

Reference code: GB165-0042

Title: Sir Reader Bullard Collection

Name of creator: Bullard, Sir Reader William (1885-1976) Knight Diplomat

Dates of creation of material: 1923-45; 1950s

Level of description: Fonds

Extent: 3 boxes

Biographical history: BULLARD, Sir Reader William (1885-1976).

Born, 5 December 1885, son of Charles and Mary Bullard. Entered Levant Consular Service 1906. Military Governor, Baghdad, 1920; ME Dept, Colonial Office, 1921; Consul, Jeddah, 1923-25; Consul, Athens, 1925-28; Consul, Addis Ababa, 1928; Consul-General, Moscow, 1930, Leningrad, 1931-34, Rabat, 1934; Minister, Jeddah, 1936-39; Minister (later Ambassador), Tehran, 1939-46. Retired, 1946. Married, 1921, Miriam Smith: 4 sons; 1 daughter. Died 24 May 1976.

Scope and content: Circular letters to his family 1923-25; 1934-45; material for his memoirs *The Camels Must Go* and other writings; account of recruitment to Levant Consular Service.

System of arrangement: Circular letters; material for memoirs; other notes/writings

Access conditions: Open

Language of material: English

Conditions governing reproduction: No restrictions on copying or quotation other than statutory regulations and preservation concerns

Custodial history In Sir Reader Bullard's possession. File 1/4 was given to the Russian and Eurasian Studies Centre by the Bullard family in 2001 along with Sir Reader Bullard's Russian diaries and with permission of the Bullard family given to the Middle East Centre Archive in September 2003.

Immediate source of acquisition: Levant Consular Service note c.1968 from RWB, remainder of material probably from Edward Hodgkin after publication of Hijaz and Tehren letters. On indefinite loan from the Bullard family. File 1/4 received 19 September

2003 and the circular from Athens dated 2 March 1927 received on 29 September from Russian and Eurasian Studies Centre, St Antony's College, Oxford and this is held under the same conditions as the rest of the Bullard papers. Status of collection changed from a loan to a gift on 17 May 2007.

Related Units of Description: Sir Reader Bullard's Russian papers are in the library of the Russian and Eurasian Studies Centre, St Antony's College, Oxford. There are six Russian diaries covering 1930-1934; circulars 1930-1933, notes on books, correspondence and some press clippings .

Finding aids: In Guide; Handlist

Publication note: See *The Camels Must Go; Two Kings in Arabia; Letters from Tehran*.

Archivist's note: Fonds level description created by C. Brown 16 June 1998; revised by C. Brown 16 April 1999 and revised by D. Usher 19 September 2003. File level description created by C. Brown 26 June 1997 and revised by D. Usher 19 September 2003 and 22 May 2007.

FILE LEVEL DESCRIPTION OF THE SIR READER BULLARD COLLECTION

Box 1 Circular letters to his family

1/1	Jedda	4 May 1923 – 14 Sept 1924	50 folios
1/2	Jedda	9 Sept 1924 – 1 July 1925	40 folios
1/3	Rabat	13 July 1934 – 31 May 1936	178 folios
1/4	Rabat (duplicate of part of 1/3)	13 July 1934 – 15 March 1936	139 folios

Box 2 Circular letters to his family

2/1	Jedda	15 Sept 1936 – 26 Sept 1939	182 folios
2/2	Tehran	22 Dec 1939 – 13 May 1945	118 folios

An edited version of the Jedda circulars was published as *Two Kings in Arabia*, 1993, and an edited version of the Tehran circulars was published as *Letters from Tehran*, 1991.

