

GB 2588

For the first time in fifty years a German Head-of-State visits Britain
~~and~~ The Queen and Prince Philip ^{wait} ~~were waiting~~ at London's Victoria ~~Station~~
Station to welcome the President of the Federal Republic of Germany -
Dr. Theodor Heuss.

Other members of the Royal Family and the Queen's Ministers add their
greetings on this historic occasion. To-day, the Sovereign's honoured
guest is a gentle, quiet man of 74. A personality in vivid contrast
to Kaiser Wilhelm II who came, in 1907, to cement friendship between
Germany and Britain, and seven years later ~~had~~ launched a world war. ⁽³⁾
He came at the beginning of a new era: still the plumes and pageantry
of the old order; ^{But} the pomp and circumstance was giving way to the 20th
century. The aeroplane was four years old and the motor car a little
older. For the first time the King had a car. So ~~did~~ ^{had} Kaiser Wilhelm.
~~The Kaiser who led Germany as she prepared to throw the world into war.~~
Then his host was King Edward VII - Edward the Peacemaker. ⁽³⁾

Great-Grandfather of the Queen who stands fifty-one years later with the
first head of the new German State. ^(Sound)

And After the German anthem ~~was played~~, President Heuss, (accompanied
by Prince Philip) inspected a Guard of Honour of the Second Battalion,
the Scots Guards.

Then the traditional State Drive ^{to Buckingham Palace.} ~~with the Queen and the Duke of~~
~~Edinburgh riding with Dr. Heuss at the head of the procession,~~
^{with} ~~followed~~ a Sovereign's Escort of Household Cavalry.

~~RaskxkxkxNxxxxxxfxRarktkxkxkx~~ Crowds welcomed the German leader who
^{has worked} ^{his country} ^{the Houses of Parliament}
~~had fought so hard~~ to give the democratic principles/~~they stand for.~~
~~Heuss.~~ ^(Symbolic)

Heuss - the great Liberal thinker who had to stand by, while his books
were publicly burned by Goebbels. Who in the thirties was refused
the right to work, and had to be supported by his wife, ~~because~~
~~couldn't stomach tyranny.~~

And ~~yet~~ through two World Wars and Nazi persecution, Papa Heuss (as
his own people affectionately call him) has ~~always~~ retained his ~~gentle~~
humour and his love of people.

The first thing he did was to go to Westminster Abbey to pay tribute to
Britain's dead of two world wars...

The President lays a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Warrior
 He stands ^{with bowed head} ~~in silence before the symbol of so many dead.~~ Who can tell
 his thoughts at this ^{historic} ~~moment.~~
 He must ^{have} ~~thought~~ of the mud and misery of the trenches, and of
 the ~~dead~~: the nine million men ~~who~~ ^{who perished in World War I}
 He must have thought of the ^{lessons which were not learned} ~~lessons that were not learned~~ of
 Hitler's Mein Kampf, and the shattered dream of a democratic Germany
 Hindenburg, President of the Weimar Republic, too weak to rule a ~~country~~ ^{nation}
^{marking under} ~~angered by the~~ humiliation and unable to stem the surge to power of the
 Nazi horror ready to plunge Europe once more into darkness. /s

Of 1939 - the Second World War and the fifty millions who died ~~and~~
~~scattered his Nation's name with their blood in~~ ^{savage slaughter}

~~The savage cruelty of Nazi warfare~~...
 He must have thought ^{too} of the future he is helping to build for the new
 Germany. But Theodore Heuss will never forget the dead, and the cities
 and towns wiped out by war.

He remembered the blitzed churches, At St. James's Palace, ^{he} ~~President~~
 handed a cheque for £5,000 to the Provost of Coventry Cathedral to
 help pay for the rebuilding of the Chapel of Unity.

^{On his visit to the city}
~~The second day of the State Visit and~~ President Heuss drove ~~to~~,
 down the Strand, ~~and~~ past St. Clement Danes. He knew that only 48 hours
^{earlier} ~~before~~, the Queen and Prince Philip had ^{been there} ~~arrived~~ for the re-consecration
~~service that proclaimed that the R.A.F.'s own church existed and St.~~
~~Clements lived again.~~ ^{as the church of the Royal Air Force}

A triple knock and the West Door was opened to admit the Bishop of
 London. Entering to proclaim "Peace be to this House from God"...
 and to recite the prayers of consecration that marked the re-birth
 of the blitzed Church.

St. Clement Danes - ^{AIR} "destroyed by the thunderbolts of warfare 1941.
 Restored by the R.A.F. 1958" In the words of the Archbishop of
 Canterbury - "offered anew to history ~~and~~ and to God to be for all time
 to come the Church of the Royal Air Force"

And joyously, the bells ring out. Ring out their old ^{nursery rhyme} ~~song~~
 tune after nineteen years of silence. "Oranges and Lemons, ^{say} the Bells
 of St. Clements"

St. Clement's is a symbol - a symbol of a city reborn from the ashes
of war. ~~the~~ President Heuss saw the new London as he saw the bomb damage
- gaps still unrepaired....and he must have remembered his own words
"The Germans must never forget what was done by men and women of their
own nationality in those shameful years" ~~xx~~
kznzngk

-as he drove through the City, past St. Paul's, to the Lord Mayor's
reception at ~~the~~ Guildhall. ~~Inside~~ Inside, the Lord Mayor ^{presented} ~~handed over~~ the
City's Address of Welcome - a welcome that will help Britain and
Germany, in the Queen's words, "to forge anew the bonds of amity and peace"