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He said he is particularly concerned with continuing the talks in light of current events in the occupied territories and the two UN Security Council resolutions pertaining to these events.

He added: We are anxious to continue consultations with our Egyptian brothers. Referring to the escalating Palestinian uprising, he declared: It is our duty to address ourselves to the results of this uprising and to seek to influence the development of positions, both the position of the United States and that of the UN Security Council.

Abu Mazin was met at the airport by Zuhdi al-Qidrah, the PLO representative in Egypt.

Meets 'Abd Al-Majid, Al-Baz
NC191504 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1400 GMT
19 Jan 88

[Text] Cairo, 19 Jan (MENA)—Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister; and Dr Usamah al-Baz, first under secretary at the Foreign Ministry and director of the President's Office for Political Affairs, held an extended session of talks today with the members of the PLO delegation which is visiting Cairo.

The delegation includes Mahmud 'Abbas, also known as Abu Mazin, and 'Abdallah Hurani, members of the PLO Executive Committee, and Sa'id Kamal, PNC member. Zuhdi al-Qidrah, the PLO representative in Cairo, was also present at the talks.

'Abdallah Hurani stated that during the meeting the conferees reviewed the latest developments on the Palestinian scene in the wake of the recent full-scale uprising which has emphasized the Palestinian people's rejection of the occupation.

He said efforts must be made to exploit the uprising politically and to seek the international community's help in restoring the Palestinian people's right to self-determination and to the establishment of their own independent state. He added that Dr 'Abd al-Majid and Dr al-Baz have shown full understanding of the uprising's significance. He asserted that Egypt plays a major role in the Arab and international arenas and that the members of the Palestinian delegation are certain that President Mubarak will promote the Palestinian people's cause during his coming tour of Europe and the United States.

'Abdallah Hurani added that the Arab world must support the Palestinian uprising politically and materially. On the political level, he said, the Arabs must adopt a unified stand urging the Israeli occupation be terminated and that the Palestinians be enabled to attain their legitimate rights. He further noted that the Arabs must extend material aid by providing food and medicine so the Palestinians may carry on with their uprising.

Abu Mazin and the delegation accompanying him arrived in Cairo yesterday to hold talks with Egyptian officials on the latest developments in the Palestinian revolt, the Palestinian issue, and relations with Egypt.

Support Withheld for PLO Government-in-Exile
PM200959 London AL-MAJALLAH in Arabic
13 Jan 88 p 9

[Unattributed report: "Egypt Does Not Back Government-in-Exile"]

[Text] Egypt has refrained from supporting the PLO's intention to form a government-in-exile, which was raised during Egyptian-Palestinian talks held in complete secrecy during a visit by a Palestinian official to Cairo a few days ago. Cairo has confirmed that the objective conditions for such a decision are not yet ripe and that the PLO ought to prepare for that immediately after the objective conditions are in place.

Some Palestinian circles have explained the Egyptian rejection as being due to Cairo's wish to prepare the ground for the announcement of the formation of a government-in-exile from Cairo.

Statements have emanated from Palestinian officials over the past few weeks indicating that the PLO is studying the matter and they predicted that the announcement of the formation of a government-in-exile will be made shortly.

Libya

Al-Qadhdhafi Addresses Basic People's Congress
LD191332 Tripoli Television Service in Arabic
2231 GMT 18 Jan 88

[Speech by Colonel Mu'ammr al-Qadhdhafi at a session of the Basic People's Congress in Hay al-Andalus in Tripoli on 18 January—videorecorded]

[Text] I want to intervene in this session with some observations. The first thing I have deduced from the members of the congress who have spoken is that there appears to be information available in the people's congresses that seems to be important, such as the information offered by the engineer. Also heard at the people's congresses are important new ideas on the proceedings of such congresses, on the organization of the meetings, and, through the discussion of the memos submitted to the congresses, some new conclusions. All of this leads to the development of the jamahiri system, which stresses popular authority. At every meeting and at every session every year we advance and learn more. This is the objective, until future people's congresses no longer need an instigator, a leader, or a revolutionary committee.

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Is this a drafting committee? [Unidentified person responds: The congress is a drafting congress] When they elect a secretariat to the congress, they should select those who have the ability to administer the congress. Therefore, the drafting committee should be selected from among those who have the ability to formulate ideas and thoughts and come to a conclusion. It is the quality of the talk, not the quantity. Someone might speak for 1/2 hour when 2 minutes would suffice.

I want to tell you again that the decisive phase and the result of these debates will be epitomized at the municipal congresses, after the basic congresses, and then at the General People's Congress. All that you have said will be reflected at the municipal congresses, where the people's committees will select and discard. The rest will be reflected at the General People's Congress and by the general people's committee, and will be accountable before the General People's Congress, according to what you said at the municipal congress. So everyone must be aware of what he is saying. One should not speak idly. Everything that is said should be reflected in the draft when the secretary of the congress carries it to the municipal congress to present your ideas. The drafting committee at all congresses should be attentive and select the most important things said.

What we are drawing attention to [passage indistinct] is when new information, new ideas, new conclusions, serious information do appear in the congress, they must be disseminated among all the congresses through the secretariat of the municipal congress to which that basic congress belongs, and in turn inform the secretariat of the General People's Congress. It in turn will inform the secretariat of the General People's Congress tonight, and tomorrow this will be changed; that is to say, this memorandum or this new issue will be attached to the memorandum.

