

THE VISIT OF THE QUEEN TO CLYDEBANK: APRIL 16, 1953

Programme of Events

- 10.00 a.m. The Queen arrives at Dumbarton Central Railway Station.
- The Lord Lieutenant (Major-General A.P.D. Telfer-Smollett, C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O., M.C.), the Sheriff of Stirling, Dumbarton and Clackmannan (R.H. Maconochie, Esq., O.B.E., Q.C.), the Provost (Alan McLeod, Esq.) and the Magistrates and Councillors of Dumbarton will be in attendance at the Railway Station.
- The Lord Lieutenant will present the Sheriff of Stirling, Dumbarton and Clackmannan, the Provost and the Lady Provost (Mrs. McLeod) to The Queen.
- The Provost will present the following persons to The Queen:
- Bailie Andrew Mair
 - Bailie James H. Cameron
 - Bailie John Johnson
 - Bailie William L. Smith
 - J.D. Smith, Esq., Town Clerk.
- 10.15 a.m. The Queen motors to Vale of Leven Industrial Estate, travelling via Dumbarton Common, Townend Road and Stirling Road.
- 10.25 a.m. The Queen arrives at Vale of Leven.
- The Convener of Dumbarton County Council (D.L. Stewart, Esq.,) and the Chairman of Scottish Industrial Estates (Lord Bilsland) will be in attendance.
- The Lord Lieutenant will present the Convener and the Chairman of the Scottish Industrial Estates to The Queen.
- The Convener will present the following persons to The Queen:
- Provost A. Gordon (Vice-Convener, Dumbarton County Council)
 - Walter Skinner, Esq., (Chairman, Vale of Leven District Council)
 - Hugh Craig, Esq., (Chairman, Dumbartonshire Joint Police Committee)
 - A.A. Templeton, Esq., C.B.E., County Clerk.
- The Chairman of Scottish Industrial Estates will present the following persons to The Queen:
- Col. Hugh B. Spens, C.B.E., D.S.O., D.L.
(Vice-Chairman, Scottish Industrial Estates)
 - John S. Coleman, Esq.
President Burroughs Adding Machine Co. Ltd.
 - W.J. Arris, Esq.,
Managing Director, Burroughs Adding Machine Co. Ltd.
 - C. Dunlop, Esq.,
Vice-President, Burroughs Adding Machine Co. Ltd.
 - J. Fitzgergerald, Esq.,
General Manager, Burroughs Adding Machine Co. Ltd.
 - W.C. Fletcher, Esq.,
Secretary, Burroughs Adding Machine Co. Ltd.
 - R. Muir Glen, Esq.,
Managing Director of Westclox, Ltd.
 - Miss Madge Coll,
Head Cook, Estate Canteen
 - Miss Agnes Paton Constable,
Commercial Inspector, Burroughs Adding Machine Co. Ltd.
- The Queen visits Messrs. Burroughs' factory and plants a tree to commemorate Her visit before leaving.

10.50 a.m. The Queen leaves for Dumbarton Castle, travelling via Estate Road, Stirling Road, Bonhill Road, Strathleven Place, Church Street, Castle Street and Glasgow Road and Victoria Street.

11.05 a.m. The Queen arrives at the Castle and receives the Keys.

11.35 a.m. The Queen motors to the Housing Scheme at Mountblow, Clydebank, travelling via Victoria Street, Glasgow Road, Dumbarton, Great Western Road to Dunglass roundabout then through Bowling and Old Kilpatrick, Mountblow Road, Melbourne Avenue and Kimberley Street.

11.55 a.m. The Queen arrives at Mountblow.

The Provost (Alexander W. Braes Esq., O.B.E.), the Magistrates and Councillors of Clydebank will be in attendance.

The Lord Lieutenant will present the Provost and Lady to The Queen.

The Provost will present the following persons to The Queen:

Bailie John Chalmers
Bailie Alexander Blackwell
Bailie Thomas West
Bailie John Longden
Bailie Donald Paterson
Bailie Francis Downie
Henry Kelly, Esq., Town Clerk
Samuel Bunton, Esq., Architect
Edward Cernock, Esq., Burgh Engineer.

