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25 June 1982

NEAR EAST/NORTH AFRICA REPORT

No. 2570

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PFLP SECRETARY GENERAL ON RELATIONS WITH PLO, SYRIA

Kuwait AL-TALI'AH in Arabic No 743, 12 May 82 pp 30-32

[Interview with Tala't Ya'qub, Secretary General of the Front for the Liberation of Palestine, by AL-TALI'AH: "The Palestinian Revolution Has the Right to Stage out of the South to Combat the Zionist Enemy"; date and place not specified]

[Text] The fifth anniversary of the launching of the Palestinian Liberation Front occurred on 27 April.

How did this front become one of the six groups to join together in the framework of the Palestinian revolution? What new element did it offer? What distinguishes it from the others? How are its relations organized with the PLO, at a time when it has no representation on the executive committee? What about its distinguished military activity inside occupied Palestine, especially since during the past few years, it has carried out a number of varied military operations, including the glider operation which bombed the fuel tanks in Haifa. These questions came to mind during our meeting with the PLF secretary general, Tala't Ya'qub.

The Role of the Front

[Question] On its fifth national day, what has the front become within the context of the Palestinian national struggle?

[Answer] The PLF has stood beside the democratic national forces in laying and developing the foundations of the democratic dialogue within the Palestinian sphere. It has participated in building fraternal relations with the groups and popular organizations of the revolution, and has established a viable and effective presence in the popular and professional federations. It has also participated in developing relations with the masses of our people in the camps and areas through its popular activities. It has talked on numerous national occasions about developing these relations. It has also participated in establishing a fighting line on the political and military levels, and is effectively participating in the achievement of Palestinian national unity.

Our front has always stressed establishing the firmest relations with the Lebanese masses and the National Movement. On the Arab level, it has also

been able to deepen the fighting relationship with groups of the Arab liberation movement, and has always tried to develop relations of cooperation, dialogue and exchange of ideas and viewpoints with them. Moreover, we are strengthening our friendship and staunch alliance with the rest of the Arab national groups and organizations.

On the international level, the front is following a firm course toward strengthening relations with the Socialist nations and international liberation movements. It has achieved a number of accomplishments in this area. Within the generality of Palestinian, Arab and international directions, it is effectively participating in promoting and developing the Palestinian national struggle. It also plays an effective role in laying the fighting groundwork to serve our people's struggle at home and abroad. The front played a basic role on the military level, when it conducted several courageous operations that embodied a fighting line that stunned the Zionist enemy. The Nahariya operation occurred on 22 April 1979; the martyr Kamal Junblat operation was to give military action a new vitality, to add a new victory to our people's struggle and to show the extent of our revolution's enormous capacity for sacrifice. Moreover, the procession of martyrs that the front has given, both leaders and rank-and-file, to the course of progress toward more sacrifices on behalf of moving our people's national struggle forward. The martyrs include Abu al-'Amrin, Fu'ad Zaydan, Abu Bakr, Hafzi Qasim, Jihad Hamu, the martyred pilot Ghassan al-Kakhi, Tahrir Mansur, Abu Kafah Fahd, and our other martyrs who remained firm to a long course of struggle and who have sanctified the continuing heroism and sacrifice that will remain a shining symbol in the course of our victorious revolution.

Relations with the PLO

[Question] What about your relations with the PLO when you have no representation on its executive committee?

[Answer] In fact, we are one of the groups of the Palestinian Resistance Movement, democratically competing inside the PLO to participate in political decision-making and to enter into all the revolution's institutions, so that we can directly participate in establishing the foundations of the national struggle. We are represented in the majority of revolutionary institutions. We have accomplished a great deal to serve the course of our revolution and the progress of our masses both within and outside occupied Palestine. We consider ourselves an indivisible part of the PLO. We are committed to the PLO's national charter, because it is the framework that represents our people's struggle against the Zionist enemy, imperialism and their lackeys. We do not feel that this question is one of getting on the executive committee, but rather, it is a continuous fighting operation that is in the framework of our people's national struggle and our ability to effectively embody this framework and action.

Relations with Syria

[Question] Regarding the strategy of alliance between Fatah and Syria in order to normalize their relations, what in your opinion has limited the

relations of dialogue and alliance with the Fatah movement, and has it not included all groups within the PLO?

[Answer] Relations between Syria and the revolutionary groups exist. There are continual meetings between the parties of the national alignment to confront the various plots being hatched by Zionism, imperialism and reactionary elements. This stage especially requires coordinating positions to establish unified political planning to enable us to liquidate everything that impinges on the unity of our people and their national struggle.

The South, the Enemy and America

[Question] The situation of Lebanon and the South remains of special concern to everyone. How do you view the possibilities after the recent Zionist attack, and how do you see the American position in this context?

[Answer] The plot is clear with respect to us. There are American plots to bring the region to its knees and to strike at its national forces, especially upon the Lebanese plane, which still form a political obstacle against the imperialist plots because of the increasing growth of the national trend within this sphere. The Palestinian Resistance's alliance with the Lebanese National Movement is a leading example of the unity of the national forces and their steadfastness in the face of all imperialist-reactionary plots. This is what's causing the counter-forces to launch the most vicious campaigns, in order to break up the unity of this alliance, in an attempt to weaken the democratic national forces and to weaken their steadfastness and resistance against the aggressive Zionist presence. The Zionist role is aimed at achieving two points. The first is to establish its aggressive presence over the Arab region, and the second is to defend the interests of imperialism. The recent attack, and in general the previous and subsequent attacks, are aimed at these goals. For a long time, the Zionist entity has attempted to launch a series of attacks, by air, sea and land, aimed at disrupting the domestic front in Lebanon and in an attempt to stir up the masses against the unity of the Palestinian revolution and the National Movement. It has also made every effort to escalate unrest on the domestic front, for the purpose of weakening this unity. However, the Lebanese and Palestinian masses are well aware that the expansionist ambitions of the Zionist entity must be met with increased steadfastness and resistance. This has strengthened the alliance of the National Movement and the Resistance and has confirmed the unity of destiny and goal.

Avoiding Annihilation

[Question] Regarding the talk about requesting the revolution to withdraw from specific positions in the South, in the interests of the international forces, do you think it appropriate to conduct a tactical withdrawal in order to help the South and the revolution avoid the danger of a crushing attack?

[Answer] First, we want to assert the right of the Palestinian revolution to be in South Lebanon or in any place that the revolution deems appropriate to

strengthen its struggle and battle against the colonizing Zionist entity. Any talk about a connection between the danger of incursion and the presence of the Resistance in the South comes from those forces hostile to the revolution and employs provocative material in the interests of imperialist-reactionary plotting. This is because Israel, as an aggressive, colonizing entity, has constant designs on territory, especially South Lebanon. The revolution has not spent a single day in Sinai or Golan; nevertheless, Israel occupied the Sinai and Golan. The entire Zionist presence depends upon expanding the territory that it geographically controls. This is one of its historic ambitions; it works to increase the number of Zionist settlements in order to increase the control that it is trying to impose over the Arab region.

Evidence of Popular Uprising

[Question] Occupied Palestine has been living in a state of popular uprising for some time. It is escalating as never before, and has threatened the enemy's position, as enemy leaders have referred to. How do you evaluate this uprising against the occupation authorities?

[Answer] In fact, any popular uprising has its political, economic and social sense. Our masses at home have for a long time set their horizons and directions, since their struggle will not abate so long as the Zionist enemy is there. The recent uprising is a fruit of this long struggle. It carries the seeds of our masses' determination to resist the occupation and their ability to combat Zionist superiority with all the means available to them. Our masses have underscored that, despite everything the enemy has, he is unable to eradicate our masses rights and legitimate national struggle. This means the complete collapse of the concept of the American-Zionist solution concerning self-rule and its ramifications. Some client quarters have attempted to depict our masses' uprising as a passing reaction. This ignores the tyranny and terror that these masses endure as a result of the Zionist fascist occupation, and ignores the fact that the masses cannot abandon their national rights, wrested away by the aggressors. Our people are determined to have freedom and sovereignty; this is superior to all the technology, through which the aggressors try to impose their presence. The Zionist airplanes have not frightened our fighters in South Lebanon, and the enemy's military arsenal at home has not frightened our fighting masses. On the contrary, the recent uprising clearly confirms our masses' solidarity until victory with the revolution and with our masses outside the homeland.

Special Operations

[Question] It is well known that your front has distinguished itself through special operations inside Palestine. Does the suspension of these operations today mean that you are committed to the cease fire position in the South?

[Answer] In fact our position is to escalate the fighting against the Zionist enemy. Even though we are passing through a period in which the internal reactionary plots are escalating against the revolution, this does not mean we are suspending our operations against the enemy. On the contrary, it means

that we are fighting on all fronts, in order to enable us to join ranks to work more vigorously and effectively against the Zionist enemy and the imperialist machinations. The Zionist entity is in fact a war entity. It does not halt its war against our people at home and abroad for a single moment. Therefore, any talk about a cease fire is loose talk. Moreover, it does not express the reality of the struggle between the masses of our people and the Zionist colonizing entity. For our part, we are striving constantly to find ways to strengthen the armed popular struggle inside Palestine and through all the means which we deem appropriate. We emphasize that our operations will not stop until we achieve our goals of completely liberating our national soil.

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HAWAR ISLANDS DISPUTE REVIEWED

London AL-HAWADITH in Arabic No 1331, 7 May 82 pp 18-19

[Article by Nash'at al-Taghalubi: "The Dispute Over the Hawar Islands Was Manufactured by the British and Qatar and Bahrain Can Resolve It By Dialogue"]

[Text] In the last issue of AL-HAWADITH, Muhammad al-Jasim raised an issue which the two parties involved, Qatar and Bahrain, are still anxious to treat within the scope of the secrecy imposed by the nature of relations between two sister countries, particularly since the problem, which has led to a dispute between them, was not originally a local problem or an Arab problem but a problem manufactured by the British by which they wanted, as is the case in a number of similar problems, to be like Goha's donkey for them in the Gulf area.

We stated that this problem had always been dealt with in a quiet atmosphere, away from noisy newspaper articles. A large number of journalists had known of the problem and others were aware of its details but, nonetheless, none of them had allowed themselves to raise it publicly or to give it any dimension beyond its real or logical one.

Until the rulers of the Gulf (the Trucial Coast, Qatar and Bahrain) met in al-Duhah in 1969 to reach agreement on a federation to include the nine emirates in the area, hope had prevailed at the time that these emirates would disregard all border disputes which British colonialism had planted among them and that the federation territory would be viewed as an indivisible unit and two neighboring sisters ought not to quarrel over dozens of square meters or even a few dozen kilometers. In fact, during this time the border disputes remained dormant and reportedly were set aside. Nevertheless there was no federation achieved among the nine emirates because Bahrain at the time refused to do business like any other emirate and demanded additional concessions as the emirate with the biggest and most educated populace. Accordingly, Bahrain and Qatar remained outside the federation which comprised the seven emirates. The federation remained fragile, suffering from the ambitions of its rulers, and this would have continued had it not been for the fact that Shaykh Zayid, the ruler of Abu Dhabi, ensured its cohesiveness by viewing some of the resources of his emirate as joint property with some of the relatively poor emirates, including Dubayy.

This is not the important point. Through covering this, we only wanted to clarify things a little with regard to the problem between Qatar and Bahrain which was suddenly raised in the press without any clear justification, as if the Arab countries were not suffering from enough disputes and quarrels.

What is the problem?

In fact, had we wanted to raise one proper, sound question, it would have been worded: "What is the problem?" Bahrain says that it owns an island named Hawar which is 18 nautical miles from Bahrain. Watar says that this island is the property of Qatar, not Bahrain, for one simple reason, that is, that it first of all is part of Qatari territory and, secondly, with regard to the tide, it is no more than 1 mile from the Qatari coast and one can reach it on foot when the tide is out.

From this standpoint, there is in fact no problem: the island is for all practical purposes not an island but at low tide is part of Qatari territory and attached to it by its roots.

However, when the British want to create some problem, reality, logic and all facts go out the door and they impose a conviction that serves their interests and no one else.

Using this fact as a starting point, in 1939 they decided that the Island of Hawar belonged to Bahrain, not Qatar, and the British political commissioner sent a letter to that effect to the ruler of Qatar. However, the latter did not stay quiet and give in and could not be silent in the face of an open breach of every accepted practice and law. The British disregarded the geographic and regional connection between the Island of Hawar and the Qatari coast to the same extent that they ignored the waterway, suitable for international navigation, which was 18 miles wide between Hawar and Bahrain and to the same extent that they ignored the acknowledgement of the British historian, Lorrimer who reported in his book, GUIDE TO THE GULF, page 1511-1516, that the islands of Hawar (that is, Fasht al-Dibal and Jaradah) were part of the western side of Qatar.

I wonder what interests the British served by reaching such a strange decision? It is an historical fact that when the smell of oil began to spread in the Gulf area, the rivalry intensified between the American and British companies over which could seize the largest area of land rich in black gold.

The difference between the British and the Americans in this competition was the former were not fully sure that there was oil, particularly under the sea, since they lacked the knowhow of the Americans. At one point, influenced by the lack of confidence which had taken on an air of despair, the British companies sold the Americans, right under the eyes and ears of the British government, prospecting concessions which they had obtained in Bahrain and al-Hasa.

When the Americans were successful in discovering oil in the areas where they had prospected in Bahrain and al-Hasa, the British went into a frenzy and hurried to salvage what they could, in other words to protect what they had left in the concession areas in Bahrain. The heat of the competition raised and Bahrain found itself in a delicate position: it could either give into the British pressure and risk having the Americans slacken on production in the areas of their concession, or it could ignore the British pressure and risk arousing the hostility of the British government.

The British recognized how confused Bahrain was and resorted to their preferred method, seducing one party at the expense of another. The then Shaykh of Bahrain found the opportunity auspicious, to benefit from both the British and Americans at the same time and he granted a concession to prospect for oil in Hawar to the British companies to ensure that the British authorities would support his claim to the island, and granted the Americans the right to prospect in the other areas besides those originally earmarked for them in Bahrain.

This happened in 1938.

A year later the British decided that Hawar Island belonged to Bahrain.

The question now is: Does such a decision merit being adhered to and how can a dispute between two sister emirates be based on a decision promulgated by colonial authorities without any right? And then, how can anyone ignore the fact that the British government was anxious in 1938 and 1939 not to anger the American government, recognizing that World War II was at its doors? At the same time, it was very apprehensive about its influence on the Gulf coast and it proceeded to play a multifaceted role, as usual. The first thing it did was to forget to enter the island of Hawar and its environs which were the property of Qatar in the map of the Qatar oil concession dated 19 April 1938. The British authorities proceeded to separate the whole Hawar area from a Bahraini area and devised for it the name "the unallocated area," that is, the area in common. At the same time, they did not permit this area to be included in the concession area which the Shaykh of Bahrain had granted to the Bahrain-American Oil Company.

Another reason: after the incidents of the al-Na'im tribe in the al-Zubarah area, the British decided to punish Qatar by stripping Hawar Island and surrounding areas (Fasht al-Dibal and Jaradah) from it. At a meeting held at the British Foreign Office, the British resident announced that "from the political standpoint, since we have given al-Zubarah to Qatar, fairness dictates that we give Hawar to Bahrain." In other words, it was the British who presumed for themselves the right to give it, granting this emirate what they were seizing from that one, and deciding everything by the yardstick of their objectives and interests!

Nevertheless, in 1940, the British resident ruled that statement because the whole concession area left the hands of the British companies and the American BAPCO [Bahrain Petroleum Company Ltd] appeared there.

There is more: On 22 October 1941, (Brewer), the political resident in Bahrain wrote to (Rabil), the political resident general, saying: "Since the moment I saw the decision reached on the islands of Hawar, I told Noel (he was a political resident in the Gulf) that the decision, that is, the separation of Hawar from Qatar, was extremely unjust to Qatar and was taken with a strange mentality, jettisoning accepted local practices and the feelings of the people. The islands are Qatari and this view is backed by the view of Lorrimer."

The writer of the letter denied that the al-Dawasir tribe were subjects of Bahrain because they recognized only the leadership of their shaykhs. He said: "Then, the residence of the al-Dawasir on Hawar does not give Bahrain a right to it. While Shaykh 'Isa, the ruler of Bahrain, customarily makes annual visits to Hawar, those shaykhs (that is, the Khalifah family) used to visit Lanjah and still visit al-Hasa' every year and also used to fish and hunt in al-Zakhtunyah. Does that give them any right?"

The writer of the letter went on to say: "As for reports that some litigations in Hawar have been settled in the courts in Bahrain, two Iraqi litigants on the Trucial Coast might ask that the case be heard in Karbala' if they so wished without this making Karbala' belong to the Coast. With regard to statements that the people of Hawar are subject to the laws and regulations of Bahrain, Bahrain originally did not have any laws or regulations until after it had a political advisor. If Qatar had a political advisor, (Belgrave), the person who came up with the theory, could not have propounded this claim."

After World War II, the dispute over the Island of Hawar began to assume a new form: Bahrain seeks reaffirmation that it belongs to it and Qatar ceaselessly protests every action contradicting the view that the island is territorially and geographically part of it.

In fact, on 19 March 1948, the Iraq Petroleum Company sent a note to the British Foreign Ministry stating that studies by the company's geological department had confirmed that the three locations (Hawar, Fasht al-Dibal and Jaradah) were part of the Qatar peninsula and that photographs had confirmed that total similarity with formations in the northern part of the peninsula.

The strange aspect of this problem is that although Qatar insisted on its right to the three islands and despite its numerous protests over anything opposing or attempting to refute this right, it took no action that would hurt Bahrain or injure the fraternal relations between them.

The fact is that Bahraini fishermen come to Hawar in certain seasons and stay there and then before long leave in search of their livelihood elsewhere.

Throughout the year, Qatar has not tried to stop these fishermen from fishing nor has it tried to create any obstacles for them.

