AUSTRALIAN

SNOWY ROUTE KO'S FOUR IN BP RALLY

The mud-spattered cars of the 1966 BP rally began arriving in Canberra last night — their drivers tired and weary after a gruelling journey over the Snowy Mountains.

At 8.30 last night, 24 of the 37 starters had arrived at Lonsdale Street for their first of two overnight rests.

The Snowy Mountains, hazardous in good weather, claimed four cars yesterday, when bleak weather conditions swept the district.

Leading the field last night, with a loss of only nine points, was the only South Australian team, driver Mr S. McLeod and navigator Mr J. Lock, in a Volkswagen.

All the cars were impounded in Canberra last night, and will be flagged away from Black Mountain Peninsula at 8.30 this morning, by the member for the A.C.T., Mr J. Fraser.

The 2000-mile four-day rally started simultaneously in Sydney, Melbourne and Adelaide last Wednesday.

All entrants travelled 500 miles along main roads to an assembly point at Albury, where on Thursday morning they set off by back roads and little known tracks through the Snowy Mountains to Canberra.

The 16 NSW entrants included the only woman driver in the rally, Miss Beverly Barclay.

Late last night, however, she had not arrived in Canberra.

Another well-known Sydney starter, and one of Australia's most colorful rally drivers, is Mr Jack Murray. But he, also, was well out of the race.

In the four days of the rally, crews will have only two overnight rests at Canberra and at Bairnsdale, Victoria, on Saturday.

The rally, organised by the Light Car Club of Australia, ends at Chadstone on the outskirts of Melbourne, next Sunday afternoon.