



The Living Heart . . .

The Centre had a magnetic effect on Royal Visitors

Newspaper reporters who travelled with the Royal party said the Queen's tour of the Northern Territory and North-west Australia was without question the outstanding highlight of her second Australian visit.

"Informality" took on a more authentic meaning in the North—a coatless and tieless Duke helping round up cattle, the Queen in a cotton frock munching steak at an outdoor barbecue.

At Alice Springs the Royal couple saw a typical cattle station, talked to aborigines, spoke over the Flying Doctor radio.

At Darwin they saw a native corroboree, buck-jumpers in action and looked over the home of an aborigine, met his wife and children.

At Kununurra, a new town at the Ord River dam scheme in the Kimberleys and at the iron island of Koolan, in Yampi Sound, they met modern-day pioneers who are really doing something about filling Australia's empty spaces.

Relaxed and happy despite the heat, the Royal couple enjoyed the North and boosted the morale of its sparse population which often regards itself as a forgotten race.

Hundreds of aboriginal children were among the crowds who cheered the Queen and the Duke as they drove through their ranks in an open car. After singing the National Anthem the children held up placards bearing the letters of the word "Kangkintjai"—a welcome in the Aranda tongue

In reply to a welcome to the Centre by the Administrator of the Northern Territory, Mr. Roger Nott, the Queen praised the spirit and determination of the Territory and its people.

"It has a magnetic effect upon those who want more out of life than humdrum security and the tidy rules of a comfortable suburbia," she said.

The Queen smiles as she receives a posy from Julie Kelly (ix), a Warrabri girl, at Alice Springs. The Duke of Edinburgh was wearing the coatless "Territory Rig" to combat the heat

