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COMMITTEE OF POLITICAL ADVISERS

CULTURAL AGREEMENTS BETWEEN COMMUNIST COUNTRIES
AND IRAQ

Note by the Chairman

Attached are the texts of cultural agreements which the Iraqi Government recently signed with the Soviet Union, Poland, Bulgaria, Hungary and Yugoslavia, as well as the summary of the contents of a cultural agreement between Iraq and Czechoslovakia. The agreement with Yugoslavia was concluded in Belgrade on 23rd March, 1959. All the other agreements were signed in April and early May. The texts show clearly the great interest which the Soviet bloc attaches to ideological penetration of Iraq, and the interest which Iraq seems to have in closer ties with the East bloc. The danger of Communist penetration of the Iraqi intelligentsia, even if the ambitious programmes outlined in these agreements are not fully realised, is apparent.

2. The fact that Yugoslavia was the first Communist country to sign a cultural agreement with Iraq may have been an additional incentive for the Soviet bloc.

3. The text of the Soviet/Iraqi Agreement was provided by the United Kingdom Delegation; the other texts by the Netherlands Delegation.

(Signed) EVELYN SHUCKBURGH

Palais de Chaillot,
Paris, XVIe.

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TEXT OF CULTURAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN
IRAQ AND THE U.S.S.R. SIGNED IN BAGHDAD ON 5th MAY, 1959

For the purpose of strengthening the ties of friendship and achieving mutual understanding between the peoples of the USSR and the people of the Iraqi Republic;

The Government of the USSR and the Government of the Iraqi Republic have decided to conclude a cultural agreement by which both parties will be able to promote cultural co-operation between their two countries with all means available to them on the basis of mutual respect for the sovereignty of the two countries.

To achieve this objective the two parties have agreed on the following:

Article 1 - The two contracting parties proclaim their desire to exchange students and teachers of high and secondary educational establishments and the members of the educational and health institutes for the purpose of studies, training or information.

Article 2 - Each party shall under a special agreement allocate a specific number of seats and academic scholarships in its educational establishments for the students of the other party. Each party, in accordance with its possibilities shall offer all necessary facilities for the citizens of the other party to join its educational and scientific establishments for the purpose of studies and training.

Article 3 - The two contracting parties shall endeavour to promote the activities of the scientific and cultural establishments of either party in the country of the other party in accordance with the laws valid in their countries and subject to their approval.

Article 4 - In accordance with the agreement between the two contracting parties, each of them pledges to promote cultural exchanges between their two countries through organizing musical concerts, theatrical plays, lectures as well as organizing technical, antiquity and scientific fairs, and through organising visits for cultural, athletic, student and youth delegations and through cementing ties between scientific, cultural and literary associations.

Article 5 - The two contracting parties pledge to organize mutual visits between representatives of scientific establishments as well as organise visits and friendly matches

between the athletes of their two countries.

Article 6 - In accordance with the agreement between the two contracting parties each party pledges to exchange with the other books, magazines, scientific, cultural and technical publications and to exchange photographs of monuments. The two contracting parties pledge to facilitate the organization of film festivals and the exchange of cinema and TV films of each country.

Article 7 - In accordance with the agreement between the two contracting parties each of them pledge to provide all necessary facilities for translating and publishing the scientific, technical and cultural works issued in the other's country.

Article 8 - The two contracting parties pledge to cement the ties of co-operation between their two countries in the fields of journalism, broadcasting and T.V., through sending Press delegations in addition to broadcasting and T.V. delegations to visit the other's country.

Article 9 - The two contracting parties shall in accordance with the possibilities of each of them, work for creating chairs in universities and scientific centres in their country to study the language, literature and culture of the other's country.

Article 10 - For the purpose of implementing this agreement the two contracting parties shall appoint their representatives. These representatives shall work together to lay down cultural co-operation plans for the years to come and decide how to implement them.

Article 11 - The two contracting Governments shall ratify this agreement in accordance with constitutional procedure valid in their countries. This agreement shall become valid with effect from the date of exchanging the document.

