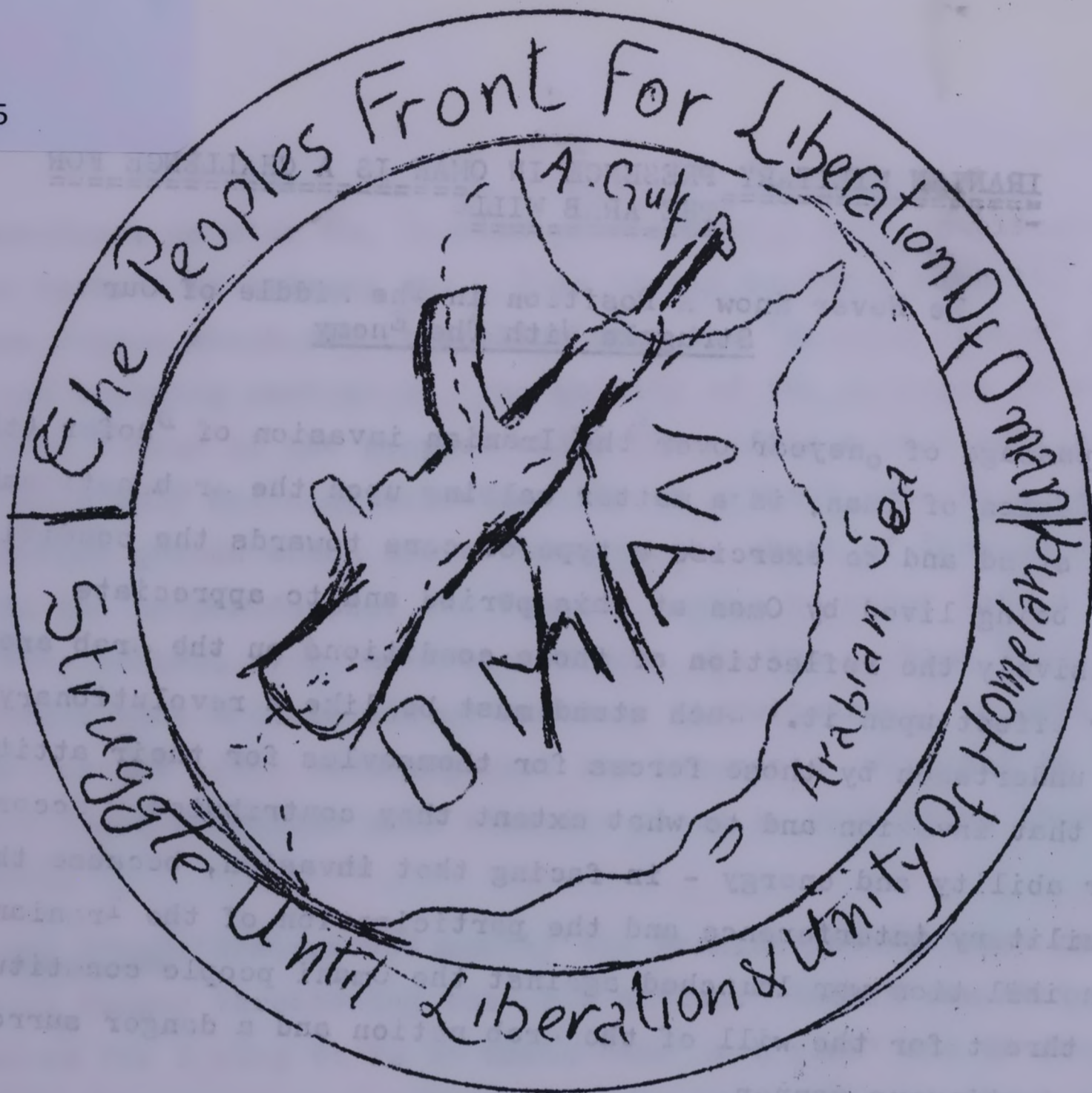


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SECRET

IRANIAN MILITARY PRESENCE IN OMAN IS A CHALLENGE FOR
THE ARAB WILL

We Never Know A Position in The Middle of Our
Struggle With The Enemy

The passage of one year over the Iranian invasion of Dhofar (the Southern Region of Oman), is a matter calling upon the Arab national forces to stand and to exercise a type of care towards the conditions which are being lived by Oman at this period and to appreciate comprehensively the reflection of those conditions on the Arab arena and their effect upon it. Such stand must be like a revolutionary revision undertaken by those forces for themselves for their attitude towards that invasion and to what extent they contributed - according to their ability and energy - in facing that invasion, because the Iranian military interference and the participation of the Iranian forces in the annihilation war launched against the Omani people constituted a direct threat for the will of the Arab nation and a danger surrounding them in a continuous manner.

While living the first anniversary of this interference, we must recall the different stands taken by the different groups of the Arab liberation movement which reflected in one way or another the attitudes of each group in the Arab arena and expressed remarkably the political attitudes at the level of the Arab homeland. In this review we have of course excluded the reactionary forces because they are not forming a group of the groups of the Arab revolution, and because they are emanating from their interests and in accordance with their collusion with the hireling regime in Muscat beside which they stand, and adopted silence coupled with fear from the spread of the Iranian octopus to some of the areas in which they see that they lie under their influence and in which they must undertake protection of the interests of imperialism in them.

The First Stand:

The participation of the Iranian forces was restricted within a merely military frame and these forces viewed this participation from a very narrow angle and regarded it as a military backing extended by Iran to the Qaboos regime and that the Iranian military presence is a temporary question which came to merely implement a certain assignment and then these forces will leave as soon as they implement this assignment.

Therefore, to stir the Iranian presence will only complicate the problem instead of solving it. This thesis conforms with the policy of those forces which aim at cooling down the 'blazing fronts' in the arena and becoming certain of 'the ability of the dialogue to realise matters in favour of the peoples which the rifle cannot realise'. They are by that only defacing intentionally or without intention all expansionist greeds which are crowded in the chest of Iranian reaction and hide the preparedness of the Tehran regime to enter into a war for having control over the arena of Oman and the Arabian Gulf. They also forget that Britain did not announce its withdrawal in 1968 from the area except after ensuring that its interests will not be harmed and that local reactions will take its place in protecting those interests.

The Second Stand: 'disapproved secretly' the Iranian interference and saw in it a real danger threatening the Arab nation. But it saw that the best means for facing it is to unite the Arab rank' and to freeze the (side contradictions) and not to make them overcome the basic and main contradiction represented in the Iranian invasion, forgetting the nature of the regime in Muscat, and supposing that there is a kind of contradiction between it and the regime of the Shah, and excluding the deep relations between them and their link with Anglo-American imperialism the owner of the first word in the area. The maximum limit of the contradiction which can be exploited by the national forces is not existing. This is apart from the traitorous role which is played by Sabros and which drops any possibility for freezing contradiction with them.

The Third Stand: Which saw in the Iranian interference a new chain of the chains of plotting against the Arab nation entirely and that it is part of the imperialist-reactionary-Zionist plan which aims at hitting the gains and accomplishments of the national war of October, and at chaining the massive uplift that follow. In other words it re-drew the map of the Arab homeland in the way it saw proper and preserves their interests in these areas. It also clarified the closer link between the invasion and escalation of the military activity and the extensive American offensive that followed the October war. This view also confirmed that the military interference is only representing a prelude or an introduction for the imperialist strategy in which Iran plays an important role in it particularly if we take into consideration the theory of complete dependence upon Israel in confronting the Arab liberation movement and in keeping the area under the influence of imperialism.

OUR STAND - cont'd.

Iran was the the local puppet more qualified to play the role of the first gendarmerie of the interests of imperialism in view of the repressive potentialities possessed by this regime and the size it represents at the economic and political levels in this arena.

Any view contravening with the third stand is undoubtedly pouring into the same imperialist plan as what is being wished and cherished by the Muscat regime is to restrict the Iranian interference and confine it to a merely military frame within the framework of backing from a neighbouring and Muslim State. This is in fact what was put up by this regime and stressed throughout the past period. It was not denied by the events which were seen and witnessed by the Omani arena since the feet of the Iranian invaders were laid on the territories of Oman. It was also not discarded the the announcements of the Shah himself which reflect clearly the expansionist nature carried by the Shah and desired to be realised by him.

We must revise history and to take advantage of our Arab experiments for which we introduced thousands of sacrifices and martyrs and lost in it our sacred Arab lands. Imperialism worked in conformity with its interests and collusion with world Zionism for transforming the fake allegations and claims into a fact and worked and still works to force and oblige the Arab nation to recognise it and to co-exist with it.. Here the same forces are trying to repeat history and to transform the Iranian expansionist greeds into a real fact.

