

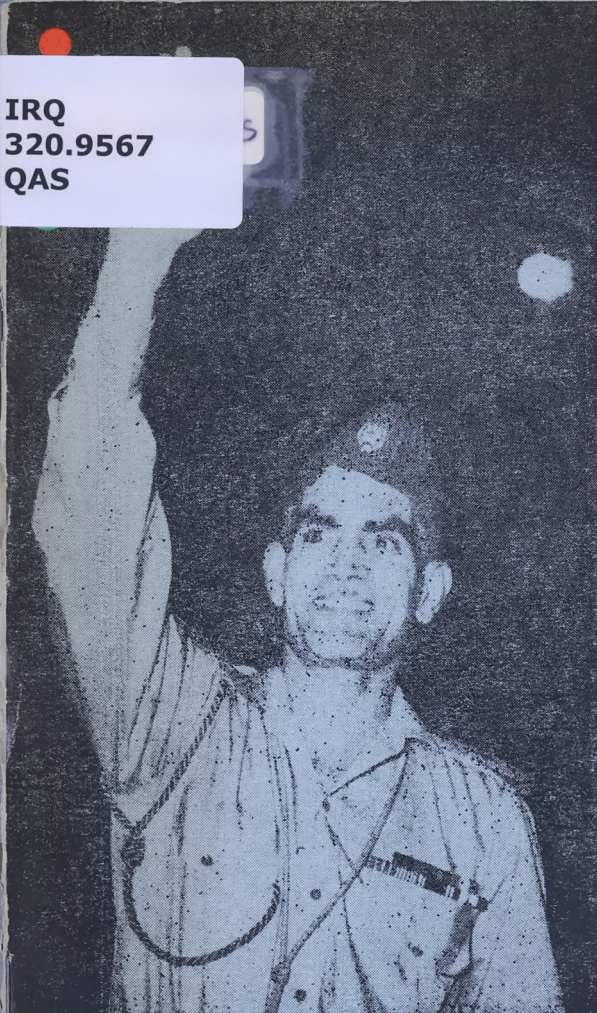
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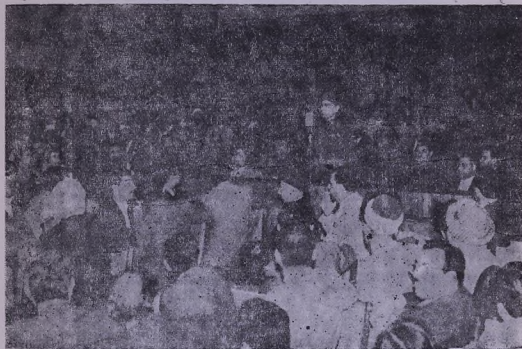
PRINCIPLES
OF
14th JULY
REVOLUTION



A few collections of the Epoch-making speeches delivered by the Prime Minister and Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces, Major General Abdul Karim Qassim, on some auspicious and historical occasions after the blessed, peaceful and miraculous Revolution of July 14, 1958.

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"We serve the freedom of the people. The freedom of an individual merges in the freedom of all. We all merge in the gains of the Revolution for the sake of God, the people and our homeland as well as for the sake of peace."

**THE EPOCH-MAKING SPEECH DELIVERED BY
PRIME MINISTER, MAJOR GENERAL
ABDUL KARIM QASSIM,
AT THE SECOND CONGRESS OF THE PEACE PARTISANS,
ON MONDAY 14TH APRIL, 1959, BAGHDAD.**

PEACE be on you—the emissaries of peace and freedom.
Peace be on you—the sons of the people.

Peace be on you—the noble delegates who have come from different countries to your country—The House of Peace, Baghdad.

You are now among your brothers who welcome you and you welcome them. You are scheduled to meet here with them at this rally to celebrate this day of freedom, victory and peace.

We, the people, were denied the right even to mention the word peace or peace partisans and everyone related to them had to suffer from imprisonment as if it were an unpardonable crime. But now, after the people have been liberated from slavery, and after July 14 has dawned on us, this Republic and her sons have been liberated and have been marching on the path of freedom ever since.

BROTHERS! Our Interim Constitution states that the freedom of all religions is preserved in our country, and this is provided for in Article 12 of the Constitution. Further Article 14 of the said Constitution states that the State Religion of Iraq is Islam, and Islam calls for peace. I wonder why those folks who have gone and who were destroyed by the people, disliked to hear about peace when Islam itself calls for peace. We are now celebrating the Day of Peace. We used to dream of freedom as if it had been an impossibility, but now we have guaranteed many gains for freedom and are still endeavouring in order to attain other gains. It seems that I have a date with the representatives of Freedom at this very place, for we had formerly celebrated "The Women's Day" and the "International Students Union Day" at this place itself. Today we are celebrating your day in our present festival. You know that we always have the word peace on our lips. The era which deprived us of liberty has gone and now it is the era of freedom. Thus we are celebrating the feast of freedom. I welcome brothers who have come from the world over; and all praise is due to God; we are honouring those that represent more than half of the population of the world. They will, no doubt, in the course of time add more and more people to their ranks.

