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MILITARY REPORT

- * AIRLIFTED ENEMY FORCES TRY TO RANSACK SOME POSITIONS IN EASTERN REGION AND OUR REVOLUTIONARIES CONFRONT THEM AND FORCE THEM RETREAT.
- * DEATH OF HIGH-RANKING BRITISH OFFICER IN FIERCE BATTLE IN HALLOOT HIG LANDS NORTH OF AIR BASE. FLAGS FLOWN AT HALF MAST IN SALLALAH FOR HIM.
- * OTHER ATTACKS ON ADNI CENTRE AND NORTH SARFENT.
- * ENEMY TURNS TO CITIZENS TO RETALIATE FROM THEM AS USUAL AND KILLS CHILDREN, EXTERMINATES CATTLES BURNS GRAZING LANDS AND LOOTS PROPERTIES OF CITIZENS AS PART OF DEMOCRACY OF QABOOS AND HIS BRITISH MASTERS.
- * MARTYRDOM OF PATRIOT COMRADE AHMED ALI KAHROOS.

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POLITICAL COMMENTARY

NEW STEP FOR UNITING THE IMPERIALIST-REACTIONARY FRONT

MILITARY REPORT

FROM MILITARY COMMUNIQUE NO. 234-244/73

ISSUED BY THE FORCES OF THE PEOPLE'S LIBERATION ARMY DHOFAR REGION

The forces of the People's Liberation Army and the People's Militia in the Eastern Region of the Southern region (Dhofar) confronted several attempts made by the colonialist and reactionary enemy forces airlifted from their coastal defensive centres - and advancing from centres in the East - to ransack some positions and torture peaceful citizens. Our forces waged with them fierce battles in which the enemy used all weapons including fighter planes and heavy artillery. But our patriotic revolutionaries forced the enemy forces retreat to their positions after sustaining heavy losses in life and equipment. Later the enemy turned to the unarmed citizens to pour his anger on them killing the children and women and exterminating cattles and herding places. In the north of the British air base in Sallalah our forces launched repeated attacks on the centres of Admi and Hasl where they waged hot battles with the colonialist and reactionary forces in the highlands of Haloot in the north of the base and force the enemy forces retreat back to their positions. In the north of Sarfeet our fighters continued their customary attacks on the enemy positions in North Sarfeet. The following is a comprehensive report on these operations:-

EASTERN REGION:

On 18th April the enemy launched an extensive campaign in the Eastern Region through forces airlifted from their defensive positions at the coastal plain and Asharkh centre, aiming at terrorising the citizens and torturing them. Under cover of fighter planes and heavy artillery, the enemy forces advanced to the verges of Geizar, Ashoor and Kizzit. The forces of the People's Liberation Army and People's Militia were setting up ambushes for the enemy advancing forces and before noon on the same day fierce battles started between our forces and the enemy forces which continued until 7.30 in the evening. During these battles the enemy used all forces and weapons. Under cover of air bombing, helicopters were seen removing the dead and injured. The enemy admitted the death and injury of seven of his members in these battles.

After that the enemy forces were forced to withdraw to their positions at Asharkh. In the course of that and as it is the custom of the enemy when his forces sustain failure and receive setbacks, the enemy resorted to the unarmed citizens to retaliate from them. The mercenaries and puppets opened their fire on the unarmed citizens causing the death of a child and the injury of a woman and two other children. British planes also hurled bombs on the cottages and caves of the citizens and their grazing places resulting in the burning of wide areas of grazing places and the extermination of a number of cattles of the citizens. In addition to this the mercenaries loot the cattles of the citizens to slay them in their centres as part of the policy of Qaboos and the British to expand the circle of their repressive acts against the unarmed citizens.

On 22nd April and after the failure of the enemy in his above-mentioned campaign, his forces moved to the area of Aqsayer Adin, east of his centre at Asharkh and distributed his forces in several directions.

In the morning of the sameday our revolutionaries clashed with the enemy from the direction of the south and north and our patriots marched to encircle the enemy forces which sought the help of the fighter planes but without realising any target since our forces were in a head-on clash with the enemy forces. During that helicopters were seen removing the leaders of the battle from the battleground fearing that our forces might march. After fierce battles the remnants of the mercenaries and puppets escaped shattered to their positions at Asharkh leaving behind them their military equipment and food provisions and some military clothes smeared with blood. Our patriotic forces continued to chase the remnants of the mercenaries from position to another until 1.00 in the afternoon.

During this battle the enemy lost twelve members between killed and wounded. The puppet authority radio station in Sallalah admitted the death of two local puppets in these battles. One of these is called Mohammad Saleem Shalbloot. From our side there were no casualties.

