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Continued on page 5



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On the killing of an American, Canadian last week:

Motives still unknown

REUTERS & YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Official sources told Yemen Times that the motives behind the attack that resulted in the death of an American and a Canadian on Tuesday March 18 are probably not political. The attack was carried out by Naji Ahmed Al-Kumaim against a number of foreign workers in a foreign drilling company in the Safir oil field in Mareb (20 km to the east of Mareb City), killing three including a Yemeni and injuring another Canadian. Following the incident, the attacker, who was working as a guard at the site, committed suicide.

The US embassy had confirmed the deaths of the two Western workers on the same day of the attack, and demanded immediate investigation into the incident.

The incident happened hours after US President Bush declared that war was eminent, which initially brought the possibility that this was a factor behind the killing. However, the fact that the worker killed himself following the attack makes his motives a secret for ever. But the government was quick to say that the guard was suffering from mental illness.

Sources at the company he worked at told Yemen Times that the murderer was polite in his treatment to the foreign worker, and no suspicious acts of his were noticed. "We were shocked when we heard the news and I never noticed anything suspicious about the guard," one of the company's employees said on the condition of anonymity.

"We are still investigating the motives of the murdered. But because he was an employee at the same firm, suspicions may be raised that this attack may not necessarily be related to terrorism," a security official said. Al-Kumaim also shot dead another Yemeni national employed at the oil

firm, which was not named. "He killed himself after his act. The motive is not yet known," the official told Reuters.

Anti-American sentiment has been running high in Arab countries over a possible U.S.-led attack on Iraq and perceptions that Washington is supporting Israel against the Palestinians.

The US Embassy released a statement in the same day condemning the attack and requesting the government to start an immediate investigation into it.

Below is the complete text of the statement:

"The American Embassy has learned of the shooting of four employees of Hunt Oil in Mareb, Yemen.

One American citizen, a Yemeni and a Canadian were killed; another Canadian was wounded.

We condemn this violence and call on the Yemeni government to investigate it fully.

We cannot release further information pending notification of family. The Embassy will assist in dealing with the injured and deceased.

American law enforcement personnel will assist the Yemeni government in investigating this case." On the other hand, the 26 September newspaper, the organ of the Yemen armed forces said on Thursday that the primary investigations revealed that the attack had no political motives.

They added that the attacker had no relation with any terrorist attack or because of the current attack against Iraq.

Last December, a Yemeni gunman killed three U.S. missionaries at a hospital. Yemen, seen as a haven for Muslim militants, has boosted security and launched a manhunt against suspected members of Osama bin Laden's al Qaeda network.



An armed guard stands at the entrance to a hospital where three people were taken after being shot and killed on a rig run by a U.S. oil firm, in the Marib province, east of Sanaa, in Yemen, March 18, 2003. REUTERS

Iraq war could hit Yemen's economy hard

BY MOHAMMED BIN SALLAM
AND YASSER AL-MAYASI
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

What loss could this war hovering on our region cause Yemen? Taking the financial aspect of it in view; economic specialists and analysts in Al-Jazeera Channel last Tuesday predicted losses during the first ten months after the American attack against Iraq.

The specialists say that war consequences will reach all sectors of the Yemeni economy. The economy was already affected for two years due to the attack on the American warship USS Cole's in October 2000, then the

September 11, 2001 attack and then the Limbuge explosion in October 2002.

The danger- as the analysts say, would come as a result of the decline in oil prices which could reach US\$ 8-12 per barrel, an objective of the American war anyway.

Al-Jazeera added saying that consequences of the decline of price oil are lower economic growth rate, more inflation, larger deficiency in the commercial expenditure because of the dependency on the oil resources.

Also the effects on tourism and less investments would lead to greater unemployment and deterioration in the exchange rate of the local currency,

increase in prices of goods, costs of production and insurance value.

An official census mentioned that Yemen's loss due to stopping existing investment projects would reach US 500 million.

The investment rate in Yemen has already decreased by more than 60% since the terrorist events. And investments in the service sector have decreased by more than 35% and in the agriculture by more than 40%, and a massive decline of 90% in the tourism sector.

On a regional level the war on Iraq is predicted to influence negatively the relationship between Yemen and the GC

countries, and that the bilateral and group investments which could have materialized without the war would remain in question during the war and perhaps to a long time post it.

Abdulqader Ba-Jammal Prime Minister, said last Wednesday that the financial and economic situation is stable in Yemen and that the country has the resources to cover the deficiency and all the markets requirements of products such as food, medicine and petrol.

He said that more order and organization is required to maintain stability and that monitoring in the coming period would be more strict especially on the local level.

Electricity situation discussed

ADEN—The third meeting for General Electricity Corporation in Yemen concluded on March 15.

Participants recommended on reducing the indebtedness of the consumers from 5 months in 2001 to 3 months.

The electricity arrears were reduced from YR. 1.275.01 at the end of 2001 to YR. 1.029. 97 during the end of 2002.

The monthly average sales increased to YR. 2.128 million in 2001.

While the collection percentage increased from 19.9 percent in 2001 to 104 percent in 2002.

In addition to this, the payables reached YR 3.261.73 million and that the

government support in this regard has reached YR. 4 billion.

The consumption subscribers rates have been ranging from 215 kilo watt-hour in 2001 to 222 kilo watt in 2002.

The final session was headed by Yahya al-Abydh, Minister of Electricity and Water and attended by Abdulaziz Mohammed Ahmed, General Manager of the General Electricity Corporation in Aden, as well as district managers, electricians and technicians.

Participants started discussing joint cost papers.

They confirmed that the speeches of the electricity and waters minister, the

Aden governor deputy assistant and the general manager of general electricity corporation should be one of the important documents to be taken into consideration

The participants expressed their appreciation for Aden City represented by its governor and its leaderships, member of the local council for their patronage for holding this meeting in Aden.

In addition to this, participants thanked Aden University represented by its Rector, Dr. Saleh Basara, for hosting the meeting and offering all facilities to make this meeting a great success.

Participants from Aden University

also took part in the meeting with important worthy and efficient working papers that would be of great significance for the benefit of the General Electricity Corporation's activities.

The participants recommended organizing the next meeting in another governorate.

In the meeting, a number of working papers were discussed, out of which a working paper was presented about the central operations chamber activities regarding improving the electricity network and reducing electricity loss during transmission.

Dia opposes war against Iraq

Mr. Frederic Roberts, Dia's Country Representative in Yemen has expressed his concerns and worries over the war launched against Iraq which will have dramatic consequences for the Arab countries in general and for Iraq in particular.

"We are totally opposed to a war that has been declared unilaterally by the United States disregarding worldwide opposition and ignoring the position of the members of United Nations' Security Council," Mr. Robert declared.

Dia has been working in Yemen since 1999 and respects the culture and traditions of this country.

"We never interfered with Yemen political or religious issues and we

commit ourselves to continue to serve the poor and marginalized population in the best way possible and in full cooperation with national and local partners, even if the circumstances will be difficult in a near future," he further noted.

Dia is also willing to express its concern towards the risk of retaliation acts against American and Western interests in Yemen.

"We consider that violence should not trigger more violence detriment of the global hope for peace," he further added.

Worth mentioning is that Dia, a French organization working in field of international development, aims to establish different projects that are of

use to different sections of the society and in different fields including educational, social, health, local economic, environmental fields.

Dia is also working in different countries, in Portugal, Morocco, Iraq, and Bosnia.

Dia's program in Yemen is quite larger. Its main focus in Yemen is on education, schools, health centers, specially in Taiz governorate.

It is an organization working by the people and for the people. It tries to develop the abilities of people especially youths.

As an organization, Dia is pursuing commendable activities in the country.

NCC students visit YT

A group of NCC education paid an information visit to Yemen Times main office in Sanaa last Thursday.

"We are delighted to visit the Yemen Times weekly, which we consider the first and best English newspaper in Yemen," said Wael Hashem the Marketing Manager of the NCC education. The group was given an idea about the historical background, mission, and the various departments of Yemen Times.

The group toured the newspaper building and was introduced to the various stages that the newspaper goes through until it reached the printing press. It is worth noting that NCC Education, is the world's leading independent IT qualification awarding and testing body and has branches worldwide.

Arab Journalists Union

War against Iraq and Palestine denounced



One Ansar al-Islam victims north of Iraq (al Jazeera.net)

BY MOHAMMED BIN SALLAM
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

In a communiqué issued last Monday, thousands of Arab journalists firmly asserted their total rejection to the U.S. led war on Iraq depicting the war as a pretext under of which the real colonizing intentions are hidden and called upon their own states to comply with the Arab summit's resolutions lately held in the Egyptian capital Cairo and to settle down all Arab-Arab disputes and disagreements particularly the crises suspended and to reach a comprehensive compromise at the local and national level.

Arab reporters, in their communiqué, have condemned the foreign interventionist policies in the Arab internal affairs in the name of democracy which hides behind imperialism, colonialism, domination and changing the map of the Middle East and its geographical frontiers, presenting the instances of Palestine, the Sudan and Iraq and what they are ready for the rest Arab countries.

Journalists have called up the Arab regimes to stand unified in confronting this furious attack and to voice a clear cut policy against the aggressive war and rather to immediately act to stop providing any political, military and economic assistance or facilities whatsoever for the aggressive forces.

Reporters also confirmed Iraq's commitment to comply with all U.S. resolutions pertaining to the mass destruction arms inspection and that of Iraq's link with its neighbors.

Reporters have further added that the Kuwaiti-Iraqi crisis file is reckoned as a positive sign that virtually has got to be supported.

They also called on the Security Council not to have a double standard or any prejudice and to impartially comply with the International Organization Charter as the sole authority for the fair international order.

Arab journalists demanded the remaining living forces amid the Arab Nation (from the ocean to the gulf) to do their utmost to discontinue the war wheel and to express their own perspectives through all media so as to make the world know of, if it doesn't, the conspiracies plotted against the Arabs.

They also lauded those peoples, nations, political, religious and civil organizations worldwide that opposed the logic of war and aggression demanding the factual and actual practice of the real democracy and the

spread of ideal principles.

As far as the Palestinian Case is concerned the communiqué denounced the aggressive furious war waged by Israel against the Palestinian people. They also called for an international crusade for disarmament of Israel which under the American umbrella threatens the security and stability of the region.

Journalists asserted their Arab states' rights in selecting and modernizing their political regimes, changing their provisions, pushing forward the real democratization, fighting corruption and suppression, activating civil community organizations and liberate journalism, freedom of opinion and express and all that hinders the democratic advancement and cardinal freedoms.

At the end of the press communiqué Arab journalists called up their fellow journalists at all international media to impartially, conscientiously and objectively deal with the Arab and Islamic issues and to stop the anti-Arab and Islamic hateful campaigns

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:

Do you sincerely think that the US-led war would eventually take over Iraq?

- Yes,
- No,
- Let's wait and see

LAST WEEK'S QUESTION:

Do you think the calls by President Saleh for protests reflect a sincere desire to oppose the US war, or is it just for local consumption?

- No it is only to relieve public opinion 50.4%
- Yes he is sincere 22.6%
- I don't know 19.6%
- No, but for another reason 7.2%

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



A group photo of the visiting students along with YT editor

Mohammed Ali Othman School

Demonstrates against war

Mohammed Ali Othman, the private school in Taiz, organized last Tuesday a demonstration supporting Iraq. Slogans expressed by students denounced war, and showed their desire to live peacefully in world without war.

The students burned American and Israeli flags and carried out a sit-in in school yard condemning the American attack against Iraq.

The union of school organized solidarity festivals with Iraq in which the students Ali Abdullah Ahmed and Husam Abdulatif Mugali had given a speech insuring that the aim of American war is to force a new military presence in Arabic region and use up Arab resources, besides gaining control on Iraq oil the second biggest reserve in the world.

Yemen Times attended the demonstration and met some students and teachers.

Esra Abdualraheem, Iraqi, the manager of the primary school said sadly "We have only to pray for Iraq to win and America to fail. This march that is being held today is expression of students responsibility towards their nation"

Abduallah Mohoub, student in 6th grade, said "Today Iraqi students are being prevented from going to schools and we in demonstration announce our stand with Iraqi children and their right to live peacefully."

Ahmed Shawqi, the head of stu-

dents union in MAO, said "This solidarity comes as an expression of students refusal for American attack and their consolidation with their brothers in Iraq. We feel that it is our duty to do something to stop this attack that threatens our future and our dreams to

have a free and honorable life. We condemn war for better future."

He added, "The students union, which has been established in October, 2001, is organizing this solidarity event with Iraq besides holding seminars, graduation ceremonies,

bazaars.

The union will organize a bazaar in April 2.



Ahmed Shawqi



Angry march staged by students at Mohammed Ali Othman School in Taiz city in protest of US-led war against Iraq.

Fire breaks out in a water-well

Fire broke out last Monday in Majraz in Dhamar governorate inside a water-well during drilling.

Sheikh Mohammed Bin Mohsen who was present at that time told the Yemen Times that when the driller has already dug about 223 meters deep and water started welling up but the moment the driller began to slightly

back off, all of a sudden the well blasted and fire broke out burning the driller and forcing the workers to escape.

It is said that the well that is expected to contain either oil or gas along with a school were as a donation from the U.S embassy in Sana'a

Media workshop held

A workshop about the media's role for activating professional training and development of human rights resources was held on March 19. It was organized by the National Training Skills and Development Fund and al-thowra corporation..

The workshop aimed at clarifying the Fund's tasks in professional and technical training and developing human resources.

It also dealt with Fund's role in

pushing the economic and social development wheel ahead.

In addition, the workshop clarified the Fund's resources and obstacles and problems it has been facing.

The workshop included various newspapers in Yemen.

It stressed the importance of media role in raising awareness to develop the human resources and update the fund's different activities, and raise awareness among employers.

Yemen Times 2002 Person of the Year honored

Yemen Times honored last week Shawqi Ahmed Hayel Saeed Anam, the prominent business and the head of planning, development and finance committee in the local council in Taiz, who won the title of Yemen Times 2002 Person of the Year.

Imad al-Saqqaf, Taiz & Hodiedah bureau manager, handed Anam the Yemen Times coat of arms.

On his part, Anam exalted the continuous successes and the great progress that the paper achieved through the previous years, and praised the role of the Taiz office and its expanding activities and special media efforts.



Shawqi Hayel Saeed receives YT 2002 person of the year award

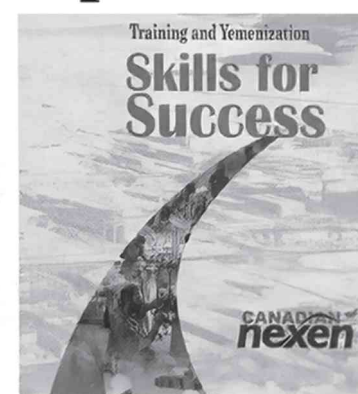
Nexen booklet published

A new booklet of Training and Yemization, Skills for Success has been recently published.

The booklet sheds light on how employees progress in their careers, qualifying the Yemeni workforce, and how they learn at Canadian Nexen.

The new publication of the magazine deals with the training staff, training facilities, and specialized training.

It outlines how the Canadian Nexen Staff train and develop the national employees to meet the need of the Yemen's business and deliver on its commitment to Yemenization.



Fighting illiteracy in Hadramout

BY SALEH AL-BASHA
YEMEN TIMES STAFF
AL-MAKALA

Preparations are underway to establish a new public institution in Hadramout City to help eradicate illiteracy.

Mohammed Abdulkader Bamatrafi, the head of committee that is launching the new institution, said that his society aims at supporting government literacy programs, encourages drop-outs by giving them some privileges to continue their education, and supports

women to get educated and trained professionally.

Bamatraf pointed out that international and local organizations, societies, development funds and businessmen are the only supporters of the new program.

The number of uneducated people in Yemen are still high despite courses that are available. Students drop out from schools, especially females, because of the hard living circumstances that force most families to give priority to males.

Bajel Complex for Food & Industries

Exceeds 2002 plan

TAIZ, Bajel Complex for Food & Industries has achieved a tremendous success with regard to its production level.

The production level has totaled 164 percent.

Mr. Abduh Mohammed al-Jaradi, the General Manager of the Complex told the Yemen Times that the Yemen Economical Corporation represented by the Bajel Complex for Food & Industries had achieved considerable progress in the production level. It has

therefore exceeds the 2002 plan.

"This manifests itself in efforts made by loyal employees and workers in this industrial edifice.

Worthwhile mentioning is that the Bajel Complex for Food & Industries is one of the successful governmental enterprises and well-run establishments in Hodiedah.

It represents a good example of the high administrative efficiency and therefore ISO 2002 was rewarded to the complex.

On the way to rollback malaria

Special course training

The Health Affairs Office in Taiz and Hodiedah in cooperation with the European Union and the Italian association (Shantaz), organized last week a special training course for 120 trainees on emergency health service plans for malaria patients in Taiz and Hodiedah. The course, which will last for a

month, aims at providing information about malaria and how to fight and deal with this epidemic along with practical training in coastal districts.

It is worth mentioning that the Tehama coast west of Yemen is suffering from malaria to a large extent making it a threat to public health in this region.

Graduates honored

Science & Technology University held a honoring ceremony for MA graduates recently.

Dr. Lutf, University rector in Hodiedah, 116 graduates were considered distinguished and qualified in their fields, a dramatic number in furthering development.

About 500 students in special fields graduated for the first time in Hodiedah. This is evidence of a posi-

tive response to governmental plans to upgrade scientific training, as it is the essence of development.

Mohammed Saleh Shamlan, Hodiedah governor, Dr. Tarq Senan Abu Lohoom, the head of board of trustees of the university, Abdualgabar Thabet, the head of board of trustees of the university in Hodiedah and all university leaders and social personalities attended the ceremony.

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Yellow Pages published

Yemen Yellow pages, nationwide business directory for 2003 has been recently published.

The new directory contains updated, more entries, better user friendly features, and classified in alphabetical order listings. It has been published by Yemen transworld. It eliminates time consuming and expensive research.



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Ba'ath condemns war

A statement was issued last Saturday by the Socialist Ba'ath Party denouncing the US-led war against Iraq.

The statement depicted the US president as and the British Prime Minister as "war criminals" and called upon Arabs for solidarity in order to support Iraq in their struggle.

The statement also called for:

- Standing by the Iraqis in their trial and tribulations and opening borders for volunteers to fight against the US-UK-led war.

- Calling upon the international community, particularly, the Security Council to be held accountable for the US war against Iraq and putting an

urgent end to war.

- Calling upon the Arab regimes to commit themselves to apply the Beirut summit and others Arab summit resolutions.

The statement concluded by requesting the international community to stand against US oppression on a global scale.

Family planning training continues

A program known as PROTEC is continuing its training of doctors, pharmacists and midwives in family planning.

A workshop was recently held in Sana'a for 28 physicians, most of whom are obstetrician-gynecologists.

It was conducted by Dr. Arwa Al-Rabie, who went over the PROTEC training materials and stressed the importance of providing counseling to users.

At the end of the workshop, the participants received certificates in recognition of their participation from the team leader Dr. Bader Rashid.

The program also organized training workshops for providers in Amran Governorate in cooperation with the Red Crescent Society - Amran Branch on March 11 and 12.

The training was conducted by Dr. Hana' Juman. More than 60 providers in Amran benefited from the training and all of whom received certificates in recognition of their participation from Rashid.

As part of its involvement in raising the awareness of communities, the program also held a workshop for women from several districts in Amran Governorate.

The workshop provided the participants with improved knowledge and awareness on the positive impact that family planning has on improving the health of mothers and children and in reducing maternal and child mortality.

Dr. Hana' Juman, who conducted the workshop, stressed to participants that using any family planning method should be through a consultation with a physician.

The Governor of Amran Governorate, the Health Office DG and Sheikh Nu'man Dwa'id and other senior officials from Amran Governorate attended the opening ceremony of these training workshops.

On March 19, a training workshop was held in Ibb City for women from Ibb Governorate. This was organized in cooperation with the Charitable Society for Social Welfare and was conducted by trainer Dr. Shatha A. Adimi.

Similar training workshops are due to be held in Al-Mahweet for providers and women groups.

Dr. Rashid told the Yemen Times that the program will expand to all governorates.

PROTEC provides physician with a range of methods to choose the most suitable method for each woman after careful medical examination.

Physicians, pharmacists and midwives are also trained and their knowledge updated about the counseling skills and techniques. Dr. Rashid stated that Amran was the first Governorate other than Sana'a city in which training activities were started and that the program will expand the training activities to other governorates.



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Continued from page 1

Worse yet to come

The clashes continued for over three hours. The protestors showed fierce resistance and insisted on heading towards the US embassy to express their strong opposition to the war against Iraq.

It seemed to me that death was nothing for them. The protest was the most severe and angry demonstration Yemen has witnessed for a long time.

The protest started when the people came out from mosques and gathered around at al-Tahreer Square, then headed towards the US embassy. They

condemned the US strikes and called on all Arab leaders to voice their people and close down the US, UK and Spanish embassies, expelling their ambassadors.

They also demanded that borders should be opened to people to take part in the Jihad against the invaders. Several opposition leaders took part in the protest.

President Saleh held an extraordinary meeting for defense council and security committee to discuss the violent incident and ordered that a committee should be set up to investigate into the incident which he described as painful, to find whether the police or the protesters are to be held accountable.

He said people in Yemen, both officials and citizens, agree in opposing and condemning the war and added that people should express their opinion in a peaceful way that does not hurt the national security, and that they should obtain a license according to law.

