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JORDAN

BRIEFS

ECONOMIC MAGAZINE TO BE PUBLISHED--Amman, 20 Jan--PETRAO--The Council of Ministers has granted a license for the publication of an economic and social weekly magazine, AL-WIFAQ al-'ARABI [Arab detente]. The first edition of the magazine will be issued next month. [Text] [Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 0920 GMT 20 Jan 86 JN] 12624

JORDAN'S PHOSPHATE RESERVES--Amman--Wasif 'Azar, director general of the Jordanian Phosphate Mines Company, has said that phosphate reserves in explored areas are estimated at about 1.6 billion tons and this quantity could be increased several times if accurate explorations were carried out in all Jordanian areas. 'Azar added that production would be increased by exploiting the raw phosphates at Al-Shidiyah which lies approximately 50 km southeast of Ma'an and 120 km northeast of Aqaba and where phosphate reserves are estimated at about 1.2 billion tons. He explained that taking into account these results and the requirements of the world market, production in the Al-Shidiyah area is expected to begin during 1988-89 with an initial production of about 3 million tons annually which will gradually be increased to 9 million tons by the year 2000. [Excerpts] [Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic 23 Jan 86] 12624

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