He who does not come up with the correct information should be held accountable for his actions. This issue deserves questioning. Will the conferences, when debating this, refer it to the municipal conference and then to the General People's Congress so that we can hear the result? Otherwise, the conferences may say: Let us set up a popular court to try those who ask for the pipes to be maintained before they are used. What is the reason for that? Why are these pipes worn and torn before they were even put to use? Should all this stay on the record until all the information is collected against this establishment, because the latter is responsible to the General People's Congress or because this establishment is part of a general people's committee which is responsible to the General People's Congress? When someone comes up with a new idea—such as the doctor who spoke about foreign currency—yes, this is a new idea, we should ask him to submit a memorandum containing his thoughts; that is to say, how this issue should be dealt with. He said that centralization should be abolished. The conference should have asked him to clarify this view or to include this clarification in the memorandum. We would then debate that.

At the same time, the memorandum should have been circulated—I mean the conference should have said that there is a view saying effectively that there is centralization, that the latter is not beneficial, and that it should be abolished. We also have the municipalities; there is a proposal to abolish the municipalities. What shall we replace them with? How can we establish the jamahiriya's which the doctor is talking about? Why can we not have the municipalities instead of the jamahiriya's he referred to, and so on and so forth? We examine the idea and see whether it receives the attention of the conferences and whether it can be regarded as worthy of debate. Otherwise, it will be thrown out at any level.

Something positive has been realized when an engineer, or a lecturer, a doctor, a technician, or an administrator start to attend the sessions of a conference as a member when the debate becomes beneficial. More facts will emerge; we will learn from them because they have experience and education—I mean they have experience from their practices in such spheres. We will benefit from them. The exchange of words in the debate will be responsible. Some of them already are responsible before the popular conferences because they are in charge of certain aspects, such as industry, agriculture, education, etc. Their words will be responsible words and held in high regard, unlike the words spoken by those who are not responsible—they speak irresponsible words.

Someone in Tobruk once said: Industry is a failure; he said nothing more. This is not enough. When we say something, we should provide evidence. But when an engineer working on the gas project came to the meeting and spoke, he talked to us about specific things. He said that the pipes were not used and that they suffered wear and tear; he told us why. Then we were able to say that those responsible for the pipes' wear and tear should be made accountable. He said that such and such a company was handed on a silver or golden platter money, interests, and privileges, etc. He asked: Who was responsible for that and why? This is good. Previously such things were done by some administrations but nobody made them accountable for their deeds. These administrations were run by ministers and nobody made the ministers accountable for their deeds, or they were run by the government and nobody made the government accountable for their deeds. The people's interests were sacrificed by some who did not have a conscience and the poor people were continuously losing. This is how the people used to lose. Now this cannot happen, as anyone can come to a basic people's congress and say what he wants to say. Such a conference can try and make any party accountable for its deeds. This is the first observation.

The other observation concerning the issue submitted for your attention is about the problems and obstacles which accompanied production operations at cement factories. We will recap what this says: Report on industrial projects. It is my opinion that the congress should focus on these obstructive problems which accompanied

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the production operation at cement factories. After all, the report says at the beginning on figures [words indistinct]; it says that there was a delay in opening credits which (?led) to a shortage of operational requirements, spare parts, and equipment for operating the factories' quarries.

Alright, this is one point; there was a delay in opening credits. Congresses will discuss this point. Why are factories' or companies' credits delayed? You will find this point in many items; even in suits. Why did winter clothes come in the summer and summer clothes in the winter? The owner of the importing company will reply by saying it was a result of delay in the opening of credits—on the basis of last year, the year before, and this year. Indeed, we find that winter clothes come in the summer. We go to them and ask them what is this you have brought to us? Are they teasing us? What is this joke? Where were they? Where did they go? Why do winter clothes come in the summer? Why did you not bring them in the winter? These must be studied on their merit. Sometimes he may be unjustly treated; he may come and say that the credits have been delayed. What is the reason for the delay in the opening of credits? This issue has to be looked into.

We then go on to ask questions. We are meant to set up people's committees at all congresses. Where is the member of the General People's Committee for Industry? [Unidentified person responds: He is not here due to personal circumstances. He was present yesterday] He should be present to answer our questions; but there is still a query. Who is responsible for delays in the opening of credits and why? There may be convincing reasons. As members of congresses, there may be a reason which will convince us that credits are bound to be delayed and, consequently, the cement industry and importation will face difficulties.

For unforeseeable reasons we receive summer clothes in the winter. Such reasons may not be so unforeseeable! It may be due to someone not performing his duty. We bring him to task and make him accountable. The other point which refers to obstacles concerns the shortage of technical manpower used in production and subsequently maintenance work is not carried out on a regular basis. That is to say, if factories suffer from delays or their production stumbles, then this is because there is a shortage of technical manpower. Alright. The company which is responsible or the People's Committee for Industry should be questioned. We should say to them: Do you train Libyans? Have you provided them with training schedules? Have you employed foreign technical manpower from abroad and if not, why not? If you have not imported foreign technical manpower from abroad, why not, and what prevented you from doing so? Have you no money? If you have no money say so. We will then discuss the matter. If they have no money, it is possible to transfer money from another part as this is important.

We can compare two aspects and see which is more important and then transfer money to the one which is more important and bear the deficit. We say that production shall be reduced and that we accept this as we are convinced that production of factories can fall short because we have no Libyans trained to do the job. We say that we are still training Libyans and that foreign technical manpower is expensive; therefore, we have delayed the process by importing some foreign technical manpower and not all. Or we can equally say that those people responsible for running the factories are not doing their job efficiently and thus have caused such delays.