The Queen visits the houses in Hobart Crescent.

12.15 p.m. The Queen leaves Hobart Crescent for John Brown's Shipyard, Clydebank, travelling via Perth Crescent, Mountblow Road, Great Western Road, Kilbowie Road and Glasgow Road.

12.30 p.m. The Queen arrives at the Model Room in Clydebank Shipyard.
The Managing Director and Directors will be in attendance.

12.45 p.m. The Queen takes luncheon with the Directors.

2.10 p.m. The Queen leaves for the Launching Platform.

2.30 p.m. The Queen performs the Launching Ceremony of the Royal Yacht.

2.45 p.m. The Queen leaves the Launching Platform and returns to the Model Room.

Lord Aberconway presents a Souvenir to The Queen.

The Queen replies.

3.15 p.m. The Queen leaves for Clydebank railway station.

3.30 p.m. The Queen leaves by special train from Clydebank railway station.

The Lord Lieutenant of Dunbartonshire and the Provost of Clydebank will be in attendance.

Press Office,
St. Andrew's House,
Edinburgh, 1.

Tel. CENTral 2500. Extns. 629, 685, 705, 710.

INTERESTING DATES IN CONNECTION WITH DUMBARTON CASTLE

- A.D. 5th-6th centuries Known as Altclut or Dunbreatan - the fort of the Britons - Dumbarton was the capital of the Kingdom of Strathclyde.
- 870 The capital was attacked by the Viking King, Olaf the White, who besieged the stronghold for four months before the defenders capitulated.
- 12th-13th centuries In early mediaeval times, a castle, probably of timber, was established on the rock. After 1238 the castle was raised to the dignity of a royal fortress.
- 1292 The fortress was captured by Edward I who delivered it to Baliol. From 1296-1309, it was in English hands.
- 1543 The Earl of Lennox fortified the castle in the name of Mary, Queen of Scots.
- 1548 Mary, Queen of Scots, stayed at the castle before embarking for France where she remained at the Court of Henry II until her marriage to the Dauphin.
- 1571 Captain Crawford captured the castle from Lord Fleming who was holding it on behalf of Queen Mary.
- 1735-36 The present Governor's House was built on the site of the original Gatehouse together with the outer fortifications known as King George's Battery. The Governor at this time was John, eighth Earl of Cassillis.
- 1745 After Culloden, the Marquis of Tullibardine was imprisoned in the castle.
- 1800-26 French prisoners of war imprisoned here.
- 1847 Visited by Queen Victoria who planted a tree and was anxious to see the spot where Mary, Queen of Scots, embarked for France.
- 1937 Visited by their Majesties, King George VI and Queen Elizabeth, when the King received the Keys.

Telephones

EDINBURGH TRUNKS 51/3.

CURRIE 233/5 and 312.

Ext 15

H.Q. 3rd ANTI-AIRCRAFT GROUP,

RICCARTON HOUSE,

CURRIE,

Midlothian.

10 Apr 53

D.O. 3AA/3206/3/A

Dear Sir,

On the occasion of Her Majesty the Queen's visit to Dumbarton Castle on 16 Apr 53 to receive the Keys, 554 (A & S.H.) LAA Regiment R.A., T.A. will have the distinction of providing a Guard of Honour of 3 Officers and 48 other ranks. Also present will be the Regimental Pipe Band, some 20 in number, which will play during Her Majesty's inspection of the Guard of Honour.

This Regiment was originally raised as 1st Dumbartonshire Volunteers in 1860 and the unit commenced to wear the uniform of the Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders in 1887. Three Companies took part in the South African War. On formation of the TA in 1908 the unit became 9 Bn Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders and in the first World War served in France, suffering heavy casualties at the second Battle of Ypres. It was re-organised in 1924 and as the County Regiment moved its Headquarters to Dumbarton Castle in 1925.

