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28 July 1982

NEAR EAST/NORTH AFRICA REPORT

No. 2590

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ISLAMIC AFFAIRS

BRIEFS

ISLAMIC STOCK EXCHANGE--Prince Muhammad al-Faysal and Qatari officials have investigated the possibility of establishing three Islamic projects in Qatar: an Islamic bank, an investment company and a mutual vouching company. Prince Muhammad is expected to complete these projects within the next 3 months. There are now Islamic projects in 14 countries. Serious study is being given to establishing an Islamic stock exchange. [Text] [London AL-MAJALLAH in Arabic No 117, 8-14 May 82 p 46] 9123

CSO: 4404/516

GULF PETROCHEMICAL INDUSTRY GROWING

London AL-MAJALLAH in Arabic No 118, 15-21 May 82 pp 45-46

[Article: "The Secretary General Of the Gulf Industrial Investment Organization Says: 'The Gulf Petrochemical Industry Is Growing and Will Soon Be Exporting'"]

[Text] The joint Qatari-French company is expected to begin construction of a new complex for low density polyethylene production next year. Construction will take 18 months. The plant will be built near Dunkirk on the French coast. When it is finished the plant will have a production capacity of 100,000 tons. The company has increased its capital from \$77.4 million to \$169.9 million.

This is not the only petrochemical project Qatar is working on. There is another complex within the country at Umm Sa'id, 50 km south of the capital, al-Dawhah. This complex started exporting its production a year ago. Iraq is another country that has developed petrochemical industries and last year began to export some of its production. Saudi Arabia and Kuwait are proceeding similarly, and are expected to begin exporting in the middle of this decade.

This course toward utilizing hydrocarbon substances to diversify sources of income and reduce dependence on oil as the sole source of revenue began a short time ago. To be precise, it began after the rise in the price of oil in the early 1970's. There are currently various projects at various levels. The existing projects will eventually be exporting methanol, ammonia, fertilizer, ethylene, propylene and low density polyethylene. World demand for these substances is expected to rise 300 percent in the next 20 years.

About 6 years ago the seven Gulf nations--Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, the UAE, Qatar, Bahrain, Oman and Iraq--agreed to establish the Gulf Industrial Investment Organization to coordinate their policies in that area. According to studies by the organization the 7 countries will be able to establish 7 methanol plants, 35 ammonia plants and 128 ethylene plants.

Preliminary calculations made in 1978 showed that production of ammonia by the Gulf nations, which was 1.46 million tons, could be increased to 4.9 million tons, or 8 percent of world production in 1987. Similar projections

showed that Gulf production of fertilizer could reach 26 percent of world production; ethylene, 5.8 percent; low density polyethylene, 7 percent; methanol, 10.3 percent.

With the Secretary General

Despite the ongoing efforts to develop the petrochemical industry there are still several questions that have been raised concerning the type of industrialization that is appropriate for changing the industrial make-up of the Gulf and the role of the private sector in this activity. The questioning extends even to the role of the Gulf Industrial Investment Organization which some view as still restricted. It was within this context that AL-MAJALLAH met with Dr 'Abdallah Hamad al-Mu'ajjal, the secretary general of the organization, while he was in al-Manamah. He does not agree with that view. In his opinion, "there are objective factors which govern the organization's activity at this stage. Among these factors is the fact that there is no existing industry in the Gulf nations in the generally accepted meaning of the word. This clearly delimits the scope in which the organization operates, namely, working to create a strong industrial base that can support any projects or directives for Gulf industrial coordination and cooperation in the future."

Dr al-Mu'ajjal added: "We have made considerable progress in unifying statistical methods and in establishing an industrial data bank. We have also begun several joint industrial projects among the Gulf nations to create a network of offices to serve as the basis for a Gulf common market."

Since the huge jump in crude oil prices in 1973 the Gulf countries have worked to authorize a long series of industrial projects in an attempt to implement rapid changes in their traditional economic structure. The slogan that accompanies these ambitious goals is "diversification of the sources of national income." But the prevailing tendency has been the establishment of the manufacturing industries that are heavily dependent on capital and energy, such as the petrochemical and aluminum industries. Through lack of planning, similar projects, such as aluminum and petrochemicals, are being duplicated and are being established locally in these countries. In the meantime there have been demands and opinions expressed calling for more realistic industrialization plans and reliance to the greatest possible extent on the "extractive industries" based on creating industries using the available natural resources, because, holders of this opinion believe, there are better prospects for success in view of the fact that the product of the first type of industry (petrochemicals, for example) is for the most part exported to world markets, while the product of the second type can be used for domestic consumption. But according to Dr 'Abdallah al-Mu'ajjal that is not enough reason to forgo establishing petrochemical industries in the Gulf region. He said, "There are specific facts that cannot be ignored when the establishment of industrial projects is being considered in the Gulf countries, namely, that although most of these countries are small and have small populations they possess enormous wealth and abundant sources of energy. It is natural that we should bear these facts in mind when we start out: We are compelled to start out with industries that are capital intensive and heavily dependent on energy."

Dr al-Mu'ajjal believes that "these industries have proven their ability to compete in world markets due to the lower cost of their products. For example, it became possible to produce ethylene at half the cost of its production in the United States. Now we can speak of the second phase of industrialization projects."

Dr al-Mu'ajjal clarified that: "The movement towards industrialization in these countries has found the abundant private wealth to be a powerful consumer base. Several light industries were established to meet local consumer demand. But these industries import most of their raw materials, while these raw materials come mostly from the industries which export them. So the second phase as I see it is plugging this gap."

A Final Evaluation

Dr al-Mu'ajjal added: "We have therefore undertaken a study of the petrochemical industries whose products can be consumed locally, such as clothing and household utensils, leading to the establishment of factories to meet these local demands. But it must be emphasized that this is possible only within the framework of the Gulf nations as a group, because the establishment of these plants requires specific volume and huge markets in order to be economically worthwhile."

On the subject of competition among the Gulf states in the establishment of petrochemical projects Dr al-Mu'ajjal is of the opinion that "the point of view taken by the organization is that there are industries directed toward generating revenue. An effort must be made to coordinate production among the export industries. They can protect themselves and compete. For example, more than one project can be established in the chemical fertilizer industry because the markets are available for them. But it is possible to avoid any losses if overseas marketing is coordinated."

Among the problems plaguing the economies of the Gulf nations is that the state bears the bulk, if not the entirety, of the burden for industrial development programs, while the private sector goes for investments that give fast returns--land and real estate, for example. Dr 'Abdallah al-Mu'ajjal is not content to make these observations; he calls for assisting the private sector by becoming partners with them in the industrial projects at hand. He said, "We in the Industrial Investment Organization are attempting to devise a coherent formula for relations with the private sector. We have invited them to join us in financing a local fiberglass project with the understanding that we will not offer shares in the project for public trading until after production begins. We hope that this will be followed by similar steps in the same direction."

9123

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ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF SOVIET-AFGHAN COOPERATION HAILED

Kabul HEYWAD in Dari 13, 15, 16 May 82 pp 1, 2, 4

[Editorial by Sohrab]

[Text] The more than 60-year-old friendship, understanding and trust between Afghanistan and the USSR has now entered a new phase to the benefit of the peoples of the two countries and to the benefit of peace in the region and the world and the relationship is being strengthened and expanded day by day.

At the same time as the start of common interests and political relations between free and colonialism destroyer Afghanistan and the People's Soviet where the power of the toilers had just been established there, scientific, technical and economic cooperation also began between our countries. As a result of that, today we see in our glorious and proud homeland the splendid and permanent manifestations of the common interests and friendly cooperation clearly in every place and our people are proud and honored by such manifestations and symbols of friendship between Afghanistan and the USSR.

More than 140 small and large projects affecting the economic and social sectors of our homeland have been completed with the help and cooperation of the USSR or are being built. More than 70 projects which were completed with the major help of the friendly and brotherly country, the USSR, are now being utilized.

The largest industrial installations of our country in which today hundreds and thousands of skilled and able workers are employed were built with the help of the USSR. The extensive and rewarding oil and natural gas exploration and exploitation project which is presently the major source of our country's income, providing millions of foreign exchange each year, clearly demonstrates the role of this cooperation and friendship. Today every compatriot knows that any project or installation which has had the technical and financial support of the USSR has been completed at the earliest possible time, showing important and noticeable economic and social effects toward the progress of our country and the welfare and well-being of our people.

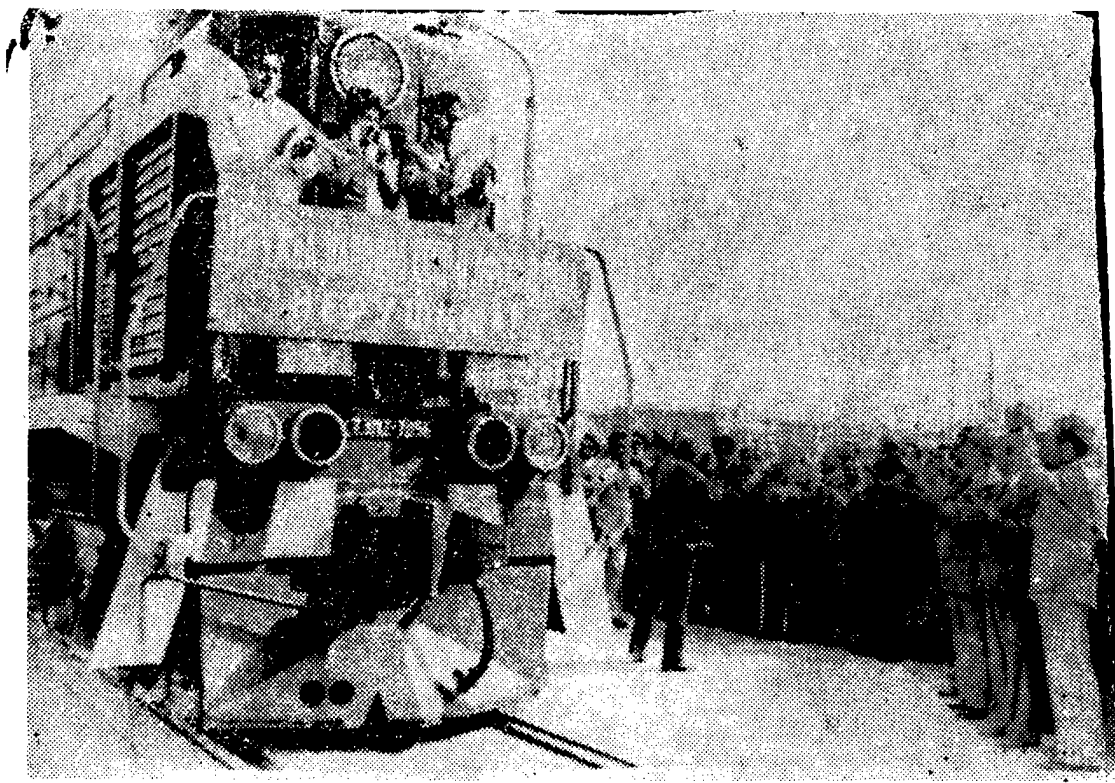
More than 70 percent of our asphalted roads and highways have been extended by the USSR. The noble and capable workers of Afghanistan, with Soviet working

friends at their side, cut through the heart of Hindu Kush and built the main highway, a line which to a great degree reduced the cost of travel and transportation between the northern and southern regions of the Hindu Kush and provided numerous benefits.

In continuation of such cooperation, we are now witness to the inauguration and cooperation of yet another very beneficial and important road communication project which is sure to have an important and effective role in stabilizing the prices and rates of products that are needed by the people.

Considering the fact that Afghanistan is landlocked, the country's highway system and the construction of roads, bridges and railroads are most important in rebuilding our society, particularly the facilities created by the USSR for the transport of our exports and imports. By having dependable, asphalted roads and well-built bridges and being able to make the best use of them, we shall have speeded up the economic and social progress of our society to a great degree.

The bridge and installations at Bandar-e Hayratan, built over the roaring and tempestuous Amu River, while being a shining manifestation of the cooperation, understanding as well as the friendly and brotherly interest between revolutionary Afghanistan and the USSR, also provides us with better and easier means of bringing in our needs from abroad and exporting our goods to other countries. It was because of the important economic value of these installations that Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the central committee of the PDPA and chairman of the Revolutionary Council personally participated in the inauguration ceremony. The toilers of Afghanistan while wishing for the constant strengthening of brotherly ties between the peoples, parties and governments of the two countries, look with appreciation and admiration at this permanent symbol of Afghan-Soviet cooperation and friendship.



The first railway crosses the bridge over the Amu River that joins the two countries of Afghanistan and the Soviet Union. (Tily Photo)



A view of Friendship Bridge built across the Amu River. (Bakhtar photo)

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CSO: 4665/20

AFGHANISTAN

MORE SOVIET-AFGHAN PLANNING ANTICIPATED

Kabul HEYWAD in Dari 20 May 82 p 2

[Article by Habibollah Farahmand]

[Text] Following the victory over fascism and the end of World War II, many countries gained their political independence as a result of the long fighting of national liberation movements and the balance of power in favor of peace and socialism and took firm steps toward achieving and strengthening their national economic foundations. By seeing the victory of socialist economic planning and the need to speed up the tempo of economic growth of liberated countries, these countries too directed their capability toward economic growth planning, in the sense of a growing renewed output of the total productive capability of society. The experience of advanced industrial countries shows that the achievement of economic independence and the goals of relative self-sufficiency in the output of goods and the rapid production of goods in various national economic sectors is possible through well ordered scientific planning.

Planning has been in effect in Afghanistan for more than 25 years but actual conditions required for structuring an overall economic planning system has not been fully favorable in our society.

After the glorious victory of the Sawr revolution which put political power in the hands of the toilers, better conditions and possibilities developed for expanded economic planning. Although up to now, planning in our country does not affect all facets of social and economic life, yet its area will be expanded in the next 1 to 3 years, bearing in mind the ever-increasing improvement of the mechanics of the new economy in coming years.

The PDPA and the DRA are giving special attention to strengthening the country's planning machinery. The State Planning Committee as the central planning organ and the coordinator of various economic and social sectors will be further strengthened and effort will be made to give economic and social growth plans legal footing. We are well aware it is only through scientific planning that solutions can be developed for carrying out various social, economic, scientific and technical responsibilities and possibilities created for laying the material and technical foundations of the country's new society.

It must be remembered that Soviet planning experts and advisers have played an important role in structuring the country's planning system, and insofar as possible development plans have been prepared with the benefit of the extensive experience of countries having fully-planned economics, tailored to the special characteristics of our country.

Afghan-Soviet friendship has deep and splendid historic roots. This traditional friendship and cooperation reached a new quality level after the victory of the splendid Saur revolution, evolving into brotherly ties, revolutionary interrelationship and cooperation in all fields. The DRA has enjoyed the unsullied cooperation of the Soviet Union in various fields. Without doubt, such help is of major and vital importance in eliminating backwardness, in settling a strong material and technical infrastructure and in building a new society.

Many development projects have been completed or are being carried out with Soviet help. In addition the USSR assists us in cultural educational and public health development and helps in training our national cadres. The volume of foreign trade to the benefit of both countries increases each year.

The USSR is considered the largest buyer of traditional export products of Afghanistan. In 1360 [21 March 1981-20 March 1982] the sale proceeds of natural gas will comprise of 13.5 billion afghani and 30 percent of the total budgetary revenue of the J.D.A.

The USSR delivers to Afghanistan a number of important, necessary and vital products such as wheat, sugar and machinery.

Earlier in 1979, the Afghan-Soviet subcommission for cooperation in planning procedures was established within the framework of the permanent Afghan-Soviet Economic Cooperation Commission. Its main responsibilities included the exchange of experience and know-how on the levels of economy, planning, the drawing up of economic projects and plans, planning methods and the exchange of experts for continued research as well as for planning activities.

For the first time within the framework of this commission, in 1359 as well as 1360 [21 March 1980 through 20 March 1982] a large group of employees of the State Planning Committee as well as those involved in planning in various ministries and government institutions had high level economic and planning orientation courses in Moscow, familiarizing themselves with scientific planning procedures and Soviet experience from the theoretical and practical points of view. For the first time, the State Planning Committee printed and distributed among government ministries and institutions a reference book on the method of annual planning and procedures to be followed.

In recent days, the Joint Afghan-Soviet Subcommission has held meetings in Kabul on planning procedures, with subcommission members of both sides discussing with economic experts and specialists matters of common interest and long-term cooperation. The results of the meetings have been considered very satisfactory and important.

COMMITMENTS OF TRIBES TO REVOLUTION HAILED

Kabul HAQIQAT-E ENQELAB-E SAWR in Dari 15 Apr 82 p 2

[Text] In the annals of our country's contemporary history, Pashtun and Baluchi tribes on both sides of the border have, in their historic units, played an active and invaluable role, both at the time of the struggle against colonialism as well as during the struggle against reaction and imperialism. Thousands of toilers of these regions, through their bravery and epic-making, not only put the brand of defeat and desperation on the old British imperialism, but the puppet governments of colonialism and imperialism also did not and do not have a respite from the awesome swords of the tribal peoples. Neither assassination, strnagulation, imprisonment or the hanging of freedom-seekers nor the savage attacks of the club-wielders of reaction and despotism against their person, their belongings, their freedom and their security were able to chain the inexhaustible fighting spirit of tribal men and women for freedom.

People's and tribal councils which became centers for organization and expression of tribal power and unity, have played basic roles in regulating struggles against imperialism and in defending the interests of tribal toilers. Each time tribal regions have come under the attack of reaction and imperialism, the masses of these regions have, according to historical custom and the tradition of their forefathers, convened large people's and tribal council meetings and struck telling blows at the foreheads of the bullies. These council meetings have sometimes been on such a scale that tens of thousands of people have spoken with one voice in defense of their interests.

The huge gathering of the Martyrs' Memorial in 1341 [21 March 1962-20 March 1963] in which 50,000 people--young and old, men and women, farmers and workers, respected clerics as well as national and tribal notables--took part was eloquent testimony to our assertion.

Following the victory of th Sawr national revolution, tribal peoples took position in ramparts for the defense of the revolution with full enthusiasm, hoping thereby to achieve high human aspirations and to create conditions for insuring their economic and social life, and responded negatively to any domestic or foreign instigation and intrigue against the revolution. But antirevolution alignments, with the cooperation of regional reaction and the direct material and moral support of world imperialism and Peking

chauvinists as well as the unpleasant effects of the terror and strangulation of the Amin era, created a situation that allowed the enemies of the Afghanistan revolution to take advantage of the low level of political and social awareness of the masses and to be able to put into effect to a certain degree their strategy of fraud and deceit among the people, thus temporarily weakening their ties with the revolution. Given such a situation, the antirevolution was able to penetrate termite-like into tribal domains. After the victory of the new phase of the revolution, agents of reaction and imperialism, who had lost their last soiled hopes, followed the custom of their international masters by shouting that Islam and Afghanistan were in "danger". By this means they wanted to prolong their parasitic and shameful existence and to increase more than before their acts of terrorism, murder, destruction and arson. However, the righteousness of the Saur revolution and the humane policy of our government and our party day by day attracted the confidence of the clear majority of the country's toilers, including the brave tribal peoples. The more this confidence increases, stipendiaries feeding at the table of reaction and imperialism feel more concern over the outcome of their shameful wheeling and dealing. In deranged fashion they direct their professional killers and night terrorists to upset the calm and peaceful life of the people. Their efforts to create fear in tribal areas and to penetrate various regions of our country reached such a point that the militaristic government of Pakistan, by continuous aggression in tribal areas, wanted to go into joint action with mercenaries trained in the camps. But they fail to take into account that the wheels of history cannot be controlled by thoughts of individuals.

The merciless killing of innocent and defenseless people, the plundering of the belongings of the people, the creation of fear and panic and the atmosphere of assassination and strangulation cannot but leave a blot of shame on the foreheads of their regional and international supporters. The awakened tribal peoples, perceiving the legitimacy of the revolution and its new and evolutionary phase, are day by day strengthening their entrenchments and by holding local meetings they are not only warning the mercenaries of reaction and imperialism but also the militaristic government of Pakistan that aggression and the imposition of neocolonialism in tribal areas can only end in disgraceful defeat, that just as the heartless murder of one innocent Afridi at Saur Kamar and the aggression into the Adam Khel Valley caused an iron fist to be raised against the policy of force and dominance, the peoples and other Pashtun tribes too will not remain indifferent to the bullying acts of the militaristic government of Pakistan and mercenaries trained in Pakistani camps.

Right now, preparedness for armed resistance against any aggression and oppression by the antirevolution and the Pakistani military is proceeding among all Pashtun tribes. It will not be long before they throw out the mercenaries of reaction and imperialism from their unsullied lands.

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CSO: 4665/30

AFGHANISTAN

COUNTERREVOLUTIONARIES DENOUNCED FOR CORRUPT PRACTICES

Kabul HEYWAD in Dari 22 May 82 p 6

[Text] The disgrace, corruption, criminality and treachery of Afghanistan counterrevolutionary leaders, who like jackals have made their lairs in Peshawar, have reached such a stage and the counterrevolutionary carcass gives off such a stench that even their friends and supporters have been forced to concede sometimes that the counterrevolution is mired from head to toe in corruption, crimes, treachery and decay.

To prove this point, we draw the attention of our compatriots to a recent article in the well-known West German newspaper DIE WELT which happens to be one of the most reactionary and vociferous supporters of the brigands.

DIE WELT recently carried a long article by its correspondent Walter Rueb who has visited from close up the lairs of the counterrevolution in Peshawar and has exposed the corruption, commercialism, defrauding and smuggling activities of Afghanistan counterrevolutionary group chiefs.

Walter Rueb writes: The money and goods of various organizations which are put at the disposal of the chiefs of these bands by the Pakistani authorities are all divided unfairly between a limited few while large groups of escapees and the duped live in thirst and hunger, in pain and hardship, in cold and hot weather.

After evaluating the stances of the heads of counterrevolutionary groups, the correspondent writes: They are totally feudalistic and seek to revive feudalism.

Walter Rueb has talked to escapees who were fooled by the trickery of counterrevolutionary terrorist groups and fled across the eastern border of Afghanistan.

Gholam Hoseyn is one of the duped who left his homeland because of promises made to him by counterrevolutionary bands. He says: Goods collected from various sources are sold right away on open markets, providing large sums of money for chiefs of counterrevolutionary groups.

Walter Rueb spoke to another escapee by the name of Saleh who says: In squandering all belongings of the people, counterrevolutionary elements subject the peace-loving people of Afghanistan to oppression and forcibly extract large sums of money from them in the name of relief contribution.

Relentless efforts for collecting money and goods has set the heads of these bands against each other. In trying to outdo one another, they resort to any intrigue and conspiracy. They cut each other up for the sake of the carcass thrown to them and do not even refrain from chewing each other's corpses. These activities of theirs have placed their master, the United States, in a quandry.

According to Walter Rueb, the heads of these bands have many times submitted complaint dossiers about each other to their American masters.

The writer of the article draws the attention of the readers of his newspaper to the fact that many escapees live in arid areas without food and drinking water, while the modern, splendid and incomparable residences of counterrevolutionary group heads such as Gulbuddin [Hekmatyar], Rabbani and Khaless is indicative of their so-called struggle.

Walter Rueb writes: These chiefs have deluxe cars and incomparable palaces like those in Western metropolitan sectors. The parties they throw in Lausanne, France, bears out this fact.

The correspondent writes: It is now clear to everyone that Gulbuddin has transportation facilities of the Khyber Pass under his control and is the owner of 400 rickshaws.

Walter Rueb continues that at one time Gulbuddin had 3,000 dollars in a bank in Basel, Switzerland, and in 1981 alone 400,000 marks were added to it. According to the correspondent, the matter of Gulbuddin's deposits in West European banks is a fully-detailed story recounted among escapees.

Walter Rueb adds: Gulbuddin has pocketed quite a wealth from contributions made for Afghani escapees.

While in Peshawar, Walter Rueb met with another counterrevolutionary group head by the name of Rabbani.

Walter Rueb says: Rabbani's palace is located in a high-class section. Rabbani's band has very close relations with Zia-ul-Haq but all counter-revolutionary bands are supported and provided for by the military in power in Pakistan.

The writer tells of a duped 82-year-old man who, in fear and panic, had come to the headquarters of the Rabbani band and submitted a small written note. The note said: "I have been living without tent and food among the escapees for a long time. I hope I can be given a blanket."

Walter Rueb writes: This caused a wrinkle in Rabbani's brow but he conceded that "Some of the things they say are true."

Dear compatriots! These were the admissions of the one of the most reactionary and best-known Western publications concerning Afghanistan counter-revolutionaries.

The disrepute of the brigands has become so clearly exposed to force their masters to voice complaint.

We have said repeatedly, the heads of the brigand bands who claim to be defenders of Islam and Islamism are up to their necks in corruption, putrefaction and sin. Their main objective is to amass wealth for the future and to carry on transactions over their duped victims. If these traitorous groups chiefs can escape the wrath of the people with the goods and wealth they have amassed, they will take refuge in the bosom of their master and live in fine mansions. Pity the duped and wandering escapees who betray their country and wail from thirst and hunger far from home.

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CSO: 4665/21

AFGHANISTAN

REVOLUTION CLAIMS BACKING OF VILLAGERS

Kabul ANIS in Dari. 3 May 82 p 4

[Article by ANIS correspondent: "Nation's Farmers Are Defenders of the Revolution"]

[Text] When I asked Abdol-Rashid, the toiling farmer of the village of Qabelba'y who was working on his land, about the importance of the splendid Sawr revolution and its role in the life of the people, he answered: In past decrepit times, the people of our country lived in deplorable conditions. The rights of workers, farmers and other people were trampled by them. Speaking of ourselves, in those days we farmers considered ourselves very poor and helpless because the khans and landlords would mercilessly take from peasants the fruit of their toil and we did not have the least right of complaint concerning the situation.

Fortunately, with the victory of the splendid Sawr revolution under the leadership of the PDPA, this pitiful state of affairs came to an end in our beloved Afghanistan and the suffering people of the country were able to begin a prosperous life. As a result of the victory of the Sawr revolution, one of the longtime desires of peasants to own land became a reality and following the implementation of the first phase of the democratic land reform, the land was taken out of the grasp of cruel landowners and given to peasants with little or no land.

This enlightened farmer added: Following the victory of the new and evolutionary phase of the Sawr revolution, much attention has been and is being directed by our popular party and government toward insuring the well-being of the people, including farming cooperatives which provide us farmers with extensive help in various agricultural endeavors.

We toilers of the country have full confidence in the humane line of our national party and government and are convinced that all the treasonable activities of the enemies of our country and the revolution will fail because our people recognize the enemies of their progress and well-being and no conspiracy can fool our decent people. Like other toilers, we farmers are prepared to defend the fruits of the revolution and are endeavoring to build and improve our country through round-the-clock work.

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CSO: 4665/24

AFGHANISTAN

WIDESPREAD FERTILIZER DISTRIBUTION HELPING FARMERS

Kabul HAQIQAT-E ENQELAB-E SAWR in Dari 11 Apr 82 p 2

[Text] In order to follow through the spring cultivation campaign, the Chemical Fertilizer and Agricultural Services Company, in addition to transferring fertilizer by government and private transportation, has decided to supply chemical fertilizer to retailers and farmers their urea fertilizer needs directly through its distribution centers.

In stating the above, a source at the Chemical Fertilizer and Agricultural Services Company said: Bearing in mind the historic importance of the first phase of the democratic national land reforms and in order to service the country's farmers and ranchers, the company is determined to carry out and even exceed the operational plan for 1361 [21 March 1982-20 March 1983] in providing, distributing and dispatching fertilizer, wheat and agricultural and veterinary material at 91 fertilizer storages and 21 materials depots. For this purpose it is purchasing 60 trucks during the current year. Meanwhile farmers can obtain their fertilizer needs after making payments into accounts of the agencies of the company and presenting the bill through the company's second regional office.

Regarding the quantity of fertilizer available for distribution and the price of various types of fertilizers, the source said: According to a projected plan during the current year, 70,000 tons of urea fertilizer and 40,000 tons of phosphate fertilizer will be distributed among farmers through the central office and through the second regional office in Mazar-e Sharif and through the third and fourth regional offices in Herat and Qandahar.

