



YEMEN TIMES

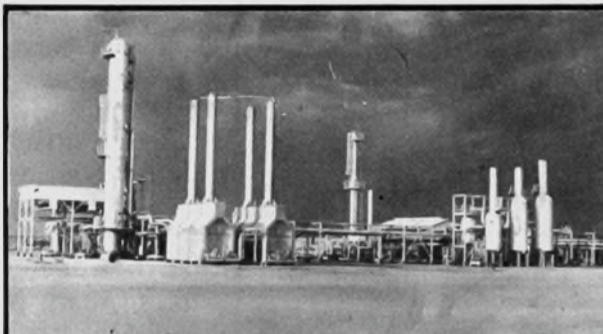


YEMEN'S ONLY ENGLISH - LANGUAGE WEEKLY

SANA'A; 4 - 10 SEPTEMBER 1991; VOL I, NUMBER 27

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OUR VIEWPOINT



NEGLIGENT PARLIAMENTARIANS

The House of Representatives started its meetings of the second round of sessions on Saturday, August 31st, 1991. The new round of sessions is very crucial due to the items on its agenda. These include the government's reform package, the law governing political parties, the terms and conditions of service in the armed forces, amendments to the standing orders (by-laws) of the House itself, in addition to a number of agreements and protocols that await ratifications.

It is sad to see the members of the House don't take their role as representatives of the people seriously. In a telephone contact, the Yemen Times found that over 70% of the parliamentarians did not know anything about the items on the agenda prior to arriving at the first session. We further learnt that over 90% of the members have missed at least 10% of the meetings in the last round. From the roster of attendance for each meeting, Yemen Times worked out the rate of absenteeism. The average is 41.6% at the opening of meetings, and about 62% at the end of the meetings. Members tend to get bored and leave before the meeting is adjourned, thus they miss to vote as well. This is because the House discusses laws article by article, a job better left for the committees. The House should meet to debate policies and question decision-makers. In the current conditions, the House is actually ran by a handful of active members who are able to manoeuvre at many levels.

This situation creates a lot of worries for those of us who attach maximum importance to the role of the parliament in consolidating and safeguarding our democracy. The legislative body is one of the pillars of our democratic system. Therefore, we can not allow any party, even the parliamentarians themselves, to belittle our democratic experiment or to act in a way that will erode its credibility and effectiveness. If there are parliamentarians who are unable or are unwilling to at least attend the meetings (Out of 301 members, 96 members hold senior executive positions) they should kindly resign. Our Parliament is neither a joke nor a part-time job.

The Publisher

SHABWAH GOVERNOR DISMANTLES INSTALLATIONS

The Governor of Shabwah, Mr. Dirhem Norman, has personally supervised the dismantling of the fences, water distribution system, and other installations of the Al-Watary Logistics and Services. According to Abdullah Mohammed Al-Watary, who went on Monday night to complain to President Ali Abdullah Saleh of the unbecoming behavior of the governor, the total damage was about YR2.5 million.

Two months ago, the Al-Watary group established a company oriented to serve the oil companies and their subcontractors. However, due to "dirty competition", and the urge of certain family households for personal vengeful actions against certain individuals associated with the Al-Watary venture.

The Al-Watary Logistics and Services had rented a plot of land in Ataq city from Mr. Saleh Talib Ad-Duhaimi and Mr. Salim Abdullah Ad-Duhaimi. The lease document, supported by the proper deeds, is duly authenticated by the attorney and judge of Shabwah.

In a statement to the Yemen Times, Al-Watary spokesman described the behavior of the governor of Shabwah as totally lawless, and lacks any tact so much needed of a person who is supposed to take charge of such a sensitive region. "If there are any complaints from any quarters, the governor should revert the matter to the judicial system," said Qayid Ahmed Obad, of the company. "We need to prove to the whole world that they can do business in Yemen. But when something like this happens to one of the well-known families of Yemen, who then can trust to put his money in this place," one of the Al-Watarys told the Yemen Times.

The matter is still unresolved until senior officials in the leadership tell the governor to act within the law.

YEMEN DISCOVERS FIRST DINOSAURS IN THE ARABIAN PENINSULA

The Minister of Culture and Tourism of the Republic of Yemen announced this week the discovery of the fossil remains of dinosaurs in Yemen in the area a few kilometers south of Sa'ada. These are the first dinosaurs to have been discovered in the Arabian Peninsula. The discovery research was done by Dr. Louis Jacobs, Director of the Shuler Museum of Paleontology of the Institute for the Study of Man and Earth at Southern Methodist University in Dallas. The work was done under the authority of the General Organization for Antiquities and Libraries of the government of Yemen. The 150 kilograms of mesozoic rocks which carry the fossil were shipped to Dallas for testing and studying. Dr. Jacobs is expected to return to Yemen with the initial results in a few weeks. His team is expected to do additional paleontological exploration that will shed more light on these intriguing developments.

If the theory, which is gaining increasing ground in the USA and France, is proven, it will mean that Man's first crossing from Africa into Asia and then Europe was done through Yemen (the Bab Al-Mandab Strait) and not through the Sinai as previously believed. The cave engravings and drawings found in the same regions further corroborate this new theory (Please refer to Yemen Times report in edition No. 25). It is worth noting that Yemen Hunt Oil Company and the Hunt Oil Company of Dallas, Texas, have volunteered to cover the shipping expenses of the rocks from Yemen to the USA and back to Yemen.

For more details, read Dr. Yusuf Abdullah's piece on page 10.

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PERSONAL VIEW

Give Back
Our Property!Dr. Abdullah M. A. Maktari,
Legal Consultant

There is a well known English proverb which says "Charity begins at home". We in developing countries and particularly in the Arab World speak a great deal about human rights and demand the enforcement of the provisions of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. But seldom do we look inward and see if we ourselves observe such rights.

Last year, thousands of Yemeni citizens approached the leadership of the Republic and its government and asked them to restore to them their title to agricultural land and real estate, formerly confiscated in the former South Yemen. A few weeks back, 160 property owners wrote to the Chairman and Members of the Presidential Council, the government and the Speaker of the House of Representatives demanding the promulgation of a law abolishing the so called agricultural reform law, law no. 32 of 1972 and law no. 18 of 1990. The first transferred the ownership of property including private homes, business premises, and factories to the hands of the "peoples" through the party, and the second installed ownership of the confiscated property to new beneficiaries who are mostly Party cadres. As a deprived property owner I ask the Yemeni Socialist Party, the Government of Yemen: "Is this right?". Should we be deprived of what is rightly and legally ours in order to enrich party cadres and their supporters?

The confiscation is contrary to the constitution of the Republic of Yemen, the Shari'ah, the law and the much trumpeted Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Is the leadership of today's Yemen not aware of the death of socialist theories and the outdated slogans of Marxist justice? Is the leadership not ashamed to ask local and international investors to participate in the rejuvenation of Aden as a Free Zone and yet continue to hold on to the ugly and illegal artifacts of nationalization and confiscation? Who will trust with new investments a system with this history, and such on-going policy?

YEMEN BEATS PAKISTAN 1/0
IN FOOTBALL MATCH

The Yemeni national olympic team beat Pakistan's team by 1/0 on Friday August 30th. The match was played in the Athawrah National Stadium in Sanaa and was refereed by Jordan's Abu Ali Ishaq. This is the first game of both countries within the first round of clearing matches of the Asian nations towards the olympic games to reach a final climax in Barcelona, Spain. Yemen's next game, again in Sanaa, will be on Friday September 6th against the team from Qatar, which has defeated the Iranian team 2/0. The August 30th game was a big disappointment for the 40,000 or so spectators who came to watch the match. The Yemeni team lost many opportunities to score more goals. Even then, the coach of the Yemeni team, Mr. Faraj Ba Yusuf, expressed delight at the victory. "You should realize we know very little about the Pakistani team's abilities, so I instructed our team to play the first half of the match very cautiously," he said. "As things evolved, I told our players to be more aggressive in the second half of the game," he added. The coach of the Pakistani team, Mr. Mohammed Naeem, told the Yemen Times that the Yemeni team deserved to win because it played in a better way. Mohammed Aslam, the manager of the Pakistani team, said that the Pakistani team could have played a better match, but there were many factors which stood in its way. "The fact that it was not playing on its home turf, and the fact that it arrived in Sanaa only one day prior to the date of the match have been contributing factors," he said. In a comment from Mr. Hafez Salman, the Pakistani delegation's leader, he said that football is not one of the most popular sports of Pakistan. "We are better at other games such as hockey, squash and crickets," he added. "But we will encourage football in the future," he concluded. Commenting on the result, H.E. Pakistani Ambassador Mr. A.R. Arif, who attended the match, said, "We may have lost the match, but we consolidated the friendship Yemeni people."