In early 1939 the Battalion was converted to an AA Regiment becoming 54 LAA Regt RA. It went to France on 26 Sep 1939, and was evacuated via Dunkirk after suffering heavy casualties in gallant defensive action on the canal banks and beaches. After very intensive training in the United Kingdom, the Regiment returned to France in August 1944, as part of the 1st Canadian Army. After a very successful career the Regiment was disbanded on the 15 March 1945. It was reconstituted on the 17 March 1947, under the title of 554 LAA Regiment RA (A & S.H) TA and forms part of the 68 AA Bde RA.

The present strength of the Regiment is 11 Officers and about 300 other ranks of whom practically all the officers and approximately half of the other ranks are volunteers. Over 25% of the National Servicemen posted to this Regiment have become volunteers.

The Regiment is commanded by Lieut-Colonel J. CAMERON, T.D., R.A. (T.A.) and the Honorary Colonel is Lieut-General Sir Gordon H. MACMILLAN, K.C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O., M.C. The latter who is GOC-in-C Gibraltar will unfortunately not be present.

A small number of troops from this Group will also be lining part of the approach to the Castle. These will consist of ~~4 Officers and 30 Other Ranks from 554 LAA Regiment~~ and 2 Officers and 30 Other Ranks together with 3 Officers WRAC and 20 Other Ranks WRAC from 417 (M) HAA Regiment RA (Dumbartonshire (T.A.)).

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This ~~3rd~~ Regiment was originally formed in 1860 as the Dunbartonshire Artillery Volunteers and in 1902 its title was changed, on amalgamation, to 1st Renfrewshire and Dunbartonshire Garrison Artillery. It remained as Heavy Artillery until 1935 when one of the two Batteries was converted to Medium Artillery. This subsequently formed a Battery of 54 LA Regiment RA and the account of this Regiment's activities in the last war is mentioned above.

On the reconstitution of the Territorial Army in 1947 the unit was reformed as 417 Coast Regiment RA TA and in 1948 was converted to its present role of a Mixed Heavy Anti-Aircraft Regiment, as part of 77 Anti-Aircraft Brigade.

The present strength of this Regiment is 14 Officers and about 200 Other Ranks of which 4 Officers and some 30 Other Ranks are WRAC. Of approximately 100 National Servicemen over half have become volunteers.

The Commanding Officer of 417 (M) HA Regiment is Lt-Col R.S. MURRAY, TD RA (TA) and the Honorary Colonel is Lieut-Colonel W.G. WRIGHT, MC, TD.

Also present at Dumbarton Castle on Thursday will be Major-General W.R. GOODMAN, DSO, MC, GOC 3 Anti-Aircraft Group, Brigadier J.G. WOLFE-BARRY, OBE, Commanding 68 Anti-Aircraft Brigade and Brigadier M.D.S. BLINDERS, Commanding 77 Anti-Aircraft Brigade.

Yours faithfully,

EFED/MRD

From: Major E.F.P. DOBSON, R.A. (P.R.O.)

Telephones:—

EDINBURGH TRUNKS 51/3.

CURRIE 233/5 and 312.

Ext. 15

H.Q. 3rd ANTI-AIRCRAFT GROUP,

RICCARTON HOUSE,

CURRIE,

Midlothian.

D.O. 3AA/3206/3/A

19 Apr 53

Dear Sir,

Further to my letter 3AA/3206/3/A of 10 Apr 53 in connection with Her Majesty The Queen's visit to Dumbarton Castle on 16 Apr 53.

254 (West Highland) Light Anti-Aircraft Regiment R.A. (T.A.) will also be providing 1 officer and 25 other ranks to line part of the route to the castle.

The unit was originally formed in 1893 as Bute and Argyll Volunteers and was armed with 3.7 Howitzers carried on ponies. In 1934 it was converted to 54 West Highland Field Regiment and later became a Light Artillery Regiment.

It mobilised in 1939 as the Anti-Tank Regiment with 51 Highland Division and went to France with them. After suffering heavy losses one Battery was evacuated through Le Havre and eventually reformed as 61 Anti-Tank Regiment. As such they fought through North Africa, Sicily and Italy with 51 Highland Division and later in N.W. Europe.

