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PATHE FRONT PAGE

The first Royal film show packed London's Leicester Square with the biggest, noisiest, smartest and best-humoured crush in West End memory. It was a night for stars, and many thousands watched their arrival. By the time the King and Queen and the Princess reached the theatre, only a narrow lane remained, well covered by the fire of flash bulbs.

Making the first bow was a bouquet team of film-stars' children. The Queen wore a gown of heavy ivory and gold brocaded satin, and Princess Elizabeth was in white satin and net. 3,500 guests paid £30,000 for tickets. All the money goes to the Cinematograph Trade Benevolent Fund. Pretty well everybody in pictures was there. Here's Stewart Granger, Maria Montez,

And now meet lovely Joan Bennett, British star Patricia Ree and Hollywood's Reginald Gardiner. After which, you get a puzzled look from Birmingham-born Sid Field.

American and British stars joined. In this shot you see Joan Bennett, Patricia Ree, the Reginald Gardiners the Ray Millands, Walter Wanger and Eric Portman.

And to mark the occasion, the big names of cinema were presented to Their Majesties.

With Laurence Olivier, Bessie Love, Bud Flanagan, and Will Hay as clues, the Royal Film Show ends on a "spot the stars" picture.

At Fulham Palace, Pathe's social reporter found the Bishop of London acting as host to six American beauties who are over here on a fashion tour. With Dr. Ward as guide, the girls were shown over the Palace.

Glamour comes to Fulham Palace.

From Palestine, new despatches report on the intensified terrorist drive. Here is the scene at the Jerusalem railway station. A red-haired Jewish girl planted two suitcase bombs and drove off in a stolen car under covering fire from her accomplices. In moving the bombs, one British police sergeant was killed. The same day, in the northern limits of Jerusalem, three British army trucks were ambushed and blown up. Two men of the Royal Ulster Rifles were killed, eleven were injured. Again the world asks, how long must this bloodshed continue?

But still terrorism spreads. Newest outbreak is in Rome. Our reporter there, sends this coverage showing damage done to the British

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Embassy when a bomb exploded. Two people were killed.

Five days after the explosion, the terrorist organisation, Irgun Svai Leumi, broadcast a declaration claiming responsibility for the bombing.

To the Tower of London comes something new in a long history. To see it, came a crowd, a Field-Marshal and two Generals. All for the hero of the day, a carrier pigeon by the name of G.I. Joe.

A blue, check-splashed cock-bird, American-hatched G.I. Joe carried a message through an artillery bombardment in Italy and saved units of the 56th London Division.

Now, he's got the most important chest in Britain. On it is the Dickin Medal, the V.C. of the feathered world. To get it, Joe came by air from America, but not under his own power. And for all that, to some folk, he's still just a pigeon.

Here, from our Australian cricket reporter, first pictures of prince of batsmen, Don Bradman. With opening bat Ridings, Bradman leads South Australia's reply to Wally Hammond's first innings-score of 506 for five declared. Australia's white hope in the coming Test, this Bradman preview helps the fern spotters. At 38, Don's a bit stiff in the joints, but the strokes, and the tricks are still there.

The match was drawn but Bradman made a faultless 76. Still a power in cricket-land, we shall be reporting further on his come-back.

This is the Pathe News reporter, looking over the first barrack square of Monty's new army. From six years in the army I remember a dozen squares exactly like this, a Sergeant-major like this, and, when you did dismiss, a dreary trek to the barrack room. When you got there, you found concrete floors, a coke stove and an atmosphere like a Charles Dickens warehouse. They looked like this, and it's taken Monty's new army to shake 'em up. And shake 'em up it has. Let me introduce you to a new kind of soldier.

When I was serving, they didn't have this sort of lights out.

I got a better break on the next story. It started with the days to Christmas shortening - and Mr. Strachey promising to give us all the bird - straight from Ireland. Pathe wanted a sturkey story - and here's me, I just wanted a turkey.