Since the time the English were masters of the Gulf area by virtue of their colonialism there, Bahrain set up two police posts on Hawar Island to take

an interest in the affairs of fishermen who were Bahraini nationals and these two posts still stand because Qatar has not asked that they be removed nor has tried to remove them by force. "Friendly relations between sisters are more important than any other consideration" and for this reason the Qatari-Bahraini dispute over the islands of Hawar has remained within the framework of quiet local contacts.

On 23 December 1947, the British political commission in Bahrain sent a letter to the ruler of Qatar and the ruler of Bahrain which involved:

1. Demarcating the median line between the two emirates.
2. Demarcating the area of the islands of Hawar (which in the view of the British government belonged to Bahrain).
3. Reporting that Fasht al-Dibal and Jaradah belonged to Bahrain, along with stating that they were not islands but "reefs" (in shallow water) with no territorial waters.

The ruler of Qatar objected to this British decision and focussed his objection on Hawar, not Fasht al-Dibal and Jaradah, since, by acknowledgement of the British government, they were "reefs" with no territorial waters.

At the same time, Bahrain objected to the part about the median line in the decision.

Despite the objection of the two emirates, the British government insisted that its decision was valid because it, in its opinion, had emerged from the appropriate quarter and had been issued in conformity with the bases of international law.

The British government had not previously referred to its 1939 decision (dictating that Hawar belonged to Bahrain) having been in conformity with international law.

In April 1964, the Government of Bahrain requested modification of the median line to annex 5,000 square kilometers approximately of the Qatari continental shelf, based, as it put it, on Article 6 of the 1959 Geneva Treaty and the fact that it had fishing rights in the area. At the same time, Bahrain decided that Fasht al-Dibal and Jaradah were two islands with territorial waters and were its property.

Qatar responded that the Bahraini request reaffirmed that settlement of such disputes should be done through reaching agreement if possible and if that were impossible, through arbitration in accordance with the principles of the UN charter and international law. Qatar said that Bahrain's request was invalid because it was based neither on reality nor rights nor law and that historic facts and legal principles confirmed that Bahrain's position was in error.

The surprise which happened then was that the Government of Bahrain officially expressed its agreement to Qatar's request that the dispute should be referred to arbitration. It then quickly withdrew this agreement, reportedly because of the rapid contacts which the London government made with the al-Manamah government aimed at persuading the Bahrainis that arbitration was not in their best interests. On the basis of this, the Bahrainis withdrew their agreement to arbitration.

At this point it should be noted that when the British authorities in the Gulf made some decision, it should have made its decision on an international legal principle and on physical conditions pertaining at a given time subject to the rule of legal bases and principles of in effect at that time.

Since Qatar and Bahrain had not joined the 1957 Geneva agreement, the provisions of this agreement cannot be applied to their disagreement over the median line between them. In fact, the principles of international law in effect at that time (that is, 1967) should have been reverted to when the British government regarded the islands of Fasht al-Dibal and Jaradah as reefs with not territorial waters and demarcated the median line on this basis.

With regard to jurisdiction, restraints and bounds of the British government, it is clear, in accordance with the treaties concluded with the Gulf emirates, that Britain was responsible for the foreign relations of these emirates and for defining the borders between them without this generating any right of sovereignty over the emirates. To put it another way, any decision reached about defining borders between the emirates of the Gulf should have been based on law, not on its own evaluation or political desire. Based on this fact, jurists have viewed the British government's decision about Bahrain's sovereignty over the islands of Hawar as an open violation of the principles of international law as well as an invalidation of all historic, geographic and security considerations.

The fact is that since 1938 Qatar has continued to submit a series of objections and protests over the British decision to regard the three islands of Hawar as belonging to Bahrain and also over any action based on that decision. However, it has taken no actions to harass Bahrain out of appreciation for the warm fraternal bond between the two countries and out of a desire to have the settlement reached through the approach of a brotherly dialogue and friendly agreement, even were this to require submitting the dispute to an international board of arbitration. In fact Qatar at one point pledged to build an island in return for Hawar Island in Bahraini territorial waters and to build a bridge to link the two countries. It also offered to cooperate with Bahrain in investing large amounts of Qatari capital in Bahraini economic projects and to provide long-term financial loans at token interest. However, Bahrain rejected all these offers and persisted in its fundamental claim which is based on the British decision.

Why?

This is the question for which we cannot find a logical answer. The fact is that Hawar Island is completely barren with no vegetation or water. It has not yet been proven that there is any oil. The other two islands are surrounded by shoals and have no territorial waters and are of no value.

Historically, known facts reaffirm that the islands of Hawar are an inseparable part of Qatar. Geographically, no island which people can reach on foot at low tide can be regarded as a separate entity from the territory to which it is attached. The precedents which have been raised to refute this fact are not precedents in the legal sense of the word. For example, Greek sovereignty over the islands in the Aegean Sea in Turkish territorial waters was decided in accordance with the 1923 Lausanne treaty which was concluded between Turkey and the allies after World War I ended in the defeat of Turkey and the victory of the allies. Turkey ceded these islands completely with its rights and documents. At the time, a comment was made in this regard: "Woe to the loser."

Naturally the situation of Turkey and Greece does not apply to Qatar and Bahrain. Qatar has not ceded its rights; in fact, it has done just the opposite and has continued to hold to these rights. In addition, the islands of Hawar are not only in its territorial waters but are attached to it.

This has been a rapid review of the current dispute between the emirates of Qatar and Bahrain. It is, as is apparent, an exaggerated dispute and one which should not exist between two sister countries in an area which needs more than anything else solidarity, mutual support and cooperation to ensure steadfastness in the face of what is going on around it and to ensure its security as well.

The Gulf Cooperation Council [GCC] has recognized this and has taken a particular interest in the issue while Saudi Arabia has exerted constant efforts to contain the dispute and to reach an amicable solution satisfactory to both sides, particularly since Bahrain has a claim against Saudi Arabia similar to its claim against Qatar.

The surprising thing is that this issue, which could have been dealt with quietly as has happened in the past, suddenly surfaced in the argument when Bahrain named one of its ships the "Hawar." This was like a challenge to Qatar but it nevertheless remained silent and left it to its big sister, Saudi Arabia, and the GCC to deal with the issue.

Can this treatment bring a rapid solution?

Those who know the nature of the problem from the bottom up stress that it is not on the same level as real problems and its solution requires nothing more than some good faith and a genuine desire for a solution. They then go on to say: The Arabs have suffered a great deal from their disputes, most of which would not deserve any bother or trouble were pan-Arab interests and fraternal bonds put above any other consideration.

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CSO: 4404/495

LOCAL EXPERTS ASSESS ISRAELI ATTITUDES, OBSERVATIONS

Begin's Strategy Analyzed

Cairo AL-AKHBAR in Arabic 4 May 82 p 10

[Article by Ibrahim al-Bahrawi]

[Text] Yesterday Israel's prime minister and the head of the Likud bloc, Mr Menachem Begin, declared, from the rostrum of the Israeli parliament, that when the time came to apply Israeli sovereignty to the West Bank and Gaza, Israel would continue to apply the full autonomy system to the Arab inhabitants of these two areas of what he calls the land of Israel.

This is actually not the first time the Israeli prime minister has announced these intentions on his cabinet's part. These intentions bearing on the annexation of the Bank and Gaza appeared in the Likud bloc's political program and it was on their basis that it ventured into the elections. This kind of talk has been reiterated in various forms by the members and head of the Israeli cabinet.

What is new in the situation, though, is the timing: this announcement came several days after the completion of the Israeli withdrawal from Sinai, and there is no doubt that besides asserting these intentions it had a political objective which is connected to this stage. What is this objective?

The Plan and the Goal

Reflecting on the Israeli method of action following the signing of the peace agreement between Egypt and Israel will lead one to discover that there is a hidden plan behind this method and a goal behind the plan. If we look at the law annexing Arab Jerusalem, then at the operation to destroy the Iraqi nuclear reactor after the meeting with the late President Muhammad Anwar al-Sadat, then at the law annexing Golan, the plan will become apparent to us, the goal of this Israel method will manifest itself to us, and one need make us effort to draw deductions. While we have observed that the Israeli prime minister declared in 1970 that he would fight anyone who tried to make Israel evacuate Sinai; that at that time he was promoting the slogan of the Likud bloc, which consisted of three words to that effect, the slogan "not a square inch;" that the prime minister also declared at that time that he considered Sinai to be an integral part of Israeli territory; and that he would adopt it as a permanent place of residence for himself and would be buried there, we will discover that Mr Begin realizes that emphatic statements and intentions do not stand up in the face of the equation of political action aimed at settling the conflicts in the area peacefully in accordance with two essential principles:

First, the inadmissability of occupying the territory of others by force.

Second, recognition of borders and every country's sovereignty over its territory.

The fact that Mr Begin himself signed the Egyptian peace treaty, which is based on these two principles, means that the international balance and the equation of peace-political activity in the area will permit nothing in the future except what has been applied in the Egyptian-Israeli treaty, in spite of all the intentions, statements, measures and laws which are issued unilaterally.

This is because it has been proved through actual practice in the Sinai territory that the intentions of a given party concern that party alone and do not commit the international community to anything and that it cannot twist the arms of the elements in the settlement equation.

Mr Begin's cabinet realizes this, so, what aim does he have in mind with this emphatic style? To embarrass Egypt before its brother Arabs and try to obstruct the inevitable path to solidarity between Egypt and its fraternal Arab countries, a solidarity whose path no one can block, although one can obstruct it for a while.

The Arab Awakening

The ordinary man on the street in Egypt and the Arab world has come to understand the purpose behind this Israeli style. We have learned from past experience that attempts to obstruct Arab solidarity which is oriented toward the joint effort to reach a comprehensive just settlement resolution are doomed to fail. On top of that, we have learned that matters might drag on somewhat in the move firmly to establish the two basic principles of peace, but that it will inevitably reach its objective, which there is no turning away from - peace for all the peoples in the area and the sovereignty of all peoples over their territory.

There remains an observation which we Arabs must be well aware of. Let me phrase that in the form of a question:

What do you suppose would happen were the Israeli government not bound today by the agreement to negotiate autonomy with Egypt? Would there be anything to prevent Mr Begin from actually announcing the annexation of the Bank and Gaza today?

We must look at Mr Begin's statement yesterday and ponder the way it was formulated. The formulation says "when the time comes to apply Israeli sovereignty to the Bank and Gaza." This formulation means that there is something preventing Israel from applying that at the present time. What else is there except its commitment to negotiate with Egypt?

Thus we have a period of time before us, imposed by agreement, which is preventing the consummation of the annexation. By the time this period ends, the objective conditions in Israel, the Arab nation and the international community for the endorsement of a comprehensive just settlement that will include an endorsement of Palestinian rights will have fully ripened. Are we paying attention to Israel's momentary technique of embarrassing Egypt and covering up its achievements on behalf of Palestinian rights? Is everyone proceeding, in the time available, to allow the circumstances for a comprehensive settlement to ripen?

One cannot avoid this question. We have learned that the objective conditions favorable for national and humanitarian goals will not come about spontaneously -- rather, the interested parties must move them toward the realm of actuality and real achievement.

Israeli View at Conference

Cairo AL-AKHBAR in Arabic 18 May 82 p 10

[Article by Ibrahim al-Bahrawi]

[Text] In the 4 May issue, on this page, we presented an analysis written by Schlomo Gazit, the former chief of Israeli intelligence and now the president of Ben Gurion University, for the newspaper YEDIOT AHARONOT.

The analysis presented a picture of the political mood prevailing today in Israel, which, in the writer's view, may be summarized in two points:

A. Retention of the West Bank and Gaza in the framework of what is known as the historic land of Israel, while finding a humanitarian solution to the Palestinian issue which will empty it of its political contents.

B. Retention of the peace agreement with Egypt, while giving it an isolated character divorced from the second part bearing on the Palestinian issue.

They Picked up the Thread in Alexandria

The article was published on the fourth day of the symposium held in Alexandria by three delegations of American, Israeli and Egyptian intellectuals, chaired by Dr Muhammad Sha'lan and organized by the American Psychiatric Society.

Among the five members of the Israeli delegation, the Alexandria symposium included Shlomo Gazit, the man who made the above analysis, while on the Egyptian side it consisted of Dr 'Abd-al-'Azim Ramadan, Dr Lutfi Fatim, Dr 'Abd-al-'Aziz Nawwar and Dr 'Adil Sadiq.

The symposium devoted itself to discussing the issues of conflict and peace and the possibilities the future might bring for the establishment of a comprehensive peace.

When this analysis was published on this page, the temperature of the discussion at the symposium rose and some members of the Egyptian delegation rushed to Shlomo Gazit with a copy of the analysis to attack him for the article which he had published in YEDIOT AHARONOT and we had reprinted. The conversation between the Egyptian and Israeli delegations on the contents of the analysis and its author's position on the future of the peace was lengthy and revealed new positions.

Report by the Symposium Chairman

When the symposium was completed and its chairman, Dr Sha'lan, related to us the effect we had on its proceedings from a distance, we considered it appropriate to present a picture of the different kinds of discussion of the future that went on in it, on the basis of a conversation we held with its chairman, from whom we produced a report on the symposium's subjects and the currents of thinking in it.

Issues of the Symposium

At the start of the discussion I asked the symposium chairman to summarize the main issues with which the symposium occupied itself. He summarized these as follows:

A. The significance of the withdrawal from Sinai and the concomitant Israeli problems and moods in the two settlements of Ofira at Sharm al-Shaykh and Yamit on the Mediterranean on the one hand and the related official Israeli government positions concerning the border problems at Taba and the 15 posts on the other.

B. The future of the Palestine issue.

The Israeli View of the Withdrawal

I told the symposium chairman, "I would like you to provide us with the view the members of the Israeli delegation presented in the context of the symposium on the issue of the withdrawal from Sinai and concomitant problems."

Dr Sha'lan said:

"The first person to deal with this issue was Prof Rafael Moses, an Israeli psychoanalyst. He said that prior to the withdrawal he was summoned to the Ofira settlement, which was essentially established at the gateway to Sharm al-Shaykh for military reasons, to offer psychological advice to the settlers, who had been suffering from anxiety and psychological and physical disturbances as the date of the withdrawal approached. Prof Moses said that he discovered that the inhabitants of the settlement were for the most part nature lovers and were drawn to the quiet life in the desert, and that the beauty of the area was what motivated and prompted them to settle down there, far from the commotion of urban life. It had not occurred to them that their presence in the settlement was related to the military objectives Moshe Dayan expressed in his famous remark 'Sharm al-Shaykh without peace is better for Israel than peace without Sharm al-Shaykh.' Therefore the psychological disturbances the inhabitants suffered from were related to the fact that they were compelled to leave the place which they had developed an affection and fondness for living in.

"Therefore he facilitated their evacuation from the area, their departure from it was not connected to any political positions, and the settlement was not destroyed."

I asked Dr Sha'lan, "Did Prof Moses offer a comparison between the psychological situations in Ofira and Yamit?"

He replied:

"The situation in Yamit was too bad to call for a psychiatrist. A psychiatrist comes in when an afflicted person has some conscious vision, but when the afflicted person is in a state of insanity he needs the police to lock him up in a hospital."

I asked, "Was that your opinion or the opinion of Prof Moses?"

He replied, "That was my comparison. Prof Moses laughed in agreement with the comparison. The fact is that the people who were in Yamit were not its original inhabitants but were members of the movement opposed to the withdrawal and members of the Gush Emonim group who had come from the settlements on the West Bank to stop the withdrawal."

I asked the chairman of the symposium, "Did the symposium address itself to the psychological and non-psychological motives that prompted these people to take the stand we witnessed in Yamit?"

Dr Sha'lan said,

"Prof Gabriel Cohen, professor of history at Tel Aviv University, presented four reasons for this group's stand, as follows:

"A. The principle of settlement, which is a part of Zionist ideology, and on whose basis this group opposed the withdrawal from the settlement, lest the principle be violated.

"B. The principle of the promised land, which is the main motive as far as the Gush Emonim group is concerned; it interprets the teachings of the Old Testament as holding that the Yamit area is part of the land of Israel.

"C. A practical motive embodied in the consideration that Gaza is a finger pointed at Tel Aviv, that the finger is connected to a hand, which is Sinai, and that it is therefore necessary to sever the finger from the hand by means of a triangle of territory in the Yamit area for security reasons.

"D. A financial motive, which is to obtain as much compensation as possible."

I asked Dr Sha'lan: "How did the members of the Israeli delegation view the Israeli government's conduct."

He replied, "They made criticisms of government's position. They compared the violence it has used on the Bank and in Gaza with the extreme leniency with which the opponents of withdrawal who stood in the way of the execution of the government's international commitments were treated, which reached the point where the government sent a senior officer to Yamit to command the troops to ensure that violence would not be used. Of course the government's position entails a desire to exaggerate the significance of the withdrawal from the settlement in order to exploit the matter internationally, as if it was a major Israeli sacrifice."

I asked him, "How did the Israeli delegation view the situation in Taba and the 15 posts?"

He said, "We explained to them that as far as the Egyptians were concerned, it was a matter of principle, and we were not prepared to disturb the principle of the total retention of Egyptian territory. That was a response to the fear on the part of members of the Israeli delegation that Egypt's repossession of every square inch of its territory would become a question of general principle."

I asked the symposium chairman, "Do you mean that they do not want to withdraw from every square inch, lest the Egyptian treaty be a model that can subsequently be applied on the Bank and in Gaza and Golan?"

He replied, "Yes, they said exactly that. They said that the partition of Rafah could subsequently be a model for the repartitioning of Jerusalem and that the withdrawal from Taba and the limited area around that would in the future mean the elimination of the principle of border modifications, even trivial ones, and that was something they could not accept, although they favored a comprehensive peace."

I asked, "Doesn't that mean that the members of the Israeli delegation implicitly accept the fact that Taba is really Egyptian territory?"

He replied, "You can reach that conclusion, of course."

