

Qaddafi forms a 'Revolutionary Guard'

by Our Special Correspondent

On Dec. 1, 1985, Brig.-Gen. Abubakr Jaber Yunis, commander of the Libyan Armed Forces, announced the formation of a new Libyan Revolutionary Guard Corps (LRGC) which is nearly identical to the unit that Iran's Ayatollah Khomeini created. This announcement came as a surprise to most of the members of the regular armed forces and the members of the Revolutionary Committees of the Libyan People's Conference—ostensibly the ruling body of Libya.

Following the announcement, key Islamic fundamentalist groups sent expressions of support to Muammar Qaddafi. The Iranian ambassador to Libya delivered a personal message to General Yunis from the head of the Iranian Revolutionary Guards (Pasdaran), Rafiqdoust. Rafiqdoust had been in consultation with General Yunis in helping to shape the development of the Libyan force. Iranian Ambassador Ho-

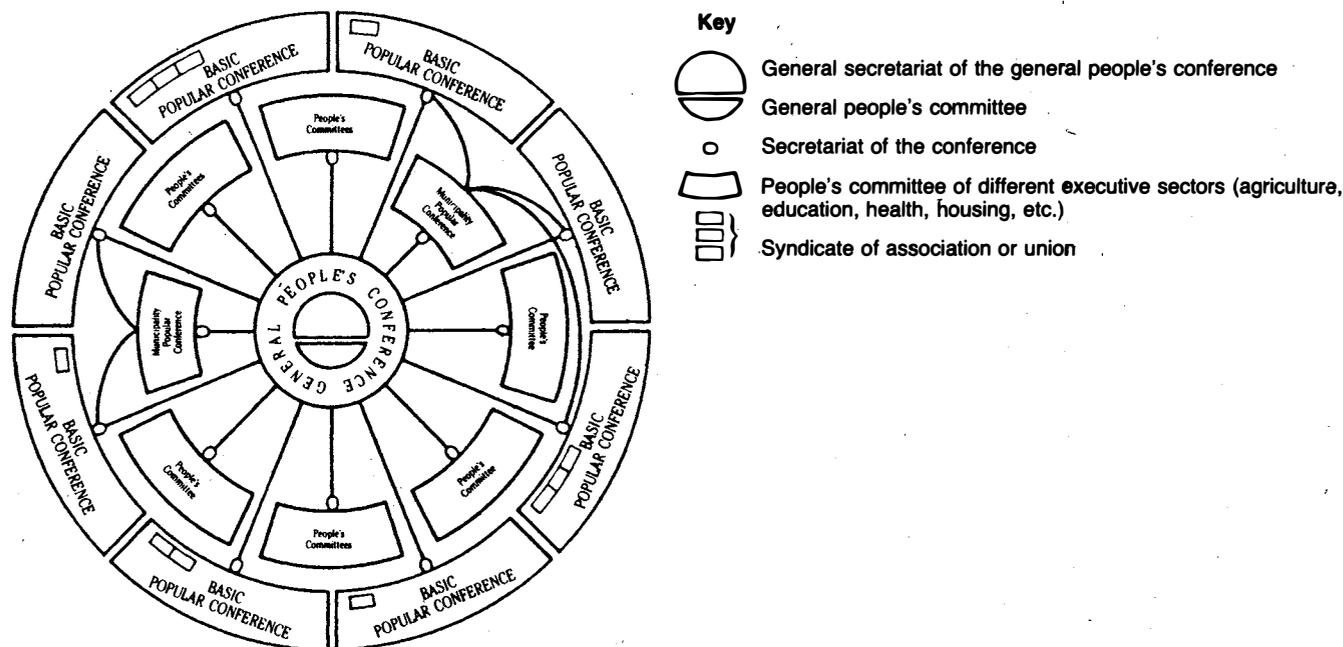
jatoleslam Mohammed Kazem Kansari stated unequivocally Iran's readiness to place its experience in these affairs at the disposal of Libya.

The decision to form the LRGC was initiated by Qaddafi on April 7, 1985, on the anniversary of the Libyan student revolution at Al Fatah University. At that time, Qaddafi had been the subject of two assassination attempts and, through his internal security apparatus, realized that a potential revolt existed within his "professional" military forces due to his erratic and insane adventures in North Africa and elsewhere. In his speech, Qaddafi called upon the "New generation, the generation of anger to take up the call that will herald a new civilization all over the world and end the partition of the Arab world."