Peace is victorious always and for ever. Do you ever remember that aggression gained success and was not crushed by the last blow? Aggression, whether collective or unilateral, is inevitably to be crushed. If you just glance at courts and judges you will see that these courts and judges were formed to crush aggression or anyone who thinks of aggression. These courts and judges are only working for the sake of peace and ending aggression. This noble idea should prevail all over the world.

No doubt, I am proud of the people. I am from the people and I am the son of the people. I will work for the sake of the people. I will sacrifice my life for the liberty of this people and safeguarding, protecting and preserving it from all evils.

DURING a brief period we were able to overcome the static state which restricted the people. The imperialistic states and reactionary elements are endeavouring to maintain this static state and consolidate its foundations in the country which will, as a result, face destruction and devastation. All praise is due to God; with the help of the sons of the people and in full co-operation and solidarity with them in our endeavours for the sake of God and the people, we were able to overcome the static state and to enable the people to step out of this state into another—the state of development. This static state not only restricts the freedom of the people but also their activities, splits their ranks and makes everyone unsympathetic towards others and every one strives to maintain it. As a result of this state, the people remain where they are, without moving towards freedom except with few steps which will have no effect on their activity in so far as development is concerned.

The fruitful action, brothers, the quick step and the march in the procession of freedom, require emancipation from this static state. All praise is due to God; we were completely emancipated from this static state and we buried it. Dear brothers and sisters! After our liberation from this static state and our march towards development we demand of you, I mean I request you, to advance towards development and creative actions. In this stage of history, after overcoming the static state, overcoming the past, crushing the imperialists and their hirelings and after crushing those who thundered us in the past and after we became free, I request you to unite in order to maintain the gains of this Revolution and to march onwards in the procession of freedom together with the freedom lovers who have come here from various parts of the world to their homeland—Dar As-Salam (House of Peace).

IMPERIALISM has planted in us the factors of fears—fears from nothing. What for this fear? In the past anyone of us was unable to speak to his brother in affairs of peace, nor was able to talk to his friends in regards to peace and freedom though he knew him to be his friend. But why this fear? Because imperialism and its hirelings planted at that time or they thought that they have planted in us, the factors of fears but they did not know that we were working secretly and openly. We were sometimes working openly, and as a result our sons and brothers suffered, by their open action, torture, jails and concentration camps. No doubt this was the cost of the freedom which we gained. We were working secretly, this kind of work at that time, in my belief, was the best. When the day of justice came they all became a tale, and what a tale, you all know it.

Brothers! I have the honour and I am proud to be in your ranks, and I pledge the Almighty that I will always struggle for the sake of peace. As for the forces of the Army which we have prepared, we prepared them to face those who attacks peace. We are a peaceful and a neutral state. We attack no one, but anyone who attacks us and starts aggression, we will stop him.

Those who deprived us of the blessing of freedom before July 14 and who deprived themselves of it or were deprived of it forcibly, failed. We gained the blessing of freedom and now are celebrating the day of freedom and honouring freedom. When I say this, I mean that I will strive together with you to safeguard the freedom for all. The freedom of an individual merges in the freedom of all and serves the freedom of all.

The freedom of an individual has limits. All of us today serve the freedom of all. All citizens feel it a great honour to serve the sons of the people. The groups, and you are parts of them, who served and contributed to gaining this freedom, and the honour and have the virtue to make this people enjoy the freedom.

IHAD previously announced that I am above trends and leanings, above party politics and political parties. This is because I strive for the people as a whole to serve them. If I join a group or party I shall be in the minority and thence I shall only serve the minority and not the majority. I always strive to serve the entire people. Whatever the party membership may be it will cover one million or half a million members, it is still in the minority compared to the whole population. We are working for a noble idea which is above trends and political parties. We are working to safeguard the freedom of the people and the sons of the people.

We are with everything that safeguards this freedom and safeguards the gains of the sons of the people and enables them to live in lasting peace. I am with all the parties of all trends if their aims are to serve the homeland, freedom and peace. Nothing will keep me far from them, neither religion, political parties, language nor nationality; I am with them and we will always march forward hand in hand in the procession of freedom and peace.

Brothers! The aim is to help the people to occupy a higher place and to have noble ethics and to live in prosperity, freedom and peace together with their brotherly peoples in the world.

Once again I am glad to welcome the delegation and the guests, especially those that have come from the East and the West. Neither the East nor the West has separated them. They all came with a noble idea—the idea of fighting aggression and preserving peace.

IN this country, we have two trends. One of them serves the interests and protect the structure of the immortal Iraqi Republic which will remain eternal in history and the other works against the structure of this Republic. We are helping those of the first trend and sacrifice for the sake of their ideals which secure the survival of this Republic and maintain the gains of our Revolution. I don't say that we will attack those of the second trend, no. We have only to stop them where they are.

