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FUN ON THE RUN

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2002 Person of the Year

YEMEN

BY IMAD AL-SAOOAF TAIZ BUREAU CHIEF TAIZ

Shawqi Ahmed Hayel Saeed Ana'am, a prominent personality from Taiz has been named the Yemen Times' 2002 Man of the Year. Shawqi, 41, is respected by many young

Yemenis throughout the country for his support of youth programming. With a bachelor degree in management and accounting from the University of California, Shawqi has succeeded in his personal life and his business career.

His Man of the Year honors come, however, for his efforts to enhance sports and youth activities throughout Yemen. His involvement in the local

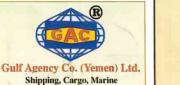
council in Taiz during 2002 enabled him to provide Taiz City with various development and economic projects such as the pavement of internal streets in the Cairo district.

Taiz citizens have expressed often their appreciation for Shawqi's role in supporting the young community with equipment, funds, training facilities and moral encouragement and motivation.

His support resulted in the rise of national football stars that competed in international events and gained respectable ranks, including being runner-up in the now disputed 2002 Under-17 Asian Championship.

Continued on page 5

Mr. Shawqi Ahmed Hayel Saed Ana'am



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Yemeni loved slain Americans Eight others on hit-list Now we Probing mourn murders Now we

BY YEMEN THES NEWS SERVICES AND YEMEN THE 'S STAFF

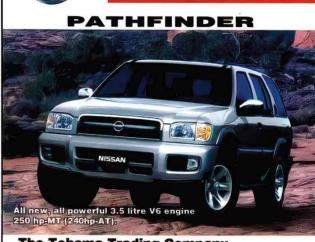
Hospital were murdered.

BY YEMEN TIMES STAFF AND NEWS SERVICES

SANAA — As many as 30 men are in custody in connection with Monday's killing of three U.S. aid workers at the Jibla Baptist Hospital.

International that many of them have ties to Abed Abdel Razeq Kamel, who is already in custody on suspicion of shooting the three American aid workers who worked at the Jibla Baptist Hospital.

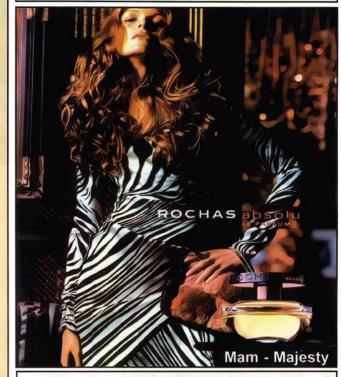
itants arrested in a series of police raids that began Monday night shortly after the shootings.



Happy New Year

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Local

New updates on recent incidents

More information was found through investigations with Ali Ahmed Jaralla who had assassinated the late Jaralla Omar last Saturday (28th Dec.) in the Reform Party's III General Conference. Sources told the YT that he and the murderer of the three American doctors in Jibla last Monday (30th Dec.) had planned together since long for their crimes and that they have a long list of people yet to be targeted. The list contains a number of political figures, journalists and political parties leaders whom the two men termed as infidels. Ali Jaralla admitted that there is a third partner and the third mission they planned targets a building in Hadda Street known as "Al-Faidh Al-Hatimi". The compound is inhabited by a number of students and visitors from Al-Buhra sect (Al-Buhra is a sect of Islam who have slightly different views and traditions and are mainly concentrated in Haraz-near Sana'a). However, police forces arrested the third partner before he could execute his plan while another two of the cell are still at large. It is still unknown whether Ali Jarallah cell will continue in its attempts to attack Al-Buhra sect religious places in Haraz, Jibla and Qaid ban Hamid in Sana'a after their abortive attempt against ""al-Faidh Al-Al-Hatimi".

Salman Rashid representative of Al-Buhra Sultan, in a statement to the Yemen Times said: "We are here to serve our people and Muslims in general and visitors, and we have heard that there is someone targeting the "Al-Faidh Al-Hatimi" area. What I want to tell those and everyone else is that we gather here to worship and



pray and facilitate pilgrimage for those who come for it. People come from all around the country and we are a transit stop for them to help them make their way and back. They also come to visit the holly shrines of Al-Fatimeen and take blessings there. We pray to God to protect us from all those who wish to harm us. As for

negotiations, we have reached a dead end with those fanatics do not know what dialogue is. Islam is a religion for peace and love, and I hope these concepts only prevail at the end."

Ali jaralla had in a sermon a year ago assailed al-Buhra sect describing its followers as more infidel than the Jews and Christians.non-Moslims.

Workshop on environment protection held in Aden & Mukalla

general manager of the Environment

and Tourism Ministry's Office in

Hadramot all delivered speeches

regarding the issue, emphasizing on

the importance of taking this topic seri-

ously, considering the dangers of

organic materials on the environment.

Dr. Al-Lawzi informed the Yemen

Times that this workshop aims to

spread environmental awareness

among those who work with organic

materials. Indicating that the workshop

comes in alignment with the national

execution plan to eliminate organic

materials that the country started work-

ing on since September 2002, and is

planned to end in August 2004. He

added that the Global Environment

F.... (GEF) sponsors the plan and

signed an agreement with Yemen say-

It is worth noting that a similar

workshop has been concluded recently

in Al-Mukalla organized by the same

parties and in which more than 25 peo-

ple participated in. In that workshop,

the Stockholm agreement was dis-

cussed beside general information

about the organic material and their

dangerous effects on man and the envi-

ing so on 5th December 2001.

The General Authority for Environment Preservation (GAEP) organizes on 5-6 January 2003 a twoday workshop in coordination with the UN Environment Program.

The workshop is to discuss Polychlorinated Phoenix (PCBs), Dioxins, Furans and other elements, which are considered as of the organic materials included in Stockholm International Organization for Fixed Organic elements POPs that Yemen signed on the 5th December 2001. These materials (12 compounds) con-

These materials (12 compounds) contain chlorine and are known to resist decaying in different mediums whether air, water or soil for many years. Also they have a bioaccumulation nature and can cause cancer, extreme allergy or defect the immunity system of human beings.

Specialists from Aden, Lahj, Abyan, Al-Dhali'h and Taiz will participate in this workshop, which was inaugurated by a number of state personalities. Eng. Salmeen Abood Al-Me'ari General Secretary of the local council in Aden and Dr. Jamal Al-Lawzi head manager of the GBEP Aden Branch, the national coordinator of Stockholm agreement and Mr. Fadhel Naser Saif

Anti-violence angry demonstrations in Yemeni cities

trial.

ronment.

Hundreds of people from Taiz city, Sayoun, and Bani Hushaish province in Sana'a governorate, took to the streets Thursday denouncing the assas-

sination of Mr. Jarallah Omar the assistant secretary general of the Yemeni socialist party and the murder of three US doctors in Jibla in Ebb governorate. The marchers raised ant-violence banners and shouted anti- terror slogans. The protesters have called on all the national forces to join hands to put an end to such criminal acts which contradict the teachings of Islam. On the other hand, a number of civil society organizations have condemned such criminal acts which jeopardize the national security and stability. They called for bringing the murderers for

Readers 'Voice

Yemen Times is reintroducing a popular feature "Readers' Voice" - formerly known as YT Opinion Poll.

This is your opportunity to have a say on world and local affairs.

This week's question:

The illegal carrying and use of weapons in Yemen is one of the main factors in terrorist attacks. Why do you think the authorities have failed to limit this phenomenon?

- Because it doesn't have enough resources and power to do so.
- Because of the tribal culture of the Yemeni society.
- Because it does not believe in the need to do
- SO.
- I simply don't know why!

Last week's question:

Do you think that the assassination of Jarallah Omar was political? If yes, who do you think did it?

Answers:

- No, it was not politically motivated %14
- Yes, an Islamic group was behind it %27
- Yes, Islah Party was behind it %12
- Yes, GPC was behind it %25
 Yes, a foreign side was behind it %3
- Yes, but I cannot guess who may be behind it %19

Go to our website at: yementimes.com/#poll and have your voice heard!



Yemeni-Saudi Coordination Council

Meetings of the preparatory ministerial committee of the Yemeni-Saudi Coordination Council concluded its meetings at Aden Hotel on 26 December 2002 by signing the final minutes. The minutes included a number of recommendations and results aimed at activating relations and bilateral cooperation. The minutes was signed for the Yemeni side by Engineer Abdulla Hassan al-Shater, planning and development ministry assistant undersecretary and for the Saudi side by Engineer Adnan Mohammed Bakhash in charge of the special committee at the council of ministers, leading the Saudi side of the preparatory committee. Signing ceremony was attended by Yemen's ambassador to KSA Khalid al-Akwa'a', Saudi ambasYemeni Coordination Council. Mr Bakhash said the preparatory committee had signed the final minutes in the city of Aden and discussions were carried out good atmospheres, expressing his thanks for the good hospitality and efforts exerted by all for the success of the meeting. He added the task of the preparatory committee is purely technical and foeus on preparing for the coming meeting of the Saudi-Yemeni Coordination Council.

Discussions in the meeting covered various topics pertaining to sectors of education, water, health, overland transport, and naval, oil, electricity and tourism affairs.

Head of the Yemeni side to meetings of the preparatory committee Mr al-

3 landmarks bombed

Three landmarks were bombed by tribesmen at Waela tribe last Friday, a source told the Yemen Times.

The landmarks have been recently fixed by the German border demarcation company. The tribe claims the possession of those areas during the signing of demarcation of the Yemeni-Saudi borders.

It has to be mentioned here that violence, which occurred recently resulted



in the injury of about 6 persons started when armed tribesmen from Dhu Hussein, Dahm al-Hamra'a attacked one of the sites of the German company demarcating the border Hansa Luftbeild at Shugat al-Waleed near Yateema area, Jawf governorate, 270 km to the north of the capital Sana'a. The company has completed fitting border markings without meeting the tribe's demands.

sador to Yemen Mohammed bin Mardas al-Kahtani and members of the preparatory committee at the SaudiShater delivered an address in the meeting thanking all efforts exerted by both the Yemeni and Saudi sides.

Constituencies for women

The General People's Congress Party (GPC) on Thursday offered a proposition to the opposition parties for allocating 20 constituencies for women for running for seats in the parliamentary elections scheduled next April.

Head of the political office of the GPC Dr Mohammed Abdulmajeed al-Qubati told Yemen Times that aim of the proposition was to give Yemeni women political participation opportunity. It is not known whether the opposition parties would positively respond to the proposal despite that it is expected that the YSP women members could win some seats in the parliament especially in the southern areas if the suggestion is accepted. It is noteworthy that there are two women parliamentarians representing the GPC in the parliament.







TIMES

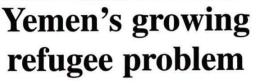
Ten thousands Yemenis attend funeral ceremony

Tens thousands of Yemenis escorted the deceased Jarallah Omer to his final resting place in Ashohada (Martyrs) cemetery in Sana'a.

Jarallah Omer, the assistant secretary-general of the Yemeni Socialist Party, YSP, was shot dead last week while attending the Islah party conference. At the head of the funeral were leaders of the Joint Meeting Parties, Dr Abdulkarim al-Eryany secretary-general of the General People's Congress ruling party along with leaders of the Islah party, government officials, intellectuals and members of armed and security forces and students.

The funeral ceremony has been considered one of the largest ceremonies after Dr. Abdulaziz Assaqqaf, who died in a car accident.

The funeral ceremony is regarded as a total rejection of all forms of terrorist acts and violence.



New President for Nexen

Starting January 1, 2003, Mr. Rick started its Yemeni students' scholarship

The year 2002 witnessed a growing number of refugees coming from African Horn countries to Yemen.

Staff General Mutahar Rashad Al-Masri told the 26 September weekly newspaper that Coast Guard authorities captured 1,700 refugees in the last three months alone.

Most are from Somalia.

Such refugees are often moved to Khaowz Camp, in Abyan governorate. He said Yemeni authorities deal with

Jensen has been appointed as the new

President and General Manager of

Canadian Nexen Petroleum. Mr. Jensen

replaced former President Mr. Tim

Thomas, who will be promoted to a high-

er post in the company's headquarters in

During the Presidency of Tim Thomas,

not only did Canadian Nexen Petroleum

increase and enhance its cooperation

Calgary-Canada.

such refugees on a humanitarian basis although this could cause an economic and social burden as numbers grow.

Those migrants are usually smuggled by unidentified boats and are mostly thrown in the sea for fear of Coast Guard which is still not strong.

A UNHCR office in Sana'a report had that rate of refugee influx to Yemen amounted to 10,000 persons a year, mostly from the African Horn and Somalia specifically.

program in Calgary. Under the first phas-

es of the company's program, which

started in 1997 to celebrate its 10th

anniversary of working in Yemen, the

company donated scholarships for 20

Rick Jensen on the other hand, is not

new to Yemen as he worked in the as the

company's Assistant General Manager of

the Canadian Nexen before he moved to

students to study in Calgary.

Seminar on role of female journalists

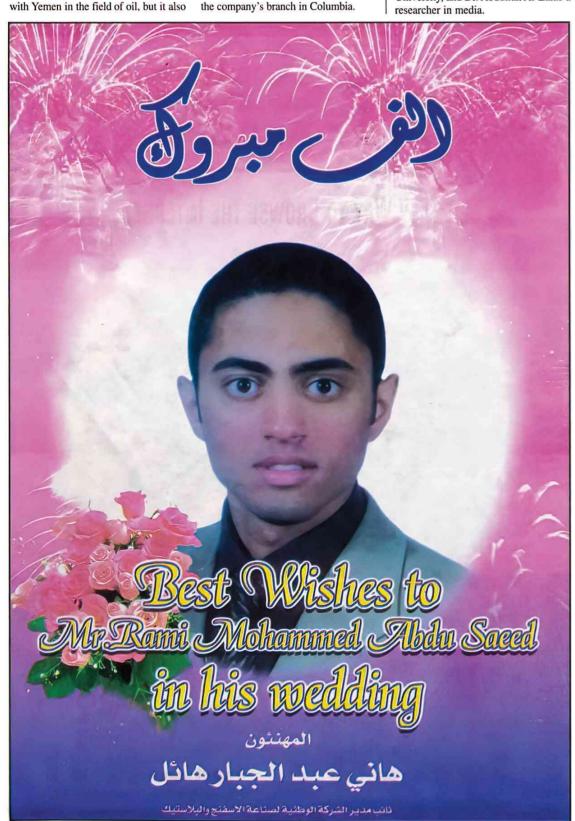
Queen Arwa University, Development and Society Service Center organized on Saturday a seminar under the title: "Role of female journalists and political pioneers in the approaching parliament elections".

Minister of Information Mr. Haussain and Dr. Ahmed Al-Awadhi, Abdulraqeeb Thabit Vice President of the university, Mr. Abdulkafi Al-Eryani Head of the Development and Society Service Center, Mr. Mahboob Ali Chairman of the Yemeni Journalists Syndicate, and Mr. Abdu Mohammed Al-Janadi Head of the Media and Elections Awareness Campaign at the Supreme Committee of Elections attended the inauguration and all delivered speeches in it. Four working papers were presented in the seminar by Dr. Ahmed Aqabat college of information dean at Sana'a University, Dr. Mohammed Abdul_jabar Salam head of journalism department at college of Information at Sana'a University, Ms. Arwa Abdullatif Mutahar teacher at the college of information at Sana'a University, and Dr. Abdullah Al-Zalab a researcher in media.



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Local/Community

6 January, 2003

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Continued from Page 1 2002 Person of the Year the factors of enhancement are?

he selection of Shawqi also comes in a time when Taiz is gaining greater attention and importance in cultural, economic and social aspects.

The Yemen Times would like to congratulate him with this award and given him and all citizens of Taiz best

wishes for 2003. Shawqi is head of the planning and development committee of the local council in Taiz. He also is an honorary president of five different clubs in

Yemen. He's the executive head of Al-Saqr Sports Club (The Falcon) and is establishing a complete infrastructure of the club, along with establishing a Young Persons Development Centre for football.

He is married with four children, two boys and two girls, and has availed his bachelor in business California administration from University, USA.

As the name suggests. Shawqi is a member of the Hayel Saeed An'am family, and is currently the vice president of the supreme managerial board in Hayel Saeed An'am Group.

When told about being named as Yemen Times 2002 Man of the Year, he very modestly he said that there are more deserving people.

But the readers choice gives evidence to what he has given the country especially in the sports field.

Q: What are the reasons for your to them. success both on the personal and practical levels? And what are the reasons

· Born in al-Mudhaffar - Taiz on June 23, 1961 · Obtained a Bachelor degree in busi-

ness Administration and accounting from the University of California in the USA

Political and economic posts:

· Member of Board of Directors of the Hayel Saeed Anaam Group of Companies · Vice GM of the Supreme Administration of the HSA Group of Companies · Vice Chairman of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry for the Industrial Sector in Taiz · President of the Planning. Development, and Finance Committee in the local council of the

Taiz Governorate · Member of Board of Directors of the Yemeni Industrialists Association · Member of the Supreme Health Council of Taiz

behind the success the Hayel Saeed An'am Group enjoys?

what I can say

international A: To start competitions; we are with, I can't really say that working now on I am a successful perrehabilitation of the son. That is relative and sports infrastructure eventually is left to others Yemen.' to decide, not myself. But

is that I work hard and honestly like the rest of my brothers and cousins by living up to the morals and principals we learnt from our grandfathers, fathers and uncles. Those people gave us the cream

of their expe-'We apply moral and riences and effort, and *idealistic principles* have become the ideal that was followed with strategic and in our lives. And if there is scientific mechanisms success to be mentioned in our work, and that then the credit thanks goes to God is what makes the Hael first and then Group successful.' As for the

Biography of Shawqi Hayel Saeed Anaam · Member of the Local Council for

and

Encouraging Small Projects · Member of Board of Directors of the Science and Technology University · Member of Taiz University Council · Member of the Trustees' Council of Taiz governorate · Vice President of the Yemeni French Friendship Association · Head of the Economic Circle of the GPC in Taiz · Member of Board of Directors of the Local Water and Sanitation Establishment · President of the Al-Aghabira and Al-Arooq Charity Association's Taiz Branch Member of Board of the Social Security Fund · Chairman of the Saqr Sport and Culture Club · Honorary President of the sport clubs: Al-Talia, Shaab Hadramout, Taawun Baadan, Shabab Al-Baida, Hassan, and Abyan

behind success of the 'Yemeni athletes have Hayel Group, you can say proved themselves in apply We moral and idealistic principles with strategic and scientific mechanisms in our work, and that is what makes the Hayel

Group sports clubs. successful. sports unions to enhance and develop Along with wise policy local competitions so that Yemen and mature management of the group's could be strongly represented on the administrative board, lead by Ali international level

in

the

Mohammed Saeed An'am and Ahmed - Rehabilitation of the national cadre Hayel Saeed An'am chairperson and working in the sports sector. Searching new sources to fund vice president of the board, and of

are as follows:

sports activities - Setting an effective strategy and an

executing mechanism to care for the young and youth contests in various games.

