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World Bank Country Manager to YT:

“Yemen needs to move more aggressively to reduce corruption”

MOHAMMED AL-QADHI
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Sana'a, Sep 27 - The World Bank Country Manager in Yemen, Robert Hindle, said that corruption in Yemen is one of the most serious challenges to development and improving of living standard of people. He demanded in an exclusive interview with Yemen Times that the government should move much more aggressively to fight corruption, encouraging the private sector to invest inside Yemen by providing a good environment and security as well as improving governance at large. He also said that the WB and donors are satisfied with the performance of the government, mainly after Paris meeting for donors. However, he stressed that there must be a move from satisfactory to high quality performance. Mr. Hindle also said that Yemen should prioritize improving education and health care, as well as change the conception of the people of the purpose of civil service.

More on page 5



According to Mr. Robert Hindle (shown), the World Bank wishes that the government exert more effort in continuing the administrative and financial reforms urgently and badly needed to have Yemen move out of its stagnancy. Photo by M. Al-Qadhi, Yemen Times.

Saudi hands over tanker attack suspects to Yemen

SANA'A, Sept 24 (Reuters) - Saudi Arabia on Wednesday handed over nine Yemeni detainees, some of them wanted for the bombing of a French oil supertanker last year, a Yemeni official said. Saudi Arabia and Yemen are boosting security cooperation to battle al Qaeda — which is blamed for the September 11, 2001 attacks on U.S. cities and for the bombings

of the U.S. warship Cole and the French supertanker Limburg in Yemeni waters in 2000 and 2002. “The nine suspects held by Saudi Arabia, including some wanted for the Limburg attack, were extradited to Yemen in the framework of our security cooperation,” the security official told Reuters. The two Arab neighbors have handed over

a number of suspected militants in recent months. The attack on the French supertanker killed one crew member. Saudi Arabia, birthplace of al Qaeda leader Osama bin Laden, and Yemen, his ancestral home, have been the scene of frequent attacks by Islamic militants and clashes with security forces.

Demands to bring justice to the case of Jarallah Omar's assassination continue

Calls rise to stop using extremists against politicians

SANA'A, September 28, (YT)—The National Authority (NA) concerned with the follow-up of the assassination of the late Jarallah Omar, Assistant Secretary-General, demanded Saturday that a comprehensive, fair, and independent investigation into the case should be made to reveal the accomplices of the assassin Ali Jarallah who was sentenced to death mid-September. The NA considered in a press statement the court verdict as invalid and baseless as it did not pay any attention to the right of Jarallah's family which demanded that the case should be returned to the prosecution for further investigations.

The statement said that some parts of the file of investigation with the assassin presented by the Political Security Organization (PSO) were missing and that there were no files for the confiscated materials.

Continued on page 3

As a result of rapacious policemen in Taiz:

Ruthless murder

BY EMAD AL-SAQQAF
YT BUREAU CHIEF
TAIZ & HODIEDAH

Taiz, Sept. 27_ Two people were killed and another was injured when a policeman working for to the local council at Annashama district, Taiz governorate opened fire on them on September, 25.

The two killed people, Alezi Mohammed Alwan, a banana peddler and Nabeel al-Bukari, a restaurant owner had brought a complaint before the local council explain-

ing the unjust practices and daily threats by the by the policeman Abdullah al-Anesi.

Al-Anesi used to blackmail those peddlers and vendors and trade shop owners at the district center.

Al-Anesi used to collect taxes without even giving them official receipts. When Al-Ezzi and al-Bukari came out of the council's premises, the killer pointed his weapon directly and shot them dead.

Ahmed and Watheeq al-Bukari, brothers of the two killed people told the Yemen Times that they didn't know why they had been killed. “We hold the local council and the district's security responsible for the incident,” they said.

The killer used to work at the local council and also previously convicted of killing his wife.

On his part, the secretary general of the local council, Mr. Ebrahim Shukri has denied that he has decided to orally agreed with the convict. He also emphasized that he had objected his appointment.

Continued on page



Vehicle riddled with fatal bullets

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The Omega Museum Collection, limited Edition 2002
This second model in the OMEGA Museum Collection is a new edition of the 1951 OMEGA Cosmic watch with multiple calendar functions, brought up to date using the latest in watchmaking technology. Case, bezel, crown and buckle are in 18 ct. red gold; domed, scratch-resistant sapphire crystal with anti-reflective treatment on the inside; domed dial with applied OMEGA logo and faceted hour markers. Two small windows above the centre of the dial display the day and month, whilst diamond-polished Alpha hands indicate the hour, minute and date on a scale around the edge of the dial, with a small seconds counter at 6 o'clock, the upper part of which contains the moon phase display. The OMEGA Cosmic uses the OMEGA calibre 2601 self-winding Piguet movement. It is a double-barrel movement that offers an impressive power reserve of 72 hours and has an exclusive finish with circular graining, rhodium-plated surfaces, Geneva wave decoration and gold plated engravings. Production is limited to 1951 numbered watches.
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Assassination attempt against editor-in-chief failed

Sana'a, Sept. 27_ Editor-in-Chief of Arrai Al-Aam, (Public Opinion), Mr. Kamal al-Uloufi had on Sept. 22 come under an attempted assassination by policemen affiliated to the Yemen Gas Company, a statement issued by National Organization for Defending Human Rights mentioned last week.

The policemen, according to the statement, fabricated a problem with a journalist accompanying the editor in chief. Unexpectedly, policemen start-

ed shooting fire against him. He was then taken to the May 22 police station. His car was also pierced with shots on different sides.

"This incident represents an attempt for a premeditated murder as well as suppressing the journalists' freedom as well as terrorizing them due their opinions and stances," the statement said.

The statement has also called for an immediate investigation and the criminals have to be brought to justice.

Lufthansa celebrates resumption of flights in Yemen

Sanaa, Sep 27 - On the occasion of the re-launchings of its flights to and from Yemen, Lufthansa (German Airlines) held a press conference yesterday at the Sheraton Hotel and celebrated this occasion, which coincided with Yemen's national holidays (26 September, 14 October) and German's National Day (3 October). The event signaled an opportunity to consolidate Yemen-German relations and open new cooperation horizons in tourism, business, and many other fields.



"All flights are via Cairo and are served with the Airbus A330 inclusive Business and Economy Classes."

This comes as Lufthansa earned a double distinction at the presentation of the Airline Strategy Awards this year. Lufthansa Chairman and CEO Jürgen Weber received the Airline Business Award in recognition of his lifetime achievement.

Mr. Thomas Prieni, the media spokesman of the German company has expressed his delight for the return of the flights and pledged to bring the well-known international quality standards of Lufthansa within the reach of all customers in Yemen.

"Lufthansa had resumed its flights in early August and currently operates three roundtrip flights thrice a week," he said.

Mr. Thomas said that he is hopeful that the tourism industry in the country will develop and grow gradually and mentioned that the resumption of Lufthansa flights is a step towards achieving greater connection between Yemen and the world.

Renewable energy and seminar to be held in Hudeidah

Sana'a, Sept. 27_ On the occasion of celebrations marking the 41st anniversary of September 26 revolution, Hudeidah governorate hosts on Tuesday 30 September the two-day "First Renewable Energy Seminar and Exhibition"

The seminar is to be held under auspices of the Governor of Hudeidah Mohammed Saleh Shamlan at the Tehama Development Authority hall. The seminar discusses many premises, most important among them are the role of solar energy in solving problems of drinking pumping water in rural areas, role of media in the process of spreading awareness about the importance of the use of renewable energy as an alternative to traditional energy, future of Yemen and alternatives of solar energy, the importance of renewable energy in protection of environment. Various agencies and institutions are contributing with working papers and presentations on rural development and renewable energy topics. Working papers would be presented at the seminar by Tehama Development Authority, Ministry of Electricity, Ministry of Communications and Technology, Technical Supplies Center, the General Authority for Environment Protection and the UNDP.

On the sidelines of the seminar an exhibition would be held for supplies consisting equipment and systems on lighting houses, water pumping equipment and systems of propeller generators and systems of spare current.

Fourth orphan festival held in Taiz

By FARUQ MOQBIL, TAIZ BUREAU
YEMEN TIMES

Taiz, Sep 27 - The Islah Social Welfare Association held on Thursday 25 September the fourth Orphan Festival in Aden amid the presence of Governor of Taiz Qadhi Ahmed Abdullah Al-Hajri along with Qadhi Ali Abdullah Al-Jamra the head of the Taiz Court of Appeals and Mr. Shawqi Ahmed Hayel representing the Hayel Saeed Anaam Group of Companies, plus Mr. Abdullah Abdo Al-Muhammadi, the General Secretary of the association's Taiz branch.

Mr. Al-Muhammadi gave a welcome speech in which he mentioned the achievements of the association's Taiz branch in successfully accomplishing several welfare projects since the association was established in 1993.

Twenty projects have been implemented by the association in education, health, emergency aid, development, and social prosperity in the governorate.

According to Mr. Al-Muhammadi, more than 55,000 citizens benefited from the activities and projects of the association. "The number of orphans that are taken care of by the association has also reached 2,800 orphan children," he said.

The festival was attended by hundreds of Yemenis coming from the governorate of Taiz and from the whole country. Among the guests of the festival was Member of the Parliament Abdulrahman Qahtan.

The association also received a large number of applications of those who wish to volunteer in support of the association's activities.



Readers' Voice

THIS WEEK'S QUESTION:

Has Yemen become a safer place since the government started its war on terror?

- Yes definitely,
- The conditions remain the same
- Things have gone worse

LAST WEEK'S QUESTION:

Do you think that George W Bush's appeal to the United Nations to be involved in Iraq is convincing?

- No, on the contrary it made me feel that the UN shouldn't be involved. 45%
- Yes, it truly is, and I believe UN should give support. 35%
- It didn't do a lot to change the opinion of the skeptical. 20%

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The British Foreign & Commonwealth Chevening Scholarship Scheme



British Embassy
Sana'a

The British Embassy invites applications for the Foreign & Commonwealth Office's **Chevening Scholarship Scheme**. This highly-competitive scheme offers full-time postgraduate scholarships of varying length to Yemeni women and men who will play a key role in promoting Yemen's political, economic & social development.

Applicants, who must be under 40, should have a university degree and very good written and spoken English. Candidates will be selected on the basis of their potential and motivation to rise to positions of authority.

Spouses and children are not funded under the scheme.

The deadline for applications is **10 November 2003**.

The application form and full information are available on line from the British Council web site:

www.britishcouncil.org/yemen

or can be posted upon request by calling: 448356/7/8/9. Applications are to be submitted only by mail to PO Box 2157, Sana'a.

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Indian embassy celebrates ITEC Day

BY MOHAMMED BIN SALLAM
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

The Indian embassy on Monday gave a reception party at Taj Saba Hotel on celebration of ITEC Day attended by a host of officials, diplomats and journalists.

In his address Mr. P.O Bagagi, the Indian Charge d'Affaires said "The Indian Technical & Economic Cooperation (ITEC) Program is borne out of India's commitment to South-South cooperation. ITEC as well as SCAAP (Special Commonwealth African Assistance Program, meant for African countries) are the instruments through which India enhances, on a bilateral basis, technical and economic cooperation with other developing countries around the world. Both the ITEC and SCAAP programs are fully funded by the government of India experts on a grant basis. The ITEC program covers areas such as deputation of India experts abroad, pilot projects, feasibility studies, consultancy services and short-term training courses for foreign trainees in various Indian institutions to enhance their professional skills. At present, more than 141 countries across the world (including Russia) are covered by the ITEC and SCAAP programs."

About the ITEC relation with Yemen, he said "The history of collaboration with Yemen under the ITEC program is

very old. Yemeni nationals have been receiving training under ITEC in the following major fields: computer, oil flow measurement, income generation activities for rural women, audit, rural development, computer hardware/software, food processing, fertilizer quality control, etc."

He said further "ITEC scheme is one of the programs of cooperation in the field of human resources development. Regrettably, during the year 2001-2002 and 2002-2003, these ITEC slots were not fully utilized and during the current year, Yemeni requests for such courses are not overwhelming-which may gain lead to under-utilization of earmarked slots. It is worth mentioning here that during the years 2001 and 2002, India was a No. 1 important Yemeni product and India was one of the largest exporters of goods to Yemen. We have done analysis of about 200 items, in 46 items India was the first and largest exporter of goods to Yemen and in 73 items India was second or third largest exporter of goods and in 81 remaining items, India was fourth or plus exporter of goods. Total bilateral trade between India and Yemen during the year 2002 was to the tune of 780 million dollars."

