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GOVERNMENT OF SHARJAH

AND ITS DEPENDENCIES

THE TRADE - AVIATION & MARINE DEPARTMENT

NEWS BULLETIN N. 4 - JULY 1970

SHARJAH: ITS FIVE GOLDEN YEARS

(By Khalid Bin Sultan Al-Qasimi, Director of Air & Sea Port Administration)

(From "Mirror of the month" - June 1970)

On the 24th of June, 1965 at precisely 10 a.m. Sharjah was reborn and the people of Sharjah awoke the morning to find that someone had come to save the country from careless ruling. They began greeting and congratulating each other over the unexpected change in the Town. Someone had taken over the Government.

Let me introduce him to you. He is HIS HIGHNESS SHAIKH KHALID BIN MOHAMMAD AL-QASIMI THE RULER OF SHARJAH, AND ITS DEPENDENCIES. This 39-year-old, charming, religious, and sincere man, placed his people and his country before himself. On the 24th June, 1965, he thought of the then prevalent state of affairs in Sharjah and accepted the call of this country, so he took over.

When he became the RULER, he found the country bankrupt. Sharjah had no electricity except for the palace. The water was supplied by motor tankers, just one single road was asphalted and there were no modern buildings—briefly there was absolutely nothing.

His young brain kept working day and night and meetings with the Directors of his Government never topped. He had to save his country and join the ranks of advanced countries in order to reap the benefits of the development. GOD ALMIGHTY was with him and there he started at the right point, determined to have the following projects completed in a short time.

1. Plan's for the Town,
2. Developing a road system.
3. Compensation to the people who lost their lands.
4. Increase in the supply of electricity.
5. Underground water pipes to reach every house in the Town.
6. Increase of the water supply.
7. Asphalt roads.
8. Modern street lightings.

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9. Building a deep water Jetty (specifications to follow).
10. Constructing a modern airport building.
11. Signing oil concessions both inland and offshore (This is one of the major sources of Government revenue.
12. An up to date hospital— with the latest electronic equipment.
13. Developing an efficient Municipality.
14. The police force started with a small number of men and is increasing daily, trained by a highly qualified expert, Major J. Burns and assisted by Major D. Turner. This Government Department is a part of its life, as there is no Government without security. The Police is strongly supported by His Highness.
15. Agriculture. Nearly one hundred square miles are under the plough. The Land is given free to those who want to start cultivation. Already Market Gardens have started producing fruit and vegetable. Apart from dates the following fruits are also produced; mangoes, lemons, limes, chicos, guavas, bananas, mulberries etc., etc.
16. Last but not least His Highness has signed an agreement to develop a sheltered harbour, which is being constructed adjacent to the town and is still in progress. The harbour will accomodate ships up to 3,000 tons and will have over 1,000 ft. of quay.

In 1969 when the Ruler signed the contract someone told him "the piling hammer will disturb your people by making a great noise". His Highness's reply was—"never will it disturb, this is the music of their future".

On the 8th of May, 1970, the Dredger started deepening the Harbour and ensuring a prosperous future of Sharjah.

There are many things which His Highness thinks are still to be done and only the future will tell *INSHA ALLAH*.

SHARJAH'S DEPENDENCIES

Sharjah extends from the Arabian Gulf as far as the Oman Gulf, the capital town being Sharjah. In the Eastern Province the capital is Kanba, the commercial capital is Khor-Fakkan.

The agricultural developments schemes are in full progress at Dhaid Oasis and Mulaha.

The following are the names of Sharjah's dependencies:

Kalba, Khor-Fakkan, Diba, Hemryah, Khan Layyah and Wadi Alhelu, the latter growing tobacco for export.

There are also two islands belonging to Sharjah in the Gulf, one of which Abu-Musa produces large quantities of red iron oxide, the other being Sir Abu-Nair, 30 miles from the oil wells of Abu Dhabi.

GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS

1. Municipality of Sharjah.
2. Petroleum & Mineral Affairs.
3. Air & Sea Ports Administration.
4. Education Department.
5. Police Force Department.
6. Labour & Social Affairs Department.
7. Post Office.
8. Electricity & Water Department.
9. Legal Courts.
10. Islamic Sharia Court.
11. Government Accounts Department.
12. Land Department.
13. Trade Aviation and Marine Department.

- Director of Municipality:
Sheikh Saud Bin Sultan Al-Qasimi.
- Director of Petroleum and Mineral Department:
Sheikh Mohamed Bin Sultan Al-Qasimi.
- Director of Air and Seaports Administration:
Sheikh Khalid Bin Sultan Al-Qasimi.
- Director of Education:
Mr. Abdullah Omran.
- Director of Islamic Sharia Court:
Sheikh Hamed Bin Majid Al-Qasimi.
- Director of Labour and Social Affairs:
Mr. Taryam Amran.
- Director of Post Office:
Mr. Saleh Ali Al-Mahmood.
- Commandant of Police Forces:
Major J. Burns.
- Director of Legal Courts:
Judge Yusri Al-Duwaik.
- Director of Water and Electricity Supply:
Mr. Mohamed Al-Shamsi.

AIR & SEA PORTS

Airport - Sharjah Airport is 38 years old. The run-way is 7,509 feet long and 100 feet wide. It is equipped with Radar and Radio guidance and is operational day and night. The building has a transit hall, tax-free shop, VIP room, departure hall, handling office, immigration office, health inspection office, police department and stores for transit goods. The Airport handles the aircraft within 35 minutes at the minimum.

It also has an Air Training School with qualified pilots, which issues a certificate approved by the Board of Trade in the U.K. This school has two brandnew single-engine Pipers and the delivery of four more is expected soon.

Sea Ports - a) Sharjah

The deep-water Jetty specifications are as follows:

1. Distance of the Pier (middle) from seashore (abutment) 2,000 ft.
2. Length of the Pier (platform) 270 ft.
3. Breadth of the Pier 104 ft.
4. Depth of Water L.T.L. 30 ft.
5. Depth of Water H.T.L. 34 ft.
6. Height of the Pier above sea bed 45 ft.

b) Khor-Fakkan

Khor-Fakkan has a large natural harbour which provides excellent shelter for shipping as it is protected on three sides by mountains. As Khor-Fakkan is the commercial centre for the coast of the Gulf of Oman, it has been provided with a small Jetty which can accommodate three to four thousand tons vessels. For larger ships goods can be off-loaded by barges between the ship and the Jetty.

SHARJAH

The work of the Municipality

Sharjah has changed so much during the course of the last two years that people re-visiting the town now have difficulty in recognising it as the same place; and just as the town has grown so have the responsibilities of management of the town, i.e. the Municipality which has also grown in consequence.

GULF NEWS

BRITISH MILITARY PRESENCE IN THE GULF DISCUSSED

The question of Britain's future military presence in the Gulf area, in the framework of a planned change of the British East-of-Suez policy as a result of the Tory victory at general elections of June 18, has created international discussion, and contradictory views have developed throughout.

The Conservative Government has not made final decision on the issue: Conservatives are committed in pre-election statements on defence policy to retention of British troops also in the Gulf region, thus reversing the Labour decision to withdraw in 1971; but the Foreign Secretary Sir Alec Douglas-Home said, after a meeting with the Shah of Iran on Gulf problems, that "months of quiet diplomacy" must pass before British policy in Gulf area is finally decided. Questioned in the House of Commons on July 20 on policy over certain issues including also the Britain's military intentions in the Gulf, Sir Alec made it clear that Government intentions in this area are "still to be formulated". Earlier, in a foreign policy debate in the Commons, he had stated that "we do not want to force our way in where we are not wanted; but, where we are wanted and our presence could contribute to political stability, there we ought to be".

