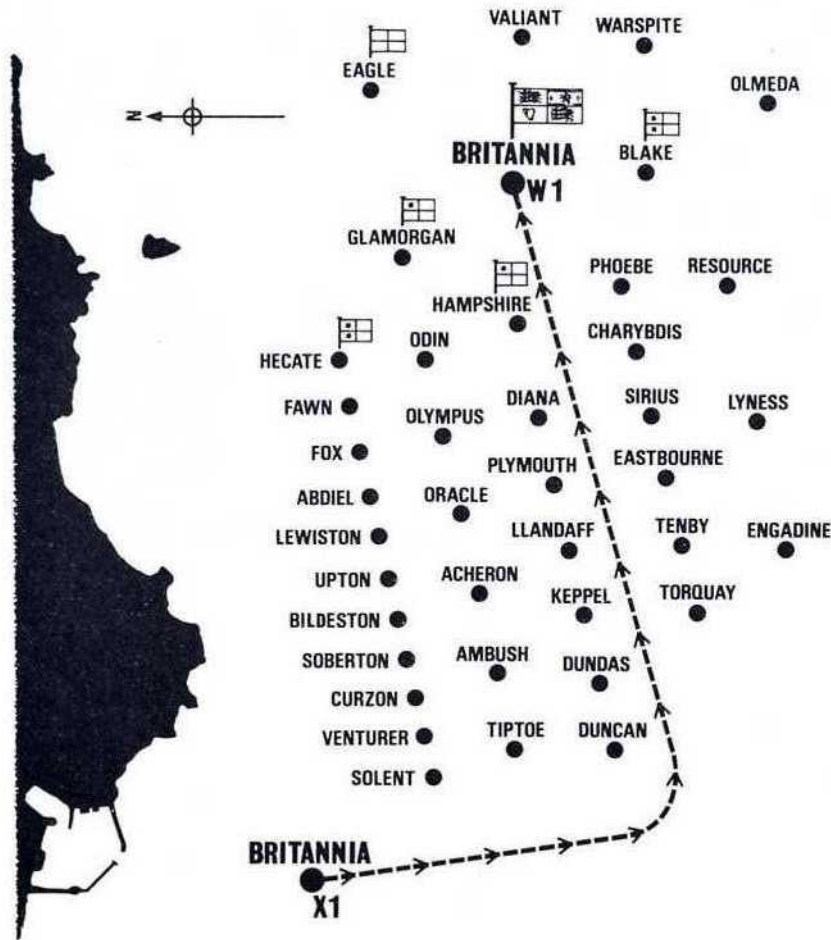


Visit by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II to Ships of the Western Fleet at Torbay 28-29 July 1969, and Presentation of a New Colour to the Fleet

Western Fleet Assembly-Plan of Anchorage at Torbay



The plan showing position of ships of the Western Fleet at anchor off Torquay. The dotted line shows the route to be taken by HM Y Britannia at 1035 on Monday 28th July when she steams through the Fleet to anchor at the head of the line.

YACHTSMEN are asked to follow the guidance as to their movements through the Fleet in the special notice to yachtsmen available from yacht clubs and harbour offices. Generally the fleet anchorage is open to passage by yachts except while the ships anchor on Saturday 26th July, while HM Y Britannia steams through the anchorage between 1000 and 1100 on Monday 28th July and while the ships prepare to leave the anchorage from 1200 to 1400 on Tuesday 29th July. At other times on the Monday and Tuesday yachts are asked to keep clear of the approaches to Torquay Harbour while the Royal Yacht is manoeuvring in the area.

Front cover picture shows the Queen with the Duke of Edinburgh, Admiral of the Fleet Earl Mountbatten and Princess Anne in HM Y Britannia during the NATO Naval Review at Spithead in May.

Ships of the Western Fleet at Torbay

THE Western Fleet includes the majority of the ships in the Royal Navy, the remaining operational ships being deployed to the Far East. As its name suggests, Western Fleet ships operate west of Suez, in the Atlantic, the Mediterranean, the Caribbean and Home Waters of the United

Kingdom.