Gazit and the Palestinian State

I told the symposium chairman, "Let us move over to the Palestinian cause. You told me that Gazit's analysis, which we published in AL-AKHBAR, raised the temperature of the discussion on the Palestinian issue. What did Gazit say when you presented him with the analysis?"

He replied, "Gazit asserted that the analysis AL-AKHBAR reprinted represented his description of the prevailing mood in Israel today but did not represent his personal opinion. Personally, he wanted a purely Jewish state and did not agree to the principle of the annexation of the Bank and Gaza, with the population they contained. In fact, he was prepared to retain a purely Jewish state even if that meant a reduction in Israel's area and the renunciation of part of the borders in which it was established in 1948, in order to be rid of the non-Jewish inhabitants."

I asked the symposium chairman, "Does this mean that Gazit is in favor of returning Gaza and the Bank to establish an independent Palestinian state in order to preserve Israel's Jewish character?"

He replied, "Yes. The discussions on the Palestine question concluded that the interests of all parties lay in the establishment of a Palestinian state. It embodied the Egyptian national interest in protecting its eastern gateway, it embodied the Israeli interest, considering that the prevailing current there wants to retain the Jewish character of most of its population and it embodied Palestinian interests, because from the practical standpoint it is difficult for two different peoples to live in a single framework."

I asked the symposium chairman, "Did the members of the Israeli delegation agree with this, in turn?"

He replied, "Yes, they prefer the establishment of a Palestinian state to a threat to the Jewish identity of the Israeli state."

Begin's Immediate Future Reviewed

Cairo AL-AKHBAR in Arabic 18 May 82 p 10

[Article by Halah al-'Isawi]

[Text] To round out the review this page has made of the Israeli view of the future during the period following the completion of the Israeli withdrawal from Sinai, we are reviewing today an article by the well known writer Yael Marcus that was published in the newspaper HAARETZ under the title "Begin in Search of Tomorrow."

This article deals with all the events and grave responsibilities that await Begin after he finished carrying out the first part of the two Camp David agreements, as well as the position he must adopt, from the viewpoint of the writer Yael Marcus, who begins his article by recalling historical events that confirm that after every major conference

or great disaster the [existing] consensus vanishes and the person in power is suddenly left alone in a stage which could be called postclimatic, when the heart feels a void that is accompanied by a question: what will we do now?

The writer says that this state occurs often in history; after the peak or climax comes the crisis or letdown. These moments often afflict leaders who have fulfilled a great national objective in politics or in the field of economics, where they leave the stage for their homes (especially after success). The writer considers that Begin, by every indication, will face this sort of state of bewilderment and loss of direction toward what he calls "the special days" that are awaiting the country; he, that is Begin, has admitted, in a meeting with the Likud Party paper, that in the future there will be serious problems in the fields of politics, security and the economy.

Problems of the Bank and Gaza

Begin knows full well that he will not be able to do anything with regard to anything related to the Bank or Gaza, and the current situation confirms that it will be difficult for him to withdraw from them, though on the other hand, it will be difficult for him to annex them. All that is open to him is to fluctuate between a deterioration in the situation, which is not to be ruled out, and the pressures that will arise from our being coerced into a situation we do not find satisfactory. He is afraid that the total withdrawal from Sinai and the relative ease with which it occurred will be a precedent, in the eyes of the United States of America and moderate Arab countries.

The Narrow Majority and the Domestic Situation

The writer Yael Marcus also considers that Begin feels anxiety over the narrow majority his cabinet enjoys and he is not convinced that early elections will allow his regime to win, as his colleagues think. Therefore it is difficult to tell whether Mr Begin knew where he was going after the point of climax or the peak he reached with the completion of the withdrawal. In the writer's estimation, Begin has no solution, not even to any single one of the serious problems that stand in his way, and he hopes that he will be able to cover his problems up.

Begin, in the writer's opinion, is adopting a contradictory policy vis-a-vis Ariel Sharon. He praised him for his good side in evacuating from Yamit, but, after Sharon was caught up in this firm, suffocating noose about the whole Israeli people, we find that he did not hesitate to indicate that if a national bloc cabinet were established, with eight ministers for each party, the position of the minister of defense would continue to be negotiable.

Begin holds a similar position with respect to the decision to evacuate the Sinai settlements. He makes the Knesset as a whole, and Maarakh in particular, responsible for this decision. The coming tactical operation he will perform will be an initiative to have the Knesset resolve not to put the settlements in the context of a future resolution.

Of course this sort of initiative does not have any actual value except to limit provocations and uprisings in the occupied areas. Similarly, the Knesset will not be delegated to change any decisions in the event that is necessary.

How will Maarakh act? If it supports the proposal, it will find itself like someone dancing to Begin's insistent tune (that is, proceeding in his caravan), and if it does

not support him people will say that it supports the abandonment of the settlements (which of course is an unpatriotic position as far as the Israelis go). If it seeks a middle solution, Maarakh may find itself once again divided in the voting.

The Government of National Unity Evades Responsibility

The writer believes that the recommendation which Begin declared involves a sort of evasion of responsibility for decisions. He wants Maarakh in his cabinet so that it can share with him the responsibility for the difficult situation that the government is facing in the context of an administration distinguished by a lack of solutions to problems in all areas. This position will save him from early elections, and he will appear before history as the man who unified the people. It is clear that he wants Maarakh with him, divided and fragmented. He indeed does talk about eight ministries for Maarakh in the proposed coalition government, but he knows full well that this is a theoretical recommendation, because Maarakh will not take part in the Likud cabinet if it is in sound shape -- indeed, it will be a self-contained party with at least 10 members in the Knesset, and, faced with these circumstances, the senior partner (Maarakh) would save Begin from certain crisis.

Here the writer considers, from the standpoint of logic, that it would be better for Begin to depart after completing the withdrawal from Egypt. That has happened more than once with presidents and prime ministers after they had met a single national goal. He says "However, since with us logic does not have two legs, Mr Begin is searching for tomorrow."

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GSO: 4504/321

PRIORITY FOR LAND RECLAMATION

Cairo MAYU in Arabic No 71, 31 May 82 p 9

[Article: "Priority for Firms in Land Reclamation; Expedite Amendment of Relationship Between Owner and Lessee"]

[Text] The National Council for Production and Economic Affairs, charged by Dr 'Abd al-Qadir Hatim, the general supervisor, has recommended giving priority to firms engaged in land reclamation and restoring and developing land for agriculture, since they are best able to endure a deficit or low profit, especially during the first few years. Then in subsequent states, the activities of cooperatives and individuals could begin.

It also recommended expediting the amendment of current laws pertaining to the relationship between the owner and the lessee in order to achieve a natural balance for positive relations. This would provide incentive for land reclamation and its use for increased production, and provide a new means for reconciliation between the tendency to distribute small holdings and the ideal use for reclaimed land, through the use of modern agricultural methods. The council demanded a system of crop composition for the new land which would determine the principal crops for each area, along with a review of the policies of pricing and direct and indirect agricultural taxation. This would have an effect on the investment gain. Studies should be intensified regarding subterranean water and its course, in order to implement the most appropriate ways of utilizing it in the areas of reclamation, and the introduction of water regulations for each crop, in light of the reality of essential needs. The state should expedite infrastructure projects for the reclaimed areas, aside from strict application of the laws and decisions pertaining to violations against land suitable for reclamation.

The council discussed a report about the economic framework for land reclamation, prepared by the council's agricultural production branch. It dealt with the stages and basic elements of reclamation, in light of the studies conducted in this regard, including a study previously prepared by the National Council for Production, which referred to the possibility of reclaiming 2.8 million feddans by the year 2000.

The council stressed that in order to achieve the connection between the elements and factors of land reclamation and establishing the plans and programs to be implemented, it would be necessary to conduct economic feasibility studies before beginning work. These must be factual studies with effective and accurate assessments of the various components, in light of the local and international changes connected with production, consumption and prices.

BRIEFS

NOMINATIONS FOR SLP HIGHER COMMITTEE--The Preparatory Committee for the first general conference of the Socialist Labor Party has decided to open nominations for membership on the Higher Executive Committee. Elections are to be held during the conference sessions. Nominations begin Tuesday morning and will continue until noon on Thursday, 3 June. Applications are to be submitted in person to the Party's Secretariat at the main headquarters. It is stipulated that the candidate must have been a party member for a minimum of 1 year and has paid all required dues. It is well known that the party by-laws stipulate that the party's general conference shall elect the party chairman and the Higher Executive Committee. Then, from among its members, the committee shall elect two vice chairmen, a secretary general, an assistant secretary, a treasurer and an assistant treasurer. Along with the chairman, they form the board of directors. [Text] [Cairo AL-SHA'B in Arabic No 127, 25 May 82 p 1] 7005

CSO: 4504/337

JERUSALEM LIBERATION MAIN OBJECTIVE OF IRAN--KHORASANI

Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 29 May 82 pp 1, 3

[Text] Washington (IRNA)--The Iranian ambassador and permanent representative in the United Nations Dr. Saeed Rajaie Khorasani in an interview with the CBS network said that liberating Jerusalem was Iran's main objective and that the United States was responsible for all problems in the Middle East.

He recalled that if other Muslims of the region and Iranians were friends and united they could form a single front against their common enemy, the Zionist regime.

Rajaie added that Jerusalem was still under the occupation of the Zionist regime and that all the Muslims of the region were willing to liberate it. If Haig was afraid of Iran's determination and wanted to establish peace in the region, said Rajaie Khorasani, instead of creating unity among the U.S. and countries of the region Haig should give up interfering in the affairs of the region. "We are Muslims and the Muslim nations of the region can form a single front", he stressed.

He then said that Iran has no designs on Iraqi territory and that although Iran suffered heavy damages it would continue to gain its legitimate rights.

Then in his interview the Iranian diplomat referred to the crimes of Saddam and said that Saddam had killed many Iranians and that thousands have lost their limbs and homes under the artillery fire of Iraq. He said that the Iraqi nation did not want Saddam and that there were 120,000 Iraqi refugees in Iran, who should be able to return to their country.

He referred to the demonstrations against Saddam in some Iraqi cities, including Najaf, Soleimaniyeh, and Kerbala, as proof of Saddam's unpopularity.

Rajaie denied Iran was receiving any aid from the Zionist regime and said these specious reports were being spread only to poison international opinion against the Islamic Revolution of Iran.

Concerning alleged military aid by the Soviet Union to Iran Rajaie said that Iran provided for its needs through the free market and had received no military aid from the Soviet Union.

Fortunately, he added, in the Bostan operations Iran was able to capture much Soviet military equipments from the Iraqis which would last for three months.

CSO: 4600/527

RAFSANJANI CONDEMNS SADDAM REGIME

Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 29 May 82 pp 1, 3

[Text]

TEHRAN, (IRNA)— In Friday prayers in Tehran yesterday, Prayers Leader Rafsanjani elaborated the implications of this week's victories, excerpts follow:

"O Muslims of the world. The Iraqi Baathist Party and Saddam Takriti have been committing crimes in the world of Islam for 14 years. During this period they have always told lies to the Iraqi people and other Muslims. Although most of their lies have been exposed they continue lying.

He then referred to a number of important lies which had been discredited:

— The Iraqi Ba'athists claim they are revolutionary and progressive but it is clear now that they are members of the camp of reactionaries and compromisers.

— They claim to campaign against imperialism but now it is clear they are agents of Western and Eastern imperialism.

— They repeated pro-left slogans to the effect that they support the oppressed but today their imperialist nature is clear.

— They numbered themselves a member of the Steadfastness Front but it was clear that they sought influence in the front just to create obstacle and in fact they were companions of the defunct Sadat.

— They claimed they wanted war against the Zionist regime but they never actually fight the Zionist regime. Now it is revealed they collaborated with Sadat and the United States.

— They committed the worst aggression against the Islamic Republic of Iran but spoke of Iran's alleged aggression against Iraq while they had occupied thousands of square kilometers of land, hundreds of villages, and several cities of Iran.

— They attacked the Arabs and Kurds in Iran but claimed they supported the rights of the Arabs and Kurds.

— They invaded Islamic Iran whose revolution was for Islam and Islamic unity and then accused Iran for fighting against Sunni and Arab Muslims while in Iran Arabs and Sunnis together with their brothers were fighting against the Ba'athist enemy.

— The doctrine of the Ba'athist Party clearly is against Islam and religion but in this war they called themselves the supporters of Islam.

— For about one year now they have been losing the war in all fronts but they always propagate that they are victorious.

— They called their escape in the first stage of the Bait al-Muqaddas operations a "victorious withdrawal."

— In Khorramshahr 25,000 Iraqis were killed, wounded or captured but they called it a "calculated withdrawal."

— Ba'athist terrorists have created insecurity in the Persian Gulf region but they call the Iranians "factors of disorder."

— In the Khorramshahr operations they ordered the Iraqi army to resist until the last bullet and said that defending Khorramshahr was on the level of defending Baghdad. After their defeat they said that they taught a lesson to the Iranians.

— Iraq portrays itself as peace seeking, and Iran as war-mongering, but in fact Iran is seeking peace and stability in

the region. Iran should
achieve its legitimate rights and
those who support rightfulness
could stand beside Iran.

The prayers leader said all
of Saddam's record of lies
would be fully exposed when
the Iraq dictator fell.

CSO: 4600/527

JAPAN TO SUBMIT PROJECT PLAN WITHIN ONE MONTH

Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 29 May 82 p 2

[Text]

TEHRAN (IRNA) The Oil Ministry Deputy for Petrochemical Affairs, Taheri Najafabadi, in an interview with IRNA Thursday commented on the outcome of the fourth round of negotiations between Japanese and Iranian officials on the Iran-Japan Petrochemical Complex in Imam Khomeini Port.

Taheri said that in this round of talks the discussions mainly centered on preparing a plan to restart the preliminary construction work of the complex as soon as possible and within this framework.

A plan was submitted to the Japanese mission and it was decided that the Japanese mission return to Tehran with a plan within a month, he said.

As for the budget needed to complete the project, Taheri told the IRNA that if the prog-

ress of executive works of the project was accepted by the National Petrochemical Industries Company, the budget for executive work for a period of six months would be provided by Iran as a loan. He further stressed that it has been made clear to the Japanese officials that the idea behind this was to speed the start of the work.

Furthermore, this measure would provide Japanese counterparts with an opportunity to implement their former financial obligations, he said.

Commenting on other units affiliated to the project which were supposed to be developed within the next twenty years, he said that considering the objectives of the country's planning and the existing possibilities at the time being the National Petrochemical Industry was preparing a 20-year plan for expansion of the petrochemical industry in Iran, with the objective of reaching self-sufficiency in petrochemicals.

The Japanese delegation arrived here on May 19 and left Thursday.

CSO: 4600/527

BRIEFS

KHUZESTAN AREAS INSPECTED--Nejat Hoseynian, minister of roads and transportation, and some of his aides, advisers and ministry officials arrived in Khuzestan yesterday morning for a survey and inspection of roads and (?ports) in the war areas. They were received at the airport by the governor general and local authorities. Nejat Hoseynian and his entourage inspected the Ahvaz, Khorramshahr railroad link after his arrival in Ahvaz. During his visit he spoke to the brother railroad workers who were busy with repair operations. He thanked the brothers who were working like soldiers in the rear. According to this report, the minister of roads and transportation and the accompanying officials also inspected the railroad station and customs port of Khorramshahr and Abadan airport and adopted certain decisions regarding reconstruction work and the mode of its implementation. The minister of roads and transportation and officials accompanying him also attended a meeting of the governor general, director of roads and transportation, and other Khuzestan officials in Ahvaz. Plans for reconstruction in the war areas of the province related to the ministry were reviewed and discussed and certain decisions were made. [Excerpt] [GF131346 Ahvaz Domestic Service in Persian 1330 GMT 12 Jun 82]

SARBEDARAN WARNS REGIME OFFICIALS--According to our correspondent in Tehran, following a warning by the Sarbedaran group to district governors and governors who continue serving the antinationalist regime of the mullas, the seminar of governors of the country continues its work in Tehran. Apparently they are trying to lengthen the sessions under the pretense of the need to review the governors' problems, thus delaying a return to their posts as long as possible. Amir 'Abbas Mofrad, the Hezbollahi governor of Ramsar and one of the targets of the warning by Sarbedaran monarchist organization, was recently assassinated. [Text] [GF131331 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1500 GMT 12 Jun 82]

ANTIREGIME COMMUNIQUE--The Front for the Liberation of Iran issued a communique in Europe today asking for the unification of all the national forces of Iran against the regime of Khomeyni. In its communique, the Front for the Liberation of Iran deemed the Khomeyni regime a tyrannical, quarrelsome, antinational regime which, by creating discord among the Muslims of the world, has greatly weakened the front against Israel in the Middle East. In conclusion, the communique of the movement stated that the antinational mulla regime has surpassed all the fascist regimes of the world and the diabolical turbaned friends who had been spilled out by the seminaries have transformed the whole

country of Iran into a battlefield and have inflicted atrocities on the people of Iran which are so astonishing that their likes have not been heard of in the history of the world. In view of the above reasons, the Front for the Liberation of Iran asks all our compatriots not to waste a single opportunity to harm the Khomeyni regime. No matter how minor these acts may be, whether they are writing graffiti on the walls, aiming at guards when they are alone in the streets and alleys, not obeying the orders of mullas, guards and Komitehs or absence from the Friday exhibition of prayers, they are some of the national duties which, according to the Front for the Liberation of Iran, are blows that can be dealt by all the people of our country. [Text] [GF141711 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1500 GMT 14 Jun 82]

CLANDESTINE BLAMES REGIME--Reports from Paris state that members of the Liberation Movement of Iran have issued a statement in connection with our country's disorderly situation in which all patriotic Iranians have been called on to unite against Khomeyni's usurping regime. The Liberation Movement of Iran has described Khomeyni's regime inhuman, antinational and oppressive and has condemned it for creating differences and discord among the world's Muslims. The members of this movement believe that the behavior and remarks of officials of the clerical Islamic republic has (?reduced the extent of Arab opposition to Israel) and has weakened the resistance front against the Tel Aviv government. In its statement the Liberation Movement of Iran has asked all patriotic Iranians to use all their efforts to overthrow Khomeyni's regime and not spare any efforts or even struggles to achieve this. [Text] [NC151051 (Clandestine) Voice of Iran in Persian 1805 GMT 14 Jun 82]

LIBYA'S JALLUD MEETS PREMIER--Major 'Abd al-Salam Jallud, a member of the Revolution Command Council of Libya, who is in Tehran as the head of a high-ranking political economic delegation, met Mr Mir Hoseyn Musavi, the prime minister this morning. According to the central news unit correspondent, during the session, which was attended by Defense Minister Colonel Salimi, the political undersecretary of the Foreign Ministry, (S'ad Mojber), the deputy consular officer of the Libyan People's Bureau in Tehran, as well as by a number of Libyan officials, matters of mutual interest and especially the strengthening of the present ties were discussed. [Text] [GF151701 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 15 Jun 82]

CSO; 4640/351

GUINEAN PRESIDENT ON GULF WAR MEDIATION

GF121645 Jidda AL-MADINAH in Arabic 10 Jun 82 p 6

[Interview with Ahmed Sekou Toure, president of Guinea and chairman of the Islamic Good Offices Committee, by AL-MADINAH correspondent Jamal Bashtubgi; in Jidda--date not given]

[Excerpts] [Question] Your excellency Mr President, the final communique issued after the meeting of the Islamic Good Offices Committee was ambitious but imprecise. How do you explain that?

