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Halewah Field Dedication Delayed

JHOC Expects Production to Double in 1997

The first of five Jannah fields, Halewah, was to be officially dedicated by President Ali Abdullah Saleh on October 10th. That was indefinitely put off, given the President's heavy schedule. The field, however, has already been producing some 16,000 bpd, which is carried by a 37-kilometer pipeline running west, linking the field to the Marib Central Processing Unit. From there, the oil is sent to the Safer terminal on the Red Sea for export.

Jannah Hunt Oil Company, has been the block operator since June 8 1995. Mr. Alex Dmitrienko, General Manager, said that with the development of Dhahab and Al-Nasr, two other Jannah fields, production may double in late 1997. Sources at the Ministry of Oil and Mineral Resources believe Jannah could ultimately produce as much as 50,000 bpd. Given the success of the JHOC administration, its one-year operator status has recently been extended by

another two years. The block is held by six partners: EXXON Saba, Hunt Oil Company, Kuwait Foreign Petroleum Exploration Company, NEWCO Private Ltd Enterprises (a Russian and Greek joint venture), TOTAL and the Yemen Company for Investment in Oil and Minerals. Jannah Block is a small elongated strip separating Marib Governorate (former North Yemen) from Shabwah Governorate (former South Yemen).

Immunization Campaign Involving 2.5 Million Children:

Fortifying Against POLIO

The Republic of Yemen, along with Somalia, are the only two countries in the world that have failed to live up to their commitment to the world community in immunizing their children. World Health Organization officials are worried about the inability of Yemen to achieve the goals set for the year 2000. "Actually we are more worried about slipping back. During 1990/91, Yemen had achieved an immunization record of more than 85%. Today, only 50% of Yemeni children are immunized," said Ahmed Saeed Zaid, EPI-Manager at the Ministry of Health in Sanaa.

One of the major new headaches has been the spread of polio. The crippling disease is now the target of a joint effort by the government and world organizations, such as WHO, Unicef and CDC.

"Within two or three days, some 2.5 million Yemeni children have to receive the polio immunization. The world community and Yemeni government have set aside 25-27 October for the first dose, and 25-27 November for the second dose of a nation-wide mass immunization campaign," explained Elias Durry, Medical Officer WHO/Yemen.

More on page 8



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OUR VIEWPOINT

One Day in the Life of a Yemeni

How does a typical Yemeni spend his or her day? This question was of such interest to me that I began asking around to find out. I was shocked at the monotony and regularity of the events and activities. One can really speak of a norm in terms of how a Yemeni spends his twenty four hours.

The typical urban waking time for male adults is 7:00 o'clock in the morning. There is a large section of people who wake up after 9:00 o'clock, but these are a minority, however large. It is amazing how many people leave home without breakfast. The majority eat breakfast around 9:30 am, and at work. That explains why many of the clerks are not available between 9-10 in the morning.

Housewives start the day around 6:30. They prepare breakfast for the family and the kids for school. Many housewives leave their homes on short excursions around 9-10. These are either errands to the market for household needs, or short visits to friends.

Activities in the countryside are less standardized and rigid than in the city. But even here, most adult males leave their homes to carry out whatever business they have around 8-9 am. Don't believe that the men go to the farm, it is the women who do those chores!

Around 11:30, most Yemeni adults are gripped with qat fever. They have to make sure they get their day's supply of the stuff. If they are government clerks, they may start blackmailing people who need to process formalities and other paperwork. Once the resources are available, it is time to think of who and how the qat supply is assured.

People in the countryside eat lunch around 12:30. In cities, it is one hour later. The time depends on the kind of work a person does. Day-wage workers eat lunch between 12:00-13:00, whereas office workers eat lunch around 13:00-14:00. Those who pray, perform the noon prayer around this time. They follow it shortly thereafter with the Asr prayer. Most qat chewers watch lots of television while chewing.

For those who chew, the process starts anywhere between 2:30 pm and 3:30 pm. This process continues for an average of three to four hours. For some people, it goes on until well into the night, but again these are a minority.

By 6:00 pm, the early chewers are out of it, and by 7:30 pm, the majority of the addicts are done. They now have to join the mainstream society. They do it slowly and with lots of pain. Praying is done. Dinner is served between 7:30 - 9:30.

Television is on, and slowly people go to bed. First the children. Those who are used

The Publisher
SPS

Prince Nayif Hands Over Saudi Response

Last week, Saudi Interior Minister, Prince Nayif Bin Abdulaziz, paid a short visit to Sanaa during which he delivered a letter from King Fahd of Saudi Arabia to President Ali Abdullah Saleh. The letter spells out the Saudi position on a proposal Yemen had offered during the visit of Prince Sultan Bin Abdulaziz, the Defence and Aviation Minister.

In a press conference held after the meeting, the President and Prince indicated that there were differences between the two sides that are yet to be resolved. But there were also many points of agreement.

SEC Responds

The Supreme Election Committee (SEC) clarified many legal and constitutional points in a letter addressed to President Ali Abdullah Saleh. The long letter cited many articles in the constitution and laws to substantiate its legality. It also printed to many practical aspects which lend legitimacy to its existence.

Finally the SEC insisted on its neutrality and objectivity during the registration process.

The opposition parties and the Islah have accused the SEC of being biased and have cost doubt on its legitimacy. They continue to call for a more broad-based and more neutral committee.

Yemen Invited to Islamic Summit

Yemen was officially invited to the extraordinary Islamic Summit to be held in Islamabad in march 1997. The invitation letter from Pakistani prime Minister Benazir Bhutto was delivered to President Ali Abdullah Saleh when he received visiting Pakistani Trade Minister, Chaudhry Mokhtar Ahmed. Yemen has accepted the invitation.

Diplomats on The Move

President Ali Abdullah Saleh received the letters of credentials of three new Ambassadors in Sana'a. These are Dutch Ambassador Arend Meerburg, Polish Ambassador Krzysztof Suprowicz, and North Korean Ambassador Pak Hi-Joo.

At the same time, President Saleh received in audience Qatari Ambassador Mohammed Ali Al-Ansari and Eritrean Ambassador Mahmood Ali Herwi, who bid good-bye at the end of their term of service in Yemen.

New Education Minister

Dr. Abdul-Majeed Al-Mikhlafi was sworn in last week as the new Education Minister. Dr. Mikhlafi, Islah, is a professor at Sana'a University, and last served as Vice Minister of Trade and Supply. He succeeds Mr. Abdo Ali Qubati who has been sulking at home for the last few months.

Eritrean President Attends ROY Embassy Reception

In commemoration of the 26th of September/14 of October Revolution, the President of Eritrea attended the reception held by the Yemen Embassy in Asmara, Eritrea. Other high level Eritrean officials who attended included Butrus Salmon, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Saleh Macky, Minister of Marine Resources and Saleh Keak, Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs.

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Eng. Mohammed Hadi Salim:

"The National Dockyard Company prepares for the future role of Aden."

One important aspect for which Aden was famous was its harbor which served so many ships a few decades ago. But, as the number of ships calling on Aden fell dramatically over the years, its harbor and docking services also fell in disrepair. The old prosperity and fame were no more.

Now, however, as the city is trying to work its way to regain some of the past glamor and shipping business, the dockyards are bound to gain in importance. The Aden Free Zone, private shipping business, the liberalization of trade, and the new five-year development plan carry with them lots of hope and prospects for the city.

The National Dockyard Company, obviously optimistic about the future given the recent activities, sees for itself a rising role in the city's prosperity and future development.

Ridhwan Al-Saqqaf, Aden Bureau Chief of Yemen Times, spoke at length to the chairman of the company's Executive Board, Eng. Mohammed Hadi Salim.

Excerpts.

Q: Could you give a brief account of the company?

A: The company was established in 1920 when work to repair small ships in Aden started. Rising volume of business quickly led to the establishment of two extra workshops between 1925 and 1930.

Business continued to flourish and grow. By 1969, all the various components and workshops were grouped within one company named the National Dockyards Company.

