 Squadron. Reported missing March 1943 - death subsequently presumed.
- (b) ✓ Robert Thomas Cundill - aged 14 three-quarter: son of Pilot Officer T.C.Cundill - Pilot No. 61 Squadron. Reported missing August 1940 - death subsequently presumed.

Lord Tedder will present the following who are the survivors of the raid and next-of-kin of those who were lost:-

- ✓ (1) Wing Commander H.B.Martin, DSO., DFC., AFC.
- ✓ (2) Squadron Leader D.J.Shannon, DSO., DFC.,
- ✓ (3) Flight Lieutenant H.S.Hobday, DFC.,
- ✓ (4) Sergeant R.E.Grayston.
- ✓ (5) Flight Lieutenant E.C.Johnson, DFC.,
- ✓ (6) Flight Lieutenant J.Buckley, DFC.,
- ✓ (7) Sergeant W.Howarth.
- ✓ (8) Sergeant D.E.Webb, DFM.,
- ✓ (9) Sergeant F.E.Appleby.
- ✓ (10) Flight Lieutenant B.T.Foxlee, DFM.
- ✓ (11) Flight Lieutenant G.Rice, DFC.
- ✓ (12) Sergeant H.J.Hewstone
- ✓ (13) Squadron Leader I.Whittaker, DFC.
- ✓ (14) Flight Lieutenant B.Goodale, DFC
- ✓ (15) Flight Lieutenant W.C.Townsend, CGM., DFM.
- ✓ (16) Mrs.Eve Hyman, widow of the late Wing Commander Guy Gibson, VC., DSO., DFC.
- ✓ (17) Mr.A.J.Gibson, Father of the late Wing Commander Guy Gibson, VC., DSO., DFC.
- ✓ (18) Mr.Marriott, Brother of the late Sergeant J.Marriott.
- ✓ (19) Mrs.F.Hatton, Mother of the late Sergeant J.Hatton.
- ✓ (20) Mrs.E.Knight, Mother of the late Flight Lieutenant L.G.Knight, DSO.,
- ✓ (21) Mrs.D.E.Roberts, Mother of the late Sergeant C.W.Roberts
- ✓ (22) Mrs.E.Nicholson, Mother of the late Sergeant V.Nicholson.
- ✓ (23) Mrs.G.C.Astell, Mother of the late Flight Lieutenant W.Astell, DFC.
- ✓ (24) Mrs.G.A.Poyntz, Mother of the late Flight Lieutenant R.D.Trevor-Roper, DFC., DFM.
- ✓ (25) Mrs.R.G.Hutchison, Mother of the late Flight Lieutenant R.E.G.Hutchison, DFC.
- ✓ (26) Mrs.G.Hopgood, Mother of the late Flight Lieutenant J.V.Hopgood, DFC.,

Mr. Charles Penley will then escort the Royal Party to the Royal Box.

8.30 p.m.

FILM COMMENCES

NEWS

CARTOON

"THE DAM BUSTERS"

After the performance at approximately 11 o'clock, the audience will remain in their places whilst the Royal Party is escorted from the Theatre by Mr. Charles Penley, the Manager, accompanied by Lord and Lady Tedder, Lord De L'Isle and Dudley and Dr. and Mrs. MacGown.

