

Amended and re-issued as an Appendix to News Release No. 129/54

CLOSE ESCORT ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE ROYAL YACHT

The ships of the Royal Navy to act as close ocean escorts for H.M. Yacht BRITANNIA during Her Majesty the Queen's progress back to the United Kingdom as she completes her Commonwealth Tour have now been selected.

These ocean escorts will change at various points during the voyage from Tobruk, where Her Majesty will join the Royal Yacht on May 1st, to the entrance to the Thames a fortnight later, and (as previously announced) the Royal Squadron will be met at appropriate points along the route by units of the Mediterranean and Home Fleets and by ships of the three Home Commands through which the Royal Yacht will pass - Plymouth, Portsmouth and the Nore.

Among the ships to act as close ocean escorts will be H.M.S. MAGPIE, the frigate commanded by His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh in the Mediterranean from September, 1950, to July, 1951, during which time the Queen, then Princess Elizabeth, visited the ship; and H.M.S. CHEQUERS, the destroyer in which the Duke served as First Lieutenant.

Details of the escorts, their Commanding Officers, and the periods during which they will be in company with H.M.Y. BRITANNIA, are as follows: -

TOBRUK TO MALTA (May 1st - 3rd):

<u>SHIP</u>	<u>CLASS</u>	<u>COMMANDING OFFICER</u>
SURPRISE	Despatch Vessel	Commander G.C. Leslie, O.B.E., R.N. (wearing the flag of the Flag Officer Second-in-Command, Mediterranean, Vice- Admiral J.P.L. Reid, C.B., C.V.O.).
MERMAID	Frigate	Lieut-Commander A. d' E.T. Sangster, R.N.
PEACOCK	Frigate	Commander J. Wood, D.S.C., R.N.
MAGPIE	Frigate	Commander J.W. Meadows, B.E.M., R.N.

MALTA TO GIBRALTAR (May 7th - 10th):

GLASGOW	Cruiser	Captain B. Bryant, D.S.O. and two Bars, D.S.C., R.N.
SAINTEs	Destroyer	Captain D.P. Dreyer, D.S.C., R.N.
BARFLEUR	Destroyer	Commander W.F. Skelton, R.N.
CHEQUERS	Destroyer	Captain R.C.M. Duckworth, R.N.

GIBRALTAR TO HOME FLEET RENDEZVOUS OFF PLYMOUTH (May 11th - 14th):

DUCHESS	Daring (Flagship of Rear-Admiral J.W. Outhbert, C.B., C.B.E., Flag Officer, Flotillas, Home Fleet)	Captain D.G. Goodwin, D.S.C., R.N.
GLASGOW	Cruiser	Captain B. Bryant, D.S.O. and two Bars, D.S.C., R.N.
SAINTEs	Destroyer	Captain D.P. Dreyer, D.S.C., R.N.
BARFLEUR	Destroyer	Commander W.F. Skelton, R.N.

/HOME FLEET...

HOME FLEET RENDEZVOUS TO MOUTH OF THAMES (May 14th - 15th):

<u>SHIP</u>	<u>CLASS</u>	<u>COMMANDING OFFICER</u>
DUCHESS	Daring	Captain D.G. Goodwin, D.S.C., R.N.
JAMAICA	Cruiser	Captain P.W. Burnett, D.S.O., D.S.C. and Bar, R.N.

If the weather is suitable, the Royal Yacht will pass through the Needles Channel and the Solent during her passage up the English Channel. She will be escorted up the Solent by H.M.S. GRENVILLE, frigate (Captain F.H.E. Hopkins, D.S.O., D.S.C., R.N.) wearing the flag of the Commander-in-Chief, Portsmouth (Admiral Sir John Edelsten, G.O.B., G.C.V.O., C.B.E., through whose Command she will be passing), and by H.M.S. DUCHESS, Daring class ship, from the ocean escort. Six Fast Patrol Boats will form a close escort. They will be: -

BOLD PIONEER	(Lieutenant-Commander C.E.M. Preston, D.S.C., R.N.)
BOLD PATHFINDER	(Lieutenant E.M. Kelsey, R.N.)
F.P.B. No. 5516	(Lieutenant-Commander M.G.W. Benson, R.N., Senior Officer 1st F.P.B. Squadron).
5035	(Lieutenant R.M.B. Swindells, R.N.)
5002	(Lieutenant M.D. Joel, R.N.)
5033	(Lieutenant G.A. Simpson, R.N.)