Box 3 Material for memoirs *The Camels Must Go*

3/1	Personal, family and education: including 2 photographs, press cuttings relating to his C.I.E and his wedding, notes on the English educational system, a letter to A.P. Herbert on English grammar and one to <i>The Times</i> , and a letter from F.M. Powicke about Benjamin Jowett and Thomas Hardy.	1916-1959	37 folios
3/2	Constantinople: including draft passages and a cutting of an article in <i>The Times</i> by RWB on The Young Turk Revolution.	29 Dec 1958; not dated; 1958	4 folios
3/3	Iraq: including draft memoirs with lengthy quotations from RWB's letters to his mother, official documents relating to the civil administration of Mesopotamia, letters from Dorothy Van Ess with material on the American Mission Schools in Basra, and a typescript of RWB's article on Sir Hubert Young for <i>The Dictionary of National Biography</i> .	1914; 1919; 1959	98 folios
3/4	Hejaz: including extracts from circulars letters, notes, a	1923; 1948;	24 folios

- letter about the descendents of King Ali of the Hejaz, and 1959
African Slave Traffic and West Indian Emancipation, A Colonial Administrator Looks Back, an address by Sir Gordon Letham to the Anti-Slavery Society, 1 May 1948.
- 3/5 Greece and Morocco: including a circular for Athens 2 not dated; 10 folios
March 1927, notes, draft memoirs, and invitations to the 1927, 1954
wedding of Philippe Marchat and Nicole Duval in Rabat, 1954
- 3/6 Saudi Arabia: including typescript copy of letter (19 Jan not dated; 14 folios
1938) from RWB to the Foreign Office about Lord 1938; 1959
Belhaven's visit to Abdul Aziz Ibn Saud, letter from a member of the Foreign Office Research Department (5 Oct 1959) about RWB's draft chapter on Saudi Arabia, notes.
- 3/7 Persia: including a letter to Mildred Darwin, an extract 1938; 1941; 74 folios
from a letter to RWB from – Finch, British Consul at 1952; 1955;
Mosul, letters from Richard Thistlethwaite, Alan Roger, 1959
Edward Spencer, A.C. Trott, W.A.K. Fraser, A.K.S. (Nancy) Lambton, G.E. Wheeler and E.J. Passant all concerned with events in Iran during the 1940s, other research notes.

Other writings or research material by or for RWB

Iran

- 3/8 Correspondence of RWB, H. Ghods – Nakhai (Iranian 1961 13 folios
Ambassador in Britain), General Hassan Arfa (Iranian Ambassador in Turkey) and Elizabeth Monroe published in *The Times* concerning the memoirs of Mohammed Reza Shah, *Mission for My Country*, and two letters from Nancy Lambton to RWB on the same subject.
- 3/9 Address by RWB "Persia in the Two World Wars" given 1962; 1965 57 folios; 1
to the Royal Central Asian Society (25 September 1962) item
and notes by RWB for a lecture (16 February 1965) on Reza Shah at the Middle East Centre, St. Antony's

College, Oxford, with comments and further material from Percy Loraine, Nancy Lambton, W.A.K. Fraser, G.D. Pybus, Noel Cumberbatch, G.E. Wheeler and C.J. Edmonds

- | | | | |
|------|---|---------------------------------------|-----------|
| 3/10 | Paper by Mrs. R.L. Greaves on the 1907 Anglo-Russian Convention on Persia, with associated notes and correspondence with K.M. Thomas (Foreign Office Library), Mrs Greaves, Nancy Lambton, and – Vyvyan. | 1965-1966;
1971; 1974 | 36 folios |
| 3/11 | Notes by RWB about the “Tehran Plot” (to kill Churchill or Roosevelt in 1943, and supposedly discovered by Soviet Intelligence) and correspondence with Ronald Seth, E.H. Cookridge, Ladislas Farago, Edward Spencer, John Gardener and Stanley Jarvis; photocopies of German documents, 1941-1942, relating to Persia. | 1941-1942;
1965-1966;
1968-1969 | 77 folios |
| 3/12 | Notes by RWB on General Hassan Arfa’s <i>The Kurds</i> ; correspondence with the author, the Oxford University Press, and others, concerning corrections to a second edition. | 1967 | 16 folios |

Levant Consular Service

- | | | | |
|------|--|-----------|----------|
| 3/13 | Note by RWB on the Levant Consular Service | not dated | 4 folios |
|------|--|-----------|----------|