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Over 6,000 Yemenis Die Every Month from Diseases!

Breakdown in Health Services

Over 6,000 Yemenis die every month from malaria, dysentery, respiratory diseases, typhoid, hepatitis B, AIDS, and other illnesses. Estimates indicate that about 41% of the Yemeni population suffers from one disease or another. Of these, a solid 9% wither away annually. More than 12% of the population is infected with malaria. In some areas, as in the village of Khamis Bani Sa'ad some 150 kilometers west of Sanaa on the Hodeidah highway, the infection covers nearly 100% of the children. Thus, it is not surprising that on an annual basis, some 20,000 Yemenis die of malaria. Another sad story is related to gastro-intestinal diseases, among which the main ones are diarrhoea and various respiratory problems. These are especially fatal to children. Then there is Hepatitis B. Nearly 15% of the Yemeni population is afflicted by this deadly disease,

which cannot be treated. The carriers are likely to develop liver cirrhosis and cancer, eventually leading to death. Typhoid is another devastating disease. The Sanaa Central Medical Laboratories examined 1500 patients (with the Widal test) during the third quarter of 1998, and found that 755 (more than 55%) patients were infected with positive titer. However, the more ominous danger is the spread of AIDS in Yemen. No reliable information is available about AIDS, because of socio-cultural inhibitions. There are some 600 AIDS patients under medical treatment, while some 3,000 are on the loose. Another 10,000 are estimated to be HIV positive. Medical reports indicate that 5% of the 10,000 blood donors who approached the local hospitals were found to be carriers of the virus. Five people out of every one thousand foreigners who

seek residence permits in Yemen are also HIV positive. A study made on 612 Yemenis who were living abroad and returned indicated that 1.5% are infected. Over the month of November alone, there were 761 deaths reported due to malaria in Lahej, Hodeidah and Taiz; 217 deaths of gastro-intestinal problems in Ibb, Taiz, Sanaa and Hadhramaut; 102 deaths of typhoid in Aden, Ibb and Dhamar; 51 deaths of hepatitis B in Hadhramaut, Abyan and Sanaa. In November, 14 kidney patients died when the only dialysis machine in Hodeidah was temporarily out of service due to lack of spare parts. The list goes on and on. Sad stories keep pouring in about citizens who wither away in different parts of the country because of breakdowns in health services. Yemen's medical problem is reaching crisis level. "The Ministry of Health is doing its best," says a beleaguered Dr.



Abdullah Abdul-Wali Nasher, Minister of Health. Indeed, the Minister and his team are fighting hard, but it is an uphill battle. To start with, the Ministry inherited a big problem, long neglected. Second, resources are meager, given that annual government health allocations are around 3% of the total budget. This translates into US\$ 3.7 per capita per year. Third, influential Yemenis are rarely interested in local health services

because they do not depend on them. They fly out for their medical needs. Thus, Yemen's health services will remain substandard. The minister says he hopes for more foreign support.

By Yemen Times staff:
Nadwa Al-Dawsari, Sanaa,
Mohammed Al-Qadhi, Taiz,
Yusuf Al-Sharif, Aden.

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TI: Yemen Chapter on the Way!

A group of Yemenis, concerned with the rising level of corruption in the country, are pushing arrangements to start a Yemeni NGO along the guidelines of Transparency International. The idea was first floated in March 1998.

"We want to contribute to the financial and administrative reforms of the country, which call for more accountability and transparency," explained one of the promoters. He added that transparency will reduce the cost of doing

business in Yemen by an average of 30%. Benefiting from experience at the World Bank, Transparency International, and other circles, the promoters hope to launch the new NGO in mid-1999.

Terrorism Crosses Another Line

There have been ominous developments in bomb explosions here and there by anti-regime elements in the country. These blasts used to be simply a loud noise and a nuisance. Then around May this year, the blasts began to claim lives. This was the case in the explosions in Aden and other parts of the country.

Last week, the explosions crossed another watershed - targeting foreign diplomatic missions. Although it is not conclusive that the 60 kgs. of TNT that blew up the toyota corolla in Sanaa on 24th November, was targeted for the German Embassy, there is reason to worry. "According to our information, the German Embassy was most

probably not the target. But as investigations are not yet complete, we cannot rule out that possibility," said Mathias Kiesler, Deputy Chief of Mission at the Embassy. That is why a 3-person German forensic team is in town working with Yemeni authorities to find answers to many questions. So far, there are more questions than answers.

Kidnapping Businessmen:

A New Profitable Enterprise

It happened in broad daylight. It happened at 13:00 on Friday, November 20th. Mr. Abdul-Hakeem Hussain Shamsan, an Aden-based businessman was kidnapped at gunpoint as he, his children and friends came out of the noon prayers. This was in downtown Aden. The kidnapers - four men in tribal gear, drove away with their hostage. Appeals have been made to the president, prime minister, minister of interior, government of Aden, and director of Aden security. No results, so far! That was not the first kidnapping of businessmen. Hostage-taking followed by ransom

demands have now become disturbingly frequent. By far the most famous case in Yemen was the kidnapping of Yasser, son of a Sanaa-based businessman, Jamal Al-Maqtari. Yasser was picked up on 29th September in Al-Safiyah Quarter, and was kept for nearly six weeks in Al-Fuqara' village in Khowlan. He was released after financial 'arrangements' were concluded. Yemeni authorities have yet to respond in an effective way to this new threat to law and order in the country.

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OUR VIEWPOINT

CHANGE IS DUE!

Most people in Yemen today believe that some kind of change is necessary in the structure and composition of the government. The President of the Republic, the prime minister, the ministers, the members of Council of Deputies and the Consultative Council, senior military and security commanders believe that change is needed to continue in our political evolution and economic development.

Leaders of the business community, intellectuals, the urban middle class, NGOs, opinion-makers, tribal sheikhs, community elders, religious preachers, and even laymen also see the need for change.

The kind of change that is envisaged is gradual and reformist in nature. Yet there is no change. Why? Partly because the political leadership has reached a ceiling beyond which it is unwilling, maybe unable, to move.

Many observers believe Yemen is at crossroads. Either we move forward, or the whole process is jeopardized. "It is like riding a bicycle. If you stop moving, you fall," explained a senior diplomat in Sanaa. Indeed, our transformation towards real political pluralism and economic integration with the world has to continue. Otherwise, we risk major upheavals and we risk being left out of the world's mainstream evolution.

I would like to send a direct message to President Ali Abdullah Saleh. The president has already done a lot for Yemen. He has brought a sense of political stability. He has achieved reunification of the land. He has introduced democratization. He has embarked on economic reforms. His contribution to creating a new sense of destiny for Yemenis is evident. That is all good and fine. But it is not enough.

President Saleh has to prepare the country for the 21st century. This can only be done by introducing meaningful change into the system. The two foremost requirements for any modern system are accountability and transparency. He cannot continue to give lip service to these issues. He has to show he means real implementation.

President Saleh has to lead with more change. If he blocks gradual change, there is a possibility of creating a bottleneck like a build-up behind a dam. The forces of change will gather forces and eventually burst the dam. He has to see this, and work to avoid this scenario.

Let me put it another way. Persons like me are working to bring about change through President Saleh. He has to lead the change needed by the country. I am sure that the President can introduce the changes needed by the country. If he doesn't, that will be a real pity.

The President should realize that most of the men around him will be affected by the change. Therefore, it is understandable that they should advise against it. Their interests are associated with the present conditions. As such, he should weigh their advice against change based on his knowledge that they could be serving their interests, and not of the country, or even his.

Change is an inevitable part of a dynamic society. We must embark on change, though we must pace ourselves with an eye to our socio-cultural conditions and reality. But, please do not stop cycling.

The Publisher
Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf

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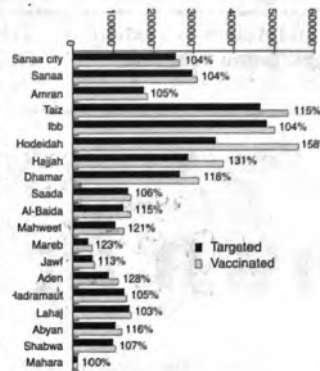
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2nd Phase of Campaign to Eradicate Polio: Even Greater Success

The second phase of the National Campaign to Eradicate Polio was held on November 22, 23 and 24. The Prime Minister, the Minister of Health, the Health Deputy Minister, along with many Yemeni health workers made great efforts for this campaign to succeed.

Statistics indicate that 116% (4,171,756) of the targeted children (3,588,870) were vaccinated during this phase. As expected, the campaign was met enthusiastically by people all over Yemen.



New Japanese Assistance to Yemen

On November 26th, 1998, Japanese Ambassador Akira Hoshi and Planning and Development Minister Ahmed Mohamed Soufan signed and exchanged notes according to which the Japanese government will grant Yemen 650 million yen.

The money, roughly equivalent to US\$ 5.4 million, will be used to purchase fertilizers, agricultural machinery and other equipment in order to increase food production, in particular, and agricultural development, in general. Japan has provided to Yemen 17 such grants in the past totalling over US\$ 66 million.

On another level, about 230,000 vials (4,600,000 doses) of oral polio vaccines were donated by the government of Japan to support Yemen's Expanded Immunization Program. Governing nearly half of the vaccine requirements for the National Immunization Days (NIDs), the government of Japan has supported Yemen with nearly US\$ 340,000.

British Businessmen in Aden

A delegation of British businessmen representing more than 17 British companies arrived in Aden on November 25. This visit aims at opening investment opportunities in Yemen, especially in Aden. A program was prepared by the Chamber of Commerce for meetings between Yemeni and British businessmen.

3rd Businessmen Conference

The Third Conference for Businessmen was held on November 28 and 29 in Aden. About 250 representatives of different industrial, investment, and commercial groups participated in the conference. More than 14 researches and studies about upgrading the national industry and the difficulties related to that were presented.

Sanaa University Elections

Elections for deans and vice deans at the colleges of Sanaa University have been underway over the last week. Most candidates banked on party support from the People's General Congress and the Yemeni Congregation for Reform (Islah).

NOFIE Opened

The National Organization for Illiteracy Eradication (NOFIE) is officially opened today, Monday, November 30 in Taiz. The organization has educational, training, information, and awareness programs that aim at upgrading the level of literacy and knowledge among Yemeni people.

YT Weekly Poll

Yemen Times Weekly Opinion Poll question is placed at:

<http://yementimes.com/#poll>

As a Yemeni living abroad, do you have a steady job, or are enrolled in a full-time educational program?

Yes 90% - No 10%

4th YSP Conference

The first session of the fourth general conference of the Yemeni Socialist Party (YSP) was held on Saturday, November 28. The meeting is concluded today, November 30. Many party officials, activists and Arab and foreign delegates took part.

The conference reviewed many issues such as the approval of recommendations by the action committees and the conference's agenda. The committees discussed many important issues regarding the Politburo report, supervision and inspection report, the political agenda and many other reports.

Conference for Women

A conference on Violence Against Women will be held on December 5 to 7 at the Arab Democratic Institute (ADI) in Sanaa. The conference is organized by the ADI and the UNDP/UNIFEM.

Japanese Show in Sanaa

Two Japanese films will be shown at the Cultural Center in Sanaa on December 1 and 2. The two films "Not Yet.." and "The Red Beard" reflect human values in the history of civilizations.

Y21F Gets German Support

The German Embassy in Sanaa has come on record as the first foreign donor to assist the Yemen 21 Forum, which is a new think-tank working to promote NGOs and the values of democracy such as human rights, press freedom, etc.

The German contribution, made in kind, is in the form of five computers, worth about US\$ 11,000. These will be used as

basic infrastructure for a net-working facility, as well as for data retrieval, and simple sec-



retarial duties. The Y21F, will be officially launched after Ramadhan, during the early days of 1999.

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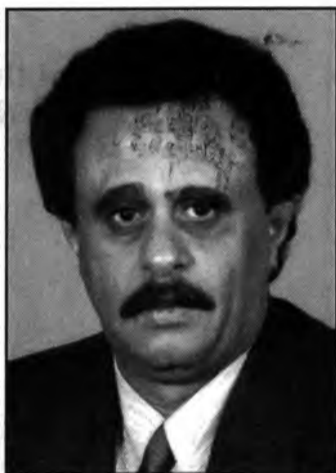
“Art awareness must start at school.”

Most civilized nations pride themselves in the lively presence of the art industry. Acting, performing, singing, dancing, painting, sculpturing, drawing, and many other activities give life a fuller meaning. In Yemen, that sector is badly underdeveloped. The General Establishment for Theater and Cinema (GETC) in Yemen employs today 1,145 people. Only 250 of them actually come for any real work to do during daily office hours. The remainder represent a surplus workforce that once used to work in Aden before unification.

All issues aside, GETC is operating in a country that has very few auditoriums, let alone an actual cinema or theater activity. So what does GETC do?

To answer this and other questions regarding the future prospects of this sector, Ismail Al-Ghabiry of Yemen Times talked to GETC Chairman, Mr. Hussain Mohammed Abdullah.

Hussain himself, although an old hand in government, has moved from one field to another. An accountant who graduated from the College of Commerce in Alexandria, Egypt, in 1974, he joined the Central Organization for Audit and Control. Then he moved to the National News Agency, Saba, following which he was appointed chairman of the General Tourism Authority. Since 1990, he is the boss of the GETC. Excerpts of the interview.



core courses given in most government schools, but today, unfortunately, have ceased to exist. If the Ministry of Education does not have the capacity to provide the necessary facilities for these courses to be compulsorily taught at state schools, it should at least encourage private schools to do so.

The revival of such courses will strengthen school theaters, which are important in establishing a true Yemeni theater.

