

YEMEN'S ONLY ENGLISH - LANGUAGE NEWSPAPER

SANA'A; 30/9 - 6 OCTOBER 1992; VOL II, NUMBER 40

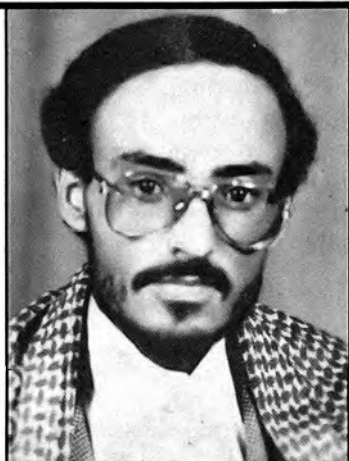
On the 30th Anniversary of the September Revolution, Yemen Times salutes the Yemeni people.



بالذكرى "الثلاثون"
لثورة سبتمبر،
تحية صحيفة
«يمن تايمز»
الشعب اليمني الأبى

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Mohammed Rawah Talks of the Role of the Ittihad Al-Qiwa Asha'biyyah in Yemeni Politics.
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OUR VIEWPOINT

The Meaning of Tolerance

Tolerance is one of the greatest virtues of a civil and civilized society. It means self-control and self-restraint when faced with opposition, and out of recognition of and respect for the other side's right to self-expression and self perpetuation. This is a basic concept is increasingly crucial in a world that is becoming smaller everyday, and societies that are becoming something like a melting pot.

We as Arabs have great need to learn this virtue. The first step would be to coin a word for it, as it does not exist in the exact sense, as far as I know. We Yemenis are raised in a rather authoritarian environment. At home, children are hushed by elders, women are hushed by men. Children are expected to grow in a pre-set image, and all are supposed to think/ behave in a prescribed manner. Differences among people, in shape, color, etc., or in line of reasoning or rationalization are all normal. Therefore, it is dangerous if any party should attempt to change others forcefully. What this means is that tolerance is an essential component of a democratic system.

Tolerance is not a virtue just in politics. It is an important element for social harmony as well as for peaceful cultural and religious interaction and co-existence. Missionary zeal is something of the past, and we should be happy with the variety of our world. Imagine living in a world of clones in which everybody is the replica of others.

The Publisher

AL-ATTAS RESIGNED

"You will hardly find a politician who is as patient, or willing to put up with so much as Al-Attas," explained one of the close observers of Yemeni politics.

But even he threw in the towel this week. Over the last few months, the Al-Attas administration patiently gathered evidence and built up a case against several individuals implicated in the recent violence and terrorist attacks against government officials and the diplomatic community in Sanaa. The problem started when Prime Minister Haider Abubakar Al-Attas ordered the security apparatus to arrest those individuals and transfer the cases to the judicial authorities.

To his surprise, the security personnel would not follow his orders. They had "other orders", according to knowledgeable sources.

Mr. Al-Attas calmly discussed the matter with the president, and when he could not get anywhere, he tendered his resignation. The resignation letter, according to highly-placed sources, put three options in front of the president:

- a- To immediately make the arrests and bring the perpetrators to trial.
- b- To sack the whole security apparatus and to build another one that is neither politicized nor refuses orders within the administrative hierarchy of government,
- c- To accept the resignation.

WELCOME HOME, KING HUSSEIN

His Majesty King Hussein, following his return from medical treatment in the US., has been received with overflowing emotion by the Jordanian people. Tens of thousands of citizens all over the country continuously took to the street in joyful celebrations. Amman and other Jordanian cities are decorated with posters banners and flags welcoming the monarch.



The occasion gave the Jordanian people the opportunity to strengthen their cohesion and solidarity as the King became the focal point for all segments of the population.

At another level, the King's sickness has served as good occasion for Arab leaders to let by-gones be by-gones and to allow the Gulf Crisis wounds to heal.

On this occasion, the Yemen Times sends hearty congratulations to King Hussein on his recovery.

السُّفَارَى
EL SOFFARY

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PERSONAL VIEW

RESPECT FOR
THE LAW

Khalid Nasser Al-Muziji,
Sanaa University.

To be thoughtful of the feeling of others and to respect the laws and regulations are two of the essential pillars for creating the necessary atmosphere for a modern civil society based on full of love, peace and security. However, some government officials are oblivious to this concept. That is why they behave in ways that negatively affect the behavior of our citizens, and lead the country to trouble. I would like to mention a few of the bad symptoms of the bad behavior of government officials:

A. Office work:

- No abiding by the laws,
- No punctuality at work,
- No respect for confidentiality
- Taking (read: demanding) bribes, etc.

B. In general:

- Driving government vehicle on private errands,
- Allowing family members free use of gov. car,
- Pocketing government money,
- Squandering government money,
- "Seizing" government assets
- Bad-mouthing, maltreatment of citizens.

Many people suffer from this irresponsible behavior of our officials. Sometimes I wonder if the top leadership is aware of this or not. That is why I decided to write about it. I think it's high time somebody reminded these these officials of their duties.

Finally, it is essential that the government and citizens work side by side for the sake of the development, peace and prosperity of Yemen. Unless we put our hands together, many things could go wrong.

LOCAL BRIEFS, LOCAL BRIEFS, LOCAL BRIEFS, LOCAL

SUN OIL Drills Second Well

SUN OIL Shabwa Yemen Limited drilled its second well, dubbed Khawan-1, in its Amaqin concession (Block 1) in Shabwa. There was a small and short ceremony on the occasion. "It's a win-win situation for everybody," says Colin Shepherd General Manager of Sun Oil Shabwa Yemen Ltd. "If exploration and production efforts are successful here, Sun and the Republic of Yemen will both be winners." Shepherd's in a position to know. Sun plans to drill the third exploratory well before 1992 is out.

Dr. PAPP in Sanaa

Dr. Lehel Gyorgy Papp, leader of the Hungarian parliamentary delegation participating in the festivities of the anniversary of the revolution, has arrived in Sanaa. Dr. Papp, who cherishes refers to himself as a friend of Yemen, had during 1984-86, opened and directed a plastic surgical department in Al-Thawrah Hospital. A man who values democracy highly, as he himself was elected to the Hungarian parliament in 1990 in his country's first democratic elections in post-Communism Hungary, told the Yemen Times that he is fascinated by Yemen's transformation in the same direction.

Al-Beedh Calls for Gradual Implementation of Reforms

Since June, Mr. Ali Salim Al-Beedh, Vice Chairman of the Presidential Council and Secretary of the Yemeni Socialist Party, has kept away from the media and has stayed at home refusing to carry out his official functions. On the occasion of the 26th of September, Mr. Al-Beedh finally addressed a letter to the people, and also spoke at festivities in Aden on the occasion. The main point in both messages is that there is room for reconciliation. "If we can't agree on five points, and we can agree only on three, let us finalize those three and implement them," he said. We cannot agree on everything at once, step by step, we can expand the scope of our agreement. But let us abide by what we agree, and let us work to carry out our commitments in what we agree upon."

Sanaa University Book Fair Opens

President Ali Abdullah Saleh inaugurated on Thursday, September 24th, the Eleventh Book Fair of Sanaa University. It was learnt that 204 publishing houses are exhibiting 52,761 book titles at the fair. In addition, there are video cassettes and seminars organized as part of the program. The fair is open to the public for 2 weeks.

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Mohammed Rawah Saeed:

"I can't over-emphasize the importance of the coming elections!"

The Muslim World has had its share of turmoil during its socio-political evolution. The schism facing Muslim politicians today tearing them between secular modernity and fundamentalist Islam.

All of a sudden a third option arose. This falls within the politics of Enlightened Islam.

Ittihad Al-Qiwa Sha'abiyah (IQS = Federation of Popular Forces) represents this line of thought. To shed more light on this, Yemen Times interviewed Mr. Mohammed Rawah Saeed.

Mr. Saeed is an old hand in politics, having started in Taiz in 1970. He had to flee the country and live in exile for a few years because of that. In 1980, he joined the IQS. Today he is Member of the General Secretariat and Vice Director of the Political Department.

Excerpts of the interview:

Q: Let us start by asking your assessment of the current political situation in Yemen?

A: First let me say that our multi-party political system is something recent - since May 22nd 1990. Therefore, the evolution has yet to take its full course.

In the early stages of our democratization, and as a counteraction to the long period of authoritarian rule, many political parties have mushroomed. However, it is my belief that this is nothing to worry about, and that with time, only the fittest will survive.

As far as the current political situation is concerned, it is no doubt grave and calls for concern. The organizations of civil society are still weak, and they do not exert sufficient influence. Promoting democracy in Yemen, in a sense, means supporting these civil society organizations such as political parties, unions, NGOs, the media, and voluntary organization. I think the behavior of the two ruling parties is to be blamed for any complications and obstacles in the way of the proper evolution of our democracy. I think the two ruling parties have done a lot, and they could still do a lot more in this regard.



Q: How does the National Conference fit in this?

A: As I have just said, much remains to be done to put us in the course of democracy and to give our democratic efforts momentum. The National Conference is a forum that brings together all the forces active in the political scene of the country. In addition, it strives to create the necessary atmosphere as well as guiding rules for competition and cooperation in a democratic scene.

Finally, it seeks to assist in creating the environment for free and clean elections to take place.

We in the Ittihad Al-Qiwa Asha'abiyah have fully participated in the National Conference, whether at the preparatory stage or during implementation.

Q: Could you elaborate on the role of the IQS in the political scene?

A: In general, our record is well known for supporting the creation of a modern state, for unification of the country, for promoting a multi-party democratic system, and for pushing towards a civil society.

At the specific level, we have put forth many solutions to the problems that face us in our socio-economic and political evolution. The fact that we are middle-of-the-roads, others sort of accept our solutions. You know we carry a lot of credibility because our philosophy is based on an enlightened application of Islam.

exposure to competitive elections. Yet, I encourage every citizen to interact positively with the elections and to exercise their rights to the fullest extent.

I would like to warn the members of the Supreme Elections Committee that they do not actually represent themselves or their parties, but they represent the whole nation. What they do will have a lasting impact on our democratic process.

I also warn the political parties not to attempt side-stepping the will of the people, and to abide by the results once declared. We should all commit to accept the voting results.

In my opinion, the coming elections will make or break the future of democracy in Yemen. If we do things reasonably right, it becomes the launching ground for many more achievements in this regard.

However, if the elections fail, in whatever way, in my opinion, this will lead to a lasting set-back for our political evolution. That is why I urge everybody to mobilize their efforts in ensuring that the process goes well. I can't over-emphasize the importance of the coming elections.

Q: Do you foresee any form of cooperation or coalition for your party?

A: It will depend on the elections results. We will put our hands with anybody who shares our objectives as well as approaches. We are also supportive of the independent candidates running in the elections.