"We condemn this war which hurts people all over the world. We condemn the terrorist acts in the US and what is happening in Palestine," he said. Tens of arrested people would be interrogated.

In its first reaction towards the US war, the Joint Opposition Parties demanded that Arab leaders expel the US, UK and Spanish ambassadors and to call Arab ambassadors to these countries back home.

The opposition parties said in a statement that this very critical situation entails that the Arab leaders should fulfill this nationwide demand. They condemned what they called an act of barbarism, calling on the Arab leaders to get rid of their fear and lingering in defending Iraq.

They also urged all Arab people to hurry up and fight against this US invasion and pressure their political regimes to take brave and responsible positions towards this aggression. The

statement said the war reflects the political bankruptcy and barbarism of the US leadership that failed to face the worldwide opposition to the war.

It warned against any weakness or defeatism in facing this war and that it would lead to very bad consequences.

In its official comment on the war, the Yemen government appealed to the international community and UN to interfere to stop the military action against Iraq. It said the war would destabilize the region and encourage the growth of terrorist and extremist movements.

It confirmed that the position of Yemen is clear in opposing the war and clinging to the principles of the international legitimacy and peaceful and diplomatic means of sorting out problems. It repeated that the ramifications of the war will be very serious.

In the meantime, sources in the opposition said that the Yemeni authorities summoned seven of their leaders in connection with Friday's violent protest.

Among those summoned were Abdulwahhab Al-Anisi Assistant Secretary General of the Islah Party, Abdulmalik Al-Mikhlafi, General Secretary of the Nasserite Unionist Party, Abdulwahid Hawwash Assistant Secretary General of the Baath Party, and Sultani Al-Atwani, leading member of the Nasserite party.

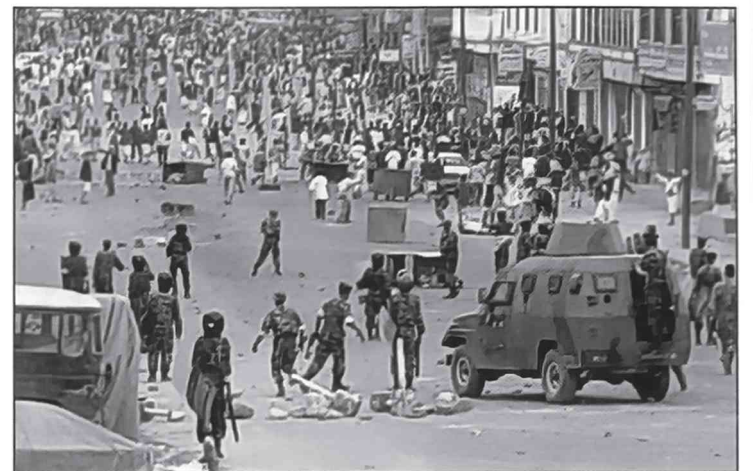
However, Al-Mikhlafi and Al-Atwani refused to be interrogated because both have diplomatic immunity as the first is a Member of Shoura and the latter is a member of parliament.

However, the General Prosecutor told Al-Mikhlafi that he informed the Shoura Council of the obligation of lifting his immunity so as to be interrogated.

The Joint Opposition Parties held the security accountable for the violence. They condemned in a joint statement what they called the reaction of the police "irresponsible and barbaric practice" when they dispersed the protesters.



Eyewitnesses said that some policemen used brutal force to stop the protestors from advancing. Photo by Mohamed Al-Qadhi



The number of protesters was beyond the control of the police forces, who were overwhelmed by this demonstration. Photo by Mohamed Al-Qadhi



Eyewitnesses said that chaos started when policemen and some protestors fired at the air. Photo by Mohamed Al-Qadhi



One of the protesters taken to the police vehicle to be arrested and interrogated. Photo by Mohamed Al-Qadhi

Companies in Aden receive YT certificates

On its 12th anniversary occasion, Yemen Times presented a number of distinguished companies in Aden with certificates of appreciation for their role in the success of the Millions Competition held a few months ago.

Mr. Ridwan Al-Saqqaf, Aden



Aden Bureau Chief, Ridwan Al-Saqqaf (left) hands over Saeed Ali Maiteb the certificate of appreciation

Bureau Chief presented the awards, which were given to:

1- Aden Hotel, represented by GM Fadhil Hilali

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Two planes downed over Baghdad

BAGHDAD, March 22 (Xinhua) — Two coalition planes were shot down when the allied forces launched air raids on the capital city of Baghdad at noon on Saturday, witnesses told Xinhua.

Earlier in the day, Sky News TV channel reported that four U.S. soldiers were killed when their two Humvee vehicles came under attack in central Iraq.

The soldiers, from the first brigade of the 3rd Infantry Division, were on a reconnaissance mission when their vehicles were hit by rocket-propelled grenades, it said, quoting one of its reporters with US forces.

On the same day, Iraqi television, controlled by President Saddam Hussein's elder son, Uday Hussein, showed live pictures of Iraqi anti-aircraft batteries shooting at US and British missiles and warplanes.

The TV showed a number of missiles shot down by the batteries, and pictures of the soldiers moving fragments onto pickups.

The Iraqi soldiers chanted anti-US slogans, put under their feet leaflets thrown by US warplanes, which called Iraqi soldiers to surrender.

In the Qatari capital of Doha, US General Tommy Franks acknowledged on Saturday that there would be even tougher tasks ahead of coalition forces, which launched a war on Iraq Thursday morning in a bid to topple Iraqi strongman Saddam Hussein.

Despite mounting international opposition, the United States launched its war against Iraq at 0530 a.m. (0230 GMT) on Thursday. The offensives, the first preemptive strikes in the US history, kicked off about 90 minutes after the expiration of an ultimatum issued by US President George W. Bush for Saddam to leave the country or face war.

Thousands protest war

SINGAPORE, March 22 (Reuters) — Muslims in Asia staged peaceful anti-war rallies on Saturday, as thousands of protesters took to the streets across the region to condemn the U.S.-led attack on Iraq.

About 2,000 protesters rallied outside the heavily fortified U.S. embassy in Indonesia's capital Jakarta, shouting anti-U.S. slogans before marching to the U.N. office a few blocks away.

Indonesia, the world's most populous Muslim country and generally a U.S. ally, has long opposed any attack against Iraq. Political and religious leaders had warned a strike could spark a widespread, possibly violent reaction.

In neighboring Moslem-majority Malaysia, about 8,000 people shouted "Destroy America" as they took part in a "peace run" in eastern Kelantan state. Officials cancelled a similar event in the capital Kuala Lumpur, fearing it could stoke emotions, as the U.S.-led war against Iraq entered a third day.

Pakistan, a key ally in the U.S. war on terror and a hotbed of Islamic militancy, saw only scattered protests.

About 500 students from Islamic schools marched through Lahore, shouting: "Iraq, we are with you". In the restive commercial capital of Karachi, students burned U.S. flags and lawyers called for a boycott of American products.

In Muslim Bangladesh, protesters burned American flags and called a half-day general strike in the capital Dhaka. There were no reports of violence.

But analysts caution the muted protests do not reflect the degree of anger among the overwhelming majority of the world's 1.4 billion Muslims — whether they support Iraq's Saddam Hussein or not — and point out the war has barely started.

NORTH KOREA NEXT

In South Korea, some 3,000 protest-



Smoke billows from a presidential palace compound in Baghdad during air strikes March 21, 2003. Large explosions shook Baghdad during a night of blistering air strikes, as U.S. and British ground forces advancing across southern Iraq battled for hours for control of a strategic airfield. REUTERS

ers, including students and religious leaders, gathered in the capital Seoul to protest against the war and their government's decision to send up to 700 non-combat troops to assist the U.S.-led war.

South Korea is a close U.S. ally but many people chafe at the presence of 37,000 U.S. troops there. Some protesters worried North Korea could become Washington's next target.

"This war shows that the United States can strike North Korea anytime it wants, just like it hit Baghdad without a U.N. agreement," said 29-year-old

designer Kim Soo-myung.

In New Zealand, about 4,000 people, many blowing trumpets and banging drums, some splattered with mock blood, marched to the U.S. Embassy in the New Zealand capital Wellington.

The Wellington demonstrators chanted: "We don't want your bloody war", before hurling toilet rolls and vials of red liquid into the heavily fortified U.S. embassy compound.

Around 3,000 protesters, some sporting gas masks and black arm bands, marched through the streets of Brisbane in neighboring Australia, bringing traf-

fic to a standstill.

A poll on Saturday showed support had jumped for Australia's involvement in the war. Australia, which deployed around 2,000 troops to the Gulf, said on Saturday its special forces had been involved in fighting deep inside Iraq.

More than 15,000 Muslims gathered at a rally in the eastern Indian city of Calcutta, where speakers attacked the United States for an "anti-Islamic" war.

"The United States is fighting against Islam and humanity and has destroyed the United Nations by ignoring it and attacking Iraq," S.M.N. Rahman

Barkati, a senior Muslim cleric, told the crowd, in which many men wore white skull caps.

"Allah-o-Akbar" (God is Great) and "Down with America," the crowd roared in response.

Nearly 5,000 men and women marched to the U.S. embassy in the Indian capital New Delhi. Some carried bottles, which they said contained a mixture of blood and gasoline, and shouted: "Take this, this is what you want, and stop attacking Iraq."

Other protests were held in Thailand and Vietnam.



A protestor is removed by police in Sydney Mar. 20. REUTERS



An anti-war protestor is pushed back by police on a street leading to the U.S. embassy in Tokyo Mar. 20, after news broke of the start of a U.S.-led war against Iraq. REUTERS



Indonesian Muslims from the conservative Justice Party carry posters of U.S. President George W. Bush with fangs during a rally outside the U.S. embassy in Jakarta Mar. 20. REUTERS

'Talk and fight' is U.S. tactic in Iraq war

By REUTERS

With Iraq putting up only limited resistance to the U.S. invasion so far, the Pentagon has used a strategy of "talking and fighting" in the campaign to topple President Saddam Hussein.

In the hope that more Iraqis will surrender to U.S. forces, the United States seemed to hold back until Friday before launching devastating air strikes on Baghdad and the northern cities of Kirkuk and Mosul.

"This idea that we might be able to wrap this up with words rather than bullets is clearly beneficial. But you hope for the best and plan for the worst," said Chris Hellman, a senior analyst at the Center for Defense Information policy think tank in Washington.

Hellman said the threat of Iraq using biological and chemical weapons had also acted as an early deterrent to massive military action at the outset.

Military analysts said the Pentagon appeared to hold off until Friday from its "shock and awe" strategy in the hope that Wednesday's targeted strikes against Saddam's houses in Baghdad would destabilize the country to the extent that Iraqi soldiers would be more likely to surrender.

When it was clear that a significant number of defections and surrenders were not forthcoming, the U.S. military returned to its most likely game plan of using its overwhelming air power.

Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld appeared frustrated on Friday over the small number of Iraqis who had given themselves up and said he was disappointed that the U.S. military had not been more persuasive.

"There has been (surrender talks) over the past period of weeks. And those discussions have intensified," said Rumsfeld, adding that he still hoped to be able to persuade military commanders to disobey Saddam's orders.

"I guess time will tell what kinds of judgments they'll make. So far they've made very poor judgments," he said.

Psychological pressure

Military analysts pointed to the importance of psychological pressure on the Iraqi people, with the U.S. military taking advantage of a weakened Iraqi military and confusion over whether Saddam is alive or dead.

"There's certainly been some dialogue going on with Saddam Hussein's food chain there who may

decide not to die because the current regime is doomed," said retired Navy Rear Adm. Stephen Baker.

Retired Marine Col. Robert Work said the "talking" strategy could end up being extremely effective in the long run, particularly if U.S. forces succeed in getting into Baghdad quickly.

"The benefit is the infrastructure in the south is not destroyed, very few lives are lost and we demonstrate that this is really about the regime and not occupying Iraq," he said.

Stuart Herrington, a former army counterintelligence officer who interrogated Iraqi defectors after the 1991 Gulf War, also predicted the campaign to win over disgruntled Iraqi soldiers would pay off in the end.

Asked in an interview with ABC News how he would woo Iraqis, Herrington said it was key to treat them with dignity and respect and that this approach would signal to the Iraqi people that the war was against Saddam, not civilians.

"You have to treat them well, no gloating and generally speaking make sure that they understand they are military men who got caught up in this," he said in an interview with ABC.

U.S. military chief Gen. Richard Myers said on Friday there had only

been "sporadic resistance" so far to U.S. forces entering Iraq but the military was prepared for the worst.

One reason for the apparent lack of retaliation could be battle fatigue among Saddam's forces, especially

those who fought and were defeated in the Gulf War, said Hellman.

"We pounded these guys 24 hours a day with dumb bombs and they probably didn't sleep or go to the bathroom without worrying about where

the next bomb was coming from," he said.

"The militaries of the West are stronger now in every way, specifically technologically, than they were 12 years ago, and Saddam is weaker."

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Arabs seethe as TV brings Iraq destruction home

CAIRO, March 22 (Reuters) - Thousands of Arabs seething with anger about a heavy U.S.-led bombing of Baghdad protested for a third day on Saturday, amid concern the demonstrations could threaten stability in the

volatile region.

With live footage of the fiery explosions and burning buildings in Iraq beamed into most Arab homes, feelings are running high over what many consider a sinister ploy to dominate the Arab world.

"Did you see all those bombs falling on TV? All the poor people? And for what? America wants to subjugate the entire region for the sake of Israel. They want to bring the Arabs to their knees," said 50-year-old Egyptian housewife Samia.

Some analysts say the widespread and sometimes violent anti-war protests, from Arab states in the Gulf to Morocco on the Atlantic, have the potential to undermine stability in a region described by one expert as a "cauldron of discontent".

But most say the tough security services in Arab states should manage to rein in the fury and ensure the protests do not threaten government control.

In Egypt, the region's most populous country with almost 70 million people, thousands of students staged anti-war rallies at universities on Saturday amid tight police security.

But unlike the past two days, there were no initial reports of violence or clashes with police.

"Bush and Blair are war criminals," and "Stop the war now!" chanted hundreds of demonstrators in the conservative Gulf Arab sultanate of Oman, where protests are rare.

"Bush is the new Hitler of this century. He won't stop until he has control of all Arab lands," one Omani student said.

In Bahrain, which hosts the U.S. Fifth Fleet, protests also continued, and the U.S. embassy stayed closed a day after hundreds scuffled with police outside the fortified building.

Widespread Condemnation

Amr Moussa, the head of the 22-member Arab League, said "no Arab with any remnant of conscience can tolerate" the bombing of Baghdad, once the proud capital of the Islamic world.

"The bombing and violence we're seeing on satellite TV should stir the ire of every Arab who sees it," said the secretary-general, who has warned a war against Iraq could "open the gates of hell" in the Middle East.

While many Arabs have little sympathy for Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein, they say they are furious about the suffering the war is causing innocent Iraqis.

Many Arabs also blame their governments for failing to prevent the conflict, and accuse them of political impotence.

"I feel sad and hurt because there's nothing we can do. The Arabs are weak and America controls the situation," said Saudi Walid Musharraf, a 29-year-old accountant.

"Now everyone here hates America, and even some Americans hate the American government," he said.

In Gaza, where protesters have voiced greater support for Saddam himself, around 10,000 Palestinians marched



An Iraqi child wounded during a recent airstrike cries in hospital in Baghdad Mar. 22. The United States and Britain unleashed their first daylight air strikes on Baghdad on Saturday after pounding it with a fearsome night blitz. REUTERS



Jordanians step on the United States flag on arrival at Friday prayers at the Palestinian refugee camp of Wehdat in Amman Mar. 21. REUTERS

through the streets holding pictures of the Iraqi president. "We are with you Saddam Hussein and the people of Iraq," they chanted. "With our blood and soul we will redeem you, Saddam!"

Challenge for Arab States

Some analysts say the war could pose an unprecedented challenge for Arab governments, who have been at pains to contain restive publics and convince them they did all they could to avert the war. States including Egypt, Jordan and Morocco have appealed for calm and moderation.

"There is the possibility of real destabilisation if the war continues for a long time and the war causes devastation and lots of civilian casualties," said Hassan Nafaa, head of the political science department at Cairo University.

"Then the situation can possibly threaten the governments of the region, including in places like Egypt and the Gulf states."

But many other analysts said that while the protests could become more

violent, regional governments were not at risk.

"The protests could certainly degenerate into riots, as popular frustration with the miserable economic situation and political repression compounds anger about the war," said one senior Western diplomat with 20 years of Middle East experience.

"But I do not think this could threaten the regimes, because the security forces remain firmly in control, and are behaving in a very controlled manner," he said.



An Egyptian man shouts in anger as he holds Islam's Holy book the Quran during a demonstration against the war on Iraq that started after Friday noon prayers at al-Azhar mosque in Cairo Mar. 21. REUTERS

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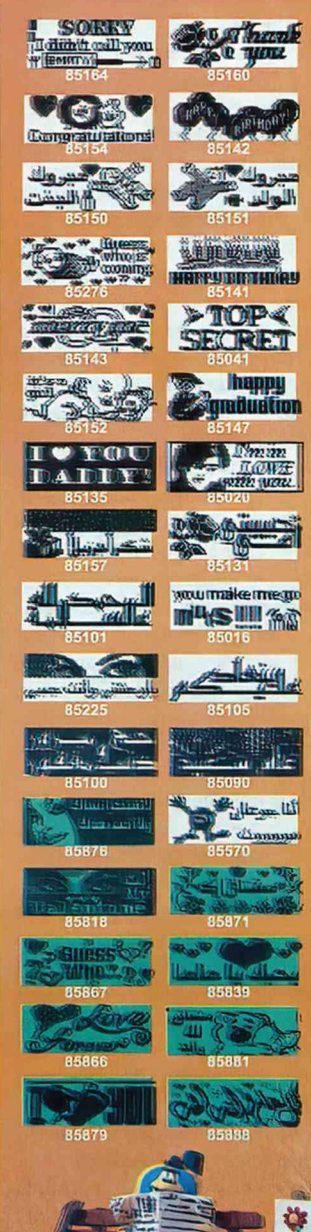
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Robin Cook protests war

LONDON, England —Robin Cook, former UK foreign secretary and leader of the House of Commons, gave a personal speech in parliament following his resignation on Monday March 17th.

Cook won an unprecedented standing ovation after he called on MPs to reject Blair's call for the use of "any means necessary" to disarm Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein, but that wasn't enough to reject the motion.

The following is the full text of his speech:

This is the first time for 20 years that I have addressed the House from the Back Benches. I must confess that I had forgotten how much better the view is from here. None of those 20 years were more enjoyable or more rewarding than the past two, in which I have had the immense privilege of serving this House as Leader of the House, which were made all the more enjoyable, Mr. Speaker, by the opportunity of working closely with you.

It was frequently the necessity for me as Leader of the House to talk my way out of accusations that a statement had been preceded by a press interview. On this occasion I can say with complete confidence that no press interview has been given before this statement. I have chosen to address the House first on why I cannot support a war without international agreement or domestic support.

The present Prime Minister is the most successful leader of the Labor party in my lifetime. I hope that he will continue to be the leader of our party, and I hope that he will continue to be successful. I have no sympathy with, and I will give no comfort to, those who want to use this crisis to displace him.

I applaud the heroic efforts that the Prime Minister has made in trying to secure a second resolution. I do not think that anybody could have done better than the Foreign Secretary in working to get support for a second resolution within the Security Council. But the very intensity of those attempts underlines how important it was to succeed. Now that those attempts have failed, we cannot pretend that getting a second resolution was of no importance.

France has been at the receiving end of bucketloads of commentary in recent days. It is not France alone that wants more time for inspections. Germany wants more time for inspections; Russia wants more time for inspections; indeed, at no time have we signed up even the minimum necessary to carry a second resolution. We delude ourselves if we think that the degree of international hostility is all the result of President Chirac. The reality is that Britain is being asked to embark on a war without agreement in any of the international bodies of which we are a leading partner — not NATO, not the European Union and, now, not the Security Council.

To end up in such diplomatic weakness is a serious reverse. Only a year ago, we and the United States were part of a coalition against terrorism that was wider and more diverse than I would ever have imagined possible. History will be astonished at the diplomatic miscalculations that led so quickly to the disintegration of that powerful coalition. The US can afford to go it alone, but Britain is not a superpower. Our interests are best protected not by unilateral action but by multilateral agreement and a world order governed by rules. Yet tonight the international partnerships most important to us are weakened: the European Union is divided; the Security Council is in stalemate. Those are heavy casualties of a war in which a shot has yet to be fired.

I have heard some parallels between military action in these circumstances and the military action that we took in Kosovo. There was no doubt about the multilateral support that we had for the action that we took in Kosovo. It was supported by



Britain's Leader of the House of Commons Robin Cook resisted pressure from his prime minister and insisted on resigning rather than going along in supporting the UK's pro-war wave.

Reuters

NATO; it was supported by the European Union; it was supported by every single one of the seven neighbors in the region. France and Germany were our active allies. It is precisely because we have none of that support in this case that it was all the more important to get agreement in the Security Council as the last hope of demonstrating international agreement.

The legal basis for our action in Kosovo was the need to respond to an urgent and compelling humanitarian crisis. Our difficulty in getting support this time is that neither the international community nor the British public is persuaded that there is an urgent and compelling reason for this military action in Iraq.

