

PRESIDENT TITO'S VISIT TO THE UNITED KINGDOM

President Tito, who is on his way to this country by sea, will arrive in London on the afternoon of Monday, 16th March, accompanied by his Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, M. Popovic. He will be met on arrival by H.R.H. The Duke of Edinburgh, the Prime Minister, and the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs. The Royal Navy will provide a Guard of Honour.

He will drive with the Prime Minister to No. 10 Downing Street and will then lay a wreath on the Cenotaph. Subsequently the Prime Minister will call on him at the Yugoslav Embassy.

President Tito will be received in audience by The Queen and will lunch at Buckingham Palace. His engagements will include dinner parties with the Prime Minister at No. 10 Downing Street and with the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs at No. 1 Carlton Gardens. He will also be received by the London County Council. There will be both a luncheon and a reception at the Yugoslav Embassy.

As previously announced there will be official talks and time will also be set aside for visits to various places of interest in London and the vicinity.

M. Popovic will, at the invitation of the Inter-Parliamentary Union, address members of both Houses of Parliament on March 19th. On March 20th he will give a Press Conference at the Yugoslav Embassy.

President Tito will leave this country by sea on Saturday, 21st March.

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No. 63/53

ARRIVAL OF PRESIDENT TITO

The Yugoslav naval ship GALEB in which President Tito is coming to the United Kingdom is to bring the President up the Thames on Monday (March 16th).

The GALEB is expected off Ushant at approximately 4 a.m. on Sunday and the R.N. escort of two destroyers - H.M.S. GABBARD (Commander P.G.C. Dickens, D.S.O., M.B.E., D.S.C., R.N.) and H.M.S. BARROSA (Commander T.W. Best, R.N.) - which joined her at Gibraltar, will be strengthened as it approaches the United Kingdom by the destroyers ZEPHYR (Captain I.R. Sarel, D.S.C., R.N.) and ORWELL (Lieutenant-Commander D.G. Smeaton, R.N.).

This escort will bring the GALEB to the Great Nore at the entrance to the Thames, where it will be relieved by four fast patrol craft of the Royal Navy.

The fast patrol craft will then escort the GALEB up river and in the higher reaches President Tito will transfer to a Port of London Authority launch in which he will conclude the passage to London. The fast patrol craft will continue to escort the launch to the final landing place.

The President on landing will be received by a Royal Naval Guard and Band of 166 officers and men from the Nore Command, commanded by Lieutenant-Commander H.W.A. Lester, R.N.

The First Sea Lord (Admiral Sir Rhoderick McGrigor, G.C.B., D.S.O.) and the Commander-in-Chief, The Nore (Admiral The Hon. Sir Cyril E. Douglas-Pennant, K.C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O., D.S.C.) will be presented to him on disembarkation.

While President Tito is in London the GALEB will enter Shadwell Basin, where she will remain until Friday (March 20th), and subsequently will re-embark the President on his departure. The GALEB will be escorted down river by Royal Naval fast patrol craft, the escort being subsequently taken over by destroyers of the Royal Navy for the onward passage down Channel and to the Mediterranean.

Admiralty, S.W.1.
12th March, 1953.