All these points have been mentioned. Those who mentioned them may be the very people who are responsible. It makes no difference who is responsible for such delays. The delays may be caused by force majeure, for which we are all responsible. We will then accept them as such. There is the problem of transportation and distribution; these cause bottlenecks for production and marketing. Let us discuss the transportation system. How can you distribute something which you manufacture throughout the country? Who will transport the goods? Private vehicles? Public vehicles? It is a problem and it is inevitable that we should have a transportation system. There are 35,000 private vehicles used for transportation in the country. Therefore, how come we have bottlenecks? This is a problem and it should be solved; this problem of transportation should be solved. It can be solved. Why can it not be solved? They say that there are no spare parts for the vehicles, as you have not imported them. Why have you not imported spare parts? Who is responsible for that? The instability of the administrative machineries in these factories. When there are delays in factories and these matters are referred to people's committees, the latter should be given an opportunity—the longest period possible and as much as possible—unless it has been proved to be useless.

Then there is the question of a shortage of financial liquidity and its role in the nonfulfillment of development programs. We should ask: Where has the budget for this factory come from? How come it is short? Some people may say: There is money but the Central Bank has banned its transfer abroad. As one brother said: Where is the budget for this factory? This is an independent company and it has vast production and sales. Where is its revenue? If we are talking about something from the general budget, then why does the General Treasury refuse to provide it with such liquidity? We can ask the General People's Committee for the Treasury or the bank: Why have you not provided this liquidity? We will hear their answer and after that they will either stand convicted or we will be convinced of the reason.

There is the problem of a water shortage, especially in Suq al-Khamis and Madah factories. Why were there assessments of the availability of water in Suq al-Khamis and Madah: whether there was water or not for the factory? Why have the factory in Madah if there is no

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water? Why have it in Suq al-Khamis if there is no water? Why not build a dam in these regions? There is rainfall in Suq al-Khamis and Madah. You can collect this water [words indistinct].

We have a general problem with electricity. This may be outside our [word indistinct], because we need one or two large steam powered generating stations which will cost hundreds of millions [currency not specified]. Maybe we delayed their implementation because we are not able to do so at this stage. This is due to bottlenecks. When it is like this, we have to be convinced that this is an acceptable matter subject to [word indistinct] bottlenecks in this factory or others. Why? Because, to avoid bottlenecks in electricity we need a generating station with a specific capacity. We need 4 or 5 years to build it and we need so many millions—it is not available and we need time.

We have to bear this; it will be known. When we say known, we are not saying that the electricity sector [words indistinct] has come from God or somewhere else. We create electricity. Electricity does not come from God. Perhaps God has guided us to create electricity, but it comes from us. We started off using candles and have reached the stage of building stations that generate electricity for us. We can say that rain, wind, heat, and cold come from God and we cannot change them. But electricity we can pursue. Why has it been cut?

Concerning the availability of private transportation; this is a trivial thing. Workers, engineers, and others have no private means of transportation. Give them buses and let them look after themselves. This is not a problem, and it should not even be submitted to people's congresses. What are you doing [words indistinct]? The difficulty of obtaining explosives is even more trivial than the first. What does it matter who handles the explosives? Whether they should be in the hands of the Armed Forces, engineers, or others [words indistinct]. These are the [word indistinct] we follow. That is it, we will dismiss it [words indistinct] and we will not discuss it. They will have to manage private transportation and explosives themselves [words indistinct] explosives for security material and how to bring in material to blow up a quarry?

There is a shortage of paper bags [words indistinct]. Where is this [word indistinct] to tell us the reason for the shortage of these bags; whether they were not manufactured at home, not imported from abroad, whether or not we have money or do not have money. [Word indistinct] the congresses about what you have done. Generally, these are to be discussed. You discuss the items that are before us and express your opinions about them. What are your opinions regarding them; the opinions of the congresses?

Good, this is from A to [sentence incomplete as heard]. This also includes nine items. This one reveals problems such as those at the sand processing plants. When there

is a shortage of cement, it is not distributed, output is insufficient, and we have not exported the quantities agreed, we ask why. [Words indistinct] obstacles and problems from money to manpower, transportation, and electricity. I want to point out the item we must discuss so that our discussion is poignant when debating these items—without saying general things about these factories.

The last point in these observations is not on this blackboard because I do not know whether you discussed it before I came—strategic industries. However, the thing I want to draw attention to and which may still be under discussion in a number of conferences is the question of imported consumer commodities.

The budget allocated for importing consumer goods, like the one we had last year and the year before, is the money we earmark for importing goods from abroad. In fact this is the problem. We in this country do not complain at all about Israel's treatment of the Palestinians or the delay in realizing Arab unity, or that we have not succeeded in exploiting the sea or in manufacturing the laser or making the atomic bomb—I do not believe we complained last year, the year before, or this year about these issues, or about the aggression against us in Aozou, or about why there is ambition in the Gulf of Sidra, which is inside our borders. As a matter of fact, there were no complaints. Opinion polls and coexistence have proved that no one complained about these issues. The complaints we made concern the markets and these imported goods, so much so that the Americans concentrate their anti-Libyan propaganda on this issue; Arab reaction does likewise. Those who gloat over this do so too. Those who treat us as simpletons, confuse our thoughts, brainwash us, plunder our revolution, and steal the people's authority do this. They all concentrate on this point.

