

# PESH MERGA

No.3 January 1975

NEWS FROM KURDISTAN-IRAQ

## **The Kurds, Winter, and the World**

In the mountains of Northern Iraq there are some two and a half million people who, although Iraqi by nationality, are Kurds. Here is yet another nation struggling to survive against an overwhelmingly greater power of the central government while the rest of the world remains silent or is, perhaps, kept in ignorance of the realities of the situation. And this at a time when other, and greater, conflicts in the Middle East are at the centre of the world's attention.

All the efforts of the super-powers, the United Nations and the international helping organisations are rightly concentrating on the Middle East in an effort to keep peace and prevent misery and deprivation of human rights. But does anyone spare time to care for the Kurds? Has anyone noticed the struggle? Has anyone seen the guerilla soldiers armed with little more than rifles and outdated guns defending its people against a force backed by all the might of an oil-rich nation? A force with sophisticated weaponry placed at its disposal by a super-power and taught and advised by that same power.

Only a few weeks ago there were women and children walking through the snow and mud, poorly clad, undernourished, ill. All refugees from bombing, shelling and machine gun and rocket strafing. The old, old story of the innocent suffering for a belief in their right to be humans in their own way, the right to lead a peaceful life. The right to have autonomy as a people.

The snow has really come and in the North Western part there may be as many as two hundred thousand people in danger of starvation, homelessness and epidemic disease. The stage is being set by the weather and the Iraqi Government for disaster. The only road by which supplies of food, covering and medicines could reach these people is blocked by snow and may remain so until the Spring.

How can the world allow such a situation? One would expect a world standing up in horror if only on the grounds of humanity – on the grounds that there are people in such great need and that so little is being done to help.

Perhaps the indifference shown to their cause has made the Kurds the tougher. Perhaps this is why they call their soldiers Pesh Merga – those who are willing to die. No one seems to care. No super-power has shown willingness to step in and stop a useless war – none to shout that there is potential extermination to come – that there is a smell of genocide in the air. Neither has public opinion been informed enough to create a ground swell of disgust.

The Kurds are not fighting a war for independence, they are not fighting for territory but only to be allowed to retain their own culture within Iraq. They are not ignorant, nomadic tribesmen squabbling with a government for a few mountain ranges. To believe this is to believe just what the Iraq Government would wish – a few 'rebels' in the mountains. Thousands of professional men joined the revolution, doctors, lawyers, writers, engineers. Men living in cities who gave up almost everything for their belief. A people who could no longer accept the oppression to which a totalitarian state subjected them.

These Kurds are proud and brave and determined but such qualities may well not be enough to ensure their survival. Under the leadership of the charismatic General Barzani I believe they will fight to the last man and woman. Does such a noble people have to die for lack of our support and active help?

**PESH MERGA**

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# Interview

1. Q: Mr. Hendriks and Miss Ding, why did you visit Kurdistan?

A: At the end of October 1974, we were sent to Kurdistan by Terre des Hommes, a humanitarian organisation of international repute, to supervise the arrival of supplies and arrange their distribution. We were also sent to find out what were the most urgent needs of the refugees, who are spread out all over the country. To do so we compiled reports on conditions under which they are living and took photos.

2. Q: How did you carry out the distribution of the supplies?

A: Firstly we distributed milk and vaccine to the refugee camps near the Iranian border, until all refugees were transported to camps in Iran. We then started distributing supplies to the Badinan area of Kurdistan; this area was virtually cut off by snow; the Turkish border was closed and access to the north-west part of Kurdistan was hampered by the Iraqi army. By the end of our stay the distribution of milk, vaccine, blankets, biscuits etc. was on a much larger scale. Dr. Hamid, with a team of one doctor and two nurses from Save the Children Fund, will continue our work.

3. Q: What were the most striking diseases you encountered?

A: For the first time we experienced cases of poliomyelitis, tetanus neonatorum, marasmus (15%) and rickets (5%). These were found among refugees in the camps near the Iranian border.

We saw a two year old child, called Ahmed, who had suffered poliomyelitis, was just skin and bones and dying. He was unable to move or express his suffering by crying. Apart from the diseases above, 9% have T.B. and 75% suffer from malaria.

4. Q: How many children die in the camps?

A: Six to ten children die every night (15,000). For refugees still on the road and in the camps in Badinan the figure is much higher, as is the death rate in general. We met a family on the road who had been travelling for more than four months. Their village had been bombed by the Iraqi Air Force. They were farmers and had nothing to do with the war. They were making for Iran by foot, carrying what little they could with them. There were three children, their parents and a three week old baby who had been born on the road; it looked ill and had diarrhoea (a disease suffered by about 40% of the children I have seen). This family had tried to start again in another village, but the children were unsettled and frightened, so they decided to leave for Iran, where they hope to find peace and somewhere to live.

5. Q: Where do most of the refugees live now?

A: As the camp areas are covered by snow, often two or three families have to live in one room, in conditions not fit for animals. Some, however, still prefer to stay in tents and are facing temperatures of near-20°C. Many of them freeze to death every night.

6. Q: What are the hopes for the future?

A: We hope that many charities and organisations will help these suffering people.

Of course we can't foresee how the war will turn out, but we know it will bring about the deaths and suffering of many many innocent children.



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# What about the Kurds?

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by Patrick Baudouin, Dominique Eudes and Thierry Mignon

In Baghdad, Mr. Chirac had a fruitful meeting with Mr. Hossein, vice-president of the Iraqi government. They dealt with industrialisation, but who knows that out of the hundred and twenty factories installed in Iraq over the last few years only three were in the Kurdish parts, even though the population of the Kurds makes up one quarter of the nation?

They dealt with the purchase of arms, but who knows that they will be used against Kurdish villages?

They dealt with cooperation and peace, but who knows that in the north of the country war is raging? And, worst of all, it is a war which dares not declare itself, a war which has seen its 'last fifteen minutes' for the past nine months, a war which, with the goal of 'pacification', sets a modern army against a small, deprived group of mountain people.

We recently came back from Iraqi Kurdistan where the International Federation for the Rights of Man sent us. We have seen this war. Some thousands of Pesh Mergas, with antiquated Russian or Czech arms, are defending the mountains of the Kurdish stronghold against the assaults of seven divisions of infantry, six hundred tanks and the most modern aviation of the Arab Middle East, since it is endowed by the Soviet Union with Mig 23 and Tupolev 22 bombers.

Kurdish valleys and towns are in the hands of the Iraqi army who drive out the civilian population. The front has established itself on the escarpments and this stops the progress of the tanks. And as they do not yield, planes daily bomb the roads, villages and even the fields of the Kurdish stronghold.

