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PAPER CHARGES FORMATION OF NEW PARTY NEEDED

'Dirty Alliance' Rules

Tripoli AL-ZAHF AL-AKHDAR in Arabic 3 Nov 86 p 1

[Editorial: "Urgent Call To Form a Party"]

[Text] Whosoever forms a party is a traitor (first chapter of the Green Book); the party that is politically inviolate is the instrument of government which exercises power as representative of the people. For a party is government of the whole by a part. This is the essence of the matter: government of the whole by a part. This statement is the justification for a call to form a party! Yes, indeed, for a party is by definition the government of the whole by a part. To apply the Green Book, it is necessary to form a party in order to achieve a popular democracy to be completely liberated from all the instruments of dictatorial rule which rob the people of power and render them ineffective--yes, indeed there is an urgent need to form a party without delay, for a party consists of either those with common interests or of those with a common vision or of those who are of the same education or of those who live together in the same place or of those who share the same beliefs. These form a party to implement their interests etc and according to democratic rules none of these should govern all of the people. A party is a minority as compared with the people. As long as it is a minority compared to the people it becomes necessary to form a party in order to end the domination of the majority by a minority. There is absolutely no contradiction in this kind of logic as concerns the political and revolutionary aspects. In order to understand this uncommon phraseology and in order to reach the conviction that it is truly necessary to form a party in order to establish direct popular democracy, we must study the existing state of affairs and analyze it.

The governing body today is a party and not the people--it is not the People's Congresses! Therefore it is necessary to crush this instrument which is not the people to enable the people to govern. But who are the people?! According to the revolutionary theory, "the people" is an ivory-tower expression both obscure and ambiguous--no less obscure than the expression "the people are the master of all".... What is the referent which is designated by "all" and which the people are master of? To be correct the expression should be constructed as follows: "the people are the master." Now, however, we raise the question of what constitutes "people." The people comprise "all of the citizens." This is the correct definition of the word "people." From this point of departure we can arrive at the truth; we can arrive at the problem in an

attempt to solve it. The Libyan citizens whose totality comprises the Libyan people are: farmers, laborers, former and present merchants, former and present middlemen, former and present employers, students, employees, officers, members of the medical committees!; members of the People's Committee for Benghazi Municipality!!; itinerant salesmen on the outskirts of the former Suz al-Zulam [covered market], the Ajdabiyah and al-Kufrah police, smugglers!; the illiterate preachers of mosques!, passport officials and their acquaintances, customs officials--male and female--and their acquaintances, employees of airports and guest houses and their acquaintances, soldiers who are paid and those who are not--all of these constitute the Libyan people. The following must be added: those who receive medical treatment abroad and those who are not permitted to receive medical treatment abroad for reasons unrelated to health, as well as Libyans having telephone service and those without by reason of being unknown. The Libyan people also comprises Libyans who travel for business and those who travel for reasons unrelated to business several times a year. This definition of "the people" does not make any distinction between those who stay abroad in the Resident Hotel or the Intercontinental and those who sleep at the People's Bureau offices in order to carry out their duties then return.

All this mixture constitutes the people to the exclusion of Moroccan, Ethiopian and Filipino housemaids where "a home is served by its members" and "a child is raised by its mother." Definition of the people also includes the revolutionary, political, military, administrative and technical leaderships, their relatives and friends, friends of their friends, their in-laws and whoever maintains good relation with them until such time as the debt is paid!! To satisfy scientific objectivity in defining the term "people," (we must state that) it includes also university professors, Libyan doctors and teachers, the residents of (Ghut al-Sha'al), Abu Salim, and Fallah, residents of Surt, Tubruq, al-Jawsh, and Mizdah--to the exclusion, naturally, of the Dae Woo personnel since they are of Korean origin, the nurses corps and the physiotherapy nurses corps since they are of Slavic origin.

This definition of the people includes all Libyans who receive suitcases full of clothes and those who do not, those who undergo inspection and those who do not; for a Libyan citizen is the same whether he obtains a car from abroad or does not, whether he has a private driver or does not, in accordance with the saying "a car belongs to its driver." In a census you are a Libyan citizen and belong to the people whether you have a swimming pool or whether you have a mallahah [expansion unknown in context; most recently used as "salt shaker"] in your bathroom. Also [included are] those to whose house the tailor comes and those who go to the tailor's house.

Such is the meaning of the term "the people": every Libyan citizen whether he be a resident at the Idris Housing Project in Abu Salim or whether he be still living in a tent in Wadi Bayy, or whether he be a resident of the Abu Nuwas quarters. Also [included are] those who go to Switzerland with their wives and those who would have no reason to go except to join their wives. Citizenship has nothing to do with matrimony or celibacy. Now that we have defined the people it is clear that the definition is an ivory tower designation which has no credibility since it embodies a confusion of contradictions and

incompatibilities. Without doubt, the people according to this dissection include antagonistic factions, conflicting groups and incompatible social segments. Therefore, among the people there are forces and elements of exploitation, stealing, monopoly, haughtiness, domination, favoritism, tribalism, reactionism and corruption. After this dissection to define the people we return to our call for the necessity of forming a party--How? Those who govern now under the umbrella of popular democracy are not the masses to form the state of the masses--rather what is ruling is an alliance--not the forces of the working people but rather an alliance against the forces of the working people; it is a dirty alliance where its members do not know each other but rather know each other's style. They do not meet at a place and conclude a treaty amongst themselves, rather they are implicitly allied. This is the party that is ruling today. But do not fear those allies: "...You think of them as a host, but their hearts are scattered" [Qur'an, LIX: 142] They hate each other because they compete in depravity. It is inevitable to form a party: not a party to govern the people but rather a process to separate the masses from the people. It is not a party in the sense of a party governing the whole it is rather the whole yielding the part. It is the body conquering the cancer.

It is another bold operation, a qualitative jump, a new revolutionary transformation to create the state of the masses; the masses alone have a vested interest in the revolution, the masses whose portion the algae has eaten and whose blood Dracula has sucked.

You unknown people, you good people, who do not know who provides you with television service, you do not know who excuses you from paying phone bills, utilities, agricultural and housing loans; you do live in a shabby house in the shadow of a fabulous palace; you are not able to travel abroad, and do not know who can send you for treatment abroad; you who do not know how to get a car and do not know who buys for you--but not at your own expense--a plane ticket; you citizens not of the ivory tower; you toilers, you hard-working producers; you widows and you divorcees in violation of the shari-ah [Islamic law]; you women who have been violated for money, you silent downtrodden women, you with no voice, no strength, and no power; you who have been forced to part with your offspring; you who have been forced to leave your home; you who know no one and are known by none; you soldiers stationed on the war fronts; you street sweepers, drivers, and cleaners [?]; you conscientious teachers; all of you whose hands are covered with lime, tar, dust, mud, salt, and blood whether from a medical operation or from battle; to all of you with roughened hands (because the roughened hand is loved by God and his Messenger); you who was obliged to be a driver for an idle bourgeois woman; you who have been ordered to ride alone up front; you who have been ordered to wash an expensive car owned by a worthless person using sweet water while at home you drink salty water; you who have been ordered to buy all sorts of delicious food [for others] while at home you are deprived of even a drink of water; you who realize that all authority is yours but you are silent; you who know that the revolution took place for your sake yet wait in patience; you who know that we love you yet are unable to come to us; you who love us yet cannot come to us; you who have been smitten down by the winds; you who have little support; you who are poor and of broken spirit;

Your era has come...the era of the masses. This is your revolution--the people's revolution. Behold, your path--the green path--has opened! This is your Green Book, take hold of it firmly; read its contents two, three, and four times for this is your historical opportunity to govern, to prevail, "and to walk in the earth exultantly, to tear the earth open, and to attain the mountains in height" [reference to Qur'an, XVII: 37], in spite of Luqman's advice to his son--such advice was good in the case of Luqman and his son, but this is the age of the masses. March forward. Strike the earth with your bare, cracked feet. The earth was created for you. Lift up your heads to the sky; it is beautiful for your sake. Raise your voices, there is no longer any prophet in whose presence you must lower your voices [Qur'anic reference: from XXXI; 17]; raise your voices as loudly as you can. The gods whom we feared and who invalidated monotheism are dead--we killed them on the day of the Great Fatih [1 September Revolution]; on the day of the historic Zuwarah speech; on the sixth anniversary of the Revolution; on the evening of Tuesday, the middle of April; on 6 October; on 7 April; and on 1 September 1978.

I swear to you the gods are dead, and the demigods are dead. The messengers are also dead; We witnessed the death of the seal of the Prophets; there remains only God who is most Exalted, who is Compassionate and Merciful, who is Gracious and Kind. All this removes fear from our hearts, strengthens our freedom and confirms the fact that only we have authority over our land. If you come across a god, kill him and crucify him. Should you find a prophet stone him and kill him--such gods and prophets are imposters and liars. The gods are dead and the messengers are dead. Don't believe anyone who tells you that he is a god or a prophet; he is an imposter and a swindler. He is a Musaylimah or a Sajjah. The land belongs to all, the house belongs to its dweller, the car belongs to its driver, it is for the producer to consume his product, the family is served by its members, the child is raised by its mother, the university belongs to its students, the school belongs to its students, authority and wealth are the weapon of all. To all of you the call is directed to form a party so that the process of sifting may begin. Let the masses line up on the left hand side and let their opponents stand on the right--let the barricades separate us.

In order for decisive action to begin and in order for words to be accompanied by deeds, go O beloved to the revolutionary centers [mathabat] and register your membership in this party. You will find the membership file open to you. As for you hypocrites, you who have tarnished every sacred popular march, you who are fickle, you chameleons, do not attempt this time to do what you did before--for one simple reason, namely, that we would now recognize you, were any one of you to approach us or mix with us as you have been wont to do. Before you know it, we will afflict him with the hoopoe's torture [Reference is to the Qur'anic story in Chapter XXVII; versus 20-25] and we shall most certainly slaughter him. You have an alternative: to proceed, not to register your names with us in the party, but to state your intention towards us. Whether you admit it or not, what is lawful is obvious and what is unlawful is also obvious. Righteousness is now distinct from transgression. It is once more the time for action.

Until next time.

Cartoon Based on Editorial

Tripoli AL-JAMAHIRIYAH in Arabic 14 Nov 86 p 1

[Cartoon]



Key:

1. The era of the people.
2. Exploiter.
3. Opportunist.
4. "Bribe-Taker."
5. Hypocrite.

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CSO: 4504/84

MZALI COMMENTS ON RISE OF ISLAMIC TENDENCY INFLUENCE

Kuwait AL-MUJTAMA' in Arabic 18 Nov 86 pp 22, 23

[Article: "Mzali: The Islamic Fundamentalists in Tunisia Cannot Be Ignored"]

[Text] Mr Mohamed Mzali, former prime minister of Tunisia, was able to obtain an entrance visa to France and has moved from his residence in Lausanne, Switzerland to Paris. From there, he made several statements to French television and the French and Arab press. It was significant in the statements of Mohamed Mzali that he mentioned more than once the growth of the strength of the Islamic fundamentalists in Tunisia. When this is mentioned by a politician who has participated in the government of his country since its independence and who has occupied important positions in the pyramid of authority, the last of which was the position of first minister for 6 years, it is extremely significant and meaningful, since it is a confirmation and clear admission that the majority of the Tunisian people support the Islamic fundamentalists and is favorable to their demands. Thus their Islamic spirit and strength of character are revealed and, despite the financial and moral support that all the other political tendencies enjoy, whether they be parties or movements, they have not been able to attract the public opinion and the Tunisian street as the Islamic fundamentalists have done. Here is Mohamed Mzali, who has lived through social and political developments and interactions in his country, who greeted some of the leaders of the Islamic Tendency Movement, and who discussed with them the consequences of their departure from jail, acknowledging from his exile in Paris the power, about which there must be a thousand apprehensions, that this tendency represents, to the extent that he warned against the army taking power, inasmuch as he believes that the army will not be in this state except for a moment and that the government will be in the hands of the Islamic fundamentalists. Perhaps here he is affirming another fact, which is that the influence of the Islamic fundamentalists has gone beyond the mosques and the universities and has reached the barracks. Therefore, the authorities have sounded the alarms and have declared war on those whom they call the religious extremists, whom they have come to fear greatly. In the beginning of May this year, the government forbade entering the mosques except during prayer times and, in August, the Bulasa Publishing Company was closed after 100,000 books on the Islamic Jihad movement were confiscated and after it accused it of publishing books on religious extremist theories. At the same time, two soldiers were executed after the trial of 26 Islamic fundamentalists.

Therefore, what the government fears most is the infiltration of the Islamic Tendency into the barracks and its spread among the ranks of the army.

Perhaps the confusion between the religious extremists and the moderate Islamic fundamentalists can be attributed to the absence of an opportunity for the religious tendencies to crystalize and become clarified, inasmuch as the government regards all of them as one viewpoint and considers them all troublemakers. The result of this has been that the designations have gotten mixed up and some have assumed the guilt of others. Observers agree that the majority of the Islamic fundamentalists in Tunisia are moderate and that Tunisia has known neither in ancient times nor in modern any political or religious extremism. A student at the faculty of law says on this subject: "The Islamic movement in Tunisia is more moderate than in Egypt, Lebanon, or Iran." Another student, explaining the receptivity of the youth toward the Islamic movement, adds "because the youth see in it a force of unified opposition that offers them the opportunity to express their dissatisfaction with the regime, the more that government fights them, the more their ranks grow. Fanaticism is not one of the characteristics of the Tunisians, but the youth feel anxiety because of the unemployment that awaits them after they graduate and the extremists say that the western style of living that Bourguiba chose is the cause of the current crisis and that the government has not found a solution except for confronting them violently."

During the last decade, there have been profound changes in Tunisia, both socially and politically. The most important phenomenon among these transformations was the violent return to the Islamic religion by large sectors of the population that had been impoverished and starved by the socialist experiment and that had been disappointed by the capitalist experiment. Instead of the regime recognizing these transformations and trying to solve the problems resulting from them in a way that is compatible with the wishes of the people, we see it turning its back to these problems and trying to cover them up, as if they were insignificant. However, the situation speaks for itself and can never be effaced. The mosques have become crowded with people praying; people have begun to grab up religious books, and the calls for arabization have imposed themselves. Arabization has made great strides and French, which the colonizers had firmly implanted in the country, has retreated. In the universities, it is interesting to note that the number of students in the faculty of religious law and jurisprudence has increased tenfold. Mr Mohamed Charfi, professor of law and vice president of the Tunisian Union for Human Rights, states that "We are facing a difficult academic year, which must offer an opportunity to the Islamic movement, which represents a refuge to opponents, especially since we note a weakness in the tendency to study economics and sociology, that is, liberal and Marxist thought, at the same time the study of Islamic history and religious theories has been strengthened."

After all this, can the Islamic movement in Tunisia be ignored? Regardless of the end at which Mohamed Mzali is aiming in his recent statements, in which he said that the Islamic fundamentalists, who have come to constitute a force in the Tunisian arena, cannot be ignored, these statements remain in the end a confirmation of reality and an acknowledgement of the fact that there is no use in denying or ignoring them.

POLL SHOWS ALIGNMENT WEAKER, LIKUD RECOVERING

TA261057 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 26 Dec 86 p 1

[Text] The Alignment is starting to "lose height" whereas the Likud is starting to recover, although the number of Alignment voters continues to be much greater than that of Likud voters. These are the main findings of a PORI Institute poll conducted for HA'ARETZ. This is the second poll conducted for HA'ARETZ since the rotation.

If the elections were held today the Alignment would receive 40.2 percent of the votes, contrary to 46.3 percent immediately following the rotation (HA'ARETZ 7.11.86). The Likud would today get 23.1 percent, as opposed to 22.5 percent following the rotation.

The small parties that lean toward the Alignment are on the upswing: 7.8 percent now as opposed to 5.9 in November.

The small parties which lean toward the Likud remain stable at 8.8 percent today as compared to 8.7 percent in November.

The religious parties have gone down from 9.8 percent in November to 9.4 percent at present.

Some 79.5 percent of those who voted for the Alignment for the 11th Knesset said they would vote again for the Alignment, whereas 56.5 percent of the Likud voters would vote Likud again. Some 12.4 percent of Likud voters for the 11th Knesset stated they would vote Alignment at present. Some 19.3 percent of the Likud voters and 12.6 percent of the Alignment voters for the 11th Knesset said they do not know how they would vote today.

The number of those who did not answer stands at 20.9 percent; 13 percent of them do not know how they would vote and 7.9 percent refused to say whom they would vote for.

Following are the results of the poll as compared to the 11th Knesset (in percent):

	<u>December 1986</u>	<u>11th Knesset</u>	<u>Change</u>
Alignment	40.2	37.1	3.1
Pro-alignment	7.8	5.1	2.7
Likud	23.1	31.9	-8.8
Pro-likud	8.8	5.2	3.6
Religious	9.4	11.4	-2.0
Others	7.6	6.4	1.2

The poll included a representative sample of 1,200 Jewish men and women over 18 years of age who have the right to vote. They were interviewed confidentially in all parts of the country.

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CSO, 4400/96

DECLINE OF ARABIC STUDIES THREATENS ABILITY OF ISRAELI INTELLIGENCE

Jerusalem GOVERNMENT PRESS OFFICE in English 14 Dec 86 pp 1, 2

[Article by Avi Benayahu. Translation of article in AL HAMISHMAR 1 Dec 86]

[Text] (...) In the Israel of 1986, the intelligence systems are in genuine distress due to a shortage of Arabic speakers, and the problem grows more acute from year to year.

(...) Until the end of the 1960s, the Intelligence Corps and the Intelligence Branch were based on Jews who arrived from Arab countries. But they grew older and left the system. The years passed and immigration from Arab countries was reduced and even ceased, and the Intelligence Corps--whose needs are growing--was faced with a serious problem in the form of a dearth of "original" Arabic speakers. In the mid-1970s, a new fashion caught on in Israel, one which probably would have been right for Ben-Gurion but was at once perceived by the Intelligence Corps as a setback. Under the social pressure of the Ashkenazi society which settled in Israel, oriental immigrants became estranged from their heritage, their language and their eastern past. For example, Egyptian immigrants stopped speaking Arabic among themselves, not to mention with or in the presence of their children. The result is that native-born Israelis, among them immigrants from Arabic countries, are not familiar with the language. Since then, those acquainted with "the mother tongue" have gradually disappeared, to the consternation of the responsible levels in the Intelligence Corps.

The primary "weapon" of the corps and of the entire intelligence community is the individual. Without going into details, it is clear that military intelligence in Israel, as in other countries, is gathered by monitoring, as well as by perusing the printed media (particularly memorable was the conversation between Egypt's Nasser and Jordan's Hussein). The corps cannot forego the "human weapon." Accordingly, starting in the mid-1970s, it was decided to base things on independent study in Israel's schools. In Intelligence Corps' slang, this is known as "instant Arabic." Literary Arabic at the minimum level required for duties in the Intelligence Corps is certainly difficult to absorb by Ashkenazi youth and sabras who never heard grandma exchange a few Arabic words with grandpa or the parents at home. Despite this, IDF elements are supporting Arabic instruction in high schools, and are physically and spiritually, encouraging instruction of the language in schools which offer Arabic studies and abetting young people who are industrious and persistent pupils of Arabic.

In the Israel of 1986, only 1,000 pupils annually complete literary Arabic studies on the level required by Intelligence (three or more matric units). With each passing year, the numbers decrease both in quantity and in quality. Israeli youth flocks to computer studies and technological subjects, and prefers French as a second foreign language for matriculation. The people of Israel, children and parents, have developed a very strange antagonism toward the Arabic heritage, toward the language, the culture and the customs. This also touches directly on the aspiration to peace, a life of coexistence in Israel, the war against racism, and many other issues, but at the moment we are dealing with a genuine problem: the Intelligence Corps is being compelled to settle for the language level which flows from its soldiers' mouths--if at all.

Each year, 30,000 4th-graders begin studying "spoken" Arabic within a non-mandatory framework. "Spoken" Arabic gives the Intelligence Corps nothing--there they are in need of the literary Arabic spoken by Arab leaders, ministers, army commanders and Arab corps.

The great watershed in Arabic studies in the school system can be pinpointed in the move to junior high school, in the seventh grade. Out of these same 30,000, only 8,000 remain in the Arabic track while most of those who drop the language go to technical courses, boarding school, yeshivas, etc. The French language is a serious competitor to Arabic. School principals and educators seem to like it better. Schools which teach French receive generous assistance from the French Embassy, while there is no financing and allocation of enough instructional hours to instill the Arabic tongue. By the time the junior high school period concludes, only 1,000 remain out of the 8,000 studying Arabic.

A senior Intelligence Corps officer responsible for finding Arabic speakers for the corps says: "The problem is primarily in the curriculum. We make great efforts, cover all of Israel's schools, and are in close touch with principals, in an effort to convince them to teach literary Arabic on the required level. Arabic is offered today as an elective to French, to computer courses, or art and theater courses. So tell me, what sucker will go study Arabic as a subject?"

The proposal was conveyed to the Knesset's Education Committee on 18.12.85. The committee discussed the proposal for two sessions and heard from representatives of the Education Ministry, the Council for Higher Education, the two teachers' associations, and the IDF. As usual, they said that Arabic is important "both for state security and for the day that peace comes." They made a series of recommendations, but the bitter reality continues to fly in the face of Intelligence Corps officers, year after year.

Members of the corps note that they found an attentive ear on the issue from Education Minister Yitzhak Navon, in a document that the minister issued concerning the promotion of the Arabic language. He determined that \$150,000 would be appropriated in 1986/7 for the Arabic project, as well as a supplement for instructional hours according to the project's needs and progress.

Intelligence Corps personnel--pinning big hopes on the Education Ministry and the minister who heads it--have for several years conducted a series of

activities to induce pupils to study Arabic. Each summer, the Intelligence Corps organizes 1,600 youths for week-long seminars within the framework of "Gadna (Youth Corps) Orientalists." During this concentrated week at the Beit Lid Gadna base, the Intelligence personnel of the future become acquainted with the Middle East, Arabic, Islam, culture, customs, the roots of the regional conflict, communities, minorities, and the Intelligence Corps heritage. The story of the late spy Eli Cohen captures the young people's hearts. In addition, the youths visit Arab villages and do an on-site investigation of their way of life. Those excelling are hosted for four days by a Bedouin tribe. (...)

In Jerusalem and Haifa, the intelligence corps operates pre-military schools under boarding school conditions, in which technological high school, matriculation exam, and Arabic language studies at a five-unit level are integrated together, along with various Intelligence Corps subjects. There is also a pre-military course which is attended by 12-grade graduates who have a basic background in Arabic. In the six-month course, conducted under boarding-school conditions, the participants are trained in the study of the language and are provided with an intelligence profession for their military service. "The results are most impressive--but the response is thin. It's a drop in the bucket," the course commander says. (...)

In the meantime, Intelligence Corps commanders (and, it follows, the other intelligence arms) are forced to settle for the quantity and quality of (existing) Arabic speakers. "The people of Israel, the Knesset and the Education Ministry must understand that the Intelligence Corps is engaged in providing warnings, and its success in the mission is likely to be critical for the nation and its residents. We are in a difficult situation in the realm of Arabic speakers in the intelligence system. This demands national treatment--putting aside peace (for the moment), the road to which also necessitates good Arabic--but right now we are at a state of war," says a senior intelligence officer.

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CSO: 4400/96

IDF SUCCESSFULLY CONCLUDES MAJOR COMMAND EXERCISE

Jerusalem GOVERNMENT PRESS OFFICE 3 Dec 86 pp 1, 2

[Article by Ze'ev Schiff, military affairs analyst, HA'ARETZ. Translation of article in HA'ARETZ 26 Nov 86]

[Text] The IDF should be complimented on its recently concluded command exercise, the largest of its kind it has ever carried out. The IDF hasn't been smothered with compliments since the Lebanon war, but this time the praise is deserved. The singularity of this exercise lay in its scope, its duration, and the diversity of scenarios, packed with complex military problems, that the participating commands had to contend with. The exercise encompassed General Staff headquarters, the high command post--through which the General Staff controls things in wartime--the three regional commands, other corps commands, such as those of the air force and navy, the field formations, and much more. The exercise was thus considered--and correctly so--the largest of its kind.

High-ranking officers who left the IDF many years ago could be seen at the commands that took part in the exercise, having been called in to take part in the deliberations. No fewer than 110 major generals and brigadier generals in the standing army and the reserves were involved in the exercise. The combination of the senior officer corps which today commands the IDF with past commanders contributed a great deal. Generally speaking, each generation of officers tends to launch criticism of the succeeding generation once they have left the army and passed on the sceptre of command to those who come after them. In the present exercise, commanders of various generations were forced to struggle together with the same strategic and military problems.

Veteran generals were mostly assigned the task of serving as judged on behalf of the Training Division or as scrutineers for the staff directing the exercise. Many of them were exacting and tough, and it's well that they were. The judge for the chief of staff and the high command post was Major-General (res) Rehavam Ze'evi; for Northern Command, Major-General (res) Yitzhak Hofi, who was O/C Northern Command during the Yom Kippur War; Schlomo Gazit for Intelligence; and Aryeh Levy for the logistics branch. Aharon Yariv represented the political echelon, and so on and so forth.

The exercise attracted considerable attention because it provided a way in which to study the level of the high commands, and to see whether they have changed since the Lebanon War. It will be recalled that extensive criticism was directed at the high command for not having functioned properly during the war. An exercise with as broad as this one provided an exceptional opportunity to examine the work of the General Staff, its control ability and conceptual methods, and planning by senior officers. It's very difficult to conceal "weak links" in the chain, particularly when so many high-ranking reservists took part in the exercise.

To the credit of Chief of Staff Levy it can be said that he wasn't deterred by exposure of this kind. It would have been very easy to have nixed such an exercise, since a small command exercise was carried out in 1984, or to have reduced its scope, turning it into a "family" exercise. Some generals doubted the need to expand the exercise, but the chief of staff rejected their opposition. Against the backdrop of the criticism directed at the IDF, to the effect that it was reluctant to learn the military lessons from the running of the Lebanon war, Levy deserves praise. Along with this, it bears recalling that to this day there has been no proper analysis of the problem of the Lebanon war's political and strategic goals: whether the nature of the goals, and the manner in which they were presented--one version to the government and another to the General Staff--affected the ability to achieve them in the battlefield, or whether the failure was also related to the operational level.

It's no simple matter to prepare a multi-tiered exercise such as this. Despite its extensive operational experience, the IDF has not carried out many headquarters exercises at a high level. Efforts were usually directed toward training the field units; the high command faced genuine pressures only in time of war. A large headquarters exercise in 1976, to have been headed by Major General Avraham Tamir, was ultimately not carried out for some reason. The IDF had to wait until 1984 for the first large-scale General Staff exercise.

It was only fitting that the mission was assigned to Major General Moshe Bar-Kochba. It would be no exaggeration to say that the present headquarters exercise was one of the crowning achievements of his military career--he has acquired extensive experience in directing large exercises run on a high level. In this field he was a pioneer in the IDF. Few remember that he ran one of the IDF's most important--and forgotten--exercises prior to the Yom Kippur War, when he forecast the hardships the IDF would face, as in fact occurred in the 1973 war.

Preparation for the present large exercise months ago. The degree of preparation and meticulousness was impressive, including intelligence appraisals of enemy army capabilities. It was known in the IDF that the exercise would ultimately be a genuine test of the various arms, branches, commands, and more. Slowly, everyone began to carry out intraservice maneuvers, in preparation for the big exercise. If there were high-ranking officers who began the exercise as a game to be quickly concluded, they couldn't help but be drawn into the next stage by the seriousness which encompassed everyone else in the "war" forced on them by the exercise.

What was learned from the headquarters exercise which can be passed on to the general public? One of the important limitations of field security--which every army in a similar situation encounters--should be stressed. It's clear that enemy intelligence will make tremendous efforts to glean the "real story" of the exercise, and the way in which those taking part solved the problems they were presented with--not only how they reacted in each instance, but also what alternatives they had, even which axes each division moved forward on. It can be supposed that when thousands of people are involved in such an exercise, it's difficult to preserve maximum secrecy. For this reason, the description of lessons learned will also be limited.

It seems to me one can say--and without any connection to the exercise--that every future full-scale war will be costlier and more difficult than the wars we've experienced in the past. This is certainly the case if we are surprised, or are forced to face off against several Arab armies at the same time. It is unlikely that the home front will emerge unscathed. It's therefore best to prepare for this, and not to allow the enemy to surprise us. This is most important in regard to those responsible for the rear, and the emphasis which is placed on the subject. Should the IDF also have to bear responsibility for this subject--as it has in the past--or should it confine itself to the battlefield?

At the front itself, it's clear that the enemy's future moves will be made in the framework of a field army, or army corps. The Egyptians have long since organized their army in this manner, and so have the Syrians. It would appear that the difficulty will again be in defining the war's goals. This matter is most difficult to plan in advance, one of the reasons being that such goals change in accordance with external political circumstances, and in accordance with the political echelon conducting the war. Regarding the level of our commands headquarters, it should be noted that one is speaking with a new General Staff, and a majority of generals who didn't occupy their present rank during the Lebanon War. Regarding the headquarters, there are, as one would expect, differences between them, based on those who head them and their top aides. There are also differences between the regional commands. And this, too, should come as no surprise. The situation at supreme headquarters is that it is looking for the way, in the positive sense of the expression. This is proof that headquarters exercises such as these should be continued, even if they are extremely costly to conduct.

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PETROLEUM, MINERALS UNIVERSITY DIRECTOR INTERVIEWED

Riyadh AL-YAMAMAH in Arabic 8, 15 Oct 86

[Two-part Interview with Dr Bakr 'Abdallah Ibn Bakr: "770 Locations for Precious Minerals"; date and place not specified]

[Part 1, 8 Oct 86 pp 26-30]

[Text] I was surprised to find myself sitting with His Excellency Dr Bakr 'Abdallah Ibn Bakr, director of the Petroleum and Minerals University, to conduct this interview because I immediately discovered not only was I facing an expert in petroleum engineering and business administration, but a student of history and the humanities as well. He is both a scientist and a man of letters. He discusses civilizational challenges and ideological struggles between East and West with the same depth and understanding he employs in talking about attainment of technology and the role of universities in industry. Therefore, it was inevitable that this interview should turn to a set of "issues" and another set of "questions." The issues that concern us here, mentioned in the first half of the interview, are the civilizational struggle, scientific research, the transfer of technology, development in the kingdom, the future of oil, the question of energy, mining and industrial, agricultural, and water issues as well. As for the questions which are covered in the second half of the interview--which will be published in our next issue--they deal with the model Petroleum and Minerals University, the computer revolution, the Saudization of universities and Gulf scientific, and cultural cooperation as well as the university student in particular. The man provided complete scientific answers to all the questions and issues we raised before him. Following is the first part of the interview.

[Question] You have a well-known theory on the subject of technological progress which maintains that reliance on technology transfer is useless in the present age if not coupled with an active process of grasping and assimilating such technology and originating new technology and that the open road is that of scientific research to be used for assimilating and then originating technology and developing it in country. To what extent has this theory been applied in the kingdom and what progress has been made in taking it out of the realm of theory to spread it among scientific circles inside and outside the kingdom?

[Answer] The first part of this theory has been applied--perhaps while unaware of its existence--in major projects undertaken in the kingdom. I referred to this part as the transfer of technology and the enjoyment of the fruit of technology. However, it is being applied consciously and accurately, with all its parts, at the Petroleum and Minerals University.