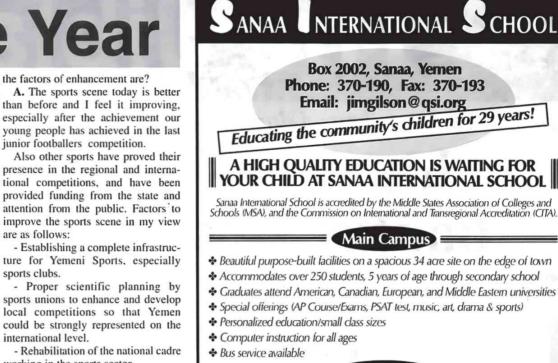
Yemeni athletes have proved themselves in international competitions; we are working now on rehabilitation of the sports infrastructure Yemen." In this context, we are now working

on establishing a development centre for the junior athletes in Taiz. This is in accordance with the Sports and Youth Ministry and the General Union for Football.

Q: What are the prominent achievements which you have accomplished while working in the local councils? And how do you evaluate your experience there?

A. The main focus in the beginning in this new experience was to understand the local authority law, to clarify the relationship between the local councils and the executive bureaus. Then to find the administration structure for the local councils and defining its incomes as stated in that law. This has taken a lot of time but we accomplished it. Now the local council in Taiz is functioning in a satisfactory way and has achieved many things.

We try to concentrate in our work on improving the structure of the essential services in the city and suburbs, such as the roads and transportation, drainage systems, electricity along with improving the services of health centers and educational institutes. You will notice efforts in reconstructing the streets and water supply and telephone systems, as well as organizing market places. We also have a grand strategic project concerning the second phase of protecting Taiz form flood disasters.



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on which work will start soon.

Through this experience, I have come to learn about the mechanisms used in the government sector and I have found there many excellent managerial skilled people. I also realized many things which I was not aware of before this. This experience has given me a lot on both the personal and general levels. I owe many thanks to all those who elected me for this position and I pray to god that I do not let them down

Q: Through your work in the Hayel Group and in the Yemeni Industrial Community, how do you evaluate the present situation of the Yemeni industry? And could the 'made in Yemen' caption start becoming real?

A: I can not deny that the industrial scene in Yemen suffers from great complications, and that the industrial services are below the required level. More so, the investment atmosphere does not comply with the role which these services should be playing now. Moreover, there is aggressive competition represented by the foreign products which are smuggled into the country. Still, in spite of all these obstacles, there is an improvement compared to what the situation was like years ago. Industries started using more advanced technology in their

manufacturing and enhancing the standards of their products.

We hope that through the current international transformations and their reflection on the national industry that the concerned authorities start negotiwith the World Trade ating Organization to make use of the privileges that could be granted to our country considering the situation of the industry at present.

Industrial authorities should negotiate with the WTO to grant Yemen privileges that would enhance the trade situation in the country.

'Made in Yemen' is a patriotic theme that can not be reached unless all the concerned partied cooperated together in honesty and work on the government, private and public levels.

Q: While saying goodbye to a year and welcoming another, what are your personal and general wishes and dreams?

A: My personal ambitions do not differ from any other person's ambitions. I want to achieve success in my work and self-improvement to my abilities and personal skills. On the general level I wish development and flourishing of my country and the Islamic world, and establishing security, stability and social peace under the wise leadership of President Ali Abdullah Saleh.

More voices on Yemen's week of deadly attacks

course cooperation with remaining members, their brothers. Q: Tell us

about your daily routine and how you manage

management one can mange all his activities. As for me, for example since the managing functions through a predefined controlled mechanism, I don't struggle much in my private business. We have an organizational structure run by a set of honest and qualified personal. As for my work with the government at the local councils, I have dedicated the masterpiece of my time for that because it is a new experience for me, and because I head one of the most important sections, that is the planning and development and

finance department. Thanks to God, I have not encountered problems in this line, especially since I find support from the governor and general secretary of the local council in the Taiz who have helped me a lot, along with the rest of the committee members. As for my hobbies and sports, I find time not only to follow it but also to practice, as I like to swim, and watch football matches and basketball competitions.

Q: How do you view the sports scene in Yemen, and what do you think

between work, sports or your other hobbies? A: With a little time

Murders attack Yemen's democracy

emen and the international community were shaken last week by murders of prominent politician Jarallah Omar, leader of the YSP, and three American aid workers at Jibla Baptist Hospital.

Since time immemorial, the Islamic religion, the norms, and inherited values strongly condemn violence, extremism and terror.

All religions and celestial divinity also discards extremism, terror and the illegal killings of humans

The Yemen Times has discussed this issue from different reviewing some point of view on terror and its negative effects on the Yemeni Muslim community.

The Yemen Times' opinion is that to stop killing of innocents and terrorism is a national duty. New terror acts will pave the way for more problems in every corner of the country

That can be detected after killing 3 US aid workers in Jibla and the political assassination of Jar Allah Omar.

On his part, the president of the republic says in his convalescence to the family of the deceased, "Jar Allah Omar's killing is a terror and an unacceptable criminal act."

The YSP Central Committee following the assassination of Jar Allah Omar says in its statement that it was a shameful act that signifies political bankruptcy.

The statement added that the bullets

that were penetrated Jar Allah's heart, want to kill noble values where he himself enjoyed.

Those bullets want to silence the voice of mind where he himself want to put an end to killings, violence, and respect for human rights.

The statement calls all the different political and social forces, the intellectual movements the honest, for condemning this heinous crime and pursuing the criminals.

The YSP statement has called its members to gather together under the same umbrella.

On its part, the Islah party, the second largest party in Yemen, in its statement during the third conference and says that the Jar Allah's assassination is a heinous crime against the Islah members and a strong shock against each Islah member and the honest people in the country.

The secretary-general of the General Peoples Conference, Dr. Abdulkareem al-Eriani said that the murder of Jar Allah will be a motive for adopting democracy, pluralism and respect for freedom of opinion. Terror doesn't know democracy and doesn't believe in freedom and the freedom of intellect.

Dar Assalam Peace Organization for Anti-violence strongly condemn the murder of YSP secretary-general assistant, Jar Allah Omar and the US aid doctors.

The chairman of the Dar Assalam

Peace Organization for Anti-violence says that his organization has issued a statement condemning the terror act against religion and constitution. "The society is in need of spreading the culture of tolerance and peace," the statement said.

Some other opinions:

Mohammed Hussein al-Aidaroos, assistant general-secretary assistant of the General People Conference

'Terrorism in all its forms including the political assassination is at variance with democracy and its principles.

It is clear that the terror in all its forms where has Yemen has fallen prey to for a long period of time and after the September 11 terrorist attacks in US has taken different shapes and forms. This manifests itself where foreign interests have become the main targets by the terrorist groups.

These attempts aim primarily at weakening the national economy and spoil the democratic experience in Yemen. That is clearly seen when our country has been progressing rapidly and in an eye-catching manner.

It is natural for democratic principles and extremism not to meet. The democratic choice that has been adopted by the wise leadership of President Ali Abdullah Saleh has saved Yemen from political violence. He could achieve security and social dialogue and could also provide a comprehensive development for the whole nation.

A new form of war has been come into existence and this is known as intellectual extremism. This new conflict has been widely detected in the Arab and Muslim countries.

In our country many terrorist acts are ambiguous and the country itself has been negatively affected."

Dr. Ali al-Fakeeh, economic researcher

"It has to be mentioned that Islam forbids the killing others and therefore, alternative punishment laws are enacted. This is for the sake of the security of the community

Yemen's difficult environment is characterized by revenge. Carrying weapons is another problem. A man has to be distinguished from other people by carrying weapons. We can say that the culture of terrorism and violence is the major motive behind the assassination of Jar Allah Omar.

Perhaps it has a political dimension or extremist group. Concerning the time and place of the Jar Allah's assassination, it has been performed intentionally. TV cameras during the inaugural ceremony of the 1st conference of Islah have now added something new to the crime stage.

According to what has been reported by the news agencies, the killings of the US aid workers in Jibla is linked to the Jar Allah's assassination.

Assassination attempts have begun during the post-unification period. A number of mujahedeen or Islamic militants who came back from Afghanistan were entrusted to conduct further assassinations against the innocents under the pretext of accusing them of infidelity.

Dr. Qasem Sallam, member of the committee of Yemen Ba'ath Party

More sorrow than in anger, the national movement in Yemen us shocked to hear the death of one of the heroes during the inaugural ceremony of the Islah party.

Some people believe that it has been politically motivated while others believe that murder of Jar Allah aims bring discord to the joint meeting parties.

But such reaction will not occur at all. That is the public opinion has a different deal with such issue in a very sensitive way. They reefer the case to the state for conducting investigations. This has been done with a view of disclosing facts to the public about the ulterior motives behind the murder.

In this context, I dovemphasize that this heinous crime has been primarily directed against Yemen's stability.

The second point is that the killing of the US aid workers in Jibla that took place in one of the hospitals is unacceptable. True believers totally reject such incidents where hospitals have become bloody scenes for crimes and assassinations. Doctors help heal people and take care of him.



Jarallah Omar

In this regard, I think that the first incident in Sana'a is linked to the second one in Jiblah.

The ultimate aim of the two crimes are identical and meet in one point. It has been ruled out that the two bloody scenes have other motives in order to make Yemen a battlefield for spoiling the democratic experience during the upcoming parliamentary elections.

People have become more aware of this conspiracy whether it is administrated from outside or inside. The Yemeni people and the political forces have to unite together for the benefit of the right decision against committing crimes.

They have to encounter terror whatever its sources or forms are for the sake of protecting Yemen, its independence and its sovereignty.

Local / Community

The Jibla tragedy

Thousands helped during past 35 years A history of Jibla **Baptist Hospital**

PREPARED BY IBRAHIM ADDAHAN YEMEN TIMES IBB CORRESPONDENT

n Nov. 1963 Dr. James Young of the Baptist Hospital in Gaza made a survey trip to Yemen to explore the possibility of beginning a medical mission. The new republic was in desperate need of medical services. As a result of that visit, the ministry of health in Yemen extended a written invitation to southern Baptist to begin medical work.

In Feb. of 1964 Dr. J. D. Hughey and Dr. Young met with the representative of the Ministry of health in Sana'a for further discussion, and by spring of the year the board in the US voted to open medical work in Yemen.

In Sep. of 1964 Dr. Young and his family and Miss Maria Luisa Hidalgo, a Spanish Baptist nurse moved to the city of Taiz in Yemen. There plans were to open an out-patient clinic in Taiz until a more permanent place of work could be chosen and facilities built. The agreement between the Ministry if Health and the mission, known as the Baptist society in Yemen, was:

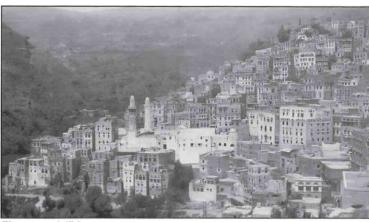
The Baptist society would work temporarily in Taiz and then chose a site for more permanent work acceptable to the Ministry of Health.

At this cite, not yet identified, the Baptist society would build a hospital, and the hospital would operate on a non-profit basis charging nominal fees.

Temporarily, quarters were assigned in a rather dilapidated section on the second flour of the government Hospital in Taiz. These quarts required considerable repairs but were more spacious than anticipated. Instead of an out patient clinic, it was decided to being work as a small hospital, 20 beds: 10 for men and 10 for women.

This was made possible in large part through the assistant of Dr. John Baker, the American embassy doctor Taiz who procured some beds, tables, cabinets and anesthesia machine from equipment not in use. The wives of the embassy and US AID personnel helped with linens, patient's gowns and the like. Miss Harlen Dark, wife of the US charge d-affairs, was specially helpful in coordinating the work of the wives. She also did volunteer work as a nurse.

The hospital opened in March in 1965. The professional staff consisted of two doctors, one nurse and one combination laboratory / X-ray/ anesthesia technician. We were joined a bit later, by two more nurses non of the rest of the staff had ever worked in a hospital. The operating table was a fixed metal table sitting on four sulfur-table cans to make it approximately the correct height. This small hospital ran for eighteen nonths during which time approximately 15,000 different out patient were seen and several hundred inpatients were admitted. The majority of in-patients were surgery patients. While working in Taiz, Jibla was chosen as the site for the hospital. The ministry of health visited the town and approved the choice. He following factors were involved in choosing Jibla:



The town of Jibla

At the time there was only one hospital and one doctor in the Ibb province (population over half a million). The people of Jibla were enthusiastic about the possibility of having a hospital and cooperated in making it possible. They also helped make land available.

Crowed of people coming to the clinic in the city of Taiz were too big to be handed and it was thought that the numbers coming to a small rural city would be more manageable.

The usual picture in developing countries is for doctors to tend to settle in the larger cities and towns and the hospital didn't want to be in an unhealthy competitive position with government hospitals.

In Nov. 1966 the hospital moved to Jibla. To provide living quarters and an out-patients clinic, US AID loaned the hospital trailers. These were previously used during their road building program in Yemen and were setting unused.

Mr & Mrs Murray Scarborough were sent as associate to direct the building program. He was instrumental in setting up the house trailers and out-patients clinic. Because of ill health, Mr & Mrs Scarborough left after six months.

Through circumstances of God's doing, a Swedish builder was given a contact to build the hospital and several residences. He began laying the foundations in Feb.1967, three months after, the hospital moved to Jibla. He brought a team of seven Swedish men to do the building.

It proved providential that the hospital was being built with men and material from this natural country, for it was built at the nadir of Arab American relation during the same time as the Six Day-War. Diplomatic relations between the US and Yemen, as well as almost all other countries were broken. The James Young family was the only American family allowed to remain in Yemen at that time. Jibla Baptist Hospital was inaugurated on schedule in March 1968. It had had been built and equipped for approximately two hundred thousand Dollar or less than three thousand dollars for per-bed. This included wards with seventy five beds, three operating room, an out-patient clinic, an electric plant, laundry, kitchen and store rooms. This was made possible through the economical work of Mr.

Ake Ronnderg, the builder, and through the gift of a large amount of used hospital equipment donated and shipped from Sweden by retired Msy, Mr. Erland Jonsson.

Almost from the beginning the hospital has been filled. Often more patients come to clinic than can be seen. There is a fairly long waiting list for elective surgery. In spite of a rather large increase of medical facilities throughout Yemen the statistic of Jibla Hospital show continued growth in the number of patient seen in the outpatient department, the number of admissions, the number of operation and the number of deliveries.

Work was interrupted for almost two months in 1977 following a fire which destroyed the medical stores, electric plant and laundry. Replacement of this one building cause a quarter of million dollar more than the original cost of the hospital. In spite of the time lost, more patients were seen in 1977 than in any previous year.

EPI program (Extended The Program for Immunization) was initiated. In cooperation with the government's Ministry of Health, the hospital began working to vaccinate all children in Jibla District against the following six diseases: measles, Diphtheria, whopping cough, tetanus, polio, and tuberculosis. Under the direction of Dr. Martha Myers. It is anticipated that this ongoing program will save 1000 children's lives each year.

Under the direction of home organization leadership, Jibla hospital has been reorganized as a smaller unit specializing in surgical, emergency and pediatric services. This was done to foster the capability to invest in a program of extended health ministries reaching out into the community.

Continued from page 1

ow we mourn

'Today was very sad for all of us," said Malka al-Hadhrami, a Jibla resident who said she had worked as a clerk for Dr. Myers for 18 years. "And what made it even more sad was that we couldn't participate in the burial."

Samira Abdullah said Dr. Myers reated her during her first pregnancy, when she was confined to bed for months to avoid miscarrying.

"Every day, she looked after me. she used to come to my house, until I was able to stand and walk without endangering my pregnancy," Ms. Abdullah said, cradling her 2-year-old son in her arms. "Without her, I wouldn't have Ali. She was a friend more than a doctor."

In the attack on Monday, the gunman slipped past the hospital's weapons check, hiding his rifle. He then shot the victims in the head and wounded a pharmacist, Donald W. Caswell, 49, of Levelland, Tex., who had been in Yemen for 18 months.

The suspect in the case, Abed Abdul-Razak al-Kamil, was arrested after the ncident. Yemeni investigators say they suspect he has ties to Al Qaeda. Jibla residents stressed that Mr. Kamil was an outsider, from Sana'a, the capital.

In Jibla, unpaved streets wind past small houses without running water. Water is hauled on donkeys from a dam. The residents make their living as farmers, growing wheat, corn, oranges and vegetables.

Founded in 1967 by James and June Young, a Southern Baptist couple from Louisiana, the hospital treats more than 40,000 patients annually, providing free care to the poor, according to the Southern Baptist International Mission Board.

Mourners at the gates said that even when fees where charged, they were minimal. A visit with a doctor was about 6 cents, they said - about a fourth the rate at the private clinic in the nearest large town. The average Yemeni makes about \$350 a year, according to the World Bank.

Families of the victims expressed their grief, but also the love the three victims had for the Yemeni.

"She loved the people very much. She felt like that was home," Ira Myers said of his daughter, Dr. Martha.

Ira Myers, the retired director of the Alabama Department of Public Health, said Yemen had been his daughter's home for 24 years. "She went over when she was a senior in medical



Dr. Martha Myers

Kathy Gariety

school. She decided that's where she wanted to be," he said.

"She loved the people very much," Mr. Myers said. "She felt like that was home. She had the opportunity to talk to the native women. That would not have been possible for a male doctor in that culture. She delivered lots of babies."

He said his daughter also helped UNICEF with immunization programs. "We are concerned for the people

who have been getting their care from Martha and the others at the hospital. Now where do they go?" asked Mr. Myers, 78.

Kathleen Gariety's family had tried to persuade her to stay in Wisconsin this summer, but the Baptist aid worker from Wauwatosa, a suburb of Milwaukee, had insisted on returning to Yemen.

"We tried hard to get her to stay home," said her brother, Jerome J. Gariety Jr. of Colgate, Wis. "She wouldn't hear of that.

"I didn't want her to go, but I think what really took her back was the children. She loved the children," he added. Koehn and his wife, Marty, had been

in Yemen since 1975, his brother, Randal Pearce, said outside his home in Mansfield, Texas, about 15 miles southeast of Fort Worth.

"We have found them to be gracious and kind," Pearce said of the Yemenis. "Otherwise, Bill and Marty would never have spent their lives serving there."

Meanwhile, Yemeni authorities upgraded security measures around embassies and hotels in Sana'a as a precautionary move to avert possible attacks by dormant cells of Osama bin Laden's al Qaida militant network.

Memorial services in the United States for the two missionaries buried at Jibla Baptist Hospital were scheduled for Thursday in Burleson, Texas, for Koehn and in Mobile and Montgomery, Ala., for Myers. Gariety's body is being flown to her native Wisconsin.

"The gunman perpetrated a physical act of causing death, but these people willingly gave their lives because they loved God - and loving God, they loved the Yemeni people," said missionary spokesman John Brady in comments on the day Koehn and Myers were buried. "They loved where they were.

"The last thing Bill Koehn said to me was, 'I live in the most beautiful place on the earth," remembered Brady, who leads Southern Baptist International Mission Board work in northern Africa and the Middle East.

Eyewitness Hassan Ali Ahmed was present just after the shooting.

"I found people running in all directions," he said. He also saw the victims' last moments alive.

"All of us in the hospital were shocked, we never imagined something like this could happen.

On behalf of myself and all the people of Jibla, we are so sorry for what happened and we condemn such acts. We did not see anything bad from those Americans, in fact they were there to help us and they used to distribute food supplies to the needy and visit the poor." Rashid Al-Mashriqi, of Jibla described what he saw:

"The hospital has given lots to the people of Jibla and it had helped poor people and needy students with medicine and even note books and pens. Even they gave them food such as rice. flour and wheat," said Rashid Al-Mashriqi, a resident of Jibla.

