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PRESIDENT PERFORMS OMRA HAJ

KABUL, March 29, (Bakhtar).—President and Prime Minister Mohammad Daoud after attending the funeral services of late His Majesty King Faisal in Riyadh left at 6 in the evening last Wednesday for Holy Mecca and performed Omra Haj.

At Riyadh Airport Prince Bustam bin Abdul Aziz brother of His Majesty King Khaled ben Abdul Aziz who on behalf of His Majesty the King and Crown Prince of Saudi Arabia along with a number of cabinet members were present to greet the heads of state of friendly countries, expressed gratitude for participation of President and Prime Minister at the funeral ceremonies and accompanied, President and Prime Minister near the plane.

The plane carrying President and Prime Minister and the delegation accompanying him arrived at Jeddah airport at 9 a.m. The President and Prime Minister was welcomed by Governor, Chief of Military forces and high ranking military and civil officials of Jeddah. After inspecting the guard of honour President and Prime Minister left for Holy Mecca where he performed the Omra Haj until after midnight.

On Thursday at 8:30 local time President and Prime Minister Mohammad Daoud went to the Holy Shrine of Prophet Mohammad in Madina and prayed to the soul of the great Prophet of Islam at the Prophet Mosque.

At the Holy Shrine and Mosque of Prophet Mohammad the President and Prime Minister prayed for the progress and development of Afghanistan.

The plane carrying President and Prime Minister and his companions left Madina at 9:30 lo-

Herat Cotton Co. reports rise in cotton purchase

HERAT, March 29, (Bakhtar).—The cotton growers in Herat, Badghis provinces and Shendand woleswali of Farah province have fetched more than 261 million afghanis from the sale of their cotton during the past year.

A source of Herat Cotton Stock Company said that from last October to March this year more than 17,000 tons of cotton has been purchased from the farmers in Herat, Badghis and Shendand woleswali which compared to 1351 there has been an increase of three hundred per cent and compared to 1352 and increase of 186 per cent.

Hanoi calls on U.S. to observe peace agreements

HANOI, March 29, (AFP).—The battle for South Vietnam has entered an irreversible phase and the only hope now for the United States is "the strict observance of the Paris peace agreements by ending once and for all their military engagement and their interference in the affairs of South Vietnam", the North Vietnam Communist Party newspaper Nhan Dan declared yesterday.

Such a move by the US would "correspond to the irresistible evolution of events", Nhan Dan commented in an editorial stressing "the victorious advance of the people of South Vietnam and liberation armed forces".

Nhan Dan said this advance had led to "the liberation of 10 provinces, 11 provincial capitals and dozens of other towns as well as putting out of action hundreds of thousands of Saigon soldiers and the seizure of huge

King Khalid rules out intrigue in Faisal's murder

BEIRUT, March 29, (AFP).—President Anwar Sadat of Egypt, apparently fearing a coup attempt in Saudi Arabia following the assassination of King Faisal on Tuesday, offered to put the Egyptian army at the disposal of the Saudi royal family King Khalid declared in an interview published here yesterday.

"But I told him it was an isolated incident", Saudi Arabia's new monarch said in an interview published jointly by the Beirut dailies Al Hayat and the English-language daily Star.

He reiterated the official explanation for the assassination, allegedly carried out by Prince Faisal bin Mussaed, a nephew of the late King, that the assassin was "deranged" and no foreign

power was behind the attack.

King Khalid said Prince Faisal entered the office in the royal palace at Riyadh of the chief of protocol and sat with Oil Minister Sheikh Ahmed Zaki Yamani and his visiting Kuwait counterpart Abdel Mutaleb Kazimi, who were waiting for an audience with the King.

As the two ministers were ushered in, Prince Faisal walked in with them, went up to his uncle as if to greet him, and fired at him at point-blank range.

King Faisal died on the spot, and a guard, the two oil ministers and the chief of protocol seized the attacker, he said.

King Khalid said he was in his palace drinking tea when he was told shots had been heard in the King's office.

"I took my submachine gun and rushed with my guards to the Royal palace", he went on.

"I asked the guard to stay outside and I walked in, the sight shook me badly and I could hardly control myself.

"King Faisal was not only a brother but also a friend. I learned about government from him. We lived close together for 50 years".

In contradiction to a number of reports King Khalid said his brother died without uttering a word.

According to some reports King Faisal shouted the single word "Amrak" which means "God, I am at your command", as he collapsed.

Shortly after having been proclaimed King by the elders of the Royal family, King Khalid received a telephone call from President Sadat who "sounded as if he was crying during our conversation".

The King went on: "The assassin is definitely mad. At times he was so religious that he would appear like the most religious person there is.

"At other times he drank heavily and was put under supervision as a result".

"We insist that the incident is an isolated act by a deranged person, without any foreign scheming."

The investigation by the Saudi authorities was continuing, he said.

"King Faisal was a great man. His death is a loss to all Arabs and to the world. We pledge to follow in his steps in struggling to liberate Palestine and regain Jerusalem," King Khalid declared.

quantities of weapons and war material.

These great strategic victories illustrate the irreversible tendency of the situation in South Vietnam," the newspaper stated.

Provisional Revolutionary Government (URG) forces of South Vietnam yesterday added a 12th South Vietnamese province to their tally of captures in the past three weeks by seizing the town of Bao Loc, the capital of sparsely populated Lam Dong province 150 kilometres (90 miles) north-east of Saigon on the edge of the central highlands.

According to the South Vietnamese high command spokesman, radio contact with Bao Loc was lost at 9:15 a.m. on Friday after an artillery barrage and a PRG infantry assault. The battle lasted two hours.

At the same time, Saigon forces lost a military sub-sector position at Bsar, 25 kilometres (15 miles) southwest of Bao Loc, virtually sealing the province's fate.

Announcing the suspension yesterday of a refugee airlift from Danang because the crowds at the airport were out of control, the high command spokesman said that all civilian vessels in the country had been requisitioned to aid the South Vietnamese navy to bring out refugees from the northern base.

