

THE PRINCE BEHIND THE QUEEN

REUTERS
A blunt-speaking naval officer who as Queen Elizabeth's dutiful consort helped modernise the British monarchy, Prince Philip might be best remembered for his gruff public persona.

Outspoken and irascible, Philip lived in the shadow of the woman he married at Westminster Abbey in 1947 and always walked a step behind the queen at the thousands of ceremonial events they attended during her reign, the longest in British history.

Though he had no official role, Philip, the Duke of Edinburgh, was one of the most influential figures in the royal family for more than 70 years. He died aged 99 on Friday.

While Philip was often criticised for his demeanour and sometimes brusque remarks, friends said that as Queen Elizabeth II's closest confidant he brought wit, impatient intelligence and unflagging energy to the monarchy.

"He has, quite simply, been my strength and stay all these years," Elizabeth said in a rare personal tribute to Philip during a speech to mark their 50th wedding anniversary in 1997.

"I, and his whole family, and this and many other countries, owe him a debt greater than he would ever claim, or we shall ever know."

If Philip harboured frustration at his life as consort, he never publicly showed it.

Born in an age of deference to

monarchy, Philip helped Elizabeth navigate the political and social upheaval of the 20th century to craft a monarchy fit for a different time.

Often facing a deeply traditional court, he reformed the palace and tried to harness the growing power of television to project royal influence.

However, later in life Philip was criticised for impeding the monarchy's ability to adapt to the times, and detractors partly blamed his overbearing manner for his children's failure to produce happy families.



PRINCE PHILIP (1921-2021)

The couple had four children: Charles, Prince of Wales (born in 1948), Princess Anne (1950), Prince Andrew (1960) and Prince Edward (1964), three of whose marriages ended in divorce.

For Elizabeth, Philip was a supportive husband who courtiers



said was the only person to treat the monarch as a human being.

Despite rumours about his infidelity, the couple stayed together and in old age they clearly enjoyed an affection and regard for each other. They celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary in November 2017.

However Philip, the son of the exiled Prince Andrew of Greece, a descendant of Elizabeth's great-great-grandmother Queen Victoria and his wife's third cousin, never quite won the hearts of all Britons.

Elizabeth was the sovereign, but in family matters it was Philip who was viewed as the head of the family.

Philippus Schleswig-Holstein Sonderburg-Glücksburg was born on a dining room table on the Greek island of Corfu on June 10, 1921, the fifth child and only son of Prince Andrew of Greece.

His parents went into exile when

he was 18 months old. They sailed from Corfu with the little boy sleeping in a cot made hurriedly from orange boxes.

Philip had British and German blood through his mother, a great-granddaughter of Queen Victoria. She was born Princess Alice of Battenberg and became a nun after drifting apart from her husband, who died virtually penniless in 1944.

Philip lived his early life on the move around Europe. It was a troubled childhood.

He was educated at Gordonstoun, where his son Prince Charles was later an unwilling pupil, and became a naturalised British citizen, looking and sounding every bit the English gentleman.

But to his detractors he remained "Phil the Greek".

Philip joined the Royal Naval College at Dartmouth as a cadet in

1939. He served in warships during World War Two, was mentioned in dispatches, took part in the Allied landings in Sicily and was in Tokyo Bay when Japan surrendered in 1945.

He and Elizabeth first met at the wedding of Philip's cousin in 1934. Five years later the dashing young sailor attracted the attention of his future wife when the then-princess was 13 and visited Dartmouth with her parents.

"The colour drained from her face and then she blushed. She stared at him and for the rest of the day followed him everywhere. She was in love from the beginning," the late Earl Mountbatten, Philip's uncle, recalled later.

They were married at Westminster Abbey on Nov. 20, 1947, in a ceremony attended by statesmen and royalty from around the world.

He continued his naval career until 1951, then took leave and devoted himself full-time to public duties when Elizabeth became queen a year later.

