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IRAQ

PROBLEMS IN COMPUTER USE ATTRIBUTED TO HUMAN ERROR

Baghdad AL-JUMHURIYAH in Arabic 21 Apr 77 p 3

[Interview with Dr Hilal 'Abbud Taqi, director general of the National Center for Electronic Computers by Nabil Muhsin: "Some Offices in Country Foiled Success of Electronic Projects; What Have Electronic Computers Achieved in 4 Years? Cadres, Not Computers Are Sources of Errors"]

[Text] There is no doubt that the industrial and economic developments that have been achieved in the world by means of applying the methods of technology have created a comprehensive awareness regarding the role they play and the importance of that role in economic development. These developments have given scientific evidence that the availability of natural resources and investment capital is not enough in itself for economic and industrial development unless the resources and the capital are tied to the utilization of the modern means of technology, chief among which are electronic computers.

In an interview conducted by AL-JUMHURIYAH's science correspondent (medicine and science) with Dr Hilal 'Abbud Taqi, director general and chairman of the board of directors of the National Center for Electronic Computers we reviewed together the electronic computer experience throughout the past 4 years and what this experience has achieved in the area of utilizing computers. We reviewed maximum utilization of computer capacity and the introduction of computers into most offices and organizations' business to save time, effort and cost; to expedite the production process; and to achieve the principal and urgent functions and needs.

While we record the center's most important achievements during this period of time, we fully realize that the center has bigger goals and functions. We also realize that the political leadership of the party and of the revolution expects more from the achievement of broader and more comprehensive computer functions.

Developing the Performance Process

At the outset of the interview I asked Dr Hilal 'Abbud about the role of electronic computers in developing the performance process. I asked him

about the effects of computers on improving production and work quality in general in production and service organizations.

[Answer] There is no doubt that electronic computers play an effective and a decisive role in cutting down [the number] of obstacles that arise as a result of the increase in the volume and the magnitude of the work. During the phase of social change that the country is experiencing, most of the production and service organizations have come to be operated by means of specialized central state machinery. But because the nature of centralization leads to work expansion and time reduction, it was necessary to introduce modern statistical methods whose purpose was to contribute effectively towards the development of performance operations, the improvement of production and the submission of analysis and data with the utmost precision and in the shortest times possible.

Electronic computers have several functions. Chief among them are two principal functions:

There is the administrative and the organizational function that attempts to utilize new methods based on modern scientific principles. These principles contribute to solving the problems that have ensued when scientific methods were not followed during past periods of time in data analysis and statistics.

There is the function of utilizing modern scientific equipment and inventions (electronic computers) to expedite implementation and follow-up [activities] and to make sound, suitable decisions that can be imparted at an appropriate time.

It is for all this that we find the introduction of electronic computers inevitable in dealing with the issues and problems, such as providing services and consumer goods and other matters, that affect all groups of people. Expansion in this vital area that most countries of the advanced world have adopted a long time ago is required. I can give examples of the success achieved by electronic computers in many of the areas in which they were introduced. Electronic computers have been utilized in engineering and scientific areas and also in many activities of the oil sector such as estimating the volume of oil supplies in some oil fields, [determining] the quantity that is to be earmarked for storage and [determining] the marketing system and other activities. There are also the areas of postal and telegraph [services], water, electricity, the railways, the warehouses of the Public Motor Vehicles Company, government employees' payroll, payments to retired persons and the system of admissions in the universities. There are numerous examples confirming the success of using electronic computers in our country.

Problems of the Masses

[Question] Recently, it has been frequently repeated that there are some obstacles in utilizing electronic computers. Among these obstacles, for example, is the delay this year in using the computer system in admitting university students and also the irregularity of disbursing payments to retired persons

after the introduction of the computer system. And there are other errors in water or electricity bills or telephone charges. What is your opinion about this?

[Answer] There is a fact that must be emphasized: it is not the electronic computer that makes errors. All the systems that have been installed have been successful systems that do not engage in error. But there is also another fact that I must talk about with candor. This fact states that the principal obstacle in the area of utilizing electronic computers is the fact that departments in some government organizations do not understand the importance of using electronic computers in their business. It is for this reason that you feel these departments are rejecting [the use of computers] and are not responding to making our projects successful. Besides, introducing the computer system requires in most cases a reconsideration of the methods of work. Developing those methods so that they become harmonious with the introduction of computers into the field of work becomes inevitable.

It is for this reason that you are surprised with the rejection which occurs not only on the level of these departments, but also in the mid-level and low-level departments. In order to overcome this phenomenon the center is currently conducting training and guidance courses for the different departments in order to make them aware of the importance and the requirements of utilizing an electronic computer.

There are secondary obstacles: the technical cadres that are necessary for expansion are not available.

There has been no delay in utilizing the electronic computer system in [the process of] admitting university students. But the problem that we faced which prevented us from using this system since the beginning of the present year is that the information and the forms have not been arriving on time. Thus the department in the Ministry of Higher Education that is responsible for admission takes the responsibility for this delay.

Regarding the matter of disbursing retired persons' payments I would like to make it clear that the delay usually took place as a result of giving erroneous data or of delay in the arrival of those payments at a suitable time. [I would like to] assert that the systems that have been devised for using the electronic computer were successful systems that do not commit errors. If an error does occur, it is the result of feeding erroneous figures to the computer or because the figures were delayed. The computer is not responsible for this. This is due to a deficiency in the staff's ability to feed the computer. We intend to eliminate these errors in the future.

The 5-Year Plan

[Question] It has been observed that in 1976 there was an essential leap forward when the number of electronic computers was increased. In your opinion does this increase reflect the actual need for this large number of computers that have been imported, or is this increase proceeding in accordance with a previously planned expansion policy in this important area?

[Answer] The center has devised a Five-Year Plan for the years 1976-1980 that intends to bring about the following functions:

First, it will provide an electronic computing capability for the next 5 years by utilizing the electronic equipment; the attachments thereto; the communications networks that tie the electronic systems to each other; the operations requirements; and the installations that include the buildings and the equipment and secondary gadgets and their maintenance.

Second, it will prepare and qualify new cadres in theory and in practice; it will increase their experience; and it will prepare scientific cadres through the universities and the specialized institutions.

Third, the Five-Year Plan will universalize and implement systems; it will conduct studies and research in the different functions of electronic computers and their areas [of work]; it will determine measurements for the computers; and it will translate their language into Arabic.

Fourth, this plan has been considered mandatory for all the ministries and the official and semi-official departments. The methods and the instructions of the Planning Council are to be taken into account, and they are to be considered as a handbook for using electronic computers in the country during the national development plan. The plan has also been tied to a decision of the revolution's command council compelling all state agencies to adhere to its provisions.

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IRAQ

PROJECTS TO MAKE DESERT FLOURISH CARRIED OUT

Baghdad AL-JUMHURIYAH in Arabic 21 Apr 77 p 3

[Article by correspondent 'Abd-al-Sattar Faraj: "This Is How The Desert Lives; the Big al-Rutbah Dam Is New Project To Make Western Desert Flourish"]

[Text] On the sands of the western desert we occasionally encounter projects that embrace every grain of sand that has been long waiting for water. Today, in the heart of the desert that has been penetrated by roads and affected by the drought which will not afflict it again, the glorious revolution and its leading party have discharged springs of water in the heart of the desert and built dams in large and small valleys.

On the occasion of the 30th anniversary of the leading party, the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, the cornerstone of the big al-Rutbah Dam in the Hawran Valley was laid by Mr Walid Ibrahim governor of al-Anbar in a celebration that took place on location in the afore-mentioned valley northwest of al-Rutbah. The celebration was attended by the assistant director of the dam and reservoir, by the director of small dams in the Ministry of Irrigation and by a number of officials.

AL-JUMHURIYAH at Project Site

AL-JUMHURIYAH visited the new project site where it sought to observe at a close distance many matters in the area. We met first with Mr Fadil Salman 'Uthman general assistant director of dams and reservoirs. He spoke about building such projects in the heart of the desert.

He said, "The principal return from building these dams is to guarantee [the availability] of the water that is needed for citizens whether they reside in the cities or are nomadic Bedouins who are in dire need of water. The Bedouins are also totally dependent upon tending [their animals] and raising [a few crops]. Besides, these dams will provide travelers in the area with water."

A Work Plan

He added, "Our work plan includes building a number of dams, among which is this dam. Work on this dam will last approximately 2 years. Other dams with

less capacity will also be implemented in other areas. In the coming years the area will develop further because of the multiplicity of the projects that have been approved. These constitute a fraction of the area's needs."

The Big al-Rutbah Dam

In an interview with Mr Sa'ib Jamil Haddad director of small dams in the Ministry of Irrigation Mr Haddad talked about this dam.

[He said], "The Big al-Rutbah Dam is considered among the largest dams that have been implemented and the largest that have been planned for implementation in the western desert. It is 890 meters long and 18 meters high. The dam is designed in a manner that is suited to the natural availability of materials in the area: good soil and stones to line its front and back facades. It is characterized by the fact that it comprises several phases of work and is implemented in ways that are purely technical such as the presence of a clay dividing wall that is placed in the form of layers and then pressed in accordance with accepted technical specifications. Cement is also inserted to condition the foundation so as to prevent the water from penetrating and affecting the dam structure. In addition, there is a water canal lined with reinforced concrete for draining the surplus water that the reservoir cannot hold."

The Nature of Implementation

About the nature of implementation he said [the following]:

"The project is being implemented by the Office of Small Dams in the Department of Dams and Reservoirs. Implementation is carried out in a direct fashion with Iraqi machines, equipment and technicians who represent the continuing support of the political leadership of the party and the revolution and the department's ability to implement work because it has accumulated the experience during numerous past years. Non-skilled workers and supervisors were trained and prepared for skilled labor and for working as machine and tool operators. In addition, the construction unit that will implement the Big al-Rutbah Dam has been formed. It will implement the dam with the complete confidence and the considerable support of the political leadership and the officials. All the requirements of living for all those who are associated with the project are provided at the work site, especially the requirements of housing, water, electricity, a restaurant, a bakery and means of transportation from the workers' homes to the work site."

Making the Desert Flourish

Mr Haddad said [the following] about the projects that have been implemented in the desert during the previous period.

"Among the dams that we have implemented in previous years are [the following]:

"1. Al-Abyilah Dam has a capacity of 4 million cubic meters and was implemented in 1973 at a cost of 75,000 dinars.

"2. Al-Agharri Dam has a capacity of 7 million cubic meters and was implemented in 1974 at a cost of 174,000 dinars.

"3. Sirrs Dam has a capacity of 300,000 cubic meters and was implemented in 1975 at a cost of 55,000 dinars.

"4. Al-Husayniyah Dam has a capacity of 6 million cubic meters and was implemented in 1977 at a cost of 250,000 dinars. Three other small dams, al-Rutbah Dam No 1, al-Walaj Dam and al-Walid Dam, have also been implemented."

About the Desert

The director of small dams added, "The altitude of the western desert varies between 500 and 700 meters above sea level. This approaches the altitudes of part of our mountains in the north that we cherish. It is known that Baghdad's altitude is 30 meters above sea level. Numerous valleys and subdivisions are located in this desert. Of those I will mention [the following]:

"The Hawran Dam and its tributaries;

"The al-Gharaf Dam and its tributaries;

"The Tubal Dam and its tributaries;

"These valleys end near the Euphrates or near the al-Habbaniyah or the al-Razzazah Lake. During the rainy season these valleys turn into fast flowing rivers that dry up during the summer. It was for this reason that the Ministry of Irrigation with instructions from the party's and the revolution's political leadership had the idea of making the western desert prosperous by building dams in the valleys and forming reservoirs of the lake waters so that the torrential waters can be utilized in a dry season. The dams that have been implemented, like al-Husayniyah Dam, the Sirri Dam and others, have played their part in previous years."

The Importance and the Exigency

The district administrative officer of al-Rutbah Mr Mu'ayid Hasan Mustafa says [the following] about the dams that have been implemented:

"The dams are important to the citizens and to their livestock which, it is estimated, exceeds one million head. Besides, they help the citizens who are nomadic Bedouins to settle and become sedantary instead of traveling in search of pasture and water in the heart of the vast desert." About the new dam whose cornerstone has been laid, he said [the following]:

"If the dam is implemented according to its approved design and capability, the water that is stored behind it could be used in irrigating the city of al-Rutbah as long as the bottom of the dam is more than 50 meters above the city's altitude. The flow would thus be natural and would not require any pumping. In addition, a tourist area would be formed; in the future it could become prosperous after the lake is formed."

Supply Source for Wells

The district administrative officer said, "In the future this dam will become a source for the wells in the area that have been dug and those that have not been implemented. The dam will turn into the best reservoir for storing water in the desert area, and it will become a tributary stream for ground water.

"During the past years in the long life of the revolution numerous projects have been implemented in the western desert within the governorate of al-Anbar. [The following] are among them:

- "1. Twenty-four grazing stations have been built at a cost of 3,710,000 dinars. Some of them are principal stations, and some are branch stations.
- "2. Nineteen villages have been built in the desert at a cost of 1.25 million dinars. Each includes 820 homes, 19 schools, 19 clinics and 19 modern markets. These have been distributed among the citizens.
- "3. Feed warehouses have been built in al-Rutbah, al-Nukhayb and Kilometer 160.
- "4. More artesian wells have been dug in the heart of the desert.
- "5. Cultivating trees in the oases located on the principal roads in the area has begun."

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IRAQ

ROLE OF TANKER FLEET EXAMINED

Baghdad AL-JUMHURIYAH in Arabic 20 Apr 77 no page given

[Article by Shihab al-Tamimi: "Victorious Course for Building Iraqi Tanker Fleet; Iraqi Tankers and Iraqi Expertise To Serve National Course Towards Integration and Unity"]

[Text] The Iraqi Tanker "al-Rumaylah" was the first oil tanker to carry the first shipment of Iraqi oil that had been made possible by native investments. That took place on 7 April 1972 when the first phase of the direct national investment of the al-Rumaylah fields began. After a few days "al-Rumaylah" was sailing the seas in order to market the Iraqi oil that had been pumped for the first time in our modern contemporary history by Iraqi experts and cadres. It was the first successful attempt for the direct national investment of oil [that was carried out] with the assistance of Soviet friends.

Tankers, Marketing Requirements and the Political Report

Accurate estimates that were stated in the political report issued by the Eighth Qatari Conference of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party were exemplified in this particular operation. This report affirmed that the decisive battle in achieving economic independence in the Iraqi state and, consequently, reinforcing political independence and liberating the national will from every restraint is the battle of liberating oil resources from the grip of imperialistic, monopolistic companies and establishing full control over the planning, the production and the marketing of these resources.

Our national government prepared itself for the task of marketing [this oil]. A maritime fleet of oil tankers was brought into being and an official organization was founded to manage it and foster its growth and development. That organization was called the Public Organization for Iraqi Oil Tankers.

