

OFFICE OF THE
STAFF LIAISON OFFICER
THE ARAB LEGION



16, UPPER PHILLIMORE GARDENS,
LONDON, W.8
TEL.: WESTERN 1265

Reference: A/6E

28th April, 1953.

Dear Mr. Partington,

Inauguration of King Hussein of Jordan

Further to my letter A/6E of the 10th April, enclosed is a Programme of the ceremonies to be held in Jordan on 2nd May, which may be of interest to you.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'R.K. Melville'.

(R.K. Melville)

Lieut.Colonel.

Mr. F.J. Partington,
British Paramount News, Ltd.,
School Road,
London, N. W.10.

Enc:

MR,
STAGG.

X-102440

Programme for the ceremonies to be held
on the inauguration of H.M. King Hussein
on the 2nd May, 1953.

CELEBRATIONS IN AMMAN.

1st DAY.

Taking the Oath.

1. Arab Legion troops will line the route from the Basman Palace to the Parliament House and thence to Hussein Mosque.
2. Jordan notables will arrive at the Parliament House by 9 a.m. and will take their places behind the Members of Parliament.
3. At 9.15 a.m., Members of the Cabinet together with M.P.s arrive at the House of Parliament and take their accustomed places.
4. Between 9.15 and 9.30, delegates from the Arab States and other Diplomatic envoys will arrive and be seated on the verandah of Parliament House.

(The Palace Chamberlain will be responsible for the execution of Orders as in 2, 3 and 4.)
5. At 9.30 a.m., the Royal Procession, accompanied by the Prime Minister, leaves the Basman Palace, the cars following the route Hashimi - Rida and Faisal streets in the following order:
 - (a) Deputy Chief of General Staff, Arab Legion
 - (b) Deputy Minister of Interior and Governor of Amman
 - (c) Royal Car, surrounded by a squadron of Cavalry, Armoured Cars and motor-cycles.
 - (d) Crown Prince.
 - (e) Princes.
 - (f) Eminent persons invited by the Chamberlain.
 - (g) Lord Chamberlain and Master of Ceremonies.
 - (h) High Palace Officials.
6. On H.M.'s arrival at Parliament House, he will be met by a Guard of Honour. The Band will be in attendance.
7. H.M. will be received at the entrance to the House by:

The Chairman of the Upper House
The Deputy Prime Minister
The Chairman of the House of Commons
The C.G.S.
8. H.M. then withdraws to an ante-room, accompanied only by the Prime Minister and the Lord Chamberlain; the Princes, Ministers, Nobility and High Palace Officials take their allotted places.
9. H.M. enters the Hall, announced by the Master of Ceremonies and H.E. the Prime Minister delivers a speech of congratulation and loyalty. This is followed by a similar speech from the Chairman of the House.
10. H.M. then takes the solemn Oath, after which the Chairman of the Lower House shouts "Long live the King".
11. A salute of 101 guns is fired; the Muezzin prays for H.M. and the Church bells will be rung.

12. H.M. leaves the Hall and retires to the ante-room. All the attendance will remain in the Hall until the Royal Procession has left.

13. The Delegations from the Arab States and the Diplomatic Missions leave the House for their places of residence.

Prayer.

14. The Royal Procession proceeds to the Husseini Mosque. The cars of those who have attended the ceremonies will follow that of the O.C. Traffic on the route Jebel Amman - Hamman Street - King Talal Street. Vehicles will be parked along King Talal Street from the corner of the Husseini Mosque.

15. The cars of those who have NOT attended the Ceremonies will join the Royal Procession at the following points:

King Talal Street
Sa'adeh Street
Municipality Br.
Tareeq El-Mahatta.

Congratulations.

16. After leaving the Mosque, His Majesty will go to the Basman Palace to receive the congratulations of the Queen Mother.

17. The Guests' cars will follow the O.C. Traffic car to the Guard Barracks and the Small Palace.

18. Officers will line both sides of the stairway to the Throne Room and Officer-A.D.C.s will stand at both doors of the Throne Room.