KOREANS STUDY

YEMENI UNIFICATION EXPERIENCE

A South Korean team of experts arrived in Sanaa on Sunday, September 1st on a five-day fact finding mission. The four-man delegation which plans to collect data on and study the detailed process of negotiations prior to the unification, the steps leading to the unification, the problems that arose after the unification, and the solutions the Yemenis have applied to resolve them, includes Dr. Professor Jeong Yul Yoo and Professor Sung Min Hong of the Hankuk University of Foreign Studies, Mr. Bong Jo Lee, Director and Mr. Young Jin Kwon, Assistant Director of the National Unification Board. The team plans to meet with many Yemenis including H.E. Mr. Abdulaziz Abdulghani, Member of the Presidential Council, Foreign Minister Dr. Abdul-Karim Al-Iryani, Mr. Yahia Hussain Al-Arashi, Mr. of State for Cabinet Affairs, Mr. Rashid Mohammed Thabit, Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs, and many academicians, and other persons. Yemen Times spoke with the team leader Dr. Professor Yoo who expressed extreme interest in the Yemeni model. Asked whether the German model of reunification is also being studied, he said that in the German case, one side more or less absorbed the other side; in the Yemeni model there is a real partnership of two sides, which is more appropriate for our situation.

MEDICAL MALPRACTICE
TO BE PROSECUTED

Given the recurrent cases of medical malpractice in which many patients were sad victims of the ignorance and negligence of physicians, the General Prosecutor's office have outlined the by-laws and regulations governing such. In a statement to the Yemen Times, Toxicologist Matook Al-Ru'aini, Head of the Department of Toxicology and Forensic Medicine, said, "The physicians must be held accountable for any malpractice. The law regulating this aspect is being processed for enactment, while the standing orders have been completed," he said.

IRANIAN ASSISTANT FOREIGN
MINISTER VISITS SANAA

Iranian Assistant Foreign Minister, Mr. Sheikhu Islam, paid a two-day visit during 28-29/8/1991 during which he met with a number of senior Yemen officials. According to a statement prior to his departure, he indicated that he had discussed issues of bilateral concern, the regional security arrangements, and the preparations for the coming international conference on the Palestinian problem. "Points of view were matching," he said. "In my meeting with President Ali Abdullah Saleh, I have presented an invitation to His Excellency from Iranian President Hashemi Rafsanjani to visit Iran," he added. He concluded that his visit aimed to pave the way for an upcoming visit to Sanaa by Mr. Ali Akbar Vilayeti, the Iranian Foreign Minister.

TOTAL SINKS A WILDCAT IN JANNAH

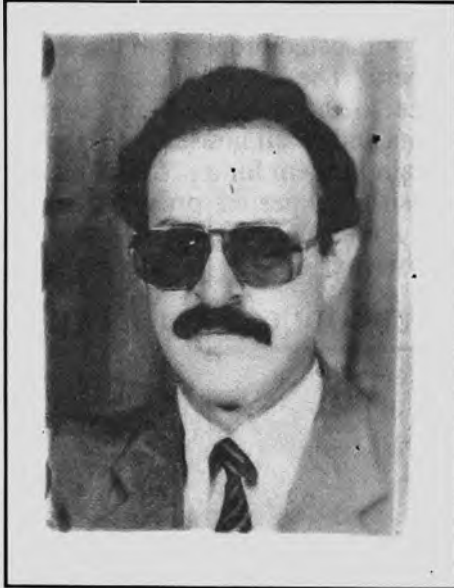
The French oil company, TOTAL drilled a wildcat, dubbed Jannah1, at the concession area of Jannah, known as the joint investment zone prior to the unification of Yemen.

The occasion was marked by a ceremony attended by Mr. Saleh Bin Hussainoon, Minister of Oil and Mineral Resources, and a number of other officials from the Yemeni and oil companies' sides. Jannah1 is located at about 1.5 kms. inside the concession area from the border between the Jannah and Yemen Hunt Oil Co concession. Around 2:00 p.m., the rig started drilling. On the occasion Minister Bin Hussainoon, Rasheed Al-Kaf, and Dominique Barthe spoke of the significance of the occasion, and their hopes of the results. In a statement to the Yemen Times, Barthe who is the general manager of TOTAL expressed optimism and said, "We are full of anticipation, and we expect to strike a decent quantity of oil." That would mark a major turn of events in TOTAL's fortunes given the dry holes it found in its other concession, east of Shabwah.

The Jannah concession actually belongs to a consortium of companies, of which TOTAL is one, and in which it serves as the operator.

YEMEN'S HEALTH SERVICES HAVE SEEN GREAT IMPROVEMENTS

Dr. Mohamed Ali Mogbil, the Minister of Public Health and Member of the Permanent Committee of the People's General Congress, is a native of Hugarriah. A physician by profession and a military man by background, Dr. Mogbil has been an effective member of the cabinet, albeit keeping a low profile, since 30/7/1988. Given the importance of issues related to medical service in the country, Yemen Times went to speak to him. Excerpts of the interview follow:



Q. You have been in charge of public health policies for over three years now. How do you assess the health service in Yemen?

A. We have made considerable progress in this sector. I specially point to the preventive health care in which we were able to achieve reasonable success. Of course, a lot more could be done, but there are major constraints under which we work, notably budgetary limitations. Curative medicine has also become available in almost all major centers and covers all prevalent diseases. Of course, curative medicine is provided through the large and small hospitals that have been built in the cities and towns.

Q. You mentioned preventative health care. How far have the primary health services come?

A. Today, our primary health services cover 40-50% of the targetted groups, especially the children. These services also extend to cover the family; i.e., the mothers. We focus on immunization programs for the children and family planning for the mothers. We envisage major expansions in the primary health service programs and we hope to cover 70-80% of the population by the year 2000. At the moment primary health care is provided through the 914 health units, 326 health centres, and seven health complexes, in addition to many mobile health units, all of which are scattered all over the country.

Q. There have been reports of shortages of drugs (medicine) and medical tools. Can you comment?

A. Yes, we suffer from a shortage of medicine. This is a direct result of the rationing of the scarce foreign exchange available to us. I hope the government will give this sector a higher priority in allocating foreign exchange in the future. To aggravate the situation, there is a mis-use of medicine. There is an exaggeration in the quantity of medicine prescribed as well as in the dosage dictated for patients' use. Also there is the tendency among patients to over-use medicine, specially under conditions of pain. Patients think that they will

kill the pain and recover more quickly if they increase the dose. We have a joint responsibility (health and media people) in creating the proper culture - an awareness that drugs are chemicals which could hurt those who misuse them. Also, we need to encourage our physicians to be more efficient when they prescribe medicine. For example, in many instances, we could prescribe pills instead of injections. These are cheaper to buy, less painful to administer, less hazardous to apply, and less pollutant to the community. Many improvements are also possible in this sector. Another aspect we are working on at this stage is a more efficient inventory and distribution system. Following a survey we carried out, now we know which regions needs what medicine, and what the consumption levels are. We plan to use this knowledge in building a proper stocking and distribution of medicine to avoid bottlenecks, which, I accept, has been a recurrent phenomenon in the past.

Q. Medical treatment abroad represents a drain on our economy. How do you plan to address this issue?

A. People go for treatment abroad partly because we don't have high-quality specialized medical service in Yemen, and thus we can't cope with a segment of the medical demand such as major operations. Some people also go abroad because they simply can afford to, and they don't have sufficient level of confidence in the level and standard of medical treatment in Yemen. We have addressed this phenomenon already. Just this week, a new system was approved by the cabinet (government). According to the new system, five medical committees have been set up - one in each of Sana'a, Aden, Taiz, Hodeidah, and Mukalla. For any person who seeks medical treatment abroad, and needs government assistance, he/she has to prove to the committee that his/her problem cannot be treated locally.