Today, we feel there is a new chance for a rebirth for the company and for business.

Q: Has the company retained skilled manpower and expertise during the past lean years?

A: The company has the necessary expertise to maintain and repair ships sailing between the Red Sea and the Indian Ocean. We also provide other shipping services including cargo loading and unloading.

We have a large pool of professionals and skilled manpower for different jobs. Our work-force

is a 100% Yemeni, at all levels.

Q: What kind of facilities do you have?

A: The company owns two dockyards: Al-Yemen, and Friendship with capacities of 4500 tons, and 1500 tons, respectively. There is also the central workshop which consists of many departments: lathe machining, planing, welding, metals and casting, electricity and electrical motors, carpentry, chipping and mechanical testing.

Q: How capable is your company in implementing large naval projects?

A: We carry out construction jobs like building large warehouses, central air-

conditioning and maintenance work on giant oil tankers. All this is done in addition to the normal naval services. We implemented many projects in Hodeidah and Mokha and repaired the floating crane. We are now awaiting the arrival of a special dredger from Hodeidah port to carry out technical tasks.

Q: Do you contemplate getting

into joint ventures in projects with foreign companies?

A: Yes, we are interested in establishing relations with international companies. This can take many forms, including joint ventures.

Aden's future as a free zone requires that we upgrade and modernize our facilities and systems. And we are doing exactly that



Q: What preparations has the company done for the Aden Free Zone?

A: We have carried out this year, the necessary maintenance work on the main dockyards in order to raise their capacities. We are now considering the possibility of buying a large dock with a capacity of 10,000 tons.

The company equipped the 'Yemen' - a floating dock - which was inaugurated in mid-June. It is now fully operational.

Q: Has the company been able to generate adequate income?

A: We as a new administration were able to achieve large profits. The company's income during the first half of 1996 was 69.2 million Rials. We are financially afloat.

Q: What obstacles do you face? And how do you overcome them?

A: The most pressing problem is collecting of outstanding debts from governmental bodies. The amount of debts owed by the government to the company stands at US 4,725,000. The retrieval of these sums will enable the company to perform its duties better.

There are, of course, other small difficulties which are part of everyday work. We can address those and do our job well.

In the final analysis, the country needs stability and an environment conducive to business and investments.

Q: Any last comments?

A: I would like to take the opportunity of the anniversary of the Yemeni Revolution - September/October, to present my good-will wishes to all.

I would also like to thank those officials in government, as well as public figures, who have been helpful in the re-launch of the company.

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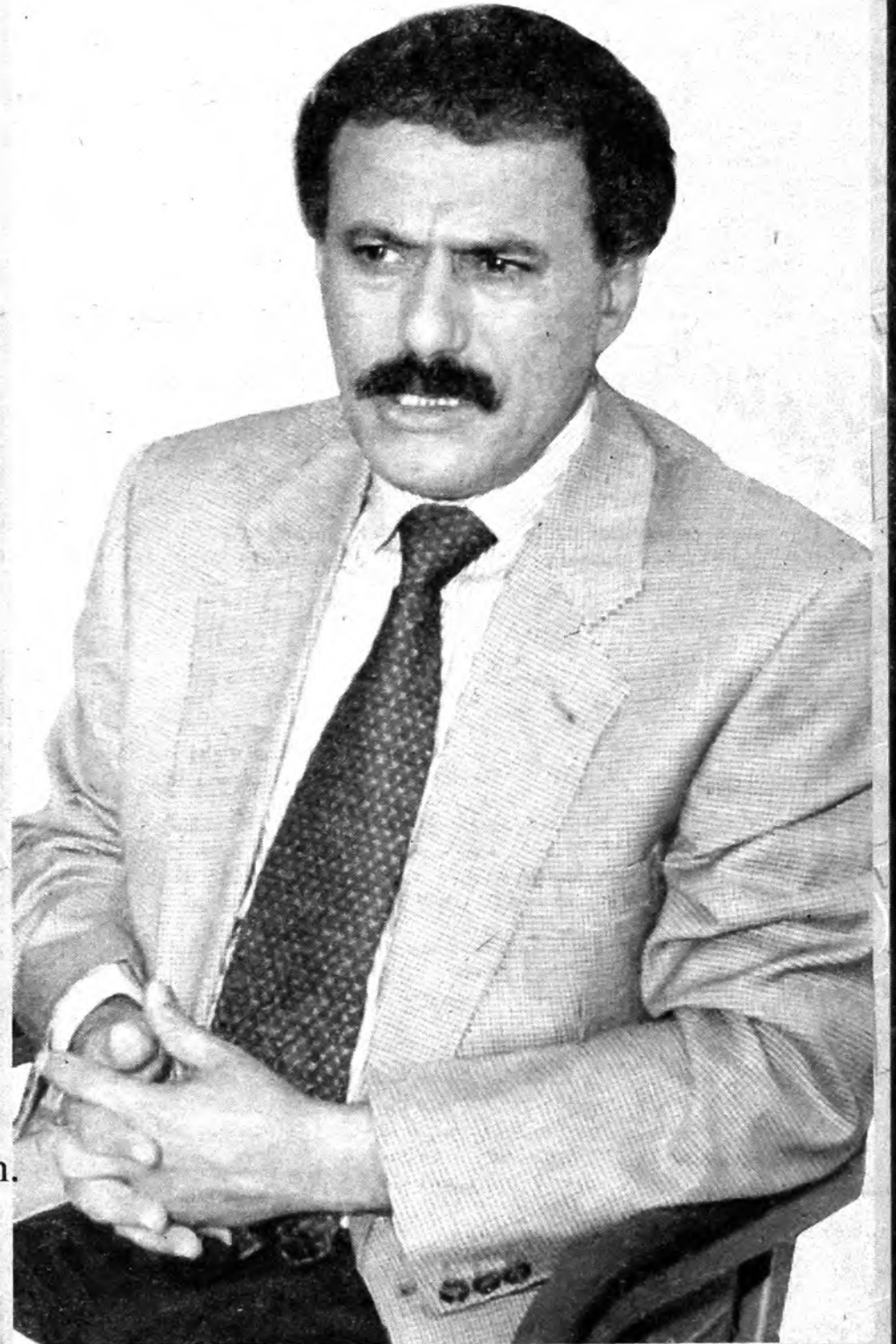
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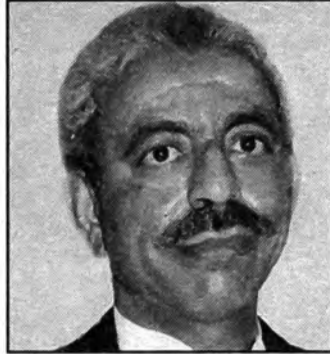
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Common Sense

By: Hassan Al-Haifi

The Need for Good Leadership Never Ends!



"God bless his departed soul," said Mona to her husband as she heard him speak of the large turnout at the funeral procession for the late Ahmed Mohammed Noman, a founding member of the Free Yemeni Movement that led to the end of the Imamate.

"I am frankly worried," said Naif, her husband. "I am worried that Yemen is losing a lot of its visionary leaders, who were preoccupied with national interest, freedom and welfare of the people. Who will we have in the years to come, as people we look up to for guidance and direction? Who will we have as examples for society to look at as models of good citizenship?"

"You still have me," said Mona asserting her important family role. "No, no. I don't mean in the house. I am talking about national leaders whose names symbolized piety, faith and sincerity as they carried the banners of national interest and people's rights. I mean leaders who are not after leadership for the sake of their own short-sighted benefits and self-gratification. I am talking about leaders whose hearts feel for the sufferings of their fellow citizens. Leaders who have the far-sight to see beyond tomorrow.

"But we still have many leaders who were active participants in the Freedom Movement and who left their mark on Yemen's road to modern nationhood." Mona tried to console her husband that all was not lost, not yet, any way.

"You are right, Mona, but the only time those leaders seem to say anything nowadays is when a national holiday appears and they race to exaggerate their role in the events being celebrated, on TV, radio or the newspapers."