There was one place where he outshone his wife - on the Pacific island of Tanna in the Vanuatu group, where people believed he was a god with magical powers and was the fount of all goodness.

Asked whether he felt he had been a success in his role, he gave a typically plegmatic response.

"I couldn't care less," he said. "Who cares what I think about it, I mean it's ridiculous."

NEWS IN BRIEF

Erdogan a 'dictator'

Turkey has condemned Italian Prime Minister Mario Draghi for accusing Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan of humiliating European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen and calling him a "dictator". Von der Leyen and European Council President Charles Michel met Erdogan in Ankara on Tuesday. The Commission chief was clearly taken aback when the two men sat on the only two chairs prepared. Official images later showed her seated on a sofa opposite Turkish Foreign Minister Mevlut Cavusoglu. "With these dictators, let's call them what they are - who however are needed - one must be honest in expressing one's diverging ideas and views about society," Draghi said. Turkey's Foreign Ministry on Thursday summoned the Italian ambassador to Ankara to condemn the remarks.

Is Dubai princess alive?

The UN yesterday said it was "very concerned" for Dubai's Sheikhia Latifa, two months after having asked the United Arab Emirates for proof that the royal was still alive. In February, the United Nations Human Rights Office asked for evidence about the daughter of Dubai ruler Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al-Maktoum after the BBC broadcast a video shot by Latifa saying she was being held captive and feared for her life. His 35-year-old daughter has not been seen in public since a foiled attempt to escape from the emirate in March 2018. The Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights spoke to the UAE's diplomatic mission in Geneva in a bid to obtain proof of life. "We are very concerned," spokeswoman Marta Hurtado told reporters in Geneva. "We haven't got any proof of life and we would like one, and one that is clear, compelling evidence that she is alive." Our first concern, of course, is to be sure of that: that she is still alive.

US warships in Black Sea

The United States will send two warships through the Bosphorus to the Black Sea, the Turkish foreign ministry said yesterday, as tensions simmer between Russia and Ukraine. The ships will stay in the region until May 4, the foreign ministry said in a statement. Turkish media said the warships will enter the Black Sea next week. The latest warship deployment comes after Russia sent military reinforcements to both the eastern Ukrainian border and Crimea. White House press secretary Jen Psaki said on Thursday that the number of Russian troops at the border with Ukraine was now greater "than at any time since 2014".

Thunberg to skip COP26

Swedish climate campaigner Greta Thunberg yesterday said she plans to skip the COP26 climate summit in Glasgow this November, saying the uneven rollout of Covid-19 vaccine campaigns would mean countries could not participate on even terms. The 18-year-old activist deplored that by November richer countries would be vaccinating young healthy people "very often at the expense of people in risk groups in other parts of the world." "With the extremely inequitable vaccine distribution I will not attend the COP26 conference if the development continues as it is now," Thunberg told AFP in an interview. Thunberg, confirming a BBC report, said the conference should be postponed "if everyone could not attend in the same terms."

SOURCE: AFP, REUTERS

PRINCE PHILIP

3 FORGOTTEN FACTS

SACRIFICES FOR A PRINCESS

Philip, born in 1921 on the Greek island of Corfu where he lived until he was 18 months old, made major sacrifices to marry Princess Elizabeth in 1947. He had to renounce his title of Prince of Greece and Denmark to take up British nationality, in return becoming Duke of Edinburgh just before his marriage, and Prince of the United Kingdom in 1957. Philip also had to give up active duty as a naval commander after his wife was brought to the throne on the death of her father, King George VI, in 1952. He was obliged to convert from Greek Orthodoxy to Anglicanism to marry, and reportedly stopped smoking just before the wedding to please his bride.

'ROUGH, ILL-MANNERED'

Queen Elizabeth II described the Duke of Edinburgh as her "strength and stay". But when she fell for him, the Royal Family was reportedly less than convinced. One insider told journalists the royals felt that the young navy officer was "rough, ill-mannered, uneducated and would probably not be faithful". The elite in the post-World War II era were in particular uncomfortable with his German relations. His sisters - married to German aristocrats - were not invited to the wedding.

