OIC asks Soviet leader to end occupation

AN Alliance delegation asked the OIC foreign ministers' conference to recognize the interim government proposed by the Mujahideen. While the Conference demanded the withdrawal of Soviet forces from Afghanistan, it did not approve Mujahideen's request.

A seven-member delegation headed by Amir Hamza participated in the OIC foreign ministers conference held in Amman.

The Mujahideen delegation informed the Conference about the situation in Afghanistan and the Mujahideen's position on the Geneva talks.

One of the main issues under discussion at the conference was the recent Palestinian uprising in the occupied areas. The Mujahideen delegation supported the struggle of the Palestinians for the liberation of their homeland.

The OIC suspended the membership of Afghanistan after the invasion of 1979 by the Soviet Union and since then the Afghan seat has been vacant.

The OIC has supported the position of the Afghan Resistance in the past and passed many resolutions calling for the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan but has failed to condemn Soviet invasion by name. One of the reasons for this hesitation is the presence of so-called radical Arab states in the Conference who have good relationship with the Soviets.

It was not surprising for the Resistance to see that their demand for the recognition of the proposed interim government was not accepted. Some members of OIC may have thought supporting the demand of the Resistance, while proximity talks still continue, would be destructive to political process in Geneva.

The Kabul regime warned the OIC against discussing the Afghan issue in its Amman meeting, but it was ignored.

Peace prize winner urges direct talks

A Nobel prize winner and members of the European Parliament called on Soviet leader Mikhael Gorbachev to negotiate with the Afghan Mujahideen in a petition published by "Le Monde" daily at the eve of resumption of Geneva proximity talks on Afghanistan.

The petition, bearing 500 signatures, asked Gorbachev to talk directly with those fighting for their land, identity, dignity and independence.

The signatories included Argentina's 1980 Nobel peace prize winner Adolfo Perez Esquivel, former French Prime Minister Laurent Fabius and Soviet emigre writer Vladimir Bukovsky.

Car-bomb defused
A car bomb was defused in Parachinar Kuram agency two weeks ago. The town is situated close to the Afghan border.
HERAT

MUJAHIDdeen from Jamiat killed ten soldiers and took prisoner five others in an area five kilometers north of Ghorayan district.

The attack, conducted by Sayed Ahmad Gurg, was launched against a supply convoy of Communist forces on February 15. A Russian-made jeep was destroyed, and a motorcycle and eight Kalashnikov rifles were seized.

In another operation carried out against the enemy posts in the Western part of the city of Herat, 20 enemy soldiers were either killed or wounded. Three Mujahideen were also killed in the operation which was launched on January 20.

NANGARHAR

MUJAHIDdeen from Jamiat killed seven communist soldiers and wounded eight others when they raided the 6th border force of the Kabul regime in Lal Foor sub-district on February 26.

Three Mujahideen were killed in the operation.

PERWAN

SIX DRA soldiers were killed and four others taken prisoner by the Mujahideen from Jamiat in Begram district in an attack against the enemy security post on February 7. Seven Kalashnikov rifles were seized from the post.

In a separate attack, Mujahideen destroyed 3 tanks and 2 trucks and killed or wounded five soldiers. The attack was carried out against an enemy supply convoy on the Slang highway on February 2.

BALKH

SEVEN soldiers were captured and 2 others were killed when the Mujahideen attacked a DRA post in Tangi Soorab area near Mazar city on January 26.

Twelve Kalashinkove, one light machinegun, one R-109 communication set and one pair of field binoculars were seized from the post.

The Mujahideen lost one man.

A bomb planted by the Mujahideen destroyed six trucks loaded with ammunition inside Mazar city on January 29. The details are not available but it is believed that casualties on the enemy side were heavy.

THE UN reporter on Human rights situation in Afghanistan has called for the withdrawal of soviet troops and formation of a broad-based government in Afghanistan to enable refugees to return to their country.

While visiting Pakistan, Dr. Felix Ermacora talked to many refugees. The refugees told him they were eager to return to Afghanistan but they would only do so after the Soviet forces have withdrawn and a government is established which they can trust.

The UN Commission on Human Rights passed a resolution asking the Kabul regime to take proper measures against violation of human right. Twenty nine countries voted for the resolution while seven others, including Soviet Union and India, opposed it.