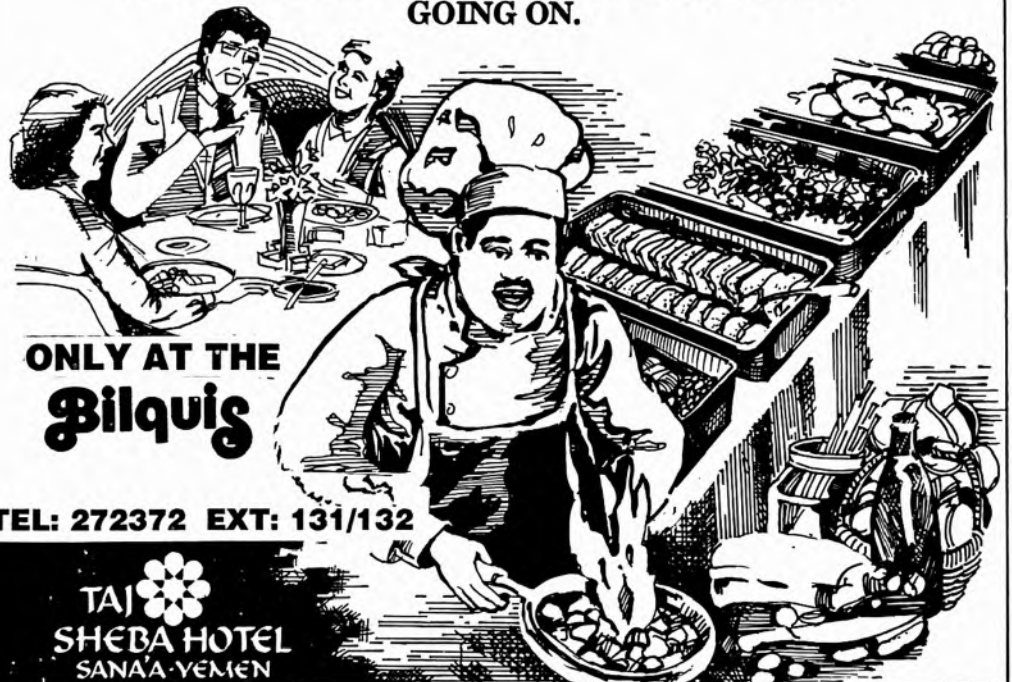
In general, let me say that we see ourselves playing a supporting role. At the same time, we will continue to use our good offices to mediate among political parties and other forces for the welfare of the nation.

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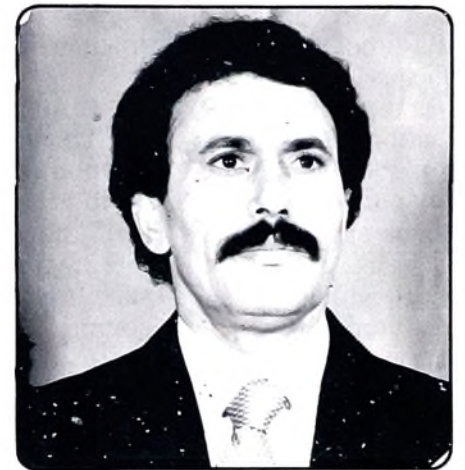
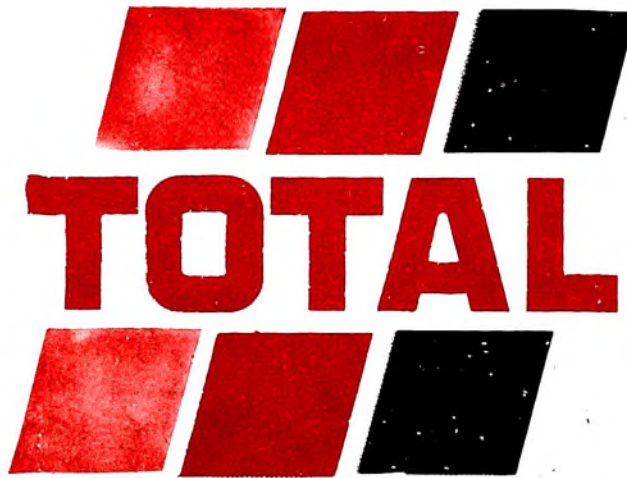


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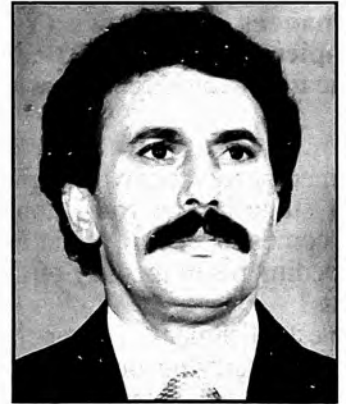


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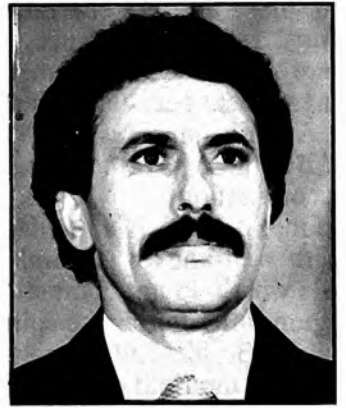
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سن أويل شبوه اليمن المحدودة

تتقدم بأطيب الأمنيات القلبية للشعب اليمني وقيادته وحكومته

بمناسبة العيد الثلاثون لثورة السادس والعشرين من سبتمبر الخالدة

Mujahed Abu Shawarib:

"Postponing the elections is not a catastrophe."

Mujahid Abu Shawarib is one of the Sheikhs of the Hashid tribes. He is also the Deputy Prime Minister for Interior Affairs and a key link in the relationship between the tribes and the state. (YT: He is also a leader of the Baath in Yemen). Al-Jamaheer Newspaper (YT: Mouthpiece of the Baath) carried the following interview with him:

Q: Yemen passes today through a critical stage as the transitional period comes to an end. What are the impediments in the way of the elections?

A: The establishment of democracy, and the carrying out of elections are issues around which there is consensus. The elections will determine the size of the various political parties and social forces in Yemen.

Q: Do you foresee any strife during the next two months?

A: I want to confirm that each society has its own special kind of government. The Yemeni society has its own and the political strife is governed by the social reality rather than by all the programs and slogans.

Thus, let me take the coordination between Al-Baath Party and Al-Islah as an example. The political media regarded this coordination as being not sustainable in light of the divergent political philosophies of the Islah (known for its religious underpinnings), and the Baath (known for its secular underpinnings).

But they missed the point. It's not a point of Hashid men getting together with other Hashid men. We share a lot of common ground and not the tribal connections. In addition, these are just coordination efforts, and not an alliance.

Yes, there are points of agreement and disagreement between me and Sheikh Abdulla bin Hussein Al-Ahmar. But these have no impact on the coordination.

In addition, Al-Baath is a political party with well-known principles and goals which do not contradict our religion, for Islam is the spirit of Arabism. Besides, all the political parties in the field coordinate with parties with whom they have common ground.

The major example is the YSP's attempts to enter into an alliance with the PGC, and which borders on merger. Now, we ourselves are initiating dialogues with many other parties including the YSP and the PGC.

Q: Assume that the two ruling parties agreed to enter the elections on a joint slate, what will be your position?

A: We are against joint slates in

the coming parliamentary elections because it is against democracy and if it happens, we shall refuse that. They must allow the people to vote freely to whosoever they like.

Q: Do you intend to enter into alliances with other parties for the elections?

A: We don't have a clear picture yet, as the Supreme Elections Committee has not yet completed its work. It will distribute all the constituencies soon and finalize arrangements for registration. Then we will consider coordination with this or that party.

Q: Do you believe the assassinations have any relationship with the elections?

A: I can't say that these are political assassinations. They are just acts of violence, and they happen any where in the world. Some of those acts came as a result of personal grievances and differences. I am sure that political assassinations are rare in Yemen.

Q: On what platform are your running - as a social personality (read: tribal leader) or as a Baath leader?

A: Our people know me with the two identities and I am sure of being elected on either.

Q: Do you think the President, Vice President and the clergymen should withdraw from political affiliation? And why?

A: In my opinion the answer is yes. They should remain as arbiters among all the political, social forces.

Q: Do you think that the elections will proceed on time?

A: As I see time is short and not sufficient and it doesn't matter if the elections are postponed since we are convinced on the principles and in case we needed some amendments (with the elections law). There is nothing wrong in postponing the elections. What is important is to proceed with it successfully.

Q: Do you think Yemeni unity faces any danger?

A: I think all the parties are concerned with this point, and they are working on it, so there is no danger. The era of division and partition has ended once for all. The political differences, we detect on the scene, are symptoms of democracy. It doesn't follow that these differences will lead to the division of the country.

Al-Jamaheer, Sanaa,
21/9/1992.

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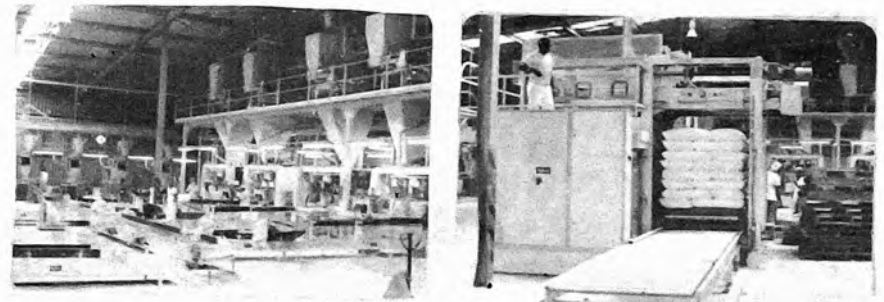
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letters to the editor, letters to the editor, letters to the

URGENT ATTENTION IS NEEDED

In make the bad conditions of health care in our country worse, the doctors at Al-Thawrah Hospital are on strike. Their demands include additional fringe benefits and other requests, ignoring the fact that this hospital, as the largest in the country, receives most of the patients from all over the nation. I wonder which is more important - the needs of patients or these demands. So far, no one paid attention to their requests and there doesn't seem to be an end in sight to this strike. As a matter of reality, neither the government nor the doctors are affected by this strike. The government officials rarely use local medical services, they fly out, at government expenses even for headaches. The doctors found the strike a good chance to spend more time in their private clinics. It is the poor people who are affected by this situation. But who cares about the poor! Today, the hospital receives only emergency cases. Isn't it funny and painful that A badly needed service, which is already scarce, is withheld from the public for whatever reason? Who is responsible for this misery? The demands of the doctors must be looked into taking into account the various circumstances. How is it that no one pays attention to an important thing like this? The government should pay immediate attention to any matter that affects the health, nourishment, security and education needs of the masses. These needs are far more impotent than many other trivial things with which our officials are preoccupied. The government must attend urgently to this matter, and must find and implement the appropriate solution.

