



# YEMEN TIMES



YEMEN'S ONLY ENGLISH - LANGUAGE WEEKLY

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## OUR VIEWPOINT



### YEMEN'S "AMBASSADORS"

Many of the Republic of Yemen's embassies abroad do very little to assist in the country's foreign policy or image. Most of them are manned by the wrong people. Even in countries which are so critical to Yemen, like Jordan and Egypt regionally, and Europe and the USA internationally, the heads of our missions are there partly because they are not wanted inside Yemen. This is a very inappropriate policy and is no longer acceptable, specially since of these ambassadors are literally semi-literate, I mean in Arabic.

Through direct personal contact, I have known our ambassadors in quite a few countries. They leave much to be desired. Their priorities in life are confined to trivialities and personal gain, and whatever they can "report" on Yemenis over there. Their limited education and culture does not allow them to get involved in the intellectual circles and in establishing contact with the local media. Thus, they have little impact on the way events unfold and in the way opinions evolve, even if those events and opinions affect Yemen.

In some cases, specially at the Arab level, the duty of the embassies is to cater to the personal needs of the senior government officials and their families and friends as they visit those countries. Actually, the ambassador and his staff go out of their way to serve the visiting officials within a policy of winning favors. This is called the art of survival. Their point is well taken, the officials "appreciate" these services and they will back these guys in any of their needs in Sanaa. Of course, we do have some excellent ambassadors, and it is wrong to generalize. But what prompted this editorial is the behavior of some of our even good ambassadors. They think they represent one segment or political party. They should remember they represent the whole country and all of us

The Publisher

### MEED: "YEMEN COULD BECOME A SIGNIFICANT OIL PRODUCER"

Middle East Economic Digest (MEED) dedicated the cover story of its November 1st edition to Yemen. In its opening caption, the paper writes: "Yemen's oil story is moving in leaps and bounds. The allocation of a key concession and signs of considerable reserves in Masila are the latest in a string of developments."

The paper gives an excellent analysis of the recent developments of the oil sector and analyzes the prospects in light of the Gulf Crisis and its impact on Yemen. In addition, it draws on the administrative and political structure of unified Yemen. The paper believes that "the two parts of the government (former North and South Yemen officials), to date, have coalesced well. But as the extent of Yemen's economic hardship sinks in, divisions inevitably begin to grow".

The article's conclusion: "There is a growing conviction that the prospect of further commercial oil finds in the newly allocated licence areas is a realistic one. Yemen could well grow up to become a significant producer (of oil)".

## THE WILL OF A NATION TO SURVIVE

The American-led 30-nation forces destroyed much of the infrastructure of Iraq. The plans were drawn up so as to inflict as much damage as possible, not with the aim of winning the war militarily, but with the intention of destroying the foundations of modern Iraq. The execution of the war carried with it a venom that has become characteristic of the American war-machine in many parts of the world (Japan, Laos, Vietnam, etc.).

Even after the war is over, the Americans and their allies showed little magnanimity. They were intent on humiliating and starving, not the system, for they know the leaders will be the ones to eat the last loaf of bread, but the people of Iraq. Much of the American ideals of human rights become hollow rhetoric in light of what they are doing to the children of Iraq. Basking in the glory of their victory, and their newly acquired domination of the world, the American leaders cannot hear the silent cries of the Iraqi children and women. Thus, whatever moral force had backed the American and allied forces, can no longer be summoned to support their positions after the war.

On the other hand, the people of Iraq have adjusted to the new conditions. There is very little more the Americans can do to them. Single-handedly, and in a very obstinate manner that is annoying to the "victorious" parties, the Iraqis are slowly rebuilding their nation. The dams, the farms, the industrial plants, the schools, the kindergartens, the mosques and churches, the roads, the communication systems, etc., are slowly coming back to life. The people are more determined than ever to survive the disaster. Like a phoenix, they are used to rising from the ashes. As one historian stated, the history of Iraq is one Kerbala (a point of general destruction in Iraqi history) after another.

The new policy is to depend on no one, although many countries are beginning to court Iraq. Iran, for example, has been sending signals to shore-up whatever it can of its relations with Iraq. Maybe the first thing it should do is give back the Iraqi planes that had sought refuge with it during the war. In the meanwhile, the USA hopes for a change in leadership in Iraq. Is it not upto the people of Iraq to choose their leaders, however they may be?

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LOCAL BRIEFS, LOCAL BRIEFS, LOCAL BRIEFS,

MINISTER FAILS TO REPRESENT GOVERNMENT

The Embassy of the Republic of Turkey held a dinner reception on the 29th of October to mark their national day. As is customary on such occasions, it was expected that at least a ministerial level official would represent the Yemeni government to convey respects and congratulations. WHOOPS! There was no one. A disturbed chief of Protocol was looking around for a minister. The Yemen Times intervened, "Hasn't the government named someone to come to the reception." "Yes, the government has assigned Mr. Fadhle Mohsen Abdullah, the Minister of Supply and Trade, to represent it," he confirmed. "And why isn't he here?" we asked. "How can I know," he retorted. "Maybe you can ask him."

Many members of the diplomatic community started speculating whether there was a new position by the Yemeni government vis-a-vis Turkey in light of recent developments. Nobody could confirm anything. As far as we know, it is most probably a problem of a neglectful minister who does not take his assignments seriously. Still, we are waiting for an explanation from the government on this count!

CHANGE IN GOVERNMENT

The Yemen Times learnt that a change in government, hopefully, of government, is imminent. It is conveyed to us that the 33-portfolio government is to be reduced to a 19-portfolio government. The main losers are the various ministers of state. In addition, several ministries of similar duties are to be re-combined.

At another level, the Prime Minister has been subjected to many unfortunate situations which amount to insubordination on the part of the Ministers. It is known that several ministers scarcely attend cabinet meetings, while others are staying at home. Many observers believe that due to the inability of the Prime Minister to run the government properly, partly because of interference from various sectors, he should have long thrown in the towel. The difficulties under which the government are so enormous that many expected the crack to take place much earlier.

A NEW WAVE OF YEMENIS FROM SOMALIA

The Panamanian ship C.C. arrived at Aden harbor on Wednesday October 30th, 1991, carrying 1856 Yemenis fleeing the savage civil war still raging in Somalia. The Yemeni immigrant community in Somalia, as well as the Pakistani and Indian communities, in addition to the Somalis themselves, of course, have been the victim of a senseless civil war that claimed so many lives and destroyed so much property. The Minister of Immigrants Affairs, Mr. Saleh Munassar Assiyali, said that half a million Riyals have been allocated to take care of the immediate needs and expenses of the newly arrived Yemenis. In addition, the ministry will help them get absorbed in society at large.

FRENCH MINISTERS LEAVE YEMEN

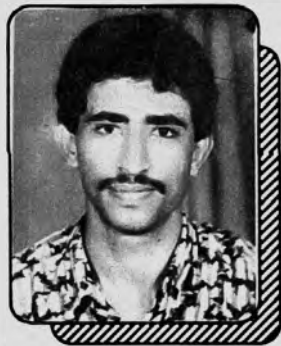
French Foreign Minister Roland Dumas left Aden on Friday November 1st, 1991 on his way to Riyadh, Cairo and then to Paris following a two-day official visit to Yemen. On Sunday, November 3rd, 1991, Jack Lang left Sanaa at the end of a four-day official visit. According to Yemeni sources, the French visit to Yemen has consolidated the already excellent relations between the two countries. The commercial, cultural, and political ties between the two countries are bound to reach new levels of cooperation. (Please read the interview of the Yemen Times with Mr. Dumas on the last page.)

WORLD BANK AND YEMEN TALK ON AGRICULTURAL COOPERATION

An agricultural team from the World Bank has completed talks with Yemeni officials regarding cooperation regarding agricultural development in Yemen. The team, which has paid several field visits to the agricultural sites. The two sides have discussed drawing up a comprehensive strategy for agricultural development in the various governorates.

PERSONAL VIEW

THE VIRTUES OF UNITY



Mr. Abdul-Hafiz Ali AL-Fakih  
Faculty of Education, Hodeidah

In the past Yemen was separated. The country used to be ruled by two different regimes. The South was a British colony, and the Imamic disaster ruled the what was formerly North Yemen. At that time, the Yemeni people did not know the meaning of democracy, they used to fight each other instead of fighting for their rights - to fight the colonizer and the dictator who caused fear, tyranny, poverty, illiteracy, etc.

Now after the integration of the Yemenis and the unification of the country, democracy is implemented to a large extent which helps the government to fight the above mentioned problems.

The era of tyranny is gone forever, and we now live in a new age of civilization under the banner of unification and democracy. Unification is a gift given by Allah so that we can now know and visit each other in every place in unified Yemen.

Frankly all Yemenis had lived through severe difficulties which has left many scars on us whose traces are still found even today. So I ask all the patriotic and noble men and women to seek the best for the sake of developing our country. We also ask again and again all the political parties instead of fishing for each other's faults, they should cooperate in order to deepen and widen the understanding of true democracy which will sustain all Yemenis. This is especially relevant to returning immigrants for the achievement of a promising future for all.

We pray to God to help and support our leaders who honestly support and seek the development of our country.

Long live unified Yemen and its goals!

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Fawzia Numan:

**"Women Can Improve Their Lot Only Through Education"**

Fawzia Ahmed Numan is the daughter of the famous nationalist and patriot, Ahmed Mohammed Numan. But she is also important by her own right. A long-time advocate of female rights, she is today the Secretary General of the Federation of Yemen Women. In addition, she is the Assistant General Manager of Basic Education at the Ministry of Education, and Member of the people's General Congress. Yemen Times went to discuss with her issues pertaining to the conditions of women, in general, and working women, in particular. We also discussed issues related to basic education. Following are excerpts of the interview:



**Q: How did you get involved in the fight for women's rights?**

**A:** The beginning goes back to in my interest in education and my feeling that the lot of women can not be improved unless they are educated. My mother, an illiterate person, planted in me the importance of education. I remember one incident in which my mother pulled me by the ear down four floors all the way to my father's classroom. That was in Hajjah where my father was imprisoned by the Imam. My father thought he will fight back by teaching the people of Hajjah. My mother insisted that I should receive education. It was awkward being the only girl in a class full of boys and men, but it planted in me the courage to face many situations. So I became convinced that education was the main path for our salvation.

After graduating from Cairo, and as a teacher in Taiz in the 1970s, I volunteered to teach in the girls' literacy program, which was organized by the Taiz Female Society. Soon, I got involved in lots of things related to women and their conditions in life.

Today, I believe that it is primarily through education that women can improve their conditions.

**Q: Could you describe what the Federation of Yemeni Women does?**

**A:** First, all our work is on a voluntary basis. Second, the Federation is made up of eleven branches and the

dozens of independent associations in the various towns. We coordinate the various activities that help women. As you could have guessed, we concentrate on literacy programs. In addition, we provide training in secretarial skills, sewing, embroidery, family planning, day-care services, first-aid, nutrition, sanitation, and many general welfare and educational programs. We sometimes get involved in social disputes, specially if we feel a man is taking advantage of a woman. This is especially true in cases of divorce in which the husband literally destroys his former wife. But this is a sensitive matter and we are handling it with a lot of tact and caution.

**Q: How do you finance your activities?**

**A:** As you must realize, all our projects are development-oriented. Therefore, the government provides us subsidies to run our projects. There is a monthly allowance which helps us cover the majority of our expenses. Then there are the membership subscriptions, and the nominal fees we charge for our services such as the day-care services for infants and children. We hope that in the future we can approach the local and international business community and ask for their contribution.

**Q: Do you perform as a union, or is it simply a loose federation?**

**A:** No, we are not a union, although we do intervene in many instance to help women who confront unfair treatment from the employers. In general, however, we look at our role as a ground-breaking to help expand women's role and presence in the various sec-

tors of the economy. As I said, if an issue is brought to our attention, we address it. But we don't really go out of our way to tackle difficult issues. We already have a lot to do.

**Q: What do you think of the new family law?**

**A:** The law that regulates female affairs is called family law in Yemen. Unfortunately, this law has many shortcomings. But it is an improvement over the one that had existed in the former North Yemen, although many would argue it is not as good as the one that had existed in the former South Yemen. Some will point to some token rights, such as the right to join the army. We have effectively participated in drafting this law. In spite of the shortcomings, I think it is good enough for the time being. That is to say that is the most we can get at this juncture. We hope, as society evolves, that we can amend certain aspects of it, and thus improve on it with time.