He concluded saying "I have great pleasure to inform you all, that the 5th Session of the India-Yemen Joint Committee Meeting and Indo-Yemen Joint Business Council meetings are scheduled to be held in Sana'a during



From Left: Mr. O.P. Bajaj; Charge d'Affaires of India, Mr. Abdullah Ali Jubari; Deputy Minister of Technical Education and Vocational Training, Mr. Omar bin Abdul Aziz; Director General for bilateral cooperation with states of Asia and Australia in the Ministry of Planning; Mr. Fadi Abbas Al-Wazir



(L-R) Mohammed bin Sallam, Mr. Abdulrahman Al-Dhabali, Dr. Esam Al-Mahbashi

the last week of the year 2003. India might organize "India Enterprise Show" in Sana'a and possibly in Aden

also during that period. Two delegations may further cement the bonds between India and Yemen"

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Double & single tennis title holders announced

Sana'a, Sept. 27_ Under the sponsorship of the Ministry of Youth & Sports, the First Championship for the Ground Tennis concluded its sport activities on September 25 at the Police Officers Club Courts in Sana'a.

The championship started on September 17 has coincided with the Yemeni anniversaries of September and October Revolutions.

Around 28 tennis players took part in the tennis championship.

The tennis single final match was

represented by two tennis professional players, Mr. Waleed al-Fusail and Nabeel Mezwad.

Al-Fusail is the champion of match against his contest, 6/4, 2/6, 6/4.

While the double tennis winners are Abdulmalik Suraih and Shareef Abdulaziz.

Following the match, the double and single winners received their prizes, which include golden and silver cups and medals.

During the match, a very strong and

competitive match was shown by the players who are full of energy and enthusiasm that could captured the minds of viewers.

The championship was organized by the Yemen Tennis Federation and supported by the Hael Saeed Ana'am Group of Companies, (Nateco), the Arab Bank, the International Bank of Yemen and supervised by the Competition Committee which includes, Ahmed Assadeq, Lutf Athurrah, Abdulkareem al-Marwani,

Abdulmaleq al-Haimi and Waleed al-Fusail.

The closing ceremony was attended by Brigadier General, Dr. Rashad al-Alimi, the Interior Minister and the Chairman of General Federation For Ground Tennis, Dr. Abdullah Abdulwali Nasher, a member of the Shura Council, the Omani Ambassador to Yemen, Mr. Ali Abdullah Ali Arredha, Brigadier Mohammed Assermi, Mr. Abdulhameed Assaedi, the General Director of Clubs and Federations at the Ministry of Youths and Sport, athletes, media representatives and a host of others.



Mr. Waleed, Single Tennis Winner

Continued from page 1

Ruthless murder

As for the person who has employed him to collect taxes from peddlers, "The cleanliness and improvement fund has to be held accountable for making contract with him," he remarked.

Locals at the area have expressed their resentment of the incident, because innocent people were killed. This has reminded them of the tyrannical and unjust rule of Imam and the colonizers.

This crime has created a sense of resentment and anger among the residents in Annashama district. They have expressed surprise at appointing people in an illegal way.

"A large amount of money used to be collected everyday and the local council

receives YR. 10,000," locals said. Other incidents in Taiz City had occurred during the last few weeks. Among those incidents committed by municipality policemen are the chasing peddlers.

Two people were killed but the security body kept silent. Those peddlers have no doubt fallen prey to the rapacious municipality employees who usually rob them of their little earnings. These afflicted individuals are the hapless victims of destiny. They could do nothing but to take up this activity, especially in such deplorable economic conditions they have no control over.

To make things worse, those supposed to help them are the very ones who suppress them.

The municipality body represented by its institutions should have planned out policies to relieve their suffering and

improve their conditions not to do the otherwise.

Consequently, the number of those resorting to the streets adopting this activity has increased tremendously.

It is not an exaggeration that those in charge are able to help relieve these people suffering and protect them against these greedy employees who are deprived of any sense of humanity. For besides the fines arbitrarily imposed on them, they have to appease and bribe these employees every now and then.

The difficulties to find other job opportunities have made these people cling fast to this activity, as it is the only way to earn livelihood.

Many others are from different villages that are crushed by poverty. Under such conditions those peddlers tend to do any kind of job that makes them more vulnerable to abuse.

ed to court and should be held accountable for his personal acts.

The member of the NA said that the judiciary is not independent and is all the time influenced by the authorities. He cited an example of the corruption of the judiciary that the NA has not yet received the court verdict officially because they have to pay YR 5,000 for the writer of the court.

The NA said that there is a great support from Arab and international human rights and political organizations to the demands of the NA. Among these organizations is the Human Rights Watch which already demanded the Yemeni government to re-investigate into the assassination.

Calls rise to stop using extremists against politicians

It also pointed out that the issuance of the verdict would help terrorists to continue their terrorist attacks against politicians, intellectuals, writers and opinion makers. It urged all human rights activists all over the world to exercise pressure on the Yemeni authorities to return the case to the prosecution for comprehensive investigations in the presence of political parties and family of Jarallah

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محاور المؤتمر العربي الثامن للثروة المعدنية:

- المحور الأول: الواقع الحالي لقطاع الثروة المعدنية ومتطلبات تطويره
- المحور الثاني: الترويج للمشروعات المعدنية وتطوير التشريعات المنجمية وفرص الاستثمار في القطاع المعدني.
- المحور الثالث: نظرة مستقبلية حول اقتصاديات الخامات المعدنية في ضوء تحولات التجارة الدولية.
- المحور الرابع: استخدام التقنيات الحديثة للبحث العلمي التطبيقي في تنمية القطاع المعدني.
- المحور الخامس: الطرق الحديثة للحد من الآثار السلبية للصناعات المنجمية على المحيط البيئي.

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Robert Hindle to YT:

“It is important for Yemen to tackle the whole broad area of governance”

Mohammed al-Qadhi
Yemen Times Staff



Robert Hindle

The World Bank Country Manager, Robert E. Hindle, said the WB and IMF have been happy with the economic and administrative reform package implemented by the government of Yemen since 1995 with the help of the WB and the International Monetary Fund. Since donors granted Yemen over \$2 billion in the last meeting in Paris the performance of the government has been satisfactory. “We are satisfied with what has been done by the government but there is a lot to do. We can say that Yemen is on track but we, the WB, and the donors as a group, also want to continue to press the government to take more specific decisions like improving what we call governance, openness, consistency in decision. We want the government to focus on the education system with visibility; we would like to see the government moves much more aggressively to privatize instant firms. We think it is important for the government to do is to move from what is satisfactory performance to high quality performance,” he elaborated.

Corruption tracks down development

He described corruption in Yemen as a serious and pervasive problem hindering living standards of the people. “It is difficult for me to assess whether corruption is going up or down. I can tell as an outsider we certainly know that Yemen’s reputation for corruption is a serious problem,” he pointed out clearly, adding, “so there is no way that Yemen will improve the lives of people without taking action to reduce corruption. It needs to move more aggressively to reduce corruption,” he said. He said that the WB experience around the world demonstrates that successful governments must eliminate corruption and that “it is important for Yemen to tackle the whole broad area of governance because corruption is not just whether or not people are taking money; it is making sure that newspapers are able to report what is happening, making sure that the government publishes information about the budgets; it is ensuring that the people of Yemen have information about what is going on.” Therefore, he emphasized the vitality of the role of media in the economic growth.

Mr. Hindle said also that he heard many stories about the corruption of the judiciary system as the WB is not involved in it directly. However, he showed great interest in helping the government in this important sector if it asks for that.

Government handles easy decisions

He said that the government is doing excellent with easy decisions like budget, exchange rate, inflation. But the people at the top can not take decisions when it comes to the most difficult things like delivering of services to people, teachers in schools...etc. Hindle cited an example saying that a Yemeni friend of him told him how difficult it is to get a drive license. He said lower down these easy decisions all the implementations of those things are “thwarted by the way the civil service frankly functions.” Hindle demanded that the conception of Yemenis of the purpose of civil service should change, something which he believes is one of the great challenges for the country, pointing out that “there is not yet in Yemen the sense that the purpose of the civil service is to deliver services and help people; Most Yemenis think simply of the civil service an income supplement, it provides basic but low level of income.” The government, according to Hindle, has a problem now because if it starts cutting the size of the civil service, the private sector is not able to provide jobs and the last thing the government wants to do, which the WB does not recommend, is to throw people out of the government into the streets and make them even poorer, according to Hindle. Therefore, he again stressed on the absolute vitality of improving the environment for the private sector to invest money in Yemen instead of going abroad. However, Hindle believes that there has been something laudable being

done in the civil service recently. “I have to say throughout the past three months, in fact, a number of decisions have been taken to move ahead on civil service reform. We have a sense that the government is paying a lot of attention to it,” he said.

Improving governance

The WB, Hindle said, is working to help Yemen improve the level of governance at large, and accordingly reducing corruption. “We are constantly talking to the ministers we deal with about how important it is to improve the overall governance. We are then providing specific assistance to improve what we call the transparency of the budget so that the people of Yemen will know how much money comes to the government and where does it go. We are working with the ministry of civil service and insurance to try to improve the delivery of services,” he said. However, he admitted that the last point is difficult because it involves raising salaries, retraining civil servants. The WB is also working with the High Tender Board to improve bidding regulation and imake sure that the way government contracts are given is done honestly, competitively and fairly.” It also has special effort along with the IMF to try to improve the customs service.

Worries about the future

Hindle said that the WB has worries about the future, of which is how Yemen will manage reduced oil revenues because “we foresee much lower revenues from oil and that is going to have severe impact on the economy,” he said. He thinks that Yemen as a poor country is facing real challenges but “it is going to become more difficult when the oil runs out.” However, he also shows optimism that these problems can be sorted out because, to Hindle, the government knows what the problems are and that it is not kidding itself.

He also showed concern over the difficult environment required for foreign investors. “We see that the private sector in Yemen as a future of creating jobs absolutely vital. But the private sector has real concern about questions of how the government behaves in terms of the private sector and whether or not their contracts will be dealt with fairly,” Hindle said. He pointed out that Yemeni businessmen are investing more money outside of Yemen which shows that they do not feel secure in terms of keeping their money here and that they will have a better return for their money in Malaysia or Dubai or anywhere else. “The government is ware that it needs to do things to change this perception of Yemenis. And only after Yemenis start bringing back their money will significant investments come from foreigners,” he explained. Mr. Hindle who is working for the WB since 1973, said that one of the major steps the government should undertake is to eliminate Yemen’s reputation for corruption and strengthen the judiciary system as well as

reform the civil service. Business people should come to the point that when they go to get a business license, they are not going to pay something extra; or when they go to collect their goods at the customs, according to Hindle.

Prioritizing education and health care

When I asked him about how to relieve the hard impact of the implementation of the reform package on the living standards of the people, he said that there are two ways for that. First, is the education as “it is absolutely clear that all Yemeni children need to get certainly the primary education,” he said, adding, that little girls in rural areas do not have access to school. “That is something we think is a high priority,” he pointed out. The second element is improving the health care.

“This is something I think the government understands that delivering good quality health care to people throughout the country is an enormous challenge and that plan to educate young girls are important,” Hindle said. Yemen should also reduce population growth. “The economic performance is quite solid but the population growth is high. The government needs to maintain its economic growth rate but at the same time is to try to reduce the population growth rate which we think depends on two things: educating people and improving health care,” Hindle said.

Security situation

The WB country manager who also worked for the WB in Washington and Egypt stressed that Yemen needs to improve its security situation as it is a

country that could attract a number of tourists who, to Hindle, do not come to Yemen because of its reputation. “I do not see this as a tribal issue but something wherein the government is still in the process of establishing its control,” he said, highlighting the remarkable improvement in the overall security situation over the past two years clearly viewed in the stop of kidnapping of foreigners. He added that the government has been managing to control the security situation reasonably and effectively, mainly since the terrorist attack on the USS Cole. As a result of terrorism, business at the Aden port has declined after Limburg terrorist attack by about 75%. He said that there is a lot of unused capacity in the port which is viewed as one of the real future ingredients for Yemen.

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Limiting military escorts of tourists was one of the recommendations of Tourism conference

Under the slogan "To retain Yemen's position in international tourism", a two-day Second National Conference on Tourism was concluded in Sana'a on Tuesday September 16.

Organized by the Ministry of Tourism in coordination with tourism agencies and hotel service providers, the conference aimed at highlighting the challenges and obstacles facing the national tourism industry, issues related to tourism investments, administrative measures and government facilities needed to enhance tourism in the country. Another objective was to enhance Yemen's reputation worldwide and adopt new means to market for tourism in Yemen in an effort to increase Yemen's share in global tourism and to also raise awareness of the authorities and the public on the importance of tourism.

The two-day conference, which was inaugurated by Prime Minister Abdulqadir al-Jammal, also included discussions of a number of studies and working papers concerning tourism in Yemen. The studies focused on two topics: the internal problems facing tourism and means to resolve them, and the challenge of marketing and raising awareness about tourism potentials in Yemen and how to overcome them.