The Palestinian tragedy must remain to be a bell tolling in the minds of the Arab liberation movement and to be converted into a lesson from which the Arab revolution is to gain for facing the plans of imperialism which aim at dividing it and annexing its territories. The Arab sacrifices on the land of Palestine must not go in vain and to be forgotten by the Arab revolution, but they must be transformed into a revolutionary experiment full of lessons from which all groups of this revolution benefit and transform them into combative working programmes through which the Arab masses are mobilised in accordance with a comprehensive horizon and look.

Emanating from this launching point we can realise the dimensions of the imperialist plan which is being implemented by Iran in the area of Oman and the Arabian Gulf. We can also realise the dangers that surround the Arab nation if this nation does not recruit all its energies and potentialities for facing it while in its first stage. The Anglo-American imperialism and Arab reactionary forces are trying energetically to force down the Omani gun and the liberation movement in the Arabian Gulf which the military campaigns and their various

OUR STAND - cont'd

methods failed to silence. Therefore they are still fluttering the cards of peaceful solutions and reformatory programmes which do not constitute real danger to their interests and do not affect fundamentally their positions in this sensitive and important area to them.

This calls in particular upon all groups of the Arab liberation movement throughout the arena of Oman and the Arabian Gulf to find the real formula for coordinating their working programmes for facing their real enemies. This step must be the first clay for confronting the Anglo-American imperialist enemy and the Arab-Iranian reactionary collusion.

This period calls more than ever before the piling upon of ranks for countering the basic contradiction which is threatening the area entirely and working to liquidate the national movement.

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The situation in the Arabian Gulf and Oman is becoming increasingly complex and dangerous. The imperialist powers are trying to divide and conquer the Arab liberation movement. They are trying to create a false unity between the Arab and Iranian reactionaries. This is a dangerous game. The Arab liberation movement must be united and coordinated. It must be able to face the common enemy. The Anglo-American imperialist enemy and the Arab-Iranian reactionary collusion. This is the only way to save the national movement. This is the only way to bring about a real and lasting peace in the area. The Arab liberation movement must be able to coordinate its working programmes. It must be able to face its real enemies. This is the first step. This is the first clay for confronting the Anglo-American imperialist enemy and the Arab-Iranian reactionary collusion.

THE BROAD NATIONAL FRONT AND ITS HISTORICAL NECESSITY

Talk about the united national front at these historical circumstances appear to be a stressing necessity and a demand upon which talk must continue and needs more discussions and clarifications in spite of the fact that a lot was written about this strategic question whether in connection with the situation in Oman or the Arabian Gulf area. Moreover much was written about this question in connection with the national liberation movement in the colonised countries and the semi-colonised countries or the developing countries. Talk about liberation from colonialism and imperialism became something linked in the first place with the ability to unite the broadest masses and mobilise them and organise them in a united front implementing the programmes agreed upon.

Naturally the importance of the united front does not emanating from personal desire for this organisation or that organisation in order to control other organisations - as understood by some narrow-minded forces - or a bid by this organisation or that to spread up its influence and not to allow others to work, or any other justifications or personal views. But it is emanating basically from the objective need of the major forces for major potentialities to make great mobilisation and concentration for facing the hostile forces which are in control of the country and imposing a cursed colonialism and foreign domination which cannot be knocked down by one classical force or one political organisation. Moreover it is not in the interest of one classical force or one political forces only to get rid of such domination or influence. But the interests of several classical forces are combined together in order to pour hostility for colonialism and the forces in alliance with it. They must all meet together as it is called by the objective historical necessity to become combined and coherent and to find out their combined things and to reduce secondary contradictions between them and to pour out their efforts for realising the joint and combined objective.

If these general broadlines of the united front and its imminent realisation in many of the countries at historical level in different periods, there are then other details connected with the political, combative and organisational aspects which cannot be dealt with here. But they are possibly to become a topic for extensive discussion between the political forces later for reaching proper solutions.

THE BROAD NATIONAL FRONT - Cont'd.

To us the talk about the broad national front gains immense importance in view of the extensive changes undertaken by the imperialists in their plans which continuously aim at shattering the national rank and creating more alliances between their allies. However, the changes that occurred in the tactics and programmes of the People's Front for the Liberation of Oman for facing these developments and extensive changes and the new organisational formulax that were caused by them as well as the broad dialogues that took place within the ranks of the national movement all over the Arabian Gulf area, necessarily call for deepening the correct meaning for the resolutions with which the second historical congress came out so that they in fact become a proper launching point for the national relations and a reply to the tactics and programmes upon which the forces of the imperialists and reaction rely in the area.

The resolutions of the second congress on the question of the united front stirred two types of exclamations which were and still are points of discussions between the national forces and deserve extensive and broad discussion and further crystallisation of correct views for coming out with a joint understanding.

The first exclamation: How the People's Front with its groups can understand the question of front activity in the light of the new developments about which the political statement talked and which outlined the necessity for adopting the resolutions for organisational independence and what that means to abandon the united front, that slogan which was put up continuously throughout the past years by the People's Front for the Liberation of Oman and whether the circumstances about which the political statement spoke drops this slogan or imposes it further.

The second exclamation is: How the People's Front for the Liberation of Oman is to understand the question of the united front at the level of the Omani region. Is the People's Front to support the partition of Oman and sees the necessity of establishing it and whether the victory of its combative activity in the 'Sultanate of Oman' will give the national feature to the situation existing in North Oman or the stage does not call for putting up the question of Omani unity and from what spheres emanating the new thesis of the front and what are the solutions and programmes to be laid down by the front for such strategic issues?

Beside these questions other questions also come up about the new alliances and about 'retreat' and 'confinement to the Sultanate of Oman'.

THE BROAD NATIONAL FRONT - Cont'd.

These questions are not free from bad intentions which are stirred by the circles linked with imperialism which tie this correct new stands with the question of the imperialist peace and security in the Arabian Gulf area, which peace and security is guarded by the spears of the Shah and fleets of the American Navy.

It is necessary that there must be complete clarity on the national question in Oman and on the changes which take place in the organisational relations between the national forces. It is also necessary that all political and basic issues must be put up to the masses for ruling and for promoting their combative and organisational standard and for making them take part in the struggle with different methods and not to confine or restrict these discussions to closed walls or between the same national forces on the ground that disclosure of these questions will be useful to the intelligence machineries which look for every suitable word with which the national forces work.

Open talk is useful and very useful not only because we reject the policy of secret diplomacy with the masses and not because we reject to regard ourselves as the vanguard which will redise alone and apart from the masses the historical tasks imposed by the stage, but because we sincerely believe that the path of the masses calls upon us to clarify all issues which share in crystalising the political awareness to the masses and in clarifying matters to them and in cutting the road in front of any distortive bids undertaken by the forces of imperialism and reaction for shattering the front of the masses and planting it with suspicions, gossips and distorted rumours for making it easy for the circles of colonialism to implement their plans.

If open talk will clarify to the detective and intelligence machineries some matters, it will also clarify much to the national forces and the masses and will teach them at an extensive and very extensive level the fact that cannot be reached through narrow rings. Therefore anyone who takes the role in leading the masses and placing them in the political battle for making them perform their real role as makers of history, is needed to clarify matters to these masses in order to make them perform their role in a proper manner.

BROAD NATIONAL FRONT - Cont'd.

The National Question In the Arabian Gulf Area

We cannot talk about the current situation in the area without giving a small look to modern history. During the previous short period many important developments occurred in the social and political relations and the strategic look to this area by the circles of colonialism exploded. Any study on the question of national relations must necessarily take into consideration the lessons which were made by the previous stage in order to be able to lay down proper solutions for the forthcoming stage.

During the two past centuries the contradiction with British colonialism constituted the main contradiction between the groups of popular masses in the Arabian Gulf area and the foreign forces which wanted to spread up their influence over this area in order to govern the important waterway which links between parts of the British Empire and in particular India and the other parts of Africa and South-West Asia.

From the beginning it was clear even to the tribes scattered on both sides of the Gulf and the tribes scattered on the Arab sector of the Arabian Gulf and in particular in Oman, that the only means upon which to depend for facing the British offensive is the numerical and typical force. The numerical force cannot be realised except through cohesion with the other tribes and by the formation of joint pacts and by standing as one row against the foreign invaders. The attacked people cannot defend themselves and their land and their prestige and rights if they are busy with conflicts and tribal wars and vengeance and other sensitivities. Therefore the question of national unity becomes a question imposing itself upon all for facing the utter danger which wants to crush the people and to control and subjugate them and to force them abandon their national sovereignty and their right to enjoy the wealths of their country and to control their territorial waters.