Those who don't need government assistance, of course, don't have to go through this routine. For cases proven to need medical treatment abroad, the government will provide a US\$2000 support if the patient is a government employee, and US\$1500 to private citizens, in addition to the two-way airline tickets for the patient and a companion.

Q. Do you envisage the establishment of a medical insurance system in Yemen?

A. Actually we have been flirting with this idea. A committee was jointly set up between us (Ministry of Health) and the Ministry of Pensions and Social Affairs. This committee has studied the medical insurance system of several countries which it had visited. The committee also consulted various experts. Finally it has presented a project or

bill for this purpose. But, it needs some refining and improvement before it can be presented to the cabinet. Once in place, this system will alleviate considerable hardships from citizens and will reduce government budgetary burdens.

Q. It is evident that the government's resources are not sufficient to cope with the country's medical needs. Why don't you make room for the private sector to contribute more effectively?

A. We have pursued a policy that depends on the public and private sectors together. Not only do we make room for the private sector, we encourage it and urge it to play a more effective role. We undertake to provide all the assistance and guarantees needed by investors. We welcome Yemeni, Arab, and foreign investors. They will

Continues on p. 5

CAR PARK

THE SANA'A SHERATON is delighted to announce opening of CAR PARK every Sunday. It all started in Singapore where what was a "CAR PARK" during the day time became the most talked about eating place in Singapore. Each evening the vendors would bring out their stalls, tables and chairs in the "CAR PARK" and sell their culinary arts until dawn when the "CAR PARK" just became a CAR PARK.

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IT IS A QUESTION OF CREDIBILITY!

The Government of the Republic is trying hard to encourage local as well as international capital to flow into Aden, as the country's model free zone. The response has been lukewarm. "Some applications have been received, specially from former Yemeni immigrants," said Dr. Mohammed Saeedi, Vice Chairman of the General Authority for Free Zones.

But according to a limited survey carried out by the Yemen Times, many of the household businesses of Yemen are holding off. A senior member of the Hayel Saeed Anam group, one of Yemen's largest investment houses, told the Yemen Times, "There is no way we are going to plough in money before the government makes good on its promise to return our property confiscated under the former PDRY." Another member of a formerly well-to-do family, Dr. Abdulla Maktari, goes a step further. He says that legal recourse is presently being considered and entertained, locally and internationally, unless all property confiscated is returned. Deprived owners have formed a committee which meets regularly to follow up on the developments and

to motivate the government to live up to its promises in this regard. As one member of this committee told the Yemen Times, "It is a question of credibility."

In a petition signed by 160 property owners, and addressed to H.E. Lt-General Ali Abdullah Saleh, Chairman of the Presidential Council, the Vice Chairman, and the Members of the Presidential Council, they state:

"We, the owners of the property (residential buildings, showrooms, stores, real estate, etc.) which was confiscated in Aden and the other governorates hereby write to you asking you to redress the wrong that was done to us. We are sure that you are interested in correcting the illegal and harmful actions taken against us, which are contrary to the constitution and Islamic Sharia.

"As we are interested in facilitating the difficulties faced by the political leadership, House of Representatives, and government, and given our desire to harmonize between the interests of the present occupants and between our legal rights, we propose the following lines of action:

A. The state should issue immediately a law dictating the return of all confiscated property to the legal owners. The law should also guarantee to the tenants of the apartments and small houses the right to remain in them for a predetermined transitional period provided they pay a reasonable rent. At the end of this period, the landlords may

renegotiate the rental arrangements, and will have to undertake maintenance and repairs.

B. Regarding the showrooms, stores, storage facilities, and land holdings must be returned to the legal owners immediately. They have the right to lease such property, or to ask the tenants to leave within one month."

REPRODUCTION OF THE SIGNATORIES OF THE PETITION

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Yemen's Health Services...

be availed all the generous incentives that the new investment law provides, and we will make sure any difficulties are minimized.

Q. Training of physicians, nurses, technicians, etc. How far are we from self-sufficiency?

A. There are a total of 1100 physicians, the country needs roughly 4000 physicians. There are certain specializations that are yet not available among Yemenis. So, we can't talk of self-sufficiency. In nursing, we face a socio-cultural problem. Many of the Yemeni females we train are unable to accept night-shifts, or to remain on emergency calls due to family consideration. Again here, we depend on foreign manpower. In terms of technicians, we are pursuing a vigorous campaign to attain self-sufficiency, especially in laboratory technicians. We are coordinating manpower training with Sanaa and Aden Universities, and the mid-level health institutes.

Q. Speaking about Yemeni manpower, there were rumours about strikes in the health sector. If true, this will cause major human suffering. How do you plan to deal with this problem?

A. We hope that the various people involved will realize the humanitarian aspect of their service. We adhere to the constitution and we cannot deprive any person from his/her rights, but we hope people will use a comprehensive approach in such

matters. At another level, I hope the government will expedite the promulgation of the law organizing and governing strikes. This will help in controlling any excessive or unreasonable use of strikes as a weapon to blackmail any party. Again, all of us have to look at situations from a more general and comprehensive point of view, rather than from a narrow self-centered approach.

Q. The health sector is one of the sectors that has received a high level of international assistance. How do you assess your contacts and cooperations with such voluntary and government organisations?

A. We are happy with the international assistance Yemen has received and continues to receive in the field of health services. We have a long list of cooperation agreements and understandings with international bodies such as the WHO and UNICEF, and national organisations such as Japan's JICA, France's Medicins Sans Frontiers Missionnaires of Charities, Sweden's Radda Barnen, USA's Peace Corps, etc. I take this opportunity to thank all those organisations and countries and the many others whose names do not come to my mind at this moment. The health sector is a crucial one, and the Yemeni government has done well to give it the necessary priority in its development plans. In the next development plan, which starts next year (1992), the health sector will again occupy a special place in the government's efforts at achieving maximum prosperity for the people at the shortest possible time.

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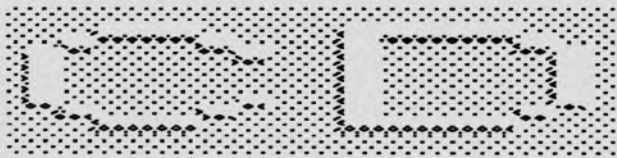
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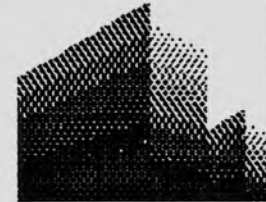
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YEMEN HUNT OIL COMPANY: TEN YEARS OF ACHIEVEMENTS

RAY L. HUNT

August 21, 1991

Dear Friends:

The changes that have taken place in Yemen over the last ten years have been remarkable. Even when compared to the changes that have taken place in eastern Europe and the Soviet Union, the Republic of Yemen stands out as a nation that has advanced the most during this decade. We, at Yemen Hunt Oil Company, are very pleased to have played a supporting role with respect to the advancements of the proud people of Yemen.

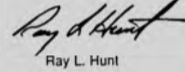
Ten years ago, many people outside of the Arabian Peninsula were not knowledgeable as to Yemen and the great potential of the Yemeni people. That has changed dramatically. Today, Yemen is viewed by the international oil industry as one of the most promising countries in the world in which to conduct exploration activities. Gas will also play a very important role in Yemen's future and many other new industries will surely develop in the years to come.

It is important to note the reasons for this success. Most important is the fact that the people of Yemen are hard-working and very capable. Further, the government of Yemen has demonstrated on numerous occasions that it wants to encourage new investment and rapid progress within the country. The fact that major commercial oil fields in the Marib Al-Jawf basin could be developed and a pipeline to the Red Sea built in such a short period of time is a direct tribute to the close working relationship and the spirit of cooperation which has historically existed between Yemen Hunt Oil Company and the government of Yemen.

The recent crisis in the Gulf region created a circumstance where a number of things could have gone wrong. It is, in effect, tested both the durability and the flexibility of the Hunt/Exxon-Republic of Yemen relationship. It is an extremely high compliment to every individual involved - both Yemeni and expatriate - that all of the production activities from the Marib Al-Jawf fields continued undisturbed throughout the entirety of the crisis.

