



YEMEN TIMES



YEMEN'S ONLY ENGLISH - LANGUAGE WEEKLY

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OUR VIEWPOINT



ADVICE ON FOREIGN POLICY

I thought a lot about writing this set of advice on our foreign policy. Although the doors of the foreign policy formulators are open to me to pass on the advice in private, I chose the mechanism that will yield more reaction to the ideas. Here are the pieces of advice:

- 1) Why doesn't Yemen's foreign policy study the attitude and cooperation of individuals in friendly countries (like the Netherlands, Germany, Japan, etc.), name them, define their contribution to bilateral relations with Yemen, and award them medals. Some foreign individuals have served Yemen so well, thus it is our duty to honor them.
- 2) Why doesn't Yemen study the evolution in Central Asia, and work towards an early recognition of the Islamic states that have come to existence. This is something that will happen sooner or later, but our timing will be important in future relations with these countries.
- 3) Why doesn't our foreign ministry work towards the establishment of a diplomatic club in the country. The embassies and consulates and international organizations will be happy to co-finance the project. This will create a new forum for interaction and communication.
- 4) Why doesn't our government hold a literacy test in languages, law, culture, etc. for members of our embassies abroad. Those who don't pass, simply withdraw them. This is a simple mechanism to reduce the number of our diplomatic corps, as called for by the Prime Minister's reform.

The Publisher

YEMEN TIMES BIDS ITS READERS A MERRY CRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR

STUDIES ON YEMEN

Several Specialized institutes and organizations have embarked on major studies on Yemen. Yemen, about which rather little has been known, has become the focal point for data collection and vigorous research. The Arab Thought Forum in Amman, is doing a major study on the unification and democratic processes in Yemen. The results will be aired in a symposium to be held in Sanaa in mid-1992. The Ibn Khaldun Center in Cairo has asked researchers to do a thorough study on the civilian society in eight Arab countries. Professor Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf is researching the Yemeni case. Harvard University and Massachusetts Institute of Technology are sponsoring a major study on Arab labor mobility, with Yemen occupying a large part of it. The Heritage Foundation has just started a file on Yemen. This is gradually being filled with all kinds of statistics.

Many researchers within the government have prepared studies for the April 1992 round-table on the economy.

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THE SHOCK!

December is almost over, and the government has been unable to finalize the budget proposal. The give and take is so fierce that one of the active participants described it as a "life and death" struggle. Even the deputy ministers in the Ministry of Finance have been excluded from the squabbling on the budget.

For all the promises of reform and restraint in expenditures, the final numbers with which the government is working have come as a shock to many. "They are talking of spending over YR.60 billion during 1992, which will lead to a 30% deficit," an observer said. "Each of the officials squabbling in the talks is trying to protect his turf, irrespective of what happens to the country," commented another.

At another level, many members of the House of Representatives are upset that the government is unable to honor a constitutional requirements which asks it to present the budget proposal two months before the end of the current fiscal year.

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PERSONAL VIEW

LESSONS FROM THE BCCI CRISIS



Habib Hamed Abdul Rahman Alkaff
Professional Banker

The widespread repercussions generated by the BCCI crisis have shaken confidence in the banking system and practices in general, and in the personal integrity of senior executives in particular. We are not here to pass judgement on the motives of any party involved in this crisis, but we wish to draw certain conclusions which could benefit the banking system in Yemen which is still in its infancy.

First of all the Central Bank of Yemen (CBY) must be congratulated for its wise handling of this situation which is unprecedented in the banking history of Yemen, as it bears local and international aspects at the same time. The CBY, by its swift action, protected the Yemeni national banking and financial system against a crisis of confidence and consequently, of deepening of economic and financial complications in the country. Evidently, it also protected the interests of the local depositors to the maximum level possible.

On the basis of this experience, here are some pointers:

A) Consolidation of the Control Department at the CBY:

Now there is a new Yemeni bank in replacement of the BCCI under formation. The CBY must raise its level of vigilance and control by injecting its Banking Control Department with highly qualified and diligent staff who by virtue of their deep and widespread experience, are able to detect the symptoms of any local or international problem sufficiently in advance and to take the efficient and necessary measures to avert that crisis or to at least minimize its negative consequences if and when it occurs.

Continues on page 8

LOCAL BRIEFS, LOCAL BRIEFS, LOCAL BRIEFS,

MOVENPICK HOTEL STARTS A NEW TRADITION

Yemen Times learnt that Mr. Andreas Messmer, the General Manager of Aden Movenpick Hotel, has gathered sixty Yemeni children, coupled them with sixty children of the oil families staying at the hotel, for a special treat over the holiday seasons. Mr. Messmer especially ordered gifts from Switzerland for the 120 children as the hotel way of saying "Happy holidays to the children." According to Messmer, we try to become part of the society in which we work, and we try to plough back some of the benefits.

ERITREAN DELEGATION ARRIVES IN SANAA

An Eritrean delegation arrived in Sanaa on December 23rd on a four-day official visit. The delegation is headed by H.E. Mr. Asiasi Afeworké, the Secretary-General (Prime Minister) of the Transitional Eritrean government. The Eritrean team is here to seek Yemeni support in the efforts of the Eritrean people to achieve complete and total independence from Ethiopia. It is to be noted that Yemen has not yet officially recognized an independent Eritrea, although it has allowed an Eritrean official to reside in Sanaa (in ambassador-like status) to take care of the bilateral relations.

IRANIAN DELEGATION LEAVES SANAA

The Iranian delegation, headed by the Speaker of the Parliament, Hojjatal-Islam Karrubi, left Sanaa on December 24th following a four-day visit to Yemen. During the visit, the group met with Yemeni officials in the aim of consolidating relations between the two countries. It will be noted that Yemen and Iran exchanged seven visits during 1991.

THE TRAFFIC WEEK

The efforts of the Traffic Department within the Traffic Week was completed today, Wednesday, December 25th. During this week, all the major Yemeni cities and towns witnessed more vigilance in upholding the traffic laws, and in cornering vehicles that do not have the right documents and papers.

THE THIRD MILITARY SEMINAR IN SANAA

President Ali Abdullah Saleh and Vice President Ali Salem Al-Beedh attended the opening session of the Third Military Seminar which started in Sanaa on Sunday, December 22nd. The theme of the seminar is "The Defense Strategy for the Republic of Yemen". The lectures presented in the seminar stressed the need for being fully comfortable with modern know-how and technologies, as well as thorough planning.

SEMINAR IN SANAA ON AIDS

The technical seminar on AIDS was concluded in the Central Lab and Blood Bank in Sanaa on Monday, December 23rd. Dr. Ali Mohammed Assabri, the Coordinator of the National Program for AIDS Control, said that the seminar was co-organized by the Ministry of Health and the WHO (World Health Organization). "We are trying hard to educate the public on the ways to avoid infection. We have to discuss this problem openly so as to tackle it effectively," said Dr. Assabri. Several prominent medical doctors have participated in the seminar. It will be noted that although the disease is rare in Yemen, some Yemenis have brought the disease through their international trips. There is yet no documentation of the number of cases, although these are quite few in Yemen.

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Sheikh Abdulwahab Mohammed Sinan:

Throughout history, no government was able to rule Yemen except through the tribal system.

Yemen's tribal system is possibly at crossroads. On the one hand, a pluralist political system is trying to create an alternative system of affiliation among the citizens. On the other hand, a steadily growing central government is nibbling away on tribal influence through numerous services and projects. To add to all these complications, inter-tribal rivalry, especially between the Hashed and Bakeel tribal groupings, has re-surfaced. A new generation of Bakeel young men have decided to discard the traditional leadership of the Al-Shayif family. (Read the translation of the conference resolution on page 6). But the new Bakeel approach is not tribo-centric, it is more universal and encompasses the whole of Yemen.

To speak about the evolution of the tribal system, and the place of the Bakeel federation, Yemen Times went to speak to Abdul-Wahab Mohammed Sinan, the paramount tribal leader of the Arhab tribe. Excerpts of the interview follow:

Q: What was the purpose of the 11-19/12/1991 conference called for by the Bakeel tribal group?

A: In our opinion, developments in Yemen are headed towards a catastrophe. Many of our people have pressed on us to intervene on their behalf because of their deteriorating circumstances. Economic conditions are bad, security is virtually non-existent, the social and cultural changes brought havoc, corruption and inefficiencies are prevalent, discrimination among Yemenis based on tribal affiliation has become the norm, and the people are morally down. We are trying to find solutions to these problems. We have passed resolutions which seek to rectify these ills, and which we expect to discuss with government officials, leaders of popular organizations such as unions and associations, and everybody else.

The purpose, therefore, is to ring the bell of alarm and wake up the government and press on it the need to take corrective measures.



We thought the unity of the country will correct the mistakes that had existed in the former systems. But it has become apparent the government needs to be motivated to do so.

Q: How did you arrange the conference?

A: As is the norm in tribal relations, Bakeel got together and took the initiative. We wrote to all tribes and groups inviting their participation. Many responded to our call. In the beginning we called to meet at a location that is the boundary point between in Mirhibah. Then we moved on to Al-Rakiyyah in Arhab, and finally we completed the meetings in Jowb in Raidah. The idea of moving the conference from place to place is to achieve many objectives. First, to make the tribal groups feel it is their conference partly because it is being held in their territory. Second it is to achieve maximum security for the people who are meeting. Third, it is to enable us to finance the group's needs. You will note that we receive no money from any source - the government, the political parties, or foreign countries.

Q: How many people attended the conference?

A: All the major tribes of Bakeel attended. Arhab, Bani Matar, Khowlan, Maswar, Mirhibah, Al-Baidha, Abeedah (Marib), Anis, Al-Ahnoom, Harf Sufian, Dahm, Al-Haimah, etc. At first, we started the meeting with three thousand men. By the time the conference ended, there were over ten thousand men who filled the land. You should have seen the site of those men

gathered in response to the Bakeel call. The whole plain was filled with men all the way into the horizon.

Who organized the conference, and who managed it?

A: Of course, Bakeel called for the meeting, and it was attended mainly by Bakeel tribes. The preparatory committee is composed of four young men who made all the arrangements. These are Abdul-Jaleel Abdul-Wahab Sinan from Arhab, Abdullah Ibn Abdullah Sherhan from Bani Matar, Abdullah Ibn Abdul-Wahab Al-Qadhi from Khowlan, and Abdullah Mohammed Al-Shayif from Barat. Of course, many other participated in an irregular basis.

Q: The conference is said to aim to achieve 2 things: a) the replacement of the current ineffective Bakeel leadership, and b) to reach parity with Hashed in running the state, and in achieving a higher profile and presence for Bakeel.

A: Change is the normal course of history. Bakeel had never had a paramount sheikh of sheikhs, and even Hashed never had this. The people who project themselves as paramount leaders today are put up by "other" parties to simply play this role for their ends. We have a new generation of men who must play a role in guiding the tribal groups of Bakeel. I know Sheikh Abdullah Bin Husain Al-Ahmar is upset with the conference. He is so upset that he has called for a Hashed conference to start on Thursday (26/12/91) in Khamir. We are not against anybody including Sheikh Al-Ahmar, but we are opposed totally to a system -

whether tribal or governmental, that gives privileges to certain groups and individuals just because they are from this or that tribe or family. There must be total and absolute equality among all Yemenis irrespective of their tribal affiliation or geographic background.

Q: What if nobody heeds your call?

A: We sincerely hope to be able to reach certain positive results with the authorities. But I assure you, that Bakeel through its prowess and extensive presence, can menace the state and make it heed the call. I am sure everybody knows this. But, we don't want privileges for Bakeel, we want that all Yemenis enjoy their rights equally and that the government officials serve the people, and not use their posts for private businesses and commerce.

Q: Did you face any difficulties during the conference?

A: Of course, there were difficulties. First, there were financial problems that were associated in meeting the needs of such a large crowd of people, as some people came without sufficient resources. Second, there was the security issue. Twice, we were subjected to attacks. We captured the attackers and we were able to "learn" from them as to who was behind the attacks. I can tell you the government is not involved. These were due to tribal rivalry. Finally, we faced difficulty in discussing the resolutions with every person who came to the talks. Every one believed he had to look at the resolutions closely and have a say in them.

