



Travel-weary, tenny-bopper idol David Cassidy, protected by strict security

measures, received a low-key welcome when he arrived at Auckland International Airport today.

Cassidy (24), whose travels have caused chaos at airports around the world, was met by only 200 of his Auckland admirers.

The crowd was swelled to about 500 by mums and dads, press-ganged into an early morning airport visit, and passengers and friends waiting for other flights.

The security which surrounded his arrival had been planned to cope with a much bigger crowd of screaming fans.

He was cleared through Customs on the Air New Zealand DC-10 and boarded a waiting bus.

The bus drove slowly past the fans who broke ranks and chased it out of the airport. Two young girls who clambered on the back of the vehicle as it passed were ordered off by a following police car.

Two eggs smashed against the side of the bus as it moved away from the terminal area.

Cassidy left the bus at a Mangere hotel and continued his journey into town in a black limousine.

A spokesman for Harry M. Miller, who is presenting the Cassidy concert, confirmed that arrangements had been made to deal with a large crowd.

"We anticipated the sort of welcome he has received at other airports," she said. "The prospect of rain must have kept many fans away."

A Customs department spokesman said it was normal procedure for an international star to be cleared on board the plane if a large crowd was expected.

Cassidy to move indoors

The venue of the David Cassidy concert has been changed from Eden Park to the Auckland Town Hall, and the date from Tuesday to Wednesday, February 27.

Cassidy will give two shows on the Wednesday night — one at 5.30 p.m., the other at 8.30 p.m.

All tickets will be transferred to the Wednesday night concerts. It is expected that those unable to attend the Wednesday night concerts will have their money refunded.

Promoter Harry Miller, of Harry Miller Attractions, said the change was due to the possibility of bad weather.