**Q: What can we expect from the Women's Federation over the next few years?**

**A:** We have plans to expand our membership base and presence in all the governorates. Thus, we plan to open branches all over the country. Then, we would like to expand the kinds of services we provide, specially in making it easy for women to work. This will be done through direct services, and through more information and guidance to the public so that people accept that women can just about anything a man can do, given some clear limitations. This calls more commitment, focus, and more understanding and

support from the men. By the way, I take this opportunity to thank you in person, and to thank the Yemen Times for its enlightened policy in addressing issues that are important for Yemeni women. You see all over the world, female rights were achieved by an alliance between women and supportive men. So I call on all to assist as much as they can in this field.

**Q: Are there some branches and associations that are more active than others?**

**A:** Of course, and it reflects the degree of social evolution. For example, the associations of Taiz and Hodeidah are far more active than most others. I am comparing them within the former North Yemen. I don't have, as yet, sufficient information on the women's associations in the southern and eastern governorates.

**Q: Let us move on to your job. You are the Assistant General Manager for the country's Basic Education. What exactly do you do?**

**A:** The general directorate in which I work is in charge of basic education, which means primary and preparatory education. This is the most important stage of education, as it handles children in their formative years.

**Q: There were some difficulties regarding the curricula. What exactly is the problem?**

**A:** You know that we have committees and departments responsible for drafting the curricula. Politics gets involved. Some people want a stronger dose of religion, others want more of this, and more of that. That is about it.

**Q: There are major short-**

ages of schools, books, teachers, etc. Why can't you plan for sufficient quantities?

**A:** Maybe you should address your question to the Minister of Finance. We tell him we need so many books, so many teachers, so much furniture, etc. He says that we could do less of this and less of that. Another part of the problem is simply the problem of dealing with the sheer size of the job. Remember, we are responsible for nearly two million pupils, and about fifty thousand teachers. So we have difficulties. Thus, the problem is partly financial, or resources in general, and partly a problem of proper management. But we are working on this.

**Q: The teachers are this year Yemenis in the Basic Education level. What is the policy?**

**A:** This is a top-level decision which instructed to replace foreigners with Yemenis. It is a normal evolution of things, we have simply expedited the process. But there is one problem in our assignment of teachers. We assign the least qualified to the lower levels of education. Thus a secondary graduate will teach the lower grades in primary schools. This is wrong. We should choose our best to the little children because they tend to imitate, and we should give them our best to imitate. There is another issue. Since we are using graduates of all fields to teach, maybe we should add certain courses in educational techniques in the curricula.

**Q: Let me raise one last question. You were in trouble with the clergy and religious groups. Why?**

**A:** Simply because they invoke religion to have it their way in everything. Sometime they misquote Islam, sometimes they misuse Islam. I fire back. Let me give you an example. The Friday orator in a neighboring mosque was blasting women who buy last fashion clothings, etc. I told him that he could have used a better approach. He could have called on women to learn sewing to help reduce the burden on the family budget. He did not get it, and he was upset.

# TURBA: THE CAPITAL OF HUGARRIAH

Turba, the capital of Hugarriah, lies at 13,13 degrees North and at 44,07 East of Greenwich and at an elevation of 1860 meters above sea level. It occupies a commanding position on a massive plateau extending south east of Taiz until it is finally broken by the rift of Wadi Al-Maqatira.

The history of Turba goes way back in history. Turba was one of the centers of the Ma'afar civilization (the ancient name of Hugarriah). More recently, the city became an Islamic center to which many monuments bear witness, specially the Al-Tayyar mosque. Other relics include Ottoman buildings which are multi-storey houses.

ratio of 93:1, and a population of which, 62% are younger than 15 years old. (extrapolated from a 1978 Yemen Economists Society field survey). Of the adult population, 74.3% are married, 13.9% are bachelors, 7.7% are widowed, and 4.1% are divorced. Features of modernity are already leaving their mark on the town as the characteristics of rural life recede constantly. Nucleus families and late marriages are beginning to become normal. Of the total adult population of over 24 years, a solid 14% are not yet married.

The majority of the residents are not of Turba origin. Only 40.4% are origi-

ly from Sana'a, 1.2% from Dhamar, 1.1% from Aden and the balance from other places.

Over 52% of the adult population of Turba has been an immigrant one time or another over the last five years, and some 6% have returned recently due to the Gulf Crisis. The economic structure of the town is still rural although the modern service sector is already substantial as the table below shows.

According to Abdul-Salam Shamsan, the Deputy Director of

Housing and Urban Planning in Turba, the town needs all kinds of services, which have long been promised by the leadership



The city has 7682 residents, with an average family size of 7.4 and a male-female

nally from Turba, 46.6% are from the surrounding regions, 1.3% are original-

of the country. These include, in an urgent manner, a garbage dump, street lighting, a drainage and sewerage system, and asphalted roads. The town is growing very rapidly, but the services are not catching up with it. The town, which

services a catchment area of hundreds of kilometers with the highest population density in the country, is also a tourist attraction. Foreigners usually make the extra trek, of about 70 kilometers from Taiz to get a feel of Hugarriah.

## Distribution of Turba's Adult Population by Occupation in Labor Force

Outside the labor force	53.86%
Government employees	16.68%
Retail trade and restaurants	11.64%
Construction/Daily laborers	9.5%
Transportation sector	4.2%
Industry/Crafts	1.9%
Others	2.22%

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# ENACTMENT OF THE LAW GOVERNING POLITICAL PARTIES IN YEMEN

On the 16th of October, President Ali Abdullah Saleh signed law number 66 for 1991 governing political parties in Yemen. The Yemen Times publishes, in this edition, the second and final part of an unofficial translation of the text of the law:

## Chapter Three: Procedures for Founding a Party:

### Article (13):

A committee called "Committee for the Affairs of Parties and Political Organizations" is to be formed as follows:

- The Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs as chairman,
- Minister of Interior as member,
- Minister of Justice as member,
- Four persons as members but they should not be members of any party or political organization and they should be from among non-functioning judges or from among lawyers accredited to the Supreme Judicial Council. The four persons, concerning whom a republican decree is to be issued, have to satisfy the following conditions:

a) They have to enjoy personal integrity, impartiality and independence;

b) They have to adhere to the principles of democracy and political pluralism;

c) They have to swear the constitutional oath in front of the Presidential Council committing that they will adhere to the stipulations and conditions of this law during their tenure in the committee.

The committee is responsible for receiving, scrutinizing and ensuring that applications to establish parties and political organizations satisfy the requirements of this law and any other stipulations.

### Article (14):

To establish any party or political organization, the following steps have to be followed:

a) A written request is to be submitted to the chairman of the committee. This request has to be signed by at least seventy five founding members, whose signatures are to be verified by a primary court.

b) When an application is submitted, the party or political organization must have at least 2500 members from most of the governorates including Sanaa city.

c) The application must include a complete set of documents, notably the political program, the by-laws, a statement on the resources, the assets and their sources, the party's banker, and the name of the person authorized on behalf of the party or political organization to complete the establishment procedures.

d) The committee chairman has to present the application to the committee within (15) days thereof.

e) The committee, once satisfied that all the conditions are met, has to publish a statement, for seven days, on one of the daily papers, confirming that an application was deposited with it. Such a statement must include the name of the party or the political organization and the names, titles, professions, and dates of birth of the founding members.

Such a statement has to be published within a maximum of one month of the application date. If the committee fails to publish the statement, then this fact has no (delaying) consequence on the establishment of the party.

Any person who has any objection to whatever is published in the statement may approach the commit-

tee within (15) days of the date of publication.

f) The committee may, within (45) days of the application, whether before or after the publication of the statement, may decide to object to the establishment of the party. Such a decision must give detailed justification for the decision. If the committee does not object to the establishment of the party within (45) days, then the party's establishment is considered automatically approved.

### Article (15):

With due consideration to the final item in article (14) above, the chairman of the committee shall convey, by registered correspondence and within a maximum of one week of the committee's objection decision, to the applicants of the party to be founded the decision and the justifications thereof. The chairman shall also allow the founders of the party a 30-day period from the date of their receipt of the committee's objection decision, during which they can complete any requirements or respond to the objections of the committee.

In case the differences are not resolved, the case may be referred to the relevant

court by the committee or through a law-suit filed by the founding members of the party. Such a case is treated as an urgent case by the courts, and all parties are entitled to petition the court decision according to the law.

### Article (16):

The party or political organization enjoys all legal rights and performs its political activities from the day following the 45-day period stipulated under article (14), unless the committee has objected to the establishment. In case the committee had objected, the party or political organization may start its activities from the date of the issuance of a court order nullifying the committee's objection. All documents pertaining to the establishment of the party have to be published in the official gazette.

## Chapter Four: Resources and Financial Provisions:

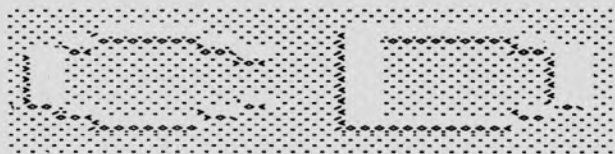
### Article (17):

The resources of the party include:

- a) subscriptions and contributions of members;

Continues on p. 8

## DIARY DIARY DIARY DIARY DIARY DIARY DIARY DIARY



### EMBASSIES & CONSULATES

<b>SANA'A</b>		Palestine	217306/348
Afghanistan	217691	Poland	248362
Algeria	247755/56	Qatar	217488
Bulgaria	217244	Romania	215579
China	275337/40/41	Saudia Arabia	240429/30
Cuba	217304	Somalia	208864
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Lufthansa	272583/667/678
Pakistan Int'l	240909/091
Royal Jordanian	275314/275028
Sabena	205865
Saudia	240958/9/60
Sudan Airways	272503/4/5
Syrian Arab	272543

### Yemenia

Hadda Office	204538/550
Zubeiry Office	260834/5
Abdul Moghni	274803/4
Shoab Office	250833
Head Office	232381-9
Airport	250868/831
Reservations	250800/1



### HOTELS

<b>Sana'a (02)</b>	
Sheraton	237500/1/2
Taj Sheba	272372
Hadda	215214/5
<b>Aden (0911)</b>	
Movenpick	32947/32070
Gold Mohur	324171
<b>Hodeidah (03)</b>	
Bristol	239197
Ambassador	231247/50
Al Burj	75852
<b>Taiz (04)</b>	
Mareb	210350
<b>Marib (063)</b>	
Bilquis Marib	2666-2371
<b>Sadah (051)</b>	
Al Mamoon	2203/2459

### COURIERS:

Aramex	208887
DHL	275355
Life Express	207885
Skypack	77310



### IMPORTANT NUMBERS

Emergency Police	199
Accident (Traffic)	194
Fire Brigade	191
Water Problems	171
Electricity Problems	177
Telephone Enquiries	118
Aljumphury Hospital	202192/3
Athawrah Hospital	246970/9
Kuwait Hospital	203282/4
Red Crescent	203131/3
Central Bank	274371/3
YBRD	271623/4
Banque Indosuez	272801/3
Arab Bank	240921-29
Int'l Bank of Yemen	272920/3
United Bank Ltd	272424

### Government Offices:

Foreign Affairs	202544/7
Interior Affairs	252701/7
Immigration	250761/3
Inter-city Bus Co	262111/3
TV Station	250001/03
Radio Station	200060/61
Tourism Ministry	271970/2



# THE STIGMA OF DIVORCE HAUNTS YEMENI WOMEN



Over 7.6% of the Yemeni adult female population or 103,784 women are classified as divorced. Given the vindictive nature of divorce, in Yemen, the problems that divorced women face are exceptionally hard at many levels - financial, social, emotional and cultural. The stigma of divorce and the suffering it inflicts on women can reach unbearable proportions. The society at large, and the woman's family in particular, blame her for failing to preserve her marriage and to protect the family. "Every body forgets the divorce decision in over 95% of the cases is taken by the man", says Dr. Wahiba Fare', assistant professor of the philosophy and sociology of education at Sana'a University. "Our value system and traditional norms are such that the woman bears the brunt of the consequences for a man's decisions", she complained.