Similarly, the Ministry of Youth and Sports should encourage activities like scouting, acting, and sports. Universities should also contribute to theatrical activities. This includes all universities, private and public.

Q: Where is the Ministry of Information in all of this?

A: By pointing out the important roles of the Ministries of Education and Youth and Sports, I do not exclude the Ministry of Information from bearing the responsibility for developing Yemeni theater.

Little though its responsibility is, the Ministry of Information has not been able to build any theaters - the most essential structure for any theatrical activity.

Q: Could you give us some information about the project to organize and support the GETC?

A: Due to GETC's important role, the project for organizing and supporting it will be implemented to help complete the infrastructure of this organization. It covers financial, legal, and administrative aspects, and aims to bring about a higher degree of reliability and efficiency.

The project will have elements to develop theater and cinema activities and audio-visual media capabilities.

Donor countries and international

organizations and establishments will finance the project.

Q: Could you give some details about other future GETC projects?

A: In specifying these projects, GETC bore in mind several key aspects and priorities. We seek to better serve the sectors of culture and tourism.

These projects include movie and photography surveying and documentation; opening cultural and art centers in historic towns; investing in new cinemas and theaters; launching children's theater; erecting prefabricated theaters and much more.

Q: What have you done to establish a special theater for children?

A: Children's culture is a vital aspect of social development. The first step starts with the school theater. Thus, children will become more attuned to this art form, and grow up to be more art-loving adults.

Q: How do you intend to establish this theater?

A: We intend to reserve areas in some public parks to build children theaters. Parks are the place where people, young and old, have the opportunity to spend their leisure time. They are the main destination for parents who would like their children to have a great time during their vacation. Hence, it will be a great accomplishment if we are able to build such theaters in parks. This way, parents can take their children to the park to play and to see theater

plays.

Q: What are the overall goals of building children theaters in Yemen?

A: We have several goals in mind. They can be summarized as follows:

- Enhance the children's cultural background and widen their horizons;
- Develop the children's artistic capabilities;
- Enable children to interact with each other more often, and forge friendships;
- Encourage the habit of parents taking their children to cultural centers and theaters.

Q: To have a theater you need suitable auditoriums. How many such places does GETC have?

A: All in all, GETC used to own 25 auditoriums in various parts of

the country. Of those, 14 theaters were taken over by private individuals! They are mainly in the southern governorates.

Q: What other suggestions and ideas do you have regarding Yemeni theater?

A: All projects I mentioned can not be implemented unless we understand their nature, goals, feasibility, costs, and possible financing sources. We should concentrate more on actually implementing projects than being sucked in by their administrative hassle. People often squabble on who is going to be the manager before the project implementation starts.

GETC is not the only establishment which will benefit from such projects. All similar establishments in the public and private sectors will also get their share.

Q: They say "Theater is the mother of all arts", what do you think?

A: That is right. Theater is in fact the mother of arts, since it is a visible work of art which is the eventual product of many other artistic works such as direction, decor, music, accessories, etc. Hence, having such important artistic elements as its prerequisites, theater can be seen as the mother of arts.

basic salaries from GETC. But their existence does not necessarily mean that there exists theater in Yemen.

Moreover, their activities are limited. They usually come together on annual or semi-annual occasions such as national holidays and festivals.

Q: What are the reasons behind this sad situation?

A: Theater is one of the signs of a civilized society on one hand, and the result of the awareness of its cultural, social, political, and edu-

Q: Is there theater in Yemen?

A: Most people working in art mix the issues when answering this question. Professionally speaking, there is no theater in Yemen. Theater is a cultural and social establishment that has its own rules and structure. It has its own financial and managerial systems. And of course, it has its own activities. Acting determines its relationship with social and environmental setting. Hence, theater affects its environment and is affected by it through its daily activities. It is this interaction that gives theater a meaning. For example, every institute has its own rules, structure and activities. We can judge how well this institute is doing by assessing its contribution to society.

Similarly, one can judge whether or not theater exists in Yemen by assessing its presence in our life. At the present time, theatrical presence in the lives of Yemenis is poor. This means that theater does not exist in Yemen. However, there exist some theatrical elements. By this I mean theatrical writers, composers, singers, actors/actresses, etc., with different levels of contribution. These individuals collect

cational contribution, on the other. It is also a symptom of affluent societies. Hence, having or not having theater in Yemen depends on the economic and cultural development.

Q: Does this mean you have given up? Do you leave it to the state?

A: If you mean the government, I say 'Yes'. But I do not throw all the responsibility on it alone. But in creating Yemeni theater, I believe that the government can play the main and most important part.

For theater to emerge, education with its important role in society, is the main starting point. The government should, first of all, focus on the importance of school theater. It should work on reviving important art courses like music, drawing, painting, carving, etc. These were once



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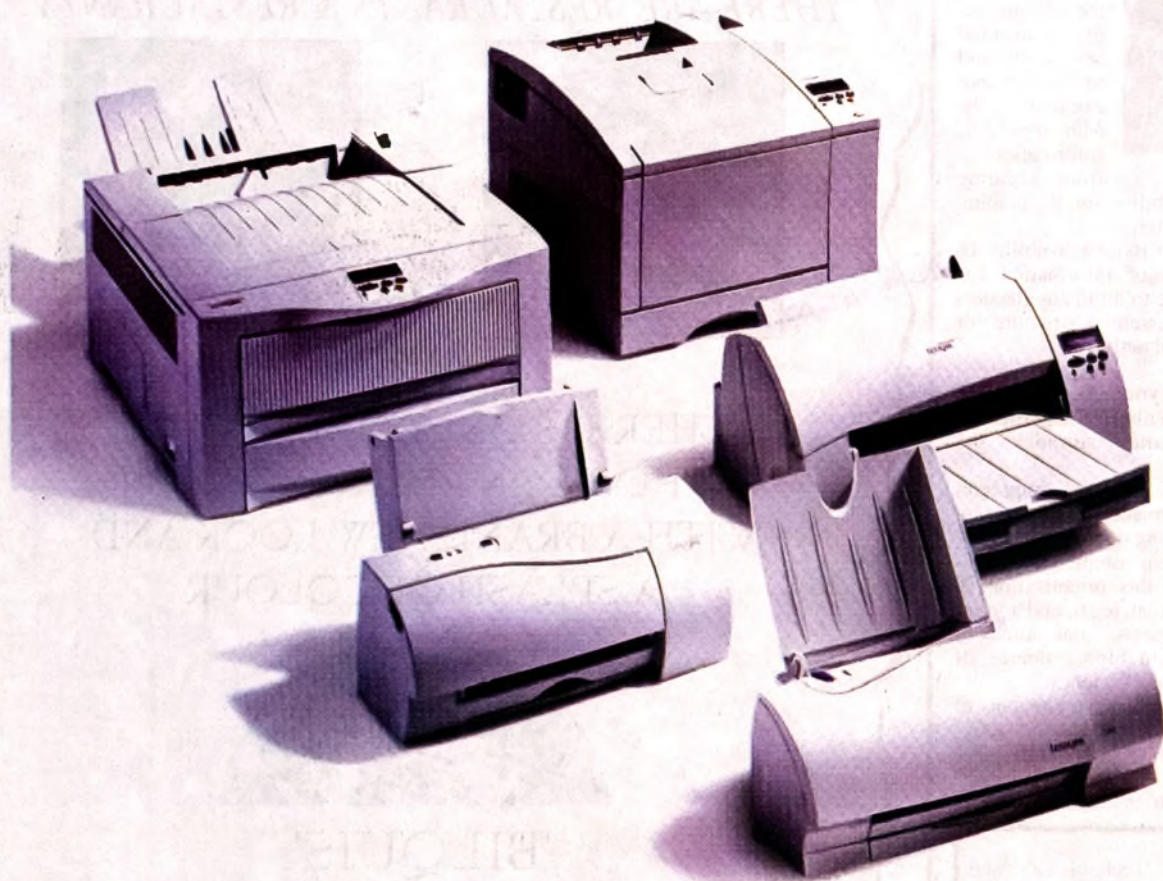


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The Evil Underground

Yemen signed the treaty banning the manufacture, sale and stockpiling of anti-personnel landmines during an international conference last December in Ottawa, Canada. Parliament ratified the treaty on May 12, making Yemen one of the first 40 countries to officially endorse it.

Mr. Qassem Abdulsalam Al-Shaibani, director of the Executive Technical Unit in the National Demining Committee, talked to Mohammed Bin Sallam of Yemen Times about his and his colleagues' life-saving work.



Yemen in this field?

A: Canada will be providing protective clothing for demining personnel. Mr. Inder Yucer, the UNDP Resident Representative in Yemen, has promised to provide \$500,000. A Polish mines expert is due to arrive soon. We expect assistance from Japan and Germany, Britain and Iran.

Q: How many mines are estimated to be buried under Yemeni soil and in which areas?

A: All the affected areas are fully known and mapped. The central regions of Yemen are the most dense with landmines, planted in the 1970s by the so-called "Front" leftist group. That 12-year conflict left large numbers of landmines in Al-Baidha, Ibb, Taiz, Al-Dhali' and Dhamar. Also, an arch of landmines was planted around Aden during the 1994 war. There are 64 mine fields around Aden, Lahaj and Abyan, nine of which are planted with anti-personnel landmines. The affected areas also include parts of Hadhramaut and Shabwa. Final estimates put the number of mines in Yemen at about a million-and-a-half, both anti-personnel and anti-tank.

Q: How much money has been allocated for the demining program?

A: The government has earmarked \$1 million to cover staff salaries, bonuses and transportation costs. In other respects, we depend largely on what is given by donor countries and organizations. The program has already received \$2.5 million from the US. During the 1st Donors Conference on September 22, the US announced that it will donate an extra \$500,000 and Canada \$100,000. The program still needs heavy-duty means of transport for military and medical surveillance teams. What has been provided so far falls short of fully covering the program's requirements.

Q: What difficulties impede your progress?

A: Lack of transportation - our teams need to visit remote and hardly accessible parts of the country.

Q: When do you expect actual demining work to begin?

A: Work will commence soon after the training program is completed on April 22, 1999. Therefore, actual field work will start towards the end of the first half of 1999. The National Demining Committee is presently concentrating its efforts on staff training.

Q: Could you tell us more about the training program?

A: A course was started four days after the inauguration of the National Training Center in Aden on October 20 for managerial and administrative staff. It will be over on December 15, and another one will start after Ramadhan for field workers.

Q: How many landmine victims are there in Yemen?

A: The statistics we have do not give the full picture. Many incidents go unreported, or are sometimes grouped with firearms shootings. However, preliminary data collected by the Interior Ministry put mines-related accidents from 1992 to 1996 at 700. Of those, 204 were fatal. Statistics collected in Ibb from 1983 to 1990 indicate that about 400 people have been victims of landmines. Animals can also become mines victims; 306 camels died in Hadhramaut during 1994-96.

Q: Has the Ministry of Defense been able to remove some of the mines during the last few years?

A: Immediately after the 1994 war, Ministry of Defense personnel were able to successfully uncover and destroy more than 60,000 landmines. The problem was further compounded by huge amounts of explosive and ordnance that were left in open areas during the war. About 300 tons of these were safely destroyed. The extent of the problem, however, requires an additional mechanism to deal not only with mine removal, but also with other related issues.

Q: Has the Ministry of Defense and other bodies concerned set

up a public-awareness campaign?

A: There is, as I said, a special awareness program within the National Demining Program. Immediately following the war of 1994, a team of volunteers was formed in Aden to alert the public to the danger lurking underground. It is still functioning, comprising teachers, doctors, army officers, media people, etc. The Swedish Radda Barnen organization and UNICEF had a big role in assisting this team. Extensive campaigns were conducted in villages through schools, mosques and local councils to draw the people's attention to landmines.

Q: How many mines have been destroyed so far?

A: Since 1994, Ministry of Defense units have been drawing maps of mine fields. A UN technical advisory program is supporting these units with equipment and technical know-how to

develop search and combing methods.

These demining units have orders to destroy mines in the field where they are found. About 60,000 landmines had been successfully destroyed.

Q: Why all this delay in starting a comprehensive demining program?

A: The situation became more stable after the war. Due to lack of essential resources, the government found it necessary to ask the help of donors. It costs \$3-5 to lay a mine, but costs \$500-800 to remove it. Moreover, general world conditions are more auspicious now, especially after the signing of the treaty to ban anti-personnel landmines.

Q: Does the Yemeni government intend to get rid of the mines stockpiled by the army?

A: This matter wholly concerns the Ministry of Defense. I cannot

really speak on their behalf. To the best of my knowledge, there are no anti-personnel landmines stored by the Yemeni army. Whatever the case, since our country has signed the treaty, then we are going to stick to it.

Q: Do you have any last comment?

A: I tell the Yemeni people and all visitors and potential investors in this country that the landmines problem is not so serious as to impede the development process. It does not mean that people cannot travel throughout the country. Mines only exist in certain areas, which will soon be clearly marked as to be immediately recognized. No accidents took place in oil concession blocks, for example. Before any oil company starts operating, demining teams go out to clear its allocated concession block. We have to seriously tackle the problems for the sake of safety of all people.