In the meanwhile, Sir Alec has appointed Sir William Luce, who was Governor of Aden from 1956 to 1960 and British Political Resident in Bahrain from 1961 to 1966, as his special representative in the Gulf area with responsibility for co-ordinating British policy there. The appointment has been generally regarded as a move by Britain to establish a stable security system in the region: Sir William Luce will deal with particular issues in dispute, including Iranian claim to certain islands in the Gulf belonging to Trucial States, and a Saudi Arabian claim to the Buraimi oasis against Abu Dhabi and Muscat. He will also have to appraise on the spot the Government's intention to keep troops to preserve stability.

Commenting on the significance of this appointment, The Times of London said that it has been brought out by a special correspondence published by the newspaper on the rebellion in Dhofar which appears to be "a potential threat to the entire Arab world": "A thousand tribesmen defying the authority of the Sultan of Muscat in a remote and inaccessible part of his domains - The Times writes - may seem a small spark from which to ignite the whole Arabian area. Yet most of the area has only in comparatively recent years emerged from the oriental medievalism of which the regime of the deposed Sultan Said Bin Teymour, is simply the last example to be exposed to the light of day. The area is still one of grave social problems, complicated and exacerbated by local disputes. The conflict between the claims of Saudi Arabia, Abu Dhabi and Muscat to Buraimi oasis is only the most intractable of these problems.

Sir William Luce will have to appraise on the spot the Government's stated intention to keep a British presence in the area, meaning some ground troops, to preserve stability. What stability in such a region can mean is sufficiently attested in our correspondent's article. If the British presence is to have any purpose, it clearly would have to provide time and space for rather rapid change and reform. Whether it could have such benign effects is the question. The Labour Government decided on both economic and diplomatic grounds that the time had come to withdraw. There are now signs that more Conservatives are coming round to this view.

In a recent article in the Round Table Sir William Luce pursued a middle course. He would like to see Britain's interest in the area convincingly demonstrated by the visit of commando carriers and other naval units. He argued in favour of the federation of the small (in population, but not necessarily in area or wealth) shikhdoms whose traditional disputes must be ended, a possibility increased by the accession of a modernminded ruler, Sultan Qabas, in Muscat. It will be for Sir William, who is meeting the rulers who have lately visited Britain, to encourage this process. His first need (which may alter both his and the Government's present views) is to get at the facts.

To achieve a union of Arab emirates will not be easy. It certainly presupposes, for example, a change in the attitude of Saudi Arabia to Sharjah and Ras el Khaima, the trucial states, over certain islands in the Gulf. It also requires a new outlook by the rulers themselves: they must see that their own interests lie in enlightened common policies. They must understand the abiding danger of social unrest, of which South Yemen is a very present reminder. There is fertile soil for the activities of both China and Russia throughout the Gulf and British defence commitments or a "British presence" maintained just because of the importance of the oil, is not necessarily any defence at all against revolution.

Small states, or provinces (like Dhofar), which are half in the world of oil and great power conflict and half in the Middle Ages, are asking to be picked off. Sir William's mission is therefore urgent in an area where the transistor radio has been quickly changing men's age-old ideas".

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Views on the situation in Gulf have been exchanged between the Shah of Iran and the British Foreign Secretary during a meeting in Brussels on July 10. At the end of the session, Sir Alec told journalists: "The talks I have had with His Majesty were totally private. Their purpose was to help me consider the problems of the Gulf and the political stability in the area in which we, Iran, Saudi Arabia and the (Gulf) rulers are concerned". Sir Alec added that diplomatic talks were being held simultaneously with Saudi Arabia and the Gulf rulers.

The Conservative Government's views on the future of the Gulf area have also been among the subject

discussed by the British Foreign Secretary at a meeting on July 12 with the U.S. Secretary of State, Mr. William Rogers. It was understood that Mr. Rogers was anxious to hear the Government's views particularly on Britain's continued presence East-of Suez, as the American policy could eventually depend on British moves.

Iran's views of the problem were made clear by the Iranian Foreign Minister, Ardeshir Zahedi, in a statement released in Teheran on July 11, saying: "I reaffirm Iran's opposition to a British military presence in the Gulf after 1971. The views of Iran, Kuwait and Saudi Arabia are identical in this respect. All the states of the Gulf maintain the view that Gulf affairs must be handled by the countries of the region without outside interference."