By: Saif Ahmad.
Sana'a.

THE STRIKE AT AL-THAWRAH HOSPITAL

I am very disturbed by the prolonged strike in the largest hospital of Sanaa - the Al-Thawrah Hospital. This situation is a clear indicator to me that our doctors have lost track of the essence of their profession. Where is the oath they have taken? Where is the humanitarian aspect of medical care? At the same time, I think the situation indicates that our government is no longer able to attend to even those matters that are so critical to the people. The selfish behavior of our doctors, and the careless attitude of our government are sickening. We had an emergency case, and we rushed to the hospital.

There is a bare skeleton of service oriented towards emergency and critical cases. What can the poor people do under these conditions? I hereby beseech the doctors to kindly go back to work, and I demand the government to look into their grievances and meet the legitimate needs of the medical staff. I also use this opportunity to extend my thanks and extreme appreciation for Dr. Ahmed Lutf Al-Mutarrif, Dr. Jubran and Dr. Abdullah Al-Amri, among others, who were very helpful in relieving the pain of our patient, and who were very understanding of our anxiety over our patient.

By: Budoor Al-Mawriri,
Sanaa.

SEX-SLAVES IN SOMALIA

In post-Siad Barre Somalia, raping and abduction has become a recurrent phenomenon. Many women are exposed to sexual assault on almost a daily basis. It is believed that 20% of the Somali women still remaining in rebel-land are sex slaves, where most are stripped and chained to a fence "for all to use." Others have been threatened to be doused and set on fire. After days of sexual abuse, if the hostage women are found to belong to the opposing tribe or faction, they will be automatically murdered. "The militias of the USC use the bayonet when they perform this operation (murder)," says Salwa Salim Bin Hashem, a Yemeni returnee from Somalia. The other heart-breaking phenomenon is that of missing children (read: daughters) of families now living in Yemen. The parents are unable to bring their daughters from the rebel-held areas. I wonder why these hostages not shown on television and are not front-page stories of local and international newspapers. However, the UN operation, presently underway, while rejected by the infamous General Aided and his terror reign, is a source of hope for Somalis who face starvation. "How can a leader continue his leadership over a starving population while he continues to lead a comfortable life and has plenty to eat and drink?" questions Yousuf Khazem in the 'Al-Hayat' newspaper. Mr. Mr. Khazem concluded from his visit that the gangs, thugs and crooks were the leaders of Somalia. From this brief explanation, I hope the UN operation, well supported by international forces, will effectively curb the thugs in Somalia and will work to release the sex-slaves from the rebel-held areas.

By: Sheikh Nour, and
Mrs. Salwa Salem Bin Hashem.

HAIL TO HUMILIATION

As tribesmen who had no national unity background before independence and who hung tough among themselves, always belligerent and held at high esteem for it, Somali nomadic clans these-days returned to their savage trait - living by killing. The years of Siad Barre added up, and the rough, unscrupulous and merciless character has come out to the open. The new Siad Barres are no better. They are as power hungry and lustful, and as uncaring about the people's sufferings. Their goal is no different either: to move up to the national podium.

The warring factions categorically refuse to withdraw from their positions, and have no respect for the common interest of the nation. Each side vowed to bury alive or lynch his contender. Thus proceeds a shameless war without discrimination in destroying life and property. Both sides undertook summary executions and coldly watched the starving skeletons fade away.

There is no sanity in Somalia today. Alas the crying soul, alas the dying land. The world is watching, with disgust and unbelievable lack of care, Somalia's vicious tragedy snowballing for more than 20 months now.

Finally, the West seems to have decided to stop the bloodshed, even if by force. These developments have major implications. They mean that the Somalis have proven to be unable to settle their differences by themselves, unable to run their country, unable to rescue and feed their people. In other words, the Somalis will have to be "helped" in solving their differences, in running their country, and in feeding their people. In short, there is a feeling that Somalia will fall under some sort of trusteeship. Thus Somalis have to taste the highest humiliation by losing their sovereignty. They have fallen from grace and they are described as irresponsible and unable to manage their own affairs in a civilized way.

For all Somalis, this is a time to swallow the bitter pills of humiliation and accept the facts. It is as if Somalis have fallen under harsh captivity, and this is no joke. More than 20% of the Somali population has fled the country, 5000 are dying every day, and the whole nation has disintegrated.

For the Somalis living as refugees, these are trying moments in our history. I just wish the gang leaders realize what they are doing to their own people. A whole generation has been tainted, or even worse, destroyed.

By: Ahmed Nur Sheikh Ali, Sana'a.

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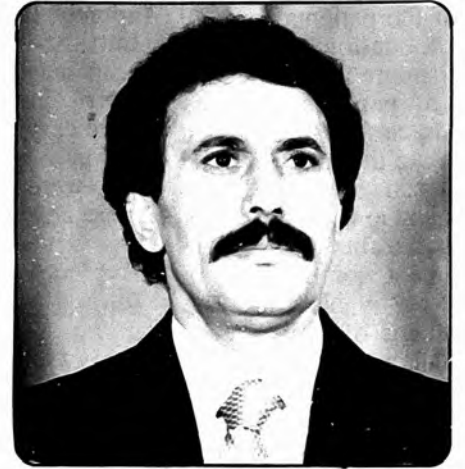
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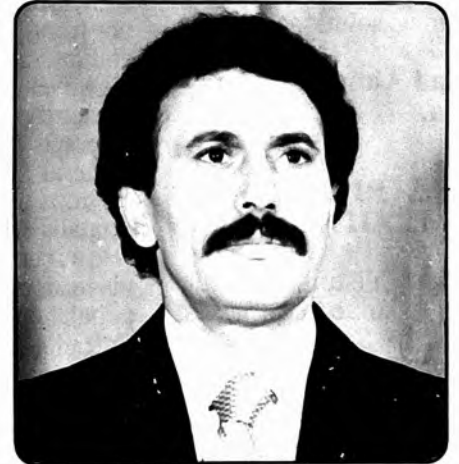


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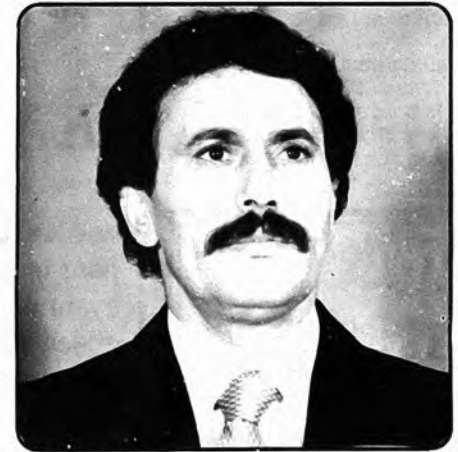


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بمناسبة الذكرى الثلاثون لثورة السادس والعشرين من سبتمبر المجيدة

LE TEMPS DU YEMEN

Défilé militaire à Sanaa et discours du Président Saleh

Le 26 septembre avec Yasser Arafat mais sans Ali Salem al-Bid

La célébration de la révolution du 26 septembre 1962 (lire notre article page 11) à Sanaa a été marquée, lors du traditionnel défilé militaire, par l'absence du Vice-Président M. Ali Salem al-Bid, secrétaire général du PSY en délicatesse avec le pouvoir central de Sanaa et "exilé" volontaire dans le sud du pays, et par la présence du leader de l'Organisation de Libération de la Palestine, M. Yasser Arafat. Samedi 26 septembre à huit heures du matin, le Président de la République, le Général Ali Abdallah Saleh a fait les honneurs à celui que tous les Yéménites respectent et honorent, en gravissant à ses côtés les marches couvertes d'un tapis rouge de la tribune centrale devant laquelle la parade se déroulait. Lors de son discours télévisé la veille, le président avait rapproché la lutte des Palestiniens pour leur territoire contre les Israéliens depuis 1948 à celle du peuple yéménite contre l'Imam en 1962 au nord ou contre les "colonisateurs" britanniques dans le sud, l'année suivante.

La parade était composée d'un mélange de défilé militaire -sans aucune arme lourde, il faut le noter (pas de chars ni de blindés légers), ni avions-, de rassemblements d'enfants et adolescents qui chantaient à la gloire de la Révolution ainsi que de musiciens et de danseurs.

Les festivités doivent s'étendre du 26 septembre jusqu'au 14 octobre afin de lier symboliquement les deux révolutions des ex-Yémen du sud et du nord (la Révolution contre les Britanniques à Aden a eu lieu le 14 octobre 1963).

Le lendemain, dimanche 27 septembre, le Président Saleh a tenu une conférence de presse devant les journalistes étrangers invités pour l'occasion ainsi que le per-

sonnel diplomatique. Beaucoup plus à l'aise que la veille où il était apparu tendu pendant le défilé militaire, le Président a affirmé catégoriquement que les élections seraient tenues et que tout serait fait pour qu'elles le soient dans les délais prévus par les accords de réunification, à savoir avant le 22 novembre prochain, afin d'éviter "un vide constitutionnel".

A la question concernant la longue absence du vice-président al-Bid à Sanaa, le Général Saleh a répondu, sans convaincre son assistance, que ce dernier était en mission officielle à Aden et qu'il rentrerait à Sanaa dans les prochains jours.

E.G.

Le Président Saleh annonce la reprise des négociations sur les frontières avec l'Arabie Saoudite. Lors de sa conférence de presse de dimanche dernier, le Général Saleh a annoncé que deux équipes d'experts des deux pays se rencontraient à partir du 28 septembre à Ryad, la capitale saoudienne, pour préparer les documents de base pour une négociation à plus haut niveau entre le Yémen et l'Arabie Saoudite. L'hebdomadaire *Al-Ayam* avait déjà annoncé la semaine dernière la reprise de ces négociations après l'échec des premiers contacts à Genève en juillet dernier.

ECONOMIE

Malgré des rumeurs d'apports extérieurs en devises à la Banque Centrale

Le cours du ryal reste à un niveau bas sur le marché libre

Une rumeur, volontairement propagée ou non, aboutit souvent à affoler les opérateurs sur les marchés financiers, qui sont très "réactifs". Cela est vrai pour les grands marchés internationalisés que l'on régule -temporairement, puisque la loi de l'offre et de la demande reprend toujours ses droits- aussi bien par des effets d'annonce que par des actions réelles. Cela est vrai également pour le marché libre des devises au Yémen (ou marché parallèle, au "taux du souk"). Mais si la rumeur n'est pas vite confirmée, elle aboutit souvent au résultat inverse que celui souhaité. Ainsi, toute réserve faite sur l'évolution du marché les jours qui suivent la parution de ce numéro, c'est ce que l'on a pu constater sur le marché libre de Sanaa, ces derniers jours.