PAINTER

Philip was well-known for his love of horses and the equestrian activities of polo and carriage driving, a sport in which he competed for Britain. He is also a writer and a pilot. However, the prince's passion for painting was more private. Perhaps his most famous work is a 1965 image showing his wife at breakfast reading the morning papers and titled: "The Queen at Breakfast, Windsor Castle".



A mourner holds flowers and pictures of Britain's Queen Elizabeth II and her husband Prince Philip outside Buckingham Palace, after Prince Philip died at the age of 99, in London, Britain, yesterday.

PHOTO: REUTERS

No data yet on changing jabs between doses: WHO

AFP, Geneva

The WHO reiterated yesterday there was "no adequate data" on switching Covid-19 vaccines between doses, after France said under-55s who received an AstraZeneca first jab should get their second from a different vaccine.

The World Health Organization has called for studies on so-called mixing and matching between vaccines, but said there was no comprehensive data so far on which it could make any recommendations.

The UN health agency therefore recommends that the same product should be used for both doses.

In February, the WHO's Strategic Advisory Group of Experts on Immunization (SAGE) issued its recommendations on how the

AstraZeneca-Oxford vaccine should be used. WHO spokeswoman Margaret Harris told reporters.

"There is not adequate data to be able to say whether this is something that could be done," she said.

Several clinical trials are looking at the efficacy of combining two types of vaccine.

Europe's medicines regulator said this week that the AstraZeneca vaccine could cause very rare blood clots among some recipients, prompting several countries to scale up restrictions on the jab.

France yesterday said under-55s who received a first injection of the AstraZeneca Covid-19 vaccine should be given a jab from a different producer for their second dose, in a ruling affecting 533,000 people.

GLOBAL WARMING

300 biodiversity 'hot spots' set to be ravaged

AFP, Paris

Unless nations dramatically improve on carbon cutting pledges made under the 2015 Paris climate treaty, the planet's richest concentrations of animal and plant life will be irreversibly ravaged by global warming, scientists warned yesterday.

An analysis of 8,000 published risk assessments for species showed a high danger for extinction in nearly 300 biodiversity "hot spots", on land and in the sea, if temperatures rise three degrees Celsius above preindustrial levels, they reported in the journal Biological Conservation.

Earth's surface has heated up 1C so far, and the Paris Agreement enjoins nations to cap warming at "well below" 2C, and 1.5C if possible.

National commitments to slash greenhouse gas emissions -- assuming they are honoured -- would still see temperatures soar well above 3C by century's end, if not sooner.

So-called endemic species -- plants and animals found exclusively in a specific area -- will be hit hardest in a warming world.

From snow leopards in the Himalayas and the vaquita porpoise in the Gulf of California to lemurs in Madagascar and forest elephants in central Africa, many of the planet's most cherished creatures will wind up on a path to extinction unless humanity stops loading the atmosphere with CO2 and methane, the study found.

Endemic land species in biodiverse hot spots are nearly three times as likely to suffer losses due to climate change than more widespread flora and fauna, and 10 times more likely than invasive species.

"Climate change threatens areas overflowing with species that cannot be found anywhere else in the world," said lead author Stella Manes, a researcher at the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro.

"The risk for such species to be lost forever increases more than 10-fold if we miss the goals of the Paris Agreement."