H.M.S. JAMAICA will proceed South of the Isle of Wight and will be rejoined off The Nab by H.M.S. DUCHESS. The JAMAICA will then resume as a close escort with the DUCHESS and these two ships will continue with H.M.Y. BRITANNIA to the Mouth of the Thames. They will part company from the Royal Yacht off the Great Nore and four Fast Patrol Boats will take over as close Naval escort for the passage up the Thames. These craft will be: -

GAY BOMBARDIER	(Lieutenant-Commander E.R. Dickinson, R.N., Senior Officer 2nd F.P.B. Squadron)
GAY CHARIOTEER	(Lieutenant L.A. Bird, R.N.)
GAY CHARGER	(Lieutenant R.D.D. Bamford, R.N.)
GAY FENCER	(Lieutenant J.F. Cadell, R.N.)

Admiralty, S.W.1.

RETURN OF HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN  
FROM HER COMMONWEALTH TOUR

Preliminary naval plans have now been completed for the return of Her Majesty the Queen from her Commonwealth tour. An outline, based on information at present available, is as follows: -

DEPARTURE OF ROYAL YACHT FROM PORTSMOUTH AND VOYAGE TO TOBRUK:

H.M. Royal Yacht BRITANNIA, after embarking H.R.H. the Duke of Cornwall and H.R.H. Princess Anne at Pitch House Jetty, Portsmouth, is expected to put to sea p.m. on April 14th.

The Royal Yacht will be due at Malta on the morning of April 22nd. She will remain there a week while final preparations are made for the embarkation of Her Majesty the Queen and H.R.H. the Duke of Edinburgh. The Flag Officer Royal Yachts (Vice-Admiral E.M.C. Abel Smith, C.B., C.V.O.) will join the ship while she is there. On the evening of April 30th the BRITANNIA will sail for Tobruk.

EMBARKATION OF H.M. THE QUEEN AND ESCORT ARRANGEMENTS:

H.M. the Queen and H.R.H. the Duke of Edinburgh will embark at Tobruk on May 1st to complete the Commonwealth tour with visits to Malta and Gibraltar. Both in the Mediterranean and for the voyage from Gibraltar to London the BRITANNIA will have a close ocean escort which will be augmented at appropriate points along the route by units of the Mediterranean and Home Fleets and by ships of the three Home Commands through which the Yacht will pass - Plymouth, Portsmouth and the Nore. Carrier-based and land-based aircraft of the Fleet Air Arm are expected to fly past at certain points during the passage through the Mediterranean and through home waters.

TOBRUK TO GIBRALTAR:

The BRITANNIA will sail from Tobruk at 2 p.m. local time on May 1st. She will have a close ocean escort of one aircraft carrier and five other ships provided by the Mediterranean Fleet. Near Malta the ocean escort will be joined by the Mediterranean Fleet and all ships will continue in company with the Royal Yacht to Malta, which will be reached on the morning of May 3rd.

After remaining at Malta for four days the Royal Yacht will sail from Grand Harbour during the afternoon of May 7th with a close ocean escort of a cruiser and three destroyers, and with other ships of the Mediterranean Fleet in company. En route to Gibraltar the BRITANNIA will anchor off the Island of Gozo. There Her Majesty will leave the Yacht for a short visit to the island before continuing her journey in the BRITANNIA to Gibraltar. The Royal Yacht and her close escort will reach Gibraltar during the morning of May 10th.

GIBRALTAR TO U.K.

The Royal Yacht will sail from Gibraltar during the afternoon of May 11th with a close ocean escort of one cruiser and two destroyers of the Mediterranean Fleet and one Daring Class ship from the Home Fleet. These ships will escort the Royal Yacht to British home waters at maximum speed in prevailing weather conditions.

The Royal Yacht and her ocean escort will be met by the Home Fleet off Plymouth on the morning of May 14th, and the Fleet will escort the Royal

/Yacht....

Yacht up Channel as far as the Isle of Wight.

As the Royal Yacht passes between Plymouth and the Isle of Wight it is expected that ships of the Home Fleet Training Squadron will steam past and that submarines from Portland and Gosport will join the Fleet. It is also expected that there will be a fly past by aircraft of the Fleet Air Arm.