Once divorced, a woman's life is literally shattered. She has to relinquish her home, give up her children and everything. Added to that is the financial ruin, specially if she does not work. She returns to the house of her parents as a dependent. All of a sudden, she does not run the house, she is relegated the role of a minor. Everybody in the family, especially if their resources are limited, looks at her as a burden to the family, specially if she has children who become the focal point of family irritation.. "Why couldn't she put up a bit more. Throw these kids out of here. Why should we bear the problems of her failure" are complaints heard frequently. Then there is the social consequences of divorce. These are manifold. First, the divorced woman is immediately limited in her freedom of contact. Divorced women can no longer go out as they used to, they cannot put on make-up, they cannot expose themselves unduly, they cannot do this and they cannot that. Otherwise, rumours regarding their chastity will haunt them. "We have to live a non-life. Our relatives as well as friends become overly sensitive to whatever we do. Traditions have taken away our rights given to us by the



teachings of Islam," wrote B.M., a divorced woman, to the Yemen Times. Drawing even a more bleak picture, she mentioned that her former friends (still married) avoid her because of the fear that she would snatch any of their husbands. B M gave the following reasons for the prevalence of divorce among Yemenis:

### 1) Early marriages:

Fathers, for their own reasons, compel their daughters to marry at an early age. This is a time when the little girl is unable to shoulder responsibilities of a house. Problems grow, and before she knows it, the little girl is divorced.

### 2) Arranged marriages:

It is true divorces occur in all kinds of marriages. But when parents arrange everything, there is no way to tell whether something will stand in the way of a happy marriage.

### 3) General Awareness:

Lack of proper preparation and awareness on both sides leads to many complications, as small things grow out of proportion.

The Secretary-General of the Federation of Yemeni Women, Mrs. Fawzia Nouman, added one more reason. She said that as the couple evolve in life, the husband usually gets more opportunities than the wife. He becomes more educated and much richer. In time, he feels his old wife is less presentable and more of a burden. Thus, he seeks to change wives. "There is

actually a funny situation here," she goes on. "The man cannot live with the girl that came with him from the countryside. She is probably illiterate, she is definitely not refined, and she is 'not good' for him. At the same time, Yemeni men can not live with educated and refined women, because the men cannot boss them around. By the way, this explains the rising number of unmarried educated women. At the end, men tend to choose half-educated girls. That is why so many preparatory and secondary school girls are married off," she said.

Can the women do something about this? Yes, they can, but at tremendous cost. Mrs. Numan indicated that she knows about half a dozen women who started their own homes, independently, after being divorced. But to succeed in this, three conditions are necessary:

a) That the woman has a steady source of income (e.g., a job, an investment such as real estate, etc) to meet her needs.  
b) That she has a female member of her family, preferably her mother, to live with her.  
c) That she has a strong personality that will allow her to overcome the petty complications that will arise immediately following the divorce and during her early adjustment days. Some of these may be intentionally placed in her way by her former husband. Few women have those qualifications, although the numbers may be increasing. "As a result, wives put up with hell in order to avoid becoming divorced women, and many men capitalize on these circumstances to literally do with their wives whatever they want. It is really sick in some cases," lamented the Secretary-General of the Federation of Yemeni Women.

It is a matter of general awareness, the Yemen Times was told over and over. So we went to Mrs. Amatal-Aleem Soosuwah, Assistant Deputy Minister of Information. "What can be done," we asked. "This is a problem that requires a long-term strategy. Even our educational curricula

are lacking in this respect," she started. "Yemeni women are the victims of hundreds of years of ignorance. "The degree of suffering experienced by a divorced woman cannot be imagined, and all of us are oblivious to that," she said. "Yemeni society is a man's world at its best, although we women make up the majority. Women are literally broken down (not just broken hearts, but broken everything) when divorced. They are lost, it is almost like dying," she said. Another woman, who asked not to be named, told the Yemen Times, "I know many women who plead with their husbands to keep them and not to divorce them. Yemeni wives live with the eternal nightmare of being divorced. It is so damn easy and women get such a rough deal. The de-

gree of helplessness and the vacuum that envelopes a divorced woman's life are beyond imagination." Another divorced woman, who works as a teacher says, "Much depends on one's family. But even in good and supportive families, there is a piercing feeling of pity. My father brings grooms by the dozens. There is a courtship every other month as if they want to get rid of me," she said.

What is the answer? It is education. Education for our girls so that when they grew up they are less dependent on their husbands, and education for the boys, so that they can grow to become more responsible men and education to change society's values. We cannot allow our girls to die in their early twenties.

## DON'T BE IN A HURRY!

Some people misunderstand what marriage is all about. They only look on the rosy side and never think of its difficulties, especially people whose ages are between 18 to 25 years, which is a very rocky time of one's life. It is during these years that most of us got married. In those years, most of us live beautiful dreams and we believe in fantasies. As a result, our decision can be based on poor judgement leading to many cases of broken marriages. The main losers in broken marriages are the children, then the mother, and finally the father. The decision to get married is definitely one of the most critical decisions people ever make, therefore, it needs time and concentration. We should be rather well prepared to face the pleasures as well as the problems before we take the final plunge.

Marriages in Yemen are not as they used to be with the parents shouldering most of the expenses and married life is not as steady and foreseeable as it used to be with everything under control. Again to be married is so different from a bachelor life. To get married is a decision taken once in a lifetime. The repetitions are not as exciting or meaningful; therefore, we should rush ourselves into this event. Of course, some of us (the females) have less of a say in this than others, but still everybody has a say.

Sometimes you find a boy of 18 years getting married to a girl of 16. In five years, if they are still together, they might have produced four children. The parent kids and their kids now face real problems, which are beyond their capacity to understand, let alone discuss and compromise. The only solution to most of them is to be divorced and as a result many lives are ruined. The real victims, however, are the children and the mother. The father simply gets another round with another wife.

So, what is the hurry? My advice to all, but specially to the girls is to finish education, position yourself in life, tighten all the loose ends and then get married when you're big enough and sure of yourself. A girl should not be married to simply be taken care of, she should be married to start a partnership to which she can contribute reasonably.

**letters to the editor, letters to the editor, letters to the editor, letters to****ZAHRA OMAR -  
AN UNKNOWN  
HEROINE**

They called her Gurey-"The left handed." She was just 23 years old, a brave, courageous messenger for the USC underground, when Siad Barre's secret police caught her in April 1989. Her parents were already long dead at the hands of the Siad Barre secret police.

Day after day, she was subjected to electric shocks, near drowning, burnings, she was raped and beaten. Worst of all, she was alone, isolated, nobody knew where she was or if she were alive or not. She had become a non-person.

One day, Zahra huddled in the darkness of the interrogation room, trying to overcome the searing pain by imagining flowers in a mountain meadow. Suddenly a guard kicked the door open and threw a small round bread into the room. Desperately hungry, the girl broke the loaf in two. Inside she found a match box containing a silver paper, on it was penciled three letters USC! (United Somali Congress). For the first time in her desolation, she felt the almost frightening refreshment of hope. Someone KNEW and cared for her. She nurtured that little hope like a flickering candle through succeeding months of physical and mental torture.

Late one afternoon, barely conscious after a severe beating, she heard her torturers discuss the fighting between the USC and Siad Barre. They were planning to protect themselves - by killing any useful prisoner. Before they could act, two officers arrived, informing them that Zahra was to be taken for additional questioning. As she was dragged to a waiting car, she looked up for a moment, the sun was sinking behind the horizon and the evening sky was blazed with rose and gold. She would always remember that as an aurora of freedom. The officers proved to be anti-Siad Barre, and they drove Zahra to safety with friends in the USC territory.

But the effects of several months of torture were not to go away easily. Zahra spent most of the time in

hospitals and under psychiatric care abroad.

One wonderful evening, word came that Siad Barre's regime had been ousted and Zahra was in a state of joy and excitement and was filled with hope. Soon she went back to Somalia to take part in putting together the shattered fragments of her people's life into a recognizable pattern.

But when she was back in Mogadishu, she let all tears flow over her sunken cheeks, the tears she had been holding back for a long time. The tears of freedom.

Zahra's health got worse. Knowing she was about to die she uttered her last words - "Out of the ashes of defeat and humiliation, out of the bittered hearts, rise the warmth of the spirit. We have to pull ourselves together and out of the depths of poverty and starvation which faced us, we have to rebuild our nation. And we have to rebuild it in the image and likeness of Somalia that has been destroyed. Having lost at Siad Barre's hand, we should not lose again at the hands of any other dictator".

By:  
**Awes Sheikh Mohamed  
Abdullahi**  
P. O. Box 11146  
Sana'a.

**PALESTINE  
AND THE FACTS!**

All religions on earth have major common aims which are holy to them. Above all, they concentrate on equality of all human beings, irrespective of color or any other differences. One of these religions is Islam whose followers consist of a vast number of the people in the world, around one billion, today. Islam is characterised by its strong respect and recognition of all heavenly books and Prophets. Islam believes in the freedom of worship, giving all human beings. Most Arab states, although adhering to the Holy Quran and the "Sunna", reject discrimination based on religious beliefs. Constitutions drafted in almost all Arab states provide all citizens all kinds of rights to be practised by both Muslims and other-wise. In the republic of Yemen, as a clear example, the constitution gives the Yemeni Jews the same rights as any other

Yemenis sharing all privileges without exception. They are practising freely their religions as well as all social and political rights. They are members of the different political parties participating in all democratic spheres of life. This is a common phenomenon every where in the Arab countries.

The other extreme is the state of Israel. In 1948 the state of Israel came into being essentially reflecting a fanatic philosophy based on religion and race known as "Zionism". This philosophy preaches inequality of peoples and thus dehumanizing human beings. The origin of "Zionism" goes back to the minds of a few individuals who formed a set of values which oppose all "Heavenly books".

These devilish cliques concentrated all their efforts in falsifying all Godly messages and counterfeiting the Holy books. In 1948, their evil ambitious for spreading hate and enmosity among all human beings sprang with the formation of the Zionist state. As a result, they put on an eternal fire in the Middle East which is brought suffering to all peoples of the area both Arabs and Jews.

Between 1948 and 1991, our memory recalls nothing but negative, gluttonic inhuman pains inflicted by Zionist Terrorist gangs. They were disobedient to all U.N. laws and resolutions. They continue to plot to against all nations and lead the world to destruction. They do this through their lobbies which succeed in spreading an atmosphere of suspicion, instability, and restlessness among nations. They were keen enough to create an acute misunderstanding between the major world powers, and in particular the West and the East. With their foxy tricks, they annexed foreign lands as an excuse for safe-guarding interests of other friendly countries in the area. They tortured, oppressed, and massacred the poor Palestinian citizens. They were keen enough to create an acute misunderstanding between the major world powers, and in particular the West and the East. With their foxy tricks, they annexed foreign lands as an excuse for safe-guarding interests of other friendly countries in the area. They tortured, oppressed, and massacred the poor Palestinian citizens. Their inhuman actions have distinguished them as modern-day Nazis. They were able to deceive the world for ever, but history has exposed their ulterior inhuman motives.

One of the motives of the present time is to oppose Zionist sacred scientific

deeds for over 43 years. The other crucial factor is the historically distinct position of the Arab countries in relation to the U.N resolutions and the world community. The Arabs respected and abided by the security council's resolutions, even concerning the Gulf Crisis. Consequently, fraternal Iraq was destroyed and her children dying of hunger and disease. Arab unity suffered as a result and a lot of Arab countries suffered economically and otherwise. The advantages of the present era is, the special attention given to the peace process in the Middle East by the U.S.A. and U.S.S.R. These two world powers face today a very critical test in their credibility. They are either to succeed in achieving law and order to secure world peace and security or they will fail and get entangled in a cheap and fruitless political maneuvering.

We are all optimistic due to all the steps taken by the Soviet Union and the United States in the "Peace Conference". These are tangible but they need to be followed up and achieve the following:

1. Creation of a Palestinian free state with its capital "Jerusalem" under the leadership of Palestinian Liberation Organization.
2. Effective implementation of U.N. resolutions 242 and 338
3. The destruction of all Israeli mass destruction weapons.
4. Peaceful co-existence among all nations of the area.
5. Financial compensation to be paid by the state of Israel to states whose lands were annexed.
6. Treating all returned Jews to the state of Israel as equal human beings and to give them the freedom to go back to the countries from which they came as they were deceived by the Zionist propaganda.
7. The spreading of democracy in the whole region and the prohibition of discrimination.
8. The cessation of the activities of world Zionist movement due to its dangerous effects on world peace.
9. Correction of falsified facts in some of the Holy books for political gains.

