

Politics

For services to the UK: top awards for foreign tycoons, military and the Corrs

Nick Davies and Rob Evans

Sun 23 Apr 2006 19.07 EDT

[Klaus Schwab. (Apr. 23, 2006). For services to the UK: top awards for foreign tycoons, military and the Corrs by Nick Davies, Rob Evans. The Guardian. Reproduced for educational purposes only. Fair Use relied upon.]

Hans Rausing, the Swedish billionaire whose tax arrangements were revealed by the Guardian, is among scores of foreign citizens awarded official honours in the last year. Rausing, former head of Tetra Pak, who has lived in England since 1982, was awarded an honorary knighthood in January.

Four years ago, the Guardian revealed that, although he and his immediate family had an income of about £4m a week, he was using so many tax loopholes that in at least one year, he and his UK businesses received more from the Treasury than they handed over.

Mr Rausing is one of 100 non-UK citizens honoured since last May who are named in a list released by the Foreign Office after a parliamentary question from the Liberal Democrat MP Norman Baker. Unlike honours to UK citizens, those for foreigners are not generally announced. The foreign secretary nominates those "who have made an important contribution to British interests".

Jack Straw defended the award to Mr Rausing, describing him as "one of the most significant private philanthropists in the UK". He added: "His generosity and the support he has given to a wide range of charities and educational establishments have benefited numerous people, from all walks of life throughout the UK."

But Mr Baker said: "I am sure some of these people have done things which deserve to be honoured, but I am appalled that someone like Rausing who spends his life avoiding tax should be given one of the highest honours. Perhaps we should all avoid tax and be suitably rewarded. It sends an entirely wrong message to hard-working families."

A spokesman for Mr Rausing said: "His philanthropic record speaks for itself. He pays all the tax he is supposed to under British law." He has given £146m over the last 12 years to charities.

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HONOURED WITH A KCMG IS RICHARD ARMITAGE, DEPUTY SECRETARY OF STATE UNDER

Colin Powell between 2001 and 2005 and a leading player in rallying diplomatic support for the Iraq invasion. Mr Armitage's role in the Iran-contra arms smuggling scandal was controversial enough to prevent him becoming army secretary in 1989. He worked alongside Oliver North to trade arms to Iran illegally and siphon profits to the Nicaraguan contra rebels.

In all, nine Americans received honours for helping to strengthen relations between the US and Britain, notably during the Iraq war. Captain John Peterson, chief of staff to the commander of the US navy in the Middle East, was awarded a CBE for - according to the Pentagon - leading British and American forces "in the campaign to secure Iraqi oil assets" at the start of the 2003 invasion. An honorary knighthood goes to Arnold Fisher, chairman of the Intrepid Fallen Heroes Fund, which has given financial support to the widows and children of US and UK service personnel killed in Iraq and Afghanistan.

General Michael Moseley, chief of staff to the US Air Force, has also been made into an honorary "sir", as has Admiral Frank "Skip" Bowman, who served 38 years in the US navy, ending up as the director of the organisation responsible for running US nuclear submarines and ships.

Twelve overseas businessmen and women have received awards. Francis Yeoh, the head of Malaysian power company YTL, received a CBE. In 2002, British police investigated an allegation that YTL paid a £ 1m "bribe" to Wessex Water boss Colin Skellett. YTL denied the allegation and no charges were brought.

Yung-Fa Chang, a Taiwanese shipping magnate, was awarded a CBE for "services to shipping and British economic interests". His company, Evergreen Marine, has its European headquarters in Britain.

Celebrities who received CBEs included the four members of the Irish pop band the Corrs, Swedish footballer Henrik Larsson and German golfer Bernhard Langer.

Knights abroad

KCMG

Richard Armitage

US deputy secretary of state, 2001 and 2005, for services to US-UK relations

KBE

Admiral Frank Bowman

Served 38 years in US Navy, for services to UK-US relations

Elie Wiesel

Author, Nobel Peace prize winner, "for services to Holocaust education"

General Tad Michael Moseley

Chief of staff of US air force, for services to UK-US relations

Max van der Stoep

Dutch politician. For services to UK interests in the Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe in the Balkans

Dr Hans Rausing

Swedish head of Tetra Pak, philanthropist, "for services to charities and educational institutions"

Arnold Fisher

American chairman of the Intrepid Fallen Heroes Fund, for services to families of those killed in action and UK-US relations

Klaus Schwab

German founder of World Economic Forum for services to UK interests in sustainable development and climate change

[See UK Parliament confirmation following.]