Some one million five hundred thousand people, unanimous in the struggle for their identity and survival, are in a state of siege in this stronghold. The Syrian and Turkish frontiers are inexplicably closed, even to humanitarian aid, and so three hundred thousand refugees in the adjoining regions are put in danger of death. These people have nothing. The country cannot feed them. They flee towards Iran by the only passable road which runs within reach of Iraqi guns. Each morning in Hadji-Omran, the camp near the Iranian border, thirty children are buried who died of hunger and cold during the night. Winter has arrived. The fate of these wretched people is unspeakable if nothing is done for them.

How did things get to this state? The March 1970 peace agreement, signed by Mr. Hossein and General Barzani, recognised national rights of the Kurds. It provided for a census which would take place within a year, whose purpose would be to define the limits of Kurdistan and, after a period of four years, to put into operation, to the advantage of this Iraqi province, an autonomous regime with Kurdish participation and the creation of a Kurdish regional assembly.

The census never took place. The Baghdad government took advantage of the interim period to expel several tens of thousands of Kurds from Iraq, whose crime was that they were inhabitants of the regions of oil production, so that these strategic areas could be arabised. It more or less directly organised two attempts on the life of General Barzani and one on the life of his son Idriss. It incarcerated, tortured and executed many Kurdish militants in its prisons. How could it expect the Kurds to lay down their arms in March



1974 as they were asked, in return for a statute of autonomy which included, on the one hand, the setting up of a Kurdish assembly which was drawn up by the government and deprived of legislative power, and, on the other hand, the purely nominal participation of some Kurds in the government?

Before reproaching the Kurds for having held onto their arms, have we asked ourselves whether they had any choice? It was the Iraqi army which took the offensive in March 1974, pursuing in war their politics of arabisation which four years of peace had not halted.

There is no way out of the present situation. Under every tree and rock on the Kurdish mountains lies an armed man prepared to die for his land. The Iraqi army no longer advances but lays siege. Several hundreds of thousands of civilians are in mortal danger. A nation is threatened with the garotte. Who knows about it? Who talks about it? The Soviet military advisers to the Iraqi army silence some and oil silences the others. In any case it is inexcusable that international organisations such as the Red Cross and U.N.R.R.A. refuse to aid refugees and civilians when it is their job to help them. This war which is being waged unknown to international opinion can only continue if it remains concealed, and it will only remain concealed if we continue to keep our eyes closed.

(Patrick Baudouin and Thierry Mignon are lawyers, Dominique Eudes is a writer.)

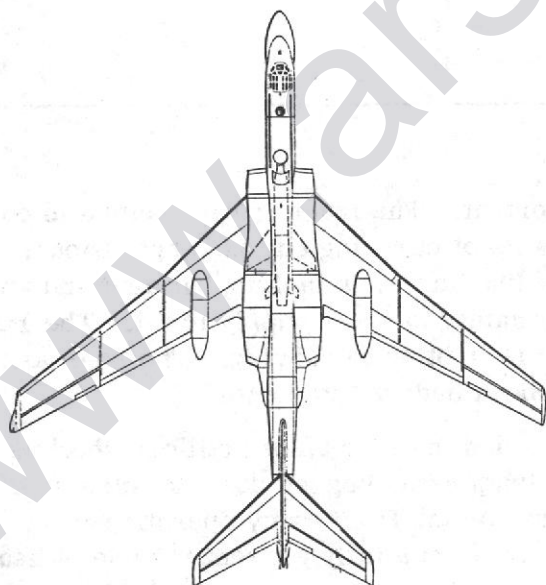
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## Two War Planes Shot Down

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The Iraqi Chief of Staff has admitted that two of the Iraqi Air Force's planes have been shot down, though falsely claiming them to be downed by Hawk missiles.

The first plane - a TU-16 bomber, was brought down at 16.45 local time on December 14th, near the Khoshkan village east of Choman valley. The plane, No.512, belonged to the 10th Squadron of the Iraqi Air Force. Bodies of the 6-man crew were recovered:



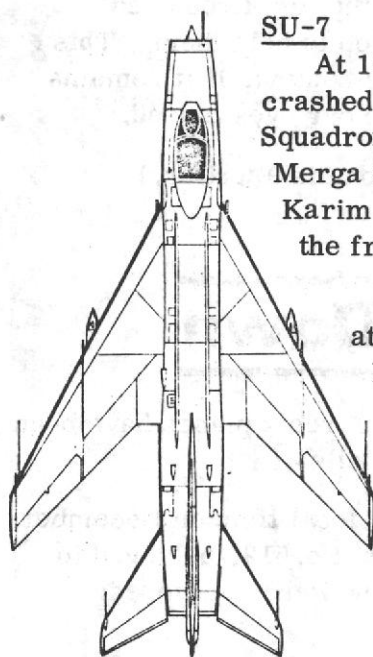
Tupolev 16 (Badger)





Flt. Lt. Muhammad Ismail, Commander  
 Flt. Lt. Kamal Ali Al-Khalaf, Co-Pilot  
 Flt. Lt. Faisal Sharif Abdul Jabbar  
 Flt. Lt. Zuhair, Navigator  
 S-M. Makki Jasim Muhammad, Armour  
 Cpl. Khalil Abbud Hassan, Radio

The Tupolev 16 - Code Named Badger - constitutes standard equipment in the Russian Air Force and Naval Air Force. Six TU-16's have been supplied to the Iraqi Air Force. The Badger shot down by Pesh Merga is a long-range strategic jet bomber, with a crew of about 7, having a glazed nose, with small undernose radome fairing. It usually carries seven 23 mm. cannons. It has a bomb load of up to 9,000 kg. delivered from weapons bay about 6.5 m. long.



Sukhoi 7B (Fitter A)

#### SU-7

At 16.30 local time, an SU-7B was shot down in the Rawandiz front and crashed on Mt. Handrin. The plane, No. 985/73017, belonging to the 5th Squadron of the Kirkuk Air base, was hit while attempting to bomb Pesh Merga artillery positions along Mt. Handrin. The pilot, Flt. Lt. Abdul Karim Abdulla, managed to bail out and land in the Iraqi Army side of the front.

The Sukhoi 7B - Code Named Fitter -A - is a single-seat ground attack fighter, being the standard tactical fighter-bomber of the Russian Air Force, and has been supplied to Iraq in great numbers. The SU-7B carries rocket packs and bombs - usually two 750 kg. and two 500 kg. - under each wing. A 30 mm. NR-30 Cannon, with 70 rounds of ammunition, is installed in each wing - root leading - edge.

The total number of Iraqi Air Force planes shot down in the Kurdistan War from the start of the offensive in March until December 15th, 1974, is 46.

