

H.M. THE KING'S MESSAGE TO N.F.S.

His Majesty the King has sent the following Message to the National Fire Service on the occasion of the first anniversary of its formation on August 18, 1941:-

"To all ranks of the National Fire Service.

"I desire, on this first anniversary of the formation of the National Fire Service, to express to you my appreciation of the splendid work which you have accomplished.

"I have followed with keen interest the progress of the Service since its inauguration, and it has been very gratifying to me to learn of the success with which it has operated in meeting recent enemy attacks. This augurs well for the future, when the full fruits of the reorganization will have been reaped.

"I know that you are determined to bring the defence of this country against fire to the highest pitch of efficiency, and I am confident that you will spare no effort to this end.

"Whatever tasks and dangers lie ahead - and they may well be heavy - the firemen and firewomen of this country will, I know, meet them with the courage and devotion which have been the long tradition of the Fire Brigades, both volunteer and professional.

"I send my best wishes to you all.

GEORGE R.I."

The King's Message was announced to the Service today in a Special Order of the Day signed by the Home Secretary who added:-

"I have sent His Majesty the loyal thanks of every fireman and firewoman, whole-time and part-time, of the National Fire Service in England and Wales for this gracious message and my assurance that it will be received with great satisfaction and be a source of encouragement and inspiration throughout the Service."

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