They see you standing in a queue and they photograph you; they publish these photographs. They say that there is a shortage of canned food. You yourselves complain about this. You say: Where are the clothes? Sometimes you say these clothes are good and on other occasions you say that these clothes are useless. You ask: Where is the underwear? You complain about the underwear. You complain about children's shoes. You ask: Where are they? You are told: They have not arrived yet. When clothes arrive we say we do not want these because they are of bad quality. Sometimes we say that the clothes have arrived but not during the correct season. These constitute most of the complaints.

The things which people who are alert can complain about are serious problems. We do not complain about a shortage of money and we do not suffer from a high cost of living, which other nations suffer from. We have money and goods are cheap. But the complaint is: Why have you not imported them? Or, why have you imported poor quality? All our talks concentrate on this. The enemy, meantime, probes our internal front, not by

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satellites or aircraft, but through listening to reports which he discusses, or through reading about you. He disguises himself in so many ways. You may imagine him to be an American smoking a pipe; and you may say that he is an American and therefore I shall not reveal secrets before him. No. A Muslim Arab or non-Arab, or a friend, a brother, or a foreign journalist, may come to Libya and send his reports on you via radio which you may hear later by radio; he may recruit a person living in your street or a cousin of yours working in a committee or in a factory or in a shop—this is how agents of U.S. intelligence, Zionist intelligence, and British intelligence operate. They know that these goods are available and they know that Libya is a paradise. But they hear the complaints. They delay this or that; they may sabotage this or that; they may maintain silence over this or that; they may present a false image.

All these things can happen. Do not answer any unnecessary questions; do not talk about certain issues. This is because some of you may answer without even being asked, and when asked you may answer in such a way that it may be harmful. Do not answer more than the question you are asked. Why voluntarily give additional information? Do not answer without questions. You may say: We train at such and such a place because the weapon is new. How nice! Why do you give such information? The same thing applies to the home front. You should not give away information.

I think the issue of the budget is important. When it was decided during the past 2 years, in a revolutionary manner, at least to save money out of this budget which is earmarked for importing consumer goods—I mean by decreasing the import of consumer goods in order to save money for building factories, buying weapons, running education, and providing medicine—complaints began. We forgot what we said—that we would save money in order to buy this or that or to make this or that. We forgot that. For a whole year we said: Why are we short of this or that? Why is this cheap? It is cheap because it is useless. This is what we used to say. We used to say: It is cheap; therefore, bring us something better. We can import gold, silk, and everything else. But this means that we will exhaust our money. We will not be able to save. If we want to save, then we have to buy little of this and little of that. We forgot all that.

Since we forgot that, the enemy has exploited us and rejoiced, saying to himself: There is no need to fight the Libyans militarily; let us continue fighting them economically. But in reality they could not fight us economically and they cannot succeed. In such a country no economic blockade can succeed. What does an economic blockade on Libya mean? In any case, it does not exist.

First of all, politically, we are not boycotted. The largest diplomatic representation in the world exists in Libya, with nearly 100 embassies or representatives of foreign states; we have between 90-100 embassies in one city. So where is the political blockade? There is no such a thing.

Presidents from throughout the world come to us and we go to them. Why do we not visit Europe, naturally Western Europe, and why don't they visit us? It is on U.S. orders. This is an honor for us. Al-Qadhahfi is forbidden to visit West Europe. Let us say I ask to visit Germany—impossible. The United States says that Al-Qadhahfi cannot visit Germany. If I want to visit France, it is impossible. I want to visit Canada; they say no. I want to visit Sweden; they say you cannot. Austria, which extended an invitation to me and which I visited, was the object of harsh criticisms and the former prime minister was deposed; they conspired against him and they ousted him. Then they turned to another who became president of the republic and they said that he was with the Nazis. Why? Because this country welcomed me twice.

But as for the rest of the world, I can visit the whole of Latin America, the whole of East Europe, Asia, and Africa. Any state will welcome me. Their presidents, their representatives, their ministers, and their delegations visit us frequently. On the contrary, Libya is well-known in the world and it has wide-ranging relations with the whole world. Yet they talk about isolating Libya politically. This is a laughing matter when someone knows the truth.

As for the economic blockade which they talk about, let us say that if they impose an economic blockade on Japan, it is possible that it will have an effect on it; or if they impose it on Germany, it might affect it as it might affect Britain. But as far as Libya is concerned, what kind of economic blockade are they talking about? First of all, we can buy equipment from anywhere in the world, including Western states which the United States has pressured to blockade us. These states run after us asking us to buy goods.

The United States has withdrawn its oil companies; good riddance. The losers are the companies and they are determined to elect a new U.S. President who will be friendly with the oil companies so that they can return to Libya, because they are the losers. They tell us: Please, if we elect a friend of ours, let us return to work in your country and work with you. They say: Please, if we elect someone else after this insignificant man, if we bring a president who is on the side of the oil companies, please reinstate the U.S. oil companies. They also say: We will return and we will cooperate with you, but wait until this Zionist is finished.

The United States tells them not to sell arms to Libya; that is true. The important arms are possibly the only thing that can be blockaded by West Europe. Companies want to sell arms but their governments will not allow it. France and even Italy are confiscating Libyan arms. We bought them from them and we have them repaired in those countries. And they confiscated them. They say: We cannot give them to you while you are fighting our friends. The United States has told us that Libya's military capacity must be reduced. We do not allow that.