More and more scientists concede that capping global warming at 1.5C target is probably out of reach. But every tenth of a degree matters when it comes to avoiding impacts, they say. Some concentrations of wildlife are more vulnerable than others.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
College Education Development Project (CEDP)
Nilphamari Govt. College Nilphamari
Sadar, Nilphamari

Invitation for Tenders

1	Ministry/Division	Ministry of Education
2	Agency	University Grants Commission/National University
3	Procuring Entity Name	Principal, Nilphamari Govt. College, Nilphamari
4	Procuring Entity Code	N/A
5	Procuring Entity District	Nilphamari
6	Invitation for	Procurement of Books and Journals for Library & Class
7	Invitation Ref No	NGC/CEDP/OTM/02/2020-21
8	Date	08-04-2021
KEY INFORMATION		
9	Procurement Method	Open Tendering Method (National)
FUNDING INFORMATION		
10	Budget and Source of Funds	Development Budget (Government & IDA Credit)
11	Development Partners	International Development Association (IDA), World Bank
PARTICULAR INFORMATION		
12	Project Code	224017200
13	Project Name	College Education Development Project (CEDP)
14	Tender Package No.	G-7
15	Tender Package Name	Procurement of Books and Journals for Library & Class
16	Tender Publication Date	10-04-2021
17	Tender Last Selling Date	25-04-2021 at 02:00pm
18	Tender Closing Date and Time	28-04-2021 at 02:00pm
19	Tender Opening Date and Time	28-04-2021 at 02:30pm
20	Name & Address of the Office	Office of the Principal, Nilphamari Govt. College, Nilphamari
21	Selling Tender Document	
22	Receiving Tender Document	
23	Opening Tender Meeting	
24	Place/Date/Time of Pre-Tender Meeting	Will not be held
INFORMATION FOR TENDERER		
25	Eligibility of Tenderer	1. The Tenderer shall have a minimum of 03 Years overall experience in the Supply of Books and Journals. 2. The minimum specific experience as Supplier in supply of Books and Journals of at least 01 (one) contract successfully completed within the last 5 years with a value of at least Tk. 8.00 Lac. 3. The minimum amount of liquid assets i.e. working capital or credit line(s) of the tenderer shall be Tk. 8.00 Lac. 4. Other criteria mentioned in the tender document.
23	Brief Description of Goods or Works	Procurement of Books and Journals for Library & Class
24	Brief Description of Related Services	Mentioned in tender document.
25	Tender Document Price	Tk. 1,000.00
26	Package Identification of Lot	Location
26	G-7	Procurement of Books and Journals for Library & Class
27	Name of Official Inviting Tender	Professor Md. Didarul Islam
28	Designation of Official Inviting Tender	Principal, Nilphamari Govt. College, Nilphamari
29	Address of Official Inviting Tender	Principal, Nilphamari Govt. College, Nilphamari
30	Contact Details of Official Inviting Tender	Telephone No: 055161510. Mobile: 01733390703 E-mail: principalmigo@yahoo.com
31	The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject all tenders without assigning any reason whatsoever.	

Professor Md. Didarul Islam
(ID No-5296)
Principal & IDG Manager
Nilphamari Govt. College, Nilphamari.

GD-727

Seven killed in J&K separatist clashes

AFP, Srinagar

Indian security forces killed seven suspected rebels in two clashes as disputed Kashmir saw some of its worst fighting in over seven months, police said yesterday.

Five militants were killed in the southern town of Shopian during one shootout that started Thursday, triggering anti-India protests in the area.

Officers sent the brother of one of the two into the mosque in a bid to persuade them to "surrender" but they refused, police said.

"The five militants killed in the encounter include the chief of Ansar Ghazwat-ul-Hind," a police officer told AFP, speaking on condition of anonymity.

Police had previously said that Ansar Ghazwat-ul-Hind, one of a host of militant groups fighting Indian rule, was wiped out last year.

Two other suspected rebels were killed in a separate gun battle in the Tral area of southern Kashmir, police said.