The papers were presented by a number of specialists in tourism, who focused on the difficulties faced by tourism industry as whole and proposed steps to be taken by the government and others to improve tourism sector at all levels. The three main problems discussed were the security problem, the weak tourism infrastructure and environmental issues. The presenters said that those three problems have affected the standard of tourism in the country and led to a nose dive in the number of tourists coming to Yemen. However, some presenters added that regional and international crises such as the incidents of 9/11 and the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan have also had their toll on the tourism sector.

According to some papers, those difficulties have resulted in severe damage to the tourism industry and caused many tourism companies to declare bankruptcy and close down.

The conferees have agreed that comprehensive and specialized studies based on accurate statistics and surveys needed to be carried out by specialists to underline the priorities of the government and private sector in reviving the economy.

The conference has come up with a recommendation stating that the government needs to be accountable and responsible in this regard by using the expertise and

knowledge of specialized individuals and companies for setting up long and short term plans and strategies to have Yemen's tourism industry recover from its stagnancy. These plans, participants say, must maintain the delicate balance between benefits of tourism companies and gains by the government. To achieve this, the government should work on categorizing and specifying tourism potentials and values of the different parts of the country based on each region's tourism prospective that are classified according to weather, wildlife, terrain, historical sites, etc...

Participants have also come up with a conclusion of the need to be strict in prohibiting any activities or projects that may affect tourism potentials of any region in the country using firm laws and regulations.

Furthermore, the conference also assumed that the revival of tourism also depends on how the other public and private services coordinate with the tourism sector. In other words, the other service-oriented sectors are complementary to the tourism sector as all go hand in hand to provide the best services to tourists. "How can we promote tourism in the country if we cannot guarantee that roads will be clean, electricity will be stable, and other services are provided adequately?" said



PM Abdulqadir Bajammal addressing Second National Conference on Tourism

one of the participants.

Coordination between the different public services providers in the country should be strong enough to guarantee that they all work in harmony to provide the best of services to the tourism industry.

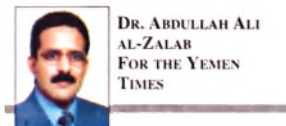
The speakers also concentrated on the need for the government and the public to realize the importance of the tourism sector as an income generator that many

countries worldwide depend on in their economies. They added that Yemeni diplomatic and cultural missions need to assist in promoting tourism to Yemen in the countries they are accredited. They can figure out the best way to achieve this by communicating with governmental establishments and tourism agencies in those countries.

The conference came out with recom-

mendations focusing on the need to remove all obstacles facing tourism agencies, especially military escorts that usually cause inconvenience to tourists. "Security and stability is a major prerequisite. If the government cooperates with us to achieve this, we will make our guests have peace of mind and enjoy a splendid stay in Yemen," said one of the tourism agency operators.

Media training and qualification



DR. ABDULLAH ALI AL-ZALAB FOR THE YEMEN TIMES

During the past few years, through its advanced technologies and expanding effects, media have proved to be of the most significant transformation factors in politics, economy, intellect, art, and culture. In fact, in many situations media have moreover become, in addition, the axes and engine.

Simultaneously, through experience it was proved that media as means and message have been transformed, in outputs, into a moral value involved potentially in the ethical system, bestowed on them a moral power of knowledge that directs and guides, on the contrary destroying systems of values and re-engineers them in an endless game of power struggle, and dispute among international axes and allies.

Undoubtedly, the technological advancement in communication and information handling has contributed heavily to the giant leap in the media domain worldwide. Due to which, media have availed great power in humanity change and transformations. But what is evident in our Arab world and in our

country particularly, is that this advancement has proceeded the media personnel's professional abilities and ethical employment of that power and its direction to the benefit of mankind and development purposes.

The case has become that the concern to possess the technology and expertise aspect of this field and the role of the live personnel development and human dimensions in the media work. A situation which led to demeaning and extinguishing the human touch from the media communication process in mass communication turning it into a solely materialistic job of marketing a product to an excited crowd waiting to fulfill their individual desires regardless of their being.

This trend has caused a great flaw in the Yemeni media address, which appears weak and shaky. All which negatively affected the professional performance of the media messages among a brutal media competition. At the time when the Yemeni media have taken a recipient role for events, waiting for them to happen and not creating them or participate in creating them, remote from social and political conditions, playing on a strange rhythm of the Yemeni man's daily life.

And regardless of the various reasons and the factors behind this flaw, the inefficiency of qualifying the media mentality and the disinterest in training and rehabilitating media related institutions (colleges, media departments at the universities and specialized training institutes) and their significance or roles is considered of the main and most important of those factors.

What is happening here; is that there is a huge gap that divides between the demands of the era and the training and qualifying that the Yemeni media are recipient in all aspects of life, starting from the technologies that keep being

updated day by day and ending with the variables of everyday life which the individual lives in its society framework and his mental perceptions of the events taking place around him.

The major and most urgent concern today in this field is not the lack of financial resources or infrastructure only; it is also three basic factors:

1. Our narrow and shortsighted vision, as strategy makers, media representatives

and performers.

2. Our understanding of structure of the media profession which is a backward understanding lagging behind the era which we are living and the advancements in the concepts, roles and mediums of this science and its effects.

3. Our unilateral and detailed view towards changes taking place in the world and in all fields.

Therefore, there is a dire need of hav-

ing training and qualifying institutions for media people that accommodate the changes and adapt to the continuous modernization. Institutions that develop infrastructure and knowledge syllabus and mechanisms from within. These establishments must work on building clear future visions and in a strategic framework based on study of the present situation and analysis of using accurate scientific indicators and tested syllabus.

From this stand it is supposed that the professional configuration for media in technical, knowledge, and information dimensions is centered on man, as a sender and recipient and on the intellectual and creative minds more than on the manual workforce threatened by unemployment if it were not up to the required expertise and qualifications fulfilling the market demand and up to the challenges.

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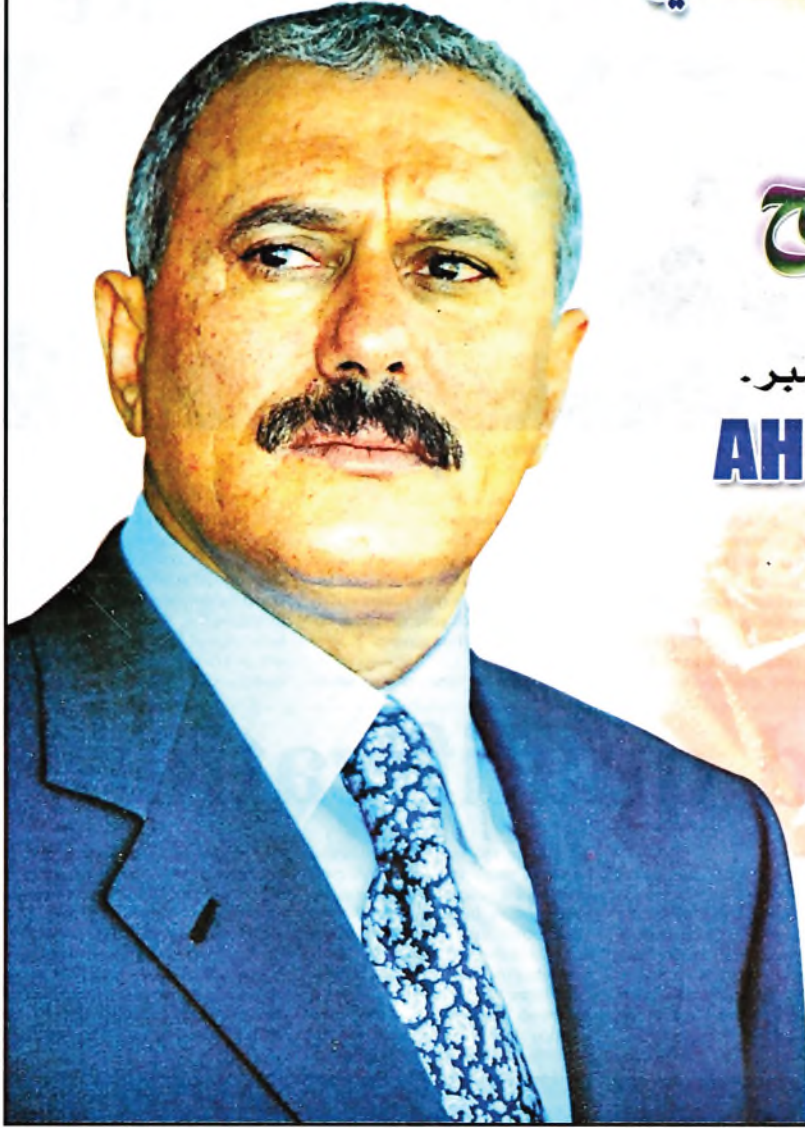
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September - October

Bomb blast on bus wounds 13 in Pakistan's Karachi

KARACHI (Reuters, Sep 27) - A time bomb exploded on board a passenger bus in the restive port city of Karachi on Saturday, wounding up to 13 people, police and doctors said.

"A low intensity time bomb has exploded on board a moving passenger bus," Syed Kamal Shah, inspector general of Sindh province police, told Reuters.

"This kind of terrorism has not been witnessed before in the city in recent years."

Doctors said at least 13 people were admitted to two state-run hospitals. One passenger is in critical condition, they added. Shah said 11 people were wounded.

"I heard a clock ticking and then there was a loud explosion in the front side of the bus," said Babar Saeed, one of the victims. "My eyes have only reopened in hospital."

Mohammed Omar, a middle aged victim who had been sitting at the back of the bus, said smoke filled the vehicle and people screamed for help. "I jumped out of the bus...my leg has been broken."

The explosion occurred on the main M.A. Jinnah Road, in the heart of the city, just three days ahead of the arrival in the eastern city of Lahore of the South African cricket team, which initially canceled its visit due to security concerns.

It eventually agreed to play after Karachi was excluded from the itinerary.

Shah said the explosion destroyed the inside of the bus, but did not rip it apart.

"We have solved most cases of terrorism in the past. We will solve this case as well," he said.

Karachi has witnessed a series of bloody attacks against Western targets, religious minorities and government officials.

Police have blamed them on Islamic militants angered by Pakistan's support for Washington's "war on terror" and the ousting of the Taliban in neighboring Afghanistan.

Some of the militants are suspected to have links to the al Qaeda network.

But police said this was the first time ordinary civilians had been targeted.

The attack came a week after a bomb explosion at an office block in Karachi's business heart. Police said the September 19 blast was likely related to business rivalry. No one was hurt.

Sporadic violence still plagues the teeming city of 14 million, although in recent months it has been mainly between rival sectarian groups.

London and world protests oppose Iraq occupation

LONDON (Reuters, Sep 27) - Chanting "Troops out of Iraq and Blair out of Number 10," thousands of anti-war protesters took to the streets of London on Saturday to demonstrate against Britain's continued military involvement in Iraq.

Coordinated global protests, from Seoul to Spain and San Francisco, also called for an end to the U.S.-led occupation and Israel's hold on Palestinian territory, but were small and only a faint shadow of huge pre-war peace rallies.

In the first major protest in Britain since the war ended in April, demonstrators — some 20,000, by police estimates — vented their anger at the invasion and the reasons given for it.

The march added to pressure on Prime Minister Tony Blair, whose popularity and trust ratings have sunk in the aftermath of the Iraq conflict, in which Britain was America's

staunchest ally.

The failure to unearth any weapons of mass destruction — the main justification for war — and the public inquiry into the suicide of a government expert on Iraq have plunged Blair into the worst political crisis of his six-year tenure.

"It was all lies," protester Peter Mason, 45, told Reuters. "The millions who demonstrated before the war were right."

In February, around a million people marched through London trying to prevent the war in the biggest political protest march in British history.

Organizers of Saturday's protest, a day before Blair's Labour Party holds its annual conference, plan more rallies when U.S. President George Bush visits Britain in November.

London Mayor Ken Livingstone

told a packed Trafalgar Square the way to secure peace in the Middle East was to "Get out, get out, get out."

Protesters also took to the streets in Spain, whose pro-war government gave Bush political though not military support, but where hundreds of thousands rallied before and during the war.

In Seoul, over 2,000 people protested in the largest rally against a U.S. request for South Korean combat troops for Iraq.

They ranged from elderly women to young children, Buddhist monks to Catholics and gay rights activists to film stars.

In Muslim Turkey, around 5,000 people demonstrated in Istanbul and the capital Ankara against sending peacekeepers to neighboring Iraq and in support of the Palestinians.

Witnesses said at least one person

was detained in Istanbul where the crowd burned U.S. and Israeli flags.

In France — one of the fiercest opponents of the war — police said some 3,000 people turned up.