The Royal Yacht will continue her journey up Channel, and weather permitting, will pass through the Needles Channel and the Solent. In this event the Home Fleet will part company off the Needles in the late afternoon, and the BRITANNIA will proceed through the Solent with a close escort of F.P.B.'s and other ships. Ships of the Merchant Navy may be anchored in the Solent and at Spithead to salute Her Majesty as the Royal Yacht passes. If the weather is unsuitable for the passage through the Solent the Royal Yacht will proceed South of the Isle of Wight direct to South Nab, Home Fleet ships escorting her as necessary. From the Nab the Royal Yacht will be escorted to the Great Nore during the night of May 14th/15th by a Home Fleet cruiser and the Daring Class ship which joined the close escort at Gibraltar, passing outside the Goodwins and through Edinburgh and Knob Channels.

NORE TO LONDON:

At the entrance to the Thames on the morning of 15th May four Naval Fast Patrol Boats will take over the escort for the passage up river to the Pool of London. The Trinity House Yacht PATRICIA will lead the Royal Yacht up river in accordance with custom.

Arrangements for Her Majesty's progress up river from the Pool of London will be published later.

PROPOSED TIMING OF VOYAGE OF H.M. YACHT BRITANNIA:

The times are subject to final plans and alteration due to weather, etc.

April 14	1700	Sail from Pitch House Jetty, Portsmouth.
April 22	0900	Arrive Malta.
April 30	as	Sail from Malta.
	convenient	
May 1	a.m.	Arrive Tobruk
May 1	1400	Sail from Tobruk
May 2	noon approx.	Mediterranean Fleet to join escort.
May 3	0900	Arrive Malta.
May 7	p.m.	Sail from Malta.
May 7	1800	Anchor off Gozo
May 7	1930	Sail for Gibraltar
May 10	0900	Arrive Gibraltar
May 11	1300	Sail from Gibraltar
May 14	0830	Rendezvous with Home Fleet off Plymouth.
May 14	1730	Pass The Needles.
May 14	2000	Off Portsmouth.
May 14	04.00 approx.	Off Dover.
May 15	0930	Off The Great Nore (Embark pilot at Sea, Reach Buoy No. 1).
May 15	1335	Arrive Battle Tier

NOTE: Times given are local times. Malta is one hour ahead of G.M.T. and Tobruk two hours ahead.

Department of Chief of Naval Information, Admiralty.  
18th March, 1954.

NOTE TO EDITORS AND PICTURE EDITORS

RETURN OF H.M. THE QUEEN

NAVAL PRESS FACILITIES  
IN CONNECTION WITH THE RETURN OF THE ROYAL YACHT

THE ROYAL PRESS ROTA

Owing to accommodation limitations in the Royal Yacht, the Royal Press Rota accompanying the tour will be accommodated in the close Royal escort from Tobruk to the Nore. This will enable them to continue to ensure a general reporting service to all media throughout the ocean passages, but will mean that further Press places in the close escort cannot be provided.

MEDITERRANEAN FLEET RECEPTION

A large number of places are available in ships of the Mediterranean Fleet when it proceeds to sea to meet the Royal Yacht in the Malta area.

HOME FLEET RECEPTION

A number of berths can be provided in ships of the Home Fleet meeting the Royal Yacht Squadron off Plymouth, but details of joining and disembarking and seagoing duration cannot yet be given. There will be a few places in ships of the Plymouth Command as well. ✓

RECEPTION IN THE PORTSMOUTH AREA

A large number of places can be provided in the ships involved in the Royal Yacht's reception while on passage through the Solent. Times of joining and disembarking at Portsmouth cannot yet be given. ✓

ARRIVAL AT THE NORE

A few places can be provided in the ships which will be anchored on the route at the entrance to the Thames. The time and place of joining and disembarking cannot yet be given. ✓

PASSAGE UP RIVER THAMES

The close escort to the Royal Yacht and Royal Barge from the Nore to Westminster will consist of four Fast Patrol Boats. The small size of these craft unfortunately precludes Press representation therein.

/R.N.COLLEGE, GREENWICH.....

R.N. COLLEGE, GREENWICH

Press representatives can also be facilitated to observe the passage from the grounds of the Naval College.

