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SYRIA

## BRIEFS

DAMASCUS AIRPORT ACTIVITIES--Damascus (SANA)--The Damascus International Airport in 1984 realized notable progress in comparison to 1983. An official report made by the General Directorate of Civil Aviation stated that in 1984, the number of arrivals and departures reached 1,513,712 passengers against 1,303,681 in 1983. This represents an increase of 16 percent. The number of planes which landed or took off at the Damascus International Airport in 1984 was 22,754 against 18,468 in 1983, representing an increase of 23 percent. Airmail transport was 1,282 tonnes in 1984 against 979 tonnes in 1983, an increase of 31 percent. Airfreight movement kept the same standard, the report concluded. [Text] [Damascus SYRIA TIMES in English 19 Feb 85 p 3]

ALEPPO WATER PROJECTS--Aleppo (SANA)--Allocations in the 1985 budget of the General Establishment of Water in Aleppo amounted to LS 76 million; of which LS 36 million is allotted for the completion of the third project to supply Aleppo with water; LS 22 million for maintenance projects, and about LS 1.5 million for the building of a canal. A sum of LS 12 million has been allotted to draw water from the outlet to the treatment station and a sum of LS 4 million to carry out other water ducts. [Text] [Damascus SYRIA TIMES in English 3 Mar 85 p 3]

AL-BA'TH DAM PROGRESS--Raqa (SANA)--Work at the Ba'ath Dam is being carried out by the Land Reclamation Company, the Company's Director General, Mr. Fayez Bakfalawi said yesterday. He added that more than 95 percent of the concrete construction involved will be completed during 1985, and the remaining five percent will be completed after closing the river's flow at the beginning of 1986. Mr. Bakfalawi pointed out that 11,500 cubic meters have already been carried out on one bank of the Dam. Three shifts are working on the Dam daily, he concluded. [Text] [Damascus SYRIA TIMES in English 4 Mar 85 p 3]

AL-HASAKAH DAMS BEGUN--Damascus (SANA)--After a two-day visit to the governorates of Raqa and Hassaka, the Prime Minister, Dr. Abdul Ra'ouf al-Kasm, returned to Damascus Friday after inaugurating and laying foundation stones for a number of economic projects there. On Friday, Dr. al-Kasm laid a foundation stone for a project involving constructing the eastern and western dams of Hassaka. At the project's site, a celebration was held and was attended by the Hassaka governorate Party and state officials. Addressing the Hassaka citizens, Dr. al-Kasm said: I have come here on directives from President Hafez Assad, to lay foundation stones for a number of important

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projects in support of this country's steadfast stand. "I hope that these projects, which will cost billions of pounds, will contribute to bringing prosperity to the country and to backing the battle of steadfastness." [Text] [Damascus SYRIA TIMES in English 24 Mar 85 p 2]

NEW SOVIET AIRLINER--Damascus (SANA)--The first of three TU 154M airliners ordered from the Soviet Union landed yesterday at Damascus Airport. The 150-passenger airliner brings the number of Syrianair fleet to 14. The new airliner can carry 145 passengers. It flies at an altitude of 37 to 39 thousand feet and a speed of over 1,000 km per hour. [Text] [Damascus SYRIA TIMES in English 1 Apr 85 p 3]

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