From 50 to 140 Million Dinars

This organization came into being on 11 March 1972, and it was called the Iraqi Oil Tanker Company. Its capital was 50 million dinars; that has now become 140 million dinars.

The city of al-Basrah has been selected for this company's headquarters. The company has opened a branch in Baghdad.

The Public Organization for Iraqi Oil Tankers is one of the organizations affiliated with the Iraqi National Oil Company. It is affiliated with the Public Establishment for Marketing and Transporting Iraqi Oil and Other Petroleum Products.

An Unforgettable Position

Today, this organization occupies a prominent position in the world of the Iraqi economy. It constitutes an overflowing artery [of oil] that has enabled Iraq to move freely in opposing the imperialist control that was imposed on our country after it liberated its oil resources.

The estimates of Mr Tariq Nasib, director general of this organization, reflect the dimensions of the dangerous and precarious role that the Iraqi oil tanker fleet carried out at the outset of direct national investment and during the glorious nationalization battle. He mentioned that ever since the inception of direct investment operations and during the months that followed it was Iraqi tankers, in addition to two Soviet tankers, that undertook to transport the nationally invested oil. During that period 281,000 tons of Iraqi oil were shipped to Brazil and 350,000 tons were shipped to Ceylon and Democratic Germany by means of these tankers.

Operating Tankers

The Iraqi fleet has witnessed successive changes and has become an important part of the national economic fabric.

The organization began to take numerous steps to increase the number of tankers it owns and to improve the efficiency of their cadres and their technical capabilities. The company became active in this area after the port of al-Bakr on the Arabian Gulf was established. Al-Bakr can accommodate tankers with a capacity of 350,000 tons. At present the organization owns the following tankers: al-Rumaylah, Kirkuk, 'Ayn Zalah, Khanaqin, Jambur, Baba Karkar, Bozorgan, Tariq bin Ziyad, al-Yarmuk, al-Mutanabbi, al-Qadisiyah, 'Amuriyah and al-Farahidi. The organization is presently preparing itself for acquiring two new supertankers. We would thus have 15 tankers with capacities between 35,000 and 145,000 tons.

The organization has entered into an agreement with a number of international companies in Sweden and Japan to build eight supertankers that would be suited to the new holding capabilities of Iraqi ports.

The Organization and Iraqi Fleet Serving National Course Towards Unity

On the basis of the national premise that is known about revolutionary Iraq the Public Organization for Iraqi Oil Tankers has placed its available capa-

bilities at the disposal of Arab brothers. Our tankers have taken part in marketing Arab oil produced in Saudi Arabia and Arab oil produced in Abu Dhabi in different parts of the world.

The Iraqi Organization, along with eight Arab states that produces oil, contributes to the capital and participates in the management of the Maritime Arab Company for Transporting Oil. It also holds stock in the Arab Maritime Company for Building and Repairing Ships in al-Bahrain. It is active in the Maritime Academy for Maritime Transport in Alexandria which specializes in providing the maritime cadre for the Arab homeland. The Iraqi Organization is also contributing to the project of building three Arab maritime academies in al-Basrah, Jiddah and Dubai.

The organization is active in Arab efforts that are being made to standardize Arab maritime law and to standardize training and qualifying programs in the Arab homeland. It is thus that Iraq is affirming that all its organizations and capabilities are at the service of the national Arab course and the one Arab nation.

Privileges and Hopes

Before we conclude our talk about this youthful organization, we would like to mention that the Public Organization for Iraqi Oil Tankers is presently applying an ambitious program to form an integrated Iraqi oil maritime cadre. This is part of its indefatigable efforts to make all functions and activities in its tankers and its divisions Iraqi. This has been achieved by sending the Iraqi students who apply [for these jobs] to training missions and courses under attractive conditions in a number of the nations of the world.

We offer thousands of salutes to this national organization on the anniversary of its establishment. We hope that its efforts will be crowned with victory and success as part of the country's leap forward towards strengthening its economic independence and its efforts for Arab integration.

On Saturday 23 [April] Iraq will add two supertankers to its growing fleet.

An impressive celebration is being organized on this occasion on the shores of the Arab Gulf.

The first tanker has been named "al-Farahidi," and the second has been named "Amuriyah."

"Al-Farahidi" is the last tanker of a total of four that have been built for Iraq by one of the Japanese shipbuilding firms.

"Amuriyah" was built by a Swedish agency that specializes in this kind of supertankers.

By owning such supertankers the Iraqi Oil Tankers Company has come to occupy an increasingly sensitive position in our economic world and in the area of marketing our oil in world markets.

ROLE OF BA'TH PARTY IN DEVELOPING OIL INDUSTRY LAUDED

Baghdad AL-THAWRAH SUPPLEMENT in Arabic 7 Apr 77 pp 16, 17

[Article: "The Party's View on Oil Resources and Oil Industry Development in Iraq"]

[Excerpt] Oil Resources Are the Property of the Nation and of Coming Generations

The significance of the nationalization of oil resources is embodied in many causes and factors. Oil, which at the present time constitutes and will for some decades to come constitute the primary natural resource of our country and other oil countries, must be used properly, in view of the interests the nation and coming generations derive from oil. As oil is a depletable material, domestic and national duty makes it mandatory that the most beneficial ways and means be followed for exploiting it, by developing branches of industrial and agricultural output and creating a material base for the establishment of renewable resources, through which one may continue the course of progress in subsequent stages.

For this reason, the 17 July Revolution, under the leadership of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, has been trying to increase the refined oil's share by establishing petrochemical industries and complexes, refineries and other industries for whose operation crude oil constitutes a raw material. As the Political Report stated, "The stage of the forthcoming 5 years must witness the establishment of Iraqi petrochemical industries on the broadest possible scale. In addition to the economic and technological importance of these industries, their establishment will play a basic role in strengthening our oil policy and consequently our economic independence. A policy restricted to crude oil exports is a backward one which does not conform to our domestic and national aspirations and will not guarantee us an effective place in world oil affairs. At the same time, we must enlarge the oil refining industry."

Proceeding from this scientific view on the importance of oil's role and the need to raise the share of materials processed from oil, work is gradually taking place in our country to reduce the rate of dependence on crude oil revenues by establishing major oil projects and industries. The

revolution in our country, under the leadership of the Arab Socialist Ba'ath Party, has managed to liberate our oil resources and is certainly capable of carrying out basic transformations in the field of the industry, many of whose features have appeared in the projects carried out in the short period just past.

Beginning of the Great Takeoff

So far, many things have been accomplished on the road toward economic development, and oil sector projects are among them. Thanks to nationalization, the revolution has been able to invest large sums to this end. However, a great deal still awaits completion and execution, and this requires that all workers redouble their efforts in order to participate seriously in accelerating the broad construction process from whose yield there will be prosperity for the masses and a guarantee for coming generations.

Direct national exploitation of oil from the North Rumayla field must be considered the prelude to a new era in the area of the oil industry. Drilling of the first oil well there began on 15 July 1970. On 7 April 1972, oil began to flow from this field with the completion of the first stage of the project and the drilling of 10 producing oil wells with a capacity of 5 million tons per year. The second stage was then completed in April 1974; in July 1975 the third stage was carried out, thus raising the field's productive capacity to 42 million tons per year.

The strategic pipeline is one of the most important oil industry projects in the country. The line is 810 kilometers long and consists of a 42-inch crude oil transmission line from Hadithah to Rumayla and a 42-inch line from Rumayla to Faw. Accompanying the line, which can pump oil from north to south and vice versa, is another 8-inch gas line, which provides gas for the pumping stations belonging to the project and accessory installations. Capacity of the line is 48 million tons per year from Hadithah to Rumayla and 75 million tons from Rumayla to Faw. While the strategic line project is being completed, the al-Bakr deepwater terminal, which can now receive 350,000-ton tankers, is inaugurated.

The Iraq-Turkey oil pipeline has been built. This has a capacity of 35 million tons per year and is 1,005 kilometers long; 345 kilometers of it are inside Iraqi territory. Another giant line has been opened to transport oil products between Baghdad and Basrah and is designed to convey four types of oil products simultaneously.

In addition to that, the revolution has created a domestic crude oil marketing fleet whose capacity has now reached 800,000 tons. This will be raised by the end of this year to 1.4 million tons per year, after a number of tankers whose construction has been contracted for at the country's expense are delivered. Another fleet has also been built to transport oil products;

this now consists of four tankers and four barges with a deadweight capacity of 40,000 tons of various types of oil products. In addition, a floating station has been constructed to supply ships and lighters arriving at Iraqi ports with required fuel.

Work on construction of a project to exploit natural gas in southern Iraq is continuing earnestly. Construction costs of the project will total about 30 million dinars, and it is expected that it will be completed by the end of this year. The project's output will supply several industrial projects in the south of the country, including the iron and steel, sponge steel and aluminum projects, the electric power generating plants, the petrochemical project and the chemical fertilizer project, whose construction costs will come to about 200 million dinars with a productive capacity totalling 1 million tons per year. A contract has been signed to build Petrochemical Complex No 1 at a cost of 325 million dinars. The complex will use about 90 million stream cubic feet of gas per day and about 100,000 tons of salt. After completion, the complex will produce 150,000 tons of polyethylene and polyvinyl chloride and 40,000 tons of caustic soda per year.

In addition to all these projects which have been constructed or are in the process of being constructed, the revolution has striven to develop an oil staff and increase its size and the number of areas of specialization in it, and form geological and geophysical survey teams and exploration, drilling and production groups, with the result that the domestic technical staff has become able to contribute more effectively to establishing and operating major development projects and furnishing technical expertise and assistance to a number of Arab countries.

The nationalization of oil resources in our country and the rapid development being achieved in the oil industry and other economic and social development fields have enabled our country to contribute seriously to support movements of national liberation throughout the world, provide material and moral aid to friendly developing countries, and participate actively in the national development process on foundations of a philosophy of Arab economic integration through the establishment of joint productive projects and specific Arab federations and competent organizations to develop the Arab nation and uplift its diverse economies.

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LEBANON

DIVERSITY IN UNITY--THREE POLITICAL MODELS

Beirut AL-'AMAL in Arabic No 1, Mar 77 pp 182-207

[Working paper of a proposed constitution consisting of 73 articles]

[Text] During the war and in its aftermath, many plans appeared. Some appeared in the shape of complete and integrated draft constitutions. Others are still the subject of discussion and have not yet taken final shape.

All these plans stemmed from a near consensus among the Lebanese that "something" should be done to eradicate the causes of the outbreak [of war] and to produce a formula for a new Lebanon, now that the 1943 formula has become bankrupt and dead.

The proposed plans center around:

- Decentralization--whether political or administrative
- Cantons
- Regionalism
- Federation or confederation

Certainly all these plans aim at giving Lebanon a new political system so as to avert a catastrophe, similar to the one that recently befell the Lebanese people.

Some jurists drafted a proposed federal constitution for the Republic of Lebanon and presented it as a "working paper" for discussion.

Lady Yvonne Sursuq Cochran presented a similar constitutional plan.
See TONENA 1657, 23 May 77, JPRS 69139.]

Amin Naji proposed the system of regionalism or a system of real participation [of Moslems and Christians] on the basis of unity in diversity.

The architects of the proposed federal constitution describe their plan as "a reflection of the society" in its essential contents and forms. In other words, the provisions of the proposed constitution are adapted to the

perceptible dilemmas that render us paralyzed and doubtful of our capability to wrestle with them. Therefore, change is inevitable and extremely necessary. In fact, change is imposing itself, persistently, for the sake of creating a new and viable Lebanon living under a new constitution that can be the framework of structural reforms.

The following is the text of the proposed constitution:

Part I: General Principles

Article One:

1--Lebanon is a Republic, indivisible and inalienable.

2--To affirm its independence, guarantee its territorial integrity and to serve the interest of world peace, Lebanon shall not join any military alliance and shall not agree to the establishment of a foreign military base on its territory.

Article Two:

Lebanon is a democratic, social and constitutional Republic. Sovereignty belongs to the people who exercise it in the interest of all within the rules and limits of this constitution.

Article Three:

Lebanon is an Arab Republic. Its official language is the Arabic language. French and English are its diplomatic languages.

Article Four:

1--Lebanon is a Federal Republic

2--The federal state is made up of six provinces: B'abda, Ba'labakk, Bayt al-Din, Jubayl, Tripoli and Tyre.

3--Borders of the federal state and its provinces shall not be changed except by a constitutional legislation.

4--Lebanon constitutes one territorial entity as far as its economy, finance and customs are concerned. No barrier or restriction of any kind shall be established within the borders of the federal state.

5--The federal capital is Beirut. It is the seat of the supreme bodies of the federal state. The capital constitutes a federal territory under a special system.

Article Five:

The federal state has the right of legislation and enforcement in the following specific areas:

1--The federal constitution--especially arrangements and measures leading to guaranteeing the application of and compliance with the constitution;

arrangements and measures that can assure compatibility between the statutes of the provinces and the federal constitution; guaranteeing the statutes and territories of the provinces; the federal elections; constitutional judiciary; and adjustment of borders.

2--Foreign affairs--especially the conclusion of international treaties, representation abroad and foreign trade. The federal state alone possesses the international legal personality. The provinces shall be divested of same.

3--National defense--especially maintaining of internal and external security throughout all parts of the federal state; issues of war and peace; organization, administration and the right to use the armed forces; arms control and manufacturing, dealing with and possession of weapons and ammunition; and war damages.

4--Citizenship and personal status.

5--Status of--especially freedom of movement, the right of temporary or permanent residence, passport regulations, immigration, settlement, surrendering criminals to their legitimate governments, refugees, the right of asylum and border police.

6--Civil law, penal code, organization of the judiciary and regulations governing trials and the prison system.

7--Legal protection of authorship [copyright].

8--Statistics of use to the federal government.

9--Labor and social security and regulation of trades and industries that require special skills.

10--Organization of the federal authorities and the legal status of the federal public commissioners.

11--Functions of the federal criminal police and international anti-crime activities [INTERPOL].

12--Currency system, stock markets, banks, credit, currency exchange, insurance, lottery, weights and measures and precious stones.

13--Federal finance--especially taxes collected in full or in part to the account of the federal state, and customs fees and monopolies.

14--Transport by railways and motor vehicles, maritime navigation and aviation, meteorological services, post and telecommunications, roads declared to be federal, use of water resources and distribution of electric power.

15--Drafting basic principles for economic planning and organization.

16--Drafting basic principles for public health and regulation of trade in medicines, narcotics and toxic substances.

17--Drafting basic principles for national education.

18--Drafting basic principles for the provincial administration.

Article Six:

1--The financial system for the federal state, especially the jurisdictions of the federal state and the provinces in matters relating to taxes and fees, shall be defined by a special federal constitutional law to be called the constitutional law for financial affairs.

2--In order to assist the under-developed provinces or provinces with low income from taxes in performing their duties effectively, the federal state shall grant subsidies to these provinces to enable them to cover some expenditures or to secure the financing of some special programs.

3--The taxing system in the provinces shall be less burdensome than the taxing system applicable in the federal territory of Beirut.