Une rumeur persistante parmi les cambistes du souk a fait état d'un miraculeux apport extérieur de devises dans les caisses de la Banque Centrale et la ferme intention de cette dernière d'intervenir sur le marché en injectant des dollars afin de soutenir le cours du ryal qui a chuté de plus de 16% en quelques jours, le mois dernier (lire notre article dans *Le Temps du Yémen* du 2 septembre 1992). En début de semaine dernière donc, les cambistes anticipaient une hausse du ryal contre le dollar, et l'on était même "sûr à 99%" qu'il reviendrait à son niveau d'il y a un an, c'est-à-dire un peu moins de 30 ryls pour un dollar. Certes, quelques jours après, le ryal se stabilisait autour de 35

pour un dollar, après avoir affiché des pointes à 37. Mais dès dimanche matin, il repartait à plus de 36 ryls pour un dollar. L'effet de l'annonce d'une intervention de la Banque Centrale a été de courte durée.

Ce bruit faisait même état d'une future intervention de la Banque Centrale de 20 millions de dollars par mois pour maintenir le cours du ryal en renforçant l'offre de devises américaines. Cette rumeur persiste mais personne ne peut, ou ne veut la confirmer ou l'infirmer. Dans tous les cas, selon des experts, cette somme ne suffirait pas à réguler un marché très aléatoire et soumis, de façon très primaire, à la loi de l'offre et de la demande.

Car techniquement, la Banque Centrale n'a pas les moyens d'intervenir sur le marché: elle ne dispose pas de réserves en devises suffisantes. Ces 20 millions de dollars lui suffiraient tout juste pour rembourser les intermédiaires qui aident le gouvernement à subventionner indirectement quatre produits de consommation de base en les important au taux officiel de 16 ryls pour un dollar. Ces "traders" sont des familles yéménites très riches, intermédiaires obligés et puissants qui réalisent des marges intéressantes dans cette opération et qu'il serait inconcevable de ne pas rembourser. A tout le moins, en les remboursant, grâce à cette mystérieuse subvention (ou prêt ?) extérieure, la Banque Centrale éviterait qu'ils

ailent s'approvisionner en devises sur le marché libre, contribuant à un peu de stabilité pour le ryal. Surtout quand on sait que le cours chute dès qu'un seul d'entre eux vient s'approvisionner en dollars, étant donné les montants importants des transactions...

Dans tous les cas, la Banque Centrale manque cruellement de fonds pour agir efficacement. Pas possible de combler les déficits publics par le recours à l'intermédiation financière puisque le pays n'a pas d'épargne globale. Les ménages consomment tout leur revenu à mesure que le coût de la vie s'accroît; les entreprises "exportent" leurs bénéfices à l'étranger et le déficit du budget de l'Etat va croissant. La seule possibilité est le recours à la "planche à billet", méthode dangereuse pour l'inflation, qui risque, à terme, d'être incontrôlable. A l'heure actuelle, les rares ressources de l'Etat proviennent essentiellement du pétrole. Et encore, elles sont maigres: la production arrive péniblement à 200.000 barils-jour et, après ce qui est reversé aux compagnies étrangères et ce qui est consommé au Yémen, il en reste seulement 50.000 pour l'exportation. Cette situation devrait s'améliorer d'ici deux ans grâce à une production d'environ 400.000 bj, mais d'ici là, il faut calmer le jeu avant les élections. La rumeur d'un apport extérieur en devises, qui sera confirmée ou infirmée dans les prochains jours, participe sans doute de cet effort.

E.G.

Publicité

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Aux lecteurs

La rédaction du *Temps du Yémen* tient à s'excuser auprès de tous ses lecteurs pour l'absence des pages françaises dans le dernier numéro du *Yemen Times* et entend remercier tout particulièrement, pour leur soutien, celles et ceux qui se sont étonnés de cet incident.

E.G.

Publicité

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لطف السنيدار

محمد أحمد يحيى

لؤي عبد الملك مجاهد

Un ancien membre du groupe des "Officiers libres", M. Abdulkarim al-Soukary, raconte

La journée du 26 septembre 1962

Le 26 septembre 1962 marque l'avènement de la République dans la partie nord du Yémen. La République Arabe du Yémen devint ce jour et le reste aujourd'hui le premier régime non-monarchique de la péninsule arabique. Ce jour là, la chute de l'imam Mohamed al-Badr, de la dynastie zaidite des Hamid al-Din, marqua en fait le début d'un processus révolutionnaire, d'une guerre civile sanglante qui opposa les Républicains aux Royalistes, du 26 septembre 1962 jusqu'à la réconciliation nationale en mars 1970. Mais cette journée du 26 septembre, que l'on identifie à la Révolution, connu en fait une sorte de "coup d'Etat" organisé par quelques officiers seulement, dans le plus grand secret, et qui permit, par la suite, le processus révolutionnaire auquel le peuple participa avec engouement.

Nous verrons, dans de prochains numéros, le

développement de cette révolution de 1962 à 1970, et notamment l'implication des puissances étrangères voisines, Egypte et Arabie Saoudite. Intéressons nous aujourd'hui à cette journée particulière du 26 septembre où quelques hommes, dont Abdulkarim al-Soukary, qui resta dans l'ombre par la suite, changèrent le cours de l'Histoire du Yémen, sans un coup de feu ou presque. Car avant de lire le récit qu'en fait M. al-Soukary, il convient de fixer le cadre dans lequel est intervenu cette Révolution d'officiers, dans le plus pur style de celle que connut l'Egypte en 1952 ou l'Irak en 1958. Depuis une première tentative de coup d'Etat en 1948, il semblait écrit que le régime de l'imamat devait prendre fin à mesure que le Yémen s'ouvrait sur l'extérieur et que l'opposition devenait de plus en plus forte à l'intérieur.

Abdul Karim al-Soukary était l'un des tous premiers révolutionnaires en 1962 et l'un des premiers officiers à porter le coup fatal à l'imamat, le 26 septembre. Alors jeune lieutenant formé par des cadres russes, italiens et égyptiens, il avait été chargé par les "Officiers libres" de s'emparer des points stratégiques du port de Hodeidah. Il avait derrière lui déjà un lourd passé de révolutionnaire: étudiant en 1948, il était l'un des gardes du corps de Gamal Jamil et était chargé de prendre le contrôle d'un château fort de Sanaa avec le Cheikh Ali Nasser Garday, qui assassina l'imam Yahya le 17 février 1948.

Condamné à deux ans de prison et deux ans de travaux forcés, il a été réintégré dans l'armée, mais sans aucune responsabilité, avant de devenir lieutenant sur une faveur de l'imam Ahmed.

Contrairement à ceux qui se sont ralliés après le 26 septembre à la Révolution et qui sont devenus célèbres, cet homme de 70 ans, d'une modestie remarquable, est resté, lui, dans l'ombre... si l'on excepte le poste de ministre de la Défense pendant le siège de Sanaa en 1969.

Ce Républicain convaincu qui exécute tous les extrémismes, affirme n'appartenir à aucun parti. "Je suis du parti du Yémen", dit-il. Voici son récit de la journée du 26 septembre 1962, agrémenté des faits que l'on peut trouver dans les livres d'histoire.

Le matin du 26 septembre, le lieutenant Abdulkarim al-Soukary attendait le messager du groupe des Officiers Libres de Sanaa (une douzaine de jeunes lieutenants s'étaient donné ce nom pour rappeler l'opération menée en 1952 en Egypte par les officiers Néguib et Nasser) qui s'étaient réunis dans la nuit pour décider du lancement du coup d'Etat visant à renverser l'imam Badr. Cela faisait plusieurs mois que ce plan est en cours d'élaboration et, à l'image d'Abdulkarim à Hodeidah, chaque région clé du Yémen (Sanaa, Taëz, Hodeidah, Ibb, Dhamar, Saada) avait été soigneusement "noyauté" pour éviter le même échec qu'en 1948, où la révolution avait été concentrée dans la seule ville de Sanaa et où il avait été facile aux Royalistes d'étouffer l'insurrection. Abdulkarim affirme que chaque officier avait été choisi selon des critères très sévères, le tout dans le plus grand secret. Chaque région, chaque ville stratégique était prête à organiser son insurrection.

Mais l'imam Ahmed mourut le 19 septembre et son successeur, Mohamed Badr, était perçu par certains comme un libéral. Son premier discours, très violent et conservateur, précipita le mouvement. A ce moment, aucune date n'était encore fixée pour le soulèvement. Mais, selon Abdulkarim, un autre événement est venu précipiter les choses: les Officiers libres de Sanaa ont eu vent d'un projet de l'imam qui a donné l'ordre, après avoir entendu parler d'un complot qui se tramait contre lui, de rassembler quelques 600 officiers "suspects" pour les emprisonner ou les tuer. On avança donc la date de l'opération et l'on décida que le coup d'Etat serait pour le 26 septembre. C'est seulement douze heures après la réunion de la nuit du 26 que le messager de Sanaa atteignit Hodeidah, en voiture. Un message par ville importante avait ainsi été dépêché.

Le même jour donc, tous les officiers comme Abdulkarim -qui

déteste parler de son propre rôle en particulier- donnèrent l'ordre aux éléments de l'armée qu'ils avaient conditionnés à cet effet depuis plusieurs mois, de s'emparer des centres nerveux de chaque ville. Chargé du port stratégique de Hodeidah, Abdulkarim n'a eu aucun mal à s'acquitter de cette tâche. Aucun coup de feu n'a été tiré selon lui, les soldats de l'imam, qui n'avaient jamais réussi à avoir une armée fidèle, se rendirent vite compte de la situation et n'opposèrent pas de résistance. Seule Sanaa a connu quelques affrontements très sporadiques. D'autant plus que les officiers libres, maîtres de la radio, ont eu l'idée de propager l'idée que l'imam avait été tué. Même à la résidence de celui-ci à Sanaa, Dar al-Basha'ir, où les soldats ont un peu plus résisté, cette nouvelle a eu pour effet de faire tomber les derniers bastions de résistance.

Mais l'imam n'était pas mort. Abdulkarim, dont le frère Hussein a pris part au coup d'Etat dans la ville de Sanaa, raconte: "Comme les soldats républicains ne touchaient pas aux femmes du Palais et les laissaient sortir, l'imam s'est déguisé en femme et a pu s'échapper de Sanaa ainsi. Il s'est réfugié pendant une nuit dans un village près de Sanaa, avant de rejoindre ses partisans dans la montagne (et organiser une résistance qui conduira à sept années de guerre civile sanglante). Or, les habitants de ce village étaient contre l'imam et n'ont pas voulu l'héberger plus d'une nuit. Mais il est dans la tradition des tribus yéménites d'accueillir, pour un jour au moins, n'importe qui, même un ennemi".

