

VISIT OF H.M. KING FAISAL II TO GUILDHALL, 17th July, 1956.

SPEECH OF KING FAISAL AT THE LUNCHEON.

My Lord Mayor, Aldermen, and Commons of the City of London - I rise to thank you with all my heart for the kindness of your Toast. I thank you for the honour you do me and my people by it.

I cannot tell you how greatly moved I am by the singular honour paid me in this ancient and historic Hall, which was attacked by the enemy, but could not be destroyed, and I should like to pay tribute to the unconquerable spirit of this great City, which is so admirably represented by you, my Lord Mayor, Aldermen and Commons.

It is from your midst that for centuries brave men have gone forth, inspired by adventure, daring the many hazards of the seas, ever seeking new trade routes and furthering the advancement of commercial enterprise as well as the advancement of knowledge.

The two great Rivers, the Tigris and Euphrates, already a source of great blessing to my country, are further being developed to benefit the land and to remove the danger of flood and devastation. Your engineers are at work on vast projects. But it is of tomorrow that we must think today. I look forward to great and impressive plans in which the young men of your country and of mine will together help to give our peoples much needed security and prosperity. Our hope and confidence are high. A youthfulness has come upon my country. The future is bright.

More than a thousand Iraqis, men as well as women, young in years, are at work now in your technical schools and colleges to acquire your new skills; and at the same time your constructional engineers in equal numbers, are in Iraq now helping us with our great new schemes, most urgent of which has been the task of curbing our two mighty rivers so that they shall not, by their rising, bring again the sad havoc and devastation that afflicted us only a year or two ago.

They are helping us to revive our ancient system of canals that for 5,000 years have been the arteries of our fertility. The name of your people stands very high in my country. For centuries your merchant traders have been respected for their integrity. Everyone knows in Iraq, as elsewhere, that the Englishman's word is his bond.

It is our hope that our country will flourish with fresh enterprises and become increasingly prosperous by its own industry, for the prosperity of every country depends, as you know, on the industry of the people, and we are seeking for a fuller and more effective use of our own very great natural resources.

Quite apart from our mineral wealth we have other resources. We have been able by my Government's careful economy to be today the biggest importers of British goods in the Middle East, and yet balance these imports with our exports.

Our/

Our Cities also are forging ahead. As boldly as Sir Christopher Wren planned here in London, British experts are now re-designing my capital, whose growth has been hitherto a little haphazard. I hope we may both achieve a new simplicity and convenience of design in our respective Cities.

The new Generation, facing the future with young and eager eyes, radiating fresh ideas, will lead us both the people of Iraq and of Britain, to new fields of fulfilment, because neither you nor we wish to recline in the shade and watch the world go by. You have been in the midst of this moving throng, and, if I may be allowed to say so - from the earliest times, were we.

I trust that we shall continue to go forward in friendship and in prosperous co-operation. I thank you, unreservedly, for your good wishes, and I give you the Toast of - THE LORD MAYOR AND CORPORATION OF LONDON.



VISIT OF HIS MAJESTY KING FAISAL II TO GUILDHALL - 17th JULY, 1956.

SPEECH OF THE RIGHT HONOURABLE THE LORD MAYOR AT THE LUNCHEON.

Today, on behalf of the Citizens of London, I welcome your Majesty most cordially into our ancient and historic City. We recall with special interest and pleasure the visit of your Royal Grandfather 23 years ago.

Your Majesty is the Ruler of one of the most ancient Countries in the world, and to any Englishman, brought up on the bible, Iraq has great and wonderful associations. Indeed, I believe in your Country is to be found the site of the Garden of Eden, and Iraq still holds the imagination of all mankind.

Successive races enriched the civilisation up to the climax of Babylon. To them we owe the dawn of astronomical knowledge, and scientific historians believe it to be the birthplace of science.

Mathematics was a subject in which you were very advanced long before the Western World was known. Indeed, events show we are still not very good at it. From you, we learned to divide the day into 24 hours; the hour into 60 minutes; the minute into 60 seconds, and the circle of the world into 360 degrees.

Alexander the Great planted Greek civilisation in Mesopotamia, and many Greek cities flourished there for hundreds of years. Mesopotamia has always been one of the great civilisations of the World, and Baghdad, that romantic City, and the present capital, was the capital of the Caliph Haroun Al Rashid.

Like us, you have suffered from invasion, but the Iraqi Governments, since the 1914-18 War, have striven with great success, to repair the disaster caused by the Mongol Invasion many centuries ago.

The discovery of oil in your Country has been of the greatest benefit to mankind, and I hope that the New Development Board which your Country has set up, and your five year plan for large scale irrigation and construction, will greatly enhance that vital and important industry.

There have been a succession of Treaties between The United Kingdom and Iraq, and your Treaty of 1930 has provided for co-operation in Foreign Affairs, and mutual assistance in case of aggression, and has, I hope, contributed much to the stability of your Country.