ROYAL CIRCLE SEATING

<u>Name & Rank</u>		<u>Seat Number/s</u>
APPLEBY	Mr. F.E. (survivor)	C. 44/45
ASTELL	Mrs. G.C. (next of kin)	L. 28/29
AIR GUNNERS ASSN		J. 52/53, K 56/57
		L. 56/57
ADCOLA PRODUCTS		S. 12/15
ALLISON	Mr.	F. 2/7
ANGEL	Mr. D.	L. 14/17; E. 18.
ASHWOOD	Mr. T.	I. 44/45
ANDERSON	Mr. Michael	H. 44/45
ASSOCIATED BRITISH PICTURE CORPN		P. 17/21, 36, 50.
		D. 10/11, 48/49
		L. 10/11
		I. 8/9
		N. 22/32
		G. 38/41
		E. 38/39
BRUSSELMANS	Madame	G. 2/3
BENNETT CB, CBE, DSO	A/V/M D.C.T.	E. 33/34
BUCKLEY D.F.C	Flt. Lt. J. (survivor)	F. 25/26
BROWN	Dr. (survivor)	J. 12/13
BURCHER D.F.M.	Flt. Lt. (survivor)	
BARNES KCB, KBE	Sir James H.	A. 34/35
BROTHERHOOD CBE	Grp. Capt. W.R.	J. 12/13
BURNSIDE DSO, DFC	Grp. Capt D.H.	J. 10/11
BOWMAN	Mr. J.	M. 18/19
BOWATER	Sir Eric Vansittart	A. 38/39
BAILEY	Grp. Capt.	M. 24/25
BARCLAY	Mr. J.	M. 14/15
BROWNRIDGE	Mr. A.J.M.	S. 52/56
BOOTHMAN	Air C. M. Sir John	N. 14/15
BAGBIT	Mr. L.	K. 29/34
BULMER	Mr. S.T.	K. 42/45
BENTHALL	Sir Paul	O. 47
BOTT	Mr. J.A.	R. 54/58
BROWN	Mr. J.C.	K. 46/47
BATCHELOR	Mr. J.S.	N. 8/9, O 8/9
BEAUFORT - PALMER	Mr. F.N.	N. 54/57
BOWHILL, GBE, KCB, CMG, DSO	A/C/M. Sir Frederick	B. 23/24
BAKER	Mr. George	G. 8/9
BARR	Mr. Patrick	D. 10/11
BLATTNER	Mr. G.	D. 8/9
BREWER	Col.	E. 20/21
BEST	Mr. R.	P. 26/27
BLACKWELL	Mr. G.	P. 42/43
BARBER	Mr. A.	O. 40/41
BONEF	Mr. R.	L. 47/48
BRICKHILL	Mr. Paul	G. 51
COSENS MBE	Col J.B.	J. 20/21
COCHRANE	Lady	E. 52/53
CROSBY	Mr. W.	X. 44 & 48
CALDWELL	S. Ldr. J.	K. 4/5
COCHRANE	Mr. T.	B. 42/43
CORDINGLEY	A/V/M Sir John	I. 24/25
CAPLE	Flt. Lt. C. (survivor)	C. 42/43
CUNNINGHAM	W. Cdr.	N. 42/51, O 46/47
CHAPMAN	Mr. R.A.	S. 10/11
CORYTON KCB, KBE, MVO	A/C/M Sir Alec	H. 30/31
COLLS	Flying Officer M.E.	M. 2/4
CORBALLY	Air Comm. E.J.	M. 4/5
CROWLEY-MILLING DSO, DFC	W. Cdr.	M. 12/13

CHERNEY
CLARK
CLARK
CROSS
COMER
CLARK
COATES

Mr. J.
Mr. T.
Mr. Robert
Mr. A.C.
Mr. V.
Mr. Robin
Mr. Eric

A 5/6
P 14/16
G 28/29
P 30/31
I 42/43
G 50
E 48/49

DURRANT
DUFFEE
DUKE- WOOLEY
DUMONT
DE LISLE & DUDLEY V.C.
DIXON GCB, KBE, DSO, AFC
DUNN OBE
DODSON CBE, FRA.eS. J.P.
DAVIS
DUNPHIE
DOUGLAS
DEAN

Squadron Officer
Mr. G.W.
Grp. Capt. R.M.B.
Mr. F.T.
The Lord The Rt. Hon.
M. R.A.F. Sir William F.
W. Cdr. W.N.
Sir Roy H.
Mr. J.H.
Major General
Captain
Mr. Vaughan N.

B 3
T 15/18
F. 54/55
S 57/58
R/B
A 24/25
B/ 4-5

H 28/29
C 17/18
H 42/43

ESCAPING SOCIETY
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ELY BRANCH R.A.F.A.
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A/V/M J.G.

E 3/5
A 5/6
B 23/24
V 29/30
S 36/37
M 52/53

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FARQUHARSON - ROBERTS
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FOGARTY KCB, KBE, DFC, AFC,
FLECKER (Christ's Hospital)
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FIELDER
FRASER
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Brigadier M.F.
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A/C/M Sir Francis
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Dame Katherine Trefusis
Mr. S.
Miss Hilda
Mr. W.A.
Mr. John
Dr. E.G.M.
Mr. H.

