

SPSC

Volume VI, No. 1
June, 1985

LETTER



AS KING HASSAN CONTINUES TO
CONSTRUCT WALLS, THE ALPS
CONTINUES TO BREACH MOROC-
CAN SECURITY IN THE SADR

EUROPEAN COMMITTEE PREPARES INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE: PEACE FOR THE SAHARAWI PEOPLE, EUROPEAN CONCERNS

Representatives from several nations, including Great Britain, France, Switzerland, Spain, Italy and Yugoslavia, have been meeting in preparation for a major international conference: Peace for the Saharawi People, European Concerns, to be held in Paris on November 16 & 17, 1985, a date chosen to coincide with the signing of the Madrid Accords.

Among persons sponsoring the conference are Alfredo Perez-Esquivel (Argentina), Félix Palomo (Spain), Ignazio Diez (Spain), José Urbano Martinez Carreras (Spain), Simone de Beauvoir (France), Jean-Claude Le Scornet (France), Léo Matasso (France), Alain Vivien (France), Gillo Pontecorvo (Italy), Massimo Severo Giannini (Italy), Annia Sindstrom (Sweden), Alcina Bastos (Portugal), El-Maestro Antonio Vitorino (Portugal), Giovanni Chicherio (Switzerland), Michel Buhler (Switzerland), Françoise Pitteloud (Switzerland), Pierre Mertens (Belgium), Monolis Gleson (Greece).

Persons wishing to attend the conference should contact the SPSC Letter or Western Sahara Campaign, USA.

SPSC LETTER MAKES NEW DOCUMENT AVAILABLE ON SAHARAWI REFUGEES. ORDER FROM SPSC.

THE SAHARAWI REFUGEES: ORIGINS AND ORGANIZATION, 1975-1985, SPSC LETTER, ADA, Ohio 45810, 1985. Donation: \$6.

Since late 1975 a large number of Saharawis have been living in exile in refugee camps, excluded from the possibility of living freely in the Western Sahara. From early 1976 the greatest number of these refugees have settled in camps in the area around Tindouf, Algeria. The SPSC LETTER Occasional Paper, No. 3, describes the evolution of the original group of refugees, traumatized by the experience of their "exodus" from Western Sahara, into the forward-looking inhabitants of the well-organized camps of 1985. Today some 120,000 to 165,000 refugees prepare for a return to their proclaimed state, the Saharawi Arab Democratic Republic.

The thirty page document is mostly text, but contains footnotes and a map. Plastic binding. A prepaid donation of \$6 U.S. includes mailing costs. To obtain a copy, write SPSC LETTER, 217 E. Lehr, Ada, Ohio 45810.

9^{eme} Anniversaire de la RASD, Rencontre et Développement, Algeria, 1985, in French; 28 page booklet, bound and with a cover.

This updated booklet by Rencontre et Développement, which has published one or two booklets yearly for some time, is a useful document. The booklet includes an editorial, an overview of the current situation (the international situation with reference to the OAU, the UN and the Arab League, the military situation with regard to the "walls" and the continued military struggle, and the situation in the occupied territory, ie., the SADR), the legal status of the SADR, the development of the ALPS from earlier Saharawi armed struggles, the agricultural experiments of the Saharawis, and concludes with an appeal from the Sahrawi Red Crescent.

Of particular note is the contribution on Saharawi military history by Malika Abdelaziz, a journalist, who has travelled frequently with Polisario guerrillas in the SADR proper, and who gives Saharawi accounts of prior twentieth century battles by those who fought in prior struggles.

Write Rencontre et Développement, 12 Bis, Rue des Frères Meslem (ex Rue Edgar Quinet), Alger, Algérie for copies and price.

WESTERN SAHARA, A COMPREHENSIVE BIBLIOGRAPHY, Lynn F. Sipe, Garland Publishing, Inc., N.Y. and London, Garland Reference Library of Social Science, Vol. 178, 1984. \$54

Lynn Sipe's Comprehensive Bibliography of the Western Sahara is precisely that, a comprehensive work that provides the researcher with more references than he will need and that treats the contemporary question of independence for this territory from all sides. The bibliography proper contains some 3,345 items and is divided into four sections: "Human and Physical Characteristics," "The Spanish Sahara," "International Legal Aspects of the Western Sahara Crisis," and "The Enduring Struggle for Western Sahara." These four sections are further divided into specific topics, as, for example, "Colonial Diplomacy" or "Texts of Treaties," and into specific time frames, as, for example, "Morocco and Western Sahara, 1956-1960," "1961-1965," and so on.

