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YEMEN TIMES

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Former presidential worker among five on FBI terror-alert list now detained in Yemen

Al-Hada linked to Cole, US embassies' bombing

SANA'A — Reliable sources confirm that Sameer Ahmed Mohamed al-Hada, who blew himself up Wednesday, is connected with the 2000 suicide bombing of the USS Cole, as well as two major al-Qaeda members: Abu Ali al-Harithi and Abu Asem al-Ahdal.

The suspect had jumped into a taxi, and as security men tried to stop the vehicle, he pulled out a grenade. It exploded in his hand, killing him instantly, as he tried to throw it.

But his name did not show up in FBI terror alert list released Monday. Sources say the police could arrest two of his associates who were in his hideout, along with a woman.

Security sources say al-Hada's family also has extensive ties to terrorism, and that he has contact with other terrorists.

A police statement described al-Hada as one of the most dangerous on a list of al-Qaeda members that the US had given Yemen.

Yemen has tightened security around US interests, including the US embassy, diplomat residents, and other companies, after a terror alert Monday warned US interests might be targeted in Yemen.

Conflicting reports There are conflicting reports of possible family connections.

CIA Director visits Sana'a

American CIA director George Tenet was in Sana'a Saturday to meet President Ali Abdullah Saleh in a meeting not publicized. Well-informed sources told YT the meeting focused on the bilateral relationship with the United States, mainly in the field of security, and current effort to crack down on terrorists.



It has been reported that one of his sisters was married to one of the suspected September 11 hijackers who piloted an American Airlines jet into the Pentagon, Khaled al-Mihdar. In the meantime, the Yemen Times has been told, al-Hada, in fact, has no sisters as reported by some media.

Sources also told YT that his contact with al-Mihdar during the attacks on the US embassies in Niroubi and Dar al-Salam in 1998 was monitored.

The FBI said the uncorroborated threat came from information discovered in Afghanistan, where the U.S. military has been sifting through material left by al-Qaeda members now held at the U.S. Navy Base at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

But the US officials did not know the target or how the suspected plot would be carried out. Yemen said it had taken the information seriously and tightened security measures around US interests.

It's been reported also that another sister of the 25-year-old al-Hada is married to Mustafa Abdulqader al-Ansari, whose name also appeared on an FBI terrorist alert last Monday.

Some analysts speculate the US may attack Iraq in its continuing war on terrorism. Tenet visited Egypt before flying to Yemen.

The sources said that Fawaz al-Rabeei might come from Afghanistan and carry out the attack.

al-Rabeei was born in Saudi Arabia in 1979 and has a number of aliases, as well as 16 of his known associates. His current whereabouts are still unknown, and he may be dead, the FBI said in its alert.

He belongs to the group headed by Fawaz Yehia al-Rabeei, believed to have been planning terrorist acts against US interests in Yemen earlier this month.

A US official said, al-Hada is the son of a man believed to be prominent in al-Qaeda.

Yemeni official sources said al-Rabeei has a criminal record, and was involved in plans to kidnap foreigners. He used to rent cars and then sell them and is wanted in connection of making fake passports.

Grenade went off Sameer al-Hada blew himself up with a grenade late Wednesday as security forces closed in on him in a house in Sana'a's Madbah Zone, following a gunfight.

The sources said his real name is Fawaz al-Bura'e, 24, born in Bura'e in Hodeidah, west Yemen. He left Yemen in 2000 after completing a two-year term in jail.

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Number of detainees in Cuba rises to 32

Yemeni detainees at the US base in Guantanamo, Cuba has risen from 10 to 32. Some of the detainees have aliases or nicknames. Namely, those detainees are: Mohamoud Edrees, Sameer al-Hasan, Mohammed Abdu Ghanem, Ali al-Rahizi, Mahmud al-Mujahed, Abdulmalik Abdulwahab, Mura'd Kun, Ali Hamza Ismael, Farooq Ahmed, Abdulqader al-Madhari, Abubaker al-Ahdal, Isam al-Jae'fi, Adel Saeed Ubaid, Mohammed Ahmed Saleh, Faiz Ahmed, Sulaiman, Asem Thabet al-Khalki, Najed Ahmed Abdu, al-Khader al-Yafa'e, Mohammed al-Ghaidah, Ahmed al-Hakeem, Othman al-Raheem, Fahd Ghazi, and Abu Mohammed Naser al-Kindi. Yemeni sources said Yemeni investigators left Sana'a last week for Guantanamo to take part in the interrogation of Yemeni prisoners.

Amnesty investigates: arrests continue

Yemeni authorities in Taiz released 11 detainees last week who were arrested of suspected links to al-Qaeda and other terrorist groups, while eight others are still in jail. Twelve persons are still in custody in the governorate of Ibb, including the brother-in-law of Usama bin Laden, Dr. Mohammed Ghaleb. He is married to the sister of bin Laden's Yemeni wife. The sources said other two Egyptians are detained in Ibb. They are Ahmed Ezat and Mohammed Omar. Abdu Saleh al-Matari is still in prison because his daughter was married to a Yemeni killed in Afghanistan. The arrest campaign against suspects is still going on. Security sources said an Algerian citizen, Abdul Qader was arrested with his Yemeni associate who were coming from Saudi Arabia. Saudi authorities refused to renew his residence visa. His family was moved to one of his relatives' house in Sana'a. It is also reported that two Somalis were arrested recently in Sana'a after attending a mourning ceremony for Ramzi al-Shaiba's mother in Sana'a. Al-Shabia is wanted by the USA in connection with the September 11 attacks. He was tracked down by the German authorities. Meanwhile, while Amnesty International (AI) is investigating the wrongful holding of detainees in Yemen, an AI team led by al-Amri shroof visited Yemen last week to find out if there are any human rights violations towards the prisoners and to listen to their relatives complaints. The team met some of government officials, human rights activists and journalists. Amnesty is likely to release a report with regards to the conditions of the detainees taken prisoners since September 11 for alleged connections with al-Qaeda, as well as foreign students and citizens extradited by the Yemeni government.

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IDA provides USD 27,530,000 to Ministry of Health & Population

The Government of the Republic of Yemen signed an agreement with the International Development Association (IDA) at the Ministry of Planning & Development. IDA will provide Yemen with a loan of US\$ 27,530,000 to be channeled towards the development of the health sector in eight districts of four governorates

across the country.

The agreement was signed by the Minister of Planning & Development, Ahmed Mohammed Suffan as well as the Minister of Public Health & Population, Abdunassir al-Munibari, and the World Bank's Vice-president for the Middle East and North Africa region, Jan Lubi Serbib.

France includes Yemen on its list of most-favored nations

The government of the Republic of France has classified Yemen as one of its most-favored nations. French Minister of International Cooperation, Charl Jouslan, conveyed this news to Yemen's Ambassador to France Mr. Mohammed Ahmed Basalamah on February 15.

This special treatment will enable

Yemen to make use of a package of assistance in areas of education, transportation, telecommunication, agriculture, energy, health and economy.

Yemen's rise to France's most-favored treatment list will have a positive impact on economic development projects in Yemen, and will also help Yemen get other international funds.

Third scientific conference discusses graduation projects

A three-day conference was held recently at the University of Sana'a to discuss 24 medical research projects.

All twenty-three researches are descriptive ones expect one experimental project, entitled (Bacterial Meningitis In Children And Dexamethazone As An Adjunctive Therapy), has been submitted for the first time since ten years as Dr. Yahia Raja said.

Dr. Ali Al-Sabri- head of community medicine, said sessions during the conference covered topics such as, chronic disease, communicable diseases, health services, emergency, child health.

He added this wide range of subjects reflects the diversity of interests of students and cover all aspects health services.

"We have invited all the donors just to see our products like WHO, UNICEF, United Nation Population Fund, and many institutions related to the findings to be utilized from their own side and for future cooperation," he said.

"We did not invite drug companies to avoid their pressure which represents asking us to advertise their products and community medicine. We would like to avoid this complication. We would like to see the fruits rather



Dr. Ali Al-Sabri

than the pressure of drug companies which push students to do some research to announce for their products," he added.

Students have complained about lack of financial support, Dr. Al-Sabri confirmed.

From the financial part, it's hope that donors will help the department organize even small support to help students conduct their work and minimize the financial burden.

Finally Dr. Sabri said "we hope that our conference will reach its goals and research findings will be utilized by the Minister of Public Health."

German's kidnapper lawyer demand retrial

Verdicts against four kidnappers of German engineer, Lenier Carl, last year were ambiguous, lawyers of the abductors told the Appeal Court in Sana'a on February 10.

Lawyer Samir Hashim, said the evidence was weak and the testimonies quoted by the Supreme Court were inconsistent. Some witnesses said that the number of kidnappers were seven while some others said they were six.

The German hostage himself said there were three.

The lawyer clarified that the primary court did not conduct a judicial investigation into the case during the course of the trial, as it had relied only on the investigation conducted by the prosecution and the law-enforcement authorities.

The court demanded extending the penalty and changing the term of imprisonment. The reason for doubling the punishment, according to the court, was that the kidnappers were involved in forming an armed gang for abducting foreigners, and had made many attempts to do so. Doubling the penalties is in accordance with the Anti-banditry and -kidnapping law, the court added.

Chairman of the court, Mr. Saeed al-Qata'a, adjourned the trial to Feb. 17, stressing in the meantime that the court should publicly circulate, through the press, the names and pictures of the fugitives involved in abduction to help in arresting them.

The primary court issued a verdict on December 19, 2001 of a 25-year imprisonment for Ahmed Nassir al-Zaidi. The court also tried in absentia the three kidnappers and issued 20-year imprisonment terms against each one of them.

The German engineer, Carl, was abducted by a tribal group on Feb. 27 2001 which coincided with President Saleh's visit to Germany.

Islah condemns attacks on some SEC members

The Islah party has strongly condemned the latest attacks against some of the employees of the Supreme Election Committee, February 14, due to party disagreements.

A statement by the party called for an equal democratic orientation and respecting the law guaranteed by the constitution.

Fire exchange in the Capital Secretariate

A security official was killed and five civilians injured in a gun fight involving armed gangsters at the capital secretariate, who attempted to rob a Helux car and take off.

The gangsters got away, and no arrests have been made

Anti revenge organization launched

Sponsored by the UN resident coordinator office in Yemen, The Human Solidarity Organization for fighting revenge and terrorism was launched February 16 in the police collage hall in Sana'a.

In the inauguration ceremony which was attended by many important officials, Skaikhs and members of the public, the chairman of the organization, Shaikh Abu Alkareem Bin Ali Murshid, delivered a speech on the organization tasks and objectives.

"The human solidarity organization was established on public demand to solve tribal conflicts, put an end to revenge acts and fighting terrorism. It also aims to solve problems which may accrue between individuals and the authorities, stop kidnapping and find suitable solutions," he said.

"We'll not forget to praise the support and the care that have been given by the political leadership, exemplified by President Saleh, who effectively participated in making all the objectives and the needs on which the efforts of the organization depend, to protect human rights," he added.

Mr James Rawali, the UN resident coordinator, said, "establishing such organization to reinforce public security and eliminate violations is a very important step. From the UN point, there is a clear link between national safety and development, so minimizing violence in Yemen will serve the interests of Yemeni people which will lead to more investments and economic growth."

The human solidarity organization has appointed the brigadier general Ali Muhsin Saleh al-Ahmar as honorary president for his efforts and support.

Son of Tribes's Affairs Service chairman murdered

Mohammed Ahmed was shot dead last Monday in front of the republic presidency building, by a group of tribesmen belonging to Aal Shams tribe.

The victim was the son of the Tribes' Affairs Service in Shabwa governorate.

Sources said the victim was taken to the hospital but died en route.

Afghan children should be protected

The Saba Society concentrating mainly on children's rights in Taiz city has demanded humanitarian organizations concerned with children's rights in Afghanistan to protect Afghan children amidst the current clashes.

In Brief

- Forty five passports of Egyptian professors and teachers working in Sana'a were stolen near the Embassy of Saudi Arabia in Sana'a last Tuesday. An agent from the Ministry of Guidance was taking the passports in a bag to the Embassy of Saudi Arabia to finalize the travel of the passport owners to Mecca to perform the Haj. The bag was in a car whose windows were open. The thief seems to have thought the bag contained money.
- US Ambassador Edmund Hull handed over technical equipment to the Demining Center at Dar Sa'ad district of Aden yesterday. The event was attended by Governor of Aden Taha Ahmad Ghanem and a number of politicians, high ranking officials and dignitaries. The US is one of the top supporters of demining in Yemen.
- The Iranian Embassy in Sana'a held a reception on Feb. 10 at the Taj Shiba Hotel on the occasion of Islamic Revolution of Iran. Many ambassadors and social and political dignitaries attended the party.
- Mr. George Sama'an, editor in chief of al-Landaniyah newspaper arrived in Sana'a on Feb. 15. He is expected to conduct many interviews with Yemeni officials.
- The regional meetings on combating malaria for the east Mediterranean Sea countries, in which Yemen is a member, wrapped up on Feb. 2.
- Yemeni Journalists Syndicate (YJS) annulled on Feb. 14, the case filed against al-Qassem, after he officially apologized for his misconduct at the YJS headquarters.
- Yemen is to take part at the international exhibition of coffee to be held on December 7-10, on the sidelines of the annual meeting of the International Coffee Association in Florida, US.
- The Ministry of Culture is preparing for a Yemeni cultural week in the Sultanate of Oman within the next couple of months.
- Sana'a Airport officials foiled a plot by a foreigner to smuggle 466 pieces of ancient Yemeni antiquities out of the country on Feb. 10.
- The Ministry of Education resumed working on Thursdays as of Feb. 14.
- Yemeni Journalists Syndicate (YJS) welcomed the statement of Prime Minister Bajamal concerning the application of the "media employees payroll".
- European Union (EU) has assisted the Aden Free Zone with Euro 1 million.
- The Ministry of Immigrants has completed preparations to establish and operate the Immigrant Information Center, to be inaugurated within the next days.
- Curricula & Guidance Sector at the Ministry of Education is to organize a workshop on teaching of English from 16 to 20 Feb., in cooperation with the British Council.
- Yemen is to take part at the 10th round of the General Assembly of the Permanent Committee of Scientific & Technical Cooperation of the Organization of Islamic Conference in Pakistan.
- The Ministry of Information held a dinner and artistic party on Feb. 11, in honor of a number of foreign media delegations visiting Yemen.
- Three persons were killed this week in a deadly car accident on the al-Barah-Taiz highway. Further details were unavailable.

Minister of Information orders closure of al-Shomu'a newspaper

The Ministry of Information ordered the closure of the independent al-Shomu'a weekly newspaper, on Feb. 3, 2002.

The closure resulted from the ongoing dispute between the Minister of Information and the al-Shomu'a's editor-in-chief, as the latter has been very critical in his writings of leading government officials.

This dispute previously led to the arrest of six journalists, including the managing director, Mr. Yahya al-Saqaf. They were later on released on orders from the President Ali Abdullah Saleh.

Editor in chief of al-Shomu'a news-

paper, Saif al-Hadhiri, sent a letter to Mahhub Ali, Chairman of the Yemeni Journalists Syndicate, urging him to stand by al-Shomu'a against what he called the "arbitrary" decision of the Ministry of Information.

On his part, the Minister of Information told the press that the closure of al-Shomu'a was unanimously agreed on by the cabinet and not only by the Ministry of Information.

