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THE CROWN COUNCIL OF ETHIOPIA

HIS IMPERIAL HIGHNESS PRINCE ERMIAS SAHLE-SELASSIE HAILE-SELASSIE
PRESIDENT

The Passing of a Great Friend of Ethiopia, HRH Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh

*A Statement on April 9, 2021, by the President of the Crown Council of Ethiopia,
His Imperial Highness Prince Ermias Sahle-Selassie Haile-Selassie*



The Ethiopian People lost a great friend with the passing on April 9, 2021, of His Royal Highness Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh. We deeply mourn his departure and honour his great achievements while extending deepest sympathies to Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II, of the United Kingdom and the Commonwealth of Nations, for the loss of her beloved husband.

We share with the entire Royal Family and the Commonwealth the grief at the loss of the Queen Elizabeth's consort, and we mourn the passing of a great friend of Ethiopia in Prince Philip. Among other things, he fought to protect the wildlife of our country.

But we remember him, as well, as a great figure who saw heroic service in World War II, and subsequently, with Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth, built a great friendship with Ethiopia and with Emperor Haile Selassie I. We may think of Prince Philip particularly in light of the fact that he bridged the period of the great World War II alliance of the United Kingdom and the Commonwealth with Ethiopia, bringing about the first Allied Victory of that war. The Victory of the Battle of Gondar in November 1941 saw Axis forces driven for the first time from foreign lands they had occupied illegally.

I was privileged to have met on occasion with HRH Prince Philip, and valued his counsel.

God Bless the memory of Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, and may we always think of him as a great friend of Ethiopia. God Bless, at this particular time, Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth and her family, and the People of the great Commonwealth who Prince Philip served. And God Bless Ethiopia.



The photograph on the first page shows His Imperial Majesty Emperor Haile Selassie I greeting His Royal Highness the Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, during Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II's State Visit to Ethiopia in 1965. Prince Philip is seen wearing the Grand Cross of the Order of the Queen of Sheba, while Her Majesty, in the background, is shown wearing Ethiopia's premier honour, bestowed on regnant sovereigns, the Collar of the Order of Solomon.

The photograph of the second page shows HRH Prince Philip in conversation with His Imperial Highness Prince Ermias Sahle-Selassie Haile-Selassie and Ethiopian Crown Council Strategic Advisor Gregory Copley (center), in Barbados.