[Answer] The communique represents the outcome of what was discussed by the committee, whose intention was to organize direct or indirect talks between Iran and Iraq. The committee chose Mecca as the site for these talks. We were convinced that we would be able to receive both the Iranian and Iraqi delegations and listen to them one more time. We were also convinced that we would be able to bring about proposals capable of stopping the aggression and military operations and that we would enter decisive negotiations. As you know, we sent two delegations, one to Baghdad and one to Tehran. One of the answers which we received was in favor of the meeting. The other answer involves some of the fundamental issues without rejecting the idea of holding talks. To avoid failure of the negotiations, which we want to be successful, the committee decided to study deeply these issues.

Therefore, the committee has been assigned to visit Iran frequently to explain to officials in Tehran the general considerations and special reasons which make the meeting proposed for Mecca a necessary and vital thing. The lessons which we could benefit from are many. However, what I have to emphasize is that each side is convinced that both sides are losing. The peoples of the two countries are fraternal and share a common history and their destiny should be solidarity. Through their casualties and losses of equipment, the Iranian and Iraqi peoples will realize a lesson which will force them to avoid military confrontation on the battlefield in the future.

The second lesson is represented by the fact that the continuation of war has greatly weakened the defensive and struggle capabilities of the Islamic nation. Israel benefits more and more from the differences of the Arab countries and presents them with a fait accompli. It is practicing a policy of mass annihilation at the expense of the Lebanese and Palestinians. This means that Iraq and Iran have no right to fight each other, especially since their contribution is necessary and desired by the Palestinians and Lebanese to confront the Israeli challenge.

[Question] Military clashes took place on the battlefronts between Iran and Iraq during the meetings of the committee. Don't you think it would be better to stop these clashes at least during the committee's meeting?

[Answer] We have noticed that military operations stopped during the committee's meetings. The military clashes which took place the day before yesterday were after the committee's meeting. According to my information, the situation was stable during the period from 5 to 8 June. We welcome this situation and consider it a responsible act from both sides.

[Question] Tehran has declared that changing the ruler in Baghdad is its precondition for peace negotiations. What is your comment?

[Answer] This condition has not been presented officially to the Islamic Good Offices Committee. On the other hand, this is considered to be interference in the internal affairs of a foreign country. I don't think that the Iraqi government can change the Iranian government nor can Iran change Iraq. Establishment and formation of a government falls within the absolute and final authority of the people.

[Question] Is there any coordination between the efforts being exerted by the Islamic Good Offices Committee for peace and the individual efforts being exerted by Algeria to end the Iraq-Iran war?

[Answer] Officially, we are not aware of these efforts. We consider any real, honest and positive effort by any Muslim side to be legitimate. There is no competition in seeking peace.

[Question] Don't you think there should be one committee comprising all peace-seeking forces instead of dissipating the efforts?

[Answer] We know that we represent the Algerian people. President Bendjedid, who represents the supreme authority in his country, elected us to form the Good Offices Committee. We represent Algeria and all Islamic countries.

[Question] We want to judge the work of the last session of the committee. Do you think that it failed or achieved success?

[Answer] It achieved success. The committee gains more confidence of both the Iranian and Iraqi sides each time it meets.

[Question] New changes took place in Chad and Habre took over N'djamena. Do you think this is the beginning or end of a crisis?

[Answer] I hope this will be the end of the crisis, especially since Habre expressed his desire to achieve reconciliation among all disputing factions in the country. We think he is going in the right and correct way because, with the absence of reconciliation among citizens of one people and with the absence of peace, there will be no progress. We are ready to offer our sincere aid to Habre so that he can carry out his political reconciliation program in Chad because the crisis in Chad has always been a political crisis and not a unity crisis. We think it is the task of all African countries to offer their sincere aid to Chad so that peace can be attained in that African country.

BAGHDAD DENIES ACCESS TO IRANIAN FORCES

GF131703 Baghdad International Service in Azeri 1800 GMT 12 Jun 82

[Excerpts] Dear listeners. The deceitful rulers in Tehran have failed to make a positive response to the humane and Islamic call made by the Iraqi government for ending the war between Iran and Iraq immediately. Intending to broaden this bloody war, they wish to cause more bloodshed. The Iraqi government, the Revolution Command Council and the entire Iraqi people have announced that the Iraqi Army is prepared to withdraw from the Iranian territory it has occupied and put an end to the war so that it can counter the assault the [words indistinct] have launched against southern Lebanon and continue fulfilling its heroic role against the existence of Zionism on Palestinian land--an existence continued since 1948.

Iraq has stressed since the beginning of the war that it does not covet Iranian land. Iraq recognizes Iranian soil as the homeland of the Iranian people. Iraq has also been (?respecting) the [word indistinct], independence and territorial integrity of Iran--a country which has been Iraq's neighbor for centuries. Nevertheless, Iraq's wish is to have a neighbor which does not interfere in its internal affairs or act to bring blood into the daily life of the Iraqi people.

Regrettably, however, the Satanic rulers in Qom and Tehran, who have usurped the glorious revolution staged by the Iranian nation and condemned the leaders of the said revolution to death by firing squad and explosives, stating that it was supposedly for the sake of the revolution, have been engaged in making ambiguous responses to Iraq's humane, ethical, Islamic and noble offer. It is obvious that through this conspiracy they intend to do everything possible to prevent this sad imposed war from coming to an end.

It has become crystal clear today that the [word indistinct] of Khomeyni and his sinful group depends on the continuation of this bloody war. However, willingly or unwillingly they have to agree to end the war. Otherwise, they will be exposing themselves.

Iraq's offer has been warmly applauded by the whole world. However, the Satanic [word indistinct] dregs have now resorted to a new move. This is the question of allowing Iranian armed forces to cross through Iraqi soil. In fact, this is one of their conditions for ending the war. Only until yesterday the Khomeyni clique resorted to military action within Iraqi territory

with the intention of [words indistinct], who are their blood brothers, by destroying their homes in order to continue (pursuing the policy of) the [words indistinct] and the Shah Mohammad Rezas. Now, however, they seem to be endeavoring to give a new appearance to their Satanic intention. They also wish to impose it on the Iraqi government as a natural (?condition).

According to the announcement issued by the rulers in Tehran, Iraq has to abandon its sacrifices and independence and act as a guide to Khomeyni's midget but fascist forces through its territory and see them off in [words indistinct] from its soil. What is the intention behind Khomeyni's wish to extend his hand over Iraqi territory? Why should such a road cross only through Iraq? If the issue seems very complicated to others, it is very clear to Iraq. They simply want to mislead the world with their statements.

Khomeyni has been clamoring that arch-Satan United States cannot achieve anything in Iran. He must understand, however, that the midget (?agents) of conspiratorial and instigating superpowers will not be able to achieve anything in Iraq either. Iraqi soil is the homeland of Iraqi citizens. That is why the Iraqi's regard Iranian soil as the homeland of Iranian citizens. The Iranian rulers must consider the historic call made by the Iraqi Revolution Command Council and move to [words indistinct] because the direction of the war does not tally with the interests of conspirators, the Pentagon, the CIA, the [British] intelligence service and Mossad and [words indistinct].

They are calling for continuation of the war. They are continuing to impose this war on the heroic Iraqi nation in order to maintain their rule. The Iraqi people, on the other hand, with inexhaustible strength and unshaking determination, continue to defend their honor, dignity and independence against the idolatrous clique in Iran. The continuation of the war will undoubtedly result in the emergence of secret forces, [words indistinct] and the exposure of the identities of many other criminal and cruel enemies which in turn will lead to their disgrace.

(?If they want this to happen, then) let Khomeyni and his dregs continue in the same direction. However, they must understand that Iraq will not be responsible for such an eventuality. If the adventurist and deceitful rulers of Iran do not abide by rules and regulations and international agreements and principles, and if they do not recognize the United Nations, the international nature of our time, international law, organizations of Islamic countries and the nonaligned movement--in other words, if they do not respect the whole world, including Iraq--then we are not obliged to respect a (?rebellious) enemy. We therefore declare that we shall respond to greetings with greetings and to fire with fire. There is no alternative for the Iraqi people.

In order to prevent further bloodshed, Iraq announced its readiness to agree to a cease-fire and even to withdraw from the land of this clique. The condition was that the [word indistinct] clique should immediately end the war and announce its agreement to a cease-fire. This should be regarded as a new opportunity given to the Khomeyni regime by the Iraqi government. What this regime should now do is to respond favorably to Iraq's offer. There is no alternative.

IRAQ

KURDISH PARTY CONDEMNS IRANIANS, ISRAELI WARS

JN150819 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0720 GMT 15 Jun 82

[Text] Baghdad, 15 Jun (INA)--The Central Committee of the Kurdistan Revolutionary Party [KRP] has emphasized that the aggressive war imposed on Iraq by the Iranian regime was an advanced link in the imperialist-Zionist plot against the region.

In a statement issued here today at the end of its 21st meeting which was devoted to studying and discussing the Arab and international developments, the Central Committee pointed out that the other chapters of the plot, including the wild Zionist onslaught against Lebanon and the Palestinian Arab people, is cogent proof of the strategic alliance between imperialism, Zionism, the Iranian regime and the forces allied to them.

The committee stressed that the Zionist invasion of Lebanon which is aimed at annihilating the Palestinian and Lebanese resistance and at imposing a state of capitulation on the Arab nation calls for serious work to unify the ranks of all honorable strugglers, considering the Zionist invasion of Lebanon a link in the imperialist plot which is being implemented in stages for the purpose of imposing the imperialist and Zionist hegemony on the region.

Concluding its statement, the KRP reaffirmed the support of the Iraqi people--both Arabs and Kurds--for the Palestinian and Lebanese peoples in their struggle to defeat the Zionist invasion and foil its hostile aims. It called on the masses of the Arab and Islamic nation to unify their ranks and destroy all obstacles hampering Jihad against the Zionists and imperialists.

CSO: 4400/328

IRAQI COMMUNISTS VIEW OPPOSITION FRONT'S PARTIES

JN150032 (Clandestine) Voice of Iraqi People in Arabic 1620 GMT 15 Jun 82

[Text] The following is an explanation from the Iraqi Communist Party Politburo:

In its issue No 5353 of 18 May 1982, the newspaper AL-BA'TH published reportage in which the name of our party was mentioned as one of the constituents of the Democratic National and Patriotic Front [DNPf]. Our party, therefore, would like to give the following explanation:

1. The Iraqi Communist Party was one of the parties which paved the way for the establishment of the DNPf and for its proclamation of 12 November 1980. The Kurdistan Socialist Party, which was not mentioned among the parties taking part in the DNPf, also took part in its formation.
2. Our parties endeavored to expand the DNPf in order to include national forces and parties which are still outside the front, such as the Kurdistan Democratic Party which is an important political force of the Kurdish Nationalist Movement and the Iraqi National Movement struggling against the dictatorship.
3. In view of the rejection by some DNPf partners of accepting the Kurdistan Democratic Party into the DNPf, our party and the Kurdistan Socialist Party worked to establish an alliance with the Kurdistan Democratic Party under the name of the Democratic National Front [DNF], which was declared on 28 November 1980.
4. Some DNPf partners exploited the establishment of the DNF as a pretext for ruining joint action between the Communist Party and the Socialist Party and they demanded that the DNF be disbanded as a precondition for continued joint action. The two parties rejected this demand, which did not serve the efforts exerted to realize broader solidarity and cohesion among all the national forces fighting the dictatorship.
5. In order to solve this problem, our party worked in cooperation with the other two DNF partners to unify the national action and merge the two fronts by accepting the Kurdistan Democratic Party into the DNPf. This was manifested in a statement issued by the DNF in January 1981.

6. However, those who demanded that the DNF be disbanded as a precondition for resuming joint action in the DNPF insisted on their position and chose to work alone in the name of the DNPF with no participation from our party and the Kurdistan Socialist Party. As a result of this, our party has not been active in the DNPF since May 1981.

We take this opportunity to again voice our opinion that a broad national front must be formed including all the anti-imperialist and antidictatorship forces, and that no obstacles should be placed before any national force capable of serious participation in the struggle against the dictatorship. We hope that those brothers who held their press conference and published the material which forced us to issue this explanation will take note of the facts which they know concerning this issue. They should avoid involving the name of our Iraqi Communist Party in their statements and announcements in the future. We wish them success in serving the cause of our people and their escalating struggle to overthrow the dictatorship and the regime which is hostile to the people and the Arab nation.

CSO: 4400/328

IRAQ

BRIEFS

NEW MALAYSIAN, TURKISH ENVOYS--President Saddam Husayn received today the credentials of the new Malaysian ambassador, Anaitullah E. A. Karim, and the new Turkish ambassador to Iraq, Nuzhet Kandemir. President Saddam wished the new ambassadors success in their new posts. [GF131807 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 13 Jun 82 GF]

CSO; 4400/328

HADDAD CASTIGATES ARMY DEFENSE OF BEIRUT

NC111117 Marj 'Uyun Lebanon Voice of Hope in Arabic 0734 GMT 11 Jun 82

[11 June address by Commander Maj Sa'd Haddad: "To Lebanese People" by "Free Lebanon"--live or recorded]

[Text] Brother Lebanese: I don't have much to say. However, I do have a few words to tell you. First, on behalf of at least 90 percent of the Lebanese people, and after we say thanks to the people, state and Army of Israel, we vehemently repudiate the treasonous decision which the so-called Lebanese government has made. This is the decision to send the army down to western Beirut to confront Israel.

We wonder: Where was this army when Zahlah was attacked by the Syrians and when many of its houses were demolished over the heads of our sons? Where was this army when the city of Tripoli was encircled, attacked and shelled? Where was this army when a great many Lebanese fell in western Beirut at the hands of the swindlers [Palestinians]? Where was this army when Old Sidon and its downtown markets were burned by the swindlers? Where was this army when the sons of Ad-Damur, Al-Jiyah, Al-'Ayshiyaj and other places were evicted? Where was this army? One can ask this question several thousand times.

The government has now made its decision to confront Israel to appease the so-called national movement, the Syrian forces and the swindlers. Previously, this army was not allowed to deploy--even by 1 centimeter--in the western area. This is because Syria was able to enforce this ban. However, now and for the sake of making some cheap political gain, [Lebanese Prime Minister] Shafiq al-Wazzan and his president, Sarkis--with the assistance of [Army Commander General] Victor Khuri, want to embroil the army in the inferno of war. At one time this army had been dubbed as factional and as having stood unprepared to stabilize internal security. Therefore, how will this army resist the Israeli defense forces?

This army will alter nothing in the course of events. Nor will it tip the balance of power. However, there will be an evil result for the sons of this army, and their blood will be spilled cheaply. The reason is that this blood will not have been spilled for the sake of a high goal but for the personal ends of people such as Shafiq al-Wazzan, Victor Khuri and Sarkis.

We say these things, because we denounce odious and warped decisions. For which purpose will you use this army? Will this army be used to recover Ad-Damur and to register it in the names of the swindlers? It seems that Sarkis and his clique have taken exception, because the residents of Ad-Damur will return to Al-Jiyah or because the sons of Al-'Ayshiyah will return to Al-'Ayshiyah. They also want the army to return these towns to the swindlers. These towns must be registered in the names of the swindlers. The reason is that all intended to repatriate the swindlers, except that Israel has aborted their dreadful plan! Therefore, it was the dearest thing to the heart of Sarkis and of his followers that these towns should have remained in the hands of the swindlers. Therefore, this is why he now wants the army to perform a miracle and to return these towns on his behalf to the swindlers.

When will you learn to respect the feelings of the calamity-stricken Lebanese people? Anyway, the sons of Ad-Damur and of the other villages, which had been occupied--and which have now been freed--will return home. I ask you, sons of Ad-Damur, Al-Jiya, As-Sa'diyat and Al-'Ayshiyah, and before your return, to wreak revenge by crushing those who betrayed you and betrayed Lebanon. This is because they are mocking your feelings. They have forgotten your endurances. They have forgotten your martyrs and they have forgotten your blood which was spilled by the swindlers. Therefore, I direct you to seek revenge against the traitors and to punish them for their treason. This constitutes the discharging of a great national service. At the same time, I give you a big welcome--and it is incumbent on you to return quickly to rebuild your cherished townships. I ask every one of you to kiss the ground of his township--even before he steps on the ground of his township. Therefore, I welcome you. However, I entreat you to wreak revenge on the thugs who are mocking the sentiments of 90 percent of the Lebanese people and who are seeking to squander the Lebanese homeland and entity. Meanwhile, I call on all influential persons who come from the freed areas and who are now outside these areas to also return to their townships and to assimilate and unite with the people and sons of their townships. This act would constitute a service rendered to the sons of their country.