Al-Shomu'a got its license from the ministry in 1996 and has been subjected to many acts of harassment for severely criticizing ministers and leading officials on charges of corruption and pocketing public funds.

Chinese New Year celebrated

The Chinese Palace Restaurant in the Sheraton Hotel celebrated the Chinese New Year last week, in cooperation with the Embassy of the People's Republic of China.

In the Chinese culture, which is as old as Yemen's, Chinese New Year has been celebrated for thousands of years to welcome the spring. Three days of family gathering, eating, and fireworks are used to mark the beginning of a new year and the coming Spring Festival.

According to Chinese astrology,

each new year is represented by an animal, repeated in a 12 year cycle. Last year, 2001, was the Year of the Snake, and now we have entered the New Year of the Horse.

Guests came to taste the special New Year dishes, prepared by Chinese Chef Ma Xian Chen, of the Sheraton Hotel, could also have their fortune for the Year of the Horse predicted by a Chinese astrologer.

There was a demonstration of Chinese painting, Chinese calligraphy and paper cutting.

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Palestinians fire upgraded rocket at Israel-army



JERUSALEM (Reuters) - Palestinians fired a Qassam-2 rocket into an Israeli community close to Palestinian-ruled Gaza Saturday, in the second use of the upgraded weapon in a week, the Israeli army said.

The attack on Kfar Aza, north of Gaza, raised the specter of further retaliation from Israel, which launched a series of strikes in response to the first Qassam-2 attacks by Palestinian militants against an Israeli community Sunday.

The strike came a few hours before Europeans continued their latest peace effort with planned talks between Palestinian President Yasser Arafat and German Foreign Minister Joschka Fischer, who brokered a short-lived truce last year.

There were to meet in the West Bank city of Ramallah, where Arafat has been confined since mid-December by Israel, which insists he arrest militants who killed an Israeli cabinet minister in October before he

is allowed freedom of movement. The Qassam-2 has a longer range — up to 8 km (five miles) — than mortars or previous rocket models used by Palestinians before Sunday.

Israel has warned it views the launch of such rockets as a grave escalation in the 16-month conflict in which at least 847 Palestinians and 260 Israelis have been killed.

Palestinians appear to have used increasingly sophisticated tactics in recent days against Israel.

Thursday, they killed three Israeli soldiers in a bomb attack that destroyed a Merkava tank, an advanced armored vehicle considered a symbol of the Jewish state's military prowess. It was the first time such a strike wrought as much damage.

Israel retaliated for the deadly bombing by launching an air strike that reduced a Palestinian security compound in Gaza to rubble and killed a police lieutenant.

Saddam Urges U.S. to Avoid Use of Force

Qaeda deputy reported to plan new attacks

The New York Times, Thu Feb 14

The Palestinian, Abu Zubaydah, has been linked directly to the planning of the Sept. 11 strikes in the United States.

He has also been tied to plans for a wave of terror attacks in Europe that were supposed to take place last year, including a plot to blow up the American Embassy in Sarajevo, the Bosnian capital, sometime after Sept. 11.

While the European attacks were thwarted by the arrest of several plotters, American investigators said they were convinced that Mr. Zubaydah was now trying to activate Qaeda sleeper cells for new strikes on the United States and its allies.

Investigators say that Mr. Zubaydah is especially dangerous and that they are particularly eager to apprehend

him because he is one of the few Qaeda leaders believed to know the identities of the thousands of terrorist recruits who passed through the network's training camps in Afghanistan.

They are now back in their home countries, or elsewhere, awaiting instructions.

"He's as dangerous as anyone we are looking for, including bin Laden," a senior law enforcement official said. "But it's scary how little we know."

American law enforcement and intelligence officials say they are convinced that Mr. Zubaydah has taken over the post of Al Qaeda's chief of military operations from Muhammad Atef, who is believed to have been killed in an American bombing raid in Afghanistan in November.

Mr. Zubaydah has been one of Osama bin Laden's top lieutenants since the late 1990's, and American

intelligence agencies believe that he was at Mr. bin Laden's side in Afghanistan in the first weeks after Sept. 11.

His whereabouts today are unknown, although Bush administration officials say there is fragmentary evidence that he escaped to Pakistan.

American officials say it would have been far easier for Mr. Zubaydah to escape capture after Sept. 11 than for other Qaeda leaders, given his careful efforts over the years to elude cameras and cover up details about his identity. Although American intelligence agencies are reported to have recent photographs of Mr. Zubaydah, those photos have not been made public.

His activities have been so difficult to track over the years that the Justice Department has never identified Mr. Zubaydah in any of the public indict-

ments or arrest warrants issued for other Qaeda leaders.

Because there are no public charges against him, Mr. Zubaydah was the only top Qaeda leader left off the "Most Wanted Terrorist" list issued by the F.B.I. in October.

Pakistan would be familiar territory to Mr. Zubaydah, whose full name is believed to be Zayn al-Abidin Muhammad Husayn Abu Zubaydah.

For several years in the 1990's, he lived and worked in the northern Pakistani city of Peshawar, operating from a Qaeda compound known as the House of Martyrs.

He was also in charge of running at least one of the camps, known as the Khalden camp, American officials said.

Even more important, however, was his role in briefing the prospective terrorists as they passed back through Pakistan after finishing their training in Afghanistan.

Despite his prominence in Al Qaeda and his close ties to Mr. bin Laden, relatively little is known about his background and education.

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Australia govt. 'lied and spied' over boat people



CANBERRA (Reuters) - Australia's conservative government drew fire Thursday for what the opposition called its lying and spying to bolster public support for a hard line against asylum seekers to help win last year's general election.

Damning reports presented in parliament revealed that government claims of boat people throwing children overboard to blackmail Australia into accepting them and of sewing up their children's lips during detention center protests were false.

But the government made no effort

to tell the truth. Prime Minister John Howard, who easily won last November's election on the back of his tough stance against illegal immigrants, said in all cases he had been unaware of the truth but the furor sullied the start of his third term in office.

"I was not advised by my department that the original advice that children were thrown overboard was wrong," Howard told parliament Thursday in its first sitting week since the poll in November. The government used the charges against asylum seekers to justify its decision to block rising numbers of mainly Middle Eastern and Afghan boat people from reaching Australia and to detain them in guarded camps while their cases are assessed.

The reports were presented as the government also admitted its spying agency inadvertently broke the law last year when it tapped calls from a Norwegian freighter carrying rescued illegal immigrants but argued the snooping was in the national interest.

Howard flatly denied his six-year-old Liberal/National government misled the country for electoral gain during a heated election last year, which analysts say he won partly because of growing public anger over asylum seekers bypassing U.N. channels and paying people smugglers to bring them to Australia.

Howard used photographs of children in the water to launch an attack on asylum seekers for throwing youngsters overboard, saying people who could treat their children like that were not genuine refugees and not welcome in Australia. But the parliamentary reports revealed the government was told within a day of the photographs being released that the boat people's vessel had actually sunk and that was why the children were in the water.

Milosevic accuses NATO, demands Clinton testify

THE HAGUE (Reuters) - Slobodan Milosevic returned to the attack at his war crimes trial on Friday, accusing NATO of "bestial" genocide in Yugoslavia and demanding ex-U.S. President Bill Clinton and other Western leaders come to testify.

"I'm asking what kind of tribunal this is if you refuse to try people for these crimes by the leaders and armies of NATO countries," Milosevic said to judges in the Hague.

The former Yugoslav president, in his second day of reply to his prosecutors' opening addresses, employed the same line of attack as he had on Thursday -- to blame the Balkan bloodshed of the 1990s entirely on his Balkan enemies or NATO.

On the fourth day of what is forecast to be a marathon case, he insisted the hundreds of thousands of ethnic Albanians who fled Kosovo in 1999 during the NATO air war against Yugoslavia had been driven out not by

Serbs, as internationally reported, but by their fellow Albanians.

The guerrilla Kosovo Liberation Army (KLA) "referred to all Albanians who did not flee Kosovo as traitors," he said.

They created the "illusion of exodus," he added. "There were hundreds of cameras waiting at the borders to show the alleged Serb misdeeds," he added. The motive was to justify NATO's bombing of Yugoslavia.



Milosevic showed the court horrifying pictures of carbonized bodies he said were those of civilians killed by

NATO bombs in Kosovo and the rest of Serbia in 1999.

NATO bombs destroyed the Chinese embassy in Belgrade, in what Washington insisted was a mistake by Central Intelligence Agency target planners using an outdated map.

"It is quite clear that Clinton wanted to go down in history as the first man to bomb Chinese territory by bombing the Chinese embassy in Belgrade," Milosevic said, referring to an incident which killed Chinese diplomats and journalists and provoked fury in Beijing.

"I am going to call witnesses here and I want it to be possible to question Clinton and Albright and Kinkel and Schroeder and Kohl and Dini... Kofi Annan... Blair," he said, listing U.S., European and U.N. leaders involved in Balkan peace talks in the 1990s.

Milosevic could face life in prison if convicted at the end of an epic trial expected to last at least two years.

OIC-EU Concluded

ISTANBUL, February 13 (Xinhua) -- Foreign ministers of members states of the Organization of Islamic Conference and the European Union attending a Joint forum in Istanbul Wednesday concluded their two-day debates with a statement calling for understanding and harmony among civilizations.

The statement said the September 11 terror attacks on the United States have "sparked a growing consciousness of the need for all sides to discuss and attempt to better understand the differences in perceptions, values and interests, as well as to promote tolerance and appreciation for cultural diversity among them."

The OIC and EU have a joint responsibility to address and resolve issues which can lead to "divisions within and between our communities, to embrace and value our diversities, and to promote and uphold the values we all share," it noted.

The ministers expressed hope that communication and cooperation between the two political organizations for promoting common universal values, such as those enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other relevant international human rights instruments, could help avoid racial, religious and cultural prejudices.

The "two state" solution for the Palestinian-Israeli conflict was seen to be the only way to bring peace, it said.

The statement also announced that an OIC-EU troika meeting will be held in the second half of this year in Doha, Qatar, upon the invitation of the Qatari Emir, who is now the chairman of the OIC.



Foreign ministers attending the OIC-EU in a photo session in Istanbul. (R)

Continued from Page 1:

Al-Hada linked to Cole, US embassies bombing Presidential worker

He worked at the president office until 1994. Yemeni official sources said five of the FBI terror alert lists are already being detained in Yemen prisons on charges of car theft. They are Isam Ahmad Dibwan al-

Mikhlafl, Ahmed al-Khder, al-Baidhani, Basheer Ali Naser al-Shadahi, Abdulaziz Mohammed bin Atash, and Shuhour Abdullah al-Sabri. Al-Mikhlafl and Al-Khader were sentenced in 1999 to eight years in jail each, while the others are being detained at the Yemeni intelligence office. The FBI has dropped their names and photos out from its website.

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Israeli warplane attacks Gaza Strip security compound

JABALYA, Gaza Strip (Reuters) - An Israeli F-16 warplane attacked a Palestinian security compound in a Gaza Strip refugee camp on Friday, wounding at least 16 people a day after a bomb blew up an Israeli tank and killed three crewmen.

"The Israeli Defense Forces attacked the Palestinian General Security headquarters in Jabalya refugee camp this evening in the wake of mounting terrorist strikes against Israeli citizens and soldiers," the army said in a statement.

A Palestinian security official said an F-16 warplane fired three missiles at the compound.

A witness said two bombs were dropped on the facility. Hospital officials in Gaza said at least 16 people

were wounded, one critically.

"We felt the ground shake," Khaled al-Qutati, a policeman who witnessed the attack, told Reuters. "It was like a storm. The place was set ablaze."

A day earlier, a powerful Palestinian bomb blew the turret off an Israeli-made Merkava-3 tank in the Gaza Strip, killing three soldiers.

It was the first time Palestinians have destroyed a Merkava, an advanced armored vehicle considered a symbol of the Jewish state's military prowess.

Claimed by a coalition of militant groups calling itself the Salahudin Brigade, the attack was reminiscent of Hizbollah operations in Lebanon before Israel withdrew in May 2000.



A Palestinian boy throws stones at an Israeli tank during clashes near President Yasser Arafat's office in the West Bank city of Ramallah February 15, 2002. Israeli troops shot dead one Palestinian and rounded up at least nine others after an anti-tank mine killed three soldiers in an outbreak of violence that eclipsed a new European peace effort. Photo by Ammar Awad/Reuters

Egyptian President to visit U.S. in early March

CAIRO, February 15 (Agencies) -- Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak is planning to visit the United States in early March, Egypt's official MENA news agency reported on Friday.

During the upcoming visit, Mubarak and his U.S. counterpart George W. Bush are expected to discuss the latest developments of the worsening situation in the Mideast region, MENA quoted U.S. officials in Washington as saying.

Moreover, Mubarak will also meet with a number of high ranking U.S. officials, including U.S. Vice-President



Dick Cheney, Secretary of State Colin Powell and Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld.

Mubarak and Bush have kept constant contacts on the deteriorating Mideast situation, with both talking over phone three times since the beginning of this year.

During the latest phone conversation on Tuesday, Mubarak and Bush discussed "ways to defuse the Palestinian-Israeli tension and help resume peace talks," an Egyptian presidential source told Xinhua.

Meanwhile, Reuters revealed that the

U.S. government has notified Congress it intends to sell Egypt four fast patrol boats and 53 Harpoon anti-ship missiles in a deal valued at up to \$1 billion — after assuaging the concerns of U.S. lawmakers worried about the deal's effect on Israel's security.

The U.S. Defense Security Cooperation Agency, arguing the arms package was critical to helping Egypt defend the Suez Canal, decided to proceed with the controversial deal after more than two months of meetings with lawmakers.

Congress has 30 days to block the sale, but effectively needs a two-thirds majority in both the House of Representatives and the Senate to do so.

Post: USA overlooks Syrian imports of Iraqi oil

WASHINGTON (Reuters) - Hoping to maintain Syrian cooperation in the U.S. war on terrorism, the Bush administration is overlooking a sharp rise in Syria's purchases of Iraqi oil in violation of U.N. sanctions, the Washington Post reported on Thursday.

The newspaper, quoting industry insiders and administration officials, reported that Syria sharply boosted its imports a year after assuring the United States that it would not buy Iraqi oil.

Syria has denied violating the sanctions.

The report said Syria was buying between 150,000 and 200,000 barrels of oil daily through a pipeline it opened in late 2000, paying as much as \$1 billion a year to Iraq.

According to the Post, this would make Syria the single largest source of money to Baghdad outside the U.N. oil-for-food program.

The revenue from Syria is one of the few ways Iraqi President Saddam Hussein can maintain his military and finance efforts to acquire weapons of mass destruction, the newspaper said.

But the Post said the administration has applied little pressure to try to stop the Syrian government's breach of the Iraqi embargo, arguing the timing was not opportune.

"Make no mistake about it, the pipeline issue is a serious topic and a point of contention," a U.S. official told the newspaper.

"Are we willing to make it a sticking point so that it affects the relationship between our two countries? No. We have to be pragmatic."

The report quoted officials as saying that although Syria remains on the State Department's list of state sponsors of terrorism, Damascus has been sharing more intelligence about militant groups linked to Osama bin Laden, the leader of the Qaeda network, which is blamed for the Sept. 11 attacks on the United States.

Arafat says arms shipment a ploy



BEIRUT (Reuters) - Palestinian President Yasser Arafat accused Israel Tuesday of trying to destroy his ties with Washington by orchestrating a shipment of arms that Israel says Palestinians sought to use against it.