Fresh defections strengthen Demirel's position

ANKARA, March 29, (Reuters).—The Chances of Turkish Prime Minister designate Suleyman Demirel forming a new right-wing government appeared to be strengthening yesterday with the defection of nine deputies from the Democratic Party (DP).

The nine said in a statement they had resigned from the DP to become independents, but observer said they were likely to consider throwing in their lot with Demirel.

The Conservative ex-Premier, ousted by the army four years ago is head of a self-styled Nationalist Front of four right-of-centre parties controlling 218 of parliament's 450 seats.

Support from the defectors would secure a parliamentary majority for him—the last constitutional obstacle to form a government observers said.

His Republican Peoples Party (RPP)—parliament's largest with 187 seats—had earlier formed a loose alliance with the DP in the hope of forming a DP minority government supported from outside by the RPP.

Yesterday's department reduced the DP's strength in parliament from 41 to 32 and observers noted that a DP-RPP alliance would now be unable to secure a parliamentary majority.

Over 61,000 tons goods exported via Hairatan port

AIBAK, March 29, (Bakhtar).—More than 61,000 tons of goods have been exported through Hairatan Port during the past year.

A source of the Hairatan Port Authority said that the goods included carpets, cotton, almond, nuts, pomegranates, citrus, cement and olive oil which have been exported to Soviet Union and other European countries.

Likewise more than 60,000 tons goods including machinery, textiles, sugar, kerosene, edible oil etc. have been imported through the same port, the source added.

Over 18,600 tons urea produced in Mazar factory

MAZARI SHARIF, March 29, (Bakhtar).—More than 18,600 tons of urea fertiliser has been produced in Mazari Sharif Chemical Fertiliser Factory during the past year.

A source of the Factory said the delivery of Chemical Fertiliser to Afghan Chemical Fertiliser Company is continuing.

All three lines of the Chemical Fertiliser Factory have started operation. The annual capacity of the Mazari Sharif Chemical Fertiliser Factory is 105,000 tons.

LT. General Khair Mohd. laid to rest

KABUL, March 29, (Bakhtar).—The body of late Lt. Gen. Khair Mohammad was laid to rest with special military honour in Shuhadaye Saleheen cemetery yesterday.

Late Lt. Gen. Khair Mohammad died after an illness in one of the hospitals in New Delhi, aged 66.

The funeral services of late Gen. Khair Mohammad was attended by Chief of Staff Gen. Abdul Karim Mustaghni, Chief of Central Garrison, a number of officers of the Republican Army, and relatives and friends.

After the burial ceremony, the President of Education and Training Department of the National Defence Ministry Maj. Gen. Mohammad Yahya Naoruz read the biography of late Lt. Gen. Khair Mohammad and recalled his forty years of good service in the army.

Afterwards the Chief of General Staff spoke about the personality of late Lt. Gen. Khair Mohammad and conveyed the condolences and sympathy of the officials of the National Defence Ministry, to the bereaved family and prayed for his soul.

Soviet "Intercosmos-13" satellite put into orbit

MOSCOW, March 29, (Tass).—In accordance with a programme of socialist countries' cooperation in the field of exploration and the use of outer space for peaceful purposes, an "Intercosmos-13" satellite of the earth was launched in the Soviet Union on March 27.

The principal aim of the launching is to study dynamic processes in the magnetosphere and the polar ionosphere of the earth as well as to research in low-frequency electro-magnetic waves. The satellite carries scientific equipment developed by the specialists of the Soviet Union and Czechoslovakia.

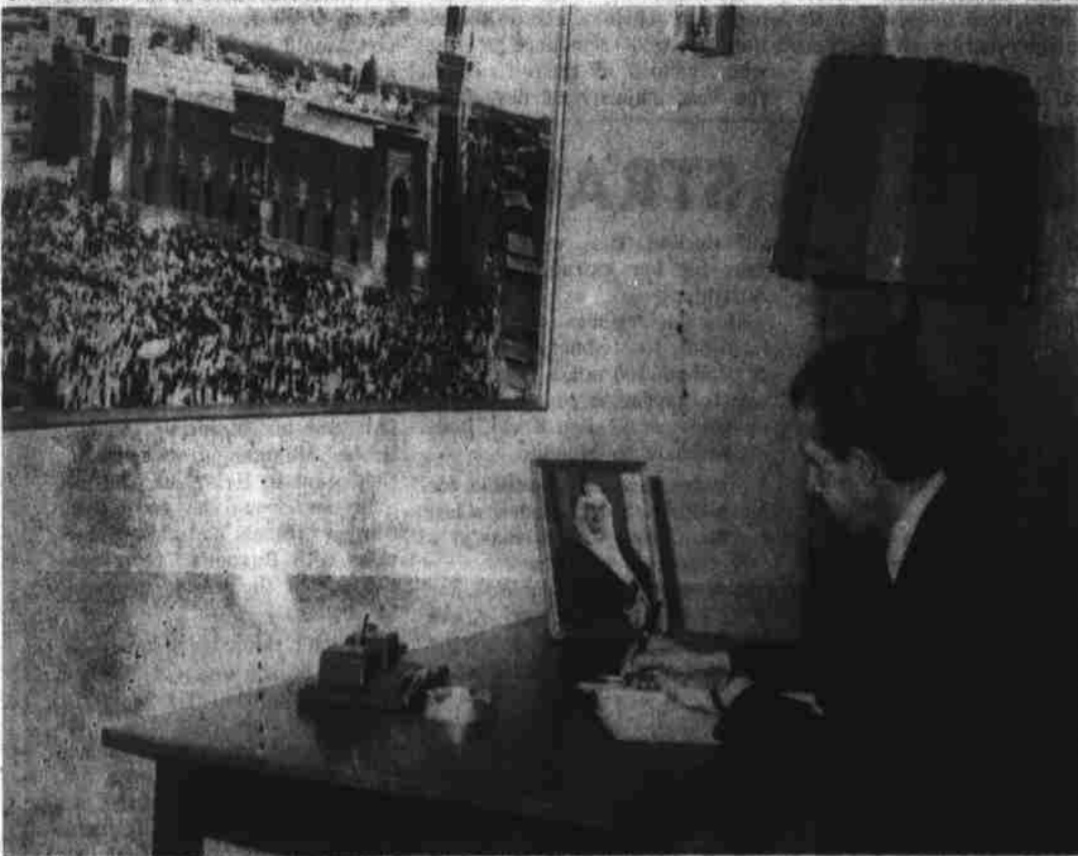
The Intercosmos-13 was put into an orbit with the following parameters: The minimum distance from the earth—296 kilometres, the maximum distance—1,714 kilometres, orbital period—104.9 minutes, orbital in-

clination with reference to the equator plan—83 degrees.

