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11 August 1978

TRANSLATIONS ON NEAR EAST AND NORTH AFRICA

No. 1829

FOCUS ON POLITICAL VIOLENCE IN THE YEMENS

NEAR
EAST

NORTH
AFRICA

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CONTENTS

PAGE

A. YEMEN ARAB REPUBLIC: EVENTS, INTERNAL SITUATION REVIEWED

Presidential Council Members' Background Discussed (AL-HURRIYAH, 3 Jul 78).....	1
Saudis Interview al-Asnaj on Policy Toward Aden ('Uthman 'Abduh Hashim; AL-RIYAD, 1 Jul 78).....	2
Tribesmen Said Ready To Take Revenge for al-Ghashmi (Najib Salih; AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM, 5 Jul 78).....	5
Citizens Said to View War as Imminent (Najib Salih; AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM, 7 Jul 78).....	7
Salih Affirms Watchfulness of His People ('Ali Abdallah Salih Interview; AL-THAWRAH, 13 Jul 78).....	9
Al-'Arashi Announces Election of Salih (San'a' Domestic Service, 17 Jul 78).....	11

CONTENTS (Continued)

Page

Communist Leaders Send Condolences on al-Ghashmi's Death	12
Honecker Cables Condolences	
(San'a' Domestic Service, 28 Jun 78)	
Romanian President Sends Condolences	
(San'a' Domestic Service, 28 Jun 78)	
SRV President Sends Condolences	
(San'a' Domestic Service, 5 Jul 78)	
Yugoslav President Cables Condolences	
(San'a' Domestic Service, 1 Jul 78)	
Bulgarian State Council Chairman Sends Condolences	
(San'a' Domestic Service, 1 Jul 78)	
Czechoslovak President Cables Condolences	
(San'a' Domestic Service, 1 Jul 78)	

Briefs

Al-Ahmar Condolences	15
Al-Hudaydah Condolences	15
Prominent Citizens' Condolences	16
Condolences in Ta'izz	16
Al-Ghashmi's Biography	16
Reported Military Presence	17

Photos

Lt Col al-Ghashmi's Office at Armed Forces General Command	
Headquarters	18
Southern Soldiers Who Arrived in the North	19

B. PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF YEMEN: INTERNAL SITUATION REPORTED

Group Reveals Soviet Activity in Aden	
(AL-HAWADITH, 23 Jun 78).....	20
Egyptian Magazine Describes Background to Events	
(Usamah Ayyub; OCTOBER, 25 Jun 78).....	21
Population Seen Supporting Isma'il--Muhammad Government	
(BERLINER ZEITUNG, 30 Jun 78).....	23
Patriotic Front Reports Widespread Unrest	
(AL-RIYAD, 5 Jun 78).....	25
Correspondent Tours Southern District of Third Governorate	
(AL-HURRIYAH, 9 Jul 78).....	27
Correspondent Accompanies Revolution Forces in Combat	
(AL-HURRIYAH, 9 Jul 78).....	30

CONTENTS (Continued)

Page

Statement Warns Against Foreign Aggression (INA, 2 Jul 78).....	33
Government Will Resist Attempts To Foment War (Aden Domestic Service, 3 Jul 78).....	34
Statement Reaffirms Principles of Yemeni Unity (Aden Domestic Service, 27 Jun 78).....	36
CPCZ Daily Reports on Press Conference by Envoy (RUDE PRAVO, 8 Jul 78).....	39
New Party To Strengthen Links With Socialist Bloc (Aden Domestic Service, 23 Jun 78).....	41
Mengistu, Tsedenbal Cable Congratulation to Chairman (Aden Domestic Service, 30 Jun 78).....	42
Defense Minister Calls for National Unity (BERLINER ZEITUNG, 5 Jul 78).....	43
'Ali Nasir Muhammad Interviewed on Rubayyi' Overthrow ('Ali Nasir Muhammad Interview; AL-HURRIYAH, 9 Jul 78)...	45
Paper Attacks Rubayyi' 'Ali's 'Individualistic Tendencies' (Aden Domestic Service, 28 Jun 78).....	53
Paper Writes on Struggle Against 'Deviationist Tide' (Aden Domestic Service, 28 Jun 78).....	55
UPONF Information Officials Discuss Coup Failure (Aden Domestic Service, 30 Jun 78).....	57
Security Minister Discusses 'Ali's Contacts With Imperialists (Aden Domestic Service, 2 Jul 78).....	58
Paper Lists Rubayyi' 'Ali's Offenses Against Culture (Aden Domestic Service, 6 Jul 78).....	60
Briefs	
Muhammad Biography	62
Al-Khamiri Appointment	62
Saudi Intelligence Network	62
Ali's Execution	63
Air Force Refugees	63
Soviet Support in Killing	63

CONTENTS (Continued)

Page

Report of Soviet Strength	64
Soviet Base Agreement	64
GDR Congratulations	64
Bulgarian Congratulations	65

Photos

Cuban Experts With Defense Minister	66
Presidential Palace	67
'Ali's Cell	68
Central Committee Meeting Place	69
Tree That Saved Command	70

C. NON-COMMUNIST, COMMUNIST PRESS VIEW YEMEN EVENTS

Czechoslovakia: U.S., Imperialist States Seen Pressuring PDRY (Editorial; ROLNICKE NOVINY, 6 Jul 78).....	71
Egypt: Moscow Seen Tightening Hold on PDRY (Editorial; THE EGYPTIAN GAZETTE, 28 Jun 78).....	73
Iraq: Communist Party Accuses West of Trying To Split Yemens (TARIQ AL-SHA'B, 28 Jun 78).....	75
RCC Issues Statement on Yemen Developments (BAGHDAD OBSERVER, 10 Jul 78).....	77
Kuwait: Communist Powers Said To Play Bloody Role (Yusuf al-Masa'id; AL-SIYASAH, 29 Jun 78).....	78
Lebanon: Saudis Accused of Complicity in Assassination (EVENTS, 14 Jul 78).....	80
Saudi Arabia: Communism Seen Behind Events in the Yemens (Editorial; AL-RIYAD, 27 Jun 78).....	82
Paper Denounces al-Ghashmi Assassination (Editorial; 'UKAZ, 26 Jun 78).....	84
Paper Views Arab League Meeting on PDRY (Editorial; 'UKAZ, 1 Jul 78).....	85
Somalia: Kremlin Accused of Complicity in Assassination (DANAB, 11 Jul 78).....	87
Sultanate of Oman: PDRY Government Accused of Terrorism (Editorial; 'UMAN, 27 Jun 78).....	89

CONTENTS (Continued)

Page

Yemen Arab Republic: PDRY Leadership Said Unresponsive to Human Needs (Editorial; AL-THAWRAH, 27 Jun 78).....	91
Briefs	
Planned Riyad Visits	93
Gulf Security Pact	93
Cartoons	
AL-HURRIYAH	94
AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM	95
AL-SIYASAH	96
AL-MUSTAQBAL	97

YEMEN ARAB REPUBLIC

PRESIDENTIAL COUNCIL MEMBERS' BACKGROUND DISCUSSED

Beirut AL-HURRIYAH in Arabic 3 Jul 78 p 35

[Excerpt] 1--Al-Qadi 'Abd-al-Karim al-'Arashi, chairman of the presidential council as well as speaker of the people's assembly. Information and special reports indicate that the Qadi will be only window dressing. It is anticipated that there will be some similarity to the al-Hajri administration be it with regard to allegiance to Saudi Arabia or in internal politics as well as in strained relations with Democratic Yemen.

2--'Abd-al-'Aziz 'Abd-al-Ghani, prime minister in the al-Ghashmi Administration and member of the new council. He is a technocrat and does not have significant political weight.

3--'Ali al-Shaybah, member of the council and chief of staff prior to al-Ghashmi's murder. Now he is commander-in-chief of the armed forces as well as a member of the presidential council. Politically, he is considered lacking in political consciousness, and has acted in a sectarian way against the Shafi'is, since he is a Zaydi. He came to power by supporting first al-Hamadi, then al-Ghashmi, and also through his former position as chief of staff. Despite this, he is a secondary personality in the current regime.

4--'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, a member, is the military and administrative commander of Ta'izz province. It seems that he is the single strong personality on the new council. His biography indicates his tenacity and political ambitions in his relations with both Saudi and Yemeni reactionary forces, in his successive stands hostile to the nationalist movement in the north and in his opposition to the democratic regime in the south.

CSO: 4802

YEMEN ARAB REPUBLIC

SAUDIS INTERVIEW AL-ASNAJ ON POLICY TOWARD ADEN

Riyadh AL-RIYAD in Arabic 1 Jul 78 pp 1, 13

[Article by 'Uthman 'Abduh Hashim: "The Most Modern Adeni Brigade Flees to San'a'"]

[Excerpts] Jiddah--The most modern military brigade in South Yemen fled to San'a'; it is the 'Abbas brigade. It arrived in the Yemeni capital yesterday with all its personnel (900 officers and men) and weapons.

The foreign minister of the Yemen Arab Republic 'Abdallah al-Asnaj announced this in a press conference held at Jiddah airport when he stopped over on the way to Cairo to attend meetings of the Arab League Council being held today at Yemen's request to discuss the issue of President al-Ghashmi's assassination.

Q--After President al-Ghashmi's murder it was said that there had been arrangements in San'a' for him to visit Aden. Are these reports true?

A--These are rumors whose only purpose is to confuse. President al-Ghashmi was prepared to receive an envoy from Aden accompanied by 20 kidnapped Yemenis who were subject to arrest and had been abducted from their places in the southern districts months ago.

Q--How does the Yemeni people view the kingdom's position? What is the situation now in Yemen?

A--The kingdom's position was from the first clear, candid, and supportive of the Yemeni people's march.... The situation now in Yemen is stable, but the people's anger is great and the cry reverberates everywhere that there will never again be room to export crimes to the Yemen Arab Republic from the ruling power in Aden.

Q--What measures is the government of Yemen taking after the assassination of President al-Ghashmi?

A--We have shut off all communications with Aden and have stopped all dealings with Aden. There will never again be relations of any kind between San'a' and Aden.

Q--Does not your excellency think that there are hands trying to block reconciliation between North and South Yemen?

A--The North has had a firm desire for reconciliation with an open heart and broadmindedness with its brothers in Aden, but Aden repaid trust with evil and goodness with crime and repaid charity by biting the hand proffered to it.

Q--This means that North Yemen has changed its mind about unity after this incident.

A--A common feeling is sweeping through citizen and official alike in the Yemen Arab Republic, that there must be a change of position and a long reconsideration.

Q--Is there a plan to stabilize the future of Yemen, and how is this subject being studied today?

A--I have no right to announce anything about this plan before officials of fraternal states have listened to it at the League Council meeting, but we do not in our opinion have much faith. Measures must be taken in light of any circumstances of the least importance which we are undergoing or have occurred. We hope that our friends in the Arab states and representatives of the Arab League will not hesitate before facts and before this critical situation to do even more than what Yemen is demanding.

Q--This is the second crime Yemen has suffered; how do you think Yemen will hold out in these circumstances?

A--The Yemeni people will remain in existence; it will still be able to defend its existence and its faith no matter how much the calamities multiply or how long they continue. We are exposed and have been exposed for a long time. We must resist, and we must repay evil with evil if circumstances require it: "If evil produces good, keep your arm covered, but if it produces evil, roll up your sleeves."

Q--How sure is the opinion that the case was changed at Aden airport and that Chairman Salim Rubayyi' 'Ali intended to warn about it?

A--It only interests us that a murderer came to us carrying an explosive briefcase from Aden with the knowledge of the ruling authorities there. The fact that there is a power struggle in Aden does not concern us in the least. In Aden Cubans are piloting the aircraft, and they are the ones who conducted attacks. A foreign naval base bombed the presidential palace. Strange things are happening in Aden, and in San'a' today are 900 officers and men of the 'Abbas brigade, the most modern brigade in the South Yemeni

armed forces, with its personnel and weapons. This means that the situation is unnatural, and there is obvious foreign intervention.

Q--What is the latest on the investigations? Do you think that any particular non-communist hand aided in the enactment of the abominable crime which made President al-Ghashmi its victim?

A--I do not believe that the conscience of any Arab Muslim could have permitted him to commit such a crime. The latest conclusion of the investigations is that Aden is responsible.

Q--After the report issued recently by the investigatory committee, what measures does your excellency envision to counter the government in Aden?

A--As I have said, we will take all possible steps, and we consider every official of the government in Aden as a defendant who must be tried until his innocence is proved.

Q--There has been some controversy over whether 'Abd-al-Fattah is dead or wounded.

A--There is no doubt that what happened in Aden in the last several days was a massacre, but 'Abd-al-Fattah Isma'il did not suffer any wound and is currently in Aden. However, key individuals on 'Abd-al-Fattah's side were eliminated, not only those on Salim Rubayyi's side. But 'Abd-al-Fattah, the interior minister and the foreign minister are alive. It appears that they have assumed power over others and there has been only a change in positions.

Q--Your excellency, what is Yemen's reaction at the present time?

A--We show no remorse to anyone. The government in Aden is abnormal and strange, implanted in the region. What remains of this government must be eliminated.

Q--Therefore, how will we defend Yemen in the future from communist aggression?

A--This must be the fundamental issue to be considered by all Arabs from Yemen.

CSO: 4802

YEMEN ARAB REPUBLIC

TRIBESMEN SAID READY TO TAKE REVENGE FOR AL-GHASHMI

Kuwait AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM in Arabic 5 Jul 78 p 18

[Article by Najib Salih: "A New Account of the Murder of al-Ghashmi"]

[Excerpt] AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM has learned that troops of the bedouin Red Lion Cubs detachment stationed on Perim island have crossed the borders to the North Yemeni al-Shaykh Sa'id area and that they number more than 1000. The Red Lion Cubs are troops organized by Salim Rubayyi 'Ali in 1970 as the second reserve of the armed forces. They represent nomadic bedouin whom Salimayn attracted from their society and assured of food, drink and housing on the condition they be soldiers of the "revolution". Their number had reached more than 10,000, most of whom were less than twenty years old. They had acquired a radical political education, recognizing loyalty to only chairman Salimayn.

To counter this reserve army 'Abd-al-Fattah Isma'il created what is called the People's Army composed of civil servants and workers numbering, according to statistics published in the American publication TIME of 12/6/1978, more than 20,000 organized party members. It was the reserve army that really decided the dispute with Salimayn on behalf of the ruling National Front headed by 'Abd-al-Fattah Isma'il.

The Yemeni officials were afraid to evacuate some areas on the strategic island of Perim, which the Yemenis were responsible for protecting. Moving the dispute there was not recommended, especially since more than 20 soldiers had fled from al-Shaykh Sa'id to Perim a month before, during the clash between al-Ghashmi and Lt Col 'Abdallah 'Abd-al-'Alim, a former member of the command council.

A new account of the murder of al-Ghashmi is being discussed in some unofficial circles, linking with it the name of Lt Col 'Abdallah 'Abd-al-'Alim, who sought refuge in Aden. The briefcase bomb was supposed to have contained the names of officers and men who had fled to Aden as well as the names of those northerners living in the south and of wanted southerners living in the north.

What is strange here is that the authorities are still withholding the name of the person who carried the briefcase bomb and information about a telephone conversation between the late presidents al-Ghashmi and Salimayn. This confirms that the account is incomplete, just as happened with the assassination of Lt Col Ibrahim al-Hamadi 8 months ago. This is the usual thing with the Yemenis, who are secretive by nature. When they assume this posture, this means that reprisal is coming.

A number of Yemenis say that the murder of Salimayn and a large number of southerners as revenge for al-Ghashmi's murder is insufficient. There is a proverb prevalent in tribal ranks saying: "With our hands, not with those of others." Since the killer is still unknown or killed, revenge, if it happens, will take the form of a civil war as happened in 1972. This is what is truly frightening.

CSO: 4802

YEMEN ARAB REPUBLIC

CITIZENS SAID TO VIEW WAR AS IMMINENT

Kuwait AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM in Arabic 7 Jul 78 p 18

[Article by Najib Salih: "Armed Tribesmen Still Observed in the Capital San'a'"]

[Text] A high Yemeni official has told AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM that South Yemen will ask the aid of other states in case of aggression against her and that this aid might be from the Soviet Union and Cuba. He added: "The view of the brothers in the South holds that whenever there are foreign arms there must be foreign experts and that asking the help of these experts is a natural and necessary thing."

AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM has learned that Hashid tribes, to which President Ahmad Husayn al-Ghashmi belonged, have concentrated their combat forces on the borders adjacent to Bayhan, al-Bayda' and al-Rahidah and that the number of these forces supplied with heavy arms amounts to 5000 under the command of Lt Col Mujahid Abu-Shawarib, the brother-in-law of Shaykh 'Abdallah ibn Husayn al-Ahmar, the Hashid chief. Most of the fighters are from the Hamdan tribe, which was headed by al-Ghashmi himself, and is a subdivision of the Hashid.

AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM has also learned that soldiers supporting al-Ghashmi have requested special leaves and have gone to their tribal areas to participate in what is called "the continuing war against the communists until they are exterminated."

Officially, normal life has begun to return gradually to the capital San'a', especially in the morning. The citizens have returned to their occupations as usual, and the armored vehicles have been withdrawn from around the radio station and the army general headquarters, but armed tribesmen are still to be seen in the streets and congregate at night, although the San'a' night is strange to them. The people disappear from the streets between six and eight, and there is no sign of movement. People are sitting around radios and televisions and joking with one another about the series of political assassinations Yemen has lived with for the past ten years.

The officials resort to silence, and it is difficult to get a word out of them, perhaps because the chairman Qadi 'Abd-al-Karim al-'Arashi was throughout his political life behind the scenes as an adviser to the two presidents al-Hamadi and al-Ghashmi. It seems that he likes neither journalists nor photographers, as is shown by the fact that he has not yet appeared on television, nor has his voice been heard on Radio San'a'. This disturbs the Yemenis, who are not yet familiar with their new chairman, especially since he is a qadi without a post as judge, is unknown to the masses, and came to his new position through law rather than through a coup or a corrective movement.

The Yemenis, especially the merchants and residents of the cities of San'a', Ta'izz, and al-Hudaydah conduct themselves as though war were imminent and were no doubt coming, whether on an official or a tribal level. There are clear indications that prices of basic foodstuffs have risen and that there is an abnormal demand to buy and hoard commodities. As for luxury items with the exception of radios, they have dropped 10 to 20 percent. This phenomenon, we interpret to be similar to the situation San'a' underwent during the seven-month siege in the early seventies.

On another subject, news has reached San'a' that the "Revolutionary Democratic Party" supported by Aden has "liberated" some areas in North Yemen and set up a special authority there, that the militia of this party, which was founded in the early seventies, is taking control of large portions of the northern lands, and that Sultan 'Umar, the party chief, is staying in a southern village and directing the operations from there.

Partially confirmed information has been received that Lt Col 'Abdallah 'Abd-al-'Alim, whom al-Ghashmi stripped of all his positions two months ago (he was a member of the command council and paratroop commander) has joined the party and is himself, with a number of his troops, directing the military operations against the legitimate authorities in the border areas and that 'Abd-al-'Alim, who sought refuge in the south after his deposition, is receiving arms, equipment, and money from an Arab state other than the Aden government.

In any case, the situation is ambiguous or we have not yet discovered the intentions behind what happened, is happening and what can happen, but the general atmosphere is that civil war is at the gates. No one disputes this, as though it were a fact.

CSO: 4802

YEMEN ARAB REPUBLIC

SALIH AFFIRMS WATCHFULNESS OF HIS PEOPLE

San'a' AL-THAWRAH in Arabic 13 Jul 78 pp 1, 7

[Interview with 'Ali Abdallah Salih: "AL-THAWRAH's First Interview with Lt Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih"]

[Text] Immediately after the assassination of the martyred president of the homeland Lt Col Ahmad Husayn al-Ghashmi by a booby-trapped briefcase carried by an envoy of the regime in the south and after the formation of the presidential council, AL-THAWRAH had the opportunity to address three questions to Brother Lt Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, member of the presidential council of the republic, deputy commander-in-chief of the armed forces, and chief of the general staff, who welcomed the questions and answered them freely. The following is the text of the questions and answers:

Q--You lived with the late president Lt Col Ahmad Husayn al-Ghashmi. May we know your feelings after his unfortunate assassination?

A--We have lost a Yemeni leader who served his country, his religion, and Arabism nobly from the time he fought for the revolution and the republic, to the 13 June Corrective Movement, and during the period he was president of the republic and commander-in-chief of the armed forces.