This is because they must return to their senses and to the path of wisdom, the path of serving righteousness and become the people of nobility and gallantry. Some of them may be stupid at present. This character does not suit any one of us. Every one of you prefers the intelligent to

the stupid. The character of the intelligent people is the sign of progress while the stupid elements gather round the static state. We have already been emancipated from this state and marched towards another stage—the stage of development and now we are looking forward to a far-reaching stage, the stage of creative work.

Brothers! Some of the stupid elements may return to their senses and wisdom, that is why we do not want to attack them, but only to stop them where they stand.

While you celebrate the day of peace with the freedom-lovers who are with you, I request you one thing which should be a strong support and the pillar of our trend—that is to refrain from dissension and to fight splitters and intriguers who are working against the interests of the country. These elements should be checked in order to keep them at their places only to rotate inside a circle from which they will not come out. You will rejoice in the blessing of prosperity and freedom and will work actively for development and creative work.

WE are passing through a stage which might be difficult. But I assure you that the period of difficulties and great hardships has gone. When the people, in any country, are weak, they think that every force, however small, is powerful. Now the people are imbued with such a powerful force, a drive and faith in their right, that makes it possible for the people to overcome any hardships.

That is why I tell you that the period of difficulties has gone. But this does not mean that we do not care for what is going on around us, or for the intrigues of the elements of dissension and of those who covet our homeland. My principles, which is yours, are vigilance and cautiousness. We all have to uphold patience, to have faith in our right and to work always to secure more gains after our achievements so far.

Now I have good news for my brothers, the workers. They will be able, this year, to join their brethren all over the world to celebrate the May Day—the Workers Day. This will be a memorable day here in the Eternal Iraqi Republic and will be an official day for them.

BROTHERS! It might be my duty now to warn you that some reactionary elements, the elements of dissension, have started to infiltrate into your ranks with the aim of breaking up your unity and of destroying the democratic spirit in this country. So be cautious of them. I repeat be cautious of them. We do not want to destroy this spirit after the victory of your Revolution and after the destruction of injustice, corruption, deprivation and after the liberation of this country from all chains whatsoever. We have been liberated from aggressive agreements and pacts. The country is now free of all shackles and absolute sovereignty is now for you—the sons of the people.

After the liberation of this country, I don't want the reactionary and corrupt elements to infiltrate into your ranks to destroy the democratic forces. All of you know the value of the democratic forces and the extent of their efforts for development and creative work in the country as well as for emancipation from the static state. These elements

are infiltrating into your ranks. They claim that they are part of you, while they are part of another party. All the democratic forces are one. Their aim is to maintain and preserve this Eternal Republic. It is your duty to protect these forces and to be cautious of the elements of reaction and corruption which spread anarchy among your ranks or encourage anarchy. We fight anarchy because we are free.

We serve the freedom of the people. The freedom of an individual merges in the freedom of all. We all merge in the gains of the Revolution and for the sake of God, the people and our homeland as well as for the sake of peace.



"We are the party of right and justice. You are the party of right and justice. You are the party of the Revolution. You work in the way of God and the way of the people to secure the gains of the "Immortal Iraqi Revolution," which we are determined to preserve and to defend it at any rate."

**FULL TEXT OF THE
HISTORICAL-EXTEMPORE SPEECH DELIVERED BY
MAJOR-GENERAL ABDUL KARIM QASSIM, PRIME MINISTER
AND
COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF OF THE ARMED FORCES,
IN
THE GARDENS OF THE SHAAB HALL
IN CONNECTION WITH IRAQ'S FIRST LABOUR DAY
ON THE EVE OF 1ST MAY, 1959. BAGHDAD.**

PEACE be on you, my fellow countrymen.
O! sisters, brothers, brethren, and workers everywhere!

I am very pleased to open, today, this festival and honourable meeting for the first time in the history of the Iraqi Republic. Further, for the first time in the history of the world such a day is celebrated in Iraq.

Brothers! We are determined to march ahead on the road of freedom. We are determined to secure our rights completely, peacefully and forcibly. We depend only on you, countrymen. I derive strength from you. My strength stems from your arms. Formerly we were prohibited to celebrate this event, and we were even prohibited to mention it. Today, we are in place of honour and in the midst of healthy democratic rule.

Brothers! You may have all what you want. Brothers, we have come here today to celebrate this auspicious occasion. This day is one of our national days and our public feasts. I can see signs of happiness and joy in your faces. That pleases me. I take pride to say that I am the son of one of the wage-earners. My father was a wage-earner, earning his living from day to day by self-integrity and honour.

Sisters and brothers! My father was a simple worker like other workers. He became a simple farmer who served this people. Later, he became a simple wage-earner working to earn his food from day to day in an honourable and dignified manner. He has impressed on us, his children, the need to extend a helpful hand to the poor and the toilers. He has advised us to stand by the truth and justice and never to waver in respect of the truth.