Article Seven:

1--In cases where the federal state is eligible for drafting a piece of legislation, the provinces shall be eligible for drafting complementary legislation.

2--The federal law can give a respite of six months for preparing the complementary law and afterwards, the federal state shall draft the complementary law which shall remain effective until the issuance of the provincial law.

Article Eight:

1--The federal executive functions shall be exercised in the province either directly by the commissioners (mandubin) of the federal state within the limits of their constitutional jurisdictions or by the governor of the province (wilayah) or his delegates under a mandate from the federal state and under its supervision.

2--But the executive functions connected with the affairs mentioned hereunder shall not be delegated. They shall be totally carried out by the federal agencies (ajhizah): the federal constitution, foreign affairs, organization of the federal authorities and the system of the federal public commissioners, federal finance, railways, posts and telecommunications.

Article Nine:

1--The flag of the federal state shall be made up of two red horizontal stripes with a white stripe in between showing a green cedar in its center.

2--The emblem of the federal state shall be made up of two red horizontal stripes with a white stripe showing a green cedar on its center. This emblem shall be displayed in all the federal and provincial public agencies.

3--The flag of the federal state shall be displayed beside the flag of the province on all occasions.

Article Ten:

1--National conscription, military and civil, is compulsory without distinction and without racial (al-jins: sex) discrimination. It shall be regulated by a federal law.

2--The federal army shall be entrusted with the defense of the borders of the republic. When a competent civil authority asks for support from the army and declares a state of emergency or a state of war, the federal army shall become responsible for protection of the constitutional institutions and for maintaining internal order and security. In case of catastrophes of extraordinary dimensions, the army shall be called upon to assist.

3--The federal army shall be made up of the provincial combat units and all those Lebanese, even if they do not belong to these units, who are subject

to the compulsory military service. Every soldier shall be given a military uniform free of charge and shall keep his arms within the limits provided for in the federal law governing national [military] service.

4--The federal law governing national service shall define the participatory role of the provinces in selecting, supporting, and housing federal army troops and meeting other needs of the members of the federal army.

5--The army shall be under the authority of the Federal Assembly. In cases where the law does not specifically invest the Federal Assembly with direct authority over the army, the federal government shall assume this authority or the federal minister of defense shall assume such authority within the limits of the powers invested in him by the federal government. The provinces shall use the armed forces deployed in their respective territories within the limits provided for in the federal law governing national [military] service.

Article Eleven:

1--All kinds of privileges shall be abolished.

2--The granting of new privileges, such as the following, shall be prohibited:

A--The use of an honorary name or title or special descriptions granted to persons, public commissioners and high officials of the state.

B--Wearing distinguishing insignia.

C--The naming of an organization, a street and a public square after living persons and granting them special plates for cars, even if they are official cars. Only motor vehicles used by foreign diplomats, the army, the police, ambulances and taxicabs shall carry distinguishing plates.

3--Wearing medals of any source is prohibited. Lebanese civil and military medals are abolished.

4--Members of the federal and provincial authorities, army and police personnel and federal and provincial officials shall not accept from foreign governments any title, award, gift, salaries or annual pensions. Any violators shall be liable to be deprived of his rights.

5--The rules governing photo-taking and protocol in official ceremonies shall be defined by a decree.

Article Twelve:

Parties shall cooperate in formulating the political will of the people. The establishment of parties shall be regulated by law. Their by-laws shall be in harmony with democratic principles. Parties shall submit statements revealing openly the sources of their finances.

Parties tending by their programs or conduct to prejudice the constitutional system or jeopardize the existence of the republic are unconstitutional. It is within the jurisdiction of the supreme constitutional court to decide on their unconstitutionality.

Part II: The Federal Assembly (al-Jam'iyah)

Section One: The Councils

Article Thirteen:

The supreme authority in the republic shall be exercised by the Federal Assembly which shall include the Council of the People (Majlis al-Sha'b) and the Council of the Provinces (Majlis al-Aqalim).

Article Fourteen--first version:

1--The Council of the People shall consist of fifty Christian deputies and fifty Moslem deputies, representing all the people of Lebanon.

2--Members of the Council of the People shall be elected by direct and secret general election in accordance with the majority slate system and in one stage with the possibility of scratching names. Every province constitutes one constituency [wahdah intikhabiyyah].

3--The Council of the People shall be elected for a three-year term. A totally new council shall be elected every time.

Article Fourteen--second version:

1--The Council of the People shall consist of 100 deputies representing the Lebanese people, at the rate of one deputy per thousand persons or a group of persons exceeding

Article Fourteen--third version:

1--The supreme authority in the republic shall be exercised by the Federal Assembly which shall consist of the deputies of the provinces consisting of twenty deputies for every province.

Article Fifteen:

1--For every regular or extraordinary session, the Council of the People shall elect a president and a vice-president.

2--The member who serves as the president during a regular session shall not be the president or vice-president in a successive session. A member who serves as a vice-president during a regular session shall not serve in the same position in a successive regular session.

3--The president and the vice-president vote just as do the rest of the deputies. In case of a tie vote, the president's vote shall decide the issue.

Article Sixteen:

1--The Council of the Provinces shall consist of the deputies of the provinces at the rate of seven deputies for every province.

2--Members of the Council of the Provinces shall be elected by direct and secret general election in accordance with the slate system in one stage and proportional representation. Distribution of seats shall be made in accordance with the electoral apportionment system. Every province shall constitute one constituency.

3--Members of the Council of the Provinces shall be elected for a three-year term to be reconstituted completely each [election] time.

Article Seventeen:

1--For every regular or extraordinary session, the Council of the Provinces shall elect a president and a vice-president.

2--The president and the vice-president shall not be from the same province as that of the president of the (immediately) previous regular session. Deputies of one province shall not serve as president and vice-president during two successive sessions.

3--The president and the vice-president shall vote just as do the other deputies. In case of a tie, the presidents's vote shall decide the issue.

Article Eighteen:

1--Elections for the Council of the People and the Council of the Provinces shall be held within sixty days of the end of term of the outgoing councils.

2--Both councils shall hold the first meeting of their respective sessions within fifteen days of (the end of) the elections.

If the opening meeting is held at a time when the councils are not in regular session, an extraordinary session shall inevitably be held for fifteen days.

3--The powers invested in the outgoing councils shall be extended to cover the whole period during which the incoming councils are not in session.

4--In case of a vacancy in any of the two councils of the Federal Assembly, the absent deputy will be replaced--for the rest of the term--by the candidate from the same constituency who lost the election but won the highest number votes.

Article Nineteen:

1--The Council of the People and the Council of the Provinces shall hold a joint meeting, once every year in a regular session or in an extraordinary session if necessary to discuss and vote on the following issues:

A--Election of the members of the federal government.

B--Election of the president of the federal state and the deputy prime minister [Translator's note: In other articles, the deputy prime minister is referred to as vice-president of the government.]

C--Election of the members of the Supreme Constitutional Court.

D--Election of the commander in chief of the federal army.

E--Election of the federal advisor (mustashar: councilor).

F--The government's report on the state of the federation.

G--Settling disputes among the federal authorities on jurisdictions.

H--Declaring a state of emergency and a state of war.

2--The Federal Assembly shall not begin its deliberations unless the attending deputies constitute an absolute majority of the total number of the Council of the People and an absolute majority of the total number of the members of the Council of the Provinces. Decisions shall be taken by an absolute majority of the voting members of the Council of the People and the majority of the total members of the Council of the Provinces.

3--When the Council of the People and the Council of the Provinces meet in a joint session, their headquarters and office shall be the headquarters and office of the Council of the People.

Article Twenty:

1--Both the Council of the People and the Council of the Provinces are obligated to hold two regular sessions every year, separately but simultaneously. The first session shall be opened on the first working day of October, The second session shall be opened on the first working day of April. The term of an ordinary session is ninety days.

2--The Council of the People and the Council of the Provinces may be called to hold an extraordinary session on the basis of a specific agenda and in accordance with a request from the government or one third of the members of either council. The extraordinary session can last one month at most.

Article Twenty-One:

1--The meetings of the Council of the People and the Council of the Provinces are open. The minutes of the debates shall be published in full in the official gazette.

2--By proposal of one third of the members of either or from the government, either of the two councils can decide to hold meeting as a secret session. Voting on this proposal shall be itself secret.

3--Unless this constitution imposes a prescribed majority, the resolution of the Council of the People shall not be valid unless the majority of its members attend or the resolutions are approved by an absolute majority of the voting members. The resolutions of the Council of the Provinces are passed by the majority of the total number of its members.

Article Twenty-Two:

The members of the government have the right and obligation, if asked, to attend the meetings of the Council of the People and the Council of the Provinces. They can address the councils, if they ask to do so.

Article Twenty-Three:

1--The deputy carries out his responsibilities without being ordered or delegated to do so.

2--The deputy cannot simultaneously be a member of the federal government. In particular, he cannot combine his position as a deputy with the position of a member in the federal government.

3--The law shall define the cases where a person cannot run for a seat in either council and where a deputy cannot combine his legislative position with other positions.

4--A deputy loses his seat if he fails to attend the meetings without permission or a legitimate excuse.

5--The deputy shall be remunerated from the federal treasury through attendance slips showing the number of the meetings in which he actually participated.

6--The deputy can, if he needs and requests, obtain a pension when he reaches the age of 65. His pension will be proportionate to the total years he served as a deputy.

Article Twenty-Four:

1--The deputy cannot be prosecuted, arrested, imprisoned or tried because of the ideas and proposals he submits while exercising his mandate as a deputy.

2--The deputy cannot be prosecuted while his council is in session and he cannot be arrested for either crime or conviction except with the approval of the council to which he belongs; the exception to this is in cases flagrante delicto.

3--The deputy cannot be arrested when his council is not in session, unless the council bureau approves such measure; the exception to this is in cases of flagrante delicto, approved prosecution or final conviction.

Part III: Legislation

Article Twenty-Five:

1--It is the responsibility of the federal government and the deputies to propose laws.

2--Bills proposed by the federal government shall be discussed by the Council of Ministers and at the same time shall be referred to the bureau of the Council of the People and the bureau of the Council of the Provinces.

3--Bills proposed by the deputies should carry the signatures of at least one third of the total number of the members of each council.

4--Proposals and amendments forwarded by the deputies shall not be accepted if their approval would lead to the decrease of the public revenues or to a serious increase of public burden.

Article Twenty-Six:

1--Every bill shall be discussed in both councils with the aim of approval of a unified version. Discussion shall be held in accordance with the by-laws by a committee and then by the council itself which shall approve the law, article by article, then present the whole version of the bill for final voting.

2--When a bill fails to be approved after two readings by the two councils or if the government announces a state of emergency after one reading in each council, a joint conciliation committee with equal membership from both councils shall be formed to propose a version for the articles still under discussion.

3--If the conciliation committee approves a joint version, it cannot be amended and shall be finally approved by the two councils. If the joint committee fails to reach an agreement, the bill is considered rejected.

Article Twenty-Seven:

1--The two councils by a similar voting process can approve binding proposals calling upon the government to submit bills covering certain issues and to comply with the guidelines included in the proposals.

2--The two councils can also vote on requests addressed to the government to study certain issues.

Article Twenty-Eight:

The President of the Federal State shall issue the law within ten days from the date the finally approved bill is referred to the federal government.

Article Twenty-Nine:

1--The federal government cannot be delegated to assume the legislative functions.

2--If a state of emergency or a state of war is declared, the government can sanction orders that have the force of law. The government is obligated to refer such orders, the same day they are published, to the bureau of the Council of the People and the bureau of the Council of the Provinces which shall be called to convene within ten days to convert the orders into regular laws by resorting to urgent procedures. If the orders are not converted into laws within thirty days from their issuance, they shall not be considered retroactively effective.

Article Thirty:

1--The federal government can refer to the bureaus of the Council of the People and the Council of the Provinces bills marked urgent. Both councils shall give priority to the discussion of these bills in accordance with urgent procedures to be defined by the by-laws of the two councils. When necessary the federal government can request the holding of an extraordinary session for this purpose.

2--Upon the expiration of the thirty day grace period from the date the urgent bill is sent to the two councils, the bill shall be considered approved tacitly, if the two councils fail to approve it within that period. The thirty-day waiting period is waived if the Federal Assembly is not in session.

3--Bills relating to constitutional and election issues and bills for approving budgets and accounts cannot be described as urgent. They shall be discussed and approved through normal procedures. If a ninety-day period, beginning from the date of referral of bills to approve budgets and accounts, expires before the bills are approved by the two councils, then the bills will be considered tacitly approved.

4--In case of tacit approval, the President of the Federal State issues the law in the same way used for bills approved by the two councils.

Part IV: The Federal Government

Article Thirty-One:

A federal government or a Council of Ministers consisting of ten members shall assume the supreme directive (tawjihyyah: guidance), executive and administrative authority in the federal state.

Article Thirty-Two:

1--The federal government shall consist of ten ministries.

2--The policy (siyasiyyah: political) ministries are:

A--The Ministry of Justice.

B--The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade.

C--The Ministry of Interior.

D--The Ministry of Defense.

3--The economic ministries are:

A--The Ministry of Finance, Budget and Economic Affairs.

B--The Ministry of Public Works and Transportation.

C--The Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications.

4--The educational and social ministries:

A--The Ministry of Education and Culture.

B--The Ministry of Social Affairs.

C--The Ministry of Health.

Article Thirty-Three:

1--The members of the federal government or the ministers shall be appointed by the Federal Assembly for a three-year term. They shall be selected from among citizens who can [are eligible to be] elected. However, no more than two ministers shall be selected from one province or from the federal territory of Beirut.

2--With the election of every new Federal Assembly, a totally new federal government shall be selected. Outgoing ministers can be chosen again for positions in the new government.

3--Any vacancy that may occur in the federal government during its three-year term shall be immediately filled for the remainder of the term. If the Federal Assembly is not in session, it shall be called to convene in an extraordinary session for this purpose.

4--Every member of the government shall head a ministry. No one member shall head two or more ministries.

Article Thirty-Four:

Members of the federal government cannot, during their term in office, perform any other job, whether in the service of the federal state or in the service of the provinces, or practice any profession or engage in any activity in the private sector. The deputy who becomes a minister is considered as having resigned [from his legislative position]. The public commissioner who becomes a minister shall be transferred to provisional retirement [from his commissioner's post].

Article Thirty-Five:

- 1--The federal government shall be headed by the President of the Federal State. It shall have a Vice-President.
- 2--The president of the Federal State and the vice-president [NOTE: na'ib ra'is al hakumah: deputy head of the government or deputy prime minister--the author apparently confuses the terms "head or chief of state" and "head of government"] of the Federal Government shall be appointed from among the ministers of the Council of Ministers by the Federal Assembly for a term of one year.
- 3--The outgoing president shall not be re-elected president or vice-president for the successive year. The same member [of the cabinet] shall not be elected vice-president for two successive years.
- 4--The president of the Federal State and the vice-president of the Federal Government shall be paid monthly salaries from the federal treasury. They can, if they are in need and request, obtain a pension when they reach the age of sixty five. The pension is calculated on the basis of their years in service.
- 5--Both the president of the Federal State and the vice-president of the Federal Government shall each head a ministry.