The restriction that Sipe has imposed on the materials listed is that they be in a Western European language. Most newspaper articles

have not been included, although there are exceptions. Non-print visual materials have also been excluded, hence film and video listings are not included. The availability of these unlisted materials and other sources for information are discussed briefly in the author's "For Future Reference" section.

Although Tony Hodges and Maurice Barbier have provided excellent bibliographies in their works on the Western Sahara, Sipe has a very large number of publications indexed in A Comprehensive Bibliography that have not been indexed or listed in other bibliographies. Complete bibliographic information is provided for all entries except for items not examined by Sipe. An asterisk identifies the unexamined items.

This is the definitive bibliography to date, an absolutely required item for those interested in researching the question fully. Write Garland Publishing, Inc., for purchase.

The Saharawi Refugees: Origins and Organization, 1975-1985



Order from SPSC Letter
217 E. Lehr Ave.
Ada, Ohio 45810
\$6 Donation

AN OCCASIONAL PAPER PUBLISHED
BY THE SPSC LETTER, 1985

NEW BOOKLET AVAILABLE

CHRONOLOGY: 1984 IN REVIEW FOR THE SADR
SELECTIONS OF EVENTS

JANUARY 7, 1984

Meeting of the Political Bureau of the FRONT presided over by Mohamed Abdelaziz. An analysis of the situation since the 5th Popular Congress.

JANUARY 9, 1984

Demonstrations in towns and villages in Morocco calling for an end to the war in Western Sahara. Repression of demonstrations.

JANUARY 15, 1984

The ALPS (Polisario forces) attack Moroccan forces around Amgala in the SADR.

JANUARY 22, 1984

Demonstrators at El Houceima break into the naval barracks and seize arms.

JANUARY 26, 1984

Majid Abdouallah, Representative of the Front at the UN, meets with the adjunct head of the organization charged with decolonization.

JANUARY 27, 1984

A delegation of the Saharawi Women's Union takes part in the Third Congress of Malian Women.

FEBRUARY 2, 1984

Mahfoud Ali Beiba and other representatives of the SADR attend the investiture of the new President of Venezuela.

FEBRUARY 4, 1984

A delegation from the National Youth Organization of the Polisario Front attends the 20th meeting of the Executive Committee of the PanAfrican Youth Movement meeting in Brazzaville, Congo.

FEBRUARY 9, 1984

Hamdi Boueha, Ambassador of the SADR to Panama presents his credentials to the President of Costa Rica as plenipotentiary ambassador of the SADR.

FEBRUARY 27, 1984

The Saharawi people celebrate the 8th anniversary of the SADR. Four ambassadors of

the SADR present their credentials to the Presidents of Mexico, Nicaragua, Benin and Cuba.

Mauritania officially recognizes the SADR.

MARCH 4, 1984

Burkina Faso recognizes the SADR.

MARCH 8, 1984

Saharawi women celebrate the International Day of Women by asking their sisters in the world for recognition of their desire for freedom, dignity and progress, independence of the SADR.

A delegation of the National Union of Saharawi Women visits Holland upon the invitation of the Support Committee of that nation.

MARCH 16, 1984

A delegation from the Austrian Liberal Party visits the liberated territory of the SADR.

MARCH 18, 1984

Mohamed Abdelaziz receives the Austrian delegation and the personal letter from Norbert Steger, President of the Party and Vice-chancellor of Austria.

MARCH 22, 1984

Mohamed Fadel Ismail, representative of the Front in France, meets with Pierre Joxe, president of the socialist group at the French National Assembly.

MARCH 24, 1984

Major-General Habyarimana Juvenal, President of Rwanda, reaffirms the support of Rwanda to the SADR.

Inauguration of the new center, Hamada El Ouali, for the education of Saharawi handicapped children.

APRIL 3, 1984

Thomas Sankara, President of Burkina Faso, visits the SADR.

APRIL 10, 1984

The Algerian Political Bureau reaffirms the unchanging support of Algeria to the struggle of the Saharawi people for independence under the leadership of the Polisario Front.