The specialists of the countries participating in the experiment carried out the preparation of the scientific equipment for launching at the cosmodrome and are exercising control of the satellite's flight and the operation of the scientific instruments.

The onboard equipment is functioning normally.

The earth-based stations of the command-and-instrumentation complex of the Soviet Union are receiving the scientific data coming in from the satellite. Simultaneously with measurements which are being made on board the intercosmos-13 satellite, the observatories of Bulgaria, Hungary, the GDR, the USSR, and Czechoslovakia are keeping watch over the earth's magnetosphere and ionosphere in accordance with a coordinated programme.



Information and Culture Minister Prof. Dr. Nevai recording his condolences in the special book opened at the Saudi Arabian embassy on the occasion of the death of His Majesty the late King Faisal.

President Ford:

Geneva talks best chance for peace in Mideast

JERUSALEM, March 29, (AFP).—Israel does not intend to reply to President Ford's statement in a newspaper interview published Thursday that it showed too much intransigence in the final phase of the ill-fated Kissinger peace mission earlier this month, government sources said yesterday.

The sources noted that the interview, with the Hearst group of newspapers in the United States, was given two days before Wednesday's press conference by Secretary of State Henry Kissinger who was much more conciliatory, they said.

The newspaper Maariv said yesterday the reported statements by senior Israeli officials in

Washington that the Geneva conference had little chance of success and a new attempt at the step-by-step approach was needed were received by surprise here.

The Israeli government's current policy was to prepare for a resumption of the Geneva talks, suspended two months ago, and greater coordination between Jerusalem and the embassy in Washington was needed, Maariv wrote.

The cabinet is due to hold a meeting on today to debate the next moves following the failure of the mission by Kissinger to reach an interim agreement between Israel and Egypt the possibility of a resumption of the

Geneva conference in May would be high on the agenda.

In the interview published Thursday, President Ford said if Israel had been a little more flexible, that would have been the best assurance of peace in the long term.

His statements seemed to confirm that his secret message to the Israeli government last week was a warning against too rigid an attitude, although foreign ministry sources here denied that the message was an ultimatum.

Ford told his interviewers the best chance for peace in the Middle East now was to reconvene the Geneva conference, and he would remain in constant touch with all parties in order to avoid a new war.

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FOOD FOR THOUGHT

If you give to a thief he cannot steal from you, and he is then no longer a thief.

William Saroyan

Editorial

Training of youth

As stipulated in the educational reforms bill of the Republic of Afghanistan this year graduates of eight grade were given qualifying examination for high school.

Those who received passing marks, and were enrolled in high schools have better prospects for graduation from the school, and subsequently the higher institutions of learning in the nation will be able to enroll better prepared freshmen.

The reforms are so designed, to help raise academic and professional training standards at all levels, and applications of the reforms of course had to start at the primary level.

Not only most of the text books for primary schools are now rewritten, and the teaching programmes substantially changed, but primary education was also lengthened from six to eight years.

The primary, intermediate and high schools of the past are now divided in two categories of primary schools, eight years, and high schools, four years. Due to problems confronting the Education Ministry and the education planners still less than half of the school age children are absorbed in primary school.

Under the circumstances it was highly important to prevent a relapsing into illiteracy on the part of graduates of primary schools. It was not only an immense personal loss to the individual students, but also to the country as a whole.

Students now leave the primary school older, and capable of pursuing a profession if they fail to make the mark for high school.

Several thousand eight grade students this year could not pass the high school entrance examination. What the Ministry of Education is now trying is to organize special courses for these students who would learn a profession, and would be able to find gainful employment.

Plans for establishment of many courses are already prepared and the date for registration in these courses is already announced by the Education Ministry.

Many government organisations are in dire need for skilled workers, and personnel of intermediate skills.

The graduates of eighth class who do not go on to high school now provide these organisations with a formidable pool of manpower that can be trained within a short time, and learn more with on the job training.

The Ministry of Education's courses will play a highly useful role in helping these young people to stand on their own feet.

But there will still be need for cooperation in this area on the part of other government organisations, industrial establishments, and various projects under implementation.

In the event apprenticeship and training programmes are initiated by a sufficient number of such establishments, all the primary school graduates will be able to engage in meaningful work.

Press Review

JAMHOURIAT

In an editorial carried today the paper commenting on sports says that in the world today sport is an inseparable part of the daily life. In all countries it is difficult to find a person who in one or the other way has nothing to do with sports. A citizen can better render a service to his nation when he enjoys physical and mental health.

It should be said with regret, the paper continues, that hitherto sports have been only in name in our country. In the past if a number of our youth turned to sports they soon abandoned them with disappointment as a result of a number of factors including the undesirable sport organisations. This was not only a loss for the young sportsmen of our country but also a damage to the physical health of the nation. Our sports teams used to return home from competitions abroad without any success.

Fortunately, however, with the establishment of the new regime the hope appears that sports, like other areas of national life, would undergo a reform and would follow a new path, says the paper.

The state has in view, and the Ministry of Education has resolved to direct serious attention to the development of sports in the country, especially national and traditional sports.

The Minister of Education, says the paper, in its new academic year message gave this promise to our youth. We are sure this sector of our life will develop as soon as possible.

The paper in the end calls for cooperation in expansion and popularisation of sports throughout the country.

ANIS
The paper devotes its Thursday's editorial to the death of King Faisal and says that with the assassination of King Faisal the Arab world has lost one of its great personalities.