Brothers! He had educated all of us. He had asked us to strive in this life and to combat imperialism and its camp followers. Although I belong to a family of military standing, most of its members were Army Officers or of other ranks who met with martyrdom either in the remote or in the near past, and who have offered sacrifices to this people. Yet I take pride in the fact that I am the son of a simple worker.

Brothers! The era of oppression and tyranny has gone. You are living in the era of freedom, the era of the immortal Iraqi Republic. This day is one of the prosperous days of the Republic.

Brothers! The days have gone when the workers and the toilers used to suffer bitterly. We protect all of them. And I am under their protection. All of us are under the protection of the people, we work for the people and derive strength from them.

Dear sisters and brothers! the happiness of this country and of the entire Arab Nation depends precisely on the struggle of the workers. Here, in the immortal Iraqi Republic, we protect the workers as well as the employers.

The worker and the employer are now brothers who cannot be separated one from the other. The days of exploitation of the whole for the benefit of the individual have gone. The worker and the employer are now brothers, working side by side in harmony and solidarity for the people and the immortal Iraqi Republic.

Brother workers! If you wish to stamp out imperialism, you have to exert yourselves to work an extra hour. This will undermine the structure of the foreigner and the coloniser. An extra working hour can undermine the structure of the imperialists and threaten their existence.

No longer shall the intrigues and mischief-making of the imperialists deceive us. No longer shall our work be interrupted under flimsy pretexts. We are working to undermine the structure of the imperialism. We are working to attain a bright and better future, ensuring freedom and prosperous living not only to ourselves but to posterity.

We will solve all problems in the spirit of unity and collaboration while continuing our work. We will attain satisfactory solutions, ensuring prosperity and happy living to you as well as to posterity. No longer shall we be deceived by the intrigues of imperialism. We have overcome such intrigues in the past. Imperialism attempted to drag the Armed Forces to the streets to strike at the people. I have, therefore, decided to protect the people by the Armed Forces and protect the Armed Forces by the people.

Brothers! The Army and the people have merged into a single entity. They have become a source of strength which is worrying the foreigners. The foreigner, along with imperialism, therefore began to resort to other means to split up our ranks so as to overcome us. But these attempts on the part of the imperialists to split up our ranks have gone long ago. Imperialism now tries to split up our ranks by calling for narrow parties and restricted groupings. The purpose of this is to play one against the other, while the foreigners and the imperialists will sit as spectators. But we shall thrust a stone in the mouth of imperialism. We shall overcome imperialism and we shall close this gap in its face. The parochial groupings and party affiliation at this time are of no benefit to the country. They place the country in an embarrassing situation. As I have told you, gentlemen, sisters and brothers, the purpose of this is to create disunity and weaken our strength and play one against the other. We are in a period of transition. We have resolved to protect the gains of our Revolution at any rate.

Brothers! Some people have come to me and said: "O leader, we wish you would form a party, thus saving us from these parties and groupings."

My answer was that we are in a period of transition and that my party is the entire people, and I belong to the party of the people. All of us are the party of God, the party of right and justice. We are the party of the struggle. We shall endeavour to achieve our freedom. We are marching on the road of freedom, we are heading towards healthy democratic rule. We cannot be disunited by any one. The people, as a whole, and I, being with the people, make a tremendous revolution undermining imperialism and threatening its structure. We, the entire people, constitute a formidable revolution, shaking off the imperialism from its foundations. We shall secure our full rights. We are heading towards a healthy democratic rule. Our meeting, today, is one of the examples of this healthy rule.

Brothers! I warn you against the intrigues of mischief-makers. They are bent upon disuniting our ranks at a time when our Republic is not yet one year old. We have scored many gains for our Revolution. It is our duty to protect these gains. These gains can only be protected by unity, by tolerance, and renouncement of the old enmities and splits. You must not become disunited into groups and factions.

We are the party of right and justice. You are the party of right and justice. You are the party of the Revolution. You work in the way of God and the way of the people to secure the gains of the immortal Iraqi Revolution, which we are determined to preserve and to defend at any rate. The workers have achieved victory this way. They have achieved victory in the era of the immortal Iraqi Republic. The woman, your sister, has achieved victory. She will share with you, sooner or later, the responsibilities of administration. The peasant, likewise, has achieved victory, and so has the employer. Formerly, the employer used to fear for his life and for his property. Now, the employer and the worker are brothers working together in both prosperity and adversity to protect the gains of the Iraqi Republic as well as the Revolution. They work constantly not for any transient selfish interest but for the interest of the people. The healthy democratic rule has won its place in this country. These trade unions, federations and associations are but reflections of this healthy rule.

Brothers! We want from you more work. We want from you work and perfection. We want from you continuous work. Every day must be utilized to accumulate benefits for this homeland and this people.

DEAR sisters and brothers! I say again that I am happy and pleased to be here among you at this reception and to open the Labour Day celebrations. I am happy and pleased that all of us are now enjoying this lovely evening. The nice breeze is reflecting your rejoicing and jubilation. I am very pleased to open this meeting. I request you to be a sort of help to the worker, the peasant and the toiler. They form the cornerstone for the building of a better future.