About 140 ships including submarines, aircraft carriers, amphibious ships, destroyers and frigates make up the Western Fleet, and are commanded by Admiral Sir John Bush from his shore headquarters at Northwood, near London.

Flag Officers

Commander-in-Chief Western Fleet

Admiral Sir John Bush, KCB, DSC**
Flag in HMS *Eagle*

Flag Officer Submarines

Vice-Admiral Sir Michael Pollock, KCB, MVO, DSC
Flag in HMS *Glamorgan*

Flag Officer Flotillas Western Fleet

Vice-Admiral A. M. Lewis, CB
Flag in HMS *Hampshire*

Hydrographer of the Navy

Rear-Admiral G. S. Ritchie, CB, DSC
Flag in HMS *Hecate*

Flag Officer Carriers & Amphibious Ships

Rear-Admiral M. F. Fell, CB, DSO, DSC
Flag in HMS *Blake*

Ships and Commanding Officers

Strike carrier - HMS *Eagle* R05

Captain J. D. Treacher

Command helicopter cruiser - HMS *Blake* C99

Captain R. F. Plugge, DSC

Guided missile destroyers - HMS *Glamorgan* D19
HMS *Hampshire* D06

Captain S. L. McArdle, MVO, GM

Captain R. P. Clayton

Londonderry Squadron, frigates - HMS *Phoebe* F42
HMS *Llandaff* F61
HMS *Keppel* F85

Captain (D) C. R. P. C. Branson

Commander W. H. Stewart

Lieutenant-Commander J. M. S. Ekins

Ships of the Western Fleet at Torbay

Dartmouth Training Squadron - Frigates

HMS <i>Eastbourne</i> F73	Captain (D) I. S. S. Mackay
HMS <i>Tenby</i> F65	Commander R. I. T. Hogg
HMS <i>Torquay</i> F43	Commander P. J. Symons

Leander Class Frigates

HMS <i>Charybdis</i> F75	Captain D. W. Foster
HMS <i>Sirius</i> F40	Commander J. A. de M. Leathes. OBE

Type 12 Frigate

HMS <i>Plymouth</i> F126	Commander St J. H. Herbert
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Daring Class Destroyer

HMS <i>Diana</i> D126	Commander E. D. L. Llewellyn
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Portland Training Squadron - Frigates

HMS <i>Dundas</i> F48	Lieutenant-Commander E. M. England
HMS <i>Duncan</i> F80	Lieutenant-Commander W. M. Forbes

Fleet Submarines (nuclear-powered)

HMS <i>Warspite</i>	Commander J. B. Hervey
HMS <i>Valiant</i>	Commander G. R. King

Patrol Submarines

HMS <i>Odin</i>	Lieutenant-Commander N. G. Warneford
HMS <i>Olympus</i>	Lieutenant-Commander R. F. Shannon
HMS <i>Oracle</i>	Lieutenant-Commander G. T. Swales
HMS <i>Acheron</i>	Lieutenant-Commander D. W. Mitchell
HMS <i>Ambush</i>	Lieutenant-Commander J. P. Speller
HMS <i>Tiptoe</i>	Lieutenant-Commander J. J. S. Daniel

Survey Ships

HMS <i>Hecate</i> A137	Captain J. H. S. Osborn, RAN.
HMS <i>Fawn</i> A335	Commander C. F. K. Robinson
HMS <i>FOX</i> A320	Lieutenant-Commander R. Dathan

Mine Counter-measure Ships

HMS <i>Abdiel</i> N21	Commander T. M. B. Seymour
HMS <i>Lewislon</i> M1208	Lieutenant-Commander R. G. Teasdale
HMS <i>Upton</i> M1187	Lieutenant-Commander G. J. Claydon
HMS <i>Bildeston</i> M1110	Lieutenant-Commander R. J. D. Allan
HMS <i>Soberton</i> M1200	Lieutenant D. T. Ancona

Mine Counter-measure ships manned by the Royal Naval Reserve.

HMS <i>Curzon</i> - Sussex Division RNR.	Commander B. K. Perrin,
VRD. RNR. HMS <i>Venturer</i> - Severn Division RNR.	Commander
F. A. Williams, RD, RNR.	HMS <i>Solent</i> - Solent Division RNR.
Lieutenant-Commander G. R. Hill, RNR.	

