

## HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCE PHILIP, DUKE OF EDINBURGH

His Royal Highness The Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh was born on the island of Corfu on June 10, 1921, as the son of Prince Andrew of Greece. On his father's side, he is of Danish descent. His mother was Princess Alice of Battenburg, and, therefore, like Queen Elizabeth II, is one of Queen Victoria's great-great-grandchildren.

Prince Philip was educated in Britain at Cheam and at Mr. Kurt Hahn's school located at Gordonstoun, Scotland. Popular with his school-fellows and known as a good sportsman, the Duke showed his love of the sea at an early age. He and his schoolmates built a cutter, and he took part in sailing trips as far as Norway.

In 1939, Prince Philip left his school to become a Naval Cadet, following the Mountbatten tradition. He attended the Royal Naval College at Dartmouth, and there won the King's Dirk as the best all-round cadet of his term. In January, 1940, he went to sea as a midshipman and served on the battleship *Valiant* at the battle of Matapan. For his work during the action, he was mentioned in despatches. Prince Philip also saw action in the Far East as First Lieutenant on the destroyer *Whelp*.

The engagement of the young lieutenant to Princess Elizabeth was announced in July 1947, a few months after he renounced his Greek royal title and became a British subject. The marriage took place in Westminster Abbey on November 20, 1947.

Prince Philip continued his naval career until July 1951, when he went on indefinite leave. He accompanied his wife on the Commonwealth tour which was interrupted by the sudden death of George VI.

Since the accession of Queen Elizabeth II to the Throne, the Duke of Edinburgh has played an increasingly important part in public life. His interest in scientific developments is marked. The Duke has visited research stations and labora-