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JPRS-NEA-87-017

17 FEBRUARY 1987

Near East/South Asia Report

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NEAR EAST/SOUTH ASIA REPORT

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SUMMARY OF 1987 FINANCIAL LAW

Algiers EL MOUDJAHID in French 4 Jan 87 p 3

[Unsigned Article: "Better Control of Tax Tool"]

[Text] The measures provided by the 1987 Finance Law express coherent actions and are arranged in nine major chapters, as follows:

I. Measures to Encourage Production

A. In Agriculture

Provision was made for the extension of the CUA (Single Agricultural Contribution) to oyster-farming, mussel-farming, and mushroom-growing activities, in underground tunnels, which so far have been sustaining the common-law taxes, such as the BIC [Industrial and Commercial Profits Tax] at a rate that can come to as much as 25 percent for individuals and 50 percent for corporations, the TAIC [Agricultural Commercial Income Tax ?] at a rate of 2.55 percent of the business volume and the ICR [Commercial Income Tax] which is based on a schedule.

Likewise subject to the Single Agricultural Contribution are poultry-raising and bee-keeping (honey production) activities carried out by a farmer on his farm which do not have an industrial character. The farmer furthermore will not be subject to the TUGP [Single Total Production Tax] to which poultry farmers and bee-keepers are currently subjected at the respective rates of 10 percent and 20 percent.

This results in a definite improvement of the taxation system since the CUA, collected at a rate of 4 percent, constitutes a more appropriate tax burden than the one pertaining to the above-mentioned common-law taxes.

To standardize the system applicable to all agricultural products, the finance law furthermore provides for the definite and unrestricted exemption, from the TUGP, of apples, pears, and fresh quince, vegetable grafts, and young forest and fruit-tree plants.

B. In Industry

As for the net profits taken annually, the reinvested portion goes to the mixed-economy companies at the reduced rate of 20 percent and to the other companies or corporations at the reduced rate of 30 percent instead of the old rate of 55 percent.

Certain carpentry structures used in building, which previous were subjected to a TUGP at the rate of 20 percent, will be subjected only to a rate of 10 percent which, at the level of project entrepreneurs, is normally recovered by means of the assessment made on it under the heading of their business activities as part of their tax liability under the TUGP.

C. In Culture

Theatrical performances, ballet, and other presentations, which were generally taxed at a rate of 20 percent under the TUGPS, will hereafter be exempt from this tax.

A preferential rate of 2 percent is also granted for the BNC (Noncommercial Profits) tax on earnings of authors and creative individuals publishing their works through enterprises, including those in the private sector. This tax until now has been reserved for creatively active individuals who oriented their work toward public organizations, hence the extension of this preferential system to promote intellectual and artistic creation.

Shows organized by tourist establishments under the sponsorship of local collectivities (governorates-communities) will pay the TUGPS at a reduced rate of only 20 percent instead of the initially provided 50 percent; this is done under the same conditions as for establishments under the oversight of the Ministry of Tourism which already benefits from this advantage.

II. Measures to Encourage Investment and Creation of Activities

A series of measures aimed at providing incentives for investment and for the creation of activities with a view to providing dynamic impetus for production and to promote a supplementary foreign-exchange contribution in the tourist sector were provided by this finance law.

We note the following provisions in this context:

(1) Complete exemption from the BIC tax for a period of between 1 and 5 years in favor of tourism, industrial maintenance, and subcontracting companies as provided in the framework of the law pertaining to domestic private economic investment.

These enterprises were previously exempt during the same periods of time only from payment of half of the tax due and with a ceiling of 20 percent of the in-house funds invested in the approved activity.

This measure will strengthen the series of tax advantages that benefit all of the enterprises covered in the context of the law on domestic economic investment.

(2) Permanent exemption of enterprise units turning out tourist products intended for export from the BIC, from the mandatory payment, and from the TAIC in the amount of the business volume earned in foreign exchange; these transactions, which are carried out in foreign exchange, are equated to exports and are governed by the same conditions; they thus get the benefit of complete exemption from all taxes.

(3) Exemption from property transfer and ownership change fees at a rate of 10 percent of the investments approved in the tourist sector when these establishments are set up in parts of the Sahara and in spa, climatic, and thermal areas.

(4) Reduction of registration fees from 6 percent and 8 percent to 3 percent for deeds concerning the establishment, extension, conversion, or merger of companies and for deeds dealing with an increase in capital. This measure is aimed at encouraging the effort to mobilize savings.

III. Measures to Protect Domestic Production

The 1987 Finance Law provides for a revision of the customs tariff which was started in the Complementary Finance Law for 1986 by adjusting certain rates in a balanced fashion with a view to channeling new funds to the Treasury but also out of a concern for protecting domestic production to the extent that the economic operators will resort more to local products and goods.

Daily necessities and certain products of secondary necessity, as well as the various products used in meeting strategic or priority requirements, such as capital goods intended for agriculture and the water supply sector, pharmaceutical products, products intended for the energy sector and the chemical and petrochemical industries, etc., are deliberately not affected by this change in the rate and continue to benefit from a system of preferred treatment.

Carefully devised limitations are furthermore placed on the freedom to import consumer goods, such as furniture and textiles, as transacted by nonresident citizens on the occasion of their return to the country; these items had a tendency to compete with domestic production.

In this connection, exemption cutoffs are set at 180,000 dinars for wage-earners and at 70,000 dinars for students and trainees, thus taking into account the needs of an average family.

When the value of domestic appliances exceeds, respectively, the ceiling of 180,000 dinars and 70,000 dinars, the excess is subject to payment of duties and taxes which are obligatorily fixed at 100 percent.

On the other hand, imports of capital goods benefit from a minimum mandatory tax rate of 5 percent of the FOB value, specifically, material and equipment imported as part of an activity transfer operation or in case of the creation of a new activity.

IV. Measure to Encourage Savings

To encourage the greater mobilization of savings, total exemption from income taxes on credits, deposits, and suretyships as regards the interest collected from loans floated among the public by the State, by credit establishments, local collectivities, and public enterprises, is added to all of the exemptions previously granted in this area.

V. Measures to Encourage Exports and Foreign-Exchange Accounts

In an effort to provide dynamic impetus, first of all, for the activities of economic operators who are exporters and who hold an "EDAC" account, imports of capital goods, raw materials, and spare parts necessary for the particular activity performed and settled by means of debit to that account are exempt from customs duty for the purpose of their being channeled to consumption along with exemption from import duties and taxes.

Moreover, as regards foreign-exchange accounts whose opening was provided for under the 1987 Finance Law, major steps were taken in the context of the new Finance Law to eliminate the application of penalties provided for by the Criminal Code in the matter of the holding and depositing of foreign exchange in a bank account.

Since foreign exchange can be kept and deposited freely by means of an appreciable interest in the form of foreign exchange for the parties concerned who may have access to these funds at any time, the legislative branch furthermore introduced full security to encourage this kind of operation.

As for the exchange transaction, which citizens living abroad must conduct upon their entry on national territory, this is required only of persons over the age of 18.

Likewise no longer subjected to this formality are the spouses of these citizens who earn no income, permanently handicapped persons, students, trainees undergoing training and not benefitting from a wage transfer, persons called up for National Service, and persons residing in a country where the settlement of exchange payments would prevent them from complying with this formality.

VI. Measures to Improve Distribution of Tax Burden

The 1987 Finance Law instituted a tax on individual luxury housing applicable to structures whose real cost exceeds 2 million dinars.

This tax is instituted in connection with the actual occupation of the housing unit by its owner or his tenants as of 1 January 1987. It is calculated on the basis of a cumulative increment based on the following rates:

5 percent when the fraction of the real cost of the housing unit is higher than 2 million dinars and less than 3 million dinars;

15 percent when the fraction of the real cost of the housing unit is more than or equal to 3 million dinars and less than 4 million dinars;

25 percent when the fraction of the real cost of the housing unit is greater than or equal to 4 million DA [Algerian Dinars] and less than or equal to 5 million DA;

50 percent when the fraction of the real cost of the housing unit is more than 5 million dinars.

An adjustment was also made in the BIC income tax on corporations; it was increased from 50 to 55 percent. This new tax will begin to be applied starting with activities in the year 1987. The results for the year 1986 will therefore be taxed at a rate of 50 percent.

VII. Measures to Fight Against Tax Fraud and Evasion

Tax fraud and evasion, with their pernicious effects, never failed to hold the attention of the legislative branch which took steps to put an end to the underground activities carried out most of the time outside the tax law. All taxpayers engaged in a commercial or self-employed activity are therefore obligated to display a plate identifying them, if they do not already have it in another form, especially in the form of a sign.

Failure to post the identification plate will lead to a tax fine whose amount is set at 1,000 DA, without regard as to any further penalties provided for in case of failure to meet tax obligations.

However, the taxpayers concerned have a deadline of 31 March 1987 to meet their obligation.

VIII. Measures to Facilitate Contacts Between Administration and Taxpayer

To improve relations between the tax administration and taxpayers, an entire series of measures was provided, as follows:

(1) The owner of a private commercial asset is no longer liable due to nonpayment of taxes due from an operator who has disappeared if it is proved that there was no collusion of interests between the two parties.

(2) Enterprises in the private sector engaged in public works and building, research, transportation and equipment leasing activities may apply for

central handling--at the level of their home office or main establishment--of their tax payments when the results cannot be determined for each establishment.

(3) Public enterprises operating within the area of autonomous management need not obtain advance authorization from their oversight agency to benefit from centralized handling of tax obligations as provided for by law.

(4) Taxpayers engaged in wholesale operations need no longer systematically file--in support of their annual declaration--a detailed list of their clients; the Tax Administration may however demand such a list at any time.

(5) The authority ceilings of the direct tax appeal commissions sitting at the community level and at the governorate level were increased, respectively, to 25,000 DA and 100,000 DA with a view to facilitating the faster settlement, at the local level, of tax appeals filed by taxpayers.

(6) The Administration is instructed to rule on petitions submitted by taxpayers with liabilities on the business volume within a period of 3 months; this will make it possible efficiently to settle all disputed matters.

(7) The administrative evaluation system in the matter of business volume taxes (TUGP, TUGPS) was brought into line with the system provided by the 1986 Finance Law in the matter of direct taxes since it is easier to handle and does not call for certain difficult procedures.

IX. Other Measures

A certain number of other measures deserve being emphasized here, including those designed to ease the burden of employers who, for various reasons, did not discharge their social security obligations.

The following steps were therefore taken:

A simplification of the rate and technique applied to social security contribution increases in case of failure to make payment by the required deadline. This rate, which was 0.15 percent per delinquent day, is now set at 5 percent, collected only once in case of delay in the payment of contributions due, but increased by 1 percent per additional delinquent month.

The establishment, at the level of each governorate, of a prior appeal commission which will rule on appeals filed by individuals covered by social security and employers following decisions made by the social security agencies, with appeal to a commission sitting at the level of each social security agency.

Furthermore, to implement the resolutions of the Arab League, it was decided to exempt goods imported by the PLO for sale in Algeria from the payment of required duties and taxes.

By the same token, the importing of gifts of materials and goods of a scientific, educational, cultural, and athletic character is exempt from all duties and taxes.

Finally, for social reasons worthy of attention and concern, following the death of a person with a major disability and a permanent handicap, assisted by a third person, the beneficiaries are entitled to an allowance corresponding to the amount of two annual disability pension payments.

Now that the chief measures provided for under the 1987 Finance Law have been presented, we can say that the anticipated additional tax revenues will come not from increased taxation but essentially:

From the increase in taxable items,

From regular supervision of activities performed,

From stepped-up tax inspection, and

Finally, from better control over the tax tool which was improved with a view to making it possible to accommodate the concerns of the economic operators especially in the matter of autonomous management and more streamlined procedures.

5058

CSO: 4519/63

ARREST OF COMMUNIST NETWORK REPORTED

Cairo AL-MUSAWWAR in Arabic 19 Dec 86 p 25

[Text] The state security apparatus was able to arrest 44 members of the communist organization that was aiming at mobilizing the masses and inciting them to move in a provocative manner with the goal of overthrowing the regime and establishing a communist society in the country.

A responsible source declared that, based on the fact that certain communist leaders who had been arrested in earlier cases during the period of the sixties and seventies had moved to form a communist organization under the name of "The Revolutionary Communist Tendency Organization," the security apparatus, together with the state security chief prosecutor's office, had kept the movements and activities of these elements under surveillance for a long while and had uncovered the organization's central formations, its membership in the various provinces, and all of its plans to incite the various sectors of the public, especially workers and students. It had obtained all issues of the organization's publications and secret documents, its communiques and political analyses, and its various occasional publications.

It was possible to obtain much material and legal evidence, including tape and video recordings and the handwritten originals for most of these announcements, documents, and publications, and it had also been possible to locate the organization's secret headquarters, the storage place for its literature, its printing equipment, and the places where the organization's secret meetings were held.

Last Friday, leaders of the organization went to hold a general conference in a secret headquarters in Giza. At that time, the chief prosecutor's office of state security issued an order for the arrest of the organization and its general conference. The state security apparatus was able to keep the events and proceedings of the conference under surveillance by means of tape recordings, under the supervision of the chief prosecutor's office of state security, which took charge of the recording operation. Twenty-three organization members were arrested during the conference, representing the top-level leadership committee of the organization, and the officials of its committees in the governorates of Giza, al-Qalyubiyah, Alexandria, al-Sharqiyah, al-Daqahliyah, and Suez. Enormous quantities of pamphlets and documents belonging to the organization were seized.

The state security apparatus then took charge of fully carrying out the permission granted by the prosecutor. Twenty-one more elements from the organization's cadres in the various governorates were taken into custody. Four remain at large until now. Search operations led to seizure of the central archives, which include the various issues of the organization's publications, its documents, and the names of its members and various formations. Technical equipment was also seized, including two typewriters, two "Ronyo" printing machines, and a quantity of printing inks. There were also storage rooms for printed matter, containing enormous quantities of the organization's publications and documents, which gave concrete expression to its goals and provocative plans and to its methods of action in the different sectors of the public. This evidence exposed the organization's hostile position toward the regime and its stand rejecting various current policies and basic political, economic, and social structures. It also exposed its rejection of the [three] monotheistic religions and of Islamic law, by virtue of its atheistic materialism, which sanctifies material realities and does not recognize spiritual ones or the values and principles of religion.

The organization is led by a central leadership committee, each member of which has a particular responsibility. Members include: Muhammad 'Abd-al-Mun'im Talimah, professor in the College of Arts, Cairo University, and Tahir al-Badri, inspector in the Education Ministry, both of them officials of the organization; Muhammad Hasan al-Minshawi, retired worker, for the labor sector; Badr 'Aql Sha'ban, accountant at the Bank of Cairo, for students, in addition to responsibility of various sectors and governorates. Among the most prominent defendants are Sulayman Muhammad Sulayman, assistant professor at the agricultural college of al-Zaqaziq University, 'Ali Muhammad al-Shakhibi, pharmacist, Sayyid Ahmad 'Abbas, lawyer, and one Sudanese named Khalid Muhammad 'Abd-al-Nur, who is studying and who lives in the country. Security surveillance operations have proved that he is in contact with and has met some of the organization's leaders in order to study methods of contact and coordination between the Egyptian and Sudanese communist movements. The state security chief prosecutor's office has taken charge of the official inquiry and has ordered all the defendants held in absolute custody in connection with Case 667, high-level state security.

12937

CSO: 4504/94

RELIGIOUS LEADERS COMMENT ON CONTRIBUTING TO MUJAHIDIN

Al-Azhar Rector Asks Muslims To Help Mujahidin

Cairo AL-AHRAM: AL-TAB'AH AL-DUWALIYAH in Arabic 27 Dec 86 p 8

[Article: "Rector of al-Azhar Asks Muslims To Give Help to the Mujahidin of Afghanistan"]

[Text] The Chief Imam, Shaykh Jad-al-Haqq 'Ali Jad-al-Haqq, Rector of al-Azhar, called upon Muslims in diverse areas of the world, as peoples and as governments, to give all the help they can to their brothers in Afghanistan, to strengthen their position and to support them in their ordeal, both the fighters who have given history unique examples of heroism and self-sacrifice and the downtrodden who have fled and left their homes and property.

In the statement he issued on the anniversary of the aggression against Afghanistan, the chief imam added that the enemies of Islam still plot against its people. Muslim minorities in many places in the world still suffer from the dominion of non-Muslims over them. Muslims are still attacked in their own homes and territories and their borders violated. The media inform us every day of more of these attacks. The Islamic community remains oblivious to what is being contrived against it, scorched by the fire of its disunion, enabling its foes by its fragmentation to act against it, and tasting the evil consequences of its condition.

Mufti Approves Giving Alms to Mujahidin

Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 2 Jan 87 p 15

[Article by Muhammad Yunus: "Mufti at Cairo Conference on the Afghan Problem Says Muslims May Designate Part of Their Zakat (Alms) for the Afghan Mujahidin"]

[Text] New facts about the Afghan holy war against the Soviet attack on Afghanistan came to light at the conference, "Days With the Afghan Problem," organized by the Cairo physicians union. The conference was attended by Mr Muhammad Yasir, official spokesman of the Afghan Mujahidin, and Dr Shir 'Alam, professor in the Islamic missionary college in Afghanistan.

His Excellency, Dr Muhammad Sayyid Tantawi, the mufti of the republic, participated in the conference, together with a number of scholars from al-Azhar University, religious leaders, members of the People's Assembly and the Consultative Assembly, members of Islamic organizations in Egypt, and thousands of young people interested in the Afghan problem.

Among these facts, as was explained by Mr Muhammad Yasir, is the fact that the armed holy war, which has entered its 10th year, is not a guerilla war, as the news agencies describe it. It is an organized war in which the Mujahidin control 80 percent of the territory of Afghanistan. Furthermore, there are borders separating Mujahidin-controlled lands from the lands controlled by government and Russian forces.

The Mujahidin forces are present in the mountains that surround the capital, Kabul, allowing them to bombard the presidential palace and even to have destroyed the "tank of the revolution" in front of this palace.

He stated that the secret of Mujahidin victories is not to be attributed to the mountainous terrain of Afghanistan or the tribal pattern of the Mujahidin, as Western news agencies portray it. It is to be attributed to the faith of the Mujahidin in God and to their love of sacrifice. As an American scholar acknowledged in a conference held in Germany to study the Afghan problem, if one of them dies an ordinary death, his family grieves that he did not achieve martyrdom.

His Excellency, Dr Muhammad Sayyid Tantawi, the mufti of the republic, said that the holy war in Afghanistan is an individual duty for every male and female Afghan Muslim, because they had been subjected to foreign attack. He also said that Muslims may designate part of their zakat (alms) for the Afghan Mujahidin.

Then Dr Ahmad al-Malt, head of the Islamic Medical Association, which has sent a delegation of doctors to the Mujahidin, spoke. He said that there are about 5 million Afghan emigrants--children, women, and old men--being given hospitality by Pakistani supporters. They live in camps, with the number of persons in one camp varying between 5 and 50,000 persons, and they lack the simplest basic elements of life.

Dr al-Malt called attention to the attempts at brain-washing to which Muslim children in Afghanistan were being subjected, with 15,000 children having been taken to Moscow to distort their beliefs. On the other side, Western organizations with budgets of \$500 million were now propagating secular capitalist education. He asked Muslims to confront these attempts.

Shaykh Mustafa Mashhur spoke calling attention to the need to expose the attempts of some people to classify Islamic problems as nationalistic or regional problems, even though Islam does not recognize these boundaries. Just as the Palestinian problem is an Islamic problem, the Afghanistan problem is an Islamic problem, not merely the problem of the Afghan people. It is therefore the obligation of Muslims, as governments and as peoples, to help the Afghan Mujahidin and the Palestinians until victory.

Dr 'Abd-al-Ghaffar 'Aziz, professor at al-Azhar University, called attention to the fact that the tragedy now being experienced by the Afghan people is part of the world Masonic plot to combat Islam by various means. This had begun long ago with the fabrication of traditions and their attribution to the Prophet and through the propagation of erroneous doctrines operating under the name of Islam, such as the Qadiyaniyah, Baha'i, or the call to secularism.

Shaykh 'Abd-al-Latif al-Mushtahiri, head of the Academy of Islamic Law, spoke. He said that the Mujahidin do not need words spoken from pulpits; they need money, food, and clothing. He said that the academy had been eager to help the Mujahidin from the beginning and had been able to collect a great deal of money, which we pray that God will allow to reach the Mujahidin.

12937

CSO: 4504/94

NATIONAL, FOREIGN BANKS CALLED ON TO AID SPECIALIZED BANKS

Khartoum AL-SIYASAH in Arabic 21 Dec 86 p 4

[Article by al-Sirr Hasan Fadl under the "Once a Week" rubric: "The Banks! And What Shall Teach Thee What Are the Banks?"]

[Text] In the preceding articles, we reviewed the purpose for the establishment of the foreign and joint-ownership banks, the capital that ought to have been paid out, and the bitter reality that these banks have operated and continue to operate from citizens' deposits and have left the specialized banks without aid or funding.

Since the foreign banks were established, and in spite of the decline of the ratio of deposits in national banks to the total amount of deposits, these deposits [in national banks] have jumped to 2.246 billion Sudanese pounds in 1985, i.e., a more than sevenfold increase. The facilities offered by these national banks during the same period amounted to 1.127 billion Sudanese pounds; i.e., what remained in the vaults of these banks was about 1.120 billion Sudanese pounds as of 1985. As for the foreign and joint-ownership banks, [notwithstanding] the size of deposits, the facilities they offered came to only 640 million Sudanese pounds, and what remained in their vaults was about 1 billion Sudanese pounds.

In one of their recommendations, the national economic experts who prepared the papers and plans for immediate programs to rescue the Sudanese economy mentioned that the commercial banks must fund the specialized banks (such as the Agricultural Bank, the Industrial Bank, and the Real-Estate Bank) in the context of a credit policy that defines production-related priorities. More specifically, there must be an increase in the capital of the Industrial Bank, so that allocations for the development component increase at a greater rate than investment capital. As for the Agricultural Bank, it is necessary to concentrate on raising the ratio of investment capital in comparison with the other banks, together with attention to strengthening the technical and human cadres in these specialized banks.

If the national, joint-ownership, and foreign banks now have more than 1 billion Sudanese pounds in cash in their vaults, why have they not given the necessary assistance and funding to these specialized banks? Why have they allowed themselves [to take in] citizens' money and deprived the specialized banks of this money?

As long as the philosophy of the banks is a means [toward the national interest], and as long as the banks gather the deposits of citizens, the national interest demands that all of these deposits, or at least what remains of them, should be transferred to all of the four specialized banks, so that they can invest them and put them into circulation, so that they can be a strong support for rescuing national industry and the agricultural sector, and so that the Real-Estate Bank can be a powerful force.

What is intended by locking up these funds in the vaults?

This is a question we would like to have answered. Also, we must thoroughly reevaluate the performance of the national banks throughout the preceding period in order to reform what can be reformed.

Once again, let us read these tables. This time, let us examine them in the company of Professor Musa Ya'qub, who published a fine article in yesterday's edition of the newspaper AL-RAYAH under the title, "Considerations on the Bank Question." We call on readers to consider it again.

Table 5. Deposits According to Depositors During the Period 1977-85 (in Thousands of Sudanese Pounds)

Year	Public Deposits	Share (Percent)	Government Deposits	Share (Percent)	Total Deposits
December 1977	313,150	94	19,793	5.9	332,943
December 1978	405,296	94.6	23,116	5.3	428,412
December 1979	528,805	96.4	19,471	3.6	548,276
December 1980	694,824	96.5	25,189	3.5	720,003
December 1981	908,500	96.4	34,051	3.6	942,551
December 1982	1,305,044	97.4	34,513	2.6	1,339,557
December 1983	1,709,015	95.4	72,340	4.1	1,781,357
December 1984	1,964,073	95.2	99,529	4.8	2,063,602
November 1985	3,826,759	95.5	181,930	4.5	4,008,689

Table 15. Capital of the Specialized Banks Until the End of 1985 (in Millions of Sudanese Pounds)

Bank	Initial Capital	Capital Paid Out Through 1985
Agricultural	7.00	50.00
Industrial	5.00	8.00
Real-Estate	7.00	15.00
Savings	0.50	3.00

Table 16. Total Facilities Offered by Specialized Banks During the Period 1977-84 (in Millions of Sudanese Pounds)

End of Year:	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984
Bank								
Agricultural	7.00	3.05	4.45	4.77	7.92	24.27	26.01	26.83
Industrial	2.10	0.90	0.40	2.50	1.40	1.50	3.41	7.25
Real-Estate	2.84	0.15	3.84	2.77	1.80	0.59	1.31	1.33
Savings	0.76	1.90	3.91	8.02	14.05	20.21	25.59	38.28
Total	12.70	6.00	12.60	18.06	25.17	46.57	56.32	73.69

[Box, p 4]

Embassy Funds

Since no one has replied to the questions we published in the last installment about the funds of the embassies, which we estimated at about 2.5 million, not including diplomatic and assistance organizations, we make an explicit accusation and say that most embassy and organization funds never enter the arteries of the Sudanese economy. These funds are deposited abroad to the accounts of individuals and foreign banks, and the foreign banks, which are in principle not allowed to receive such deposits, disburse them to these embassies and similar organizations out of the deposits of the noble and generous Sudanese people!

The believer need only give notice!

12937

CSO: 4504/95

BRIEFS

ASSISTANCE AGREEMENT WITH PRC--Khartoum, 17 Jan (SUNA)--An agreement to build a friendship center for vocational training in Omdurman, west of Khartoum, was signed here today within the framework of the Chinese technical aid agreement. Serafino Wani, labor and social welfare minister [title as received], signed for Sudan while his excellency the PRC ambassador in Khartoum signed for the PRC. The area allocated for the project is 8,000 square meters and will encompass buildings for workshops, classrooms, and offices. The project's total cost is 85 million Chinese yuans, corresponding to \$22 million, including the cost of equipment, buildings, and the training of local instructors. The project will be implemented in 3 years. The Chinese side will supply the equipment and material needed for construction as well as technicians. Sudan will prepare the land, Sudanese employees, local construction materials, and necessary services in addition to establishing a mechanics department and providing its equipment. [Text] [Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1425 GMT 17 Jan 87 JN] /9274

CSO: 4500/51

PERIODICAL ANALYZES NATION'S FOREIGN DEBT

Paris JEUNE AFRIQUE ECONOMIE in French Nov 86 pp 112-21

[Article by Chedly Ayari: "Tunisia on the Tightrope"]

[Text] The purpose of this study is to explain in the simplest possible way the economic, financial--and indirectly political--concept, content, and significance of what is called "debt," taking the case of a Third World country, with average revenues, not an oil producer, without great natural resources, completely open to foreign trade particularly with Europe, and increasingly facing financial, trade, and structural economic imbalances. The country is Tunisia. It is a country that in terms of the World Bank's classification belongs to an initial subcategory which includes other African countries such as the Congo, Mauritius, Botswana, Zimbabwe, and Cameroon. The reason for this classification is the per capita Gross National Product (GNP). A country that is representative of another Third World subgroup, whose outstanding foreign public debt in relation to the GNP is at the danger point--50 percent and over--, and whose service on the debt as a percentage of exports approaches the no less disturbing point of 25 percent and more. In this subgroup, among other countries, one finds Egypt, Morocco, and Mauritania for the Arab-African countries, and Zambia, the Ivory Coast, and the Congo among non-Arab African countries. Keeping in mind, of course, the specific economic and financial characteristics peculiar to each of the countries in the subcategory or subgroup of which Tunisia is a member.

What is debt first of all? And when does debt become excessive?

Debt is the access, subject to certain liabilities [Footnote 1] [We are excluding gifts, although for the receiving countries these usually involve excessive economic cost, and even more or less onerous political pressure. In all these comments we will refer to "public debt"], of a given country (or of a public group) to foreign public or private financial resources in order to make up for a lack of national resources.