On 23rd April the enemy forces infiltrated from their centres at Asharkh into the Laiham highlands. At nine in the morning of the same day one of our patrols clashed with the enemy forces for two hours during which the enemy was forced to retreat to his position carrying with him the dead and injured. The following day the enemy combed with his heavy artillery from his centre at Asharkh inhabited places resulting in the extermination of a group of cattles of the citizens and the burning of their grazing places.

CENTRAL REGION:

In the night of 29th April, the enemy advanced from his centre at Admi to the Haloot highlands north of the British base at Sallalah. At 8.30 in the following morning the forces of the People's Liberation Army clashed with the enemy forces from very close distances. Our patriots controlled the battle scene and the enemy forces withdrew back under the cover of air bombing and shelling by heavy artillery while our patriots were chasing them to their centre at Admi. Enemy losses were seven members between killed and wounded including a British officer with a high rank for whom flags were flown at half mast in Sallalah. Our losses included the martyrdom of patriot Comrade Ahmed Mahroos and the injury of another.

On 3 and 4th May our forces attacked the enemy centre at Admi. The sniping group also carried out several sniping operations against this centre during which the enemy sustained several losses in life and installations.

WESTERN REGION: From 28th to 30th April our revolutionaries launched four successful attacks by using mortars, rockets and machine-guns resulting in the destruction of a number of enemy defensive positions and the injury of some of his members. On 4th May a group of our revolutionaries attacked the same position by artillery from several directions following which two positions of the enemy were destroyed. During these attacks the enemy was seeking the help of his fighter planes but without realising any target.

TOTAL ENEMY LOSSES DURING THESE BATTLES AND ATTACKS WERE AS FOLLOWS:

1) Death and injury of 29 enemy members including a British officer with a high rank for whom the flags were flown at half mast in Sallalah and three local puppets. The puppet radio station admitted these in addition to seven others; 2) Destruction of six positions and a machine-guns post with its crew.

Our losses included the martyrdom of Patriot Comrade Ahmed Mahroos and the injury of another comrade, and the death of a child and injury of a woman and two children with the bullets of the mercenaries and puppets in addition to the burning of wide areas of herding places and extermination of their cattles.

ARABIAN GULF:

EXCHANGED VISITS BETWEEN REACTIONARY FORCES IN AREA

Puppet Khalifa bin Hamed al-Thani, Ruler of Qatar is visiting officially the Saudi Arabian Kingdom at a time in which the Crown Prince of Bahrain and its Defence Minister Hamed bin Issa visits Iran. However, Zaid bin Sultan Ruler of the so-called Federation of Arab Emirates, is in turn visiting the Sultanate of Oman during which he held a press conference in which he called for the improvement of the relations of the islands with their Muslim neighbour Iran.

It will be noticed that the area of Oman and the Arabian Gulf witnessed during the recent period a series of exchanged visits between the local reactionary summits and their puppets. These visits come as part of the imperialist-reactionary plan aiming at narrowing or freezing the contradictions within the camp of counter-revolution in order to make it unite its efforts and coordinate its activities against the nationalist and democratic forces in the area.

ARABIAN GULF:

SHAH IRAN DISPLAYS HIS MUSCLES IN GULF

News agencies and world radios repeated news on the visit made by the puppet Shah of Iran to the Omani island of Abou Moussa which is situated in Hormez Strait and which was occupied by the forces of the puppet Shah along with the islands of Major and Minor Tomb on 30th November, 1971 in collusion with the local reactions and the Saudi reaction backed and supported by American imperialism and British colonialism.

During this visit the puppet Shah inspected the Iranian military installations on this island and also witnessed the military manoeuvre in which the Iranian fleet stationed in the Arabian Gulf took part in addition to the Iranian force on the island.

This visit and military manoeuvre which took place during the visit came as an operation to display the force of Iran in the area and to endorse the occupation and determination to continue such occupation. This operation also finds every support and backing from the tribal regimes in the area and indirect backing from the other Arab reactionary regimes as a result of the silence over the total reactionary and Iranian plans, in addition to the backing and increasing support from American imperialism and its adapt Saudi reaction. Our people are not frightened by such display of force and will not be apprehended from liberating and uniting their homeland.

BELGIUM:

REPRESENTATIVE OF PELOAG SHARES IN MAY DAY CELEBRATIONS
IN BELGIUM

On the 1st of May, the Arab workers branch in Belgium in the National Committee for the Support of the Palestinian Revolution in Belgium organised a special ceremony to mark Workers Day. The representative of the People's Front for the Liberation of Oman and the Arabian Gulf shared in that ceremony by delivering a speech to the workers and Arab students and the Belgians who attended the ceremony.

In the speech he dealt with the imperialist-reactionary attack witnessed by the area of Oman and the Arabian Gulf and the extension and size and aims of that attack and to how far it is linked with the imperialist-reactionary attack witnessed by the Arab arena and in particular the Palestinian revolution.