19. At 12 noon H.M. goes to the Raghadan Palace where he receives congratulations from the following:

- (a) T.H. the Princes and the Nobles, invited by the M.C., who will then stand on H.M.'s right.
- (b) The Prime Minister and the other Ministers, who then stand on the left of H.M.
- (c) The High Palace Officials, who then stand opposite H.M.
- (d) The C.G.S., Arab Legion and officers of the Arab Legion of the rank of Lieut. Colonel and above. These will stand on the right of the Princes and Nobles.
- (e) The Chairman and members of the Upper House.
- (f) The Chairman and members of the Lower House.
- (g) Ex Prime Ministers.
- (h) The President of the Islamic Committee, the Auditor General, the Deputy Minister of the Interior and the Mayor of Amman.
- (i) Ex Ministers, Ambassadors (Jordan) and Ministers who are present in Amman.
- (j) The President and members of the Court of Cessation, the Prosecutor General, the Presidents of the Civil and Sharia Courts of Appeal in Amman.
- (k) The Deputy Ministers, the Governor of Amman, Grade 1 Heads of Departments, the Prime Minister's two secretaries and Grade 1 Judges.

19. (l) Judges and Government officials from Grade IV and above.
 (m) The Heads of the Religious Communities in Amman.
 (n) Lawyers, doctors and Press Syndicates representatives.
 (o) Members of the Municipal and Administration Councils.
 (p) Lawyers, doctors, engineers, journalists, chemists, members of the Chamber of Commerce and Company and Bank managers.
 (q) Sheikhs and Notables present in Amman.

DRESS.

For those standing on the dais in the House of Parliament and those standing with H.M. in the Reception Hall in the Raghadan Palace:

Frock Coat and Medals.

For all others: Morning dress with top hat or white kaffia and black abaya.

20. Between 3.15 and 4.15 p.m. H.M. will receive delegations from the Arab States, as arranged by the M.C.
21. Between 4.30 and 5.30, H.M. will receive the Diplomatic Corps.
22. Between 5.30 and 5.45, H.M. will receive High ranking officers from allied and friendly states.
23. At 3 p.m., H.M. will visit the tomb of his late grandfather, King Abdullah.
24. A Royal Dinner Party will be given at 8 p.m. at the Palace, attended by the Arab States Delegation, Heads of the Diplomatic Corps and State Officials.

Dress - Frock Coat with Medals.

Similar ceremonies will take place in JERUSALEM and other parts of Jordan, and a reception arranged by the Deputy Minister for the Interior will be held in Jerusalem. The 101 guns salute will be fired simultaneously with that in Amman, and Muezzins will pray for H.M. and church bells will ring. The Holy Places will be floodlit.

2nd DAY (3rd May 1953)

The Arab Legion Ceremonial Parade.

1. Guests will arrive at the demonstration ground at the Military Airfield before 9.30 a.m. on Monday, the 3rd May.
2. The Royal Procession will leave the Basman Palace at 10 a.m. On the arrival of H.M. at the Parade Ground, a salute of 21 guns will be fired.
3. H.M. will review the Arab Legion troops taking part in the Parade between 10.30 and 12.30, in accordance with a programme prepared by the Ministry of Defence.
4. H.M. will address the spectators and at the conclusion of his speech, officers and men of the Arab

(4)

- 4.) Legion will shout "Long Live the King" three times.
5. A salute of 21 guns will be fired when H.M. departs.

The Ministry of Defence Lunch Party.

6. H.M. will attend a Luncheon Party given by the Ministry of Defence at MOAS ER MAHATTA at 1 p.m. (Ordinary dress).
7. H.M. then leaves in a procession to the Basman Palace.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs Dinner Party.

8. A Dinner Party will be given by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs at the Philadelphia Hotel at 8 p.m. (Evening Dress).

3rd DAY.

The Lord Mayor's Luncheon Party.

9. The Lord Mayor of Amman will give a luncheon party at the Ruseifa Gardens at 1.30 p.m.

Two cousins become Kings on the same day

FEISAL: SHEIKHS POUR INTO CITY FOR CORONATION

From NOEL MONKS: Baghdad, Thursday

TWO former Harrow fags, whose grandfathers were brothers, become Kings on Saturday. They are both celebrating their 18th birthday, and a new era begins for this timeless land of ancient civilisations, fierce religions, and shifting sands.