By: **Yacin Mohamed  
Abdella, Sanaa.**

**UNEMPLOYMENT**

One of the major problems we are facing nowadays, is 'unemployment'. It is a big problem that can not be ignored. Crowds of people every morning roam around looking for employment. Unfortunately, most of them go home unsuccessfully. This problem is the result of the economic deterioration due to our mismanagement and wrong policies in the past, and also due to the returnees from Saudi Arabia and the other Gulf States, as a direct consequence of the Gulf War.

But there is a saying which states, "In every problem, there is a silver lining". The silver lining is that these new conditions will force us to tighten our belts, and to be more self-dependent in the future. They will also, once and for all, prove to us our real friends and enemies. After all, some countries are simply looking for an excuse to place hardships on Yemen.

At the same time, we hope our government will work hard to find urgent and appropriate solutions to this problem.

By: **Jamil Abdullah Al-Guwairy,**  
Third year student,  
English Department,  
Sana'a University.

**EAST IS EAST, AND  
THE WEST IS WEST**

The recent events in the Gulf, as well as the international developments show that the East will remain East, and the West shall remain West, and the two shall never meet. In this juncture of human civilization, the struggle between the two sides is not equitable due to the visible differences in the level of technology.

We should work hard to catch up with the Western technology. Unfortunately, very limited technologic transfer has taken place in the past. Even as we acquire some technologic know-how, the West makes new break-throughs in important fields. If we should look at our past, it is only to draw lessons on the seriousness and industriousness of our ancestors.

by: **Yahia Yusuf  
Hodeidi,**  
Sana'a.

Continued from p. 5

## ENACTMENT OF THE LAW GOVERNING POLITICAL PARTIES

b) the subsidies allocated by the government;

c) return on the party's investments in fields other than commerce. Party investments in issuing newspapers and magazines and publishing houses are not considered commercial if they aim to serve the objectives of the party;

d) gifts and donations.

The party or political organization may not accept from non-Yemeni individuals or parties (even if they acquired Yemeni nationality) any gifts, merits, or services. The party or political organization must put on verifiable accounting records the name of the donor and the amount donated. The relevant authorities must be informed if any contribution exceeds YR.100,000 in one donation, or if the total annual donations of one person or party exceed YR.200,000. The donations given to parties and political parties may not be deductible for income tax purposes.

**Article (18):**

The Committee for the Affairs of Parties and Political Organizations shall propose to the Council of Ministers annually the total amount of support or subsidy which the state will allocate for the parties and political organizations in accordance with the provisions of this law. This amount, once approved, is then included in the government budget.

**Article (19):**

The total amount of government subsidy to the parties and political parties is divided as follows:

a) 25% of the total in equal instalments to all parties which are represented in the House of Representatives.

b) 75% of the total is pegged in proportion to the votes the candidates of the parties and political parties obtained in the race for the seats of the House of Representatives. The party or political organization is not entitled to a share in this amount if the total number of votes its candidates got was less than 5% of the total votes.

During the transitional period, the Presidential Council shall decide the way the subsidy will be distributed on the basis of a proposal by a committee formed from among the parties and to be presented by the Committee for the Affairs of

Parties and Political Organizations.

**Article (20):**

In any case, the total amount of subsidy from the state may not surpass the total amount of subscriptions and dues paid by the members to the party. In case the subsidy amount entitled to a party exceeds the total of its subscription, the excess is transferred to the government treasury.

**Article (21):**

The amount of state subsidy to the parties and political organizations is payable on the first day of January every year. If the new budget is not yet approved, then an estimated amount is temporarily paid on the basis the last year's figures, until the new budget is approved.

**Article (22):**

State subsidy to a party or political organization is terminated if:

a) a court order is issued terminating the activities of the party according to article (34) of this law.

b) the party does not present, to the relevant authorities, a copy of its annual report and final accounts regarding the sources and expenditures.

c) the party receives any donations, gifts or services in contradiction to article (17) of this law, and on the basis of a court order.

d) the party does not adhere to the provisions of article (24), and on the basis of a court order.

e) the party voluntarily decides to stop its activities.

**Article (23):**

State subsidy is stopped if:

a) the party or political organization ceases to exist by its own decision.

b) the party or political organization ceases to exist by a court order according to article (34).

**Article (24):**

Party resources may not be dispensed except in the service of its objectives and according to the procedures stipulated in its by-laws. The party is required to keep books in accordance proper accounting principles showing the revenues and expenditures. The party must present its annual report including the final accounts to the relevant authorities.

**Article (25):**

The Committee for Parties

and Political Organizations, once having gone over the annual report of the accounts, has the right to actually inspect the books and review the expenditures and revenues to determine the legality. The committee may assign a specialized team to do this job, provided a copy of the team's report is given to the party or political party, and provided complete secrecy is guaranteed except if a violation is discovered, in which case the matter is reverted to the judicial authorities according to the law.

**Article (26):**

The party and political party have to register with the Committee all its assets (property).

**Article (27):**

The assets (property) of the party or political organization, for the purposes of application of the penal code, are treated as government property, and those in charge of dealing with such property as government officials.

**Chapter Five:  
Rights and Duties:****Article (28):**

The offices and the non-investment properties of the parties and political organizations are exempted from all taxes and fees.

**Article (29):**

The offices of the parties and political organizations and their documents, correspondence, communications may not be subject to surveillance, search, or forcefully seized except in cases of flagrante delicto which may be carried out in the presence of the relevant Chief of Prosecution, and a representative of the concerned party or political organization. If the representative refuses to attend, such a refusal is documented in the minutes and the investigation proceeds in the presence of two witnesses.

In cases these rights are violated, the investigation and all its consequences are rendered nullified. The General Prosecution Office has to inform the Committee of any steps taken in this regard within forty eight hours.

**Article (30):**

The party or political organization has the right to issue any number of newspapers

to express its viewpoints without having to obtain the permit stipulated in the Press Law. The party may also use any other means to express its opinions according to the constitution and the laws in force.

**Article (31):**

The government media has a duty to enable all parties and political organizations to equally use them to carry their view-points to the citizens. The by-laws regulate such access.

**Article (32):**

The Chairman of the Committee is informed, within ten days, of any change in the structure of the party such as change of the President of the party, or its merger with another party, or any changes in its by-laws.

**Article (33):**

All parties and political organizations have to adhere to the following in their activities:

a) Not to contradict Islam.  
b) Not to endorse any of the former regimes of the Imamate or Sultanates. Any actions contrary to the objectives of the Revolution, the Republic, Unity and Democracy are forbidden.

c) Not to disrupt the general security and order, or to be involved in plots or violence or to motivate others in them.

d) Not to transform the government positions of service or public funds for party gains. Such violations shall be punished by the laws in force.

e) Not to carry out membership drives in contradiction of item (4) of article (10) of this law.

f) Not to use mosques, or the educational and governmental facilities to promote or criticize any party or political organization.

g) It is permissible to use public sites and grounds for political activities in condition of a prior coordination with the relevant authorities.

**Chapter Six:  
Penal Provisions****Article (34):**

Except by its voluntary consent, or by merger, it is not permitted to dissolve a party or stop its activities or decisions, except according to a court decision based on the request with justification submitted to the courts by the Committee. The decision also determines to

whom the assets of the party are then turned over.

Such a step is taken if:

a) If any of the conditions for its establishment, according to article (8) is no longer applicable.

b) If the party or political organizations commits any of the forbidden activities stipulated in article (33).

The Chairman of the Committee, after the approval of the Committee, may deposit an urgent request with the relevant court to stop the activities of the party or any of its decisions, until a final court decision is taken regarding the dissolution of the party. A copy such a request with the full justifications are passed to the President of the party with 48 hours of their deposit. The court must decide on the request of the Committee within fifteen days, and the final decision must be taken within ninety days.

**Article (35):**

The party or political organization is considered defunct if:

a) If the party dissolves itself.

b) If a final court order is issued dissolving it.

c) If two or more parties are merged together.

d) If the party joins an existing party.

e) Under items (c) and (d) above, the new entity inherits all the rights and duties of the dissolved party.

**Article (36):**

The Committee may issue a warning to any party or political organization in case of violations, which may be transferred to the General Prosecutor to take the appropriate measures.

**Article (37):**

A person may not belong to more than one party.

**Chapter Seven:  
General and Transitional Provisions****Article (38):**

Existing parties are to adjust their status, not later than 30/12/1991, based on regulations to be issued by the Presidential Council, specially regarding articles (4) and (10).

**Article (39):**

The Presidential Council issues the by-law for this law.

**Article (40):**

This law runs in force upon issuance on 16/10/1991.



# WORLD ENERGY TRENDS: IMPLICATIONS FOR YEMEN

By : Dr. Dorothea  
H. El-Mallakh\*

As we examine energy trends the decade of the 1990s, many questions which pertain to issues of supply and demand. On the supply side, we can ask:

Who has the oil now? Where will additional supplies come from in the future? From where will the financial capital come to support needed productive capacity or to replace existing productive capacity? On the demand side, the questions would include: Where is the demand for oil growing? What of the possibility of substitutes for oil? What might be the impact on demand for oil by conservation and increased energy efficiency? And finally, what of environmental concerns for air and water pollution?

In 1990, the world's largest oil producer was the Soviet Union, with 11.4 million barrels per day (mbd) of output. The United States ranked second, with 8.9 mbd. However, let us keep in mind that while the U.S. is the second largest producer, it is also the world's largest single importer of oil. In fact, the U.S. imports almost as much as it produces. Saudi Arabia ranked third, with an average daily output for 1990 of 6.3 mbd (see table). As one examines the list of the top ten oil producers, it is clear that there is a great divergence among them in terms of oil reserves and of course, in the size of their populations and the diversity of their domestic economies (that is, the size of the internal market, other sectors than oil, and the variety of natural resources).

For the future, it may be more accurate to look at the reserves, also given in the table. This is indicative of future supply. At this stage, we have to note that the Soviet Union is one of the truly great questions to which we are still awaiting an answer. Like the United States, which is the "swing" consumer and the "swing" producer, the Soviet Union's ability to meet its domestic oil requirements as well as continue a sufficient level of exports is of importance for the world oil market. A second feature of reserves is that the great future reservoir is in the



Middle East. For example, each of Kuwait, Iraq, Iran, and the United Arab Emirates has about four times the proven reserves of the United States; Saudi Arabia has ten times the proven reserves of the United States. Also of significance is the fact that producers such as Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, and the U.A.E. consume little oil at home, allowing for a high level of exports.

Keeping in mind the distinction between production and market share (exports or oil available for world trade), the Gulf producer's market share in 1990 was some 34 percent. A recent study by Stanford University's Energy Modeling Forum predicts, under assumptions of oil prices in the low \$ 20s by the year 2000 and about \$30 by 2010 with a medium OPEC production growth of 5.2% per year between 1990 and 2000, that the Gulf's market share would be at 42% by 2000 and as high as 45% by 2010. It is anticipated that by 2010, in the United States two of every three barrels of oil consumed will be imported.

The Solomon Brothers publication in August 1991 Proved Petroleum Reserves of 30 Large Energy Companies, 1983-1990 involves a survey of U.S. companies some large ones as Exxon and some independents as Sun plus Royal Dutch/Shell and British Petroleum. The following five aspects are of interest for Yemen and its oil-sector development.

The 30 companies in the survey showed that their holdings of U.S. liquids (crude, condensate, and natural gas liquids) reserves, fell by 2%, to a total of 20.6 billion barrels at year-end 1990. Thus liquid reserves have declined at a rate of 0.8% annually since 1983. However, the foreign liquids reserves of the group rose by 3.9% from 1989 to 1990, to a total of 21 billion barrels. Today, liquids reserves are about equally divided between the domestic United States and their overseas holdings.

U.S. natural gas reserves rose 0.9% in 1990 over 1989, to 92.7 trillion cubic feet (tcf) at year end. The foreign natural gas reserves of the group rose 30% to

98.6 tcf over the same period. Again, we can discern the trend toward as much if not more reserves outside as inside the United States. According to the Association of Independent Petroleum Producers, 1992 will be the lowest year of U.S. drilling activity in the U.S. since World War II.