The threshold for war should always be high. None of us can predict the death toll of civilians from the forthcoming bombardment of Iraq, but the US warning of a bombing campaign that will "shock and awe" makes it likely that casualties will be numbered at least in the thousands. I am confident that British servicemen and women will acquit themselves with professionalism and with courage. I hope that they all come back. I hope that Saddam, even now, will quit Baghdad and avert war, but it is false to argue that only those who support war support our troops. It is entirely legitimate to support our troops while seeking an alternative to the conflict that will put those troops at risk.

Nor is it fair to accuse those of us who want longer for inspections of not having an alternative strategy. For four years as Foreign Secretary I was partly responsible for the western strategy of containment. Over the past decade that strategy destroyed more weapons than in the Gulf war, dismantled Iraq's nuclear weapons program and halted Saddam's medium and long-range missiles programs. Iraq's military strength is now less than half its size than at the time of the last Gulf war.

Ironically, it is only because Iraq's military forces are so weak that we can even contemplate its invasion. Some advocates of conflict claim that Saddam's forces are so weak, so demoralized and so badly equipped that the war will be over in a few days. We cannot base our military

strategy on the assumption that Saddam is weak and at the same time justify pre-emptive action on the claim that he is a threat.

Iraq probably has no weapons of mass destruction in the commonly understood sense of the term; namely a credible device capable of being delivered against a strategic city target. It probably still has biological toxins and battlefield chemical munitions, but it has had them since the 1980s when US companies sold Saddam anthrax agents and the then British Government approved chemical and munitions factories. Why is it now so urgent that we should take military action to disarm a military capacity that has been there for 20 years, and which we helped to create? Why is it necessary to resort to war this week, while Saddam's ambition to complete his weapons program is blocked by the presence of UN inspectors?

Only a couple of weeks ago, Hans Blix told the Security Council that the key remaining disarmament tasks could be completed within months. I have heard it said that Iraq has had not months but 12 years in which to complete disarmament, and that our patience is exhausted. Yet it is more than 30 years since resolution 242 called on Israel to withdraw from the occupied territories. We do not express the same impatience with the persistent refusal of Israel to comply. I welcome the strong personal com-

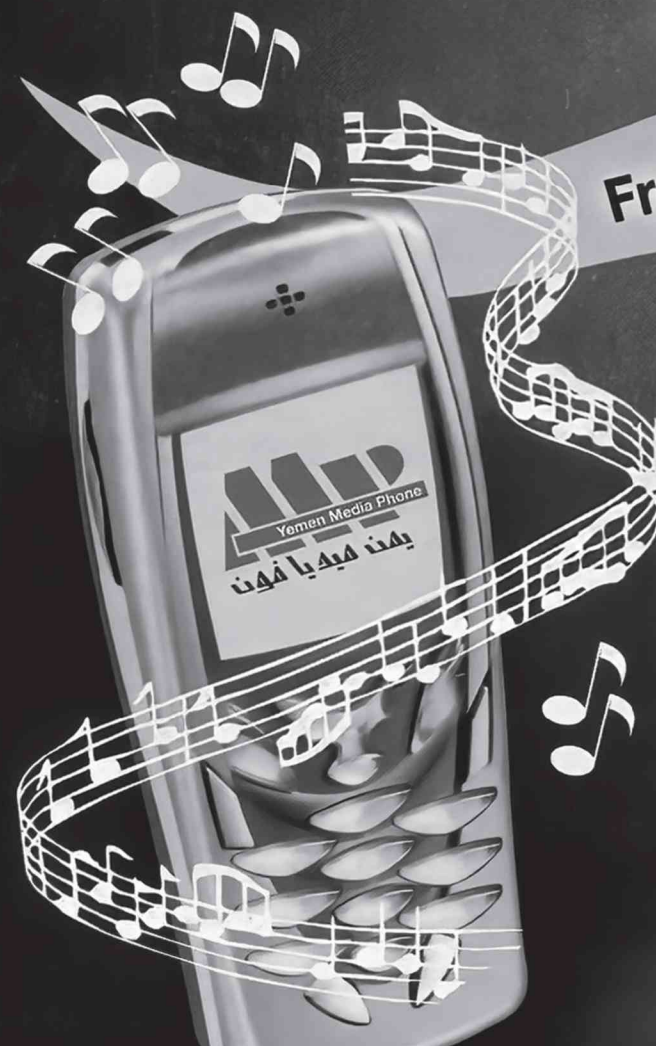
mitment that the Prime Minister has given to middle east peace, but Britain's positive role in the middle east does not redress the strong sense of injustice throughout the Muslim world at what it sees as one rule for the allies of the US and another rule for the rest.

Nor is our credibility helped by the appearance that our partners in Washington are less interested in disarmament than they are in regime change in Iraq. That explains why any evidence that inspections may be showing progress is greeted in Washington not with satisfaction but with consternation: it reduces the case for war.

What has come to trouble me most over past weeks is the suspicion that if the hanging chads in Florida had gone the other way and Al Gore had been elected, we would not now be about to commit British troops.

The longer that I have served in this place, the greater the respect I have for the good sense and collective wisdom of the British people. On Iraq, I believe that the prevailing mood of the British people is sound. They do not doubt that Saddam is a brutal dictator, but they are not persuaded that he is a clear and present danger to Britain. They want inspections to be given a chance, and they suspect that they are being pushed too

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quickly into conflict by a US Administration with an agenda of its own. Above all, they are uneasy at Britain going out on a limb on a military adventure without a broader international coalition and against the hostility of many of our traditional allies.

From the start of the present crisis, I have insisted, as Leader of the House, on the right of this place to vote on whether Britain should go to war. It has been a favorite theme of

commentators that this House no longer occupies a central role in British politics. Nothing could better demonstrate that they are wrong than for this House to stop the commitment of troops in a war that has neither international agreement nor domestic support. I intend to join those tomorrow night who will vote against military action now. It is for that reason, and for that reason alone, and with a heavy heart, that I resign from the Government. [Applause.]

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Car bomb kills journalist, hurts 9 people in N.Iraq

HALABJA, Iraq, March 22 (Reuters) - At least one journalist was killed and nine other people injured on Saturday in a car bombing in northern Iraq that Kurdish officials blamed on a militant Islamist group.

The nationality of the journalist was not immediately known.

Security officials of the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan (PUK) said they believed the Ansar al-Islam group, which Washington has linked with al-Qaeda, was responsible for the bombing outside the village of Khurmali.

The village is in a mountainous area which is the stronghold of Ansar, close to the border with Iran. Kurds said the area was hit in an American missile and bombing attack early on Saturday.

"We consider it a terrorist operation by Ansar," said a PUK security official. "It seems the car belonged to a member of Ansar."



The remains of a car still smoulders after at least one journalist was killed and nine other people injured in a car bombing in northern Iraq that Kurdish officials blamed on a militant Islamist group, Mar. 22. The nationality of the journalist was not immediately known. REUTERS

Bush meets advisers, says war may be difficult

WASHINGTON, March 22 (Reuters) - U.S. President George W. Bush examined the latest reports of fighting along the Iraqi frontlines on Saturday and warned Americans the war could be "longer and more difficult" than some thought.

As U.S.-led forces rolled toward Baghdad, Bush convened his war council at the Camp David presidential retreat in rural Maryland and vowed to use "decisive force" to bring down the regime of Iraqi President Saddam Hussein.

"This will not be a campaign of half measures," Bush warned the Iraqi leadership in his weekly radio address after U.S. and British aircraft unleashed the devastating firepower of missiles and bombs on Baghdad and other Iraqi sites.

Three days into battle, Bush cautioned against overconfidence given

the apparent success of the mission and lack of serious resistance so far.

"A campaign on harsh terrain in a vast country could be longer and more difficult than some have predicted," said Bush, who spent the first weekend of the war at Camp David.

Opponents planned anti-war rallies in U.S. cities including New York and Washington. Large protests in the Middle East and Asia underscored overwhelming public opposition to the war in many other countries around the world.

Bush met on Saturday morning with officials including national security adviser Condoleezza Rice, Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld, CIA Director George Tenet and Secretary of State Colin Powell.



President George W. Bush meets with his war council at Camp David early Mar. 22. REUTERS



Tanks of the British 7th Armoured Brigade heading up the road towards the southern Iraqi town of Basra Mar. 22. REUTERS

'Talk and fight' is U.S. tactic in Iraq war

By REUTERS

With Iraq putting up only limited resistance to the U.S. invasion so far, the Pentagon has used a strategy of "talking and fighting" in the campaign to topple President Saddam Hussein.

In the hope that more Iraqis will surrender to U.S. forces, the United States seemed to hold back until Friday before launching devastating air strikes on Baghdad and the northern cities of Kirkuk and Mosul.

"This idea that we might be able to wrap this up with words rather than bullets is clearly beneficial. But you hope for the best and plan for the worst," said Chris Hellman, a senior analyst at the Center for Defense Information policy think tank in Washington.

Hellman said the threat of Iraq using biological and chemical weapons had also acted as an early deterrent to massive military action at the outset.

Military analysts said the Pentagon appeared to hold off until Friday from its "shock and awe" strategy in the hope that Wednesday's targeted strikes

against Saddam's houses in Baghdad would destabilize the country to the extent that Iraqi soldiers would be more likely to surrender.

When it was clear that a significant number of defections and surrenders were not forthcoming, the U.S. military returned to its most likely game plan of using its overwhelming air power.

Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld appeared frustrated on Friday over the small number of Iraqis who had given themselves up and said he was disappointed that the U.S. military had not been more persuasive.

"There has been (surrender talks) over the past period of weeks. And those discussions have intensified," said Rumsfeld, adding that he still hoped to be able to persuade military commanders to disobey Saddam's orders.

"I guess time will tell what kinds of judgments they'll make. So far they've made very poor judgments," he said.

Psychological pressure

Military analysts pointed to the

importance of psychological pressure on the Iraqi people, with the U.S. military taking advantage of a weakened Iraqi military and confusion over whether Saddam is alive or dead.

"There has certainly been some dialogue going on with Saddam Hussein's food chain there who may decide not to die because the current regime is doomed," said retired Navy Rear Adm. Stephen Baker.

Retired Marine Col. Robert Work said the "talking" strategy could end up being extremely effective in the long run, particularly if U.S. forces succeed in getting into Baghdad quickly.

"The benefit is the infrastructure in the south is not destroyed, very few lives are lost and we demonstrate that this is really about the regime and not occupying Iraq," he said.

Stuart Herrington, a former army counterintelligence officer who interrogated Iraqi defectors after the 1991 Gulf War, also predicted the campaign to win over disgruntled Iraqi soldiers would pay off in the end.

Asked in an interview with ABC News how he would woo Iraqis,

Herrington said it was key to treat them with dignity and respect and that this approach would signal to the Iraqi people that the war was against Saddam, not civilians.

"You have to treat them well, no gloating and generally speaking make sure that they understand they are military men who got caught up in this," he said in an interview with ABC.

U.S. military chief Gen. Richard Myers said on Friday there had only been "sporadic resistance" so far to U.S. forces entering Iraq but the military was prepared for the worst.

One reason for the apparent lack of retaliation could be battle fatigue among Saddam's forces, especially those who fought and were defeated in the Gulf War, said Hellman.

"We pounded these guys 24 hours a day with dumb bombs and they probably didn't sleep or go to the bathroom without worrying about where the next bomb was coming from," he said.

"The militaries of the West are stronger now in every way, specifically technologically, than they were 12 years ago, and Saddam is weaker."

Local Experts Positions and Vacancies for Yemeni Nationals

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Position: Human Resource Development and Human Resource Management - Period 2 - 3 years

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Immad Mohammed Ahmed Juma'an Corporation warns that Mr. Mahmoud Ghareeb Saber, an Egyptian national, as shown in this photo used to work in the technical department until December 30, 2002.

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إعلان تحذيري

تعلن مؤسسة محمد أحمد جومان بأن الأخ عماد محمود غريب صابر، مصري الجنسية الموضحة صورته في هذا الإعلان بأنه كان يعمل لدينا في الإدارة الفنية حتى تاريخ 2002/12/30م وقد إنتهت علاقته بالعمل بعد ذلك نهائياً وبموجب ذلك نحذر الجميع من عدم التعامل معه باسم المؤسسة، والمؤسسة تخلي مسؤوليتها من جميع التصرفات التي يقوم بها كما أننا نحمل المسؤولية الكاملة كل من يتواطأ معه في ذلك كما أن المذكور لم يدخل العهد المترتبة عليه للمؤسسة.

Published in **INTERNATIONAL Herald Tribune** March 20th, 2003

PHARMA-CARTEL WAR PLANS CAN NO LONGER BE ACHIEVED!

In recent years the pharmaceutical industry has been exposed as a multi-trillion dollar 'investment business with disease' the future of which is dependent on the continuation and expansion of diseases.

I. THE GOAL OF THE PHARMA-CARTEL:

Cementing the global control of its 'investment business with disease.' The very existence of the pharmaceutical industry is currently threatened. Damage claims from the deadly side-effects of one single drug are bringing down Bayer, the flag ship of this industry. The ensuing 'domino effect' would inevitably cripple this largest investment sector on earth. At the same time, scientific advances in non-patentable natural health offer effective, safe and affordable alternatives to the multi-trillion dollar market of patented drugs.

II. THE MEANS TO ACCOMPLISH THIS GOAL:

- **Establish control of the global interests of the drug industry through corporate protectionist laws and by curtailing civil rights.** This control can only be imposed by drastic legal measures worldwide, such as granting immunity to drug companies, restricting patient rights to liability claims, curtailing freedom of information and eliminating one of the most important civil rights - free access to effective, safe, non-patentable and affordable natural health. All this is currently happening in the USA.
- **Creating the psychological state of fear - on a global scale - to set the stage for these laws - worldwide.** This global fear can only be created during a war that includes the use of weapons of mass destruction such as nuclear, biological or chemical weapons.

III. PRECONDITIONS TO ACHIEVE THIS GOAL:

- **International support.** Such a hazardous strategy can only work if it is backed by international law or organizations such as the United Nations. Lack of this support inevitably causes failure of this strategy because the psychological horror of a nuclear or biological war can no longer be justified or blamed on others. Any war outside international law can no longer be used to justify curtailing civil rights and will turn against those who instigate it.
- **Absolute secrecy.** The most important precondition for this strategy to succeed is secrecy. Under no circumstances must it be revealed in advance.

Since 1). there is no international legitimization for this war and 2). the pharma-cartel's plan is now public, both preconditions failed and their goal can no longer be achieved. Starting a nuclear, biological or chemical war will sacrifice millions of people without the pharma-cartel reaching its goal!

Every family in America, Great Britain and anywhere else in the world should be aware of that and act immediately!



MATTHIAS RATH, M.D.
OPEN LETTER TO GEORGE W. BUSH

This War is neither a vocation nor a 'mission from God' - this is Your War!

Your War is against the interests of six billion people!

Your War is against the declared will of over 180 countries of the United Nations!

Your War is against international law! It is neither morally nor ethically justified!

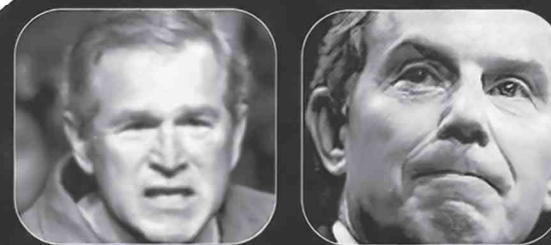
Your War is against the will of the overwhelming majority of the American people, many of whom approve only because you sent their sons and daughters to the battlefield. No one believes the polls!

Your War is against the interests of every American because it will be fought with weapons of mass destruction. In an attack war involving nuclear or biological weapons - that does not have the support of the world community - you as the instigator carry all responsibility. No matter what weapons of mass destruction explode, no matter where and on which side - the American people, the entire world will point at you.

But the World also knows the true motives for Your War: This War is in the interests of the pharmaceutical and oil industry!

Your War serves the interests of the investment group behind both these industries, namely the Rockefeller-financed Trilateral Commission* who paved the way for your political career. Your War is Their War!

* New York Times, September 13, 1998
'Is There a Role for Another Bush?'



George Bush and Tony Blair are the heads of the two leading export nations of pharmaceutical products. Two out of three drugs sold anywhere in the world come from these two countries. The pharmaceutical / petrochemical industry was a main contributor to their election campaigns.

LESSONS FROM HISTORY

One day, those politicians and executives supporting this war - against any mandate by international law - may be held accountable by courts, including the World Court for War Crimes in The Hague that was inaugurated on March 11 this year.

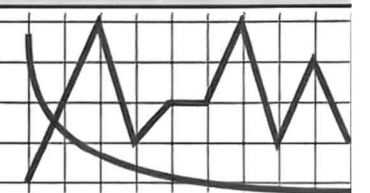
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YT Business



War negatively affects Yemen's oil

Economy goes down

BY MAHYOUB AL-KAMALI
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

It seems that Yemen would be closely and negatively affected by the American-British war against Iraq because of its strategic situation and its economy's 95 per cent dependence on oil revenues, which represents the major factor and dynamism of the state's general budget. As the United States aims at oil and the oil reserves in the region, including Yemen, in its war against Iraq, Washington's and London's ambitions extend to the Gulf, Arab peninsula and Yemeni oil wells.

The United States imports oil worth \$ 90 billion, which is a quarter of the world's imports estimated at around \$

350 billion. Studies mention that the volume of the U.S. consumption in the coming ten years would rise by 60 per cent, i.e., 10-16 billion barrels per day. Washington considers the war against Iraq would ensure for the American economy its coming out of recession and also ensure stability of oil barrel price.

Since Yemen produces 475 thousand barrels a day, it falls within the American attention despite the small volume of its production. The more important thing is that the war leads to drop in oil prices in world oil markets and Yemen would thus lose around \$ 700 million in the present year by counting the difference in revenues. In case of destruction of Iraq's oil wells experts expect the rise in oil barrel to \$ 40 and in the worst situation America

would control the Iraqi oil and work on increasing production. This leads to the collapse of prices and would affect Yemen's annual revenues.

Oil sources expect the price of an oil barrel would drop to \$ 8 during the coming two decades and Yemen's losses would exceed \$1.200 billion per year.

His situation would be reflected on rates of economic growth and Yemen's plans for fighting poverty and this will urge the people to mutiny and extremism and hindering development operations and fighting terror. Yemen would then be changed into an artery for resisting the foreign influence in the region and this in turn would threaten sea navigation and mercantile ships and weaken the American presence in the region.



Huge plumes of smoke are seen rising above buildings during air strikes on Baghdad Mar. 21, Explosions rocked Iraqi President Saddam Hussein's complex in central Baghdad on Friday, shaking the city with massive blasts. REUTERS



Oil installations in Hadramout.

A major part of Yemen's economy

Agriculture and development

BY ABDULAZIZ M. ABDULLAH
ADEN

The state pays increasing attention to the economic development in Yemen with all its sectors such as industrial, medical and tourism. At the same time, our country is one of those enjoying wide areas of land suitable for farming many products like cotton, tomato, potato, grapes, coffee, onion, and other farm products.

But while this is true, it is also true that agriculture needs water, and since Yemen depends only on underground water resulting from rain and floods, in its water supplies and irrigation, there is an evident problem in the agricultural sector as a whole.

Our country is considered of the countries suffering from weak water resources, so the solution here would be to activate projects and programs that would serve to maintain water and to organize water consumption in a way that aids agricultural development.

Year 2000 census indicate that 14.2% of the local production comes from agriculture, especially vegetables, coffee, cotton and other products that formed around 32% of the Yemeni

non-oil exports in 2000.

The same statistics show that during year 2000, Fresh bananas worth 547,000 riyals, raw cotton worth 308,000 riyals, processed cotton worth 256,000 riyals, fresh vegetables worth 253,000 riyals, and seed fruits worth 234,000 riyals, red chillies worth 215,000 riyals, coffee shells worth 213,000 riyals, onion worth 174,000 riyals, and fresh mango and fresh guava worth 162,000 riyals was exported during the year.

In spite of the mentioned figures, it is important to know that there are many products that need attention and care as they pose as a vital source of income of the national economy. Moreover attention has to be directed to those goods in a way that enables them to compete with other products in the regional markets.

For example, the fruit and vegetable exports to KSA reached 650 thousand during 2000 out of which 35 ton was fresh vegetables from which dry onions took a 42.5%, ladyfingers 23% and hot chillies 18.9% then the rest of the products less than 6%.

As for fruits, around 33 tons, out of which 77% was banana, and mango of 12% then the other kinds of less than 4.5% all together.

Considering all this, it has become

important to pay attention to the agricultural sector, in order to increase these products and exports. A number of incentives could be set for this such as:

- Carrying out researches and detailed studies about the external market and the mechanisms of marketing there.
- Founding and supporting an infrastructure for production in Yemen and to enable to compete with international products.

In addition is the fact that farming as such is a rich employment field and many jobs could be created there. We can make use of the other countries experiences in this field such as Tunisia which made use of its heavy production of tomato, and made varieties and different concentrations of the tomato products to export to France and other countries. Also cotton, where it used the industrial agricultural relations and used a part of cotton in the national manufacturing such as shirts and towels and underwear.

There is a demand in the market and there are resources and manpower the only thing is how to put all the parameters together and make the equation work so that benefit reaches all.

Price hikes never end

BY ABDULAZIZ M. ABDULLAH
ADEN

It is customary for people to welcome a new year and bid farewell to another year in the hope that hopes and dreams will be achieved.

The low-paid individuals pin their hopes on that prices will remain fixed.

This has manifested itself when the state has presented its economical, administrative and financial reform programs.