A country borrows from overseas sources, i.e., goes into debt to finance one or both of the following major needs: a lack of national savings to meet investment needs; a deficit in foreign accounts (balance of current accounts; balance of payments).

The debt is said to be productive, and therefore healthy, when it meets the following three essential conditions. Within the necessary limits, the debt must supplement national savings, not substitute for them, much less discourage them. The debt must create wealth and should not be used for purposes of public or private consumption. The debt must come under short-, medium-, and long-term management, i.e., must be controlled planned, and receive constant follow-up.

There is such a thing as excessive debt, i.e., when a debt is unhealthy, unproductive, restricting, and when one or several of the three conditions referred to above is lacking.

The case of Tunisia is revealing when it comes to the interferences and deviations between productive debt and unhealthy excessive debt. Why?

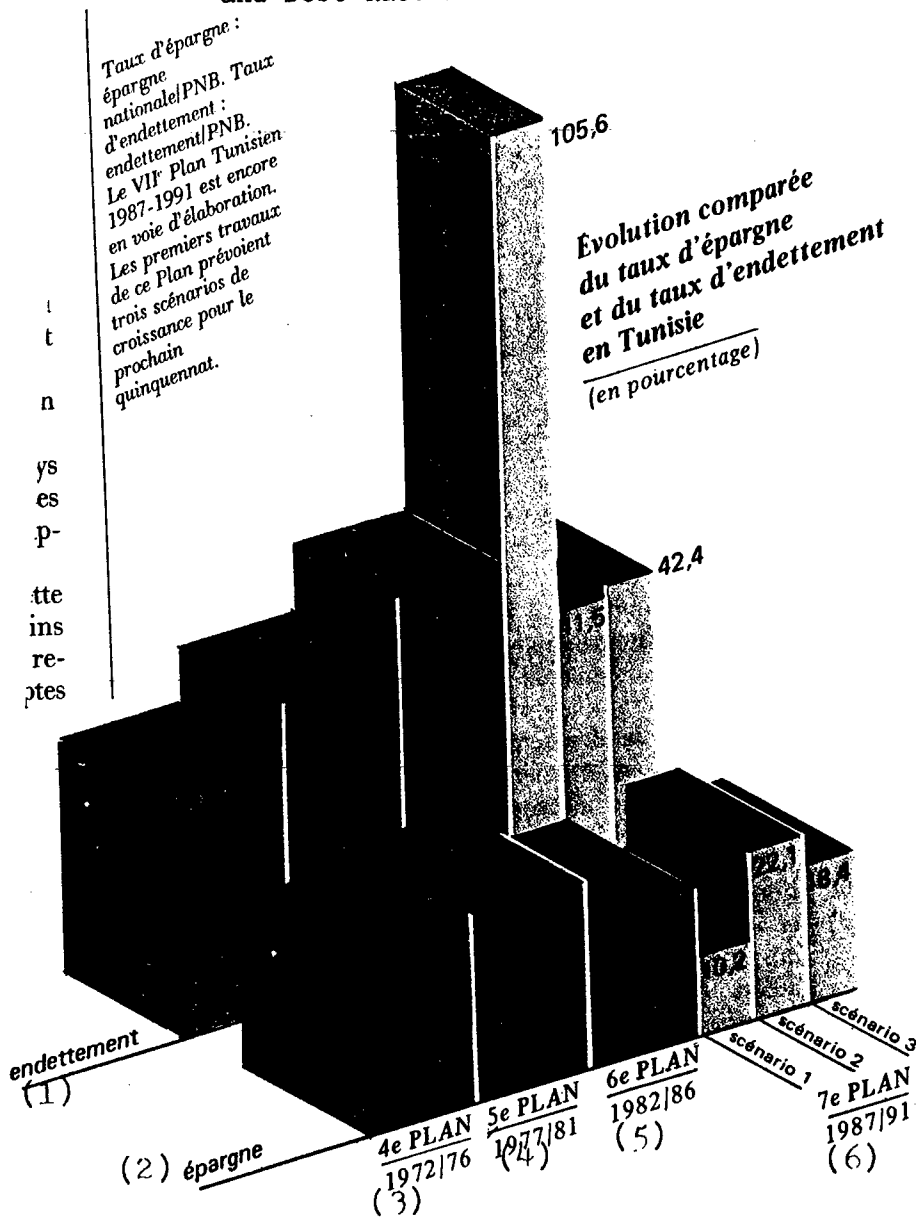
Tunisia, as a developing country of average size and without large national natural resources, is representative of a group of Third World countries whose orderly, sustained development depends essentially on disciplined, innovative management of the internal and especially external resources available. In this group we find Arab countries (Morocco, Jordan, Syria, etc.), many African countries (Senegal, Congo, etc.), Southeast Asian countries (Taiwan, Singapore, South Korea, etc.).

Tunisia, as a country characterized by a continuing growth dynamic, and having relatively easy access to outside public and even private sources of financing, is constantly exposed to the risk of running into difficulties: a situation that would push it from productive and healthy debt to sterile, restrictive, excessive debt. In that regard, Tunisia belongs to the same Third World subgroup that includes the particularly dynamic countries of the south: in Southeast Asia, Latin America, and to a point in Africa.

Tunisia, finally, as a country that has a modern, organized administration, is one of the third World countries that is capable of managing their debt in the full sense of the word. In that, Tunisia is in the same camp as many southern countries with moderate revenues, and that have relatively organized administrative structures. These may be found particularly in Latin America, Asia and, admittedly to only a small degree, in the Arab and African world.

Has the first condition of good debt been met? In other words, has Tunisia's debt had a positive or negative influence on the development of national savings, i.e., on the effort to mobilize specifically Tunisian resources? The answer can be seen from the first chart on the preceding page. As a matter of fact, the debt-national savings correlation seems to be negative. This means that Tunisian debt therefore has a tendency to be used as a substitute for Tunisian national savings. By way of comparison, this substitution effect is more marked in Algeria and Morocco than it is in Tunisia.

Comparative Development of the Savings Rate
and Debt Rate in Tunisia (in percent)



Savings rate: national savings/GNP. Debt rate: debt/GNP. Tunisia's seventh plan (1987-1991) is still being worked out. The first drafts of this plan advance three scenarios of growth for the next 5 years.

Key:

1. Debt
2. Savings
3. Fourth plan, 1972-1976
4. Fifth plan, 1977-1981
5. Sixth plan, 1982-1986
6. Seventh plan, 1987-1991

As regards the second condition to be met, has Tunisian debt served mainly to finance investment--and primarily productive investment--or has it served first of all to encourage consumption? When we examine the second chart on the following page, we find that the debt-investment correlation was positive and therefore beneficial during the fourth (1972-1976) and fifth (1977-1981) plans, but was much less so, and in fact was negative during the sixth plan (1982-1986). This correlation goes completely awry in scenario 1 and is at best disturbing in the two other scenarios of the future seventh Tunisian plan (1987-1991). It should be noted that in Algeria, the positive debt-investment correlation was stronger than in Tunisia. But in Morocco and Mauritania, two other Maghreb countries, the correlation was definitely negative, i.e., the increased debt financed an increase in consumption, accompanied by a large drop in investment.

Was the pattern of Tunisian investments nevertheless productive? One can get an idea of this by examining the following items: the growth rate of the gross national product (GNP); the creation of new jobs; improvement in employee productivity. Employee productivity or output is linked admittedly in only a partial yet important way to the nature and quality of the technical equipment used.

What does the third chart on page 119 indicate?

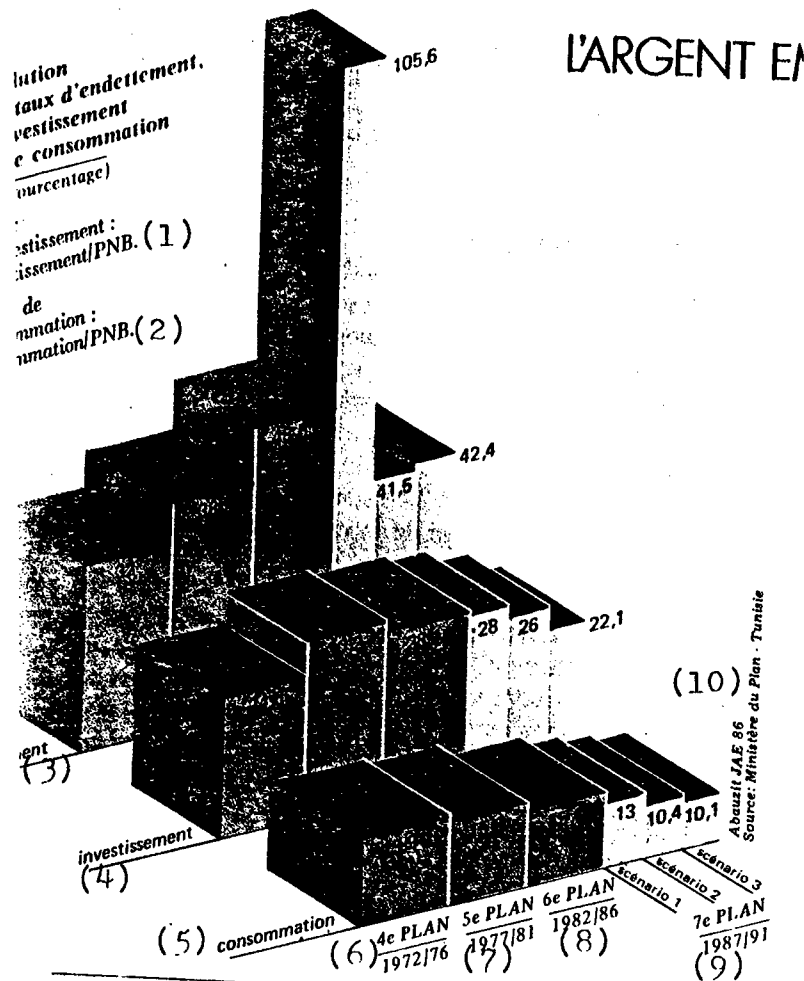
Concerning the growth rate of the GNP, one notes the important differential between the investment effort on the one hand, and the pace at which wealth is created (growth rate of the GNP) on the other. This differential continued to worsen during the fourth, fifth, and sixth plans. Similarly, it is expected that it will reach a serious level in the first scenario of the upcoming seventh plan and will remain substantial for the other two. Thus a high level of investment does not necessarily result in a high level of growth.

Then, with regard to the creation of new jobs, the chart shows above all that none of the three preceding plans succeeded in attaining the main goal of creating new jobs at the levels planned. New jobs created drew from a minimum of 35,000 per year during the fourth plan to a maximum of 43,000 per year during the fifth plan, and 41,000 per year during the sixth plan. All these figures are well below the 70,000 new jobs which would need to be created merely to absorb the newcomers on the labor market, i.e., keeping constant the number of "longstanding" unemployed which fluctuates from 300,000 to 350,000 people.

One can also observe that there was only a 25.6 percent increase in the new job creation rate corresponding to a 22.7 percent increase in the investment rate between the fourth and the fifth plan. That is not much if one bears in mind the social constraints that have always been the primary consideration in all Tunisia's planning efforts since the 1960's. Moreover, noting that there was practically no progress made in the creation of new jobs between the fifth and sixth plans, and that the investment rate regressed nearly 7 percent, it must be admitted that the relative slump in investment between these two plans did not bring about the correction that was nevertheless necessary in favor of job-creating investment.

Development of the Debt, Investment,
and Consumption Rate (in percent)

Endette



Key:

1. Investment rate: investment/GNP
2. Rate of consumption: consumption/GNP
3. Debt
4. Investment
5. Consumption
6. Fourth plan (1972-1976)
7. Fifth plan (1977-1981)
8. Sixth plan (1982-1986)
9. Seventh plan (1987-1991)
10. Abauzit JEUNE AFRIQUE ECONOMIE. Source: Ministry of Planning, Tunisia

One then observes that as concerns the initial projections of the future seventh plan (1987-1991), although it is true that the new jobs expected to be created will vary between 50,000 and 70,000 per year according to the scenarios, it must also be admitted that the next 5 years will probably not see a solution to the problem posed by the new job seekers, and how much more that of unemployment in general.

Finally, one remarks that improvement in employee productivity, which throughout the last three plans and even in the three scenarios of the future seventh plan presents an excessively erratic development pattern, experienced a 75 percent decline between the fifth and sixth plans. Since development in employee productivity is largely linked with the nature and technical structure of the investment, one may wonder here also whether the choice of investment made in Tunisia was a good one, i.e., one that leads first of all to improving the output of workers and therefore their welfare.

In conclusion, we may say that a high level of investment in a country with Tunisia's social constraints may reflect a poor allocation of scarce resources--that the foreign debt is partly financing--inasmuch as it does not result in either proportional growth, the massive creation of jobs, the improvement of labor productivity, and consequently does not secure any benefit to the workers. Foreign debt that finances all or part of this kind of investment is unproductive, unhealthy, and excessive debt.

With regard to the third condition for good debt, what does "strict management of the debt" mean? By that we mean centralized, planned control both of the overall debt and the charges or service on the debt. Economists identify nearly 15 ratios of debt control. We will only mention two. Considering first of all the overall debt, one has to wonder whether Tunisia's debt is tolerable or excessive in relation to the amount of wealth created by the country, represented by national production.

Then as regards the charges or service on the debt, one must ask whether the country has the financial capacity, the liquid assets, the cash flow, and the necessary funds to cope with the burden (capital plus interest) of the debt.

The following table helps in evaluating control over the debt in relation to national production.

<u>Item</u>	<u>Fourth Plan</u>	<u>Fifth Plan</u>	<u>Sixth Plan</u>	<u>Seventh Plan</u>			
	<u>1972-1976</u>	<u>1977-1981</u>	<u>1982-1986</u>	<u>1987-1991</u>	<u>Sce*.1</u>	<u>Sce.2</u>	<u>Sce.3</u>
GNP at period end (in millions of dinars) . . .	1,908	4,198	7,276	11,640	12,980	12,089	
Debt at period end (in millions of dinars) . . .	611	1,593	3,530	12,320	5,390	5,130	
Debt ratio (in percent) . .	32	38	48.5	105.6	41.5	42.4	

.ujon

*Sce.: scenario

Source: Planning Ministry. Tunisia.

First of all, one notes the constant progression of the debt ratio that reached 50.1 percent in 1984, moreover, compared with 37.9 percent in 1981. A disturbing development therefore.

Furthermore, apart from the future seventh plan's scenario 1 that is especially unfavorable, according to the two other hypotheses for the seventh plan this debt ratio will remain at a high and even disturbing level, since it will exceed 40 percent.

In the following table we have provided some significant comparisons.

<u>Country</u>	<u>1984 Public Debt Ratio (in percent)</u>	<u>Per Capita Debt (in US dollars)</u>
Maghreb		
Tunisia	46.1	483
Morocco	82.9	484
Algeria	38.3	821
Mauritania	171.2	585
Medium revenue countries	35.0	244
Most indebted countries		
Brazil	33.6	500
Mexico	42.8	896

Source: World Bank. Report on World Development, 1986. Tables 18 and 25. The category of medium revenue countries (\$740 and above per year and per inhabitant in 1984) includes Tunisia.

By comparison with the three other Maghreb countries, Tunisia has the lowest public debt ratio after Algeria, and the smallest per capita debt ratio in the entire area.

By contrast, in the larger category of so-called medium revenue countries which includes Tunisia, the latter occupies a less favorable position because the Tunisian debt ratio is 24 percent higher than the average debt ratio of countries in this category. And per capita debt is 49 percent higher than the average ratio in the medium revenue countries.

In comparison with the two most indebted developing countries in the world, Mexico and Brazil, Tunisia has a worse public debt ratio and has a per capita debt barely lower than Brazil's!

Thus Tunisian debt is disturbing, as much because of its relative size in relation to the GNP as by the burden it imposes on each Tunisian both now and for the future.

Still thinking in terms of the third condition for good debt, in regard to the charges or service on the debt, what is the cost of the charges or service on the Tunisian debt? The following table gives some material that will yield answers.

In Millions of Dinars

<u>Item</u>	<u>Fourth Plan</u>	<u>Fifth Plan</u>	<u>Sixth Plan</u>	<u>Seventh Plan</u>		
	<u>1972-1976</u>	<u>1977-1981</u>	<u>1982-1986</u>	<u>1987-1991</u>		
				<u>Sce*.1</u>	<u>Sce.2</u>	<u>Sce.3</u>
Service on the debt:						
--Principal . . .	142	448	1,374.9	2,960	2,365	2,300
--Interest . . .	66	333	875.7	2,370	1,600	1,535
Total	208	781	2,250.6	5,330	3,965	3,835

Source: Planning Ministry. Tunisia.
Sce*.: scenario

Service on the Tunisian debt increased more than 11 times between the fourth and sixth plan--i.e., in 15 years--, which is about 74 percent per year. As concerns the future seventh plan, excluding the first particularly unfavorable scenario, the service on the debt will still remain nearly 4 billion dinars, i.e., 77 percent more than the rate of the current sixth plan.

The breakdown on the service on the debt shows that the amortization charges on the principal have been virtually multiplied by 10 while the interest charges have been multiplied by 12 in the space of 15 years. When one considers that payments on the principal of the Tunisian debt will increase by at least 67 percent, and interest payments by 75 percent during the upcoming seventh plan in relation to the sixth plan, one can understand the seriousness of the pressure that the Tunisian debt is placing on national resources.

The second question: What does the payment of these charges represent in relation to Tunisia's available convertible liquid assets, i.e., in relation to hard currency revenues--or export revenue from goods and services?

In the following table, one notes that the service on the Tunisian debt practically doubled between the fourth and the sixth plan. Now at 20 percent, this rate represents a heavy charge for Tunisian foreign financing. The situation will not improve during the upcoming seventh plan, because this rate will be between 22.9 percent--the most favorable scenario--and 32.9 percent--the most unfavorable scenario.

Service on the Debt in Relation to Export Receipts

<u>Fourth Plan</u> <u>1972-1976</u>	<u>Fifth Plan</u> <u>1977-1981</u>	<u>Sixth Plan</u> <u>1982-1986</u>		<u>Seventh Plan</u> <u>1987-1991</u>	
			<u>Sce.1</u>	<u>Sce.2</u>	<u>Sce.3</u>
10.2%	20.3%	21.3%	32.9%	22.9%	24.3%

Source: Ministry of Planning. Tunisia.

Another question: Why is the cost of the Tunisian debt increasing in so disturbing a manner?

There are two reasons for that: on the one hand, there is the increase in the total debt tied to continual growth in the Tunisian need for foreign capital. Furthermore, there is the unfavorable structure of the debt, which features an increasingly higher percentage rate on medium-term loans combined with terms--interest rate, repayment period, grace period--that are much less favorable than for long-term loans.

As a matter of fact, if Tunisia does not have enough of its own resources to cope with all these outside circumstances, it can only take out foreign loans. It must amortize the principal and pay interest on the debt; it must finance imports of goods and services or more exactly the outstanding amount of the balance of trade and the current balance and may also have to finance other capital outlays. The following table shows how Tunisia's needs for foreign capital have developed over the last 15 years, and how they are expected to develop over the next 5 years.

Foreign Capital Requirements (in millions of dinars)

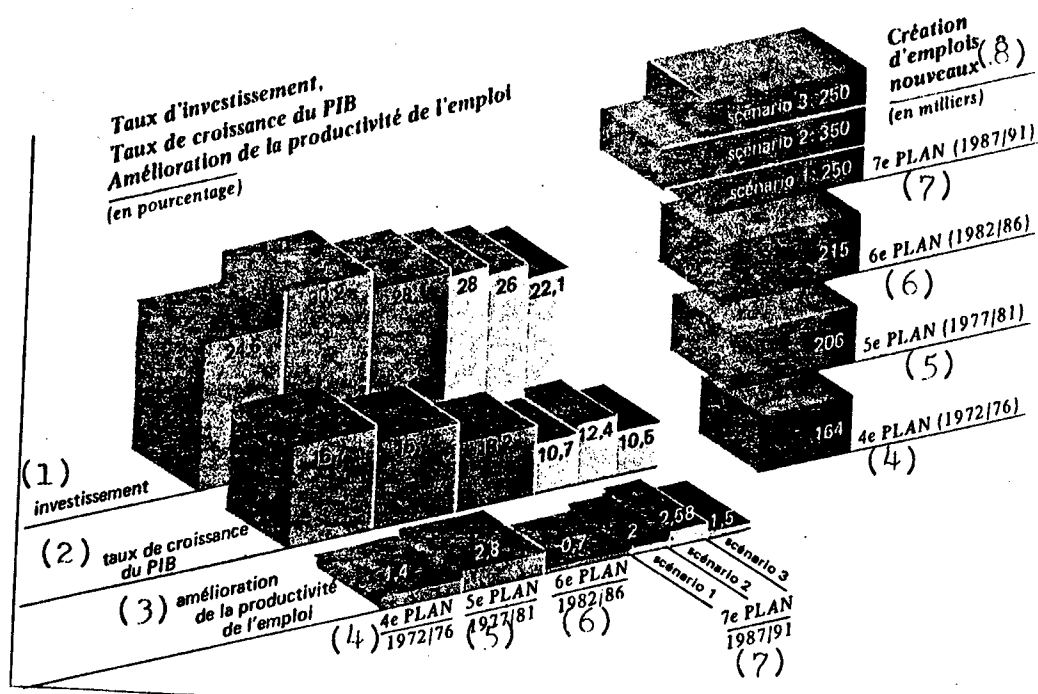
<u>Fourth Plan</u> <u>1972-1976</u>	<u>Fifth Plan</u> <u>1977-1981</u>	<u>Sixth Plan</u> <u>1982-1986</u>		<u>Seventh Plan</u> <u>1987-1991</u>	
			<u>Sce*.1</u>	<u>Sce.2</u>	<u>Sce.3</u>
569	1,742	3,662.6	12,560	5,035	4,710

*Sce.: scenario

Source: Ministry of Planning. Tunisia.

One notes that these foreign capital requirements have been practically multiplied by six in 15 years--between the fourth and sixth plan--and that in the seventh plan, these same needs, excluding the first unfavorable scenario, will remain at an average level of 5 billion dinars, i.e., an increase of approximately 40 percent in relation to the end of the current sixth plan.

Rate of Investment, GNP Growth, Improvement
in Job Productivity (in percent)



Key:

1. Investment
2. Rate of growth of GNP
3. Improvement in job productivity
4. Fourth plan (1972-1976)
5. Fifth plan (1977-1981)
6. Sixth plan (1982-1986)
7. Seventh plan (1987-1991)
8. Creation of new jobs (in thousands)

In second place, what is the structure of this debt?

We know that a debt is all the more expensive if the repayment period is short, if the accompanying interest rate is high, and if the currency in which it is taken out has appreciated at the time of repayment.

This can be seen in more detail from the following two tables.

<u>Term</u>	<u>1975</u>	<u>1981</u>	<u>1984</u>
Long-term debt	82%	64%	59%
Medium-term debt	18%	36%	41%
(including financial market)	(-)	(8%)	(14%)

Source: Ministry of Planning. As a percentage of the total debt.

Conditions of the Tunisian Debt

<u>Item</u>	<u>1974</u>	<u>1976</u>	<u>1978</u>	<u>1979</u>	<u>1980</u>	<u>1981</u>	<u>1982</u>	<u>1983</u>
Average interest rate (in percent)	5.3	5.5	7.3	7.2	6.7	8.2	7.7	8.5
Average loan term (in years)	20.3	16.3	13.4	15.5	17.3	15.3	17.7	12.4
Grace period (in years)	5.0	4.8	4.0	5.4	5.0	3.6	4.1	4.8
Gift portion (in percent)	35.5	39.7	34.3	28.1	28.9	18.5	20.0	15.7

Source: Study by E. Larbi, M. Safra, M. Souissi, M. Bouaouja: "Foreign Debt and Economic Growth in the Maghreb Countries," March 1986.

One notes the increasing part occupied by medium-term debt--less favorable than long-term debt--between 1975, 1981, and 1984, resulting especially from Tunisia's growing recourse to private loans.

Generally speaking, the average interest rate on the debt can be put at 6.1 percent, the average repayment period at 14 years, and the gift portion at 23 percent. Nevertheless, the tightening-up of the terms of the Tunisian debt is quite obvious, particularly in 1979-1980.

Examining more closely the terms of the loans made by Tunisia's main financial backers, one notes that it has been mainly the World Bank (11.7 percent of the total Tunisian debt) and the United States (14.1 percent of this total) that have tightened their terms the most. By contrast, Arab sources of aid to Tunisia (11.7 percent) have in a remarkable way maintained the favorable character of the loans they make to Tunisia. Finally, loans Tunisia has taken out with France (10.6 percent of the total) and West Germany (9.4 percent) have become slightly more expensive.

Since the larger part of the Tunisian debt was borrowed, and is therefore repayable, in American dollars, Tunisia has had to bear additional repayment

costs (see the following table) during the years when American currency appreciated in an almost insane manner--1981-1984. It is true that the situation changed substantially in 1985 and 1986, and that the debt-dollar relationship has developed in a way that favors Tunisia.

Portion (in percent) of the Tunisian Debt in the Major Currencies
in Which it Was Borrowed

<u>Currency</u>	<u>1981</u>	<u>1985</u>
American dollar	45.5	43.3
French franc	16.9	12.3
Japanese yen	3.3	10.6
German mark	10.2	9.9
Kuwaiti dinar	4.6	5.3
Saudi riyal	3.4	4.6

Source: Ministry of Planning. Tunisia.

There also remains the fact that more than 20 percent of the debt is repayable in two currencies that have been continually appreciating since September 1985: these are the Japanese yen and the German mark.

By means of this X-ray examination of the Tunisian debt over 15 years of economic history (1972-1986), we have tried to show how Tunisia's necessary and normal recourse to foreign resources--i.e., to debt--to cope with its development needs, could run into difficulties and thus endanger the balance of its foreign and national finances, and reduce its level of autonomy and room for maneuver.

Moreover, by consulting the provisional statistics for the three scenarios of the future seventh plan (1987-1991), one observes that Tunisia will continue to walk a tightrope as concerns its debt situation, indeed that one scenario--the first envisaged in the plan--would push Tunisia into the "very hot" zone of Third World countries which now find themselves stymied and choked by the foreign commitments they are supposed to honor in the worst of conditions.

Tunisia has always been proud to point out that it has regularly observed all the due dates of its foreign debt. It is a fact that all its foreign creditors willingly recognize, since for them Tunisia is financially a trustworthy and credible country. Moreover, the fact that Tunisia to this point has never had to negotiate a moratorium with its foreign creditors is also to its credit. But from another point of view, the fact that the foreign resources borrowed by Tunisia--at low or high cost--have not always been used judiciously, i.e., channeled in the most productive possible way, is also a no less obvious fact. [Footnote 2] [I hasten to say that since I held ministerial responsibilities between 1969 and 1975, I accept my share of responsibility in what one might at the very least term the less than optimal use of the foreign resources that Tunisia borrowed during those years.]

However the case may be, Tunisian planners this time will simultaneously have to face pressure from two directions: the old, ongoing social constraint,

i.e., reducing unemployment, and the new financial constraint, i.e., restoring financial balance both externally and internally.

We know that the reconciliation of these two constraints is the equivalent of drawing a square circle, and that Tunisia will be almost forced to choose between "taking care of social needs" or "taking care of financial needs."

But if it is true that the resolution of these social and financial constraints is in fact impossible, that Tunisia cannot in the foreseeable future--i.e., in the 5 years of the seventh plan (1987-1991)--both solve its unemployment problem and restore a balance to its foreign and internal financial accounts, and that neither can it pursue one objective and ignore the other, we believe nevertheless that it is both necessary and possible to do the best possible job in dealing with both pressures. By this we mean the simultaneous reduction of the double imbalance, financial and social, that encumbers Tunisian development so as to restore it to a tolerable level. And this requires a progressive yet profound overhaul of the country's entire development system: production, consumption, exports, imports, savings, the distribution of revenue, the tax system, price structures, etc.

