



H.M. KING OLAV V OF NORWAY
MEDAL'S
PRESENTATION PARADE

Monday 16 th August 1982

EBEL ES SAQI

LEBANON

On behalf of all officers and men of Norbatt and on my own behalf, I have the great pleasure to extend to all of you our heartiest welcome. We are all glad and honoured to see so many guests from many nations being present here today on our Medal Presentation Parade in Ebel Es Saqi.

**Rolf Stein
CO NORBATT IX**

Programme of the day

- 1030 Arrival of guests**
- 1045 Guests seated**
- 1100 Arrival of Force Commander
Force Commander's Inspection and address
to NORBATT.**
- 1115 Parade of the colour**
- 1120 Medal's Presentation.**
- 1135 The Medal ceremony end**
- 1200 Reception at officers mess.
Refreshments.
Buffet Lunch.**
- 1400 Guests free to depart**

IN ANCESTRAL FOOTSTEPS.

The annals of History tell us that Norsemen have been in the Middle-East before us. When pope Urban II summoned the Crusades at the Council of Clermont in 1095, the summoning flew as a fire through the whole of Europe, and also reached the shores of our country. Few years later, in 1108, king Sigurd Son of Magnus, also called «Jorsalfar», set out with a fleet for the Holy Land. He arrived there in 1109 and visited the Holy City during the winter, as the first crowned head to visit the kingdom of Jerusalem. During the late autumn of 1110 he besieged and captured the fortress of Sidon together with king Baldwin I of Jerusalem. On his way to Sidon he possibly visited Tibnin.

Others followed him during the years to come; somebody as crusaders, others as pilgrims. Some of them were adventurers, others again had their deep religious conviction. All of them had an idea that impelled them to go, often without returning alive.

How does this concern our situation? The answer is to be found in what has been said about the story of the Crusades: «It was the story of the World's Debate». This statement has great actuality to-day. The situation in the Middle-East concerns greatly the World's Debate. And our presence too is based upon an idea: That peace in the Middle-East is of great importance for our World. Must this idea never die, but grow stronger and bear fruits through our mission here. Then it will not be in vain to walk in ancestral footsteps.