Such programs have become the focus of the attention of the World Bank and donor countries in order to maintain those who have low-paid individuals and fighting poverty.

As for the financial, economical and reform programs, the state has made tangible results in this regard.

Of course, we have also made good progress in terms of applying a market economy.

Through this, the prices of commodities have been determined, except what has been supported by the state.

In this case the government hasn't prepared anything for this regard. Prices have been determined according to the mechanism of the supply and demand.

Accordingly, the masses have fallen prey to the price deterioration. The merchants and businessmen's concern is to pant after high profits without consider-

ing the citizens' deteriorating conditions.

The state's role is restricted to this point. Does it have no effect without interfering in order to put an end to the high increase of prices particularly for the different consumption goods?

What is needed is to maintain market control through reducing prices.

The government's role in this respect is necessary and obligatory.

It should protect consumers from the repeated high increase of prices.

Will the government surrender to the fury of the public if such conditions remain?

The low-paid individuals will be greatly affected by the fluctuation of prices of all foodstuff.

What make things more tangled is that some individuals are incapable of increasing their financial resources through looking for alternative resources.

This has coincided with an increase of the unemployed and the poor below the poverty line.

This is not restricted to our country, but also other adjacent countries such as Saudi Arabia and the Gulf States.

The problem has reached its climax when thousands of Yemenis were deported from the Saudi Arabia during the 1990 Gulf crisis.

The problem of price increases cannot be solved unless there is no immediate solutions by the state.

The Road Ahead

The price of war

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

Through the years, war brings nothing but misery and suffering, and now misery and suffering for the Iraqi people. Every body knows the consequences of war and many oppose it, yet there are those whom war is in their interest.

The Iraqi people might forget after sometime who won or lost in this war, but be sure they will not forget what they have been through, when a kid runs scared to his mother's arms and asks her; why is my dad never returning to us, why did we leave our home? Why did the Americans destroy our home?

What will the mother answer? What would you tell your children if you were in a similar situation? George Bush is no better than Saddam Hussein except that he succeeded in scaring the kid much more than Saddam would ever do, through hundreds and thousands of missiles directed to that kids' neighborhood, and millions of other kids like him.

What have the Iraqi people done to deserve all this? I am sure there have been a way for disarming Iraq or changing the leadership through peaceful means, for example brining out a new UN resolution that enforces Iraq to make elections for a new president excluding Saddam Hussein. That could have solved the problem. But no, Bush didn't try hard enough to find them. This demonstrates the fact that Bush isn't a man of peace, even though he tries to act like one.

There is no justification for this war; Saddam isn't that big a threat to the US or to his neighbors, the weapons inspection process was succeeding in disarming Iraq, except that Bush didn't allow them to complete their job till they declare Iraq a nation free of weapons of mass destruction, neither did he allow the United Nations to take suitable measures in case it was proven how Iraq can endanger world peace.

Or maybe it is purely a matter of interest. American interests in Iraq are far beyond oil and have been planned for over a decade, although it might seem that the Iraqis will pay the price of this war with oil. Also American companies will have more business in restructuring and reforming Iraq's infrastructure which is being destroyed by the American missiles at this very minute. Time will slowly show these other interests.

What you see today through different media about the dramatic scenes in Iraq is nothing comparing to what is actually happening there, people being attacked in their homeland, disparately facing their destiny to be killed or made to surrender, then treated as slaves in their homeland. Is this the new slavery of the 21st century? Now where is the liberation of human rights?

Isn't this the price of war? Hundreds of dead, thousands of casualties, and hundreds of thousands of innocent people who are arrested and treated like slaves. Children whose families are being killed, homes being destroyed, and above all, a growing hate for the invaders.

Words of Wisdom



Unless the US war machine can knock out Saddam and create a leadership vacuum in Iraq, the new military offensive is yet another part in a frustrating sequel.

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

OUR
OPINION

What if...

As the attacks of the US-led war on Iraq continue, I find myself asking a number of questions on this major historic event.

- What if US plans fail to persuade Iraqi military commanders to rebel and overthrow the regime and reach a standstill in this regard?
- What if the US war causes the death of hundreds of thousands of innocent Iraqis while the international community watches the bloodshed?
- What if the killing of those civilians causes pressure against the US and UK to stop the war, as demanded by all world nations?
- What if the plans don't go as expected and US and UK troops are surrounded and killed in bitter fights in the middle of Iraq?
- What if the US feels that it will lose the war so it uses its 21,000-ton, mini-nuclear bomb or even full nuclear weapons?
- What if anti-US sentiments over the war result in the spread of terrorism all over the US and in pro-war countries?
- What if Pakistanis decide not to cooperate with the US any more in its fight against al-Qaeda, if the war continues for long?
- What if the US wins the war, and people start questioning the legitimacy of the US occupation days, months, or years later?
- What if the world starts prosecuting G. W. Bush and Tony Blair one day for launching a war against a country and changing its regime without international legitimacy?
- What if the Arab people wake up from their trance and defy their leaders and the result is chaos in the region?
- What if the second target, after finishing off Iraq, is revealed as perhaps one of the elements of the so called "axis of evil" Iran or North Korea?
- What if the UN continues to be irrelevant and strong countries continue to do what they want without any consequences or giving a damn about it?
- What if we then go back to the rule of the jungle where the strong dominate the weak?
- What if the US makes our world unlivable? Will Americans wish they never supported their president's moves to take part in this war?

These are all "what ifs," but they definitely should make you stop and think for a moment, and ask where the world is heading, or more specifically, where the superpower of the world is taking us.

The Editor



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Readers speak
on the Iraqi War

**An American:
I am with you...**

I want to say to the Arab and Muslims people that I have no words strong enough to fully convey my sadness about my government's decision to dismiss the UN and attack Iraq.

I fear the future unlike anything I have ever known. My country has not seen the suffering that has occurred around the rest of the world. My neighborhood, my city, my state, my nation has not been bombed during my generation, not once.

We don't know what it is like to fear for our very existence, which is, of course, why too many in this country think nothing of using bombs instead of real diplomacy. The arrogance here is so awful. The ignorance is so vast. The compassion born of understanding is lacking.

So, here I am. I have written, I have called, I have marched, I have prayed, I have stood in vigils. The government doesn't care. Even my Representative and Senators disregard my voice. I fear that the dream of American democracy and liberty may well be finally crushed here and now. That "grand experiment" that the founders of this nation embarked upon may well and truly be over.

We will all lose, but for now, it is the Middle East that the United States is focused on and therefore, my love and prayers are with you all. The beginning of what may be an end of our known world order is in your backyard. I wish I could do something that would change all this. Be brave, be strong. And know that there are those of us here who do understand and do care and won't resent or hate because there are reactions against us.

Revenge...we will see it here, of that I am sure. But I will pray for peace for you - all of you. I will pray that something changes the hearts of my leaders. I will pray the American people wake up and see the horror that they are unleashing on innocents. I will pray and pray and pray.

May Allah bless all of you and may He forgive my country. He is the Almighty and most Merciful - God/Allah.

Yana Hylton
yanaway2@cs.com

**Let's unite against
US aggression**

It is not my first time to write in here, I am just here to view a small opinion about the current situation in The Gulf area.

I hope this comment will be accepted as there is no objective in it but to participate at least in opinion-making.

I sadly go everyday online to check more irritating news about the way that USA is challenging Muslims. It might have some interests in our lands but that doesn't mean they can have fun of us this much. I think we better show up some refusing in a proper manner, however this reaction could possibly change something, but what I intend to advise is a change in a peaceful manner, we don't have to break into shops or make useless types of noise, we just can help it even with the word, commenting on those issues in internet can give a good presentation of our opinions and sharing with each other.

As for me I believe there will be a brighter day for all of us "Muslims" once we are together. But in order to be together in lives we better be together in mind first. Why don't we just start a new way

of thinking that has some good peaceful goals with an interest to this big Islamic society.

We can start small as one person, the one who reads me right now. Later we can grow bigger as everyone who reads us and hears about us. Just let's make a single step forward.

My email is up there. You can contact me for any ideas, and through my web-site soon in the future I can get all your commitments available to everyone who is interested to know about the new Yemeni way of those who are grown up and think with a grown mind.

You are all most welcomed to participate, and I will try to afford as much time as I could forward your opinions to all our brothers in the globe.

Sakher Alagbari
Malaysia

**Millions of Americans
oppose war**

I would like to thank Hassan Al-Haifi for the editorial piece on the 19th "The End of Whom." This entire sequence of events which is poised to become so much more horrendous and painful for so many has a silver lining. That is the coming together of millions of like-minded individuals around the planet speaking for peace. Your article, through the veil of sarcasm, expresses the optimism for a peaceful world we despair of finding in the immediate present but which can and must be secured if we are to survive as a species.

This is an unprecedented time of international savagery. So much is in the process of going so thoroughly wrong in every part of the globe.

Please know that millions of us here in the US deplore what is occurring.

When as children we misbehaved our parents would admonish us to "STOP IT!", and go sit down until you can behave." This is that moment and the voices of the civilized nations of the world are being heard loud and clearly saying exactly that.

Stephen Scoll

**American fundamentalism
is an embarrassment**

I read with interest Hassan Al-Haifi's editorial "Wisdom and reason vs. bombs and breadcrumbs." It is my hope that the people of the world don't come to believe that all Americans support President Bush. We don't.

The vast majority of Americans hold no animosity toward Muslims or Arabs. However it is important to note that the Arab world does not hold a monopoly when it comes to fundamentalist zealots. The US has many zealots as well, many of them far more dangerous than the Bin Ladins of the world.

Presently they are working hard to purchase and control all of the major print and television media in the US. Once they control "the spin" of our daily news, they will successfully block meaningful democratic discourse. The more media these zealots control, the greater the likelihood that absurd adventures in foreign lands will be tolerated and even promoted.

This American fundamentalism is an embarrassment to everything that we hold dear.

It is interesting to note that fundamentalist zealots, who inhabit every nation on earth, are slowly but surely destabilizing the world. They feed off of the hatred of other zealots. I have found that the most dedicated radical Palestinians are the Zionist zealots of the Israeli far-right, while the

most dedicated Zionist radicals are the radical Palestinians who use themselves as cannon fodder for the sake of hatred itself. These people have a strong need for war, because their every day lives are so meaningless without war.

It is this hopeless lack of meaning which threatens us all. May God protect those who truly serve Him.

Mike B.
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**This is why Saddam
must go!**

In response to your editorial on March 19 entitled "Case for war not made", there are a few points that I would like to respond to as an American.

It is simply amazing to me that people around the world, inclusive of American and British citizens, are marching and protesting to keep Iraq and its leadership in place. They are standing up for the man and the regime that has:

- killed more Muslims than any other person on the planet.
- used weaponry of extreme lethality on its enemies
- used weapons of extreme lethality on its own citizens
- tortured and killed thousands of people based on political, philosophical, and religious beliefs that differ from those of the regime
- consistently oppressed and starved its own citizens

This list could go on and on, but the simple fact remains that he is a tyrant, and has continually thumbed his nose at the international community that in your words is too naive and stupid to understand.

Your editorial vastly oversimplifies the situation. Twelve years of deception, concealment, and outright fraud by the Iraqi regime cannot be dismissed, and a 5km drone has nothing to do with the fact of an impending war. The UN has had one debate after another, one resolution after another during this twelve year period. President Bush is the only person in the world with the initiative to finally say "enough". Nations were told to publicly state their position, and now we know who is against the Iraqi regime and who is for it.

Americans are free to think what they want to, and can express their views openly and publicly, without fear of government retribution. Each American citizen controls their own destiny, and chooses so openly and freely. We are respectful and understanding of other cultures, which is what made America what it is today, and what it will become tomorrow. We have the freedoms which make us the envy of the world, and as a result the enemy of many in the world. As you lack an understanding of the most basic elements of freedom, I can see why you would make a comment about Americans being brainwashed. I'm curious how the citizens of Yemen would feel if their country had been invaded instead of Kuwait, or if their country was chemically attacked instead of the Kurdish people or the Iranians for that matter.

I honestly don't see how you can take moral superiority in any discussion, considering your country has sentenced a woman to death by stoning for an alleged crime of adultery.

donh@shoedeads.com
Don Hicks
USA

A message to George Bush

Why do you think that the war against Iraq need for guaranty the peaceful in all world? What guaranties may

you give for humanity that you don't begin the Third world war? The world need in equal right peaceful cooperation in field of economic and cultural. We must fight together against narcotics and criminals with use of all might our military forces.

I suppose that we must give Iraq nevertheless 3-4 months for demonstration his peaceful work for development of the entire world. We must to protect United Nations authority.

Alexander Barbas
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**Linking Iraq war with
shootings unethical**

As a Yemeni, I feel so sad and even angry by the way this respected (online) newspaper of ours has reported the tragic incident of the shooting of the three people in Mareb (American, Canadian and A Yemeni) .To ask whether they are the first victims of the American war on Iraq is truly regrettable and even unethical. First, the investigation has not been completed and one should wait before making such speculation with far wider implications about our people and nation (not the U.S as you might think), and a more serious fallout, not the least of which is to frighten the foreign people (especially Americans) who live with us and help us in many ways, and those potential tourists and investors.

Secondly, and more importantly it seems to justify (in advance and I am sure not intentionally) the killing of innocent people by associating this crime with a legitimate anger to U.S policies that a lot of Arabs and Muslims have. We in Yemen and the Arab world should learn to separate issues; and in the process of feeling angry about an issue or a government, we should not loose ourselves and values.

There have been and always will be injustices in this world (especially by those who have the means to enforce their will), but that should not be a justification for loosing our values and harming our own interests by targeting the good and innocent people who come to our land and help it (like the American aid workers who were shamefully killed in Ibb).

If indeed what happened in Mareb was connected to the U.S war (as you regrettably speculated) as a form of protest, then it would be ironic that it happened at he same time when a 22 year old American girl was killed in Palestine while trying to defend the Palestinian homes from destruction by Sharon! And what a difference between the two forms of protest against injustice (one killing the innocents and another giving the ultimate sacrifice to protect the innocent Arabs).

Seeing the difference between the innocent people and their governments is something that we can't afford to ignore for our own good and indeed sanity! It is easy for us to say (once in a while) that we oppose terrorism in all its form, but what we need is to actively campaign against it and to refuse to give these criminals who carry it any legitimacy by linking their evil to the noble and just political issues that we defend, especially when we all know that our image and interest are the first (and often the only) real victims of their actions!

Barakat Saleh
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COMMON
SENSE

By Hassan Al-Haifi

In tribute to a true American martyr:

Israel rewarded
\$10 billion

**The US Presidential Oath:
Does it not apply to Rachel Corrie?**

Amidst all the sounds of bass war drums that the American right wing machinery is beating with the sticks supplied by the ultra-right wing international Zionist establishment, last week truly revealed just exactly what America is really all about these days. For weeks, Mr. George Bush II persisted on telling the world that his oath for the Presidency compels him to go to war with Iraq, because he swore to protect American lives. Therefore, to face up to the crystal ball dangers, which only Mr. Bush and his rightwing clique in the American White House have the magical powers to perceive, it is apparent that the Bush Administration is determined to ensure that there is just no way that Saddam Hussein can be allowed to kill any Americans in the future. Yet, last week the Zionist war machine, armed to the teeth by the poor American taxpayers, decided to get rid of those annoying advocates that have been bugging the likes of Ariel Sharon, who view them as thorns that stand in the way of their dream of achieving the mystical fantasy of an Eretz Israel. Those advocates, who hail from many countries, are desperately trying to show the world that what Ariel Sharon and the hoodlums of the Zionist state in Israel are doing is anathema to all standards of modern civilization and an outright ridicule of all the progress that mankind has achieved in human rights and civil justice. Taking advantage of the American people's occupation with their President's commitment to get rid of the eminent dangers to American lives, Ariel Sharon saw an opportunity to rein in terror on those annoying advocates and send them back home, to enable those American Caterpillars to systematically pave the way for the completion of the Zionist dreams. The only way that Sharon sees as a cure for those annoying advocates is to bring the ugly horror of death into their minds, if they ever want to think of advocating for any Palestinian rights or calls for justice by the international community. It is the same kind of mentality that conjured up Deir Yassin and the many massacres that the Palestinians have endured so many times, to scare the Palestinians from staying in Palestine and the Qana massacre to scare the Lebanese from resisting the Israeli occupation of their country. Sharon is a man who is well nurtured in the Zionist cause to understand fully well that death is the most feared destiny of most human beings and the ultimate weapon for driving a clear message that no one will ever stand in the way of the Zionist dream.

Ms Corrie Smith came to Palestine with a conscientious sincere drive to do good for mankind and not just the Palestinians. Like so many well intentioned conscientious people, who see through the ugliness that Zionist chauvinism reflects, these sincere advocates perceive the Zionist dreams as being far beyond what human and religious conscience will allow. To drive the message as clearly as possible, since all the previous efforts to drive those advocates away have failed, Sharon ordered the American Caterpillars loose on the advocates and show them their destiny if they stand in the way of his Zionist thugs. Ms Corrie Smith stood bravely in front of the bulldozer, on the assumption that the "democratic conscience" of the Zionist state would simply not dare to cross paths with any American citizen, since after all the American taxpayers are behind Israel's continuing well being. But, poor Rachel Corrie did not realize how annoying she and her colleagues are becoming to the likes of Ariel Sharon and Benjamin Netanyahu, especially at this time with the Americans so preoccupied with getting rid of Saddam Hussein, and the big opportunity this brings them in continuing their ethnic cleansing campaign in Palestine, with everybody's eyes so busy looking towards the Fertile Crescent.

Yet, the Bush Administration and the American Zionist establishment saw to it that the brutal murder of Corrie Smith is only accorded buried space in the American press, notwithstanding the fact that Corrie Smith died for the very essence of the American ideals that were once so appealing to the mass discontent and oppressed of the world. To add a humiliating note to this sad tragic death of this brave American lady, the Israeli Officer in charge at the scene expressed his regrets as follows: "We're dealing with a group of protesters acting very irresponsibly, putting everyone in danger." God only knows that it is the Zionist machine that has been acting irresponsibly, immorally, unethically and illegitimately against the Palestinians and the rest of their Arab victims ever since the cancer of Israel has become a continuing dreaded fact of life, thanks to unfailing generous support by the United States. To uphold his oath, Mr. George Bush saw the death of Corrie Smith and the three shots fired at another American civil rights advocate in Palestine later on, as good grounds for rewarding US 10 Billion Dollars to the Zionist state.

If that is what the American Presidential oath is all about, all we can say is God have mercy on the future of America and the fate of the world. American leadership is now oblivious to true American ideals and will turn its back on the conscientious people, who risk their lives to point out to the world that America is really not the way Mr. Bush and his clique really see it, and for whom the American Presidential oath means absolutely nothing.

War without anyone's permission Unauthorized entry to war

By Michael Kinsley

Until this week, the president's personal authority to use America's military might was subject to two opposite historical trends. On the one hand, there is the biggest scandal in constitutional law: the gradual disappearance of the congressional Declaration of War. Has there ever been a war more suited to a formal declaration—started more deliberately, more publicly, with less urgency and at more leisure—than the U.S. war on Iraq? Right or wrong, Gulf War II resembles the imperial forays of earlier centuries more than the nuclear standoffs and furtive terrorist hunts of the 20th and 21st. Yet Bush, like all recent presidents, claims for his person the sovereign right to launch such a war. Like his predecessors, he condescends only to accept blank-check resolutions from legislators cowed by fear of appearing disloyal to troops already dispatched.

On the other hand, since the end of World War II, the United States has at least formally agreed to international constraints on the right of any nation, including itself, to start a war. These constraints were often evaded, but rarely just ignored. And evasion has its limits, enforced by the sanction of embarrassment. This gave these international rules at least some real bite.

But George W. Bush defied embarrassment and slew it with a series of Orwellian flourishes. If the United Nations wants to be "relevant," he said, it must do exactly as I say. In other words, in order to be relevant, it must become irrelevant. When that didn't work, he said: I am ignoring the wishes of the Security Council and violating the U.N. Charter in order to enforce a U.N. Security Council resolution. No, no, don't thank me! My pleasure!!

By Monday night, though, in his 48-hour-warning speech, the references to international law and the United Nations had become vestigial. Bush's defense of his decision to make war on Iraq was basic: "The United States of America has the sovereign authority to use force in assuring its own national security." He did not claim that Iraq is a present threat to America's own national security but suggested that "in one year or five years" it could be such a threat. In the 20th century, threats from murderous dictators were foolishly ignored until it was too late. In this century, "terrorists and terrorist states" do not play the game of war by the traditional rules. They "do not reveal these threats with fair notice in formal declarations." Therefore, "Responding to such enemies only after they have struck first is not self-defense. It is suicide."

What is wrong with Bush's case? Sovereign nations do have the right to act in their own self defense, and they will use that right no matter what the U.N. Charter says or how the Security Council votes. Waiting for an enemy to strike first can indeed be suicidal. So?

So first of all, the right Bush is asserting really has no limits because the special circumstances he claims aren't really special. Striking first in order to pre-empt an enemy that has troops massing along your border is one thing. Striking first against a nation that has never even explicitly threatened your sovereign territory, except in response to your own threats, because you believe that this nation may have weapons that could threaten you in five years, is something very different.

