

YEMEN'S ONLY ENGLISH - LANGUAGE NEWSPAPER

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OUR VIEWPOINT

May Lt-General Saleh Resign from the PGC

The Political Parties Law passed by this country, calls on all military personnel, members of the judiciary, and a few other groups not to belong to any political party. The idea is to keep those important institutions immune from narrow loyalties, since they "belong to the whole nation".

I am happy to note that several judges have already withdrawn from the parties to which they had belonged. I am also happy to further note that several senior army officers have resigned from the parties, and I know several others who plan to do so shortly.

I take this occasion to ask Lt-General Ali Abdullah Saleh to resign from the People's General Congress, out of respect for the law. At the same time, I hope that Lt- Brigadier Saleh Obeid Ahmed, Deputy Prime Minister for Defence and Security Affairs; and Lt-Brigadier Haitham Qassim Taher, Defence Minister; among others, will resign from the Yemeni Socialist Party. By the same yardstick, I hope Lt-Brigadier Mujahed Abu Shawarib, Deputy Prime Minister for Internal Affairs, will resign from the Baath Party.

Any other military men in political parties must resign from their positions to remain within the law. It is a pity that President Saleh has not, as yet, served as a role model, in this case, by bowing to the law which he himself signed.

If any of the above, or others, say that their military connection is something of the past, and that they have actually become civilianized, they must drop the use of their military rank formally, and they should not be addressed by it. It is a choice - to be in the army or to be in politics. It is also a choice - to be within the law or to be outside it.

Mr. President, could you please serve as a role model by submitting to the law?

The Publisher

SUPREME ELECTIONS COMMITTEE PRESSES AHEAD WITH ITS WORK

The Supreme Elections Committee (SEC) is pressing ahead with its tasks in full steam. At the end of several meetings, the SEC has formed six committees which have already assumed their responsibilities. These are the Technical Committee (made up of Dr. Ahmed Sharafuddeen, Sadiq Ameen Abu Ras, Hamood Adharihi, Ahmed Qarhash, and Yasseen Abdo Saeed, which is responsible for preparing for the elections and drawing the boundaries of constituencies), the Financial Committee (made up of Ahmed Assamawi and Saleh Munassar Assiyali - responsible for drawing up the budget of the SEC and its expenditure procedures), the Information Committee (made up of Dr. Abdul-Malik Al-Mikhlaifi and Abdullah Sallam Al-Hakeemi - responsible for relations with the media as well as working out the do's and don'ts of the campaigns of candidates), the Legal Committee (made up of Dr. Hassan Bazara, Abdul-Fattah Al-Baseer, Raqiyah Humaidan - responsible for looking into the legality of the actions of the candidates, their petitions, as well as drawing up the legal aspects of SEC work), the Security Committee (made up of Mohammed Ali Haitham - responsible for working out the security arrangements responsible for the elections), and finally the Secretariat (made up of Abdul-Rahman Mahyoob - responsible for documenting the paperwork of the SEC).

In the meanwhile, Qadhi Abdul-Qarim Al-Arashi, Chair of the SEC, has turned in a draft proposal of the SEC by-laws and internal regulations, which the members are presently studying. The proposal is expected to be approved by next week. At the same time, the SEC is considering the establishment of a large bureaucratic apparatus in order to handle the administration, as well as the filing and documentation of the paperwork involved in the elections process.

The SEC meets almost every other day.

THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE IS ON SEPTEMBER 9TH

The Preparatory Committee of the National Conference has set the opening date of the National Conference for the 9th of September - exactly a week from today.

Official Conference Spokesman Dr. Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaq pointed out that the two main documents of the conference are ready. He also indicated that very prominent Yemenis with an outstanding record in serving this country have confirmed their participation. The official invitation will be sent out on Saturday, September 5th. The heads of the diplomatic missions are on the list of guests to attend the opening and closing sessions.

The Conference hopes to shore up the political evolution of Yemen, and hopes to strike a number of arrangements so as to safeguard the elections process and political cooperation thereafter.

Mr. Abdul-Rahman Al-Jafri said, "We are dead set to create a national reconciliation by bringing every group with us in order to open channels of communication. The possibilities for cooperation are there, but we only need to talk to each other openly and candidly." he also indicated that we should work out a partnership in which all sides could participate. "No party should be made to feel left out," he added.

In spite of reservation from certain circles, the National Conference is expected to be a remarkable success.

السُّفَارِي
EL SOFFARY

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PERSONAL VIEW**Re-Thinking Public Financing
of Yemeni Higher Education**

**Dr. Abdullah Al-Ghaithi,
College of Education, Sanaa Univ.**

During the last two decades, Yemen (North and South) experienced tremendous growth in higher education enrollments. The country's student body in higher education rose from 62 students in Sanaa University in 1970/71 to over fifty thousand in 1990/91 (Universities of Sanaa and Aden). While this number is still not so high in terms of the population cohort (20-24 years of age), it is very high relative to the country's low level of economic development.

Most of the enrollments in higher education in Yemen is absorbed by Sanaa University, which represents almost 90% of the total. The tremendous growth in higher education enrollments is made possible by a combination of open-admission policy coupled with a free tuition system. This is possible because Yemen has a centralized system of educational financing. Statistics show that 98% of total revenues available to the education sector. According to budgetary statistics, total government expenditures this year will exceed YR. 10 billion representing around 13% of total government expenditures. Of this amount, around one billion goes to the two public universities.

Like in many other Third World countries, the country's commitment to free-tuition university education is promoted under several justifications, including the following:

- 1) to accelerate economic growth rates,
- 2) to reduce disparities among the rich and poor,
- 3) low or zero marginal costs.

Continues on page 4

LOCAL BRIEFS, LOCAL BRIEFS, LOCAL BRIEFS, LOCAL**Demonstration Demanding
Stability and Security**

The political parties, unions, associations, and public figures have organized a massive demonstration on Thursday, August 27th. The demonstrators were carrying banners demanding that the leadership and government put an end to the lawlessness and violence that have struck fear and anxiety among the people.

Representatives of the political parties and associations also delivered copies of a communique, to the same effect, to the offices of the Presidential Council, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the Prime Minister.

The recent attack on the residence of the Speaker of the House has left many people wondering as to who is next. At the same time, the violent incidents continue to raise havoc in regions of Mareb, Saada, and Shabwah, where over twenty persons were killed. Moreover, violent incidents in the vicinity of the Central Prison in Sanaa have claimed additional lives. Problems among tribal groups quarrelling over real estate ownership led to exchanges of gunfire among the tribes, as well as with the security forces.

Observers believe that the security situation is purposefully allowed to deteriorate so as to give a pretext to move against the nascent democracy of Yemen.

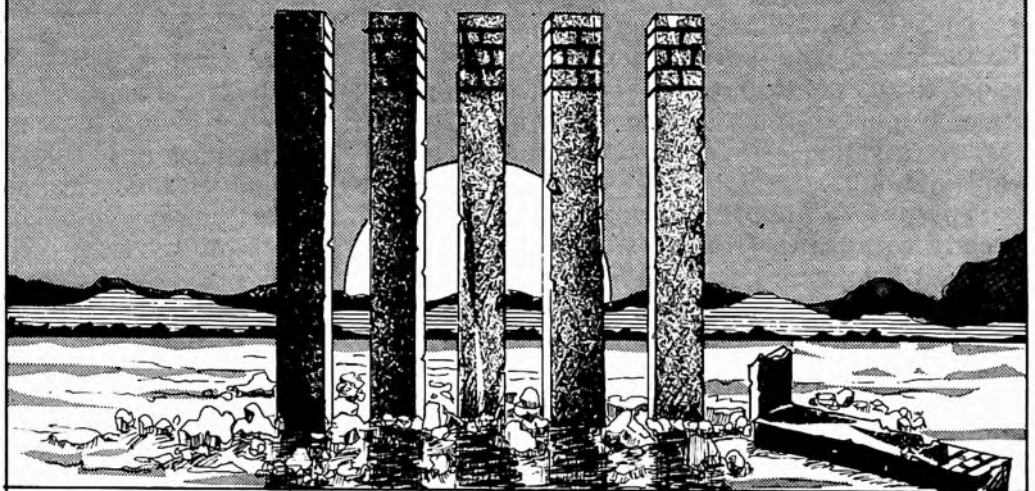
**Korean Deputy Prime Minister
Concludes Successful Visit**

The Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Unification in the Republic of Korea, Mr. Young Chul Choi, and the accompanying delegation, wound-up a three-day official visit to Yemen on Friday, 28th August. Mr. Choi delivered a speech, at a function on Thursday, August 27th, hosted by the Yemeni Political Science Association, in which he stated that Korean reunification would take place within the 20th century.

In a statement to the Yemen Times, the Deputy Prime Minister indicated that there were certain aspects of Yemen's reunification that were relevant to the Korean case. He added that he was on his way to Germany to have a first-hand look at that country's reunification experience.

26 Cases of Strike Right Now!

According to a Yemen Times survey, there are, at the moment, 26 cases of strikes in the Republic of Yemen. The most prominent of these are the medical doctors' strike at Al-Thawrah Hospital in Sanaa, the Education Researchers' strike all over the Republic, and the engineers' strike. Isn't this the way to build the new Yemen or what!

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Milad Hussain Al-Faqhi:

"The Libyan Revolution Seeks To Establish Equitable Relations Among Nations."

Yesterday, September 1st, the Libyan Arab Jama-hirriyah celebrated the anniversary of the Fatih Revolution. That revolution was a watershed in the modern history of Libya.

On the occasion, Yemen Times Economic Editor, Ameen Nouisser, spoke to HE Mr. Milad Hussain Al-Faqhi, the Libyan Ambassador in Sanaa. Mr. Al-Faqhi, an economist by training, is an energetic young man who is an ardent believer in the Al-Fatih Revolution. Excerpts of the interview:



Q: How would you assess the Libyan Revolution?

A: You know that before the Fatih (First) September Revolution of 1969, Libya was a feudal state. Though oil-producing, the people were very poor and the country very backward. The Revolution came to lift up the country and bring it into the 20th century. This is at the internal level. At the regional level, you realize that the Revolution came to put Libya firmly in the Arab family. The Fatih Revolution is not just for Libya, it is oriented towards the whole Arab nation.

Before the Revolution, Libya was a marginalized and oppressed country in international relations, in spite of its resources and strategic location. It was ruled by a mix of foreign influence including the American military base and the Italian settlers. The country's wealth was being plundered by foreign parties collaborating with the local elites. After the Revolution the country attained new importance. Libya today, commands the respect of the world as an influential player in world politics. The new environment and mentality brought by the Revolution is one in which the people are the source of authority and legitimacy. What the leader of the Revolution wanted to instill is that the system has to be people-based. That is why the oil revenues were used to finance a comprehensive development in all fields - housing, infrastructure, utilities, agriculture, industry, and many others.