Royal Fleet Auxiliaries.

RFA <i>Resource</i> A480 - Replenishment Ship.	Captain E. D. J. Evans.
RFA <i>Olmeda</i> A124 - Fleet oiler.	Captain S. C. Dunlop, MBE
RFA <i>Lyness</i> A339 - Stores support ship.	Captain C. G. D. Barker.
RFA <i>Engadine</i> K08 - Helicopter support ship.	Captain J.H. McLoughlin.

*A message from Admiral Sir John Bush, KCB, DSC, **
Commander-in-Chief Western Fleet*

THE presentation of our new Colour by Her Majesty the Queen is a very important occasion for the Fleet, and we are greatly honoured that she and other members of the Royal Family should take this opportunity to spend two days with us in Torbay and see something of the men and the ships.

It is appropriate that the Fleet should have a new Colour, not only because the old Colour was presented to the then Home Fleet as long ago as 1937 but because in 1967 the Home Fleet was superseded by the Western Fleet with greatly increased responsibilities. Its area of operations now includes the North and South Atlantic and the Mediterranean as well as Home Waters.

The tasks undertaken by the Fleet are varied and strenuous. Our major task is to contribute surface ships, submarines and aircraft which will deter any potential aggressor from action at sea - a task vital to the existence of a Nation such as ours dependent upon the sea for the transit of our imports and exports. To do



this effectively we must be, and be known to be, really efficient. Nearly all the ships present in Torbay are earmarked for assignment to NATO in emergency, and in peacetime we exercise frequently with the other Nations of the Alliance to ensure our readiness for war. Besides this major commitment there is the ever-present task of training young officers and men to play their part in the highly technical complex which is the warship of today. The men in the Fleet are not just sailors as they used to be, they are highly trained "technicians" in their various fields - weapon control, electrical and mechanical engineering and administration. And finally there are all the day to day tasks which you frequently read about in your newspapers - fishing protection, search and rescue at sea, aid to civil power and visits to foreign ports which enhance the prestige of our country.

A number of ships will be open to visitors on Sunday 27th July and I hope as many of you as possible will avail yourselves of the opportunity to see something of the Royal Navy of today.

Programme of Events

Saturday 26 July			
From 1500	Ships of the Western Fleet anchor in Torbay		
2130	Upper works of ships to be floodlit		
Sunday 27 July			
1300 to 1700	Some 20 ships open to the public (Further details at back of booklet)		
2130	Upper works of ships to be floodlit		
Monday 28 July			
0700	Her Majesty's Yacht <i>Britannia</i> anchors off Torquay		
0800	Colours - ships dress overall		
1015	HM The Queen and TRH The Duke of Edinburgh, Prince of Wales and Princess Anne embark in the Royal Barge at Torquay Harbour, and at 1020 board HMY <i>Britannia</i> . A Royal Salute of 21 guns will be fired when the Royal Standard is broken at the mainmast of the Royal Yacht		
1035	HMY <i>Britannia</i> , preceded by the Trinity House Vessel <i>Patricia</i> , will steam through the anchorage		
1100	HMY <i>Britannia</i> anchors at eastern end of the lines		
1110	Princess Anne leaves to visit HMS <i>Eastbourne</i> . The Prince of Wales leaves to visit RFA <i>Resource</i> . The Queen and Duke of Edinburgh leave to visit HMS <i>Hampshire</i>		
1230	The Queen and other members of the Royal Family return to HMY <i>Britannia</i> for luncheon		
1453	Princess Anne leaves to visit HMS <i>Hecate</i> , with HMS <i>Fawn</i> and HMS		
			Fox alongside. The Prince of Wales leaves to visit HMS <i>Phoebe</i> with HMS <i>Bildeston</i> alongside. The Queen and Duke of Edinburgh leave to visit HMS <i>Valiant</i>
		1555	The Queen and other members of the Royal Family join the Chief Petty Officers of the Fleet for tea in HMS <i>Blake</i>
		1745	H M The Queen gives a reception in HMY <i>Britannia</i>
		1945	HM The Queen and members of the Royal Family dine with the Commander-in-Chief, Flag Officers and Officers in HMS <i>Eagle</i> , and afterwards attend a Concert Party by the ship's company of HMS <i>Eagle</i>
		2100	Sunset
		2130	Ships to be fully illuminated (until 2359)
		Tuesday 29 July	
		0800	Colours - ships dress overall
		1000	Presentation of the new Colour to the Fleet by Her Majesty on the flight deck of HMS <i>Eagle</i>
		approx 1030	Fly-past by helicopters and aircraft of the Fleet Air Arm
		1230	HMY <i>Britannia</i> with Her Majesty the Queen and members of the Royal Family embarked leads the Fleet to sea
		1400	Ships of the Western Fleet steam past HMY <i>Britannia</i> , some 10 miles to the east of Torbay
		1615	HMY <i>Britannia</i> , escorted by HMS <i>Duncan</i> , arrives off Torquay
		1630	Her Majesty disembarks to return to Torquay