In an interview with Lebanon's An-Nahar daily published on Tuesday, Arafat offered no evidence to back his charge about the shipment which Israel charges the Palestinian leadership organized with help from Iran and Lebanese Hizbollah guerrillas.

"The indications and evidence are that there was an Israeli hand in the ship incident, which targeted us, Iran and Hizbollah," he said.

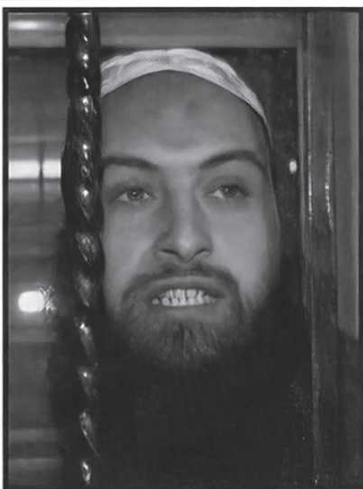
"These are all baseless accusations aimed at turning the United States against us, and against Iran and Hizbollah," he said.

Both Iran and Hizbollah have denied any links to the ship, which Israel seized in the Red Sea last month with 50 tons of weapons it says were headed for Palestinian-ruled territory in violation of interim peace deals.

The incident has boosted pressure on Arafat to crack down on militants and strained his ties with Washington, which demands that Arafat explain the shipment of weapons. The United States is traditionally the main broker in Middle East peacemaking.

A senior Palestinian official said Sunday that Arafat had written to Secretary of State Colin Powell to assure that there are no Palestinian military ties to Iran and promise to punish those responsible for the arms shipment.

Jordan sentences U.S.-born Islamist to hang



AMMAN (Reuters) - A Jordanian court Monday convicted a U.S.-born Islamist of training in Afghanistan's al Qaeda camps to plot attacks on U.S. and Israeli targets in Jordan and sentenced him to death by hanging.

The State Security Court found California-born Raed Hijazi, 33, guilty of obtaining explosives and weapons and planning attacks against American and Israeli tourists in the kingdom during millennium celebrations.

"Such acts represent the heaviest breach in the security of the kingdom," State Security Chief Judge Tayel al-Raqad told the court before passing the

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Iraq urges U.S. to avoid use of force

BAGHDAD (Reuters) - The United States is on the path of destroying itself by using force instead of reason in its war on terrorism, Iraqi President Saddam Hussein said Tuesday.

Saddam, whose country, according to some U.S. officials, could be the next target in the U.S. war on terror, said European countries must help the United States see reason.

The official Iraqi News Agency said Saddam made his comments at a meeting in Baghdad with Austrian far-right leader Joerg Haider, de facto leader of Austria's Freedom Party.

"Europe should shoulder the responsibility of restoring reason to America so it does not destroy itself. America does not only want to destroy the world, but rather as a result destroy itself too," Saddam said.

"When the Americans reach the

position of power they suffer from power dizziness and instead of ruling on the basis of wisdom they use force ... against peoples," Saddam said.

"Instead of following the path of wisdom, which is the path that leads to a deeply stabilized world, America adopts the method of force," he added.

He said the United States should open doors with keys rather than destroy the doors. The White House said Tuesday no military action was imminent against Iraq despite a U.S. newspaper report saying President Bush was preparing for armed strikes.

There has been widespread speculation that Iraq could be the next target of the war on terrorism following the U.S.-led campaign that toppled the Taliban rulers of Afghanistan who hosted accused Sept. 11 mastermind Osama bin Laden.

death sentence, Jordan's first against a Muslim fundamentalist since the September 11 attacks.

Defense lawyers had accused prosecutors of exploiting the attacks on U.S. cities to prejudice the case against Hijazi.

Raqad told the court before the verdict that Hijazi had received four weeks of training at al-Qaeda camps in 1999 where he met senior aides of Saudi-born fugitive Osama bin Laden.

Hijazi was an aid worker helping Afghan refugees in Pakistan for four years in the early 1990s. His name appeared in October on a U.S. Treasury Department list of 39 groups and peo-

ple suspected of ties to "terrorist funding."

"The Jews do not have the death sentence...You are worse than the Jews," shouted Hijazi as he protested his innocence.

APPEASES WASHINGTON Hijazi's father accused the authorities of sentencing his son to appease Washington as it wages its campaign against bin Laden, its prime suspect in the Sept. 11 attacks.

"These are unjust sentences with the intention of pleasing the Israelis and the Americans at the expense of my son..." Mohammad Hijazi, 67, said outside the court.

Kingdom of Bahrain is pronounced

Manama, Feb. 14 (BNA) -- His Majesty Shaikh Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa of the Kingdom of Bahrain, pronounced in Manama on Thursday the State of Bahrain as the Kingdom of Bahrain and the establishment of its full constitutional institutions, as promised by him and what was agreed unanimously by the joint will represented in the popular referendum on the national action charter, which took place last year this time.

The following is the full text of the address to the nation by HIM Shaikh Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa the King of Bahrain:

" And fulfill engagement, for engagement will be required on the day of reckoning ."

Truth said God almighty.

It is the day of honoring a strong promise that bridges a period of two year in order to attain our historical aspiration that we exchange with our sincere people for the sake of fully reactivating the constitution of Bahrain including the amendments stipulated by the national action charter, so that they are fully complemented with the provisions and for achieving further gains and freedoms, we here declare its validity upon publishing in today's official Gazette including the title of

the Kingdom of Bahrain, and the establishing of constitutional institutions in realization to our pledge that was overwhelmingly endorsed by our joint resolve represented by the referendum on the charter.

As we reached to this resounding result and demonstrate every means of unity, we express appreciation to those men who helped in achieving this accomplishment, mainly the uncle and the father H.H. the Prime Minister Shaikh Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa and H.H. the Crown Prince and Commander-In-Chief of the BDF Shaikh Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, and to all members of the constitution amending committee, the advisors and the constitutionalists, with commendation extended to the national charter committee and for the committee for the implementation of the charter and for all men and women who provided advice and guidance.

The scope of the conviction in the people of Bahrain gives us a historical and pleasant opportunity to announce that the municipal election shall be held on may 9th of this year and that the parliamentary election will follow on Oct. 24th of this year, displaying our keenness to reinstate the democratic process at an earlier possible time for the sake of the progress and prosper-

ity of Bahrain and on formula of a sustained evolution of development and revival in line with the constitutional mechanism and according to the national resolve.

To conclude, prayers to God for guiding us to achieve this accomplishment a year after the launching of the national charter process and the attaining of unity and gains for our sincere peoples in all domains.

Wishing you many happy years to come and wishing the nation every progress and happiness that overwhelmed Bahrain since the start of the blessed path. "

One day following the announcement, the United States welcomed the declaration to hold legislative elections next October and to ensure the rights of woman in the elections and nomination, following H.M's declaration that Bahrain has become a constitutional monarch.

The spokesman at the State Departments Richard Poutcher said that the U.S extended warm congratulations to the King of the Kingdom of Bahrain over this declaration that the Kingdom is set for parliamentary elections on October 24, 2002 and municipal elections on May 9, 2002, allowing women to be nominated.



Saudi says pilgrimage to peak February 21



RIYADH, Feb 13 (Reuters) - Saudi Arabia said on Wednesday the peak of this year's haj pilgrimage — in which about two million Muslims will retrace the footsteps of Prophet Mohammad — will fall on February 21.

Up to a million Muslims prayed for the "glory of Islam" in Mecca on Friday as Saudi Arabia geared up for the first major Muslim religious gathering since September 11.

A sea of haj pilgrims thronged Mecca's Grand Mosque, Islam's holiest shrine, on the last weekly prayer before the five-day pilgrimage that starts on February 20, to hear a sermon by prayer leader, or Imam, Sheikh Osama Abdullah Khayyat.

Khayyat steered clear of politics in his speech but closed it with what have become traditional prayers for the triumph of Islam and defeat of Israel. "God give your glory to Islam and

Muslims," he repeatedly said to which hundreds of thousands of people responded by roaring "amen" in a single voice.

"Lord...defeat those tyrant Jews," Khayyat added, as he stood by the cube-shaped Kaaba in heart of the mosque. Muslims around the world turn to Kaaba while praying.

Muslim anger at the United States for its perceived backing of Israel has been fueled in recent months by the backlash in the West against Muslims and Arabs after the deadly September 11 attacks on U.S. landmarks.

Saudi officials say around 1.1 million pilgrims from over 160 countries have arrived in the kingdom by air, sea and land by Thursday. They expect more than 1.5 million pilgrims from outside Saudi Arabia and more than 500,000 from inside to take part in this year's pilgrimage.

West's view of terrorism biased: Qatar minister



ISTANBUL, Feb 12 (Reuters) - An Islamic leader defended the Palestinian struggle against Israeli occupation on Tuesday and accused the West of seeing terrorism as something practiced only by Arabs and Muslims. "The Western concept of terrorism reveals an effort to confine it to the product of the other, and by the other we mean specifically Arabs and Muslims," said Sheikh Hamad bin Jassim al-Thani, foreign minister of Qatar which holds the presidency of the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC).

He was speaking at a forum in Istanbul at which European and Islamic leaders called for joint efforts to promote Middle East peace but showed serious differences in their approach.

Thani said there must be an equitable solution for the Palestinians, whose 16-month-old uprising against Israeli occupation has cost more than 1,000 lives, most of them Palestinian.

"The desire to rid themselves of foreign domination can in no way be described as terrorism," he told foreign ministers and officials from the OIC and the European Union at the opening session of the forum.

EU foreign policy chief Javier Solana said that "We are determined to end the all too long conflict in the Middle East," and called for the OIC and the EU to work together on a solution.

The forum opened a few days after a meeting of EU foreign ministers in Spain which highlighted sharp differences between European and U.S. policy towards the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, and divisions among European countries themselves.

Solana did not shy away from criticism of some practices in Muslim countries, referring to the importance of women's rights and reiterating the EU's opposition to the death penalty.

But he said these were not necessarily issues that divided the Islamic and Christian worlds and noted that EU opposition to capital punishment was just as strong with regard to the United States as to Islamic countries.

Omani cabinet reshuffled

MUSCAT, 14 Feb. 2002_ His Majesty Sultan Qaboos of Oman issued on Thursday five Royal Decrees in which he reshuffled the Omani cabinet.

The decrees covered the reshuffle of some portfolios, appointing His Highness Sayyid Faisal bin Ali al Said as Adviser to His Majesty for Heritage Affairs, His Highness Sayyid Haitham bin Tareq al Said as Minister of Heritage and Culture and His Highness Sayyid Asaad bin Tareq al Said as Representative of His Majesty the Sultan.

Another decree amended the name of the ministry of National Heritage



and culture to ministry of Heritage and Culture. The last decree canceled the Secretariat General of High Committee for Conferences and transfers its responsibilities to the Secretariat General of the Council of Ministers. All the above Royal Decrees came into effect on Thursday.

Iran detains 150 with Al Qaeda, Taliban ties

TEHRAN (Reuters) - Iran said on Thursday it had received information from its arch enemy the United States on fleeing al Qaeda members, but said the tip-offs were "old, wrong and imprecise."

Tehran challenged Washington earlier this month to produce evidence that it had given refuge to militants of Osama bin Laden's al Qaeda network fleeing U.S. attacks on Afghanistan.

Iran's IRNA news agency said the U.S. special envoy for Afghanistan, Zalmay Khalilzad, told the BBC that Washington had passed the information to Iranian diplomats during multi-lateral talks on Afghanistan.

"That information is old, wrong and imprecise," it quoted Foreign Ministry spokesman Hamid Reza Asefi as saying during a visit to Bangladesh alongside Foreign Minister Kamal Kharrazi.

IRNA, quoting an "informed" source, said 150 people with suspected ties to al Qaeda or the Taliban had been arrested near the border with Pakistan.

The detainees, some of them women and children, are from Arab, African and European countries and some carried French, British, Belgian, Dutch and Spanish passports, the report said.

He said the detainees were Taliban sympathizers who went to Afghanistan after the launch of the U.S. attack on Afghanistan's hard-line Islamist Taliban rulers and al Qaeda in October.

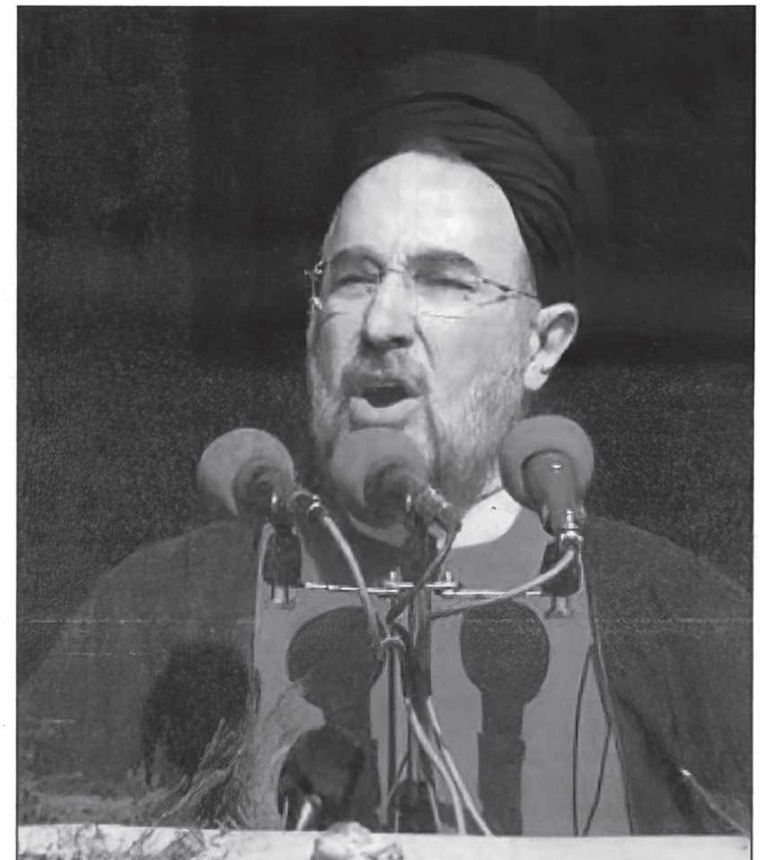
Gholamheidar Ebrahimibai-Salami, a spokesman for a parliamentary commission on Afghanistan, was quoted on

Thursday as saying Iran had handed over some of the detainees to their respective countries and was in the process of returning others.

"Iran has not done anything to violate U.N. Security Council resolutions. Most of the foreign charges against

Iran have resulted from misunderstandings or propaganda," he told the newspaper Kayhan.

The MP also rejected suggestions that hard-line elements in Iran may have pursued their own agenda in Afghanistan.



Kabul peacekeepers attacked

KABUL, February 16 (Xinhuanet)—Unidentified gunmen opened fire on an observation post manned by members of the international security force early Saturday, said Richard Barrons, the peacekeepers' chief of staff.

It was the first time the peacekeepers have come under fire, the commander said.

The soldiers returned fire, and a dead person was later found near the scene, Richard Barrons said.

A joint patrol of peacekeepers and Afghan police searched the area and

found a car that had suffered damage from gunfire, Barrons said in a statement read to journalists. One dead person and five injured were then found in a nearby house, he said.

The injured were hospitalized, he said, adding that their injuries did not come from gunshot wounds. He refused to say what caused the death.

The post was in Kabul city. The soldiers manning it were British paratroopers, Barrons said.

The matter was under investigation, said the statement.