On July 12, a statement was issued in Kuwait after a cabinet meeting "Kuwait - it said - is strongly opposed to the stay of British forces in the area, and insists on their withdrawal within the prescribed period. A definite decision to withdraw all land, sea and air forces by May 1971 had been conveyed to Kuwait by the previous British Government". Subsequently, on July 23, the Foreign Minister Shaikh Sabad al-Ahmad al-Jaber, confirmed that Kuwait opposes any continued British presence in the Gulf region. No Gulf Ruler, he said, wants British forces to stay after 1971. Shaikh Sabad called on the Rulers to settle their differences and concentrate their efforts on the early establishment of the proposed Gulf Federation.

Iran and Kuwait have also rejected an Iraqi proposal for an Arab defence alliance to replace the British presence in the Gulf. A spokesman for the Iranian Foreign Ministry said on July 24 that the proposal was 'Empty worded and baseless statements'. President Ahmed Hassan Bakr of Iraq in a speech on July 16, had proposed that a defensive alliance of Arab states of the Gulf and "independent Emirates" should be formed to replace the British forces in the region when they withdraw. Bakr called for the liquidation of "imperialist basis" in the Gulf area, and said that Iraq "absolutely rejected" the theory of a "vacuum" in the region, which was merely being used to replace British by other foreign influence: "The filling of this vacuum - he said and maintenance of calm and stability can be achieved only by the Arab inhabitants and through co-operation between the fraternal Arab states in the Gulf area".

Shaikh Rashid Bin Said Maktoum, Ruler of Dubai, on July 13 expressed support for a British presence in an interview released at The Times of London. Asked whether he wished British troops to stay, he replies "Who asked them to leave" "Abu Dhabi and Bahrain, and in fact the whole coast, people and rulers would support the retention of British forces in the Gulf, even though they may not give a direct answer out of respect for the general Arab view". Reporting this, The Times commented: "It appears that a number of the rulers have been pressing each other to take the initiative in opening consultations with London. Shaikh Rashid's influence the development of policy".

Meanwhile, the Ruler of Dubai was expected to arrive in London at the end of the month on a semi-official visit embracing discussion on Gulf affairs with Foreign Officials. Visits to London by other Gulf Rulers are also believed probable during August.

GULF FEDERATION DEVELOPMENTS

Dubai - The Federal Committee charged with drafting a constitution for the proposed Federation of Arab Emirates in the Gulf area, met in Dubai on June 28 to study a draft prepared by the Supreme Federal Council and consider a new one produced by Dr. Waheed Rafat, a legal expert from the United Arab Republic.

Meanwhile, leaders in the area continued to hold individual discussions on planned Federation.

Shaikh Hamid Bin Rashid Nuaimi, Heir to the Ruler of Ajman, and Shaikh Khalifa Bin Hamid al-Thahi, Deputy Ruler of Qatar, visited Kuwait respectively on June 28 and June 29/30. They had meetings with the Amir and talks with ministers on the Federation issue.

The subjects of the talks by Shaikh Hamid of Ajman were not made public, while Shaikh Khalifa of Qatar told reporters that Qatar regarded itself as an integral part of the projected Federation and would spare no effort to bring it into being. Shaikh Khalifa also paid tribute in a press statement to Kuwait's "impartial and sincere role" in aiding the formation of the Federation. He added that his visit to Kuwait had "strengthened relations and provided scope for their more fruitful co-operation in future".

Shaikh Saqr Bin Mohammed al-Qasimi, the Ruler of Ras al-Khaimah, who visited Baghdad from June 26 to 30, and was greeted by President Ahmad Hassan Bakr and had talks with Iraqi ministers on "maintaining the Arab character of the Gulf", told reporters that the proposed Federation "would ensure the security of the area" and that Ras al-Khaimah was "in constant touch with other Emirates to turn it into a reality".

Baghdad Radio said on June 28 that the Iraqi Ambassador to Kuwait, Midhat Ibrahim Juma, told the local press that Iraq was "ready to place all its resources at the disposal of the Gulf Federation when it is formed".