"Slaughtering people has never been tolerable regardless of the reasons or motives. I am sad about what happened in Jibla," said a visitor from Holland.

"I am a person who has extensive experience in living in Yemen as I have visited many places and moving from city to city without fearing anything, but in all my life, I have never seen such a ruthless killing scene and I hope it wouldn't be repeated," she said.



Koehn and Myers were buried Tuesday according to their wills on the agents used

according to the governor. His identity card issued from

A major event in this process was the discountenance of 24 hours delivery services. Local health officials have been instructed to replace these services in government hospitals. The tendency, too long, had been to defer such cases to Jibla rather than take the initiatives necessary to establish the appropriate quality services at central and district hospital levels.

The extended ministries community Health Education program has recently completed pilot project. This program is developing its own budget and staffing plans.



Jibla Baptist Hospital (Reuters photo)

hospital's grounds in Jibla, while Gariety's body was flown this week back to her United States home.

U.S. government officials have said that if Kamel was connected with any known Islamic terror group they were not aware of it.

However, the Yemeni authorities Tuesday identified Kamel as a member of a five-man cell, which, they said, was planning similar attacks on Yemeni political figures, foreigners, journalists and moderate Muslims they consider infidels.

It's been reported that there are eight argets on a hit list of the cell.

Another member of the group, Ali arallah was also under arrest in connection with the assassination last week of leftist opposition leader Jarallah Omar, the Yemeni Socialist Party's deputy secretary-general.

It's been reported that both the detained men are members of the religious al-Imam university in Sana'a. Meanwhile, thousands of Yemenis

ook to the streets to take part in Omar's funeral. But tight security measures prevented a large number of them from reaching the cemetery where he was buried.

The mourners carried placards that read: "No to political crime. No to terrorism and extremism" and "We want Yemen free of terrorism."

Many Islamic clerics have denounced the Yemeni government's cooperation with the United States in the war against terrorism.

an unmanned plane to destroy a car carrying local al Qaida leadclerics ers, denounced the action in their Friday sermons in the mosques.

When CIA



Aabid Abdulrazzag Kamel They said the

government had acted unconstitutionally in permit-

ting the CIA to operate in Yemen.

Yemen Times Ibb correspondent Ibrahim Al-Dahhan met with the governor General Ali Bin Ali Al-Qaisi and asked him about the motives behind the Jibla murders.

Al Qaisi said, "The criminal was residing the night of the crime at Aden Hotel. He travelled especially from Sana'a to Jibla in order to kill the Americans and 'purify' the place from them.'

He was known to be influenced by the preachings of Ali Jar Allah, the man who killed Jar Allah Omar in the Reform Party Conference. In fact, the later coordinated with Aabid Mohammed that he would kill the American Christians in Jibla, added al-Qaisi.

Aabid had earlier lived with his family in Jibla and came to know the hospital and its staff. He had tried many times earlier to commit his crime but only this time he was successful,

Raidah, stated that he is a worker and lived in Omar Abdul Aziz Street in Sana'a. he had joined the Reform Party in 1990 and went out in 1998 when he joined Al-Jihad Group through Ibrahim Al-Thaowra, who was killed either in Afghanistan or in the American ship (Koal) incident and does not have any link with Al-Iman University.

The murder suspect declared that dozens of Muslims have converted to Christianity in Jibla because of the workers, and he was pleased with his crime, saying that it was his way to heaven and that particular day when he did his mission he was keeping fast.

While being investigated he was repeating "Al Hamdu lila, Sawfa Amoot Shahedan wa adkhulo aljanna,' which means 'Thanks to God, I will die a martyr and go to heaven. And when he was questioned about his relation to the murder of Jar Alla Omar, he angrily replied that Jar Alla Omar does not deserve to be called 'Sir'!

A high level source which is part of the investigation said that he entered the hospital after he had shaved his beard in disguise, and did not wear any belt so as not to attract doubts or attention.

It's been reported he carried a gun under his cloak as if it was a baby, and got past guards by telling them he was visiting the hospital to see a sick relative.

He killed his three victims by shooting them in the head while they were in an early morning business meeting.

Arab/Middle East

6 January, 2003

Turkish PM says don't open Pandora's box in Iraq

ANKARA, Jan 4 (Reuters) -Turkish Prime Minister Abdullah Gul flew to Damascus on Saturday at the start of a tour of Middle East countries to seek ways to head off a U.S.led war in neighbouring Iraq that he likened to "Pandora's box".

As a close ally of the United States, NATO member Turkey is expected to offer airspace and logistical support for the United States against Iraq. But Ankara has been dragging its feet over making a firm commitment to provide military support, hoping to avoid war and the political and economic turmoil it may bring.

"Iraq is like Pandora's box. We don't want Pandora's box to be opened here," Gul said in an interview with Aksam newspaper.

"This box should not be opened. Iraq should not be scattered because it would not be possible to put everyone back in again."

Gul said the chief responsibility for avoiding a war lay with Iraqi President Saddam Hussein.

"Undoubtedly, a great role has to be undertaken by Iraq for a solution without war," Gul told reporters before departing for Syria. "It has to demonstrate to the whole world that it complies with U.N. Security Council decisions without hesitation and transparently."

Turkey's new Justice and Development Party (AKP) government has been at pains to allay suspicions about its Islamist roots and has pledged commitment to its Western allies.

At the same time the AKP's grassroots support and the majority of Muslim Turkey's population are deeply opposed to war in neighbouring Iraq that Ankara fears could damage its economy and possibly lead to the break up of Iraq.

Gul was due to meet Syrian President Bashar al-Assad and other officials in Damascus on Saturday. He will then travel to Egypt on Sunday to meet President Hosni Mubarak and the Arab League's Secretary General Amr Moussa.

On Monday Gul is due to meet King Abdullah of Jordan in Amman before returning to Ankara. It was not immediately clear when a planned visit to Saudi Arabia would take place.



Turkish Prime Minister Abdullah Gul (L) is welcomed by his Syrian counterpart Mohammed Mustafa Miro at Damascus airport, Jan. 4.

POOLING EFFORTS

On the first Middle East tour by a senior member of the new Turkish government, Gul said he would try to coordinate efforts to avoid a war in Iraq. "It would definitely have a great influence if all our efforts were working together," he said.

Turkish authorities say they cannot make a decision on participating in any war against Baghdad until the end of January when U.N. arms inspectors, seeking evidence of weapons of mass destruction in Iraq, report to the Security Council.

"All diplomatic means have to be exhausted, everything should be tried. We are at that phase at the moment," Gul said.

Turkey fears a conflict in Iráq. could spread unrest among its own Kurdish population in the southeast if Iraqi Kurds take advantage of the turmoil to seek their own independence. Officials say Turkey will be keenly watching what happens in the oil-rich cities of Kirkuk and Mosul which Ankara fears may come under the sway of the Iraqi Kurds. Turkey sees itself as the guarantor of a small Turkmen minority in the region and has said it will act to protect them if necessary.

"If there is a law and order problem and no one to establish it then it is possible for Turkey to take measures to preserve the rights of our Turkmen ethnic brothers," Foreign Minister Yasar Yakis said on Friday.

Any Turkish intervention would be viewed with concern by Iraq's other neighbours Iran and Syria which also have Kurds living in their territory. Iraqi Kurds, who have enjoyed broad autonomy from Baghdad since the 1991 Gulf War, would also be deeply suspicious.

Turkey's relations with Syria have been rocky in the past but have

improved since 1998 when Damascus expelled Abdullah Ocalan, the leader of the Kurdistan Workers Party (PKK), who had been using Syria as a base for operations against Turkey.

"Recently Turkish-Syrian relations have come to very good levels," Gul said. "We have to forget the past and look entirely ahead to the future."



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Assistant Finance Manager

base in northern Iraq

BAGHDAD, Jan 4 (Reuters) -U.N. arms inspectors set up a permanent base in northern Iraq on Saturday to speed up a hunt for alleged weapons of mass destruction.

With the drums of war in Iraq beating louder, teams from the U.N. Monitoring, Inspection and Verification Commission (UNMOVIC) and International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) also examined at least five sites, including a brewery, in central and southern areas of the country.

A multi-disciplinary inspection team travelled to the city of Mosul, 375 km (220 miles) north of Baghdad to set up a permanent regional office from where they would launch inspections in northern Iraq.

"This will help us expand and accelerate our inspections throughout the country, but particularly in the north," U.N. inspectors' spokesman Hiro Ueki told reporters before leaving to Mosul with the team.

Ueki said the team would be temporarily based at a hotel before moving to a more permanent location in the city.

Iraqi officials said an UNMOVIC team inspected a brewery that produces arak in Khalis, some 50 km (30 miles) north of Baghdad. Two more teams headed to undisclosed locations.

An IAEA team was at Al Maamoun Plant of the state Al Raheed Company in Mahmoudiyah, 25 km (16 miles) south of Baghdad. A second IAEA team was at Al Obour General Company near Baghdad.

An UNMOVIC team which had spent the night in Basra, 550 km (340 miles) south of Baghdad, visited an agriculture college in the port city, they said.

The inspectors visited four sites on Friday including a former ammunitions depot used as a chemical weapons storage facility before the 1991 Gulf War more than 200 km (120 miles) west of Baghdad.

They also inspected an adjacent area used in the 1980s for chemical weapons munitions tests.

Inspections are now in their sixth week but the experts have yet to disclose any evidence of nuclear, chemical or biological weapons programmes.

A senior Iraqi official, General Hussam Mohammad Amin, said on Thursday U.N. inspectors had visited 230 sites since they returned to the country on November 27 and had found nothing incriminating.

The inspectors must report their findings to the Security Council by January 27.

Chief weapons inspector Hans Blix said at the United Nations on Friday the findings would include the results of laboratory tests of samples taken in Iraq. He will make an interim report to the U.N. Security Council on Thursday and visit Iraq from January 18 to 20.

A unanimous Security Council resolution passed in November ordered Baghdad to reveal all details of its weapons programmes, as required by resolutions going back to the 1991 Gulf War, or face "serious consequences".

The resolution opened the way for inspectors to return to Iraq for the first time in four years, to resume a mission that began after a U.S.-led military coalition ended Iraq's occupation of Kuwait in the 1991 Gulf War.

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- · Participates in the preparation of the annual Work Program & Budget.
- · Reviews/Approves operating and capital expenditures.
- · Participates in special projects as assigned by management.

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- Must have 5-10 years experience as an Accountant/Finance.
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Gulf / Africa



French foreign minister meets Ivory Coast rebels

BOUAKE, Ivory Coast, Jan 4 (Reuters) - French Foreign Minister Dominique de Villepin flew into the stronghold of Ivory Coast rebels on Saturday in a bid to end a civil war in the west African country.

Villepin, on a two-day visit to the former French colony where some 2,500 French troops have been deployed to try and keep the peace, pressed President Laurent Gbagbo on Friday to commit to end hostilities.

"We're going to abstain from all acts of war on all fronts, north, centre, west," Gbagbo said. "We're even going to demobilise our helicopters and stop our men in the positions they are in, because in the end we want peace."

Villepin said peace talks later this month would be switched to Paris. France fears the conflict will spiral out of control after weeks of West African-brokered talks failed to make major progress.

Hundreds of people have been killed since the conflict started with a failed coup on September 19 and tens of thousands have been driven from their homes. Villepin was flown by French army helicopter from the administrative capital Yamoussoukro to meet representatives from the Patriotic Movement of Ivory Coast (MPCI) rebels in their Bouake stronghold on Saturday morning.

The MPCI's political leader Guillaume Soro said on Saturday he was not sure what would come of the meeting, but wanted the 2,500 French troops enforcing a shaky ceasefire in Ivory Coast to go home and let the rebellion take its course.

The French force, its biggest African intervention since the 1980s, is in Ivory Coast to protect foreign nationals, enforce a ceasefire and try to restore peace. Some 2,000 troops were flown in to beef up an existing French force there of several hundred.

A ceasefire has been agreed between the government, holding the mainly Christian south, and the MPCI, controlling the mostly Muslim north. But both sides claim numerous violations.

Iran police train first women officers since 1979

155,000 now displaced Congo clashes force 35,000 more to flee

NAIROBI, Jan 4 (Reuters) - ph Clashes in northeastern Congo have forced 35,000 people to flee their homes in the past week, adding to a growing tide of residents uprooted by fighting between rival rebel factions, an aid agency said on Saturday.

Medecins Sans Frontieres (MSF) said it feared the latest exodus had brought the total number of people displaced by fighting in the area in the past few months to 155,000, calling it one of the biggest mass movements in Congo in recent years.

Fighting between rebel factions has intensified around the strategic northeastern town of Beni in the past month, raising fears that a broad Congo peace deal signed in South Africa in December will fail to stem fighting in the country's chaotic war.

MSF said rival rebel factions had fought artillery battles around the small town of Makeke on Tuesday, forcing an estimated 35,000 people to flee their homes, despite the signing of a truce by various rebel factions in the area on Monday.

MSF said "extreme levels of violence" stopped aid workers gaining access to large areas,

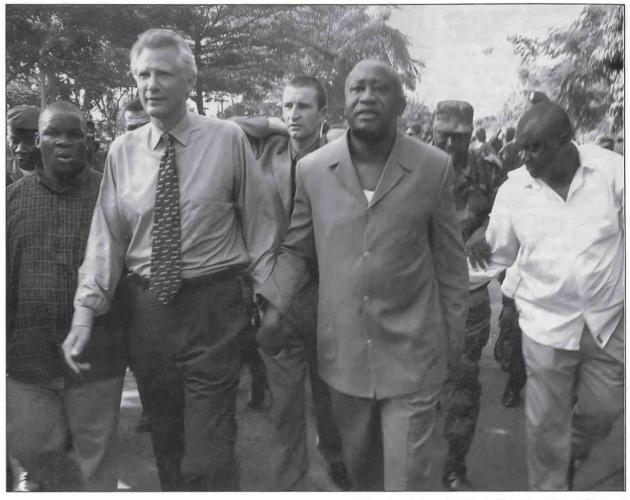
placing many people beyond the reach of relief workers operating in the remote region. "We see only part of the displaced population," said MSF Head of Mission Philippe Hamel in a statement.

"There may be many more. We fear that in total there might be over 155,000 displaced people in the area between Butembo, Beni, Mambasa and Komanda alone," he said, referring to a cluster of towns in the mineral-rich northeast of the Democratic Republic of Congo, towards the border with Uganda.

Further south, thousands of people fled this week after rebels clashed with pro-government forces near the lakeside port of Uvira, which has changed hands several times in recent months.

Congo's warring parties signed a deal in December to share power and reunify the vast country that has been divided since war broke out in August 1998, sucking in six foreign armies.

Many foreign soldiers have pulled out, but local militia violence has surged in the vacuum they left behind, prolonging a war which has already killed as estimated two million people.



Ivory Coast's President Laurent Gbagbo (C Right) and French Foreign Minister Dominique de Villepin (C Left) walk hand-in-hand from the presidential residence in Abidjan, Jan. 3.

Algeria hopes to host North African summit soon

ALGIERS, Jan 4 (Reuters) - Algeria, whose long-running dispute with Morocco over Western Sahara had crippled the Arab Maghreb Union, was hopeful to host a summit of the North African bloc in the next weeks, its foreign minister said on Saturday.

"We had achieved a breakthrough during our meeting and our hope is great to hold a summit in the next weeks," Abdelaziz Belkhadem told reporters at the end of a gathering of the Arab Maghreb Union (AMU) foreign ministers. Belkhadem gave no more details about the "breakthrough" the five ministers attained during their regular meeting to try to inject life into the Union.

a free trade zone across the Mahgreb region. But strained ties between Algiers and Rabat paralysed the bloc whose leaders were unable to hold a summit to reactivate the AMU since 1994.

An AMU summit planned last June in Algiers was scrapped at the last minute after Moroccan King Mohammed chose not to attend.

Moroccan Foreign Minister Mohamed Benaissa said the latest meeting "prepared the path to overcome problems. The summit date will be decided after further consultations".

"Job Vacancy"



Yemeni Nationals Plant Operator

Canadian Nexen Petroleum Yemen requires a Plant Operator to work in its Masila Block Operation Hadhramout Govt. Yemen. This job will be based on a rotational schedule (28 days on/28 days off).

Duties and Responsibilities

* Monitoring on a continuous basis, all parameters of the Power Plant.

Grabo was practically a ghost town.

Further south at the coastal town of Tabou refugees were pouring down the road from Neka and shopkeepers were closing up on Saturday morning, fearing in imminent rebel attack.

The western rebels said on Saturday they had not been invited to meet Villepin and would continue their offensive.

TEHRAN, Jan 4 (Reuters) - Iran has begun training its first women police officers since the 1979 Islamic revolution, the official IRNA news agency said on Saturday.

Iranian women served as police officers under the pro-Western shah toppled in the revolution, but since then have been restricted to administrative tasks and conducting body searches on women suspects.

"More than 400 women are to start their activities as second lieutenants in police centres from October," the agency quoted police training college official Mohtaram Masoudmanesh as saying. "They are the first group of female officers since the Islamic Revolution."

Iran has slightly eased restrictions on women since the election of pro-reform President Mohammad Khatami in 1997 and most professions are open to wom n, but strict dress codes remain in place. But he added: "I hail the meeting results and the consultations about holding a summit in Algiers soon".

Algeria, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco and Tunisia founded the North African grouping in 1989 with the ambitious aim of setting up Earlier Benaissa voiced disagreement with his four colleagues who wanted to focus on reactivating the union.

Benaissa told reporters at the first day of the meeting on Friday that Morocco's priority is to resolve the Western Sahara conflict, not breathing new life into the Union, which is currently chaired by Algeria.

Saudi Arabia denies hunger strike by Qaeda suspects

RIYADH, Jan 4 (Reuters) - Saudi Arabian officials have denied opposition reports that about 40 suspected al Qaeda members have been on a hunger strike for a week in a Saudi prison.

"There are no strikes or trouble in the prisons and what is being said are lies and fabrications," an official at the kingdom's prisons authority told Reuters on Saturday.

On Friday, London-based Saudi dissident Saad al Fagih of the exiled Movement for Islamic Reform in Arabia said the prisoners had refused food and water and prevented medical staff from feeding them intravenously to protest against their treatment and to demand their cases be brought to court.

Fagih said he was told by Saudi medical sources that a clinic had been set up in al-Ruwais prison in the city of Jeddah so the protest could be dealt with without unwanted publicity.

"Nothing of the sort has happened," Mecca Governor Prince Abdul-Majeed bin Abdul-Aziz told the Okaz daily.

"We know who is behind these lies and what their aims are," he added, referring to Saudi opposition abroad.

Saudi Arabia has said it is holding more than 100 Saudis suspected of ties to al Qaeda Islamist network. During his round of the plant, noting routine readings and observations, recording these on the Plant log sheets, bringing to the attention of the Foreman, any unusual or abnormal reading.

* Taking direct action should he observe abnormal Plant conditions during his inspections, informing the Foreman of the situation, and the action he has taken as soon as possible. His early action could avoid expensive remedial work, and loss of Production.

