

غرفة التجارة العربية البريطانية

Arab-British Chamber of Commerce



AJC
admission pl.
CR

R3115

THE CHAIRMAN'S OFFICE

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REGISTERED IN LONDON No.1199402

The Rt Hon Mrs Margaret Thatcher MP
10 Downing Street
London SW1

30 May 1984

Dear Prime Minister,

The Arab-British Chamber of Commerce, of which I am Chairman, is shortly to move to new premises at No 6, Belgrave Square, SW1, of which the Chamber acquired the lease about 18 months ago and which it has subsequently refurbished.

The Secretary-General and Chief Executive of the Chamber and I and the Members of the Board of Directors would be greatly honoured if you would consent to attend, as principal guest, the official opening of the Arab-British Chamber of Commerce at No 6, Belgrave Square. The Board would like the opening ceremony to take place in October but would be glad to leave the precise date to your choice.

You are, as your visits to Arab countries have demonstrated, aware of the value to the United Kingdom of its commercial links with the Arab World. The Chamber plays a significant part in these links. It has a bi-lateral character both promoting British exports to and commercial interests in the Arab World and Arab exports to and commercial interests in Britain. Its Board of Directors, as you will see from the enclosed list is composed half of British and half of Arab Members.

I have had an opportunity to mention informally to Mr Norman Tebbit, Secretary of State for Industry and Trade, our intention to ask you to honour our opening ceremony and I am similarly informing the Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

It is the earnest hope of the Board of Directors that you will be able to accept our invitation and to appoint a date. As I envisage it, the ceremony could take place either in the morning or in the afternoon and would consist of a few short speeches and a visit to the premises. I would be glad to furnish your Private Secretary with any further information which you might require.

I enclose a copy of the latest Annual Report of the Chamber.

Yours sincerely
Richard Beaumont

Sir Richard Beaumont
Chairman

Enc

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS OF THE ARAB-BRITISH CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

CHAIRMAN

Sir Richard Beaumont KCMG (British)

FIRST VICE-CHAIRMAN

Mr Abdul Aziz al-Sagr (Kuwait) President of the Kuwait Chamber of Commerce

SECOND VICE-CHAIRMAN

The Viscount Slim OBE (British) Director of Jackson Exploration Inc

THIRD VICE-CHAIRMAN

Mr Tariq al-Safi (Iraqi) Vice-President of the Iraqi Federation of Industry

SECRETARY-GENERAL

Mr Abdul Karim al-Mudaris (Iraqi)

NONORARY TREASURER

Mr P E H Alexander (British) formerly of the British bank of the Middle East

COUNSELLORS

Dr Burhan al-Dajani (Jordanian) Secretary-General of the Union of Arab Chambers
of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture

Sheikh Mahmoud Nashar (Saudi) Member of the Jeddah Chamber of Commerce

Mr P J E Elton MC (British) Consultant to Hill Samuel Merchant Bankers.

Mr J B Rearden (British) Sales Marketing Director of Land Rover Ltd

Mr H Ridehalgh CBE (British) Former Senior Partner, Sir William Halcrow and
Partners

Mr Sabih M Shukri (Iraqi) Chairman of Who's Who in the Arab World and Banking

Mr E C Smalley CBE (British) Managing Director of Platt-Saco Lowell

DIRECTORS

Mr Fath al-Rahman al-Bahshir (Sudanese) President of Sudanese Businessmen's
Federation

Sheikh Ahmed Bin Ameir al-Hanai (Omani) President of Oman Chamber of Commerce

Mr J al-Naboudah (UAE) President of the Dubai Chamber of Commerce

Sheikh Ahmed Mohamed al-Sowaidi (Qatar) President of the Qatar Chamber of
Commerce

عُرْفَةُ الشَّجَارَةِ الْقَرِيبَةِ الْبَرِّيَّةِ

Arab-British Chamber of Commerce

- Mr Hamdi al-Tabba'a (Jordanian) President of the Federation of Jordanian
Chambers of Commerce
- Dr Sadiq Busneina (Libyan) Representative of the Libyan Chambers of Commerce
- Mr Badreddine Challah (Syrian) President of the Federation of Syrian Chambers
of Commerce
- Mr J H Christie OBE (British) Co-owner and Editor of Middle East Newsletter
- M R J Daniels OBE (Australian) Director of Incotes Ltd
- Mr Wael al-Migdadi (Iraqi) Managing Director of Sharjah Investment Corporation
- Mr Ali Fayed (Egyptian) Chairman of General Navigation and Commerce Co Ltd
- Mr P G Higgins (British) Director of Overseas Operations at the General
Electric Co Ltd
- Mr Adnan Kassar (Lebanese) President of the Beirut Chamber of Commerce
- Dr Abdul Hassan Zalzala (Iraqi) Deputy Secretary-General (Economic) League
of Arab States
- Mr J K M Laing (British) Director John Laing PLC
- Mr P I Marshall (British) Deputy Chairman of Plessey
- Mr F F Steele (British) Consultant to Kleinwort Benson Ltd, Banker
- Mr K Bowden (British) Director of Wimpey International
- Admiral Sir Rae McKaig KCB CBE Chairman of Gray Mackenzie Ltd
- Mr Adel al-Dajani (Jordanian) London Manager of the Arab Bank
- Sir David Roberts (British) Director-General of the Middle East Association



15/6 RM
Free 12/6
8/6

Sir Richard Beaumont

10 DOWNING STREET

Reminded FLO
today 11/6: they are

awaiting DTI comment so
reminded DTI - ringing back 12/6

From the Private Secretary

31 May, 1984

Chased DTI - coming today or tomorrow
19.14/6

ARAB-BRITISH CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

I enclose a copy of a letter which the Prime Minister has received from Sir Richard Beaumont asking whether Mrs. Thatcher would be the principal guest at the official opening of the new premises of the Arab-British Chamber of Commerce in October.

I should be grateful for your early advice.

I am sending a copy of this letter and its enclosure to Callum McCarthy (Department of Trade and Industry).

A. L. COLES

P. Ricketts, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.