"Maybe by reminding the nation of the difficult struggle that was needed to get Yemen where it is today, the people can appreciate the value of all those things our heroes stood and fought for as well," suggested Mona.

"Yes, my dear Mona, but for leadership to be more effective it must look towards the future with a wide scope of vision. We cannot just sing glory songs about the past. Good national leadership speaks about values rather than personal roles. Good leadership defines the faults of our society and pursues their adjustment and repair."

"I think leadership of the kind you are talking about still exists. It is possible they are convinced that there is really nothing that they can do."

"This is exactly what I mean," said Naif continuing, "the cause is there, but it seems that our leaders of the past nationalist movement, some of whom, as you said, are still around, have distanced themselves from the cause."

"For sure, if Mohammed Al-Zubeiry and Ahmed Noman were alive and well, they would continue to speak out against the maladies that still plague the nation. For them, the issue was

not just to get rid of the despotic Imam. The national struggle was a movement to achieve national aspirations: a democratic system with equal opportunity for all citizens, and an environment and system that would enable all to reach the maximum limits of their capabilities.

To such men, the overthrow of the Imam was only the beginning. It opened new and continuing struggles in overcoming social and cultural retardation with which the nation was beset: illiteracy, tribal feuds and blood wars, large scale economic deprivation, absence of an effective institutional framework by which the citizens could manage their affairs and tend to their needs, and finally a commitment and adherence to law and order by all citizens.

Mona wanted to include an additional element for a Yemeni modern society: "A society whose women are not deprived of their legitimate rights, political and otherwise. Do you know that in some areas of Yemen, they are denied their God-given inheritance rights? In other areas, they are the ones who struggle in the farms as well as the homes, while the men are away in the city or overseas working or just doing nothing with their friends until it is time to sell the harvest? Do you know in many parts girls are not allowed to go to school? This is still a man's world."

"What do you want to be now?"

The Ahmed Noman of the Free Yemeni Women's Movement?" inquired her husband. "Besides, it is not as bad as you make it sound in a lot of Yemeni families.

"I know many married men who are driven by their wives. I could tell that the women really run the show in the family."

The wife was trying to determine the attitude of her husband on women. "The whole issue is I think matter of culture, upbringing and a matter of civilizational taste. There are no quick solutions to the problems we have. Yemen is trouble for both men and women. The social order we live in creates many problems. Solutions are needed, not necessarily all at once, but a start has to be made.

"I have to admit, my dear, if even a few of the leading men in our society feel the way you do, things may not be so bad. But, again, I must say, there is not just one way to address our troubles - political transformation.

"In fact, our heritage of cultural and social retardation are going to affect a political transformation, before we can carry through the proper adjustment. We cannot develop politically and expect that the other sectors will automatically follow through."

"I can see," interrupted the wife, "that you believe that blaming history suffices to excuse society for not finding solutions to what appears to be relatively simple problems. It is really a matter of commitment and sincerity -- nothing more, nothing less. We speak of men like Zubeiry, Noman, and others who are glorified as outstanding personalities. But we find it difficult to institutionalize what they stood for. I would think that understanding and accepting what they stood for is the logical appreciation of what men like these gave to the countries. When these patriots died for the cause they stood for, it makes us more obliged to turn their cause into a commitment on our own part. Wouldn't you agree?"

"Have you ever thought of running for parliament? I can safely assure you that I am convinced that you would fare better than some of the nincompoops who now represent the people," said Naif signifying agreement to what she had said.

"Look!" said Yassin, their eldest son, who had just arrived from the university, "They have not allowed men who think like my mother to even get nominated. What makes you think she can win, even if she ran. There is just no room for good political sense in our system. It seems that what one believes is not the criterion for deciding who represents the people. Political parties are there first for the money and second for political muscle. Representatives and officials are puppets who carry out orders."

"You see my dear, it seems that all is not lost. Our son has a fair idea of how it is. But, he also knows the way it should be. By this fact alone, I am confident that if things do not happen now, it will happen in the future for sure."

"We are on the straight and narrow as more of our sons and daughters come into tune with their hopes and realities, change will come. Already, with the democracy we have - as superficial as it may seem - there can be further hope that gradual and positive peaceful change is eminent. It is going to take time. Both of you must remember that abrupt transformation in our society has often backfired. Positive ideals cannot be expected to settle on society because one or two Yemenis were ahead of the general population in their outlook and in their visions of the country's

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"Of course, it is necessary that a few visionaries see ideals and push for them. But you cannot push too hard too fast. The vision has to be shared by as large a segment of the population as possible, before the big push can be made. I can bet ten to one that in every parliamentary election, there can be surprises in a positive sense, no matter how much some power centers try to hold back the wheel of change.

"The starting point is to make sure that our people, en masse, really know what their constitution gives them and how their different civil and political institutions work, and how to assess their performance."

Yassin commented, "I think both of you are right. Of course, we as young Yemeni citizens may be eager to see change faster, because we see our future checkered with hurdles."

"Our economic situation is not helping to ease the frustration. This is especially so, when the few that could make a difference are untouched by our economic difficulties and regrettably act as though the general public is indifferent to their disproportionate

wealth and prosperity.

"I would agree that we should proceed by making the best of what we have now - and work towards getting more people to understand that it really can be better if we really wanted it to be. The means and resources are there, but the public mentality is far from realizing the potential that exists."

"I would think that the next elections will show where we could be going, so optimism might still be justified."

"By the way, I second my father's nomination of you to parliament, mother."

"You see, dear," said the father affectionately, "I told you all is not lost. From the way Yassin used to get at his sister, one would surmise that we had a male chauvinist son in the making. But time does strange wonders to people. He now accepts a woman to represent him in parliament!"

"I am not just any woman to Yassin!" said Mona


"You are not just any woman to me, either," said father. "Whether in the House of Representatives or in our little house. You are a special person to all of us."

News

Aden Hotel Mövenpick in the autumn

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P. O. Box 481, Sana'a
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Sheraton Sanaa Hotel Works to Bring New Business to Sanaa

The Sheraton Hotel in Sanaa, with its new top management, is striving to put Yemen on the regional map as a suitable business meeting place to conduct all sorts of group business activities - conferences, seminars, exhibits, etc. The first step in this direction was to get the Sheraton regional management to recognize the possibilities. That was the purpose of holding the ITT Sheraton Regional Sales and Marketing Meeting in Sanaa.

Sheraton of Sana'a hosted the Middle East regional division of ITT Sheraton Annual Sales and Marketing Meeting with the aim of promoting the business of the hotels in their host countries.

The hotels represented were the Sheratons in

Dubai, Oman, Damascus, Riyadh, Abu Dhabi, Doha, Kuwait, Gulf-Doha and in Karachi.

This would be a joint drive to enhance Sanaa's place on the map of regional business events and to promote the Sanaa Sheraton Hotel for potential executive meetings as encouragement for business tourism in Yemen. The outstanding climate of the city and the luxurious comforts of the Sanaa Sheraton are good incentives for such an effort.

The Sanaa Sheraton Sales Director represented the hotel in the meeting. But it was the General Manager, Abdullah Milhem, who worked overtime to impress upon the ten Sales and Marketing Executives. He underlined the viability of Sanaa. The Sana'a Sheraton regional business executives of the region found the luxury and convenience they were looking for. The comfortable climate and pleasant scenery of Yemen has much attraction given the harsh climate of the region, especially during the summer months.

The other point that was made was that Sanaa is easily accessible from Damascus, Doha, Muscat, Dubai, Abu Dhabi, Jeddah and Saudi Arabia. There are direct flights between those cities and Sanaa.

On the other hand, Sheraton's increasing presence in the region, with the opening of the Four Points by ITT Sheraton Dubai - the first of its kind for the entire region - was highlighted during the meeting. Regional achievements for ITT Sheraton have also been underlined by granting the Hotel of the Year Award to the ITT Sheraton of Kuwait by the Executive Travel Market.