Ainsi, la préparation de la Révolution, et cela le plus classiquement du monde, fut le fait d'un groupe très restreint d'officiers. Le peuple, depuis longtemps conditionné (lire l'article ci-contre) a suivi massivement dès le premier jour, d'où l'appellation de Révolution dès le 26 septembre. Les Yéménites ne veulent surtout pas entendre parler de "Coup d'Etat". Et la république proclamée, dans l'après-midi du 26 septembre, attira un large éventail de politiciens de tous horizons. Cela est évident si l'on étudie de près la composition du premier Conseil de Commandement Révolutionnaire (CCR) et le premier Conseil des Ministres de la République: les rangs des "septembristes" comme on les appellera plus tard, comprenaient tous ceux qui étaient alors assimilés à l'opposition à l'Ancien Régime (lire l'article ci-contre): vieille génération des officiers entraînés par les Irakiens, jeune génération de ceux encadrés par les Egyptiens et les Soviétiques, des membres du Parti des Yéménites Libres, exilés au Caire, des civils Nassériens, des hommes d'affaire shaféites, des figures politiques traditionnelles, des représentants des "Fameux quarante" (lire ci-contre) ainsi qu'un nombre important de chefs de tribus qui avaient des griefs contre la famille des Hamid al-Din.

Or, dès qu'il devint clair que la République serait obligée de lutter contre l'opposition royaliste, les jeunes officiers à l'origine de la Révolution furent envoyés dans la campagne pour défendre la République. Le Yémen entra dans une longue période de guerre civile, très sanglante.

Un contexte favorable à la Révolution

Si la journée du 26 septembre 1962 fut marquée par un changement de régime mené par un petit groupe d'officiers, la facilité avec laquelle fut menée cette opération et l'engagement du peuple yéménite qui suivit immédiatement, suffirent à démontrer que l'environnement social y était favorable. En fait, les pressions politiques pour un changement de régime étaient le résultat d'un long processus, commencé un demi-siècle plus tôt, fait de changements socio-économiques et surtout des mentalités et des idées, à mesure que le pays était obligé, malgré la volonté des Imams successifs, de s'ouvrir sur l'extérieur.

Car, malgré toutes les légendes que l'on entend encore aujourd'hui sur un Yémen soit-disant totalement hermétique pendant de longues années, aucun pays au monde n'est capable de se fermer totalement à toute influence étrangère. Tout d'abord, l'émigration d'un nombre de plus en plus important de Yéménites depuis la fin de la Seconde Guerre Mondiale pour travailler ou étudier à l'étranger (souvent envoyés par les Imams successifs, parfois membres de leur famille même) a créé de nouveaux besoins et de nouvelles demandes dès leur retour, et a favorisé l'émergence de nouvelles idées. Les nombreuses tentatives de l'imam Yahya, puis de son successeur Ahmed, pour maintenir le pays dans la plus pure tradition imamite ont ensuite été les causes directes de l'introduction de ces idées nouvelles, par le phénomène bien connu de réaction à tout ce qui est interdit. Sur le plan économique, l'introduction de produits occidentaux comme la montre, la bouteille thermos, les cigarettes, les médicaments, les voitures, ont graduellement modifié la demande et des habitudes de consommation austères.

La radio, par exemple, est considérée comme le principal facteur technique de la chute de l'imamat. Elle a longtemps été interdite par l'imam, sauf pour les officiers de haut rang, mais dès les années trente, de nombreux postes ont été introduits en fraude. En 1938, le récit de Basil W. Seager, un voyageur Britannique, est édifiant: il rapporte que le mécontentement des femmes yéménites allait croissant quand elle apprenaient, grâce à la radio, la condition des autres femmes dans des pays voisins. Par la même voie, les opposants au régime, en exil, utilisèrent fréquemment la fameuse radio du Caire,

Sawt al 'Arab (la Voix des Arabes) pour critiquer le régime: en 1956, une manifestation spontanée eut lieu devant la légation britannique à Taëz, à la suite de la Crise de Suez, grâce à ce qu'en rapportait cette radio. De même, les premiers opposants au régime, Mohamed al-Zubeiry et Abd-al-Rahman al-Baydany, utilisaient fréquemment La Voix des Arabes, ainsi que des journaux clandestins imprimés au Caire ou à Beyrouth.

Autre vecteur important de la montée des oppositions: les officiers étrangers engagés par les Imams successifs pour former les cadres de l'armée yéménite. En recrutant des officiers irakiens, syriens et soviétiques, en envoyant les futurs officiers yéménites à l'étranger, on ne pouvait plus contrôler les influences extérieures sur l'armée elle-même. Les officiers qui donneront le coup de départ de la révolution en septembre 1962 auront tous subi ces influences.

De même, les étudiants que l'imam autorisa à partir à l'étranger seront le creuset des idées de progrès et de démocratie au Yémen. Ainsi des "Fameux quarante", ce groupe de jeunes garçons envoyés, à la fin des années 40, d'abord au Liban puis en Egypte pour étudier: ils y rejoignirent l'opposition en exil et il leur fut interdit de revenir au Yémen. Parmi eux, on compte quelques célèbres "septembristes", comme le Premier Président de la République, Abdallah al-Sallal (1962-1967) et certains de ses ministres comme Mohamed al-Zubeiry ou Ahman Mohamed No'oman et, plus tard, les politiciens les plus progressistes des années 60 et 70.

Le Nationalisme arabe, en pleine expansion dans les années 50, avec Gamal Abdel Nasser en Egypte, fera également beaucoup de mal au régime imamite qui nageait alors en pleine contradiction: au moment où Nasser déclara la guerre aux régimes arabes "réactionnaires et féodaux", l'imam Ahmed, qui a succédé à Yahya, tué lors du coup d'Etat de 1948, fit entrer le Yémen dans la confédération des Etats Arabes Unis de Nasser, avec l'Egypte et la Syrie. Il faut dire que Nasser avait alors pour but principal de contrer la puissance saoudienne. Mais en 1960, l'imam rompit de fait toute relation avec l'Egypte en publiant un

poème satirique contre Nasser, à propos de l'unité et le socialisme arabe. Deux ans plus tard, le leader égyptien n'hésitera pas une seconde à intervenir militairement au Yémen, pendant sept ans, pour soutenir les Républicains.

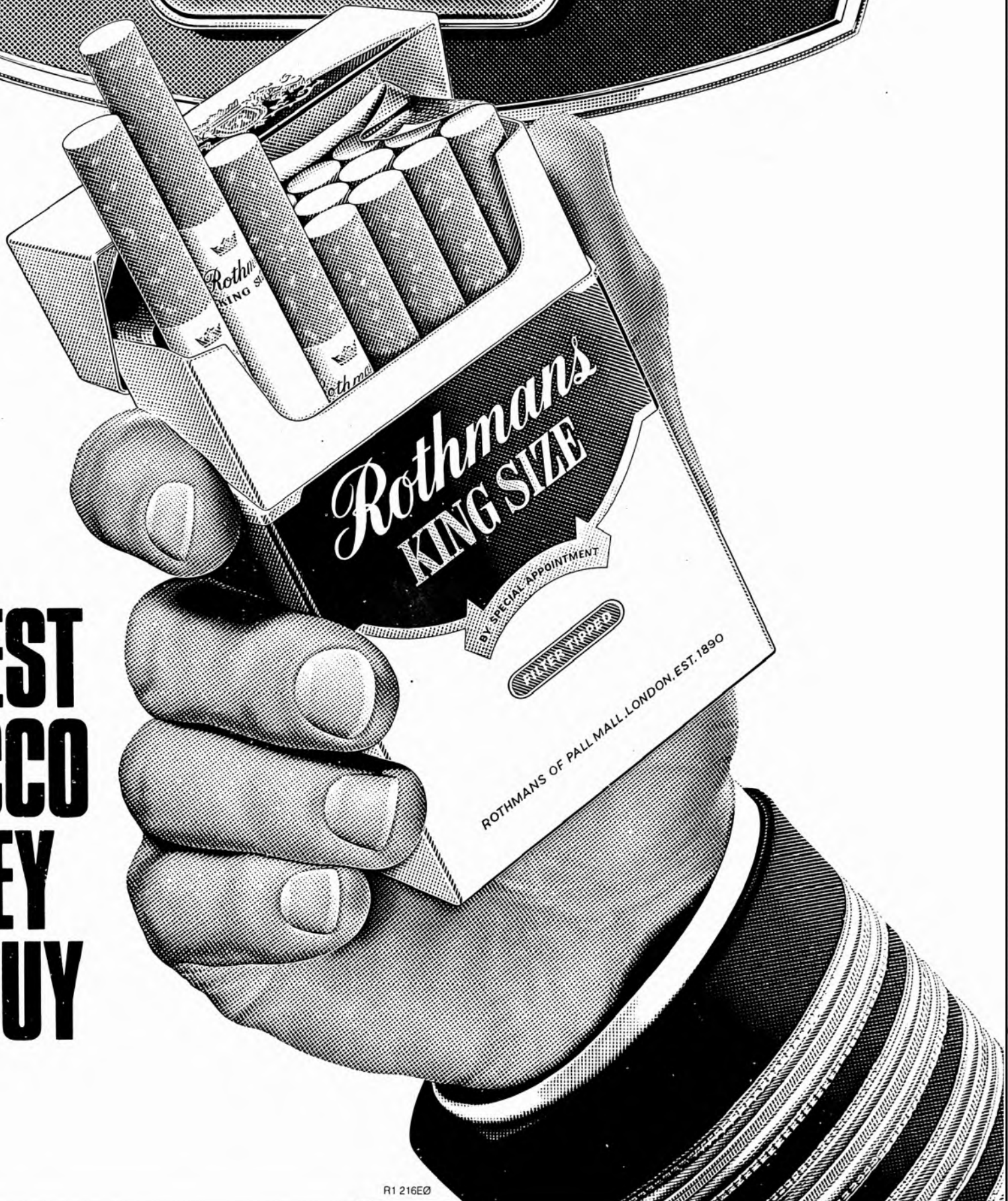
Au début des années 60, une petite intelligentsia, formée au nassérisme, émergea donc au Yémen ou en exil, l'opposition se fortifia. Mais elle était plus vaste et plus diverse qu'on ne le croyait alors. La première des oppositions à l'imam Yahya et son successeur furent les tribus, qu'il n'arrivait pas à fédérer. En dépit de la réputation des confédérations Hached et Bakil d'"ailes de l'imamat", Yahya devait régulièrement envoyer la troupe contre elles. L'allégeance des cheikhs au pouvoir central dépendait des subventions que celui-ci leur accordait. En 1948 cependant, Ahmed donna l'autorisation aux Hached et aux Bakil de mettre Sanaa à sac pour étouffer la révolution dans l'oeuf.

Autre source d'opposition: la moitié de la population de confession shaféite, qui a longtemps souffert de la discrimination orchestrée par les Zaidites au pouvoir, surtout pendant l'occupation ottomane et la "collaboration zaidite".