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You will find these facts in the report of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison so that you may understand how many planes, how many vessels, and how many guns there are in Italy and France which we have brought from them and returned for repairs and they held on to them. Engines that needed maintenance were confiscated by them, naturally, on U.S. orders.

But we were buying arms which were available in the socialist camp. These are similar to those available in the Western camp, if not better. You can buy according to your finances. You can buy from China, Argentina, Brazil, and from the whole world. You can buy; there is no problem. But when they confiscated our arms it was not because there was a blockade and that the blockade may continue and continue and the war may continue and continue. We know that this was not the case. We were not affected at all by such measures because we are not an industrial state of the first grade, such as those states which I have mentioned. If we had vast exports, we would have been affected because we would not have been able to find markets. If we had vast imports which included raw materials, they would have blockaded us and we would have found it difficult to import such materials. Not at all.

The things we need are very simple. We have no exports. We export oil and they need oil. They say: We no longer buy anything from Libya. But they buy oil. You do not export anything else. Do you export anything else? No. What can they blockade then? What ban can they impose? But the point they saw and considered to be a point of weakness in you is your need, regrettably, for these trivial things—these simple things. If there is a shortage in some commodities, we import them from abroad. They have no way of stabbing you except with these things. They say that they should continue to fight Libya economically so that the Libyan people and the revolution will fall and that all this will make the Libyan people—like the Egyptian people—kneel before us; then we will enter Libya to the sound of music and without resistance. This is the point which you should be aware of. All Libyan men and women should be aware of this point. We should not sell our dignity, our stance, and our future, which can be strong and successful, and which can unite the Arab nation, liberate Palestine, and create economic opportunities. We should not compromise all this for the sake of shoes, underwear, food, and canned food. Therefore, I want the congresses to concentrate on this; they should be aware of which commodities need to be imported.

Here I see you have written food. You import food valued at more than 250 million dinars. You say this much should be imported in 1988; it is stated here. This includes various supplies, meat, dairy products, and other things. Who pays for this? I spoke about this last year and the year before. We said: Brothers, we should save all this. Instead of spending 250 million dinars we should spend 150 million dinars and save 100 million dinars. When we saved 100 million dinars and decreased

our imports of these commodities, we began to shout. The Americans said: Look at the Jamahiriyah, it is challenging the people; the state is saying no to the people. They do not say that the country has saved 100 million dinars. They do not say the country spent only 150 million dinars. They say: Poor people, instead of 250 million dinars for imports they can only spend 150 million dinars; they are 100 million dinars short to buy what they need. But we have decreased that sum. We should decrease it because if we continue to import these things in the future it will create a problem. Their experts have prepared a report, now under study, which says that in 10 years Libya will have doubled its present population. If it continues the way it is now, we will have a famine.

It is assumed that famines occur in India, China, Egypt, etc. But not in Libya. This is what I want to draw your attention to. If you do not heed what I told you last year and the year before, your children and their children will actually suffer from famine. You may not be able to find food for your 5-year old child when he is 15. I told you that the water resources of this country are poor, and that it is inevitable for us to do something to provide ourselves with food.

The war is all about food. The war between the Arabs and the Israelis in the Middle East at this phase centers on one thing—the Israelis want to seize the water. They want to capture the Jordan, Asi, Yarmuk, and Litani rivers in the first phase so that they can settle 12 million people in that region. Then they want to capture the Nile and the Euphrates to settle 24 million Jews from various parts of the world there. The battle is for water, the entire world is fighting for water because water provides food, and the battle is for food. When they manufacture the nuclear bomb, by which they can make a nation like Japan or any other kneel before them, it is because they want these nations to open the way to the water resources. They want to capture the roads leading to water and food resources.

Why do they fight among themselves? For food. The important thing is food. Discussing the budget earmarked for importing consumer goods in a serious manner is very important, as it concerns all Libyans who want to eat and drink water. Therefore every Libyan—educated or otherwise, woman or man, at home or employed—should be concerned with this budget because consumer goods are either bought by a household or their shortage is felt by a household. Even a veiled woman should be concerned about this budget.

This evening and through the Basic People's Congress of Al-Andalus, I would like to draw the attention of all basic people's congresses, when they debate the budget earmarked for importing consumer goods, to the fact that imports should not continue and that we should save money from this budget to manufacture these things ourselves. I have been disturbed by the report that says

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Libyans are going hungry because they import everything and neglect their land. Egypt is hungry now because it continued to import after launching the open door policy and because it neglected its land. They lured them by money—by the dollar. Egyptians began to look for taxis, hotels, nightclubs, coffee shops, cinemas, exhibitions, etc, because these are money makers. They neglected the Nile, the land, and the cattle. Now they beg from the United States.

This is what the United States wants. The United States makes them reach such a point to compel them to kneel, and when they do kneel the United States imposes its conditions on them. Now they cannot withdraw their ambassador from the occupied land while the Israelis persecute the Palestinian people; they are unable to do so.

Why? Because the United States feeds them. This is what Al-Sadat did. The United States makes every state kneel before it and then realizes its objective by imposing its will. After it finishes with one state it turns to the others—the United States is an imperialist state and wants to seize the globe. This is the policy of subjugation. To resist it means we should not be compelled to import.

