

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 ^{ancient walled city} ~~centre of the Moslem~~ world. Here, for six hours, ~~during the long flight home~~, the Queen and ~~the Duke~~

To witness SO MANY HAD TRAVELLED HUNDREDS OF MILES TO GREET THEIR QUEEN

~~the Duke~~ ^{OLD} enjoyed the hospitality of the Emir - in his 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~~ 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~~ ^{The Queen} Mother... ~~A dutiful daughter~~ had rejoined the family circle...

~~The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh returned to Buckingham Palace.~~

Homecoming~~Through the~~

Londoners lined the streets:-
Throughout the drive to Buckingham Palace, ~~the excitement of London~~
and their cheers, not only brought warmth to a chilly homecoming -
but seemed also to bear a message - a common tribute for a job well done
The great tour was over ; after flying sixteen thousand miles and
carrying out 150 engagements, often in tropical heat - the Queen was
home.