

R.A.F. FAR EAST FLIGHT

The RAF Far East Flight's pioneering cruise from the UK to Australia and South-east Asia via the Middle and Far East using four Supermarine Southampton IIs covered some 27,000 miles (43,450km) and was hailed as a major achievement for the Service. In celebration, a souvenir pack was made available shortly afterwards, from which the hand-coloured maps and crew photographs are reproduced here exactly as they were in the original pack.

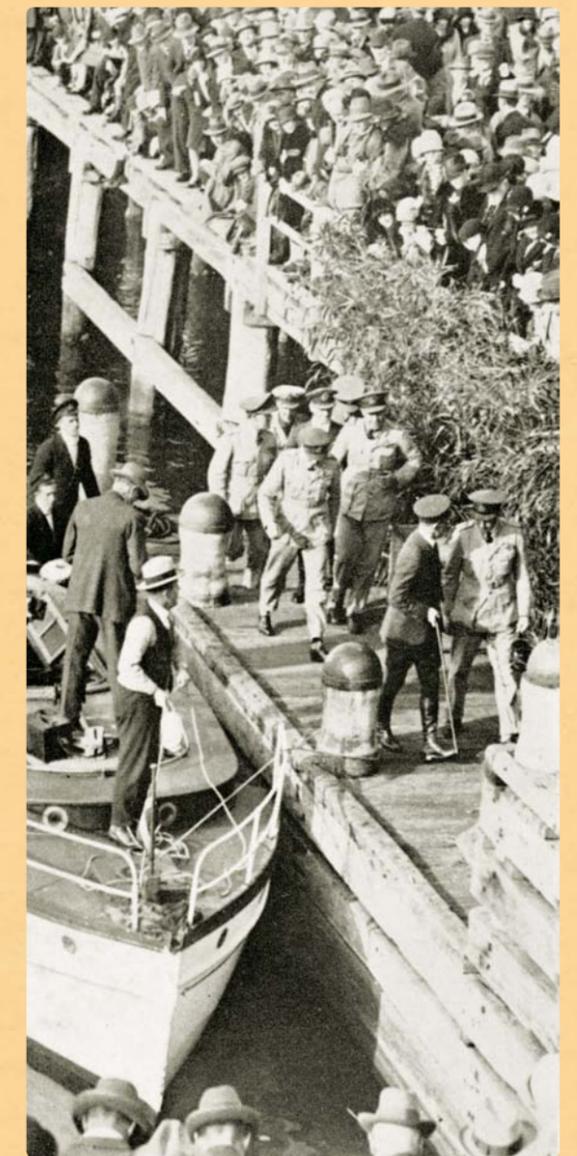
BELOW Members of the Flight come ashore at St Kilda Pier in Melbourne on June 29, 1928, to be welcomed by the Premier of Victoria, Mr Edmond Hogan.