Article Thirty-Six:

The duties of the government, within the limits of this constitution, are specifically as follow:

- 1--To attend to the application of the constitution and federal laws and regulations and to take the necessary measures to secure their application and enforcement.
- 2--To guarantee the application of the laws of the provinces.
- 3--To manage federal affairs.
- 4--To take part with the Federal Assembly in proposing bills and expressing views on the laws proposed by the deputies.
- 5--To appoint the federal public commissioners when such appointments do not fall within the jurisdiction of another authority.
- 6--To nominate the federal commissioners who shall be elected by the Federal Assembly.
- 7--To conduct the international relations of the federal state and attend to the interests of the federal state abroad.
- 8--To attend to the external security of the federal state and to maintain its independence.
- 9--To attend to the internal security of the federal state and to maintain public order and tranquillity.
- 10--To manage the affairs of the federal administration and to supervise the public commissioners of the federal administration.
- 11--To supervise the provincial agencies under its supervision.
- 12--To assume the management of the finances of the federal state; to prepare the budget and account for the revenues and expenditures.
- 13--To account for its conduct of public affairs before the Federal Assembly in every regular session and to present it with a report on the condition of the federal state.

Article Thirty-Seven:

1--Government affairs shall be distributed among the ministries and be dealt with by these ministries within the limits of their respective jurisdictions. But decisions shall be issued by the government in its capacity as the [supreme] authority.

2--The ministries and the agencies under their respective control may be authorized by law to decide on certain affairs by themselves.

3--The government cannot hold a legal meeting without the attendance of at least six of its members.

Article Thirty-Eight:

1--The office of the advisor of the Federal Government shall be entrusted with the secretaries of the Federal Assembly and the federal government.

2--The [Federal] advisor shall be elected for a three-year term by the Federal Assembly, simultaneously with the Federal Council.

3--The office of the advisor shall be under the supervision of the government and shall be regulated by law.

Article Thirty-Nine:

An audit bureau shall be charged with auditing the accounts of the federal government and general inspection of federal funds.

The audit bureau is independent. Administratively, it is under the government.

Article Forty:

1--A federal administrative court shall be established overseeing disputes as an ordinary umpire (judge) in federal administrative affairs.

2--The federal administrative court shall be independent but administratively connected with the government.

Article Forty-One:

1--The Public Service Council has jurisdiction in the following matters:

A--Exercising prior supervision over the legality of administrative functions regarding the conduct of the army, police and public service personnel in performing their duties; however, this is exclusive of approved supervision.

B--Selection and appointment, by competition, of the federal public commissioners who, by law, are not appointed by the federal government or other authorities.

C--Expressing its views about legislative bills and regulations relating to the federal administration or, if asked, the preparation and drafting of the proposed legislation and regulations.

D--Inspecting the federal administration including the administrative services of the federal army and police.

2--The Public Service Council is independent while connected with the government administratively.

Article Forty-Two:

The federal courts shall be organized in accordance with a law defining particularly their jurisdictions in matters which arouse opposition to the federal law, disputes between citizens residing in different provinces, disputes in which the federal government or a federal employee is a party, disputes in which members of the diplomatic and consular corps accredited to the federal state are involved, and violations of the criminal and taxation laws.

Part V: International Relations

Article Forty-Three:

The President of the Federal State shall attend to the conduct of international relations. He shall represent the state abroad and accredit diplomatic representatives to foreign states and accept the credentials of foreign representatives to his country.

Article Forty-Four:

The President of the Federal State shall conclude treaties. He can delegate such authority in regard to treaties that do not require ratification.

Article Forty-Five:

No treaty regardless of type or title shall be binding on Lebanon without prior explicit or implicit approval of the Council of the People and the Council of the Provinces; this excludes cases provided for in article forty-two [sic; probably author meant article forty-four].

Article Forty-Six:

1--The President of the Federal State shall ratify the treaties after their approval by the Council of the People and the Council of the Provinces. Approval shall be granted by [enactment of] a law.

2--Only the following treaties are subject to ratification:

A--Treaties that explicitly say that they require ratification.

B--Peace treaties.

C--Treaties of alliance.

D--Treaties providing for adjustment of borders.

E--Treaties leading to delegation of sovereignty [to another country].

F--Treaties incompatible with this constitution.

In cases provided for in items d, e and f, the Federal Assembly cannot approve the treaties without resort to the principles governing constitutional amendment.

Article Forty-Seven:

Treaties exempt from ratification are subject to approval of the Council of the People and the Council of the Provinces. Approval is granted tacitly

at the end of a thirty day period which begins from the date it is referred to the bureaus of both councils if, during this period, one third of the members of both councils do not proceed to debate and vote on the law on approval. The thirty day period is held in abeyance [dropped, waived] when the Federal Assembly is not in session.

Article Forty-Eight:

Exempt from prior approval by the Council of the People and the Council of the Provinces are the following:

A--Conclusion of treaties allowed by law.

B--Treaties whose subject is the interpretation or implementation of a treaty.

C--Treaties concluded for a period not exceeding one year and whose execution does not have to be started urgently and immediately in order to be confirmed.

D--Truce and military surrender treaties.

Article Forty-Nine:

The President of the Federal State shall publish the treaties, by decree, in the official gazette. Treaties legally concluded and published shall have an obligatory force within the internal legal system as of the date of their publication. Their validity takes precedence over the validity of the [other] laws, provided that each party to the treaties implements them separately.

Article Fifty:

Treaties that require the approval of the two councils of the Federal Assembly and which are considered urgent by the federal government may become effective even before they are approved on condition that they contain a provision authorizing Lebanon to invalidate them, in case the two councils refuse to approve them.

Article Fifty-One:

The above rules are also applicable in case of acceding to a treaty.

Article Fifty-Two:

The President of the Federal State abrogates treaties, but treaties approved by the Federal Assembly can be abrogated only by the Federal Assembly.

Article Fifty-Three:

The courts of various types are authorized to interpret the treaties but they have no jurisdiction to decide on the constitutionality of the treaties. In case of disagreement where the question of constitutionality is raised, the judicial body to which the case is referred has to suspend discussion of it and resolution of the case is referred to the Constitutional Court.

Article Fifty-Four:

The rules of the international law are an integral part of the Lebanese law; they are of higher authority than that of [national] laws; from them, as a direct source, stem rights and obligations of real persons and bodies corporate [juristic persons]. In case of doubt in any controversy about a rule of international law, the judicial body to which the case is referred must refer the case to the Constitutional Court for a decision.

Part VI: The Provinces

Article Fifty-Five:

1--The affairs of every province shall be administered in accordance with a statute enacted by a provincial law and can be amended by the same procedure. But the statute can be approved only by a two-third majority of the votes cast.

2--The statute of a province must be compatible with the principles of the state which are founded upon legal republican, democratic and social principles as defined in this constitution.

3--The federal state shall guarantee that the statute of the province is compatible with the rules of the federal constitution, especially the basic rights defined in Part I of this constitution.

Article Fifty-Six:

The federal law takes precedence over the provincial law.

Article Fifty-Seven:

The federal and provincial authorities render assistance and support to each other.

Article Fifty-Eight:

1--The provinces have the right to legislate and enforce [their own legislation] in those matters not entrusted explicitly under the constitution to the federal authorities.

2--In legislation confined to the federal authorities, the provinces shall have no authority to legislate except to the extent allowed by an explicit federal law.

Article Fifty-Nine:

1--Under the supervision of the federal authorities, the provinces shall take the necessary measures to secure the enforcement of the federal laws and the international treaties, within the limits of their respective jurisdictions.

2--In case a province fails to meet federal obligations imposed on it by this constitution or by the federal laws, the federal government can, with the approval of the Council of the Provinces, take the necessary measures to compel this province to assume its obligations.

Article Sixty:

The same rights and obligations apply to all Lebanese in all the provinces.

Article Sixty-One:

High federal positions shall be filled by officials belonging to all the provinces as far as possible and in an appropriate proportion. For other federal positions, officials shall be selected, generally, from the province in which they will serve.

Article Sixty-Two:

1--In every province there shall be a provincial assembly representing the people and exercising legislative authority. Its seal shall be in the provincial capital.

2--Selection (election) of the provincial assemblies shall be achieved by a general election, direct and secret, in accordance with proportional representation. All the citizens of the province who are eligible by law to vote can exercise this right.

3--The provincial election law shall not subject either the voters or the candidates to conditions stricter than those imposed by the Federal Assembly election law.

4--The election unit consists of a constituency. Seats in the provincial assembly shall be distributed among the constituencies in proportion to the number of their respective residents. The total number of councilors (mustasharin: advisors) shall not exceed thirty.

5--The provisional assembly shall be elected for a three-year term and shall be renewed completely each time.

Article Sixty-Three:

1--Every law passed by a provincial assembly shall be referred to the competent federal ministry by the governor of the province before it is published.

2--Every law passed by a provincial assembly shall be issued in accordance with the rules of statute of the province and shall be published by the governor of the province in the province's law bulletin.

Article Sixty-Four:

1--The provincial assembly can be dissolved at the request of the federal government and with approval of the two councils of the Federal Assembly.

2--Following dissolution, new elections shall be held within three weeks and in accordance with the rules of the basic statute. The new [provincial] assembly must be called to convene within three weeks after the elections.

Article Sixty-Five:

1--Provincial councilors shall enjoy the same immunity as that enjoyed by the deputies.

2--Provincial councilors shall be paid (remunerations) from the treasury of their respective province on the basis of attendance slips showing the number of working sessions in which they actually participated.

Article Sixty-Six:

1--The executive powers in every province shall be exercised by the government of the province which is elected by the provincial assembly.

2--The federal [NOTE: provincial is probably meant rather than federal] government shall consist of the governor of the province, deputies of the governor and an adequate number of other personnel. The provincial government is responsible to the provincial assembly which can dismiss it. It adopts (its) resolutions unanimously.

3--Only those persons eligible to be elected to the provincial assembly have the right to be members of the provincial government.

4--The governor's term in office shall be limited to one year and it cannot be renewed immediately after the expiration of the term.

Article Sixty-Seven:

1--Every province shall be divided into two kinds of administrative units: departments and municipalities (daua'ir wa baladiyyat).

2--The municipalities shall be subordinate to the departments.

3--The departments and the municipalities enjoy a legal status within the limits set by the federal and provincial laws.

4--The supreme body in the department shall be the Council of the Department and the supreme body in a municipality shall be the Municipal Council.

5--The councils shall be selected by a general election, direct and secret, and on the basis of proportional representation. All citizens who are residents of the administrative unit and eligible to vote have the right to take part in the elections. The right to elect and to be a candidate shall not be subject to conditions stricter than those in force for (imposed on) the elections for the Council of the Provinces. For any person to be elected in an administrative unit, his main residence must be in that unit.

6--The total number of councilors in a department should not exceed nine. The same limitation applies to the municipal councilors.

7--The federal and provincial laws, within the framework of their respective provisions, shall define the administrative affairs which fall within the jurisdiction(s) of the councils of the departments and the municipal councils.

Part VII: The Federal Territory of Beirut

Article Sixty-Eight:

This constitution shall be directly applied within the whole area of the federal territory of Beirut

Article Sixty-Nine:

The legislative authority in the federal territory of Beirut shall be invested in the Federal Assembly.

Article Seventy:

1--The executive authority in the federal territory of Beirut shall be practised by a [municipal] council for the capitol (majlis lil-'asimah) consisting of ten members chosen in a general election, direct and secret, and on the basis of proportional representation. Citizens of the capitol who are eligible to vote are voters and can as well be elected [to office].

2--Resolutions of the capitol's council are passed by a unanimous vote.

Article Seventy-One:

The capitol's council shall be headed by the governor of the capital, assisted by a deputy governor. The governor and the deputy governor shall be selected from among the elected members of the capitol's council by the federal government.

Article Seventy-Two:

1--Introduction of new industries into the federal territory of Beirut shall be prohibited.

2--Industrial organizations shall be obligated to establish their respective administrative offices in the provinces where their main investment centers are located.

Article Seventy-Three:

A federal law shall define the details for application of Part VII of this constitution and shall regulate the administration of the federal territory of Beirut.

6800

CSO: 4802

VARIOUS INDUSTRY PROJECTS UNDER CONSTRUCTION

Metal Industry

Tripoli AL-FAJR AL-JADID in Arabic 26 Mar 77 Supplement p 2

[Article: "A Close-up of the Metals, Engineering and Electricity Industries"]

[Text] Approximately 287,224,721 dinars was allocated for the metals, engineering and electricity industry in the previous 3-year plan and the revolutionary transformation plan. There are now some 16 projects in this sector employing 3,707 workers and technicians.

This type of industry is considered the first step in a takeoff stage towards developing heavy industries, usually called "basic industries" by economists.

--An electric wire and cable factory in Benghazi began production last year with a production capacity of 3,000 tons. It employs 200 workers, technicians and employees. This plant produces low-voltage wires and cables of various types, wires for household use and telephone wires.

--The al-Qawarishah spirally-welded pipe factory which is currently under construction in Benghazi is expected to be opened this year. It will have a production capacity of 75,000 tons, employ 450 workers and technicians, and will produce 25,000 tons of pipe plated inside and outside with bitumen, 25,000 tons of pipe plated only on the inside, and 25,000 tons of unplated pipe.

--The al-Qawarishah factory for production of longitudinally welded pipe which is currently under construction in Benghazi is expected to be opened this year. It will have a production capacity of 22,000 pipes and 20,000 tons of couplings and (til "kuriat") needed in production, and will employ 134 workers and technicians.

--The al-Qawarishah factory for production of sprinkler pipes for irrigation is currently under construction in Benghazi. It will have an annual production capacity of 750,000 meters of aluminum pipe, 750,000 steel joints and 200,000 special joints, and will employ 370 workers and technicians.

--A scrap metal melting factory in Tripoli began production in 1976. It has a production capacity of 21,000 tons of steel beams and employs 265 workers, technicians and employees.

--A wet cell battery factory in Tripoli which is currently under construction is expected to be opened this year. It will have a production capacity of 228,000 units, employing 174 workers and technicians, and will produce batteries for passenger cars, trucks, buses and farm tractors.

--A dry cell battery factory started production in 1975. It has an annual production capacity of 22,500,000 units, employing 48 workers, and produces small, medium and large batteries.

--A production line to produce tin cans for a fruit and vegetable complex in al-Ma'murah in Tripoli is currently under construction and is expected to begin production this year with a production capacity of 100 million cans of various volumes. It will employ 50 workers and technicians.