In 1947 it was reconstituted as 254 (West Highland) Anti-Tank Regiment R.A. (T.A.) and in 1950 was reorganised as 254 (West Highland) IAA Regiment R.A. (T.A.) to become part of 77 Anti-Aircraft Brigade.

The Regiment has its Headquarters at Alexandria with Batterys at Oban and Campbeltown and its present strength is 13 officers and about 200 other ranks. Of its 80 National Servicemen over 60% have become volunteers.

This Regiment is commanded by Lieut-Colonel G.D. SIMPLE, T.D., R.A. (T.A.) and the Honorary Colonel is Colonel G.E.G. GRANT-FOREMAN, T.D., J.P.

Yours faithfully,

NOTES.

Route at Castle Road will be lined by members of the Territorial Army as follows :—

Immediately outside the Outer Gate 6 Officers 60 Men of the 254 (WH) LAA Regt. RA. (TA). and the 417 (M) HAA Regt. RA. (TA). will line the road for a distance of 30 yds.

The lining will be taken up thereafter by the Sea Cadets, Army Cadets, and Air Training Corps.

Thereafter, by other arrangements, the Boys' Brigade, Life Boys, Girls' Training Corps, Girl Guides, will line the route of the Castle Road. Members of the Home Guard, Voluntary Aid Detachment and British Legion will be drawn up in formation to the East side of the shop adjoining the Bowling Green. From the first, only Deputy Lieutenants and other persons who will be presented to Her Majesty will be allowed on the King George's Battery. They will be admitted by special ticket, no one else will be allowed on this level. All other guests will be accommodated in the Forecourt and in the position as definitely allotted to them, where they will remain until after Her Majesty has departed. Guests will be asked to be present in Uniform with Medals, Morning Dress or Lounge Suits. A limited number of families of members of the 254 (WH) LAA Regt. RA (TA)., 417 (M) HAA Regt. RA. (TA). and Youth organisations will be admitted to a Reserve Enclosure immediately to the West of the Commandant's House. Special tickets will be issued to those members, who must be in their positions not later than 10 a.m.

All other guests as above mentioned must be in the reserved enclosure not later than 10-15 a.m. After that hour no person will be admitted to the Forecourt or any other part of the Castle.

The Territorial and Auxiliary Forces Association of the County of Dumbarton.

Visit of HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN, To Dumbarton Castle,

on
Thursday, 16th April, 1953.

Form of Ceremony and Instructions.

The "UNION JACK" will be flown throughout at the Main Flagstaff at the "PEAK."

The "KEEPER'S STANDARD" will be flown on the Flagstaff at "KING GEORGE'S BATTERY" until replaced by the "ROYAL STANDARD," on HER MAJESTY taking over the Keys and as indicated later.

A Quarter Guard from Support Coy. 8th A. & S. H. consisting of 1 Sergeant, 1 Corporal, 1 Bugler and 8 Privates will be mounted immediately inside the Inner Doorway finding a double Sentry outside the Outer Gates and a Single Sentry outside the Main Doorway.

In addition a SINGLE SENTRY, with Side-Arms and cane will be posted at the door of the Commandant's House.

A GUARD OF HONOUR from the 554 (A. & S.H.) Light Anti-Aircraft Regt. RA. (TA). consisting of 3 Officers and 60 Other Ranks, with the Queen's Colour will be posted on the Lawn in the Forecourt between the Outer and Main Gates on the North side of the pathway facing South at the exact position previously arranged.

The PIPE BAND OF THE 554 (A. & S.H.) Light Anti-Aircraft Regt. RA. (TA). will be posted on the Grass Verge immediately below the Inner wall and to the South of the main Stairway but at a distance of six yards from the Stairway, and the BAND OF THE 1ST BATTALION ARGYLL & SUTHERLAND HIGHLANDERS immediately to their right.

