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IN THIS ISSUE:

- ** PRESS STATEMENT BY P.F.L.O.
- ** ECHO THE NEW ANGLO- IRANIAN MILITARY CAMPAIGN
- ** CAPTIVE IRANIAN PILOT SAYS:
MEMBERS OF IRANIAN ARMY DO NOT WISH TO GO TO OMAN
.I WAS GIVEN A VERY GOOD TREATMENT BY THE REVOLUTIONARIES
- ** PRESS CONFERENCE BY THE COMRADE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE
PEOPLE'S FRONT FOR THE LIBERATION OF OMAN IN ADEN.

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PRESS STATEMENT BY P.F.L.O.

The Iranian invasion forces in collaboration with the British colonialist forces and the forces of the puppet regime in Muscat carried out in the evening of Thursday 16th October landing operations in the heart of the Western Region of the Southern area of Oman using big and huge numbers coupled with air, sea and land shelling on the area.

Since the first hours of the landing upto now crushing battles are raging between the forces of the People's Liberation Army and the People's Militia and the invasion forces. Through these battles and by following the heavy shelling operations against the houses of citizens and their gathering areas, it becomes clear that the enemy was hit by hysteria and that he is carrying out these operations with the aim of retaliation and retaliation only, because he believed within himself that he does not own any ability to realise any strategic victory over the revolution. Moreover the progress of the confrontation operations that took place during the recent period have proved the remarkable growth of the abilities and combative skills of the revolution and the clashing skills of its militants which inflicted heavy losses on the enemy forces in life and equipment.

The People's Front for the Liberation of Oman, while confirming its ability to expel the remnants of the invasion forces and the British colonialist forces, is at the same time appealing to the Arab masses and their national forces and regimes to shoulder their national responsibilities towards our Omani Arab people who is subject to extermination at the hands of the Shah-in-Shah and British forces.

The People's Front also appeals to the other freedom, justice and peace-loving forces and the forces hostile to imperialism in the world to condemn the policy of aggression and expansion of the Iranian regime and to condemn all criminal acts and extermination war faced by our people. Let the voices of the free people of the world be raised high to condemn the aggression and to observe solidarity with the struggle of our Omani people.

PEOPLE'S FRONT APPEALS TO ARAB NATIONAL REGIMES

The Central Executive Committee of the People's Front for the Liberation of Oman appealed to the Heads of Arab national and progressive states to stand by the side of our Omani people against the British and Iranian foreign aggressions.

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The appeal was contained in messages sent to Muammar Qaddafi, President of the Revolutionary Command Council in the Libyan Arab Republic, Comrade Ahmed Hassouna Bakr, President of the Iraqi Republic, Comrade Hafez al-Assad, President of the Syrian Arab Republic, President Houari Boumedienne of the Algerian Republic, Mohammad Ziad Birreh, President of the Supreme Revolutionary Council of Somalia, Comrade Yasser Arafat, President of the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organisation and Comrade Mohamed Bad, Secretary General of the Arab League. The following is the text of these messages:-

"The Iranian and British forces and the mercenaries of the puppet regime in Muscat are launching a wide-scale military campaign against the positions of the revolution in the liberated Western Region. They are using in their aggressive attacks all types of destructive weapons against the peaceful citizens of our people. The aim of the Iranian invasion forces behind such repeated military campaigns against our people is to liquidate the revolution and to expand the scope of occupation of further Omani territories as well as to establish their hegemony on these territories encouraged in that by the Arab silence towards what is taking place in Oman of savage retaliatory operations carried out by these invasion forces against our country.

"While placing you in the real picture on what is going on in our country of annihilation war and torture, we are also placing you and all Arab brothers in front of their historical responsibility towards our people as our battle with the colonialist enemy and the Iranian invaders is the responsibility of all Arabs from the Ocean to the Gulf. Therefore, we ask you to immediately interfere to halt such criminal acts and to stand firmly by the side of our Omani people and their just cause.

"Our Omani people, while confronting with bravness the invaders and introduces as sacrifices from the best of its sons for defending Oman, is full of confidence that you will stand by their side and adopt all measures that will ensure suspension of the campaign and foiling of its aims."

ECHO OF THE NEW ANGLO-IRANIAN MILITARY CAMPAIGN

BRITAIN DISTORTS BRITISH AND WORLD PUBLIC OPINIONS BY DENYING ITS INVOLVEMENT IN THIS CAMPAIGN

The new Anglo-Iranian military campaign on the liberated western area of the Southern Region of Oman, caused an immediate reaction at both Arab and international levels.