The crime of assassinating the president and commander Ahmad Husayn al-Ghashmi has shocked the citizens and opened the eyes of the Arab nation to the evil intentions the forces of evil, injustice, and malicious plotting have harbored against her. We thank fraternal and friendly nations for their support. We pride ourselves on the national vigilance and full alertness which our Yemeni people enjoy.

Q--What are the hidden aims behind this operation?

A--The primary aim of the plotters in Aden was to create a political vacuum in the homeland and open the door to various conflicts among prominent people so that the Yemeni people would be preoccupied with the vacuum and the struggle to fill it. However, the vigilance of our people and the

perseverance and determination of our armed and security forces to protect the stability and security of the nation and citizenry from any kind of plot ended the dreams of the enemies of our people. Our armed and security forces will continue to watch over the country and citizenry, upholding its commitment to the homeland and the republic to strike with an iron hand anyone contemplating a misdeed.

The state is moving forward with its full apparatus toward construction and stability and the development plan will not be impeded. Internal security will not be shaken; we will repel any foreign aggression with a force that will not be stilled. Our people and our Arab brothers will be behind us.

Nor will we tolerate suspicion, abuse of freedoms and agitation, while we firmly strive to stabilize democratic practices and maintain the rights and freedoms of the citizens in the framework of law and order. We will eliminate obstacles to the Corrective Movement and provide it with the necessary material and human capabilities to achieve the goal of correction before God and country.

Q--Have you a message for our people in these circumstances?

A--I implore all in positions of responsibility to be good examples to the citizens, to multiply their work production, to be soldiers for the country in all their conduct and activity and to trust that we, as commissioned by our late president, will apply the principle of reward and punishment and will never be remiss in our responsibilities.

CSO: 4802

YEMEN ARAB REPUBLIC

AL-'ARASHI ANNOUNCES ELECTION OF SALIH

San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 17 Jul 78 JN

[Text] Brother Qadi 'Abd al-Karim 'Abdallah al-'Arashi has sent the following message to the president-elect:

Respected Brother Lt Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, greetings.

In view of the decision of the Constituent People's Assembly taken on 24 June 1976 to form a provisional presidential council to fill the vacuum created by the martyrdom of Lt Col Ahmad Husayn al-Ghashmi; and in view of the responsibility of the Assembly members and their desire to preserve the stability of the presidency which they themselves created and for which they elected a president; more than two thirds of the Assembly members have submitted a document nominating you for the office of president. This took place on the morning of Monday 17 July 1978. The elections were held and the Assembly elected you president and commander in chief of the armed forces by a majority of 76 votes.

It gives me pleasure to submit to you, in the name of the members of the Assembly, the election results. I pray God to grant you success in the interest of democracy and for the good and progress of the nation. I also invite you, on behalf of the members of the Assembly, to be present in the Assembly when it holds its special session at 1000 tomorrow, 18 July 1978, so that you may take the constitutional oath.

Please accept my greetings.

CSO: 4802

YEMEN ARAB REPUBLIC

COMMUNIST LEADERS SEND CONDOLENCES ON AL-GHASHMI'S DEATH

Honecker Cables Condolences

San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 28 Jun 78 JN

[Text] The chairman of the presidential council has received the following cable of condolences:

I send you the condolences of the GDR State Council and the GDR people on the tragic assassination of President Ahmad Husayn al-Ghashmi.

[Signed] Erich Honecker, Chairman of the GDR State Council and first secretary of the Socialist Unity Party.

Romanian President Sends Consolences

San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 28 Jun 78 JN

[Text] The chairman of the presidential council has received the following cable of condolences:

On the tragic death of President Ahmad Husayn al-Ghashmi, I express my sympathy and that of the Romanian people. Please convey our feelings to the family of the departed leader.

[Signed] Nicolae Ceausescu, President of the Socialist Republic of Romania.

SRV President Sends Condolences

San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 5 Jul 78 JN

[Text] The brother member of the presidential council and prime minister has received the following cable:

Government of the Yemeni Arab Republic, San'a'; after having learned of the death of YAR president Ahmad Husayn al-Ghashmi, we would like to convey our sincere condolences to the YAR government and the bereaved family.

[Signed] Ton Duc Thang, SRV President

The brother member of the presidential council and prime minister sent the following cable of thanks:

Ton Duc Thang, President of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam: I received your cable of condolences on the martyrdom of the late president Lt Col Ahmad Husayn al-Ghashmi, who was killed by treacherous hands.

While expressing my extreme thanks for your condolences, I ask God to have mercy on the soul of the departed and grant patience and consolation to his family.

[Signed] 'Abd-al-'Aziz 'Abd-al-Ghani, member of the presidential council and prime minister.

Yugoslav President Cables Condolences

San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 1 Jul 78 JN

[Text] The chairman of the presidential council has received the following cable of condolence:

Chairman of the presidential council in the Yemen Arab Republic, San'a': With great sorrow I learned of the painful incident which led to the death of President Ahmad Husayn al-Ghashmi. Please accept our deep condolences.

[Signed] Josip Broz Tito.

Bulgarian State Council Chairman Sends Condolences

San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 1 Jul 78 JN

[Text] The chairman of the presidential council has received the following cable of condolence:

His excellency the chairman of the presidential council in the Yemen Arab Republic, San'a' "

Please accept our deepest condolences over the martyrdom of Lt Col Ahmad Husayn al-Ghashmi, President of the Yemen Arab Republic.

[Signed] Todor Zhivkov, Chairman of the State Council of the People's Republic of Bulgaria.

Czechoslovak President Cables Condolences

San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 1 Jul 78 JN

[Text] The chairman of the presidential council has received the following cable of condolence:

His excellency 'Abd al-Karim al-'Arashi, chairman of the presidential council in the Yemen Arab Republic:

Please accept our deepest condolences over the incident which led to the death of the faithful president of the state, Ahmad Husayn al-Ghashmi. At the same time, I affirm Czechoslovakia's constant interest in developing relations between our two countries to serve peace and development in the world.

[Signed] Gustav Husak, President of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic.

CSO: 4802

YEMEN ARAB REPUBLIC

BRIEFS

AL-AHMAR CONSOLENCES--Brother chairman and members of the republican presidential council: With the greatest sorrow and grief, we received the news of the martyrdom of Brother Lt Col Ahmad Husayn al-Ghashmi, president of the republic and commander-in-chief of the armed forces, at the hands of criminality, treachery, and conspiracy, and I offer my condolences to you. We and the great Yemeni people ask God's mercy and forgiveness for the deceased and patience and solace for all. This crime perpetrated by unbelievers must not go without a punishment befitting a crime of this magnitude in order to deter anyone who thinks of defaming the honor of this people and its leaders or imposing deviant principles upon it. The people are with you in taking revenge on behalf of a martyr to assassination by traitors, conspirators and cowards. May God keep you and grant you success. Your brother, 'Abdallah ibn Husayn al-Ahmar. [Text] [San'a' AL-THAWRAH in Arabic 27 Jun 78 p 2]

AL-HUDAYDAH CONDOLENCES--Brother chairman of the republican presidential council and brother members--San'a'--With hearts filled with sorrow and grief and feelings aroused with rage and pain, we heard of the act of perfidy and treachery which left as its victim our chief and commander, the martyred believer Lt Col Ahmad Husayn al-Ghashmi. May God cover him with favor and grant him room in paradise. In the name of the governor's office, the armed forces and security command, the religious leaders, prominent people, and citizens of al-Hudaydah province, we offer our condolences to you, the Yemeni people, and the family of the deceased martyr, may God grant him favor, at this painful event and great calamity. We assure our resolve to take revenge on the ignoble traitor and gang of criminals and support the lawful and wise steps you have taken to form the presidential council. We pledge that we will follow your way, in the path traced by the late martyr with full resolve, firmness and loyalty. We will not spare any effort in working for what is good for the nation and the country and the continuation of the march. The governor of al-Hudaydah province, the commander of al-Hudaydah brigade, the director of security of al-Hudaydah province. [Text] [San'a' AL-THAWRAH in Arabic 27 Jun 78 p 2]

PROMINENT CITIZENS' CONDOLENCES--Brother chairman of the republical presidential council and brother members, may God preserve you: It was with the greatest sorrow and grief that we received the news of the assassination of the martyr of the homeland, leader in democracy, Lt Col Ahmad Husayn al-Ghashmi, president of the republic and commander-in-chief of the armed forces. We therefore offer our condolences to you and to all sons of the Yemeni people. We proclaim in the name of all the tribes of Yemen our revulsion at the contemptible plots which were arranged and implemented by the enemies of God, religion and homeland, who were always known for brutality and are devoid of all human feelings, customs, treaties and international laws in trying to execute such plans against the honor and independence of Yemen and its Islamic tenets. We say to the enemies and those who protect them that we are able to defend our country and its beliefs. Peace be upon you. Your brothers: Rajih Abu-Luhum, Husayn 'Ali al-Qadi, Marzuq ibn Mu'ayli, Muhammad 'Ali al-Bukhayti, 'Ali al-Rasses, Hammud Muhammad al-Sabri, Ahmad 'Ali al-Matari, Chalib al-Ajda', Salim al-Humayqani, Ahmad Nasir al-Dhahab, Yahya al-'Uhdri, 'Ali ibn 'Ali Hubaysh, Yahya Muhsin al-Ghuli, 'Ali Yahya Nafis, Zammam Qubah 'Ali Salah 'Ulwan, 'Abd-al-Hamid Mahmud 'Abd-al-Hamid, Qasim 'Abdallah 'Affan, Hazzam Abu-Dhibah. [Text] [San'a' AL-THAWRAH in Arabic 27 Jun 78 p 3]

CONDOLENCES IN TA'IZZ--A large number of religious and tribal leaders, merchants, students and citizens came to the Ta'izz provincial headquarters to offer condolences on the martyrdom of the late Lt Col Ahmad Husayn al-Ghashmi, president of the republic and commander-in-chief of the armed forces. All of them expressed their deep grief at the painful incident which took the life of the late president and their revulsion at that abominable act which was directed by criminal hands. They affirmed their complete willingness to rally around the new leadership represented by the republican presidential council in order to protect the homeland and lead it to goodness and peace; whatever be the circumstances and plots, the will of the people remains and the will of God is over all. The brother governor of the province, a deputy, and the director general came to receive these delegations. [Text] [San'a' AL-THAWRAH in Arabic 26 Jun 78 p 2]

AL-GHASHMI'S BIOGRAPHY--Lt Col Ahmad Ghashmi was born in Hamdan, a suburb of San'a', in 1941 and was educated through secondary school there. He joined the armed forces, spent some time in military training at Ta'izz and took classes specializing in armor. He was entrusted with important responsibilities, being promoted to chief of the military staff of his detachment, then commander of the western axis, commander of the eastern axis, commander of the 1st armored battalion and commander of the 1st armored brigade. He had a major role in the 13 June 1974 corrective movement and afterwards was chosen chief of Yemeni armed forces' general staff. Then the responsibilities of deputy commander-in-chief of the armed forces were added to his duties, in addition to his being a member of the Command Council. He was married and had four children, the oldest of whom (is named) Sadiq. President al-Ghashmi took over the reins of government in Yemen after the assassination of President al-Hamadi on Wednesday evening, 11 October 1977. [Text] [Riyadh AL-RIYAD in Arabic 25 Jun 78 p 1]

REPORTED MILITARY PRESENCE--San'a'--The Yemeni AL-JUMHURIYAH, published in San'a', today called on the Arab states to do their duty and send an Arab military committee to ascertain the truth about the reported presence of military concentrations and hostile military forces in the territorial waters of the Yemen Arab Republic. [Excerpt] [Riyadh SNA in Arabic 1010 GMT 13 Jul 78 LD]

CSO: 4802

PHOTOS



Lt Col al-Ghashmi's Office at Armed Forces General Command Headquarters
Baghdad AL-JUMHURIYAH in Arabic 27 Jun 78 p 2



Southern Soldiers who Arrived in the North

Kuwait AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM in Arabic 7 Jul 78 p 18

CSO: 4802

PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF YEMEN

GROUP REVEALS SOVIET ACTIVITY IN ADEN

Beirut AL-HAWADITH in Arabic 23 Jun 78 p 19

[Text] In a press release issued by the World Appeal to Liberate South Yemen organization (headquartered in Paris) there is a news item confirmed by Arab circles in the French capital saying in essence that the Soviet Union has become a secret military police in Aden and that a secret Soviet detachment arrived at Khurmaksar airport last April and was transported to the Soviet command headquarters, which is guarded by Soviet military security police.

This detachment of military police is headed by (Vladimir Sharyef), who worked for years as a diplomat in the Soviet embassy in Addis Ababa. Then he was expelled from the Ethiopian capital after the Ethiopian government accused him of directing a Russian secret police. But (Sharyef) had many friends in the Ethiopian army, and it seems that his present mission to Aden, nine years after his expulsion from Addis Ababa, is related to stepped-up Soviet activity in the Red Sea and East African areas. Newcomers say that (Sharyef)'s command headquarters has become like a beehive, noisy with the activity in which members of the East German security office are participating.

The World Appeal to Liberate South Yemen organization's release says that in the last week of April, a shipment of crates labeled "office machines and equipment" arrived at the Soviet command headquarters in Aden. These crates arrived at Khurmaksar airport in an Ilyushin 62-S plane marked "Aeroflot" flown by pilots from the Soviet airforce. The crates were transported from the airport in Russian military vehicles escorted by a number of Russians in civilian clothes. The Russians refused to allow airport workers to carry the crates or come near them. A short time after the crates arrived at the Soviet command headquarters, a group of radio antennae was seen being erected there.

Reports reaching Arab circles in Paris say that the United States' decision to open an embassy in Aden is for the purpose of obtaining precise information about what is happening in South Yemen since information from there is contradictory.

CSO: 4802

PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF YEMEN

EGYPTIAN MAGAZINE DESCRIBES BACKGROUND TO EVENTS

Cairo OCTOBER in Arabic 25 Jun 78 p 5 LD

[Report by Usamah Ayyub: "Secret Power Struggle in Aden"]

[Text] According to confirmed reports from Aden, there are clear indications that Salim Rubayyi 'Ali will be restricted to his constitutional post as chairman of the presidential council and that the functions of the government and the organization will be carried out in accordance with the constitution and internal statutes.

Well-informed sources say that there is an alliance between 'Abd-al-Fattah Isma'il, general secretary of the ruling National Front, and some friends and supporters of Salim Rubayyi 'Ali who have been given new responsibilities and posts.

The final fate of Salim Rubayyi 'Ali will be decided next October.

There are several plans to carry out changes in the government in Aden, although all of them will be at the expense of Salim Rubayyi 'Ali, one of these plans is for him to remain only a figure head, another provides for 'Abd-al-Fattah Isma'il to assume the chairmanship in addition to his post as general secretary of the ruling party. Certain sources say that 'Ali Nasir Muhammad is tipped to become chairman or vice chairman of the presidential council, in which case 'Abdallah al-Khamiri, member of the national front executive committee, is likely to become prime minister. The star or minister of communications, Mahmud 'Ushaysh, who usually carries 'Abd-al-Fattah Isma'il's messages to al-Qadhdhafi and Salim Rubayyi 'Ali's messages to the YAR chairman, is likely to rise.

The secret power struggle--which does not revolve around ideological differences--between Salim Rubayyi 'Ali and 'Abd-al-Fattah Isma'il entered a new stage at last week's meeting of the National Front Central Committee when committee member 'Abdallah al-Khamiri strongly criticized the government actions and accused the cabinet of weakness.

The surprise was that the great majority of the committee members voted in support of al-Khamiri. He was also supported by members of the politburo. Rubayyi' 'Ali was supported by only two members of the central committee who came from his home town.

At the end of the meeting the Central Committee adopted resolutions all of which aim at reducing the powers of Salim Rubayyi' 'Ali.

The first resolution was that prime minister 'Ali Nasir Muhammad should be the executive official instead of the chairman and that cabinet should never meet in his absence.

It was also agreed that in the case of the absence of the prime minister, minister of state for cabinet affairs 'Abd-al-'Aziz 'Abd-al-Mawla (as published), should act as prime minister but that this should not be announced.

Prior to this decision, Salim Rubayyi' 'Ali exercised his powers as chairman of the presidential council and head of the executive authority. He summoned ministers and gave them his orders and directives. He also used to head cabinet meetings, even in the absence of 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, in accordance with powers which he imposed with his strong personality and which were not provided for by the constitution.

As a further step toward pulling the rug from under Salim Rubayyi' 'Ali, either through taking his friends away from him or through dismissing them, 'Abd-al-Fattah Isma'il took over the post of the leadership in the capital after ousting Salim Bajamil, a relative of Salim Rubayyi' 'Ali.

Despite the fact that Salim Rubayyi' 'Ali is still the head of state and chairman of the higher military committee, the latter post being the last of the jurisdictions and powers left to him, there is no doubt that 'Abd-al-Fattah Isma'il has won this decisive round in the secret power struggle.

Diplomatic sources say that the recent measures have been taken in order to reduce the powers of Salim Rubayyi' 'Ali because of his well-known Arab nationalist line and attempts to bend the attitudes of the ruling party against Arab causes and the interests of the Arab nation.

The question that remains to be asked is whether 'Abd-al-Fattah Isma'il will succeed in ousting Salim Rubayyi' 'Ali finally or at least keep him a powerless figurehead. The answer to this question will come in coming rounds of conflict.

CSO: 4802

PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF YEMEN

POPULATION SEEN SUPPORTING ISMA'IL--MUHAMMAD GOVERNMENT

East Berlin BERLINER ZEITUNG in German 30 Jun 78 p 5

[Text] At an extraordinary meeting in Aden last Wednesday the Central Committee of the Unified Political Organization--National Front (UPONF) received the Politburo's report on the latest events in the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen relative to the failed attempt at a coup d'etat. The Central Committee praised the actions of the PDRY's armed forces, the people's militias and security forces in support of the UPONF and its principle of collective leadership.

The Central Committee approved the execution of the renegade Salim Rubayyi 'Ali and two of his accomplices. It decided to divest of all their party and government offices 'Ali Salih 'Ubayd, 'Abdallah Salih al-Barr and Hasani Bacum, and to expel them from the UPONF.

The Central Committee appealed to all social organizations of the PDRY and to the people of Yemen to reinforce revolutionary vigilance and overcome all difficulties and obstacles at a time when a new type vanguard party is being created in the country.

Concerning the decisions adopted by the meeting, 'Abd-al-Fattah 'Isma'il, general secretary of UPONF, explained that the UPONF leadership had thereby condemned the actions of the conspirators and renegades as well as demonstrated its loyalty to revolutionary legality and the principles of collective leadership and democratic centralism.

'Abd-al-Fattah Ismail further explained to the meeting that Salim Rubayyi 'Ali had prepared his action step by step. He had assumed different guises in his work in matters of domestic and foreign affairs. It had needed the vigilance of the political leadership of the revolution to unmask him.

Assuming attitudes of left extremism and false "objectivity," Rubayyi 'Ali had turned against the unity of the national democratic movement which, the general secretary emphasized, must be at the basis of the creation of a new type vanguard party. When the positive changes in the PDRY resulted in the further unification of the formations involved in the national democratic

movement on stable and sound bases, his negative attitude to a vanguard party stood fully revealed. He sought to use for personal gain the changes in the economy, trade and finance.

Salim Rubayyi' 'Ali always held reactionary attitudes in the field of foreign policy. He opposed the revolutionary movements in Arab and other countries and, in alliance with reactionary and imperialist circles, attempted to sow doubts in the correctness of PDRY relations with the socialist community and, especially, the Soviet Union. Furthermore, said 'Abd-al-Fattah Isma'il, he wished to plunge the Yemeni people into a wide civil war and make the PDRY seem a terrorist state disdaining international principles and standards. Rubayyi' 'Ali tried to sacrifice the revolution to imperialist and reactionary circles.

Salih Muslih al-Qasim, member of the UPONF Central Committee Politburo and minister of interior of the PDRY, stated that the principles of collective leadership arrived at in the years of revolutionary struggle guaranteed the choice of a correct revolutionary line and the exclusion of any deviation.