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The partisan operations are particularly important. The Iraqi army, trained in conventional and frontal warfare methods, is not capable of carrying out such operations. It is not only the training for such operations which the Iraqi army is lacking but also and above all it is the motivation and morale which are desperately in short supply for it. The Pesh Merga, a voluntary force, is fighting for a cause, is fighting to survive. The Iraqi army, especially the soldiery, is fighting because it has been ordered to do so.

In the final analysis, the lull in the frontal war and the step up of artillery shelling and partisan operations are bound to wear out the Iraqi army bogged down in Kurdistan during this winter. Another factor disadvantageous for the Iraqi army operating in Kurdistan is the snow which greatly reduces and may even totally prevent the use of heavy equipment and motorised units on a large scale, whilst its effects on the Pesh Merga are much less both concerning mobility and logistics. The Iraqi's biggest advantage still remains their little opposed airforce.



# News & Views

## ESCALATION OF TERROR

The Baathist terror continues unabated throughout Iraq. The five Shiite religious leaders, who had been sentenced to death the previous month (see Pesh Merga No. 2, December), were executed on December 5th by the Baathist regime, in spite of numerous appeals inside and outside Iraq to save their lives. This latest act of savagery by the Tikriti Baath comes in the wake of an attempt to conceal the increasing isolation of the regime from the majority of the population - Arabs and Kurds. It is only natural that as the number of funerals increases throughout Arab South, so does the popular discontent. The Baathist answer to this is to escalate their intimidation and terror tactics to suppress opposition.



*Shaikh Arif Al-Basri: one of the five leaders executed.*

A manifestation of this trend has been the wave of arrests and long sentences against numerous Iraqi citizens, with trumped-up charges and kangaroo courts held behind closed doors. Among those is Dr. Ahmad Chalabi, until recently deputy Minister of Health, who is a well-known left winger. Others include: Dr. Sadiq Al-Hilaly, Assistant Professor at Baghdad Medical School; Dr. Ghazi Hilmi, Prof. of Ophthalmology; Prof. Yussif Arawi, Prof. of Pathology; Prof. Khalid Naji, Prof. of Surgery; Dr. Artin Kantarchian, Assistant Prof. of Neurology; Dr. Owanisof, Assistant Prof. of E. N. T.; Dr. Saib Shawkat, Prof. of Surgery and Dr. Abdul Amir Allawi, Ex Minister of Health and Consultant Paediatrician. A woman physician aged 28, Dr. Iqbal Al-Wakeel, is presently languishing inside Baathist jails after having been sentenced to 20 years for allegedly belonging to the Bahai faith.

## MORE HUMAN AMMUNITION FOR THE BAATHIST WAR EFFORT

Further to the news item in Pesh Merga No. 2 concerning the Directorate of Mobilisation and Statistics at the Ministry of Defence call-up, on Nov. 9, 1974, of all the infantry NCO's, sergeant-majors, sergeants and corporals, both reserves and volunteers, born in 1944, 1945 and 1950. The call-up announcement was broadcast on the state radio stations and published in the local papers. This was considered an official communication to all ministries and departments to notify their employees to comply with the call-up.

The announcement also demanded that all reservists affected who are living abroad report to the Iraqi Embassy and military attaché in the country where they live and express their stand on the call-up. It must be recalled that the Directorate had, during the previous 8 months, called up to active military service all the reserves born in 1946, 1947, 1948 and 1949.

The reserves called up are given some training during a very short period of time and then sent immediately to the battle fronts in Kurdistan. (PoW Walid Abdul Razzaq, 27 years old, from Washshash, Karkh, Baghdad, an official at the Office of the Registrar of the University of Baghdad, says that he was conscripted on May 8, 1974, "trained superficially for a week" and then off he was sent to the active battlefield at Dihok where he was taken prisoner by the Pesh Merga on November 13, 1974.)



The announcement indicates a few facts which the Iraqi Baath regime has been desperately trying to hide from the Iraqi populace and the world public. It indicates that there is a large-scale war; that the Iraqi army is short of lower army leadership, namely, corporals, sergeants and sergeant-majors; that in their despair to carry on with their war on Kurdistan, the Baathists are paying no attention to the lives of those whom they send to battle after 'superficial training'.

The shortage in NCOs is an obvious indication of the losses suffered by the Iraqi army since March 1974. It also shows the difficulties facing the Army in carrying out its military operations because of the crucial role played by the NCOs in such operations.

Therefore, a high rate of casualties, particularly among the NCOs, and a more and more under-trained fighting force are two factors that are bound to further frustrate the 'meticulous calculations' of Godfather Tikriti. But they bring at the same time more suffering to the Iraqi population since it is they who provide the human ammunition consumed in the regime's war effort to 'crush' the Kurdish movement and people.

#### APPEAL TO THE U.N. SECRETARY GENERAL

The International League for the Rights of Man wrote, on December 26, 1974, a letter to H. E. Kurt Waldheim, Secretary-General of the United Nations, bringing to his attention "the deplorable situation" of the Kurdish people in Iraq. It referred to the "human suffering and death on a scale approaching genocide" caused by the "concerted military onslaught by land and air" made by the armed forces of the Iraqi Baath regime. It also referred to the large number of refugees who have been made homeless as a result of this "concerted military onslaught". The letter finally urged the Secretary-General to "use whatever means" available "to aid in the alleviation of the humanitarian problems created by this conflict and to urge compliance with internationally accepted standards of conduct."

#### LIBERTY, FRATERNITY, AND . . . . ?

Giscard's message to the French Parliament on May 30th: (Le Monde, 31st May)

"France will confirm and accentuate the liberal mission of her diplomacy, supporting in all parts of the world the cause of freedom and of the right of peoples - I repeat, of peoples - to decide their own fate.

"She will forego any arms sale that would be contrary to the exercise of such a mission."

It transpires now that the French government has agreed to sell Iraq a squadron of BM armoured helicopters. A number of Iraqi Air Force pilots and technicians have already left to start their training in France on these helicopters. This development was the immediate outcome of the three-day visit by the French Prime Minister, M. Chirac, to Baghdad, (1-3 December 1974) during which, in addition to this deal, he reaped a battery of lucrative commercial contracts with the Iraqi regime, with several hundred million francs. It is interesting to recall President Valéry Giscard d'Estaing's declaration that "France will not sell arms to countries where there is a civil war going on."

Furthermore France has recently agreed to sell large quantities of arms and equipment, especially tactical ground-to-ground missiles and various precision (laser or infra-red) guidance systems for use on tanks and helicopter-borne weapons. The Société Nationale Industrielle Aérospatiale (SNIAS), the Société Française de Montariels d'Armement (SoFMA) and the private firm Thomson-Brandt are among the leading suppliers which have negotiated contracts with the Iraqi government.