At a time in which the Iranians confessed that their land, naval and air forces are launching a wide-scale attack on the forces of the Omani revolution in the Western region of Dhofar in Oman, the British Command in Muscat ignored in its statement the participation of the Iranian forces in this campaign while the British government tried to distort the British and world public opinions on the reality of the role that is being played by Britain in this war and the participation of its forces directly in the new campaign, as an official British spokesman in London denied what was announced by the People's Front for the Liberation of Oman on the participation of British forces in this campaign, which participation was confirmed by many facts, evidences and proofs.

However, world news agencies and many world radios relayed the reports on the crushing battles raging in the area since the evening of 16th October upto now between the forces of the People's Liberation Army, and the People's Militia on one hand and the Iranian and British forces and the forces of puppet Qaboos on the other and gave prominence to the confessions made by the enemy of some losses. These agencies and radios also beamed the statement by the official spokesman for PFLO in which he affirmed the ability of the revolution of 9th June to expel their invaders and the colonialists and asked the Arab nation to perform their national responsibilities towards the Omani people who are being subject to annihilation at the hands of the expansionist Persian invasion forces, the forces of British colonialism and the Qaboos mercenaries. The news agencies and world radios also gave prominence to the appeals made by the People's Front to the freedom, justice and peace-loving forces in the world to stand by its side.

At the Arab level, the preliminary reports reaching us from the Arabian Gulf report that huge indignation and wrath started to build up in the hearts of the members of our Arab people in this area and amidst their national forces against the Iranian invaders, the British colonialists and against the

ECHO OF NEW CAMPAIGN - Cont'd.

the shameful official Arab silence.

In Aden, the radio of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen broadcast a commentary on this Anglo-Iranian campaign on 16th October. It said: the news agency correspondents in the Iranian campaign were astonished by the new campaign which was started by the newspapers of the Shah's regime against the Omani revolution. The news agency correspondents said that this new campaign had aroused their surprise particularly that these newspapers were speaking before a while in a military chauvinist accent about alleged victories realised by the Iranian invasion forces in Dhofar.

The news agency correspondents have agreed in their reports from the capital on two points for the reasons for this campaign. On one hand they came as a proof that the previous Iranian military communiques and reports on the victories of the Iranian forces were too exaggerated and fictitious. On the other, this information campaign by the Iranian press against the Omani revolution comes to pave the way for the increase of the size of Iranian military interference and presence in Oman.

Although these calculations are correct, yet the full dimensions of this campaign in the Iranian press against the Omani revolution, comes also as part of the military and political pressure exercised by the Shah's regime in the Arabian Gulf area in order to make this area surrender to the Iranian point of view towards what is called the Gulf Security project through which the Shah's regime hopes to find a justification for the continuation of its presence not only in Oman but also to place the Arabian Gulf area under the complete Iranian trusteeship. Observers believe that this new campaign which was started by the Iranian press against the Omani revolution represents a shift in the line which was followed by the Shah's regime in the way of implementing its plan on what is called the Gulf security. It is also regarded as a start for abandoning the sphere of dialogue to direct military pressure upon which it will depend greatly by increasing the size of the Iranian military forces in Oman.

CAPTIVE IRANIAN PILOT SAYS:

MEMBERS OF IRANIAN ARMY DO NOT WISH TO GO TO OMAN

I WAS GIVEN A VERY GOOD TREATMENT BY THE REVOLUTIONARIES

The Iranian invasion Command was eager to mobilise the members of its forces in a chauvenist way proving the spirit of expansion and aggression of the Iranian regime and giving its members the impression that the Omani revolutionaries are wild, savage and murderers and that no sooner a captive falls in their hands they cut his head from his body. Therefore, we have witnessed that during the campaign of December, 1974, on the Western Region, the Iranian soldiers prefer to drop themselves from the top of the mountain to the surface of the valley rather to fall as captive in the hands of the forces of the revolution.

