

ROYAL MARINES AT EASTNEY.

SV Today is St. George's Day, the Corps Remembrance Day and the day on which the Corps performed one of its most glorious feats of arms at Zeebrugge. So it is a most appropriate day to present you with these new Colours on behalf of Her Majesty the Queen. YDU

Few bodies of fighting men anywhere in the world or at any time in history have such a splendid record of service as the Royal Marines. Always ready for anything, well trained and well disciplined, combining the same traditional courage and devotion with a most effective use of modern equipment and methods.

It is usual on these occasions to remind you of the meaning of these colours and to ask you to be sure to respect and honour them. I am not going to do that today because every Royal Marine worthy of the name knows these things as well as I do.

But I will say this to you who are here to-day: you belong to a great company of brave men who have served their country faithfully in peace and in war. Let these Colours help you to remember that. EU

I always take very great pride in the fact that I am ^{The} Captain-General of the Royal Marines, but particularly when I have the ^{an opportunity} pleasure of witnessing such a display of smartness and prevision as you have put on today. — it always gives me

Well done.

DUKE OF EDINBURGH TO PRESENT NEW
COLOURS TO ROYAL MARINES

The Duke of Edinburgh, who is Captain General of the Royal Marines, will present new Colours to the Royal Marines Barracks, Eastney on Monday, 23rd April, St. George's Day. He will fly to Portsmouth by helicopter, landing on the south lawn of the barracks.

The old Colours, which will be trooped for the last time at the ceremony, beginning at 11.00 a.m., were presented by the late Duke of Kent on 3rd December, 1931.

St. George's Day is also the anniversary of the attack on Zeebrugge in 1918, and the holder of one of the two Victoria Crosses awarded to the Corps for their gallantry in that raid will attend the presentation of the new Colours. He is Lieutenant N.A. Finch, V.C., M.S.M., R.M., a Sergeant in April, 1918.

Among those present will be the First Lord of the Admiralty (the Rt. Hon. Viscount Cilcennin), other members of the Board of Admiralty, the Commander-in-Chief, Portsmouth (Admiral of the Fleet Sir George E. Creasy, G.C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O., M.V.O.) and the Commandant General Royal Marines (Lieutenant General C.R. Hardy, C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O.).

The Commandant of the United States Marine Corps (General R. McC. Pate), who will be visiting Britain at the time, and also the Commanding Officers of the Soviet Squadron then at Portsmouth will also be present.

NOTE TO EDITORS AND ART EDITORS:

Applications for passes for reporters and photographers should be made to the Department of Chief of Naval Information, Admiralty, Whitehall, S.W.1. (Tel: Whitehall 9000, Ext. 1125). A Press Room, telephone, tables, etc. will be available on April 23rd, when Captain P.H. Hasting, R.M. will act as Press Liaison Officer.

There will be a dress rehearsal of the parade on 20th April to which Press representatives are also invited. It will provide an opportunity for newsreel and still photographers to select positions, check camera angles etc. etc.

Admiralty, S.W.1.
12th April, 1956.

Mr. Stagg

PRESENTATION OF NEW COLOURS BY HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH
CAPTAIN GENERAL ROYAL MARINES

To-day, on St. George's Day, His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh is presenting New Colours to the Royal Marines at Eastney. The Colours which are being trooped to-day for the last time were presented by HRH Prince George, the late Duke of Kent, on 3rd December, 1931. Around the edge of the Parade Ground can be seen the old Colours of the original Companies of the Duke of York and Albany and Maritime Regiment formed in 1664 from which our Corps originated.

St. George's day, 23rd April, is celebrated throughout the Royal Marines as the Corps day of Remembrance and Re-union. It was on this day in 1918, that the 4th Battalion Royal Marines, together with their comrades of the Royal Navy, under the leadership of the then Commodore Roger Keyes, launched the famous assault on Zeebrugge. For their gallantry in this attack on the strongly held Mole, this battalion was awarded the Victoria Crosses and these were awarded by ballot as there were so many outstanding acts of bravery on that day.

COLOUR PARTIES

The old Colours are carried by Lieutenant D.L. Qvested and Lieutenant D.J. Brewster and are escorted by QMS C.H. Shoemith, Colour Sergeant H.E. Garner and Colour Sergeant F.W. Harvey, BEM.

The new Colours are carried by Lieutenant D.G. Alexander, and Lieutenant T.F. Mottram escorted by QMS J.G. Pollard, Colour Sergeant R.W.D. James MM and Colour Sergeant N.W. Hill.

The new Colours were carried on to the Parade by QMS C.D. Palmer and QMS J.D. McElhone.

COMMAND OF PARADE

The Parade is commanded by Lieutenant Colonel H.E. Johns, MBE, second-in-command Major P.R. Matters and the Adjutant Captain P. le S. Harris, the Regimental Sergeant Major is RSM R.D. Warner.

No. 1 guard is commanded by Captain J. Agnew and is provided by the Technical Training Centre R.M. No. 2 guard is commanded by Major P. Beeman DSC, and is provided by Gunnery School R.M. No. 3 guard is commanded by Major I.S. Harrison and is provided by Signal School R.M. No. 4 guard commanded by Major H.A. Digby Bell and is provided by the detachment under orders for H.M.S. Albion.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE PRESS INSTRUCTIONS

I am to inform you that by instruction of Commander Colville, the Queen's Press Secretary, that one representative of the London Press, and one representative of the local Press, may come on the the Parade to photograph H.R.H the Duke of Edinburgh present the New Colours to the Colour Officers. It is requested that the press present select a representative of the London Press to act on their behalf for this duty.

NOTES OF INTEREST.

To-day present amongst the distinguished audience is Lieutenant Norman Finch VC, R.M. (Retd) who as Sgt. Finch was one of the two who were awarded the Victoria Cross at Zeebrugge.

Mrs. Dowling of Palmers Green, whose son 'Mick' Dowling of 45 Commando R.M. was killed in action in Malaya in 1951 is accompanied by her son's friend, Lieutenant John Lloyd who was in the same Commando Troop at the time of his death.

P.T.C.

The helicopter which lands with His Royal Highness at 1100 will be met by the Lord Lieutenant of the County, Lieut. Colonel His Grace the Duke of Wellington, K.G.

The Right Worshipful the Lord Mayor of Portsmouth, Councillor,
G.A.Day.

The First Lord of the Admiralty, Rt. Hon. Viscount Cilcennin
The Commander-in-Chief, Portsmouth, Admiral of the Fleet
Sir George Creasy GCB,CBE,DSO, LVO

The Commandant General Royal Marines, Lieutenant General
C.R.Hardy, CB,CBE, DSO.,

The Major General Royal Marines, Portsmouth, Major General
J.L.Moulton, CB,DSO,CBE.,

The Hon. Colonel Commandant Portsmouth Group, Major
General H.T.Newman, CB,CBE.,

The Commanding Officer Royal Marines Barracks, Eastney,
Colonel E.A.Brown, OBE.,

Rear Admiral B.F.Kotov and a member of the Soviet Naval Squadron and representatives of the Soviet Embassy are also present.