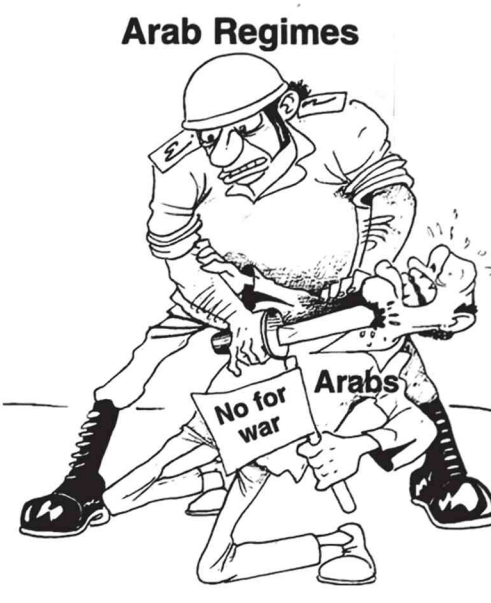
Bush's suggestion that the furtive nature of war in this new century somehow changes the equation is also dubious, and it contradicts his assertion that the threat from Iraq is "clear." Even in traditional warfare, striking

first has often been considered an advantage. And even before this century, nations rarely counted on receiving an enemy's official notice of intention to attack five years in advance. Bush may be right that the threat from Iraq is real, but he is obviously wrong that it is "clear," or other nations as interested in self-preservation as we are (and almost as self-interested in the preservation of the United States as we are) would see it as we do, which most do not.

Putting all this together, Bush is asserting the right of the United States to attack any country that may be a threat to it in five years. And the right of the United States to evaluate that risk and respond in its sole discretion. And the right of the president to make that decision on behalf of the United States in his sole discretion. In short, the president can start a war against anyone at any time, and no one has the right to stop him. And presumably other nations and future presidents have that same right. All formal constraints on war-making are officially defunct.

Well, so what? Isn't this the way the world works anyway? Isn't it naive and ultimately dangerous to deny that might makes right? Actually, no. Might is important, probably most important, but there are good, practical reasons for even might and right together to defer sometimes to procedure, law, and the judgment of others. Uncertainty is one. If we knew which babies would turn out to be murderous dictators, we could smother them in their cribs. If we knew which babies would turn out to be wise and judicious leaders, we could crown them dictator. In terms of the power he now claims, without significant challenge, George W. Bush is now the closest thing in a long time to dictator of the world. He claims to see the future as clearly as the past. Let's hope he's right.

SKETCHED
OPINION



BY: SAMER A.

Strike in Bagdad, death in Sana'a Demonstration turns violence

By Bassam Jamil
bj_saqqasf@hotmail.com

Overwhelming anger erupted when thousands protested and condemned the war against Iraq on Friday. They protested a war that ignored all international standards and agreements and abandoned all human values. All indicators show that the war was launched for the sole purpose of controlling oil sources in the Middle East. Whatever the excuse presented by the US administration, there is no doubt that millions of people worldwide share this opinion with me.

Yemen in turn participated in voicing its anti-war stance through angry demonstrations. Thousands of Yemenis marched in the streets of Sanaa towards the US Embassy last Friday. Even though earlier demonstrations were led and promoted by the government itself and did not reflect the true feelings of the people, this particular demonstration was a truly self-driven and sincere protest.

The demonstrators criticized the US-war against Iraq with rough slogans and

demanding the halt of this unjust war. Sadly however, four innocent Yemenis were killed including a policeman and an eleven year old boy, while tens others were injured.

Isn't it truly amazing to see how so many bombs falling on Baghdad during the first two days of the war lead to only one death in a tense war zone while in the peaceful capital of the Arabian Felix (Sanaa), four were killed easily.

The obvious reason behind this bizarre contradiction is, in my opinion, the spread of arms in Yemen, which is a phenomenon that has caused so many deaths to date throughout the country. But on the other hand, one cannot deny that lives seem to be less of value in our country compared to the West.

We get the impression that a soldier or policeman can simply kill any civilian with little or nothing to worry about. In a time massive demonstrations take place in other countries with rare injuries, how on earth would four persons be killed in such a relatively small demonstration in Yemen?

The demonstration law which was passed last month states that no demon-

stration is allowed to take place without prior authorization. Perhaps this was enough reason for police forces to use live ammunition on demonstrators. There is no excuse or justification whatsoever in my opinion for slaughtering civilians in this manner.

It is even more outrageous is the ironic way the Yemeni Satellite Channel dealt with the incident. Or in another words, the way it did not deal with it. The TV simply ignored the whole thing as nothing happened! Isn't it a shame that we find out about our own country's news from other channels? Where is the so called transparency which was said to exist in our media? Is it simply a theatrical act or simply a lie? Why then was Jarallah Omar's assassination news covered spontaneously and with such density?

The Friday demonstration brought with it many critical indicators on the stability and safety in Yemen and on many other issues. If things become worse in Iraq, God knows how the upcoming demonstrations would be!

Well, let us just leave things to the wise dealing of our shrewd government.

First truth, then conscience Casualties of war

By NORMAN SOLOMON
JORDAN TIMES

The national media echo chamber is not receptive to conscience. On television, the voices are usually loud and facile. People often seem to be shouting. In contrast, the human conscience is close to a whisper. Easily unheard.

Now, the biggest media outlets are in a frenzy. The networks are at war. Every cable news channel has enlisted. At the bottom of FM radio dials, NPR has been morphing into National Pentagon Radio.

With American tax dollars financing the war on Iraq, the urgent need for us to get in touch with our consciences has never been more acute. The rationales for this war have been thoroughly shredded. (To see how the sordid deceptions and outright lies from the Bush team have been demolished by my colleagues at the Institute for Public Accuracy, take a look at the www.accuracy.org website.) The propaganda edifice of the war rests on a foundation no more substantial than voluminous hot air.

"Anyone who has the power to make you believe absurdities has the power to make you commit injustices," Voltaire wrote in 1767. The quotation is sometimes rendered with different wording: "As long as people believe in absurdities, they will continue to commit atrocities."

Either way, a quarter of a millennium later, Voltaire's statement is all too relevant to this moment. The Bush

administration is proud to turn urban areas of Iraq into hell — defying most of the UN Security Council resolutions and violating the UN Charter — all with the righteous claim that the United States is enforcing UN Security Council resolutions.

As the apt cliché says, truth is the first casualty of war. But another early casualty is conscience.

Rarely explored in news media, the capacity for conscience is what makes us human. Out of all the differences between people and other animals, Darwin wrote, "the moral sense of conscience is by far the most important."

Voltaire contended that "the safest course is to do nothing against one's conscience" and added: "With this secret, we can enjoy life and have no fear of death."

Franz Kafka was alluding to a similar truth when he wrote: "You can hold back from the suffering of the world, you have free permission to do so and it is in accordance with your nature, but perhaps this very holding back is the one suffering that you could have avoided."

Conscience is smaller than a single pixel, and much less visible. You can't see it on a TV screen. Or hear it. Or smell it. Or taste it. You can only feel it. That's not a marketable sensation. The huge news outlets have swung behind slaughter in Iraq, and the dissent propelled by conscience is not deemed to be very newsworthy. The mass media are filled with bright lights and sizzle, with high production values and degraded human values,

boosting the war effort while the US government implements a massive crime against humanity.

In May 1952, the playwright Lillian Hellman wrote in a letter to the House Un-American Activities Committee: "I cannot and will not cut my conscience to fit this year's fashions."

In 2003, this year's media fashions are increasingly adorning the conformist models of pseudo-patriotism. For many Americans, the gap between what they believe and what's on their TV sets is the distance between their truer selves and their fearful passivity.

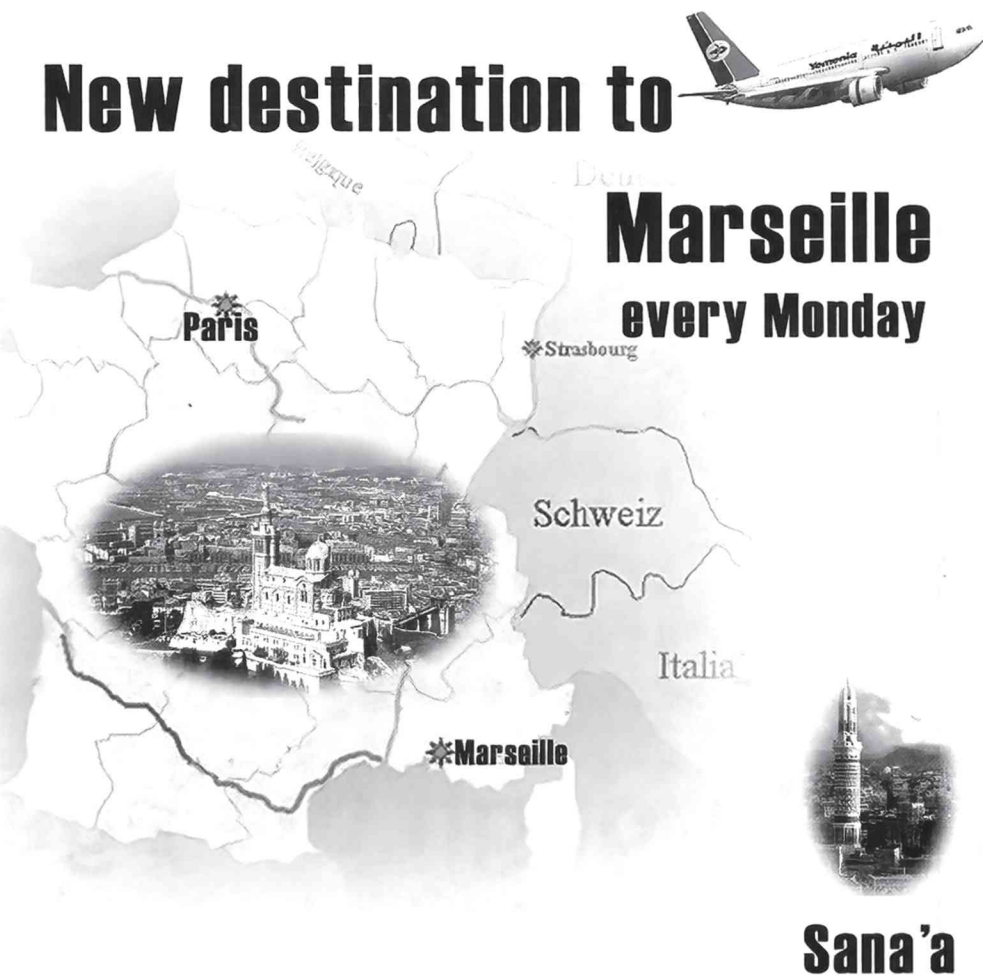
In the domestic media siege being maintained by top-notch spinners and shrewd political advisers at the White House, conscience is in the crosshairs. They aim to intimidate, stamper and suppress the many millions of Americans who recognise the deranged and murderous character of the war makers in Washington.

Half a century ago, Albert Einstein urged: "Never do anything against conscience even if the state demands it." Today, one way or another, the mass media are going along with the Bush administration's demands that we not challenge the US military actions now taking uncounted lives in Iraq.

Conscience is not on the military's radar screen, and it's not on our TV screen. But media messages do not define the limits and possibilities of conscience. We do.

The writer is co-author of the new book 'Target Iraq: what the news media didn't tell you'. He contributed this article to The Jordan Times.

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A history of Iraq, whose roots go back 10,000 years

Why destroy history?

BY LANCE GAY,
SCRIPPS HOWARD NEWS SERVICE

There are few places on Earth that have as rich and complex a history as Iraq, a nation that can claim roots that go back 10,000 years.

It considers itself to be the "cradle of civilizations," the likely birthplace of the modern alphabet and geometry, and the wellspring of several religions.

It is the home of the world's first great cities, like Babylon, listed as one of the "Seven Wonders of the Ancient World" for its luxurious hanging gardens that modern archaeologists have been unable to replicate. In the Middle Ages, Baghdad was the cultural capital of Islam, and the source of some of the greatest Arabic literature, including the magical tales Scheherazade wove of "The Seven Voyages of Sinbad the Sailor" and "Ali Baba and the Forty Thieves."

Abraham came from Ur in what is today southern Iraq, and some believe the Garden of Eden was located here, too.

But Iraq has spawned some of the world's most notorious dictators, from Nebuchadnezzar, who conquered Jerusalem in 586 B.C., to Saddam Hussein, who has repeatedly vowed to follow in Nebuchadnezzar's footsteps and remove Israel from the map of the Middle East.

The Greeks identified Iraq as Mesopotamia - "the land between the rivers" - because of the role the Tigris and the Euphrates have on the region. The world's first civilization developed in the flat lands between these two rivers - a plain known in history as the Fertile Crescent, surrounded by desert. Even with modern irrigation, less than 10 percent of Iraq today is capable of being used for agriculture.

While geography gave the country a base for agricultural riches, Iraq lacks any of the natural geographical defenses and has none of the tradition of stable government that permitted cultures like ancient Egypt to flourish.

Rather, much of Iraq's history is a succession of wars over the trade routes that crossed Iraq carrying the riches of China and India to the Mediterranean Ocean, and of strongmen who embarked on wars of conquest to establish fragile empires that disintegrated upon their deaths.

The first civilizations in the Middle East appeared in the fertile plains about 3,000 B.C., when Sumerians were selling surplus grains in clay pots.

The first writing appears about this time on clay tablets. The culture seems to have developed rapidly, because by 2700 B.C., the Sumerians were writing epic poems and plays, some of which survive almost intact today. The wealth that agricultural trade brought created a powerful and expanding state preserved by rulers such as Hammurabi (1792-1750 B.C.), who left the first recorded code of laws.

Some of Iraq's strongmen used the country's wealth to expand their territory, like Nebuchadnezzar (604-562 BC), who made Babylon the world's most important city, and famously took his army to defeat Israel and destroy Solomon's temple in 586 B.C. Another of Nebuchadnezzar's legacies was the hanging gardens of Babylon, which involved gardens of brightly colored plants built on top of 70-foot-high stone arches, and irrigated with complex machinery.

Two centuries later, Alexander the Great showed how vulnerable the region was to well-armed outside invaders, as the Macedonian army established an empire that stretched from the Mediterranean Ocean to the borders of China. After Alexander died in Babylon in 323 B.C., his empire quickly disintegrated under the invasions of Persians from Iran.

In spite of intermittent wars between Persia and Byzantium, the Persians held the region until 634 A.D., when an army of 18,000 Muslims swept into the Euphrates River delta, converting Christian tribes in the region with the war cry: "A people is already upon you, loving death as you love life."

The new Muslim rulers moved the capital from Babylon to Baghdad in 762 A.D., and built the city into a thriving intellectual and cultural center. Iraqis today look back on this period as the zenith of their Islamic past, when Arabic universities and libraries flourished, translating Greek texts into Arabic, and giving life to medical and mathematical texts that the medieval West ignored.

But the glory years ended in bloodshed and devastation, as the Mongols under Genghis Khan swept through Central Asia, and his successors conquered Iraq in the 13th century. Baghdad was sacked twice, with hundreds of thousands of Iraqis killed, and the Mongols deliberately destroyed the irrigation systems that fed the farms.

These invasions sent Iraq into centuries of economic decline and misery, and led to a shift in the focus of power in Iraq from urbanized and educated Muslims to rural tribes led by semi-autonomous sheiks.

Lacking any real power of its own, Iraq became a political football between competing powers in Turkey and Iran.

By the early 20th century, Iraq was considered part of the frontiers of Turkey's Ottoman Empire. Turkish support for Germany and the Austro-Hungarian Empire in World War I marked the end of the Ottoman Empire. The victors carved up the Turkish Empire, with Great Britain getting control of Iraq and its oil fields.

Britain then laid out the framework for Iraq's new government, imposing a Hashemite monarchy on Iraq and neighboring Jordan, and defining the borders of the country with little regard to natural frontiers or tribal settlements. This opened disputes that led to decades of coups and other contention, particularly among military officers and tribal leaders who lost the prestige and authority they enjoyed under the Ottoman Empire.

Arab nationalists, eventually led by Egypt's Gamel Abdel-Nasser, didn't like the arrangements, and launched a campaign to evict the British influence by encouraging Arab revolts.

In 1958, disenchanted Iraqi military officers under Karim Qassem led a coup to unseat Iraqi King Faisal II, who was executed in his palace courtyard. Iraq was declared a republic, but its new leaders faced revolts of their own. A young Saddam Hussein first came to the attention of opposition leaders in Iraq as the triggerman of a five-member assassination squad that failed to kill Qassem in a 1959 coup.

Four years later, the Ba'ath Socialists opposition succeeded in a coup by killing Qassem and taking power. Saddam returned from exile in Egypt, and relentlessly worked his way up as security chief for the Ba'athists, increasing his power base inside the party. But when his party lost power, he was imprisoned for an extended period beginning on Oct. 14, 1964. After the Ba'ath regained control in 1968, Saddam rose to the post of vice president of the ruling Revolutionary Command Council. He was proclaimed leader of Iraq in 1979 after leading a brutal purge of political rivals as a signal of what would happen to others who opposed him.

Domestically, Saddam built his popularity by using money from the '70s oil boom on massive slum-eradication projects, and an effort to rebuild Babylon, which had disappeared into the desert. Saddam mirrored his regime on that of Nebuchadnezzar, including hiring poets and playwrights to extol his virtues.

The US must avoid the minimalist approach used by Britain to create a pro-Western Iraq in the 1900s Lessons from Iraq's history

BY WILLIAM CHOONG
FOR THE STRAIT TIMES

WHEN Iraqi President Saddam Hussein gassed the Kurds of northern Iraq in 1988 to put down a rebellion, he was doing what had been done before - by the British.

According to historians, Britain used poison gas to quell a 1920 tribal uprising in the northern Kurdish town of Kirkuk. Kurdish fighters in Irbil after the war began yesterday. — AP

Arguing strongly for the use of mustard gas in 1919, Winston Churchill - then a secretary of state in Britain's War Office - said he did not understand the 'squeamishness about the use of gas.'

'I am strongly in favor of using poison gas against uncivilized tribes,' the former British prime minister is quoted as saying in Iraq: From Sumer To Saddam, by Iraqi expert Geoff Simons.

As another war against Iraq starts, poison gas may not be the only bit of history repeating itself.

Some historians note sobering parallels between Britain's adventure in Iraq after World War I and the United States' current campaign.

Based on lessons from Iraq's past, its future looks anything but smooth, they warned.

Between 1914 and 1921, Britain overthrew an authoritarian regime in Baghdad that was a threat to Western powers in the Middle East.

It then installed a new political order. But after a massive Iraqi revolt in 1920, it handed over control of the country, under Western supervision, to the administrative and military elite of the old regime.

'If there is a war, the US could find itself facing choices similar to those faced by Britain between 1914 and 1921,' wrote British historian Charles Tripp in a leading French monthly, Le Monde Diplomatique.

The problem with Britain's Iraq is that it was an 'artificial state' with borders drawn up by foreigners, say historians

who see parallels with the Iraq that the US could soon occupy.

A victorious Britain, after World War I and with a League of Nations mandate, had welded the three disparate regions of Basra, Baghdad and Mosul into a modern state.

The trouble is that the three regions put together by Britain - populated by Shi'ites, Sunnis and Kurds - hate one another.

In a nightmare scenario, Iraq's three parts could separate - spelling bad news for the region.

The northern Kurdish part could spill over into Turkey while the southern Shi'ite parts could lean towards other Shi'ite Gulf states such as Kuwait.

University of San Francisco politics professor Stephen Zunes told The Straits Times: 'The US could find itself engaged in a counter-insurgency war against the very minorities it claims to be protecting.'

There is also the question of finding a successor to Mr Saddam. Whatever the shape of the new Baghdad regime, the key is that Washington cannot, like the

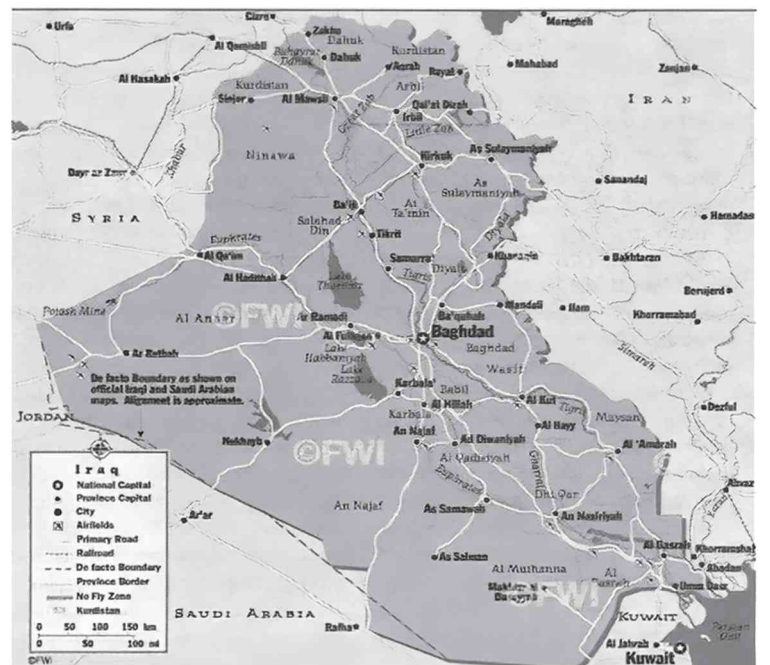
British, adopt a minimalist approach too fast, say analysts.

If the US withdraws quickly after installing a regime friendly to US interests, this would cause despair among Iraqis who have placed their hopes on the US enacting real change, argued Dr Tripp.