Mr. Derek

J 28/29
F 27/28
O 16/21
L 4/7
I 6/7
A 22/23
H 41/45
A 26
P 8/9
P 10/11
H 18/19
F 10/11
G 32/33, 140/43
O 42/43
L 44/46
F 50/51

GOULD
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GOOLATTE
GOTTFURT
GRIFFITHS OBE

Mr. H.W.
Mr. A.J. (next of kin)
F. Lt. B.
Mr. R.E.
Dame Helen C.I.
Air Comm. J. Swire
Mr. W.H.
Mr.
Mr. Alan H.
Mr. D.J.
Mr. F.
Sir David

T 53/54
A 36/37
C 7/8
F 22/23
A 13/15
B 33/34
B 10/11
J 16/17
F 12/13
G 30/31
I 46/47
P 10/11

HYTHE BRANCH R.A.F.A.
HIGH WYCOMBE R.A.F
HASELDEN
HUNTING
HOARE
HARRIS M.B.E.
HOOPER
HAMBLIN
HOLE
HELMORE CBE
HEARLE
HARKER
HAWKINS D.F.C.
HARVEY
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HEWSTONE
HOPGOOD
HATTON
HUTCHINSON
HYMAN
HOGAN MBE
HUSKINSON CBE, MC
HIRD
HARPER
HONEYMAN J.P. Ch. B.
HARGREAVES
HENDRY
HAMMOND
Hillier
HARPER

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INGLIS

JORDAN
JACKSON
JOHNSTON
JARRATT
JAGO MBE
JOHNSON DFC
JEALOUS
JONES

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Air Comm. R.K.
Mr. K.W.
Air Comm. W.
Mr.
Mr. R.W.
F. Lt. N.A.
Mr. A.
Mr. W. (survivor)
F. Lt. H.S. (survivor)
F.Lt. (survivor)
Mr. H.J. (survivor)
Mrs. G. (next of kin)
Mrs. F. (next of kin)
Mrs. R.G. "
Mrs. E. "
Mr. J.B.
Air Comm. P.
Mr. A.H.
Mr. B.
Doctor J.
Mr. K.
Mr. A.S.
Mr. L.
Mr. E.
Mr. Kenneth

A/C/M Sir Ronald
Mr. H.G.

A/V/M R.B.
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Grp. Capt. G.A.D.
Mr. E.
Mr. K.T.
F. Lt. E.C.
Mr. L.C.
Mr. R.

Mrs. E.
Mrs. E. (Next of kin)
Mr. J.A.R.
Mr. P.
Sir John
Mr. D.
The Rt. Hon. Viscount
Mr. Bill
Mr. H.V.

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Mr. J.L.
Mr. E.J.E.
Mr. D.J.
Grp. Capt. D.J.P.
Mr. W.E.
Mr. J.
Commander
Mr. Robert
Mr. S.K.
Mr.
Mr. C.J.
Mr. Louis

T 28/30

F 56/57
O 10/11
P 51 & 048/51
L 2/3
S 4/5
M 56/57
E 38/41
B 29/30
T 38/39

I 4/5
T 19/21
C 41/42
F 31/32
C.2/3
C 38/39
H 6/7
Q 1/3
D 6/7
A 27/28
M 42/43
J 50/51
I 22/23
M 22/23
J 44/45
K. 10/11
P 22/23
P 44/45
H 48/49
P 22/23

A 29/31
F 10/11

K 6/7
T 52/43
T 44/45
H 35/36
A 16/17
C 4/6
M 10/11
H 50/51

N 52/53
G 54/55
A 2/3
B 39/40
A 40/41
J 46/47
A 18/19
H 10/11
P 34/35

K 8/9
I 20/21
I 26/31
D 5
T 24/25
T 22/23
T 8/9
J 14/15
M 36/37
B 8/9
I 16/17
H 8/9
O 38/39
J 40/43
F 38/39
E 50/51

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Mr. A.

Mr. N.
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W. Cdr. H.V. (survivor)
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Mr. W.H.
Mr. N.
Mr. J.O.
A./V./M. A.
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Air Marshal Sir George H.
Dr. J.C.
Mr. W.H.
Mr. K.W.
Mr. E.
Mr. T.J.
Mr. Cecil
Mr. R.A.
Mr.
Mr. J.H.
Mr. W.C.

K 38/39
T 50/51
S 8/9
T 11/12
T 26/27
S 6/7
K 54/55
F 24.
L 25/27
B 35/36
M 8/9
K 22/28
T 13/14
L 2/3 & K 2/3
N 6/7
K 14/15
B 14/15
F 35/36
H 14/15
H 16/17
G 26/27
P 46/47
P 48/49
N 40/41
L 49
I 40/41
I 48/49

NICHOLSON
NICHOLSON
NORNEY
NICHOLLS

Mrs. E. (next of kin)
Wing Cdr. A.N.N.
Mr. John
Mr. W.A.