U.S. oil and gas production replacement rate was 66 percent, the third year of improvement over the 1986 - 1987 depressed years. This is the operational replacement rate, which includes extensions and discoveries as well as improved recovery but excludes revisions and net purchases. Foreign oil and gas replacement rate, for the group, however, was 88 percent.

U.S. upstream spending rose by 1.6% from 1990 to 1991, to \$16.5 billion in the latter year. Foreign spending by the group of 30 companies rose 6.2, from \$18.9 billion to \$20 billion (1990 to 1991). This is indicative that the companies in the survey are turning increasingly outside the United States itself for upstream investment. Needless to say, this aspect is of interest for Yemen as it extends into exploration/production activities.

Finally, the average U.S. "finding cost" for the group rose less than 1% in 1990, to \$4.35 per barrel of oil equivalent (boe) from \$4.32/boe in 1989. Foreign finding costs fell markedly to \$2.23/boe (1990) from \$4.81/boe in 1989.

The above findings indicate that increasingly the United States oil industry is willing to invest overseas. Moreover, given the reserve base, the replacement rate, and other indicators, the U.S. will be looking increasingly outside its borders.

While the U.S. is important in both the aspects of production and importation, it is the Soviet Union which is an element for increased demand for OPEC and non-OPEC oil in the near to me-

dium term. More importantly perhaps, is the tremendous requirements of the Soviet Union for capital to upgrade and improve its oil sector. For example, the Soviet Union appears ever more unable to meet its export commitments to Eastern Europe. This would bring such nations as Czechoslovakia, Poland, and Hungary into the world market very soon. Oil exports to East Europe, from January through August of this year (1991), were down by almost 50%. For example, of the 7.5 million tons to Czechoslovakia, only 5.3 million tons have been delivered. Of the planned 6 million tons to Poland, only 4.9 million tons has been delivered. Similarly, Bulgaria, Yugoslavia, Hungary and Roumania are well below the planned level of imports from the Soviet Union. Soviet oil production has been falling for the past three years, by 10% for 1989 and 1990 each, with a drop of as much as 20 percent in 1991 anticipated. We should recall that the Soviet Union consumes the lion's share of its own output. In 1990 it produced about 11.4 million barrels per day, with exports of only 3.3 mbd. Simple subtraction would indicate that if Soviet export decline drastically, there will be a concomitant call for OPEC and non-OPEC crude liftings worldwide.

As far as Yemen is concerned, it will have to compete, along with countries such as Egypt, Malaysia, and Thailand, with the Soviet Union for oil-sector investment from the United States, Japan and Europe. Most analysts expect oil demand to increase slowly, in part linked to the vigor of the U.S. and Canadian economic recoveries. Moreover, the Pacific Basin is emerging as the fastest growing oil demand locale, which is a positive element for Middle Eastern produc-

ers. Oil demand worldwide is expected to be about 66.1 million barrels per day for 1991, with a slight increase in 1992. In 1990, for the first time the Far East and Australia consumed more oil than Western Europe (650 million tons versus 618 million tons). The International Energy Agency projects Asia-Pacific Basin demand to up from the 1990 levels by 2.5 million barrels per day by 1995 and to 3.3 to 4.6 mbd by 2000.

Of course, there are many policy instruments that might yet be employed by the major consuming countries, either to reduce dependence on oil imports for security of supply or budgetary reasons or to meet growing environmental concerns. Nonetheless, oil's place is secure in the transportation sector as well as other uses where its characteristics in transport and distribution are positive. While natural gas is an excellent fuel, it is hampered by the expense of either liquefaction or of construction for pipeline distribution grids. Nuclear energy may yet be revived, but the unexpected costs of decommissioning and safety requirements have led to a moratorium on new plants in certain nations, including the U.S.A.

Overall, the issues that will likely play a role in the oil sector in Yemen and elsewhere in the next ten years or so will include the increasing competition for capital (reflected in terms and arrangements), the environmental requirements in refining, the impact of privatization in increased efficiency and company competitiveness, and finally, the commoditization of oil through the emergence of the future's market.

\* Dr. El-Mallakh is the Director of ICEED and Managing Editor of The Journal of Energy and Development.

## TEN TOP PRODUCERS AND TOP TEN RESERVE HOLDERS, 1990

Country	Output (in million barrels per day)	Country	Proved Reserves as of January 1, 1991
Soviet Union	11.4	Saudi Arabia	257.6 billion barrels
United States	8.9	Iraq	100 billion barrels
Saudi Arabia	6.3	United Arab Emirates	98.1 billion barrels
Iran	3.1	Iran	92.9 billion barrels
Mexico	3.0	Venezuela	59 billion barrels
United Arab Emirates	2.1	Soviet Union	58.0 billion barrels
Venezuela	2.1	Mexico	51.98 billion barrels
Iraq	2.0	United States	26.2 billion barrels
Canada	2.0	Canada	5.8 billion barrels
United Kingdom	1.9	United Kingdom	3.8 billion barrels

Source: Year-end Issue, 1990, Oil and Gas Journal.

# TEMPS DU YEMEN

R.DUMAS :

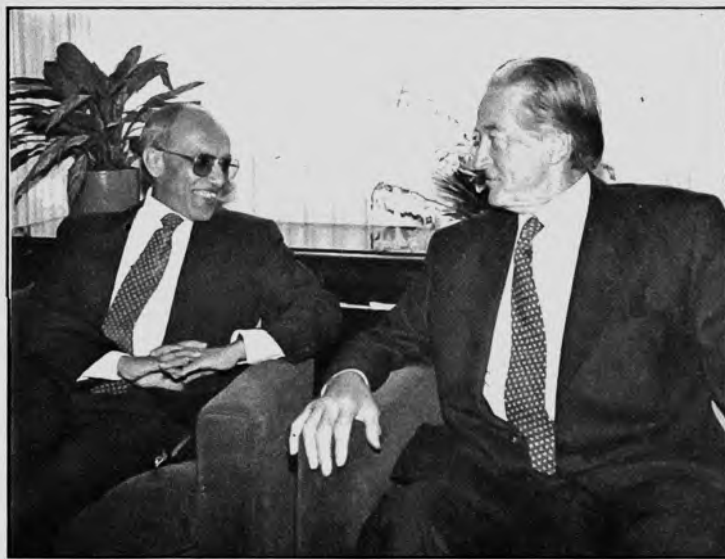
## J'AI L'INTENTION D'ETRE L'AVOCAT DU YEMEN AU SEIN DE LA CEE

Claire Tréan a suivi la visite de M. Roland Dumas, ministre d'Etat, ministre des Affaires étrangères au Yémen. Son article est paru dans le quotidien le Monde du 3-4 novembre. Extraits :

Le principal motif de la visite du ministre des Affaires étrangères était d'ordre politique. Il s'agissait, en substance, de faire de ce pays, bien disposé envers la France, l'un des points d'appui dans le monde arabe d'une diplomatie française qui n'a pas renoncé à affirmer sa "différence". Le Yémen, fait-on valoir, mène depuis la réunification en mai 1990 - entre un Sud anciennement marxiste et un Nord aux structures traditionnelles et tribales - une expérience de démocratisation unique dans la région. Les partis politiques et les journaux s'y sont multipliés et des élections y seront organisées dans moins de dix mois.

Cette expérience ne va pas sans tensions, dues aux difficultés économiques, aux mouvements islamistes, au désenchantement du Sud, qui escomptait de meilleurs et plus rapides bénéfices de la réunification. Mais à l'issue des entretiens qu'il a eu jeudi à Sana'a, notamment avec le président

Saleh, M. Roland Dumas se disait convaincu de l'adhésion de ce



pays au processus d'unification mis en oeuvre et de la détermination de ses dirigeants à poursuivre sur la voie de la démocratisation. Il leur faut, disait M. Roland Dumas, du "courage".

Le Yémen est en effet en train de payer extrêmement cher les positions qu'il a prises lors de la crise du Golfe. L'Arabie saoudite, son principal bailleur de fonds, a coupé tout crédit et renvoyé chez eux près d'un million de yéménites qui faisaient vivre une large partie de la population de ce pays (environ 14 millions d'habitants). Le Yémen s'est retrouvé après la guerre dans un relatif isolement et redoute notamment de se voir exclu d'éventuels arrangements de sécurité régionaux. M. Dumas pouvait peut-être trouver, samedi à Djeddah,

l'occasion de transmettre au souverain saoudien le désir des diri-

geants yéménites de renouer le dialogue avec leurs puissants voisins.

Lors de son long entretien avec le ministre français, le général Saleh a, selon M. Dumas, démontré son souci de rectifier la "fausse image" qui fut donnée de son pays pendant le conflit avec l'Irak en raison de ses positions au Conseil de sécurité de l'ONU, de ses contacts avec M. Saddam Hussein et de ceux, toujours très fréquents, avec M. Yasser Arafat. M. Dumas a fait remarquer que le Yémen avait voté à l'ONU "toutes les résolutions sauf deux" et estimé que la démarche du général Saleh à Bagdad visait, comme celle de la France, "à éviter la guerre". A propos de la conférence de Madrid, le chef de l'Etat yéménite a déclaré, à l'issue

de cet entretien, qu'il soutenait ce processus et qu'il "appréciait la position de la France en faveur du droit des Palestiniens à un Etat".

M. Dumas a indiqué pour sa part qu'il avait aussi fait valoir les légitimes soucis d'Israël pour sa sécurité, qu'il avait trouvé un interlocuteur "sensible à ce raisonnement" et qu'on ne pouvait pas ranger ce pays "dans la catégorie des extrémistes".

La visite de M. Roland Dumas s'est traduite, au plan bilatéral, par un programme d'aide qui n'est peut-être pas tout à fait à la hauteur de ses ambitions politiques : 80 millions de francs, sous forme de dons du Trésor, sont affectés à des projets de développement au Yémen; le ministre s'est engagé à élever l'aide alimentaire sous forme de dons de farine, à 4.000 tonnes en 1992 (contre 3.000 actuellement). Des discussions sont en cours pour l'ouverture d'un crédit d'achat de blé à concurrence de 30 million de dollars, soit près de 300.000 tonnes. M. Dumas a, d'autre part, signé un accord de coopération culturelle, scientifique et technique, qui reprend en substance les deux accords existant précédemment avec le Yémen du Nord et celui du Sud.

## Caravane..

Les yéménites n'ont pas fait les choses à moitié, les deux ministres français ont été traités comme des rois. C'était la plus importante visite d'officiels français au Yémen depuis très longtemps. Il fallait marquer le coup et ce fut fait. A Sana'a comme à Aden, on a déroulé le tapis rouge. Rien n'a été laissé au hasard, à l'aéroport d'Aden, messieurs Dumas et Lang étaient attendus par un cortège de Mercedes noires et rutilantes, on en a compte vingt-trois, signe de l'importance des hommes et de l'événement. A peine eurent-ils le temps de fouler le sol adénite et de serrer quelques mains, que Roland Dumas et Jack Lang s'engouffrèrent dans les voitures officielles. Comme s'ils ne pouvaient se permettre la moindre entorse au programme. Les Mercedes démarrèrent sur les chapeaux de roues, direction la table du gouverneur, première étape d'une visite éclair et bigrement chargée, comme de coutume. Roland Dumas n'a guère eu le temps de flâner. Arrivé après 15 heures, samedi à Aden, il était à Riyad, en Arabie Saoudite quelques heures plus tard. Le chef de la diplomatie française

suite p 11

venait au Yémen pour relancer la coopération avec la République unifiée et l'assurer de son soutien. Jack Lang était pour sa part plus tranquille. Chemise rouge et pantalon noir, il se montrait fidèle à son image moderne et décontractée. Le lendemain, on le vit même avec des baskets aux pieds. En visite non officielle, il disposait d'une liberté plus grande et ne se fit pas prier pour en profiter. Certes il y avait la maison Rimbaud à inaugurer, mais le ministre de la Culture et son épouse purent s'offrir une tranche de vie adénite, sous escorte légère, le temps d'un diner sous les étoiles, dans un restaurant de Crater. Selon des sources bien informées, ils auraient d'ailleurs trouvé cela exquis. Selon les mêmes sources, Jack Lang fut au moins aussi ravi de son bain de mer pris dans une crique à la sortie de la baie. A tel point qu'il insista pour regagner sa résidence dans une tenue légère, protégé des regards indiscrets, croyait-il, par les vitres teintées de sa voitures. Et c'est ainsi qu'il fit une entrée remarquée à l'hôtel Aden.

