

Gliding through ~~the~~ tropical waters, the Royal Yacht "Britannia" nears the peaceful, palm-fringed shores of New Guinea. There, a warm island welcome awaited the Duke of Edinburgh - making his Olympic Year visit to Australia. /s

At Port Moresby, the service-medals of the Guard of Honour remind us that war once ravaged these islands. While the welcoming Governor-General of Australia can be recognised as Field Marshal Sir William Slim. Arriving at the time of Commonwealth remembrance - the Duke was to learn something of those ~~dark~~ ^{grim} war-years - when Australia herself was threatened. / And with brave members of the Papua and New Guinea Volunteers Rifles (advance scouts in the Allied campaign) he paid ~~tribute~~ tribute to New Guinea, Australian and British fallen at Lae War-Cemetery. The eagerly-awaited Royal Visit was marked by celebrations, too, especially when His Royal Highness attended a review of over five thousand natives. /

One of the island's staple industries ~~is~~ ^{is} the export of timber, and the Duke watched huge pine logs being loaded, ready for the ~~processing~~ processing mills - to become plywood veneers and building materials. / Receiving an enthusiastic welcome as he passed through ~~several~~ ~~several~~ ventres - the Duke arrived at Gabersis Village. There, he met ~~the most~~ important members of a typical community, and received a hand-carved model canoe - ~~probably~~ ^{No doubt} a birthday present for Prince Charles. /