



YEMEN TIMES



HEWELETT
PACKARD

April 17th through 23rd, 1994

Volume IV, Issue No. 16



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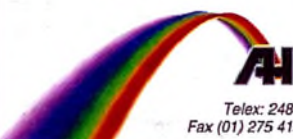
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Anila exhibiting a standard formal Pakistani dress

"It was like a garden-in-bloom come to life," writes Christine Clark,
Read details on page 4.

Crisis Continues as Government Fails to Book Assassins

It was clear that the government lacked the backbone or the coherence to decide to book the assassins. For a while, it looked like the government would muster enough will and vision to do it. Some four hundred persons are wanted by the law for committing various crimes of terrorism and murder. Many of these are individuals whose locations are well-known. "Arresting them would disturb the relative 'peace' and equilibrium of power between the rival power blocs," explained one veteran politician in Sana'a. That argument no longer holds water as the relative 'peace' has become more taxing than ever. The equilibrium of power has also been fluid and not stable. "Thus, the moral and proper thing to do is really to book those wanted by the law," insisted

an opposition leader. Meanwhile, the tribes are closing-in on Sana'a. The initial steps were to cut off the supply of one vital commodity or another. That strategy has now been transformed to an actual filtering of armed tribesmen into Sana'a. The potential danger of this is enormous. Meanwhile, the three Dutch hostages are making record as the "longest-serving hostages" in modern Yemeni history. Since they were first picked up by the Zayidi clan on March 25th, the hostages have been held up now for over three weeks, and going into the fourth. Yet, there is no word on their release. A group of sheikhs from Khowlan - to which the kidnapper belongs - had promised the interior minister to come back with the hostages. They have neither brought back the hostages nor come back themselves to report to the minister. while the two Chinese hostages were lucky enough to be released two days ago, no details about the deal of their release is available yet. The up and down swings in the relations between the president and vice president are now a serious burden on Yemen.

Proof of Torture in Yemeni Prisons

A group of judges, lawyers, journalists, and other human rights activists, under the umbrella of the Yemeni Human Rights Organizations (YHRO), visited several prisons in Sana'a, Taiz, Ibb, Hodeidah, and other northern cities. A report signed by Qadhi Hamood Al-Hitar, President of the YHRO, and addressed to the Chairman of the Liberties and Human Rights Committee in Parliament, indicated that the YHRO was not given access to prisons in the southern and eastern governorates. Judge Al-Hitar confirmed, "the YHRO has conclusive evidence of torture in Yemeni prisons. There is also a high level of abuse and neglect that is routinely exercised without the least consideration to the rights of the prisoners." The prisons also need to upgrade their medical and recreational facilities. In conclusion, the report called on parliament to unify the laws (for the former YAR and PDRY) governing human rights in the country, to close down private prisons, which are a common phenomenon among certain tribal leaders and party bosses. The report also called for a serious and swift judicial investigation with the persons accused of violating human rights. Finally, the YHRO report demanded adequate compensation - financial and moral - to make up for the damage done to them.



Salma exhibiting a Swati dress

In Shabwah, Party Is Over!

Several oil companies operating in Shabwah are packing up. Reason cited - "No Oil." Occidental is already gone. It has drilled its four exploration wells and they were all dry. Shell is packing up. It has done less impressive exploration, even with its new techniques. Again it found no oil. Arco Shabwah leaves next month. It served as a sub-contractor for NIMIR in pumping the Ayad oil. Now that business is internalized by Nimir. British Petroleum leaves later this year and decision to pack up has been taken. It has drilled its exploration wells, and there were discoveries. Lasmo is giving up. It too drilled a couple of wells and neither showed oil. Chevron is going home. It too found no positive results. Shabwah was a big disappointment. Even NIMIR company which has invested heavily to pick up the Shabwah Ayad block, anticipating large amounts of oil, has found very little. From the expected 35,000-50,000 bpd oil production, NIMIR's Shabwah production has fallen to just over 5,000 bpd. According to Ministry of Oil sources, the government will pool all the data available from Shabwah explorations and make it available to companies that will find it viable to work with small quantities. "Sometimes, it take small companies to work under these circumstances," the source said. Don't keep your hopes up. Nothing big will come out of Shabwah.



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OUR VIEWPOINT

Yemen Does Not Need Additional Intermediation!

There is a long line of new intermediaries between the two ALIs. I would like to especially refer to the new Egyptian, Syrian and Gulf efforts. While thankful to these countries, in my opinion, they would best serve Yemen's interests if they stayed away.

Many Yemenis do not believe these countries have the best interests of Yemen at heart. Besides, after the strenuous and thankful efforts exerted by such wise men as H.M. King Hussain and H.M. Sultan Qaboos, what could others do?

The problem of Yemen is the product of two men and their proteges. It is in their hands to sort out these matters. No additional intermediation, especially not from quarters which are suspect, can help the situation. I would like to use this occasion to tell the new intermediaries to please stay away.

The two top men have already committed the mistake of authorizing foreigners, especially the military attaches of the USA and France, to have a close look and even have a say in our military affairs. By the way, no other free nation has done something like this. Many Yemenis continue to anguish over this.

I do not wish such politicians to decide more issues related to our sovereignty, independence, or unity. An increasing number of Yemenis do not trust the present political leadership which they see as cheap and petty. You'll find ordinary Yemenis speaking daily about the political leadership with disgust and despise. Now, why do these new intermediaries want to associate with this leadership unless they think they can have it sign away decisions not serving the Yemeni interests. One of these issues is the repatriation of soldiers which means removing northern soldiers from southern soil, and removing southern soldiers from northern soil. The very thought of army units as 'southern on northern soil' or as 'northern on southern soil' is based on a mentality of separation.

Yemenis are now planning to stage demonstrations and protests the next time the new intermediaries come into town. The Egyptian and Gulf intermediaries would do everybody good to steer away from Yemen.

I hope they are listening!

Taiz Sit-In Committee Assesses Role and Objectives

Dr. Abdul-Qader Al-Junaid, Chairman of the 18th of January Committee, told the Yemen Times that his committee is now involved in an evaluation of its role and objectives. He stated that work has been going on at four levels:

a- At the level of acquiring signatures from citizens in support of the document, he disclosed there are already over 23,000 signatures.

b- At the level of wrapping white bands on the arm and hanging white flags on rooftops and car aerials, the response was there, but rather limited.

c- At the level of initiating branches for the sit-in, he indicated some 30 branches were already operational.

d- At the level of helping building public opinion, there has been considerable success, although public opinion has yet to be converted into actual pressure.

Enron Establishing Office in Sanaa

Enron Development, a subsidiary of Enron Corp, has named Mr. Charles Karren as its Representative Manager in Yemen. In a telephone conversation, Mr. Karren disclosed that Enron Development, which is responsible for all downstream natural gas operations of the company worldwide, except in America, is in the process of setting up office in Sanaa.

At another level, Ms. Rebecca Mark, President and Chief Executive Officer of Enron Development, concluded a two-day successful visit during which she pushed forward arrangements for the finalization of agreement on the exploitation of the Marib gas.

According to sources at the General Gas Corporation, Ms. Mark will return to Yemen in about seven weeks for additional talks.

Gas and Petrol Shortages in Sanaa

Long lines of cars in front of petrol stations has become a common sight these days because of a shortage of supplies. Similar shortages of cooking gas have also overwhelmed the citizens.

The main reason for this shortage is the decision of tribes to stop trucks from supply the precious Mareb hydrocarbons to the capital.

The tribes are making good on their threat to block the flow of gas and petrol from Mareb unless the government coughs out \$1 per barrels of petroleum lifted from the Mareb fields.

Good Bye BA

On May 6th, British Airways (BA) will terminate its Yemen service. Weeks and months of haggling over differences between Yemen's national companies - YEMENIA and ALYEMDA - has not produced an acceptable compromise.

BA insisted to pick up passengers from Sanaa and Aden in one flight, twice a week. The Yemeni airlines, which fly into London, objected. They insisted that BA has the right to fly into Yemen twice, but only to touch down in either Yemeni city, each time. Maybe sometime in the future, the BA birds will come back.

Japan's SSGA: "So Little that Goes So Far"

Many Yemeni grass-roots level projects are applying for the Small Scale Grant Assistance program of the Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs implemented through the embassy here in Sanaa.

The SSGA was first launched by the Japanese government in 1989 "in order to meet the various socio-economic development needs in developing countries. The program has established a high reputation because of its speedy and flexible assistance to 'grass-roots' development projects."

When the program was first started, its total allocations were 294 million yen. By last year (1993), it disbursed over one billion yen. The beneficiaries are projects involving NGOs, research institutes, social infrastructure (education and health), women, and poverty relief.

Country eligibility is based on two factors: low per capita GNP, and possibility of significant development and social welfare effects to result from the SSGA. Yemen is one of the 53 countries to which it is now extended.

According to Yasuo Nakano, First Secretary at the Embassy and the person charged with the program, US\$ 500,000 have already been released over the last five years to finance 14 different small projects in Yemen, yielding an average of \$35,000 per project. Nakano added that it takes about 3-5 months to finalize the paperwork for financing.

This is indeed a case of "So little that goes so far."

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Abdul-Malik Al-Mikhlaifi:

“Safeguarding a unified Yemen takes precedence over achieving gains to us as an opposition party.”

The Tanzeem Al-Wahdawi Asha'abi Annasseri (Nasserite Unitarian Party= NUP) is one of the grass-roots level parties in Yemen, and it is the leading opposition party.

Today, it is increasingly seen as the most viable alternative to the ruling coalition parties in case there is a substitution. The NUP has some 100,000 registered members and a large class of sympathizers and supporters. With little money to pass around and no presence in officialdom to influence the elections, it received about 89,000 votes in the parliamentary elections.

Last November, the NUP elected a new secretary-general. The NUP is the only party in Yemen which holds elections leading to a change in leadership. Other parties have held elections, but the old leaders always “manage” to stay on top. For the Nasserites, every one of the last elections has brought a new group to lead the party.

Last November, Abdul-Malik Abdul-Galeel Al-Mikhlaifi took over as secretary-general from Abdul-Ghani Thabit. The majority of the executive committee of the party was changed.

Al-Mikhlaifi has since grown to become one of the key “king-makers” of this country. His contribution in guiding the politics of Yemen are quite visible.

Yemen Times Chief Editor Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf went to speak to him about the NUP



and politics in Yemen. Excerpts of the interview:

Q: According to my knowledge, you are the only leader of a party who has taken over peacefully from your predecessor. Why is this practice unique to your party?

A: The basic philosophy of our party is for democracy and equal voting to govern our work and decisions. You will note that each party leadership at the

NUP completed its legal term, and often they are replaced during elections for the next round.

during the life of the party, we have seen 12 secretary-generals take charge - all of them elected. The peaceful transfer of authority in our party has become a landmark unique to us. Following elections, you can see a secretary-general returning to the fold ordinary members. It is normal and it happens.

If our party did not practice this democracy within its ranks, it would long have withered away, especially since it has always been in the opposition, except for a short interlude during the reign of the Late Ibrahim Al-Hamdi.

Unless a party can exercise democracy within its system, how can it do so within the workings of the state?

Q: Since your election as secretary-general and coming to the helm of the party at the head of a new team, what are the things you have introduced or plan to introduce?

A: First of all, the party's orientation and philosophy does not change because the top leadership has changed. What does change is probably the approach and prioritization of emphasis. Let me outline the priority issues since I was elected secretary-general.

a) Ending all Underground Activities:

I have earlier mentioned that our party has almost always been in the opposition. Prior to May 22, 1990, this has meant working underground.

We have come up to the surface since the country was unified, but not all our activities have sufficiently surfaced. One of my first priorities has been to bring everything above ground and in the open. This will also allow more accountability and democratization of our party because it all become transparent to the membership base.

b) Getting Beyond Politics:

I have introduced a wide-ranging people-oriented package according to which our party will be involved in activities that are important to the general public. For example, we are moving into voluntary efforts, rights of minorities or groups that are underprivileged, issues in protecting the environment, socio-cultural activities, issues related to the quality of life, price levels, quality of products and their validity, etc. What I am saying is that the preponderant dominance of politics must give way to other issues that have a direct bearing on the everyday lives of our people. This approach and re-orientation will allow more contact with our membership base as well as the general public.

c) Opening New Channels:

I am pushing for opening new channels of cooperation with certain segments of society with which our party has not see eye to eye in the past. Let me name a few examples: the national capitalist class and entrepreneurs, the urban middle class, the professionals (lawyers, doctors, university professors, journalists, etc.), and other segments of society. We are even willing to open channels of communications and cooperation with traditional power bases in the countryside provided they do not stand in the way of normal evolution and progress.

Q: What is your membership base?

A: That is a tricky question. We have about 110,000 forms filled-up by members. It is our belief, however, that there a lot more people out there who share our beliefs and support us even though they have not filled up the forms.

Q: Let us talk about the political situation in Yemen. I have learned that your party has played a major role in bringing the PGC and YSP

together. Could you tell us about this?

A: It has been ironic that we in the opposition have worked hard to salvage the system. The opposition usually plays a different role - it tries to bring down the system in order to replace it. But the ruling coalition partners are doing our work for us, in that they are doing everything to discredit themselves and thus fall. We are doing their work by trying to shore-up everything.

I hope nobody misunderstands our intentions and motive. We believe it is more important to safeguard the nation than to work to take over even if it brings ruin.

Q: Could you be more specific?

A: We believe that any re-partitioning of the country will lead to more instability and possibly war and fragmentation of the country. We have the Document of Pledge and Accord (18th January Document) which forms the basis for any reform and understanding. On that basis I met with President Ali Abdullah Saleh and agreed with him to use our good offices to bridge the gap with the YSP leadership.

We agreed that pushing for the convening of the constitutional bodies (presidential council, government, parliament) in their full memberships should be part of a normalization process rather than as a pressure tool. Thus, convening these bodies should be gradual and proportional to the implementation of the document and restoration of trust between the two sides. Given our strong relations with the YSP, and our agreement with the PGC, we became an acceptable middle ground for evolving new political solutions to the crisis.

Continues on Page 9

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← The people behind the event: from left to right: Christine Clark, Mumtaz Arif, and Barbara Demetrienko

PAKISTAN

Displays a Rich Culture

"It was like a garden-in-bloom, after a spring shower, come to life."
The Yemen Times was at the Pakistani Cultural Show, which was held on Wednesday, April 13, at the Taj Sheba Hotel. The event was organized by the International Women's Association (IWA), in conjunction with the Pakistani School in Sanaa. The show was composed of folk dancing, music and a fashion show. Barbara Demetrienko, Coordinator of the IWA expressed delight at the success of the event.

"It was like a garden-in-bloom, after a spring shower, come to life."

Mrs. Mumtaz Arif, the Pakistani Ambassador's wife here in Sanaa, patiently and graciously explained the intricate details of the various dresses representing the regions of Pakistan they come from. She also pointed out that the people involved in the event put it together in only three weeks. The event raised over YR 50,000 which were passed on to several charity organizations, such as the Mother Teresa Orphanage. Mrs. Arif, who is also the chairman of the Pakistani Ladies Club, said she "plans to stage another event in mid-May." Coffee, tea and a small buffet - all native to Pakistan were provided. I especially liked the spicy, curried Potato Bhaji. Also on display were artifacts and items from Pakistan.

The first part of the show was folk dancing from each of the four provinces of Pakistan. Folk dancing of marriage occasions, harvest-time, or rituals at the onset of the monsoon season. That is why the dances are widely practiced all over Pakistan.

"In general, the dances represented the bounty of life, the joy and lamentation of seasons - as they begin and end," Mrs. Arif said. The Luddi, for example, a dance performed mostly at weddings, expresses the joy of living, while the dance from the province of Punjab related the heartache of a woman yearning for her beloved who has gone away.

The show presented the vibrance of life and tradition of Pakistani women through attire, dance and music. That still fits nicely with the life of a very modern day woman in Pakistan.

The dancing was very lively, and even better than an aerobic workout and more graceful than a ballet. The international audience was spell-bound, and participated with clapping hands, tapping feet and encouraging smiles. It was mesmerizing. I almost forgot that I wasn't there just to enjoy myself, but also to report on the event.

The Dress Show was in two parts: Colorful traditional dresses were exhibited in the first part, while the second part was a gay parade of formal dress-wear. Like the folk dance, the designs of the apparel are linked with considerations to the climatic seasons, geography and the Muslim beliefs of the people. In one way or another, the show may have started off what could be a series of fashion shows in Sanaa.

By:
Christine Clark,
Yemen Times



Shah in standard Pakistani Baluch dress



Noshina exhibiting bridal dress called Lehanga



Farah Waqar in Punjabi dress



Lubna Saeed in Shalwar Qameez/Turquoise



Shah in Baluchi dress



Aisha exhibiting formal embroidered dress



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Farah Alam in Kurta & Koti



Fareeha exhibiting Sindi dress



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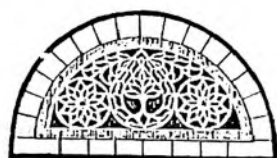
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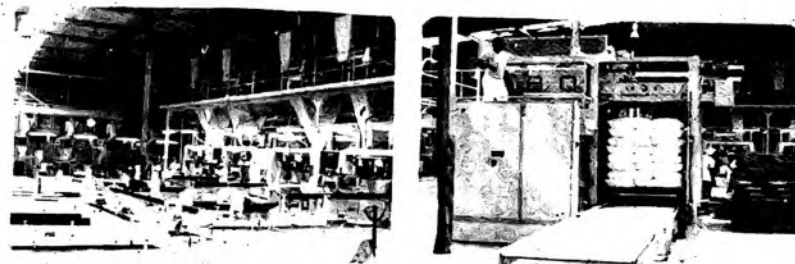
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“ Let us See if Your President Can Protect You”

A Police Officer

The following story happened to Adel Ben Harhara. Contributor to Yemen Times in Science and Technology.