Bush sees U.S.-China harmony, plays down Taiwan concerns

BEIJING (Reuters) - President Bush says he hopes his coming visit to China will help improve Sino-U.S. ties and is playing down concern over the thorny Taiwan issue, state television reported on Saturday.

But China made a fresh protest over U.S. plans to sell destroyers to Taiwan, showing that the island may prove a sticking point in next week's planned talks between Bush and Chinese President Jiang Zemin.

Taiwan will be among the key issues as the leaders meet in Beijing on Thursday, at the tail end of Bush's six-day Asia tour which will also take in Japan and South Korea.

China's human rights and arms proliferation records and U.S. missile defense plans may also feature, U.S. officials and analysts said.

In an interview with China Central Television (CCTV) aired on Saturday, Bush reiterated his support for Washington's declared "one-China" policy, maintaining that Taiwan is a part of China.

"The United States wishes to establish positive, frank and sincere relations with China," CCTV quoted Bush as saying in an interview in Washington.

"Taiwan is a touchy problem in U.S.-China relations, but it is not sen-

sitive enough to affect the United States and China carrying on good and frank dialogue."

"Of course, the United States and China do not necessarily agree on every issue. But when we are dealing with our differences we can respect one another," CCTV quoted Bush as saying.

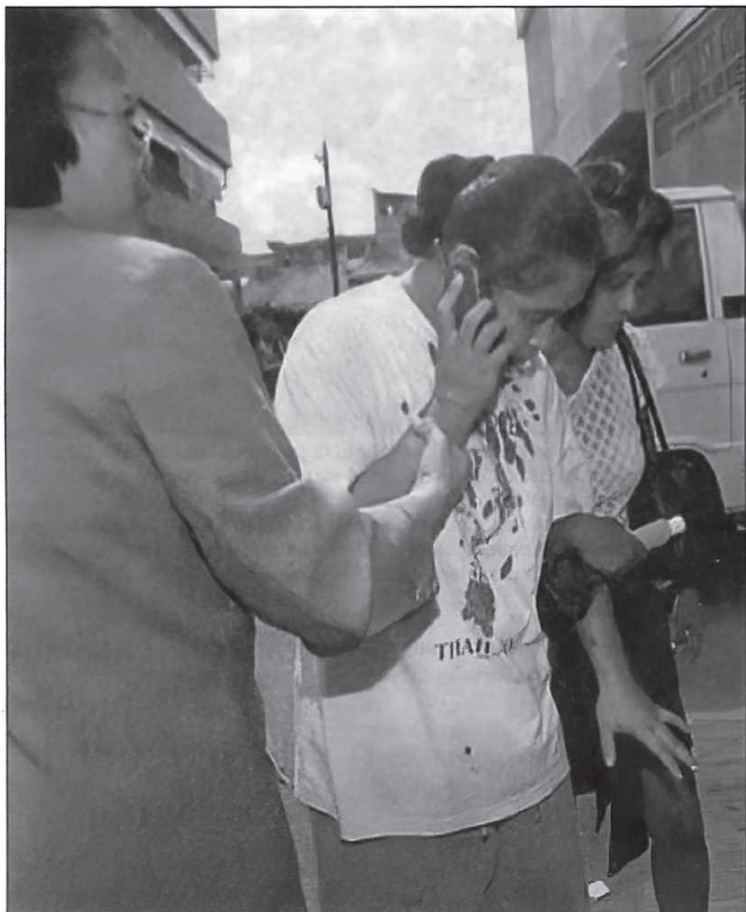
China protested on Saturday over U.S. plans to sell destroyers to Taiwan and to help the island buy submarines, warning that the deals could damage Sino-U.S. ties.

"The Chinese side firmly opposes U.S. arms sales to Taiwan, including submarines and Kidd-class destroyers," a Foreign Ministry spokeswoman said.

On Wednesday, Pentagon officials said the US would wrap up the sale of four Kidd-class destroyers to Taiwan by early in 2002 and would soon present options for helping Taipei buy up to eight diesel-powered submarines.

"We once more urge the U.S. side to pay careful attention to repeated Chinese protests, realize the serious damage that arms sales to Taiwan could have, abide by the three Sino-U.S. joint communiqués, and stop selling weapons to Taiwan, so not to hurt Sino-U.S. relations," the spokeswoman said.

4 killed, dozens wounded in Philippine bomb blast



An injured woman talks on a phone outside a theater after a grenade exploded in Zamboanga, in the southern Philippines, February 16, 2002. The grenade, hurled from the balcony of a cinema into the crowd below, injured four people. Photo by Charlie Saceda/Reuters

MANILA (Reuters) - A homemade bomb exploded early Saturday at a public market on the southern Philippine island of Jolo, killing four and wounding 45 others, police and the military said.

The explosion occurred as U.S. troops began joint military exercises with the Philippine army on the nearby island of Basilan, 560 miles south of Manila. "Some of them were screaming for help," Army Colonel Romeo Tolentino told reporters, referring to victims of the sidewalk market blast in central Jolo town. "We are looking at two angles. It could be an act of retaliation by gangs operating extortion activities at public markets. The other possibility is it could be a diversionary attack of the Abu Sayyaf," he said, referring to a southern Philippine Islamic group linked to Osama bin Laden's al Qaeda network. Tolentino said they police and military reinforcements has been sent to the area. He said no suspects had been identified so far. The islands of Jolo and Basilan are lairs of the Abu Sayyaf, which has been holding an American missionary couple and a Filipina nurse on Basilan for more than eight months. The U.S. troops are on a six-month training mission in the Philippines in what is the biggest expansion of Washington's war on terror outside of Afghanistan.

14 militants killed in Kashmir

NEW DELHI, February 15 (Xinhua) -- At least 14 militants, nine belonging to Lashker-e-Toiba (LeT), were killed in separate gun battles with army in Poonch district of Jammu and Kashmir Friday, military officials said.

Nine top LeT militants were killed when troops foiled a major infiltration bid near the Line of Control in Mendar area in Poonch, they said. The troops challenged some infiltrating militants and in the gunfight, lasting four hours, nine LeT militants were killed.

Afghan minister lynched by angry Haj pilgrims



Afghan pilgrims wait for a plane at Kabul airport to take them to Mecca for the Haj, February 14, 2002. Pilgrims, angry over plane delays, attacked and killed Afghanistan's interim transport minister at Kabul airport February 14 according to al-Jazeera television. (Mario Laporta/Reuters)

KABUL (Reuters) - The Afghan interim minister for air transport and tourism was beaten to death by frustrated Haj pilgrims who dragged him off a plane at Kabul airport, witnesses and officials said Friday.

Angry pilgrims, some of whom said that two women had frozen to death at the airport while waiting for a flight to Mecca, pulled Abdul Rahman off national carrier Ariana Airlines' only aircraft which he had commissioned to fly him to New Delhi.

In another development some news agencies reported Friday that head of the Afghan interim government Hamid Karzai declared in a statement distributed by the Afghan interior ministry that four senior security officials had been arrested on charge of assassinating the minister for air transport Abdul Rahman.

The case highlighted the problems facing Afghanistan's U.S.-backed interim government as it grapples to reconcile rival ethnic groups and rebuild a volatile nation recovering from more than two decades of war.

One pilgrim, named Mirza, said he had been at the airport for two days waiting for a flight. He said the pilgrims had paid \$1,500 for the promised flights, a fortune for ordinary Afghans.

"Four people went inside the plane and dragged him out and killed him on the spot," said Mirza.

Foreign ministry spokesman Omar Samad told Reuters some pilgrims had been arrested and a panel of five ministers set up to investigate the killing.

Hundreds of pilgrims are camped out at Kabul airport in freezing conditions, desperate to fly to Saudi Arabia before Sunday's deadline. Thousands more, from all over Afghanistan, are waiting at Kabul's main mosque. The pilgrims said two women had died from cold sleeping out in the war-scarred airport terminal.

Frustration also rose in the southern city of Kandahar after officials there told pilgrims that the U.S. forces who control its airport had refused permission for them to use it -- the first time in decades that no Haj flights have left the city.

"We would rather die than return to our families in shame, telling them that we have not been able to go to Mecca," shouted Yaqub Mohammed, who had traveled from a remote village outside Kandahar hoping to go on the Haj for the first time.

"We are accusing the U.S. of denying us our rights. This is a disaster for relations with the U.S. and with Kabul. People are angry, people are crying and refusing to eat."

In Kabul, Samad said the interim government met late on Thursday to discuss the killing. "The cabinet held a meeting about this late last night and described it as a criminal tragedy," he said.

The minister's death was not expected to have political ramifications for the interim government. There were ugly scenes in Kandahar as more than 5,000 pilgrims from across southern Afghanistan waiting to travel to Mecca denounced the Kabul government and the United States after being told no planes could leave from the city airport.

Pakistan hunt for reporter shifts to key accomplice

KARACHI (Reuters) - After nabbing the mastermind of the kidnapping of U.S. reporter Daniel Pearl, Pakistani investigators said on Friday their focus had shifted to finding a key accomplice who they say actually carried out the abduction. While they suspect British-born Islamic militant Ahmed Omar Saeed Sheikh of planning and financing Pearl's kidnap, they said a second man, using the name Imtiaz Siddiqui, did the dirty work and was still keeping the reporter captive. Siddiqui, they say, phoned Pearl twice in the hour before he disappeared on January 23 and arranged to meet him outside the Village Restaurant on a busy street in downtown Karachi, promising to take him to interview an elusive Islamic radical.

Pearl has not been seen since, except in a series of chilling photographs sent by his captives showing the Wall Street Journal (WSJ) reporter in chains and with a gun to his head.

Investigators say they are close to confirming just who Imtiaz Siddiqui really is, and finding out where he is holding the 38-year-old Pearl.

"We are still identifying the main guy and we are going to get him," said a senior investigator. "He was the one



Pakistani police said on February 16, 2002 that they had raided several houses and detained at least 4 more people overnight but were no closer to finding kidnapped U.S. reporter Daniel Pearl, missing for more than 3 weeks. Reuters

who arranged to meet Daniel...and he's the guy who has kept him." Investigators said they did not want to give Siddiqui's real name, but newspapers said he was involved in the 1999 hijacking of an Indian airliner to the

southern Afghan city of Kandahar. Sheikh Omar, who was arrested earlier his week, calmly confessed to the kidnapping of Pearl before an anti-terrorism court on Thursday, and said he believed Pearl was dead.

Zimbabwe believed to expel EU poll monitor

HARARE (Reuters) - A European Union mission to observe Zimbabwe's presidential election hung in the balance on Saturday after diplomatic sources said its Swedish head was being expelled -- a move that could provoke EU sanctions.

Western diplomatic sources said the government had ordered Pierre Schori to leave the country by midnight (2200 GMT).

But a spokesman for the Swedish diplomat, who heads a team of Europeans hoping to monitor the March 9-10 presidential poll, declined comment and said Schori would issue a statement later.

There was no immediate comment from Zimbabwe immigration officials or Home Affairs Minister John Nkomo, who had said Schori risked being thrown out of the country.

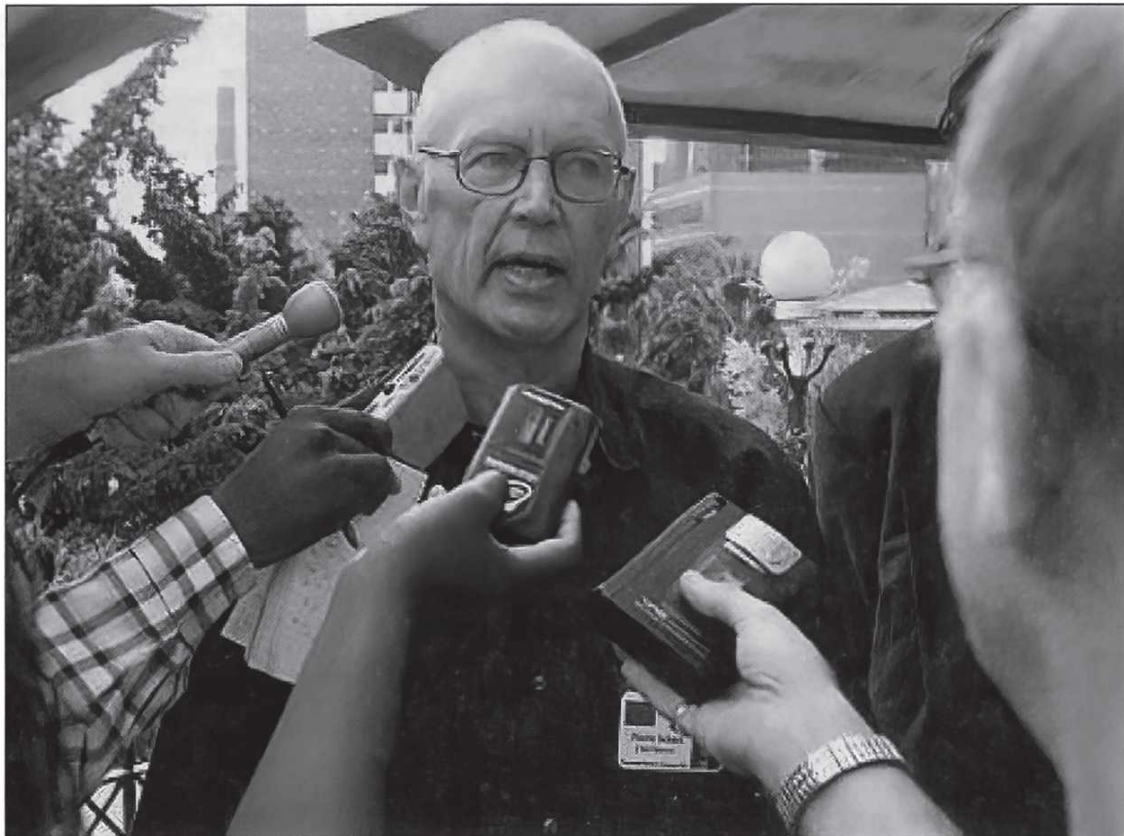
Schori told a news briefing earlier that he would stay put despite being refused permission to lead the European Union vote monitoring. But he would not speculate on what would happen on Monday when EU foreign ministers meet to discuss his report.

The Union has threatened President Robert Mugabe with sanctions if Zimbabwe hampers its efforts to observe the poll.

"I've submitted a report on the state of our observer mission to the (EU) Commission in Brussels," Schori said.

"That report will be the basis for a discussion on Monday in the general affairs council, that is to say the 15 foreign ministers of the 15 European member states...They will then decide upon the EU election observer mission in Zimbabwe."

Mugabe, who faces the stiffest electoral challenge of his 22 years in power, has rejected European criticism of his human rights record and accusations of dirty tricks and intimidation in the campaign for next month's voting.



Pierre Schori, European Union Head of Mission of Election Observers to Zimbabwe, speaks to journalists February 16, 2002. Schori said that he would be staying in the country and has submitted a report to the EU headquarters in Brussels who would make a decision on the fate of the mission after the Zimbabwe government stated that it would not accredit observers from Sweden, Britain, Germany, The Netherlands, Norway and Finland. Photo by Howard Burditt/Reuters

EU MEETING MONDAY

Harare has refused to accredit Schori, while accepting 30 other EU observers. Brussels has threatened "smart sanctions" against Mugabe and his entourage if its monitors are thwarted.

Asked about his own status, Schori said: "I am staying here and that's it. I'm staying here."