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CSO: 4403

PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF YEMEN

PATRIOTIC FRONT REPORTS WIDESPREAD UNREST

Riyadh AL-RIYAD in Arabic 5 Jun 78 pp 1, 13

[Text] Cairo, San'a': SNA--Violent battles still continue within South Yemen between the forces supporting the regime in Aden and the [United] Patriotic [Front's] Forces which reject the present orientation there, including the foreign military presence. The number of people in prisons in Aden has risen to more than 30,000. Some areas have been liberated from the rule of the regime in Aden. A Cuban force is now surrounding al-Nasr Camp after it had announced that it was rebelling against the Adeni rule. Cuban concentrations are on the borders between North and South Yemen.

The United Patriotic Front announced that campaigns of repression, torture and mass annihilation are continuing against innocent people who prefer death rather than submit to the abnormal situation in the country.

The United Patriotic Front stated that the Mukayras area up to Jabal Tharah in al-'Uwadhal is almost a denied area to the ruling regime in Aden after the [Mukayras area's] refusal to recognize the new leadership which the Aden government appointed.

Muhammad 'Ali Ahmad, the new governor whom the Adeni government sent in order to obtain allegiance to the new status quo from the area's inhabitants, has been arrested and his helicopter has been placed under heavy guard.

The UPF in a statement today, stated that battles are going on in the al-'Alam region between the Aden coast and Abyan up to the region of Lawdar in al-'Uwadhal. Also, the supporters of former President Rubayyi 'Ali are in control of it [that area] under the command of 'Ali Salih 'Aybad, member of the former central committee, and with the support of the al-Fadli tribes who are from the former president's home area.

It was mentioned that al-Nasr Camp in Aden has declared a rebellion and will not permit the Adeni defence minister to enter it and negotiate with its forces. Therefore, a Cuban force was ordered to surround it.

Another rebellion in the Makiras area under the command of 'Abdallah al-Sharqi has been announced. Major [ra'id] Muhammad al-Mansar, commander of Socotra, which is adjacent to the Sultanate of Muscat and Oman, has declared a rebellion and has warned the government that he will fire his artillery on any ship approaching the coast of the island or thinking of harrassing his force by sea or air. The fate of the Soviet forces which use the island as a main base is not known--units of the Soviet fleet for East Asia were given facilities [there].

The UPF announced that a number of ulemas and imams who condemned the Marxist presence in Aden were whipped in a campaign of terrorism in order to finish off by death or torture those who do not support the regime.

In San'a' it was learned that Lt Col Muhsin al-Yusufi, member of the People's Constituent Assembly and YAR Interior Minister, informed the assembly of the arrival of refugee South Yemeni forces in the Harib area in the Ma'rib province.

Lt Col al-Yusufi also informed the assembly of the concentrations of Cuban forces along the border between North and South Yemen; also that two Cuban Maj Gens(liwa') from Ethiopia are located in the area of the positions on the borders abandoned by the [forementioned refugee] South Yemeni forces.

The assembly today held its first meeting of the new session under the chairmanship of al-Sayyid Sa'id al-Hakimi, the assembly president, in order to hear the report from the Interior Minister on the security situation in the country. Lt Col al-Yusufi's report affirmed that the security situation is extremely satisfactory with the support of the people for his leadership and his total alertness toward the hostile forces.

A committee of five members from the people's council has been formed and it includes the minister of communications and transport. It will study the current situation and delineate the view of the council members in the current situation.

It has been decided to have the council issue an important statement on the events which began with the assassination of former president Lt Col Ahmad Husayn al-Ghashmi, other developments, and the situation in South Yemen.

CSO: 4802

PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF YEMEN

CORRESPONDENT TOURS SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF THIRD GOVERNORATE

Beirut AL-HURRIYAH in Arabic 9 Jul 78 pp 12 and 13

[Text] Ever since our arrival, we had been wanting to visit the southern district of the Third Governorate. The whole area was immersed in rumors of a fierce war. Some of the agencies said that the whole district was fighting in defense of Salimayn, and that the number of warriors was in excess of thousands. This and other speculations were the subject of unceasing cogitation on the part of the journalists.

Our escort told us that the road to al-Zanjabar was passable. At the cross-road between al-Zanjabar and Ji'ar, armed men of the militia and the People's Police appeared. They were guarding the villages from any acts of sabotage that desperadoes might commit. At the entrances to the village, and in its streets, the Kalashnikov rifle was [to be seen] on the shoulders of the students, the instructors, the workmen, the farmers, the soldiers, and the policemen. The people live their lives as usual. The car proceeds to the committee of the Third Governorate.

It was a real surprise, for the secretariat in the governorate, whose headquarters is in the village of al-Zanjabar, the village of Salim Rubayyi' 'Ali and Ja'im Salih, consists of six members, of whom none turned toward the attempt at the coup d'etat but Ja'im Salih, member of the Politburo and first secretary of the Unified Political Organization of the Popular Front in the Third Governorate. The second secretary, the secretary of the ideological office, the secretary of censorship, the secretary of proletarian establishments, and the secretary of economic affairs all fought on the side of the Organizational Legitimacy.

The same situation applies to the committees and the secretariat of the districts and their centers.

Comrade Husayn Muhammad Husayn, secretary of the ideological office in the committee of the Third Governorate and a resident of the village of al-Zanjabar, spoke to us about the true weight of Salim Rubayyi' 'Ali in the rest of the institutions and establishments, saying:

"The forces of the militia, the armed forces, the People's Police, and the National Security all belong to the Organizational Legitimacy and fought for those who attempted the coup d'etat.

"The people's forces were divided into two parts: the first part, which took sides with Salim Rubayyi' 'Ali, in the southern district, and the second part, which sided with the Organizational Legitimacy, in the northern, eastern, and western districts.

"Therefore, the basic force of those who engaged in the attempt at the coup d'etat was located in the people's forces, which are virtually tribal forces. The plan was that these forces should move to Aden after they took control of the rocket battalion and after they succeeded in purging the progressive forces in the district."

Concerning a series of engagements in the southern district of the Third Governorate, Comrade Husayn Muhammad Husayn said:

"They massed about 1,000 armed men and proceeded toward the rocket battalion. That was on the morning of 26 June. The battalion command refused to use its weapons against the Organization, and limited engagements took place between the two sides. Then they tried to take control of the police command, and the officers and men refused to use their weapons against the leaders of the revolution. Then they tried to seize command of the People's Militia in Ji'ar. They failed in all their attempts.

"After the situation was settled and the attempt at the coup d'etat was purged, the rocket battalion carried out the orders of the Organization and collaborated with the police and the militia in impeding the march of the forces to Aden and in driving them off. The local radio announcements began to be addressed to the workers, the peasants, the students, and the instructors in the village of al-Zanjabar to get in motion and bring down the conspiracy.

"Throughout 27 June, the engagements were furious to purge the pockets of the southern forces, persons who had been dismissed from the army, and escapees from the jails. On 28 June, the Organization was victorious over the conspiracy and the rebels surrendered. We found in their possession 1,000 pieces of various arms, together with four-barreled anti-aircraft guns and bazookas. Only a few men were able to flee to the north."

In the headquarters of the People's Militia, we saw the four-barreled anti-aircraft guns, which were meant for the use of the army and not of the tribes, seven guns of Chinese manufacture, and dozens of guns which had not been used.

During our tour through the district, we saw the village of al-Zanjabar, the village of al-Makhzan, where 150 of those who fought for the coup d'etat were captured, and the village of Ji'ar. In Jabal Khanfar, the Organization

discovered a number of caches of weapons which had been represented as agricultural tools when they were laid away. In the neighboring workshop, the workers were performing their work calmly and peacefully.

Comrade Thabit 'Ubayd Husayn, military commander of the Third Governorate, spoke. He discovered a secret camp in al-Dirjaj, which Salim Rubayyi' 'Ali had been using under the cover of a gang of cotton-pickers. The prisoners admitted that the camp had been set up in February 1978, that 400 combatants had been trained in it, and that its command consisted of officers who had been dismissed from the army and had been given leave to perform this task. Inside the "cotton-picking" camp, the Organization found a huge weapons warehouse and a small workshop for the manufacture of explosives.

During our tour, Comrade Qasim Dawud, second secretary in the secretariat of the Party Organization in the Third Governorate, talked. He estimated the number of martyrs of the revolution at some dozens and the number of wounded at about a hundred. The number of those killed in the attempt at the coup d'etat did not come to a hundred, and the rest were captured and freed after surrendering their weapons and assenting to the elimination of the conspiracy. Rapidly conducted interrogations of the prisoners revealed that most of them bore arms and had come to depart for Aden on the strength of a telegram from Salim Rubayyi' 'Ali saying that war had broken out with the North and that the Northern forces were surrounding the palace.

Comrade Qasim Dawud said that the governorate Party committee consisted of 47 active and candidate members, of whom only 10 sided with Salim Rubayyi' 'Ali, Ja'im Salih, and 'Ali Salim La'war, among whom were the governor of the governorate, 'Abdallah Muhammad al-Junaydi, and his secretary, Mas'ud Khalid.

Many of the members of the Organization in the southern district had been saying proudly again and again that their district had had the honor of the first clash with the rightist trend, which Qahtan al-Sha'bi represented, and that they were pleased at having the second initiative in facing the adventurous current of the attempt at the coup d'etat which Salim Rubayyi' 'Ali represented. They were doubly pleased: because the revolution survived and because its instrument, the Vanguard Party, arose in October.

CSO: 4802

PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF YEMEN

CORRESPONDENT ACCOMPANIES REVOLUTION FORCES IN COMBAT

Beirut AL-HURRIYAH in Arabic 9 Jul 78 pp 14 and 15

[Text] The doorway of the headquarters of the leadership no longer bore the large picture of Salim Rubayyi 'Ali, and the men, youths, and boys went about carrying Kalashnikovs, examining identifications, and guarding the Organizational Legitimacy. Before we began our field trip in the extensive area of the headquarters, our escorts led us to the area of the council of ministers to see the aftermath of the operation which had been contrived to do away with the progressive leadership of the Organization.

A shell aimed directly at the headquarters struck a huge tree, which saved the members of the politburo and the Central Committee who were meeting there. Stray bullets shattered the panes of the windows and left conspicuous scars on the walls. Here was the plenary meeting that divested Salim Rubayyi 'Ali of his party and government functions. We ascended to the place, and one of the soldiers, who had been lying on the ground with his weapon beside him, jumped up. I asked my escort about this man, and he told me that he was Comrade Mahmud Salih, commander of the People's Militia. He added, "They killed his wife with DShK [Degtyarev-Shpagin heavy machine gun] bullets and surrounded his house, but the neighbors were able to take his children away."

One of the soldiers remarked, "but for the tree, his plan would have succeeded." Another added, "The splinters struck Comrade Muhsin, elected member of the politburo and state minister of security, Comrade Salim Salih, member of the Central Committee and secretary of the office of foreign relations, and Lt Col 'Ali 'Antar, member of the Central Committee and minister of defense. All of their wounds were slight."

Why Did the Comrades Refrain From Answering the Fire?

They wanted to deceive Salimayn [Salim Rubayyi 'Ali] and his gang into believing that they had succeeded in clearing out the Organization so that he would not keep up the firing.

In the distance, one could see, on the mountain peak, the enemy headquarters from which the B-10 shells and DShK bullets were fired. We saw the effects of the shelling on the house of Comrade 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, member of the leadership council and chairman of the council of ministers, and other shells protruding from the facade of the ministry of planning and the rear wall of the central bureau of statistics.

Till that moment, there had been no response to the source of the firing. The members of the politburo and the Central Committee came out amid the thunder of the firing and went up to the mountain, where a helicopter took them.

From the area of the council of ministers, we proceeded to the officers' club (formerly the Bride of the Sea Club), on the opposite shore from the headquarters. The artillery shells had been intended to demolish everything inside of the club, although the place was empty except for the workmen. Two of the workmen were hit, and the glass of the coffee shop fell out. The artillery was not able to achieve its bloody purpose.

Near the club, the houses of the members of the People's Police stood here and there, with that of the Comrade commander of the police among them. The walls showed clearly the effects of volleys of DShK bullets. The glass was shattered, and some of the woodwork had fallen in. It is clear that the bombing had been intended to do away with the commander of the Popular Police, but he was not at home at that time. They killed his wife, but the neighbors rescued his children.

We were taken to the headquarters. While Comrade Salim Naji, secretary of the base organization of the Unified Political Organization, National Front in the People's Police, was speaking to us about the first line of defense, a group of houses was struck by medium machine guns and RPG-2, RPG-7, RPG-10 [antitank launchers], as well as rifles and hand grenades.

When we received the organizational order to attack the headquarters, we were able within hours to clear out their first line of defense. We were taken by automobile to the second line of defense! Within it was the Republican Palace. Branches of fallen trees and spent cartridge from DShK's and Kalashnikovs were strewn over the runways and firing centers. The glass of the facade of the palace was broken and scattered. We entered the palace. On the wall were still the triple pictures of the members of the former leadership council, which included Salim Rubayyi 'Ali, and another picture of him on the opposite wall. On the ground were dirt, glass, spent cartridges, and the like. The Organization command issued an order not to touch the palace, but to leave it as it was, for the ceremonies of the leadership were being conducted. Fallen branches, empty cartridges, and smashed chairs confronted us. In front of the palace stood two burnt-out cars. One of the escorts said, "This car belonged to 'Ali Salim La'war, member of the Central Committee and secretary of the office of Salim Rubayyi 'Ali."

Near the yard, where the kitchen of the headquarters stands, we saw the DShK and B-10 emplacements, a high hill before which lay a broad area containing the building of the council of ministers, the houses of the People's Police, and the officers' club.

The third line of defense was the strongest. It consisted of a large group of two-story buildings and a broad underground passage, which had been dug in the Ottoman era. During World War II, the British repaired and widened it, so that it became a stronghold for the storage of weapons, ammunition, and supplies, also to be used as a shelter for the protection of individuals. A broad stone trench cuts across this line, and it is not easy to cross it. Places of concealment and artillery and machine gun emplacements are scattered about. Where the trench turns toward the sea, the artillery emplacements appear directly opposite the building of the council of ministers and the headquarters of the Central Committee. Perhaps this will explain the direct hits on the buildings of the area of the council of ministers, including the residences of the experts.

When you cross the third line, the round palace appears directly before you. This is the palace that the commander of the British naval force built in Middle East, in the form of a ship. The palace has two stories underground and two above ground. At the bottom, it is joined by a passage which leads to the sea. This was used during the revolution to receive the chiefs of the republics. The building still stands, but it has been burned out, and its doors and windows have been destroyed. Here the tribesmen, those who were dismissed from the army, and some of the officers and men fought till their last breath, so that the air force was obliged to bomb it to bring an end to the fighting.

We go down from the fortress to the paved street, and there appears before us an old Turkish gun, whose large muzzle is still directed toward the sea. We go down farther, and arrive at the last place where Salim Rubayyi' 'Ali, Ja'im Salih, and 'Ali Salim La'war stayed. A circular concrete patio, from which you may look downward over the staircase on the eastern side. A bed, covers, canned foods, liquid refreshments, and a small gas lamp: these are the articles with which Salim Rubayyi' 'Ali lived after he went out of the palace and stayed to await the march of his henchmen on the capital to bring down the revolution and empty it of its progressive content.

In front of the shelter, there are many burnt-out buildings which stand like columns since the air force bombed them. The forces of the Organizational Legitimacy had arrived at this place, and concentrated in the shellproof building. Between it and the place of concealment is a stone crevice, which a large water pipe traverses.

The radio was broadcasting the announcement of the Central Committee, and the loud speaker was asking Salimayn and those who were with him to surrender. They came out of the old British nest, proceeded without weapons over the water pipe, and surrendered. They abandoned the conspiracy of the coup attempt, and the Organization was victorious. The revolution triumphed.

PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF YEMEN

STATEMENT WARNS AGAINST FOREIGN AGGRESSION

Baghdad INA in Arabic 1520 GMT 2 Jul 78 JN

[Text] Aden, 2 July--The PDRY has called on the people of both Yemens to stand in one rank against the attempts of imperialism and reaction to provoke fresh fighting among the sons of the one Yemeni people. This is contained in a statement issued here by an official source in the foreign ministry and broadcast over Aden Radio this afternoon.

The statement says: "The military concentrations (as received) which aim at attacking our people will not frighten our people or prevent them from exercising their legitimate right of defending their national sovereignty and the revolution's progressive gains."

In the statement, the source appealed to fraternal and friendly peoples and states to stand firmly against foreign interference in Yemen's affairs and to oppose an escalation of tension in the area.

The source said that the Yemeni people will not stand with their hands tied in the face of any acts of aggression by hostile foreign circles aimed at undermining the objectives and gains of the 26 September and 14 October revolutions.

The source added that the PDRY government is following all the feverish and rancorous propaganda campaigns being waged by hostile circles against the Yemeni people and their progressive regime.

CSO: 4802

PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF YEMEN

GOVERNMENT WILL RESIST ATTEMPTS TO FOMENT WAR

Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 3 Jul 78 LD/EA

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpts] Democratic Yemen has proved that it will not bow to provocative and underhanded attempts at war which the imperialists and their agents are currently trying to detonate both locally and regionally against Democratic Yemen and against the achievements of the 14 October and 26 September Yemeni revolutions.

Democratic Yemen, which stresses its legal right to defend its independence and national sovereignty, has given a most outstanding example in the form of its principled attitude with regard to its position on relations between the two parts of the Yemen but also in terms of its stability among the states of the region, based on noninterference in internal affairs and cooperation, while the history of international relations is replete with violations against international relations in the form of crimes and regrettable occurrences committed by the forces of imperialism and reaction and even by unofficial quarters on many occasions. This is most clearly illustrated by events in this region inasmuch as the late president Ibrahim al-Hamadi, president of the command council and commander-in-chief of the armed forces in the northern part of the homeland, was assassinated.

It remains well known that this disgraceful crime was prepared and planned at the highest level of the circles of imperialism and reaction and that this crime, and the series of crimes committed throughout the long history of the region by imperialist and reactionary circles have remained without those planning and executing them being punished, as if these crimes were part and parcel of international legality, particularly as far as the position of the Yemeni people and relations with them are concerned. As for Democratic Yemen, it is the only country which, not only during the course of the history of the region, but in that of international relations, has meted out harsh punishment against interference in the affairs of other countries or action against the principles of the relations between the two parts of the Yemen.

The accusation which was made by the government in the northern part of the homeland on 24 June against Salim Rubayyi' 'Ali, who was head of state in Democratic Yemen, was not made without the Unified Political Organization--National Front (UPONF) decisively calling to account Salim Rubayyi' 'Ali, who was holding such a high political office, for his irresponsible individualistic behavior in violation of the principles of the UPONF and of the organization's collective leadership, those of the Yemeni people and those relating to the stability of the region.

However, this historic position adopted by Democratic Yemen with respect to the development of relations between the two parts of the Yemen and the stability of the region and in that of international relations and charters of every sort is not regarded with appreciation by the imperialist forces and their agents on either the local or regional levels. On the contrary, these forces, adopting an irresponsible position, proceeded to distort the facts and turn them inside out with the aim of striking against the progressive regime of Democratic Yemen and the objectives of the revolutions of 26 September and 14 October, beating the drums of war in order to cause fighting among the Yemeni people.

The solidarity of the peoples of the world and of revolutionary and peace-loving forces with Democratic Yemen, and that of the patriotic and democratic forces with the Yemeni people under these circumstances so that they should be able to bring to realization their legitimate aspirations, becomes an essential duty and a pressing task in the struggle for the solidarity existing among these peoples and forces and in the struggle for liberation, peaceful coexistence, peace and progress.

CSO: 4802

PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF YEMEN

STATEMENT REAFFIRMS PRINCIPLES OF YEMENI UNITY

Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 0405 GMT 27 Jun 78 LD/EA

[Station Commentary: "Spotlight on the Central Committee's Statement"]

[Text] Militant masses of our Yemeni people listened with great attention to the important policy statement issued by the extraordinary session of the Central Committee of the Unified Political Organization-National Front (UPONF), which was held the evening before last in order to discuss and study the latest situation and developments in the northern part of the homeland.

The Central Committee's statement expresses approval of Salim Rubayyi 'Ali's resignation and his being stripped of all party and official posts because of his individualistic practices and behavior, which ran directly counter to the policy and principles of the UPONF and the policy of the government of the revolution and its stands.

Salim Rubayyi 'Ali's behavior had been characterized by an individualistic tendency in the past. This led him to try to gather all power for himself and to adopt all decisions without referring them to the political leadership represented by the central committee and its political bureau.