I do not understand how someone could claim to represent a certain township and fail to share with the sons of this township their joy and sorrow. I call on all the deputies, personalities and influential people to return to the liberated areas, so that we can cooperate in building the future Lebanon--the Lebanon of sovereignty and vigor and the Lebanon of dignity and independence.

[NC111123] On the other hand, 6 days have elapsed since the war of liberation began. We have ordained this the war for the liberation of Lebanon, or for freedom for the Lebanese. We are aware that 90 percent support this action. However, and to this time, they have made no comments in support of this operation. It is high time everyone declared his stance; that is, if he stands for, or against, this operation, and to specify publicly which side he will take. By this I mean all the influential Lebanese, the self-styled responsible officials and the responsible officials in the parts of Lebanon--both under and free from occupation--and even in the liberated areas.

Therefore, it is imperative that every Lebanese now declare his opinion publicly--whether he is for or against this operation which serves Lebanon and the Lebanese people. I hope that my words will be heard by all and that all will answer them candidly.

Third, I tell some sons of free Lebanon: The blood of the martyrs of the Israel defense forces and of the Free Lebanon Army has not yet dried. Therefore, I address the minority which does not heed ethics. I tell this minority to refrain from any action called tarnishing. This war of liberation is a lofty one--and nobody should blemish it for the sake of lowly personal interests. It is imperative for all of us to remain aloof from material things and to work for the sake of free Lebanon, the future Lebanon. Furthermore, one should take into account that strict disciplinary measures will be taken against all violators. What I want is self-discipline. Meanwhile, I tell all the residents of the old and new parts of free Lebanon that we will turn a new page and begin a new era. Let bygones be bygones. However, it is a must--even for those who carried arms against us--to declare in deed and in action their allegiance to Lebanon, to the soil of Lebanon and to their townships.

We know that many of you were forced into carrying arms and into humoring the leftist parties. Therefore, we pardon and we forgive [those who have carried arms], because we understand your past status.

Therefore, we will open a new era--an era of brotherhood and amity and an era of joined hands and of solidarity for our Lebanon, the future Lebanon. Meanwhile, we warn that we will show no mercy henceforth for those who would think even of just making reminders about the swindlers or the Syrians. This is because they have gone for good.

We will build a strong independence--and independence that we baptized in blood. We will build an independence on the rock of faith. The waves of evil will not overwhelm this independence. This is how the independence of the future will be--the independence of free Lebanon and of all Lebanon. Long may you live and long may free Lebanon live as its own independent master.

CSO: 4400/328

LEBANON

CLANDESTINE RADIO INTERVIEWS LEVON YERGAT

GF121720 (Clandestine) Voice of Lebanese Armenians in Armenian 1330 GMT
30 Apr 82

[Interview with Levon Yergat, U.S.-Armenian national, prominent editor of U.S.-Armenian magazine (NOR SERUNT), and one of the founders of the Kurken Yanikian's Liberation Committee, in Beirut--recorded]

[Summary from poor reception] [Question] Welcome, Mr Yergat. In our previous interview you talked about Kurken Yanikian, the hero of the Armenian people, his operation, the reasons for that operation, the attention that operation received, and the endeavors for his release through Yanikian's Liberation Committee. You informed Lebanese-Armenians of the present living conditions of Armenians in the United States. Today we want you to explain the viewpoint of the traditional Armenian parties toward the Armenian cause.

[Answer] There are three Armenian political parties in our region. In addition there is the Armenian Secret Army for the Liberation of Armenia [ASALA] and its new sympathizer, the National Movement for ASALA. In 1974 the Armenians rejoiced over their parties' presenting a united unexpected unity. I was the only one unconvinced about this united front of solidarity. A false unity such as that was bound to reveal itself sooner or later and as it has revealed itself. We now watch them plotting against their own brothers. Even during the commemoration of our 1.5 million martyrs, they are humiliating and tearing each other apart. Posters dedicated to the memory of our martyrs are being pulled off the walls. They are doing whatever the Turks left undone. Tearing down posters dedicated to the memory of our martyrs is abominable.

No, dear compatriots, the Armenian people will not tolerate your deeds. The losses and humiliation of the shameful disputes among the Armenian parties during the past 60-65 years and the killings of brothers cannot be tolerated by the Armenian people anymore. The Armenian people are unable to suffer the plots hatched for the sake of selfish interests as they injure the Armenian cause. We must be aware that such deeds serve only the Turkish enemy's objectives.

Dear compatriots, I congratulate ASALA for its true Armenian stand. ASALA is struggling against the Turks, the cause of our misery. The killings of Turks are known to the Armenians and all the world. Only the strikes of ASALA's arms have been able to force the Turks to reconsider the Armenian cause. ASALA is the sole free organization carrying out the will of our 1.5 million martyrs. In order to liberate our lands and avenge the blood of our martyrs, ASALA has rightly chosen the bloody path. The secret army has not only punished Turkish diplomats with death but is also suffering all kinds of hardships to liberate the Armenian homeland.

ASALA has closed its ranks and is preparing to wage the bitterest bloodiest war for the liberation of the fatherland.

Tell me what the organization which is running down ASALA members has achieved? Where are its armies for liberation of the fatherland?

O you traitors, instead of aiming at your brothers, join hands with them and struggle for liberation of the fatherland.

Dear compatriots, these shameful and condemnable deeds must cease. They serve only our Turkish enemy and harm the Armenian cause, the sweet memory of our martyrs, and the cause of mother Armenia. Let this be the final advice to all our Armenian organizations: Join the revolutionaries with a real Armenian spirit and in unity execute the holy mission of liberating our lands. We beg you not to pollute the pure spirit of the Armenian youths with your brother-hating corruption. We are all Armenians. We originate from the same Haig and Vartan.

Shame on him who corrupts the holy Armenian fraternity. Woe on him who despite all this advice tries to tarnish the holy Armenian brotherhood. If he does so, he will be considered a Turk.

[Question] Mr Yergat, you have revealed the tragic fact about the activities of the Armenian parties. We want to know what American-Armenians think of ASALA.

[Answer] I do not want to add much to the facts you already know. The news of ASALA's establishment has reached the United States, the Middle East, everywhere. The Armenian people were impatiently waiting for the day when an Armenian army would be formed to regain their rights. It is not possible that there can be an Armenian who is not proud of ASALA. We, as the representative of (NOR SERUNT) magazine, received thousands of letters and phone calls when ASALA was carrying out its operation.

Dear compatriots, we are proud of the secret army. We are proud of all Armenian organizations struggling against the Turks with arms to regain their lands. The most important issue to us is the formation of a united front of the Armenian people. The liberation of Armenian land depends only on the armed struggle and blood. This is possible only through a united force. Therefore, we call upon all Armenian parties to unite.

CSO: 6133/2001

INTERVIEW WITH FOREIGN MINISTER BOUCETTA REPORTED

PM150937 Casablanca LE MATIN in French 8 Jun 82 p 4

[MAP report on interview with M'hamed Boucetta, Moroccan foreign minister, by Jean Wolf, Brussels magazine REMARQUES ARABO-AFRICAINES: "We Would Like To See the OAU Revert to Legitimacy and Legality"; date and place not specified]

[Text] The magazine REMARQUES ARABO-AFRICAINES published in Brussels carries in its latest edition an interview with Mr M'hamed Boucetta, minister of state in charge of foreign affairs. The interview, granted to Belgian journalist Jean Wolf, is mainly devoted to Morocco's position with respect to the OAU and the organization of a referendum in the Sahara. Franco-Moroccan, Spanish-Moroccan and American-Moroccan relations are also discussed.

Asked about Morocco's position with respect to the OAU, Mr Boucetta stated:

[Answer] Our position has always been stated very clearly--in our view, it is first of all a question of preventing a breakup of the OAU, which is a continental organization to which Morocco had devoted much effort and for whose sake it has made many sacrifices.

Little by little the OAU has managed to turn Africa into an entity. Even though it cannot be said to have become perfect either in its behavior or in its solidarity, it has nonetheless begun to become a working tool through which the continent can express its views and deal with its major common problems. So we do not want to see it disappear. This is why we would like to see the OAU revert to legitimacy and legality.

The action of the acting secretary general which led to the hasty admission of a bogus delegation has created a profound malaise. So we have asked that the organization revert to its charter's fundamental principles and, especially, show respect for its moral principles.

As for the problem which you have just mentioned, our position is also clear--we have been asked to allow a section of our population to speak up and express its Moroccan identity and its loyalty to the throne.

We agreed to this in order to contribute to the restoration of peace or at least to a reduction in tension in the region, with a view to enabling the area's inhabitants to peacefully devote themselves to their welfare and development.

We maintain our acceptance in the clear manner of his majesty the king's statement in Nairobi last June."

Well-Defined Plans

Question: How can the interminable war be ended? From the military viewpoint, everything seems to be blocked--somewhat in Morocco's favor, since the Polisario has never breached the celebrated wall built around the so-called useful Sahara--and attacks against so-called undisputed Moroccan territory are no longer even mentioned. In short, the adversaries are still confronting each other and can continue to stare at each other for a long time to come. Under the circumstances, what diplomatic solution can be envisaged as long as Algeria continues to grant the Polisario sanctuary in Tindouf? Are you willing to hold discussions with the Polisario in Tindouf? Do you want to see yourself as an authorized representative in this situation?

Answer: Here too we must go back to the origin of the entire problem and the reality of facts.

The Polisario was created for a well-defined purpose, namely, subversion and aggression against our country. We have stated and demonstrated this many times. If we have to hold discussions, they must be in the form of negotiations with the people in charge. Now acts of aggression against our country originate from neighboring territory. Therefore, it is the neighboring countries which must participate in any negotiations, to ensure that the deadly forays cease and peace is restored.

So I believe that if the commission entrusted by the OAU with resolving this problem were to resume its activities and begin to work with a view to securing a cease-fire agreement and organizing a referendum, it would be possible to resolve the entire problem.

Tripoli Summit Questioned

Question: What are your relations like with Libya, and what do you think of its present stance? Will Morocco participate in the OAU summit in Tripoli in June? In view of Colonel Qadhafi's attitude to Chad (when asked to leave he left, when asked for support by the legal government he came, and when asked to leave he left), is it not possible to imagine that it might be possible to achieve a constructive explanation with him?

Answer: As far as the OAU is concerned, it must be admitted that it is rather off-balance at present, and it is obvious that no OAU meetings can be held at any level whatever, whether ministerial, special commission or, especially, summit level. We are and will remain opposed to the Tripoli summit until it is made clear that the OAU charter will be adhered to.

Question: Nonetheless, you are in favor of an extraordinary summit?

Answer: Yes, because such a summit would make it possible to clarify the problem which causes us concern and, furthermore, provide an opportunity for the OAU to start again in an ordered manner. But, I repeat, until this occurs the Tripoli summit must be questioned.

As far as Libya's position with respect to us is concerned, we can only deplore the fact that, despite all its promises to stop, Libya has continued to support the Polisario. We have continually collected cases of ammunition and various arms of Libyan origin in the desert and arrested people trained in Libya.

Our country has had its share of the subversive activities emanating from that country. So we must draw certain conclusions.

[PM150939] Question: Would you take stock of Franco-Moroccan relations? Despite all the official statements there is a feeling that something is not quite right (the setting up of a Polisario office in Paris and suspension of certain arms deliveries, among other things). If this is the case, who is responsible for it--the French government or the Socialist Party? And where could this lead?

Answer: You know what we feared at the time when a socialist government was formed in France, especially because of certain stances adopted by the French Socialist Party as such and as a member of the Socialist International. But I must say that, even though certain incidents have occurred, we have had frank discussion and that, even though Franco-Moroccan relations may not be ideal, they have not completely deteriorated either.

Obviously, his majesty the king's recent visit to France has made it possible to discuss some major problems. We intend to maintain Franco-Moroccan relations in the commercial and cultural spheres as well as in cooperation and many other spheres.

We have been seeking to achieve this, and I believe that some French leaders have been acting likewise and trying to march in step with us along that path. Finance Minister Jacques Delors' recent visit to our country calmed fears in this respect.

Moroccan-Spanish Relations Set Fair

Question: Did you not intend to take advantage of the Istiqlal Party Congress to invite a delegation from the French Socialist Party? I am putting this question to the Istiqlal party secretary general....

Answer: Such an invitation was in fact sent, and if a delegation had come it would have been most welcome. However, there were some--quite important--French people among us, and you saw how pleased we were to welcome a rally for the republic delegation led by Mr Alain Terrenoire.

Question: On the other hand, Spanish-Moroccan relations seem to be set fair. What are the Moroccan foreign minister's comments on this subject after so many visits by both sides, crowned by the two monarchs' meeting in Palma de Mallorca?

Answer: We have long realized that our relations with Spain have their ups and downs. I believe, however, that they are now being finally stabilized at a satisfactory level.

Spain is a close neighbor. Our countries are closely linked by a common destiny, opportunities for cooperation are great, and we lack no mutual understanding. So we have undertaken the task of turning these relations into constructive and comprehensive links to the advantage of our two peoples. Friendly contacts between the two monarchs and friendly relations between the two nations will guarantee this.

Moderating Factor

Question: Your sovereign visited the United States in the context of a friendship whose consolidation has caused quite a stir. Certain European observers already mention Morocco as the pivot of a strategic deployment which will include Spain and maybe certain African countries....

Answer: Our relations with the United States have traditionally been good.

The present situation has encouraged us to develop them further in certain spheres, and we have been glad to be able to do so. His majesty the king's recent U.S. visit falls within the framework of the consolidation of those relations.

Obviously, apart from the problems arising from bilateral relations, our country plays a role with respect to the Middle East problems, and since our sovereign is chairman of the Islamic Conference Jerusalem Committee, the Palestinian problem is of the greatest interest to us. The problem of Jerusalem is a major problem for the entire Muslim community.

This is the context of this visit as well as of the questions discussed during it.

We hope that, instead of being seen as a strategic pivot, Morocco will be seen as a moderating factor and as a country which sincerely seeks to find solutions to the major problems of our times.

Our Country Is Attached to Its Sovereignty

Question: Is there no contradiction between the meeting of the Moroccan-American Joint Military Commission and the stance reaffirmed at the 11th Istiqlal Party Congress opposing the setting up of foreign bases in Morocco?

Answer: Absolutely not.

First of all, there is no question whatever of establishing any permanent American bases in our country. At the very most, there can be question of staging posts which could only be used in the event of a general conflict. And even then an authorization would be required from our country, which values its sovereignty above all.

The commission meeting in Fes can be called a routine meeting, since our country maintains varied ties with the United States including economic, cultural, trade and military relations.

On the other hand, it is clear that Morocco would like to buy arms from that country to ensure its own defense. I believe that this is only natural--arms to ensure our territorial integrity. We would buy them from anyone. I repeat, our main objective is to preserve our sovereignty. Is that not a legitimate objective?

However, another consideration must not be overlooked--under no circumstances must our relations with the United States make us forget our undertakings with respect to Palestine, the Near East and the occupied Arab territories.

Question: What are the Istiqlal Party's views on the restoration of Sinai to Egypt?

Answer: The fact that the congress was also held on 25 April had a special significance, because we cannot overlook the fact that a part of Arab soil has been restored to the Arab nation, and we can only be pleased about that. And we hope that Egypt will rejoin the Arab ranks as soon as possible.

This leads us back to the Fes summit, suspended in November 1981. A meeting of Arab foreign ministers is to be held in September with a view to resuming it. It is to determine the date when the summit's work is to be resumed. It could be resumed 6 weeks after that meeting.

CSO: 4500/202

MOROCCO-U.S. COOPERATION OUTLINED

Paris AN-NAHAR ARAB REPORT & MEMO in English No 21, 24 May 82 pp 3-4

[Text]

King Hassan II of Morocco last week visited the US for the first time in two years to confer with the Reagan administration on increased American military aid in return for transit facilities in Morocco for the US Rapid Deployment Force.

Prior to his visit, the King stressed that "Morocco will always be non-aligned," a position that is justified by the fact that his country obtains arms from the West but has the Soviet Union as its biggest trading partner. King Hassan's statement may be somewhat qualified, however, by his call after meeting with President Reagan for the Moroccan and American people to join forces for the sake of the freedom of nations.

Both sides stressed that the main issue at stake is transit rights, not permanent US military bases. These would be unpopular in Morocco and could provoke hostile reactions elsewhere in North Africa, where fundamentalist Islam is in the ascendant. The potential parallels between Iran under the late Shah and the régime of the Shah's friend-in-exile King Hassan have presumably not been lost on the US State Department.

The question of Moroccan stopover facilities for a Rapid Deployment Force on its way to intervene in possible conflicts in the Eastern Mediterranean or the Gulf was first mooted by Secretary of State Alexander Haig during a visit to Rabat last February, one of a series by top-level American military, government and trade officials which has now culminated in King Hassan's trip to Washington. During the King's visit the Secretary of State told reporters he hoped the transit facilities agreement could be concluded later in the week.

In exchange for American rights to land troops at Moroccan airfields and use the port at Casablanca (possibly entailing the construction of storage facilities and lengthening of airport runways), King Hassan is reported by NBC to have asked President Reagan for \$70 million in military sales credits for the year. The administration had asked for \$100 million in arms credits for the financial year 1983, but this figure was recently halved by the House of Representatives' Foreign Relations Committee.

In 1981 Morocco obtained \$30 million in military aid from the US and \$55 million in economic assistance.