No doubt self-defence is a natural question and standing in the face of the aggressors is also a necessity dictated by the will of life with these tribes and the peoples which faced such offensive by western colonialism. History teaches us that the victory which was realised by the Omanis over the Portuguese and Persian offensives and those which followed would have not been possible if it were not for national unity and its preservation in order to stand as a combined force in the face of the national enemy.

THE BROAD NATIONAL FRONT - Cont'd.

What we want to reach through this historical explanation is the fact that the British colonialist who faced heroic resistance by the masses with their different social and classical groups, resorted to the policy of giving support and backing to the powers of the tribal families and of linking their interests in an increasing manner to an extent that made these families far away from the masses and an enemy, main enemy, for them. He made talk about them similar and complimentary with the talk about British occupation and control.

The Omani tribes, which found in the al-Busaid rebellion against the Imamate and declaration of the Sultanate rule, as deviation from all primitive democratic customs and traditions upon which the tribal society is walking. Since then struggle against the British was a struggle against the al-Busaid. Moreover the just wars which were waged by the masses against the al-Busaid were in fact a struggle against British domination although the declared slogans were evading talk about Britain and its control. In the Omani understanding to get rid of the al-Busaid family was a basic and necessary step without which it is not possible to get rid of British colonialism because through this family British colonialism infiltrated into Oman and through this family Britain was able to cause great damage to trade, navigation and Omani industry and handicrafts. Also through this family conditions in Oman deteriorated to a great extent that it became an example for backwardness. The British were realising thoroughly well that the cornerstone in their control over Oman is to depend upon this family and in particular the al-Busaid family. The interests of the al-Busaid family was linked with the British more and more when the kingdom which composed Muscat and Zanzibar was divided into two sultanates. It became necessary to make available the necessary funds for the rulers of Muscat in order to be able to fulfil their increasing requirements and needs for increasing repression. So Britain was paying annual 'aid' to the rulers of Muscat. It was also paying annual 'aid' to its puppets in the other Emirates. The basic enemy of the people in the Gulf area was British colonialism. But this national enemy was linked with a group of tribal families which transformed the area into provinces pertaining to them and gave themselves complete jurisdictions for disposing off the land and man.

In the stage that followed the discovery of oil there appeared a collection of important matters in front of the old colonialist plan. Important of these were:-

THE BROAD NATIONAL FRONT - Cont'd.

1) Inner Oman was not more of no use, it is floating over a lake of oil, and it is not possible to overlook the moves made by tribes there. It became a strategic area upon which complete control is to be ensured;

2) The discovery of oil stirred a fierce struggle between the British oil companies which depend upon British protection, and the American oil companies which secured concessions from Saudi Arabia. It was not possible to keep silent over the mysterious borders between the Emirates and Saudi Arabia because every foot of land contains huge oil wealths.

3) It was not possible to keep in continuation the weak administrative laws and structures which only fulfil the needs of the diving society and the transit trade and the trade with India. But it became necessary to introduce extensive modifications to these laws and structures.

4) Oil will cause deep effect to the social structure and the relations of humans scattered in these Emirates with each other. It will also impose extensive economic relations and trade exchanges which would have great results in the political relations and the expansion of the manpower that might enter into the arena of the struggle against colonialist and tribal control;

5) After the setback of Palestine and the increase of the popular wrath against Britain, national thoughts hostile to British colonialism spread up in an extensive manner and the Egyptian revolution and its battles against the British presence played a great role in promoting the awareness hostile to the British which calls for confrontation of the British plans in this area.

Britain ended many of the obstacles and challenges which appeared in front of it with force of weapons and proved continuously that violence is the basic means upon which it depends for realising its aims. In this way it arranged things in inner Oman when the British army ransacked the borders drawn up by al-Sib treaty for controlling Nizwa and to announce the annexation of the Imamate and the whole of inner Oman to the British al-Busaid Sultanate. The British circles send their armies to Oman to crush the armed national movement and to restore things to the 'Sultanate' after a just war which continued for several years in inner Oman. But at the economic level and the effect of oil on the entire social structure, several plans were laid down which aim at establishing the tribal conditions and undertaking repairs in the following manner.

THE BROAD NATIONAL FRONT - Cont'd.

1) The economic unity is a real danger threatening the whole British plans. Therefore it linked all Emirates (oil Emirates) with the British market and the capitalist market and made the size of exchanges between it and other Emirates weak to a great extent. It is enough to see the sea and airports in the Emirates receive modern aircraft while the distances between these ports are small and very small. Moreover the custom laws it drew up for these Emirates were only aiming at isolating them from each other as much as possible and not to encourage trade exchanges. In the sixties it established some reported consumer industries such as cement in each Emirate without giving prior attention to planning at the general level;

2) For reinforcing the mentality of partition and feudalism ownership, Britain was eager to launch nationality laws which are far away from the unitary attitude and national cohesion. At a time in which it encouraged the Indian, Iranian and other expatriation for using these working hands with very cheap costs and to play with these hands without the slightest assurance and to get rid of them at any moment, it was putting numerous obstacles in front of Arab immigration and committed criminal acts against the masses giving the go to its puppets to outrage modesties as it happened in Bahrain and to control the agricultural territories. In this way the local enemy - the tribal and feudal families - was linked with the British colonialist national enemy.

But the colonialists hid their faces behind the local facades and continued backing of the tribal influence and its establishment because it extends invaluable benefits to the colonialists and because the tribal structure will enable the colonialist to stay further and to gain to farther extents from the wealths and importance of this area without incurring a lot of losses. So the one enemy was converted into a number of local enemies scattered in the area.

The call for unity was undoubtedly linked with the forthcoming development of the social forces in the area because the interest of the local trading bourgeoisie is to end the influence of the tribal families which refuse to introduce constitutional reforms and to legalise the conditions and insist upon continuing their tribal feudal control. Therefore, we see the entry of new class forces **in the battle against the feudal families which are linked with colonialism but from the historical point of view are more advanced and fundamental than those forces which stand against the British domination and the tribal families from the angle of protecting the backward**

conditions and not to turn to the outer world. The aim continuously was to continuously keep the area shattered and to create more sensitivities and the return to the tribal roots to an extent that the Qatar government is designing the citizens as Qataris first in view of their stand from the Zabarian war and their stand by the side of the Al-Thani tribe and the tribe of al-Khalifa.

3) The oil royalties were confined to small areas with less inhabitants and small size which was possibly used for local projects and in creating small groups of inhabitants linked with the interests of this political structure and deemed unity as dangerous to it. These groups were represented in feudalist families and in landlords and compradors linked closely with the feudalist families and undoubtedly caused slight affect in each area on the groups of small (petite) and medium bourgeoisie, workers and peasants.

What we wanted to clarify in this review is that the basic enemy which was faced by the people of the area throughout the past period - British colonialism - worked by all means to obstruct the unity of the masses in order to ensure complete control over this strategic waterway and to later ensure the flow of the oil wealth as if its alliance with the tribal families is the cornerstone in its plan to keep in existence such disunity - and to keep aloof national unity between the people of the area - to ensure its presence as master over the matters of affairs.

The classical forces which were confronting British colonialism in its first stage and in the stages of the Portuguese presence and after, tried repeatedly to face the plans of the British imperialists. But the mode of production and its relations and the weakness of the classical forces which are basically depending upon the tribes whether in the coast or inside, made them capable of facing such Anglo-Tribal alliance. They were contented to remain hostile in the inside and the British were contented to have control at the coasts, and communication lines. When oil came this shared to a great extent in demolishing the old production relations and rebuilding the classical society. New classical forces appeared. This were represented in the workers, petite and medium bourgeoisie in addition to the peasants. In this way a new stage started in the national activity which must be understood.

IRAN EXPLOITED THE STATE OF SIEGE LIVED BY THE ARAB REVOLUTION
AND THE OFFICIAL ARAB SILENCE AND SO STARTED TO IMPLEMENT ITS PLANS

(On 29th November last year the third anniversary passed when the Iranian military expansionism occupied the three Omani islands at the entrance of the Arabian Gulf under a heavy curtain of Arab official silence with the exception of the committed progressive information machineries in some Arab countries. The People's Front distributed an important political statement on this painful occasion. The following is its text:-)

Our brave Omani masses,
Masses of our Arab nation,

On this day, three years ago, the forces of the puppet Shah occupied three Arab Omani islands (Abou Moussa, and Minor and Major Tomb islands) giving by such an act an evidence, a remarkable evidence revealing the expansionist greeds of Iranian reaction in the area of Oman and the Arabian Gulf and bringing to implementation its conspiratorial plan with anglo-american imperialism against the masses in this area and challenging by that invasion operation those feelings of the Arab masses and hitting against the wall all international charters and conventions agreed upon by the peoples of the world.