This individualistic tendency totally conflicted with the established organizational principles, headed by the principle of collective leadership: It violated the organization's unity and weakened its leading role and, consequently, exposed all the aspirations and hopes of our people for liberation, progress and unity to the dangers of (?fluctuation), empiricism and apostasy. In the experiences of peoples, individualistic tendencies have only been destructive ones. They constrain democracy, although people of such tendencies have on occasion bragged about it. They weaken the creative potential and capabilities of the masses and make them lose their self-confidence, gradually driving them toward despair and indifference. Thus, individualistic tendencies never have any future and eventually they become an anathema to their very proponents.

Perhaps Salim Rubayyi's 'Ali forgot our contemporary national history, his predecessor's individualistic tendencies that led to his downfall, and that of his accomplices, when we took the glorious June Corrective Step which extirpated individualistic tendencies and stressed the principles of democratic centralism, collective leadership, criticism and self-criticism.

There is no difference between an individualistic tendency which rules in the name of the right and an individualistic tendency which rules in the name of the left, for all individualistic tendencies are the same and have an inevitable fate.

The Central Committee's statement condemns this destructive tendency, stressing that our political organization and our progressive regime have no connection with that evil behavior, which is totally incompatible with all rules and conventions.

The statement points out that our UPONF fully realizes that forces that consider the progress of the Yemeni people and their unity to be matters that arouse their anxiety and that block their ambitions, will not be able to drive the Yemeni people to the brink of war and to an alienation between the two parts of the single homeland. When it stresses its eagerness to avoid whatever tends to provoke fighting within the ranks of the sons of the Yemeni people, it also affirms its eagerness to establish normal and cordial relations with all its brothers and friends, and with all states in the region based on noninterference in internal affairs and respect for national sovereignty.

This emphasis in the statement has been consolidated in the documents and ethics of our political organization, and members of our party are raised in keeping with its values and ideals and our principled stands are defined on this basis.

In this respect, Comrade 'Abd-al-Fattah Isma'il, secretary general of the Central Committee, said a few days ago, on the occasion of the ninth anniversary of the Corrective Step: on the basis of the UPONF Central Committee's directives, the government of the revolution has exerted efforts with our brothers in San'a' for the sake of attaining the great aim of unity. As a matter of fact, the continuing meetings and forms of coordination between San'a' and Aden will provide a climate for mutual approaches and understanding in a manner that will serve the peoples' national causes and insure their sovereignty over their land.

By the very nature of the issue, there still lie before us and our brothers major aspirations whose fulfillment demands joint cooperation on the road toward the establishment of a unified Democratic Yemen. For our part, the UPONF and the government of the revolution will continue to follow a course directed at strengthening contacts and cooperation to serve the interests of the Yemeni people.

The comrade secretary general added: hence, continued strengthening and development of the forms of coordination; unification of the energies of the governments and people; and development of the unity committees and joint confrontation with the imperialist and Zionist designs aimed at violating the sovereignty of the Yemeni land and hampering the unity of our people through incitement to deepen partition and provoke dissension, rank among the most pressing and fundamental issues that prevent our enemies from infiltrating and provoking differences, and they respond to the aspirations of the masses of our people in the two parts and to the principles and aims of the 26 September and 14 October revolutions.

This emphasis by the brother secretary general on the necessity for consultation and coordination with the brothers in San'a' in a manner that will serve the interests of our Yemeni people and fulfill their complete aims and aspirations, is among the most important principles of our political organization and the government of the revolution.

There is no doubt that this principle will remain the object of plots by forces hostile to our Yemeni people and the internal forces that ally themselves and coordinate with them to divert our Yemeni people from their principal causes and drive them toward tension and fighting, so that they may be able to fulfill their ambition and goal of impeding the march of our people toward liberation, progress and unity.

In this regard the brother secretary general said: We are fully aware of all the conspiracies being devised against the will and aspirations of our Yemeni people. The fate of any attempts or bids to return to the fold of the middle ages and the fold of colonialism will result in speedy failure for our Yemeni people awakened on 26 September and 14 October, and no power, however great, can subjugate their will and impede their march toward safeguarding their national sovereignty and unity and establishing their new Yemeni society that is free from the exploitation of man by man.

CSO: 4802

PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF YEMEN

CPCZ DAILY REPORTS ON PRESS CONFERENCE BY ENVOY

Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 8 Jul 78 p 2 AU

["ZR" Report: "A Plot against the PDRY; Press Conference on the Latest Development in Yemen"]

[Text] A press conference with the charge d'affaires of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen (PDRY), Salih 'Abdallah al-Muthana, about the latest developments in Yemen took place in Prague on Friday. The diplomatic representative of the PDRY familiarized the journalists with the situation in the PDRG and in the Yemen Arab Republic and with the attitude of the Arab countries toward the conflict between the two Yemeni states. He expressed his regret at the hostile propaganda campaign aiming at distorting the facts and at developing activities that would create favorable external conditions for justifying foreign intervention in the affairs of the two parts. He said: "The latest development of events in our region shows that an international colonialist and reactionary plot is being prepared and developed here that is threatening the sovereignty and independence of our fatherland."

Salih 'Abdallah al-Muthanna said that "It is being demonstrated that a large number of reactionary forces in the Arab world and in the world in general are involved in the plot. The concentration of troops on the borders of our country and the political and economic boycott of the country only confirm this fact.

"Our regime has been accused of assassinating President al-Ghashmi. But, in fact, the imperialist and reactionary forces created in the Yemen Arab Republic a situation which they could exploit to carry out their intrigues and implement their policy in the region."

Those who attended the conference also received the statement by the Secretary General of the Central Committee of the Unified Political Organization--National Front (UPONF) on the UPONF Central Committee's second extraordinary session. It states among other things that the Politburo report submitted to the Central Committee made it clear that the attempt at a reactionary coup d'etat carried out by Salih Rubayyi 'Ali in the evening hours of 25 June 1978 was not an accidental event but had been prepared for a long time.

"In the foreign policy field he was developing reactionary attitudes toward the Arab and world revolutionary movement till he finally went so far as to coordinate with the imperialist and reactionary circles that are waiting for a suitable occasion to launch an attack against the progressive regimes and against the national liberation movement. He was thus casting doubt on our principled relations with the socialist community headed by the USSR."

CSO: 2400

PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF YEMEN

NEW PARTY TO STRENGTHEN LINKS WITH SOCIALIST BLOC

Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 23 Jun 78 LD/EA

[Summary] In an interview published by 14 October today, Prime Minister 'Ali Nasir Muhammad Hasani said that the formation of the new Vanguard Party in October, together with the proper implementation of the principle of collective leadership, would facilitate the further accomplishment of the tasks set by the revolution.

"Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad Hasani stressed that under the new Vanguard Party our relations with the socialist countries would witness a momentous and positive development on the basis of internationalist solidarity. Democratic Yemen, he said, would also strive to expand the scope of its mutually beneficial cooperation with other countries on the basis of peaceful co-existence and mutual respect."

CSO: 4802

PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF YEMEN

MENGISTU, TSEDENBAL CABLE CONGRATULATIONS TO CHAIRMAN

Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 30 Jun 78 LD/EA

[Text] Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, member of the political bureau, chairman of the presidential council and prime minister, today received a congratulatory cable from Comrade Colonel Mengistu Haile Mariam, chairman of the provisional military administrative council and of the council of ministers of socialist Ethiopia, on the occasion of the thwarting of the coup conspiracy. Here is the text:

On behalf of the military council and the people of socialist Ethiopia and on my own behalf I congratulate you and the friendly people of the PDRY on your victory in thwarting the recent conspiracy against your popular revolution. The recent incidents which took place in Aden on Monday and Tuesday of this week have caused great concern to the Ethiopian people, who strongly believe in the (?nature) of solidarity of (?our) revolution. I am very happy, dear comrade, to reaffirm to you the unlimited solidarity of the Ethiopian people with the people of the PDRY and the vanguard class party of your people.

He also received a congratulatory cable from comrade Yumjaagiyn Tsedenbal, chairman of the presidium of the People's Great Hural of the Socialist Republic of Mongolia. Here is its text:

On behalf of the presidium of the People's Great Hural of the Socialist Republic of Mongolia and the Mongolian people and on my own behalf, I convey to you, dear comrade, sincere congratulations on the occasion of your appointment as chairman of the presidential council of the PDRY. I wish to assure you once again that the Mongolian people stand in (?absolute) solidarity with the people of the PDRY for the sake of safeguarding national independence and the revolutionary achievements from internal and external reaction and aggressive forces. I wish you happiness and further great successes in bringing about a new, progressive society in your country and in reinforcing peace and security [words indistinct].

CSO: 4802

PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF YEMEN

DEFENSE MINISTER CALLS FOR NATIONAL UNITY

East Berlin BERLINER ZEITUNG in German 5 Jul 78 p 5

[ADN report: "We Have Numerous Friends--PDRY Defense Minister Issues an Appeal to the Armed Forces and the People"]

[Text] 'Ali Ahmad Nasir, member of the Central Committee of UNFPO (United National Front Political Organization), member of the presidial council and PDRY Defense Minister, has issued an appeal to the armed forces and people of the PDRY, having the following text:

In every historic victory our people gains in its long struggle marked by the blood of those who died in it, reactionary imperialist conspiracies enter the scene. Those plots aim at interfering with the growth and development of our revolution and at sowing doubt about the correctness of our way. They thereby want to take possession of our revolution and liquidate our people's political, economic and social achievements for which the revolution has made gigantic sacrifices. Our Yemen people, which has conducted the important revolutions of 26 September and 14 October, the consummation of which was the emergence of the national-democratic order in the south, has known through all its modern history how attempted conspiracies have to be opposed and struck down.

And today now, when with the aborted coup attempt--nipped in the bud by our armed forces and our people--the conspiracy once again raises its head, imperialism, in its insane and hateful manner, is once again seeking to conduct a strike against the Yemen popular masses and drive our people into a destructive and bloody war between brothers, kindled by imperialism and reaction.

The Yemen people know imperialism and its domestic henchmen are to blame for the killing of thousands from the ranks of our good people since 1962. Supplied with this crucial experience and with sharpened political awareness, fraternally alined and united by bonds of blood, they know how to oppose those who want to drive them once more into a war among brothers.

Our confidence in the correctness of the political line taken by UNFPO, which proceeds from high principles and goals, and our pride in the magnificent achievements of our people under the leadership of its vanguard organization, deeply instill in us the certitude that we will oppose all plots wherever they are contrived and no matter how large. The traders in war and all those who have sold their conscience must know that our willingness for sacrifice and our readiness to defend our people are boundless.

We knew that our legitimate national desire for the national liberation of our people and for constructing a unified democratic Yemen would clash with the plans of imperialism and reaction in our region, for which reason they are contriving one plot after another against our people.

The 26 September and 14 October revolutions have taught us the methods for fighting and defeating the enemy's planned designs against the Yemen people grown strong through long revolutionary struggle and having recognized how much value there is in its national independence and how its right to social progress and peace has to be defended. Heroes of Tarmud, al-Balaq and Mukayras, heroes of Miswarah and Ayban, you who have made the 26 September and 14 October revolution, if now the traders in imperialist wars and their local and regional henchmen once again are beating the drums of war and thereby throw overboard our people's vital interests in a free and respectable life in an independent and dear homeland, we are not afraid of these war drums, and we shall not buckle under these attempts at provocation and pillage. While we are dedicating all our strength to avoiding war and to sparing our people the tragedies of the battlefield, we still know with the fullest confidence that we have the capacity for defending the revolution and the achievements of all our people.

Glorious People! If the hostile forces opposing our people are filling their ranks and think they could mobilize against us all that which defies the liberation of our people and of the other peoples, we know just the same we shall not conduct our just struggle alone and there will stand on our side the sections of our Arab people and all forces of the Arab national liberation movement, the safe embodiment of the aspirations of the masses in our Arab homeland, and numerous friends we have in the world will stand on our side as well, friends who have, as we have, fought against presumptuous enemies and inflicted heavy defeats on them. The solidarity of the peoples in the world and of their revolutionary forces with our people will be a solidarity for the realization of legitimate and just desires, opposed against the bloody plots that have the purpose of making our people pay a high price.

Heroic Soldiers! While you loftily and nobly bear within you the cares of our great Yemen people under these critical conditions, you must keep your strong hands on the trigger, for a homeland we do not protect we do not deserve, and our people's enormous sacrifices have shown in the clearest way that we deserve a free homeland. In this homeland then there will live a happy Yemen people.

5885

CSO: 4403

PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF YEMEN

'ALI NASIR MUHAMMAD INTERVIEWED ON RUBAYYI' OVERTHROW

Beirut AL-HURRIYAH in Arabic 9 Jul 78 pp 8-11

[Interview with Comrade 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, member of the Politburo of the Unified Political Organization. Passages enclosed in slantlines printed in boldface.]

[Text] AL-HURRIYAH, after traveling to Egypt and interviewing the leaders of the leftist party, went to the heart of the momentous event in Democratic Yemen, where the attempt at insurrection led by Salim Rubayyi' 'Ali was brought to nothing, and the slogans and drums of war, which were sounding to overthrow the experiment of the revolution, and stop the rise of the Vanguard Party, failed.

In Aden, the magazine's correspondent interviewed Comrade 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, member of the Politburo of the Unified Political Organization and chairman of the command council, and addressed to him 19 questions which cover all facets of the attempt at insurrection and the tasks of the revolution. And now, AL-HURRIYAH places the interview in the hands of its readers, trusting that they will give their attention to this important event in its coming issues.

Q. The statement of the Unified Political Organization--National Front, which was issued on 26 June, disclosed an attempt at insurrection on the part of Salim Rubayyi' 'Ali. How shall we understand this attempt and its dimensions? Was it the child of the moment or was it planned in advance?

A. The statement of the Central Committee of the Unified Political Organization--National Front, is clear, and what it said contained enough information to proclaim the nature of the attempt at insurrection which the deviationist Salim Rubayyi' 'Ali made. /We state emphatically that his abortive attempt was prepared a long time in advance./ Knowing that the Central Committee was aware of his individualistic and irresponsible behavior, he hastened to engage in an insurrection.

Q. Before Salim Rubayyi' 'Ali had the audacity to engage in his attempt at insurrection, the San'a' government had accused Salim Rubayyi' of being behind the murder of Lt Col Ahmad Husayn al-Ghashmi. Then, after Salim Rubayyi' 'Ali was accused and condemned, the San'a' government brought forth a new accusation against the regime in Aden. How do you interpret that?

A. We know that not all of the disputes which have been going on between the two Yemens are of the making of these two men. In my own turn, I ask myself, "In whose favor does the spirit of division and dissension and of fighting amongst the sons of the one people of Yemen flare up? Why this persistence in pushing on toward tension? Is it not better for us to keep our people apart from these dangerous impulses and safeguard them from the consequences of war?" /Therefore, on our own part, we have done away with the conspiracy to split the Yemeni people, and we have rid our people of those who push toward creating tension between the two parts. We were in hope that this action would meet with welcome and appreciation./

We Do Not Want Tension With San'a'

Q. It has been noticed that the radio and the other information media of San'a' have begun to exacerbate the tension between the two parts by means of the information and propaganda attacks which they wage against your regime, whereas your own information media refrain from responding and work toward not exacerbating the tension. How, then, do you explain to others that campaigns are being waged against you without your being the cause of them? Are you able to respond to that?

A. We have endured many problems, and, from a motive of our solicitude for our people and of sparing the blood of our sons, we have remained silent in the face of all of the tendentious and hostile propaganda campaigns in order that we may avoid such vituperations as foreign forces which are hostile to our Yemenite people indulge in for the purpose of drawing us into a war in which Yemeni blood, of which we are in need, would be shed. In my opinion, our brothers in San'a' will realize, sooner or later, that vituperations between the sons of Yemen serve only the enemies of the Yemeni people. Therefore, we advise them to refrain from vituperations, and we assure them that we, being faithful and loyal to the cause of our Yemeni people and the defense of their principles, the goals of their revolution, and their national sovereignty, cannot stoop to the means which our enemies want us to employ, and we shall try with all our might to exercise self-control in the face of the insults and vituperation to which we are being subjected. However, what we ought to call attention to is that, since the fighting and tension of the Yemenites between themselves is not in their interests, then in whose interest are these vituperations and the stooping to that level of insults? Are we in need of preparing for war, or are we in need of devoting our efforts and our capabilities to the defense of our solidarity, to the development of the standard of living of our citizens, and to the creation of stability and security in all parts of the area?

Q. What is the relationship between the timing of the attempt at insurrection and the emergency meeting of the Central Committee on the night of 25 June?

A. As I said before, the insurrectionists had been making preparations for this reactionary movement of theirs for a long time, but, when they touched

off the problems between the two parts of the country, the Politburo was called to an emergency meeting. Then, when the deviationist Salim Rubayyi' refused to answer the questions of the Politburo concerning the problems with San'a', we began to know some of the secrets. At this point, the Politburo adopted a resolution to call the Central Committee to an emergency meeting to debate the explosive situation, seek out the reasons behind it, and adopt the necessary measures to preserve our revolution and the good name of our country. /Salim Rubayyi' himself was invited to the meeting, but he refused to attend it. In order to prevent him from embarking on his adventure, we in the politburo persuaded him to relinquish his position and to adhere to the principle of democratic centralism by submitting to the opinion of the majority. Nevertheless, he rejected all of the efforts which were exerted with him. When the Central Committee held its meeting, we were astonished by a written resignation which Salim Rubayyi' sent to the Central Committee. It accepted the resignation unanimously at the meeting. We believed that Salim Rubayyi' 'Ali intended, by this resignation of his, to avoid problems for our country and our revolution, but his purpose in resigning was something else. He wanted to dissemble, and it became evident that he had prepared/ and equipped his followers to explode the situation as early as 6 o'clock that night in order to prevent the resolutions of the Central Committee, which it adopted at its meeting at midnight, from going into effect. /We had not been so stubborn that he should rush to the point of aiming missiles and weapons at the breast of the system in [such] a disgraceful fashion./

The Majority, the Minority, and Democratic Centralism

Q. Who are the elements who stood beside him in the insurrectionist movement?

A. Of course, his bankruptcy in the frame of organizational legitimacy and constitutional legitimacy caused him to embrace all of the rightist and reactionary elements and those who had been dismissed from the army and security, and these elements whom he embraced are known to be agents who are full of reactionary ideas and tribal loyalties.

Q. Was it possible to take both sides of the struggle within democratic centralism? That is to say, within a minority and a majority?

A. If that were within our power, then why did he act in an individualistic manner and turn against democratic centralism, /shut his eyes to authority,/ and take recourse to his futile attempt at insurrection? We had exerted many efforts to persuade him to govern himself by the principles which are defined in our documents, /but he thought he was a superior being/ and could not pay the least attention to principles. Then when he felt that the organization, its Central Committee, and the Central Committee's politburo could not withstand his individualistic actions, and would calculate in accordance with what was in its by-laws, he acted rashly, and his tribal ideas and doubtful loyalties deceived him into trying to achieve his ends.

/He wanted to follow himself the course that Anwar al-Sadat followed on 15 May 1971 against the executive committee of the Arab Socialist Federation in Egypt, without realizing that the conditions of Egypt are not those of Democratic Yemen and that 1971 is not 1978./

Q. Let us get to the root of the problem. In a former stage, the struggle was between the extreme course which was based on individualism and isolated the role of the organization on one hand, and, on the other hand, a realistic revolutionary course which calls for rationality of behavior and for refraining from left-wing extremism, a course which rests on the basis of collective leadership and the supremacy of the organization. To what extent does this dispute constitute grounds for the recent events?

A. Actually, the recent events were very much like the straw that broke the camel's back. We, in our position with regard to all of the actions of the insurrectionists and their extremism in their opportunistic leftist position, realized that they would join forces with the most reactionary forces and conspire against the revolution, that they wanted to empty it of its progressive and democratic content, and that they would join forces--and this was in fact proved--with the internal and external enemies of the revolution. It became evident that they wanted, by their extremism in their positions on both the internal and the external plane, to conceal the truth of their role and the nature of their stratified structure, of their ideological thinking, and of the negative effects they produced on our country, which are not few, for they created no end of problems in the fields of economy, administration, and financial affairs, and in the society in general.

Q. How shall we interpret the possibility that a peasant leader who participated in the stage of the armed struggle and the democratic transition can turn from the revolutionary position to that of stumbling on the way of developing the revolution and its organizational instrument, the Vanguard Party?