The price of urea has been set at 8,000 afghani per ton while the price of the phosphate product has been fixed at 7,200 afghani; this, even though phosphate fertilizer BSP actually costs 17,614 afghani per ton. Thus, in order to help the toiling farmers in accordance with the PDPA guidelines which gives a special place to such help, the government will accept as subsidy the difference of at least 250 million afghani. The company has set the price of a bag of urea at 400 afghani, phosphate fertilizer of the TSP type at 360 afghani and the ammono type fertilizer at 500 afghani.

The Afghan Chemical Fertilizer and Agricultural Services Company has included for sale in the current year's projected plan, because of increased agricultural output in the subdistricts of Deh Sabz, Bagrami and Chahar Asiyab, 2,276 tons of urea and phosphate, 982 tons of seed and the equivalent of 2,911,000 afghani agricultural material. In addition, it has sent out its fully-equipped skilled and experienced personnel to cooperate with farmers.

The source added: Efforts are being made to have contracts drawn up between fertilizer and agricultural material retailers and agricultural cooperatives and to help farmers in learning the proper technical usage of chemical fertilizers and agricultural material with the cooperation of the Agricultural Research Office, Plants Protection Office and the Veterinary and Animal Husbandry Office.

In conclusion, the source expressed gratitude to the friendly Soviet Union for its grant of an appreciable quantity of fertilizer.



The distribution of chemical fertilizer to the farmers is one of the principal agricultural services of the revolutionary government.

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CSO: 4665/29

INTERIOR MINISTER DEFENDS VARIOUS SECURITY MEASURES

Cairo MAYU in Arabic 28 Jun 82 p 3

[Interview with Minister of Interior Hasan Abu Basha by 'Abd-al-Fattah al-Dib: "What They Are Saying About the Abuse of Detainees Is Absolutely Untrue"; date and place not specified]

/Text/ Like any interior minister, Hasan Abu Basha is facing a vicious attack from some opposition detachments nowadays.

The politicians say that that game is played at every time and place; it is an attempt to put pressure on the regime which the parties are using as a means to draw and attract some of the masses at the expense of the country's national interests.

It is just a form of provocation which is not founded on any solid bases, the politicians say.

However, the man is preoccupied with achieving a difficult equation which will reconcile the security of the country and the security of the citizen with the freedom of the individual and the security of the society.

For the first time, the method of facing ideas with ideas is beginning through frank, free dialogue between the detainees, especially those who are young, and men of religion.

Not even this civilized attempt to cope with intellectual complexes has been safe from attack. While the detainees inside the prisons accept this open dialogue, some people outside, also within detachments of the opposition, are trying to cast aspersions on this dialogue!

What do they want?

Before we answer this question let us raise another question: Is what they are saying correct?

We apologize to some of the detachments in the opposition and their press for taking some of their reports, presenting them to Hasan Abu Basha and asking him to respond.

The man replied with total frankness, without comment, as he was concerned not to address himself to any party in the conversation dealing with our democratic process.

We, without comment on our part as well, are presenting you with the items of this conversation with the minister of the interior.

I asked the minister of the interior,

"There is a great deal of talk in opposition circles and the opposition press about the Emergency Law and the recommended amendments to it. People have said that these amendments will make the detainees protest against the minister of the interior before the minister of the interior. Is this correct?"

Hasan Abu Basha replied by saying,

"No Egyptian can deny the seriousness of what occurred before 6 October 1981 and what was discovered after that, that is, after the assassination of our leader al-Sadat, regarding the existence of a takeover plot which had the regime and all its components, from the parties to the legislative and executive institutions, as its target. The accusation which the office of the state security prosecutor released recently contains all the evidence, weapons, explosives and bombs seized in the lairs of the cells of the al-Jihad organization which took charge of the secret activity to eliminate the existing regime."

Cases of Danger

The minister of the interior fell silent briefly, then went on to say:

"In cases of danger to which any country in the world is exposed, the government resorts to exceptional measures. Some Western countries, for instance, such as West Germany and Britain, resorted to them when they drew up anti-terrorist laws. The state security prosecutor's office investigations that are now being conducted on other organizations have revealed that the extremist organizations had insisted on the method of secret action and adherence to the mentality of violence and terror.

"While the government has resorted to emergency laws to defend the society and defend its basic values from a threat the likes of which the country had not previously faced in ancient or modern history, it has used a constitutional right and a human right to protect millions of citizens from the quagmire of secret action which resorts to techniques of bloodshed, murder, and violence to impose conditions that could destroy the fabric of society for many years.

Determining the Ailment

"While to remedy this phenomenon, in order to make it possible for legitimacy to be the platform to which every citizen who is under the protection of this country's skies will commit himself will take a period of time that cannot be measured in terms of the lives of peoples or nations, all political, religious

and nationalist forces must help diagnose and treat the ailment and must not seek to reopen the door for this sort of technique to be repeated. If it succeeds, and may God never decree that, that will mean that there will be no place for parties, democracy, or the sovereignty of the law but that the alternative will be murder, bloodshed and chaos."

/Question/ "To whom is the Emergency Law being applied?"

Hasan Abu Basha replied by saying,

"To people who have direct ties to the extremist groups that still are prepared to engage in secret activity of the same platform and style. The Emergency Law is applied to people who comport themselves in a manner that constitutes a threat to the government."

The Minister of the Interior Speaks

/Question/ What about grievances?

He answered by stating,

"The presentation of grievances against the Emergency Law before the state security court is the right of the detainees. The law has given the minister of the interior the right to present grievances against the court's decision in order to clarify any background points or dimensions related to the conduct of the person who has been detained. Here the law places the minister of the interior on a par with the detainee. Both have the right to present grievances to the court, and the decree of the other department before which the grievance of the minister of the interior is reviewed then becomes a censure. It is the presentation of a grievance to the court which ultimately yields the determination."

/Question/ The conditions of the "detainees" in prisons are deteriorating. There are complaints of mistreatment, and items in some opposition papers include complaints from families of political detainees.

Hasan Abu Basha replied by stating,

"That is categorically untrue. All the benefits for people who are provisionally imprisoned apply to all people subjected to the Emergency Law in terms of visits by relatives, permission to get books and so forth. Members of the press, members of the National Security Council of the People's Assembly and members of professional units have visited them, and the Ministry of the Interior has received letters of thanks from the Physicians' Union for the good treatment of the people subjected to the Emergency Law!"

An Imprisoned Felon

Hasan Abu Basha smiled as he said,

"Do you know that one of the people who was stated in the opposition papers to be a political prisoner and the reason for whose arrest was allegedly to satisfy

some rich person was in fact an imprisoned felon who had 17 previous arrests for theft, drugs, and trespass? His crimes are marked by a persistent, permanent nature and he has been registered as a dangerous troublemaker. He was previously imprisoned in 1961 and then imprisoned again in 1973. His name is Muhammad Sabir Ibrahim al-Iskandarani."

The minister of the interior went on to state, "Isn't frank, free discourse between religious personages and the detainees to be considered a confrontation between ideas? We want to get at the truth, especially in the context of the known fact that there are more than 20 groups, each of which claims to be the sound Islamic platform and repudiates the others. The logical thing is that the truth has been lost, and truth lies at the essence of proper Islamic belief. Thus we must all strive to show this truth. It is not of benefit to any Moslem, any party member, or anyone active in politics that we should not arrive at the truth; the detainees themselves praise this good treatment on the pages of the papers and in their meetings with religious personages. I believe that this is the high point of the sound approach to critical problems that are affecting young people in general and affect the stability of the domestic front and the proper climate of sound party activity. We must stand in a single rank against violence and murder aimed at imposing specific conditions or specific notions under false religious slogans."

What Is the Situation on the Outside?

/Question/ Is there any sort of constraint on the dialogue with the detainees, as some people claim?

The minister of the interior answered by saying:

"There is no sort of constraint on them. The detainees follow up on what is being published regarding the dialogue held with them, and they insist on continuing with this dialogue. Isn't that better than letting them fall prey to perverted ideas and 'commanders' who have an influence on them inside prison, even during the detention period?

"One fact I would like to stress is that the religious jurists and scholars of religion who enter into conversations with the detainees and lecture them are subject to no constraints or guidance. Rather, it is a scholarly discussion of religious jurisprudence with religious support from the Koran and the sayings and doings of the prophet.

"How can we start a dialogue with extremists on the outside? Those on the outside refuse to acknowledge the existence of religious jurists and repudiate everyone else. How can I start a dialogue with them?"

/Question/ Some people say that some detainees demand that a question be presented to you in the People's Assembly on the Ministry of Interior's failure to continue releasing detainees after investigating their conditions?

The minister of the interior replied by saying,

"The policy of releasing people continues, in execution of the president's directives to release the detainees after their conditions have been examined. Proof of the fact that the policy on releasing prisoners still holds is the fact that 182 detainees were released just last week.

"The number of detainees on 5 September 1981 was 1,200; so far 650 detainees, that is, more than half, have been released."

Mit Salsil

/Question/ What happened in Mit Salsil? An opposition paper published a story on a police attack on the village of Mit Salsil in the Governorate of al-Daqahliyah and the arrest of a number of inhabitants in the village.

Hasan Abu Basha replied by stating,

"It was a security campaign aimed at arresting people who had been given judiciary sentences; this was a preventive security method and a commitment on the part of the police. Otherwise, if a person is sentenced and then the punishment is not carried out, we would be stripping the law of its essence. Everyone against whom the campaign in Mit Salsil was directed had judiciary verdicts issued against him except for two young boys, and the police did not accost or arrest them."

Central Security!

/Question/ People talk about central security, stressing news that 450 officers have been recently appointed to central security.

The minister of the interior said,

"Central security is just a military force whose basic mission is to maintain security through investigative campaigns against centers of crime and opium cultivation in the governorates of Upper Egypt. Another of its tasks is maintaining the security of embassies and coping with acts of disturbance.

"This sort of force exists in America, under the name of the National Guard, it exists in France, and it exists in West Germany. Their resources exceed those of the central security in Egypt.

"One cannot imagine any country in the world doing without forces to which it can turn to eliminate centers of crime and stand up to acts of disturbance which can infringe on the vital interests of the masses or seek to sabotage them, as has been the case on some occasions."

The minister has said his say, "without comment."

We, also, "have no comment."

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CSO: 4504/382

VARIOUS OPPOSITION MOVES TO CONDEMN ISRAEL REVIEWED

Coalition Organizes Boycott

Cairo AL-AHALI in Arabic 23 Jun 82 p 1

/Text/ The Higher National Committee to Support the Palestinian and Lebanese Peoples held a meeting the day before yesterday (Monday) evening in Socialist Labor Party headquarters to discuss the committee's activity following its establishment and steps for action in the coming stage. Attending the meeting were representatives of the Grouping, Laborers' /sic/ and Liberal Parties, the professional unions, the labor unions and nationalist personalities.

The national committee was derived from the Conference of National Forces held at Labor Party headquarters last Tuesday, 18 June, at which Khalid Muhyi-al-Din, Eng Ibrahim Shukri, Fathi Radwan, Farid 'Abd-al-Karim and others spoke (see Page 10).

The masses demanded that a people's parade set forth from the Labor Party mansion, but Eng Ibrahim Shukri, in a statement, called upon the masses to hold a peaceful parade, after the Friday prayer and the Prayer for the Departed, from the mosque to 'Abdin Square and he declared in his speech that he would get in touch with the minister of the interior to organize procedures for the peaceful march.

All Wednesday and Thursday Eng Ibrahim Shukri was in constant contact with the minister of the interior and party heads to inform them of the results of his contacts with the minister, who since the beginning had refused to let any parades in support of the Palestinian and Lebanese revolution be held for security reasons and stated that the security forces would oppose any parades or gatherings, though he did agree to the holding of the Prayer for the Departed if no statements were made inside al-Azhar. Khalid Muhyi-al-Din recommended "We should insist on making statements in al-Azhar unless the sheik of al-Azhar calls for the holding of the Prayer of the Departed in all the mosques of the republic."

On Thursday evening, the national committee held a meeting to discuss the situation and in the course of that it was decided that the party heads would speak following the Prayer for the Departed and that the people performing the prayer would be transported by car to 'Abdin Square to deliver the conference resolutions and statement.

Thousands of citizens gathered in al-Azhar Mosque and courtyard to take part in the Friday prayer, the Prayer for the Departed and the parade.

After the Prayer for the Departed was done and the statements were made, hundreds of citizens bearing Palestinian and Lebanese flags tried to hold a parade and the security forces opposed them in order to break them up by force (see Page Three).

The Higher National Committee, in its meeting the day before yesterday, discussed the details of the situation and decided to form communications, organizing, media, financial support and donations committees. It also decided to form a temporary secretariat of the heads of parties, union representatives and some nationalist personalities. The branch committees will hold their meetings next Saturday at 2000 hours in the evening in the Grouping Party headquarters to discuss their plan of action for the coming weeks, and the National Committee will meet at 2130 hours the same day to discuss a plan for the comprehensive boycott of Israeli goods, delegations and activities in Egypt.

The influx of volunteers into the Grouping Party and Labor Party headquarters continues. An official National Committee source stated that the committee is now studying means to guarantee that the volunteers obtain work leaves and means to take them where the Palestinian revolution and the Lebanese national movement want them.

Masses Condemn Israeli Invasion

Cairo AL-AHALI in Arabic 23 Jun 82 p 3

/Article by Mahmud Hamid/

/Text/ Last Friday was a noteworthy day in the history of Egypt. The Arab masses of Egypt gathered together in and in front of the courtyard of the noble al-Azhar to declare their protest against the brutal Israeli invasion of Lebanon and the Palestinian people. The central security forces were massed on the other side in countless numbers in order to oppose the people as they expressed their anger and declared their solidarity with the struggle of the Palestinian and Lebanese peoples.

The noble al-Azhar was surrounded from morning by policemen and state security officials led by a number of major generals, and the masses proceeded to flow toward al-Azhar to do the Friday prayer and the Prayer for the Departed for the souls of the martyrs who had fallen on the injured soil of Lebanon.

The aggression was not absent from the mind of the person giving the Friday prayer. The imam said, "On this day let us not forget our brother holy warriors who are dying now and have been rendered homeless in Lebanon. Egypt has an important role: it is the Egypt of Arabhood, the Egypt of Islam, the Egypt of al-Azhar, which is the arena of holy war for Islam. We remember all the tragedies that have passed over Palestine, but we have stood with our hands tied, refusing to raise a challenge while our Palestinian brothers, without supporters, have gone into exile." The imam said, "The Egypt of today is not the Egypt of yesterday. It now is a single bloc."

The courtyard of al-Azhar was the scene of a closely packed throng as the heads of the three parties stood up to address the people performing the prayer inside the courtyard of the noble al-Azhar, following the performance of the Prayer for the Departed.

Ibrahim Shukri, chairman of the Labor Party, said "We want to perform an act which can produce results, by organizing contributions of money and blood and volunteer service to the struggle, especially that of doctors. We want the Palestinians to feel that we are on their side, so let us organize ways to support them."

Mustafa Kamil Murad, chairman of the Liberal Party, said "Fighting Arab Palestine will continue to fight and the genuine Arab people of Egypt will support these fighting people in order that they may demand their rights, their independence and their dignity. We are all standing alongside Palestine. We are collecting money for it and are supporting it in political gathering so that it will be restored to its people in unadulterated form, with God's permission."

Khalid Muhyi-al-Din, the secretary general of the Grouping Party, said, "There is room no longer for talk, just for action. Our brothers in Lebanon, Palestinians and Lebanese, are defending the honor of the nation, the honor of the religion and the honor of humanity. They are persevering and urging the whole world to stand alongside them and support them with all its resources until this good land is liberated."

Khalid Muhyi-al-Din went on to address the group of people at prayer by saying "The national committee has prepared places in party headquarters and the Red Crescent for donations of money and blood. Make every effort you can to save our brothers in Palestine and Lebanon."

The people giving the prayer made the cry "God is great" directly from within the courtyard of al-Azhar, their cries of "down with the murderers" and "down with Israel" rose on high, and the crowd of people praying went outside the mosque, crying out "There is no God but God, the Zionists are the enemies of God, there is no God but God, declare him holy, declare him holy!"

At the same moment, the broad square of al-Azhar swelled with masses of people holding up flags of Palestine, pictures of the late leader Jamal 'Abd-al-Nasir and large posters proclaiming their solidarity with the Palestinian revolution and the progressive national movement, stating with unambiguous clarity "America and Zionism are the enemies of the Arab nation."

The masses emerging from the mosque formed a closely knit mass with the masses that gathered in a throng before it, and an uproar of cries rose up: "Let Arabhood continue to bear witness, the treaty must collapse," "the aggression is very very serious and we must expel the ambassador," "tell the cowardly Begin, Egypt has gone back to the way it used to be."

The masses increased in number, waxed enthusiastic and started to sing out "My country, my country, you have my love and my heart." Then cries continued: "They opened an embassy in the embrace of the Nile but opened the Prisons up to the patriots" and "Tell Yasir and the people with him that all the Arab people are behind him."

The masses directed their cries toward the heads of the parties and the representatives of the national forces: "Nationalist leaders of Egypt, let us go to 'Abdin." The masses started to move, sustaining their cries and raising their slogans on high.

This movement was the signal for confrontation, and the policemen rushed to oppose the people's parade. The masses were taken by surprise by men in civilian clothes from karate teams who had infiltrated into their midst, raining blows, kicks and chops of the hand on them, using special sticks for the blows, knocking out the people they hit and making them dazed for hours.

Suddenly groups of people from central security who had been in vehicles on the side streets appeared.

Correspondents with foreign news agencies, papers and broadcasting services witnessed the clash between the police and the people.

The demonstrators finally managed to reach buses that took them to 'Abdin palace to submit the statement of the National Committee to Support the Palestinian and Lebanese Peoples.

The citizens were not able to get down before 'Abdin palace; the palace, also, was surrounded by security and karate forces, which allowed only the party heads and a number of nationalist leaders to descend while orders were given to the bus drivers to divert their vehicles to remote streets, where their passengers were to disperse.

The masses were not content to let the matter end there. It was necessary that they continue to express their opinions peacefully. The passengers in one bus descended at Opera Square, preceded by young people holding up their hands in the victory symbol and crying out "revolution, revolution until victory." Then suddenly the security people reappeared and covered the young people with blows and kicks until they fell onto the ground, while the people riding another bus were forced to stop shortly beyond 'Abdin palace, where they formed ranks, raising flags of Palestine and slogans condemning America and Israel. They continued shouting, toward Mustafa Kamil Square, then crossed Qasr al-Nil Street, sustaining their cries as a number of citizens on the street joined them. The parade continued, unattended by security men, until a traffic officer took note of it and got in touch by radio with his superiors, while the parade continued, under the protection of the people, until it reached the headquarters of the National Grouping Party. Policemen started to direct themselves toward that, while karate teams and state security investigation officers surrounded it. They had appeared, suddenly as well, as a result of the radio communication the traffic officer had made.

The Grouping headquarters stayed surrounded while the masses seethed within it, holding discussions and expressing their anger at the Israeli aggression against Lebanon.

National Committees Against Aggression

Cairo AL-AHALI in Arabic 23 Jun 82 p 1

/Text/ The leadership committee of the National Committee to Support the Palestinian and Lebanese Peoples has been formed in the Governorates of Alexandria and al-Buhayrah. It includes Dr Mahmud al-Qadi, 'Adil 'Id and Kamal Ahmad, former members

of the People's Assembly, 'Umar Lashin (from the Labor Party), Abu-al-'Izz al-Hariri (from the Grouping Party), Dr Ashraf Bayyumi (of the League of Human Rights), a representative of the Progressive Women's Federation, a women's representative of the Labor Party, Dr Sinut Hanna Amin (the Grouping in al-Buhayrah) and 'Atiyah Sha'lan (Labor in al-Buhayrah).

The committee took a number of decisions regarding coordination with the higher national committee in Cairo and the formation of a number of specific action committees and committees to handle communications with the authorities and unions which would be included in the national committee.

The committee proclaimed support for the statement of the Conference of National and Progressive Powers which met in Cairo (15 June). The committee called on the Arab national forces to intensify their struggle to prompt Arab governments to take a decisive stand against the American-Israeli scheme aimed at the subjugation of the Arab nation, one of whose most important instalments was the Camp David treaty.

Massive Anti-Israeli Demonstration

Cairo AL-SHA'B in Arabic 22 Jun 82 p 8

/Text/ Humanity Is a March

Thus the person giving the sermon in al-Azhar Mosque described the life of man as a march of struggle and perseverance against oppression, in justice and aggression in a sermon last Friday.

For this purpose, starting early in the morning, several thousand young people, men and women from various classes and groups, Moslems and Christians, came forth to the al-Azhar Mosque to take part in the march which the National Committee to Support the Palestinian and Lebanese Peoples had called following the performance of last Friday's prayer.

A number of banners rose up, announcing "Arab Palestine" and "Abu 'Ammar, Abu 'Amman, the Egyptian people are in the line of fire." Buses also gathered to take people participating in the parade to 'Abdin Palace. Meanwhile, a number of young people from the Labor Party were selling a special issue of AL-SHA'B which had been issued especially to support the struggle of the Palestinian and Lebanese peoples, and other groups of young people distributed the Palestinian flag and the statement issued by the national committee titled "They are Slaughtering Egypt in Lebanon." The statement demanded that the masses of the Egyptian Arab people form a bloc "for the withdrawal of the Egyptian ambassador from Israel and the shutdown of the Israeli embassy in Cairo." The statement also called for "a decisive position against America, the full partner in the aggression."

Inside al-Azhar Mosque, the person giving the sermon in the mosque condemned the unjust, brutal Israeli aggression against the Palestinian and Lebanese peoples in the Friday sermon.

Following the conclusion of the Friday sermon, all the people giving the prayer took part in the Prayer for the Departed on behalf of the spirits of the Palestinian and Lebanese martyrs in Lebanon.

Eng Ibrahim Shukri, chairman of the Socialist Labor Party, then stood up and made a brief statement in which he said "We cannot stand before this aggression with our hands tied. We must hasten to donate money, blood and people to help the Palestinian and Lebanese peoples."

He was followed by Mustafa Kamil Murad, chairman of the Liberal Party, who said, in his statement, "The genuine Egyptian Arab people, with all their various tendencies, support the Palestinian people and the Lebanese people so that they may demand their rights and their Arab dignity. Israel's tyrannical aggression will be defeated, with God's permission."

After him, Khalid Muhyi-al-Din, the secretary general of the Grouping Party, spoke, stating, "There is no longer any room now except for action. The Palestinians and Lebanese are now defending the honor of the nation, the religion and humanity. They are urging the whole world to stand with them, at least so that we can help them with money and blood until this good land is liberated."

Immediately the march began from inside the courtyard of the noble al-Azhar Mosque. The people taking part in the parade raised the flags of Palestine and Lebanon. Their cries condemning the brutal Israeli invasion and the American position of support for the invasion rose up on high. The most prominent of these cries were "There is no God but God, and the Zionists are the enemies of God," and "Palestine is Arab." The leaders of the three parties set out hand in hand.

The parade of cars then started toward the Republican Palace in al-Jumhuriyah Square at 'Abdin, passing via al-Azhar Street and al-Muski then up to al-Jumhuriyah Square in 'Abdin. Cries rose up from inside these buses, on which Palestinian and Lebanese flags had been mounted. The buses advanced in the midst of an immense throng of people on both sides of the streets the buses were going through. These crowds responded to the parade of buses. Some people held up their hands displaying the victory symbol, while others began clapping enthusiastically.

When the buses approached 'Abdin Palace, security officers would allow only the three party heads to descend and go to the Republican Palace to submit the conclusions of the conference.

The heads of the three parties left the palace after recording a joint statement in which they repeated the national committee's demands for a decisive stand against the Israeli aggression. They held a press conference in which they answered all requests for information from the international press.

Labor-Grouping Party Rift

Cairo MAYU in Arabic 28 Jun 82 p 9

/Text/ A number of young people in the Labor Party have requested Eng Ibrahim Shukri, the chairman of the party, to think carefully about having dealings with

the Grouping Party. They pointed out that the Grouping uses some methods which would draw the Labor Party toward the objectives the Grouping is trying to achieve.

The young people in the Labor Party said that at the Labor Party's conference to support the Palestinian people they were surprised by the hostile cries members of the Grouping uttered. They called for a decisive stand against this tentative alliance, especially since the Grouping is trying to emerge from the scope of the boycott the masses of the citizens, who reject communism and atheism, are imposing on it!

Charges of Treason Exchanged among Grouping Members

In the parties' parade at al-Azhar, some communists belonging to the Grouping Party cried out against the Egyptian regime. Some people cried out in condemnation of this conduct, and their lot was to be greeted with blows, abuse and charges of espionage and treason!

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CSO: 4504/387

NEW FINANCIAL SCANDAL UNEARTHED IN SOUTHERN SINAI

Cairo AL-AHRAR in Arabic No 204, 21 Jun 82 p 3

/Article by Layla 'Abd-al-Salam: "Financial Violations Committed by a Major Official in South Sinai"/

/Text/ The socialist public prosecutor's agency is investigating violations attributed to a major official in the Governorate of South Sinai. The violations deal with financial charges, the purchase of vehicles without respect for legal procedures, the disbursement of travel allowances for improper reasons and the use of government facilities for personal benefit.

The socialist public prosecutor's agency received a notice from an official in South Sinai Governorate dealing with details of the violations attributed to the major governorate official.

The statement said that the major official had allocated all the governorate rest houses to himself free of charge, had disbursed monthly bonuses of 50 to 100 percent of salary to himself after giving personal agreement to them, and has been giving himself a travel allowance for the days he spends circulating in jobsites within the governorate after signing travel allowance forms in which he states that he has not used government rest houses, so that full travel allowances can be paid out, while nonetheless using these rest houses to stay in; this is to be considered a violation of financial bills requiring that 25 percent of the amount of travel allowances be deducted in the event of lodging in government rest houses.

The value of the travel allowances he received since assuming his position in May 1980 totals about 2,000 pounds!

Seven Vehicles for His Transportation

The details being investigated by the assistant socialist prosecutor show that several vehicles were allotted for transporting the senior official, including two vehicles for Cairo, another one for Ra's Sudr, and four vehicles for internal transportation. The vehicles are repaired and provided with gasoline under their drivers' authority, and no rules are followed!

The details being investigated contain contradictions which produced Central Accounting Agency Reports 283 and 270 in Port Said on the purchase of 10 launches

for 167,000 pounds from an Alexandria repairship by direct order without bids and 12,000 pounds for the purchase of fishing equipment which was kept in governorate storehouses after fishermen had refused to take delivery of it because it was not fit for fishing. Mukhtar 'Abd-al-Hamid, the People's Assembly deputy, acted as an intermediary between the fishermen and the governorate and held a conference, which he chaired, in the Ra's Sudr area, to resolve the problem. However, the fishermen tenaciously held to their position.

40,000 Pounds for Decorations

The Central Accounting Agency report included the purchase of 40,000 pounds of furnishings, wallpaper and decorations by direct orders. These purchases were devoted to beautifying and decorating the senior official's rest houses. It became evident to the Central Accounting Agency that he had awarded the work of supplying and installing a soundproof ceiling for the Saint Catherine Hotel directly to the contractor Muhammad Isma'il for a sum in excess of 10,000 pounds, which is considered a violation of bills, because no public or local bids were held!

The charges state that the senior official's daughter, a student at the Faculty of Letters in 'Ayn Shams University, gave invitations to 40 faculty members at the governorate's expense! The senior official also determined to hold a general secondary examination session in the Ra's Sudr area. The session contained just 20 students, including his son, who had had to take the general secondary examination over three times. Throughout the examination period, the senior official and his office director held meetings alongside the examining session!

The investigation dealt with a grievance from Zakariya Muhammad al-Baradi'i, mayor of the town of al-Tur, against a decree the senior official had made deducting 300 pounds from his salary. The ice plant in the town of al-Tur had stopped operating and the mayor was forced to send a truck to the city of Suez to buy ice so that the massive quantities of fish fishermen had caught would not go bad.

The senior official ordered the deduction of 300 pounds from the mayor's salary for the round trip costs of the truck. The mayor lodged a protest before the Council of State, but the senior official refused to wait for the Council of State's decree and ordered that the deductions continue.

