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FINS FOR OCEAN "QUEEN"

The Queen Elizabeth undergoes a wash and brush up in a dry-dock at Southampton. With anchor chains weighing 300 tons, and the three anchors themselves at sixteen tons apiece, it's obviously a major undertaking. Down at the other end they're some pretty weighty problems too - four 32 ton propellers are to be given the once-over.

The annual overhaul is an even bigger task this year for stabilising machinery is being fitted. Four compartments have been constructed in the hull. From these will project the stabiliser fins. A crane lowers one into place. The whole operation (the largest of its kind ever undertaken) is costing about a quarter of a million pounds. These fins are capable of damping even the heaviest roll at sea. A fifteen degree roll would soon be reduced to only two degrees. The Queen Elizabeth will shortly go to sea and be made to roll heavily to test the efficiency of her newly-fitted fins.