[Question] A question raised worldwide goes as follows: "O petroleum, is there a substitute for you in the world?" How do you answer this question with regard to the foreseeable future at least?

[Answer] There are several sources of energy, including hydroelectric energy, wind energy, solar energy, and thermal energy. This is in addition to hydrocarbon energy, including petroleum, coal and gas, and nuclear energy produced through uranium atom fission. We have witnessed not long ago how petroleum had removed coal from the throne of energy because it is inexpensive, easy to use, and relatively clean. This was achieved almost automatically and without any notable resistance by consuming countries due to the fact that economic factors dominated in this field. Today, however, we see that petroleum is being replaced by nuclear energy. This endeavor is motivated by a mixture of economic, strategic, political, and perhaps ideological factors and incentives. The replacement process is moving forward steadily and with great success in the western and some eastern countries. Some western countries now rely more on nuclear energy than on petroleum in the production of electric power. Moreover, the problem of converting nuclear energy into kinetic energy, or energy that moves airplanes, cars, ships, and other moving bodies, has been solved by converting the hydrogen present in water into liquid fuel resembling gasoline, but superior to it in that it has no harmful side-effects, particularly from the standpoint of air pollution. Were it not for the high cost of nuclear fission energy and its inherent dangers and incidents like those that have occurred in America and Russia, we would have witnessed a greater drive toward dispensing with oil. More important is the development of nuclear fusion energy which is in full swing in western countries, America in particular. If some problems being faced in this field are solved, it will be the clear alternative to petroleum and other primary sources of energy because it uses water as raw material, a source that will not dry up, unlike uranium which is used in the current nuclear energy. Moreover, this process averts nuclear radiation dangers, hence the clear need for nuclear energy studies and research in Arab and Islamic countries, including the oil-producing ones.

[Question] It is said that the civilizational challenge facing the Arab nation is primarily scientific. What do you think and how far have the Arabs gone in meeting this challenge?

[Answer] It is primarily an ideological and doctrinal challenge. In the absence of commitment to and application of a tolerant ideology in the various aspects of life, a proper climate for the development of the creative capabilities of the Arab being and for orienting such capabilities toward the desired goals will be lacking as well. Absent or lacking as well is commitment to the principles of Islamic intercourse such as proficiency, honesty, and refrain from ill-gotten gains through deception, bribery, hypocrisy, ignominy, and other maladies that destroy the soul of any nation

they attack. The Arabs have been turned into a dead corpse trampled by invaders and their homelands have become an open land drained of its wealth by their enemies and other beings. The enemies have used modern science and technological applications to vanquish, to intimidate, to entice, and to cajole in their quest for control of the nation's destiny. Not long ago we saw how the Jews and their partisans went into Beirut by the force of organization and fire made available to them through their technological superiority and began slaughtering, capturing, and destroying while the Arabs stood watching, unable to do anything but protest and turn to mediation and appeals. We also see nowadays how entire Arab countries are being tamed by destroying their values and morals and by tying them culturally and behaviorally and, thereupon, politically and economically to this or that bloc. The ultimate goal is to keep the Arabs in a state of lasting backwardness, weakness, and attrition whereby they are unable to find the ability or the power to keep up with the developed nations scientifically, culturally, socially, and to build their self-power. This matter, in my opinion, is far deeper than the naive calls repeated by some of those who tackle this subject as a remedy. We have no room here to mention all its various aspects.

[Question] Is there any way to narrow the scientific gap between us and the West and how can we rise from this civilizational lapse of ours?

[Answer] In addition to what has been said in answer to the preceding question, the clear path is to employ scientific research as a basis for economic development and to adopt serious steps in this regard so as to attain a state of creativity and innovation and develop local production generated by local brains, then promoting the establishment of domestic industries based on such development. This, of course, is not incompatible with the transfer of knowledge from foreign sources or with seeking the help of foreign expertise as the kingdom is doing right now in many aspects of our life, including existing industries in al-Jubayl and Yanbu'. We must not stop, however, at the operation and maintenance of these industries because the world around us is moving forward toward better and less costly means. It is likely that these giant industries, on which the state has spared no effort in setting them up, will lag behind, unable to face economic competition and, indeed, turn into a burden on the national economy instead of a tributary as happened to the industries of certain other Arab countries. I am afraid of this happening in the future if we fail to identify the intricacies of these industries and to take control of all its components to better develop them through scientific research, something we are seeking to achieve, God willing.

[Question] What are the country's economic horizons for mining? Is it true that we have a mining stock in excess of the oil reserves? Will this stock have a visible economic return? And is the country ready for the age of mining?

[Answer] Mineral exploitation and the establishment of mining industries are preceded by several stages requiring years of hard work, beginning with aerial photography and the drawing of topographic and, hence, geological maps that require extensive field trips followed by exploration, drilling, and applied research and then economic feasibility studies to determine the

feasibility of exploiting discovered minerals. The government, through the Ministry of Petroleum and Mineral Wealth, has completed a high percentage of preliminary phases that took many years to achieve owing to the kingdom's vast geographic area and desert nature that require much work and money. The Arab shield that contains non-precious metals claims an area of over 770,000 square kilometers and, as far as I know, all basic geological maps have been completed and work is underway to complete detailed maps. Moreover, 1770 mineral sites have been discovered, 59 of which have been selected by the Agency of Mineral Wealth as meriting further research based on encouraging data. These sites contain iron, gold, silver, copper, zinc, tin, tungsten, aluminum, uranium, and some rare elements, in addition to phosphate, potash, and ornamental stones in large quantities.

The development process for such sites requires additional efforts and investments, the costly drilling operations in particular. Furthermore, many of them lack infrastructures such as roads, water, and electricity, elements that are factored into economic feasibility calculations. Petromin is cooperating with the private sector on work at several sites deemed economically feasible and the private sector must take the initiative for long-term investments now that the government has provided it with capabilities and instituted a mining system. There is also an urgent need for additional investments in studies, research, and the building of infrastructures for a mining industry similar to those the government has made available to the petrochemical industries. A salient example that comes to mind is the wealth lying at the bottom of the Red Sea. This wealth drew the attention of the western countries which came to it searching, exploring, and drilling until the Saudi-Sudanese Agency for the Development of the Red Sea Resources was established. This agency has discovered at one site, and there are many other sites, over 90,000 tons of primary deposits containing 47 tons of gold, 1,900 tons of zinc, and 5,300 tons of cobalt. The research institute at the Petroleum and Minerals University have undertaken economic feasibility studies that concluded that mining from the technical viewpoint is possible and economically feasible and needs only reasonable investments to begin production.

[Question] Officials in the kingdom are urging the concept of industry on grounds that the future depends on it. What kind of progress have we made in this regard and what is your assessment of what has already been accomplished?

[Answer] Officials in the kingdom are not urging the industrialization concept only, but, at the direction of the leader and mover of the development process, His Majesty King Fahd, they are urging the concept of comprehensive development directed toward the security and prosperity of the Saudi citizenry. Besides our achievements in various fields, I believe that our agricultural progress is no less significant than the industrial one. Here is a fact, perhaps unknown to many people, which is that the area of land currently under cultivation in the kingdom is larger than the cultivated land in Egypt, the ancient agricultural country where one of the greatest rivers in the world flows! No doubt that our industrial accomplishments are great as well. Suffice it to know that we are nearing the 1 million barrel a day mark in the oil refining industry and are able to supply the world with 6 percent of its needs in many petrochemical industries. The important thing, in my

view, is to ingrain and safeguard these accomplishments and to improve their production methods, encourage their managers and keep up their growth and development, not only through financial aid but through sensible economic, social, and educational policies, at the heart of which is actual national scientific research.

[Question] Last year, the second meeting of scientific research officials in the Gulf countries was held here and so was the 2nd conference of Saudi engineers. Both meetings came out with recommendations and results. What has become of them? Have they been implemented or have they been shoved in some drawer?

[Answer] The holding of these two conferences and other meetings and seminars on the campus of the Petroleum and Minerals University achieves many positive objectives, including the spread of knowledge acquired from scientific research and practical experience, the identification of problems impeding progress and consultation on ways to solve them, the development of cooperation among people in similar fields through personal introductions, and the exchange of information and expertise. The Saudi engineers conference was attended by over 2,000 engineers who came to the Petroleum University from all over the kingdom and various public and private institutions. They submitted over 500 research papers based on their technical and applied experience in various giant projects undertaken in the kingdom. Hundreds of students participated in discussions and debates with the Saudi engineers and were exposed to their studies and experience, thus getting the benefit of their expertise. This, as you can see, yielded great benefits without material costs, in addition to results and recommendations which undoubtedly were of benefit to some people and were totally or partially implemented. Others, no doubt, shoved them into drawers, as you said.

[Question] Human conflict has revolved around food, then turned to energy. It is alleged that the struggle in the next century will pivot around water. Struggle will not be over food because genetic engineering has solved the problem. It will not be over energy because science has almost solved it as well. It will be over fresh water. What is your vision, in light of this outlook, of the horizons of international struggles relating in particular to Arab and Islamic countries?

[Answer] Struggles that have been going in the world ever since creation and until God inherits the earth and whoever is on it have several motives and aspects. The primary struggle which touches our lives and is of concern to us is the ongoing struggle between the Islamic Arab civilization and the Christian World civilization on the one side, and the communist Eastern civilization on the other. The first struggle began with the Mu'tah invasion spurred primarily by the Islamic doctrine in which the eastern Roman Empire saw a danger to its domination and civilization, including, of course, the economic aspects. Islamic doctrine is not confined to a devine relationship between man and his creator, but rather an integral set of beliefs, rules, values, morals and behavior from which our ancestors drew complete ways of life under which millions of people of different races, colors, languages, and religions have lived in prosperity, equality, security, and freedom for hundreds of years, thus asserting to the West and East that Islam poses a

threat to their values, their behavioral patterns, and their social, economic, and political systems or, to wit, to their entire civilizational being. No wonder that the West and East should place Islam at the top of its list of enemies. As for the struggle between western and communist countries, it is based on economic doctrine, as you and the readers know. Moreover, the principal motive behind the western colonialist movement and the resulting conflicts in the so-called Third World countries is economic aimed at obtaining raw materials and opening markets for manufactured goods. Naturally, each case has its own catalysts. I mention this to illustrate the danger of focusing on one factor in vital strategic matters. As for the struggle for water resources, it is not new and will go on. My future vision of this matter is that the struggle for water will be confined mostly to the so-called Third World countries, the Islamic and Arab ones particularly, and neighboring states where the west and east enjoy vast resources in this area. Perhaps the most dangerous forms of the struggle for water at present are the attempts to gain control of the Upper Nile, thus depriving our brothers in Egypt of an important part of their life, something I hope that those who are concerned with this matter will realize, notwithstanding that the struggle unfortunately is going against the interest of our brothers in Egypt. Regarding the kingdom, I do not see any strong motives for a struggle with our neighbors for water resources in the foreseeable future, particularly since we have ample water resources, some of which have been exploited while others have not been fully explored.

[Part 2, 15 Oct 86 pp 26-30]

[Text] Dr Bakr 'Abdallah Ibn Bakr in the first part of the interview published in our last issue talked about civilizational struggle issues, scientific research, the transfer of technology, development in the kingdom, the future of oil, the question of energy and mining as well as industrial, agricultural, and water issues. In this second part of the interview, Dr Bakr concludes this talk about the rest of the questions and issues brought before him dealing with the Petroleum and Minerals University, the computer revolution, the Saudization of universities, Gulf cooperation and the typical university students themselves. Following is the second and last part of our interview with the director of the Petroleum and Minerals University.

[Question] What role do you envisage for Saudi universities as institutions embracing the country's educated elite? What is their role in state planning, development planning and the settlement of problems arising from the huge oil production age?

[Answer] This is a vast topic on which I do not want to infringe by a rash and premature answer. I would like, however, to refer you to a research paper I presented last summer to Yarmuk University professors which provides ample response to this question.

[Question] Saudization means the production of Saudi human cadres in a huge factory called the university. When and how will Saudization be realized and what role do universities play in this matter?

[Answer] The universities are part of the factories that turn out qualified men in the kingdom. The desired Saudization will not be achieved by depending on university graduates only, for there are other significant cadres that are not being trained in universities owing to the latter's specializations and the state-assigned goals. These cadres must be trained in vocational schools, junior colleges, and on-the-job. There are scores of such institutions, some belonging to the ministries and others under the Technical Education Institution. I believe that focus at present and in the foreseeable future must be on this kind of education and training. This may require a comprehensive planning, organizational, and implementational review, in light of new developments in our national economy, to include general education at all levels and for both sexes.

[Question] When will Saudi oil be converted from raw material into technical feed?

[Answer] I hope that Saudi oil will not be converted into feed or raw material for petrochemical industries only because such use represents only a small part of our production capacity.

[Question] How does the model Petroleum and Minerals University differ from other Arab universities?

[Answer] The Petroleum and Minerals University is quite different from Arab universities, as follows:

1. The goals it seeks to achieve and the strategies it employs to reach these goals.
2. The management style and the implementational technique followed in its administration.
3. The set of rules and regulations and practices that govern its course.

The emergence and growth of the model Petroleum and Minerals University was the result of a 20-year oil-rich and exciting experience primarily at the hands of national minds. This growth was effected in an orderly and organized, not a haphazard and rash, manner in a proper technical and financial climate. Today a number of Arab universities are trying to copy and apply this model after introducing certain modifications to suit their own circumstances. I do not say that this model is perfect or flawless, but I do say that it is a unique and original one developed by Saudi Arab hands and minds and successfully tested. We offer it to our brothers in the Arab world as an alternative, a supplement, or a modification to models they copied from the East and West that heretofore have failed to yield satisfactory results, as evidenced by persistent scientific and technical backwardness. There is no room now for elaboration but we do have books that explain the theoretical and practical structure of the Petroleum and Minerals University. Furthermore, I have been invited to lecture on this subject inside and outside Arab countries. I gave two general lectures on this subject last year at the Jordanian Yarmuk University and the University of Qatar. These lectures, including the dialogue that took place between me and the university

professors on this subject, were published in the university's quarterly and perhaps you or any of the interested readers might refer to them. At any rate, I am ready to write you an article for AL-YAMAMAH on this subject, should you deem it appropriate.

[Question] What about low enrollment at the Petroleum and Minerals University and the fact that only one student has obtained a doctorate after 20 years? How long are we going to keep on sending our students abroad to obtain this academic degree?

[Answer] Enrollement at the university has always met or slightly surpassed the goals set forth in the government's development plans. We shall proceed on this course because it ensures coordination between college education and the development plan, or, in other words, the actual needs of the Saudi economy. These, above all, are the directions of His Majesty King Fahd, may God keep him, which we cannot but strive with all our might to accomplish. Regarding the fact that only one student has obtained a doctorate in electrical engineering last year, this is a source of pride for it illustrates the completion of the university's educational and research facilities as well as its capacity to lead its students to the highest levels of education and scientific research. We undertook this big step only after long studies and painstaking preparation. The crucial factor here is not quantity but quality. I would like to point out that those who obtain doctorates end up mostly as professors or researchers in our various institutions, the universities particularly, and the best guarantor of academic standards at universities is its professors. Therefore, we employ a great deal of deliberation, attention and care in granting doctorates so as not to harm our educational and research institutes unknowingly. As for sending students abroad, the known state policy in this regard is judicious and we hope it will be pursued inasmuch as it is limited to actual needs only.

[Question] There is constant talk about Gulf scientific and cultural integration. How much progress has been achieved in this field and what are its dimensions?

[Answer] I do not know enough about Gulf scientific, cultural, athletic, and other integration to answer this question. To quote a poet, "Give the bow to him who knows how to shape it." Therefore, I refer you to the general secretariat of the GCC states which is headquartered in Riyadh, as you know.

[Question] What are the forms of cooperation between the Petroleum and Minerals University and Gulf universities, on the one side, and Arab and world universities, on the other side?

[Answer] The policy of cooperation followed by the Petroleum and Minerals University with Arab and world universities resolves around three focal points:

First, benefit from the knowledge and expertise of those who are ahead of us.

Second, equal cooperation and mutual benefit with those who are on an equal footing with us.

Third, help and assistance to those brothers and friends that seek our help.

We are systematically applying this policy at the direction of His Excellency the Minister of Higher Education and our rightly-guided government. The university's march began with focus on the first focal point. We established numerous contacts with European and American universities and institutions, the most significant of which was the cooperation agreement with a group of 12 of the greatest universities in America, including Princeton, MIT, and Michigan. We have benefitted a great deal from this cooperation inasmuch as the agreement covered the training of Saudi professors; the sending of American professors to us; expert help in planning libraries, laboratories, and data processing centers; annual evaluation of various Petroleum University academic and administrative programs; and support services and performance appraisal reports based on their standards. In time, we began to discover that our needs had changed because many of our academic programs and support services such as the library, data processing center, and our laboratories had attained standards superior to their counterparts in some American universities. So, we wanted to change the agreement from aid to cooperation among peers and to focus on applied research. However, they did not respond and, after many attempts, we reached an impasse and decided to cancel the agreement 2 years ago. We are still cooperating with certain institutions and centers there and in Europe, but not as intensively as before. Cooperation with Gulf universities is excellent. We have systematic cooperation with the young Bahrain University which is seeking to learn from the experience of the Petroleum and Minerals University. We have been honored with a request to set up the constitution of this sister university which we have done. This constitution was enacted by a government decree in the month of Ramadan after the introduction of some changes in keeping with Bahrain's circumstances and needs. Furthermore, we maintain constant cooperation with the University of Qatar, the University of Kuwait, and other Gulf universities.

The field in which we seek help and expertise is advanced applied research, including developmental studies. However, the doors of world institutions, at which we have knocked, remain almost if not completely closed. Therefore, we are trying to cultivate such advanced expertise which stands between the assimilation of modern knowledge and creativity and innovation which leads to the establishment of purely domestic industries based on local technology without constant dependence on their technical sources. We are also seeking to cooperate in this field with countries that are at the same level.

[Question] The number of Saudi professors is small compared to that of foreign professors. When will our universities attain self-sufficiency in manpower and what are the negative and positive aspects of an all-Saudi faculty?

[Answer] The Petroleum and Minerals University has over 150 Saudi professors with doctorate degrees in scientific and engineering disciplines. It is one of the largest, if not the largest, concentration of Saudi expertise and brain power in this field in the kingdom. Add to that hundreds of lecturers and assistant professors.

Moreover, the number of Saudi faculty members is greater than their non-Saudi colleagues in many departments. I believe this is true of most Saudi universities. The Petroleum and Minerals University has been pursuing Saudiazation wherever appropriate and beneficial. For example, it was the first Saudi, and indeed Gulf, university to assign new Saudi graduates as heads of academic departments in place of foreign professors. This was an innovative and, we believe, successful endeavor undertaken only after careful and thorough planning. For example, vital academic decisions such as faculty assignments and promotions and the approval and modification of curricula, teaching techniques, and so forth, are made from the bottom up, beginning at the department level and ending at the university president's level or even the minister of education level, with safeguards for prompt decision-making. We have made the tenure of department heads a 1-year renewable term so that they can be relieved of non-profitable activity in their position and can be engaged in academic research activity which is more profitable. I bring this up because I want to set forth an opinion with which many do not agree or do not understand. What I want to set forth is that we must strive to Saudiize the teaching faculty in the universities and do so totally in the political sciences and the modern, advanced, technical fields. We, despite our major advances, need to recognize what is going on in the modern world just as the Saudi teaching faculty needs direct contact with the major researchers and scientists and more important than this is that we need to place our students before the best instructors and researchers possible. Early Saudiazation of faculty members presents a major hidden danger in that it stupefies us and we become satisfied in carrying it out only to unconsciously fall behind international standards. If the universities fall behind, so does the community as a whole. But I invite the minority faculty members from abroad who are not able to make a living in academia through continued profitable and developmental research and I invite the transfer of the experience of the Saudi professors and those who are not at the forefront of the international universities. I also say that we demand a complete work day from Saudi and non Saudi faculty members; this is to be no less than 8 hours. In exchange for that we will give them an organized, administrative, scientific, sociological, and financial working atmosphere in which they can be engrossed in their work and can devote themselves to knowledge, instruction, and scientific research. They can be distinguished and can remain at the forefront of specialized fields on an international level, not strictly on a local or regional level. Perhaps it is apropos that I mention here that a large portion of the faculty who teach in engineering colleges and advanced, technical state colleges are not citizens.

We Are the First to Use the Computer

[Question] What is the role of the Petroleum and Mining University in incorporating instruction and computer usage for the kingdom and what is the scope for the future of the computer age? Accordingly, one has been described as being ignorant having never worked with a computer even though he may be educated and cultured. [Answer] The Petroleum and Mining University was the first Arab university to build and integrated computer center. This was completed in A.H. 1385, i.e., more than 20 years ago. Likewise, it is the first Arab university to teach automated computing sciences as a specialization and to grant university and scientific degrees in it. It is

the only Arab university to construct a section for computer engineering, i.e., planning, manufacture, and computer maintenance. There are not only activities for usage and maintenance of systems, but the Petroleum and Mining University offers the chance to work with the computer to all its students beginning with the preparatory year and extending to doctoral research. In this process, it was not behind most of the international universities in these subject areas. We know that we employ the computer more than the international universities in our administrative, academic support, and scientific research activities. In an exemplary fashion we are the first Arab university to transform its libraries into a self guidance apparatus by means of the computer. Any student in any part of the university can now conduct research activities by using books and periodicals found in the university libraries without going to the library itself. There is another precedent for the Petroleum and Mining University on the international scholastic level, not strictly scientific, and that is that we are the only university which developed a program for student run academic guidance. It is a significant activity and all who have applied or are applying a system of set hours have doubts concerning it. We believe that the Petroleum and Mining University has actively participated in incorporating and spreading the use of automation in the kingdom by way of the services of the Center for Information Classification and through its graduates who are playing a leading role in public and private establishments as there are private companies whose graduates and representatives from the university have set out to build computers and to develop and sell various systems for governmental and private establishments and to train operators on them. We are still at the initial stage in this vital and necessary field for modern life. But we know that despite our many accomplishments, some of which we have alluded to, and despite our leadership and progressiveness in the Arab and Islamic worlds, we are still behind the countries at the forefront of this field; there is a large gap that separates us from them. I hope that we and our colleagues in the Saudi universities and institutions will work to diminish this huge gap and especially in what pertains to the needs of our national institutions. I hope that the day will come quickly when we are to a certain extent dependent on our national product.

We Return to the Path...to Development and Revision

[Question] In light of the economic and cultural development in the kingdom, is there thought given to adding other colleges to the university?

[Answer] The Petroleum and Mining University is following long range plans in its development. At the inception of the life of the university we developed a general 15-year plan and another, more detailed, for 10 years. No college was opened and no special characteristic was added except after thorough studies and prior planning. Accordingly, university colleges have remained numbered during the last 20 years. We are currently setting up a portrayal of the university 20 years hence. I am not able to say that we will not add colleges or specializations since the final decision on this subject is in the hands of parliament. Perhaps recognition of a mistake is a virtue. I recognize that we, despite our planning and avidity, made a mistake with some of the specializations in the beginning, but we are now trying to correct this mistake by freezing or curtailing some of these specializations

because it is necessary for any university to review its specialization policy and program in light of innovations on economic, cultural, and especially scientific levels. If the number of graduates from certain specializations increases then an initiative is taken to decrease, freeze, or even dispense with colleges and departments whose current and future needs do not call for continuation. Efforts and finances must be directed toward the need. My own opinion in regard to university specialization is that it is a dynamic operation that accompanies the destiny of a nation and is at the forefront just as occurred with computer specialization and some of the other specializations in the Petroleum and Mining University. However, it is necessary not to fall behind if many problems do arise such as squandering of resources, actual or hidden unemployment, etc., as well as the major issue. I know that there are many who study this in a number of agencies and I hope that we do what is right, God willing.

[Question] Are you satisfied with the educational level of the graduates from the Petroleum University?

[Answer] Most of the reports we receive and most of the opinions we hear confirm the superiority of the graduate from the Petroleum and Mining University. This is not only found in his field of specialization but also in his motivation, behavior, morals, and cooperation at work; it is found in his self sacrifice for his religion and country. This is what the Petroleum and Mining University aims for through its various educational, systematic, and non systematic programs. This does not mean that we are completely satisfied with the levels achieved by our graduates. There is always room for improvement and progress and likewise we do not wish to be as the poet says: "Whatever attains perfection becomes susceptible to degeneration. Expect destruction whenever perfection is mentioned."

University Research

[Question] Is the Petroleum and Mining University engaged in applied research on behalf of the kingdom, in general or the East, specifically? What are the fields of this research?

[Answer] Since its inception the university has called attention to the importance of basic and applied research which are necessary for industrial and agricultural development. It has also become clear that the componential structure of the university is sufficient to carry out basic and applied research. It is not sufficient to carry out applied research programmed over a long period which is subject to a time sensitive program, and a clear cut budget and measures of performance which cannot be tolerated as they present solutions to problems that arise for applying modern technology in a fast growing country. Accordingly, the university decided to set up a specialized system to carry out applied research and gave it the needed flexibility to work with other growth establishments and test out the actual demands of governmental and industrial firms. Development of the university's institute for research has been completed and close to 300 engineers, scientists, and technicians are working there. They are firstly and lastly conducting studies and applied research that serve a number of strategic domains on the path of growth. More than 500 members of the teaching council have been appointed and

this is in addition to specialized students in higher studies in scientific, engineering, and administrative fields. They benefit from the institute's capabilities which the university has prepared for them. The institute uses a vanguard type of philosophy where the establishments benefitting from research results participate in subsidizing this research in areas that confirm the seriousness of these studies and their beneficial returns to the establishments. Their course is ensured according to a pre-set financial and time sensitive program. And this is according to established specifications. Since its inception the institute has completed more than 65 projects and is currently carrying out 35 research projects in the areas of petroleum, petrochemicals, geology, water resources, sand movements, and combatting air and water pollution, as well as other environmental fields. This is in addition to material projects such as building and paving as well as dealing with problems of rust and corrosion. There are a number of economic and industrial studies as well as a large number of studies and profitable research directed at solving problems in the kingdom. Members of the teaching council are engaged in research in the colleges of sciences, engineering, environmental design, administration, industry, and the college of the science and engineering of computers. The most important matter is the creation of a national capability in technical fields that include qualified Saudis, advanced tools and equipment, and the programming necessary to exploit it in areas which were, until recently, confined to foreign companies. It is my opinion that applied research along with its development and distribution is the basis for solving the problem of transferring and firmly establishing the technology which developing countries suffer from its non-availability. We explained this in a number of articles and scientific papers which we presented to conferences and meetings dealing with technology transfer just as I alluded to in some of my previous responses. So, in conclusion, this is the interview AL-YAMAMAH had with His Excellency Dr Bakr 'Abdallah Ibn Bakr, the director of the Petroleum and Mining University. In this interview international issues, issues of growth that concern universities, and likewise educators, readers, and public opinion as a whole, were discussed. We still want these issues to be treated with respect, however, we want them to be effective and practical so the nation and its citizens can benefit together. Therefore, AL-YAMAMAH will open its pages for a fruitful discussion dealing with a number of, but not all, issues coming out of this conversation. Let us begin here with three topics, namely, scientific research, technology transfer, and water. Shall we begin the discussion?

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ELECTRICITY SECTOR EXPERIENCES HIGH GROWTH RATE

Riyadh AL-RIYAD in Arabic 20 Nov 86 p 2

[Article by Sa'd al-Huwaymil: "Electricity Sector in the Kingdom Has Highest Growth Rate in the World. Electric Companies Receive 38 Billion Riyals in Loans from the Fund for Industrial Development. Subscribers Increase to Two Million. Centralized Projects Are Being Carried Out."]

[Text] Loans to electric companies from The Fund for Industrial Development totalled SR 37,884,697,799 by the end of Jumada II of Hijra 1406 compared to SR 2,031,951,203 in Hijra 1396.

A report by the Department of Electricity of the Ministry of Industry and Electricity says that the sector had in 1406 a rate of growth of 1864 percent compared to 10 years earlier.

Subsidies to electric companies represent strong support that enables them to fulfill their obligations to produce and distribute energy. Such subsidies totalled SR 19,497,778,354 till Hijra 1404 and SR 22,446,472,048 by 1405.

The report, issued to commemorate the opening of the Saudi Exhibit for Electricity and Electronic Engineering, says that the sector employed 28,163 people by 1406 of which 58.5 percent were Saudis. The department had 8,363 employees at the beginning of Hijra 1397 of whom Saudis accounted for approximately 15 percent. Electricity subscribers totalled 1,907,137 by the end of Hijra 1406--a growth rate of 543 percent in the period from Hijra 1395 to the end of Hijra 1406. This high growth rate is attributed to soft loans extended by the state to encourage citizens to continue their various activities in the fields of industry, agriculture, commerce, and housing. The state has also developed numerous vital facilities that cater to the service and comfort of citizens.

Maximum load for the kingdom was 848 megawatts in 1395 rising to 10,712 megawatts in 1406 at a growth rate of 1,263 percent. Generating capacity in actual megawatts was no more than 1,173 in 1395, growing at a rate of 1,233 percent to 14,473 megawatts in 1406.

The electricity sector enjoys the attention of the state and receives continuous subsidies that contributed to its growth and development in accordance with development plans to electrify various regions of the kingdom to serve industrialization, agriculture, and economic and social development plans in the kingdom.

HIGHWAY NETWORK PROJECT INAUGURATED

Riyadh AL-RIYAD in Arabic 18 Nov 86 p 2

[Article by Yahya Aburidas: "Largest Highway Project in Eastern Province to open to Traffic. Project to Cost a Total of 112 million Saudi riyals Service Roads and Tunnels to Facilitate Traffic between Cities in the Region"]

[Text] The Port Dammam road intersection with Dhahran will be inaugurated within days. It is one of the major projects in the Eastern province which is witnessing a great renaissance and turning into a solid industrial fort, according to engineer Sami Fudah, director of highways in the province.

He said the road will be the main outlet for all import and export services at Dammam port. It will accomodate all trucks that provide direct services between Dammam port and Abqayq, Riyadh, and Ahsa'. The absence of cross roads and traffic signals will save time and speed up unloading of shipments to the port.

The highway will also facilitate travel between the University of Petroleum Minerals and the triangle of Dammam, al-Khubar, and Dhahran. The highway's lower ramp will serve traffic on the Dammam-al-Khubar expressway. The project will cost 111,625,646,70 riyals. The highway will include:

A two-way major highway with four lanes in each direction separated by a 15-meter wide island. It will also have a two-way service road of two segments--one for service and the other for emergency stops. The service road is separated from the main highway by a concrete barrier and an island 7.35 meters wide. It is about 23 kilometers in length.

The stretch from kilometer 552 to kilometer 425 is composed of three lanes in each direction separated by a 15-meter wide island. The service road has three lanes in each direction and is separated from the main highway by a concrete barrier and an island 6.5 meters wide.

The stretch from kilometer 425 to the end of kilometer 600 will comprise a main highway of three lanes in each direction separated by a 3-meter

wide island bordered by single New Jersey concrete barriers that are 86 cms high. The service road will have three lanes in each direction and will be separated from the main road by an island 2.45 meters wide with borders 25 cms high.

The project also comprises the concrete installations of the University of Petroleum bridge. It is an ordinary bridge of two pavements 35.2 meters long, 19.23 meters wide, and 5.5 meters high.