Q: What is the next step?

A: The next step is a meeting to be held in Sanaa on Thursday (26/12/91). We have approached the various popular organizations, political parties, associations, and public figures to hold a meeting to discuss our resolutions and to coordinate our coming talks with the state.

We hope you will come!

At a later stage, we plan to hold other conferences in other parts of Yemen. We have already talked to the Bakeel tribes in Al-Baidha. Future plans involve a series of meetings and conferences among the various tribes of Yemen to attend to the people's needs and to present the government with our demands in an effective way.

Q: Let me go to a more general theme. How do you see the future of the tribal system in Yemen and its relations with the state?

A: I know that the tribal system is here to stay. In fact, an organized and disciplined tribal system could be an asset for the proper management of the state and the country. If you read history, no Yemeni government has been able to rule Yemen except through the tribal system and in close coordination with it. Let me use an example. Today, we see many violations of law and order, especially in security. You think the tribal leaders cannot control their tribes. They can, but since the government chose to neglect and by-pass certain tribes and tribal leaders, the result are all these troubles, which could be much worse. I hope the state will see light in seeking the cooperation and coordination of all Yemeni tribes and groups without prejudice and on the basis of clear understandings.

Q: Any last message?

A: I insist we are interested in safeguarding Yemen's unity and progress. This we plan to achieve by rectifying the mistakes of the past. A nation cannot be built by limiting yourself to the contribution of just a portion of the population. All people must have a fair chance to contribute to the country.

RADDA - BARNEN - 28 Years of Service in Yemen

Mr. Jan Lilja, Country Representative of Radda Barnen (Swedish Save the Children) Program, is getting ready to leave Yemen. "After seven years in Yemen, I feel I am leaving a part of me here, and I am taking with me a part of Yemen," he said while suppressing his emotions. "I have had a good time in Yemen, and I hope I have been useful to the Yemeni people," he indicated.



Mr. Lilja had served for two years in the formerly PDRY (South Yemen), and has spent the last five years (1987-91) in Sanaa. The Swedish Radda Barnen project was established first in Taiz in 1963 - a solid 28 years ago. Since then it has branched out into such cities and towns as Ibb, Zabid, Radaa, Aden, Al-Howtah, Zungubar, etc. "We have financed or co-financed the construction of about a dozen health clinics, and we have furnished equipment for over a hundred clinics throughout Yemen," said Mr. Lilja. Radda Barnen services are mainly in primary health care, specially those oriented towards children and mothers. Thus, there are immunization programs, maternity programs, family planning, nutrition, etc. The program also includes a massive training course which helps produce technicians and nurses in various primary health care services. "All the technicians and nurses in the Taiz clinic, and many of the ones in the clinics in Redaa, Zabid, Ibb, Aden, Al-Howtah, Zungubar, etc. have been trained by this organization.

The Radda Barnen set-up in Yemen has only four Swedish and less than a dozen local personnel. Its annual budget reached a peak of about US\$10 million a few years earlier, and dwindled to some US\$2 million in 1991. "It is Radda Barnen policy to serve in a country for just a few years, during which the country is helped to help itself, and then to move on top another needy

country. Yemen has been a special case in which the program remained active for 28 years, and will continue to be so in the future," he said. Relations with the Ministry of Health and the other organizations have been excellent, although there is a strange story to be told these days. Moqbil Abdul-Khaliq Al-Aghbari, in charge of the program's external relations, has been unable to obtain an entry visa for the new country representative, Mr. Staffan Engblom, who is coming to replace Mr. Jan Lilja. On the 20th of October, over two months ago, we have written to the Ministry of Health about Mr.

Engblom's coming and furnished them with all the usual data on him. Before October was out, the Ministry of Health had written to the Ministry of Planning and Development, which in turn has written to the Political Security office to obtain their okay.

Nobody has heard from them since, although it has been two months. Mr. Moqbil tried last week to obtain a regular entry visa, but he could not because of the pending paperwork. We at Yemen Times would like to note two important points here.

1) Anybody who is coming to cooperate with Yemen, let alone those who are providing assistance should be treated better than the funny behavior of the security people. If the relevant authorities (in this case the Ministries of Health and Planning) approve of a certain step, the role of the security people should be a mere formality. Unless of course, they think they are more patriotic than everybody else, which is extremely doubtful.

2) The arrangement for the security people to have a veto on people coming to serve in other organizations stems from the false position that they know everybody on this planet. Assume a certain individual (a Mr. Hua Chin Smith) is coming to work for the Ministry of Construction. What is the point of the whole thing - as if the security people have a file on every human being on this planet, and they can refer to it to pass judgement on the coming of this or that person. This pretense is hard to accept, and maybe we should be humble and reform the system so that the security bit could be cancelled altogether.

Now Yemen Times hopes that someone out there has the sense to grant Mr. Engblom and his family, who arrive here on the 1/1/1992, an entry visa. Otherwise, as Lilja indicates, the post will be vacant and only Yemen will lose.



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MINING AND QUARRYING LAW, Part 1

On April 13th, 1991, President Ali Abdullah Saleh and Prime Minister Haidar Abubakar Al-Attas signed into law the Mining and Quarrying law. The law has yet to be approved by the House of Representatives. Yemen Times is happy to provide below an unofficial translation.

REPUBLICAN LAW NO (50) OF THE YEAR 1991 REGARDING MINING AND QUARRYING

SECTION I: GENERAL PROVISIONS: Chapter I: Introductory Provisions

Article (1):
This law shall be called the Law of Mines and Quarries.

Article (2):
The following words and expressions shall carry the same meaning as defined against them below unless specified differently in the text.
The Republic: The Republic of Yemen
The Government: The Government of the Republic of Yemen
The Ministry: The Ministry of Oil and Mineral Resources
The Minister: The Minister of Oil and Mineral Resources
The Corporation: The General Corporation for Oil and Minerals
The Board: The Mineral Exploration Board
The Chairman: The Chairman of the Mineral Exploration Board
The By-Laws: The executive by-

laws, regulations, standing orders of this law.

The Committee: The Mining and Quarrying Committee stipulated by this law.

Mineral Substances: All natural minerals including their ores, chemical elements, precious stones, and the like, rocks, formations and deposits which are found on the earth's surface or subsurface, and which are exploitable for commercial purposes, mineral water if coming out of the ground if for extracting its mineral contents, excluding petroleum and ground water.

Mines: The natural sites which contain minerals.

Quarries: The sites which contain one or more of quarried ore material.

Quarry Ore: Material The natural sites which contain construction material, decorative and industrial rocks, and building materials including limestone, sand, gypsum, clay, marble basalt rock, granite, jabro, travertine, gravel, chaolin, fedspar, and other rocks that are used in building and construction.

Radio Active Materials: Materials such as uranium, radium, thorium, and their raw forms.

Precious Minerals: Minerals such as platinum, gold, silver, and precious stones such as diamonds and rubies.

To Prospect for Minerals: Means to examine surface or subsurface using all methods through natural properties or through electromagnetic or other search or through drilling and boring in order to ascer-

tain the occurrence or possible occurrence of minerals.

To Explore for Minerals: Means an expansion in the investigations of surface and subsurface using all methods such as geologic, geophysical and mining which lead to an understanding of the location, and reserves of a mineral, the best way to extract and exploit it, and to determine its viability in the domestic and foreign markets.

Exploitation: Means any work that aims to exploit minerals and rock formations in their natural occurrence or after processing including extraction of such materials, their transportation, storage and refining.

Prospecting Permit: The permission to undertake prospecting. Exploration Permit The permission to undertake exploration.

Exploitation Contract: The contract concluded between the Board and any party to invest in minerals according to the provisions of this law.

Investor: Any party with a valid exploitation contract.

Article (3):
Without any prejudice to the right of ownership for the public good and the provisions stipulated in Chapter 2 of this law, the following are exceptions to the implementation of this law.

1. The existing rights of citizens (upon enactment of this law) in any region in the Republic exploit certain kinds of minerals and

quarrying sites, the owners of such sites have to register accordingly with the Board. The regulations shall define the time table, and procedures of registration and the laws regulating exploitation thereof according to the standard norms.

2. The fields and the legal commitments towards the owners or users of the (surface) of any land.

3. Oil, natural gas, shale oil and their derivations which are governed by agreements or special laws, including water.

4. Emeralds, sapphires and similar products governed by special laws and regulations.

5. Land that is occupied by houses of worship or used as cemetery or which is designated as archaeological areas.

6. Land used as roads, airports or routes for pipelines. However, if the exploitation of the subterranean minerals is deemed beneficial, this exception may be nullified by a decision from the Prime Minister following the approval of the Council of Ministers and upon the proposal of the minister.

7. Land adjacent to international borders which is excluded from exploitation according to this law by a republican decree.

Chapter II: State Ownership of Mineral and Quarry Material

Article (4):
All minerals and quarry materials,
Continues on page 7:

DIARY DIARY DIARY DIARY DIARY DIARY DIARY DIARY



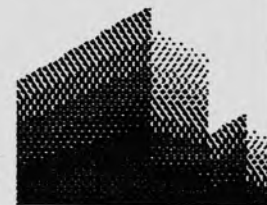
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Zubeiry Office	260834/5
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Al Mamoon	2203/2459

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DHL	275355
Life Express	207885
Skypack	77310



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Interior Affairs	252701/7
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Move Over, BAKEEL Is Coming!

It is a well-known fact that the Hashed tribal federation is running the show in today's Yemen. As a result, the other tribal congregations, especially Bakeel, have been partly overshadowed. Yet, Bakeel is not an unknown quantity. It is larger than Hashed, it is as armed, and as ferocious. In the past it had lacked a strong unifying leadership - that is all.

Now the tribes of Bakeel want to change that. They want a share of the pie, and they want to have a strong say in running the country. To achieve that, ten thousand or so sheikhs and tribal elders of the Bakeel federation were hosted consecutively by Mirhibah, Arhab and Raidah. The notables of Harf Sufian, Khowlan, Barat, Arhab, Mirhibah, Aanis, Dahm, Abeedah, Bani Matar, Al-Haimah, Al-Baidha, etc. attended. The conference was held under the title of "The Conference for National Cohesion" and issued at the end of its deliberations, a stiff resolution calling for many steps. The Yemen Times was able to obtain a copy of the resolution, a summary translation of which is given below:

Quote:

1) To work for the reconciliation among tribes and to settle all outstanding disputes and differences. The state must play a supportive role in these efforts, especially in the procedural, financial and moral implementation.

2) To achieve equality among the people in exercising their rights and in performing their duties irrespective of their geographic origin and tribal affiliation. In

addition, tribal elders and public figures must be treated in equal dignity and social standing.

3) To enable the House of Representatives to perform its duties effectively and forcefully according to the constitution and laws of the land. The House today has become a mere rubber-stamp which passes and approves the decisions of the executive authority (read Presidential Council). The House, whose authority is confiscated by the executive authority, plays an empty role necessitated by constitutional processes.

4) To end discrimination within the armed and security forces that is based on tribal affiliation. To achieve total equality and equilibrium among officers all of whom should enjoy the same privileges and be subject to the same duties. No one tribe or group should have monopoly over recruitment in the army and security forces.

5) To attend to the government civilian organizations to rectify their weaknesses and the financial and administrative corruption that has plagued them.

6) a- To exercise controls on the budget and to strengthen the role of audit & control agencies.
b- To cancel or seriously reduce the magnitude of extra-budgetary expenditures which are not subject to parliamentary approval.

7) To safeguard the integrity and independence of the judicial system and to measure all cases with one yardstick.

8) The need for the government to be present in all regions through police stations and offices of executive authorities.

9) The need to consolidate safety, stability and

security in all regions and governorates.

10) The need to achieve a just distribution of investments and government projects in all regions of the country.

11) To pay attention to the conditions of the prisons and investigate why and how the prisoners got there. We propose a commission, under the supervision of the House of Representatives. The popular organizations, unions, and other associations must participate in the commission.

12) To forbid state officials from getting into commercial and business activities directly or indirectly (the gofferchants phenomenon).