Quelques minutes plus tard, Jack Lang et sa caravane - conseillers, poètes, journalistes s'envolaient vers Taëz quittant la mer pour la montagne. Le gouverneur d'Aden pouvait rentrer ses Mercedes en attendant la prochaine visite d'importance. De l'avis de tous, français et yéménites, celle-ci aurait été une réussite.

**S. Carliez**

## Poésie

# La maison Rimbaud

AFP. "Aden est un roc afreux, sans un brin d'herbe ni une goutte d'eau bonne". Arthur Rimbaud aimait peu cette ville du Yémen où il avait séjourné fréquemment à la fin de sa courte vie. Mais les admirateurs du poète des "Illuminations" se réjouiront : la maison où il vécut à Aden, a été retrouvé et va devenir un centre international de poésie. Cette maison Rimbaud devien-

Mer rouge, Rimbaud vécut au siège de l'agence Bardey, dans une vaste demeure à deux étages, servant d'entrepôts, possédant sur la façade arcades et balcons, des pièces aux plafonds hauts, et surmontée d'une terrasse où le poète aimait dormir. Rimbaud dirigea d'abord les trieuses de café, le célèbre moka, à l'entresol. Identifiée très récemment lors d'un colloque Rimbaud à

"très reconnaissant" aux autorités yéménites d'avoir permis que cette maison où avait habité Rimbaud devienne en cette année du centenaire de sa mort, "une maison du dialogue, une maison de la poésie".

Cette maison, gérée par une association franco-yéménite, sera consacrée à des rencontres entre poètes français et francophones, à des activités



La maison Rimbaud, avant travaux (photo. P. Maréchaux)

dra un "haut lieu de coopération culturelle entre la France et le Yémen", selon Jack Lang, ministre de la Culture qui l'a inaugurée avec Roland Dumas, ministre des Affaires étrangères.

Arthur Rimbaud (1854 - 1891) dont on célèbre le centenaire de la mort, renonça à l'écriture et parti pour l'Orient durant les dernières années de sa vie. Arrivé en avril 1880 à Aden, il devient négociant en café pour la maison Bardey et y revint fréquemment jusqu'en 1891, entre des séjours au Harar.

A Aden, pointe sud de la péninsule arabique et dans ce port qualifié de Gibraltar de la

Aden, grâce à des documents et des témoignages écrits, cette maison en plein centre ville, dans le souk, assez délabrée, abritait la chambre de commerce et d'industrie d'Aden. Chaulée à neuf, elle a été restaurée par le gouvernement yéménite qui l'a mise à la disposition de la France.

Les ministres français des Affaires étrangères et de la Culture, Roland Dumas et Jack Lang ont, au cours de leur visite officielle au Yémen, inauguré "la maison Rimbaud". Une plaque porte trace de cette inauguration où vécut le poète entre 1880 et 1891.

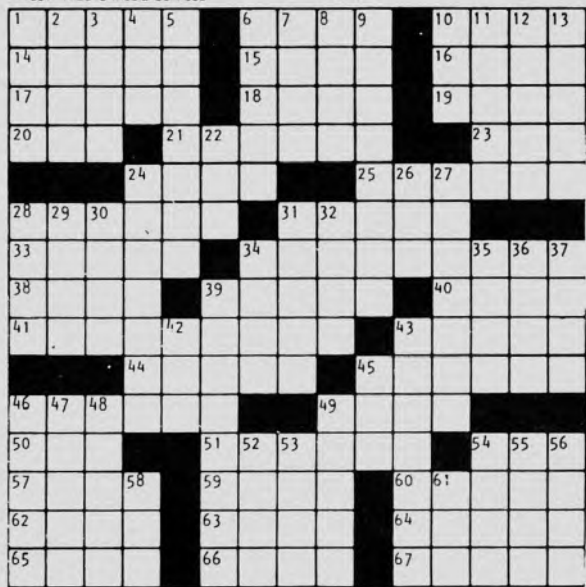
Jack Lang a souligné que le gouvernement français était

culturelles, à l'accueil de boursiers, écrivains francophones et à l'enseignement du français. Le centre culturel existant à Aden y sera également transféré ce qui devrait lui assurer un public plus important.

L'oeuvre poétique de Rimbaud, traduite en arabe, commence à être étudiée à l'Université au Yémen, mais pas encore dans les écoles. Cependant, les écoliers n'ignorent pas le nom de Rimbaud, parce qu'il y a une plage Rimbaud à Aden et surtout, parce que le nom du grand poète se prononce en arabe comme celui du héros musclé... Rambo.

★ CROSSWORD PUZZLE ★

- ACROSS**
- 1 Entree accompaniment
  - 6 Citric or nitric
  - 10 "The Red"
  - 14 Sidestep
  - 15 Over
  - 16 Singing Perry
  - 17 Bar
  - 18 Friends: Fr.
  - 19 White House office shape
  - 20 "Ulalume" author
  - 21 Musical direction
  - 23 Self
  - 24 Plant fuel
  - 25 Hook and —
  - 28 A Borgia
  - 31 Lodging contract
  - 33 Came up
  - 34 Shames
  - 38 Rivers: Sp.
  - 39 Lorna —
  - 40 "I cannot tell —"
  - 41 Get back at
- DOWN**
- 1 Leak slowly
  - 2 In addition
  - 3 Pear-shaped instrument
  - 4 Fuss
  - 5 Bewail
  - 6 Saying
  - 7 Unconscious state
  - 8 Monogram unit: abbr.
  - 9 Forsaken
  - 10 Col. subj.
  - 11 Moved aimlessly
  - 12 Likeness
  - 13 Spectrum feature
  - 22 — out (make do)
  - 24 Tropical starch source
  - 26 "— live and breathe!"
  - 27 Vandalized
  - 28 Vikki the singer
  - 29 Buffalo waterfront
  - 30 Combustion residue
  - 31 Plunders
  - 32 Coastal bird
  - 35 Aits: Fr.
  - 36 One: Ger.
  - 37 Tennis divisions
  - 39 Ignominy
  - 42 Writer Deighton
  - 43 Dessert dish
  - 45 Pipe joint
  - 46 Artistic excellence
  - 47 Primp
  - 48 Angered
  - 49 Scatter
  - 52 English river
  - 53 Peter the pianist
  - 54 Secluded spot
  - 55 Affectations
  - 56 Head: Fr.
  - 58 Sets of two: abbr.
  - 61 First lady



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.

FADS (Sol.: 9 letters)

B-Bell Bottoms, Big foot, Billy beer; C-C.B. radios, Clogs, Crewcuts; D-Disco; E-Earth shoes, Eight track tapes; F-Fonzie, Frisbees; I-Incense; L-Loafers, Long hair; M-Mambo, Max Headroom, Mood rings, Mopeds, Mr. Ed; N-New Wave; P-Pac Man, Punk rock; S-Sandals, Shag, Smurfs, Spandex, Streaking, Superman; T-Tiny Tim, Tube tops; U-U.F.O.s; Y-Yo-Yos.

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

ANSWERS ON PAGE SIXTEEN  
 GOOD LUCK!

WOULD YOU BELIEVE

Since 1960, more than 300 people have been killed by lightning in Florida. That's about 10 percent of all the lightning deaths in the United States during the past 31 years.

A study of 44,000 men in England has found that having two drinks a day reduces the risk of having a heart attack.

In 1964, the Beatles released 29 singles.

Silent movie star Rudolph Valentino was just 31 years old when he died in 1926.

North and South Carolina disagree over where Andrew Jackson was born. It seems that his mother was traveling along the border of the two states when the famous president was born.

The United Nations headquarters in New York is open to the public every day of the year, except for two: Christmas and New Year's Day.

Turtles have no teeth.

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

ROLGY  
 MABLY

EVITLY  
 STENOX

Answer here: A



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

WORDS OF WISDOM

A little love, as unsatisfactory as it seems, is better than no love at all.

Experience is what we call our mistakes.

Don't complain about the weather — what's bad weather to one person may sound good to someone else.

The dice are loaded when God plays the game.

The weak are greatly aided by the errors of those who believe themselves to be strong.

If you want to be a leader, you must trust your people enough to turn your back on them.

Knowing only half the truth is worse than knowing none of it.

SLAPSTIX

A CARPET IS BOUGHT BY THE YARD AND WORN BY THE FOOT

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THE FAR SIDE

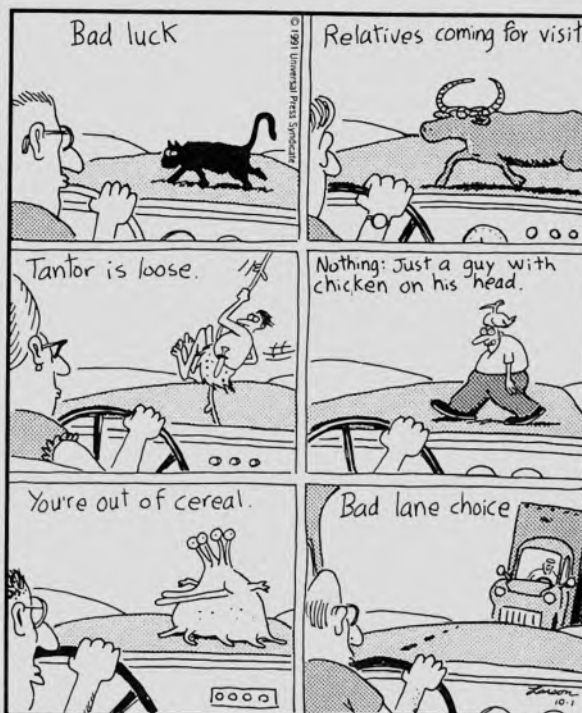
By GARY LARSON



"You should hear him! . . . First he howls and growls at me and then he thinks he can make everything OK by scratching me behind the ears."

THE FAR SIDE

By GARY LARSON



Omens (and their meanings)

THIS WEEK'S HOROSCOPE

By Joyce Jillson

**Weekly Tip:** Moon in Cancer helps get you in touch with your emotional roots.

**Aries (March 21-April 19)** Your love life may take one step backward before it goes forward... but it will go forward.

**Taurus (April 20-May 20)** Family and friends will mean everything to you this week. Home renovations may be necessary.

**Gemini (May 21-June 21)** Finances are on your mind, and in order to make money, you may have to spend it.

**Cancer (June 22-July 22)** Get in touch with your feelings again — others have influenced you too much lately.

**Leo (July 23-Aug. 22)** Keep your high expectations about yourself and your partner within reasonable bounds.

**Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)** Expand friendships where able. Love affairs take on added interest and color.

**Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 23)** Keep your public image polished and shiny. Super special events begin on Monday.

**Scorpio (Oct. 24-Nov. 21)** Get all the education you can this week. Travel is likely. Love a Cancer or Pisces.

**Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)** If others oppose you on you'll win out in the end. An opportunity to move may develop.

**Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)** Success in writing, traveling or sales. Handle long-distance communications.

**Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)** Much joy through relationships and your public life. Good news about money.

**Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20)** Pleasure is uppermost in your thoughts. A behind-the-scenes romance requires tactful handling.