Quote:

On April 11th, 1994, around 12:15 p.m., in Sana'a, while heading to the airport to pick up arriving relatives, at the intersection of Hadda and the Sixty Meter roads, a person claiming to be an officer approached me and asked me to show him my driver's license.

I gave him my International Drivers License, issued in the United States of America. Without saying a word, he waved the license back and forth, walked around to the passenger side of my car and stood there. I rolled down the window and asked him what he was doing.

"Open the door," he commanded, in an angry voice. I pulled the car over to the side of the road and let him in. I gave him both the registration and my identification card. He looked at my drivers license and said, "Put this in your ass." He looked at my registration book and said, "You are driving a brown car, but it is registered as a black car in this book." He then said (referring to my ID card), "Let us see if your president can protect you (referring to Mr. Al-Beedh)."

At that instant, I realized he was one of the many corrupt officers, so I asked him if I could see his superior officer. He replied to me, "I am in charge and I am going to take your car." I took the registration book and pointed out to him that the words that described the color were "brown with black stripes", and not "black". I also reminded him that those words were NOT written by me, but by a person at the traffic department. I then further pointed out that his reading problem should not be my problem.

He started screaming racial slurs. Politely, I said to him, "Officer, if there is a traffic violation, give me a ticket. The plane will arrive in 30 minutes. As much as I respect your position, I would like to be respected in the same way".

He then said to me, "Listen, you are Habashi ("Black" or in his interpretation, "Negro"), and a person of the South. A person like you does not deserve respect. Besides, you can call your president if you want to. I am from Sanhan village (Apparently the village of president Ali A. Saleh). No one can talk back to me, nor am I willing to listen to anyone."

He added, "My name is Saleh Al-Roosi. You can tell the whole world."

Realizing that the time was just a little before qat, and that he could be delirious and suffering withdrawal symptoms (from qat), I chose to keep calm. He incoherently rambled on, telling me that I was not a "real man". He repeated the word "Habashi" several times. I told him, "The issue of my color is irrelevant here. I am very proud of my Habashi up-bringing and my race." "Officer," I added, "I am asking you to stick to the problem of my (alleged) traffic violation."

I considered asking him to leave his gun in the car, getting out of my vehicle, and showing him who is a real man. I decided against that because he was wearing a military uniform and could possibly be a legitimate representative of the government. Besides, if he wanted to act like an ill-mannered animal, I didn't want to be part of his "circus".

He said to me, "You are an arrogant person. I have to take your car to the police department." I replied, "If there is a law saying that you have to take my car for not having a Yemen driver license, it is O.K. with me".

We drove to the traffic department. At the gate, he ordered me to stay outside the building. I insisted that I see the people in charge. He then politely asked me if I knew how long it would take to get my car released from the traffic department. My answer was, "I do not know." He said several days, and he suggested that we could "work out this problem." I knew he meant that he wanted a bribe to let me go. I told him that I would rather pay a ten thousand riyal fine than to pay him one riyal. He told me that I was stupid, he added, "Let Ali Salim Al-Beedh release your vehicle." Then he laughed at me.

It saddens me and, at the same time angers me when I think about all of these things that are so wrong in Yemen. Friends and strangers alike are always saying, "What do you expect? This is Yemen!"

Who is responsible for all this corruption and dereliction of duty? Is it you? And who is going to make it stop? Is it you? Or, are you waiting for someone else to make it stop? If you are waiting for all of our corrupt politicians and "officers" to take action, do yourself a favor and stop waiting. As long as they are the recipients of the booty, they have no motive to end the process. When we the people of Yemen make flogging, castration, and/or hanging the penalty for corruption, and when we the people of Yemen ensure that the laws are enforced, then all these corrupt politicians and "officers" will have an incentive to do their job properly. Maybe! It is too sad to see those who are supposed to "make", and those who are supposed to "enforce" the law, breaking the law. Unquote!

This Week's Major Headlines

Al-Ayyam newspaper, 6/4/1994

- * Ali Nasser Mohammad Calls the Yemeni Leadership to follow the Advice of Sheikh Zaid Bin Sultan.
- * A Number of Party Leaders of Al-Rabitah Return to Aden.
- * 8-year Sentence to the Hijaker of the Ethiopian Airliner in Aden.
- * Farouk Al-Jafri:- Is There a Jewish Art?

Al-Haq newspaper, 9/4/1994

- * A Consensus in Shabwa to Avoid Fighting.
- * An Interview with the Director of the Yemeni-Swedish Center in Taiz.
- * The Citizens and the Contaminated Waters.
- * Partition is refused.

Al-Shoura newspaper, 10/4/1994

- * After the Salala Meeting:- Speedy Preparations for another Meeting between the Chairman and Vice President of the Presidential Council.
- * Those who are against Federation are those against the Document of Pledge and Accord.
- * Love Precedes Marriage or Does it Come after it.
- * The Education Sector between the Ambitions of Dr. Al-Qirbi and the Antagonists.

Al-Thawri newspaper, 7/4/1994

- * Dr. Yaseen Noman: The Salalah Meeting was not a Failure.
- * Al-Attas: Any Military Move will be against Yemen's Interests
- * Our Coaching and the Morals of the Athletes.
- * Anis Hassan Yahya on Sallah: The Departure of a Great Leader who Led the 26th September Revolution.

Raay newspaper, 5/4/1994

- * Salalah Meeting Initiates for a new Type of Confederation.
- * A Comprehensive Campaign for Cleanlines of Hodiedah.
- * The Dialogue Committee Discusses the Formation of a Sub-committee for the Constitutional Amendments.
- * A Communique by the National Opposition Bloc.

Hadhramaut newspaper, 10/4/1994

- * Hadhramaut will Remain a strong Pillar of Yemeni Unity.
- * A Delegation of Indonesian Businessmen visits Aden and Hadhramaut.
- * Flashes from the History of Astronomy during the Islamic Epoch.
- * Mukalla Needs Modern Services.

Altanmia newspaper, 5/4/1994

- * Reconciliation or a Truce?
- * The Human Rights Organization in Yemen Visits Prisons.
- * Who Gains in Re-Partitioning?
- * The By-laws for Money Changing and Regulations of Dealing in Foreign Currency in Yemen.

Sout Al-Ommal, April 14, 1994

- * Sheikh Sinan Abu-Luhom: "The Regime is Playing with Fire."
- * Sanaa Faces serious Fuel and Gas Shortages.
- * Assassination Attempt on the Commander of Ba-Suhaib camp in Dhamar

Al-Mithak newspaper, 10/4/1994

- * An Invitation Iranian President to Visit Yemen.
- * After the Signing of the Document and Arab Mediation. What will Stabilize the Situation?
- * The President of Eritrea Concludes a short Visit to our Country.
- * A socialist plan to prolong the political crisis.

Al-Mustaqbal, 10/4/1994

- * Ali Salem Al-Beedh: "We refuse to retreat from the Document of Pledge and Accord."
- * Al-Attas: "The Mafia gangs caused a lot of harm to our economy and local currency."
- * The Solution to the Crisis Lies in Finding a State within the Framework of a Unified Yemen.
- * The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia Denationalizes Usama Bin Laden who Lives in Sudan and who is Accused of Financing Terrorism.

THE PLANS OF THE SEPARATISTS WILL FAIL

Eight months of political crisis makes it clear that the only way to solve it is through continued dialogue and regular meetings between the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Presidential Council in pursuit of a solution.

If the national interests of Yemen should be held above all other considerations, any dialogue would necessarily focus on building a sound foundation for bringing an end to this crisis.

Despite the positive outcome of the Salalah meeting, some people insist on describing it as a failure. That isn't true, for not only was the Salalah meeting successful, but any meeting between the president and vice president whatever its outcome might be, is a success in itself. Such meetings allow the exchange of information and open channels of communication. This is important, particularly after the long separation between the two men. Face to faces meetings and frank and open discussions will pave the way for solutions which will up-hold the national interests.

It was an opportunity to listen to and rethink about each other's point of view in a less tense atmosphere. So, meetings do renew the hopes of finding a peaceful way out to solve the problems we face, although certain circles don't want it to be solved out as they consider it a threat to their interests.

What happened in Dhamar can not be justified and its continuation will severely jeopardize both unity and democracy. What happened in Dhamar is a new obstacle in the way of implementing the Document. It is the task of all true patriots to prevent committing any more irresponsible acts and caution against those who want to ignite a war in our homeland.

Editorial
Al-Thawri, Sanaa
7/4/1994

WE ARE UNITED

It is regrettable that some newspapers re spreading baseless accusations against our paper and terming us as separatists. We don't want to be dragged into squabbles because it was our decision when decided to start this paper (Hadhramaut) to make a mean of understanding and peace in the country and help to alleviate problems we face in the current situation with logic, dialogue, patience and possible solutions.

Some people in mass media gossiped about what they labeled: A project of separation of Hadhramaut. It seems that any call for wide local government rule, with full authorization, meant to them separation. They accuse anyone call for rebuilding the state on modern foundations to be a separatist.

Such outbursts impedes the implementation of the Document. The whole attempt is aimed at closing the door on any kind of hope to resolve this crisis.

Hereby, we want to confirm that we are with our people in establishing a state of law and order. We want local government rule and we think that our governorate, Hadhramaut, has potential and the capabilities to enrich this project.

Editorial
Hadhramaut, Mukalla,
10/4/1994

DIALOGUE COMMITTEE'S HIDE AND SEEK

Since the political forces of the ruling coalition adopted the call for arbitration instead of fighting, its goal was clear in contributing to reach a workable solution for the dilemma even though parts of the ruling coalition are responsible in creating and escalating the crisis.

As part of the opposition, we see that we are responsible for shouldering this blame. Through our long struggle, we were troubled by procrastination and even attempts of containment. Despite all attempts, we are still hopeful to solve the crisis and we consider signing of the document as the first step.

In fact, the Document is regarded as a new program for building the modern Yemen. The Dialogue Committee has followed up its work without stopping since the signing on the Document regardless of the predicaments in Abyan, Harf Sufian, Dhamar, the Dialogue Committee has not stopped meeting.

There are forces that endeavor to impede the implementation of the Document. The crisis is not a difference between this party and that party in authority.

The persons who endeavor to block the Document must understand there is nothing greater than the anger of the people.

By Mohammad Rawah,
Al-Shoura, Sanaa,
10/4/1994

Protection of the Unity Is First Priority

The efforts of the Arab intermediation has always been oriented towards protecting the Yemeni unity. But now following the long hours and anxiety and worry, no one is willing to tolerate any more agony. No sane and decent Yemeni would accept the risks to which our unity is exposed.

Resolving the crisis does not just mean controlling the military flashpoints and the potential of confrontation. It also means finding answers to our economic and social difficulties. It means working on the physical and social infrastructure.

Unity means nothing if the quality and standard of life of our people do not improve. It also means that the citizen should be free from fear - least of which is fear about the unity of the nation.

It is imperative therefore, that all of us should use the time factor in resolving our problems.

Editorial,
Al-Thawrah, Sanaa,
16/4/1994.

A STANDPOINT

We repeatedly focused on the point that the solution of the current crisis lies in a new approach based on a new mentality. The old mentalities have led us to the crisis and will not help us get out of it.

The implementation of the Document is the only means to resolve this crisis and our leaders should understand this.. To implement the Document, our leaders should gradually get rid of their proteges and entourage.

The people around our leaders are corrupt and any meaningful and progressive march has an impact on their personal interests.

Undoubtedly, these corrupt people won't accept the implementation of the Document. Therefore, they are trying by all means to create situations of crisis and wars. It is important to stand up against them so as to let the people live in peace. Our leaders should cooperate with the faithful and honest people to be able to uproot corruption in our society. Any neglect will lead to more corruption and destruction. This will definitely lead to overthrow of the leaders themselves.

Editorial
AlBalagh, Sanaa
12/4/1994

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SOMALIA: CHOLERA EPIDEMIC SPREADS

A WHO Task Force of six experts supported by four members of the Swiss Disaster Relief Team including physicians, epidemiologists, pharmacists and nurses - has been deployed in Somalia to help coordinate the fight against a cholera epidemic which is threatening to spread all over the country. Working with colleagues from UNICEF, UNOSOM, UNDP and various non-governmental organizations, these experts are now at work in the worst affected zones including Bossaso, Belet Weyn, Balo Berde, Baidoa, Kismayo and Mogadishu. To date, some 1500 cases, including 100 fatalities, have been reported for the whole country, but it is feared that many more have contracted the disease.

The main sources of infection are fatally contaminated drinking water, and contaminated foods prepared by infected persons. WHO Cholera Task Force recommends and is coordinating the chlorination of wells; health education messages on boiling drinking water for cooking, on personal hygiene, on adequate excreta and garbage disposal, and on the emergency construction of pit latrines.

Most cholera infections are mild; patients may have no symptoms or only mild diarrhea. In a minority of cases, however, there is rapid onset of severe watery diarrhea and vomiting, resulting in the loss of large amounts of fluid and salts from the body. Patients become thirsty, stop urinating, and quickly become weak as a result of dehydration. Patients with severe cholera often complain of cramps in the stomach, arms or legs. All cases of cholera should be treated immediately. If treatment is delayed or inadequate, death from dehydration and circulatory collapse may follow shortly.

Only one strain of cholera infection has been identified in Somalia at present - *Vibrio cholerae* 01. The organism is sensitive to inexpensive antibiotics, such as tetracycline and co-trimoxazole. WHO recommends the use of doxycycline or tetra-

cycline as first choice antibiotic. All effective antibiotics and adequate supplies are available at the WHO Central Pharmacy in Mogadishu, managed jointly with the non governmental organization Pharmacies Sans Frontieres.

The most important treatment of cholera is dehydration, to replace water and salts lost through severe diarrhea and vomiting. Most patients can be rehydrated quickly and simply with a solution of oral rehydration salts (ORS). Intravenous rehydration should be used only for the initial rehydration of severely dehydrated patients, including those who are in shock.

Furthermore, a clinical laboratory for biological testing is in the process of being established in Mogadishu with the cooperation of the African Medical Research Foundation (AMREF), a non-governmental organization based in Kenya with experience in providing health services in remote areas. This facility will be completed as soon as the security situation permits. At present, the diagnosis and tests are being conducted in Nairobi. The purpose of these tests is to identify newly affected area, it is not necessary to examine specimens from all cases or contacts. Apparent victims are treated without waiting for further laboratory diagnosis.

WHO is strengthening health surveillance in the entire country. It intends to support the completion of a central reference laboratory in addition to the establishment of satellite laboratories in other affected regions. WHO is also organizing intensive training courses for health personnel involved in the detection and management of cholera cases, conducting a workshop for 20 expatriate staff of international non-governmental organizations in Nairobi, and providing guidance to UN agencies and NGOs involved in the provision of health care in general and cholera control measures in particular.

INDUSTRY IN ERITREA: RE AND POST LIBERATION

Italian rule in Eritrea saw the rise of modern industry with the establishment of 25 different factories.

These were mainly to meet the demand for finished goods by Italian settlers in Eritrea as well as to aid in Italy's war of expansion in the Horn of Africa.

After the defeat and consequent exit of the Italians from Eritrea, the British rule saw the addition of about 50 more new factories in the economy mainly related to the waging of the Second World War, the war in 1945 and with it ended industrial expansion in Eritrea. As the British Administration in Eritrea was considered temporary, the British authorities began to sell and transfer Eritrean industrial establishments and other properties to foreign countries "in order to cover for the cost of administering Eritrea."

The worsened both the social and the economic situation in Eritrea, leading to widespread unemployment, famine and migration of skilled Eritrean workers.

Under the Ethiopians -both during the Haile Selassie and the Dergue regimes-the Eritrean industry was targeted to deliberately weaken it in order to contain the Eritrean people's resistance. Accordingly, some of the remaining industrial firms were transferred to Ethiopian, resulting in the same outcome as during the last years of the British rule.

When liberation came in 1991, the status of Eritrean industrial sector was in shambles. Factories were in dilapidated conditions with outdated

machinery and a huge burden of debts. In fact all production was at a standstill for lack of spare-parts, fuel and / or electric power. The task of rehabilitating them seemed, at the time, a near impossible task.

But the EPLF has had its own industrial establishments which have been producing essential commodities in the liberated areas. These were incorporated step by step into the existing ones and helped significantly with reviving production in this sector. Such factories included production of clothes metal and wood items (from mid-1970s), plastic shoes factories (1981, essential medicines (1984) sanitary towels (1984), baby food factory (1989), bandage factory (1988), macaroni food factory (1989) and factory for the production of underwear (1991).

Furthermore, the new Eritrean Government took the following important steps to revitalize the Eritrean industrial sector.

Froze all the accumulated debts of the factories;

Arranged for government-owned enterprises to secure needed working capital from the Commercial Bank of Eritrea, although at high interest rates;

Abolished the existing government centralized centers of distribution, thus enabling the industrial enterprises to fully control the distribution and sale of their product;

The Department of Industry began a study of the financial status of the state-owned factories in preparation for their eventual privatization, and in the meantime, introduced

efficient management systems in each factory; began careful collection of statistical data on each firm's annual program, plans for production, workforce requirement, needed raw materials, etc...

Steps were taken to re-opened closed-down factories like the Anibia Factory for sack production Agordat, the Salt Factory in Massawa, the Tobacco Factory in Tokombia, the Iron and Steel Factory in Asmara, etc. while at the same time, encouraging the start of new industrial enterprises that meet the immediate demand of the Eritrean economy.

Provided needed hard currency for the purchase of spare parts, raw materials, machinery and other needed imports through a program of World Bank loans targeted for rehabilitation of the factories. To date, the Department of Industry has secured from World Bank and other donor countries 21 million US for public sector industries and 7 million US for private industrial enterprises for that purpose.

These steps, together with a well laid out strategy to attract new industrial investments and expansions, will result in accelerated improvements in the productive capacity of the sector. Already production has steadily increased and the number of industrial firms is growing: As of December 1993, the Department of Industry lists a total of 1017 industrial enterprises in Eritrea out of which 972 are privately owned and operated. The number keeps increasing with time.