About 2,000 gathered in the Greek capital Athens — carrying placards such as "Stop imperialist intervention" and "Occupiers out of Iraq" — and about 200 in Vienna.

In Berlin, police said only about 400 people turned up near the Reichstag parliament building.

"We shouldn't help the Americans with money for reconstruction when they bombed Iraq," said Carlotta Wendt, 14.

Daniel Compart, a 19-year-old apprentice at a petrol station, painted his hands red to symbolize the blood he said was on U.S. hands over Iraq.

"It is important that ordinary people still say they are against the war even though it is over," he said.



Anti-war protesters assemble at the start of a mass rally in London last Autumn. REUTERS/Peter Macdiarmid

French roll into Ivorian rebel HQ after bank battle

ABIDJAN (Reuters, Sep 27) - French troops sealed off a bank in the Ivory Coast rebel base of Bouake on Saturday after a bloody battle for spoils between bands of rebels and looters that rebel officials said left at least 23 dead.

The fighting came after the rebel "New Forces" walked out of a unity government this week and put in doubt a peace accord brokered by former colonial power France.

Residents in Bouake, 350 km (220 miles) north of the main city of Abidjan, said French armored cars rolled into town early on Saturday morning and surrounded a branch of the West African central bank that was the epicenter of the conflict.

French military spokesman Lieutenant-Colonel Georges Peillon said troops based just outside Bouake had sealed off the area around the bank and his force was considering sending reinforcements.

"They are positioned around the bank at present, but we have not ruled out that in consultation with the New Forces that area might be widened," Peillon told Reuters.

Rebel leaders — who only this week called on the French ambassador to leave, accusing Paris of siding with President Laurent Gbagbo — have welcomed French help in restoring order around the bank at the heart of their headquarters town.

"Everything is very quiet," rebel political leader Guillaume Soro said by phone from Bouake. "There are around 23 dead — 21 on the robbers' side and we lost two of our own soldiers."

Witnesses said the looters included both civilians and rebel fighters. Some had died in the crush trying to get into the bank and others were shot dead as they tried to loot the building, where raiders blasted the safe open with explosives on Thursday.

OUT OF CONTROL

"The problem is that today you have disorganization with a whole series of units out of control, with no leadership or pay, trying to feed themselves from the populations of villages or from whatever they find, such as from the central bank," French Defense Minister Michele Alliot-Marie told radio France Inter.

"I think events in Bouake will make them (Ivorians) consider the benefits of extending the confidence zone," she said, referring to a demilitarized buffer zone between rebels and government loyalists patrolled by French and West African troops.

Shops and market stalls in the second city stayed shut on Saturday and few vehicles braved the streets save for pickup trucks bristling with armed rebel fighters, witnesses said.

Bouake is the main base for rebels who ignited the civil war in September 2002 with an attempted coup against Gbagbo.

The coup failed but rebels seized the north of the country, entrenching tribal divisions between the mainly Muslim north and the largely Christian and animist south held by Gbagbo's forces.

Thousands of people were killed in months of fighting before former colonial power France brokered a peace deal setting up a power-sharing government of national unity.

Some 4,000 French troops are deployed in Ivory Coast to keep the warring factions apart and police a cease-fire with the help of 1,300 West African soldiers.

But after months of delays and disputes, the rebels walked out of the government this week, demanding Gbagbo's resignation in a major setback for the peace process.

Discipline has deteriorated in the ranks of rebel fighters, who have little to show for a year-long campaign which has shattered Ivory Coast, long the economic hub of West Africa and the world's biggest cocoa producer.

North Korea calls Rumsfeld 'Illiterate Psychopath'

SEOUL (Reuters, Sep 27) - North Korea described Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld as a dictatorial psychopath and a politically illiterate old man for criticizing Pyongyang and predicting its system would collapse.

Rumsfeld told U.S. and South Korean business leaders on Tuesday he had a night-time satellite picture of the divided peninsula in his office that showed the North almost entirely in darkness and the South aglow.

"While the situation in North Korea sometimes looks bleak, I'm convinced that one day freedom will come to the people and light up that oppressed land with hope and promise," he said in a speech mostly about the U.S.-South Korean military alliance. The response from the North's official KCNA news agency was harsh even by its own rhetorical standards.

"His remarks only go to prove that he is just an old man politically illiterate as he cannot measure up the present reality when all the countries are promoting peaceful co-existence, reconciliation and cooperation irrespective of ideologies and beliefs," it said in a long commentary.

"It is not likely at all that he would speak truth as he is obsessed with wantonly harassing peace and security in different parts of the world and igniting wars. His outbursts, therefore, cannot be construed otherwise than a desperate shrill cry of a psychopath on his death bed."

It said Rumsfeld was cursed and hated worldwide.



North Korea described U.S. Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld as a dictatorial psychopath and a politically illiterate old man for criticizing Pyongyang and predicting its system would collapse. REUTERS

The North's criticism echoed remarks it made about State Department official John Bolton in August. It called him "human scum" for describing North Korean leader Kim Jong-il as tyrannical dictator.

KCNA said it was true North Korea had what it described as temporary economic difficulties but blamed the United States and said the communist country would emerge victorious.

North Korea and the United States are at loggerheads over Pyongyang's nuclear program. A first round of six-way talks with China, Japan, Russia and South Korea ended inconclusively in Beijing last month. Another round is unlikely before November.

YT Business



Yemeni woman political and economic situation - 1962-2003,

From pre-revolution stage to post-unity and currently

PREPARED BY: MAHYOUB AL-KAMALI
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

The Yemeni woman before the September 1962 and October 1963 revolutions had suffered greatly from being marginalized and isolated from all life activities; socially, economically, culturally and politically. She had been deprived of many if not all rights. For instance the woman was deprived of education, except for daughters of the well-to-do families whether in Sana'a or Aden. Teaching girls at that time was confined to learning principles of reading and writing and the Koran while the girl in Aden managed to get a better amount of primary school stage education. This situation continued till the eruption of the revolution after which the woman began the road of struggle for getting her right to education, work and indiscriminating equality in order to remove the injustice imposed on her, although the two former constitutions of the two parts of Yemen had approved the principle of equality between man and woman. The permanent constitution in the former North Yemen of 1970 stipulated in its articles 22 and 34 that the women have equal rights and duties and those women rights are guaranteed according to the Islamic law. The constitution issued in 1978 in the former southern Yemen stipulated in its article 26 that the state guarantees equal rights for men and women in fields of political, economic, social and cultural life and provides the conditions and circumstances that enable the woman to practice her right.

Despite of those constitutional texts the woman role remained limited as a result of what the imam and the colonization had left behind them of a heavy legacy of ignorance, backwardness and poverty that affected the life of the Yemeni people for a long time and their impact is still seen till today. The period of Yemen's division had squandered the country's wealth and exhausted them in areas far from and beyond the interests of the homeland and the citizen. But the May 22 of 1990 has represented a historic turning-point in the life of the Yemenis and the Arab nation as a whole when the Yemen got reunited again. Then began the new age of democracy, political pluralism and the freedom of expression. The united Yemen began to implement its development plan for improving conditions of the citizens, among which was the focusing on the woman as considered half of the society. In Yemen the woman does not practically represent

half of the society but more than that in figure. The number of females in Yemen is 8.255.000 million, i.e., 50.1% while males are 8.229.000 million, i.e., 49.9%, according to the latest census.

Woman and education:

Since the united Yemen has considered development a major goal after realization of unity and democracy, woman has been given a special attention and interest because she is an essential partner in the development process and without her the country could not develop and advance. In order to be an active partner the woman should imperatively be qualified and trained and capable. And as education is the essence of qualification the education law was made compulsory and free of charge at the primary stage. Statistics demonstrate the rise in number of females joining primary education since the establishment of the unity. The figure jumped from 520640 in 1990 to 806286 in 1995 and the figure for both females and males joining primary education jumped in 2003 to around 4 million students. Regarding secondary stage education the number of female students rose from 17760 in 1990 to 56952 in 1995 and the number of students of both sexes joining both primary and secondary stages rose in 2002 to about 4.5 million. Concerning university education female students number was 7112 in 1990 to be 15714 in 1995 and to rise to 41164 in 2003.

Yemeni woman education was not confined to mere academic education but also technical and vocational education including industrial, agricultural, trade, health and administrative education. The number of girl students of higher studies also rose. Nevertheless and although the explain woman's progress in her pursuit for and keeping pace with sciences, the proportion of illiteracy among females is still higher than rates of her counterparts in the Arab world. Those concerned with this matter see that the causes can be attributed to certain factors:

- social habits and traditions and concepts hindering the movement of progress, including the prevention of woman from education,
- economic, social and living circumstances that make families to dispense with females education to benefit from them in household work and agriculture,
- early marriages,
- the wrong concept harbored by some families especially in the countryside that would benefit more from educating males while the female would get married and serve benefit to others,

- scarcity in number female teachers in the countryside,
- very little or non-existence of schools for girls in the countryside.

The high percentage of illiteracy among females could not be considered the only problem but the other one is that many females quit education for economic circumstances of families, early marriages and the cultural level of families.

Woman & work:

The problem of the woman with regard to work goes back to old times but her work was usually restricted to traditional work like agriculture, raising livestock and handicraft such as spinning and weaving. The Yemeni woman did not take part in the present concept of work but during the fifties in Aden during the period of British colonization and in the north after the September 26 revolution. After the unity females' contributions to work increased and according to the 1988 census woman workers were 65156 in 1988, 680936 in 1994 and in 2003 the figure jumped to 790678 with the increase of job opportunities for women. Despite that we can see that the proportion is still unbalanced in number. The reasons are ascribed to the low number of educated women and consequently a drop in number of job opportunities open for them in addition to traditions that still believe that woman work indicates poverty of the family and that it cannot afford spending on her besides the responsibilities of woman at home and raising children that impede her work outside the house. A high proportion of women work in the countryside and the city at home and their work is deemed among unpaid jobs. And though women in the countryside work in agriculture and handicraft but their financial return goes to the man.

Among the negative remarks about woman work is that she is not allowed to assume employment statuses of the first and the second place that are considered as decision-making positions at any governmental institutions. A study by the National Committee for Woman held for discovering the woman status in eight ministries it has been ascertained that it was in rare cases to find women occupying the position of director general owing to the years spent in the job, though in practice she exercises duties of that employment degree. The worst is that it could found that some women work under responsibility of a man whose official degree is lower than hers and having less proficiency.

Woman & politics:

If the woman in previous eras was deprived of simplest rights guaranteed for her by religion and then the constitution and laws, her participation in politics would be then a kind of imagination, perhaps the woman herself did not imagine that time would come when she would go to the polling box that would take her to the parliament or there would be political pluralism and the woman would be part of that pluralism or becomes a member of the government. Despite of the coercive circumstances the woman, especially those who were under the circumstances of the British colonization, had taken part in resisting colonialism by taking part in demonstrations condemning the occupation and the demand for independence to taking arms and fighting.

Following the September and October revolutions the woman in the former south Yemen was appointed in 1978 at the people's council and the central committee of the Yemeni Socialist Party but her participation in the north was late until the foundation of the General People's Congress in 1982 that included one woman and



Despite of 41 years, women still suffer from illiteracy, negligence and injustice, especially in rural areas

then rose to 6 members in 1993. Till 1982 there was a dispute in the north about nomination of the woman to the Shoura Council and then the situation settled in that she would be allowed for voting but not candidacy. Among the changes effected after the unity is the political pluralism which led to the declaration of tens of political parties that used to work underground and began to have headquarters and press expressing the visions and orientations of each party.

Woman participation in began strongly in the political and partisan affiliation and requests offered for parties declaration included names of many women. The woman has ascended the scale of party positions or political organisation till they managed to attain central committees and general secretariat. As for her participation in the parliament and local councils as voter and candidate he following statistics explain that 41 party member and independent women have nominated themselves in elections of 1993, but only two of them had won for the YSP against 229 in order to be 301, the number of seats of the parliament. In the elections of 1997 woman voters were 501591 and 35 women nominated themselves but one candidate woman from the GPC won a seat in the parliament.

In the 2003 parliamentary elections the number of woman voters exceeded three millions and only 11 women have nominated themselves for the parliamentary seats and only one candidate from the ruling party has one a seat, in an apparent retreat of the woman position in the parliament and political parties abandoning of supporting her in the

political process.

The low proportion of the woman nominees compared to the previous proportion in the two former parliaments ushers a retreat resulting from the civil society's incapacity in scoring progress in favour of women. Although the government has announced it would offer great concessions for woman nominees but it did not do that and presented a number of candidates much less than expected from the ruling party, was the support for one woman candidate in Aden. This low proportion in woman nomination for parliament reflects the state of irresolution by a group of political and intellectual and social elements that are still hindering the qualitative change in the political life and also could be attributed to failure of civil society organisations, despite the numerous workshops and symposiums for upgrading the woman's social status and facilitation of her attaining the parliamentary membership.