Any amendment to this agreement shall become valid from the date it is signed by the representatives of the two parties. Either party is entitled to terminate the validity of this agreement by giving a six-month written notice to the other party.

TEXT OF CULTURAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN IRAQ
AND POLAND, SIGNED IN WARSAW
ON 2nd APRIL, 1959

The Government of the Republic of Iraq and the Government of the People's Republic of Poland, desirous of strengthening the bonds of friendship between their two nations, and convinced that one of the most effective means of achieving this end is cultural co-operation, have decided to conclude the present Agreement and have to this end appointed as their plenipotentiaries the following persons: the Government of the Republic of Iraq: Sayid Taha Baqir, Director-General of Antiquities and the Government of the People's Republic of Poland: Mr. Zygmunt Garsteck, Deputy Minister of the Ministry of Culture and Fine Arts who, after having exchanged their credentials and found them in good and due form, have agreed as follows:

Article 1: the two contracting parties shall promote:

- (a) the exchange of representatives of scientific, health service, educational and cultural institutions and organizations of the two countries;
- (b) the organization of exhibitions, theatrical performances, film shows; lectures; concerts, radio broadcasts and television programmes of the respective countries;
- (c) the co-operation between scientific, health service, cultural and educational institutions and organizations of the two equivalence of the scientific research and study in respective institutes, archives; libraries and museums;
- (d) the pursuance of studies in the secondary vocational schools and at the institutes of higher learning by students of the other country;
- (e) granting of scholarships to scientific workers and providing of a definite number of seats at respective universities for students and scientific workers studying at their own expenses or at the expenses of their governments;
- (f) the teaching of the language and culture of the respective countries;
- (g) the popularisation of scientific, cultural and social achievements of the respective countries having in mind the establishment of Cultural Institutes;

(h) the exchange of books, periodicals, publications, newspapers and other materials in the field of science, education and culture;

(i) the co-operation between Press agencies and editorial boards of periodicals;

(j) the co-operation and exchange between social and youth organizations as well as organization of sport events.

Article 2: the question of the equivalence of the scientific diplomas and degrees will be the subject of precise study by both Parties. A special agreement will be put for this respect.

Article 3: an Iraqi-Polish Mixed Commission shall be appointed for the purpose of ensuring proper implementation of the provisions of the present Agreement, and for the purpose of drawing up a plan for the cultural co-operation. The Mixed Commission shall meet alternatively in Baghdad and in Warsaw whenever the necessity arises. It shall be composed of representatives of the Government in whose country the meeting is held and of representatives of the Embassy or an authorised delegation of the other contracting party.

Article 4: all financial questions resulting from the carrying out of the present Agreement shall be settled by the Contracting Parties at the time of drawing up plans for the cultural co-operation.

Article 5: the present Agreement is subject to ratification and shall come into force on the day of exchange of the instruments of ratification which will take place in Baghdad.

Article 6: the present Agreement is concluded for a period of five years from the date of its coming into force. It shall continue automatically for further five-year periods unless terminated by either Contracting Party giving six months notice before expiration on any one period.

The present Agreement was drawn up in Warsaw, on April 2nd, 1959 in triplicate, each copy in Arabic, Polish and English, whereby all texts shall be equally binding except in case of doubt, when the English text shall prevail.

In witness whereof the said Plenipotentiaries have signed the present Agreement and affixed their seals into it.

TEXT OF CULTURAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN IRAQ AND BULGARIA
SIGNED IN BAGHDAD ON 8th APRIL, 1959

In their desire to establish and extend friendly relations between the peoples of Iraq and Bulgaria and fully convinced that the best means is mutual acquaintance and the extension of direct relations in the field of science, literature, art, education, broadcasting, sports, films and other manifestations of cultural life in the two countries, the Government of the People's Republic of Bulgaria and the Government of the Republic of Iraq have decided to sign an agreement to this end and have appointed their representatives: the Government of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, Mr. Ivan Bashen, Minister of Education and Culture and the Government of the Republic of Iraq, Brigadier Muhiddin Abdul Hamid Minister of Education, who after the exchange of their credentials found to be in order and drawn up in due form, have agreed to the following:

Article 1: each of the contracting parties shall contribute to establishing relations between the scientific institutes, higher educational establishments and scientific workers for joint scientific work, exchange of opinions and ideas on research work, for studying methods of work in teaching schoolchildren, for the exchange of scientific papers, periodicals and other publications in this field.

