

UMV 2479-

SEA ADVENTURE FOR PRINCE CHARLES.

n 15/4/54.

This was how London came to Buckingham Palace to say "au revoir" to two members of the royal family who were going abroad. ~~at~~ This was different. For although they were the Duke of Cornwall and Princess Anne --- they were also a small boy and his sister, going to a reunion with their mother and father. First they called at Clarence House to be joined by their grandmother Queen Elizabeth, and their aunt<sup>u</sup> Princess Margaret. And sixteen days from this day --- at the meeting in Tobruk in North Africa --- it would be the first meeting of the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh with their children since last November.

An electric train brought them to Portsmouth --- to be welcomed at the Town Station by the Mayor and the Commander-in-Chief, Sir John Edelsten. ~~and a salute of 21 guns~~

Then --- through Portsmouth's crowded streets --- they drove to the dockyard.

Standing alongside, was the new Royal Yacht Britannia. And to greet them here was the yacht's commander, Captain DalGLISH. This was the maiden voyage for the Britannia; and the first sea adventure for the heir to our throne --- descendant of a line of sailor kings.

Princess Anne needed a little reassurance about the safety of that gangplank.

But once on board --- what a new world of excitement is discovered ~~in~~ ~~in~~ a real ship!

As befits a royal occasion, the crew was lined up in Royal Navy fashion. And it's difficult, when there's so much to see, for a little Princess to look always where she's going.

Then --- the good-byes, ~~from royal grandmother and aunt~~ --- as the two-thousand-five-hundred-mile ~~xxxxxx~~ voyage out to the blue Mediterranean, is about to begin.

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The Queen Mother and Princess Margaret came ashore --- and Prince Charles and Princess Anne took in their last impressions of the shores of Britain --- wishing them a happy voyage --- a happy meeting --- and a safe return.

At last, Britannia's engine room receives the signal --- Slow Ahead! --- and the great sea adventure has really begun.

~~x Happy ... .. returned~~