Shaikh Khalifa Bin Zayid, Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi, while in Tripoli to attend the celebrations marking the departure of the last foreign forces from Libya at the end of June, said in an interview he gave to the Lybian daily newspaper Al-Thawra, that Abu Dhabi was closely concerned with the establishment of the Federation, and had made, both financial and territorial sacrifices in order to support it. He said Abu Dhabi was providing more than 95 per cent of the Trucial States' Development Budget, because it believed that its wealth was dedicated to the Arab peoples of the Gulf and to Arab causes. The state was also granting scholarship for Gulf students to attend Arab and European universities. Shaikh Khalifa of Abu Dhabi also expressed confident hope that, by the end of this summer, the Federation will "emerge as a sovereign Arab country that can take its place in the Arab world and share the Arab nation's responsibilities and carry its message".

On July 31 the new Ruler of Muscat and Oman, Sultan Qabus bin Said, declared that he was willing to co-operate with other countries in the Gulf in realizing the proposed Federation of Gulf Emirates. The new Ruler also emphasized to be in favour of close relations with his neighbours.

QABUS BIN SAID NEW RULER OF MUSCAT AND OMAN

Muscat - Sultan Qabus Bin Said, 28, announced on July 26 that he has taken control of the Sultanate of Muscat and Oman because of "inability" of his father to use the wealth of the country for the needs of its people.

Sultan Qabus said in a statement: "I have watched with growing dismay and increasing anger the inability of my father to use the new-found wealth of this country for the needs of its people. That is why I have taken control". He also promised to set up quickly as possible a "modern and forceful" government with the firm aim of "removing restrictions under which the people had suffered and to produce a happier and more secure future".

(A British Foreign Office spokesman said in London on July 26 that according to reports from the Gulf the Sultan Said bin Taimur, father of Qabus, had abdicated in favour of his son and had asked to come to London. Said bin Taimur, 60, arrived in London on July 26 and received medical treatment, having been wounded, apparently not seriously, in an incident on July 23 at Salalah).

(The London press generally hailed at deposition of "feudalist" Sultan Said Bin Taimur by his Oxford-educated son. The Times said that Said Bin Taimur was "the last really medieval ruler in the Persian Gulf" while "his stubborn determination to keep his state isolated from the rest of the world and almost wholly underdeveloped in spite of oil revenues of about Lst. 35m. a year had steadily increased unrest in the area". Same newspaper said that behaviour of Said Bin Taimur was "a cause of near despair to several of the British advisers who surrounded him", and added that "a modern-minded government in Muscat would do much to further the British attempt, which has made little progress so far, to establish a federation on the shaikhdoms in the Gulf". The Times also stated that "it is clear that the change of regime gives hope of more stable conditions in the Gulf after the British withdrawal at the end of 1971", because "it is likely that Sultan Qabus, unlike his father, will be willing to join in regional arrangements to bolster security in the Gulf").

Formal recognition of the new Sultan of Muscat and Oman has been announced by Britain on July 29.

Meanwhile, the National Democratic Front for the liberation of Oman and the Gulf said on July 29 in Beirut that the abdication of Sultan Said bin Taimour in favour of his son, Qabus, was "playing, planned and performed by British imperialism for maintaining her hold" on the Gulf State.

(Formation of this Front was announced in Beirut on June 28, as an amalgamation of four movements - the Popular Revolutionary Movement in Oman and the Arabian Gulf, the Revolutionary Vanguard Students of Oman and the Arabian Gulf, the Organisation of Nationalist Soldiers in Oman, and a Front made up of tribal formations in Oman.

A statement issued to the press said that aims of the new Front are "to establish revolutionary and progressive conditions" in the region, "change the historic course of events" there, and "mark the beginning of the end for imperialism and its agents". The new Front expressed "absolute support" for the "Dhofar revolution led by the Popular Front for the Liberation of the Occupied Arabian Gulf").