Carrying-out routines and tasks as instructed by his Foreman, including but not limited to:

- Engine pre start checks.
- Lube Oil sump filling.
- Engine starting and stopping.
- "Blackstart" engine tests, ect.
- * Assisting in the preparation of Plant for maintenance, ensuring correct isolations are applied, Safe Work permits are prepared & issued in the approved manner, while following all established procedures. Accepting and testing plant, following maintenance.
- * Ensuing that Logs, Shift Reports, for both routine, exceptional occurrences and incidents are prepared and that all Record Sheets are maintained in an up-to-date and correct manner.
- * Attending and completing the required mandatory EH & S courses, as directed. Attend and ectively participate in Safety Meetings and Inspections, at a minimum as required by NEXEN policy.
- * Carrying-out first line response. Which includes isolation, using fire extinguishers, running out fire hoses. Getting the situation under control pending arrival of the Emergency Response Team.
- Carrying-out other similar or related duties as requested.

Requirements

- a. Previous Power Plant Operating experience.
- b. Minimum of 5 years Oil field process experience.
- c. Minimum Education: High School Graduate.
- d. PC skills including word processing, spreadsheet applications and e-mail.
- e. Fair Knowledge of English Language.

If you have the above requirements, please send your CV to the following address not later than January 16, 2003

Canadian Nexen Petroleum Yemen

Human Resources Department P.O.Box 15137 Sana'a Republic of Yemen Fax No. **269899**

Note: * Please provide a direct contact number where you can be reached.

- * Please do not call us. We will phone you if you are selected for the test and interview.
- * Please mention in your application the job that you are applying for.

Asia

6 January, 2003

At least one dead in **Singapore warship collision**

SINGAPORE, Jan 4 (Reuters) - The body of a naval crew member was recovered on Saturday and hopes were fading for three others after a Singapore warship and a container ship collided in the Singapore Straits.

The dead woman crew member was one of four trapped in a flooded aft compartment of the 55-metre-long RSS Courageous that was in a collision with the much larger ANL Indonesia late on Friday near the disputed island of Pedra Banca, between the city-state and Malaysia.

The body was found by divers after the damaged anti-submarine patrol vessel was towed to.Singapore's naval vessel and lifted out of the water, Deputy Prime Minister and Defence Minister Tony Tan told reporters.

Asked about the three other missing female crew members, Tan said: "We have to prepare for the worst."

The 51,000-tonne Dutch-registered merchant ship, enroute to South Korea, suffered only minor damage in the collision, which took place at 11:35 p.m. (1535 GMT).

The RSS Courageous was on a routine patrol when the collision occurred, defence officials said.



The Singapore Navy ship RSS Courageous is towed in waters off the island republic to Changi Naval Base on Jan. 4. after it collided with Dutch-registered freighter ANL Indonesia in the eastern Singapore Straits near the island of Pedra REUTERS Branca late on Friday.

Eight other naval crew sustained minor injuries and were treated in hospital.

has anchored in Singapore waters while the collision is investigated. Pedra Branca is a tiny island at the The 294-metre-long ANL Indonesia centre of a border dispute between

Singapore and and Malaysia. Singapore maintains a lighthouse on the island, which Malaysia calls Pulau Batu Puteh.

Civilian killings in Aceh drop sharply

JAKARTA, Jan 4 (Reuters) - The killing of civilians has dropped sharply in Indonesia's Aceh province since the signing of a landmark peace accord between the central government and rebels, a Geneva-based organisation that brokered the deal said.

The Henry Dunant Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue said that in the four weeks since the agreement was signed, there had been 11 unconfirmed civilian deaths connected to the conflict. That compared to an average of 87 reported civilian killings a



Bali bomb suspect Abdul Rauf (R) follows two unidentified bomb suspects as they are escorted by a plainc nes policeman (L) during a re

month for most of last year.

There has been widespread pessimism about whether the December 9 accord would hold despite international pressure on both sides to make it work, and end more than two decades of fighting that has killed at least 10,000 people. "Even one death is one too many and both sides regret those," David Gorman, a mediator and representative of the Henry Dunant Centre in the provincial capital, Banda Aceh, said in a statement obtained by Reuters on Saturday.

"But it is a key indicator of the willingness by the sides to stop the killing and that the peace process is gaining momentum."

While civilian deaths have dropped, the pact has been shaken by clashes between troops and rebels and accusations from both sides, including a rebel claim that soldiers killed up to 10 villagers soon after the pact was signed.

The army has denied that charge, and it was unclear if the rebel claim was included in the unconfirmed deaths.

The statement said the unconfirmed civilian deaths since the pact were being investigated by a joint security committee, made up

Many Acehnese, although mistrustful of promises from Jakarta, have welcomed the accord, saying they had begun to feel safer.

Underscoring how the war had spiralled out of control in recent years, the Henry Dunant Centre said that in the two years leading up to the signing, a total of 4,000 people - civilians, government troops and rebels - were killed in the conflict.

Indonesia and the rebels signed the comprehensive pact in Switzerland after several failed ceasefires agreed since 2000. Another problem for the accord has been rebel rejection of additional monitors from the Philippines to serve on the joint security committee along with representatives from -Thailand. A number of Filipinos are already on the ground in Aceh.

The rebels claim Manila is indebted to Jakarta, which helped broker peace talks in 1996 between the Philippine government and Muslim separatists, the Moro National Liberation Front.

In Indonesia's other separatist hotspot, Papua in the remote east, a low-level guerrilla conflict has simmered for decades.



ISLAMABAD, Jan 4 (Reuters) -U.S. Secretary of State Colin Powell. and Pakistan President Pervez Musharraf agreed a clash last weekend between their forces on the Afghan border may have been due to a "misunderstanding", Pakistan said on Saturday.

But Foreign Minister Mian Khursheed Mehmood Kasuri reiterated in a statement that military operations in Pakistan would be carried out "solely and exclusively" by Pakistan forces, despite U.S. military claims to the contrary.

U.S. military officials in Afghanistan said on Friday they reserved the right to chase al Qaeda and Taliban fugitives over the porous border into Pakistan.

A man dressed as a Pakistan border guard clashed with U.S. forces on the frontier on December 29. A U.S. soldier was wounded and a boinb was dropped by a U.S. warplane on disputed territory.

U.S. military officials say the bomb fell on Afghan territory but Paustan officials say it hit an abandoned religious seminary on Pakistani soil. Several areas along the Afghan-Pakistan border are claimed by both countries.

"Yesterday, U.S. Secretary of State _____ said.

Colin Powell...telephoned President Musharraf and both agreed that the incident of December 29 may have occurred due to some misunderstanding at the operational level on the ground," Kasuri said.

"They reiterated the need to further strengthen coordination to ensure that such incidents do not happen in future."

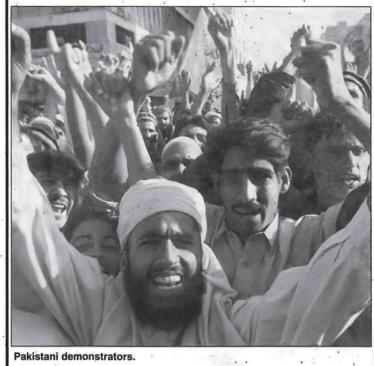
The clash was seized upon by hardline Islamic politicians as a case of Pakistan ceding its sovereignty to Washington in the wake of Musharraf's decision to back the U.S. war on terror.

Musharraf's , backingfor Washington in the wake of the September 11, 2001 attacks infuriated religious conservatives in Pakistan. They harnessed widespread anti-U.S. sentiment to secure huge gains in an October general election.

Thousands of Pakistanis rallied against the U.S. military presence in the region and a possible attack on Iraq on Friday.

But Kasuri underlined 'Pakistan's ongoing support for the "global coalition against terrorism".

"Pakistan's role and contribution in the fight against terrorism are significant and highly appreciated," he



meetings to plan the October terror attacks in Denpasar on Jan. 4. REUTERS

GAM and a third party.

U.N. to give North Korea another chance to cooperate

VIENNA, Jan 4 (Reuters) - The United Nations nuclear watchdog agency will propose giving North Korea a chance to cooperate and allow.inspections of the country's atomic programme to resume, an informed source said on Saturday.

The source said U.N. International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) chief Mohamed ElBaradei is likely to recommend that North Korea, which has expelled U.N. inspectors and restarted its nuclear weapons programme, receive another opportunity to recant before the IAEA takes the matter to the U.N. Security Council.

"It's pretty clear that they're not going to take this straight to the Security . Council," a U.N. source told Reuters in advance of a Monday report by ElBaradei to the IAEA board of governors.

"Certainly this is an option the IAEA retains, but it would not be diplomatically helpful at this point."

Handing the matter over to the

Security Council is a last resort for the agency, the source added.

"We don't need to go to the highest '(diplomatic) court yet," he said.

In contrast to his position on Iraq's alleged weapons of mass destruction, programmes, U.S. President George W. Bush said last week that he believed the situation in North Korea could be resolved diplomatically.

The Bush administration has threatened to attack Iraq if it is found to be in "material breach" of U.N. resolutions restricting the oil-rich country's possession of or attempts to create nuclear, chemical and biological weapons.

Weeks of U.N. inspections across Iraq since have so far not disclosed any evidence that Baghdad has or is producing weapons of mass destruction. However, U.N. inspectors are due to present an interim report on their findings to the United Nations on January 9, with a full report due by January 27.

ElBaradei has repeatedly called for senior-level talks with North Korea. In

November, the 35-nation IAEA Board of Governors said it "deplored" Pyongyang's claim that it has a right to develop nuclear arms and demanded they cooperate with the United Nations. Pyongyang not only ignored the U.N.'s strong words but restarted its Yongbyon nuclear facilities, frozen under a 1994 agreement with the United States, and on New Year's Eve expelled the two IAEA inspectors. The U.N. source was not aware of a deadline for North Korea to cooperate, but said the draft resolution the board would consider on Monday had not been finalised yet. "It's clear that it won't be just a week," the source said.

· South Korea has also called for a diplomatic resolution of the standoff with North Korea, which wants talks with the United States on condition that Pyongyang and Washington enter into a non-aggression pact.

Washington has rejected Pyongyang's. calls, saying it refused to negotiate the 1994 agreement.



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Europe/Americas



UK's Blair back from holiday amid Iraq war reports

LONDON, Jan 4 (Reuters) - Prime Minister Tony Blair returned on Saturday from a 10-day family holiday in Egypt amid reports that Britain was girding for a possible conflict with Iraq.

He twice broke off from his Red Sea break to have talks with moderate Arab leaders — Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak and Jordan's King Abdullah — on Iraq and the Middle East crisis.

A spokesman for the British leader, Washington's staunchest supporter in the campaign against Iraqi President Saddam Hussein, said: "The Prime Minister is back in Downing Street (his London residence) and will be working there over the weekend."

The diplomatic pace — and military preparations for a possible conflict will quicken next week as parliamentarians return from their Christmas break on Tuesday. An announcement from Blair on troop deployments is widely expected.

The Daily Telegraph newspaper said

Britain was to send more than 20,000 troops to the Gulf and mobilise 7,000 reservists next week in preparation for war against Iraq.

It said defence chiefs will brief Blair about plans for a mass deployment led by the aircraft carrier Ark Royal.

Asked to comment on the newspaper report, a Ministry of Defence spokesman said: "We have been making preparations to have credible options available if necessary and we are likely to do more."

"We cannot however rule out the possibility of a further statement next week," he told Reuters.

Blair had used his New Year message to warn his compatriots of dangerous times ahead which could see war against Iraq and a possible terror attack on Britain.

He also said the world would not be a safer place unless world leaders acted to revive the Middle East peace process. "I cannot recall a time when Britain was confronted, simultaneously, by such a range of difficult and in some cases dangerous problems," Blair said in his gloomy 2003 message.

The next key date for Iraq is January 27 by which time U.N. weapons inspectors searching for alleged banned weapons must report their findings back to the Security Council.

Blair said Saddam must be disarmed of his alleged weapons of mass destruction peacefully or, as a last resort, by force. Last month, a British Defence

Last month, a British Defence Ministry source told Reuters the United States and Britain were planning a massive seaborne invasion of Iraq as the first stage in any ground war.

The sources said that planners were leaning towards an amphibious assault task force in the case of a war with Iraq because of the difficulties of protect-

ing a large ground-based army from chemical or biological attack.

Cleanup boats rush to aid as oil mars French coast

PARIS, Jan 4 (Reuters) - Gooey black oil from the sunken Prestige blotched French beaches on Saturday, as distraught locals awaited an armada of clean-up boats and workers.

Some seven weeks after the laden tanker snapped in half off the northwest Spanish coast, the worst slicks eaded north towards neighbouring France which raced to limit the pollution.

A fleet of trawlers and fishing boats battled stormy seas to get to the scene, and French television showed masked emergency workers scooping viscous fuel oil into buckets, while bystanders — barred from the beaches to avoid contamination — fumed.

"The people who did this should have this stuff rubbed into their faces," one local man raged.

"It's horrible to see this," a woman said. "There's more than there was yesterday, and there will be even more tomorrow."

France has taken over from Spain in coordinating the clean-up, as aerial footage showed some 15 medium-sized oil slicks lurking within 80 km (50 miles) of the French Atlantic coast, maritime officials said.

With oil now smearing beaches running half-way up the coast, hotel owners fretted about the impact on tourism, a major source of income for the region.

"This is worse than the Erika spill," hotel owner Evelyne Baron told the daily Le Parisien, referring to the disastrous spill from the tanker Erika which sank off Brittany in 1999.

"The Erika spilled all its oil in one go, whereas with the Prestige we really don't know what will happen."

The 26-year-old single-hulled vessel, carrying 77,000 tonnes of oil, sprang a

leak in November off Spain, snapped in two and sank six days later.

Most of its oil went down with it and has since been seeping steadily from the wreck, two miles (3.5 km) under the waves, at a rate that could keep it a hazard for many many months.

High winds have broken up big oil slicks and blown hundreds of thousands of globs of oil onto the popular sandy beaches of France's Landes region, near Bordeaux. Officials have predicted bigger oil deposits will land over the weekend.

Spanish media have estimated the oil slicks sweeping towards France cover an area the size of New York City.

France, which has campaigned forcefully for stricter European Union safety rules on oil tankers, this week launched a criminal inquiry into responsibility for the Prestige spill.

Schroeder leaves open how would vote on Iraq war

BERLIN, Jan 4 (Reuters) - hancellor Gerhard Schroeder was quoted on Saturday as reiterating that Germany would not take part in any military action against Iraq but declining to say

how Berlin might vote in the U.N. Security Council on a war.

"One can only determine ones voting behaviour in the committee when one knows the basic conditions of such a vote.

But nobody should doubt that this will comply with our principled position," Schroeder told Der Spiegel weekly in an interview.

Germany began a two-year term on the 15-seat Security Council this week along with four other newly elected members.

It takes over the rotating monthly chair of the council in February just as Iraq tensions are expected to peak. Schroeder denied that by leaving open how Germany might vote on the Security Council he was going back on his critical stance on any U.S.-led war against Iraq that was credited with helping him win a second term in a September general election.

"Today nobody even knows if it will come to a vote at all or what will be voted upon," he said, declining to speculate on suggestions that Germany could decline to be involved militarily in a war but still vote in favour on the council.

"The voting behaviour of Germany will reflect the position that we have represented both before and after the election."

"Our position is clear. We will not take part in military action and we will do everything to make sure a war is still avoidable," Schroeder said, refusing to comment on a call by some members of his Social Democrats for Germany to vote "no".

A unanimous Security Council resolution passed in November ordered Baghdad to reveal all details of its weapons programmes or face "serious consequences".

U.N. weapons inspectors will report their findings to the Security Council by January 27. Chief weapons inspector Hans Blix will make an interim report to the Security Council next Thursday.

While some on the left of Schroeder's SPD say it would be inconsistent for Germany to vote for military action by others while not taking part in a war, Verena Wohlleben, a SPD defence expert, said there might be little choice.

Turkish captain released on appeal after Greek spill

ATHENS, Jan 4 (Reuters) - A Greek court sentenced the captain and chief engineer of a Turkish tanker to six months in jail on Saturday for causing pollution after storage tanks were washed out and poured into the Mediterranean sea.

Turkish captain Ridvan Alan and the chief engineer were released pending an appeal, a merchant marine ministry official told Reuters.

The two men were arrested by Greek coastguards on Friday after aircraft reported the tanker, Ayberk Kalkavan, had caused pollution to a stretch of sea near Karystos in southern Evia, measuring 30 nautical miles long and 10 miles wide.

The Turkish-flagged tanker had sailed from Marmaras in Turkey and was headed to the port of Piraeus, west of Athens. Under Greek law, defendants can opt to pay a fine instead of serving certain jail sentences.

The merchant marine ministry official said an additional fine was also

likely to be imposed in the coming days and the tanker would be held in Karystos until it was paid.

. The pollution had been treated and had dispersed, theofficial said.





all Italian residents in Yemen

that, with reference to the next Italian general elections, **Italian citizens** who are currently residing in Yemen will only be able to vote in the Italian municipality in whose electoral rolls they are currently registered.

Italian citizens traveling to Italy to vote on the occasion of the Italian general elections will therefore be entitled to apply for a 75% refund of the price of the airplane ticket to the Consular Section of the Embassy of the Italian Republic in Sana'a. The application will have to be accompanied by the voter's electoral certificate and original ticket.

Business Yemen's 2002 economy: A year in review

Business & Economy

BY MAHYOUB AL-KAMALI YEMEN TIMES STAFF

> emen witnessed in 2002 various economic changes covering all aspects of the economy and business.

Some political incidents also left their imprints on economic growth last year, such as the attack on the French oil supertanker Limburg.

The convening of the donors conference in Paris in which Yemen was granted around \$2.3 billion represented one of the most prominent supports for its economy.

It is expected that the impact of terror on the Yemeni economy would continue in 2003, especially after the declaration on higher premiums on vessels and tankers coming to Yemeni sea ports, causing Yemen a monthly loss of about \$25 million.

If the rate of premiums remain as they are, exports and imports would be affected during 2003 and Yemen would pay a high price for the Limburg incident.

Meanwhile a probable U.S.-British war on Iraq would double the suffering of the Yemeni economy and would push other poor people to join terror and extremism networks.

Here's a re view by Yemen Times of the rest of the most important aspects of the Yemeni economy for the year 2002.

a cost of \$300 million

· The ministry of communications announced the start of the Technology and Communications Village during the first half of the year with the aim of creating a qualitative leap in services of communications, post and information in Yemen.

· Sources at the Free Zone in Aden said the zone would witness in 2002 the implementation of projects costing \$122 million, one of them the project of goods and shipping at a cost of \$30 million.

• The chamber of industry and commerce in Aden and Taiz agreed on tackling trade disputes between those dealing with companies and institutions of the two chambers by resorting to the principle of compromise and arbitration. The also agreed to exchange of expertise and holding joint activities in service of national economy.

· Yemen accepted the establishment of an Arab company specialised in marketing agricultural products and to export them at both Arab and world levels.

· The Kuwaiti company for oil explorations announced that the amount of its investments in Yemen at sectors 5 and 15 in Shabwa reached \$ 200 million.

· Minister of oil and minerals Dr Rashid Baraba'a predicted a rise in Yemen's oil production hitting a level of 475 thousand barrels per day at the end of the year and the number of oil companies working in Yemen to reach at 27.



Adem Free Zone

· Government bodies organised a discussion seminar on finishing the remaining phase the national strategy on poverty alleviation.

. The ministry of works finished road construction of 2,580 km.