13) The conference proposes to set up a commission under the supervision of the House of Representatives. This commission should be made of unions, popular organizations, and associations, and its duty would be to track and collect evidence on state officials who are involved in commercial activities (gofferchants).

14) To provide absolute equality in the rights and chances for enrollment in universities and in job opportunities.

15) To review the budgetary allocations for tribal affairs. The conference suggests a commission to be set up to study the amounts allocated and dispensed in this matter.

16) To review allocations of monthly stipends for the families of martyrs, especially as some regions have been neglected in this regard.

17) To nullify tribal realignment (e.g., one tribe breaking away from its current lineal association and ask to be affiliated to another group). This is the source of many tribal

disputes and wars.

18) To ensure that all forces in Yemen pledge total and undivided loyalty to Yemen, and not to any foreign party. We also call on the tribal chiefs of Hashed, Bakeel, Madhaj to stop receiving any financial remuneration from foreign sources so as to avoid threatening the unity of the Yemeni people and land.

19) To attend to the needs of the Yemeni returnees, and to create job opportunities for them. In addition, the government should consider providing assistance in kind to the families of the returnees.

20) To review the phenomenon of military presence in the country, especially in the cities, towns and villages, and mountain tops overlooking the tribes. The natural location of military presence is the country's boundary line with other countries.

21) To pay especial attention to agriculture as it provides employment for the largest portion of Yemeni labor force. In this regard, the Conference urges the government to register and document state agricultural lands and check that they are not illegally disposed off, and to regain any land "granted" illegally to beneficiaries.

22) To revive the role of agricultural cooperatives and associations in rural development.

23) To pay close attention to the medical needs of the people, and to maximize benefits from the health centers.

24) To review the role of the media, specially the TV and radio due to their visible influence in the lives of our people.

25) To attempt to build a national economy with reduced dependence on

foreign assistance. In this regard, the people have the right to know the exact revenues from the oil and mineral sectors, and to use such revenues in state-building.

26) To pay close attention to the people's civilizational heritage and to safeguard and preserve the archaeological remains.

27) To control the price levels and to establish a mechanism for cost-accounting, including legitimate profits.

28) The government agencies should pay close attention to the country's environmental concerns and to provide support for victims of natural disasters such as earthquakes and persistent draught.

29) The conference demands strict adherence to the deadline of the transition period, and to carry out elections within the time specified in the unity agreement.

30) To pay close attention to the education sector, especially in efforts to unify the curricula, and to create national personnel qualified in this sector.

31) To work out a good policy to check foreign manpower working in Yemen.

32) To revive the cooperative movement and to evolve them as mini-parliaments.

33) The conference hereby forms an expanded committee fully authorized to present these resolutions to the government. The committee shall be composed of tribal sheikhs, leaders of political and people's organizations, union representatives, and other public figures.

Unquote

Available for our subscribers a free copy of the Arabic text of the resolution upon request.

letters to the editor, letters to the

A WOMAN'S CRY

I feel I'm in chains,
and never have a chance,
I'll plead my cry,
Until the tears will dry,
What is my mistake,
To be born a female?
You man of the society,
Try to understand my anxiety,
I'm sure of my capacity,
Of helping the community.
Besides being at home,
Other duties I can perform,
Don't think idle I'll roam,
I promise to be in uniform;
Once you give my freedom.
Let me associate,
In the country to participate,
Wonderful things I might create,
Which you might appreciate.
You forgot something I'll remind,
Of Queens Sheba & Arwa the kind
Bravely they stood for the country,
They were females that put in mind
Why now it is a shame you say,
As a woman my thoughts to share?
Please give me my freedom,
The freedom of my consciousness.

By:
Fatma S. Rawah,
Social Editor,
The Yemen Times

LIVING SHORT OF FULL LIFE

How would you feel when finding that you have won all your games in life, but lost your own self? Is such a game of life worth it? When after winning everything, you end up with nothing but sorrow, pain, grief and empty hands, and a lost-soul?

There are several people among us who believe that life is a continuous struggle for wealth. They race for power and make endless efforts to raise their status regardless of any heavy price they may have to pay for it. But sooner or later, one discovers that he is bankrupt, at least, spiritually.

He lives in a frightening vacuum, his conscience is restless, his hands are empty and he is headed towards a big nothing. Whatever is done cannot be undone since he cannot turn the clock backwards. Life is not based merely on material gains. It is our human-ness that counts more than the wealth or status. Ideals and principles govern man's conduct. Every passing day leads one closer to his grave.

Let us make our lives shine with love and understanding for fellow human-beings around us. Let us dedicate ourselves to lofty ideals which really make us human.

By:
Ismail Ali Al-Ghabri,
English Department,
Sana'a University.

FEMALE HARASSMENT AT WORK!

Dear Editor,
I would be very greatfull if this letter would be published in your newspaper and read by .all. I also trust that you would be fair in publicizing this issue.

Just recently something very disgusting happened at my work place - a very well known establishment. I have written this letter because I wouldn't like such a thing to happen again in other places.

The story starts like this. One of my female colleagues was stopped from work because she rebuffed the "advances" of the boss.

The girl concerned is the most wonderful girl at work. She was not negligent of her duty. In the short period she worked, she won everyones heart with her attainment and cheerful attitude towards all. It made us all sad when she left for such a reason, no one could convince the boss what he did was wrong.

The reason that I bring this matter to the public is not to punish this sick guy, but to remind those of his kind not to entertain such disgusting things. Let them be aware that we are no longer living in a closed and an undeveloped country. We now live in a new, democratic, and open Yemen, where everyone of us has the full right to expose sick beahvior. Our women, especially, need the extra freedom to contribute to society and to cooperate with us for the development of our nation. It is very astonishing to find such unprincipled people at the top levels of our society. I wonder, how did they get there?

I would like to finish my sympathy by a suggestion. Maybe some kind of ladies' committee should be formed for the purpose of knowing what kind of special problems career women are facing in an environment dominated by men. My deepest respect goes to this special girl, and my sympathies for women who are struggling under circumstances that are not helpful. My last word, keep it up, and you will get there. Some of us men will also help.

By:
Concerned Citizen,
Sana'a.

Note from the editor:

We welcome your step. It is people like you who will make a difference in the lives of career women. We support your suggestion and hope the idea gets circulated. In the meanwhile, we promise to give priority in printing space to any complaints regarding harassment at work, especially against females.

Continued from p. 5:

The Mining and Quarrying law

on surface or underground, in the territorial waters, in the continental shelf, and in the exclusive economic zone is the property of the state. The state has the exclusive right to prospect and explore for minerals and quarry materials and to disperse with them in any way except the limitation explicitly stated in this law. The state's ownership may not be transferred, relinquished, and it may not be nullified due to statutes of limitations.

Article (5):

The state's ownership right of minerals and quarries is not compromised by its decision to award leasing or licensing contracts to prospect, explore, invest in such resources. The same is true of the state's ownership of the land and the resources and ores contained by it on surface and subsurface. It is not allowed to build on any prospecting, exploring, investing contracts any additional rights in kind or pursuant therefrom and the contract rights are limited to the rights specified in this law.

Article (6):

The Board shall supervise and control the regulations of the mines and quarries. It also has the right to directly prospect, explore and invest in minerals and quarry materials, or to delegate such tasks to other parties according to the conditions and circumstances specified in this law and the detailed by-laws and executive regulations of this article.

CHAPTER III The Mines and Quarries Committee:

Article (7):

Mines and Quarries Committee shall be formed according to the Provisions of regulations which shall clarify the organisation and procedure of work of the committee and system of appeal of its decisions.

Article (8):

The committee's duties and responsibilities shall be:

1. To receive and examine applications for exploring, and investing in mines and quarries according to this law.
2. To propose the general policies regarding the procedure of mines and quarries organisation.
3. To study the applications for permits and investment contracts that are of special in nature, as a preliminary step to present, with recommendations, to the concerned authorities according to the provisions of this law.
4. To determine the leasing costs according to the relevant regulations.
5. To receive and study periodic reports on the conditions of mines and quarries and the progress of work.
6. To study and evaluate the min-

ing and quarryies legislation and regulations and to propose the necessary amendments thereof.

7. To comment on issues related to its duties as requested by the minister.

SECTION TWO: MINES

Chapter I: Prospecting for Minerals

Article (9):

The permit is awarded according to a written application made to the Chairman of the Board.

Article (10):

The Board studies the application (mentioned in the article (9) above), to make sure the data and information are complete and the application fees are paid, following which it forwards the application, with its comments, to the committee.

Article (11):

The Board, following the committee's approval, grants permission (license) to prospect according to the stipulated conditions and after the relevant fees are paid.

Article (12):

The validity period of the prospecting license is determined by the committee depending on the nature of the mineral being prospected. The committee may renew the validity period for a similar period, as needed, following the relevant fees.

Article (13):

Any party that discovers any mineral is required to inform the Board in writing, and the Board shall register for him in a registry made for this purpose and document the discovery right by granting the party a certificate accordingly. Such a party then has priority in obtaining an exploration license for this mineral provided the necessary conditions for such license are met. Such a party must apply for the exploration within three months of the notification of discovery or the priority is nullified.

Continues next week!

THE FRENCH CULTURAL CENTRE IN SANAA

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Continued from page 2:

PERSONAL VIEWPOINT: LESSONS FROM THE BCCI CRISIS

In this respect, I humbly submit that the CBY must create a "Banks Watch Cell" within its Banking Control Department", which must be charged with the specific duty of monitoring local and foreign banks activities, especially their credit policies and criteria for extending or withdrawing credit facilities. It also monitors changes in their assets and liabilities from time to time in the light of their lending policies. If and when this cell detects any symptoms of brewing crisis it must go into depth and instigate further investigation into the problem.

B) Credit Policy Guidelines and Procedures:

This can only be achieved if the CBY itself has clear "credit guidelines" applicable within Yemen and which are reviewed from time to time to cope with the local and international credit environment.

For this purpose the CBY must be able to circulate detailed credit procedures for compliance by the banks operating in Yemen.

C) Production of Credit Risk Controllers and Directors:

Is the implementation of this idea feasible and possible? Yes, it is if the CBY intends to produce highly qualified, highly intelligent "Credit Directors" and "Credit Managers" who are equipped with wide-ranging experiences in various walks of life.

Here the failure of 'bookish' credit directors and 'boolish' credit managers is more than evident as these tend to apply only what they have learnt from the books. They lack academic and practical initiatives in keeping themselves abreast of the political, economic, financial and even military developments and their impact

on local and international credit markets. Only qualified credit managers are able to project new and ever-changing credit strategies and procedures thereof.

The creation of such a generation of "Credit directors" and "Credit managers" is useful not only for running Yemen's banking system, but also for all industrial and agricultural enterprises. Such a policy must be a prime target of the CBY for avoiding banking and financial crises in the future or at least for minimizing the risk of their negative effects.

Hence, I place my call for producing risk conscious credit directors and managers for creating a sound banking and financial system in the country which is expected to witness, within the coming 10 years, large-scale expansion in the financial system as a result of huge revenues pouring in from oil and gas development and mineral exports.

This generation of "credit risk conscious directors and managers" can be of great assistance in transferring the local economy from a consumer-based one to a flourishing and diversified economy with sophisticated industrial, agricultural and service sectors. This will enable Yemen to utilize its vast forthcoming wealth in investments which could guarantee a more prosperous future for many generations.

It is in this light that I present my call, which I hope will be heeded and considered in the same perspective and context.

D) Yemenization of Foreign Banks:

A further step in this direction is Yemenization of the foreign bank branches operating in Yemen by raising Yemeni share in their capital to a controlling level and by placing trained and qualified Yemeni

citizens in policy making and decision making positions including, of course, such posts as board of directors, senior executives of the head offices, and the branches.

Needless to say this process requires lot of time, energy and money. It requires necessary legislation - legal framework with detailed procedures to be outlined by the CBY. It above all, requires long-term planning and commitment to these objectives.

This opens new avenues for local investment in a highly sensitive sector which plays a vital role in the process of allocation of financial resources for investments in various sectors of the economy.