Presentation of the Colour

THIS Colour presentation on the 29th July 1969 falls exactly 381 years to the day after Sir Francis Drake fought the last battle of the Armada to defeat the enemies of Queen Elizabeth I. To recall this victory, a replica of the famous Drake's Drum has been loaned by HMS *Drake* at Devonport to be the top drum of the pile on which will be placed the new Colour of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II during this ceremony.

When the Queen and other members of the Royal Family arrive on the flight deck of HMS *Eagle*, 1,500 men drawn from the assembled ships will be on parade. There will also be a representative contingent of the Women's Royal Naval Service drawn from the Fleet Headquarters at Northwood. Two Royal Guards, each of 96 men, will be drawn up opposite the Royal Dais, and the Royal Marine Band of the Commander-in-Chief will mass with the band of HMS *Eagle*. The parade will be under the command of Commander A. F. R. Weir, Executive Officer of HMS *Eagle*.

After the Royal Salute from the two guards, the Queen will inspect the guards, and the massed bands will then troop

across the front of the parade, first at the quick march and then at the slow. The Old Colour is trooped, and marched off to the tune of Auld Lang Syne.

The drum party will then pile the drums in front of the dais for the presentation of the new Colour. The Commander-in-Chief will invite the Chaplain of the Fleet, the Ven. Archdeacon A. W. M. Weekes to consecrate the Colour, and prayers will be said by the Rt. Rev. Monsignor B. S. O'Connor, Principal Roman Catholic Chaplain, and the Rev. R. Gwilym Williams, Principal Chaplain Church of Scotland and Free Churches.

The Queen will then hand the Colour to the New Colour Officer who takes up post with the New Colour Party between the two guards while the National Anthem is played. The Queen delivers a short address to the parade.

The ceremony concludes with the fly-past by the Fleet Air Arm.



The Drake's Drum Replica

Fly past by the Fleet Air Arm

For spectators ashore, one of the most exciting moments of the two-day Royal visit will be the fly-past by 89 helicopters and aircraft of the Fleet Air Arm. At approximately 1030, the first formation of Wessex helicopters will fly above HMS *Eagle* at a speed of 80 knots and a height of 400 feet. They will be followed by a formation of the smaller Wasp helicopters, with Wessex formations on either side, and a total of 31 helicopters will be seen in the air at the same time.

They will be followed by nine Gannet anti-submarine aircraft flying at 600 feet and at a speed of 150 knots. Then 20 Buccaneers will fly past at 360 knots and a height of 800 to 1,000 feet. They will be followed by 20 Sea Vixens flying at the same speed.

Pride of place in the fly-past will go to the Navy's latest aircraft, the record breaking Phantom, of which nine will



Wessex Mk 1



Wasp



Gannet AEW 3



Buccaneer Mk2



Sea Vixen Mk2



Phantom FG Mk1

fly past at 360 knots and a height of 1,300 feet to salute the Queen.

