

THE DUKE'S TOUR.

The Duke of Edinburgh visits Manus Island - his last port of call before reaching Australia - and watches a mass display by war canoes - giant outriggers which are no longer used for fighting, but which make an impressive spectacle on ceremonial occasions.

These are not only combat vessels that use Manus Island's perfect harbour - it is an Australian naval base, which proved of tremendous importance during the Second World War, when both British and American fleets made use of it. The United States wanted to lease it after the war, but Australia decided it was essential for her own naval defence.

Young crocodiles are prepared for a big tribal feast. They are considered a great delicacy; snakes, rats and other small animals are sewn up inside, and the whole thing is smoked and then roasted. Definitely not for European stomachs. So the Duke contents himself with a good look.