Our latest Treaty, - The Baghdad Pact - is designed not only to secure defence, but also to promote the sharing of technical skill, improvement of living standards, and the welfare of the people, and, I understand, subsidiary organs of pact have been formed to handle on a continuing basis, the various tasks such as agriculture, health, trade and communications.

It is refreshing to know that the United Kingdom is your largest importer of supplies, and that we, in turn, take one third of the Iraqi exports.

Your Majesty well understands the British way of life. You were at school at Harrow, where Sir Winston Churchill and Mr. Pandit Nehru were also educated, and I believe, like Sir Winston Churchill, you have taken up painting, and have exhibited pictures, not only in Baghdad, but in London.

On behalf of the Citizens of London, I should like to express our grateful thanks to you for honouring us by a visit here today, and to wish you long life, good health and happiness in the years to come.

I trust that your Country may long prosper, and your people be happy and contented; that your visit may strengthen the ties which bind us together, for when friends meet and exchange honest thought, then it is found how narrow are the strips that divide us - how broad the acres of agreement.

I trust that under Divine Providence our Countries may be drawn even closer together for their own good and for the good of all mankind.



RECEPTION and LUNCHEON

at GUILDHALL to

HIS MAJESTY THE KING OF IRAQ

TUESDAY, 17th JULY, 1956

LIST OF GUESTS

Their Royal Highnesses The Duke and Duchess of Gloucester.

Iraqi Suite in attendance upon The King of Iraq and the Crown Prince of Iraq.

His Excellency General Nuri el Said, G.C.M.G., G.C.V.O., D.S.O.  
His Excellency Abdullah Bakir.  
His Excellency Tansur Kadir, K.C.V.O., O.B.E.  
Brigadier Nuri Jamil.  
Lieutenant Mohammed Ibrahim.

British Suite attached to the King of Iraq.

The Right Honourable The Earl of Eldon, K.C.V.O.  
Air Chief Marshal Sir Robert Foster, K.C.B., C.B.E., D.F.C.  
Lieutenant-Commander David Loran, R.N.  
Brigadier N.F.B. Shaw, D.S.O., O.B.E.

Suite in attendance upon Their Royal Highnesses The Duke and Duchess of Gloucester.

Miss Dorothy Meynell, M.B.E.  
Major Michael Hawkins, M.V.O., M.B.E.

HER MAJESTY'S GOVERNMENT.

The Most Honourable The Marquess of Salisbury, K.G. and  
The Marchioness of Salisbury.  
The Right Honourable Selwyn Lloyd, C.B.E., T.D., Q.C., M.P.  
Major The Right Honourable Gwilym Lloyd-George, M.P. and  
Mrs Lloyd-George.  
The Right Honourable A. Lennox-Boyd, M.P. and  
The Lady Patricia Lennox-Boyd.  
The Right Honourable Sir Walter Monckton, K.C.M.G., K.C.V.O.,  
M.C., Q.C., M.P. and The Baroness Ruthven.  
The Right Honourable Duncan Sandys, M.P. and  
Mrs Duncan Sandys.  
The Right Honourable D. Heathcoat-Amory, M.P.  
The Right Honourable Sir David Eccles, K.C.V.O., M.P. and  
The Honourable Lady Eccles.  
The Right Honourable Iain Macleod, M.P. and  
Mrs Macleod.  
The Most Honourable The Marquess of Reading, C.B.E., M.C.,  
T.D., Q.C.  
The Right Honourable The Viscount Cilcennin.  
The Right Honourable Sir Reginald Manningham-Buller, Q.C., M.P.

HER MAJESTY'S GOVERNMENT (Contd.)

The Right Honourable John Boyd-Carpenter, M.P.  
The Right Honourable Reginald Maudling, M.P.  
The Right Honourable Aubrey Jones, M.P.  
Dr Charles Hill, M.P.  
Sir Harry Hylton-Foster, Q.C., M.P.

EX - MINISTERS.

The Right Honourable The Earl Attlee, K.G., O.M., C.H. and  
The Countess Attlee.  
The Right Honourable Clement Davies, Q.C., M.P. and  
Mrs Clement Davies.

HER MAJESTY'S HOUSEHOLD

The Right Honourable The Earl of Scarborough, K.G., G.C.S.I.,  
G.C.I.E., G.C.V.O., T.D. and The Countess of Scarborough.  
His Grace The Duke of Hamilton and Brandon, K.T., G.C.V.O.,  
A.F.C. and The Duchess of Hamilton and Brandon.  
His Grace The Duke of Beaufort, K.G., G.C.V.O., and  
The Duchess of Beaufort.  
Lieutenant Colonel Sir Terence Nugent, G.C.V.O., M.C.  
Brigadier Sir Norman Gwatkin, K.C.V.O., D.S.O.  
Major General Sir Guy Salisbury-Jones, K.C.V.O., C.M.G.,  
C.B.E., M.C.  
Brigadier W.M. Sale, C.V.O., O.B.E. and  
The Honourable Mrs Sale.