Brothers! I wish to break to you the good news that we are heading for a major revolution next month (i.e. May).

Brothers! we are heading for a major revolution, if not, two revolutions, next month, and next month is near by.

The people has become conscious, armed with faith and patience. The people will overcome any force of aggression that might come in its way. As to those traitors, their days have gone. They have been dwarfed in the face of the people. The days of these traitors belong to the past. They have become dwarfs in the face of the people. Henceforth we take them into no account. We have been inspired by the sublime objectives for a better future. We endeavour for reconstruction and for fruitful work. As to these traitors, their days have gone and they have been dwarfed in front of the people. The people have become armed with patience and faith. I insist on the co-operation and tolerance among the people. As to the execution or non-execution of the traitors, this is a matter which is left for us to decide. We are working calmly and wisely to achieve our full rights.

Brothers! Do these traitors frighten you? They are worth nothing. Henceforth, you should make other major demands which benefit the country and cement its structure.

Brothers! I am from you and for you. We shall march on the road of right and justice and struggle. We depend on you brothers. We entirely depend on your strength, understanding and unity. It is my hope that the foreigners may not enter amongst you to split up your ranks. Formerly, we used to work as a few individuals. We used to work secretly. Today, however, we work secretly and openly. Today, we are working while you are with us. Many of us used to work secretly in the past, but, today, we work secretly and openly. We shall attain healthy democratic rule, we shall build up the edifice of this country. We shall march on the road of the Revolution. We and the whole of the people represent a revolution in the face of tyranny and imperialism, its stooges and camp-followers. Our Revolution shall stop at no limit. This is because we are endeavouring for a better future. We always seek the best.

Brothers! We greet the workers, the peasants, the farmers, the toilers, and the free and sincere men in this country. I am very confident that no longer can any one create disunity among them. We are now a solid front working in the way of God and in the way of the people. We shall never waver in protecting the gains of the Revolution. I am very pleased to open this meeting. I pray to the Almighty to grant success to the workers. Along with their brother workers, all over the world they have celebrated the Labour Day. I have told you, a minute before, that our presence at this place to celebrate this event is one of the gains of the Revolution and one of the aspects of healthy democratic rule in this country.

May God bless you and your efforts! I pray to the Almighty to guide us and all sincere people working in His way, in the way of the people and for the immortal Iraqi Republic.
Peace be on you.



"I, being one of you, state publicly before you that I carry no principle of any specific nature, but I proceed in the light of freedom."

**THE SENSATIONAL SPEECH DELIVERED BY
MAJOR-GENERAL ABDUL KARIM QASSIM
THE PRIME MINISTER AND C-IN.-C. OF THE ARMED FORCES
ON THE FIRST DAY OF ID AL ADHA, TUESDAY 16TH JUNE, 1959
AT THE OFFICERS' CLUB**

PEACE be on you; My Brother Officers and sincere people in the Army. I am pleased to be here today to offer you congratulations and to renew and revive the acquaintances with all those whom we did not see during this period. I always wish you success and prosperity.

Brother Officers! We had a long spell of time this year, through which we came across very difficult days. We used to overcome these by patience and perseverance as well as by sincerity to which all of us without exception have become accustomed. We have made up our minds to preserve the structure of this State and of this Immortal Republic as well and to defend this soil.

We are always bound to this magnificent soil by strong ties. This makes us think of defending this soil, preserving it and respecting its sanctity. Those days have passed away. They belong to the past and thus they are remembered regardless of being difficult or easy. Undoubtedly however, we had come across very difficult days when imperialism, the greedy people, the elements of disunity and mischief-makers used to conspire against us.

But we had dealt with those plots as well as with those intrigues by incessant and untiring work. Now the Immortal Iraqi Republic enjoys a status that is envied by many countries which have been independent for very many years.

Brother Officers; and sincere people in the Army!

As you know that the arms which have been received and which are now with you are powerful. We never cease endeavouring to procure more and better ones. Very soon, most of the Army Units will be equipped with modern arms. We shall have modern planes, including bombers, fighters and transport planes. We have never dreamt of such arms and planes in the past.

During this year we have been celebrating official, public and religious feasts and functions. There remains now to celebrate the greatest feast of the Immortal Revolution of July 14. We have had a few feasts —The Labour Day, the Children's Day, the Liberty Day and other consecutive feasts together with Id al-Fitr and Id al-Adha, etc. All of them were happy days in view of the gains we had scored.

During those days the Army had performed a highly important duty to which it was destined by history. The Army had performed a very important duty towards the homeland. That was rendered because of the attachment we have had to the soil of the homeland.

Brothers!

All of you know what the situation was before the Revolution. All of you know of the regime which we have exterminated. It was that regime which was mercilessly destroying all the sincere people who stood in its way in the course of the struggle for God, for the people and for the homeland.