PLACES IN AIRCRAFT

It may be possible to provide a few places in aircraft of the Fleet Air Arm carrying out the flypast over the Royal Yacht in the Channel. ✓

FACILITIES IN THE THAMES OTHER THAN IN H.M.SHIPS OR NAVAL ESTABLISHMENTS

Arrangements in this field are matters for the Port of London Authority and/or the London Police.

APPLICATIONS

The Admiralty will have a more accurate picture of facility practicabilities as the details of the Naval arrangements for the return, particularly up Channel, become firm. But meantime, provisional applications from Editors, stating such preferences as may be desired, will be welcomed. Applications should be addressed to C.N.I.'s Facility Officer (Whitehall 9000, Ext.1125).

Every endeavour will be made to allocate preferred places on the fairest possible basis.

Department of the Chief of Naval Information, Admiralty.  
18th March, 1954.

THE ROYAL AIR FORCE WELCOME FOR THE QUEEN

The Royal Air Force welcome to Her Majesty the Queen on her return to London on May 15 will take the form of an escort by 180 jet fighters and bombers. They will fly over Her Majesty's Yacht "Britannia" in mass formation at 12.25 p.m. (B.S.T.) as the vessel proceeds along Gallions Reach, Woolwich.

The formation will consist of 96 Meteors and 24 Sabres of Fighter Command with 24 Royal Canadian Air Force Sabres and 36 Canberras of Bomber Command. It will be in the form of two broad arrowheads, each of 72 fighters, followed by two groups of 18 bombers. Aircraft will fly at 345 m.p.h. the heights of individual wings ranging from 1,200 feet to 3,000 feet.

Formation leader will be Wing Commander D.G. Smallwood, D.S.O., M.B.E., D.F.C., at the head of 24 Meteors from R.A.F. Biggin Hill. Flanking formations, each of 24 Meteors, will be led by Wing Commander K.C. Giddings, O.B.E., D.F.C., A.F.C., (R.A.F. Waterbeach) and Wing Commander P.R. Wickham, D.S.O., D.F.C., (R.A.F. Duxford). Following at a distance of 1,000 yards, will be another group of 24 Meteors, led by Wing Commander A.G. Conway, D.F.C., (R.A.F. Horsham St. Faith), flanked by two formations each of 24 Sabres, led by Wing Commander J.D. Lindsay, D.F.C., (R.C.A.F. North Luffenham) and Wing Commander L.A. Malins, D.S.O., D.F.C., (R.A.F. Linton-on-Ouse). Finally, there will be two groups of 18 Canberras, sub-divided into formations each of nine aircraft, led by Wing Commander J.N. Stacey, D.S.O., D.F.C., (R.A.F. Binbrook), Squadron Leader J.S. Owen (R.A.F. Binbrook), Wing Commander J.D. Warne, D.S.O., D.F.C., (R.A.F. Scampton) and Wing Commander J. Woodroffe, D.S.O., D.F.C., (R.A.F. Coningsby).

The formation will be controlled by the Air Officer Commanding, No. 11 Group, Fighter Command, Air Vice-Marshal H.L. Patch, C.B., C.B.E.

The various wings will form up over the east coast of England, and the complete formation will fly from Clacton to Southend and then turn up the Thames Estuary towards Woolwich. After flying over the "Britannia", it will continue over Tower Bridge, Southwark, St. James' Park, Hyde Park and Kensington, breaking away over Ealing.

Two full-scale rehearsals over the complete route are planned to take place before May 15.

As already announced, aircraft of R.A.F. Coastal Command are to provide a continuous escort for the "Britannia" from the time the vessel leaves Gibraltar on May 11 until it reaches The Nore.

Squadrons represented in the escort will be:-

Nos. 1, 9, 10, 12, 15, 18, 21, 36, 41, 42, 44, 50, 57, 63, 64, 65, 66, 74, 92, 101, 111, 120, 149, 201, 202, 204, 206, 210, 217, 220, 224, 230, 240, 245, 269 and 617. Nos. 410, 439 and 441 Royal Canadian Air Force.

+++++

Information Division,  
Air Ministry,  
Whitehall Gardens, S.W.1.

25 April, 1954.

HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN'S COMMONWEALTH TOUR  
CLOSE ESCORT ARRANGEMENTS FOR ROYAL YACHT

The ships of the Royal Navy to act as close ocean escorts for H.M. Yacht BRITANNIA during Her Majesty the Queen's progress back to the United Kingdom as she completes her Commonwealth Tour have now been selected.