Woman circles blame the government in the first place and the political parties and civil society organizations in the second place that they have not reacted and interacted with the issue of the woman and her right to obtaining parliament membership.

Despite of that some circles at the GPC ruling party say the government has compensated the woman in the membership at the Shoura Council and the cabinet as it previously did. But woman circles say he proportion of her appointment at the two councils has been symbolic and for political propaganda. The government had, during the past period, appointed a state minister for human rights, three women as assis-

tant undersecretary, six women as advisors at various ministries, one woman advisor at the premiership, promotion of 95 women to a director general degree and appointment of one woman as ambassador and then appointing her as minister of human rights. Nonetheless women circles believe that the increased number of women registered at elections records is a beginning of forming a new political awareness and that the woman is gaining some liberation and dependence on herself instead of relying on the political parties.

Dr Raufa Hassan, in charge of Planning and Cultural Development Establishment thinks that during the past 12 years all of the political parties have not established internal democratic behaviour and have overlooked women rights although their numbers in membership of those parties are large.

Political analysts and circles affirm that the Yemeni woman is the victim of prevalent social and cultural traditions that still deal with the woman as mainly a housewife even if she were member of political parties and organisations. They think it is too early for the woman to get support and assistance to reach a parliamentary seat. The issue of the woman and the minimal proportion of her participation in latest parliamentary elections as candidate has taken a large space of discussion that has drawn attention to the obstacles that are still blocking her nomination to the parliament and failure of civil society organisations in overcoming them despite that the constitutional and legal legislation fully grant the Yemeni woman her political rights.



Old Sana'a women stick to traditional costume

Time for Washington to start throwing its weight around

EDITORIAL
THE DAQU STAR

Sunday marks the third anniversary of the day the current intifada broke out in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. It cannot be a happy occasion, not with all the grief it has produced for two peoples. The cycle of violence has taken on a life of its own, leaving the peace process in a shambles and pushing politics of any form into death throes. This is no longer about competing claims on contested land or even about competing visions. It is about two tribes equally determined to prevail and equally misguided about how to do so. The combatants are too blinded by rage to step back of their own accord, so they must be separated by an outside power. That can only mean the United States.

To say the least, the strictly delineated schedule of the American electoral system will make such intervention difficult. No US president likes to risk pressuring the Israeli government before going to the polls, a tradition

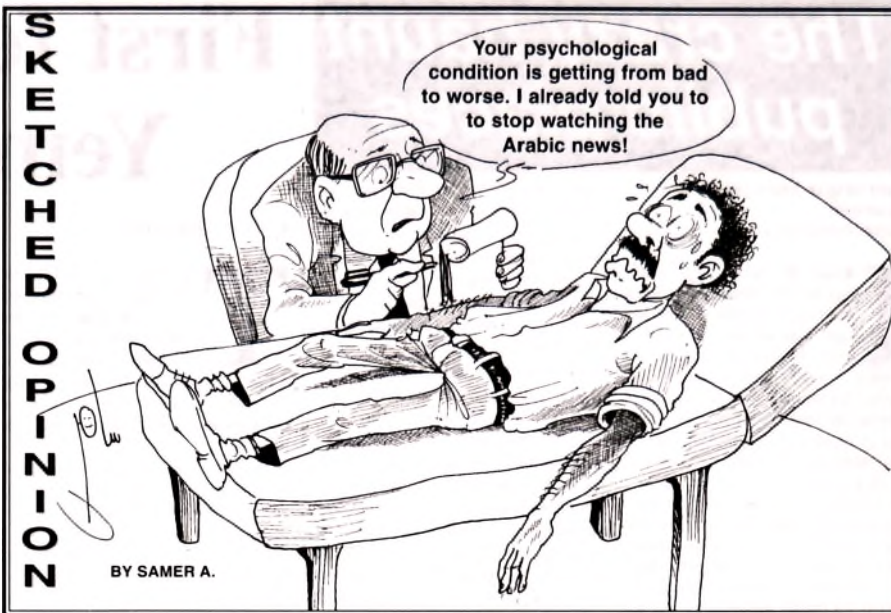
with which George W. Bush is undoubtedly hesitant to break. Nonetheless, he and his advisers must understand that the Israeli-Palestinian crisis will not remain in stasis as the world awaits the resolution of the campaign season in America. If it is left alone, more people will die and the conditions that lead to their deaths will become more intractable. What is required, therefore, is a show of diplomatic force that leaves no room for debate about Washington's desires.

Power politics is a high-stakes game, but it is one for which the United States is uniquely qualified. No other nation on the planet enjoys its combination of economic and military might. And although the looming election season poses a challenge to US diplomacy, the Bush administration is hardly an easy target for anyone who wants to question its devotion to Israeli security. There is perhaps no president in US history who has been more indulgent of the Jewish state and certainly none who have more dramatically removed a potential strategic threat to Israeli interests.

Settling the Israeli-Palestinian con-

flict before November 2004 might be impossible, but a good-faith effort to do so could do wonders to limit the damage and prepare the ground for a future agreement. No progress will be made, though, unless and until Washington draws itself up to its full stature and looms over the principals like the colossus it is. Only American muscle has any chance of imposing terms on the two parties, but only if America has a president willing to use it.

No one needs to remind Bush that his father failed to win a second term in the White House. But someone needs to make sure he knows how deeply his people value peace in the Middle East - and how much they want America to be an equitable broker. The opening is there, if only he has the wisdom to recognize it and the courage to be bold again, this time for the right reasons



Bush stonewalling

BY GEORGE S. HISHMEH
JORDAN TIMES

Never before has the United States appeared so alone as when President George W. Bush spoke at the opening session of the UN General Assembly Tuesday night, pleading for international support to shore up the flagging American occupation of Iraq and its discredited policy of preemption, an approach initiated by the Israelis in their 1967 war against the Arabs.

The United States finds itself in this regrettable position mainly because Bush has banked on the neo-conservatives of his administration who had championed an ill-considered foreign policy course that has yet to show promise on many international issues, particularly in the Middle East.

Stonewalling, Bush turned a deaf ear to the rising chorus of criticism against his rationale for acting preemptively in Iraq, most likely because of the serious drop in his popularity at home after the war in Iraq and the downwards trend in the US economy.

"There is something deeply ironic," commented Anthony Cordesman of the Centre for Strategic Studies here, "about going to the United Nations to seek military help to deal with the aftermath of a war the UN asked be delayed, a war the United States fought to deal with a threat that so far does not seem to have existed, and a war in which the United States needs military assistance to deal with the aftermath of a major 'victory'."

But the most stinging criticism came from UN Secretary General Kofi Annan who warned that a policy of preemption, as was with the American-led war, could lead to "a proliferation of the unilateral and lawless use of force".

The American president received a humiliating 20-second applause at the conclusion of his remarks, a sharp contrast to the praise he won last year when he agreed to seek, albeit without success, support from the Security Council for his military action against the regime of Iraqi President Saddam Hussein.

When His Majesty King Abdullah visited Washington and Camp David, last week, Foreign Minister Marwan Muasher told the Washington Association of Arab Journalists here that the US administration was adamant against promising any move in the stalled peace process before the Palestinians, first and foremost, tackle the "security problem", meaning the free hand that Hamas and other like-minded Palestinian fundamentalist groups seem to have.

"There aren't any new ideas within the administration," he said, on the next steps or dealing with the fate of Palestinian President Yasser Arafat, who has been shunned by the Americans and Israelis. The administration would not deal with him "under any circumstances" and would not entertain new ideas about

circumventing the ageing Palestinian leader who has won renewed attention thanks to Israeli threats.

"If the (Palestinian) security issue is treated, the US is ready to accelerate the peace process," he said.

This unyielding American position must have disappointed the Jordanians since they offered the administration some undisclosed ideas on how to deal with this stalemate. The Jordanians, echoing the views of many Arab governments, believe that the ill-defined "roadmap" lacked specificity, like simultaneous first steps and a timetable.

But Muasher advised strongly that it would be unwise to talk about "the death of the roadmap" - a formula advocated by the so-called Quartet, a body that represents the United States, the United Nations, European Union and Russia. He underlined that the "roadmap" took several months to come to fruition. The Arabs can ill-afford to expect a new approach since time is of the essence, primarily because Israel is still building more settlements and a "separation" wall despite mild American nay saying. These pose "a serious threat to the creation of a Palestinian state" in 2005, as envisioned by the roadmap.

If nothing else, the stalemate attests to continued weakness of Arab governments in standing up to the Bush administration. On the other hand some realpolitik has been injected by no other than President Jimmy Carter this week in an op-ed article in The Washington Post which must cause some serious concern in Arab capitals.

The former president wrote: "Today, except for the fact that the Palestinian issue has become one of the foremost causes of international terrorism, our strategic interests are much less involved in the Israeli-Palestinian violence. There seems to be no urgency in resolving the relatively localised dispute..."

"Confident that our support is unshakable, Israeli leaders eventually began to assert their independence, and real American influence has reached its lowed ebb in 50 years. In the face of certain rebuffs, why would any American president become deeply involved in a balanced mediating role?"

Carter, who had just observed the 25th anniversary of the Camp David Accords last week at a celebration in Washington, turned the tables on the Israelis. He concluded: "No matter what leaders the Palestinians might choose, how fervent American interest might be or how great the hatred and bloodshed might become, there remains one basic choice, and only the Israelis can make it: Do we want permanent peace with all our neighbours, or do we want to retain our settlements in the occupied territories of the Palestinians?"

He thought it would be America's "worst betrayal of Israel" should it support the second choice.

Likewise, it would be Israel's worst betrayal of America should it continue to infuriate the Arabs against the Jewish state's supporter.

U.S. Vetoes of UN Resolutions: Critical for Israel (1972-2003)

BY RICHARD MELSON
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Vetoes: 1972-1982

Subject	Date	US rep. casting vote	Vote
Palestine: Syrian-Lebanese Complaint. 3 power draft resolution 2/10784	9/10/1972	Bush	13-1, 1
Palestine: Examination of Middle East Situation. 8-power draft resolution (S/10974)	7/2/1973	Scali	13-1, 0 (China N/A)
Palestine: Egyptian-Lebanese Complaint. 5-power draft power resolution (S/11898)	12/8/1975	Moynihan	13-1, 1
Palestine: Middle East Problem, including Palestinian question. 6-power draft resolution (S/11940)	1/26/1976	Moynihan	9-1,3 (China & Libya N/A)
Palestine: Situation in Occupied Arab Territories. 5-power draft resolution (S/12022)	3/25/1976	Scranton	14-1,0
Palestine: Report on Committee on Rights of Palestinian People. 4-power draft resolution (S/121119)	6/29/1976	Sherer	10-1,4
Palestine: Palestinian Rights. Tunisian draft resolution. (S/13911)	4/30/1980	McHenry	10-1,4
Palestine: Golan Heights. Jordan draft resolution. (S/14832/Rev. 2)	1/20/1982	Kirkpatrick	9-1,5
Palestine: Situation in Occupied Territories, Jordan draft resolution (S/14943)	4/2/1982	Lichenstein	13-1,1
Palestine: Incident at the Dome of the Rock in Jerusalem. 4-power draft resolution	4/20/1982	Kirpatrick	14-1, 0
Palestine: Conflict in Lebanon. Spain draft resolution. (S/15185)	6/8/1982	Kirpatrick	14-1,0
Palestine: Conflict in Lebanon. France draft resolution. (S/15255/Rev. 2)	6/26/1982	Lichenstein	14-1
Palestine: Conflict in Lebanon. USSR draft resolution. (S/15347/Rev. 1, as orally amended)	8/6/1982	Lichenstein	11-1,3
Palestine: Situation in Occupied Territories, 20-power draft resolution (S/15895)	8/2/1983	Lichenstein	13-1,1

Security Council Vetoes / Negative Voting (1983-present)