11887

CSO: 4504/376

LAW REDUCES HOUSING COSTS IN SOUTH SINAI

Cairo AL-JARIDAH AL-RASMIYAH in Arabic No 24, 17 Jun 82 p 1709

/Law: "Law 39 for 1982 Reducing the Costs of Rentals and Purchase Instalments on Housing Units in South Sinai Governorate"/

/Text/ In the name of the people:

The president:

The People's Assembly has ratified the law whose text follows, and we have issued it:

Article One. Rents on housing units allocated to people working in South Sinai Governorate will be reduced by 50 percent from their current level.

Article Two. The instalments of costs of constructing housing units in the Governorate of South Sinai deeded to bedouins and fishermen will be rescheduled over a period of 40 years instead of 30 years.

The provisions of this article will be in effect in the case of properties that are deeded out in the future.

Article Three. This law will be published in AL-JARIDAH AL-RASMIYAH and will be in effect as of the day following its publication.

This law will be stamped by the seal of the state and will be executed as one of its laws.

Issued by the Office of the President 9 June 1982.

/Signed/ Husni Mubarak

11887

CSO: 4504/376

PLAN TO SPUR TRADE WITH AFRICA BEING STUDIED

Cairo AL-JUMHURIYAH in Arabic 18 Jun 82 p 4

[Article by Suhayr Abu al-'Ala: "The Ministry of Economy Is Studying a System Of 'Even Exchange' Deals to Encourage the Private Sector To Export To African Markets"]

[Text] The Ministry of Economy and Trade and several African countries are investigating the possibility of applying a system of even exchange deals between Egypt and these countries to encourage Egyptian exports to African markets and to give the Egyptian private sector a role in exportation.

Ahmad Hamdi, minister plenipotentiary for African affairs in the commercial agency, said that the "even exchange deals" system is based on cooperation between the Egyptian Central Bank and the central banks in African countries. It is not based on opening credits or transfer of currency, but is a system of exchanging goods for goods.

He said that a study of this system was underway because the African countries do not have sufficient amounts of foreign currency for importing the goods they need from abroad.

Statistics show that the volume of trade between Egypt and Africa has been low in recent years. The value of imports from Africa amounted to \$29 million in 1978, while our exports to Africa were only \$6.4 million. In 1979 imports dropped to \$21.5 million and exports to \$2.3 million. In 1980 our imports from Africa rose to \$21.6 million while exports fell to only 200,000 pounds. In the first half of 1981 imports fell to \$11 million, while our exports rose to 70,000 pounds.

It is only the public sector that is exporting to African markets. The private sector is not involved because of numerous obstacles.

Our Traditional Exports to Africa

According to Minister Hamdi the African market demands certain specific goods that suit African tastes and are appropriately priced. They must be inexpensive and must satisfy African tastes. Thus Egyptian exports to Africa represent surplus goods and are not always available.

He gave the following two reasons for our reduced exports to Africa:

1. Egypt used to export large amounts of cement and rice. Now, not only do we have no surplus of cement, but we are importing it. There is also no surplus of rice, which forces us to greatly curtail exports to the African market.
2. The lack of organized maritime transport links with Africa.

The Private Sector's Role Is Limited

Commenting on the shrinking role of the private sector in exporting to African markets the minister plenipotentiary said that the African market is quite distant and there are high tariffs, which means that goods will be expensive, making them inappropriate for the African consumer. It is difficult for the private sector to risk entering the African market.

A System Of Even Exchange Deals

'Amr 'Abd-al-'Aziz, a private sector source, says that the reason the private sector has been reluctant to export to Africa is the lack of sufficient airline service. He added that in order to encourage exports to Africa a system of even exchange deals or commercial exchanges must be applied so that we can export goods needed by the African market and import what we need from these markets.

According to Amir al-Zarqani, another source in the private sector, the even exchange system will encourage the private sector to export to African markets.

Mr Hamdi said that among the most important proposals for combatting the problems we face in exporting to the African countries are the following:

We must not be content to offer only surplus production for export, but we must work to allocate a portion of our production to meet the needs of the African markets.

A solution must be found for the inadequate maritime transport facilities, either by purchasing ships through foreign financing, or by leasing them.

9123

CSO: 4504/368

FOOD CONSUMPTION SOARS IN RAMADAN

Cairo THE EGYPTIAN GAZETTE in English 4 Jul 82 p 3

[Text]

PEOPLE in Cairo alone devour 500,000 tons of meat vegetables, fruits and Yamish (sweets and nuts) in the fasting month of Ramadan, according to estimates produced by the Ministry of Supply.

Consumption rates of essential foods are usually doubled in Ramadan and the Ministry of Supply has worked hard to make available in the markets quantities of foods it expects to be consumed, the Undersecretary of the Ministry, Mr Hussein Khalil said.

The quantity of meat put on the market from the beginning of the month have been increased by 12,000 tons beyond the eight tons of frozen chicken, 3,000 tons of locally slaughtered meat and 4,000 tons of local chicken normally available Mr Khalil said.

The same practice has been followed with regards to other

staples such as flour, sugar, edible oil and rice, in addition to 2,000 tons of various types of Yamish made available this year as compared to 1,500 tons last year the Undersecretary said.

Mr Khalil added that the weekly consumption rate of vegetables has reached 8,600 tons while Ramadan consumptions of fruits has reached 5,000 tons. As for watermelons, the quantity which has been put on the market has increased from 71 tons daily to about 300 tons daily and is expected to increase during the middle of the season.

Though the market is witnessing marked increase in activity with the presence of this quantity of foodstuffs and the Ramadan rush for purchasing, consumers still complain of the disappearance of some essential commodities, especially those included in the official price

lists, also complain of shortages of some commodities the undersecretary noted.

For example, Mohsena Abdul Salam, a house wife, complains that she cannot buy her requirements of red meat in accordance with official prices says that butchers tamper with prices, and asks for stricter control regarding sales.

The Director of «Souq Rod el Farag» (the Cairo wholesale vegetable market) Mr Abdul Moneim Abdin, says that though huge quantities of vegetables have arrived in the market they are still not meeting consumer demands.

Haj Imam Ahmed Ziedan a wholesaler in the market says that bottlenecks are being created regarding sale of some commodities, because some producers fail to provide the market with its needs in order to raise prices. — GSS

CSO: 4 500/230

GENERAL ARCHIVES REQUIRE EXTENSIVE REPAIRS

Cairo THE EGYPTIAN GAZETTE in English 5 Jul 82 p 2

[Text] THE General Archives in the Citadel, where personal data of 44 million Egyptians are filed, is currently undergoing substantial improvement to protect 700,000 registration volumes against damage and loss. The volumes are kept in 180 stores, which date back to the days of the Mamelukes. Each volume consists of 150 folios and each folio contains 50 births and deaths entries. The importance of these volumes lies in the fact that they combine the personal data of all people in Egypt concerning dates of birth, ownership of land as well as inheritance. Each volume is about half a metre in size and each volume is at least a century old. The stores are vaults where volumes are kept in an out-of-date way that exposes them to damage and loss. These vaults are so old that workers try hard to abandon their jobs to work in other departments which secure better health conditions. Foremost among the diseases the employees are exposed to is chest disease caused by soft dust. Twenty years ago when the employees in the General Archives appealed to the government to grant them an allowance for chest infection, the Health Minister rejected their appeal saying that health conditions there do not necessitate granting such an allowance. Despite efforts currently exerted, an Egyptian expert working with the UN warned against the slow system of repair which would need 1,000 year to finish. — GSS

CSO: 4500/230

SIGNIFICANT INCREASE IN ARAB TOURISTS NOTED

Cairo THE EGYPTIAN GAZETTE in English 5 Jul 82 p 3

[Text] MORE Arabs are visiting Egypt nowadays according to latest statistics which reveal an increase of three per cent in numbers of Arabs visiting Egypt during the first quarter of the year, compared to the same period last year.

During the first quarter of this year the number of tourists from the Arab countries reached 102,886. Foremost among the nationalities are Iraqis, Jordanians, Libyans and Palestinians.

The tourists from the US are still the largest number visiting Egypt. During the first quarter of this year the number of US tourists reached 55,127, as Americans are still more and more interested in the archaeological treasures of Egypt, according to a tourist publicity expert.

However, the number of tourist nights spent during the first quarter of this year decreased by 6.4 per cent compared to the figures of the same period last year. This reflects a serious phenomenon as the decrease of tourist nights is usually caused by various factors including the standard of service and prices.

The decrease of tourist nights spent in the country is reflected in the total figure of tourist income of the country. The longer the visitors stay in the country the larger their expenditure becomes.

An analysis of the figures, therefore, requires a recognition of the realities of tourist marketing and activity. Publicity and marketing should consider the types of tourists visiting the country and their average expenditure. Then it is not the number of tourists that matters but rather their quality, an expert said. — GSS

CSO: 4500/230

AUDITING AGENCY ISSUES REPORT

Cairo THE EGYPTIAN GAZETTE in English 2 Jul 82 p 2

[Text] The Central Auditing Agency has lashed out at inefficiency governorate financial control departments, saying in a recently issued report that the absence of attentive auditing bodies lies behind wastes of funds and losses on a nationwide scale.

The report on governorate financial control departments has revealed points of weakness in control systems which result in sluggish allocations, project delays, encroachments on government land, violations of contract and supply agreements, and thefts, embezzlements and gross negligence.

The striking fact about the Central Auditing Agency's report is that it highlights weaknesses which are criticised every year, without any apparent attempt on the side of governorate authorities to eliminate such weaknesses.

An example of a specific failing concerns unused proportioned funds amounting to LE 3 million worth of equipment and instruments, which are left without any profitable or fruitful utilisation to answer the needs of the public.

Such unused material and equipment include dental clinic instruments amounting to LE 850,000, while health centres in numerous villages and small townships suffer from lack of such equipment the report elaborated.

The absence of internal control restrictions over the years have encouraged certain people to consider the public interest as no man's money, which they may usurp--otherwise it would be taken by others, the thinking apparently goes.

Red-tape and delay in decisionmaking culminates in uncompleted projects and accumulating losses, in bad consequences of difference in cost owing to price increases in the meantime.

The Central Auditing Agency's report also detected losses amounting to LE 2 million owing to delays and violation of specifications by reconstruction and building contractors who undertake various construction contracts.

There is also a problem in that certain governorates have sped up the construction of certain projects without conducting adequate prior studies. That is why some projects are suffering heavy losses and are considered burdens on governorate budgets.
--GSS

CSO: 4500/230

BRIEFS

OIL-RELATED PROJECTS--Engineer Ahmad 'Izz-al-Din Hilal, deputy prime minister for production and minister of oil, inaugurated several new production projects costing a total of about 26 million pounds. The first one is a project for producing plastic containers for mineral oil. The second involves processing natural gas and match production by the al-Nasr Oil Company in the al-'Amiriyah district of Alexandria, at a cost of about 2 million pounds. The third project is for increasing the efficiency of a lubricating oil complex. The fourth project is Filtration Unit Number 4 of the Alexandria Oil Company at a cost of about 8 million pounds. The same company also opened a new computer center. These openings were attended by Chemist 'Abd-al-Hadi Qindil, chairman of the Egyptian Commission. [Text] [Cairo AL-JUMHURIYAH in Arabic 18 Jun 82 p 1] 9123

SINAI RENT LAW--President Husni Mubarek signed a law reducing rents and assigning ownership of housing units in the governorate of Sinai on an equitable basis. The law includes rent reductions of 50 percent on workers' housing units in the Governorate of South Sinai. The costs of the housing units and property in the governorate will be redistributed to the bedouin and the fishermen over a 40-year period instead of a 20-year period on the condition that this apply to future possessions. [Text] [Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 20 Jun 82 p 8] 9123

EUROPEAN LOAN FOR SINAI--Dr Hasan 'Amir, president of the Expense Research Academy, said that the European Common Market had decided to finance projects for utilizing subterranean water in Sinai in irrigation and agricultural projects. These projects will have a capacity of about 90 billion cubic meters, which is equivalent to one and a half times the water in the [Aswan] High Dam. He pointed out that this huge underground reservoir in Sinai is continually being fed by local rain. It is very valuable because it is close to the surface, which means that powerful pumps and great expenditures are not required to extract it. On another matter the president of the academy said that an agreement had been reached with Holland to provide 2.5 million Dutch florins worth of equipment and machinery to be used for irrigating 5,000 feddans with subterranean water in the eastern delta. Implementation of the project will begin in August and will last two years. Dr Hasan 'Amir said that studies are currently underway in cooperation with several international organizations on the movements of the earth's crust in Egypt. The purpose of these studies is to determine the extent of the horizontal

and vertical movements of the earth's crust and the effect of these movements on large structures such as dams, barrages and water reservoirs, erosion of the shoreline, and weakening and falling of portions of the canals. They will include work on an integrative project to prevent these phenomena. Dr Hasan 'Amir said that construction of the first modern electronic station to forecast the quantities of available water at any time of the year, including subterranean water supplies, Nile water and canals, had been completed. These forecasts will be used in irrigation, reclamation planning and cultivation of 2.8 million feddans until 1990 in accordance with the strategy of the Ministry of Irrigation. [Text] [Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 23 Jun 82 p 9] 9123

CAIRO UNIVERSITY ADMISSIONS SLASHED--The Cairo University Board, headed by Dr Hasan Hamdi Ibrahim, has reduced the number of students admitted to the university's various schools for the coming year to 9,165 of which 4,100 are in the department of liberal arts, 1,695 in mathematics and 3,370 in science. By contrast, 17,192 students were admitted by the university for the school year that has just ended. This represents a drop of 8,029 students, or more than 46 percent. Dr Hasan Hamdi said that these figures were determined on the basis of each school's capacity to accept students with reference to lecture halls, university facilities and the number of faculty members. Dr Hasan Hamdi added that the acceptances had been distributed among the university's schools as follows: liberal arts: 1,000 students, compared with 2,147 last year; science: 500, compared with 857; medicine: 400, compared with 873; agriculture: 400, compared with 885; engineering: 600, compared with 1,209; dentistry: 120, compared with 316; veterinary medicine: 250, compared with 482; law: 1,000, compared with 2,381; business: 1,500, compared with 2,589; nursing: 50 female students, compared with 89; economics and political science: 150, compared with 278; communications: 200 compared with 291; archaeology: 250, compared with 263; Dar al-'Ulum: 2,500, of whom 100 hold a secondary school diploma from al-Azhar, compared with 2,823; urban planning: 45, compared with 56; physical therapy: 50, compared with 102. The president of the university added that the board has also decided to admit 2,050 students at the university branches in al-Fayyum and Bani Suwayf in the following distribution: 400 in the school of education in al-Fayyum, of whom 50 hold a secondary school diploma from al-Azhar; 250 in the school of agriculture in al-Fayyum; 1,000 in the school of business in Bani Suwayf; 350 in the law school in Bani Suwayf; and 50 in the school of engineering in al-Fayyum. [Text] [Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 18 Jun 82 p 1] 9123

PAY INCREASE--President Hosni Mubarak yesterday said that an increment of L.E. four will be granted to all employees as of next July. All pensioners will also get the increment. The Prime Minister Dr Fuad Mohieddin disclosed that the increment will be in addition to the annual allowance and will involve an additional budget, burden of 200 million annually.--GSS [Text] [Cairo THE EGYPTIAN GAZETTE in English 29 Jun 82 p 1]

TRACTOR PRODUCTION--El-Nasr Automotive Company is now probing a project for the production of 5,000 tractors annually, thus increasing company production by some 45 per cent, the Chairman of the Company, Dr Ade Gazarin, said yesterday. He added that the Board of Directors has approved a project for establishment of a maintenance company for cars with a capital of L. E. 4 million to be provided by El-Nasr Automotive Company and a number of local banks. Company production totalled 18,000 cars, 3,000 lorries, 5,000 tractors and 600 buses in the fiscal year 1981-1982 Dr Gazarin said. Production will be increased during the coming fiscal year during the coming fiscal year to cover the needs of the local market, he added.--GSS [Text] [Cairo THE EGYPTIAN GAZETTE in English 29 Jun 82 p 2]

KHOMAYNI SAID TO BE 'AFRAID OF PEOPLE' ONCE WAR IS OVER

Paris ARA in Persian 5 Jun 82 pp 1, 2

[Text] The Why's of War

When Iraq attacked Iran, and the war started between these two countries, many called it the product of Carter's scheme. It was at the same time that the United States and USSR both declared their neutrality in regard to this war. The adherents of this thought were reasoning that the United States basically cannot bear the established anti-American Khomeyni regime and that the export of Khomeyni's thoughts to the neighboring countries will cause instability in the Persian Gulf region and the Middle East. Therefore, it is natural for Carter's United States to act rapidly in order to compensate for what it has lost in Iran. This view is never proved, and still is doubted and must be weighted. Nevertheless, Baghdad and its Iranian advisers, in order to justify their actions, confirmed these rumors and predicted that with the first sound of cannons, and the flying of Iraqi planes, the dictator and reactionary regime of Khomeyni, which is drowned in economic problems, will collapse. The Khuzestan subjugate project, with the establishment of a temporary government in Ahvaz, was so much talked about, that many of the Khomeyni opposers inside and outside, secretly were not annoyed by the Iraqi attack of Iran and were reasoning that the "enemy will be a blessing if God desires" and were optimistic.

The opposition groups dependent on Baghdad for a long time, benefited from this political and psychological climate, but after 2 or 3 months of Iranian resistance, some gave up and repented and some others started to praise the Iranian army.

The facts about the Iran-Iraq war are the trap of expanded international spying and terrorism networks, and Israel's involvement for the purpose of weakening Iraq, the annihilation of the major industries of Iran, bloodshed and exploitation of the psychologically stricken population of Iran, and weakening of the Iranian and Iraqi economy.

The reasons for these activities were:

--Khomeyni's plans to export his revolution by encouraging his vindictiveness and revenge on Saddam, who threw him out of Iraq. Khomeyni has never hidden his hatred for the late shah, Carter and Saddam.

--Stupidity, or lack of political understanding of the then foreign minister of Iran, who announced the cancellation of the agreement of dissolving the Iran-Iraq dispute (1975).

--The wrong calculations of Saddam Husayn and his group of Iranian advisers.

The U.S. and Russian intention in announcing their neutrality in order to profit from the fighting of the two countries. Since Russia wants the instability of both countries and the United States wants the weakening of both systems (Iraqi Ba'thist regime and Iran's Islamic regime). Nevertheless, a group in the United States was interpreting this war as an opportunity for expressing the capability of the Islamic religious belt and its settling.

For more than 20 months, two semi-industrial and developing countries destroyed each other, and two Muslim nations vexed and killed each other, and both say they are Islamic and declare they are Muslim. Iraq alone spent \$30 billion, which was provided by the Arabs. Iraq had more casualties, but less devastation, whereas this war cost Iran twice as much as Iraq, and the expenses were provided from the previous military reserve and purchased from Israel, the West, and North Korea. Since the religious instigation led and directed, the disorganized war caused twice as many human casualties for Iran compared to Iraq.

As a result of the war, Iran has become so weak that its standard of living has reached the level of countries such as Afghanistan, Pakistan, and Bangladesh. Reports from Iran paint this sad picture: In the view of foreign political and economic reporters, Iran has invested at least its next 20 years for the cause of this war, and has lost it. Regardless of the sentiment, perceptive activities of the army, it must be agreed that this war was the result of Khomeyni's deceit, and the mistakes of Saddam and his advisers, rather than being basically patriotic. However in the field, patriotic feelings have existed. In another sense, two wars have joined into one; one the invented war, originated from the personal revenge of Khomeyni, and the other, the war of army and the nationalistic people of Iran under Shiism. Now, Khomeyni might continue all the way and win the war, but history will witness that his revenge cost a hundred thousand dead and wounded and the devastation of the industrial economy of Iran.

Retaking of Khorramshahr and Subsequent Stages

The retaking of Khorramshahr is definitely a turning point in Iran-Iraq relations. But in the view of secret organization's experts, whatever happened in the Khorramshahr territory and the last battle, was more of an Iraqi withdrawal from Iran than its defeat. Nevertheless, Iran's regime had and will make the biggest victory from this event. Even Khomeyni, after this victory, has permitted himself to send warnings to the other countries of the region.

Contrary to the rumors and probabilities of the experts concerning the imminent attack of the Iranian army on Basra or Mussel Arbal (due to the psychological background and the respect of Iranians for Najaf and Karbela), it is unlikely that Khomeyni will issue an order to cross the border since the regional war of Iran and Iraq will put two groups of countries opposite each other. The first group is Algeria, Libya, North Yemen, the Palestinian Liberation Organization, Iran, and Syria. The second group is Egypt, Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain, Kuwait, Muscat, Jordan, and Sudan, and if such a confrontation occurs (the preliminary conferences have been held), it is not inevitable that great incidents with unbelievable crisis will occur, and the superpowers will confront each other. From the other side, as Saddam and his Iranian advisers were mistaken about the stability of the Tehran regime, it is not certain that Khomeyni might not make the same mistake about the stability of the Baghdad regime. There is a difference between the Iraq which fights on Iran's soil for weakening Khomeyni and an Iraq which fights to defend its own soil. The attack of Khomeyni on Iraq does not necessitate the fall of Saddam, but it serves as a scapegoat to conceal its weaknesses. Experience shows the Khomeyni style is to create instability from within rather than outside and this is a Mullahcrocy and fundamentalist style. Khomeyni prefers to stir the people of Iraq, rather than to conquer Iraqi soil. The most Khomeyni could do is to get help from international terrorists in order to annihilate some of the leaders of Iraq and create instability.

In the Iran-Iraq war there are no heroes and no one is a winner. Khomeyni does not allow, even among the fighters, someone to become distinguished, neither within the army nor the guard corps. The Iran-Iraq dispute will not end soon and the soldiers from both sides will remain entrenched. We have to wait for the Khomeyni regime to impose new pressures in the coming weeks based on the boosted morale of Iranian nationalism, in the mold of the Iranian army. Khomeyni's friends are more inside than outside; they are worried about the internal disturbances. Khomeyni's regime is entering its second honeymoon, but from within he is very much worried and tremendously afraid of the people.

Apparently the philosophy of Israel armaments aid to Iran is due to the Russian danger, but elimination of this danger is not in the hands of Israel. As time passes, the distance between Tel Aviv interests will grow and the United States will be obliged to prove that Israel is not making decisions for that country. In the coming days and weeks, the United States will present its new initiatives in regard to the Persian Gulf, Iran-Iraq war, the question of Lebanese sovereignty and the Palestinian state.

9815

CSO: 4640/343

MULLAH ECONOMY SEEN ON EDGE OF FINANCIAL DISASTER

Zurich DIE WELTWOCHEN in German 23 Jun 82 p 13

[Article by Nikos Tzermias: "Revolution and War Drive Iran into Bankruptcy: Mullahs and Foreign Currencies"]

[Text] Swiss exporters are currently reporting a slackness in business with Iran. The Islamic Revolution has brought Persia an economic catastrophe.

On May 17, Roman Berger, responsible for foreign trade at the PTT in Bern, received the World Postal Union's "Circular No 105." From it, the government employee learned that as of 5 May 1982, a whole series of goods are no longer admitted in postal traffic into Iran. Under the mullahs' curse are henceforth, for instance, dresses, shoes, hats...chocolates, candy, perfume, soap, shampoos...games and artificial flowers.

Apart from the likewise prohibited alcoholic beverages, this "extraordinary" (PTT - General Directorate) intensification of import regulations has very little to do with the strict rules of the Koran which, since the beginning of 1979, the Islamic revolutionaries have tried to have strictly observed.

The comprehensive restrictions on postal traffic with Iran point to the Gulf nation's economic catastrophe which really came to a head with the war against Iraq.

With 6 million unemployed, with 2.5 million of their own war refugees, with an inflation rate in excess of 35 percent (1981), and with "2 million hectares of farmland having become unusable" (Minister of Agriculture Salamati), Iran has economically come to the end of its rope.

Moreover, vitally necessary goods are rationed and accordingly gigantic lines are forming daily in front of stores; and the black market flourishes.

So far, no famine has occurred. But so as not to make this happen, the government depends on foreign currency reserves to be able to buy vital necessities abroad. This is why Farhad Afshar, former vice president of the Iranian-Swiss Chamber of Commerce, suspects that with the newest import restrictions, Persia attempts to block the alarming outflow of foreign currencies.

Ever since the revolution-year 1979, Iran has been suffering under an acute foreign-currency shortage. And this spring, the Iranians disposed of 150 tons of gold from their European deposits and of a part of the shah's crown treasure.

Ayatollah Khomeyni and his mullahs are standing up to their neck in water, or better in oil, because the still enormous oil deposits are not yielding the desired foreign-currency blessings. The oil glut is messing up the Iranians' business; and so, until recently, the \$550 million of oil revenues per month faced \$1.3 billion in expenditures for vitally necessary import goods.

No wonder, then, that Persia recently started a gigantic oil sales offensive and increased its oil production from around 1 to 2 million barrels per day. But for some of it, the Iranians must grant massive price concessions. Thus, at this moment, contracts are being signed at \$25 per barrel, hence \$5 below the official price for "Iranian light."

Lacking foreign currency, the mullahs are increasingly willing to conclude barter arrangements whereby they would pay with crude oil for import goods. That the pressure for such exchange agreements is increasing steadily has also been noted at the Swiss Ciba-Geigy whose exports, as explained by Jakob Waldvogel from the regional services division, have not suffered noticeably under the revolution and war confusion.

While, for instance, Japan, the FRG and the United States were again able to increase their 1981 Iran exports considerably, the trade between Switzerland and Iran stagnated. Swiss exports, which in 1977 still amounted to almost 1 billion francs, in the revolution-year 1979 reached a low of 368 million francs, and in 1980 reached 463.7 million francs, could be increased only by barely 1 million francs in 1981.

Switzerland's "lagging behind" can in part be explained by the fact that countries such as the United States, the FRG and Japan, who participated in 1980 in the embargo (the hostage affair) against Iran, have partly renewed their business dealings with Iran.

That Swiss exporters, unlike the Germans, cannot report a "warm rain" (DER SPIEGEL) can be attributed also to the fact that the predominantly medium-sized enterprises are hardly able to engage in barter businesses with the Iranians.

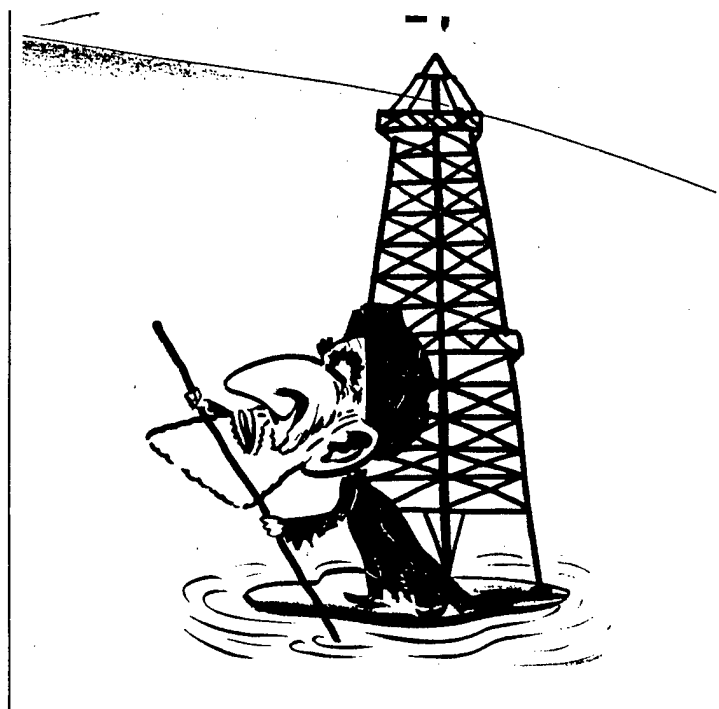
Yet, Swiss businessmen are still counting on the "political goodwill" (Ambassador Benedikt von Tschanner) which Switzerland has enjoyed since its mediation efforts during the hostage affair in Iran. And Victor Lanfranconi, president of the Iranian-Swiss Chamber of Commerce, predicts good business, but only if Swiss exporters regain their initiative. A solution for barter trade also appears to be in the offing; an Iranian trade delegation will soon arrive in Switzerland.

