

Sea and air fight staged for radio

ONE of the most complicated technical feats in the BBC's history is involved in the sea-and-air battle which is being specially staged in the Channel for Light programme listeners today.

The Royal Navy are putting to sea the aircraft-carrier *Illustrious* and her escort destroyer *Ulster* to fight off a combined submarine and air "attack." Six BBC commentators will give a running eye-witness account of the operation.

Two of them, including Wynford Vaughan Thomas, in an "enemy" airplane, will broadcast from the air through microphones in oxygen masks. The other "enemy" commentator will be ex-submarine commander Charles Parker, on board the submarine *Auriga*.

Engineers have been busy for weeks installing broadcasting equipment. In each of the ships will be a transmitter. The commentaries will be received on board the *Illustrious*, nerve-centre for the broadcasting operation, sent by radio link to a shore station near Portland and then passed on by land-line to Broadcasting House.