The stability and positive business climate created in the Republic of Yemen for the last ten years is certain to serve as a foundation for even greater advances in the years to come. We at Yemen Hunt Oil Company look forward to continuing to play a constructive role with respect to Yemen's rapid advancement and development.

Sincerely,



Ray L. Hunt

Statement of George Slaughter, Vice President and General Manager of Yemen Hunt Oil Co.

No words can express the gratitude that we have for all of those who have worked so hard to make the Yemen oil project a success. We are focusing more and more of our energy on the important task of training the workforce in new skills so that workers can advance into more responsible positions as the company grows.

One of the important tasks as General Manager is to make sure that we are all working as a group towards the common goal of optimizing Yemen's oil and gas production. We are striving to build better professional relationships with those who work at Yemen Hunt Oil Company so that when problems arise, we can talk with one another to help solve them. As we work together, the efforts of the workforce at Yemen Hunt Oil Company will become even more meaningful for the future of Yemen.

We face several challenges for the future. We plan to continue the intensive development and exploratory drilling program while at the same time constructing three additional gas processing plants. Each of the new three plants will process a volume of gas approximately equivalent to the volume processed by the existing plant. Continued close cooperation between the various governmental agencies and Yemen Hunt will be required to maximize the value of each of these projects.



HISTORICAL BACKGROUND:

On the 3rd of September 1981, with the signing of a production sharing agreement between the Yemeni Government and Hunt Oil Company of Dallas, Texas, the modern history of oil in Yemen began. That fortuitous decision on the part of the Yemeni government marked the beginning of a mutually beneficial relationship. Since then, Yemen steadily moved forward to take its place among the oil exporting countries.

In response to reports of oil potential, Hunt Oil Company sent a team of experts to Yemen in early 1981 to study the possibilities and to meet with government officials. Within a few months, serious negotiations were underway, and by early September, an agreement was already in place. The two sides quickly developed a relationship based on trust and respect for each other. One sentence in the agreement summarizes the attitude of the two parties: "The signatories base their relations with respect to this Agreement on the principles of good will and good faith".

Work started immediately. By the end of 1982, initial seismic of 1,845 kms. was concluded, and by 1983, computer processing of the data and geologic correlation was underway. On January 31, 1984, the first "wildcat" was begun on Alif No.1 well, some sixty kms. east of Marib city. Less than half a year later, the Alif No.1 was tested and flowed oil at the rate of 7,800 barrels a day. That was the first tangible evidence that Yemen is an oil country.

By the end of 1984, there was sufficient evidence to declare the Alif field commercial, in addition to the Lam and other fields. By April 1985, an agreement to build a small on-site refinery was signed, and by September 26th, 1985, President Ali Abdullah Saleh laid down the refinery's foundation stone. Within less than a year of the agreement date, on April 12th, 1986, the 10,000 barrel-a-day refinery was completed and was producing gasoline, diesel fuel, and fuel oil. Simultaneously, arrangements for the construction of the Safer-Ras Issa pipeline were being completed. In December, 1985, the Ministry of Oil and Mineral Resources had agreed to the construction of the 440 kms. pipeline. By October 1987, it was finished. At the same time, the Central Production Unit (CPU) which separates water, gas and salt from crude oil and compresses the gas for re-injection into the oil reservoir, was under construction. By end of 1987, it was ready. At the same time, a 400,000 dead-weight-ton tanker, the Esso-Japan, renamed

Safer, was purchased to serve as a floating marine export terminal.

On December 9th, 1987, dedication ceremonies for the whole project were held at Ras Issa, the exporting point on the Red Sea. In attendance were President Ali Abdullah Saleh, Hunt Oil Chairman Ray L. Hunt, cabinet ministers, ambassadors accredited in Sanaa, and many dignitaries. Thus started a new era in the modern history of Yemen. Within about six years of the signing of the September 3rd, 1981 agreement, and within three and a half years of finding oil, Yemen was able to join the club of oil exporters in the world.

THE FACILITIES:

The project of Yemen Hunt Oil Company includes four major facilities as follows:
A. The Wells, Gathering System, and CPU:

The first facility is, of course, the oil wells, the gathering lines, and the CPU. The wells extend into twelve discovered fields. The first was the Alif; followed in 1986 by the Raydan wells; in 1987, the Azal, Saif Bin Dhi Yazan, and As'ad Al-Kamil were discovered. In 1988, the Jabal Nuqum was discovered; followed by Al-Saeedah, Al-Wahdah, and Al-Raja in 1989; in 1990, the Al-Tahreer and Jabal Samadan were discovered, and finally in 1991, the Dastoor Al-Wahdah and Shiharah were discovered. Since YHOC sank the first well in 1984, it has drilled 122 exploratory wells, and 145 development wells. The discoveries indicate significant quantities of oil or gas have been found, and "operating fields" indicate that the fields have been evaluated, have had facilities installed, and are actually on production. In addition, an extensive gathering system was installed to carry the



crude to the Central Production Unit (CPU) which has a capacity of 200,000 barrels per day.

3,000 barrels of fuel oil.
C. The Pipeline:
The pipeline comes next. It covers

440 kms from Safer, in Marib governorate, to Ras Issa on the Red Sea, in Hodeidah governorate. Along this path, three pumping stations and two pressure-reducing stations regulate the flow of crude. The Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition System (SCADA), located at the CPU, monitors all aspects of the pipeline.

D. The Crude Storage Facility:
The fourth facility is the floating marine terminal. The crude is stored in the Safer, a 400,000 long ton vessel. Originally built in 1976 by Hitachi Ariake Shipyard in Japan, the Safer serves as a terminal for the flow of Yemeni crude from the Marib/Al-Jawf region. In addition to the Safer, the floating terminal has the Ghalia, a tugboat that helps in the positioning of the export tankers offloading from the Safer.

E. The Refinery:
The second facility is the refinery. The 10,000 barrels per day refinery

THE ECONOMIC ROLE:

Many economists believe that the timing of the inflow of foreign exchange from the YHOC oil exports could not have come at a more opportune

moment. Given the gradual fall, and final near-total cut off, of workers' remittances and foreign assistance, the foreign currency earnings of Yemeni oil exports on the one hand, and the budgetary revenue for the government generated thereof, on the other hand, have provided a comforting cushion for Yemen to fall back on. In addition, it is no secret that YHOC is the country's largest taxpayer. Another dimension to YHOC's economic contribution to Yemen is that it directly employs (692) Yemenis in various capacities, while YHOC's subcontractors employ an additional (1147) Yemenis. Over and above the direct material contribution, the psychological uplifting on the people of Yemen that resulted from the fact that Yemen joined the league of oil exporters cannot be underestimated.

THE FUTURE:

Yemen Times observed the strong relations of cooperation and trust existing between the Yemeni government and Hunt Oil. This has allowed the relations to mushroom into other fields of mutual benefit. Among the new fields of cooperation are the intensification of exploration and exploitation of oil fields in the Hunt Oil concession area, YHOC's new concession areas (especially the joint area in the Jannah region), the exploitation of gas, and the gas pipeline. All these new investments will allow the existing cooperation to evolve into a wider domain that will serve the long term interests of the Yemeni people. Commenting on the fruits of the first ten years of the association of Hunt Oil with Yemen, Ray L. Hunt, Chairman of Yemen Hunt Oil Company said, "We look back with a great deal of satisfaction as to the advances which have been made in the last ten years. These accomplishments could not have been possible were it not for the close cooperation and positive working relationship which has historically existed between the people of Yemen and the men and women of Yemen Hunt Oil Company. While all of us can take great pride in what has been accomplished to date, we can look forward with even greater anticipation to what can be accomplished in the future." Commenting on the same point, H.E. Mr. Saleh Bin Hussainoon, Minister of Oil and Mineral Resources, told the Yemen Times, "We are very satisfied and happy with our cooperation with YHOC. We are interested in consolidating such cooperation with even wider association with them in the future."