Lately, the Iranians are increasingly trying to respect contracts signed under the shah. In any case, in the case of the construction enterprise Mobag

(Motor Columbus subsidiary which due to the upheaval in Iran suffered enormous losses) it was confirmed that "renewed progress is being made" with compensation negotiations. Cautious optimism is also shown in the case of Ciba-Geigy whose Pharma readymade clothing business in Rasht was nationalized.

Not only the war, but the Islamic revolutionaries themselves have contributed to the economic decline. Thus, the most recent 25-year plan does not indicate any clear economic-political priorities either. Foreign trade, until now transacted via the bazaar, was nationalized so as to eliminate dependency on foreign countries, as demanded by the communist Tudeh Party. Exporters to Iran must, therefore, deal with state purchasing agents who at times are allegedly as corrupt as during the time of the shah.

The Swiss producers of yashmaks also started to feel the nationalization of foreign trade. Because in light of the crisis situation, the mullahs decided that Iran can do with less luxurious face veils than those imported from Switzerland.



Ayatollah Khomeini brings misfortune to oil

9011
CSO: 4620/51

GILANI SAYS 'RELIGIOUS JUDGMENT IS INCONSISTENT WITH SENTIMENTS'

Tehran JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI in Persian 18 May 82 pp 12, 11

[Text] Political Service of the Islamic Republic--In a special interview with the correspondent of the YOMHURI-YE ESLAMI, the religious judge and head of the central Islamic revolutionary courts, declared:

"We should apply severe Islamic measures against hoarders and pricegougers. If strong Islamic punitive laws are applied against these individuals, I think that these economic terrorists could be stopped in two months."

Ayatollah Mohammadi Gilani, religious judge and head of the central revolutionary Islamic courts made the above statement to our correspondent in a special interview and answered questions regarding the programmes of revolutionary courts in combatting economic terrorists; reform of criminals; regulations regarding the selection of religious judge; providing defense possibilities for the accused; the reason for the increase in anti-revolutionary activities by American agents in the country, etc.

Reason for the Increase of Anti-Revolutionary Activity in the Country by American Agents

In answer to the question, "After the freeing of elements belonging to anti-revolutionary factions, their subversive and anti-revolutionary activity has increased, and daily several terrorist explosions are set off by agents of world oppression; do you not think that setting free faction members on such a large scale was a mistake? What steps will the courts take to combat these imperialist bases in the country?"

He answered: "In the name of God the Compassionate.

From the beginning of the victory of the revolution and the formation of the provisional government of Mr Bazargan, either by mistake or on the dictates of foreigners and with deliberate intention, efforts were made to weaken revolutionary structures under certain pretexts, and even to destroy them. Among these revolutionary units were the revolutionary courts. You may remember that the provisional government was trying very hard to close down the fundamental structures of revolutionary courts, and disband the

revolutionary guards. This non-revolutionary thinking still survives among us. After all, we had a revolution and we should start a revolutionary government through revolutionary means, and there can be no hedging about it. The fact is that though we had a revolution, we did not act in a revolutionary manner after the revolution, and because of this unrevolutionary behaviour, we suffered various losses. Sentimentality and emotions are not compatible with the rule of Divine law and religious justice. Of course, a weak individual may not be able to witness an execution carried out by a firing squad. Those who enter the judicial profession should not be pious weaklings. As the Imam said in one of his speeches addressed to judges, his implication was that a judge should be to a certain extent hard; what he meant was that a judge has to sum up the contraries, and as the occasion warrants, show mercy or lack of it. As the Qoran admonishes not to let sentimentality interfere with God's religion, this misplaced kindness creates difficulties for the nation. All the people of Iran know that the factions started armed warfare from 30 Khordad (approximately 20 May); of course, the Peykar faction had declared war earlier and the faction of dissension, which is another form of war, also started an armed uprising against the Islamic government and practiced terrorism against godly persons in all the provinces. Naturally, Tehran was the most difficult area, and even now Tehran is their centre."

The Public Prosecutor's Office Broke the Back of the Factions

"In Tehran, the public prosecutor's office, with all its power and confidence in God, though with small resources, launched a war against them and broke their back, restoring order to a certain extent. Then sentimentality took over, contrary to the admonition of the Qoran not to let sentiment interfere with the word of God. Kindness rose to the surface and flowed over. A number of people said, these individuals are also sons of this land, and we should try to educate and train them. The result was that a number of these faction-members were released from prison, and started terrorism and subversion. Some who were released after recanting are even now engaged in their diabolical activities. I think that these unwarranted outpourings of kindness so injured the power of the prosecutor's office that were it not for their obedience to the Imam, the judges and prosecutors would have given up and departed. We can compare this situation to the battle of Safeen when all was over with Moaveya and Malek-e Ashtar Nakhae would have uprooted the evil; but then sentimentality intervened, with the result that the Caliph Ali's government lost its power. These factions feel no pity for us. Their first rank members are crazy, in the sense that their heads are devoid of understanding."

How Many of the Faction Elements Add Up to the Innocent Martyr Behesti?

"You see how these elements, upon being released from prison, started terrorism and subversion, and not a day passes now without their killing a number of people; and all these problems arise from misplaced compassion. How many of these faction-members have been executed so far and how many people of this nation have they martyred so far? If you look at the

statistics, the number of those executed so far is insignificant compared to their terrorist actions. After all, the blowing up of the office of Jomhuri-ye Eslami party was no joke.

They martyred a venerable seeker of the truth like Ayatollah Dr Beheshti. How many of the faction elements add up to innocent martyr Beheshti. I do not say they should be put to death in the same way. I am saying that more consideration should be given to such problems by those in authority, and they should not fall under the influence of every Tom, Dick and Harry.

The destruction of the very life centre of these factions was imminent. Their back was broken, but their head, so to speak, was unharmed. Emotion intervened then, and they were freed, with what consequences, we all saw. We also believe that executions should be carried out as needed. Many deserve the sentence of death, but not all who deserve death should be executed."

Who are Responsible for the Bloodshed by Freed Individuals?

"We should not be so slow to react as to give these factions a free hand, and allow them to pull a preacher from his car, stand him up against a wall, shoot him in front of witnesses and then escape? Who is to blame for this? Who is responsible for the death of the two individuals they killed today, as well as the woman whom they killed for protesting against their action? Who are the individuals who attack revolutionary behaviour, and how far are they justified in their attacks? It is the responsibility of this suffering nation to consider these problems. Why is it being spread around that it would take years to set up an Islamic judiciary? Did it take years for the government of the Prophet and Imam Ali to start their judicial system? Is not speedy action one of the outstanding traits of the Islamic judicial system? I notify the authorities in charge, all of whom, God be praised, are men of good will, not to procrastinate. The judiciary can be changed and reformed speedily. An Islamic judiciary is the same as the revolutionary courts; if the word revolutionary is deleted, the result will be a religious tribunal."

Combatting Economic Terrorists

In answer to our correspondent's question regarding the plans of the revolutionary courts for combatting economic terrorists, the religious judge of the central Islamic revolutionary courts said:

"Of course, the people should realize that the judiciary and the supreme judicial council have heavy responsibilities. The duty of combatting hoarding and price-gouging lies with the trade courts which are active in this connection. We hope that with the grace of God, these terrorists will be stopped in this way; otherwise we would have to use severe Islamic measures against them. I think that if severe Islamic punishment is given to these individuals, these economic terrorists can be stopped within two months. We hope that the supreme judicial council will take decisive steps against pricegougers and hoarders, and not allow them to plunder the people's wealth any longer."

Preventing Crime and Criminal Rehabilitation

Ayatollah Gilani stated in regard to preventing crime and rehabilitating criminals:

"We have the example of the saints before us in preventing crime. We think that if Islamic morality is applied to society, crime will be reduced to a minimum. The responsibility for popularizing Islamic ethics and laws is the responsibility, on the one hand, of those in charge of upbringing and teaching, and on the other hand, of educational circles who should guide the people by means of sermons and talks. If these things are done, crime will be prevented to the highest extent and crime will decline to its lowest level.

Plans are sometimes proposed for the reform and rehabilitation of criminals which incorporate the viewpoint of the West. We and our people know that the Westerners are liars. They are thieves and they nurture thieves. Reagan is a powerful thief, and Mr Mitterand; and the fat morsel of presidency is to enable him to steal more and satisfy his lusts. European civilization turns out animals and creates beasts. Islam ordains that one should talk and preach to criminals who do not deserve a death sentence. Our honorable brothers in the central Islamic revolutionary public prosecutor's office carry out these tasks of teaching the prisoners, and brothers who have come from Qum also are busy day and night carrying out these tasks; and through sermons and guidance they have made human beings out of many of these prisoners and rescued them from error.

Regulations for Selecting a Religious Judge

In answer to a question regarding the regulations governing the selection of a religious judge, the head of the central Islamic revolutionary court said: "Regulations for the selection of a religious judge, or in other words, the qualities such a judge should have, are determined by the public authority or the theologian's friend, which in our time is the Imam. One of the qualities required of a religious judge is that after attaining puberty, he should be wise and just; another is that he should not be of illegitimate birth. Another condition which the Imam and other theologians agree upon is that a religious judge should be a mujtahed [educated in religious jurisprudence]. Since the Almighty granted us an Islamic revolution, we have not had religious judges and mujtahids in sufficient numbers; hence individuals who were not educated in religious jurisprudence but who were just and acquainted with Islamic judicial and political laws were employed as religious judges with the permission of the Imam. Another condition laid down for a religious judge is that he should be alert and precise. An additional condition is that he should be a man and not a woman, that is to say that women cannot become judges. Of course, some Shiite theologians doubt this and wonder whether a woman is not able to fulfill these tasks. The common judgment is that women cannot become judges, and the Imam also agrees with this view. Suppose that a woman religious judge is presiding, and an adulteress and adulterer are brought before her. The

details of adultery and the statements of the witnesses, if there should be any, describing how the adultery took place, would be very unseemly. Islam tries to preserve the dignity of women and protect her from actions which would belittle her. It respects women and does not, God forbid, decrease her rights. Another qualification for a judge is that he should be able to see; a blind man cannot become a judge."

Possibilities of Defense for the Accused

In answer to our correspondent's final question regarding the defense opportunities provided to the accused by the revolutionary courts, Mr Gilani said: "When an accused is brought in and the indictment count read, as far as the Divine law is concerned and proceeding on the rule that Divine law prescribes forbearance, reduction [in punishment] is indicated. Most judges who are acquainted with these rules try to prompt the accused how to speak in his own defense. Very often, the accused is prompted in this manner: 'When you joined the Peykar faction, you probably did not know that such an action constituted apostasy.' The accused is thus given a line of defense. And what better possibility for defense can there be? Or [the judge] might say, 'When you joined the minority irregular troops, you must have been in the habit of saying your prayers then and believed in God.' The accused is thus prompted not to say that he did not believe in God and religion, and he is thus kept from proving that a natural apostasy existed. Can you conceive of a better possibility for defense? Such a judge can be called a lover of human rights. The best opportunities of defense are provided for the accused and they defend themselves as well.

9863

CSO: 4640/330

'ECONOMIC TERRORISTS' TO BE DEALT WITH 'COMPLETE DECISIVENESS'

Tehran ETTELA'AT in Persian 30 May 82 p 13

[Text] ETTELA'AT NEWS SERVICE--On the basis of the new project of the Islamic revolution's special public prosecutor for commercial activities, the 20 centers fighting overcharging will be changed, and according to the mentioned subject, the center's fighting overcharging will not have representatives from the public prosecutor's office.

Sadeq Taqva'i, the Islamic revolution's special public prosecutor for commercial activities and the deputy director of the Tehran public prosecutor's office, in a special interview with our reporter, talked about the reorganization and purging of the public prosecutor's office for commercial activities and the 20 centers for fighting overcharging, the task force combating overchargers and hoarders, and the task force project of the public prosecutor's office, and said: "Reorganization and purging of the Tehran prosecutor's office for commercial activities is based on the organizational plan approved by the proper authorities, and we will act accordingly. On the basis of this organizational plan, the public prosecutor's office, and special court for commercial activities, have been divided into the public prosecutor's office court and the administrative section, and we will start our work according to this organizational division.

"About the purging of this center, I must emphasize that hiring and staffing have not been proper and orderly. We must study and investigate each person and see what kind of people are working in this place. We are obliged to dismiss those without the proper virtues and skills. Therefore, the employees of this organization must be sincere and honest, with Islamic and revolutionary thoughts.

"Meanwhile, we are facing an overabundance of personnel in this center, and the position of additional employees will be clarified after the final studies very soon."

The 20 Centers

He added: "We have prepared a new project to activate the 20 centers fighting overcharging. This project has two parts. The first part is the description of administrative duties, and the second part is connected with the judicial duties. According to this project, the authorities must work with regard to

the approved regulations and the law. The problems facing these centers is the problem of supervision and the representative of the public prosecutor's office. There is a conflict of authority in the centers, and occasionally, the supervisor of the center is not in agreement with the representative of the public prosecutor's office. In order to be more effective, we will appoint examining magistrates for these centers in order to administer the legal and administrative affairs and prevent rivalry."

Establishment of Magistrates

He added: "Our appointed magistrate will replace the representative of the public prosecutor's office and the supervisor of the center. When these magistrates replace the previous positions of the centers for fighting overcharging, duplication of office work will be prevented. This means that when a file is received from the center fighting overcharging, by the central public prosecutor's office for commercial activities, it will not need a second investigation, on the contrary, the indictment enclosed with the file is sent to the central public prosecutor's office for commercial activities.

Mr Taqva'i said: "The magistrates do not have the power to issue orders, arrest, or prevent arrests or seize property. All these actions must be undertaken with the permission of the public prosecutor or his deputy. If it is necessary for the magistrate to study a file and issue an order, we will appoint an assistant public prosecutor in the center and this project is under study."

Crime Detection Group

The special public prosecutor for commercial activities, in regard to the activities of the public prosecutor's office task force said: "The public prosecutor's office task force has changed its name to the crime detection group. The crime detection group pursues and searches for the large networks of profiteers who profit through hoarding and overcharging and according to their reports, the necessary action will be taken after the discovery of the networks and its agents. The same group will hand them over to the public prosecutor's office for commercial activities so that the necessary action is taken towards the accused."

Fight Against Hoarding and Overcharging

Mr Taqva'i, about the fight against hoarding and overcharging said: "Hoarding and overcharging is a social disease, and first the roots of the disease must be studied to find out what causes overcharging and hoarding. Ministries such as commerce, industry, and mines and agriculture, and legal procedures for commercial activities must cooperate and with mutual help, the problem of overcharging and hoarding will be solved."

The special prosecutor for commercial activities added: "If demand is greater than supply, we will automatically face the problem of overcharging and hoarding. For us, the problem of demand and supply is not under consideration because a world economic crisis exists and we are facing world inflation, and

the inflation affects overcharging and hoarding. Our community's economic crisis is due to world inflation, false internal inflation, imposed war, and the lack of necessary cultural transformation. Therefore, we demand that people stop the purchase of unnecessary goods in order to prevent false internal inflation. The overchargers and hoarders realize that our government and nation under these circumstances cannot remain silent. They must know that execution, prison and flogging can be expected from the laws. Those hoarders are bloodthirsty individuals and must be treated according to the law."

Mr Taqva'i, the prosecutor for commercial activities said: "Those who intend with their antirevolutionary action, to disturb the order of the Islamic Republic, will be treated severely, and our nation is calling on punishment for these people."

He added: "The bazaar must stop using middlemen and brokers. We will interfere in order to control the distribution of goods and to prevent the overchargers and hoarders from taking advantage of their business. Therefore, we ask the people of Allah's party and martyrs to cooperate with this court in order to curtail the hand of misusers and impious middlemen from society."

Decisiveness of Islamic Courts of Justice

The Islamic revolution's special public prosecutor for commercial activities also announced that, "with complete decisiveness, we will deal with economic terrorists, and they will be captured, one after another, and will be tried in the Islamic revolution's commercial courts."

Trade Violation

About the trade violations, Mr Taqva'i said: "We want our martyr and hero nation to watch carefully all the dubious activities of the middlemen and economic terrorists and report the circumstances to the center for fighting overcharging. All Tehran tradesmen are required to place price tags on all their merchandise without exception, so that the prices of merchandise will be distinguished for the consumer. Displaying goods without price tags will be considered an offense and the wrongdoer will be charged. If salespersons hoard the daily goods and groceries in their warehouse and sell them secretly to special customers, this will be considered an offense and the seller will be severely punished."

Cigarette Distribution

The public prosecutor for commercial activities, in regard to cigarette distribution said: "The public prosecutor for commercial activities will not interfere in the distribution of cigarettes in Tehran. This is the responsibility of the state tobacco monopoly. However, if we feel that hoarding or overcharging exists, we will act promptly."

9815

CSO: 4640/329

'UPI' SAID TO BE BOUGHT BY 'ZIONISTS, MEMBERS OF DEVIANT BAHAI SECT'

Tehran JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI in Persian 7 Jun 82 p 3

[Text] According to news service reports from New York, the misled Baha'i sect, benefiting from Zionist economic aid and broad Zionist support in the United States, is trying to take on a role in controlling the Zionist propaganda network. This sect has broad connections with the Zionists, and their most important centers are in occupied Palestine. Douglas Ruhe, a prominent member of the Baha'i-Zionist network in the United States, who is one of the major shareholders in the MNC company owning shares in UPI, announced in an interview that his goal was solely economic! He added that he had not acquired cash help from leaders of the lost Baha'i sect. While trying to pretend that he is independently attempting to purchase the UPI propaganda network, he stated that he had received no help of any kind in this respect! In order to cover up the propaganda goals of the Zionist-Baha'i sect in this deal, he stated: This issue has commercial aspects, and our personal beliefs will not be factors in the economic process.

UPI reported from New York that two of the new owners of the UPI spoke yesterday about their personal pasts. Douglas Ruhe, 37, bought UPI last Wednesday from the I.W. Scrips Company. Ruhe, while explaining his two arrests, answered questions about other matters, including his affiliation with the Baha'i sect. In this interview Ruhe responded to a story in the BOSTON GLOBE which identified him and his partner as members of the Baha'i sect. He claimed that members of the Baha'i sect have orders not to participate in any group. He added: We have no intention of imposing our beliefs on UPI and its news-gathering operations! Ruhe, asked if the Baha'i sect gave them financial help to purchase UPI, answered: Absolutely not!

Ruhe pointed out: In our administration of UPI we are stressing its commercial aspect. All our combined talents will be exercised toward this end. He added: Our beliefs will have no place as a factor in this economic process.

According to the UPI report, he stated that he spent 5 years in connection with human rights societies, and that he campaigned for human rights!

According to the CENTRAL NEWS UNIT report, the U.S. bureau of UPI was sold on Wednesday and its new owner is Media News Corporation (MNC). The MNC company is a new Zionist company founded by numerous capitalists owning shares in newspapers, radio and television stations and other communications centers. The previous owner of the UPI news bureau was I.W. Scrips, whose president announced that the name of the news bureau, UPI, would not change, and that he had been intending to sell it for some time.

He added: It is not only UPI employees that will not change. Rather, we sold UPI's assets to the new company, 95 percent of which belong to the Scrips company, and 5 percent of which belong to the U.S. capitalist giant, Randolph Hearst.

The UPI news bureau, which is the second largest U.S. news agency after AP, has faced continuous deficits over the last 10 years, the deficit for 1980 alone being \$10 million.

UPI was founded on 21 June 1907 by Scrips. In 1974 it opened a communications section for detailed reports which transmitted 1,200 words per minute. At the beginning of 1981 it began sending news by satellite, and during the middle of last year had 50 satellite antennae under its control.

Number of News Media in the United States

English language newspapers	1,739
Radio stations	5,762
Television stations	485

Information About UPI News Service

Number of employees worldwide	2,000
Number of reporters and photographers	1,000
Subscribing newspapers	1,036
Subscribing radio stations	3,237
Subscribing television stations	445
Subscribing countries	100
Subscribing U.S. newspapers	633
Number of employees in the U.S.	800

JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI: As one can see from the text of the report, this news must be studied from its political and cultural angles, meaning the effort being made by the Zionists and other affiliates including the misled Baha'i sect to gain the greatest possible domination over the news networks. JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI accurately related this news in order to expose the agents dominating the world propaganda networks.

Although this development requires an appropriate answer and response, publicizing it to a great extent exposes the agents spreading poison against the Islamic revolution in Iran.

9597

CSO: 4640/348

MORE TRADE PLANNED WITH ALBANIA

Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 15 May 82 p 15

[Interview with Minister of Trade Habibollah 'Asgar-Oladi]

[Text] At their meeting the deputy foreign trade minister of Albania and our minister of commerce discussed and exchanged views concerning economic expansion between the two countries.

Minister of Commerce Habibollah 'Asgar-Oladi-Mosalman yesterday received members of the Albanian commission and discussed the expansion of bilateral economic cooperation. According to a report by the correspondent of the ISLAMIC NEWS AGENCY, during the meeting which lasted almost 2 hours the commerce minister said: The Iranian and Albanian people are close to each other and we believe relations between the two countries must be at the best level possible.

'Asgar-Oladi then added: We laud your political stance in distancing yourself from the major powers. One of the main pillars of the noble Islamic Revolution of Iran is the principle of 'Neither West nor East.' We therefore do not consider any of the two major powers as a source of support. From the point of view of foreign policy, therefore, we have much in common. This identity of approach must become closer so that we may keep the two nations away and free from international dominance.

Referring to the victorious struggle of the Albanian nation for gaining its independence, the minister of commerce said: When I was a prisoner of the bloodthirsty Pahlavi regime I used to follow the path of the movement of the Albanian people which gave us in prison thoughts and longings in seeing an apparently small but strong and self-reliant nation able to be victorious in achieving independence. It had become a saying between us that if a man has insufficient force he can yet stand tall on the basis of human values. For us from the psychological point of view the Albanian nation was an example and pattern for self-reliance against dominance seekers. I still have the same feeling about the Albanian people. I believe your nation taught the world that one can coexist with difficulties without ever bowing in subservience.

The deputy foreign trade minister of Albania then said: We have received the warm welcome of the officials of your country during our visit to Iran. As a result of many meetings we have become aware of the great soul and high thoughts of your people. Your people at this moment are also endeavoring to put the development programs of their country into effect and to carry them through in the best manner possible.

5854

CSO: 4640/323

COUNTRY'S NATIONAL FACTORY INCREASES BUS OUTPUT

Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 15 May 82 p 13

[Interview with Minister of Industries Mostafa Hashemi]

[Text] Minister of Industries Mostafa Hashemi visited the ball bearing manufacturing section of Leyland Diesel in Tabriz during his recent trip to the city at the head of a delegation.

The minister of industries and his entourage discussed various industrial and economic matters relating to the region at a meeting attended by Governor-General of East Azarbaijan Hoseyn Taheri and the Council of Supervisors of the provincial Construction Crusade.

On his return to Tehran the minister of industries answered reporters' questions at a radio-television news conference and said that once the assembly line of the Iran National Factory becomes ready, the plants daily output will increase from 5 to 20 buses.

Referring to the production of Peykan he said: Although previously the production of Peykan had been set for 120,000 cars a year, in order to strike a better balance and to meet the needs of those in rural areas, 80,000 Peykan pickup trucks and passenger cars were produced and we shall try to increase bus production.

Turning to motor vehicle production in Iran the minister of industries said: Automobile production is among the important industries of the country, with about \$1 billion being spent each year for the import of parts. We therefore tried to prevent this expenditure of foreign currency by increasing domestic production of automobile parts. Hopefully we shall become self-sufficient in 3 or 4 years.

Speaking of the general policy of the Ministry of Industries regarding present plants Hashemi said: Our general policy is to establish plants for the manufacture of related products, primary industries and machine building, something about which basic action has been taken. We believe, however, that present factories should continue their output.

In answer to a question as to what plants he saw during his 2-day visit to Tabriz, the minister of industries said: We visited the tractor, machinery manufacturing, Motor Zhen, Dorman Diesel, Pomp Iran, Leyland Diesel, Lift Rack, Piston, Ball Bearing, Computer, (Idom) and Textile Plants, as well as the Heavy Industries Research Center and the textile machinery manufacturing project. We discussed with managers of these plants progress toward self-sufficiency and the manufacture of parts. Of course factories such as Motor Zhen, Dorman Diesel, Pomp Iran and Computer had done some relatively basic work in becoming self-sufficient and in manufacturing parts. However, in the case of the Machinery Manufacturing Plant which is considered a primary industry in the region must resolve the problems of molding and casting of related foundries.

He added: At the same time we discussed with officials of the Provincial Industries Office ways to achieve industrial goals, future policies and the need to encourage nonrelated plants.

Brother Hashemi then referred to the question of reducing the working hours of some plants and the raw material needs of plants by saying: Longer working hours does not mean self-sufficiency and may itself bring more dependency in its wake. In any case, the brothers are carrying out work concerning the planning and manufacture of parts. We hope that once parts are made within the country plant operations will be increased to three shifts.

He said in conclusion: In the past all primary materials were obtained from Western countries. Now, where possible, a part of such requirements will be obtained from Eastern and Third World countries.

5854

CSO: 4640/323

POPULATION ACCREDITED WITH SUBSTANTIAL INCREASE

Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 18 May 82 p 3

[Interview with Qasem Khodadust, deputy minister of interior and chief of Census Organization]

[Text] According to the registration records of the Census Department, in the past year there were nationwide 2,421,657 births, 294,568 marriages, 24,496 divorces and 178,068 deaths.

In giving these figures during an interview, Qasem Khodadust, deputy minister of interior and chief of the Census Organization, outlined the operations of his department in the period since the victory of the Islamic Revolution.

First he answered a question regarding the main activities of the Census Organization since the victory of the Islamic Revolution by mentioning the establishment of the General Department of Information and Census. He said: In addition to its assigned responsibilities toward the welfare of war-displaced brothers and sisters in Tehran, this department has thus far issued 19,000 family identification cards and 3,042 identity papers. Also, 2,520 case files have been set up and studied for issuing identity cards. In answer to another question, the Census Organization chief said that in 1360 [21 March 1981-20 March 1982] 2,421,657 birth certificates, 294,568 marriage certificates, 24,496 divorce certificates and 178,068 death certificates were issued. At the same time duplicate identification cards and identity papers were issued to 1,100,000 persons.

He spoke about the opening of the new census offices and the semi-completed census office buildings in the city-regions (Shahrestan) saying: Following the Islamic Revolution census offices were opened in 26 cities which had formerly been in district categories. Also, 28 census office buildings which had remained incomplete before the victory of the Islamic Revolution were completed and put to use during the Islamic Revolution.

Khodadust added in this regard: The census offices of Saravan, Dehdasht, Bandar Lengeh, Abadeh, Khalkhal, Eslamabad-e Gharb, Laresten, Sirjan, Torbat-e Heydariyeh, Lenjan, Na'in, Khash, Kangavar, Borazjan, Qazvin, Rudsar, Bojnurd and Tabriz are under construction and hopefully will be ready for use by the end of next March.

The Census Organization chief was asked about the procedure for exchanging old identity booklets for new ones. He answered: General measures have been instituted in this regard and special paper ordered from abroad for this purpose is to be shipped to Iran soon.

In conclusion, chief of the National Census Organization spoke about other actions and activities of his office: Among other actions of the organization has been sending representatives to the Passport Division in order to help check identity booklets and to turn over forgers to judicial authorities, dispatch of mobile units in order to help with identity documentation of dear peasants and to issue identity booklets on site, and to reinstitute the identity documents of individuals in war-hit zones who have lost their documents because of the Iraqi imposed war--in such places as Khorramshahr, Mehran, Qasr-e Shirin and Naqdeh--as well as the establishment of urban census sectors in Tehran in order to create coordination with other revolutionary and service organs in various parts of the capital such as in Ward 18 at Kilometer 18 of the Saveh Road, Islamshahr and the Census office at Behesht-e Zahra [cemetery], Census office at Tehran Pars, Census office at Ward 9 of Azarbaijan Avenue and the Census office at Bagh-e Feyz.