9824

CSO: 4519/38

EGG CONSUMPTION CAMPAIGN CREATES CONTROVERSY

Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 11 Dec 86 p 3

[Article by Sa'ad G. Hattar]

[Text]

AMMAN — A controversy has surfaced over the viability of a projected campaign to increase the domestic per capita consumption of table eggs with differing viewpoints from both the medical and economic sides.

The medical point of view insists that the average individual should consume no more than two eggs per week which conflicts with a declared public awareness campaign to raise the domestic per capita consumption of eggs from 135 per annum, the lowest rate in the world, to 170 a year or three per week.

The idea for raising the domestic consumption was prompted by the fact that the local market has been and still is awash with accumulated egg surpluses, a situation aggravated by shrinking export outlets.

Last year, the Jordan Society for the Production and Marketing of Eggs (JSPME) sustained heavy losses as a result of a bottle-neck in the supply and demand process. The JSPME stepped in at that time and reduced the prices to prevent a surplus of approximately 500 million eggs from being spoiled. Lowering the prices reflected negatively on the profitability of the society's 140 egg farms but did manage to salvage the bulk of the

egg surplus.

A dietician's view

In an interview with the Jordan Times, dietician Suha Khalaf explained that the overall intake of cholesterol by the human body should be in the region of 250 milligrammes per day. Taking into account the fact that the human body generates a certain amount of cholesterol on a daily basis, medical research centres recommended that an average individual consumes no more than one egg per day which contains 255 milligrammes of cholesterol, Dr. Khalaf said.

However, and as a safety factor, Dr. Khalaf said that the medically recognised safety level for egg-consumption should be no more than two eggs per week.

Cholesterol, the vital, yellowish substance whose level is directly affected by the richness of the diet, is widely held responsible for cardiovascular diseases when consumed in large quantities. Lowering cholesterol intake markedly reduces the incidence of fatal heart attacks, according to medical research.

Breakdown of an egg

Apart from cholesterol, which is concentrated in the yolk, an average 50 gramme-egg contains 75 per cent water, 80 calories, 6 grammes of protein, 6 grammes of

fat — both saturated and unsaturated, 27 grammes of carbohydrates and 1.1 milligramme of calcium. An average egg also contains 5.9 international units of Vitamin A, 0.5 milligrammes of Vitamin B1, 0.15 milligrammes of Vitamin B2 and a trace of Vitamin B3, according to medical reports.

The public awareness campaign, launched by the JSPME, includes illustrated advertisements in the press highlighting the nutritious benefits of eggs but the notices do not point out the level of cholesterol in an egg.

JSPME Director General Samir Habashneh contended that recent medical research found no link whatsoever "in the ratio between cholesterol in eggs compared to that in any other fat and protein commodity."

Mr. Habashneh went further and said that an American researcher recently recommended that it would be healthier if an average individual ate three eggs per day and reduced meat consumption.

The annual per capita consumption of eggs in Iraq is 240, in Saudi Arabia 300 whilst the per capita consumption in the U.S. and the Soviet Union are in the region of 400 eggs per annum. Mr. Habashneh noted, pointing out that Jordan's consumption was well below these levels.

EDUCATION MINISTRY BEGINS ANTI-ILLITERACY CAMPAIGN

Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 8-9 Jan 87 p 3

[Text]

AMMAN (Petra) — The Ministry of Education has prepared a comprehensive campaign to eradicate illiteracy in Jordan by the end of the 20th century and the plan envisages providing education to some 300,000 illiterate people living largely in the rural regions, according to Mr. Abdul Karim Al Simadi, head of the illiteracy section at the Ministry of Education.

In a statement to the Jordan News Agency, Petra, on the eve of the Arab Day for the Eradication of Illiteracy which falls on Thursday, Mr. Simadi said that Jordan has to solve the problem of illiteracy as it impedes the Kingdom's development projects. He said that a survey conducted in 1979 revealed that 34.6 per cent of the total population above 15 years of age were illiterate. Estimating a drop of one per cent annually, the present rate should now stand at 28 per cent, he said. This means that 352,500 people are still illiterate and of this number, two thirds are female. Mr. Simadi added.

The Ministry of Education opened 700 centres for adult education in the past year, of which 113 were assigned for males and the rest for females, and at least 12,000 people, mostly women, attended classes and benefitted from this form of education. Mr. Simadi pointed

out.

The programme for providing education to adults and illiterate people has been going on in all provinces through departments of education and with the help of information media campaigns, lectures, documentaries and cultural programmes and by providing material and moral support for those excelling in their courses. Mr. Simadi continued.

The Ministry of Education, Mr. Simadi said, looks forward to the day when all the people in the country are literate so that everybody can participate in the development of the Kingdom. He attributed the presence of illiterate people to a large number of people who dropped out of school at an early age, specially in the rural regions, due to social and economic reasons and because previously there was no law making adult education mandatory. Also, a lack of sufficient funds in the past meant

that eradication of illiteracy projects could not be carried out in the Kingdom, he continued.

The Ministry of Education, Mr. Simadi said, now plans to open 60 centres for adult education in 30 villages in remote regions of Jordan as a first stage; and this programme will later be extended to other regions of the country.

Jordan was one of the first countries to enact legislation on educating adults and illiterate people and imposed compulsory education between the age of six and 16 in order to avoid having more illiterates in the country; and the Ministry of Education has been launching intensified campaigns for eradicating illiteracy and urging all illiterate adults to join literacy centres. Mr. Simadi added.

The Arab Day for the Eradication of Illiteracy was established by the Arab League in 1966 and in 1970 the task of eradicating illiteracy in the Arab World was placed under the auspices of the Arab League Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation which is helping Arab states solve the problem of illiteracy.

In Mafraq, a ceremony was held on Wednesday on the eve of the Arab Day for the Eradication of Illiteracy.

MAJOR FUEL OIL DIVERSION SCANDAL IN DAMASCUS EXPOSED

Damascus TISHRIN in Arabic 5 Jan 87 p 4

[Article by Nabil 'Izz-al-Din Hama: "A Citizen's Complaint Has Exposed the Diversion of Fuel Oil to the Black Market by the Head of the Al-Halbuni Station"]

[Text] In the Qaws Qazah section last Wednesday, our colleague Walid Mi'mari gave the Sadkub company a new label, calling it "Mafibnub." Before that, our colleague Tamim Da'bul had called it "Mazutkub." These nicknames arose from the manifestations of the shortage our citizens are experiencing and the difficulties facing them in obtaining cans of fuel oil!

The manifestations of the shortage revealed this, but, after we had learned the secret details of things, we found another name to take the place of those which had preceded it -- "Khafayakub." We will begin first of all with:

The Manifestations of the Shortage!

The journey of the search for cans of fuel oil has become the talk of the moment and the main preoccupation of our citizens, who have left their homes in the early hours of morning, carrying empty cans and going about the fuel stations and fuel company centers specializing in fuel oil distribution, in the desire to obtain a commodity by which to warm their children's bones. When they obtained it they were lucky, and when they did not they set their hopes on the next day, until finally they were successful. However, the problem certainly did not end then, because the ball would return after their use of the can ended -- that is, they would make this enjoyable journey once every 2 days!

Abu Ghalib, a worker in the al-Khamasiyah Company, said that he would be compelled to quit work because he could not reconcile his job with responding to his family's needs, especially when we realize that Abu Ghalib received a leave for a period of a week in which he was able to get two cans of fuel oil and a canister of propane. Had this worker wanted to respond to the ongoing requirements, he would have needed to take permanent leave from work, or in fact to quit it.

Abu Ahmad, an employee in a government company, recently, for the first time in his government service, which comes to 20 years, was subjected to penalties for conduct because of his repeated absence and his late appearance at work. The reason was that he was on the journey searching for it.

Mrs Ilham Mahmud said that she had recently been graced with a second job alongside her job as a housewife, which was to stand in front of stations to obtain fuel oil. Today she will have been standing for 16 days, in the course of which she has got three cans of fuel oil. We in our turn tell Mrs Ilham, congratulations for this job! Many others beside you are waiting their turn to find employment!

The families of students in school have imposed an additional academic course on them which starts with the assumption of a place at the end of the Kub line. You all know how numerous the lines are.

They end with the acquisition of "Mazutkub." This is a compulsory everyday course!

Many are the examples of the manifestations of the crisis and the lines spread about here and there before the distribution centers, showing how stifling the shortage is!

The shortage has not discriminated against one person in favor of another, except in the case of some fortunate people who are close to the distribution supervisors and have obtained their allocations through the "Kartkub!" On this subject, we have some special letters which have been exchanged among supervisors.

With the Journalistic Investigation

It is true that the manifestations of the shortage are no longer a secret to anyone, but the hidden details of this shortage and the people who have exploited it for their own interests and personal objectives are a secret to many people.

It is true that we are experiencing a shortage in the fuel oil commodity, but we certainly have not been as short on it as some people indicate. It is also true that we have to set quotas on the use of this commodity, but we have not been asked to give it up as an inherited custom, like drinking coffee or smoking. Everyone knows that heating is a human need. Isn't that the case?

Excuse me if I have gone on at length in reviewing the manifestations of the shortage. Let us follow up on the investigation together.

The Story of the Report

A report from a fuel company official reached us by chance. The report mentioned some illegal practices the head of the fuel company's al-Halbuni station had engaged in and his diversion of fuel oil via special channels outside the city limits of Damascus, where it was sold, since the price of a

can in the outlying areas of Damascus comes to 60 Syrian pounds. We then later learned that the writer of the report was an official in this station and that as a result of his insolence toward the head of the station he was transferred to another center.

We did not ignore the report, but conducted an investigation into its contents. Ultimately, the truth of what was stated in it became apparent, and in addition many things were discovered and we acquired documents illustrating it which all in all were a cause for the shortage.

In the Al-Halbuni Station

We reached the station the same day the report arrived and found it closed and organized lines waiting for the opening. We stood with the citizens and heard the various stories going around concerning people's sufferings and their urgent effort to obtain fuel oil, in addition to some conversations they exchanged with one another concerning some of the station head's practices. Upon the opening of the station at 1200 hours, we went in to find the head of the station and his employees with the supply official assigned to operate the vehicles taking their breakfast while people were waiting outside in the cold!

We told the head of the station, "All right, it is now 1200 hours noon, how will you deal with the lines of citizens waiting for the distribution of the commodity?" He answered that he had distributed the day's allocations of the commodity and distribution had ended.

The supply official confirmed that and said that he had supervised the distribution himself and had assigned each driver to respond to a number of requests, and he had lists for that.

Upon examination of the station lists and the supply lists, we found numerous discrepancies which raised doubts and asked for an explanation about the quantity of fuel oil supplied to the station. It appeared that it was not a small quantity and was not very different from the supply on ordinary days or before the shortage. What was distributed accounted for 50 percent of the supply, and the supply lists did not prove that the vehicles responded to the actual requests. On review of the lists in the possession of the supply official, it was apparent to him that that was part of the scope of the game the head of the station was pursuing, and the fraud in distribution had fooled him.

What Is the Game?

The station has 46 people conducting transactions, who are divided up into two contingents. Each contingent has the right to fill up once every 2 days, on the basis of lists the head of the station has prepared in advance, containing the names of the contingent whose turn it is and the quantities they are to receive. The list is given to the supply official who in turn gets the drivers going to respond to the citizens' requests. Where is the fraud here?

We mentioned that we had been supplied with some information before coming into the station, and we also knew that many of the citizens to whom the

supply official had given the name of the driver assigned to respond to their requests did not exist at all and that the driver assigned to reply to the requests of some of the people who did exist refused to go to them. We obtained some names when we confronted the station head and the supply official with the truth about this matter. Their expressions changed and they demanded to examine the lists. They examined them together and a dispute flared up over it between them which ultimately resulted in the departure of the supply official from the station, leaving the groups of people waiting behind him!

At the end of the shift, the station head apologized over the distribution of the commodity. One should bear in mind that what he had been supplied with, in addition to the reserves left to him from the previous day, came to 127,731 liters and the total he had sold was 64,878 liters. The station was closed without the attainment of the citizens' hopes for obtaining fuel oil.

The Next Day

On our second visit to the station the following day, we found the station closed completely. The people working at the station claimed that a patrol had removed the supply official by force and that the station head was concerned about himself and fled. In the course of our conversation with the citizens, the supply official returned to engage in his activity after it had been apparent, according to his claim, that he had fled the citizens' pressures! We found the station official on the second floor of the station, after he had informed the guard that he was not present were people to look for him. In this charged atmosphere, the head of the al-Qanawat police station appeared, confirming an item of news that had reached him that the supply patrol was not doing its job and that it was taking bribes from people whose requests were responded to. A lengthy conversation took place on that in the presence of the director of the Damascus branch of the fuel company, who had come to visit the station, and that ultimately resulted in the departure of the supply patrol from the station. Chaos prevailed and the citizens' anger flared, especially the anger of those who had the names of the drivers who had refused to respond to their requests for some days. The supply department sent another official, but he was not able to control matters and he for his part left without being able to take any measures.

A few seconds before the end of the shift, the supply official Muhammad al-Ahmad returned in the company of security personnel with a summons for the station head.

When the supply official returned, I informed him of the names of the drivers who had not committed themselves to the instructions issued by the minister of supply, which stipulate that the people conducting transactions must undertake to respond to the citizens' requests. The supply official wrote out a letter to the station requesting that they not be supplied with the commodity and he withdrew their permits. It is odd that the station head's reaction to the withdrawal of the permits manifested itself in his sarcastic statement to the supply official, "These permits will return to their owners tomorrow!"

Meanwhile, the vehicle which had been diverting fuel oil outside the city of Damascus came forward. We took it over and I informed the supply official of

it. I gave him the vehicle's papers bearing on the Yabrud area, with the driver's confession that he had filled up at the station. In the course of that, the manager of the Damascus branch of the fuel company arrived once again and received the vehicle's papers after he had scrutinized them himself and promised to carry out the necessary measures.

As on the previous day, the station head suspended distribution after he had distributed 82,879 of a total of 166,114 liters.

The Permits Are Returned the Next Day

The following day we went to the station to find that the supply official had not come at all. How great was the surprise when we learned that the quantities the station official had sold came to about 120,000 liters. To whom, God knows best!

On the final day's visit to the station we found that the supply officer had backed off from the summons to the station head, the permits had been returned to the station and no measures had been taken against the driver of the tank truck which had diverted the material.

Conclusions

As a result of this laxity and failure to adopt the necessary measures, you can hear what happened in the station.

The station head had recorded some sales in the names of fictitious drivers although they did not come to visit the station. The supply official found that out himself.

Large quantities had been recorded in the names of drivers who had not taken delivery of them at all and they remained in the station to be sold to vehicles which diverted them on behalf of the station head.

The station head had received more than the official tariff from the drivers.

The station head had refrained from selling the fuel oil commodity to some vehicles on the grounds that there was no supply patrol, while he had sold to some other vehicles outside shift hours on days when there was no supply patrol at all!

In addition, many things happened which we have the documents to prove, if the bodies concerned want to pass judgment on the truth!

A Question

Why did the supply official back off from giving the station head a summons, why were the permits which had been withdrawn from transactions by his decree returned, and why did he not follow up on the subject of the vehicle that had diverted the commodity to Yabrud, especially when we realize that the supply official has a copy of the decree which reached us in his folder

that refers to the practices of the station head, with the marginal comment of the assistant director of supply attached to it concerning the need to follow through the investigation?

Finally, we wonder when the citizens' journey in the search for cans of fuel oil will end and how we can spare them some people's exploitation of their right to obtain their allocations of this commodity, which has been given a large share of government attention so that it may be supplied to all citizens without exception.

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SYRIA

FODDER-SMUGGLING GANG APPREHENDED

Damascus TISHRIN in Arabic 27 Nov 86 p 4

[Article by Nabil 'Izz-al-Din Hama: "Commissioner of the Nula Cooperative Arrested, Caught Red-Handed Committing the Crime of Smuggling Truckloads of Fodder and Making Adulterated Fodder Mixtures, and the Minister of Agriculture Refers the Investigation to the Central Surveillance and Inspection Authority"]

[Text] The story of the "coincidence" which led the editor to discover that some people were buying and selling fodder that had been allotted to the farmers in the Damascus rural area.

Some of the commissioners of the cooperatives have been tampering with the lists, depriving the farmers of their fodder allotments, and selling the fodder in the black market.

While he was preparing an investigative news report concerning the real situation regarding the availability of fodder and how it is filtering to the black market--and this is the subject of the report published on this page--our colleague Nabil Hama discovered the existence of a warehouse, in the Damascus rural area, which sold to the black market fodder intended only for the public sector.

Our editor colleague got in touch with the director general of the General Fodder Organization, and he was responsive and personally participated in conducting an investigation together with the Farmers' Federation and the director of supply for the Province of Damascus. This investigation resulted in the discovery of the fact that this warehouse belonged to the commissioner of the Nula cooperative in the Damascus rural area, and it was proven that this person was misappropriating the allotments of fodder intended for the farmers and was selling this fodder in the black market. In addition to this, he was adulterating the fodder and passing it off as prepared fodder when selling it.

The minister of agriculture and agrarian reform sent a letter to the Central Surveillance and Inspection Authority concerning the results of the investigation dealing with the Nula cooperative case and requested that this organization complete the investigation. The following is from the text of this letter:

"On the basis of a telephone conversation between the director general of the General Fodder Organization and a journalist from the newspaper TISHRIN concerning the matter of Mr Zuhayr Bal'id, the commissioner of the multi-purpose Nula cooperative which is located in the Damascus rural area, who misappropriated allotments of fodder intended for the members of that cooperative, the following persons and organizations were informed of this affair--the General Farmers' Federation, the Damascus Farmers' Federation, and the minister of supply for the Damascus rural area. Representatives of the above-mentioned organizations came to the warehouse of the commissioner of the cooperative on 16 November 1986 and they noted that the above-mentioned commissioner had committed a number of violations. This called for the conducting of an initial investigation, and the investigation proved that the following actions had been committed:

1. The sale of fodder at prices higher than the official price.
2. The crushing and mixing of some fodder materials and passing it off as prepared fodder.
3. The signing, by the commissioner, of the fodder distribution lists on behalf of the members of the cooperative and indicating that the fodder had been received.
4. Signing the distribution lists on behalf of the head of the cooperative.

"The items found in his warehouse were transferred to the warehouse of the General Fodder Organization in al-Nashabiyah.

"During the evening of 19 November 1986 a meeting was held in the office of the director general of the General Fodder Organization, and the meeting was attended by representatives from the General Farmers' Federation, the Damascus Rural Farmers' Federation, and the Directorate of Supply for Damascus. After discussions and after a review of the initial findings concerning the matter, the following was decided:

1. Release of the supply goods confiscated from Mr Zuhayr Bal'id and turning the items over to the judicial authorities.
2. Referring the case to the Central Surveillance and Inspection Authority in order that it complete the investigation.
3. Entrusting the Damascus branch of the General Fodder Organization with the task of immediately sending shipments of fodder allotments to the farmers after the federation designates a representative."

According to a proverb, "chance meetings are more fruitful than meetings by appointment." Apparently the nature of our journalistic business, from time to time, proves that this proverb is true. Many of our journalistic reports that have been written were not originally planned to be written, or it is possible to say that we had the subjects of such journalistic reports in mind but had delayed writing about them until priorities required that we write and publish them.

We had in mind the matter of buying and selling fodder and we had previously published numerous reports which included this topic. Following up on this topic was something that was very close to being one of the priorities of our work. We knew that this buying and selling of fodder was the reason for the crisis in the supply of fodder and why the farmers had so much trouble obtaining it. We also knew about the negative effects of the black market in fodder--something which cannot effectively be dealt with because there is no law which forbids the buying and selling of fodder and restricts this to the General Fodder Organization.

So this issue was not something which we did not have in mind. But the time had not yet come to follow up on it. Perhaps this issue would not have been brought up even now if chance circumstances had not made it necessary to take up the matter. While I was undertaking field trips to the rural area of the Province of Damascus in order to investigate complaints made by some farmers concerning the issue of buying and selling mineral oils, I constantly heard a lot of angry talk about a black market which monopolizes the buying and selling of animal fodder. I also heard that those persons running this black market were the same persons who were entrusted with the job of distributing the fodder from the General Fodder Organization which is intended for distribution to the farmers.

Due to my journalistic curiosity, I followed up on this story and met with some farmers who condemned some of the officials in two different cooperatives. Since we pursued this matter, we were able to also have the appropriate authorities deal with a third cooperative whose commissioner for fodder distribution, it turned out, was exploiting his position and dealing in fodder in the black market. The fodder he was selling in the black market was being taken from the farmers' allotments and he had set up an illegal factory where he was producing adulterated fodder mixtures which he was then selling to the farmers at black market prices--and he was passing the fodder off as being the product of the General Fodder Organization.

Without further delay, we will now directly provide you with the details. Here is how it all happened:

The Dayr Salman Cooperative

The first village which we visited during our field trip was Dayr Salman. There we met all of the members of the farmers' cooperative. Some of them said that there was a crisis, whereas others denied that there was a crisis.

After we held a series of investigative discussions with them, it turned out that those who denied the existence of a crisis were really the ones who were benefiting from what was being done with the cooperative's allotments. These persons were the head of the cooperative, the members of the cooperative's administration, and some of their cronies. Those who affirmed the existence of a crisis were those who, except in very rare instances, were not benefiting from the cooperative.

Here is what Mr F. Z., a farmer from the village of Dayr Salman, had to say: "The farmers' cooperative was formed in order to take care of the needs of the farmers and provide the materials necessary for agricultural production. But unfortunately, from the time that the cooperative was established, one of the members of its administration dominated it and he stole allotments from it until his actions were discovered. He was then dismissed from his post and another farmer was appointed in his place. We were surprised when the new appointee began to engage in the same actions that his predecessor engaged in. He began to tamper with the lists showing the distribution of fodder to the members of the cooperative. He was not distributing their full allotments to them. He was distributing to them only portions of their allotments and he was keeping for himself the rest of the fodder in order that he could sell it in the black market."

Another farmer, Mr A. S., says: "Not long ago the appropriate authorities conducted an on-the-spot inspection in order to find out the actual number of animals in our village. It turned out that the inventory list had been falsified and that the table which had been compiled by the head of the cooperative and showed the receipt of the cooperative's fodder allotments was at variance with the table which showed the distribution of the fodder allotments to the members of the cooperative."

Concerning the allotments per head of cattle, one of the farmers had the following to say: "As we know, the allotment of fodder per head of cattle from the General Fodder Organization is 50 kilograms of fodder prepared for dairy cattle. However, our cooperative has been giving us only 40 kilograms per head of cattle. The remainder goes to the black market, and we always have to go to the black market to buy the fodder that we need for our animals."

Concerning the price of the fodder, one of the farmers said: "The generally-accepted price for a bag of fodder for dairy cattle is 67.5 Syrian Pounds. This includes transportation costs. However, we have to pay 72 Syrian Pounds. There is no justification at all for this extra amount that we have to pay."

A number of the farmers had the following to say: "We have submitted a number of complaints to the Farmers' League in Duma, but so far we have not received any response to our complaints. This is why we are now turning to you."

The Head of the Cooperative Confesses

After our meeting with the farmers, we met with the head of the cooperative and the person responsible for the cooperative's warehouse. The latter told us that he had been distributing 40 kilograms of dairy cattle fodder to the farmers instead of 50 kilograms. He also said that he had been signing on their behalf that they had received the fodder. When we reviewed the cooperative's records, we found out that some of the members of the cooperative who were friendly with the members of the cooperative's administration had been receiving allotments of 50 kilograms, whereas the others were receiving 40 kilograms. In addition to this, both the person in charge of the warehouse and the head of the cooperative confessed to the fact that the distribution tables were not accurate and that this was so because they had to compensate for the shortage which they had as a result of deducting a certain percentage of the cooperative's allotments which had been set in accordance with the lists submitted to the General Fodder Organization showing the number of head of cattle.

The al-Ahmadiyah Cooperative

Our next stop was the al-Ahmadiyah Farmers' Cooperative. We met a number of farmers there who told us that there was something obviously wrong in the administration of the cooperative. For example, Mr M. A. B., a farmer, said the following: "We asked you to come after all efforts on our part to set matters aright failed, particularly in view of the fact that we had submitted a number of complaints to the Farmers' League and had received no response.

"The basic issue is that for 2 years now we have been suffering from a shortage in fodder allotments because the cooperative is selling the fodder in the black market. The best proof of this is the fact that large quantities of the fodder are being smuggled to the Bedouins in the desert at night. Once we caught them doing this, but the driver who was smuggling the fodder managed to get away from us."

Mr A. J., another farmer, said: "Not only is there little fodder to be had. In addition to this, the head of the cooperative has asked us to sign a paper which gives him the right to charge an additional 5 Syrian Pounds on each bag of fodder. This is in violation of the law. Also, he is charging an additional 2 Syrian Pounds per bag of the fertilizer which he sells to us."

Mr J. H., another farmer, had the following to say: "We know that we are supposed to receive monthly allotments. However, our cooperative insists that it is unable to regularly give us our allotments because it says that they are not available from the General Fodder Organization. We do not know whether or not this is true."

Another farmer, Mr A. N., said: "The story involving the fodder is a long one which begins with higher prices being charged for the fodder and ends with the fodder being smuggled to persons who are not members of the

cooperative. The price of a regular bag of bran fodder is 30 Syrian Pounds, whereas we are buying it for 35 Syrian Pounds. The price of a bag of fodder prepared for dairy cattle is 65 Syrian Pounds, whereas we have to buy it for 72 Syrian Pounds. Not long ago we noticed several tractor trucks taking fodder from our cooperative to the Bedouins. When we stopped the trucks and asked what was going on, we were told that this was surplus fodder which the person in charge of the cooperative warehouse had and the Farmers' League knew all about this and also knew where this fodder was going!"

The strange thing about the matter is that the deputy head of the cooperative confirmed the fact that they were violating the law concerning the prices of fodder and they confirmed the fact that the delivery invoices had been falsified. Furthermore, the secretary of the cooperative confirmed the fact that they had increased the price for the fodder and that the fodder distribution tables were not accurate.

The Nula Cooperative

Our third and last stop was the Nula Farmers' Cooperative. We stopped in this location due to our discovery of a large fodder warehouse and an illegal factory for the manufacture of fodder mixtures, and due to the occurrence of numerous phenomena which we will mention later on after quoting some of the opinions of the farmers from the village of Nula concerning the distribution of fodder.

Mr [illegible] had the following to say: "We have gotten used to accepting our allotments from the cooperative without knowing whether or not the allotments are full allotments or not. In any case, the allotments are mostly not sufficient for the number of cattle that we have. We have to buy the remaining fodder that we need from the commissioner of the cooperative, and at very high prices. Each bag of bran fodder costs us 55 Syrian Pounds, and each bag of fodder prepared for dairy cattle costs us 105 Syrian Pounds. Usually he sells fodder to us from his own mixtures."

Mr M. D., a farmer from the same village, said the following: "Because our allotments of fodder have always been insufficient, we have always had to resort to buying the remaining fodder that we need from the commissioner of our cooperative. This is why we have been silent about this for so long. If our allotments had been sufficient, then we never would have done business with him."

Consensus

All during our tour of the three villages we kept on hearing the name of "Zuhayr," the fodder dealer, mentioned by all of the farmers as being the only recourse which they had [to buy the additional fodder that they needed]. We then began to make inquiries concerning the identity of this fodder dealer. At first I found it difficult to persuade those persons whom I met to tell me where he was located. But then some of the people, who realized

that it was in the interest of the farmers to help us, gave us information concerning him and said that he was the commissioner of the Nula Farmers' Cooperative.