Statement made by Dr. Abdul-Karim Al-Iryani, Foreign Minister, who was Prime Minister of the Government that signed the production sharing agreement with Hunt Oil. He was also responsible for assisting in the growth of the oil sector in his capacity as chairman of the Supreme Oil Council for a number of years.

"When we signed the production sharing agreement with Hunt Oil Company on 3/9/81, we had a very low level of expectation as to what the agreement would do. That is because the region of concession was almost totally unknown, at the time with regard to oil potentials. It was, in fact, Terra Incognita. Ten years in hindsight, it is clear that the event to which we attached hardly any significance, has become a watershed in the modern history of Yemen.

From the very beginning of our dealings with Hunt Oil Company, I was impressed with their diligence, efficiency and perseverance, all of which allowed us to benefit from our oil resources in the shortest possible time. Although the quantities extracted do not match or compare with what our neighbors produce, yet they transformed Yemen into a net exporter of oil, and our oil exports freed our foreign policy from pressures and probable catastrophes given the major developments witnessed by our region recently.

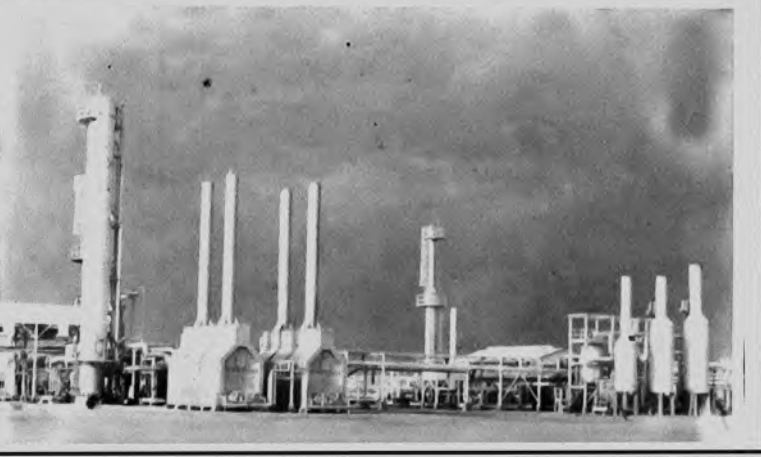
I must add that all of this was possible because of the role played personally by Ray L. Hunt who responded promptly, seriously, and honestly to all our ideas and suggestions to speed up development. Of course, the fact that Hunt Oil Company is a family concern helped in allowing him to make decisions on the spot. It was a sign of mutual confidence between the State and the Contractor. I always remember a sentence he repeated to President Ali Abdullah Saleh several times in my presence. He said, "Mr. President, I do not guarantee there is oil in this region. But if it is there, we will be the ones to get it out."

Today, we look at the oil sector with considerable hope due to the continued discoveries of oil in Hadramaut, Shabwah, Jannah. We also attach hope to our significant gas resource which in the Marib basin alone is now close to 14 trillion cubic feet. Gas is going to be, I believe, more important than oil in the 21st Century due to increasing restrictions on environment pollution.

Statement by Mr. Saleh Bin Hussainoon, Minister of Oil and Mineral Resources

Looking back at the ten years of cooperation between the Ministry and YHOC, I can confirm that the results have been positive and fruitful. I base my judgement on the benefits accrued to Yemen, and thus conclude that the association with Hunt Oil was worthwhile.

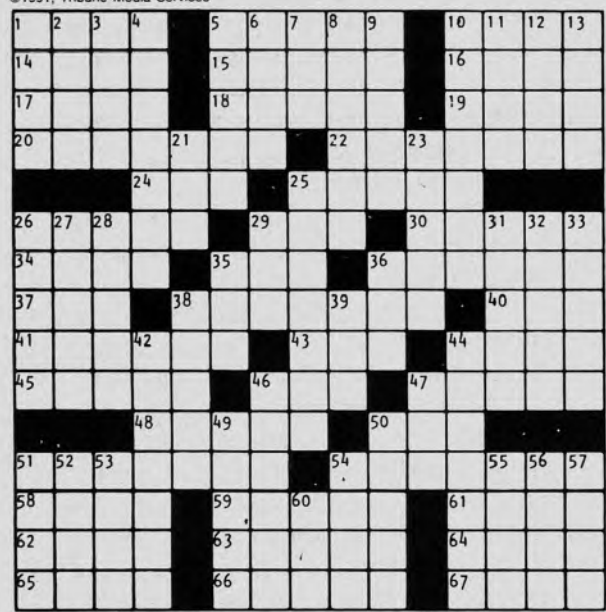
In the next ten years, we are going to stress the need to train Yemeni manpower and to gradually allow it to replace foreign manpower. I can see more fruitful cooperation in oil and gas between us and Hunt Oil and Exxon.



★ CROSSWORD PUZZLE ★

- ACROSS**
- 1 Club game
 - 5 At — (bewildered)
 - 10 Aim for the hole
 - 14 Silkworm
 - 15 Water wheel
 - 16 Large land mass
 - 17 Acid
 - 18 Golf course section
 - 19 Fever: abbr.
 - 20 Having staves
 - 22 Long paces
 - 24 Corn unit
 - 25 Blemish
 - 26 Tilt
 - 29 Farm sound
 - 30 Rigging supports
 - 34 Falls behind
 - 35 Rooter
 - 36 Chaste
 - 37 Sherbet
 - 38 Below-par scores
 - 40 Greek letter
- DOWN**
- 1 Obtains
 - 2 Spoken
 - 3 Italian coin
 - 4 Makes heavy
 - 5 Ire
 - 6 Deity
 - 7 Mineral earth
 - 8 Afternoon nap
 - 9 December visitor
 - 10 Films on copper
 - 11 Secondhand
 - 12 Duration
 - 13 Bugle call
 - 21 Make lace
 - 23 Hoar frosts
 - 25 Footwear
 - 26 Misdirected golf stroke
 - 27 Frilly edgings
 - 28 Undercover man
 - 29 Prohibit
 - 31 Metric measure
 - 32 Turkic language
 - 33 Smacks
 - 35 Evergreen
 - 36 Neckline shape
 - 38 Drills
 - 39 Climbing plant
 - 42 Attached, like some plants
 - 44 Two-seater bicycles
 - 46 Sheath
 - 47 Blossom
 - 49 Certain beans
 - 50 Briny
 - 51 Nail
 - 52 — avis
 - 53 Along with others
 - 54 Item in a deck
 - 55 Thought
 - 56 Paradise
 - 57 Fill up
 - 60 Pipe joint

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MAGICWORD

HOW TO PLAY: Read the list of words. Look at the puzzle. You'll find these words in all directions — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, backwards. Draw a circle around each letter of a word found in the puzzle, then strike it off the list. Circling it will show a letter has been used but will leave it visible should it also form part of another word. Find the big words first. When letters of all listed words are circled, you'll have the given number of letters left over. They'll spell out your MAGICWORD.

LET'S GO FOR A DIP (Sol.: 6 letters)
 A-Aqua; B-Bobbing, Buoy, Butterfly; C-Careful, Chlorine, Clean, Cool; D-Deep, Dive; E-Exercise; F-Filter, Float, Flow; G-Glide, Grace; H-Healthy; I-Indoor; J-Jump; K-Kick; L-Lagoon, Leap, Lifeguard; M-Muscles; N-Nautics; O-Ocean; P-Paddle, Plunge, Pool, Preserver; R-Race; S-Safety, Shallow, Stroke, Surface, Sweep, Swim; T-Thrust, Towel, Trunks; U-Undertow; W-Wade, Water polo, Wave

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L K C I K F Y H T L A E H J O
 E G N U L P L Y T E F A S U L
 W A U Q A B B O B B I N G M O
 O S E L C S U M W D D E E P P
 T S U R H T T O I L H C S P R
 W N S I L R T V Y W A D E E E
 O A N N O E E X E R C I S E T
 T U O D R T R V G L I D E W A
 R T O O I L F T R U N K S S W
 E I G O N I L I F E G U A R D
 D C A R E F Y M I W S E C A R
 N S L P L S U R F A C E V A P
 U L O O C E A N L U F E R A C
 S H A L L O W P A D D L E P W
 S T R O K E N A E L C L O O P

Unscramble these four words, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

SEBEO
 GELEY
 MERDIP
 KOYDEN



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

ANSWERS ON PAGE TWELVE
 GOOD LUCK!