The three day visit program of the Sheraton Sales Executives included visits to Manakha and Hujrah (Al-Mahweet). The group was impressed with what they saw and all were surprised that Yemen had such a moderate and comfortable climate.

In addition to the climate, Yemen also offers colourful cultural and historic points of interest which could add life and zest to the usually mundane program of executive meetings and conferences. The visiting ITT Sheraton Sales Officers also had a chance to go through most of the dining and entertainment facilities that the Sana'a Sheraton provides for its guests. The dramatic improvements in the cuisine - starting from the Oriental Chinese Restaurant to the Middle Eastern food delights - have added to the inviting nature of Sanaa.

"If we can show the potential that exists in Yemen, there is a lot of business out there," explained the Sheraton General Manager. He was talking of tapping specialized niches in the travel market. Next time, he plans to corner the regional banqueting market. Good luck!

By: Hassan Al-Haifi,
Yemen Times.



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CARE International, a non-government development organization is looking for:

PROJECTS ADMINISTRATOR

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- * Administrative experience with knowledge of basic book-keeping;
- * Personnel management;
- * Good communication and report writing skill;
- * willingness and ability to travel frequently outside Sana'a to rural areas;
- * Knowledge of Yemeni development issues.

This position is for Yemeni nationals only, and preference will be given to women. Interested persons should submit CV and application letter by 15 October, 1996.

For further information, contact Latifa in the main office Sana'a, Tel: 414-496; Fax: 414-496

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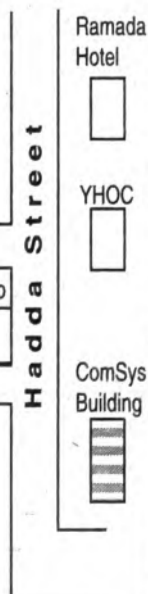
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وجميع الأهل والأصدقاء

Literature on Agriculture & Energy

Agricultural studies and economic evaluations of plant cultivation and systems of plant sequencing in international literature may be viewed in a range of input and energy effects. Simple monetary input due to different agro-economic relationships make the above comparisons impossible.

From the literature, it is clear that the studies on energy utilization in agriculture were first introduced in the USA. The pioneering dissertation was the work of Pimentel for Cornell University entitled "Energy Use in World Food Production" (1974).

Detailed studies carried out in 44 farms in the state of Michigan considered plant production [Stout Etal 1982]. The author points out that the mineral fertilizers constitute 25-75% of the total energy input and corn seed drying as much as 27%. In animal production, the process of maintaining stables is the most energy-consuming.

At the same time, studies considering the same matter were undertaken in Great Britain. The main criteria of evaluation and indicators were included in the book by Leach entitled "Energy and Food Production" (1976). In a later work, entitled "Energy Agriculture and Management" [Robinson and Mollan, 1982], a wide range of results and opinions on energy consumption regarding such elements of agro-technological process as drying, crop storing, animal production energy, plant and animal product processing were shown.

American sources were inspirational in studying energy in plant production in India [Pathak and Bining 1985, Singh et al 1989, Mittal et al 1992]. In India, plant production is mainly dependent upon irrigation and human and animal labour input, and to a lesser degree, on material input. Rice, wheat and corn are the main cereals and cover 75% of arable land. There have been many studies on those species cultivated in systems of two-field rotation "rice-wheat" and "corn-wheat".

The amount of energy input on those rotations was lower or close to data given in Polish experiments, which was also depends on the region and soil fertility. The structure of input, however, is different. In rotational cultivation of wheat with rice, up to 68% of the total energy input was used on irrigation, while in the case of wheat with corn, it was only 39%.

In China, wheat, corn, rice, soya and millet are the main crops. 150% more energy was used to cultivate them. [Dazhong and Pimentel 1984].

In Europe, the interest in energy input in agriculture is mainly in the cultivation of winter wheat, spring and winter barley, corn and sugar beet and to a smaller degree, leguminous plants and oil rape. Apart from England, the above crops were widely developed in the former Czechoslovakia. The following are works on the subject, Krejcir 1986, 1988, Strasil and Simon 1988, Simon 1992, Strasil

1990, Brauer 1992, Dvorakova 1991, Repka and Danko 1991.

These works are significant due to their consideration of solar energy, the energy of after-harvest remains, energy input balancing in plant cultivation as well as their cultivation in a crop-rotation system. The works of Krejcir (1986) and Brauer (1992) describe a monoculture system. From other countries of Southern Europe, the following works are relevant: from Romania [Stefan and Tanasescu 1991], from Greece [Tsatsirelis 1993], and from Switzerland [Alfoldi and Niggli 1994]. The latter considers energy input evaluation in bio-dynamic and biological systems compared to a conventional system.

The authors prove that energy input can be lowered in ecological systems due to the abandonment of artificial fertilizer and pesticide usage, lowering the yield and improving the input efficiency indicators. When summarizing the results of economic evaluation research of the cultivation of sugar beet, spring barley, winter oil rape, winter wheat and field beans cultivated in a multi-directional crop rotation system and in multi-annual continuous cultivation, it has to be indicated that they originate from the period of the highest yield achievement. Relying on the high production functions of ecosystems required a high input of fertilizers and pesticides [Niewiadomski 1995].

In current economic conditions, there is a need for a production system which may gain high quality products, not necessarily the highest possible - remembering that agro-system utilization should not harm the environment, but positively shape its ecological balance [Ryszkowski 1988, Vrkoč 1992]. One should look for ways to utilize better the agro-technological factors controlling plant development and ensure both conflict-free plant production and secondary animal plant production [Nowicki and Szejewski 1992].

Apart from the need for specialization, the choice of a sowing structure which, even to a small degree, ensures rational sequencing is highly demanded [Zawislak et al 1990, Niewiadomski 1993]. This example and many other earlier works prove that the crop rotation system already in the second sequence brings higher production results than the utilization of a large amount of mineral fertilizing, a high level of chemical plant protection and even species selection [Zawislak 1994, Zawislak and Adamiak 1994a]. Agriculture in the future will have to produce while energy costs rise. This will demand economical input utilization and, above all, improvement of the efficiency of its utilization [Spedding 1982].

By: Dr. Engineer Tawfik A.H. Salam
University of Agriculture and Technology in
Olsztyn, Poland

اعلان

تعلن الشركة العامة للسياحة لكافة الاخوة المستثمرين (أشخاص، شركات) في الداخل والخارج، والراغبين بالاستثمار في مجال السياحة، عن طرح فرصة للاستثمار والاستقلال السياحي في كل من:-

- 1- مجمع ضالحيات - جزيرة العمال / عدن
- 2- النادي السياحي بخلف ساحل خلف / المكلا

وذلك وفقاً لمنهج واتجاهات التخصص والاستثمار للمنشآت السياحية المقررة بقرار مجلس الوزراء رقم (109) لعام 1995م، وبالأسس والمواصفات والشروط المبينة في دفاتر المعلومات والشروط التي يمكن الحصول عليها في مقر الهيئة الرئيسي (الادارة العامة للاستثمار) الكائن في صنعاء-الحيصة جوار جولة سبأ، مقابل دفع رسم قدره 10,000 ريال (عشرة آلاف ريال) لا ترد عن كل فرصة.

- تقدم العطاءات (العروض) في ظروف مغلقة ومختومة بالشمع الأحمر، وتسلم إلى الادارة العامة للاستثمار بالهيئة اعتباراً من تاريخ نشر هذا الاعلان وحتى قبل الساعة الحادية عشرة من صباح يوم (الاثنين) الموافق 11/11/1996م.

- ستفتح مظاريف العطاءات (العروض) في تمام الساعة الحادية عشرة من صباح نفس اليوم وفي نفس المكان (مقر الهيئة بصنعاء) بحضور مقدمي العطاءات أو مندوبيهم، ولن يقبل أي عطاء يصل بعد هذا الموعد.

- يفرق بكل عطاء ضمان ابتدائي يعادل 2% من قيمة العطاء وبموجب شيك مقبول الدفع أو ضمان بنكي صالح لمدة تسعين يوماً.

