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General People's Congress Meeting Begins 25 Feb
 LD251019 Tripoli JANA in English 0948 GMT 25 Feb 86

[Text] Tripoli, Jumada Thani 15, Feb 2, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The General People's Congress has started this morning holding its sessions of its eleventh meeting in Qar Yunis University in the city of Bayan al-Awal (Banghazi). These sessions have come to formulate the resolutions passed by the basic people's congresses in their third regular meeting last year.

Al-Qadhdhafi Inspects Combat-Ready SAM Missile Sites
 LD251134 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1120 GMT 25 Feb 86

[Text] Tripoli, 25 Feb (JANA) — The brother leader of the revolution, the supreme commander of the Libyan Arab Armed Forces, yesterday inspected some SAM-5 missile batteries which are now ready for combat. The range of these missiles is more than 200 km which covers the whole region of the Gulf of Sidra.

Al-Qadhdhafi on Gulf War, U.S. Israel, Egypt
 NC241430 Beirut AL-SAFIR in Arabic 22 Feb 86
 pp 1, 9

[Interview with Libya's Colonel Mu'ammur al-Qadhdhafi by unidentified correspondent of the Lebanese *AL-KIFAH AL-ARABI* magazine; date and place not given]

[Text] Colonel Mu'ammur al-Qadhdhafi has stated that the recent escalation in the Gulf war has come about in response to the Saudi oil position, which has harmed the interests of Libya, Algeria, and Iran. Saudi Arabia has aligned itself with those states which have not adhered to their production quotas as laid down by OPEC. Al-Qadhdhafi warned that this war will extend to the Gulf states unless the rate of oil production and oil prices are corrected.

In an interview to be published today in the magazine *AL-KIFAH AL-ARABI*, Al-Qadhdhafi said that "there is no use in holding any dialogue with the United States." While expecting a resumption of the fighting in South Yemen, he said that the new forces in Aden are "unknown to us." He noted that Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad will visit the Libyan Jamahiriyyah shortly to amend the Confederation of Arab Republics, which comprises Libya, Syria, and Egypt, and make it more effective.

Question: How do you think the U.S.-Libyan conflict will end?
Al-Qadhdhafi: I do not envisage an end to this conflict as long as there is a U.S. imperialist policy that desires to control the world and bring all areas under its influence. Essentially, the conflict is not one between Libya and the United States or between the U.S. President and so and so from Libya. What is between them and us is a glaring example of the situation which exists between imperialist America and every country in the world seeking freedom and wishing to live in peace and security. Therefore, there is a big contradiction between the aims of America and other states of the world. This contradiction can

only be settled by expanding the circle of struggle. Consequently, the various nations must rise to confront American ambitions.

This must not conceal the fact that the conflict is ultimately a struggle between the superpowers, between the socialist camp and the imperialist camp, between the Soviet Union and the United States. However, other nations are the victims of this global struggle. The superpowers cannot clash without stepping into the areas inhabited by small nations. America believes it cannot encircle the Soviet Union unless it occupies the Arab homeland and controls the Mediterranean. Consequently, its bases must extend from Western Europe to the Mediterranean, to the Arab countries, and to its main base in occupied Palestine. The U.S. bases then extend to the Indian Ocean, the Philippines, and the Pacific. This is a strategic encirclement operation which cannot be implemented without subduing the peoples of this entire region — from the Philippines, to the Arab countries, to those states which have not entered into a pact with the United States, or which, unlike Israel, have refused to become bases for the United States. The United States believes that these regions must come under its influence. For this reason, it is using every weapon at its disposal, including provocation, terrorism, and force.

We in Libya have a special significance in the eyes of the United States. We are the force that is awakening the Arab will through our progressive and unionist concept. America sees Arab unity as a real danger to its interests and to the influence it has at the moment, thanks to the Arab homeland's division and to U.S. agents in the region. Therefore, in its struggle with us, the United States is trying to strike at the Arab homeland's real attempt at liberation and unity.

Therefore, while the United States adheres to its imperialist policy, and while we remain unliberated and disunited, there will be no end to the conflict. We must meet it with increased vigilance. We must also use every means of resistance in this struggle.