5854

CSO: 4640/323

BRIEFS

TEHRAN-QOM HIGHWAY OPENED--TEHRAN, June 28 (IRNA)--The 127 km long Tehran-Qom highway was opened for traffic Sunday morning. The work on the highway which is the first one connecting Tehran to the holy city of Qom, 130 kms south of Tehran, started some eight years ago and has cost 12.3 billion rials. The opening of the highway coincided with the first anniversary of the martyrdom of over 70 officials in the bombing of the central headquarters of the Islamic Republic Party in Tehran, last June. The opening ceremony was attended by the minister of roads and transport, Mohammad Hadi Nejad Husseinian, Majlis deputies and families of the June 28th martyrs. Nejad Husseinian told IRNA that part of the work of the highway was in the hands of the Iranian and foreign contractors. But since they did not accomplish much, finally three years ago the late minister of roads and transport, Musa Kalantari, gave the contract to the Reconstruction Jihad which saw to the completion of the road. This road is part of a road system linking northern Iran with the southern Persian Gulf port and bears the heaviest overland trade within Iran. [Text] [Tehran KAYHAN INTERNATIONAL in English 29 Jun 82 p 1]

ISLAMIZATION OF ARTS--KERMAN, June 28 (IRNA)--The Minister of Ershad Islami (Islamic Guidance) Hojjatoleslam Ma'adikhah said here Saturday that the arts, including the cinema and theatre, should be reformed in a manner capable of serving "human goals". He said also that national touring programs should be radically changed with the idea of presenting them in a form to give viewers a better insight about the environment in which they live. Ma'adikhah, who was talking at the general Ershad Islami department here, reminded the officials that Kerman Province had long been reputed as the home of many poets, and men of letters and he urged that a healthy environment and proper opportunities be provided to all artists, and scholars so that they might develop their artistic abilities. The minister spent the week in Kerman and participated in many of the 10-day ceremonies here for paying tribute to the group of 73 (including Ayatollah Dr. Beheshti) who were martyred in a bomb blast at the headquarters of the Islamic Republic Party June 28, 1981. The minister returned to Tehran Saturday. [Text] [Tehran KAYHAN INTERNATIONAL in English 29 Jun 82 p 1]

MORE WORRIED ABOUT IRAN--ROME, June 28 (IRNA)--In a recent interview with the Italian news agency, Adnkromos Kissinger identified four supposed threats to the region and the U.S. One threat was Soviet expansionism which he said the U.S. was prepared to meet. The other three so-called threats, he related to the Islamic Revolution of Iran which he called "Shi'i radicalism, Islamic

fundamentalism and the Islamic Revolution." He said the other nations of the region would have to deal with these themselves. Referring to Iranian victories in the warfronts, Kissinger said an all-out Iranian victory in the war would upset all political equations and the balance of power in the region. In order to avert this, he said, a prompt cease-fire would have to be imposed. [Text] [Tehran KAYHAN INTERNATIONAL in English 29 Jun 82 p 1]

SUPPORT FOR ISLAMIC CINEMA--YASSUJ, June 23 (IRNA)--The Ershad Islami (Islamic Guidance) Ministry is making efforts for expanding the country's film industry in the path of the revolution. It has publicized its support for domestic cinematic productions over Eastern or Western productions, announced Mehdi Kalhore, the Deputy for Cinema Affairs of the Ershad Islamic Minister. He is currently in Yassuj studying the problems and requirements of the Ershad Islami offices in Fars, Kohkiluyeh and Boyer Ahmad Provinces. He further added that Islamicizing the cinema industry of Iran was a project which the ministry had started by supporting and expanding the activities of amateur film makers. He went on to say that committed and Muslim workers could take steps to change Iran's cinema, by using the technical and budget resources made available by the Ministry of Ershad Islami. Concerning the presentation of cinematic services in rural areas and remote regions and promoting the culture of the Islamic Revolution of Iran in those areas, Kalhore stated that the ministry had a program for establishing audio-visual stations, mobile cinemas and mobile transmission for color T.V. in its five year plan which was in the process of implementation. Regarding overseas activities, he stated that participation of representatives from the ministry in international festivals, and cultural and art seminars, started from this year and had received positive political coverage. He continued that those activities were undertaken for spreading the message of the revolution for the world's oppressed. [Text] [Tehran KAYHAN INTERNATIONAL in English 29 Jun 82 p 2]

WOMEN ACTIVE FOR ISLAM--NEW DELHI, June 28 (IRNA)--Women have an important and active role in the social and political life of the revolutionary Iranian society, said Musavi Tabrizi, the prosecutor general of the Islamic Revolution to the Indian weekly, Current, published here. During the Islamic Revolution, said Musavi Tabrizi, Women, alongside men, participated in demonstrations and were a permanent presence both before and after the victory of the Islamic Revolution. Referring to the religious minorities in Iran, Tabrizi said that the enemies are trying to sow the discord of social, tribal and religious differences, but the Iranian people, the vast majority of whom are Muslims and united under the leadership of Imam Khomeini, have shown in their practice that they cannot tolerate any discrimination in this regard. According to Islamic laws there is no religious, racial or tribal discrimination between individuals and so there exists no obstacle for the union of minorities with the Islamic Republic, added Musavi. Referring to the counter-revolutionary activities and the western media propaganda in their favor, Musavi said that those elements who were real criminals, trying to bring back the Americans to Iran, incessantly plotted against the Islamic Republic. He further said that the western media make no reference of the counterrevolutionary essence of these elements who are tried and condemned by virtue of undeniable documents and facts. [Text] [Tehran KAYHAN INTERNATIONAL in English 29 Jun 82 p 2]

TRADE WITH HUNGARY, MEXICO--TEHRAN, June 27 (IRNA)--Prospects for development of Iranian-Hungarian bilateral economic and trade relations were discussed with the Hungarian vice-president, deputy prime minister and other high-ranking officials, announced agriculture minister Mohammad Salamati today after returning from a trip to Hungary, Bulgaria, and Mexico. Salamati who was heading a mission comprising officials from several ministries said bilateral cooperation in livestock breeding, agriculture, industry and commerce were also studied. A memorandum of understanding was signed, added Salamati, between Iran and Hungary to study barter trade development including oil. When asked about his visit to Bulgaria, Salamati said visiting countries friendly to the Islamic Republic of Iran, and studying mutual trade possibilities was essential since agriculture was placed at the top of the priority list in Iran. He said Iran was going to work with Bulgaria in agriculture, livestock breeding, and veterinary sciences and that necessary studies will be carried out regarding development of bilateral commercial, industrial and oil relations. Salamati continued by saying that a letter of understanding was signed with Bulgaria after sessions with Bulgarian Prime Minister which will emphasize particularly commerce, industry, agriculture and animal husbandry. He noted that the development of relations for exchanging industrial, agricultural and technological expertise were stressed in that memorandum. Speaking on the Iranian mission's participation in the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) annual session in Mexico, he asserted a stinging rebuke was given world imperialism and reactionary countries with Iran's active participation in that session and the declaration of its opposition to imperialism's food policies on the international level. He said the Iraqi representative's mutterings about his country's peace-loving nature drew laughs from the conferees, after Iran announced that the Iraqi Ba'athists regime had demolished more than one million hectares of agricultural lands in its imposed war against Iran. He then added that Iran's announcement of its opposition to imperialism's exploiting of food as a weapon in the international arena helped include that point in the conference's final resolution. He concluded that the Iranian visit to those countries was fruitful as those countries were informed of Iran's revolutionary stands and its practical development after the culmination of the Islamic Revolution [Text] [Tehran KAYHAN INTERNATIONAL in English 29 Jun 82 p 2]

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RECAPTURE OF KHORRAMSHAHR, FUTURE PROSPECTS OF WAR CONSIDERED

London AL-MAJALLAH in Arabic No 121, 5-11 Jun 82 pp 17-22

[Article by Muhammad Ma'tuq: "Secret of the Great Deception: In the Battle of Khorramshahr, the Iranians Used Soviet-Made Tanks, Painted with Iraqi Markings! Why Did Iraq Welcome the Entry of the Egyptian Army into its Territory?"]

[Text] Tuesday, 25 May 1982, was a tragic day for Iraqis. One whole day after Iran announced the recapture of Khorramshahr in Arabistan (Khuzistan), the Iraqi leadership admitted that the principal Arab city, which they had occupied some 18 months ago, had fallen under complete Iranian control, and that the Iraqi forces that had defended it had been withdrawn behind the two countries' common border.

Western observers had expected "another Stalingrad" in Khorramshahr, whose occupation on 7 September 1980 by Iran effectively terminated the 1975 Algiers treaty that stipulated the division of the Shatt al-Arab between the shah's Iran and Iraq. The Iraqis had mobilized their best forces and reinforced them to defend Khorramshahr against the Iranian "human waves" advancing westward. It was clear to those observers that the Iraqis in Khorramshahr wanted to demonstrate how burdensome the losses would be if Iran was thinking about invading Iraq. It was also clear that Iraq would not only lose a major military battle with the fall of Khorramshahr, but also a big political contest as well.

A statement was attributed to President Saddam Husayn in reports from Western correspondents in the Middle East that the Iraqi forces would not withdraw from Khorramshahr, no matter what the cost. This was one of the reasons that caused the Western observers and analysts to expect "another Stalingrad" on the Iraqi-Iranian border. However, an Iraqi official called our attention to the fact that the Iraqi president had not made such a statement at any time. The same official expressed his astonishment at how such a statement could be generated out of thin air.

Whatever the case, the Iraqis plunged into a violent battle with the Iranians in Khorramshahr. If the unconfirmed Iranian figures about the number of Iraqi dead and captured do not constitute evidence, the Iraqi casualty figures, which some Iraqi officials unofficially put at between 5,000 and 10,000 dead, wounded and captured, give a clear picture of the battles' ferocity.

It was the first time that Iraqi forces had retreated from occupied Iranian positions. Previously, they had been arbitrarily withdrawn from Hovaysah, south-west of al-Khafajiyah (Susangerd), without a single shot being fired or being subjected to Iranian military pressures. On another occasion, they withdrew from Makhfar al-Shihabi without a fight. However, they returned and attacked the Iranian forces there, smashed the defenses and killed about 1,000, capturing the rest including the commander of the post. Another time, Iraqi forces were withdrawn in accordance with a prior plan, due to a heavy Iranian rocket attack, aimed at the Iraqi forces.

As regards this time, the Iraqis withdrew from Khorramshahr after a crushing battle and under enormous Iranian military pressure. Despite the fact that the official Iraqi media described the withdrawal as being a kind of victory, because it preserved Iraq's fighting forces after having achieved the goal of the battles, which was as the Iraqis put it "to destroy the military and civilian machine in Iran," the Iraqis would have undoubtedly preferred to hang on to Khorramshahr, not only as a political pressure card to be thrown on the negotiating table, but rather as a forward military position as well, protecting Basrah and Iraq from Iranian artillery shelling and other possible military activities.

The fact is that the Iraqis were not surprised by the attack. On the contrary, they tried to delay it as best they could. For 23 days, fierce fighting was waged in the areas of Ahvaz, al-Khafajiyah (Susangerd) and west of the Karun River, which cost the Iranians some 60,000 dead. It was the largest number of casualties suffered by the Iranians in a single battle. According to the Iraqi tactics, followed since the beginning of the war and based on the premise of keeping Iraqi casualties to a minimum, the Iraqis retreat whenever they felt pressure or noted Iranian outflanking movements. In the sea of fierce battles waged by the Iraqis in al-Ahvaz, and before they withdrew into strong positions inside Khorramshahr, the Iraqi military tactic crystallized, becoming a goal of attack and retreat operations, to destroy Iran's human and war machinery. It became a constant theme in all the Iraqi military communiques. Reports of Iranian concentrations reached the Iraqi command first, before they became public knowledge. Therefore, the Iraqis knew that Iran was massing for the battle of Khorramshahr some 250,000 troops, revolutionary guards and fanatic youth. This number increased to 400,000 with the arrival of new reinforcements. The battle was never equal. Each Iraqi soldier faced 145 Iranians armed with the most modern weapons, or rather, Iraqi officials described the Iranian soldier as suffering from a "surfeit" of weapons sometimes. For each RPG-7 anti-tank rifle carried by the Iraqi, the Iranian carried two.

Russian Tanks

An Iraqi official says that the Iranians no longer suffer from a paucity of military supplies, as was their case in previous stages of the war. They have all the various weapons that they need, and the only branch of service in which the Iraqis have maintained superiority over the Iranians is the Air Corps.

What the Iraqi military communiques did not reveal about the battle of Khorramshahr was revealed by informed Arab sources close to the Iraqis. At the time that Iranian forces were advancing toward Khorramshahr, a severe sandstorm covered the battlefield, making it impossible to use Iraqi aircraft to hit the advancing forces. Thus the principal effective weapons in the hands of the Iraqis was rendered inoperable, and it remained for the ground forces alone to decide the battle.

A second matter was the appearance of about 350 modern Soviet tanks in Iranian hands in the battle of Khorramshahr. Sources say that these tanks did not come directly from the Soviet Union, which has continually stressed its neutrality in the Gulf war since its beginning some 20 months ago. However, they were transferred to Iran with the tacit approval of the Soviet Union. These sources think it likely that one of the Arab states that supports Iran in the war gave it these tanks.

The most important matter is that these tanks were not used in a battle with the Iraqi forces. The Iranians, as AL-MAJALLAH learned from its informed Arab sources, used the tanks in an operation similar to the Israeli "diversionary" operation west of the Suez Canal in the 1973 October war, since they pointed the Soviet tanks with Iraqi markings and brought them into Khorramshahr in a deception sprung on the Iraqis. This was accompanied by huge landing operations inside Khorramshahr, which enabled them to surround several Iraqi military formations in the city. Consequently, the Iraqis had two options: the first was to fight until the last soldier and made an heroic stand. In this, they would lose both their soldiers and Khorramshahr and weaken their defenses on the border, which then the Iranians would not find difficult to breach. The second option was to break the siege in order to save the Iraqi forces and to withdraw to a new defensive line close to the international border. They would then avoid huge losses of life. However, in any event, they would still be recording a military retreat, even though it might be less bitter.

An Iranian Incursion into Iraq

Despite the optimism that prevailed in some Arab and international circles to the effect that Iran's recovery of Khorramshahr meant the end of the Iraqi-Iranian war, the war has not ended. The truth is that Khorramshahr was the last major Iranian city in the hands of the Iraqi forces. There are other Iranian towns still occupied by the Iraqis, including Mehran, Sumar, Qasr-e-Shirin and Khosrowye, which is the closest of them to the Iraqi border. Qasr-e-Shirin is the strongest post and is nestled in the mountains. The Iraqis occupied it at the beginning of the war through major efforts, since they had to occupy the rugged and commanding mountains first. They then encircled it on two sides from inside Iranian territory. If the Iranians want to recover it now, they must fight in the mountainous northern areas first, where they have tested their line more than once without success. If they do not follow that rugged road, they could be prepared to breach the Iraqi border and outflank that post from behind. Apparently, the Iranians have not abandoned this possibility, despite the reassurances issued by some of their officials that the Iranian forces will not cross the Iraqi border. Another Iranian official did make a reference to the effect that the Iranians would use as a

pretext the right of pursuit into Iraqi territory and push the Iraqi forces back by occupying a part of the Iraqi border area to prevent Iraqi artillery shelling of Iranian cities and troop concentrations. It was reported that the Imam Ayatollah Khomeyni has approved the Iranian forces' incursion across the Iraqi border "when that was necessary."

Western military experts say that the right of pursuit can be justified in a war between a state and guerrilla forces. As regards regular forces of two nations, the right of pursuit becomes so elastic as to justify occupation and unlimited expansion. These analysts refer to the fact that Iraq has ground to ground missiles, which it used against Dezful more than once and which caused enormous damage. These are long-range missiles, and if the Iranians want to keep their bases far away from their cities, they would have to occupy all or most of Iraq.

The possibility of Iranian forces crossing the Iraqi border has become a realistically imminent danger, which alarms the Iraqis and the other Arab Gulf states, which viewed Iraq as a geographical buffer against the Iranian peril that threatened them. Consequently, they hurried to support Iraq with money and political support some 8 months ago when the Arabistan battles began to take a contrary course.

It is not anticipated that either the exhausted Iraqi or Iranian forces will plunge into battles during the next few days. However, the Iranian incursion over the Iraqi border remains a possibility, as well as Iraq directing "strategic" strikes against Iran, such as the strike against the Tabriz refinery and al-Khark Island, a principal port of loading Iranian oil, which took place at the end of last week. No matter how the Iraqis hide their feelings, they are living in a very constrained situation, and they are seeking any assistance from any quarter to stop the war or to aid in stopping it. Despite the full moral support that the Arab Gulf states have shown for Iraq, these states are incapable by themselves of altering the military balance of power in the war, if they decided to enter it on the Iraqis' side. However, these nations are capable of taking initiatives on behalf of Iraq to seek a settlement or other military assistance. Precisely in this framework, there was a Saudi initiative last week with Damascus and Algiers, who both have strong relations with Iran, which makes them influential in Iranian political decisionmaking. Saudi Arabia, which undertook its mission with a complete mandate from the Gulf Cooperation Council nations, which includes Kuwait, Qatar, Bahrain, the UAE and Oman, wishes to keep the Gulf area free from international conflict and prefers that the solution be a regional one, even if it is not completely suitable, since any form of super-power intervention can invoke a counter intervention. Entering the area to protect international disputes would have unlimited consequences.

This concept was the basis for the discussions of the GCC foreign ministers' meeting in Riyadh last Sunday, which concentrated on the possibility of calling for an emergency meeting of the Arab foreign ministers to discuss putting a final end to the Iraqi-Iranian war and settling the problems pending between the two countries.

This was the first meeting of the GCC foreign ministers since the one held last month for the same purpose. However, the conferees decided to adjourn their meeting but keep it open, so that it could resume on 30 May, after the completion of contacts and pulse-taking, preparatory to a broad response to the invitation for a general Arab meeting on the foreign minister level (see the Riyadh letter in another place).

Observers point out that the GCC nations make a distinction between two matters that were under discussion in the first meeting. They no longer talk about Egypt's return to the Arab fold as a part of a Gulf arrangement to protect the area from the Iranian danger. Observers attribute that to the fact that these words have not been easy on the ears of certain Arab states that look upon Iran as a "friendly revolution" and reject Egypt's return with its new relations with Israel.

It was also noted that the Arab Gulf states were not overly delighted with the American "initiative" to end the Iraqi-Iranian war. That was interpreted as a reflection of those states' desire to not have their war be a foothold for American intervention. Some observers think it likely that the United States took into account the reservations of the Arab Gulf states and therefore, has not offered an initiative specifically for it or a practical plant for a settlement. On the contrary, the U.S. Secretary of State, Alexander Haig, was content to say that Washington would support the existing efforts to reach a rapid solution to the Iraqi-Iranian dispute. This was not the same spirit with which Haig discussed the United States' two initiatives regarding Lebanon and autonomy for the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. In the latter two initiatives, Haig talked about a special and direct role. Regarding Lebanon, he said that the efforts of the American envoy, Phillip Habib, would be working to resolve the situation. He also promised that the American role would be escalated in the self-rule negotiations in order to reach a settlement for the West Bank and Gaza. Haig's talk about the Iraqi-Iranian war was disappointing to some Western observers to whom the American administration had been leaking hints and allusions about the forthcoming American initiative. This made those observers expect that the initiative would represent a main swing in the American position. Then Haig reasserted the United States' neutrality and its adherence to the decision not to supply either of the two belligerents with arms, without forgetting the fear of the Soviet Union having the opportunity to intervene if the war in the Gulf continues.

Concessions to End the War

The Iraqi military retreat to the international borders has not left Iraq much room for military action against Iran, especially since the Iraqis have set a date for the end of the war at any cost. This is the date of the convening of the summit conference of non-aligned states, scheduled for next September. They are determined to hold this conference; the war must be ended, so that its continuation does not become a pretext for some countries to stay away, spoil the conference and reduce its importance. Therefore, the war has not restricted Iraqi activity in preparing for the summit and in working for its success. Baghdad has exploited its role as host for the forthcoming conference in order to make contact with nations who have some influence on the future

of the war. It was not a coincidence that Deputy Prime minister Tariq 'Aziz was dispatched to carry the invitation to attend the conference to Algiers. Tariq 'Aziz is a leading personality in Iraq and the official who is the closest to President Saddam Husayn.

The Iraqis say that they are prepared to offer any concession to end the Iraqi-Iranian war before the date of the non-aligned summit conference next September. Nevertheless, so far they are still refusing to name the possible concessions that they might offer. During his recent visit to Kuwait, Tariq 'Aziz indicated that any concession would be subject to study. The Iraqi deputy prime minister made it clear that Iraq was prepared to negotiate with Iran regarding all the outstanding problems, including the Shatt al-Arab problem. Iraq, by abrogating the 1970 Algiers treaty, has nullified Iran's rights to its being divided between them. If the problem of the Shatt al-Arab was returned to the negotiating table, the entire Algiers treaty could be restored. The problem of the Shatt al-Arab was the one unacceptable point for the Iraqis in that treaty, as pointed out by the resolution of the Iraqi Revolutionary Command Council, abrogating the treaty in September 1980. Returning to the treaty once again has now become a welcome step for the Iraqis to whom the treaty restored "Zayn al-Qus" and "Sayf Sa'd", which have become difficult for the Iraqis to maintain by force.

Putting all the pending problems on the negotiating table would achieve one of the conditions stipulated by the Iranians for the end to the Iraqi-Iranian war, and with the withdrawal of the Iraqi forces to the international boundaries, still another condition has been achieved. Some observers do not think it unlikely that Iraq may have carried out its successive withdrawals in accordance with a principal political decision, to facilitate the mission of the Islamic Good Offices Committee, whose efforts ran headlong into the Iranians' refusal to accept a cease fire, so long as Iraqi troops remained in occupation of Iranian territory. Islamic sources have told AL-MAJALLAH that the committee, which will meet today in Jiddah, Saudi Arabia, has told Iraq of the Iranian demand for unconditional withdrawal, and has tried to convince Iraq to accede to this demand. The sources add that the Iraqis did not express a strong rejection, as compared with what they publically stated in their official communiques. However, those same sources think it unlikely that the Iraqis have carried out their withdrawals in accordance with a previous agreement with the committee, because some of the withdrawals resulted from fierce battles that could have been avoided, along with the heavy losses sustained by both sides, if a voluntary withdrawal had been achieved. Regardless, this will have been a positive step, despite the negative moral effects on the Iraqi forces.

Egypt's Role

Observers cite other evidence that the Iraqis did not withdraw voluntarily, to facilitate a settlement. When they felt pressure on the front, they held out their hand toward Egypt. American sources have recently been talking more and more about the fact that Egypt is watching the course of the fighting on the Iraqi-Iranian border, out of readiness to intervene if Iranian forces cross the border into Iraqi territory. President Saddam Husayn's words were

clear and direct in this regard. He declared that Iraq would open its arms to the Egyptian army, if it wanted to come to Baghdad. President Saddam Husayn's statement made it clear that Iraq was aware of the intricacies of the Egyptian position regarding the war, and the supposition is that Sultan of Oman Qabus conveyed all that during his recent visit to Cairo. It did not want Egyptian forces to enter the battlefield inside Iranian cities, but rather, in the Iraqi capital of Baghdad, which the Iranian advance threatens. There are Iranian concentrations only some 120 miles from it.

Egypt had not previously taken a clear stand on behalf of Iraq in its war with Iran. It has officially maintained its neutrality, despite the shipments of arms and spare parts which it has sent to the Iraqi forces, and despite the direct contacts with the Iraq leadership that are missing with the Iranians. So far, Egyptian officials talk about the relationship between Gulf security and Egyptian security, but they have not drawn a red line which, if Iran crosses it, Gulf security would be exposed to danger. The truth is that Iraq is a Gulf state, but it has been trying for some time to be described as a Gulf state. It was excluded from membership in the Gulf Cooperation Council [GCC] due to the Iraqi-Iranian war, which frustrated its hopes. At that time, Iraqi officials expressed their displeasure at this exclusion.

However, some observers agree on the assumption that the collapse of the Iraqi shield represents the red line that the Egyptians are waiting for. They have alluded to that repeatedly, describing such a step as being very grave, without committing themselves to any arrangement, in the event the red line is crossed.

Behind Egypt's intervention on Iraq's behalf to defend Iraqi territory lies a major difficulty, the severance of diplomatic relations between the two countries, following the signing of the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty and Egypt's following the path of the Camp David accords, and the establishment of full diplomatic relations with Israel. The Iraqis, who hosted the Arab summit conference which decided to sever relations with Egypt if it pursued this reconciliatory course with Israel, are the people who are most aware of the difficulty of overcoming this obstacle. Therefore, on the same occasion in which he welcomed the Egyptian army to Baghdad, the Iraqi president made it clear that Iraq would not give President Husni Mubarak a "carte blanche," but rather, it would support him in his pan-Arab steps and encourage him to bring Egypt back to its obligations and Arabism.

The Iraqis are conscious of the danger of reconciliation with Egypt now. It is still adhering to the Camp David accords and has diplomatic relations with Israel. However, they do not see any other way open to them. The Iranian forces, drunk with victory, are on their doorstep. The intentions to invade Iraqi territory are no longer any secret. The Syrians have closed their border and shut down the Iraqi pipeline, which passes through their territory to Baniyas and Tripoli (Lebanon) on the Mediterranean. Mediation efforts to reconcile the differences between Iraq and Syria have collapsed, and the alliance with the Gulf states alone will not protect it from the danger. Obviously, the Iraqis had studied various options before announcing that it would welcome the Egyptian army, and launching a violent campaign against the Syrian regime, without naming it. When the roads to Damascus were closed, all the Iraqis had left was the road to Cairo, with all its difficult terrain.

The Iraqis recognize, as a prominent Iraqi official stated to AL-MAJALLAH, that mutual understanding with Syria would be a "major strategic stroke" which could change the course of the entire Arab region. However, at the same time, they see the breach in relations with Damascus as having widened to the point of being impossible to mend.

The same Iraqi official pointed out that Kuwait's recent mediation effort with Damascus to improve relations between Syria and Iraq had been made with tacit Iraqi approval. When this effort failed due to Syrian rejection, the intensity of the Iraqi media campaign against Syria reached new heights.

However, Syria's response was not considered final. Some Western analysts think that Saudi Arabia's share in this recent mediation attempt was more important than Kuwait's, and that Syria did not give a definitive answer pending the completion of President Hafiz al-Asad's expected visit to Moscow in the next few days.

The Saudi warning to Iran regarding violating the Iraqi border was not a normal development. The Iraqis welcomed it with great interest. The Saudi position stresses helping Iraq in its coming military confrontation, but Baghdad, according to Iraqi sources, is not afraid of Iran's attempts to breach its border, because these attempts give the confrontation with Iran a different cast. The war would no longer be "Qadisiyah Saddam," that breaches the peace with Iran, but rather Iraq's war to defend its territory and the war of all the Iraqis to protect their homeland. An Iraqi official in a statement to AL-MAJALLAH says that the Iranians crossing the Iraqi border "will make Saddam Husayn a hero."

This is not what the Iranians want. On the contrary, they stipulate that in order for the war to end, Saddam Husayn must go. Before that, their condition was the establishment of an Islamic republic in Iraq. However, their concentration on the person of Saddam Husayn signals a backing off with regard to conditions, and the desire to extract any price from the Iraqi regime and to withdraw the demand for its downfall, thereby clearing the way for changes inside the government at a minimum.

The Iranians know that to achieve their difficult condition will take more than just announcing it. Rather, they must put pressure on Iraq to that end. The plan which they are expected to follow is to enter southern Iraq and attempt to incite the Shi'ites there against the ruling regime. The Iraqis are aware of that; they are making efforts to prevent the Iranians from crossing the border at the city of al-'Amarah. Their military retreat at Dezful and Shush was for this purpose. They are striving to prevent the Iranians from reaching Basrah, hence their retreat at Khorramshahr. However, on the other hand, they are depending on one equation that the Iranians are not taking into account. They believe that the Shi'ites of Iraq are different from the Shi'ites of Iran, and that no matter how much the Shi'ites of Iraq want revenge, that will not push them toward Iran. If all other considerations go by the boards, one important consideration will still remain, the rivalry between the adherents of the one religious school of thought in Iraq and Iran.