The intersection of the Port Damman road with the Damman al-Khubar expressway will comprise three levels.

The first level is comprised of a 900-meter long tunnel of three lanes in each direction separated by a 3-meter wide concrete median. The tunnel will be 30 meters wide with a ceiling of prestressed concrete. It will have one pavement 30 meters long, 60 meters wide, and is 5.5 meters above the lower roadway.

Each of the service roads connecting the Port Damman highway with the al-Khubar Damman expressway will have three lanes of which one is for right turns only. It will also be possible to make U turns on top of the tunnel.

The third level is composed of an elevated bridge of 11 pavements about 40 meters each except the middle one which is 56 meters long. The bridge, of prestressed concrete, is 457 meters long and 30 meters wide. It will have three lanes in each direction with a side road and concrete barriers on the sides and in the middle. Its height will vary from one meter at the beginning and end to six meters in the middle.

The highway is fully lighted and has all safety features such as road signs, lane markings, and cats eyes.

The highway will open for traffic within the next few days.

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IMPLEMENTATION OF WATER, SEWER PROJECTS DISCUSSED

Riyadh AL-RIYAD in Arabic 20 Nov 86 p 3

[Article by Salim al-Ahmadi: "Ten Projects Implemented by the Water and Sewage Department in Madinah. Prince 'Abd-al-Majid Chairs Board Meeting and Inspects Work Progress"]

[Text] HE Prince 'Abd-al-Majid, governor of Madinah region, chaired the meeting of the board of the Water and Sewage Department. Engineer Faysal Hamzah Musharrif, director of the Department, said the agenda of that meeting included discussion of the organizational structure, certain job descriptions, a review of the follow-up report on the seventh sewage network contract, and discussion of the contract for operation and maintenance of the Madinah water system.

The Department is currently implementing 10 projects at a total cost of 616 million riyals. Amongst them is the expansion of the sewage treatment facility to include a new purification plant with a daily capacity of 120,000 cubic meters. Total cost is pegged at 240 million riyals.

The projects also include the construction of the Madinah water tower in the Qabba' district. It will be an 80-meter high concrete tower topped by a water tank with a capacity of 5,000 cubic meters, a restaurant, and facilities to supply the tank with water from desalination plants and wells. The project includes two surrounding gardens on an area of 1.2 million square meters, a mosque, a cafeteria, a children's playground, and a parking lot. Total cost for the tower is 58 million riyals.

Implementation is also underway of the seventh sewage contract which includes sewer discharge networks for several districts in the city. The projects entails the installation of some 40,000 linear meters of pipe and some 1,600 home connections in addition to the demolition of septic tanks of homes already connected to the network. The cost of this contract is 70 million riyals.

Also under implementation are sewage contracts number 10 and number 6B whose combined cost is 94 million. The latter contract includes the installation of concrete and clay sewage mains for a total length of 20,000 linear meters. Sewage contract number 6B for the area of al-Sahman

involves the installation of 18,000 linear meters of sewage pipes and the landfilling of 1,500 septic tanks.

The Department is also implementing the first part of the fourth stage of the water network project which entails the installation of iron water mains with a total length of 35,000 linear meters in various sections of the city. The cost is 70 million riyals.

At the conclusion of the meeting, engineer Raysal Musharrif, director of the Madinah Water and Sewage Department stated that the board, acting on the agenda, made certain resolutions dealing with provisions for improving the implementation of current projects. The board also charged the director to take whatever steps he sees necessary to organize the department until the final organizational structure is complete. The structure is now being studied and prepared by the Supreme Authority for Administrative Reform.

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BRIEFS

ECONOMIC COOPERATION WITH ALGERIA--The second session of the Saudi Algerian joint commission begins on Saturday, November 22, and ends Monday. Headed by acting Minister of Petroleum and Minerals Hisham Nazir, the Saudi side is composed of two representatives from each of the ministries of defense and aviation; foreign affairs; finance; commerce; industry and electricity; post, telegraph, and telephone; the royal commission for Jubail; as well as a number of Saudi businessmen. AL-RIYAD learned that an agreement is expected to be signed for joint economic, technical, and cultural cooperation between Algeria and the Kingdom. The Saudi Algerian joint commission convened for the first time in Riyadh on 16/5/1403 Hijra and discussed a number of mutual issues that will be concluded today in addition to several other important subjects. [Text] [Riyadh AL-RIYAD in Arabic 22 Nov 86 p 1] 12945/9190

USE OF ELECTRICITY SPREADS--Electrical connections have been made throughout the kingdom to nearly 90 percent of the population. The number of subscribers rose from 216,000 in 1970 to about 1.8 million by the end of 1985. Annual consumption per person during the same period increased by more than sixfold from 2,600 kw/hrs to 17,206 kw/hrs. [Text] [Riyadh AL-RIYAD in Arabic 18 Nov 86 p 11] 12945/9190

COMPLETED SCHOOL PROJECTS--The Ministry of Education accepted, during the month of Muharram last, 19 newly completed projects that cost more than 163 million riyals. They include modern buildings for primary, middle, and secondary schools and playground complexes in a number of school districts. These are: Halat 'Imar middle school; Tabuk school; playground complex at al-Ras; Abu al-Sila' primary school in Sabta'; Imam al-Nawawi primary school in Jeddah; al-Athilah primary school; al-Hussayni middle school; al-Mahallah and al-Wasit primary schools in Sabya'; al-Samad primary school in Madinah; al-Mu'tasim primary school in Najran; Ashwaq primary school in Tabuk; Dowmat al-Jandal secondary school in al-Jawf; addition to 'Umar Ibn 'Abd-al-'Aziz primary school in Najran; al-Sukhayrah primary school in Madinah, 'Abd-al-Rahman Ibn 'Awf primary school in al-Ahsa'; Ziyadat Rashid primary school in Jizan; playground complex in 'Unayzah; Sulayman Ibn 'Abd-al-Malik primary school in Jeddah; playground complex in al-Ahsa'; and the secondary middle school in development No 11. [Text] [Riyadh AL-RIYAD in Arabic 19 Nov 86 p 3] 12945/9190

QATAR,BAHRAIN DISPUTE TO BE MEDIATED--AL-DUSTUR has learned that a Saudi envoy will visit both Qatar and Bahrain over the next few days to continue Saudi good offices, renewed at the heels of the seventh Gulf summit at Abu Dhabi, towards a solution to the conflict between Qatar and Bahrain over disputed territories, especially Fasht al-Dibal. Gulf sources expect King Fahd Ibn 'Abd-al-'Aziz' planned visit to Bahrain on the 24th of this month to have a positive impact on the Qatar-Bahrain dispute. The same sources indicate that auxiliary meetings at Abu Dhabi between GCC heads of state helped to a great extent in creating an atmosphere conducive to the success of Saudi good offices even though no meeting took place directly between the emirs of Qatar and Bahrain. The official purpose of King Fahd's upcoming visit to Bahrain is to participate in bi-country celebrations of the inauguration of the Saudi Bahraini causeway whose construction began in 1981. [Text] [London AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 17 Nov 86 p 3] 12945/9190

MEDICAL AID TO COMOROS--The government of the custodian of the two shrines King Fahd Ibn 'Abd-al-'Aziz may God protect him, shipped some 13 tons of medicine in aid to the Federal Islamic Republic of the Comoros. The government of the Comoros expressed deep satisfaction at the arrival of the shipment which, with God's help, will meet many of the needs of the citizens who recently suffered a shortage of medicine. Comoros' ambassador to the kingdom, Ibrahim 'Abdallah Ibrahim, expressed the thanks and appreciation of his government and people to the government and people of the custodian of the two shrines, King Fahd Ibn 'Abd-al-'Aziz may God protect him for this noble gesture that embodies the highest concept of Islamic solidarity. [Text] [Riyadh AL-RIYAD in Arabic 20 Nov 86 p 3] 12945/9190

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ALL-OUT EFFORTS UNDERTAKEN TO BUILD ECONOMY

Kabul KABUL NEW TIMES in English 18 Oct 86 pp 2-4

[Text]

A press conference to explain the socio-economic developments in the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan was held yesterday in the Mahlma Pahl hotel attended by a large group of visiting foreign journalists.

Mohammad Aziz, Deputy Chairman of the Council of Ministers and Chairman of the State Planning Committee, Sayed Amanuddin Amin, Deputy Chairman of the Council of Ministers, Adina Sangin, head of the economic department of the PDPA Central Committee, Mohammad Khan Jalalar, Minister of Commerce, Abdul Ghafar Lakāwal, Minister of Agriculture and Land Reforms, Najibullah Masir, Minister of Mines and Industries and Limar Ahmad Limar, Minister of Light and Foodstuffs Industries answered the questions put by the journalists and gave explanations on the main aspects of the socio-economic development of the DRA.

Addressing the press conference Mohammad Aziz said at the beginning: "The object of convening of this press conference is to make clear once again the objective features of the socio-economic projects which are being undertaken in Afghanistan today.

"The People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan and the government of the DRA are accomplishing the purposeful tasks of removing the socio-economic backwardness of the country, bequeathed as a legacy by the past exploiting regimes. The noticeable successes, fallen to our lot in recent years, have provided the possibility of working out perspective plans.

We have taken into account in our plans the acceleration of growth in the most basic fields of national economy, elevation of material and cultural life of the people, expansion of social pillars of the revolution.

We have considered vast programmes for attracting national entrepreneurs in the development of the country's economy and to attract all patriotic forces in the solution of problems and achieving the national objectives.

According to the forecasts at the end of the implementation of the main aspects of socio-economic development for the years 1986-1990 the national income will grow by 25 per cent, the gross industrial product by 38 per cent and gross agricultural production by around 14 to 16 per cent.

"It should be pointed out that if foreign interference in the internal affairs of our country is ceased, we would achieve more successes. In the 19th plenum of the PDPA Central Committee, which assessed the undelayable tasks of the party and the state, Comrade Najib, General Secretary of the PDPA CC, said: "The economy is not a sectional front for us, but a significant

one like the war front". We rely on this statement of Comrade Najib in the restoration and growth of the country's national economy.

Ladies, gentlemen, comrades!

Permit me to express confidence that our press conference will be held in an atmosphere of sincerity and mutual respect."

Question by Meronov, commentator of 'Nvaya and Rimia' magazine and correspondent of Radio-TV of the Soviet Union, correspondent of daily Nepszabadsag of Hungary, correspondent of Bulgarian Television and the correspondent of Unzere Zeit FRG:

What are the main aspects of the first five year plan after your revolution?

Answer (by Mohammad Aziz):

The People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan has specified in its programme of action the strategic policy of the party and the state as the complete elimination of material and economic backwardness, implementation of democratic land and water reforms, raising of the living standards of the people and strengthening of the defence might of the country. The daily-increasing support of the people to the policy of the PDPA and the strengthening of its leading role, improvement of political and

military situation of the country, fraternal assistance of the Soviet Union and other friendly countries provide appropriate conditions for the successful solution of complicated and great tasks set forth in the programme of action of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, the tasks which need investments and long time.

Keeping in view the production potentials, the implementation of the following tasks have been anticipated in the main aspects of the socio-economic development of the country for the years 1365-1369 HS:

— Concentration of state resources and manpower for reconstruction, building of projects and institutions, improvement of the use of production potentials, development and growth of energy and fuel complexes, and light and food industries;

— Ensuring rapid growth of exports over imports;

— Continuation of the programme of democratic land and water reforms, strengthening of the state agriculture sector, improvement of irrigation, growth of agricultural cooperatives movement;

— Encouragement of national entrepreneur for building and establishing institutions in industry, processing and for increasing their production;

— Adoption of measures for raising the material living standards of the working people, stabilisation of and control over prices by the state, growth and development of transport and communications, domestic and foreign trade, expansion and development of education, eradication of illiteracy, increase of the number of hospitals, state drug stores, expansion of residential constructions, development of science and culture, and consolidation of defence might of the country.

With the realisation of the above objectives, the national income will increase by 1.3 times in 1369 HS over 1365 HS and by 34.6 per cent when compared to 1357 HS. In the course of the next five years, industry will more rapidly develop, that is to say it would grow 1.4 times, in which the increase of state and joint sector will be 1.6 fold.

The state sector of industry will increase by two fold as compared to the year 1357 HS, and the total volume of gross agricultural production by over 10 per cent in which the state sector will increase by 5.1 fold. This way the growth of agriculture will be 122.8 per cent when compared to 1357 HS.

Also air and surface transport and communications will develop further.

The circulation of retail trade of state and joint sector will grow by 1.5

fold and the circulation of foreign trade by 17 per cent.

To accelerate the rate of economic growth, the increase of the share of savings in the composition of the national income (used), is forecast at 1.6 times. Around 70 per cent of the investment for general development is used for building and completing production projects. It is worth mentioning that total investment in the course of the current five years will increase by around 30 billion Afghanis as compared to the past five years.

It is proposed to further accelerate the growth of social services and the elevation of the living standards of the people.

The expenditure fund from the national revenue (used) will increase by 1.3 times in 1369 HS, part of which will be used for the development of education, higher education, public health, culture, science and other social needs. This way middle secondary education will become compulsory, and the enrolment of children of school going age will increase by 2.2 times, and the number of students in schools of general education by 1.8 fold. Activities for the elimination of adult illiteracy will continue, medical services will expand, and grounds will be laid for proper mother and child care. To extend of the health services to nomads, mobile medical groups

will be formed, and provision of drugs to them will improve. The number of hospital beds will increase by 35 per cent and that of medical doctors by 1.9 fold in the course of five years.

The qualitative and quantitative improvement of professional education, training of national cadres will be ensured. The number of skilled workers will increase by 2.6 times, experts graduating from higher educational institutions by 3.1 times. The programme of construction of residential houses will expand, and the salaries of state workers and employees above all the salaries of workers and employees of lower rank, will increase proportionate to the augmentation of production and other measures. Also the system of social security and pension will improve. The number of libraries will increase, and the technical means of radio-TV will develop.

The significance role of science, culture, literature and press in training the people in the spirit of patriotism and internationalistic solidarity will enhance.

The ensuring of the steady rate of socio-economic growth of the DRA in the years 1365-1369 HS will give us the possibility of putting into effect important measures for removing economic and technical backwardness, raising the efficacy of social work, strengthening the material and social base of the new Afghan society.

This in brief are the objectives set forth in the main aspects of the socio-economic growth of the country for the years 1365-1369 HS.

It should be noted that the planned tasks are great but have practical perspectives. The successful implementation of the plan of the first six months of 1365 HS, i.e. the first of the five years, is proof of the correctness of this.

The six month's plan of state and joint sector in industry has been implemented by 110.8 per cent, i.e., 8.4 per cent more than the corresponding period of last year. In this, out of 17 ministers and departments of industrial management, 15 have been able to fulfil their plans of industrial production. The plan has been overfulfilled in the case of most of the main industrial products, and considerable increase has been observed in their fulfilment as compared to the same period of last year. The industry of private sector has functioned successfully. Specific progress has been achieved in the field of agriculture. Measures have been adopted for implementing the land and water reforms. New lands have been brought under cultivation and irrigation. Practical assistance is rendered to the peasants for carrying out their agricultural operations.

The plan of the institutions of transport, communications and basic construction was put into effect and overfulfilled.

The further growth of social services is ensured. New kindergartens have been commissioned. The number of schools and the admission of students to the primary schools and the institutions of higher and vocational education have increased. The plan on the training of skilled workers has been overfulfilled. The number of hospital beds and drug stores has increased and the institutions of education and culture expanded.

This in brief is presented to you. If you have more specific questions, comrades' Ministers concerned with the fields, will answer your questions.

Question by the correspondent of Bulgarian TV:
...How do you assess the role of internationalistic assistance of socialist countries in implementing the main aspects of the socio-economic development of the DRA for the years 1986-1990?

Answer by Adina Sangin:

After the victory of the April Revolution, advanced capitalist countries cut all kinds of their economic aid for Afghanistan out of political considerations' unilaterally suspended the fulfilment of commitments and agreements and reduced the purchase of Afghan co-

mmodities. The aid of banks and international institutions, the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, the Economic Development Bank, the International Monetary Fund and so on have severely been reduced.

The aid of capitalist countries to the international institutions in the investments made in the economy of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan has been reduced from 15 per cent to one per cent. Despite this, the government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan has endeavoured to preserve the economic and trade relations with its former partners. Under present conditions, the assistance of socialist countries, to be more precise, above all that of the Soviet Union, has become the resolute factor for the development of the economy of Afghanistan. The share of member countries of the Council for Mutual Economic Cooperation has increased by over two times making for 98 per cent of the total volume of financing from foreign sources.

As far as the role of socialist countries is concerned in the implementation of the main aspects of the socio-economic development of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan for the years 1986-1990, it is suffice to note that the share of assistance of these countries constitutes over 90 per cent of the cost of development projects.

As the present stage, the economic relations of the DRA with foreign countries, not only aim at the development of production potentials of Afghanistan, but have a determining role in meeting the needs of machinery, equipment, raw material and so on, needs of the country's residents in industrial and consumer goods, basic foodstuffs.

Question by Laszlo Lengyel, correspondent of MTT of Hungary:

In which part of international division of labour will your country take part under present conditions and after the stoppage of the war?

Answer (by Adina Sangin):

As is known, the economy of Afghanistan is an open economy. At present around 25 per cent of the gross national income is made through foreign economic relations. This in itself testifies to the fact that Afghanistan is vastly

using the international division of labour. In the future too, the international division of work will preserve its significance for the economic growth of our country, and it depends on the improvement of the system of international economic relations.

The Democratic Republic of Afghanistan actively endeavours for establishing a new international economic order. In our view, the elimination of existing relations in the capitalist countries as well as the removal of

all economic and political obstacles created in the way of the development of international trade of newly free countries, will have a positive effect on their economic growth. We link the future contribution of the country in the international division of labour with more influence of our young industry and trade in the region.

Question by the correspondent of Nepszabadsag daily of Hungary and the correspondent of Interpress of Poland:

Could you please talk on the implementation of land and water reforms and agricultural cooperatives of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan?

Answer (by Abdul Ghaffar Lakanwal):

The introduction of deep socio-economic and agricultural changes in a country like Afghanistan, where over 80 per cent of population are engaged in agriculture and live-stock-breeding, is one of the main tasks of the national and democratic April Revolution.

Before the revolution, three per cent of big lords and feudals had possessed over one third of all the lands. It should be kept in mind that these lands were the best lands of the country.

It was so when around 700,000 peasants had no land. This figure does not include the nomads. Therefore, the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan had proclaimed the

need for the implementation of land and water reforms long before the April Revolution.

The People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan believed that without the elimination of feudal relationship and distribution of big lands possessed by the land lords to the poor landless and small peasants and agricultural workers, and without the creation of a rational and firm system of agrarian relations, the achievement of socio-economic progress, further growth of productive forces in agriculture, emancipation of Afghan people from hunger and poverty are impossible.

After the April Revolution, particularly after its new and evolutionary phase, the party and state took measures for implementing the democratic and just land and water reforms.

Around 340,000 peasant families have so far received land for the first time. It should be stated that the lands have been distributed with the participation of peasants themselves on the basis of democratic principles.

Parallel with this process, the state has been rendering material and technical assistance, including the distribution of chemical fertilizers, improved seeds, veterinary services, machinery and the services of agricultural mechanized stations.

It should be stated that these services and assistance are given on easy terms and at low prices. This way, the state provides a big sum of subsidy in its budget. For instance, a peasant pays Afs 250 against every hour of work done by a tractor from the mechanized station, while it costs three or four times more for the state.

As is obvious, water has a significance of first degree in the agriculture of Afghanistan. Therefore the state gives priority to the supply of water to the lands of peasants. In the first five-year plan of socio-economic development for the years 1365-1369 HS, the state has allocated a sum of 5.2 billion Afghania for irrigation establishments alone. This figure is two times more than the sum spent in the past five years. To expand the social pillars of the revolution and attract all strata of people to the growth of national economy, the state has endorsed a number of legal documents for using private investments in the growth of the agricultural sector.

Concerning the second part of your question on cooperatives, I would say that it is obvious that cooperatives did exist before the April Revolution. On the request of the peasants and other strata of people, agricultural

cooperatives and cooperatives of handicrafts, consumer goods and others are at present being set up in the country.

Keeping in view the demands of the people, the state has prepared and endorsed documents for regulating the cooperative movement and renders all round assistance to them. The Soviet Union and other fraternal socialist countries are rendering great and unmatched assistance in all agricultural transformations to which all the working peasants of our homeland are cordially thankful. We expect such assistance from other countries of the international community also in this sphere.

Question by the correspondent of Bulgarian news agency:

Does the joint sector of economy develop in the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan?

Answer (by Amin):

There exists in our country joint sector in the following forms: Based on state and local private capital, state and foreign capital, local and foreign capital.

Joint institutions have been created on the basis of the cooperation of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan and the socialist countries of which we can name AFSOTR and ISTRAS that are functioning with the ass-

istance of friendly Soviet Union. Also the Angara institution is functioning with Czechoslovakia's and the Abi-Cap with Bulgarian cooperation.

Among other institutions built with the cooperation of other countries, we can name Hoescht of Afghanistan which produces medicines and has the 49 per cent shares of the Federal Republic of Germany. Aho Shoe factory is wo-

rking with Afghan and Swiss private investment. There exists private Japanese investment in the Afghan-Nichi company.

In our economic policy, the subsequent development of this sector is anticipated with the contribution of national private capital.

Question by Correspondent of Unzere Zeit (FRG):

In the western countries, they speak only of Soviet military assistance to Afghanistan. What kind of economic assistance has the Soviet Union given since 1978 to Afghanistan? Which social and industrial projects have been built with the assistance of the Soviet Union?

Answer (by Mohammad Azis):

The Afghan-Soviet economic co-operation has become further active after the victory of the April Revolution and got a stable characteristic.

Out of the whole volume of Soviet commitments in the sphere of economic assistance to Afghanistan in the course of last 30 years, 40 per cent relates to post revolutionary years. The volume of this assistance has on an average gone up annually by three folds. Over 50 projects have been built during the last eight years with Soviet assistance in various socio-economic fields. Out of them, can be named the following projects:

The high voltage power transmission line from the Soviet Union to northern regions of the DRA, the earth satellite link station, road-cum-rail bridge over the Oxus river, surface transport establishments Jurquduq mine project, laboratory complex for analysing samples of useful solid minerals which is the largest laboratory of the region, bakery plants, mills, elevators, canning factories, agricultural mechanised stations, veterinary station, seed laboratories, educational centres for training national cadres, central polyclinic in Kabul city, Social Sciences Institute etc.

The institutions built with the assistance of Soviet Union in Afghanistan account for about 60 per cent of industrial output of the country.

The institutions of Afghan-Soviet co-operation produce 100 per cent of

natural gas extracted, housing construction materials, chemical fertilizers, citrus and olive products as well as 60 per cent of power energy.

Huge projects will be built during the coming five years in the spheres of gas and petroleum extraction, hydro-power station of Sarobi, bakery plants and mills, power transmission lines and several others.

Considerable assistance has also been envisaged in the field of public health and training of national cadres.

Question by Correspondent of daily Nepszabadsag and representative of the magazine Neue Berliner:

What are the damages to Afghanistan arising from the undeclared war. Could you explain them with some examples?

Answer (by Mohammad Aziz)

Shah Mohammad Dost had given answer to this question in the previous press conference.

It is necessary to repeat it once again that the direct damages inflicted to our national economy as a result of the undeclared war work out to 45 billion Afghanis. The indirect damages are more than this. You can find definite examples of the damages from the text of the first press conference.

Question by US correspondent:

What per cent of foreign trade of Afghanistan is covered by the Soviet Union and how has its share increased during the last ten years?

Answer:

Currently, the share of the Soviet Union in the foreign trade of the DRA is around 60 per cent and it has doubled in the course of last ten years.

I would like to point out that the Afghan-Soviet trade relations have a long history and tradition. The Soviet Union is the main partner in the foreign trade of our country and has occupied the first place since 1954 in the foreign trade of Afghanistan.

Question by representative of Swiss radio.

Is there price raise in the country? What measures have been adopted by the state for holding the price line?

Answer (by Amin):

After the victory of the April Revolution, our economy faced a price raise. As the official statistics indicate, the price rise is annually about 20 per cent.

Here some questions arise. Firstly, whether the price rise is high for all including Afghanistan? Secondly, what factors lead to price rise?

Thirdly, what measures are adopted for stability of prices? It should be mentioned while answering the question on to level of price raise that the growth rate of prices.

In the DRA cannot be compared with that in the developing countries whose economy is facing inflation. We can cite as an example, Iran, Pakistan and Latin American countries. We know that price raise inflicts negative impacts on the economy. But, the price rise existing in Afghanistan cannot pose a serious hazard to the growth of the national economy of the country.

Out of the factors causing price raise, the following can be mentioned:

1— Increase in hold back of state expenditure due to the need for high expenditure for defence.

2— Imbalance in the growth of agriculture and industry which has remained from the past and on the other side has been caused by the growth of the city population.

3— Foreign factors of inflation to which are related the tendencies of price instability of products and raw material in world markets, the capitalist countries and fluctuation in currency rates.

4— Also the undeclared war which creates disorder in monetary and currency economy of the country.

These factors are also determinants of measures for achieving stability of prices in the country, which above all are: raising the purchase prices of variety of agricultural raw material, state subsidy in prices of essential goods, transport services, utilisation

of power energy and granting of concessional credits to importers of consumer goods.

In addition to this, the state also expands the network of state and co-operative stores.

I should point out that the decisive factor of price stabilisation is ensuring peace in the land of Afghans.

Question by correspondent of Bulgarian TV:

How do the Afghan private entrepreneurs evaluate the various restrictions by the United States of America and other western countries against the import of Afghan goods while at the same time talking about the freedom of private trade?

Answer (by Jalal):

This action indeed is a testimony to measures of sanctions against Afghanistan in the economic sphere. It should also not be forgotten that this policy of the western countries against the DRA is in direct contrast to the recommendations of the UN, the UNCTAD and other international institutions on giving assistance and providing proper conditions for trade with the less developed countries which are landlocked including Afghanistan.

Question: by Frede Welt correspondent of GDR:

Would you give us information about the mineral resources and percentage of their utilisation?

Are you in need of help from foreign countries for extraction of your mineral resources?

Answer (by Maseer):

1— Afghanistan is a land full of minerals. The precious stones of our country enjoys a special fame all over the world. Many useful mines have been discovered during the last ten years by the Afghan geologists with the technical assistance of Soviet Union. Out of them, petroleum, natural gas, coal, copper and iron, baret, salt, gypsum, manganese and so on can be named.

With the discovery of these and other mines we can say that today a reliable base exists for the growth of major economic spheres of the country which provides wide possibilities for elevating the living standards of our people.

Most of the mines are ready for industrial extraction. Today, natural gas, coal, and raw materials are extracted for producing cement, chemical industry and for the use of institutions of construction industry.

2— The basic problem in the present conditions which disturbs the rapid exploitation of mineral resources of the country is the undeclared war unleashed by the world imperialism and reaction of the region.

The enemies of the April Revolution have destroyed some of the coal mines which already were active and some of the industrial institutions of

mines extraction. Among them one can cite petroleum, salt and precious stone mines.

No other serious problems exist for exploitation of mineral resources in the country. Great measures have been adopted in the main aspects of the country's socio-economic development for 1986-90 for the growth of industry. The existing definite measures and plans are fully realistic. This is because of the fact that the country's growth enjoys a certain stability and that today, the DRA rests on the scientific-technical potential which is created after the April Revolution as well the initiatives and tendency of broad masses of people to the cause of revolution which is constantly increasing.

3— The reconstruction of the destroyed coal and petroleum mines as well as building of new projects is impossible solely for DRA whose economy has been severely damaged as a result of the undeclared war. Therefore, the traditional economic co-operation of the Soviet Union with our country will in the future too further strengthen in the spheres of gas, petroleum extraction and others.

I can say that this co-operation and enormous assistance of the Soviet Union is accounted as the base for further exploitation of mineral resources of the country. We have since long est-

ablished mutual co-operation with friendly Czechoslovakia who renders great assistance in the sphere of cement and coal industry to us. We are ready to expand our co-operation in these spheres under proper conditions with other countries, including our neighbours regardless of their socio-political structures. But one problem here exists and that is, peace and establishment of relations of good neighbourliness.

Question by correspondent of Newsweek (USA)

Please give information about the scale of gas trade of Afghanistan with the Soviet Union. How much gas is given by the DRA to Soviet Union and indicate the price of the gas presently paid by the Soviet Union. Is the quantity of gas measured in the Soviet Union or in Afghanistan?

Answer (by Maseer):

Annually 2.4 billion cum gas is transferred from the gas wells of Afghanistan, which are exploited with the economic and technical assistance of Soviet Union, to that country. This is a more clear token of fruitful Afghan-Soviet trade and economic co-operation. The exploitation of gas wells has provided considerable grounds for augmenting the exports of Afghanistan.

Nowadays, gas constitutes 50 per cent of the whole value of the country's exports.

Keeping in mind its calory, the price of gas paid by the Soviet Union is considerably high compared to that in the world market.

The quantity of gas exported is measured both in Afghanistan and in the Soviet Union. No difference of view has taken place in the course of the export of gas between the seller and the customer.

... Question by correspondent of Al Anba daily, (Kuwait) and CSSR TV reporter:

As is known, the DRA on the one hand is involved in an undeclared war and on the other builds a new society. How can the popular government accomplish at once these two important tasks?

Answer (by Mohammad Aziz):

After the victory of the April Revolution, the reaction of the world and of the region staged an undeclared war against the DRA, which has made the development of the socio-economic growth of Afghanistan difficult.

Our country was forced to carry forward simultaneously her struggle on two fronts, that is, military and economic fronts. Mention was made of the damages inflicted to our economy as a result of the undeclared war. But, the deeds of the counter-revolution

could not stop the economic growth of our country. We ensured not only the growth rate of the country's economy but accelerated it. The fact that all the ministries and departments have succeeded in implementing their first six months' plan of the current year (1365 HS) for industrial production is good proof of the fruitfulness of the measures taken by the party and the state.

Question by correspondent of daily Freie Welt

(GDR):

How is the role of GDR experts in national economy growth of the DRA?

Answer (by Limar Ahmad Limar):

The GDR is a CMEA member and takes part in rendering economic and technical assistance to our country. The experts of the friendly country GDR help us in the spheres of light industry, power energy, communications, radio-TV and training of our cadres in her higher educational institutions.

The co-operation between the DRA and GDR will expand in the future too.

Question by Laszlo Lengyel, correspondent of MTI of Hungary:

What are the main achievements of the April Revolution in your opinion?

Answer (by Adina Sangin):

In my opinion the answers given earlier by the comrades have explained to some extent the above question. A conclusion can be drawn from the above answers that the main socio-economic achievements of the revolution are:

— Growth and consolidation of state and cooperative sectors. These sectors have established their social efficacy by now and taken strides towards the stage of qualitative improvement of economic indices of their activities.

— After the revolution, the state transport has been created and is successfully developing.

— The land reforms that are implemented by the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan and the state with the direct participation of peasants, are freeing millions of peasants from poverty and bankruptcy.

The establishment of people's power has prepared the ground for the people to gain access to literacy and knowledge.

Funds for social services have been created and through them a great part of working people have found the opportunity to avail of free medical services and a series of other social services.

We know that the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan is at the beginning of the way towards socio-economic development, and therefore, it evaluate its achievements

not only from the point of view of today's but also future tasks.