A. /If we accept the inevitability of the development of history, and examine the experiences of the national liberation movements, including the experience of the Yemenite revolution itself, we shall discover that Salim Rubayyi' was deviating. Many before him who were more revolutionary than he have deviated to the reactionary position. For example, Qahtan al-Sha'bi had been a participant in the armed revolution and indeed was the most prominent figure in the National Front. Then, after independence, Muhammad 'Ali Haytham was the prime minister, and this man was unable to continue in the line of the radical progressive changes in our country because of his social make-up and ideological position, and fell into the embrace of the reactionary and imperialistic forces which he had roundly denounced. The same is the case of Salim Rubayyi', who tried to revolt against the organization and to deviate from the revolution and deliver it over to the imperialist and reactionary forces./

The Thread With Egypt and Saudi Arabia

Q. Can we say that the faction which had led the revolutionary operation in its search for Arab allies found only Egypt and Saudi Arabia? Is there anything to confirm the connection of this faction with Saudi Arabia?

A. The fact that al-Sadat declared mourning for him for the space of a week is indicative. Besides, we have important documents which reveal the relations of the deviationist Salim Rubayyi' with reactionary and imperialist circles, although we cannot disclose or publish these documents at this time.

Q. If this faction had a relationship with Saudi Arabia, then why did it carry out the assassination of al-Ghashmi? Is it an attempt to export the struggle outside of the country. Also, what are the domestic goals of it?

A. It is not possible to isolate the domestic goals of this operation from its external goals. /The purpose of the assassination of al-Ghashmi was to cover up the crime of the assassination of Lt Col Ibrahim al-Hamadi./ This crime had been announced by those who carried it out. It was also desired of it /that it should push the/ Yemenite people into /civil strife and create a dreadful situation of lack of independence in this area so that it might be an excuse for reactionary and imperialist intervention on a large scale. By means of this crime, the deviationist wanted to take care of his domestic problems and impede the economic, social, and political development in our country, because without tension he could not insure the continuation of his doubtful activity and his individualistic conduct./

Q. Since the organization triumphed over the revolutionary attempt, the Riyadh radio has been making threats and promises. Do you expect an incursion from abroad? Also, what is your position with regard to the relationship with the Saudi Arabian Kingdom?

A. We are preparing our estimate of the various probabilities, including /that of an incursion from abroad. There are military concentrations along our border, and garrisons for mercenaries, which had been closed long ago, have been opened for some time now./ However, all this does not concern us, for we have the experience of many years, which has taught us how to defend our revolution and our national sovereignty, /and I have declared to the others tension, warfare, and conspiracy against us is a losing game./

So far as our position with regard to the relations with the Saudi Arabian Kingdom are concerned, we are highly desirous that they should not collapse and return to their former state, which existed before the establishment of normal relations in 1975, in spite of everything, /on condition/ that Saudi Arabia deal honestly with us, taking into consideration that we are jealous of our national sovereignty /and will not permit ourselves to interface/ in the affairs of others. We still hope that the atmosphere which led toward the slackening of the relations with our brothers in Saudi Arabia /will be purified, and we shall exert an effort in that direction./

Q. What is the relationship of the timing of the visit of the U.S. delegation which was announced with that of the attempt at insurrection? Also, is there a relationship between that visit and what the Imperialists call "the security of the Red Sea"?

A. We do not know whether there were special contacts with Salim Rubayyi 'Ali, but, from the overt and official point of view, we had given our approval to the coming of the U.S. delegation. Our approval for the acceptance of the U.S. delegation still stands, because [the responsibility for] its failure to arrive in Aden will revert to the U.S. government itself.

Why Did They Not Move to Invite the Arab League When al-Sadat Met With the Enemy?

Q. What is your position with regard to the decision which the Arab League adopted, and which observers described as the first decision of this kind which the League adopted against an Arab country?

A. We realize the nature of the atmosphere which prevailed in the meeting and over those who pushed toward adopting a decision of this kind against an Arab country. We feel that it was not the decision of all of the member nations, because it is not reasonable that we Arabs should go that extent. /We had hoped that such enthusiasm as this to attend the meeting of the Arab League Council would abound when the Israeli aggression on the Arab peoples, including the recent incursion on the south of Lebanon, was discussed, so that we should encounter the respect for our peoples and others would respect us also. Nevertheless, we stand against one another, and our isolation is established at the very time when the negotiations with the Zionist enemy are being carried on with greater enthusiasm and from more than one side. This is a matter for which we have found neither a justification nor an explanation for yet./

What really pains us is that, when a summit conference was called to discuss the individualistic and dishonorable step that al-Sadat took in visiting Jerusalem and negotiating with the Zionist warlords, that invitation did not receive enthusiasm and support. /Is this position, which some of the Arab delegates adopted in the Arab League Council, and which is contrary to the Arab League charter, the price of our position against the capitulatory measures of al-Sadat and his negotiations with Israel?/ In any case, as I have said, we realize that many of our brothers, the Arab comrades among the chiefs of staff and the kings, do not agree with the attitudes of the negotiators and the collaborators with the Zionists, whose purpose is to isolate us, as an Arab nation, from our brother Arabs. We truly regret such a position as this, which has been registered in the Arab League Council.

Q. What is the effect of the Iranian presence in Oman on the independence and sovereignty of Democratic Yemen? Especially in the present circumstances?

A. We have more than once declared our opinion concerning the Iranian presence in Oman and its effect on our sovereignty and our nation. We have said that it does not constitute a danger to us alone, but threatens the security and safety of all of the peoples in the area.

The Peaceful Solution to the Problems of the Horn of Africa

Q. How do you look on the solution of the disputes among the nations of the Horn of Africa apart from the Imperialist policy of exacerbating the tension? What is your position on the nations of the Horn and their liberation movement?

A. Ever since the quarrels among the nations of the Horn of Africa began to explode, we have adopted a /wise/ position. Our position has always been based /on the ground of rapprochement/ of viewpoint among the nations which border on the Horn of Africa and on agreement among them /to solve/ the quarrels and problems /by peaceful methods/ so that the various peoples of the area can live in peace. That is to say, tension does not create stability, nor does it serve the peoples of the area in any way.

Q. After al-Sadat's capitulatory initiative, how do you look on the unity of the Arab nationalist and progressive forces?

A. In time gone by, the General Arab Peoples' Conference was held, and a secretariat general for this conference was formed. Also, from the Tripoli Conference in the Libyan Republic, there arose a Steadfastness Front. We feel that these measures constitute a step on the way toward the unity of the Arab nationalist and progressive forces. I believe that the current situation and the problems and conspiracies with which our Arab peoples and their best forces are confronted require a prompt Arab movement to unify the nationalist and progressive forces, participated in by the greatest possible number of nationalist and progressive forces, organizations, and personalities and directed toward the confrontation of all of our enemies, wherever they may be, and the concentration of our activity in supporting the Palestine revolution and resisting the Zionist enemy and his agents, old and new.

The Relationship With the Socialist Countries

Q. How do you look on the future of the relationship with the Socialist countries in general, and with the Soviet Union in particular?

A. Of course, our relations with the Socialist countries are old. They have helped us much, and they are supporting us in various fields now. In our developing relations with the Socialist countries, at the head of which stands the Soviet Union, it has been confirmed that our country has such a revolutionary ally that reliance on its friendship with our people is appreciated deeply, as are the generous and faithful assistances that the Soviet Union and the other Socialist countries offer to our country. Therefore, we shall strive with all our might to develop for the better out of our relations of cooperation with these countries.

Q. The seventh session of the Central Committee has established the Document of Analytical Criticism. At what point have you arrived in the preparations for conducting the first congress of the Vanguard Party in a new form?

A. /There is a program, which the Politburo prepared/ and the Central Committee adopted, /for preparing and making ready to conduct the first congress of the Vanguard Party in a new form./ The preparations have proceeded well, and work on this matter is now being done actively. It has now become quite possible for the congress to be successful /and build our Vanguard Party, which stands on the basis of scientific socialist thinking./

Q. After the elections for the local People's Council have been completed, how will the preparation for the elections of the Higher People's Council proceed?

A. A Higher Committee for Elections was formed in the past, and the committee prepared a number of documents and performed a number of tasks which had been assigned to it in the field of preparations and readymaking for the elections. It has been decided that the elections to the Higher People's Council, the first of their kind in our country, will be conducted at the end of this year.

CSO: 4802

PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF YEMEN

PAPER ATTACKS RUBAYYI' 'ALI'S 'INDIVIDUALISTIC TENDENCIES'

Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 28 Jun 78 LD/EA

[Text] Under the heading "Our Stand," the newspaper 14 OCTOBER issued this morning carried [words indistinct].

We have been relieved of a hideous nightmare. It manifested itself a series of crimes committed against the people and their revolution, against the Unified Political Organization--National Front (UPONF), its collective leadership and party and militant traditions. This nightmare went away when the sentence of death by firing-squad was carried out on Salim Rubayyi' 'Ali, Ja'im Salih and 'Ali Salim al-A'war, who turned their backs on revolutionary legitimacy and on the principles and aims of the UPONF, the constitution and laws of the government of the revolution, indulged in disgraceful conduct and engaged in all kinds of deviationist practices detrimental to the revolution, its gains and its future.

Salim Rubayyi' 'Ali wanted to be leading substitute for the revolution, the UPONF and the people's government--an individual substitute for whatever is collective and good for the revolution and its leadership. For this reason, he embarked on a number of individualistic actions, measures and directives, which expressed his adventurous outlook and tendency without regard for the will of the UPONF or its political rights and militant traditions. This was the course of conduct he followed after the 22 June Corrective Step, which the revolution embarked upon in 1969, and he continued on it until shortly before the failure of his coup attempt, his surrender and his appearance before the special court set up by the UPONF to mete out the severe punishment of the revolution as retribution for his irresponsible, individualistic actions.

When the Central Committee called its extraordinary meeting to discuss and study what had happened in the northern part of the homeland, Salim Rubayyi' 'Ali refused to attend it. He did not refuse merely out of fear for being called to account by the party for all his individualistic practices, but in doing so he clearly wanted to prove his adherence to his individualist position and his renunciation of the collective leadership as embodied by the

UPONF. This is why he resigned. Nevertheless, the Central Committee accepted his resignation and stripped him of all his party and official posts. Then it took every measure, every step to entrench the collective leadership of the Unified Political Organization and to create suitable circumstances for the development of the revolutionary experiment, without allowing for deviationism and without permitting it to suffer unnecessary difficulties, pains and sacrifices.

As the Central Committee statement pointed out, Salim Rubayyi' 'Ali, instead of respecting the will of the Central Committee and regarding it as the leadership which represents the collective opinion of the Unified Political Organization, surprised the committee by engineering a coup attempt, shelling the venue of the meeting of the Central Committee in order to exterminate it, to consolidate his individualistic practices in government, and to destroy the UPONF's leading role.

He believed that a handful of soldiers could lead him to his ends, but our armed forces, who were brought up and who grew up under the march of the revolution and under the leadership and directives of the UPONF, managed to thwart the coup attempt, exterminate it, and to force Salim Rubayyi' 'Ali and those with him to surrender. Salim Rubayyi' 'Ali's surrender and his execution provides a new model for those who wanted to build up their own leadership and promote their individualistic tendencies at the expense of the collective leadership and the leading role of the tool of the revolution.

The opportunist right tried to put the individual above the revolution. Salim Rubayyi' vainly made the same attempt, but in a different way. But our revolution, through its long experience and its traditions and our UPONF, through its collective leadership and its party traditions, and behind it the workers and toilers, will always remain the leader and guide along the path toward making a shining future.

No individual will be a leader: there will only be revolutionary men who place their shoulders side by side for the sake of the victory of the banner of the revolution and its call and ideological aims.

CSO: 4802

PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF YEMEN

PAPER WRITES ON STRUGGLE AGAINST 'DEVIATIONIST TIDE'

Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1135 GMT 28 Jun 78 LD/EA

[Press Review on Developments in PDRY]

[Text] In its leading article today entitled "Our Stance," the paper "14 OCTOBER" says: the sweeping victory won by our people under the leadership of their political vanguard, the Unified Political Organization--National Front (UPONF), proves the faith of our organization and masses in the aims and principles of the glorious revolutions of 26 September and October which our organization fought to bring to realization. It is also a victory for the unity struggle of our people and organization in the path of which the opportunist leftist agent tide has poured obstacles and obstructions. They have thus tried the plans of imperialism and reaction which are seeking to bring about a break among the sons of the single homeland and are indeed trying to bring about fighting among the people of the Yemen who have been demonstrating under all circumstances that they are the most tenacious enemies of those who are plotting against their unity.

In its leading article "14 OCTOBER" adds: the struggle of our unified political organization is intimately bound up with the most glorious landmarks in the history of Yemen since its very beginnings and with the glories of the valiant Yemeni people toward liberty, independence and social progress. And it was proved during all the stages of the struggle it has waged, just as it is proving now and at all times, that with its thoughts and principles and abilities tied to the two revolutions of 26 September and the 14 October and the great principles of these revolutions, that it is working with maximum effort to bring victory to the will of the Yemeni people to achieve unity between their people and territory.

The paper says: our organization, in spite of the conspiracies directed against it, has proved in all circumstances its firm defeat of all forces opposing the aspirations of the Yemeni people for unity, liberation and progress. The failure of the latest reactionary coup attempt is a new proof that our organization has not lost its unshakeable strength and power, because by virtue of the struggle for unity linking the armed forces and the masses

under its leadership, it was able to utterly defeat the enemies of the revolution and the Yemeni people.

Our organization is constantly engaged in struggle and lights the revolutionary path for the masses with the illumination of scientific socialism. It is this organization which has led our people along the most suitable path for the unification struggle [few words indistinct] of struggle for your Yemeni people in the shadow of their eternal loyalty to the great principles of the revolution of 26 September and 14 October and the protection of the (?progress) of these two revolutions from all difficulties and (?ailments) sown in their path by the opportunist leftist tide led by Salim Rubayyi' 'Ali.

The paper ends its leading article saying: the history of the struggle of the Yemeni people bears witness to the fact that our UPONF has clearly pursued its struggle and battle in order to realize the hopes of the Yemeni masses for unity and social progress. By virtue of its great and complete (?loyalty) to the homeland and the Yemeni people, it has been able to establish strong solidarity with the march of the Yemeni masses. Our organization continues to be loyal to its noble principles and [words indistinct]. It will continue to promote the struggle to bring to realization the aspirations of the Yemeni people for unity and progress, and it depends upon the potential and strength of the masses in order to win the final and certain victory over all the enemies of the Yemeni people and of their unity, liberation and progress.

In another article entitled "Leftist and Rightist Opportunism Are Two Faces of the Coin of What is Called Imperialism and Reaction," "12 OCTOBER" says: those who the day before yesterday fortified themselves in the presidential palace and aimed their rifles at the headquarters of the central committee were aware deep in their hearts that the solidarity of the masses with the Central Committee and the Politburo and with the achievements of the revolution and the Yemeni people was stronger than the ammunition and the arms they had in their refuge.

The paper says at the end of this article that the political-ideological terrorism, to which many of the strugglers were being subjected by the elements of this deviationist tide in many places, in the end brought about an explosion which led to this mainstream being sent to hellfire, and what took place the night before last actually created the most extreme forms of liquidation, purge (ar gharbalah) and purification (ar tathir) within the body of the revolution inasmuch as a decisive limit was placed to the methods of persecution and psychological torture and tyrannical measures which were applied to many of the true strugglers throughout the governorates.

CSO: 4802

PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF YEMEN

UPONF INFORMATION OFFICIALS DISCUSS COUP FAILURE

Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 30 Jun 78 LD/EA

[Text] Brother Salih Hasan Muhammad, candidate member of the Politburo and secretary of the information and culture department at the Unified Political Organization--National Front (UPONF) Central Committee's secretariat, this morning met employees in various information media. The meeting was attended by brothers Salim Salih Muhammad, Central Committee member and secretary for foreign relations at the Central Committee secretariat; Zaki Barakat, Central Committee member and assistant secretary of the information and culture department; Abdullah al-Khamiri, member of the Central Committee; Naji Brayk, member of the central committee; and Ahmad Salim 'Ubayd, information minister.

During the meeting the dimensions of the abortive reactionary coup attempt made by Salim Rubayyi' 'Ali and his group were explained as well as how the plan was proposed. This information is confirmed by the documents found indicating the involvement of the deviationist Salim Rubayyi' 'Ali with the reactionary and imperialist circles which sought to destroy the revolution and damage the domestic and foreign policy and national economy of Democratic Yemen.

The meeting clarified that the abortive coup was linked with a comprehensive design by imperialist and reactionary circles against our progressive nationalist regime, the Yemeni revolution and the national liberation movement in the region and that the revolution in our country, by exterminating the coup attempt, has thwarted part of that design. It was emphasized during the meeting that the abortive design tried to draw the Yemeni people into a civil war and to prevent the implementation of the main tasks for this year, headed by the building of the new Vanguard Party.

During the meeting the individualistic tendencies practiced by the deviationist opportunist tide with the aim of destroying our country's progressive regime were also exposed.

CSO: 4802

PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF YEMEN

SECURITY MINISTER DISCUSSES 'ALI'S CONTACTS WITH IMPERIALISTS

Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 2 Jul 78 LD/EA

[Text] Brother Muhammad Sa'id 'Abdallah Muhsin, Politburo candidate member and minister of state for security, has given details of Salim Rubayyi 'Ali's contacts with imperialist and reactionary circles. He said that Salim Rubayyi 'Ali had a comprehensive plan for the reactionary coup attempt, beginning with the discharge of 60 patients from the ba (Suhayb) hospital on the pretext that there was no longer any reason for keeping them there, the summoning of 300 former soldiers who were opposed to the regime and another 200 soldiers belonging to his tribal group, the stockpiling of enormous quantities of weapons at the presidential residence and the distribution of arms in the rural governorates.

The minister added in his press statement: we had proof that Salim Rubayyi 'Ali was in touch with imperialist and reactionary circles, and we were meticulously following the course of their hostile plan. Salim Rubayyi 'Ali thought he was in complete control and that it would be impossible for his plan to be exposed because of the covenants and guarantees he had received from these circles if he succeeded in bringing off a military coup against the regime and throwing the Yemeni people into a bitter and bloody battle, from which the enemies of the Yemeni people would derive profit by enabling him to entrench an interior front and thus halt the progress of the four tasks, the chief of which is setting up the new Vanguard Party. [During a commentary broadcast by Aden Domestic Service in Arabic at 1430 GMT, the "four tasks" mentioned above were described as "the building of a brand new party; election of the supreme people's council; preparation for the next 5-year plan; and celebration, in magnificent style, of the 15th anniversary of the glorious 14 October revolution"--FBIS]

Thus, he planned to grasp complete control of political authority.

Brother Muhammad Sa'id 'Abdallah Muhsin stressed that the Unified Political Organization--National Front, rejects terrorism and the plunging of the Yemeni people into a battle. It stands steadfastly in defense of the popular interests and unity of the Yemeni masses. He added that our relations with

fraternal and friendly states will continue to be dominated by the principle of mutual respect, noninterference and respect for national sovereignty. We will work with all our might to strengthen Arab solidarity and bring about fraternal coordination in the interest of the Arab peoples and the peoples of the region.

Ending his statement he called upon the defense and security forces for heightened vigilance and preparedness to confront any aggression or internal or external sabotage designed to obstruct our country's progress.

CSO: 4802

PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF YEMEN

PAPER LISTS RUBAYYI' 'ALI'S OFFENSES AGAINST CULTURE

Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 6 Jul 78 LD/EA

[Press review]

[Text] The paper "14 OCTOBER" has published the particulars of what the deviationist Salim Rubayyi' 'Ali perpetrated in the cultural field. The paper said: Culture is another sphere upon which the deviationist Salim Rubayyi' 'Ali imposed his (?misdeeds) and improvised practices in spite of the existence of an official ministry responsible for cultural affairs in general. The paper went on to say that ever since the establishment of the Ministry of Culture and Tourism, Salim Rubayyi' 'Ali was hostile to it because those who headed it were progressives and the reason for this, which Rubayyi' did not reveal, was his hostility toward national action, the National Action Squads and the unity of the National Action Squads [Fasail al-Amal al-Watani].

This hostility toward the representatives of the National Action Squads began from the time they started participating in the national democratic authority in our country. The paper gave vital examples of the kind of practices Salim Rubayyi' 'Ali directed against the Ministry of Culture and Tourism, saying: The deviationist Salim Rubayyi' 'Ali froze the law governing the organization of the Ministry of Culture and Tourism, failing to ratify it since 1974 in spite of its having received the approval of the Office of the Attorney General in the Ministry of Justice and Waqfs, and that of the Council of Ministers.