Job Announcements

ICD (International Cooperation for Development), a British non-governmental organization, is looking for health workers for a new primary health care project which will offer services to the refugee population in Sana'a.

Administrator /Coordinator

The Refugee Health Administrator/Coordinator will be responsible for day to day management of health care centre staff, and will assist in planning, implementation and monitoring of the health project.

This is a demanding job requiring a high level of organizational skill, good communication skills, excellent English and at least three years' administrative and financial experience. Applicants must have a knowledge of NGO work and experience of health programs.

MCH Doctor

The Refugee Health Center requires an experienced female doctor with a specialization in MHC or gynaecology. The doctor will be required to provide curative treatment within the centre and to set up and manage a referral system to other health facilities where necessary. This will require close liaison with local health facilities.

Midwives/Female Nurses/Social workers

Two midwives are required to establish MCH and social services for the refugee population. Candidates must have at least four years community midwifery or MCH experience. One of the candidates must also have experience in social work and counselling. Somali language is essential for both posts.

For further information and application forms contact:

ICD Tel. (01) 275222
Fax (0) 276576

Over 20 million in East Africa Face Famine

The lives of more than 20 million persons in 10 East African countries are at risk because of civil strife and drought, government relief officials said last week. The countries with large numbers of people who could face severe malnutrition or perhaps starvation are Ethiopia, Somalia, Eritrea, Rwanda, Burundi, Uganda, Tanzania and Kenya.

The ethnic strife in Rwanda and Burundi was underscored when the presidents of both countries died after their plane was shot down as it arrived at the international airport in Rwanda. The two presidents were on their way home from a summit in Tanzania that was aimed at bringing peace to the two countries, which have been plagued by tribal warfare for decades.

Lois Richards, a senior official of the Agency for International Development, said 11 million people on the 10-country region are affected by the drought, 7 million more are internally neighboring countries.

Once donor countries are alerted to drought conditions in a given area, she said, it normally takes three months to arrange for delivery. "That's why it's important that we get these warnings as early as we can before there is mass famine," Richards told a news briefing.

She said the United States had authorized \$275 million in emergency food aid resources to African countries in need, of which \$170 million was for the Horn of Africa. Because of the dire conditions, that figure has been increased by \$44 million recently, she said.

She added that a strong response by donor countries helped avert starvation in 1992 in Southern Africa, where drought affected an estimated 18 million persons. "We need to step in again as we did in 1992 and through a joint internationally coordinated response try to prevent famine occurring on a massive scale due to drought," she said.

But she noted that humanitarian crises elsewhere, including the former Yugoslavia, northern Iraq and other regions in Africa, have made it increasingly difficult for donor countries to meet the requirements.

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CILLER APPEALS FOR FAITH IN HER AUSTERITY PACKAGE

Turky's first lady Prime Minister Tansu Ciller continues to live dangerously. she has just unveiled an austerity package, the most sweeping in 14 years, which she has called it War on Economic Terror. since becoming prime minister 8 months ago, she has devoted practically all her energies fighting PKK guerrillas in south-eastern Turkey, which in 10 years has cost more than 11,000 lives.

The new economic measures called 'bitter medicine' is a belt tightening operation which involves price hikes ranging between 45 percent and 100 percent, layoff of workers in uneconomic state enterprises and fresh taxes to close the yawning budget deficit.

In a press conference on April 5 Prime Minister Ciller and her coalition partner Deputy Prime Minister Murat Karayalcin, leader of the center left Social Democratic People's Party, pointed out that the sweeping measures had become inevitable to avoid Turkey sliding into a Latin American type of situation.

Turky's current rate of inflation is 74 percent and has been going headlong toward 100 percent. It was underlined that efforts would be made to distribute the burden evenly and a bill was placed before parliament yesterday to grant the government authority 'for one time only'

taxes from large corporations and the wealthy. The price hikes announced recently include a rise between 46 percent and 90 percent of petroleum and petroleum products, Turkish Airlines 47 percent to 53.3 percent. State monopoly which produces cigarettes, alcohol etc., 77 percent to 100 percent, PTT 50 percent to 70 percent, and olive 35 percent. It is evident that these price rises will have a claim reaction on practically all other goods and services, since these measures were widely anticipated, there has been panic buying in the market during the last fortnight.

Following prime minister's press conference the governor of the Central Bank Yaman Toruner devalued Turkish lira by 38.8 percent against the U.S. dollar, which jumped to more than 32,000 Turkish liras to the dollar against its previous day's 29,000. A new bill has been placed before the parliament yesterday granting more autonomy to the central bank, which for long has been under the thumb of the Treasury. The bitter medicine although not unexpected appears harshest for the uneconomic holdings of Karabuk Iron and Steel mills and Zonguldak coal mines. In disinvesting these enterprises the government tries to sugarcoat the pill by such measures as setting up industrial estates, an

university. Yet the reaction of the President of Turkish Labor Union (Turk Is) Bayram Meral, was sharp and he in a strongly worded statement said "we will make the government swallow its bitter medicine."

In a bid to enlist popular support Ciller stated that every 3 months the progress of her measures would be evaluated in front of the public and corrective measures will be taken wherever necessary. She appealed for 'faith in her program.'

Ten days ago in countrywide municipal elections belying all predictions Ciller managed to make her True Path Party (DYP) the first although by a tiny margin. She has been perceived as battling heroically against PKK terrorists and successfully eliminating their influence in such stronghold as Germany. This 10 year war has been draining away precious resources badly needed for the uplift of southeastern Turkey. Turkey has a foreign debt of over \$70 billion and it is steadily rising. Ciller, the economic professor turned politician, first lady prime minister of Turkey, has taken on the strongest enemy yet - plugging the holes in the economy left unattended for years, the social scene appears clam although there are rumblings of discontent of housewives, who worry how to make the budget with soaring prices.

GEO-SCIENCE MEET NEXT WEEK

Over a thousand regional and international experts and scientists will meet in Bahrain on April 25-27 to discuss the latest trends in oil exploration and oil field developments as they affect the Middle East region.

Sources said Saudi Arabia's Aramco will present 18 major technical papers and four poster displays during this first international geo-science conference and exhibition focused on the mid-east, particularly the Gulf. The conference, dubbed as Geo'94, will be attended by some 400 international experts from North and South America, Europe and Asia.

There will be about 300 representatives from the GCC countries and approximately 300 delegates from Saudi Aramco.

World experts will present over 100 technical papers and 50 poster exhibits during 15 technical sessions.

"The conference is significant because it is the first time serious exchange of experiences, expertise, studies in oil exploration, development and production is taking place in this kind of meeting between Middle Eastern countries and the rest of the world," Ibrahim Al-Jalal, government liaison engineer of Saudi Aramco, said.

Al-Jalal, who is also a member of the technical program committee of the conference representing the Dhahran Geological Society, said most of the papers and presentations will highlight the progress in geological and geophysical technology.

Mahmoud Abdul-Baqi, vice-president of the department of geology and exploration of Saudi Aramco and chairman of the conference, said that Geo '94 offers "a new venue for interaction and exchange of geo-science technology in this very important region for the oil industry and the entire geo-science community worldwide."

The Conference is being sponsored by Bahrain's National Oil Company in cooperation with the American Association of Petroleum Geologists, Dhahran Geological Society (the host of the conference), Society of Exploration Geophysicists, and the Society of Explorationists of the Emirates.

Regional participants include Bahrain National Oil Company, Petroleum Development of Oman, Abu Dhabi National Oil Company, Kuwait Oil Company, Qatar General Petroleum Company, Petroleum Development of Oman, Abu Dhabi Marine Operating Company, Dubai Petroleum Company, Gulf Petrolink, Schlumberger Middle East, and Western Atlas Arabia.

Chevron Petroleum, Shell, BP Exploration, Mobil, Exxon Exploration, Elf Aquitaine, Halliburton Energy Services, Conoco, Simon Petroleum Technology, British Gas, and other international energy research groups and universities will also be taking part in the conference.

A delegation representing the government of Yemen is also participating.

MOSCOW BOUND BY TREATY TO HELP NORTH KOREA

A senior Russian official said last week that Moscow would be bound by a treaty with Pyongyang to help North Korea, at the center of row over its nuclear program, if it were attacked.

"We have informed North Koreans as well as South Koreans and the United States, that Russia, as a country which is a legitimate successor of the Soviet Union, is carrying obligations from treaties which are still in force," said Deputy Foreign Minister Alexander Panov, a former Ambassador to Seoul.

"It is natural that if we say tomorrow that we will not follow our obligations taken from the Soviet Union, there will be mess... Russia will help always North Korea if North Korea is unprovokedly attacked. This we say by ourselves. This is our own decision, it will be taken according to our legislation our constitution," he said.

The UN Security Council, including Russia and China, last week issued a mildly worded statement calling on Pyongyang to allow unhampered inspections by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

But Panov proposed an international conference to resolve the issue.

We see bilateral efforts by the US., IAEA, by South Korea didn't bring us any results, except getting us into a vicious circle by creating heavy by creating heavy tensions in the Korean peninsula," Panov said.

"So, to find a way out of this, we have proposed an international conference by six countries and representatives of the United Nations and the IAEA," Panov said.

A US defense official said on Thursday that Pyongyang was prepared to "leap forward" in its program to build nuclear weapons despite international pressures.

"They are poised to leap forward," Assistant Defense Secretary Ashton Carter said of Pyongyang's recent expansion of its capacity to make plutonium for nuclear arms. But he said North Korea was not now producing such material.

Isolated and unpredictable, North Korea has denied it has nuclear arms ambitions while repeatedly refusing to allow full inspections by the IAEA of its reactors and other facilities.

Tensions on the Korean peninsula have escalated this year. The United States has 37,000 troops in South Korea, and North Korea has positioned most of its million-man army near its border with the South.

"There are more than one million and 500,000 servicemen and in high combat readiness on the Peninsula," Panov said. "We believe this situation that has brought us on the brink of war is quite unreasonable, because everywhere in Asia the tendency is to decrease these tensions."

US Deputy Secretary of State Strobe Talbott is currently visiting South Asian Arch-foes to defuse tensions between the two nations, believed to be capable of building nuclear weapons in a short time.

Talbott, who was on a visit to in Islamabad after a high-level talks in New Delhi, said Washington's proposal to deliver 38 F-16S to Pakistan if Islamabad caps its nuclear program was an important step towards non-proliferation.

"I think the proposal is commercially motivated, an effort to sell more American aircraft," Panov said. "This kind of thing will lead to an arms race in the region."

But, he also added that Indian Prime Minister P V Narasimha Rao, due to visit Moscow in June, was expected to buy MiG-29 war planes from Russia.

DIANA SET TO BECOME RED CROSS ROVING ENVOY

Princess Diana is poised to become a roving ambassador for the British Red Cross, spending more time abroad and ending her self-imposed exile from public life, a British newspaper reported.

The Sunday Times said Diana had been negotiating details of her new role with the director-general of the British Red Cross, Mike Whitlam, and an announcement was due shortly. The Princess of Wales, the estranged wife of heir-to-the-throne Prince Charles, has rarely been seen in public since her retreat from the spotlight four months ago.

The move would make her the

Red Cross' most glamorous figure-head since the late Princess Grace of Monaco, who adopted the movement as her favorite charity.

"If the Princess of Wales does choose the Red Cross that will be terrific for us," the paper quoted Whitlam as saying.

He said Diana was considering spending time abroad for the charity but he had not yet been informed of her final decision.

The British Red Cross has a strong tradition of links with the royal family. Queen Elizabeth is its patron and president and Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother is deputy president.

Buckingham Palace said there has been a great deal of speculation over the princess's future. "She is looking at a number of options at the moment, some of which are with the Red Cross."

The paper said Diana's work with the charity would fall under the umbrella of the international federations of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies. She is expected to work as a special overseas delegate focusing particularly on Europe.



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Anti-smoking is the banner that many nations have and are adopting. Implementation of non-smoking/smoking areas in most "developed" countries is

as economics that were beyond our control

Q: Let's talk about the treatment. How do you feel about using nicotine gum, patches or

and be at peace with yourself. These needles can be left in place for several days. (Times: The needles were painless but the smell of the medicine

ment. After the three days, **100%** will have quit. After the three days we begin consultations. The 1st week there is a 1 hr. session, after two weeks

SMOKING: A WORLDWIDE HEALTH ISSUE Is There Finally A Cure?

now law even to the point of requiring smokers to be at least 20 feet away from public buildings. Third World countries are slowly "jumping on the band wagon", realizing that the issue of health and the risk of smoking needs to be seriously addressed. There have been many so-called cures and methods to help people get over the addiction of smoking, mostly focusing on toxication and the harmful side, including preaching to people to quit. Dr. Kimo Karash believes he has finally found a cure. Dr. Kimo, Founder/Director of The Scandinavian Centre for Natural Medicine is a Norwegian citizen of Syrian descent. He is also the main researcher for the Centre in. Dr. Kimo recently visited where he is considering to organize some of his center's activities. Yemen Times met and interviewed him.

nasal spray?

A: I liken it to giving an alcoholic a shot of liquor to help him stop drinking. There is a saying in Alcoholics Anonymous: "One drink is too many and a thousand aren't enough." I don't believe it is an effective treatment and is detrimental to put the same

placed in the nose was akin to backed-up sewage. Drops placed on the tongue tasted like licking a dirty rug. Our eyes watered. Menthol tasting drops were then given, although not bad tasting extremely strong. We were almost crying, not in pain but our senses were overwhelmed.

another 1 hr., this pattern, not individual but in group sessions, continues to 3 months then 1 hr. each month up to 6 months. By 6 months you should be completely smokeless.

Q: For your program to be successful must a person be adamant about quitting?

A: No. For example, in Norway there was a man who was 62 years old, had smoked at least 2 packs (40 cig.) per day, he only came to the clinic out of curiosity not because he particularly wanted to quit. After 3 days he was smokeless. After 4 months he is still not smoking.

Q: If someone does relapse do you repeat the 3 day procedure again?

A: No, we use another type of herbal medicine that reinforces the feeling of not wanting to smoke and this is inhaled through the

nose and the patient experiences a "bad taste" literally and figuratively for smoking. In testing 943 people, only one felt like "playing" with smoking.

Q: Is your research/treatment recognized by any national or international health organizations such as WHO?

A: Right now we are actively contacting WHO to prove that the treatment does work. But as with any new treatment there can be some skepticism. But WHO is resolved to improve the situation and is willing to explore all avenues. 93% of people who smoke wish to quit.

Q: How much does this program cost?

A: Of course in the Scandinavian countries it is more expensive than it would be in say Yemen. Here it would cost approximately 350 US dollars. (21,000 YR). This is not just the medicine but includes the "follow-up" consultations, group therapy and so on for a 6 month period. If you smoke 50 cigarettes a day, we are responsible for the first 49. But the last one, the 50th is your responsibility. We can't make that decision for you.

By Christine Clark and Mohamed Abdulhamid Yemen Times



Dr. Kimo: (corner photo) and four of his patients in the center in Oslo

substance that one is addicted to back into your system. Abstinence is the key for any addiction. Studies have shown that after 3 weeks, we find there is a nicotine purge with most patients.. After 52 weeks the effectiveness of these types of treatments is only about 20%.

Q: Given that, are there certain "phases" that one must go through?

A: Yes, and we find that the person who has quit smoking for 3 days, 1 month or 3 months is a different person than someone who has quit for 6 months. Statistically it has been shown that there are several phases one goes through in order to quit smoking. After the 3-day treatment, there is a **100%** success rate. Let me explain what this 3 day treatment is about (Yemen Times went through the first step in this treatment, although for only 15 min instead of the prescribed 1 hr): There are several herbal, natural medicines, and I stress non-chemical medicines that we administer. We use many different varieties of herbs in different combinations. The first step is to create an environment in the mouth and nose that makes it unpleasant to smoke. This is in conjunction with acupuncture needles placed on the tips your ears which will help you to relax

Q: When did you begin your research?

A: It started in 1983, but we didn't get any results until 1990. It took so long because there were many factors such

Continued from Page 3

Interview with Dr. Abdulmalik Al-Mikhlafi

The idea of a document was originally ours, which was then adopted by the Dialogue Committee and finally the whole nation approved it.

We have also presented a step-by-step phasing-in of the document stipulations which is now accepted by the main actors in Yemeni politics. I would like to stress here that we are not intermediaries, we have our own vision and point of view which we present and promote in negotiations. We are not a neutral by-stander.

Q: What is the basic reason for the crisis?

A: Some people say the crisis is due to differences between the two ALIs regarding power sharing. I think that is an oversimplification.

In my opinion, there are real reasons for the crisis. Let me summarize the causes of the crisis by saying that the past has caught up with us as we are trying to build a new Yemen. So it is this struggle that is at the base of our present difficulties. The people have carried the burden of the crisis. The hardships at the economic, social, security, and other levels, have become enormous.

I think the ruling politicians, out of self-interest, must bring relief as soon as possible. If the situation deteriorates further, nobody can tell what could happen.

Q: In the tug of war between the PGC and YSP, who do you think is wrong?

A: We were whole-heartedly with the YSP when it was calling for reforms and changes as part of the state-building process. We believe in the objectives it proclaimed such as equal citizenship, law and order, institution-building, modernization, etc.

But now the struggle has shifted from revolving around the kind of system and state we want to one around whether there will be a unified Yemeni state or not. The unity issue is a most vital issue to us and we have begun to re-position ourselves depending on how the PGC and YSP look at unity. The YSP cannot expect to become a hero for unifying the country, and a hero for dismantling the unity. It has to be damned for either.

Irrespective of who is working against unity, or for separation, let me stress that the center (Sanaa) cannot secede. It is illogical. Even if it does things to force others to secede. It is the margins or others (read, Aden) who can secede. That is a basic logic.