Chemical Industry

Tripoli AL-FAJR AL-JADID in Arabic 26 Mar 77 Supplement p 3

[Article: "Ten Production Plants in the Chemical Industry"]

[Text] Approximately 219,223,282 dinars was appropriated for the [chemical] industry in the previous 3-year plan and the revolutionary transformation plan. There are now some 10 projects in this sector, and workers, technicians and employees employed in the sector number 2,902.

What sets the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah apart is the fact that [these projects] are aimed at increasing production in this industry by 96 percent during the course of the plan, an average annual rate of 25 percent.

Following is a summary of the plants in this industry group:

--al-Izdihar Paper Company, a corporation for the production of paper.

--A paper bag factory in Benghazi which started production in 1975 and has an annual production capacity of 20 million bags for packaging cement and lime.

--A tire factory currently under construction in Tripoli to have an annual production capacity of 450,000 tires and 540,000 inner tubes and to employ 1,000 workers, technicians and employees.

--The Maradah salts plant currently under construction in the Marsa al-Burayqah area. It will have an annual production capacity of 30,000 tons of magnesium, 1,150 tons of polyvinyl chloride plastics, 40,000 tons of

table salt, 20,000 tons of potassium chloride, 1,700 tons of sodium hypochloride and 8,000 tons of pure gypsum.

--A contract for the construction of the Abu Kamash salts plant was signed in the last few months. It will have an annual production capacity of 60,000 tons of plastics, 50,000 tons of caustic soda, 40,000 tons of table salt, 5,000 tons of liquid chlorine, 8,000 tons of 30 percent hydrochloric acid and 2,500 [tons] of sodium hypochlorite.

--A new plant for exploitation of (al-fiturah). This plant is included in the transformation plan and work is currently underway on a contract to build it. Its annual production capacity will be 40,000 tons.

Cement Industry

Tripoli AL-FAJR AL-JADID in Arabic 26 Mar 77 Supplement p 1

[Article: "We Will Be Self-Sufficient in Cement This Year"]

[Text] Appropriations for the cement and building materials industry in the previous 3-year plan and the revolutionary transformation plan amounted to approximately 248,951,714 dinars. There are now 21 projects in this industry employing 3,308 workers, technicians and employees.

These huge projects are aimed at meeting the Jamahiriya's needs for building materials so that it will not be necessary to import the materials. These industries are intended to grow 158 percent during the years of the plan--an average annual rate of 37 percent. The Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya will become self-sufficient in the cement industry this year after the opening of the Suq al-Khamis cement plant, which will attain a production capacity of 1 million tons per year, in addition to the Benghazi cement plant which also produces 1 million tons per year and the al-Khums cement plant which produces 440,000 tons per year. With the end of the transformation plan and the completion of the new cement plants with their combined production capacity of 7 million tons, the Jamahiriya will have reached the stage of exporting cement and will become the first Arab state to export cement abroad.

The Cement Plants

--The al-Khums cement plant which began with a production capacity of 100,000 tons per year. Subsequently, another production line with a production capacity of 340,000 tons was added, bringing the total annual production capacity to 440,000 tons. The plant employs 290 workers, employees and technicians. Another new cement plant is currently being built in al-Khums, and will have a total annual production capacity of 1 million tons and employ approximately 400 workers and technicians.

Benghazi Cement

--The Benghazi cement plant which started with an annual production capacity of 200,000 tons. Later, two production lines were added increasing the

plant's production capacity to 1 million tons annually, and employing 500 workers and technicians.

Also, a new cement plant is currently under construction in al-Hawari. The civil engineering works for this plant are now 85 percent complete and installation of equipment is 39 percent complete with approximately 75 percent of the equipment having arrived. Work on this project will be completed during the first quarter of 1978. The plant will have a production capacity of 1 million tons and will employ 500 workers and technicians.

Benghazi Lime

--The Benghazi lime plant which started production in 1975 and has an annual production capacity of 37,500 tons of slaked lime for construction purposes. It employs 100 workers and technicians.

Suq al-Khamis Cement

--The Suq al-Khamis cement plant which is currently under construction. Operational tests of this plant are scheduled to begin this month and the plant is expected to be turned over this coming May. The plant has an annual production capacity of 1 million tons and will employ 323 workers and technicians.

--The Suq al-Khamis lime plant which started production in 1976. It has a production capacity of 79,000 tons per year, employs 180 workers, and produces building and industrial lime.

--Work is now in progress on a contract for construction of another new cement plant in the Sabha area. The plant will have an annual production capacity of 500,000 tons.

--Work is also in progress on a contract to build another new plant in the western area of the country to have a production capacity of 1 million tons per year.

--The Libyan Pipe Company (aternite) in Tripoli with an annual production capacity of 25,000 tons of asbestos pipe and 2,000 tons of plastic pipe.

--The al-'Aziziyah glass factory in Tripoli which started production in 1976. It has a production capacity of 12,000 tons per year, employs 300 workers, technicians and employees, and produces bottles, drinking glasses and glass household utensils.

--A plate glass factory currently under construction near the al-'Aziziyah glass factory. It will have a productive capacity of 17,955 tons and will employ 163 workers and technicians, and is expected to be opened in 1979.

--A china and pottery factory currently under construction in Gharyan and expected to be opened this year. It will have a production capacity of

1,000 tons and will employ 145 workers and technicians. Seventy percent of the plant's production will consist of table service made of glazed earthenware; tea and coffee service made of glazed earthenware 20 percent; and china art objects 10 percent.

--A plumbing fixtures plant in Gharyan which is currently under construction and expected to be opened this year. It will have an annual production capacity of 1,100 tons, employ 75 workers and technicians, and will produce washbasins, flush tanks with lids, kitchen sinks and rinsing sinks.

--The tile plant which is currently under construction. It will have a production capacity of 25,000 square meters, employing 220 workers and technicians, and will produce 800 tons of decorated tiles, 2,000 tons of colored tiles, and 5,300 tons of white tiles.

--A brick factory in Benghazi which is currently under construction and expected to be opened this year. It will have an annual production capacity of 60,000 tons and will employ 156 workers and technicians.

--Another brick factory in Tripoli which is currently under construction [and expected to be opened] next year. It will have a production capacity of 200,000 tons annually and will employ 292 workers and technicians.

--A cement brick factory currently under construction in Benghazi. It will have a production capacity of 100,000 cubic meters and will employ 83 workers and technicians.

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CSO: 4802

LIBYA

BRIEFS

DEVELOPMENT FIGURES--The volume of expenditures made in 1976, the first year of the five-year development plan in the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, was 1.123 billion Libyan dinars--an increase of 12.1 percent over investments made in 1975. A report issued by the Planning Secretariat stated that the Gross Domestic Product has risen to 4.302 billion Libyan dinars, representing an average growth rate of 18.4 percent. The report confirms that this percentage represents the mean growth rates in all sectors. The report also explained that there was a 28.6 percent growth rate in agricultural work while work in the conversion [manufacturing] industry grew by 21.8 percent and the electricity industry grew by 37.4 percent. It is known that growth rates in other nations of the world do not exceed 7 or 8 percent, and are usually much less than that. This confirms that the growth rate achieved by the Jamahiriyah is exemplary, reflecting the efforts of the great first of September Revolution towards development. [Text] [Tripoli AL-JIHAD in Arabic 25 Mar 77 p 1] 8591

BENGHAZI ELECTRIC STATION--Benghazi--The North Benghazi electric station project is now about 90 percent complete and will be finished by the end of 1977. This electricity project, which is one of the achievements of the great first of September Revolution in the field of electricity, will have a total cost of about 29 million dinars. A responsible source in the Electricity Organization in Benghazi mentioned that the station will eventually produce 180 megawatts, which is 180,000 kw of electric current, as well as producing 48,000 cubic meters of fresh water per day. With the opening of the North Benghazi electricity station, there will be four main stations operating in the area around the city of Benghazi producing 350 megawatts of electricity. There are 106 technicians and workers carrying on the operation of the North Benghazi station. [Text] [Tripoli AL-FAJR AL-JADID in Arabic 26 Mar 77] 8591

OIL FOR SOVIET UNION--AL-FAJR AL-JADID has learned that the decision has been made to export nearly 2 million tons of Libyan crude oil produced in the al-Sarir and (Aminah) fields to the Soviet Union at the same prices for which Libyan oil is sold to the rest of the world markets. This agreement was made after deliberations and discussions held in both Tripoli and Moscow between representatives of the al-Burayqah Oil Marketing Company and

representatives of the Soviet company Soyuzneft. [Text] [Tripoli AL-FAJR AL-JADID in Arabic 26 Mar 1977 p 8] 8591

TRACTOR FACTORY--The General Industrialization Organization has signed a partnership contract with the British company Massey Ferguson. The agreement provides for the construction of an agricultural tractor factory on the al-Suwani road in Tripoli which will have a production capacity of 5,000 tractors per year. Construction of the factory will cost 8 million dinars in addition to 18 million dinars for operations, raw materials and spare parts. The factory will employ 600 workers and technicians, and production is expected to begin within 36 months. The contract stipulates that the British company will share in the profits and losses, which will induce it to devote its expertise and scientific and technical potential towards the success of the project. With this contract, the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyyah is entering another vital stage of industrialization in accordance with the industrial plan which aims at achieving self-sufficiency in different sectors while exporting surplus goods to fill the needs of sister countries and friendly states. [Text] [Tripoli AL-FAJR AL-JADID 26 Mar 77 Supplement p 1] 8591

FIAT DEAL--Within the framework of the industrial transformation stage plan, a partnership contract was recently signed between the General National Organization for Industrialization and the Italian Fiat group of companies. This contract provides for the construction of a plant for the manufacture and assembly of trucks and buses and their necessary spare parts within the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyyah. The plant will have a production capacity of 4,000 units per year based on two work shifts. Total investment costs of the plant will amount to approximately 20 million dinars in addition to 50 million dinars for annual operating expenses. The site of the plant is in the Tajura' area near the tire and wet cell battery complex. The plant will provide job opportunities for 900 workers and technicians. Work on the plant is expected to be completed within the next 3.5 years. [Text] [Tripoli AL-FAJR AL-JADID in Arabic 26 Mar 77 Supplement p 1] 8591

TOBRUK ELECTRICITY STATION--Benghazi--Sources in the General Electricity Organization in Benghazi have reported that work on the Tobruk electricity station will be completed this July and initial operational tests have begun. The sources in the organization announced that this huge electricity project, considered a great accomplishment for the First of September Revolution in the field of electricity, will have a total cost of approximately 43,500,000 dinars. The sources explained that the station will produce 128 megawatts or 128,000 kw of electric current in addition to producing 24,000 cubic meters of fresh water. [Text] [Tripoli AL-FAJR AL-JADID in Arabic 28 Mar 77 p 1] 8591

CSO: 4802

ISTIQLAL OFFICIAL DISCUSSES PARTY PROGRAM

Dakar AFRICA in French Apr 77 pp 47-48, 90

/Interview with M'hammed Boucetta, Secretary General of the Istiqlal Party, by Attilio Gaudio: "Democracy Returns to Morocco"; date and place not given/

/Text/ On 1 March, for the first time in his 15 years in office, King Hassan II has opened the doors of his government to the 2 principal opposition political parties, naming M'hammed Boucetta, secretary general of the Istiqlal Party, and Abderrahim Bouabid, first secretary of the Socialist Union of People's Forces, as ministers of state. The two other ministries of state in the Royal Government are to be headed by Mahjoubi Ahardane, secretary general of the Popular Movement, and Abdelkrim Al Khatib, secretary general of the Popular Democratic Constitutional Movement which, contrary to the first two, have never belonged to the opposition. This unexpected decision of the Moroccan ruler has irreversibly set Morocco on the road to democratizing its political life and institutions. The Istiqlal Party, which has shown itself to be the leading political party of the kingdom as of the 12 November elections, seems to have obtained in 1 morning what its great, vanished leader Allal El Fassi sought in vain right up to the end of his life.

The first result of Istiqlal and USFP participation in the government was the king's lifting of the censorship of the national press, in force since the dissolution of parliament in 1971.

On this occasion, our associate Attilio Gaudio had an in-depth interview with M'hammed Boucetta on his principal options and those of his party, keeping in mind current Moroccan political questions. Following is the report of this interview.

Originally from Marrakech, the secretary general of this great nationalist party which led Morocco to independence with the enlightened help of the great Mohamed V has already served as minister of justice. The rigorousness of his thought combined with an extraordinary eloquence drew capacity crowds to all of his speeches in Morocco during the last electoral campaign, from Nador to El Ayoun. His profound honesty, his high civic sense, his patriotism and love of democracy, his hard work and the force of his character make him much admired by his friends and respected by his enemies.

I found him, once again, amidst great activity at his party's headquarters near Rabat's ochre walls, between a delegation of Istiqlalian Berbers come to see him from the heights of the Atlas /mountain range/ and some foreign diplomats. During our 1-hour interview, we were continually interrupted by telephone calls and the comings and goings of reporters from the party newspaper, young UNMT /Moroccan National Labor Union/ members, Saharan students, notables from Fez who were the very soul of the Resistance, delegates from the provinces, members of the National Council and the editor-in-chief of AL ALAM, Mr Messali, one of the young Arabist ideologues on reserve in the Istiqlal intellectual nursery.

Boucetta went straight to the heart of the matter. "What do we want?" From his statement, which was a veritable government program outlined by a man of state, I have picked out several key points. The Istiqlal wants a radical change in the management of Moroccan affairs and in the relationship between the government and the people. The Istiqlal remains attached to Islam, as Morocco is a Moslem State and has been for the past 14 centuries. It wants to safeguard territorial unity and the Moslem culture and religion and to "attain Moroccan territorial integrity in the north, the east and the south." And finally, it wants to set up a constitutional monarchy "where the people, freely and enthusiastically represented in government institutions, can make their own choices and control the way in which they are carried out."

In regard to economic and social structures, the Istiqlal Party believes that political democracy is but a step toward the realization of economic and social democracy such as it is defined by the Manifesto of Egalitarianism published in January 1963. The objective of this doctrine is the liberation of the Moroccan economy from "the stranglehold of foreign capital, the after-effects of colonialism and all forms of neocolonialism." Its objective is also "the liberation of the individual and the setting up of an economy which would be at the service of the masses."

Some profound transformations will be necessary to mobilize the human element, which constitutes a real source of wealth for development. This implies, particularly, the rejection of the principle of birth control.

Financing of this development would entail the nationalization of all savings, credit and financial institutions, attempting to eliminate speculation and unproductive financial operations by means of taxes, and political austerity in the area of both public financing and private consumption. The administration must limit its expenses, but the lower income segment of the

population must not suffer from this policy. Morocco must not count on foreign aid, especially until all possibilities of domestic financing have been exhausted.

Boucetta feels that development of the rural areas is the key to Moroccan development. The agrarian reform has three objectives: to increase production to supply an increasing population, to increase individual income and create new jobs, and to fairly distribute national revenue. A national fund will acquire colonial land, Crown and private land, habous land and land which will be recovered either through a limitation on private property or through maximizing the value of private land managed by the State.