Article 2: each contracting party shall consider the possibilities for reducing customs duties on school and laboratory equipment exported or imported by one of the countries and shall facilitate the exchange of currency to this end.

Article 3: the contracting parties shall extend technical advice and exchange information and studies, and shall give necessary facilities for translation and publication of outstanding writings issued in the other party's country and to encourage the exchange of books, magazines and publications.

Each of the contracting parties shall consider the possibilities for organizing competitions and awarding prizes to writers and translators who help inform the citizens of one country about the other in the field of culture.

Article 4: the equivalence and evaluation of certificates and degrees will be the subject of thorough periodical review by the two governments to attain sound basis in this respect.

Article 5: each contracting party shall foster and help individual or group visits of scientific workers, professors,

writers, artists actors, journalists, teachers of all grades and kinds of educational establishments, students and workers of all remaining fields of cultural activities, and shall grant them facilities for study, research work or observation, in accordance with the rules and regulations followed in the respective country, and available possibilities.

Article 6: each contracting party shall offer opportunities to students, farmers, workers, specialists and government officials from the other country for study, training, observation and specialisation in its educational establishments, farms, plants and institutes. The governments of the two countries shall grant scholarships necessary for attaining the above-mentioned purposes.

Article 7: each contracting party shall ensure that the programmes on history and geography of its respective educational institutes shall include, as far as possible, information which will give students a true idea of the other country.

Article 8: each contracting party shall include in its radio and television broadcasts a special programme with the aim of extending the knowledge of its compatriots about the conditions of life in the other country.

Article 9: each contracting party shall guarantee all possible facilities to the other country for the following: (a) in organizing theatrical performances and concerts of orchestras ensembles etc. (b) in organizing exhibitions, talks, celebrations in all fields, mentioned in the present agreement (c) in the exchange of gramophone records, tape recordings, literature and all other editions and publications concerning cultural matters (d) in promoting scientific co-operation.

Article 10: the contracting parties shall strengthen co-operation between their countries in the fields of Press, broadcasting and television, cinema, sports, books publishing, libraries and other fields.

The contracting parties shall exchange duplicated antiquities and their casted copies, and also exchange visits of archaeologists. Appointment of Press correspondents in each other's country shall be taken into consideration.

Article 11: each contracting party shall open cultural institutes on the territories of the other country in accordance with the laws settling the opening of such institutes on the territory of the other government. The name cultural institute implies educational centres, libraries, scientific institutes, students homes, and film archives.

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Article 12: the contracting parties undertake to form a special committee in their countries which comprises a member or more from the other party's country provided that it will be authorised to hold meetings and to discuss the possibility of executing this agreement and its application, and to approve the working scheme of the next year.

Article 13: the governments of the contracting parties shall ratify this agreement in accordance with their constitutional procedure.

The agreement shall come into force as from the day of exchanging the instruments of ratification in Baghdad.

Any amendment on this agreement shall come into force when it is signed by the two governments, and each party has the right to terminate the agreement provided that the other party is given a written notice six months prior to the day that party wants the agreement to expire.

In witness thereof the respective Plenipotentiaries have signed the present agreement which is written in the Arabic, Bulgarian and English languages. The three texts of the agreement shall be deemed correct. But in the case of divergence, the English text shall prevail.

Signed in Baghdad on April 8th, 1959.

TEXT OF CULTURAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN IRAQ AND HUNGARY,
SIGNED IN BUDAPEST ON 11th APRIL, 1959

The Government of the Republic of Iraq, and the Government of the Hungarian People's Republic desirous to promote mutual co-operation in the fields of education, science and willing to strengthen friendly relationship between the two countries have decided to conclude the present agreement and have accordingly appointed for this purpose the undersigned Plenipotentiaries, who, being duly authorised to that effect by their respective Governments have agreed upon the following provisions:

Article 1: the contracting parties will encourage the exchange between their respective countries of university professors and professors of other educational institutions.