Most of the US military aid is to support King Hassan against the Libyan and Algerian-backed Polisario guerrillas in the disputed region of the Western Sahara. Recent reports from France, which is somewhat concerned about the erosion of its traditional influence in North Africa in the face of the American drive for "strategic cooperation" and joint military commissions in the area, indicate that the US has been trying to persuade African countries to boycott the upcoming OAU meeting to be hosted by Col Muammar Qadhafi in Tripoli in August. The OAU is undergoing the worst crisis of its history over the question of the admission of Polisario and the self-proclaimed Sahraoui Arab Democratic Republic to OAU membership, and American embassies are said to have been involved in persuading members of 18 African states to walk out with Morocco on last February's meeting of the OAU council of ministers because Polisario had been invited to attend.

The focus of last week's visit on transit rights to the Gulf in case of emergencies threatening US interests in the area highlights increasingly close relations between the *Maghreb* and the *Mashreq*, and between Morocco and the Gulf countries in particular. The US holds King Hassan dear as an Arab moderate with good credentials among other Arab nations and the Third World at large. The king encouraged Egypt's late President Anwar Sadat to make his historic trip to Jerusalem and only backed out of supporting Camp David in deference to the overriding Arab consensus. He is a supporter of the Saudi Arabian Crown Prince Fahd's plan for a Middle East peace settlement and Morocco contributes 2,000 trained Moroccans to Saudi Arabia's internal security forces and others to the personal bodyguard of Sheikh Zayed Ben Sultan al-Nahayan, President of the United Arab Emirates. At the same time, Morocco receives considerable Gulf aid both for its strapped economy and for its war effort in the Western Sahara.

All of this, in addition to Morocco's strategic location straddling the Mediterranean, the Atlantic and North Africa, gives the country considerable weight in an American foreign policy confronting what Washington perceives as a Soviet threat to the Arab world.

BRIEFS

COOPERATION AGREEMENT SIGNED--Washington, May 27--Morocco and the United States today signed an agreement giving U.S. forces access to Moroccan air bases "in case of need", the State Department said. The agreement, whose text was not released, is valid for six years. It was signed by Moroccan Foreign Minister M'Hamed Boucetta and Secretary of State Alexander Haig. The State Department said the pact, which was agreed in principle last February when Mr. Haig visited Morocco, would allow U.S. military aircraft to refuel at Moroccan air bases. In return Washington had agreed to provide unspecified funds to modernise Moroccan military installations, the State Department said, adding that the U.S. did not envisage the permanent basing of American personnel in Morocco. (A.F.P.) [Text] [Paris AFRICA AFP in English 28 May 82 p 13]

CSO: 4500/201

DIPLOMAT IN WASHINGTON INTERVIEWED

London AL-HAWADITH in Arabic No 1333, 21 May 82 pp 79-80

[Interview with Nasir al-Khalifah, First Secretary of the Qatari Embassy in Washington, Date and Place Not Given]

[Text] A young Qatari arrived in the United States 10 years ago, 1972 to be exact, carrying his secondary certificate and hopes of acquiring a specialty as had tens of thousands of young Arabs who had spread throughout the land in search of knowledge.

The young Qatari was not dazzled by American culture, having visited several European countries before crossing the ocean, and he knew that the geographic separation between the east and west Atlantic did not mean that America was cut off from the European heritage. The outreach of man is uniform and America took the best of European culture and to it added a new material and industrial dimension, creating the technological revolution.

Nasir got a B.S. in Political Science, studying international relations. He learned more and more about American society. He then settled down and took the post of first secretary of Qatar's first embassy in Washington, handling the duties of the "number-two" man in the embassy.

His diplomatic experiences which continued over several years reaffirmed his earlier conceptions, that is, that the civilization of man is one held in common, one that is transferred geographically from place to place but the roots of which are linked with the original locale though there is a temporal discontinuity. This is what Nasir tried to communicate to the Americans quite simply: The Arabs have a role in the civilization of mankind; they previously offered a great deal and at present are seeking that mankind recognize that they are part of the civilization of the 20th century and the decades and centuries after it.

Nasir al-Khalifah knows that only seeking recognition is of no value and that establishing a presence will not come from hoping and from depending on hidden potential. There are certain prerequisites which, if met, will cause the world to recognize that the Arabs are a people which deserves to live in freedom and honor. This is the theoretical product of Nasir's practical experiences which Nasir lived and studied in American society and he raises

it with every Arab and complains and criticizes and goes beyond his classical diplomatic role. He is in a constant revolt with himself and in "gentle disagreement" with others because of what he views as negligence, red tape and bureaucracy. He believes that to inform is the superior form of diplomacy. Left is the means of contact and communication: how to get it to the Americans and to the world? He refuses to transform diplomatic activity into a daily routine with much monotony.

The role of the embassy, according to Nasir, is to protect the interests of the country it represents, this being a fundamental thing in ordinary international relations. However, Arab embassies have additional tasks springing from the gravity of the stage which the Arab homeland is experiencing and this additional mission is "to try suitably play up the Arab as a human being in the world." He says: "The image of the Arab is distorted and this began in a planned fashion in 1948. Before that year, that is, before the establishment of Israel on Palestinian territory, anyone who read the books of the orientalist found that romance, imagination, honor and gallantry were the characteristics of an Arab. However, this suddenly ended after the establishment of Israel and the emphasis came to be that the Arab represents rancor and hatred, that he, in brief, represents everything that is bad in man, that he is a savage and likes to kill and life has no value to him.

"Our interest is in changing this image. We have a civilization that was a party to the civilization of mankind. There is nothing to stop the Arabs, who were created in a geographical locale where the first civilization was found, from resuming their contribution to the contemporary civilization of mankind.

"At the outset, the Arab was not alert to the way he was being portrayed and if he was, he did not challenge it. Just causes demand strong advocates who know who to defend them.

"The psychological blow happened in 1967 and the Western world was not in sympathy with us. Then came the 1973 war and the Arab image was not raised in the desired manner that would alter the distortion. The first days of the 1973 war gave the individual Arab confidence in himself. Then came the oil embargo and an atrocious campaign against the Arab began. There were ideological attempts to give the occupation a legal formulation with things going so far that the statement was made that the Arab did not deserve his territory."

Question Is America an open or closed society?

Answer The people are prepared to listen and many, when they listen, become more eager to learn. The Arabs in America do not go to the average Americans who form the bulk of public opinion; they turn to the politicians in Washington and New York. This is fine but is not completely useful because a politician will have already adopted his position and it is not easy to persuade him or to alter his convictions. The Americans are open and we are closed.

There are many Arabs who offer up excuses for their negligence. They say that American society is closed. This is incorrect. There is genuine freedom of speech but if there is no speaker, no one will listen.

[Question] What about the council of Arab Ambassadors? Is its mission to inform?

[Answer] There is an information committee which is supposed to meet and discuss Arab information issues in America. Unfortunately there is not the necessary activity. There are many who are enthusiastic but it doesn't last. There is no mechanism to follow things through. Any activity is tied in with persons and each person is influenced by his psychological state.

The Arab ambassadors approve or disapprove the recommendations of the information committee. If they approve, it is up to the committee to implement. The committee comprises members of the staffs of Arab embassies, whether on the diplomatic or information level.

[Question] Does the committee lack funds?

[Answer] It is the permanent committee for information, made up of the Arab ministers of information, which decides on funds for information. This is referred to the Arab League and then comes bureaucracy, starting with stinginess. When, for example, \$100,000 is needed for some project, the bureaucracy asks: "Won't \$50,000 suffice?"

Getting money is not the problem. The important thing is to have a plan first. We go around like a merry-go-round: there is sincerity and obvious enthusiasm but sometimes the money is not there because there is no plan and other times there is a plan but skills are lacking and sometimes there are no plans or skills.

[Question] Is there coordination between the Arab League office and the information committee?

[Answer] This is supposed to happen on its own but there is no coordination in the form needed despite meetings at the Arab League office. There should be integration of the office and the committee with one complementing the other. The United States is a big country and each has a role to play and through which it can operate easily.

Nasir stops his uninhibited talk and recalls that he is a diplomat, aware that the issue of Arab information in America has become very sensitive and that any criticism kicks up a duststorm. Everyone working in the information field in America is building an "empire" the defects of which are not easy to show. Sometimes, the "empire" is an extension of Arab regimes which have managed to cross the ocean intact and rather than the Arab information effort discussing fundamental issues, it relays Arab disputes to the American arena and the basic issues disappear.

There is a covert war and there sincere people and there are those seeking support for their own causes and between them appear those who want to do the imposible, evading reality and the possible. This happens with the goal of hamstringing things and those who do it do not want them to do anything or perform their duty. It is like the story of the pitcher of oil: the speck becomes a spot and the spot expands into a lake and then an ocean of impossibilities.

The important thing is that Nasir al-Khalifah has decided to leave diplomatic work. He will stay far from it and will study development since he believes that development of man and the development of countries is the beginning of the true road.

Question Does your decision mean that you despair of the diplomacy route?

Answer My decision does not mean that we will forego diplomatic work. Our homeland has rejected and opposed all sorts of invaders: The Arab homeland has not accepted the status quo in any partition or tragedy. The homeland will triumph. This is my basic premise. The issue is one of time and the time may be short or it may be long. The tools of politics are the building of the Arab individual, that is, the creation of the new Arab and this will be accomplished only by the concurrent development of the man and the land.

The international blackmail of the Arabs will exist whether it comes from the East or the West since we have to buy from one of the two blocs. We find ourselves being pulverized between the two blocs and much of our money develops the two powers in the East and the West. A portion of the cost of arms could build Arab schools needed for development and specializing in various types of industries.

One of the strangest things, as Nasir sees it, is "that when we absorb arms, they say that they are now old and to buy others. Were we to have the developing citizen and had we developed our economy and our resources on the basis of specialties, we would manufacture the arms."

Nasir cited the example of the petrochemical industry in the Gulf. "With it, I can compete with any country. I have the raw material and I have the site and from it we can do a great, great deal. It gives us fertilizers, pharmaceuticals and clothing."

The young diplomat believes in regional economic integration. He feels that the Arab homeland comprises four economic units which complement one another and which form a big economic unit. He wonders: "However, will the big powers permit these economic units to form and to integrate?"

He replies: "The big powers play on family disputes. Unfortunately, the big powers cannot be combatted with the same weapon because of the current Arab situation. This is a situation that must not continue. The beginning of the

change will be for us to interact on the basis of our experiences. We have experienced 400 years of division and regionalism. If we understand this and work from that premise, each country can evolve within the framework of comprehensive Arab integration."

Nasir feels "that one alternative is for the Arabs to interact with the countries of the Third World, well removed from the two blocs. Among the countries of the Third World there are advanced countries like western ones, India, for example. Its geography makes it a Third World country but its development puts it on the level of the advanced countries. It needs oil and we need its industries. Brazil's place in the world is the same as India's as well as Argentina in South America. This does not mean that we must turn totally to these countries in this stage. What I mean is that we must not make ourselves prisoners of the more advanced countries. We must have other choices and market alternatives."

At this point in the conversation, my attention was attracted to a voice on the radio at the side of Nasir's office. The announcer said that the United States had purchased \$53 million worth of oil from Iran.

Nasir asked me: "Did you hear. You can be sure that no one loves the Arabs." I said: "I heard?"

He closed by saying: "We must learn and understand what is going on in the world. Why should we be only a medium for circulating the world's money between the East and the West?"

"If we do not benefit from the experiences of mankind, mankind should not listen to us. Have the Arabs recognized that the external challenge makes each of us need the other?"

"If we reply to the question in an appropriate manner, we can develop and build the Arab economy. For this reason alone, I have decided to turn to studying development."

8389

CSO: 4404/495

OFFICIAL DISCUSSES DETAILS OF SOCIAL SECURITY BENEFITS

Jiddah 'UKAZ in Arabic 21 Mar 82 p 5

[Interview with Mr 'Abdallah ibn Dayfallah al-'Abbud, director of the Social Insurance Office in Medina, by Ibrahim al-'Amir: "The Social Insurance System in Saudi Arabia Is Compulsory, Not Optional"; date and place not specified]

[Excerpts] In Medina 370 Employers and 100 Government Offices Are Participating in This System.

The Social Insurance [Office] Sends Pension Payments to Non-Saudi Workers in Their Own Countries.

There is no doubt that the number of those benefiting from the social insurance system has been increasing rapidly because of the large number and different types of industrial enterprises in various fields in Saudi Arabia. There are many questions concerning the social insurance system which many workers and employers would like to know the answers to: For example: What are the benefits guaranteed by the social insurance system to those who are covered by it? What are the conditions which one must fulfill in order to receive these benefits? What does the system give to those who are covered by it? Does the system provide assistance to the heirs and relatives of those covered by it? How does it benefit employers to have their workers covered by this insurance system?

Clear answers should be given to these questions and inquiries so that workers can feel secure about their present lives and the future of their families, and so that employers can be convinced [of the wisdom] of having their workers insured under the system. In this interview with Mr 'Abdallah ibn Dayfallah al-'Abbud, director of the Social Insurance Office in Medina, Mr al-'Abbud answers all of these questions.

The Social Insurance System Is Compulsory

[Question] Are the entitlements which the social insurance system guarantees to those covered by the system acquired entitlements or are they a type of grant?

[Answer] The benefits and entitlements guaranteed by the social insurance system to those covered by it are acquired entitlements and are not any type of grant or assistance. They constitute an acquired right because the social insurance system is a compulsory, rather than an optional, system, and the workers contribute toward financing this system by means of payment of their monthly contributions stipulated by the system.

[Question] How large a geographical area is covered by the insurance services provided by the Medina Social Insurance Office?

[Answer] The Social Insurance Office in Medina provides services for a large geographical area which includes Medina, Yanbu', Umm Lajj, Khaybar, Badr, and al-Mahad. Generally speaking, it serves the geographical area included in the Amirate of Medina.

[Question] How many employers participate in the system covered by the Medina Social Insurance Office?

[Answer] There are about 370 private sector employers who are participating. As for the government sector, about 100 government offices are participating.

[Question] Are the government offices having their workers participate in the system?

[Answer] The government offices are having those workers who are subject to the labor laws participate in the system.

Development of the Application of the Social Insurance System

[Question] Does the application of the social insurance system extend to all employers within the area covered by the Medina office, regardless of how many workers they employ?

[Answer] The first decision issued by the minister of labor and social affairs was Decision Number 1 of 1393 A.H., and it required that [the] benefits of [the] Pensions Branch be applied in all parts of Saudi Arabia, as of 1 Muharram 1393 A.H., at all establishments employing 100 or more workers. Then Ministerial Decision Number 4 of 1393 A.H. was issued, and it stipulated that the social insurance system be applied to workers at establishments employing 50 or more workers, starting 1 Jumada I 1393 A.H. Then Ministerial Decision Number 13/1393 A.H. was issued, stipulating that the system be applied to workers at establishments employing 20 or more workers, starting 1 Muharram 1395 A.H. Therefore, employers who employ less than 20 workers are not obligated to participate in the social insurance system at the present time.

[Question] Approximately how many workers are registered in Medina's Social Insurance Office?

[Answer] There are approximately 200,000 workers registered in the Medina Social Insurance Office.

All Workers in Saudi Arabia Are Subject to the System

[Question] Many employers bring in their labor force from abroad. What is the status of these foreign workers with regard to participation in the social insurance system and with regard to social insurance entitlements?

[Answer] All workers, regardless of nationality, race, or age, regardless of the length, nature, or form of their contract, and regardless of the amount or type of wages which they receive, are required to participate in the social insurance system, provided that their work be done mainly inside Saudi Arabia. What this means is that the Saudi system guarantees the elements of security, peace of mind, and stability to workers (all workers), no matter what their nationality is. This provision in the system is not found in many other social insurance systems [in other countries].

Payments Are Sent to the Workers in Their Countries

[Question] Does this mean that the foreign workers who work in Saudi Arabia and are entitled to pension payments according to the Saudi social insurance system can continue to receive these pension payments even after returning to their own countries?

[Answer] This is what is happening right now. Any non-Saudi covered by the system who meets the requirements for being entitled to pension payments in accordance with the system, after returning to his own country, has his social insurance payments sent to him in the form of a check to the address which he indicates in his request for pension payments. And this is not all. These pension payments continue to be paid out to his heirs upon his death, exactly as occurs as in the case of Saudi workers.

Workers Feel Secure About Their Future

[Question] How does having their workers be covered by social insurance benefit the employers?

[Answer] First of all, social insurance is one of the pillars of the economy in any nation, and the participation in it by employers helps to bolster this nation's economy. Consequently, this helps the nation to advance, progress, and reach a higher level.

In addition to this, when an employer has his workers participate in the system, this means that these workers will feel secure about their future and the future of their children, and this guarantees them a decent and stable life as well as a bright future. When workers feel this sense of security, this has a positive effect on their production.

The Benefits Enjoyed by Those Covered by the System

[Question] Could you please give us an idea about the benefits enjoyed by those who are covered by the social insurance system? Also, could you please cite for us some statistics about the pension payments which were paid out last year?

[Answer] I. The benefits enjoyed by those covered by the system consist of sums of money paid out as lump sum payments or as regular periodic payments. They are the following:

1. Regular pension payments to those covered by the system in case of old age, disability, and death.
2. Lump sum compensation payments to those covered by the system who have not worked long enough in order to be entitled to a pension under the system.
3. Funeral expenses amounting to 1,000 riyals in case of the death of persons insured by the system.
4. Marriage grants to widows, daughters, or sisters of deceased persons [covered by the system] when they marry. These grants are equal to a sum of money which is 18 times the pension received every month.
5. Grants for assistance to others.
6. Expenses for dependents.
7. Travel expenses for those covered by the system when they must travel to the headquarters of the Medical Committee.

II.

1. A total of 150 persons are receiving regular pension payments in the Medina region.
2. The total amount of money paid out to them last year was about 1 million Saudi riyals.

Computation of Periods of [Eligibility for] Social Insurance

[Question] How do you compute the periods of [eligibility for] social insurance for those covered by the system?