والله الموفق.....

POLIO:

A Menace that Cripples Our Children!

Less than 40 years ago, in April 1955, the Salk polio vaccine was licensed for use in the USA. Parents besieged doctors' offices and clinics to make sure their children were among the first to be protected.

The Sabin oral vaccine was then added to the public health arsenal in 1961. By 1979, the last indigenous case of polio due to wild poliovirus in the United States occurred as part of an outbreak of 10 cases among an unvaccinated religious group. Diligent surveillance has not turned up a single endemic case since.

Poliovirus, like other infectious agents, does not respect international boundaries. As long as polio exists anywhere in the world, we cannot relax our vigilance - every child should be immunized at the earliest recommended age.

Fortunately, the momentum toward achieving the goal of global polio eradication is increasing. The Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) of the World Health Organization (WHO) was responsible for spearheading the brilliantly conceived and executed program that led to the elimination of polio from the Americas. PAHO's success in conquering the formidable challenges in the New World suggests that global eradication is possible. The WHO has targeted worldwide eradication by the year 2000. Moreover, we have another proud precedent to build upon. China has shown the world what can be done.

In a new technique of mass vac-



ination, endemic polio can be eradicated if the dose is administered within a very short time (2-3 days) to all. The potential benefits of global polio eradication are great. Once the global eradication of polio is certified and polio immunization is discontinued, it is expected that societies will save billions in vaccine and program costs. In human terms, the benefits of eradicating this crippling disease are beyond measure. The prognosis for worldwide success is very good. Reported worldwide incidence is less than 10,000 cases per year, an all-time

low. In the Middle East, Egypt, Pakistan, and Sudan are among the polio-endemic countries implementing National Immunization Days patterned after successful methods used elsewhere in the world. The Arabian Peninsula countries, except for Yemen, are free of polio as they have implemented 100% vaccination. The Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is currently contributing about \$10 million per year for polio vaccine and technical assistance. Some of that money is now available for Yemen to embark on a campaign,

à la China, to counter the rise of this menace.

Eradicating paralytic polio from the world for all time is within our grasp. The benefit to all of the world's people will be enormous and enduring. It is imperative that we see it through.

Why polio must be eradicated, not just controlled

In 1992, 134 countries reported no cases of polio. But the disease is still endemic throughout much of Africa, Asia, Eastern Europe and parts of the Middle East. Developed nations, too, must be on guard, because only an estimated 50% of children under age two are fully immunized against polio. Until all countries are free of polio, no country can be free of it.

Even in nations with zero reported cases and high immunization levels, the virus can be 'imported' and may spread. A polio outbreak struck more than 60 people in the Netherlands in 1992, stemming from a polio virus that originated in south India. A case in Sweden originated in Somalia. And for every victim of paralytic polio, up to 1,000 people become infected with the virus but do not experience symptoms or are undiagnosed, dramatically increasing the chances of transmission.

The immediate priority is to create and expand the world's polio-free zones - areas in southern and northern Africa, Europe, the Middle East and the Pacific Basin - and safeguard countries which appear to have eradicated the disease. To achieve a polio-free world, high immunization levels - ideally 90% or more - must be reached and maintained. Polio can be certified as eradicated only when no cases have been reported worldwide for three years.

Eradication: strategies for success

Eliminating polio will depend on carrying out several key strategies worldwide, including:

- Conducting national mass immunization days in all polio-endemic countries, while strengthening routine immunization services, to achieve high levels of coverage against the disease.
- Improving disease surveillance systems, including laboratories, to enable prompt detection and investigation of every case of polio.
- Implementing local, rapid 'outbreak response' or mass immunization, when a suspected polio case is detected.
- Targeting a country's remaining high-risk areas for 'mop up' or mass immunization as polio declines in that country.

The benefits of a polio-free world

Thanks to the extraordinary immunization efforts of the last 10 years, 2-3 million children are already walking and playing normally who otherwise would have been crippled by polio. A world without polio means:

- More than 600,000 children annually spared the crippling pain of polio.
- Substantial global economic savings. Polio eradication would cost an estimate US\$ 1.1 billion over a 10-year period. However, it would pay for itself many times over. Polio eradication would save US\$ 500 million annually by the year 2000, and US\$ 3 billion per year by 2015.

The sources of savings: reduced



treatment, rehabilitation and vaccine costs.

• A 'booster shot' for health care delivery. The polio eradication initiative strengthens primary health care by expanding immunization and other preventive services, providing better access to care, improving disease surveillance and increasing public awareness of services available. In many countries, when a mother takes her children to be immunized against polio and other diseases, she now finds that vitamin A supplements and health education are also offered.

The end product of this disease is abundantly clear in Yemen. The number of handicapped people is rising and one sees them at street-intersections begging for their livelihoods.

It only takes two drops to save a

person for the misery of a crippled life. It is such a small price that we need to pay to see our children walk and play normally.

WHO, Unicef, CDC and other organizations are mounting a mass immunization campaign later this month, and a month later for the second dose. Some 2.5 million under 5 years are to be immunized. International organizations are paying for the dose and other medical requirements. They are asking the Yemeni government to pay for the logistics in administering the dose. The government should be able to provide this, which is roughly YR 100 million. After all, they are Yemeni children!

By: Aneesa Ghanim,
Yemen Times.

يتقدم الدكتور محمد السعيد

والطاقم في المؤسسة العامة للمياه والصرف الصحي

بالتهنئة الحارة لسعادة الدكتورة هيلجا فون إشرافيتس

سفيرة ألمانيا في اليمن، وأفراد السفارة وكذا بعثة GTZ الألمانية

ولكل الألمان المقيمين في اليمن، وخاصة أولئك الذين يعملون

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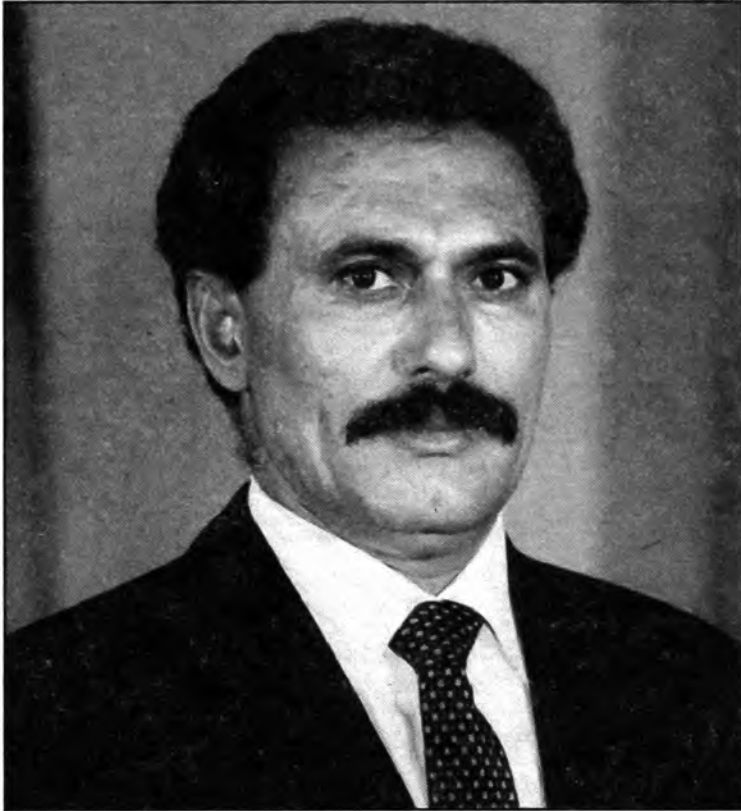
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بخالص التهاني وأطيب التبريكات
بمناسبة ذكرى ثورة ١٤ أكتوبر الخالدة التي حررت الإنسان اليمني من العبودية والإستعمار
مجموعة شركات هائل سعيد أنعم - صرح اقتصادي عملاق يقود النهضة اليمنية



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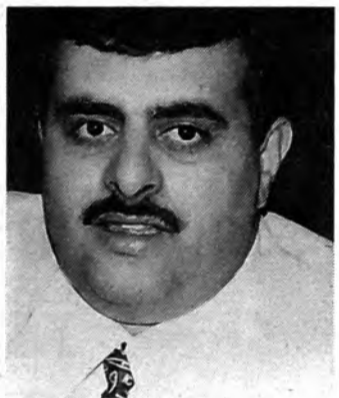
AMIDEAST Sponsors Successful Workshop on Women

On Wednesday, October 9th, a five-day workshop to discuss the participation of women in politics was concluded in Sana'a. This workshop was opened by Vice Foreign Minister Abdo Abdul-Rahman. The event was organized by the AMIDEAST office in Sana'a within the framework of the Global Women In Politics (GWIP) program, which aims to achieve the following goals:

- 1- Increase awareness, strengthen advocacy and expand access to positions and processes.
- 2- Promote equitable laws, policies and practices.
- 3- Strengthen regional capacity to effectively implement and enforce laws, policies and decisions.
- 4- Promote networking that will facilitate transfer of ideas, strategies, and resources, and will build regional and international solidarity among women and women's groups.