Article 2: each contracting party will: (a) encourage the studies of the language, the literature and the history of the other Party's country, in its universities and other cultural institutions; (b) ensure that the syllabus of history and geography of its respective educational institutions include, as far as possible, such material as may help to give the students a clear idea of the other Party's country.

Article 3: the contracting parties shall encourage the granting of scholarships, in accordance with their capabilities, for nationals of the other party's country, for the purpose of study, to obtain the required diploma or scientific degree, research, and technical training. They shall also provide a definite number of seats at their respective universities and other institutions for students of the other Party's country who wish to study there at their own expenses or at the expenses of their respective Government.

Article 4: the contracting parties will facilitate the translation and publication of the important works issued in the party's country and will encourage the exchange of books, magazines, and other publications, antiquities, such as duplicates and casts; will encourage archaeological expeditions between the two countries and mutual visits of archaeological experts - subject to compliance with the existing statutes and regulations of the institutions concerned.

Article 5: the contracting parties may award prizes to authors and translators who contribute to enlighten the nationals of one country about the other in the scientific, cultural and artistic field.

Article 6: the contracting parties will promote: (a) the exchange of scientific exhibitions as well as documentary material; (b) the co-operation between the scientific, cultural and artistic institutes and organizations such as universities, national libraries and museums.

Article 7: the contracting parties may establish cultural centres in the other Party's country for the purpose of informing each other about the developments of their own country in the scientific and cultural fields.

Article 8: each contracting party will offer all possible facilities for the exchange of art exhibitions, films and theatrical performances, radio and television programmes and musical recitals; for this purpose special agreements will be concluded in each case between the authorities concerned in the two countries.

Article 9: in order to promote an exchange of experience on the basis of personal contacts, contracting parties will facilitate, as far as possible, mutual visits of cultural, health and other professional delegations and individuals.

Article 10: in its own country each of the Contracting Parties will encourage the dissemination of information about the other Party's country in the press, radio, television, film and through lectures.

Article 11: both contracting parties will carefully study the possibility of recognising the equivalence of scientific degrees and diplomas issued by the institutions of the other contracting party.

Article 12: the contracting parties will encourage sport competitions and the exchange of experts in the field of physical education, as well as co-operation between the youth organizations of their respective countries.

Article 13: an Iraqi-Hungarian Mixed Commission shall be appointed for the purpose of ensuring the proper implementation of the provisions of the present agreement and for the purpose of drawing up a plan for the cultural co-operation. The Mixed Commission shall meet at least once in two years alternatively in Baghdad and in Budapest whenever the necessity arises. It shall be composed of representatives of the Government in whose country the meeting is held and of representatives of the Embassy or an authorised delegation of the other contracting party.

Article 14: all financial questions resulting from the carrying out of the present agreement shall be settled by the contracting parties at the time of drawing the plans for the cultural co-operation.

Article 15: this agreement will be ratified as soon as possible and will come into force on the day of the exchange of the instruments of ratification which will take place in Baghdad. It will remain in force until six months after one of the contracting parties has notified the other, in written form, of its intention to denounce it.

In witness whereof the undersigned plenipotentiaries, being duly authorised thereto by their respective Governments, have signed the present agreement and have affixed thereto their seal.

Done in Budapest on the 11th of April, 1959, in two originals each in the Arabic, Hungarian and English languages each of which shall be of equal authenticity. The English text will prevail in case of divergent interpretation of the Arabic and Hungarian texts.

TEXT OF CULTURAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN IRAQ
AND YUGOSLAVIA, SIGNED IN BELGRADE ON 23rd MARCH, 1959

The Government of the Republic of Iraq and the Government of the Federal People's Republic of Yugoslavia, being desirous of promoting co-operation between the peoples of the two countries in the fields of education, science and culture and being convinced that such co-operation shall promote the strengthening of friendly relations between the two countries, have decided to conclude a Convention on co-operation in the fields of education, science and culture, and with this aim in mind, have agreed upon the following provisions:

Article 1: the contracting parties shall promote mutual co-operation in the fields of educational, scientific and cultural activities as well as in the fields of press and information.