He also froze the projects of the Ministry of Culture and Tourism by placing obstacles in their way since the second year of the first 5-year development plan. These obstacles also affected the establishment of cultural centers in Sayun, Madiyah, al-Hawtah, al-Mukalla, Ash-Shihir and Nisab.

The deviationist Salim Rubayyi' 'Ali also destroyed the drama and arts development plan, upon which the Ministry of Culture and Tourism had pinned many hopes, thus paralyzing a major part of its activities in the various

governorates of the republic. Had it not been for the opposition of the deviationist, Salim Rubayyi' 'Ali, to this project there would have existed today in the various governorates popular drama, music, arts and crafts groups under the Ministry of Culture and Tourism,

The paper went on to say that the deviationist Rubayyi' also opposed studies and research on developing antiquities and preserving historic places, which led to the destruction of such places by flood and the loss of some of the antiquities due to neglect occasioned by the non-availability of funds to be spent on preservation resulting from Rubayyi's refusal to allocate these funds for their development and preservation.

The paper states that the deviationist Salim Rubayyi' 'Ali's aim in pursuing all these practices was to present the leading personnel in the ministry of culture and tourism as being incapable of bringing about tangible development in the field of culture and tourism.

CSO: 4802

PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF YEMEN

BRIEFS

MUHAMMAD BIOGRAPHY--'Ali Nasir Muhammad, who was appointed chairman of the presidential council in the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, is the third chairman of Democratic Yemen. He was one member of the presidential council which also included 'Abd-al-Fattah Isma'il, the secretary general of the National Front, and Salim Rubayyi' 'Ali, who was removed from power. 'Ali Nasir Muhammad was elected a member of the presidential council, prime minister and minister of defense in August 1971, and in March 1972, he became a member of the politburo and the central committee. He remained in charge of the defense ministry until last year, when Lt Col 'Ali 'Antar was given responsibility for it. Nasir Muhammad had worked as a teacher in elementary schools and was arrested several times under British colonialism. At independence in 1967, he was appointed governor of the islands, then governor of the second governorate. In 1968, he was elected a member of the general command of the political organization. He became minister of local administration in 1969 and participated in the 22 July movement which ousted former president Qahtan al-Sha'bi. He was appointed minister of defense in 1970. The new chairman of Democratic Yemen was born in February 1939 and graduated from the teachers' institute in 1959. [Text] [Kuwait AL-SIYASAH in Arabic 27 Jun 78 p 15]

AL-KHAMIRI APPOINTMENT--It seems it is still the opinion in Aden that 'Abdallah al-Khamiri will be charged with the chairmanship and formation of the new cabinet. Informed sources have reported to AL-SIYASAH that several days after the events there and political changes in Democratic Yemen, two firm points have been settled on: 1--Appointing 'Abdallah al-Khamiri to form a government. 2--Freeing about 200 nationalist prisoners, because Aden wants to improve her relations with a number of Arab states. [Text] [Kuwait AL-SIYASAH in Arabic 2 Jul 78 p 1]

SAUDI INTELLIGENCE NETWORK--On the 18th of last May, the National Front command arrested an intelligence network operating between Salim Rubayyi' 'Ali and Saudi Arabia. The network was composed of Capt 'Alawi 'Ali, a personal aide of the chairman, as head, and Capt 'Abdallah Shamsan of the interior ministry and 'Azzam Shadili, chief of the European section of the foreign ministry, as members. Communications were carried on between the

network and Saudi Arabia via supporters of 'Abd-al-Qawi Makkawi (one of the fugitives from justice resident in Saudi Arabia) in Aden. The last message the network delivered to Salim Rubayyi' was from Fahd and discussed Saudi readiness to move if an internal movement occurred in Aden. The Saudi move could take the form of outside support as well as military pressure via Hadramawt, naturally in accordance with the course of events after that. It is well known that the governments of both Saudi Arabia and Kuwait have transmitted their positions to the Aden government (a crude intervention in internal affairs), which affirm their absolute opposition to the establishment of a party in Democratic South Yemen. That also brings to mind the fact that relations between Aden and Riyadh had deteriorated in September 1977 following the announcement of the proposed internal document drawn up by a committee of five. [Text] [Beirut AL-HURRIYAH in Arabic 3 Jul 78 p 35]

ALI'S EXECUTION--Diplomatic sources say that Salim Rubayyi' 'Ali was executed with his supporters Jasim Salih and 'Ali Salim al-A'war in the home of 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, the prime minister, who succeeded him in the chairmanship of South Yemen, and that there was a swift trial for Chairman Salim Rubayyi' 'Ali and his supporters after the communist militia took over Aden. The court session ended with a sentence of execution. In fact the execution took place by firing squad in front of the Central Committee chaired by 'Abd-al-Fattah Isma'il in the home of 'Ali Nasir. [Text] [Cairo AKHIR SA'AH in Arabic 5 Jul 78 p 10]

AIR FORCE REFUGEES--The IRAQI NEWS AGENCY mentioned in a cable from San'a' yesterday that three airforce officers from South Yemen have fled with their aircraft to North Yemen. The agency explained that these aircraft landed several days ago at Ta'izz airport south of San'a' and said that these officers, all of the rank of major, were supporters of former Yemeni chairman Salim Rubayyi' 'Ali. [Text] [Kuwait AL-SIYASAH in Arabic 2 Jul 78 p 15]

SOVIET SUPPORT IN KILLING--The number of victims of the bloody slaughter in Aden initiated by the communist clients of Moscow has reached about ten thousand killed as well as hundreds wounded. The United Patriotic Front, headquartered in Cairo, has received information about the recent insurrection which occurred in Aden to liquidate Salim Rubayyi' 'Ali and his supporters. It has come to light that Soviet MIG planes used incendiary bombs in the bombing of the republican palace and other areas and that Ethiopian pilots participated with Soviet and Cuban pilots in these operations. 'Abdallah Salih Ba'ashan, commander of the salvation army, composed of patriotic elements who oppose the ruling communist regime in Aden, said that there are other militia subordinate to 'Abd-al-Fattah Isma'il who have fled to San'a' in addition to the battalion of 700 soldiers with all their weapons and the three pilots who fled with their aircraft to Ta'izz and that they were carrying important documents about the role the Soviet Union played in the recent insurrection on behalf of 'Abd-al-Fattah Isma'il, the agent of Moscow. Moreover, experts from East Germany are taking over the whole security and intelligence apparatus. The campaign of arrests and

liquidations is still going on. Soviet and Cuban military experts and pilots are aiding the communist government in attempts to control Aden and are taking charge of flying aircraft and bombing villages and mountain areas with rockets and bombs. The number of Soviet and Cuban forces in Aden has reached 6000. [Text] [Cairo AKHIR SA'AH in Arabic 5 Jul 78 p 10]

REPORT OF SOVIET STRENGTH--After the recent bloody coup in Aden it has been discovered that the struggle between the Moscow-supported left wing headed by 'Abd-al-Fattah Isma'il and the former president Salim Rubayyi' had entered into a critical stage some weeks before the coup. 'Abd-al-Fattah Isma'il paved the way for the Soviet plan to take over power by assassinating 150 officers from Salim Rubayyi's followers who opposed the formation of the official communist party, called the Vanguard Party. The announcement of the party was postponed until Salim Rubayyi' himself had been disposed of. Arab diplomatic reports coming from Aden confirm that the Soviet Union has complete control of the country and that the number of Soviet, Cuban and German counselors and experts had risen after the coup in order to strengthen the ruling communist regime; 2500 Soviets and 1200 Cubans are present in the army, the airforce and the police force. In addition to this, 500 experts from East Germany control the intelligence and security agencies in South Yemen. A new group of experts has been distributed throughout all of the government organizations. [Text] [Cairo AKHIR SA'AH in Arabic 12 Jul 78 p 8]

SOVIET BASE AGREEMENT--Moscow and Aden have signed a secret agreement to build two Soviet military bases in South Yemen, the Cairo daily AKHERS SAA says. The paper said a naval and an air base adjoining Aden were planned. It added that the Soviet Union will supply South Yemen with 30 Mig-21 planes and five coastal defense boats, as well as, install a radar network covering the western part of the country. [Text] [Beirut THE ARAB WORLD WEEKLY in English 24 Jun 78 p 24]

GDR CONGRATULATIONS--To 'Abd-al-Fattah Isma'il, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Unified Political Organization National Front (UPONF) of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, and to 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, chairman of the Presidential Council and chairman of the Council of Ministers of the PDRY, Erich Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR Council of State, transmitted a telegram expressing the satisfaction felt by the GDR party and government leadership as well as the people of the GDR about the successful operation against the attempted coup d'etat by a group of rightist forces in the PDRY. Best wishes for the consolidation of the progressive achievements of their lives were expressed to the leading personalities of the PDRY and the allied Yemeni people. At the same time the telegram assured them that the SED and the people of the GDR will continue firmly to range themselves at the side of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen and its leading political organization, the UPONF. [Text] [East Berlin BERLINER ZEITUNG in German 29 Jun 78 p 2] 11698

BULGARIAN CONGRATULATIONS--Chairman 'Ali Nasir Muhammad received today a congratulatory cable from Bulgarian state council chairman Todor Zhivkov. The cable reads: "On the occasion of your assumption of the chairmanship of the presidential council in the PDRY, accept our most sincere congratulations and wishes for success in carrying out your high responsibilities for the benefit of the friendly people of Yemen and for social and national progress in the PDRY. "On behalf of the state council of People's Bulgaria and the Bulgarian Communist Party, I assure you of our full support and solidarity for the cause of socialist development of the PDRY. "We express our confidence that the sincere friendly relations and growing cooperation between our countries will be furthered for the benefit of our two friendly peoples and for the cause of world peace, international security and socialist progress." [Summary] [Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 4 Jul 78 LD]

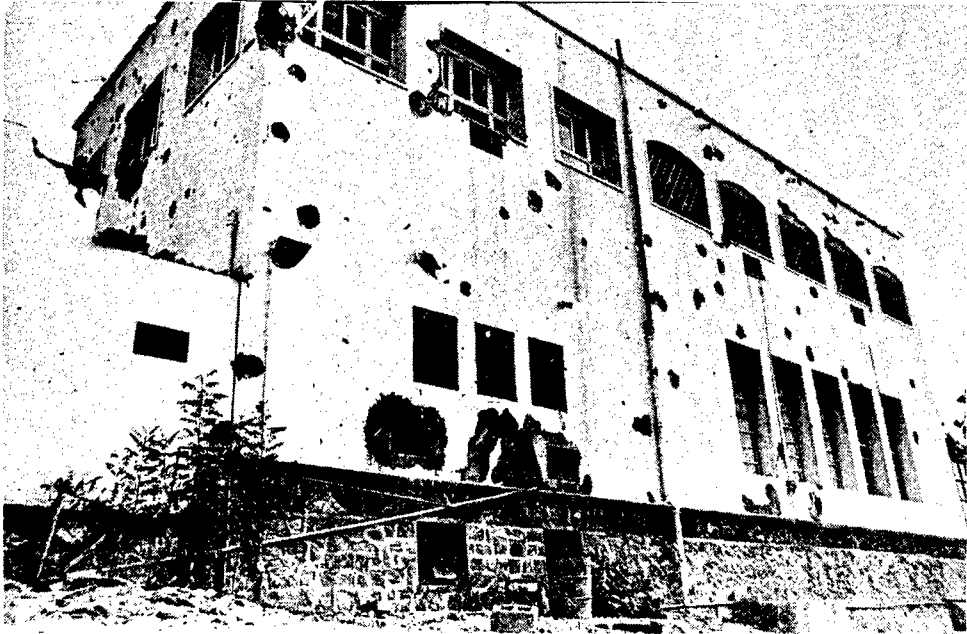
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PHOTOS



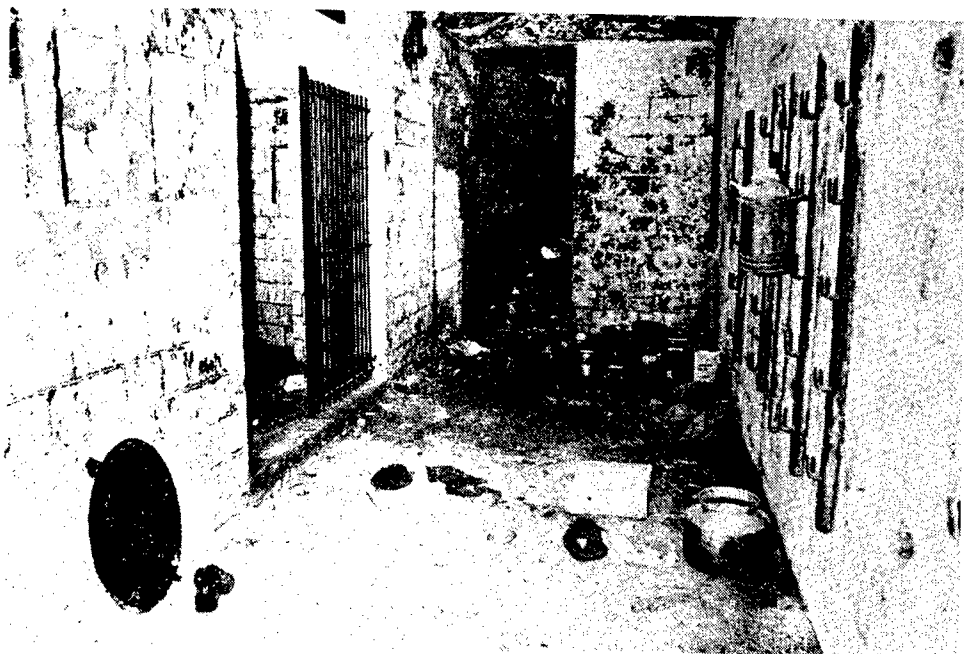
A team of Cuban experts, training the "Red Lion Cubs" holds up pictures of Castro and Salim Rubayyi' 'Ali. Among them is Yemeni Defense Minister 'Ali Antar (on the extreme left).

Kuwait AL'RA'Y AL-'AMM in Arabic 27 Jun 78 p 18



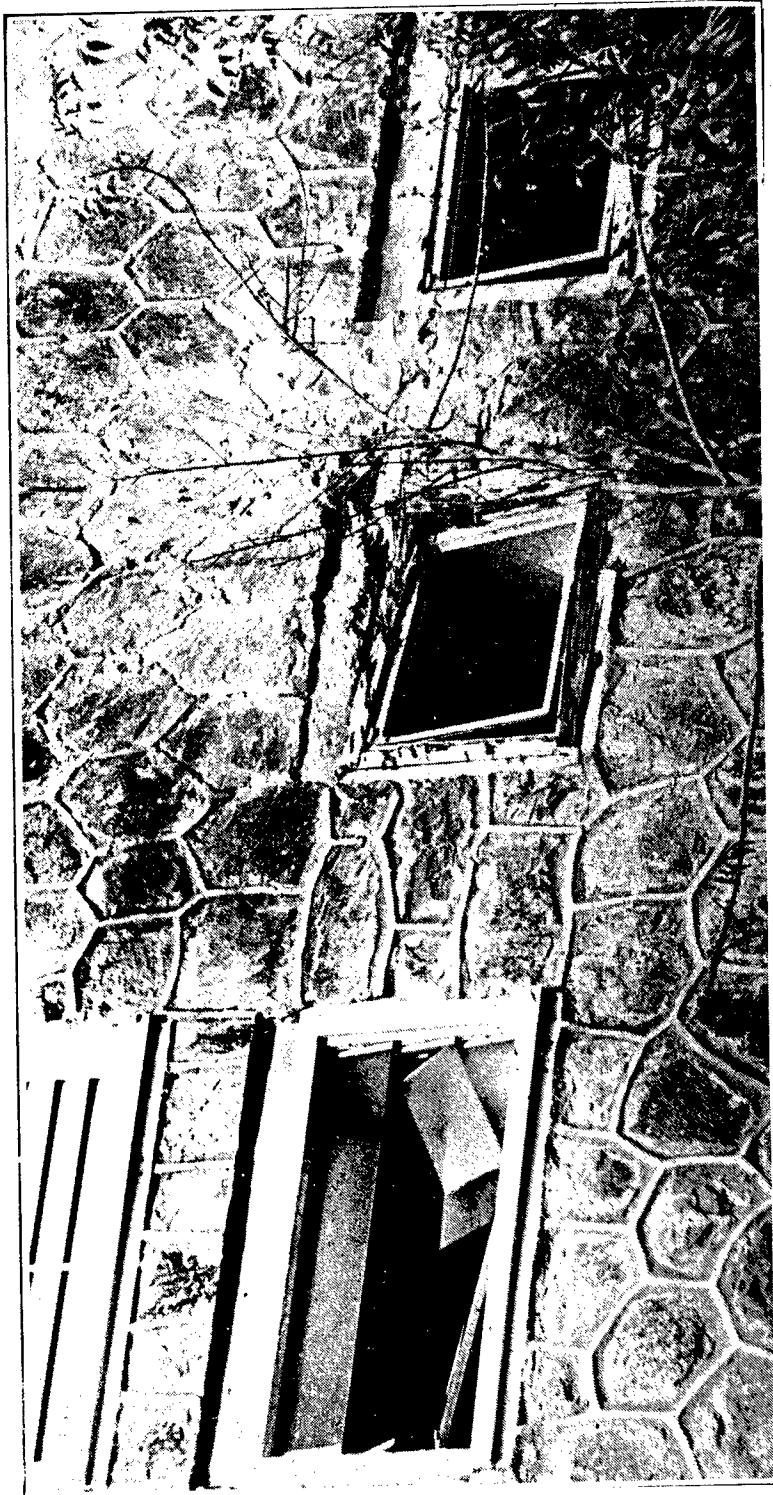
Presidential Palace (Home of Salimayan) which was hit by artillery but not bombed from the air.

Beirut AL-SAFIR in Arabic 7 Jul 78 p 7



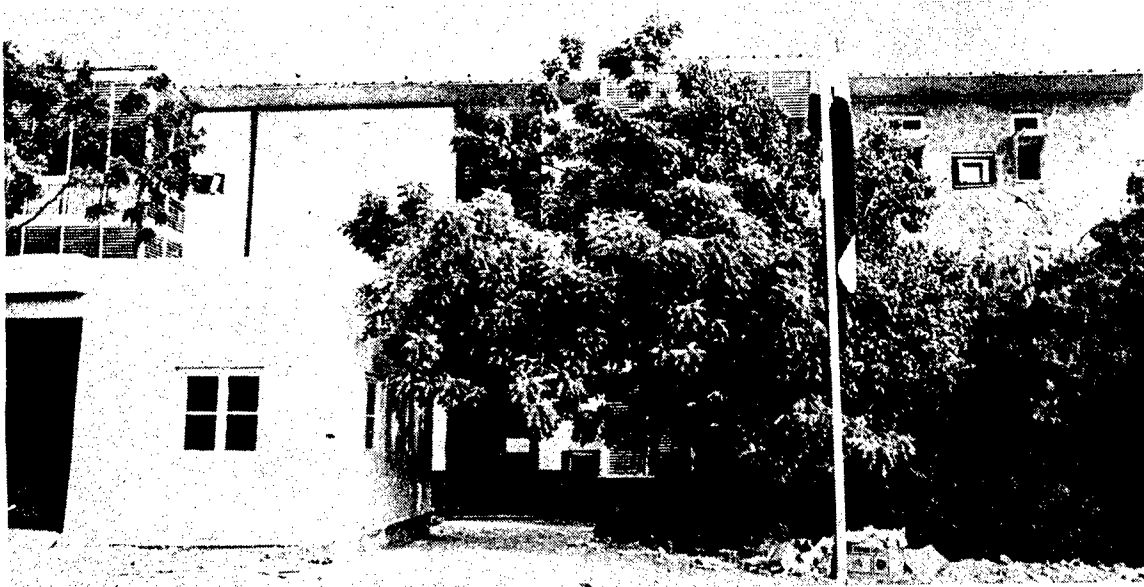
Here Salimayn was Detained

Beirut AL-SAFIR in Arabic 7 Jul 78 p 6



Central Committee Meeting Place

Beirut AL-SAFIR in Arabic 7 Jul 78 p 7



The tree that saved the command from being killed.