Let me mention here your (Dr. Al-Saqaf's) recent letter to the Vice President which I think well-timed and excellently reasoned. We use such letters and positions as a guideline or thermometer to gauge the opinion of the people.

I think the YSP would do itself a service if it were to re-adjust accordingly. It should not let itself be drawn into a position where it is seen as working against Yemeni unity.

Q: Where does the Islah fit in all of this?

A: The Islah think they will reap the benefits from the in-fighting between the PGC and YSP, and they have worked to feed such an in-fighting. It has also tried to capitalize on this situation by strengthening its influence in the government administration, military, and public opinion - internally and externally.

I have seen instances where the PGC depends more on Islah people more than it does on its own members.

Q: The political opposition has worked to bridge the gap between the PGC and YSP leaders. Are you not worried if they agree, it will again be marginalized and left in the cold?

A: I think that is a possibility, but if they PGC and YSP reach such a conclusion, they would be short-sighted. The YSP knows that in its eternal haggling with the PGC, it could not achieve the far-reaching reforms achieved through the collective forum represented in the Dialogue Committee. Simultaneously, the PGC knows that it does not have the access and ability of influence which the opposition have over the YSP.

Q: Are you satisfied with the role of the opposition in Yemeni politics?

A: Yes, I am satisfied, although I think more could have been done. Two reasons have limited the role of the opposition. a- The ruling coalition parties have often tried to block the legitimate role of the opposition. b- The crisis overwhelmed us so much that we could not do more at other fronts. I expect the opposition to play a more constructive role in the future.

Q: What do you think of the Yemen Times?

A: I think any serious politician reads the Yemen Times or has it read for him/her. In my opinion, this paper plays a far-reaching role in strengthening democracy, pluralism, and the political evolution of Yemen. It is a respectable newspaper.

Q: How is it that a fiercely independent political party like yours accepts the presence of military attaches from foreign countries in a committee that has access to our deepest military secrets?

A: Let me assure you that this decision was taken by the two ALIs and is done outside of the Dialogue Committee. We have expressed our refusal for this situation. I would like to stress that this crisis, unlike managed wisely, will lead to compromises in our sovereignty and independence.

Q: Any last comments?

A: I wish that all friends of Yemen will realize that a unified and democratic Yemen is an element of stability for the country and the region.



The Right of Reply:

"THERE IS NO DISCRIMINATION!"

In your Yemen Times, Vol. IV, issue # 9 dated 27th, Feb. 1994, on page 10, we read a letter to the Editor entitled "Discrimination against Yemeni Passport Holders by Russian Airlines."

As an agent of Aeroflot- Russian International Airlines - we would like to clarify that there is no discrimination against Yemeni Passport Holders whatsoever and most of our traveling passengers are Yemenies.

The fact is that the flight route starts from Moscow transiting in Aden on its way to Nairobi. The flight is usually full from Europe and it is very difficult to transport any passenger from Aden to Nairobi. Therefore, the flight is usually closed from Moscow and only when it takes-off from Moscow are we advised of seat availability; and of course we book passengers available. Those booked fly with us, and 99% of them are Yemeni.

We often have some 50 seats per flight available. We book and transport Yemeni passengers who call on us.

We re-assure you there is no discrimination against Yemeni Passport holders at all. Thank you for your interest.

By: Hassan Yassin,
ARHAB TRAVEL & TOURS
AEROFLOT AGENT.

DISCRIMINATION AMONG STUDENTS

I want to shed light on some of the things I see wrong in some of the schools in Sana'a. One of the problems is related to wearing uniforms in schools. The thing is that students from other Arab countries don't always follow this law of wearing school uniforms. The main discrepancy is the lack of enforcement by the headmasters/headmistresses of certain schools to preserve equality. Therefore, it is my feeling that school administrations give preferential treatment to foreign students as compared to Yemeni students.

The principal is often punish Yemeni students by having them do menial labor, whereas the others do not have to. There is another strange thing going on in some schools. I know of teachers who allow some of their Non-Yemeni students to correct the work of colleagues in class. Finally, I want to say that whatever their nationalities, all students should be treated with equality.

By: Najlaa AbdulRhman Al-Khazzan,
Sanaa

CRITICIZING YEMEN TIMES

I don't know what my response must be: humorous, sadistic, serious or ironic. I surmised it should be the last one after I realized that many of our contemporary schools are using Yemen Times as a drilling material for teaching English. I congratulate you for the impeccable esteem you hold among our teachers despite your spelling mistakes, run-on sentences, sentence fragments, awkward and vague ideas, equivocal, ambiguous articles and simply misprints! No wonder the language of our young English learners has begun to deteriorate lately.

I am obliged to acknowledge my gratification to your policy of making the advertisers subsidize the readers. But still don't you think that your claim of the paper costing 60 YR had it not been for the advertisements is a bit hyperbolic. One of the best international magazines, Newsweek, costs about 65 YR. Surely no sane person would ever consider the Yemen Times to be as good as Newsweek? You can't be serious.

One more thing. I would like to comment on Susan Sanganee's claim in her issue dated January 30th, 94 of the Sanaa skyline being dotted with satellite dishes of various sizes - a sign of prosperity in poor Yemen. I would like to address this misconception that 'this is not a sign of prosperity but rather a sign showing the immense generation gap between the rich and poor (including middle-class) Yemenis.' The rich are living aristocratically whereas thousands of poor people are dying due to lack of basic daily needs.

By: Majid Hashim Abdulhamid Ali
M.A.O. School, Taiz.

CANADA DRY MAKES YEMEN HAPPY?

All of us can smile with relief: consumers, housewives, environmentalists and economists. Canada Dry Sanaa; solves all our problems in one go by introducing the PET bottle or so the Company says (Yemen Times, April 19 1994).

The company spokesman apparently did not take the trouble to explain to the Yemen Times reporter that the price the consumer pays for containers of any kind, glass, PE, PET, rarely reflects real production cost. The same, for that matter, applies to the contents. In other places where bottles are used (the Netherlands, for instance), they are quite expensive, sometimes even more expensive than glass bottles. The high price serves as an incentive for the customers to take the bottles. The high price serves as an incentive for the customers to take the bottles back to where they came from, keeping the country clean. In some countries (Denmark, for example) the use of cans for soft drinks is forbidden, and only reusable containers are allowed.

No doubt the PET bottles will degrade, as everything does if you wait long enough. But in the meantime, they will cause the same headache to the community (also to those who cannot afford to be consumers) as all the other rubbish does. Moreover, all this throwing away is a waste of material, energy and money, no use to anyone.

This new move is a step in the wrong direction, away from sustainable development. Of course the PET bottle is a fine invention: light and strong! But if Canada Dry really wants to make everybody happy, not only the lazy customers, they should put a high deposit on the bottles and take them back. Just like the glass bottles, that thanks to their high price hardly ever litter our environment - only lighter to carry back.

And since Canada Dry Cola, in its own words, represents a hefty 70% of the soft drinks market, such a move could have a significant impact. For now consumers in Yemen still have a choice: those who take environment protection as a serious matter and who don't want to add to the amount of plastic already littering the streets will gladly accept the burden of preserving and returning glass bottles. And should Canada Dry no longer supply the glass bottle: Pepsi still does! Cheers!

Two unhappy environmentalists:
Martino Smits and Henk Wim de Mooij,
Resident Advisers to the Environment
Protection Council,
Sanaa.

OUR LEADERS: WHERE ARE THEY LEADING US TO?

Every Yemeni believes that the two Alis (president and vice-president of Yemen) have engraved their names with gold in the history of the world. Yes, they did that when they led our people to the greatest achievement - unity, of which we all feel proud. It was really a brave step which attracted world respect, admiration and appreciation. That was on 22nd May, 1990.

Since then, Yemen has maintained a perfect reputation as the country of wise leaders. We gradually enhanced this by passing successfully through the parliamentary election, 27th April, 1993.

We realize that our unity has many enemies who have been putting devilish plans to undermine it. What I would like to convey is that achieving something does not mean we have finished the job. However such achievement should be protected by honest and continued effort. In other words this sacred unity must be cared for and guarded with our lives. We should bear in mind that everything must be very cheap comparing with our reunification.

During the previous seven months Yemen has been passing through a political crisis which in turn led to a dangerous social anxiety. In fact, people have almost lost their credibility on their leaders and politicians because of their little benefits. Everyone cares his own party and dedicates his efforts merely to destroy others ignoring the great responsibility towards our precious homeland and the innocent people who have been suffering from hunger and poverty for along time.

I am just wondering whether our politicians are wise enough to forget their differences for a while and take lessons from other countries which experienced similar problems but failed

to tackle them. What did they obtain? merely a civil war absorbed their blood and ate everything beautiful in the country.

Finally I would like to convey a message to our leaders and politicians as a Yemeni citizen cares for his motherland. Don't damage what has been built so far. We have sacrificed a lot to achieve independence and unity but we are not ready to offer anything more for advantages of some persons. It is not enough to unify the land. However, you should first unify your souls, honest ideas and aims to elevate the former Happy Yemen. the dialogue committee's document on resolving the crisis has recreated a great sense of optimism in ourselves. So will you please sublimate and exceed your differences and work hand by hand for the sake of keeping that sense alive. A am sure you can do it.

By: Abdullah Saleh Hussein,
Taiz.

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Yours sincerely,

Tony Whittaker
Distribution Manager,

Two Comments on Ofra Hazza's Article

a) It is a Kind of Hypocrisy

In your issue No. 1/94 of January 1st, 1994, page 17, Yemen Times editor Al-Izzy Al-Selwi wrote about the Israeli singer Ofra Hazza. The writer suggested that the Yemeni people receive and welcome Ofra and listen to her sing and perform Yemeni folklore songs in Sanaa.

It seems to me that the writer did not know much about the Ofra. What I understood from the article is that the writer wants to convince the Yemeni intellectuals to start naturalizing relations with the Israeli people through Ofra Hazza - of Yemeni Jewish origin.

We should know that Ofra is not a Yemeni citizen, she is an Israeli citizen who believes

in Israel as the 'promised land' of the Jews around the world.

The writer said that she wants to come and sing in Yemeni folklore songs.

It is ridiculous, but the writer should know that all Ofra's Yemeni folklore songs are presented to the world as Israeli folklore songs. And if you want her to say something else, she will not agree to come to Yemen at all, It is a kind of hypocrisy.

As intellectuals we should be careful of this kind of trap in our way of thinking. Yemeni folklore songs are not just songs, they are rather a historic legacy of the Yemeni people.

Nassr Samman, Sanaa

b) A Matter of Passports

I read with interest the attached item (a summary of the article on Ofra Hazza printed by the Yemen Times in issue 1/94 of 1st January 1994) in the current issue of World Press magazine (issued in April 1994).

I find your views, as reported, most enlightened and praiseworthy. I wish you much luck in your efforts to bring hearts and

minds together.

Please keep me informed of your efforts to get Ofra Hazza into your country.

Martin Rosenberg,
Reporter,
The Kansas City Start,
Kansas City,
Missouri, USA.



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DRIVING IN YEMEN: A NEW EXPERIENCE - LESSON NO. 1

By: Mike Clark,
Sana'a

Undoubtedly the most impressive experience for newcomers to Yemen has to be the terror of the drive from the airport to their new residence. It certainly was for me. I remember vividly the sight of the plastic bags and trash along the roadway, as we dodged and swerved to avoid vehicles and pedestrians, horns blaring, the wonderful odor of the sewage along airport road, as I tightly gripped the seat, looking for a seat belt that did not exist. The horns, oh those nagging horns. As a result of the large exposure to this ear shattering nuisance I now have the ability to identify vehicle makes and models

To some drivers the traffic circle is worrisome and confusing. But after observing the Yemeni technique of navigating a traffic circle, I have learned that it is not only a "piece of cake", but it can be fun also. The secret to traffic circles is speed and blindness. You must be going faster than others or you will lose your advantage of right of way. Never, under any circumstances look at the other traffic, for once you do this you immediately assume fault if you should be involved in a traffic accident. The fun part of traffic circles comes while watching the look of terror and pain as all your passengers are held up against the side of your car as a result of the terrific centrifugal force created with this maneuver.



What could happen to your car if you follow Mike Clark's advice and lessons

solely by the sound of their horns. Drivers in Yemen seem to take great pleasure in annoying each other by using this method to keep traffic moving and to force traffic through the intersection prior to the stop light changing to green. But horn blowing does have its benefits, as it relieves the level of stress of the horn blower and surely enables him to get through the morning more relaxed, until he can buy that gat, and find more positive relief. Probably one of the more prominent techniques of driving in Yemen has to be what I have labeled "intersection avoidance."

We all know that traffic signals are relatively new in Sana'a, however, (although confused at first) it took only a few weeks for most drivers to develop this skill. It is really quite simple. All you have to do as you approach a traffic light is slow down slightly, annoying those behind you, and closely watch the green left turn arrow (it is best to count the seconds as the left turn arrow is illuminated usually 30 seconds). Then just prior to the light changing, rapidly accelerate, go into the now empty left turn only lane, ready yourself for a rapid maneuver, and if your timing is correct you can quickly cut right and "presto" you are the first one through the intersection!

Of course it is not really a problem if your timing is off as long as you have a passenger in the right front seat to hang his right arm out the window. This is a Yemeni traffic hand signal familiar to all, that simply means you better stay out of my way because I am turning and not looking. Sadly though there is a hazard to intersection avoidance that I must mention here. All intersections are littered with elderly people, middle-aged people, young adults, and small children, pestering the stopped vehicles for handouts. Caution must be exercised to avoid mowing one down. But "people avoidance" does develop one's response time and reflexes. The highway system in Yemen is slightly different than in most countries. Most of the world has four lane highway, two going in opposite directions. But in Yemen the far right hand lane is used for driver's desiring to go the wrong way. This enables them to cut 50 to 100 meters off their driving distance and saves precious time and gasoline, which at times is a rare commodity in Yemen.

Probably the most pleasant and relaxing time to drive in Yemen is during gat time. Not only is traffic lighter at this time, but those driving are driving slower, although they believe they are still driving as fast as ever. You see, gat dulls their senses and slows down their minds, somewhat like smoking marijuana.

Nighttime driving is a somewhat different experience. As darkness approaches a few drivers may put on their headlights. But most do not want to wear out their headlights or use up all the energy in their generator as they choose not to use them. These drivers seem to have keen night vision and therefore headlights are not necessary. It is of no consequence that other drivers cannot see them, for if the other driver should pull out in front of them and an accident follows, it is surely the other driver's fault.

Tail lights you say? Poppy-cock, all Yemen drivers are aware that tail lights are unnecessary because you don't need them to see where you are going.

This brings me to the next unique difference I have observed while driving in Yemen. Have you ever noticed when you "close-up" behind another vehicle at an intersection, you can look straight through the rear window, into the rear view mirror, and see the face of the driver. At first I was stymied; then after some thought, I have concluded that there is a logical reason for this. Yemen drivers realize the uselessness of the mirror as a driving tool, and therefore have put it to good use. It is a vanity mirror. If adjusted properly the driver can ensure his moustache is straight, eyebrows correct and each hair is in place.

These are but a few of the rare driving techniques and skills that I have observed during my time in Yemen. But I must warn you that these procedures are not applicable to driving in many other countries. You see, other parts of the world have what is called law enforcement officers, traffic cops, that are trained to do just as the name implies. Enforce traffic laws. Unless you are extremely rich and can afford the traffic fines, I advise you not to implement these driving techniques elsewhere. Finally, driving in Yemen is truly an unique experience and definitely brings a whole new meaning to the term "defensive driving."

Nasty Habits Can Ruin Your Looks

Once a ritual becomes a routine, you do it without thinking. You are constantly told to develop good habits, like removing make-up every night, but habits can be bad or good. Nasty habits - beauty-threatening actions we perform without being conscious of them - can ruin your looks.

You may not be aware that every time you sit at your word processor, you screw up your eyes. Being too proud to wear glasses or neglecting to wear effective sunglasses creates squints and frowns.

By the time frown lines and crow's feet are etched into your face, it will be too late to break the habit.

Here are the 9 most common bad habits that can make you look unattractive and old before your time.

Break them all now!

1) Playing with your Hair:

Casually twirling your locks like a little girl is one of the most common obsessive, stress-related disorders. Even warping hair gently round your fingers can cause breakage and, if you pull hard enough, can damage the roots and produce bald patches.

Some women also unconsciously pull at eyebrows and eyelashes which may not grow back!

2) Slouching Instead of Standing Tall:

A curved back can soon become a painful one as the way we sit and stand has an effect on our spine. A slouch gives the impression of a lack of energy and pride in your appearance. You look depressed even if you are not. So stand up for yourself. Imagine yourself in Queen Sheba's shoes and let your backbone reach for the skies.

3) Licking your Lips:

You may think running your tongue over your lips looks sexy. But instead lip-licking just makes them chapped. It is a vicious circle: moistening your lips because they are dry makes them feel temporarily more comfortable, but soon, they are even drier than before. Keep a moisturiser handy and apply it to keep both lips and the skin around the mouth soft and moist.

4) Rubbing your Eyes:

In addition to smearing your mascara, rubbing can produce wrinkles on the lower lids by braking down collagen and elastic fibres. There is an added danger as minute particles of make-up can scratch the eyeball. You can also infect the eye if your hands are not clean. For tired eyes, do eye exercises or use eyedrops or saline solution.



6) Picking at Blemished or Touching your Face:

Each time you put your fingers to your face, you are potentially depositing germs, dirt and oil which can clog the pores and cause pimples. Even worse is squeezing blemishes, which can result in acne scars. A pimple will heal faster if left alone.

7) Over-moisturising:

Although moisturising is important, don't apply so much cream that you look like a wedding cake. You could end up with milia, the little white bumps that resemble bleached black-heads. Use a non-oil moisturiser, especially on the nose and chin which are naturally greasy.