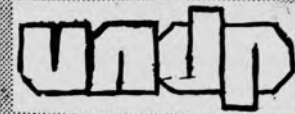
The time is ripe now to start considering this proposal as Yemen has just launched the "Free Trade zone" in Aden. Other free zones may also be developed in the future, especially at Al-Mukalla and Hodeidah. This will encourage the local and foreign private sector to participate in the development process with zeal and spirit. This will come handy in the re-structuring process as well as the reform packages being studied for serious implementation. The banking sector should be the first of these sectors to be subjected to the new philosophy.

This is just food for thought!



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الأمان والثقة مع
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United Nations
Development Programme
برنامج الأمم المتحدة الإنمائي

World Development
التنمية العالمية

UNDP VACANCY NOTICE

The office of the United Nations Development Programme (UNFPA) wishes to announce One New Post for January 1992 for National Programme Officer in Sana'a, Republic of Yemen.

Applicants should be Yemeni nationals.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Recommends areas for population assistance on the basis of continuous review and analysis of demographic and socio-economic data and national population policies;
- Promotes and develops new and continuing population programmes and projects in consultation with the Government and the UNFPA office in coordination with U.N. specialized agencies, NGOs and bilateral donors;
- Undertakes initial substantive and financial appraisal of all project requests, carries out administrative processing of government requests for assistance. Drafts and prepares project progress reports;
- Assists in project identification and formulation of population programmes and projects. Prepares project terms of reference for project expert and consultants as required for the implementation of the Country Programme;
- Prepares background materials and position papers on population and development related topics as deemed necessary.
- Monitors project/programme activities by reviewing a variety of records, including progress reports, project inputs, budget and financial expenditures;
- Maintains, processes and analyzes information on a wide range of subject-matters relevant to the fund and the national population policies of the Republic of Yemen;

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS & EXPERIENCE:

- Post Graduate University degree from a recognized university in Health, Population, Management, Demography, Statistics or Social Sciences and relevant demonstrated professional experience;
- Approximately three years of progressively responsible experience with demonstrated knowledge and understanding in the field of development and particularly experience in population activities;
- Initiative and sound judgement, ability to organize work and demonstrated ability to work in harmony with people of different national backgrounds. Strong interest in development work. Good understanding of the working of the Government and exposure to international development problems;
- Fluent in both English and Arabic;
- Good drafting skills in English a prerequisite;

REMUNERATION:

Salaries of the United Nations system are amongst the best in Yemen. Take home pay equivalent to Y. RIALS 300,000 per year. Other benefits are additional.

CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATION:

Applications available in Personnel Section of UNDP. All applications shall be acknowledged. Closing date 8th January 1992.



CONSUMER PROTECTION NEEDED

by:
Ali Sharif,
UNDP,
Sanaa.



Our local market is heavily stocked with imported merchandise from all corners of the world - starting from medicine, to canned food, milk, soft-drink, sweets, steel-bar, and to cement, etc. These products are available to the consumer without guarantees regarding the standard or quality. The consumer definitely does not get the value for his money, whether that is consumer goods, intermediate goods, or even capital goods. Let us take one item - food items. Nutritional value is low, the composition is often not right, it is possible the validity has expired, and the product may not be free from toxic material. Take another example. How can you be assured that the cement you purchase to build your house is up to the standard - that the composition is correct, that it will not lead to cracks once the walls is up.

It is pathetic to note that in spite of the facilities, we are unable to get the job right. The Yemen Standardization and Measurements Department (YSMD) seems to have accepted its fate of non-existence, of course except for collecting kick-backs from the industries and other bodies that technically fall under its surveillance. This important department should contribute a lot to the welfare and well-being of consumers. But it does not.

The consumers and the state should know what is being pumped into the economy, specially from outside. As recent incidents have shown, Yemen has become the dumping ground for goods unacceptable in other countries. Greedy merchants will import, and corrupt officials will allow in, any cheap thing irrespective of the potential harm to consumers.

Consumer protection is an important concept in modern societies. Voluntary organizations and popular associations need to play a visible role in protecting society. Our economy is constantly moving towards industrialization. This means more pollution to the environment, and more harmful inputs in the products.

Don't forget the ultimate objectives of the 26th September Revolution, and the 14th October Revolution is to raise the standard of living of the people. Consumer protection is an important mechanism for achieving this goal.

Irene Koszewska: "Volunteers are qualified persons assisting in progress."

Irene Koszewska, is a Swedish economist who came to work in Sana'a as a volunteer and program officer in March 1990. Before that, for twenty years, she had worked in different fields of economics, administration and computers. In pursuit to her spirit to help, she decided to join the UN volunteer service. Now she is the UNV (United National Volunteer) program officer at the UNDP office in Aden. She is in charge of programming and administration in the southern governorates and has the responsibility of supervising 35 volunteers. In addition to her management tasks, she makes field trips in order to directly monitor and evaluate of projects.

"I am now coming to the end of my contract but the UN headquarter in Geneva asked me to extend my duty for one more year," she told the Yemen Times.

There are about 25 projects in the various sectors such as health, education, agriculture, vocational training, fishing, and secretarial training. "One of our goals in training Yemenis in different sectors is to make sure they will be able to manage the work once the volunteers leave," said Irene.

The UN volunteer was all praise for the cooperation of the local authorities, especially the Ministry of Planning and Development, Aden branch. But



even more, she is appreciative of the local community. She gave as an example the International Day of Volunteers (5th December). "I started a campaign for raising funds, clothes, etc., which are badly needed by the refugees, I was very grateful for the response of the society particularly private local and foreign companies they were very positive in donating money and food. I also appreciated individuals who didn't hesitate in donating food clothes and blankets."

About the difficulties the volunteers face in their work in Yemen, she explained that, they were very few such problems. She especially complained of the paper-work. "We do a lot of paperwork for the volunteers - on the occasion of their arrival, residence and departure, etc.," she explained. Another problem relates to finding housing for the volunteers, "but this is a problem that is being tackled strongly in order to find solutions for all."

Lastly she said she would like to correct a wrong stereo-type (concept) that people have accumulated in their minds about volunteers since these are often very young individuals. People think that volunteers come only for self training. "I would be appreciative if this stereo-typing changed. Volunteers are very mature and helpful people who come from developed countries in order to assist in the development of Third World countries," she insisted. Most volunteers have useful and long experiences, They are highly educated persons who are willing to help society in various sectors and activities. Above all, we should note that they are in Yemen at the request of the government. "About 500 volunteers served in Yemen since 1971," she concluded.

FORESTRY: MORE EMPHASIS REQUIRED

BY:
Khalifah
NASSER,
Ministry of
Agriculture
and Water
Resources



I believe that Yemen should not lag behind in its responsibilities in protecting its forestry. We have managed to establish an Island of democracy, let us lead the way in becoming an island of greenery as well.

For one, forestry provides a good answer to the environmental crisis. Nature has provided the trees and other green plants with the ability to purify the air, by removing carbon dioxide and adding oxygen and moisture in the atmosphere. In fact it is the continual and extravagant destruction of forests, together with the pollution of the air, that have contributed to the diminishing of the ozone layer, consequences of which are not yet fully comprehended.

The greening business, can be done with minimum efforts - the "efficientisation" of industries, cleaning the surroundings, better exploitation of resources, and the immediate replacement of forest - would effectively contribute to the remedy of the crisis. Checking the desertification process should take priority and become an immediate concern for all. The creation of forests, where there has been non before should be an additional component of the fight against desertification. Yemen should pursue the potentiality of implementing this angle.

In so doing Yemen will not only be assisting in solving a global crisis, but will also be creating a wide range of benefits for the country. Consider what happens when a small amount of rain falls - a strong current of run off water flows eroding and sweeping away anything in its way. The ferocity of the current is derived from the absence of the vegetative cover on the mountain sides.

Perhaps of more interest is the fact that, forestry is normally a predecessor of agriculture. For forests have a characteristic of circulating and returning nutrients and

moisture to the soil making the land underneath it a fertile one. In time, land becomes available for agricultural use.

Forests are also scientifically proven to have positive influence on climate, the amount

and distribution of rainfall, temperatures, winds, and atmospheric humidity. All these factors are important for a strong and sustained agricultural development.

There are also some tangible benefits such as timber production, rubber, poles, paper, charcoal, firewood and many other products associated with forests. Above all forestry with its associated industries creates a wide range of opportunities for employment. The efforts exerted by the government on the matter so far are appreciated, but much is left to be done. Therefore I would like to request the government to put more emphasis on forestry and its related activities.

My suggestions are the following:

a) The existing Forestry Department needs to be strengthened both financially and staff-wise and be given as much autonomy as possible.

b) A clearer Forestry Policy must be formulated with the overall objective of establishing forest estates and tree plantations on all suitable land. Among other things the policy should advocate the following:

i) All highlands are to be included in forestry plans.
ii) All water reservoirs and water sources like springs and rivers, must be zoned as Forest Catchment Interests.

iii) All owners of the mountains- government or individuals, should be required by law to plant suitable trees from the top downwards to a given level (valid for areas which receive some rains).

iv) All schools are to be involved in planting and maintaining trees in their compounds. The Forest Department is to provide these seedlings free of charge.

Continues on page 13

TEMPS DU YEMEN

ENERGIE

La découverte d'un nouveau gisement par la société Canoxy officialisée

Le Yémen fonde ses espoirs sur le pétrole pour sortir de la crise économique

Le ministère du pétrole a rendu officielle vendredi la découverte par la société canadienne Canoxy d'un nouveau gisement de pétrole dans les champs de Sona-Huga-Kamal, près de Massila, dans l'Hadramamaout.

Cette confirmation d'une bonne nouvelle déjà connue depuis deux mois, vient renforcer le sentiment du gouvernement que le pétrole doit devenir le moteur de l'économie yéménite mais deux observations doivent tempérer l'optimisme des autorités: ces découvertes accroissent la dépendance de l'économie vis-à-vis de sociétés étrangères, même si elles apportent de l'argent dans les caisses de l'Etat et les réserves du Yémen n'en feront jamais, selon les experts, un pays exportateur de l'envergure des riches monarchies pétrolières.

D'emblée, quelques chiffres donnent une idée de l'ampleur du chemin à parcourir: lors de la signature, en 1990, des contrats de concession aux 18 compagnies étrangères qui se partagent la recherche et l'exploitation des gisements sur tout le territoire, les sommes encaissées par l'Etat se sont élevées à 135 millions de dollars. Or, d'après la Banque mondiale, les répercussions économiques de la guerre du Golfe (baisse drastique de l'aide américaine, expulsion d'Arabie saoudite de 800.000 yéménites, abandon des livraisons d'essence du Koweït ou de l'Irak qui ont obligé le Yémen à utiliser son propre brut, de très bonne qualité, pour la consommation intérieure, etc.) ont coûté 1,8 milliards de dollars en 1990 et devraient en coûter autant en 1991!

Le 9 octobre de cette année, le gouvernement annonçait triomphalement la concession à une société arabo-européenne, la Nimir, de l'exploitation du gisement du bloc 4 de Shabwa, dans l'Hadramamaout, pour un contrat record de 500 millions de dollars. Or, la majeure partie de cette

somme a été affectée au remboursement des investissements soviétiques effectués sous le régime socialiste avant la réunification. L'URSS, après le retrait de ses coopérateurs, avait décidé de bloquer l'exploitation de sa concession de Shabwa tant que cette somme ne lui serait pas remboursée. On estime à 35.000 à 50.000 barils par jours le rendement futur du bloc 4 (le Yémen extrait actuellement 210.000 barils de brut par jour au total).

La Nimir, société à capitaux saoudiens et basée aux îles Caïmans, bénéficierait de l'appui d'une des filiales de la famille Ben Mahfouz, implantée aujourd'hui en Arabie saoudite, mais originaire de l'Hadramamaout. Seulement, début décembre, le gouvernement entérine un accord entre la Nimir et la société américaine Arco pour l'exploitation des champs du bloc 4.

