

A BRIEF ACCOUNT OF
THE GENERAL ORGANIZATION OF REMOTE SENSING AND ITS ACTIVITIES

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Abstract: GORS was constituted in Syria, in February 1986. GORS is located in Damascus and its total area is 240 000 m², including the main building, the student dormitory, the guest house, the recreation area (Tennis court and the swimming pool) and the orchards and gardens. GORS cooperates with some governmental bodies, all Arab countries, Foreign countries and international bodies. GORS organizes one internal course, two regional courses and two international symposia per year. GORS carries out several studies and projects on remote sensing applications to geology, hydrology, hydrogeology, agriculture, environment, urban planning, and meteorology. GORS publishes Space Atlas of Syria, Glossary of Remote Sensing Terminology and Journal of Remote Sensing.

INTRODUCTION

The General Organization of Remote Sensing was constituted in Syria, in February 1986 in accordance with the Legislative Decree No. /8/. It has thus replaced the National Remote Sensing Center which established in the Syrian Arab Republic, through an ad hoc Steering Committee in 1981.

The Organization is located in Sabbora area (about 17 Km West of Damascus). The Organization's total area is 240 000 m², including:

* The main building: 10 000 m² (for personnel offices, training rooms, laboratories and the library).

* The student dormitory: 400 m² (holds 30 trainees with full accommodations).

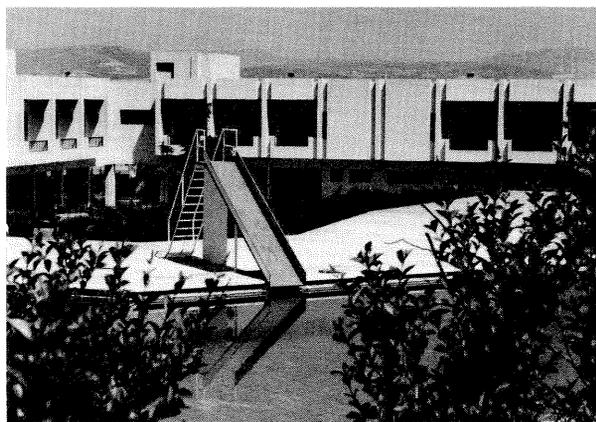


FIG. 2. The student dormitory.

* The guest house: 300 m² (accommodates up to 6 lecturers or visiting experts).

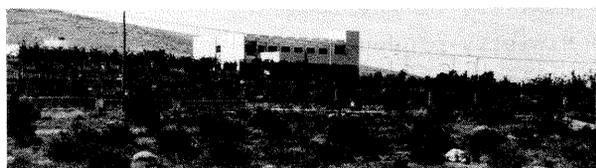


FIG. 3. The guest house.

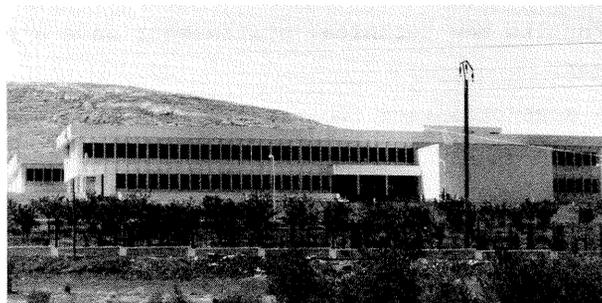


FIG. 1. The main building.

* The recreation area: 700 m² (includes Tennis court /400 m²/ and the swimming pool /300 m²/).

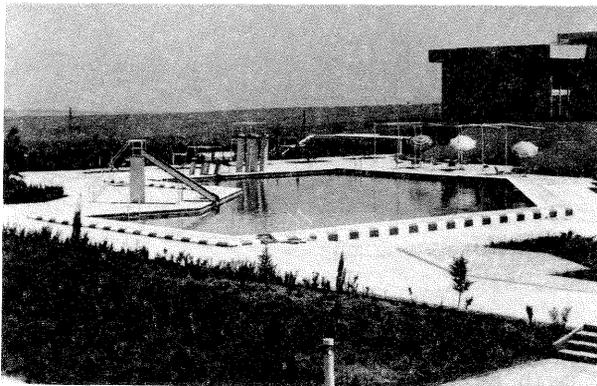


FIG. 4. The recreation area.

* The orchards and gardens: 220 000 m².

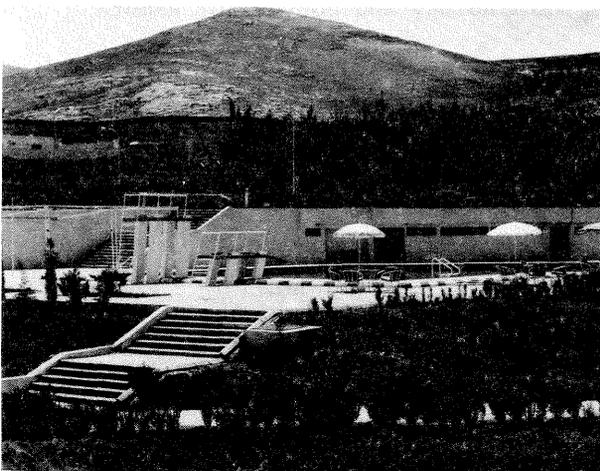


FIG. 5. The orchards and gardens.