Mais l'opposition la plus virulente venait des élites exilées à l'étranger, notamment en Egypte. Le premier de ces opposants fut Mohamed Zubara, haut fonctionnaire, historien fameux et issu d'une famille très respectée. Il fut envoyé en Egypte dans les années 20 par l'imam Yahya. Puis il y eut Ahmed Ahmed al-Muta, qui fonda le Hayat al-Nidal. Le Qadi Abd al-Rahman al-Iryani, qui fonda, avec les qadis Ismail et Mohamed al-Akw, le Jamb'iyat al-Islah, le premier groupe d'opposition constitué au Yémen, dans les années 40. Puis les anciens "Fameux quarante", dont l'un, Ahman Mohamed No'omane, shaféite, devint en 1944, premier président du Parti des Yéménites Libres, financé par les riches commerçants shaféites réfugiés au sud et, par la suite, par les Frères Musulmans. Enfin, de nombreux jeunes opposants, dont la plupart fomenteront le coup d'état du 26 septembre, ont été attirés vers le nationalisme de gauche comme le nassérisme ou le Baasisme et même par le marxisme. C'est dans ce contexte qu'éclata la Révolution, après le 26 septembre.

Emmanuel GIROUD

Sources: Saudi-yemeni relations, F. Gregory Gause III, Columbia, 1990. Yemen: the search for modern state Peterson J.E., London Croom Helm, 1989



**THE BEST
TOBACCO
MONEY
CAN BUY**

BACK TO SCHOOL

By: Farah B.G.Askar

This week, some 2.5 million children are going back to school. As the schools are opening to receive the pupils and students, the whole system is under stress. In a three-piece article, we will look at the "Back to School" phenomenon in Yemen.

A. The Financial Dimension:

Parents are beginning to feel the pinch of the high costs of education. The problems start as the children go to school for registration.

1. The Official Levies:

Officially registration fees, as decreed by the Ministry of Education, are YR. 20 per student at the secondary level, YR. 15 per student at the primary and preparatory levels. But you could end up paying as much as ten times this amount. The school administration does not adhere to the limits specified by the Ministry. If you insist on paying what the Ministry had decreed, you may end being told that there is no more space (place) for your child. "The school is over-crowded," the principal would tell you.

In addition, parents pay a fixed amount of YR. 40 (secondary level); or YR. 25 (preparatory/primary levels) for the file. This is the document that allows your child to be part of the public school system.

Then, parents are asked to pay YR. 50 (secondary level), YR. 40 (preparatory level), and YR. 20 (primary level) for t e x t - b o o k s .



Then the school administration is authorized to charge any (reasonable) sum it deems necessary to cover its incidental costs - papers, limited repairs, etc. Khowlah Bint Al-Azwar Girls' School charges YR.100 per student, but this is the smallest sum. Some schools charge as much as YR. 500 per student, although not necessary in one lump.

Then there are other charges levied if there are certain documents missing in the file, or a transfer is made, etc.

2. Other Expenses:

The cost of stationery and note books is becoming a major concern to families, especially if the number of children going to school is high. The teachers demand at least two note books (one for class work, and the other for home work) per subject.

Then there is the cost of the school uniform. Pupils and students have to go to school wearing uniforms, otherwise they are returned. In addition there are other costs such as transportation fees.

Finally, there is the daily allowance which children demand from their parents. This amount ranges from three riyals to over fifty riyals per child per day, depending on the wealth of the family.

3. Private Schools' Fees:

If the child goes to a private school, then there is a special fee. The amount ranges from some YR. 8,000 per child per year, to over YR. 50,000, depending on the school in which the child is enrolled.

The end result of these financial burdens is that families are unable to educate all their children. Thus a selection process inadvertently creeps in. The loser is almost always the girls in the family.

Lesson #12

Vocabulary--Part two

Pretest Write the letter of the meaning next to each word.

- | | |
|------------------|--|
| _____ 1. adobe | a. a sweet |
| _____ 2. gazelle | b. an animal |
| _____ 3. harem | c. tax |
| _____ 4. tariff | d. none, nothing |
| _____ 5. sequin | e. part of a house where women live; those women |
| _____ 6. sirocco | f. musical instrument with strings |
| _____ 7. alfalfa | g. sun-dried clay used to make bricks |
| _____ 8. lute | h. a hot wind |
| _____ 9. zero | i. flat, round, shiny ornament |
| _____ 10. candy | j. plant grown for animal food |

Lesson

How did you do this time on the pretest? Like the vocabulary words in last week's lesson, all of these words came into English from Arabic. The words take many different journeys. Many, such as *adobe* in our list, came into English from Arabic through Spanish. Here are our vocabulary words for this week with their Arabic roots.

adobe--al toba, "brick"
 harem--harim
 sirocco--sharq, "east"
 lute--al 'ud, "the wood"
 candy--qandi

gazelle--ghazal
 tariff--ta'rif, "information"
 alfalfa--al fassafah, "best feed"
 zero--sifr, "cipher"
 sequin--sikkah, "stamp"

Practice A Unscramble the letters to spell the vocabulary words.

Example: roze zero

- | | | |
|------------|-----------|------------|
| 1. zeegall | 4. tule | 7. mareh |
| 2. fritaf | 5. beado | 8. dacyn |
| 3. falafal | 6. inques | 9. crocois |

Practice B Complete these sentences using the vocabulary words.

- The women in the _____ have many beautiful dresses with _____.
- A _____ sometimes eats the _____ we feed to our goats.
- Children like to eat _____.
- The _____ blew in from the east and dried the _____ bricks.
- The merchant must pay a _____ on imported goods.
- In the West more musicians play the guitar than the _____.
- He has no money; his bank book says _____.

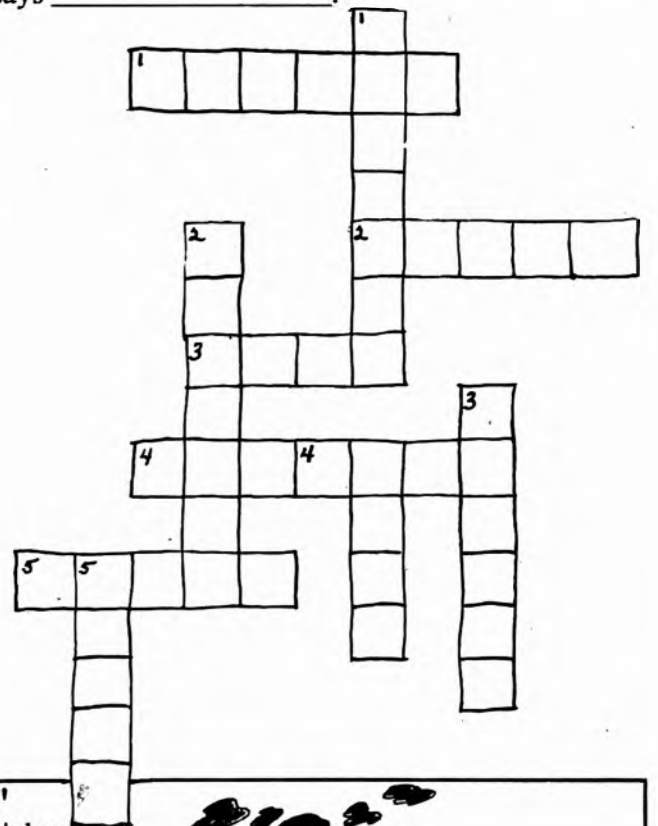
Practice C Crossword puzzle

Across

-
-
-
-
-

Down

-
-
-
-
-



Weekly Idiom "Burned Out"

To be burned out means that you don't have any energy because you've done something for too long.

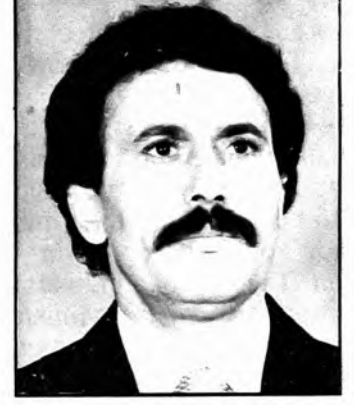
Ali worked all night on his paper; now he is burned out and can't do anything.



- Answers Pretest:** 1. g 2. b 3. e 4. c 5. i 6. h 7. j 8. f 9. d 10. a **Practice A:**
 1. gazelle 2. tariff 3. alfalfa 4. lute 5. adobe 6. sequin 7. harem 8. candy 9. sirocco
Practice B: 1. harem, sequins 2. gazelle, alfalfa 3. candy 4. sirocco, adobe 5. tariff
 6. lute 7. zero **Practice C:** Across 1. sequin 2. candy 3. zero 4. alfalfa 5. harem
 Down 1. sirocco 2. gazelle 3. tariff 4. lute 5. adobe

INTERNATIONAL BANK OF YEMEN

presents to the Yemeni people, leadership and government its best wishes on the 26th September Revolution anniversary

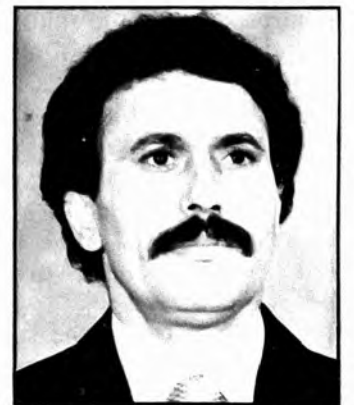


بنك اليمن الدولي

يتقدم بالتهاني "عربية للشعب اليمني وقيادته وحكومته بمناسبة العيد "الثلاثون" لثورة السادس والعشرين من سبتمبر الخالدة

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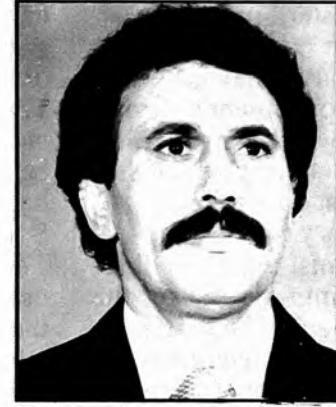
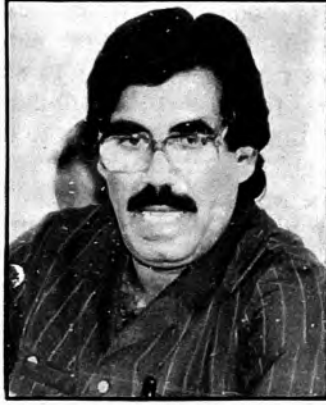
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best wishes on the 26th September Revolution anniversary



الشركة اليمنية للإتصالات الدولية

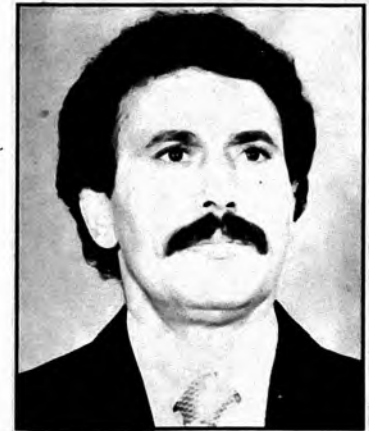
تتقدم بالتهاني القلبية للشعب اليمني وقيادته وحكومته
بمناسبة العيد "الثلاثون" لثورة السادس والعشرين من سبتمبر الخالدة

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البنك العربي للبحر



البنك العربي (ش م ع)

يتقدم بالتهاني القلبية للشعب اليمني وقيادته وحكومته
بمناسبة العيد "الثلاثون" لثورة السادس والعشرين من سبتمبر الخالدة

BULGARIAN HEADACHES

Bulgaria's first anti-communist government is heading towards a reshuffle, or even total change for a more moderate team, if infighting and criticism cause any more of its allies to withdraw support. The economic crisis has discouraged many who expected quick prosperity to follow the victory of the anti-communist coalition, the Union of Democratic Forces (UDF), in elections last October.