Short-range SS-11 or Harpon missiles, costing Fra. 90m., are sold to Iraq. It is claimed that the SS-11 rocket, which can be directed manually and is fitted with a radio-controlled infra-red guidance mechanism, can destroy or damage a fixed or moving target, inland or on sea, up to a distance of three kilometres. The Iraqi army is planning to mount the weapons on light armoured cars or on Panhard AYVs.

Another deal concerns the provision, by Thomson-Brandt, of 60 mm. mortars for a cost of Frs. 137 million: a thousand percussion mortars, fired manually or automatically, and for more than 555,000 explosive and smoke shells and flares. These weapons are probably intended to provide quick support to infantry units in short-range combat. In addition, Iraq's Army is to receive 60,000 rounds of very high explosive ammunition, and spend Frs. 52 million on some 50,000 hollow charge 90 mm. shells and smoke bombs for its Panhard light-armoured cars.

#### Telemetric Equipment

Iraq is also planning to mount 20 mm. cannon (bought with 400,000 rounds of ammunition for a sum of Frs. 18 million) on the 40 Alouette 111 helicopters it has bought from France. These helicopters could become formidable machine-gun posts on offensive sorties. Iraq has ordered from SoFMA, a consignment of 150 laser guidance systems mounted on Panhard LACs and capable of picking out a target at a distance of 10 kilometres, at a cost of Fra. 31 million.

#### PALESTINIANS DENOUNCE IRAQ BAATH

Iraqi Baathists relations with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) have deteriorated to a low ebb after the hijacking of the British Airways VC.10 from Dubai to Tunis on November 21, 1974. The leader of the Baghdad backed splinter group, Abu Nidal, and 'mercenaries in the pay of Iraq', were accused by the PLO of organising the operation, in a statement issued in Beirut on November 24th.

Furthermore, the Voice of Palestine radio, from Algiers, broadcast a strong attack on the Baathist regime in Baghdad: "the traitorous rulers of Iraq have revealed the truth about their destructive designs which try to split the Palestine Revolution through mercenaries, hirelings and spies in Baghdad headed by the Iraqi Intelligence agent, Abu Nidal." "Today the mask has fallen from the faces of those pretending to progress in Iraq. Today the agent practices of Saddam Hussein against the Iraqi and Arab people have been revealed." "The Palestine Revolution will continue to expose every day the shameful, dirty and suspect positions taken by the Iraqi rulers, in particular that of the agent of imperialist intelligence, Saddam Hussein."

The PLO also accused the Iraq regime of shirking its duty by withdrawing its troops from Syria abruptly during the October War, and letting the Palestinians down during the upheavals of 1970 in Jordan.

#### PALESTINIAN PARALLEL

In a letter to the Editor of London's The Times, published on December 19th 1974, Mr. Jeremy Swift referred to the U. N. General Assembly Resolution 3236 (XXIX) of November 22nd, 1974, concerning the Palestinians' right to self-determination and discussed the hypocrisy of the policies of the Iraqi Baath government.

The Iraqi representative at the General Assembly meeting vehemently stated when discussing the Palestinian question, that "... We must make no concessions in the defence of this people's human rights and its right to self-determination ..." Mr. Swift rightly asks the following question, "Is it not time that the Kurdish people were allowed the same choice by the government of Iraq, and by the international community at large?"



## AID TO REFUGEES



After a fact-finding tour of the liberated area of Kurdistan by the Save the Children Fund's Vice-Chairman, Dr. Noel Moynihan, who recommended emergency action to aid the civilians, the Fund decided to send out to Kurdistan a team of four - a physician, two nurses and a field director. The team's main function will be to inoculate 'the many refugees trying to cross into Iran'.

Dr. Moynihan told a press conference on December 18th that the effects on the people of the war waged on Kurdistan by the Baath government "have been very disastrous indeed". He further said that 20 to 30 people were dying every day near the border at Haj Omran, where thousands of refugees were waiting to cross. The most prevalent diseases among the refugees he visited were pneumonia, gastro-enteritis and diphtheria, he furthermore said.

The team, headed by Dr. Nabarro, sent to Iraqi Kurdistan on December 26th is the first British team to operate in that area since the Baathists regime began its military onslaught in March 1974.

## TWO OF A KIND



*Franco (author of Guernica) receives Tikriti (author of Qala Diza)!*

## DON'T WORRY BROTHER, I AM ONLY STRETCHING MY LEGS

Mr. Abdul-Aziz Masaeed, Chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Kuwaiti National Assembly has written in the Kuwaiti English-language Daily News that, 'The Iraqis have set up military installations in the Sameta area, and entered more than two kilometres inside Kuwaiti territory, creating a worrying, uneasy situation which can in no way be acceptable.' This action by the Iraqi Baathists regime was seen by Mr. Masaeed as the beginning of a move by this regime to occupy the two Kuwaiti islands of Warba and Bobyan.

The Iraqi Baath response to this unsettling news came from the minister of state for justice, Ahmad Abdul Sattar al-Jiwari, who declared in Kuwait on December 8th 1974, that, "If there were two brothers living in the same house, it might happen that one of them stretched his leg ..."

The Baathists' dangerously aggressive policy of 'leg stretching' is once again put into effect; first Iraqi Kurdistan, now Kuwait. Who is next?



# The Military Situation

## Rawandiz Front:

The Iraqi Army has amassed 6 infantry, 1 armoured and 1 motorised brigades, 4 regiments of the 'Special Troops', 3 tank regiments and 1 tank battalion in the Rawandiz Front. These units are supported by 11 gun regiments and 2 gun batteries of 75 mm, 120 mm, 122 mm, 130 mm, and 152 mm calibre and of various types.

The objectives of the Army in this front were to advance towards and occupy Galala and to cut off the road leading from Galala to Badinan. However, the stiff resistance by the Pesh Merga and the effective use of Kurdish artillery upset the Army's plans and operations. The Army losses since it entered the Rawandiz Basin and up to the beginning of December 1974 are estimated at 3,500 dead and more than 5,700 wounded. As a result, the Army's position and tactics on this front changed in an important manner. Instead of aggressive offensive, characteristic of the first phase of its campaign, the Army was forced into a precarious defensive posture.

## The Qala Diza Front:

In this front, the Army has thrust 5 infantry, 1 armoured, 1 motorised, and 1 reserve brigades, 1 regiment of the 'Special Troops', and 1 tank regiment, supported by 8 gun regiments and 2 gun batteries of 120 mm, 122 mm, 130 mm, and 152 mm calibre and of various types.

The Army's main objectives here were, first, to advance towards Galala and link up with and assist the troops which were to advance (and occupy) Galala from the direction of Rawandiz and, secondly, to break the links between the Kurdish HQ and plains to the west and south.