Arriving at the Warehouse

On our way to see him, we stopped and talked with a number of farmers and asked them where it would be possible for us to obtain some fodder since we wanted to have some for our cattle. All of them directed us to the cooperative commissioner and to the warehouse which he had.

When we entered the warehouse of Zuhayr Bal'id, the fodder dealer who was also the commissioner of the cooperative, we ran across large quantities of fodder which could not have been the allotments of a single cooperative. In addition to this, we ran across several vehicles that were transporting fodder.

Inside the fodder warehouse I also found it difficult to make the acquaintance of Mr Zuhayr Bal'id. Nobody answered my question when I asked them who Mr Bal'id was. However, when I insisted and when I refused to leave the warehouse, this forced the fodder dealer to come out from among the ranks of the workers who were engaged in transporting the fodder from the warehouse and to present himself to me. He said: "Yes, I am Zuhayr. What can I do for you?"

When I asked what the factory's affiliation was, he said that it belonged to the Nula cooperative. He also said that he was its commissioner and was in charge of receiving the farmers' allotments of fodder and of distributing these allotments to them.

I talked to him a little while, and I obtained from him a list showing how many head of cattle the farmers of the cooperative possessed. What a surprise it was when I found out that there was such a huge quantity of fodder available in the warehouse in comparison with the number of head of cattle in the village--only 200 head of cattle.

When I asked him why there were such large quantities of fodder in the warehouse when the cooperative was a small one, and when I asked him where his fodder-manufacturing permit was, he laughed and answered: "It's no problem. We'll take care of the matter." When I asked him about the permit for having a fodder-mixing factory, he answered: "I have no permit."

After a long discussion I convinced him to come with me and bring his vehicles loaded with fodder to the al-Nashabiyah District Center which was not far away from Nula. There I contacted Mr 'Umar Khawlani, director general of the General Fodder Organization, and he responded immediately by coming to see us. So the truckloads of fodder that were going to go to the black market were delivered to the al-Nashabiyah center which belongs to a branch of the General Fodder Organization.

Tour of the Warehouse

I returned to the village of Nula, along with Mr 'Umar Khawlani. There the director general familiarized himself with the warehouse and made a thorough inspection of it, and he noted a number of violations. He got in touch with a food supply patrol which then came to make an inventory of the contents of the warehouse, to put a red seal on its doors, and to participate in the guarding of the warehouse along with personnel selected by the General Fodder Organization. The matter was then to be dealt with on the following day because it was already about 7 pm. The commissioner of the cooperative and the head of the al-Nashabiyah center were both put in the custody of the subdistrict authorities, the reason being that the director general suspected that the source of this fodder could have been the al-Nashabiyah center.

The Next Day

The next day I went to the location of the warehouse after all the appropriate authorities had been informed and were told to send people to take part in the investigation. I attended the meetings held by a number of committees which were appointed by the General Farmers' Federation, the Damascus Farmers' Federation, the Directorate of Supply and Internal Trade, the head of the Farmers' League in Duma, and the real head of the Nula Farmers' Cooperative--since the commissioner had assumed his identity. This is something which we found out about later on. Others included the secretary of the local party cell, a representative from the local branch of the party, the director general of the General Fodder Organization and its internal surveillance [organization], and the director of the Damascus branch of the General Fodder Organization and its internal surveillance [organization]. There began a series of investigations involving the commissioner, Mr Zuhayr Bal'id, and those who were with him when we arrived.

During the questioning there were numerous attempts to play down the whole matter. But as a result of my insistence and the insistence on the part of the director general of the General Fodder Organization that the investigation be pursued, those present at the meeting decided that it was necessary to transfer the fodder to the warehouses of the General Fodder Organization. It was already 6 pm, and still no measures had been taken. So guards were put around the warehouse in order that the fodder not be smuggled out. It was hoped that the investigation would be completed the next day.

The Third Day

On the third day, the following persons came to the headquarters of the cooperative--the head of the Farmers' Branch Bureau, the head of the Department of Surveillance and Inspection in the General Farmers' Federation, the head of the Damascus Farmers' Federation, and all the others who were there before. Everyone got involved in a long discussion concerning the nature of the measures that should be taken. Eventually it became late in the day, so we broke up the meeting with the expectation of completing the investigation the next day.

The Fourth Day

It was on this day that all of the contents of the warehouse were supposed to be sent to the warehouses of the General Fodder Organization. But this did not happen. What did happen was that the guards around the warehouse were removed and a considerable portion of the fodder was smuggled out of the warehouse. Who was responsible for this, and who was it that took the guards away from the warehouse?

The Fifth Day

On the fifth day I informed the director general of the General Fodder Organization concerning what happened and I asked him why the guards had been taken from the warehouse. He was startled when he heard this, and he asked me to accompany him to the village of Nula in order for him to see for himself what had happened. An official investigation was then conducted there, and it was ascertained that the warehouse had been without guards for two nights and that the fodder had not been sent to the al-Nashabiyah center. The director general then authorized internal surveillance personnel to conduct an official investigation in order to find out who was responsible for this.

The Sixth Day

The fodder was transported to the warehouse, and it was inventoried. It turned out that there was a great difference between the amount of fodder that had been there and what was delivered to the center on the first day. The director general of the General Fodder Organization then called a general meeting in his office which was attended by all of those who had taken part in the investigation. Heated discussions took place between the various parties involved concerning the measures which should be taken. This induced me to suggest that minutes be taken of the proceedings of the meeting, and this suggestion was accepted. Official minutes were then prepared, and they confirmed all of the results of the investigations that had been conducted and stated that the case would be referred to the Central Authority for Surveillance and Inspection.

Comments Concerning the Investigation

During our meeting, the head of the Duma league said: "What the farmers said in the complaints that they filed--and which you are talking to us about--is true. We found this out for a fact, and we found out that fodder had in fact been smuggled away at night. We sent the findings of our investigations to the General Federation some time ago, but there has been no answer."

The director of the Damascus branch of the General Fodder Organization told us: "The allotment per head of cattle of the fodder prepared for dairy cattle is 50 kilograms, and not 40 kilograms as is claimed by some of the

commissioners of the cooperatives. Also, the General Fodder Organization has never undercounted the number of cattle for any cooperative. Furthermore, the General Fodder Organization has never stopped distribution during any month, as this has been claimed by the commissioners of some cooperatives. The allotments of the cooperatives are delivered 100 percent to the commissioners of these cooperatives, and nothing is ever deducted."

Mr Fa'iz Darwish, director for animal wealth in the General Farmers' Federation, said that the head of the General Farmers' Federation had demanded, from the first day, that deterrent measures be taken and that an investigation immediately be conducted.

Some of the Facts of the Case

From the legal depositions, which we obtained a copy of, we learned that Mr Zuhayr Bal'id, the commissioner, sold fodder to several cooperatives at black market prices, that he utilized the allotments of the cooperative to manufacture illegal adulterated fodder in his factory which had no license, and that he assumed the identity of the head of the cooperative in order to provide a cover for himself--in view of the fact that the head of the cooperative himself said that he had not come to the village in 2 years!

Remarks by the Editor

Now that the matter has been referred to the Central Authority for Surveillance and Inspection, we must ask why, during all those 6 days, the fodder was not sent to the warehouses of the al-Nashabiyah center. Why was it not being sent as of the first day, since the director general of the General Fodder Organization had issued an order that it be sent? Who was responsible for removing the guards from the warehouses? Why were measures not taken by the food supply patrol which had discovered quantities of iron, vegetable oil, mineral oil, and salt? Who was the one who broke the red seal on the doors? Would it not have been better for the food supply patrol to confiscate the fodder and take into custody the commissioner in order to investigate and find out where this fodder came from before his disappearance and flight from the arm of the law? In fact, he is at large today.

And finally we have the following to say to those who attempted to play down the whole matter and to those who attempted to get in the act and provide a cover-up: It would have been more appropriate for you to participate with all of us in the taking of the necessary measures, because that is what best serves the interests of our nation and its citizens.

Dissolution of the Administrative Council of the al-Ahmadiyah Cooperative

One last thing that we have to say is that a decision was made to dissolve the al-Ahmadiyah cooperative which was mentioned in this report.

SUPPLY MINISTER REVIEWS QUOTAS OF COMMODITIES IN DAR'A

Damascus TISHRIN in Arabic 5 Jan 87 p 4

[Article by Husayn Qasim: "The Supply Minister Has Reviewed the Supply Situation with the Bodies Concerned in Dar'a Governorate and Approved an Increase in Allocations of Some Commodities"]

[Text] Mr Muhammad Riyad al-Hajj Khalil, minister of supply and internal trade, made a field visit to the Governorate of Dar'a, where the minister opened the Azra' automated bakery and inaugurated the branch building and warehouses of the general consumer organization in the industrial section. The minister asserted that these accomplishments gave practical form to the resolutions of our party's conferences and the instructions of the fighting comrade Hafiz al-Asad to provide the best services and requirements to our masses rallying around our party and the commander of their journey. The minister then headed an enlarged meeting of the supply community attended by Comrades Muhammad Jamil Muharib, secretary of the party branch, and Husayn Hassun, the Governor of Dar'a, some comrade members of the branch command and the commander of the police. The people who congregated became informed about the supply situation in the governorate. The governor had prepared a memorandum and in it he described the supply situation in the governorate in detail. A discussion of this memorandum took place in detail.

In this report, we will shed light on the supply situation in the governorate through the minister's discussion and the supply memorandum submitted, with the participation of the directors of retail and the consumer organization and the supply director.

The Minister's Statement

Mr Muhammad Riyad al-Hajj Khalil, the minister of supply, talked about the supply situation in general in the country. He said, "All of us, in every position of responsibility, are responsible to a large extent for solving the difficulties we face, for dealing with them and confronting them, and for making concrete reality of the statements and directives of the comrade and fighting man Hafiz al-Asad, who has drawn up for us the proper road toward realization of the formula for balance between production and consumption. Thus, we have put ourselves at the beginning of the proper road

and have started thinking how we can eat from what we produce and how we can consume just what we produce in the desirable and best manner. Whereas we had dealt lightly with things and concentrated on imports rather than our organizations' local production, we have now started to discover that many things we imported exist here and that we can produce alternatives and save foreign currency." He added, "We must refer to points of imbalance and recommend solutions, although our economy is well in a thousand ways, in spite of some difficulties. If we can make this economy be of service in a proper manner we will find abundance in it on all agricultural, industrial and service levels." The minister went on, "We have given the issue of food top priority among the priorities of our activity, and we must develop in the direction of increasing production lines and production activities. This requires great effort.

"We can say that most of these shortages will meet with feasible solutions in a brief period, especially the shortage of the fuel oil commodity which the country is suffering from now, which will be resolved in the first week of the next month, at the maximum."

The Supply Memorandum

Following this review of the supply minister's statement, let us jointly review the memorandum of the governor of Dar'a, Mr Husayn Hassun, and the minister's comment on the paragraphs cited in it:

The Supply Commodity of Flour

In the memorandum there appeared a recommendation to supply the automated Dar'a bakery, which has been put into operation with a single line with a productive capacity totalling 8 tons a day, with its monthly requirement for flour, which comes to 240 tons a month, and also to supply the modern bakeries which are now ready for operation and need 75 tons of supply flour a month, since the governorate's allocations do not permit the supply of these ovens. The governor spoke about the governorate's pressing need for bread, especially since the governorate was importing 10 tons of bread a day from al-Suwayda' Governorate. He stressed the need to increase the allocations to the ovens of a number of the governorate's villages.

The minister replied "The allocations of the newly-built ovens and the new lines in all the bakeries belonging to the ministry will increase when activity in them begins. We will work to increase the governorate's allocations of flour, but we must weigh what is available in the private and public sectors in order to limit the diversion of flour or its conversion to animal fodder. This matter is left up to the supply department to deal with in the appropriate ways with the possible alternatives.

"The allocations to private ovens will be reduced to a reasonable, permitted level."

The Yeast Commodity

In the memorandum, in the section on the yeast commodity, it was stated "As a result of the Azra' bakery's entry into operation as well as some private

sector ovens, we recommend an increase in our governorate's allocations of the yeast commodity within the range of 10 tons a month for the 1986-87 plan." On this point, the minister stated, "Our capacity to produce yeast is very limited and our plants' output is limited. We are now working to expand the production of this important commodity." The minister requested the application of the alternatives available within the range possible for providing a portion of our requirements of the yeast that exists and that actually need, and the minister agreed to the recommendation to increase the quantities of yeast. A large portion of the quantity proposed for operating the new automated oven in Azra' was allocated.

Macaroni and Spaghetti

The supply memorandum contained a paragraph under the title of macaroni and spaghetti in which it was stated "The governorate's plan for the macaroni and spaghetti commodity for the year 1986 did not cover the needs and requirements of the governorate's inhabitants and demand for this commodity is intense. Therefore, we consider that the governorate plan for 1987 should rise to 60 tons." The minister replied "The consumer organization's requirement for the macaroni and spaghetti commodity is 45 tons, and in the context of the current circumstances we cannot increase the governorate's allocations by more than 5 tons. The plan according to the new figure will come to 50 tons, and the rate of this increase will come to 10 percent of the governorate's total allocations of these two commodities, which are required by the citizens."

Sugar

In the memorandum it was stated, "The demand plan for the sugar commodity for 1986 has shown that it is unable to meet the requirements of consumption for this commodity. Therefore, we recommend making the demand plan for 1987 20,000 tons a year." The director of the consumer organization pointed out "The quantity of sugar supplied covers the supply coupons and sugar has been sold on an uncontrolled basis in the sales outlets, but in minor quantities, in accordance with prior agreement. The quantity of sugar sold by coupons is estimated at 10,050 tons a year, in addition to 250 tons which are distributed to tradespeople and 250 tons on an uncontrolled basis. The Governorate of Dar'a, to the exclusion of other governorates, is permitted to sell sugar on an uncontrolled basis. Therefore, the possibility of increasing allocations is not at issue now in the context of the current circumstances, or we do not expect that there is urgent need for an increase."

Tea

One of the supply commodities the memorandum dealt with is tea. It contained a recommendation to raise Dar'a Governorate's tea commodity allocations for 1987 because the figure planned for the previous year, 1986, was not sufficient for consumption requirements and consequently there was a need to raise the governorate's allocations to 700 tons a year. The minister agreed to an increase of 10 percent over the planned figure for 1986. The director of the consumer organization asserted that the volumes of tea sold by coupons in the governorate came to 450 tons and cover the governorate's need in full.

Rice

In the memorandum, it was stated that the governorate's plan for the rice commodity for the year 1986 was 5,000 tons a year and it recommended an increase in the governorate's allocations to 6,000 tons in 1987. The minister spoke and said that the volumes of rice supplied to the Governorate of Dar'a in 1986 covered coupon requirements in full.

Hydrogenated Oils

The memorandum stated that the governorate's plan for hydrogenated oils for 1986 was 700 tons and in view of the added supply of some newly constructed industrial installations with this commodity, the memorandum recommended the increase of allocations for 1987 to 900 tons. The minister replied, "We are distributing 57 tons of oil a month and the general rate of distribution in 1986 was 80 percent of the plan."

Vegetable Oil and Animal Shortening

In the memorandum, it was stated "Our governorate's vegetable oil plan is 1,800 tons in 1986 and we recommend an increase in allocations to 2,100 tons for the year 1986. The governorate's plan for the figure planned for the governorate's requirement for animal shortening for 1986 [words missing] and we recommend raising the plan for 1987 from 950 tons a year to 1,350 tons a year." The director of supply in the governorate pointed out that the oil supplied from the governorate's plants did not cover the coupon requirements in most months, while Mr Yunus al-Hariri, member of the competent executive board, stressed that the shortage in the shortening commodity started with the beginning of September.

Commodities Other Than Food

The minister of supply agreed to send 125 tons of small-diameter, 6- and 8-millimeter, iron to be put at the disposal of the governor as requirements for school and water projects and vital projects, after the directors of construction company branches had stressed the companies' need for iron in small-diameter sizes in general. Concerning white cement, the minister said, "We anticipate that the state of the white cement commodity will be in better form in the period soon to come."

Sales Outlets

In the memorandum, it was stated "Some population accumulations have not been covered by supply services. Therefore we recommend the creation of retail sales outlets to provide them with foodstuffs and commodities other than food. These communities are the al-Tadamun section in Dar'a, the al-Sayyid section in Dar'a, Sur (South al-Lajah), Kuhayyil, Basri al-Sham Nawi, the al-Zahra' section in Dar'a, the refugee camps, East al-Malihah, al-Surah, Jumlah, Sha'arah, the al-Karak section in Dar'a, 'Adwan, al-Harik, Hit and Ankhal."

The minister replied that most of these communities have been provided for in the 1987 plan. The director of supply has been assigned to prepare a

memorandum to explain the state of the communities in order to give agreements to the opening of the outlets provided for in the 1987 plan, and he has been directed to establish branches for consumer cooperative societies whenever that is possible.

Automated Bakeries

In the memorandum it was stated, "The automated bakeries are suffering from a deficiency in the effectiveness of the yeast. As to the private sector bakeries, we recommend the reopening of closed ovens and ovens whose registration has been shelved, because they are the only ovens in these population accumulations, and these communities cannot provide their needs for the bread commodity through the automated bakeries, that is, 'Adwan, 'Alma, Nahitah and Kafr Shams." The minister replied, "We intend to rely on ordinary alternatives as far as yeast goes from the flour itself, and we will rely on distributing the production of the yeast factories in an organized manner. As to the ovens whose registration has been shelved, no oven whose registration has been shelved can be reopened, especially those from which flour had been diverted. One should bear in mind that we have closed no oven except by compulsion." The minister agreed to the reopening of any oven whose center is remote from the automated ovens, on condition that its operation be transferred to other people besides those who were implicated in diversion activities.

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CSO: 4404/168

ARMY'S SELF-SUFFICIENCY IN AGRICULTURE REVIEWED

Sanaa AL-THAWRAH in Arabic 15 Dec 86 p 10

[Article by Eng Tawfiq al-Shaybani: "Our Armed Forces' Revolutionary Agricultural Achievements and the Military Supply [Department]"]

[Text] Every people's genuineness is affirmed by the extent of its revolutionary ability to transcend backward social and economic situations and conditions and change them in a manner which will bring about a free, dignified, ambitious life by revolution -- the only course by which any people can move from a situation in which they are living to a future they aspire to. The genuineness of our Yemeni people was reaffirmed through their transcendence of deteriorated social, economic, political and cultural conditions in the time of the tyrannical imamate rule, when they refused to surrender to these conditions or adjust to them, and indeed rose up against them and smashed all the pockets of this intractable regime early in the morning of glorious 26 September.

Our people's suffering from bitter vile backwardness at the various levels of life during the period of this regime, which resulted from the policy of imposing ignorance, blackout and blatant darkness which it engaged in against these proud people throughout the period of its dominance of their destiny and resources and the imposition of the life of the middle ages upon them, at a time when the world was living in the 20th century, with the glory of its achievements and inventions -- in rejection of the reality of this domineering regime, our people, through their armed forces, managed to forge the greatest revolutionary event in the history of their long struggle, direct the most violent blow against the tyrannical, backward regime of the imamate and teach the enemies of our Yemeni people the hardest lesson of freedom and revolutionary thinking.

In order for our country to keep abreast of civilized development in the field of agriculture, all the segments of our people, along with our armed forces, which have always forged the greatest revolutionary events in the history of our people, directed themselves toward the reclamation of abandoned, arid lands through the most modern means of agricultural mechanization, the expansion of arable land, the use and exploitation of the latent bounties of this generous land by advanced scientific means and the

cultivation of it with all types of crops, in order to bring our people to the stage of self-sufficiency in this important sector.

In order that we may show the masses of our people our armed forces' achievements in the field of agriculture, it is necessary first of all to show the revolutionary beginning of the execution of the massive agricultural projects and then present these projects' present agricultural state. The beginning of our armed forces' agricultural mission occurred on some land belonging to the government which was scattered about here and there in various governorates of the republic. This beginning would have been riddled by a number of difficulties and barriers obstructing and repressing the revolutionary agricultural fervor of the members of our armed forces had it not been for the insistence, boldness and courage of the Military Supply [Department] (management and personnel) in transcending the difficulties through its heroic initiative of carrying out the directives of the political leadership, because our armed forces play the prominent vanguard role in reviving Yemeni land and creating integrated agricultural development realizing self-sufficiency in food for our people and also realizing their sacred watchword "The army for defense and development."

Our armed forces' revolutionary agricultural beginning was on agricultural parcels of limited, hemmed-in areas. These areas could not absorb these acts of self-sacrifice and revolutionary agricultural abilities which were kindled in our bold soldiers and were incapable of realizing our armed forces' ambition of establishing developed agricultural projects in which the most modern ways and means of agricultural activity would be followed. Therefore, the Military Supply Department began negotiations and discussions with the owners of the lands adjacent to these parcels. Most of them were difficult and full of pressure and at the end were crowned with the purchase or transfer of the adjacent lands. Thus these initial sites, limited in area, expanded. This horizontal expansion (which was supposed to be followed) contributed in one form or another to raising the Military Supply Department's morale in renovating and developing the armed forces' farms, since they play the influential, leading role in the agricultural sector when the system of developed agricultural activity in them is improved through the use of scientific methods and modern mechanization and reliance on planning for all agricultural activities and operations pursued.

What however must be stated and demonstrated to the masses of our Yemeni people is the grandeur of the efforts and the innovative resources of the Military Supply Department and personnel, who have placed all their material and moral resources, without letup, for the sake of revolutionary agricultural creation and innovation, thereby embodying the agricultural revolutionary awakening which our people are pursuing for the sake of restoring the true image of the happy Yemen, land of the two paradises covered with greenery and beauty, the Yemen of inherited civilization. The arms which have borne rifles to guard, protect and maintain land, man and revolution are the same which turned rifles into pickaxes and machetes and truly proved their worthiness to bear their national responsibility in realizing great, lofty agricultural projects which would cover a large part of our people's needs for agriculture. The difficult beginning in bringing all the military supply farms into being in their current form affirms in a manner which

leaves no room for doubt that our armed forces are always and permanently the vanguard among the sectors of our people in achieving comprehensive development in all spheres, and the greatest testimony to the magnitude of our armed forces' acts of revolutionary self-sacrifice is what they have achieved in the years of land and humanity.

People in Wadi al-Sinwan are still living in the era of backwardness and laxity which the house of Hamid-al-Din created and still lack the most minor forms of modernization and renovation in most areas. From the first sight of the people and land of the famous Wadi Sanwan, which caused loathing in the heart and morally condemned this inherited darkness, the Military Supply Department realized that the national task cast on its shoulder was great because it was not just concentrated on farming and agricultural development but indeed went beyond that. In addition to execution of the agricultural project, it was concerned with the most important needs the people of Wadi Sinwan lacked and worked to bring electricity to most villages adjacent to the military supply installations and its agricultural project, build roads and construct buildings which would reflect the civilized image of the people of Yemen who refuse to surrender or adjust themselves to the legacy of the stage of obscurantism and darkness. Work is underway on the part of our armed forces' personnel to bring the people of Sinwan out of the condition they are in to a state and forms which are more in keeping with the course of modernization and development in all areas and aspects of life.

As far as agricultural considerations went, the military supply personnel (managers, administrators, officers, soldiers and so forth) ventured to create comprehensive change in the land of Wadi Sinwan in view of the exceptional fertility by which it is characterized, in addition to its great area, which amounts approximately to 1,500 hectares (a hectare is 10,000 square meters). These and other specifications helped greatly to concentrate the personnel's powers and high morale in various military supply locations to work in the land of this valley, using modern agricultural machinery in creating change, breaking up the actual conditions of the land, in which all phenomena of agricultural laxity and backwardness prevailed, and establishing a proud farm, in the hope that it would be a model farm which would be emulated by:

1. The farmers and owners of the neglected adjacent land, in which factors of agricultural introversion and backwardness were dominant.
2. Domestic capitalists, prompting them to invest their money in the establishment of advanced agricultural projects which would follow scientific agricultural planning and organization methods, rather than having this agricultural land, which was high in fertility and was historically innovative in agricultural production in qualitative and quantitative terms, remain as it was.

The Sinwan model farm was in fact established. In it, most agricultural sciences and techniques were mobilized by means of the technical agricultural military personnel (engineers, technicians and experts) as well as Arab engineers and technicians on contract, through direct supervision by the director of the military supply farms, Lt Col Naji al-Ruwayshan, who is

considered the dynamo in all activities in this military unit and is characterized by boldness, expertise, flexibility and a grasp of agriculture and various agricultural operations as well as decisiveness and speed in determining the execution of agricultural activities in their specified times, in addition to his ability and competence in carrying out work and management organization.

The land of the Sinwan farm, which was reclaimed in the latter part of 1985, was planted for the first time with many types of fruit which are in keeping with the factors, climatic circumstances and environment of this region. The most important of the fruit cultivated was citrus, and preparation is currently being made to plant other types of fruit, such as bananas, grapes, mangoes, raisin grapes, dates and so forth. In addition a number of types of vegetable and grain crops were planted, thus taking the most important elements determining the success of these crops into consideration.

The agricultural projects also include the Rusabah farm in Dhamar, which was opened by our brother the president and commander 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, the president, commander general of the armed forces and secretary general of the general people's assembly, on the occasion of the 24th anniversary of the immortal 26 September revolution. This farm, which comes to 120 hectares in area and whose costs are estimated at 13 million riyals, represents one of our armed forces' prominent agricultural landmarks. Modern technology, planning and agricultural organization have been followed in the reclamation and initial planting of the land in this farm by the Department of Military Supply Farms, which is acting correctly in this advanced agricultural development. The dominant crops in this farm include the fruit crop, which is represented by apples, peaches, nuts and grapes, vegetable crops, such as potatoes, tomatoes, onions, garlic, zucchini, cucumbers and so forth, and grain crops, such as wheat, barley, corn and Syrian corn.

There also is the airport model farm, our armed forces' third agricultural project in terms of area, coming to approximately 110 hectares. This farm, which was created from nothing, lacked hope for the growth of any type of crop before commencement of the process of reclamation of its great area, in view of the enormous limestone rocks it contained, in addition to the poverty of some of its acreage in the nutrient reserve and great obstacles standing in the way of anyone trying to get any crops to grow in it, no matter what his material capabilities might be. However, the will and determination was present on the part of the military supply personnel in the reclamation process, and the decisive practical guidelines on the part of the director of the military supply farms and high vigor on the part of the commander of the farm, the young warrant officer 'Abduh Thabit al-Samawi, were sincere. The farm was reclaimed by the most modern methods of agricultural machinery with the exertion of efforts that were without parallel on the part of all the military supply workers. In the light of this patriotic solidarity among the personnel and the administration, and perseverant effort night and day, a model farm was created in which all the food crops farmed grew. The crops which represent the airport farm at present are fruit (apples, peaches, nuts, grapes and strawberries) and most vegetable and grain crops.

In addition, the Military Supply Farms Department has engaged in the expansion and renovation of the Hamam 'Ali farm, whose area is estimated at 20

hectares. This farm, through this revolutionary agricultural renovation, has become advanced, and the most important crops prevalent in it are citrus fruit such as oranges and tangerines.

In addition to these agricultural projects, there is the al-Mahruqat farm, which is situated in Mount 'Asr, a mountain which, before it was reclaimed in the form of agricultural terraces, was a source of dust and pollution for the capital and its inhabitants owing to the rock crusher which tore at it day and night. In the light of these facts, our armed forces reclaimed this mountain in the form of agricultural terraces and planted it with fruit. Although the material costs were not great, the physical effort exerted was great and creative.

While this mountain, with the presence of the crusher, had irritated the capital and its inhabitants and visitors, it became, through its agricultural terraces, a beautiful, captivating sight in the capital, Sanaa.