Crisis have come down increasingly hard on the austerity policies of the minority cabinet of Prime Minister Filip Dimitrov, openly demanding the ouster of Finance Minister Ivan Kostov. But they have also railed against the government's strong anti-communist line, which they feel has added to tension in a country which still has a strong communist opposition.

Two key parliamentary supporters, the powerful anti-communist union, Podkrepa, and the Turkish minority party, the Movement for Rights and Freedom, have openly turned against the government. Even President Zhelio Zhelev, founder of the UDF, recently denounced what he called the government's "confrontational" policy with the unions, press, churches, the nascent private sector and moderate anti-communists which he said caused these groups to leave the UDF on the eve of the 13th October elections.

The two most likely successors to replace Dimitrov are Deputy Prime Minister Ilko Eskenazi and Dimitar Loudjev, the former defence minister fired by Dimitrov.

HITLER'S CORPSE ON TV?

A corpse said to be that of Adolf Hitler, intact and lying in the yard of the Berlin chancellery, was shown in an archive film broadcast by Commonwealth television. If authentic, the film will throw doubt on the widespread reports following World War II that Hitler's body was burned after he either shot or poisoned himself.

Broadcast two weeks ago, the film showed the body, in uniform and with the distinctive moustache clearly visible, laid out on the ground on an officer's overcoat. The corpse, shown for only a few seconds, was surrounded by Soviet soldiers and at least one German, apparently a prisoner of war. The television did not say where the film had come from but the footage appeared to be from KGB secret police archives, now being declassified after the collapse of the Soviet Union.

The commentator said: "Here was perhaps the first and most unexpected find. It was in the courtyard of the Reichskanzlei (chancellery) - the corpse of Hitler. Many mysteries surround this menacing figure and some of them have yet to be resolved." Hitler and his mistress Eva Braun were believed to have committed suicide, the bodies burnt by German officers in accordance with their wishes.

A Russian historian said in a newspaper interview in July that the bodies of Hitler and Braun, who committed suicide on 30 April, 1945, were found by Russian military intelligence on 4 May. They were not burnt, said historian Lev Bezymensky.

KOREAN BID FOR RECONCILIATION

The two Koreas agreed in principle to finalize a series of protocols to jump-start a stalled reconciliation accord but clashed over the touchy nuclear issue at high level talks in Pyongyang.

South Korean Prime Minister Chung Won-shik said as the talks began that the two sides should "prepare and adopt initial protocols containing those points which both sides found easy to agree on through previous discussions."

North Korean Prime Minister Yon Hyong-muk appeared to agree in his keynote address. "Despite the unsettled points that pose difficulties for our position, the protocols should be adopted at the current talks and put into effect," he said. He said joint political, military and economic commissions which would be activated by the protocols could tackle remaining issues.

But Yon said South Korea's demand for short-notice nuclear inspections and inspections of military bases was "nonsensical" and hampered efforts to achieve a bilateral nuclear inspection system. South Korea, in an effort to give the inspection system credibility, had wanted to introduce a challenge mechanism in which only a 24 hour notice is required to carry out surprise inspections, and to allow the other party to name the site to be inspected. North Korea has resisted this idea.

Under the protocols, the joint commissions would implement a reconciliation accord initialled in December, 1991, that has largely bogged down due to disagreements over the (separate) nuclear ban accord. Chung said the two sides at this week's eighth round of talks have strived to establish an inter-Korean nuclear inspection regime "as the first step to solving the nuclear problem and the key to denuclearizing the Korean peninsula."

He said the communist North's contention that recent International Atomic Energy Agency inspections of its Yongbyon nuclear facility should dispel fears of Pyongyang's nuclear ambitions was not sufficient.

Chung also called for rapid exchanges of separated families, but Yon retorted with a series of conditions, including the return of an aged former North Korean guerrilla fighter living in the South.

BUSH HEADACHES

President George Bush, swimming in a sea of political troubles, is starting to wonder about his chances of winning a second term.

In an emotional speech to National Guard leaders in Salt Lake City, Bush said that if he was not re-elected in a 3rd November poll, he hoped his successor would be able to escape the awful decision he has twice had to make - to send Americans into combat abroad. He was referring to the US invasion of Panama in 1989 and the Gulf War in 1991.

Bush, a sunny optimist by nature, has reason for doubt about his chances of urning back Bill Clinton's election challenge.

A flurry of new surveys suggest that the Arkansas governor is widening his lead in the presidential race, and even former president Richard Nixon is said to believe that Bush has only a 30% chance of re-election right now.

A Los Angeles Times survey has Bush trailing Clinton by 21 percentage points in Nixon's native California. No Republican since 1880 has won the presidency without carrying that state.

Another bad sign was the modest crowds that greeted Bush during a three-day trip to California, Washington, Oregon, Utah and New Mexico that he completed last week. The slim turn-outs at most stops suggested a lack of energy and enthusiasm in his campaign organization that could keep him from getting his supporters out on election day. On top of all this is the gloomiest omen of all - a constant drumbeat of grim economic news, which caused his troubles in the first place.

Bush says has Clinton on the defensive on the issue of draft-avoidance during the Vietnam war, and also has the power of incumbency with which to create public goodwill, a power that he is wielding more and more.

In Albuquerque, Bush announced that money saved from a cancelled nuclear weapons project would be ploughed into nuclear non-proliferation programs, and new Mexico would be a big beneficiary. It followed his decision to sell 72 F-15 "Eagle" warplanes to Saudi Arabia, which meant jobs for Missouri workers, and the sale of F-16 fighters to Taiwan which pleased Texas defence workers.

بسكوت أبو ولد**الأفضل لتغذية الصغار ، ولضيافة الكبار**

**For nourishment of the little ones in the family,
and for entertaining your guests**

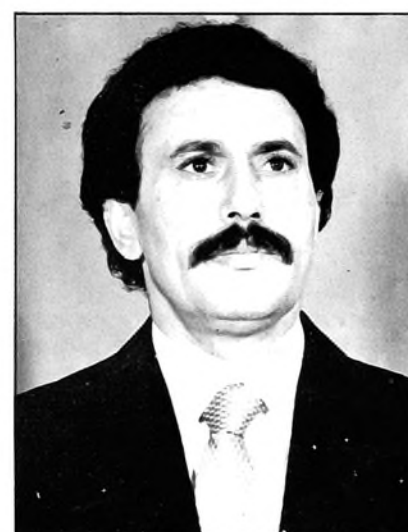
ABU WALAD BISCUITS
THE FAMILY'S BEST SNACKS

CANADIANOXY Offshore International Ltd.

on the occasion of the anniversary of the 26th September Revolution, is pleased to present its hearty congratulations and best wishes to the Yemeni people, leadership and government.

CANADIANOXY is also pleased to lay down the foundation stone of the EXPLOITATION PHASE OF ITS MASELA CONCESSION.

CANADIANOXY has made an important commitment to the future of the Yemeni petroleum industry.



شركة كنيديان أوكسي أوفشور العالمية المحدودة

تنتهز حلول ذكرى ثورة (٢٦) سبتمبر للتقدم بأعطر التهاني والتبريكات إلى الشعب اليمني والقيادة السياسية والحكومة اليمنية كما تعلن بهذه المناسبة الغالية ، وضع حجر الأساس لمرحلة الإنتاج لعملها في حقل المسيلة .

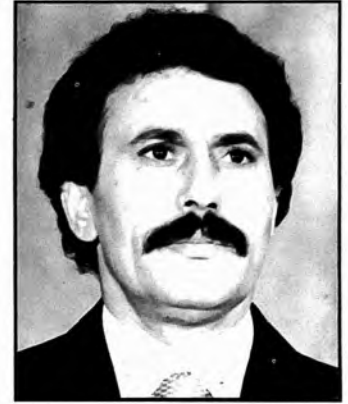
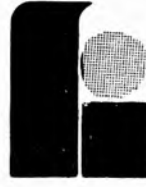
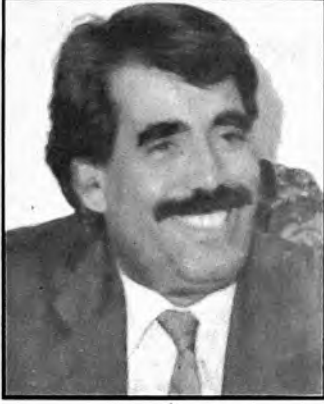
إن شركة كنيديان أوكسي قد اتخذت قراراً مهماً

للمشاركة في مستقبل الصناعة النفطية في اليمن.