Although the Army managed to occupy a number of important positions in this front, it eventually lost its momentum and its advance was halted again by the stiff resistance by the Pesh Merga and the effective use of Kurdish guns. The Army both failed to achieve its main objectives and suffered, up to the beginning of December 1974, close to 2,800 dead and 3,900 injured. Here too, the Army has been forced into a defensive position.

## CHRONOLOGY OF MILITARY EVENTS

### December 1, 1974

1. The Iraqi Air Force has stepped up its bombing of the Balak area, especially Galala, Choman and Qasrai. In the past week 30 civilians have been killed and many injured, during raids on Choman, Nawpirdan, and on the Kawerta Bridge (beside the Kawerta Central Hospital in Nawpirdan).

2. The Balak Hez (Division) continually shelled Iraqi positions in the Rawandiz front.

### December 2

1. Kawa Hez (Division) units shelled Army positions in Qala Diza.





2. In the evening, Pesh Mergas attacked Iraqi Units in Qara Dagħ and Darbandi Khan.
3. A Pesh Merga attacked the Qura Tu camp, in Khanaqin.

#### December 3

1. Pesh Mergas shelled Army outposts in Tasluja.
2. A mine destroyed a large army truck (Zeel) in Shaqlawa.
3. During the evening, Pesh Merga units attacked Iraqi Army outposts near Koi Sinjaq.
4. Three Iraqi soldiers were killed in a Pesh Merga night attack inside Sulaimani.

#### December 4

1. Pesh Merga units destroyed the power line between Jalawla and Bawanur.
2. A mine destroyed an Army vehicle near Chwar Qurna, near the main camp, Ranya front.
3. A Pesh Merga unit attacked a vehicle belonging to Kirkuk Security Department killing 13 and wounding others.

#### December 5

1. A Pesh Merga Unit attacked Army outposts in Tuwa Suran, Ranya.
2. Iraqi positions in the village of Saweh, in the Spilik area were shelled.
3. Two mines destroyed two Army vehicles on the Barawa Bridge, near Qala Diza.
4. Four policemen were killed and 6 wounded near Sulaimani.
5. Iraqi Army camp in Goma Span, north of Arbil, was shelled heavily. A fire blazed for several hours as the result.

#### December 6

1. A mine destroyed a troop carrier near Diana.
2. An engineering unit of Pesh Merga succeeded in destroying a railway bridge on Arbil-Pirdi line.
3. In the evening a unit of the Pesh Merga attacked Army outposts around the Sarchinar cement factory.
4. In the evening a Pesh Merga force attacked the centre of Qadir Karam sub-district near Kirkuk destroying three Army positions.
5. Army positions in Shekhan were heavily shelled.
6. In the evening a Pesh Merga unit attacked Army outposts in Mt. Beer north of Kirkuk.
7. During the night, a Pesh Merga force attacked with various arms the Tuwa Suran camp in the Ranya front.

#### December 7

1. Pesh Merga units captured a strategic position from the Iraqi Army in Doli Qashan in the Ranya front, as the result of extensive shelling. Iraqi forces left large quantities of damaged hardware behind.
2. Army camps in the Qala Diza area were intensively and effectively shelled; a number of armoured transport vehicles were destroyed.
3. A Pesh Merga unit attacked an Army post near Khalifan.
4. Another unit attacked an Army outpost east of Aqra.
5. In the evening, a Pesh Merga unit attacked an Army outpost in the Raidar sub-district, destroying it.
6. In the evening a Pesh Merga unit destroyed a high-voltage post between Kirkuk and Sulaimani.
7. As a result of shelling by the Pesh Merga of the Army's Paiwaz camp near Khanaqin during the past few days, one officer and 15 soldiers were killed, 47 soldiers injured and a fuel storage depot was destroyed.
8. In an attack near Shekhan, a Pesh Merga unit killed 2 soldiers and wounded others.



9. Pesh Merga forces attacked Army posts and mercenary headquarters in Dihok, inflicting heavy losses upon them.

10. In the evening a Pesh Merga unit entered the town of Chamchamal and attacked the headquarters of the mercenaries, the electric power station and the headquarters of the sub-district's governor. The operation was very effective.

#### December 8

1. A Pesh Merga unit from Rizgari Hez entered the town of Kirkuk and attacked many Army depots in the Azadi quarter.

2. In the evening a Pesh Merga unit cut the power line between Dibis and Pirdi (Altun Kopri). A mine exploded under a police armoured vehicle, killing 5 policemen.

3. An Army camp in Qara Dagħ was intensively and effectively shelled.

4. In the evening a Pesh Merga unit attacked Army outposts on Mt. Azmir in Sulaimani.

5. In the evening a Pesh Merga unit attacked with bazookas the Army post and the house of the governor of the sub-district of Tainal between Kirkuk and Sulaimani.

6. Another unit of the Pesh Merga attacked an Army post near Qara Dagħ, destroying it.

7. In the evening a Pesh Merga unit attacked the Army camp in Tainal with various arms, inflicting heavy losses on it.

#### December 9

1. A Pesh Merga unit entered Sulaimani, attacking a number of military posts.

2. Iraqi Army positions in Dihok were shelled by Pesh Merga, inflicting losses.

3. In the Rawandiz front, Pesh Merga forces attacked Army positions in the Sitkan range, between Mt. Zozik and Garu Omar Agha. Minefields surrounding the Iraqi positions foiled the attack.

4. In the evening a Pesh Merga unit attacked Army outposts in the village of Hasar, 15 km. north of Kirkuk.

5. An Iraqi soldier was taken prisoner on the Kirkuk-Chamchamal road, and a car belonging to the Baath party was attacked.

6. A Pesh Merga Unit ambushed an Army vehicle on the Qala Diza road.

7. Pesh Mergas from the Kawa Hez shelled the Army camp near Kewa Rash, setting large sections of the camp on fire.

#### December 10

1. Two mines destroyed a tank and a troop carrier, near Khanaqin.

2. The Jash feudal chief, Ahmad Hassan Agha, was killed in Qala Diza.

#### December 11

1. A mine destroyed an Army vehicle near Bazian (Sulaimani).

2. A large-scale attack was launched by the Baathist Army units on Shwan and Agh Jilar area. After two days of intensive fighting, they were forced to retreat, giving heavy casualties, and were pursued by the Pesh Merga up the suburbs of Kirkuk. An Army corporal, Abbud Khalik Alwan was taken prisoner.