Question by correspondent of TASS,

How does the people's government solve the problem of training of cadres? Who will render assistance in implementing this? And to what extend?

(Answer (by Sangin):

In the course of the recent years, vast measures have been taken to train national cadres. Making use of our domestic possibilities as many as 9,000 experts having higher education, 10,000 experts with secondary education and 4,000 outstanding professional workers needed by the national economy have been trained in the past five years. In training the cadres, we enjoy great assistance of the Soviet Union. In the history of Afghan-Soviet relations, over 90,000 experts and skilled workers have been trained in that country and in the Afghan-Soviet cooperation projects.

The Democratic Republic of Afghanistan sends every year 250 students to socialist countries such as Czechoslovakia, German

Democratic Republic, Bulgaria and other socialist countries and friendly India.

The work of training and preparing national cadres will by no means become less in future too.

Question by the correspondent of Unzere Zeit, (FRG):

Between 1979 and now, the volume of trade between the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan and the Federal Republic of Germany has decreased, and actually come to zero.

What is necessary in the opinion of the Afghan side for restoring export and import in the trade with the Federal Republic of Germany?

In which fields can trade develop? How do you see the medium and long-term prospects of the development of trade between Federal Germany and the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan?

Answer (by Jalal):

Firstly, trade between the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan and the Federal Republic of Germany amounted to 29 million dollars last year, against 69 million in 1978. The variety of goods which we exchange is exceptionally broad. Second hand lorries and cars, metal products, clothes, refrigerators, perfumes, stationary, footwear and so on are imported from the Federal Republic of Germany to the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan and dry fruits, nuts, intestines, raw leather, karakul, oil seeds, rugs and other commodities from the DRA to the FRG.

The volume of mutual trade would be far more, had the FRG side removed all restrictions on its way, created sound conditions for the trade between the two countries and resumed the granting of credits with easy terms to our country for building profitable institutions.

We are in favour of all-round development of relations with the Federal Republic of Germany, but it now depends on that country.

At the end of the press conference, Mohammad Aziz, addressing the Journalists, in a brief talk, said: "Permit me to express, first of all, my cordial gratitude for your interest in the events of political, socio-economic life of our country and the destiny of the Afghan people.

"We have endeavoured to give true answers to the questions which you raised. Most of the questions which you have presented, show your keen interest in the realistic analysis of our activities accomplished in implementing the plans and tasks we have set before ourselves. In my opinion, today's press conference was not devoid of profit for us and for the peoples of the world. For, through you the facts and the process of today's transformations in the DRA would be explained and elucidated as they are to them.

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CSO: 4600/86

GANDHI CLARIFIES STATEMENT ON GORBACHEV VISIT

Calcutta THE TELEGRAPH in English 3 Dec 86 p 1

[Text]

New Delhi, Dec. 2: The Prime Minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, told the Rajya Sabha today that the Soviet proposal of an Asia-Pacific security plan was still only an idea and was not envisaged as a security pact against any country.

Replying to clarifications sought on his statement on the just-concluded visit of the Soviet leader, Mr Mikhail Gorbachyov, in both Houses of Parliament, Mr Gandhi said the concept of Asia-Pacific security was "not something new" but went back to "pre-Independence India, to Panditji and our vision of the world." There was "no basic difference" between Mr Gorbachyov's proposal and India's vision, he added.

Pointing out that the security pact would not be "against any-

one," he said even the United States had been invited to be part of it. However, "it is not the Helsinki process transported here," he said. The effort must come from within the Asian region, he added.

Mr Gandhi said the process had started long ago and was marked by such events as the Asian relations conference, the Bandung Conference, the Indo-China settlement, the Korean truce, the nonaligned movement, SAARC and the Simla Agreement.

On the current proposal by the Soviets, he said India had not been given "any worked out determined concept" but only an idea. "The idea is for all Asian countries to build on," he added.

Replying to questions on the Soviet offer of a space research centre to be set up in India, Mr Gandhi said it was a "very good

idea" but specific details had to be worked out. It would also help in monitoring "what others are doing, so tensions can be reduced before they build up," he said.

Regarding the Soviet response to the security threat faced by India, the Prime Minister said that though nothing was "put in writing," Mr Gorbachyov had assured India of all support if the need arose.

Referring to Mr Gorbachyov's address to Parliament, Mr Gandhi pointed out that he had clearly said, "The supreme meaning of the (Indo-Soviet) treaty lies in the reciprocal commitment to act...should a complex situation arise for one side or both." Mr Gorbachyov had also stated that such a situation did arise once in the past.

Mr Gandhi also noted that the Soviet leaders visit would un-

doubtedly "have a sobering effect on all those who are watching us."

MiG-31 purchase

Turning down a suggestion by Mr Aladi Aruna (AIADMK), Mr Gandhi said the government had no intention of acquiring the MiG-31 "at this stage" as its combat role did not suit the present needs of the air force. The MiG-31 was no answer to the Airborne Warning and Control System (AWACS).

Replying to a series of technical questions by Mr Jaswant Singh (BJP) on the Indo-Soviet trade agreement, Mr Gandhi said the target of increasing trade by 250 per cent by 1992 was far from difficult and, in fact, was expected to be reached by 1990 itself.

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CSO: 4600/1254

FURTHER REPORTAGE SURROUNDING GORBACHEV VISIT

Meeting With Indian Communists

Madras THE HINDU in English 28 Nov 86 p 9

[Text]

The leaders of the two communist parties held separate meetings with the CPSU General Secretary, Mr. Mikhail Gorbachev, today at the Soviet Embassy. While the meeting with the CPI leaders lasted about an hour, the meeting with the CPI(M) delegation, the first between the two parties at this level, took up 40 minutes.

The Soviet Politburo member and Foreign Minister, Mr. Eduard Shevardnadze, and the Secretary of the Central Committee, Mr. Anatoly Dobrynin, were present at both meetings.

The CPI(M) delegation was led by the General Secretary, Mr. E. M. S. Nambudiripad, and comprised Mr M Basavapunniah and Mr Harkishan Singh Surjeet. A press note issued after the meeting said that Mr Gorbachev expressed satisfaction at the fraternal relations between the two parties and appreciated the role of the CPI(M) in the struggle for peace.

Mr Nambudiripad thanked the CPSU General Secretary for the opportunity to exchange views and spoke about the importance of strengthening Indo-Soviet relations. The party appreciated the various initiatives taken by the Soviet Union for world peace, security of the Asia Pacific region and the assistance given to the developing countries.

On the issue of building a strong peace movement in India, Mr Nambudiripad said the people at large were not conscious of the dangers posed by war but "the CPI(M) together with other anti-imperialist and progressive forces was trying to overcome the difficulties arising out of this."

In its press release, the CPI delegation led by the General Secretary, Mr. Rajeswara Rao, expressed the confidence that Mr Gorbachev's visit would take Indo-Soviet relations to a new and higher level. It welcomed the new economic agreements between the two countries and said they would help in making the country self-reliant.

Other members of the CPI delegation included Secretariat members Mr Indrajit Gupta, MP, Mr. Indradeep Sinha, Mr. N. E. Balam and Mr M Farooqi.

The CPI delegation expressed concern at the "feverish arming of Pakistan's military regime by US imperialists" and stressed the importance of Indo-Soviet friendship in this context. The CPI welcomed the Soviet peace initiatives and informed Mr Gorbachev of the "growing unity of anti-imperialist and peace forces in the country."

Discrimination: Russian securitymen today discriminated against Indian news cameramen. They did not allow them to stand together with the Soviet TV crew and cameramen at the Qutb Minar complex and take pictures of Mrs. Gorbachev when she visited the historic complex this afternoon.

Indian photographers were asked to stand at a distance while the Soviet TV crew and photographers were allowed to 'shoot' from closer range. Those who tried to close in for better shots were pushed back by the security staff. In protest against this, Indian cameramen, including those working for foreign agencies, decided not to click their cameras.

Gifts presented: Mr Gorbachev and his wife, Mrs. Raisa Gorbachev were presented with gifts by the Delhi Mayor, Mr Mahinder Singh Saathi on behalf of the citizens of the capital.

The Mayor presented ivory idols of Lord Krishna and Radha to Mr. Gorbachev, while a marble replica of the Taj Mahal was given to Mrs. Gorbachev. These presentations were made at a function organised at the House of Soviet Culture and Sciences here.

Schools closed: All schools in the capital including public schools, will remain closed as a special holiday tomorrow. However, all students and teachers participating in tomorrow's programmes at Rajpath will report at their respective institutions as per schedule, a Raj Nivas spokesman said tonight.

Red-capped MP draws attention: An MP sporting a red cap drew the attention of the Soviet leader, Mr. Gorbachev as he was leaving the Central Hall of Parliament after addressing the MPs. He warmly shook hands with the MP. Others sitting nearby also extended their hands which Mr. Gorbachev warmly clasped.

Visit To House Of Soviet Culture

Madras THE HINDU in English 28 Nov 86 p 9

[Text]

The Soviet leader, Mr. Mikhail Gorbachev and his wife took time off from their busy schedule today to visit the House of Soviet Culture and address a joint meeting of the activists of the Indo-Soviet Cultural Society (ISCUS) and the Friends of Soviet Union, which incidentally are a sort of rival bodies trying hard to establish their credentials with the comrades in the Kremlin.

The meeting which lasted over an hour was marked by references to the close ties between the two countries. Mr Gorbachev praised India's contribution to world peace and made a special reference to its role in building the non-aligned movement. A large audience of over 300 people, heard the Soviet leader with rapt attention and cheered him as he made laudatory references to India.

Mr Gorbachev stressed the need for world peace and observed that both India and the Soviet Union had a major contribution to make to "this noble cause." No task, he emphasised, was more important than averting a nuclear war. "We are not idealists. We understand that the obstacles we will to overcome are truly enormous. At the same time, we firmly believe that this is a realistic goal, that it can be attained. It is in this context that we see the significance of the Reykjavik meeting."

PTI and UNI report:

In reliable hands: "We are talking as friends — frankly, sincerely, instantly understanding each other," Mr. Gorbachev said, on his discussions with the Prime Minister, Mr. Rajiv Gandhi since Tuesday. "The dialogue with your Prime Minister is always an enriching experience, reassuring that Indo-Soviet relations are in reliable hands."

The Soviet Union was deeply convinced that none would be able to diminish India's real and tremendous contribution to Asia and the world civilisation, he said to a thunderous ovation. "Mr. Rajiv Gandhi and I have taken over to build on and give new substance to what was achieved over the decades," he added.

Referring to India's efforts to defend its sovereignty and territorial integrity, the Soviet leader said, "The louder India's voice in the world, the more attractive its example of independent policy which rejects imperialist diktat and interference, the higher its standing in the non-aligned movement, the more vicious become the attacks against it."

The 1971 Indo-Soviet Friendship Treaty was "fully consistent with the national interests of both countries", Mr. Gorbachev said and added it was an example of how relations in the entire Asian-Pacific region could be developed.

Arms reduction possible: He said, "We believe that a radical improvement of the situation in Asia is not just necessary — it is possible through the reduction of arms, including nuclear arms, through limitation of naval activities in the Indian and Pacific Oceans and through devising and implementing confidence-building measures."

Friendship and links between India and the Soviet Union "effectively serve and will continue serving the cause of peace and security and of preventing a nuclear catastrophe," he said.

Nonaligned, a strong link: About the non-aligned movement, Mr. Gorbachev said it represented a unique force in modern times. "A great deal of credit for this goes to India and its leaders, including Prime Minister, Rajiv Gandhi."

He said his country attached special importance to the fact that more than ever before, the Harare call of nonaligned countries to end the arms race and eliminate nuclear weapons was heard loud and clear. Also, the nonaligned had established a strong and link between disarmament and development.

SDI, a monster: Speaking about the recent superpower summit at Reykjavik in Iceland, Mr. Gorbachev said, "Of all militaristic projects, the Strategic Defence Initiative (SDI) is the most voracious monster."

A manifestation of the fallacious concept of power politics, SDI as a concept was "fundamentally inhumane and anti-human."

If implemented, SDI, the main obstacle to disarmament, would extend the arms race to a new sphere, initiating another spiral in the arms race, with extremely dangerous and unpredictable consequences, the Soviet leader stated.

Describing SDI as a destructive policy, Mr. Gorbachev said the U.S. with its two-trillion dollar national debt, could not have the resources to finance it. West European as well as developing countries would have to foot the bill for that "wasteful programme to the tune of hundreds of billions of dollars," the Soviet leader said, adding, "this is intolerable."

However, he said, "We have enough political will, perseverance and patience to continue to seek far-reaching radical agreements on the reduction and elimination of nuclear arms."

'Neoglobalism': The Soviet leader gave a new expression to international diplomatic parlance — "neoglobalism" — to describe the policy of modern colonialism and militarism.

He said this policy, relying on the activities of transnational corporations, "pits some nations against others, fuels emerging conflicts and launches military actions and acts of State terrorism against undesirable regimes."

This policy included the training, arming and financing of all types of "Contras," separatists and terrorists, economic blockades and debt bondage. It also envisaged all sorts of political and ideological subversion and intrigues, interference in domestic politics and other attempts to undermine progressive regimes from within.

Mr. Gorbachev said neoglobalism was in action in Central America, West Asia, Southeast and South Asia, Southern African frontline States and small States of Pacific and Indian Oceans. "You in India are well aware of all these methods and devices," he added.

Ready to cooperate: Mr. Gorbachev offered Soviet Union's cooperation on an "equal footing" with any State in the fulfilment of the concept of overall Asian security and for "peace, revival and prosperity." He emphasised that the

security plan involved work in many areas including economic relations on a new basis.

"Of special importance for the overall Asian security are bilateral relations between the nations of this continent," he said adding that the Soviet Union was prepared to make its contribution to the overall process.

"Indeed this is the political essence of the philosophy outlined in the Vladivostok address. It is an invitation to a common quest and to equitable cooperation," he said.

Mr. Gorbachev stressed that Soviet Union did not seek improved bilateral relations with anyone at the expense or to the detriment of its relations with other countries.

Mr. Gorbachev announced that Mr. Gandhi will be the chairman of the forthcoming cultural festivals in India and the Soviet Union.

Among those who spoke for the Friends of Soviet Union and the ISCUS, were the former Foreign Minister, Mr. B. R. Bhagat, Mr. Justice V. R. Krishna Iyer and Mr. K. R. Ganesh. They referred to the "historic friendship between the peoples of the two nations."

"The masses and intellectuals cherish the Indo-Soviet friendship as one of creative comradeship," Mr. Krishna Iyer said.

The Soviet leader and his wife, Mrs. Raisa Gorbachev were accompanied by the Foreign Minister, Mr. Eduard Shevardnadze and the Secretary to the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and former Soviet Ambassador to Washington, Mr. Anatoly Dobrynin.

Needs of Indo-Soviet Trade

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 25 Nov 86 Supplement pp 11, 12

[Article by Manubhai Shah]

[Text]

The visit of Mikhail Gorbachev to India will mark yet another milestone in the development of Indo-Soviet relations. No doubt, it has got its international significance, too.

After the advent of Mr Gorbachev to power, two significant agreements were signed in 1985 during the visit of Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi to the USSR: one to provide general guidelines for economic co-operation for the rest of the century and the other, to grant a Soviet credit of one billion roubles for specific project assistance to India. Since then the two countries have signed the long-term trade agreement for the period 1986-90 which envisaged a growth of trade by 1.5 to 2 times. It has also been decided at the 10th meeting of the Indo-Soviet Joint Commission that a detailed 15-year programme of co-operation between the two countries should be drawn up.

For the past few years, there is a realisation among both Indian and Soviet authorities that

the scope and pattern of co-operation between the two countries do not truly reflect the level of their economic achievements. In short, things cannot be left to develop on their own momentum. This is more so in the case of trade.

Indo-Soviet trade is not a mere exchange of goods. From its very inception it was designed to help India in its industrialisation and economic advance. Naturally, economic co-operation became a spur to the growth of trade. The decline in the momentum of India's economic growth in the 1970s forced the Soviet Union to increase its exports of raw materials to India. But this was an unsatisfactory situation. As a result, raw materials constituted about 80-90 per cent of Soviet exports to India. The situation has not improved greatly in spite of various efforts.

The mechanisms of Indo-Soviet trade, particularly the

rupee-trade system, have served the two countries well. It has avoided the constraints in growth which would have been inherent if payments had been in hard currency. There is no plan, therefore, to change this payment arrangement.

We cannot also have any complaints on the pattern of India's export to the Soviet Union. Though in the 50's and 60's India exported only agricultural produce such as tea, coffee, jute, tobacco, cashewnut, etc, from the 70's India began to export a wide variety of manufactured products, especially of the smallscale sector. In both cases, growing Soviet demand helped the development of agriculture and manufacturing. Today, the USSR has emerged as the leading buyer of many of our agricultural products.

To give one instance of the significance of Soviet purchases of products of the small scale industry, the development of the

Ludhiana hosiery industry will serve the purpose. From the early 60's the Soviet Union began to purchase hosiery products from Ludhiana, sent specialists to India to improve production and designing, and consistently increased annual purchases. Today over Rs 100 crore worth of cotton and woollen knitweaves are exported from Ludhiana alone to the USSR. The same story can be told of many other items.

All these must be viewed against the background of our falling share in the world markets. For example, while in 1980 India's share in the export of tea stood at 27 per cent it fell to 16 per cent by 1983; cotton textiles — from 5 to 1.7 per cent; coffee — from 2 to 0.19 per cent; leather and leatherware — from 6.8 to 5.2 per cent. It could be seen from these that the USSR remains the only reliable, capacious and guaranteed market for our traditional and manufac-

tured goods. And that too without promotional efforts and expenditures.

It is true that the Soviet market potentiality for our agricultural produce is by no means exhausted. But it would be unwise on our part to rely on the Soviet market for the export of these items beyond a point even though the USSR will continue to be a reliable market for these tropical items. It is to the export of manufactured items that we must give our greatest attention. Already about 60 per cent of India's exports to the Soviet market consist of manufactured goods, of which engineering goods form a substantial portion. But if we want to remote export of manufactured goods (which can easily be made in the USSR itself) we must be ready to import Soviet manufactured items. This is not just a balancing exercise. It is plain common sense.

The trade authorities of the two countries have, however, realised that the pattern of trade between the two countries, as it has developed in the past over

30 years, is not grounded on interlocking obligations. For example, while import from the Soviet Union has been mainly on Government account (over 80 per cent) export to the Soviet Union was mainly carried on by Indian private sector (over 80 per cent). This is one of the principal reasons for the development of imbalance in trade between the two countries. While the private sector took advantage of the easy accessibility to the Soviet market, it did little, seriously to develop import of Soviet machines and equipment and technology. That this situation was fraught with danger to its own export to the Soviet market in view of the need to balance the trade by a balanced transfer of funds was not realised well in time.

However, since the early 1980's considerable work has been done to involve the private sector companies in Indo-Soviet economic co-operation. Several delegations of the private sector have visited the USSR and have had first-hand experience of the potentiality of the Soviet market.

No doubt the information gap was one of the serious handicaps faced by the Indian private sector. The Soviet Union got only an infinite-small part of the about 12,000 to 14,000 foreign collaborations sanctioned by the Government of India in the private sector since independence, is not fully explained by the "information gap." The India-USSR Chamber of Commerce and Industry was set up to improve this situation.

It is hoped that greater involvement of the Indian private sector in collaboration with Soviet organisations would provide the much needed impetus to trade development. To give this a push, the Soviet Union is willing to enter into production co-operation agreements and transfer of technology with the Indian private sector on a large scale. It is not only willing to supply machines and technology on credit but also to buy back goods in the same projects to re-trench the credits.

All this is not a one-way traffic. We are also trying to export our own expertise to the Soviet Union. Agreement has been

reached to set up three hotels in the USSR by Indian parties. We are also hoping to secure some industrial collaborations.

It is not my intention here to reply to criticisms about Indo-Soviet trade, as most of them are ill-informed and have been refuted by authoritative organisations. But one issue needs early attention: we need a longer span in balancing the two-way trade than five years. The matter has been taken up with Mr Gorbachev by our Foreign Minister N D Tiwari and the former has responded favourably.

Indo-Soviet trade reached its peak in 1985 with a turnover of Rs 44,000 million. This has fallen to Rs 36,000 million in 1986, a fall of Rs 800 crore, mainly because of the steep decline in the price of crude and petroleum products. Though the 1987 trade protocol signed on 12 November envisages a turnover of Rs 38,000 million, there is no reason for complacency. In fact, there is need for a new thrust. It is to be hoped that the authorities of the two countries will explore, and that too immediately, new forms and ways of trade.

List of Major Indo-Soviet Projects

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 25 Nov 86 Supplement p 8

[Text]

Ferrous Metallurgy

Bhilai Steel Plant (with raw material facilities); Bokaro Steel Plant; Vizag Steel Plant; Metallurgical & Engineering Consultants Ltd (MECON), Ranchi; R&D Centre for Steel Research, Ranchi

Non-ferrous Metallurgy

Aluminium Plant, Korba; Bauxite & Alumina Plant Project, Andhra; R&D Centre for Non-ferrous metallurgy, Korba

Heavy Engineering

Heavy Machine Building Plant, Ranchi; Heavy Electrical Equipment Plant, Hardwar; Mining & Allied Machinery Plant, Durgapur and Institute for Designing Metallurgical Equipment, Ranchi

Oil Industry

Drilling & Exploration (Gujarat, Tamil Nadu, West Bengal, Assam, Himachal Pradesh, etc. & offshore exploration along the coasts of India)

Barauni Refinery, Bihar, Koyali Refinery, Gujarat and Mathura Refinery, UP

Training

Hind Oil Designing Institute, Baroda; Research & Training Institute, Dehra Dun; Drilling Technology Research Institute, Dehra Dun; Institute for Reservoir Development, Ahmedabad.

Coal Industry

Surkhachar Coal Mine; Banki Coal Mine; Manikpur Coal Mine; Kathara Coal Washery; Nigahi Opencast Mine; Jayant Opencast Mine; Mukunda Coal Mine; Jhanjra Coal Mine; Raniganj Coal Mine; Tipong Coal Mine; Kumari Coal Mine;

Sitanala Coal Mine; Assistance to Singareni Colliery Co. (Andhra); Development & modernisation of coal washeries and Central Mechanical Workshop, Singrauli, for repair and production of mining equipment & materials

Training

Coal Preparation & Engineering Institute, Ranchi Assistance for Rajasthan

Power Industry

Neyveli Thermal Plant, Tamil Nadu; Korba Thermal Plant,

Madhya Pradesh; Obra Thermal Plant, Uttar Pradesh; Patratu Thermal Plant, Bihar; Harduaganj Thermal Plant; Uttar Pradesh; Bhakra Hydropower Station, Punjab; Mettur Hydropower Station, Tamil Nadu; Baliemla Hydropower Station, Orissa; Lower Sileru Hydropower Station, Andhra; Hirakud Hydropower Station, Orissa; Lingnayaki Hydropower Station, Karnataka; Vindhyachal Thermal Power Station, Singrauli; Kahalgaon Thermal Power Station, Bihar; Bakreshwar Thermal Plant, W Bengal; Tehri Hydropower Plant, Uttar Pradesh.

Medical Industry

Anti-Biotic Plant, Rishikesh; Synthetic Drugs Plant, Hyderabad and Surgical Instruments Plant, Madras.

Public Health

Cooperation in combating mass infectious diseases like malaria, small pox, cholera, etc. in ophthalmology; in preparation of vaccines and blood preparations and others.

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 26 Nov 86 p 12

[Text]

The scientific and technological cooperation between the Soviet and Indian research organisations is carried out within the framework of four inter-governmental agreements (agriculture, applied sciences and technology, nuclear energy, medicine and public health) as well as four inter-departmental agreements on rocket probing of the atmosphere for weather forecast and space research.

The USSR Academy of Sciences has agreements on scientific exchanges and cooperation with the Department of Science and Technology of the Government of India and the Indian National Science Academy.

Fundamental Research: The Soviet Union and India have a programme for scientific and technological cooperation for 1984-87, which stipulates definite research projects in 22 applied and fundamental fields. These include the use of solar energy, the development of MHD power generation, protection of metals from corrosion, powder metallurgy, standardisation and metrology, construction materials, meteorology, lasers, biotechnology, the physics of high temperatures and pressures, catalysis, electrical metallurgy, oceanography, information and others. There are altogether 112 subjects in which the two nations cooperate, an undertaking that involves 66 Soviet research institutions and 48 Indian institutions and laboratories.

Efficient use of India's inferior coal for producing energy is one of the advantages offered by the MHD technique, now being transferred from the Soviet Union to India. This novel system of energy conversion has already been successfully tried at Tiruchirapalli (Tamil Nadu) where a pilot plant is functional. Involved in its development are the USSR Academy of Sciences, the BHEL, BARC and several other leading Indian organisations. The MHD device

was successfully tested in the Soviet Union before it was set up in India.

It has been generally admitted that the use of renewable sources of energy, including solar energy, promises innumerable boons to mankind. Soviet and Indian scientists have made some very impressive achievements in this important field. They have developed an experimental autonomous solar energy regeneration device based on the Stirling engine. They have also developed, manufactured and conducted laboratory and field tests of an experimental solar rays receiver.

Powder Metallurgy: Soviet and Indian scientists are working successfully in the promising field of powder metallurgy. They have been working on new powders to be used in the manufacture of tungsten materials for tools, porous materials with improved mechanical properties to be used for the manufacture of metallic filters, copper and iron-based friction materials. Scientists of both the countries have been conducting research work of great importance in the field of pressing powders made of titanium and titanic alloys under high energies, producing metallic powders by spraying.

The Soviet-Indian efforts in metrology and standardisation are of immense importance for commercial and economic ties between the two countries. Much work has been done on comparability of standards for jute products, leather goods, garage equipment, ferro alloys, rolled steel and others.

Both the countries have been fruitfully cooperating in meteorology. As a result new important data have been obtained on the structure and circulation of the upper atmosphere in medium latitudes.

Agricultural Research: The need to boost the living standards of the people of the USSR and India requires fast development of agriculture. No wonder, it has been a major branch of Soviet-Indian cooperation. Indian and

Soviet scientists have been cooperating not only in exchanges of genetic stock of cultivated and wild plants and seed-growing of grains, but also in joint research in developing new rice varieties turning out high yields.

Cooperation with the Indian National Science Academy is carried out mostly in fundamental research, for example in areas like nitrogen fixation, high-yield short-duration long-fibre cotton, the biology of plant pests, groundwater studies, problems of desalination, water management and so on. Cooperation in related fields includes earthquake studies and deep seismic soundings.

In 1972, the USSR Academy of Sciences and the Indian Space Research Organisation signed an agreement whereby the Soviet Union agreed to assist India in developing its space programme. As a result, India's first research satellite Aryabhata was put into orbit in 1975 by a Soviet rocket from a Soviet cosmodrome. The Aryabhata was followed by Bhaskara I and II. The climax of Indo-Soviet cooperation in the space programme was the joint space flight in April 1984, which put India's first cosmonaut Rakesh Sharma into orbit. Studies on board the Salyut-7 covered several areas, including study of earth resources and medicine.

Nuclear Science: Yet another significant area of cooperation is in nuclear science. Apart from promoting joint fundamental studies, the Soviet Union has provided considerable knowhow on the burying of nuclear waste.

The Soviet Academy of Sciences has honoured a number of eminent Indian scientists, among them such leading lights as Dr C V Raman, Dr P C Mahalanobis, Dr M S Swaminathan, Prof M G K Menon, Prof Ramalingaswami, Dr O P Gautam and Dr N S Randhawa.

[Text]

Indo-Soviet cooperation in agriculture has expanded with the years. Today it covers such diverse fields like seed production, irrigation, flood control, water management, weather forecasting, personnel training and production of agricultural machinery and equipment.

Cooperation between the two countries began in 1956 with the setting up of two state seed farms—Suratgarh and Jetsar in Rajasthan—for the production of quality seeds. It was also an experiment in desert cultivation.

The success of these farms led to the creation of the State Farms Corporation, a leading organisation in the public sector, engaged in the production of all kinds of seeds. The Corporation has under it today a number of State farms, of which six have been set up with Soviet assistance. They are, apart from Suratgarh and Jetsar, Hissar in Haryana, Ladhowal in Punjab, Raichur in Karnataka and Cannanore in Kerala.

The USSR also helped India to set up a well-equipped workshop for the repair and maintenance of farm machinery at Suratgarh, which is also the centre for the training of middle level technical farm hands.

Tractor Production: In the early 70's an Indian private company, *Harsha Tractor Ltd*, began production of T-25 tractors with Soviet collaboration. The Soviet Union had, earlier, supplied over 30,000 tractors to India for farm mechanisation.

Along with these developments, Indian and Soviet agricultural scientists have been working together on a number of research projects, such as

oilseeds and cotton, plant quarantine, germ plasma, farm mechanisation, sheep pox vaccines, artificial insemination, soil testing and others.

In the meantime, the Soviet scientists introduced the Soviet sunflower into India. Sunflower has a higher oil content than even groundnut. And the USSR also helped India to introduce sugar beet cultivation.

In the field of animal husbandry, the two countries are closely cooperating. The USSR provided 10,000 merino sheep with fine fleece, which are now being reared in a number of places in India. The USSR also provided Karakul sheep to India as a gift, as also rabbits of special variety.

Assistance to Irrigation: The main Soviet assistance in the irrigation field will be the provision of technology for utilisation of underground waters, building of high dams, construction of large canals, use of "directional blasting" techniques for dam and canal construction and prefabrication techniques for canal linings.

The USSR is passing on its experience in land reclamation problems created by desertification and saline soils.

In 1980 the Soviet Union made a gift of agricultural machinery worth Rs 1 crore to the Suratgarh farm.

Discussions are going on between the two countries for cooperation in the fields of fur farming, plant protection, forestry development and protection of environment.

The USSR is the leading buyer of Indian agricultural items as also processed foods. Of late, the USSR has offered assistance in the development of India's food processing industry, especially for the processing of fruits and vegetables. It has also offered technical assistance for the production of specialised cans and packaging materials.

PAPERS REPORT CLOSE OF GORBACHEV VISIT

Gandhi at Press Conference

Madras THE HINDU in English 29 Nov 86 p 9

[Text]

The Prime Minister, Mr. Rajiv Gandhi, today disclosed that India and the Soviet Union have decided to increase their trade by two and a half times by 1992.

Making an opening statement at his joint press conference with the Soviet leader, Mr. Mikhail Gorbachev, he said the two countries will be looking at new modes and vistas of economic cooperation.

The economic agreement, signed during the Soviet leader's visit, provides the largest ever Soviet aid for India. The two new features of the agreement were local cost financing and a turnkey approach to the projects.

Mr. Gandhi said the two countries were looking for new areas of economic cooperation and the Finance Minister, Mr. V. P. Singh, would have further discussions with his Soviet counterpart on the subject.

"Qualitative thrust": He said they had also decided to impart a "qualitative thrust" to their ties in the field of science and technology. India had invited the Soviet academician, Mr. Marchuk, to "go into all aspects of the issue."

He expressed the hope that "this heartwarming visit" would further strengthen the Indo-Soviet relations.

Mr. Gandhi said the visit of Mr. Gorbachev, would have "a significant outcome for our bilateral ties, regional stability and perhaps most for world peace."

Major landmark: "It's a major landmark in our bilateral relations", he said. With this assessment, Mr. Gorbachev agreed: "Our visit is a milestone along the path of fruitful cooperation."