We are presently at the beginning of the road. If we now spend 250 million dinars to import food, then next year we will spend more, and in 5 years even more, and in 10 years, if you are still alive, even more than that. But where will you find the money? The 250 million will become a billion spent on food. This is because the population will increase and prices will go up. Unless national production increases, imports will not be reduced, and if imports are not reduced we will not be able to keep pace with this budget. This year 250 million; in 5 years it will be 500 million and in 10 years it will be 1 billion. Where will you find 1 billion dinars a year to buy food? This is not the solution. This is a dangerous path. It will lead to our subjugation. The correct path is for us, as of now, instead of spending 250 million dinars on food, to buy 150 million dinars worth, and thus save 100 million dinars and give it as loans to the people to establish plantations, keep cattle, and make water tanks and dams to preserve water. We can use the money to sink wells. We can use the money for fisheries. Medicine and medical equipment; this has been allocated 60 million dinars. We will say nothing about this.

Perhaps we cannot say anything about this so that we can save and cut down on something. It is not possible for us to manufacture medical equipment or medicines now. Medicine is necessary; 60 million dinars may become 100 million and after 5 years it becomes 300 million. You have to think about how to save for this. You will need to import medicines and medical equipment for many years. When there is a shortage you will start saying there is no [word indistinct]; there is money. Why is a certain type of surgery not carried out? Well, the equipment is not available. Why? We could not buy it.

Why is a specific medicine not available at the drugstore? Well, medicine is expensive; a few tonnes costs a few million. As of now, you will have to think about ways of saving in order to buy goods which are not available here. People still do not have medication; they become ill and come to you with tuberculosis. Why should you provide them with surgery?

Then there are essential goods. The essentials are clothes and sundries—clothes, shoes, bedding, cleaning material, and stationery. For these they have estimated 250 [amount not further specified] a year. When you cut down on stationery, cleaning material, fabrics, and suitcases, you may save 50 million a year, even 100 million. Add to this the 100 million we have saved on food and we would save 200 million. With this we could operate something else, provide loans for some of you which you could invest and obtain more money to operate the projects you were talking about such as the dams, water tanks [words indistinct]. Things which would help production—even if they are not food—which are in demand in the world. We can produce them for export and make money. There is no point in exporting wheat to a country which does not want to import wheat. You will have to produce something else needed by the world, then you can sell it. With that money you can buy other things; or you can tell them to buy some goods and some wheat; take this orange and give me wheat [words indistinct]. You sell something which will bring you money to enable you to buy what you need. Anything other than gasoline; gasoline is not production at all and it has a limited life span. However, oranges, wheat, and dams have no limited life span. Gasoline has a limited life span. You cannot plant gasoline—it is not possible. The gasoline industry will come to a halt when the gasoline that exists underground is exhausted. The agricultural industry will not come to an end as long as you plant. There is no limit to agriculture; it is a continuous process.

Essentially goods such as clothes, shoes, cleaning material, stationery, and others require 250 million this year. You will have to discuss whether the Libyan people should pay 250 million for stationery, blankets, and clothes, or save a quarter, a third, or a half. An alternative is to shut their eyes and tell them that this year we will do without and save the 250 million. We need a miracle for this.

During the year 1986, let us say, it [not further specified] was 230 million and in the year 1988 [words indistinct]—that is to say, it has increased by 26 million during the period 1986-88. The basic [as heard] has increased by 245 million. Then there is the agricultural sector. For this you import goods to the value of approximately 70 million—fertilizers, machinery, pumps, insecticides, etc. These we need for agriculture; they may be necessary. Then we have the other basic commodities and household goods, gold, sportswear, games, musical instruments, various building material, construction machinery, timber, steel, security devices, wire, rope,

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cables, asphalt machinery, oils, grease, gas appliances, and insecticides. Some people say that Flit [a brand of insecticide] is scarce and that they have to buy it on the black market. We should understand that if we need this commodity and we decide to decrease the amount we import this will cause a shortage. We should know this and know why we have decided to do this. We should know how much we need in order not to cause a shortage.

In addition to the items I have mentioned, there are chemicals, telecommunications equipment, lifesaving equipment to be used at sea, equipment for fighting pollution, passenger vehicles, trucks, motorcycles, bicycles, spectacles, furniture, radio and television transmission equipment, watches, tobacco—all these will cost you about 370 million dinars.

We should discuss all this and ask: Is all this necessary, and do we need all this? Some things we can import in smaller quantities. The aim is to save money. You will only know how to ensure your future if you know where you are heading, and only when you discuss these issues. This is because the money is estimated. I told you that you annually sell 900,000 barrels of oil, and that will bring you 1 billion [currency not specified]—this is a possibility because the figure may be less or perhaps more.

We say that we earn about 100 million dinars a month. In some months it might not [words indistinct] If we stop exporting or if a problem crops up we will have to do without. And on other occasions it is quite enough or even more than enough and instead of 100 we get 110, 120, or 150. At least you know that what you are selling is oil and this is its price. You earn so much money from it every year. And now here are the things you need. It is exactly like one's own family. You earn 100 dinars a month. And you have a list of the things your family needs like clothes, shoes, food, car, medical treatment, education expenses, and so on.

You decide for yourselves. For instance you decide that you will have do without sweets or that you do not need to buy sweets every week; that you do not need to go to the movies every week but only once a month. The children don't go to the zoo every Friday and thus save so many dinars each week. Instead of buying flour we buy wheat; instead of wheat we buy barley and vary our food—one time we buy wheat, another time barley, and another time corn.

