

**Speedbird  
Anniversary**



In November 1945, 21-passenger Yorks inaugurated the Springbok service to Johannesburg, in conjunction with South African Airways. At Khartoum this Sudanese cleaner seems particularly pleased

BOAC's first post-war equipment for the new, commercial "Battle of the Atlantic" were five Constellation 049s, delivered in the middle of 1946. The service from London to New York was inaugurated on July 1. On the Constellation flight deck, discussing the new aircraft, are Sir Arthur Whitten-Brown and Capt O. P. Jones, Atlantic veterans both



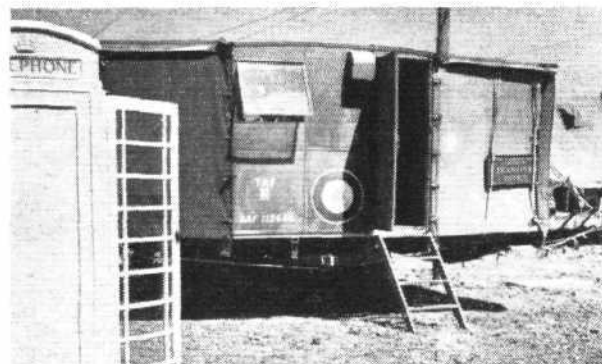
In the same month Lancastrians, carrying only six passengers in sleeping berths, began the then fastest, longest air service in the world—the 63-hour, 13,000-mile Kangaroo service between Hurn and Sydney. On May 28 the service moved to London Airport. This Lancastrian is seen making the first BOAC departure from Heath



At the end of the war, BOAC began to build its big reputation for flying animals. A very important arrival at Poole in May 1946 was this giant panda . . .



. . . another was the chairman, Viscount Knollys, who was returning from a 35,000-mile tour of the routes in a Hythe flying boat



If its operating equipment left much to be desired in the immediate post-war years, so did the corporation's ground facilities. This was the airline's transport office at London Airport in July 1946

Lancastrians and Yorks bore the brunt of the Commonwealth services at that time, but some were operated by Haltons, converted Halifax bombers. Here a Halton is seen flying past the Grand Hotel at Khartoum, a city of major importance on the Commonwealth routes for many years

In 1947 the then Princess Elizabeth christened BOAC's first Tudor 1 "Elizabeth of England" at London Airport. It was to be the flagship of the fleet and the Tudor 1 and 2 were intended as the mainsprings of BOAC's Atlantic and Commonwealth fleets; a promise which was unfulfilled—the first of several post-war equipment shortcomings



The first wholly post-war 1 mainly on African routes a



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