(The new-found wealth of Muscat and Oman referred in the statement issue, by the new Ruler, includes oil production from a concession held by Petroleum Development (Oman), currently averaging 360,000 barrels a day from the Fahud, Natih and Yibal fields. Petroleum Development (Oman) is owned 85 per cent by Royal Dutch Shell, 10 per cent by Compagnie Francaise des Pétroles and 5 per cent by Partex (Gulbenkian interests). The offshore concession — in which Shell and CPF have respectively 20 and 12.5 per cent interests — has so far failed to realise oil).

On July 30, it was reported from Salalah that a provisional government council has been formed under the chairmanship of Sheikh Bareik Bin Hamud. It was also announced that Sultan Qabus has freed 19 prisoners and declared the amnesty for all Dhofari members of the newly-formed People's Front for Liberation of Oman and the Gulf. All those who accepted the amnesty would be treated with kindness and understanding.

BOMB ATTEMPT IN SHARJAH

Sharjah — Part of a reception room in the palace of the Ruler of Sharjah was wrecked when a time-bomb exploded on 17 July near a chair reserved for the Ruler.

The Ruler was not in the room at the time. Apart from two servants who were slightly wounded by flying glass, nobody was injured.

An official statement said that the room was used to receive leading Sharjah personalities and that the explosion was timed "to kill as many of them as possible".

THE RULER'S REPRESENTATIVES OF HEAD OFFICE AND AGENCIES IN THE WORLD OF THE TRADE-AVIATION & MARINE DEPARTMENT OF THE STATE OF SHARJAH JOIN TO EXPRESS THEIR GREATEST SATISFACTION THAT THE COWARDLY ATTEMPT IN THE PALACE OF THE SINCERE RULER OF SHARJAH, HIS HIGHNESS ALSHAIKH KHALID BIN MOHAMMED AL-QASIMI, HAS MISSED THE MARK.

THEY ALSO WISH TO OFFER HEARTIEST FELICITATIONS TO THE RULER FOR THE AVOIDED DANGER AND TO WISH HIS HIGHNESS A LONG LIFE AND PROSPERITY TO BRING SHARJAH AND ITS PEOPLE MORE PROGRESS UNDER HIS LEADERSHIP.

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GULF OIL EXPLORATION OUTLOOKS

The Middle East Economic Digest (July 17, 1970) writes on Gulf oil exploration: "The Gulf States continue to increase in importance as a focus of attention for new petroleum exploration operations. Much of the present activity, which largely involves companies which were awarded concessions within the last two years, is already producing promising results, and the number of new areas awarded so far this year is a clear indication of the international oil industry's mounting interest in the area.

Abu Dhabi, the richest in oil of all the Gulf Emirates, is predictably at the centre of recent developments. The Middle East Oil Company (Japan), which added three onshore concessions in February to the 6,500 square kilometres obtained in May 1968, recently began drilling in the first of its new blocks. An ultimate depth of 11,000 feet is planned for the first well and it was reported in early June that 7,600 feet had been reached. Two other wells are planned as part of the current programme.

Japan's Abu Dhabi Oil Company, another of the state's newer concessionaires — it was formed early in 1968 — has now completed three wells, and testing is believed to have produced some 5,000 b/d. Plans have been formulated for a fourth proving well and offshore production facilities.

Phillips, who struck oil onshore in Abu Dhabi last October and tested the well at a maximum flow of 880 b/d. have otherwise drilled three dry holes, but began a new drilling programme this month.

Meanwhile, the longer-established Abu Dhabi companies continue to make significant progress. The Abu Dhabi Petroleum Company (ADPC) continue to drill close to Saudi territory and plans are going ahead for new onshore production, pumping and loading facilities. It has also been reported that ADPC intend to resume drilling offshore. Abu Dhabi Marine Areas are concentrating their efforts on the production of liquid natural gas for sale to Japan, but some drilling is being carried out.

In Dubai, 12 of the scheduled 24 wells have been completed by the Dubai Petroleum Company, using its four six-well platforms. A total of 12 such platforms is projected. Occidental hopes to start its Dubai drilling programme this month.