Present at this workshop, Ahlam A. Al-Mutawakkil talked to the following participants.

1. Aziz Ahmed Al-Haddi, head of AMIDEAST office in Yemen.



Q: What are the major activities of your office?

A: This office was established in 1981 to supervise developmental projects which include vocational, technical and teacher training both inside Yemen and abroad. It supervises academic studies in America and the Middle East and raises the technical capabilities of Yemeni workers in petroleum, mining and other fields. AMIDEAST is financed by the Yemeni, American and Dutch governments and by private companies.

Q: Could you tell us about this workshop?

A: This workshop is sponsored by AMIDEAST along with the Asia Foundation, African-American Institute and Paticipa, a Chilean NGO. It aims to bring together female political experience worldwide.

2. Ms. Salwa Dammadg, human rights activist and female rights promoter.



Q: What are the aims of this workshop?

A: It aims to increase women's participation in political life and decision making. It is important to reinforce and widen the concept of politics to encompass, in addition to government and authority, all the problems and concerns of women. When women attain positions of decision-making, they will be able to seriously participate in dealing with the problems and

issues that concern society in general, and women's issues in particular.

Q: What distinguishes this workshop?

A: The workshop's main feature is that it has a practical side, which includes training to use the internet. Also, the papers submitted are based on actual field studies and personal experiences of the women participants.

Q: What are your contributions to this workshop?

A: I submitted a field study about the experience of Yemeni women during the parliamentary elections of April, 1993. This paper showed the errors that restricted women's participation in the political arena. It also suggested the appropriate social and cultural solutions.

3. Ms. Ivette Ibrahim is an engineer and a voluntary worker and member of the administration council of the

Jesuits and Ezra charity in Almenia, Egypt.



Q: What are the major benefits of participating in such a gathering?

A: Mutual benefits are achieved through the exchange of personal expertise which varies according to the participants' roles and the nature of their work. We then aim to put a general strategy for the future of women's contributions in politics.

Q: What is the nature of your participation in this workshop?

A: I represent Egyptian NGOs. I want to share my experience in girls' formative years up to university age. My study aims to encourage young women to explore their own personalities and know their realities better. Knowing oneself leads to self-confidence and hence to the ability to effectively participate in the various aspects of life.

Q: How do you evaluate this workshop?

A: In my opinion, the mere gathering of ladies concerned with public work and active participation within society is an enriching experience for the whole Arab region. We are rapidly approaching the 21st century which will be characterized by collectivity, not individuality, and by the necessity to cooperate. If we put together the expertise of diverse backgrounds, we can develop a general plan for female participation in politics in the Arab World.

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Al Haidary for Trading

In Kuwaiti Elections, Traditional Elements Win

Kuwait successfully concluded its parliamentary elections last week. The 50 seats in Majlis Al-Ummah, Kuwait's parliament, are now filled with more conservative elements than ever before in the past. This time, the Majlis even includes a turbaned Shiite (a la Iran) who simply over-ran the competition in his constituency.

Also a winner in the elections was the regime, as most of the critics and 'trouble-makers' lost their seats and were replaced by more sympathetic lawmakers. The government has presented its resignation, as called for by the constitution, and will be formed following the first session of parliament. But first, there is a lot of haggling to be done regarding the post of speaker, which will be settled later this week.

There were two major reservations regarding the elections. Kuwait's women were not allowed to participate in the elections. Nor were the Bedoon, Kuwaitis who do not have nationality documents. Both issues are expected to be settled favorably by the new Majlis.

No violence was reported, and the elections were clean by all standards.

Taleban's Advance Is Checked. For Now?

The northward advance of the puritanical Taliban movement, which has taken control of Kabul and two-thirds of Afghanistan, was last week checked and even reversed. To achieve that, it took a combination of forces - including those of Abdul-Rashid Dostum; former Defence Minister Shah Massood; and remnants of the forces of Rabbani and Hekmetyar. These forces have also received substantial logistical support and arms supplies from the states of Central Asia, including the Russian Federation, as well as other countries.

But Taliban, a force of young zealots dedicated to the establishment of an Islamic state as they see it, vowed to re-group and launch another attack some 30-50 kilometers north of Kabul.

Meanwhile, Taleban has already caused much alarm by introducing laws that are both primitive and extremist. It has decreed that women shall not work, and that men shall wear beards. It has introduced highly austere measures and shunned any form of extravagance and over-consumption.

Afghanistan does not look like it is ready to settle and calm down. As the various factions prepare a new showdown, civilians will continue to suffer.

President's Party Wins in Mauritania Elections

The colorful media and mobilization campaign of the candidates running for parliament came to end last week. On Friday, October 11th, one million citizens of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania went to the polls. Local and international observers were allowed to monitor the process, which they agreed were carried out with minimum irregularities.

Candidates representing the 13 political parties and 52 independents - including women - competed to fill the 79 seats in parliament. Although the conclusive final results have yet to be formally announced, the party of President Muawiyah Ould Taye', National Republican Social Party, has done well, given the fractional nature of the opposition. Already, many new members of parliament who made it are organizing celebrations involving lots of dancing, oratory, poetry, and sumptuous meals offered in spacious tents.

Addis Ababa Hosts Talks on Rapid Deployment Force

Ethiopia hosted last week broad ranging talks among African foreign ministers on ways and means to limit the abuse and violence, which have become trade marks of the continents. Also invited to the talks were US Secretary of State, Warren Christopher, who proposed a joint US-African rapid deployment force to curb any massacres like the ones recently witnessed in Rwanda and Burundi. "The US is willing to provide some of the initial \$46 million required to set up this force," he said.

Africa has been plagued by flash-points of violence in many places because of abuse by military commanders, tribal chieftains, and other power centers. The hope for the democratization and transformation of Africa that was so high in the 1980s, has, by now, given way to a somber and frustrating reality.



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Emirates Airlines Operates New Dubai-Sana'a Line



From left: Tawfiq Al-Nihmy, Shuaib Khoury, Adnan Kazhim, and Boutros-Boutros

This week, Emirates Airlines and their GSA in Yemen, Apollo Company, opened their impressive new premises on Hadda Road. They are gearing up for Monday, October 28th, when the first Emirates Airlines plane will touch down at Sanaa International Airport. This is the first of two flights a week (Mondays and Fridays) between Sana'a and Dubai. The airline is authorized to start a third flight to Aden, if it so decides. Earlier, Mr. Shuaib Khouri, First Director-General of Emirates Airlines for the Middle East, North Africa and the Independent Common Wealth States flew into Sanaa. He recently announced the official start of the service at a press conference. The airline has recently named Mr. Adnan Kazhim at its country manager. Apollo Company and the country manager are busy preparing for the count-down on the 28th.

