

**THE PEOPLE'S FRONT
FOR THE LIBERATION OF
OMAN AND THE ARABIAN GULF**

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الجبهة الشعبية لتحرير عمان والخليج العربي
عمارة المقطري، شارع الشهيد مدرم، الملا، عدن
ص. ب. ٥٠٣٧، تليفون ٢٢٦٤٢ - ٢٣٠٨٤
برقياً: نحيز

Date July 1974 التاريخ

الرقم

In the letter directed from Nasser Bouali, Sultanate Ambassador, to the Times concerning the debate on (British war in Oman) he referred that the press in the Sultanate is free naming several newspapers (al-Aqida, al-Watan, al-Nahdah).

We would like to mention some facts as follows:-

1) FINANCING

- a) The Ministry of Information finances all the newspapers in the Sultanate. All the magazines are off-set printed on glazy paper which is very costly.
- b) With the exception of the official newspaper (Oman) the rest are printed in Beirut which is very costly.
- c) The magazines are over-staffed by non-Omanese mostly Jordanian who are highly paid.
- d) Muscat has six magazines which are too much as admitted by Chief-editor of al-Nahdah who called for amalgamation of the several magazines especially in a country with over ninety per cent of illiterates. All the magazines are financed and paid by the Ministry of Information and distributed free in and outside Oman.

Could the Ambassador explain what is left of the freedom for the press?

2) THE LINE OF THE MAGAZINE

Without exception all the magazines adopt the government stand without any criticism representing its official declarations and statements to the extent of publishing the statement of the Ministry of Information about Iranian Interference in late December. This statement proved later to be false for it denied the Iranian interference exvocally.

3) WHO RUNS THE SULTANATE NEWSPAPER

Within the framework of supporting the Sultanate regime in Muscat absolutely, every foreign power in Oman has control over one magazine through:-

- 1) Presence of editors
- 2) Direct Bribes
- 3) Direction by foreign - country official and officers in Oman.

Here is analysis of the magazines:-

- 1) AL-AQIDAH - Pro-Jordanian - edited by Jordanian and Egyptian mercenaries of whom Nabil al-Jadair is one.
- 2) AL-NAHDAH - Pro-Saudi Arabian dedicating repeated essays for hailing Saudi Arabia. Chief Editor is Taleb al-Mawali and he is a British Intelligence agent. Director of editor - Ibrahim al-Weshi. Editors are mostly Jordanians of whom Husni Mahsoun is one.
- 3) AL-WATAN - Pro-British owned by al-Tai family very well-known for being British agents of whom (the late Abdullah al-Tai) who served in Abu Dhabi and as Minister of Labour Affairs in Muscat. Suleiman al-Tai is British agent too.
- 4) Oman is an official weekly published by the Ministry of Information.
There is Jordanian intelligence whose real task is intelligence using journalism as a cover. These include Mohammad N. Amirah, 2) Suleiman al-Qudah.
- 5) Jund-Oman - Published by Ministry of Defence (run completely by Iranian and British officers). The magazine is also run by Jordanian intelligence officers.
- 6) DHOFAR: published by drop-outs under the supervision of Jordanian intelligence officers. Published by Dhofar Information Office.

INFORMATION COMMITTEE, P.F.L.O.A.G.

ADEN OFFICE
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1975

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