

Ark Royal

Portsmouth: Britain's newest aircraft-carrier, H.M.S. Ark Royal welcomed a ~~distinguished visitor~~ ^{WITNESSED SOME} when the Queen Mother came to inspect the ~~new~~ vessel - which she launched ~~xxxxxxx~~ ^{AFTER TAKING} nearly six years ago. ~~She was accompanied by...~~ ⁽²⁾ the salute at a march past of the ship's company, ~~Her Majesty drove along~~ ^{HER MAJESTY DROVE ALONG} ~~the Flight Deck, through~~ ^{the} lines of Bluejackets. ~~Then~~ ^{THEN} the Queen Mother entered a Royal Naval "Whirlwind" helicopter for the return journey to London.

Shinto Festival

The Far East: Among the many strange religious customs of the world, none is more fervid than this one - staged in the town of Imazawa - in Central Japan.

Twenty thousand pilgrims from all over the country brave an icy shower-bath though the temperature is well below zero. In this way, they ~~imagine~~ ^{believe} that they are washing away evil spirits - and so will enjoy a year of good fortune.

Baby Bear

Whipsnade: Anewcomer joins the Easter Parade at the famous open-air Zoo - a baby Polar Bear that has been christened "Spitfire".

The new arrival came from the Nuremberg Zoo - in exchange for two baby bison, and for two pins she'd go right back again.

~~No...~~ ^{"A VERY BADLY DENALED BEAR" THINK} ~~...~~ ^{THE REGULAR INHATES. ANYWAY, THE} ~~...~~ ^{SPITFIRE} Zoo officials are hoping that ~~she~~ will rival ~~the~~ baby Brumas in popularity. If so, she'll certainly have to mend her ways.