· Trade exchange between Yemen and the Sultanate of Oman jumped by 800%. · The state company for vegetable seeds

production in Seyoun raised the average of a hectare production of red onion seeds to 510 kg, beginning from 2001 till early 2002. · The state institution for waters in Aden

announced that it would implement projects at

· An official report expected that the events of 11 September 2001 in America would negatively affect the Yemeni economy and lead to rise in expenses of transfer and insurance on imported goods in addition to retreat in level of tourism activity and services of ports and airports. Such developments would lead to an increase in services payments by 6.4% and a decline in revenues by 5%. They would also cause a rise in services deficit, from \$580 million in 2001 to around \$640 million in 2002.

· Yemen Central Bank maintained its



The Limburg

efforts for preparing a draft law for fighting money laundering.

· President Ali Abdulla Saleh has given his directives for exempting every investor from value of the piece of land if his project's value exceeds \$ 10 million.

· President Saleh has placed a foundation stone for Mukalla Refinery project in Hadramaut whose final productive capacity amounts to 100 thousand barrels a day at a total cost of \$950 million.

. The World Bank asked Yemen to hasten its finalising the national strategy for combating poverty so that it would endorse the needed assistance for its implementation.

• The International Company for Tourist Investments embarked on implementing the first phase of Sana'a Tourist Hotel at a cost of \$75 million.

. The ministry of planning and the company of Hael Said Ana'm signed an agreement for building a wharf at Aden port t a cost of \$30 million.

· Abudabi Fund for Development allotted a sum of \$30 million for the implementation of the second phase of Mareb Dam canals project.

· Exports from Aden port of containers and airport amounted to YR 44 billion and 994 million.

1 h

· Yemeni institution or coastal fishing in Aden exported 225 tons of Sharoukh fish at a cost of \$ 1.793 million.

· Bahrain Aluminum company decided to build a factory in Aden costing \$ 30-40 million

· Aden hosted the 37th session of the executive committee of Islamic Chambers of Commerce.

• The parliament endorsed the free trade agreement between Yemen and Iraq.

· In the annual meetings in Brussels between Yemen and the European Commission Yemen had gained a grant of Euro 70 million.

· On the sidelines of meetings of the Yemeni-Saudi Coordination Council in Jeda three Saudi loans agreements had been signed totalling \$ 100million.

· The ministry of planning had prepared a plan for development of the sea ports of Hudeida, Aden and Mukalla at a cost of \$ 100 million.

. The ministry of oil organised the 2nd oil and gas conference with the aim of attracting investors at the oil productive and exploration sector.

· The ministry of oil signed an agreement of principles with the Saudi Mutahida company for building a Saudi oil pipeline passing to the Arabian Sea.

555 a

· Al-Mukalla factory for fish canning doubled its daily production to 160 thousand fish cans.

· Japanese government supplied Oceanology Centre in Aden with a research boat and scientific laboratories.

• An agreement was signed in Sana'a for rescheduling Yemen's \$ 73 million debts to the United States.

• The World Bank credited \$ 130 million for financing services projects in Yemen.

· An agreement signed in Sana'a for rescheduling Yemen's \$24.5 debt to Italy. • Prime minister Abdulgader ba Jammal inaugurated services of electronic rial proj-

ect. . The proportion of areas grown with cotton rose to 150 thousand faddans.

· Yemen's reserve of silica sand, used in glass and ceramics manufacturing, is esti-

mated at 160 million cubic meters. · Central Bank reserves until the end of

September reached \$4 billion. • Yemen obtained \$2.6 billion from the donors conference in Paris.

· Around 30 thousand families of fishermen had lost their earnings after the terrorist attack on the French oil tanker Limburg.

· Insurance companies raised their duties on vessels reporting to Yemeni ports by %300.

· Yemeni-Jordanian joint committee signed 7 cooperation agreements in various fields.

The Road Ahead

6 January, 2003

Creating relative superiority

BY RAIDAN A. AL-SAQQAF r_saqqaf@hotmail.com

ow more than ever, resources of capital, people, and time are at their scarcest, and so business organizations need to concentrate their resources on functions and products that have proved profitable. But merely allocating resources similar to that of the competitors won't yield a competitive advantage for the business.

So, a business in order to have a competitive edge has to search for and identify the key factors responsible for success in the industry and apply the right mix of resources in order to earn a real competitive advantage which will vield relative superiority.

There are two approaches used in identifying the key factors for success. The first is to dissect the market into key segments in order to decide where the business should focus its resources. The second one is to know what distinguishes the successful companies from the less successful ones.

Segmenting the market involves understanding the different characteristics of different customers for each product line. For example an automobile dealer segments his market in such a way to recognize the strategically important segments.

The next step is to develop product-market strategies for the important segments and assign responsibility to implement new and modified segment-wide strategies. Having segmented the market and identified each segment's requirements, suitable changes should be done in the marketing strategy in order to concentrate on the key segments.

For example a commercial vehicles dealer after developing product- market strategies focuses on customers in the retailing and distribution segments (customers who indulge in occasional distribution and delivery of customer goods).

The other approach for creating relative superiority is to highlight the differences between successful organizations and the less successful ones. That lies in factors such as the different functions carried out, raw material souring, production facilities, product range and variety, advertising and publicity, sales and marketing efforts, distribution network and servicing.

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 Navigation sources announced that the size of losses sustained by Yemen as a result of the attack on the French oil tanker Limburg and raising insurance prices on vessels coming to Yemeni ports amounted to YR 1.37 billion.

· Yemen received from Holland a 1000horse power tugboat for towing giant vessels to container port.

· Minister of Oil Rashid Baraba' declared that Yemen intends to dig 130 oil wells during the year 2003 in order to raise oil production to over 550 thousand barrels per day

 International Navigation Organisation adopted in its meeting in London Yemen's plan for new navigation routes south of the Red Sea.

· Captain Said Abdulla al-Yafie, minister of transport and naval affairs asked the International Diplomatic Conference held in London to help Yemen for ridding of burdens of insurance companies duties on vessels heading for Yemen, estimated at 300%.

· Yemeni expatriates in Saudi Arabia and America offered to erect projects in the free zone at a cost of YR 5 billion.

· Container port in Aden received from January to November 2002 639 container ships from various world ports of which 380,000 containers had been unloaded.

· Yemen and Russia concluded a number of economic and trade agreements, Russian companiexpressed their readiness for investment in oil, gas, industry and fish wealth fields.

For example, an elevator company can have a better competitive advantage if it has a better servicing system; nobody likes to wait for hours to be rescued from a stuck elevator. This in its self is a key factor that can ensure better relative superiority.

On the other hand, identifying the differences isn't enough. A business has to ensure that all functions in which such factors can be found are exploited to the max and perfect the functions carried out thereafter. For example many automobile importers in Yemen import advanced automobile technology, but only few have the capabilities to provide an excellent after sales service. That is how Suzuki Yemen - Bamarouf has created relative superiority.

Remember: Relative superiority can be created though exploiting competitor's weaknesses and discovering the key factors for success in that industry.

Words of Wisdom



useful tradition that exists in the West. At the beginning of every year, individuals look back at the year just completed, take stock of their situation, an plan for a new year. The first step in this planning process is to take a resolution aimed at improving their lives and performance.

Whatever the decision, the New Year Resolution is a fantastic habit which can only lead to a better life. It is up to individuals to choose the decision, but once they do so, it is going to be hopefully honored.

I have made my resolution!

. Prof. Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf, (1951-1999) Founder of Yemen Times

OUR

Women need a ministry 'New Year, Resolution' is By HOURIA MASHOUR

he year 2002 was full of many activities all pouring into consolidation of the status of The National Committee for Woman (WNC), as institutional mechanism greatly depended upon in defending issues and rights of Yemeni women.

The WNC also depends on drawing up general policies pertaining to development of the woman in economic, social, political and cultural areas.

We have begun the year with setting up a plan of contacting some ministries in response to demands of our members and to explain the role and tasks of the WNC and gain support from those ministries.

Women's issues are in fact interlocked and connected with all sectors and not confined to certain sector or administration, thus need broad support.

This requires opening direct channels

with policy-makers at those institutions to pay attention to women's plans and projects in education, health, labor, and politics.

Opinion

Despite our appreciation of some officials in ministries' (ministers and deputy ministers) who received us and facilitated our task and deeply understood reasons of our presence, on most occasions our meetings were not easy.

The meetings were permeated with various hindrances. There were changes in time of appointments for more than once and shortening of the time of meeting. Sometimes the official would preoccupy themselves with other matters like receiving other visitors or answering telephone calls. Such behavior on part of some officials made the meetings miss their goals and subsequently things became more complicated and position of the WNC representative at those ministries became worse.

The feeling of superiority and the look of belittlement, which some would not express frankly but rather implicitly,

Omar assassination

Reform your home first

lead us to conclude there is more of a need for a Ministry for Women Development in the coming government formation in April 2003.

Such a ministry could make the issue of upgrading women position as a weekly agenda at meetings of the cabinet. We do not want to be under mercy of male ministers but as sisters, as it is stipulated in the constitution.

Would the wise political leadership respond to our just demand, and achieve an unprecedented step in our local reality in the Gulf and the peninsula, as no other countries achieved such a step but those of the Arab Maghreb?

It is a right for around three million women voters preparing for the legislative elections on 27 April 2003 to choose their representatives to the parliament.

This article is an editorial published in Al-Yamania Newspaper, Organ of Women National Committee

SENSE By Hassan Al-Haifi Hit the killers with the law

COMMON

emen is not a stranger to assassinations and the latest spree of killings shouldn't surprise anyone when considering the state of lawlessness and chaos that seems to dominate the air. But judging from the huge funeral cortege

that followed Jarullah Omer's (no relationship to the mysteriously disappearing Mullah Omer of Afghanistan of course), funeral cortege, the Assistant Secretary General of the Yemeni Socialist Party, it is quite clear that the Yemeni people are fed up with all the procession of killings and wanton violence that has taken over this land.

Although this pitiful environment was sometimes inspired by outside influences, the fact is that most of it is derived from the inability of the government to maintain the sense of respect and common mutual interest that Yemenis were well noted for. What should we expect if our government fails to apply the law towards the criminal elements within it and the criminal elements among the people of influence that it relies on to maintain its stranglehold it has on the Yemeni people?

Ironically, Jarullah Omer has been screaming for years against this aura of violence and carefree attitude towards the right of the people to enjoy peace and quiet and the right to move around free from fear. It is really getting pathetic to see hundreds of armed hooligans running around the streets of the cities of our once peaceful land, waiting for their victims to come by, or waiting to carry out their vengeance and hatred against any innocent victim.

Oh, politically motivated assassinations are much a part of any society that succumbs to autocratic regimes, as is the case of most of the Arab World and the Third World. But in Yemen these were confined to those who were within the circles vying for power and authority. People like Jarullah Omer, however, were usually immune to such things, because they had strong grassroots appeal, and because they were a part of the valve that controlled too much carelessness on the part of the prevailing regime.

Jarullah Omer, may God bless have mercy on his soul, was not an ambitious power broker, but a voice of reason and wisdom, who had courage to say what he felt should be said, out of concern for the welfare of the people in the street, in the homes, in the farms, in the factories - the common folk, yearning to feel free and safe. He did this within the power structure that loomed in the former days of the ultra socialist regime in Aden.

In fact, Jarullah Omer was among the first voices in the Yemeni Socialist Party, who advocated for an immediate transition of the platform adopted by the YSP, even when the YSP was indisputably in full control of the situation in the former People's Democratic Republic of Yemen. He was quick to seize upon the tidal wave of reforms sweeping the most radical regimes in the late 1980s and realized that it was time for Yemen to abandon extremism in all its forms - religious and ideological - and to adopt a pragmatic approach to government that is primarily concerned with the welfare of the people.

As for the Americans who worked at the Jibla Baptist Hospital, the fact of the matter is that the overwhelming majority of Yemenis find no religious doctrine in Islam that supports their murder. Surely, it is dishonorable for a Moslem to kill anyone who is a guest and who is providing assistance, as long as that guest does not seek to disrupt the religious convictions of the people of Yemen. Thus, most Yemenis clearly condemned the killing. Even those opposed to any refigious missionaries echoed their displeasure at the killing of unarmed innocent people, who were motivated by philanthropic ideals, albeit under a different religious persuasion. Humanitarianism is a common trait of all God fearing people everywhere.

Thus, it is not enough for the government to simply condemn the killings that occurred last week, but it must work diligently and sincerely towards safeguarding the people wanton savage acts. As a true gesture of respec and tribute to the martyr of democracy and the fight against lawlessness, it is time that the government adopt a pragmatic practical approach towards eliminating the "extremism", which it protected and guarded for close to thirty-five years, under different cloaks - radical, ideological and religious - and now wants us to believe that its problems are none of its doing. It should start by disarming the hooligans that it supports and protects from accountability for all the corruption and the violations of law and order that they perpetrate, and by significantly reducing the armed detail guarding its worthless officials and partisan dignitaries.

TIMES **OPINION** Let's build on **Omar's work**

here is no doubt that the absence of Jarallah Omar will affect the political picture in Yemen. It is indeed unfortunate for the opposition in particular. I personally believe that the strength of our democracy depends heavily on a strong opposition, which could only be obtained by efforts of honest and hard working people such as Jarallah Omar.

The Islah Party's reaction should be to consolidate the opposition front further and to join hands with the other opposition parties to form a united force that could compete strongly in the upcoming elections scheduled for April.

The demise of Jarallah Omar should only serve as a motive for all those who worked with him to go on with his plans and projects to establish a true democracy through achieving a strong opposition.

Now the ruling party should never take advantage of this situation. It was unfortunate that the official media has been implicitly linking the Islah party to the assassination of Jarallah Omar and the killing of the three humanitarian aid workers that occurred a week ago in

Jarallah may have been the engineer of the Opposition Joint Meeting, but nevertheless the parties involved in this meeting should not have depended on him alone. They should exert their own efforts to get closer to each other to hopefully reach common grounds to form coalitions and alliances.

Yemen's democracy needs a strong opposition that could compete for the administration of the country for the sake of its people.

We must always remember that the efforts of this noble man should not now blow away with the wind.

The best award that one could give to Jarallah for his untiring efforts to bring opposition parties together is to continue the coalition and enhance it further. Let those who wanted to disrupt this coalition by assassinating Jarallah fail in achieving their evil goals.

Let this be another chance to form a stronger opposition to achieve a better democracy and a better tomorrow for all Yemenis.

he horrible assassination of Jar Allah Omar General Assistant Secretary of the YSP at the third conference of the Reform Party stands as a political crime of the worst kind and a national

BY HASSAN AL-ZAIDI

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tragedy that has affected all and hurts the democratic and political field in Yemen. In the time when I expect all the political parties in the ruling party or opposition to take a united stand towards this sad event, I was shocked by the appalling exchange of accusations from all sides once Jar Allah was killed as a victim of terrorism.

Away from that, let us not dwell on who is to blame, but instead let us discuss why such a horrifying crime took place. What were the true motives, behind the assassination and why did it take place in that particular time and place?

I am dedicating my article to everyone but especially to the authorities in the Reform Party, because they should be the most concerned with this analysis especially that the victim was their guest, and was murdered in front of their eyes. Hoping that my words might find a place in their minds and perhaps, make someone pause and think for a while.

Let us start from the statements which the criminal gave when asked about his motive. He admitted that he did that because ".. they (Reform Party) denounced the religion and tied in and cooperated with the infidels (hinting at the joined meeting conference in which he committed his crime) ... " and that he wanted that this message to

reach leaders of the Reform Party.

A message which was too clear not

to reach; that there are some people

who are not happy with the developments of the Reform Party today. And

that some extremists consider the

joined meeting conference and such.

faces as a political and social movement that was established mid 1990, with political, national, Islamic, humanitarian dimensions; we can understand that this movement does not seem to be able to address its own people and basic elements before even being able to address others whether similar in thoughts and ideological concepts.

Perhaps the worst that this movement faces is the rigidity and fanaticism towards one particular line of thought in speech, and considering that type holly and can not be altered even in thought let alone action. This leads to closing the doors in front of negotiation and dialogue with others agreeing with the movement in the general concept but differing in details.

So the movement (the Reform Party) is legally demanded to open dialogue and arguments channels to convince its elements first and then secondly, public opinion, through individuals and groups about the righteousness of its policies, principles and objectives it believes in. Because it is by closing such channels, isolates itself and strangles even its own beliefs in a closed space that would naturally shrink by the day.

As a consequence, rigidity would prevail above negotiation and reason making fanaticism the only means of settling any relations within or outside the party, leading to incidents like what took place in the conference. I personally believe, if no change takes place soon, many more will come.

I can claim here that the present situation will force the Reform movements in the world and in our country to improve its political, and media declarations, in order to contain and adapt to the new changes. Ouick adjusting and effective response to these global transformations coupled with creativity in producing new mechanisms should be able to present political and media charters well founded at the base and facing the changes of weather on it for long has been trying to avoid responsibility for them.

Democracy still needs legislative rooting in the political structure and so do multi-parties, unions and other alliances. The Reform Party's statements are derived from the political and media constitution of the party and not from the religious and legislative bases it depends on. It needs to link between the two aspects and its stances should not be based on interests or pure political grounds only. What is needed is addressing the inside of the party first, to urge them to follow the Islamic thoughts and beliefs inside out instead of the fake liberal appearance.

The party has to prove to its memiber, supporters, and those who assent with its view that Islam and democracy do not disagree, on the contrary, they go together.

I have read a few excuses which Dr. Abdul Adheem Al-Amri chief of the executive bureau at the party in an interview which was published in Al-Sahwa newspaper (issue 851), abbreviated as follows:

"It is impossible to tell your members isolate yourselves from others then in the same time tell them go free and enfold other thought, and react with the society, this is an impossible thing to do and only yields double personalities and defeat".

This statement summarizes for us

that change in the Reform Party will be

slow, but it is in its own interest to start

changing with strength and determina-

tion. And although in its political pro-

gram the party emphasized on demon-

strating democratic behaviors and

encouraging women, yet the political





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TIMES 纞

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conferences as a joining with the devil, a treaty between disbelievers and faith. On pondering on this thought, we can understand what the Reform Party

The responsibility of the Reform Party now as a prominent strong political party in Yemen is to take a clear stance from actions taken against it and

and intellectual visions in these very aspects at the party is not clear or stable

I call on the party to rethink its actions and to admit its mistakes, whether against other lines of thoughts or political belongings. By this, not only benefiting itself but the whole community and people. For Islam is a religion of peace, forgiving and moderation and far away from rigidity and extremism.



live in our land like we live over here. I do travel to Yemen once in a while to see my family in Guban. near Radaa. I. hope we stay in touch

Mohamed Mohamed (Livonia) MMohamed@TTS.BWA UTO.com

We have freedom, you don't

uslims seem to think M that the war on terrorism is a war against all Muslims. You "Muslims" stood by Iraq when it attacked its neighbor in the early 90s. You continue to blame the USA for the problems in the Middle East

when in reality you cannot even live peacefully next to your "Muslim" neighbors. If the Muslims feel that the war on terrorism is against all Muslims then so be it.

By the way, most Americans feel that the goal

of Muslims is to kill everyone who is American or Non-Muslim. We feel the same way you do. So may the better man win! We will both pray to God for victory. Let Him sort out the dead. One more thing, in America you can worship in any religion you want. Can you do that in the Arab world? Freedom is the greatest-gift of all. We have it. You don't Joe L.