Mr. Gandhi said, "We have had very wideranging discussions, very intensive discussions—almost 10 hours just between the two of us—and I believe they have been very fruitful."

The Prime Minister hailed as "historic" the Delhi Declaration signed by the two leaders envisioning a world free of nuclear weapons. The international significance of the declaration "will only be seen in time."

Mr. Gandhi said the Delhi Declaration and other agreements reached yesterday bore testimony to the "strength, maturity, resilience and dynamism that the Indo-Soviet friendship has come to mean."

Meaningful ties: Asked at the press conference about the Soviet proposal for an Asian-Pacific security pact, Mr. Gandhi agreed on the need for such cooperation in Asia and said, "We have to move our foreign relations from real politicking to a meaningful relationship that goes deeper than the convenience of pragmatism."

He added that for this purpose, Asia was a good region to start with.

He pointed out that the idea of Asian cooperation and peace was not new. It was put forth by Jawaharlal Nehru 40 years ago, even before Indian Independence.

N-power States accused: Mr. Gandhi accused some nuclear power States of blocking the Indian Ocean becoming a zone of peace in accordance with the U.N. resolution. These powers had a vested interest in the militarisation of the Indian Ocean, he said in reply to a question.

India wanted the Indian Ocean to be free from superpower rivalry and their presence in the zone should not exert any pressure on littoral and other hinterland States. The Indian Ocean as a zone of peace was only

one aspect of the problem and India wanted the whole world to be a zone of peace, Mr. Gandhi said.

He regretted that the proposed conference on the Indian Ocean as a zone of peace had not taken place so far.

About Kempuchea, Mr. Gandhi said he had discussed it with Mr. Gorbachev and there was no change in their basic positions, that there could be no settlement involving the former Pol Pot regime.

Space centre 'good idea': The Prime Minister said the Soviet offer to establish an international space centre here "is a very good idea". There was need to go into the details on how this could be implemented. "We have not gone into the details, but we will," Mr. Gandhi added.—PTI

More on Press Conference

Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 29 Nov 86 pp 1, 9

[Text]

NEW DELHI, November 28.

CAUTIONING against the "unpredictable consequences" of continuing Indo-Pakistan problems, the Soviet leader, Mr. Mikhail Gorbachov, said today that the Soviet Union, like India, wanted good relations with "our neighbour, Pakistan".

He hoped the government of Pakistan also desired good-neighbourly relations in a spirit of mutual understanding. Any other way to live with its neighbours would not be good for Pakistan, Mr. Gorbachov said.

Addressing a press conference along with the Prime Minister, Mr. Rajiv Gandhi, Mr. Gorbachov deftly fielded questions relating to the pull-out of Soviet troops from Afghanistan, the latest U.S. position on disarmament, and India's relations with China in the context of a surge in Sino-Soviet relations.

Mr. Gorbachov sounded quite conciliatory and left those correspondents who wanted the Soviet leader to take a position on the Sino-Indian border dispute or to condemn the U.S.-aided militarisation of Pakistan unsatisfied. But short of that, Mr. Gorbachov did everything to reassure his Indian hosts that any improvement in Sino-Soviet ties would not be at the cost of India.

On Afghanistan, Mr. Gorbachov appeared to be optimistic about a political solution that would emerge as per the Soviet objective ensuring the existence of a non-aligned, neutral and independent Afghanistan.

The Soviet leader understood the importance of developing a regional framework in which many of the problems related to the security of Asia could be resolved. The Prime Minister, Mr. Gandhi, who was questioned by a Soviet correspondent on the Soviet concept of Asian and Pacific security, said the idea of Asian co-operation was not new. It was put forth by Jawaharlal Nehru 40 years ago, even before India's independence.

Mr. Gandhi pointed out that peace could be achieved only when foreign relations were moved away from politicking and made meaningful. These relations should go deeper than the level of convenience. For this purpose, the Prime Minister said Asia would be a good region to start with.

An American correspondent wanted Mr. Gorbachov's reaction to the reported U.S. move to ignore the SALT-II limits by equipping B-52 bombers with Cruise missiles. The Soviet leader reacted cautiously at first, pointing out that no official statement had come from the White House on this issue.

If such a decision had been taken by the U.S., it would be a step contrary to the entire logic of the Reykjavik talks and the U.S. statement after the summit that they remained committed to

negotiations on disarmament. Such a decision, he said, would make the search for agreements on disarmament more difficult, Mr. Gorbachov said.

Mr. Gorbachov was persistently questioned on Sino-Soviet relations in the context of India's ties with China. Some of the questions were rather blunt, such as: With whom would the Soviet Union side in the event of another attack by China on this country? What was the Soviet stand on the Sino-Indian boundary dispute? Would the Soviet Union mediate between the two Asian giants? Would not improved relations between the Soviet Union and China encourage the latter to mount more pressure on India? One correspondent wanted Mr. Gorbachov to record his reaction to the recent Chinese incursion into Arunachal Pradesh.

Significantly, Mr. Gorbachov gave general replies to all such queries. He categorically stated that what the Soviet Union was doing to improve its relations with China would not "weaken" its relations with India.

The Soviet foreign policy would not be detrimental to India's interests, he said. Indo-Soviet relations would be strengthened further and his current visit was one step towards it, according to Mr. Gorbachov.

It was in the context of Sino-Indian relations that Mr. Gorbachov again referred to the Soviet desire to improve its relations with countries of the Asian and Pacific region. "The better our relations with China, the better would be the overall atmosphere in the region", he said.

The Soviet leader also expressed his belief that both India and China would act with "great responsibility". And in view of this, he felt that the fear of a

Chinese attack on India would prove baseless. The two countries "should resolve the "border issue" with mutual understanding and trust, he said.

As for the suggestion about possible Soviet mediation, Mr. Gorbachov said: "I believe that a contact between China and India does exist and that this contact will be used resolution of their mutual problems."

The Sino-Indian dispute could be resolved on the basis of "trust, reality and historical facts", Mr. Gorbachov said.

On Afghanistan, Mr. Gorbachov was asked to explain why he was optimistic about a political solution being found. The Soviet leader merely said new elements were emerging there — new elements in relation to the Cordovez mission under U.N. auspices, the developments in that country and the "understanding and desire of other countries, including the Soviet Union, to see a settlement of the problem."

He felt that a solution of the Afghanistan issue might emerge "in the near future." Mr. Gorbachov disagreed with a Saudi correspondent who said the problem of Afghan refugees was the consequence of the presence of the Soviet troops in Afghanistan. The troops, he clarified, went into Afghanistan at the "request" of that government and it was a temporary measure.

On the proposal for a nuclear-free Indian Ocean zone, Mr. Gandhi said, unfortunately nuclear-weapon states and vested interests were blocking the convening of an international conference to follow up the U.N. resolution declaring the ocean as a zone of peace. However, the Indian Ocean was only one part of the world and efforts were necessary to turn the entire world into a nuclear-free zone, Mr. Gandhi said.

About Kampuchea, Mr. Gandhi said he had discussed the issue with Mr. Gorbachov and the Indian position remained that there could be no settlement involving the former Pol Pot regime.

A soviet correspondent asked Mr. Gandhi about the Soviet offer of building a space centre in India. He said: "I think it is a very good idea, but we have to go into details to see exactly how it can be implemented."

Mr. Gorbachov, in his introductory statement, listed the concrete decisions taken during the visit and, alongwith Mr. Gandhi, laid considerable emphasis on the implementation of these. Mr. Gandhi referred to the proposed visit by a high-level Soviet team for discussing scientific and technological collaboration.

Mr. Gandhi also disclosed that the

two countries had decided to increase their trade by two-and-a-half times by 1992. This would involve new areas of economic co-operation. In this regard, the finance minister, Mr. V. P. Singh, would have further talks with Soviet leaders.

Mr. Gorbachov and Mr. Gandhi were very eloquent and effusive talking of the dynamism of the Indo-Soviet relationship and the impetus that it received during the Soviet leader's visit here. The Prime Minister described Mr. Gorbachov's visit as a "major landmark in our bilateral relations and said discussions were held in an atmosphere of warmth, mutual trust and confidence".

The Soviet leader's visit would be significant for bilateral ties, for regional stability and world peace, Mr. Gandhi said. The Soviet leader responded by saying that co-operation between the two had emerged as a powerful factor in international relations. Mr. Gandhi

described the Delhi declaration as "historic" and said its significance would be seen "in time."

Mr. Gorbachov referred to the fact that the leadership had changed in both the Soviet Union and India and said both he and Mr. Gandhi would not only preserve the Indo-Soviet co-operation built by the preceding generation but further deepen the relations.

Mr. Gorbachov was also asked about his country's stand on terrorism since, according to the correspondent, his movement in India was restricted because of terrorism. The Soviet leader did not agree with the suggestion and said that the Soviet delegation wanted to give as much time as possible for negotiations.

On terrorism, he said his country was basically against it. "The basic principle of our philosophy, domestically and internationally, is against terrorism, particularly if it takes the form of state terrorism."

Madras THE HINDU in English 29 Nov 86 p 1

[Article by G. K. Reddy]

[Text]

The Soviet leader, Mr. Mikhail Gorbachev, hinted today in a gentle but unmistakable manner that there could be 'unpredictable consequences' if Indo-Pakistan problems were not resolved in a spirit of mutual understanding and co-operation.

At a joint press conference addressed by the Prime Minister, Mr. Rajiv Gandhi, and the Soviet leader before his departure for Moscow at the conclusion of what was widely regarded as a highly successful visit, there was a barrage of expected questions from Indian correspondents on China and Pakistan.

The Soviet leader neatly skirted the two issues with noncommittal replies, just as he did on Kampuchea and Afghanistan, focussing mainly on the need for a settlement of all such disputes in a responsible manner and in a spirit of mutual accommodation. He declined to be drawn into any observations on the merits of India's border dispute with China or Pakistan's bid to acquire more and more sophisticated arms from the U.S. under the pretext of facing a Soviet threat through Afghanistan.

All that Mr. Gorbachev said was that both India and China wanted to resolve their boundary dispute on the basis of mutual understanding "which I welcome". He assured that improvement of Sino-Soviet relations would not be detrimental to India's interests. It would not weaken the Soviet links with India, but on the contrary help to improve the entire atmosphere.

The Soviet leader hoped that both India and China would act with 'great responsibility' while urging a political settlement of the border dispute, when his attention was drawn to the recent Chinese intrusion into the Sumdorong Chu valley across the McMahon line. He said that these two countries would have to resolve the boundary problem on the basis of 'trust, reality and historical facts'.

He refused to be drawn into any further comments on the Sino-Indian border dispute in the context of the current efforts of Moscow for an improvement of Sino-Soviet relations.

He was no less reticent in his replies to questions on Pakistan, despite Soviet disapproval of its stand on Afghanistan. He said: "We are in favour of good relations with Pakistan. We must find ways to achieve normal relations". It was in stressing the need for a spirit of better understanding between India and Pakistan so that the two neighbouring countries could live together in peace, that he cautioned: "Any other way will lead to unpredictable consequences. This should be clear to the Government of Pakistan".

Security pact

It was a strange press conference at which almost all the questions asked by Indian correspondents related to either China or Pakistan, while the Western newsmen concentrated primarily on Afghanistan and Kampuchea, making only passing references to the present Soviet-American deadlock on arms control and other related subjects. The Soviet press contingent, on the other hand, tried to extract an assurance from Mr. Rajiv Gandhi that India was identifying itself with the Gorbachev proposal for an Asia-Pacific security pact.

It was left to the Prime Minister to deal with the bilateral aspects of the Indo-Soviet talks, especially the later agreement on economic and technical cooperation which he pointed out was the largest one signed so far by the two countries involving a Soviet credit of over Rs.2,000 crores, besides the introduction for the first time of a turnkey concept and the offer of loans from Soviet rupee surpluses to help meet some of the local costs of Soviet-aided projects. He also disclosed that the two Governments had agreed to intensify their efforts to increase bilateral trade by two and half times by 1992, which would be a big quantum jump in Indo-Soviet economic relations.

The two leaders admitted that they had discussed the Kampuchean issue, but declined to disclose the outcome of these talks on this sensitive subject. All that Mr. Rajiv Gandhi said was that there could be no settlement involving Pol Pot. During his recent visits to Indonesia and Thailand, he found that even these ASEAN countries were no longer supporting this former Kampuchean regime.

But in dealing with the Afghan question, Mr. Gorbachev said that a "concrete search for a solution was under way" and he was hopeful of a solution. There were many elements involved in the mediatory efforts of the special U.N. emissary, Mr. Diego Cordovez, which he did not want to divulge since it might impede these delicate negotiations.

The Soviet leader did not agree with a Saudi Arabian journalist who implied that the problem of Afghan refugees had been created by the Soviet troops in Afghanistan. It was a complex problem, but the prospects of a settlement did exist. He stressed that the "earlier we reach an agreement the better" it would be for all concerned, including those refugees who had left their homes.

There were the customary references to the great warmth and cordiality that prevailed during the Indo-Soviet talks on various subjects. The atmosphere of his visit, Mr. Gorbachev said, was 'good, friendly, warm, sincere'. 'Our exchanges were frank. We understand each other very well'. He described Indo-Soviet friendship as a 'testimony to their ever increasing cooperation'.

The Prime Minister described the visit as a 'major landmark' in Indo-Soviet relations. It had contributed in his view not only to the consolidation and expansion of bilateral relations but also to world peace as demonstrated by the historic Delhi declaration.

Madras THE HINDU in English 29 Nov 86 p 9

[Article by G. K. Reddy]

[Text]

The Soviet leader, Mr. Mikhail Gorbachev, left for home today, leaving behind very vivid memories of a high profile world statesman with a shrewd understanding of big power politics and an unfailing vision of his country's future.

Mr. Gorbachev impressed those who met or saw him at close range during his stay in Delhi as a supremely self-confident person and a very skilled practitioner of the art of *realpolitik*, who was determined to press forward with his peace offensive and carve out a place for himself in history as the man who played a big part in pulling back the world from the nuclear precipice.

An inheritor of the legacy of the great October Revolution, Mr. Gorbachev has projected himself during the last 20 months that he has been in office as a man of destiny, who was all set to usher in another revolution for improving the quality of Soviet life, besides devoting the vast power, prestige and influence of the Soviet Union to the promotion of peace.

PM's performance: The young Prime Minister of India, Mr. Rajiv Gandhi, who has also grown in stature in his own way during this period, was not overawed by the commanding presence of Mr. Gorbachev or the highly sophisticated articulation of his views on various issues. He conducted himself with equal aplomb and a sense of modesty while matching the Soviet leader's dynamism with his youthful zeal in presenting an independent Indian view of the world situation.

He spoke of the unique character of the non-violent Indian revolution that had brought down an empire and freed a people. He did not allow his admiration for the Soviet achievements to overshadow what India was able to accomplish in its own way in winning its independence.

The two leaders were able to talk candidly without any inhibition during their private discussions on a wide range of international, regional and bilateral issues, largely because

they were able to command each other's confidence. The only third person present at their marathon exchanges lasting more than 10 hours was a Soviet interpreter with none else on the Indian side.

Degree of personal rapport: A full picture of what exactly transpired at these talks will not be available even to his senior colleagues other than what Mr. Rajiv Gandhi chooses to tell them. But the bits and pieces of information that would trickle down in due course to the Ministries concerned in the course of implementation of the agreed policies and action programmes might indicate the degree of personal rapport the two have been able to establish in making a more objective assessment of their personalities and missions.

Defence relationship: The declarations and agreements that have been signed have been adequately publicised, but what has been conspicuously left out from the speeches and statements, relates to the new dimension that has been given to the defence relationship during this visit. The Chief of the Soviet General Staff, Marshal Sergei Akhromeyev, had indicated the new weapon systems that had been developed or were under development and what the Soviet Union could offer India to meet its immediate or future requirements, leaving the choice to the Indian defence experts to decide for themselves.

It is not India's intention to enter space era with space weapons, but seek only intermediate systems that can counter effectively the induction of the instruments of electronic warfare into Pakistan. In assessing India's requirements, the two countries had to visualise the possible changes in the strategic environment that might take place in the foreseeable future.

Rewarding experience: It was certainly a rewarding experience for Indian defence officials and Service chiefs to listen to Marshal Akhromeyev's presentation of the new strategic concepts in this age of man's conquest of the frontiers of science. And it was an equally fascinating opportunity for Mr. Rajiv Gandhi himself to

hear from Mr. Gorbachev what the international community can do with a little less of distrust to transform the horrifying prospects of Star Wars into a reassuring expectation of "star peace" for utilising the knowledge of space sciences for the good of mankind, if only the two superpowers could shed their fear and suspicions.

FURTHER REPORTS ON RESULTS OF GORBACHEV VISIT

Analyst on Economic, Technical Cooperation

Madras THE HINDU in English 28 Nov 86 p 1

[Article by G. K. Reddy]

[Text]

The economic and technical cooperation agreement, signed today by the External Affairs Minister, Mr. N. D. Tiwari, and the Soviet Deputy Prime Minister, Mr. Vladimir Kamentsev, in their capacity as co-chairmen of the Indo-Soviet Joint Commission, provides for a fresh credit of 1.2 billion roubles, in addition to 300 million roubles in rupees (worth Rs. 2000 crores in all), at a nominal interest of 2.5 per cent repayable in rupees in 17 years in equal instalments.

This amount of 1.5 billion roubles, besides the credit of one billion roubles offered during the visit of the Prime Minister, Mr. Rajiv Gandhi, to Moscow last year will be utilised to pay for Soviet equipment and services for agreed projects listed in the agreement.

The 300 million roubles offered in rupees from the Soviet account into the Reserve Bank of India, at an interest of 1.5 per cent over and above the normal rate of 91 day treasury bills issued by the Central Government, will be utilised to meet the local expenses of the 2400 MW Tehri hydro-electric project.

Four projects: The projects listed in the agreement are only four, the Tehri hydro-electric complex, the reconstruction and modernisation of the converter shops along with the steel continuous casting departments and hot rolling mill at Bokaro, the setting up of four underground mines at Kapuria, Mahal, Parbatpur and Kherkharee-Dharmabad in the Jharia area of a total capacity of 8 million tonnes of coking coal, and intensive and integrated exploration of hydrocarbons in a mutually agreed onshore area in West Bengal.

Detailed procedures: The agreement, however, lists the detailed procedures to be followed in drawing up project reports, designing the plants, supplying and erecting the machinery, providing spare parts, training Indian personnel and associating Indian organisations. These are

to be completed by the Soviet authorities on a turnkey basis within the framework of the co-operation agreement, enabling India to acquire the necessary expertise in designing and building such plants in future.

Nuclear plant offer: The Soviet Government wanted to include in this list a 1000 MW nuclear power plant, but the offer could not be processed to mutual satisfaction. The Soviet side was prepared to step up the new credits to a total of two billion roubles if India accepted this offer, but the idea had to be deferred for the time being because of some strong Indian reservations on the technical as well as safeguards aspects of the project.

First of all, India was reluctant to go in for an enriched uranium fuel system when it is relying wholly on natural uranium for running the locally designed plants. Besides, the safeguards question would pose problems since the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) was going to insist on applying the pursuit clauses.

The joint statement to be issued tomorrow before the Soviet leader, Mr. Gorbachev's departure will spell out other areas of economic cooperation, including the plans for increasing trade and eliminating the present gap which left India last year with a trade surplus of almost Rs. 700 crores. It will also refer to the steps being taken to extend scientific and technical co-operation.

Soviet team coming: A high-level Soviet delegation consisting of scientists and technical experts, headed by the academician, Mr. G. Merchuk, will visit India shortly to work out an agreed programme. The delegation will hold in-depth discussions with the Government departments concerned to draw up a time-bound implementation schedule for this cooperation.

The other two agreements concluded today included a consular convention signed by the two Foreign Ministers, Mr. Tiwari and Mr. Eduard Shevardnadze, and another on Festivals of India and the Soviet Union by the Minister for Human Resources Development, Mr. P. V. Narasimha Rao, and Mr. Shevardnadze.

More on Aid Agreement

Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English 28 Nov 86 p 1

[Excerpts]

NEW DELHI, Nov. 27.—Though the formal talks with Indian leaders ended today with the signing of three agreements, including an economic one with a 1.5 billion rouble credit (more than Rs 2,300 crores), Mr Gorbachov chose two separate platforms to assert that the Soviet Union would not let India down.

The three agreements were signed today in the presence of Mr Gorbachov and Mr Gandhi. The economic pact relates to the assistance to be given to the projects announced yesterday (the Tehri hydroelectric complex, modernization of Bokaro, setting up of underground mines and oil exploration in West Bengal). The total credit promised for technical and material help to the project is 1.2 million roubles but there is an additional 300 million roubles as advance credit for the Tehri project.

The second agreement provides for the setting up of Indian consular offices in Tashkent and Nakhodka. The Soviet Union is not a member of the Vienna Convention and the latest bilateral convention is being signed after the earlier one expired in July and will be valid for five years. The Soviet Union has signed similar conventions with a number of countries, including the USA, U.K. and China.

The third agreement relates to the organization of a Festival of India in the Soviet Union in July next year to be followed by a Soviet festival here in November. About 2,300 Indian artistes and an equal number from the Soviet Union are expected to participate in the festivals. There will also be festivals of each other's national cuisine.

(According to PTI, the main credit of 1,200 roubles for payment of design and survey work carried out by the Soviet organizations and for equipment, machinery and spare parts from the USSR, repayable in 17 equal annual instalments, would bear an interest of 2.5% a year.

The remaining credit of up to 300 million roubles to finance the local expenses connected with the construction of the Tehri hydro-power complex will bear an interest of 1.5% a year over and above the rate against 91-days treasury bills of the Government of India.

Repayment of the credit will go to an account in the Reserve Bank of India in the name of Bank of Foreign Trade of the USSR and could be utilized by the Soviet organizations "for purchase in India of goods on the terms and conditions of the Indo-Soviet trade agreement in force and/or can be converted into U.S. dollars".

India will promote the maximum possible participation of Indian organizations in the execution of design work and in the delivery of equipment and material for the construction of projects and works provided under it.

It states that the technical documentation delivered to India shall be used only by Indian enterprises and will not be transferred to other countries without the prior consent of the Soviet organizations.)

Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 28 Nov 86 p 1

[Text] NEW DELHI, November 27.

THE Soviet and Indian delegations today undertook a high-level review of India's security environment in the light of the acquisition of sophisticated U.S. arms by Pakistan.

The minister of state for defence, Mr. Arun Singh, had a meeting with First Marshal Sergey Akhromeev, first deputy defence minister and chief of the general staff of the Soviet armed forces. This was their second meeting during Mr. Gorbachov's current visit.

The two ministers were together for about 45 minutes and later led their delegations for talks which lasted more than three hours.

The Indian delegation included the three secretaries in the defence ministry, Mr. S. K. Bhatnagar, Mr. P. C. Jain and Dr. V. S. Arunachalam, and the chiefs of three services, Admiral R. H. Tahiliani, chairman of the chiefs of staff committee, Air Chief Marshal La Fontaine and Gen. K. Sundarji.

This review of India's security environment followed the expression of

concern by Mr. Gorbachov and Mr. Rajiv Gandhi over Pakistan's nuclear programme and its move to acquire from the U.S. an Airborne Warning And Control System of the latest kind.

The review covered India's defence requirements especially electronic counter measures and the progress of collaborations in defence production. India is to soon acquire the first batch of MiG-29. Recently, India had received the first of the Soviet Kilo class submarine, "Sindhu Ghosh".

The Soviet Union had shown some interest in India's Light Combat Aircraft project but no headway could be made because the concept of co-operation that the Soviet side had in this regard differed from India's. India is committed to develop the LCA through indigenous efforts only picking up some system and sub-system technologies from external sources.

In the field of aeronautics, India also received large heavy duty helicopters

Space Center Offer

Madras THE HINDU in English 30 Nov 86 p 12

[Article by G. K. Reddy]

[Text] A major outcome of the visit of the Soviet leader, Mr. Mikhail Gorbachev, was the offer to set up an international space centre in India to carry on joint research and develop space technologies to cross the frontiers of modern science.

The project holds out immense possibilities for utilisation of the vast reservoir of scientific talent in India which could be harnessed for the good of mankind with the cooperation of advanced societies like the Soviet Union.

The President of the Soviet Academy of Sciences, Mr. Yuri Morchuk, and his deputy, Mr. Evgeny Velinkov, who are among the top mathematicians of the world, will be heading the high-power delegation of scientists and technologists which will be visiting India in January to discuss the plans for the establishment of this space centre.

Use of super computers: These two academicians have been developing some highly sophisticated super computers, comparable to those in the U.S. and Japan, which will be used in the space research projects at the centre for the development of lasers, particle beams and micro-electronics for using kinetic energy for peaceful purposes. The computers could be

made available for use at the centre as part of its standard equipment without any restrictions.

The development of space technologies is primarily intended to help the participating countries to make use of the earth's resources. But the knowledge that is gained can also be utilised for legitimate defence requirements for protection against advanced ballistic missiles and energy weapons of different types that cannot be faced with conventional radio-frequency-based systems.

Apart from this space delegation, two other Soviet teams, one headed by the Minister for Electrification, Mr. A.I. Muyorts, and the other by the Minister for Oil, Mr. V.A. Dinkov, will be visiting next month for talks on the Tehri hydro-electric project and the exploration of onshore oil and gas reserves in West Bengal, as provided for in the latest economic and technical cooperation agreement. The two teams will discuss the possibilities of Soviet participation in the electrification of some sectors of Indian railways, and also offshore exploration in the North Cambay and Cauvery basins.

Mr. Gorbachev came to India on what has been described as a 'diagnostic visit' to assess the future of Indo-Soviet relations. He wanted

to see for himself whether India was a stable society, whether the present Government headed by Mr. Rajiv Gandhi was capable of bold decisions, to what extent the country remained committed to friendship with the Soviet Union, and whether it was liable to tilt towards the U.S. under pressure or placation.

Reliable partner: It was essentially a visit by a leader who was not an ideologue but a pragmatist, a hard-headed realist who did not suffer from any false sentimentality, a man with a modern mind and a product of the new technological era who was not a prisoner of the old Soviet stereotypes either in his political outlook or personal temperament.

He appeared to have gone back reasonably satisfied that India would be a reliable partner in his peace offensive. The Indian security concerns were adequately explained to him, but in doing so no alarmist picture was given compelling him to decide whether it would be possible to combine his peace process with a thundering reaffirmation of Soviet support to India in its disputes with China and Pakistan.

The Indian defence chiefs had no doubt sought some additional equipment, but gave a reassuring impression that they were quite con-

fident of coping with any challenges that might arise in the foreseeable future. It was against this background that Mr. Gorbachev avoided making any public references to continued Soviet commitments to India at his press conference.

Consolidating position: The discerning Indian observers also got the impression that in the Soviet hierarchy Mr. Gorbachev had yet to consolidate his position completely. The Soviet military establishment remained somewhat sceptical of his overtures to the U.S. over arms cuts, especially the reduction of missile deployments.

But his strong point is that as a representative of the younger Soviet generation he had captured the imagination of his people as one destined to improve the quality of their lives. And he has impressed world opinion with his dynamism and innovative spirit placing the fossilised Reagan leadership in the U.S. on the defensive not knowing how to cope with his peace offensive.

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CSO: 4600/1262

ANALYST WRITES ON TEAM ACCOMPANYING GORBACHEV

Madras THE HINDU in English 22 Nov 86 p 9

[Article by G. K. Reddy]

[Text]

A very formidable entourage of nearly 250 — including some senior Ministers, top ranking officials, party functionaries, prominent academicians, media men, security personnel, communications experts and other categories of support staff including personal aides — will be accompanying the Soviet leader, Mr. Mikhail Gorbachev, on his first official visit to Delhi next week, which is widely regarded as a major event in the development of Indo-Soviet relations.

Apart from the Deputy Prime Minister, Mr. Vladimir Kamentsev, Foreign Minister, Mr. Eduard Shevardnadze, and head of the Foreign Affairs Department of the Soviet Communist Party Secretariat, Mr. Anatoly Dobrynin, and several Deputy Ministers and deputy chairmen of several state commissions, the delegation will include the Chief of General Staff of the Soviet Armed Forces, Marshal Sergi F. Akhronyev, and several senior officers representing the three Services.

An interesting departure: An interesting departure from the earlier Soviet practice is the inclusion of three leading academicians in the delegation — Mr. George Arbatov, Mr. Eugene Premakov and Mr. Rauld Sagdeev — who have lately been functioning as senior consultants on crucial foreign policy issues such as arms controls, military balances and East-West relations. The Soviet foreign policy establishment now consists of not only party functionaries and professional diplomats but also intellectuals and journalists who specialise in different subjects.

The Soviet delegation is setting up a separate press centre at which some senior spokesmen will hold daily briefings for the benefit of the world press on Mr. Gorbachev's talks in Delhi, giving up the old procedure of joint press sessions at which representatives of the host country provided the main presentation with Soviet officials intervening only occasionally to elucidate a particular point.

Joint press conference: Another major feature of Mr. Gorbachev's visit will be a joint press conference to be addressed by the Soviet leader and the Prime Minister, Mr. Rajiv Gandhi, after the release of the main documents which include a joint declaration on international issues and a statement of bilateral cooperation. The two Governments have been working on the two drafts for the last few weeks to make them as comprehensive as possible consistent with their respective policies on various issues.

It is seldom, if ever, that so much preparatory work has been put in for any State visit by a foreign dignitary however important he might be from the point of view of India's interests. But what is even more significant is the conscious effort being made to give an extra political dimension to it against the background of increasing U.S. support for Pakistan.

Differences of perception: Despite the close identity of views between India and the Soviet

Union on many issues, there are many differences of perception that cannot be overcome by merely putting a gloss on them. As the Indo-Soviet relationship is basically a political one without any ideological affinity to hold the two countries together, it is not surprising that they do not agree on every issue, although they refrain from publicly airing their differences.

A telling example of such a shared commitment or absence of an agreed stand relates to Afghanistan. If India has refrained from criticising Soviet intervention to the extent of even appearing to condone it at times under the guise of opposing all forms of foreign intervention, it has not missed a single opportunity to impress on the Soviet leaders privately that, whatever the initial compulsion or provocation for their action, it would be in Moscow's interest to withdraw its troops from Afghanistan, because the longer they stay the more difficult it was going to be to extricate itself from this embarrassing situation.

Similarly, India has in principle welcomed the concept of an Asia-Pacific security pact propagated by Mr. Gorbachev, but refrained from openly associating itself with the proposal because in its view the Helsinki parallel cannot be

applied automatically to Asia on the basis of the European parallel which itself has lately been under some strain. So it has been resisting Soviet pressures to extend its wholehearted support to the Gorbachev proposal in the joint declaration.

Soviet offer: In the economic sphere, too, India has not so far accepted the Soviet offer to set up a nuclear power plant for technical and other reasons. But it has agreed to let the Soviet Union build on a turn-key basis the mammoth Tehri hydro-electric project which will be almost a mini nuclear power plant in its size. The increased Indo-Soviet economic co-operation will extend not only to coal, steel, oil and power sectors but also to non-ferrous metallurgy, silicon alloys, and other rare industrial products so essential for India's development.

