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NEWS FROM HOLLAND:

Princess Irene of the Netherlands, Queen Juliana's second daughter, celebrates her eighteenth birthday - and her own Army unit, the Princess Irene Guards Regiment, presents her with a weekend bag to mark the occasion. The whole Royal family gathers on the palace steps for this simple ceremony, whose informality is typical of Holland's popular ruling house.

In Terneuzen, a shipyard achieves a unique feat. This channel is only just over 50 yards wide - but the shipbuilders confidently launch a 4,600 ton ship, the "Olivia Winther", into its narrow waters.

Smoothly she glides off the slipway, heeling over as she enters the channel, but quickly righting herself. Only the size of the wash reminds us that she is the largest vessel in Europe ever to be launched sideways.