

JAMAICA INDEPENDENCE CELEBRATIONS

STATE OPENING OF PARLIAMENT

Pursuant to an agreement between both Political Parties of this Honourable House following the Referendum and the peoples' decision to seek Independence as a unitary state, it has been the established policy of Government and the Opposition to collaborate to the fullest extent on all matters in respect of which the interest of the nation as a whole is paramount.

2. Accordingly, agreement has already been reached on a number of issues of national significance. Not the least among these are the arrangements now in train to mark the constitutional achievement of sovereignty at the appointed time and Members are continually being informed of various aspects of the work of a dedicated group of citizens who are planning the detailed programme of celebratory and commemorative events scheduled to commence with the arrival of Her Royal Highness the Princess Margaret and the Earl of Snowdon on August 3rd and concluding with a gigantic National Float Parade on August 11th.

3. From a constitutional standpoint the most memorable and historic event will be the opening of the first Parliament of an independent Jamaica on Tuesday, 7th August, 1962 by The Princess Margaret, representing Her Majesty the Queen. This is a ceremony in which Members of both Houses of the Legislature will be very closely associated and as Leader of the House of Representatives I have considered it prudent and appropriate that everyone directly concerned should be fully informed of all that is proposed in this connection to the end that their blessing and support will be assured.

4. It was not possible prior to this to announce the form and scope of this particular ceremony as the details tentatively agreed upon at the local level in consultation with Major Legh, Private Secretary to Her Royal Highness, who paid a short visit to Jamaica for the purpose, were subject to final approval by Her Royal Highness the Princess Margaret herself.

I am now in the happy position to announce that Her Royal Highness has now been gracious enough to approve all the preliminary

/ arrangements ...

2.

arrangements submitted for her favourable consideration among which were plans for the State Opening of Parliament, the details of which are set out in the accompanying Annex.

A N N E X

5. Members of this Honourable House are accordingly requested to note the arrangements which are recommended by the Independence Celebrations Committee and to convey approval thereof.

D.B. SANGSTER
Minister of Finance
and
Leader of the House.

STATE OPENING OF PARLIAMENT

A N N E X

TUESDAY, 7TH AUGUST, 1962.

- 9.10 a.m. All Distinguished Guests are seated.
- 9.15 a.m. The President and Members of the Senate enter the Chamber in procession preceded by the Sergeant-At-Arms. They take their places.
- 9.20 a.m. The Members of the House led by the Speaker, the Clerk, Deputy Clerk and Clerk-Assistant, and preceded by the Sergeant-At-Arms enter the Chamber and take their places.
- 9.23 a.m. The Proclamation summoning Parliament is read by the Clerk.
- 9.25 a.m. Prayers are read by the Lord Bishop of Jamaica.
- 9.17 a.m. Their Excellencies the Governor-General and Lady Blackburne, attended by the Lady-in-Waiting and the A.D.C., leave King's House for Gordon House via Lady Musgrave Road, Old Hope Road, Tom Redcam Avenue, Caledonia Avenue, Marescaux Road, East Race Course, South Race Course and Duke Street, preceded by a Motor Cycle Escort of the Jamaica Constabulary Force.
- 9.27 a.m. Their Excellencies arrive at Gordon House where they are received by the Deputy Clerk of the Legislature. The Governor-General will be received with a Royal Salute and the Band will play the first verse of the Jamaica National Anthem.
(The Guard will not be inspected).
- 9.20 a.m. Her Royal Highness and the Earl of Snowdon leave King's House for Gordon House via Lady Musgrave Road, Old Hope Road, Tom Redcam Avenue, Caledonia Avenue, Marescaux Road, East Race Course, South Race Course and Duke Street.

2.

Order of Cars:-

1st Car - Police: The Commissioner of Police
and Chief Inspector Crocker.

2nd Car - Her Royal Highness.
The Earl of Snowdon.
The Jamaica Equerry.

3rd Car - The Private Secretary.
The Lady-in-Waiting.
The Equerry.

4th Car - Spare.

5th Car - Police.

At the Northern end of Duke Street the Mounted Escort of the Jamaican Constabulary Force will take over Escort duties.

9.30 a.m. Her Royal Highness arrives at Gordon House and is received by the Governor-General.

The Royal Standard is broken.

Her Royal Highness receives a Royal Salute and the Band will play the first verse of the British National Anthem.

9.31 a.m. The Governor-General conducts Her Royal Highness to the Vestibule.

The President and the Speaker move to the Bar of the House.

In the Chamber all stand.

9.34 a.m. The Procession will be formed outside the Chamber in the following order:-

The Sergeant-At-Arms.
Her Royal Highness.

The Earl of Snowdon.