The Swede, who entered Zimbabwe a week ago, declined to be specific

about how long he would stay, nor would he discuss the government's account that he had only a 14-day tourist visa, not a six-month dual-entry visa as he himself had said previously.

In Spain, which holds the EU's rotating presidency, a source close to Foreign Minister Josep Pique confirmed Zimbabwe would be discussed by the foreign ministers in Brussels on Monday.

Sweden and former colonial power Britain are among six EU countries

that Zimbabwe has pointedly refused to invite to observe the presidential election, which approaches against a backdrop of deepening economic crisis and political violence.

Schori, Sweden's ambassador to the United Nations, said he had nothing to say about a warning from the government that he not make political statements. But he confirmed that immigration officers had visited him on Friday over the visa dispute.

Corpses cleared after Nigerian clashes kill 100

LAGOS (Reuters) - Charred corpses were cleared from the streets of a Lagos slum on Wednesday after soldiers stamped out four days of tribal clashes that killed 100 Nigerians and deepened division in Africa's chaotic continent.

Terrified families packed their bags at both ends of the oil-producing country of 110 million to return to ethnic homelands, with fears running strong of a repeat of reprisal killings which have followed previous clashes.

The fighting has set Nigeria's main tribes against each other -- Hausas from the mostly Muslim north and ethnic Yorubas from the more heavily Christian and animist southwest around Lagos, the country's biggest city and commercial capital. Troops in battle dress guarded the smoldering Mushin slum district in Lagos and other potential flashpoints, as they have been called to do many times

since military rule ended in 1999.

Lagos Governor Bola Tinubu said he believed the clashes, an arms dump explosion on January 27 that caused 1,000 deaths and a police mutiny had all been instigated by retired military officers to bring about a return of army rule.

"We know from intelligence reports what is happening. Retired military officers are not happy with what is going on. They are not happy with democracy and transparency," Tinubu told Reuters in an interview on Tuesday.

The violence has overshadowed a visit by British Prime Minister Tony Blair, who is expected to arrive in Nigeria's capital Abuja late on Wednesday and meet President Olusegun Obasanjo on Thursday. Nigeria, Africa's most populous country, is a former British colony.



Nigerian undertakers lower a coffin into the ground February 16, 2002 during the mass burial of 120 unidentified victims who drowned in the Peko canal following explosions at an ammunition dump. Criticism of the government has intensified since the armoury blast in Lagos, Africa's biggest city, on January 27 caused over 1,000 deaths and exposed the authorities' inability to deal with disasters. REUTERS/George Esiri

Up to 200 killed in Congo ethnic clashes

KAMPALA (Reuters) - Up to 200 people have been killed in ethnic clashes in northeast Congo in the past two days, tribal sources and the Ugandan army said on Saturday. A spokesman for the Hema community in Bukavu told Reuters that an attack on Friday morning by Lendu militiamen on the Hema village of Kparnganza, around 15 miles north of the Congolese town of Bunia, had left 200 people dead.

"It's the same business that has been going on for the past three years," Jean-Baptiste Dhetchuvi said. Fighting between the Lendu and Hema communities in the Democratic Republic of Congo has killed thousands of people in recent years.

Many of the victims have been

hacked to death with machetes or killed with spears in a conflict over land and natural resources.

"There are too many economic interests, too much interest in raw materials -- it's a region that has gold, timber and coltan," Dhetchuvi said.

The Ugandan army in Kampala confirmed that fighting which had started on Wednesday night was continuing.

"For the last two days, the Lendu have been killing people, we do not know the exact number but they are dozens," Uganda's army spokesman Major Shaban Bantariza told Reuters.

He said warriors had gone on a killing spree using assault rifles on Wednesday night, adding that there was no evident reason for the bloodlet-

ting and that Ugandan troops stationed in the area had not tried to calm the situation.

"Our hands are tied, we cannot move until the United Nations or the rebel groups in the area ask for our assistance," he said.

The ethnic fighting has added another layer of conflict to Congo's war, which began in 1998 when rebels backed by Uganda and Rwanda sought to overthrow the late President Laurent Kabila. Angola, Zimbabwe and Namibia sent troops to support him.

Last year, the Ugandan army said it had pulled out most of its troops from northeastern Congo, leaving a power vacuum that has triggered tribal clashes and fighting between rebel groups.

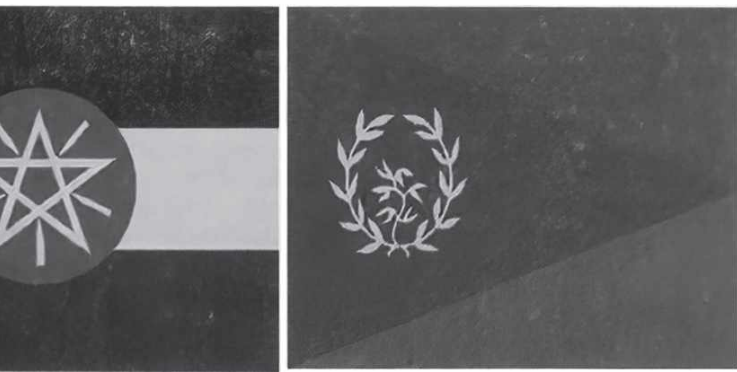
Ethiopian, Eritrean religious leaders talk peace

ADDIS ABABA (Reuters) - Ethiopian and Eritrean religious leaders arrived in Addis Ababa on Thursday for a second day of talks to try to defuse tensions lingering between the neighboring countries following a 1998-2000 border war.

Tens of thousands were killed in the conflict that ended in a peace agreement signed by the two countries in 2000, but tension is still high at the border with both sides disputing each others' territorial claims.

An international commission is due to issue a final demarcation of a new border late this month or in early March under procedures laid down as part of the peace agreement.

In November the UN said it had seen no evidence to support Ethiopian



charges that Eritrea was massing troops on the disputed border between the two Horn of Africa neighbors.

The Christian leaders began the latest round of reconciliation talks in Eritrea's capital Asmara on Wednesday.

"The talks in Asmara were wonderful, there is nothing more useful than peace in this world," said Abune Paulos, Patriarch of the Ethiopian Orthodox church.

The UN has deployed 4,000 troops separating the armies along a 600 mile frontier. Stein Villumstad, Regional

Representative of Norwegian Church Aid who mediated between the two religious groups in Asmara, said the talks were successful.

"The two religious groups have expressed their eagerness to say to their respective government that peace should now be given a chance," he said.

The religious leaders have so far held six peace meetings in Norway, Germany, the United States and Kenya before the series of meetings in their respective capitals.

U.S. says "outraged" at Sudanese air raid

WASHINGTON, Feb 12 (Reuters) - The United States said on Tuesday it was "outraged" that the Sudanese air force bombed a southern village in violation of a promise to U.S. special envoy John Danforth, killing two children.

"This horrific and senseless attack indicates that the pattern of deliberately targeting civilians and humanitarian operations continues," a State Department statement said.

The World Food Programme said the incident took place on Monday in the town of Akuen in the southern province of Bahr El Ghazal, where government troops are battling rebel forces. It said a 12-year-old girl and another child were killed and around a dozen people injured in the raid.

"The United States is outraged. ... They have broken Khartoum's pledge to the U.S. Special Envoy for Peace in Sudan, Senator John Danforth, to end bombings of civilian targets for a period of four weeks," the U.S. statement said.

The Sudanese Embassy in

Washington said officials in the Sudanese capital Khartoum were investigating the alleged incident and, so far, had found nothing.

"Clearly if this occurred it was a serious and tragic mistake," Ambassador Khidir Haroun said in a statement. "However, we have no confirmation as yet."

"Responsible bodies like the World Food Programme must take extreme care at this time of delicate peace negotiations to ensure that all reports of this nature are very carefully checked."

Danforth visited Sudan and neighboring countries in January and said he did not see any light at the end of the tunnel in the civil war, which has ravaged the south of Sudan since 1983.

The rebels are fighting for greater autonomy for the African south against the Arabized and mainly Muslim north.

Oil production on the margins between the north and the south has exacerbated the conflict in recent years.

Eritrea calls on EU Parliament to rescind 'unfair' resolution

NAIROBI, February 16 (Xinhua) -- The government of Eritrea has called on the European Parliament to rescind its unfair and unjustified resolution, which is replete with gross misrepresentation of facts about Eritrea, according to a press release of the Foreign Ministry of Eritrea available here on Saturday.

The press release issued on Friday said that the act cannot be ascribed to lack of adequate information especially when it is known that the resolution was adopted almost a week after the decisions of the Eritrean National Assembly on the issues under consideration were made public.

The European Parliament resolution adopted on February 7 claimed that the Eritrean Parliament has decided to prohibit the formation of political parties in the country.

However, the release denied that the Eritrean National Assembly did not prohibit the formation of political parties, which is enshrined in the Eritrean Constitution.

Referring to the "imprisonment of prominent advocates of democratic reform" in Eritrea, the release said that the former government officials were not arrested for inappropriate "remarks" made against the president, or because they were "advocates of democratic reform".

The grave crimes committed by them against their country include: Conspiracy to oust the president illegally; Continuous acts of sedition thereafter including attempts to infiltrate the government and the army through clandestine cells, the release added. The release said that "these crimes were not revealed to the public for the first time through the report submitted to the National Assembly. The report certainly contains detailed evidences but the broad outlines are not new to the Eritrean

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&
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ON EID AL-ADHA ALMUBARAK

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لشركة

كنديان نكسن بتروليم يمن

وشركاؤها في قطاع المسيلة

وكافة موظفيها

بأحر التهاني واطيب التبريكات إلى فخامة الرئيس /

علي عبد الله صالح

وإلى كافة أبناء الشعب اليمني

بمناسبة قدوم عيد الأضحى المبارك

أعاده الله على الشعب اليمني والأمة العربية

والإسلامية بالخير واليمن والبركات

عيد الأضحى المبارك
والخير واليمن والبركات



It's Eid! Let the good times roll



By Sa'ad Sharif Tahir, Nadira



world travel to Mecca during the first ten days of *Thul-Hijja*, the twelfth month of the Lunar year.

On the eighth day, they wear the robes, two pieces a shirt and skirt called *al-Ihram*, and say, "Lord, here I am at your service as a pilgrim. No partner shares you. Praise be to you"

That day is called "Yawm il-Tarwiyah".

Then they go to Mina.

On the ninth day, all pilgrims stand near the mount of Arafat, 40km away from Mecca, from sunrise to sunset, in what is meant to remind them of resurrection day; praying, reciting the Quran and asking God or forgiveness.

After sunset, they go *Muzdalifa* to spend the night.

In the morning of the tenth day of *thul-hijja*, which is the first day of *Bariam*, they go to *Mina* to throw seven small stones at a post that symbolizes Satan. Then every pilgrim slays sheep as a sacrifice obeying the Quranic tenet to, "Pray to your Lord and sacrifice to Him." (Surah 108.3)

After having their hair cut, they then go to Mecca to go around the Ka'aba seven times. They walk from *Saf to Marwa*, between two hills near Ka'aba at a distance of 350 meters, seven times in honor of Hاجر, Ibrahim's wife, who tradition says ran between these two places searching for water to her thirsty child, Ismael, while seeing a mirage.

Then they go to *Mina* to spend the

next two nights and throw stones again. Such throwing is called '*Jamrat al-Aqaba*'. They finally go back to *Ka'aba* for the final farewell.

When back home, pilgrims are received warmly with drums and flags, in a reception more for a bride and bridegroom. Big meals are held to welcome them because they are now seen as pure as angels. The prophet Mohammed said "He or she who completes the pilgrimage without spoiling it comes back home as pure as a newly-born baby."

Bairam in Yemen

People who can't go to Mecca can fast on Arafat day, the ninth day, to get the blessing of God as pilgrims. That fasting, as the prophet said, abolishes a year's sins before and after it. So fasters, surely, feel happy as the pilgrims.

Eid-il-Ad-ha, corban *Bariam*, is called *eid al-kabeer*, the long eid, because it lasts for four days. But it's commonly made ten days, as the lesser *Bariam* (Eid-il Fitr) after Ramadan, is called *eid il-sagheer* (the short eid).

A night before the eid, people burn fires in vases or flowers made from kerosene and ash on the roofs of houses, while big fires are burned on mountains in villages to celebrate.

In the morning, men go to mosques or open areas to perform eid prayers, wearing new clothes. After that, they exchange greetings, saying *kul aam wantum bikheir* (many happy returns of the eid) or *eidakum mubarak* (happy eid for you).

Then relatives are visited. Almond, raisins and sweets are served. Children wearing new clothes often play false bullets, and go around houses to congratulate people.

Women give them sweets or money, called *awwada*. Men come back home for a nap and lunch, and

The annual season of Eid and its related celebrations has arrived, once again bringing Muslims from around the world together to reflect on their faith.

The Hajj, or pilgrimage to Mecca in Saudi Arabia, is one of the main duties that Muslims are required to do at least once during their lives, if able to do so physically and economically.

In the Quran, the pilgrimage is called "A duty to Allah for all who can make the journey." (Surah 3.97)

And every year now, more than two million pilgrims from all over the world come to Mecca to declare their spiritual unity, without any racial, national or economic discrimination. As a result, more than two million parties are held with hundreds of millions celebrating.

Then and now

Before Islam, Arabs went to Mecca where the sacred House and the first mosque was built by prophet Ibrahim.

Ibrahim had initiated the practice of worshipping God on the mountain where God provided a sacrificial ram in the place of Ibrahim's son. But in the subsequent years, the worship became corrupted. Arabs would go around the *Ka'aba* clapping, whistling and naked.

When Islam came as the region's new religion, this was changed.

Pilgrims would now wear white robes and recite *Labeik allahuma labeik* (Lord, here I am at your service.)

Muslim pilgrims from all over the

Yemeni lobsters for Tokyo

A bright note on Yemen trade came to light this week when it was revealed a shipment of lobsters worth US \$200,000 will soon be on its way to Japan.

Shuichi Wakamatsu, general manager of the Nissho Iwai corporation, said the deal is now being finalized. And trade with Yemen is generally on the rise, he said, as Japanese traders, like him, are visiting and starting to see the potential here.

Mr. Shuichi is finalizing the lobster deal that will see them go to Tokyo.

This is the first time a Japanese merchant has imported lobsters directly from Yemen to Tokyo. Previously, shipments of lobsters and other marine products went to Dubai, and then distributed to different parts of the world.

The news came during a dinner held at the Japanese Ambassador's residence Feb. 13, for Yemenis who have visited or were trained in Japan.



Mr. Masamitsu Oki (right) and Mr. Hisham Sharaf

Mr. Hisham Sharaf deputy ministry of planning and development, hailed Japan as one of the major contributors to development in Yemen.

Tens of Yemenis visit Japan annually for training and studies under cooperation programs sponsored by the Japanese government.

Mr. Mansour al-Shamiry, economic assistant at the embassy, said more than 200 Yemenis had been trained in Japan since 1992.

The event was also attended by other members of the embassy, the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), and the Yemeni-Japanese Friendship Association.

Yemeni trainees expressed appreciation to the Japanese government and embassy for the chance they were granted to study and be trained in Japan.

Japan is one of the major countries extending various aid to Yemen.



Mr. Shuichi Wakamatsu



Mr. Mansour al-Shamiry



Japan's ambassador receives a present from Ahmad al-Halifi, Chairman of the al-Sabaen's Local Council



Part of the Yemenis who were trained in Japan



then go to local halls to enjoy chewing qat.