King Faisal, 69, spent most of his lifetime in the service to his nation and in the interests of the development and progress of Saudi Arabia.

Saudi Arabia is one of the biggest oil producing countries in the world. The oil income of Saudi Arabia recently reached 20 milliards dollars. He managed to use the oil resources and, their income in modernisation of his country, the paper says.

The construction of new towns and cities, and the implementation of agricultural, industrial, health and communications projects are the shining examples of the services which King Faisal rendered to the development and progress of his people and country.

The death of King Faisal is regrettable and is a blow for Saudi Arabia and the Arab world at large.

The paper, at the end, voices hope that our friendly country Saudi Arabia will follow up the views and wishes of late King Faisal for the prosperity and welfare of the Saudi Arabian nation under the leadership of King Khalid.

WASHINGTON, March 29, (APP)—Henry Kissinger hopes to quit as US Secretary of State before the end of the year, syndicated columnist Marquis Childs said yesterday.

In an article published in a number of newspapers, the columnist said Kissinger would retire to Oxford University and divide his time between teaching, writing the memoirs for which he has already been offered millions of dollars, and seeing his many friends in the old world.

REPRESSION AND RESISTANCE IN NAMIBIA

PART IV

In April 1973, 50 prisoners presented a petition to the prison authorities of Robben Island, in South Africa, where many Namibians are held, in which they claimed that a number of basic prisoners' rights had been eroded. As punishment for this action, Colonel W. H. Wilmwilleme, the officer commanding the prison, reportedly stripped the prisoners concerned of their rights to smoke, read, write letters or study. L. Kader Hassim, the leader of the group, was placed in solitary confinement. According to the information given in the petition, a copy of which was later smuggled out of the prison, the condition of black political prisoners in South Africa has deteriorated since the mid-1960s. This incident later led to a court action brought by two of the wives of the prisoners seeking restitution of their husbands' rights. Justice Timont of the Supreme Court in Cape Town, who ruled on the action, declared that the isolation of the prisoners' leader was unlawful, and he criticized the South African Prison Department and the officer commanding the prison in particular.

According to a report prepared by the Hoc Working Group of Experts appointed by the United Nations. Despite arrests, detention and torture, the Namibian people have continued to oppose the South African occupation regime. This determination was well expressed by Tafi Hivelaah, a SWAPO official inside Namibia:

"Imprisonment under the Act on Terrorism or the Act on Sabotage will not deter Namibia's blacks from continuing the struggle. Prison is nothing, and I myself am ready to face it."

Action against the occupation regime is conducted separately on the military and the political fronts.

Addressing the Special Committee of 24 on decolonization

on 2 April 1974, Moses Garoeb, Administrative Secretary of SWAPO, emphasized that Namibia's independence would never be achieved without the use of force and said that it was out of this realization that SWAPO had decided to resort to armed struggle. The effectiveness of SWAPO's military forces, he said, had compelled South Africa to train and arm blacks from the South African "bantustans" to fight against SWAPO in Namibia.

In 1973, the People's Liberation Army of Namibia (PLAN), which conducts operations from bases located inside Namibia, was reported to be more confident and better armed than previously. Scattered reports have described some of the armed engagements which occurred during the year. In January 1973, for example, PLAN attacked the Kamanga military base in the Caprivi Strip, killing or wounding 160 South Africans. In April, a PLAN ambush cost the lives of 37 South African soldiers, many reported to be Africans, and it appeared that South African Government was in fact implementing its announced policy of putting African troops into the frontline. UN Commission on Human Rights to study the treatment of political prisoners in southern Africa, the South African police were reported to have used "most cruel and degrading torture" on people arrested in Namibia. In the report it was stated that the victims were tied to horizontal poles, head down, and beaten or kicked. Other actions included the use of electric shock equipment and the dropping of victims from helicopters. After calling for an end to the "inhuman and degrading treatment" of people who had been detained solely because they opposed South African policy in Namibia,

the report demanded an inquiry into cases which had resulted in a fatality.

In June 1973, it was reported that PLAN fighters had captured an arms and munitions depot during an action against South African troops in the Caprivi Strip. In July, PLAN units were reported to have launched attacks in the Kavango basin area of the Caprivi Strip. The South African of Mpacha is located near Katima Mulilo, near the point of the Caprivi Strip. A highway is being constructed to link this base with the railway network in the interior of Namibia; in order to prevent its being mined by PLAN forces, the highway is being constructed as a tarred road.

In addition to regular military operations, it was reported that South African forces had bombarded villages, poisoned water supplies set fire to forests and farms. These and other actions of the South African forces in Namibia continued to cause many people to become refugees. Out of an estimated population of 22,000 in the eastern part of the Caprivi Strip, several thousand fled to Zambia and Botswana during 1973. A senior officer of the security police, speaking in Windhoek in June 1973, said that South Africa would only remain safe from the threat posed by terrorism on its borders for as long as its people were prepared to help combat the menace.

In a white paper on defence and armaments submitted to the South African Parliament on 10 April 1973, P.W. Botha, the African Minister of Defence, said: "I do not wish to spread alarm but I must state unambiguously that for a long time already we have been engaged in a war of low intensity and this situation probably will continue for some considerable

time to come."

A year later, Botha was reported to have announced that the South African police units which had been operating since 1967 in the Caprivi Strip were being replaced by South African army units. He also revealed, in a press conference held in the Caprivi Strip, that the first time in the history of South Africa, blacks would be conscripted into the South African army.

Political action inside Namibia is organized principally by the internal wing of SWAPO and its affiliate, the SWAPO Youth League, both of which pursue a policy non-violence. Although SWAPO was the object of numerous repressive measures applied by the South African occupation regime, the party itself is not, in terms of South African legislation, a "banned organization". It is therefore permitted to exist.

Although most of the top leaders of the internal wing of SWAPO, including the national chairman, have been arrested, as noted above, the party has survived and in fact become more active.

The SWAPO Youth League, organized at the beginning of 1973 and composed largely of men in their twenties, has carried out many of SWAPO's activities inside Namibia. Meetings were held throughout the country, particularly in Windhoek, where gatherings were permitted with various restrictions, and in Ovamboland where, in terms of the emergency regulations in force there, meetings were generally considered illegal.