At the same time, the new government in which "a rule by people system" was applied through the popular committees.

Q: You mentioned Libya's standing in the world community. Don't you see that whatever Libya's standing may have been, that has suffered in a considerable way?

A: Yes, there is a concerted effort on the part of Western powers to humiliate Libya. You will please note that Libya has worked hard to fight Western influence in the Arab (and other) countries. We wanted an equitable relationship between our country and the other countries, whichever they are. But the West wanted to maintain the old structure of relations in which Libya was a dependency. Therefore, the need to punish Libya is due to their drive to preserve their hegemony over our part of the world.

The Western media, over the past years, has spread its venom by distributing all kinds of negative ideas and thoughts, not only about Libya, but about the whole Arab World. They would love us if we became obedient slaves and followers. The powers controlling the world media and economy work very hard to maintain their control, and they work to discredit any party that resists their influence.

Not only that, but Libya was the target of military aggression. You know the story of how the USA came all the way to our shores to do its military exercises. The purpose behind this action was to provoke a Libyan response so that the USA could exhibit its military power. It is a colonial mentality that punishes small states. That is exactly our case.

Q: But didn't Libya provoke the West, as well. I

mean how about international terrorism?

A: Allow me to answer this question with reference to two specific cases - the UTA and Lockerbie incidents. The USA, Britain and France have accused two Libyans of being responsible for the incidents. They demanded that Libya hand them over to them to put them on trial.

First, Libya refutes the allegations. Second, we agreed to put the two men on trial in Libya, and we offered those countries to send lawyers and judges as observers. Third, when they disagreed we offered to have the two men tried in any third country which is neutral. But "No!". They insisted that we hand over the two men to them, so that they can get them to confess.

So, who is wrong here?

How can those countries be the accusers and the judges at the same time? I can point to many cases in which American justice was proven to be faulty, to say the least. The Los Angeles trials and re-trials are the most recent examples of this point.

Those countries used their influence to issue UN Security Council Resolution No. 731, which calls on Libya to cooperate in reaching the bottom of the

whole story. Libya accepted this resolution, and offered all kinds of help. But the West was not satisfied and they had the Security Council pass an unjust resolution, #748, which puts a ban on Libyan airspace. In general, let me say categorically that all allegations that Libya is sponsoring international terrorism is "unfounded". In fact, the contrary is true. The accuser, the USA itself, behaves like a pirate and a terrorist, and I can give you a list of examples.

Q: How do you evaluate Yemeni-Libyan relations?

A: Relations between the peoples, revolutions, leaderships and governments of our two countries are very good. We support Yemen's development process.

Libya also blessed the unification of Yemen which Qaddafi described as "the only positive element in modern Arab history".

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YAFA Honors Ray Hunt

The Yemen American Friendship Association (YAFA), in a ceremony on Wednesday, August 26th, honored the Honorable Ray L. Hunt, Chairman of Hunt Oil Company in "recognition of his outstanding efforts in promoting Yemeni-American friendship in fruitful cooperation."



The high point of the occasion was when Mr. Abdul-Wasa Hayel Saeed Anam, Chairman of YAFA, announced the YAFA Board of Directors' decision to name Mr. Hunt as YAFA's first honorary member. In a reciprocation statement, Mr. Hunt said that he was deeply moved by the decision, and confirmed his full support for the association. He also pointed out that Yemen and the USA stand much to gain from stronger and closer cooperation and friendly relations. Commenting on the democratization process, Mr. Hunt stressed that Yemen's international credibility and image hinge on its ability to carry out the parliamentary elections cleanly and on time.

The Political Corner

A NEW SPIRIT FOR A NEW WORLD

By:
Dr. Mohammed Abdul-Malik Al-Mutawakkil,
Political Editor,
Yemen Times.

Observers of the evolution that came about due to the massive achievements in the fields of transportation and communication, and the recent trends in the new world order, lead one to conclude that we are headed towards a one-nation world. The world is steadily becoming smaller as is evident from the information break-through, economic cooperation, military intervention, etc.

Unfortunately, however, the leading world nations, which were expected to rise up to the moment and shoulder their world duties in a responsible way, are beginning to falter. Instead of strengthening the UN bodies to allow them to play a role leading to world peace and harmony, the world's leading nations have chosen to dominate the UN bodies for selfish interests.

If the Free World had raised demands in human rights

and democracy in the cold-war era, it is expected today to make good on those demands because it is the sole captain of the ship. Expected of it, also, is to introduce real democratic values in the workings of the UN bodies.

For example, only countries with democratic systems which respect human rights should be allowed to be represented in the UN General Assembly. This would require defining a criteria as to what we mean by democracy and human rights. In reality most of the delegates in the Assembly represent one man - a dictator or a group of persons who rule their country in very undemocratic ways. So what is the meaning of democratic voting in the assembly of delegates who represent systems which are not democratic?

Another example, the UN should revise the veto power exercised by the five permanent members. This right was acquired on the basis of military victory after WW2. Military conquest should not be the criterion by which nations acquire exceptional rights in

running world affairs.

We may not actually need the veto system if the Security Council can be restructured to take into account factors like population, economic power, and geography. Normal voting patterns, i.e. a simple majority system, and in certain cases special majority votes, could be a useful tool in running the Security Council.

We all dream of a world nation in which all peoples have access to the same opportunities and enjoy similar rights.

The new world order needs new leadership - a leadership that has the whole planetary approach and concept in mind. The new world needs a new spirit. Fairness and justice is something that has to be handed over to all peoples of this planet, not on a selective basis colored by religious, racial, or other prejudices.

This world is too small for us to fight over. We should address our problems and issues from this wholesome approach. Can we rise up to that level? Only time will tell!

تعزية

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التعازي لأسرة الفقيد
محمد الذهلي
أسكنه الله فسيح
جناته وأهله
الصبر والسلوان وإنا
لله وإنا إليه راجعون

تعزية

تتقدم أسرة
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بأحر التعازي للزميل
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THE YEMENI-SAUDI TAYIF TREATY OF 1934, Part I

Yemen Times prints an unofficial translation of the Tayif Treaty signed on 6/2/1353 AH (19/5/1934) between the Kingdom of Yemen and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

IN THE NAME OF GOD THE BENEFICIAL
Thanks be to God, prayers and salutations be on the prophet with no prophet after him.

We the Imam Yahya bin Mohammad Hameed Al-Deen, King of the Kingdom of Yemen. Since it was held between us and between his excellency the King Al-Imam Abdul Aziz bin Abdul-Rahman Al-Faisal Al-Saud, King of Saudi Kingdom, a brotherly Arab Islamic friendship treaty, to put an end to this disastrous state of war between us and between his excellency, so as to establish Islamic friendly relationship between our two countries, signed by high commissioners on our behalf and a high commissioner on his excellency's behalf. Both have a full authorized acquisition to sign at the city of Jeddah on the 6th of Safar 1353 A.H. and it is written with a pledge of arbitration and with supplementaries to it as follows:

PREAMBLE:

The brotherly Islamic Friendship Treaty between the Kingdom of Yemen and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

- His Majesty Imam Yahya bin Mohammed Hameed Ad-Deen King of Yemen from one side, and His Majesty King Abdul Aziz Bin Abdul Rahman Al-Faisal Al-Saud, King of Saudi Arabia Kingdom from the other side,
- With willingness from both sides in ending the state of war existing unfortunately between them and their governments and their peoples,
- Hence willing to assemble the world of the Arab Islamic nation raising its value and safeguarding its dignity and its independence,

In view of the necessity establishing stable relationships between them and between their governments and states on the basis of mutual beneficial interests,

- Loving to delineate the border line between their countries, re-establishing neighborly relations based on Islamic friendship between them and strengthening the pillars of peace and stability between the two peoples and their countries.

- Willing to be one one side to face the dozens catastrophes and to be one steadfast structure to defend the safety of the Arabian Peninsula,

- Both sides decided to establish Arab Islamic brotherly friendship between them,

For this purpose, they assigned two high commissioners on their behalf. these are:

On behalf of his Majesty the King of Yemen, His Highness Abdulla bin Ahmad Al-Wazeer. And on behalf His Majesty the King of Saudi Arabia Kingdom, His Royal Highness Prince Khalid bin Abdul Aziz, son of His Majesty and Deputy Chairman of the Council of Deputies.

Their Majesties the kings granted their nominated commissioners their full and absolute authorization.

The two commissioners, being acquainted with the powers of authorization they have, agreed to the rules and regulations, decided on behalf of their kings according to the following articles:

Article (1):

The state of war between Their Majesties the kings of Yemen and Saudi Arabia, their people and countries will come to an end immediately upon the signing of this treaty, and there shall begin right away a state of permanent peace and of a deep-rooted friendship that cannot be violated in part or in all.

The two contracting high commissioner teams promise to solve in a friendly, loving spirit all the disputes and differences that occur between

them. Their relationship should be guided by Arab, Islamic spirit.. They witness God on their good wills, honest desires for reconciliation and agreement in public and in secret. They also pray to His Almighty God to reconcile them, their children's heritage and governments to proceed on this course which satisfies the Almighty God and the pride of their people and religion.

Article (2):

The two contracting high commissioners acknowledge for each other the complete and absolute independence of each Kingdom. His Majesty Imam Yahya bin Mohammad Hameed Ad-Deen of the Kingdom of Yemen acknowledges to His Majesty King Imam Abdul Aziz and his legitimate heirs the absolute and complete sovereignty over the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and his ownership thereof.

His Majesty King Imam Abdul Aziz bin Abdul Rahman Al-Faisal Ul-Saudi King of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia acknowledges to His Majesty Imam Yahya and his legitimate heirs the absolute complete sovereignty over the Kingdom of Yemen and his ownership thereof.

Each party drops any claims in all or parts of the others country beyond the borders stated in this treaty. His Majesty Imam King Yahya waives in this treaty his rights to any claims in all or parts of the regions which, according to this treaty, are considered part of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia or regions previously under the rule of the Al-Adarisa family or Ul-Aayedh or in Najran of in the region of Yam.

His Majesty King Imam Abdul Aziz waives in this treaty his rights to any claims of protection or occupation or else in the regions which, according to this treaty, are considered part of Yemen or regions previously under the rule of Al-Adarisa family or others.

Continues NEXT WEEK

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**AND NOW WHO IS
AGAINST DEMOCRACY!?**

What does that rocket propelled grenade (RPG) which was sent to destroy and kill an innocent family mean? Did it mean to hurt the YSP, which is in itself a horrible thing. From certain circles, that is understandable because of the YSP's national goals in the long march towards development, democracy and reunification. This process of antagonism towards the party is something realized fully by the YSP leadership.