8) Using too many Hair Products:

We shampoo and condition, then apply mousse, gel, toner, fixer, and whatever else is in the bathroom cabinet. Too many oils and gels can leave hair limp, and over-greased locks can cause blemishes on the forehead. Only use products to remedy a specific problem and keep conditioners away from the roots of your hair.

9) Pulling your Hair back Tightly:

If you constantly slick your hair into tight pony-tail or set it on tightly wound rollers, you could end up with a Bruce Willis hair-line, especially if your hair is colored or permed. If you start noticing breakages, loosen up and leave some fullness - it is more flattering as well.

By: Fatma Rawah,
Social Editor, Yemen Times.

Vacant Post

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CRISE POLITIQUE ET ECONOMIQUE

Les discussions s'enlisent

Nordistes et sudistes butent toujours sur les mêmes questions. Ni les uns ni les autres ne semblent très pressés d'appliquer l'accord signé à Amman. Le pays paralysé attend.

Les dirigeants n'ont pas rompu le dialogue et c'est bien le seul point positif actuellement dans la crise politique qui frappe le Yémen depuis bientôt huit mois. Ni les nordistes, ni les sudistes, ne semblent prêts à des concessions décisives.

Les nordistes se disent exaspérés par l'insatisfaction permanente du sud. Dans les négociations actuelles autour du pétrole, les responsables sudistes auraient accueilli leurs exigences, demandant 30 % puis 40 % des recettes pétrolières de l'Etat, dont le montant prévu pour 1994 est de 250 millions de dollars. Les nordistes affirment que la société pétrolière canadienne Canoxy verse des subsides au PSY via "une banque à Londres". La production de pétrole qui tourne autour de 320 000 barils par jour devrait de plus en plus se réaliser au sud. En cas de rupture entre le nord et le sud, le contrôle de la zone de Mareb (175 000 barils par jour), où opère la compagnie américaine Hunt, ne peut échapper au régime de Sanaa. Mais ce site ne devrait plus produire dans quelques années. Par contre le site de

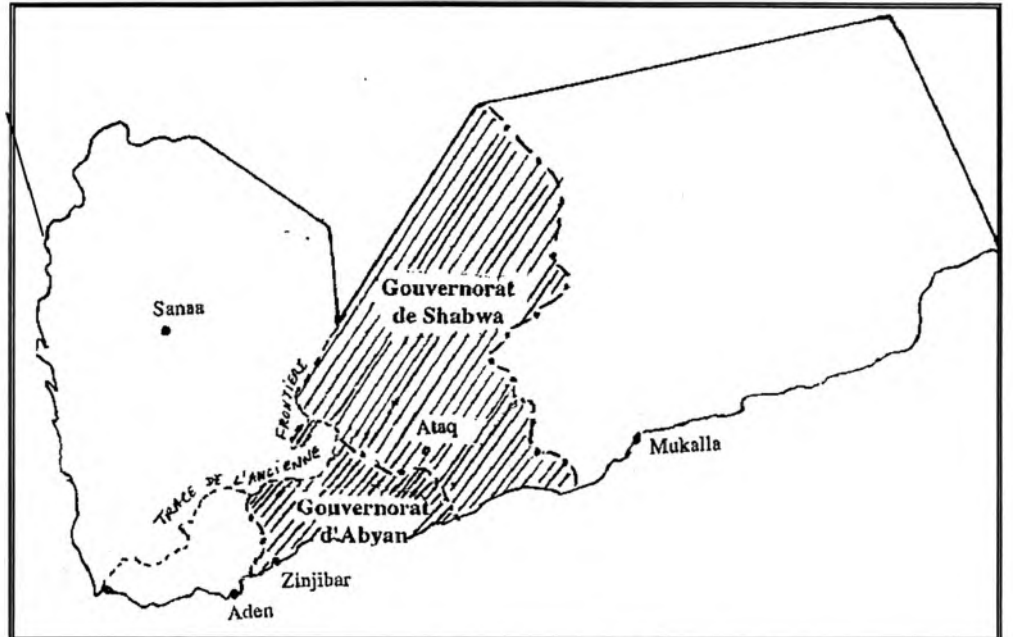
Massilah, exploité par la compagnie canadienne Canoxy (120 000 barils par jour), qui sera contrôlé par les sudistes, est encore au début de sa phase d'exploitation.

Un affrontement militaire direct n'étant pas envisagé pour le moment, la situation politique est donc bloquée. Le ministre de la Défense Haïtham Qassem Taher (sudiste) a tout de même rencontré dimanche dernier à Aden, le chef d'état major des forces armées, le général Abdel Malek Al-Sayyami (nordiste). Cette rencontre, la première depuis des mois entre les deux hommes, avait pour objectif d'étudier le volet militaire de l'accord d'Amman, notamment le redéploiement des unités armées stationnées sur l'ancienne frontière. Selon la télévision d'Aden, des mesures ont été prises pour assurer le retour des forces armées aux positions qu'elles occupaient avant la crise. Les militaires nordistes et sudistes veulent éviter tout dérapage militaire. L'accrochage militaire mercredi 6 avril à Dhamar entre sudistes et nordistes a ainsi été rapidement circonscrit et n'a pas fait de victime.

Les plus fortes concentrations de troupes ou milices armées des deux bords se situent dans les gouvernorats de Shabwa et d'Abyan. L'intérêt stratégique de ces deux gouvernorats apparaît clairement sur la carte ci-contre. Loin des grandes villes, plusieurs milliers de combattants s'y font face et alimentent une sérieuse tension. Le directeur de la sûreté du gouvernorat de Shabwa, le colonel Dirham Abdah Noman, aurait armé des milices locales depuis quelques semaines, avec l'accord tacite du gouverneur, un nordiste.

L'insécurité s'accroît

Le colonel Dirham partisan d'Ali Nasser Mohamed, l'ancien Président de l'ex-Yémen du Sud en exil depuis 1986, est un ennemi des dirigeants actuels du parti socialiste. Ceci expliquerait l'accrochage qui a eu lieu le mois dernier à Ataq entre les milices armées par lui et les forces sudistes. L'explosion dans le bâtiment administratif d'une école à Jubah dans le gou-



Les concentrations de troupes sont fortes notamment dans les gouvernorats sudistes de Shabwa et d'Abyan. Les nordistes ont intérêt à mettre la pression sur ces deux gouvernorats comme le montre la carte. En effet, en cas de conflit, leur objectif est de couper Aden des réserves pétrolières de l'Hadramaout.

vernorat de Shabwa a fait trois morts et deux blessés. Par ailleurs, deux employés nites de la compagnie pétrolière américaine Hunt ont été blessés le 3 avril dernier, dont un grièvement, par des tirs dirigés contre leur véhicule dans la région de

Maswar, située entre Mareb et Sanaa. Selon le journal *Sawt Al-Ommal*, le véhicule a été attaqué par un membre de la tribu des Khawlans. Le personnel de Hunt a menacé d'entrer en grève si l'assaillant n'était pas arrêté, selon le

journal. D'autre part, on attend toujours la libération des trois otages néerlandais alors que les deux experts chinois ont été relâchés. Le premier au lendemain de son enlèvement le 3 avril, et le second jeudi dernier. J.B.

Intense activité diplomatique

L'activité diplomatique pour régler la crise yéménite a été particulièrement intense la semaine dernière, nordistes et sudistes semblant se battre pour rallier à leur cause les pays arabes.

Salem Saleh et Abdel Aziz Al-Dali, responsables du parti socialiste yéménite, se sont rendus en Syrie du 7 au 10 avril pour une visite de quatre jours, au cours de laquelle ils ont été reçus par le Président Hafez Al-Assad. Ils avaient auparavant fait une escale au Caire où ils avaient rencontré le Président égyptien Hosni Mubarak.

Médiation égypto-émirat

Au même moment, Mohamed Basindwa, ministre des Affaires étrangères (nordiste), était reçu en Iran, où il a déclaré que le conflit entre le Président et le vice-Président était "minime" et que "la situation intérieure au Yémen (n'était) pas aussi grave que le disent les médias étrangers". Il a estimé que "tous les efforts (étaient) les bienvenus mais le problème du Yémen ne (pouvait) être résolu que par les Yéménites". L'Iran a offert son aide pour résoudre la crise yéménite. A l'issue de sa visite en Iran, le chef de la diplomatie yéménite devait se rendre en Inde.

Les nordistes ont d'autre part envoyé au Maroc le ministre du Service civil et de la Réforme administrative, Yahya Hussein Al-Arachi, porteur d'un message du Président Saleh au roi Hassan II. Après le Maroc, l'émissaire yéménite a poursuivi sa visite en

Algérie, où il a été reçu par le Président Liamine Zéroual, puis en Tunisie et en Libye.

De son côté, le Yémen a reçu la visite à Sanaa le 9 avril dernier du président érythréen Issaias Afewerki, à la tête d'une importante délégation. Il était déjà venu au Yémen en novembre dernier. Au même moment, débarquaient dans la capitale yéménite deux émissaires, le ministre égyptien de l'Information Safouat Al-Charif et le ministre émirati des Affaires étrangères Rached Abdallah. Après une visite de deux jours à Sanaa et à Aden, les deux hommes sont repartis satisfaits. "Nous avons senti que les dirigeants politiques du Yémen sont attachés à l'accord de réconciliation en vue de sauvegarder l'unité" du pays. Les deux émissaires ont proposé une nouvelle rencontre entre le Président Saleh et le vice-Président Al-Bid. Selon le ministre égyptien de l'Information, cette démarche commune égypto-émiratise vise à "préserver l'arabité du Yémen", dans une allusion à l'offre iranienne de bons offices dans la crise yéménite. L'Egypte redoute en effet l'influence iranienne dans la Péninsule arabique, alors que les Emirats sont opposés à l'Iran par un conflit territorial sur trois îles dans le Golfe. Selon les sudistes, l'Egypte et les Emirats ont suggéré un régime fédéral pour le Yémen, une solution que le CPG, le parti du Président Saleh, refuse toujours officiellement, même si en privé les avis sont moins tranchés.

La semaine dernière, nous avons publié une interview de M. Issam El-Zaim. Nous publions ci-dessous la suite.

YT: Le Yémen a-t-il un besoin vital d'aides extérieures ?

Issam El-Zaim: La crise de financement interne du Yémen existait avant l'unification. Depuis les années 1970, les deux Yémen sont devenus très dépendants de l'aide extérieure, de l'Arabie saoudite, du Koweït, des Etats-Unis, de l'aide multilatérale arabe et des agences de l'ONU. En plus l'Irak lui fournissait du pétrole. L'unification en 1990 laissait espérer un renforcement des aides extérieures. Mais ces perspectives ont disparu avec la crise du Golfe. Aujourd'hui, l'aide bilatérale américaine et celle des pays arabes n'a pas été rétablie. Même si elle est utile, cette aide s'oriente essentiellement vers les services sociaux et elle représente une toute petite somme par rapport aux besoins. Il n'y a pas d'apports significatifs dans le secteur productif. Il y a par exemple un grand retard dans le développement des ressources naturelles, le secteur métallurgique (zinc, argent, or...) n'a pas encore démarré. L'agriculture est le seul secteur productif où l'aide extérieure est importante mais il n'y a pas de stratégie de développement de ce secteur pour polariser et optimiser les aides étrangères. D'autre part, les pays donateurs agissent de façon dispersée. Il n'y a pas de programmation synchronisée de l'aide.

YT: Le Yémen n'a-t-il pas un besoin de définir une stratégie de développement ?
Issam El-Zaim: Puni doublement par l'arrêt de l'aide des pays

"Le Yémen a besoin de définir une stratégie de développement"

du Golfe et par le retour de milliers d'émigrés, le gouvernement yéménite avait opté dès l'unification pour une économie de marché. Mais quatre ans après l'unification, le Yémen n'a toujours pas réalisé les réformes de structures et de politiques macro-économiques, ni défini une stratégie de développement. Le Yémen n'a pas de stratégie efficace de l'épargne, nécessaire au développement du pays. Beaucoup de Yéménites ne veulent pas déposer de l'argent contre un intérêt pour des raisons religieuses et le gouvernement n'a pas établi des banques islamiques pour mobiliser l'épargne intérieure et des émigrés, alors que l'inflation annule les avantages de l'épargne. Le Yémen a une économie ouverte où les importations ne sont pas canalisées. Le développement de la consommation de biens durables, tels que les appareils électriques, électroniques, les voitures, et les antennes paraboliques, rend impossible la mobilisation de l'épargne. Les pays de l'Asie du sud-est ont su contrôler la consommation intérieure en organisant une journée et une semaine de travail longues et en offrant des salaires bas. Plus tard la semaine de travail devait se réduire et les salaires devaient s'améliorer. Le paradoxe du Yémen se caractérise par une sous-consommation de la majorité des consommateurs et une sur-consommation chez les élites de certains produits (voitures japonaises, antennes paraboliques, ameublement luxueux). Le qat est également une consommation de masse coûteuse, qui rapporte peu à l'Etat en raison de la fuite fiscale.

YT: La libéralisation de l'économie sans politique d'encadrement ne provoque-t-elle pas un développement anarchique ?

Issam El-Zaim: Si. On constate par exemple une concentration des investissements au niveau géographique, la moitié étant réalisée à Sanaa, dans l'industrie comme dans l'immobilier. Les constructions luxueuses se multiplient alors que la croissance démographique et la baisse du niveau de vie nécessitent des constructions à loyer modéré. L'Etat n'a pas de politique régionale, l'accent n'est pas mis sur le développement de régions défavorisées. L'Etat n'a pas non plus de politique clairement définie de formation et de politique économique qui mettrait l'accent sur la création d'emplois. Dans le secteur agricole, le seul élément positif est l'encouragement de la production de fruits et légumes. Mais cette politique a ses limites. Il n'y a pas d'investissements dans le stockage, la réfrigération, le transport, la commercialisation. Il n'y a pas de politique pour soutenir d'autres productions et l'expansion de la culture du qat pose problème. Les problèmes structurels s'aggravent (productivité basse, main d'oeuvre peu qualifiée, infrastructures insuffisantes). En fait l'Etat n'a pas de rôle défini dans l'économie.

YT: N'y a-t-il pas un décalage entre le discours proféré par le gouvernement et la réalité ?

Issam El-Zaim: Le gouvernement a choisi l'économie de marché, mais il ne suffit pas

de la déclarer pour qu'elle s'installe. De même, le gouvernement appelle à une réduction de la croissance démographique mais un tel objectif risque de demeurer un vœu pieux. S'il n'y a pas de croissance économique effective, il ne peut pas y avoir de diminution de la croissance démographique. Le Yémen a besoin d'adopter une planification stratégique. Il faut définir les objectifs et les priorités à long et moyen terme pour favoriser le développement de l'économie de marché. En même temps, il faut prévoir une politique et des mesures, pour réaliser des réformes de structures socialement acceptables et des réformes économiques tournées vers le rétablissement de la croissance, et pour remédier à l'imperfection du marché yéménite. Il faut intégrer le secteur privé dans un schéma de croissance globale définie et modifiée constamment par l'Etat. Aucun pays ne se développe sans planification.

YT: Pensez-vous que l'économie yéménite doit s'ouvrir immédiatement à l'économie internationale ?

Issam El-Zaim: Je n'en suis pas convaincu. Le Yémen a besoin d'une ouverture sélective, graduelle, qui garantirait et protégerait la consolidation et l'expansion de l'agriculture et de l'industrie locales. Au demeurant, le pays a besoin d'unifier graduellement ses taux de change en tenant compte des contraintes économiques, financières et sociales.

Propos recueillis par Jérôme BERNARD

CINEMA

Mon terroriste bienaimé

Depuis sa sortie il y a un mois en Egypte, "Le Terroriste" fait salle comble dans dix cinémas du Caire, surtout parce qu'il brise le stéréotype du terroriste assoiffé de sang, dans un pays secoué par une vague de violence islamiste. "Le Terroriste" risquant fort de déplaire aux extrémistes, de strictes mesures de sécurité ont été prises autour des salles de projection. Le film a été interdit en Jordanie et a été retiré de l'affiche pendant quelques jours à Tripoli au Liban. Le cinéaste présente dans ce film le fanatisme comme un phénomène de classe, tout en imputant au gouvernement égyptien une partie de la responsabilité de la montée intégriste. Ali Abdelzaker, le héros du film, joué par la vedette Adel Imam, incarne l'Egyptien moyen par sa foi et sa pauvreté. Il rejoint les islamistes extrémistes par besoin d'argent et avec la promesse d'épouser une "croyante". A partir de là, Ali devient un anti-héros: il tue un officier de police et tente d'assassiner Fouad Massoud, un intellectuel prônant la laïcité. Mais Ali regagne lentement la sympathie du public par son repentir. Il rencontre une jeune femme Sawsan, incarnée par Chirine, qui l'amène au domicile de ses parents pour le soigner après un accident de voiture. Ali commence à se remettre en question au contact de cette bourgeoisie occidentalisée. Mais il est trop tard et il meurt sous les tirs croisés de ses anciens camarades et des policiers. A quand la version yéménite, avec pour héros, l'un des auteurs des attentats ?

SANTE

Un hôpital pour la mère et l'enfant

L'hôpital Ibn Nafis, spécialisé en gynécologie-obstétrique, a été inauguré la semaine dernière dans la capitale Sanaa. Opérationnel depuis 1992, son ouverture a été retardée pendant des mois et c'est finalement une association proche des islamistes qui a accepté d'en assurer la gestion.

Après près de deux ans d'incertitude, l'hôpital Ibn Nafis, spécialisé en gynécologie-obstétrique, a finalement été inauguré dimanche dernier à Sanaa. Sous le soleil d'avril, Mohamed Dammaj, ministre de l'Administration locale, Najib Ghanem, ministre de la Santé, et Ahmed Al-Ansi, ministre des Communications sont venus couper le ruban.