He then turned to speak about the reply of the revolution to that imperialist-reactionary plan. Here he stressed upon the necessity of national unity in the area and the necessity of coordination between the Arab and Iranian national democratic forces. He also dealt with the dialectical and objective link between the revolution in Oman and the Arabian Gulf and the Arab revolution and in particular the Palestinian revolution. He ended his speech by talking about the accomplishments realised by the revolution in the liberated territories.

However, the Committee in Support of the Palestine Revolution in Belgium issued a press statement on this occasion which reads:-

"On 1st May, the Arab workers branch in the Committee in Support of the Palestine Revolution in Belgium organised a special ceremony to mark 1st May. The aim behind the ceremony is to back up the just struggle waged by the Arab peoples against colonialism, Zionism and reaction. The ceremony was attended by nearly 400 persons most of whom were Arab workers who brought with them their children to see the special programmes prepared for them. Those attending also included some Arab students and some Belgians who were in sympathy with the struggle of the Arab peoples.

The ceremony covered the following:-

1) Speeches delivered by some militants affiliated to some national liberation movements and Arab political organisations: Morocco, Tunis, the representative of P.F.L.O.A.G. This is in addition to the speech delivered by the General Union of Palestine Students, Belgium branch.

2) Messages received by the committee from the committee of Palestine, Yemen, the Arabian Gulf in France, the Popular Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine, and from the General Union of Palestinian Workers were read. These messages totally expressed the wishes of those free organisations of Arab workers in Belgium.

3) Display of films depicting some aspects of the struggle of the Arab peoples: We are in Good form, Report from Gaza and the Battle of Algeria.

4) A photographic exhibition showing the struggle of peoples: Palestine, Oman, the Arabian Gulf and Morocco.

5) Display of films speaking about the life of children in Vietnam and China.

It is worth recalling that this is the first time in which the Arab workers organise such a kind of ceremony.

BAHRAIN: ARREST OF MEMBERS OF BOARD OF MANAGEMENT OF BRANCH OF NATIONAL UNION OF BAHRINI STUDENTS IN BEIRUT

The (colonialist) Bahraini authorities arrested members of the Board of Management of the branch of the National Union of Bahraini Students in Beirut. These students went to Bahrain carrying an application of protest against the colonialist authorities for arresting nationalist students in Bahrain. These students were taken to prisons which were full of honest nationalist elements.

The reactionary authority in Bahrain proves daily the extent of its belief in democracy called by it. But our masses cannot be deceived any more and started to realise that the existing democracy is the democracy of the regime which permits it to arrest and torture nationalists.

MUSCAT:

ARREST OF WOMEN IN OMAN

The colonialist authorities in Muscat arrested one of the pregnant citizens (female) who was in the last month of her pregnancy. When she felt the time has come for delivery and felt the pains of delivery while in prison she was taken by the police to the hospital where she delivered her new child and was taken back along with her new child to the prison.

The colonialist authorities and its puppet Qaboos are continuing their roughness and rudeness and challenge against the will of our people. Such criminal act committed by the reactionary and colonialist authorities in Muscat in addition to the disguise of the feelings and dignity of the masses of our people, is regarded to express the type of those who committed it.

SALLALAH:

INDIGNATION REIGNS OVER ELEMENTS WHO ABANDONED REVOLUTION

Reports coming from Sallalah say that great indignation reign over the circles of the elements which abandoned the revolution and joined the side of the puppet authority in Muscat, following the decision of the British commander of the so-called armed forces of the Sultan, to dissolve the "national divisions" and merge with the mercenary army.

These elements discovered that they were a mere game and a tool in the hands of Qaboos and his masters of British, Jordanian and now Iranian officers for implementing their phasical tactics against the revolution. When these tactics failed these elements were blamed for the failure and in the light of this the dissolution decision was taken. The majority of these elements refused to join the ranks of the mercenary army and started to fetch for work in order to live. But they did not find such work, a matter which led to indignation from such a situation. The so-called "national divisions" were formed of elements which abandoned the ranks of the revolution during the past three years in a bid by the colonialist authorities to

The so-called "national divisions" were set up of elements which abandoned the ranks of the revolution during the past three years in abid by the colonialist authorities to break a clash between the people themselves and in other words to regionalise the war and make the revolution appear as if a mere rebellion staged by communist and atheist elements to liquify the characters of the society and that these national divisions are only defending these characters. But in view of the co-existence of these elements with the situation prevailing in the country and the erroneous practices exercised against them, and as a result of the fact that these elements were brought up within the framework of the revolution and were accustomed to receive treatment different th that prevailing in these divisions and the mercenary army and because that they were not accustomed to receive insults indignation reigned over their circles since the day these divisions were formed. Such indignation resulted in the arrest of tens of these elements some of whome are still in prison today.