FURNET

Petroleum Services Co. Ltd.

expresses its congratulations to the Yemeni people, leadership and government on the September Revolution anniversary



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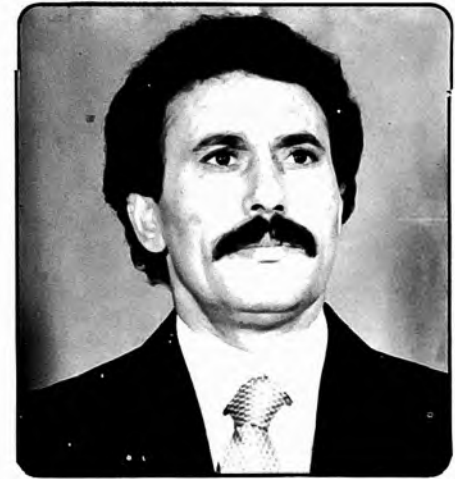
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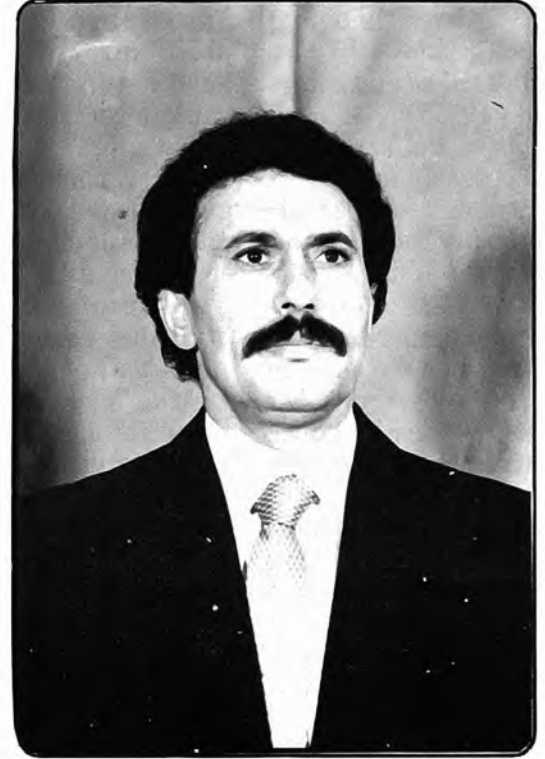
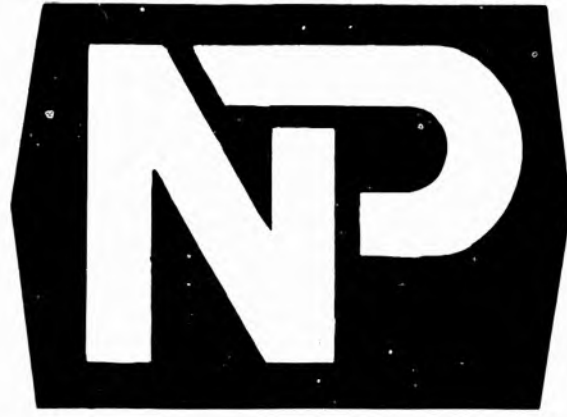
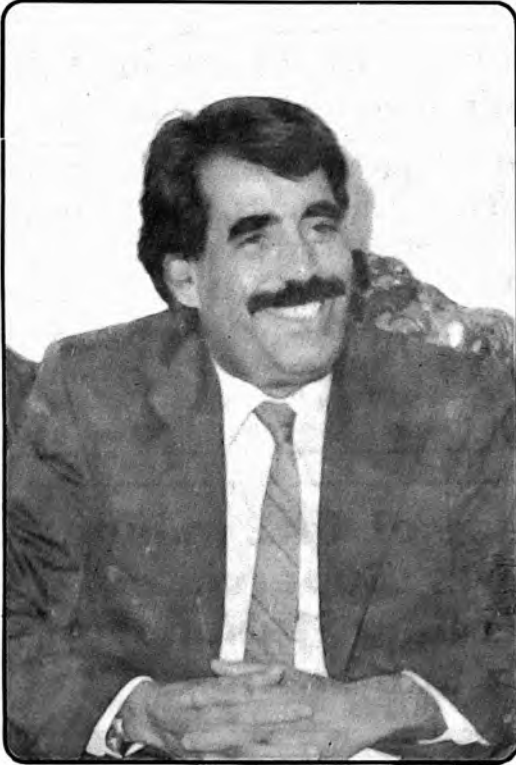
الشركة اليمنية للإمداد والتخزين المحدودة

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Nimir Petroleum Company Ayad Limited

P. O. Box 19895 · Sana'a · Republic of Yemen · Telephone: 967 1 243555 · Fax: 967 1 263199

*congratulates the Yemeni people, leadership
and government on the 30th anniversary
of the 26 September Revolution*



شركة نمر بنر وليوم عباد

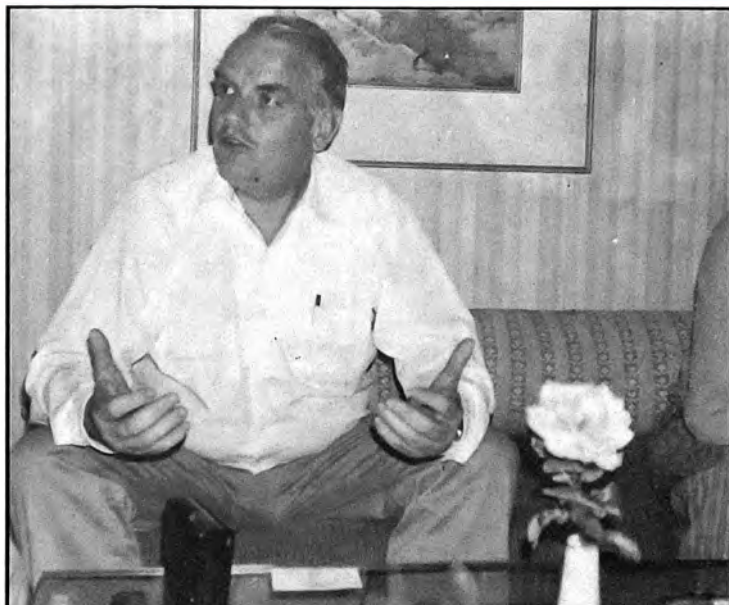
تتقدم بأطيب الأمنيات للشعب اليمني وقيادته وحكومته بمناسبة
الذكرى "الثلاثون" لثورة السادس والعشرين من سبتمبر المجيدة



CANOXY PRESIDENT:

We are investing US\$ One billion in Yemen

"What we're doing here is over a billion dollars investment," stated Mr. J. Angus McKee, President and CEO of Canadian Occidental Petroleum Ltd. In an exclusive interview with Yemen Times, the CanOxy executive firmly indicated that his company has made a commitment to Yemen's petroleum industry and that Yemen represents the company's largest international involvement.



CanOxy Offshore International Ltd., the official name of the Yemeni company, is owned 52% by Canadian Occidental Petroleum Ltd., 20% by Shell through its Pecten subsidiary, 18% by Occidental Petroleum, and 10% by Consolidated Contractors Company (CCC).

"Our billion dollar investment is probably the largest investment that any Canadian Company has in the Third World today," said McKee who was clearly upbeat about the association with Yemen. "We plan to be on stream by September 1993, and we shall produce at least 120,000 bpd," he explained.

"We are very much on track in terms of cost, and we are about two months ahead in terms of time schedule. The shiploads of pipes are already on site, and construction should start at once. We have over thirty wells drilled today, we will have 40 by the time we come on stream. The gathering system will involve some thirty wells connected to the CPU. The pipeline itself is designed in a way that we can triple output to some 450,000 bpd, by investing 100-125 million dollars, if the need arises," stated Mr. McKee.

"So the readiness for expansion is very much there, we're not holding back, if we find reason to expand production we will."

The company is gearing up to get on stream as fast as it can. That is why it is, at the moment concentrating on the north-western corner of its Maseela concession (Block No. 14).

Now that we know where we're going ahead in terms of the exploitation of these wells, we are also going full steam ahead with exploration in other parts of the block. We have plans for quite extensive programs which we might carry out next year. This is pure

exploration and we hope to find additional reservoirs. We are very optimistic about the prospects. We have a very large area to explore and we have two years more to go. Even then, this is not a very long given the type of the exploration program which the area deserves."

With respect to relations with the Yemeni authorities, CanOxy official bluntly said, "Our relations with the Yemeni government are far better than our relations with the Canadian government. In Yemen, if we come across a problem, which is normal, the Yemeni officials sit down with us immediately and together we seek the best solutions. We, in fact, enjoy working with the Yemeni authorities."

Speaking about marketing strategies, Mr. McKee indicated that although the company has started looking into matter, it has not yet approached any potential buyers or seek arrangements this early. "We are going to produce high-quality crude, and we don't feel there will be any difficulty in marketing. Besides, these marketing agreements actually yield a lower price than what one can fetch if the oil is out for bidding in the market," he explained.

Talking about oil prices in the world oil market, McKee indicated the current going rate of the WTI crude, the comparable quality crude to Yemen's, sells for US\$21 per barrel. For Yemen, that means around US\$17 (taking into account the transportation and other costs). Many oil producers, including Americans, find themselves unable to continue producing given their high costs. "The cost for us (in Yemen) is under US\$10 per barrel, which means

there is no way we will exit the market.

Speaking about the linkage effect on the local community, McKee indicated his company has drilled ten water wells, constructed hundreds of kilometers of roads, and provided employment to the locals. There is nothing better than to be part of a successful venture, but we do not know whether we can meet the high expectations of the people."

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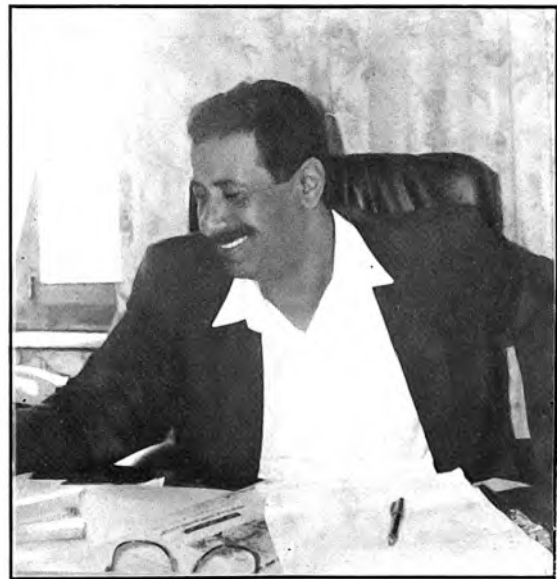
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**A Population Base of 14.2 million;
13,500 Elections Supervisors;
301 Central Polling Stations;
1418 Polling Sub-stations**

As election fever spreads, the Supreme Elections Committee (SEC) continues to work around the clock to meet the 30th November deadline for elections.

"We now have it," Sadiq Ameen Aburas, the Chair of the Technical Committee and member of the SEC, told the Yemen Times in an exclusive interview. "The total number of our population as it stands today is around 14.2 million, and this is the number with which we are working," he said. The numbers have been changed because of disagreement on how to account for the returnees and how to up-date the census results of 1986 and 1988 for North and South Yemen, respectively. The new number yields a constituency of roughly 47,000 persons.



"Each constituency will have a centrally-located main polling stations, and four-to-seven additional sub-stations (depending on topography and distances) so as to reach out to the various population concentration. The law calls for at least half of those stations to be 'manned' by women. But we can't find enough women who are willing to be moved from one part of the country to another with ease. Therefore, of the 13,500 people who will supervise the polling stations, and who will receive a four-day crash course during next week, we anticipate only 2,000 will be women," he pointed out.

Registration is expected to start early in October, and the process will continue for

two weeks, the Yemen Times was told. Candidates will then register to affirm they are running, and the election campaigns will take place for twenty days starting from late October.

Any surprises? "None so far, although we are expecting a few as the process gains momentum. But we have had the experience of the Ashura Council and Asha'ab Council," he stated.

The dynamo of the Technical Committee is really a group of young Yemenis led by Mohammed Al-Farih. These are brought together from different ministries and organizations, as well as NGOs and unions. Meanwhile, keep your fingers crossed!