BRITISH AMBASSADOR TO IRAQ.

Sir Michael Wright, K.C.M.G. and  
Lady Wright.

BRITISH EX-AMBASSADORS TO IRAQ.

Sir John Troutbeck, K.C.M.G. and  
Lady Troutbeck.  
Sir Kinahan Cornwallis, G.C.M.G. and  
Lady Cornwallis.  
Sir Hugh Stonehewer-Bird, K.C.M.G., O.B.E. and  
Lady Stonehewer-Bird.  
Sir Francis Humphreys, G.C.M.G., G.C.V.O., K.B.E., C.I.E. and  
Lady Humphreys.  
Sir Basil Newton, K.C.M.G.

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Q.C. and Lady Webb.  
His Excellency Mr Mohammed Ikramullah and  
Mrs Ikramullah.  
His Excellency Sir Claude Corea, K.B.E. and  
Lady Corea.  
Sir Gilbert Rennie, G.B.E., K.C.M.G., M.C. and  
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Colonel The Right Honourable Sir Charles Macandrew, T.D., M.P.  
and Lady Macandrew.

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The Right Honourable The Master of the Rolls and  
The Lady Evershed.  
Sir Charles Norton, M.B.E., M.C. and  
Lady Norton.

ECCLESIASTICS

The Very Reverend The Dean of St. Paul's, K.C.V.O., and  
Mrs Matthews.

H.M. FORCES

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Lady Templer.  
Major General G.F. Johnson, C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O. and  
The Lady Ida Johnson.  
Lieutenant General C.F.C. Coleman, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., O.B.E.  
and Mrs Coleman.

H.M. CIVIL SERVICE

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Sir John Lang, G.C.B.  
Lieutenant Colonel J.M. Hugo, O.B.E.  
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Sir Alfred Le Maitre, K.B.E., C.B., M.C.  
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Sir John Nott-Bower, K.C.V.O. and  
Lady Nott-Bower.  
The Right Honourable The Viscount Waverley, G.C.B., G.C.S.I.,  
G.C.I.E., and The Viscountess Waverley.

COUNTY OF LONDON (Contd.)

The Right Worshipful The Mayor of the City of Westminster and  
Mrs Stirling.  
George Miller Esq. and  
Mrs Miller.  
Sir Andrew MacTaggart and  
Lady MacTaggart.  
The Vice Chairman of the London County Council and  
Mrs Ryan.  
The Worshipful The Mayor of the Royal Borough of Kensington  
and Miss L.C.Fisher.  
The Deputy Chairman of the London County Council.  
The Chairman of the Metropolitan Boroughs' Standing Joint  
Committee.

LEARNED SOCIETIES

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Lady Brain.  
The President of the Royal College of Surgeons and  
Lady Platt.  
The President of the Institute of Chartered Accountants and  
Mrs Dicker.  
The Vice Chancellor of London University and  
Mrs Lockwood.

BANKING AND COMMERCIAL

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and Mrs Tadman.  
The Chairman of the Committee of London Clearing Bankers.  
The Chairman of the British Insurance Association.  
The Right Honourable The Lord Strathalmond, C.B.E. and  
Lady Strathalmond.  
The Right Honourable R.R.Stokes, M.C.,M.P.  
Lord Godber and  
Lady Godber.  
General Sir William D.Morgan, G.C.B.,D.S.O.,M.C. and  
Lady Morgan.  
George Miller Esq., and  
Mrs Miller.  
F.J.Hallett Esq. and  
Mrs Hallett.  
The Right Honourable The Viscount Camrose, T.D.  
The Right Honourable The Viscount Kemsley and  
The Viscountess Kemsley, O.B.E.  
Colonel Sir Harold Smith, K.B.E.  
Sir Lionel Thompson, C.B.E.  
Leslie Gamage Esq.,M.C. and  
The Honourable Mrs Gamage.  
T.A.L.Paton Esq.,B.Sc.,M.Inst.C.E. and  
Mrs Paton.  
Sir Godfrey Mitchell.  
C.S.Mundy Esq., and  
Mrs Mundy.  
J.H.Walesby Esq.  
J.G.Heath Esq. and  
Mrs Heath.



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G.A. Robbins Esq.  
A. de V. Leigh Esq., M.B.E., M.A.

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Fishmongers  
Skinners  
Salters  
Ironmongers

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His Royal Highness the Iraqi Ambassador and  
Her Royal Highness Princess Zeid El Kussein.  
Mr Tarik Al Askari and  
Mrs Al Askari.  
His Excellency Dr Dhia Jafar.