HER MAJESTY on arrival at the foot of the slope, in the vicinity of the shop adjoining the Bowling Green will be met by THE PROVOST OF THE BURGH OF DUMBARTON (ALLAN McLEOD, Esq.) who will accompany her until the KEEPER (MAJOR-GENERAL A. P. D. TELFER-SMOLLETT of BONHILL) hands over the Keys of the Castle.

AS HER MAJESTY APPROACHES THE OUTER GATE, the Double Sentry will "Present Arms."

Thereafter, THE PROVOST OF DUMBARTON will present the Officer Commanding, Lieut-Colonel Cameron, 554 (A. & S.H.) Light Anti-Aircraft Regiment RA. (TA).

AS HER MAJESTY comes opposite the "QUEEN'S COLOUR" the Officer in command of THE GUARD OF HONOUR will give the command, "ROYAL SALUTE - PRESENT ARMS." The Band of the 554 (A. & S.H.) Light Anti-Aircraft Regiment RA. (TA). will then play "THE GARB OF OLD GAUL."

Lt. Colonel Cameron will then ask HER MAJESTY to inspect the Guard of Honour.

During this inspection the PIPE BAND OF THE 554 (A. & S. H.) LIGHT ANTI-AIRCRAFT REGT. R.A. (TA.) will play a selection.

The Pipe Band will cease playing immediately HER MAJESTY has inspected the Guard of Honour.

HER MAJESTY will then proceed towards the Main Doorway. Immediately she commences to do so, the Sentry at the Doorway will challenge "HALT - WHO GOES THERE?" and come to the "ON GUARD." The Officer Commanding 554 (A. & S.H.) Light Anti-Aircraft Regiment RA. (TA), will reply "HER MAJESTY - THE QUEEN". The Sentry will summon the KEEPER by Striking THRICE ON THE DOOR OF THE MAIN GATE, with the Butt of his Rifle.

The Door will be thrown open - The Guard will turn out followed by THE KEEPER, with Sword at the Carry, followed by his KEY BEARER, carrying the Key on a Cushion.

The Sentry will then reply "ADVANCE YOUR MAJESTY - ALL'S WELL," when the KEEPER WILL DESCEND THE STAIRS. At the foot he will salute with his Sword; return Sword and take the Cushion from the KEY BEARER, and present it to HER MAJESTY, saying, "THE KEY - YOUR MAJESTY."

AS THE QUEEN TOUCHES THE KEY, THE KEEPER'S STANDARD will be hauled down and the "ROYAL STANDARD" broken at the Flagstaff on King George's Battery, where it will remain until HER MAJESTY leaves. Trumpeters of the Queen's Own Royal Glasgow Yeomanry will sound a FANFARE from KING GEORGE'S BATTERY.

THE QUEEN will then be preceded by the Keeper up to the Battery.

AS THE QUEEN moves up the Stairway, the Sentry at the Main Doorway will "PRESENT ARMS." THE BAND OF THE 1ST BN. ARGYLL & SUTHERLAND HIGHLANDERS will then play selections until THE QUEEN re-appears at the Main Doorway.

The Party will then move round to the Lawn in front of the Commandant's House, where THOSE TO BE PRESENTED will be assembled beside the SUNDIAL.

PRESENTATIONS will then be made by THE KEEPER OF THE CASTLE.

Thereafter, HER MAJESTY will inspect the Castle.

HER MAJESTY and her party will be accompanied by the KEEPER, the PROVOST OF DUMBARTON and the OFFICER COMMANDING, 554 (A. & S.H.) Light Anti-Aircraft Regiment RA. (TA). only.

AFTER inspecting the Castle the party will descend to the Forecourt, the Officer Commanding the GUARD OF HONOUR will give the command, "ROYAL SALUTE - PRESENT ARMS."

THE BAND OF THE 1ST BATTALION, ARGYLL & SUTHERLAND HIGHLANDERS will then play the NATIONAL ANTHEM.

Thereafter, HER MAJESTY WILL DEPART FROM THE FORECOURT and will be accompanied to Her Car by the KEEPER OF THE CASTLE AND THE PROVOST OF DUMBARTON,