MUSCAT:

THREATS TO OMANI CITIZENS RESIDING IN ARABIAN GULF AMIRATES

The colonialist authorities in Muscat started to follow new methods in order to make Omani citizens living in the Gulf Emirates return back to their homeland. The authority gave the option to these citizens of "either returning to their country or their refusal to do so will mean their hostility to the government and support for the People's Front." Therefore, anyone not returning will be forced to return and will be kept in prison as it happened and happens to Omani citizens residing in Abu Dhabi where the authority in Muscat arrests any Omani residing there in whom the smell of opposition is smelt - without the authority in Abu Dhabi making any move on the consideration that such act is regarded as violation of the sovereignty of this ruler and these Emirates. Instead of that the authorities in Abu Dhabi arrest on many occasions Omani citizens and hand them over to the puppet authority in Muscat.

Since these citizens came to these areas in search for the living for them and their families and since jobs in Qaboos Sultanate do not exist, they started to suffer from two things as one one hand they cannot leave their jobs because that might lead to loosing their living source and on the other hand they are threatened of arrest and prison by the authority in Muscat. But some of the citizens returned and their fate was to squander between departments and ministries in search for work but in vain.

MUSCAT:

TENSIONS REIGNS OVER AREAS OF INNER OMAN

Reports from Oman said that great tension now reigns over the area as a result of the continuation by the colonialist authorities in Muscat to arrest women, men of religion and tribal sheikhs as part of a campaign which started in November, 1972 and still continuing.

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POLITICAL COMMENTARY

NEW STEP FOR UNITING THE IMPERIALIST-REACTIONARY FRONT

During the recent period the arena of the Arabian Peninsula and Gulf witnessed a series of exchanged visits between the forces of reaction and local puppets. Although these moves came as part of the Anglo-American general imperialist plan and its comprehensive strategy which aim at safeguarding the vast interests of those forces in this year, yet they take the form of privacy and aim at realising some phsical objectives. They in fact clearly reflect the situations and conditions lived by those forces as on one hand we see quick and hurried steps made for narrowing or freezing contradictions within the camp of counter-reaction while on the other they show even in a dim manner the contradictions over-ruling that front.

These visits came following the utter failure sustained by the reactionary front in the military attack launched on the liberated territories of "Dhofar Region" in which official military forces from Iran and Jordan took part in addition to the military forces of the Sultanate. Emanating from this, the task of these distorted meetings is to re-divide the roles and re-arrange the military conditions and repressive methods in the light of the existing situation. Moreover they came during and following the convention of the American diplomats conference in the Middle East which was attended by numerous important personalities in the American intelligence and State Department of the United States of America.

Most important than that is the spread of the nationaldemocratic movement which started to ransack the area and pose danger not only to the economic situation but also to the military and political situations which protect such conditions. From here, coordination in the repressive machineries when carrying out the recent arrest campaign which covered the area, was one of the steps which those forces felt necessary more than any time before.

These moves were one of the executive steps for the huge imperialist-reactionary plan surrounding the area. For America and Britain our arena does not constitute one of their important military stanchens only but also constitutes the last shelter that may rescue them from the ghost of the power surrounding them. As such they are obliged to throw their military political weight in order to safeguard the basic source of this power. The smell of a huge imperialised plan weaved against the peoples of this area began to enter the nose and it became clear that we are going to face a critical and delicate stage in the history of our combative life, a stage designed by fierceness not at military level only but also in the political field. What must be realised by us in this plan is the absence of contradiction between the reactionary forces at the nationa level and the level from which the nationalist or democractic forces cannot benefit.

The recent arrest campaign which ransacked the area and the methods of interrogation used with the detainees came to confirm anew the depth of the Omani-Iranian, Saudi, and Jordanian alliance.

But in this connection we must say that this unholy alliance has its body snatched by contradictions springing mainly not from the national status but from the sphere of interest and the search for bigger economic and military positions. For instance we find that the Federation of Arab Emirates, which ought to be Arab, in view of its link of interest with Iran and contradiction with Saudi Arabia, turns to the first to form a zone against the second.

This move and reactionary collusion calls upon the Arab and Iranian national forces to intensify their blows against their enemies and also to find out a formula for work and coordination in order to direct a united blow against the common enemy. The present and forthcoming confrontation calls for the unity of the efforts of these forces for creating deep cohesion and for spoiling the chance in front of the enemy not to use one of them as a first step to liquidate the other.

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TENSION REIGNS - Cont'd from page 6

Coming reports also say that the authority intends to forward some of these elements to military trial, crowning by this the series of crimes committed by the reactionary authorities in Muscat and adding to their black record another record in the violation of human rights as the elements which will be forwarded to military trial are civilian elements.

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