The inclusion of Marshal Akhromeyev, who is a Marshal of the Soviet Union besides being a Deputy Defence Minister, indicates that Mr. Gorbachev will be discussing India's defence requirements. The Soviet Union has been offering India its very latest equipment to help India meet the threat of the highly sophisticated weapon systems like advanced F-16s, AWACS and M-1 tanks with laser-aided fire controls that the U.S. might be giving Pakistan.

The Indo-Soviet bilateral trade which reached the level of Rs. 4,300 crores last year is now in India's favour following the decline of oil prices. But a list of new exportable items from India has been drawn up to redress half the imbalance. The Soviet Union is thinking of importing substantial quantities of wheat from India to overcome the shortfall in production in Ukraine, the bread basket of the Soviet Union, where large areas of very fertile lands have been affected by the nuclear fallout from the stricken Chernobyl plant.

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CSO: 4600/1261

NATION REAFFIRMS COMMITMENTS TO PALESTINIAN CAUSE

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 30 Nov 86 p 6

[Text] There will be durable peace in West Asia only if the Palestinian people could exercise their inalienable right to self-determination and an independent state in the Palestinian homeland was established, said Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi on Saturday.

He stated this in his message on the International Day of Solidarity with Palestinian People, which was read out at a function held in the Capital under the aegis of Indian Council of Cultural Relations.

The Prime Minister in his message reiterated the Government and Indian people's strong and abiding commitment to the Palestinian cause and their firm support to the Palestine Liberation Organisation, the sole legitimate representative of the heroic Palestinian people. The message was read out by the Minister of State for External Affairs K Natwar Singh.

Stating that India will persist in its efforts to bring about a just solution to the Palestinian problem, the Minister reaffirmed the country's unflinching support to the Palestinian cause and promised to redouble efforts for establishing their independent homeland.

Mr Natwar Singh traced the history of India's support to the struggle of the Palestinian people from the days of

Mahatma Gandhi, her opposition to a partition of Palestine both within and outside the UN and her support within the nonaligned movement for the withdrawal of Israel from all occupied territories.

Emphasising that the Palestine Liberation Organisation led by Mr Yasser Arafat was the sole representative of the Palestinian people, Mr Natwar Singh said the personal report established between Mr Arafat and late Mrs Indira Gandhi continued to be maintained between the PLO leader and Mr Rajiv Gandhi. This accurately reflected the deep rooted sympathy for the Palestinian cause, he added.

The PLO Ambassador in India Dr Khaled-el-Sheikh said the PLO hailed the Indian position vis-a-vis the joint statement of Mr Gorbachev and Mr Gandhi regarding the strong support for an international peace conference on West Asia under the UN auspices with PLO participation on an equal footing.

Chief Representative, the League of Arab States Mission Hage Kashif Badri said they expected India, a sovereign, friendly nation and a founder member of NAM to support the holding of a conference.

Indo-Arab Fraternity, President Usha Malhotra and Working president, All India Indo-Arab Friendship Association, Abdul Rashid Kabuli, MP, Ministry of External Affairs Secretary (West) A S Gonsalves and ICCR Director General also spoke on the occasion.

CORRESPONDENT ON IRAN, IRAQ DEBTS TO INDIA

Madras THE HINDU in English 20 Nov 86 p 5

[Article by F. J. Khargamvala]

[Text]

The brouhaha surrounding the recent U.S. attempts at wooing Iran by skirting the official policy of a weapons embargo has also exposed in the process some rather unsavoury aspects of Teheran's policy. Of particular interest to India is the statement of the President, Mr. Ali Khamenei, demanding the release of "hundreds of millions, may be upwards of one billion, dollars worth of military spare parts" bought by Iran before the 1979 Islamic revolution.

Mr. Khamenei also added that the release of this money might create a measure of goodwill among the Iranian people towards the United States. The Iranian President was speaking soon after the U.S. President's explanations for Washington's clandestine approaches to Teheran. Later, Iran announced its intention to take the matter of the U.S. withheld arms to the International Court of Justice at The Hague.

Some observers have alluded to the possibility that certain Iranian leaders identified as 'moderate elements' by the U.S. among whom Mr. Khamenei is one, are now trying to back-track and cover themselves against an internal backlash for negotiating with the "Great Satan." Mr. Khamenei's pretence of Iranian grief at Washington not adhering to the terms of a contract signed before the revolution smacks of duplicity when applied to other countries, India among them perhaps being the most wounded.

Iran has persistently refused to honour its own commitments made during the Pahlavi regime, most significantly in the case of the Kudremukh iron ore concentrates project. It has variously pleaded that the parent plant at Ahwaz for which Kudremukh was planned in captivity has not made any progress owing to Iraqi bombing. Fair enough and plausible though this reason may be, as is the decline in Teheran's oil revenues, at no stage has Iran demonstrated the goodwill to seek alternative methods of repaying India.

Agreement suspended: India and Iran had entered into an agreement in 1975 to establish an iron ore concentrates plant at Kudremukh near Mangalore to supply its entire output of roughly 7.5 million tonnes annually to Iran for a period initially of 21 years. Under the terms of the deal Iran was to pump in about \$600 millions to finance the captive project. By the time the popular Islamic revolutionary Government took over, only about \$230 millions of Iranian money had been received.

Thereafter the project was completed before schedule and within the stipulated cost entirely through India's own resources hoping that Teheran would recognise India's commitment to an international agreement and once internal stability had returned to Iran its leaders would uphold the Iranian end of the buy back arrangement or find some other way to reimburse Indian expenditure. Not only did the new Islamic regime stop all further investment but it suspended the agreement.

By February 1986, according to figures announced in Parliament, the Kudremukh Iron Ore Company Ltd. (KIOCL) had incurred a loss of Rs. 20.47 crores and throughout its productive period the firm has had to incur other expenditure on trying to sell the concentrate.

The problem has been discussed at every joint commission meeting and will no doubt figure high on the agenda for the fourth meeting later this year or early next. Iranian officials frequently complain that New Delhi is not particularly serious about its economic ties with Teheran. This would appear to be a strange reasoning considering that it is clearly Iran that stands in the dock for breach of trust. Despite this as a measure of goodwill, in keeping open commercial possibilities an oil-linked trade deal involving special steel, corn wheat and other items has been negotiated with Iran.

Iraq's debts: Debt problems with Iraq also exist and a number of Indian firms are being held to ransom of sorts by Baghdad despite some debt rescheduling to the satisfaction of

both sides. With Iraq however the problem involves a large number of Indian private firms which do not let the Government rest, whereas in Kudremukh's case the KIOCL being a public sector undertaking, the Government cannot escape the suspicion of being slow as the losses are on account of public money and only Parliament can call it to audit what appears to be political lethargy and not expediency, which may be excusable at times.

Iraq's complaint: It is difficult for Indian officials to respond to Iraqi complaints in private that India has demonstrated a bias in favour of Iran by accepting Iran's grievances as genuine without really pressing for alternative means of settlement. Now that Teheran has declared the U.S. commercially guilty for withholding items paid for by the previous regime, if India is serious about accounting for public losses the Government could well use a similar argument in reverse to reclaim from Iran the hundreds of millions of dollars owed.

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CSO: 4600/1243

CHINESE REPORTED TO DIG IN FOR WINTER IN ARUNACHAL

Madras THE HINDU in English 1 Dec 86 p 9

[Article by G. K. Reddy]

[Text]

There is no indication yet when the next round of talks will be held between India and China on the border issue in the wake of the prevailing stalemate, although the exercise cannot be delayed much longer, if only for keeping up an appearance of continuity of this dialogue for what it is worth in the present situation.

From the Indian side, a political decision was taken some time back to keep up this series of official level talks, even if these protracted discussions on principles and procedures have outlived their utility and ceased to serve any further purpose.

China's turn: As the last round of talks, the seventh in the series, was held in July last in Beijing, it is now India's turn to play host for the next one in Delhi. But it is China's turn, according to the established practice, to suggest tentative dates for these talks as a starting point for fixing a mutually suitable time depending on each other's preoccupations.

The Chinese, who have hinted on more than one occasion that the stage has now been reached for elevating this dialogue to a political level, are not averse to the idea of continuing these official talks even if they see little prospect of any progress being made through this forum on the substantive aspects of the border dispute. But they are evidently waiting to see how India is going to react to the decision to continue their military presence in the Sumdorong Chu Valley in Arunachal Pradesh during the winter months, before broaching the subject of convenient dates for the next round of official talks in Delhi.

According to latest reports, the whole area in and around the Wangdong area where the Sumdorong Chu Valley is located is now snow-bound with the mountain passes blocked till next May at least. But the Chinese had reinforced their post in Sumdorong Chu and

stockpiled enough supplies to last through the winter in their bid to keep up their military presence there.

The small Indian group of intelligence officers and para military escorts used to spend only the summer months in Sumdorong Chu, until the Chinese occupied the area in a surprise move establishing their presence there.

The Indian defence forces were waiting to see whether the Chinese would withdraw during the winter months from Sumdorong Chu adhering to the established practice in this high altitude region.

Little consequence: The fact of this occupation, or intrusion as India has officially chosen to call it, is of little strategic consequence to either side in political or military terms. The Government of India had deliberately left the option open to the Chinese to withdraw during the winter months after having asserted their claim to the area by establishing a military presence there.

It was hoping to arrive at an understanding at the next round of talks with the Chinese to leave the whole of this area unoccupied by either side pending a final settlement of the border problem.

But in deciding to continue their occupation during the winter months, even at the cost of imposing an intolerable strain on their troops stationed there, the Chinese have placed India politically in an embarrassing position. If India does go ahead with the next round of talks ignoring the Chinese refusal to withdraw from Sumdorong Chu, it will be setting a bad precedent for them to resort to similar incursions elsewhere to exert political pressures.

But it would be equally inadvisable on India's part to suspend this dialogue in protest, since this might be used as an easy pretext by China to put off these border talks indefinitely hoping

to resume the negotiations at a higher level at a later stage in a more opportune atmosphere. All these factors have to be weighed carefully before deciding on how to proceed in this difficult situation.

The Prime Minister, Mr. Rajiv Gandhi, called a meeting of the concerned ministers and senior officials a few weeks back to review the China policy and reassess the prospects for a negotiated settlement. But all those dealing with this problem have been so busy since then with other issues that there have been no follow-up policy discussions on this problem within the Government.

And in the bargain, the initiative for suggesting the dates for the next round of talks or making any fresh moves to end the present impasse is being left almost entirely to China with no worthwhile activity on the Indian side.

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CSO: 4600/1250

EXCERPTS FROM REPORTER'S INTERVIEW WITH DALAI LAMA

Calcutta THE TELEGRAPH in English 23 Nov 86 p 10

[Article by Soutik Biswas]

[Text]

Q: Your Holiness, at Thursday's press conference you had expressed your willingness to mediate to solve the Sri Lanka, Gorkhaland and Punjab problems. But what about the continuing problem of the six million Tibetans, which surely is your primary concern? Does it indicate that you are getting tired and frustrated in dealing with the Tibetan problem, especially with no solution in sight?

A: No, no, certainly not. My main responsibility is towards solving the Tibetan problem. I am always thinking on different lines, on different levels. As the Dalai Lama, my main concern is Tibet and six million of the country's people. As a Buddhist monk, I have to try to be concerned with means to contribute to the welfare of all beings—even insects and animals—and particularly, humanity. Thirdly, as a human being, I always feel that today we need the realisation of oneness of all human beings. And with that you should have some kind of moral responsibility. I express this to other people and practice that myself. So this (willingness to mediate) is an effort in that direction.

Q: What is the present state of your relations with China? In 1984, there was a marked improvement but your sche-

duled visit to that country the next year was cancelled. In this context, does a status quo prevail or have there been some fresh happenings?

A: I think the situation remains the same as it was last year. There has been no improvement so far.

Q: Have there been any fresh setbacks in your relations with China?

A: We had some problems with one of my proposed delegations to China.

Q: When did this happen?

A: At the beginning of this year. We were planning to send a delegation to China. It was supposed to be a fact-finding delegation. But then there were some problems with their travel documents. So the delegation could not go.

Q: Has there been any subsequent proposal to send a delegation to China?

A: No.

Q: Have you spelt out the basic requirements for a settlement with China?

A: At this moment it is very difficult to say. This is also not the proper time (for the settlement). Tibet, you know, is occupied by the Chinese. So the Chinese policy regarding Tibet will depend on the internal situation of China. Although Deng Xiao Ping is carefully preparing for a smooth transition, you never know what will happen.

Q: Do you mean to say that the political situation in China is very uncertain?

A: Yes. Some of my friends share the same view. Some of them say there is every danger of a military takeover in China. The situation in China is also very chaotic, they say. Another school of opinion says that things will now improve. So there are different kinds of views on the Chinese situation. It is quite safe to say that things are not settled in that country. Therefore as far as the Tibetan problem is concerned, this is not the proper time to take a decision. We want to continue a dialogue with the Chinese government. We also want their government to do that. This is good. In the last few years, we have sent a number of fact-finding delegations to China.

Meanwhile, inside Tibet, there have been improvements in certain fields. The economic condition is improving and also the general education of the people. There is also some kind of respect for and a recognition of the Tibetan culture. There has been some kind of positive change.

Q: So is China loosening its grip on Tibet?

A: No, not that really. In China, there is more freedom of religion today. In one way they (the Chinese authorities) are following a more moderate policy with some more freedom, but in the political field, they are tightening (their grip). Often, on the pretext of striking against criminals, they arrest or strike against political minded people. And one very serious thing is that China is following a policy of demog-

raphic aggression. More and more Chinese are coming to Tibet. In some parts of Tibet, the Chinese are becoming a majority and the Tibetans a minority in their land. A local Chinese newspaper said that

in my birthplace in Tibet, the Tibetan population was little over seven hundred thousand, while the Chinese population was well over 2.5 million in 1982. In the autonomous region of Tibet, such a situation has not arisen so far. But, more and more Chinese are coming. This is very serious.

Q: What do you think of the current state of the Indo-Chinese relations?

A: This is a complicated question. Actually the demarcation of the border is not accepted by the Chinese. If you look at the long history of the Chinese civilisation you will see that, they always expand. So, the problem of Tibet is also connected with Sino-Indian relations. So unless Tibet becomes a land of peace, India will have some problems.

Q: But the Indian government does not recognise Tibet as a separate country. At the same time you have your government in exile at Dharmasala in Himachal Pradesh. Do you not feel that there is an inherent contradiction in India's stand on Tibet?

A: There are Indian politicians and intellectuals who believe that this is a wrong policy. I also feel that this (policy) is not correct. But at the same time, the government has to be realistic. So in the Indian political atmosphere, there is very little value of truth and justice. Influence of power is very strong.

Q: Coming back to the political situation in India, how do you view the Punjab problem?

A: The problem can be analysed in two ways. Some (people) are politically motivated. This motivation is very difficult to resolve through reason or dialogue.

Q: The crisis in Punjab is again connected strongly with religion.

A: I am coming to that. One category (of people) are using religion and trying to discriminate between Sikhs and Hindus. Through patience and understanding, it can be solved. I see my role as a neutral mediator in solving the problem.

Q: Did you send feelers to the Centre expressing your desire to mediate in Punjab?

A: (Pauses) On a few occasions I mentioned this to some concerned people in the Central government. They are prominent people.

Q: You have shown a keen interest in the possibility of synthesising Marxism with Buddhism. How do you intend to go about this?

A: I have had an interest in Marxism for many years now... There is a kind of internationalism in Marxist theory. All the working class people of the world have the same status, according to this theory. There is a feeling of solidarity among the workers.

Q: Do you think that an ideology combining the tenets of Marxism and Buddhism would be feasible?

A: Yes, I have that kind of a feeling. The Marxists have their plus and minus points. They endured a great deal of suffering for the benefit of the people. Their energies come through hatred as I said earlier. (The Dalai Lama told newsmen on Thursday that the Marxian philosophy had an element of 'hatred' as it was concerned with class struggle and elimination of class enemies). Their love or kindness is not adequate. Their (Chinese) mental training is not sufficient. Eventually, this brings about self ruin. Like Chairman Mao. He was not like Rajendra

Prasad or Mahatma Gandhi. They had a kind of spiritual stand apart from their political views. So, inspite of getting power, they remained good human beings. They were well balanced.

Today many socialist countries have achieved their good goals. But they are worried, they may lose it (goals) eventually. There should be balance and self discipline. I feel in some countries Buddhism and Marxism can be complementary.

PTI REPORTS ON U.S. USE OF PAKISTAN BASES

Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 23 Nov 86 p 1

[Text]

THE United States is clandestinely operating flights of highly sophisticated P-3 Orion spy planes out of Pakistani air bases under a secret agreement between the two countries, an American news magazine reported today.

The U.S. state department has confirmed that P-3 aircraft were using Pakistani airfields, "with the approval of the government of Pakistan," "The Nation" said, adding that highly placed military sources in Pakistan also confirmed this.

The secret staging of the flights, which has been going on since 1983, is only one aspect of the "burgeoning" military relationship between the U.S. and Pakistan, which plays a key role in the U.S. central command (Centcom), an outgrowth of the American rapid deployment task force, the magazine said.

The Pakistani air force base at Mauripur, near Karachi, is the most commonly used base by the American spy flights, according to the report which says that growing U.S. military aid to Pakistan has also financed a large-scale build-up of base facilities in Baluchistan.

The build-up includes 32 new airfields, a U.S. naval base only 80 miles from Iran's principal naval facility, and aerodynamic facilities, it said quoting Lt.-Gen. Rahimuddin Khan, chairman of the joint chiefs of Pakistani armed forces, and Mr. Attaullah Mengal, former chief minister of Baluchistan.

The P-3 planes, which have been routinely flying out of Mauripur, help monitor the Soviet flotilla of nuclear

submarines. The planes are capable of destroying those submarines with B-57 nuclear depth charges which they carry, the report said.

It said that a U.S. state department spokesman had confirmed in a recent interview that P-3 aircraft were using Pakistani airfields, "with the approval of the government of Pakistan." the department refused, however, to comment on the frequency of the flights other than to state that these planes "periodically transit Pakistan."

The department has also refused to say what form Pakistan's approval had taken and whether or not a formal access agreement existed, similar to the confidential agreement of 1959 which granted U-2 spy planes access to the Peshawar airfields.

For the P-3 to use the Mauripur facility on a routine basis, a formal "access" agreement securing the host-nation clearance is required under the U.S. law, the magazine said.

The P-3 is an integral part of the U.S. military's global tracking network. It is the West's standard land-based anti-submarine warfare and maritime patrol aircraft.

The staging of P-3 flights from Pakistani air bases is one dimension of a much broader U.S. regional security vision. At its centre is the emergence of the Centcom whose area of responsibility includes 19 countries — three more than NATO — in south-west Asia, the Persian Gulf and the Horn of Africa, the report said.

However, the 'command area' of Centcom is the entire Indian Ocean, and the territory of the 44 littoral and hinterland states in its basin. In the Centcom framework, Pakistan has been designated a critical allied role, it said.

Pakistan, the report said, had undertaken a heavy domestic military build-up, and its military forces are currently active in 22 countries in the Middle-East and Africa, playing a crucial intelligence, training and internal security function in parallel with U.S. strategic operations. Nearly all those overseas delegations are in states under Centcom.

It quotes a Pakistani commentator as saying that his country had emerged as the "largest exporter of military manpower in the third world" with nearly 50,000 military personnel, or ten per cent of the country's armed forces, deployed outside its borders. The largest contingent, a division of 13,000 men, with two armoured and two artillery brigades, was in Saudi Arabia.

The enormous expansion in Pakistan's military expenditure, estimated at more than 60 per cent since 1979, has been funded directly or indirectly out of Centcom-linked aid and no other nation has received such a sudden or large-scale increase — at least 500 per cent — over the past decade. Pakistan is now receiving more U.S. aid than when it was an active member of Ceato and Central Treaty Organisation, it said.

The aid, it said, had very specific objectives as base facilities are being upgraded in a wide arc of Centcom's area of operations, from Kenya to Pakistan. The command can now deploy an intervention force of nearly 300,000 troops in south-west Asia and by 1989, it will be able to land 450,000 soldiers in the area under wartime conditions.

The effort to enhance base facilities appears to be taking place primarily in Baluchistan, bordering Afghanistan and Iran. While Lt.-Gen. Khan has been quoted in the Pakistani press as saying that 32 airfields are being constructed in the province, Mr. Mengal claims that the most significant facility under construction is an enormous air base in the Chagai region, it said.

Quoting independence defence analysts in Washington and Pakistani military sources, "The Nation" said the unprecedented build-up in Baluchistan includes port as well as aerodynamic facilities. But it quoted a state department spokesman as saying that the "U.S. has not asked for, and the government of Pakistan has not offered base rights."

When asked to comment on the report, a defence department spokesman said there were no American military operations from Pakistan but from time to time P-3 aircraft flew into that country from the American fleet in the Indian Ocean, for refuelling. He denied there was any "letter of understanding" between the two countries.

/12828
CSO: 4600/1246

MINISTER, MP'S DISCUSS PAKISTAN ARMS BUILDUP

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 22 Nov 86 p 1

[Text]

The Government on Friday assured the Lok Sabha that it was continuously monitoring the security environment in the neighbourhood and that it would take effective steps to ensure that parity in arms was maintained between India and Pakistan.

Both External Affairs Minister N D Tewari and his Minister of State Natwar Singh rose during question hour to quell the apprehensions of the members of the House triggered off by reports of the acquisition of sophisticated arms by Pakistan from United States and China. The members were also considerably disturbed by reports that Pakistan was planning to manufacture 200 jet fighter planes in collaboration with the two countries.

Mr Natwar Singh assured the House that a constant review was being done by the Government to ensure that the country did not "lag behind Pakistan or any other neighbour", in the matter of defence preparedness.

He pointed out that security in the neighbourhood was very complex and said that Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi and the Cabinet were discussing the situation virtually everyday. He added that India would take up the matter "with our friends".

In reply to the main question by Mr R K Rai, Mr Natwar Singh said that the Government had seen the report which first appeared in a New York newspaper on 10 October saying that Pakistan had plans to establish facilities for the production and

upgradation of Chinese F-7 aircraft with United States weaponry and avionics.

"Such collaborations will reflect continuing United States and Chinese military support to Pakistan and would have significant and adverse implications for India's security", he remarked.

However, he added that mere newspaper reports did not mean that the deal had been finalised and advised the members not to get unduly perturbed by such reports.

He also pointed out that the Indian Government had been consistently impressing "Pakistan's friends" that the supply of weapons to that country would affect "our security" and force India to divert funds that were needed in other sectors to defence purposes.

But he reiterated that there was and would be no laxity in India's defence preparedness and said that the Defence Ministry and others were keeping a vigilant eye on the related developments in the neighbourhood.

A considerable amount of time was spent on this question reflecting the concern of the members of the House towards the threat to India's integrity from her neighbours.

Mr Sripati Misra (Congress) asked sarcastically if the Government was depending entirely on newspaper reports to know that developments were

taking place in military spheres in China and Pakistan and wondered whether it had an effective machinery of its own to gather information.

External Affairs Minister N D Tewari assured the member that there was no question of any laxity in information gathering for which sources, other than intelligence agencies, were also tapped.

Mr P Namgyal wanted a firm assurance from the Government that it was fully prepared to meet the emerging threat and said even Lahaul and Spiti in Himachal Pradesh had now been shown as disputed territory.

Considerable concern was also expressed about the reports of Pakistan acquiring AWACS and the development posing a serious threat to India's security.

However, the two ministers reiterated that the Government was keeping a close watch on all developments related to the arms build-up by its neighbours and that India would not lag behind in her preparedness.

DELHI CONSIDERS UNOFFICIAL TALKS WITH REBEL SIKHS

Madras THE HINDU in English 5 Dec 86 p 1

[Article by G. K. Reddy]

[Text]

Amidst the stern steps being taken to fight terrorism, the Centre is also giving serious thought to what could be done at the political level at this juncture to ensure in the more immediate context that the situation does not get out of hand compelling the Government to resort to still tougher measures before fresh efforts are made to find a lasting solution.

The Prime Minister, Mr. Rajiv Gandhi, and his senior Cabinet colleagues are not prepared to countenance any direct dialogue with the terrorists, but they may not stand in the way of some well-meaning non-officials establishing contact with the extremists who have not been personally involved in acts of violence to ascertain what exactly they want the Government to do to settle this tragic problem.

At the governmental level, there can be no talks with those who continue to indulge in the coldblooded murder of innocent persons, or others who are guilty of aiding and abetting such despicable crimes. At some stage the all-out anti-terrorist drive will have to be supplemented by some positive measures to rally moderate Sikh opinion in favour of a reasonable settlement.

No one to talk to: According to those who are well acquainted with the complexities of the Punjab situation, there is no representative Sikh body at present with which the Government can initiate any discussions. The Akalis are so badly divided, torn asunder by their personal feuds and bitter power struggles, that there is no set of individuals with whom the Government can talk even if it wants to do so.

The hard-pressed Chief Minister, Mr. Surjit Singh Barnala, has offered to resign to open the way for the imposition of President's rule, without a formal dismissal of his Government, if this would help to fight terrorism in a more energetic manner with total Central involvement in it. But the Centre does not want him to quit in despair since it would create a totally erroneous

impression that the terrorists have been able to edge him out of power with their campaign of violence.

Conditions for talks: There are still some elements in the outlawed All-India Sikh Students Federation which are not averse to the idea of a negotiated settlement, although the hardcore activists among them who have taken to terrorism are in no mood to talk except on their own terms. The four conditions stipulated by them are the immediate release of the 300-odd suspects detained in Jodhpur, punishment of those responsible for the Delhi riots in the wake of Indira Gandhi's assassination, publication of the Thakkar Commission report and reabsorption into the army of those Sikh soldiers who deserted after Operation Bluestar and resorted to mutinous action.

But there is no guarantee that even if all those conditions are met the extremists would give up their secessionist demand and seek a redress of their grievances as an integral part of the Indian nation. The sad part of it all is that moderate Sikhs are not prepared to come forward and educate their community against the grave danger of these demented young men indulging in a suicidal crusade for separation that is going to be most harmful to it.

There are roughly 14 million Sikhs of whom one-third live in relative prosperity outside Punjab, while two-thirds of the Sikh capital is invested in other States. The Sikh progress in Punjab is by and large confined to their success in agriculture, while they have flourished in other fields like industry, construction, transport and technical trades in the rest of the country.

Campaign by moderates: The Government has to get together a representative cross-section of moderate Sikhs who are conscious of their community's privileged position to tour the Punjab countryside and counter the mischievous propaganda that Sikhs are being discriminated against by the Centre, by convincing them that they have nothing to gain but everything to lose by allowing themselves to be swayed by secessionist slogans.

The battle against terrorism in Punjab has to be carried on simultaneously at the political and psychological levels as well, while taking the sternest possible action against those indulging in violence. There is a greater awareness now of the need for such a multidimensional approach to the Sikh problem.

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CSO: 4600/1258

DELHI FIRM ON ORISSA NATIONAL TEST RANGE SITE

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 4 Dec 86 p 5

[Text]

Almost the entire Opposition staged a walkout from the Lok Sabha at the Government's refusal to accept their demand for the shifting of the national test range site from Baliapal and Bhograi in Balasore district of Orissa.

Replying to a calling attention motion on the subject, Minister of State for Defence Arun Singh told the House that the site of the proposed range could not be shifted to another part of the country "because no alternative site was available due to geographic and climatic parameters".

Mr Arun Singh said "This is a project not just of the State and the Central Governments but of the entire nation. This range will help India to achieve self-reliance and self-sufficiency in missiles, rockets and space vehicles that can launch satellites in polar orbits".

He assured members that step had been contemplated by the Government for the rehabilitation of persons who would be displaced from the area for the setting up of the range.

"An initial payment of Rs 13.925 crore had already been made to the Government of Orissa for these schemes", he said and added that a

high level task force comprising officials from the State as well as the Centre had already been constituted for this purpose.

Initiating the motion, Mr Madhu Dandavate (Janata Party) said that he was not against the setting up of the range as such and understood well that it was meant for the country's defence. But he added that he was in favour of the site being shifted from the present place since it was "the grannery of

Orissa". The setting up of the range there would displace thousands of people and create untold human misery, he maintained.

All the other members who spoke on the motion—Mr R P Das, Mrs Biba Ghosh Goswami and Mr Ajoy Biswas (all CPI-M)—cited the same reasons for the shifting of the site.

Mr Dandavate listed a number of alternative sites and suggested that an all-party delegation of members of Parliament should visit the place, get the people's reaction and recommend an alternative site which should be acceptable to the Government.

Mr Arun Singh pointed out that the Government had chosen the site only after careful consideration of all issues and unfortunately it could not be shifted without jeopardising the project itself.

He added that it was an "accident of geography" that only the Balasore site was the most suitable place for the project. There was no other place available on the North-South axis.

Surveys had shown that for setting up of the range only two sites were available—Balasore and Dwarka, both on the eastern coast. "Unfortunately it is not possible to set up the range at Dwarka because of potential interference in all the parameters of operation", he added.

When a member pointed out that Sriharikota in the South could be a suitable site, Mr Singh pointed out that it did not lie in the North-South axis and was hence unsuitable for the purpose.

Mr Arun Singh explained why other sites like the Sunderbans in West Bengal, the Kanyakumari area and the Andaman Nicobar Islands had been rejected for the national test range project.

At all these places, the Minister said there were difficulties in locating opto-electronic tracking instruments and recovering flight vehicles. In some cases the firing would endanger port installations besides interfering with sea routes.

Mr Arun Singh said no site for the range had been found suitable on the west coast. Andaman and Nicobar islands had been rejected because it was not possible to control the weather

there in the foreseeable future.

He said the Government was concerned about the resettlement and rehabilitation of displaced persons and would have welcomed suggestions on this issue. On the contrary, the calling attention discussion had boiled down to tackling a "superficial problem".

He also denied that the Government was against the shifting of the site from the Balasore district because it had become a prestige issue for it.

Earlier, in a lengthy statement the Minister listed a number of alternative sites which the Government had considered before selecting the present site.

Mr Arun Singh said as per the survey conducted by the Orissa government last year, 5,600 families (about 35,000 persons) living in 41 villages of the Balaipal region and about 900 families (about 6,000 persons) living in 13 villages of Bhograi region would have to be displaced and suitably rehabilitated.

He said the families displaced from the safety zone (Bhograi) would be allowed to cultivate the land, even after acquisition, on lease basis, subject to certain regulatory measures. Fishing in the Subra Rekha river mouth and in the sea would also be allowed.

CPI MEMBER INTRODUCES BILLS ON NEPALI, HILL AUTONOMY

Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English 22 Nov 86 p 1

[Text] Mr Gurudaas Das Gupta of the CPI introduced two Bills in the Rajya Sabha today seeking autonomy for the hill areas of Darjeeling and inclusion of the Nepali language in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution.

The Government had earlier rejected both demands. The Bills could, perhaps, be an effort of the CPI to place on record its attempt to have tried to obtain for the Nepali-speaking people of that region, two of the demands that lend strength to the GNLF agitation.

In the statement of objectives attached to his Bill seeking to amend the constitution for granting autonomy, Mr Das Gupta traced developments in the region over the years, how the demand for such autonomy had been made prior to 1947 and how the case had also been represented before the State Reorganization Commission in 1955.

"The alien rulers were insensitive to the claims, urges and aspirations of the people of the area", he said, "and unfortunately even after independence their reasonable demand has not been considered favourably. This has created deeprooted frustration among the people, which is being exploited by the reactionary and the vested interests resulting in the demands for a separate State in the name of Gorkhaland. Such demands are being exploited by interested and designing persons and parties and will result in disintegration of the country".