Therefore, it is not mere coincidence that the operation for the usurpation of the islands is to take place at a period in which the Arab liberation movement was heeling the wounds of the 1967 setback and during the course of abdication by Iran of its false allegations and claims over Bahrain and before the establishment of the (Union of Arab Emirates) only by days. That took place at a time in which Britain started to implement some of the episodes of the stage play on its withdrawal from the Arabian Gulf and to be coupled with heavy information campaigns confirming the non-importance of the islands at all levels and working to energetically hide the real objectives behind the occupation and hiding of the danger which was started to posed by the Iranian presence on those islands to the Arab liberation movement in general and the Omani revolution and the national movement in the Arabian Gulf in particular, and to hide the imperialist-reactionary plan of which that step by Iran was only the first chain.

The state of siege lived by the Arab revolutionary movement at that time, and the delay by some Arab regimes to perform their national duties as well as the negligence showed by some groups of the Arab revolution over the event and its importance, gave a golden opportunity

to Iran which exploited it to escalate its attacks against the Omani liberation movement and to escalate its annihilation war which is launched against our masses in the liberated areas and the campaigns of terrorism and repression exercised against our Omani people.

The third anniversary of the islands comes in the light of very delicate and very critical circumstances in the history of Oman and at a time in which the conflict is intensified and heightened between the Omani masses under the leadership of the People's Front for the Liberation of Oman on one hand and the Qaboosite-Iranian-British alliance on the other.

Iran's presence is no more confined to the Omani islands which were occupied by it in 1971 and its role is no more restricted to the protection of the imperialist interests and confrontation of the nationalist movement in Iran only. The United States of America has laid down on the shoulders of its puppets in Teheran the task of protecting its interests in the countries overlooking the Arabian Gulf and in other words in confronting the nationalist movement in these areas.

For this reason Iran has taken the initiative of extending aid to the Muscat regime and sent its forces to share in the aggressive war which is being launched by Qaboos and British colonialism against our people in the liberated zone of Oman. Within this framework the Iranian army established for itself a number of military centres in different areas of Oman. The danger posed by the Iranian invasion to the Omani territories must be viewed from the size of the role which was given by America to the Teheran regime whose dangerousness appears in Iran's continuation in its aggressions against the progressive regime in Iraq and its endeavours to hit the gains which were realised by the Omani masses and toppling of the progressive regime in Democratic Yemen.

The fierce campaign which is being faced by the Omani revolution is an open extension for the Zionist-American plan implementation of which is being shouldered by Arab, Iranian reaction and Zionism and aims at hitting the Arab revolution topped by the Palestinian revolution which realised great accomplishments in its combative procession.

The revolution of 9th June while facing with firmness such a conspiratorial plan which aims at liquidating it and subjugating the nationalist movement in Oman and the Arabian Gulf and to place the entire area under imperialist control as well as to defend the reactionary regimes in it.

This is in particular the Muscat regime which was started to be stormed by the winds of the revolution. So the third anniversary for the occupation of the Arab islands must be an incentive and national duty calling upon the Arab masses and their organised forces to express remarkably their resentment against the imperialist-Iranian current which is being witnessed by the area of Oman and the Arabian Gulf and to heighten their stand by the side of the Omani people in their just struggle against the Iranian invasion forces.

The groups of the Arab revolution are required to draw up a comprehensive strategy for facing the imperialist-reactionary alliance which is threatening the Arab nation and working to abort its combative procession.

Therefore, we ask the Arab League to adhere to its conventions which were approved by it and the responsibility which it shouldered for confronting the Iranian offensive which constituting utter danger to the Arab nation and to stand by the side of the struggle of our people and to consolidate our people in their just issue for which they are fighting.

We appeal to the Arab progressive and national regimes to perform their national duties towards the just struggle of our people. We also appeal to all peace and freedom-loving forces to support our people and maintain solidarity with their heroic struggle for the victory of their issue which is part of the issues of all peoples in the world.

Long live the Omani revolution for recovering the usurped territories.
Down with the Qaboosite-Iranian alliance against the Arab nation.

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ON THE ENERGY CRISIS

During the recent period talk increased about the world energy crisis and its effect upon the political conditions in the Arab area, and in particular the oil-producing Arab countries. The talk gained immense importance when it totally carried a collection of serious indications which say that the United States of America, while endeavouring to build a counter-front composed of the major industrial countries which are consuming petrol, is seriously thinking of a complete plan aiming at military occupation of the oilfields in the event that the latest insisted upon adhering to their conditions on the rates and reduction of production or even nationalisation.

Within such signs, these sources add, that the United States is thinking in secret to share in re-drawing the political conditions in the oil countries (Arab) through coups and American moves similar to

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ENERGY CRISIS - Cont'd.

the Chilean coup or even through a collection of assassinations which might change the facade of the petroleum policy of this region or that and in other words to ensure the arrival of oil shipments away from the emergency complicated problems as a result of the great attitude for raising the prices of oil without prior warning.

It appears that those who like to talk about the intentions of the United States have cut a long distance in their imaginations, as they quote

for more than one year the report about American preparations in the desert of California or South Italy and manoeuvres in the desert war methods, especially that all this was coupled with a declared collection of American threats which exceeded the limit of hinting through the tongue of American President Gerald Ford and his Secretary of State Kissinger when they say:-

- The oil-producing countries have to realise that any intentional increase in the price of oil at a time in which the capitalist regime cannot consume the previous increases in prices, will be a subversive and dangerous act.

Later another similar collection of American successive statements come up to deny America's intentions to undertake any act of such kind not at present time at least. Perhaps the first differences were that the 'national' heroes whose star shined after the October war, and in particular the Saudi (monarch), appears in the turmoil, for his historical national role, as being aimed at by the United States. Then the Saudi government succeeds, in spite of all American threats, to convince ARAMCO to sell itself to the authority without any noise. We know the strong influence possessed by the ARAMCO over all wealths of the people in the Arabian Peninsula.

American Senator Henry Jackson (known for his Zionist affiliations) was not far from the fact when he told one of the television correspondents that the United States has to threaten that the United States will lift any army of military protection from the oil-producing Arab countries as a way for settling the energy crisis. He added that President Ford committed a great mistake when he impressed that the United States might use force against the oil-producing Arab countries.

What is very clear here is the hint of military occupation of oilfields which aims at standing in the face of the nationalisation measures which are being witnessed by some OPEC countries and in other words to warn the OPEC against the consequences of taking any similar step and to bribe some of those who are with deep hireling nodes inside the OPEC to shatter its unity and to take the initiative of reducing the oil prices from one side away from the OPEC collectivity.17/...

ENERGY CRISIS - Cont'd.

Then enters the turmoil other knights who are combined with the Saudi regime by a joint partition standing in a collection of themes the first of which is hostility towards the people and their ambition to wrest its wealths from the jaws of monopoly and individual tribal influence and to threaten the monopolistic companies that they are also after imposing their ownership over the companies similar to the Saudi step.

We, the Arabs, are strange. There is no one in the area, the Arab area, who is paying allegiance to America more than these and at a time in which America is threatening of occupying the oilfields in the Gulf, we see the Director of operations in the American army surveying the needs of the Saudi army for arms, while in reality it is a re-survey aiming basically at satisfying the authority that the balance of power in the size of weapons sold to the other hirling parties in the Arabian Gulf Area - Iran and Saudi Arabia - is equal and there is no superiority for each other.

The plan appears little by little and the dimensions appear of the yistorical stage play which says that Saudi Arabia accomplished ownership of the ARAMCO to ARAMCO at the end. What happened to our information media.

The Saudi authority buys the drilling and exploration equipment and the scarp and also buys the remaining shares after half a century of colonialist looting of the wealths of the area people. Then it sells oil at a lesser price than that of the market to ARAMCO, while originally it markets the petrol. This is regarded as a victory over 'imperialism'.

The aim of capitalism is to circulate the capitals which constitute the revenue for the oil countries with the aim of re-employing them on projects in the monopolistic countries. As such there would be no revenue at all while the Arabian Peninsula and Gulf area are transformed into an arms arsenal with imperialism as its main source.

The enemy standing in front of imperialism in the area, is the area people and their ambitions for liberating their wealths and imposing their will on both sectors.

The revolution of our people in Oman is knocking the first nail in the coffin of colonialist presence in the area and the greedy looting of the wealths of our Arab people.