The aircraft will fly from South to North, and will approach Torbay to seaward of Berry Head. They will have followed an intricately planned pattern of approach routes which in the case of the Buccaneers will have involved a flight from the Royal Naval Air Station Lossiemouth in Scotland, for the Gannets a flight from RNAS Brawdy in SW Wales, and for the Sea Vixens, a flight from RNAS Yeovilton. Split second timing will bring this armada of aircraft over the anchorage at the conclusion of the presentation ceremony. The whole fly-past is under the operational control of Flag Officer Naval Flying Training, Rear Admiral C. K. Roberts, DSO, at Yeovilton.

The following squadrons, flights and ship's flights are participating

Helicopters:

Wessex Mk3-814 Squadron, 820 Squadron, 826 Squadron
 Wessex Mk5-846 Squadron
 Wessex Mk1-HMS *Hermes* Search and Rescue flight
 Wessex Mk1-HMS *Glamorgan* flight
 Wasp-829 HQ Squadron, and HM Ships *Sirius*, *Charybdis*, *Jupiter*, *Plymouth*, *Andromeda*, *Leander*, *Euryalus*, *Bacchante* & *Hermione*

Fixed-wing aircraft:

Gannet AEW 3-849 HQ Squadron, 849 A Flight, 849 D Flight
 Buccaneer Mk2-809 Squadron, 800 Squadron, 801 Squadron
 Sea Vixen Mk2-893 Squadron, 899 Squadron, 890 Squadron
 Phantom FG Mk1-892 Squadron, 767 Squadron

Shins of the Western Fleet

HMS *Eagle* the strike carrier, and her sister ship Ark Royal now undergoing modernisation for Phantom operations, are the largest ships in the Navy. *Eagle*, accepted into service in 1952, and extensively modernised since then, has a standard displacement of 50,000 tons, is 811 feet long and has a beam of 167 feet. Steam turbine engines give a top speed around 30 knots. Aircraft operated are Buccaneers, Sea Vixens, Gannets and Wessex helicopters. Their weapons include bombs, rockets, guided missiles and homing torpedoes. The ship's radar systems can detect targets well over 100 miles away. Ship features include an angled deck, steam catapults, Action Data Automation, full air-conditioning and powerful communications system. She has a complement of some 250 officers and 2,500 men.

HMS *Blake* is the first of the Navy's three Tiger Class cruisers to be converted and given a new role as command helicopter cruiser. The most striking feature of the conversion is the new raised flight deck at the stern, together with a large hangar surmounted by a flying control position. A squadron of four Sea King anti-submarine helicopters will operate from the ship when they come into service with the Fleet. During her first commission Blake will carry Wessex Mk 3 helicopters. Her forward twin 6 inch and twin 3 inch guns have been retained, but the amidships 3 inch gun turrets have been removed and replaced by Seacat surface to air missiles. To keep the ship steady for helicopter operations, five pairs of stabilisers have been fitted.



Ships of the Western Fleet

HMS Glamorgan *HMS Hampshire* are among the most modern ships in the Fleet. Their main role is the provision of air defence for a force of ships by means of the Seaslug guided missile system. For close range they have the Seacat missile system and four 4-5 inch guns. They are fitted with the latest under water detection equipment and carry a Wessex helicopter fitted with submarine tracking equipment and torpedoes that guide themselves on to the target. The ships are 520 feet long, have a beam of 54 feet and displace over 5,000 tons. Their complement is 38 officers and 450 ratings.

HMS Diana was the last of the *Daring* Class destroyers to be built, and was first commissioned in 1954. Her main armament consists of six 4-5 inch radar controlled guns capable of very accurate and rapid fire against ships or aircraft. Two 40 mm Bofor guns are fitted for closer range and for attacking submarines there is a triple-barrel anti-submarine mortar. The ship is 390 feet long, has a beam of 43 feet and displaces 3,610 tons. The speed is in excess of 30 knots.