Un matériel ultra-moderne

L'hôpital était pourtant opérationnel depuis mai 1992, mais il n'a fonctionné jusque-là que comme dispensaire. Le premier projet de gestion d'Ibn Nafis auquel participait la France n'a jamais réussi véritablement à démarrer. Aujourd'hui, c'est une association proche des islamistes, l'Association de bienfaisance pour la réforme sociale, qui a accepté d'en assurer la gestion. Elles est présidée par le Dr. Tareq Abou Louhoum, fils du leader de l'opposition Sinan Abou Louhoum. Ce pédiatre est professeur assistant à la faculté de médecine et préside le conseil d'administration de l'hôpital Ibn Nafis.

L'hôpital a la chance d'être doté d'un matériel ultra-moderne fourni par les Japonais pour un montant de 4,5 millions

de dollars. L'hôpital est ainsi équipé d'une salle d'opération, de cinq couveuses, de deux échographes, d'un équipement complet de radiologie et de son propre laboratoire d'analyses biologiques. La France a participé à hauteur de 50 000 dollars et le bâtiment a été construit par le Conseil local de la ville de Sanaa. "Nous avons investi six millions de rials pour réaliser les travaux de finition, assurer le fonctionnement de l'hôpital et l'emploi du personnel", explique le Dr. Tareq Abou Louhoum. Il est vrai qu'en 1992, l'hôpital n'était pas adapté au matériel fourni par les Japonais. La salle d'opération par exemple, manquait d'une table d'opération, d'un vestiaire et d'un sas stériles. Les prises de courant n'étaient pas compatibles avec les équipements. La salle des couveuses avait seulement trois prises de courant alors qu'elle était dotée de deux appareils de photothérapie pour traiter la jaunisse chez les nouveau-nés par des rayons ultra-violet et d'un défibrillateur, un appareil qui permet d'envoyer des chocs électriques pour ranimer un cœur. D'autre part, les deux derniers étages de l'hôpital n'étaient pas terminés, 37 lits seulement étaient disponibles sur les 60 prévus.

Aujourd'hui, ces lacunes ont été comblées et le matériel

n'attend plus que les premières patientes.

Un service pour gens aisés

Dans le premier projet de gestion, l'hôpital était destiné à devenir un important centre de formation pour les étudiants de la faculté de médecine de Sanaa et un centre de spécialisation pour des médecins yéménites. Aujourd'hui, l'Association qui gère Ibn Nafis a réduit ses ambitions. "Nous offrons un service aux gens qui ont de l'argent ce qui permettra de désencombrer les hôpitaux publics. Ceux-ci sont gratuits, mais les pauvres qui n'ont pas les moyens de verser un bakhchich restent dans le couloir", explique le Dr. Tareq. Les tarifs d'Ibn Nafis sont en effet relativement élevés. Une consultation coûte 80 rials, un accouchement normal 3000 rials et le forfait journalier à l'hôpital 600 rials. Mais selon lui, les tarifs des cliniques privées sont plus élevés, un accouchement normal coûtant 8000 rials. Il y a environ 400 accouchements par jour à Sanaa, dont 130 dans des hôpitaux publics, de 30 à 50 dans le secteur privé et le reste à domicile. L'hôpital Ibn Nafis a une capacité de 40 accouchements par jour.

L'ensemble du personnel, soixante personnes, est féminin, des médecins russes, aux infirmières indiennes en passant par les sages-femmes yéménites. Au début Ibn Nafis pense travailler à environ 50 % de ses capacités et espère pouvoir assurer son autofinancement.

Information sur la contraception

Proche des islamistes, l'Association de bienfaisance pour la réforme sociale" a prévu cependant de diffuser une information concernant la contraception à l'hôpital Ibn Nafis. "Les médecins pourront poser des stérilets aux femmes qui le désirent", précise le Dr. Tareq. L'association a été créée il y a quatre ans et a développé plusieurs actions dans le domaine de la santé. L'association gère un centre de psychiatrie pour les femmes, gratuit, à Sanaa. "Dans un mois, nous allons ouvrir un centre d'ophtalmologie dans la capitale", précise le Dr. Tareq. L'association a aussi des cabinets de consultation gratuits à Hoddeidah, Aden et Sayoun et mène des actions ponctuelles dans des régions sans hôpitaux, ni dispensaires.

J.B.

En Bref

Arabie saoudite-Yémen: L'Arabie saoudite a démenti que ses troupes avaient récemment effectué une incursion de cinq kilomètres en territoire yéménite dans la province nordiste de Saada. L'hebdomadaire *Al-Hiwar*, proche des baassistes pro-syriens a révélé mardi 5 avril cette information, ajoutant que les forces yéménites stationnées dans cette région avaient reçu l'ordre de Sanaa de ne pas s'opposer à l'avance des troupes saoudiennes. L'hebdomadaire a qualifié cet incident de "tentative saoudienne d'annexer de nouveaux territoires yéménites, profitant de la crise politique". Des négociations entre experts yéménites et saoudiens se déroulent depuis plus d'un an pour trouver une solution au litige frontalier qui oppose les deux pays. La prochaine session des pourparlers est prévue le 25 avril à Ryad.

British Airways cesse ses vols sur le Yémen: La compagnie aérienne British Airways a décidé de ne plus desservir le Yémen à compter du 7 mai prochain, cinq mois après avoir repris ses liaisons en direction de ce pays. La compagnie qui reliait Londres à Sanaa et Aden, à raison de deux rotations par semaine, a motivé sa décision par la non-rentabilité des nouvelles dessertes. British Airways avait repris ses vols sur le Yémen le 23 novembre dernier, après 25 ans d'absence à Aden, possession britannique jusqu'en 1967, année de l'indépendance. La compagnie aérienne Air France a, elle aussi, stoppé sa desserte hebdomadaire sur Aden le 29 mars dernier, mais elle a ouvert une deuxième liaison par semaine sur Sanaa.

SPORT

Une passion, la boxe

Tareq Ba-Shamakh est entraîneur de boxe à Sanaa. Pas facile de faire connaître un sport encore confidentiel au Yémen et qui a une mauvaise image chez les parents.

Au premier regard, on comprend que Tareq Ba-Shamakh est un amateur de sport. Rablé et musclé, il dégage une énergie peu commune. Sa passion, c'est la boxe. "C'est un sport mental, qui t'oblige à utiliser ton cerveau", explique-t-il. "Tu es face à l'adversaire et tu sais que tu dois te battre parfaitement. Si tu perds le match, c'est de ta faute".

Il boxe depuis l'âge de 14 ans

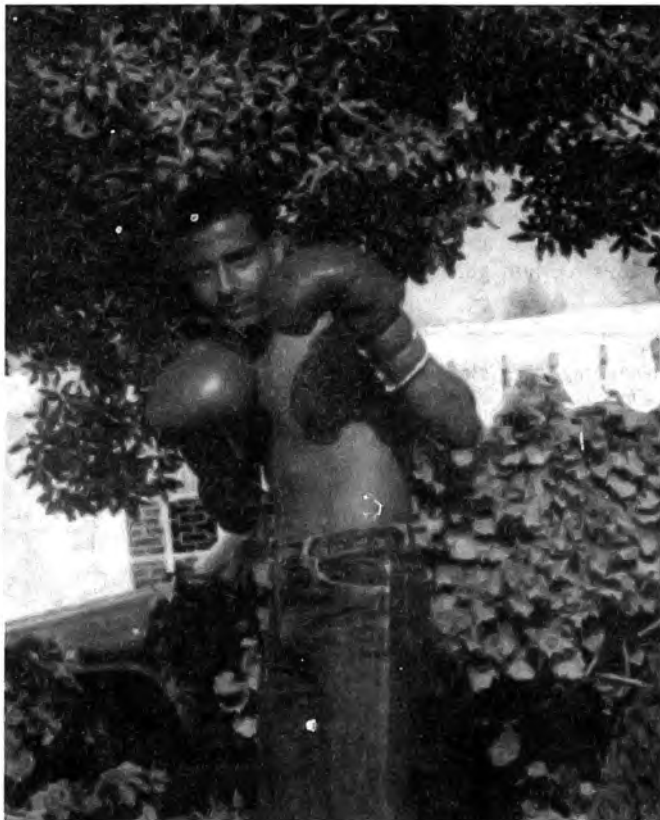
Aujourd'hui, à 23 ans, il est entraîneur de boxe à Sanaa. Depuis l'âge de 14 ans, il a passé des heures sur le ring et dans les salles d'entraînement. Il a découvert ce sport au club Al-Wahda grâce à un entraîneur syrien. Parallèlement, il s'est mis à pratiquer le body-building. Très fier de lui, il égrène ses victoires et ses prix: "J'ai remporté un championnat de bodybuilding en 1989. En 1990, j'ai décroché une médaille d'argent dans la catégorie des 65 kg à Aden derrière un Adeni. En 1991, j'ai remporté le championnat de boxe de l'Université de Sanaa dans la catégorie des 67 kg".

La boxe a beaucoup plus d'adeptes dans la ville du sud qu'à Sanaa, l'influence peut-être de la présence britannique. C'est d'ailleurs à Aden qu'on trouve les meilleurs boxeurs yéménites, tels Mohamed Makhfouz ou Nasser Al-Mass. Ils ont remporté quelques prix à l'étranger notamment dans des championnats en Ethiopie.

Tareq n'a encore jamais participé à des compétitions internationales. Cela reste son ambition.

Il brandit fièrement son diplôme d'entraîneur de boxe décroché en janvier dernier en Allemagne. Il avait été sélectionné l'an dernier, pour un stage de quatre mois à la faculté de sports de l'université de Leipzig. Trois autres camarades yéménites faisaient partie du voyage, sélectionnés pour la catégorie bodybuilding. Ils étaient vingt-six étudiants étrangers à se confronter dans la section boxe, venus des quatre coins du monde, de la Namibie au Pakistan, de Brunei au Paraguay. Beaucoup étaient déjà entraîneurs de boxe dans leur pays et venaient se perfectionner. "J'étais le plus jeune. Celui venu des Barbades était âgé de 52 ans mais avait gardé tout son punch".

Etudiant à la faculté d'agriculture, Tareq occupe son temps libre à la boxe. Il voudrait devenir professeur d'université pour pouvoir consacrer du temps à sa passion. Après l'unification des deux Yémen, un Centre national de boxe a été créé à Sanaa par la Fédération de boxe, présidée par Nasser Al-Mass. La plupart des entraîneurs étaient originaires d'Aden. Avec la crise politique, ils sont repartis dans la ville du sud, emportant une grande partie du matériel. "C'est vraiment dommage. J'essaie actuellement de rassembler les boxeurs qui sont encore à Sanaa et de trouver



Tareq Ba-Shamakh.

Selon lui, le meilleur âge pour commencer la boxe, c'est quatorze ans, pas avant, car c'est trop dangereux. "Mais beaucoup de familles sont effrayées par ce sport. Elles pensent que cela sert uniquement à se battre", explique Tareq. En ce qui le concerne, ses parents ont toujours été du

contre sa passion. Il aimerait beaucoup que les médias yéménites s'intéressent un peu à la boxe pour revaloriser son image. "A la télévision et dans les journaux, on ne parle que du football. Il n'y a pas de place pour les autres sports", regrette-t-il.

J.B.

PROCHE-ORIENT

L'Histoire attendra

Le 13 avril 1994 devait marquer la fin du retrait israélien de la bande de Gaza et de Jéricho. Il faudra attendre quelques mois.

Le 13 avril 1994 est passé à côté de l'histoire. Cette date devait marquer la fin du retrait israélien de la bande de Gaza et de Jéricho mais ce fut un jour comme les autres, sans cérémonie, sans fanfare, ni trompette.

Le Premier ministre israélien Yitzhak Rabin a affirmé que l'accord sur l'autonomie sera conclu "si tout va bien, durant la première moitié du mois de mai". Le chef des négociateurs palestiniens au Caire, Nabil Chaath a pour sa part expéré que "tout sera bouclé" d'ici le 21 avril.

Les militaires continuent à patrouiller

Sur le terrain, les militaires continuent à patrouiller, à traquer et même à tuer les activistes palestiniens, même si l'armée israélienne a retiré une grande partie de ses installations dans la bande de Gaza, même si la quasi-totalité de l'administration militaire a été démantelée et si à Jéricho la police transfère progressivement son matériel et ses dossiers hors de la ville. La Déclaration de Principes, signée il y a sept mois à Washington entre Israël et l'OLP, fixait au 13 décembre le début du retrait militaire qui devait durer quatre mois. L'armée devait se redéployer autour des 19 colonies juives de Gaza pour assurer leur sécurité. Cependant, la complexité des négociations qui se sont déroulées successivement à Taba (Egypte) sur la mer Rouge, à El Arish dans le désert du Sinaï, à Oslo en Norvège, à Davos en Suisse, à Paris et au

Caire ont retardé la conclusion d'un accord. En outre, le massacre de 30 fidèles musulmans par un colon à Hébron, le 25 février, a interrompu durant cinq semaines les pourparlers.

"Les Palestiniens perdent l'espoir, car l'accord n'a pas été signé. Nous avons attendu ce jour depuis longtemps, mais nous n'avons pas obtenu ce que nous escomptions", a déclaré Rachid Abou Chbak, chef du comité chargé de recevoir les bâtiments abandonnés par l'armée israélienne.

Pour le Premier ministre israélien, tout est de la faute du chef de l'OLP: "Israël n'a pas suspendu les négociations après l'attentat d'Alfida (attentat à la voiture piégée qui a tué sept Israéliens mercredi 6 avril) contrairement à ce qu'a fait Yasser Arafat après le massacre d'Hébron". Un autre attentat a eu lieu mercredi dernier à Tel Aviv faisant cinq morts chez les Israéliens. Les deux attentats ont été revendiqués par le mouvement intégriste palestinien Hamas.

Mardi dernier, Israël et l'OLP ont tout de même continué à avancer dans leurs négociations. Ils se sont mis d'accord au Caire sur les détails du déploiement de la police palestinienne à Gaza et Jéricho. Les négociateurs ont fixé à 9000 le nombre de policiers appelés à se déployer dans les deux régions. L'Etat Hébreu aussi a accepté le retour immédiat de 50 bannis palestiniens et la libération de 5000 prisonniers palestiniens, après la signature d'un accord final sur l'autonomie.

(AFP)

Electronic, Online Book is a New Development

TODAY, books are fixed, finite things contained between covers. The electronic online book is different: it is kinetic, distributed, constantly changing, almost alive. Thanks to the Internet - the global network of computer networks - an online books can not only refer to things outside itself, it can enable the reader to link to them without leaving the book.

For example, a traditional book about Anglo-Saxon England could contain footnotes about the manuscript of Beowulf. An online book can contain similar footnotes that, when activated, fetch digital facsimiles of Beowulf manuscript pages from an Internet server at the British Museum. A traditional travel book can contain a photograph of Bomby, but an Internet book could contain a live image.

When you click on it, you could be connected via the Internet to a video camera in Bombay that shows not a recorded but a contemporaneous image.

The first electronic books were simple transcript of printed books made available as text files on disc. Electronic texts are not as pleasant or as convenient to read as paper, but computersation has benefits. Files can be copied for nothing, distributed for almost nothing, and stored for little more. (Even war

and peace fits on a single 3.5 inch floppy, which can be re-used if you no longer want the book). You can read the text on screen in whatever size and style of type you prefer, search it in seconds, and print out parts you want. A more advanced form of computerised text arrived with publications such as Voyager's Electronic Books for Apple Macintosh Computers, and the CD-ROM discs now appearing for Macs and PCs running Microsoft Windows. These include sophisticated text formatting and offer a wide range of still and video images, animated diagrams and maps, speech and music. Examples include Software Toolworks, World Atlas, Grolier's new Multimedia Encyclopaedia and Microsoft's Encarta. You can not only look up say, John H. Kennedy or Martin Luther King but see what they sounded like. Since a single video clip can easily take up 10 megabytes of disc space, CD-ROMs capable of storing up to 650 megabytes of data are almost essential for this kind of publication. The electronic, online book is a further development. Instead of providing, say a video file of JFK making a speech in Berlin, this kind of book would include a hypertext link. Activating the link would automatically connect the reader, via the Internet, to an archive of JFK clips. Instead of being limited to 650 megabytes of data, a single book could in Ted Nelson's coinage, "transclude" million and million of megabytes.

METEOROLOGY AND WEATHER HAZARD REDUCTION

By: Sallal A. Hyder,
Civil Aviation & Meteorology Authority, Sanaa

In the past decades, the human beings on earth have been destined with challenging weather related natural disasters. These disasters have caused thousands of loses in lives and properties and will continue in the future. Due to advances in science and technology these hazardous disasters could be predicted in advance in the order of few hours to several days. Therefore, if appropriate measures were taken in due time, cause extensive destructions to all social economic, agricultural institutions as well as other vital resources to human lives could be avoided. Thus, food, water, shelters are generally affected as these natural disasters occur.

As the population of the earth increases rapidly and people are very adhered to the environment and its natural resources, the impact of natural disasters become very severe. The natural disasters are caused in part by human activities. Some of these natural disasters such as floods, storm surges and prolonged drought are called hydrometeorological disasters since their nature of occurrences is related to the science of meteorology and hydrology. Floods are now one of the major disasters in many countries in the world because of their direct impact on population and their chain of food. Storm surges asso-

ciated with tropical cyclones lead to extensive and enormous destruction in lives and properties because of denser human settlements in low-lying coastal plains.

Most of these natural disasters are strongly connected to atmosphere system and meteorological and hydrological phenomena. Therefore, World Meteorological Organization (WMO) and all its programs as well as other related international agencies have been actively involved in planning, implementing and applying the latest technologies and effective approaches to reduce the natural disaster effects on people and their properties. Although, these natural disasters can not be prevented from occurring, there disastrous effects and impacts can be minimized to a large extent. Meteorological and hydrological services, as the national agencies are responsible for the collection, archiving and interpretation of data on weather, climate and water resources. Therefore, it is undoubtedly that these agencies play an important and increasing role in disaster impact reduction and also environment protection. Meteorological predicting and observing systems, such as Meteorological satellite, weather radars and other weather monitoring and alerting system help in tracking many weather phenomena such as storms, tropical cyclones and many others. therefore, national, regional or international meteorological centers are able to issue warnings to the public and than take preventive measures before the devastating effects of these weather hazards reach populated areas.