K 48.
J 8/9
A 5/6
N 2/3

OWEN
OLLE
OUTEN
OWNER
ORR
OSTRER
OSTRER
OVERSEAS PRESS

Mr. T.G.
Mr. J.E.
Mr. E.T
Mr. F.M.
Miss T.
Mr. N.
Mr. E.

M 54/55
M 46/47
O 57/58
L 52/55
P 12/13
F 20/21
E 19
R 8/21, 22/36, 43/51
Q 8/17, 22/33, 38/51
S 26/32
T 31/32

POYNTZ
POWELL
PICKARD O.B.E.
PARSONS MVO
PYE CB, FRs.
POWELL
PORTAL KG, KCB, OM, DSO, MC, DCL, LLD
PATHFINDER ASSOCIATION

Mrs. G.A. (next of kin)
Air Comm. G.J.
Grp. Capt. W.J.
Mr. W.H.
Sir David
Flt. Sgt.
M/R.A.F. The Rt. Hon. Viscount

G 6/7
K 40/41
C 33/34
A 11/12
B 37/38
H 33/34
B 25/26
Q 4/7 F 52/53
J 24/25 J 4/7
H 52/57

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Mr. J.
Mr. F.B.
Mr. C.J.
Commander

R 52/53
N 27/32
F 18/21
L 12/13
L 18/19
N 38/39
F 40/41

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ROWELL
ROBINSON
ROBERTS
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RUCK DFC
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RENEOUF
REYNOLDS
REDGRAVE

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SCOTT-FARNIE
SARVANTO
STRAIGHT
SHANNON DSO, DFC,
SAUNDBY KBE, CB, MC, DFC, AFC
SIMS OBE
SPRIGGS KBE
SCOTT
SUTTON
SPARKES
SCOTT
SCOTT
SPARKES
SCOTT
STEWART
SOUTHGATE
SHERRIFF
STEPHEN

TEDDINGTON BRANCH R.A.F.A.
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TEARE
THOMAS
TRIDE
TURNER
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TEDDER GCB, DCL, LLD
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THURSO K.T, CMG, LLD
TOWNSEND
THOMAS
TAYLOR
TODD

URQUHART

Van DAMM
VENNER CMG
VERNON HUNT

VAUGHAN OBE, MC, QC, JP

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Mr. A.
E Lt. R.W.B.
Mr. A.H.
Mr. F.
Mrs. D.E. (next of kin)
L. Lt. G.
Doctor K.
S. Ldr. J.A.
Mr. K...
Mr. J. Arthur
A/Cdr. W.E.V.

Vice Admiral
Mr, Peter
Mr. Michael

Mr. R.M.
G. Capt. G.
Lt. Col. J.
Mr. Whitney
S. Ldr. D.J.
A/M Sir Robert H.M.S.
W. Cdr. A.E.
Sir Frank Spencer
Mr. C.H.
Mr. J.
Mr. F.
Mr. J.M.
Miss Janette
Col. H.
Mr. Gordon
Mr. R.V.
Mr. A.
Mr. R.C.
Miss Susan

Mr. W.B.
Mr. T.D.G.
Mrs. S.
Mr. T.G.
Captain Cyril
Major P.L.
A/V/M H.N.
M/R.A.F. The Lord Tedder
Mr. G.F.
Thr Lord
Elt. Lt.
Mr. Howard
Mr. Gilbert
Mr. Richard

Mr. Robert

Miss S.
Mr. J.F.
Mr. R.

G. Capt. R.C.

T 1 & S 1
P 4/5
S 16/19
E 7.
T 55/58
I 52/53
B 44/45
J 22/23
M 34/35
K 16/17
C 17/18
M 46/47
N 24/25. A18/19, B18/
B 25/26
E 8/9
F 48/49

G 52/53
H 2/5, L 8/9
O 44/45
B 31/32
F 29/30
A 20/21
E 52/53
A 9/10
J 48/49
L 20/21
H 12/13
H 20/21
E 10/11
F 18/19
P 24/25
P 32/33
P 38/39
G 48/49
D 30/31