These ocean escorts will change at various points during the voyage from Tobruk, where Her Majesty will join the Royal Yacht on May 1st, to the entrance to the Thames a fortnight later, and (as previously announced) the Royal Squadron will be met at appropriate points along the route by units of the Mediterranean and Home Fleets and by ships of the three Home Commands through which the Royal Yacht will pass - Plymouth, Portsmouth and the Nore

Among the ships to act as close ocean escorts will be H.M.S. MAGPIE, the frigate commanded by His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh in the Mediterranean from September, 1950, to July, 1951, during which time the Queen, then Princess Elizabeth, visited the ship; and H.M.S. CHEQUERS, the destroyer in which the Duke served as First Lieutenant.

Details of the escorts, their Commanding Officers, and the periods during which they will be in company with the BRITANNIA, are as follows: -

TOBRUK TO MALTA (May 1st - 3rd):

<u>SHIP</u>	<u>CLASS</u>	<u>COMMANDING OFFICER</u>
SURPRISE	Despatch Vessel	Commander G.C. Leslie, O.B.E., R.N. (wearing the flag of the Flag Officer Second-in-Command, Mediterranean, Vice- Admiral J.P.L. Reid, C.B., C.V.O.)
MERMAID	Frigate	Lieut-Commander A. d' E.T. Sangster, R.N.
PEACOCK	Frigate	Commander J. Wood, D.S.C., R.N.
MAGPIE	Frigate	Commander J.W. Meadows, B.E.M., R.N.

MALTA TO GIBRALTAR (May 7th - 10th):

GLASGOW	Cruiser	Captain B. Bryant, D.S.O. and two Bars, D.S.C., R.N.
SAINTEs	Destroyer	Captain D.P. Dreyer, D.S.C., R.N.
BARFLEUR	Destroyer	Commander W.F. Skelton, R.N.
CHEQUERS	Destroyer	Captain R.C.M. Duckworth, R.N.

GIBRALTAR TO HOME FLEET RENDEZVOUS OFF PLYMOUTH (May 11th - 14th):

DUCHESS	Daring	Captain D.G. Goodwin, D.S.C., R.N. (Flagship of Rear-Admiral J.W. Cuthbert, C.B., C.B.E., Flag Officer, Flotillas, Home Fleet)
GLASGOW	Cruiser	Captain B. Bryant, D.S.O. and two Bars, D.S.C., R.N.
SAINTEs	Destroyer	Captain D.P. Dreyer, D.S.C., R.N.
BARFLEUR	Destroyer	Commander W.F. Skelton, R.N.

/HOME FLEET..

HOME FLEET RENDEZVOUS TO MOUTH OF THAMES (May 14th - 15th):

<u>SHIP</u>	<u>CLASS</u>	<u>COMMANDING OFFICER</u>
DUCHESS	Daring	Captain D.G. Goodwin, D.S.C., R.N.
JAMAICA	Cruiser	Captain P.W. Burnett, D.S.O., D.S.C. and Bar, R.N.

If the weather is suitable, the Royal Yacht will pass through the Needles Channel and the Solent during her passage up the English Channel. She will be escorted up the Solent by H.M.S. GRENVILLE, destroyer (Lieutenant-Commander D.G. Roome, R.N.) wearing the flag of the Commander-in-Chief, Portsmouth (Admiral Sir John Edelsten, G.C.B., G.C.V.O., C.B.E., through whose Command she will be passing), and by H.M.S. DUCHESS, Daring Class ship, from the ocean escort. Six Fast Patrol Boats will form a close escort. They will be: -

BOLD PIONEER	(Lieutenant-Commander C.E.M. Preston, D.S.C., R.N.)
BOLD PATFINDER	(Lieutenant E.M. Kelsey, R.N.)
F.P.B. No. 5516	(Lieutenant-Commander M.G.W. Benson, R.N., Senior Officer 1st F.P.B. Squadron).
5035	(Lieutenant R.M.B. Swindells, R.N.)
5002	(Lieutenant M.D. Joel, R.N.)
5033	(Lieutenant G.A. Simpson, R.N.)