With the advent of computerized weather stations, and meteorological satellites, different types of climate data and satellite images covering wide areas can be received and analyzed centers and then distributed to many other local or regional weather centers. The analyzed climate data can then be use in prediction long-terms climatic change, issuing weather forecasts to the public through different media services.

Hydrological service are mainly concerned with water related natural disasters such as river floods and prolonged drought, especially, in the low-lying coastal areas. Thus, hydrology and floods monitoring. Hydrological data, such as rainfall data, temperature, relative humidity data and ice melting data, can be acquired from remote sensing applications and through satellites stored and analyzed in a computer center using high speed personal computers or mainframes.

Nowadays, more and more services are analyzing these different types of hydrological data in order to meet the growing demand for hydrological forecasts and information needed for water resource management. The development of computer technology and micro electronics in hydrological services has resulted in gradual shift away from traditional measurement techniques towards the use of integrated computerized systems for the acquisition and treatment of hydrometeorological data and the modeling of hydrological processes.

It is clear that in the industrialized countries such as U.S.A. and Japan where meteorological and hydrological services are using advanced technologies, the hazards of natural disasters are considerably minimized. In these countries, the most advanced equipments and techniques in weather data acquisition, analysis, forecasting, observation, monitoring are being applied in meteorology and hydrology. Generally, loses of life in storm, flood and draught disasters in countries with good warning and preparedness system have fallen. Increasingly reliable forecasts of severe weather events, floods, and draughts have been a key factor in reducing loss of life. This has been true for example of hurricane disasters in Southern U.S.A.

It is, thus, the hydrometeorological disasters which affect the most people. Disaster statistics from the U.S. Office of Disaster Assistance, indicates that from 1960-89 more than 90% of the people affected by natural disasters were affected by hydrometeorological disasters, i.e. droughts, floods, and storms.

References:

- 1 - WMO Bulletin, Vol. 39 No. 1, January 1990.
- 2 - WMO Bulletin, Vol. 39 No. 3, July 1990.
- 3 - WMO, Observing the World's Environment: Weather

Ethics of Embryology

Is it ethical for scientists to create human embryos in the laboratory solely to experiment on them? What if the embryos were deemed of poor quality and would otherwise be discarded? Are some good and others bad? Until now such questions were decided individually by scientists working in privately funded clinics doing in vitro fertilization (IVF).

Although American biomedical research in most areas is overwhelmingly funded by the National Institute of Health (NIH)-leads the world in medical research IVF science trails far behind, said Janathan Van Blierkom of the University of Colorado at Boulder. The world leaders in the field, he says, are Britain, Czechoslovakia and Poland.

Another factor, the Colorado researcher says, is that IVF has become a lucrative medical speciality.

There is this widespread belief in the clinics that if they just improve the water (used to culture embryos) or tinker with this or that, they will get more pregnancies, Van Blierkom says. They may get a little improvement, but the first thing is they are often dealing with patients whose

sperm and eggs have problems of their own. That is why they are infertile in the first place.

If high-quality human embryo research is allowed to develop under NIH review and support, he says, it promises advances in several areas, some of which might eventually top infertility as a reason to seek IVF. Among them are: Pre-implantation genetic diagnosis - the prime use would be to diagnose genetic diseases before a pregnancy is begun. A couple at risk of having a baby with cystic fibrosis or muscular dystrophy, for example, could opt for IVF.

When the embryo has developed only a few cells, one can be removed and tested for the defective gene. If the genes are good, the remaining cells would be placed back in the mother. Animal studies show this procedure causes no harm to subsequent development.

As the genetic bases of more diseases are established (and the pace of such discoveries is increasing) the potential uses of IVF and pre-implantation diagnosis grows.

Research on gnomonic imprinting - one of the most surprising new findings in molecular biology has been that during an embryo's first few cell divisions, certain genes (some

from the egg, others from the sperm) are permanently switched off. The result is that the trait under control of that gene is governed only by the copy of the gene inherited from one parent or the other.

This phenomenon, though poorly understood, is known to play an important role in development and causes various diseases.

Growing embryos beyond implantation stage - cells irreversibly destined to become a baby do not arise until after the state at which the embryo would ordinarily be implanted in the mother. So basic research on development of the true embryo can not be done unless embryos are cultured through the stage.

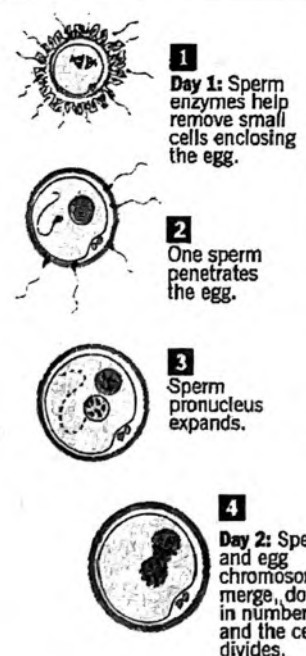
Although this work raises even more difficult ethical and technical problems, it promises some of the most revealing knowledge about how humans develop. Such embryos would also be useful for testing suspect chemicals for their potential to damage in early embryo development.

Stem cell research - they retain the ability to develop into a variety of specialized forms. Animal studies indicate they can be removed from embryos and transplanted into adults to cure various diseases.

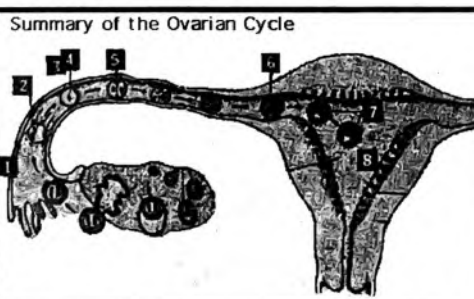
If human medicine is to enjoy the same benefits, many researchers say, it will be necessary to do much more research on human embryos.

(The Washington Post)

THE EARLIEST EMBRYO



Whether in a woman's body or in a laboratory dish, the first stages of human embryonic development follow the same course, as long as the sperm and egg are normal. Embryologists say there is no one moment that can be called "conception." Instead, they think of it as a process that, depending on the point of view, can take two weeks.



U.S. Likely to Step up Pressure on Asia

With financial services excluded from the Uruguay Round accord signed last week, Asian nations have won some breathing space to resist U.S. and European demands for further liberalization.

But the exclusion of financial services is a double-edged sword. While the sector has effectively been removed from the multilateral negotiation process until next year, the United States is expected to step up pressure in bilateral talks with Asian countries, starting with South Korea next month.

South Korea is gradually liberalizing its markets under a four-year plan unveiled last year. The plan includes deregulating interest rates, floating the won, lifting restrictions on capital flows and, in the second half of this year, raising the 10% ceiling on foreign ownership of listed companies. Foreign investors complain that the pace of market opening is too slow but Finance Minister Hong Jae-hyong counters that financial liberalization should be phased to avoid causing macroeconomic disturbances.

As for Japan, the United States has long been pushing for greater liberalization in such areas as insurance and pension fund management, where the presence of foreign financial institutions largely negligible.

Financial services is one of

the main sectors targeted by the United States in bilateral talks which broke down in February amid threats of retaliation against Japan. A date for the next round of talks has not yet been set.

In Singapore, one of the most overbanked countries in the world, foreign banks nevertheless complain about a long standing freeze on the number of full banking licenses. Other restrictions prevent foreign banks with full licenses from opening new branches or operating off-premise electronic teller machines.

The government opposes further opening, arguing that there are already too many banks and that, as a small country, it could easily be jeopardized by a scandal on the scale of BCCI.

Internationalization of the Singapore dollar is also opposed because of the impact speculators could have on monetary policy.

Australia meanwhile opposes a U.S. plan to introduce a two-tier system of financial services depending on how far countries liberalize. The United States has sought to impose a two-tier system, one tier with full reciprocal treatment and a second for those considered to have offered insufficient concessions," an Australian government official said. But this approach would breach the most favored nation (MFN) principle. "One of our main

priorities is to preserve the MFN principle because we think that once it disappears from one sector, other sectors could follow," he said.

Among other countries, Thailand granted offshore status to 34 foreign banks in March last year. Under a decision announced in January, the banks will be able to open up to two provincial branches while five will be allowed to open Bangkok branches in addition to the 14 already operating on the capital. The Bank of Thailand will also raise the foreign ceiling in securities companies to 49% while extending the total share foreigners can hold in insurance companies from 25% to 30% and later to 49% while extending the total share foreigners can hold in insurance companies from 25%.

Taiwan meanwhile plans further liberalization to improve its chance of joining General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT).

Japan Helps Halt Desertification in Yemen

JOFCA (Japan's Overseas Forestry Consultants Association) is a Japanese body which has been carrying out sand dune stabilization projects worldwide. Its projects in China and Mali are accepted by experts as models good for replication.

JOFCA started a sand dune stabilization project in Yemen one year ago (February 1993), in cooperation with the Tihama Development Authority (TDA) headquartered at Hodeidah.

According to the preliminary assessment of the fourth JOFCA mission which visited the project site at kitf Osayfera a few weeks back, the project is making good progress. A fifteen-hectare tree plantation has already been completed at the project site. The idea is to build trees to block wind erosion and to protect the smaller plants. The Mission expressed satisfaction with the progress, and following meetings and consultations with the TDA, the



two bodies agreed to continue this project.

They have also discussed the possibility of starting other similar projects, especially in regions which suffer from severe desertification and environmental degradation. The Japanese side decided to study the projects with an eye to their contribution to environmental protection and the financing possibilities.

The Yemeni coastal stretch, especially along the Tihama, as well as in the hinterland facing the Empty Quarter, have suffered tremendously due to the advance of the desert on formerly agricultural and pastoral land. The efforts of the government have, so far, been unsuccessful. Maybe the link-up with the Japanese will improve the prospects.

OMAN OPENS TO FOREIGN INVESTORS

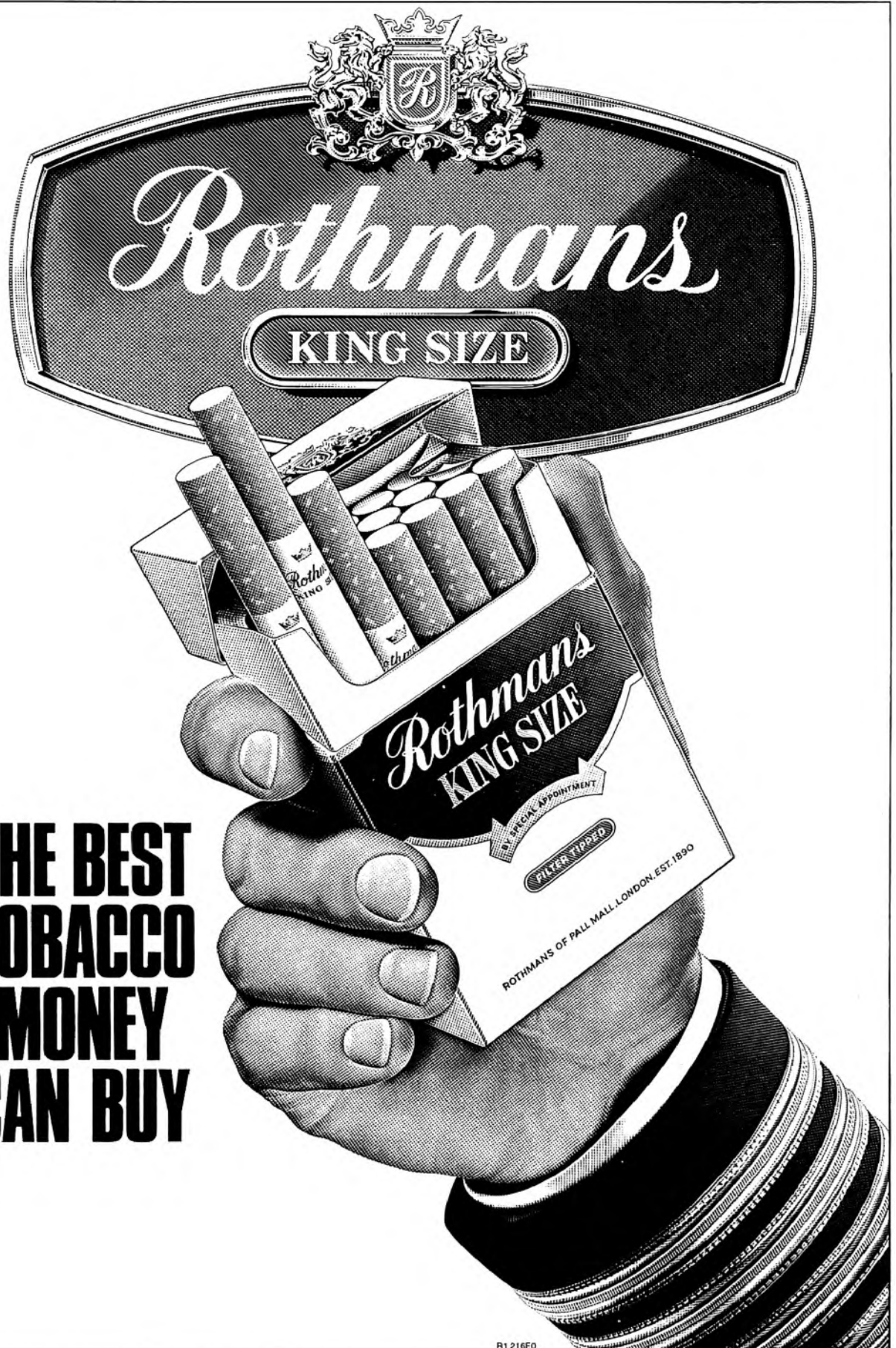
Oman is to sell off shares in more Government-held companies in 1994 and link its stock market with Bahrain as it continues to open its economy to private and foreign investors, an official said. Mahmoud Jarwani, director of the Oman Stock Exchange, was quoted last week as saying Oman and Bahrain were to link their stock markets by listing public joint-stock companies in each market. This step will come into force by the end of the year, he said in a statement published in the National Bank of Abu Dhabi's monthly bulletin on Gulf Stock Markets.

Bahrain Stock Exchange Director Fawzi Behzad had stated in January that the two countries had signed an agreement in 1992 to have cross-listing of securities. Jarwani also said Oman will set up two international funds for Japanese and British groups to invest in Oman's economy. Non-Omani citizens will be permitted to invest in these funds, provided that their investments do not exceed 49% of the total fund, he said. One is the Oryx fund to include foreigners.

This month it will offer units in the fund with a face value of five Omani riyals (\$13). It will be listed on the London and Muscat stock exchanges as of May. Oman's National

Insurance Company will manage the \$45 million fund in Muscat. Blakeney Management will handle it in London. Foreigners can also buy Government bonds on its exchange. The Gulf Arab state has announced plans to gradually open its economy to the private sector and attract foreign investment in fields traditionally controlled by the state. Jarwani said one such area was utilities. Oman's Minh Electricity Co. is to float shares to the public soon, he said. He said Government holdings in three companies - Oman Insurance Co., Gulf Hotels Co., and National Bank of Oman - have been sold to the public worth 8.8 million riyals (\$22.8) since it started a privatization plan last August. He expected this amount to rise in 1994 as the Government privatizes gas, petrochemicals, minerals and raw materials. Oman's stock market lists 93 companies capitalized at 623.2 million (\$1.6 billion). Jarwani said 34.5 million shares were traded in 1993 worth 83.2 million riyals (\$216 million). Annual turnover is about \$60 million. Citizens in the Gulf Cooperation Council own up to 25% of the share capital of public joint stock companies in Oman. There are some exceptions in which they can own up to 49%.

THE BEST TOBACCO MONEY CAN BUY



The Best Arab Movie on Terrorism Gets into Forbidden Territory

An Egyptian movie has made another breakthrough into the arena of open war against armed terrorism initiated by the religious militancy.

In a tense atmosphere of threats and several withdrawals by some artists working on it, the script titled "Al-Irhabi" (The Terrorist) written by Lenin Al-Remly finally saw light on the big screen after topping the number of 1.5 million Egyptian pounds. Starred by Adel Imam, the leading comedian in the Arab World, and directed by Nadir Jalal who replaced Samir Saif after the latter withdrew because as a Christian, he thought he would add an additional complication to the film. The hero of the story is a brain-washed terrorist



Adil Imam as a Terrorist

involved in killing journalists, robbing jewelry shops, attacking tourist buses, etc., all done under the guise of serving God (as is it Allah). The film portrays something that has become a common scene in Egyptian daily life. Imam personified the dreaded character of the Islamic terrorist, his inner conflict, and growth of confusion inside him.

One gratifying aspect so far, is the great and rather unexpected public response represented by the long lines of cinema-goers, a gamble the producers deservedly won.

Being a commercial investment after all, producers have to think a thousand times before they venture into hitherto forbidden territories especially regarding sensitive social problems, terrorism being one of the major ones in our world today.

The choice of the hero, Adel Imam, was already a milestone towards the success of the film. Adel also proved another point. He proved himself to be the artist who is capable of swimming against the current or rather against intimidation. The security system was ridiculed for the first time, Christian character was shown away from the common idealistic image governed by sensitivity, both form a

Cinema:

**Academy Awards 1994
7 Oscars for the Jewish Holocaust**

It took Steven Spielberg to replace the whole of his rich, colourful, record breaking artistic career with a film on Jewish holocaust to finally get on the throne of the glorious Oscar.

Spielberg, the maker of a group of the most successful films (4 out of ten most successful American films ever) in terms of revenues and public acceptance, has publicly stated that his winning is the cup of water that finally ended his thirst.