In Ras al-Khaimah, Union Oil recently began drilling a 17,000 foot exploratory hole, and in Sharjah's onshore survey is nearing completion, with drilling due to start in January 1971.

The offshore situation in Sharjah and Umm al-Qaiwain has been complicated by their territorial waters dispute; but whatever settlement is reached, it is clear that both the companies involved, Butters and Occidental regard the Abu Musa area as extremely promising and that a major drilling programme will be undertaken as quickly as possible.

In Qatar, QPC has completed three of the four wells in its current programme and it is expected that further exploratory drilling will continue throughout 1970. Japan's Qatar Oil Company intends to start a new offshore drilling programme in October, and Shell plans to extend its present Qatar offshore drilling programme over the next two years in the hope of doubling its production. The exploration plans of the state's newest operating company, South-East Asia Oil and Gas, which won its concession in March, are in the formative stages.

The Bahrain Petroleum Company is engaged in seismic work and expects to launch a new drilling programme next year.

The level of activity in the area serves as a reminder that an effective Gulf Federation would be a very considerable economic force. The states involved are already producing oil at the rate of some 60 million tons a year, and the untapped potential is clearly enormous".

ABU DHABI OIL REFINERY PLANNED

Abu Dhabi - Mr. Mane Oteiba, vice president of Dept. of Petroleum and Industrial Affairs, said on July 27 that date for construction of a 10,000 b/d refinery in Abu Dhabi to meet domestic demand, has not yet been disclosed, but that tenders will be received immediately.

PETROLEUM PRODUCTS AGREEMENT SIGNED IN ABU DHABI

Abu Dhabi - Shaikh Zayid Bin Sultan Nuhayan, Ruler of Abu Dhabi, and Mr. H.V. Bernard, general manager of Caltex (Al Khalij) Co. have signed a 10-year contract for the marketing of Caltex refined petroleum products in the Gulf area.

ABU DHABI OIL OUTPUT

Abu Dhabi - The Abu Dhabi Petroleum Company produced 1,683,000 long tons of crude oil in June, bringing its total output for the first six months of 1970 to 9,062,000 long tons. This showed an increase of 502,000 long tons on the total of 8,560,000 long tons produced in the corresponding months last year. June production by Abu Dhabi Marine Areas totalled 791,726 long tons (6,115,394 barrels).

JAPANESE OIL DRILLING IN ABU DHABI OFFSHORE

Abu Dhabi - Japan's Abu Dhabi Oil's third offshore well was tested at rate of 4,000 barrels per day of crude of 35 gravity and sulphur content of less than one per cent. The company said that it is drilling a fourth exploratory well at concession to depth of about 3,700 meters. First and second tests wells indicated yield of 3,000 barrels per day each. At first well, sulphur content was estimated at 1.2 per cent, while content at second well was figured at 0.7 per cent. Commercial production is expected to start by end of 1972.

TURBINE OPERATIONAL IN ABU DHABI

Abu Dhabi - The first gas turbine installed in Abu Dhabi's new power station is now operational and functioning successfully. It is one of five ordered from the British John Brown organisation at a total cost of some Lst. 4 million.

ABU DHABI PORT DEVELOPMENT

Abu Dhabi — A Dutch consortium, including Lanen Vestoerp and Van Hatten, is to begin work on dredging a navigation channel, basin and deep wharves for the Abu Dhabi harbour under a 5 million dinar project signed with the Ruler.

The contract forms part of the second stage of Abu Dhabi harbour development, which includes the construction of 1,25 miles of breakwater (let to the German contractors Helde and Franke), and the construction of wharfs and associated buildings (which should go out to tender by August).

TENDERS FOR ABU DHABI ROAD

Abu Dhabi — Tenders have been invited for construction of a 80-mile road to Dubai to replace the old Subkha track in use at present. Designed by the Italian consultants SAUTI, the road will link Abu Dhabi with the Trucial Coast network and form a part of an overall road development scheme in the area which will include the construction of a 261-mile road to Qatar to link up with a Trans-Arabia network later next year.