3. A Pesh Merga unit attacked a police front near Pirdi.

#### December 12

##### Partisan Operations in Sulaimani

1. A Pesh Merga unit entered the town, attacking a number of Iraqi positions.

2. The Jash headquarters in Sulaimani was attacked.

3. Two Iraqi observation posts near Daquq, between Sulaimani and Kenda Kewa were destroyed.



4. A Pesh Merga unit attacked Army positions around the Arbat camp, on the Sulaimani-Halabja road.

5. Iraqi outposts were shelled in Tasluja.

#### December 13

1. In the evening a number of anti-personnel mines exploded on the Sulaimani-Dukan road killing 2 soldiers and wounding 3.

2. Iraqi Army units attempted to advance on Mt. Sarteez, running behind Zozik and overlooking the Pesh Merga road to Badinan in Western Iraqi Kurdistan. Pesh Merga artillery shelling and fire checked the attack, causing heavy casualties on the Iraqi troops.

3. A Pesh Merga unit from the Balak Hez attacked Iraqi Army positions near Rawandiz, killing 10 soldiers.

4. A town Pesh Merga unit in Sulaimani blew up an army truck (IVA) causing the death of 6 soldiers.

5. A Pesh Merga unit entered the town of Pirdi, attacking the police headquarters.

#### December 14

1. A TU-16 (Badger) bomber was shot down at 16.45 local time, near the Koshkan, east of Choman.

2. Pesh Merga units shelled Iraqi outposts guarding the Darbandi Khan Dam.

3. The Iraqi troop concentrations were attacked in Arbat.

4. Army outposts near Shaqlawa were attacked.

5. A Pesh Merga unit entered Redar, near Kirkuk.

6. A mine destroyed an Army vehicle on the Sulaimani-Gila Zarda road, killing and wounding 8 soldiers.

7. A number of police patrols were attacked inside Sulaimani at night.

#### December 15

1. At 16.30 an SU-7 fighter plane was shot down on the Rawandiz front, crashing on the side of Mt. Handrin.

2. Pesh Mergas attacked Iraqi Army positions near Zakho, inflicting 50 casualties, including the death of a Major.

3. Army Qala Diza camp was shelled extensively.

4. Army outposts were shelled in Mt. Zimnako, overlooking Darbandi Khan.

5. A mine destroyed an Army truck (IVA) near Sulaimani. Another IVA was destroyed near Qala Diza, causing 6 casualties.

6. Iraqi troop positions on Mt. Azmir overlooking Sulaimani were shelled.

7. A mine blew up an Army vehicle (Zeel) near Sarchinar, Sulaimani.

#### December 16

1. The Army camp in Qara Dagħ was shelled by Pesh Merga batteries.

2. Iraqi troops attempted to advance on Pesh Merga positions in the Zakho front; the attack was repulsed after heavy fighting.

3. Early in the evening Pesh Mergas entered Sulaimani and engaged the Army in heavy fighting. Pesh Merga captured a police vehicle and destroyed an Army carrier. Large quantities of ammunition and supplies were captured.

4. Pesh Mergas attacked Army positions in Arbat.

5. Pesh Mergas ambushed an Army vehicle on the Kirkuk-Koi Sinjaq road.

6. At night Pesh Merga units launched an attack with mortars on an Iraqi force between Kirkuk and Qadir Karan.

7. The Iraqi camp at Dukan was heavily shelled.

#### December 17

1. Iraqi troops attempted to advance on Pesh Merga positions in the Khanaqin area,



but were repulsed after a bloody battle.

2. Pesh Merga units attacked Jash centres inside Shaikhan.

3. A Pesh Merga unit blew up a section of the railway between Jalawla and Khanaqin.

#### December 18

1. A mine exploded under an Army vehicle near Sangasar, near Ranya.

2. Pesh Merga units shelled the Army HQ inside Sulaimani with mortars.

#### December 19

A Pesh Merga unit attacked the Assalam Hotel in Sulaimani, while a Baathist Minister and some Jash were staying there at night.

#### December 20

1. An Iraqi unit raiding the village of Qeshqa, Kirkuk, burned to death 14 civilians, most of them women and children.

2. A mine destroyed an Army troop carrier near Tasluja. Also two Army outposts were damaged by Pesh Merga attacks.

3. A mine destroyed a tank near Betwata in the Ranya front.

#### December 21

1. In the evening, an Iraqi infantry force, supported by artillery and tanks, attempted to advance through Dala Raza, in the Ranya front. The attack was repulsed, causing heavy casualties among the Baathist forces.

2. Heavy fighting north of Qala Diza. Army attempts to advance failed.

3. Pesh Mergas engaged a police force inside Sulaimani, in which tanks took part.

#### December 22

1. A Pesh Merga unit attacked an Iraqi outpost in Mt. Korak in the Rawandiz front, overlooking Gali Ali Baq. Four Iraqi soldiers died in the attack.

2. Iraqi Army positions in Qadir Karam, Kirkuk, were shelled and followed by a Pesh Merga attack.

3. Pesh Merga forces attacked Army outposts in Mt. Safin, near Shaqlawa, inflicting heavy losses.

#### December 23

In the evening a mine destroyed a Zeel Army truck near Chwar Qurna where the Army's main camp in the Ranya-Qala Diza front is located.

#### December 24

Iraqi outposts in Mt. Gaidja, overlooking Sulaimani to the east, were shelled.

#### December 26

1. In the evening a Pesh Merga unit entered the town of Tuz Khurmatu (75km south of the town of Kirkuk and on the Kirkuk-Baghdad road) and attacked Army positions, the electric power generator and other targets.

2. A mine destroyed a Zeel Army truck near Khanaqin.

3. The Pesh Merga attacked Army outposts in Sangaw near Chamchamal.

#### December 27

1. Pesh Merga forces ambushed and destroyed an Army convoy at Qadir Karam, Kirkuk.

2. The Pesh Merga attacked Army positions in Qadir Karam, Kirkuk, inflicting heavy losses upon them.

3. In the evening Pesh Merga units attacked Army positions south of the town of Aqra.



#### December 28

1. In the evening a Pesh Merga unit attacked an Army post near Kirkuk, killing 4 and wounding 7 other soldiers.
2. In the evening Pesh Merga forces attacked Army positions in Sarchia, Sarchinar area, Sulaimani, inflicting heavy losses on them.
3. In the evening a Pesh Merga unit attacked an Army post near Qara Dagh.
4. A mine destroyed an Army troop carrier on the Kirkuk-Taq Taq road.

#### December 29

1. The Pesh Merga carried out heavy shelling of Army outposts east of Dihok.
2. Pesh Merga forces intensively shelled the Army's Darbandi Khan camp.
3. For the past two days Army camps in the Qala Diza front were heavily shelled.
4. A Pesh Merga unit captured 5 Iraqi soldiers on the Kirkuk-Sulaimani road.
5. A mine destroyed a Zeel Army truck near Shaikhan, north of the town of Mosul.
6. In the evening Pesh Merga units attacked government positions in the town of Arbat, near Sulaimani.