A great many brothers of us had suffered from imprisonment and displacement due to their hastiness as well as to the fact that they were acting on a plan that was not thoroughly studied. They had therefore inadvertently caused harm to themselves and to others. However, that was struggle by itself. Any sort of struggle would lead to harm and injury to those who undertake it for themselves or for others, if it is not based on a well-studied plan.

The primary objectives of the Army and of the sincere people were to seize an opportunity some day with a view to delivering the people from the tyrants, saving the toil of the homeland and obliterating imperialism and its stooges. The Army had performed its duty in the July 14 Revolution and merged with the masses of the people in a spectacular patriotic movement that will be preserved in the history for remembrance. It was a move designed to achieve liberation and freedom and to crush the imperialists and the factors of imperialism.

As you know, brothers, that the Army is the only force which can be relied upon at the moments of emergency and the entire people can depend upon it. This force must necessarily, be solid. We, the officers, other ranks, N.C.Os, men and workers with the Army are bound together by the ties of brotherhood and of the Army discipline with the fighting units. We are bound together by the tie of the homeland. We always work with sincerity and straight-forwardness to which corruption and twists are alien. The units of the Army and the armed units are always working in the way of God, for the sake of the people and the public interests. They are completely alien to private interests. They have devoted their lives and their efforts to the service of the homeland.

Brothers!

The Army had been humiliated and looked down upon with contemptuousness for many years before the July 14 Revolution for the simple reason that the Army was a patriotic force which could be relied upon at the moments of hardship. For that reason they sought to humiliate that force. But that force was attached to the interest of the homeland by bonds and virtue of love to this soil and devotion in defending it. Such a bond cannot be broken. We are patriotic people, always working for the sake of the soil of the homeland. It was because of this, brothers, that they were unable to vanquish the Army. Nor could they ever be able to dispel the idea borne by the sincere people secretly or openly when they rely upon the sincerity of other brothers.

I DELIBERATELY wanted to stress this point and emphasize this aspect. The Army is the base on which the people depend. The people always think of depending on the Army. The Army must therefore remain a united force incapable of being disunited. It must remain a united force dealing blow to the foe and watching readily the

greedy people and keeping an eye over those who seek to split up the ranks as well as those who contemplate trespassing on our frontiers. I know full well—I am confident of this—I know full well the extent of the attachment, brotherhood and love which each of you harbours towards me in particular..

Brothers!

I am confident of this and I am sure of it. This is so, because I have worked for you, for the Army in particular; and for the people even more, and for the homeland as well.

Brothers! All praise is due to God! We have been able to restore the good name of the Army, the good name which was spoiled in the past due to the misconduct of certain people who were imposed on the Army and who had betrayed this homeland. We have now regained that good name which always lurk in our minds for the sake of the Army.

The Army has now regained its distinguished standing which is a bright one. All praise is due to God! The Army now enjoys a good name and has up to this moment performed its duty. I wanted to make a special mention of this, because there are other duties yet to be performed by the Army at moments of hardships and difficulties. We must preserve this bright name of the Army and must build it up to become even brighter and of higher standing.

Brothers! All of you know that we had struggled for freedom and liberty as well as for elevating the standard of the Army and for crushing imperialism and delivering the people from the corrupt factions which were manipulating the destinies of the people.

UNDoubtedly, brothers, I carry a good idea about every person and every Army officer or other ranks, even about some persons who thought they had committed an offence against me or against one another. These are passing things which are forgiven by time. You must be sure, brothers, that I have a good idea about each of you and that I also endeavour to enhance the standing of the Army and its prestige.

I always endeavour to improve its standing to equip and arm it, so that it can become a formidable force defending both the people at times of emergencies and their freedom. I say this, because there are other duties awaiting the Army. These might be big and enormous or they might be easy, but we must be prepared and ready for the decisive opportunities

Everyone knows that I had struggled for freedom, for the Army and for the people. Along with you, we are proceeding in the light of freedom. We, you, and other armed forces in the Iraqi Republic will always be the support of this people and we will always defend their rights and cement the structure of the Immortal Iraqi Republic.

With patience and perseverance we defend the freedom of the people and the freedom of our brothers in the neighbouring countries. Freedom shall spread from your country to the neighbouring countries for the benefit of your brothers.

Brothers!

Undoubtedly, civilisation had, in the past, spread from your country to the neighbouring countries and to the rest of the world. Again the vanguards will proceed. History repeats itself in a worthier manner. Everyone knows that I, who come from you, am absolutely unlinked to any party. The soil of the homeland binds me to the sacred duties which always guide me and steer me to defend the homeland.

BROTHERS! We are associated with the party of right and justice. What we aim at is to ensure the spreading of truth and justice among the peoples and providing them with comfort and security and removing from them all factors of fear. These are the objectives of the Revolution which we have undertaken along with you. At that time the Army did not belong to any specific party. The Army only belonged to the party of right. It belonged to this soil. It carried the true patriotic spirit which had continuously prompted it to drive forward and engaged it to struggle for the people and for the defence of the country and its integrity.