Theoretically, the LRGC will work under the command of General Yunis, as an arm of the National Command for the Arab Revolutionary Forces. Its structure will be similar to its counterpart, the Supreme Council for the expansion of the Islamic Revolution headed by Ayatollah Montazeri, the announced heir to Khomeini's regime. Yunis's role is central in the overall scheme. His recent elevation to brigadier-general is a reflection of his growing importance within Qaddafi's own inner circle.

Qaddafi's development of his own Revolutionary Guard elite force grew out of the fact that his power within Libya was beginning to slip away. The recent rumblings within his military and the threat of a coup forced him to re-evaluate his

Organizational framework for the Authority of the People



entire operation. It is well known among various intelligence services that any time an army commander has received attention from his associates or from the Libyan people, this commander is immediately removed. This week's *Middle East* column identifies the execution of several top commanders for activity which threatened Qaddafi's power.

Over the course of the last two years, Qaddafi has sought to eliminate any potential force within the civilian apparatus of his revolutionary committees. His restructured organization (see chart) decentralized the decision-making process, allowing himself and his immediate coterie greater control over internal political developments. His weakening of the power of the People's Committees was the result of the unsuccessful coup by elements within that organization and the military.

Given the drop in oil prices, coupled with the growing dissatisfaction with his "revolution," especially reported constant shortages of food and supplies, Qaddafi needed the LRGC as his new vehicle to quell internal dissent, prevent another coup from within, and launch a new wave of terrorist assaults against "imperialism," which he hopes will consolidate his power base within Libya.

Qaddafi also fears that his influence in the Arab world is steadily decreasing. Despite recent Arab League statements, including moderate forces, in support of Qaddafi against the United States, his insane antics have tried the patience of even his best supporters in Syria and Iran. The decision by Syria and Iran to help set up the new LRGC is based upon their belief that Qaddafi can serve as a better sacrificial lamb in the broader context of the superpower conflict.

In his speech on the anniversary of the Student Revolution, Qaddafi spoke of the LRGC as an efficient armed force needed to create the atmosphere for the revolution. "Each day, each sunrise, will see the creation of a new revolutionary force joining the existing one," he said. What this means in real terms is that the LRGC will incorporate diverse nationalities for the deployment of new terrorist operations. In this regard, it is believed that the Abu Nidal terrorist group has become a unit within the LRGC.

In addition, several new units are now working in the United States and are in contact with Louis Farrakhan's Nation of Islam organization. The American Indian Movement (AIM) and Stokely Carmichael's All-African People's Party have become part of the political apparatus. At a recent press conference, Farrakhan announced his intention to defy President Reagan's ban on travel to Libya, along with the other groups. Farrakhan's intent in going to Libya is to better coordinate their terrorist operations. Qaddafi has called for the "establishment of a black state in America for Blacks, and a red state for the Red Indians." Moreover, he threatens more terrorism against Europe by stating, "We will consider the Baader-Meinhof, the Red Brigades, and the IRA as a revolutionary opposition within Europe."

Next week: The Peres Plot

- What was a team of Israeli Mossad agents doing on board the *Achille Lauro* pleasure liner, just prior to its hijacking from the port of Alexandria "by the PLO"?
- Joseph Klinghoffer was shot and killed aboard the *Achille Lauro*, but by no stretch of the imagination could the body returned to New York by the Syrians have been Klinghoffer's. Why did the State Department claim that it was?
- In return for recognition of Israel and allowing the emigration of 150,000 Soviet Jews to the West Bank of the Jordan River, the Kremlin has demanded access to sensitive Western technology. Have the Israelis agreed?
- Israeli plans include the early elimination of Yasser Arafat and the moderate PLO leadership, as well as King Hussein of Jordan. Have the Soviets agreed?
- Israel has secretly demanded of the U.S. government that any CIA and Pentagon activity in the Middle East contrary to Israeli-Syrian-Soviet secret agreements must be curtailed and halted. Has the State Department agreed?

Next week, *EIR* will publish in full "The Peres Plot" by Maxim Ghilan, which originally appeared in Ghilan's *Israel and Palestine* magazine, one of the most reliable sources of inside information on this strategically crucial region.

Its subject: The secret "package deal" between Zionist establishment financiers, the Israeli government, the Syrian government, the Kremlin, and the U.S. State Department. As this document proves, the big losers, should "the Peres plot" succeed, will be the United States and the peoples of the Middle East.