NEW TRANSIT BUILDINGS PLANNED AT PORT RASHID

Dubai — 80,400 feet of steel purlins will be supplied to Dubai by the British company Metal Sections of Birmingham.

The steel purlins will be used in the construction of new transit buildings at Port Rashid.

JET TRIALS IN DUBAI

Dubai — Dubai has been chosen as the base for tropical trials of a new version of the Hawker Siddeley Trident jet airliner. The reason of the choice was that temperatures of more than 37 degrees are commonplace in the Dubai area.

BRITISH TRADE PROMOTION IN THE GULF

London — From February to October of next year, Britain plans to stage its first major trade promotion in the Gulf States, including specialised exhibitions, "joint ventures" and inward and outward missions, and with a "British Shopping Week" in October to promote consumer goods from Britain in some 500 Western-style shops in Kuwait, Ahmadi and Fahaheel.

The series of trade promotions will be centred on Kuwait, but it is expected to attract visitors from all the other Gulf States and possibly to stage events also in other towns, including Bahrain.

The drive will be organised by the British Board of Trade and the British National Export Council's Committee for Middle East Trade (COMET) in association with the British Embassy in Kuwait and with the co-operation of BOAC.

Already under discussion are visits to Kuwait by parties from the Leicester, Dundee and Merseyside Chambers of Commerce, and exhibitions of building materials, hospital and medical equipment, clothing and aerospace requirements.

During the Shopping Week, a British fashion show will be staged in one of Kuwait's leading hotels and there are plans for a British-designed prefabricated house to be completely fitted and furnished by British companies. A steering committee has been established in London under the chairmanship of Mr. Kenneth Dick, chairman of COMET, and the staff of the Embassy is being reinforced by the Board of Trade.

ABU DHABI PORT DEVELOPMENT

Abu Dhabi - A Doha consortium, including James Watson and Van Hatten, is to begin work on dredging a navigation channel, basin and deep waters for the Abu Dhabi harbor within 2 million tons of material to be dredged. The contract forms part of the second stage of Abu Dhabi harbor development, which includes the construction of 1.25 miles of breakwater (as to the German contractors Hochtief and Hochtief) and the construction of about 100,000 sq meters of buildings (which should go out to tender by August).

ROADS FOR ABU DHABI

Abu Dhabi - Roads have been invited for construction of a 60 mile road to Doha to be built on the old Habbaniya route in use at present. Designed by the Jordanian consultants SAUDI, the road will link Abu Dhabi with the Tawdhi Coast network and form a part of an overall road development scheme in the area which will include the construction of a 261 mile road to Qatar to link up with a Tawdhi-Azalia network later next year.

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Doha - Dubai has been chosen as the base for tropical trials of a new series of the Hawker Siddeley Trident jet airliner. The reason of the choice was that temperatures of more than 35 degrees are commonplace in the Dubai area.

BRITISH TRADE PROMOTION IN THE GULF

London - From February to October of next year, British plans to stage its first major trade promotion in the Gulf States, including specialized exhibitions, "joint ventures", and inward and outward tours, and with "British Shipping Week" in October to promote container goods from Britain in some 200 West coast ports in Kuwait, Bahrain and Qatar. The series of trade promotions will be centered in Kuwait, but it is expected to attract visitors from all the other Gulf States and possibly to stage events also in other towns, including Bahrain. The drive will be organized by the British Board of Trade and the British National Export Council's Committee for Middle East Trade (COMET) in association with the British Embassy in Kuwait and with the co-operation of BOAC. Already under discussion are visits to Kuwait by parties from the Federation, Chambers and the Royal Chamber of Commerce, and exhibitions of building materials, hospital and medical equipment, clothing and electronic requirements. During the Shipping Week, a British fashion show will be staged in one of Kuwait's leading hotels and there are plans for a British designed prefabricated house to be completely fitted and installed by British companies. A meeting committee has been established in London under the chairmanship of Mr. Kenneth Park, Chairman of COMET, and the staff of the Embassy is being recruited by the Board of Trade.