[Answer] The periods of social insurance [eligibility] are computed on the basis of the amount of time a worker has worked for employers who are participating in the system. Each worker has a permanent social insurance number which he receives when he first registers with the social insurance system. Whenever a worker changes from one job to another inside Saudi Arabia, he must [officially] mention this number in order to keep his periods of eligibility for social insurance within one and the same file.

Two Types of Social Insurance

[Question] What are the types of insurance included in the system?

[Answer] The system includes two basic types of insurance, which are:

1. Old age, (non-occupational) disability, and death insurance. This insurance is handled by what is known as the Pensions Branch.
2. Insurance against occupational injuries and diseases. This insurance is handled by what is known as the Occupational Hazards Branch.

Question Are all of these types of insurance currently in effect?

Answer The Pensions Branch types of insurance are currently being applied in Saudi Arabia in stages, as we have mentioned. Pensions Branch insurance already applies to most of the workers.

Those Excluded from Coverage by the System

Question Are there workers excluded from coverage by the system?

Answer The following types of workers are excluded from coverage by the social insurance system:

1. Public government employees, members of the armed forces, and members of the police force who are already covered by their own pension plans which apply to government employees and members of the military.
2. Foreign employees who are employed by foreign military, political, or international missions.
3. Wage earners and employees in agriculture related jobs such as tilling the land, guarding crops, operating agricultural machinery, repairing agricultural machinery, or agricultural administration work. But there are two categories not covered by this exception:
 - A. Laborers engaging in agricultural work and animal husbandry for the government and for public establishments. These people have been subject to the system as of 1/5/1398 A.H.
 - B. Laborers who are employed at agricultural establishments which process their agricultural products.
4. Seamen, including fishermen on the high seas.
5. Household servants.
6. Members of an employer's family who live under the same roof that he does.
7. Contract workers who work in their own residences.
8. Foreign workers whose period of employment in Saudi Arabia is not supposed to exceed 1 year. This applies only to the Pensions Branch type of insurance.

Benefits of the Pensions Branch Types of Insurance

Question What are the benefits guaranteed to those covered by the system as far as Pensions Branch types of insurance are concerned?

Answer The Pensions Branch provides the following benefits:

1. Pensions, or
2. lump sum compensation payments,
3. marriage grants, and
4. grants for funeral expenses.

Payments Are Made Throughout the Period of Disability

Question If a person covered by the system becomes disabled while employed and before reaching the age of 60, what are the benefits which he will receive?

Answer He receives pension payments throughout the period of his disability provided that he has worked long enough to qualify for this as required by the provisions of the system. After the worker reaches the age of 60, the payments continue for the rest of his life, and after his death the payments are received by his heirs.

The following sums of money are added to the pension payments:

1. 20 percent, if a worker has 3 dependents.
2. 15 percent, if a worker has 2 dependents.
3. 10 percent, if a worker has 1 dependent.
4. 50 percent of the pension payment, if the Medical Committee decides that the insured person requires temporary aid in order to be able to cope with the burdens of everyday life.

Two Committees to Assess the Aid

Question You mentioned that there is a Medical Committee which decides whether or not a person covered by the system requires temporary aid in order to be able to cope with the burdens of everyday life. Could you please tell us how this committee is formed, where it holds its meetings, and what administrative agency it is a part of? Is this committee the body which decides cases of non-occupational disability?

Answer There are two types of medical committees. The first type is the Fundamental Medical Committees. Every social insurance office throughout Saudi Arabia has a Fundamental Medical Committee which administratively is subordinate to the General Organization of Social Insurance. Each such committee is composed of two doctors. One of these doctors is an employee of the Organization, and the other one is hired on a contract basis by the Organization, and studies and assesses cases of non-occupational disability.

This committee holds its meetings in the social insurance office. The second type is the Appellate Medical Committee. There is a National Appellate Medical Committee, the headquarters of which is located in the headquarters building of the social insurance system in Riyadh. It is composed of three doctors. One of them is an employee of the Organization, and the other two are hired on a contract basis by the Organization to do the work required by this committee. This committee looks into objections to decisions which have been made by the Fundamental Medical Committees.

Objections to Decisions by the Fundamental Committees

[Question] Does this mean that an individual covered by the system has the right to object to a decision made by the **[Fundamental]** Medical Committee if the decision was not in his favor?

[Answer] The insured person, or whoever is entitled to his benefits in his place, and also the General Organization of Social Insurance, has the right to appear before the Appellate Committee and object to decisions made by the Fundamental Medical Committees. The decisions of this **[Appellate Medical]** Committee are final and may not be appealed.

[Question] When persons insured by the system have to travel to appear before these committees, do they pay their own travel expenses?

[Answer] Persons covered by the system and individuals receiving non-occupational disability pension payments, who are residing in Saudi Arabia and who are requested by the Medical Committees to appear before them or who are required by them to take medical exams, are granted travel allowances. If the individual covered by the system does not live in the city where the headquarters of the committee is located, he is granted an allowance covering an overnight stop.

What Is the Lump Sum Payment System?

[Question] Could you give us some idea concerning the lump sum payment system?

[Answer] Lump sum payments are payments received by workers who have not fulfilled the requirements necessary in order to receive old age pensions or disability pensions or in order to enable their heirs to receive their pensions, provided that they have been covered by the system for at least 12 months. The amount of the lump sum payment is computed as the total in contributions made in the worker's behalf--which is 5 percent of the worker's wages plus an additional grant of 5 percent of this amount.

[Question] Are government employees who are subject to the civil service retirement system and who are on leave of absence and working for a private firm subject to the social insurance system, and must they pay social insurance contributions?

Answer As long as a government employee on leave of absence is subject to the civil service retirement system, he is not subject to the social insurance system--in order that he not have to participate in two insurance systems simultaneously.

Question Incidentally, what is the position of the social insurance system with regard to a person who retires, receives a retirement pension, and then starts working at another job which is subject to the social insurance system?

Answer In such a case he has to participate in the system and contribute payments. Whatever he has received in pension payments for his period of work at his first job makes no difference, and he is entitled to combine and receive the two pensions after retiring from the second job.

If a Worker Holds Two Jobs

Question What is the ruling in case a worker holds two jobs with two different firms? Which of his two employers must participate in the social insurance system? And does the worker receive two social insurance numbers?

Answer The system allows a worker to hold two jobs and be covered by social insurance at both jobs. Each of the worker's two employers contributes social insurance payments for the wages which the worker receives. The worker has only one social insurance number--the number which he received when he began his first job. If he should receive two social insurance numbers by mistake, then he can get in touch with the social insurance office and inform them of this. He will then keep only one of the two numbers and his other social insurance card will be withdrawn from him.

Question The worker discussed in the example above contributes payments for two sets of wages. How are his entitlements computed?

Answer When computing his entitlements, one takes into account the total of both sets of wages which he receives, as long as he makes his social insurance payments.

9468

CSO: 4404/438

PAPER BLAMES 'REACTIONARY' ARABS FOR LEBANON WAR

PM151325 Damascus AL-BA'TH in Arabic 8 Jun 82 p 3

[Unattributed "News Analysis": "Invasion of Southern Lebanon Part of U.S. Grand Plan; 'Americanized' Arabs Took Part in Aggression"]

[Excerpts] Alexander Haig said that Washington was informed of the details of the Israeli attack [on Lebanon] before it took place. For this reason, the U.S. 6th Fleet units came closer to the Eastern Mediterranean shore.

Haig poured out some of his hatred for the Arab nation in general and the Palestinian people in particular when he supported the Israeli presence in southern Lebanon before his Arab friends without embarrassment.

It should not appear strange at all that this is the case with the U.S. position. But the fact that the Egyptian regime had prior knowledge of the new Zionist invasion of an Arab territory leaves the matter open to many explanations and evaluations. The Cairo rulers who are pampered by the reactionary regimes in the Arab world did not conceal the fact that they informed the pro-American Arabs of what Dr Mustafa Khlil, deputy leader of the National Democratic Party [NDP], which is dominating the people, said about the premeditated Israeli aggression, agreed on by the Camp David parties.

Therefore the war against the Palestinians is the war of the Arabs in the interests of the United States and Israel, and not just Israel's war in U.S. interests.

Thus the condition for the success of the campaign to secure an Arab pardon for Egypt is to strike at the Palestinian revolution and then to besiege Syria, which protects the Palestinian Fedayeen guns against defeat.

All this aims to confirm the U.S. allegation about the existence of an Iranian danger. The Americanized regimes in the area have forgotten that they are merely parrots that repeat what is dictated to them. Before the defeat of Saddam Husayn by the Iranian revolution, the U.S. warning concentrated on the alleged "Soviet danger" in the area. Thus, overnight the United States changed its tune, and the Americanized Arabs began repeating the same thing.

Now that we are hearing statements of denunciation and condemnation from the Arab radios, we would like to point out two principal things:

First, that from the outset Israel has not concealed its intention to invade Lebanon with the intention of carrying out its expansionist policy on the pretext of striking at the Palestinian resistance.

Second, that the pro-American regimes in the area, which had foreknowledge of the aggression because of their close ties with the Egyptian regime knew full well that the United States is a partner in the aggression. The United States is a friend and even an ally of these regimes.

When the U.S. press revealed some secret Pentagon documents it confirmed that the arming of the Jordanian regime with U.S. arms has its price, that Washington's arming of the butcher of Iraq also has its price, and that defending the Egyptian regime in the press has a price too.

The U.S. document says that the price is the serious participation by the Arab reaction in striking at Arab steadfastness represented by the impregnable Syrian wall.

Therefore, the current Israeli war against the Palestinian and Lebanese people is a war that the reactionary Arab regimes want just as much as the United States and Israel.

CSO: 4400/328

PRESS HAILS NATION'S ROLE IN LEBANON

Fighting, Sacrifices Hailed

JN111256 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0640 GMT 11 Jun 82

[From the Press Review]

[Text] AL-BA'TH says: If Syria is shouldering the burden of the whole Arab nation, this is its pan-Arab will. Leader Hafiz al-Asad's address to our soldiers, armed forces and every element in our brave army, asserts that martyrdom is the path which was chosen by our strugglers and charted by their blood in the battle of honor, dignity and pride. Our country, which has chosen its way, has developed its march through its blood battles which water its pan-Arab soil. Lebanese territory is inviolable to the invaders and Palestinian blood will not be shed even if those silent over the shedding of Palestinian blood act as the invaders themselves.

Syria has never been so proud of its March. Its heroes are confronting death without fear, because they have learned the lessons of martyrdom under a great party and under a leader who is firm in his convictions. If the silent and confused regimes are waiting for Palestinian collapse, Syria's arms will reach every spiteful usurper or mean person who accepted defeat without fighting.

TISHRIN says: The Syrian-Palestinian-Lebanese front of steadfastness and confrontation is a solid established fact based, without doubt, on heroic Syria and the leader of Arab struggle President Hafiz al-Asad. This front is inflicting heavy losses on the Zionist enemy and cleansing with pure blood all the sores of the other Arabs, both those defeatist and capitulatory Arab leaders and those speaking the language of Begin and seeking his protection while they are afraid of future surprises. Syria today is representing the Arab nation in the battle. It is waging the battle of pan-Arab destiny on behalf of the Arabs and while we await the Arab nation to remove the agent plotting leaders, the invaders will surely not pass. This is Syria's oath. It is also the oath of leader al-Asad and of the Syrian-Palestinian and Lebanese fighters.

ATH-THAWRAH says: They are Syria's courageous sons. Through their sacrifice, martyrdom, bloodshed and fire, they stress their confrontation of Israel and those supporting it and that Syria will not permit the aggression on Lebanon and the liquidation of the Palestinian cause and its revolution. It will also

not allow any new aggressive status quo to be imposed by Israel so as to implement the plot of surrender and the imperialist-Zionist hegemony on the Arab nation. We salute the courageous men of our armed forces. Our masses are all with you and looking upon you with pride and gratitude.

Actions Glorified

JN120900 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0630 GMT 12 Jun 82

[From the Press Review]

[Text] The newspaper ATH-THAWRAH writes: By its glorious historical deeds and by the heroic sacrifices of its martyrs, our army has again asserted that it is the first army of the Arab cause and the Arab nation. It has also asserted that it is the defender of Lebanon, the resistance and the Arab homeland against any invasion. With these historical feats, Syria has freed the will of the Arab nation from the chains of despair and frustration. With its remarkable stand, Syria has stressed that the Arab nation can never yield or kneel to an invader or an occupier. It has again proven that Syria's path is that of victory, dignity, pride and heroism. Those who want to follow this path must support Syria and stand by its side. Those who antagonize Syria antagonize the Arab nation's freedom, future, pride and dignity.

Greetings to our valiant heroes who symbolize Syria's greatness. Thanks to those who fed with their blood and sacrifices the torch of liberation and victory raised by Syria under Al-Asad's leadership to dissipate the darkness of defeat and capitulation in the Arab world.

The newspaper AL-BA'TH writes: The Israeli aims behind its stop and think war have been foiled. Our forces' steadfastness and heroism have foiled the Zionists' dreams aimed at imposing a capitulatory settlement and subjugating the resistance and Syria to the Camp David schemes in the region. The downfall of the Zionist invasion planes brought about the downfall of the dreams of the agents in Baghdad and Amman who took part in the Zionist enemy's aggression by defaming the heroism of our forces in Lebanon, directly sharing in the filthy Zionist psychological war and waiting for a role to play in this regard. However, their waiting will be long and our armed forces, together with the Palestinian revolution and the Lebanese Nationalist Movement, will remain the obstinant figure upsetting the calculations of both the enemies and agents and asserting the Arab will--the will of the masses which will accept no other alternative to the defeat of the Zionist enemy.

The newspaper TISHRIN writes: In view of the massive losses inflicted on it, the Zionist enemy had no alternative but to hastily seek a way out of its predicament. Therefore, it begged for Washington's efforts to bring about a cease-fire although it was Washington which vetoed the UN Security Council resolution on a cease-fire yesterday. Syria has accepted the cease-fire only on condition that Israel withdraw all its forces from Lebanon.

CSO: 4400/328

PAPER CALLS ON ARABS TO CONFRONT ISRAEL

GF071740 Ash-Shariqah AL-KHALIJ in Arabic 7 Jun 82 p 1

[Editorial: "Today Is the Death of the Indecisive!"]

[Text] Today is the death of the indecisive. Today the battlefield tests all the statements, declarations and communiques which were unilaterally issued by Arab governments or issued at summit conferences. Let us give our sincere, honest and responsible opinion. Let every Arab citizen express his national position before his government. All the Arab governments must not only denounce or condemn the Israeli aggression, but give the combatants their chance to confront the Zionist enemy. The politicians, and those who make political decisions, made a lot of statements, and we witnessed weakness and differences in everything they said. As for the Arab combatants, those who are hiding their anger, they must restore their glorious national merits. This is the most favorable time for this generation to announce their position.

We call on Syria--its army, its people and its policy--to develop its defensive measures for southern Lebanon announced yesterday into a responsible national act that constitutes the beginning of a comprehensive liberation battle, and to unveil those who "fight" with words and those who only pretend to be preoccupied with Palestine.

We call on Iraq--its army, its people and policy--to divert its tanks, armored vehicles and Iraqi troop concentrations toward the eastern front and thus support the Palestinian-Lebanese-Syrian stand. Those who defend their national independence should not forget Palestine and Lebanon.

We call on the Muslim brothers in Tehran to adopt a stance that conforms with the Muhammadan doctrine so that Tehran can send its combatants to the battlefield. This is the time for the real battle against the enemies of Islam and Arabism--the battle against U.S.-Zionist oppressive forces.

We call on the Arab Gulf countries to adopt a national political decision that treat the United States and Israel equally by using the distinguished economic gravity of these [Gulf] countries in order to force the United States to abandon Israel, which threatens international peace and human civilization.

We call on the North African Arabs to adopt a national stand by brushing aside differences and supplying the real battlefield with men who are known for their courage and national affiliation.

We call on Egypt to return to its national stands. We call on the forces of change in Egypt to adopt a national stand. We call on the current Egyptian leadership--that is, if it wants to abandon the Camp David accords and the peace treaty--to be fully aligned toward Lebanon, Palestine and Syria. This is the test position.

We call on the masses of our nation in every Arab country and every part of the world to adopt a unified position because this is the day for unity in which the genuine nationals can express their stands.

To our people everywhere, arrogant "Israel" has come in the belief that the Arabs are incapable of deterring it. Let us meet these glorious days with sacrifices in the same way our brethren met them in southern Lebanon.

CSO: 4400/311

DAILY CALLS FOR UNITED ARAB STAND ON LEBANON

GF081845 Dubayy AL-BAYAN in Arabic 6 Jun 82 p 1

[Editorial: "The War of Extermination and the 'War' of Settling Accounts"]

[Text] The war of extermination that the Israeli enemy is waging against the Palestinians in Lebanon and in which the majority of the victims are innocent civilians, has undoubtedly gone too far and its continuation in such a fierce and bloody form should not be tolerated. This war of extermination is accompanied by a suspicious international silence, as though these horrible massacres which the enemy's jets are carrying out over all Lebanese areas have become too routine to require a move for an immediate cessation.

If the international stands encourage the explosive situation in Lebanon, then the Arab stand most oppose this international direction because the supreme Arab interests constitute the final goal of the plot against Lebanon and the Palestinians.

It has become clear that maintaining the explosive situation in Lebanon serves the goals of the United States, which has nothing more to offer than the Camp David accords for the future of the area. It seems that the escalation and deterioration of the situation in Lebanon is considered one of the best means to pressure other Arab parties into following the Camp David accords. This is the use of the bigstick policy after the failure of all previous attempts to achieve the participation of the directly involved Arab countries in the Camp David accords, that is, the Arab countries which surround the Israeli entity. Lebanon is the weak link which is being used to achieve this aim.