The Iraq Shi'ites cannot accept the shift of religious leadership from al-Najaf to Qom. The supreme Shi'ite authority, Imam al-Khu'i, who resides in al-Najaf, has made no statement supporting Iraq in its war with Iran, nor has he made any statements supporting Iran and its leadership's religious, political and philosophical tendencies.

The point remains that the Iraqis do not want the war to continue forever. Moreover, this also applies to the other Arab Gulf states. The Iranians themselves do not want it to continue without end, but they want to achieve gains other than financial compensation, which news reports say Iran values at approximately 30 billion pounds sterling, including the return of those who were driven from Iraq on the eve of the war, the establishment of a committee to investigate responsibility for starting the war and condemnation of the one responsible. One of the other gains is to affect a change in the Iraqi regime, even if by ousting President Saddam Husayn, on the pretext that he does not adhere to agreements, as happened 5 years after signing the Algiers agreement. However, this demand is very difficult. The Iraqis themselves cannot accept the occurrence of such a change as the price of any defeat. The Arab Gulf states cannot accept it, because it sets a dangerous precedent.

Therefore, the crisis remains hanging, while awaiting one of the parties coming up with a compromise that would not be too distasteful to the Iraqis and their allies, which would not feed the ambitions of the Iranians with regard to the area, and which, at the same time, would keep the area clear of international disputes and eliminate the negative feelings caused by the Iraqi-Iranian war or fed by it. Hopes rest on the meeting of the Islamic Good Offices Committee in Jiddah. All the parties are very optimistic this time. Who knows?

7005

CSO: 4404/530

COUNTRY'S STRATEGY, MILITARY OPTIONS VIEWED

London AL-MAJALLAH in Arabic No 122, 12-18 Jun 82 p 27

[Article by Muhammad Ma'tuq: "Arab Options in the 'Gulf War'; An Arab Military Source: Iraq Is Saving Strategic Weapon for 'Critical Times'"]

[Text] The battle front on the Iraqi-Iranian border has not been quiet for one day since Iranian forces regained the city of al-Muhamrah (Khorramshahr). However, the battles have taken on a different character, with those between the ground forces of the two sides abating while the Iraqi Air Force and the Iranian armored forces have become active in operations aimed by both sides at achieving psychological and morale-oriented goals.

After Iranian forces shelled the Iraqi city of al-Basrah in the Shatt al-'Arab and Panjwin in northern Iraq, the Iraqis replied by strafing the oil refinery at Tabriz and the port facilities on al-Kharg Island. Since the bombardment of al-Basrah did not cease, Iraqi aircraft, which had achieved complete superiority in air battles with Iran, circled Tehran and Qom, headquarters of Imam Ayatollah Khomeyni and of most of the prominent religious leaders, for the first time in over a year. The Iraqis accompanied their announcement that their aircraft had circled Tehran with a warning against the continued bombing of Iraqi cities. They appropriated the observers' task of explaining their actions by saying that it included a warning to Iran that attacks on civilians in Iraqi cities would be repaid in kind so that even the Iranian capital and cities which are not experiencing the stress of war will not be safe.

Despite Iranian officials' statements that damages to oil installations in al-Basrah and al-Kharg Island were slight, Japanese maritime shipping companies halted their services at the port facilities on the island in clear compliance with Iraq's threat to foreign ships that approach the island.

The Iranian reaction to the Iraqi step was a clear indication that the Iraqi naval blockade of Iran is having the desired results. The Kuwaiti press said last week that Iranian Ambassador to Kuwait 'Ali Shams Ardakani had told the Kuwaiti Chamber of Commerce that businessmen in the area must stop using the name "Arab Gulf" in shipping or importing documents which they submit. Official Kuwaiti sources have said that Iran had warned Kuwait that ships going to Kuwait would be subject to search and might not be allowed to continue on to Kuwait if they do not comply with the Iranian measures.

Observers expect the mutual blockage between Iraq and Iran to continue while the two countries reorganize their forces for military confrontations on a new battlefield. However, informed Iraqi sources have told AL-MAJALLAH that Iraq is no longer interested in controlling new territory in Iran, but is now preparing to strike painful blows against the Iranians as part of plans to counter a possible Iranian invasion of Iraq and an attempt to reverse the military situation by occupying Iraqi cities.

The same sources say that the shelling of al-Kharg Island for the third time in the war is an example of the painful blows that the Iraqis intend. However, that does not mean that shelling of other targets will be less effective.

Arab military sources have revealed to AL-MAJALLAH that Iraq has a "strategic weapon" that it is saving for "critical times." The sources refuse to give details about this weapon, but say that "critical" times means if Iran should capture an Iraqi city or directly threaten Iraqi sovereignty over its territory.

Western analysts believe that the Iraqis will make the Iranians pay a heavy toll in the positions which they still hold in Iranian territory, including the well-fortified Qasr-e-Shirin. However, Iraq is not willing this time either to fight to the last man in any position which it believes it will be forced to evacuate under the pressure of advancing Iranian forces. Of course this applies only to Iraqi positions inside Iranian territory. Things would be completely different if there were an Iranian invasion. In the face of Iranian claims that they have historical rights to some Iraqi territory, the Iraqis know that if the Iranians occupy their territory, the Iraqis will never withdraw voluntarily.

Arab Gulf sources say that Iraq has prepared for a long war if the commendable efforts, including mediation, to end the war between the two countries do not succeed. These sources add that Iraq is still a leading power in the region and still able to serve as the strong barrier to Iranian expansionism toward the Arab Gulf countries. Iraq will not be alone in battle if the war worsens and the idea of violating the international border between Iraq and Iran becomes part of Tehran's plans.

Nevertheless, Iraq depends mainly on its own abilities because it enjoys great human, military and economic reserves which it has not yet brought into battle, waiting for the decisive moment.

So far, Iraq has not announced its general replacement [of troops]. Fewer than four of the groups of reserve soldiers who were called up in the last 3 months have gone to the battle fronts. Until now only 15 percent of the special operations forces have gone to the fronts; these are volunteers from outside the regular army who were trained in the last few months.

On the economic level, Iraqi sources assert that the announcement of an austerity plan in Iraq several weeks ago and planned spending in all fields were not due to insolvency, but were both defensive and preventive measures.

These sources confirm that Iraqi economic reserves are sufficient to confront any developments, with oil no longer pumped through Syria to Baniyas and Tripoli on the Mediterranean Sea and as a precautionary measure against future financial difficulties.

ISRAEL

IDF OFFICERS COMPLAIN ABOUT MILSON'S CIVIL ADMINISTRATION

Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 18 May 82 pp 11, 13

[Article by Tzvi Bar'el: "Milson's Failure"]

[Text] Twenty-five staff officers in the headquarters for Judea and Samaria recently sent a letter to Prof Milson, chief of the civil administration in the West Bank. In their letter, the staff officers complained that since the establishment of the civil administration, Prof Milson has not bothered to meet and consult with them as professionals in areas that concern them. The letter charges that there is no decision-making process and that the staff civilians have a disparaging attitude toward their professional skill. This is in addition to the derogatory names such as "traitor" and "PLO supporter" that were directed against several staff officers when they disagreed with Milson's opinion on everything connected with operational procedures.

In an interview that he granted to DAVAR HASHAVU'A, Prof Milson said that "the staff officers have raised questions about work procedures and the organization of the administration. With the establishment of the administration, there was a natural change in the work procedures, and it is natural that questions were raised. They have been answered...I have no doubt that here and there there is some troublemaker, someone in or outside the system, who is interested in describing or fabricating problems that do not exist."

The staff officers in the headquarters for Judea and Samaria are representatives of the ministries, and each of them is responsible for his area. They receive instructions in their professional area from their respective ministries and their instructions in the area of operational policy from the chief of the civil administration. It is customary and reasonable to assume that when the nature of the system changes, these staff officers, most of whom have been working in the West Bank since 1967, would be equipped with work procedures and policy guidelines that would permit them to perform their work in accordance with requirements.

Their questions have not been raised just now, a-half year after the change, but no one bothered to instruct them or answer them and it was only when the staff officers developed the feeling that they existed only for stylistic effect that they took this extraordinary step.

It is important to emphasize that the complaint of the staff officers is not directed at Prof Milson's policy in the territories. This is not their concern, but they do expect someone to explain to them how they are to conduct themselves in day-to-day practice. When what is involved is a complaint of 25 senior officers, it is difficult to understand the statement that "here and there there is some troublemaker interested in fabricating problems that do not exist."

Prof Milson must understand what his staff officers understand. He is not responsible for creating the policy in the West Bank. This is too heavy a burden for an operational arm. He is not a partner in the Camp David agreements or in the cabinet discussions concerning the establishment of policy in the territories. The change that took place in the Israeli governmental system in the territories is the result of a government decision, and complaints regarding the degree of its success must be directed to it.

However, once the government decided on its program and Prof Milson accepted the title of chief of the civil administration, it was incumbent upon him to prepare the conditions so that the government's program would be applicable. The fact that he has not resigned to date indicates that he believes that the program is indeed applicable and even good. If this is the case, one cannot avoid the conclusion that the reason for the inapplicability of the program to date stems from a failure in implementation. Milson says that "a political situation does not change in several weeks...after weeks and months it is still too early to judge the results." However, in an answer to another question, he says: "the time for establishing autonomy is certainly not a date that we cannot set." It seems that there is a contradiction between these two statements. On the one hand, in his opinion, we must wait until the political situation changes, and 6 months is insufficient for this purpose. On the other hand, the time for establishing autonomy depends only on Israel. In these words, it seems that Milson is severing the connection between the establishment of autonomy and the changing of the political situation. Autonomy and the time for its establishment are dependent, as was stated, only on us. A change in the political situation takes time.

However, persons connected with the Ministry of Defense do not see things this way. According to them, the establishment of autonomy depends on a change in the political situation. "It is not possible," they say, "to apply autonomy when the political leadership in the territories is hostile to us and there is no cooperation and even no dialogue with Palestinian elements, except for the village leagues, which are an unacceptable and undesirable marginal element." According to them, during the half year that has passed since establishment of the self-administration in the West Bank, not only has there been no improvement in the political situation but there has been an enormous deterioration, which has led to a sharp confrontation between the Israeli authorities and the Palestinians. The connections between the municipalities and the administration have been severed, mayors have been deported, the civil system has ceased functioning, the method of dispersing demonstrations has been more inflammatory than calming, schools

are occasionally closed, "incidents" are created in the relations between the military arm and the civil administration and a system of confrontation is being spread against persons in the West Bank without distinguishing between moderates and extremists. Those persons point out that the credit given to the chief of the civil administration as a man of action was not justified. They also note that the short-time argument that Milson raises is inappropriate in that he played an active and crucial part in the West Bank situation while in his previous positions as adviser on Arab affairs at the headquarters for Judea and Samaria and as adviser to the coordinator of activities in the territories.

There is no doubt that Prof Milson aspires to bring about a change in the political situation in the West Bank. He would want to see "Palestinians who would support the peace process unconditionally." He would want to be able to arrange elections within the framework of the Camp David agreements after the population recognize the State of Israel's right to exist, despite the PLO veto. Most of the people of the State of Israel share this aspiration. On these two principles there is no dispute. But to implement them is not something that is under his control. Combatting the PLO is not one of the missions of the civil administration. This is a task the government intends to cope with. The deportation of the mayors or the branding of one person or another as an extremist does not nullify the influence of the PLO. As long as there are continuous contacts between persons in the territories and PLO representatives in Jordan or Syria, it will be impossible to speak about neutralizing PLO influence in the West Bank. Milson has pushed himself and the civil administration into a total war against the population without setting for himself practical day-to-day objectives and without delineating, in this war that is not his, procedures for action that would indicate clearly that the objectives to which the government aspires are indeed being achieved.

It is not only to the staff officers in the civil administration that the intentions are unclear. There are also those connected with the Ministry of Defense who have determined that Milson has not succeeded in creating conditions that would permit a normal civil administration and application of the autonomy plan. They have also indicated an intention to replace him because of this. To date, no unequivocal denial of this intention has been heard. It is perhaps worthwhile to replace the man charged with implementation when his weakness is revealed, but it is even more worthwhile to determine if the objectives that the operational arm intends to achieve are indeed realistic.

From the time that Prof Milson was appointed to the position of adviser on Arab affairs in the West Bank in 1976, he has tried to persuade those in the Ministry of Defense, and has even succeeded in doing so, that his plan will lead to a solution in the region. The essence of his plan is based on the antithesis to the concept of Moshe Dayan, who advocated non-intervention in the territories. Prof Milson has declared that nonintervention is equivalent to a decision. He rejects this approach and believes that the Israeli authorities must intervene and direct events in the West Bank. This intervention has resulted in, among other things, deported mayors without an

an alternative and village leagues that are incapable of assuming any political responsibility. This intervention has already led to an inflammation of the West Bank resulting in 25 dead and tens of wounded.

Prof Milson should recognize the historical-sociological truth that the intervention of an occupying power that tries to implant a political leadership in place of the natural leadership chosen by the conquered people will eventually fail. Nonintervention that permits a normal life is preferable to intervention with tragic results.

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CSO: 4423/176

ISRAEL

NEW POLICIES SUGGESTED TO ENCOURAGE MODERATES IN TERRITORIES

Tel Aviv YOMAN HASHAVU'A in Hebrew 19 May 82 p 30

[Article by Avraham Pechter: "The Policy in Judea and Samaria--Another Viewpoint"]

[Text] The unrest in Judea, Samaria and the Gaza Strip is not a spontaneous outbreak and is not of recent vintage despite the fact that the recent events in Israel, in the world and in the Arab countries are of no mean significance and, in part, even directed.

One must seek the roots of the unrest from the beginning of our entry into the territories in June 1967, and one must understand and analyze the process of political development that has taken place in the territories since then. To this must be added an analysis of the power centers that have been developing in the cities and the villages. All of this must be considered against the background of the policy of the Government of Israel as it has been manifested in the administration of the territories by the military government.

With our entry into Judea and Samaria we encountered two populations that were different socially, economically and in political maturity. While the residents of Judea and Samaria were relatively developed in all respects, and the cities were very much so in the political respect even during the period of Husayn's administration, the residents of the Gaza Strip were culturally, economically and politically backward. Actually, they had been subject to an extremist and oppressive Egyptian military government since 1948, when most of the population was in refugee camps under the constant control and supervision of the Egyptian Army. Although the Egyptians did establish a kind of selfgovernment for the Palestinians with an "elected council" and limited legislative authorities, this was more for show and appearance.

The Arabs' political infrastructure was built on regional, local leadership with the most prominent among them being Shaykh Ja'abari in the Hebron Hills and Judea, Hamdi Kana'an and the Al-Masri family in Shekhem and Samaria and Rashad Al-Shawa in Gaza.

This leadership, in our current concepts, was essentially a moderate one built on a firm basis of family and clan influence and economic power as a support for status and prestige.

The Government of Israel at that time, to our great surprise or sorrow, had neither a concrete policy nor clear action guidelines for instructing the military government in how to relate to and understand the local leadership.

This deficiency, the absence of a clear and consistent policy, was especially conspicuous in light of the fact that all of the military government's appropriate instruments for administering the territories were prepared in the technical sense.

As such, for example, the judicial infrastructure in all of its aspects, both in consonance with Israeli law and international law and the various conventions, were prepared on time. This aspect of the administration of the territories, consisting of prepared texts of various kinds of decrees covering all aspects of life for the first months, were systematically prepared with considerable effort by the judge advocate general headed by Col Me'ir Shamgar (later to become the Attorney General and now a Supreme Court judge). Indeed, the great success of the military government in the territories was in its ability to take control in a short time of the administrative centers at all levels and to permit a normal way of life with a minimum of incidents and problems.

In the government's first years in the territories and policy was comparable to the classic Roman system of "divide and rule," which indeed justified itself in daily life and for a limited time. However, it had neither the long-range view nor a basis for transition to another policy that would lead the population to an understanding and cooperation with Israel.

The main mistake of the first years was that these years, which were the best and most fruitful ones for achieving the objective of developing a moderate and independent local leadership from among the populations of the territories without a decisive influence from outside such as the PLO and other extremist organizations, were wasted in ineffective games on the part of the government.

The government refused to consult with the old moderate leadership, the strong and rich one that actually controlled local public opinion, and neither initiated nor contributed constructive ideas in these matters. As a result, they pulled the local leaders in various directions, their power began to wane and they lost their prestige and strength among their people, who found that the government did not support them.

The second mistake was that the government decided on its own about the need for democratic and free elections in Judea and Samaria, which were held in 1972. For this purpose, special decrees were even issued and the Jordanian law as amended to adapt it to the requirements of a mechanism for democratic elections.

The elections in 1972 and especially in 1976 caused a political upheaval in Judea and Samaria when they permitted extremist forces, influenced and directed by the PLO, to take control of most of the municipalities and the local councils. The PLO understood (although a little late because in the beginning they had opposed the elections) that the elections had considerable potential strength for them, and their control of the municipalities and villages would give them the political infrastructure, a possibility of controlling the elected leaders from without and the ability to show the world the territories as controlled by the PLO.

The proof of this is that in the Gaza Strip, no elections have been held since 1967, and the old leadership continues to govern and influence the municipalities, villages and refugee camps. Indeed, the moods and events in the Gaza Strip are different than those in Judea and Samaria.

Of course, the events in the territories and the unrest there have a great influence on the moods in the Gaza Strip, and the leader of the strip, Gaza Mayor Rashad Al-Shawa, is trying to coordinate positions with the leaders in Shekhem and Ramallah. However, there is no doubt that the fact that there were no elections in the Gaza Strip and the PLO people did not take over the positions of power has a local effect, and perhaps also a long-range one, in the relationship between the government and the Gaza Strip.

In 1980 there was supposed to have been, in accordance with the law, additional elections in Judea and Samaria, but the government at that time issued a decree postponing the elections indefinitely. It was only in 1980 that they understood that the elections were a mistake and they did not bring the hoped-for result but on the contrary raised a "golem" which they must now combat and clip its wings.

The fact that in Judea and Samaria leaders from the villages such as Mustafa Dudin have emerged is an encouraging phenomenon, which indicates on the one hand that the PLO does not control all the sectors and the entire population and on the other hand that we must continue to encourage the independent leaders and personalities.

The continuation of this policy--the implementation of which is complex and difficult because of the abandonment of this aspect for many years--requires patience, forbearance and political wisdom.

There are no quick successes in issues of this kind, and it requires the building of a new infrastructure through a new approach to the problem. We must not be alarmed over the fact that mayors must be dismissed or that they resign and that the municipalities must be administered by government officers.

While this is undesirable and also unhealthy, it has always been the situation. When Gaza Mayor Rashad Al-Shawa resigned in his time, the municipality was administered for more than a year by an Israeli staff officer with great success. Al-Shawa eventually reconsidered his resignation

and accepted control of a better municipality. There is also the possibility of appointing new mayors and village heads from whom a new leadership, and specifically not a hostile one, can emerge.

However, above everything else, we must know what we want and where we are heading in our policy in the territories. Mistakes, of course, are possible, but I believe it is preferable to err in implementing a clear and directed policy than to err in the nonimplementation of a policy and to be satisfied with a patchwork of actions dictated by the moment.

There must be a reduction in the operating area of extremist leaders who are hostile to Israel, including deportation as required and the encouragement of those who do not function as "PLO puppets," and it is not necessary that they be sworn lovers of Israel or full collaborators with Israel. It is enough that they be independent in their opinions and desire the good of the local population and represent it.

Such a policy has a chance of success, and this against the background of the unsuccessful experience of the past.

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ISRAEL

EVIDENCE OFFERED IN SUPPORT OF PLACING BORDER SOUTH OF TABA

Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 1 Jun 82 p 2

[Article: "Prof Braver: 'The Egyptian Border Must Pass South of Taba'"]

[Text] "The border in the Taba region passes through the middle of the wadi south of the village of Rafi Nelson and the Sunset Hotel and perhaps even farther south," says Prof Moshe Braver of the Geography Department of Tel Aviv University.

Prof Braver spoke yesterday at a meeting of the Eilat City Council to which he was invited by the mayor, Gadi Katz.

Prof Braver sharply criticized the conduct of the Israeli representatives in the Camp David talks; according to him, the Israelis signed erroneous maps without checking them beforehand. These erroneous maps were submitted by the Americans.

In his talk on the subject "The Taba Border--Status and Background," Braver based his argument on one advanced by the governor of Sinai from 1904 to 1912, the British Col James Brenley, who was also the British representative at the demarcation of the border between Egypt and the Turkish Empire in 1906.

Prof Braver met with the British colonel in 1956 when the latter was already 80. Colonel Brenley made available to him documents of great significance. According to Prof Braver, it was stated in a document that was signed in 1906 by Britain (actually Egypt) and Turkey, that the Sinai Peninsula continues to be a part of the Turkish Empire, but the latter was turning over the peninsula for contractual administration by the Egyptians or to the British. According to Braver, this was a political solution that was accepted at the time, and it was also employed in Cyprus where the Turks transferred part of their empire to the contractual administration of the British.

In regard to the location of the border at Taba, Prof Braver emphasized that the demarcation of the border today is inconsistent in many segments with the original alignment determined in 1906. According to him, the Egyptians refer today to auxiliary demarcations that were helpful in 1906 in the demarcation of the border. Prof Braver emphasizes that these markings are not border markings, and this is the source of the Egyptians' mistakes.

In a report that Colonel Brenley prepared at the time, says Braver, it was stated explicitly that during the demarcation of the border, mistakes were made, both purposely (by the British) and accidentally. Because of the difficulties of travelling in the area, the intense heat and the shortage of water, it was decided with the approval of the Turks and the British not to correct the errors and to leave the erroneous border.

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CSO: 4423/176

ISRAEL

FUTURE NEED FOR ENGINEERS IN INDUSTRY SEEN

Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 1 Jun 82 p 5

[Article by Amos Ben-Vered: "Twenty-Five Thousand Engineers Required for Industry in Next Decade"]

[Text] Dr Avraham Suhami, one of the leading experts in advanced industry and one of the directors of Elscint, foresees a severe crisis and freeze in Israeli industry if there is not a sharp increase in the number of engineers and scientists that it can absorb in the next decade.

Dr Suhami spoke at the first meeting of the Supreme Advisory Commission for the Advancement of the Natural Sciences and Technology in the Educational System established by Minister Zevulun Hammer.

Dr Suhami also stated that it is the advanced industries that will save the Israeli economy in the next decade, during which about 25,000 engineers will be required for industry.

Minister Hammer said in opening the meeting that he has concluded that studies of the natural sciences and technology in the schools must be reexamined. He said that his ministry expects a breakthrough in this area thanks to the commission that is composed of the foremost experts in this area in Israel.

Examining High School Education

Prof Mikha'el Albeq (Bar Ilan University) maintained that the system of instruction in the high schools must be reexamined and that there is too broad a choice for students in the "study units" system and that specializations must be restored. Brig Gen Aharon Bet-Halahmi, the IDF representative on the commission, expressed a similar view.

Prof Alexandra Poliakov (Director of the Center for Science Teaching) stated that the burning issue of the shortage of manpower in industry can be solved by the proper orientation of military personnel, veterans of the IDF. Prof Poliakov said that industry representatives must come to employment service offices, meet there with persons released from the IDF who come to

receive unemployment compensation and interest them in studies and work in industry.

Prof Shmuel She'altiel (Weizmann Institute) said that if the Ministry of Education does not have the funds to give priority to all of the occupations, they should be given grants selectively, and in light of the grave forecasts of members of the commission, priority in the immediate future should be given to the natural sciences and technology. He proposed that special incentives be given to schools that move in this direction.

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ISRAEL

BRITISH COMPANY INTERESTED IN MARKETING ARAVA AIRCRAFT

Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 24 May 82 p 2

[Article by Yossi Melman: "British Company Interested in Marketing Arava in Africa"]

[Text] The aircraft industry is conducting negotiations with the international company Lonro for the sale of Arava aircraft. It is known that a delegation of the company is to come to Israel this week to consummate the deal.

Lonro, which has commercial ties in Africa, is interested in marketing the Arava aircraft on that continent, including South Africa. Although additional details are not available, it appears that the transaction involves 10 aircraft at a cost of \$30-40 million.

The Lonro company also has Arab investors, including members of the royal family of Kuwait, who are opposed to the company's ties with Israel and are threatening to take legal action if the deals with Israel are carried out.

However, the chairman of the board of Lonro and the principal stockholder, Rolan Roland, is determined to continue negotiations with Israel. Mr Roland, who visited Israel a month ago and who also established a connection with the aircraft industry, said: "I am not afraid of threats of an Arab boycott. It no longer exists after the peace agreement between Israel and Egypt. Our relations with Israel are progressing well."

Mr Roland, who is leaving this week for a visit to Kenya and the Ivory Coast, where his company has extensive business dealings, also said that he is convinced that the Ivory Coast will follow in the footsteps of Zaire and will resume diplomatic relations with Israel. He intends to meet with the president of the Ivory Coast, and it is possible that the subject will be brought up in these talks.

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CSO: 4423/171A

ISRAEL

BRIEFS

SALE TO UAE--The Lihakum Company, located in Science City, in Rehovot, recently exported by means of a third party computerized graphic display systems costing over \$50,000 to the United Arab Emirates [UAE] in the Persian Gulf. The export transaction included equipment manufactured by Lihakum for control systems in the local oil fields. These systems, which are placed in the drilling towers, are used for fire control as well as for controlling the oil output itself. Lihakum is controlled by the Danot Group. The president of Lihakum, Mr Tzvi Speiser, stated that the export deal with the UAE was arranged through what was described as a third party. No additional details were given. [By Avram Tzahar] [Text] [Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 31 May 82 p 2] 5830

NEW HARVESTER--The first combine of its kind for the jojoba harvest has been developed at the Institute of Agricultural Engineering in Bet Dagan and has been operated in test sections in the Negev. The advantage of the jojoba plant is its ability to grow in dry and desert regions, with which our country is abundantly "blessed," and its durability in arid conditions. The jojoba plants grow primarily in the kibbutzim of Ha'arava and the northern Negev. However, it is hoped that the areas of its growth will be expanded to include the Upper Galilee and the central part of the country. Throughout the world, over 100,000 dunams of the jojoba plant are already cultivated. In Israel there are about 550 dunams, and there is a plan at this stage to expand that to 2,000 dunams. Farmers, engineers and companies in the United States have expressed great interest in the combine developed in Israel. [By Y. Galili] [Text] [Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 27 May 82 p 13] 5830

CSO: 4423/171A

CONTRACT AWARDED FOR RESERVOIR CONSTRUCTION

Muscat OMAN DAILY OBSERVER in English 13 Jun 82 p 5

[Text]

A contract has been awarded for the construction of Oman's largest reservoir – with a 12 million gallon capacity – at Ghubra. It will cost R.O.1.7 million.

The contract awarded to Taylor Woodrow Towel – is one of several projects launched by the Ministry of Electricity and Water to boost water supply in the Capital Area.

Mr. Abdulla Dawood, Director General of Planning and Projects Ministry said that the huge reservoir which will be used to blend desalinated water with water from wells had been designed to make optimum use of desalinated water and reduce the use of water from wells.

He said the Ministry was concerned about marked increase in the consumption of well water which it thought should be conserved for times of emergency. Pointing to a graph which showed an upward trend in the consumption of well water over the past few years, Mr. Dawood said of a total of 2976.16 million gallons water used during 1981,

1482.75 million gallons came from the wells which was almost equal to the amount of desalinated water consumed during the same period.

There has been a remarkable increase in the consumption of well water in the past 10 years. It rose from 14 million gallons in 1970 to 442.25 million gallons in 1979. Then it went up to 1482.75 million gallons last year.

The Director General said that blending of well water with desalinated water was aimed at giving a uniform taste to residents of all areas. The reservoir would eliminate the types and would satisfy people who do not like the taste of desalinated water. (

Meanwhile the second desalination plant which is being installed at Ghubra will start operation from October this year producing six million gallons of water network per day. It will raise the capacity of the Ghubra water network to 12 million gallons per day.