Emirates Airlines has a modern fleet of new aeroplanes. It is going to fly an airbus A 300-60R which has a capacity of 259 passengers and equipped with various comfort facilities. The plane is also capable of carrying 10 tons of cargo. Dubai, the hub of Emirates Airlines, has become an important gateway and connecting point for travellers between Europe, South Asia, the Far East, and Africa. Dubai International Airport handles about 120 flights every day. By linking Sanaa to Dubai, the airline expects to offer additional alternatives to flyers. It also hopes to generate new business in tourism and trade in Yemen, since it is going to add Sanaa to the list of destinations it promotes worldwide.

By: Yusuf Sharif
Yemen Times - Sanaa.



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AL-SHOURA: Sanaa (Weekly) 6-10-96

(Federation of Popular Forces Party)

Main Headlines:

1) Talks of the Coalition (Party Partners) Reach a Dead End

2) Confirmation That the Minister of Construction Sold the Gold Mohur (Coast) Rest Area to Himself

3) Hunaish: The Absent Response

Article Summary:

Who Is Going To Rescue US From Those?

Abdulla Al-Dahmashy, a regular contributor to the paper, comments on the Taliban Movement victory in Kabul, and their move to push Afghanistan into a new phase of bloodshed. Reflecting on the hypocritical nature of the previous Islamic association of all the disputants in the endless war for power, and the mess they have created in their own country, the entry of Taliban marks a new phase of distorting Islam. If the senseless killing of the past seven years by the former forces in and out of Kabul has freed the warring factions from any association with Islam, then Taliban with its super puritanical urge, have come to illustrate an Islam - which is not in any of the texts (The Koran, & traditions of the Prophet Mohammed (P)). That Taliban has brought a ridiculous interpretation of Muslim belief and worship to the authority of the land further makes Afghanistan completely out of context with Islam. Since when should a Muslim government consider such trivia as the keeping of a beard, the places where women go and the tons of clothing they must wear as the reason for government and/or bloodshed. Taliban is a clear indication of the dangers which seem potentially threatening many a Muslim country where such mentalities have made their presence felt on a wider public scale - publications, tapes and religious indoctrination centers. Even Yemen has not been free from such a menace as their followers run around knocking down long existing shrines, or killing their mothers for working and other activities which render their adherents as really heretics. The author suggests that Yemen must not let its own Talibans get out of hand.

AL-HAQ: 6-10-96, Sanaa,
(Rabitat Abna Al-Yaman)

Main Headlines:

1) Fire in Egyptian Military Delegations

2) Tribal Skirmishes With 19 Dead

3) Burial of (Eritrean) Corpse After a Year and a Half After Death

Article Summary:

French Firm to Rescue Al-Mukalla

The French Company M. I. had won a contract to supply two generators to Al-Mukalla and install



Yemeni Press in a Week

by: *Hassan Al-Haifi*

them within 21 days after arrival. The paper said that the 2 gensets (10 MW each) will cost \$30,000,000. The gensets are said to be coming from a nuclear reactor station and will be flown by Russian Airlines to Al-Rayan Airport.

On the other hand, the paper said that the spare parts for the al-Khalaf generators will be arriving by mid October. This will enable the generators to operate again after having stopped for more than a year and a half.

As for water, the paper pointed out that the first phase of the Mukalla Water Supply Rehabilitation Project is under way. It did not give details of the project, except that it would take 16 months to complete stage 1 and stage 2 is due to begin six months from now.

AL-TAJAMMU: Aden (Weekly) 7-10-96

(Yemeni Unionist Congregation)

Main Headlines:

1) Infiltrators and Smugglers Caught in Ahwar

2) UNICEF Office in Aden Is Closing Up

3) Even the 93 Elections Candidates Disappeared from Registered Voters List.

Article Summary:

1- Hunaish in International Diplomacy

Moving the negotiations between the Yemenis and Eritreans over the Yemeni Greater Hunaish (Red Sea) Island from Paris to London, the paper says, may be interpreted as returning the problems to where it started in the first place. The UK used to control the island when it was in charge of the southern part of the country.

The paper also suggests that political analysts view the move as an indication that the move satisfies the US which views the area as an American influence zone.

2- 4-Wheel Drive Armed Pick Ups and Tractors for the Poor

A civilized road project, from Little Aden to the Abyan Coast, is causing problems to many residents who are poor. People who had resided on part of the road and were ordered to vacate the premises (in 24 hours). After complaining to the Governor of Aden, they were compensated with an alternate plot of land, lacking in public services.

AL-AYYAM: 9/10/1996, Aden

(Independent)

Main Headlines:

1) Tuberculosis Spreads in Coastal Strip (Tour

Al-Baha)

2) Gold Merchant Assaulted and Robbed in Al-

Houda, Lahj

3) Former Minister's Daughter is Robbed of

(US\$ 30,000) in India.

Article Summary:

1- Dutch Project for Hadhramaut Electricity

The paper reported that a Dutch firm has completed

feasibility study for building an electric network for Hadhramaut, including generators, transmission lines, etc. The Dutch government has committed DFI 60,000,000 as a grant for financing the project. This project will help alleviate the difficult power shortage in Hadhramaut.

2- 37000 Cases of Malaria in Marib

The paper said that the spread of malaria and typhoid has caused 205 deaths in Marib area. In an interview with some governorate health official, the paper said that the total persons afflicted with disease were 37,000 people. The health authorities have dispatched 60 teams to help the situation.

AL-WAHDAWI: Sanaa,
(Weekly) 8-10-96,

(Nasserite Unionist Party)

Main Headlines:

1) Jordanian Authorities

Release Yemeni Student

Studying in Iraq

2) What Arafat Faces After

Summit Failure in USA?

3) Festival in Support of Pal-

estinian Uprising (Intifadha)

Article Summary:

1- Col. Dahish Assassinated

Unidentified gunmen shot to death a leading figure in the Nasserite Party (who is a Colonel in the Army) in front of his home in Sanaa. The assailants escaped. Dahish has been known for his opposition to the regime and for defending human rights, noted the paper.

The Center for Legal Assistance was questioning how the assailants were able to escape, in the heart of Sanaa near a school.

2- PSO Summons M.P. Sa'atar.

The controversial Islahi member of parliament, Abdulla Sa'atar was called for questioning by the Political Security Organization. Ignoring his parliamentary immunity, the PSO requested the senior Islahi board member to stop making political speeches in his Friday sermons. He was asked to sign an undertaking not to indulge in such rhetorics, which he refused.

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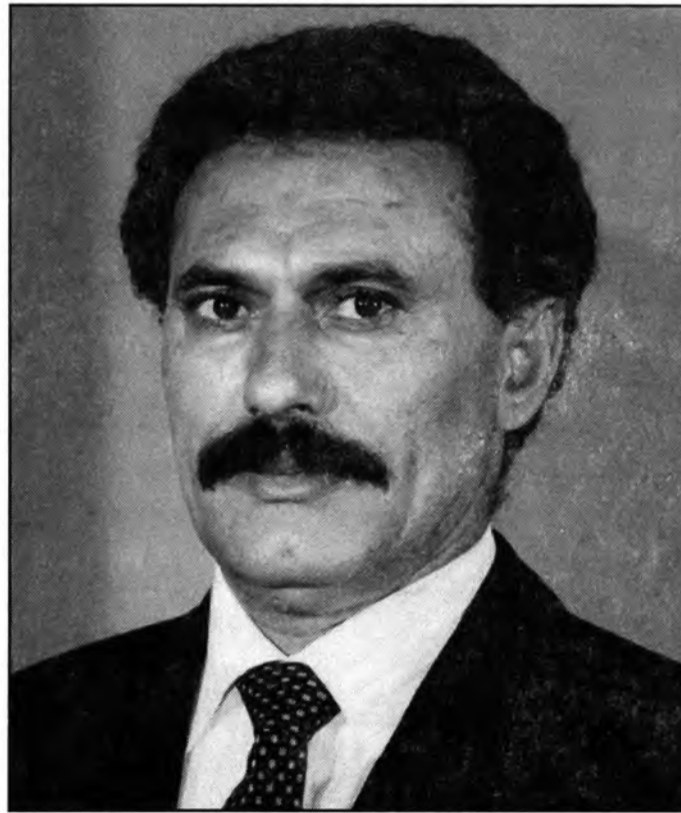
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October 14th, 1996

SONY's PlayStation Video Game Is Here

In a press conference in Sanaa on Saturday, October 12th, SONY unveiled its newest product, PlayStation Video Game. Al-Haidary for Trading, the sole distributor of Sony products in Yemen was displaying the next generation video game system that has captured the imagination of the young and young at heart, world-wide.

