

Report on contact re Duke of Edinburgh's visit to  
Parachute Brigade on April 15th.

This story falls into two halves - the formal parade in Rushmoor Arena in the morning and the less formal engagements in the afternoon. In fact there is far too much material for our requirements and the morning's parade would produce an adequate story in itself but in the afternoon when the Duke watches an exercise with the paratroops making a ground attack on a target (they advance on a given target on the ground with mortars, sten guns and the new F.N. rifles) there is a possibility - although by no means certain - that the Duke will do some firing with a F.N. rifle. The other engagement in the afternoon is when the Duke has a look at some of the material included in a 'heavy drop' (jeeps and guns and things already crated ready for dropping). He also will have a look at a 'stick' of paratroopers with all their gear. After this from the same location he will leave by his helicopter which will be parked near by these paratroopers on what is called Corona Square.

Rushmoor Arena.

This calls for a minimum of 2 cameras (one sound & one silent) but would be improved with an additional silent camera. This additional camera can get an excellent general view from the stands as the Duke flies in with his helicopter and lands in the foreground. The position to be used would be from the balcony of No. 2 stand and permission has been granted for this. (The stand is not in use for the public as it is considered unsafe, but it is quite O.K. really although somewhat dirty). A position has been arranged for six soundtracks on the arena itself for the helicopter arrival approximately 25-30 yds. from the landing site but at the moment it is not known which way the 'copter will face neither do the Paratroop people know from which door the Duke will alight. This appears to be a matter for the R.A.F.

Following upon his arrival the Duke will inspect a guard of honour near by (hand camera position is arranged for this) and then he goes to the dais for the General Salute. By the way, during his inspection of the guard of honour they are popping off a salute of 21 guns at 10 secs. interval.

He then inspects the parade by Land Rover and during the time that he goes out for this the trucks move forward to a position nearer the dais and have plenty of time to be in position before he drives past the front of the parade. Hand camera goes to the flank of the parade for this from the position taken up for the guard of honour inspection. There will be conducting officers to look after these moves. When the Duke returns from the general inspection he then, in front of the dais, presents three medals to U.S.Cs. - one D.E.M. and two long service - and hand camera position is arranged for this.

The drive and march past then takes place and this offers no difficulty for either sound or silent cameras - in fact when enough material has been obtained from the arranged position from the sound camera position, the trucks can discreetly back out and go to the flank for other angles.

During the march past the band is about 50 yds. from the sound trucks position but the musical numbers offer a bit of trouble as there are so many of them. While they are mostly traditional the arrangements are what matter and information on this can be obtained by phone from D.A.Q.M.C., Headquarters Parachute Brigade, Aldershot.

/over



The list of musical numbers played during the Match Past are as follows:-

Bonnie English Rose  
Wings  
Parachute Bde. Regimental March  
Begone Bull Care  
Ride of the Valkyries  
Air Force March Past  
Wait for the Queen  
Village Blacksmith  
Health unto His Majesty  
Lillibolero  
Rising of the Lark.

I enclose 8 windscreen labels for the Rushmore Arena. The vehicles and men are to meet at 10 a.m. in the Red Car Park in the Rushmore Arena on the 15th. when they will be escorted to positions. There is a full dress rehearsal on the 15th. and it has been requested that Paramount should send one truck to represent the six so that the drill can be gone through.

#### EMERALD. Coopers' Camp.

If this is covered two men will be required but whether sound is used is up to each company -the sound is only rifle and sten gun noise and location is difficult to get sound gear to.

The Duke will watch the exercise from a given observation post and it is required that cameramen are to be there pending the Duke's arrival. Two types of the new P.M. rifle will be there for him to examine and he then will watch the men going through the exercise. We can have a second camera on another level -lower down - for other angles on the troops advancing but care must be taken as the troops are using live ammo. If the Duke expresses a desire to try out the rifle he will be taken to the firing point and this second cameraman will be in the vicinity awaiting him.

#### Corunna Square.

This as I have already indicated does not mean much but nevertheless is quite straightforward. The location might be required for the departure by helicopter <sup>R</sup> but the whole area can be covered by one man. Sound trucks would not be welcomed because of the layout.

*L. J. H. K.*

*[Faint signature]*