APRIL 15, 1984

A delegation from the SADR led by Mohamed Salem Ould Salek visits India for four days at the invitation of the Congress Party.

APRIL 16, 1984

A delegation of Saharawi students attends the 14th Meeting of the International Union of Students in Sofia, Bulgaria from April 11 to 16.

APRIL 21, 1984

Attacks by the ALPS from April 21 to 24 around Zak, near the Moroccan/SADR frontier.

APRIL 23, 1984

During a visit to Algiers, Claude Cheysson, then foreign minister in France, declares that the principle of intangibility of the borders inherited from the colonial period apply to the Western Sahara.

APRIL 25, 1984

From April 25 to May 2 the ALPS strikes the walls around Ain Legrayer, Graret Oulad el Moulat, Laaridha, Rouss Amaghid.

MAY 1, 1984

The SADR liberates 10 Moroccan prisoners of war. The prisoners are released to M. Carlos Veauvard, a representative of the International Committee of the Red Cross.

Mohamed Lamine Ahmed visits Austria and takes part in ceremonies for the 1st of May.

MAY 10, 1984

The Saharawi people in occupied territory and in the liberated territory celebrate the 11th anniversary of the Polisario Front.

MAY 15, 1984

Naval forces of the ALPS attack the port of El Aiun and put it out of service.

MAY 20, 1984

The Saharawi people celebrate the 11th anniversary of beginning of the armed struggle.

MAY 22, 1984

Special meeting of the national secretariats of Youth of the Polisario Front and Union of Students of the SADR. Union of these two

groups into one, the UJSARIO, Union of Youth of the Saguia El Hamra and Rio de Oro.

MAY 23, 1984

An Italian parliamentary delegation led by M. Agoletti, vice president of the Italian Senate, visits the SADR.

MAY 24, 1984

On Africa Day President Moubarek of Egypt calls for negotiations between Morocco and the Polisario Front.

JUNE 2, 1984

ALPS artillery downs a helicopter in the region of Laâteif. Moroccan aircraft continue to fall to Polisario forces.

JUNE 12, 1984

Local, regional and national schools celebrate the end of the school year.

JUNE 17, 1984

From June 17 to June 25 the ALPS leads attacks against Moroccan forces at Aïn Legrayer, Ratmia, Oued El Moulat, Rouss Khachbiyine, Ejneinat, Oued Teychatt and in the region of Areyedh and Lekhcheibi.

JUNE 27, 1984

From June 27 to July 4 the ALPS leads a number of attacks against Moroccan forces at J'Neinat, Graret Oulad de Moulat, Oued Teïchat, El Khachbiyine, Z'Moul Nirane, Gour Weïn Terguet, Graret Oum Rebeg and Gasbet Aridh.

JUNE 29, 1984

Official ceremony at the School of February 27 to mark the 5th graduation class of the school.

JULY 1, 1984

The Minister of Education of the SADR organizes a seminar at the School of October 12 as prelude to the third literacy campaign of the SADR.

JULY 2, 1984

From July 2 to July 11 the ALPS attacks enemy positions at Weïn Terguet, Z'Moul Nirane, Khanguet Houria, Mahbès J'Neinat, and Amegli Lemgassem.

JULY 12, 1984

Mohamed Abdelaziz receives Goshu Wolde, representative of the OAU President (then) Mengistu Haile Mariam, at Oum Legta, liberated territory of the SADR.

From July 12 to July 29 the ALPS leads a number of attacks against Rous Fedret J'Dari, Oued Ouerg, Mahbès J'Neīnat, Foum Dirit, Azouer, Dalou, etc.

JULY 15, 1984

Beginning of the third literacy campaign.

JULY 29, 1984

ALPS offensive around Dakhla.

JULY 30, 1984

Twelve Saharawi girls and boys spend a month in Sweden at the invitation of the Swedish Support Committee.

AUGUST 1, 1984

Attacks by the ALPS against Rous Khachbiyine, Fedret J'Dari, Mahbès J'Neīnat, Benkara, Rous Amghid and M'Zériga.

AUGUST 4 - 13, 1984

Attacks by the ALPS at El Oujm Rous Ouenssekou, Oudey Teichet, Ouedy Ouerg, Taref el Khachbi...