Subject	Date	Vote
Occupied Arab Territories: Wholesale condemnation of Israeli settlement policies - not adopted	1983	
S. Lebanon: Condemns Israeli action in southern Lebanon. S/16732	9/6/1984	Vetoed: 13-1 (U.S.), 1 abstention (UK)
Occupied Territories (Israel): Deplores "repressive measures" by Israel against Arab population. S/19459.	9/13/1985	Vetoed: 10-1 (U.S.), 4 abstentions (Australia, Denmark, UK, France)
Lebanon: Condemns Israeli practices against civilians in southern Lebanon. S/17000.	3/12/1985	Vetoed: 11-1 (U.S.), 3 abstentions (Australia, Denmark, UK)
Occupied Territories: Calls upon Israel to respect Muslim holy places. S/17769/Rev. 1	1/30/1986	Vetoed: 13-1 (US), 1 abstention (Thailand)
Lebanon: Condemns Israeli practices against civilians in southern Lebanon. S/17730/Rev. 2.	1/17/1986	Vetoed: 11-1 (U.S.), with 3 abstentions (Australia, Denmark, UK)
Libya/Israel: Condemns Israeli interception of Libyan plane. S/17796/Rev. 1.	2/6/1986	Vetoed: 10 -1 (US), with 4 abstentions (Australia, Denmark, France, UK)
Lebanon: Draft strongly deplored repeated Israeli attacks against Lebanese territory and other measures and practices against the civilian population. (S/19434)	1/18/1988	Vetoed 13-1 (US), with 1 abstention (UK)
Lebanon: Draft condemned recent invasion by Israeli forces of Southern Lebanon and repeated a call for the immediate withdrawal of all Israeli forces from Lebanese territory; (S/19868)	5/10/1988	Vetoed 14-1 (US)
Lebanon: Draft strongly deplored the recent Israeli attack against Lebanese territory on 9 December 1988; (S/20322)	12/14/1988	Vetoed 14-1 (US)
Occupied territories: Draft called on Israel to accept de jure applicability of the 4th Geneva Convention; (S/19466)	1988	Vetoed 14-1 (US)
Occupied territories: Draft urged Israel to abide by the Fourth Geneva Convention, rescind the order to deport Palestinian civilians, and condemned policies and practices of Israel that violate the human rights of the Palestinian people in the occupied territories; (S/19780)	1988	Vetoed 14-1 (US)
Occupied territories: Strongly deplored Israeli policies and practices in the occupied territories, and strongly deplored also Israel's continued disregard of relevant Security Council decisions.	2/17/1989	Vetoed 14-1 (US)
Occupied territories: Condemned Israeli policies and practices in the occupied territories.	6/9/1989	Vetoed 14-1 (US)
Occupied territories: Deplored Israel's policies and practices in the occupied territories.	11/7/1989	Vetoed 14-1 (US)
Occupied territories: NAM draft resolution to create a commission and send three security council members to Rishon LeZion, where an Israeli gunman shot down seven Palestinian workers.	5/31/1990	Vetoed 14-1 (US)
Middle East: Confirms that the expropriation of land by Israel in East Jerusalem is invalid and in violation of relevant Security Council resolutions and provisions of the Fourth Geneva convention; expresses support of peace process, including the Declaration of Principles of 9/13/1993	5/17/1995	Vetoed 14-1 (US)
Middle East: Calls upon Israeli authorities to refrain from all actions or measures, including settlement activities.	3/7/1997	Vetoed 14-1 (US)
Middle East: Demands that Israel cease construction of the settlement in east Jerusalem (called Jabal Abu Ghneim by the Palestinians and Har Homa by Israel), as well as all the other Israeli settlement activity in the occupied territories	3/21/1997	Vetoed 13-1,1 (US)
Call for UN Observers Force in West Bank, Gaza	3/27/2001	Vetoed 9-1 (US), 4 abstentions (Britain, France, Ireland and Norway)
Condemned acts of terror, demanded an end to violence and the establishment of a monitoring mechanism to bring in observers.	12/15/2001	Vetoed 12-1 (US), 2 abstention. (UK, Norway)
Demand that Israel halt threats to expel Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat	9/16/03	Vetoed 11-1 (US), 3 abstentions (Britain, Germany and Bulgaria)

Source: US Department of State

The crazy haunt public places

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I asked my friends, my society and myself. Neither my society nor I could answer. It is not my case. It is not also my society's case. It is very clear to be noticed. I really have an ecstatic gush of feelings, but what I will say only a water drop of sea. While I was standing up hearing the motorcycles' din in the street, he whispered into my ear; shall I complain to you sir? Yes "I answered". He said my companion has beaten me and taken my bed. His bed was actually a plate of cigarette cartoon. He used to sleep on it in the park. A beggar was near us. He quickly came and kissed my hands imploring to get ten rials. I moved to the park soon. I chose a vacant chair to sit down. Ten minutes later, two dirty shabby men came and sat beside me. One of them said, "Could you possibly buy me a bottle of Pepsi?" I refused as the other one waiting for his friend finishing his task to start his. I was obliged to move to another seat. Five minutes exactly passed, a woman with her child stood up in front of me and started to rave her address of prayers as usual. I interrupted her story by giving her fifty rials. He seemed to be a crazy man. He gave me a glance when I handed her the money. He directly hurried up to me and held my clothes firmly. My white costume converted into dirty as black as his body. He entreated for fifty rials. He did not release my clothes until I gave him hundred rials, as I have no change. This crazy man went to his friends to inform them. Soon, three crazy men ran to follow me as I intended to leave the park. One of them was completely naked. Another could follow me. Unfortunately, he was smoking. I tried to escape from his hand but he wrongly burnt my new garment as he tried to catch me. Then I gestured to a taxi to go back home. Afterwards, I realized that wearing new white robe with red shawl in the street, park and seashores attracts beggars and crazy men like magnetism attracting iron. This uniform reminds those persons, guests coming from neighboring countries. A week later, I decided to go outside the home. I deliberately wore obsolete clothes to avoid mad, crazy and beggars' demands. It was on the beach. I sat on a chair looking at the splendid

sunset. Sea, for me, is a source of inspiration. While I was meditating the mysterious world of the sea, an atrocious man with long curled hair wearing ragged clothes approached me. He started abusing the governor. He said that his house was plundered. He added that he was dismissed of his job. I moved to another safer seat, as I could not see any one around. Approximately, five minutes later two dirty strange men came and sat on the next seat. One of them was that mad I had seen last week in the park. He never stretched his hand this time. He did keep calm. He was only listening to register in his mind. The other was criticizing loudly using bad words about the livelihood. Then, he stood up on a rock and started to curse some of our principals. Behind me, I could hear a crazy bearded man with mustaches and long hair preaching a religious address. On the other side, I could listen to good words. A thin mad was describing his beloved as if he was addressing her with some love poems. Curses, commendation and preaching continue together everywhere. No call for astonishment, "neighbor said". Crazy people are practicing their democracy, he added. It was time to move to another place where I saw a naked person chewing qat. He was leaning against a rock at the sand stretching to the sea. A bundle of qat was in front of him. His mouth was so full of qat that it was overflowing his mouth. He was murmuring when he saw me. Perhaps, he was abusing me. It doesn't matter; we are abused by wise men. My heart twists of pain for these sights. What's a pity that crazy persons and beggars appear increasingly in public tourist resorts and entertainment places! This phenomenon is wide-spread, so that many questions jump up to my mind. Are these people really crazy? And do those beggars deserve help? If the answer is yes, where is the ministry of social affair? This phenomenon reflects a bad reputation to visitors of our country. Can't our country gather those crazy people in psychiatric hospitals? Or, are they spread deliberately on the streets and public places for something else? I wish that our country could collect all crazy persons and beggars from streets and public places to special buildings, otherwise they will infect us with craziness!!!

First feature film on modern Yemeni life to go global

BY YEMEN TIMES STAFF

The film "A New Day in Old Sana'a", which is yet to be made, is already generating enormous interest worldwide. The movie is set to be screened at 86 film festivals and numerous universities and art centers throughout the world, according to its maker.

The film aims at depicting modern life in the historic city of Old Sana'a and the story will unfold in the course of one day.

British-Yemeni film director, Bader Ben Hirsi, who also directed a few other films on Yemen, says that the filming of the 90-minute film will commence on October 10.

However, the film's landmark status is undeniable. After all, "A New Day" will be the first ever feature film to be made in Yemen.

The shooting will take six weeks and the production will include 68 Yemenis in acting roles, as well as in the crew.

The film is scheduled to premiere in early 2004, which is the year to signal Sana'a as the Arab cultural capital. The film producers have hope that the film could be shown as early as February of next year.

A spokesman from the Yemeni Media Center says that the film will be a "true and honest" portrayal of Yemen, which is "completely different from the negative image that most of the world has."

"For the most people viewing this film, it will be the first time they ever see images of Yemen," he said. "The results will be a very positive message."

Among the other films on Yemen directed by Bader Ben Hirsi is "The English Sheikh and the Yemeni Gentleman", which is a film showing unique images of Yemen and provides a rare insight into the characters of the colorful Yemeni people and their rich customs.

Under the guiding hand of eccentric Englishman Tim Makintosh-Smith, who has been living as a Yemeni in the ancient city of Sana'a for the past 16 years, Ben Hirsi travels throughout his ancestral homeland. Exquisitely filmed by award-winning cinematographer Koutaiba Al Janabi, the film chronicles their interaction and emerging friendship as they explore the beautiful Yemen countryside.



Sana'a Old City

Zoo politics

Sort out the men

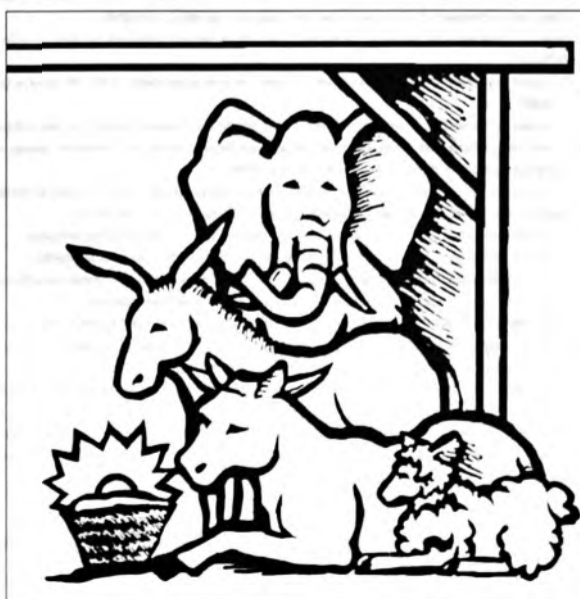
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Once upon a time, an angry dog kept on barking late at night in one of the big zoos of the town. The dog might have been hungry or thirsty, but it prolonged barking for far too long. For some reason, I believe that the dog was practicing its freedom to bark and get it all out. The calmness of night made the dog's barking intolerable. This irritated other animals in the zoo. Its barking woke up almost all other animals, including a young male donkey, which brayed loudly inside the stable. Perhaps, the donkey wanted to stop the dog's barking but instead, woke up other animals too. Many animals were seriously disturbed. One of them was an agitator bull. Its agitation made him run and hit the donkey hard with his horns. The ox knocked the donkey down instantly. The news of the donkey's death was widely spread out of the zoo. Therefore, all donkeys learned about the news quickly. They expressed their sorrow by half-mast ears. The zeal of donkeys grew up quickly. They were assembled to attack the bulls. Thus, the battle started. Donkeys were kicking the bulls, and the bulls would knock down more donkeys. Braying of donkeys continued

ever since. Dogs continued to bark and tigers continued their roaring in their cages.

However, because bulls were naturally stronger than donkeys, they were able to crush all donkeys and eventually celebrated their victory with cows and calves. The donkeys rendered a memorandum to the zookeeper who couldn't solve the problem. He, in his turn, sent their notes to the United Animals Security Council. It is well-known that zebras are active members in the Security Council. They, of course, advocated the donkeys. However, zebras, dogs and tigers were allied. They would vote for donkeys against bulls. They asserted that the oxen horns carry nuclear weapons, so that the Security Council decided to cut them off. The bleeding caused by cutting their horns, caused a lot of damage to the bulls and donkeys. Some calves met each other to make an initiative in which they would advise the bulls to implement all Security Council decisions. They said that bulls must apologize to all donkeys. Unfortunately, all attempts failed to convince the donkeys to work on stopping the cutting off of oxen horns.

More resolutions were issued against the bulls. This enabled the zebras to invade the zoo and all neighboring cow farms. Cows would suffer, as they were



apart from their bulls. A resolution stated that all bulls would be replaced by donkeys. They were obliged to live peacefully as zebra had the authority to control the situation. Cows and calves

couldn't tolerate this situation. They complained, demanding the Animal World to cancel sanctions imposed on the bulls. This siege causes many problems. Farmers couldn't cultivate their

farms without bulls. Milk and its products became very expensive. No one can dispense with milk in the world. Cows became very sad. That's why soon, members of Animal World Security Council held a new meeting. They decided to form a senior delegation to carry out an elaborate study on the cows' crisis. This delegation consisted of different kinds of monkeys. Their task was essentially to insure and examine whether the bulls' horns had any mass destruction weapons. When monkeys arrived at the zoo, they directly nominated dogs to help them. After they had checked the horns, they declared and decided to continue cutting off their horns. This made the calves very angry, as they would certainly wait their turn sooner or later. Donkeys have been threatening them forever. Now, calves, bulls, cows which have horns on their heads are classified as terrorists. They are threatened for ever.

