

PRINCESS MEETS THE NAVY IN MALTA

In Valetta Harbour ships of the Mediterranean Fleet are dressed overall - a signal of celebration in the Navy. The occasion is a double one. It's the King's 54th birthday and it brings a visit from Princess Elizabeth. Prince Philip's destroyer - H.M.S. Chequers - had led the Navy's greeting to the Royal launch as it crossed the harbour to the aircraft carrier Glory. Coming up on the flight deck the Princess meets a representative contingent from each of the ships in Valetta Harbour.

Though the men of the Mediterranean Fleet are not often in the public limelight, the Princess' visit marks the nation's appreciation of the work these gallant sailors are performing day by day. Theirs is a task that helps to secure Britain's lifelines with the Commonwealth. For duty well done, they now receive Royal recognition.

Though Prince Philip's duties in Malta are likely to keep him there for some considerable time, the Princess is expected to return to Britain in the New Year. The Queen is at the moment attending public functions normally visited by the Princess. At the annual exhibition of the Royal Society of Needlework, the Queen awards a first prize to a lone man in a hall-full of women. He is John Brown, a civil servant and despite his husbandly assets, still a bachelor!

And here is the tapestry that won bachelor John Brown his first class certificate - a work of art that earned him Royal congratulations.