Les compagnies pétrolières se sont ruées sur le Yémen, l'une des dernières régions du monde dont le sous-sol n'avait pas été sondé. Au coup d'envoi de cette course au pétrole, lors de la réunification de mai 1990, tous les grands, Exxon, Elf, Total, BP, etc. se sont répartis en quelques mois le territoire yéménite. 18 compagnies se partagent aujourd'hui les 22 permis de recherche et d'exploitation délivrés par le gouvernement.

Objectif: 5 00.000 barils par jour en 1995

Depuis l'exploitation du premier gisement, près de Mareb en 1984, le Yémen avait enregistré peu de progrès: aujourd'hui encore, la presque totalité des 210.000 barils extraits par jour proviennent de ces champs. Or, il y a deux mois, le président Saleh annonçait publiquement que les travaux de recherches effectués par la Canoxy sur le bloc de Massila met-taient en évidence des réserves de 500 millions de barils. Vendredi dernier, la découverte était officialisée.

Canoxy a annoncé qu'au cours du premier trimestre 1992 elle serait capable d'extraire 5.000 à 15.000 barils de brut par jour de Massila et le ministre du pétrole prétend qu'en 1994, ces chiffres seront portés à 50.000

barils par jour. La société canadienne a prévu d'investir 500 millions de dollars pour y parvenir, dont une partie consacrée à la construction d'un pipe-line jusqu'à la côte. Et la Canoxy envisagerait même de construire son propre terminal pétrolier, sur une plate-forme maritime, au sud de Mukalla. La société prévoierait la présence, en 1993, d'environ 5.000 canadiens au Yémen!

Quant à total, le bruit a couru, il y a une semaine, que les recherches sur le champ de Jannah avaient révélé la trace "encourageante" d'hydrocarbures. Mais les responsables de la société française refusent de confirmer quoi que ce soit sans une déclaration officielle préalable du ministère.

Les preuves sont encore nombreuses de l'intensification de l'activité des sociétés pétrolières étrangères au Yémen: dans le nord, les américaines Hunt Oil et Exxon effectuent des études sur l'utilisation optimale du gaz découvert dans les champs de Mareb. Hunt a déjà chargé une entreprise américaine de construire une usine à gaz. Le gouvernement a annoncé également la construction d'une route reliant Seyoun, à côté des découvertes de Canoxy, à Sanaa, en passant par Mareb. Enfin, la modernisation de la raffinerie d'Aden est à l'ordre du jour, dans la mesure où le gouvernement trouvera les moyens financiers nécessaires.

Toutes ces bonnes nouvelles ont provoqué l'optimisme des autorités yéménites qui prévoient d'augmenter la production de brut de 210.000 barils par jours aujourd'hui à 500.000 en 1995! Si ce chiffre est atteint, le Yémen entrera alors dans le club des producteurs dits de "seconde division" comme le Qatar, Oman, l'Equateur ou le Gabon. Mais il ne pourra sans doute jamais rivaliser, selon les experts, avec les gros producteurs comme les monarchies pétrolières de l'Arabie Saoudite ou du Koweït. Ce qui n'empêche pas les compagnies étrangères de croire à l'avenir du Yémen, et le Yémen de rêver, peut-être un peu vite, à la fin de la crise économique qui sévit depuis la guerre du Golfe grâce au pétrole...

(Sources: AFP, Middle East Business Weekly,

ETRANGER

Alors que le Front Islamique du Salut est sûr de sa victoire

Premières élections législatives pluralistes en Algérie

Jeudi 26 décembre marquera un tournant historique dans la vie politique algérienne, avec les premières élections législatives pluralistes. La constitution adoptée le 23 février 1989 a mis fin en théorie au régime du parti unique (le FLN) et ouvert une période transitoire qui prendra fin le 16 janvier, lors du second tour des élections. Le FIS affronte le verdict des urnes avec un moral d'acier.

"Des élections libres, propres et transparentes", voici le slogan que répète à l'envie le gouvernement algérien. 49 partis vont donc s'affronter pour la première fois dans l'histoire de l'Algérie indépendante pour se disputer les 430 sièges de députés. Mais cette joute électorale risque fort de se réduire à un duel entre l'ancien parti unique, le Front de Libération Nationale et le parti des islamistes, le FIS.

Les experts algériens ne veulent pas se risquer à un pronostic: même s'il a été "décapité" en juin dernier après l'arrestation de ses deux leaders charismatiques, Abassi Madani et Ali Belhadj et même en proie à des dissensions internes depuis que la direction a décidé de participer aux élections, contre l'avis d'une

certaine frange qui souhaite instaurer un état islamique par la force, il est encore le premier parti algérien, en effectifs et en influence. Le FLN arrive derrière lui, mais reste très bien implanté localement, grâce à ses réseaux de militants et son passé glorieux, aux yeux du peuple, de libérateur de l'emprise coloniale française.

Et c'est avec un moral d'acier, semble-t-il, que le FIS part à la bataille: lors de la prière de vendredi à Alger, un haut dignitaire du FIS, l'imam Abdelkader Moghni, a affirmé que son parti provoquerait un véritable "raz-de-marée", en emportant 90 pour cent des sièges dès le premier tour!

Si un tel chiffre paraît difficile à atteindre, rien n'exclut que le FIS obtienne la majorité à l'Assemblée nationale. Car deux facteurs se conjuguent pour apporter du sang nouveau dans les rangs des islamistes: un regain de la foi dans un pays où la pratique de l'Islam a toujours été très forte et la pauvreté croissante d'une population, surtout chez les jeunes, qui croit de plus en plus au slogan de l'"alternative islamique unique".

EN BREF

Arrestation sanglante d'une bande de voleurs à Bier-Oubeid.- Les forces de l'armée ont tué un voleur, lundi 16 décembre et arrêté douze autres brigands qui attaquaient les citoyens et volaient des voitures dans la région de Bier-Oubeid. Une fusillade a provoqué la mort d'un civil et un capitaine de l'armée a été blessé.

Manifestation à Sanaa contre un enseignant blasphémateur.- Une manifestation a été organisée hier dans la capitale pour protester contre l'attitude d'un enseignant qui aurait effacé d'un tableau, avec sa chaussure, la mention "Au nom de Dieu le clément et le miséricordieux".

Une visite du président du parlement iranien

Sanaa et Téhéran veulent renforcer leurs liens

L'hodjatoleislam Medhi Karoubi, président du Majlis iranien, est arrivé samedi à Sanaa pour une visite officielle de quelques jours. L'objectif des deux pays est de renforcer la coopération bilatérale dans divers domaines.

Durant les derniers mois, le Yémen et l'Iran ont multiplié les visites officielles réciproques. En outre, une commission mixte, créée au lendemain de la réunification du Yémen, a commencé à examiner, en septembre dernier, les moyens concrets de cette coop-

Un élevage bovin ultra-moderne au sud de Sanaa

Quand les soldats se font paysans

S I vous quittez, en direction de l'est, la route qui relie Ma'bar et Dhamar, à une soixantaine de kilomètres au sud de Sanaa, après avoir passé le petit village de Roussaba, complètement en ruines et désert depuis le tremblement de terre de 1982, vous pouvez apercevoir l'entrée d'un domaine en forme d'arche, digne des haciendas du Mexique et des ranchs du Far-west. Seulement, ce domaine est la propriété des militaires et un soldat en armes en garde l'entrée.

Il ne s'agit pourtant ni d'un camp d'entassement militaire, ni d'un site stratégique de l'armée, seulement d'une ferme d'élevage bovin, la *Yemen Dairy Farm*. Les ouvriers

rente, le colonel Al-Rowaishan a voulu pousser plus loin l'implication de l'armée dans le développement de l'agriculture: dans un interview au *Yemen Times* du 17 juillet 1991, il dit se sentir investi de trois missions: lutter contre la hausse des prix des produits alimentaires en contribuant à augmenter l'offre, lutter contre le gaspillage en achetant leurs surplus aux agriculteurs privés et lutter contre le chômage en engageant du personnel civil.

On mesure ainsi combien cette entreprise a dépassé les objectifs traditionnellement dévolus aux militaires. Mais la DAM semble être devenue si importante et son fonctionnement si nébuleux, que



La Yemen Dairy Farm est encore en pleine construction

agricoles sont pour l'essentiel des militaires, même s'ils ne portent pas tous l'uniforme, et le *Gentleman Farmer* qui dirige cette exploitation, Mohamed Naji Al-Rowaishan, est un capitaine de l'armée de la République arabe du Yémen. En civil et vêtu à l'occidentale, ce jeune officier qui parle couramment l'anglais ne cache pas sa préférence pour le commerce du lait à celui des armes: contemplant fièrement les 65 hectares de la propriété du haut d'une tour -qui abrite, il est vrai, un petit canon de défense anti-aérienne servi en permanence par un soldat- il affirme: "Pour faire ce que nous faisons, il faut aimer ce métier. J'ai commencé en 1985 et j'aime surtout travailler la terre".

Mais c'est sans doute l'expérience de son père qui a conduit ce jeune officier à s'orienter vers l'agriculture: le colonel Naji Saleh Al-Rowaishan, à la tête de la Direction des approvisionnements militaires (DAM) du ministère de la défense, a tout fait, dès 1983, pour impliquer l'armée dans le développement de l'agriculture. Aujourd'hui, la DAM possède neuf fermes-pilotes dans tous les domaines, souvent à la pointe des techniques, dispersées sur près de 30.000 hectares dans le pays (l'un de ces domaines, dans le Jawf, atteint même une surface de 20.000 hectares, mais discontinus).

Si la DAM a pour mission essentielle de nourrir l'armée, tout comme la MECO, sa concu-

son rôle en est devenu opaque: on ne sait plus très bien si les domaines appartiennent à l'Etat, à la DAM ou au colonel lui-même! Quand à la production, elle est complètement déconnectée de la distribution. Le fils du colonel lui-même, prétend ne pas savoir (ou feint de l'ignorer) où vont ses produits. Il affirme tout de même que la plus grande partie est destinée aux marchés locaux.

Une chose est sûre, la DAM se veut indépendante et le clame bien fort. Dans son interview au *Yemen Times*, le colonel Al-Rowaishan s'enorgueillissait de ne pas dépendre du ministère de l'agriculture qu'il disait enchevêtré dans la toile de la bureaucratie... De son côté, son fils met un point d'honneur à ne rien faire pénétrer dans sa ferme qui soit produit ailleurs, notamment pour la nourriture de ses bêtes. Une partie du domaine est consacrée à la culture des céréales qui servent à nourrir les bovins. "Nous fabriquons même nos meubles et les autres équipements", affirme le capitaine Al-Rowaishan en montrant un atelier à bois!

Une volonté d'indépendance

Si cette volonté farouche d'indépendance peut surprendre, un point très positif doit être inscrit à l'actif de la DAM: toutes ses réalisations introduisent dans le



Cette ferme d'élevage projette d'augmenter à 1.000 têtes son troupeau de vaches laitières

pays le modernisme agricole. Quand nait, au début de 1991, le premier projet d'élevage de la DAM, la *Yemen Dairy Farm*, les techniques les plus avancées de l'élevage intensif tel qu'on le connaît en Europe, sont choisies.

Aujourd'hui, alors que le domaine est encore en pleine construction, on peut mesurer l'intérêt du projet pour toute l'agriculture yéménite, même s'il n'est pas une "première" (il existe quatre autres élevages de ce type, l'un privé, le second relevant du gouvernement, les deux derniers du MECO). Actuellement, la *Yemen Dairy Farm* élève 134 vaches laitières et compte porter ce chiffre à 1.000

dès que ses infrastructures seront construites. Douze trayeuses automatiques très perfectionnées sont déjà opérationnelles, douze autres sont en construction et l'on en prévoit une quarantaine à terme. Deux citernes de refroidissement et de pasteurisation du lait, ainsi que deux unités ultra-modernes de paquetage, viennent compléter cet équipement moderne. La ferme pourra également être indépendante sur toute la chaîne de la production. 42 veaux nourris en batterie sont élevés pour la production de viande. Trois box d'insémination naturelle permettent aux trois taureaux de la ferme d'oeuvrer régulièrement mais on

prévoit, pour les soulager, d'utiliser les techniques d'insémination artificielle. Enfin, une clinique vétérinaire, en construction elle aussi, permettra de soigner les bêtes sur place!

