

in a velodrome, before large and enthusiastic audiences. The white handkerchief salute was also used by Zurich audiences, and the Ride responded by adding a blue handkerchief to the traditional red-and-white RCMP pennon.

Logistics

Many people really don't appreciate the amount of planning that goes into a tour like this. Accommodations for 41 members, including 36 constables, 2 corporals, a farrier, Riding Master and the officer in charge, present somewhat of a challenge. Add to this, accommodation requirements for 36 horses, travel arrangements, visa documentation, health regulations, food provisions, financial responsibility, *ad infinitum*, and you begin to get some idea of the undertaking of a tour.

Problems occur on such a mammoth trip, and it is a credit to the members that temporary glitches get settled and solved, and the Ride carries on.

Summing up the tour, Insp. Boivin said, "Unless you actually do something like a European tour, you can't believe the value in terms of public relations." European media coverage of the 1988 tour was plentiful, and included newspaper articles, radio broadcasts and televised coverage of Ride performances, and live interviews.

Insp. Boivin praised the enthusiasm and hospitality of the Europeans, and had special praise for External Affairs staff in Ottawa and at Canadian missions and embassies abroad. According to Boivin, much of the tour's success was directly related to the contribution made by these people.



Insp. Boivin, High Commissioner McMurtry and the Ride welcomed by the Lord Mayor of London, Sir Grenville Spratt, at Mansion House.

Photo by UPPA LTD, London