Our brothers who belonged to various parties were displaced, hurried into prisons and scattered to all corners of the world. Every sincere patriot struggling for the country always met with displacement. At that time the Army did not belong to any specific party in the same way as it does not at present. At that time, the Army which was repeatedly and deliberately humiliated did not belong to any specific party. It only belonged to the party of right and justice as well as the true patriotic spirit which always prompts it to work sincerely for you.

It was the sincerity of that Army, your sincerity—brothers—and the sincerity of the N.C.Os and men and other ranks and their devotion to the service of the homeland which moved them to come forward to defend the rights of the homeland and the rights of this soil. They never had any objectives or trends or leanings, because these always create disunity among the people. Once they get into the Army they will create splits among the ranks of the people in an indirect manner, because they make the Army incapable of undertaking the duty shouldered by it or thrown on its shoulder at the moment of need.

Brother Officers, I, being one of you, state publicly before you that I carry no principle of any specific nature, but I proceed in the light of freedom.

Brothers!

We give a helping hand to every group working for liberation. We always work to obliterate reaction. This goes without saying that the march of time proceeds forward and the clock can never be put back. If the Army is to undertake the duties entrusted to it must remain united and free from disunity. There should be no disunity or discrimination between the members of the Army. All of them have devoted their lives to the service of the homeland. They belong to no party but to the party of right and justice.

Brothers!

We are not against parties nor are we against the loyal groups, we are always with them, helping them across the ocean of this life. We do not like that the trends and leanings of these parties should get into the ranks of the Army under any circumstances. The reason for this, brothers, is to preserve the unity of the Army and make it always ready to serve the people and the freedom of the people. We are determined to serve all the people. We never proceed with nepotism nor party affiliations. These are narrow and limited in scope, while true service covers a much wider scope. This wide scope is the one which protects all the people.

At the present time, brothers, we look like a ship sailing in a very rough sea. We have to steer this ship. We will not allow any passenger to jump over and cause harm to the others. We will do so until we ensure the arrival of the ship to the shore of safety. It will then be possible for all to go about in the land of freedom.

Brothers!

We, the Army men, have gone ahead of others in doing good to the homeland. We are not entitled to special credit for this. We are of the people and we have duties to perform. We have the force in our hands to act. If we had failed to act, we would be cursed by the history. We had therefore undertaken that formidable action and your immortal 'Iraqi Republic has come into being.

WE are bound to defend her structure and the gains of our Revolution. We have scored many gains this year. The first one was the wiping out of imperialism. Other gains include the crushing of the lackeys of imperialism. All of you know who the stooges of imperialism are. Did any of us, brothers, dream that the foreigners would be made to leave this country? Who among us ever dream that imperialism would be removed from this country? This dream, you have made a reality. We must preserve the gains of such a dream.

We have destroyed the monarchic system and we have destroyed imperialism and its camp followers. The Baghdad Pact has been destroyed. We have regained Habbaniyah, Shuaiba and other bases in the homeland. We have been able to get heavy factories which are now on their way successively to the homeland respectively. We have bought these with the riches we possess. We do not stand in need of the aid which we needed in the past. Those were counted to us as aids but the price for them was humiliation and enslavement. The country is rich. The wealth is abundant and so are the efforts of the sincere people and the resources of the country.

We are capable of financing the construction and development of this country from its riches. We have therefore got rid of anything described as "aids." The unequal treaties have gone. We have done away with them. The unequal agreements which were concluded with the American state have gone in no time, as you know. By the end of this month, we shall leave the Sterling Area. We have acquired assets ensuring re-inforcement of our currency. During this month or perhaps by the end of July sets in, we will score another great gain.

Brothers,

These gains will never finish as long as the immortal Iraqi Republic remains free and independent and enjoys its absolute sovereignty. She continues to snatch her rights day after day. Formerly, we possessed nothing but struggled to restore our rights and the wealth of the people. That was the only thing we possessed along with determination and faith to snatch the rights which are ours. We also possessed your efforts and your sincerity in the way of God, in the way of people, in the way of freedom and defending the structure of this Republic.

BROTHERS! Although I give advice to you, yet I am only a brother of yours. God knows what good feelings and cordiality I have for you and what intentions I have got to bring the position to this Army which it deserves and which I heartily wish to attain for it. The Army will get to the position it deserves although the present position of the Army is also one that commands the respect of other countries situated both in our neighbourhood and far away.

Brothers!

I have never belonged to any particular party. Throughout all this life, I have struggled with sincere people, you being among them. I advise you not to permit any specific party to get into the ranks of the Army. We serve the interests of parties on the condition that they remain outside the Army. The Army is all devoted to serve the whole of the people. The Army can ill afford to become disunited. If once we permit one specific party to get into the ranks of the Army, then it is only fair that other parties should be allowed, too. But this will scatter us into groups and factions and our strength will become worthless.

Brothers!