As for clothes, we do not need to buy new clothes for every festival. We should buy clothes once then perhaps clean them, thus we would save a little bit.

A person receives a salary or an income from whatever source, whether from his workshop, his farm, or his pension, and has a family. He thinks out what to buy and what to spend on the farm every month [words indistinct] is better to spend it on farm animals or spend all

the money and sit and wait. The money we save will make income go further. Instead of 100 the income will appear to be 200. This is because we will start a workshop, a poultry farm, or a place of some sort. The annual income becomes 1,000.

The Libyan people will have to decide. For example, they would say: Brothers, instead of spending 1,000 abroad to buy goods let us spend 700 and save 300. We will decide what to do with the 300 that we have saved in 1988. It is most definitely a 100% improvement when we can save 300. This means, however, that 10 things will be reduced by 3. Throughout the year you would know that 10 have been reduced by 3. For example, if you have been getting 10 boxes of Flit you should only expect to receive 7. And if you use one every month you will be without for 3 months. You should not say that you have had none for 3 months because you had gone to the shops and found none. It is quite right you will not find any because from the first day we decided that we were going to save 30%. Instead of 10 suits we import 7 and save 3. If you use 10 a year, you would be using 7 instead of 10.

If we were importing cars we would import 7 cars instead of 10 for every 10 people. We would have three people without cars; in other words, 30% of the people without cars. Those 30% would complain because they did not get cars: Why has one managed to buy a car? Correct; it is because we have decided to tolerate a 30% reduction. Three out of every 10 people will not get cars. However, those seven who get a car should get them in an approved way. We apply certain conditions, for example, for those who pay early, or live far away, or apply early. If we discover that someone has given it to a friend or a relative we bring him to court for trial, because we have said from the start that for every 10 people there are 7 cars, and 3 people must remain without cars this year. Those seven people must get their cars deservedly. That is how things should be.

You decide to reduce certain things and when you feel a shortage at the end of the year you start to complain and journalists begin to write about you, saying that those three have no car, no clothes, and no teachers. They would laugh and say: Very well, increase the pressure on them and reduce oil purchases so that the three become five and the number of those complaining would increase. What is the aim of this? It is to submit to the United States. They come and tell you that you should not stand in a queue, that you should have a car, [words indistinct], what sort of revolution is this? What sort of socialism is this? What sort of [words indistinct] and what sort of Al-Qadhafi is this? Is he really defending you and feeling for you? He is deceiving you so that you spend all your money on goods, so that you consequently destroy yourself, and this is what he wants. I beg your pardon; he is like the devil deceiving people and on the day of judgement he would say: I simply invited you and you have followed me. It is said in the Koran: I fear Allah, I lied to you and deceived you, however, why did

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you respond to me? I deceived you because you are weak and walked along with me. I knew it was deception and I laugh at you so that you will fall in the fire.

This is what happens on the last day. The United States is the same on the last day. It would say: I have deceived you, I am an imperialist state and this my policy and my interest; I would not think of the Egyptian people's interests. I have deceived you, you followed me and you fell, and that is it. You, the Libyan people, I have deceived you, I told you such and such and I laughed at you; you listened and followed me and this is what is required; it is my policy. Why did you not say no, you were free. You then repent when it is too late.

This is what we want to draw attention to at the basic people's congresses so that they will debate this budget adequately, in freedom, and with the majority of the people attending the congresses, in order to decide that instead of spending this budget on buying goods from abroad we should save it and invest in internally manufactured goods.

I foresee that food is most important. No one can tell me differently. Lie to your legs and they will walk you where you want; lie to your stomach and hunger will leave you. You can put anything or nothing on your feet, yet they will walk. However, you cannot lie to your stomach. If you become hungry, you remain hungry. You can die from hunger and thirst. The world knows this wise saying. The imperialist powers know it and they deprive people of food so that they will fall. Hunger is not a play. He who suffers from hunger will fall. We must not fall, so we must not be hungry; and to make sure that we will not be hungry, we must think how to provide our food. The struggle continues.

Sudan

Further on Assassination of Iraq's Al-Hakim

No Suspect Held Yet

JN191813 Khartoum SUNA in English 1753 GMT
19 Jan 88

[Text] Khartoum, Jan 19 (SUNA)—Security authorities have not yet detained any person suspected of killing Shi'ite leader Mahdi al-Hakim who was slain here last Sunday, Police Director General Ibrahim Ahmad 'Abd al-Karim stated here Tuesday.

General 'Abd al-Karim said the Iranian charge d'affaires here has asked for sending the body of the killed to the latter's family in Iran adding that central investigation police director general had told the Iranian diplomat that diplomatic measures will be made regarding delivery of the body of assassinated Mahdi al-Hakim who was carrying a passport issued in the United Arab Emirates (UAE).

On the other hand the Secretariat General of the Council of Ministers has issued, here Tuesday, a statement on the said incident expressing the Council's deep regret regarding the horrible crime.

The Secretariat rejected the style of political assassinations and physical liquidation saying that Sudan's territory will never be a scene for such ugly crimes.

'Important Clues' Found

JN201211 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1056 GMT
20 Jan 88

[Text] Khartoum, 20 Jan (SUNA)—The security forces have uncovered important facts connected with the assassination of the Iraqi Shi'ite leader Mahdi al-Hakim. It is certain the police will soon be able to identify the culprits.

The attorney general has reaffirmed that the committee formed by the security services has found important clues in the case that will lead to finding the culprits. He declined to give any further information.