The added supply will be used to meet the increased demand in the [as printed]

The Ministry of Electricity and Water has also tendered a project to build a water desalination plant at Masirah to supply drinking water to the inhabitants of the island. It will have a capacity of 120,000 gallons of water per day.

The Ministry has also awarded a contract to build a water supply network for Nizwa town. The project which will ensure direct water supply to the people there will be completed in 15 months. The contract has been awarded to Travo.

CSO: 4400/358

PORT EXPANSION PROJECT OUTLINED

Muscat TIMES OF OMAN in English 27 May 82 p 3

[Text]

OMAN'S major port — Mina Qaboos — is poised to take a major step forward. Indications are that it will be able to handle bulk carriers by the end of the decade. Experts from Maunsell Consultants are already working on the proposed expansion scheme, which will create construction jobs worth OR60 million.

The plan is to build an additional basin beyond the existing breakwaters, along with more storage space created by blasting an area through the nearby mountains.

The expansion scheme is based on the projection that by the end of 1992, Mina Qaboos will handle 120,000 TEUs and that most of the general cargo and food stuffs will be containerised. Currently, the type of vessels calling at Mina Qaboos go up to a maximum of 30,000 tonnes (Dead Weight Tonnage) with maximum length 250 metres and draft 11 metres. But the situation is expected to change in line with the pace of economic activity. It is envisaged that bulk carriers of upto 80,000 DWT with length up to 270m and draft up to 15m will be calling at the port in the next ten years.

For centuries, Muscat has been an important port. Muscat literally means "a place of falling or anchorage" and ships trading between East and West used to stop here to replenish essential commodities or to load dates and lime. Today, the old port has been transformed into a modern and ideal port by the measures initiated by His Majesty Sultan Qaboos. Sultan Qaboos, realising the importance of the port to the nation, drew up a modernisation plan. Accordingly, the port took shape in 1974 with a capacity to handle 2 million tonnes of cargo every year.

Mina Qaboos is managed by the Port Services Corporation Ltd., whose capital is made up from Government and private sector funds, thus ensuring a commercially-oriented undertaking. The Board of Directors is headed by the Minister for Communications, Sayyid Salem bin Nasser al Busaidi, and day-to-day affairs are looked after by the General Manager, Awad Salim al Shanfari.

The port has nine deep-water berths, three coaster berths and one berth for launches. They vary in length from 76 metres to 228 metres and are sheltered by a breakwater on one side and cliffs on the other. Nine berths can take vessels of up to 10.4 m draft and the remaining three are reserved for shallow draft vessels drawing 4 m of water. A new container terminal was created at a cost of OR5.5 million and it is operating with two 35-tonnes gantry cranes,

five 35-tonnes forklifts and a Mafi type roll trailer system backed up by mobile crane of up to 150 tonnes capacity. The port is also equipped with the RO-RO handling equipment.

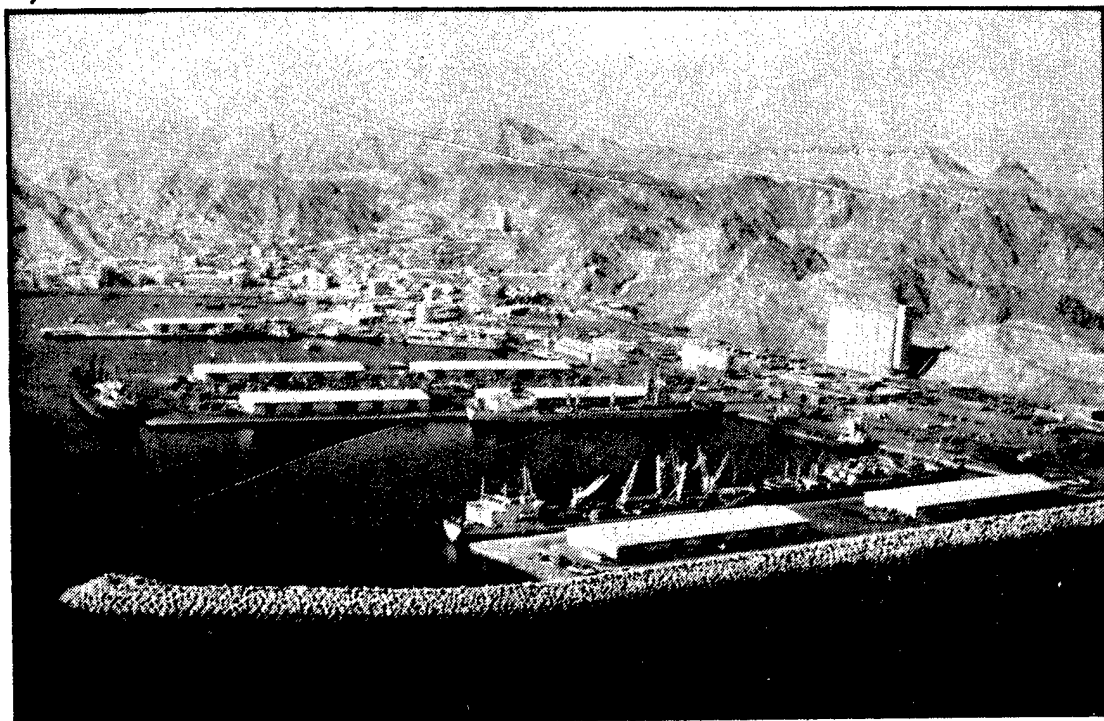
Supporting the berths are nine modern transit sheds. A container yard has also been developed which handles 1600 TEUs loaded containers and 600 TEUs empty containers. Similarly, the port has a wide selection of handling equipment from Europe, the US and Japan. Out of 60 forklift trucks, 15 are British and rest are American. Out of 15 cranes, 10 are British, two each are from America and Japan and one from Holland. The four British container spreaders have been supplemented by four new US-made ones. The fleet of tugs includes a mooring boat and four tugs of capacities varying between HP

1400 to HP 2400. They guide the ship to anchor at the berth.

The port provides round-the-clock operations and was the first port in the Gulf to be made clear of congestion. It also offers transshipment service by sea or road to the Interior and to all Gulf States. Other facilities offered by the port to ships are the supply of diesel oil, fresh water and fresh provisions.

Over a period of five years, the number of vessels calling per annum at the port has increased from 934 to 1,116, an increase of 19 per cent. Tonnage handled at the port during the same period also increased from 779,000 DWT to 1,113,000 DWT, recording an increase of 42 per cent.

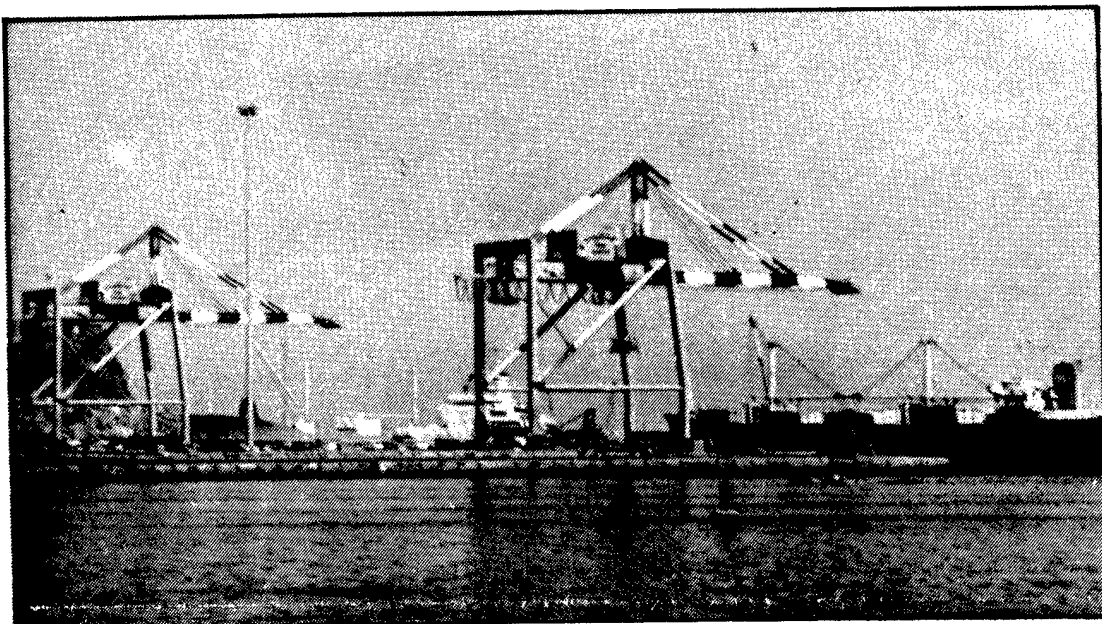
Five years ago, the port received 1,526 TEUs containers, but following the containerisation



Aerial View of Mina Qaboos



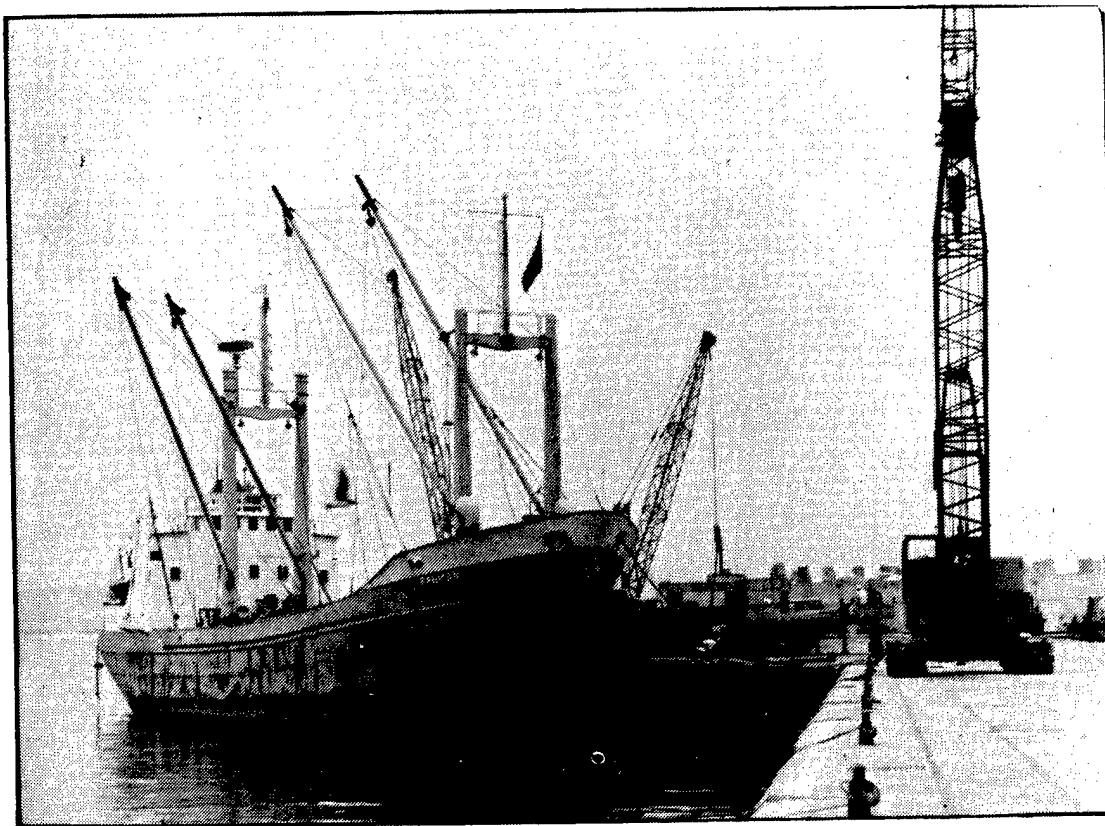
Forklift Truck Used to Move Container From One Terminal to Another



Two Gantry Cranes Installed to Handle Container



Traditional Dhows Waiting for a Berth



A Tug and Cranes Used at the Port

of the port in 1981, the number of containers unloaded increased to 14,925 in 1981, and the expectation is that a new record will be set this year as most of the ships coming are cellular without handling gear. The port is also used by dhows which sail between Oman, India and the African coast.

With the berthing of the cement silo ship "Muscat Cement" a new chapter was opened in the cement handling facility at the port. Under an agreement signed between the Port Services Corporation and the cement manufacturer Hispa Cement Company of Spain, the ship will remain berthed for three years delivering bagged and bulk cement continuously to clients. The ship has a capacity of 30,000 tonnes and is supplying portland as

well as sulphate-resisting cement to the local contractors. A feeder vessel has been arranged by the company and will visit the port every fortnight. Meanwhile, work for expansion of the grain silo from 30,000 tonnes to 60,000 tonnes capacity is nearing completion.

During the past eight years, Mina Qaboos has developed into a modern port and has provided facilities to a large number of vessels. It has generated considerable revenue and its profit increased by 58 per cent to OR2.66 million in 1981 compared to the previous year. Boosted by this result, the Board of Directors announced a 30 per cent dividend to shareholders for 1981 and has transferred OR1.5 million to the Port De-

velopment Reserve to meet future development programmes. Expansion of berth No. 1 is already under way and the hydrographic survey is to begin soon.

The total labour strength of the port is 1200 and 72 per cent of the staff are Omanis. The management expects a steady annual labour force growth of 5 per cent. Employees are continuously trained to cope with the growing volume and sophistication of work. Recently, two employees were sent to Singapore to attend a course conducted by the Port Authority of Singapore.

The port is equally concerned with staff welfare as exemplified by a master plan under preparation for residential complexes at Wadi Kabir and Darseit.

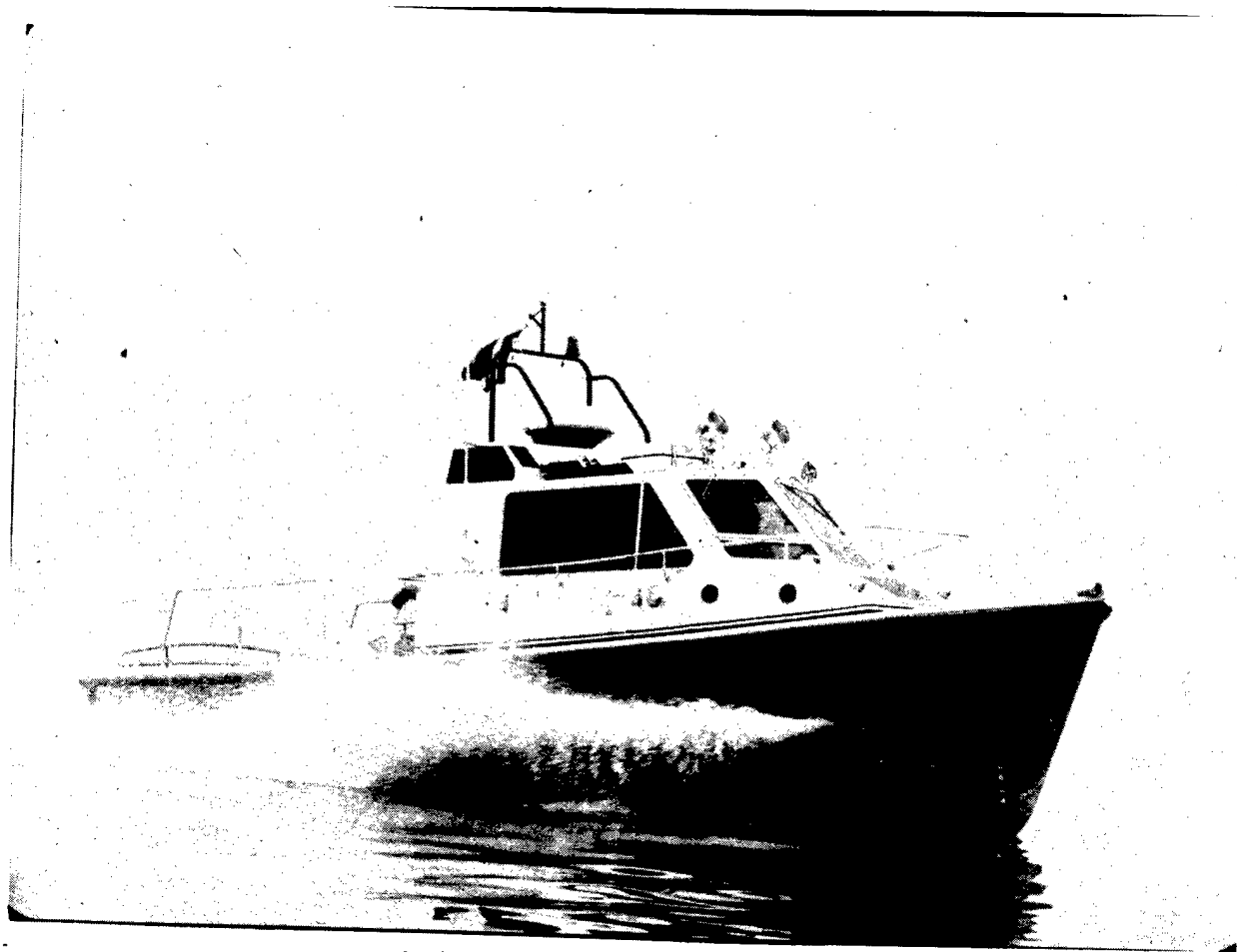
NEW PATROL CRAFT FOR ROYAL POLICE

Muscat TIMES OF OMAN in English 10 Jun 82 p 7

[Text]

The Royal Oman Police will soon be getting this new general duty patrol craft pictured during sea trials off the South coast of Britain.

Built by Walercraft Ltd, of Sussex, the 12.17 metre vessel has a glass reinforced plastics (GRP) hull of 4 metres beam and 1.04 metres draft, a GRP deck moulding with marine grade aluminium alloy superstructure. The accommodation for four crew consists of a galley, a toilet and a large wheelhouse with seating for seven police officers.



CSO: 4400/358

ACHIEVING FOOD SECURITY RECEIVES SPECIAL ATTENTION

Jiddah ARAB NEWS in English 7 Jun 82 p 3

[Text] BAHRAIN, June 6 (R) — Saudi Arabia is spending billions of dollars on developing agriculture and water resources to achieve food security.

The kingdom, nearly the size of Western Europe, has plenty of oil to last well into the next century, but lacks surface water sources like rivers and lakes. Rainfall is scanty in the hot, arid country, which is also short on skilled labor.

However, it has abundant wealth to acquire high technology and manpower to fulfill its goal. The Third Five-Year Development Plan, ending in 1985, has projected an expenditure of SR72 billion (about \$21 billion) on boosting water resources and agriculture.

The aim is to realize food security. Saudi Agriculture Minister Abdul Rahman Al-Sheikh told a conference of Western oil and agro-business executives last month. "We already hear voices opting for a barrel of oil for a bushel of wheat. Though not seriously taken, such voices trigger on our side issues of national security when it comes to food supply," he told the meeting organized by the Washington-based Agri-Energy Roundtable.

Saudi Arabia, with an estimated population of seven million, imports about 90 percent of its food, including fruit, vegetables, fish, dairy products, grains and livestock. In 1980-81, tea, sugar, milk, flour and edible oil imports alone cost SR3.7 billion (about \$1.1 billion), with meat, cow and camel imports costing another half a billion dollars, the Finance and National Economy Ministry said. It said sugar and meat imports rose by 69 and 43 percent, respectively. But flour, edible oil and milk imports fell by 63, 52 and 14 percent, because their local output had increased. Private sector food imports in 1980-81 cost SR9.3 billion (about \$2.7 billion), one-third more than in the previous year, a Saudi Arabian Monetary Agency

report said. But it gave no figures for government purchases.

"Water, not oil, is our most valuable resource," Al-Sheikh said, stressing government investments over more than a decade. To conserve and ensure water supply, the government built dams, drilled wells and introduced water-saving methods. It also set up a chain of water desalination plants which use water from the Gulf and the Red Sea.

But the most important conservancy step was taken three years ago when the government introduced recycled water. The first sewage water treatment plant is nearing completion in the capital city, Riyadh. Its daily putout of 20,000 cubic meters (43 million gallons) of water will be used to irrigate farms in the area, officials said.

Six other Saudi cities, including the holy cities of Makkah and Madinah, will have recycled water by the end of the century the Planning Ministry says. By the year 2000, 15 percent of the Kingdom's annual water supply, or 986 million cubic meters (about 216 billion gallons), will be recycled water and 25 percent desalinated water from more than 20 plants.

So far, 42 dams for controlling seasonal flash floods and storing rainwater have been built. Five more are under construction. The largest dam, in south-west Najran Region, was inaugurated last month. Costing \$81 million, it will irrigate 10,000 hectares (24,700 acres).

There are six big aquifers with ample water to irrigate 250,000 hectares (617,500 acres) for a century. But their future exploitation hinges on economic and technological factors, officials say.

Rural migration is one cause of the country's reliance on foreign labor to execute its agricultural plans. In the past five years, 96,000 farmers went to the cities, the government said. But centers have been set up to

train Saudis.

To make farming lucrative, the government helps small farmers with free land, loans, subsidies and equipment. Similar incentives are available to those undertaking large-scale, integrated dairy, farming and livestock projects. The third development plan provides for disbursement of SR7.5 billion (about \$2.2 billion) in agricultural loans and subsidies.

With about one-seventh of the 4.5 million hectares (8.4 million acres) of cultivable land now in use, the government has reported higher yields in wheat, sorghum, barley, millet, vegetables, melons, dates and grapes. Eggs and chicken production also has increased, cutting demand on imports.

CSO: 4400/352

JAPAN TO GET PETROCHEMICALS

London ARABIA in English No 10, Jun 82 pp 50-51

[Text]

Marketing arrangements for the petrochemicals produced at the Saudi Petrochemical Company complex in Jubail are slowly taking shape. The project is a joint venture between Pecten Arabia and Saudi Basic Industries Corporation (Sabic). Shell Oil (US) which owns Pecten is to have responsibility for the initial marketing of projects from the operation.

The complex, due on stream by early 1985, will have an eventual annual production capacity of 656,000 tonnes of ethylene, 454,000 tonnes of ethylene dichloride, 281,000 tonnes of ethanol, 295,000 tonnes of styrene and 397,000 tonnes of caustic soda. Market targets in order of ease of penetration will be Japan, the US and Western Europe.

According to Jan Oostermeyer, chairman of Pecten, 25 to 30 per cent of the chemicals produced will be sold in Japan within the established industrial marketing structure. Japan is seen as an obvious market for cheaply produced Middle East petrochemicals. Under pressure from both high feedstock costs as well as ageing production facilities, which are both difficult and uneconomic to replace, the increase in the consumption of cheap imported material is inevitable.

Pecten envisages selling 125,000 to 150,000 tonnes a year of styrene in Asia, mainly to Japan. Japanese importers can also offer the advantage of an extensive trading network in South East Asia, so it can be expected that some product from Saudi Arabia will end up in these market areas. Caustic soda from the project, for example, is aimed pri-

marily at the Asian market.

The US, meanwhile, will absorb half of the project's initial output, which will amount to about 700,000 tonnes a year. Shell does not foresee any closing of petrochemical plants in the US as a direct result of the Saudi project. Instead the complex's production is seen as complementing Shell's position in the US chemical industry. Shell's own plants there will provide a market for Saudi ethylene dichloride.

Western Europe, as the most integrated of the three major markets, will be the most difficult for Pecten to enter. Unlike the Japanese, European producers are unwilling to abandon domestic investment in favour of North African and Gulf projects. Furthermore, they are protected by tariffs and quotas that the EEC would be reluctant to remove if the imports - Pecten aims to sell 15 per cent of its production in Europe - were considered a threat. Oostermeyer confidently expects that the EEC will not erect trade barriers. He argues that if the EEC responds by raising tariffs, it will make West European industry uncompetitive.

Nevertheless, the EEC alcohol tariff of about \$200 per tonne, designed to protect agricultural alcohol producers, would prevent Saudi ethanol from entering the European market. Recently, US styrene imports were subject to duties following allegations by European producers of dumping. Consequently, West Europe, which has viewed Saudi Arabian petrochemical projects with considerable concern, may not be slow to react against imports of cheap petrochemicals.

WOMEN'S BANKS GETTING LARGER SHARE IN BANKING SECTOR

London ARABIA in English No 10, Jan 82 pp 58-59

[Text]

 Two years after the introduction of women's banks to Saudi Arabia, they are handling up to 40 per cent of the kingdom's billions of dollars of private wealth. Ever since the Saudi Arabian Monetary Agency (SAMA - the central bank authority) ruled that banks could have separate offices for women only, five branches have opened in the capital Riyadh, and two in the business and diplomatic centre of Jeddah. Before the move, many women used to ask a relative to do their banking for them, but as soon as the women's banks opened many took the opportunity to transfer their accounts.

A new confidence among Saudi women found expression at a recent conference on the role of women's banks. Organised in Jeddah by the Cultural and Religious Affairs Committee of the King Faisal Women's Charitable Association, the conference was attended by a number of directors of major banks involved in the scheme. According to Rima Istanbuli, managing director of the women's section of the Saudi-British Bank in Jeddah, there had been teething problems in attracting female depositors at first, due mainly to the novelty of the scheme.

Muneira Abdullatif, director of the women's branch of the National Commercial Bank of Saudi Arabia, noted that women's banks are "based on the right which Islam gives to women to manage and dispose of their wealth as they see fit once they reach the legal age." This new scheme, she added, would enable women to "exercise their Islamic rights." Madawi al Hassun, director of the women's branch of Al Rajhi Company for Trade and Commerce, hoped that the new facilities would permit women to manage their affairs independently, as well as encourage the financing of new projects and raise women's level of knowledge in consumer affairs and finance.

Others hoped that women's banks would provide a spur to economic activity and growth, as women control a significant portion of private wealth in the country. Banking sources say that women now own just over 50 per cent of the property and buildings in Jeddah and 30 per cent of those in Riyadh, and not all these investments are owned by female members of the royal family.

In addition to providing outlets for their customers, however, the women's banks offer additional employment opportunities to Saudi women who have hitherto channelled their skills mainly into nursing and education. By the end of the third five-year development plan in 1985, for example, the total number of students enrolled at King Abdulaziz University is expected to reach 21,000 including 6,000 women. Of the latter, 800 are expected to pursue courses in economics and administration. At Riyadh University there should be 2,000 women students by 1985, out of a total of 17,000, and of these about 900 are likely to be receiving education in administrative sciences as opposed to 500 in medicine and allied medical science and 600 in the arts.

While many of their employees were initially expatriates, the women-only banks now make a point of employing Saudi women as part of their Saudiisation plan. At the Al Rajhi Bank, 12 of the 14 employees are Saudi nationals, while the National Commercial Bank has managed to reduce its expatriate staff from 10 to four out of a total of 16 women. The banks themselves often provide training schemes for Saudi applicants - the one at Al Rajhi's lasts for four months. Rima Istanbuli has suggested the establishment of a special banking institute to train Saudi women for careers in women's banking and to add courses on banking at existing universities. She is not happy with the fact that the female directors' authority is still confined to administration. In

fact she is calling with other female colleagues for the setting up of totally separate banks for women as distinct from separate branches of established banks.

Muslim laws of inheritance mean that women have access to sufficient funds to warrant setting up an independent bank - subject to SAMA approval. Although the sons of Muslim families inherit twice as much as their sisters, they are expected to use their share to support their mother, unmarried sisters and their own wives and family, whereas a woman's wealth is hers alone. A surviving mother automatically receives one sixth of a deceased son's assets, while a wife inherits an eighth of her husband's estate if there are children and a quarter if there are none. If the deceased has one daughter only she is entitled to half the estate. Two or more daughters receive two thirds.

Because the taking of usury (riba) is prohibited in Islam, some women deposit huge sums into current accounts, while others buy gold. Others, however, play the currency market, speculate in real estate and invest in industrial projects. Some women use their capital for small businesses.

Among the services provided to women are personal and commercial loans to set up businesses or import goods from abroad. There is, for example, a special service for Egyptian women working in the kingdom, who can now order and pay for goods through the Saudi-Cairo Bank. By paying in Saudi Arabia they are able to have cars and television sets delivered in Cairo, and even buy apartments in this way.

CSO: 4400/357

DEBATE ON DECENTRALIZATION HELD

Khartoum SUNA in English No 4170, 28 Jun 82 pp 9, 10

[Text] Khartoum, June 28, (SUNA)---The SSU Committee for Political Affairs and Programmes yesterday organised a debate on decentralization and transfer of power to the masses.

