

MARINES SCORE A HIT AT ROYAL TOURNAMENT

A thrill-a-minute. That's the verdict on London's 59th Royal Tournament - the biggest and best ever. Olympia is crowded with 10,000 spectators, including Field-Marshal Sir William Slim, as a combined services team opens a brilliant show with a spectacular gymnastic display.

The Royal Engineers take over. Teams from Germany and Eastern Command stage a private battle - to build, in the fastest time possible - the war-winning Bailey Bridge.

The last joins are made. The final sections move into place. Completed in record time is a replica of a bridge over which the Allied armies moved into Europe. Able to take the heaviest traffic, the Bailey Bridge is the World's engineering marvel.

Cheers for the sappers and more cheers for the next on parade - the Royal Marines! Accompanied by the band of the Royal Naval School of Music, the King's Squad goes through a text-book drill.

From hard-bitten veterans comes generous applause as the Marines show their skill.

Splendid in their bearing, the Marines - soldiers on land and sea - well warrant a salute from the Royal Tournament thousands.