Interior Minister Sayyid Ahmad al-Husayn has also refused to disclose any details about the assassination. He said the security services, which are still investigating the incident, have all the information.

The director general of the police force said investigations of the assassination are proceeding steadily and in total secrecy. He said all units have been called up to work on solving the case.

The director general of the police force denied reports published yesterday on the arrest of some suspects. He said the security authorities have not arrested anyone but are continuing their investigations and interrogation of witnesses and others.

The charge d'affaires at the Iranian Embassy yesterday met with the Foreign Ministry under secretary and conveyed the Iranian people's condemnation of Al-Hakim's assassination and expressed Iran's desire to transport the body of the deceased to Tehran, as the victim's brothers are there. The Foreign Ministry under secretary explained to the Iranian charge d'affaires that the deceased carried a passport issued from the UAE and that the Foreign Ministry has sent a cable to that effect to the UAE.

Some newspapers reported today that Al-Hakim's body was transported aboard a private plane to Tehran yesterday and that more than one Arab embassy in Khartoum had played a part in directing and implementing the assassination of the Shi'ite leader Mahdi al-Hakim. Official sources here have not confirmed these reports.

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Body Will Go To Iran

JN201138 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1050 GMT
20 Jan 88

[Text] Khartoum, 20 Jan (SUNA)—The responsible Sudanese authorities today decided to transfer the body of the late Mahdi al-Hakim who was assassinated on Monday at the Hilton Hotel in Khartoum to Iran. The reason is that most of the late Mahdi's family is living in Iran. There are two brothers, two daughters and a son there, while only one son is in Dubai, UAE.

The decision came after contacts between responsible government authorities and relatives of the late Mahdi in both the UAE and Iran. Each party requested that the body be transferred to it.

A special Iranian plane will arrive later today to transfer the body to Iran.

Al-Turabi Condemns Killing

JN201118 Khartoum SUNA in English 1030 GMT
20 Jan 88

[Text] Khartoum, 20 Jan, (SUNA)—The secretary general of the opposition National Islamic Front "NIF", Dr. Hassan al-Turabi, yesterday condemned the killing of the leader of the Iraqi opposition Shi'ite Moslem Movement at the Hilton Hotel here last Sunday as a form of "political terrorism."

Speaking at a press conference here yesterday, Al-Turabi described the assassination of Mahdi Al-Hakim, who had come to Khartoum to attend the second national congress of the NIF, as a violation of the sanctity of the Sudanese territories.

Al-Turabi told the conference that the deceased had come to Sudan despite an apology by the NIF that he could not attend its congress for security reasons.

He said Al-Hakim had arranged the procedures of his entry into the country and residence in the Hilton Hotel by himself.

He said he had met at his house with late Al-Hakim who told him that he had planned to meet with the Supreme Council president and the prime minister.

Pointing out that he did not want to comment on the issue of the assassination while investigation is underway, Al-Turabi described the incident as having "security indications and political suspicions." He did not elaborate.

Meanwhile, the Council of Ministers yesterday issued statement condemning the assassination of the Iraqi opposition leader Mahdi al-Hakim.

Deputy Premier Meets EPLF Officials 16 Jan

EA162239 (Clandestine) Voice of the Broad Masses
of Eritrea in Tigrinya 0400 GMT 16 Jan 88

[Text] The deputy prime minister of Sudan, Sid Ahmad Al-Husayn, [title as heard] has received and held talks with representatives of the EPLF [Eritrean People's Liberation Front], Comrade (Muhammad 'Ali Umar), member of the EPLF Central Committee and head of foreign relations in Sudan, and Comrade (Uthman Salih), member of the EPLF Central Committee and representative for refugees.

The Sudanese official told the EPLF representatives that Ethiopia is not ready for peace and this is demonstrated by its failure to solve the Eritrean issue in a modest and legitimate manner.

He added that we in Sudan are trying to solve our internal conflict, that is the southern Sudanese question, in a modest and peaceful way. He said we have no intention of making the Eritrean-issue [words indistinct] with that of the southern Sudanese question.

SPLM/SPLA Detail 12 Jan Kapoeta Capture

EA191802 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's
Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 19 Jan 88

[Excerpts] The official SPLM/SPLA Military High Command has just released the details of the capture of Kapoeta enemy garrison, which took place last week, 12 January 1988. According to the official SPLM/SPLA spokesman, the release of the details was delayed for two reasons.

1. The SPLA forces were pursuing the remnants for the last 7 days and that 91 of these remnants were killed. The fleeing forces were dispersed in two [as heard]: One group fled toward Uganda and the other toward Kenya. SPLA forces pursued these remnants until yesterday, when they entered Uganda territory. Out of respect for the international boundary, SPLA forces stopped pursuing them into Uganda. The SPLA does not mind if the Ugandan authorities hand them over to the Sudanese Government directly or through the ICRC [International Committee of the Red Cross]. The group that fled toward Kenya has been blocked from entering Kenya and are now completely surrounded.

The second reason for delaying the announcement was to give Sadiq enough hope to make a fool of himself by publicly lying and being caught behind in his lies, as he was until yesterday saying that his forces were in control of Kapoeta, when the SPLA commander in chief raised the flag on 12 January 1988, 7 days ago, and left for operations in another front.

According to our correspondent in the area, the total enemy force that was annihilated in Kapoeta was an infantry brigade consisting of Battalion 107, Battalion 439, Battalion 129, Battalion 128 and support units, all