Curtis Price

American professor and principal of the Royal Academy of Music, "for services to music"

Katsuhiko Machida

President of Sharp electronics company, for "services to UK-Japanese industrial co-operation"

Donald Berwick

American doctor, academic, head of the Institute for Healthcare Improvement, for services to the NHS

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HONORARY KNIGHTHOODS AWARDED 1997-2006

NB: This list does not include knighthoods in the Royal Victorian Order, as they are in the personal gift of The Queen and are not, therefore, administered by the FCO.

1997

HE Mr Maumoon Abdul GAYOOM, GCMG

Aatos Juho Michel ERKKO, KBE

Mr Jürgen GEHRELS, KBE

Dr Jamshed Jiji IRANI, KBE

Baron Ewald Heinrich von KLEIST, KBE

Masaharu MATSUSHITA, KBE

Takuma YAMAMOTO, KBE

Admiral Leighton Warren SMITH, KBE (Mil)

State Visits

HE Mr Fernando Henrique CARDOSO, GCB
President of Brazil

Ambassador Louis Felipe LAMPREIA, GCMG

Ambassador Frederico Cezar de ARAUJO, KCMG

Ambassador Fonseca GELSON, KCMG

Ambassador Affonso Emilio de Alencastro MASSOT, KCMG

Ambassador Sergio Silva AMARAL, KBE

Deputy Roberto de Oliveira CAMPOS, KBE

Senhor Clovis de Barros CARVALHO, KBE

Senator Teotonio Vilela FILHO, KBE

Senhor Edson Arantes do NASCIEMENTO, KBE

Senhor Luiz Carlos Bresser Goncalves PEREIRA, KBE

Senhor Jose Israel VARGAS, KBE

HE Mr Farooq Ahmad Khan LEGHARI, GCB
President of Pakistan

Prime Minister Nawaz SHARIF, GCMG

Guest of Government Visit

Major General Hamad bin Khalifa AL THANI, GCMG
Heir Apparent, Qatar

1998

Mr Carl BILDT, KCMG

Mr Kazuo CHIBA, KCMG

Mr Takekazu KAWAMURA, KCMG

Mr Hanns Henrik Wulf SCHMIEGELOW, KCMG

Mr Marcus BIERICH, KBE

Mr Jacques DE LAROSIERE Champfeu, KBE

Mr Robert (Bob) Leslie Townes HOPE, KBE

Mr Nobuhiko KAWAMOTO, KBE

Mr William James PERRY, KBE

State Visits

His Majesty Yang di-Pertuan AGONG, GCB
King of Malaysia

HE Mr Roman HERZOG, GCB
President of the Federal Republic of Germany

Guest of Government Visits

King Abdullah Bin Abdul Aziz AL SAUD, GCB
The Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques

HE Dr Carlos Saúl MENEM, GCMG
President of the Argentine Republic

HE Dr Ernesto ZEDILLO Ponce de León, GCMG
President of the United Mexican States

HE Mr Alberto FUJIMORI, GCMG
President of the Republic of Peru

HE Mr ONG Teng Cheong, GCMG
President of Singapore

Mr Yukihiro IKEDA, GCMG
Foreign Minister of Japan

1999

Mr George John MITCHELL, GBE

Mr Javier MADARIAGA, KCMG

Mr Maurice Samuel Roger Charles DRUON, KBE

Mr Harri HOLKERI, KBE

Mr Mortimer David SACKLER, KBE

Mr Morris TABAKSPLAT, KBE

State Visits

HE Mr KIM Dae-jung, GCB
President of the Republic of South Korea

HE Mr Arpad GONCZ, GCB
President of the Republic of Hungary

Mr János MARTONYI, GCMG
Minister of Foreign Affairs for Hungary

HE Mr Zsigmond JÁRAI, GBE
Minister of Foreign Affairs for Hungary

Mr József SZÁJER, KCMG
Chairman of the European Integration Select Committee

Lt Gen Lajos URBAN, KBE
Deputy Chief, Defence Staff

Guest of Government Visit

HM King ABDULLAH II Ibn Al Hussein of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, GCMG

2000

Mr Yves-Jean Edmond BERGENDAEL, KBE

General Wesley Kanne CLARK, KBE
For services to British interests

Professor Anna Elbina DAVIES, DBE
For services to philology and linguistics in the UK

Mr Terence Alan (Spike) MILLIGAN, KBE
For services to the entertainment industry

Mr Anthony SHER, KBE
For services to the arts

Mr Steven Allan SPIELBERG, KBE
For services to the British film industry

State Visits

HE Mr Carlo Azeglio CIAMPI, GCB
President of Italy

On. Giuliano AMATO, GCMG
Prime Minister of Italy

Dott.ssa Carmela Decaro BONELLA, DCMG
Deputy Director General & Director of the President of Italy's Office

