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ECONOMIC AND TECHNICAL

1. THE MIDDLE EAST

ALGERIA

PHOSPHATE EXPORTS TO TURKEY The Perphos (formerly Sonarem) governmentowned enterprise has signed a contract with a Turkish company for the export of 200,000 t of phosphates. (APS in English 1140 gmt 24 Jul 85)

BAHRAIN

FUNDS FOR KEY SERVICES (Excerpt) Bahrain's key services have been given a massive 1.2bn Bahrain dinars government spending boost. The money will pay for airport expansion, four new shipping berths and a hospital. Services related to housing, electricity, roads, water and drainage systems are also included in the project, scheduled to start next year. "The development plan will start next year and end in 1991", said Rashid al-Mir, Undersecretary at the Ministry of Finance. "The plan to develop the airport and seaports is needed to meet the probable congestion in these areas during the 1990s", he added... ('Gulf Daily News', Manamah in English 27 Jul 85)

EGYPT

IRRIGATION PROTOCOL SIGNED WITH IRAQ (Excerpt) Cairo, 25th July - A protocol on technical cooperation between the Egyptian and Iraqi Irrigation Ministries was signed this morning by Egyptian Irrigation Minister Isam Radi Abd al-Hamid and his Iraqi counterpart, Abd al-Wahhab Mahmud, who is currently visiting Cairo. Minister Isam Radi said the new protocol covers several areas. Foremost among these are arrangements to meet Iraq's needs for Egyptian technicians and labourers to work in the irrigation sector. Egyptian companies will also take part in some of Iraq's new projects in the fields of irrigation, drainage and land reclamation. The protocol also provides for the exchange of opinions, expertise and research between the two countries. Seminars will be held, and the purpose of all this cooperation is to develop the irrigation systems of Egypt and Iraq. Experts from both countries will go on field trips, and agreement was reached on a training programme covering various aspects of irrigation.

Isam Radi pointed out that a joint standing committee of officials from both ministries was formed. It will monitor the implementation of the protocol and conduct studies of several projects to develop irrigation and water resources in Egypt and Iraq. The committee will meet biannually in each country on an alternating basis. The first meeting will be held in September. . . (MENA 1925 gmt 25 Jul 85)

GRANT AID FROM JAPAN (Text) Tokyo, 16th July - Japan will give 2,144m yen in grant aid to Egypt in fiscal 1985 for construction of an educational and cultural centre, the Foreign Ministry said Tuesday [16th July]. Notes on the grant were exchanged in Cairo between representatives of the two governments. Japan is to extend a total of 6,485m yen for the Egyptian project over three years beginning fiscal 1984. A portion of the aid has already been given. (Kyodo in English 1101 gmt 16 Jul 85)

GREECE

FRENCH FINANCE FOR MIRAGE PURCHASE (Text) Twelve French banks will finance Greece's purchase of 40 French-made mirage aircraft for our air force. The banks will provide 1.635bn French francs as a loan with an eight-year term, repayment to begin in July 1990 and to be completed by 1998. The loan will be paid off in six-month instalments. (Athens home service 2100 gmt 25 Jul 85)