#### December 30

1. The Army's Arbat camp, near Sulaimani, was intensively shelled and heavy losses were inflicted upon it.
2. During the last few days Pesh Merga units entered the town of Koi Sinjaq many times. They attacked Army posts and mercenary quarters, inflicting heavy losses upon them.
3. A Pesh Merga unit attacked an Army patrol unit on the Dokan road, inflicting heavy losses upon it.
4. A Pesh Merga unit ambushed an Army convoy of three troop carriers on the Sulaimani-Dokan road.

#### December 31

1. Pesh Merga forces attacked Army outposts in the Spilk area.
2. A Pesh Merga force attacked an Army convoy on the Kirkuk-Sulaimani road.
3. The Pesh Merga engaged government troops in fighting in Saruchawa (in the Ranya front), killing 15 soldiers.
4. The Pesh Merga attacked Army positions in Sitkan, at the northern foothills of Mt. Zozik, and in other sections of the Rawandiz front and were able to clear the enemy from many areas.
5. Heavy fighting took place in the Chamchamal area, on the road between Kirkuk and Sulaimani.



THE TIMES THURSDAY DECEMBER 19 1974

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

**The Kurdish struggle**  
From Mr Jeremy Swift  
United Nations 3236  
Resolution 1974, recognizing  
1974, Palestinian people  
welcoming

General  
(XXIX)  
recognizing  
welcoming

## World Press Round-up

THE GUARDIAN Monday December 16 1974

## Ba'athist isolation

Jews has leaked out of Iraq  
religious leaders  
on December

THE DAILY STAR, BEIRUT-LEBANON

MONDAY, DECEMBER 2, 1974

## Kuwaiti Deputy Accuses Iraqis of Crossing Border

KUWAIT, Dec. 1 (R)--Iraqi forces have crossed more than 20 miles into Kuwait territory and set up new military installations at a frontier post where border fighting flared 20 miles inland, a Kuwaiti national assembly deputy reported Saturday. The assembly chairman of the assembly's foreign relations committee, writing in his newspaper "Al-Rai" at the ill-defined border between the two countries, said the Iraqis were between the two countries with the

The media has continued its coverage of the war being fought in Kurdistan-Iraq between the Army of the Iraqi Baath regime and the Pesh Merga forces.

It is noteworthy that a wider range of newspapers, news agencies, and broadcasting and television stations have increased their reporting on the war as well as on the humanitarian sufferings and tragedies this war has brought on the Kurdish civilian population.

To counter this increased coverage the Iraqi Baath propaganda strategy based on the categorical and stubborn denial of the existence of the war altogether is being gradually abandoned and replaced with a new one, since it had not produced the results the regime was hoping for. The new strategy is based on propagating that the Kurdish national movement and the Pesh Merga forces are tightly cornered in a "thin strip about 50 miles long on the Iranian border" with Iraq.

It is not unreasonable to predict that the ultimate fate of the 'thin strip' would not be much better than the 'no war' strategy. The justification for such a prediction is that both strategies of the Iraqi Baathists are based on the outright falsification of the reality of the situation. The existence of the war has been reported by too many eye-witnesses to deny. The length of the border between Iraq and Turkey and Iraq and Iran east of Zakho and north of Khanaqin is more than 1100 km. All this border area is under the control of the Pesh Merga. Therefore, the Iraqis will no doubt refuse to let anybody visit these areas and report on who controls it. Falsifications and lies may deceive some people for some time, but not some or all people all the time.

Le Canard Enchaîné, 4th December - M. Bernard Thomas. 'Victims of the Black Gold'.

M. Chirac has returned from his journey to Iraq after a successful trip in Baghdad, during which he obtained oil and got one milliard francs: he was asked to build factories, oil pipelines, airports, canals, buses and water purification, to the extent of orders being placed for the French colour television system, SECAM, which we always thought impossible to sell.

But by the grace of ALI BABA, we shall obtain oil and hard currencies, and there won't be unemployment with us. Moreover, we have overtaken the Anglo-Saxons in their own territory, and we have a clear conscience that we are helping a new state which is trying to industrialise, and both sides are satisfied.

But one thing has been forgotten in this glorious field - that Iraq is in a state of war and has mobilised 8 military divisions on its soil, which means all its army; new armour and artillery supplied by Russia, Mig 23 and Tupolev 22's which bomb at the height of 4,000 metres, which even during Yom Kipur War were not given to Syria - of course, we have our modest contribution in the form of tanks, Alouette helicopters, and long-range tactical missiles SS11.



A million and a half people have been made homeless, hungry and cold refugees; they are hit with napalm and phosphorus bombs. There are 55,000 Kurdish fighters, supplied with Brno rifles (model 1963) and Klashnikors (slightly more modern), and old anti-aircraft guns, which are Russian, called Duchka . . . The Kurdistan Democratic Party is leading the struggle, although in France we only know of Barzani. Engineers, teachers, lawyers, students and doctors, all have joined the front. These doctors don't have anything except an operating table and don't even have medicines.

General Bakir launched his first attacks during the last spring in the plains surrounding the oil installations in Kirkuk and Mosul. From this region comes the huge oil wealth of Iraq. These wells are right in the middle of Kurdish territory. These areas have all been Arabised, and the oil is well guarded! In August the second attacks started: they penetrated deeply into the valleys, with the purpose of dividing Kurdistan into three parts, and they wanted to cut off the Hamilton Road which is the only artery connecting the road to Iran, about 40 km. from the frontier.

But the Kurds have improvised a kind of Ho Chi-Minh trail, at the altitude of 3,500 m. and sometimes under the Iraqi artillery, along which come refugees and fighters. In the north there are about 50,000 civilians blocked near the Turkish border: when the rain falls these people will die and the winter is near. In another area there are 300,000 women, children and old men expelled by the Iraq Government. They are expelled from the combat zone and the civilian population escape from these areas. In Haj Omeran, near the Iran border, there are 25,000 refugees in a frozen area, and 3,000 new persons arrive daily.'

Le Monde, 6th December, published the statement of 'La Ligue des droits de l'homme' (the league of human rights), in which it expresses its regrets over the visit of M. Chirac to Iraq, because it is a commercial visit at a time when the Iraqi government is attacking the Kurdish people in a merciless war. The league of human rights appeals to France not to offer Iraq the sale of weapons.

Jeune Afrique, 7th December. 'Important Technical Assistance'

'The Soviet Union has put at the disposition of Iraq the latest model bombers in order to fight the rebel Kurds. Because of the lack of competent Iraqi pilots, these Iraqi planes are being flown by Russian pilots.'