Un climat idéal

Ce projet a pu être mené à bien jusqu'ici grâce à la coopération d'une société hollandaise qui a fourni les bêtes et envoyé sur place un vétérinaire pour veiller au bon déroulement du projet et former les 16 employés de la ferme, ainsi que le capitaine Al-Rowaishan. Le docteur Albert Bosch est donc affecté en permanence, pour une durée d'un an, à cette entreprise. Ce travail en commun semble très fructueux car le docteur Bosch et son assistant yéménite, le docteur Mohamed, n'ont à déplorer aucune maladie jusqu'à présent. Et cette coopération laissera des traces jusque dans les box des veaux, au dessus desquels s'affichent des noms tels que Wilem, Faisal, Shadiah ou bien Rumeniki, traduction phonétique en Arabe du nom d'un célèbre footballeur allemand du début des années 80, Rumenigge.

Ainsi, après les exemples des exploitations de céréales et de fruits et légumes de la MAD, les militaires se sont transformés cette fois en éleveurs, sans que l'on puisse savoir combien de ces ouvriers sont soldats et combien sont civils. Le capitaine affirme, lui, que la répartition est de "50-50". L'important n'est pas là, il convient de démontrer que de telles unités d'élevage intensif peuvent être viables au Yémen, un pays qui importe une grande part de ses produits de consommation. Le docteur Bosch est formel: "Le climat des environs de Sanaa est idéal pour ce type d'élevage de vaches frisonnes. Il est un peu moins dans la Tihama où une ferme du même genre rencontre plus de difficultés à cause de la chaleur".

Des purs-sang, pour le panache



Un cavalier, sabre au clair, lance son cheval au galop. Soudain, il se laisse glisser sur le flanc de sa monture et, d'un coup sec, il plante le bout de son arme dans le sable: il vient de "cueillir" un carré de carton d'environ dix centimètres de côté!

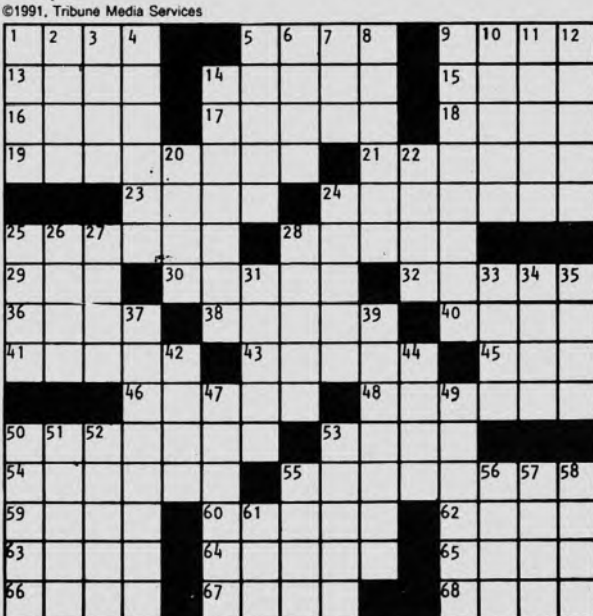
C'est l'un des exercices auquel se livrent ces soldats d'un régiment de cavalerie

de l'armée du Yémen. Car la Yemen Dairy Farm abrite également l'un des très rares haras du pays. L'élevage comprend 24 magnifiques purs-sang, dont 12 étalons, 5 poulains et 7 juments.

Ces chevaux sont parfaitement dressés, se roulent par terre et exécutent n'importe quel pas, sur le simple ordre de leurs cavaliers.

★ CROSSWORD PUZZLE ★

- ACROSS**
- 1 Apple-splitter
 - 5 Home for 43 A
 - 9 "Desire under the —"
 - 13 Locality
 - 14 Pisa sight
 - 15 Clever remark
 - 16 Word after grocery
 - 17 Old saw
 - 18 West coast campus
 - 19 Lazy feeling
 - 21 Wine
 - 23 Villa d' —
 - 24 Severely simple
 - 25 Iran, once
 - 28 —-frutti
 - 29 Indian
 - 30 Bergen's hayseed
 - 32 Bulg. city
 - 36 Quite a few
 - 38 Rest
 - 40 Relative of par
- DOWN**
- 1 Lanky
 - 2 Canal or port
 - 3 For fear that
 - 4 Shaping machines
 - 5 Henry Cabot —
 - 6 Not at home
 - 7 "Little Women" name
 - 8 Sliced before sale
 - 9 Math exercise
 - 10 "Filthy" item
 - 11 Certain runner
 - 12 Sudden gush
 - 14 Scottish plaids
 - 20 Sale phrase
 - 22 Landing craft
 - 24 English poet
 - 25 Mountain cat
 - 26 Latin abbr.
 - 27 Family expense
 - 28 Poem by Kilmer
 - 31 City in Illinois
 - 33 Assume a shape
 - 34 "Dies —"
 - 35 Church response
 - 37 Scolded loudly
 - 39 Visualize
 - 42 Hold in control
 - 44 Diner sign
 - 47 Dire
 - 49 Put to work again
 - 50 Morley of TV
 - 51 Wear away
 - 52 Forward
 - 53 Obliterate
 - 55 Prejudice
 - 56 Smell
 - 57 Nasty
 - 58 Run away
 - 61 Movie theater monogram



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.

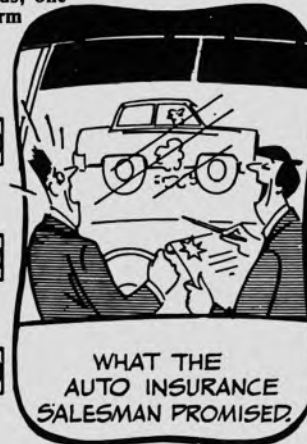
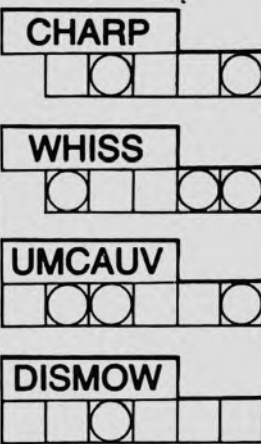
THE COMMITMENTS (Sol.: 9 letters)
 A-Argue, Attitude; B-Band, Believe, Bernie, Blues; C-Change, Club, Cool; D-Dance, Deco, Drummer, Dublin; F-Fame, Feeling, Film, Funny; G-Group, Guitar; H-Horns; I-Imelda, Ireland; J-Joey the Lips; L-Live; M-Manager, Movie, Music, Mustang Sally; N-Natalie; P-Perform, Piano, Play, Poverty, Problems; R-Rhythm, Rock; S-Scream, Singers, Soul; T-Tenor sax, Tough, Trumpet; V-Vocals

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ADLEMIEMAERCSSI
 HSNI LBU DSREGNIS
 OPAVIUGSLACOVCI
 RI TOFLRXPOVERTY
 NLAMBCAUAMUSICL
 SELTESBIRELANDL
 EHI NRAROCKLOOCA
 UTEONUFUNNYLUOS
 LYNDI RMDANCEORG
 BELIEVEPLAYGNHN
 TOI PROBLEMSNAYA
 OJVMEDUTITTAITTT
 UREMMURDECOHPHS
 GRATIUGROUPCSMU
 HFEELINGREGANAM

ANSWERS ON PAGE FOURTEEN
 GOOD LUCK!

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



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

Answer: OOOO FOR A OOOOOO

WORDS OF WISDOM

Unconditional love soothes the soul like nothing else can. ***

Don't let stress get the best of you. You have the power to manage it. ***

Power lies in the office, but a savvy person knows the personality of the leader is what drives it. ***

If people understood how fragile love is, they wouldn't treat it so roughly. ***

It's easier to forgive than it is to forget. ***

If the grass looks greener on the other side of the fence, it could be the fertilizer that the owner is spreading a round. ***

Too often we condemn first and try to understand later. ***

WOULD YOU BELIEVE

After a 65-year-old man died from a heart attack on a Florida golf course recently, a group of golfers played through while his body lay covered with a sheet. ***

In 1989, the United States minted more than 18 billion coins, including nearly 13 billion pennies. ***

A new study found that a college-educated woman between the ages of 18 to 24 earns 92 cents for every dollar that a man of the same age and education does. That figure drops to 54 cents to the dollar, however, when a woman reaches the age group of 55 to 64. ***

In rural Alabama recently, a 14-year-old boy married a 44-year-old woman. They said it was love at first sight. ***

In the early 20th century, publishing magnate William Randolph Hearst was the largest landowner in all of Mexico. ***

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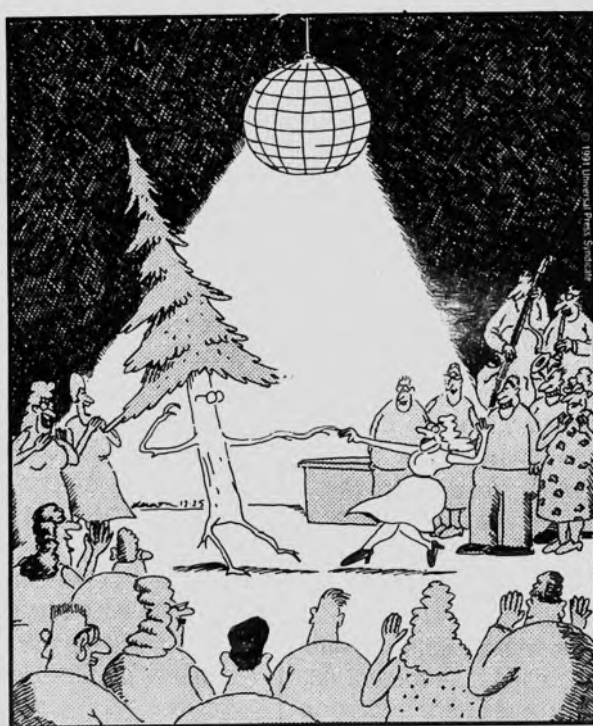
SLAPSTIX

A DRAMA CRITIC IS A PERSON WHO LEAVES NO TURN UNSTONED

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THE FAR SIDE

By GARY LARSON



Carl had never had so much fun in his whole life, and he knew, from this moment on, that he would never again be a lone pine tree.

THE FAR SIDE

By GARY LARSON



"And now the weather — well, doggone it, but I'm afraid that cold front I told you about yesterday is just baaarreely going to miss us."

THIS WEEK'S HOROSCOPE

By Joyce Jillson

Weekly Tip: Moon in Aries gets the week off to a fast start. Lots of presents to wrap!

Aries (March 21-April 19) Terrific start to the week. You're at your best. Snap decisions can work.

Taurus (April 20-May 20) Take the time to get mentally prepared for the week. Revise contracts.

Gemini (May 21-June 21) Friends can be great allies; but if you have to go it alone, you'll be fine.

Cancer (June 22-July 22) Career demands greater attention. Gain from investments. Unexpected duties at work.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) More long-distance communications to handle. Make it fun too. Love with Aries or Scorpio.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Do your best to keep joint finances on an even keel. Perhaps heated debates!

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) Do what you can to be on good terms with loved ones. Financial gains from an unlikely source.

Scorpio (Oct. 24-Nov. 21) Do what you can to keep yourself physically and emotionally charged this week.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) Children and love affairs sparkle this week — joy for you. Get on firm financial footing.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) More happening at home; hidden information comes to light.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) Many decisions to make for yourself and others. Successful business negotiations.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20) Stay open to people who can be helpful early in the week; you may want to act fast!

If You Were Born This Week

In January unusual business offers should be explored. Avoid people who try to drain you emotionally or financially. In February educational activities are worth pursuing; will eventually lead to better income. Siblings and relatives can be a greater responsibility. ***

THIS WEK AT SHERATON-SANAA

Visiting the Sheraton these days is fun. As soon as you walk into the reception hall, you get a bursting feeling of the holiday atmosphere. The whole place projects the spirit of the season. You can even meet Santa, but beware, there are many turbaned people out there. Most of them are actually visiting guests.

