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PRINCESS VISITS LITTLE U.S.A. IN MALTA

Princess Elizabeth meets the Navy. Ships of the Mediterranean Fleet at anchor in Valetta salute the Royal launch - as it takes the Princess and Prince Philip to the American cruiser DES MOINES, flagship of the 6th U.S. task Fleet.

Earlier in the day, the Princess had visited ships of the Royal Indian Navy, while the Duke was on duty in H.M.S. CHEQUERS. Now, Prince Philip is there to share the Princess' interest in the American cruiser's prime possession - a helicopter - the modern equivalent of an Admiral's barge.

The Princess' personal standard is hauled in from the mainmast, as the Royal visit to Malta's little America comes to an end. On the previous evening, officers from the American ship attended a gala ball. The hosts are the Saddle Club. The guests of honour - the Princess and the Duke. In the same dance with the Princess is her cousin, Lady Pamela Mountbatten.

An evening of gaiety Valetta will long remember.