If You Were Born This Week

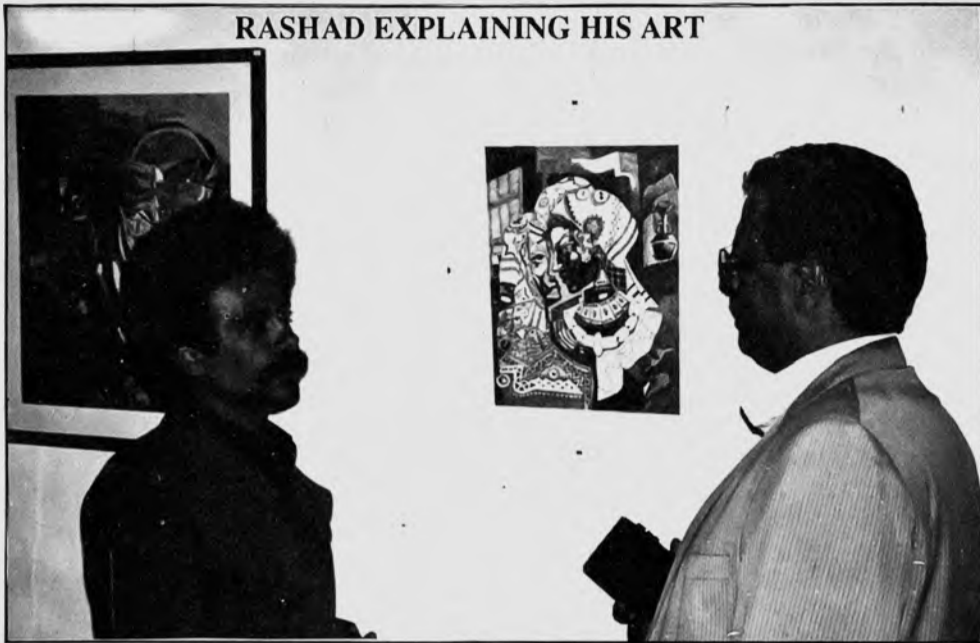
Many of the hidden inhibitions which have held you back during the past two years begin to lift. Renew yourself mentally and emotionally in February.

# THE ART OF DRAWING AND PAINTING IN YEMEN

The story of painting in Yemen goes back to so many years; and yet it continues to struggle on the personal initiative of the artists themselves. Whatever little appreciation exists, it is through the foreigners who reside in Yemen. A loose association of painters and artists does exist, but it is ineffective. The Ministry of Culture and Tourism has a different set of priorities. Even under such hard circumstances, some effort does come through. According to Fouad Al-Futaih, a forerunner in this field, there is today a minimum of cooperation. He has personally established a gallery which is used by new-comers to establish themselves in the Yemeni

scene. This week, the gallery welcomed the drawings of Rashad Ismail. The official opening of the ten-

and specialized training, and my world-wide approach and orientation when I do my drawings,"



RASHAD EXPLAINING HIS ART

day exhibition was at 18:00 on Saturday, November 2nd. The exhibition is a collection of about thirty drawings done since 1984. "I draw on my own background, my education

and specialized training, and my world-wide approach and orientation when I do my drawings,"

Rashad told the Yemen Times. "For example, take this picture. It is an embodiment of the Yemeni soul, strengthened by a universal set of values and norms," he added. Rashad, a Yemeni educated in Egypt.

The art of drawing and painting is not yet fully appreciated, not even by the educated and cultured Yemenis. Yemenis enjoy poetry more than the visible arts. Probably this is a legacy of the early Islamic puritanism which frowned at many forms of arts which created a personification of man or "god", especially in the form of sculpture. The reason was, of course, people tended to worship their own creations of wooden, stone or other statues. Therefore, more support for the artists comes from the international community in Yemen.

We spoke to Mr. Fouad Al-Futaih, how he sees the evolution of arts, in general, and painting and drawing, in particular, in Yemen. He was optimistic, in spite of the major difficulties. "We are going to invigorate this sector through at least one annual exhibition of all artists, and several exhibitions of single painters and artists," he said. The Yemen Times takes this occasion to call on the private sector to sponsor some of these exhibitions and serve as patrons of our artists.



FOUAD AL-FUTAIH, Yemen's leading artist

ONE OF THE MASTERPIECES OF ABDUL-GABBAR NUMAN



# THE STORY OF A HOSTAGE IN SANAA

Two armed Yemeni citizens went to the airport and with the collaboration of the airport security took away a passenger, Mr. Tony Farajallah, while he was about to board the plane.

The story started when a Yemeni individual, whose name shall remain anonymous, bought a life insurance policy valued at US \$250,000 from American Life Insurance Company. Within a short time, a claim was filed along with documents indicating the man was dead. The company, suspicious of the whole thing, asked its man in Sharjah, Mr. Tony Farajallah, a Lebanese, to fly into Yemen and verify. He found the papers were forged although he could not find the man who, he learnt was well alive and kicking. He was about to leave Yemen on Thursday October 31st. The airport security police detained him saying they had instructions from the Sanaa Prosecution office, and they handed him over to two civilians, who were discovered later to be the guys who filed the claim. He was escorted and kept hostage at the Jawwal Hotel on Taiz road, "until payment was made". All the time, they played with their pistols which they from time to time directed to the poor fellow.

The papers regarding his findings on the case were taken away. The Yemen Times people who stumbled across this problem, alerted many parties, and set shop to follow the way things were unfolding. We talked to Mr. Farajallah to determine his whereabouts.

At this point, the Lebanese Ambassador, Dr. Abdul-Latif Mamlouk, intervened. Yemen Times learnt the ambassador had communicated his concerns to many senior Yemeni officials as well as the kidnappers. He accompanied Mr. Farajallah to the Prosecution Office. The Prosecution Deputy, Mr. Yahia Mahmood Al-Rammah, apologized to the ambassador that he was misled and that he did not know that there was another version to the story he had been told. This is a bad excuse. He let Mr. Farajallah go, who immediately flew out to the United Arab Emirates through Cairo. Yemen Times feels the whole thing is very unfortunate and amounts to misuse of authority by the various parties. A lawyer told the Yemen Times that the prosecution office's decision to detain the man, was ill-advised. At the same time, the airport security people's action in handing over a foreigner to his foes was very strange. In addition, pointing pistols and guns at civilians is hardly the means to uphold the law. The way those civilians were able to use official government entities to almost achieve their goals is very unfortunate. It is especially painful that it is all done to achieve illegal and immoral gains.

The Yemen Times called Mr. Farajallah in Sharjah. He said, "I will never forget the role of Yemen Times in achieving my freedom. He also mentioned that ALICO was planning to start business in Yemen. This incident will definitely affect their decision on this matter," he added.



## The Property Centre

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## "SET MY PEOPLE FREE!" The Roles are reversed.

The Palestinian people put their case for an independent state to the world for the first time last week, and made an impassioned plea to Israel to "set them free". Haidar Abdel-Shafi, head of the Palestinian delegation, looked directly at the stony-faced Israel Prime Minister across the conference table and declared: "We come to you from a tortured land and a proud, though captive, people, having been asked to negotiate with our occupiers. Set them free."

Mr. Abdel-Shafi told the first stage of the Middle East peace conference in Madrid: "Our homeland has never ceased to exist in our minds and hearts, but it has to exist as a state on all the territories occupied by Israel in the war of 1967, with Jerusalem as its capital."

Yitzhak Shamir, who had appealed for recongnition of Israel's right to exist, appeared increasingly irritated as the Arab delegatons demanded that he surrender the land occupied since 1967. But while the mood in the royal Oriente Palace was sharply confrontational after the carefully crafted calls for peace by Presidents Bush and Gorbachev on last Wednesday, observers regarded it as an achievement that the conference continued through the second phase without any party walking out.

Besides the fundamental differences, Israel initiated a new dispute by proposing to transfer the location of the bilateral talks. Eventually, US Secretary of State was able to persuade Mr. Shamir to agree to continue the talks in Madrid. Israel had proposed to hold the talks in the Middle East, while the Arab countries, which have resisted going to Israel because it would amount to recognition of the Jewish state, insist they should be on neutral ground.

In his address, Mr. Shamir urged the Arabs to drop their resistance. "We invite our partners to this process to come to Israel," he said. "On our part, we are ready to go to Jordan, to Lebanon and to Syria. There is no better way to make peace than to talk in each other's homes." But Hanan Ashrawi, the Palestinian spokeswoman insisted: "There can be no negotiations in Israel as long as they occupy Arab land. We need a neutral and free place," she explained.

It is at the bilateral talks that the real peace negotiations began, although the first sessions were mere procedural and nothing substantive was discussed. So far, the delegations have simply expressed long-held positions. Mr. Abdel-Shafi said Palestinians were willing to live side by side with Israelis on the land, but he insisted: "The settlements must stop now. Peace cannot be waged while Palestinian land is confiscated in myriad ways and the status of the occupied territories is being decided every day by Israeli bulldozers and barbed wire." Mr. Abdel-Shafi's address was drawn up in close consultation with the Palestine Liberation Organisation, which is officially barred from the

conference, and it ended with a quote from Yassir Arafat's appeal to the United Nations in 1974: "Let not the olive branch fall from my hands."

For Syria, the foreign minister Farouk Al-Sharaa insisted: "Every inch, of Arab land occupied by the Israelis by war and force - the Golan, the West Bank, Jerusalem - must be returned in their entirety to their legitimate owners.

"It is no exaggeration to state that the continuing intransigent Israeli position, which is bereft of any justification, is the one that places the world on the brink of incalculable dangers and prevents the region from enjoying peace," he said, adding: "Israel follows a futile and obsolete ideology based on expansion, the building of settlements and the uprooting of Arabs from land in which they had lived for centuries in order to replace them with new immigrants who have never lived in the region."

Mr. Abdul-Salaam Al-Majali, the head of the Jordanian delegation expressed satisfaction with the level of inter-Arab coordination in the peace talks, especially in the bilateral talks. Early in the conference, accusations flew and delegates from each side expressed disappointment at the confrontational nature of the addresses. Mrs Ashwari, a Palestinian spokeswoman, said Mr. Shamir had tried to negate the history of the Palestinians. "The tone of the speech reflected exactly what is happening in the Occupied Territories," she said. "Domination, racism and a patronising attitude." At the end of the six-day proceedings, however, the mood improved dramatically.

Jordanian Prime Minister Taher Al-Masri, said that the Arab side has come out of the six-day talks successfully. "We have exposed Israel's intransigence, and we have proved that the Arab side is seriously interested in peace," he said.

In Washington, President Bush expressed satisfaction with the progress of the peace talks, and stated that they opened a new chance for peace in the region. He also said that he was gratified with the balanced approach of all parties.

Yet, Prime Minister Shamir, once in Israel, declared that he will not stop building new settlements on occupied Arab land. This is taken as a signal of the Israeli obstinate position which has characterized its policy in the past. In response, President Bush has urged all parties to be practical and realistic.

The Arab side is now waiting for the next American move to determine the location of the new site for the talks. Israel has abandoned its demand that they be held in the region. The next phase of negotiations, which are expected to take three to four weeks, and they are expected to start soon. In the meanwhile, the issues are being classified into substantive and procedural, so that all the parties will agree on the procedures and then proceed to the substance.

## Nightingale: "Yemen is one of the countries that suffered most from the Gulf Crisis."

The Gulf Crisis has led to tremendous suffering in the region and internationally. Within the region, Michael A. Nightingale, the World Bank's Senior Agricultural Economist- EMENA III

- and the Co-ordinator of the Emergency Project addressing the needs of the returnees, says,

"We believe that Yemen is one of the countries that suffered most from the Gulf Crisis." According to Mr. Nightingale, the direct social cost to Yemen was US\$245 million, and the direct economic costs in terms of lost revenues is about US\$2 billion.

The government of Yemen, in collaboration with several international organizations and friendly countries, has put together packages that amount to nearly US\$150 million to address the new needs due to the returnees. Of this, the World Bank oversees a project worth US\$59.5 million, while the balance is in the form of bilateral assistance to Yemen.

With respect to the projects envisaged within the US\$59.5 million package, Mr. Nightingale told the Yemen Times that the investments include 250,000 serviced sites in Hodeidah (land on which houses could be built), substantial additions in classrooms, labor-intensive road projects, specially feeder roads, and major agricultural support services. Implementation is already underway, he said.

With respect to the upcoming agricultural projects, the World Bank official disclosed that discussions are being finalized regarding the "Land and Water Conservation Project" which is expected to be the key project in the agriculture sector's strategy for the remainder of this century. This project will address issues related to forestry and the environmental concerns of Yemen. Additional possibilities include the 4th Fishery Project in Aden and the 2nd Fishery Project in Hodeidah. Further more, talks on cooperation in the field of livestock are underway.

The World Bank official sounded upbeat about the effectiveness of the Yemeni side in implementation of the agreed-upon development projects.



## IN SOMALIA, GUNS RULE

Outside Somalia's derelict Parliament, gunmen beat up a youth man crouching on the pavement, his hands raised in a futile attempt to protect himself.

"In Somalia, the man with the gun rules, not the politicians," said Hussein, a bodyguard armed with an AK-47 rifle.

