

Cadets from H.M.S. Ganges formed the Guard of Honour when the Queen, with Prince Philip, set off from Harwich - on ^{their} ~~the~~ three-day State Visit to Holland.

Following the official farewell ~~by~~ ^{from} Admiral Sir Frederick Parham, C.in.C The Nore - the Queen and the Duke went aboard ~~the~~ the Royal Yacht, "Britannia". So began the only scheduled overseas tour to be made by the Queen, this year.

The cheering crowds on the quayside rounded off a crowded day of ~~loyal~~ ~~welcomes~~. The Queen had earlier visited Chelmsford. And Colchester had enjoyed the first official visit by the Sovereign - for 250 years..

~~So~~ ~~the~~ ~~Queen~~ ~~and~~ ~~the~~ ~~Duke~~ ~~went~~ ~~aboard~~ ~~the~~ ~~Royal~~ ~~Yacht~~ ~~"Britannia"~~ - "Britannia" set sail for Holland.

Royal journeys across the North Sea have linked the two countries in friendship.

In 1940, Queen Juliana (then Crown-Princess) brought her children to Britain, as Nazi invaders overran Holland without waiting to declare war. And Queen Wilhelmina rallied Dutch resistance from this country.

Eventually, ^{Princess} Juliana joined her aunt, the Countess of Athlone in Canada. The Earl was then Governor-General.

The tide of war slowly turned. Holland became, once again, a battleground. The epic airborne action at Arnhem was planned to bring speedy liberation to the Netherlands. It failed: but in the heat of battle, ~~new~~ links of friendship were forged.

Freedom Day for Holland ^{still lay ahead...} ~~was not long delayed~~. The full-scale air, land and sea invasion of the Island of Walcheren by Commonwealth troops paved the way for complete liberation.

After the horrors of war, (the occupation, the savage obliteration of Rotterdam by Nazi bombers), the Dutch learned to smile again - as they greeted the British and Canadian troops.

Britain's ^{great war leader} ~~war-time premier~~ Sir Winston Churchill made an early visit, ~~bringing encouragement to the Dutch as they rebuilt their "Land of Flowers"~~ ~~bringing encouragement to the Dutch as they rebuilt their "Land of Flowers"~~

③ ~~But did anybody warn him about those bridges?~~ ~~A trip down a Canal brought new meaning to the Low Countries..~~

The years pass. Princess Margaret ^{sails} ~~journeys~~ across the North Sea: Britain's representative at the ~~Integration~~ Ceremony, proclaiming Juliana - Queen of the Netherlands.

The Queen(Sheet Two)

2528

Two years later, in 1950, Queen Juliana and Prince Bernhard were the guests ~~of the late~~^{of} King George the Sixth and Queen Elizabeth on a State Visit to Britain. /

(Part 2 to follow)