Question: Outside of the recent provocative exercises and the massing of ships and aircraft carriers, have there been any other contacts between you and the United States?

Al-Qadhdhafi: Several states have tried to mediate between us, including Yugoslavia, Greece, Malta, Algeria, Morocco, and Saudi Arabia. However, the United States has turned down all mediation attempts and insisted on achieving its ambitions through threats of force and economic war. We have felt from the beginning that there is no use in holding any dialogue with the United States. The only solution is confrontation. We accepted mediation, but we did not desire it. We accepted mediation in order to show our friends and Arab brothers the true objectives behind America's confrontation with us. We wanted the friendly and brotherly states to see that the U.S. pretexts were one thing and the U.S. objectives something else.

If the United States continues with these provocations, then we must introduce new elements into our conflict. We will be obliged to transfer the battle to the United States and its military bases through the revolutionary forces and the peoples allied with us. We will continue this action until America realizes its limits and

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leaves the Arabs to liberate themselves, unite themselves, and build their own future.

Question: Arab sources have told *AL-KIFAH AL-ARABI* that you had planned a naval strike against a target in Israel in anticipation of a threatened military action by Israel against Libya in the wake of the Vienna and Rome operations. Did you actually make preparations for such a strike, and if so, why was it called off?

Al-Qadhdhafi: That is correct, although the strike we had planned was an air and not a naval one. However, we called it off at the 11th hour because we thought it was a limited operation, which we did not want. We would have liked Israel to have made some kind of raid against Libya. This would have meant war. We then would have been entitled to stage an open-ended series of military operations which would have ended only when the Zionist entity was finished. We wanted the Zionists to carry out their threat so that we could be on their heels and surround them everywhere. In this state of war, we would have made everything in this region subject to the laws of war.

Question: From the standpoint of international law, do you think that the U.S. veto of the UN Security Council draft resolution condemning Israel for the hijacking of a Libyan plane justifies your own decision to hunt Israeli planes?

Al-Qadhdhafi: Certainly. Precedent is a source of legislation. For this reason I did not decide to chase Israeli civilian planes until after the United States had sanctioned such a course of action by using its veto power in the UN Security Council. We had been waiting for the conscience of the world to speak out, but the United States has rendered this conscience ineffective. Our only recourse is to act as they do.

Question: Did you hold any Arab or international consultations prior to your decision to chase Israeli planes?

Al-Qadhdhafi: We notified our allies and friends of this decision before we announced it, but we did not consult with them. We simply told them that we are implementing such a measure and that we wanted them to know about it, but we did not consult with them.

Question: How long will this decision remain in effect?

Al-Qadhdhafi: We do not intend to let up or give up. We will get them at some point.

Question: You are the commander of the Arab Revolution Forces. Does this mean that every operation conducted by a national command platoon requires your prior consent, or are there some operations which can be undertaken autonomously by these platoons without consultation with you?

Al-Qadhdhafi: Leadership does not mean that one should become involved with all the details and personally approve everything. This is the responsibility of the field command. I am not a field commander. I do not have to supervise every single operation. Mine is a national, political, and revolutionary leadership. I am interested in mobilizing national, revolutionary, and political efforts to achieve the final objectives of liberation and liberty. The means for action and the choice of targets are matters which concern every organization; they may even be classified among the secrets of a particular organization. We have no right to ask

any group to give us these details, nor are we trying to claim such rights.

Question: There have been heated discussions during meetings of the popular conferences about the formation of death squads. Considering the already charged atmosphere, would such squads undertake operations now, or would they only act in case of an attack against the Jamahiriya by the United States, Israel, or both?

Al-Qadhdhafi: The role of the death squads is in fact confined to the case when Libya or any other Arab country is attacked, whether this be by Israel or the United States. Any Israeli or U.S. attack against the Arab people would automatically send these squads into action to confront the aggression.

Question: Despite the popular anger which has been generated throughout the Arab world by the current U.S.-Libyan confrontation, it has been noticed that Arab labor unions and workers associations have remained rather cool. They were reluctant to take any measures against U.S. ships and planes in response to the American boycott on Libya. How would you explain this?