In his second Bill he sought the inclusion in the Eighth Schedule of Nepali, Manipuri and Konkani languages, pointing out that there was no reason for them not being given such treatment, if Kashmiri, Sindhi, and Sanskrit could receive it.

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CSO: 4600/1244

GANDHI TRIES TO RESTORE PARTY IMAGE IN STATES

Madras THE HINDU in English 1 Dec 86 p 1

[Article by G. K. Reddy]

[Text]

The Congress (I) President, Mr. Rajiv Gandhi, intends to instal Mr. Sharad Pawar as Chief Minister of Maharashtra after a decent interval of a few months when an alternative berth has been found for the present incumbent, Mr. S. B. Chavan, without much damage to his political position in the State, according to some highly placed ruling party sources here.

As Prime Minister, Mr. Rajiv Gandhi, has appreciated Mr. Chavan's work as a member of the Union Cabinet, in his varied capacities as Planning Minister, Defence Minister and Home Minister, and he sent him back to Bombay only because there was nobody else in the Congress (I) in Maharashtra who could run the State with some degree of reassurance.

But the decision to persuade Mr. Pawar to rejoin the Congress (I) and assume Chief Ministership of the State at a political appropriate moment has been taken because as one hailing from the old Hyderabad part of Marathwada Mr. Chavan has not been handicapped in consolidating his position as an undisputed leader of this pivotal region. After Mr. Vasantrao Patil had lost his confidence, Mr. Rajiv Gandhi could think of nobody else other than Mr. Pawar who could fill the void created by the downfall of the late Y. B. Chavan.

The move to persuade Mr. Pawar to rejoin the Congress (I) as a first step towards his installation as Chief Minister of Maharashtra, is part of a wider bid by Mr. Rajiv Gandhi to re-induct promising congressmen with untarnished reputations, who had left the parent organisation during successive splits, to restore the party's image in their respective States.

The party President has evidently come to the conclusion that the Congress (I) in its present shape, riven as it is by factionalism and corruption, would not be able to win the next elections in many States without some drastic steps to restore its prestige by inducting more promising ones with cleaner images. It is with this object in view that the recent appeal was made to all former congressmen to rejoin the party and help strengthen it in the larger national interest.

Selective approach: But the present intention is not to throw the floodgates open to all and sundry to get back to the Congress (I) in the hope of sharing the spoils of patronage. A very selective approach is being made to welcome with open arms only those who are capable of contributing to the restoration of the party's prestige in States where it has suffered considerably after the landslide victories of the latest elections.

The new entrants are not going to be rewarded immediately with party posts or ministerships without putting them through a reasonable period of probation, as it were, to avoid the appearance of indecent haste in absorbing them into important positions. It has already been indicated to Mr. Pawar and his Congress (I) associates that they should work for the party during the forthcoming Assembly elections in four States.

The very process of their active involvement in the campaign will help to erase the impression that they are outsiders, and enable the party President to absorb them back into the inner fold as a prelude to their induction into important positions in their respective States. It will also enable Mr. Rajiv Gandhi to assess whether their personal prestige and influence has suffered as a result of their return to the Congress (I) in expectation of politically rehabilitating themselves.

Calculated risk: As a relatively young politician with some future in his State, Mr. Pawar is taking a calculated risk in embarking on this gamble hoping that he would be able to live up to Mr. Rajiv Gandhi's expectations. In the peculiar political composition of Maharashtra, where caste and region carry greater weight than personal integrity and competence, a successful Chief Minister has to enjoy the support of the powerful Maratha clans and the rich sugar cooperatives which play a crucial role during the elections.

After Y. B. Chavan's death, the three powerful Marathwada politicians have been Mr. Vasantrao Patil, Mr. S. B. Chavan and Mr. Sharad Pawar, and no single one of them could become Chief Minister if the other two were against him. After Mr. Patil had been exiled

from State politics and made Governor of Rajasthan. It was hoped that Mr. S. B. Chavan would be able to consolidate his position.

But he has failed to do so since he continues to be still regarded as an outsider who did not belong to the Maratha heartland, the homeland of Shivaji, because he was born and brought outside Maharashtra in the old Hyderabad State. The Congress (I) President veered round to the view that perhaps Mr. Pawar could fill the void if he was brought back to the ruling party and installed as Chief Minister with the full backing of the Centre.

The serious illness of Mr. Patil, who had to be flown from Jaipur to Bombay for treatment, is a factor to be considered since his exit from Maharashtra politics might enable Mr. Chavan to make a determined bid to consolidate his position. And if it is going to be a straight choice between Mr. Chavan and Mr. Pawar, the Centre may not be in any great hurry to opt for a change without carefully weighing the consequences.

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CSO: 4600/1250

UAE IDENTIFIES AREAS FOR JOINT VENTURES WITH INDIA

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 1 Dec 86 p 9

[Text]

India and the United Arab Emirates have identified a number of industrial engineering and consumer items for joint ventures to give a fillip to their economic, commercial and trade ties, reports UNI.

A report issued by the United Arab Emirates says there exists a tremendous potential for India to export luxury and consumer goods, mainly readymade garments, household goods and electronic items to the Emirates, which is emerging as a major trade partner of Indian industrialists and businessmen.

The two signed an agreement in March to boost economic relations by setting up joint ventures with Indian expertise in industrial projects in the Emirates. The projects will be set up in light and medium machine tools and industrial products.

Besides covering economic relations between India and the Emirates, the report links Indian support to the Arab world in their struggle against the Zionist forces. It says, "In international sphere and in the Arab affairs, India and the UAE hold identical views".

The report says "trade relations were not so encouraging" all these years, despite efforts made by the Government and other organisations to promote it. India exported goods worth Rs 1,730 million to the Emirates in 1984-85 and imported goods, mainly oil

and petro-chemical products worth Rs 1,596 million.

However, there is vast scope for increasing trade in various spheres. The Trade Development Authority of India has identified more than 20 items that have potential for export to the Emirates market.

These include electric power plants, tractor coolers, polished diamonds, fresh vegetables, fruits and canned products.

The UAE has emerged as a big market for Indian polished diamonds and gems.

The reports, issued on the occasion of the 15th anniversary of the United Arab Emirates national day, say there are 21 joint ventures operating in the two countries with a total capital of nearly Rs 1,200 million.

The Emirates is also looking for expertise and technology from India and other developing nations in petroleum products and scientific fields.

The climate for trade and investment in the Emirates is very favourable as there is no income tax on industrial earning.

The report says there are more than 250,000 Indians working in various developmental projects in the Emirates resulting in India's earning foreign exchange worth millions of rupees.

In the cultural field, the two sides concluded an agreement last week in Abu Dhabi, envisaging development of cultural, educa-

tional and scientific relations. Besides exchanging players, teachers, musicians and official mediemen, India has agreed to assist the UAE in archaeological excavations.

India will also offer scholarships to the UAE students in Indian universities for post-graduate course. It has agreed to increase the number of seats in its medical colleges for students of the Gulf nation.

The two countries have also agreed to increase exchange of journalists and mediemen on Government to Government level.

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CSO: 4600/1252

PAPERS REPORT DETAILS OF PROJECTED 1987-1988 PLAN

Summary of Projection

Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 3 Dec 86 p 9

[Text]

THE government's projections place the plan outlay for next year at Rs. 25,250 crores which, it is confident, could be financed on the basis of anticipated tax revenues.

Defence will remain the top non-plan expenditure item, accounting for Rs. 11,900 crores against the current year's Rs. 8,728 crores.

Non-plan spending estimates for 1987-88 include (with 1986-87 estimates in brackets): interest payments — Rs. 10,150 crores (Rs. 8,750 crores) and major subsidies — Rs. 4,680 crores (Rs. 4,255 crores). The pay commission recommendations will entail an expenditure of Rs. 1,500 crores (excluding railways and telecommunications). Other non-plan items will cost Rs. 9,340 crores.

FIRST TIME

For the first time, the government has worked out well in advance the resources and expenditure position for the next financial year so that Parliament could know the approach to next year's budget.

The details were given in a statement by the finance minister, Mr. V. P. Singh, in Parliament. He said the figures were likely to be revised as further information becomes available prior to the finalisation of estimates in February.

The trends in tax revenue so far, according to Mr. Singh, are highly encouraging. On the basis of present trends, the Central share of taxes in 1987-88 is projected at Rs. 25,250 crores.

Together with estimated receipts under various other heads, receipts of

the Centre are projected at Rs. 55,150 crores.

For purposes of estimation, the level of deficit financing is assured at Rs. 5,000 crores. Thus, the total receipts are placed at Rs. 60,150 crores.

On the expenditure side, there are likely to be substantial increases in interest payments and defence. These are projected to increase to Rs. 10,150 crores and Rs. 11,900 crores respectively.

Another major item on the expenditure side is subsidies, which are projected at Rs. 4,680 crores in 1987-88. "It is a matter of concern to us that subsidies on food, fertilisers and export promotion in the first three years of the plan will be Rs. 13,240 crores against Rs. 10,788 crores in the entire sixth plan period," he said.

Other non-plan expenditure is projected at practically the same level as in 1986-87. Taking all these items together, total non-plan expenditure is estimated at Rs. 38,450 crores.

On this basis, the resources in the Central budget for the plan will be Rs. 21,700 crores compared to Rs. 21,095 crores in the current year's budget. While the budgetary resources for plan are estimated to be higher, resources available for the Central plan will be somewhat less because of larger assistance to states and Union territories and higher provision for natural calamities.

Central assistance for states and the plans of Union territories is projected at Rs. 7,900 crores and a provision of Rs. 500 crores is made for assistance on account of natural calamities. The budgetary support for the Central plan will thus be Rs. 13,300 crores.

The resource projections for the seventh plan envisaged that the

proportion of annual plan outlay to be financed from the budget would progressively come down from 60 per cent in the year 1985-86 to 38 per cent in the last year and there would be a corresponding increase in the contribution by public enterprises.

For the year 1987-88, the estimated support from the budget as per the seventh plan was of the order of 46 per cent of the Central plan outlay. On the basis of the present projections the proportion will be 55 per cent.

The internal and external budgetary resources of public enterprises next year are estimated at Rs. 10,700 crores. Thus, the Central annual plan for next year is likely to be Rs. 24,000 crores as against Rs. 22,300 crores in the current year.

At this level the annual plan for 1987-88 will amount to about 22 per cent of the total seventh plan outlay of Rs. 95,534 crores (at 1984-85 price level), the finance minister said.

In the first two years of the plan, we have fulfilled 41 per cent of the seventh plan outlay in real terms. Thus, we would have provided for 63 per cent of the seventh plan outlay in real terms in the first three years.

This is gratifying considering that a number of developments since the finalisation of the seventh plan have added to the Centre's commitments.

Mr. Singh welcomed an open debate on the government's fiscal policies relating to raising of resources as well as their allocation to various expenditure programmes.

Talking to newsmen later, the minister said the projections constituted a rough outline of the budget and characterised the assumption on deficit financing as realistic.

Plan Details Given

Madras THE HINDU in English 3 Dec 86 p 6

[Text]

	Revised Estimates 1985-86	Budget Estimates 1986-87 (Rupees in crores)	Projections 1987-88
Receipts			
1. Tax revenue (net of States' share)	20,940	22,696	25,250
2. Non-Tax revenue	6,231	6,846	7,900
3. External assistance	2,500	2,950	3,200
4. Market borrowings	5,100	5,300	5,800
5. Small savings (net of States' share)	1,900	2,100	2,200
6. Other capital receipts	9,346	9,320	10,800
7. Deficit financing	4,490	3,650	5,000
8. Total receipts (1 to 7)	50,507	52,862	60,150
Non Plan expenditure			
9. Interest payments	7,400	8,750	10,150
10. Defence	7,862	8,728	11,900
11. Major subsidies	4,305	4,255	4,680
12. Pay commission	—	—	—
13. Pensions	715	769	880
14. Other Non-Plan expenditure	9,409	9,265	9,340
15. Total Non-Plan expenditure (9 to 14)	26,961	31,767	36,950
16. Balance Resources for Plan (8-15) (8 minus 15)	23,546	21,095	23,200
17. Central Assistance for State & Union Territory Plans	6,863	7,328	7,900
18. Natural calamities (including floods)	722	150	500
19. Budgetary Support to Central Plan (16-17-18)	13,231	13,617	13,300
20. Internal and extra budgetary resources of Public Enterprises	6,863	8,683	10,700
21. Central Plan (19 + 20)	20,094	22,300	24,000
22. Central Plan estimated at 1984-85 prices	19,317	20,227	20,732
23. % to Total Seventh Plan in real terms	20%	21%	22%

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CSO: 4600/1255

INDIAN BUSINESSMEN URGE JAPAN TO SHIFT PRODUCTION

Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English 3 Dec 86 p 15

[Text]

NEW DELHI, Dec. 2.—The Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry president, Mr R. P. Goenka, yesterday invited the Japanese export-oriented enterprises to shift their production bases in selected items to India.

Making the suggestion at a meeting of India-Japan business cooperation committees, Mr Goenka said that in the context of the recent appreciation in the value of the yen, such an arrangement would be of mutual advantage to the two countries. It would enable Japan to retain its competitiveness in world markets and facilitate changes in its economic structure to fit into a system of international division of labour.

The high value of the yen, Mr Goenka said, had also changed the economics of trade and co-operation between Japan and India. He apprehended that in the net result, the balance of trade might move further against India. It was, therefore, necessary to take appropriate measures to minimize the additional burden that had already been imposed and to prevent it in future.

Referring to trade between India and Japan, the FICCI president said bilateral trade had reached a peak of over \$2.7 billion. However, exports from India, were at most stagnant, leading to a record adverse trade deficit of \$400 million. Mr Goenka suggested, diversification of trade, aggressive marketing and selectively linking technology import from Japan to buy back from India.

ECONOMIC POLICY

The Government of India's new liberalized economic policy Mr Goenka said, had opened up larger

opportunities for Japanese collaborations since India's primary development areas would be precisely those in which Japan had taken the lead. For instance, in electronics, the output would go up by five times in the next five years. Similar advances have been proposed in telecommunication, petrochemicals, energy etc. To achieve this industrial transformation Japan could assist India in technology imports, its absorption, upgradation and development.

The leader of the Japanese delegation Mr Goro Koyama, said that India and Japan should try to establish a new economic relationship taking cognizance of changes in the world system such as sharp deadlines in primary commodities, prices of oil and of rapid fluctuations in exchange rates.

STATISTICS

Trade statistics for the first nine months of the current year, Mr Koyama, said indicated a continuing trend of steady growth of about 28 per cent increase compared with the corresponding period of the previous year. However, he fully shared India's concern about the expanding trade imbalance between the two countries.

The Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs, Mr A. B. Gonsalves, said there had been a real and visible qualitative change in Japan-India relations since the exchange of visits by the Prime Ministers of the two countries. The IJBCC, Mr Gonsalves said, should import a meaningful content to this new relationship in the economic field and make specific and concrete suggestions rather than confining itself to only broader issues.

Japan, Mr Gonsalves observed, was now the second largest donor on a bilateral basis amongst the Aid-India Consortium countries. The number of India-Japan collaboration agreements have also risen. However, Japanese investment during this period has remained minimal—less than \$100 million.

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CSO; 4600/1253

ELECTRONICS FIRM CHIEF ON PLANS TO MEET AWACS THREAT

Madras THE HINDU in English 30 Nov 86 p 13

[Text]

The Union Government would shortly be launching a project to meet the challenge posed by AWACS which the U.S. had agreed to supply to Pakistan. Capt. S. Prabhala, Chairman and Managing Director of Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL), said here today.

He told a press conference at the BEL Officers' Club that BEL, LRDE, Bangalore, and the Hyderabad unit of Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) were the three major organisations involved in this "highly complex and strategic" project.

The process of production would shortly be initiated for the manufacture of highly strategic detection radars of low-flying aircraft. Capt. Prabhala said that Ghaziabad unit of BEL would make and supply these radars to the defence forces by 1988-89 and production of vital components required for the radars at the Ghaziabad factory had begun. These radars were renamed Indira-I and Indira-II. He said the technology had been developed by BEL in collaboration with LRDE, Bangalore. A prototype had been developed and successfully undergone field testing, conforming to rigid and demanding standards.

Tracking radars for ISRO: He said BEL, which had set up an exclusive space electronics division, had been assigned the design, development and manufacture of radars for tracking rockets and launch vehicles by the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO). They would be ready by early 1989. A part of the system would be made by BEL and another by ISRO and they would be interfaced to become an integrated unit. The BEL part of the system and the part of ISRO would both be ready by early 1989.

Capt. Prabhala said BEL had been working very closely with ISRO in making and supplying "vital and sensitive" electronic items required by ISRO for remote sensing satellites, augmented satellite launch vehicles (ASLV),

polar satellite launch vehicles (PSLV) and Rohini sounding rockets (RSR). The space-quality solar cells made by BEL had been supplied to ISRO for use in its space programmes.

TV picture tubes: The BEL chief announced that the Bangalore unit of BEL would be introducing five-inch TV picture tubes by April next year. BEL, which had been meeting about 40 per cent of TV picture tube requirements of the country, had stepped up production of black-and-white TV tubes from three lakhs to six lakhs a year.

He said BEL which set up the country's first full-fledged colour TV studio in Delhi for the Na-

tional Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) had set up such studios in seven States under Phases I and II and Karnataka and other States would also be covered.

Capt. Prabhala said BEL had begun production of high-power ceramic tetrodes used in high-power broadcast transmitters under licence from Brown Boveri of Switzerland.

The company, embarked on a major expansion programme under the Seventh Plan and its annual turnover was expected to increase from the present level of Rs. 220 crores to Rs. 640 crores a year. Investment of Rs. 300 crores had been planned during this period. Of this, 50 per cent would come from its own resources and the rest from additional equity, loans and project grants.

He said the annual turnover on the components side was expected to increase from Rs. 37 crores a year to Rs. 131 crores during the Seventh Plan period. During 1985-86, components accounted for 20 per cent of the turnover.

Capt. Prabhala said that the Machilipatnam unit under lock-out now would make optical and opto-electronic range of items for the defence forces such as night-vision binoculars and goggles. The Pune unit would be making image intensifier tubes for night vision applications, he said.

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CS0: 4600/1248

ELECTRONIC VOTING MACHINES TO BE USED IN NEXT POLL

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 5 Dec 86 p 1

[Text]

The Government would introduce the electronic voting machine in most parts of the country during the next general elections as part of the several electoral reform measures.

Union Minister of State for Law H R Bharadwaj made the announcement on Thursday in the Rajya Sabha while replying to a short discussion on the need to introduce comprehensive electoral reforms and to undertake a fresh delimitation of Parliamentary and Assembly constituencies.

Mr Bharadwaj said many important and comprehensive electoral reforms were currently in final stages of formulation.

The Government would, if necessary, amend the laws to introduce the electronic voting machine in the light of the Supreme Court judgment against its large-scale use, the Minister said.

He said the Government was committed to comprehensive electoral reforms as promised in the Presidential address to the nation as also statements to this effect made by the Prime Minister.

In a speech marked by frequent interruptions from the Opposition benches, Mr Bharadwaj lamented that some of the Opposition parties which spoke so eloquently on the need to bring about electoral reforms failed to reach a common agreement among themselves on the question of changes in the electoral laws of the country.

Naming the CPI and the CPI-M in particular, Mr Bharadwaj said the two parties had differed on the question of

several reform measures under study of the Government.

The CPI did not agree to the suggestions of the Election Commission and of other political parties to enact laws for elimination of frivolous candidates from the election contest, on the question of barring candidates from contesting from more than two constituencies and on the issue of barring candidates with criminal background.

He said it was wrong on the part of some members to question the Government's political will to initiate electoral

reforms. The fact was that the Opposition parties did not speak in one voice to enable the Government to bring about speedy reform measures, he charged.

The Minister said that elections in India had been free and fair, barring a few aberrations, and the Government had not come in the way of conducting fair elections. This was best illustrated by the fact that the Government had always kept to the time-table in holding the elections since 1952, Mr Bharadwaj said.

DETAILS OF PLANNED INDIGENOUS COMPUTER TOLD

Madras THE HINDU in English 3 Dec 86 p 26

[Text]

The prototype of a 32-bit computer of indigenous design, capable of a performance speed of up to four million instructions per second (MIPS), is likely to be ready in the next eight to nine months. This was disclosed by Dr. N. Seshagiri, Additional Secretary, Department of Electronics (DOE), in his talk titled "Plan, Policies and Projects of the DOE", delivered at a seminar on "Blueprint for excellence in electronics" organised by the Trade Fair Authority in New Delhi recently. The production of the system is expected to begin in 15 months.

The design of both the internal and external architecture of the system is being done by the scientists of the DOE and it will be based on certain advanced processor chips which will be procured from the world market. The system will constitute a range of "Super PC-ATs", as Dr. Seshagiri called them, with speeds ranging from 1.5 MIPS to 4 MIPS. The architecture will be a multi-user one and is aimed at providing access to as many as 64 terminals linked to the system.

The top of the line system will have a 16 MB main memory, 1,000 MB disc storage and one trillion byte virtual memory. The configuration with 4 MB memory is expected to cost around Rs. 4 lakhs only. The work on the design is already on and the development of prototype is expected to commence within a month or two.

"R & D intelligence and commercial intelligence ought to be aware of what will come on the U.S. market in six months' time. And this needs careful technology forecasting. Dr. Seshagiri said and cited the 32-bit 'Super PC-AT' computer effort of the DOE as an example of a technology forecasting exercise resulting in an advanced technology product.

Marketing role for private sector

The DOE design will be exploited for large scale commercial production and the economics of this are being worked out. The cost of the equipment comes down drastically if one company manufactures large numbers and other firms, private or public, are encouraged to market the product under OEM (original equipment manufacturer) status. "We

have to associate with both the public and the private sector in our development projects," Dr. Seshagiri said, indicating a departure from the prevailing practice of collaborating with the Government or public sector firms alone.

A recent report, titled "Technology upgradation programme in electronics (TUPE)," based on a survey conducted by the Information, Policy and Analysis Group (IPAG) of the DOE, has recommended a plan for involving the private sector in decision making in the area of electronics. The plan, according to Dr. Seshagiri, has been approved by the Electronics Commission and the details are being worked out.

A DOE survey of all computers being produced in the country found that in spite of the large number of computer systems being manufactured and the prevalence of a great deal of competition, more than 50 per cent of the manufacturers are not aware of advances in technology and 90 per cent in Government circles are unaware of the shape of things to come.

"We are unable to achieve excellence because we may have planned for today and tomorrow but we have not done so for the day after tomorrow," he said. "Pursuit of excellence as a cult is required," he added and asked the electronics industry to bring in a design with a product turnaround time of nine months to one year.

Accent on add-on technologies

Among the various strategies being adopted by the DOE for the growth of the electronics industry, the thrust will be on the development of methods and tools which will serve as incremental or add-on technologies to imported technologies and bring about new products that will be competitive in the international market.

Evolving infrastructures like technology parks for a "flexible manufacturing system (FMS)" is another strategy which the DOE, it appears, will be promoting extensively. With an FMS a number of homologous or related products will be linked to a single production unit and a common set of capital equipment. The rationale of FMS, the DOE experts feel, is most appropriate to the Indian situation where the idea of economy of scale is not a viable one in

areas like electronics. The combined demand for the various products will justify the economy of scale and concepts of automation and robotics will become appropriate, Dr. Seshagiri said.

Giving a scenario of the various DOE projects, Dr. Seshagiri stated that the National Informatics Centre's Computer Network (NICNET), linking through satellite the districts, the State capitals and the four nodal NEC com-

puters at New Delhi, Pune, Hyderabad and Bhubaneswar, is in an advanced stage of completion. The entire network will be ready by the end of next year, he said.

"An evolving area of 'spread spectrum multiple access technology' for networking purposes has been successfully brought in here within a period of three years", Dr. Seshagiri said. Towards realising this network, the Indian Telephone Industries has entered into a technology transfer agreement with Equatorial Inc of the U.S. for producing mother earth stations and micro earth stations. Each station, which will have a two-way link, is estimated to cost about Rs. 80,000 if it operates on 12,000 bauds and Rs. 1.2 lakhs for 96,000 bauds.

Centre for advanced technology

Dr. Seshagiri also announced the formation of a new body called the Centre for Development of Advanced Computer Technology (C-DACT) whose core unit will be located at the Hyderabad centre of the NIC. Functioning

under the supervision of the Computers, Communication and Instrumentation (CCI) wing of the DOE, the C-DACT will aim at generating expertise in the areas of parallel processing, advanced system engineering and system design, fifth generation computer systems (FGCS) and knowledge-based computer systems (KBCS).

The organisation will be set up more or less on the lines of the C-DOT in so far as autonomy of operation is concerned but unlike the C-DOT, which operates as one single unit, the C-DACT will coordinate the distributed activities of various groups involved in the development of advanced computer technologies. This would include the six institutions which are already carrying out research for DOE's ongoing FGCS/KBCS project. The C-DACT will also attempt to bring into its fold of activity public and private sector firms which have shown innovativeness in the area of computers.

The FGCS/KBCS project now has a funding of Rs. 8 crores and UNDP assistance of \$5.2 millions for the Seventh Plan period. At a recent meeting of the Electronics Commission, the Finance Secretary, according to Dr. Seshagiri, has promised to increase this to Rs. 100 crores. A note to the Planning Commission has already been sent to enhance the funding by Rs. 45 crores.

BORDER SECURITY FORCE ANNIVERSARY OBSERVED

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 1 Dec 86 p 5

[Text]

The strength of the Border Security Force is being adequately augmented to reduce the average distance between border observation posts to five km to ensure better policing of the country's international borders, BSF Director General M N Mishra, said in New Delhi on Sunday, reports PTI.

Addressing a press conference on the eve of 22nd raising day anniversary of the force, Mr Mishra said the BSF in the 21 years of its existence, had established its credentials as the sentinal of peace. It had acquitted itself commendably in discharging the duties and undertaking hazardous missions in inhospitable terrain from the cold snow-capped mountains to the arid deserts.

He said the round the clock vigil being maintained by the BSF on the 7,219 km of international border including 997 km of riverine area, had yielded excellent results in the field of anti-smuggling operations as also in checking illegal infiltration.

The force, Mr Mishra said, seized contraband worth Rs 38.81 crore and 3.37 crore on the western and eastern sectors during the first ten months of the current years as against total seizures of 26.16 crore and 8.30 crore during the previous year in both the sectors.

He said the BSF had also been successful in killing nine terrorists and arresting 119 suspected terrorists and their harbourers while on internal duties in Punjab this year. Besides this, 15 extremists surrendered to the BSF on their own in the border area and a large quantity of arms and ammunition were recovered from the terrorists. This included 20 revolvers, 67 pistols, 26 twelve bore guns, fourteen 303 rifles, nine sten guns and five grenades.

The force, he said, also seized 381 kg of heroin, 150 kg of opium, 565 kg of charas and 89 kg of gold from smugglers on Punjab borders. The seizures on Rajasthan borders he said, were heroin (365.50 kg) charas (400.675 kg) and opium (8.450 kg).

A total of thirty one pistols, three revolvers, five guns and six 303 rifles were recovered from the criminals and intruders on the western border during the first ten months of this year.

Mr Mishra said the illegal infiltration of foreign nationals from across the border, both in the east and the west, had been posing a serious threat to the country's security and its economy and the BSF had accepted this challenge.

The BSF alone, has succeeded in intercepting 22,663 persons who tried to intrude into India during the current year as compared to 25,822 such cases in 1985.

He said the BSF troops deployed on both eastern and western borders did not hesitate to use fire arms in right of private defence, when the miscreants while trying to intrude into India, opened fire on them.

A total of 394 intruders were killed in 250 encounters both in the eastern and western borders this year, he added.

Meanwhile, President Zail Singh, and Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi and Home Minister Buta Singh have congratulated the force on the occasion of its 22nd raising day tomorrow.

Lauding the role of the BSF on the border and during the international security duty, the President said, the fact that the demand for the deployment of BSF was increasing spoke of growing effectiveness of the force.

The Prime Minister in his message said that the defence of the nation's borders was an arduous task which required constant vigil and alertness often under very adverse circumstances. "It is a task which must be performed not only during war but at all times, not only against external enemies but also against enemies from within", Mr Gandhi said adding that the Border Security Force was shouldering a large part of this onerous responsibility for 21 years now.

Mr Buta Singh spoke of the significant contribution the BSF had made in defending the integrity of the country and hoped that the force would continue to perform a gallant role with the same zeal and dedication which it had shown during the past few years of its existence.

Minister of State for Home Chintamani Panigrahi and Home Secretary, C G Somiah also praised the BSF for the services rendered by it to the nation at "the times of need."