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার
কাস্টমস, এক্সাইজ ও ভ্যাট কমিশনারেট, সিলেট
কে.এস.আর টাওয়ার, বোরহান উদ্দিন রোড, মেদিনিয়া পয়েন্ট, সিলেট
Website: www.sylhetcustoms-vat.gov.bd

“চুক্তিভিত্তিক ০৪ (চার)টি মাইক্রোবাস ভাড়া গ্রহণের দরপত্র পুনঃবিজ্ঞপ্তি”

এ দরপত্রের মূল্য সংযোজন কর ও সম্পূর্ণক শুদ্ধ আদায়, চোরালান প্রতিরোধ, অডিট ও প্রিজেক্টড কার্যক্রম পরিচালনার মাধ্যমে রাজস্ব আহরণ বৃদ্ধির লক্ষ্যে চুক্তিভিত্তিক ০৪ (চার)টি মাইক্রোবাস মাসিক ভাড়ার ভিত্তিতে ভাড়া গ্রহণের নিমিত্ত সীলগালাকৃত খামে দরপত্র আহ্বান করা যাচ্ছে:

১	মঞ্জুরায়/বিভাগ	অন্তর্গামী সম্পদ বিভাগ।
২	দস্তুর/সংস্থা	কাস্টমস এক্সাইজ ও ভ্যাট কমিশনারেট, সিলেট।
৩	দরপত্র সংগ্রহকারী সংস্থার নাম ও ঠিকানা	কাস্টমস এক্সাইজ ও ভ্যাট কমিশনারেট, সিলেট। কে.এস.আর. টাওয়ার, মেদিনিয়া পয়েন্ট, উপশাহর, সিলেট।
৪	দরপত্রের পত্র নম্বর	০৮.০১.০০০০.২০৫.০১.০২৮.২০/২৯০ তাং ৪- ২১/০১/২০২১।
৫	দরপত্র প্রকাশের তারিখ	১০/০৪/২০২১খ্রিঃ
৬	দরপত্র সংগ্রহকারী দস্তুর/সংস্থার কোড	১-১১০২০৪-১০২০২৪
৭	দরপত্র আহ্বানের কারণ	মূল্য সংযোজন কর ও সম্পূর্ণক শুদ্ধ আহরণ, চোরালান প্রতিরোধ, অডিট ও প্রিজেক্টড কার্যক্রম পরিচালনার মাধ্যমে রাজস্ব আহরণ বৃদ্ধি।
৮	দরপত্রের পদ্ধতি	উন্মুক্ত দরপত্র পদ্ধতি (OTM)।
৯	অর্থের উৎস	অর্থনৈতিক কোড- “৩২১১০৭-যানবাহন ব্যবহার (চুক্তিভিত্তিক)” উপধাতে প্রাপ্ত বরাদ্দ।
১০	ভাড়া পরিশোধ পদ্ধতি	মাসিক ভিত্তিতে উপস্থাপিত বিলের অনুমোদন সাপেক্ষে ট্রেজারী অফিস কর্তৃক প্রদত্ত চেকের মাধ্যমে।
১১	সিডিউলের মূল্য	প্রতিটি ৫০০/- (পাঁচশত) টাকা (অফেরতযোগ্য), যা ট্রেজারী চালানের মাধ্যমে অর্থনৈতিক কোড নং-১-১১০৩-০০১৮-২৬৮১ তে জমা প্রদান করতে হবে। উল্লেখ্য যে, প্রতিটি লটারি জন্য পৃথক পৃথক সিডিউল (দরপত্র দলিলা) তৈরি করতে হবে।
১২	সিডিউল বিক্রির স্থান ও সময়	প্রধান হিসাবরক্ষণ কর্মকর্তা (৪র্থ তলা), কাস্টমস এক্সাইজ ও ভ্যাট কমিশনারেট, সিলেট। বিজ্ঞপ্তি প্রকাশের দিন হতে প্রতিদিন অফিস চলাকালীন সময়।
১৩	সিডিউল বিক্রির শেষ তারিখ ও সময়	১৮/০৪/২০২১খ্রিঃ তারিখ বিকাল ০৫:০০ ঘটিকা।
১৪	দরপত্র দাখিলের স্থান, তারিখ ও শেষ সময়	কাস্টমস এক্সাইজ ও ভ্যাট কমিশনারেট, সিলেট এর ৪র্থ তলায় রক্ষিত বক্স। ২১/০৪/২০২১খ্রিঃ তারিখ সকাল ১১:০০ ঘটিকা।
১৫	দরপত্র খোলার তারিখ ও সময়	২১/০৪/২০২১খ্রিঃ তারিখ দুপুর ১১:৩০ ঘটিকা।
১৬	দরপত্র মূল্যায়ন পদ্ধতি	দরপত্র সিডিউলে বর্ণিত শর্তাবলী এবং পাবলিক প্রকিউরমেন্ট আইন, ২০০৬ ও পাবলিক প্রকিউরমেন্ট বিধিমালা, ২০০৮ এর বিধান অনুযায়ী।
১৭	গাড়ির সংখ্যা, ধরন ও মডেল	০৪ (চার)টি মাইক্রোবাস; ন্যূনতম ০৮ (আট) আসন/সিট ও ০৪ (চার) দরজা বিশিষ্ট সিএনজি/ফুয়েলসালিত লো-ফ্লোর টিপটপ কন্ট্রোলার ডুয়েল এসি (২০১১ সালের পূর্বে নয় এবং ইঞ্জিন ক্যাপাসিটি ১৮০০ সিসিার নিম্নে নয়)।