1- COOPERATION:

1-1- INTERNAL COOPERATION:

* GORS cooperates with the following governmental bodies:

- * Ministry of Irrigation.
- * Ministry of Agriculture.
- * Ministry of Petroleum.
- * Ministry of Environment.
- * Ministry of Housing and Public Utilities
- * Ministry of Higher Education.
- * General Establishment of Surveying.
- * General Directorate of Meteorology.

* Universities.

* GORS has taken part in the Syrian-Soviet Joint Space Flight in 1987.

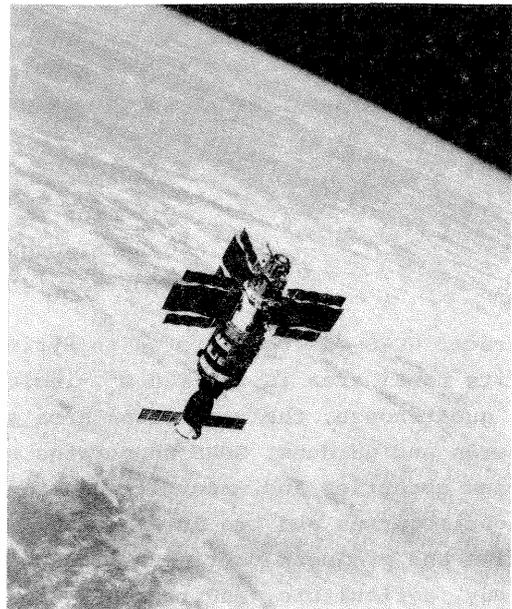


FIG. 6. The Syrian-Soviet Joint Space Flight (MIR & SOYUZ-T.M.3) 1987.

1-2- EXTERNAL COOPERATION:

1-2-1 ARAB COUNTRIES:

* GORS cooperates with all Arab countries and the Arab League.

* GORS is seeking to establish an Arab space Agency.

1-2-2- FOREIGN COUNTRIES:

GORS cooperates with the following foreign countries and international bodies:

Germany, France, India, The Netherlands, USA, Austria, Italy, Japan, Poland, England, Canada, Thailand, Czechoslovakia, Cyprus, Pakistan, Turkey and the United Nations.

2- TRAINING:

* GORS conducts an internal training course for its new technical staffmember once a year.

* GORS organizes two regional training courses and two international symposia per year.

* GORS participates with the internal and external conferences, symposia, training courses and workshops.



FIG. 7. The second regional symposium on "Remote Sensing as a Tool for Earth Resource Management".

3- PROJECTS AND STUDIES:

GORS carries out several studies and projects on remote sensing applications to geology, hydrology, hydrogeology, agriculture environment, urban planning and meteorology.

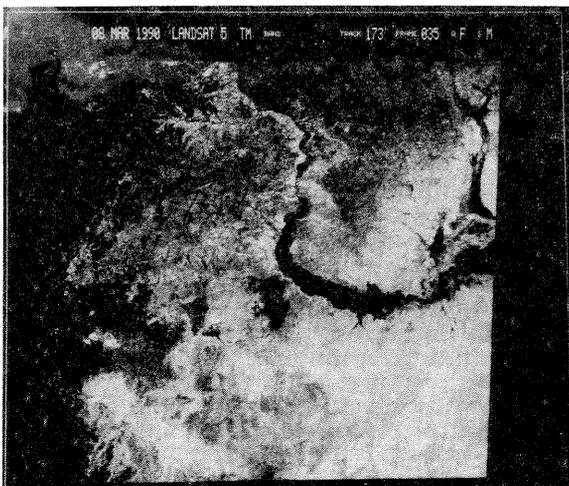


FIG. 8. Assad lake from Landsat 5 (TM).



FIG. 9. Damascus from SPOT-1 1986.

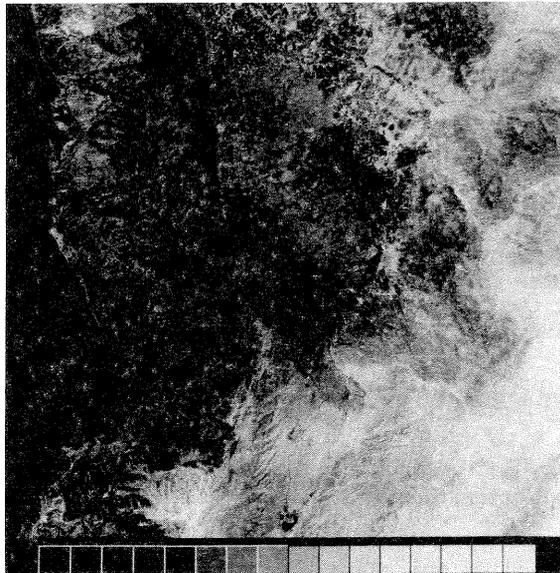


FIG.10. Syrian Coastal Area from Landsat-5 (TM). 1990.

4- PUBLICATIONS:

GORS has issued the following publications.

- * Space Atlas of Syria.
- * Glossary of Remote Sensing Terminology.
- * Journal of Remote Sensing.



FIG. 11. Publications of the General Organization of Remote Sensing.