In Forlanini Mental Hospital, inmates hobbled by ankle chains began wailing as the clatter of gunfire in surrounding streets heralded another clash between armed gangs. Youths raced about the streets in jeeps mounted with heavy machine-guns and mortars, looking for trouble. Barricades built of rubble and gutted cars were manned by clan militias high on qat (a shrub chewed by most young people). Nine months ago, guerilla forces ousted dictator Mohamed Siad Barre from the capital. An almost total collapse of law and order followed as rival ethnic factions turned to savage clan warfare.

In line with the resolutions of peace talks held between factions in Djibouti in July, a Cabinet of 84 Ministers and assistant Ministers representing all ethnic groups - has been announced under Interim President Ali Mahdi Mohamed.

But political leaders are worried about a new flare-up between Ali Mahdi's faction and forces of his military Chief of Staff, General Mohamed Farah Aideed. Both men belong to different sub-clans of the Hawiye-based United Somali Congress, which has controlled Mogadishu since Siad Barre fled.

Hundreds of people died in four days of street fighting last month. The fighting continues unabated as tribal groupings consolidate their enclaves and vie for power.

Most of the civilians residents of the cities, specially the capital Mogadishu, have fled. The in-fighting among the USC is believed to be giving a chance to the ousted Siad Barre to come back.

In the meanwhile, most of the foreigners have left Somalia. Even immigrants who had become part of the Somali society, like the Yemenis have fled the country in view of the savage destruction.

## THE WAR OF THE WIDOWS IN THE PHILIPPINES

The Philippines is buzzing with talk of a new coup, murder plots and blackmail. Rumour merchants worked overtime last week on the return from exile on November 4th, of former First Lady Imelda Marcos. "This town is really going bonkers", said political commentator Teodoro Benigno, President Corazon Aquino's former spokesman.

Like thunderbolts accompanying the arrival of the wicked witch of the west, a series of slurs, inuendos and allegations of political skulduggery have gripped the attention of Manila's fantasy prone media and politicians.

Some suggest it heralds a "war of the widows" - a battle for the presidency in next May's elections between Mrs. Marcos, wife of the late dictator Ferdinand Marcos, and Aquino, the widow who ousted them in a popular revolt five years ago.

Others say they would fight by proxy, in a battle between the Marcos and Aquino families. By one count, Aquino has denied 90 times she will run for a second term, saying she is content to have restored democracy to the country's 62 million people after 20 years of authoritarian rule. But statements by her senior aides and close relatives have kept alive the idea that she could change her mind.

Imelda Marcos says she is returning home to the Philippines to be "the mother of the nation" and sees the prospect of standing trial here on tax evasion and corruption charges as a chance to clear her name. She says she has no political agenda, but few believe she will resist the temptation to become involved in the manoeuvring ahead of next May's elections, which will also select new members of the Senate and Congress.

Despite the freezing of her Swiss bank accounts, politicians believe Mrs Marcos still has access to millions of dollars that could be used to fund an election campaign.

The first casualty of the war appears to be Philippine Foreign Secretary Raul Manglapus, who has become embroiled in accusations by an American mercenary that he plotted

to kill opponents of Aquino and made an initial downpayment.

Manglapus has acknowledged meeting the mercenary, but denies plotting to kill anybody and says a tape of his alleged conversation was either doctored or fabricated.

Aquino opponent Jose Luis Alcuaz, who was sacked as her national telecommunications commissioner in 1989, told a Senate inquiry this week he leaked the tape of Manglapus's alleged plot to block any attempt by Aquino to run for re-election.

He said he had further information which he would disclose later.

"I am now engaged in political blackmail....so this will be an expose in instalments," Alcuaz admitted to the Senate Defense Committee inquiry.

Alcuaz, who gained credibility by successfully predicting the last coup attempt against Aquino in December 1989, has said there will be a fresh coup if Aquino stands for re-election.

Aquino has survived six coup attempts by right-wing army rebels, but Alcuaz said in remarks splashed on Manila front pages that the next one would be launched by a united military disenchanted with the government.

Armed Forces Chief of Staff General Lisandro Aradia raised eyebrows during a meeting on last week with Philippine newspaper publishers by speaking of a possible post-election scenario in which the military would intervene.

He said this could happen if there was no clear winner, when "all things fail.... there is chaos everywhere, there is anarchy".

While politicians are focused on the drama of murder plots and the return of Mrs. Marcos, the country's economy is deteriorating and street crime is on the rise.

A "war of the widows" would be sure to rivet world attention, says opposition politician Blas Ople. But he said it would perpetuate the "poisoned framework of Marcos-Aquino politics" that was keeping the Philippines an economic laggard. "It will further aggravate the civil war in the south."

## CHINA-USA RIFT OVER TRADE

China and the United States remain far apart on trade disputes after four days of talks that sometimes resembled a "maze" Washington's negotiator said last Friday. Washington is urgently concerned about the protection of patents and copyrights and has warned China it will face retaliation if it does not meet U.S. demands by November 26th.

"The issues that remain outstanding are of vital economic interest to the United States," assistant U.S. trade representative Joseph Massey told reporters. Of the outstanding issues, he stated that they understood the fact that this is an acute issue now, and that we are coming up against an urgent deadline. China's negotiators accepted an invitation to go to Washington this month for more talks on the dispute. The United States demands that China change its new copyright law to protect chemical and pharmaceutical products.

Massey said trade groups had estimated that U.S. exporters suffered more than 400 million dollars in damage to intellectual property rights each year.

He described the negotiations as frank and friendly but said they often seemed like a "maze".

"We keep going down the same paths. We can't seem to find an exit... If we don't get there by the 26th of November we will go our separate ways," he said.

The talks, the fifth on intellectual property, were the first in a U.S. investigation of China's market, which

Washington says is closed any way to its products. The United States has set October next year as a deadline to resolve the issue of closed markets.

Washington could impose tariffs on imports of Chinese goods if the deadlines on the two disputed issues pass without resolution.

China has offered to remove within six months a special import tax imposed on top of duties and to reduce tariffs on 56 products, and in some cases significantly.

Beijing will also start publishing the vast number of secret regulations often sprung on businessmen at the last minute.

Massey said these were steps in the right direction. But asked if they were enough to satisfy Washington, he said "No".

China's profitable trade with the United States is a source of growing anger there. Washington says China exported 5.9 billion dollars more to the United States than it imported in the first seven months of 1991, a jump of 13.5 percent in its surplus from the same period a year ago.

China had a surplus of more than 10 billion dollars with the United States for all of 1990, Washington says. China disputes the data, saying it buys more from the United States than it sells.

Many U.S. legislators, in protest at Beijing's human rights record, want to cancel or put restrictions on China's most favored nation trading status, which gives its exports the lowest possible tariffs in the U.S.

## JAPAN DOUBLES NUCLEAR PLANTS

The Japanese government plans to exert more effort to swing a reluctant public behind its very ambitious nuclear power program.

"Accidents, failures, and troubles cause feelings of uneasiness among the public. Therefore, efforts must be made to enhance the understanding and cooperation of the public," Hideaki Tsuzuku of the government's Science and Technology Agency told reporters.

Japan plans to nearly double the number of its nuclear power plants from the present 41 to 78, by 2010. Nuclear energy already accounts for 26.6% of Japan's total energy output, against a global average of 16%. Japan plans to increase this percentage to 43%.

However, officials acknowledge this will be difficult to achieve. Since the government launched the massive expansion program last year, Japan has seen its worst nuclear accident and the completion of only one new reactor. Although the radiation leak at Mihama on the west coast did not exceed permissible levels, it was the first time that a Japanese nuclear plant has had to activate its emergency cooling system. "We face trying circumstances," Tsuzuku said. "The Mihama accident shook public confidence".

## DELHI HOSTS ENVIRONMENT CONFERENCE

An international conference on the environment and development, focusing on South Asia and China will be held here on 11 and 12 December as a precursor to the much larger "Earth Summit" to be held in Rio de Janeiro during June 1-12, 1992.

The conference, being organised by the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) and the Indian Confederation of Engineering Industry (CEI) will be inaugurated by Prime Minister P V Narasimha Rao in the presence of Secretary General of United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) Maurice Strong.

"The conference will discuss and formulate the South Asian and Chinese industry perspective on sustainable development," UNCED Deputy Secretary-General Dr. Nitin Desai, announced here on last week. The Business Council for Sustainable Development (BCSD) - a body of 48 business and industry leaders around the world is also associated with the conference.

Dr. Desai said the conference agenda included discussions on technology cooperation to support the transfer and use of environmentally-sustainable technologies, sustainable development with macro-level implications for the population, resource management and industry-government cooperation.

The main goal of the conference would be to prepare the ground to forcefully voice the concerns of developing countries at the Earth Summit.

Dr. Desai said the conference would be attended by eminent personalities including ministerial level invites from South Asia and China, business leaders and chief executive officers of multinational corporations. Policy makers and business leaders from Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and China would also attend, he said.

About the "Earth Summit," Dr. Desai said the main goal of negotiation would be to come out with a policy framework on climate and another on bio-matters. These issues are being negotiated with various countries outside the UNCED ambit also, he added.

Roland Dumas:

**"I will be Yemen's Advocate to the European Community."**

In an exclusive interview with the Yemen Times, French Foreign Minister Roland Dumas expressed his country's full support

economic and financial problems that Yemen faces at the moment, the French Foreign Minister disclosed that his country was making

have taken a decision to assist in whatever way we can," he said. He continued to indicate that France's involvement with Yemen is not limited in helping over the short and medium terms, but also to contribute to the overall development of the country in the long term. "I have met today with the persons in charge of the many French companies working in Yemen, and I have urged them to make substantive contributions to the welfare of Yemen and to lay down a solid foundation for cooperation between the two countries," he added. He pointed out to the visible presence of France in the various Yemeni sec-



for the Republic of Yemen, and promised to serve as Yemen's advocate to the European community, and the world at large. Dumas who was on a two-day official visit, described the purpose of his visit as a clear signal on France's part to consolidate an already strong relationship with the Republic of Yemen. "The meetings and talks I have had with many Yemeni officials including President Ali Abdullah Saleh and Foreign Minister Abdul-Karim Al-Iryani, indicate the depth of understanding between our two governments," he said. He went on to explain that the horizons for cooperation and coordination between the two countries are immense and they cover many fields in which we plan to achieve progress for the mutual benefit.

ment to provide Yemen with a US\$30 million credit line on soft terms. "We

Asked about what France could do to alleviate the ec-

are willing to look into any request presented by the Yemeni authorities, as we

tors, notably communications, oil, television, fishing, etc. "Our cooperation shall extend beyond the ec-



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onomic level to the cultural level," he re-affirmed. That is why we plan to create the forum for cultural exchange as well as for artistic cooperation. Responding to a question on the democratic experiment of Yemen, the Minister expressed appreciation for the bold steps taken in this regard. "We fully sup-

the Yemen Times. "This policy will only bring more benefits and respect for Yemen," he concluded. In his two-day whirl-wind visit, Mr. Dumas has reiterated constantly France's support for the peace process in Madrid. He indicated his country's commitment to U.N. Resolutions 224 and 338. "We will work towards a just and lasting resolution of the Middle East problem, and that includes the rights of the Palestinian people," he said. Finally, the Minister, in a press conference prior to his departure from Yemen, expressed full satisfaction with his visit and the results thereof. "I have made a decision to come back," he told reporters. It will be noted that French Foreign Minister Dumas and Yemeni Foreign Minister Al-Iryani signed at the end of their talks in Sanaa, a technical, cultural and economic agreement which will regulate cooperation between the two countries. The agreement is expected to open new horizons for cooperation, according to a Foreign Ministry source.

**DJIBOUTI'S PRIME MINISTER ARRIVES IN SANAA**

Mr. Barkhat G. Hamdo, Prime Minister of the Republic of Djibouti, arrived on Monday afternoon, November 4th on an official visit to Yemen. During his visit, he has delivered a letter to President Ali Abdullah Saleh from President Hassan Guled, and conducted talks on the dangerous and volatile situation in the Horn of Africa.



**ANSWERS TO THE LEISURE PAGE QUIZES**

**MAGIC WORD**

HULAHOOPS

**JUMBLES**

GLORY BALMY LEVITY SEXTON  
What the zoo keeper told his wife when he arrived home late—A TALL STORY

**CROSSWORDS**

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