In July and early August 1973, SWAPO urged the people of Ovamboland to boycott the elections for the Ovamboland Legislative Council. As a result of this action, only 2.5 per cent of the electorate, both inside and outside the "homeland", went to the polls.

CLEARING THE WAY TO WORLD OIL SUMMIT

One by one, the essential preliminaries to the summit talks between oil consumers and producers—urgently needed to restore the world economy's equilibrium—are being completed.

For instance, shortly after the Heads of State of the major producers' cartel, the Organisation of Petroleum-Exporting Countries (OPEC) had ended their Algiers conference, the governing board of the 18-nation International Energy Agency (IEA) met here in the French capital.

The Agency is one of the initiatives that emerged from the meeting of oil-importing countries, held in Washington a little over a year ago, to discuss both immediate and longer term steps to deal with the crisis triggered off by the meteoric increases in oil prices, now five times what they were in 1973.

From the discussions of the IEA board there emerged a formula to guarantee the development of alternative energy sources which has been forwarded for approval by the agency's member-governments.

It was also suggested that the IEA should participate as an observer in the preparatory meeting of oil consumers and producers, scheduled to open here in Paris on April 7.

The agency's timetable calls for agreement by July on a joint energy research programme. Accord has already been reached on nine areas of research and development which should be explored as possible multi-national ventures.

To avoid duplication of effort, and hopefully to speed up the investigations into oil alternatives, various projects have been allocated to individual countries or multinational bodies.

Thus the European Economic Community's Euratom agency will concentrate on thermonuclear fusion and the manufacture of hydrogen while Japan has been allotted solar energy.

Energy conversion will be one of the United States fields, while research into combined heat and power has been allotted to West Germany and the utilisation of municipal and industrial waste to the Netherlands.

Britain's lead in coal technology is recognised in the allocation of this sector to her. The more efficient and comprehensive exploitation of coal as a source of liquid and gaseous as well as solid fuel and many other by-

products—is regarded as one of the most promising areas of research and is therefore expected to attract a high degree of effort and expenditure.

As the world's oil reserves may well be exhausted in another 50 years if consumption continues at the present rate, the current research and development effort would have been necessary without the intervention of the energy crisis.

Therefore, as has been widely

appreciated, a basic task of the projected consumer-producer summit will be to find a way of ensuring that while oil prices revert to a level that the global economy can withstand, they should not fall to a point which might deter the quest for alternatives.

Although they may not be immediately obvious, the IEA's activities are of relevance to the worst victims of the oil crisis, the vast majority of developing

countries. Among the lesser publicised aspects of the recently signed Lome Convention, governing trade and aid relations between the EEC and 46 African, Caribbean and Pacific States, is the provision which will facilitate the transfer of technology to these partners. Advances in the exploitation of alternative energy sources would come into this category.

(Lionel)

IN OUR STRANGE WORLD

ASHKABAD, March 29, (Tass)

—Merited master of sports of the USSR Anatoli Osipov made his 600th parachute jump over the Turkmenian capital. He is the world's second athlete to have reached this mark. Together with him another eight parachutists baled out of the plane at an altitude of 3,800 metres.

Twenty minutes later, after going closer to each other in free flight they formed a ring. This was celebrated the 6,000th step in the skies of the 35-year old captain of the USSR national team, all over champion of the USSR of 1974.

The world's first 6,000th parachute jump was made several years ago by 53-year-old veteran of Soviet parachute jumping Ivan Savkin.

LONDON, March 29, (Reuters)

—Mrs. Sheila Buckley, personal secretary of John Stonehouse, the runaway British member of parliament, was arrested Wednesday in the Australian town of Sale, east of Melbourne, Scotland Yard said here.

The arrest by Australian police followed a hunt of more than 24 hours for the 28-year-old divorcee.

A warrant was issued in London for Mrs. Buckley, together with Stonehouse, stole the proceeds of a cheque for 7,000 sterling drawn on the account of one of Stonehouse's companies, export promotions and consultancy services limited.

The other cheques were for 10,000 sterling, 2,000 sterling, 3,000 sterling and 12,500 dollars (5,120 sterling).

NEW YORK, March 29, (Reuters)—Muhammad Ali is interesting five charges of theft by Madson Square Garden is prepa-

red to make for a world title defence here in June against either Britains Jean-Bugner or American Ken Norton.

Teddy Brenner, the Garden's matchmaker, told Reuter this last night. "Now it is up to them (Ali and his business manager Herber Muhammed) which one they want to fight," he said.

Brenner said he and other Garden officials had already held talks with Bugner's representatives about the world heavyweight bout.

"I don't think we'll have any trouble in working out a deal with them", Brenner said.

If either fight is held here, he said, it would probably be staged on June 9, possibly as the feature half of a double-bout that would also include a lightweight title fight between champion Roberto Duran of Panama and Ken Buchanan of Scotland.

Up to now Chicago has been the favourite to stage Ali's next title defence with Bugner the challenger.

On the lightweight fight, Brenner said talks with Duran's manager, Carlos Eleta, would begin next Monday.

"I'll be talking with Eleta on Monday and I think we have a good chance of getting Duran and Buchanan in the Garden," Brenner said.



Minister of Education on advent of new academic year

Following is the text of the speech of the Minister of Education delivered on the advent of new academic year:

Dear countrymen, professors, teachers and students: I congratulate you all on the New Year and pray to Almighty God to make the new year full of delight and happiness.

The past year had material as well as spiritual values for our dear Afghanistan because in that year positive moves were made in the various vital areas of the life of our nation and also the foundations of some projects was laid whose results will be, of course, achieved in the coming years.

In the field of education the point to be recalled is the radical and basic reforms the need for which was felt since the last several years.

The world today is a world of knowledge, technology, work and action and it is for us to rapidly go along with the caravan which is forging ahead to achieve objectives.

It is obvious that education is one of the important organs of our life, because the education of our children today on the one hand and the training of the future generation on the other are directly related with science and knowledge.