Article 2: the contracting parties are in agreement to encourage and assist particularly: co-operation between universities and other research institutions, technical and cultural educational associations and organizations, the mutual exchange of information and appropriate materials relating to the developments in the fields of education, science and culture; the organization of lectures and exchange of educational, scientific and cultural workers and university professors and teachers; the exchange of scientific, technical, literary and artistic works and publications and the translation and publication of these works; the exchange of films and organization of concerts, theatrical performances art and technical exhibitions, sports and other events.

Article 3: each of the contracting parties shall afford to the scientific workers of the other contracting party facilities for scientific research and study in the institutes, archives, libraries and museums of its country and shall provide for an exchange of archaeological and museum experts and antiquities such as duplicates, casts, archaeological publications and archaeological expeditions for excavation, subject to compliance with the existing regulations and status of the institutions concerned.

Article 4: the contracting parties shall encourage the granting of scholarships and other forms of material aid to students, technical and scientific workers and artists of the other contracting party for purposes of study specialisation and scientific research. The contracting parties shall also provide for a definite number of seats at their respective universities for studies of students at their own expenses or at the expenses of their Governments.

Article 5: the two contracting parties shall encourage co-operation between radio and television stations, as well as between motion picture enterprises, on the basis of direct agreement between the institutions of the two countries, subject to compliance with the authorisations granted to these institutions under the legal regulations in force in their respective countries.

Article 6: the contracting parties shall encourage actions aimed at organizing courses at their respective universities and other cultural institutions with a view to studying the language, culture and literature of the other contracting party.

Article 7: the contracting parties are in agreement to conclude at a later date, a special agreement on the equivalence and recognition of school diplomas and certificates as well as degrees of qualifications granted by determined schools.

Article 8: in order to give effect to the provisions of the present Convention, the contracting parties shall draw up annual programmes of co-operation in the field of education, science and culture. The annual programme shall be drawn up by mutual agreement by the concerned bodies of the contracting parties. The programme shall also provide for the method of covering the financial expenditure necessary for its implementation.

Article 9: the present Convention shall be ratified and shall come into force on the date of the exchange of the instruments of ratification, which shall take place at Baghdad.

Article 10: the present Convention is concluded for an indefinite period of time and shall continue in force subject to termination through diplomatic channels after six months notice by any one of the contracting parties.

Done at Belgrade on the twenty-third of March, 1959, in the Arabic, Serbo-Croat and English languages. In the case of divergence the English text shall prevail.

CULTURAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN IRAQ AND CZECHOSLOVAKIA
SIGNED IN BAGHDAD ON 7th MAY, 1959

Since the text of this agreement is not yet available a summary of its final results, derived from Iraqi press-reports, is given below.

Czechoslovakia will offer 15 scholarships to Iraqi students while facilities will be granted to enable another 85 Iraqi students to attend educational institutions in Czechoslovakia either at their own expense or at the expense of the Iraqi Ministry of Education.

Iraq will offer ten scholarships to Czech students.

From each of both countries fifty teachers will exchange visits of two months; the Iraqis will go to Czechoslovakia in the summer while the Czechs will visit Iraq in the autumn or in the spring.

In the summer of this year ten Iraqi children will attend the World-Peace-Jamboree in Czechoslovakia.

Iraq will invite two Czech literary men for a visit of three weeks to make contacts with their Iraqi colleagues. Some Iraqi artists will be invited to attend for three weeks the music-festival in Prague.

As far as possible Czechoslovakia will meet the Iraqi needs for teachers and professors.

A technical exhibition will be organized in Baghdad while the Czechoslovak Government too will organize an "Iraqi technical exhibition".

Films, publications, gramophone-records and other cultural material will be exchanged between the two countries.

Universities and scientific institutions of both countries will enter into cultural and technical relations.

Finally, a group of folk-dancers will go to Baghdad while an Iraqi football-team will be invited to visit Czechoslovakia.