This land will be distributed to landless peasants, in segments large enough to guarantee a decent annual income. Measures will be taken to avoid breaking the property up into small pieces of land and will tie the principle of land ownership to the obligation of land development....

Minister Boucetta then spoke about Morocco's role in international affairs. The minister of state is deeply convinced that Morocco's foreign policy should correspond to its strategic position. Morocco opens on to three continents and belongs to the Arab and Moslem world. It must come out of the isolation which was "imposed on it by underdevelopment and colonialism," coordinate its efforts with the rest of the Third World and strengthen the forces of peace.

The party has renewed its determination to realize the unity of the Maghreb "from the Sinai to the Senegalese border, and make it a complementary whole on the political, economic and cultural levels." This North African unity is a step toward "the realization of Arab unity, based on a common history and culture."

Thus the Istiqlal upholds the right of the Palestinian people to decide its own destiny, and believes that Jerusalem is a holy Arab Palestinian city which must be defended against all attempts at annexation, internationalization or partition. It thus supports "the liberation of Palestine and rejects the creation of any entity foreign to the Arab nation on Arab land." And finally, Morocco should strengthen the ties between the State and the African peoples and strengthen the Organization of African Unity.

And now we come to the last and most ticklish part of the interview: the despoiled territories, Algeria and the Sahara. For the first time since the recovery of the former Spanish Sahara, which took place 1 year ago, the leader of the Morocco nationalist movement has vigorously reaffirmed the necessity for Spain to turn over to Morocco Sebta and Melilla, and for it to continue to occupy the Mediterranean coast along the Rif.

"The dispute between Spain and Morocco should find an overall solution, that is, it should include the northern territories. We hope that this solution will be a peaceful one. It is obvious that cooperation between the two nations will not reach its cruising speed until Madrid recognizes

Morocco's sovereignty over the whole Mediterranean coast, just as it has been recognized in the southern territories."

The Istiqlal representative became much tougher and more intransigent when speaking about Algeria: "Let it be made quite clear that the Moroccan people will never renounce their legitimate claims on the other regions of the Sahara which they lost through occupation and through French colonial partitioning. The parties, the people, the army and the sovereign will stand in solidarity for the liberation of Tindouf and the regions of Saoura, Touat and Tidikelt."

The secretary general of the Istiqlal, speaking of the fraternal aid Morocco gave to the FLN and the Algerian people during the war of liberation, regretted the fact that Algeria had barely gained its independence when the Algerian leaders "betrayed Moroccan trust and friendship by refusing to examine the border problem and trying to impose their domination over the whole region by force."

"They were responsible for the first Algero-Moroccan war in 1963," he said, "and they called Allal El Fassi's claims on the Spanish Sahara utopian. But history has shown the great vanished leader to have been right, and the return of the 'Spanish' Sahara to Morocco has become a reality."

11935
CSO: 4400

SUDAN

LARGE VOLUMES OF OIL PRODUCTS REACH CAPITAL

Khartoum AL-AYYAM in Arabic 18 Mar 77 p 1

/Article by Babakr 'Isa: "Large Volumes of Petroleum Products Reach the Capital Today"/

/Text/ AL-AYYAM's investigations reveal that large volumes of gasoline and kerosene, accounting for a total of 890 tons of gasoline and 1,114 tons of kerosene, will be arriving at the three-city capital today. This quantity is broken down as follows: The Shell Company, 410 tons of gasoline and 480 tons of kerosene; Mobil Oil Company, 20 tons of gasoline and 314 tons of kerosene; the Total Company, 200 tons of gasoline and 200 tons of kerosene; and the firm Agip, 80 tons of gasoline and 120 tons of kerosene.

Investigations also reveal that the volumes in oil company storage as of yesterday were 27,000 gallons of regular and 20,000 gallons of supreme /gasoline/ with Mobil Oil Company and 35,000 gallons of kerosene, that Total's stores of kerosene were 117 tons, that the Shell Company's stores of kerosene were 40 tons, and the Agip company's stores of gasoline total 100 tons.

AL-AYYAM added that the three-city capital's daily consumption of gasoline totals 210 tons and of kerosene 325 tons. This is broken down as follows:

Shell Company's daily consumption in its fuel stations is 100 tons of gasoline and 130 tons of kerosene; the Total Company's daily consumption is 45 tons of gasoline and 80 tons of kerosene; Mobil Oil Company's is 40 tons of gasoline and 70 tons of kerosene; and Agip Company's is 70 tons of gasoline and 45 tons of kerosene per day.

AL-AYYAM added that these quantities guarantee that the oil shortage the three-city capital and surrounding areas have been suffering from recently will be resolved and that this volume of oil products flow will make it possible to provide reserves to face shortages and emergencies.

AL-AYYAM has learned that Maj Abu-al-Qasim Muhammad Ibrahim, secretary general of the Socialist Union and governor of Khartoum Province, held a

meeting with representatives of the four oil companies--Shell, Agip, Total and Mobil Oil--at 1100 hours yesterday morning in the meeting hall of the Office of the Provincial Governor, attended by Messrs Mukhtar al-Tayyib, the executive director, 'Abd-al-Fattah Muhammad Salih, director general of the Oil Department of the Ministry of Industry, and Khidr Hasan Furayjun, assistant governor for supply.

At the beginning of the meeting, Maj Abu-al-Qasim thanked those present, stating the objective of the meeting, which was to work to stabilize the petroleum situation in Khartoum and other provinces. He then reviewed the progress plan for carrying out his directives, which bear on intensification of petroleum products shipments to cover requirements and also to create a permanent storage to cope with oil shortages.

The governor also heard about the companies' storage situation and became reassured about the proper course of activity and distribution. In the course of his talk, he praised the efforts the companies have made to break up the oil shortages.

After abundant discussion from all parties, the governor proceeded to set forth solutions to some obstacles facing shipping and distribution activities.

Maj Abu-al-Qasim called for the convening of periodic meetings to offer joint thinking on the petroleum situation with the oil companies, and asked for solutions to obstacles impeding good performance.

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CSO: 4802

BACKGROUND SKETCHES ON LEADING PERSONALITIES

Addis Ababa THE ETHIOPIAN HERALD in English 17 May 77 pp 2, 5

[Article by John-Peter Wene Makuol]

[Text]

The aim of this short article is to give an objective and concise background knowledge of some of the leading personalities in the Sudan. The reason being that the political past and behaviour are essentials in understanding the deeds of public figures.

El Nimeiri

It is natural that we begin with General Ghafar El Nimeiri. El Nimeiri became active in the political scene when he joined a group of leftist officers in the Sudanese armed forces just a few weeks before they successfully staged a coup d'etat in May 1969. It should be noted that these officers, including the late Major Hashim El Atta, were working hand in hand with most progressive intellectuals, grouped under the Communist or Socialist Parties. That is why the first government formed soon after the coup comprised of most leading figures from these parties as well as Pan-Arabist elements. This government was formed mostly by civilians, while the progressive officers remained in a Revolution Council, from which they intended to guide the revolution. El Nimeiri, though being a late comer to the group,

was made the Chairman of this Council, simply because the Sudanese are a people who revere seniority and age.

From this position he started to work feverishly to enhance his own personal power. He first maliciously encouraged the progressive officers in the Revolution Council as well as in the government to settle old accounts with the traditionalist parties, especially the UMMA Party. This resulted first in mass killing in Omdurman in early 1970 and later in abominable massacres of hundreds of thousands of unarmed men, women, and children, including the spiritual leader of the Ansar, El Hadi El Mahdi. The late El Hadi, grand-son of Mohamed Ahmed El Mahdi was killed on the Ethiopian border; while fleeing to this country for refuge. These mass killings were followed by large exodus of thousands of his followers who are now still in Ethiopia.

No sooner did he accomplish the first phase of his diabolic plans than he started working on the next one. This concerned the Pan-Arabists, who had considerable influence among the intellectual circles and even in the government. Their leading figure was the then Prime

Minister, Mr. Babikir Awadalla. El Nimeiri came out openly to combat any Pan-Arabist ideas and any political associations whatsoever with other Arab countries. This annoyed many Pan-Arabists and resulted in the resignation of Mr. Awadalla. He was later followed by the then Vice-Chairman and Minister of Defence, General Abbas.

Having now got rid of two groups in the power structure, he was left with the most powerful one — the alliance of the progressive officers and the Communist Party. He did not hesitate to provoke an open hostility by modifying the structure of government set up at the time of the coup d'état. He no longer wanted to remain aloof from the direct conduct of the day to day administrative work and only guide the Revolution in policy making. He allotted himself most powers, including that of the Premiership, Minister of Defence, Minister of Planning and later that of Foreign Affairs. The Revolution was being turned into an instrument for the accumulation of personal power and riches.

The real makers of the *putsch* didn't condone this. El Nimeiri was too happy to seize this occasion and he hit hard on the progressive officers and the Communists. He dismissed many from the armed forces, the government and imprisoned others. This resulted in the July 1971 coup, which was successful for three days, before Nimeiri was brought back to power by an Egyptian intervention force.

It is worth noting here that Col. Ghaddafi, who up to then didn't know the unreliable character of El Nimeiri, gave a hand in saving the would-be dictator by intercepting a BOAC plane flying in Khartoum. Col. Bakir El-Nur and Maj. Farouk Osman from London.

Many Fronts to Fight

What followed is known to everybody. El Nimeiri was now the absolute and unquestionable despot in the Northern Sudan. However, his butchering of thousands of Sudanese patriots, members of the Communist Party, which is only comparable to that of Pinochet of Chile, further isolated him and his clique of henchmen from the broad masses of the Sudanese people.

Yet his power could not be absolute all over the Sudan as long as he had the Southern problem at hand. He knew that his huge army had many fronts on which to fight. His ruthless rule made him very unpopular in the North. He no longer had many friends in the progressive world after hunting down and butchering the Communists. The Anyanya fighters were getting more modern weapons and his army in the South was faced with the threat of real defeat.

The only way out for El Nimeiri to save his power and head was to give his dossier of the Sudan difficulties to a team of British, Israeli and American espionage and intelligence experts. The diagnosis of the experts was that the only remedy to some of Nimeiri's political maladies was to find an urgent and immediate solution to the chronic problem of Southern Sudan. They further recommended, knowing the dependence of the then leadership of the Anyanya movement on missionaries, that missionaries, especially those of the world Council of Churches, be used to convince the Anyanya leadership to accept local autonomy. This was the beginning of the now continuing alliance between El Nimeiri and persons like Burgess Carr.

This team of western and Israeli intelligence experts were asked, in turn, by El Nimeiri and the Church leaders to select those Southern leaders, in exile, who would easily accept the terms of a document entitled, "The Proposed Constitution for the Southern Sudan". This document was prepared by El Nimeiri and Southern quislings like Abel Alier, who then replaced Joseph Garang as Minister of State for Southern Affairs, as early as November 1971. The late Joseph Garang was among those slaughtered by the blood-thirsty regime of El Nimeiri, after the July 1971 abortive coup. His only crime was that he was the only Southern Sudanese registered as a member of the Sudanese Communist Party.

Window-Dressing

The experts had only to pick their men and other mission boys among the exiled Southerners. That is why such obscure persons like Lawrence Wol Wol and Mading de Garang came to the conference hall as leaders of the South. Their docility was proved by the fact that an agreement was reached only within a week, on a war that lasted for over 16 years!! The reality is that no serious negotiations took place in Addis Ababa. It was a well planned and publicized window-dressing intended to deceive the Southern masses and other friendly foreigners. The final outcome was the original document of El Nimeiri's government with only the title changed into: "Addis Ababa Agreement on the Problem of South Sudan."

Nimeiri's problems seemed to have ended with the signing of the agreement on Southern problem. He then opened the doors of the country wide to western

imperialism and petro-dollars from reactionary Arab countries. All the vital economic units that were nationalised during the brief period in which the progressive elements were in the government and the Revolution Council were returned to their former proprietors.

On the other hand, these western experts on espionage have inculcated in the minds of Southerners that Nimeiri is the only Arab who loves them and has given them local autonomy. At the same time, Nimeiri is made to believe that without the Southern support his government cannot last a day. That is why he is being guarded by units from the Anya-nya forces.

However, close scrutiny reveals the futility of such base and cheap propaganda. The last July 1976 popular uprising in Khartoum proved that an unpopular and rotten administration like that of El Nimeiri is but resting on an active volcano that can erupt at any moment. El Nimeiri knows this better than any one else. That is why he didn't rush directly to his Anya-nya protectors from the Airport but to the American Embassy. From there he implored Sadat to send troops and save his crown, which Sadat did, with approval from Washington, without hesitation.

This is briefly the image of El Nimeiri as ruler of the Sudan: an unpopular, ruthless despot, the blood-thirsty hangman of the progressive forces in the Sudan who was twice overthrown but brought back to power by Egyptian intervention forces. As seen above, he opposed various political groups in the Sudanese society in order to end up as the final winner. His political philosophy is to remain in power by using all means without any moral considerations. What matters to him is not the well-being of his country and its people, but his own personal thirst for power. That is why he has finally turned to the CIA agents and American imperialism to keep him in power.

Abu Ghasim and Mansour Khalid

The other leading figures in El Nimeiri's team from the North are General Abu Ghasim and Mansour Khalid. The former is a brother-in-law of Nimeiri and one of his closest allies with whom they have eliminated the early companions of the 1969 coup. He is the one Nimeiri uses mostly in suppressing attempts to rid the broad masses of people of the Sudan of their oligarchy. He is known to have amassed a lot of property and largely responsible for the widespread corruption in the country.

Dr. Mansour Khalid is too known to need an introduction. What should be remembered about him is that he is a confirmed CIA agent and a shareholder in Lonrho companies in the Sudan and the Persian Gulf. He is now currently used by Nimeiri as arms purchase officer from western countries, mainly from the USA, Britain and France.

From the Southern Sudan, there are very few genuine followers of Nimeiri. Most Southern leaders now inside are political prostitutes. They support Nimeiri because he has power and petro-dollars from reactionary Arab countries. I would not wonder tomorrow if I see them dancing to the tunes of new masters in Khartoum if Nimeiri were overthrown. They have no political convictions of their own of what the Sudan should be in Africa and Arab world or what role South Sudan should play. They are worse than marionettes or puppets.

For instance, persons like Abel Alier, Hilary Logali, Bona Malwal, Luigi Ad-

wok or Clement Mboro had been ministers in various governments before Nimeiri took power in 1969. Yet, these are the people Nimeiri boasts of today as being his loyal supporters. The only new thing is that Nimeiri has given them unlimited powers to plunder the South and exploit the broad masses there. The condition of the ordinary man today in South Sudan is worse than during the civil war.

In addition to their political prostitution, many of them are agents of the CIA. The outstanding ones in this group are Lawrence Wol Wol, Mading de Garang, Michael Wal, Bona Malwal and possibly Abel Alier. Four of these known CIA agents in South Sudan are members of the Bureau Politique of the Sudanese Socialists Union, Nimeiri's Party.

