

A visit to the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, to see the ballet was obviously a "must" on the programme, during the visit of Marshal Bulganin ^{& Mr Krushchev} to Britain.

The Russian leaders were welcomed in the foyer by Mr Selwyn Lloyd --- the Foreign Secretary --- before going up into the Royal Box to join the Prime Minister's party.

After the performance, Marshal Bulganin and Mr Krushchev met the dancers in an atmosphere that bubbled with geniality and goodwill. They paid generous tributes to Beryl Grey and since in Russia the ballet takes such a high place among the art forms, that was praise indeed.

There were congratulations also for Margot Fonteyn, on what the visitors called a wonderful performance, in Swan Lake.

On the following day the Soviet leaders were flying to Scotland. There were Russian jets to be seen on the tarmac at London Airport; although they flew north in a British Viscount.

In Scotland, a crowded day of sightseeing and receptions included a visit to the Palace of Holyroodhouse, where they inspected the magnificent State Rooms and the Scottish Regalia. From Holyroodhouse, the Russian leaders went to Edinburgh Castle and watched the impressive pageantry of the "Retreat."

Back in London, Marshal Bulganin and Mr Krushchev drove to the Foreign Office for the purpose of signing, jointly with Sir Anthony Eden, the Anglo-Soviet statement. As expected, the statement did not contain any concrete proposals; it confined itself to recording the desire of both sides to maintain world peace.

And so --- to the scene once more on Victoria Station, as the Prime Minister exchanged farewell handshakes with the top men from Moscow. It had just been announced that Sir Anthony Eden had been invited to pay a return visit to Russia in the near future --- and had accepted.

At the time of their departure --- it was just over a week since Marshal Bulganin and Mr Kruschev had arrived to start their whirlwind tour ---- and what a whirlwind!