In his annual report, Dr. Ermacora mentioned receiving reports of cases of torture and killing in the areas under the control of the regime.
EDITORIAL

Proper plans insure victory

VICTORY of the Resistance over the Communist regime is inevitable, but it will come through well-planned political and military work.

If Geneva agreement is signed, the Soviets will start to withdraw their forces within nine months. This will leave the regime in Kabul and the resistance in the countryside. Since the Mujahideen are not ready to share power with the communists, the war for control of Kabul will continue.

The regime will have the support of Soviet troops in the first nine months, but later it will have to struggle for its survival against the resistance forces.

How long can the communist regime in Kabul survive without the support of the Red Army? Some people think a few days or months. The communists say that they will face no problems once the aid to the resistance is cut.

The communist regime has enough supplies of weapons and ammunition and can get more from the Soviets. The Red Army has built a lot of military installations which will be used by the puppets.

The size of the puppet army has increased but the army is demoralized. The communists count on the KGB-trained secret police and some other para-military units but their numbers are limited.

All the above is not enough for the survival of the regime. The missing factor is the lack of popular support for the regime. The regime is aware of this short-coming and tries to improve the situation with a so-called national reconciliation program and by abandoning communist programs but the mistrust between the people and the regime is so wide that bridging the gap is impossible.

The regime is also divided between rival factions. Soviet attempts to unite them have failed so far. This division will hasten its fall in the event of a serious campaign by the Resistance.

To destroy the regime the Resistance needs a detailed program of work. This program must be worked out from the realities of the post-Geneva situation. The program must be both military and political because the Resistance is facing a military and political problem. Elimination of the regime is a military job but to keep popular support on the Resistance side is a political task. (See next page)

New refugees tell of Soviet massacres

An old man from Kunduz says that Russians heavily bombed his village in Chardara district about 40 days ago and killed or wounded a large number of civilians. He and his family trekked 40 days to reach Pakistan.

Jumaudin, 60, said that the Soviet attack was launched in retaliation for the shooting down of a Russian plane by Mujahideen near Kunduz Airport.

Juma is a resident of the village of Angoor Bigh in Chardara district, situated close to the Kunduz Airport.

He said: "I lost three of my relatives in a Russian massacre few years ago. Two of my young sons fled to Iran after they deserted from the puppet army."

Juma and his family are living in Peshawar in a tent pitched beside the road. The old man complains of lack of food and proper clothes. He said to our reporter that he has not been helped by any party or relief organization.

Chardara has been a witness of Soviet massacres of 400 people during a military operation. Since the area is flat and very close to the Soviet base, it is difficult for the civilians to retreat to the safe areas in case of a strong attack. As a result of these massacres a large number of the residents of this district have become refugees in Pakistan.
Editorial...

Establishment of a popular regime in Kabul after the communists’ defeat is a political job, but preserving the system and maintaining law and order is a practical military problem. Bringing national unity to the country needs a proper military and political planning.

As far as military victory over the regime is concerned, the Resistance has gained enough experience. Although the Resistance will not get aid from outside and may face shortage of some weapons and all sorts of ammunition but proper planning and careful choice of targets will compensate that shortages.

The victory over the regime will be a gradual process. Being a mountainous country Afghanistan provides good opportunities for cutting supply lines. Shortages of supplies for the regime over a period of weeks will lead to her suffocation.

Capturing enemy garrisons will provide food and ammunition. Victories cause further demoralization and desertion in the puppet army. This could be done through co-ordinated attacks by trained people. Those fronts which have developed the proper organisation and have gained experience in coordinated attacks will play a leading role.

Short-sighted evaluation of the situation and over-simplification of the methods could lead to disaster. It will be immature to think of defeating the regime through attacks by tribal armies which lack discipline and the necessary skills in modern warfare.

The fall of the regime is a must but it can be done through proper planning, adoption of suitable tactics and in a co-ordinated attack.

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Human-ring around the embassy

More than 1500 Swedes formed a human-ring around the Soviet Embassy in Stockholm to protest against the Soviet occupation of Afghanistan.

Minister of Development Aid of the Foreign Office, Mrs. Lena Helg Wallen, was the chief speaker in the mass meeting held on the occasion. She said that there was need to continue pressure on the Soviets to withdraw their forces from Afghanistan.