Alongside these agricultural terraces, which are situated west of the capital of Sanaa, and whose area comes to about 8 hectares, there is the 'Attan farm, where a number of different types of fruit grow. The area of the 'Attan farm is estimated at about 5 hectares.

These are our armed forces' current agricultural projects, which the Military Supply [Department] has taken over. What has been mentioned from the applied aspect of agricultural sciences represents a minimum, since there are many scientific and applied aspects and considerations which have been brought into the military supply farms that have not been dealt with. However, I might add or point to some proud achievements in the military supply farms at present, such as:

The greenhouse, which is present in the airport farm; this represents our great, majestic turning point in the creation of advanced agricultural development. In addition there are a number of nurseries which have been erected in the military supply farms to fulfil the agricultural purpose in their existence.

This distinctive agricultural success on the part of our armed forces did not come from a vacuum; rather, it is a real product of the grandeur of these good efforts which were exerted by the Military Supply Department and branches, which managed to create objective conditions for the continued success of the armed forces' farms, which are embodied in:

The training and accreditation of military personnel in agricultural technology. The Military Supply Farms Department has prepared training courses for its personnel in training centers in the republic. In 1984, a training course was held in the al-'Arrah training center in the Governorate of Sanaa; 10 people were selected for this course, which specialized in the study of deciduous fruit trees. The same year, a training course was held in the al-Jarubah center in al-Hudaydah Governorate. Ten people were chosen for this course, specialized in the study of citrus trees. In 1985, another course was held in the al-Jarubah center, specialized in the science of agricultural mechanization, and 10 persons were selected for it. This trained

military personnel was directly apportioned among the armed forces' farms. In addition to that, a project is being studied to send military personnel abroad to study and learn about various agricultural sciences.

The callup of conscripted agricultural personnel. This step represents the peak of our armed forces' awareness and realization. Rather than have the conscript spend his military service period in another field which is totally different from his academic education, the Military Supply Department has hastened to summon agricultural engineers and agricultural technicians who have graduated from agricultural institutes and secondary schools to perform service in the armed forces' farms.

Constant contact with local agricultural bodies and organizations to help make a success of and develop military agricultural projects. This continuity has the aim of providing seedlings and seeds, sending agricultural experts and technicians to evaluate agricultural activity and help in the training and accreditation of military persons in agricultural technology and collecting soil and fruit tree samples to examine their health or affliction with pests and diseases and therefore determine protection and resistance techniques.

In addition to the foregoing, the Military Supply Farms Department is concentrating on real development programs which will increase productivity by pursuing many productive measures and policies with a direct effect on increasing the output of crops, through:

Choice of crop cycle, definition of the date for planting all crops, with improvement in the composition of the land and the provision of necessary water and fertilizer quotas, and in addition to that the resistance of fungus and insect diseases and pests and other causes of crop diseases.

This developed agricultural activity which the Military Supply Farms Department follows through the application of modern scientific systems and measures and advanced agricultural operations in order to bring these agricultural projects to the condition they are in now clearly shows our armed forces' broad range and long view regarding this sector's importance in our people's life and the role agriculture can play in supporting and stabilizing our domestic economy.

11887
CSO: 4404/164

ROLE, ACTIVITIES OF LIVING COUNCIL DISCUSSED

Kabul ANIS in Dari 2 Nov 86 p 1

[Text] The living council of the two communities of Sangkhash'ha and Qazi Feyzollah which come under the jurisdiction of the first district council of the city of Kabul's National Fatherland Front have 5,000 individual and 3,000 collective members of which 200 are new members who joined the councils during the current year.

Haji Abdolsalam, chief of the living council of Sangkhash'ha and Qazi Feyzollah communities in response to a question by the ANIS correspondent while making the above statement also said: During the current year this council has organized 13 voluntary work-teams which have carried out painting and repairs of several mosques, cleaned the alleyways, dredged the canals and waterways and built a new road from Asheghan va Arefan to Safid-Sang. One hundred fifty people took part in these activities which saved our government a considerable sum of money.

The council has two publicity and propaganda groups who go to the mosques and schools and extensively talk about the values of the Sawr revolution and the goals of the National Fatherland Front on Fridays. They also go to the Friday mosques of Gozar-Sang and that of Imam Saheb on other days of the week and comprehensively discuss the accomplishments of the Sawr revolution with the people.

For the purpose of strengthening the armed forces and ensuring the security of our borders the council has introduced 18 persons to the armed forces during the current year. Likewise, in the same period the council has created 13 new literacy courses in which 150 individuals are enrolled.

The council has one commission for settling family disputes and until now it has resolved 30 family altercations. Furthermore, as a result of this council's efforts about 26,000 afghanis were collected as charitable contributions from the inhabitants of the community and with the money we bought two cauldrons and one big rice-strainer which will be used for cooking food for weddings or other religious ceremonies. The chief of the living council of Sangkhash'ha and Qazi Feyzollah communities also added: Until now the council has introduced three children to the Vatan Orphanage and directed 20 people to the proper officials to secure employment for them.

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CSO: 4665/11

AFGHANISTAN

SOVIETS PROVIDE ASSISTANCE IN VARIOUS ECONOMIC PROJECTS

Kabul HAQIQAT-E ENQELAB-E SAWR in Dari 18 Oct 86 p 3

[Text] Taking advantage of this opportunity, at a time when six divisions of the Soviet Union's army return to the great and peace-loving country of the USSR, the Afghan people would like to express their boundless thanks and appreciation for the heroic acts of the people of the Soviet Union, which the Afghan nation will remember and pass on from generation to generation. In addition to providing military assistance, the Soviet Union has also extended comprehensive and unparalleled aid in the economic area to our country, which will be briefly mentioned in the following article.

The economic assistance of the Soviet Union to Afghanistan, which began from the first days of the victory of the socialist revolution of October, is of great significance and is the major factor for buttressing our national and economic independence, and promoting the growth of generating forces in our country. These collaborations, in the course of time with the development and economic prowess of the Soviet Union together with the progressive transformations in the Afghan society, have reached superior levels.

Comrade Najib, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee at the 19th plenum of the PDPA Central Committee stated: Friendship with the Soviet Union is the most important national wealth for our people. The level of brotherliness between the nations of Afghanistan and Soviet Union is unparalleled. There is no other example in the whole world similar to the cooperation and assistance of a socialist country to a nonaligned country--the extent and level of collaboration which we enjoy.

During more than 60 years of cooperation between Afghanistan and the Soviet Union, through the technical and economic assistance and cooperation of the Soviet Union large service and production establishments such as radio and communications, gin and press plants, hydro-electric and thermal plants, exploitation and refining of gas, construction of gas pipelines, production factories, textile plants, irrigation systems, construction of highways, airfields, residential units, and educational institutions have been carried out in Afghanistan and furthermore funding for many other economic projects and training of technical cadres throughout the country have been provided.

This unparalleled assistance is an outstanding indication of the friendship and cordial relations between the two neighboring nations and a symbol of international unity and brotherliness.

The significance of financial, material, scientific and technical assistance of the Soviet Union, before anything else is responsible for the growth and strengthening of the government's economic sector which in turn is a powerful economic force in the fight and struggle against imperialism.

About 200 projects throughout the country have either been built or are underway with the technical and economic assistance of the Soviet Union. Out of this total, 12 projects have been completed and are fully operational. These projects, which encompass all sectors of the economy, belong to the cooperatives or government sector and most of all they are collective and mass-oriented projects.

The volume of production of the institutions which have been built with the technical and economic cooperation of the Soviet Union constituted approximately 60 percent of the total factory output of the country and 75 percent of the government sector's industrial production. The revenue from this segment comprises 50 percent of the government's budget from domestic sources.

Other projects such as the construction of Naghalu Hydro-Electric Station with a capacity of 100,000 kilowatts, the Hydro-Electric Station of Pol-e Khamri with a capacity of 9 megawatt, 70 kilometers of irrigation canals with government citrus and olive groves and the Hydro-Electric Station with a capacity of 11.5 kilowatt-hour in the Nangarhar Valley, Jangalak Plant and Mazar-e Sharif Fertilizer Plant with a production capacity of 1,500 tons of urea fertilizer were the first nuclei of metal and chemical industries in Afghanistan, the International Airport of Kabul, 1,500 kilometers of highway, construction of Salang tunnel at a height of 3,360 meters above sea level, construction of bridges, railroads and roadways over the Amu River, government transport institutions, Kabul Polytechnic, Vocational and Technical schools, reconstruction of the Social Sciences Institute of the PDPA Central Committee, construction of a 400-bed hospital and other similar projects are further examples of technical and economic cooperation of the Soviet Union to Afghanistan.

All these institutions and establishments occupy an outstanding position in the overall economic plan of Afghanistan.

During the next five years, the Soviet Union will continue to extend greater technical and economic assistance to Afghanistan. Part of this assistance has been donated during the current year which is the first year of the 5-year plan after the advent of the revolution and will continue in the future.

The share of the Soviet Union's assistance in implementing the first 5-year plan constitutes more than 70 percent of the total foreign aid of our country. As a result of the technical and economic aid of the Soviet Union during the years 1365 - 1369 [21 March 1986 - 20 March 1987 to 21 March 1990 - 20 March 1991], more than 130 important projects in all areas of the national economy

will be created and put into operation. Today, the Soviet Union's aid has been a powerful factor in the development of our national economy.

The same way that the brotherly, internationalistic military assistance of the Soviet Union is significant for the national independence, territorial sovereignty and the freedom of our country, in the same fashion the economic and technical aid of that friendly and brotherly nation is also significant.

Before anything else, the significance of the economic and technical assistance of the Soviet Union in our struggle against the economic banditism and thievery in the form of an undeclared war by the world imperialism and reaction toward our nation, with regard to the economic development of Afghanistan is quite obvious.

Long live the indestructible, profound and brotherly friendship of the two nations of Afghanistan and the Soviet Union.

12719

CSO: 4665/12

VOCATIONAL INSTRUCTION CHANGE TO MEET NEEDS

Kabul HEYWAD in Dari 12 Oct 86 p 2

[Text] With regard to our party and government's attention to the matter of training young vocational cadres in all areas of instruction and according to the resolution of the Ministry of Higher and Vocational Education of the DRA, as of the beginning of 1364 [21 March 1985 - 20 March 1986] the system of teaching in the Management and Accounting Institute has changed and now this institute's teaching has been readjusted to the Technical Institute of Finance and Economy.

To this end, we've prepared a report on the method of teaching in the Technical Institute of Finance and Economy which follows: For the first time, the Institute of Industry Management was established in 1340 [21 March 1961 - 20 March 1962] within the framework of the Ministry of Education. The purpose for the creation of this institute was to meet the needs of instructional and banking establishments.

As of 1358 [21 March 1979 - 20 March 1980] with the inclusion of an accounting course within the framework of the Ministry of Higher and Vocation Education, the institute continued its activities under the name of Management and Accounting Institute.

At the beginning, the Institute of Management and Accounting had secretarial, administration, and accounting departments until the end of 1361 [21 March 1982-20 March 1983] and those students who went on to finish their studies received a bachelor's degree. As of 1361, following a recommendation by the Ministry of Higher and Vocational Education in order to meet the needs of the government in the area of training of economic cadres, the educational system at the Institute of Management and Accounting was established for an additional period of two years after the completion of high school after which the candidates could gain acceptance into the institute after taking an entrance examination.

At the end of 1363 [21 March 1984 - 20 March 1985], when the results of the first term of 14-year system was evaluated by the scientific council of the Management and Accounting Institute, because of the great need for intermediate level accountants, it was recommended that the high school students who finished their eight grade should be admitted into the Institute of Management and Accounting for another six years. Based on this recommendation, as of the beginning of 1364 the aforementioned institute was reorganized and renamed as the

Technical Institute of Finance and Economy.

Right now there are 648 students enrolled in the 9th and 10th grades of this institute which has a total of 52 teachers. The said institute has accounting, budget, and credit departments. By the end of 1369 [21 March 1990 - 20 March 1991] the first graduates of this new institute will have finished their studies at a time when the 5-year plan terminates and when our country most appropriately will be in need of professional cadres in the area of finance and economy.

12719

CSO: 4665/12

FUEL OF VARIOUS KINDS IN PLENTIFUL SUPPLY FOR WINTER

Kabul HEYWAD in Dari 16 Nov 86 pp 1, 4

[Text] The inhabitants of Kabul do not have to worry about fuel supply this winter. Through pertinent organs, the government has made appropriate decisions in this regard and at present there is plenty of fuel for the inhabitants of Kabul.

BAKHTAR NEWS AGENCY reports that in addition to the supply of adequate fire-wood on the market in the city of Kabul, thousands of tons of fire-wood and more than 130,000 tons of oil products and condensate liquefied gas have been stored for the winter use of Kabul's inhabitants.

In order to facilitate the distribution of fuel throughout the city, the General Department of Oil Products has put 22 fuel stations in operation at various points of the city and the distribution of diesel oil and similar products is underway everyday.

In a like manner, the Executive Committee of the Council of Representatives of Kabul's city has also made regular plans with regard to the provision of fire-wood by which the needed supply will be made available to the inhabitants of the city at a lower price than that of the normal market.

Moreover, until now more than 23,000 tons of coal have been distributed for sale to Kabul city inhabitants and another 25,000 tons is in supply and ready for sale and distribution.

Furthermore, with regard to the provision and distribution of coal to the inhabitants of Kabul city, many other facilitating measures have been taken into consideration in the current year so that the people will get the necessary quantity of coal from the closest center to their homes.

Likewise, in order to provide further facilitating services to the inhabitants, a center for refilling of liquefied gas capsules has recently been put into operation with the economic and technical cooperation of the Soviet Union and by the General Department of Gas and Oil Products of the Ministry of Commerce at Kheyr-Khaneh. With the operation of this plan, which has an annual capacity of 2,000 tons of liquid gas, and where at present over 11,000 families in the city of Kabul use this kind of gas for their cooking, this facility has been very convenient for the people. Previously encapsulated liquefied gas had to be imported and besides there were other problems with the transportation and similar other complications.

LAND, WATER DISTRIBUTED TO FARMERS

Kabul HEYWAD in Dari 11 Oct 86 pp 1, 4

[Text] With the victory of the glorious Saur revolution and the realization of revolutionary goals, there have been fundamental and positive transformations in all areas of life of our country's hard-working people. For instance, the farmers, who constitute the majority of this nation's population, have been freed from the yoke and cruel oppression of the landlords and usurpers and in turn become owners of land and a comfortable life, and rulers of their own destiny.

In conformity with the implementation of the land and water reform in the country, 174,494 acres of land, which belonged to the Helmand landowners, were distributed among 26,423 farmers' families in and around the capital of the above-stated province. Through the implementation of the second phase of the land and water reform from 1362 [21 March 1983 - 20 March 1984] until June of the current year, land disputes pertaining to 94,938 acres of land were settled for 6,918 families by three land reform operational groups in the districts of Garshak, Nad-Ali and Helmand's capital district. And accordingly 7,310 official land deeds were distributed among farmers with little or no land.

During the years of the new revolutionary government thousands of farmers from the Helmand Province have organized in 16 farmers' cooperatives, four consumer cooperatives, the Union of Farmers' Cooperative, 43 farmers' village councils and 29 farmers committees.

In order to provide material and technical assistance to the farmers of the said province, our revolutionary government has created several offices, particularly social, governmental and party offices such as the farming, land reform and cooperatives of the provincial party committee, office of Agriculture and Land Reform, the Irrigation Office, the plants for chemical fertilizers and improved crop-seeds, the Agricultural Development Bank, and certain other commissions and committees to help in the distribution of aid.

During the first quarter of the current year 75,566 square meters of waterways and canals for the farm-lands of the Helmand farmers have been dredged, repaired and surveyed by the General Department for Project Development of Helmand and Arghandab. Likewise, 24,000 cubic meters of roads and canals have been resurfaced and about 65,500 square meters of berth space for boats have been included with in the canals.

In the spring campaign of the current year 1,950 tons of cotton-seeds with a total value of 24.16 million afghanis and 4,807 tons of phosphatic urea were put at the disposal of cotton growers gratis, by the staff of the aforementioned department. Similarly, other small farm equipment and various kinds of insecticides were put at the disposal of cotton growers and other farmers of Helmand, either on credit or in cash, by the chemical fertilizer office and the representative branch of the Agricultural Development Bank in Helmand. In addition, other farm machinery and technical equipment for well digging and construction from the Department for Project Development of Helmand were made available to the farmers.

Another most significant assistance which was extended to the Helmand farmers by our revolutionary government was the exemption from tax penalties for 94,024 farmers with a total value of 172 million afghanis, which was carried out on the order of the Board of Directors of the Revolutionary Council of the DRA.

With the use of government's technical and material assistance, the farmers have so far put 106,595 acres of their land under cultivation of cotton, barley, vetch, kidney beans, peas, sesame, vegetables, various other fruits and fodder. Of the above total, 91,830 acres have been assigned to the cultivation of cotton alone--the spring campaign is still underway.

In a similar fashion, during the autumn campaign of 1364 [21 March 1985 - 20 March 1986], 964 tons of improved wheat-seeds produced by Marjeh Farm Department for Improved Seeds were distributed among the farmers and more than 85 percent of wheat farms used improved wheat-seeds. On the whole, during the autumn campaign of last year a total of 59,782 hectares of land went under cultivation of wheat and barley.

According to the plans and predictions of the relevant establishments, 35,000 tons of cotton will be produced by the cotton growers of Helmand which will be purchased by the pertinent department for a total value of 584,974 afghanis. In a like manner, the production of wheat is predicted to reach 132,550 tons in the current year. In conformity with the plans 2,250 tons of wheat will be purchased from the farmers and members of agricultural cooperatives by the Marjeh Farm Department for Improved Seeds so that after cleaning and processing it will be made available to the farmers.

Here it should be noted that all the farmers are always ready in the holy front to defend the values of the Sawr revolution with devotion and sincere self-sacrifice. They are ready to rise and fight heroically and valiantly against the mercenaries of world imperialism and reaction as before, and continue to take part in tribal assemblies, make contact with the Party and government organs to enlighten the deceived people, introduce and dispatch their youth to join the armed forces in order to secure the peace and security of the entire nation. The farmers have participated in many practical battles along with

the armed forces against the enemies of the people and the revolution to insure the security of their villages, homes and farms. Some of the remarkable examples which come to mind are the courage and bravery of the farmers of Garmsir district and other villages like Ab-bazan, Seyyedan, Tajakan, Dehamzang, Shileh of Garshak district, and Chah Anjir of Nad-Ali district.

In conclusion, here it should also be pointed out that the work of the General Department for Project Development of Helmand and that of the Agriculture and Land Reform Office in the distribution of adequate water to the farmers, preparation or provision of technical equipment and transportation means, availability of sufficient fertilizers and seeds on time to the farms has not always been satisfactory and certainly has serious deficiencies. The best reason for this is the relevant statements of some of the farmers which were reflected in a recent tribal meeting in the Helmand capital and likewise we wish to draw the attention of the authorities to these deficiencies.

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CSO: 4665/11

AFGHANISTAN

ACTIVITIES OF VARIOUS COOPERATIVES CONSIDERED

Parwan Province

Kabul HEYWAD in Dari 27 Oct 86 p 1

[Text] The price stability of various goods and their abundant supply and availability to the general public comprise one of the fundamental and main goals of our revolutionary party and government. In order to realize this important and essential objective several farmers cooperatives, consumer cooperatives, stores for selling farm products and retail stores of Trade Department of the Ministry of Commerce have been created in the capital and other provinces of the country with vast capital investments which play a favorable role toward a relative price stability of the commodities needed by the people.

The branch retail store of the Trade Department of the Commerce Ministry, which became operational at the end of 1364 [21 March 1985 - 20 March 1986] in the city of Charikar with a capital of 8.5 million afghanis, provides 70 different commodities at 10 to 25 percent below the market price and makes them abundantly available to our countrymen.

Abdol-Habil, general manager of the branch retail store of the Trade Department of the Commerce Ministry in Parwan, while making the above statement also said: In order to make life easier for the inhabitants of the various provinces of the central region two retail stores, one each in the district of Panjshir in the Parwan Province and one in the district of Najrab in the Kapisa Province, were built and put into operation during the preceding year, which provide the essential needs of the people at lower prices than those of the market.

Kabul Province

Kabul HEYWAD in Dar 2 Nov 86 p 4

[Text] The Farmers' Cooperatives Union of Kabul Province and the Farmers' Cooperatives Union of the DRA was created in November 1981 in order to provide cooperative-related assistance and services for the farmers and other hardworking people of Kabul Province. From the date of inception until now this Union, through its efforts and activities has established 18 cooperative stores and 17 consumer cooperatives with 5,329 members and a capital share of 2,665,500 afghanis. Furthermore, there are 45 agricultural cooperatives active throughout

the Kabul Province with 4,075 members, a capital share of 4,180,772 afghanis and 4,815 hectares of land. The Farmers' Cooperatives Union of Kabul Province, in conformity with the projected plans of the DRA's Farmers' Cooperatives Union has built five modern cooperative stores in the districts of Deh-Sabz, Bagrami, Chahar-Asyab, Mir Bachah-Kut and Qarah-Bagh, and others which will become operational in the current year. A source from the Farmers' Cooperatives Union of Kabul Province while making the above statement also said:

With due regard to the fundamental social and economic growth of the country, which has been elaborately planned, based on its major indices, the current year's plan for the Farmers' Cooperatives Union of Kabul Province calls for an increase in the volume of retail goods from 53 million afghanis in 1364 to 67 million afghanis in 1365 [21 March 1986 - 20 March 1987] which will reach 132 million afghanis in 1369 [21 March 1990 - 20 March 1991].

In a like manner, the number of 17 available cooperatives will increase to 42 and the present membership of 5,329 will increase to 11,000 and similarly the number of the existing 23 cooperative stores will increase to 70 by the year 1369.

The aforementioned source further stated: In comparison to the first quarter of the previous year there have been remarkable improvements in the activities of the Farmers' Cooperatives Union of Kabul Province during the first quarter of the current year. To this end, during the current year three consumer cooperatives with 563 members and a capital investment of 28,150 afghanis have been created in the districts of Bagrami, Mir Bachah-Kut and Sarubi and in the same period 466 individuals have gained membership in other consumer cooperatives. The volume of commodities purchased during the first quarter of the current year reached an equivalent sum of 11.43 million afghanis and the total retail sales volume reached 12.73 million afghanis during the same period. In comparison to the first quarter of 1364 the figures show a growth of 186 percent and 201 percent respectively.

For the purpose of providing a wider range of services to the inhabitants of the hamlets and various villages, the Farmers' Cooperatives Union of Kabul Province has made an effort to expand the number of cooperative stores, and as a result during the current year one modern retail store in the district of Deh-Sabz, one pavilion for the sale of consumable goods in the village of Qaleh Ahmad-Khan, one container-type goods stores in the village of Deh Yahya (Deh-Sabz district) and one store in Gozar village (Mir Bachah-Kut district) became operational. Furthermore, it is planned to establish more cooperative stores in other villages like Chehel-Dokhtaran (Chahar-Asyab district), Qaleh Dasht (Shekar Darreh district) and some other more populous villages by the end of the second quarter of the current year. In addition to the provision of the above-stated services, the Farmers' Cooperatives Union also assists the farmers by purchasing their surplus products and reselling them to people through the cooperatives and thus stabilizing the prices.

Herat Province

Kabul ANIS in Dari 13 Oct 86 p 4

[Text] The agricultural cooperatives on the one hand as a convenience establishment act as a channel to make available various kinds of the government and the party's assistance to the farmers promptly, and on the other they are the farmers best friend in offering their products for sale both within and outside the country. Furthermore, as rallying institutions the agricultural cooperatives help to promote unity of action and concord among the hardworking people and provide guidance and assistance to the farmers in order to improve their work conditions and increase their farm products.

With a view to this principle, through the initiative of the revolutionary party and the government and in conformity with the realization of the democratic land and water reform, in order to secure the interests of the farmers many agricultural cooperatives have been created throughout the country which have resulted in strengthening and solidifying the economic base of the hardworking farmers. Similarly, in Herat Province like in many other provinces, several agricultural and consumer cooperatives have been established and through these cooperatives it has been possible to resolve many important problems of the farmers.

Right now there are 41 agricultural cooperatives in Herat Province with 6,647 members and a capital outlay of 4,420,750 afghanis--these cooperatives have 40,050 acres of land under cultivation. Moreover, with the revival of five other cooperatives, 1,530 individuals have joined the ranks of these cooperatives. During the previous year 1.5 million afghanis of chemical fertilizer and wheat-seeds, on credit and 466,000 afghanis of chemical fertilizer and wheat-seeds, in cash were distributed among the farmers.

In addition to the agricultural cooperatives, 30 consumer cooperatives and two handicraft cooperatives were also created in Herat Province. These cooperatives have a total membership of 9,429 with a capital outlay of 4.71 million afghanis. Moreover, there are 30 cooperative stores and 89 regular privately-owned agricultural stores which operate within the framework of the Cooperatives' Union. In 1364, over 2,000 tons of foodstuffs with an equivalent value of 91.5 million afghanis were purchased by the Cooperatives' Union and made available to its affiliates.

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CSO: 4665/10

MECHANIZED AGRICULTURE EXPANDING IN VARIOUS PROVINCES

Kabul HEYWAD in Dari 30 Oct 86 p 2

[Text] As a result of the continual care and attention of our revolutionary party and government toward the mechanization of the farming industry in the country, for the first time in 1359 [21 March 1980 - 20 March 1981] the infrastructure of the first mechanized farm station in the Balkh Province was laid, and subsequently in 1360 [21 March 1981 - 20 March 1982] the construction of other mechanized stations were begun in the provinces of Kabul, Jowzjan, Balkh and Herat which became operational.

In order to become familiar with the work, activity and the procedure of technical agricultural services of these stations, government farms, cooperatives and other similar privately-owned (by individual farmers) establishments, HEYWAD correspondent paid a visit to the Kabul's Province Mechanized Agricultural Station and accordingly prepared a report which appears below:

The mechanized station of the Kabul Province, which was opened and became operational in 1360 at Badam-Bagh, is one of the five active mechanized stations throughout the country which have been built with the material and technical assistance of the friendly nation of the Soviet Union in order to mechanize our agriculture in the entire vicinity of Kabul city and its districts.

At present, the aforesaid station has three active substations in three districts of the Kabul Province. Bagrami, Deh-Sabz and Chahar-Asyab and it is intended that in the future to expand these activities to other districts of Kabul.

The aforementioned mechanized units of the three districts mentioned above go far beyond their specified district borders in providing good help and technical assistance to the farmers and other interested individuals. The government farms and the agricultural cooperatives of Kabul Province are the primary users of the technical equipment and farm machinery of the Kabul Province's mechanized station, and furthermore all the farmers of the said province can either individually or collectively, through Agricultural Cooperatives use these equipment to improve farming affairs.

Users' fee for renting these technical equipment is based on a reasonable hourly rate affordable and economical to the farmers. For instance, the hourly rental rate for a tractor is 250 afghanis and that of a combine is 600 afghanis

which is subsidized by the government to help in the development of the nation's farming--while in the past the farmers had to rent the tractors from private owners at exorbitant prices.

At present, the Agricultural Headquarters of the Kabul Province is in possession of 34 tractors [type MTZ-80], four combines [type CK-75], 20 disc harrow attachments, and squatter grader.

Here it should be pointed out that the aforementioned limited set of equipment and machinery can not meet the total needs of the farmers of the Kabul Province and its districts. Moreover, the activities of the mechanized Agricultural Headquarters of the Kabul Province which was intended to cover and provide technical assistance to all the relevant districts of Kabul, because of a lack of adequate mechanized equipment and insufficient number of technical workers plus other pertinent factors, can hardly meet the demands of the three above-stated districts; whereas the farmers of other districts, and other cooperatives and government farms desperately feel the need to the services of mechanized agricultural equipment so as to be able to improve and enhance their farm products more effectively from every unit of land involved.

