

MEMORANDUM FOR THE CABINET
BY THE HON. PRIME MINISTER

Style and Title of Her Majesty
the Queen after Independence

1. On independence it will be necessary to adopt a Style and Title for Her Majesty the Queen.
2. Since the Royal Title adopted by any one Commonwealth country is a matter of interest to all Members of the Commonwealth of which Her Majesty is Queen, their Governments are always informed of the Title adopted by a newly-independent country. The question of prior consultation with them would also arise if the proposed new Title did not conform substantially to the accepted form. The accepted form includes the phrase "Head of the Commonwealth" and a reference to Her Majesty's other Realms and Territories.
3. Until comparatively recently the usual procedure for instituting a new Style and Title has been:-
 - (a) Her Majesty's informal approval of the proposed Style and Title is sought. This can be done before independence;
 - (b) Other Commonwealth Governments are notified after independence of the proposed new Style and Title;
 - (c) In the absence of comment from other Commonwealth Governments by a specified date, Her Majesty's formal approval is obtained;
 - (d) Subsequently, legislation is passed by the Parliament of the country concerned (preferably with provision for the Style and Title to be adopted by proclamation).
4. In the case of Tanganyika an alternative procedure was adopted whereby, informal approval having been obtained beforehand, the Prime Minister of Tanganyika immediately after independence made a formal submission seeking Her Majesty's approval for the issue of a Royal Proclamation, thus obviating the need for promulgation of the new Style and Title by legislation. This procedure was subsequently adopted also by Jamaica, Trinidad, Uganda and Kenya. Although less formal, it was preferred in order to avoid the considerable delay which otherwise occurred before the new Style and Title became effective, during which time it would

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have been necessary on any formal documents requiring the Queen's signature, such as Ambassadors' Letters of Credence etc., for Her Majesty's United Kingdom Title to be used.

.... 5. Copies are attached as Annexes I and II of model drafts of the formal submission and Proclamation which might be used if the procedure referred to in the preceding paragraph were adopted.

6. This Title and those for Her Majesty's other realms are:

United Kingdom - Elizabeth the Second, by the Grace of God of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and of Her other Realms and Territories Queen, Head of the Commonwealth, Defender of the Faith.

Canada - Elizabeth the Second, by the Grace of God of the United Kingdom, Canada and Her other Realms and Territories Queen, Head of the Commonwealth, Defender of the Faith. (This formula is also used by Australia and New Zealand).

Ceylon - Elizabeth the Second, Queen of Ceylon and of Her other Realms and Territories, Head of the Commonwealth. (This formula was used by South Africa, Tanganyika and is used by the newer members).

7. An appropriate formula for Malta would appear to be:

"Elizabeth the Second, by the Grace of God Queen of Malta and of Her other Realms and Territories, Head of the Commonwealth".

8. There might be some virtue in aligning ourselves more closely with the white members of the Commonwealth by using the form " by the Grace of God of the United Kingdom, Malta and Her other Realms and Territories Queen, Head of the Commonwealth. "

9. Hon. Ministers are invited to say which formula they consider to be the most appropriate Title and which of the procedures outlined in paragraphs 3 and 4 they favour.

22nd April, 1964.

L-Arkivji Nazzjonali ta' Malta

DRAFT SUBMISSION TO THE QUEEN

ANNEX I

Mr..... presents his humble duty to The Queen and has the honour to submit for Your Majesty's approval the proposal of Your Majesty's Ministers in _____ that Your Majesty may be graciously pleased to take the following title:-

"Elizabeth the Second etc."

If Your Majesty is graciously pleased to accede to this request, Mr..... has the honour to submit further that Your Majesty may cause a Proclamation to be issued on in the terms of the attached draft.

DRAFT PROCLAMATION

ANNEX II

WHEREAS on the _____ day of _____ in the year _____ became an Independent Member of our Commonwealth.

We have thought fit, and We do hereby, at the request of the Prime Minister of _____, appoint and declare, that so far as conveniently may be on all occasions and in all instruments wherein Our Style and Titles are used in relation to _____, Our Style and Titles shall henceforth be accepted, taken and used as the same are set forth in the manner and form following:

"Elizabeth the Second, etc. Given at Our Court at _____ this _____ day of _____ in the year _____ and in the _____ year of Our Reign".