The Royal Tour liner "Gothic" ploughs across the broad Pacific - bound for the loyal South Sea islands of Fiji - and escorted by the cruiser "Sheffield."

The first stop comes in mid-ocean - when the Royal Tourists pay a visit to the "Sheffield". The Queen and the Duke cross from the Gothic in the barge of Vice-admiral Stevens - C.in-C West Indies Station.

During the visit - Their legistics were photographed on the forecastle - with the ship's company streament source for the ore brooking the monotogous routing of foreign associations.

And the Queen returned with an iced cake, with the which the Cooks of H.M.S. Shaffield had prepared as a special surprise...

the traditional "Crossing the Line" Ceremony, with the Duke as the Demon

Barber" of King Neptune's Court, spreads mock terror into the hearts of the uninitated...

The "Ordeal" was confined to members of the Royal Household and Ladies-in-Waiting. Lady Pamela Mountbatten was duly lead....and despatched in the style of a nautical Sweeney Todd.

Late in the proceedings, dissension broke out, as the Court tried to persuade each other to accept the "Order of the Bath" A free-for-all,

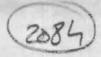
her bentional ducking during the South African Tour,

The voyage continued - though not without further incident, for Surgeon Lt-Commander A.P. Nichol of the Sheffield was transferred to the Gothic to assist in an emergency operation.

Having reached Southern waters, the Sheffield was replaced on escort duty by the New Zeeland cruiser "Black Prince," and the property of the Prince, and the

As the Sheffield turned northward, the Black Prince took up her station - watched by the Queen, who had filmed, with her cine camera, the change-over ceremony.

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And at this time of farewell to the Sheffield, the Queen gave the order to

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Though the Gothic was now, well into the tropics, festive preparations was not forgotten . Plum pudding testes good in any climate...

Nearer to Fiji - and Her Majesty honoured the Black Prince with a personal visit, to meet the officers of the new escort-vessel.

And in a colourful ceremony under southern skies, acknowledged the formal greetings of the crew as they marched past their Sovereign.



THE GOTHICE Desired the seventeen-day journey from Panama to Fiji is nearly over ...

And as the Royal Liner anchors off Suve, the capital, the sails of countless little ships fill with the first breath of welcome ... Soon after arrival, fire Fijian Chiefs come aboard to perform the time-honoured ceremony of the lokels- to assure the Queen that her visit will be welcomed by the Island.

During the ritual, a Whale's tooth - (the most valued emblem in Fiji) was presented to the Queen. The ceremony goes back to the days when the arrival of faretguers strangers brought fear of treachery

Then - by the Royal Barge - the Queen and the Duke came ashore - the first visit km of a Reigning Monarch to the Colony And, according to tradition, the people stood in respectful silence - though the first act of welcome spoke volumes, when little four year-old Adi Mei Kainona presented a bouquet of tropical blooms ...

on a day of below ceremonial, (for Fiji is a land where ancient custom and the little has survived the changing years) the most impressive spectacle came at Albert Park ...

Here, Fijian chiefs and their Ladies paid homage to the "High Chieftainess" as the Queen is called in this South See island.

Each Chief in turn made a speech of welcome - and presented | Whale's teeth hung with sinnet cord - a symbol of the highest loyalty ...

Then followed the Kava Ceremony, as three chiefs mixed the sacred drink - made from the root of the Yagona plant

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Traditional dances of welcome w

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During the afternoon, the Queen visited several schools - and case had tes in a garden shelter, built of comount-palm leaves - while schoolxchildren song and danced to her

wooder tal Darkness brought another unit spectacle - as five hundred Fijians (carrying flaming brands) escorted the Queen and the Duke as they drove along the sea-front to a State Ball, as the Royal Pacific Hotel



buring the evening, there came a personal appearance on the balcony of the hotel. And spontaneous cheering broke out to greet the Queen -

looking radiant in a crinoline gown of blue and silver lace.. The next day, the Queen addressed the Legislative Council and held an Investiture - at which, in addition to civil awards - medals were presented to Figian soldiers for acts of bravery in Malaya ... Fiji had lived its greatest day In the seventy-nine years history as a the blood Fiji would glow as because of

British Colony. The visit of the Queen.