Al-Qadhdhafi: These labor unions and associations have become government organs. This is why they have responded in this manner. We are very proud that workers and popular organizations throughout the world demonstrated their support for us. Regrettably, however, this did not happen in the Arab world due to government control over the unions. Workers and organizations in many countries demonstrated at U.S. Embassies and clashed with police. But this did not happen in the Arab world. Governments here enjoy too much control. This is what we are fighting against. We want the power of governments to revert to the people. This is our theory.

Question: How true are reports about Sudanese mediation between Libya and Egypt?

Al-Qadhdhafi: Absolutely untrue. We are not seeking any mediation with Egypt. A meeting with Egypt for us would have only one point on its agenda, namely, that Egypt should get out of the Dawud barn [derogatory Libyan designation of Camp David]. This must be absolutely clear. We do not accept mediation. We do not want reconciliation. We will tighten the embargo on Egypt and we will make any individual or country which tries to break this embargo pay. Any country or individual who invests in Egypt to help the regime get by or to neutralize the effect of the Arab embargo, which has been ordered by the Arab League, is acting against the Arab will and against the sacred national cause.

Question: How do you interpret the Jamahiriya's support for the new Sudanese regime in view of its continuing, special relationship with the Egyptian regime?

Al-Qadhdhafi: Everything now in Sudan is temporary. There is no fixed policy because there is no fixed authority. The 6 April people's revolution has come to a temporary halt because a transitional military regime took over, and because a transitional government was formed. This means that everything in Sudan is temporary, though based on the victory of the 6 April revolution and the victory of the people. Therefore, there is no doubt that we have to stand with the Sudan during this stage, because we support its popular revolution which has led to the present situation. However, when this temporary period is over and when the people's authority is firm, we certainly will not have relations

with any regime that recognizes the Israeli enemy, whether Egypt's or any other regime. We will stand with Egypt when it returns to lead the battle of liberation and unity, as was the case when Jamal 'Abd al-Nasir was alive. But, when Egypt takes the lead in a defeatist and reactionary course, we cannot stand with it, whether it involves Sudan, Libya, or any other place in the Arab homeland.

Question: The Jamahiriyah's stand with respect to the situation in the PDRY is not yet clear. Can you elaborate?

Al-Qadhdhafi: The information we have received so far indicates that the fighting has actually stopped, but the situation is still like a time bomb. Unfortunately, the fighting might start all over again. If this happens, it will be a regrettable and painful thing. We felt saddened when the fierce fighting broke out in Aden because the blood of thousands was shed. That blood could have been enough to liberate Palestine, or to liberate the whole area surrounding Yemen. But it is not easy for anyone to respond to people who have destroyed their country in this way. What kind of assistance can be given when they recklessly destroyed civilian targets with strategic rockets?

In general, the new forces in the PDRY are unknown to us. We have heard one or two of their names before, such as 'Ali Salim al-Bayd, who is a real revolutionary. I met him at the summit meeting preceding the death of 'Abd al-Nasir. The man came to Tripoli more than once, and during these visits I got to know him well. I consider him a personal friend; he is the only man among the leaders of the second and third rank that the Libyan leadership knows and considers a friend. However, we are not sure yet if he is really ruling the country or if he is just a figurehead. Those we knew are gone. 'Ali Nasir is out of the regime; 'Ali 'Antar, Salih Muslih, and 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il were killed. These are the names of the leaders we used to know; the new names are unknown to us. We hope that the brothers in the PDRY will keep it a revolutionary country opposing imperialism and reaction. We hope that they will seriously try to unite Yemen and liberate Musqat and Oman, and will not betray the revolution. If there is any risk of a new outbreak, I call on all parties to resort to negotiation. We in the Jamahiriyah are ready to mediate between 'Ali Nasir and the other brothers so that they will not take up arms again.

Question: The Jamahiriyah has witnessed intensive moves regarding the crisis in oil prices. Have you adopted any plan to face this crisis?