But this false and malicious propaganda by the Iranian Command found the persons who will expose it from amongst those members who were believing it before. These include the captive Iranian pilot Mulazim Awal (First Lieutenant) ; Perwiz Mohammad Ali Ashrafian Azar. On 14th September, 1975, the forces of the People's Liberation Army of the People's Front for the Liberation of Oman have shot down a helicopter out of four helicopters of the Iranian invasion forces which were shot down on that day near the enemy centre at Kudbeet in the liberated Western Region. The pilot of this helicopter who is Mulazim Awal (First Lieutenant) Perwiz Mohammad Ali Ashrafian, 28 years old, who was born at the Iranian town of Uzerbeijan, was captured. After graduating from the secondary stage, he joined the Royal "Aryamhar" university in the mathematics section. His father was owning a shoe workshop which was taken over by the Iranian authorities. Here student Perwiz could not continue his university studies because he was unable to pay the expenses. So he joined the military college and was graduated in 1970. He receives a monthly salary of 1,075 toman (about sixty sterling). At the beginning of 1975 he completed his training assignment on helicopter and was later sent to Oman. He is married with two children. He spent in Oman about two months and the plane piloted by him was a helicopter of the Augustile type made by the American "Bell" company. His helicopter was shot down by light weapons and his foot was injured. He was treated at the hospital of the revolution and was cured. He was trained on flying such type of aircraft by American instructors.

Iranian pilot who said: "I came to Oman in accordance with orders issued to me from the Command. I, nor anybody else, was having the desire to volunteer for fighting. If it was within my ability to rebel against these orders I would have done so. Moreover, there are enticements for those who come to Oman to help Sultan Qaboos against the revolutionaries. I have received before my arrival to Oman five thousand toman (about 300 sterling). Members of the Iranian army do not welcome at all orders issued to them for going to Oman to fight the revolutionaries because they believe that they gain no benefit and have no interest in this war. Further, the weather in this area is unbearable in addition to separation from the relatives.

THE REQUEST FOR IRANIAN INTERFERENCE CAME UNDER REQUEST FROM BRITISH COMMAND

The Iranian pilot revealed the reasons behind the request by Qaboos for the Iranian army against the revolutionaries. He said that the request by Qaboos for help by the Iranian Army to him against the revolutionaries was not his own thought, but was the thought and planning of the British military command because the forces of the Sultan were incapable of facing the revolutionaries. Therefore, Qaboos asked the help of the Iranian and Jordanian forces and believed that the Iranian forces in Oman would have their numbers increased in future and the Shah is prepared to fulfil the requests of Qaboos in view of the good relations linking each other. In addition to the role of the British command in calling the Iranian forces to Oman, as explained by the pilot, he also confirmed that the British forces prepare the centres and bases on which the Iranian forces are stationed such as the base of Manston (Hairoon) which was established by the British forces and later delivered to the Iranian forces for using it as a launching base for their military campaigns on the liberated Western Region.

CAPTIVE PILOT EXPOSES CHEUVENIST POLICY OF THE SHAH

The captive Iranian pilot also exposed the cheuvenist mobilisation policy with which the Iranian régime mobilises the members of its forces and the members of the Iranian people, as the pilot said, expressing his personal feelings towards the Iranian invasion and interference in Oman, that the Persian Gulf and these - meaning the revolutionaries - call it the Arabian Gulf, is regarded as a lively waterway for Iran, and Iran has to safeguard stability in this waterway and that it is the right

CAITIVE IRANIAN PILOT SAYS - Cont'd.

of any state to safeguard its lively waterways. If the struggle of the Omani people, which is increasing day after day, threatens the security of the Gulf, then it is the duty of Iran to confront it.

Captive Pilot says: "Our Fate in Oman Would Not be Better than the Fate of America in Vietnam."

The Iranian pilot denied allegations made by the Iranian and British commands and the puppet Qaboos regime that they are able to end the revolution. He said: "The calculations of the Iranian Command were mistaken on the ability of their forces to end the revolution within weeks or months. Therefore I do not expect only, but I confirm that the size of the Iranian forces in Oman, will increase and it appears that the condition would be like the condition of the American interference in Vietnam. America expected that it would be able to crush the revolution there within four years but the war continued for twelve years after which America came out defeated. I do not expect that we will come out with a result better than this."

On the nature of the targets specified for them to hit, Ashraffian said: "They are the animals because the animals are the only means for living for the inhabitants and also the destruction of water springs and burning of fields and grazing areas." On the sources of supplies of the Iranian army, he said: "They come from Iran"

THE BRITISH PLANES KILLED BY COLLEAGUE WHO ESCAPED FROM THE REVOLUTIONARIES

The Iranian pilot spoke about the incident of capture, and how the captive was treated and is treated by the People's Front. He said: on 14.9.75 and while we were taking some supplies to our centres at Kudboq, fire was opened on my plane. Its propellor was hit and I was injured in my foot. The plane was hit by the Klashinkov as I believe. A colleague of mine was with me on the same plane. Both of us were carrying one weapon for precaution only. When the plane fell my colleague took the weapon and escaped and abandoned me while knowing that I was injured and unable to run. But his fear that the revolutionaries would cut his head - as we were told that any captive falling in the hands of the revolutionaries is having his head chopped.