The PlayStation, created by Sony Computer Entertainment is an advanced CD-ROM based video game system which delivers arcade quality games into the home, producing vivid three-dimensional graphics and CD-quality sound in an interactive environment.

PlayStation in PAL version that is totally compatible with the local television system is now available at Al-Haidary showrooms, and will soon be available in leading consumer electronics outlets, toy stores and novelty shops in Yemen. The simultaneous introduction of 28 PlayStation software titles in the PAL version and plans to add new software titles almost every week, guarantees that video game enthusiasts will never run out of exciting options.

The PlayStation represents a technological quantum leap that will bring video games out of the back bedroom and firmly into the living room as a real alternative to television. At its core is an R3000 processor capable of processing over 500 million instructions per second. The unique graphics processing unit in the PlayStation

generates up to 360,000 polygons per second to create life-like 3-D images in real time that grab the attention of the most blasé arcade game fan.

The superb sound capabilities of the PlayStation are generated by a 16 bit sound processing unit delivering 24 channels of CD quality stereo with built-in digital effects such as reverberation. Many see the PlayStation's sound as its biggest surprise. Drive under the jet in Ridge Racer and you are hit head on by a reverberating bass rumble that other consoles really cannot produce.

Catering to the needs of video game enthusiasts, the PlayStation offers many optional accessories like specialized ASCII Pad, specialized JoyStick and Multi tap that enhance the PlayStation experience. The specialized ASCII Pad with a superbly comfortable grip is perfect for extended periods of play. Twin-setting auto-fire switches on all four buttons gives super-fast turbo-fire or fully automated auto-fire, while a slow-motion switch to slow the action, gives players the edge during those tricky moments.

The sturdy arcade style specialized JoyStick is designed to withstand the most punishing and sustained sessions of enthusiastic play, with a robust ball-grip direction controller which is fully micro-switched for precision control. As with the ASCII pad, the joystick has twin-setting variable speed auto-fire switches for all buttons, a turbo-fire control slider to adjust the rate of fire, and a slow-motion switch.

Another exciting accessory for the PlayStation is the new Multi tap, which allows more players to enjoy the PlayStation at the same time. The Multi tap means that you can either play in teams against the computer, or battle it out head-to-head in the same environment.

Complementing the superior technology offered by the PlayStation hardware, are the most exciting and compelling games created by over 100 software licenses including Namco, Psygnosis, Takara, Electronic Arts, Acclaim, Interplay, Konami and Capcom. At the recently concluded "Tokyo Game Show'96", where all game manufacturers participated, 363 new titles were introduced, 45 per cent of these new titles were created for the PlayStation. This underlines the confidence software manufacturers have in the product and the wide range of new software the consumer can expect.

Since its debut in December 1994, the PlayStation has grabbed leading market shares in every market it was launched, outselling Sega and Nintendo. Sony has now sold over five million PlayStation units, with consumers purchasing an average of seven to eight game disks each. The PlayStation is now ready to thrill consumers in Yemen and take the video games market by storm.

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Assessing the June Flood Disasters: DAMAGES AND SOLUTIONS

A symposium was held in Sana'a on 8th October to assess in detail the damage caused by floods in many governorates, notably Shabwah, Marib, Al-Jawf, Abyan and Hadhramaut. The symposium was arranged by the Yemen Mineral Resources, the Geological Survey Corporation and the National Water Resources Authority. The floods caused extensive damage to infrastructure (roads, bridges, small dams, etc.). The floods also destroyed many water supply projects that were used for drinking and irrigation. Large areas of fertile land that had formed over hundreds of years were also swept away by the floods. The symposium came up with the following recommendations:

- 1- Establishing a national center to study natural disasters.
- 2- Supporting the present national team in continuing its special technical operations to treat the effects of disasters and implement the procedures that will alleviate the damages of such floods.
- 3- Building the necessary dams in order to benefit from flood water as an important water resource.
- 4- Relying on technical studies in locating the sites for developmental projects in the areas exposed to such disasters
- 5- Organizing effort and innovation, and involving the beneficiary organizations, in adopting appropriate solutions in accordance with future plans and targets. And, reflecting all this on designs to be impl-

mented, taking into consideration the characteristics of the floods that flow in such valleys.

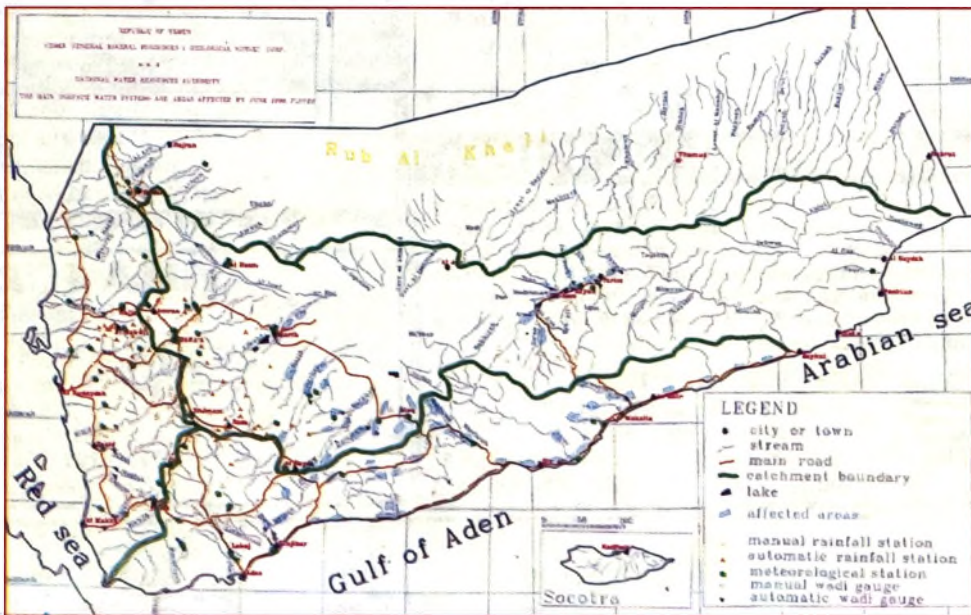
- 6- Building reservoir dams in carefully selected areas according to accurate technical conditions and factors.
- 7- Rebuilding what was damaged by flood tides and maintaining the existing structures like roads, water barriers, dams and houses. Also, developing a local technical apparatus to perform periodical maintenance after every flood by renovating or removing the damages caused by the floods.
- 8- The redistribution of flood water to new areas could serve many purposes.
- 9- The importance of continuous meteorological observations to monitor changes in the

climate and rainfall in all water basins in the Republic of Yemen in general, and in disaster areas in particular. Providing necessary finances to establish meteorological and hydrological networks.

- 10- Activating and organizing the role of civil defense in relief work by employing correct methods to ensure its targeting affected people through one responsible relief body. Coordinating among the Ministries of Defense, Interior and other related bodies is necessary to ensure rapid action and to provide the necessary relief aid by an assigned team and producing the necessary statistics.
- 11- Implementing the recommendations of this symposium so as to benefit from the

papers and studies submitted. The studies and detailed maps presented in the symposium were drawn by Dutch experts and financed through Dutch aid. The main point of the studies is that several diversion dams have to be built in key points in the course of flood flows. Towards that end, the team worked out a detailed map (below) of the watersheds and catchment basins. Moreover, measures in flood damage control can be coupled with reservoir replenishment efforts.

By: Ismail Al-Ghabry, Yemen Times.



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