ON THE PATH OF PEOPLE'S LIBERATION WAR

ANALYSIS ON THE MILITARY SITUATION

The British authorities and the Qaboosite authorities tried to make the fourth enthronement anniversary of Qaboos come while all matters have been settled down in Dhofar, so that the Qaboos talks from a victorious point of view hoping of cutting a long distance in the governing the wealths of the Omani people, through the victories which have been realised and the programmes which he will realise in future. In this way he announced at the beginning of Ramadhan. He said that the 'Omani army' will wage a holy battle against the 'rebels', and will realise victories which are not paralleled by any victories realised by the Arab armies in the arenas of Golan and Sinai so that the Arabs are not deprived of the honour of this battle. He called upon them to share in this battle confirming that not one 'communist' will remain with the fall of the Idd.

It is unfortunate for Qaboos that the people have heard such promises and threats for hundreds of times during the past four years as people started to know the real meaning of such promises. It has been remarkably proved that all promises were only rumours and propaganda repeated by the information machineries and the officials in Muscat, and as such they do not believe that it is within the capability of the Iranian army or the British forces or the mercenary army to liquidate the revolution.

But the British and Iranian military circles have gained big lessons since December, 1973 and since the first liquidatory campaigns which occurred after the arrival of Qaboos. Perhaps these lessons were as follows:-

1) The military campaigns which were launched by the in the Eastern Region have failed at the military and political levels and this is attributed to the ability of the revolution to supply the Eastern Region with its needs of weapons and equipment and men in a continuous manner and within suitable topographical and geographical circumstances. The military campaigns were also smashed down, and this is also due and mainly to the firm stand of the masses by the side of the revolution and their preparedness to incur sacrifice continuously.

2) The military campaigns launched on the Central Region also gave the same lessons that the revolution is capable of supplying the militants and fighters with weapons, equipment and men. Battles in these two areas become exhaustive to a great extent to the invading forces and mercenaries.

ON THE PATH OF PEOPLE'S LIBERATION WAR - Cont'd.

3) The Western Region of the area is constituting the major stand and base for the internal areas for several reasons and control over it becomes like a big suffocating operations for the inner areas (in the event of the success of the political plan which aims at withdrawing the masses from around the revolution.)

In this way the Iranian forces have discovered that they have not realised their target after one complete year in which they suffered a number of killed and wounded and desertions. Its failure to face the revolution constituted a great blow to the Shah and his hypocrisy and the arsenal of arms piled up by him in huge quantities without his army being able to realise any victory over the revolutionaries in Dhofar. So they drew up military plans so that the months of October and November of last year be years for complete liquidation of the revolution through concentration of attacks on the Western Region so that the Iranian army and the mercenaries can achieve what they failed to achieve during the past period.

The strategy of aggression depended upon the heavy daily air raids and bombings of the Western Region aiming by that at realising the following aims:-

1) To kill the animals and in particular the cattle and cows as the first constitutes the basic transport means in the area. The colonialist circles know that destruction of these means by complete extermination is the only method which can realise their targets for obstructing transportation of the military and provisional materials to the inner areas. They can by that inflict losses upon the Liberation army and the People's Militia in the central and eastern regions. In this way the camel became a strategic target more expensive than man in the view of the British and Iranian aircraft. Only when a report is received from any enemy centre on the presence of a camel in any area the British command in Sallalah sends a squadron of aircraft to bound it.

For realising this objective the colonialist command studied the habits of camels and how they scatter and spread up and the places of their gathering as well as the places of water and other information which is of benefit to them in order to exterminate the biggest number of this animal wealth. During the month of October the communiques of the Liberation army recorded a big number of air raids aimed basically against the camels.

ON THE PATH OF THE PEOPLE'S LIBERATION WAR - Cont'd.

On the other hand cows and cattle constitute the basic wealth upon which the citizen depends as he does not own anything else in this shepherd society. Therefore, concentration of extermination of cattle and cows is only aimed at destroying the revolution which is possessed by the citizens and to force them evacuate and abandon the revolution under the pretext and slogan that continuation of the revolution means the cause for the destruction of the wealths of the citizens.

The authority does not hesitate to speak oftenly about this target. It distributed hundreds of thousands of pamphlets of different types calling upon the citizens to resort to the centres of the puppet army with their animals so that they do not lose their wealths. They call upon them to abandon their homeland and prestige and their dignity and heroism for ensuring the safety of a number of cows and cattle which will be confiscated only days after their resort to the authorities and the mercenaries and Iranian army.

During the months of October and November the Western Region witnessed daily heavy raids at the rate of 8-10 raids by a squadron of between 4-10 aircraft, fighter aircraft of the Strike Master type and Hawker Hunter in addition to the use of helicopters in the air shelling operations and the chase of animals.

2) The raids aim at obstructing the transport movement into the Western Region and from there into the other areas. The raids are being concentrated on the roads whether those opened by the revolution or the roads on hills. The obstruction operations and raids are not only confined to the aircraft but also extends to the use of naval destroyers which stand during the night in deep waters to send their incendiary rockets to the liberated coastal tape and across the inner areas in order to meet other rockets directed from the enemy centres in the desert and in particular Sarfekt.

The hostile forces are always keen to direct all possible blows for the destruction of life in the area. It became clear that the destroyers concentrate on the sources of fire set up by the citizens for cooking or the like. It is enough that a blaze of fire sparks about in the night so that the destroyers pour tens of bombs on the place proving the reality of the regime which wants to exterminate life in the liberated area.

ON THE PATH OF PEOPLE'S LIBERATION WAR - Cont'd.

But this did not realise the hoped targets for a simple and deep reason. This is the conviction of the masses in the justness of the cause for which they fight. Qaboos is no more that national hero who was picutred by the Radios of Muscat and Sallalah and the newspapers of the authority. In the mind of the citizen he is linked with the Iranian army and the mercenaries and the British forces. He is linked with the aircraft which burn the farms and kill the animals as well as poison the waters, and with the destroyers and frigates which turn the night into day due to the flashlight distributed all over the area. In this way the believe of the masses increased in the thesis of the revolution and discerded whatever Qaboos puts up and regard Qaboos as only a tool in the hands of the colonialists through whom they want to subjugate the great people and scare them.

During the period from 30th Sept. upto 24th October, the People's Liberation Army and the People's Militia launched several attacks on the enemy positions in the Central Region and al-Mammar and the Western Region the results of which were as follows:-

In the Central Region, the number of dead and wounded from the enemy amounted to nine soldiers and destruction of five positions in one of the Iranian centres on the Red Line. An attack also took place on the British base in Admi the losses of which were not assessed.

But at al-Mammar, seven enemy members were killed and wounded and six positions were destroyed at Abu Khuseifa and Quftat.

The operations were concentrated on Sarfet centre in which the enemy continues construction of fortifications so that the centre carries out a constant watch for the movements of the citizens and the cattle and the People's Liberation Army. Result of the battles included the destruction of 104 positions and watch posts and the death and injury of sixteen enemy individuals.

Shift of the Battles to Inner Oman

At a time in which the British authorities were betting on the success of their plan in Dhofar thinking that they were able of restricting the revolution to the Southern Region, a group of comrades under the leadership of brave militant Zaher Ali al-Miyahi, member of the Central Executive Committee, were performing their combative duties when they clashed with the mercenary army. Un-equal but brave battle ensued in which militant Zaher was martyred and killed one enemy soldier and wounded four others.

ON THE PATH OF THE PEOPLE'S LIBERATION WAR - Cont'd.

This declared the start of a new confrontation stage between the enemy and the forces of the People's revolution.

Suddenly the weakness of the Qaboosite propaganda about the isolation and seige of the revolution in Dhofar and about the non-response of the Omani masses in the other areas were revealed. The regime was forced to launch an extensive arrest campaign with which it revealed its identity. The arrests covered all classical and social groups of workers, peasants, tribal sheikhs, religious men, students and women. The number of those arrested reached within only two weeks eight hundred. Disturbances flared up within the ranks of the enemy and he was forced to arrest 180 soldiers from the local divisions in Dhofar direct a strong blow to his complete plan in the special divisions and made the Omanis fight Omanis.

HISTORICAL INDICATIONS FOR RECENT EVENTS:

1) When the British brought Qaboos their plan for redressing the revolution was based on the following points:-

- a) To restrict the revolution in Dhofar and to make it impossible in inner Oman;
- b) to create zones within the front and to spread espionage networks for subverting it from the inside;
- c) to create local divisions from disillusioned elements in it which were working in the ranks of the Liberation army and to give them huge tasks for fighting the liberation army and stirring tribal feuds, vengeance and regionalism.
- d) To follow the method of economic blockade and psychological warfare and numerous military campaigns;
- e) bribes and promises for realising reforms in the area.