From these short notes on a few leading personalities in the present Sudanese government, one can easily understand the policies and deeds of a government composed of such individuals.

SUDAN

SUDAN'S TAX REVENUES INCREASE

Khartoum AL-AYYAM in Arabic 13 Apr 77 p 4

[Interview with Mr Fathi Ibrahim Wasfi Director of Tax Administration:
"Text of Interview Reported by Babakr 'Isa: 'Increase in Tax Revenue
from 1966/1967 to 1975/1976'"]

[Text] The amended 1971 income tax law, which was in effect until June 15, 1975, and the income tax announcement of 1976 stipulate that failure to file a return during the specified time is subject to a penalty of one pound for every year during which the failure to report continues, or a penalty of five Sudanese pounds, whichever is greater. [Paragraph (1), Article (45)]

Article (46) stipulates that in the event of fraud or deliberate negligence, an additional tax will be imposed and will be collectable as an ordinary tax according to this law.

As we search the legal statutes which govern the tax laws, we find that all are required to be familiar with them. Ignorance of the laws does not excuse from paying the penalty.

Taxes represent a vital component of the national income, and contribute to increase the availability of financing for development projects. They create a kind of equity subject to the premise that a person enjoying the rights of citizenship carries certain responsibilities which he must discharge.

The philosophy behind income taxes rests on several premises and considerations. Those appearing above constitute a sufficient sample for the topic under discussion.

In meeting with Mr Fathi Ibrahim Wasfi, director of the Tax Administration, we discussed many items. AL-AYYAM inquired about the types of taxes whose collection is the responsibility of the Tax Administration.

Mr Wasfi explained:

"The law pertaining to direct taxes in Sudan falls into two categories: One under the jurisdiction of the Tax Administration; the other is administered by councils of local governments.

"The taxes which this administration is authorized to levy and collect are recent and in a stage of evolution.

"In late 1963, after slow progress, reforms were made until our tax laws became excellent in comparison with those in effect in African and Arab countries.

"Taxes under the jurisdiction of the Tax Administration include the following:

"Income Tax: This is levied on business profits (commerce, industry, agriculture, professional services, etc.), as well as on income from rent and personal income from salaries and wages.

"Capital Gains Tax: This is levied on all profits resulting from the sale of land or buildings in cities, or agricultural land in the province of Khartoum, or in any other location specified by the minister of finance if the property is held in ownership for a period exceeding three years. If ownership continues for less than three years, the sale is considered a commercial transaction subject to income tax.

"Validation Fees: These are levied on written documents and papers such as deeds, power-of-attorney instruments, bills, and receipts. Subject to this tax also are certain other items and material possessions which are not documentary in nature such as lottery and wagering profits.

"Development Tax: This is levied on incomes that are basically subject to the income tax (above). All individual and corporate income above 1,000 pounds is subject to this tax. All corporate profit is, however, subject to this tax."

[Question] How was the Tax Administration expanded?

[Answer] The primary aim of the administration in expanding its structure was to bring about a more equitable distribution of the tax burden. This was accomplished by (1) gathering exact data on who should pay taxes, and (2) expanding the number of responsible tax-paying citizens who benefit from the protection and services offered by their country.

In the last few years the Tax Administration expanded noticeably. It spread out of the capital and into the various regions in 1968. Tax offices were opened in large towns until their number reached seven in 1971. The number increased yearly until it grew to 21 this year, scattered throughout the provinces. This includes the three offices in the capital.

We are preparing now to open three new offices in Kaduqli, Shandi, and Dunqulah. There is little doubt that the expansion accomplished its effect in increasing tax revenues. In 1966/1967 tax revenue totalled 4,573,146 pounds. In 1975/1976 it reached 33,781,369 pounds.

In view of this development and in an effort to provide for the added work load, the administration strengthened its administrative structure so it

could better cope with the added responsibility. The number of staff and workers reached 947 and continues to rise. The administration conducts training programs for its employees, and some of them are sent to Egypt, England, France, or America for further specialized training.

[Question] What portion of the national budget is represented by income taxes?

[Answer] Estimates of direct taxes for which this administration is responsible are 40,600,000 pounds for the fiscal year 1976/1977. This is one part of the national budget which is estimated at 448,292,000 pounds. Income taxes thus constitute 14 percent of the national budget.

[Question] Which of the two sectors, the private or public, contribute more faithfully to tax revenues?

[Answer] The public sector is without doubt more faithful to its tax obligations to the government. Taxes from this sector constitute a large part of the total tax revenues of this administration. The tax on business profits was 14,234,000 pounds in 1975/1976 out of a total revenue of 34,329,000 pounds. There remain, nevertheless, many outstanding tax obligations.

[Question] Why was the requirement to use tax forms added to individual income tax regulations? What means does the Tax Administration have for verifying the accuracy of reported incomes?

[Answer] The income tax code obligates every person to whom the law applies to submit to the Tax Administration a report showing the amount of his income by the 1st of April each year. To simplify the task of taxpayers the Tax Administration prepared special forms for reporting incomes. These are available in all its offices. Needless to say, honest reporting simplifies our task in determining profits, and becomes the basis of levying appropriate taxes after accuracy has been verified. It is, however, natural to expect that while some will submit honest reports, others either fail to file or file fraudulent reports. For this reason the tax code authorizes the Tax Administration to check the records of taxpayers.

The administration has the right to require oral or written clarifications and to demand evidence in questionable cases. The administration gathers information from other governmental agencies, as well as from companies, private or public, regarding contracts, imports, and purchases (by businesses and financiers). Also, records of import duties are obtained and classified to determine the value of imported goods as well as exported goods. All goods arriving by rail are similarly checked. In addition, field inspections of business places are conducted periodically. Information is exchanged between the central information bureau and the various tax offices and among the tax offices themselves. This information is used in ascertaining the accuracy of income reporting.

This (reporter) is convinced that reports of speculative tax estimates are without foundation. Estimates of taxes by the administration are based on

facts and numbers and supported by a great deal of evidence. It is clear to me that the Tax Administration works diligently and to the limits of its capacity.

What it needs is additional manpower and budgetary support to increase incentives and provide for the educational training of its employees who need a change of pace and some reduction in work loads. This would aid the Tax Administration in doubling revenues.

In conclusion, Mr Fathi Ibrahim Wasfi said that, "We seek the good will of the taxpayer and appeal to his sense of duty, and we hope to meet all challenges, so that we may increase the pace of development by more generous giving and striving, as we safeguard all the rights of the taxpayer."

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SUDAN

AL-TONJ KENAF PROJECT

Khartoum AL-AYYAM in Arabic 10 Apr 77 p 3

[Interview with Makir Lawal, Agricultural Supervisor of the al-Tonj Kenaf Project: "Text of Mr Makir's Interview by Aroub Madot Aroub and Osama Sayyid 'Abd al-Aziz: 'Al-Tonj Kenaf Project'"]

[Text] Across 400 neatly planted faddans (area measure) we walked with Mr Makir Lawal, agricultural Supervisor at the al-Tonj Kenaf Project. The land was divided into plots each 420 meters by 100 meters--approximately 100 faddans--separated by paved roads. The supervisor spoke to us in some detail. (Here is some of what he said):

"The map of the region began to change as early as 1974 as a result of a combined effort by the democratic government of Sudan and the government of Italy represented by the (Gardella) Company. The aim was to produce one million (burlap) sacks and 900 tons of mat fiber per year. Execution of the project began according to planned stages. Trials and raw materials research were completed eight months ahead of schedule. Results, thank God, were very encouraging in spite of obstacles that surfaced along the way, such as the lack of agricultural machinery. But by persistence and determination we overcame all these obstacles. Our feat is a testimony to the noble aims of this revolutionary enterprise which will revitalize this region. We used local tools to carry on the work. We rose to the challenge of existing conditions to insure that work did not stop. We labored to give substance to the assertion by our President and leader that 'man is the most valuable resource of the revolution.'

"Our progress to date is a cause for optimism. The arrival of modern machinery will bring about an agricultural revolution beyond expectations and will enable us to realize our aspirations and fulfill the hopes of the revolution."

The supervisor added that the project aims to put to use 40,000 faddans. Half of this area will produce the raw material (jute fiber) and the other half will be planted with Sudanese beans to maintain soil fertility. At this advanced stage we have planted one tenth the specified area, or the equivalent

of 400 faddans only. These are divided into 40 units each measuring 420 x 1,000 meters and separated by paved roads. Approximately 2,000 faddans have been readied, and we are now considering how to plant these.

[Question] What stages are involved in the agricultural production of the raw material, and how is it prepared for use?

Supervisor Makir said: "In the experimental farm, the agricultural stages may be summarized as follows:

- "1. Preparation of seeds
- "2. Clearing the land
- "3. Harvest

"This is the first stage. In the second stage the fiber is separated by stripping the bark of the stems. In the third stage the jute is readied for manufacture by placing it in water. In some detail, this means the jute is placed in containers 80 x 40 meters which are then filled with water, approximately 22 million cubic meters. When the jute is completely softened it is ready to be worked."

By this time we have arrived at the office of Mr Octavio Khamis, executive assistant to the supervisor, who gave us the following information:

"The plant--where manufacture will take place--is in the first phase of construction. The steel columns which will support the structure are in place, and construction is moving rapidly, particularly since two thirds of the machinery and other tools have already arrived. The remaining one third is on the way." He added that "work on the project began in June 1976 as soon as the land slated for planting was made ready. Seven hundred laborers took part in the planting. Three hundred of them used hand tools and were supported by one tractor in clearing the land by removing large trees, grass and debris." Mr Khamis added that they faced many challenges. Among these was reliance on 100 percent manual labor in uprooting thorny bushes and old trees. The clearing operation, "would have been a pleasure had earth movers and bulldozers been available." He indicated that no signal was received to procure such equipment when the project was agreed upon. However, through meetings with officials in Khortoum, arrangements were made to procure two bulldozers which are expected to arrive any moment.

The executive assistant to the Kenaf project supervisor spoke of further difficulties:

"The construction of administrative offices is one of the challenges which face us now. We will rely on self-help to solve the problem. The policy of self-help is a wise one and has its roots in Arabic wisdom. (No one can scratch your skin as well as your finger nail). We must nurture the spirit of self-reliance throughout the country."

He indicated further that there were difficulties due to slow transportation between Port Sudan and the plant.

"Equipment and spare parts are late in arriving. There are other minor problems which we manage to overcome in the constructive spirit of the revolution. As one example, we lack sufficient means to transport the workers from their homes to the plant.

"Because of slow communications we would (also) suggest that responsibility for directing the project be transferred out of Khartoum."

[Question] How did the idea for the project develop? Are there indications of mistakes or erroneous estimates in the plan?

"Preliminary studies were based on the Abi Noamah (area) project. It would have been more realistic to base them on this region to insure compatibility between planning and operation. The Tonj River, by way of illustration, has sufficient water for the operation of the plant during the fall, but the volume of water in winter is below requirements. Twenty two million cubic meters are needed."

Mr Octavio explained that the project was nevertheless an important asset to the region. "The project," he added, "is evidence of a genuine effort to develop the area and improve the quality of life. This, in turn, makes it our duty to work unstintingly in order to reach our goals. The success of the project will create social stability; it will bring vitality to the economic conditions for the inhabitants of the region, and enhance the educational opportunities for their children. The workers were aware of these factors, and, as a result, they doubled their enthusiasm and efforts. All thanks go to our workers."

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CSO: 4802

SUDAN

CONSTRUCTION OF THE NEW PORT OF SAWAKIN TO BEGIN

Khartoum AL-AYYAM in Arabic 12 Apr 77 p 1

[Brief: "Work to Begin on the New Port of Sawakin Next Year"]

[Text] Dr Bashir 'Abbadi, minister of communications and transport, announced that construction of the new port of Sawakin will begin before the end of the coming fiscal year '77-'78, and that studies pertaining to the project have been completed. He added that the major part of the necessary financing had been arranged.

In his press release the minister indicated that initially construction of the new port will include five piers and that this number will eventually increase to thirty when the facility reaches its full capacity in twenty years.

Completion of the first stage of the project will raise the capacity of Sudanese ports to six million tons annually.

The new port is located 45 kilometers south of Port Sudan and approximately 10 kilometers north of the old port of Sawakin.

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CSO: 4802

BRIEFS

NEW RAILWAY CARS--Mr Muhammad 'Abd-al-Rahman Wasfi, chairman of the board of directors and managing director of the Railway, made a statement to AL-AYYAM in which he said that imports into the country are being transported from Port Sudan by the railway's existing capacity, which is 120 cars per day; 85 of these have been allotted to supply commodities and canned oils and 35 to materials related to development. It is expected that pressure will automatically be alleviated after the pipeline goes into operation and the number of cars set forth in the five-year plan, which total 305, are completed. Of these, some, totalling 150, have been transported to work; the remainder will be ready to work in 3 months' time. He added that the railway's drawing power capability now is no less than 90 percent along all routes, is working effectively, and will increase when the required spare parts for the old steam locomotive arrive. /Text/ /Khartoum AL-AYYAM in Arabic 20 Mar 77 p 1/ 11887

AL-JAZIRAH CROP YIELD--Mr Muhammad 'Abd-al-Qadir Mufti, agricultural director of the al-Jazirah Project, had a conversation with AL-AYYAM on the project's production situation this season and the productivity it has attained in various important strategic crops this season. He said, "This season the al-Jazirah Project has attained a peanut crop yield which the project had not attained in the past 10 years. Average yield is 1.3 tons per feddan, while average yield last season was 778 kilograms per feddan. In the cotton crop, picking activities are still underway and the situation will become clear in the coming brief period. Regarding the rice production situation, the area planted with this crop this season totals about 11,014 feddans, with an output totalling 104,762 sacks. This is equal to 0.8 tons per feddan, in comparison with just 460 kilograms during the previous season." Mr Mufti said that some farmers managed to achieve a rice yield of 3 tons per feddan after receiving extensive expertise in regard to rice cultivation. With respect to the wheat situation, the project agricultural director said "The area planted with wheat this year totalled 508,000 feddans, and these areas have been satisfactorily prepared. A large number of farmers have attained a yield of 15.6 sacks per feddan and we hope that average yield will be 650 kilograms per feddan." Mr Mufti concluded his talk about wheat by stating that the situation is good in general and that about 90 percent self-sufficiency has been attained this season, since farmers have cooperated with the project management in delivering the crop to the

specialized bodies. In addition, it should be mentioned that the announced price per ton of wheat this year is 75 pounds on delivery at the warehouse. However, the management guarantees shipment, which is very costly when compared with international prices FOB Port Sudan. Therefore it is certain that all farmers will hasten to deliver their wheat output. /Text/
/Khartoum AL-AYYAM in Arabic 21 Mar 77 p 1/ 11887

RAILWAY ALLOCATION--The World Bank, the Kuwaiti Fund, the Arab Development Fund, and the European Common Market have agreed in principle to finance the foreign component of the fourth railway loan, which totals \$68 million. The World Bank will contribute \$20 million, the Kuwaiti Fund \$17 million, and the Arab Development Fund and the European Common Market the rest. The World Bank and the Saudi Fund have also agreed in principle to finance the foreign component of the West Savannah Project in South Darfur, which totals \$19 million. This was declared in a statement to AL-AYYAM by Dr 'Abd-al-Rahman 'Abd-al-Wahhab, undersecretary of national planning, who will travel to Washington the day after tomorrow, Thursday, at the head of a delegation to conduct final negotiations with authorities in the World Bank and other organizations preparatory to signature of the loan agreements. The objective of the fourth railway loan project is to improve the main lines, replace some old ones, improve telecommunications system, purchase a number of locomotives and freight cars, and establish a maintenance shop and technical training institute in 'Atbarah. The West Savannah Project consists of a first stage of integration of pastoral and agricultural activity.
/Text/ /Khartoum AL-AYYAM in Arabic 22 Mar 77 p 1/ 11887

CSO: 4802

TUNISIA

FAST ACTION BY SECURITY MEN AVERTS TRAGEDY AT STUDENT RIOT

Tunisia AL-SABAH in Arabic 6 May 77 pp 6,7

[Article: "Malicious Gang Attacks Student Boarding House"]

[Text] The university campus, the day before yesterday, was the scene of the ugliest acts of violence committed by members of a gang who were masked and armed with various tools of violence. The bandits attacked a number of officials and rampaged through the university campus.