কাস্টমস এক্সাইজ ও ভ্যাট কমিশনারেট

লট নং	মাইক্রোবাসের সংখ্যা	দরপত্রজামানত (ফেরতযোগ্য)	মাইক্রোবাস ব্যবহারের স্থান	বায় বহনকারী	মন্তব্য
১	১ (একটি)	১২,৫০০/- টাকা	সদর দপ্তর, সিলেট।	চালকের মজুরী, জ্বালানী	প্রতিটি লটারি জন্য আলাদাভাবে দরপত্র দাখিল এবং মূল্যায়ন কার্যক্রম সম্পাদন করা হবে। কর্তৃপক্ষ এই কমিশনারেটের অধিক্ষেত্রে যেকোন স্থানে প্রয়োজন মতো গাড়ি ব্যবহার করতে পারবেন এবং এজন্য আলাদা কোন বরাদ্দ প্রদান করা হবে না।
২	১ (একটি)	১২,৫০০/- টাকা	আবপারী ও ভ্যাট বিভাগ, হরিণগঞ্জ।	সংগঠিত	
৩	১ (একটি)	১২,৫০০/- টাকা	আবপারী ও ভ্যাট বিভাগ, মৌলভীবাজার।	অন্যান্য	
৪	১ (একটি)	১২,৫০০/- টাকা	আবপারী ও ভ্যাট বিভাগ, সুনামগঞ্জ।	প্রদানকারী/গাড়ির মালিক পক্ষ বহন করবেন।	
১৯	দরপত্র আহ্বানকারীর নাম, পদবী ও ঠিকানা, ফোন নম্বর ও ই-মেইল	জনাব মোহাম্মদ আহসানুল হক, কমিশনার, কাস্টমস, এক্সাইজ ও ভ্যাট কমিশনারেট, সিলেট। টেলিফোনঃ ৪০৮২১-৭২৭৩৯৭, ই-মেইল- sylhetcustoms@yahoo.com			
২০	শর্তাবলী	দরপত্র দাখিলের যোগ্যতা, প্রয়োজনীয় কাগজপত্র ও দরপত্র সংশ্লিষ্ট বিস্তারিত বিবরণ ও শর্তাবলী সিডিউলে উল্লেখ আছে।			
২১	মন্তব্য	কর্তৃপক্ষ কোন কারণ দর্শানো ব্যতিরেকে দরপত্র বাতিল করার ক্ষমতা সংরক্ষণ করেন।			

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জিডি-৭১৪