All Muslims slay sheep or cows in honor of their late relatives, and meat is distributed among families as a sign of unity and love. On the second day, villagers visit villages in big groups, accompanied by drums and local folk

teams dance the *baraa* with *jambias*.

Some wear masks of animals, such as sheep. They dance, while men who wear brides' clothes called *jawari* (slaves), dance with rhythmic movements while their faces are veiled. On the third day, villagers who were visited previously, then pay return-visits.

On this eid, officials in larger cities will go to their hometowns to participate in celebrations with their relatives.

Hundreds of Yemenis will also marry during this eid. Hundreds of millions of bullets will be shot into the air, and there will be plenty of dancing throughout Yemen.

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Superior	10,000 Yr	12,000 Yr

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- Welcome Drinks upon Arrival
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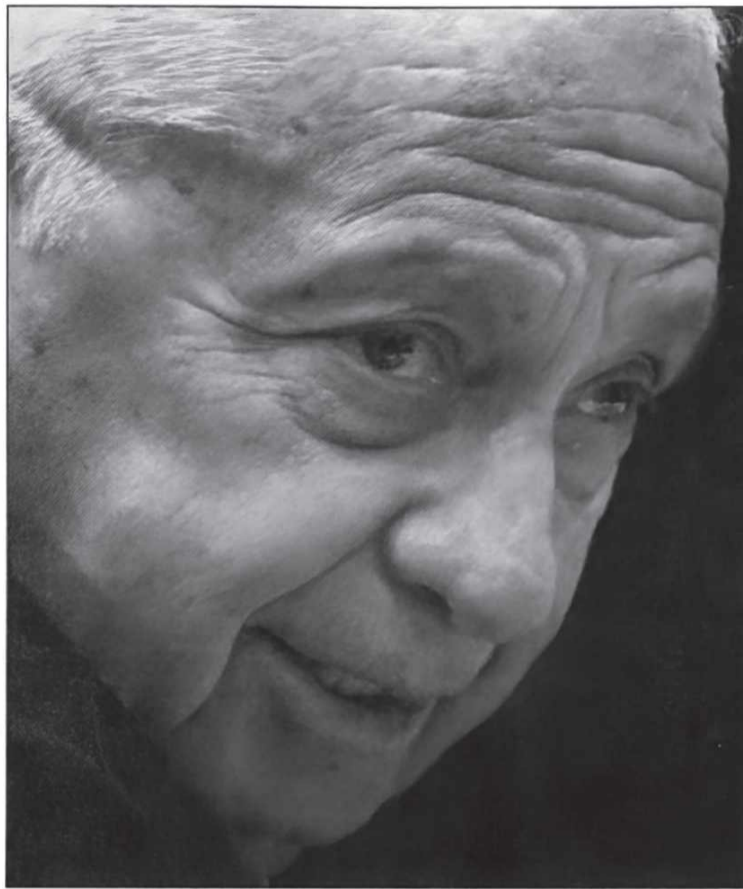
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Tel: +967-2-232-911 Fax: +967-2-232-947 Email: adenhotel@y.net.ye

The family members and friends of M. Ishwarya wishing her a happy (two years old) birthday on this day of the 19th of February. Daddy, mother and M. Madhesh

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Sharon fails to provide either peace or security



By William Pfaff
International Herald Tribune

The Year of Sharon has been the most violent year in two decades for Israel, and the most futile year in the whole of its history.

Moral recoil from Ariel Sharon's policies has cracked the edifice of Israeli public solidarity. Until this week, this recoil seemed still a marginal phenomenon, but Prime Minister Sharon's popular support now, for the first time, has fallen below 50 percent. His first year in office has failed to provide either the peace or the restored security he promised.

There has been a revolt by a number of army reservists, mostly from elite combat units, who have announced their refusal to return to occupation duties in the Palestinian territories seized in the 1967 war. They characterize these duties as "ruling, expelling, starving and humiliating an entire people."

A commission of Israel's national bar association has condemned the government's policy of "eliminating" Palestinian leaders held to be implicated in terrorism. The commission described this as illegal imposition, without trial, of the death penalty. It warned the officials and soldiers involved that they risked prosecution outside Israel for war crimes.

The legal counselor of the Ministry

of Foreign Affairs acknowledges that he has advised military and internal security officers of their risk of arrest in certain European countries, as happened to General Augusto Pinochet, Chile's former dictator, seized in Britain in 1998 after Spanish prosecutors requested his trial on charges of crimes against humanity.

These signs of public unease recall the moral crisis within the Israeli Defense Forces that contributed to Israel's retreat from the occupation of Lebanon, following its 1982 invasion of that country. That invasion was also intended by Ariel Sharon to destroy the Palestinian liberation movement.

The Israeli public, traumatized by the suicide bomb attacks of Hamas and Islamic Jihad, nonetheless has difficulty seeing a convincing alternative to the Sharon government's policy of assassinations, home destructions, and attacks on Palestinian security forces, meant to destroy PLO authority.

The Palestine movement itself is splitting, with violent clashes between factions maneuvering to succeed Yasser Arafat, if he is killed or driven away, and between the PLO and the extremist groups determined to go on with the suicide bombing campaign.

The latter are Mr. Sharon's political, as well as moral, counterparts, determined to destroy compromise between the sides, fanatically pursuing the unrealizable goal of expelling Israel from its UN-recognized 1949 borders.

The prime minister's reciprocal ambition, acknowledged to the Israeli

press is to gain the rest of the Palestinian territories for Israel - or as much of them as possible. His current policy is meant to destroy any possibility of a viable independent Palestinian state.

He believes that the Palestinians, under this pressure, will eventually abandon the PLO and resign themselves to existence under Israeli domination, and to a steady expansion of Israeli settlements.

He would prefer that the Palestinians found life in these circumstances so miserable and hopeless that they would choose on their own initiative to leave - for Jordan, or another Arab state, where, of course, they are unwanted.

The United States now is irrelevant, so far as any solution is concerned. Israeli policy is Bush administration policy. Mr. Sharon has successfully exploited the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks to delegitimize Yasser Arafat, in Bush administration eyes, and indeed to delegitimize the Palestinian struggle itself, as if it were simply a terrorist affair rather than a national independence movement.

Initiatives inside Israel and from Israel's friends abroad to restore some movement to the blocked peace negotiations have included proposals for imposed solutions, working through the UN Security Council.

But this and other possible outside initiatives will be thwarted so long as the United States gives unqualified support to Mr. Sharon, as now is the case.

Some Israelis want unilateral withdrawal from some Palestinian territories and from Gaza, and separation of the two communities by physical barriers. However it is objected that this might merely displace the violence, not end it. It would also contradict the Sharon government's essentially expansionist policy.

The most poignant proposal has come in an open letter in the mainstream newspaper Ha'aretz, addressed to Foreign Minister Shimon Peres by one of his former associates in government, Gideon Levy, now a leading journalist.

Mr. Levy accuses Mr. Peres of dissociating himself from the Sharon government in private while serving it in public. He insists that Mr. Peres is not, as he claims, playing a moderating role by staying in Mr. Sharon's cabinet, but has rather made himself accomplice in what Mr. Levy calls "a government of crime."

He appeals to Mr. Peres, now the most eminent survivor in Israeli public life of the leaders who founded and shaped the nation, to resign from the Sharon government. He asks him to "tell the world what is (perhaps) in your heart." Despair is written into that sentence, in the parenthesis.

The imminent decline and fall of America

By Steve Jones
California, USA

America is currently in the throes of its own self-destruction. Like the Rome of the Caesars, it falls under the weight of its own gross materialism, high-minded arrogance and blatant hypocrisy.

Decadent, selfish and elitist to the very core, America now serves only itself, oblivious to the global needs and realities that surround it daily - alone among nations, a "rogue" state in every sense of the word.

A person living in the United States of America today causes 100 times more damage to the global environment than a person living in the poor, populous Global South.

The amount of energy used by one American is equivalent to that used by 3 Japanese, 6 Mexicans, 14 Chinese,

38 Indians, 168 Bengalis or 531 Ethiopians.

Roughly 8-10% of the entire human race owns a car, yet 89% of Americans own one or more cars, consuming between 25-40% of all the fossil fuel resources on the planet - with just 6% of the world's population.

The total average pocket money of all American children is more than the total annual income of the world's poorest half-billion people.

Television, shopping malls, infatuation with sports and the incessant pursuit of recreation, pleasure and narcissistic self-interest have all led to the current state of America's decline - a nation bankrupt morally, psychically and spiritually, devoid of any true meaning or existence, except that of unmitigated hyper-consumption and over-indulgence.

As well, the American system of "cutthroat" capitalism is destroying the very life support systems of our planet. The insatiable and unsustainable

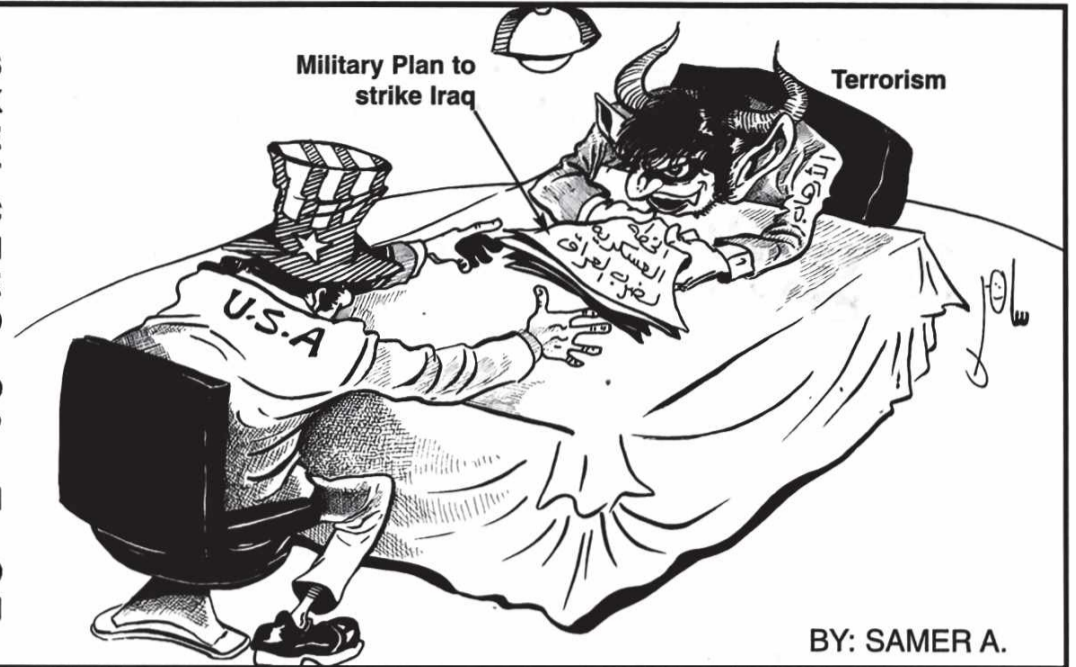
exploitation of the Earth's natural resources, the ruthless usurpation of international law and human rights standards and the blind pursuit of power, privilege and greed at the expense of the world's people and the biosphere are some of the major reasons the American Enterprise cannot and will not continue to carry on "business as usual" into the twenty first century.

Natural, physical and ethical limits have been breached and surpassed. Much long-term, irreversible damage has already been done.

As with the Roman Empire, America is destined to implode upon itself in the fullness of time (i.e. a stock market crash or other major correction).

The forces of conscious evolution and the advancement of the total human condition on Earth require that America step aside and go the way of Rome... to its inevitable decline and fall in human history.

SKETCHED OPINION



Objectives of the U.S. War against Terror

(Part 10 of 10)



Ahmad M. Abdulghani
Chairman of the al-Jazeera & al-Khaleej Center for Studies

The influence the United States of America currently has across the globe is the greatest in human history. History pages will show American's accomplishments. Indeed, the US is a melting pot for all races and cultures, and this is a large part of its unrivaled progress. Cultural and ethnic diversity in the US has been an empowering factor, coupled with liberty, democracy and the observance of human rights.

The US achievements in all aspects of life have made even its opponents respect and appreciate its progress. Respect and tolerance for religions and beliefs are amongst the most distinguished characteristics of the American society.

Although American relations with the Arab world have developed mainly within the last century, US positions towards Islam have never crossed what can be called the "red lines" of this religion. On the contrary the US has helped Muslim interests in many international conflicts, for example with the USSR war in Afghanistan and Chechnya and the war in the Balkans.

What raises concern now, however, is that the US anti-terror war in Afghanistan has produced a new situation with different facets and new US foreign policies. Let's look at these changes.

(1)
The US has refused calls for holding an international conference on terrorism in which "terrorism" will be clearly defined, and the mechanisms for eradicating it outlined. While at times President George W. Bush has said publicly the war is not against Muslims, some still feel that the US has ascribed terrorism to Islam and its culture. This would be a historical mistake, for many reasons, including the following:

Islam as a religion and civilization has given a good example of coexistence with Christianity and Judaism. In modern times, Muslims have peacefully coexisted with Christians and Jews in all the Arab countries. They have rather orchestrated a human symphony.

Islam is the second largest religion after Christianity in the United States and Europe. Muslims there have set a unique example of coexistence and tolerance. They have proved to be law-abiding and respectful to the beliefs of their host nations.

Many terrorist organizations were established, within the last century, in Europe, the United States, Japan and South America, which were more dangerous than the Arabic or Islamic ones. Some of these organizations still exist, such as the separatist PASC organization (ETA) in Spain and the Mafia operating across South America. The US doesn't seem to consider these organizations in its anti-terror campaign.

The majority of the elements of these organizations are Christian, at least in name, but we still refuse to brand Christianity with terrorism. So the US needs to be careful in how it defines terrorism.

(2)
Historically, the United States has made efforts to settle the Palestinian issue, for example during the term of office of president Carter in 1976. It continued to be the sponsor of the peace process in the Middle East at its different stages since the first Camp David treaty in 1977, until the second Camp David treaty in 2000.

Arabs are now hopeful, however, that the present US administration would play more unbiased role in the Middle East. At the beginning of 2001 there had been some promising moves that it is resolved to restart its efforts in the region and broker a satisfactory peaceful compromise. Unfortunately the anti-terrorism campaign has been subservient to Israeli plans, which doesn't consider its occupation of Palestine as a form of terrorism.

The outrageous American stance towards Israel is much clearer when the latter perpetrated the most heinous crimes against the defenseless Palestinian people in their homeland. Using the US-made F-16 fighters and all sorts of weapons against the civilian population of Palestine, with the consent of the US administration, is just one example how it holds a negative attitude towards this issue. What is more dangerous is that the US and Israeli words are the same in many occasions.

A German newspaper recently criticized the US position, giving up its neutrality as sponsor of the peace process in the region. The US has turned to be the spokesman on behalf of Israel and the Zionist lobby, the paper said.

As the US is always favorable to Israel and turns a blind eye to the atrocities committed against the Palestinians, it seems to be a sponsor of terrorism itself. And as Steven Heinz, a writer for the US-based Weekly Standard magazine, said, in an interview with the radio of Voice of America, Washington should understand that occupation is the essence of the problem and that terrorism is the outcome of occupation.

It seems that the US policy-makers are convinced with the Israeli point of view, or they do not like to face Sharon with the issue of terror. Although the Israeli lobby is much concerned with rooting out terrorism, it never speaks about occupation as the main reason of terrorism.