It should be especially noted that side by side with the revolution which has taken place in the economic, social and political fields of our young republic need for a cultural revolution was also felt.

In order to positively respond to the needs of the youth, and to realize their lofty ideals, much attention was focused on the education reform by the Republic of Afghanistan. I am greatly hopeful that the youth, professors and countrymen will cooperate sincerely and understandingly for the enhancement of the level of general knowledge and rapid measures are taken to bring about a change in education of the country quantitatively and qualitatively. I can say with confidence that after this no young element will be offered to the society in the name of mere literature. And innocent children of today will not be trained like faces of yesterday.

Dear Friends, I should tell you with regret that the general level of the knowledge of our youth which was parallel to the requirement of yesterday and was reflected in the implementation of the old programmes carried out in the course of the several past years, is not satisfactory today.

It was due to this reason that the standard of education descended, some of the students however on their own made earnest efforts to gain knowledge but it was in vain.

This order prevailed for a long time unfavourable and regrettable situation entered the educational and scientific centers of the

country, to which our dear countrymen are witnessed.

It is a source of delight that today in the light of the progressive regime of the Republic, radical reforms which are thoroughly studied and analysed and are extensively practical are being implemented. Nevertheless I should say that no programme and reform will be successful if there is no cooperation of scientific nature among our countrymen, professors and students.

In my opinion, we the staff members of the education who are considered responsible for the raising and training of the young future generations, the education and training of the future generation is not only our obligation but also of the parents and guardians of the students. They are our partners in this great national obligation, because students live in the environments of home and schools, and whenever there appears a lack of coordination between them a gap is created which engulfs the entire education system. It is therefore necessary that parents should have direct contact and relation with the school administrations and cooperate with the school authorities in enhancing the education level of the children, securing rational discipline, and similarly, in rejecting unnecessary modes, and fashions.

The parents and the guardians should teach their children that the childhood period and the school age are only for acquiring knowledge not for fashions.

The Ministry of Education has in view that the youth should be trained into dexterous and educated persons with will and determination. And should create respect and understanding between the today's and yesterday's generations. We can not overlook the facts that the youth of today are acquainted with science, technology of the time in accordance with the demands of the world of today and their way of thinking differs from that of the past. It is the duty of the youth that in the light of the deep sense of understanding in complete perception they should confer their attitudes with those of the society in such a way that the family and the community where they live should develop love and affection towards them.

Likewise, the youth with superficial study of a few books should not act in such a way so as the society in which they live neither accept their words nor their existence. It is the duty of the youth to study all faces of the life and analyse their society. And to be religious, patriotic, dutiful, industrious and determined.

Moreover, they should be a shining example for all Afghans in consolidating national unity by eliminating discords, hostilities and fanaticism.

Dear professors and teachers: Our responsibilities are grave. Since you are in direct contact

with the students and since you teach them it is therefore for you to have deep scholarly studies and provide satisfactory and scientific answers to the questions posed by the students. You should convey all useful information to the students. They should have voluminous knowledge regarding their home country and should know its values and be prepared to protect and realize the national aspirations with all sacrifices needed.

Dear professors, teachers and students: I draw your attention to the valuable instructions of the national revolution leader Mohammad Daoud which say:

"Men with no faith and creed have never been the source of great and valuable services to their country and society and will never become so."

In line with this statement one of our desires for the creation of a new system of education is that the new generation should know that there is no contradiction between Afghanistan and nationalism and progress and achievement.

In the light of our culture we should train a generation who acclaim a good name for Afghanistan, and be remembered with pride in everywhere and every time. I should frankly say that the Ministry of Education will pay serious attention towards professors, teachers and educators who fail to fulfill their national obligations and guide the students by undesirable standards.

The Republican state and the Ministry of Education have fully recognised the problem of the teachers and have undertaken basic plans to meet their needs. And also for those teachers who are busy discharging their duties away from their homes the provision of boarding within the scope of the financial possibility of the state is one of the serious issues of the Ministry.

The Ministry of Education hopes that these difficulties will be eliminated in the next few years with the cooperation of the state and international organisations.

Similarly, the Ministry of Education would like to expand the studies of their officials and help enrich their experiences through holding in-service training courses, seminars and conferences. Of course priority in this connection will be given to those teachers who perform their duties in the countryside.

As far as scholarships for higher studies are concerned measures will be adopted to help find deserving candidates in accordance with an organised plan. The teachers and educators of the country, be near or away, will enjoy the just distribution of academic scholarships.

For some schools the lack of school buildings is considered as one of the main and basic problems of the Ministry of Education. For the elimination of this

problem not only the state but our dear countrymen are obliged to cooperate with us as in the past and the Ministry of Education will of course appreciate their cooperation and thank them sincerely.

At the end I would like to congratulate once again all professors, and students on the advent of new academic year and end my speech with the following slogans:

Long live Afghanistan.
Long live the Republic and long live our national revolution.

CAIRO, March 29, (AFP)—An Arab summit conference will be held in the near future to discuss latest developments in the Middle East after the failure of the latest Kissinger mission, the daily Al Ahran reported yesterday. The idea of holding the summit was discussed by Arab leaders who attended the funeral of King Faisal of Saudi Arabia in Riyadh on Wednesday, the newspaper said.



At the operating table: Dr. Franz Botz (on the right), head of the Konigsbach clinic for horses (Federal Republic of Germany). (Siemens)

MANY POINTERS MALTHUS WAS AFTER ALL CORRECT

Was Robert Malthus right after all? For 175 years, economists, statesmen and philosophers have been debating the principle voiced by the 18th century English clergyman economist that eternal poverty is predestined for man because population growth always will tend to outrun the expansion of production of food and other necessities.

The chance Malthus was right poses a cruel dilemma to Americans. It means facing up to the awesome possibility that at no matter how much its vast foreign aid programme benefits this generation it will only make matters worse for succeeding generations by accelerating population growth and further impoverishing the earth.

The dilemma may become particularly acute for business industry depends on foreign aid to finance a substantial share of its markets. To ordinary Americans, foreign aid is a heavy tax burden and Malthusian Principles raise doubts about the wisdom of accepting that burden.

