

*Thursday, August 31  
State Dept., Washington D.C.*  
TOAST - SHAH OF IRAN - LUNCHEON

Your Imperial Majesty; Distinguished Guests:

Today we have many reasons for being grateful to His Imperial Majesty. He has come to Washington and has joined in

exhaustive discussions. He has been a most charming and kindly guest in our city. He has come to this country to inform us of good things: The progress his country is making in shaping our twentieth century to

the needs of men and women. He has widened our understanding and contributed to our knowledge.

But there is reason for a more personal and particular kind of gratitude:

He allows us an occasion for being together and considering together some of the ties that bind men to men, across distances and differences of language and heritage.

Besides His Majesty and the

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distinguished Iranians who have traveled with him to Washington, there are in this room Americans from many parts of our own country. Educators and scientists are here; legislators and members of our press community;

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businessmen, labor leaders and government officials. Together we represent many thoughts and many paths that life can follow, just as together we represent a variety of beginnings that draw from many of the threads that

(7)

make up America's fabric.

Our Imperial guest and the members of his party have come to the United States from a great distance. But is Iran really so far removed?

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It is a vast land. Plains and deserts march away from mountain ranges, and fast growing cities and prosperous towns mark the landscape. There are rivers and heavy forests, marshes and tropical lowlands.

(9)

Industries rise and oil fields produce great wealth. Now in summer the great tracts of farmland are being harvested or still lie ripening in an August sun that promises abundance through the snowbound months ahead.

(10)

The country I am describing is Iran . . .  
But how like our own!  
    Geography though is only one thing.  
People are another. I have said and I believe that "People -- human beings --

(11)

this is the issue of the twentieth century."  
The Iranians are a people aware of their destiny, working under farsighted and courageous leadership to recognize and resolve those human issues which seem so

(12)

complicated in our century of change and speed. Iran is a society working to become one in which justice derives from the inclusion of every person in its workings.

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No country has elevated or so passionately, and sometimes mystically, sung the deep song of brotherhood as has Iran. Indeed, no city in the world has erected so many statues of great poets who have lifted the spirits of

(14)

mankind as has Teheran.

In thinking of you and your country, we remember the song of John ~~Burns~~ <sup>Dunn</sup> - "Ask not for whom the bell tolls -- it tolls for thee."

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In thinking of our friendship we acknowledge the great 13th century poet, Rumi (Room - ié), who wrote "What wounds my brother, wounds me."

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It is in that spirit, your majesty, that we proclaim our brotherhood and ask that God speed your journey and make it safe.

Gentlemen, I ask you to join me in a toast to His Imperial Majesty, ~~Shahin Shah~~ <sup>the Shah of Iran.</sup>

lead to  
Shirley McAllendon  
8/24 - 4:30 pm

SUGGESTED TOAST FOR THE VICE PRESIDENT  
AT HIS LUNCHEON FOR THE SHAH OF IRAN  
August 24, 1967

Your Imperial Majesty; Distinguished Guests:

Today we have many reasons for being grateful to His Imperial Majesty. He has come to Washington and has ~~given us wise counsel~~ *gained in exhaustive discussions*. He has been a most charming and kindly guest in our city. He has come to this country to inform us of good things: The progress his country is making in shaping our twentieth century to the needs of men and women. He has widened our understanding and contributed to our knowledge.

But there is reason for a more personal and particular kind of gratitude: He allows us an occasion for being together and considering together some of the ties that bind men to men, across distances and differences of language and heritage.

Besides His Majesty and the distinguished Iranians who have traveled with him to Washington, there are in this room Americans from many parts of our own country. Educators and scientists are here; legislators and members of our press community; businessmen, labor

leaders and government officials. Together we represent many thoughts and many paths that life can follow, just as together we represent a variety of beginnings that draw from many of the threads that make up America's fabric.

Our Imperial guest and the members of his party have come to the United States from a great distance. But is Iran really so far removed?

It is a vast land. Plains and deserts march away from mountain ranges, and fast growing cities and prosperous towns mark the landscape. There are rivers and heavy forests, marshes and tropical lowlands. Industries rise and oil fields produce great wealth. Now in summer the great tracts of farmland are being harvested or still lie ripening in an August sun that promises abundance through the snowbound months ahead. The country I am describing is Iran...But how like our own!

Geography though is only one thing. People are another. I <sup>have</sup> said <sup>said</sup> *I believe* in a speech many years ago that "People--human beings--this is the issue of the twentieth century." The Iranians are a people aware of their destiny, working under farsighted and courageous leadership to

recognize and resolve those human issues which seem so complicated in our century of change and speed. Iran is a society working to become one in which justice derives from the inclusion of every person in its

workings. It is a people whose unique place in history portends a unique role in the future, guided by a man whose own destiny has for many years been bound to the needs of the people of his nation. This is Iran--far perhaps in terms of mere distance, but so close in other ways.

I ask all of you to join me in a toast to a ~~great~~ world leader, the distinguished head of the Iranian nation, ~~our understanding and~~ ~~certain friend~~: His Imperial Majesty, the Shahanshah of Iran.

NO COUNTRY HAS ELEVATED OR SO PASSIONATELY, AND  
 SOMETIMES MYSTICALLY, SUNG THE DEEP SONG OF BROTHERHOOD  
 AS HAS IRAN. INDEED, NO CITY IN THE WORLD HAS ERECTED SO  
 MANY STATUES OF GREAT POETS WHO HAVE LIFTED THE SPIRITS  
 OF MANKIND AS HAS TEHERAN.

IRAN, AND PERSIA, HAS EXTOLLED THE BEST OF MANKIND

THE SAME RICH SPIRITUAL AND MATERIAL LIFE FOR OUR PEOPLES.

TOGETHER WE <sup>ARE</sup> DETERMINED - BY OUR MUTUALITY OF  
 SPIRIT - TO SHOW THE WORLD HOW BROTHERS SHOULD LIVE.

IN THINKING OF YOU AND YOUR COUNTRY, WE REMEMBER THE  
 SONG OF JOHN DONNE - "ASK NOT FOR WHOM THE BELL TOLLS -  
 IT TOLLS FOR THEE."

Keep

IN THINKING OF OUR **FRIENDSHIP** WE ACKNOWLEDGE THE  
 GREAT ~~THE~~ THE 13TH CENTURY POETS, RUMI (ROOM - IE),  
 WHO WROTE "WHAT WOUNDS MY BROTHER, WOUNDS ME."

IT IS IN THAT SPIRIT, YOUR MAJESTY, THAT WE PROCLAIM  
 OUR BROTHERHOOD AND ASK THAT GOD SPEED YOUR JOURNEY  
 AND MAKE IT SAFE.

*I ask you to join me in a toast*  
 GENTLEMEN, ~~LET US RAISE OUR GLASSES TO HIS~~  
 IMPERIAL MAJESTY, SHAHIN SHAH.



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