On. Lamberto DINI, GCMG
Minister of Foreign Affairs of Italy

Dr Gaetano GIFUNI, GCMG
Secretary General, President of Italy's Office

Ambasciatore Umberto VATTANI, GCMG
Secretary General of the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Senatore Nicola MANCINO, GBE
President of the Italian Senate

On. Luciano VIOLANTE, GBE
Speaker of the Italian Chamber of Deputies

Ambasciatore Luigo Guidobono CAVALCHINI, KCMG
Private Secretary to the Foreign Minister of Italy

Min.Plen. Francesco OLIVIERI, KCMG
Diplomatic Adviser to the Prime Minister of Italy

Dott. Gabriele ALBERTINI, KBE
Mayor of Milan

Cott. Francesco ALFONSO, KBE
Chief Adviser of Presidential Secretariat of Italy

Dr Bruno FERRANTE, KBE
Prefect of Milan

Dott. Arrigo LEVI, KBE
External Relations Adviser, President of Italy's Office

On. Giovanna MELANDRI, DBE
Minister of Culture of Italy

On, Sergio MATTARELLA, KBE
Minister of Defence of Italy

Maestro Riccardo MUTI, KBE
Concert, La Scala

Dott. Paolo PELUFFO, KBE
Director of Press and Information Office, President's Office

Dott. Alberto RUFFO, KBE
Internal Affairs Adviser, President's Office

Dott. Francesco RUTELLI, KBE
Mayor of Rome

General Mario ARPINO, KBE (Mil)
Chief of Defence Staff

Amm.di Sergio BIRAGHI, KBE (Mil)

Henrik, His Royal Highness the Prince Consort, GCMG, GCVO, GCB
Prince Consort of Denmark

HE Ambassador Friis Arne PETERSEN, GCMG
Permanent Secretary of State

Ambassador Jan MARCUSSEN, KCMG
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Colonel Kurt BACHE, KBE (Mil)
Chief of Military Household/Chamberlain's Soldier

Guest of Government Visits

Dr Emil CONSTANTINESCU, GCMG
President of Romania

Mr Guido DE MARCO, GCMG
President of Malta

Mr Thabo MBEKI, GCMG
President of South Africa

Mr Nursultan NAZARBAEV, GCMG
President of the Republic of Kazakhstan

Mr Eduard Amvrosiyevich SHEVARDNADZE, GCMG
President of Georgia

Mr Boris TRAJKOVSKI, GCMG
President of the Republic of Macedonia

2001

Mr Louis Vincent GERSTNER, KBE

Mr Rudolf William GIULIANI, KBE
For services to the families of those killed on 11 September 2001

Mr William (Billy) Franklin GRAHAM, KBE
For services to civic and religious life

Pandit Robindra Ravi SHANKAR, KBE

Mr Henry Hugh SHELTON, KBE

Mr Raymond TRIBOULET, KBE
For services to Anglo-French relations

State Visits

HM King ABDULLAH II Ibn Al Hussein of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, GCB,
GCMG

Mr Ali Abu RAGHEB, GCMG
Prime Minister of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan

HE Mr Thabo MBEKI, GCB
President of the Republic of South Africa

Guest of Government Visit

Mr Jorge Fernando DE SAMPAIO, GCMG
President of the Republic of Portugal

2002

The Hon Mrs Anson CHAN Fong on-sang CBE, GCMG
For services to Hong Kong

Mr Vicente QUESADA, GCMG

Prof Akito ARIMA, KBE

Mr Placido DOMINGO Embil, KBE
For services to music

Dr Alan GREENSPAN, KBE
For services to global economic stability

Mr Sam Esson JONAH, KBE
For services to UK/Ghanaian relations

Ms Ann MURRAY, DBE
For services to music

Mr William TREVOR, KBE
For services to literature

Guest of Government Visit

HE Dr Ferenc MADL, GCMG
President of the Republic of Hungary

2003

Mr Olusegun OBASANJO, GCB
President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria

Mr Peter Denis SUTHERLAND, KCMG
For services to British Trade International business

Mrs Esperanza AGUIRRE GIL DE BIEDMA, DBE
For services to UK-Spanish relations

Mr Jayantilal Keshavji CHANDE, KBE
For services to UK interests in Tanzania and East Africa