(3)
The US has shown ingratitude towards two of its closest Islamic allies Saudi Arabia and Pakistan during its anti-terror campaign. These two nations have favorably offered considerable military and political facilities for the US during the cold war era. Indeed, Saudi Arabia played a key role in supporting the American economy.

The United States has not only opposed anyone who criticize its policies, but it seems it also requests other governments to reshape their thoughts and beliefs according to the US-based trends in a very provocative manner.

Many Arab and Islamic countries feel, for example, that have been ordered to change their religious education curricula to enforce a "US-customized Islam," as the Egyptian intellectual, Fahmi Huaidi, called it. This was expressed by the US Secretary of State, Colin Powell, in an address at Louisville University, Kentucky, in November, 2001. He point-

ed out to the necessity to formulate a US vision towards the Islamic community, which should be based on certain beliefs that touch the cultural, political and religious fabric of that community. Within the same context, the same view was voiced by British Prime Minister Tony Blair, in December 2001, when he called leaders of Islamic countries to enable mainstream Islam to dominate in their societies.

(4)
The September 11 attacks on New York and Washington were undoubtedly terrorist acts in the full sense of the word. However, nobody has been able to prove who was responsible for that attacks. Besides, no court ruling has been issued against any side. However, the maltreatment received by the Arab-Afghan both in Afghanistan and at Guantanamo base in Cuba is pathetic and disgusting. It seems American's objective was to inform American voters that their government had brought double retaliation against, the supposed masterminds of the September 11 attacks. The United States might be excused for taking precautionary measures to protect itself from any other terrorist attacks, however, this never gives it the right to violate human rights which it has itself been historically advocating as the most precious achievement of the American civilization.

It seems the US government started violating human rights by issuing a set of exceptional laws, which were described by Arini Zubaida, Secretary-General of Amnesty International, as "security madness of panic-stricken governments". These laws have undermined the freedoms of civil societies and opened the door for attacking political opponents. It is a step back to the age of racial discrimination.

The US violation of human rights appeared even worse with regard to the treatment of prisoners at Guantanamo base. It's been reported that prisoners of the defeated Taliban government and al-Qaeda were chained and anesthetized before transferring them to Guantanamo. This is a violation of human rights and America's own values.

The US has made another mistake when it refused to consider the al-Qaeda fighters as prisoners of war, and did not apply the Geneva Human Rights Convention to them. This decision has been even opposed by the US closest allies. Representative of the European Union (EU), Jafeir Solana, said that Geneva Convention should be applied to all prisoners in such conditions, adding that maintaining human rights principles is the key for rooting out fanaticism and terrorism.

The questions that raise itself now is: won't these decisions by the US administration be opposed by some wise Americans? And won't America see the negative consequences of these policies, that they will backfire on American society itself. Some people who perceive these views of America as accurate, now wonder if there is a difference between the current US policies and the policies adopted by Adolph Hitler of the Nazi Germany or the leaders of the Communist world. These issues and conclusions are, of course, debatable. They're not gospel. However, I'd like to point out that the reason for some of my critical writings against American policies is that I've always had personal admiration and respect for the America's achievements. Now I am afraid that these achievements may ultimately collapse along with America, as has been the case of many previous civilizations and empires.

Aden's beach: a gift crying for care



By: Saleh Abulbaki
Cultural Editor

the largest, and among the most beautiful beaches in Yemen.

Holidays

People spend their holidays during Eid festivals and summer vacations in these beaches, for sunbathing or convalescence.

Unfortunately, the conditions of these beaches are deteriorating, and they're losing their sparkle because of thoughtless construction along the beach.

We're even seeing heaps of sand now scattered along the beaches, dirtying the clean image of Aden City.

This has hurt the tourism industry in Yemen in general, and Aden in particular.

Improvement needed

Our hope is to improve the beaches of Aden.

Foreigners are naturally attracted to Yemen because it has two seas, the Arab Sea and the Red Sea, so close.

The city of Aden is also attractive for its natural features. On a rocky peninsula linked to the land by a sandy area, Aden is beautifully surrounded by a number of islands. The biggest one being Saira on the north.

Aden has also been attractive as a vital port city that played an important role in culture involving Yemen and other nations. Its strategic location has linked other countries of the world, which has richly contributed to its growth in trade and commerce.

In addition to its important location it has now an international anchorage built as per the state-of-the-art modern technology and is provided with the latest new equipment. It has a tremendous heritage.

As a commercial and industrial capital, Aden should be the mirror of Yemen. We should work hand in hand to encourage investment in this fine natural gift, so we can have health in tourism, industry, trade and in all aspects of life.

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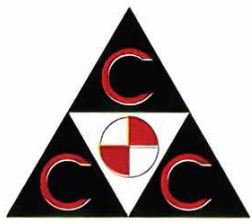
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علي عبدالله صالح

وإلى الشعب اليمني

بمناسبة حلول عيد الأضحى المبارك

وكل عام وأنتم بخير



Eid Mubarak



First cloned cat is born

WASHINGTON (Reuters) - A playful, "cute as a button" kitten is the first-ever cloned cat, researchers said on Thursday.

The 2-month-old kitten called "Cc:" is the first successful product of a program aimed at letting people clone their beloved pets at Texas A&M University in College Station.

The kitten joins a growing list of animals that have been cloned from adult cells, starting with Dolly the sheep, which opened the way for cloning other animals including pigs, goats, cattle, mice and an oxlike creature called a gaur.

"She is as cute as a button," said a spokeswoman for Texas A&M, where the work was done using a grant from philanthropist John Sperling's Apollo Group Inc.

"The kitten was vigorous at birth and appears to be completely normal," Mark Westhusin and colleagues write in their report in a letter published in the science journal Nature.

The kitten is a calico-and-white shorthair that looks similar to, but not exactly like, her genetic mother. The kitten looks very different from the tabby that gave birth to her.

The scientists said her coat coloring was unique because not only genetics contribute to an animal's markings, but also conditions in the womb.

Westhusin's team said the kitten was cloned from a cumulus cell.

These cells nurture the developing eggs in a female's ovary and have been used to clone other animals as well, as they seem particularly adaptable to the process.

It took the researchers 188 tries to get just one kitten. They got 82 embryos but only one cat got pregnant, with a single kitten. Westhusin said it is not clear how easy it will be to clone cats.

Westhusin's efforts were funded by Sperling's Genetic Savings & Clone, set up with the intent of helping people clone their pets.

Researchers worry about the health of clones. Many cloned farm animals



The world's first ever cloned cat, 'cc:' (carbon copy!), is seen at seven weeks old in this December 22, 2001 photo. The kitten is the first successful product of a program aimed at letting people clone their beloved pets at Texas A&M University in College Station. 'cc' joins a growing list of animals that have been cloned from adult cells, starting with Dolly the sheep and now including pigs, goats, cattle, mice and an oxlike creature called a gaur.

Photo by Texas A&M/Reuters

reportedly are healthy and normal once they survive pregnancy and birth. But the clones often have abnormal placentas, which can lead to an abnormally large fetus that often dies.

And Japanese scientists reported

this month that most of the mice they cloned died young of liver and lung problems.

Experts suggest that the cloning technique used is key to getting a healthy animal.

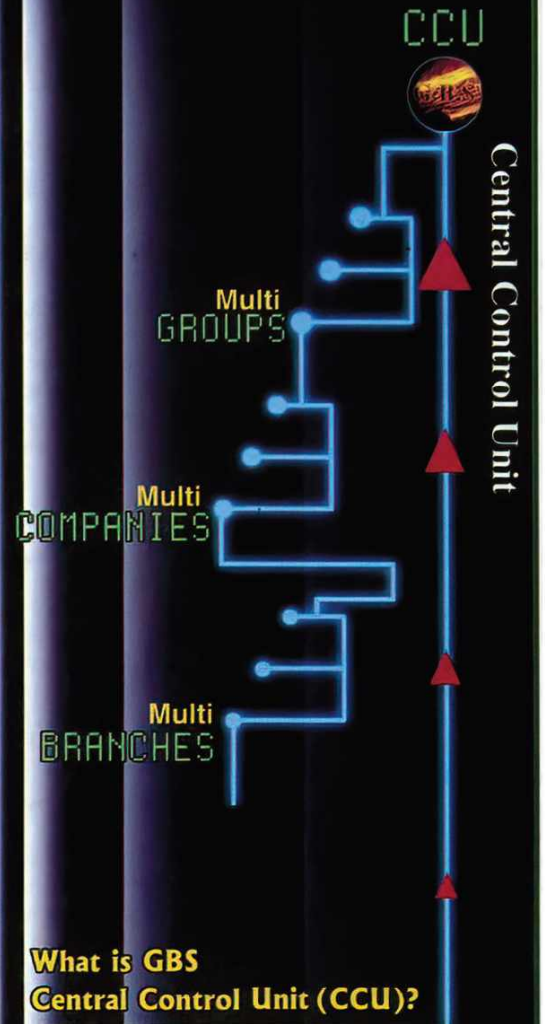


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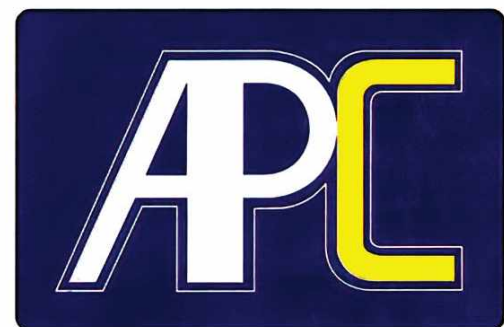
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Major News Items in Leading International Newspapers

KSA - Arab News

Yemen on alert after FBI warning
SANA'A—Yemen said yesterday that it had taken all necessary steps to prevent a terrorist attack following a Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) warning that a Yemeni national could be planning a strike on US interests. "Security services have taken all necessary steps to prevent any act.

Naimi hopes oil prices will stabilize
RIYADH—Saudi Arabia and Norway are optimistic that the start of global economic recovery now under way would help stabilize oil prices at \$20 per barrel in the second half of this year. This upbeat assessment of the oil market was provided by Minister of Petroleum.

Ashcroft's anti-Islam remarks protested
WASHINGTON—Islamic and Arab organizations have protested the anti-Islam remarks by US Attorney General John Ashcroft and former British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, Asharq Al-Awsat reported. The American Muslim Council urged Ashcroft to clarify his alleged remarks that "Islam is a religion in which God requires you.

UK - Daily Telegraph

Defiant Milosevic rejects 'lynch law'
SLOBODAN MILOSEVIC made the most of his first opportunity to address the international war crimes tribunal in The Hague yesterday, accusing it of being a tool of British intelligence and a form of lynch law.

Blair on rack over letter
TONY BLAIR was forced on to the defensive in the "cash for access" row last night after a badly rattled

S. Africa

Major News Items in Leading S. Africa Newspapers

The Star
South African Home Affairs Minister Mangosuthu Buthelezi launched a vigorous attack on President Thabo Mbeki for the government's poor record on job creation and combating HIV/AIDS.

Business Day
Steeplly increasing food prices make

Kingdom refutes 'clash of civilizations'
ISTANBU—Saudi Arabia yesterday spoke out against the concept of a clash of civilizations and said the new world order should be established on the concepts of cooperation, integration, dialogue and understanding.

Riyadh lifts US rice ban
RIYADH—The Commerce Ministry yesterday lifted a temporary ban slapped on US rice after laboratory tests showed the rice was free of lead contamination. The ministry had imposed the ban on the sale of the rice two weeks ago following reports that it was contaminated with high concentrations.

All Afghan pilgrims promised visas in time
KABUL—All Afghan pilgrims wanting to get to Makkah for this year's Haj will arrive in time despite delays in the issuing of visas, a Saudi official said yesterday. Ajarbou Ali, head of a government delegation specially sent by Riyadh to resolve the issue, said his six-member.

Downing Street changed its version of events surrounding his letter backing a takeover bid by a wealthy Labor Party donor.

Flood tax to aid defenses
A FLOOD tax could be imposed on people in areas prone to river or sea flooding to pay for better defenses under proposals announced by the Government yesterday.

any government nervous. Food and transport price rises are the type of pocket-book expenses that can bring on rapid disaffection in South Africa.

The Citizen
The public will have to wait not less than eight to 10 years for an effective HIV vaccine, even if the tests due to start this year are successful, director-general of the South African Health Department Ayanda Ntsaluba warned on Tuesday.

Philippine

Major News Items in Leading Philippine Newspapers

The Philippine Star
About 20 U.S. soldiers flew to the southern Philippine island of Basilan on Friday to set up base there, paving the way for a U.S. Special Forces contingent on a mission to train local troops fighting the Abu Sayyaf group which is still holding an American couple and a Filipino nurse on the island.

The Philippine Daily Inquirer
A ranking official said Friday there is a "very real possibility" that a prolonged treatment abroad of ousted

President Joseph Estrada could pave the way for his exile. Members of the Senate and the House of representatives have reportedly signed two separate resolutions supporting Estrada's request for knee surgery in the United States.

Manila Bulletin
Following the central bank's latest rate cut, President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo on Friday urged the local banking industry to help hasten the immediate recovery of the country's economy by lowering their interest rates and making loans readily available and accessible to poor people.

Dubai - Gulf News

40 pilgrims die in bus accident
Forty Haj pilgrims from the UAE died when the bus they were travelling in collided head on with a truck in Saudi Arabia's Al Ihsa province yesterday.

Afghan bank account delayed by sanctions
The Central Bank of Afghanistan has applied to open a normal account in the UAE and not a branch, confirmed UAE Central Bank Governor Sultan bin Nasser Al Suwaidi.

Hamad urges media to promote reform
The Emir His Highness Sheikh Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa has urged media to play a key role in promoting the reform process.

Pakistan

Major News Items in Leading Pakistani Newspapers

The News
President Pervez Musharraf arrived in Washington on Tuesday to start his official visit to the United States.

Pakistan Observer
Ahmed Omar Saeed Sheikh, Islamic militant and prime suspect in the kidnap of American journalist Daniel Earl, was arrested by the police in Lahore on Tuesday.

Japan

Major News Items in Leading Japanese Newspapers

Yomiuri, Mainichi, Nihon Keizai:
Japanese Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi instructed his cabinet ministers at a meeting Wednesday to put together a comprehensive package of antideflation measures by the end of this month and called on the Bank of Japan (BOJ) to take bolder steps for the same purpose.

Asahi
The Japanese government eyes having makers take back appliances, electronics for disposal and recycling.



Khalil's cartoon

Arab News - Feb. 16

USA - The New York Times

Major News Items in Leading USA Newspapers

Sponsors Thwart Moves to Scuttle Soft-Money Bill
By ALISON MITCHELL
A series of critical votes Wednesday put the House near approval of the most comprehensive changes in decades in the way political campaigns are financed.

News Analysis: An Uncertain Future

Behind the Debate, Jockeying for Advantage

Bush Plan Expected to Slow, Not Halt, Gas Emission Rise
By ANDREW C. REVKIN

President Bush is set to announce a plan calling for voluntary measures to slow, but not halt the growth in emis-

sions of gases linked to global warming.

Rule Makers Take on Loopholes That Enron Used to Do Business
By FLOYD NORRIS and JOSEPH KAHN

Responding to the collapse of Enron, regulators and legislators Wednesday proposed changes in the way companies report their finances.

Watkins Will Say Many Knew of Irregularities

Enron Deals Were Marketed by Wall Street

Documents Show 2 Sides of Enron Partnerships

India

Major News Items in Leading Indian Newspapers

The Times of India
Russian and Indian energy officials signed on Tuesday in Moscow a 1.5-billion-U.S.-dollar contract for the delivery of two Russian reactors for a new Indian nuclear power plant.