Debate Chairman 'Awn al-Sharif Qasim said the debate was meant to tackle national action issues and deepen the principle of dialogue.

First Secretary of the SSU Preparatory Central Committee Badr-al-din Sulayman said socialist thought links political democracy with social equity.

He said this means in Sudan the consolidation of the national unity structure within the framework of socialist-democratic thought with a rejection of partisanship and tribalism.

Director of Sudan Academy for Administrative Studies Abshar al-Tayyib explained the stages of decentralization in Sudan and said that application of decentralization was a great turning point because it had transferred legislative, executive and administrative powers to the regions.

He said decentralization had integrated authorities in the Sudanese regions and that every region had started to increase its resources for more progress and prosperity.

Mr. 'Ard-al-Sami' 'Umar of the Faculty of Law, University of Khartoum called for making tables of powers which were transferred to the regions.

National People's Assembly Controller Dr. Muhammad al-Asaiy said President Numayri had relinquished many of his powers to the regional governors.

He said that to apply decentralization local sources of revenue should be created by the regions depending on themselves.

Debate Rapporteur Haydar Kabsun thoroughly reviewed the report prepared by the Higher Committee for Assessing Regional Government Experiment.

Korobfan Region Governor Al-Fatih Muhammad Bushara and a big number of citizens took part in the discussions.

The debate was attended by senior SSU officials alongwith a wide gathering of citizens.

CSO: 4500/233

BRIEFS

PRESIDENTIAL DECREE ON SSU CONGRESSES--Khartoum, June 28, (SUNA)--Sudanese Socialist Union (SSU) secretaries in the regions and in Khartoum Province are to announce the convening of SSU congresses at their areas during the period August 1st-November 30, according to a Presidential decree issued here Sunday. The decree stressed the absolute adherence to the basic rules and regulations. Supervision Committees should observe the quorum at the beginning of the congresses. The decree stated that the agenda of the congresses, at all levels, should include evaluation of the regional government experiment, programme of the third mandate, developing SSU performance, election of new committees and representatives of the organisational level to the upper level, election of SSU President and other tasks. Every organisational level should submit a written report on the work of its congress to the upper level, the decree said. It added that reports of the regions congresses and Khartoum Province should be raised to the Central Preparatory Committee before Dec. 10. The SSU Central Preparatory Committee is to follow up implementation of the decree in all the regions and Khartoum Province. The decree said that SSU Secretaries, when implementing the decree, should observe removal of all organisational excesses between administrative divisions and the structure of the political organisation. It fixed the convening of the central committee immediately after the winding-up of the fourth National Congress. The Assistant First Secretary and Chairman of Organisation and Mobilization committee is responsible for working out the necessary organisational rules for implementing the decree, the Presidential decree said. [Text] [Khartoum SUNA in English No 4170, 28 Jun 82 pp 1, 2]

COTTON PRODUCTION--Khartoum, June 28 (SUNA)--The revenue of farmers at Al-Rahad Agricultural scheme from the cotton crop in 1981/82 has reached 12 million pounds compared to the 1.8 million pounds in the previous season, SUNA learnt. Payment of farmers dues is planned to begin Tuesday according to the individual account system, said an authoritative source at Al-Rahad Agricultural Corporation. The source said the "great achievement" came in the context of the new production relations and the implementation of the individual account system. It is worth noting that the cultivated area was decided to be increased this year from 125,000 feddans, medium staple, to 135,000 feddans. The source said the expansion followed the success realized in the agricultural policies including the marketing policies which restored the place of the Sudanese cotton in the international market. He concluded by saying that the farmers contribution to the funds of the People's Local Government and the social services has amounted to one million pounds. [Text] [Khartoum SUNA in English No 4170, 28 Jun 82 pp 3, 4]

LAGU APPOINTED VICE-PRESIDENT--Khartoum, June 28, (SUNA)--President Numayri yesterday relieved Abel Alier from his office as Vice-President, and decreed the appointment of Joseph Lagu in his place. Lagu, 51, has been elected President of the Southern Region High Executive Council in 1978. He is now a member of the SSU Preparatory Central Committee. Vice-President Lagu received his secondary education in Rumbek and was graduated 2nd Lieutenant from the Military College in May 1960. Lagu took part in the negotiations that led to the signing of the peace treaty between the North and the South on Feb. 27, 1972. In 1977 he was appointed Major General in the People's Armed Forces and on Feb. 27, 1978 he was unanimously elected President of the High Executive Council of the Southern Region (H.E.C.). In March 1978 he was appointed member of the National Council of the Jonglei Canal Development Projects. On July 29, 1978 Lagu was appointed First SSU Secretary General Assistant. On August 19, 1979 he became Secretary of the Southern Region SSU Secretariat. He then became Secretary of the SSU Popular Organisations Dept. Lagu was then appointed member of the SSU Preparatory Central Committee and Assistant of the Organisation and Mobilization Sub-Committee of the SSU Preparatory Central Committee. [Text] [Khartoum SUNA in English No 4170, 28 Jun 82 pp 4, 5]

AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT BUDGET--The budget allotted for agricultural development for the fiscal 1982/83 has reached L.S. 128.6 m. The amount is higher than the last year's budget by L.S. 33.4 m. [Text] [Khartoum SUNA in English No 4170, 28 Jun 82 p 7]

INDUSTRIAL PROJECTS BUDGET--A sum of LS. 18,900,000 has been approved in the 1982/83 budget proposals for the consolidation of industrial projects. The said sum would be utilized in consolidating sugar schemes, the establishment of a new production line at Khartoum Central Foundry, a line for lime production and expansion of Kassala Onion Farm. Priority was given to industrial projects whose revenues would be flowing in fiscal 1982/83. Haj-'Abdallah spinning factory was allotted 6 1/2 million pounds to help complete the factory's second phase for the production of fine yarn. An LS. 500,000 was also allotted to begin experimental operation of Port Sudan spinning project. [Text] [Khartoum SUNA in English No 4171, 29 Jun 82 p 6]

BUDGET FOR SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH--Khartoum, June 29, (SUNA)--The national budget for scientific research will be examined in a series of sectoral meetings between July 17-21 under the motto "priority for scientific research" SUNA learnt. Chairman of the National Council for Research Prof. Ahmad al-Rahman al-'Ajib said this was the first time in Sudan's history to specify a national budget set exclusively for scientific research. The budget is in the context of the economic development programmes which had been summed up by the President in his address before the joint meeting of the Cabinet and the National Council for Research. [Text] [Khartoum SUNA in English No 4171, 29 Jun 82 p 3]

REGIONAL GOVERNMENT--Khartoum, June 29, (SUNA)--The High Committee set up to study relations between central institutions and the regions with regard to manpower yesterday held its third meeting under the chairmanship of Finance and Economic Planning Minister Ibrahim Mun'im Mansur. The Establishment Under-Secretary, reported to the Committee on the achievements of the technical sub-committee which he chairs with regard relations, standards specification, training, formation of the Establishment units in the regions and means of persuading employees to go to the regions. He also presented an initial report on the regions experiment during the past 18 months in which he touched on job structures in the regions and the difficulties that emerged with respect to manpower. The committee discussed the two reports and recommended that the two technical sub-committees finish their duties during this week prior to presentation of their final reports to the high committee on July 5. [Text] [Khartoum SUNA in English No 4171, 29 Jun 82 pp 2, 3]

APPOINTMENT--Khartoum, June 25, (SUNA)--President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri yesterday decreed the appointment of Mr. Al-Sharif 'Abbud Al-Sharif as Director General of the Social Security Public Corporation. [Text] [Khartoum SUNA in English No 4167, 25 Jun 82 p 1]

COMMITTEE NOMINATIONS--President Numayri yesterday decreed the formation of the Sudanese side in the joint technical committee for the integration zone between Sudan and Egypt. The Sudanese side, headed by the Minister of the Cabinet Presidency includes the Northern Region Deputy Governor, the Northern Province Commissioner, the Secretary-General for Egypt's Affairs in Sudan and others. [Text] [Khartoum SUNA in English No 4167, 25 Jun 82 p 6]

SSU REGIONAL SECRETARIES APPOINTED--Khartoum, June 27, (SUNA)--President Numayri Saturday decreed the appointment of the following as SSU secretaries at the region: Dr 'Abdallah Ahmad 'Abdallah Northern Region 'Abd-al-Rahim Mahmud Al-Fatih Muhammad Central Region. El Fatih Mohmed Bashir Bushara-Korobfan region, Hamid 'Ali Shash-Eastern Region, Ahmad Ibrahim Durays-Darfour region. [Text] [Khartoum SUNA in English No 4169, 27 Jun 82 p 4]

SSU CENTRAL PREPARATORY COMMITTEE MEETS--Khartoum, June 27, (SUNA)--SSU Central preparatory Committee yesterday agreed on convening congresses as from the 1st of coming August till the end of November. The Committee reviewed the organization's experiment in the Southern region. It further endorsed the SSU headquarter's budget which reached 1.825.000 pounds. The Committee called for paying attention to the economic activity to consolidate SSU self-resources. Badr-al-din Sulayman briefed the committee on the work of the special committee set up to investigate shortage in electricity and Water supplies. At the end of the four-hour meeting, the President presented a report on the situation in the Middle East with special emphasis on Lebanon. [Text] [Khartoum SUNA in English No 4169, 27 Jun 82 pp 5, 6]

AL-FASHIR--Darfur Region's Acting Governor Mohammad 'Abdallah Sharif and the region's People's Assembly Speaker Abul Gasim Saif eddin 'Abd-al-Rasim Sayr Saturday reviewed preparations for the new budget with the officials at the regional Ministry for Finance and Economy. [Text] [Khartoum SUNA in English No 4168, 27 Jun 82 p 8]

NEW APPOINTMENT -- Khartoum, June 30, (SUNA)-- The President of the Sudanese Socialist Union (SSU) Ja'far Muhammad Numayri yesterday decreed the appointment of James Joseph Tombura as SSU Secretary for the Southern Region. [Text] [Khartoum SUNA in English No 4172, 30 Jun 82 p 3]

AGRICULTURE--Khartoum, June 30, (SUNA)--First Vice-President 'Umar Muhammad al-Tayyib has suspended the distribution of agricultural schemes at Rebak area pending the completion of surveying works along the borders of the Upper Nile and White Nile Provinces. A meeting to this effect was held here yesterday at the Vice-President's office in the presence of a delegation from the Rabak farmers, the Agricultural Minister in the Cental Region and Commissioner of White Nile Province. The meeting agreed that traditional agriculture should continue as before and that the Regional Authorities should coordinate with the Mechanized Farming Corporation in order to protect the rights of the citizens. [Text] [Khartoum SUNA in English No 4172, 30 Jun 82 p 6]

CSO: 4500/232

STARCH FACTORY--Khartoum, June, (SUNA)--The Arab Authority for Agricultural Investment and Development AAAID has chosen the belgian firm D'Smith to implement the starch and glucose factory, established by AAAID at Al-Jidid, Al Thawra, south of Khartoum, SUNA learnt. The factory will have a production capacity of 25,000 tons of starch and glucose plus 20,000 tons of fodder per year. The 30 million-pound project is expected to be completed in 1985. On the other hand, the AAAID has conducted a study to modernize and increase the capacity of oil factories under the Public Corporation for Oil Production, SUNA learnt. An agreement was reached to establish a company to manage and implement the said factories. In its last meeting in Kuwait, the Council of share holders signed the AAAID would contribute 51% of the DLS 40 million company's capital. The rest of the capital is left for the Sudan Govt. The project, in its new form, aims at utilizing oil seeds to produce about 30,000 tons of oil plus other by products. The Authority also began a study to modernize the state farm at Agadei in the Blue Nile Province. [Text] [Khartoum SUNA in English No 4168, 26 Jun 82 p 1]

POLITICAL PROGRAMS--Khartoum. Mr. Faysal Muhammad 'Abd-al-Rahman head of SSU Headquarters and Premises Affaires said the next stage would witness the activation of political action in the provinces throughout the country. The move is in accordance with the President's directives to renew political life in the Sudan, he said. He added that the elected Regional Governors would lay down programmes and plans conducive to that goal. [Text] [Khartoum SUNA in English No 4168, 26 Jun 82 p 2]

ROAD PROJECT--About 70% of the Jabal Al-Awliya'-Al-Duwaym road project has been finalized, the whole project is expected to be finished next March, SUNA learnt. President Numayri opened last March the road's first phase of Qutaynah 50 km joining J. Aulia and Giteina. The whole road extends for 150 km. [Text] [Khartoum SUNA in English No 4168, 26 Jun 82 p 2]

CSO: 4500/231

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

BRIEFS

EXPORT TO JAPAN--Upon welcoming the Japanese minister of industry and trade in Abu Dhabi recently, UAE oil minister Dr Mani' Sa'id al-'Utaybah said that 40 percent of the UAE's exports go to Japan, and that these exports comprise 14 percent of all Japanese oil imports. [Text] [Paris AL-NAHAR AL-'ARABI WA AL-DUWALI in Arabic No 263, 17-23 May 82 p 39] 9123

CSO: 4404/516

PRIME MINISTER DISCUSSES INTERNAL POLITICAL PROCESS

London AL-DUSTUR in Arabic No 235, 24 May 82 pp 20-21

[Interview with Dr 'Abd al-Karim al-Iryani, prime minister of Yemen Arab Republic; conducted by 'Abd al-Qadir Tuhuf; date and place not specified: "Border Problems with South Yemen Are Not Dangerous"]

[Text] Dr 'Abd al-Karim al-Iryani, Prime Minister of Yemen, summed up Yemen's present concerns in these words: "Our first and last concern is the Yemeni individual." When he speaks about the result of the past five years, he says, "When we show our pride in what our country has achieved in the space of the last 5 years, we are speaking out of our direct experience and full knowledge of how our country lived before the revolution. At that time we lived in a society that was helpless, vanquished in its own house." This dialogue with Dr al-Iryani sheds light on an important aspect of Yemen's experience and its new orientations.

[Question] We hear about the democratic experiment in the Yemen Arab Republic. Could you tell us about this experiment and its components, and how democracy is practiced in this country?

[Answer] There is no doubt that democracy takes many forms and is practiced in any country in light of its political, economic and social conditions. These general conditions dictate the form democracy will take. Our democratic practice in the Yemen Arab Republic also comes in more than one form.

We have national cooperative associations for development, which is an expression of the people's participation in developmental, economic, and social works. We have the people's constituent assembly, which is a particular council at the present time, but it exercises all its parliamentary functions granted it in the constitution and is considered a preparation for conducting direct, free elections, which will be the first of their kind in the history of Yemen. Before conducting elections, there is another way to guarantee the protection and proper exercise of democracy, and that is the preparation of the national pact. This pact was prepared and then presented to the people for a referendum, and modified in light of the general observations of the people that came in the form of the referendum. Representatives of the people were elected to hold a general popular conference to ratify the pact. Proceedings are now under way to hold this conference. As

I said, after the pact is ratified, executive measures will begin to hold direct free elections, which will be the first of their kind in the history of Yemen. All these practices and experiments which we are undertaking issue basically from our economic and social reality. We believe that it will grow, develop, and be revised and clarified as our society grows and develops.

[Question] Could you tell us about the constitution and the existing constitutional institutions in the country?

[Answer] The country's constitution was drawn up in 1969 and announced in 1970. It is a perpetually valid constitution. Some constitutional amendments were applied to it with regard to the conditions which changed after the 13 June movement. These are temporary amendments or proclamations. The constitutional institutions begin with the Republican Council, then the Council of Ministers, and then the elected Advisory Council. Now things have changed; there is no longer a Republican Council, and we now have a Presidency of the Republic. Hence, the Advisory Council had to alter the constitution to conform with the new situation. The Advisory Council issues the laws, and the government is of course the executive agency. The President of the Republic prescribes policy and supervises its execution. The constitutional Supreme Court is the body to which the laws issuing from the government and the Advisory Council are presented to confirm their constitutionality. The fact is that the constitutional form is a rigid form and adopts the method of the elected assembly and does not stipulate that members of the government be members of it.

[Question] How was the constitution drawn up, and who was responsible for writing it?

[Answer] The constitution was drawn up by a particular national council at that time, and was ratified by the elected Advisory Council. But that election was not direct and free, rather it was an election at the level of associations.

[Question] What is the idea behind the national pact, and what are its specific goals? How was it drawn up, and who ratified it?

[Answer] The national pact is an ideational formulation of the sum of the political, economic and social orientations in our country, around which we believe all the various subsequent ideas and opinions can rally. It issues from the experience, and cultural, social and political reality of the people. The idea behind the pact is that it be a guide for national political activity in our country, and a way of avoiding ideational and ideological struggles which are inconsistent with the welfare of Yemen.

[Question] It is rumored outside the country that in the Yemen Arab Republic there is a dualism of power. What is your response to that?

[Answer] The answer is a denial, of course; that is, there is no dualism of power. The constitution has set forth the powers of each constitutional

institution mentioned, and the laws have stipulated the powers of all bureaus, institutions and ministries. There is no dualism of power at all.

[Question] Some foreign and Arab newspapers still speak from time to time of a war going on in some parts of the Yemen Arab Republic between the regular forces and the Democratic Front. What validity can be given these reports? If they are true, who is arming and financing this Front? If it is not true, then who is circulating these reports?

[Answer] In fact, the reports that are being circulated are exaggerated and take on extraordinary dimensions. I am surprised that they are taking on these dimensions that are repeated in the press. But we do not deny that there are some problems on the borders with South Yemen, but they are not of the severity and importance depicted by the foreign press and some Arab newspapers. We do not believe that this subject merits such a quantity of debate and discussion. We believe that it will be simple enough for us to control, and it does not merit detailed discussion because it is not so consequential as to be discussed.

[Question] It is well known that the Yemen Arab Republic has adopted a policy of complete neutrality in foreign affairs on both the Arab and international planes. Do all the Arab countries meet Yemen's neutrality with a similar neutrality from their side, and not try to interfere in its internal affairs?

[Answer] We embrace the policy of international neutrality. We are not neutral in Arab affairs because we belong as a people and totally adhere to national Arab issues. We do not maintain a neutral position vis-a-vis national issues. With regard to Arab disputes we are also not neutral, because we continuously take pains to play a conciliatory role in these disputes. Undoubtedly the fact that we have not joined any of the existing blocs within the Arab homeland makes it very easy for us to take this duty. This policy which we follow has never led to weakening of our domestic or foreign policy, nor is there any interference in our domestic policy at all.

[Question] It is well known that the unification of Yemen is a main national goal toward which you have worked and continue to work. What has been achieved by efforts to unify the two halves, and what hinders these efforts?

[Answer] The attempts to unify the two sides are continuous and ongoing. Each day we achieve a positive step on that path. Our most recent achievement is the completion of the formulation of a constitution for the unified state. Therefore I say that there is no one, outside or inside the country, who can hinder our course on the path of unification.

[Question] But hasn't it taken a long time, longer than necessary?

[Answer] The only unification experiment in the Arab homeland to have taken such a long time is ours. How often have two Arab states met and discussed unification, only to break apart over a dispute and not come together again? We are the only two sides to conduct a unification dialogue that has lasted

more than 10 years. This is a distinction, not a fault. This experiment, its continuity, and the achievement of firm steps in its path, is a positive operation that cannot be turned into a negative phenomenon because there is no other Arab experiment better than it.

[Question] The Yemeni people are among the most sensitive, sincere and enthusiastic about their Arabism. Also, in your official positions you also speak out of an understanding of the unity of the Arab homeland. What is your conception of the Arab homeland? Do you believe in the possibility of establishing one Arab state in the future?

[Answer] First of all, I do not believe there is any ambiguity in our geographical conception of what the Arab homeland is as we speak of it today. The question to ask ourselves is always, what form do we seek for Arab unity? Is it a form of incorporation in which there will be one president of the republic and one government for the Arab homeland? Is it a federation or a confederation? I believe that the deficiency in Arab national thought calling for Arab unity comes from the fact that this idea has from the beginning had no other form for Arab unity than complete incorporation. It is clear from Arab and international circumstances, and perhaps even the historical circumstances of the Arab homeland, that to impose Arab unity in one form, with no substitute, is a mistake.

I can say that with regard to certain areas such as the two Yemens, the form of unity between them must be incorporation, because due to overwhelming historical and social conditions, neither side can withdraw from the other. But with regard to other areas, we cannot conceive that the form of incorporation is the only plan. There must be another form to suit the conditions of particular countries. In this way we can come to a certain degree of unity and integration, in order to eventually set up an Arab homeland which we may consider one: one Arab homeland because the borders are open; one Arab homeland because the activities and the pursuits of activities in each of its parts can involve every citizen; one Arab homeland because its national and international attitudes are one. The form of Arab unity in my opinion should take a number of shapes, and it must take more than one form. But the essential is that a single Arab entity be established, with its weight and value on the international arenas. This does not exist. Why do we cling to an imaginary situation and not work toward what is possible? With the passing of time it will be possible for all forms and experiments to take the form of full incorporation.

[Question] Do you want to address a word to the Arab reader of AL-DUSTUR?

[Answer] My word to the Arab reader is to invite him to visit Yemen. As the Arab poet said, "Noble son, why don't you come near and see what you have heard of; for one who sees is not like one who hears."

HIGHLIGHTS OF INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE FOR DEVELOPMENT

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Article by 'Abd al-Qadir Tuhuf: "San'a' Lets Arabs Participate in Making a 'Happy Yemen'"

Text Why an International Conference for Yemeni Development? A question that could be asked by a reader who has not followed the course of the recent renaissance in the Yemen Arab Republic. Perhaps it could also be asked by the ordinary Yemeni citizen when he sees this great gathering of Arab and foreign delegations and experts coming to San'a'.

The opening session of the conference met under the leadership of Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the Republic and general commander of the armed forces. The conference was attended by representatives from Arab and allied countries and international, regional and national organizations.

The session began with a word from the Minister of Development and president of the Central Planning Bureau, in which he presented the second five-year plan and indicated the achievements of the first five-year plan. Among these was a yearly growth in total local production estimated at approximately 6 percent. This is an excellent achievement when we consider that some large investments have still not come into the role of full production. The average yearly growth in the other main sectors included: 11.7 percent in industry, 18.4 percent in mining, and 20.4 percent in electricity and water. The agricultural sector is the only one that did not meet its goals or exceed an average yearly growth of 1 percent. He mentioned that the number of students in schools rose during the first five-year plan from 377,000 to 457,000. There has also been tangible progress in rural health services, and the main cities have been provided with pure water. Then he called attention to the second five-year plan currently under study and discussion, and presented its goals and broad steps.

After that, the Secretary General of the Arab League, Chedli Klibi spoke. He pointed out that the invitation to the Arab League to participate in this conference affirms Arab Yemen's determination to fill the national gap in its efforts. This is in keeping with the comprehensive conception affirmed by the Arab Economic Summit which met in Amman and asked the brother Arabs to offer material and technical assistance to achieve the goals of the plan and

to participate in building the new Yemen. He also touched on the dangers and challenges to the fate of the Arab nation that it faces at the present time, and their reflections on national and regional courses of development. Some of the most important challenges are the conditions arising from hostile Israeli policies.

Then 'Abd al-Halim al-Hamad, Kuwaiti Minister of Finance, spoke and expressed his admiration for the great efforts expended in preparing the plan. He expressed his admiration for its comprehensiveness, the clarity of its goals, and the precision and frankness with which they are expressed. He indicated some of the difficulties faced by the plan, including the difficulty of providing planned investments and raising the proportion of foreign financing. He called attention to the necessity of drawing off excess revenues to the public sector and taking care to study the economic gains of the projects, and to continue to develop the administrative structure. He also stressed the necessity of care to preserve existing projects and to assist and support national cooperative agencies for development in providing trained workers and mobilizing revenues and the participation of the people.

President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih concluded the session by saying, "The great jumps our country has achieved in social and economic development strengthen our confidence that your participation in this conference will help our second five-year plan to be more successful and to achieve its goals after the first five-year plan has achieved all of its goals. By this conference we welcome Arab, Islamic and foreign capital for investment in our country under the laws and organizations which have provided many facilities and protection for investment. We affirm our readiness to offer more protection and interest to help all participation in development to succeed. In that regard, we highly esteem all brothers and friends who have participated and are participating in our development plan. We affirm that our people cannot forget the good and sincere assistance and active participation they have offered.

During the conference, which met in the Sheraton hotel, there were three sessions in which the heads of the delegations spoke, commenting on the draft of the second five-year plan. Then the conference participants broke up into two committees, the production committee and the committee on basic needs.

The production committee discussed the following topics: the general framework of the plan, investments and financing, the agricultural sector, the industrial sector, minerals and petroleum, transportation and communications, construction, commerce, and tourism.

The committee on basic needs discussed the general goals for providing basic needs, the human resources, emigration and the work force, complete rural development, cooperatives, and public services. After each committee had finished drawing up its final report and proposals, the concluding session of the conference met and issued the final statement.

It was clear from the many words spoken in the conference and the discussions in the committees that the plan as a whole was acceptable. Many representatives praised its precision and formulation, and expressed their admiration for it. Likewise, a number of delegations announced the readiness of the states and organizations they represented to participate in financing the plan. It was noticed that most representatives focused in their speeches and discussions on the great importance of the agricultural sector and the necessity of giving it more care and attention. This is in view of the huge agricultural potential which Yemen enjoys. They asked for positive solutions for the existing difficulties in the way of agricultural development, the most important of which is breaking up agricultural property.

This plan was prepared by the Central Planning Bureau and the expanded Technical Committee which issued from it, and which included two representatives from the different sectors and economic activities. Also participating in its preparation and formulation were a number of experts and regional and international organizations. One could also say that the delegations studied the plan and its details, though one cannot finish studying and discussing it and issuing proposals for it in a few days.

In short, the conference achieved a success which may be added to the series of accomplishments achieved by Yemen in a period considered comparable.

The conference was attended by delegations from various Arab states in addition to the delegation of the Arab League headed by its Secretary General, Chedli Klibi. Friendly foreign states were represented, with delegations from the United States, the Soviet Union, Canada, Britain, France, Italy, Switzerland, Holland, Belgium, Sweden, Finland, Spain, West Germany, East Germany, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Japan, India, and Australia. This is in addition to delegations from the United Nations, the European Common Market, the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund, the UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), the UN Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA), the International Organization for Weather Observation, the International Wire and Wireless Communications Union, the UN Development Program (UNDP), the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), UNICEF, the UN Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), the Arab-American Union for Commerce and Industry, and the West Asian Economic Committee.

Delegations also came from OPEC, the OPEC Fund for International Development, the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development, the Abu Dhabi Fund for Arab Economic Development, the Kuwaiti Fund for Arab Economic Development, the International Fund for Agricultural Development, the Arab Organization for Education, Culture and Sciences, the Arab Organization for Administrative Sciences, the Islamic Bank for Development, the Council on Arab Economic Unity, the Arab Planning Institute, the Union of Arab Tourism, the International Civil Aviation Organization, the Franco-Arab Banking Union, the Saudi Arabian Investment Company, the French Chamber of Commerce and Industry, the Saudi Chamber of Commerce, and the Kuwaiti Chamber of Commerce. This is in addition to delegations and representatives from several other Arab and foreign companies and a large number of experts on money, development and economics.

The conference met in the Sheraton hotel and its organization was presided over by the Yemeni Ministry of Information, which set up 12 offices for services for the conference within the hotel, including an office for general coordination, an office for the conference secretariat, the office of the official spokesman, the office of information and tourism, the protocol office, the office of aviation services, the office of automobile services, an information office for the conference, the office of the Central Planning Bureau, the office of the preparatory technical committee, the office of conference security, and a medical clinic. The agencies of the Ministry of Information worked day and night during the period in which the conference met, and earned the gratitude of all the guests.

The French ambassador in San'a' headed his country's delegation to the conference, and delivered his speech in classical Arabic. One of the members of the delegation of the French Chamber of Commerce told AL-DUSTUR that in view of the lack of a French-language interpreter in the conference, the ambassador decided to speak in Arabic, so he would not have to use English.

The Ministry of Information and Culture held a reception for the guests in which a troupe of artists attached to the Ministry participated. They offered popular songs and folk dances which evoked admiration.

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