He wrote: 'But for the US, as for the British 80 years ago, the lower risk, the lesser cost and the short-term advantages may outweigh the possible future benefits of fundamental social transformation in Iraq.' But if the US commits time and resources to bring about a fundamental change in Iraq's political system, this could foster the emergence of an Iraqi who could take over from Mr Saddam, say analysts.

This person, they say, should be someone who has stayed in Iraq all these years, and not the group of exiles who are now being paid by Western governments.

Baghdad University professor Mouayed al-Windawi said in a telephone interview: 'Let those who have gone through the 12 years of sanctions present their point of view.'



Hertz Yemen Upgrades and Expands Car Rental Fleet



Mr. Amin Ba Hammam, Sales Manager of Hyundai along with Korean sales team handing over the keys of Hyundai Sonata to Mr. Saleem, Hertz General Manager



Mr. Omar Mohammed Omar, Vice Chairman of Universal receives the keys of Skoda Octavia from Haj Taher Al-Ahwal

Universal Rent a Car, Hertz International Franchisee in Yemen took a vigorous step ahead by trading-in their old fleet of Skoda Octavia and Hyundai Sonata into all 2003 model vehicles.

This effort is taken to keep-up its fleet upgraded as per Hertz International standards and introduction of wide range of vehicles.

Mr. Saleem Sheikh, the General Manager of Hertz Rent a Car with highly positive vision of his operation informed "The upgrading of the fleet is a part of our commitment to provide the leasing car rental services in Yemen, both for the local market, inbound business and leisure travelers."

Hertz Yemen focuses heavily on long term corporate leasing, as it grabs about 65% of market share in Yemen.

Hertz Yemen also offers attractive prices for short and long term chauffeur driven vehicles with highly professional multi lingual chauffeurs who satisfy business or leisure visitors who

need reliable chauffeur driven service.

Saleem added "we are the preferred car rental company for most of the corporate sectors in Yemen, because of our track record in providing a comprehensive range of first class car rental services. We have ever increasing number of delighted clients who feel that their driver is one of the reasons they have enjoyed their stay in the Republic of Yemen so much."

Hyundai Sales Team from Korea were being present while handing over the keys of new Sonata vehicles to Mr. Saleem. Hyundai Dealers Natco's Deputy Managing Director Mr. Jamal Abdul Wasa' Hayel told "Hertz Yemen always offers quality products and with Hyundai vehicles, being the No. 8 in the world, I am sure, they could serve better. The trading-in of vehicles is not the first time and considering our long term relationship with Hertz, this efforts are a milestone. We are not going to stop with this upgrade and with the help of Hyundai Korea, I will try to sort out some fleet owners benefits to Hertz for our mutual interests."

Haj Taher Al-Ahwal, the General

Manager of Al-Ahwal Trading, dealers of Skoda Octavia informed that "Al-Ahwal trading is willing to exert all its efforts to fill Hertz fleet with Skoda and VW vehicles. I am planning to have more joint promotion along with Hertz in the near future."

Hertz - the World's No. 1 car rental company, in Yemen, is committed to achieve highest customer satisfaction by offering unique services to ensure a trouble free driving while enjoying all the freedom of road, having its main office in Sana'a and a branch in Aden.

Saleem proudly says "Hertz is the only car rental company having a unique service of Rent It Here /Leave It There (RIH/LIT) between the cities of Sana'a and Aden where one can rent a car in Sana'a and return it in Aden and vice versa."

Mr. Alwan Al-Shaibani, the Chairman of the Universal Group of Companies, indicated "The growth of Hertz is obvious and I strongly believe that by the end of 2003, the number of fleet shall be increased substantially. Hertz Yemen will strive hard to introduce all Hertz standard services that are offered in European countries."



Rashid Street in Baghdad, oldest street in the city

Iraq through the ages

- Pre-Islam (3500 BC-AD 632): Iraq was formed from the fertile plains of Mesopotamia, which gave birth to some of the world's earliest civilizations - Sumerians, Babylonians and Assyrians.

- Early Islam (632-1533): The armies of Muhammad, founder of Islam, take Mesopotamia. Baghdad becomes the centre of the Muslim world. But after centuries of wars, invasions and floods, it is destroyed by Mongol invaders in 1258.

- The Ottoman Empire (1533-1914): The Ottoman Empire takes over Iraq and unifies the Middle East.

- British rule (1914-1932): The Ottoman Empire joins Germany and Austria-Hungary against England,

- France, Russia and the US in World War I, during which British forces invade Iraq. When the Ottoman Empire falls, Baghdad is placed under British rule.

- Monarchy/Independence (1932-1958): Iraq becomes an independent country in 1932 under the rule of a Hashemite king.

- Political turmoil (1958-1979): The monarchy is overthrown in a coup. The Iraqi government is later overthrown by the Baath Arab Socialist Party.

- Saddam Hussein (1979-1980): He seizes power and becomes President.

- Iran-Iraq war (1980-1988): Iraq invades Iran, marking the start of a costly and inconclusive war. The United

States sells Iraq chemical and biological weapons materials. Iraq is condemned by the United Nations for using chemical and biological weapons on Iranian troops and the Kurds.

- Gulf War (1990-1991): Iraqi forces invade Kuwait but are driven out by a US-led army.

- Sanctions (1991-present): Iraq is hit with sanctions. Mr Saddam undermines UN attempts to inspect Iraq's weapons programs and weapons inspectors withdraw.

After the Sept 11, 2001 attacks, US President George W. Bush groups Iraq, Iran and North Korea into an "axis of evil".



Local Press

Prepared by Mohammed Khidhr

All Yemeni local press this week has devoted most the front pages to report news of the American aggression on Iraq that has been decided outside the international legitimacy of the world community represented by the United Nations that refused to give the United States and Britain a mandate to use force against Iraq under pretext of disarming its alleged mass destruction weapons.

The United States and Britain have decided to act outside the UN and thus they are violation the UN charter and rules of the international law. The Yemeni newspapers front pages have also given full coverage of reports on massive demonstrations that took to the streets in the capital Sana'a and other Yemeni governorates in protest to the plans of aggression on the people of Iraq despite Iraq's full cooperation with the UN weapons inspection teams under UNMOVIC. Moreover Yemeni columnists from various aspects of the political spectrum in Yemen have written articles condemning the American-British premeditated aggression on Iraq and also launched a strong criticism at the official Arab attitude with regard to the whole situation and crisis of Iraq, calling upon the Arab people for standing up to U.S.-British war on Iraq in support of the people of Iraq.



Al-Shoura weekly,
organ of the Yemen
People's Forces
Union, 16 March
2003.

Main headlines:

- America threatens of war, Iraq pledges to score victory
- Nationwide demonstrations condemning the war against Iraq
- Political parties discuss a draft agreement on elections controls
- Transport workers demand the halt of privatization
- Canadian Nexen does not intend to leave Yemen
- YSP calls for enhancing the JMP experiment
- Security in Aden prevents 200 fishermen from fishing
- Lawyers: Accusations against al-Mouayad, groundless
- New arrests in Aden coincided with American ambassadors

In his article on the present parliament and the coming one, Mr Abdulaziz al-Majeedi says that the conniving and passing the government's wishes and weakness of a parliament half of its members are without qualifications, it could be recalled by Yemeni people's and political memory that the parliament has done anything to be proud of, so that to offer to voters in the upcoming parliament. These voters have been the first victims of the parliament's uncourageous stands and resolutions. While the Yemeni masses were under the pressure of the deteriorating living conditions, were looking for a parliamentary role acting against corruption and the policies of impoverishment, the parlia-

ment followed a road in support of the authority and bowing to its will through the easy majority entertained by the executive power. The parliament has thus changed into a satellite to the executive power, whose task was to endorse and agree on whatever the government intended. This situation made some to describe the parliament as mere hand made of wood raised and lowered in line with the government's request, regardless of what entails that agreement of damage inflicted on the citizen in various fields. Parliamentarians and political observers attribute weakness of parliament throughout the past period, and not performing its constitutionally-defined duties to the majority possessed by the ruling party inside the parliament and absence of political balance. That situation had led to changing the parliament into a body affiliated to authority and its duty was to give legitimacy to what the government embarks in doing. The question to be aroused is whether the upcoming elections would also lead to a political balance inside the parliament restoring to the legislative power its activeness and missing role.



Al-Balagh weekly,
18 March 2003.

Main headlines:

- Saddam Hussein: I'll extend confrontation all over the world
- Saudi scholars call for Jihad (holy war) against America
- Arab countries plan to expel American and British ambassadors
- Kharazi: America targets the entire region

The newspaper's editorial says the United States has shot the last bullet at the United Nations to put an end to it by its insistence on dealing military strikes to Iraq without getting a UN Security Council resolution giving a mandate to do that. In behaving by this way the United States seeks to address a new formula for the UN and the Security Council to be dictated on others instead of the present system that has annoyed it when some of the Security Council permanent members threatened to use the veto against a resolution permitting automatic use of force against Iraq.

With the beginning of the declared war on Iraq the UN would have lost its legitimacy and the orientation heads for drawing up broad lines for the new international system. In this context the Arab and Islamic countries must not adopt an attitude of a spectator. They should have a role in the new world order through drawing up general strategies for the Arab and Islamic world countries in concert with Europe, Russia and China and must not submit to the

American hegemony which knows no other language but that of force. The Arab and Islamic countries must move to salvage what could be saved in order not to be an easy prey for the American domination.



Al-Wahdawi weekly,
organ of the Nasserite
Unionist
Organization, 18
March 2003.

Main headlines:

- American interest targeted all over the world
- The Nasserite Organization categorically rejects the American speech of aggression
- Arab masses are demanded to retaliate for the aggression, Jr. Bush expresses his bankruptcy
- Senior member of the NUO al-Midhwahi: The Arab regimes responsible for the aggression
- Iran's FM: American steps towards the war illegitimate
- Alignment draft document approved
- Arab Journalists Union: Enforcing change hides hegemony ambitions

In his article Mr. Hameed al-Shallal says the Bush administration, ever since he first day of assuming power, has been characterized by an individualist

approach based on selecting American targets and strategies during a certain stage then to embark at international and foreign levels to apply and accomplish it, heedless of opposition and resentment shown by other countries. There has been an apparent ignorance towards the rest of the world by the American administration. As a result of these stands the Bush administration had, before the 11 September events, reached to the remotest point of isolation since the end of the cold war. But those events had restored the process of reshuffling international cards and offered the evil Bush a gift on a gold platter it has never dreamed of in its quest for enhancing its orientations in the international politics.

America's entering in Iraq could certainly be the gateway to towards other countries in the region under justifications of "democracy" and war on "terrorism" in support for freedom and peace and directly re-colonize the Gulf region to control its oil wealth. Thus America could be in control of two thirds of the world oil reserve and consequently to force Europe to be under the mercy of America, a matter contradicting the policy and vision of the European Union that believes in a multi-polar system.

America is the strongest military and economic power but Europe is the cornerstone and the weighing force of the world public opinion and has a cultural civilization role rendering it closer to other peoples of the world.



Al-Jamaheer weekly,
organ of the Arab Baath
Socialist party 16
March 2003.

Main headlines:

- Demonstrators demand opening Jihad doors from Sana'a to Baghdad
- Millions of the Iraqis prepare for defeating the American-British aggression
- Yemeni political parties condemn the aggression; demand a united Arab stand to prevent the war
- American forces in Ethiopia
- Al-Mouayad lives in tragic conditions in his prison

The editor in chief says in his article that according to the Iraqis the war has stated since 1991 and what happens today is a continuation of it. If 1991 war had singled out two trenches; one supporting the Americans and another

opposing it under the excuse of attacking Kuwait, the present Arab stand opposing the aggression and war, based on the same supposition, is applicable to Iraq. Non-commitment of some Arab countries and their announcement of permitting the American forces to use their territories in the aggression, unveils the nature of the political formation of these regimes and their affiliation to origins of the region and that their existence within the Arab national entity is merely nominal aimed at implementing foreign policies intended for dismembering the nation's unity. This situation makes them as dead parts of the Arab body and should be amputated. If those regimes think they are going to occupy an advanced position and great status through their siding with America, they are mistaken. America is using them as tools for their invasion and to be ridden of later. He Arabs land is quick sand that would not accept invaders.



ATTARIQ weekly
18 March 2003.

Main headlines:

- Sweeping majority for the GPC in the elections expected
- Shabwa governor defends sheikhs contained in elections nominees list
- Observers: JMP did not abide by electoral coordination document
- Sheikh al-Rassas: No al-Qaeda activity in Shabwa governorate
- YSP approves its candidates names for the parliamentary elections
- Vengeance between two tribes in Abyan resolved
- Education Professions Union calls for strike
- GPC holds a symposium on extremism and terror
- Drop in investment activity in Yemen expected

Columnist Khalid Ali Tuaiman says in an article that the American insistence on war against Iraq springs from an Anglo-Saxon strategy taking from the Arab region as a pivot and beginning for a feverish scheming by the cowboys for controlling the world and acting singly in the world arena in realization of their impossible dream for establishment of an American empire. The new American "empire" aims at instituting for a state of affairs where political and moral val-

ues retreat before it and all foundations and principles of the international law fall on its threshold. It pushes the world towards the return to the colonialist periods and ages that humanity had surmounted a long time ago and folded their chapters that were full of disasters and catastrophes.



Annas weekly, 17
March 2003.

Main headlines:

- An elector dies of thirst and hunger in Sana'a
- New documents confirm committing torture practices in Criminal Investigation Organization in Taiz
- Al-A'arooos: Complicating terms of independents nomination decided by all political parties
- Truncheons, bullets in anti-America demonstration
- Fifteen thousand Yemenis, out of three millions, die of malaria every year

Dr. Hosni al-Jawsha'e says in an article that there was no president who abused the world humanitarian values and offended his country and people did the American present Bush. Since his assumption of power he has been fabricating crises and living, along with his extremist rightist administration, in them. Even his coming to power was in an mysterious way arousing many question marks. A few months after his assumption of power the 11 September events took place, which are still in need of many queries to be answered. In order to score a speedy victory to be attributed to him he had fabricated the destruction game of Afghanistan which is the poorest country in the world, committing there the most unsightly massacres and destruction.

Nowadays Bush wants to repeat the same scenario against Iraq and its Muslim people under the pretext of destroying its alleged mass destruction weapons which the international inspectors proved their non-existence in the country but rather in Bush's imagination.

The question is would Bush continue his reckless adventures in the Islamic world countries, or his administration would be deterred only by a strong blow dealt to it by Iraq or Korea or Iran?

World Press

Major news items in leading international newspapers *Provided by Xinhua*

Egypt

Al Gomhuria

Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak will hold extensive ministerial meeting on Sunday to discuss a number of significant issues at domestic and foreign levels including economic performance and political situation in light of the US-led war on Iraq and its impacts on Egypt and the countries in the region.

Al Ahram

US and British invasion forces sliced deep into Iraqi territory Friday and met with sporadic resistance on the road to the Iraqi capital of Baghdad, where Iraqi President Saddam Hussein has deployed his best trained and most

loyal forces to fight the invading troops.

Al Akhbar

Thousands of Egyptian Muslim worshippers, representing various political parties and backgrounds, on Friday protested against the US-led war on Iraq following the Friday prayers at one of Egypt's most ancient mosques Al Azhar.

Egyptian Mail

Egyptian Information Minister Safwat el-Sharif has said that President Mubarak urged his US counterpart George W. Bush in a telephone call on Thursday not to "widen the scope of its military operations to safeguard the lives of the Iraqis."

Britain

The Financial Times

The US and Britain launched all-out air war against Iraq Friday, raining missiles and bombs on Baghdad as US armored ground forces pushed rapidly northwards towards the capital.

The Times

British and American forces rained thunder on the heart of Baghdad Friday night in a blitzkrieg designed to terrify Iraqi leaders into surrender.

The Daily Telegraph

The helicopter-borne assault on Iraq's Faw peninsula and its strategic oil pumping facilities was bold, decisive and entirely in keeping with the

India

The India Express

Prime Minister Atal Behari Vajpayee may have conveyed his anguish to President George W. Bush over Gulf War II but New Delhi is taking care to ensure that its criticism of the US action does not damage the long-term bilateral ties between the two countries.

The Hindus

Special envoy of the Iranian President, Ali Akbar Velayati, called on Prime Minister Atal Behari Vajpayee on Friday and handed over a letter from President Mohammed Khatami, which explains Iran's position on Iraq.

Hindustan Times

The US is learnt to have told India that it would like to see Saddam Hussein's appointees in New Delhi replaced by representatives of the new regime in Iraq. Ministry of External Affairs denied having received such request, but said dealing with foreign diplomatic representatives was purely India's business.

The Times of India

Analysis of 18 samples of drinking water collected across Delhi showed they were not fit for consumption. Pesticide levels were found to be very high.

Pakistan

Dawn

Prime Minister Mir Zafarullah Khan Jamali on Friday assured the World Bank that Pakistan will remain fiscally responsible and there will be continuity of reforms in the country.

Pakistan Observer

Demonstrations were held all over Pakistan on Friday to condemn invasion of Iraq and large scale destruction caused in ground and aerial attacks by American and British forces.

The News

The government on Friday cancelled the March 23 Pakistan Day parade and SAF Games, besides putting off Prime Minister Mir Zafarullah Khan Jamali's visit to the United States, Britain and France because of the Iraq war.

Philippines

Manila Bulletin

The Philippine government put on hold Friday its decision on a proposal by the United States to sever diplomatic ties with Iraq to dramatize the country's support to the US-led military campaign to disarm Iraq of suspected weapons of mass destruction.

The Philippine Star

The Philippine government on Friday lifted a day-old ban on overseas Filipino workers going to the Middle East, except Iraq, despite the US-led war on Baghdad.



Arab News - Khalil's Cartoon

Kenya

East African Standard:

Over 5,000 Muslims took to the streets Friday in the Kenyan coastal city of Mombasa protesting against the ongoing US-led war on Iraq.

Kenya Times

Kenyan President Mwai Kibaki and former president Daniel Moi declared publicly that they are great friends and their friendship would remain firm despite speculations by some people that they do not see eye to eye. Kibaki said political competitions should not be interpreted as hatred.

Daily Nation

Petroleum products supply remained normal in Kenya and there was no panic buying of oil products despite fears that the Iraq war would affect the market.

Nigeria

This Day

There are strong indications that the United States government has completed arrangements to install an interim government in a post-Saddam Iraq.

Weekend Vanguard

After intense pounding by heavy artillery, American and British troops have advanced into Iraq and raced towards southern Iraqi cities, including the key port of Basra.

Saturday Punch

The United States finally unleashed its fury on Baghdad Friday, pounding the city with waves of air strikes that turned vast sections of Saddam Hussein's Iraqi capital into an inferno.

REPUBLIC OF YEMEN
MINISTRY OF ELECTRICITY AND WATER
PUBLIC ELECTRICITY CORPORATION
INTERNATIONAL TENDER ANNOUNCEMENT

The Public Electricity Corporation (PEC) invites internationally qualified, specialized and experienced companies to the following tender:

Tender No. (70) 2003

400KV Transmission Line – Marib / Sana'a, and Associated Substations

The project is financed by Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development and the Government of Yemen. The Yemeni Law No. (31) for the year (1991) adjusted by Presidential Decree of the law No. (12) for the year (1999) regarding Income Taxes shall apply for the Project.

Tenderers must be fully qualified and specialized and have **clear and proven experience** in similar previous projects.

The tender documents can be obtained from the PEC office of the Managing Director at the following address:

Republic of Yemen — Sana'a - Al-Juraf-Airport Road, P. O. Box 178 Tel: 00 967 1 328 163 Fax 00 967 1 328151/50 E-mail ypecnt@y.net.ye during office hours against payment of a **non-refundable fee of \$2,000**. The **closing date** for the submission of tenders is Wednesday 11/6/2003 at 11 a.m. Each tender has to be sealed and accompanied by **Tender Bond**, valid for 120 days from the tender closing date, in the amount \$2,000,000 for Lot A and \$2,500,000 for Lot B of the total tender sum issued by an acceptable first class bank operating in the Republic of Yemen.

Tenderers have the option to quote for either to the LOTS mentioned below or for both together:

LOT A: 400KV Transmission Line

LOT B: Substations

Tenders must be submitted in two sealed separate envelopes, one commercial and one technical, whereby the technical envelope will be opened and evaluated first.

Tenders submitted by agent company or contracting company must be accompanied by authorization from the Contractor and/or the manufacturers of the material & equipment mentioned in the tender document and confirmed by official authority in the country of the manufacturing company and tenders submitted by local tenders must be accompanied by copy of their Tax Certificate and Commercial Registration Certificate.

Tenders must visit the sites to acquaint themselves with all site particulars and information given in the tender document including the local laws.

Tender should be addressed to the Managing Director, Public Electricity Corporation, Sana'a – Al-Juraf-Airport Road, P.O. Box 178 Tel: 00 967 1 328 163 Fax 00 967 1 328151/50 E-mail ypecnt@y.net.ye

For any technical or financial clarification, Tenderers should submit their queries to the consultant address below, a copy of which is to be forwarded to PEC headquarters

The Kuljian Corporation
3700 Science Center
Philadelphia
Pennsylvania 19104
Tel: +1-2152431900
Fax: +1-2152431909
E-mail: prabhat@kuljian.com

REPUBLIC OF YEMEN
MINISTRY OF ELECTRICITY AND WATER
PUBLIC ELECTRICITY CORPORATION
INTERNATIONAL TENDER ANNOUNCEMENT

The public Electricity Corporation (PEC) invites internationally qualified, specialized and experienced companies to the following tender:

Tender No. (71) 2003

300MW GAS POWER STATION AT SAFER – MARIB GOVERNORATE

The project is financed by the Saudi Fund for Development, the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development and the Government of Yemen. The Yemeni law No. (31) for the Year (1991), adjusted by Presidential Decree of the Law No. (12) for the year (1999) regarding Income Taxes shall apply for the project.