The Governor-General.	Lady Blackburne.
The Private Secretary.	The Lady-in-Waiting to Her Royal Highness.
The Jamaican Equerry.	The Lady-in-Waiting to Her Excellency.
The Deputy Clerk.	The Equerry.

The A.D.C..

9.35 a.m. The Jamaican Equerry will give three knocks on the door of the Chamber. As the doors open Her Royal Highness's Procession moves into

3.

the Chamber.

A fanfare will be sounded.

The President and the Speaker receive Her Royal Highness at the Bar of the House with a bow.

Her Royal Highness moves forward up the floor of the House preceded by the Sergeant-At-Arms, the President and the Speaker.

The President and the Speaker will proceed to their places passing left and right of the Table respectively.

Her Royal Highness moving to the left of the Table, ascends the dais, turns and faces the House.

The Governor-General, the Private Secretary, the Jamaican Equerry and the A. D. C. move to the left; the Earl of Snowdon, Lady Blackburne, the Ladies-in-Waiting and the Equerry move to the right of the Table and take their places on the dais.

Her Royal Highness bows to the right side of the House and then to the left.

Her Royal Highness takes her seat on the Throne and says:

"Pray be seated".

9.37 a.m. The Clerk rises, half turns and bows to Her Royal Highness.

The Clerk reads the Letters Patent under the Royal Sign Manual and Signet empowering Her Royal Highness to open the First Parliament of Jamaica.

9.39 a.m. The Prime Minister advances to the dais, mounts the steps, bows and hands the Speech from the Throne to Her Royal Highness and

4.

returns to his place.

Her Royal Highness, seated, reads the Speech.

At the conclusion of the Speech, the Prime Minister rises, proceeds to the dais, bows and receives the Speech from Her Royal Highness.

The Prime Minister places the Speech on the Table and resumes his place. Simultaneously the Private Secretary hands to Her Royal Highness a Personal Message from Her Majesty The Queen.

When the Prime Minister has resumed his place, Her Royal Highness rises and, all standing, reads the Personal Message from Her Majesty.

Her Royal Highness resumes her seat.

All sit.

Her Royal Highness declares her intention to present the Constitutional Instruments to the Prime Minister.

The Prime Minister moves forward to receive the Instruments as the Private Secretary hands them to Her Royal Highness.

The Prime Minister lays the Constitutional Instruments on the Table and resumes his place.

9.49 a.m. The Prime Minister rises in his place and moves an Address of Thanks, and then resumes his seat.

9.53 a.m. The Leader of the Opposition rises in his place and seconds the Address of Thanks, and then resumes his seat.

9.57 a.m. Her Royal Highness rises and bows to the right side of the House and then to the left.

All stand.

The Sergeant-At-Arms moves forward and bows to Her Royal Highness.

The President and the Speaker half turn, bow to Her Royal Highness and leave their places to

lead the Royal Procession in the following order :-

Sergeant-At-Arms	
The President	The Speaker
Her Royal Highness	
The Earl of Snowdon	
Lady Blackburne	The Governor-General
The Lady-in-Waiting to	The Private Secretary
Her Royal Highness	
The Lady-in-Waiting to	The Jamaican Equerry
Her Excellency	
The Equerry	The A.D.C.

The Procession divides to pass the Table:

The President, Her Royal Highness, the Earl of Snowdon, Lady Blackburne, the Ladies-in-Waiting and the Equerry to the left of the Table, the Speaker, the Governor-General, the Private Secretary, the Jamaican Equerry and the A.D.C. to the right of the Table.

The President and the Speaker conduct the Procession to the Bar of the House, where they stand aside and bow as Her Royal Highness passes. The Sergeant-At-Arms will open the doors of the Chamber and precede Her Royal Highness to the Vestibule.

10.00 a.m. The Governor-General will conduct Her Royal Highness to the Forecourt where Her Royal Highness enters her car and the Royal Procession drives to King's House via Sutton Street, East Street, East Race Course in the following order of cars :-

1st car	-	Police: The Commissioner of Police and Chief Inspector Crocker
2nd car	-	Her Royal Highness The Governor-General The Jamaican Equerry
3rd car	-	Lady Blackburne The Earl of Snowdon The Equerry
4th car	-	The Private Secretary The Ladies-in-Waiting
5th car	-	The A.D.C.
6th car	-	Police.

6.

As the Royal Procession leaves Gordon House the Guard of Honour will give a Royal Salute and the Band will play the first verse of the British National Anthem.

The Royal Standard will be lowered.

In the Chamber the President resumes his place and all remain standing.

The Speaker returns to the body of the House. The Speaker's Procession leads the Members of the House from the Chamber.

The President leads the Members of the Senate from the Chamber.

Distinguished Guests and strangers depart.

10.12 p.m. The Royal Party arrive at King's House.