The boy Kings are Hussein of Jordan and Feisal II. of Iraq, and, although their kingdoms are separated by 500 miles of desert, the ties between the two are close.

The coronation of the two cousins has inspired the Arab world with thoughts of the golden era of the mighty Haroun al-Rashid, who made the Arab world a centre of learning, industry, and commerce 1,200 years ago.

Here, in Rashid's old capital, Baghdad-on-the-Tigris, excitement is becoming as intense as the summer heat as final preparations are made for the coronation of young Feisal II., who is almost as much loved in England as here in his own country.

Takes the oath

The wide-eyed little chap who during the war played with trains given him by British "Tommies," climbed in and out of their tanks, officially becomes King on Saturday—Feisal Ion Ghazi Ibn Feisal, penultimate Grand Sherif, styled King of the Arabs and Caliph of Islam, to give him his full title.

Also he is a direct descendant of the Prophet Mohammed (born A.D. 570, died A.D. 632).

Actually, Feisal had been King

since he was four years old—his father was killed in a car accident just before the war—but on Saturday he comes of age and takes the constitutional oath on an ancient copy of the Koran. There is no crowning ceremony.

Special guests

Among the boy King's special guests when the oath is taken will be five school pals from Harrow, who arrived today by air and were taken to suites at the Semiramis Hotel—all expenses paid.

The Duke of Gloucester, representing Queen Elizabeth, also arrived today and is staying at one of Feisal's two palaces. In addition, delegations of 33 countries have begun arriving in Baghdad for the celebrations.

They include the Russian delegation, led by the Soviet Ambassador to Turkey.

Because the sun quickly wilts flowers and fades flags and peels paint, the decorations are only now going up all over Baghdad.

Sheikhs are pouring into the ancient city from all over Iraq and the Persian Gulf, and the traffic in the main street, Al-Rashid-street, is so thick that policemen are stationed every 60 yards along the two-mile thoroughfare easing out the traffic jams.

HUSSEIN: Harrow touch pleases them

From NOEL CLARK: Amman, Thursday.

IT is Coronation Year in Jordan too. The seven hills supporting the capital, Amman, will thunder with the echoes of a prodigious salute on Saturday—101 guns—to celebrate the accession of King Hussein, 18 on the day he mounts the throne.

From the minarets of the city's mosques, muezzins with arms upraised will summon the faithful to pray for a blessing on his reign.

Throughout the land Christian churches will ring a Coronation peal.

Wanted: A band

And King Hussein, who has returned to his kingdom carrying with him memories of Harrovian urbanity and Sandhurst's efficiency, will be confirmed next in succession to his late grandfather, Abdullah—first King of Jordan and one of the staunchest friends Britain ever had.

Today, in preparation for the three-day ceremonies, the winding switchback streets of the capital burgeoned gaily with a flutter of Jordanian flags—green, white, and black.

Triumphal arches reared up

along the processional route. As we flew the last leg of the journey to Amman, a breath of Coronation excitement met us in the air.

The wireless operator picked up an anxious message from the control at Amman airport: "Have you a band on board?"

An embarrassed air-hostess asked each passenger as we rolled and bumped above the hot hills: "Are you a musician?"

We included the delegations of India and the Yemen, but not the Egyptian dance-band which is eagerly awaited.

There is an air of bustle in this little capital. Already legends are growing about the young monarch—his efficiency, eagerness to see and learn and know his people.

There is every sign that the influence of Harrow and Sandhurst will impinge more generally on Jordan as this energetic Sovereign settles to the tasks he knows await him in his kingdom.

D. Mail

1/5/53.

Bagdad Coronation

YOUNG King Feisal of Iraq who will almost certainly be one of the Royal guests at the Coronation in June will have his own to face just two weeks earlier.

I hear that his enthronement in Bagdad has been fixed for May 21—his 18th birthday.

At the Coronation of the King's grandfather, in 1921, the ceremony began at 6 am before the sun grew too hot. The King sat on a dias which was set up in the middle of the courtyard.