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CSO: 4665/9

AFGHANISTAN

GROWTH OF MINOR INDUSTRIES, FOODSTUFFS DETAILED

Kabul HEYWAD in Dari 13 Oct 86 p 2

[Text] In conformity with the fundamental social and economic development of the DRA for the years 1365-1369 [21 March 1986 - 20 March 1987 to 21 March 1990 - 20 March 1991] extensive programs are going to be put into effect to enhance the level of production of minor industries and other essential needs of our countrymen.

To this end, we have prepared a report from the Ministry of Light Industries and Foodstuffs which appears below.

In the sector of light industries we intend to revitalize and reactivate the Textile Plant of Bagrami which has a growth capacity of 10 million meters of cloth per year and that of Pol-e Charkhi Woolen Knitting Plant with a growth capacity of 78,000 meters of woolen material per annum. Likewise, in the foodstuffs sector the reactivation and reconstruction of bread-making #1 Silo is vehemently underway of which the capacity of the bread-making section will be increased by 60 tons a day and the macaroni production of the said plant will also be increased by 15 tons a day. Similarly, the canned fruit plant of Konarha will be expanded to a production capacity of 5.75 thousand tons a year. Furthermore, during the 5-year plan it is expected that the Textile Plant of Konarha will become operational with a production capacity of 40 million meters of cloth per year; in the same fashion, the Textile Plant of Herat, with a production capacity of 12.5 million meters of cloth will become operational. Also during the same period the construction work on the expansion of Mazar-e Sharif Olive Plant with a production capacity of 20,000 tons has been considered.

Moreover, the construction of a bread-making plant in the Pol-e Khamri Silo with a daily capacity of 25 tons and that for a macaroni production with a daily capacity of 8 tons a day, the construction of poultry seed plant with a capacity of 15,000 tons, the construction of the bread and macaroni production of Herat Silo with a bread-making capacity of 25 tons and that of macaroni with eight tons per day is considered during the 5-year plan. Similarly, the completion of the reconstruction of the combined bakery-macaroni of the capital's Silo for which a construction contract was signed with the Afghan Construction Company during the second quarter of the current year for 122 million afghanis and that its construction has already begun, is expected to be finished by the end of the second quarter of 1368 [23 Aug - 22 Sep 1989] with a production capacity of 135 tons of bread and 25 tons of macaroni per day.

The production of flour in 1364 [21 March 1985 - 20 March 1986] was 171,000 tons while it is expected by 1369 [the last year of the 5-year plan] this figure will reach 210,000 tons, which will have a 23 percent growth over that of 1364. The production of vegetable oil for 1369 is predicted to reach 1,000 tons which in comparison to 1364 [the year before the 5-year plan began] will show a 2.3 percent increase. Likewise, the production of sugar for 1369 is predicted to reach 8.5 tons which in comparison to 1364 will show a 31 percent increase.

In a similar fashion, considerable increase in the production of canned fruits will be effected. In 1364, the Konarha Fruit Department produced only 28,972 tons of canned fruits, and during the first quarter of the current year the Ministry of Light Industries and Foodstuffs was faced with certain inadequacies in the areas of wheat flour production, that of carded cotton, vegetable oil, laundry detergents, woolen and cotton fabrics. However, because of the decisions which were reached after evaluating the results of the first quarter of the 5-year plan, the Ministry of Light Industries and Foodstuffs re-adjusted some priorities and the results of the last six months in all the areas of production have been quite satisfactory.

Not only the Ministry of Light Industries has been able to meet the goals and implement the objectives of the 5-year plan during the second quarter, but also it has been able to make up for the deficiencies of the first quarter and as a result it has realized 106 percent of the projected plan during the six months in question.

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CSO: 4665/9

REPORTAGE ON EFFORTS TO CONTAIN BORDER INSURGENTS

Statistics to Amnesty International

Dhaka THE NEW NATION in English 11 Dec 86 pp 1, 8

[Text]

CHITTAGONG, Dec 9: The so-called Shantibahini outlaws have killed 421 people including 43 tribals and burned over a thousand homes of the settlers in the Chittagong Hill Tracts since 1981.

They also killed an unknown number of people which could not be documented.

This information was contained in an official reply to the allegations about atrocities against tribals made to the Amnesty International, a London based organisation.

According to highly placed sources, the Amnesty International was informed about the situation in the Chittagong hills after they apprised Bangladesh authorities about the allegations.

The outlawed Shantibahini and some tribals from across the border made the allegations to the Amnesty about "repressions" against them by the law enforcing agencies of Bangladesh.

The official reply also pointed out the insurgents had killed 43 tribals during the last one year on charges of collaborating with the law enforcing agencies and non payment of tolls to the Shanti Bahini. The killing of

tribals took place at Jurachari, Rajajhali, Farua, Ruma, Alikadam, Panchari and Subalong. On September nine this year an engineer of Power Development Board and his driver were killed in an ambush north of Panchari.

The document also pointed out that a number of casualties caused by sporadic attacks of Shantibahini could not be recorded because of lack of communication in time.

It further told the Amnesty that over five hundred Bengali speaking settlers were killed from 1975 to 1981. It referred to the major incidents like the last month's (November 16) execution of 24 casual workers at Kasalong forest and last April 29 raid on Rangamati district in which 66 settlers were killed, 68 others injured and hundreds of dwellings put on fire.

Earlier on May 31 in 1984, 88 people were killed at Bushanchara, Gorosthan and Kalabunia in the same district. On September 23, 1981 one hundred settlers were killed at Tabalchhari and Rangamati in a 25 mile stretch of territory along the border with the Indian state of Tripura.

Earlier, towards the end of 1984 the government declared general amnesty and rehabilitation of the misguided elements of the Shantibahini. Following the amnesty Priti faction of the Shantibahini surrendered en masse to the authorities. In all 1,930 members belonging to this group surrendered to the authority.

Since their surrender the remainder of the Shantibahini, led by Jyotipriya Bodhipriya Larma alias Shantoo Larma, younger brother of late Manabendra Narayan Larma, former member of parliament who had founded the Shantibahini, were still active.

Manabendra Narayan Larma had been assassinated following a split in Shantibahini in 1984.

Talks were held between the Shantoo Larma faction of the Shantibahini and the government at the initiative of Upendralal Chakma and others on October 21 last year. But further talks were scuttled following their dilly-dallying tactics after second rounds of meeting between government representatives and the Larma faction. The Shantibahini had violated the terms of agreement at the second round of meeting carrying out massacre of 166 settlers in April this year.

However, the Larma faction had witnessed a decline in support from the people following a government development programme to improve the life of the tribals through different developmental activities at an estimated cost of Taka 263 crores under a special five-year plan.

At present the outlawed Shantibahini led by Shantoo Larma are based in camps across the border at Soaibazar, Raisabari, Omarpur, Gurakhali, Palatana Izira of Tripura and at Jamtali of Mizoram, two states of India.

Accord with India

Dhaka THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 9 Dec 86 pp 1, 8

[Text]

CHITTAGONG Dec. 8:—The accord at military level between Bangladesh and India will further help to contain the insurgency activities in hilly areas of both the countries.

According to a highly placed official source, the high powered military delegates who met at Demagiri of Indian state Mizoram on Sunday came to a consensus to fight out the insurgents together till their extinction. The delegates of the two countries also pledged to keep their respective country's territory free from establishment of sanctuary for cross border insurgency.

The accord was in fact found echo when the Bangladesh President Hussain Muhammad Ershad visited New Delhi in July this year. The Bangladesh President held discussions with Indian leaders on all bilateral issues including trans border insurgency.

They reportedly agreed to take coherent steps for containing

insurgency activities of Chakma, Mizo Tripura National Tribal volunteers along the border belt.

The accord will obviously be a severe blow for trans border insurgency of tribals.

The insurgents in both the countries will now hardly find safe hideouts to remain underground after their so called operations.

The Shanti Bahini men in Chittagong Hill Tracts after accomplishing anti social activities and murders in most cases crossed over to the neighbouring country and took refuge to their sanctuaries that remained beyond invasion of security forces over the years.

Meanwhile the Shanti Bahini men whose number now reduced to more one thousand are already in disarray due to infighting and internal cliques.

GURKHA MOVEMENT FEARED TURNING TO TERRORISM

Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English 13 Dec 86 p 1

[Text]

SENIOR state CPI(M) leaders fear that the GNLF movement in Darjeeling is taking a turn towards terrorism. Some of the party leaders who had recently visited the district and attended the party's district secretariat meeting in Siliguri, said in Calcutta on Friday that the movement was not only violent in character but manifestations of terrorist overtones were surfacing.

The CPI(M) leaders, who preferred anonymity, a study of the nature of violent incidents perpetrated by the GNLF in the last one-and-a-half months clearly indicated this trend. Fire-arms were being increasingly used by GNLF activists in their attacks against the CPI(M) workers and supporters who had been killed by the GNLF in the past six months, 18 had died of bullet injuries.

They said the GNLF supporters were no longer bringing out big processions in towns and concentrating on poster campaigns to sustain the tempo of the movement. A section of the GNLF was indulging in surreptitious activities. And this section, dominated by anti-socials, was indulging in terrorism. "It is this section which is now coming to the forefront of the GNLF movement", the CPI(M) leaders said.

The CPI(M) leaders are still not sure whether the GNLF will increasingly resort to terrorism to carry forward its movement. The feeling within the CPI(M) is that a lot would depend on the growing division in the GNLF leadership about how to carry on and what course to adopt for the next stage of the Gorkhaland move-

ment. "Cracks have already appeared in the GNLF leadership. This is bound to happen to a leadership which is dishonest, bereft of ideology and has no perspective of national interest", a CPI(M) leader added.

SAROJ'S APPREHENSION

The Left Front chairman, Mr Saroj Mukherjee, told reporters on Friday that the Gorkhaland agitation would not have had assumed the present dimensions if Mr Rajiv Gandhi had not "encouraged" it. He expressed the apprehension that the Prime Minister would again make "contradictory statements" during his forthcoming visit to Darjeeling.

Talking to reporters at the CPI(M) office, he complained that the Congress (I) was pursuing its policy of compromising with divisive forces. He should rather give a call to fight divisive forces "politically", Mr Mukherjee said.

Asked if the recent letter by Mr Ananda Pathak, CPI(M) M.P. from Darjeeling, to the Prime Minister suggested the need for talks with the GNLF, Mr Mukherjee said Mr Jyoti Basu had not ruled out such talks if the GNLF fulfilled certain conditions. He, however, wondered what would be the basis for such talks since the Prime Minister had ruled out not only any further partition of West Bengal but also any amendment to the Constitution to give regional autonomy for the Darjeeling hills.

The State Congress (I) was busy during the day preparing for the Prime Minister's visit. Mr Gandhi's programmes are expected to be announced to the party leaders by Priya Ranjan Das Munshi on Satur-

day morning. He was in Darjeeling on Friday, where he discussed Mr Gandhi's proposed visit there with the district committee leaders. He will allocate responsibilities to the PCC (I) general secretaries during the Prime Minister's visit at a meeting at Calcutta airport on Saturday morning.

A Staff Reporter adds: In a raid on CPI(M) supporters at the Rangtam tea estate in Jorebungalow at Darjeeling, activists of the Gorkha National Liberation Front set fire to 18 houses on Thursday afternoon, according to information reaching the West Bengal Police headquarters in Calcutta on Friday. In retaliation, supporters of the CPI(M) set alight four houses belonging to the GNLF men.

PTI adds from Darjeeling: Mr Priya Ranjan Das Munshi today reiterated that his party was opposed to the "Gorkhaland movement" aiming at the division of West Bengal.

Talking to reporters after a party meeting here, Mr Das Munshi blamed the CPI(M) for launching "armed attacks" in the hill areas. He said one BSF jawan was injured when a BSF camp was attacked by CPI(M) supporters. It was the CPI(M) which, he said, in the name of defensive role, had started attacks on the people.

On his arrival here from Calcutta, he visited Labong helipad and Saint Joseph meeting ground and talked to the District Magistrate, Mr G. Balagopal, and the Superintendent of Police, Mr R. K. Handa.

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CSO: 5650/0065

POLICE FEAR TERRORIST INFLUX FROM NEPAL

Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 12 Dec 86 p 16

[Text] A large-scale influx of trained terrorists is being feared from across the Nepal border into the state according to reliable sources here.

Police officials posted along the Indo-Nepal border said that the terrorists had taken to this new route to gain entry into the country on account of the virtual sealing of the Indo-Pakistan border recently.

Concern is being expressed by senior officials over the step-up in the recovery of sophisticated weapons from various districts lying on the border. They claimed that terrorists trained abroad had begun utilising this route for the last six months or so.

According to sources, extremists trained in the USA, Canada or the UK, fly to airports in Nepal before making their way by road to the districts of Nainital and Pilibhit. Similarly, those allegedly coming from Pakistan use the land route to get into India undetected.

The biggest indication of the movement of terrorists in this belt is the seizure of a large quantity of arms and ammunition by the Pilibhit police during the last five months.

Official data reveals the seizure of as many as 214 automatic, semi-automatic and countrymade firearms in Pilibhit district during the period beginning August this year. About 200 persons have been arrested for possession of illegal weapons.

List of Arms

The recovery list of firearms include one sten gun, two self loading rifles, six factory made 303 rifles, 11 hand grenades, three 315 bore factory made rifles, 315 country made rifles, three double barrel guns, six single barrel guns, 26 country made single barrel buns, and 125 country made revolvers.

Besides, three illicit arms factories have also been unearthed in the district. About 650 cartridges of various makes have also been seized.

Despite these seizures, the police have not been able to arrest any of the hard core terrorists even though their movements have been reported from time to time. The only catch was the arrest of Jinda's uncle, Rahubir Singh, by the SP Pilibhit, Mr Brijlal, in September.

Officials said that the terrain of the area made it difficult for information to flow in to the police quickly. The time lag made it possible for terrorists to elude the police.

It is being feared that the terrorists are using the Terai as a transit base for their activities in Punjab, Delhi and other parts of the country.

According to information, their movement indicates outflow towards western parts of India which counters the earlier hypothesis of terrorists using UP only as a hide out during police operations in Punjab.

It is feared that UP is being built up as a base of operations in case the going get tough in Punjab. The possibility of terrorist activity in the state in the near future is also not being ruled out, even though no serious incident has taken place so far.

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CSO: 5650/0063

BRITAIN URGED TO TAKE FIRM STEPS AGAINST SIKH ACTIVISTS

Madras THE HINDU in English 10 Dec 86 p 9

[Article by G. K. Reddy]

[Text]

The British Minister of State in the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, Mr. Timothy Renton, arrived in Delhi today on a two-day visit for talks with his Indian counterpart, Mr. K. Natwar Singh, on current strains in Indo-British relations.

The traditionally cordial relationship between the two Commonwealth countries has been marred in the last few years by recurring frictions over the British handling of the Sikh activists in the United Kingdom, who have been engaging in acts of conspiracy and abetment, inciting violence in India and preaching secession.

Though the British Government has taken steps to curb these activities to some extent, the Government of India has been complaining that it has not gone far enough in preventing these Sikh activists from misusing their abode in Britain to carry on this violent campaign against the unity and integrity of a fellow Commonwealth country.

Reservations: The British Minister, accompanied by a three-member official delegation, has come to discuss primarily the objections raised or reservations voiced by India over the draft extradition treaty sent by Britain a few months back for evolving some agreed procedures to tackle this problem. An Indian team went to London to explain how best the draft extradition treaty could be improved upon to mutual satisfaction, but there are still areas of disagreement on the very scope of extradition.

The British Government continues to maintain that the draft treaty offered to India goes well beyond similar agreements that the U.K. has with other countries including the U.S. or extradition. The initial British stand was that there was no need for a fresh extradition treaty with India, since the existing Commonwealth Fugitives Act and the more recent Anti-terrorist Act were adequate enough for deporting Indian citizens from Britain for inciting violence.

But the Government of India has been pointing serious flaws in the draft extradition treaty which in its present form left some serious loopholes that would enable those guilty of engaging in acts of conspiracy or incitement to violence to invoke political or humanitarian arguments to block their deportation with the plea

that they may not receive a fair trial in India in the present circumstances.

Overcame hurdles: So the Indian experts have been urging the application of what is known in legal jargon as the principle of grave and immediate effect as well subjective-objective territoriality to cover such hurdles on the basis of the case laws laid down by British courts. The Government of India has also been insisting on retrospective application of the new extradition treaty if the conspiracies hatched earlier or past abetments to violence by the Sikh extremists residing in Britain continue to have serious consequences in India.

The principle of grave and immediate effect applies to acts of terrorism and other serious offences masterminded in one country but result in serious consequences in another, where the culprits are partly or fully responsible for the outcome of such actions. The doctrine of subjective objective territoriality has been invoked by courts in many countries including the U.S. to authorise extradition of such persons to stand trial in the country which has been a victim of their conspiratorial actions.

The Government of India is not demanding summary deportation or arbitrary extradition of all those of Indian origin, whether they were now British citizens or still Indian nationals residing in Britain on the basis of lists of suspects furnished by it. It is pressing for action only against those Indian nationals who are abusing their right of abode in Britain.

Belated action: The Government of India has appreciated the belated action taken by the British authorities against Amanullah Khan, President of the so-called "J & K liberation Front," who has been served with an order of deportation. But in its view the same sort of firmness has not been displayed in dealing with the Sikh extremists in Britain, while a suspected Swede was recently sent back to Stockholm without any ado, as he was wanted by the police investigating the murder of Mr. Olaf Palme.

According to information available in Delhi there are not more than 50 or 60 hardcore Sikh extremists who can be deported by applying the twin principles of grave and immediate effect and subjective-objective territoriality while an equal number face the threat of deportation if they do not behave themselves.

ACTIVITIES OF TNV EXTREMISTS IN TRIBAL AREAS

Well-Organizes Network

Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 11 Dec 86 p 6

[Text] People residing in the interior areas of three Tripura districts have received huge 'tax' notices from the Tribal National Volunteer (TNV) extremists in the past one month.

Intelligence sources said that about 20,000 hand-written 'tax notices', with the seal of TNV, had been given to tribal as well as non-tribal people.

The sources said that unlike in the past, TNV extremists had set up a well-organised network in most of the villages of the state's three districts and even issuing 'tax return' to maintain records. Each 'tax' notice contains at least four to five names which indicate that about a lakh of people have received such notice, the sources said.

The sources said that the 'tax' rates were much higher than that in the past. Earlier, a primary school teacher received notice for about Rs. 200, but now it had been raised to even Rs. 800. Similarly, contractors working in Saizababari near Manu in the north district received notice with three-fold increase.

Owners of the brick kilns along the Assam-Agartala road also received tax notices with inflated rates, the sources said.

The intelligence sources said that the guerillas had recruited local collaborators drawn mainly from petty criminal and school drop-outs in tribal areas.

The 'tax' notices were distributed by the local collaborators mainly to protect the identity of the rebels. Earlier, the extremists themselves used to distribute such notices among the people which exposed their identity. Even the guerillas started giving 'incentives' to the highest collector, the sources said.

A PTI correspondent, who visited some interior areas of the districts, found that the people were scared of such 'tax' notices. Even at Gabordi, which is barely 13 km away from the state capital, eight school teachers have received such notices demanding Rs. 800 each.

Such notices, sources said, had badly affected the work of various development agencies and the rural employment programmes were suffering in a big way. Mr. Agorb Debbarma, executive secretary of the autonomous district council, had also admitted this last month at a press conference.

Schools Closed

The sources also said that in the tribal autonomous district council area, which consisted of 68 per cent area of the state, most of the schools were virtually closed due to panic.

Sources said that the 'tax' notices were enforced on people by the TNV rebels mainly with the purpose of replenishing its depleted fund, caused due to infighting and instability in the ranks of the extremist organisation, early this year.

Speaking about the infighting among TNV, the sources said that two of their school-recruits had killed two TNV guerillas in January this year and later surrendered. Self-styled 'corporal' Bimal Tripura gunned down 'warrant officer' Suresh Koloï and 'sergeant' Proddumna Reang.

TNV deserter Nagraj Koloï shot dead four TNV extremists also this year.

Owing to these reverses, the TNV guerillas were compelled to suspend their operation in the early part of this year and resorted to massive screening in their ranks. During this time, their 'tax collections suffered badly, the sources said'.

They said apart from this factor, the rebels had resorted to heavy 'tax' collection also to raise funds for purchase of arms from the smugglers in the market of Chittagong hill tracts of Bangladesh.

The sources said the TNV had introduced a "third amendment" to their so-called "Tripura land regulation and trading act", which stipulated subscription rates for various sections of the people.

The "third amendment" was passed about two months back in a TNV "inner council meeting".

The meeting decided that every tribal Jhumia was required to pay Rs. 50 per year, while tribal and non-tribal land-holders were supposed to pay Rs. 25 per kani (w/3rd of an acre) for their land holdings.

A copy of the so-called "act" was seized from a captured extremist, early this year.

Highly-paced intelligence offica's said they suspected that TNV was trying to acquire the "trappings of a parallel government" throughout the vast hilly interiors of Tripura with some "definite political purposes."

They, however, refused to elaborate as to what these "political purposes" were likely to be.

Nontribals 'Routinely' Killed

Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 13 Dec 86 p 16

[Text] AGARTALA, December 12.

THE recent killing of 17 non-tribals by TNV extremists in two separate incidents in Tripura would have gone unnoticed but for the fact that the incidents took place within a fortnight of each other and were gruesome in nature.

As many as 86 persons have so far been killed by TNV extremists in the state this year.

The two incidents — one at Borakha and the other at Akhrabari — took place in small hamlets built by refugees from erstwhile East Bengal some time in 1950. In Borakha, about 150 families were settled while at Akhrabari, the figure was 37. Most of them are agricultural labourers.

FAMILY EXTERMINATED

Both hamlets witnessed communal riots in 1980 and the people there are still haunted by them. The fear psychosis had been further heightened by the genocide at Mandai, a village six km from Borakha, where more than 300 non-tribals were brutally butchered by tribals in one day, a few years ago.

On November 22 last, TNV extremists swooped down on a family of Borakha and escaped after killing Mr. Sonadhan Sarkar, his wife, Suruchi, his small child, Pautul, and one of his relatives, Mangal Biswas.

Mr. Sarkar was a poor carpenter. On December 4, the TNV extremists gunned down 13 persons taking part in a "kirtan" at Akhrabari.

The nightmarish experience of the fearful nights of November 22 and December 4 still haunt the people of Borakha and Akhrabari. Frightened by the booming of guns, they left the village to take shelter near the CRPF camp some distance away.

This correspondent, who talked to some of them, got the impression that they were unwilling to go back to their homes.

Their reluctance had been strengthened by the feeling that they would have to survive in the village at the mercy of the extremists with none to come to their rescue.

The people of Borakha and Akhrabari expressed their lack of faith in the ability of the police and other security forces to counter the TNV

extremists' activities. In support of their argument, they alleged that the police and the security forces hardly did anything even when they were informed on several occasions about the movements of the olive-green-dressed armed TNV men in the village.

With regard to the incident of November 22, they complained that the

men of the Tripura Armed Police (TAP), posted near Borakha, fired some shots from their camps but did not come to the spot immediately. When they came, it was more than half-an-hour too late.

On the other hand, the TAP men stated that the camp was not adequately staffed and when they heard the gunshots, they were under the impression that the TNV men had come to attack the camp to take away arms and ammunition. So they did not leave it. The same thing happened at Akhrabari.

Besides, it is alleged that the police and the security forces do not take effective steps to deal with attacks by TNV men even when they are informed by the special branch of the possible movement of TNV men in a certain area.

POLICE 'INACTION'

The gaps in action or lapses by the security forces had been admitted by none other than the deputy chief minister, Mr. Dasarath Deb.

He had said this with regard to the Shrirampur incident in Kamalpur on August 22, in which 14 persons were killed.

He had even said that he had advised the inspector-general of police to investigate and report within two days about the lapses so that suitable action could be taken against the delinquent police officers.

It is alleged that combing operations are undertaken after every incident with fanfare, but there is no instance of such operations bearing any fruit. Such operations have, therefore, become a mere ritual since the culprits are never brought to book.

Besides, the extremists are also busy levying a "tax" on people in at least 15 police stations areas in all the three districts of the state. The people have been asked to pay up by the middle of this month or face the consequences.

One common feature of the attacks in the recent past is that they take place in the tribal autonomous district council (ADC) areas and areas close to them.

TNV STRATEGY

The victims have always been non-tribals. There is reason to believe that such tactics by the TNV men are aimed at stirring up tension between the tribals and non-tribals. This becomes clear as no tribal has been killed.

It is also said that the TNV strategy aims at intimidating and terrorising non-tribals in a bid to force them to leave their homes and make the ADC areas in exclusive preserve of the tribals.

The strategy, it is said, also aims at forcing the Central government to start a dialogue with the TNV on the MNF model by indulging in acts of violence, murder and plunder.

MUJAHIDIN LEADERS MEET IN QOM, VOW TO FIGHT SOVIETS

Tehran ETTELA'AT in Persian 24 Dec 86 p 3

[Text] Qom—On the eve of the eighth anniversary of the occupation of Afghanistan by Soviet forces, clergymen and representatives of the Shi'ite resistance movement in Afghanistan gave a press conference in the city of Qom. They stressed the continuation of the relentless armed struggle for liberation against the combined Soviet and Afghan government forces, and they rejected any kind of political negotiations to solve the problem of Afghanistan.

The ISLAMIC REPUBLIC NEWS AGENCY reports that that this press conference was attended by several combatant clergymen and political representatives of Afghan resistance groups, including Nasr, the Islamic Jihad Guard Corps, the United Islamic Revolution Front, the Islamic Revival, the Islamic Forces and the Islamic Call of Afghanistan. A representative of the Afghan Mujahidin discussed the current position of the Mujahidin in the struggle against the aggressor Russian forces and their mercenaries in Afghanistan. He said: Currently there are more than 120,000 Russian occupation troops in our nation, and in the last few years more than 10,000 of the aggressors have been destroyed by the people and the Muslim Mujahidin.

He added: Despite Russia's military superiority, almost 80 percent of Afghan soil is now in the hands of the Mujahidin.

During this conference, Hojjat ol-Eslam Hoseyni, representative of the Nasr Organization, discussed the disgraceful defeat of Soviet plans since Najib Allah came to power. He said: All the criminal slogans and plans of this submissive lackey have been thwarted by the unshakable resolve of the brave Mujahidin, and military attacks have intensified on the military forces and sensitive government centers, especially in Kabul and the provincial capitals, and the anxiety created by Mujahidin attacks is worrying the joint forces.

He also stressed the need for comprehensive unity of Shi'ite and Sunni forces in order to hit the aggressor harder and to establish an Islamic government. He said: World imperialism, with the cooperation of its agents in the area, has made every effort to divide the closely allied Muslim forces in Afghanistan, because they are all afraid of the establishment of an Islamic government like the one in Iran in Afghanistan, and they are trying to reach their goals with the support of several groups.

He stressed: America has committed just as many crimes in the world as Russia. All resistance groups must know that America has no intention of saving the people of Afghanistan, and only true unity among the Muslim revolutionary Shi'ite and Sunni brothers can thwart this Satanic plot.

Then a representative of the Islamic groups of Afghanistan discussed the role of the Islamic Republic in solving the Afghanistan problem. He said: We are very happy with the worthy position of the Islamic republic, and certainly it is only the Islamic Republic of Iran that has, with no expectations, truthfully echoed the rightful demands of the Afghan nation in international circles. This important matter has its roots in the deep link between the Islamic revolutions of Iran and Afghanistan, and no agent can disrupt this solidarity.