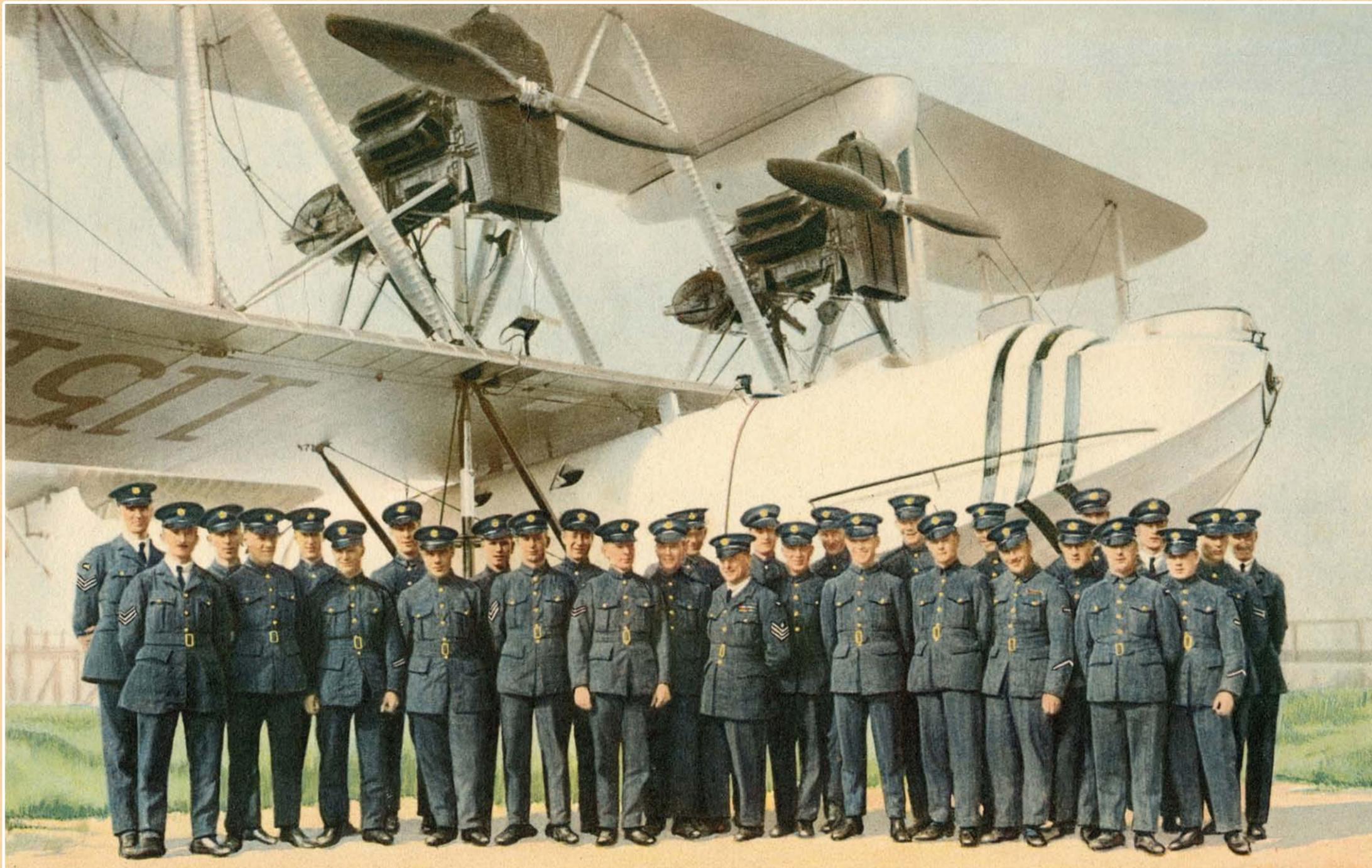


Felixstowe to Plymouth	276	Hinaldi to Basra	260	Trincomali to Pulicat	325
Plymouth to Hourtin	380	Basra to Bushire	190	Pulicat to Coconada	300
Hourtin to Berre	310	Bushire to Henjam	348	Coconada to Chilka Lake	225
Berre to Naples	440	Henjam to Gwadar	380	Chilka Lake to Calcutta	290
Naples to Brindisi	230	Gwadar to Karachi	260	Calcutta to Akyab	315
Brindisi to Athens	340	Karachi to Bombay	475	Akyab to Rangoon	320
Athens to Aboukir	500	Bombay to Mangalore	395	Rangoon to Mergui	310
Aboukir to Alexandretta	442	Mangalore to Cochin	195	Mergui to Penang	475
Alexandretta to Ramadi	418	Cochin to Colombo	315	Penang to Port Swettenham	160
Ramadi to Hinaldi	60	Colombo to Trincomali	290	Port Swettenham to Singapore	210

ROUTE-FOLLOWED-BY-THE
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Singapore to Klabar Bay	260	Israelite Bay to Murat Bay	625
Klabar Bay to Sourabaya	430	Murat Bay to Adelaide	420
Sourabaya to Bima	430	Adelaide to Melbourne	580
Bima to Koepang	350	Melbourne to Sydney	625
Koepang to Broome	460	Sydney to Brisbane	500
Broome to Port Hedland	310	Brisbane to Gladstone	325
Port Hedland to Carnarvon	520		
Carnarvon to Perth	580		
Perth to Albany	375		
Albany to Israelite Bay	380		





ABOVE The non-commissioned officers of the Flight pose beside Southampton S1151, which bears the three stripes it wore throughout the Far East Flight's epic 1927-28 cruise from the UK to Australia via the Middle and Far East. The names of the individuals in this line-up are listed in the key at RIGHT.



ABOVE A hand-coloured photographic line-up of the officers of the FEF from the souvenir brochure. Front row, from left to right: Flt Lt Wigglesworth; Sqn Ldr Livock; Gp Capt Cave-Browne-Cave; Flt Lt Maitland; Fg Off Nicholetts; Flt Lt Freeman. Back row, from l-r: Flt Lt Carnegie; Fg Off Cheesman; Flt Lt Sawyer; Fg Off Scott and Fg Off L. Horwood.

LIST OF PERSONNEL.

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| 1.—Sgt. A. E. NICOL. | 11.—L.A.C. J. WILLIAMS. | 21.—L.A.C. C. WAY. |
| 2.—F.-Sgt. W. P. SPINKS. | 12.—Corp. J. R. WALKER. | 22.—Corp. W. H. WOOD. |
| 3.—Corp. A. W. BROWN. | 13.—A.C. V. W. LEE. | 23.—L.A.C. A. W. BANNER. |
| 4.—L.A.C. F. J. HEAD. | 14.—A.C. C. YOUNG. | 24.—A.C. J. I. NETLEY. |
| 5.—L.A.C. H. THOMPSON. | 15.—F.-Sgt. T. PARRY, A.F.M. | 25.—Corp. W. PULLAN. |
| 6.—L.A.C. E. H. MYERS. | 16.—L.A.C. F. S. NELSON. | 26.—A.C. G. H. BUCKNALL. |
| 7.—A.C. H. ROSE. | 17.—L.A.C. P. HEPPLER. | 27.—Sgt. W. CUSHING. |
| 8.—Corp. W. McMEEKING. | 18.—L.A.C. J. E. SHELLEY. | 28.—L.A.C. R. HOUSTAN. |
| 9.—L.A.C. R. H. ABROOK. | 19.—L.A.C. F. E. WOODS. | 29.—Corp. J. A. COYNE. |
| 10.—Corp. A. H. HART. | 20.—A.C. S. W. COATES. | 30.—Sgt. J. R. SEMPLE. |