He walked past a guard of honour of a British regiment stationed in Bagdad.

But at the coronation of the young king's father, King Ghazi, who ascended the throne at 21, there was little ceremony.

In view of political unrest the people of Iraq were anxious to proclaim Ghazi their king and the Coronation took place within a few hours of his ascension.

Star

24
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STA

WHO will represent the Queen at the Coronation of King Hussein of Jordan on May 2?

The Duke of Gloucester might have been expected to do so but it has already been announced that he is to attend the Coronation of King Feisal of Iraq, which is on the same day.

The Jordan Ambassador in London tells me that the matter had not yet been decided.

King Feisal will be 18 on his Coronation day and King Hussein is several months older. Both went to Harrow and they share a liking for sports cars.

Man

26/3/53.

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IRAQ CROWNING
The Duke of Gloucester will represent the Queen at the coronation of King Feisal II of Iraq in Baghdad on May 2.

D. Mail

24/3/53.

Jordan Legation
to Upper Phillimore Gardens,
W. 8.

HIS EXCELLENCY
Ambassador.

(WES. 3685
9910)

Meeting

A crowning
of cousins

MAY 2 is going to be a big day all round for the Arab world. A problem day, too, for a few thousand people in Britain, Europe and the Middle East.

As King Hussein — who leaves Sandhurst next month — takes over in his desert capital of Amman, his second cousin, King Feisal, of Iraq, will do the same in Bagdad. And thereby hangs the problem.

Many diplomats and friends in Britain and elsewhere want to be in both places which, as Euclid would say, is absurd. Five hundred miles of wild desert lie between the capitals. But there are talks on now to try to fix it so that there will be one ceremony in the morning and one in the afternoon, with aircraft shuttling between "coronations."

—without crowns

CORONATION is not quite the word. Both Kings will be installed simply. Neither will don a crown or sit on a throne. Such symbols clash with the Moslem conception that all men are equal.

So both Kings will wear the aghal — the flowing white

Arab head-dress, secured round the head by black cords, entwined with gold thread. Then they will show themselves on the steps of their palaces and speak in Parliament.

Britain is vitally interested in both ceremonies and both

men. Iraq is gushing with oil. Jordan is a key spot in the troubled Middle East.

Write

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OUT

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Iraqi Embassy,
22 Queen's Gate
S.W. 7.

WES. 2236

Sketch
23/53

JUL 23 5 30 1953

E. J. Partridge
NEWS EDITOR

Mr. A. Stockwell
Mr. B. Hall
Mr. C. Hansler
Mr. D. Pryor
Mr. E. Hason

Second Coronation

THE coronation of King Feisal of Iraq in Baghdad next year has, I hear, been fixed for May 21, his 18th birthday. Lord Mountbatten will probably represent the Queen.

The King leaves London for home today. One of his last engagements was to visit the Motor Show yesterday. He bought a new sports car.

J. Mail

23/10/52

✓
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2 - 1935.

COUNTRY

TOWN.

EVENT.

X-105440
LIB NO. YEAR.

KING HUSSEIN TAKES OATH AS MONARCH.

Amman:- On coming of age youthful King of Jordan takes Royal Oath, afterwards driving through city to acclamations of thousands.

Transjordan. Amman.

GTV Amman, Transjordan. GV crowd lining streets and building. CU Triumphant arch over main street. SV King Hussein coming out of Basman Palace. GV Arab Legion lined up. CU 1 ditto. SV King Hussein inspecting Guard of Honour. CU Ditto. SCU Arab Legion types. GV parade past mass crowd. LV Crowd watching from building. GV Arab Legion Mounted escort in front of Royal car. CU Pan Hussein in car, salutes. SV parliament building with people around. Angle V National flag on building. Side V Pan Int. Hussein arrives in Parliament and salutes assembly. SV Assembly seated. SV King Hussein reading oath, he finishes and salutes assembly. SV assembly listening. SV Hussein coming out of parliament. GV mounted escort towards followed by SCU Royal car past, with Hussein saluting.

21370 4/5/1953.

116 ft. 35 in.