NDI Hosts International Parliamentarians

The National Democratic Institute hosted three international guests in Yemen to work with the Yemeni parliament. Mr. Mohammed Bhabha of South Africa, Mr. Patrick Cooney of Ireland and Dr. Jim Hawkes of Canada spent approximately one week in Yemen meeting with Yemeni parliamentarians on the theme of caucus management. Mr. Bhabha is a current member of the Africa National Congress in the Upper House of the South Africa parliament and a prominent lawyer in South Africa. Mr. Cooney was formerly a member of the Irish and European Parliaments, and served in various ministerial positions including Education, Justice and Defense. Dr. Hawkes was a member of the Canadian parliament for 14 years, and held various positions including Chief Government Whip, chairmanship of several parliamentary committees, and Parliament Secretary to the Deputy Minister of Canada. The seminar in parliament aimed at helping the management, organization and functioning of the parliamentary caucuses. This helps them become more effective and able to contribute to the role of both political parties and the legislature in Yemen's ongoing democratization. NDI's trainers, all former or sitting members of their respective national parliaments, met with the caucus membership and

leadership in various sessions and shared ideas and experiences. Deputy Speaker Ja'far Ba-saleh helped chair the plenary sessions, with the cooperation of Sultan Barakani of the PGC and Dr. Ba-Fadhel of the Islah. Several ideas were proffered including the appointment of caucus whips to better manage and organize the work of the respective caucuses, the ordering of debates through speaker's lists submitted by the caucuses, and the consideration of creating a parliamentary committee on rules and procedures to examine members privileges and abilities to work within the chamber. The delegation, accompanied by NDI Field Representative in Yemen, Mr. Derek Butler and Program Assistant, Ms. Rebecca Haessig from Washington, also met with Parliamentary Speaker Sheik Abdullah bin Hussein Al-Ahmar and Prime Minister

Abdulkarim Al-Iryani to discuss the work of the institute in Yemen. NDI is a Washington-based non-governmental organization and has conducted nonpartisan democratic work in approximately 80 countries worldwide. Its programs focus on six broad areas, including political party building, civic organization, election processes, legislative strengthening, local governance and civil-military relations. The Institute's political development programs rely on bringing together international political practitioners in conferences, symposiums, and hands-on technical assistance programs, structured to be multinational in scope. NDI has been working in Yemen since 1993.

Dr. Salah Haddash,
Yemen Times Managing Editor



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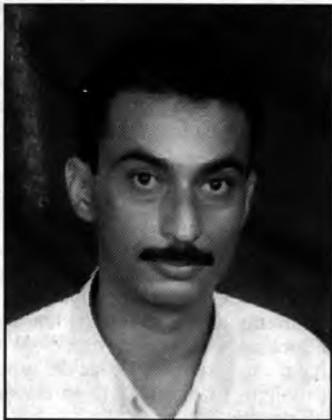
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This is an **OPINION** page.
Every week, a different intellectual writes a **FOCUS** on a pertinent issue!

Vocational Education: THE ROAD TO SUCCESS



By: **Jamil Al-Guwairy**
Inspector of the English Language
GAVTT

tion of our educational system. Among the factors contributing to this failure are a defective curricula, large numbers of students per class, old-fashioned methods of teaching, lack of facilities and teaching aids, absence of creativity, lack of coordination and cooperation between parents and schools, a bad system of testing and evaluating, ineffective teacher training programs, the teachers' harsh financial circumstances due to the low pay, etc., etc. All these factors have led to the deterioration of our educational system in such a way that our schools and colleges are producing illiterate people. Millions of pupils, students and graduates do not possess any employable knowledge or skills.

Are the key men of this country aware of their future? Are there any solutions?

SOLUTIONS

Did someone ask about solutions. Of course, there are solutions, and first and foremost among these is technical education.

Long ago, I wished to see the day when technical education was given first priority in our country. Maybe I will not have to wait much longer.

A republican decree set up the General Authority for Vocational and Technical Training (GAVTT), which ushered in a new era for development and hope. It is only technical and vocational education that can help bring real development to Yemen. Through technical education, we can bring in overall progress as it is closely associated with development and construction. We can make good use of our youngsters' potential.

To support my point, let me give an example. Countries in south east Asia and Europe have achieved great progress in science and technology due to the direction they have taken - making technical/vocational education a priority.

Even the rich countries of the Gulf have remarkably mobilized resources to build technical institutes and vocational training centers. They have built facilities of all kinds.

It is high time for Yemen to think about this issue and use common sense in our orientation. Many a number of government and private companies are dependent on foreign manpower to whom lots of money is paid. Why?! They have skills!

The point is we lack Yemeni technicians and assistants to do the work or we do not trust their performance.

We are in bad need of skilled craftsmen and technicians in all fields. We do not need those idle graduates who have nothing to do but come to their offices, stay for some time and leave. This country does not need more bureaucrats. Hence, I call upon all youngsters to enroll in technical and industrial institutes rather than general schools. What is the use of having thousands of graduates who cannot find jobs?

Our children should be directed in the right way. Helping our children join technical and craft schools calls for considerable efforts. How? With good training, support and motivation, we will be able to produce skilled craftsmen and qualified technicians in all fields. Thus, companies will trust their performance and seek to employ them. This way, our hopes and expectations will be attained.

IT TAKES TWO TO TANGO

Who should take charge?

As the saying goes, it takes two to tango. The government represented by the Ministry of Labor and Vocational Training and GAVTT should play a positive role in creating the facilities required. The private sector should also play a role by providing support to all technical and vocational centers. It must also give indications regarding market needs.

Therefore, the two parties should join hands and take charge. Students will definitely flock to join technical and vocational centers, as long as they are sure of getting employment after graduation. In my mind, that is the way to do it!

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VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Al-Qimma Foods Co. Ltd - Pizza Hut - Yemen is inviting applications for the post of Finance Manager to perform the following job description:

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2. Directs procedures and computer application systems to maintain proper records and afford adequate accounting controls and services.
3. Directs the treasurer in activities such as custodian funds, securities, and assets of the Company.
4. Appraises the Company's financial position and issues periodic reports on the Company's financial stability, liquidity, and growth.
5. Directs and coordinates the establishment of budget programs.
6. Overseas and directs the preparation and issuance of the Company's annual report.
7. Directs and analyzes studies of general economic, business, and financial conditions and their impact on the Company's policies and operations.

Qualifications:

The successful candidate should have a degree in accountancy with at least five years experience in financial and accounting positions with adequate computer skills.

Applications with detailed C. V. are to be handed over to the GM's Office, Headquarter-Hadda City, 22-24 Street - Tel 413998 - 414869

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A Stitch In Time Saves Nine



Public transportation has become an integral part of our urban life-style. Dabbabs (mini buses) have become a main feature of Yemeni towns and cities. Although they are privately owned and run, these small but convenient buses are inexpensive to use. It costs you YR15 (US

10c) to travel from one end of a route to another - often a distance of more than 6km. Despite the relatively low turnover, some drivers depend entirely on these toy-town cars to make a living; while for others, it is an extra source of income. But many drivers are not fully satisfied. Traffic police hunt them down, eager to buttress their income. Mechanics overcharge them. Official bodies try to impose certain traffic rules which the drivers are loathe to follow.

"We can't believe it!" Every time I travel in a dabbab, I often ask myself: 'Is it safe to use them?' Some of them look like they are going to fall apart; breaks are not working properly and the loud noise coming from the engine makes you jumpy. Drivers don't follow traffic rules,

they race and stop anywhere. I went to the streets, to meet these forgotten guys (by the media). In the beginning they could not believe a newspaperman was on the street to talk to them. Only when they saw my camera did they believed it.

"What rules?!!" After the introduction, I decided to go straight to the point. "Why can't you respect the traffic rules?" I asked. "What rules?" was their answer. I asked them to explain what they meant? "You see most of us are returned emigrants. When we were abroad we followed the rules, because there were rules and there was somebody implementing them. Here you must have seen drivers jumping red traffic lights or halting in the middle of the street talking to someone. If you have a good look you will realize, it is the law keeper's car," explained Mr. H. Naji.

He is right. When Yemenis are living abroad, they easily adjust to the rules of the new society, adopting many new skills and rules of conduct without losing their identity. But when they come back they completely change. I really can't understand why? So I asked them. 'why did you change from

good to bad?' "Well, for how long can we play Mr. Nice Guy, who tolerates everything and goes by the book? We were made fun at for abiding by the traffic rules and regulations. That was then, when we decided to join the party."

"We don't like mechanics!" I was not convinced by their explanation. I thought it was wise not to argue and move on to another question. 'How often do you service your cars?' They looked at each other and, with a careful smile, Mr. Mohammed A. answered: "Most of us take our cars to the mechanics, only just before it breaks down and stops by itself." "Isn't that dangerous to many lives?" I inquired. "We know it, but we can't afford regular check ups, spare parts are expensive." Of course this is not an excuse.

Sense and Responsibility There is no sense of responsibility. Most of these drivers are not educated, they need to be trained. Their syndicate (if they have one) should have a more positive role in helping them obtain better understandings of traffic regulations, safety standards and the importance of regular maintenance to protect their lives and the lives of others. The traffic police is not a mere law enforcement body, it is an educational institute too. They

should be more active in instructing drivers, not only doling out punishments.

Catastrophe in Bab Al-Yemen The main dabbab terminal (Farzah) in Bab Al-Yemen is pathetic. Garbage and bad odor are everywhere. It is more of a dump area than a bus terminal. In the rainy season this place becomes a swamp. It is a great danger to thousands of commuters, drivers and the environment. There should be a solution to this. Our lives are at risk. Bacteria and parasites find it a perfect environment to live in, spreading many diseases. None of the concerned people such as Ministry of Health, municipality, environmentalists nor the drivers are bothered. The drivers feel it is the municipality's duty; but, they never ask themselves if there is anything they can do to help. Certainly, there is. People running the Farzah collect YR 20 daily from each dabbab (there are hundreds of them). Part of this money can improve the

situation, and give the terminal a healthy look and disease-free environment. No matter whose responsible, we should realize 'A stitch in time saves nine'.

A mystery ? or is it hard to answer ? "How is the money collected from drivers utilized?" I asked. "We have no clue, some of us don't even know if there is a syndicate! We just pay," said Mr. Nasser D. I fail to understand whenever money is in question, why is it always a mystery?

Is there anything you want to say? I asked. "Yes, we are harassed by the traffic police, sometimes for no reason. We are stopped and humiliated. We can't part with our hard-earned money so they can chew qat. Road conditions are very bad, ruining our cars. Something has to be done." This was their only request, may one day someone fulfill it.

By Hatem Bamehriz,
Yemen Times



Automatic Headlights Starting.



Sense and Sensibility. The New S-Class.

► The new S-Class from Mercedes-Benz can actually 'see' the falling light outside and turn on the headlights automatically, once a sensor has been activated. So you'll now

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as you are. The system turns on or switches off the front and rear lights depending on the amount of light outside, which is constantly measured by sensors.
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also equipped with LED braking lights that use a much faster signal so that drivers approaching you from behind have more time to react if you brake suddenly. Innovative features like these

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IN A CLASS OF ITS OWN

A Word from the Experts!

Here is what some of the expert guests and United Engineering top staff had to say about the new S-Class luxury Mercedes.

Mr. Steffen Baumann, Regional Manager, Sales Passenger Cars, Mercedes-Benz Regional Center, Dubai - covering GCC countries, Yemen and Pakistan.

Mr. Baumann is in Yemen to attend the launch of the latest S-Class model of Mercedes car and also to attend the opening of the Auto Show on December 1.

The S-Class is our new flagship, new technology platform. Since the beginning of November, we have been launching this car in the region. We decided to make the launch in Yemen shortly before the opening of the Auto Show so as not to spoil the surprise for people. The Yemeni car market is quite challenging for us, due to the fact that import duties are rather high - 65%. This makes the retail prices comparatively high.

Although Yemen is not our biggest market in the region, it is certainly a growing one. We hope to achieve more in the future. Our market growth rate in Yemen is the highest in the region. There has been around an 80% rise in sales since last year.

Mercedes sold about 10,000 cars in the region during last year, of those 200 were sold in Yemen. A higher figure is projected for the coming year.

With the new S-Class, Mercedes-Benz is setting a new benchmark in automotive engineering. Many innovations have been introduced to this new model. Several new technologies are now built into the S-Class cars.

A total of 340 new patents were applied for during the development of the new car, a sign of leadership in engineering.

New features include: multi-functioning steering wheel and a command system with a screen; a totally new air-suspension system, automatically adjusting the damper according to road conditions; a drivetrain system, automatically adjusts the distance for the front car; a key-less door, using a chip-card; and many more.

Mr. P. V. Ranganathan, General Manager, United Engineering and Automobile Co. Ltd

The Mercedes-Benz agency in Yemen started in 1988. In 1996 we moved to the new premises, built with the support and technology of Mercedes-Benz. It is one of the best integrated sales and service facilities in Yemen and probably in the region as a whole.

We have a huge facility spread across 28,000 sq.m. with a built-up area of almost 7,000 sq.m. It is provided with the latest equipment required for the maintenance of Mercedes vehicles, both passenger cars and commercial vehicles.

We provide services for all models of Mercedes cars in Yemen, whether they are sold by our company or not. There is also a large spare-parts facility, serving Mercedes vehicles of all models.

United Engineering and Automobile Co. as a distributor of Mercedes cars, provides the best after-sale support in Yemen.

There is a steady growth in the Mercedes market in this country. There was, unfortunately, a slump in the business around the mid-1990s. But due to the policy of privatization and free-market economy adopted by the government, the market is growing steadily, not rapidly. We hope that in the near future business opportunities will further improve.

There is a wide model range of Mercedes cars available. The S-Class is the top-of-the-



range passenger car. Other models cater for the people's range of budgets and requirements.

All Mercedes models (S, E, M-Class, etc) are very popular in Yemen, both with private individuals and government agencies. The model range really is suitable for all tastes and demands, whether as luxury cars or 4WD for Yemen's mountainous terrain.

The new S-Class Mercedes is very advanced in technology, with modern features not available in other makes. It is a quantum leap in technology. With United Engineering support and backup, we feel the S-Class will do very well in the Yemeni market.