Al-Qadhdhafi: I consider the oil crisis a real war, a very destructive one. It is not less harmful than a war with planes and gunboats that destroys factories and wastes the economic efforts of any country. This war is against Libya, Iran, and Algeria in particular. These three countries have been greatly harmed as a result of this war. Those who have waged this war are similar to or as dangerous as those who wage military wars. Before I disclose the most dangerous aspect of this question, I want to backtrack a bit. We all know that Saudi Arabia was not responsible at the outset. The violations that led to the present oil crisis were those of other Arab countries, particularly Iraq; other OPEC members such as Nigeria under the rule of the previous regimes; and some Arab emirates such as Dubay and Sharjah. Abu Dhabi is an exception, because it has acted outside the framework of the organization, and has exported its oil according

to the mood of its rulers — any quantity and any price. These countries are the ones that have violated the production quota, which had been set at not more than 16 million barrels per day. Saudi Arabia in fact drew attention to the seriousness of these violations and their effect on the future of the oil market. It issued several warnings, but there was no response. Saudi Arabia has now absolved itself from its initial commitment and begun to flood the market. Saudi Arabia is to be held responsible for all that is taking place. The problem, however, was actually generated by those states that failed to abide by their oil production quotas. With its recent actions, Saudi Arabia has committed the same sin, although I can see a justification and I am on its side. Saudi Arabia had always warned against tampering with production quotas and prices, but the others practiced treacherous methods to sell above their specified quotas and at reduced prices. However, the Saudi move has seriously affected countries such as Libya, Algeria, and Iran. Therefore, unless Saudi Arabia abides by its assigned quota, namely, 3 million barrels or less, the situation will be further aggravated. I would like to divulge here a grave secret: The recent stage in the Gulf war was in response to this position. I warn the Gulf oil countries that this war will expand and will escalate unless everyone cuts production to the allowed levels. We in Libya, Algeria, and Iran cannot keep silent about the oil war declared on us. Therefore, the Gulf war will escalate with renewed momentum unless prices and quotas are observed. I had earlier made this prediction in a statement to Italy's *LA STAMPA*, but they did not publish it. Before Iran crossed the Shatt al-'Arab, I said that unless the prices were amended and overproduction stopped, the Gulf war would escalate within a few days. I predict now, through *AL-KIFAH AL-'ARABI*, that the war will escalate and expand to involve all oil-producing countries in the area unless the Gulf countries stop the price and quota war. This war declared on us is quite serious. They are declaring war on our livelihood, the health of our elderly, and the education of our children. We will not allow this to happen.

Question: Once again Chad is at the top of the news. What is your position now that France has responded to Habre's request and has sent troops to Chad?

Al-Qadhdhafi: I concluded an amicable agreement with Mitterrand in Crete. This agreement is based on the following points:

1. Libya and France shall refrain from sending troops to Chad no matter what takes place. We expected the struggle between Goukouni and Habre to continue because this struggle is tribal, sectarian, and racial. Nevertheless, France and Libya must refrain from sending troops to Chad whether the struggle continues or escalates.

2. If France or any other foreign forces enter Chad, Libya will have the right to send its troops back there.

3. France and Libya will make all efforts to find a peaceful solution to the Chadian problem and persuade the combatants to negotiate. Since then we have made strenuous efforts to work out a peaceful solution to the Chadian problem and convince all parties to negotiate. We managed to persuade certain friendly parties like General (Gabriel Goukou) to hold negotiations with Habre. These parties actually held negotiations with Habre.

We were surprised when fighting broke out while we in Libya were occupied with confronting the United States at sea. We

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were told later that Goukouni had uncovered a colonialist ploy that enabled Habre to gain control of Chad, and that there was a plan to establish U.S. bases in Chad. The United States had told France that it wanted to set up military bases in Chad, considering that France has bases in the Cameroon and Central Africa, not to mention bases in Gabon and the Ivory Coast. Therefore, France does not need bases in Chad. French troops deployed in African bases are capable of operating inside Chad.

In fact, the United States is establishing a base in the Niger, and is getting ready to establish another in Chad. Goukouni discovered that his country would be sold out and that the 16th parallel had become a permanent line dividing Chad into two states. At a time when his relations with us were at an ebb, he launched the offensive of his own accord. The offensive was launched at an ideal time, according to Goukouni: After he managed to unify the political front in the wake of the lengthy meetings in Benin, Brazzaville, and Algeria. The unity of the political front has led to the reformation of the government and reorganization of the forces. Goukouni believed that the continuation of the political stalemate meant capitulation to Habre and bringing Chad under the control of the United States and France.