Response to the Editor would like to respond to participated in the attack on America and I hope they the viewpoint of the editor entitled "What does the would be hunted down and future hold?" published in killed wherever they are hidissue 52/2002. Actually, the ing. I have respect for man future is in your own hands. to man confrontation but I Fanatics in the Middle East have complete disgust with have caused the problem. If killers who run and hide to you had not attacked us escape retaliation. They are (USA), we would not be murderers and cowards and involved to the extent we deserve extermination. And are. If we (USA) had not if Yemen does not have the stopped Saddam from stature to get rid of these invading Kuwait and Saudi people, you deserve the con-Arabia, what would be your sequences of our American present as well as your present and the resulting future? If we do not stop future. The impending removal Saddam's quest to rule the

Middle East with his murof Saddam is the best thing derous weapons, what that can happen for your would your future be? Face future. If you can't control

up to reality. Some Yemenis ' murderers, then you deserve whatever occurs.

AllynCee70@msn.com

Old scuds, what benefit? What benefit would

Yemen get from importing the scud missiles it recently bought from North Korea? They are so inaccurate that they are useless. Yemen could not use them against Israel or any neighbor. The only practical use for these is to deliver chemical or biological weapons and you would be lucky to hit your target. Moreover, they are notoriously unreliable. One third

of those missiles does not

even make it out of the boost phase never mind reach the Allyn Cee target.

Letters to the Editor

Thomas Richard turbahtom@delphiforums.com

Living in US vs. living in Yemen

While I enjoy life in America, I can't help but think how things are in Yemen today. When I came to the U.S in 1973 I was just 12 years old, and lots of things have change since then. You in Yemen Times have been the best source in keeping Yemenis in exile informed about things happening in their home country. Maybe someday we can

6 January, 2003

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Op-Ed Op-Ed Op-Ed

BY MICHAEL JANSEN JORDAN TIMES

s the war of words between Iraq and the US goes on it is clear that the US is making use of what World War II German propagandists called "the big lie". On the one hand, the US is using lies and deceit to suggest that it has credible regional partners in a future war with Iraq. On the other, Washington is waging a disinformation campaign about Iraq's weapons capabilities to justify such a war.

On Sunday, The New York Times carried an article under the headline "Saudi Arabia said to assure US on use of bases", quoting General John P. Jumper, US air force chief, as saying: "I firmly believe the Saudis will give us all the cooperation we need, and every indication I have is we're getting pretty much what we asked for", suggesting that Riyadh has agreed to the use of Saudi bases and territory for attacks on Iraq. The report, written by Eric Schimtt, states that "delicate talks" on the details of what Saudi Arabia might offer were continuing with US officials. The spin doctors have even roped in senior members of Congress. Senator Chuck Hagel, a Nebraska Republican who serves on the powerful Foreign Relations Committee, said: "It's all an open question.'

It's not, actually, The Saudis' most recent declaration on this issue preempted and contradicted what Jumper and Hagel said. This pronouncement was made on Dec. 25 when Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Saud Al Faisal said that allowing US and British aircraft to use Prince Sultan air base to enforce a "no-fly" zone over southern Iraq "does not mean that the Kingdom will attack Iraq or allow striking Iraq from its territories". He reiterated a previous statement, asserting: "If the UN Security Council sanctions war against Iraq, this requires cooperation by all countries.... But this does not mean all countries must take part in military action. Obviously, we will not take part in military actions."

Fabricated stories

The Saudis have made the point over and over again that their territory, particularly their air force and other military bases, cannot be used by the US for an offensive against Iraq. The Saudis have also said repeatedly that their public position does not differ from what their officials say in private to US representatives.

In response to Jumper's comments, Prince Saud said that The New York Times' story was wrong. "The truth is what I said [on Dec. 25] and not what the newspaper reported," he asserted. Saudi papers also carried a denial of the story from Deputy Defence Minister. Prince Abdul Rahman Ben Abdul Aziz. "These remarks are incorrect and the kingdom's stance has been clear from the start.... We have no commitments on any matters towards Iraq."

The Saudi position is both clear and firm. Nevertheless, the US and Britain are determined to muddy the waters by repeatedly claiming that the kingdom could go along with the Bush administration in a war against Iraq. Washington has also tried to create the false impression that Jordan would also go along with an offensive against Iraq although Jordanian spokesmen continually say that this is not the case.

Big lies continue

A "big lie" repeated over and over again gains credibility with international public opinion which does not know the truth of a specific matter. While Reuters carried the Saudi denial as Top News on Monday, it did not get the play in the world's media that the lie received. Even "respectable" dailies like The Financial Times and The Guardian fell for this one and did not print what the Saudis had to say about it.

Another "big lie" is the accusation that Iraq was — is — six or eight months, one, two or five years from obtaining a nuclear bomb. This accusation is used to justify a US war to prevent this from happening.

The US has based many of its allegations about Iraq's nuclear programme on false information supplied by Khidhir Hamza, a former Iraqi nuclear scientist who defected in 1995 and has written a book called Saddam's Bombmaker' or 'The Terrifying Inside Story of the Iraqi Nuclear and Biological Agenda'. Hamza, who testified before US congressional committees, and appeared on television, was apparently taken up by the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) out of desperation since it had no other Iraqi of scientific stature who was prepared to turn his coat.

Hamza's allegations have been challenged over the past six weeks by Imad Khadduri, a scientist trained in nuclear reactor technology. A graduate of the University of Michigan in the US and Birmingham University in Britain, Khadduri worked in the Iraqi nuclear programme from 1968 until late 1998. He was involved in "most of the major nuclear activities of the programme" and was in charge of the maintenance and security of documentation on such activities.

Khadduri took part in consultations with UN inspection teams in the 1990s. He stated his position bluntly. "I find present allegations about Iraq's nuclear capability, as continuously advanced by



the Americans and the British, to be ridiculous." He accuses Washington and London of conducting a deliberate "misinformation campaign".

Remained on the margins

Khadduri said that from the mid-70s, Hamza played no serious role in Baghdad's programme. Hamza, who feared exposure to reactors and radioactive materials, took no part in research. He confined himself to theoretical work and journalism. In the late 70s, Hamza refused to have anything to do with the French Osirak reactor. After it was bombed by Israel in 1981, Iraq began a nuclear weapons programme in earnest, but Hamza remained on the margins.

In 1987, Hamza was, in Khadduri's words, "kicked out of the programme for stealing a few air-conditioning units". Hamza became an "outcast". He "did not attend any seminar or brainstorming sessions during [the] intense period" during which Iraq made its major effort to build a nuclear weapons capability. While this took place at Al Atheer, Hamza was "doing nothing at the Tuwaitha Research Centre". In 1994 he fled Iraq, leaving his family behind, and offered his services to the CIA which turned him down until it decided he could be of some use in creating a false impression of what Iraq has been doing.

Khadduri said that following the 1991 Gulf War, Iraq's scientists were fully occupied with the reconstruction of the oil and power infrastructure of the country while the "nuclear weapons project organisation was slowly disbanded". By 1994, this process was complete. Formerly proud and prosperous scientists were reduced to penury. Many, like Khadduri, eventually left the country, making the reactivation of a serious nuclear weapons programme impossible. "Iraqi nuclear scientists and engineers did not commit suicide. But for all their remaining ability to rebuild a nuclear weapons programme, they may as well have," Khadduri asserted.

Since Khadduri resides abroad, he is under no compulsion to defend the Iraqi government and has a great deal to gain by going along with its accusers. His observations have been published only by websites opposed to the current line adopted by the US and UK. So far, he has not been able to break through into mainstream North American and British media. His assessment of Iraq's nuclear capabilities also undermines accusations made by the US and Britain about Baghdad's development of chemical and biological weaponry. If Washington and London are relying on the "big lie" on one issue, they could very well be lying on others.

Faint glimmer of hope Is sanity returning to the international scene?

PATRICK SEALE THE DAILY STAR

ight up to the end of last year, the prime actor on the world stage - the United States - was heading blindly in the wrong direction. There was an element of irrationality, even of insanity, in America's violent response to the world outside, explained by many as due to the shock of the attacks it suffered in September 2001. Its bellicose threats against Iraq, its global "war on terror," its tolerance of the crimes of Israel's prime minister, Ariel Sharon, its dangerous doctrine of "preventive war," its devotion to military force rather than international law all seemed to be leading the world to catastrophe Suddenly, the New Year has brought a subtle change of tone. It is far too early to speak of a change of policy, but faint glimmers of hope have appeared which together suggest that an element of sanity may just be returning to the international scene.

month, will do its utmost to strive for peace, as President Jacques Chirac pledged in his New Year's message. Under the French presidency, any attempt by the United States to bulldoze a resolution through the Security Council authorizing military action against Baghdad will be forcefully resisted. It was largely due to French diplomacy, backed by Russia and China, that the United States agreed to work through the Security Council late last year, thereby delaying, if not yet wholly averting, the war which the hawks in Washington and Tel Aviv are still screaming for.

It is also worth noting that two key American allies, Turkey and Saudi Arabia, have both expressed serious doubts about joining the American war effort or even providing military facilities - in spite of contrary, over-optimistic reports in the US media about their readiness to cooperate. Middle East capitals, but in Washington. That is where the debate has been raging in recent months between hawks and doves, between the "war party" and its increasingly vocal critics.

Insiders have long recognized that the campaign to rid Iraq of its alleged weapons of mass destruction - the ostensible justification for war - was always a sideshow. The hawks in Washington the so-called neoconservatives, bornagain Christians and Zionist extremists who have captured some of the key posts in the Bush administration - always looked beyond Iraq to a wider agenda. They were after something bigger. They knew that Iraq, weary of war and crippled by a dozen years of sanctions, was than a political program - is increasingly being questioned as America is having to weigh the threat of renewed terrorist attacks, the hazards of war against a stubborn Iraqi enemy and the dangerous uncertainties of a post-Såddam Iraq.

The recent London meeting of disputatious and compromised Iraqi exiles produced a 65-man committee - hardly a convincing blueprint for a future government.

Dangerous situation ahead

Who then will rule a future Iraq? Who vill pay for its reconstruction? Who will be responsible for security? The chance eems remote of a democratic Iraq emerging from the rubble. It is more probable the United States will be sucked into a messy, dangerous situation, demanding a thankless long-term commitment of men and resources which is the last thing Bush wants in the run-up to the next presidential election campaign in late 2003.

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War unjustified

For one thing, George W. Bush's New Year message to the American people was strikingly moderate. Instead of his usual warlike bluster, he spoke of his hope of a peaceful resolution to the crises in both Iraq and North Korea. In turn, UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan. declared that war in the present circumstances would be unjustified. Iraq has, after all, been cooperating fully with the UN weapons inspectors who have so far, in more than five weeks of work, found no evidence of weapons of mass destruction. The chief weapons inspector, Hans Blix, has been invited to visit Baghdad to review the progress made so far, an invitation he is expected to take up later this month. Some Western diplomats are predicting that, if the inspection process continues unimpeded, Blix's report to the Security Council, due on Jan. 27, could be favorable - a step toward the eventual lifting of sanctions, which have punished the Iraqi people for so long.

France, in the meantime, which assumed the presidency of the UN Security Council on Jan. 1 for one Perhaps the most crucial piece of evidence of a return to sanity is that British Prime Minister Tony Blair, Bush's main ally in the campaign against Iraq, may also be having second thoughts. Sources in Downing Street say that Blair is now fully aware of the growing chorus of anti-war opinion in the UK and of the grave risks to Britain - and to Blair's own position - of a war against Iraq.

Muscles show

The United States has no need for Britain's military help to defeat Iraq. It can easily do the job on its own. But it does need British political support. If Blair were to decide that war is too risky to contemplate, Bush would in turn have to pause - which is precisely what may now be taking place.

Over Christmas, church dignitaries across the Western world - including the Pope, the new and remarkable head of the Church of England, Dr. Rowan Williams, and leaders of all the main Christian denominations in the United States (with the significant exception of the fundamentalist southern Baptists, ardently supportive of Israel) - have all warned the US and Britain that a war could not be justified.

But, of course, the crucial decisions about war and peace are not taken in London, Paris or the Vatican, still less in no longer much of a threat to anyone, as its immediate Arab neighbors recognized.

Key of transformation

But the hawks saw the overthrow of Saddam Hussein as the key to transforming and reshaping the Middle East. They dreamed of defeating not only Islamic radicalism but Palestinian militancy and Arab nationalism as well, in a major reordering of the affairs of the region such as had taken place after World War I. They had their sights on Iran, on Syria, on the Palestinian Authority, on radical groups like Hizbullah and Hamas, which had dared to challenge the Untied States and Israel and therefore needed to be destroyed.

They wanted to secure American oil and strategic interests in the Gulf for a generation and create the conditions for Israel to impose its hegemonic terms on the Palestinians and its Arab neighbors. In a word, the ambitious objective of the hawks is a new world order in which American and Israeli control of the Arab and Muslim world is assured.

Even the "war on terror" has been put to work in providing the justification, some would say the pretext, for the United States to acquire bases and other facilities in Central Asia, the Gulf and elsewhere, and project military power across the globe. On this argument, if Osama bin Laden did not exist, the United States would have had to invent him. The hawks' vision, however - a dangerous geopolitical fantasy rather Doubts about the feasibility of the hawks' ideas are beginning to surface in the United States - in the media, on college campuses, in churches, among numerous anti-war groups, and also in the State Department and the CIA⁻ and are no doubt beginning to find their way to the President.

Americans are also beginning to realize that their country's uncritical support for Israel's colonial war is fueling an epidemic of anti-American sentiment among Arabs and Muslims. Far from being a valued strategic partner, Sharon's Israel is being seen in some quarters as a serious liability. Bush is committed to his "vision" of a Palestinian state alongside Israel, although Israeli hard-liners and their influential friends in the American government would like to consign it to the trash can.

The hawks in Washington are getting, nervous because their critics are forcing them to defend their policies. But they are by no means beaten.

They desperately want a war in order to realize their grandiose plans and, so long as the American military build-up continues; war remains a real likelihood. But the message of this New Year is that war is no longer inevitable. Age: 30 -35 years Sex: Male or female

Place: Sana'a Trade Center

Job: Executive Secretary

- Requirements: Yemeni Nationality
 - Command of Arabic and English both reading and writing
 - Ability to use computer with typing and skills
 - University Secretary Degree
 - Filing experience
 - Ability to improve relationship

Send your CV only by fax to 448471 or PO Box 4548 (Attn: Mohammed Hamed)



Culture

Photos help document history

The view from here

by Jamil Abdul Karim



ne barely knows where to start regarding the terribly sad news about the three Americans slain in Jibla on Monday.

The jarring news of how an extremist burst into of all places a hospital room to shoot these three has left a heavy imprint on many people.

The victims were by all accounts remarkable people.

Hospital administrator Bill Koehn, 60, at Jibla for 28 years, maintained he would stop work than be reassigned by his employer to America or England. He clearly loved the Yemeni. His hobbies included carving toys and little wooden figurines of Yemeni people.

Victim Kathy Gariety, Jibla's purchasing agent, also loved the Yemeni community. "I've been so blessed by this hospital, and I just want to bless this place," is what she told co-workers at a recent gathering. It was ob-gyn Dr. Martha Myers,

57, who many Yemeni knew best. Martha's community involvement included helping Yemeni people with disease prevention and clean water projects.

But her love for the Yemeni went far beyond such work duties. The door to her home was always open. If a Yemeni needed food, she helped get it on the table. If they needed money, she gave up her salary. Her well of goodwill seemed to never run dry.

For such uncommon commitment to the people they served these three were thanked in an incredibly brutal fashion. Beyond that, however, a couple of

other things strike me. Certainly Yemen's expatriate com-

munity has felt overwhelming grief this week. But what's also been obvious is the genuine sadness of so.many Yemeni. It seems Yemeni near Jibla in particular have been deeply touched.

They were so moved that hundreds lined up outside the gates of the hospital at their funeral to see a glimpse of their fondly loved friends.

The following day, when remaining American and foreign staff left the hospital, hundreds of Yemeni were present again to give their respect to

their friends.

"She was so sincere to our people," is what one Yemeni told me about Martha. I'm told her name is already legendary in villages and qat chews. This Yemeni, who is now in his

30s, also tells me he owes his life to Jibla hospital. He was three years old when his mother brought him to the facility. There he stayed for 20 days while the caring staff doctored him from near death back to health.

"My mother told me about Jibla many times," he said. "It was amazing. I was about to die, but I lived with their help and with the grace of God."

Indeed, as the hospital's future is now unclear, a tremendous healing facility may be lost.

The other thing we shouldn't forget is that while murder is always a terrible thing, these three people were honoured in their deaths. They lived sacrificially and they died sacrificially. They died how they lived, and they died doing what they loved.

As one friend put it, "They died happy and joyful.'

This won't make the pain go away. It won't make their friends miss them any less. But this helps give perspective. We will all die sometime. What will you leave behind?

It's been said the blood of martyrs are always the seeds of something new. People in this part of the world can relate to this when thinking of, for example, Palestine. How much more precious then is the blood of those who lay down their lives while living in the land of their foreign friends?

This is the example that Bill and Kathy and Martha have shown us. In doing so, it's their wish, I believe, that Yemeni and non-Yemeni alike would understand why: that in the end love is stronger than death.

This is the reminder these three have given Yemen and now the world. They're not the first. They won't be the last. But at this time their message is uniquely ours. Let's not forget it, lest we trample what is something beautiful for God.

Jamil Abdul Karim is a freelance journalist specializing in cultural affairs.

Email: jchamber@mcmaster.ca

Yemen's story told in museum

BY ISMAEEL AL-GABERI YEMEN TIMES STAFF

very nation feels proud about its great men of ideas, science, literature and arts, and those who helped countries and civilizations, those who gave their lives to help human civilization continue.

In Yemen's case, one place such people are honoured is in its military museum.

Its military museum is Ad-Dalah School, built at the end of 19th century by the Othman state. Imam Yehya Hamid-udin later turned it into a prison known as Ad-Dalah prison when he was the Imam of Yemen in 1918.

From 1940 to 1943 the building was made to be the headquarters of the Iraqi military mission which was training Al Mutawakil army. After 1943 the building became a guest house and continued to 1948 when it housed the headquarters of the Ministry of the Interior and Public Security.

A visit to the military museum has educational and cultural importance to members of the armed forces, the security, to the public or to tourists and other visitors.

The administration of the military museum is constantly working on upgrading its staff to properly present their diverse activities and to meet demands of visitors.

Many of the museum's staff attend studies at Egyptian Universities and



the University of Sana'a, and their dedicated colleges, emerging from the role of museums being a forum of civilization and center for historical research, where visitors are provided with valuable historical information about the struggle of Yemen and its militant people against colonialism and despotic rulers within limited minutes compared with days and months at school and universities.

The military museum contains the following exhibits:

1 - Musnad inscriptions on stone and bronze man an animal marble statues and post made of bronze, marble and ancient civilizations since Maini, Himyarite, Qatabani, and Ausani eras.

2 - Manuscripts on skin and paper dating back to the early Islamic era in addition to exhibits of old Yemeni made weapons such as swords, daggers, and spears. There are also exhibits of arms and sliver coins and brass and earthen pots drawings most of which are Yemeni made.

3 - Primitive fire arms exhibits according to progress sequence till presently.

4 - Beginning of the formation of the Islamic army known worldwide as the barefooted army. Also development made to this army under pressure of the Yehya and other demand to promote this army of which leaders who erupted 1948 revolution.