BRIEFS

FOREIGN CURRENCY LOANS--The All-India financial institutions--IDBI, [FC] and ICICI have decided to reduce with effect from December 1, 1986 the interest rates on their foreign currency loans. The reduction will be applicable to foreign currency loans covered by loan agreements executed by their borrowers on or after December 1, 1986. The reductions range from 0.5 percentage point to 1.5 percentage points on the rates applicable to various currencies. The new lending rates effective from December 1, 1986 would be: (a) All floating rate loans linked to libor at 1.5 per cent over libor (as against present rate of 2 per cent over libor). (b) Fixed rate loans in DM at 9.5 per cent p.a. (as against present rate of 10 per cent p.a.). (c) Fixed rate loans in Swiss franc at 8 per cent P.A. (as against present rate of 8.5 per cent p.a.). (d) Fixed rate loans in Japanese yen at 8.5 per cent p.a. (as against present rate of 10 per cent p.a.) (e) Fixed rate loans in U.S. dollar at 10 per cent p.a. (institutions were not having fixed rate U.S. dollar earlier). (f) Sub-loans from World Bank/Asian Development Bank loans at 1.5 per cent p.a. over the variable rate (as against present rate of 2 per cent p.a. above variable rate). [Text][Madras THE HINDU in English 5 Dec 86 p 9]/12828

FUTURE NAVAL AIRBASE--The Rs. 100-crore Naval Air Station at Arkonam, near Madras, is expected to be commissioned by 1991, enabling the Indian Navy to set up a full-fledged Naval air base in the southern region. It will be the fifth air station for the Navy, which has already stations at Cochin, Goa, Visakhapatnam and Port Blair. Arkonam was selected in view of the infrastructure facilities available in the area and the easy accessibility to the sea. The Tamil Nadu Government also made land available for the project. The first meeting of the Project Management Board of the Naval Air Station was held at the Navy Office in Madras today, with Mr. N. N. Vohra, Additional Secretary, Defence Ministry in the chair. The board members visited the project site at Arkonam in the afternoon and were briefed on the developments proposed by Brig. Amarjit Singh, Chief Engineer, South Zone. Among those who attended today's meeting were Vice-Admiral L. Ramdas, Deputy Chief of Naval Staff, Mr. Srinivasan, Joint Secretary (Navy), Defence Ministry, Rear Admiral S. K. Gupta, Assistant Chief of Naval Staff (Air), Mrs. Sheela Balakrishnan, Joint Secretary, Public, Tamil Nadu Government, and Mr. Daniel Gunanidhi, Collector of North Arcot district. [Text][Madras THE HINDU in English 22 Nov 86 p 13]/12828

CONGRESS-I LEADER'S DEATH--Mr. Birpal Singh, 48, the former Punjab Minister and Cong(1) general secretary, was found dead in the house of one of his close relations at Sanehwal near Ludhiana this morning. The police said he committed suicide by shooting himself with his revolver. His body has been sent for postmortem. All the State Government offices, including corporations and boards, were closed today as a mark of respect to him. Mr. Birpal Singh was a Minister of State for Cooperation in the Darbara Singh Ministry. Four security guards provided to the deceased were sleeping in the house of Mr. Birpal Singh situated at a short distance away from the residence of his brother-in-law, police said. The sources said the single shot fired into the right temple by the deceased proved fatal. Mr. Birpal Singh is survived by two sons and two daughters. [Excerpt][Madras THE HINDU in English 21 Nov 86 p 1]/12828

MIZO LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR--Mr Hiteshwar Saikia, former chief minister of Asam, was today appointed the new lieutenant governor of Mizoram. According to a Rashtrapati Bhavan communique, Mr Saikia's appointment will be effective from the date he assumes charge of his new office in place of Mr H.S. Dubey, who is retiring. [Text][Calcutta THE TELEGRAPH in English 5 Dec 86 p 1]/12828

PACT WITH NORWAY--India and Norway today signed an economic cooperation agreement at the end of 3-day consultations between the delegations of the two countries. Dr B.H. Lund, secretary general, Royal Norwegian ministry of development cooperation and Mr M.S. Mukherjee, joint secretary, department of economic affairs signed the agreement on behalf of their respective governments. The two countries agreed to extend cooperation to new areas such as transfer of technology, computer-based structural analysis and the manufacture of 16 BIT computers in India. Norway will also transfer technology for the production of super-mini computers in India. [Text][Calcutta THE TELEGRAPH in English 23 Nov 86 p 5]/12828

SOUTHERN COMMAND CHIEF--Lt.-Gen. Depinder Singh today assumed office as the general officer commanding-in-chief of the southern army command here. He succeeds Lt.-Gen. Ranjit Singh Dyal who retired yesterday. Lt.-Gen. Depinder Singh was the chief of staff here in 1984-85. A graduate from the National Defence College, New Delhi, and the defence services staff college, Wellington, Lt.-Gen. Depinder Singh was commissioned in the 8-Gorkha Rifles on December 10, 1950. He had commanded an infantry brigade, a division and was the commandant of the Indian military training team in Bhutan. Lt.-Gen. Singh was military assistant to Field Marshal Sam Manekshaw during the eventful years of 1949-1978 period and was awarded the Vishisht Seva medal in 1978. [Text][Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 2 Dec 86 p 9]/12828

TIBETAN LEADER'S LETTER--Mr Lhasang Tsering, president of the Tibetan Youth Congress, has, in an "open letter" to the Soviet leader, Mr Mikhail Gorbachov, demanded that the Soviet Union support the freedom movement of the Tibetan people. He asked "why the Soviet Union chooses to remain silent about China's invasion and continued occupation of Tibet, inner Mongolia, eastern Turkistan and Manchuria". Mr Tsering, in his letter, claimed that the TYC "is the biggest political organization of Tibetans in exile, with more than

50 branches in India, Nepal, Bhutan, Japan, Europe, Canada and the USA. It has more than 10,000 members in these branches and also commands a large following in Tibet". he said he had hoped to meet Mr Gorbachov personally to deliver the letter and discuss the matters in the letter with him. "But our attempts to meet your Ambassador in New Delhi was cold shouldered". [Text][Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English 28 Nov 86 p 13]/12828

INDO-SOVIET MACHINE BUILDING--India and Soviet Union have agreed in principle to develop production cooperation in machine building sector. Areas broadly identified are machine tools, automotive components, earthmoving, power generation, construction, chemical, metallurgical and mining equipment. The Indian co-operating organisations will be from public and private sectors, the Lok Sabha was informed on Tuesday, report agencies. An Indian delegation was in the USSR during September this year. A protocol was signed with the USSR state planning committee at the conclusion of the meeting of Indo-Soviet sub-group of production co-operation, the Minister of State for Public Enterprises, K K Tewary, told Mr H N Nanje Gowda, in a written reply. [Excerpt] [New Delhi PATRIOT in English 26 Nov 86 p 9]/12828

PAKISTANI FISHERMAN HELD--About 75 Pakistani fishermen who entered the Indian territorial waters illegally, aboard six fishing boats, were arrested by the Coast Guard, in the mid-sea off Jakhau coast in the border district of Kutch yesterday. The Coast Guard chased and captured them, when they continued to catch prawns and other valuable fish from the Indian territory disregarding warnings. This was second incident of arrest of pakistanis from Indian waters this month. On November 11, 28 Pakistanis aboard two fishing boats were taken into custody from the same area by the Coast Guard. [Text][Madras THE HINDU in English 1 Dec 86 p 1]/12828

CSO: 4600/1251

CURRENT MEAT PRICES ANNOUNCED IN SEVERAL PROVINCES

Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 2 Oct 86 p 19

[Text] Sari--KEYHAN correspondent: With the announcement of new meat prices in Mazandaran all the butcher shops throughout this province are obligated to observe the new price limitations and those butchers who disregard this ruling will be duly brought to justice.

According to our correspondent, the office of the governor general of Mazandaran in a public notice announced. Based on the decisions of the State Economic Mobilization Headquarters and as approved by the affiliated supervisory commissions of the township of Mazandaran governor general's office, the price for one kilogram of mutton will be 1,200 rials and that of veal and boneless beef will be 1,080 rials. Furthermore, the aforementioned announcement stated that the quoted prices would be slightly different in various townships which are subject to this ruling and that all the butchers are duly obligated to observe the same.

Tonkabon--KEYHAN correspondent: In an interview with our correspondent the mayor of Tonkabon announced: More than one ton of meat is distributed on a daily basis according to the approved prices at a location next to the local military mobilization center. Moreover, the owners of those butcher shops, on the level of the town and villages of Tonkabon who refused to sell meat to the people, will be handed over to the judicial authorities and duly punished.

Haj Rajablu, mayor of Tonkabon further added: Following the announcement of the new meat prices by the governor general's office of Mazandaran, owners of Tonkabon's butcher shops tried to incite people's dissatisfaction by closing shops and thus creating a plausible atmosphere for increasing the prices of this commodity. However, through joint efforts of the municipality and the headquarters for combatting profiteering, these violators of the law will be handed over to the judicial officials. He went on to say that in order to do a service to the people, under the supervision of the Guilds' Affairs Office, the municipality will be offering mutton for sale at 120 tomans per kilogram (with 250 grams fat and bones) and that of boneless beef 105 tomans per kilogram.

Bakhtaran--KEYHAN correspondent: According to the reports of our correspondent from Bakhtaran, following the warning by the Guilds' Council and the city governor's office of the township of Bakhtaran to the butchers regarding overcharging

for meat beyond the approved price of 120 tomans per kilogram, the butchers of this city have closed their shops.

In a conversation with the responsible officials, our correspondent was informed that through certain measures which will be put into effect as regards securing the availability of meat on the level of the province, the situation will become normal again. According to this report, Bakhtaran's City Guild Council, based on the resolution of the Economic Mobilization Staff announced meat prices throughout Bakhtaran as follows:

Mutton prices, with a maximum of 250 grams of bones and 100 grams of fat will be 1,150 rials per kilogram and that of veal and beef with a maximum of 250 grams of bones and 100 grams of fat will be 950 rials per kilogram. Meanwhile, the sale of pre-ground meat and mutton without bones is prohibited.

On the other hand, the public relations office of the Islamic Revolution Tribunal announced that Reza Qasab [a butcher], resident of Abadani va Maskan district was convicted of overcharging and thus was fined 70,000 rials with a six months suspended prison term and closing of his shop.

Alashtar--KEYHAN correspondent: The Alashtar's municipality in Lorestan during the last few days has warned all the butcher shops throughout the city not to overcharge meat beyond the approved price of 115 tomans per kilogram or they will face an appropriate penalty. On the other hand, those butchers who do not agree with this decision have closed their shops and as a result the situation of meat distribution in this region is facing some problems.

Khorramabad--KEYHAN correspondent: Following the announcement of meat price of 120 tomans per kilogram by this city's Guilds Council, all the butchers throughout the city closed their shops. According to our correspondent's report during the last few days availability of meat has faced with serious problems in Khorramabad and where possible prices have soared as high as 170 tomans per kilogram.

Saqqez--KEYHAN correspondent: Based on a decision by the supervisory commission for meat distribution in the city of Saqqez and for the purpose of a better control over prices and slaughter of the cattle throughout this township as of this date all the market-places for the sale of cattle will be closed and transport or traffic of any livestock in the city is thus forbidden. According to this report all cattle owners had to sell their livestock to the municipality's slaughterhouse.

In a public notice, the municipality of Saqqez while confirming the above statement also added: Police department officials and municipality agents are charged with the responsibility of bringing the violators to justice.

12719
CSO: 4640/40

IRAN

AMIR TAHERI: RAPPROCHEMENT WITH U.S. WILL NOT SAVE MULLAHS

London KEYHAN in Persian 4 Dec 86 p 15

[London KEYHAN weekly in Persian; founder and publisher Dr Mesbahzadeh]

[Text] Frankfurt. The regime of Ayatollah Khomeyni faces a severe crisis, which threatens its survival. Even the policy of rapprochement with Washington cannot save the Tehran clerics from the present crisis.

This statement was made by Amir Taheri, an Iranian newspaper reporter, in a seminar examining international conflicts.

Taheri said: "The fact that at least two of the three main factions vying for power in Tehran tried to compromise with the "Great Satan" indicates the increasing inability of a regime that has reached dead ends in all areas. The clerics say that the Reagan representatives stayed in a Tehran hotel for five full days without anyone speaking to them. This is a story that not even the most ignorant of the oppressed believes."

He added: "In the Majlis, the quarrel is not about why the regime is trying to establish close ties with the United States, the quarrel is that all factions want to get a piece of McFarlane's pie, even though Rafsanjani claims that the pie was finished off by the guards at Mehrabad Airport."

Taheri said: "We endorse the sale of arms to Iran to defend ourselves and suppress Iraq's invasion. But at the same time, we know that the main reason for Iran's failure in the Persian Gulf war is precisely the ill intentions, ignorance, incompetence and shortsightedness of Khomeyni and his friends."

The Iranian newspaper reporter added: "It is ridiculous to isolate Iran and refuse to allow weapons to reach our armed forces while Iraq receives any kind of weapon it wants from both the East and the West. An arms embargo is fair when it is imposed on both sides in a war.

"Besides, in this regard, it must not be forgotten that the Iraqis have stockpiled all sorts of weapons they need for several years. Those who shout and propagate an arms embargo against Iran, in fact, want Iran to be left defenseless so that the Iraqis can dictate whatever they want to our homeland."

In an analysis of the composition of power in the regime of the clerics at the present time, Taheri said: "This is a doomed, reactionary regime that will never be able to secure the goals of our nation. That group of national, progressive elements who are still trying to reform this regime will sooner or later realize their mistake. They must join other national, progressive forces to create a single large front to liberate and rebuild the country."

The former chief editor of KEYHAN added: "The proximity of the clerics and the United States will have no influence on the struggle of the national, progressive forces. The opposition of these forces to the regime of the Ayatollah is not merely tied to its publically deceptive, hollow foreign policy. This opposition, in principle, is related to the reactionary policies of Khomeyni inside the country. A regime that has done nothing but murder, plunder, terrorize and rob the treasury cannot save itself by changing its face on the international scene."

Taheri said: "The issues that have been published in regards to the secret relationship between Khomeyni and the Americans have verified the vulnerability of the regime of the clerics. The meaning of the recent disclosure is clear. The regime of the Ayatollah is like a drowning person that grabs at every straw; it seeks any means to save itself from political and economic bankruptcy. Therefore, the fight against this regime must escalate."

In another part of his speech, he said: "Foreign powers must not take advantage of the present weakness of Iran, due to the corrupt, incompetent and ignorant leadership in Tehran. The Iranian nation is alive and aware and will defend its just rights bravely. If the United States chooses to become the godfather of the regressive regime of Khomeyni, it will have no future in Iran or in our region."

Taheri added: "Neither Khomeyni nor Reagan has disclosed all the facts concerning the secret contacts with the United States. Naturally, the people of both Iran and the United States have the right to know what has actually occurred and what transactions have taken place."

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CSO: 4640/36

IRAN

GOVERNMENT EMANATING FROM PRESENT REGIME SEEN UNACCEPTABLE

London KEYHAN in Persian 4 Dec 86 p 5

[London KEYHAN weekly in Persian; founder and publisher Dr Mesbahzadeh]

[Text] Dr Shapur Bakhtiar, the leader of the Iranian national resistance movement, sent a radio message to the Iranian nation on the occasion of the delivery of arms by the United States to the Islamic Republic. In this message, Dr Bakhtiar condemned the United States. Concerning Rafsanjani, the speaker of the Majlis, and his actions, he stated that he is trying to remove his probable rival, Ayatollah Montazeri, from the arena.

In his message addressing the Iranian nation, Dr Bakhtiar said:

"Two weeks ago, it was revealed throughout the world that a few Americans with some weapons and candy had arrived in Tehran secretly. Cleric Rafsanjani, in order to remain in the picture, shouted: A few Americans who had entered Iran on forged passports wanted to speak with us. After they were detained in a hotel, they were deported from the country.

"This is an absolute lie."

After revealing that the preparations for this affair had been made long before by several foreign countries and that Rafsanjani had contacted the U.S. representatives on his visit to Japan, Dr Bakhtiar condemned the hypocrisy of the European countries and referred to the frankness of the government of Israel.

In this connection, Bakhtiar said:

"It must be noted that at least Israel confessed to selling arms to Khomeyni, but the European countries, with all the disinformation means that they have at their disposal, while condemning the Iran-Iraq war, denied selling any war equipment to the clerical regime. And not a day passed by when they did not pass resolution after resolution condemning the clerical regime in the world assemblies and organizations and when they did not eulogize the Iranians and Iraqis killed."

Bakhtiar then attacked Rafsanjani and said:

"Meanwhile, cleric Rafsanjani, who is also an expert in wheeling and dealing, presents himself as the moderate cleric with good intentions; however, while cursing the global oppressors and at the same time procuring weapons from them, he hoped to remove his most likely rival, the revered and ridiculous religious jurist of Qom, from the arena."

Bakhtiar condemned this wheeling and dealing and declared:

"The National Resistance Movement, of which I am honored to be the leader, has openly and on numerous occasions informed the world, particularly the developed countries, of the important issue that never, by any means, will it tolerate a government that emanates from the clerical regime."

Bakhtiar then described the government desired by the Iranian National Resistance Movement as follows:

"Iranians neither want to go behind the iron curtain nor want Iran to become a base for anti-Soviet provocation. We believe in the prosperity, freedom and independence of our country. We have suffered a great deal from the interference of foreigners thus far. I have frequently said, and repeat again, that our best friends are found among countries that interfere least in our destiny."

In another part of his message, Bakhtiar condemned government terrorism and said:

"In the second half of this century which is ending, there is no phenomenon more vile, infamous and unforgivable than government sponsored terrorism. Governments that allow prejudice-nurturing, mercenary or stupid individuals to carry out terrorism and force them to engage in such inhuman actions are the most profligate governments that human society has ever witnessed. Therefore, any sort of support, compromise or even negotiations with such governments headed by Khomeyni's organization not only goes against humane principles but will ultimately have no results."

Another part of this message states:

"In the same vein, in regards to the women of the country, who are directly and indirectly abused, both physically and mentally, more than all other Iranian people, and a large number of whom have endured deadly tortures, some having lost their lives in confronting the jailers of Khomeyni, I share their pain in my heart and soul."

Bakhtiar then invited the young people of the cities and villages to arm themselves to fight the regime of the Islamic Republic and said:

"Do not give your lives to conquer Jerusalem with Israeli arms, which can only materialize in the imagination. In schools, in the bazaar, in clubs, on every street and in every district, prepare yourselves; do not give up; establish

the foundation for national resistance through small, independent groups from now. Write on doors and walls: Iran will never die."

Bakhtiar, Huyser and High-Ranking Commanders

Referring to the publication of the memoirs of General Huyser, Bakhtiar said:

"After the passage of eight years, a book of the daily diaries of an American general who resided in Iran during my brief time as prime minister has recently been published. This general was the deputy commander of the NATO forces. He was in daily contact with the joint chiefs of the armed forces and a small number of high-ranking commanders of our country. I never saw him and he never contacted me during his stay, which lasted about a month. I recommend the reading of this book to all of my compatriots. Officers especially must read it in order to realize what poor, ignorant individuals headed the army of the country."

Bakhtiar then referred to the role of the military officials and said:

"The army that at that time included such individuals as Yazdegerdi, Shams-Tabrizi, Bidabadi and young patriotic officers submitted to a bunch of merciless charlatan clerics. Army barracks, after the treason of a few incompetent chiefs, were wasted. And a year after Khomeyni's conspiracy, competent, self-sacrificing officers from the Nozheh uprising, such as Mohaqqueqi, Jahangiri and Boyri, who were sacrificing their lives to liberate Iran, were annihilated."

In the final part of this message, the views of the leader of the Iranian National Resistance Front on the national army are revealed as follows:

"Since the sacred duty of the army is to defend the freedom and the territorial integrity of our homeland, and the governing criminal, clerical group cannot tolerate the homeland and its defenders, through increasing humiliation and the domination of a bunch of illiterate riffraff, the army has fallen apart. Nevertheless, the army has carried out its duty in defending Iran despite the various difficulties, and today, we Iranians can consider the young officers to be the founders of the Iranian national army. Despite all the hardships and shortcomings, I am certain that the young officers of the army have the same picture in mind for the future of Iran as we do. I do not doubt your efforts to uproot the regime and ensure the victory of the Iranian nation over the clerics. For this reason, I send greetings to all officers, air force pilots, commissioned officers, and soldiers of the Iranian national army."

"When I, Shapur Bakhtiar, took up the banner of struggle, the embassies of the United States, the Soviet Union, Great Britain and others were operating in Tehran, working at full capacity. Therefore, the contact of a foreign government with the regime of Khomeyni will not in any way change my goal and wish for the people of my homeland to overthrow the Khomeyni regime and establish national rule."

IRAN

LIBERATION FRONT REFUTES INFORMATION IN U.S. PAPER

London KEYHAN in Persian 4 Dec 86 p 16

[London KEYHAN weekly in Persian; founder and publisher Dr Mesbahzadeh]

[Text] Following the publication of the WASHINGTON POST article, the following letter signed by Messers Eslam-Kazemiyyeh and Shahin Fatemi was sent to the above-mentioned newspaper.

We have just received a copy of an article which you published in your 19 November issue concerning the most recent ruckus involving Iran, and in which you make a brief but misleading reference to the Iranian Liberation Front. We, the undersigned, as two of the founders of this front and its elected officials, hereby declare our strong protest to this part of the article and its incorrect, groundless and misleading contents.

This article was written without any substantiation, grounded on rumors. Unfortunately, the unidentified individuals and your "sources," taking advantage of their "anonymity" to protect them from the punishment for slander, have taken the opportunity to engage in serious accusations against others. The publication of an article containing such groundless, damaging references and innuendoes is by no means in keeping with journalistic ethics and the sense of responsibility of the press. Perhaps the writer of this article has unwittingly inserted into his article a great deal of the nonsense and cheap rumors common among most groups in exile, unaware of the fact that most of these rumors are products of the disinformation and rumor-spreading organizations of the Islamic Republic which have been used for years to weaken the forces that oppose that regime. We wish that the writer of the article, in accordance with the common custom of journalism, had, prior to engaging in the hasty publication of such issues, offered the founders and officials of the front an opportunity to express their views.

Such unfair behavior by you against one of the active anti-Khomeyni forces and the publicity and the ruckus created about this article have provided a very useful propaganda opportunity for the regime to weaken its opposition and misdirect the attention of everyone from its cesspool of shameful hypocrisy and charlatanism regarding its secret relations with Israel and the United States, the two countries that are constant targets of curses by the

Ayatollah. Some of the pessimistic observers have even claimed that the publication of this article and the publicity surrounding it has been another reward for and bribe to the regime of the Ayatollah.

The Iranian Liberation Front is a democratic organization founded more than seven years ago by a group of patriotic Iranians and is led by Dr 'Ali Amini, the well-known former prime minister of Iran, and other elected officials of this organization. The liberation front is supported by a large segment of patriotic, combative Iranians and enjoys the moral and material support of thousands of Iranians and foreigners. Undoubtedly, such aid is vital for our continuing efforts and struggle and its value is not unknown to any patriotic Iranian.

The necessary documents and proof regarding any aid that has been or will be given to us are prepared and preserved most carefully. Our accounts and these documents will be disclosed at an appropriate time after the liberation of the country. For very obvious reasons, before that time, we must be excused from disclosing any matter in this regard or refuting or verifying any rumor. The aim of the Iranian Liberation Front is to fight and carry out persistent efforts against the regime that has been imposed on Iranians with the help of foreigners and which rules our homeland by relying on foreigners. We need any sort of legitimate and unconditional help in this struggle, but have not had and will not have any commitment to anything except that which will protect the interests of our country. We are and will be committed to no one but the brave, immortal Iranian nation.

Rest assured that, in keeping with the above principle, at no time or place have we given or will we give any foreign organization, whether affiliated with the government of the United States or any other government, permission for any sort of interference in any form or under any pretext in the policies or the management of this organization, and that such has never occurred.

Any claim contrary to what we have written here is fully refuted by us and we call for those who make such claims to offer documented evidence.

We foreigners have never been able to understand the operations of your complex system of government in the United States and, in particular, do not know the relationship between the government and the press in that country. In any case, as you cannot help us as a "free press"--since Khomeyni does not allow you to go to Iran--at least try not to drag us into the political quarrels in your country, thus inadvertently harming our combative efforts.

Shahin Fatemi,

Executive Secretary of the Iranian Liberation Front

Eslam Kazemiyyeh,

Director of the Political Office of the Iranian Liberation Front

IRAN

AMINI WARNS COMPATRIOTS AGAINST RUMORS, DISSENSION

London KEYHAN in Persian 4 Dec 86 p 5

[London KEYHAN weekly in Persian; founder and publisher Dr Mesbahzadeh]

[Text] Dear compatriots. Once again, events concerning our country occupy the headlines in the political circles and mass media of the world. The relations of the United States and Israel with the usurping regime governing Iran, the ruckus that has been created as a result of these secret relations, and the rumors spread accompanying these events might have unpleasant influences on the morale of our compatriots, who have become more sensitive as a result of living in exile. Those are able to make proper judgments and examinations and to take appropriate action in confusing and critical moments who are not excitable and emotional and who do not change direction with every wave of events.

A group of our compatriots, because they live in the West and have been away from the country, have been influenced by opinions and interpretations that they hear or read every day. They see the issues concerning Iran and the Iranian nation from the perspective of the West. However, we must look at these issues from the opposite point of view, that is, from an Iranian viewpoint.

When a group of U. S. policy makers have reached the conclusion that in order to free a few hostages they must pay tribute to terrorists, overlooking the fact that paying tribute and giving in to them will only encourage the terrorists to continue to expand terrorism, it is the duty of the American nation and the freedom-loving people of the West to make them realize their mistake.

What we must each look at and publicize as Iranians is that, despite their appearance on the prayer niche and the pulpit, the preachers of the regime of the Islamic Republic do something else in private. Firstly, it is our duty to remind that group of Iranians who are still enchanted by the hypocrisy of the ruling deceivers of the public that for more than seven years, in order to deceive them, their leaders have created large and small Satans, kept them occupied with futile slogans, and dragged them behind. But, we have finally realized that the hand of Satan comes out of their own sleeves.

In the course of these events, it has also become clear that these Satans are more sinister than we imagined. Precisely when they have washed their dirty laundry in public and they fear that politically influential individuals and organizations will ask in unison from 2 million Iranians abroad that they assemble in every area of the world, observing the regulations of their place of residence, to march firstly in front of the embassies and political offices of the Islamic Republic to express their hatred for the regime and then to go before the United Nations and human rights centers and other freedom-loving organizations of the world as well as the political offices of the United States and Israel to carry with them the voice of the Iranian nation. At such a time, the government has influenced some of the Western press through its clandestine and open agents and functionaries, through self-made rumors, in order to create disunity among the Iranians, to gain peace of mind from this front, and to be able to continue their work.

I hereby declare, as I have frequently said, that, disregarding the fear of the customary nonsense, I have chosen to walk along the path of fighting to liberate Iran and Iranians, and at an age that has reached 80 years, when every moment of activity is a natural danger to my life, I have placed my life in the service of liberating my country, walking towards the Kaaba enthusiastically, without concern for the desert thorn. Let history pass judgment on me.

The destiny of Iran inside and outside of Iran will be determined by the Iranian nation, and our nation will soon enjoy freedom.

I ask all my compatriots, particularly the young generation, to be alert. The enemies all use every means to create disunity and spread seeds of despair. The front for the liberation of Iran will continue along its path with decisiveness and without fear of slander.

The condition for victory is alertness, decisiveness, and struggle.

Long live Iran and the people of Iran.

Dr 'Ali Amini,

Coordinator of the Front for the liberation of Iran

29 November 1986

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CSO: 4640/39

IRAN

BRIEFS

RICE IMPORT INCREASE--Sari: Import of rice, in comparison to last year will increase by 200,000 tons. The executive director of the State Rural Cooperative Organization who has travelled to Mazandaran, while making the above statement also added: Despite the remarkable increase in rice production in the current year, for the purpose of rice price adjustment the rate of rice import will be duly increased. While pointing to the 20 existing purchase centers in Mazandaran, he also announced that in the very near future mobile purchasing centers will be formed throughout this province. The executive director of the State Rural Cooperative Organization called the credit for the purchase of northern region's rice unlimited and went on to say that the Rural Cooperative Organization is able to buy the types of Amol #2 and #3 from the farmers. [Text]
[Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 2 Oct 86 p 2] 12719

CSO: 4640/40

PAKISTAN

POLITICAL PARTIES URGED TO DEMAND ARMY GET OUT OF POLITICS

Lahore NAWA-I-WAQT in Urdu 7 Nov 86 p 3

[Editorial: "Army's Role in Politics: Nation Needs to Decide"]

[Text] Benazir Bhutto, leader of the Pakistan People's Party, speaking to news correspondents in Lahore, said: "We see army personnel everywhere, in Karachi, Lahore, Quetta, Peshawar. The army is called whenever disturbances take place. It is not the duty of the army to become the political party of the government or to become the policemen of the government." Miss Bhutto suggested that the army should not be involved in politics. While this desire is undoubtedly a good one, it appears unlikely that the genie will return to the bottle from which it emerged in 1958, because it has gained in strength and stature as a result of the negative role of the politicians and their animosity toward the people. We cannot blame all politicians, but the fact remains that from 1958 on, almost all politicians maintained cooperation with the martial law regime and accepted ministerial and advisory posts, and whenever a politician gained power it was only with the blessings of the army and its assistance. For example, take Mr Bhutto himself; despite being an elected and popular leader, he gained power and authority in 1971 with the help of the military high command. And the People's Party even today has a [retired] general as the general secretary of its party, which clearly indicates that the army as an organization is not unacceptable for party leadership. We are not against the participation of retired army officers in politics, but to take over high command of a political party after retirement from the army high command cannot fail to draw attention. It takes an ordinary political worker decades of slow march to attain a responsible position in the party, whereas it does not take long for a retired army general to quick march to a high-level post in the party; our politicians present this very attractive position on a silver tray. This matter deserves the careful consideration of politicians. There is no need to mention names here, but there are many politicians who dream of coming to power under the auspices of the army, or who consider it a matter of pride to become the "B" team of martial law, or who openly divulge their connections with the GHQ. In this connection, the resounding allegations or revelations of Khwaja Khairuddin, which were neither confirmed nor denied by the sources concerned can still be heard. It is not our intention to malign the role of the politicians. We believe that when a special organization monopolizes national

affairs, then politicians may also possibly be forced to go along with. Whatever the case may be, Miss Bhutto's demand as a matter of principle is correct, and as such all rationally thinking people should support her. It should not be difficult for Miss Bhutto to get all the parties in the MRD [Movement for the Restoration of Democracy] united on this point, since her own party holds an influential and dominating position. The leader of the party in power, Prime Minister Junejo, has repeatedly declared that he has removed martial law from the country and that he will never institute it again. President Gen Ziaul Haq himself recently emphasized that the democratic institutions should be strengthened so that lawlessness and insecurity could be removed once and for all. Although generally speaking everyone is against martial law, it is necessary for Prime Minister Junejo to convene an all-party conference to obtain a resounding "no" to martial law. From that platform, the unanimous national decision should be announced that in the future a national organization such as the army will never again be involved in politics and that every effort will be made to restrict the army to its professional role, which is greatly needed due to the conditions prevailing throughout the country. Parliament should also approve this unanimous demand of the national political parties, so that the goal of national politics could be set right and the country saved from the danger of martial law. Past experience has shown that martial law and the governments under its auspices have left the country divided and weak, and from one nation we have slowly taken a turn toward many nationalities. It has also been seen that very minor differences are enough to set Biharis against Pathans, Sunnis against Shias, Sindhis against Punjabis, Baluchis against Pathans, and Mohajirs against the local residents. Pakistan was not formed on these relationships, units, alliances and nationalities. A democratic process and Quaid-e-Azam's political concept united everyone and shaped them into a single nation. As we drifted away from democracy and were deprived of political leadership, we became scattered like the beads of the rosary. We now have the opportunity to bring back politics and democracy once again, to strengthen them and to protect the generations to come from martial law. We must not let this opportunity slip from our grasp.

9315/9312

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PAKISTAN

CONCERN VOICED OVER INDIAN ACTIVITIES INVOLVING SIND

Lahore NAWA-I-WAQT in Urdu 7 Nov 86 p 3

[Editorial: "Beware of Indian Intervention"]

[Text] Senator Qazi Hussein Ahmed, secretary general of the Jamaat-e Islami, has revealed that 20 Indian Army officers involved in disruptive activities in the interior of Sind have already been arrested, which proves that India is involved in the affairs of Sind. The activities of bandits in Sind and the riots that take place there regularly deserve the careful consideration of the whole nation. And now those in power also have started talking about foreign intervention in unambiguous terms. For some time, India has been trying to create conditions in Sind similar to those in East Pakistan. After 1983 it made arrangements in Rajasthan whereby it can keep a close watch over the situation in Sind and direct it in any way it wishes. The military preparations underway in India are also indicative of the designs of the Indian rulers. An Indian newspaper has reported that India has been making plans for war preparations against Pakistan with Soviet cooperation. During a discussion on Indian TV the other day, in which official as well as unofficial members of the Indian Parliament participated, with reference to the situation in East Punjab and Pakistan's efforts for its defense, the impression was created that India could take action against Pakistan, which has been the victim of such conditions in the past and thereby lost half the country. India even now is busy creating a similar situation once again, thereby giving it an opportunity to overrun Pakistan. There is no doubt that the conditions and global exigencies existing today are quite different from those prevailing in 1971, and Pakistan now is capable of defending itself. But we think that generally speaking we do not have the singleness of purpose, perception of danger, national unity, unanimity and solidarity required to defeat the designs of a conspiring and deceitful enemy. To defend our country, instead of relying on some foreign power we should create unity of thought and action in the nation and to thwart the designs of the enemy we must let the people know of the dangers facing the nation. We also need to organize a coherent program to inform world opinion of India's military preparations so that despite being oppressed we will not become the simultaneous victim of India's adverse propaganda and aggression as happened in 1971.

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