Tenders must be fully qualified and specialized and have **clear and proven experience** in previous similar projects. The tender documents can be obtained from the PEC office of the **Managing Director Sana'a – Al-Juraf-Airport Road, P.O. Box 178 Tel: 00 967 1 328 163 Fax 00 967 1 328 150/50 e-mail ypecnt@y.net.ye** during office hours against payment of a **non-refundable fee of \$2,000**. The **closing date** for the submission of tenders is on Wednesday 11/6/2003 at 11 a.m. Each tender must be sealed and accompanied by **Tender Bond**, valid for 120 days from the tender closing date, in the amount of \$3,800,000 issued by an acceptable first class bank operating in the Republic of Yemen.

Tenders must be submitted in two sealed envelopes, one commercial and one technical, whereby the technical envelope will be opened and evaluated first.

Tenders submitted by agent company or contracting company must be accompanied by authorization from the manufacturing company of the material & equipment mentioned in the tender document and confirmed by official authority in the country of the manufacturing company and tenders submitted by local tenders must be accompanied by copy of their Tax Certificate and Commercial Registration Certificate.

Tenderers must visit the sites to acquaint themselves with all site particulars and information given in the tender document.

Tender should be addressed to the Managing Director, Public Electricity Corporation, Sana'a – Al-Juraf-Airport Road, P.O.Box 178

For any technical or financial clarification, Tenderers should submit their queries to the consultant address below, a copy of which is to be forwarded to PEC headquarters

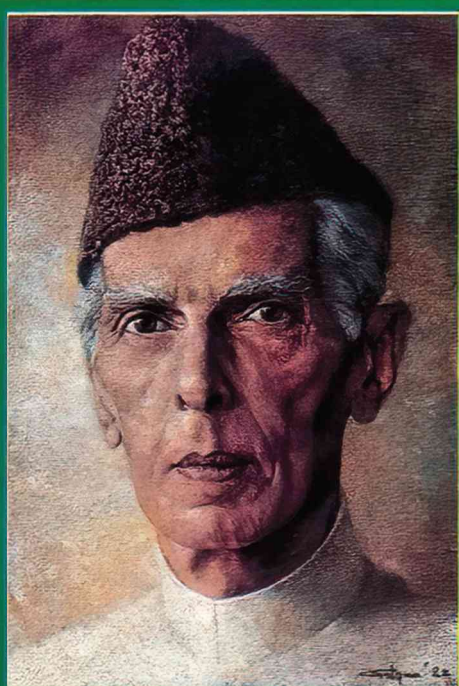
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Celebrates national day



**General Pervez Musharraf,
President of Pakistan**



Father of the nation, Quaid-e-Azam Mohammad Ali Jinnah

Quaid-e-Azam Mohammad Ali Jinnah (1876-1948)

In the endless corridors of history, a new name was added in August 1947. It was that of Quaid-e-Azam Mohammad Ali Jinnah, the Founder of Pakistan. Born into a Karachi mercantile family on December 25, 1876, Quaid-e-Azam Mohammad Ali Jinnah had his early schooling at Karachi. Later, he joined the Lincoln's Inn, to become the youngest Indian barrister to be called to the bar. By sheer native ability and determination, young Jinnah rose quickly to prominence, and soon became a successful lawyer.

In 1940, he spelled out the

concept of Muslim nationhood, asserting that "We are a nation, with our own distinctive culture and civilisation, language and literature, art and architecture, names and nomenclature, sense of value and proportion, legal laws and moral code, customs and calendar, history and traditions, aptitudes and ambitions, in short, we have our own distinctive outlook on and of life. By all canons of international law we are a nation". And on that basis he demanded the setting up of an independent Muslim homeland in the predominantly Muslim northwestern and eastern India.

Quaid-e-Azam Mohammad Ali Jinnah believed in peace within and without, and in the principle of "live and let live". Actually, the Pakistan demand itself, as defined by him, was based on his principle, "let the two major nations, Hindus and Muslims, manage their affairs in their respective areas according to their own rights and traditions and unthwarted by the intrusion of each other, thus paving the way for the two nations to live in peace and good neighborliness with each other in the subcontinent." Pakistan presupposed freedom for the Subcontinent as a whole.

Message of H.E. Mr. M. Asghar Afridi, Ambassador of Pakistan on the occasion of Pakistan National Day, 23 March 2003

Pakistan stands for peace

Today we are celebrating 63rd anniversary of Pakistan's National Day.

On this auspicious occasion I offer my heartiest felicitations to my countrymen particularly the Pakistani community living in the brotherly Republic of Yemen.

On this day on 23rd March 1940 in the city of Lahore, the Muslim League under the dynamic leadership of Quaid-e-Azam Mohammad Ali Jinnah adopted the Pakistan Resolution which led to the creation of Pakistan on 14 August 1947.

While bowing our heads before Almighty Allah for the precious gift of freedom, we must also look inwards to assess as to whether we have been able to measure up to ideals and objectives, which constituted the basis for the creation of a separate homeland for Muslims of South Asia. Pakistan Day underlines the deep and abiding

resolve of our people to surmount any and all difficulties in the way of freedom. It has struggled to live in peace and honour in a difficult part of the world.

Last three years were challenging for the Government as various unexpected shocks of extraordinary nature gripped the region and the international atmosphere which had direct effect on Pakistan. However, despite these challenges President General Pervez Musharraf fulfilled his promise of transferring of power to the political forces on 23rd November 2002 in accordance with the verdict of the Supreme Court of Pakistan. Since taking over of power the Government of Prime Minister Mir Zafarullah Khan Jamali has been laying special emphasis on efforts to achieve peace, stability and security in the region without compromising on our permanent national interests.

Pakistan stands for amity among nations for regional and global peace. In this spirit the Government and the people of Pakistan have been making sincere and unremitting efforts aimed at achieving a peaceful resolution of the Kashmir dispute and making South Asia a region of peace and tranquility.

The Republic of Yemen and Pakistan enjoy warm, friendly and cooperative relations. These relations derive their strength from common cultural and religious ties and abiding interests of both countries in each other's well-being and stability.

The Government and people of Pakistan cherish their fraternal ties with the Republic of Yemen and the support and cooperation which we continue to receive from the brotherly people of Yemen under the wise leadership of His Excellency Marshal Ali Abdullah Saleh,



**H.E. Mr. M. Asghar Afridi,
Ambassador of Pakistan**

President of the Republic of Yemen. We sincerely desire to have ever more cooperative and mutually beneficial relations between our two countries and I am sure that relations between Yemen and Pakistan will further improve meaningfully in the years to come.

I pray for the progress and prosperity of the people of Pakistan, the people of Yemen and the entire Muslim Ummah.



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Pakistan, the land of beauty and splendour

By Mufti Jamiluddin Ahmad.*

Pakistan, meaning land of the pure, was born 56 years ago on August 14, 1947, but its roots lie deep into pre-history.

Some of the earliest relics of Stone Age in the Soan Valley near Rawalpindi in the Potohar region of the Punjab, Pakistan's biggest province population-wise, testify to this. In the rugged mountains of Baluchistan, the biggest province of the country area wise, earliest remnants of civilizations were developed as small villages were formed along the rugged mountains and valleys. Excavations in Kot Diji in Sind reveal that when primitive village communities in Baluchistan were struggling against a difficult highland environment, a highly cultured was trying to assert itself in the Indus Valley, which is evident from the excavations at Harappa and Mohenjodaro. It was the most developed urban civilization of the ancient world, which flourished between the years 2500 and 1500BC. The discovery of the Gandhara culture in Dir and Swat, in the North West Frontier province of Pakistan gives an insight into the Gandhara Art, which flourished for about five hundred years from the first to the fifth century BC in the present valley of Peshawar and the adjacent hilly regions of Swat and Buner.

Islam had a deep impact on South Asian sub-continent. Muslim rule started from the day traders from the coastland of Arabia set their foot on Pakistani soil and the first permanent foothold was established with the arrival of Mohammad Bin Qasim. Later various Muslims dynasties ruled the subcontinent till the period of Mughal ascendancy (1526-1707). Their rule continued till 1857, and finally the British East India Company emerged as a dominant power. The War of Independence described by the British as the mutiny failed and the British finally wrested power from the last Moghal Emperor, Bahadur Shah Zafar. Just after that



The Badshahi mosque, Lahore, built in 1674

Jinnah of Pakistan thus: "Few individuals significantly alter the course of history. Fewer still modify the map of the world. Hardly anybody can be credited with creating a nation-state. Mohammad Ali Jinnah did all three."

Earlier Allama (great scholar) Dr. Sir Mohammad Iqbal, the poet philosopher, had visualized a separate state for the Muslims at the Allahabad session of the Muslim League in 1930. Pakistan was finally demanded through a resolution passed at a session of the Muslim League held at Lahore on March 23, 1940.

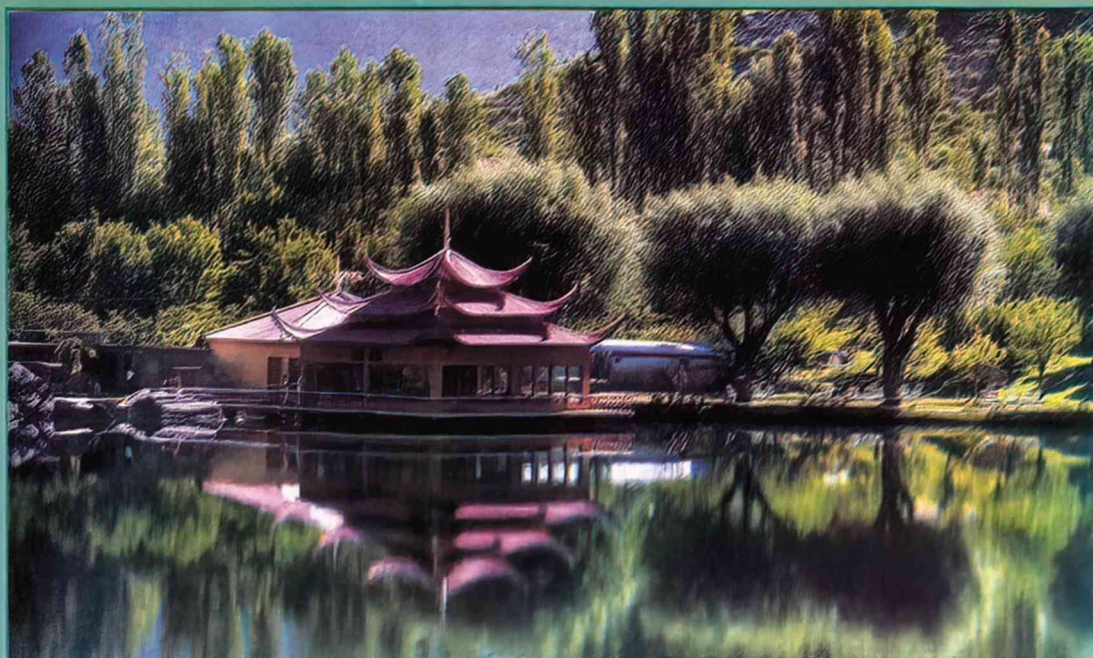
With its 142.5 million of its inhabitants and an area of 796,095 square kilometers the country can boast of a scenic beauty, especially in its mountain ranges and gushing streams, that in some cases surpasses any such place anywhere in the world. It has five of world's fourteen highest peaks; K2, Nanga Parbat, Gasherbrum-I (hidden peak), Broad Peak and Basherbrum-II. K2 is the second highest peak in the world and Nanga Parbat in the Western Himalays the ninth highest and one of the most difficult ones. There are over 80 peaks, which are 7000 meters, some of them unnamed yet. Pakistan has more glaciers than any other land outside the eternally frozen regions around the north and south poles of our planet. This is, in fact, a double

and flows down to the mystical waters of the Arabian Sea, traversing a distance of 3,180 kilometers of snow, of covered mountain peaks, deep gorges, fragrant valleys, lush green plans and shimmering deserts. Indus, a silent witness to conquerors and invaders of various races the Hungs, the Scythians, the Parthian, the Yuchies, the Mongols, the Turks and Alexander the Great. Then there are its beautiful tributaries in the north, which has the trout fish that is considered here to be the best in the world. The cultural and literary ethos of the country including performing arts spring not from the character of the land but also from a long struggle that it waged against a foreign ruled combined with its religious identity in South Asia.

The country has a great archeological heritage in the relics discovered in prehistoric cultures of Moenjodaro, Harappa and Gandhara. It has beautiful specimen of architecture dating back to the time of Alexander the Great when he came here, and beautiful monuments of mosques and monuments of built in various Muslim dynasties including the Moghals. It boasts of the famous Badshahi Mosque, the Lahore Fort, the Shalimar Gardens in Lahore built by the Moghals.

Pakistani paintings, for instance, draw their traditions from painters who were painting even before the birth of Pakistan. At the time of independence in August 1947 world-renowned painter A.R. Chughtai towered all others in Pakistan, with his famous miniatures. Then there was Ustad Allah Bux who painted mythological themes. Fyze Rahamin, a friend of the Quaid-i-Azam Mohammad Ali Jinnah, the founder of Pakistan, who, at his request moved to Karachi from Bombay. He is famous for his portraits, and his themes ranged from interpretations of rags of historical and ethnic subjects. Then there were other artists like Anna Molka Ahmed, Haji Shareef and Shakir Ali, who were amongst the most potent presence in the early movements in Pakistani art. Among other pioneers are Zubaida Agha, Ahmed Pervez and Ali Imam. Other important artists include Sadequain, a visionary, and Gulgee, who worked with gold leaf and lapis. Some other important names are Anwer Jalal Shemza, Bashir Mirza, Leila Shezada Safi Safdar Ahmed Pervez, Ghulam Rasul and Golin David; and a number of other very well known and distinguished painters the names of each one of them would be difficult to include in such a short piece.

Allama (great scholar) Dr. Sir Mohammad Iqbal, though died long before the creation of Pakistan in 1938 saw the vision of the new nation in his writings. His poetry sang of the ability to rise again in a sea of darkness. He is considered the national poet of Pakistan. Poet Faiz Ahmad Faiz, another big name in Pakistani poetry, sang of the downtrodden man in the diction of classical poets. Noon Meem Rashid, who had already established a name for his kind of writing poetry; and later, Ahmad Faraz got acclaim for writing poetry that was a new experiment within the existing traditions. In short story, the great short story writer Manto webbed his plots and characters around the trials and tribulations of partition, and novels like Udas Naslen by Abdullah Hussein spoke of the tragedy of the new society emerging from the death of the old. Names like - Mumtaz Mufti, Jameela Hashmi, Nasim Hijazi, Intezar Hosain and Ashfaq Ahmed, became prominent. There have been a large number of other writers who created new milestones in Urdu literature but in a small survey it would be difficult to mention each by name. Literature in regional languages like Punjabi, Pushto, Baluchi Sindhi, Saraiki and others got a new impetus and new names emerged.



The lake resort of Shangri-La in Skardu Valley - A tranquil sport under the spread of Nanga Parbat

In the English language a number of writers like Bapsi Sidhwa in novels and Ahmed Ali, Zulfikar Ghose, Shahid Hosain, Taufiq Rafat and Shahid Suhrawardy emerged in poetry, and the tradition is continuing.

Pakistani music is deep-rooted into the classical traditions of South Asia. Lahore was an important centre at the time of partition. Initially, apart from the nascent film industry an institution like Radio Pakistan encouraged classical and ghazal and geet singers of the day. The cassette and the disc

revolution have lowered the importance of centralized institutions. Film music in Pakistan had been dominated by the late Madam Noor Jehan, who also performed as actress in films in her early career. Voices of Mehdi Hasan also dominated the music scene in Pakistan for long time, especially in ghazal singing. Instrumental music in Pakistan has also flourished a great deal and it was greatly patronized by Radio Pakistan, which engaged instrumentalists on full-time basis. Today pop music has com-

bined with ghazal and geet singing in Pakistan and besides radio and television a concert in open air and halls attracts jam-packed audiences of youngsters.

In the field of sport Pakistan has dominated the world of squash. Pakistan is a well-known cricket team which has brought many laurels to the country, including the world cup. Pakistan has a very well known hockey team of the world and has won Olympic gold and World championships.

The lake district of Pakistan

By Alauddin Masood*

The scenic beauty of Hazara have fascinated and allured the tourists, hikers, mountaineers, hunters and the anglers since times immemorial. Its lofty green and grey hills, snow-capped mountain peaks, glaciers, dark woods, turbulent rivers, world renowned trout fish, wild life, fragrance of wild flowers and above all captivating waterfalls and lakes have attracted one and all to enjoy the bounties of nature.

Its lakes, both natural and man-made appear prominently not only on the tourist map of the world, but also as important source and reservoirs of water. In Hazara, Mansehra district alone has some 71 waterfalls and natural lakes. Some of the natural lakes are more than two kilometers long and as high as 3,658 meters. Innumerable waterfalls, streams, rivulets and the rivers Kunhar and Sim further add to its beauty and make the region as romantic as a fairy-tale land.

It is because of these lakes that people often refer to Hazara as the "Lake District" of Pakistan, a sister region of England's Lake District and Germany Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania, as ordained by nature.

Wild flowers blossom in thousands around the area of these lakes; while the trout are plentiful in the lakes of Kaghan Valley. The moments spent around the lakes, in particular the world-renowned high altitude natural lakes in the Kaghan Valley, are so captivating that one can never forget even a day-long sojourn to the area. Here the visitor finds himself in the lap of nature, traversing untrodden paths and passages.

The status of Hazara was raised from a district to a division in 1979 when it was bifurcated into three districts, viz Haripur, Abbottabad and Mansehra with Abbottabad as divisional headquarters. Abbottabad is about 120 kilometers from Islamabad and about 190 kilometers from Peshawar, the provincial metropolis of NWFP.

The greatest treasure of Hazara region is its untouched nature and innumerable lakes. The important branches of its economy are farming and goat/sheep breeding. Tourism remains the most promising industry of Hazara, in particular that of its Kaghan Valley.

The region is also a gateway to the ancient Silk Route, the Kashmir Highway and the Karakoram Highway, which branch off from

Mansehra. The Mughal emperors of India had a great liking for the area and preferred the route leading from Hazara for their journeys to Kashmir.

Hazara can be approached by four routes; Islamabad - Hasan Abdal - Haripur - Abbottabad, Islamabad - Murree - Nathiagali - Abbottabad; Peshawar - Nowshera - Hasan Abdal - Haripur - Abbottabad; and Muzaffarabad - Garhi Habibullah - Mansehra - Abbottabad. Public transport - buses, wagons and air-conditioned coaches - operates several services daily upto Abbottabad and Mansehra.

A brief account of some famous, popular and big lakes is given below, aimed at making the readers familiar with this picturesque region.

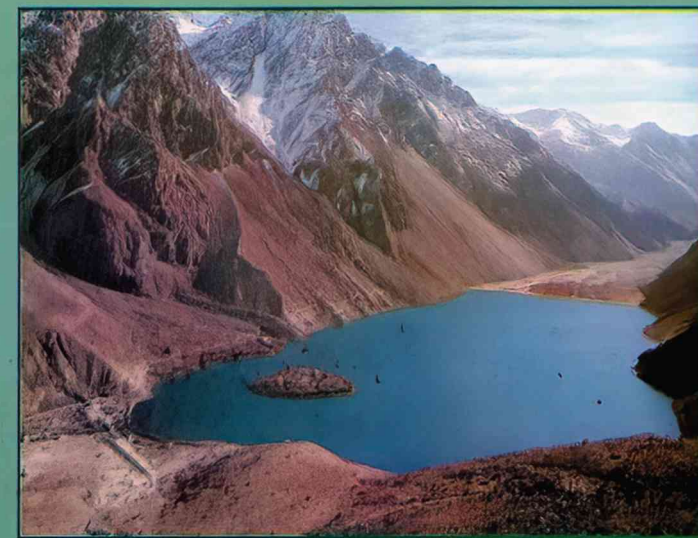
Fresh water lakes, springs, waterfalls, snow-clad mountain tops and spectacular green valleys contribute to make Pakistan's Hazara region as a popular tourist haven.

Saiful Malook

Lake Saiful Mulook, named after a legendary prince Saiful Malook, is a world-famous tourist spot. This high altitude fresh water natural lake is 3,353 meters above sea level. It is

surrounded by snow-capped high mountains and lies about 180 kilometers from Abbottabad and 10 kilometers to the east of another favourite tourist resort, Naran. The lake is about 805 meters long and about 458 meters wide. Torrential Naran Katha, renowned for its icecold waters, sprouts from it and meanders down to Naran village where it joins the river Kunhar.