The main task in front of the British and Jordanian intelligence is to detect the movement of the nationalist elements in inner Oman in order to prevent them from complete movement and to withdraw the masses from around the revolution through some slight reforms.

These events come to direct a strong blow to this plan as reports coming from Oman reported about the occurrence of a number of operations which were undertaken by the nationalist in which they assassinated a number of traitors, mercenary soldiers and officers. The last of these operations was the one in which one of the British officers was assassinated at Arsil camp in inner Oman. He was with a high rank and was assassinated on 28.10.

ON THE PATH OF THE PEOPLE'S LIBERATION WAR - Cont'd.

In spite of the bids by the authority to reduce the importance of the operation which was carried out by the martyr, but it proved through the extensive arrests launched, the weakness of the propaganda circulated and repeated by the authority on the presence of a small group of rebels in the extreme south.

2) Since the first day of the arrival of Qaboos, the colonialist circles circulated about the nationalism and democracy of its puppet and that his enemies are hostile to Arabism and to traditions and are atheists and communists. They gradually reveal that Qaboos is a cordial friend of the Shah of Iran and has complete preparedness to deliver any Omani territories the Shah wants. His defence about Arabism this was pointed out by the cultural agreements which gave Iran the right of modifying the curricula. As to his defence about Islam this was revealed by the complete destruction of mosques in the Southern Region.

After all these rumours and propaganda, the British authorities did not take mercy even with the religious men nor the sheikhs of tribes or women. They regarded everyone standing openly with the rebels and does not stand with the Iranian invaders nor the traitors in Muscat as an enemy. So the scope of its hostility widened into a great extent and the pine leaves with Qaboos was hiding his neckerics have been revealed.

3) The statement of 23rd July, 1970 which was written by the British intelligence officer in Salalah - Lyndon - presented huge promises over reforms and that his era would be an era of prosperity which will glitter over Oman. This statement came after four years of such reforms, to reveal: more prisons, more military airfields, more huge camps, more palaces, further soaring up of prices, looting of wealths by more monopolies and further repressive laws against the workers and peasants and those with low income. But the democratic reforms were not existing. It was proved beyond doubt that the masses did not allow such things to overcome them and they realised the kind of promises made by Qaboos. They also realised thoroughly well that liberated from colonialism is liberation from the al-Busaid family and from all feudalists who exhausted the burden of the Omani people and delivered their homeland to the invaders.

4) What has the authority left to put against the revolution: It was saying that the revolution in Dhofar was only Yemeni aggressions on the Omani territories and called upon the Arab countries to interfere for mediation to sent armies to Dhofar for protecting the Qaboos regime. Now where these Arab armies will be sent. Will they undertake the role of executioners of the Omani people, or have conditions become so deteriorated in Oman to make Qaboos convince them to interfere.

DEVELOPMENT OF DEMOCRACY IN BAHRAIN IN THE SAUDI WAY

--By a Progressive Bahraini

In his reply to a press question on the justifications that made the Bahraini government to issue the new Public Security Ordinance - which reminded all nationalists of the British laws which used to be issued in Baghdad and Cairo during the days of Noori Assaid and Farouk - the Interior Minister said that his government endeavours by all potentialities to develop the democratic situation and to create the bases essential for realising peace and security in the country, and that this ordinance will play a major role in developing the democratic system which was accepted by the Bahraini government.

It is useful to review the drawn up line for the democratic road on which the government marched so that the evaluation that can be given to the new ordinance is just.

In 1956 the government declared a state of emergency in the country after failing to encircle the nationalist movement whose bases rejected the policy of imposterity, procrastination and behind-the-doors policy and so launched an extensive campaign of arrests against all nationalists and also issued harsh sentences and later exercised the policy of police repression against the national opposition.

Thousands of nationalist elements from different political affiliations poured on the prisons of Bahrain and the British intelligence tried to silence the voice of the opposition by all terroristic means including expulsion, imprisonment and daily chasing as well as the imposition of repression never seen by the country before. But with every cell arrested by the British intelligence tens of other cells were growing and prospering and the authority did not find a way out from the constant crisis other than to increase the tools of repression and to create an increasingly underground network and to work for infiltrating into the ranks of the nationalist movement and to create political organisations linked with the intelligence machineries in order to facilitate its structure later in the body of the active revolutionary movements or to hunt the revolutionary elements that can be caught in the trap in the appropriate moments.

The situation exploded once more in 1965 when the BABC company pushed thousands of works to the laps of unemployment. Demonstrations and popular disturbances flared up and control nase taken over all quarters and their closure in the face of the armoureds of the authority and its repressive tools.

So the British circles issued Law No. 1 endorsing by that the old emergency law and gave themselves complete jurisdiction and power to open fire on the demonstrators and to kill tens of nationalists as well as to impose a state of besiege on the revolting districts and to arrest all suspected elements. The number of those arrested and suspended amounted to thousands. In spite of the continuation of this uprising for a period of nearly six months, but the authority was able to reimpose its control over the situation at the end and to endorse the state of emergency and its repressive laws. Never have the Bahraini prisons been free one day from political detainees whom the authority was unable to try due to great lack of evidence which can indict them. In this way the "Special Branch" gave itself the right to suspend any citizen until further notice.

The British circles developed their repressive methods in 1966 after discovering that Bob and Ben and their puppets have brought to the authority deep popular indignation and wide hatred from the broader popular sections. The British circles wanted to undertake repairs for this machinery by bringing Henderson and surrounded him by a bouquet of 'good behaviour and good treatment which that Londonite enjoys'. The first step that was taken by this new intelligence man was the recall of those who remained suspended after one or two years without trial to direct charges against his predecessors and to promise them of reviewing their case and non-repetition of the conditions by-passed by the state of security in the country.

In spite of these assurances, Henderson was never the guest of the nationalist elements, and holds with them undesirable dialogues and sometimes keep these elements with him for several days and sometimes for an uncertain period according to his wish. During the era of Henderson Bahrain witnessed new campaigns against the nationalist movement in 1968, 1970 and 1973 and the last was under the patronage of the stubborn National Council in 1974.

Since 1968, the British circles were arguing that they are in need to an emergency law in order to be able to issue their new colonialist projects in the way that will ensure for them peace and security in Bahrain and the Arabian Gulf and to have the suitable atmosphere for punishing the Amirs who lived for long years under their protection and very anxious about their fate after announcement of the British withdrawal in 1968. Fearing for them from the microbes that fill the popular atmosphere, the security measures were the only means for protecting them until the proclamation of withdrawal.

DEVELOPMENT OF DEMOCRACY - Cont'd.

In this way Henderson repeated for tens of times in front of all nationalist elements called by him for interrogation between an interval and another, by saying to them: "We are now responsible for peace and security upto 1971, and after we withdraw, you have complete freedom, and as deemed fit by your government, to behave as you like. But now we will not allow any political organisation to be active or to take advantage of the current atmospheres for arranging its conditions."

'Independence' came and people asked about the fate of those exceptional laws. Theorists of the regime said that the period which will follow independence upto the declaration of the constitution would be a critical stage and serious transitional period, and Bahrain cannot bear any shakes or disturbances. As such there must be a law deterring anyone who dares to do so. The best law is that we are now having. The 'independence' statemarched under the banner of the emergency law and Henderson did not find an alternative other than to continue his role in safeguarding the peace and security of the sheikhs and the interests of their imperialist masters.

For developing its democratic practices, the authority issued the gathering ordinance in 1973, after launching an extensive arrest campaign within the ranks of the nationalist elements on the charge of being affiliated to the People's Front. It justified such repressive act by it as only to organise gatherings and seminars so that subversive elements do not find a chance for fishing in disturbed waters and that the British circles, which adopted the Al-Khalifa family and took care of it in particular after 1968, for bringing to the sea of 'independence,' want to care for the popular situation and grow the parliamentary sense and democratic practices with the masses. This calls for continuous police control on meetings and prevention of any seminar and the necessity of watching all moves by clubs or others. After one complete year for the gathering ordinance, the "Special Branch" discovered that the giant whom it repeatedly tried to put in the can, was rather bigger than the can and grows rapidly and quickly to an extent that it needs continuously modifications and new laws that can rectify what other laws cannot. In this way the British intelligence machineries backed by several foreign forces felt that it is necessary to hit the labour movement which disturbed the authority for the first half of the year and constituted a nightmare to the authority and its council and its executive tools through their strikes and demands which this movement did not fail to raise time and again. All procrastinations of the authority and its terrorism were of no avail to revert all these just demands.