It was rather a strike of a master by Spielberg to pick up this very subject to get into contest, after



long years through which he was crowned as Hollywood's king of imagination whose films had topped the revenues of 4 billion US. Amongst which ET, The Indiana Jones series, the Empire of the Sun, Jaws, Always, poltergeist and Jurassic park stand as the most prominent, the latter's revenues alone rose to over 860 million US\$ during 1993 in America alone.

A Poet from Zabid

Yehya Al-Hodeidi of the Yemen Times interviewed the Yemeni poet Yehya Awadh Mohammed who talked about his life, poetry and the homeland.

Born in 1942 in Zabid, Yahia attended primary school and continued religious studies in Al-Asha'er mosque school of which he was expelled for his constant criticism of the ancient teaching methods.

He later return to Al-Asha'er mosque to resume specialized studies following which he took up teaching in Al-Fawz primary school, the one he attended as young child. It was in those days when he got involved in politics. The poet says:

"In 1959, I fled to Aden when the Imamic regime ordered my arrest on the pretext of being a communist. I took part in the freedom movement led by the late Mohammed Ali Al-Aswadi, Ali Abdul Aziz Nasser and many other "northerners." He was also part of the new command for the Yemeni Union, a basic organ of the national opposition movement then. In the original conference held in Sheikh Othman, I was elected a member of the executive committee of the union responsible for the cultural affairs. In 1962, I returned to Zabid and back to my earlier job after the mediation of some dignitaries there. "In 1962, I travelled to Sanaa as part of the Zabid delegation to celebrate the September revolution and congratulate its leaders. We did meet the late president Abdulla Al-Sallal, where I recited one of poems by which he was impressed," he said.

Since then, Mr. Yahya Awadh Mohammed remained in Zabid as an educator and public figure guiding the political movement in the city and the outskirts. "I was also elected as a member of the executive board of the Yemeni Writers' Union."

A Promising Cultural Movement in the Arab Gulf

In its fourth session, Abu Dhabi book exhibition (held between march 21 and March 31) has shown more and more progress. This session witnessed the presence of 352 publishing houses both Arab and International. Gulf countries came in full force with 60,000 titles, 5000 of which were published in 1994, which is a promising number indeed.

Symposia is one of the interesting activities of this exhibition, in addition to a "poetry evening" to which the prominent poet of Yemen Abdulla Al-Barradoni was invited.

A similar exhibition was also set in Sharja, and another in Manama, Bahrain where over two and a quarter million titles are exhibited.

As Gulf countries are knocking strongly on the doors of knowledge, a question about Yemen position within this exploding cultural uprising is still pending.

Spielberg said that throughout his career, he used to make people live in an imaginary world but when he decided to tell the truth, he had to talk about this subject, and when he did, the Oscars were almost guaranteed.

In front of 1000 million spectators in over 95 countries, watching the 66th American academy awards celebration, "Schindler's List" got 7 Oscars out of the 12 it was earlier expected to. Spielberg's other film "Jurassic Park", got 3 more to give him a total of 10 Oscars in one contest, which is also a record.

To be brief, Schindler's list is supposed to be a true story of a German "Nazi" business man who saved the lives of over 1000 Jews by convincing the government to allow them to work in his factory. He was presented as a hero, and so it was, and seven Oscars were in hand.

It's a pity that the movie hasn't yet entered the Yemeni market so the coverage could be more realistic and exclusive.



About the journey of his political struggle, the poet says, "Early in my life I was obsessed by the agony of our motherland, to which I dedicated my poetry. Many

of my poems were published in Yemeni newspapers since 1959, starting from Aden to which I had escaped. The poems are used to mobilize enthusiasm and popular support among the people.

"I was active in the political movement, in addition to the cultural activities through the Yemeni writers' union, which took Yemeni liberation and unity as its main goal."

About his position vis-avis the Yemeni Socialist Party, to which he was associated and affiliated, he said, "The cause of the homeland has always been my first priority, and the YSP always offered me a suitable forum. The Arab National Movement and the Democratic Party, which later merged along with other leftist parties into the Popular Unity Party, which was converted into the YSP. I believe I am taking the side of the party that is loyal to the Yemeni cause."

About his literary career, he said, "I prefer poetry as a means of expression to other forms because of its strength. Much of my poetry was published in newspapers, but I never had the chance to compile them and publish them in books. Some day, maybe, I will do just that."

Yahya Ahmed Awadh faced prison and detention many times in his life before and after the 26th September Revolution. but he feels happy that period is over. He believes that a

lot was achieved, but there is more to be done. Asked by the Yemen Times about the current political crisis, Awadh replied: "External forces are working hard to destroy the two glorious (September and October) revolutions and their great achievements. The problem is not a personal between the president and the vice-president, nor is it among the three coalition parties. The crisis is due to differences in visions of the form of the systems. I am optimistic that the problem will be solved, as turning back can only do harm to all concerned parties and Yemeni people as a whole."

"There Is No Choice"
"You are my beginning and my love
You are my young joy within my body
The shadows of hopes of my castle
The glory is all yours
Eternity lay young over your breast
While time runs old on your hair
The glory is yours now, and then, and forever
You are the absolute presence..
You are the eternal existence.."

Mahmoud Darwish in French

"Eleven Planets", the latest collection by the giant Arab poet Mahmoud Darwish is already in the French book markets. Published in Paris by "Acte Sud" and translated by Elias Senbar, "Eleven Planets" is the second collection of Darwish to be published in French within five years, after his "Less Flowers" published in 1989.

Darwish cultural presence was highly credited in France. On March 24 "Liberation" newspaper made an exclusive interview with the poet who talked about his life, literary experience, homeland and exile. The paper has also demonstrated poems of his latest collection.

**Job Advertisement
Midwives/Female Nurses**

ICD (International Corporation for Development) A British Non-government Organization, is looking for two midwives or female nurses with experience in primary health care to work as trainer-supervisor in rural development projects.

One midwife will be based in Kussmah in Jebel Raymah region and the other in Abs/Assalam in the northern Tihama region. These rural health projects work in close cooperation with the Ministry of Health to improve mother and child health service. The midwives will be expected to travel to other villages in the district, some times on foot. Midwives should be native speakers of Arabic or fluent Arabic speakers with a working knowledge of English and experience of MCH in remote areas.

For information and application forms please contact

ICD, Sanaa

Telephone (01)275222

Fax (01) 276576

Deadline for application: 26 April 1994

MORE THAN A CHOICE WITH CANADA DRY COLA



NATIONAL BEVERAGES COMPANY - SANAA

Inside Yemen's Largest Secondary School

Abdul-Nasser Secondary School (ANSS) in Sana'a is the largest secondary school in the republic. It is where more than five thousand students go to school. Yemen Times visited the

the only newspaper to have come to visit," he starting serving us cold drinks. It came to us as a shock that no other newspaper ever visited the school, or any school for that matter.

immensely to the educational process of Yemen. Many among the political, intellectual, military, and business leaders of Yemen today are graduates of this school," pointed out a proud Gawla.

The school has a good reputation as many of the top graduates in the general nation-wide exams come from this school. "As a result, we are under pressure to accept more and more students every year," said the principal. The normal result is overcrowded classes. An average class would have almost a



Mr. Gawla in his office

school and interviewed Mr. Abdul Wahab Gawla, the principal, talked to the teachers and students, and attended classes. It was quite an experience.

Mr. Gawla, a graduate of Sanaa University (1978-79) has a BA in economics. He has been in charge of the school for the last ten years, and seemed to be in full control. He projects the image of a confident principal who looks like he knows what he was doing.

"I am happy to welcome the Yemen Times in our school. I want to thank you for being

The point is that the educational process is the responsibility of all the members and institutions in society so we can only look at it as in the overall view of the development and progress of the country.

The ANSS, located in the center of town - at the intersection point of Ali Abdul-Moghni and Al-Qasr Al-Jumhuri Streets, was the first school to be built after the September Revolution. It was built in 1963 as a gift from Egypt. "The school took-in the first batch of students in 1964, and has since contributed

hundred students. It is enough to entertain about 40. Many students do not find chairs, and they take classes while standing up. Others sit on the floor, or lean on walls.

Urbanization, high population growth rates, and a higher interest in education and in enrollment in schools have all boosted the demand for education. "There has not been a parallel growth in facilities and investments to match this growth in demand," complained Abdul-Wahab. "So what do we do. We reduce extra-curricular activities to a bare minimum, trim down

Overcrowded classes are the norm.



class time, and engage in two shifts. The morning shift starts at 7:45, and finishes by noon time. The second shift starts at 1:00 p.m., and goes on to six," he pointed out.

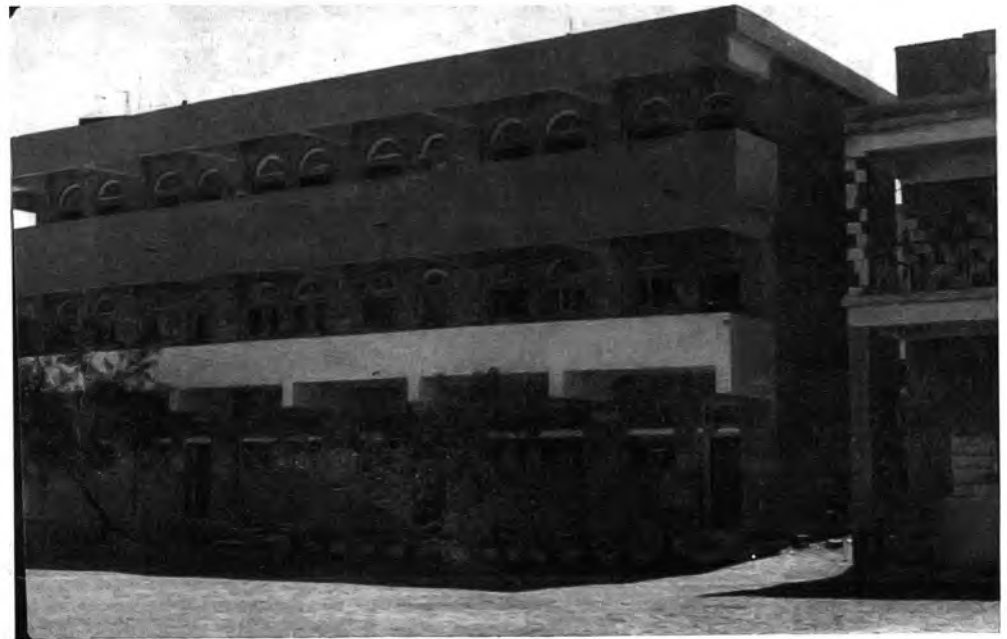
Between the two shifts, the school is able to take-in as many as 4,700 students.

already has a few of the graduates of Sana'a University, including the two administrative assistants of the principal, Saleh Bajubair and Farouk Alwarad.

Even with the gigantic problems facing the school, least of which are the finan-

adults. They should treat us with dignity and they should know we can be responsible." That phrase was repeated over and over by the students.

Another complaint is that they felt the school administration and teachers did not care



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ثخينة من الشيكولاتة

إنتاج شركة الصناعات المتنوعة ومواد التعبئة

Yet, everything was quite. It was amazing that thousands of teenagers could be lumped under so much pressure and endure so much hardship, and yet stay put. This reality says a lot about the docile nature of the Yemeni people.

"The teachers and the students are working as if they are in a bee-hive. Such a thing can't be found in other schools," Gawla boasted.

"I believe extra-curricular activities are an integral part of the educational process. But we have to do with the minimum. Yet, quite a few cultural and social activities are going on. We are also lucky that the Al-Dharafi stadium is next door. Our students use it regularly for sports events," he said. One of the remarkable options is computer classes for those students who have the desire to take the first steps in this field.

At the beginning of each school-year, this school, like all others in the republic, suffers from inadequate and/or insufficient qualified and experienced teachers. The majority of the sixty or so teachers in the school are from the Arab countries. The Ministry of Education allocates teachers who have signed contracts to teach with it.

The school has tried hard to retain Yemeni teachers, and it

special limitations, the principal sounded upbeat. "You see the educational process requires patience, experience, understanding and cooperation among all parties involved in it. We try to bring between the school and the family together in sharing responsibility for the up-bringing and education of our children."

What is the school's major headache? There are two sides to this answer.

On the one hand there is the eternal problem of absenteeism and late arrival. This phenomenon interrupts the smooth and steady learning process. The second part of the problem has to do with the age of the students.

Most of the students are at a very critical age between adolescence and manhood. They are rebellious, and they demand recognition. "We have to deal with them in a delicate manner, or else we lose them," Gawla said. They require a deep understanding," he added.

Delay in arrival of text-books is a chronic problem at all schools, including the ANSS. That was the major complaint of the students. Many students said that even as late in the school-year as we are, none had the full set of textbooks.

They didn't seem to mind the over-crowding, but they hated the patronizing attitude of some of the teachers. "We are

enough. Whether that feeling is justified or not is immaterial, the main thing is it is there.

The teachers also had their complaining to do. One major bone of contention is the inability of the Ministry of Education to pay their dues - especially the part in foreign exchange - on time. "The Ministry delays paying us to the extent that we are forced to borrow from every-one we know," summarized one teacher. The problem is not just one of resources, but it is primarily a problem of proper management.

The teachers also complained of the insufficient teaching aids and other facilities that would help their students.

"Throughout my long years as a school administrator, I have learned a lot about the need for patience. There is also the conviction that one always learns something new from others. Life is a big school," said Mr. Abdul-Wahab Gawla.

Yes, life is a big school, and the ANSS is one of its focal points. Much more could, of course, be done at the ANSS. But given the constraints, Gawla and his team are already doing an excellent job.

By Mohammad Abdul hamid and Bashar G. Askar, Yemen Times.

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Ms. Sido Artan lost her Somali Passport No 0329961. Any person who finds it kindly requested to contact the Somali Embassy in Sanaa.

Staff Celebrations at Sheraton Sanaa Hotel

Sheraton Sanaa Hotel has renovated and expanded its Indian Tandoor Restaurant. The renovation team lead by Sheraton's Chief Engineer Mr. Nigel Taylor was given a "Thank-you party" in a staff "get together" for demonstrated high-level team sprit and enthusiasm.



Tid Bits Corner

By: Susan Sanganee

* It is time for our national airlines - ALYEMENIA and ALYEMDA - to pay more attention to punctuality on domestic routes. Delays cause a lot of inconvenience to passengers as. Neither airline has paid any interest in informing passengers about delays in advance, provide snacks to their passengers stranded in airports, specially those who may have children accompanying them. The delays can run into hours in end.

Imagine what would be the position of passengers who may have connecting flights to catch, important business appointments, or any other important commitments.

* The Governor of Aden has been doing everything possible within his means to bring back the city of Aden to life. Unfortunately, it seems that the residents especially those who live on the Ma'alla Main road have not done enough to renovate their buildings or properly dispose off rubbish. As a result, most of the buildings appear really unpleasant. Painting the buildings and collecting the rubbish will definitely give the Maalla Main Road a pleasant look. Resident have an interest in maintaining their homes and a civic duty to give their city a clean look. We don't have to wait for the government do every thing !

* It is a fact that the new mid-street railings on Ali Abdul-Moghni Street have helped much in directing the flow of pedestrians towards specific crossing points. Erection of similar railings at Bab-AL-Yemen will help pedestrians cross the street only at specific points. Let us make Bab-AL-Yemen, one of the most crowded areas in Sanaa, safe for motorists and pedestrians alike.

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Politics:
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Economics:
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PLUS OUR PERMANENT FEATURES

As Prolongation of the Crisis Takes Its Toll, People Ask:

Where Do We Go from Here?

By: Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf
Sanaa University

So His Majesty King Hussain has sent his trouble shooter to Yemen again!. The King feels a commitment to helping Yemen retain its unity and find a dignified solution to the crisis. Sharif Zaid Bin Shakir, Chairman of the Royal Court, and Dr. Khalid Al-Keraki left here today after having delivered written messages from King Hussain to President Ali Abdullah Saleh and Vice President Ali Salim Al-Beedh.

Meanwhile, the crisis hovers without any sight of a possible solution. At times a solution seems to be at hand, and then all of a sudden, there are new complications. The new developments now is the departure of Prime Minister Haidar Abubakar Al-Attas to the USA, for medical treatment in



Richmond, . He passed via London. Salim Saleh Mohammed is also abroad for medical treatment. He is in London. Mr. Saleh Abubakar Bin Hussainoon, the Oil Minister, is also in London for medical treatment. Saleh Munassar Al-Seyali, the governor of Aden, is also abroad on medical treatment. There are

also a bunch of people from Sanaa who are abroad under various pretexts. By the way, many officials, senior officers, and businessmen have also shipped their dependents and families abroad, again on medical trips, sight-seeing, or for

The new developments now is the departure of Prime Minister Haidar Abubakar Al-Attas to Richmond, Virginia, USA for medical treatment.

whatever reason! There have been confirmations at a presidential level and others of working for a peaceful and acceptable resolution of the problem. All sides confess they want to apply the stipulations of the Pledge and Accord Document. No one is actually

doing any application or implementation thereof. Popular activities such as sit-ins and other forms of peaceful protests have lost steam. Even the opposition blocs are making far less noise than they used to. The Dialogue Committee has become content with useless meetings at ever longer and longer intervals. According to observers, "The document is, for all practical purposes, dead." The arrangements and deals being negotiated and discussed at the moment are external to those issues mentioned in the document.

The House of Representatives has held a few sessions, but has been unable to agree on anything substantive. In fact, they have

"Just as solutions seem to be at hand, new complications suddenly arise!"

managed to side-track on many marginal issues. At the same time, tribal threats against Sanaa, the capital city have been mounting. No one seems to have an answer. The other

day, Sheikh Abdul-Majeed Zindani, Member of the Presidential Council and the spiritual leader of Islah Party [the third partner in the ruling coalition] was asking what could be done. Someone was commenting, "If he doesn't know what to do to lead the country, why is he there?" There are talks of cutting off all supplies coming to Sanaa. The citizens keep asking, "Where do we go from here?" If you have an answer, please write to the Yemen Times!

...

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