But this inhuman action meant something else this time, and the came out clearly without hiding anything or using any masks. The rocket did not target Dr. Yasseen Saeed Noman, as a member in the YSP leadership, but it targetted him as an embodiment of the House of Representative itself. The rocket aimed to horrify and destroy one of the decent symbols of our democratic experience, especially as he led the discussions and proceedings on the law of Education until its final enactment as a law.

We all remember the attempts made to kill the education bill. The attempts were thwarted by the Speaker of the House and a large majority of the members, who insisted on going ahead with the bill, given its critical importance in shaping the future of this country.

The House proved itself to be a real parliament with strong teeth not just a decoration apparatus. It refused to relegate its functions to any other body.

Once this fact dawned on the enemies of democracy, they had no other means except sabotage, terrorism and the launching of that bloody rockets on a decent man. The question lies clearly in identifying and pinpointing those who stand behind such illegal and terrorist actions aimed against our freedom, democracy and constitutional legitimacy.

Al-Thawri, Sanaa,
27/8/1992.

**THE PRESS and POLITICAL
PLURALISM**

Freedom of the press represents one of the fruits of reunification, and a tool for evolving a national conscienceness towards responsible democratic practice. Freedom plays a significant and vital role in formulating national awareness on many issues. Therefore, its responsibility is to stick closely to the important subjects, and to deal with them maturely and with professionalism.

But it seems that the large number publications leads some to take the road of sensationalism based on thrilling stories, baked in the minds of the writers. For some, concocting tales, based on heresy and rumors, and then writing them as articles in their

papers has become a common practice. The goals of most of those "stories" is to give a bad image to the democratic practices of our country. Unfortunately this kind of journalism brings a bad reputation to our homeland. Some writers go even further than that - they insult and bad-mouth this or that party. In addition, they violate the norms and laws of journalism. Moreover, they are responsible for a lot of anxiety and confusion among the people. This kind of reporting only tends to reveal the inferior quality of the staff of those newspapers.

All this happens under the protective arm of democracy and freedom of the press. But in return to these benefits, the writers must know there are obligations.

These newspaper are couched in an approach oriented towards the emotions and feelings of the masses. They exaggerate and inflate events, they arouse people's sentiments, and they sensationalize ordinary stories. Honestly, our national interests require all of us to be considerate when reporting events. We should highlight issues that consolidate and deepen our national unity and democracy, not those which split us or create rifts among us.

The followers of the Imamate, and those who plant hatred and despotism among us will keep trying for the achievement of their illusions. Yet, our Revolution and unity will keep them at bay.

26 September, Sanaa,
27/8/1992.

**ADMINISTRATIVE
LEADERSHIP**

Administration is a science. It is the ability to combine knowledge, skills and experience. The administrative leader is a person who brings to bear many important attributes, such as sufficient knowledge, expertise, high morals values, and lots of wisdom.

A good reputation is an important starting point. Juniors and subordinates will not accept the authority of a corrupt person. Then successful leadership requires a good information background in the relevant field, and the willingness to do hard work. The selection process, especially of senior officials should be based on a careful assessment according to agreed-upon norms and specifications. Appointing our officials should not be based on favoritism, mediation, connections, and tribal considerations.

Qualifications are important. Loyalty to the country supersedes any other form of loyalty. There are situations which prove the leadership qualities of individuals. Some of our administrators consider the administration process a personal business. That is why you will find them managing their government offices from their houses. Credibility is very important. One more thing. Hard work is the foundation of any success. These are important points in reforming and building a modern bureaucracy.

Al-Wahdah, Sanaa,
26/8/1992.

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letters to the editor, letters to the editor, letters to the

SANITATION

The time is very near when the nation will again celebrate its revolution day. The glammour of celebrations - slogans, placards neon lights, to mention but few, have not disappeared. Sadly though, one thing that downgrades the beauty of these decorations is poor sanitation. I am sure the authorities have done a great deal of work to keep cleanliness in our cities. Their effort, however, is diminished by the uncollected rubbish strewn on many streets. At certain functions, the whiff of stench gushing from decomposed carcasses and garbage that is piled up, disturb pedestrians walking these streets. I followed this problem closely and after careful observation, I realized that the blame is to be pinned on the public and cleaners as well. Many people deposit rubbish in the streets instead of throwing it into the garbage bins. Cleaners, on the other hand, rarely spot one-way roads that lead to remote nests of garbage. The responsibility for keeping sanitary conditions is a shared one. It is

high time that sanitation is made a priority in our cities!

By: Liban A. Ahmad,
Sana'a.

YEMENI CIVILIZATION IN THE HOLY QURAN

The Quran says:

"There was indeed a sign for Sheba in their dwelling place: two gardens - on their right and left. Eat of the bounty of your lord and render thanks to Him, a fair land and an indulgent Lord!" (Chapter of Saba, verse No. 15.)

The Quran also states in the Al-Naml Chapter (Ants): "And he (Solomon the King) sought among the birds and said: 'How is it that I see not the hoopoe, or is he among the absent? I verily will punish him with hard punishment or I verily stay him, or he shall bring me a plain excuse.' But he was not long in coming and he said 'I came into you from Sheba with sure tidings. Lo! I found a woman ruling over them, and she has been given (abundance) of all things and hers in a mighty throne.'" Verses 20-22.

The Holy Quran also states

in Chapter Alfajr to Prophet Mohammed, "Do you not consider how your Lord dealt with (the tribe of) A'ad, with the many columned Iram. The like of which was not created in the lands. Verses 6-7.

At that time, 3000 years ago, the density of population was very small in number, perhaps around one million or so.

But the old Yemenis were industrious. They built over eighty dams for harnessing rainwater, the most famous one being the Marib dam. The old Yemenis were, thus, good farmers. But they were also good merchants, sailors, engineers, and above all, good statesmen. The Greek historians wrote with awe the great swords produced in Yemen, the high priests sought the frankincense, and the chefs demanded the spices.

Yemen was among the respected nations of the world.

By: Saleh Al-Suraihi,
Yemeni Embassy,
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

MISUSE OF THE GOVERNMENT MONEY

In 'Our Viewpoint' of June 10th issue, you have rightly accused the ruling parties of misusing revenues from oil exports. And Allah knows what else they buy for themselves and their so called 'friends' besides these expensive 4wd cars, which are at least seen by the masses. All this is naturally financed by the "central treasury" of the country. No one, including the president, has the right to use these funds for his own personal benefits. In fact Islamic Sharia makes it 'haram' (forbidden) for any government employee to misuse state funds for his or her gains without going through legal formalities.

The point that I wish to make is that if it is wrong (haram) for the government to buy cars, etc., then it is wrong for it to do anything with that money - be it buying shares or establishing companies. Allah will not bless something whose origin itself is 'haram', and I think this is the parting between the capitalism of the morality and it does not follow the guidelines of 'halal' and 'haram' (lawful and unlawful), in the way money is used.

In many verses of the Holy Quran, we Muslims are reminded by Allah to behave in a way that is 'halal' (lawful) and wholesome. There is also a hadith (Prophet's saying) in which a human being raises his hands upwards to Allah, asking for forgiveness and blessings. How can Allah forgive and bless when the food this human being consumes is haram, his clothing is haram and his entire livelihood is from unlawful means? Allah does not accept his prayers.

Finally, I pray to Allah to guide the Nation of Islam to the straight path, and give us our sustenance from halal and keep us away from all kinds of haram deeds and actions.

By:
Nasser F. Adam, Sana'a.

JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

TOTAL YEMEN (French Oil Company) requires a technician, according to the following details.

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Duties:

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Job Requirements:

- Fluent English (spoken and written) is required,
- Ability of quick understanding and initiative is essential,
- Computer experience is recommended,
- French spoken is appreciated.

All applicants must have a valid Yemen ID, valid Yemeni driving licence, military service certificate, release from previous employer, and must pass the Company's pre-employment test.

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THE ECONOMIC TRANSFORMATION

The task of changing the Libyan society by implanting a new spirit in the Land of the Great Jamahirriyyah was seen as a goal by the Al-Fatih Revolution of 1969.

Towards that end, the Revolution embarked on massive investments in order to achieve a rapid and far-reaching transformation at the socio-economic levels. At the same time, fully-integrated development plans were drawn-up at an early stage to eradicate the backwardness and over-dependency of Libya on foreign countries. The experience of the 23 years of Al-Fatih Revolution shows that 1969 was really a watershed in the modern history of the Jamahirriyyah. The objectives of the Revolution can be summarized as follows:

1. The need to transform Libya into a socialist and productive society based on the premises of the Third International Theory.
2. To raise the level of productivity through subsidizing factors of production, and through the full exploitation

of all the resources and efforts in order to create a strong, productive national economy.

3. To focus on the agricultural revolution with the aim of achieving advanced levels of self-sufficiency in basic crops and agricultural products.

4. To embark on industrialization in a strong way, especially in the extraction industry, in order to create a strong, industrial base.

5. To give education and technical training priority, with the aim of allowing the largest possible participation by the people in the transformation and construction process of the country.

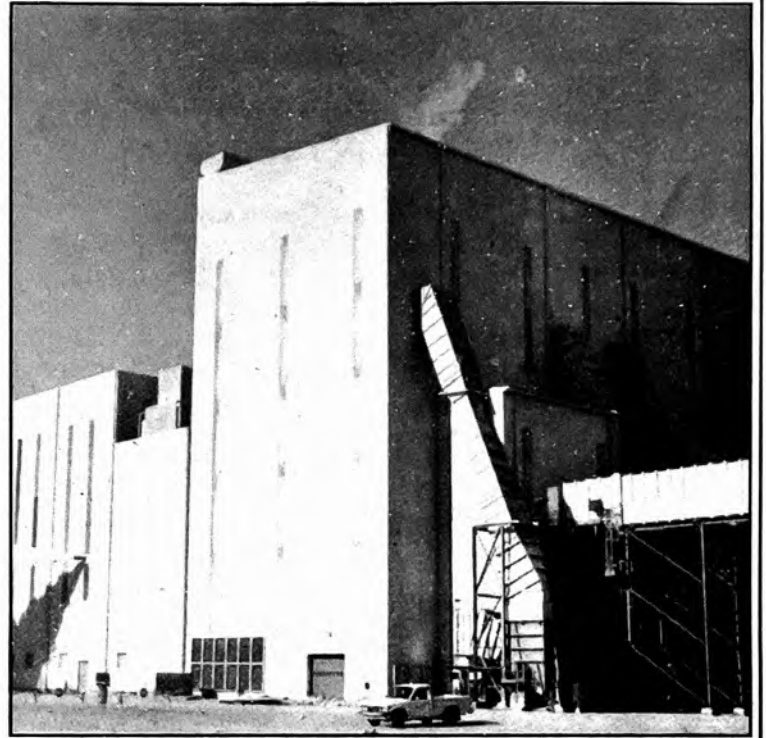
6. To attend to the needs of scientific research and to pursue advanced methodologies in executing the projects and plans of transformation.