Can advancing technology continue to cast doubt on and even appear to refute the theory Malthus propounded in his famous 1798 essay?

In the industrialized countries, technology has won the struggle so far but each year it seems fewer experts remain convinced technology can maintain the gap.

Malthus said infinite human hopes for social happiness must be vain. He asserted population increases by geometrical progression while production grows only at arithmetical progression. Population, he said, always will expand to the limit of subsistence and then will be held in check only by war, famine and disease.

The industrial revolution began and advanced substantially during Malthus life but he never accepted the idea of his more optimistic contemporaries that mechanized industry would disprove his gloomy law.

The technology enthusiasts always have been convinced Malthus was fundamentally wrong. Just recently, Gould Inc, Chicago battery manufacturer, published a pamphlet entitled "Technology and the Prophets of Doom." It pointed out Malthus was worried unduly about excess population at a time when the earth's population was only 1,000 million. Today it is between 3,600 million and 3,800 million and "the air is filled" with new predictions of disaster.

The Gould pamphlet's author took issue with "The limits of growth," published in 1972 for the Club of Rome, a group of 30 scientists from 10 countries who met in the Italian capital. This report, prepared by a team at Massachusetts Institute of Technology, is pessimistic about the chance technology will be able to continue to

supply great help in solving the food crisis and insists mankind's salvation from now on depends almost entirely on halting population growth.

The Gould pamphlet quoted experts on the staff of the World Bank who said the Club of Rome report was based on false assumptions. It went on to conclude there is no reason to believe, after triumphing over every obstacle for two million years, human ingenuity would be unable to continue to advance technologically as it had for the past 175 years and so refute Malthus' defeatism. It described a number of technological developments now in the works to help solve the global food problem.

There are other experts who fear, however, the ability of the industrialized countries to thwart Malthusian principles is ending—for the simple reason the industrial nations no longer are able to exploit the resources of the underdeveloped countries for their own benefit.

Even in the United States, the country that admittedly holds world's hope for winning the struggle against starvation in the foreseeable future, hunger still is a major problem. Senate investigators said they found real evidences of starvation in the Mississippi delta country in 1976. The number of Americans on federal food assistance has doubled to 15 million since 1959.

The number of people getting federal food stamps has grown by 325 percent. The help given often falls far short meeting even minimal needs. These circumstances certainly could be interpreted as the working out of Malthus' principles even in the richest and most highly technologically advanced country in the world, a country where the birth rate for the majority of the populace already has been brought under effective control.

The Soviet Union, which has jerked itself forward to a high state of technological advance since World War II, has revealed to the outside world in the past year it is far from self-sufficient in food. The Russians had to make huge purchases of grain and soybeans in the United States following crop failure.

They also contributed to the spectacular rise in the price of sugar by secretly buying up 500,000 tons on the world market when it became apparent the Soviet sugar beet crop would be a failure. Both actions can be cited as presumptive evidence, Malthus was right after all.

Declining prosperity in the West is being offset only to a limited degree by a rising standard of living in some of the poorer countries—those that have oil to sell. Most of the underdeveloped nations complain, and statistics indicate they are

right, that the gap between their living standards and those of the industrial nations is widening, not narrowing. If this is a factual picture of what is happening in the world, it is a Malthusian picture.

Other facts and observations lead to the suspicion the course of events in the rest of this century could prove finally that Malthus was right:

The world's population of perhaps 3,700 million will double in 25 years unless birth control measures become much more effective.

Birth control and family planning have not taken hold in the underdeveloped countries. Their populations still are rising at an average annual rate of 2.4 per cent compared with 0.9 per cent in the developed lands. The reason? Too often in the underdeveloped countries few children means not enough hands to work the land and a lonely, hungry old age for parents.

The "Green Revolution," which was hailed 15 years ago as the salvation of mankind, has not succeeded in the underdeveloped countries. It has been thwarted by insects, floods, drought, by man's ignorance and lately by a growing fertilizer shortage.

Inflation erodes up to half of the foreign aid programmes to the United States and other advanced nations.

Small US harvests can force world prices of staple foods up spectacularly, showing the extent of dependence on the United States.

The fact so many millions in India, Bangladesh, and other Asian, Latin American and African nations live on the edge of starvation.

The great death toll of the vast African drought apparently resulted in considerable part from illadvised efforts to raise the standard of living of these desert peoples. This led to overgrazing the land and to total destruction.

Considering these factors, John Hulse, the Canadian nutritionist employed by the United Nations, said not long ago, "Fancy technology will do little to ease the needs of hungry people."

Neo-Malthusian ideas have been advanced in the United States with increasing frequency since publication in 1867 of "Famine-1975" by William and Paul Paddock.

Such ideas even have been debated in Congress. The Paddock book argued that in some countries such as India, where population growth already has passed the agricultural growth potential, the social system is so inefficient that "to send food to them is to throw sand in the ocean."

Dr. Jay Forrester of MIT said: "Consider a country so overpopulated that all adversities are resolved by a rise in the death rate. Suppose humanitarian (Continued on page 4)



At the Research and Designing Institute belonging to the "ELECTROPOWER" Enterprise from Craiova town, a new high-power laboratory was recently put into operation.

As a single laboratory of this kind in Romania, he's destined to do some experimental investigations and test operations for the high-voltage equipment and installations which are to be integrated in the national electro-power system.

Being equipped with up to-date technical apparatus, this high-power laboratory can do many other test works under concluded agreement with foreign firms for high-power electro-technical products.

Kidnappers set free French envoy

NAIROBI, March 29, (Reuter).—The French ambassador to Somalia, Jean Gueury, kidnapped by gunmen last Sunday, arrived in Djibouti from Aden last night on his way home to France. Italian officials in the Somali capital told Reuter in Nairobi by telephone "the ambassador is well but tired, according to information reaching us through the Somalia government."

U.S. Congressional delegation to visit Peking today

PEKING, March 29, (AFP).—A 15-man US Congressional delegation led by the Democratic Speaker of the House of Representatives, Carl Albert and the Republican Minority Leader in the House, John J. Rhodes, were expected in Peking today for a 10-day visit.

