



LEFT: Packed into H.M.S. Eagle, Britain's biggest and most modern carrier, now with the Far East Fleet, are (upper hangar, l. to r.) Gannet AEW.3s, Wessex HAS.1s, Scimitar F.1s and (lower hangar) Buccaneer S.1s. RIGHT: Sea Vixens of 892 Squadron over H.M.S. Centaur, Far East Fleet

Fleet Air Arm on tour

NOW VISITING SOME major towns and cities in Britain, the Fleet Air Arm Presentation Team has been formed to explain to the public what the Fleet Air Arm is, how it works, and its part in Britain's maritime strategy. Led by Capt. F. Stovin-Bradford, D.S.C.*—until recently Chief of Staff to the Flag Officer, Naval Air Command—the team consists of seven officers and twelve ratings, travelling in eight vehicles with their own cinema equipment.

Each presentation lasts about fifty minutes and includes some dramatic colour film, slides and explanatory talks by representative naval aviators. After an introduction by the team's leader, a Buccaneer pilot, Lt. C. C. N. Davis, illustrates the life and task of a low-level strike pilot. He is followed by Lt. M. W. H. Thomson, a Sea Vixen pilot, and Lt. P. R. P. Madge who describes the work of a Gannet AEW

observer. Completing the team is Lt.-Cdr. G. J. Sherman, M.B.E., a "chopper" specialist just back from operations in Borneo where he is C.O. of No. 845 Squadron.

No. 845, incidentally, is said to be the largest helicopter squadron in the British forces, having sixteen Wessexes, two Whirlwinds and two Hillers. Apart from its work against the Indonesian "confrontation", No. 845 has earned a great deal of good-will among Malaysians in Borneo with its "mercy" flights, in many cases providing the only medical services available in remote districts.

Many other interesting points emerge from the presentation. Total strength of the Fleet Air Arm is quoted as about 450 aircraft, of which half are in front-line units. Buccaneers in their low-level strike role have been flying as low as 40 ft. The Sea Vixen, when introduced, was, it is claimed, superior in all respects to any other British fighter; and the Royal Navy now claim that, when they get the Phantom, it will be superior to any fighter in



Capt. F. Stovin-Bradford, who is leading the F.A.A. Presentation team

any other air force, including the U.S. Navy, by virtue of its Rolls-Royce Spey engines.

The tour started in April and the remaining places to be visited, all in May, are as follows:

3rd	Leeds	Temple Newson House	6.30 p.m.
4th	Leeds	Temple Newson House	2.30 p.m. & 6.00 p.m.
6th	York	Tempest Anderson Hall	2.30 p.m. & 7.30 p.m.
7th	Newcastle	City Hall	7.30 p.m.
8th	Sunderland	Seaburn Hall	6.00 p.m.
10th	Edinburgh	Music Hall Assembly Rooms	2.30 p.m.
11th	Edinburgh	Music Hall Assembly Rooms	2.00 p.m. & 5.30 p.m.
12th	Dundee	Marryat Hall	4.30 p.m. & 7.00 p.m.
13th	Ayr	Town Hall	7.30 p.m.
14th	Carlisle	Harraby Secondary School	7.30 p.m.
15th	Carlisle	City Hall	3.00 p.m. & 7.30 p.m.
18th	Southport	Cambridge Hall	7.30 p.m.
19th	Liverpool	Walker Art Gallery	6.00 p.m.
20th	Liverpool	Walker Art Gallery	11.00 a.m. & 3.00 p.m.
21st	Bury	Derby Hall	7.30 p.m.
22nd	Chester	Institute of Further Education	11.00 a.m. & 6.00 a.m.
25th	Cardiff	Welsh College of Advanced Technology	3.00 p.m. & 6.00 p.m.
26th	Newport	Newport Athletic Club	7.00 p.m.
27th	Bristol	Conference Hall, Council House	6.30 p.m.
28th	Barnstaple	Queens Hall	7.30 p.m.
30th	Exeter	New St. George's Hall	8.30 p.m.
31st	Southampton	Guildhall	7.30 p.m.

Wessex HC.5s of 848 Squadron over the commando carrier, H.M.S. Albion, now on her way to the Far East. Also on board are two Sioux helicopters