Over the last 23 years, given the above mentioned goals and approaches, Libya has achieved a major transformation in all facets of life, in spite of challenges that faced the process at every angle of its implementation.

Economic development over the life of the Revolution has been phenomenal. The economy grew an annual rate of 7.5% in real terms. Some sectors, of course, grew at faster rates than others. Industrial growth, for example, attained an annual average of 21% through the period. The share of the non-oil sectors have grown to represent more than half of GNP - 54.5%.

Total investments have grown from 10.6 billion Libyan Dinars in the decade of 1970-80, to over Thirty billion in the decade of 1980-90. As a result GDP growth rates averaged 23% per annum, while per-capita income rose from 642 Libyan Dinars (US\$1798) in 1975 to 3133 Dinars (US\$10340) in 1985, to over 6000 Libyan Dinars (US\$18800) in 1992 - a tenfold increase between 1975 and 1992.

These achievements would not have been possible without the application of the tenets of the Green Book. In 1977, the tenets of the Green



Book, which call for the rise of the people's power, was applied in Libya- thus giving rise to the first ever Jamahirriyyah in the modern history of mankind.

In the Jamahirriyyah system, the people rule themselves by themselves, and directly. Committees were formed in all walks of life and at all levels. These were organized in frequent, popular conferences in order to carry out the wishes of the people. Thus, a parasitic ruling class is eliminated.

Exploitation was eradicated, thus producers became partners, and exploitative trade was abolished. Houses now belonged to their occupants, and the workers advanced on the plants and companies and took charge of them. Markets were built in all parts of the country.

The economic transformation policies, which were based on scientifically-studied plans and well-prepared analysis aimed at restructuring the economy to reduce over-dependence on the oil sector, and to promote the growth of the productive sectors (such as industry and agriculture) and the services.

Regions of the Jamahirriyyah were studied to determine their comparative advantages in order to prioritize investments along rational economic lines. While pursuing regional advantages, the overall ambition was to create complementarity within the country, and thus create one whole and comprehensive unit. We can therefore say that the economic policy of the Jamahirriyyah is based on two approaches - a local/regional one which seeks to establish comparative advantages and priorities, and a national one which seeks to

create a comprehensive or whole economy.

As a result, agriculture and industry were given top priority. For agriculture and the livestock sector, land reclamation and reform was an essential step, coupled with major investments in water sources, seed development, stock building, and scientific research. In the industrial sector, the availability of cheap sources of energy have allowed heavy and light industry and manufacturing to grow, as well as creating a tremendous boom in small-scale plants. The industrial complexes include iron & steel projects, petrochemical complexes, cement plants, textile factories, food processing and packaging units, etc.

The dramatic growth in education and training has allowed rapid progress in the productive sectors: The Jamahirriyyah invested heavily in schools and universities, technical and vocational institutes, training centers, etc. Since the Revolution, the country has invested almost 3 trillion Libyan Dinars, or US\$10,000 billion. This staggering amount is a solid indicator of the drive of the Revolution to give all members of society access to good and modern education. Even for those who missed on educational opportunities, massive literacy campaigns were undertaken to bring them into the 20th century.

In conclusion, one can proudly point to the phenomenal transformation that has taken place in the socio-economy of Libya. Indeed, the Al-Fatih Revolution has carried the Libyan people from extreme backwardness to the twentieth century.

JOB OPENING

Job Title: Administrator

Location:

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Duties:

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Able to set up and implement P.M. Programs and documentation, i.e., Historical filing, vehicle registrations, taxation's, and requisitions. Experience in stock control and order placement, also knowledge in cost control and accounting procedures are essential. Computer and word processing experience is advantageous. Fluency in spoken and written English is a pre-requisite.

All applicants must have a valid Yemeni I.D., valid Yemeni driver's licence, military service certificate, release from previous employer and must pass the company's pre-employment physical.

Interested and qualified applicants may please send C.V. to:

**The Personnel Manager,
c/o Yemen Hunt Oil Company,
P.O. Box 481,
Sana'a, Republic of Yemen**

REMARKABLE INDUSTRIAL GROWTH

From the outset, the Libyan Revolution embarked on a major industrialization plan. There are two levels and approaches to the industrialization process.

A: Large Industries:

There are large industrial complexes and estates which have been financed directly by the government. There were in heavy industrial complexes such as the following:

- The Chemical Industrial Complex at Abu Kammas.
- The Medical Industrial Complex producing drugs and medical equipment.
- The container Factory which produces vehicle hull, containers and other metal reservoirs.
- The Electrical Appliances Factory producing television sets, TV Aerials, washing and drying machines, cooking stoves, refrigerators, etc.
- The Pipe Factory which produces various kinds of water, drainage and other pipes.
- Steel and Iron Complex,
- Bicycle / Motorcycle Plant
- Wires and Cables Plant,
- Four Textile Plants,
- Leather Goods Plants.

In addition to the above, there are large industrial estates and complexes that plants. Finally there are the petrochemical, the electric generation, and other massive plants. Electric generation capacity in Libya has grown by leaps and bounds. The per capita electric generation rose from 337 kw per hour in 1970 to over 2500 kw per hour in 1990. Total electric generation rose from 675 megawatts per hour in 1970 to almost 6000 mw per hour in 1990 as the graph below indicates.

Industrial Investment: 1970-90

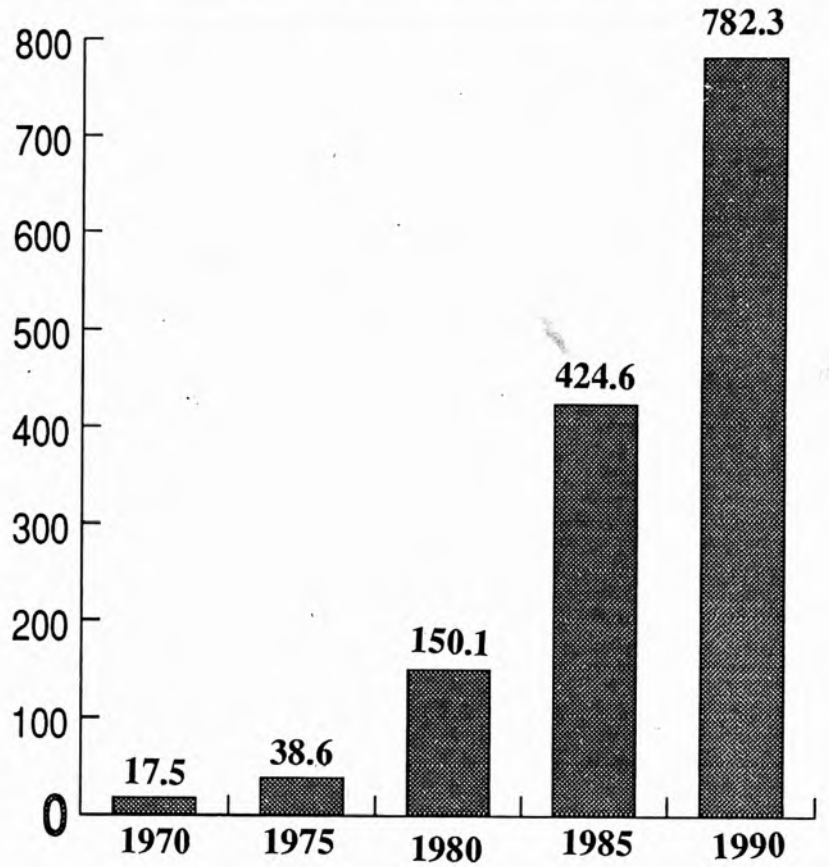
Year	Investment in Millions of Libyan Dinars	US Dollars
1970	15.0	42.0
1971	29.0	81.2
1972	65.1	182.0
1973	62.5	175.0
1974	107.0	299.6
1975	100.0	280.0
1976	165.5	463.4
1977	160.7	450.0
1978	157.1	518.4
1979	210.2	693.7
1980	583.2	1924.6
1981	530.9	1751.9
1982	409.7	1352.0
1983	421.0	1389.3
1984	377.1	1244.4
1985	284.7	939.5
1986	207.8	685.7
1987	154.8	510.8
1988	128.7	424.7
1989	233.1	769.2
1990	362.6	1196.6

B: Small Industries:

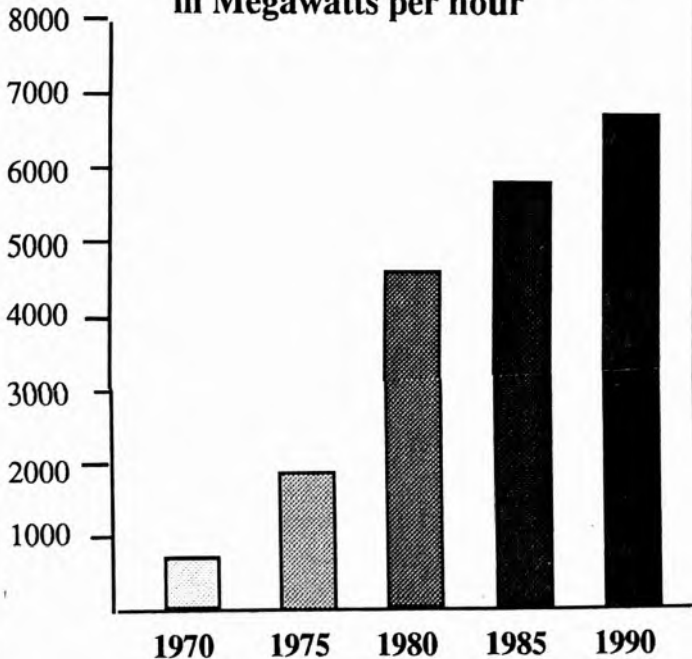
Individual and family groups have embarked on many investments in the field of industry. These are consumer-goods oriented industries which are scattered all over the country, especially in the cities. There are also hundred of cottage industry units producing handicrafts and other small items.

As a result of all these efforts, the contribution of the industrial sector to GDP has grown rapidly- from 1.7% in 1970 to 8% in 1990. This sector also became an important source of employment to the national manpower.

Industrial Value Added in m. Dinars



Total Electric Generation in Libya in Megawatts per hour



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LE TEMPS DU YEMEN

Une querelle sur la propriété de terres agricoles Avant que ses pirates de l'air soient arrêtés à Rome

Plusieurs morts dans des affrontements entre l'armée et des tribus près de Maareb

Un affrontement triangulaire très violent entre deux tribus ennemies et les forces de l'ordre qui ont tenté de s'interposer, a causé de lourdes pertes dans les rangs des policiers et des soldats mardi 25 août dernier, dans le gouvernorat de Maareb, à 300 kilomètres à l'est de Sanaa. Le drame a été révélé deux jours plus tard et le conflit entre les deux tribus a été réglé ces derniers jours.