WOULD YOU BELIEVE

An amateur architect by the name of Dr. William Thornton designed the U.S. Capitol building. His plan won him \$500 and a plot of land in the city.

As best as the experts can figure it, Jesus Christ apparently was born in 6 B.C.

A bridge that spans the Housatonic River in Connecticut has been in continuous use since 1841.

The Louisiana Purchase has got to be one of the best deals in history. The United States paid just \$15 million for land that doubled the size of the nation.

Abraham Lincoln, although a famous lawyer, never went to law school.

Experts say it will take at least until June 1992 (or maybe longer) to put out all the fires burning in Kuwait.

WORDS OF WISDOM

We are all becoming our parents, although some of us are taking longer to get there.

Smiles are absolutely free. Frowns can cost you plenty.

No matter how tough you have it, you should always remember that someone else has it even tougher.

There aren't too many big cities in this world that are better places to live than they are to visit.

The stone is worn away by many drops, one at a time.

Life's real rewards lie in the struggle, not in the prize.

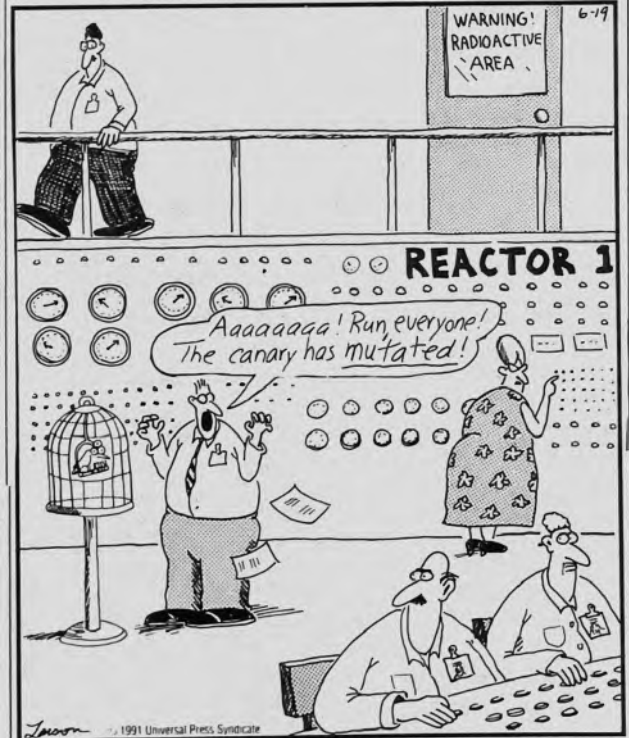
SLAPSTIX

AN IOU IS NOTHING MORE THAN A PAPER WAIT

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THE FAR SIDE

By GARY LARSON



Inside a nuclear power plant

THE FAR SIDE

By GARY LARSON



Leona Helmsley of the Paleozoic

THIS WEEK'S

HOROSCOPE

By Joyce Jillson

Weekly Tip: Plenty of communication is called for. Some family members are ready to plan the rest of their lives.

Aries (March 21-April 19) Be aware of the problems of others. Take care in traffic and with authority.

Taurus (April 20-May 20) Strengthen relations with associates and friends, including young people just starting out.

Gemini (May 21-June 21) Meet with reps of your insurance or investment group, to clarify fine print.

Cancer (June 22-July 22) Do all the detail stuff and complicated corresponding and meetings.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) Get lots of rest. A family member departs your scene, and will be gone for a while.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Support your friend and partner. A quiet visit with a cranky child can work wonders.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) An error or two will turn up. Patience is required with repair persons and the dry cleaner.

Scorpio (Oct. 24-Nov. 21) Time with family. Try to have routine calls and writing tasks out of the way early.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) Investigate a rumor. Ask advice of an intuitive woman; if job hunting, counseling by a pro.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Socialize informally. Bring out the best in associates by having faith.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) Get house in order. An old problem returns on the job. Double check to make sure.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20) Make headway in personal relationships. Give the boss your best or go for that new job.

If You Were Born This Week

Changes at your workplace keep you jumping; sudden departures of long-time employees make big difference to division of tasks. You'll learn plenty; try to have a voice in reorganization policy.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR, LETTERS TO THE EDITOR, LETTERS TO THE**UNFAIR COMPETITION**

I read with interest your article announcing that a new logistical company has been set up as a joint venture between a local company and the Yemen Company for Investment in Oil and Minerals (YCOM), while at the same time you condemn the questionable practices of government officials.

Is it any less questionable when with official backing (association with the Ministry of Oil and Mineral Resources), one company is given material advantage over those companies already established and supplying services in this field, and this being off the back of their own commercial expertise and investment. What I refer to is that this company and others who have already entered into joint ventures with YCOM. By virtue of this joint venture with MOMR, the very body which has considerable say at the exploration stage,

and final say at the point of cost recovery under the PSA (profit sharing agreements), contracts with the oil companies, in the appointment of the sub-contractors, if this does not add up to material advantage, I fail to see what does I would ask you not to seek to calm our fears with the talk of the un-biased officials, if you couple this with YCOM's ability to import equipment and material off the back of their import tax exempt status, something not available to other Yemeni companies seeking to serve this developing market. This is unfair competition.

We ask you, if such facility exists for one company, being sponsored via the back door by a government ministry, then let this be extended to all who are prepared to invest.

Qayid Ahmed Ubad,
Al-Watary Logistics
and Services

WASTE

Nearly all the daily papers in Yemen publish daily at least an article about inflation and the high cost of living. Yet I feel some people are not affected by these issues. The quickest proof is to be found in our local and international hotels and restaurants especially during lunch time. You will find people order a variety of dishes and just take a small bite here and there leaving the rest unconsumed. The result is a waste of food thrown in the garbage bins. This is not only a waste but also a sin according to our religion. It is really a pity to see so much food go to waste in a country that has many people who go to bed hungry. Next time when you visit a hotel or a restaurant, please order food which you would consume.

Abeid Salim Abeid,
Sana'a

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YEMEN IN THE ARCHAEOLOGIC SPOTLIGHT

by: Dr. Yusuf M. Abdulla,
Vice President,
General Organisation of
Antiquities, Museums
and Manuscripts.

Yemen is increasingly occupying center-stage in the world of archaeology today. Its history and antiquity have become a matter of general interest, both to the Yemenis and world's community.

One of the major objectives of the "Master Plan" for this sector is to promote culture in the Yemen Republic. This point was emphasised recently by the Minister of Culture and Tourism in a paper entitled: "From Culture of Genuinity towards Genuinity of Culture", which he said seeks to accomplish scientific research in the realm of archaeology and to carry out excavations on a large scale in the archaeological sites. The paper called for providing the necessary financing from both national and international sources.

An initiative at the international level dedicated to studying the conservation and enhancement of the cultural and archaeological heritage of the Arabian Peninsula (of which Yemen had precedence), succeeded last May in gathering more than one hundred archaeologists, in Rome. The Rome gathering concluded the conference with the establishment of "The International Society for Arabia Antiqua" in order to promote archaeology in the Arabian Peninsula and to foster cooperation among scholars on both regional and international levels.

On the same line the U.S. International Council on Monuments and Sites (USICOMOS) is due to conduct a three week U.S. Seminar/Study Tour for senior level officials of Ministries of Culture from the Near East countries including Yemen. The seminar is designed to explore current regional and bilateral issues relating to cultural property (including Anthropology, Archaeology and Ethnology), and will attempt to expand and develop regional and international cooperation in Near East area. "The program will allow sufficient opportunity for the participants to meet with their American colleagues who have conducted research in the Near East area. It is designed also to illustrate and confirm the



U.S. commitment to collaborate with other countries in protecting archaeological and ethnological artifacts that make up a nation's cultural heritage".

In respect to the actual participation of the American scholars in the process of digging up the past in Yemen, one that would not give them the credit of being the first explorers. A long list of European travellers, adventurers and archaeologists have precedence and have taken credit for being the first explore Yemen in modern times, such as Niebuhr (1762), Von Seetzer (1810), Arnaud (1843), Hale'vy (1870), Glaser (1882), Van der Muellen (1931), Philby (1936) and C. Thompson (1938). In the last 20 years, a number of European archaeological missions carried out substantial work in the fields of site surveying, epigraphical research and excavations. These include the German Archaeological Institute, the French Expedition, the Italian Mission (ISMEO) and the Russian Mission.