P 52/57
I 54/55
K 36/37
T 52
T 40/41
M 10/13
I 24/25
N 16/21
R.B.
B.6/7
B 18/19
G 20/21
I 38/39
I 50/51
H 38/39

F 8/9

H 32/34
M 18/19
Q 52/58 P2/3
P58 S2/3 T44/45
S 42/47
A 32/33

WHITTAKER DFC
WEBB DFM
WHITE KBE, DFC, VD
WALLIS CBE, FRS

WARNE DSO, DFC
WHITWORTH DSO DFC
WILLIS
WINTERBOTTOM
WOLLS
WITHERS
WEBB
WALKER
WARTER
WARWICK
WOOLNER
WALLIS
WHITTAKER
WILCOX

S. Ldr. I.
Mr. D.E.
The Hon. Sir Thomas
Dr. Barnes N.

W. Cdr. J.B.
G. Capt. J.N.H.
Mr. R.
G. Capt.
Mr. J.
Mr. Wallis
Mr. E.
Mr. G.B.
Sir Philip
Mr. Norman
Mr. L.R.
Mr. J.R.
Mr. W.A.
Mr. Herbert

F 33/34
B 1/2
B 27/28
B 20/22 C20/22
M32/33 M26/27
M 30/3
M 16/17
J 31/32
A 3/8
I 18/19
I 14/15
K 31/32
T 6/7
O 28/29
G 34/37 J38/39
P 40/41
L 38/39
H 40/41
H 46/47
C 29/30

EMPIRE

x-404001
x-204001

PRINCESS MARGARET ATTENDS THE
"DAM BUSTERS" PREMIERE.

MR. AND MRS. ROBERT CLARK AND MR. ROBIN CLARK. X

MR. AND MRS. PATRICK BARR.

AIR MARSHAL SIR AND LADY SAUNDBY. ✓

MR. AND MRS. ECKMAN. X

RT.HON. LORD DE L'ISLE AND DUDLEY V.C. ✓

MR. BARNES WALLIS.

MR. ECKMAN AND MR. GOODLATTE. X

RICHARD TODD AND WIFE. ✓

MR. AND MRS. C.J. LATTA. X

HERBERT WILCOX AND ANNE NEAGLE X

MR. AND MRS. MACGREGOR SCOTT. X

MR. AND MRS. BONEF OF SPAIN.

MR. AND MRS. DOUGLAS BADER. ✓

MARSHAL OF R.A.F. SIR WILLIAM DICKSON AND LORD DUDLEY ✓
LORD AND LADY TEDDER AND LORD DUDLEY. ✓

PRINCESS MARGARET ARRIVES MEETS LORD TEDDER AND LORD DUDLEY. ✓

LADY ~~XXXXXX~~ TEDDER, S. ECKMAN AND WIFE, ROBERT CLARK AND WIFE (SOME OF THESE OBSCURED BY PEOPLE WALKING ACROSS CAMERA) X

PRESENTATION TO THE PRINCESS IN THE FOLLOWING ORDER:-

(A) (B) (C) - (C) WHITTAKER (A)

(1) MARY EYRE WALLIS (A) (B)

SURVIVORS AND THE NEXT OF KIN:

(1) (2) (3) (4) (5) (6) (13) (14) (15) (16) (17) (18) (19) ✓
(20) (21) (22) (23) (24) (25)

x-424201
x-224201

-2-

PRINCESS MARGARET IN ROYAL BOX (PRINCESS COVERED BY OTHERS
IN BOX MOST OF AVAILABLE FILMING TIME) ✓

"THE DAM BUSTERS" premiere

BBC Television programme

Transmission - Friday, May 20 1955 9.15-9.30 p.m.

Prepared by Associated British-Pathe Ltd.,
Production Division.

Sound

1. R.A.F. Lancasters in mid-air, night shot.

Engines

Title (superimposed):-

The story behind

"THE DAM BUSTERS"

Fade title, continue air-to-air shots.

2. Lancasters landing at night.

Engine background.

Voice of BBC announcer:-

Pilots and crew leaving
aircraft.

Crews gathering to report
results of operation.

"This is London.

In the early hours of this morning a force of Lancasters of Bomber Command led by Wing Commander G.P. Gibson, D.S.O., D.F.C. attacked with mines the dams of the Moehne and Sorpe Reservoirs. The Moehne Dam has been breached over a length of 100 yards and the power station below has been swept away by the resulting floods.

Eight of the Lancasters are missing."

Engine noise up.