She told the meeting that the government was determined to continue giving humanitarian assistance to Afghans affected by the war. She also promised massive efforts in reconstruction of Afghanistan after the country has been liberated.

Jan Stolpe, the Deputy Chairman of the Swedish Committee for Afghanistan emphasized the need to continue supporting Afghans and putting pressure on the Soviets to leave Afghanistan.

He criticized those who show so much concern about what may happen after the liberation while during 9 years of occupation showed scant concern about the suffering of Afghans.

The demonstration was sponsored by the Afghanistan Committee, Peace and Arbitration Committee, Swedish Church and Central Labor Union.

The appeal for the withdrawal of Soviet forces was signed by more than 100 organizations including major political parties.

Demonstration against the Soviet invasion have become a yearly event on the occasion of Afghan new year, 21st March.

This year the number of people participating in the demonstration was less then in previous years and the reason for that is the effect of the Soviet publicity about the withdrawal of their troops. Although the Soviets have not yet pulled their troops out of Afghanistan, some people think that the problem is over.

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Terrorists fire eight missiles to Peshawar

EIGHT 107 mm missiles of Soviet making were fired by the terrorists from Khayber Agency which fell over two refugees’ villages, a police colony and Pakistan Forest Institutes’ residential area, on March 13.
News blackout follows Geneva agreement

A news black-out will follow a Geneva agreement between Pakistan and the puppet regime. The world will not know about what will happen to the Resistance and the refugees returning Afghanistan. The only news reaching the world will be propaganda presented by the Soviets.

The present form of reporting the war will be finished. There will not be Resistance offices to help the reporters, nor refugees to speak about atrocities and no officer of the Resistance to arrange trips for a few dedicated journalists to report the war.

Pakistan will be unwilling to provide assistance for the journalists to sneak into Afghanistan. It could be interpreted as hostile act against the Soviets and their puppets.

Who will tell the world about what is happening? Western embassies may claim to do part of the job by sending diplomatic reports. Will they tell the truth after the agreement they have supported has failed to bring peace? Moreover, even if there are good intentions, there will not be free access to the truth.

They will have to rely on rumors and draw conclusions from the communist publications and count the incoming and out-going convoys and artillery shells.

Some journalists will make full use of the opportunity to fly.

Aeroflot or Air India and be given a guided tour by the Communist. There will not be such a thing as balanced and objective reporting.

A Geneva accord will not bring peace to the country but the immediate effect would be to deprive the Afghans of the possibility of telling the truth to the rest of the world.

Who will inform the world about massacres, the use of forbidden weapons, torture in prison, participation of Soviet combat troops against the strongholds of the Resistance.

Sovietization measures, famine, epidemics and the thousand other things which make news?

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Who is who of Mujahideen

Qari Rahmatullah

ABDUL Samad, known as Qari Rahmatullah, was born in 1955 in a small village called "Eshan Toap" in Khandahad district of Kunduz province.

Qari belongs to a religious family. His father was a poor man who could barely meet family's needs.

Qari was the oldest son of the family. He went to primary school in the Char Toof of Khandahad district and then joined the Takharistan religious school (madrassa).

"He was my good son helping me at home and not creating problems for his sister and brothers", said his mother living now in Peshawar.

Qari was still a student when communists took power and the Soviets invaded. He left the madrassa and came to Peshawar. After a while he was sent to Afghanistan by the Jami'at Islami party. First he accompanied late commander Zabihullah of Mazar to Panjshir. "That was indeed my first step in the practical life of Jihad. Those days the mountains were a kind of learning center for everyone", said Qari while visiting Peshawar.

Qari is the chief administrator of Jami'at in Kudz.

Later, he established his base in the mountains of Dera Batool of Ali Abad.

Qari is a part of the Council of the North. He is an honest and a commander who is respected by the people he works with.
From the diary of Jehad

An embarrassing argument proves a point

WE had walked for the whole day. It was the second day of our trip, and all of us were very tired.

Assadullah was the chief of the group which included Ferayoon Ganjoor, an Iranian journalist living in Switzerland, some merchants and our horsemen.

Pabrook

At about 9 O'clock we reached a place called Dehan-Pabrook. There was a tea house located at the junction of two rivers, a pleasant place to pass the night.