Goukouni believed this, basing himself on documents and information that he obtained from Ndjama. Relying on his own counsel, he launched his offensive of which we had been unaware until after it had taken place. This made us refrain from giving him any assistance in this war. We have called on all parties to resume peaceful negotiations. As we were calling for negotiations, however, France surprised us with its air attack on the Doum airfield. This airfield is far from the area of military operations and has nothing to do with the military efforts. Doum is the only civilian airfield in northern Chad and was built to transport food and medicine. It is well known that most of the aircraft that use this airfield belong to the Red Cross and Red Crescent. There were civilians and engineers at the Doum airfield who were the victims of a treacherous act of aggression by France. What is worse is that it was announced that this attack was on orders from Mitterrand himself. I am surprised that Mitterrand would give orders to strike at a civilian airport used by the Red Cross and Red Crescent to bring supplies to the famine-stricken people of northern Chad. I have really tried to excuse the French president. I said to myself, he might have been misled by false reports about the purpose of this airport. Perhaps he is sorry for what he did now that he has found out that the airport is a civilian one. They again misinformed him when they told him that the airport had been completely destroyed. As a matter of fact, the airport has not been destroyed and the air raid was a failure. The evidence is that the Red Crescent has not stopped using it. However, certain Red Crescent employees now hesitate to use this airport for fear that France may again make the same ugly mistake. Everyone knows that Goukouni Oueddei recently received fighter aircraft. He also held graduation ceremonies for his pilots. Early this morning, these pilots retaliated for the French air raid by launching a successful air raid on Ndjama airport, the counterpart of Doum airport. There is a government in the north and another one in the south. Since France gave itself the right to try to destroy the Doum airport, Goukouni has the right to destroy the Ndjama airport.

Question: Let us go over to your constant concern: Unity. Unity talks were held with Algeria a few days ago, and there are reports about successful talks in Damascus. So, what's new?

Al-Qadhdhafi: I expect that the talks in Algeria will culminate in a declaration of union within the next few months.

Question: Don't you think that unity with Algeria will affect your federation with Morocco?

Al-Qadhdhafi: Quite the contrary, because the two unions complement each other. I view these unions as a step toward a confederation of the Arab Maghreb.

Question: Don't you feel that union with Algeria will lead to conflict with Morocco?

Al-Qadhdhafi: This could not happen. The Arab African federation with Morocco has achieved major successes and is hardy enough to survive. In addition, the Oujda agreement permits the Moroccan and Libyan states to set up federation with other countries. Our federation with Algeria in addition to our federation with Morocco will be a step toward confederation uniting the Arab Maghreb. We hope that through both federations we can solve the Sahara problem so that we can all direct our guns at the Zionist enemy.

Question: What about the Syrian part in the union?

Al-Qadhdhafi: The Confederation of Arab Republics, which includes Libya, Syria, and Egypt, will be amended so that it can be more effective. I expect to meet with President Hafiz al-Asad in Libya in the near future to proclaim a form of advanced union within the framework of the Confederation of Arab Republics.

Question: What would be Egypt's status in this confederation?

Al-Qadhdhafi: We consider Egypt to be a constitutional member of this confederation. We will do our duty toward Egypt in accordance with the constitution of the Confederation of Arab Republics. A referendum was held in Egypt regarding this constitution and the Egyptian people unanimously approved it.

Question: What do you mean by doing your constitutional duty toward Egypt?

Al-Qadhdhafi: I repeat what I have said: Egypt is a member of the Confederation of Arab Republics, and the constitution of this confederation brings with it duties toward Egypt, which we will exercise in a constitutional way and in accordance with constitutional norms. I thanked the leader of the 1 September revolution for affording me the opportunity to meet with him and for giving *AL-KIFAH AL-ARABI* important information. I said goodbye to the man who always has many surprises because he advocates clarity and holds on to his dream.

Further Reportage on Visit of Nigerian Minister

Received by Al-Qadhdhafi

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[Text] Tripoli, 24 Feb (JANA) — The brother leader of the revolution received today at noon Mr Bolaaji Akinyemi, the Nigerian minister of external affairs and personal envoy of President Ibrahim Babangida, the president of the Federal Republic of Nigeria. The envoy handed brother leader of the