The Soviet stand on the war of extermination which is occurring in Lebanon is similar to the U.S. stand, even though the Soviet reasons differ from those of the United States. The Soviet leaders believe that the U.S. explosion with the Israeli enemy against the Arabs presents a chance for Moscow to gather certain Arab parties against the United States. This would explain everything. However, the tragic international stand toward what is occurring in Lebanon does not exempt the Arabs from the responsibility to act seriously and move decisively to find a way out of this bloody circle, particularly since the blood that is being shed in this infernal plot is Arab blood this certainly deserves an urgent and clear Arab stand stemming from pan-Arab links rather than from contradictory Arab policies. The situation has gone too far for the Arabs, or anyone, to tolerate any longer.

CSO: 4400/311

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

BRIEFS

PLO BLOOD REQUEST--Abu Dhabi, 7 Jun (QNA)--The PLO office in Abu Dhabi today issued a message to children of the Arab and Islamic nations in the UAE urging them to donate blood in order to support the steadfastness of the Lebanese and Palestinian people. The office issued another appeal to Palestinians living in the UAE to support their brothers in the Lebanese arena by donating food and blankets. Meanwhile, hundreds of citizens and residents have gone to the bloodbank since yesterday to donate their blood to victims of the Zionist aggression against Lebanon in response to the call issued by the Ministry of Health in this connection. [Text] [GF070847 Doha QNA in Arabic 0705 GMT 7 Jun 82]

ENERGY DEMAND STUDY PLAN--The Abu Dhabi National Oil Company (ADNOC) has awarded a \$400,000 contract to the Arab Engineering Company (AREC) to undertake a study on the best ways of meeting industrial and domestic demand for energy in the UAE over the next 15 years. ADNOC has a 70 per cent stake in AREC, which was fathered by the Organisation of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries (OAPEC). AREC began operations in December last year. [Paris AN-NAHAR ARAB REPORT & MEMO in English No 22, 31 May 82 p 8]

CSO: 4400/310

GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS DISCUSS COOPERATIVE PLAN STRATEGY, GOALS

San'a AL-THAWRAH in Arabic 19 Apr 82 p 6

[Article: "Light on the Second 5-Year Cooperative Plan, 1982-86"]

[Text] It is true that the achievements of our first 5-year plan, 1976-81 should be considered a factor promoting the advancement of this course of action, whose aim is to realize comprehensive development. We are now working to carry out our second 5-year cooperative plan, much of which might not be known to many people. It would be a good idea if we reviewed these plans. They are the development plan of the General Federation of Local Cooperative Authorities, the plans of the cooperative authorities, and the second agricultural and vocational cooperative societies' 5-year plan for 1982-86.

First, the 1982-86 development plan of the General Federation of Local Cooperative Authorities:

Estimated spending on cooperative activity expenditures total 440.84 million riyals, or 72.4 percent of the total projected general spending for the years of the second 5-year plan, which is aimed at carrying out 15 service and productive projects, as follows:

1. The second and third cooperative field survey, costing 5.31 million riyals.
2. The project to erect three central maintenance workshops at a cost of 63 million riyals for the purpose of maintaining equipment and machinery owned by the cooperative authorities and societies.
3. The project to establish the integrated cooperative institute at a cost of 65 million riyals, with the purpose of providing qualified cooperative staffs to serve and develop the pioneering cooperative movement.
4. The project to establish and construct 11 buildings for coordinating committees in the governorates at costs of 16.5 million riyals so that they will be able to perform their cooperative role as thoroughly as possible.
5. The project to maintain 4,620 kilometers of main roads linking more than one district, at a cost of 200 million riyals.
6. The project to erect a concrete pipe factory at a cost of 18.5 million riyals for the purpose of providing rainwater drainage to protect the cooperative roads.

7. Participation in the erection of a tannery costing 3 million riyals.
8. A project to participate in the establishment of four centers to market agricultural products at a cost of 3.75 million riyals.
9. A project to support remote, deprived and damaged areas with service projects for the sum of 30 million riyals.
10. The project to erect four nurseries to produce fruit seedlings and forest trees at a cost of 6 million riyals.
11. The training and accreditation project to train 5,800 people domestically at a cost of 12.1 million riyals, with the goal of raising the level of competence of the cooperative authorities, coordinating councils and specific societies, in addition to the erection of 60 multi-purpose agricultural cooperative societies, 20 marketing societies, 20 consumer housing societies, 15 vocational societies and 15 fishing societies.
12. The project to contribute to the purchase of 22 mobile health units costing 3 million riyals.
13. Contribution of the sum of 4 million riyals to the anti-illiteracy project.
14. The project to erect a ceramics factory costing 4.4 million riyals. All of these projects will have economic returns and their total costs will come to 445.84 million riyals, in addition to other expenditures under Chapter Four costing 10.48 million riyals, which are broken down as follows:
 - A. Participation in diverse projects in the economic field, 6 million riyals.
 - B. Participation in the afforestation field, 700,000 riyals.
 - C. Participation in the provision of incentives for students in educational institutes, 200,000 riyals.
 - D. Participation in the provision of incentives for students in health institutes, 80,000 riyals.
 - E. Aid to victims of catastrophes, 300,000 riyals.

Total, 10.48 million riyals.

Second, the second cooperative authorities' 5-year plan for 1982-86:

The above material concerns the development plan of the General Federation of Local Cooperative Authorities; what about plans for cooperative authorities in the second 5-year plan?

We can say that the most important basic notion that must be explained concerning the cooperative authorities' plans is the fact that the basis of planning in the area of cooperative work is to accommodate and coordinate the people's initiatives in establishing service and productive projects, not to impose a central plan on cooperatives

each year and compel them not to exceed or fall short of plan stipulations. Therefore this has been allocated 81.3 percent of total anticipated revenues, broken down as follows:

First, in the economic field:

Thirty percent of the total anticipated expenditures on cooperative activities have been allocated to this area, amounting to 243,723,000 riyals, for:

- A. The construction of 3,693 kilometers of roads costing 121,861,500 riyals, or 15 percent of total projected expenditures on cooperative activity in the years of the second 5-year plan.
- B. The ordinary maintenance of 13,540 kilometers of roads at a cost of 81,241,000 riyals, or 10 percent of total projected expenditures on cooperative activity in the years of the second 5-year plan.
- C. A sum of 40,620,500 riyals, or 5 percent of total projected expenditures on cooperative activity in the years of the second 5-year plan, has been allotted to diverse economic projects.

Second, the social field:

Five percent of the total projected spending on cooperative activities has been allocated to this field, totalling 40,620,500 riyals, to establish diverse social projects such as mosques and social care buildings and the establishment and encouragement of cultural and sporting clubs.

Third, the educational field:

Twenty-five percent of the total projected expenditures on cooperative activities, or 203,102,500 riyals, have been allocated to this field, for:

- A. The construction of 4,513 classrooms at a cost of 162,482,000 riyals, or 20 percent of total projected spending on cooperative activity.
- B. Contributions to providing incentives to students to continue their studies if they are appointed to teachers' institutes by the authorities, in addition to contributions in the eradication of illiteracy, to which objective the sum of 40,620,500 riyals or 5 percent of total projected spending on cooperative activity has been allocated.

Fourth, the agricultural field:

Five percent of the total projected spending for cooperative activity, or 40,620,500 riyals, has been allotted to this field, for the purpose of encouraging the establishment of agricultural and forestation cooperatives and establishing parks and forests.

Fifth, the health field:

Thirty-five percent of total spending on cooperative activities has been allocated to this field, totalling 284,343,500 riyals, as follows:

A. A sum of 162,482 riyals has been allocated to rural potable water projects, with the purpose of carrying out 1,206 various water projects, or 20 percent of the total projected spending on cooperative activities.

B. Participation in the establishment of 812 health units for a cost of 81,241,000 riyals, at a cost of 100,000 riyals per room, or 10 percent of total projected spending on cooperative activity.

C. Contributions to providing incentives for doctors, health personnel and students in health institutes and the propagation of health consciousness: 40,620,500 riyals have been allocated for this purpose, or 5 percent of the total projected spending on cooperative activities.

Third, the second agricultural and vocational cooperative societies' 5-year plan for 1982-86:

The obstacles and difficulties that have faced the specialized societies in the preceding stage emphasize the need to give special importance to this aspect, in order to transcend them through:

1. Priority in obtaining various loans and facilities at token interest.
2. Emphasis on administrative and technical personnel.
3. The provision of practical studies on basic production factors.
4. The granting of exemptions from customs duties and other benefits for all various production accessories to productive cooperative societies.

Herewith is a statement of the targeted goals of the second 5-year plan, 1982-86, amounting to 230,921,100 riyals, broken down as follows:

First, capital spending:

The volume allocated to this area is 60,055,000 riyals, broken down among the following projects:

A. Establishment of three poultry farms in the Sa'wan and Qarawi areas in San'a' District, and al-Nasrah and 'Ubayd in the Dhimar District, at an estimated cost of 4.2 million riyals.

B. Establishment of two cattle-rearing farms in the Rijam and al-Rawd areas of San'a' at a total cost of 2.2 million riyals.

C. Establishment of refrigerated (product marketing) storehouses in the Rijam area of San'a' at an estimated cost of 200,000 riyals, in addition to the erection of refrigerated fruit and vegetable storehouses in the Sa'wan area in San'a' District at a cost of 120,000 riyals.

D. Establishment of a tannery and leather products plant in the San'a' District at a total cost of 46 million riyals.

E. Land reclamation and the drilling of artesian wells at an estimated cost of 5,535,000 riyals.

Second, spending on production requirements:

The total amount allocated to this area came to 134,116,100 riyals. This includes agricultural production accessories in the form of improved seeds, fertilizers, insecticides and fuel.

Third, administrative spending:

The total volume allocated to this area is 37.75 million riyals. Revenues during the years of execution of the second 5-year plan have been estimated as follows:

- A. Revenues from purchases for sales purposes.
- B. General reserve.
- C. Members' contributions.
- D. Revenues from activities the societies perform.
- E. Loans obtained from lending institutions.
- F. Aid requested from the general federation and the government.

Revenues came to 188,574,390 riyals.

In comparing estimated revenues and spending, it is apparent that the estimated difference is 42,346,799 riyals, which will be covered by the societies' capital as represented by the value of shares and foreign aid.

[Signed] Members of the Planning Committee, Department of Planning and Statistics

Assistant Director General of Cooperative Planning Department: We Aspire to Have the Year 1983 of the Cooperative 5-year Plan Be the Year of Establishment of the Cooperative Institute

If we assume, for the sake of argument, that the cooperative concept is a form of study aimed at uplifting man, we may deduce from that the many benefits that cooperative fields but an affirmation of the success our cooperative experience has attained in its short period of life?

As we are now seeking to carry out our second 5-year cooperative plan (1982-86), it is necessary to have a well-educated, accredited cooperative staff that is aware of the extent of the role it must play to make this plan a success. What is the cooperative training course that started on 20 March 1982 and [is to last] till 25 May 1982 in the National Institute of Public Administration in San'a' but one of these courses, which will serve our cooperative experience by supplying it with qualified, accredited staffs?

For more information on this role, we met with our brother Rashad Mansur, the assistant director general of the Planning Department and the director of cooperative training. I first asked him:

"Cooperative training and accreditation have become a practical reality; in your capacity as cooperative training director, what is the extent of your accomplishments in this situation? Is this heading included in the federation's second 5-year plan? What is the extent of the cooperatives' and societies' initiatives in attending these training courses?"

[Answer] The fact is that cooperative training and accreditation are to be considered a firm basis and fixed foundation for the Yemeni cooperative movement, with qualified new staffs that are capable of crystallizing and bringing the specific cooperatives' and societies' plans and programs into being. We know that without training and accreditation, there can be no cooperative plans, and, without planning and programming, many of our cooperative projects cannot be completed. Therefore we find that our political leaders, as represented by the command of the head of the cooperative movement, our brother Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, the president and commander in chief of the armed forces, have taken the reins of the initiative through the scientific planning method in setting out plans and programs for Yemeni development. This is represented by the method and future scope of the second 5-year plan. As regards the first part of the question, we have started cooperative training course activities, as embodied in the inauguration of the first cooperative course established in the National Institute by our brother the assistant secretary general of the General Federation, Sadiq Amin Abu Ra's, and our brother the dean of the National Institute, Prof Muhammad An'am Ghalib.

The cooperative course began on 20 March and will end on 20 May 1982. That is, it will last for a period of 8 weeks. This in itself is to be considered a preliminary experiment to be benefitted from in subsequent courses.

This course was the result of efforts that had been made by our colleagues in coordination with the National Institute of Public Administration, which took the form of progressively informing the councils, authorities and societies by setting out study programs bearing on the missions of cooperative activity and setting out estimated budgets for the costs of sessions, furnishing students' housing, and providing their academic requirements. Therefore the General Federation has been careful to devote a large part of the federation's second 5-year plan programs to the issue of cooperative training and accreditation and to approve the necessary estimated amounts.

The fact that the General Federation, which is represented by the cooperative leadership, is totally aware of the importance and positive yields which cooperative training and accreditation offer and their prominent, effective role in performing the tasks of the Yemeni cooperative movement is clear proof of the extreme importance of this course. As regards cooperative members' initiatives of attending this course, it is plainly apparent that there is a serious feeling of support for cooperatives, represented by the fact that participants in cooperatives and societies are sent to attend this course because there is a great lack of capability in the cooperative technical staffs at my disposal than in the agricultural authorities and societies. Another reason is that in light of the election season, when some new cooperative members are elected who might not have a total grasp or understanding of the tasks of cooperative activity, we find that most authorities and cooperatives vie with one another to acquire accreditation and a practical understanding for the cooperative staffs working in these authorities or societies, in the context of the seasonal elections every 3 years. Therefore, the number of cooperative members from agricultural authorities and societies in the various districts taking part in this course is close to 50. This is a large number when compared with the previous courses. One benefit of this course is that we have provided

all requirements in the form of students' expenses, housing, books and stationery, in addition to medical care and daily supervision.

There are some agricultural cooperatives and societies which have not sent candidates, although candidates' forms and letters have been sent and there have been notices on radio and television; I have no explanation for their failure to reply and hope that the next courses will be fortunate and that there will be a cooperative feeling on the part of some authorities and societies of the importance of training and accrediting cooperative staffs to bear the responsibility of cooperative work, with the time, labor and sacrifice that requires, on behalf of the regions and the public interest, which is in keeping with the citizens' trust, the casting of their votes and the mutual trust.

Question What is the goal in cooperative training and accreditation? Who benefits? Are they considered the nucleus of a cooperative institute, as stated in the resolutions and recommendations of the cooperative conferences?

Answer The purpose of cooperative training and accreditation is to create cooperative staffs that are qualified to carry out and execute the agricultural societies' plans and projects in a manner that is in keeping with the 5-year cooperative plan, acquaint them with the role of the Yemeni cooperative movement in attaining economic and social revival, teach them to provide more cooperative services and consequently to understand and be aware of the possibility of shifting from cooperative service areas to productive areas. As regards the benefits of this course, we find that the beneficiaries are:

- A. People working in cooperative authorities.
- B. People working in specific societies.
- C. People working in the Agricultural Cooperative Credit Bank.
- D. People working in the Department of Assignments (in the governorates).
- E. People working in the General Federation of Cooperative Authorities.

Some agencies have a connection with the cooperative movement in terms of the coordination and execution of joint projects and I can therefore assert that cooperative training should be considered a nucleus for creating a cooperative institute.

The fact is that every project, institute or university, for instance, starts from zero. We in our turn in the General Federation are urgently striving to create a specialized cooperative institute covering the fields and missions of cooperative activity, not just in terms of studying the tasks of the cooperative movement but also to graduate technical accounting or technical engineering and administrative staffs and to graduate specialized staffs at a high level, especially in the field of roads, well-drilling, surveying, equipment and machinery operation and maintenance, and all the various skills and abilities the Yemeni cooperative movement needs. Therefore we aspire to have the year 1983 of the second cooperative 5-year plan be the year of the establishment of the cooperative institute, especially since a cash sum has been allocated for this purpose in the General Federation's plan and engineering plans have been set out for this purpose.

In addition, the International Labor Organization is prepared to contribute to building and construction in coordination with the Central Planning Agency. Here I should not forget to mention the resolutions and recommendations of the cooperative conferences bearing on this subject, especially Paragraph 12 of the recommendations of the latest fifth general cooperative conference, which explicitly stipulates that the General Federation and the Social Affairs Department are to establish the Yemeni Cooperative Institute.

Question What course materials have been put in the study program for our brother participants from the cooperative authorities and specialized societies? Are there conditions for enrolling in this course? What bodies will be taking part in the establishment of the cooperative course? What are its costs, its duration and future programs bearing on training, which will all serve the Yemeni cooperative movement?

Answer The most important course materials that make up the study program are:

- A. Legislation on agricultural authorities and societies.
- B. The consolidated accounting system of authorities and societies.
- C. Rural and local development and cooperative marketing.
- D. Administrative systems for cooperatives.
- E. Local administration and public administration (office administration).
- F. The role of the cooperative movement in the second 5-year plan.
- G. A printing course.

In addition, there is a course in the English language.

As regards the conditions for enrolling in this course, a form has been set out in which candidates are set down their academic levels, expertise and previous activities. The candidates are to commit themselves to work in the cooperative field with a bond from a person giving a guarantee for that purpose. A sorting process will take place to ascertain the students' levels and determine their practical and educational qualifications.

The authorities taking part in this course are:

1. The General Federation of Local Development Cooperative Authorities.
2. The National Institute of Public Administration and Secretarial Work.
3. The American Aid Agency (Project 35). As regards the cost of the session, an estimated budget has been set out which will meet the course's requirements and needs.

A course in mechanics will be set up in the town of Ta'izz in coordination with the Ministry of Public Works and the Agency of International Development (Project 45). A large number of authority candidates have arrived and we hope to meet the greatest possible number of candidates from the authorities and societies, since this course will be used in the area of the repair and maintenance of cooperative machinery and equipment and matters related to aspects of agriculture, agricultural mechanization, well drilling and so forth.

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