H.M.S. JAMAICA will proceed South of the Isle of Wight and will be rejoined off The Nab by H.M.S. DUCHESS. The JAMAICA will then resume as a close escort with the DUCHESS and these two ships will continue with the Royal Yacht to the Mouth of the Thames. They will part company from the BRITANNIA off the Great Nore and four Fast Patrol Boats will take over as close Naval escort for the passage up the Thames. These craft will be: -

GAY BOMBARDIER	(Lieutenant-Commander E.R. Dickinson, R.N., Senior Officer 2nd F.P.B. Squadron)
GAY CHARIOTEER	(Lieutenant L.A. Bird, R.N.)
GAY CHARGER	(Lieutenant R.D.D. Bamford, R.N.)
GAY FENCER	(Lieutenant J.F. Cadell, R.N.)

Admiralty, S.W.1.

THE COMMONWEALTH TOUR

ENGLISH CHANNEL ESCORT ARRANGEMENTS FOR HER MAJESTY'S RETURN

Further details of the naval arrangements for escorting Her Majesty's Yacht BRITANNIA up the English Channel on May 14/15, when the Queen returns from her Commonwealth tour, are now available.

H.M.Y. BRITANNIA and her ocean escort will enter the English Channel early on the morning of May 14th, and during her subsequent passage to the Thames will pass several vantage points from which she may be seen if visibility is good.

These will be Start Point at 10.30 a.m., Dartmouth at 11.15 a.m., Tor Bay at 11.45 a.m., Portland Bill at 3 p.m., Anvil Point at 5 p.m., and the Northern Coast of the Isle of Wight and the South Coast of England within the Solent from the time she enters the Needles Channel at 6 p.m. until she reaches a position off Portsmouth at 8 p.m. (all times approximate only).

The Royal Yacht and her escorts will arrive at approximately 9 a.m. at a rendezvous position off Plymouth where they will be joined by ships of the Home Fleet, a Royal Salute being fired as the Fleet joins up. Admiral Sir Michael Denny, KCB., CBE., DSO., the C. in C., will fly his flag in H.M.S. VANGUARD.

Three of four H.M. Ships acting as the ocean escort from Gibraltar - the cruiser GLASGOW and the destroyers SAINTES and BARBEUR of the Mediterranean Fleet - will part company and proceed to their home ports shortly after the Home Fleet meets the Royal Yacht. The fourth ocean escort, H.M.S. DUCHESS, wearing the flag of Rear-Admiral J.W. Cuthbert, C.B., C.B.E. (the Flag Officer Flotillas, Home Fleet), will continue up Channel with the Home Fleet, which will consist of the following ships:

H.M.S. VANGUARD	(Battleship)
" JAMAICA	(Cruiser)
" APOLLO	(Fast Minelayer)
" DECOY, DIANA	(Daring Class)
" AGINCOURT, BARROSA, AISNE, CORUNNA	(Destroyers)
" VENUS, VIRAGO, VERULAM, VIGILANT	(Frigates)
" ORBELL	(Frigate of Plymouth Command)
" OB DURATE	(Destroyer of the Nore Command)
" TYRIAN	(Frigate of 2nd Training Squadron)
" TENACIOUS	(Frigate of 3rd Training Squadron)

At 4.15 p.m. in the vicinity of St. Alban's Head, ships of the Home Fleet Training Squadron - the aircraft carriers LEPLACABLE (wearing the flag of Rear-Admiral W.L.G. Adams, O.B.E., Flag Officer Training Squadron) and INDEFATIGABLE - will steam past to windward of H.M.Y. BRITANNIA, manning and cheering ship as they do so. They will be followed half a mile astern by eight submarines who will pass H.M.Y. BRITANNIA, also cheering ship.

These submarines will be of the 2nd and 5th Squadrons, based at Portsmouth and Portland respectively. The Flag Officer, Submarines (Rear-Admiral G.B.H. Fawkes, C.V.O., C.B.E.) will go afloat in H.M.S. ALLIANCE and will lead the other submarines - the ARTFUL, ANCHORITE, ACHERON, TRESPASSER, SCORCHER, SUBTLE and SELENE - in single line past the Royal Yacht.

At 5 p.m., when off Anvil Point, ships of the Home Fleet will steam past cheering Her Majesty as they do so. Shortly afterwards they will move away as the Royal Yacht enters the Needles Channel.

/H.M.Y. BRITANNIA....