AUGUST 5, 1984

A Month of Information and Culture announced by the Minister of Information & Culture.

AUGUST 9, 1984

The Prime Minister of the SADR attends the installation ceremonies of the new president of Equador in Quito.

AUGUST 14-22, 1984

Continued attacks by ALPS forces.

AUGUST 16, 1984

Peru recognizes the SADR bringing the number of Latin-American states that recognize the Saharawi state to 15.

AUGUST 17, 1984

Polisario Representative to the UN addresses the Decolonization Committee.

AUGUST 25- SEPTEMBER 4, 1984

ALPS forces attack Moroccan positions.

AUGUST 30, 1984

UJSARIO organizes the first festival of Saharawi Youth under the banner: Total Mobilization for the Defense of the Homeland

SEPTEMBER 16-29, 1984

The ALPS attacks Moroccan forces at a number of sites in the SADR.

SEPTEMBER 17, 1984

Ouadadi Ahmed El Haiba presents his credentials as SADR Ambassador to Ghana.

SEPTEMBER 26, 1984

Brahim Mokhtar, Ambassador of the SADR to Mozambique presents his credentials.

OCTOBER 4, 1984

Mohamed Abdelaziz leads a delegation of SADR notables to Ethiopia, Burundi, Tanzania, Madagascar, Botswana, Congo, Sao Tomé and Principe, Benin, Burkina Faso, Togo and Mali.

OCTOBER 12, 1984

The Saharawi people celebrate the ninth anniversary of national unity. A delegation from Belgium and Austria arrive for the inauguration of a school built through the help of these two nations' support committees.

OCTOBER 13, 1984

Launching of "Offensive Grand Maghreb." ALPS attacks Z'Moul Nirane and El Khachbi Es-sahli.

OCTOBER 15, 1984

Establishment of a teacher-training center at the School of February 27.

OCTOBER 20, 1984

Opening at Paris of an International Colloquium of the Juridical and Institutional Foundations of the SADR.

NOVEMBER 1, 1984

SADR President participates in ceremonies

commemorating the 30th Anniversary of the start of the Algerian Revolution alongside Chadli Bendjedid, President of Algeria.

NOVEMBER 3, 1984

A delegation of the Polisario Front and of the SADR attend the funeral of Indira Gandhi, Prime Minister of India.

NOVEMBER 7, 1984

Mohamed Abdelaziz meets in Lagos with his homologue General Mohamed Buhari.

NOVEMBER 11, 1984

One day before the start of the 20th Summit of the OAU, the Federal Republic of Nigeria officially recognizes the SADR.

NOVEMBER 12, 1984

The 20th Summit of the OAU opens with the flag of the SADR flying with the flags of the other member nations. The SADR delegation is led by President Mohamed Abdelaziz. Morocco announces its withdrawal from the organization.

NOVEMBER 13, 1984

The 20th Summit of the OAU adopts the report of the "Implementation Committee" in which it emphasizes that Morocco has hindered every possibility of resolution of the conflict.

NOVEMBER 15, 1984

Within the framework of the "Offensive Grand Maghreb" the ALPS attacks Moroccan positions from Zak to El Argoub.

International Seminar on the Saharawi Question is held in Bologna, Italy.

NOVEMBER 17, 1984

The Group of the Martyr El Ouali Moustapha Sayed ends its tour of France in Lille. The group presented its dances and musical production in Marseille, Toulouse and Paris as well.

NOVEMBER 27, 1984

As part of the "Offensive Grand Maghreb" the ALPS simultaneously attacks at Haouza and Dakhla.

NOVEMBER 28, 1984

The 4th Commission of the UN adopts a resolution which reaffirms that the solution of the

question of the Western Sahara lies in the application of Resolution 104 of the Conference of Heads of State of the OAU which set ways and means for a just and definitive political solution to the conflict in Western Sahara.

Yugoslavia recognizes the SADR which brings the total of state recognitions to 60.

DECEMBER 2, 1984

Faik Dizdarevic comes to the SADR as special envoy of the Yugoslavian government and talks with Mohamed Abdelaziz.

From December 2 to 7, 1984, the ALPS attacks Moroccan positions at Z'Moul Nirane, Sebket Benkara, Taref Ezbeyra, Lefreirina, etc.