Then Hojjat ol-Eslam Zahedi, a member of the Islamic Jihad Guard Corps of Afghanistan, discussed the plots of the hand-picked government in Kabul to incite internal wars between the Muslim forces. He said: Clearly the combatant forces will achieve a more striking victory on the battlefield if they hit the joint Soviet and Afghan forces harder as brothers in a single fortification, without any kind of monopolistic or self-centered activity and with the perception of revolutionary conditions and the plots of the enemies of the Islamic Revolution of Afghanistan.

He also expressed thanks and praise to the Islamic Republic of Iran for accepting Afghan refugee brothers despite the war, and for its Islamic treatment of them.

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CSO: 4640/68

IRAN

TWO MILLION AFGHANS, HALF MILLION IRAQI REFUGEES IN COUNTRY

Tehran ETTELA'AT in Persian 16 Dec 86 p 2

[Text] Tehran—ISLAMIC REPUBLIC NEWS AGENCY—There are more than two million Afghan refugees and 500,000 Iraqi refugees in Iran. Many of these refugees live in camps, and a significant number of them have been absorbed into society and enjoy the facilities and resources of an Iranian citizen.

This was announced yesterday (Monday) at a press conference by Minister of the Interior Hojjat ol-Eslam 'Ali Akbar Mohtashemi. In discussing the refugees, he added: The movement of Afghan immigrants into Iran has increased since Najib Allah came to power in Afghanistan.

He said that the reason for this increase is the savage bombings of Afghanistan's villages by the regime governing this country. He added: In the past the government of Afghanistan has sent a great many agents into Iran as spies in order to change the view of the Iranian nation towards the Muslim nation of Afghanistan by committing crimes.

The minister of the interior said: A group of agents of the Afghan regime have been arrested, and another group is being sought. The Afghan Muslims and mujahidin have cooperated with police in their identification and arrest.

Mr Mohtashemi stressed: The Islamic Republic of Iran considers it a duty to aid and support the combative crusaders of Afghanistan, Iraq, Lebanon and the rest of the Islamic liberation movements fighting for the liberation and independence of their countries.

The minister of the interior discussed the Iranian government's services to the Afghan refugees. He said: There are more than 15 camps of Afghan immigrants in Iran, and in addition to these camps many Afghans have been absorbed into society and are treated as Iranian citizens; they enjoy all the benefits and resources available to Iranians.

In discussing international aid to Afghan refugees, he said: The amount of aid provided to refugees by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, in view of the high expenses of this group, is about one or one-half percent of the total need.

Mohtashemi also said: There has also been intellectual cooperation with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, and there is a plan underway to construct agricultural training complexes to provide rural housing for Afghan farmers.

Continuing the press conference, the minister of the interior discussed the Iraqi immigrants. He said: In 1975, after the Algiers Accord, around 120,000 Iraqis took asylum in Iran, and the asylum of Iraqi Muslims in Iran began following the vacillations and police government in the Iraqi regime.

He added: There are now 18 camps across the country in the form of border quarantine camps and temporary housing for these people, and they have had good facilities to date.

He added: The Iraqi Muslim brothers also enjoy all the resources and privileges available to Iranian citizens.

The minister of the interior also announced: In the last three months more than 3,000 Iraqis have taken asylum in Iran, ten percent of whom are high-level Iraqi specialists such as physicians and engineers.

In another portion of his remarks, Mr Mohtashemi discussed Iran's domestic situation. He said: Even now, politically we have strong security and the most stable conditions.

He said: Relying on the people, the Islamic Republic of Iran has been able to destroy all insurgent mini-groups.

The Minister of the Interior added: In the last year, most mini-group leaders have either been arrested or killed, and their bases in the east and south have been destroyed.

He also announced: During the month of Moharram (Shahrivar) [6 September - 5 October (23 August - 22 September)] of this year 200 to 300 armed insurgents were either arrested or killed in the Pirasuran area (between Khash and Zahedan).

He said: These people include dependent monarchists, smugglers, and people who are supported by the Iraqi regime.

He said: Access routes from Iraq to Kordestan are now under control, and the forces, mini-groups and Ba'thist agents in this area are being caught by our combatants.

The ISLAMIC REPUBLIC NEWS AGENCY correspondent reports that at the end of yesterday's press conference by the minister of the interior, Mr Mokhtar, the acting commander-in-chief of the Islamic revolutionary komitehs showed correspondents items confiscated by this organization from a large gang of smugglers and from persons who forged various documents.

According to the acting commander-in-chief of the Islamic revolutionary komitehs, more than 100 persons associated with this gang were arrested.

This group was active counterfeiting dollars, Iraqi dinars, and 10,000-rial notes, and it forged passports, driver's licenses, completion of service cards, military identification cards and other documents in the three provinces of East Azarbaijan, Zahedan and Tehran.

According to this report, this gang was led by a person named Mas'ud Akhondi, a correspondent for the newspaper FORUGH-E AZADI printed in East Azarbaijan.

9310

CSO: 4640/0069

SUPERVISOR ELABORATES ON CATEGORIES, CONDITION OF PRISONERS

Tehran ETTELA'AT in Persian 23 Dec 86 p 2

[Text] News service—In Iran we have no political prison in the usual sense of the term, but there are criminal groups who have been active assassinating individuals, bombing national and public centers, and spying for the East and the West. Likewise, 65 percent of the country's prisoners are smugglers and narcotics addicts.

The conditions for the general pardon of prisoners have been announced and explained, and once in a while a list of prisoners to be pardoned is prepared and after approval by the leadership and the leadership's representative, they are either released or their terms are reduced.

This was announced yesterday morning by Hojjat ol-Eslam Majid Ansari, supervisor of the Prisons Organization, and he explained the country's educational measures in a talk with correspondents.

According to our correspondent's report, Ansari said: In view of the legal goals of the Prisons Organization, at the present time all of the country's provinces except the Province of Bushehr have a central prison administration.

We have likewise received custody of the prisons from the sheriff's office, the Islamic Revolutionary Guards Komiteh and the intelligence administration. This is based on a Majlis enactment to the effect that the management of prisons and detained persons will be turned over to the Prisons Organizations, and they have been transferred or are being transferred.

He added: The central staff in Tehran is composed of various deputies, and on the basis of the Prisoner and Defendant Detention Law, the reform and guidance of the character of criminals is one of the most important responsibilities of this organization, because in the system of Islamic justice punishing criminals is not the only objective. When criminals are assembled in an environment, they are not to be merely confined. They must be reformed and rehabilitated through various methods so that after they serve their sentences sound human beings will be turned over to society.

Our third goal is to see to the needs of the families of prisoners and to meet the material needs of criminals and their families in order to prevent them from committing more crimes due to lack of education, unemployment, and other such reasons.

The supervisor of the Prisons Organization added: We have been able to meet the material needs of prisoners and their families by creating employment in order to keep their families from deviating because of material needs.

For this purpose, the Prisoner Protection Society has been formed across the country. The primary aim of this society is to provide financial and spiritual assistance to the families of prisoners, and many of these families have been given assistance.

The financial resources of this society are obtained from the Prisoners Cooperative Foundation and individual contributors, and we call upon the people to cooperate closely with these societies.

The Prisoners Cooperative Foundation is also active in the creation of employment and the provision of technical professional training for prisoners. In a great many of the country's prisons various production workshops have been created. Several open camps (farms) have also been created, where prisoners are working.

Ten new workshops are now being started across the country so that prisoners who have learned various trades, in the event that they lack capital, may obtain loans with the help of the Prisoners Cooperative Foundation and will be able to work.

Thus, at the present time one-fifth of the country's prisoners are at work in shops, and we hope that by the middle of this year these statistics will double. God willing, the day will come when we have no unemployed prisoners.

One of the organization's most important tasks is education. For this reason an educational office has been established in the organization which carries out various activities, including organizing literacy classes and providing continuing education for prisoners who lack sufficient secondary schooling. In this regard a great many prisoners have been able to obtain high school diplomas through study and training. Towards this end, in addition to classes in art, education and political ideology for prisoners, the organization has prepared and published various books on various subjects. Likewise a unit has been created to study the reasons and motivations for criminal behavior and crime, to seek methods of treatment, and to find new ways for specialists and researchers to prevent crime.

Method of Prisoner Pardon

Mr Ansari said: In the matter of prisoner pardons, we have created an office for pardon and conditional release. This office is responsible for preparing a list of prisoners to be pardoned. In the common prisons, the prison warden and the prison assistant to the public prosecutor, who is the public prosecutor's representative in the prison, study the status of the prisoners to be pardoned and the effect the prison has had on their morale and inform the organization. This organization sends the list to the Supreme Court and then it is sent to His Holiness the Imam, and after the list's approval it is acted upon. In addition to this method, there is a special agency in the nation's prisons under the supervision of His Holiness the Imam, and it prepares lists and sends them to His Holiness the Imam in coordination with this organization, the office of intelligence, and the judicial authorities.

Pardons for Mini-Groups

Concerning pardons for prisoners who were members of mini-groups, Mr Ansari said: In these prisons a commission composed of the warden, the prison assistant to the public prosecutor, a representative of the Ministry of Intelligence and a prison training and guidance official studies the status of a prisoner and then recommends pardon. This organization is one of four groups that give views on pardons for members of mini-groups, and one of two groups that give views on pardons for ordinary prisoners.

In these commissions the accomplishments of the prisoners are precisely studied. Currently the lists of the pardon council selected by the Imam and the Supreme Court are sent to the deputy leadership and after approval are announced to the prison and acted upon.

Mr Ansari told correspondents: As in other areas, the Islamic Republic of Iran is fighting imperialism, with all the problems, and this area is no exception to the pressures and oppression that have been imposed on this sacred government.

The judicial authorities have actually undergone a fundamental change and they issue verdicts and punish criminals based on divine law, and when this process is fully evolved the people of the world will see auspicious gains in the implementation of God's laws.

He said: In the government of the Islamic republic, no one is arrested for political activities unless his political ideas are put into criminal action.

The supervisor of the Prisoner Protection Society added: World imperialism regularly spreads the idea that there have been human rights violations in Iran, publishing false statistics and figures. As an official I strongly deny all of these statistics and figures and I believe that our prisoners are unique. Since basic and constructive work is not done for criminals in the rest of the world's prisons, this matter has made them angry, and these basic changes in the prisons of the Islamic Republic of Iran have caused the enemies of the revolution to bitterly seek vengeance.

Additional Measures for Prisoners

He added: We have absolutely no political prison in the usual sense of the word, and we release all ordinary and mini-group prisoners for one day to several days to be with their families, and whenever necessary we grant them medical releases.

He discussed the crimes of Seyyed Mehdi Hashemi. He said: Seyyed Mehdi Hashemi was not arrested for political activities; he was arrested for acts each of which carries a separate punishment.

Mr Ansari added: As long as the mini-groups only engaged in political activities, they acted freely. However, when they began committing crimes on the orders of their masters, assassinating and bombing national and public centers, they were dealt with decisively, and they were treated as murderers because of these crimes. It is not correct to call them political prisoners in the international sense, because they are criminals.

Mr Ansari added: The ordinary prisoners and imprisoned mini-group members who volunteer to participate in national, religious and revolutionary public ceremonies are allowed to do so, with the necessary coordination. They participate actively in various national sports contests, and sporting events are held in the prisons on a daily basis.

He discussed the extensive campaign against agents for the production and distribution of narcotics in the country. He said: The fact that 65 percent of the prisoners are narcotics addicts illustrates the decisive approach taken to narcotics by the judicial authorities and the police, and when the bill currently being enacted in the Majlis is passed, the problem of narcotics will be dealt with at its roots.

The supervisor of the Prisoner Protection Society told correspondents: We have no confidence in the Human Rights Organization, the Security Council, the United Nations or the Red Cross because they are subject to superpower pressure, and they work against us in the same way that the superpowers do. We have no faith in these organizations and we do not consider it right to cooperate with them. These organizations have been invited to Iran at times and have seen and photographed all the crimes. However, if unbiased individuals or organizations want to come and investigate the condition of prisoners we are ready. The doors to our prisons are open, unlike those of the rest of the world's prisons.

He added: After a time in the prisons of the Islamic republic, those affiliated with the East and the West regret their thoughts and actions, and those who have a hostile view of us say that the reason for this change of heart is torture, but admissions by the leaders of the mini-groups have shown that the reason for this change is reform and Islamic and brotherly treatment by prison officials and prosecutors.

Likewise, those who were drawn by the slogans of these mini-groups today see the crimes of their leaders and are sorry for what they have done.

Most of those who have been pardoned are now leading honorable lives and a number of them have volunteered to go to the fronts and have even become martyrs.

Most Tudeh Leaders Have Been Tried

Mr Ansari discussed the Tudeh leaders. He told correspondents: Most Tudeh leaders have been tried and are now cooperating with us and writing books. They spied for 30 to 40 years, and they cannot be so easily sentenced. The damage they have done must be carefully studied. They have a huge file that will be constructive for future generations and for the history of the country. Everything having to do with them must be learned.

The supervisor of the Prisoner Protection Organization said: The number of women prisoners is very limited. The Qazalhisar prison has been emptied of mini-group women and is being exclusively used for narcotics addicts. We have decided to keep all criminals such as addicts, thieves, blasphemers and so forth separate.

Imam's Emphasis

In conclusion Hojjat ol-Eslam Majid Ansari said: His Holiness the Imam has stressed that a prisoner must not be made to endure additional hardships beyond the hardship of being imprisoned.

Because of his crimes, a prisoner must serve his term. If someone is sincerely opposed to the Islamic republic in thought and deed but observes the law in practice, he should not be in prison. If he violates the law, however, and there is a specific plaintiff, he must serve his time unless the plaintiff is satisfied and his release will not harm society, in which case he will be released from prison.

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CSO: 4640/0070

U.S. URGED TO GIVE UNEQUIVOCAL ASSURANCE ON SECURITY

Lahore NAWA-I-WAQT in Urdu 7 Dec 86 p 2

[Editorial: "The United States Should Remove This Ambiguity"]

[Text] Dean Hinton, U.S. ambassador to Pakistan, has said that the United States, as per its agreement, will defend Pakistan if it is attacked by the Soviet Union. Pakistan has always been considered a friend of the United States and has paid the price for this friendship. The United States has collaborated with Pakistan in many international agreements. Pakistan is credited with helping in the establishment of diplomatic relations between the United States and China. In a 1959 agreement, the United States promised to give all kinds of help to Pakistan if it was attacked. However, when India attacked Pakistan in 1965 and 1971, instead of giving us help, the United States made things even more difficult for us. In 1965, it stabbed us in the back by halting all the military and economic aid promised to us. After the 1971 war, relations between the United States and Pakistan became very cool. By 1977, the U.S. aid to Pakistan had dwindled to less than 1 percent of the original figure. Pakistan and the United States warmed up to each other again in 1979 when the Soviet Union attacked Afghanistan, an independent, nonaligned nation. This resulted in a new development in this geographic region. The United States extended a friendly hand toward Pakistan and supported its stand on the Afghanistan issue. Pakistan chose to forget all the bitter experiences of the past and, as the Soviet Union put it, became a U.S. ally again. According to the 1959 agreement, the United States was to help Pakistan only in case there was a communist attack from the north. At that time we could understand the American logic. However, when India dismembered Pakistan with the open help of the Soviet Union in 1971, the U.S. assurance of help became suspect. Pakistan is equally open to a "communist attack" from the east as it is from the north. The Soviet Union and India have had a friendship agreement for the last 25 years, they both agree on their stands on the Afghanistan issue, and both are Pakistan's enemies. India's former prime minister, Morarji Desai, has said that Brezhnev promised India full military support to "teach Pakistan a lesson." The position of Dean Hinton and other U.S. officials that the 1959 Pakistan-United States agreement only covers a direct military attack by the Soviet Union is wrong. The United States is being very selfish if it wants to help Pakistan only when the rival superpower is involved. The Pakistani people do not take this kindly. The United States should be willing to help us if we are attacked by either India or the Soviet Union in order to show that it considers us its friend and ally. The Soviet

Union is going through a difficult time in Afghanistan. It might ask India to attack Pakistan to teach it a lesson. We could have another 1971 here.

It would be an ideal situation for India. Fears of an Indian attack are confirmed by India's amassing of troops at our border and by Rajiv Gandhi's tirade against Pakistan during the recent visit by Soviet leader Gorbachev. It is important for the United States to stop making vague promises and to declare openly that it will help its friend Pakistan in case India attacks it at the insistence of the Soviet Union. Will it throw the 1959 pact out?

7997/12913

CSO: 4656/36

JAMAAT-E-ISLAMI'S RELATIONSHIP WITH REGIME ANALYZED

Karachi JANG in Urdu 4 Dec 86 pp 3, 10

[Article by Irshad Ahmad Haqoani: "Sind's Situation Analyzed by Jamaat-e-Islami Leader"]

[Text] Discussions are commonly held about the negative results of the extended 1977 martial law. The MRD and some other political parties have been criticizing it for many years. Some circles, while not openly opposing what the MRD and the other political parties have been saying, at the same time do not fully agree with them. The Jamaat-e-Islami (JI) is prominent among these. Even though the JI's stand during the June-July 1977 negotiations held between the PPP [Pakistan People's Party], the PNA [Pakistan National Alliance], and the Bhutto government was aimed at reaching an acceptable agreement with Mr Bhutto, it did not want to be accused of helping to usher in a martial law regime. It is also a fact that after martial law was imposed and General Zia became its chief administrator, the JI reconciled with the military administration. Whatever the reasons for this attitude and whether or not the JI is willing to own up to this is not important; the fact remains that the group has been very accommodating to the martial law regime and its ill effects. Some important members of the JI leadership have openly admitted that their cooperation with the martial law administration was a grave political mistake, which helped extend martial law rule. Some of its leaders try to defend themselves by saying that the decision on this was made by the PNA. This is not a very good excuse, because other parties that were members of the PNA refused to cooperate with the martial law regime. The Jamaat-e-Islami could have also followed this path, but it did not. The JI leadership argues that its actions resulted in some positive developments, but a thorough analysis shows that this is not true. The most important result is said to be the decision to hold general elections. But these elections were postponed, as the martial law regime wanted to get some political parties on its side in order to keep itself in power. It succeeded in its goal. Nobody could stop the martial law government from changing whatever it wanted.

During the years that followed, the JI was friendlier to the regime than any other party. Its leaders did not try to conceal their support for some of the policies followed by the martial law administration. Any kind of approach can be justified. The leadership of the JI explained its support for the military regime by saying that the army could not be forced to give up power by agitating against it. Mian Tufail Mohammad said repeatedly that the people

who opposed the martial law government just wanted to replace the "old" martial law government with a "new" martial law. Mian Sahib never explained why that martial law regime was "old," and why he assumed that it would be a military government that would follow. Meanwhile, the leadership of the JI stated that it was not opposed to the program proposed by the MRD, that it only disagreed with the methodology. At the same time, the JI did not take any steps to help establish democracy. We remember one time when Mian Sahib had come to participate in a forum sponsored by JANG, he was asked what he thought about the lack of political representation accorded to the smaller provinces by the martial law regime. He replied without hesitation, "I do not understand what lack of representation you are talking about. This problem is related to two to four Baluchistan tribal chiefs and two to four landlords in Sind. The people living in these provinces are not experiencing any kind of deprivation. I do not believe there is any problem there." He tried to imply that there were no negative results of the martial law regime in any province. Mian Sahib may still believe that. He said that the present non-party-based political experiment should continue until 1990, lest democracy never prosper in this country. It appears, however, that other leaders of his party have started to think differently. Prof Ghafur Ahmad has said several times that if the present government does not change its attitude, he will have to review his decision to support its stay until 1990. Mian Sahib still believes that the present experiment should continue until 1990. He has not made any firm statement such as that of Professor Ahmad, however.

Maulana Jan Mohammad Abbasi, a party leader who is closely associated with Sind, has started to adopt a very different tone. In a newspaper interview, he demanded elections on a party basis. He has asked Prime Minister Junejo to hold elections as demanded if he really considers himself the prime minister, so that Sindhis can feel that they are participating in the government. In the interview, Maulana Abbasi also said some other things that no other JI leader has said before. He said, "Because of the autocratic government, Sind's patriotic citizens do not feel that they have any representation in the government. The situation is so bad that if India should attack Pakistan, Sindhis would not be very helpful and cooperative with the Pakistani army. They might help India openly."

Just listen! Who is this man, and which party's leader is he? Can there be anything worse than this in any country wherein a leader openly says that his people would rather help the enemy? This might be the lowest point a country could reach, indicating the total failure of its government's ideology and policy. When opposition leaders are disappointed with a government, they can announce their decision to fight for their rights by bringing about a bloody revolution. No politically healthy person in the world would even openly welcome the enemy. Many leaders have commented on the unrest and the lack of faith in the government present in Sind, but what Maulana Abbasi has said beats everything. If our government still does not believe that some kind of reforms are necessary, then we have to admit that we have not learned anything from the Bangladesh fiasco. The leadership of the JI has been accused of ignoring the negative results of the martial law regime, just as the government itself does. The situation, however, has deteriorated so much that the most optimistic--and in some people's opinion, unrealistic and self-delusive--group is forced to accept the harsh reality.

What does this situation demand? Maulana Abbasi has provided an answer to this question. He has demanded immediate elections with the full involvement of political parties. We think he is right. The greatest benefit to be achieved by this step would be the removal of the extremist feelings that Maulana Abbasi hinted at in his interview. The time for widespread demonstrations has not come yet. Nevertheless, Benazir Bhutto has said that if her demands are not accepted soon, the midterm elections will not solve the present situation. It appears that a leader of the JI agrees with Miss Bhutto, at least on this issue. Are the people in power ready to think about this problem with cool heads?

7997/12913

CSO: 4656/33

PARTY LEADERS WARN OF RIFT BETWEEN PEOPLE, ARMY

Lahore NAWA-I-WAQT in Urdu 29 Nov 86 p 2

[Editorial: "Wali Khan's and Maulana Abbasi's Warning"]

[Text] Khan Abdul Wali Khan, leader of the Awami National Party, and Maulana Jan Mohammad Abbasi, vice president of the Jamaat-e-Islami, have expressed concern that in the event of foreign aggression, Pakistani citizens might not help the army as they did in 1965. We do not want to give publicity to this attitude, but we do expect the government to heed this warning and to take the necessary steps to secure the people's cooperation. Although, Wali Khan is a leftwing leader and his followers often meet people in India, the Soviet Union, and Afghanistan, he has recently admitted that he supports a federation over a confederation. He has also repeatedly demonstrated his faithfulness to Pakistan. Maulana Abbasi is a veteran politician and belongs to a rightwing party. He cooperated with the martial law regime during its 9-year tenure. His party is lobbying for President Zia in support of the Shariat bill. The government should at least listen to him. Nobody can disagree with the fears that Maulana Abbasi has expressed about Sind. We ask the government and the political parties to keep the government separate from the nation. When attacked by a foreign power, people unite and fight the invaders alongside with their armed forces; they do this as a duty to their country and not because of politicians or the government. This should be expected of every citizen. There are many opportunities for political revenge. It is not appropriate for opposition parties to work against the government at a time when our sacred land is being trampled by the unholy feet of foreign invaders. Nor can a government act against opposition parties in such a situation. It is the country that would suffer in a situation like that, and we doubt that any government would be so petty as to stoop to that level. The government has the responsibility to take the initiative in this direction. It has the authority and must make sure that the political parties and other factions work with it. Our government does not seem to have done anything in this regard. Perhaps, the government is busy implementing military preparations and mobilizing our armed forces. However, wars are not won by armies alone; the people's support and approval is a must for this.

7997/12913

CSO: 4656/36

DEMAND FOR CONFEDERATION DENOUNCED AS DIVISIVE

Lahore NAWA-I-WAQT in Urdu 3 Dec 86 p 3

[Editorial: "Confederation...an Unsuccessful Experiment"]

[Text] Ghulam Mustafa Jatoi, the leader of the National People's Party, has said that experiments with confederation governments have failed all over the world. He said that this experiment will not be successful in Pakistan, either, because the purpose of a confederation is to divide a country into more than one part. Pakistan was established as a federation by independent political action. People from various geographic units helped to establish Pakistan as a democratic Islamic country and fought the opposition presented by local forces, nationalist groups, supporters of a unified India, and those who wanted to absorb Muslims into the Hindu majority. Unfortunately, our politics changed in 1958. Narrowminded politicians took advantage of this change and began to propagandize against the very ideology on which Pakistan was established. As a result of this tirade, we lost half of our country. In 1973, various leaders of the country got together and approved a constitution to bring our country back on the track of democratic rule. However, the writers of this constitution later defaced it themselves. Attempts to destroy the spirit of this document were made by interfering in Baluchistan. Still, political circles agree that this document is the one endorsed by the majority of people in the country. Some persons, including Abdul Hafiz Pirzada, a federal minister who claims to be one of the authors of the constitution, have lost their minds and are proposing a confederation of the four provinces. Such a proposal is inconceivable, since it is not only against the spirit of the 1973 constitution, but also unparalleled in the history of the world. How could one propose a confederation of provinces instead of a democratic country? All confederations that have been established in the world have failed. The world knows what happened to the confederation proposed for Egypt, Syria, Libya, and Sudan. Interestingly, not only did they fail in their effort to form a confederation, but they also did not succeed in remaining friendly neighbors. Sheikh Mujieb Rahman raised a slogan similar to the Sindhi-Baluch-Pakhtoon Front proposal we are hearing now. We have lost half of our country as the result of that slogan. Mr Jatoi, therefore, is correct in saying that the idea of a confederation is in fact a conspiracy to dismember this country. One of the leaders of this front, Mumtaz Bhutto, is in jail these days, and Hafiz Pirzada has absconded. We have already demanded

in these columns that the leaders of this front should be tried publicly so that these people may not try to emerge as heroes by telling the public that they were victims of governmental revenge tactics. Trial in open court would reveal to the people the real designs of these leaders, and it would also help to remove some doubts that are causing problems in some circles.