H.M.Y. BRITANNIA will be escorted through the Needles Channel and the Solent by H.M.S. GRENVILLE, wearing the flag of Admiral Sir John Edelsten, G.C.B., G.C.V.O., C.B.E., Commander-in-Chief, Portsmouth, together with H.M.S. DUCHESS. Six Fast Patrol Boats of Coastal Forces Command will act as close escort.

At 6.40 p.m., when H.M.Y. BRITANNIA is off Cowes, jet and turbo-jet aircraft of the Fleet Air Arm will fly past in single formation. The Squadrons taking part will be: -

- 813 Squadron of Wyvern strike aircraft  
(Lieutenant-Commander C.E. Price, R.N.)
- 802 Squadron of Sea Hawk fighter aircraft  
(Lieutenant-Commander D.N. Steer, R.N.)
- 804 Squadron of Sea Hawk fighters  
(Commander E.M. Brown, O.B.E., D.S.C., A.F.C., R.N.)
- 898 Squadron of Sea Hawk fighters  
(Lieutenant-Commander D.C. Parker, D.S.O., D.S.C., A.F.C., R.N.)
- 890 Squadron of Sea Venom all-weather fighters  
(Lieutenant-Commander A. Gordon Johnson, R.N.)

The Flag Officer, Air (Home) Vice-Admiral Sir John Eccles, K.C.V.O., C.B., C.B.E., will fly past H.M.Y. BRITANNIA in a Perbival Prince aircraft immediately after the jet formations have passed overhead.

The last point at which H.M.Y. BRITANNIA will be seen from the shore on May 14th will be in the neighbourhood of Portsmouth, where H.M.S. GRENVILLE and the Fast Patrol Boat escort will break off, and H.M.S. DUCHESS will be joined by the cruiser JAMAICA off The Nab.

With these two escorts H.M.Y. BRITANNIA will then proceed during the night, passing Beachy Head about midnight, Dover about 4 a.m. and reaching the Great Ouse at the entrance to the Thames at 9.30 a.m. on May 15th.

In the event of delay due to bad weather or other causes before the Royal Yacht reaches the English Channel, the rendezvous with the Home Fleet will be in a position to be selected by the Flag Officer, Royal Yachts, and H.M.Y. BRITANNIA may proceed direct from Ushant to the Needles Channel. If fog or other adverse weather conditions prevent H.M.Y. BRITANNIA from going through the Solent she will proceed South of the Isle of Wight with Home Fleet ships as escorts.

A timetable of H.M.Y. BRITANNIA's movements in the English Channel is attached.

/MOVEMENTS....

MOVEMENTS OF ROYAL YACHT IN ENGLISH CHANNEL  
(subject to alterations due to weather etc.)

May 14th

- 0900 Home Fleet to rendezvous with H.M.Y. BRITANNIA and fire a Royal Salute 9 miles South South East of Plymouth.
- 1000 Mediterranean Fleet ships (H.M. Ships GLASGOW, SAINTEs and BARRFLEUR) acting as close ocean escorts, part company off Salcombe.
- 1030 4½ miles off Start Point.
- 1115 4 miles off entrance to the River Dart.
- 1130 2½ miles off Berry Head.
- 1145 Off Tor Bay.
- 1230 10 miles South of Sidmouth.
- 1500 4 miles South of Portland Bill.
- 1615 Steam past by carriers of the Home Fleet Training Squadron and by submarines 5 miles off St. Alban's Head.
- 1650 Home Fleet begins to steam past 3 miles off Anvil Point.
- 1730 Home Fleet escort, with exception of H.M.S. DUCHESS, leaves Royal Yacht. H.M.S. GREENVILLE and Fast Patrol Boats join H.M.S. DUCHESS to escort H.M.Y. BRITANNIA through the Needles Channel and Solent.
- 1800 Needles Channel.
- 1840 Off Cowes, Fly Past by Fleet Air Arm off Egypt Point.
- 1915 Off Spithead.
- 2000 Off The Nab Tower, H.M.S. JAMAICA resumes as an escort to continue with H.M.S. DUCHESS to the Great Nore.

May 15th

- 0001 Off Beachy Head.
- 0400 In Dover Strait.  
(All the above times approximate only)
- 0930 Off The Great Nore. H.M.S. JAMAICA and H.M.S. DUCHESS part company.

May 1st, 1954.