DECEMBER 5, 1984

The General Assembly of the UN adopts with 90 votes for and no votes contra the resolution of the 4th Commission.

DECEMBER 6, 1984

The Minister of Foreign Affairs of the SADR meets with Perez de Cuellar, Secretary General of the UN.

DECEMBER 14, 1984

The new government of Mauritania reaffirms its recognition of the SADR.

DECEMBER 18, 1984

Saharawi nationals demonstrating their joy at the admission of the SADR to the OAU (in the SADR, in occupied Dakhla) are arrested by Moroccan forces.

Ahmed Salek Kaid, Ambassador to Madagascar, presents his credentials to President Didier Ratsiraka.

DECEMBER 22, 1984

The ALPS attacks Moroccan forces in the region of Mahbès and in other zones.

DECEMBER 23, 1984

Mauritanian President Maaouya ould Sid Ahmed Taya meets with Mohamed Salem ould Salek.

The SADR Workers' Union meets.

DECEMBER 25, 1984

The national council of the National Union of Saharawi Women meets.

APPEAL OF SAHARAWI RED CRESCENT TO NATIONS
OF THE WORLD ON PLIGHT OF SAHARAWIS IN
OCCUPIED SAHARAWI ARAB DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

The Saharawi Red Crescent wishes once again to draw the attention of international public opinion, humanitarian organizations and all those throughout the world who are concerned with respect for the rights of man and the rights of peoples, to the serious conditions imposed by the Moroccan occupying force on the civilian populations in the occupied zones of the SADR, the Saharawi Arab Democratic Republic.

The Moroccan aggressor has just led another repressive campaign, more barbarous and brutal than before, against the Saharawi inhabitants of occupied El Aiun, Dakhla, Smara and Boujdour. The Moroccan army and police have imprisoned and arrested a number of Saharawis to stop the demonstrations of joy by Saharawi civilian populations after the recent Polisario victories at the OAU and the UN.

This repression has been a consistent policy of the Moroccan invaders and the Saharawi Red Crescent has condemned and denounced it on a number of occasions previously.

What is paradoxical is that despite the "objectivity" and "ethics" for which they pride themselves, certain press media, known for their prejudice for the Moroccan invaders, recently have been praising the "benefits" of the Moroccan occupation, of the "civilizing mission" of Morocco to the Western Sahara. For these media persons, the construction of a few buildings in the Western Sahara for the needs of the Moroccan occupier merits a great deal of publicity while they close their eyes to the savage repression which daily victimizes the Saharawi populations in the occupied territory and ignore those thousands of Saharawi citizens suffering inhuman conditions in Morocco for a number of years, "mission civilisatrice oblige."

Let no one be mistaken. This complimentary campaign to credit the Moroccan invader is aimed on the one hand to hide the disappointment of the Moroccan regime on the international level, especially after the admission of the SADR to the OAU, and, on the other hand, to show that all is for the best in Morocco, hiding the economic crisis plaguing that nation and the political and social disorder afflicting it.

Very much alarmed by this slanted and propagandistic information, the Saharawi Red Crescent has launched an appeal to all those forces of peace and progress in the world and to all those who have as their goal respect for the rights of the human person, objectivity and ethical principles, to use their influence with the King of Morocco to stop this criminal activity against the Saharawi people.

DECEMBER 1984

EXCERPTS FROM NEWSLETTERS FROM AROUND THE
GLOBE

GREAT BRITAIN: WESTERN SAHARA CAMPAIGN

No. 3, May 1985

WESTERN SAHARA NEWSLETTER

Morocco's intransigent stance has forced Tunisia to cancel plans to host a summit conference of North West African leaders. Announcing that the summit had been postponed sine die, the Tunisian foreign minister, Beji Caid Essebsi, said on March 13th that the obstacle to holding it had been a "fundamental difference in approach to the Western Sahara affair."

Algeria had insisted that the SADR participate in the summit, as a North West African state, or that at the very least Morocco should drop its refusal to negotiate with the Saharawi nationalists. If not, there was no point in the summit being held, as it could make no progress towards resolving the principal cause of tension and instability in the region. Morocco, however, steadfastly refused to accept talks with Polisario, obliging Tunisia to abandon plans for the summit.