Mr. Fared Abdul-Jabbar, Deputy General Manager, United Engineering and Automobile Co. Ltd

I have actually driven the new S-Class Mercedes from Hodeidah to Sanaa. The car is absolutely fantastic. I have never driven such a vehicle before. It has a very high stability on the road, especially in cornering. The shifting of the gear is instant. Breaking is quite safe and highly reliable. I experienced this when a car tried to cut me down on the road.

The car is exceptionally safe on Yemen's narrow mountain roads. Its safety features are many and varied. On off-road applications, you can push a button and the car's whole body is hydraulically lifted, only to be readjusted automatically when on a level road. I have seen nothing like it before.

During rain, the car is very stable. Its built-in advanced safety features ensure that it doesn't slip on water-covered roads. Driving the new S-Class Mercedes is a unique experience, only to be tried to be believed.

I really find that no other car can beat the S-Class Mercedes. Its sales will almost certainly exceed all of its competitors in the luxury car market in Yemen. Potential customers testing the car for only one time will really want to buy it. So we are expecting good sales figures.

Mr. Radhwan Al-Anisi, Passenger Cars Sales Manager, United Engineering and Automobile Co. Ltd

The S-Class Mercedes is a totally new and very advanced car, technologically. It has completely different interior and exterior designs. Some of the drawbacks in the older model, very few as they are, are completely eliminated from the S-Class.

The previous S-Class was launched in 1991, of which about 400,000 cars were sold worldwide.

Mercedes-Benz engineers and technicians spent around six years in designing and perfecting the new S-Class. It is a really unique "species" of car to hit the world market.

We believe that the new S-Class luxury Mercedes will be a favorite vehicle among Yemen customers.

The United Engineering complex in Sanaa has been designed with a very optimistic outlook to the future. It has the most modern, state-of-the-art Mercedes equipment. Installing spare-parts is done according to the highest international Mercedes standards.

Both foreign and national, highly qualified and very well trained engineers and technicians are working for United Engineering. Moreover, our staff often receive specialized training courses abroad, and Mercedes specialists conduct regular visits to make sure that every thing is up to the highest standards. All this is to ensure that United Engineering clients receive the best service available not only in Yemen, but in relation to the whole region. United Engineering aims to save its customers money, time and effort.

A one-year warranty is given to Mercedes car buyers, and a six-month guarantee for spare-parts. We are the first to offer our customers mobile services. Whenever your Mercedes breaks down in any part of Yemen, you just have to contact us and a mobile Mercedes workshop is immediately dispatched. Charges are the same as when repairs are done at the main service workshop. No extra fees are charged for the mobile service.

A Launch to Remember

Totally covered with a large piece of cloth, the new Mercedes was parked on a red carpet at the United Engineering magnificent showroom. The guests were first treated to a few minutes of dreamy video sequences extolling the wonderful features of the new S-Class.

They watched with a lot of interest as the car was shown swiftly gliding through peaceful country lanes. Safety features were shown being tested rigorously with powerful impacts dealt to the car, while the dummy passengers inside were brought out unhurt.

Then came the big launch - the moment for which all guests have come, and been impatiently waiting.

As the cover was pulled off the car, a gasp of surprise was heard reverberating around the large hall. The car's silver-metallic body then became almost invisible, covered with a big mass of people. Doors opened, headlights flashed and the engine started running, silently.

What was exhibited at United Engineering was certainly a masterpiece of German engineering and technology. Guests were enthralled by the immensely captivating features and beautifully streamlined body of the S-Class Mercedes. The car is certainly a sight to behold.

German engineering and technology. Guests were enthralled by the immensely captivating features and beautifully streamlined body of the S-Class Mercedes. The car is certainly a sight to behold.



us further improve future models," said a company engineer.

Several of the visitors already expressed their interest in buying the car. A rare "bird" will be bracing the roads of Yemen.

United Engineering and Automobile Co. Ltd yesterday, Sunday, November 29, launched its flagship car - the ultra modern S-Class Mercedes.

The event was attended by German Embassy staff, several senior Yemeni officials, businessmen and representatives of the media.

United Engineering is the sole agent and distributor of Mercedes-Benz cars in Yemen. It has been operating here for the last ten years.

Compiled by: Adel Moqbil;
Photo by: Walid Al-Saqqaf



No Class Like S-Class

'Cars of the future will be smaller on the outside and larger on the inside. They will give the sensation of floating on air, yet will grip the road like a magnet. They will be more highly specified, but will weigh less. And one and the same car will have two sets of suspension characteristics, so that the driver can switch between sporty and comfortable settings at the touch of a button. In the future, a car will be able to see, hear and speak or itself. If you like, you can wait for the future to supply this car. Alternatively, you can drive today - the new S-Class from Mercedes-Benz.'

The New S-Class Has Arrived

United Engineering & Automobile Co Ltd, the General Agent and Sole Distributor in Yemen and Mercedes-Benz are proud to present a luxury saloon whose new features add up to a quantum leap in automobiles development. Dynamic in appearance, comfortable and agile in terms of handling and more eco-friendly, the new S-Class showcases the latest innovations from Mercedes-Benz. It is packed with intelligent qualities, which bring a new sense to technology, letting the car do a versatile range of functions by itself to really enjoy the drive.

Outstanding Star Features

The new S-Class lets you comfortably perform a wide range of control functions through four rocker switches on the multifunction steering wheel, which is placed within easy reach of your thumbs.

The functions included as standard are:

- basic menu with daily and total mileage display,
 - audio menu with radio and cassette player,
 - trip computer,
 - memory for malfunction and warning information, and
 - configuration menu for several basic settings and adjustments in the vehicle.
- A host of optional menus are also available for even greater ease.

No Keys Needed!

Then there's the keyless Go drive authorization system, which makes its debut in the new S-Class as an optional extra. With the new cheque card sized chip card conveniently in your wallet, you can unlock the door by merely touching the handle or boot lock, start the engine by touching the start/stop switch by touching the switch in the "P" or "N" positions. It couldn't be easier.

Cushioned Into Greater Safety

Another first in the new S-Class is the inclusion of window bags on all four-side windows for protection in side collisions. Together with the standard front passenger airbags and side airbags on all doors, the new S-Class is designed to cushion the occupants in an accident and minimize the risk of injury. And the car has built-in intelligence to ensure that the airbag will not release if the seat is vacant.

Driving Pleasure

The sheer luxury of riding the new S-Class is matched only by the thrill of driving it. With a choice of 3 petrol engines, the new S-Class gives you considerably improved acceleration and maximum speed thanks to improved dynamics and lower vehicle weight. For example, the new 3.2 liters engine accelerates from 0 to 100 km/h in 8.4 seconds and the upper models do that even faster!

Stay Cool!

If that sets your pulse racing, cool down! Think of the innovative ventilation system available as an optional

extra. This keeps the seats cool whatever the outside temperature. Cool air is drawn from the lower area of the car and transferred uniformly to seat cushions and backrest by 10 mini fans. So the seats stay pleasantly cool even if you have parked the car in the sun for a long time. That's cool!

To gear or not gear

Daimler-Benz engineers have built the S-Class to suit changing situations. The 5-speed automatic transmission is standard for all models, but it also has the innovative touch shift facility. To upshift, simply move the gear lever across to the right and to downshift move to the left. The gear engaged is displayed on the instrument cluster for your convenience.

Peering in the dark

A unique feature in the new S-Class is the programmable headlights. These can be specified individually, and once set, you can forget about them! You can program the lights to come on in poor visibility, to keep the main beam on after you leave the car and to specify after how long it should switch off.

Keeps you in suspense

The S-Class proves that no compromise is necessary between good driving dynamics and good ride comfort thanks to its new suspension system. Fitted with the adaptive damping system (ADS), it recognizes the driving conditions and your speed and, accordingly, selects the ideal shock absorber setting for each wheel. This significantly enhances both safety and ride comfort.

No Bumpy Ride!

Don't hesitate to tread on bad roads in your new S-Class. Its air suspension keeps the vehicle at the same level, regardless of load conditions, by regulating the air pressure and controlling the shock absorber's control valves. On poor roads, it takes only the press of a button to increase ground clearing by 35mm. Above the speed of 140km/h, the vehicle is lowered automatically by 15 mm.

Auto Masseur

Do you normally go on long drive and end up with an aching back and stiff muscles? Forget it. The S-Class has optional multi-contour backrest offering unlimited seat comfort on long journeys. Its integrated massage function is a new idea. The backrest gently massages your back and helps prevent fatigue no matter how long-drive.

Keep your distance

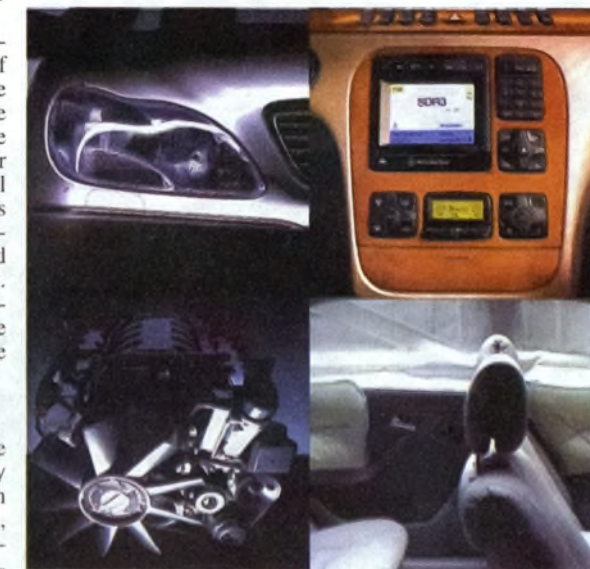
On a high way or a busy city street, you can sit back and enjoy your drive in the S-Class. Along with the Standard Cruise Control, you can opt for the new DISTRONIC (DTR). The DTR is intelligent technology, which automatically detects vehicles in front and reduces speed if necessary to maintain a safe distance. This contributes to relaxed driving even on busy city streets.

Touch and go

The S-Class comes with an electrically controlled starting process known as 'touch start'. Just briefly turn the ignition key and the starter will turn automatically until the engine starts. Gear engaged and gear program are displayed on the instrument panel.

Get behind the wheel

The list of innovation in an S-Class is too long to be covered here. And a lot of technical details will only 'kill the fun! The best way to get to know an S-Class is to drive one. Once you have seen and experienced the new S-Class, you will discover a very personal high... A sensation that should be felt and enjoyed not described and dissected.



Universal Group of Companies

present their sincere wishes to

President Ali Abdullah Saleh

The Government of Dr. Abdul-Karim Al-Iryani,
the Minister of Tourism and Culture, Mr. Abdul-Malik Mansour,
and the Yemeni people

on the occasion of 30th of November,

The anniversary of the independence of the southern part of Yemen,
and the signing of the unification agreement.

Many Happy Returns to all



Universal
Group of Companies



Universal
Group of Companies

مجموعة شركات العالمية

تتقدم بأصدق التهاني والتبريكات لفخامة

الرئيس علي عبدالله صالح

إلى حكومة الدكتور عبدالكريم الارياني

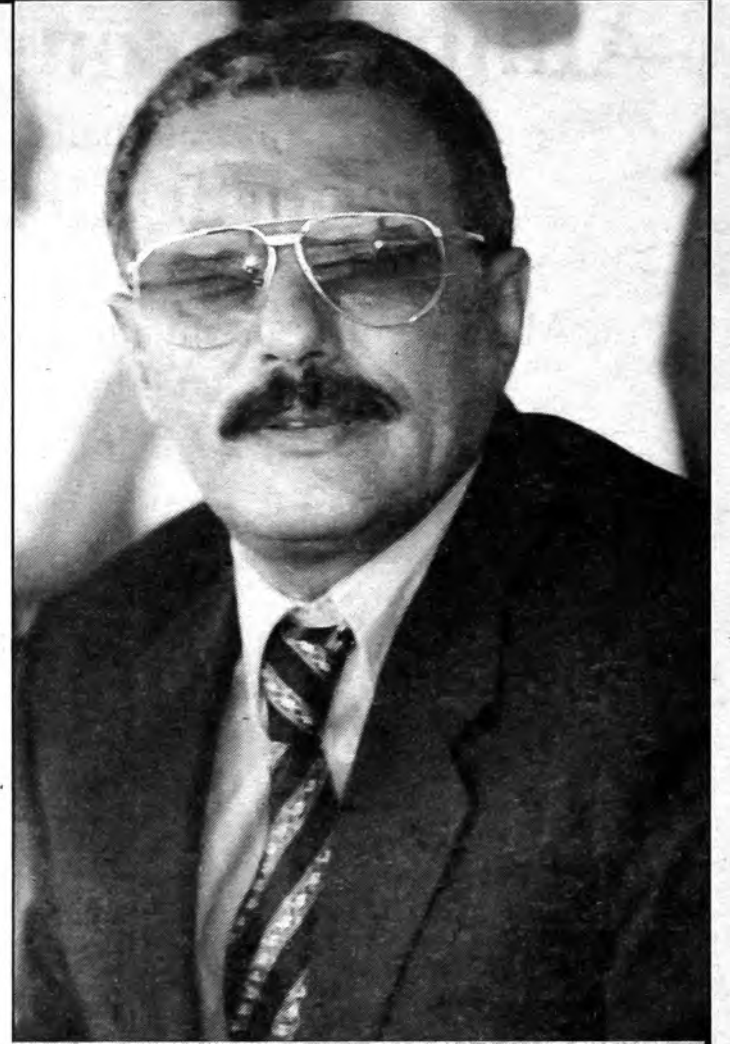
إلى الأستاذ عبدالملك منصور - وزير الثقافة والسياحة

وإلى الشعب اليمني الأبى

بمناسبة ذكرى جلاء الاستعمار من المحافظات الجنوبية والشرقية

وكذلك بمناسبة ذكرى توقيع اتفاقية الوحدة

وكل عام وأنتم بخير



30 نوفمبر
NOVEMBER 30



شركة الأحول للتجارة العامة

ATMA

تتقدم

بأصدق التهاني والتبريكات لفخامة

الرئيس علي عبدالله صالح

وإلى حكومة الدكتور عبدالكريم الارياني

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وكذلك بمناسبة ذكرى توقيع اتفاقية الوحدة

وكل عام والجميع بخير

Al-Ahwal Gen-Trading Partnership Co.

present their happy wishes to

President Ali Abdullah Saleh

The Government of Dr. Abdul-Karim Al-Iryani,

and the Yemeni people

on the occasion of 30th of November,

The anniversary of the independence of the southern part of Yemen, and the signing
of Yemen's re-unification agreement.