The Hong Kong Standard carried an article 'Mulla Barzani tries community development' in its issue of 24th November. It discussed the attempts by the Kurdish national movement's leadership to promote modernisation in Iraqi Kurdistan through the Kurds returning home after having completed their studies abroad. One of the methods of modernisation being tried is community development, starting with community health services. This is being carried out under and in spite of difficult war conditions.

The Buenos Aires Herald of Argentine published an article 'Worry over plight of the Kurds' in its 6th September issue, discussing the hardships facing the Kurdish civilian population as a result of Iraqi bombing raids and the refugees fleeing from these raids.

The Guardian of 16th December carried an article 'Terror Masks Baathist Isolation'. The article reported the execution by the Iraqi Baath authorities of five Shiite religious leaders. It stated that, 'it is significant that the executions took place just before a state visit to Spain by the Iraqi strongman, Saddam Hussein, giving rise to speculation that Hussein wanted to terrorise the Shiite into passivity while he was out of the country.' It went on to state that, 'The families of soldiers killed in the seemingly eternal war with the Kurds receive a handsome sum in "blood-money" from the Government: the dead soldiers are invariably Shiites and their families use the money to provide funerals in Najaf, the Shiite cultural and religious centre. As the number of funerals increases, so does the popular discontent.'



The Times, The Daily Telegraph, The Guardian and The Financial Times carried in December many articles and news items on the situation in Iraqi Kurdistan.

The West German television (Programme 2) showed a series of films on various features of the Kurdish national movement. It showed an interview with General Barzani made the day after the Iraqi propaganda machine spread the rumour that he died of wounds.

### LIKE THE WEATHER, MILITARY TACTICS CHANGE

The military situation in Kurdistan-Iraq has been taking on a turning point in the last few months. At the beginning of the present war, the Pesh Merga forces achieved a number of successes over the Iraqi army. However, the tide of military events during the summer and autumn was less favourable for the Kurdish side. During that period the Iraqi army achieved some apparently spectacular successes, especially in the Rawandiz front where units of the army by-passed the Gali Ali Beg pass in a surprise and daring operation. The army also achieved some successes in the Ranya-Qala Diza front. These successes were apparent because the army fought to gain control of the land and not to destroy the Pesh Merga as a fighting force.

Nevertheless, the Iraqi army has failed to achieve its set objectives, namely, the occupation of the entire area of Kurdistan or at least the main Kurdish headquarters at and around the Choman Valley, and the destruction of the Pesh Merga as a fighting force, by the beginning of winter 1974.

The army's advance on both fronts has been checked and at some points the army was pushed back suffering heavy casualties as happened in Sartiz, the closest point in Rawandiz to the Iranian border which is about 70 kms by road. Besides checking the army's advance, the Pesh Merga have very successfully shelled Iraqi positions and troop concentrations and have been carrying out ever-increasing numbers of partisan operations both within and behind enemy lines.

At the present, the frontal war, characteristic of the previous few months, is becoming less and less active, apart from the trading of artillery fire between the two sides. For example, in the Rawandiz area, the front line, though not clear, is static. Nevertheless, the exchange of artillery fire is a daily routine. The same is true in the Ranya-Qala Diza area.

But the Pesh Merga forces have stepped up their partisan activities. The stepping up does not only concern the number of operations carried out per day but also the range of targets hit and the land areas within which these operations are carried out. The Pesh Merga now enter the main Kurdish towns under government control, shell or shoot at government troops and sometimes even pursue them in the streets as has been recently happening in Sulaimani. The area within which the Pesh Merga operate behind enemy lines extends from Zakho in the north-west to Khanaqin in the south-east. As for the range of targets, they include among others power generating stations, high frequency power lines, roads, railways and mercenary headquarters and police stations. The number of partisan operations per day is much higher nowadays than it used to be a few months ago.

continued on page 6

### SOARING PRICES AND SCARCE NECESSITIES — PRELUDES TO FAMINE

In their war to 'crush' the Kurdish national movement, the Baathist rulers in Baghdad have proved to be the most ruthless and resolute in achieving their aims. One of the 'weapons' they have used is the starvation of the Kurdistan population in order to bring into



submission to these rulers' vicious wishes. To achieve starvation, Baghdad imposed a total economic blockade on Kurdistan. It coupled this blockade with a law that sends to the gallows everybody accused of 'damaging the national economy'. The transfer of a kilo of sugar or tea to the Kurdish area by a citizen is considered 'damaging to the national economy' and the person involved is hanged to death. Many an innocent person has had this tragic fate.

The consequences of this policy have been the scarcity of basic necessities and skyrocketing prices. For example, a kilo of flour in the Badinan area used to cost about 70 fils a kilo; it now costs 200 fils and is scarce. A litre of kerosin (which is used for cooking) in Badinan now costs 167-222 fils; it used to cost only 20 fils before the war. The same conditions apply to other necessities as the following table indicates.

#### Necessities (in fils)

	Badinan		Choman
	Before the War	Mid-Nov 1974	Mid-Nov 1974
sugar (a sack of 100 kg)	15,000	40,000-50,000	13,500
flour (a sack of 80 kg)	5,500	16,000	6,000
kerosin (a tin of 18 l.)	350	3,000-4,000	350
tea (a kilo)	1,000	2,500	1,000
transportation (of a ton) from Choman to Badinan (distance about 160-180 km)	10,000	200,000	

### THE WAR TOLL

#### The Iraqis:

Government losses since the start of the present war until December 15th, 1974, were: 8717 killed and 15,973 wounded soldiers, NCOs and officers. In addition government mercenaries suffered 1007 dead and 1763 wounded.

War material lost by the Iraqis to the Pesh Merga included: 471 tanks and armoured vehicles, 46 aircraft, 128 pieces of artillery, 806 vehicles.

During the same period, 264 soldiers and officers were taken prisoners of war. Deserters from the ranks of the Iraqi Army numbered 1073 and from the ranks of the mercenaries 1267.

Iraqi war material captured by the Pesh Merga included: 1165 light arms; 96 machine-guns; 64 wireless sets; 38 mortars, 41 anti-tank guns and a considerable amount of ammunition and equipment.

#### The Kurds

Casualties suffered by the Pesh Merga were: 876 killed and 2238 injured.

War material lost or damaged in action included: 12 Doshkas; 4 (30mm) guns; 32 machine-guns of various types; 844 light weapons; 2 (120 mm) mortars; 7 (86 mm) mortars; 6 (60 mm) mortars; 15 R. P. G. and 6 B-10s.

Civilian casualties amounted to 1754 killed and wounded.

The number of raids carried out by the Iraqi Airforce on Kurdish civilian centres and Pesh Merga targets was 3978.

The villages bombed or strafed during the same period numbered 569.