Mr Niall William Arthur FITZGERALD, KBE
For services to UK business interests

Mr Hiroshi KITAMURA, KBE
For services to UK-Japanese relations

Mr Murray PERAHIA, KBE
For services to music

Sheikh Dr Mohamed Abou Al-Khair ZAKI BADAWI, KBE
For services to inter-faith dialogue

General Tommy Ray FRANKS (US Army), KBE (Mil)
For services to UK-American military co-operation

Guest of Government Visits

HE Mr Kay Rala Xanana GUSMAO, GCMG
President of East Timor

HE Mr Hamid KARZAI, GCMG
President of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan

HE Mr Alfred MOISIU, GCMG
President of the Republic of Albania

2004

Dr Yusef Abdullah AL-AWADI, KBE
For services to Anglo-Kuwaiti relations

Mr Daniel BARENBOIM, KBE
For services to music

Mr Gian Franco CORSI ZEFFIRELLI, KBE
For services to UK performing arts

Mr Noel FORGEARD, KBE
For services to UK/French collaboration in the aviation industry

Mr William (Bill) Henry GATES, KBE
For services to education and the voluntary sector in the UK and for global healthcare

Dr Seung-Soo HAN, KBE
For services to Anglo-Korean relations

Mr Bernard KOUCHNER, KBE
For services to humanitarian relief

Dr Håkan MOGREN, KBE
For services to Anglo-Swedish commercial relations

Mr Simon WIESENTHAL, KBE
For service to the Jewish community in the UK

State Visits

HE Mr Horst KOEHLER, GCB
President of the Federal Republic of Germany

HE Mr Moo-Hyun ROH, GCB
President of the Republic of Korea (South)

HE Mr Ryszard KACZOROWSKI, GCMG
President of the Republic of Poland

HE Mr Wlodzimierz CIMOSZEWIEZ, GCMG
Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, Republic of Poland

HE Mr Jerzy SZMAJDZINSKI, KBE
Minister for National Defence, Republic of Poland

HE Mr Waldemar DABROWSKI, KBE
Minister of Culture, Republic of Poland

HE Philippe BLAZY, KBE
Foreign Minister of the French Republic

HE Jean-Francois LAMOUR, KBE
Minister of Sport of the French Republic

HE Dominique PERBEN, KBE
Minister for Transportation of the French Republic

HE Gilles DE ROBIEN, KBE
Minister of National Education of the French Republic

2005

Mr Richard Lee ARMITAGE, KCMG
For services to UK-US bilateral relations

Mr Donald Mark BERWICK, KBE
For services to healthcare improvement in the NHS

Mr Arnold Leonard FISHER, KBE
For services to the welfare and wellbeing of the families of British Armed Forces personnel killed in action and his energetic leadership in support of closer UK-US relations

Mr Katsuhiko MACHIDA, KBE
For services to UK-Japan industrial co-operation

Mr Curtis Alexander PRICE, KBE
For services to music

Admiral Frank Lee BOWMAN, KBE (Mil)
For services to UK-US relations

Admiral (Retd) Christian BRAC DE LA PERRIERE, KBE (Mil)
For services to British interests in Normandy

General Tad Michael MOSELEY, KBE (Mil)
For services to UK-US relations

State Visits

HE Edward ADAMI, GCB
President of the Republic of Malta

HE Mr Gianfranco FINI, GCMG
President of Italy

HE Dr Lawrence GONZI, KBE
Prime Minister of the Republic of Malta

2006

Mr Kofi Atta ANNAN, GCMG
For his valuable services to British interests

Mr Max van der STOEL, KCMG
For services to British interests in the OSCE in the Balkans

Mr Fujio CHO, KBE
For services to inward investment

Mr Carlos GHOSN, KBE
For services to the UK economy

Mr Paul David (Bono) HEWSON, KBE
For services to the music industry and for his humanitarian work

Mr Franklin MILLER, KBE
For services to UK-US relations

Mr Hans Anders RAUSING, KBE
For services to charity and educational institutions

Professor Klaus SCHWAB, KBE
For services to protecting the environment and reducing poverty through sustainable development

Mr Elie WIESEL, KBE
For services to Holocaust education

State Visits

HE Mr Valdas ADAMKUS, GCB
President of the Republic of Lithuania

HE Mr Toomas Hendrik ILVES, GCB
President of the Republic of Estonia

HE Luiz Inacio LULA DA SILVA, GCB
President of the Federative Republic of Brazil

HE Mr Sellapan RAMANATHAN, GCB
President of the Republic of Singapore

HE Dr Vaira VIKE-FREIBERGA, GCB
President of the Republic of Latvia