did not give him time to think of his colleague. Within minutes British planes came and opened a rocket on him so that he does not fall in the hands of the revolutionaries. These planes also tried to bomb the plane I was flying in order to kill me. In fact I was thoroughly scared until three of the men of the front came and captured me. Here I was shocked by the kindness with which they received me. They have taken me to a safe place and started to heal my wound. I stayed with them in the forest for five days during which I was the centre of their care and kindness. As I was unable to walk they have taken me on a donkey which was the only means of transport available with them in that area. They have taken me to the place where I stay at present and where security and good medical care and attention exist. Here my leg was healed from the wound and that was the 27th day to be spent by me with them. Throughout these days I was accorded a very good treatment by this people and their revolutionaries and I found them very good opposite to what I was thinking and what I was told. I thank them very much for such good treatment and I find myself obliged to repay such gratitude to these people for the good treatment accorded to me.

These glimpses were made by the captive Iranian pilot Perwiz Mohammad Ali Ashrafi, during the press conference which was held in the liberated Western Region, and which was attended by a number of news agency correspondents, Arab and foreign, on 11th October.

AMUSING CONFESSIONS

The enemy Radio station at Sallalah confessed on 15th October 1975 the destruction of a helicopter of the colonialist and invasion forces and the British Command attributed this to a technical defeat as it is the case whenever our revolutionaries shoot down any of their planes and such shooting cannot be planned by them. The forces of the P.L.A. have hit one of the helicopters directly when the ILA forces were launching an attack on the enemy centre at Aqitan on 14th October on the occasion of the twelfth anniversary of the revolution of 14th October. This operation came in a communique distributed on Thursday under the No. 234/75.

PRESS CONFERENCE BY THE COMRADE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE PEOPLE'S FRONT FOR THE LIBERATION OF OMAN IN ADEN

(Comrade Saced Masood, representative of the People's Front for the Liberation of Oman in Aden, held a press conference at seven in the evening of Wednesday 22nd October, 1975, at the office of the People's Front. The conference was attended by a large number of Yemeni journalists and correspondents of Arab and foreign newspapers and news agencies. At the conference he spoke about the new Anglo-Iranian campaign on the liberated western region and made the following statement to the pressmen:)

It was announced by the Shah of Iran at the beginning that the aim behind his interference is to block the way between Sallalah and Muscat. But the military operations by the Iranian army did not stop at this end but covered all areas in the Region of Dhofar. The Iranian military presence stretched all over Oman, beginning from Hormez in the north to Sarfeet in the South. The Iranian forces present in Oman are estimated at about thirty thousands soldiers scattered in numerous bases and camps all in different places in Oman including the base of Khasb, the base of Thamreet, the base of Hairoon and the base of Raisut. Moreover there are many joint centres for the Iran and British forces.

The aim for the Iranian presence as announced by the Shah repeatedly is to crush the armed revolution in Oman and to keep the puppet regime, the lackey of Iran, in Muscat against the wish of the Omani people.

Series of Campaigns From which the Invaders Appeared Losers

Iran had launched a number of military campaigns against the liberated areas ever since its interference in December, 1973 aiming at establishing more and more military centres and bases and expanding the space of its occupation of our country. It launched a military campaign on 20th December, 1973 on the Red Line, and a campaign on 2nd December, 1974 on the Western region and a campaign in February on the al-Mammar region as well as a campaign in March 1975 on the Eastern Region. These campaigns were faced by violent and strong resistance by the People's Liberation Army and Militia and the masses of our people in the liberated areas. The Iranian forces have suffered heavy losses in life and equipment. The present campaign came to crown those campaigns.

wide preparations were given to this campaign which was preceded by a political and information campaign by the Iranian invaders and the British occupationists as well as the puppet regime in Muscat as Qaboo's paid a visit to the Shah of Iran since about two months. This is in addition to the Iranian movement at the level of the Arab countries to ensure their silence towards what is going on in Oman. So on 15th October, 1975, the enemy started a campaign on Sarfeet line, in the western part of the Western region in which Iranian and British forces and mercenaries of the puppet regime in Muscat took part using all types of naval, air and land weapons, and forces.