Le bilan du ministère de l'Intérieur fait état de 13 morts, dont dix policiers et soldats, et de 11 policiers blessés. Mais un chef de tribu contacté par l'Agence France-Presse (AFP) affirme, lui, que 18 personnes ont trouvé la mort, dont 13 policiers et que 16 autres ont été blessés. Dans tous les cas, il s'agirait du plus violent affrontement entre tribus depuis longtemps dans une région pétrolière où les escarmouches entre tribus rivales sont fréquentes.

Mardi 25 août donc, deux tribus, celle d'Al-Sayyad et celle d'Al-Fouqara se sont violemment querelées dans la circonscription d'Al-Jouba, à la suite d'un désaccord sur la propriété de terres agricoles. Les forces de l'ordre, emmenées par le responsable de l'administration locale d'Al-Jouba, le major Abderrhman Hazza, se sont interposées et ont tenté de né-

gocier un cessez-le-feu. La suite des événements reste confuse: l'une des tribus aurait refusé l'intermédiation et ouvert le feu sur les forces de l'ordre, tuant le major Hazza et faisant de nombreux prisonniers parmi les soldats. Selon des témoignages sur place, le corps du chef de l'administration locale a été mutilé par la suite. En représailles, l'armée a déployé une cinquantaine de blindés et a détruit une partie du village de la tribu en cause.

Il a fallu l'intermédiation de deux chefs de tribus non impliqués dans la querelle pour obtenir un cessez-le-feu sans que l'on puisse déterminer avec précision le moment où les combats ont pris fin. Ils auraient ainsi obtenu la libération de 49 policiers et soldats retenus en otages. Cependant, un chef de tribu important dans la région, joint par l'AFP, a affirmé que la situation pourrait déboucher sur des affrontements plus sanglants encore entre des tribus et l'armée qui continue de dépêcher des troupes dans la région. Le conflit sur la propriété des terres de cette région remonte à de nombreuses années et a resurgi avec la valorisation des terres par le barrage de Maareb.

Un avion de ligne éthiopien détourné est resté treize heures sur l'aéroport d'Aden

Samedi 28 août, un avion de ligne éthiopien détourné par des opposants au régime d'Addis-Abeba est resté stationné sur le tarmac de l'aéroport d'Aden pendant treize heures. Ce boeing 727 de la compagnie nationale Ethio-pienne assurait la liaison Addis-Abeba-Sanaa. Une odyssée de deux jours a mené cet appareil de la capitale éthiopienne à Djibouti, à Aden, au Caire puis à Rome où les pirates de l'air ont fini par se rendre.

Tout a commencé vendredi matin à Djibouti: lors d'une escale normale de ce boeing 727 de la compagnie nationale éthiopienne sur la ligne Addis-Abeba-Sanaa, quatre pirates de l'air ont pris le contrôle de l'appareil en menaçant l'équipage avec des grenades semble-t-il. Après avoir débarqué les 71 passagers et n'avoit gardé que les neuf membres d'équipages en otage, ainsi qu'un mystérieux passager éthiopien qui se joindra plus tard au commando, les pirates de l'air, tous étudiants éthiopiens selon leurs propres déclarations, ont ordonné au commandant de bord de se rendre à Sanaa.

Les autorités aéroportuaires de la capitale yéménite leur ayant refusé l'atterrissage, l'avion a fini par se rendre à Aden où il est re-

sté pendant treize heures sur le tarmac de l'aéroport.

Pendant ce temps, les pirates de l'air ont exigé de négocier soit avec l'ambassadeur des Etats-Unis, soit avec une autorité de l'ambassade de Grande-Bretagne, soit avec le représentant du Programme des Nations-Unies pour le Développement à Sanaa.

Ni l'une ni l'autre de ces personnalités ne s'étant présentée à Aden, ils ont exigé le plein de carburant avant de décoller vers 16h00 locales en direction du Caire puis de Rome où ils ont atterri le di-manche matin vers 2h35 locales.

Après de longues tractations avec la police italienne, les cinq pirates de l'air se sont rendus vers 6h00 du matin après avoir reçu l'assurance qu'ils ne seraient pas extradés et après avoir formulé une demande d'asile politique. Le préfet de Rome a affirmé: "Si ce qu'ils ont dit est vrai, je crois qu'ils obtiendront l'asile politique". En effet, après avoir précisé qu'ils n'appartenaient à aucun mouvement politique mais qu'ils étaient des opposants au régime, les cinq pirates de l'air ont prétendu qu'ils seraient exécutés si on les renvoyait en Ethiopie où ils ont été témoins d'assassinats politiques.

Au programme du Ciné-club du Centre Culturel Français de Sanaa

Samedi 5 septembre, 19h30:

Le battant

d'Alain Delon, 1983. Avec Alain Delon et François Perrier. Darnay sort de prison après huit années. Il est pris en filature par les policiers...

Samedi 2 septembre, 19h30:

Le voyage en ballon

d'Albert Lamorisse, 1960. Avec Pascal Lamorisse et Maurice Baquet.

Aventures aériennes à bord d'un ballon dirigeable...

Samedi 9 septembre, 19h30:

La vie de famille

de Jacques Doillon, 1985. Avec Samy Frey, Juliet Berto et Juliette Binoche.

Emmanuel va passer le week-end chez sa première femme Lili, avec sa fille âgée de 11 ans...

Samedi 26 septembre, 19h30:

Bob le flambeur

de Jean-Pierre Melville, 1955. Avec Roger Duchesne et Daniel Cauchy.

Un ancien gangster se lance dans de nouvelles activités...

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GOLFE

Alors que le Yémen réaffirme son opposition à la "zone d'exclusion aérienne" mise en place par les Etats-Unis, la Grande-Bretagne et la France pour protéger les populations chiites

La situation reste calme dans le sud de l'Irak

Washington, Londres et Paris ont mis en place, il y a cinq jours, une "zone d'exclusion aérienne" au sud du 32ème parallèle en Irak, afin de protéger les populations chiites de la région, bombardées par l'aviation irakienne depuis la fin de la Guerre du Golfe. Tout avion ou hélicoptère qui survolera la région sera abattu par les appareils de ceux que l'on appelle de nouveau les "Alliés". Il semble de plus en plus manifeste que cette tentative de "partition" de l'Irak dénoncée par la plupart des pays arabes (sans que leurs paroles soit suivies de mesures concrètes cependant) s'apparente clairement à une tentative de fragiliser la position de Saddam Hussein et favoriser un changement de régime.

Ces derniers jours, la situation est calme dans le sud du pays: aucun appareil irakien n'a franchi le 32ème parallèle mais Saddam Hussein, tout en appelant à la mobilisation des pays arabes, promet que son peuple ne se laissera pas faire et brandit une nouvelle fois, l'étendard de la "guerre sainte".

Le Yémen, qui avait déjà manifesté son soutien aux "frères irakiens" la semaine dernière à l'occasion de la visite à Sanaa du vice-premier ministre irakien M. Tarek Aziz (voir notre précédente édition), confirme sa position, sans plus.

Jeudi 27 août, le Yémen a rappelé, par l'intermédiaire de l'agence de presse officielle SABA, son rejet de la décision américano-franco-britannique d'instaurer une "zone d'exclusion" dans le sud de l'Irak, et a demandé "aux pays membres de la Ligue arabe, de l'Organisation de la Conférence Islamique, ainsi que la communauté internationale d'assumer ses responsabilités pour empêcher toute atteinte à la souveraineté de l'Irak". Un porte-parole du gouvernement a ajouté dans un communiqué à la même agence: "Le Yémen suit avec une profonde inquiétude les tentatives de création de cette prétendue zone de sécurité et réaffirme son soutien au peuple irakien frère pour la sauvegarde de son unité, de sa sécurité et de son indépendance". Depuis l'instauration de cette zone de sécurité le même jour, le Yémen n'a pas précisé la nature de son soutien.

Dans le sud de l'Irak, la situation est calme, aucun appareil irakien n'a franchi le 32ème parallèle depuis la mise en place de l'opération baptisée "surveillance du sud". Toutefois, les radars des forces alliées enregistrent régulièrement des survols au nord de cette limite par l'aviation irakienne. Dans le sud, environ huit divi-

sions terrestres irakiennes seraient disséminées sur le territoire soit un total de 60.000 hommes. Les responsables militaires alliés affirment que rien n'est acquis car Saddam Hussein continue d'appeler sa population et "tous les frères arabes" à la guerre sainte, le Jihad. Jeudi dernier, des gardes internationaux de l'ONU, chargés de la protection du personnel humanitaire, ont désamorcé une bombe placée sous leur voiture, dans le nord du pays, dans le Kurdistan irakien.

Il semble que la volonté américaine -avouée à demi-mots la semaine dernière par le Département d'Etat- de favoriser la chute de Saddam Hussein en protégeant les populations qui s'opposent à lui (Kurdes au nord, Chiites au sud), progresse.

Saddam Hussein a déjà perdu tout pouvoir sur une large partie du nord du pays, au nord du 36ème parallèle, depuis avril 1991, après la création d'une zone de protection alliée pour les Kurdes, qui, depuis, ont pris le contrôle de fait de quatre provinces. Avec cette zone d'exclusion au sud, c'est de plus de la moitié de son territoire au total qu'il est coupé, du tiers de son peuple et de plus de 10% de son pétrole.

(D'après AFP)

Le Koweït prépare ses élections législatives

Jeudi dernier, le Koweït a fixé la date de ses élections législatives au 5 octobre prochain. Ce sont les premières élections depuis 1985. L'Assemblée nationale de 50 membres élue en 1985 au suffrage universel avait été dissoute un an plus tard par l'Emir Cheikh Jaber pour "mauvaise pratique de la démocratie"...

Après la libération du Koweït à

la fin de la Guerre du Golfe, les Etats-Unis et leurs alliés occidentaux ont fait pression pour le rétablissement d'une vraie démocratie.

Lundi, les opérations d'enregistrement des candidats ont été ouvertes. Selon la presse koweïtienne, il y aurait déjà plus de 400 candidats de différents courants politiques pour 50 sièges.

(D'après AFP)

Avec une unification des tarifs douaniers en mars 1993 Nouveau pas des six monarchies du CCG vers un marché commun

Les six monarchies arabes du Conseil de Coopération du Golfe (CCG) devraient se doter d'un tarif extérieur douanier commun en mars 1993, remplissant ainsi une condition posée par la Communauté européenne pour la conclusion d'un accord commercial.