The major events include the following:

1. The Christman Eve Dinner:

This is a special treat at the Supper Club (8th Floor) for YR.600 per person.

2. The Christmas Lunch:

Al-Rowadha Restaurant (4th Floor) provides a special Christmas lunch. YR.350 per person.

3. The Big 1992 Bang:

The climax of the shole thing is on new year's eve. The party that lasts from one to the next, is a gala dinner coupled with an early buffet breakfast. Spend the night with live entertainment and dancing.

YR.1000 per person.

The Sheraton Sanaa Hotel invites you for a fantastic and enjoyable time. Start with Christmas and continue until the New Year Climax.

**MERRY CHRISTMAS
&
A HAPPY NEW YEAR!**

Aden

MÖVENPICK HOTEL

MÖVENPICK HOTELS



Address: Khor Maksar,
P. O. Box 6111,
Aden, Republic of Yemen.
Telephones: (9691) 32911,
Telefax: (9691) 32947,
Telex: (0806) 2319 YD

**For the best comfort in Aden, and to maximize
your productivity while in Aden, stay with us.**

- Use our shuttle service to the airport and downtown.
- Our business center offers secretarial, telefax, telex and other services,
- Enjoy a quite time in the surrounding garden, or work it out in the tennis courts or swimming pool,
- Come relax in the Snack bar, Lobby bar, or the Abu Nawas Night club.
- Try our mouth-watering dishes at the Reedan Movenpick Restaurant.

**ADEN MOVENPICK HOTEL
A WORLD OF ITS OWN!**

Continues from p. 9

FORESTRY.

v) Similarly all villagers need to be encouraged to plant and maintain trees in all their courtyards and vacant premises.

vi) Extension services must be encouraged for the purpose of educating the people on the benefits of forests.

c) Yemen will not go alone in this noble task. It will find many international organizations ready to assist both financially and technically. The following are suggested for contact, as they have proved very successful in some other countries: SIDA of Sweden, NORAD of Norway, FINIDA of Finland and CIDA of Canada.

Utmost importance must be given to the forestry field, not only for the contemporaries but especially for the future generation. The oil, the gold, the uranium and the likes are all limited resources, and not replacable one exploited. Have our Middle Eastern leaders, stopped to think how the future generations will manage to maintain all these super modern infrastructure and the glittering skyscrapers once the oil depletes to an unecnomical amount? Let us not be permanently short sighted. Let us now embark on developing those resources which are replacable year after year and generation after generation. Forestry is such a resource.

It is fortunate that Yemen has an edge over its neighbors in this field. The fertile soil, the adequate rainfall, and the substantial population base, will all play important factors in the establishment and successful continuation of forestry development. Let us go for it.

More Arabs Learn German

The impressive economic German achievements led to a high demand to study the German language and culture. Germany responded by establishing over 150 Goethe Institutes in more than 73 countries. Arabs have flooded the German language classes. Over 13,000 Arabs are registered today. Will Germany establish a Goethe Institute in Sanaa?

Continued from Page 16

NO CHANCE OF QUICK EASING..

Describing the goodies found and destroyed in the Iraqi arsenal, Mr. Ekeus said, "About 46,000 pieces of filled ammunition - nerve gas and mustard gas - and 75,000 to 80,000 unfilled ammunition were found and 11,000 of latter category have already been destroyed."

"To destroy those filled ammunition is very dangerous, very complex with a very high-risk component for the personnel involved," he said. "It is also something we have to sort out in cooperation with Iraqi authorities. In this area the Iraqi government is quite forthcoming ... but it is a huge task."

Experts have estimated that the job of destroying Iraq's chemical weapons could not be completed before mid-1993, implying that the option was open to the Security Council to maintain the sanctions against Iraq until the total elimination of Iraq's arsenal in line with the technical language of the related resolution.

U.N. teams have found "facilities for advanced research" for biological weapons - "we have identified the program and identified those who worked in it" - but there is no indication of an active production program. "We hope there is no active production program," Mr. Ekeus said.

According to Mr. Ekeus, the Iraqis had removed a "major" part of documents related to its nuclear weapons program immediately before U.N. inspectors visited the office of the Iraq Nuclear Energy Commission in September. It is as if they have been tipped off! The inspection, coupled with a U.N. demand for documents found in the building, led to a three-day stand-off at a Baghdad parking lot, he recalled.

He said in addition to the documents that the Iraqis allegedly removed from the building, the U.N. team was also deprived of a part of the documents that they had actually seen in the building.

Judging from the documents that were available to the team, Mr. Ekeus said, experts established the existence of a nuclear program of a much larger magnitude than expected and now the committee is demanding that Iraq hand over the entire set of documents, including those allegedly removed as well as those "held back" from the team.

"They have been trying in various ways to enrich uranium to weapon-grade and quality for a bomb," he said. "Iraq had a large program to acquire the technology and engineering skill in order to put together a trigger package for the bomb and had also started research work on delivery systems."

"What the U.N. has managed to do so far is stop that development and identify the major part of that program," he said. "We believe that we have done that. We are now in the process of removing nuclear material from Iraq and the production material will be destroyed."

Mr. Ekeus said the plans that the committee has drawn up for Iraq include close monitoring of every aspect of chemical research conducted in Iraq including facilities producing immunisation vaccines for babies.

THE TOURISTS ARE BACK

Harald Bagehorn, Sales Manager of Lufthansa German Airlines in Yemen, told the Yemen Times that Lufthansa flights are bringing 30-40 tourists per flight. "We are booked all the way in advance, and our weekend flight is especially popular with the tourists," he said. He also said that oil-related passengers have also placed an additional demand on the flights.

At another level, it was indicated by hotel sources that the hotel occupancy rates in Sanaa are well into the upper seventies and lower eighties on average. The situation in Aden is even more rosy. The Aden Movenpick Hotel is doing extremely well. The Hotel General Manager, Mr. Andreas Messmer, indicated that the hotel is simply full. Yemen Times learnt that Mr. Messmer had to vacate his own suite to accomodate paying guests.

According to UNIVERSAL Travel & Tourism, the leading tour operator in Yemen, the tourism scenario is going to be more and more promising during 1992. "We are working hard to sell Yemen as a viable tourist destination," indicated Yahia Suwaid, the Commercial Manager of Yemen Airways (YEMENIA).

PEACE TALKS AT IMPASSE, ADJOURNED

Jordanian, Palestinian and Israeli negotiators ended their second round of bilateral talks at an impasse last week after they failed to reach agreement on a formula to split talks into separate tracks. But the two sides agreed to hold another round of bilateral negotiations, probably in Washington some time in January.

The talks in the American capital ended without any agreement after thirteen straight sessions of negotiations on the framework of dividing the joint delegation into two separate tracks, but all sides tried not to portray the failure as a deadlock.

Despite the impasse, the Israeli delegation rejected an Arab request to allow the co-sponsors to intervene to help bridge the differences in positions. Under the ground rules of the peace conferences, both sides must officially request co-sponsor intervention before it is possible.

The Jordanian and Palestinians, however, had requested U.S. intervention indirectly, by briefing State Department officials earlier on the status of the talks. The Arab delegates told the American officials that the Arab side had done everything in its power to avoid the impasse and proceed towards holding substantive talks.

"I am very, very sorry to tell you that we could not agree on continuing the talks because the Israelis are putting all the obstacles to impede a proper meeting for the tracks," the head of the Jordanian delegation, Dr. Abdul Salim Al Majali, told reporters after the last session of talks.

"According to the letter of invitation, there is a Jordanian-Israeli track and there is a Palestinian-Israeli track with a proper agenda for the Palestinians, which is the interim self-government arrangement, and our own distinctive agenda," Dr. Majali said as he was leaving the State Department with the head of the Palestinian team, Haidar Abdul Shafi.

He said the Arab delegates had made "enough compromises" in order to bridge the differences and move into the negotiating rooms:

"We have given enough compromises and I think we went to the bottom of all the compromises which we cannot continue doing," Dr. Majali said.

Dr. Majali criticised the Israeli delegation's refusal to take the case to the co-sponsors after failure to reach an accord on the issue of the two tracks.

"We told them let us go to the co-sponsors and talk to them. I think we had enough," Dr. Majali said. "They (Israelis) refused bluntly. They said we do not even accept the idea of a sponsor to the conference."

The head of the Israeli delegation, Eliyakim Rubenstein said the Co-sponsors - the United States and the Soviet Union - had played a useful role in preparations for the meetings. "Now their role is over, and it is time for the parties to negotiate."

The Americans were totally passive during the whole process.

KUWAIT HOSTS 12TH GCC SUMMIT

The Emire of Kuwait, Sheikh Jabir Al-Ahmed, gave a thank-you address in the final session of the 12th Summit of the GCC. Preparations to host the 12th summit conference of the six nation Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) which was held during December 23-25, have taken over three months, Kuwait Finance Minister Nasser Al-Rawdan said.

Rawdan is the Chairman of a Kuwaiti Ministerial Committee charged with making preparations for the summit which was attended by the leaders of Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates.

The GCC Secretary-General Yaqoub Bishara said that Gulf security following the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait last year and the Middle East peace process have topped the summit agenda.

Among other topics, the GCC leaders discussed plans for a joint security structure, Iran's role in regional security and the establishment of a proposed 10 billion-dollar fund to help Arab countries badly hit by last year's Gulf crisis.

The Kuwaiti daily "Al Raj Al Aam" urged the GCC Heads of State to "historic decisions" for the benefit of the present and future of the GCC.

Referring to the GCC states' support for Kuwait during the seven-month Iraqi occupation, the paper said: "The experience of the GCC states has confirmed the unity of its leaders and peoples and their ability to deal with crises in great cohesion."

The GCC was founded in 1981, one year after the outbreak of the Iraq-Iran war to coordinate defence and economic policies of the six states.

Meanwhile, a sudden blossoming of police checkpoints throughout the city combined with ordnance disposal teams setting off larger than usual explosions had Kuwait nerves jangling two weeks ago.

The checkpoints, part of the massive security operation accompanying the summit, were set up without notice at key arteries and intersections.

Cars backed up for miles as police demanded the identity papers of all drivers and passengers.

Western diplomats said a series of arrests of infiltrators from Iraq over the past few months had security officials concerned that Baghdad might be trying to set up cells here.

"The checkpoints are partially for a psychological reason if anyone is thinking about committing a crime," said Mohammed Rumaihi, editor of the "Sawt Al-Kuwait" daily.

"If you were in the mind of the Iraqi regime, you might want to do something during the summit to make a worldwide impact, though I don't think it will," he added.

So many telephone calls flooded the officers of the Ministry of Interior asking about the checkpoints. This forced the press office to issue the following statement.

"We received so many calls that we decided to issue a statement to clarify that the checkpoints are part of security measures for the upcoming Gulf Cooperation Council Summit," said Maj. Adel Ibrahim, a Ministry spokesman.

The intermittent explosions at special dump sites rattled windows along the seashore.

Ibrahim said that many people thought the sounds of exploding ordnance that are heard almost every day were connected to the checkpoints.

"There was no sabotage or anything of the sort," said Ibrahim.

The statement asked citizens to carry their identification cards with them and cooperate with the police and not to believe or start rumours that hurt the country's security and stability.

"It helps rehabilitate the nationhood of Kuwait to have hosted the summit, during which no complications arose," said an ambassador of one of the western nations. It is believed that the Omani-prepared regional security blue-print which has been adapted in an indicator that the GCC finally gave-up sensitivity to western military presence, which is an integral part of GCC security.

SULTAN QABOOS ARAB NAMES ENCYCLOPAEDIA

Sultan Qaboos bin Said received at Bahajat al Andhar farm, Mohammed al Zubair, His Majesty's Adviser for Economic Planning Affairs and Chairman of the Omani National Committee of the Sultan Qaboos Arab Names Project.

On the occasion of the issuance of the encyclopaedia, Al Zubair said in a press statement that because of the personal attention of His Majesty Qaboos bin Said, the "Sultan Qaboos Encyclopaedia of Arab names" has been completed in eight volumes, covering more than 5,000 pages.