Forces of Revolution Inflict Heavy Losses on Invaders

The British Royal Air Force and the Iranian Shah-in-Shah air force launch savage raids against the peaceful citizens and exterminated their cattle and destroyed their houses. Here amongst us are our guest French pressmen who witnessed with their own eyes these savage raids. Now at all battle lines, the enemy is suffering heavy losses in life and equipment. Ten aircraft were downed and hit since the beginning of the campaign. Here we introduce to you specimens of the pilots' uniforms who were killed during these battles and samples from some of the aircraft. In spite of the hugeness of this campaign and the intensity of the forces launching it against the liberated areas, yet the forces of the People's Liberation Army and the People's Militia and the masses of our people in the liberated areas are confronting this campaign and inflict heavy losses upon the enemy. The forces of the People's Liberation Army are controlling the battleground completely. We will play for you a voice recording for the press conference held by the captive Iranian pilot at the liberated area.

We urge you to convey to the world conscience the reality of the Iranian aggression against our people and the massacres committed by the invaders and British occupationists against the peaceful members of our people.

In conclusion the comrade representative of the People's Front thanked the pressmen and correspondents for attending and responding to the invitation. Later a time for questions was given.

PRESS CONFERENCE - Cont'd.

French Pressmen Say: The Iranians Destroy Civilian Targets

The French pressmen delegation, which returned on the same day from the liberated area, also took part at the press conference.

Some questions were addressed to them on their impression. These French pressmen said we have seen in the liberated area land, naval and air shelling against civilian targets and in areas where there are no military targets existing. We were also given the chance of seeing shelling operations carried out by the front forces against the Sarfeet centre and ascertained by ourselves the effectiveness of the shelling and that it hits its targets. We have also ascertained that the Iranian and British forces shell the liberated area with rockets, destructive bombs, anti-personnel bombs and incendiary bombs directed against civilians. All these types of weapons are directed against the instructions to concentrate our bombing on the livestock and houses of citizens and on watersprings.

The French pressmen said; We came to this area as professional journalists and with the aim of conducting press inquiries for introduction to the readers. We are extending to you this information in an objective manner being our colleagues because we believe that they will help you in explaining the picture. We are not giving this information for any other aim because we did not come to this area in the capacity of being supporters of the revolution in Oman.

It is worth recalling that the French pressmen have attended the press conference which was held by the Iranian pilot at the liberated Western region on 11th October along with a group of other Arab and foreign pressmen and correspondents.

An official spokesman for the People's Front for the Liberation of Oman issued a press statement on the new Anglo-Iranian campaign on the liberated Western region in which he appealed to the Arab nation and its national regimes and forces to shoulder their national responsibilities towards our people. He also appealed to the other freedom, and peace-loving forces in the world to condemn and denounce the criminal acts and annihilation war launched by the Iranian invaders and British colonialists and the mercenaries of the puppet Qaboos regime.

ESTABLISHMENT OF THE UNIFIED NATIONAL FRONT POLITICAL ORGANISATION AS A PIONEER STEP

The deliberations of the unification congress of the groups of national democratic activity in the P.D.R.Y. - the National Front Political Organisation, the People's Democratic Union and the Popular Vanguard Party - which was held in Aden during the period 11th to 13th October, have been crowned with glittering success in the eve of the 12th anniversary of the 14th October revolution.

The congress had issued a number of important resolutions and recommendations important and first of which was the resolution approved by the congress for the establishment of the Unified National Front Political Organisation.

Support of Just Struggle of our Omani People

In connection with the issue of our Omani people, the final statement of the congress said: "... The congress approves the policy followed constantly towards the armed revolution in Oman and towards the reactionary political line adopted by the Qaboos regime that line which betrayed the Arabism of the Gulf and fell in the dunes of imperialism to an extent that it hired the island of "Masirah" to American imperialism to become a base threatening the security and peace of the Gulf people, and brought Iranian forces to launch war and terrorism against the people of Oman and their liberation forces."

The congress supports completely the just struggle waged by the People's Front for the Liberation of Oman for expelling the Iranian invaders and the experts and colonialists and liquidating the foreign military bases in order to realise a free Oman sharing in the liberation Arab national struggle which is hostile to imperialism and Israeli occupation. The congress urges the entire Arab liberation forces who are eager about the Arabism of their territories in the Gulf to express denunciation and condemnation against the political line followed by the Qaboos regime which contravenes with the basic interests of Arab nationalism."

The congress also expressed support for the Palestinian issue and emphasised the importance of exerting greater efforts for developing the relations of friendship between the people of Democratic Yemen and the peoples of Socialist countries to cover the different political, economic, cultural and scientific fields. Other recommendations were also adopted by the congress at national level.