5 - Pictures and documents of the opposition men and the freedom movements who were destined to be imprisoned and killed for the sake of Yemen. 6 - Pictures of leaders of 1948 revolution and those who killed Imam Yehya Hameed-uddin, documents of the revolution and means of torturing, such as shackles and chains heavy in weight to more than ten kilograms.

7 - Pictures of leaders of 1955 movement and inhuman method of execution along with documents related to that movement.

8 - Pictures of leaders of some tribal movements in 1959, as well as of those commandos who attempted the killing of Imam Ahmed in As-Sakhan and Hodeidah hospital in 1961 hoping to free Yemen from his viciousness.

9 - Pictures of 12th September1962 revolution men and the martyrs who gave their lives to let Yemen live free and safe. Here a plan is also exhibited dedicating the movement of the revolutionaries towards their targets.

10 - Enlarged pictures expressing fusion of the Yemen army with the Arab Egyptian army in defending the Yemeni revolution against infiltration and attacks of western mercenaries





and reactionaries. Other pictures are there for leaders and martyrs of fraternal Egyptian army along with specimens of weapons used by revolutionaries during that period.

11 - Pictures if 14th October 1963 revolution men and some of the colonialist practices against militants and citizens of the former southern governorates.

12 - Pictures of the ousted Al-Badr forces while being trained by mercenaries near caves along with weapons captured by the defenders of Sana'a and the revolution during the seventy days siege along with plans and enlarge map showing sites of the siege battle, places of the mercenaries around Sana'a and places of the revo-

lution and the republic.

13 - Stage of the armed forces promotion and preparedness attained when being provided with demands. Enabling them to protect the republic, by air, sea and land.

14 - Pictures, documents and other publication of unity.

15 - Valuable gifts which president Ali Abduallah Saleh received from presidents and kings of fraternal and friendly states, and gifts received by military leaders from commanders of fraternal and friendly countries.

Short Story **The Confession**

By Abdullah Salem Bawazir* Translated by Younes Hasson Ebrahim

few minutes after his arrest, the news of the detention of the government director was the talk of the street. Circulated news in the street pointed out the reason behind his arrest was he was a dangerous spy for foreign – American - imperial ism. Others related that he was a secret agent for Israel. Many other statements also supported the fact that he was a traitor to land and home. Then his interrogation started. The investigator asked him: "Now it is clear to us from your sayings that you had committed a great crime and had done harmful deeds against your country. We first want to know for what foreign power you are working." The accused kept silent and did not reply. The investigator urged him to talk by saying: "Speak up...Answer...Were you working for the Americans, for the reactionary power, or for whom? The accused still kept silent. Suddenly, the investigator rose angrily from his seat and brutally slapped the accused on his face. Overwhelmed by this action, the accused seemed to yield while clearing the blood off his nose and mouth and said: "I shall speak. But I won't mention for whom I am working for because this will not be of use for you at all. I shall suffice to mention the deeds, which I was appointed to do against this country.'

-To assassinates the great figures of the state?

-No. The investigator returned to his anger saying: "Then what were those deeds?

Speak up!" The accused kept silent. The investigator threatened the suspect again by maintaining his anger and

. and that gave me mastery over them. Then the accused resumed his silence, triggering the investigator to ask:

-And the second part? The accused replies:

-The second part is regarding the cadres who work with me in the establishment. Many of them had high degrees and were honest and scientifically competent. They included expert engineers doctors and others with preexperiences in the establishment. I used to place all sorts of obstacles and hurdles in front of them to make them flee away from work. I surrounded them with ignorant and inefficient people. I also made sure they would be under the command of the instructions of the ignorant. I tightened the grip on them so that none of them would be able to bear his work or stay even for one full working day. In this way, they would immigrate one after the other out of the country - causing a brain drain. The accused stopped and asked the investigator:



M - The Yemeni philosopher said, 'My land is protected by walls and dykes of clay; when the rains come at night, I can sleep easily." Ma - Yes,

'My land is protected by walls and dykes of clay;

when the rains come at night. I can sleep easily.

But if the Yemeni philosopher could see how the rains come at night when we've got no clay dykes to protect the land, and how they sweep away what's left of the topsoil, he'd turn in his gravel M - God be praised, for all bounty comes from Him! People who know that the rains are going to come and prepare for them by strengthening their terrace walls and dykes before it rains can sleep easily.

'My land is protected by walls and rlykes of clay;

when the rains come at night,

I can sleep easily.' You can see what the proverb means, can't you Mus'ida, when the reality of the situation is right in front of you! Ma - Of course! 'Not all green is the same, nor are all gradients equal.' The true Himyaritic farmer used to examine the length of his irrigation networks and fortify all the walls and dykes during the dry season. Then, when the rains did come at night, he would get up and go out to make sure that they were holding properly

M - You've said it! 'Not all green is the same, nor are all gradients equal,' Most of the farmers around us today and in other villages neglected their irrigation networks and their dykes during the dry season. They did themselves out of the benefit of the night rains which simply swept away what was left of the good topsoil. And all the time the farmers were taking shelter, making sure their hands and feet didn't get cold!

Ma - If you think about it, Mus'id, a handful of good topsoil which is swept away by the rains at night or in the full light of day is more valuable than three sacks of good wheat.

M - You're quite right! But what can we do, and who properly understands what it's really worth? Some farmers don't really bother about agriculture any more; they're quite content with a few gat trees, and rely on getting their grain, flour, vegetables and fruit from the market, which is very short-sighted. Others have simply abandoned their land and irrigation networks and dykes to vermin and the rains, and either go and get themselves jobs, or open up a shop so that they can sell stuff tins and packets. And this is the cause of poverty and the hand-out culture you hear of!

Cf. Aqwal, p. 20. Arabic original is a Yemeni proverb.

Satisfied with this response, the investigator went back to his seat saying, 'Good. Speak up! Were you assigned to devastate the economy?"

-No.

-To blow up public establishments? -To supply the enemies with sensitive

military information?

demanded he speak up, or else

-Come on! Speak up or we will compel you to do so!

The accused tries to stop his wounds from bleeding and says: Enough! There is no need for more ... I shall speak ... I shall confess...

The senses of the investigator and his assistants concentrated on hearing the dangerous and critical confession.

Then the accused starts his longawaited confession in a calm manner:

'The devastating deeds, which I was ordered to do by taking advantage of my post as the administrator of a large government establishment, are divided into two parts. The first part is concerned with the treatment of the administration to the citizens who are connected to the establishment with vital interests and trying to have their paperwork done.

I used to issue my unjust resolutions towards them. The work that needed one day, I would have it done in one week. I tended to frustrate and exhaust them by having them come and go all the time and by forcing them to walk through the corridors of the establishment and go up the stairs and down again. I also burdened them with a variety of unjust and extra fines. And whenever I see these measures of mine become easy for them to handle, I tighten the grip further by applying more frustrating measures on them until they feel the pressure of my unjust conditions on them and breakdown. This way I would make sure that they hated their lives and the government that appointed me in my position - Do you want more?

And the investigator replied:

- No ... this is enough. Is their devastation more than what you have mentioned? Take him and bring the other.

After two days of investigation, the formerly accused director returned again to his original post...

*Mr. Bawazir is a well-known Yemeni short story writer. He wrote many short stories and published them in books, such as: The ship of Noah, The Golden sands, The shoes, The Volcanoes' Revolution and the Downfall of a woodpecker. This story, "the confession" is taken from the latter book.

Recently he had published his autobiography in a book titled "Regaining Missing Time." In his short stories, Mr. Bawazir treats political, economic and social problems that face Yemeni people.

He applies mockery in his writing about these problems, as observed in "The Confession".



Health/Environment

Poverty reduction strategy discussed

BY ISMAEL AL-GHABERY YEMEN TIMES STAFF

he Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper for the years 2003-2005 was released recently tackling measures and strategies that will be adopted to alleviate poverty in Yemen. Before talking about this strategy paper lets discuss the reality of poverty in Yemen in general.

The1999 household budget survey showed that 17.6 % of the Yemeni population live under the food poverty line whereas the percentage of the population who are incapable of obtaining their food and non food requirements is 41.8%. These percentages reflect the gravity of living conditions of approximately 6.9 million people who are suffering from the different dimensions of poverty not to mention the other large numbers that are living close to the poverty line and are vulnerable to being dragged to below the poverty line along with the high poverty gap which is estimated at about 13.2% and the severity of poverty which amounts to 5.8%.

Poverty in Yemen takes on a rural attribute, especially as the Yemeni people are to a large extent mostly rural dwellers, despite the rapid urbanization. Rural areas of Yemen encompass about 83% of the poor and 87% of those who suffer from food poverty at the same time that nearly three-fourths of the total population in 1998 were rural dwellers.

The percentage of the rural population who are poor amounts to 45% as compared to 30.8% for the urban population in addition to the wide gap and severity of poverty among the rural population compared o that of the urban population. This attribute also shows that according to the 1998 human budget survey, spending on food absorbs 54% of income in the urban areas whereas it climbs to 67% in the rural areas, which reflect low incomes in the rural areas on one hand and even lower degree of spending on non-food requirements there on the other.

Causes of Poverty

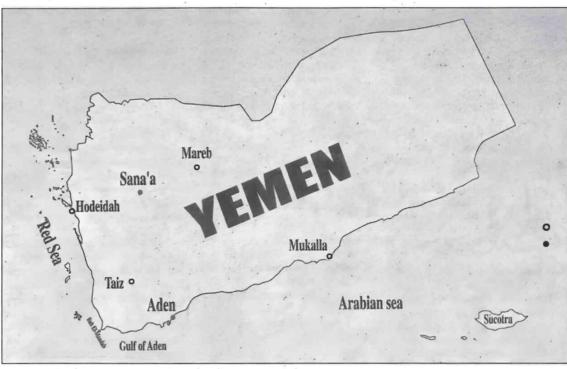
Poverty is considered the result of a set of natural and human factors, domestic policies and external factors that come together to create an environment conductive to the occurrence and spread of poverty and its increase in severity. However the 1998 human budget survey data has shown that large family size and geographical causes were the most causes that raise the probability of falling into poverty.

In the same way that poverty is inequitably distributed between rural and urban areas, there is also an obvious disparity among the different governorates of the republic of Yemen whereby half of the poor are concentrated in four governorates which are Taiz, Ibb Sana'a and Hodiedah.

The Yemeni leadership realized this critical issue and has been paying utmost concern to solving it. The leadership concern to poverty and poverty alleviation has been illustrated in most of President Saleh speeches and guidance. Ò Our country cannot move to the future except through a better focus on finding appropriate solutions to improving the livelihood of the people including combating poverty, expanding the social safety net, and paying attention to the health of the peopleÓ said president Saleh in one of his speeches.

On his part Prime Minister Abdul Qader Ba Jammal talked about the government measures to alleviating poverty O The government commitment of reducing poverty is clearly manifested through its program by which it has obtained the parliament confidence. The program focuses on the basic issues which should be given absolute priority as one of the most important underpinnings of the modern state of Yemen along with the policies aiming at spinning the wheel of economic development and creating job opportunities and reducing poverty.Ó Clarified the Prime Minister.

To face the dilemma of poverty the government adopted a number of measures in collaboration with the donors the government of Yemen explored the various conditions of the citizens particularly the hardships of living since 1992 by carrying out a number of studies, household budget



Poverty reduction strategy paper (2003-2005)

survives and poverty assessments to ascertain the causes and features of poverty and came out with what is called the Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper.

The government of yemen started the preparation of the Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper through the interim-poverty Reduction Strategy paper that was approved as an initial draft by the cabinet in April 2000. This paper was later finalized in line with the government program and the principles of the comprehensive reform program and the overall framework of the second five years plan. This paper was debated, discussed and analyzed through out 2000 to 2002 to come out with the recent Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper.

To ensure the preparation of a national PRSP in compliance with the applicable rules and regulations set for it and to ensure its consistency with the second five year plan, a 21member committee was formed for its preparation chaired by the Vice Minister of Planning and Development and comprising representatives of all agencies and institutions concerned with poverty issues and under the supervision of the Planning Minister of and Development.

The PRSP preparation committee adopted a mechanism to ensure continuous consultations with the participation of all concerned agencies to convey to these agencies the activities of the committee and the discussion themes, and to in turn, reflect the views of these agencies on the themes of the strategy in order to have a comprehensive interaction.

With regard to the involvement of the poor and hearing their concerns and priorities the committee undertook a second survey in 20 districts where poverty incidence exceeded 50% of the total population being characterized as pockets of poverty.

Based on the causes and factors that determine the probability of falling into poverty and the results of the survey and studies undertaken during the last 2 years the major sets of factors lead to poverty in Yemen which are as follows

Decline in income and its association with the nature and extent of economic growth. High population growth and the

poor development of human resources and infera structure. And weal levels of social protec-

tion. The poverty reduction strategy

aims to achieve through the adoption

of interlink and well-designed policies, measures, activities and mechanisms to create an environment which is conductive for poverty reduction and the realization of specific and prioritized objectives including the achievement of economic growth, creation of jobs opportunities, provision of better basic services and securing an effective social safety net

for the poor. The poverty reduction strategy targets reduction of poverty by 13.1% during the period 2003-2005, to decline to 35.9% in 2005. It is expected that this might be achievable through appropriate economic growth that will lead to increasing real GDP by about 4.7% depending on the growth of the non-oil sectors by an annual average rate of 6.3% to keep pace with effects of the population policies that seeks to reduce the annual population growth rate to 3% by 2005. The strategy also seeks to achieve a number of sectoral objectives leading to overall poverty reduction

Finally the PRSP comprised of four main axes which are achieving economic growth.

Human resources development, improving infrastructure and ensuring social protection.

Better drug access in developing countries is needed **By Francois Loos:**

15

For the first time in its history, the World Trade Organization is facing a vital emergency. Vital for millions of people suffering from diseases, vital for the credibility of the organization. The latest UNAIDS report has sounded the alarm: 24 million people in the world are HIV positive. This figure may doubt by 2010 if nothing is done. This is why I am now. addressing myself to all of France's partners in the WTO. We have no time to lose on technical discussions. We need to act immediately. And we can. We are all concerned by this moral issue. A moral issue requiring a political solution.

In 2001, the developed countries accepted a very significant political commitment. They decided to "find a solution" to ensure the availability of inexpensive drugs for developing countries without the resources to manufactures their own drugs.

The WTO agreement on intellectual property rights authorizes WTO members in a serious health crisis to deliver compulsory licenses in order to manufacture drugs. This option is not available, however, to countries without pharmaceutical production capacity, which is currently the case with most developing countries The size of the current health crisis does not leave us any choice: we need to find a legal solution before the end of the year, in line with the commitment accepted in Doha

Regardless of the technical solution, our objective must be to act fast and to provide waiting patients with help. So we may as well go for the simplest

and fastest solution.

Let's create a mechanism for serious health crisis triggered by major pandemics (AIDS), malaria, tuberculosis) and other epidemics, as agreed in Doha.

Let's decide to make this mechanism broadly available to the developing countries. The beneficiaries will depend upon the actual situation: countries in serious health crisis should in any case be entitled to its use.

Let's immediately adopt a legal mechanism and let's agree to include it as soon as possible in the WTO patent agreement.

And let's reflect upon ways to organize worldwide mechanism to finance drugs for the poorest countries and to protect distribution channels in order to prevent the emergence of gray markets.

Are there morally acceptable reasons to delay the signature of such an agreement? I do not think so. I am convinced that we share the same objectives. I am confident in our political capacity within the WTO to assume our responsibilities. So let's do it. Now.

Doctors learn of family planning techniques

BY YEMEN TIMES STAFF

he Yemeni Health and Family Planning Program offered a training course on how to use modern techniques on family planning during a workshop Dec. 26.

Dr. Marouf Batheeb and Dr. Abdul Wahab al-Ansi, adviser at the Ministry of Health, gave addresses, while Dr. Arwa al-Rebeea the general director of the Sabeen Hospital in Sana'a, spoke on the up-to-date techniques, known as PROTEC, to be used in family planning.

Thirty trainee doctors and participants from government and private hospitals, in addition to non-governmental organizations in Sana'a received certificates for completing the course.

The family health and family planning program is being conducted by the Ministry of Public Health and Population and Futures Group International in collaboration with (EPOS) a Yemeni development program financed by Yemen and the German Bank for Reconstruction (KFW).



Dr. Marouf Batheeb, Coordinator of Workshop

The project aims at helping the Yemeni government meet the increased demands for family health and family planning in line with government's policies in this regard.

This project is the first of its kind in Yemen. It focuses on merging the different health organizations in Yemen to offer health services to alleviate the burdens on the government's services and thus helps achieve part of the national policy to handle the population and health crisis in the country.

Workshop in Sana'a **Environmental education promoted**

BY YEMEN TIMES STAFF

n a workshop about environmental education and nationwide development held in Sana'a recently, researchers focused on a range of Yemen's environmental issues.

The included developing Yemen's forest areas and diversity, expanding natural resources, decreasing pollution and preventing the extinction of some biotic life that creates environmental crisis.

The regional UNESCO office for education in the Arabic countries and the Islamic for Education and sciences and culture organization (ISESCO) participated in the workshop. They focussed on modernizing school curricula in Yemen as one important means for raising environmental awareness.

Education and the environment

The submitted papers of the researchers focussed on the importance of including environmental education in the curricula to achieve the following goals:

 Assist the society members to acquire the environmental awareness

- Help the society to acquire different experi-

ences related to environment and its problems

Get the members of the society to be acquainted with environmental problems. Push the members of the society to participate in protection the environment.

The researchers put systematic suggestions to merge environmental concepts in the educational curricula, and accompanied activities were determined to be implemented through programs for spreading environmental awareness among the people.

The researchers also determined the textbooks that contain environmental issues, which are the Holy Qura'an, Arabic language, sociology, science, Math and English language as well as vocational, technical and physical education.

In textbook of science the supposed environmental issues should focus on pollution resulted from chemical industries, noise pollution, the air, its features, contents and pollution.

Other education

Educational researchers submitted a water education project that aims at alleviating the shortage of water in Yemen, resulting in environmental, social and economic damages besides raising awareness

among the people about the proper usage of water.

The project suggested steps and procedures are to be taken in embodying the water concepts in the textbooks in different levels.

The workshop also recommended the importance of investing water resources to generate job opportunities and an income for the poor and jobless ones by producing building substances from the local environmental materials such as soil and rocks; by carrying out experiments in the agriculture fields like increasing the monetary yields as the coffee, cotton and bee breading; and by paying attention to fishery and sea creatures and by protecting the vocational producing and support its fields such as the pottery and ceramist and woolen industry.

The workshop concluded that poverty and environmental deterioration is 'a result of cumulative of systems and policies and social and economic relations.

It also stimulated the government to adopt extensive educational and developmental policies to deal with problems of environment and income reduction and try to support them technically and institutionally as well as facilitating the investments for the local environmental resources and encourage the cooperative work for providing the essential services.

Vacancy Announcement

A Vacancy of a general physician (INTERNIST) Holding M.D. degree with an experience of five years or a doctor with experience not less than ten years to work at Al-Hekma hospital in Taiz. Preference will be given those who has knowledge in endoscope and ultra sound.

