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SYRIA

BRIEFS

FUNDS DISTRIBUTED TO MUNICIPALITIES--Yesterday Minister of Local Administration 'Abd al-Karim 'Adi announced decisions regarding the distribution of 200 million Syrian pounds to all municipalities to back implementation of their investment projects in order to help revitalize public services for the citizens. These decisions specified that third and fourth category municipalities would be given 132 million Syrian pounds, distributed as follows: Damascus Province, 12 million pounds, including 3 million for 'Artuz; Aleppo Province, 15 million; Homs Province, 11 million; Hamah Province, 11 million; Idlib Province, 11 million; Latakia Province, 10 million; Tartus Province 10 million, including requirements of Arwad municipality; Dayr al-Zawr Province, 10 million; al-Suwayda' Province, 9 million; Dar'a Province, 9 million; al-Raqqaq Province, 9 million, including requirements of Tal Abyad municipality; and al-Qunaytirah Province, 6 million. [As published: Al-Hasakah Province was omitted in the original text, and the preceding figures amount to only 123 million pounds.] These decisions also specified that 67,815,000 pounds would be allocated to first and second category municipalities, those which are centers of their provinces, as well as to al-Qamishli, Jablah, al-Sabdan, Duma, al-Nabak, al-Tall and Darayya. [Text] [Damascus AL-THAKRAH 30 Dec 82 p 4] 9882

HIGH DAM CAPACITY TO BE EXPANDED--After the Director General of the General Organization for the Euphrates Dam, Engineer Shakir Bazu'a, returned from a working visit to the Soviet Union where he and his delegation met with officials in the Soviet Ministry of Power & Electrification, Gosplan [State Planning Committee] and the supplier Tekhnopromeksport, he said that they had discussed raising the height of the Euphrates Dam by 4 meters. This would raise the water level from 300 to 304 meters, increase the water in al-Asad Lake by 2.5 billion cubic meters and expand the capacity of the power plant inside the dam. They also discussed studies and technical plans for this project and a broad timetable for implementation. The director also said that a contract was signed for the Soviet Union to provide the operational designs for the regulatory Dam [as published] on the Euphrates and that agreement was reached with the Soviets on a broad timetable for providing the machines, materials and equipment necessary to implement all phases of this project, since both sides agreed that construction should be completed, machines set up and

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One group of the original three put into operation at the end of 1985. They also discussed the Soviets' supplying spare parts for the power plant and presenting the final technical report on the Euphrates Dam, and discussed solving the related financial and contractual concerns. Concluding his remarks, the director emphasized that the talks were beneficial and that carrying out these projects would better our country's economy, especially since its development projects are growing rapidly. [Text] [Damascus AL-THAKRAH in Arabic 23 Dec 82 p 4] 9882

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The banquet was attended, among others, by the Foreign Minister, A.R. Shams-ud Doha and the Local Government, Rural Development and Cooperatives Minister, Mr. Habibur Rahman, Moroccan Ministers and members of the diplomatic corps.

The following is the text of speech of Chief Martial Law Administrator Lt Gen. A.R. Ershad, delivered at the banquet hosted by Mr. Husni Mubarak, Prime Minister of Morocco in his honor in Rabat on February 3.

YOUR EXCELLENCY PRIME MINISTER

measures recently undertaken is to generate strength and stability through self-reliant efforts of the people in all spheres of national life. To strengthen the process we have launched a programme of administrative reorganisation and decentralisation designed to take the administration to rural Bangladesh and our 65,000 villages.