They were invited by the Chinese People's Institute for Foreign Affairs.

The bi-partisan delegation includes William H. Gleysteen Jr., Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for East Asia.

American sources here have described the visit as "pure routine", but observers pointed out it comes at a time when US credibility throughout South-East Asia was becoming low.

The delegation was coming to Peking for general tour their visit had no connection with the projected visit to Peking next autumn of President Ford, the US sources said.

"We do not know why his plane has landed at Djibouti but it may be so that he can receive a medical examination. French officials had asked that a doctor be put aboard his plane in Aden but apparently this was not done" they said.

The Ambassador was set free, yesterday in exchange for two guerrillas released from French prisons and a ransom of 100,000 dollars, according to reports from Aden.

A French state radio correspondent in Djibouti said the exchange took place at Aden airport yesterday afternoon, ending five days of captivity for the ambassador.

Turkish Cypriots to approve draft constitution next month

NICOSIA, March 29, (AFP).—A totally independent and secular Turkish Cypriot state with a Turkish Cypriot president and prime minister is provided for in the draft constitution of the Federative Turkish Cypriot State, published here yesterday.

The document describes the federative state as based on "the principle of Democracy and social justice."

It also states that the federative state government will be empowered to receive cultural, social, economic, commercial and technical assistance from foreign countries and international organisations.

The draft, which Turkish Cypriots will be asked to approve

Gueury would likely spend a few hours in Djibouti before flying on to Paris where he was expected today, the report said.

The Iraq news agency reported from Aden that after receiving their money the two kidnappers and two prisoners left the airport in a military vehicle under heavy guard for an unknown destination.

The guerrillas had threatened to kill the ambassador unless all their demands were met by midnight (21000 GMT) last night.

Guerrillas of the front for the Liberation of Coastal Somalia (Djibouti) seized Gueury at gunpoint outside Mogadishu Roman Catholic cathedral last Sunday.

by referendum before the end of April, provides for a 30-deputy legislative assembly to be set up after a general election.

The president of the Federative State will be elected by universal suffrage for a seven-year term.

Also provided is the appointment of a prime minister to head a cabinet, a major change in the 1960 Cypriot constitution, which provided only for a president of the republic.

The official language of the federative republic will be Turkish. Under the oath which the president will swear on taking office, will bind himself to respect "the principles of (Kemal) Ataturk", founder of modern Turkey.

Phnom Penh's airport under heavy shelling

PHNOM, PENH, March 29, (Reuter).—National Unity government fired about 30 artillery rounds and rockets at Phnom Penh's airport yesterday, Pochentong halting for the fifth time the month-old American airlift of urgently needed food, fuel and ammunition to the capital.

There were no immediate reports of casualties or damage from yesterday's shelling against the one-runway airstrip, five miles (eight kms) west of the city, and no indication if the airlift would resume today.

American officials here said it was the second consecutive day that the National Unity Government forces captured U.S.-built 105 mm howitzers, proving that they had moved the guns to within range despite government efforts to clear the so-called "rocket belt" north and northwest of the airport.

Military sources said Lon Nol troops had advanced by about half-a-mile (800 metres) at one point in the area after fierce fighting, but the whole zone remained under heavy NUG force pressure and posed a serious threat to the capital.

Malthus was after all correct

(Continued from page 3) American impulses then lead to massive relief efforts from outside. What is the long term result? Relief leads to still greater need for relief and eventually to a situation that even relief cannot handle."

Philip Handler, President of the National Academy of Sciences, urged cutting off food help to starving peoples unless the US can and will do enough for them to make them self-supporting.

Garrett Hardin, a University of California scientist, called bluntly for "lifeboat ethics" in dealing with the situation. The American courts long ago decided the officer in charge of a drifting lifeboat has the right and duty to toss some persons overboard to "drown that the rest might be saved."

Hardin said we must follow this harsh "lifeboat ethic" in dealing with the food crisis. He said the rich nations now are like people floating in lifeboats.

Naturally this aroused bitter

criticism. "As long as we Americans consume so much more food than we need how can we take such a stand?" critics demanded.

At a recent Aspen Institute conference in Maryland, moralists and even some scientists accused the neo-Malthusians of exaggerating the situation. They said mankind has not yet made a serious effort to crack the world food shortage. Some cited the comforting view of the late Brazilian demographer, Josue di Castro, who claimed nature adjusts the human fertility rate to the food supply—that fertility rises in time of hunger to offset deaths by starvation but falls when food becomes more plentiful.

Prof. Ronald Jager of Yale said the life boat ethic would lead to moral disintegration in America. To which Hardin answered in a recent interview: "You may not like the law of gravity either, but once you know it exists, you don't just sit down and cry about it." (New Standard)

Lon Nol may flee Cambodia soon, says Japanese diplomat

TOKYO, March 29, (AFP).—The Lon Nol government of Cambodia has already decided to surrender to the NUG forces and its leaders are preparing to go abroad, a Japanese diplomat who recently returned here from Phnom Penh reported yesterday.

In an interview with the Kyodo news service, Takeshi Nakamura, Counsellor at the Japanese embassy in Cambodia, said the embassy was closed earlier this week in the face of increasing military pressure from the NUG forces on the Cambodian capital.

Nakamura, quoting a military attache at the embassy, said the NUG forces planned to capture Phnom Penh airport to end American airlift operations.

Blockade of the airport would spell collapse of the government, he observed.

If the US Congress decided on large cuts in aid to Cambodia, Lon Nol troops defending the capital might flee without putting any resistance to NUG forces attacks, he said.

The diplomats said the Phnom Penh government had already drawn up a plan to end the fighting.

According to the plan President Lon Nol was to leave the country for "recuperation" and Premier Long Boret would follow suit other government leaders listed as among "seven traitors" by the NUG forces might also leave the country, Nakamura said.

Then first Deputy Premier Pan Soth and other liberal ministers under the leadership of the Senate President would deal with the NUG forces, he said.

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