

DECLASSIFIED
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By CM NARA Date 6-12-03

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Department of State
TELEGRAM

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Cabinet
~~Sanana~~ *Sanana*

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43 ACTION NEA-12
1972-12-30, Iyani, Hajri, ~~Sanana~~ 1192
INFO OCT-01 EUR-20 PASS-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00
CCO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-08 H-02 INR-09 L-03 NSAE-00
NSC-10 P-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-14 T-03 EB-11 OMB-01
10-12 AID-20 RSR-01 1132 W 118262

O P R 301622Z DEC 72
FM AMEMBASSY SANAA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1600 IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L SANAA 1192 SECTION ONE OF TWO

DEPT PASS CINCEUR FOR POLAD

SUBJECT: YAR: AL-HAJRI CABINET ANNOUNCED

REF: SANAA 1185 (NOTAL)

1. SUMMARY: NEW YARG CABINET UNDER PRIMIN AL-HAJRI ANNOUNCED DEC 30. CHANGES FEW IN NUMBER BUT SOME DEAD WOOD HAS BEEN REPLACED BY MEN OF MORE PROMISE. NET EFFECT SHOULD BE SOMEWHAT TIGHTENED, MORE EFFICIENT CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION. ECONOMIC AND DEVELOPMENT SIDE STRENGTHENED. GENERAL CAST SLIGHTLY AND PERHAPS ONLY COSMETICALLY MORE CONSERVATIVE THAN PREDECESSOR AL-AYNI GOVERNMENT.

2. NEW CABINET UNDER PRIMIN AL-HAJRI ANNOUNCED DEC 30 CONTAINS FOLLOWING CHANGES OVER OLD.

A. PRIMIN AL-HAJRI REPLACES AL-AYNTY AL-AYNI APPOINTED ADVISOR FOR UNITY AFFAIRS TO REPUBLICAN

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COUNCIL.

R. DEPUTY PRIMIN AND FONMIN, MUHAMMAD AHMAD NU'MAN, REPLACES COLONEL IRRAHIM AL-HAMDI IN FORMER CAPACITY (AL-HAMDI OUT OF CABINET) AND AL-AYNI IN LATTER.

C. DEPUTY PRIMIN FOR ECONOMIC AFFAIRS, HASSAN MAKKI, RETURNS TO JOB HE HELD BEFORE HIS BRIEF RECENT STINT AS ACTING PRIMIN FOLLOWING AL-AYNI'S FORCED RESIGNATION.

D. MININTERIOR, BRIG, GEN. MOHAMMAD AL-AKWA, REPLACES 'ALI SAYF AL-KHAWLANI, WHO OUT.

E. MINSTATE FOR DEVELOPMENT AFFAIRS, AHMAD 'ABDU SA'ID, REPLACES MUHAMMAD AHMAN AL-JANAID.

F. MINTREASURY, MUHAMMAD AHMAD AL-JUNDID, REPLACES 'ABD AL-KARIM AL-'ARASHI.

G. MINLOCAL ADMINISTRATION, 'ABD AL-KARIM

AL-'ARASHI, REPLACES HASHIM TALIB, WHO OUT.

H. MINWAQE (RELIGIOUS TRUSTS), LN

ALLAH AL-AMRI,

REPLACES YAHYA AL-DAYYANI, WHO OUT.

3. COLONEL ABDALLAH SALIM SABA, APPOINTED ADVISOR TO MININT.

4. COMMENT: APPOINTMENT OF AL-HAJRI AS PRIMIN GIVES CONSERVATIVE COLORATION TO CABINET CHANGE. RELIGIOUS LEADER (GADI), AND YARG AMBASSADOR TO KUWAIT UNTIL HIS RETURN AND ELECTION TO REPUBLICAN COUNCIL A FEW MONTHS AGO, AL-HAJRI IS WIDELY RESPECTED FOR SINCERITY, HONESTY AND SOLIDLY RIGHT WING VIEWS BUT IS NEITHER A SHINING INTELLECT NOR EXPERIENCED AS A BUREAUCRAT. IF THERE IS TO BE IMAGINATION AND INNOVATION IN THIS CABINET, IT WILL SEEMINLY HAVE TO COME FROM OTHERS, PARTICULARLY DEP PRIMIN NU'MAN, WHO PLAYED A LEADING ROLE IN OUSTER OF AL-AYNI, AND YOUNGER TECHNICRATIC MINISTERS RESPONSIBLE FOR ECONOMY AND DEVELOPMENT. AL-HAJRI WAS ESSENTIALLY ONLY ORVIOUS CANDIDATE AFTER OTHER NAMES (MAKKI) VETOED BY OPPONENTS, OR DECLINED (NU'MAN, REPUBLICAN COUNCIL MEMBER MUHAMMAD 'ALI 'OTHMAN). IN HIS FAVOR, HOWEVER, IS AL-HAJRI'S GOOD PERSONAL RELATIONSHIP WITH PRESIDENT AL-IRYANI.

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5. IMPORTANT FOR USG INTERESTS IS ADDED STRENGTH GIVEN ECONOMIC AND DEVELOPMENT SIDE OF CABINET. MAKKI HAS NOT BEEN IMPRESSIVE HERETOFORE AS DEPUTY PRIMIN FOR ECONOMIC AFFAIRS AND IS NOT EXPECTED PLAY ANY LARGER ROLE THIS TIME, BUT BALANCE OF YOUNG, TECHNICALLY ORIENTED GROUP IS ABOUT AS ENERGETIC AND WELL-QUALIFIED AS COULD BE PUT TOGETHER FROM YAR SLENDER MANPOWER RESOURCES. IN MOVING FROM

DEVELOPMENT AFFAIRS TO TREASURY, US-EDUCATED JUNAID IS EXPECTED CLEAN HOUSE AFTER EARNEST BUT NOT OVERLY COMPLETE

PERFORMANCE OF AL-'ARASHI. JUNAID WILL EVIDENTLY IS EXPECTED REMAIN THE DOMINANT VOICE IN DEVELOPMENT AFFAIRS, WITH PROBABLY MORE AUTHORITY THAN BEFORE. RETURN TO CABINET OF 'AHMAD 'ABDU SA'ID, AS MINSTATE FOR DEVELOPMENT AFFAIRS, BRINGS IN ANOTHER ACTIVIST, CONCERNED US-TRAINED PHD. WITH OTHERS SUCH AS CENTRAL PLANNING OFFICE DIRECTOR DR. IRYANI, ECONOMY MINISTER AL-ASNAG AND CENTRAL BANK DIRECTOR 'ABD AL-AZIZ AL-GHANI, JUNAID AND SA'ID CONSTITUTE A STRONG FORCE FOR DEVELOPMENT WITH WHICH USAID MISSION, UNDP AND OTHERS CAN WORK EFFECTIVELY.

6. NEW INTERIOR MINISTER AL-AKWA, IS GENERALLY REGARDED AS STRAIGHTFORWARD, INTELLIGENT AND CLEAR IMPROVEMENT OVER EMOTIONAL, VOLATILE PREDECESSOR AL-KHAWLAIN.

GDS
CRANFORD

NOTE BY OC/T: PASSED CINCEUR.

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