Selected doctor would be entirely dedicated for a full time work in the hospital

Contact Tel. 04 240912, Fax. 04 240831. E-mail: hek2004@hotmail.com

Press Scanner

Prepared by Mohammed Khidhr



hand of possibility of changing the

political crisis represented in elections

preparations into terrorist or military

events depending physical liquidations

and fears of instigation a new war simi-

The editorial does not rule out the

link between the assassination of

Jarallah Omer and the killing of

American doctors in the missionary

The editorial demands the govern-

ment to take more strict and responsible

measures, not for confronting such inci-

dents and punishing their perpetrators

but also to stop them even before their

ly,

America warns its nationals against

Group of detainees to be set free

In his editorial the editor in chief say

the terrorist acts happening on the

Yemeni arena since the early days fol-

lowing May 22,1990. Have been organ-

ized crimes in the stark meaning of this

term. They have been the crimes that

preceded and followed establishment of

the unity state constitution and later the

Regretfully, he who overlooks this

fact, would not the danger of his attitude

till after he suffers from it. Still remains

that real sources of all dangers is that

the terror seen in Yemen. It is specifi-

cally of the harbor or encouragement or

finding of terror. Such an act is no less

serious than the crimes of perpetrating a

1st legislative elections of this state.

possible terrorist attacks

2003.

Al- Wahda week-

1 January

lar to tat of 1994.

hospital In Jibla.

happening.

Main headlines :

soon

terrorist act.

n the few find days of the outgoing year 2002, Yemen was violently shaken by two powerful explosions that left Yemeni society spellbound and astound. The first astounding explosion was the incident of the assassination of the assistant secretary-general of the Yemen Socialist party Jarallah Omar in Sana'a inside the hall where the Islah party conference was being held Saturday, December 28. The second shocking incident was shooting dead of three American physicians and

wounding a fourth inside an American missionary hospital in Jibla, the governorate of Ibb, 170 km south of the capital Sana'a. Almost all Yemeni newspapers have this week devoted several pages to writings on those tragic events and analyz-

ing their motives and consequences politically and socially. The two incidents have also captured the boldest headlines of this week local newspapers.



Al-Wahdawi weekly, organ ·· of the Nasserite Unionist Organization, 31 Dec. 2002.

Main headlines:

- Large-scale arrests following killing three Americans in Jibla Jarallah Omer, typical example of
- sincerity & courage Wide- range condemnation of Omer
- assassination Washington demands protection for
- its nationals in Yemen
- Islah party demands the government to disclose the side behind assassination of Omer.

Columnist Mohammed Saleh al-Hadhiri discusses the phenomenon of political assassination in Yemen.

He says the assassination incident of the late Jarallah Omer has not been the first, but rather complementary of an habitude outdoing the tendency towards democracy and peaceful dialogue. Political assassination in Yemen represents a reflection of backward relations inside the society. It is a material political action intended for ending for good the contradiction with the other.

As a phenomenon in Yemen, the political assassination tempo maybe has faded during the past few years. But now we are fact to face with one

of the cases of "ideological" assassination, which is also a politi-

cal action. It has incomplete political vision as long as it is non-analytical and is not reliant on development of political stands of the goal that would contradict its fixed image. Many elements culture continued to prevent development of understanding of others and nature of developments related to this other. Nonetheless, the incident of Jarallah assassination must not change in to a phenomenon of ideological assassination, added to political assassination that befell some prominent Yemeni personalities in the past.

> Jamaheer Alweekly, organ of the Arab Baath Socialist party, Dec. 29, 2002.

Main headlines:

- Arab Baath Socialist party: we condemn terror, continue struggle for enhancing democracy
- The ABSP strongly condemns Jarallah Omer assassination Indian authorities apprehend Yemeni students, accuse them of
- terror Iraqi scientists refuse to be ques-
- tioned outside Iraq Corruption scandal at Fish Wealth
- Ministry
- Hands of car stealing gangs amputated
- Zionist occupation troops continue oppressive acts against Palestinian citizens

Editor in chief of the newspapers says the assassination of Jarallah Omer, the national patriot who has his own national sole and one of the prominent figures of Yemen's unity, has dangerous meanings and implications. The incident needs deep thinking about the reason for choosing the Islah party conference as an occasion for carrying out the assassination. .

6

Such a dangerous incident and the choice of its time and venue means: It is an attempt to attach the charge

- of terror to the Islah party, An attempt to effect a rift in the
- national rank and disrupt alliance between the YSP & the Islah leading it to a state of conflict,
- It is an attempt to about the charges' the Islah party is seeking to make . through its conference, and . . . An attempt to accuse the government and its intelligence organiza-

tions as trying to dismember the two parties, alliance for electoral. aims.



Main headlines :

- Perpetrator of Jibla killings and Jarallah assassin are members of a 5- member cell
- Kenyan police accuses a Yemeni of implementing Mombassa attack Political observers warn of
- American exploitation of Jibla incident

In his editorial Mr. Abdulla Ibrahim al-Wazeer wonders how would the state deal with what has happened to our political life in our country after assassination · of a leading politician at the hand of extremism culture?

Some may try to ascribe the incident to a certain political party while the other some may seek to accuse another side, as if we are facing a political stance or a political game played by this party or that. The apparent fact is that Yemeni destiny relies on the way of dealing with this incident and this phenomenon

The writer maintains that we are not

facing a political stance or before election we are looking for how to win its round. We are really in front of pending danger threatening Yemen and its people. We are facing bloodbaths if we do not know how to tackle this phenome-

> Al-Mithaq Weekly, organ of the General people's .congress party, 30 Dec. 2002.

Main headlines: President Ali Abdulla Saleh :

Jarallah, a victim of extremism and wrong mobilization GPC cells for mustering the peo-

ple's efforts to face extremism and uproot terror Interrogation continues with the

assassin columnist Hael said Mahyoud says in an article that extremism is an abnormal phenomenon for the Yemeni society. Fighting extremism by all is a national and religious duty. The president's call in more than one meeting with citizens and all political parties and political forces came from the suffering and damage the country sustain at the hands of terrorist elements. Protection and hiding of extremist elements by some influential personalities have aborted security efforts aimed at fighting terror and extremism, and inflicted on the country material damage against the national economy and offended the country's reputation in international cir-

> ATTARIQ .-Weekly,31 Dec.

Main headlines:

Islah denies the killer's affiliation with it Three American physicians killed, one wounded at a hospital in Jibla

killer of the Americans confesses coordination with Jarallah killer Wednesday, Jarallah Omer funeral YSP demands the attorney- general for comprehensive investigation

ress

Eleven women, members of Islah and failures. It has become somethan concord.

Arab policies seem today weak and contradicting more than any time before. They are dominated by an illusion that bowing before and submission to uncle Sam would spare parties of official Arab regime of being excluded from paying bills of the new American strategy in the region. This new strategy, in its present stage, contains a good number political military scenario.

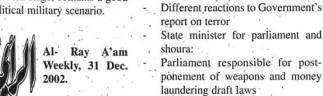


- Main headlines: Who is conspiring against this
 - Jihad cells that implemented assas-
- sination of Jarallah Omer and the
- American physicians, discovered
- An extremist kills American doctors
- Fears from outsides to exploit Omer's assassination

The newspaper editorial mentions that unexpected incidents have taken for the democratic election battle on 27 pose dangers and target security and

with the killer

shoura council columnist Khalid Ali Tuaiman says the history of Arab conferences and meetings has become linked to many setbacks thing taken as granted that after each Arab summit there must be directly a new setback or disaster





- country?
- Assassin of Jarallah asks speedy
- execution

place at a time the country is preparing of next April. It says there incidents stability of the country,

The paper says it has warned before-

Arab News - Khalil's cartoon

Philippine

Nigeria

Major news items in leading international newspapers Provided by Xinhua

World Press

Al Ahram Egypt's non-petroleum exports to Britain grew by 13.3 percent in 2002, 'Egypt's Commercial Attache in London Mohammed Ihab Zidan said Friday.

Exports were estimated at 446.7 million US dollars, while the volume of trade exchange accounted for 925 million dollars, he added.



developments in the region.

Al Gomhuria Egyptian Prime Minister Atef Obeid will continue Saturday a series of ministerial meetings to crisis. follow up the execution of programs in 2003 as mentioned in the government policy statement.

An expanded ministerial meeting will be held to tackle the procedures to grant loans for families

Le Figaro Foreign Minister Dominique de Villepin invited all political sides in Cote d'Ivoire to attend a meeting in Paris on January 15 to help the west African country find a way out of the 15-week

Liberation

President Jacques Chirac ordered his government to take all measures to fight. pollution caused by oil leak from the

France

the beaches and reported the situation to a cabinet meeting. The entire executive in France is mobilized against the ecological disaster.

Le Monde

How much will a war on Iraq cost the world economy? In the worst of the three scenarios studied by American economists, the oil price will soar to 80 US dollars per barrel, the jobless rate will hit 7.5 percent of the American active population and the West economies will face a general recession.

in Jibla

cles.

Egyptian Foreign Minister Ahmed Maher conferred late on-Friday with visiting US Senator Arlen Specter on furthering bilateral relations, the situation in the Middle East and the Iraqi issue. In a statement after the meeting, Maher said he discussed with the US senator all issues of bilateral concern and updated him on the Egyptian stance over the latest

in villages and popular districts.:

' The Egyptian Mail

The latest news leak from the Egyptian Football Association (EFA) hinted the possibility of the EFA's approving the idea of cooperating with its . Tunisian counterpart to co-host the 2010 World Cup, emulating the success of the 2002 Korea/Japan event.

e .

Britain

Egypt

Financial Times

The British government had promised that money would be "no object" when it came to introducing the European Rail Traffic Management System, which helps prevent collisions and improve rail network performance.

The Times

War against Iraq can still be avoided if Iraqi President Saddam Hussein disarms, stands down under pressure from Arab leaders, or is deposed in a coup, sources of the British cabinet said on Friday.

The Daily Telegraph

The British government will send more than 20,000 troops to the

Gulf and order the mobilization of around 7,000 reservists next week in preparation for a war in Iraq.

The Independent

The British government is to draw up plans to close the gap between the rich and the poor after ministers admitted that Prime Minister Tony Blair's New Labor! project had failed to significantly reduce disparities in opportunity, wealth and health.

The Guardian:

The rain that has bucketed down on the south of England since New Year's Eve finally eased on Friday, allowing work to begin on cleaning up flooded homes and businesses.

sunken Prestige oil tanker along the southwestern coastline. Prime Minister Jean-Pierre Raffarin and his team visited

Pakistan

Pakistan Observer

The Pakistani government had not allowed raids to be carried out by foreign troops inside Pakistani territory, Major General Rashid Qureshi, spokesman to the President and Director General of Inter Services Public Relations, said here on Friday evening.

The Nation

The Mutahida Majlis-e-Amal, an alliance of religious parties in Pakistan, on Friday staged country-wide demonstrations against possible US attack on Iraq.

Japan

Mainichi

72 percent of Japan's major firms say their earnings will improve in 2003.

Nihon Keizai

Japanese government plans to step up copyright protection:

Asahi

Japan is to begin preparing ibis for release into natural habitat. Enditem.

India

The Times of India

The Prime Minister, Atal Behari Vajpayee, Friday unveiled a new National Science and Technology Policy that seeks to infuse vitality into the science and technology system so that it could squarely face the challenges of globalization in terms of increasing restrictions on the sharing of knowledge among countries, with newer norms of intellectual property rights and technology and trade control regimes.

The Economic Times

Singapore President S R Nathan arrived here Friday night on . an eightday State visit aimed at giving a major impetus to bilateral trade and economic relations.

The Hindustan Times Eighteen passengers were killed and 41 injured Friday when a Manmad-bound Express train rammed into the rear of a stationary goods train in Maharashtra in the second rail accident in the region in a fortnight and the Railways blamed it on "human failure. "

Kenya Times

Kenyan President Mwai Kibaki on Friday named his new cabinet and maintained most of the existing permanent secretaries in the ministries.

Kenya

Daily Nation

· Pupils in public primary schools will not be required to pay any fees when the new term begins next week.

The people Daily

A six-month jail term was slapped on a deranged 46-year-old street beggar Friday for violent behavior at a Nairobi basilica where he declared himself "the third Pope."

Manila Bulletin

President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo welcomed Friday a proposal by House Speaker Jose de Venecia to, create a government of national unity as she directed certain cabinet officials to thoroughly study it.

The Philippine Star

Sources at the Department of Eoreign Affairs said Friday that U.S. Ambassador Francis Ricciardone pressed Philippine Foreign Secretary Blas Ople for Manila's commitment in the event of a USled war on Iraq.

Daily Times

Beginning from Saturday, some 3,000 delegates of the ruling People's Democratic Party drawn from the 36 states and the capital Abuja gathered in Abuja to decide who becomes the party's flag bearer to the forthcoming 2003 presidential elections to be held in April.

The Guardian

As delegates to the ruling People's Democratic Party convention holding in the capital Abuja began the countdown on Friday to vote for the party's presidential flag bearer, horse- trading, mutual suspicion; campaign of disinformation are dominating the airwaves.

This Day

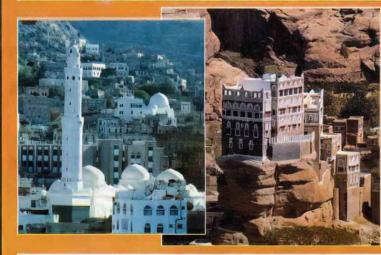
Abuja lost its sedate atmosphere on Friday as thousands of delegates and other key members of the ruling People's Democratic Party/converged at the federal capital only to know that a meeting of 14 governors elected on the party's platform the previous night have decided that the governors should withdraw their support for President Olusegun Obasanjo.

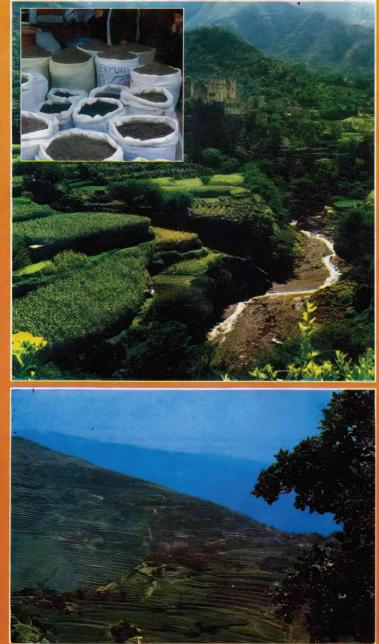


CALENDAR









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YEMEN TIMES





20 6 January, 2003





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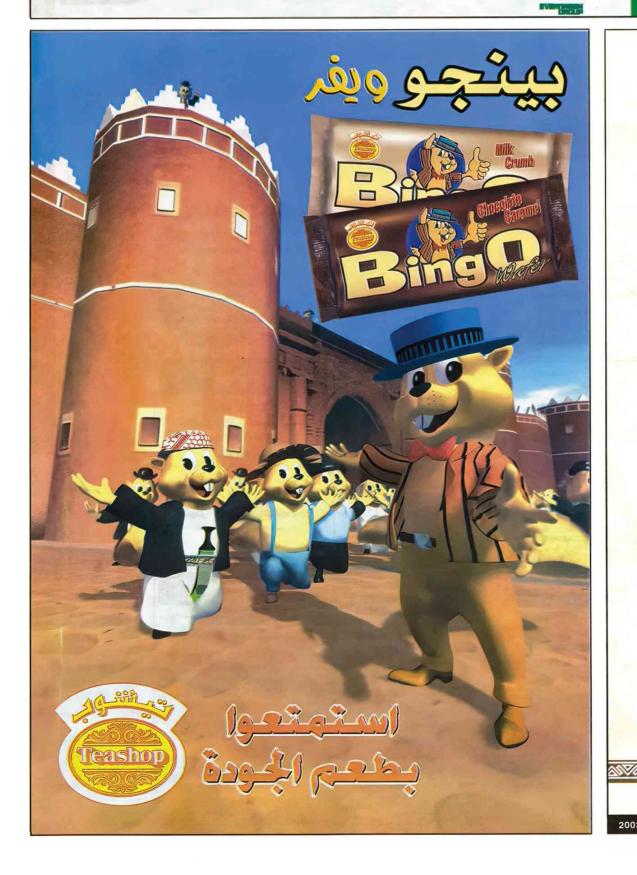
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H.E. Ali Abdullah Saleh

President of the Republic of Yemen,

and to the Yemeni people On the occasion of يتقدم كلاً من: السيد/ ريك جنسن - الرئيس/ المدير العام و السيد/ علي محمد السحيقي - المدير التنفيذي وكافة موظفي ومنتسبي شركة **كنيديان نكسن بتروليم يمن كنيديان نكسن بتروليم يمن** ماركاؤها في قطاع المسيلة بأحر التهاني واطيب التبريكات إلى فخامة الرئيس/ ماري المهاورية

The New Year 2003

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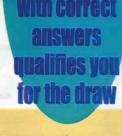




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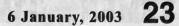






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تعليه







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 7- Yemeni Airlines has a special offer price to some countries in the world at the cost of: DS 500 DS 400 DS 600 	14-One of the famous TV brands of Videocon Company for household elec- tronic and electrical equipments is: Bazooka Renstarbaster Challenger	 البيبوكون شركة لإنتناج الإجبزة المنزلية الكهربية والاغثرونية احد منتجانها التلفزيون المشهور بإسم Buzooka Buzooka Challengar 	ل 1400 ل 1600 - ۲۰۰ ما هو مواقع بنك البين و الخليج على شيكة الإنترنت: www.yg-bank.com .com .com www.yg-bank.com .com .com	الاول والرائد في الأسواق التجارية في عاصمتنا الاقتصادية والتجارية خمدن	ملاز تشعینیه من السیم اللالی	
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Yemen's first and most widely-read English-language newspaper

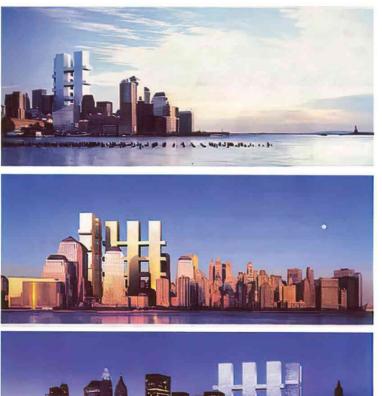


Demolished WTC buildings to rise again

even teams that include some of the most prominent architects in the world have presented their visions of how to redevelop the World Trade Center site last month. The unveiling came five months after an initial set of six plans was scotched because of widespread criticism.

As seen in the illustrations, several of the new proposals for rebuilding the 16-acre site that was leveled by a terrorist attack on September 11 2001

include constructing what would become the tallest buildings in the world. The twin towers were more than 1,300 feet tall. The current tallest buildings are the Petronas Towers in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, at 1,483 feet. The plans did not include a specific design as a memorial for the nearly 2,800 people who died there. However, the plans will preserve the "footprints" where the twin towers once stood as memorial space. An international design competition for an appropriate memorial will be launched in February, development officials say.

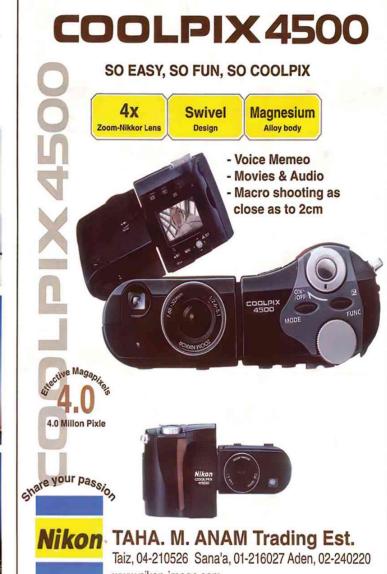












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