Many Happy Returns to all!

30 نوفمبر
NOVEMBER 30

Adhban Group of Companies

present their sincere wishes to

President Ali Abdullah Saleh

The Government of Dr. Abdul-Karim Al-Iryani,
the Minister of Tourism and Culture, Mr. Abdul-Malik Mansour,
and the Yemeni people

on the occasion of 30th of November,

The anniversary of the independence of the southern part of Yemen,
and the signing of the unification agreement.

Many Happy Returns to all

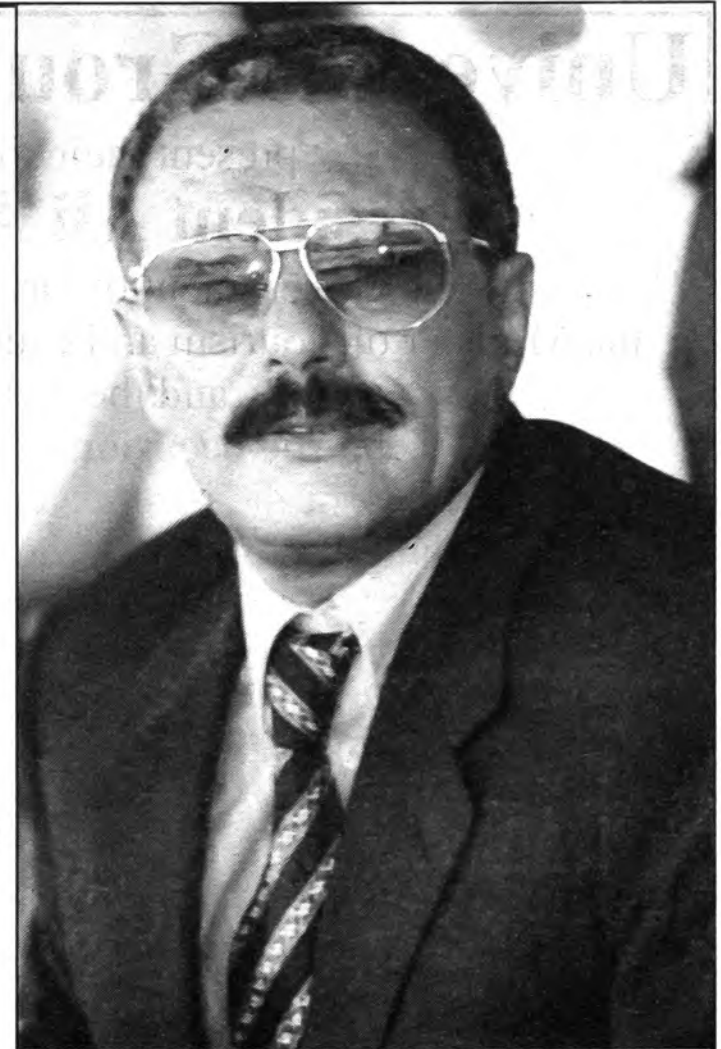


مجموعة شركات عذبان

تتقدم بأصدق التهاني والتبريكات لفخامة

الرئيس علي عبدالله صالح

إلى حكومة الدكتور عبدالكريم الارياني
إلى الأستاذ عبدالملك منصور - وزير الثقافة والسياحة
وإلى الشعب اليمني الأبى
بمناسبة ذكرى جلاء الاستعمار من المحافظات الجنوبية والشرقية
وكذلك بمناسبة ذكرى توقيع اتفاقية الوحدة
وكل عام وأنتم بخير



نوفمبر
NOVEMBER 30

توتال اليمن

تتقدم

بأصدق التهاني والتبريكات لفخامة

الرئيس علي عبدالله صالح

وإلى حكومة الدكتور عبدالكريم الارياني
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بمناسبة ذكرى جلاء الاستعمار من المحافظات الجنوبية والشرقية
وكذلك بمناسبة ذكرى توقيع اتفاقية الوحدة
وكل عام وأنتم بخير



TOTAL - Yemen

and its partners in Yemen:

KUFPEC, UNOCAL and SOCO

present its sincere wishes and congratulations to

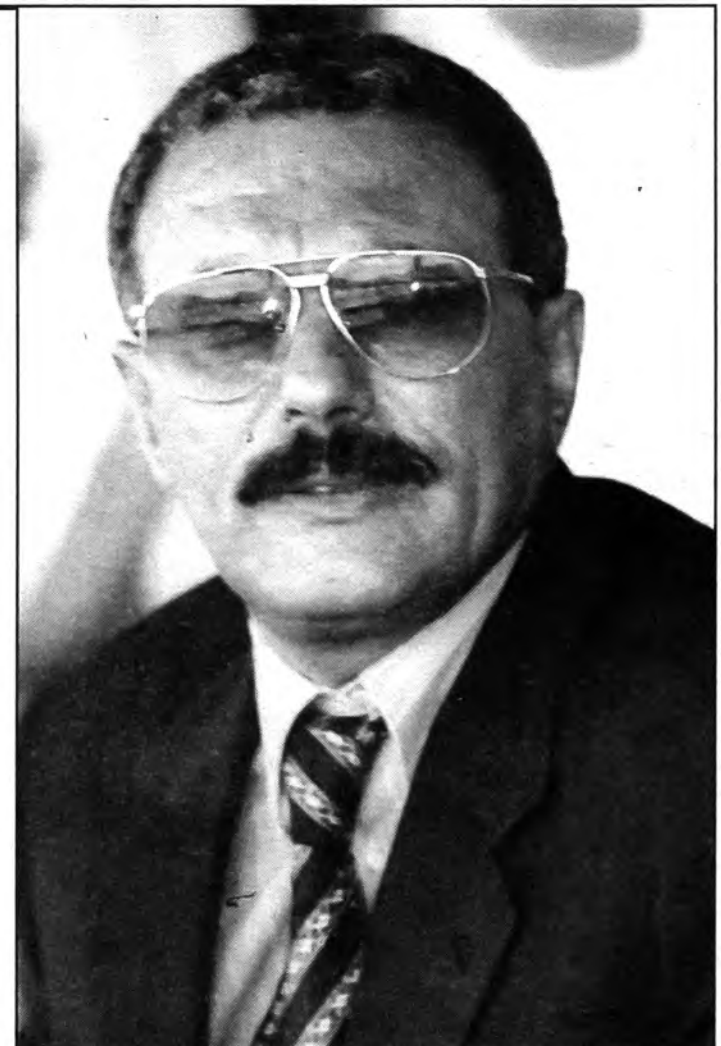
President Ali Abdullah Saleh

The Government of Dr. Abdul-Karim Al-Iryani,
and the Yemeni people

on the occasion of 30th of November,

The anniversary of the independence of the southern part of Yemen, and the signing
of Yemen's re-unification agreement.

Many Happy Returns to all



نوفمبر
NOVEMBER 30



بنك اليمن الدولي ش.م.ي

يتقدم بأعمق التهاني وأطيب الأمانى إلى فخامة
الرئيس علي عبدالله صالح

وإلى مجلس النواب برئاسة الشيخ عبدالله بن حسين الأحمر
وإلى الحكومة اليمنية برئاسة الدكتور عبدالكريم الارياني
بمناسبة ذكرى جلاء الاستعمار من المحافظات الجنوبية والشرقية
وكذلك بمناسبة ذكرى توقيع اتفاقية الوحدة
وكل عام وأنتم بخير



بنك اليمن الدولي ش.م.ي.
INTERNATIONAL BANK OF YEMEN Y.S.C.

INTERNATIONAL BANK OF YEMEN Y.S.C.

present their warmest congratulations and best wishes to

President Ali Abdullah Saleh,

to Sheikh Abdullah Bin Hussain Al-Ahmar, the Speaker of Parliament,

to Dr. Abdul-Karim Al-Iryani, the prime Minister

on The anniversary of the independence of the southern part of Yemen
and the signing of the unification agreement.

Many Happy Returns to all

30 نوفمبر
NOVEMBER 30

شركة هيونداي ممثلة بـ بي ام نا مدير مشروع رصيف الحاويات - عدن
يتقدمون

بأعمق التهاني وأطيب الأمانى لليمن الصديق شعبا وحكومة وقيادة
وعلى رأسهم فخامة الأخ

الرئيس علي عبدالله صالح

وإلى مجلس النواب برئاسة الشيخ عبدالله بن حسين الأحمر

وإلى الحكومة اليمنية برئاسة الدكتور عبدالكريم الارياني

وإلى الاستاذ درهم عبده نعمان رئيس المنطقة الحرة بعـدن

بمناسبة ذكرى جلاء الاستعمار من المحافظات الجنوبية والشرقية

وكذلك بمناسبة ذكرى توقيع اتفاقية الوحدة

وكل عام وأنتم بخير



Represented by Mr. B. M. Na

the Manager of the Container Terminal Project in Aden

present their warmest congratulations and most tender wishes to

President Ali Abdullah Saleh,

to Sheikh Abdullah Bin Hussain Al-Ahmar, the Speaker of Parliament,

to Dr. Abdul-Karim Al-Iryani, the prime Minister

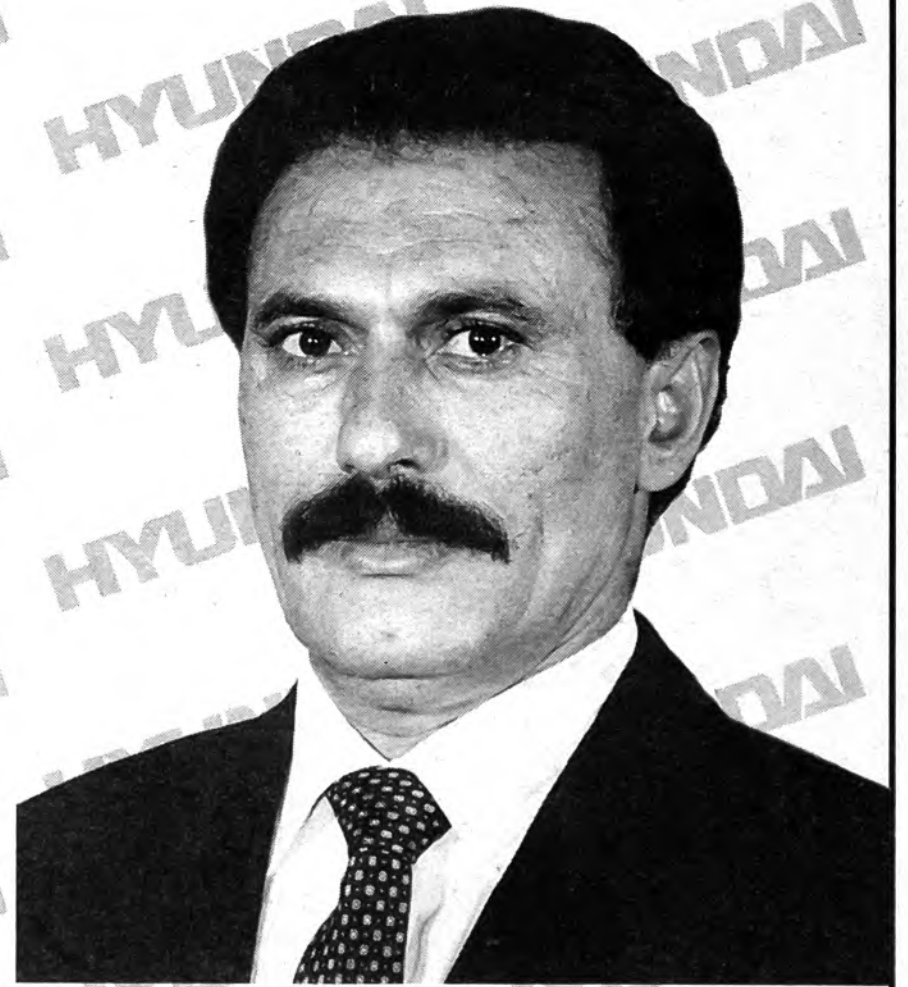
to Mr. Dirhem Abdu Noman, the Chairman of the Aden Free Zone

and to the friendly Yemeni people

on The anniversary of the independence of the southern part of Yemen

and the signing of the unification agreement.

