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Royal Farewll to Nigeria   17th Feb. 1956

Nigeria: Waving farewell from the observation platform of a special white
and silver train, the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh left Lagos, on the
final lap of the tour.

They were speeding North -to Ibadan, where a Rally of Ex-Servicemen
welcomed them to the world's largest all-African city.

During a tour of the Moor Plantation, (an agricultural research station),
the Queen sought the shelter of a sunshade against the tropical heat.

The final visit in Nigeria was made to Kano, the ~~centre of the Moslem~~ ancient walled city
To which ~~So~~ many had travelled hundreds of miles to greet their Queen
~~world~~. Here, for six hours ~~during the long flight home~~, the Queen and
the Duke ~~enjoyed~~ enjoyed the hospitality of the Emir - in his
OLD
five-hundred year palace.

Later, at the floodlit airport, the Emir said good-bye to his Royal
guests - and the first visit of a Reigning Sovereign to Nigeria was an
inspiring memory.

In about sixteen hours, the great airliner bridged the tropical plains
with a wintry, yet warm-hearted family welcome at London Airport.

As the Argonaut "Atalanta" finally came to a halt , Princess Anne won the
race to greet her parents ; ~~and was~~ first up the gangway, eagerly
followed by her brother - ~~who now, had no time for tears.~~

Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother and Princess Margaret, too, joined the
joyous family reunion.

Welcoming cheers greeted the Queen - who has, in twenty-one crowded days,
forged a closer parental ~~link~~ bond with a young Nation - swiftly
approaching political maturity.

Then, the official greetings, from the Lord Lieut. of Middlesex.
Sir Anthony Eden on behalf of the Government - while three Nigerian
Commissioners in London re-echoed the grateful thanks of the Colony.

And now, in near-freezing temperatures, came another link with that sunny
land, when the Queen acknowledged the welcome from Nigerian Cadets ,
under training at Sandhurst.

All was ready for the Royal departure; then, Her Majesty ~~the Queen~~ remembered
something. A last word with her Mother... ~~A dutiful daughter~~ The Queen had rejoined
the family circle...

~~The ... Buckingham ...~~