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BRITISH SILVER ON SHOW:

In Rome's Palazzo Venezia, British Ambassador Sir Ashley Clarke visits a display of British antique silver, on show to the Romans for six weeks. Among these beautiful pieces, which date from 1660-1830, are many from the Queen's own collection. Others are on loan from museums, churches, guilds, cities, schools, colleges, and private owners.

The people of Rome are delighted with this fabulous display, which is considered to be the most important exhibition of silver ever to be sent from one country to another. Sending art treasures to Italy may be like sending coals to Newcastle - but even in this land of beautiful things, they aren't too proud to admit that generations of British craftsmen have produced works as beautiful as any in the world.