

HERE AND THERE

Royal Inauguration for L.A.P.

IT is announced that the new terminal building and facilities at London Airport are to be formally inaugurated by Her Majesty the Queen on December 16th.

The F-100 Grounding

THE three-month ban on the flying of the North American F-100 Super Sabres is reported to have been lifted, "following modifications which include the fitting of a new vertical tail." This, if confirmed, is of particular interest in that the first major modification made to the F-100 after early flights was reduction in rudder size.

Production Vulcan ?

AN Avro Vulcan, serial-numbered XA889 and having a silver finish (except that the lower "mandible"—presumably housing radar—was black), was seen flying from Woodford on February 4th. Although the makers have nothing to say on the matter, it may confidently be assumed that XA889 is the first production Vulcan, the two prototypes being numbered VX770 and VX777 and finished wholly in white.

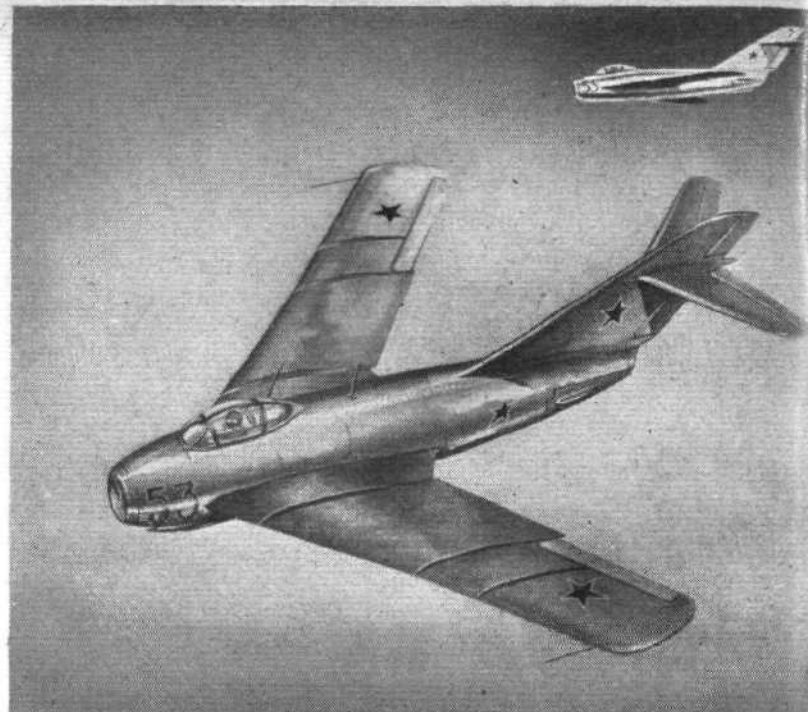
Brancker Memorial Lecture

ON Monday next, February 14th, the 1955 Brancker Memorial Lecture of the Institute of Transport is to be delivered by Sir Arnold Hall, F.R.S., M.A., F.R.Ae.S., Director of the R.A.E. His subject will be *The Influence on Civil Aviation of Some Current Researches*. The meeting, which will take place at 5.45 p.m. in the Jarvis Hall, 66 Portland Place, London, W.1, will be open to visitors, without ticket.

Pilot and Doctor Honoured

PILOT at one time or another of almost every type of aircraft used in American high-speed flight research, Scott Crossfield of Edwards A.F.B. received the Lawrence Sperry Award for 1954, presented at the honours night dinner of the Institute of Aeronautical Sciences. The award recognizes his "important contributions in aeronautical flight research especially at transonic and supersonic speeds up to Mach 2." Presented on the same occasion was the John Jeffries Award, this year's recipient being James P. Henry, M.D., for "outstanding contributions to the

SUPER MIG: This impression of Russia's Mig-17 fighter is based on official U.S. Navy information and differs in detail from that in our previous issue. Note especially the wing-form. Complete accuracy at this stage cannot be guaranteed.



advancement of aeronautics through medical research." Dr. Henry, who is chief of the acceleration unit of the Aero Medical Laboratory at Wright Air Development Center, did valuable work in the development of the partial-pressure altitude suit.

G. de Havilland Trophy Awarded

THE Royal Aero Club announced last Monday the award of the Geoffrey de Havilland trophy for 1954 to Lt. J. R. S. Overbury, R.N., in recognition of his London-Amsterdam point-to-point record on July 29th last, when, flying a Hawker Sea Hawk, he made the journey at 571.5 m.p.h. The trophy is awarded to the British pilot making the best speed in an official record attempt or race during the year.

Firefly Tugs for India

ON the morning of February 5th the first of a batch of converted Firefly 1s, ordered for target-towing duties by the Indian Navy, left the Fairey base at Hamble on its delivery flight. Firefly tugs have already been supplied to the Royal Navy, Sweden, Denmark and Holland.

P. and W. Wrights

IN no field of aeronautical activity has rivalry been keener than between the two great American producers of air-cooled engines, Wright and Pratt and Whitney. But such is the pattern of international developments that the Canadian Pratt and Whitney company is now preparing to

build Wright R-1820 Cyclone engines for installation in de Havilland Canada-built Grumman CS2F-1 anti-submarine aircraft. Initial contracts cover a hundred machines. The version of the Cyclone selected is the R-1820-82.

Radar Airfield

PERSHORE AIRFIELD, Worcestershire, which was completed during the war, is to be used by the M.o.S. Radar Research Establishment, Malvern, for flying operations in connection with radar development. One runway is to be extended by about 500 yards.

A Boeing Birthday

CONGRATULATIONS to *Boeing Magazine* (editor, Jim Douglas) on celebrating its 25th year of publication. In the birthday issue the first editor, Harold Crary—who recently retired from the post of vice-president (sales), United Air Lines—recalls the earlier days.

Sales Talk

THREE weeks ago the Jordan Government announced that it intended to develop an air arm and was approaching Great Britain with a view to securing aircraft. Last week Jordan Radio reported that the Italian Minister in Amman had informed Jordan's Defence Minister that Italy was in a position to supply all the aircraft needed. The Italian offer, said the report, was being studied.

A Helicopter in N.Z.

NEW ZEALANDERS are soon to have their first sight of a helicopter in operation. Mr. O. G. James, of Helicopter Services, Ltd., Hamilton, has secured Government permission to use a Hiller 12B for general commercial work, including crop-spraying, publicity, and charter flying. Mike Meager, a Hiller test pilot, will spend some weeks in New Zealand instructing the new owners in helicopter operation.

Italian Loss

DUE to be flown from Florence to New York by Maner Lualdi, the new Nardi FN.333 amphibian has been destroyed in an accident during a makers' test flight. Maj. Nello Valzania, one of the most experienced Italian test pilots, was carrying out stalling trials when the aircraft entered a spin from which it did not recover. At the time of going to press it is not known whether Maj. Valzania escaped. It was he who broke the world 1,000 km closed circuit record for aircraft under 500 kg with the Rondone F.4 last December.



LORD BRABAZON, who was flying aeroplanes in 1909 and was 71 last Tuesday, with the "skeleton" on which, a fortnight ago, he won the Cresta Run Coronation Cup. He covered the course at an average speed of 44 m.p.h.—implying some 80 m.p.h. on the faster stretches.