Lors d'un sommet en 1989, les six pays membres du CCG (Arabie Saoudite, Bahreïn, Emirats arabes unis, Koweït, Qatar, Oman) avaient décidé d'unifier leurs tarifs douaniers dans les trois ans, dans la perspective de la création d'un marché commun du Golfe en l'an 2000.

Les ministres de l'Economie et des Finances doivent examiner la question en octobre prochain et soumettre des propositions au sommet du CCG prévu en décembre à Abou Dhabi.

Les tarifs douaniers dans les états du CCG varient actuellement

entre 1% et 20%, l'Arabie Saoudite et le Koweït appliquant les droits de douanes les plus élevés pour protéger leurs industries.

"Nous espérons nous mettre d'accord d'ici au mois de mars sur le nouveau tarif qui sera applicable aux six pays membres", a déclaré dimanche un responsable du département économique du CCG à Ryad.

La CEE avait demandé aux pays du CCG d'unifier leurs tarifs douaniers s'ils voulaient voir finaliser un accord commercial qui verrait la levée progressive des taxes européennes, pouvant aller jusqu'à 15% qui frappent, les importations de produits pétrochimiques et d'aluminium en provenance des états du CCG. La CEE est le principal partenaire économique du CCG avec un volume d'échanges d'environ 34 milliards de dollars en 1991.

(D'après AFP)

ECONOMIE

Une évolution liée à la spéculation et aux défauts structurels internes de l'économie yéménite

Le rial continue de s'effondrer sur le marché libre

En cette fin de mois d'août, le rial a connu, en l'espace de quelques jours, une forte baisse sur le marché libre (au "taux du souk"): d'une moyenne de 30 rials pour un dollar au début du mois d'août, le taux de change du dollar a frôlé soudainement mardi 29 août, les 35 rials, soit une progression de plus de 16% ! La raison essentielle de cette chute de la monnaie yéménite sur le marché libre réside dans la spéculation que rend très aisée l'existence d'un taux officiel et d'un taux dit "libre", ainsi que la mauvaise maîtrise des mécanismes économiques par les autorités.

Sur le marché libre, la frénésie pour se procurer du dollar, au moment où le pays se trouve dans la phase politique la plus incertaine depuis l'unification, et où la fuite des capitaux à l'étranger prend une allure inquiétante, entraîne une dépréciation accélérée du rial alors que depuis des mois, les défauts structurels de l'économie font s'écarter lentement le taux du marché du taux officiel de 12 rials pour un dollar, essentiellement en raison de tensions inflationnistes persistantes.

Selon un expert international au Yémen, cette chute ne peut pas durer parce que la plupart des conditions sont désormais réunies pour maîtriser la dépréciation de la monnaie: il faut simplement, selon lui, que l'on accélère le processus d'unification des taux de change tout en veillant à contrecarrer les effets négatifs d'une telle mesure sur le plan social, cela par le biais de l'aide internationale.

En revanche, pour les cambistes du souk, qui ont intérêt à faire courir ce bruit pour faciliter leurs spéculations, la chute va se poursuivre et le dollar va bientôt dépasser les 40 rials.

En attendant, les autorités ont pris une mesure d'urgence qui permet un répit: les boutiques des cambistes ont été fermées pendant deux jours au souk de Sanaa et certains opérateurs ont été arrêtés temporairement. L'effet n'a été que de courte durée puisque le dollar n'est retombé qu'à 34 rials ces derniers jours.

"La police ne nous a pas fait fermer nos boutiques, nous avons simplement décidé ensemble de cesser nos activités pendant quelques jours car l'évolution du rial n'est pas bonne pour l'économie...", nous déclare un cambiste important du souk de Sanaa. C'est comme si l'on entendait un chercheur d'or dire qu'il jetait sa passoire au moment où il découvre un filon sous prétexte que cela mettrait en danger le marché ! Selon une source proche du gouvernement, les autorités ont bien organisé une "descente" chez les cambistes (autorisés à exercer il y a quelques mois par décret présidentiel, soit dit en passant), tout comme en décembre dernier quand le dollar est retombé soudainement à 25 rials après une intervention musclée dans les échoppes des cambistes du souk. Il y a quelques jours, certains auraient même été arrêtés temporairement afin de laisser le marché se calmer. Pour prendre le contrepied des affirmations de ces bienfaiteurs de l'économie yéménite que sont les changeurs du souk, il suffisait de voir, en fin de semaine dernière encore, l'ambiance tendue et méfiante qui régnait parmi les quelques rares cambistes qui avaient alors réouvert leur fonds de commerce...

Or cette intervention des autorités s'est révélée d'une efficacité toute relative puisque, en début de semaine, toutes les boutiques ouvraient de nouveau leurs portes et les

valises de billets recommençaient à circuler normalement: le dollar s'échangeait encore à 34 rials alors qu'il avait frôlé les 35 la veille de l'opération.

Cette péripétie suffit à démontrer deux choses: tout d'abord que le marché libre est très spéculatif et que, comme l'affirme notre cambiste philanthrope, le dollar est très demandé en ce moment; ensuite, que de simples interventions conjoncturelles ne suffisent plus à enrayer un processus de dépréciation de la monnaie rendu inéluctable par les faiblesses structurelles de l'économie yéménite (le tableau en a été dressé dans le *Temps du Yémen* du 15 juillet 1992). Chacun de ces facteurs concourt à la difficulté de maîtriser l'inflation (environ 30% par an) et donc la dépréciation de la monnaie. Résumons-les ici.

Au départ, le Yémen souffre d'une pénurie de production physique alors que la demande de consommation interne augmente: la loi de l'offre et de la demande joue donc à la hausse des prix. Cette forte demande s'explique par la concentration croissante des gens dans les centres urbains et par le retour des Yéménites d'Arabie Saoudite ou du Koweït, avec leurs habitudes de consommation plus exigeantes (on le remarque au nombre croissant des véhicules neufs dans la capitale et à la présence de produits de consommation provenant de l'étranger, en plus grand nombre dans les magasins). Autre effet négatif, ce que l'on appelle l'inflation importée: ces produits sont vendus beaucoup plus cher que les produits locaux.

Ensuite, on trouve la difficulté de maîtriser les déficits budgétaires et commercial. Le déficit budgétaire de l'Etat atteint cette année l'équivalent de 19% du PIB (produit intérieur brut, soit toute la richesse produite par le Yémen). Qui dit déficit, dit dépense publique, augmentation de la demande globale et donc inflation lorsque le pays ne produit pas assez pour la satisfaire ou importe des produits plus chers. La boucle est bouclée. Le gouvernement a fait un effort cette année pour réduire sa dépense mais, parallèlement, le système fiscal dépassé du Yémen ne permet pas d'accroître les recettes. La taxation pénalise surtout le consommateur final par l'intermédiaire de l'impôt sur le revenu et il est largement sous-développé par rapport au système d'évasion fiscale des entreprises yéménites qui disposent de techniques plus avancées pour échapper à l'impôt que celle de l'Etat pour le recouvrer...

Troisième faiblesse, l'importance du "secteur informel", ou, plus vulgairement, le marché noir. Il est évalué à au moins 35% du PIB mais ce chiffre est encore loin de la réalité selon la plupart des experts. Tout ceci échappe à toute comptabilité et, comme la plupart des produits concernés proviennent de la contrebande (donc vendus plus cher), cela favorise largement l'inflation. De plus, les secteurs qui émergent et qui recueillent le peu d'investissement possible (le reste des capitaux étant expatrié ou investi dans la construction foncière) sont les secteurs non-productifs, services et commerce: on fait beaucoup de profit en gonflant des prix déjà élevés, sans

rien produire. Les efforts du gouvernement pour favoriser l'investissement productif apparaissent alors bien vains. D'autant plus que la période d'incertitude qui caractérise cette fin de phase transitoire depuis l'unification et l'approche des élections pousse davantage les gens à expatrier leurs capitaux (ce qui explique l'accès de fièvre actuel sur le marché libre et l'engouement pour le dollar), ou à investir dans la pierre (les maisons nouvelles poussent comme des champignons autour du vieux Sanaa et dans les autres grandes villes).

Or, pour répondre à une demande interne sans cesse croissante, il faut renforcer un secteur productif très faible dans ce pays. Malheureusement, l'investissement dans le secteur commercial reste plus attrayant, sans parler de la culture du qat...

Enfin, nous l'avons vu, l'une des causes principales qui accélère la dépréciation de la monnaie réside dans l'existence du double taux de change qui incite à la spéculation. Or, ce marché libre est un secteur incontrôlable pour le gouvernement: il peut le réguler à coup de "descentes" au souk et l'"absence" de cambistes pendant un jour ou deux peut faire retomber la tension... Cela n'est jamais durable. Au lendemain de l'"intervention" de la semaine dernière, on dit que le dollar s'échangeait à 26 rials dans les quelques échoppes ouvertes mais cela n'a pas duré. De nombreux dollars circulent sur ce marché, en dehors de tout contrôle de l'Etat qui, lui, est pauvre en devise et ne peut influencer sur le taux de change. Ceci explique pourquoi tous les moyens sont devenus bons pour récupérer des devises: depuis peu, les compagnies et ambassades étrangères doivent payer leurs factures de téléphone international en dollar et un touriste qui descend dans un hôtel yéménite devra acquiescer sa note en billets verts alors que le milliardaire yéménite paiera la même chambre trois ou quatre fois moins cher...

Le remède le plus souvent cité pour combattre la chute du rial serait l'unification de ces taux à un niveau proche de celui du marché. Mais outre qu'il n'empêcherait pas la monnaie de continuer à se déprécier si l'on ne remédie pas aux causes structurelles internes de l'inflation déjà citées, une telle unification - planifiée pour 1994 lors de la conférence de Genève sur le Yémen (lire *Le Temps du Yémen* du 15 juillet 1992) - aurait de graves répercussions sur le plan social: même si 85% des échanges se font aujourd'hui au taux libre, quatre produits de base (blé, farine, riz et médicaments) bénéficient du taux officiel et cela permet de maintenir des prix assez bas à la consommation, l'Etat prenant à sa charge le surcoût. Une unification des taux aboutirait à une hausse dramatique des prix de ces produits. Or, étant donné le fort chômage qui caractérise le marché du travail (37% officiellement) et la baisse du pouvoir d'achat des actifs enregistrée en 1991, une telle mesure sans aucun accompagnement (et donc une aide internationale) pourrait conduire à des émeutes comme en ont connues d'autres pays arabes lors d'augmentation des prix de produits de base.

