

LORD MAYOR

x-754040

SV Ladies and gentlemen I have the honour to give you the toast Her Majesty the Queen.

~~NATIONAL ANTHEM~~

DRINK & SIT DOWN.

\* SV May it please your Majesty, I have a telegram sent me by.....

SV May it please your Majesties, your loyal Highnesses, your grace, your excellencies, my lords, ladies and gentlemen, today the citizens of London join with their brothers and sisters of the British Commonwealth in joyous welcome upon the safe return home of your Majesty and His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh from your exacting and brilliant visit to Nigeria, the first such visit ever made by a reigning sovereign. Home is a simple word. Constitutionally your Majesty is at home in every country of the commonwealth, at home in England and in Nigeria, but we ~~wish~~ shall be understood if we think affectionately of our beloved Queen and her husband and family at home in our great capital of London.

LV The strenuous journey from which you have just returned is, in itself, an indication of your Majesty's high sense, not only of the responsibilities but also of the opportunities of sovereignty.

GV May I quote, as fitting the thoughts of all of us today, the words that ~~was~~ Shakespear put into the mouth of Archbishop Crammer in the christening ~~was~~ in this city of London of England's first Queen Elizabeth. 'She shall be the pattern of all princes that succeed and those about her from her shall learn the perfect way of honour

Ladies and gentlemen I give you the toast Her Majesty the Queen and His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh.

QUEEN

SV I thank you my Lord Mayor for your welcome to my husband and myself and for your words about our visit to Nigeria. And I thank you all for the warmth and kindness with which you have responded to the toast. I have, myself, been fortunate to be born in an age when great distances can be covered with a speed which would have been undreamt of years ago. To cross in one night the great Sahara desert, and from the great city of Kano to London is in itself a marvel, but to me it is something more, it is a blessing. For this great conquest of distance enables me to see my peoples and the countries in which they live in the first four years of my reign. In the three weeks we have spent in Nigeria, the largest colonial territory, we have seen a great deal and have seen enough to take away the conviction that it is full of promise and the memory of the people whose warm hearted welcome will always be with us. — — — Nigeria.

CU I hope that she will always remain a member of our brotherhood and freely associated nations and will play a part in it to her own advantage and to the advantage of the commonwealth.

LV As you can imagine, my Lord Mayor, my husband and I have many grateful memories of our visit which we will always treasure. The tropical vegetation of the south, the rolling plains of the north, the horsemen, and in all places the great welcome. For that welcome and the loyalty it showed I am deeply grateful.

CU When I spoke to the people of Nigeria from Lagos a week ago I told them of my gratitude for my welcome and their kindness. I would like to repeat those words now in this historic Guildhall in which many members of my family have spoken. The interest of the people of Nigeria will always be my concern and their health and happiness my earnest prayer.