The scene of the operation was the student boarding house No 2 at Bardo. According to official circles, a group of students (about 10 students) at 7:00 p.m. on 4 May launched a sudden attack on the boarding house. They came from another boarding house at Ras al-Tabish masked with handkerchiefs and armed with clubs, iron bars and other tools of violence and arson. During their attack they shouted the slogans: "No classes under guards," "Revolution until victory" and "Kill the guards."

Boarding House Besieged:

Official sources have told us the following:

The gang besieged the boarding house from all sides. Then, some of the gang members forced their way from the main gate while others climbed the fence and showered the restaurant, where some students were eating, with stones. They caused heavy damage to the dining hall, smashing doors, windows and chairs. Some of them attacked the office of the security chief, forcefully beat him and when he tried to flee, they chased him to the dining hall and almost beat him to death. His colleagues were also subjected to similar aggression in all parts of the boarding house.

Wounding and Burning:

Another group of the aggressors forced their way to the telephone switchboard, bound the telephone operator and cut the telephone lines. The boarding house was completely isolated from contact with the outside world. Another team entered the administrative offices and smashed everything they found there:

calculators, typewriters, chairs and tables. They burned the files and furniture and threw some files outside the building. Others attacked a public security vehicle, which was passing in the area, showered it with stones, tried to disarm its driver and then burned it.

The attack resulted in varying degrees of bodily harm to several guards, employees and security aides. About ten of them were treated in hospitals. Two were kept for further medical treatment. One sustained a serious head wound and another was stabbed in the abdomen. This shows how ugly, brutal and malicious the attack was.

Security Police Intervenes:

The incident could have ended in grave consequences, had not the security men rushed to the scene and established control over the situation. The security police dispersed the troublemakers while the civil defense aides extinguished the fires.

Investigation:

We have been informed that the first anti-crime squad is now conducting an investigation in accordance with warrant No 1843 issued on 4 May 1977 by the Attorney General's office for attempted murder, for the threat of murder, for acts of severe violence expected to cause permanent physical disability, for intentional arson and for destroying a public establishment and damaging administrative documents, for assaulting a public official while on duty and for infringement on personal freedom.

It is to be noted that a number of the attackers have been arrested either at the scene of the incident or in nearby places. They are being interrogated.

No Denial From Students:

This is what we have learned about this incident from the official sources. On the other hand, the student circles do not deny the violence, destruction and arson that took place. But they justify the actions by saying that the university guards harass the students constantly. Some students gave their own version of the story as follows: The students armed themselves with clubs and iron bars they found in the boarding house. When the guards saw this they escaped to the offices. Some students then burned the office of the university guards in the boarding house.

Continuing their story, the students said: Some university guards sided with us in the attack pretending that they were our supporters in order to avoid being harmed themselves. The incident lasted 20 minutes and all the students left the boarding house. Then the public security men came.

Disturbances in the Colleges of Law and Sciences:

Yesterday morning, students gathered at the College of Law, threatened its dean and submitted to him an ultimatum demanding the ouster of the college custodians.

In the College of Sciences, the students gathered and besieged the office of the dean but they fled when the dean telephoned asking the security police to come to his aid. It is to be noted that that was the first time the dean of the College of Sciences asked the police for help.

Justifications:

Yesterday evening some students claiming that they represented "the temporary student organizations, the legitimate representative of the students base" telephoned the newspaper to say that the students had declared a sit-in in the offices of the Colleges of Law and Sciences, demanding the ouster of the university guards and abolishing the law issued on 7 May 1974 providing for the stationing of guards in the colleges and thus violated the sanctity of the university. They also demanded the readmission of the expelled students. One hundred students were expelled last year and 50 have been expelled during the current academic year.

They also demanded suspension of the disciplinary councils created to persecute the unionist elements among the students and to expel them.

No Surveillance on University City:

We paid a visit yesterday morning to the Colleges of Law and Sciences and noticed a number of public security vehicles parked far away from the two colleges. We also noticed that there was no surveillance on the students who were moving around freely. Our attention was drawn to wall posters and painted signboards denouncing the university guards and demanding genuine representation for the students.

Public Resentment:

In a tour around the city in which we talked with some citizens, we noticed that they resent strongly the shameful acts of violence taking place in the universities and the physical and moral destruction of the state's and the nation's accomplishments.

[Box on Page 6]

--A 14 cm wound was sustained by a custodian during the attack on the university boarding house. The man remained unconscious until yesterday.

--It was reported that several students in the boarding house which was attacked had escaped and slept outside.

--The restaurant at the boarding house was closed because of the damages it had sustained.

--The gang that attacked the boarding house initially numbered 10 students.

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CSO: 4402

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

NEW LAW ESTABLISHES ABU DHABI GAS LIQUEFACTION COMPANY

Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD in Arabic 30 Mar 77 p 4

/Article: "Issuance of Law Establishing Abu Dhabi Gas Liquefaction Company Capitalized at US \$105 Million"/

/Text/ His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Aal Nuhayyan, in his capacity as ruler of Abu Dhabi, has issued a law establishing the Abu Dhabi Gas Liquefaction Company Ltd, which will have an independent legal personality and will enjoy full authority to achieve its objectives.

The law stipulates that the company will purchase all the shares of the Abu Dhabi Gas Liquefaction Company Ltd, its properties, its assets, and its trade name. It will also bear, pay and carry out all its debts and commitments.

The objective of this company will be to construct, operate and maintain a gas liquefaction plant on Das Island and acquire natural gas produced in the offshore areas of Abu Dhabi for purposes of treatment in this plant. The company will also have the objective of selling the plant's products for local consumption or export purposes and performing export and transport activities. To attain its objectives, the company may engage in all activities and pursuits required for the proper performance by the company of its activities inside or outside the Emirate of Abu Dhabi. In particular, it may engage in activities of taking possession of renting, disposing of, developing and exploiting movable and immovable properties and taking possession of, chartering and leasing tankers and ships to export and transport products of this gas liquefaction plant. It may also engage in lending and borrowing activities on conditions and in accordance with stipulations determined by the company; issue, accept and conduct transactions in all types of financial paper; issue collateral and grant all other guarantees including mortgages; open bank accounts and keep them in banks; set forth regulations bearing on contracts with and compensation of the company's officials and employees; make contracts with natural or legal persons to sell or buy goods and services; and engage in all cases and judicial procedures.

The law sets the initial capital of the company at US \$105 million, divided into 105 million shares, each share valued at US \$1.

The law permits the company to engage in operating rights on Das Island in view of the fact that these rights have been transferred to it from the Abu Dhabi Marine Areas Co Ltd in accordance with the terms of the agreement concluded between the government of Abu Dhabi and Abu Dhabi Marine Areas Co Ltd in November 1966.

The law also stipulates that Abu Dhabi National Oil Company will possess 51 percent of the nominal shares of the company and that 16 and one-third percent will go to British Petroleum Company Ltd and 8.5 percent to Compagnie Francaise Des Petroles. Mitsui and Partners Co Ltd will possess 22.05 percent of the company's shares while Bridgestone Gas Liquefaction Co Ltd will possess 2.45 /sic/ percent of the nominal shares.

The law does not allow companies owning shares in the company to transfer ownership of their shares without previous permission from the government of Abu Dhabi. It permits the transfer of shares between companies and organizations subsidiary to them, meaning companies of which 50 percent or more of the stock is directly or indirectly owned by the former companies whose owner has voting rights, or whose companies owners possess more than 50 percent of their shares and have voting rights in them and are owned directly or indirectly by any of these companies.

The law limits the company's liability to its capital and assets and limits the participant's liability to the value of the shares he possesses.

The law binds the company to carrying out the Arabization plan authorized by the government of Abu Dhabi and to following an effective program to employ and train citizens of the state of the emirates and other Arab countries, with the objective of qualifying them technically and managerially to operate the activities and operations of the company as soon as possible.

11887
CSO: 4802

NEW MARINE AREAS OIL FIRM CONFERS ADDED POWERS ON NATION

Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD in Arabic 3 Apr 77 pp 1, 5

/Article by Walid al-'Aridah: "Tahnun Signs Agreement To Establish New Company; Abu Dhabi To Select Chairman and General Manager"/

/Text/ A new oil company has been formed to take charge of oil operations in the ADMA company concession area. The agreement signed yesterday stipulates that the headquarters of the new company are to be in the city of Abu Dhabi and that the chairman of the board of directors and the general manager of the company will be chosen from the members selected by the Abu Dhabi National Petroleum Company to represent it on the board of directors. The new agreement enables Abu Dhabi National Oil Company to engage in actual participation in the operation and management of activities, drawing up of plans, and adoption of decisions in a manner consonant with its participation percentage.

On grounds that the company is a representative of the government of Abu Dhabi, the agreement, signed by His Highness Shaykh Tahnun ibn Muhammad, chairman of the board of directors of Abu Dhabi National Oil Company, contains detailed provisions for implementing and operating oil activities in the framework of the participation agreement signed in 1974.

The new agreement binds the company to the policy followed by the government regarding employment and Arabization, preparation of training programs for citizens, and preparation of domestic staffs.

Participating in the new company will be the Abu Dhabi National Oil Company and the ADMA partners, in proportion to their shares in the participation agreement. It will have a board of directors of five members; the ADNOC company will appoint two of them and each of the three other partners will appoint one.

The agreement stipulates that interpretation and application of its provisions will be in accordance with the laws of the Emirate of Abu Dhabi and the laws of the state. Herewith follows the text of the official statement released after signing of the agreement:

"His Highness Shaykh Tahnun ibn Muhammad, representative of the Ruler in the Eastern Province and chairman of the board of the Abu Dhabi National Oil Company, signed an agreement in the town of al-'Ayn yesterday evening concluded between Abu Dhabi National Oil Company and the companies which own Abu Dhabi Marine Areas Company (ADMA)--British Petroleum Company, Compagnie Francaise Des Petroles, and the Japanese firm JODECO. This applied agreement includes the text of the detailed provisions for implementing and pursuing operations in the context of the participation agreement reached in September 1974 between the government of Abu Dhabi and the ADMA company and its parent companies.

"This participation agreement, by virtue of which the government of Abu Dhabi's participation share in the oil concessions was raised from 25 to 60 percent, contained only some general rules and provisions, in light of the fact that detailed applied agreements would be concluded subsequently to put the bases and provisions of the general participation agreement into practical application, define the new relationship between ADNOC, in its capacity as a representative of the government of Abu Dhabi, and the other participants, and set forth all procedures and arrangements to enable Abu Dhabi National Oil Company effectively to participate in the operation and management of activities, draw up plans, and adopt measures in a manner consonant with the proportion of its participation in oil operations.

"On the basis of instructions from his highness the chairman of the board of the company and by decree of the board, a delegation representing the company conducted negotiations with the parent companies of ADMA which lasted for a number of rounds and ended with a suitable applied agreement, to wit the one signed yesterday evening.

"Among its provisions, this agreement stipulates that a new operating company will take charge of the operation and implementation of oil activities in the area covered by the agreement. This company will be formed in Abu Dhabi from Abu Dhabi National Oil Company and the partners in ADMA in proportion to their respective participations in the participation agreement, within the framework of the laws in effect in Abu Dhabi. A law will be issued in regard to the establishment of this company, it will have bylaws which will be ratified, the headquarters of the operating company will be in Abu Dhabi, ADMA will transfer to it all technical assets, documents, accounts and other written materials bearing on the company's operations, and the company will carry out activities and operations at the partners' expense, in accordance with their instructions. It itself will possess no oil installations or assets. The new company will take the place of the firm ADMA, whose headquarters were in London and which had been taking charge of management of operations in a temporary capacity which this new company was being established. The agreement includes a detailed definition of the powers of this company. It will have a board of directors which will be in charge of managing its affairs and will consist of five members. Two of these will be appointed by the ADNOC company and each of the other

three partners will appoint one member. The chairman of the board of directors will be one of the members appointed by ADNOC and the company will have a managing director appointed by the board of directors from among ADNOC's nominees.

"The agreement also stipulates that the operating company will commit itself to following an active employment policy with the objective of guaranteeing that the company's staff will be developed, on condition that in this regard it conform with the employment and Arabization policy followed by the government.

"In order to guarantee speedy implementation of the Arabization policy, the company will commit itself to applying a program to train citizens and prepare national staffs.

"The agreement also stipulates that its provisions will be interpreted and applied in accordance with the laws of the Emirate of Abu Dhabi and the laws of the state of the United Arab Emirates. Attached to the basic agreement are a number of appendices including the company's charter, the accounting system by which it is to proceed, and the statutes of the specialized technical committees which will be in charge of following up on activities in technical and financial areas. In drawing up the provisions of this agreement, care has been given to set forth sound bases for working relationships and cooperation between ADNOC and the other partners in a manner which will guarantee our lawful rights and vouchsafe these partners' just interests."

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CSO: 4802

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

BRIEFS

OFFSHORE COMMUNICATIONS--Yesterday Mr Halim Fanus, chief of the Telephone and Telegraph Section of the Ministry of Communications, left the country for Kuwait to attend meetings of the Conference on Gulf Region Ship Communications Stations, which is to last 4 days. The conference will discuss means of cooperation and coordination among coastal stations and their communication with ships docking in or setting sail from ports and surrounding areas. At the same time, a responsible source declared that the state of the emirates is now planning to establish a coastal station to cover the movement of ships coming into and going out of the country. This station will cover all the country's coasts and will have comprehensive contact with all ships putting to sea and other communications stations in the Gulf and Arabian Peninsula area and some areas in the Indian Ocean. /Text/
/Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD in Arabic 28 Mar 77 p 4/ 11887

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END