3. Gibson showing photographs to
King and Queen.

Commentary outline:
(rough indication only)

"The Dam Busters" raid has
been described as the most

4. Buckingham Palace
Investiture.

5. Lancasters, air-to-air
shots.

6. Main lounge, Empire Theatre.
Informal shots of the people
waiting to be presented to

daring episode of the War. Only a few were told the full story at the time. King George the Sixth visited the squadron for a first-hand account from Wing Commander Guy Gibson, the leader of the Dam Busters.

A little more of the story came out when the awards were made, and when Guy Gibson went to Buckingham Palace for his Victoria Cross with his team of the 617 Squadron. 33 of them were decorated.

But until now the story has lived only in print. Not until today, twelve years after the raid, has the world been allowed to see for itself what really happened on that brave expedition.

Princess Margaret, half an hour
before she is due to arrive.

Twelve years later, to the day,
May the 16th, on the anniversary
of the Dam Busters raid some of
those most concerned have been
brought together. Gathered
here are the man who had the idea,
and the men who carried it out.
And there are the women who
waited at home. And perhaps there
are the shadows of those who
never came back.

7. Individual shots:-

- a. Dr. Barnes Wallis and
family.

Barnes Wallis, the man who
designed the Wellington bomber,
was the man who had the brilliant
conception of bombing the German
dams and flooding the industrial
Ruhr. And he was the man who made
the gigantic five-ton bombs to do
the job. The day before the war
began he left his wife and two
daughters (very young they were
then) to join the war effort.

b. Christ's Hospital
children.

c. Men of 617 Squadron

d. Widows and relatives.

Tonight they share in the acclaim
that will be his.

Dr. Wallis was awarded £10,000 for
the invention of the Bomb and he
promptly handed it over to start
a fund for the education of sons
and daughters of R.A.F. men.

These are four of the children who
have benefited. They have one
other thing in common - each had
a father killed in action on
Royal Air Force duty.

And these are the Dam Busters
themselves, 12 years later.

Wing Commander Micky Martin (said
to be the greatest bomber pilot
of the war) who hit the target
from his Lancaster P for Peter.
Squadron-leader Shannon who had
his 21st birthday on the day the
King went to congratulate the
squadron.

etc.
Nineteen Lancasters went out on
the Dam Busters raid, and only

e. Mrs. Eve Hyman.

f. Mr. Gibson.

8. Long shot of Dam Busters group.

ten came back.

The men who flew in those ten Lancasters are not forgotten. Some of their mothers are here today. Mrs. Hopgood is the mother of Flight Lieutenant Hopgood who was shot down as his Lancaster was actually over the target.

(Other mothers named)

Guy Gibson, the Maitre Bomber, came back from the raid. But there was to be another operation from which he did not return. Tonight will bring many memories to Eve, his widow. And to his father, Mr. A.J. Gibson.

Exactly twelve years later, on the day of the raid, the Dam Busters are together again - to live once more through their tale of heroism. For now it can be told. Now their story is recorded for all time in a British film; picturing to the world a supreme deed of courage and self-sacrifice.

9. Exterior of Empire Theatre, with
"The Dam Busters" title well in
evidence. Crowds milling around
as they wait for Princess Margaret.
10. Interior foyer, scenes at first night
as R.A.F. top brass and civilians arrive.
(No film stars).
11. Princess Margaret's car drawing up
outside theatre.
12. Shots of her getting out of the car
and walking into the theatre.
13. Interior, foyer. The Princess is
met by Lord Tedder and Lord de l'Isle &
Dudley, V.C.
14. Mr. Robert Clark, producer of the film is
presented.
15. Princess goes up the stairs.
16. Glimpse of group in Main lounge waiting tensely
for Princess.
17. Princess enters Main Lounge.

18. Presentation of Dam Busters and
relatives to Princess. Also Richard Toda, etc.
19. Princess enters theatre.
20. Theatre interior, Princess's party settling down in Royal Box.
21. Lights dim.
22. Screen of theatre, title appears.
23. Actual excerpt from film, beginning
with title and title music.
24. Night shots of Lancasters used as background
for end titles :- The story behind
 THE DAM BUSTERS
 reported for Television
 by Associated British-Pathe Ltd.

H.T. 8.5.55.

LAM BUSTERS TV

Possible timing:-

	<u>Minutes</u>
Titles and introduction	1.00
Gibson newsreels items	1.00
Scenes in Main Lounge	5.00
Princess Margaret and Premiere scenes	3.00
Excerpt	5.00
	15.00