Ironically, a Polisario official, Bachir Mustapha Sayed, who is a member of the Front's Executive Committee, had met secretly with King Hassan's minister of the interior, Driss Basri, in Lisbon on January 27th. However, his proposal that the Front's secretary-general, Mohamed Abdelaziz, should meet King Hassan to discuss peace terms was rejected by Basri, who simply offered a "royal pardon" in return for the Polisario leader's rallying to the Moroccan cause. Bachir Mustapha Sayed, who made these revelations to the French press on April 19th, also announced that Morocco had rejected an Algerian proposal that, to save face, the king could retain nominal sovereignty, like Queen Elizabeth in Canada, when the Western Sahara achieved independence. The king, it seems, is dead set against compromise of any kind.

(Synopsis in English)

The first Congress of the National Union of Saharawi Women was held on March 22-25. The meeting of some 700 women delegates was opened by Fatimatou Allali, Head of the Women's Union, and Mohamed Abdelaziz, President of the SADR. Some eighty delegations from a variety of nations including Algeria, Angola, Syria, Mauritania, Burkina Faso, Congo, Benin, Mali, Togo, Guineau Bissau, Cuba, Sweden, Yugoslavia, Austria, Belgium, France, Spain, Switzerland, Italy observed.

(Additional information on the Congress from Polisario sources:

During the ordinary meeting of the UNMS on December 25, 1984, the National Council of the UNMS decided to hold its first national congress. Saharawis presiding at the National Council meeting were Bachir Mustapha Sayed, member of the Executive Committee of the Polisario Front and member of the Permanent Secretariat of the Political Bureau of the Front, and Fatimatou Allali and Senia Ahmed, Director of the School of February 27th, both of whom are members of the Political Bureau of the Polisario Front. Besides the decision to hold the national congress, delegates to the meeting reported their activities during 1984. Delegates included women representing local, regional and professional groups within the organizations of the Saharawis. At the close of the preparatory meeting the delegates issued a final communique.

During the three-day national conference of the UNMS, the delegates elected a fifty-three member National Secretariat, a thirteen member Executive Bureau. Allali remains as secretary-general of the UNMS.)

READERS WANTING TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE MILK PROJECT FOR SAHARAWI REFUGEE CHILDREN SHOULD FORWARD THEIR CHECKS OR MONEY ORDERS MADE OUT TO SPSC LETTER WITH THE NOTATION "MILK PROJECT." To date two checks have gone from the SPSC Letter to Caritas Alger for the purchase of milk. A student project at an Ohio university has also resulted in a check for the milk to be sent to Caritas Alger. All moneys given are used to purchase milk. No money has been used in administrative or overhead costs.

(Synopsis in English)

During a tour of France the El Ouali (SADR) Theatre Company met a French theatre company "l'Enfumeraiie (Allonnes, Sarthe). The two groups decided on a joint production and to this end three members of the French troupe went to refugee camps where they spent a week learning something of the Saharawi existence. Subsequent planning sessions with the Saharawi theatre troupe led to the development of a production which uses masks, mime, marionettes and video. Practice for the performance took place during January, February and March of this year. A French tour was planned for late March and April.

BELGIUM: Comité de soutien au peuple sahraoui
No. 1, 1985
RESISTANCE SAHRAOUIE
SAHRAOUI VERZET

(Synopsis in English)

The Belgian Support Committee for the Saharawi People sponsored a series of lectures and seminars on the Western Sahara January 31 and February 1, 1985. Tony Hodges gave a series of addresses and M. Malainine, representative of the Front to the Benelux nations, also spoke on the current situation.

A number of Moroccan students in attendance noted their sympathy for the Saharawi cause during the exposé at the U.L.B.

RAPPORT DE LA 10^{ème} Conférence européenne de coordination du soutien au peuple sahraoui

This report which describes the reports and actions taken at the 10th meeting of European Support Groups, contains what support in food, medicines, clothing, etc., had been given in 1983-84 and outlines commitments of Support Groups to aid for the refugees in 1984-85.

SPSC LETTER readers who have contributed to "milk for the children" campaign, should be pleased to know that all of the money given for that purpose has been forwarded to Caritas Alger and that Caritas Alger has used all of the funds to purchase milk.

The SPSC LETTER is published regularly at 217 E. Lehr, Ada, Ohio 45810 USA.

Donation: \$5 per year.