Many Happy Returns to all



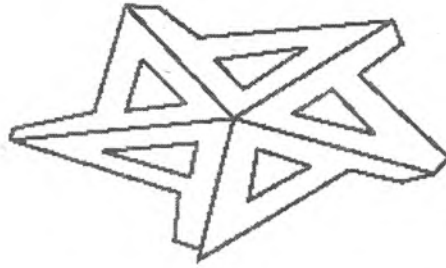
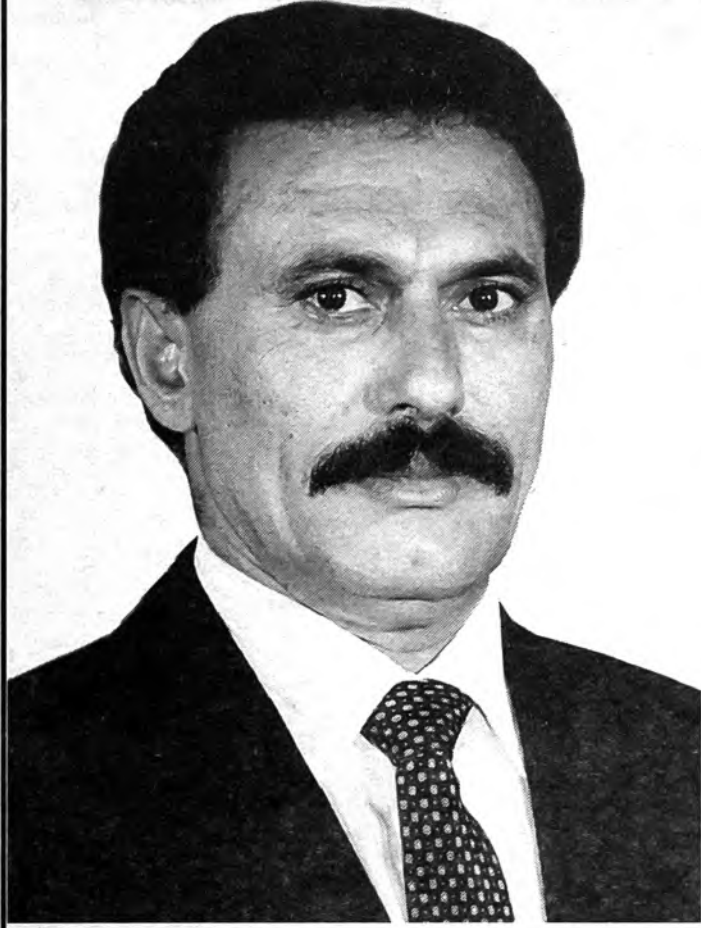
30 نوفمبر
NOVEMBER 30

ALFA Co. Ltd.

present its felicitations to
President Ali Abdullah Saleh
and to Dr. Abdul-Karim Al-Iryani
and the Yemeni people
on the occasion of 30 of November:
The day the last of the colonial
forces left Yemen,
and anniversary of the signing of the
re-unification agreement.
Many happy returns!

شركة ألفا المحدودة

تتقدم إلى فخامة رئيس الجمهورية الأخ
علي عبدالله صالح
والدكتور عبدالكريم اليرياني
وجميع أفراد الشعب اليمني
بمناسبة الثلاثون من نوفمبر -
ذكرى رحيل آخر فلول الإستعمار من
تراب الوطن الغالي
وذكرى التوقيع على إتفاقية
إعادة توحيد اليمن
وكل عام وأنتم بخير



ALFA

نوفمبر 30

NOVEMBER 30

شركة هنت جنة للنفط

وجميع موظفيها

يتقدمون بأرق وأصدق التهاني والتبريكات لفخامة
الرئيس علي عبدالله صالح

وإلى حكومة الدكتور عبدالكريم اليرياني
وإلى الشعب اليمني الأبي

بمناسبة ذكرى جلاء الاستعمار من المحافظات الجنوبية والشرقية
وكذلك بمناسبة ذكرى توقيع إتفاقية الوحدة
وكل عام وأنتم بخير

JANNAH HUNT OIL COMPANY
as operator for the Jannah Association

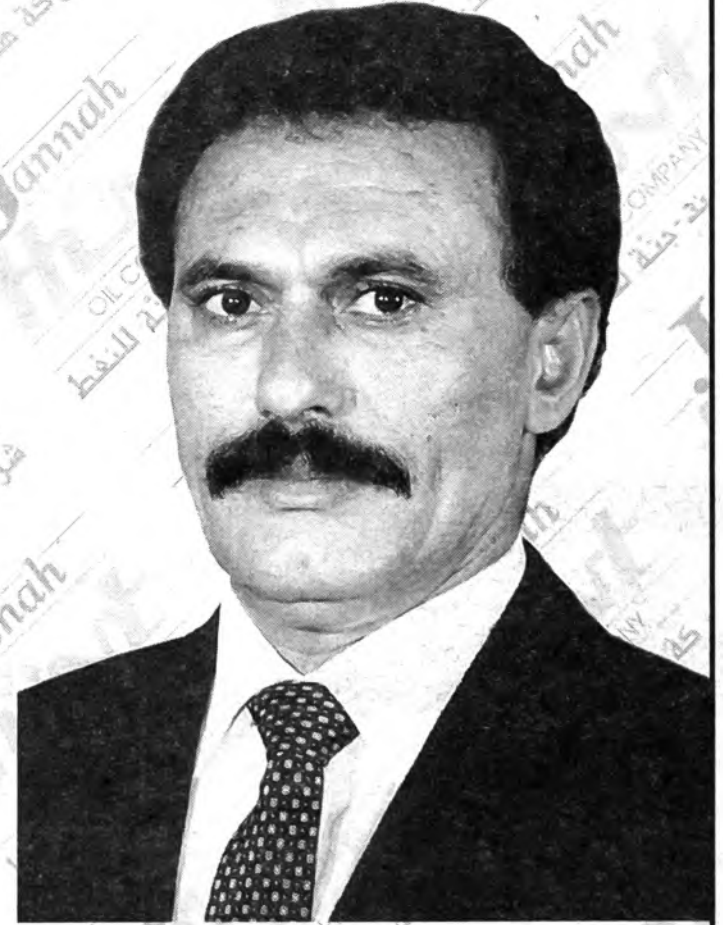
presents its sincere wishes and congratulations to

President Ali Abdullah Saleh

The Government of Dr. Abdulkareem Al-Iryani,
and the Yemeni people
on the occasion of 30th of November,

The anniversary of the independence of the southern part of Yemen
and the signing of the unification agreement.

Many Happy Returns to all



Jannah
Hunt
OIL COMPANY

شركة هنت-جنة للنفط

Member of the Association
in Jannah Block 5:
JHOC, YICOM, NEWCO,
KUFPEC, Total Yemen and
EXXON SABA

نوفمبر 30

NOVEMBER 30

Imagine

Imagine the Beatles in Yemen! Yes, all four of them: John Lennon, Paul McCartney, George Harrison and Ringo Starr. Well, maybe not the real Beatles, but a very good impersonation of them.

The four young men performed some of the original group's golden hits of the Sixties. It felt as if the Yemeni audience was transported by a time machine to Swinging London. Many people, young and old, rose to their feet clapping and swaying with the music. Few danced with vigor near the stage or in the isles of the



until the island had all but cast a spell over me,' he wrote in an illustrated booklet accompanying the exhibition.

In often quite contrasting hues of black and white, Richard Boggs has captured the essence of this enchanting island - man, turbulent nature and the interaction



Sanaa Cultural Center. As part of the British Week's festivities (November 21-28), Beatles performances were held in both Sanaa and Aden. "The British Week occurred simultaneously with the British Council celebrating 25 years of its existence in Sanaa and some 50 years in Aden," said Mr. Brendan McSharry, Director of the British Council in Sanaa.

In addition to the British Council and the British Embassy, the events were also sponsored by major business and hotel concerns in Yemen. The Week's events also included a photographic exhibition by the British Council's Richard Boggs. The monochrome photo's tell the story of Boggs's infatuation with



between the two. Despite its mystique, the place is not without its fair share of epidemics and daily hardships.

After visiting the island three times, living in a tent, talking to



Richard Boggs & Suqutran Friends

the mysterious Island of Suqutra. 'I said the name Suqutra over and over to myself - like a mantra -

people and taking photo's, Boggs decided to live and work there. He'll be teaching English as part of a UN-sponsored program.



But photos were not the only thing Boggs brought back to Sanaa. Five young Suqutran men accompanied him back to promote the protection of the island's biodiversity and draw the public's attention to the need

for a sustainable use of its marine and land resources.

A British food festival was also held for four consecutive nights. Each night Chef Colin Pressdee of the BBC presented popular dishes and delicacies of one of the "four nations of new Britain" - English, Scottish, Welsh and Irish.

Three international award-winning films (Sense and Sensibility, Betrayal and Tess) were shown at the British Council branch in Aden.

Moreover, a large trade delegation and a Labor MP, Ms Christine McCafferty, visited the country during the Week.

"Several deals were signed by Yemeni and British firms," said Mr. Ahmed Suleiman, Export Promoter for Yemen, Department of Trade and Industry. "There is a much more confident outlook in the Yemeni economy now," he added. British companies are supplying equipment for the Aden port and Free Zone infrastructure, pharmaceutical and construction companies.

"But for both British and Yemeni companies the reality is that the process may often take time, and requires a great deal of mutual trust," explained Suleiman.

Adel Moqbil,
Yemen Times

Khalil: Pioneer of Adeni Song

When one remembers the golden age of the Yemeni song during the 1960s, one always fondly remembers the pioneer singer Khalil Mohammed Khalil. He was a major player in the development of the modern Yemeni song, especially during the first phase of that process in the early 1950s.

Eighty-year-old Khalil spent the best part of his life, more than half a century, as not only a singer, but also musical innovator. He is also known for his great sense of humor and conversational skills.

I talked to one of his fellow singers and confidant, Jaafar Murshid who gave some very interesting anecdotes about the great Khalil.

Khalil's start in the world of art goes back to the 1930s, when he used to listen to, then sing, Egyptian and traditional Yemeni songs - Sanaani, Yafi'i, etc. His father was a brilliant Oud (lute) player, who liked the songs of the famous Egyptian singer Mohammed Abdulawahab. In addition to playing the Oud - being taught by his father - Khalil also plays the mandolin and banjo.

Khalil & Egyptian Songs

Khalil first started doing Egyptian songs in 1943, when he used to watch Egyptian films in Aden cinemas. Thus Egyptian songs and music had a rather big influence on Khalil's style. This was helped by his beautiful melodious

voice and unique style of playing music.

Adeni Nadwa

In 1948, a group of revivalists got together in Aden to form the Adeni Nadwa. They included several poets, musicians, singers and intellectuals such as Mohammed Abdu Ghanim, Abdullah Hamed Khalifa, Khalil, and others. They all decided to release their artistic creations to the general public as products of the Adeni Nadwa. Records were released through gramophones shops and cinema auditoria to be played during the intermission. This made people more aware of the Adeni Nadwa and its highly creative members.

British Authority

Also in 1948, Khalil was the governor of the Aden Central Prison in Crater. The Adeni Nadwa used to be convened at the Ihsan Hotel, just opposite the prison. During one such session, the British authorities raided the place under the pretext that the group's work was a cover for political activity. Being an official himself, Khalil was able to convince the colonial authorities otherwise.

New Musical Instruments



Introduced

The Adeni Nadwa was the first musical ensemble to use string instruments, fully utilizing them to serve the group's unique style of music. Nadwa musicians included violinists Yassin Fari' and Abdullah Hamed Khalifa, Ali Shammakh using rhythm instruments, Hussain Shawqi on the tambourine and Khalil himself as a lute player, singer and composer.

Khalil's Colleagues

The Adeni Nadwa set new concepts of Yemeni singing and music. It brought out the Yemeni song from the obscurity of traditionalism to the light of modernism. This also had much influence on Yemeni poetry. It encouraged poets such as Lutfi Jaafar Aman, Mohammed Abdu Ghanim and Mohammed Saeed Jarada to shed the shackles of traditional Arab poetry (rhyme and scale) in favor of the liberated and more expressive Modern Poetry.

Those poets became very active members of the Adeni Nadwa, cooperating with singers and musician colleagues, especially Khalil, to progress with the modernization movement.

Khalil the Composer

There is no doubt that Khalil can be considered as the creator of a whole artistic school - the modern Adeni song. Other singers dearly sought his distinguished musical compositions. Such singers included Mohammed Saleh Azzani, Taha Fari', Sabah Munassar and many others.

Saleh Abdulbaqi,
Yemen Times Arts Editor

The Sunset. VSUP. Prague.



When exactly does the sun go down?
The moment you see your headlights turn on.

Japanese Aid to Palestine
During his meeting with Bill Clinton November 20, the Japanese Prime Minister announced that Japan is allocating \$200 million as aid for Palestine during the coming two years. From 1993 on, Japan has granted a \$372 million in aid projects to Palestine.

Japanese aid mainly concentrates on human resources and social development, especially in health care and education. It financially supports the Palestinian National Authority, the establishment of infrastructure and creates more work opportunities for Palestinians.

From 1995 on, Japan has implemented 11 projects directly related to Palestinians with a total cost of \$49 million.

About 446 Palestinians have participated in training courses in Japan since 1993.

Ethiopian Refugees Return Home

The UNHCR has begun the voluntary repatriation of over 2,500 Ethiopian refugees living in the Dadaab camps in north-eastern Kenya.

Back in Ethiopia, the refugees each received nine months of food consisting of cereals and oil as well as a small cash grant to assist them in making their way home from Moyale and to start a new life after six years of exile.

Italy Calls for International Tribunal

Italian Premier Massimo D'Alema called for Kurdish rebel leader Abdullah Ojalan to be tried in an international tribunal after Germany declined to have him extradited from Italy.

Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder said that Bonn would not seek Ojalan's extradition "in the interests of law and peace" in Germany, where there are more

than 2 million Turks and 400,000 Kurds.

Turkey attacked the idea, with Prime Minister Mesut Yilmaz insisting that Ankara's position had not changed.

Arab Bank Aids 3 African States

The Khartoum-based Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa has extended loans totaling \$26.7 million to three west African countries. Three agreements were signed in Khartoum with the bank providing loans of \$10 million to Burkina Faso, \$7.7 million to Ghana and \$9 million to Benin.