I wonder my readers. Will donkeys, dogs and zebras be able to spread security and peace in the zoo? And may cows and calves come back with dignity and self-esteem? Then, who will free the zoo from zebras' domination? Can't they establish a unity for at least the new generation? It's only all a matter of time, before we figure the answer out.

BY NASEER AHMED ALVI
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See over the tricks
Of power and ally!
How cooked the books
For sending the convoy!
Terrorist liberator of invader!
Differentiate from the wide boy!
They are there
Shedding blood for the joy!
Change the autocracy
Into the democracy!
Withdraw the veto power
For humanity and accuracy
Voice and time
I've never been kind
None can change
Tune and frequency
The time is ripe
To reveal the hypocrisy
Sort out the men
From the boys!
Geneva Convention
And UN charter
Have terrible condition
In the hospice
Why the Sec. Gen keep
The noble prize
Power and terror eat
The peace as slice
Why put the sanctions
And the deadline?
To secure and
Save the life
Each and every one
Needs the same device
Sort out the men
From the boys!

First oil shipment from Ash-Shihr oil terminal exported
Canadian Nexen Petroleum Yemen celebrates a decade of success



By **ABDUL M. ASSABRI**
YEMEN TIMES STAFF
AL-MUKALLA



Al-Mukalla, Sep 24 - Under the auspices of Prime Minister Abdulqader Ba Jammal, The Ministry of Oil and Minerals along with the management and staff of the largest oil company operating in Yemen Canadian Nexen Petroleum Yemen (CNPY), and its Partners at the Masila Block (14) celebrated the First Oil Shipment from Ash-Shihr Oil Export Terminal at Al-Dhabba harbor on September 23rd. The celebration was held at the Holiday Inn Hotel in al-Mukallah City.

The 10th Anniversary Celebration Committee consisted of the Ministry of Oil and Minerals, the CNPY and was headed by the Chairman of the Petroleum Exploration and Production Authority Mr. Nabeel Al-Qawsi.

On September 23rd, 1993, the CNPY celebrated the first Masila loading, when Nexen loaded 555,000 barrels of Masila crude oil into a tanker named the "British Spirit."

"Here, we are 10 years and 894 loadings later, celebrating a decade of success after producing and shipping over

700 million barrels of oil," Mr. Charles W. Fischer, the President and Chief Executive Officer, Nexen Inc stated.

In Yemen, the Nexen's Masila operations continue to provide strong production, free cash flow and additional exploitation opportunities. This year's exploration program in Yemen is focused on two wells on Block 51 in the second quarter and one well on Block 50 before the year-end.

As for preserving oil production per a day and in stable manner for a long period of time, a Certificate of Appreciation was granted by the Oil and Minerals Ministry in recognition of the CNPY's efforts and its staff on July 13, 2003 on the occasion of the Labor Day

As a well-run company in the field of oil industry, the CNPY championed the International Code of Ethics with support from the Canadian government and continues to promote the Code to other Canadian businesses in order to advance ethical business practices.



Mr. Bajammal



Dr. Baraba'a



Eng Al-Qawsi



Mr. Abdulqader Helal

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Shipments from Ash-Shihr Oil Export Terminal in Hadhramout governorate.

Dr. Ba Rabba' also expressed his ministry's keen interest to preserve such distinguished success made by the government and the CNPY. He also expressed his hope for enlarging partnership with the CNPY in order to include its ever-increasing interests for practical training of the staff of the company. "This can be done to promote the staff's skills and performance as well as their capabilities to run oil operations in a safe and proper way and for the public interest," Dr. Ba Rabba' said.

He called on oil production companies to follow suit pace of success achieved by the CNPY.

He also called on foreign and Arab companies and investors to invest their capitals in the field of oil and minerals in the country. "Those investors will find support and we are going to help overcome any difficulties that may block their way," he said.

Dr. Ba Rabba' concluded his address by thanking the local council authorities represented by Hadhramout's governor, Mr. Abdulqader Helal, the military units represented by Brigadier,

"Today we are celebrating the passage of one decade since we exported the first shipment of oil by CNPY which proves its success in the practical performance. We are at the Production Petroleum Exploration and Production Authority, appreciate the exerted efforts by the company through our follow-up and monitoring companies' operating in the field of oil exploration and production," Mr. Al-Qawsi said.

"What have been achieved in this sector confirms the prospective, friendly partnership with the CNPY and what we have been aiming at is the continuation of this distinguished performance to achieve more success," he noted.

Mr. Al-Qawsi highly thanked H.E. Dr. Rasheed Saleh Ba Rabba', the Minister of Oil and Minerals, the 10th Anniversary Celebration Committee, the CNPY and its staff for making the festival a great success.

Abdulqader Ali Helal, the Hadhramout governor on behalf of the local council of Hadhramout governorate welcomed the guests for attending the 10th anniversary of the First Oil Shipment from Ash-Shihr Terminal.



Attendees during the 10th anniversary of first oil shipment



A Legacy of Friendship

Mohammed Ali Mohsen, the CNPY, the ministry's staff in all different departments including the Petroleum Exploration and Production Authority chaired by Eng. Nabeel Saleh Al-Qawsi.

Eng. Nabeel Saleh Al-Qawsi, Chairman of the Petroleum Exploration and Production Authority, the Chairman of the 10th Anniversary Celebration Committee, welcomed heartily the celebration attendees.

"The 10th anniversary coincides with the 41st anniversary of the 26 September Revolution and the 40th anniversary of the 14 October Revolution. Great achievements have been fulfilled under the president's era and perhaps our presence here to attend the 10th anniversary of the First Oil Shipment from Ash-Shihr Terminal is a clear testimony of a great success that has been achieved so far," Mr. Helal said.

The Oil and Mineral Ministry together with the CNPY have achieved great accomplishments and could gain respect of the political leadership, the government and the local council in the governorate.

"The company has been also entrusted with vital roles to promote the state's economy, through partnership principle and petroleum partnership productivity and also through the social projects implemented in exploration and exporting zones," he highlighted.

"The opulent activities and accomplishments achieved by the CNPY and its Masila Partners can be attributed to joint faithful efforts exerted by the leadership of the Ministry of Oil and Minerals, its staff, the CNPY and its management based on highly developed relations with the local communities in the governorate," he commented.

Mr. Helal also placed emphasis on that the president's visit to Canada on March 26, 2000, conveying strong deep relations between the two friendly



Mr. Shehadeh



Mr. Casey Olson



Mr. Murphy



Mr. Fischer

countries. "New horizons have been broadened with regard to promoting the economic relationship and tangible results could also be felt in volume of oil investment," the governor indicated.

"We are seriously working side by side with members of the local council in the districts of the governorate to implement orders issued by the state's high authority in order to facilitate difficulties and tackle problems faced by oil companies including the CNPY," he concluded.

Hani S. Shehadeh Lababdeh, the Area Manager of the Consolidated Contractors Int'l Company, CCC started his address by congratulating the Yemeni leadership under president of the republic and the Yemeni people on the 41st Anniversary of the 26 September revolution and the 40th Anniversary of the 14 of October Revolution.

As a partner, the CCC joined hands with the CNPY in 1968 in oil exploration in Masila Block, (14).



"The beginning was a difficult adventure and unproductive for the oil companies. But the CCC in cooperation with its Partners were overwhelmed by confidence and strong belief that Yemen is a promising country for a brighter future," Mr. Shehadeh remarked.

Efforts were then exerted by the CCC side by side with CNPY.

As a main contractor, a contract was then signed between the two companies on May, 9, 1992 and the first trade production goals between the two companies were mapped out on September 26, 1993 at the rate of 120 barrels a day.

"The project is considered to be a big challenge on part of the CCC as a result of the workplace distance, the rugged lands and mountainous barriers," Mr. Shehadeh said.

The Masila Block, (14) is considered to be a huge pioneering transition in the oil industry.

When describing his wonderful trip, the former US president, Jimmy Carter hailing the CCC and that the most interesting and wonderful thing was the CCC's distinguished performance in completing the al-Masila oil field in an extraordinary way.

The major job for CCC in its beginning year was the Aden Refinery. The CCC is ranked as the first company in the Arab world and the 17th in the world.

"The CCC feels proud of being the first company to contribute to establishing the Aden Refinery in 1952. Other consequent contributions have been followed by the CCC in order to achieve a developmental revival through tens of projects for the basic infrastructure in several vital fields such as, oil, water, refineries, constructions, and telecommunications," Mr. Shehadeh added.

CCC has had a continuous presence in Yemen since 1952.

During the year 2002, CCC had its

world can match," he remarked.

"Yemen offers a very positive environment for foreign investment. The oil production-sharing terms offered by the government of Yemen are among the most competitive in the international oil industry," he added.

He concluded his speech by congratulating and thanking H.E. President Saleh, members of the Yemen government, and the people of Yemen on their success and for the kind hospitality that has been showed to him.

The most vital aspect that makes the Occidental's partnership, particularly "effective" is the professional staff in the Ministry and YCIOM.

In Yemen, Occidental is one of the most active exploration and production companies with the largest exploration acreage position in the country-nearly 15 million acres.

The Company's production in Yemen comes from the world-class Masila Field and the adjacent east Shabwa Field.

Laurence Murphy, Senior Vice-President, International Oil and Gas-Nexen Inc.

President and Chief Executive Officer- Canadian Nexen Petroleum International Ltd.

Mr. Murphy expressed his deep gratitude for the cooperation offered by the Ministry of Oil and Minerals and the Petroleum Exploration and Production Authority.

"These individuals have worked closely with us on project development, steering our project through complex challenges and providing input and ideas at every stage," he said.

In September 1993, Mr. Murphy moved to Yemen where he became President and General Manager of Nexen's operations in Yemen Republic and managed the Yemen asset until March 1997.

He assumed the Role of Division Vice-President, Europe/Africa/Middle East from December 1996.

Mr. Charles W. Fischer, the President and Chief Executive Officer, Nexen Inc.

Mr. Fischer initiated his talk by expressing his gratitude for participating in that celebration recognizing 10 years of crude sales from Masila.

Masila is truly a world class field and has contributed greatly to the economic strength of Yemen. The Nexen's Community Affairs Program in Yemen provides basic assistance for clear drinking water, education, power generation, and health care to local communities due to its big successes.

"As a result of this success, Nexen and its Partners have been able to undertake a number of important community initiatives. These include helping to provide basic services such as, water supply, as in the Haru area, power supply, as in the Al Raidah power project, and helping to build medical and education facilities, such as, the school we have recently visited in Ghail Ba-Wazeer.

It is also worth noting that Nexen also provides scholarships to Yemeni students to encourage study in Canada in the disciplines most critical to Yemen's economic growth.

"We have also been able to provide Scholarships for deserving Yemeni students to study in Canada, and Nexen is involved in a major new UNDP water project here in Hadhramout," Mr. Fischer further stated.



العيسائي للنقل الدولي والداخلي

Al Esayi

Sheikh Mohammed Ali Abdullah Al Esayi, Management & the entire staff of Al Esayi International & Domestic Transportation Cooperation present their warmest congratulations to President of the Republic of Yemen

Ali Abdullah Saleh
and to the Yemeni people
on the occasion of the 41st anniversary of the September 26 Revolution and the 40th anniversary of October 14th Revolution

الشيخ / محمد علي العيسائي، والإدارة وكافة موظفي مؤسسة العيسائي للنقل الدولي والداخلي يتقدمون بأحر التهاني والتبريكات إلى فخامة الرئيس /

علي عبدالله صالح

وإلى كافة أبناء الشعب اليمني العريق بمناسبة حلول الذكرى الحادية والأربعون للثورة اليمنية المجيدة في السادس والعشرون من سبتمبر والذكرى الأربعون للثورة المجيدة في الرابع عشر من أكتوبر.



شركة عاد للخدمات النفطية المحدودة
إحدى شركات مجموعة الرويمي للتجارة والاستثمار
تجهيز المواد، توريد الأيدي العاملة، تأجير المعدات، النقل، الشحن، التخليص، والإنشاءات.

تقدم بأسمى آيات التهاني والتبريكات إلى الأخ رئيس الجمهورية
علي عبدالله صالح

بمناسبة حلول الذكرى الحادية والأربعون للثورة اليمنية المجيدة في السادس والعشرين من سبتمبر.

أحمد سالم الرويمي
المدير العام
لشركة عاد للخدمات النفطية المحدودة

سالم علي الرويمي
رئيس مجلس إدارة المجموعة

وكافة العاملين والموظفين بالمجموعة وشركة عاد للخدمات النفطية

Add Petroleum Services Co. Ltd.
Member of al-Rowaimi Group for Trade and Investment
Material supply, Manpower, equip. rental, trucking, transportation, clearing, forwarding & construction.

Presents its utmost congratulations and warmest felicitations to
H.E. President Ali Abdullah Saleh
President of the Republic

On the occasion of the 41st anniversary of immortal 26 of September Revolution

Salem Ali Al-Rowaimi
Chairman of Board
of Directors

Ahmed Salem Al-Rowaimi
General Manager of
Add Petroleum Services Co. Ltd.