HMS Phoebe, *Charybdis* and *Sirius* are *Leander* Class general purpose frigates. Features of these ships include long range air warning radar, the Seacat anti-aircraft missile system, advanced submarine detection equipment and a Wasp anti-submarine helicopter. They can engage ships, aircraft and shore targets but their primary role is submarine detection and destruction. They displace over 2,000 tons, are 370 feet long and have a beam of 41 feet (43 feet in the latest ships). Two steam turbines drive them at speeds in excess of 30 knots. Other armament includes mortars and 4-5 inch radar controlled guns. Complement is 16 officers and 245 ratings.



HMS Glamorgan

HMS Phoebe



HMS *Llandaff* is one of four aircraft direction frigates. Their primary role is the direction of carrier-borne and shore based aircraft and the detection of aircraft. For this they are fitted with highly developed electronic equipment. They also have underwater detection equipment and a triple-barrelled anti-submarine mortar. Gunnery armament includes a twin 4-5 inch mounting forward and a 40 mm anti-aircraft gun. These ships displace 2,100 tons, are 340 feet long and have a beam of 40 feet. Complement is 14 officers and 210 ratings.

HMS *Eastbourne*, *Tenby* and *Torquay* are *Whitby* Class anti-submarine frigates, each displacing 2,144 tons and having a length of 370 feet and a beam of 41 feet. Their maximum speed is in excess of 25 knots. Anti-submarine armament consists of two triple-barrelled mortars and for air defence they have two 4-5 inch guns in a single turret and a single 40 mm Bofor. They have underwater detection equipment. HMS *Plymouth* belongs to the *Rothsay* Class, an improved version of the *Whitby* Class. The first three ships belong to the Dartmouth Training Squadron, and give Cadets their initial sea training.

HMS *Keppel*, *Dundas* and *Duncan* are anti-submarine frigates of the *Blackwood* Class. They are 310 feet long, have a beam of 33 feet and displace 1,200 tons. Their operational speed is in excess of 25 knots and the hull design makes them very manoeuvrable. They use underwater detection equipment and can control anti-submarine helicopters. They are armed with anti-submarine mortars and 40 mm guns.

HMS *Abdiel*, an exercise minelayer, is the first and only ship of her class. She has several roles. She lays mines, acts as a mine counter-measures headquarters ship and is also used as a support ship. Launched in January 1967, the ship is based in Scotland. She is 265 feet long, has a beam of 382 feet and displaces 1,500 tons. The ship's company is seven officers and 70 ratings.

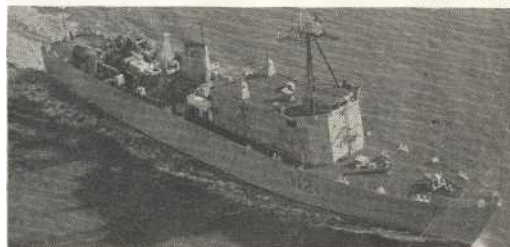


HMS *Llandaff*



HMS *Torquay*

HMS *Abdiel*



Ships of the Western Fleet

HM Submarines Valiant and Warspite

are nuclear powered but conventionally armed Fleet submarines. They are *true* submarines, being able to remain submerged for almost indefinite periods and are designed for continuous high underwater speeds. Their roles are to provide anti-submarine escorts for surface task forces and to hunt down and destroy enemy submarines and surface forces. The main armament is the torpedo and the submarines have the latest underwater detection, navigation and communication equipment. They displace about 3,500 tons on the surface.

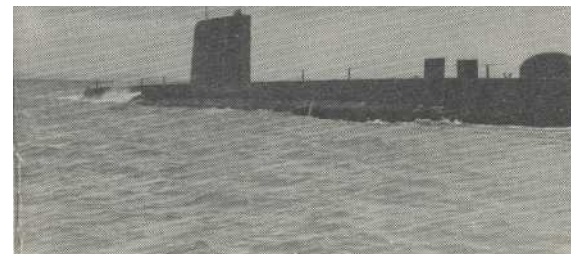


HM Submarines Odin, Oracle and Olympus

belong to the *Oberon* Class of patrol submarines. They are capable of high underwater speeds, have many silent running features and can undertake long submerged patrols. The submarines have a length of 296 feet, and displace 1,610 tons. The armament consists of six torpedo tubes forward and two aft.