The Arab League's bank provides long-term credits at low interest rates to non-member African countries.

Q-Tel Shares To Go On Sale

Qatar announced its first initial public offering (IPO) and said it will sell 45 million shares of newly formed joint stock company Qatar Telecom (Q-Tel) comprising 45% of outstanding shares at QR60 per share to nationals and expatriates valuing the company at QR6 billion.

The QR2.7 billion offer will open to subscribers from December 1-14 with a minimum investment of QR12,000 or 200 shares and a maximum limit of 10% of the total value at QR600 million.

Death in Indian Train Collision

An express train slammed into another passenger train that had vaulted off its tracks in north-western India on Thursday, November 26, killing at least 108 people and injuring 250.

Three rear cars of the Amritsar-bound Frontier Mail from New Delhi jumped the tracks between the towns of Khanna and Payal in the wheat-growing district of Punjab state.

The engine and four cars of the

express train were crumpled like balls of paper in the impact. In all, 16 cars were damaged in the accident, the worst in three years in India.

Former Zimbabwe Leader a Fugitive

Canaan Banana, the former Zimbabwean head of state found guilty of sodomy, fled to Botswana but may have already left the territory, a Botswana government spokesman said on Thursday.

A Zimbabwean court has issued a warrant for Banana's arrest after prosecutors said the 62-year-old cleric was seeking political asylum in neighboring Botswana. Banana was found guilty of 11 charges of sodomy, attempted sodomy and indecent assault on Thursday after a sensational five-month trial.

Ethiopia Accuses Eritrea of Stepping up Artillery Fire

Eritrea has stepped up artillery fire around the city of Adigrat, near the disputed border with Ethiopia, an Ethiopian military spokesman said.

Since the failure of peace negotiations in Ouagadougou, Eritrean artillery firing has intensified against civilian sites.

On November 7 and 8, an Organization of African Unity (OAU) mediating committee meeting in the Burkina Faso capital were unable to broker a ceasefire agreement.

Banks Lend Jordan \$110 Million

A consortium of 16 banks has extended a \$110 million syndicated loan to the Jordanian government. The hard currency loan, signed on Thursday Nov. 26 will be used to fund government projects in the 1999 budget which is due to be announced next month.

Watani Bank

For Trade & Investment

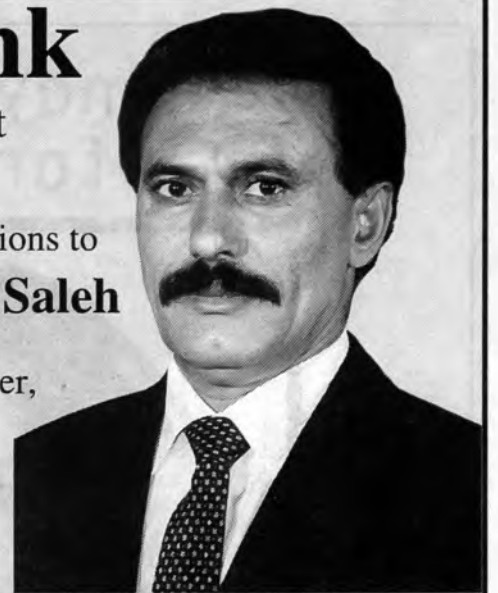
present its sincere wishes and congratulations to

President Ali Abdullah Saleh

and the Yemeni people on the occasion of 30th of November,

The anniversary of the independence of the southern part of Yemen, and the signing of the unification agreement.

Many Happy Returns to all



البنك الوطني

للتجارة والاستثمار

يتقدم

باصدق التهاني والتبريكات لفخامة

الرئيس علي عبدالله صالح

وإلى الشعب اليمني الأبي

بمناسبة ذكرى جلاء الاستعمار من المحافظات الجنوبية

وكذلك بمناسبة ذكرى توقيع اتفاقية الوحدة

وكل عام وأنتم بخير



30 نوفمبر NOVEMBER

Orbit Weekly Programs

<p>Disney Channel</p> <p>03 December 1998 1100 Sally Jessy Raphael 1400 E! News Week-End 2100 Unicef Concert</p> <p>4 December 1998 1300 Arthel & Fred 1400 E! Gossip Week-End 1900 Jeopardy</p> <p>05 December 1998 1500 E! Behind The Scenes 1730 Fashion TV 1930 Wheel of Fortune</p> <p>06 December 1998 1300 Sunshine Cuisine 1430 Uncut: Lily Tomlin 1500 True Hollywood Stories 1800 Travel Update</p> <p>30 November 1998 1710 Time - 2L 1900 Carpool - 2 2100 Curse of The Starving Class 3L</p> <p>01 December 1998 1500 Moonstruck - 2 1700 Grumpy Old Men - 2L 1900 The War Of The Buttons - 2L</p> <p>02 December 1998 1900 A Weekend In The Countr - 2L 2030 E! Extreme Close Up at 17:30 GMT 2100 Space Truckers - 2SVL</p> <p>Super Movies</p> <p>30 November 1998 1710 Time - 2L 1900 Carpool - 2 2100 Curse of The Starving Class 3L</p> <p>01 December 1998 1500 Moonstruck - 2 1700 Grumpy Old Men - 2L 1900 The War Of The Buttons - 2L</p> <p>02 December 1998 1900 A Weekend In The Countr - 2L 2030 E! Extreme Close Up at 17:30 GMT 2100 Space Truckers - 2SVL</p> <p>Space Truckers Wed. 2 at 2100 It's Deep Space in the year 2196 & solar trucker John Canyon (Dennis Hooper) is in the business of moving everything & anything, but when he falls foul of The Company, he's forced to take on the black market shipment of sealed containers in a desperate bid to save his business.</p> <p>03 December 1998 1500 Rosencrantz And Guildenstern Are Dead - 2 1900 All Lies End In Murder - 2VL 2100 CrissCross - 2SL</p>	<p>04 December 1998 1700 A Midwinter's Tale - 2L 1900 The Hunchback Of Notre Dame - 2V 2100 Dear God 2300 Cobb - 3SVL</p> <p>05 December 1998 1900 A Killer Among Us - 2V 2100 Dr. Jeckyll And Ms. Hyde - 2SL 2230 E! Coming Attractions at 19:30 GMT</p> <p>06 December 1998 1900 Twilight Zone- The Movie - 2 2100 The Living Daylights Double Exposure - 2V [Starts at 20:20] Goldeneye Double Exposure - 2SV</p> <p>Orbit News</p> <p>30 November 1998 1000 CBS Up to the Minute Live 1200 ABC World News Now Live 1330 ABC World News this Morning Live</p> <p>01 December 1998 1000 CBS Up to the Minute Live 1400 CBS Morning News Live 1430 NBC News at Sunrise Live 1500 NBC The Today Show Live</p> <p>02 December 1998 1500 NBC The Today Show Live 1700 CBS This Morning 1900 ABC Good Morning America 2100 NBC Dateline</p> <p>03 December 1998 1400 CBS Morning News Live 2200 ABC 20/20 2300 ABC Nightline</p> <p>04 December 1998 1500 NBC The Today Show Live 2100 NBC Dateline (evg) 2200 CBS 48 Hours (Thu)</p> <p>05 December 1998 1000 NBC Nightly News 1200 ABC 20/20 1300 CBS Evening News</p> <p>06 December 1998 1030 CBS Evening News 1330 NBC Nightly News 1400 CBS 48 Hours (Thu)</p>	<p>Orbit ESPN Sports</p> <p>30 November 1998 1500 Vintage Car World 1600 English Horse Racing - Haydock Park Live 2030 NFL Football: Denver Broncos at San Diego Chargers</p> <p>01 December 1998 1900 Sportcenter 2000 Golf 2130 Behind the Whistle</p> <p>02 December 1998 1400 NBA Basketball Utah Jazz at Phoenix Suns 1700 National Hockey Night Anaheim Mighty Ducks at Pittsburgh Penguins 2330 Gillette Sports Special</p> <p>03 December 1998 1600 College Basketball Kansas Kentucky 1800 College Basketball Duke Michigan State 2200 Latin Football Weekly</p> <p>04 December 1998 1230 World of Rugby 2700 W.U. World Soccer 2200 NFL Football: St Louis Rams at Philadelphia Eagles</p> <p>05 December 1998 1200 Sportcenter 1300 NBA Basketball Seattle Supersonics at Chicago Bulls 1630 Ajax Training Methods</p> <p>06 December 1998 1330 Sportcenter 1430 Barber Dodge Series 2100 Superstar Coaching 2130 Liga Live Teams Tba Live on air 1827</p> <p>Cinema City (new)</p> <p>01 November 1998 2000 The Pink Panther - 2 2100 Dr. No - 2V 2400 Coming Home - 3SL</p> <p>02 November 1998 1800 Stand And Deliver - 2L 2000 The Pink Panther Strikes</p>	<p>Again - 2 2200 Goldfinger - 2V</p> <p>03 November 1998 1810 Spies Like Us - 2L 2000 The Trail Of The Pink Panther 2200 The Manchurian Candidate - 2</p> <p>04 November 1998 1800 Clara's Heart - 2L 2000 The Curse Of The Pink Panther - 2 2200 In The Heat Of The Night - 2L</p> <p>The Great Train Robbery Fir. 4th Robbery 1979 The year is 1855 and the Crimean war is raging. The wages for the British troops on the front-line are shipped out of London in the form of gold bullion. Edward Pierce (Sean Connery) has a cunning plan to pull off the world's biggest heist, but has one big problem: the safe holding the bullion needs four keys to be opened & each key is guarded by a different man. Based on a real-life.</p> <p>05 November 1998 1400 Who's That Girl? - 2 1600 Stand And Deliver - 2L 2000 The Lost Boys - 3VL</p> <p>06 November 1998 1600 Swing Shift - 2L 1800 Alice - 2 2000 A Funny Thing Happened On The Way To The Forum - 2</p> <p>America Plus</p> <p>30 November 1998 1530 Babylon 5 1900 Highlander The Series: 2000 Moesha</p> <p>01 December 1998 1655 Lost On Earth 1720 Silver Spoons 2030 Newsradio</p> <p>02 December 1998 1835 High Society 2100 Early Edition 2300 Lush Life</p> <p>03 December 1998 1810 Vinnie and Bobby</p>	<p>1835 Daddy Dearest 1900 Love Boat: The Next Wave 2300 From the Earth to the Moon</p> <p>04 December 1998 2100 Party of Five 2200 Beverly Hills 90210 2300 Maximum Bob</p> <p>05 December 1998 2000 Caroline in the City 2030 Murphy Brown 2100 Anyday Now</p> <p>06 December 1998 1745 Moon over Miami 1835 High Society 2200 La Femme Nikita</p> <p>Fun Channel</p> <p>30 November 1998 2030 Reboot 2100 Love Boat 2150 Doris Day 2215 Two Drink Minimum</p> <p>01 December 1998 1330 New Adventures of Huck Finn 1355 Fat Albert & The Cosby Kids 1420 Tiny Toons</p> <p>02 December 1998 1600 Challenge of Superfriends 1625 Batman III 1650 Zorro</p> <p>03 December 1998 1700 Cattanooga Cats 1745 Lassie Rescue Rangers 1810 Superfriends 1900 TV Funnies</p> <p>04 December 1998 1745 Lassie Rescue Rangers 1810 Superfriends 1930 Benji, Zax & The Alien Prince</p> <p>05 December 1998 1305 Space Cadets & Young Samson 1330 New Adventures of Huck Finn 1445 Pinky & The Brain 1510 Freakazoid</p>	<p>06 December 1998 1420 Tiny Toons 1600 Challenge of Superfriends 1715 Yearling</p> <p>Music Now</p> <p>30 November 1998 0800 The Rush Hour 0900 Retro 1900 Mediterranean 2100 Awtar</p> <p>01 December 1998 1100 Vital Soul 1500 Cosmix 1700 Dandana 1900 Mediterranean</p> <p>02 December 1998 1500 Cosmix 1700 Dandana 1900 Mediterranean</p> <p>03 December 1998 1100 Ultra Violet 1300 "360" Degrees Tom Petty 1500 Conwith/chainreaction#2</p> <p>04 December 1998 1200 Indimage 1300 American Chart Show 1400 R.s.v.p. 1600 Egos And Icons Depeche Mode</p> <p>05 December 1998 1500 Cosmix 1700 Dandana 1900 Mediterranean</p> <p>06 December 1998 1200 Rock Raiq 2100 Awtar 2300 Music Now Jukebox</p>
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علي عبدالله صالح

بمناسبة ذكرى الثلاثين من نوفمبر، ذكرى جلاء الاستعمار من المحافظات الجنوبية والشرقية
وبمناسبة الذكرى التاسعة لتوقيع اتفاقية الوحدة اليمنية
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الرئيس علي عبدالله صالح

وإلى حكومة الدكتور عبدالكريم الارياني

وإلى الشعب اليمني الأبني

بمناسبة ذكرى جلاء الاستعمار من المحافظات الجنوبية والشرقية
وكذلك بمناسبة الذكرى التاسعة لتوقيع اتفاقية الوحدة

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نوفمبر
NOVEMBER 30



Yemeni Press in a Week

by: Sameer Farawna



AL BALAGH
Sanaa, weekly 24/11/98
(Independent)

Main Headlines

-The Labor Ministry is currently seeking to create around 24,000 job opportunities through the establishment of 800 local projects, according to that Ministry's Undersecretary.

-An explosion Saturday last week targeted an oil pipeline in Serwah, Marib 180 kilometers to the east of Sanaa, according to official sources who declined to give further details on any casualties or damages.

-A number of Yemeni journalists have formed a committee to defend their rights due to the absence of a capable syndicate.



