

QUEEN VISITS ITALY

In regal manner, aboard the Royal Yacht Britannia, the Queen arrived at Naples. To the warm hearted Italian people she and the Duke of Edinburgh were most welcome guests. Her Majesty was accorded a salute of 21 guns.

The Mayor of Naples was there to receive the Queen and Duke on behalf of his famous city. And how good it was for the royal visitors to be on Italian soil and greet a country which is once more Britain's ally. Rome, too, was agog to give the State visitors a truly royal reception, as they entered the city by the Ostiensi Station, aboard the Presidential train.

The drive to the Quirinal Palace took the Queen and Duke past the Colosseum, impressive monument to the Grandeur that was Rome.

To the Victor Emmanuel Monument the Queen and Duke went to lay a wreath at the tomb of Italy's Unknown Soldier. This is a monument of modern Rome, admired by some, criticized by many. The Unknown Warrior's Tomb commemorates Italians who lost their lives in the First World War, when Italy fought on the side of Britain and France.

Another tribute to men who died in defence of freedom was paid by Her Majesty and Prince Philip at the Testaccio Cemetery, last resting place of Commonwealth troops killed in Italy.

Among those receiving the Queen was the Minister of Defence, Signor Andreotti.

The men interred here helped to liberate Italy from the Nazi Yoke.

Thousands of visitors to this place have reflected with much satisfaction that post war events have brought Britain and Italy together again in defence of democratic freedom and the rights of mankind.

Much to the Queen's liking was the International Horse Show. British riders of both sexes competed against the stiff opposition of some well known Italians. Their fame at show jumping is world-wide.

It was indeed a great day for the Irish, as the Grand Prix of Rome was won by Captain William Ringrose of Ireland. He rode two clear rounds and won the barrage without fault. Royal congratulations well earned.

The Rome Opera House staged a performance of Verdi's Falstaff, and every eye was drawn to the Queen, in an exquisite gown of Chantilly Lace. Premier Fanfari escorted her to the Presidential Box.

Foremost in the world as creators of opera, the Italian masters provided a Royal performance; a fitting conclusion of a memorable day.