DEVELOPMENT OF DEMOCRACY - Cont'd.

The authority did not feel embarrassed even slightly to arrest many of the nationalist and labour elements and to put them in prisons without directing to them any specific charges and without forwarding them to trial.

Within the course of the increasing protests over these repressive measures, the authority did not understand, as it appears, the meaning of these protests, and so issued its fascist law to be as replacement for the emergency law in 1965. When the Minister of the Interior was asked about the fate of the ordinance in the event of its rejection by the Council, he replied: we will continue work with the law of 1965.

WHAT ARE THE SIGNIFICANT FEATURES OF THE NEW LAW?

The first clause says: "If serious evidences existed that a person carried out acts or deeds or made any activity or contacts inside the country or outside it in a way disturbing internal or external security of the country or the religious and national interests of the State or its basic, social or economic system; or regarded to be an intrigue that may affect the relations existing between the people and government or between the different corporations of the State or between the groups of the people or between the workers in the corporations and companies or that may help in spreading out subversive acts or destructive propaganda or helping in spreading atheist principles, the Minister of the Interior has the right to order his arrest and to put him in one of the prisons of Bahrain and to search him and his house and place of work and to take any actions deemed necessary for collecting evidences and completing investigations. The man arrested can put up his grievance over the arrest order after three months from the date of its implementation. The grievance will be renewed after every six months from the date of the rejection of the previous grievance.

The second clause: Court sessions are always secret and these sessions are to be held at the higher court of appeals and can be held anywhere else at Manamah or outside it if deemed fit by the court for safeguarding the security of the country (that means any Bahraini arrested in Bahrain can be tried in Saudi courts) as it happened to one of the detainees recently. The court can be held also in the American base in order to safeguard security. (This reminds us of the fake trials held by the British authorities in 1956 for the leaders of the higher executive body).

DEVELOPMENT OF DEMOCRACY - Cont'd.

THROUGH THE STRUGGLE OF THE MASSES ALL REACTIONARY LAWS WILL FALL DOWN

No sooner the new law was issued, the Prime Ministers called the editors-in-chief and warned them against talking about the new law. He also called the Deputies in order to know their stands towards the passage of the reactionary law without discussion and convinced them of necessarily ratifying it.

The religious bloc had its own view. This was its disagreement with the law unless it contained the provision on "atheist principles" which was not existing in the original text. The Prime Minister did not hesitate to agree on this. So the leaders of the reactionary bloc came out joyous over this law which will spread peace in Bahrain. But the Bahraini masses and their national and progressive forces have another view.

They found in this law a real danger for our entire movement and the accomplishments it wrested thanks to the thousands of detainees and martyrs and vagrants throughout the last fifty years. They found in this law a real translation for the Saudi desire to have complete control over the political life in the country. It is also an endorsement for the American imperialist influence who do not want any opposition against their military, economic and political presence in the country.

The authority was astonished by the extensive wave of protest and started to recruit all its information machineries and the forces linked with them to make propaganda for the "good things" of this law and its necessity for the Bahraini economy. During the recent period it started to distribute its bribes to some social groups taking advantage from the experiment with the other sheikhs in the Emirates.

If the authority bets on the success of its law which it started to enact without the consultation of the council as it started to arrest five nationalist elements and also arrested the nationalist journalist Ibrahim Bashmi for his mere return from Beirut, then the Bahraini masses and their nationalist forces which were accustomed with the police and fascist methods throughout eighteen years, cannot be terrorised by this law and this will not apprehend its stubborn struggle against this reactionary authority and its imperialist masters.

WHAT ARE THE RELATIONS OF BHRAIN WITH SOUTH AFRICA? During the last half of November, the ambassador of racist South Africa, visited Bahrain and met the senior officials in the country. It was stated that relations are developing between the two racial and tribal regimes and that the talks held by the ambassador dealt with two purposes: 1) Permission to allow the South African airlines to use Bahrain airport for its journeys to Europe, 2) to share in some projects which the Bahraini government will put for tender and in particular in the field of aluminium.

TO WHERE THE PROCESSION OF THE REGIME IN MUSCAT IS PROCEEDING?

Britain Seriously Thinks of Changing Qaboos

Since the 29th of last October and following the al-Hazn incident, hysteria struck the hireling authorities in Muscat which continued to escalate its repressive and terroristic measures against the steadfast Omani masses. Oman was converted into a semi-collective concentration camp similar to a great extent with the Nazi and Israeli concentration camps.

The state of emergency declared by the authority was still valid and the authority deployed all its repressive forces including the army, police and intelligence and planted the country with search barriers from end to end and mercenary patrols started to roam the country in a heavy manner. Repression and terrorism reach their peak when the authorities launched a wide-scale arrest campaign which covered all sections of the people and different utilities of the regime and its administrative corporations and even the security institutions. The number of those arrested upto now reached more than 800 of men, women and aged people. The repressive machineries did not even exclude the tribal sheikhs, judges and school students. The precautionary measures even stretched to the arrest of policemen and ambassadors and senior officials in the Ministry of Information and Foreign Ministry without the necessity, as usual for arrest warrants or even identity investigation. Oman is now living the most difficult days of its time and perhaps days which have not been witnessed by it before.

The grave losses sustained by the regime at both political and military levels came as a blow in the heart and so the regime started to beat in the bush and does not differentiate in its arrests between its friends and foes. Doubt with the regime amounted to an extent that the regime arrested even those who were well known for their allegiance to the regime but had their own remarks on the permanent presence of the British and the widening of the circle of influence of the Jorecians and Iranians.

Contradictions heighten day after day inside the regime and sometime reach the limit of fighting. Reports state about Qaboos's continuous doubts and intention to get rid even of those who oppose the British plans. He got rid of his uncle Tareq, as Prime Minister and also got rid of him as adviser. But it appears that the cost

paid by Tareq for his ambition was insufficient as Qaboos intends to build an organisation, perhaps for establishing the experiment of his eldest brother (the National Union of Jordan) which was established by puppet Hussein on top of whose tasks is to restrict the influence of Tareq within the framework of the regime in reply to Tareq's efforts to plant helpers for him in lively utilities particularly that the latter has an organisation for him which is no more legal after Qaboos received power.

Perhaps the fears of Qaboos include his feeling always of the inferiority complex which is right that those who changed his father by him are no doubt thinking of changing him by another. From this fact Qaboos started to search for those glittering in the al-Busaid family in whom he smells the suitable change. Is it Tareq, Fahd or Feisal. This is a problem to Qaboos which is need to a quick settlement within the programme for settling down the conflict over the authority.

The recent ministerial change in the Sultanate of Muscat comes as a quick reaction and direct to the current events. Qaboos endorsed the final touches to the ministerial visit during his recent visit to his parents in the British capital. The British circles did not hide their anxiety over the authority's corporations as a result of the piling up of disappointment and chaos which started to take up position all over the country which may lead to results not giving pleasure to Britain.

The aim of Britain behind the change of Said bin Taimour is to absorb the masses' wrath and to try to move the regime's corporation and expand its base by creating a group to whom it is linked and providing for him the necessary protection. It appears that Qaboos to Britain cannot be good at moving from place to place in the board of the chess.

It is important now that Britain is now trying to repeat attempt to absorb the people's wrath by diverting the attention of the citizens from their daily living problems, including soaring up prices, oppression and injustice.

Britain has expanded the circle of beneficiaries and there was added to the cadre of Ministers a number of major merchants. All Ministers became big merchants who have in the least huge buildings erected here and there.

The reshuffle took care of excluding those conservatives over the policies of the regime in important corporations although there does not exist any important corporation or utility in the hands of the local puppets. The star of the Foreign Minister appeared as a good horse knowing how to run and suitable for winning the bet of the Iranians and the British alike as regards the political future of the regime.

PROCESSION OF THE REGIME - Cont'd.

In the recent reshuffle the Health Minister was frozen and the authority has bribed the resigning governor of Dhofar and bought his silence by naming him as Minister of State in a cabinet which does not possess the qualifications of other Cabinets. The Interior Ministry (which is controlled in fact the Jordanians and British) was given to Fahr bin Taimour, who in turn proved his capability in being a hireling and a man capable of kissing hands. He is also a deputy British Defence Minister and is known to be playing in both cases the facade role. He is also known of being very eager to kill and torture and uproot the roots of the revolution from beneath the people even if that led to uprooting the entire people. Britain assured Qaboos that it will remain backing him and excluded Oman from its plan to complete its withdrawal from the East of Suez. Britain will not more reduce its forces in Oman and instead appointed a new commander for the forces of the Sultanate. He is Brigadier Kenneth Birkinz who succeeds Major General T.M. Crazy. He will receive his powers next February.