ATTAGAMMU
Aden, weekly 23/11/98
(Yemeni Unitary Congregation)

A Kidnap in Broad Daylight

In the first incident of its kind in the governorate, a businessman in Aden was kidnapped Friday before last in broad daylight. The man, Abdul Hakim Hussein Shamsan, was on his way home in Khormaksar after offering his Friday prayers when a car obstructed his own. Three armed men got out of the car and threatened his four kids with their machine guns which forced him to go with them.

Family of Shamsan informed the police which summoned his brother-in-law, who was driving the kidnapped's car, for investigation and as an eye-witness.

A relative of Shamsan said that an anonymous caller phoned the following day saying that the kidnapped was in Marib and in good health.

His family sent messages to various officials appealing for

their help in securing Shamsan's release and punishing those involved.



AL MEETHAQ
Sanaa, weekly 23/11/98
(People's General Conference)

Main Headlines

-The Security Director of Aden governorate Brig. Mohammed Saleh Tareeq has denied a press report by a Yemeni weekly that a bomb near the entrance of the Aden television channel was found and dismantled.

-The government has provided 10 million Yemeni Rials as assistance to the Yemeni Socialist Party for the convening of its fourth general conference.

-Minister of Trade and Supplies Abdul Aziz Al Kumaim has denied presence of any wheat shortage in the country as speculated by a number of partisan papers.

-The PGC's political department head Abdul Aziz Al Hamadany has hoped that the YSP's coming general conference would end that party's isolation which it imposed on itself through boycotting the general elections.



ATTARIQ
Aden, weekly 24/11/98
(Independent)

Main Headlines

-A big increase in prices of oil by-products is expected in Yemen in the coming two months, according to domestic sources who added that the increase will range between 30 to 40 percent.

-Eight Taiwanese fishing boats have fled the Yemeni regional waters without paying their dues in return for fishing in Aden waters with 12 Yemeni marine observers on board.

-Internet tariffs in Yemen have been slashed between 25% to 75% according to monthly or annual subscription as of October

this year, according to Internet Observer in Tele-Yemen Khaled Mohammed Al Dhahbani.



AL RAI AL AAM
Sanaa, weekly 24/11/98
(Independent)

Main Headlines

-The Attorney General has directed Aden and Hodeidah police departments to investigate the marketing of expired peach cans in Yemeni markets.

-Owners of the Sanaa Sheraton Hotel have recently tried to sell it to the Yemeni government which declined to give an answer.

-Inhabitants of Odein, Ibb governorate have complained of the deteriorating security situation in their area which witnessed a third killing incident, without no apparent motive, in the past few weeks.

Saudi Arabia Establishes Two New Emirates on Yemeni Lands

An Article Summary

Reliable sources told Al Rai Al Aam that the Saudi authorities have established two emirates near Al Kharakheer border point. They added that one of them was called "Al Ahqaf" to which a sheikh from Al Mahra governorate was appointed as ruler while the second was called "Tareem" and a sheikh from Hadhramaut was nominated its ruler.

Eye-witnesses said that the Saudi authorities have supplied the ruler of Al Ahqaf with heavy, medium and light weapons and earmarked a huge budget for the formation of an army to that emirate to serve as a leading battalion for the Saudi army.

The paper learnt that citizens from Al Mahra and Hadhramaut governorates were joining military camps in Al Ahqaf and were receiving between 2500 to 4000 Saudi Rials as monthly salaries.

None of the officials the paper contacted wished to give information denying or affirming the news.

It is worth mentioning that the emirates of Jizzan and Aseer are Yemeni regions.



AL HAQ
Sanaa, weekly 29/11/98
(Independent)

Main Headlines

-Several Arab immigrants living in Latin American countries, who are suspected of being members of terrorist organizations, were carrying forged Yemeni passports.

-A father of nine children in Hodeidah committed suicide ten days ago due to his worsening living conditions.

-Passengers from the southern and eastern governorates crossing the Sanaa military check point in Yeslah mountain complain of its soldiers uncivilized practices, including bodily checkup and scrutinizing their personal belongings.



AL SHOURA
Sanaa, weekly 22/11/98
(Federation of Popular Forces)

Main Headlines

-A specialized psycho-analyst has affirmed that 90% of the total Yemeni population are suffering from one kind or another of psychological disturbance.

-A religious scholar Dr. Al Murtadha bin Zaid Al Mahtouri was released after almost two months in jail for allegedly attacking the September 26 revolution.

-Amnesty International, in a recent report, mentioned Yemen among other countries which executed sentences against underage children.

-A number of MPs, while discussing the 1999 state budget, charged that the government's policy was leading to famine and that many were seeking food in garbage dumps.

Yemen Surveys Hunaish

An Article Summary

A Technical team, including British and Italian along with a number of Yemeni cadres, left the port of Mocha ten days ago to the Hunaish island.

The team is to hold technical and field studies on navigation routes, winds, weather and determining scuba diving areas for tourists in addition to topographic maps.

In a related development, the Yemeni government has asked the U.N. to translate articles of the arbitration ruling on the Hunaish Archipelago.

The Deputy Foreign Minister Abdullah Al-Sa'idi said that the government will pay for the translation. He further belittled importance of the islands which were awarded to Eritrea.



26 SEPTEMBER
Sanaa, weekly 26/11/98
(Yemeni Armed Forces)

Main Headlines

-The Commander of the American Central Command forces is to visit Yemen during the coming month of January to bolster bilateral cooperation in

military fields.

-The Military Hospital is to witness a qualitative leap in its services following recent expansions in medical cadres and equipment enabling it to hold operations that were formerly not made in Yemen.

-Around 40,000 children will take part in the big carnival that is to be held on the 30th November in Aden to commemorate the 31st anniversary of Independence Day.

-First phase of the Free Zone in Aden is to commence working on March 18 next year.



AL JAMAHEER
Sanaa, weekly 26/11/98
(Arab Ba'ath Socialist Party)

Main headlines

-Saudi authorities last Wednesday deported eight kids from one Yemeni family at the pretext of being illegally residing in the kingdom while their parents remained there.

-World Bank committee members were shot at in Khamer, Sanaa province but no casualties were reported. The WB car types were punctured after the committee founded a water project in the same village.

-The Yemeni Journalists Syndicate has described the Saudi press campaign against Yemeni papers as "childish" and "irrational".

الاسبوع

AL OSBO'
Sanaa, weekly

26/11/98

(Independent)

Main Headlines
-Yemen has obtained UN approval to sell six Iraqi oil tankers that have been anchored at Aden port since 1990.

-Sources in the government and opposition have affirmed the failure of the Saudi Interior Minister's recent visit to Yemen.

-The new budget is to rely more on non-oil revenues and at the same time avoid burdening the population with more taxes, according to the government's financial statement.

-Last week, Yemeni security authority launched an arrest campaign among members of a number of Arab opposition elements residing in the country including nationals from Sudan, Iraq, Eritrea and Egypt.

-A Yemeni tribal Sheikh accused Saudi Arabia of perpetrating the booby-trapped car explosion which rocked the outside walls of his house in Hadda last week due to his stand vis-a-vis the Saudi-Yemeni border dispute.

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Ahli Concludes Training in Asmara

On concluding its training camp in Eritrea, the Ahli of Sanaa football team defeated the Adolis, one of the best Eritrean teams, 2-nil. The match was attended by the Yemeni charge d'affair embassy staff in Asmara; Amin Siraj, an Eritrean sports official and a crowd of Yemen fans living in Eritrea. Ahli players kept on striking the goal area of the Adolis team.

During the first half, Adel Al-Salimi scored the first goal for Yemen. In the 30th minute of the second half, Al-Salimi scored the second goal. Adolis's players tried to attack our goal all the time, but our defenders kept them off until the end of the match. Ahli came back home ready to participate in the excellent-division tournament.

Four Professional Athletes in Qatar

Al-Wakra club of Qatar has made contracts with four players of the National Junior Athletics team in order to participate in forthcoming Arab and national championships. The four players have recently returned to Yemen after repre-

sending Al-Wakra in the Qatar athletics championship of 1998. Nabil Al-Soufi, Alaa Al-Saqqaf, Sami Al-Saqqaf and Nabil Mohammed Abdulqader participated in the 200m race. They came in third and won bronze medals.

Ahli Wins SYC

The Sanaa Youth Championship (SYC), for 19-year-olds, was organized by the Football Association in Sanaa. Al-Zohra, Al-Ahli, Al-Majid, Al-Qadisiya and the Police teams took part. Al-Wahda, Al-Shaab and Al-Yarmook teams withdrew before the championship started. Al-Ahli and Al-Zohra tied 1-1 last Thursday, November 26. Ahmed Al-Sunidar scored Al-

Ahli's at the 37th minute of the second half. Later Al-Zohra got its tie goal by Mohammed Al-Manbah. Had Al-Zohra won this match, it would have won the championship. It is left with one match with Al-Qadisiya, which has no points at all. So, Al-Ahli is set to win the SYC before it plays the last match.

International Weightlifting Coaches Course Concluded

The international weightlifting coaches course which was held at the Yemeni Olympic Center was concluded on Thursday, November 26 with a ceremony at the Ministry of Youth & Sports. Mr. Hassan Al-Khawlani, the ministry advisor, expressed his gratitude and happiness for the qualifying of a good number of Yemeni coaches from different governorates. Dr. Abdul-Jalil, Chairman of the

Yemeni Weightlifting Association, stated that this sport should get all the support it needs to improve to the desired level. The international lecturer, Mr. Sameer Hanna, the course lecturer stated: "The improvement of this game requires proper facilities and support". At the end of the ceremony, several participants from Sanaa, Aden, Lahej, and Abyan were honored.

Hodeidah Wins Republic's Gymnastic Championship

The Republic's Gymnastic championship was concluded at the indoor stadium of the Youth Complex in Hodeida. The participant teams were from Sanaa, Hodeida and Taiz. Mr. Hayel Mohammed Hizam, Chairman of the Yemeni Gymnastic Association and Director of the Youth and Sports Office in Hodeida, and other officials attended the closing ceremony. The final results were as follow:

Hodeida	First	93.4 points
Sanaa	Second	91.9 points
Taiz	Third	37.4 points

The juniors final results were as follows:

Ibrahim Abdullah	Hodeidah	First
Rawf Kassem	Hodeidah	Second
Abdullah Al-Rimai	Sanaa	Third

The Adults final results:

Nashwan Al-Harazi	Sanaa	First
Fuad Al-Zabidi	Sanaa	Second
Bander Hassan	Hodeidah	Third

The singles championship was also won by Hodeidah. This shows that this game has all the basic requirements in this coastal governorate to improve and develop.

Shaab Ibb Champion of Volleyball & Table Tennis

After winning all matches, helped by its young participants such as Hani Al-Shwafi, Hussam Saif and Abdullah Al-Sahbani, the Shaab Ibb won the governorate's Table Tennis championship.

In the final, Shaab Ibb defeated Shaab Jibla 3-nil. This qualifies Shaab Ibb to represent Ibb governorate at the governorate's tournament, which will be held in Sanaa in mid-December.

In volleyball, Shaab Ibb is topping the first stage chart, after winning all their matches. By winning the second stage they will become the governorate's champions.

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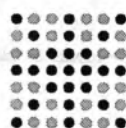
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Budding Polish Artist Inspired by Yemen



Miss Karolina Romanska, 14, first came to Yemen in 1997 when her parents were assigned a post at the Polish Embassy here. She currently goes to the Sanaa International School. Drawing and painting are her passion, in addition to other hobbies - dancing and singing.

used to draw all over my short story books. However, my family does not recall me drawing on the walls or cupboards.

Q: What made you interested in drawing in the first place?

A: Not till I was ten, did I realise that I loved to draw. Before that I used to simply take a pencil and make shapes on a piece of paper, but later I started looking over my work and correcting my errors. I became immensely interested in the Japanese drawing style, Manga. I watched a lot of cartoons, and drew what I saw. Eventually forming a good photographic memory, I learned to draw the correct shapes and sizes of the human body, objects, animals and plants. However, I'm not sure what started my interest in drawing. It was probably the dream of becoming a celebrated cartoonist, and creating my own animated movies.

Q: What do you like to draw, people or scenery?

A: My favorite subject is anything, as long as I want to draw it. If it is obligatory that I draw something I don't feel like drawing. The picture then comes out bad.

Interview by Mohammed Bin Sallam of Yemen Times.

Q: When did you start drawing?

A: I can't remember a time when I haven't drawn. It feels as if I was born doing it, and as if it were in my blood. I do remember that I



Q: What are your impressions of Yemen, the country and the people?

A: Yemen is amazing, in every way. The people here can be so good to you that it



sometimes makes you wonder about their existence. What I mean is, they don't hesitate to help. I have been in a situation when my dog ran away. He leaped into the road, a Yemeni man just lifted him and carried him to me. I was surprised at the man's action, since Muslims usually dislike having contact with dogs. He just helped me, and I was very happy.

Q: Is Yemen interesting from an artist's point of view?

A: Yemen is a painter's Paradise. There is so much here that could be captured on paper. Also, the mountains can give terrific ideas about the settings of SiFi and Fantasy stories. The buildings and monuments provide the artist with great inspiration. Yemen

has a lot to give to an artist.

Q: How do you compare Yemen with Poland?

A: Comparing Yemen with Poland is rather difficult. First of all, Yemen is a Muslim country, whereas Poland is a Christian one. The culture of these two countries vary immensely, due to centuries of different experience. Nevertheless, both nations try to be as nice and friendly to foreigners as possible, and both have their inner problems.

Q: Would you like to add anything else?

A: I would only like to add that I hope I will make good use of everything Yemen has to offer.



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