Beirut AL-HURRIYAH in Arabic 9 Jul 78 p 3

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

CZECHOSLOVAKIA: U.S., IMPERIALIST STATES SEEN PRESSURING PDRY

Bratislava ROLNICKE NOVINY in Slovak 6 Jul 78 p 5

[An editorial article by (dh)]

[Excerpt] Imperialism, in times of escalating crisis in intereconomic relations and after a number of failures in international politics and economy, is looking for opportunities to create an effective strategy for interference in the affairs of other states.

We cannot help but notice the influence of international reaction, particularly international Zionism, on political relations in the League of Arab Nations. In view of the developing relations between the Arab League member states at the present time, which negatively influence the political life of this organization, it is impossible to escape the problem of imperialist, namely American, interference in the domestic and foreign affairs of the League member states.

The extraordinary session of the Arab League in Cairo recently (convened at the suggestion of Saudi Arabia and Egypt) included in its program an endeavor to reach an agreement on the continuation of Egypt's capitulation policy vis-a-vis Israeli Zionism. This was precisely the reason for USA Vice-President Walter Mondale's visit to Israel and Egypt. However, a much more important and, for the White House more "interesting", item on the program was to prepare an official accusation of the PDRY for its share in the assassination of the president of the Yemen Arab Republic, Ahmad Ghashmi. At the instigation of Saudi Arabia and Egypt--as spokesmen for American and international imperialist interests--the League Council of Ministers adopted sanctions to freeze diplomatic and other relations with the PDRY.

Algeria, Libya, Iraq, Syria, Djibouti and the Palestine Liberation Organization which did not participate in the League session, immediately discovered the real reason for this step.

Recently as well as in the distant past, directly or indirectly, the United States and some reactionary Arab regimes, particularly Saudi Arabia, interfered in the political development of democratic Yemen.

It is clear that imperialism wants to create a permanent focus of tension in the south of the Arab peninsula. This is the view of not only the government of the PDRY but also of the entire progressive Arab public and press. E.g., the Iraqi daily TARIQ AL-SHA'B wrote that reactionary Arab circles and their protectors are assembling military units for battle against South Yemen. The daily regards the latest League decisions as an acceleration of the campaign of provocation against PDRY.

The Jordanian daily AL-RA'Y also additionally states that secret measures against progressive forces in the Near East were adopted at the League's session. The developments in revolutionary Yemen have made it unambiguously clear that freedom-loving nations will let nobody, at any cost, interfere in their rights.

CSO: 2400

EGYPT

EGYPT: MOSCOW SEEN TIGHTENING HOLD ON PDRY

Cairo THE EGYPTIAN GAZETTE in English 28 Jun 78 p 2

[Editorial]

[Excerpts] Who killed Ghashmy?

Having failed to get into the Arab world through the front door, the Soviet Union is making a bold effort to get in through the back. Following the Soviet dismissal from Egypt, Moscow took up with Colonel Gaddafi and piled up arms in Libya. The object? To help the Arabs against Zionist imperialism? Not on your life. To make its own imperialist grab for Africa, with control of the Horn and the Red Sea area one of the main strategic targets. Libya was merely to be the logistic staging post for the Kremlin's grand design. Today, having helped cause tremendous bloodshed and destruction in Ethiopia and on Somalia's borders, the Soviet Union has at last succeeded in exporting its horrors across the Red Sea to Aden.

Following heavy fighting in Aden which put Abdel Fattah Ismail and Aly Mohamed Nasser--two staunch pro-Soviet figures in power--President Salim Rubaya Aly and two of his close associates were dealt with in typical Soviet style. They were quickly "tried" before a special court, accused of mounting a "reactionary coup" and summarily shot for "most terrible crimes against the people."

With Ismail and his supporters now firmly in control, the already Marxist state of South Yemen can be expected to become even more pusillanimous towards Moscow. Rubaya Aly, for all his Marxism, was reputed to have opposed South Yemen's participation in the Ethiopian war on the Soviet side. (Aden sent 1,000 men to fight beside the Cubans and Ethiopians). He also called a halt to Adeni aid to Communist rebels in the nearby Sultanate of Oman and worked for detente with Saudi Arabia which has supplied Aden with £60 million in aid over the last two years. Now it looks as if all these policies will be reversed--and, with the Soviet build-up in Ethiopia just across the way, reversed with a vengeance.

As Moscow tightens its grip on Aden, a renewal of subversion in Oman can be expected with, of course, Saudi Arabia and the rich Gulf area as the ultimate target. Who can doubt, also, that with growing Soviet influence at the southern end of the Red Sea--through which much of the oil to the West must pass--that the Arab world and the West will soon be subjected to various Soviet attempts at blackmail.

Having failed to get into the Arab world through arms blackmail, the Soviet Union is now blasting its way in. We're prepared to be corrected on the matter. But right now our bet is that the Kremlin was in cahoots with those who assassinated Ghashmy as part of a plot to frame Rubaya Aly and bring about what has actually happened in Aden.

CSO: 4820

IRAQ

IRAQ: COMMUNIST PARTY ACCUSES WEST OF TRYING TO SPLIT YEMENS

Baghdad TARIQ AL-SHA'B in Arabic 28 Jun 78 p 2

[Article: "After The Aborted Coup In The PDRY: The Task Of The Hour Is To Strengthen The Unity Of The Revolutionary Forces And Deny The Imperialists Their Chance To Widen The Gap Between The Two Yemens"]

[Text] During the last two days, all observers of the PDRY's development and the relations between the two Yemens have been following the course of events in San'a' and then in Aden with alarm.

From the first, observers had diagnosed the assassination of al-Ghashmi as being basically aimed at revolutionary development in the PDRY. Thus, within a few hours of the painful event, radio Aden announced the failure of a coup attempt led by Salim Rubayyi' 'Ali after he had called for an emergency meeting of the Central Committee and the Politburo of the Unified Political Organization-National Front in order to implement his personal activities.

One's attention is drawn to the fact that western circles, which had been quick to seize upon the official YAR accusation that Salim Rubayyi' 'Ali had planned al-Ghashmi's assassination in an effort to incite it against the PDRY and its revolutionary awakening, began to speak sympathetically of him after the recent developments in the PDRY. They consider him a 'moderate' who was striving for stronger relations with Saudi Arabia and was opposing the betterment of relations between the PDRY and the Soviet Union.

In spite of the sudden and painful nature of the recent developments in the PDRY, it was well known that the strength of this country's revolutionary awakening, especially the process of building a Vanguard Party suited to leading the country on the basis of international socialist ideology, had deepened the class and political struggle in the brother country as was reflected on various levels. This caused alarm in the reactionary imperialist circles which had been attempting to return Aden to the sphere of neo-colonialist activity by external pressure and internal plotting.

Thus, the so-called United Patriotic Front is being formed in Cairo which includes 'Abd-al-Haqq Makkawi [as published] and Muhammad 'Ali Haytham, one of the sons of Qahtan al-Sha'bi (the former president of the PDRY who led a rightist coup, then was quickly discarded by the revolutionary elements in the reform movement of 22 June 1969, which the PDRY commemorated a few days ago).

This agrees with a campaign in the western and Egyptian press, and in that of some Gulf states, about a secret agreement between the PDRY and the Soviet Union to turn Aden into an amphibious naval air base and about Cuban (as usual), Soviet and East German troops and officers strolling in the streets of Aden in broad daylight.

It has appeared to most observers that the increased level of imperialist slander and propaganda against the PDRY, well-arranged among numerous circles, is no idle matter, but one planned secretly.

Most of the guardians of brotherly PDRY's development are expressing confidence in the fact that the brotherly country and its leadership will settle the rest of the matter and be free to strengthen its political organization and its leading role in the life of nations.

There is no doubt that strengthening the unity of the revolutionary forces and reassuring the proletarian masses about their political leadership will be a surety of revolutionary development.

At a time when pessimism and concern from imperialist reactionary circles have appeared over the recent developments in the PDRY and tried to widen the gap in relations between the two parts of Yemen in order to enter and strike at the PDRY, the leadership of the two brotherly countries has called for closing the gap and denying the opportunity to the enemies of their unity.

This is with the help of the Arab nationalist regimes and forces which are all confronting the task of resisting the vicious reactionary Zionist imperialist attacks on the Arab national liberation movement.

CSO: 4802

IRAQ

RCC ISSUES STATEMENT ON YEMEN DEVELOPMENTS

Baghdad BAGHDAD OBSERVER in English 10 Jul 78 pp 1, 5

[Text] A spokesman of the Revolution Command Council RCC has issued the following statement concerning the recent developments in the two Yemens:

"During the last two weeks events went quickly and tragically in the South and North of Yemen. These events have had their negative influence on the bilateral relations between the two countries, a matter which requires the adoption of a nationalist and principled attitude towards the situation in these two brotherly countries.

"We denounce the method by which President Ahmed Hussein al-Ghashmi was assassinated and the quarter responsible for that, because this method contradicts with our Arab traditions and principles on which relations between countries are based.

"As for the developments that took place in South Yemen, we considered them as internal events, the handling of which is the responsibility of the Arab people in that country. Therefore, we don't see any justification for reconsidering our relations with Democratic Yemen as a brotherly Arab state.

"However, some reactionary Arab quarters have tried to exploit the assassination of President Ghashmi, the events in South Yemen and the tense relations between the two Yemens, with the purpose of imposing colonial designs in which the Arab nation has no interest. These reactionary quarters were endeavouring to flare up the conflict between the two parts of Yemen; neither to serve the interest of Arab peoples in these two countries nor the interest of the Arab Nation.

"We should like to state here that Iraq neither accepts nor supports the resolution adopted by some Arab quarters, at the meeting held recently by the Arab League which calls for boycotting South Yemen. This resolution was adopted with dishonest motives and only serves the colonial and reactionary designs in which the Arab nation has no interest.

"We call on all Arab brothers in the two Yemens to endeavour to find solutions to the outstanding questions between them through calm dialogue and away from tension and military conflict which will benefit enemies of the Arab Nation".

KUWAIT

KUWAIT: COMMUNIST POWERS SAID TO PLAY BLOODY ROLE

Kuwait AL-SIYASAH in Arabic 29 Jun 78 p 1 LD

[Article by Yusuf al-Masa'id: "Opinion"]

[Text] What is happening in the two Yemens? This question is being asked by everyone interested in the safety and security of the area.

Al-Ghashmi has been assassinated. Who assassinated him? It is said that an investigation committee will reveal everything. Salim Rubayyi 'Ali has been thrown out of his post and has been killed as well. It is being said things will come to light in the coming few days.

Is there a plan being put into effect in the area? Are there hidden hands playing with our destiny?

Was the assassination of al-Ghashmi a plot by Salim Rubayyi 'Ali? I don't think so and I cannot imagine it. Therefore, there is a third party that is playing a game of its own, a party that does not wish Yemen to unite and wants the seeds of division always to be sown between the two Yemens, particularly since Chinese activity in the YAR is disturbing the Russian activity in the PDRY. There is also the rapprochement between the Gulf and China as a result of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the United Arab Emirates and China and the Chinese deputy prime minister's visit to the area at the head of a large delegation.

All these factors are bound to spell danger to the interests of some people who are then forced to adopt certain attitudes to defend themselves and their position.

It was for this reason that al-Ghashmi has gone. But the question is: who did it?

Is it Salim Rubayyi 'Ali? Impossible. Therefore, there is a party that has an interest in this. Through the process of elimination and analysis we find that this party is the communist powers which have now begun openly

playing a bloody role in the area and which do not care who dies or who falls as much as they care for continuing their domination and influence at any price and in any form. We have sufficient evidence in the attempts in Shaba, Ethiopia, and Eritrea.

The Russian danger has now become clear and irrefutable. Russian, despite all its military aid to us, conducts its relations on the basis of its strategic interests.

Therefore, we must now consider what has happened in the two Yemens. We must realize that Russia is anxious to be present in any form, even on our dead bodies.

CSO: 4802

LEBANON

LEBANON: SAUDIS ACCUSED OF COMPLICITY IN ASSASSINATION

Beirut EVENTS in English 14 Jul 78 p 20

[Text]

Last month both the Yemens lost their presidents, albeit in differing circumstances. President Salim Rubayyeh Ali of South Yemen was executed after his alleged attempt to seize control of the government from the ruling National Liberation Front on June 26, had failed. Two days earlier, President Ahmed Hussain al Ghashmi of North Yemen was, according to reports, killed by a bomb, booby-trapped to a brief case carried by a South Yemeni envoy, who had come specially to see him.

Perhaps aware that the official version of the president's assassination, broadcast on Sanaa radio, might be challenged, North Yemen's new four-member ruling council - headed by Qadi Abdul Karim al Arshi, chief of the recently created "People's Assembly" - appointed a commission to inquire into the murder. Ironically, al Ghashmi had begun his tenure as the head of the three-member Military Command Council, with an order to investigate the murder of his predecessor, President Ibrahim al Hamdi.

It is worth recalling that al Hamdi was killed on October 11 1977, the day before he was due to leave for Aden to sign a mutual defence pact, and an agreement on a gradual unification of the two Yemens, starting with the use of a common flag.

Al Hamdi had been encouraging Iranian involvement in the economic development of his country. He was also planning to raise the question of sovereignty over the provinces of Jizan,

Asir and Najran, which were annexed by Saudi Arabia for 30 years under the Treaty of Moslem Friendship and Arab Fraternity which was signed by the two countries in May 1934.

It may be that al Ghashmi met his predecessor's fate because he made the same fatal move - a friendly gesture towards South Yemen. He may well have been obliged to act this way in order to make peace with Abdullah Abdul Alem - the paratroop commander, and one of the three-man Military Command Council that assumed power after the fall of al Hamdi. Al Ghashmi had alienated Abdel Alem by his pro-Saudi leanings and by getting himself elected president last April by a hand-picked "People's Assembly" of tribal chiefs. Within a week of the election, Abdul Alem led his supporters in the armed forces out of Sanaa. He went to Turba, his birthplace in the south, and was joined by earlier defectors from the military as well as the armed pro-Aden tribes of southern North Yemen. Al Ghashmi's attempt to subdue Abdul Alem's forces failed, when MIG 17 pilots refused to obey the president's orders and flew their planes to Aden. His second attempt to overpower the rebel forces may well have been more successful but, horrified by the thought of another long drawn-out civil war, al Ghashmi thought it prudent to approach South Yemen to intervene between him and the Aden-based Abdul Alem.

The swiftness with which Sanaa cut off diplomatic ties with Aden, following al Ghashmi's murder, suggested that

some circles in North Yemen had decided, even in advance of the coup, where the blame should be placed. In contrast, the confused and defensive reaction on the South Yemeni regime – followed by an all-night session on June 25-26 of the National Liberation Front's (NLF) central committee – showed that the avowedly marxist regime had been taken by surprise.

President Rubayyeh Ali allegedly refused to attend this meeting. He apparently moved from the presidential palace with the ministers of defence and interior and their forces, to shell the meeting place of the NLF leadership. A 15-hour battle ensued. On one side were troops loyal to President Ali and the defence minister, Ali Antar. Ranged on the other side were troops loyal to Abdul Fattah Ismail and Ali Nasser Mohammed (of the three-member Presidential Council), as well as the NLF-controlled People's Militia, the Popular Defence Committees, and the People's Police.

According to sources in Beirut, President Carter's special envoy, Paul Findlay, was in Aden to discuss better relations between the US and South Yemen. Following Findlay's report to Washington of Rubayyeh's overthrow, a proposed visit by a US delegation to South Yemen was cancelled.

Among those executed for trying to launch "a reactionary coup" were Saleh Muslih, the interior minister, who had – in response to the mediation efforts of Kuwait and United Arab Emirates between Saudi Arabia and South Yemen – visited Riyadh last April. He had said that "Saudi Arabia's experience in internal security matters will be of much value to us in reorganising our police services."

Who did exactly what, when and why, during those two crucial days in June, remains shrouded in mystery. The press reports from Beirut, based mainly on interviews with the conservative Arab diplomatic sources, said in effect that the militant leaders of South Yemen executed their president in order to mask their responsibility for the murder of al Ghashmi in Sanaa – an act probably meant to avenge the assassination of the previous North Yemen president, al Hamdi.

There is however, some speculation that elements determined to clean up the sacred Arabian peninsula of "atheism and marxism," eliminated al Ghashmi for his gesture of reconciliation with South Yemen. According to this theory, al Ghashmi's death was the signal for President Ali of South Yemen to strike against his militant colleagues. The Associated Press agency, reporting from Beirut at the end of June, quoted government-controlled newspapers in Saudi Arabia as saying that the world's largest oil exporting country could not tolerate the presence of "communism" on its southern border.

In all this, only one thing is sure: Saudi Arabia is unhappy with the idea of the unification of the two Yemens, or even active cooperation between them. It fears the prospect of a single country of eight million Yemenis – more than all other inhabitants of the vast Arabian peninsula put together. A united Yemen would demand the overdue return of the three provinces annexed by Saudi Arabia in 1934. Finally, unification of the two Yemens, and a continued free flow of the Yemenis, many of them politically radical, into Saudi Arabia – where they presently account for a third of all the workforce – would threaten that country's security. ■

SAUDI ARABIA

SAUDI ARABIA: COMMUNISM SEEN BEHIND EVENTS IN THE YEMENS

Riyadh AL-RIYAD in Arabic 27 Jun 78 p 1

[Editorial: "Sea of Blood"]

[Text] Bloody events are following one another in the Yemens in a fearful way, warning that a storm is brewing in the skies of a country at the tip of the Red Sea.

A thread has begun to be uncovered linking the assassination of President al-Ghashmi a few days ago and the execution of chairman Salim Rubayyi' 'Ali yesterday. It is being investigated in the knowledge that the relationship between the two events has not yet been clarified to the extent that would enable one to grasp the new chain of events.

Even before the events in North Yemen, things had almost reached the boiling point within Aden between Salim Rubayyi' and the National Front represented by its chief 'Abd-al-Fattah Isma'il. It was even said that the former was placed under house arrest, a fact which led to friction, then to a clash between the militia supporting the latter and the army supporting the former.

It seemed, then, that control of one group but not the other became impossible, so the Front decided to call Salim Rubayyi' to a general meeting, but he rejected the three appeals. He brought the Front his resignation, which was immediately accepted.

Now the Front had achieved its primary aim--to depose Salim or have him resign. But it was surprised by the bombing of an army post outside the capital at the command of Salim. The situation then finally exploded between the two factions, and the Front hastened to issue a radio proclamation taking what had happened as an attempted coup which could be thwarted.

Events then rapidly succeeded one another, and in 12 hours everything was over and Aden had executed her chairman Salim Rubayyi'.

The Front had, in fact, been waiting for the opportunity to eliminate Salim Rubayyi' once it noticed that his position was becoming more moderate. The Front noticed that even though reconciliation had not been achieved with al-Hamadi by the beginning of the year, it might be achieved between Salim and al-Ghashmi. This rapprochement, in the Front's opinion, was just an attack on the Marxism championed by 'Abd-al-Fattah Isma'il, who was trying to consolidate it in the region especially after communism began to lose military bases in the Middle East. It was clear after Soviet-Somali relations ended that Moscow would have to look for a substitute in the region to be a power to fill the gap that had begun to interfere in more than one Arab and African country.

To this end Moscow did her utmost to honor 'Abd-al-Fattah Isma'il and incite him to do anything that would contribute to continued chaos in the region. It is to be noted that Isma'il visited Moscow more than once this year. After his return bombs went off; it was the assassination of al-Hamadi.

The Adeni forces were supporting Mengistu in his war against Somalia and Eritrea. The Adenis were withdrawn from the deterrent forces and sent to Ethiopia. Finally, the assassination of al-Ghashmi returned Yemen to murder and butchery and ended her progress toward development.

At a time when the Front was implementing the basest methods of international piracy, it was trying to expand the red circle, which could not be extended from the Ethiopian side. Moscow found that Aden would be the best route to achieve this extension. Isma'il will have to pay a price for Moscow's generosity in the blood of the sons of his country. There is no doubt that al-Ghashmi's assassination was carried out by the Front; the official envoy was probably from 'Abd-al-Fattah, not from Salim Rubayyi'.

What the Arab League broadcasts tomorrow or the next day must concern the connections between the incident and information the League has received about it. It will have to disclose the fearful struggle which Aden has now begun to undergo while she tries to eradicate Soviet clientage in the region.

The south Yemeni struggle is only beginning despite seas of blood, but other facts will be brought to light. Isma'il is thought to remain behind the scenes directing what is necessary to widen the sea and is therefore fighting those who emerge to block his leadership, eliminating them one by one.