7997/12913

CSO: 4656/36

SIND RACIAL, ETHNIC TENSIONS BLAMED ON GOVERNMENT NEGLECT

Lahore CHATAN in Urdu 21 Nov 86 pp 19-25

[Analysis by Ahmad Riaz Nasim: "Punjabis Will Be Killed Like Dogs: Conspiracies Behind These Violent Acts; An Instigating Pamphlet"]

[Text] Historically and politically, Sind has been the most deprived but important province of Pakistan. It has always been a target of political and religious persecutions. In this very unfortunate province, Sindhis and Muhajirs were made to fight in riots over language. For political gains people living in a peaceful atmosphere have been forced to kill each other in the name of the Shi'a and Sunni sects; religious people have been killed in the name of Nizam'e Mustafa; innocent villagers have been killed by dacoits; patriotic citizens have been called instigators, their properties have been confiscated and they have been beaten in public; and people working for MRD have been falsely accused of murder and theft and sent to jail. An unbridgeable gap has been created between Punjabis and Sindhis. At times, Biharis and Pathans have been killed openly. Now, efforts are being made to alienate Pathans and Muhajirs, who have been friends for centuries, from each other. From 31 October to 5 November there were various disturbances between Pathans and Muhajirs; more than 50 people were killed, hundreds were injured, and an undetermined amount of property was destroyed. An indepth analysis of the violence in Karachi and Hyderabad clearly indicates that there was a well-planned conspiracy behind it. The Sind government and the Karachi city management are both directly involved in this conspiracy. Sindhi people and elected representatives are demanding the Sind government's resignation. Some people blame the governor and the chief minister of Sind for all these problems. Maulana Sayed Vasi Mazhar Nadvi, a member of the National Assembly from Hyderabad, has openly accused the governor of Sind of being responsible for the carnage in Karachi and Hyderabad. Maulana Navdi's courage in openly accusing the Sind government of these violent acts in Karachi in the National Assembly is praiseworthy. Maulana Nadvi, whose actions have been praised both in Karachi and Hyderabad, has proved that unlike Nawab Mohammad Yamin Khan, he is a true representative of the Hyderabad people in the National Assembly. He does not appear to be the typical self-serving politician. The violence in Karachi and Hyderabad reminds me of a couplet written by the late Urdu poet Qabil Ajmeri: An accident does not just happen; it results from long planning. The late poet might have written this couplet right after analyzing the recent occurrences. These violent acts were not impromptu; they resulted from years of careful planning. The sudden availability of hand grenades, the use of

modern automatic weapons, the Sind government's apparent ignorance of its problems, the tardy implementation of a curfew in Sohrab Goth, the easy get-aways by criminals, the criminal negligence by the government, the firing at buses for several hours from the roofs of hotels in Sohrab Goth and Hyderabad, and the absence of the police from the scenes of violence--all this indicates that Afghan troublemakers with the help of some Pathans and the police staged these acts in order to get peaceful Pathans and Muhajirs to fight among themselves. They made their foreign bosses very happy with these bloody incidents. On 31 October a caravan of buses was taking people to attend a meeting in Hyderabad. Instigators dressed as Pathans opened fire on these buses, killing a police inspector and 10 passengers. More than 100 people were badly wounded. According to one report, the troublemakers wanted to start a fight between Punjabis and Muhajirs. By mistake, Pathans and Muhajirs ended up fighting. Some Sindhis expressed happiness over this Muhajir-Pathan fighting and celebrated by giving parties. An instigating Sindhi pamphlet distributed by the Jiye Sind movement confirms this report. This pamphlet has been published and distributed in the Sindhi language for several months. For the last 2 months, an Urdu edition of this pamphlet has been prepared allegedly under the auspices of CHATAN and distributed secretly. This Jiye Sind pamphlet explains the conspiracy hatched against Pathans, Punjabis, and Muhajirs. The pamphlet has been circulating in Sind for several months, but the police have not taken any action against Jiye Sind. Some inciting excerpts from G.M. Sayed's book, "Pakistan Should Be Divided Now," are included in this pamphlet. A portion of the text included is reproduced here:

"As instructed earlier, you must focus on persecuting Punjabis with the help of Muhajirs. We are happy that you are doing such a good job. We would like to inform you that we have made considerable progress in achieving our goals. We have been able to make our enemies fight among themselves in our beloved Sind. You have seen that the Punjabi 'imperialists' are fighting with Muhajirs, while Pathans and Biharis are at each other's throats. Our enemies do not seem to have any way out. It appears that all the enemies of Sind are unable to work together. Our other achievement is the success of the great Sayed, G.M. Sayed, and his assistants. Their platform of 'deprivations' has helped unite all Sindhi intellectuals, lawyers, politicians, writers, workers, farmers, businessmen, and landlords. They have all raised the slogan, 'feeling of deprivation,' and have given their full support to the cause. As a result of these efforts, Sindhis have begun to get jobs, and the monopoly of Punjabis, Pathans, and Muhajirs has ended. However, we should not be satisfied with this small success; we must continue our struggle. Sind will not be free until and unless all its enemies--Punjabis, Pathans, and Muhajirs--are expelled from various jobs. Sons of Sind, we want to share with you this good news! We have forced most of the Punjabis out of Sind University, the Sind Agricultural University, Tandojam, and other educational institutions in Sind. Those who are still here will be killed like dogs. Then there are Muhajirs and Pathans. As we mentioned earlier, declare Muhajirs as our brothers and all the rest as Sind's enemies. You must keep in mind that a snake is an enemy whether it is a king cobra or a snake as small as a worm. These worms (Muhajirs) have done us more harm by operating profitable businesses and securing gainful employment than the king cobras (Punjabis). We must kill these worms (Urdu-speaking Muhajirs). However, we have to wait for the right time, as these worms

(Muhajirs) live in cities and we need them. We shall kill them later. This is not the time to commit stupid acts. We must find a way to 'kill the snake without breaking our staff.' Here are instructions: When you meet a Muhajir youth at a university or college, take him to a hostel, tell him, 'you are a Punjabi,' and beat him until he promises never to attend any college or university. Make sure that no Sindhi friend of this Muhajir is present. The idea is that you swear at the Punjabis while beating the Muhajirs. In this way, you will be able to cancel one enemy with the other. You should establish a system at universities that makes it impossible for Punjabis, Muhajirs, or Pathans to pass the entrance examination. You must control all hostels because they are essential for control. Help Sindhi farmers to make things difficult for the Punjabi and Muhajir landlords. At Punjabi- and Muhajir-owned factories in cities where Sindhis work, try to establish unions of Sindhi workers. Then you can use these unions later to make the lives of factory owners miserable. In villages, do all your business with Hindu shopkeepers. In this way we will be able to destroy the economy of our enemies. In any election, vote for a Sindhi brother, even if he is your mortal enemy. We will continue our efforts to tell you about the deprivation and oppression Sindhis have undergone. Each page of each newspaper will echo the voice of Sindhis.

"Note: Make sure this pamphlet does not fall into the hand of the enemy. Read it and share it with another Sindhi. Your country is my country, and that is Sind country!"

"Published by the Jiye Sind Students Federation, Sind University, Jamshoro."

In addition to this pamphlet, several other indicators point to the fact that the Pathan and Muhajir clashes were the result of a plan. In talks between Karachi administration, the leaders of Muhajir National Movement and the Pathans of Sohrab Goth, the assurance was given that the caravan of buses carrying Muhajirs would not be attacked. Despite this promise, the buses carrying workers of the Muhajir National Movement were severely attacked at several locations between Sohrab Goth and Hyderabad. Some persons were heard saying that the real target of this conspiracy were Punjabis. Somehow, the Punjabis escaped and the Pathans were implicated instead. The Sind government and the Karachi administration played an important role in increasing the Pathan-Muhajir fighting by neglecting their duties. One example of the criminal negligence of the Karachi administration is that it took 24 hours to implement a curfew in that notorious area of Sohrab Goth where the trouble started. But an immediate curfew was ordered in areas such as Qaidabad, Landhi, and Jamshed Road where there was little or no danger of problems! In Hyderabad, the curfew was ordered at midnight on the day (31 October) of the riots. The curfew was not ordered for 24 hours in Sohrab Goth, where all the troubles began, and 10 persons were killed. This facilitated the escape of the individuals responsible for these riots and increased the spread of factionalism in Sind. Brothers killed brothers. There are some violent and opportunist elements among the Pathans, as there are among the Muhajirs. They helped make this situation worse for their own reasons. The federal government and the Sind provincial government have traditionally ignored the welfare of Sindhis. Both governments are busy strengthening themselves and trying to put life in the dead horse called the Muslim League. All that the federal and

provincial governments did at the time of the Karachi and Hyderabad riots was to take care of the wounded and issue press releases. The politicians did not try to talk about brotherhood and peace; instead, they spent time in increasing their political influence. The unity of this country will be in danger if the government does not arrest those responsible for these riots and if it ignores the mounting problems in Sind. The people in power cannot afford to ignore the fact that graft, nepotism, murder, robbery, kidnapping, and cheating are rampant in Sind. A brother is ready to hurt his own brother. Violence is everywhere. People are suffering from the lack of security. The martial law administration and the present regime helped increase the feeling of a separate nationalism in this province. Under earlier administrations also G.M. Sayed raised the slogan for a "Sindhu Desh" and independence for Sind. In Sarhad, i.e., NWFP, Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan called for the establishment of Pakhtoonistan, indicating that the people in Sarhad were also suffering from a feeling of deprivation, and Sheikh Mujibur Rahman declared East Pakistan a separate country. It is natural for a race or a region to declare independence if the people living there are denied their rights. When voices demanding rights are suppressed, the separatist movements go underground and become stronger. These emerge as strong forces when the right time comes, and conspiracies inside and outside the country begin to spread. A previous government closed the doors to the demand for basic human rights, and East Pakistan became Bangladesh. Politicians and governments did not learn from the Bangladesh fiasco. Instead, they started persecuting the nationalities living in the remaining provinces. Patriotic citizens were called traitors. All this resulted in the spread of factionalism and separatist movements. Bigotry and hatred caused people to become more apart from each other. The present government is following in the footsteps of the martial law regime in this respect. The only difference is that people who were known as traitors to the previous governments are being recognized as patriots by this government, and those who were called patriots are being declared troublemakers by this government. G.M. Sayed, who was jailed as a traitor and an enemy of the country by each of the previous governments, has been recognized as a patriot by the president of our country! He has been offered flowers and paid visits by government leaders. It should be remembered that G.M. Sayed has written several books denouncing Pakistan and the ideology it stands for. He started the Sindhu Desh movement and is actively involved in the present riots and other incidents. The government still favors G.M. Sayed. The present government is recognizing people who believe in resurrecting the Muslim League and who accept the present government as democratic. The negligence of the present government has resulted in the formation of several separatist groups in Sind, and various factions are mortal enemies of one another. This hatred was borne of F.M. Sayed's Jiye Sind movement. This group charges that Muhajirs and Pathans living in Sind are stealing from the Sindhis. They want to throw them out of Sind, refuse admission to Sindhi educational institutions, and deny them employment in the province.

When the new Sindhis felt that they were surrounded by various conspiracies, they formed the "Muhajir Punjabi Pathan United Front," led by Nawab Muzafar Ali Khan and the late Chowdhry Ashraf Ali Ahamad Kakar. Thus, a hateful atmosphere emerged in Sind, where once peace prevailed. Racial violence caused loss of life and property on both sides. Unfortunately, the government considered these incidents minor and did not take any steps to stop them. The

mutual hatred between Sindhis and non-Sindhis went on increasing. The citizens who did not vote for the PPP in the 1970 elections were treated very badly by the PPP while it was in power. Bhutto started a quota system and all but obliterated the rights of the Muhajir group. Thus the ethnic hatred which time and circumstances had subsided somewhat over the years was fanned once again. The youth in urban areas were barred from entering educational institutions and the doors to jobs were closed on them. The present government should have stopped the quota system so the Muhajirs could get their rights back, but instead, this government extended the system for another 10 years with the 1983 MRD movement. Sindhis were given more jobs and the Muhajirs began to feel deprived. Some city youths voiced their resentment over the unfair treatment of Muhajirs and called for repeal of the quota system. The present government did not pay any heed to these requests. Deprived of educational and employment opportunities, these young men formed the "Muhajir National Movement" under the leadership of Altaf Hussain. All Muhajir youth in Sind joined this organization, in the hope that it would help them gain their rights. The Muhajir National Movement (MNM) printed posters and provided statements to the press in order to draw the government's attention to their problems. The federal and Sind governments, however, did not pay any attention. A cold war started between the MNM and the provincial government. During this period the Muhajirs gradually began to hate Pakistan. Representatives in the national and provincial assemblies assured the government that the MNM was not a representative organization and was a group composed of troublemakers. They advised the government not to pay any attention to the MNM. The MNM held its first national convention on 8 August 1986 in Karachi's Nishtar Park, with the participation of a large number of Muhajirs. Muhajirs participated in the public meeting and convinced the government that the MNM represented them and that ignoring its demands would result in problems in Sind. The government of Sind and its minister still did not pay any heed to the demands of the Muhajirs. Once again, the Muhajirs were disappointed.

At the Nishtar Park meeting, Altaf Hussain brought up the problems faced by Sindhis and Muhajirs and urged them to work together. He urged people of other provinces to find solutions to their problems with the help of their respective governments. Some people interpreted this as a desire on Altaf Hussain's part to throw Punjabis and Pathans out of Sind. The truth is that all of the leaders of the MNM emphasized peace and cooperation in solving various problems. The leaders of the MNM openly declared that people of other provinces can solve their own problems at home. The aim was that a person living in one province should not have the opportunity to call another province unfair and that the people of all provinces should be able to live in harmony together.

The MNM always tried to find a solution to its problems within the law. The problem is that neither the federal government nor the Sind government recognizes gentlemanliness. They are used to paying attention only after the occurrence of arson and violence. Hands guided by foreign powers have been working silently until now. When they saw that the Muhajirs were feeling rejected, they came forward and began to pave the way for riots. The feeling of deprivation took the form of a burning lava of rage and hatred. During the 9 years of martial law regime, hate and prejudice became more prevalent than

patriotism, peace and love. Because of the government's oversight and a desire to stay in power, many foreign agents managed to enter the country under the guise of Afghan refugees. Selfish government officials helped these troublemakers gain power. These instigators started and spread the "business" of smuggling arms and drugs so well that security for the common man became extinct. The government did not take any action to curb the activities of smugglers. When a patriotic citizen identified these criminals, the government officials looked the other way. Neither the government nor the police provided protection to good citizens. A few months ago, a social worker was murdered by a drug dealer because the former had identified him to the government. There has been a record increase in crime, including robbery, murder, and the smuggling of drugs and arms. Weapons and ammunition have been openly displayed at meetings and rallies held in honor of Benazir Bhutto, Ghaffar Khan, and G.M. Sayed. Chief Minister Ghaus Ali Shah, however, expressed his displeasure only at the weapons displayed at an MNM meeting in Hyderabad. The quantity of weapons used in the skirmishes between Pathans and Muhajirs leads one to wonder if the law of the jungle has taken over in Sind. Government officials and newspapers have confirmed that the rally held by the MNM at the Qila grounds of Hyderabad was very peaceful and one of the largest in the history of Hyderabad. Hundreds of thousands of people participated in it to demonstrate the unity of Muhajirs. The greatest proof of the peacefulness of this meeting was the fact that Altaf Hussain and Azim Ahmad Tariq, the leaders of the MNM, did not mention anything about the killing of young men in Hyderabad and Sohrab Goth in their speeches. They repeatedly appealed to the audience to remain peaceful. If Altaf Hussain had wanted to cause trouble, he would have suggested that the people attending the meeting join the funeral procession of the youth killed. This would have caused a river of corpses and blood to flow from Karachi to Sukkur. However, Altaf Hussain very wisely did not even mention this terrible incident, and he advised the participants always to follow peaceful methods. In his speech, he declared that Sindhis and Muhajirs were brothers. He asked why President Zia refused to meet him when Zia had no objection to meeting G.M. Sayed. He added that it is appropriate to meet even with the enemy when there are mutual benefits. Altaf Hussain asked the government to appoint a Muhajir as the governor of Sind. This was the largest and most peaceful meeting of the MNM in history. There was no problem even at the end of the meeting. The trouble began when firing was started from the roofs of the Azad Mahmand Hotel and the Quetta Star Hotel. If the police had arrested the culprits immediately, the city would have been saved from the disaster that followed. Peace and harmony between Pathans and Muhajirs was maintained by the efforts of Hyderabad Deputy Commissioner Shakeel Hyder; subdivisional magistrate Suhail Rasheed; Sind assembly member Maulana Abdul Waheed Quereshi; social worker Mohammad Iqbal; by Haji Mohammad Rafiq Memon, Haji Yaqub, Zakir Bin Zahid, Maulana Matin Sahib, Dr Farooq Memon, Rafiq Darbari, and Ismail Jaipuri, all representing the Hyderabad Organization of Small Traders; and by Daud Pathan and Aurangzeb Khan, prominent leaders of the Pathan Brotherhood. Kali Road is mostly populated by Pathans; however, Daud Pathan and Aurangzeb managed to keep a harmonious atmosphere between Pathans and Muhajirs in this area. Not a single incident of violence occurred in the Kali Road area. Deputy Commissioner Shakeel Hyder later released several innocent youth arrested during the riots. There are rumors that Mr Hyder will be transferred because of this "crime." The role of the agency responsible for implementing the curfew during these riots was

deplorable. The employees responsible for implementing the curfew were very insulting to citizens in general and to people saying "Namaz" prayers. Dr Hasamuddin Zia, chairman of the Hyderabad Welfare Society, made most of the arrangements for providing free first aid to the wounded in their homes. The darkest episode of these riots is that G.M. Sayed neither issued a statement on the riots nor demanded the release of Altaf Hussain. This prolonged and mysterious silence maintained by G.M. Sayed hints at another disaster. Non-Sindhi circles of Hyderabad have expressed their surprise and disappointment at F.M. Sayed's silence. The Sind government has accused Altaf Hussain of murder and conspiracy. It appears that the history of Zulfikar Ali Bhutto's case is being repeated. Bhutto was hanged after being tried in a case in which he was not directly involved. Altaf Hussain has been accused of a murder committed when he was addressing a meeting attended by hundreds of thousands of people. These charges filed under the guidance of the Sind government have caused further unrest among Muhajirs. The Sind government is aware of the strength wielded by Muhajirs and is bent upon weakening them by fair means or foul. If the Sind government does not take the necessary action against the criminals and corrupt officials responsible for these riots, the Muhajirs will be forced to go against the government to win their rights. The children of people who sacrificed their lives to gain Pakistan are included in the Muhajir group. These children are young men now and leading poor lives deprived of opportunities to gain an education or employment. The new generation asks their parents, "What did your sacrifices gain for us?" All they got is hunger and unemployment. These two gifts, while they have cemented the Muhajirs into a strong group, have also made them hate Pakistan. Arrests and accusations of murder will only make the Muhajirs angry; they will not solve the problems. Their voice cannot be silenced by force any longer. They are disappointed and outraged, and the government is becoming aware of this.

Chief Minister Ghaus Ali Shah said in a statement issued to the press that there are no Muhajirs in Sind; only Sindhis live there. Whenever the government and politicians talk about four groups, the Muhajir wonders in which group he belongs. Sindhis have never accepted Muhajirs as one of themselves and have always called them "makar" [insect] or "one who has taken asylum." The quota system also indicates a difference between Sindhis and Muhajirs. The question arises: if everyone who lives in Sind is a Sindhi, then why does not the government eliminate the quota system? The quota system just tells us that the government has accepted Muhajirs as Muhajirs officially. An established fact or concept is very difficult to undo. Slogans about the four "nationalities" have forced the Muhajirs to show their prowess and to demand the fifth "nationality." Whenever there is talk about the four "nationalities" in this country, the Muhajirs feel alone and left out. This feeling of being left out coupled with the negligence of our government and the hatred exhibited by Sindhis has pushed the Muhajirs to raise the slogan for a fifth "nationality." The negligence of our government, corruption in our bureaucracy, and the planned activity of instigators have caused a situation similar to that leading to East Pakistan's hatred for West Pakistan. Following the appearance of slogans calling for a Sindhu Desh [Sindhi Nation], slogans calling for a Muhajir Desh [Muhajir Nation] are appearing on walls. When two ideologies or nationalities clash, a new ideology will be born. It will be a big question mark for Pakistan's unity. The government should recognize these slogans on the city walls as the writing on the wall!

SRI LANKA

DELHI RADIO REPORTS 11 KILLED AS MILITANTS, SECURITY FORCES CLASH

BK090311 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 9 Jan 87

[Text] In Sri Lanka, at least 11 persons have been killed so far in a 2-day confrontation between government forces and militants in Jaffna peninsula. Six of those killed are civilians, and five militants. Our Colombo correspondent Plabon Majumder reports that three civilians including an 8-year old boy died yesterday [when] mortar shells struck a Muslim area of Jaffna town. Another fisherman was killed in shelling at Thondamannar. One feature of yesterday's operation was that the government forces tried to come out of their camps and secure parameters at a number of places in Jaffna peninsula. Intermittent shelling was reported from the army camps at Elephant Pass, Navatkuli and Thondamannar camps.

Meanwhile, the Council of Hindu Organizations yesterday appealed to all parties to resume negotiations and resist from creating a situation which will adversely affect the peace process. The president of the organization, Mr Duraiswamy, called upon the government to lift the ban on the supply of fuel to the north.

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CSO: 4600/110

SECURITY FORCES 13 JAN SUCCESSES REPORTED

BK150849 Colombo LANKA PUWATH in English 0800 GMT 15 Jan 87

["OANA/POOL" item]

[Text] Colombo, Jan 15 (LANKA PUWATH)--One soldier identified as L.B. Gamini was killed on the spot when terrorists exploded a landmine at Uiyankulam in Mannar District yesterday, the media center in Colombo told LANKA PUWATH.

In another incident security forces captured 15 terrorists including two members of the LTTE [Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam] and three PLOTE [People's Liberation Organization of Tamil Eelam] members in three separate operations in the Batticaloa District, eastern Sri Lanka on Tuesday.

Meanwhile an area leader of the LTTE identified as Ganesha Moorthy was shot dead by the security forces when they attacked a LTTE hideout at Vandarmuliai in Batticaloa District yesterday morning. [Some] 12 hand grenades, 2 outboard motors, one radio, 24 62-mm ammunition [as received], one compass and a large stock of medicines and LTTE literature were recovered from the scene.

In a separate incident another terrorist leader identified as Veluppullai of the EROS [Eelam Revolutionary Organization of Students] group was killed when security forces attacked a group of terrorists who were [word indistinct] felling timber at the natural reserve at Karadiyanaaru in eastern Sri Lanka on Tuesday.

In Jaffna, on Tuesday night one terrorist belonging to the LTTE group was killed in an exchange of fire between the security forces and the terrorists outside the Jaffna Fort in northern Sri Lanka. One claymore mine, two hand grenades and one colt pistol with 3 magazines were recovered from the scene.

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CSO: 4600/110

INDIAN PAPER VIEWS RESPONSE TO PROVINCE MERGER IDEA

BK081730 Madras THE HINDU in English 30 Dec 86 p 7

[Text] Colombo, Dec. 29--The 'merger issue--a stumbling block to a settlement of Sri Lanka's ethnic problem, with the Government firmly rejecting the minority Tamils' demand for the merger of the predominantly Tamil Northern Province and the largely cosmopolitan Eastern Province--has generated less enthusiasm in the east.' A UNI correspondent who met a cross section of the people on a tour of the predominantly Tamil and muslim districts of Batticaloa and Amparai gained the impression that both communities were willing for any settlement that safeguarded their interests and security.

Not against present structure: Local leaders of both communities welcomed a reported proposal for the creation of a separate Eastern Provincial Council, excising the Sinhalese areas of Amparai district to ensure a Tamil-majority province, though Muslim leaders said they were not averse to continuance of the present structure of the province.

Informed sources here said Colombo, which had agreed to the proposal that had emerged during the talks the Minister of State, for External Affairs Mr Natwar Singh and the Minister of State for Personnel, Mr P. Chidambaram, had with the Sri Lanka President, Mr J.R. Jayewardene in the third week of December, had since backed out on the ground that it was not 'practical'.

Muslim leaders oppose it: Local Muslim leaders were, however, emphatic in their opposition to the merger proposal as also the creation of a separate Muslim province with its base at Amparai.

Mr M.A.C.A. Rahaman, vice-president of the Eravur Citizens' Committee and a supporter of the ruling United National Party, said the Tamils and Muslims spoke the same language and had common customs. Though the Muslims were concentrated in some places, their lands were in the midst of Tamil areas and thus indivisible. "Territory-wise, the Tamils and Muslims are linked and interdependent."

Mr A.M. Shamsuddin, the chief organiser of the opposition Sri Lanka Freedom Party for Amparai district, alleged that the separate Muslim Council proposal had emerged from the Colombo Muslim leadership. They have no base here and do not know what is happening here', he said.

The Muslims in the East had held a number of seminars on the issue and the consensus was that a separate Muslim Provincial Council was disadvantageous to the community. They were also opposed to the merger of the Eastern Province with the North, as it would reduce the percentage of the Muslims from the present 32 in the Eastern Province to 18 percent in a combined northern and Eastern Province.

Ordinary Muslims, however, seemed to differ on this issue. Mr Abul Hassan, a restaurant owner, said he was not against the merger. Both the Tamils and the Muslims spoke the same language and had a common culture and they could live together. Barring some recent incidents, the two communities had always lived in harmony, he said.

Fear of being swamped: A Tamil leader, who did not wish to be identified, said the demand for the merger had come from Jaffna because of the fear of further colonisation of the Eastern Province by the Sinhalese. There was a real fear among the Tamils that they would be pushed out of the province as most of the command areas under the accelerated Mahaveli irrigation-cum-hydel project were located in this fertile province. Once this fear was removed, the merger demand would be a 'dead issue.'

He said certain disturbing trends in the Jaffna peninsula, like the elimination of all rival militant groups by the Liberations Tigers of Tamil Eelam had also prompted the Eastern Province Tamils to reconsider their earlier total support for the merger of the two provinces. The fact had not been lost on the Eastern province Tamils that 80 percent of the cadres of the Eelam People's Revolutionary Liberation Front, the latest target of LTTE attack, came from there, he said.

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CSO: 4600/110

DAILY AGAINST 'DIRECT TALKS' WITH TAMIL GROUP

BK081525 Colombo WEEKEND in English 28 Dec 86 p 12

["Momus" commentary: "Walking Into Tiger Trap"]

[Text] Suddenly, 'direct talks' with terrorists seems to be much in vogue. After two years of India acting as the mediator between the Lankan Government and the terrorists, the hard core LTTE [The Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam] whose intransigence it was that prevented a breakthrough and a solution, has expressed its willingness to talk directly with the Government of Sri Lanka, provided 'shunned' India gives her blessings to the move.

For the LTTE such a move would be heavensent. To negotiate directly with an official delegation from the Government of Lanka would enhance their status to that of the legitimate representatives of the Tamil people. To accord them that honour would be to cleanse them of their bloody crimes and their short but brutal past; to afford them that recognition would be to enable them to sit at that same high table talking terms of peace as equals. And in accordance with the terrorists grand design such a recognition of legitimacy would do 'nicely' when it comes to their expected plans of declaring a separate state of Eelam in the near future.

Furthermore, it would also strengthen the LTTE's claims to power vis-a-vis the other terrorist groups, when it can be shown that the only credible power group is the one which the Sri Lankan government itself has recognised as equal.

How such talks would affect the image and status of the Lankan government is quite another matter. Whether it would bear any fruit or whether our eager and sometimes desperate attempts to settle this ethnic crisis would only enable the terrorists to pull off another propaganda coup, has to be seen.

A government spokesman was yesterday quoted in the media as saying that India has not been able to sell anything to the Tamil groups and that direct talks with the LTTE had to be considered.

What exactly was India selling to the tigers if it wasn't the Sri Lankan Government's peace package which contained the setting up of provincial council and a greater devolution of power to the northern people. The main

stumbling block of this proposal was the Government's refusal to allow any merger of the provinces. The terrorists, on the other hand, refused to budge from their position, demanding the right to merge the northern and eastern provinces and to establish a linguistic state in--what they called--their traditional homelands.

Thus if the government of India is unable to persuade the terrorists--to whom she has given refuge on her soil and with whose support the terrorists carry out their activities--to forego the merger demand and accept the government's generous offer, it is hard to believe that Mr Vincent Perera the MP from Yatiyantota would be able to sweet talk the Tiger King Prabhakaran to accept it.

If the LTTE is not willing to listen to mighty India, what hope does Mr Vincent Perera have that they would listen to him. What hope indeed that the terrorists would lay down their arms, forget their merger demand and seek peace because a lion from Yatiyantota has chosen to roar.

To snub India and do away with her mediatory role at this juncture and instead talk to the LTTE on equal terms would be to play into the terrorist hands and come a cropper.

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CSO: 4600/110

SRI LANKA

SEPARATIST ATTACK ON TELECOM BUILDING REPULSED

BK101045 Colombo LANKA PUWATH in English 0953 GMT 10 Jan 87

["OANA/Pool" item]

[Text] Colombo, Jan 10 (LANKA PUWATH)--Government troops effectively repulsed a separatist terrorist attack on the telecommunications building in Jaffna, northern Sri Lanka yesterday.

Official sources told LANKA PUWATH that the security forces [words indistinct] ago, when the terrorists attempted to acquire three key buildings in the Jaffna town, which included the telecommunications, Rupavahini (TV) and the chest clinic buildings.

Yesterday, terrorists who were chased out from the area of the 1,000 metre security zone, fired mortars at the Jaffna fort security forces camp.

However, all mortars fell short of the camp and the telecommunications building.

Troops returned fire and the telecommunications system is functioning.

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