Mine Counter-measures Vessels

To combat the threat of mines the Navy has 47 Mine Counter-measures Vessels of two types: coastal minesweepers and coastal minehunters. The minehunter detects mines on the seabed and destroys them with the assistance of clearance diving teams. Between them these vessels can deal with all types of mines. They displace 427 tons, are 153 feet long, have a beam of 28 feet 9½ inches and a speed of over 16 knots.



HMS Hecate is one of three deep ocean survey vessels of her class, the others being *Hecla* and *Hydra*. These ships are used in the combined oceanographical and hydrographical roles. They have an overall length of 260 feet, a beam of 49 feet and displace 2,800 tons. They operate Wasp helicopters. The ships are designed to operate without base support for long periods.

HMS Fox and Fawn are two of a new class of four coastal surveying vessels. They are designed for world wide operations and equipped with the most modern electronic and scientific equipment. The ships are 190 feet long, have a beam of 38 feet and displace 1,030 tons. The cruising speed is 15 knots. They have excellent sea-keeping qualities and a stabiliser system is fitted to provide a stable platform for delicate hydrographic work. Each ship has two glass fibre motor boats fitted with echo sounding equipment.

RFA Engadine, a helicopter support ship, was specially designed to meet training requirements for the flying, handling and maintenance of helicopters. The ship does not carry her own flight but the hangar can house four Wessex and two Wasp helicopters. When these are embarked the vessel operates as a small aircraft carrier. The ship's length is 424 feet, breadth 58 feet and she displaces 8,000 tons. Service speed is 16 knots.

RFA Olmeda is the fastest ship in the Royal Fleet Auxiliary Service, and is an important part of the Navy's "lifeline" at sea. *Olmeda* (formerly called *Oleander*) is a replenishment tanker, supplying warships with fuel and stores while steaming at sea. The ship is 648 feet long, and displaces 33,280 tons. She has a helicopter landing deck which enables her to carry and operate three helicopters, which are used for transferring light stores between ships, and for training purposes. A high standard of accommodation is provided for the crew.



HMS Hecate

RFA Engadine



Opportunities for the Public to see Ships of the Western Fleet

THE following 20 ships will welcome members of the public on board from 1300 to 1700 on

Sunday 27th July. Local boatmen will provide a boat service to these ships

Guided Missile Destroyer

HMS *Glamorgan*

Destroyer

HMS *Diana*

Frigates

HMS *Charybdis*
HMS *Tenby*
HMS *Plymouth*
HMS *Keppel*
HMS *Duncan*

HMS *Sirius*
HMS *Torquay*
HMS *Llandaff*
HMS *Dundas*

Mine Counter-measures Ships

HMS *Abdiel*
HMS *Upton*

HMS *Soberton*
HMS *Lewiston*

Royal Naval Reserve Ships

HMS *Solent*
HMS *Venturer*

HMS *Curzon*

Helicopter Support Ship

RFA *Engadine*

Fleet Supply Ship

RFA *Lyness*

The Royal Marines

FROM their formation in 1664 until the present time, the Royal Marines have taken part, with distinction, in every major British Naval engagement. In recent years, Royal Marine units have operated in most of the world's trouble spots, Korea, Malaya, Cyprus, Suez, the Radfan, East Africa, Borneo and Aden - where 42 Commando and 45 Commando covered the final British withdrawal.

The principal role of the Royal Marines is to provide the Commando units, the core of Britain's Amphibious Forces. There are four of these, each about 700 strong. Two are based in the Far East, and the remaining two in Britain.

The Royal Marines also provide detachments for the ships of the Amphibious Warfare Squadrons, Command Helicopter Cruisers and certain frigates. These detachments man the landing craft squadrons and provide military landing parties whenever the need arises.

Their third task is to provide the Special Boat Sections, men highly trained in underwater swimming, canoeing, parachuting and operating with submarines. Their missions include reconnaissance, sabotage, under-water attacks and obstacle clearance.

The characteristic ability of the Royal Marine to serve in the desert or the arctic is exploited to the full.

Commandos are at instant readiness in the Mediterranean and poised to reinforce the Norwegian Northern Flank.



Typical Marine in Action



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