By this we aim at uniting the ranks of the people and serving all the parties who are working outside the Army as well as all those sincere groups that are working to reinforce and strength the preservation of the Immortal Iraqi Republic. The thing I want from you, brothers, is to become attached to one another in the service of the homeland and to work always for the sake of the freedom of the people. The Almighty is with the sincere group that works for rights and justice and that does not run after leanings or parties to be inside the Army.

BROTHERS; If any one in the neighbouring countries boasts of freedom, we come at the top of this. We, the Army men, do merge with the people in defending its structure, its freedom and its independence. The Army has made supreme sacrifices in the service of the people. We, inside the Army, do wish to become a united force in the service of freedom and in the service of the sincere groups as well as in the service of this people which had in the past suffered bitterly from suppression, oppression, displacement and tyranny.

Today we are liberated. We must know how to preserve this freedom. We are determined to preserve it. You will soon rejoice at the gains

that we are scoring. I have made you accustomed never to reveal secrets. The secret which I am withholding from you is meant to surprise the foreigners and imperialism and it is not meant to be withheld from you.

No matter what toils I undertake, I always find myself enjoying a tremendous strength the very following morning. Any of you who happened to be with me at any exercises or in the battle fields knows what sort of life I was leading. I have not changed by a hairsbreadth. God knows that along with the tasks we face, I long for that life and wish to be always among the people.

All of you and all people who worked with me in the past from among the loyal people can recall my pattern of life in the battlefield or at the time of exercises. By my nature, I was always happy. I have kept it that way. I always endeavour for the sake of the men, N.C.Os and officers and for raising the standing of the Army. You certainly have that feeling and you appreciate the extent of the struggle which we undertake for this purpose. All praise is due to God, we have been able to score gains reinforcing the strength of the Army. The Army will be reinforced with additional strength and arms. It will be reinforced by the efforts of the sincere people. All of you are sincere to this homeland.

BROTHERS! As from this moment, you are tied together with the comradeship of blood. None can ever create disunity among you. Along with you, we will work for the Army and for the people. We give our lives for the people. Brothers! We give our lives for this people. We will preserve its structure, its freedom and its independence.

No longer will any member of the people be displaced for his patriotism and sincerity, as has been the case in the past. To bring to an account for will be based on factual incidents outside the Army and, of course, inside the Army too. All are brothers that cannot be disunited. What I mean is that the bringing to an account for outside the Army should only be based on specific incidents and acts and not merely on account of leanings, party or colour.

We refuse to be bothered by this. All peoples are free in their conducts. All are free as long as they have goodwill towards the Immortal Iraqi Republic. They behave in the same way as they are pleased within the limits of the discipline and law. We give a helping hand to all groups sincere to the people and the homeland. Accountability should only be made on the basis of specific things which aim at infringing the structure of the Iraqi Republic or adversely affecting her security.

WE are the party of right, justice and equality. This is the Army which has devoted its life for serving the people and the homeland. We are the party of right and justice. We will serve the people in its entirety and preserve its freedom and overcome imperialism. It was the only fact that prompted me to address you today. This is a happy and nice occasion to meet you on such a blessed day when a new era is dawning on us. We will always work for the sake of right, justice and impartiality. We serve the interests of the Immortal Iraqi Republic and defend her structure. We work to deal a blow to imperialism and acquire

more freedom. We will not only be in the forefront but on the very top of that.

We will proceed with the liberated world as friends. We will know nothing other than that. A friend is different from the agent and the stooge. We propose not to become a stooge of any power.

Brothers!

We do not wish to become subordinate to any power. We will be friends with the powers of the world. We will be sincere friends to the powers that are sincere in their intentions and their friendship to us.

Brother officers! Brother Army men!

You must be sure that all powers, big and small, do respect friendly countries but not agent countries. Small in size and in population, we have carried out a formidable accomplishment for the sake of the homeland, having acquired the respect of the friendly powers. Friendly powers, no doubt, respect us and wish to preserve this friendship. This, however, depends on what strength we maintain and on the unity of our ranks as well as the extent of our sincerity to this people and to this homeland.

THE people always depend on you, and I keep on saying this. The Army depends on your strength. I hope you will devote your time to more training, lectures, exercises and full military culture. This culture along with this training and the use of arms and territory, represent the factors which differentiate us from the weak people.

Brothers!

I would have liked to stay longer with you. You must be sure that I wanted to stay longer with you. But there are other people awaiting us elsewhere. I bid you farewell and I wish you prosperity. We will live up to this pledge. We will preserve the structure of our Republic and we will teach our soldiers what this Revolution is. This is the glorious July 14 Revolution. We will teach them what its objectives are and how it was the dividing line between humiliation and enslavement on the one hand and freedom, liberation and sovereignty on the other. I thank you very much for this gathering. I will always remember this good opportunity. We will avail ourselves of others. I thank you very much in your units and areas. I will not fail to take one of you with me to visit Al Mansur. It was the camp which was nobody's choice but which has now, I think, become one of the good camps. I thank you, brothers, and wish you prosperity and success. I wish you always faith and determination and the more you acquire strength the more you will have faith in redeeming your rights and in serving the people.

