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NEWS FLASHES:

Leaving Buckingham Palace after receiving his knighthood from the Queen is Sir Tom O'Brien, M.P. Sir Tom is General Secretary of the National Association of Theatrical and Kine Employees, and this honour is also an honour to the industry he has served for so long.

Fifty people died when a York aircraft, bringing R.A.F. men home from the Suez Canal Zone, crashed in flames near Valetta. It was some time before rescue workers could reach the almost inaccessible field, but in any case the crash was so violent that nothing could have been done. There were no survivors.

The Governor of Malta has ordered a public inquiry into this grim disaster.

At Windsor Great Park, over 800 cross-country runners battle it out for the Southern Counties Senior Championship, started by the Duke of Edinburgh. In spite of threatening snow-clouds, weather conditions remain cold but clear during the whole of the nine-mile race.

Fifty-three clubs have entered teams for the championship, and there are also 20 individual entries. Up to the last few yards, the issue remains in doubt, with Peter Driver, Ken Norris, Dennis O'Gorman, George Knight and Alan Perkins bunched in the lead. But Peter Driver wins by 20 yards and is congratulated by the Duke. Ken Norris is second and Dennis O'Gorman third in a very close finish.