And all the staff of the group and of Add Petroleum Services Co. Ltd.



المكلا - حضرموت - الجمهورية اليمنية - هاتف: ٠٠ / ٢ / ٣٥١٢٣٣ - ٥ - ٩٦٧، فاكس: ٣٥١٢٣١ - ٥ - ٩٦٧،
ص.ب: ٨٠٣٥ موقع إلكتروني: wwwAdd-petroleum.com
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Local Press

Prepared by Mohammed Khidhr

Al-Mithaq weekly, organ of the ruling party GPC, 22 Sept. 2003.

Main headlines:

- Vice-president: Celebrations reflect struggling values of the history of heroes of the revolution
- Elections Supreme Committee reveals variation between the two laws of local authority and of elections
- The case of deductions fro teachers salaries referred to accountability apparatus
- Justice Minister discloses that 513 judges without work, his ministry needs 3000 policemen
- Sana'a 20th International Book Fair, opened

Columnist Dr Adularia al-Morale says in his article those who are taking a spectator stand and those indifferent of what is going on to their nation at the present time are alone uninterested in the initiatives meant for taking the present Arab situation from the tunnels of despair and frustration and they do not think about salvaging what could be saved of the minimum extent of the Arabs unity in facing the present and coming catastrophes. Those people, some of them at the top of government or in senior positions regarding the cultural and information direction, do not properly linking what is happening in Palestine and in Iraq to what can happen in other Arab countries under justification or without pretext as long as the gates are wide open before the winds of aggression.

The initiatives for unifying the Arab political address to face the Zionist brutality and those supporting it are positive expressions of the nation's conscience at this moment. Founding a consistent Arab order capable of confronting the outside can receive respect from inside and from outside and to end the state of frustration and all abnormal aspirations aimed at dismantling the single country into a group of sectarian and ethnical names. What is happening in Iraq is but an example to be exported to other places after Iraq could have surrendered

to the will of the occupier that led the war for the main reason of controlling the wells of oil and its revenues and nothing more than that of what is alleged of founding a democratic regime and liberation of the citizen from the dictatorial rule. Such liberation would not be accomplished but by the hands of the people and political reforms in any country are an internal affair that could not come from outside on board of military tanks and aircraft carriers.

Al-Shoura weekly, organ of the Union of People's Forces in Yemen, 21 Sept. 2003.

Main headlines:

- Yemeni envoy to Madrid to explain legal reasons of sentencing Nankly
- The UN General Assembly demands Israel not to deport Arafat
- At meetings of Central Banks mayors and the World Bank, an Israeli delegation attend for the first time in Dubai
- Death sentence against the killer of Jarallah Omer before completion of investigations, denounced
- Security forces arrest 92 persons for chanting slogans against America and Israel
- Public hospital in Hudeidah converted to a guest house
- Teachers: Taiz education office depended randomness in distributing teachers

Columnist Ahmed Omrabi asks if there is a symbolic relationship between the armed resistance in both Iraq and Palestine and he says there is of course such a relationship not from the point of view of the organizational meaning. But does that prevent the existence of a relationship between the two styles of resistance as a struggling equation due to the American and Zionist similarity? The writer presumes there would be in foreseeable future a possibility of the existence of an organizational relationship between the Palestinians and the Iraqis and this would develop with the passage of time. After four months of occupation it has become that the supposition of the existence of weapons of mass destruction in Iraq is nothing than a smoke curtain to hide the American strategic goal

Main Headlines

- PM orders freezing accounts of teachers and education professions unions, subjects them to legal accountability
- On the Revolution Day, political statement by the president, laying foundation stones to many economic and development projects
- Pitched fighting in Hamdan
- Journalists Syndicate appeals to Spanish government and international community to release Alouni
- Responding to foreign pressures, presidency tendency to commute death sentence against Nankly
- Arms behind kidnapping the Egyptian diplomat
- Forty companies demand stop "al-Basa'ir" deal
- Germany and France criticize American resolution on Iraq
- In statements to Annas weekly, PM Bajammal: My task to reform laws, close gaps against corruption and terror
- GPC accuses JMP press as behind Yemenis suicides
- Al-Qaeda statement announces a halt of operations in Yemen under conditions
- Spain demands stop of Nankli execution for connection with international terrorist network
- Leadership of Hutat group in Sana'a, Saudi Arabia hands over wanted
- Political statement by the president, confirming continuation and renewal of Yemeni revolution
- FM al-Qirbi: Current challenges require meeting of Arab leaders to adopt a stand

of imposing a full control on the Iraqi national oil industry. At the same level it has been proved that among the articles of this American strategy is he project of building a gigantic oil pipeline linking

Iraq and Israel across the Jordanian territories extended to the port of Haifa. Realization of this goal at the present tense circumstances in all parts of Iraq and the continuous presence of the

American occupying military forces is something is something not practical. But it would a target of the American strategic planners to be put into effect when convenient circumstances are available.

Al-Wahdawi weekly, organ of the Nasserite Unionist Organisation, 23 Sept. 2003.

Main headlines:

- Compensations and jobs for Hutat group in return for ending its activities
- Chairman of national committee on resisting normalization Abu Hatim: Regime participation with the Zionists in Dubai, a challenge to people will
- Military commander breaks into a court in Hajja, detaining investigating magistrate
- Pressures postpone execution of Nankli
- American embassy refuses release of grand mosque worshipper detainees

On the 41st anniversary of the Yemeni 26 September revolution, columnist Hamdi al-Bukari says for 41 years and Yemen is still complaining backwardness. Years have passed and we are still fighting among ourselves without giving the country but wounds and poverty. It is unbelievable following all those years to see students studying in the open and university students selling qat and masters degree holders working restaurants. All this time and we have not been able to build a proper sewage network or a road without holes or to change mentality of a citizen in order not to spit residue of his qat on the street.

The population is increasing but services are not, the rate of those looking for jobs is on the increase but there are no markets to accommodate them. Prices hike in great speed and the level of income is firm and fixed.

What is prevalent of chaos and disregard has nothing to do with the revolution as an accomplishment the Yemenis are proud of. The revolution will remain the most important event our people have achieved besides the unity but the living of the majority of the people

under the line of poverty confirms the existence of a minority has opposed the administration and the will for the sake of gaining their own interests.

Al-Tagamou weekly, organ of the Yemeni Unionist Assemblage Party, 22 Sept. 2003.

Main headlines:

- Fall of a stage at wedding in Zabid causes three deaths, injury of 60 women, and theft of jewels worth millions
- Security official's son beats a prisoner

In an article columnist Ahmed Said al-Dahi says supposedly the political opposition in Yemen succeeded in assuming power in a democratic way and then we have queried would it run the rule or the society in a way better than the existing regime? The question would of course be in negation, disappointing and frustrating to expectations of many of the opposition affiliates and supporters. The evidence is this bitter reality we are experiencing that reflects volume and the weak role of the opposition and its present troubled behaviour, its low-pitched voice, very weak influence and it secondary position.

Though the political and economic reality is experiencing a state of a crisis and turbulence recalling an impetus to create advanced styles of work and coining effective means of work and deriving successful solutions exerting heavy pressure on the government to adopt treatments for the present problems, we find the opposition takes a brittle and indifferent stand whose reaction does not exceed an intensively complaining statement or writing an article. If there were not a newspaper for this party or that the citizen or the great majority of the people would not have known the existence of these parties.

In order to improve the role of the opposition is to contribute to dealing with the issues and woes and problems of the nation and at the same time to form real pressures on the successive governments to force them upgrade the efficiency of their performance.

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لقيام الثورة اليمنية الخالدة

٢٦ سبتمبر ١٩٦٢م

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موظفي شركة النفط اليمنية
عنهم / لطف عبدالله الثور
المدير العام التنفيذي



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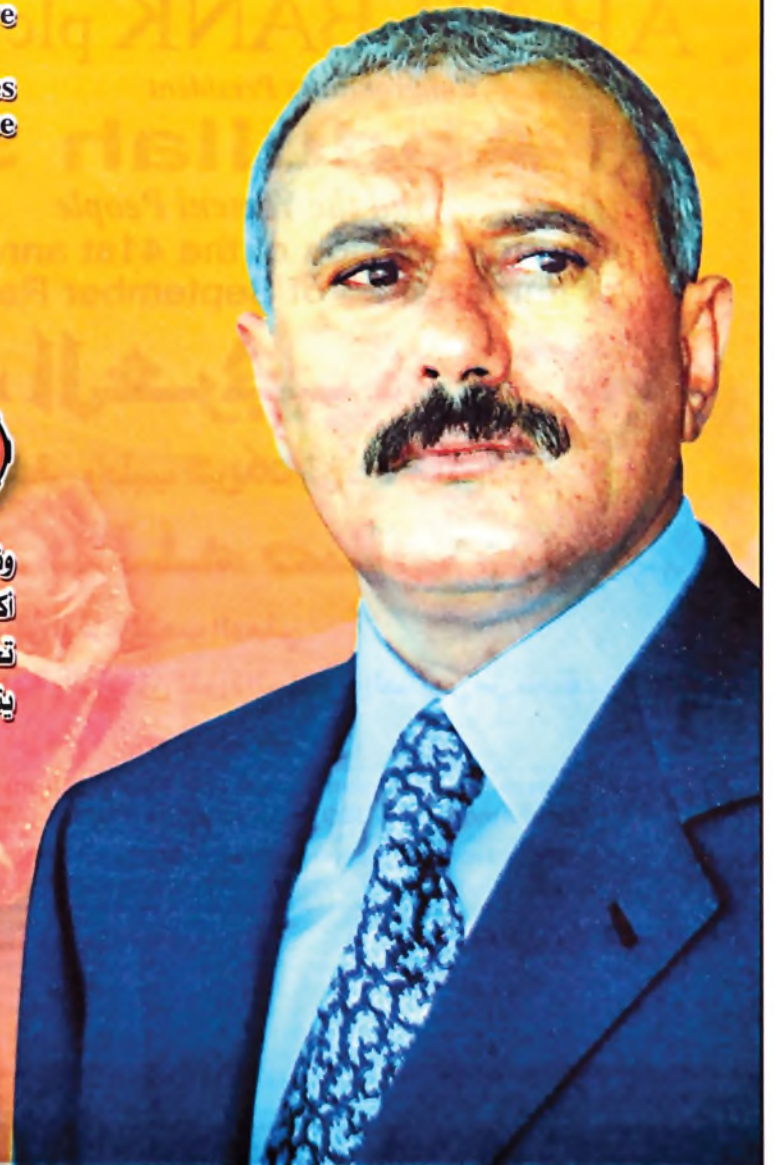
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As Arnold Schwarzenegger's hopes to become California's governor continue:

Hollywood politics on the horizon

By YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Many believe that Arnold Schwarzenegger, the internationally renowned Hollywood actor, will win enough votes to become the new California governor. Representing the Republican Party, the Terminator superstar is now geared up to become the first Republican actor to hold such a senior political position after former US president Ronald Reagan.

However, looking into the view of Arab Americans about the candidacy of Arnold, many have a negative view, mainly because of the negative portrayal of Arabs in a number of his films. One of those films was "True Lies", which was starred by Arnold and produced by the 20th Century Fox Studios.

The American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee (ADC) had said that the "racist depictions of Arabs in movies lead to real consequences for Arab Americans, including employment discrimination, religious persecution, and hate crimes."

Hence, not many Arab Americans are expected to vote for Arnold for two main reasons: the first because he represents the party of George W. Bush, which has lost almost all its support among the Arab community in the USA because of the recent war on Iraq and Afghanistan and is known to have stakes in Israeli companies such as Cell Guide Ltd. The second reason is because he has played major roles in Hollywood movies that depict Arabs in a



negative way. However, many Arabs also believe this is a healthy phenomenon because bringing an immigrant to become a governor in

the USA demonstrates the freedom and liberty immigrants in the USA enjoy in political life. Furthermore, Arnold had pledged to help in legalizing the stance of millions of undocumented immigrants in California. "I came to California 35 years ago because I saw this state as the best place



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on earth to fulfill my dreams. Immigrants contribute to the richness of life in California, and I embrace them... More than 2.3 million undocumented immigrants currently live in California. They cannot continue to live underground. I will work with federal officials to address this problem," Arnold said.

It is interesting how an immigrant from Austria who came 35 years ago with only \$20 to find a better life is now getting closer to become the governor of the most heavily populated state in the USA.

It is also amazing to see how muscles brought fame and money, which in turn brought political achievements. It remains to be seen how the Hollywood star will do if he is elected on October 7th. After all, a professional and superb actor is not guaranteed to be a good politician, unless he is a person with multiple talents and broad vision.

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