Yesterday Salim Rubayyi' was executed by firing squad. And tomorrow: who will be killed next; who will fall in the seas of blood? For elements of the government in Aden, the sight of blood flowing has become the means to an end. They will thus achieve the deceptive principles of Marxism. Hence, one must be made aware of the new danger to the region and to the nation.

SAUDI ARABIA

PAPER DENOUNCES AL-GHASHMI ASSASSINATION

Jiddah 'UKAZ in Arabic 26 Jun 78 p 1 LD

[Editorial]

[Text] The Arab nation has angrily denounced the murderers, hirelings, and agents who have sold themselves to the enemies of Arabism and Islam and of all noble human values. The statement which the Saudi Arabian Kingdom issued following the abominable crime of assassinating Lieutenant Colonel al-Ghashmi said that the kingdom will not allow foreign interference to achieve its objectives in this sisterly islamic state. This strong reassertion means the denunciation of all such treacherous methods, methods of physical liquidation which only cowards and agents are capable of using.

Sisterly Yemen will continue to march on the road of dignity, freedom, strength and progress, and the conspiracies aimed at hindering its march on this road shall fail.

Throughout history criminal methods have failed to achieve their objectives, and the Arab nation, with its heritage, long history, and human values which have governed its long struggle, strongly rejects such ugly methods and condemns such savage actions that run contrary to all principles and human values.

The Arab nation must now, more than ever before, open its eyes to see the conspiracies being hatched against it by those powers well known for their hostility to Islam and to all human values, who are trying to propagate atheism in order to achieve their expansionist objectives, dominate peoples and control their wealth. Such conspiring will not stop but the Arab nation, due to its awareness of the dimensions of the critical phase through which Arab struggle is passing, is capable of thwarting and confronting such conspiracies and of exposing their objectives and false slogans now that the blood of innocent people has been shed.

Sisterly Yemen, which has fought many battles in defense of its freedom and dignity, will, despite the enemies, continue to march on the road charted for it by Lieutenant Colonel al-Ghashmi and his colleagues and will continue to refuse to submit to the policy of subjugation and containment. It will pursue its march on the road of freedom and the dignity of the Yemeni citizen as this is the only way to confront the enemies of the Arab nation, of freedom, and of human dignity.

SAUDI ARABIA

PAPER VIEWS ARAB LEAGUE MEETING ON PDRY

Jiddah 'UKAZ in Arabic 1 Jul 78 p 1 LD

[Editorial]

[Text] The extraordinary meeting of the Arab League Council in Cairo today should be a new test of the Arab nation's ability to face up to its historical responsibility to oppose the blatant communist interference aimed at hindering the progress of the Arab march toward the achievements of legitimate Arab goals so as to pave the way to grabbing the Arab nation's wealth and controlling its destiny.

World communism today has changed its tactics of implementing its expansionist and aggressive plans. Previously it used to operate with the help of its cells and agents but now it has begun resorting to blatant and open interference with troops, planes and tanks in order to suppress any nationalist movement that resists its interference. This brings to mind what the Russian forces did in Hungary and Czechoslovakia in 1956 and 1968, respectively, when the Soviet Union is cooperating with Cuba and East Germany in order to implement its plans in the Arab territories, as has happened in Aden. It then represents a real danger not only to Aden but to the whole Arab nation.

It was not surprising that this blatant communist interference should come at a time when the Arab-Israeli conflict began heading along a new road to peace. Through such intervention the Soviet Union is deliberately creating new tension in the area of the Horn of Africa to engulf the area in flames and achieve its plan of creating confederal unity between Aden and Addis Ababa. Through such unity it can impose its presence in the area and create disturbances and troubles that would enable it to implement its aggressive and expansionist plans.

The Arab nation is today facing this real danger which, with its faith, its values, and its heritage, it is capable of confronting. But the confrontation of this danger calls for an objective stand in which the Arab nation should determine the practical means to halt such dangers. Condemnation and the issuing of statements of denunciation and repudiation are no longer of

any avail in the face of such a real enemy as Zionism, which has designs against Arab lands and the Arabs themselves.

Successive generations will be affected by our struggle today against this new communist plan. The Arab nation, which has experienced many dilemmas and difficulties, must today, through its struggle and through awareness of the size of the current issues, devise a new method and a new strategy to realize an Arab stand in the face of this communist danger. A thorough awareness of this danger makes it incumbent upon us all to shoulder our responsibility to preserve our history and existence.

If we as a nation expect the Arab League at its present extraordinary session to lay down a specific method of Arab action, it is because we realize that the Arab officials who are meeting in Cairo today are capable of charting a path for the Arab nation which it should follow in thwarting this conspiracy and military and ideological invasion of our values, existence and heritage.

The communist cancer aims at devouring the whole Arab area that stands in its way; it wants to regain the influence which it has lost in the area. Therefore, this extraordinary meeting is timely, and the rapid response to it shows that we will emerge from this conference with resolutions that will deal with this danger and contain it prior to getting rid of it.

CSO: 4802

SOMALIA

SOMALIA: KREMLIN ACCUSED OF COMPLICITY IN ASSASSINATION

Mogadiscio DANAB in English 11 Jul 78 pp 2-6

[Excerpts] After Russia had failed to get into Arab world through the front door, it started making a bold effort to get in through the back one following Russia's dismissal from Egypt, the Sudan and Somalia. Moscow began flirting with South Yemen and piled up arms in Aden. The object was not to help the Arabs against Zionist imperialism but to make its own grab of Africa, with control of the Red Sea, Bab El-Mandab and the Horn of Africa, the main strategic targets.

Aden was merely to be the logistic staging post for the Kremlin's ground design. Today, having helped the cause of tremendous bloodshed, suppression and destruction in the Horn against the aspirations of the Western Somali masses and the Eritreans, imperialist Russia has at last succeeded in exporting its aggression and horrors across the Red Sea to the Arab peninsula.

Following heavy fighting in Aden which put Abdel Fattah Ismail and Ali Mohamed Nasser--two staunch pro-Russian puppets in power--president Salim Rubaya Ali and two of his close associates were dealt with in typical Russian style. They were quickly "tried" before a special court, accused of mounting a "reactionary coup" and summarily shot for "most terrible crimes against the people".

With Abdel Fattah and his junta now firmly in control, the puppet state of South Yemen can be expected to become even more subservient towards Moscow. Rubaya Ali, throughout his term, was reputed to have opposed South Yemen's participation in the Liberation wars of the Horn on the Russo-Cuban side. However, Aden sent several thousand troops to fight beside the Russians, Cubans and "Ethiopians" and against the freedom and independence of the Western Somali masses and Eritreans.

Rubaya Ali also called a halt to Adeni aid to Russian inspired guerrillas at its neighbourhood, and worked cooperatively with Saudi Arabia which has supplied Aden with £ 60 million in aid over the last two years. Now it

looks as if all these policies will be reversed and, with the imperialist Russian build-up in "Ethiopia" just across the way.

As Moscow tightens its grip on Aden, a renewal of subversion in its neighbouring states can be expected with, of course, Oman, Saudi Arabia and the rich Gulf areas as the ultimate targets. There is no doubt, also, that with growing Russian imperialism the Southern end of the Red Sea--Bab El - Mandab through which much of the oil to the West must pass--that the Arab world and the West will soon be subjected to various Russian attempts at blackmail.

Having failed to get into the Arab world through arms blackmail, Russia is now blasting its way in. And there is no question that the Kremlin was in collaboration with those who assassinated Ghashmy as part of a plot to frame Rubaya Ali and bring about what has happened in Aden, during the last week of last month.

CSO: 4820

SULTANATE OF OMAN

SULTANATE OF OMAN: PDRY GOVERNMENT ACCUSED OF TERRORISM

Muscat 'UMAN in Arabic 27 Jun 78 p 1

[Editorial: "When Terrorism Becomes the Watchword of a Regime"]

[Text] When terrorism becomes a watchword for the ruling regime in Aden, a just stand becomes a national and international necessity in order to put matters in their true light and make a decisive distinction between the methods of states and those of terrorist gangs.

Therefore, the responsibility of world society as a whole, confronting for the first time in history the rulers of one of its states appearing as an obvious gang, has multiplied.

World society has faced different types of terrorism, but this is the first time terrorism has become a watchword for a regime at the level of the state's leadership.

Planning conspiracies for killing and destruction has become the picture of life in South Yemen since the regime imposed itself on the fraternal Arab people.

But the terrorist regime in Aden was not content with that. Its fall into communism led to its taking the basest position, which is incompatible with international laws and customs.

On the Arab level the regime in Aden participated publicly with the Ethiopian butcher Mengistu against the Arab people in Somalia.

On the international level, terrorist attempts in which the rulers of South Yemen participated multiplied at the expense of terrorism alone, until the name of the Adeni regime was never mentioned unless associated with sky-jacking operations, assassination, and terrorist attacks.

The picture reached the apex of ugliness when the chairman of the regime ruling in South Yemen contacted the martyred president Ahmad Husayn al-Ghashmi

to assure the murderer of his kill, showing just how far the ruling regime in Aden had gone in challenging all international customs and in overstepping every concept of Arab nobility and decency.

The world has thus witnessed for the first time an envoy of the president of a state's participation in the assassination of the president of another state as a new law of international relations promulgated by the Adeni regime.

The communique issued by the central committee of the ruling party in Aden yesterday is a sign of the developments in South Yemen. It does not deceive anyone because it is only a cheap attempt to disavow the responsibility of the whole Adeni regime for the crime of assassinating President al-Ghashmi, a situation of grief and loathing for both Arab and international opinion.

CSO: 4802

YEMEN ARAB REPUBLIC

YEMEN ARAB REPUBLIC: PDYR LEADERSHIP SAID UNRESPONSIVE TO HUMAN NEEDS

San'a' AL-THAWRAH in Arabic 27 Jun 78 pp 1, 7

[Editorial]

[Text] What happened in the southern part of the Yemeni homeland yesterday could have happened at any time since 1971. The conflicts there had been flaring up, but they were always hidden at the expense of our people in the northern half who continued to pay dearly and treat the problems with patience and sacrifice, despite the facts of the situation in the southern half which led to a wide eruption of conflict which has not ceased even now between a leadership enjoying every luxury and the deprived, wretched masses driven by hunger and poverty in dire circumstances to which the officials have paid no attention since obtaining independence in '67. In fact, they have always been preoccupied with liquidation under slogans much more than with the wretched reality our people live with in the southern half. While the slogans were imposed on some of the rest, most of them in the other half of the homeland began to pay the price of their rulers' heroism with wretchedness, poverty, and criminal schemes on behalf of those who have not resolved the conflict concerning their national unity or their Arabism. It is not strange, then, that we find even the cadres who found an opportunity to study abroad refusing to return to work in the southern half and preferring to work in areas that use logic and rationality within the framework of the time, its possibilities, and circumstances as they are.

Therefore, what is really strange about the situation our people are living through in the southern half, a situation in which there was "progressivism", goes beyond the traits and human characteristics of every progressive experiment in the world. It is something from which has resulted a situation unequalled in the Arab, African, and Asian regions.

A clearer example of this fact can be obtained by comparing the situation of the halves, since the 26 September revolution and since the southern half's achieving independence in '67, with regard to the great heritage, the responsibility for great development, or for uplifting, preparing and

liberating the Yemeni citizen from the effects of fear and humiliation. The responsibility is directed today in the northern half to the march of democracy whose foundations were laid by our great martyr Ahmad Husayn al-Ghashmi so that our march would be perfected and the unique cooperative experiment, the five-year development plan, and the democratic march, the opportunity for which could have been lost through the treacherous hands that assassinated the president thinking that that would assassinate our aspirations, our march, and our achievements, would be embraced.

The time has come for our people in the south to fully realize that the constructive march will only be hindered by the luxurious life of leaders who are trampled under the pressure of conflicts which isolate them from seeing national and patriotic interests and from seeing human experience and its impressive accomplishments in the world.

This is perhaps the reason for the continued bloodshed in this part of beloved Yemen.

CSO: 4802

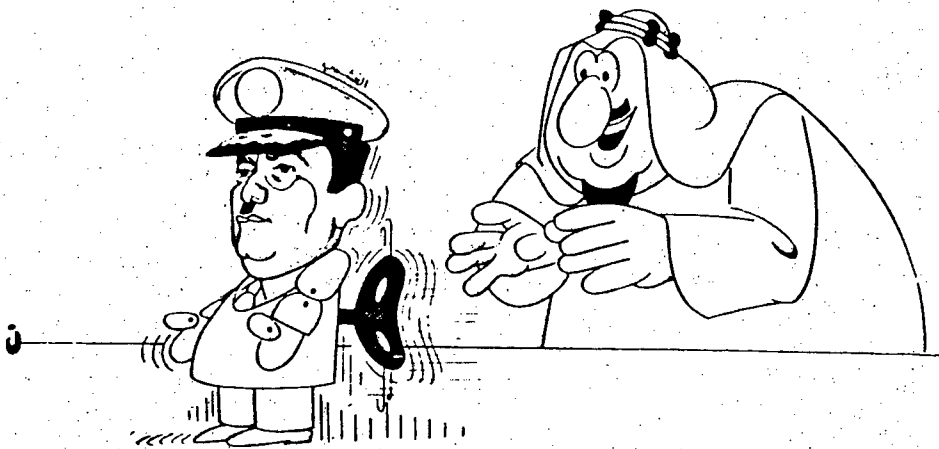
BRIEFS

PLANNED RIYAD VISITS--Cairo, 16 July--In today's edition, the Egyptian weekly AL-SIYASI says that Arab League Secretary General Mahmud Riyad will make swift visits soon, aimed at preventing the deterioration of the situation in the south of the Arabian Peninsula. The paper says that Riyad has prepared a report in this regard, which he will send to a number of Arab kings and leaders. Riyad has instructed his assistant Dr Muhammad (al-Farra) to contact the governments of the two Yemens in order to agree on arrangements pertaining to the Arab military team's mission of examining the accusations put forth by the two Yemens regarding the presence of military concentrations on their common borders. Dr (al-Farra) is scheduled to discuss this matter with the two Yemeni representatives to the Arab league today. [Text] [Doha QNA in Arabic 0812 GMT 16 Jul 78 NC]

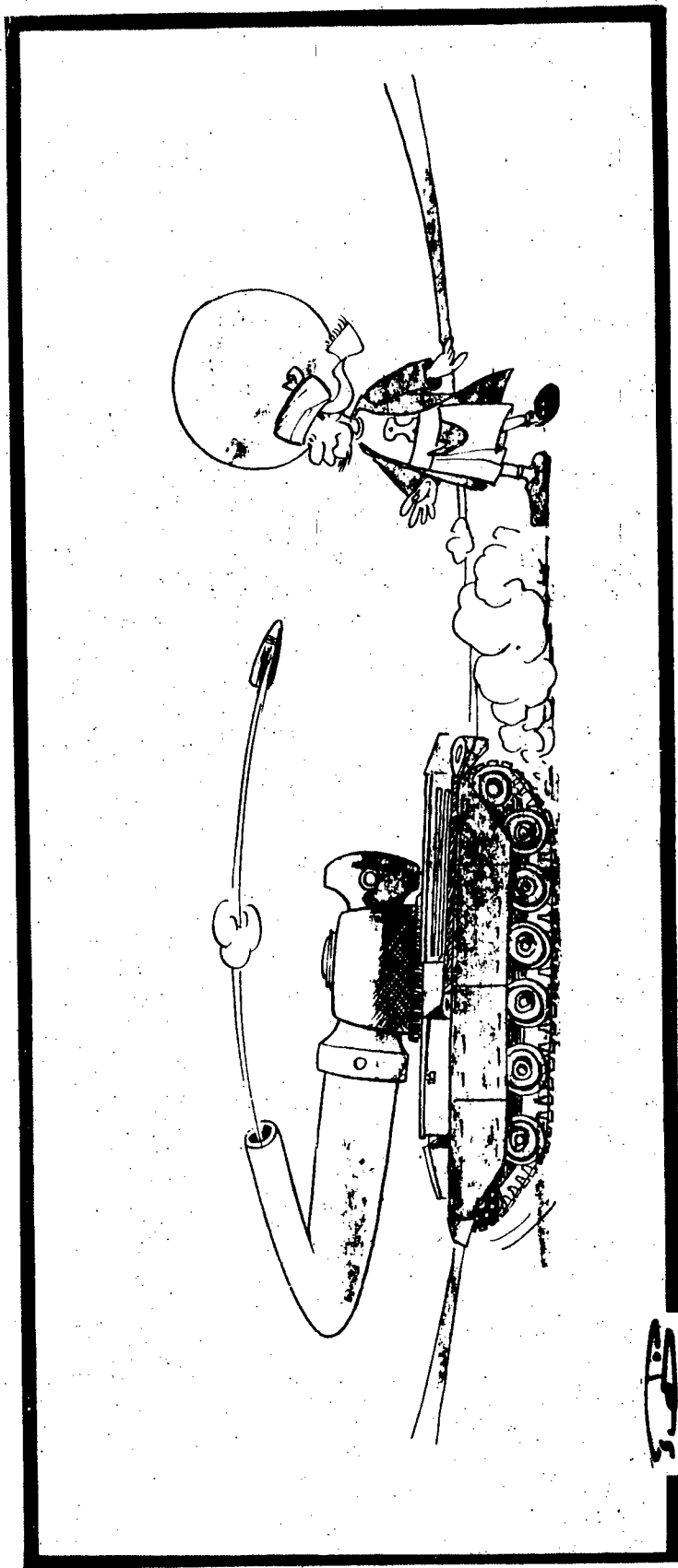
GULF SECURITY PACT--Hasty secret contacts of a security nature have been initiated between the nations of the Gulf and the Arabian Peninsula. The object of these is to carry out a rapid study of the situation in this sensitive oil region in the light of the developments which took place in Yemen and of the increasingly strong relationship among Aden, the Soviet Union and Cuba. AL-SIYASHAH has learned that a number of secret meetings have been held by senior officials on the security of this area, including visits to the various capitals of the Gulf and the peninsula in order to ascertain the truth of the situation and to bolster the joint security pact in confronting what is seen as an increasingly active Soviet role at the gates of the Gulf. [Text] [Kuwait AL-SIYASAH in Arabic 8 Jul 78 p 1]

CSO: 4802

CARTOONS



Beirut AL-HURRIYAH in Arabic 12 Jun 78 p 34



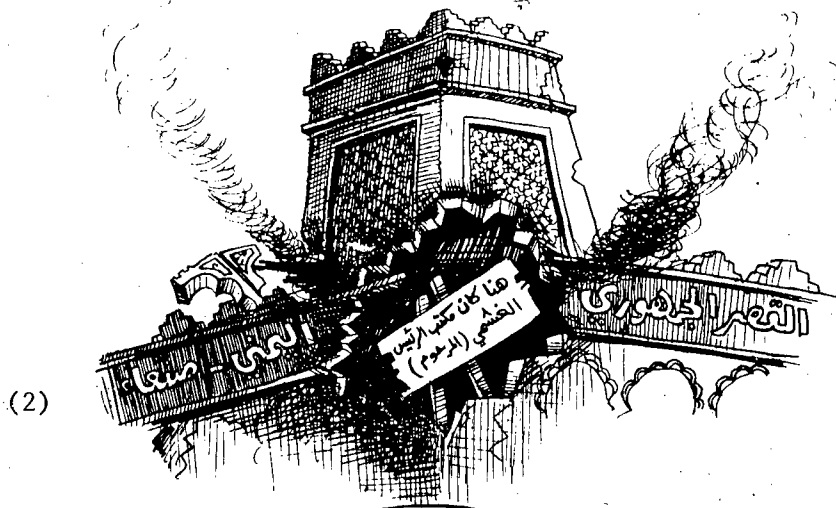
Kuwait AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM in Arabic 27 Jun 78 p 19



Garden of 'Aden'

Kuwait AL-SIYASAH in Arabic 27 Jun 78 p 20

"هاجم ممثل صحافة اليمن في اجتماع اتحاد الصحافيين العرب الذي انعقد في بيروت وضع الحريات .. في مصر" (1)



(3)

ان الحرية ايها السادة
جزء لا يتجزأ، بما في ذلك
حرية الاغتيال... السياسي



Paris AL-MUSTAQBAL in Arabic Jul 78 p 10

Key: 1. "The Yemeni Press Representative at the Arab Journalists' Union meeting held in Beirut attacked the freedom situation in Egypt", 2. Republican Palace-Yemen-Sana'a, here was the (late) President al-Ghashmi's office, 3. Freedom, gentlemen, is indivisible, including the freedom of political assassination.

CSO: 4802

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