The encyclopaedia deals with all the theoretical and applied questions connected with Arab names based on modern scientific methods and different branches of human knowledge in statistics, linguistics, history and sociology.

The encyclopaedia will fill a gap in the Arab library. It also presents a model for fruitful cooperation between scores of researchers in different fields all over the Arab world, he said.

He said the encyclopaedia will cater to the needs of two levels of readers. The first part is for the specialised reader, and this is the "Dictionary of Arab Names," in two volumes which tackle more than 18,000 names from four angles - statistical, linguistic, social and historical. It presents unprecedented analysis and clarifications that satisfy the ambitions of researchers and specialists. The second level is for the general public and is represented in "The Record of Arab Names" which has been issued in four volumes. This deals scrupulously with tens of thousands of names explaining their origins without going through much detail.

In addition to the theoretical and applied pivots, the encyclopaedia also has a special volume on "prominent Omani figures". The volume deals with figures who enriched the heritage of the nation with their precious works in various domains.

The encyclopaedia is the result of cooperation among the Omani National Committee, members of the scientific body of the encyclopaedia and its Advisory Committee, in addition to field experts from all over the Arab World.

Specialists in Arab language and literature, history, sociology and foreign languages at many Arab universities participated in producing this work. Scores of technicians well-versed in the art of computer, printing, information and coordination also took part in the project.

The unprecedented work was crowned by its affiliation to Sultan Qaboos University. Al Zubair said, "By presenting this scientific work to Arab readers, we have the pleasure to express our gratitude to His Majesty Sultan Qaboos bin Said who initiated the idea and followed it up closely through all its stages with his support and directives." He also expressed appreciation for the members of the Omani National Committee, the Cairo research team, the Advisory Committee and all committees and scientists who took part in the project during the past six years.

ANSWERS TO THE LEISURE PAGE QUIZES

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MUSICIANS

JUMBLES

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UTE	SNERD	SOFIA
MANY	SLEEP	NORM
ALTER	GENTE	RAE
	LEWIS	CARMEN
SEALTON	ETTE	
ARLENE	BRUSHOFF	
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LOATH GIANT ARTERY BUSHEL
What all rulers ought to be—STRAIGHT

SOUTH KOREA IS FREE OF N. WEAPONS

President Roh Tae-Woo declared that South Korea was free of nuclear weapons and urged North Korea to join in making the peninsula a nuclear-free zone. "As I speak, there do not exist any nuclear weapons whatsoever anywhere in the Republic of Korea," Mr. Roh said in a televised speech last week.

Mr. Roh's declaration confirmed that the US had removed its nuclear weapons from the South. It gave his administration strong leverage in its campaign to force Pyongyang to renounce its suspected nuclear arms development.

The North, which maintains nuclear plants at Yongbyon north of Pyongyang, says they are for peaceful purposes. Seoul and its allies believe North Korea's nuclear program aims to build a bomb. U.S. officials have called it the gravest threat to regional security.

Mr. Roh stated, "North Korea must forthwith conclude and ratify a nuclear safeguards agreement with the International Atomic Energy Agency, shut down all nuclear processing and enrichment facilities, and submit unconditionally to international inspection."

The presidential speech did not directly mention the issue of U.S. nuclear weapons. But a senior government official said the statement meant such weapons had already been removed.

About 39,000 U.S. troops are still stationed in South Korea, with the aim of defending it in case of an attack from the North.

The two Koreas, which fought a war from 1950 to 1953, signed two weeks ago a non-aggression pact hailed as the most significant step towards ending decades of enmity.

The document, signed in Seoul during a meeting of the Korean premiers, bars slander and subversions, provides early warning mechanisms to prevent an accidental outbreak of war and calls for cross-border exchanges of peoples, information, broadcasts and mail as well as economic cooperation.

Mr. Roh said the accord opened a new era of reconciliation and cooperation but the nuclear issue must be settled as soon as possible to ensure peace.

COMMONWEALTH PLEDGES SUPPORT FOR SOUTH AFRICA TALKS

Commonwealth observers pledged support for South African reform talks aimed at replacing white minority rule with democracy.

"Our presence here demonstrates the the Commonwealth's strong support for the negotiating process and its readiness to assist in whatever ways it might be helpful," Commonwealth leader and former Zimbabwean President Canaan Banana said on arrival at Johannesburg airport last weekend.

He said the Convention for a Democratic South Africa bringing together 20 rival South Africa black and white organisations "set out on a new and peaceful path towards the realisation of a democratic, non-racial society."

President F. W. de Klerk's government, softening decades of hostility to international bodies which opposed apartheid, has invited groups such as the Commonwealth, the United Nations and the Non-aligned Movement to observe the talks.

A steering committee of the rival groups, including Nelson Mandela's African National Congress, the Zulu-based Inkatha Freedom Party and the government, met to try to decide what status to accord the convention's decisions and draft a statement of intent.

President F.W. de Klerk has rejected a demand by Mandela that the talks' decisions have legal force, arguing that this would usurp the role of parliament and be tantamount to turning the convention into an executive arm of government.

The possibilities of setting up a bi-racial government is the best bet in front of the now-ruling white government. If such arrangements are not concluded, a one-person one-vote system would simply push aside the white minority.

Yet, the division among the blacks is definitely an important mechanism for the minority to retain a significant degree of influence. Yet the experiences of the neighboring countries gives assurances regarding the possibilities of racial co-existence.

U.N. FORCE HAS HARD TIME IN CAMBODIA

U.N. peacekeepers flew into Cambodian guerrilla-held territory from the government side for the first time last week to meet senior officials of the radical Khmer Rouge, the U.N. mission said.

However, Major General Long Sopheap, commander of the Fourth Military Region, told reporters travelling with Australian Foreign Minister Gareth Evans, an architect of Cambodia's peace accord, that 350 Khmer Rouge guerrillas raided Sre Moi in Siem Reap province.

General Sopheap said the attack was one of the worst violations of the fragile ceasefire, and took place only 30 kilometres from the Banteay Serei Temple that Mr. Evans visited. Government troops drove the Khmer Rouge into nearby mountains, Gen. Sopheap said.

UN observers feel that the peace accord is still on track. Their optimism is supported by the relative calm and stability over the last two weeks.

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الجمهورية اليمنية

"NO CHANCE OF QUICK EASING OF UN SANCTIONS AGAINST IRAQ"

"Baghdad has not complied with Gulf war ceasefire conditions so far," said Ambassador Rolf Ekeus, Executive Chairman of the UN Special Committee to find and destroy Iraq's chemical, biological, nuclear weapons and ballistic missile capabilities. There is little chance of any easing of the international sanctions imposed against Iraq after its August 1990 invasion of Kuwait unless and until Baghdad discloses what international inspectors believe to be remaining secrets of its nuclear weapons program and details of its stocks of ballistic missiles, insisted the Swedish ambassador. "We know that they (Iraq) are concealing a major component of their nuclear weapons program," said the U.N. official entrusted with eliminating Iraq's weapons of mass destruction under Security Council Resolution 687 adopted on April 3rd, 1991. The resolution, which laid down U.N. terms and conditions for formally ending the Gulf war over Kuwait, "linked Iraqi demonstration of good behavior in the

area of cooperating with the U.N. in destroying its weapons of mass destruction," Mr. Ekeus told a satellite press interview. "Iraq has so far not complied with that resolution," said the Swedish diplomat, "and the (Security) Council has decided that as long as Iraq is not complying, the economic sanctions will remain," he went on to say. Ambassador Ekeus was interviewed by journalists from Cairo, New Delhi, Riyadh and Sanaa through the "Dialogue" program of the Worldnet TV Station on December 17th. The U.N. official's confident responses underlined Iraq's vulnerability in the aftermath of the Gulf war. A New Delhi question related to the possibility of finding a formula which could ease the rapidly deteriorating food and health situation of the Iraqi people as a result of the international embargo. Iraq has reported that some 170,000 children have died from malnutrition and lack of food and that over 200,000 patients have died for lack of medical supplies. Mr. Ekeus described as

"generous" a U.N. Sanctions Committee decision to "allow" Iraq to sell \$1.6 billion in oil - "most of which will be spent on buying food and medicine" - and blamed Iraq for not accepting the "offer". He did not say, however, that the proceeds of any oil sales will be channelled through the UN and that a major portion of the revenue will siphoned off to pay "compensation" and war indemnities. International experts and U.N. officials say that Iraq would be fortunate if it receives a net \$800 million from the oil sales since the proceeds will be channelled through a U.N. committee, which will set aside 30 per cent for war reparations and an as yet undisclosed amount to support U.N. ceasefire monitoring operations as well as to pay for the elimination of Iraq's weapons. The estimated \$800 million will be sufficient to feed Iraq's 18 million people for barely two months, experts say. Hence the Iraqi lack of interest in the offer. Baghdad, saying the limited one-time sale of oil will be a violation of its sovereignty, has refused to accept the U.N. decision and is demanding that the West unfreeze Iraq's estimated \$4 billion in bank accounts and assets frozen as part of the U.N. punitive measures imposed after the invasion of Kuwait. The United States and Britain, the two de facto leaders of the Security Council, have repeatedly said that the sanctions against Iraq will remain in place as long as President Saddam Hussein remains in power. Mr. Ekeus said the commission he heads wants to ensure that all weapons-producing and research capabilities of Iraq are eliminated and that Iraq will not be able to re-acquire them at any point. Mr. Ekeus also accused Baghdad of "systematic concealment" of its nuclear program from international agencies and asserted that the record of the country had proved that if it regains a "good financial condition," then it would be very easy for it to "combine the resources and human knowledge" to re-establish its military capabilities. Towards foiling such a course of events, he explained, the commission has adopted a two-track ap-



proach - one aimed at removing all "remnants" of Iraq's weapon and research facilities, and the other involving monitoring measures which will govern all future research and chemical industries in the country. The Iraqi authorities are cooperating well in the process of destroying the facilities and material Baghdad has declared to the U.N. committee, he said. "We have no complaints in this regard." Yet, in answering another question, the Swedish diplomat blamed Iraq for placing "obstacles," and said: "We cannot say that the teeth have been pulled from the Iraqi nuclear program. Iraq has not disclosed the extent of (its nuclear) program and we find that there is a tendency on the part of the Iraqi authorities to save what is possible." "I've told them if they open up their secrets, the hiding places and the rest of the missiles program - (We will finish off) this matter in a month or a couple of months." Article (14) of UN Security Council Resolution No. 687 which established the commission and defined its functions, states "the present resolution represents a step towards the goal of establishing in the Middle East a zone free from weapons of mass destruction and all missiles... and a ban on chemical weapons". Based on that, the Yemen Times asked the UN official if, by any chance, he saw his mandate as covering any countries in the region other than Iraq. The confidence and clarity of Ambassador Ekeus was visibly missing in his response to this question. The ambassador stated that "the Special Commission has not been given the authority to carry or implement this..." One wonders what authority does the commission want more than a UN

Security Council decision! During the satellite press conference, which was monitored at the American Embassy in Sanaa, Yemen Times, the only party to pose questions from Yemen, also placed three more questions. Another question related to the irony of the circumstances. "At a time when you are disarming Iraq of its nuclear capabilities, its next-door neighbor, Iran, is working to acquire them. Any comments?" Again the official's answer was neither direct nor satisfactory. "This question, as you understand, falls slightly outside the task of the implementation of the resolutions concerned," Mr. Ekeus said. It is as if peace in the region can be treated in separate parcels. In response to a question regarding the mechanism for distributing compensation - whether from national or international funds - and how some countries like Yemen have been short-changed, the UN official showered Yemen with praise regarding its role in the UN. "Yemen has voted in favor of the control and compliance plans, and Yemen has also, I think very wisely, supported to give the Special Commission resources with regard to surveillance activities." Finally, in response to the implementation of resolutions with respect to the Palestinian issue, and the degree of credibility of UN Security Council resolutions and their even-handed implementation, Ambassador Ekeus again evaded the question. During the interview, we in Yemen Times felt we were asking the sore questions, whereas most of the questions from Riyadh, Cairo and New Delhi gave the Ambassador a chance to air the violations of Iraq and the achievements of his commission.

Continues on page 13