Assad who was experienced in arranging things managed to find a sheep to prepare the dinner for the group. After offering our prayers we ordered green tea which is very relaxing after a long journey.

Kebab

An hour later Assadullah called us by name to go to the side of the river to have our dinner. He had prepared Kebab which was delicious. The specially-prepared food was for a few people which included me and Ganjoor. The rest of the group were supposed to take their dinner inside the teahouse.

When we returned to the teahouse the rest of the group were protesting at the way they had been treated.

The argument between Assadullah and those who had remained in the teahouse continued for some times. The horsemen were shouting at Assadullah and were accusing him of misusing his position as an official of Jami'at political party to get better food.

Ganjoor said: "Es'haq, what happened last night was a good thing." I was surprised. What was good about argument over food in front of a guest? He went on to say that last night's argument showed a positive change in the way of thinking of ordinary men in Afghanistan.

He said that in the past the ordinary people in Afghanistan had been afraid of defending themselves against government officials. But last night ordinary men were protesting against a man who had an important position in the party and demanding equal treatment. Now they are not willing to stay silent if they saw somebody doing wrong even if he had an important position, he said.

Sleeping bag

The situation was very embarrassing because of the presence of a guest from Iran. I thought the argument about food and shouting at each other might give the wrong impression to Ganjoor about the people of Afghanistan and the cause. I took my sleeping bag and retreated to a spot close to the river not to hear what was going on.

In the morning when I woke up, I was still feeling embarrassed because our people had fought each other over food in front of a guest from Iran.

Ganjoor

I decided to leave earlier not to face the guests. After an hour walk along a narrow valley I saw Ganjoor trying to reach me. I tried to walk faster to keep distance with him but was tired and could not go fast. When we were at a close distance,
Afghan New Year

Before the war, Afghan New Year was a happy occasion which was celebrated by the people and government. The Soviet invasion of Afghanistan ended those celebrations.

New Year marks the beginning of spring and the start of farming activities. The first day of the year was a national holiday to permit everybody to participate in the activities arranged for the day.

Sport contests, farmers march past and cattle shows were arranged to mark the happy occasion. Families gave food to the poor and prayed for the souls of those who had died in the past year.

Celebration of the new year was a tradition but some people gave it a religious color by raising flags on shrines.

One such big gathering took place in Mazar Sharif near the tomb of Hazrat Ali, the fourth calif of Islam. People from different parts of the country and some from Iran and Pakistan participated in the ceremonies.

All these happy moments belong to the pre-war time. After the war began, these functions have not taken place. The reason is simple. The country is divided between occupied and liberated areas, and movement between the two areas is very limited and dangerous. Most people do not participate in the functions the communist government stages, and arranging such occasions in the liberated areas could be very dangerous due to enemy air attacks. In the past Soviets have bombed religious and social gatherings and killed many people.

Moreover, the loss of about one million people and displacement of several more millions have disrupted family life in the country. An occasion like the new year will bring to mind the sad memories of loss of friends and relatives. There is no desire among the people to celebrate these happy occasions.

Only the withdrawal of Soviet troops and the return of peace in the country will give a chance to the people of Afghanistan to resume their traditional way of life.

Soviets have killed one million Afghans

More than one million Afghans have been killed, a third of the population are refugees abroad, and 11% are displaced inside Afghanistan.

These statistics were given in a Swiss study on the damages of the war in Afghanistan, carried out by Professor Marek Sliwinski of the University of Geneva.

Nine percent of the Afghan population (1.24 million people) have been killed in the war. Sliwinski estimated.

Forty-six percent of the deaths have been caused by aerial raids, 33% have been killed by artillery fire and 3% by mines.

"The Afghan Resistance have no aircraft nor heavy artillery, which are almost exclusively in the hands of the Soviets," Professor Sliwinski underlined.

The report states that the Afghan civilian population have made up at least 60% of the victims of bombardments.

Professor Sliwinski said that the provinces of northern Afghanistan, bordering the USSR, were the areas most touched by the war.

Equally serious as the loss is the disintegration of Afghan society by rural population displacements and the desertification, without a doubt irreversible in certain areas, reported professor Sliwinski.

The rural population has fallen from 85% to 23%, whereas the urban population has passed from 15% to 24% and even tripling in the capital of Kabul.