Le seul moyen est donc de maîtriser davantage les mécanismes économiques cités auparavant. Un expert international est relativement optimiste quant au succès des

autorités en la matière: selon lui, le déficit budgétaire est devenu maîtrisable et les efforts pour réduire les dépenses sont concrets; d'autre part, même si le mouvement est lent, les revenus pétroliers augmentent lentement et constituent un apport important dans les caisses de l'Etat; enfin, le gouvernement essaie de favoriser d'autres exportations, notamment agricoles et de développer le secteur minier, très prometteur et source prochaine de nouveaux revenus par concessions à des compagnies étrangères (lire notre article dans le *Temps du Yémen* du 3 juin 1992). Parallèlement, le même

expert affirme que l'aide internationale pour soutenir ces efforts qui seront coûteux est suspendue à la tenue effective des prochaines élections (condition posée par les pays donateurs à la réunion de Genève) et que, par conséquent, la chute brutale du rial ne devrait pas durer, même si la tendance à long terme reste à la baisse. D'autres, en revanche, notamment dans le milieu des cambistes du souk, parlent d'une dégringolade du rial jusqu'à 50 pour un dollar. Gageons que leurs échoppes seront fermées à plusieurs reprises d'ici là...

Emmanuel GIROUD

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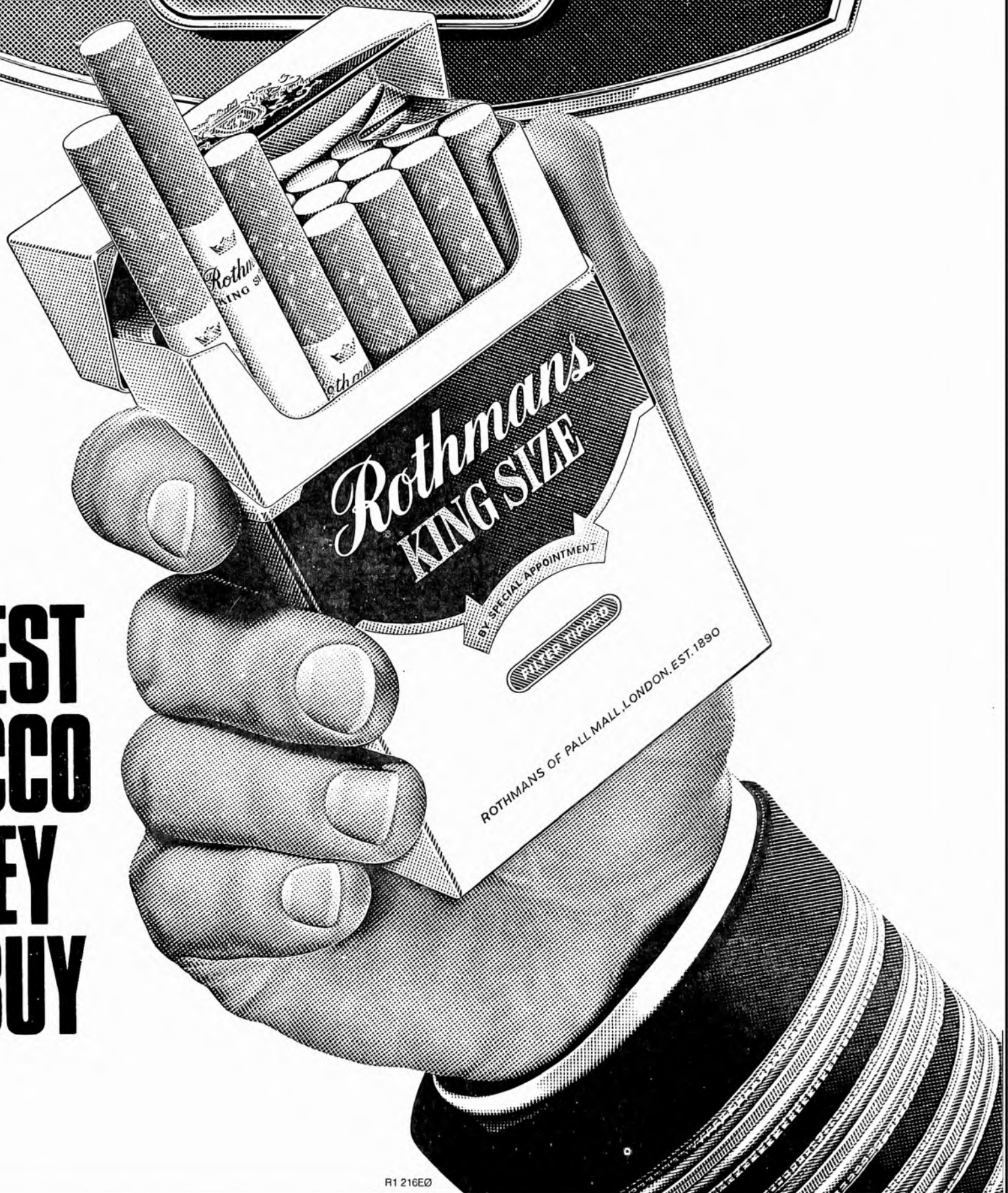
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**Continued from page 2:
PERSONAL VIEW "RE-THINKING ..."**

Those arguments for public subsidization of higher education were part of the world ideology and culture that influenced educators and policy makers throughout the last few decades. However, such arguments have been undermined by the findings of recent cross-national empirical research on the relationship between higher education expansion and economic growth, as well as in the relations between access to higher education and income inequality.

There are many reasons why we should re-think our higher education policies. To start with, the high per unit costs, and the subsequent benefits or returns contrasts markedly with the low per unit costs and high returns in primary education, for example.

The compelling reason of the need to promote equity and equality of opportunities is also refutable. If higher education was provided under market conditions, then only those who could afford to pay tuition could gain access. So goes the argument. This would lead to underinvestment from the social point of view and income inequalities would be maintained. This is simply not true.

It is well documented that the distribution of post-secondary education favors high income groups in all countries, and Yemen is no exception. In other words, the subsidization is done to high income groups rather than low income groups.

The final argument concerns low marginal costs. This is not a point of consensus. There are instances of high-cost public institutions (e.g., USA UK, Tanzania, Sudan, and instances of low-cost private institutions (e.g., Japan, the Philippines).

In short, for a country in which 75% of the population is illiterate, where universalization of primary education eludes, educational quality poor and deteriorating and budgetary deficits a major headache, the country should re-think its university policies in great depth.

English Lesson # 9

POSSESSIVE OR CONTRACTION?

LESSON: There are three possessive pronouns and contractions which sound the same, but are spelled differently. Many people make a mistake and use the wrong ones when writing them. It is important to know the difference between these:

Possessive pronouns	contractions (pronoun + verb)
your	you're (you + are)
its	it's (it + is)
their	they're (they + are)

Make sure when you write these you know which meaning you want (one or two words) and spell them correctly.

- Examples:** A. Is this *your* pen? (possessive)
You're such a good student. (contraction = pronoun + verb - 'you are')
 B. I think *it's* going to rain. (It is)
 The cat is chasing *its* tail. (possessive - no apostrophe)
 C. The boys are doing *their* homework. (possessive - one word)
They're going to bed now. (contraction for two words - 'they are')



WATCH OUT! The word 'there' also sounds the same as 'they're' and 'their', so it becomes part of the spelling problem, too. 'There' is a place, as in - "Put the box over *there*, not here." Or 'there' can be used like this - "*There* are 40 students in the class."

Practice: Write the letter of the word which fits in the blank.

A. its B. it's

- The dog broke ___ leg.
- ___ cold out today.
- I hope ___ not going to rain.
- That car lost ___ wheel.
- ___ not my turn, ___ yours.



A. you're B. your

- Is this ___ English book?
- ___ learning English at the University?
- I hope ___ enjoying the class.
- Who is ___ teacher?
- Good luck on ___ test.



A. their B. they're C. there

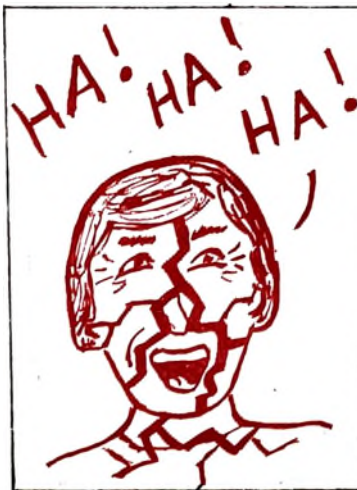
- ___ are my sisters.
- They are over ___ in that store.
- I wonder what ___ buying.
- It might be new clothes for ___ party.
- ___ are many girls invited.
- I think ___ excited about it.



POSTTEST: Now it gets more difficult. Choose from all the words to decide which fits best in each blank.

A. its B. it's C. there D. their E. they're F. your G. you're

Ali and Amat are brother and sister. ___1___ watching TV in ___2___ house. ___3___ raining hard outside, so the TV isn't working well. ___4___ picture is not clear. Suddenly ___5___ is a loud crack of thunder. "I think ___6___ scared." Ali laughs at his sister, "___7___ shaking." "I'm not frightened", says Amat, "___8___ just that I'm cold. So keep ___9___ comments to yourself." They hear ___10___ mother telling them that ___11___ to go to bed now. This is good because ___12___ late and ___13___ sleepy.



WEEKLY IDIOM: "You crack me up" means the same as "You make me laugh." That's what you say to someone when you think they are really funny.

- Answers:**
 Practice: 1. A, 2. B, 3. B, 4. A, 5. B/B, 6. B, 7. A, 8. A, 9. B, 10. B, 11. C, 12. C, 13. B
 Posttest: 1. E, 2. D, 3. B, 4. A, 5. C, 6. G, 7. G, 8. B, 9. F, 10. D, 11. E, 12. B, 13. E

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QATAR PLAYS A CONSTRUCTIVE ROLE!

On the occasion of the National Day of Qatar, 3rd of September, H.E. Mr. Ahmed Abdul-Rahman As-Sunaidi, Qatari Charge d'Affair in Yemen, spoke of his country's regional and international policies.



"Qatar has always sought to make a positive contribution to international relations," he said.

Speaking about the Gulf region, the Qatari official indicated that his country, in collaboration with the other Gulf states, is working hard to create stability, peace and prosperity. "You will have realized Qatar's strong participation within the GCC," he noted.

"Unless we as Arabs can put our act together and play, in international politics, a constructive role, we will continue to be marginalized," he insisted. That is why the GCC block is an important mechanism to make our presence felt in the regional and international fields.

The Qatari diplomat stressed the need for economic integration and cooperation among Arab countries as a

good approach to more cooperation and better understanding.

Speaking about Yemeni-Qatari relations, he said that relations among the two peoples are historic and go back to centuries.

"For example, the Yemeni community in Qatar is well integrated, and it has found employment in many sectors including the army and police forces, which shows their standing in society and the level of trust the system has in them." Regarding the current official relations, the diplomat stated that although they are indeed at their lowest in some time, but there are indications of marked improvement.

PAG to Start in Damascus this Friday

The Pan Arab Games (PAG) begin in Damascus on September 4th. Athletes from 16 Arab countries will participate in the games, and President Hafez Assad will kick-off the games at Al Abbaseen Stadium.