According to the legend, the lake and its surroundings enchanted Prince Saiful Malook. One day, the prince happened to see a beautiful fairy, Badiuzzaman strolling by the banks of the lake. Both felt attracted to each other and started meeting there regularly. Their longing for each other kept iwith the passage of time. They would feel some void in their life and remain restless unless they had a glimpse of each other. Over a period of time, stories about their meetings spread far and wide. Suddenly, the fairy stopped coming to the lake. The prince became restless and could not bear the pangs of separation. One day, the prince spotted a group of fairies at the lake and bagged them to inform him about Badiuzzaman's whereabouts. A kind-hearted fairy told the prince that Badiuzzaman's movements have been confined to the precincts of her palace in the Caucasus. Prince Saiful Malook left for the far away mountains area in search of his love, braving all odds, and finally succeeded in his mission - getting married to fairy Badiuzzaman. The old residents of the area believe that fairies still visit the lake in the evening to have a bath in its unpolluted water and to play along its banks.



Lake Satpara



Rugged beauty of Mustagh II - Rubble and ice of Batura Glacier in the foothills

time, and through the years that followed the question of Muslim identity remained one central issue of the struggle of Muslims, leading ultimately to the establishment of Pakistan in 1947. And the man who finally gave a local habitation and a name to this identity was Qyuaid-e-Azam (the great leader) Mohammad Ali Jinnah. Stanley Wolpert, Professor of history at the University of California and a leading expert on South Asia, begins preface to his book

distinction; largest number of glaciers and the largest glaciers too. Rivers of Pakistan, the Jehlum, Chenab, Ravi, Sutlej and Beas and the mighty Indus all emerge from the mighty northern mountains and receiving waters from the small mountains streams and huge glaciers enter the plans of Punjab, Pakistan's province which has been named after these five rivers they all ultimately join the Indus, the life-line of Pakistan which itself rises from the mountain rangers of the Himalayas



A view of Islamabad

Improve Your English



Dr. Ramakanta Sahu
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College of Education,
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I. What to Say

Situations and Expressions (45):

Quite often habits and situations give indications of being in a state of flux and changing for the better or for the worse over a period of time. The appropriate grammatical device for expression this experience is **seem/appear + TO BE DOING** or the like.

Changing habits and situations (TO BE DOING)

- Attitudes **appear to be slowly changing** towards personal and social value systems.
- He **seems to be slowly realizing** the magnitude of his misdeeds.
- People in Yemen **are, to all appearances, slowly but surely doing away** with harmful social conventions.
- The unfortunate parents who lost their only child seem **to be coming to terms** with the reality.
- An increasing number of people **are being inclined** to take yoga exercises for a healthy living.
- More and more people **are seen to be protesting** against America's intention to attack Iraq.
- It is heartening that students **are observed to be spending** more time in the library.
- How is cultivation of friendship possible for one who **seems to be putting up** an unfriendly exterior?
- In India more and more people **are found to be evincing** keener interest in the Information Technology.
- The government **are leaving** no stones unturned for bringing more and more people to the mainstream of development.
- I shall **be doing** all I can to improve your knowledge in English.
- The patient **is showing** signs of responding to treatment.
- We **appear to be forgetting** the hopeless condition of the poor when we crave for a more and more comfortable life.
- The gap/hiatus between the rich and the poor **are seen to be widening** day by day.

II. How to Say it Correctly

Correct errors, if any, in the following sentences

- Every night and every day brings their own responsibility.
- He is braver than wise.
- This book is as good, if not better than, that book.
- He takes no fewer than one kilo of milk.
- It is a four-men committee.

Answers to last week's questions

- He hit the ball **hard**.
- I am **hard pressed** for time.
Note: 'Hardly' means 'almost no' or 'almost not'. The correct expression is 'be hard pressed' which means 'be under pressure' or 'be strained'.
- This flower smells **sweet**.
Note: To give more information about an action – to say how, where or when it is done – we use adverbs. When the quality of the subject rather than the action of the verb is to be indicated, we use adjectives. It is the smell of the flower that has been described here. Hence, we have to use the adjective 'sweet', not the adverb 'sweetly'.
- I will see you **later**.
- If offered red or white shirt, I'd choose the **latter**.
Note: 'Later' is the comparative form of 'late'. It means 'more late in time', or 'afterwards'. But 'latter' is the opposite of 'former'. It means the second of two people or things just mentioned. 'Later' denotes time, whereas 'latter' denotes position.

III. Increase your Word Power

A) How to express it in one word

- A politician who champions the cause of peace.
- A person who is suffering from bad fortune and seeming to be unable to do anything about it.
- Having or showing low spirits or sadness.
- An experience or state of affairs that is saddening.

- To lower in rank, position, or importance.

Answers to last week's questions

- To use apparently serious language which is, in fact, mixture of sense and non-sense: **double-talk** (n)
- To believe two opposing ideas at the same time: **double-think** (n)
- Double wages paid to people who work at week ends or on public holidays: **double-time** (n)
- A man who doesn't easily believe things: **doubting Thomas** (n)
- Flour mixed with water ready for baking: **dough** (n)

B) Foreign phrases

Use the following phrases in illustrative sentences

- canard;
- cap-a-pie;
- carte blanche;
- caveat emptor;
- chargé d'affaires

Answers to last week's questions

- bon voyage** (Fr) (happy journey): His friends were there at the airport to wish him bon voyage.
- bonafides** (Lat) (genuineness): I have no doubt about his bonafides.
- bourgeoisie** (Fr) (the middle class): During the French revolution there was a bloody attack on the bourgeoisie and the aristocracy.
- boutique** (Fr) (a small shop for women selling fashionable clothes and other personal articles): She bought her dress at the boutique.
- café au lait** (Fr) (coffee with milk): We took café au lait at the cafeteria.

C) Words commonly confused

Bring out differences in meaning of the following pairs of words

- accompany, company
- accomplice, accomplish
- accord, discord
- account (v), recount
- accredit, credit

Answers to last week's questions

- accept** (vt) (consent to receive something): We accepted their invitation to visit them.
except (prep) (not including): I get up early everyday except Friday.
- exceptionable** (adj) (something that can cause some one to take exception): His remark is well-intentioned; there's nothing exceptionable in it.
exceptional (adj) (unusual): She is an exceptional talent in mathematics.
- access** (n) (opportunity or means of reading): Every student should have access to internet.
excess (n) (more than what is proper): Excess of anything is bad.
- accidence** (n) (rules concerned with inflections as in 'sing', 'sang', 'sung'): This chapter deals with rules of accidence in English.
accident (n) (an unfortunate incident): He was involved in an accident, but luckily escaped unhurt.
- acclaim** (n) (shouts of applause): The artist's performance earned him acclaim from the audience.
claim (n) (demand): You have every claim to my affection.
reclaim (vt) (reform a person): Timely counselling reclaimed the drug-addict from the vicious path.

D) Idioms and phrases

Use the following phrases and idiomatic expressions in sentences

- the bane of one's life
- keep the ball rolling
- the ball is in your court
- bale out
- in the balance

Answers to last week's questions

- a **bargain's a bargain** (an agreement already made must be kept): You can't back out now.

- After all a bargain's a bargain.
- make the best of a bad bargain** (to do one's best in difficult conditions): The situation has gone out of my control. However, I shall make a last ditch attempt to make the best of a bad bargain.
- be called to the bar** (to become a lawyer): After he graduated in Law, he was called to the bar.
- under the banner of** (in the name of): The party won the elections and came to power under the banner of poverty alleviation.
- jump on the band wagon** (to do or say something just because a lot of other people are doing or saying so): After post graduation I'll jump on the band wagon of teaching as my career.

IV. Grammar and Composition

A) Grammar

Rewrite the following sentences in the indirect speech

- Faiz said, "Ahmed is getting married."
- Manal said, "Jamila has gone to see her uncle in Hadramout."
- Amal said, "Faiza hasn't done her homework."
- Zafer said, "She is ill."
- Sailo said, "He doesn't know that the exam is going to be held tomorrow."
- Mr. Isa says, "Mr. Fernando has been an efficient director."
- Amna said, "Baraka must be studying hard."
- Abraham said, "Why didn't you come to the lecture yesterday, Khalid?"

Answers to last week's questions

Compound words

- | | | |
|--------|---|---------------|
| Power | – | thermal power |
| Energy | – | solar energy |
| Muscle | – | muscle power |
| House | – | power house |
| Looms | – | handlooms |
| Oil | – | oil engine |
| Steam | – | steam ship |
| Giant | – | water giant |

B) Composition

Expand the idea contained in the proverb

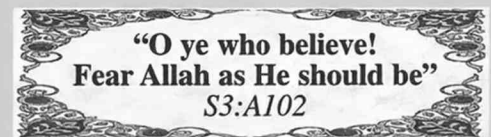
10. PREVENTION IS BETTER THAN CURE

Answer to last week's question

9. A LITTLE LEARNING IS A DANGEROUS THING

This proverbial line by the eighteenth century English poet Alexander Pope is directed against half-informed or mis-informed quacks of all trades and professions. These people with ill-digested scholarship and half-baked ideas about their trade do positive harm to the innocent people who are deceived into believing them as persons of great learning and expertise. These quacks misinterpret the areas of knowledge which they boast they are the masters of, and mislead the ignorant masses whose time, money is thus wasted. Even in some cases their life is in danger in the hands of a self-styled doctor who, in reality, maybe a quack. Therefore, it is highly unethical and immoral to pose oneself as a man of erudition, that is, one who possesses great knowledge and skill whereas, in reality, one has very shallow knowledge in one's field. We, in our turn, should also be on our guard against such deceivers. Appearance is not always the reality. As such, before reposing our trust and confidence in some one, we should be convinced about his credentials.

V. Pearls from the Holy Quran



VI. Word of Wisdom

"Our deeds determine us, as much as we determine our deeds."
—George Eliot

Tradition of Excellence is to continue

Ladies and Gentlemen! On this auspicious occasion of the Foundation Day of Yemen Times, I would like to congratulate all the members its staff for the excellent work that they have been doing, constantly augmenting the standards of both the content and the presentation of the items published in that paper and presenting



Prof. Thakur gives his benediction to Yemen Times family

thereby a good model of the way in which a newspaper in a developing country can acquit itself. When my friend and colleague, Dr Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf decided to start this paper a little more than a decade ago, some of his friends and supporters thought that he was getting crazy. He had only limited physical resources at that time but had, nevertheless, the passion for an endless perfection in his job. He had the determination and the tenacity of a visionary. He had in him a fire that could not be extinguished by discouraging remarks. He had initial hurdles but those hurdles only enlivened his on-going spirit. No stream can ever have the music that it has unless it faces obstacles on its way. Dr Saqqaf was like a stream. The hurdles on his way only gave him the delight of a winner. He was a dreamer who dreamt not of fantasies and non-achievable goals but of a highly organized and neatly structured plan of action. He was a graduate of the English Department in the Faculty of Arts, University of Sana'a, but later did his post-graduate course and his Ph. D. research in economics in one of the best universities in the United States. He had, however, a rich and powerful instinct for journalism and it was because of his strong instinct supported by his strong determination that made Yemen Times one of the best newspapers in the Arab world. He is not among us any more but his ideals in life would, I am sure, keep the managing staff of Yemen Times constantly inspired.

When Dr Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf died, most of his friends and admirers thought that Yemen Times would be abandoned and remain in people's memory only as a part of the history of journalism in Yemen. But Walid, a very worthy son of a very worthy father, accepted the challenge posed by the sudden death of his father and not only ensured the continuity of Yemen Times but also took upon himself the challenging task of constantly augmenting its quality. There are people in this world who turn out to be smaller than the challenges that they have to face. Such people get crushed under the heavy weight of their responsibility. There are others who accept the challenge of their situation with all the vigour and energy that it requires and they ensure a happy continuity of the venture initiate by their predecessors. The third and best category of people

include those who prove themselves more than equal to the challenges posed by their situation and go on elevating and enhancing the quality of the work they inherit. I am sure, you would all agree, ladies and gentlemen, that Walid has proved himself to be a person of this third and best category.

I was closely connected with the family when Dr Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf was alive. I found in him a good friend and an enthusiastic supporter. Aziza, Walid's mother, was my student and that brought me emotionally close to the family. Walid was a small boy at that time. And now that both Dr Saqqaf and Aziza are gone, I feel myself sentimentally closer to the family than before because I find in Walid the image of his dynamic father and also the image of his blessed mother. On this occasion of the foundation day I wish you, Walid, the best in life. May God shower all His choicest blessings on you and may your dynamic qualities radiate hope, inspiration and strength to journalists in the Arab world. The path of progress is never smooth. There is a verse in Sanskrit which says that the journey towards perfection is like walking on the edge of a sharp razor. May God give you the energy and the ingenuity to go on this edge of a razor unhurt and unhindered. Perfection is not a point but a direction and the journey towards perfection is, therefore, an endless journey. Everyone in every field of life wants to go ahead. Becoming is the very essence of being. Blessed are those, therefore, who can move forward with the best possible speed. We must not forget that in the competition of life, real achievement lies not in doing better than others but in doing as well as we can. Everyone is his own competitor. Everyone of us has an infinite source of inner strength and vitality. The more we activate the inner strength in us, the more we realize our hidden potential, the greater we are as winners. May you have, Walid, the tenacity and perseverance of Abraham Lincoln, the cosmopolitanism of Gandhi, the wisdom of Diogenes, the emotive strength and refinement of Khalil Gibran and the blessings of all the elders in Yemen. The spirit of your father and your mother is giving you a call, Walid, a call to be a super-doer, a super-achiever, and a super-winner. Listen to that call in the air and acquit yourself accordingly. May God bless you!

A poem on the war against Iraq: Part of Soil, Part of Oil

By MRS. NASIRA ALVI, Pakistani
Sana'a, Yemen
Nasira866@hotmail.com

Do march in March
Against the war:
George .W. Bush
'W' is for 'why?'
Don't be crazy for the oil
Why don't you know?
You will be also a part of soil!

Do march in March
Against the war:
Mr. Tony Blair
'T' for 'truth' 'B' for 'beams'
You ought to be the pillars of truth
Why are you crazy for the friendship?
Don't be silly for nothing
Why don't you come to senses,
'The Prince of Wales'?

After hundreds of year

You will be also a part of oil!
Do march in March
Against the war:
Look at Pakistan!
How daring we are
But see 'Mr. Musharaff'
Why don't you believe?
After hundreds of years
You will be also a part of oil!

Do march in March
Against the war:
Look at FRANCE
How dear they are!
'F' for 'Fervent'
'R' for 'Revoulent'
'A' for 'Accurent'
'N' for 'Novaient'
'C' for 'Cooperant'
'E' for 'Excellent'
We do believe that
After hundreds of years
We will be also a part of oil.

WONDERWORD

HOW TO PLAY: First read the list of words, then look at the puzzle. The words are in all directions — vertically, horizontally, diagonally, backward. Circle each letter of a word found and strike it off the list. The letters are often used more than once, so do not cross them out. It is best to find the big words first. When you find all the words listed in the clues, you'll have a number of letters left over that spell the Wonderword.

CLUES

- | | | | | |
|-----------|------------|-----------|--------------|-------------|
| Adore | Dress | Grins | Persist | Stare |
| Alive | Eager | Grow | Poems | Stories |
| Beaming | Energy | Happiness | Pretty | Suddenly |
| Belong | Entertain- | Heart | Relationship | Suitor |
| Betroth | ment | Hugs | Restaurant | Sweet |
| Bond | Fashion | Kisses | Reveal | Tenderness |
| Bride | Fast | Later | Revere | Traditional |
| Celebrate | Fears | Liberated | Reveries | Vision |
| Chase | Flowers | Looks | Risk | Visit |
| Cheer | Friend | Love | Romance | Wait |
| Close | Gems | Memoir | Roommate | Warm |
| Coffee | Gentle | Mood | Search | Wedding |
| Cuddle | Gifts | Near | Sharing | Wild |
| Dance | Girl | Pamper | Situation | Wish |
| Dear | Giving | Party | Smile | |
| Deep | Glad | Passion | Song | |
| Desire | Gowns | Pattern | Special | |
| Dreaming | Greeting | Perfume | Spirit | |

ANSWER NEXT WEEK

Last Week's Answer: Curling

FALLING IN LOVE

R	S	S	G	U	H	O	M	W	L	A	N	O	I	T	I	D	A	R	T
S	M	A	T	N	E	M	N	I	A	T	R	E	T	N	E	S	R	E	E
W	E	P	S	S	O	A	N	T	G	R	S	G	C	S	K	A	M	V	T
E	O	I	A	T	E	S	D	N	N	M	I	I	O	E	U	O	E	S	
E	P	H	R	L	F	S	O	O	I	I	O	R	O	N	F	L	O	A	I
T	C	S	T	O	P	I	I	R	H	E	L	O	R	E	F	D	L	S	
B	O	N	D	I	T	S	G	S	C	E	A	I	E	C	A	H	E	N	R
R	E	O	R	A	S	S	E	R	R	D	S	P	N	B	R	T	W	E	E
G	E	I	U	A	T	I	A	W	E	I	A	A	P	R	S	O	N	R	P
W	T	T	P	C	R	E	V	T	V	G	M	N	G	I	G	R	O	W	A
S	I	A	A	E	S	T	A	R	E	O	N	N	C	D	N	T	I	K	R
S	S	L	V	L	N	R	G	M	R	B	I	I	C	E	I	E	H	I	T
N	F	E	D	E	E	S	N	E	V	E	L	M	U	D	B	S	S	Y	
S	R	R	E	N	B	D	T	R	D	I	P	C	A	S	A	D	K	A	S
R	I	E	I	R	R	R	A	G	A	T	M	I	M	D	E	D	F	E	N
E	E	L	T	A	E	L	E	M	Y	E	E	C	E	I	W	R	L	S	E
W	N	G	E	T	G	D	P	S	M	I	L	E	H	V	N	I	D	E	D
O	D	H	A	E	A	E	N	O	S	O	P	P	R	E	I	G	S	E	D
L	Y	T	T	E	R	P	I	E	C	L	O	S	E	G	E	L	A	H	U
F	A	S	T	N	A	R	U	A	T	S	E	R	G	N	I	R	A	H	S

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بمناسبة مولود البكر، عبد الرحمن، جعله الله قرّة عين والديه وأبنته نباتاً حسناً.

المهنئون: مديرة مدرسة أم المؤمنين عائشة، وجميع المدرسين، عنهم: الأستاذ محمد الحكيمي.

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المهنئون: مديرة مدرسة أم المؤمنين عائشة، وجميع المدرسين، عنهم: الأستاذ محمد الحكيمي.

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■ Ra'afat El-Sharif: experienced teacher for physics chemistry science for all grades. 71254623

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A controversial site tries to bring you the other -true- side to the story: What really happened!

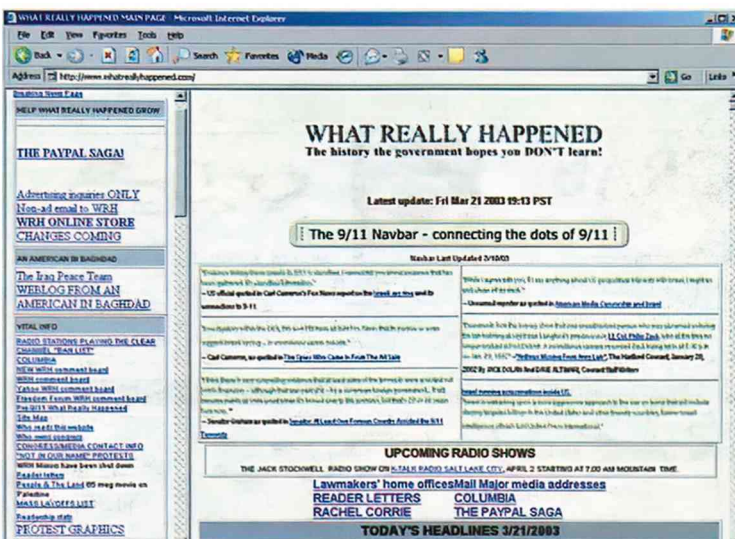
“There are two sides to every story, then there is What really happened! The history the government hopes you don't learn” this is the first phrase you read when you open the controversial site “Whatreallyhappened.com”.

The site has gained momentum and increasing hits as the war against Iraq started. With its anti-war approach, the site has been active in providing news stories that do not usually appear in the US and Western networks. Examples



If this is a war to “Liberate” the Iraqi people from Saddam, why is the US flag being hoisted over the land? Isn't that what conquerors do?
(whatreallyhappened.com)

of those stories are:
- “Shock & Awe” Blinding Investors: The bombing of Baghdad apparently has investors watching CNN's war coverage instead of the latest economic news. If they were paying closer attention to the latest economic reports, they would see that the economy is getting worse, not better. For instance, energy-led price increases are undoubtedly squeezing consumers, and the employment situation is getting worse by the week.
- Iraq torches seven oil wells: Oil wells get more coverage than the Iraqi people. And they said this war was not about the oil!
- Iran Oil Depot Hit By Rocket - Iran Warns US, UK: Trying to jump-start the war in Iran?
- There was little initial resistance as



Imagine this is your home. Imagine that you had done nothing to deserve this curse. Would you surrender to the people who did this? (whatreallyhappened.com)

the United States Marines swept into southern Iraq early yesterday. One of the first encounters of the ground war was more like a massacre than a fight. Where is this fierce and capable enemy we were all told we had to destroy before they destroyed us? Where is the terror that we were told by our leaders we had to fear? All I see are helpless men with outdated equipment being slaughtered by a superpower that raises the flag of conquest over their graves.

Such headlines, stories and comments reflect an opinion that may well be appealing to a large portion of the Arab and Muslim people. However, how realistic it is depends on how well and deep its research capabilities are. Regardless of all that, there is no doubt that the reality is something that we all want to know, and this site is a good alternative to knowing the other side to the story.

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