Not more than two weeks have passed over the announcement by Qaboos Azzawawi, Foreign Minister, on the withdrawal of the Iranian forces then he comes up again to announce about the participation of Iranian forces and more effectively in the direct fighting against the revolution in a campaign against the liberated Western Region with the aim of cutting the supply routes and having control over the strategic entrances of the revolution which have been controlled by the revolution for more than one year. It has been rumoured that the Iranian forces were knowing about efforts by Arab parties working to cordone off the scandal which was caused when Qaboos called the Iranian forces. This affected the positions of these Arab parties. But the Shah was clear in his stand that he did not come to Oman in order to withdraw. Not at all before completing the assignment for which he came. The muscle show by Iran in the Gulf and Oman and the suspicious manouevres by the CENTO in the Indian Ocean in which South Africa also took part along with the Jordanian and Omani regimes, appear not to frighten any of the stubborn regimes in both sectors of the Gulf. Saudi Arabia does not believe that there is any danger threatening the Gulf particularly from the (friendly sister Muslim neighbour) Iran. But the real danger exists in the imported thoughts and subversive movements. Isn't this a tragedy of a nation who has been sick with such people.

PRESS STATEMENT ON
ANGLO-IRANIAN MILITARY CAMPAIGN ON WESTERN REGION

We have called you to this press conference in order to acquaint you with latest developments in the situation in the Omani arena and in particular the aggressive military campaign which is being launched by the British, Iranian forces and mercenaries of the reactionary regime in Muscat as well as the executionists of puppet Hussein which campaign transferred the Western Region of the Liberated rurals into a stage for fierce battles waged by the People's Liberation Army and the People's Militia in which the masses of the liberated areas share demonstrating endless heroism in the face of the Anglo-Iranian war machine which brought fiercer and more developed weapons into these battles in a bid to subjugate our people and defeat it and to continue to loot its wealth and to transform Oman into an aggressive base threatening the security of the area and safety of its peoples.

Our aim behind this conference is to convey the reality to the consciences of the Arab and world public opinions which consciences respect the basic rights of peoples for their freedom, national independence and self-determination.

Our Arab people in Oman, who expressed their rejection for the British colonialist presence and the reactionary rule since the dawn of 9th June, 1965, see in this campaign a new chain of the chains of plotting which aim at liquidating its armed revolution and at aborting the gains realised by it throughout the ten years of its struggle and to subjugate the national movement in other areas of Oman and the Arabian Gulf. It also confirms increase by Iran of the size of its forces which share in the annihilation war launched by the British colonialist forces and the mercenaries of the regime in Muscat.

Entry of Iran as a direct party in this war and with this size only reflects the stagnancy of the repressive policy exercised and still being exercised by the reactionary clique in Muscat against our people. It also represents one of the new stages of Iranian interference in Oman.

We must view this campaign from the role which was given by America to Iran as it is wrong to restrict it to a merely military frame, while in fact it has political dimensions and economic horizons threatening the Arab liberation movement, giving a free hand to Iran in this area and making it the local reactionary force capable of administering the entire affairs in the interest of the forces of imperialism topped by the United States of America. This is revealed by the repeated aggressions by the Iranian forces on the progressive regime in Iraq and the conspiracies woven by these forces against the progressive regime in Democratic Yemen.

It became clear that the colonialist authorities, British, Iranians and American imperialists, are trying to hide their aggression behind different slogans and false distortive campaigns and shameless political blackmail in a bid to create the justifications for this flagrant aggression on our people under the pretext and slogan of safeguarding the peace and security and picturing the struggle of our people as non-realistic and illegal. But we confirm that this is only one chain of the imperialist plan which aims at imposing full control over the Arab peoples and the neighbouring areas.

In harmony with the Anglo-American plan in the area which aims at hastening to liquidate the revolution and to establish the direct influence of imperialism, politically and economically, on the entire area of Oman and the Arabian Gulf, this invasion came under a Qaboosite-Iranian agreement and with the blessing of Anglo-American imperialism. The battles of the Red Line for one complete year and the heavy losses inflicted upon the forces of the Shah and its failure to realise the basic objectives for which they came in addition to the political results at both Arab and international levels which heightened the degree of awareness towards the Iranian dagger and its expansionist greeds all over the Arab arena entirely, gave adverse reactions to the Iranian military commands and the commanders of the campaign and its soldiers and established in them doubt over their capabilities and also reduced their morales, a matter which cannot be tolerated by the Shah. This is in addition to the embarrassments faced by the puppets of Muscat from the Arab countries for allowing Iran to interfere in the affairs of Oman. All these factors and other factors pushed Iran and the puppets in Muscat towards launching their new campaign against the Western Region in another desperate bid aimed at paralysing the effectiveness of the revolution by shifting the battle to its rear positions and by hastening to end the revolution and liquidate it. At a time in which the Iranian forces were conducting extensive reinforcements for its forces in the north of the Western Region prior to implementing the military campaign against the Western Region, the People's Front for the Liberation of Oman issued a press statement in which it revealed these Iranian military concentrations and reinforcements and warned against the intentions of Iran for expanding the space of its occupation of the Arab Omani territories. But the puppet and hirelings were surrounding this movement by an artificial distortive information campaign with the aim of hiding the dangers lying behind it. The more shameful thing than this was the announcement made by Qais Al-Zawawi, Foreign Minister of Muscat, in front of the diplomatic corps

and the pressmen on the withdrawal of the Iranian forces from Oman and receipt by the Omani forces of their positions. The announcement by Azzawawi on this withdrawal was only one of the signs of political blackmail and despise for the Arab and world public opinions which is the nature of the puppet regime in Muscat.

PLAN OF THE OFFENSIVE

The plan of the offensive was in three basic stages:-

THE FIRST STAGE:

By spreading all over the northern desert tape of the Western Region. On 1.12.74 the enemy forces spread up in the northern tape of the Western Region in "Kadbeet", "Saber", "Da'an Homer", "Thinot", "Fudon Ufairat", "Thaqbeet" and "Gudairt". The enemy pushed forward huge forces to these positions reinforced with full equipment. Immediately after landing the enemy was faced with heavy resistance from the People's Liberation Army and the People's Militia during which he sustained heavy losses in life and equipment.

THE SECOND STAGE:

The enemy then landed air-lifted forces in some advanced positions in fulfilment of the second stage of his plan at "Hasl Ashkin", "Asaiqat", and "Lqaitan", aiming against some of the strategic positions of the revolution. But in these positions very fierce and violent battles ensued during which the People's Liberation Army and the People's Militia deadly defended these positions and the commander of the Second Garrison from the "Al-Jebel" Battalion of the Sultanate's Army Major John Bradell Smith (British) was killed. After fierce battles in which the white weapons were used the enemy was forced to retreat to his rear positions in the northern tape leaving behind him piles of bodies of his soldiers and officers. Our comrades captured huge quantities of military equipment and foodstuffs and some important documents.

THE THIRD STAGE:

The enemy made an air-landing by helicopter with the aim of opening a battle line in the north of Rakhout at "Akharat", "Lqaitan" and "Shiras". Following the landing operations, the enemy was confronted by the forces of the People's Liberation Army which engaged him in clashing and hand-to-hand fighting during which the enemy suffered heavy losses in life and equipment and was forced to retreat to some positions leaving

behind tens of bodies and quantities of arms and ammunition on the battleground. The enemy's other positions at Rakhyout highlands were encircled.

ASSESSMENT OF ENEMY FORCES WHICH TOOK PART IN THE CAMPAIGN

The Anglo-Iranian enemy forces which took part in the recent campaign on the liberated Western Region of Dhofar are estimated at:

1) From the Iranian side:

two Iranian brigades between commandos and infantrymen

2) From the side of the forces of the mercenary Qaboos army:

al-Jebel battalion and its commander Major J. Braddell Smith (British supported by three garrisons from the Desert Battalion.)

The role of the British forces in this campaign was confined to effective participation of the British Royal Air Force in covering the campaign by air in addition to intensifying the extermination raids on the places of gathering of citizens and their villages.

In conclusion we ask all Arab forces and their progressive régimes and the forces of peace in the world to stand firmly by the side of the Omani people and to condemn the Iranian aggression and the puppet regime in Muscat for committing such criminal acts against the Arab nation and for subjecting peace and security in the area to danger.

Long live the revolution of 9th June and their brave heroes.

Glory is for our benevolent martyrs.

Death and destruction for the Iranian invaders, colonialists and their puppets.

22nd January, 1975

THE PEOPLE'S FRONT FOR THE LIBERATION OF OMAN