Most of the olympic games will be included in the PAG. Track and field competitions will be held in Damascus. But the soccer, volleyball, basketball, and handball games will take place in Aleppo, Lattaqiya and Hamah.

Egypt will send a 318 member delegation; Lebanon will participate in basketball, volleyball weightlifting and wrestling. Saudi Arabia's national soccer team, under the Brazilian coach, Lasinio, is gearing up to leave. Kuwait, will send its national soccer team and its swimmers. The Maghreb countries are expected to dominte the track and field events. Superstar athlete, Nurldein Morselly, and Olympic champions, Khalid Sakah, Hassiba Bulmarqa, and Said Anita, will thrill the fans.

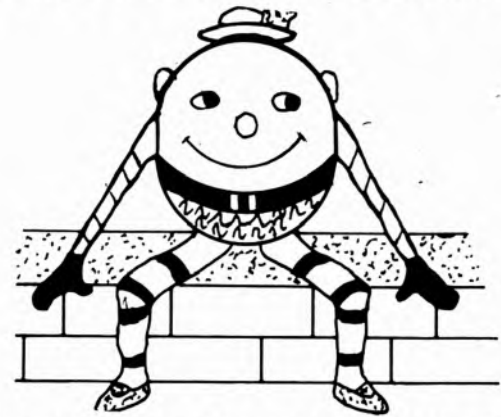
YEMEN'S TRIO SISTERS EXCEL IN THE CAIRO TABLE TENNIS GAMES

The sisters Luai, Lina and Liza Sabri represented Yemen in the Arab championship in table tennis, just completed in Cairo. They won the silver medal in the women's doubles. The gold medal went to Egypt's powerful team.



In the semi-finals, the trio routed Tunisia 3/1. They deserve the acknowledgement and admiration they received from sports critics.

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الحديدة ت : ٣/٢٣٢٤٦٠ تلكس : ٥٦٦١ ابو جبة يمن فاكسميل : ٢١١٥٥١ ص ب : ٤٠١٥
الخرطوم ت : ٧٤٥٦٩ - ٧٤٦١٠ - ٧٤٥٦٢ تلكس : ٢٢٣٦٩ سيحان فاكسميل : ٧٤٥٦١ ص ب : ١٩٣٦
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BRITISH ROYAL FAMILY FACES CRITICAL PRESS

The British press has embarked on what looks like a concerted effort to scrutinize the lifestyle of the royal family. The 40th anniversary of Queen Elizabeth's accession to the throne has turned out to be a year of royal scandal and upsets - even bringing criticism of her role as a mother.

The poolside frolics of the Duchess of York with a rich Texan have crowned a series of public relations disasters casting a pall over celebrations marking four decades since the queen took the throne in 1952. The sovereign sought to rise above the rows, going ahead with public duties even as gossips chatter about her children's troubled marriages and their luxurious life-styles. The familiar royal smile barely slipped.

But the questioning mood has also been directed at the queen herself as a dynastic leader and constitutional monarch in a country which strives for a "classless society", but remains obsessed with its lords and ladies.

Several newspapers have expressed sympathy for the queen stating that her regal aura must not be diminished by family troubles. But the less reverent ones have wondered openly whether the mother might be partly to blame for the children's failings. One theory debated in the press is that the queen's dual duty of her royal career and her family could have affected her children's ability to form lasting marriages.

The royal-obsessed British press has devoted pages of analysis to the separation of the duchess, the former Sarah Ferguson, still referred to in the press as Fergie, from her husband Prince Andrew. Pages have also been written about the rift between Prince Charles and Princess Diana.

Fergie provided further embarrassment last week when she was photographed topless, kissing and caressing Texan businessman John Bryan, in front of her children.

The queen's daughter, Princess Anne, was divorced in April, following a troubled marriage which was the subject of many articles in the press. Prince Edward, the youngest of the royal blood, is 28 and single.

Open debate about the monarch's role and personal life, which might once have been considered treason (or at least taboo), is fair play to today's journalists, and the readers love it.

WHOSE FINGER WAS ON THE NUCLEAR BUTTON DURING THE MOSCOW AUGUST MILITARY COUP?

It was one slow Sunday afternoon. The duty officer in charge of the Soviet nuclear codes in Foros, Vladimir Kirilov, was watching television. Suddenly the television set flickered and died. An emergency light began flashing on his console. Kirilov stared blankly at the hotline to President Mikhail Gorbachev, commander-in-chief of the Soviet armed forces, who was fifty "light years" away in the main house of the presidential compound at Foros in the Crimea. It had gone dead. Communications between the compound and the nuclear command center in Moscow had been cut. It was 4:32 a.m. on August 18th, 1991. Kirilov, with two of his colleagues, suddenly found themselves alone with the instruments of Armageddon.

Kirilov picked up the radio telephone that provided a direct link to the government communications center at Mukhalatka, a few miles down the road. When he asked the operator to put him through to Moscow, he was told, "there has been an accident."

A year after the abortive coup attempt by the Soviet military, two investigative journalists have written the first inside account of the biggest mystery of the affair: how the coup plotters deprived the Soviet president of control over the nuclear codes. They also have attempted to answer a question that has perplexed nuclear experts in the West - Did the Kremlin possess a nuclear strike capability during the three days that Gorbachev was detained? Russian prosecutor-general Valentin Stepankov, and his assistant, Yevgeny Lisov, believe that Soviet nuclear commanders were capable of responding to a nuclear attack during the period of Gorbachev's isolation. They also contend that Moscow could have launched its own first strike. This account of what happened to Gorbachev's nuclear suitcase during the coup is based on a new book by Stepankov and Lisov, extracts of which were published in the Moscow newspaper Nezavisimaya Gazeta last week.

A few minutes after the communications went down, there was a knock at the door. Kirilov opened it and the head of the Soviet land forces, General Valentin Varennikov, was standing in the corridor with a half-dozen other officers. "How are your communications?" barked the general. "They are dead!" replied Kirilov.

The general then told Kirilov that the interruption in communication would last 24 hours and that the "president knows all about it."

The plotters then walked over to the president's residence, where they

demanding that he declare a national state of emergency.

Over in the guest house, Kirilov tried to get some answers from KGB General Yuri Plekhanov, who was in charge of Gorbachev's personal security. When he asked Plekhanov what had happened to the communications, the general replied, "It does not concern you. Continue with your work."

In the nuclear command center in Moscow, meanwhile, there was a curious lack of panic. Responsibility for ensuring continuous communications with the president and strategic rocket forces rested with the 9th Directorate of the General Staff of the Soviet armed forces. The head of the directorate, General Viktor Boldirev, later told investigators that he learned of the break in communications around 5 p.m., but he did not take any immediate action.

The next morning, Boldirev testified that a duty officer told him that communications with the president had been severed by a "landslide" in the Foros region.

Orphans of War Become Ruthless Soldiers

"Open your gate," the young voice piped. The child-soldier, who was guarding the gate, hugged his automatic weapon to his side. The boy, perhaps 10 years old, no taller than the car window, gladly took a packet of cigarettes in response to his demand for a payoff to open the metal bar blocking the road at the world's biggest rubber plantation.

The kid is among the thousands of children who watched parents and siblings slaughtered in Liberia's civil war - and joined rebel leader Charles Taylor, who armed them.

"Our children were turned into mass murderers," said Myrtle Gibson, a relief worker. "It is our kids who committed some of the worst atrocities."

These teen-age soldiers have become the most dangerous groups combing the streets of the Liberian cities and countryside. "This situation further complicates the civil war that ballooned into a tribal war," explained a diplomat in Monrovia.

The boy-soldier phenomenon has become a universal problem in many Third World countries suffering from civil wars.

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Hussain Al-Ahjuri: "The Ministry of Civil Service is paralyzed!"

Mr. Hussain Al-Ahjuri, Deputy Minister for Administrative and Organization Affairs in the Ministry of Civil Service and Administrative Reform, described his ministry as almost paralyzed. In an interview with the Yemen Times, Al-Ahjuri blamed the pressures on government to provide employment, the low level of skills and capabilities of the graduates and the social values regarding the ballooning of government bureaucracy, the rising inefficiencies and the corruption, respectively. Among the additional difficulties, Mr. Al-Ahjuri pointed to the new system of slot allocations to each ministry and organization to which specific budgetary appropriations are made. "Once those slots are filled, no additional employment is possible within the same fiscal year," he stated. Speaking about the massive government investments in education, and the low level of return, the Deputy Minister pointed to a new problem. "Given the unemployment situation,



graduates do not wait to find work in their fields of specialization, but they are forced to accept any job openings. For example, we have employed this year many engineers to work as primary school teachers." In response to a question on the policies regarding the importation of foreign human-power, even with a phenomenal unemployment rate among Yemenis, Mr. Al-Ahjuri squarely said that such foreign human-power is brought-in mainly by the private sector. As far as the government is concerned "it employs foreigners under exceptional circumstances." Speaking about the absorp-

tion of the returnees in the government employment, he indicated that the ministry has waived many of its requirements so that it could help in absorbing those returnees. "The main task, however, falls on the private sector, as well as on family projects," he added. What about the reforms? The Deputy Minister disclosed that the Ministry has completed an administrative reform package which was presented to the Prime Minister and the Deputy Prime Minister for Human-power Development. The main features of this package is a detailed job description for each post, a restructuring of the bureaucratic hierarchy, including specification of authority for each post with the purpose of delegation of authority through a decentralization program, and a re-assignment of employees according to their training and qualifications. "Unless we work together, our ministry cannot fulfill its duties," he concluded. By: Ameen Nouisser, Economic Editor.

From the British Embassy:

Recent press articles have suggested that the British Embassy has advised its national to leave Yemen.

These reports are untrue.

The British Embassy regularly issues consular advice to its nationals but at not time in recent months has it suggested that the situation in Yemen such that British Nationals should leave. We continue to believe that the authorities in Yemen are capable of providing security for our nationals.

British consular advice is readily available from the Embassy.

HUMANITARIAN APPEAL

Recently, the people of Kirghizstan, one of the former Soviet Republics, suffered a terrible disaster. A few days ago, the area was hit by an earthquake measuring 6-9 degrees.

More than seven thousand houses were destroyed, and tens of thousands of people were left homeless, and over fifty persons perished. In two regions, the power supply was cut off, roads were damaged, and lines of communications were disrupted. Material damage is estimated at several billion roubles. The Government of Kirghizstan has appealed to the governments of other member-states of the Commonwealth of Independent States, to the world community, to international organizations to render all possible assistance in foodstuffs, medical supplies, tents, clothings, etc.

Yemeni and international organizations, companies, and individuals who are able to render any assistance to the victims in Kirghizstan are kindly requested to contact:

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