

March, 1960.

75 mm. b. & W. 700 ft.

Dope Sheet.

OPENING OF KHORRAMSHAHR BRIDGE BY H.I.M. THE SHAH, February 29, 1960.

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Reel 1.

Morning in Khorramshahr. Shots of the River Karun with people queuing for and crossing in the boats which were formerly the only means of travelling direct to the Abadan side.

Reel 2.

The guests arrive at the bridge before the opening. Shots include Ministers, Majlis Deputies, the British Ambassador, newspaper correspondents, etc.

H.I.M. the Shah arrives.

Medium shot of British Ambassador.

The Shah goes towards his tent and enters. (Note: To finish film, some shots taken at random with camera held high.)

Reel 3.

The Shah listens to the report by Mr. Behbahanian.

Shots of guests. (Note: Reel finished as reel 2.)

Reel 4.

The Shah moves to the bridge to cut the tape to open the bridge. Cementation officials (including Grundy) ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ presented to him. (Note: this was not in the programme and much jostling means shots not at all good). Shah congratulates them on speedy completion of bridge.

The Shah cuts the tape and goes onto bridge. People wave and cheer, boats sound hooters, etc.

Reel 5.

Shah inspects bridge acknowledging cheers, etc.

Shots of guests.

Shah reaches Abadan side of bridge.

Reel 6.

Taken from helicopter after ceremony. Aerial shots of bridge and surrounds.

Reel 7.

70 ft. as Reel 6. Close-up of plaque commemorating the building of the bridge. A few shots of the bridge itself.

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In a colourful and impressive ceremony, H.I.M. the Shah formally opened the Great Bridge of Khorramshahr linking Iran's major port with Abadan Island, thus completing one of the biggest economic development projects ever carried out in Iran's southern province of Khuzistan. Before the arrival of His Majesty, crowds of many tens of thousands had gathered around the new bridge, which has been built for the Pahlavi Foundation by the British firm of Cementation (Overseas) Ltd. In the presence of the Prime Minister and many other Cabinet Members and senior officials of the Iranian Government, as well as the British Ambassador and heads of other diplomatic missions, His Excellency Mr. Jafar Behbahanian, Director of the Pahlavi Foundation, made a formal address to His Majesty and spoke of the nation-wide economic development taking place in Iran. "According to the contract", Mr. Behbahanian went on "the bridge was to be completed in thirty months. However, by speedily carrying out the project and constantly making efforts to facilitate and expedite the work, the bridge was actually completed 10 months ahead of schedule". When the Shah cut the tri-colour ribbon stretched across the entrance to the 616 metre bridge a torrent of cheering broke out on all sides. The tremendous ovation was magnified by the blowing of hooters and fog horns from the dozens of ships and boats of all sizes, including units of the Imperial Iranian Navy, which had assembled in the Karun River to watch the proceedings. The massed crowds surged across the bridge behind His Majesty in one of the most impressive scenes witnessed in Khorramshahr. The bridge is about 2,000 ft. long - longer than Westminster Bridge in London - and was built at a cost of about \$850,000. It's steel and reinforced concrete construction is designed to take the heaviest traffic. 240 people both Iranian and British were employed in the construction of the bridge.