However, the record of the American contribution to Yemeni archaeology is that of "superlatives". In spite of being late in arrival, the team of the American Foundation for the study of Man, managed to carry out between 1950 and 1951, under the leadership of late Wendell Phillips, three major excavations; Tamna', the capital of Qataban and its cemetery, the site of Hajar bin Humaid in Wadi Beihan and the temple of Awam (Mahram Bilqis) at Marib. Regardless of the accompanying complications, the expedition succeeded in bringing to the world the first landmarks of the history of the unknown kingdom of Qataban and the first reliable information about the Kingdom of Saba' and Dhu Raidan in Marib and Zha'far. The outcome of the short-lived expedition was

huge and important, and unmatched before.

The Foundation resumed its work on a minor scale in 1985 and 1987 at Al-Juba south of Marib during two seasons, under the leadership of the well-known American archaeologist James Saver. Also a small team from the Smithsonian Institution in Washington DC started a general archaeological survey in Wadi Hadhramaut. But, we at the Organization of Antiquities, Museums and Manuscripts (GOAAM) hope for the best, again for the "superlatives", through two new American Missions which have already started their work in Yemen. The first is led by Prof. J. Brooks, President of the Institute for the Study of Earth and Man at Southern Methodist University (ISEM) in Dallas, Texas and the second led by Prof. N. Whalen from South West Texas University. Both are, partially supported by Yemen Hunt Oil Company.

But, unlike the preceding expeditions, both missions concentrate on pre-history and not history. The first wants to explore "things" not "man" and works to find fossils of vertebrate animals in the area to the south of Sa'ada region. The second endeavours to explore "The First Man" in the south of Tihama.

If Mr. Brooks has reason to believe in his paleontological conjecture and could one day in the near future prove it to be true, he will be the first prehistorian who discovers a productive area for vertebrate fossils in Arabia, especially dinosaurs. Similarly if Mr. Whalen really thinks that he is going to get it, and comes up with a discovery in the store of tools of the homo erectus in the Tihama, he will be the first scholar to prove the theory that the first crossing of man from Africa to Asia and Europe was not through the Sinai but through the Bab Al-Mandab Strait, meaning to Yemen first. Two great possible discoverers are carrying the torch, and both will definitely put Yemen at the "spotlight" indeed!

Who knows? Would the American archaeologists be able to realise the hope and keep their record of "Superlatives" in Yemen.

"Insha'al-lah"!

EASTERN EUROPE: WAITING FOR GODOT?

The East European countries which are going through a metamorphosis from a central command system to a market economy are disillusioned by the many complications they face. The least of these is the failure of massive investments from the West which the new leaders of East Europe anticipated to flow in. Yet, except for a limited trickle, the East Europeans have been left on their own. Even foreign aid and assistance was minimal. To the contrary, many shady organisations and individuals from the West have exploited the transformation process by benefiting from "holes" in the legal and market systems as they evolve. Commenting on the frustration of East Europeans, one senior Western economist said, "Converting a capitalist system into a communist system is like making omelettes out of eggs. But converting a communist system into a capitalist system is like trying to make an egg out of an omelette."

But western economists said on Tuesday the reform process itself was unlikely to be affected, except in a few countries where former communist leaders could try to block it.

Commenting on the visible hesitation of private investments, Werner Varga, deputy chief economist of Austria's biggest bank, Creditanstalt-Bankverein said, "Money has the courage of a hare, the memory of an elephant and the legs of an antelope."

The unsuccessful attempt to topple President Mikhail Gorbachev by Soviet hardliners, the on-going war in Yugoslavia and other political instability could frighten foreign investment away from the East European countries that are pressing ahead with open-market reforms. "It will make people think twice about putting their money in Eastern Europe," said Paul Jackson, European economist at a London investment bank, Morgan Stanley International. Commenting on the recent Soviet events, he added, "It would make foreign investors less willing to put money into East European countries. It may make people think if this sort of backlash has happened in the Soviet Union what will happen in Eastern Europe."

Eastern European countries have espoused radical reforms to bring in a market economy by changing the legal framework, creating western-style financial systems, encouraging private enterprise and privatising their huge state sectors.

They have also opened up foreign trade, freed prices and moved to make their currencies convertible.

Most countries are well advanced in their reform process, with notable exceptions, of course.

In the Soviet Union, even with Gorbachev's relentless drive, concrete market reforms have yet to be adopted. The resistance for the reform comes from people whose privileges have been taken away, and thus who seek to turn the clock back. That is less likely to be the case at least in three countries - Poland, Hungary and Czechoslovakia where the communists are discredited and reforms have popular support despite the suffering they cause, said Creditanstalt's Varga.

In other countries, the Communists are either in power or continue to share power. In Bulgaria and Albania, the ex-communist socialist parties are the biggest in parliament. Romania's ruling National Salvation Front has many ex-communists and a neo-communist party has now appeared. The Bulgarian Finance Minister Iva Kostov said that people and governments in Eastern Europe were watching events in the neighbouring countries closely. "If they see that even in one place things are not going well and a restoration process starts, then everything can go to hell," he said.

To block efforts at a return to the old ways, some people believe reformists will be more bold and decisive. "It will make the reforming elements in Eastern Europe speed up the reform process to make their countries closer to the west," said Morgan Stanley's Paul Jackson.

Unless Eastern Europe gets a massive injection of investments coupled with some assistance rather fast, the possibilities of backlashes cannot be overruled. Will the Western world act in a way that is in its own interest, if at least in the long run, or will it let Eastern Europe wait for godot?

WORLD'S BIGGEST ROCK MUSIC TOUR!

British group Dire Straits won a rousing reception in Dublin while launching what has been billed as the biggest tour in the history of rock music.

Starting last week in Ireland, the group will perform in twenty four countries on a two-year tour and reach a total live audience estimated at 7.1 million people. "No other band has ever undertaken a tour of this magnitude," said a spokesman for the organisers.

Dire Straits had not given a live show for five years following the phenomenal success of the Brothers In Arms album which sold twenty million copies and is reputed to be the biggest selling compact disc ever produced.

The group's last tour ended with disgruntled lead singer Mark Knopfler saying he was not sure there would ever be another Dire Straits album.

"There is a lot more to life

than being in Brussels on a gray day with a gig to do," complained Knopfler, 42, whose band is the favorite rock group of Britain's Princess Diana.

But Knopfler, wearing his trademark blue bandana to pin back face-receding grey hair, exuded enthusiasm at the start of the new tour, which coincides with the release of a new album, *On Every Street*.

The group, which got its name in the 1970s when friends saw the Dire Straits of its penniless members before the band made its first album, took three encores in Dublin and played with renewed vigor.

After Ireland, Dire Straits will tour Britain and then go to mainland Europe, North America, back to Europe and across to South America. Gigs are also being planned in East Europe and the Middle East. Don't wait for the band here in Yemen, it is not on its itinerary.

MOROCCO VIOLATES HUMAN RIGHTS!

Morocco continues to physically exterminate all opposition to its rule by the Sahrawi people. Amnesty International has repeatedly pleaded with the Moroccan government to treat its own people, and the people of the formerly Spanish Sahara, and now annexed by Morocco, in a more humane way. The April, 1991, Amnesty International report included a 4-page long survey of Morocco's human rights. It is a sad story. On August 28th, 1991, Amnesty International issued a new appeal to the Moroccan government to release all political prisoners, and to specify the whereabouts of some of the Sahrawi people who has been in detention for over fifteen years. In a totally independent study, the Arab Organisation for Human Rights has also found the Moroccan record in human rights

very lacking. Physical torture, mental stress, and wholesale family arrest are among some of the recurrent practices of the Moroccan authorities notably the security. Dissenters, specially among the northern tribes and the southern bedouins, are not tolerated. The brutal response to the just demands of the people reached their climax in the mass arrests of 1981 and 1984, although the phenomenon recurs regularly. Fake trials and military tribunals have been the norm for many years now.

Amnesty International and the Arab Organisation for Human Rights have issued new appeals for all their readers to raise this issue with the Moroccan authorities in order to motivate Morocco to adhere to the international standards of human rights for its own people.

YEMEN TIMES ANNOUNCES VACANCIES:

Due to the growth of its work, Yemen Times is in need of the following:

1. *accountant and collection agent.*
2. *receptionist/typist (must be bi-lingual).*
3. *writer/translator (English / Arabic / English). French is an additional bonus.*

Work conditions:

- a) *Morning & afternoon work shifts,*
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- c) *Very good salary.*

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Yemeni Jews Under House Arrest... in New York?

According to Yemen Times sources, three Yemeni Jews are in a situation of total seclusion in Long Island in New York. Rabbi Y. Gruber, Executive Director of the Central Rabbinical Congress of the USA and Canada, says the three Jews told him that they were scared and that they cannot move out of the house where they are being kept and held under "house arrest". In a letter to the Yemeni

The three Yemeni Jews upon arrival in New York, and pictured with their "hosts".



BACK TO SCHOOL

This week, and over the next few days, over two million Yemeni children are going back to school. Mr. Mohammed Abdullah Al-Jayifi, Minister of Education, has enacted a ministerial decree giving the school-year schedule. According to the decree, all children from nursery level until the last year of elementary (primary) education will resume their schooling on Saturday, September 7th. By the way, some 130,000 children will go to school for the first time this September. Again according to the decree, preparatory (junior high school) and high school, along with the technical institutes and vocational centers will start receiving their students as from Saturday, September 14th. The deadline for registration and enrollment is October 31st. The first semester will end on January 23rd, 1992. After a one-week interval starts the second semester which will continue until May 16th, 1992, when final exams begin. It is worth mentioning that an already bad situation is becoming worse in the Yemeni schools. The number of children per class averages to more 70 in the government schools, and the ratio of teachers to pupils is roughly one teacher to about one hundred pupils. This year, in spite of the 130,000 pupils who are going to join the educational system for the first time, the government was able to inaugurate less than a dozen schools. Thus, the only solution has been to allow the private sector to cover as much of the shortfall as possible. The major obstacle towards a more forceful private sector contribution is the continued delay of the enactment of the educational law.

ב"ה
התאחדות הרבנים דארצות הברית וקנדה
CENTRAL RABBINICAL CONGRESS OF THE U.S.A. AND CANADA



85 Division Avenue
Brooklyn, N.Y. 11211
384-6765

July 1 1991

Embassy of Yemen Republic
His Excellency
The Ambassador

We are sending your Excellency a copy of a letter we have sent to a number of U. S. Government officials whom we believe had been involved with the republic of Yemen on behalf of ICROJOY, and Tawil.

We are sending this letter to you, that the embassy and consular officials of the Republic should immediately make an effort to visit these three people where they are being held, and to inform them of their rights and privileges to travel freely in the USA and speak freely and unhindered with whomever they wish, and that they can request the assistance of the Republic's consular offices in this country to help them go freely wherever they may desire, according to their wishes, before they leave back home.

Members of our organization were refused entry to be able to speak with these helpless people and after a brief encounter at least one of the three men cried out for help and asked for assistance and that he is restricted of any movements. They have complained that they have not been allowed to attend any religious services, nor have they been permitted by their "hosts" to participate in any Rabbinic Studies.

We strongly feel that the offices of the Yemen Republic should acquaint them with the non Zionist Orthodox Jewish enclaves in New York, something they have been deprived of by their present Zionist oppressors.

Should you want additional information please do not hesitate to contact us at the above telephone number.

Sincerely Yours
Rabbi Y. Y. Gruber

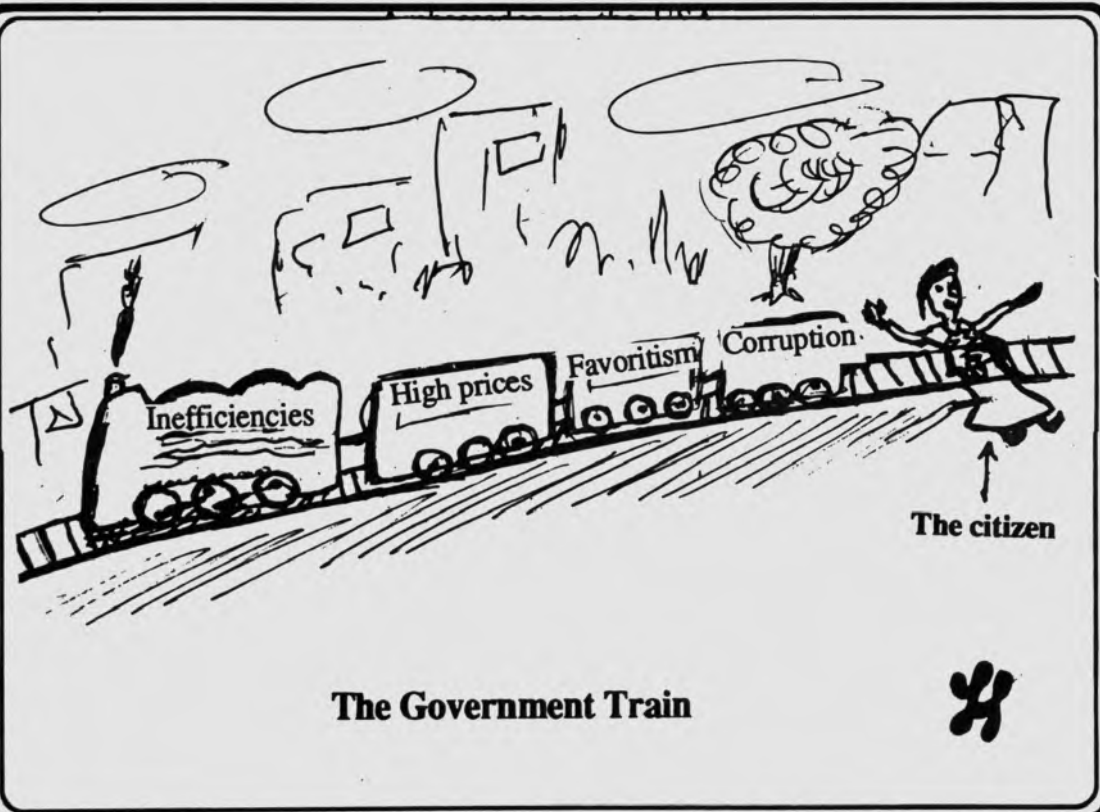
Embassy in the USA, Rabbi Gruber urged the embassy to contact the three Yemenis and inform them of their rights.

In another letter to Secretary of State James Baker, Rabbi Gruber wrote: "We want to state very frankly and solemnly that the Jews of Yemen enjoy all religious, civil and human rights as any other citizens of Yemen, and we can attest to the very well known fact, that the Republic of Yemen has gone out of its way on many occasions to assist the Rabbis of our organization to visit Jews in some of the remotest mountain villages. Yemen is a superb example of how Jews and Moslems, can live together in peace and tranquility enjoying all rights and freedoms as in the USA."

It is to be noted that several US Senators,

the State Department and especially the US Embassy in Sana'a and other U.S. officials have constantly approached the Yemeni Government to allow the Jews to leave. The Yemeni Government based on its constitution, re-assured all Yemenis are free to travel. As such Yemenis Jews have travelled in August 1990 and late in 1990 to the USA and other countries and returned to Yemen. The new batch of Yemeni Jews travelling to the USA are Musa (Moshe) Sabani, Masaud Zindani and Dawood (David) Katabi. The trio is visiting relatives and studying Judaic teachings in order to serve the Jewish community in Yemen upon their return. The trip was arranged by Dr. Hayim Tawil, Chairman of the International Coalition for the Revival of the Jews of Yemen.

Yemen Times contacted several Jews in Yemen who expressed sadness at the sectarian rivalry among American Jewish groups. "They confuse us by teaching us contradictory rituals and beliefs to follow," Yemen Times was told. Furthermore, it is sad to see Jewish organisations exploit "these helpless and poor people for their own cheap political and fundraising purposes."



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