The Hindustan Times
India's Hindi blockbuster Lagaan on

Tuesday won an Oscar nomination in the Best Foreign Film category.

The National Herald
India and Kazakhstan on Tuesday agreed to set up a "bilateral forum on counter terrorism" following talks between Indian Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee and visiting Kazakh President Nursultan Nazarbayev in New Delhi.



OXFAM (GB) in Yemen VACANCY FOR PROGRAM OFFICER (Gender)

Oxfam (GB) in Yemen is seeking to recruit a Program Officer (Gender) to assist in the development, monitoring, coordinating and evaluating the Gender Equity Program in Yemen. This overall program consists of Violence against Women and Gender Mainstreaming components to be implemented by the government and civil society organizations. The person will work as part of the Oxfam (GB) team in Sana'a.

KEY COMPETENCIES

- Education to a degree level in gender studies, social sciences or related discipline.
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- An understanding and sensitivity to gender and equity issues.
- Demonstrated capacity of social and communication skills and ability to work with others and as a part of the team.
- Fluency in Arabic and English and good writing skills.
- Knowledge and skills in computer usage.
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- Willingness and eager to learn about organizational and financial procedures.

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Founded in 1942, Oxfam works with people regardless of race and religion in their struggle against poverty. Oxfam GB is a member of Oxfam International.

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Press Scanner

Prepared by Mohammed Khidhr



RAY weekly, organ of Sons of Yemen League party
12 Feb. 2002

Main headlines

- A citizen Killed Opposite Presidency Office
- An Influential Sells Aden Writer's Union Building

The weekly editorial for this week says the issue of possessing and doing business in arms has gone under bidding in many stages and various circumstances. It has also been invested in many stands, internally and in foreign relations.

Today this comes to surface again because of what has been said about a decision banning arms in the capital and provincial capitals in Yemen. This has been followed with a large-scale inspection campaign that affected traffic movement and breached freedoms owing to subjecting vehicles to a kind of search not to be approved by any constitution or law.

The newspaper maintains we are not against enacting laws regulating carrying arms on the way to eliminate this phenomenon for good. But previous experiments disclose that there is not any real seriousness and will in solving this problem.

We see the issue of weapons in Yemen as a link in a complete chain closely connected. The disturbed security situation, absence of the institutional state, supremacy of the law of force over the force of the law, deterioration of the judiciary state, are all intermingling and should be considered when dealing with the issue of arms. The issue of arms cannot be treated without a comprehensive reform creating a condition of political, security and institutional stability where there would be no need for carrying arms. The scientific cure is the decisiveness and looking into the issues through their extensions as an only inlet for treating them, the editorial concludes.



Al-Ihya'a al-Arabi weekly, organ of the Arab Baath Socialist party, 12 Feb. 2002

Main headlines

- Unidentified men Burn YSP Offices in Jarahi city
- Iraq: We'll Stand up to any American Attack
- Student Protests in Sana'a University

Columnist Ibrahim Abda Mohammed Sabaa writes in an article saying he who reads carefully the State of the Union speech delivered by the U.S. president Bush at the Congress finds that the criterion was the Hebrew state. The speech has focused on the traditional enemies of the Zionist entity, Iraq, HAMAS, Jihad, Hisbulla and Iran whom he has named as the "Axis of Evil" and terrorism and threatened them with war and revenge. In examining the speech without knowing its deliverer, one would normally judge that it was Sharon's not Bush's.

Bush is playing with fire and he is now like an imbalanced person carrying a gun and running amok killing all passers-by. Therefore it is the duty of the world's wise people to try to prevent him from doing so and rid the world of his evil before the catastrophe takes place.



Ath-Thawri weekly, organ of YSP, Feb. 2002

Columnist Mohammed Saleh al-Hadhiri says in his article that Yemen in general suffers from backwardness in different constituents in a way makes it difficult to define the volume of the Yemeni middle class according to the material conditions. We can only say there is a middle class or segment having characteristics in common with its other counterparts. In other words backwardness as a phenomenon still includes most of the levels of general life particularly the definition of social formations.

The important thing is that the possibility of emergence of a Yemeni middle class with full criteria could not be attained in exclusion from a real national development as part of national development context in general. What has been crystallized about the Yemeni middle class since the thirties of last century has vanished in the period 1980-2000 under the effect of continued material disturbance. Thus the majority of Yemenis turned to become a poor majority governed by rich and monop-

list minority under the absence of any form of social balance. One of the hindrances our society is facing is the non-development of a middle class.



Al-Wahda weekly, 13 Feb. 2002.

Main headlines

- Six Million land mines Under Yemenis Feet
- 136 Arms pieces Seized in the Capital and Thamar
- Promotional Conference for Oil & Gas Next June
- Survey on Yemeni Expatriates this Year
- A Suspect Arrested nearby the American Embassy

Columnist Mohammed al-Zubaidi says in an article it may be strange that the U.S. Chief of Staff and members of his command ignore the abstract facts about the Palestinian-Israeli conflict. They also ignore that the situation in this field was rather calm before the 28th of September 2001 and before the provocations carried out by the terrorist Sharon to the feelings of the Palestinians and the Arabs.

The Palestinian Authority has kept demanding for an international protection for the Palestinian people but neither the Israeli occupation authorities nor the White House administration have allowed that. All do realize that the United States has used the veto in late March, 2001 at a time the Amman Arab summit was prepared to listen to the final statement of the summit. This means that the Palestinian authority was trying hard to stop violence and bloodshed, but the American administration sided with the Israeli government and adopted its stand and began putting the blame on the Palestinian authority.

If the U.S. administration had allowed sending international monitors or an international protection force, it would have spared much blood and casualties and would have kept the gap narrow and able to be bridged at the peaceful negotiating table. It would also have precluded aggravation and accumulation of rancours.

The European continent comprehends the effect on it in case the situation in the Middle East escalates. The European countries are still distributing their vision between the Arabs and their stands and the American attitude. Some of the European countries criticized the U.S. stands towards the Palestinian-Israeli conflict or with regard to America's threats to some Arab countries, which means that the European stance is beginning to develop.

Some had said that the American administration had thought that the sympathy expressed towards it after the events of 11 September had granted it the permission to let loose its unleashing accusations and threats. We hope that the European Union's attitudes would stem from that vision that it occupies one of the two banks of the Mediterranean Sea and the Middle East is on the other bank. That means that this location is characterized by the two sides being influencing and influenced by what happens on both banks of the sea. This necessitates that the European Union should have its attitudes taken in the light of its very vision.



Al-Balagh weekly, 12 Feb. 2002.

Main headlines

- G7 States Freeze more than US \$ 100 Million in Assets of 150 countries
- America Stresses Support for Yemen's Special Force
- Law Suit against Political parties and organizations
- MP's Reject a Decision lifting MP Mansour al-Hunq's Immunity

The newspaper's editorial says the American policy it pursues in dealing with alleged terrorism is a matter unacceptable and unreasonable. U.S. president Bush wants to utilize the 11 September events for the purpose of bringing states, peoples and persons to their knees, a matter that could not happen unless all the concerned countries become part of the CIA. This also could not be realized. Moreover president Bush wants to install himself a god to be worshipped, issues orders to be complied with and holds in his hands the life and death and imprisonment under the term of terror.

This new American policy is demanded to be applied to the Arab and Islamic world and to the countries of the third

world. Upon this any state or political party or organization refuses to abide by this policy it would be subject to military strikes, according to the American policy.

The Arab and Islamic states have to realize the policy of America's "Pharaoh" and to draw up joint strategies and stands leading to abort this American conspiracy. It would not be normal that each state acts individually to deal with this dangerous situation. Such an individual dealing would lead only to single out each country and it would lead to these countries fighting each other.

The Arab summit in this regard is demanded to comprehend the significance of such strategy. It is also

demanded that the Organization of Islamic Conference and the Arab league to play their role.



As-Sahwa weekly 14 Feb. 2002

Main headlines

- Islah party Denounces Sacking of Supreme Committee
- FBI Continues its Warnings: Active Diplomatic Movement between Washington and Sana'a a political parties continue their dialogues

Columnist Ali bin Abdulla al-Wasie says in his article this week that America has its own dictionary explaining things as it likes and therefore it creates a language of its own. It argues with people and forces them to acknowledge its language.

The prisoners of war it has captured it does not consider them as POW's because it wants to treat them in a way it likes. Terrorism does not mean horri-



fying people regardless of being individuals or peoples, in America's dictionary it is terrorism when it affects it alone. When terror is perpetrated at the hands of the Jews it is not like that in their view.

When terror of the Zionists increases and they attack with warplanes the

Palestinians, demolish their houses and destroy their farms and kill their women and children, then America would demand those victims to stop violence. So we find the Americans tamper with everything even the language and minds of people that do not communicate by using these languages.

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صنعاء، شارع الزبير، مقابل البنك المركزي، ت: ٢٤٢٣٤٤

نظارات عبدالنبي
نحس بالكمبيوتر - الرعاية الأولية لنحس
Abdul Nabee Ophthalmic
OPTICIAN Primary Eye Care
Al Kasar Street, 13, Al Awdi Building, Behind Arab Bank, Sana'a Tel: 272976
شارع القصر، رقم ١٣ عمارة العويدي، خلف البنك العربي، صنعاء، تلفون: ٢٧٢٩٧٦

مركز سام
لطب الفم والأسنان
حشوات تجميلية/عصبية، معالجة عصب/لثة، تركيبات ثابتة/متحركة، جسور خزفية.
ملحق قسم فم بالنساء، معمل خاص بصناعة الأسنان.
د. خالد السلطان
إخصائي طب وجراحة الفم والأسنان
شارع تغز، امام بريد شميلة، ت: ٦١٠٤٦٤-٦١٢١٩٩

شركة اللواء الأخضر
للتجارة المحدودة
Material & Copper wire for rewinding & workshops equipment
اسلاك نحاسية ومواد لف ومعدات الورش
Sana'a - Y.R. Tel: 286829, Telefax: 282932, P.O. Box: 565

مطعم ومخبزة
الشيباني
مطعم ومخبزة
Hadda St. Infront of Emirates Airline

مركز الحاتمي للبصريات
مخفف النظر، إخصائيو بتركيب جميع أنواع النظارات. عدسات لاصقة
Hatimi Optical Center
Qualified Opticians and Contact Lens
off Saif Bin thi Yazen behind presidential off.
Telfax 279358, Mobile 71113418, P.O.Box 5838
خلف مكتب المراسم المتفرع من شارع سف بن ذي بزن، تلفون: ٧١١٢٤١٨

مركز ألوانه
للعسل
والعود والعطورات العربية
لمزيد من الفائدة فقط عليكم بزيارتنا...
صنعاء، شارع حدة، جوار جامع حجر، مقابل مركز التنمية التجارية، ت: ٢٠٣٦٦ - ٢١١٢٢٢

الشامي
للتجارة العامة
صالح صالح الشامي وإخوانه
وكالات تجارية وخدمات نظفية
مواد صناعية / مواد بناء / أدوات كهربائية
صنعاء، شارع تغز بجانب فندق روما تلفون: ٢٤١٤٨٠ - ٢٤١٤٨٠
فاكس: ٢٤١٤٨٠ - ٢٤١٤٨٠
ص.ب: ٢٤١٤٨٠
رقم عدد الصنوبر - كاتكو: ٢٤١٤٠٦

مطعم ومخبزة
الشيباني الحديث
AL-SHAIBANI Restaurant
Owned by: Abdul-Qawee R. Al-Shaibani
Sana'a, Hadda St. Tel: 241169, Telefax: 508597, Pager: 5076235, P.O. Box: 18097

المقصري
لتنظيف ومكافحة الحشرات
خبرة عالية لمكافحة الحشرات والنمل الأبيض (الأرغحة) والصراصير والفئران، وتنظيف المفروشات بانواعها، نظافة عامة للمساكن والفنادق، غسيل وتعقيم خزانات المياه.
صنعاء - الدائري الغربي، ت: ٧١٢٢٢٢ - ٢٠٣٦٦
Water Tanks, Steam Cleaning, Killing Roaches & Mouses, Carpet & Furniture, Houses & Hotels...etc.
Sana'a-Al-Daery St. Tel: 207885, 71713793

Al-Shaibani Restaurant
مطعم ومخبزة
Mermaid Guest House & Restaurant-Aden
whole buildings/single rooms for rent
Mualla, Aden: Tel. 02 245555, 01-620581, Mobile: 71109693

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SAM TECHNOLOGY
Accessories- Software Inks - Hardware
لمستلزمات الكمبيوتر
برامج - اجهزة - صيانة
ت: ٠١٠٣٣ - ٤٠١٣٣ - ٤٠١٣٣
مخبر: ٤٠١٣٣ - ٤٠١٣٣
مخبر: ٤٠١٣٣ - ٤٠١٣٣
مخبر: ٤٠١٣٣ - ٤٠١٣٣

مطعم ومخبزة
الشيباني
مطعم ومخبزة
Hadda St. Infront of Al-Kaim Center Tel: 266375 Fax: 2676619

ملكة وادي النحل
للعسل الطبيعي
عطوات، زيتون، الثورطة وكتب اسلامية
لصاحبة، عبده مهدي الضعبي
صنعاء، وكالة ساعات سيكو: صنعاء، ش. علي عبد المغني، ت: ٧٢٦٦١١
فروعها في: ٢١١٢٢٢ - ٠٤/٢٢١٢٠٤ - ٠٤/٢٢١٢٠٤ - ٠٤/٢٢١٢٠٤
فاكس: ٢٠٣٢٢٢٢ - ٢٠٣٢٢٢٢
عن: ٢٠٣٢٢٢٢ - ٢٠٣٢٢٢٢

ليست الأولى في اليمن لكنها الأفضل... مغسلة المسلة، صنعاء، شارع الستين الجنوبي، امام محكمة المرور، ت: ١٦١٦٥٤٣١، فاكس: ٦٤٤٦١٢

وظائف شاعرة
مطلوب: مندوبات للعمل في شركة رائدة، وينتظر في المتقدمه ان تكون حاصله على الثانوية العامة ويفضل من لديه خبرة في نفس المجال للاستفسار ت: ٤١٧٢٠٠

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For Sale, Required, Available, For Lease, For Hire/Rent, Job Require, Situation Vacant, Others
Please cut this coupon and send it to YT, P.O. Box 2579 - Sanaa.
For further details, please contact Mr. Victor Ebenezzer at: 268661/2/3
Email: Azal2000@y.net.ye www.yemen-online.com/azal2000

سيارات
للبيع: سيارة تويوتا تراتو ١٩٠٠ سيول ٨٢٠٠٠
للبيع: سيارة تويوتا تراتو ١٩٠٠ سيول ٨٢٠٠٠
للبيع: سيارة تويوتا تراتو ١٩٠٠ سيول ٨٢٠٠٠

مقبوضات
للبيع: تلفون سيار (فيليبس) نظامين بدون رقم، جديد ويسعر مناسب، طه حسين الزبيدي، ت: ٤٠٧٨١
كمبيوتر
للبيع: جهاز كمبيوتر من النوع سيرفر دين، للشاشة، نتاج شركة NCR الامانية، بقم، ٧١١٩٩٩٢

معهد آزال
معلومات شخصية المجانية الموبوطة
تعليم الكمبيوتر والانترنت واللغات
بيع، شراء، إيجار، إستئجار، طلب وظيفة، وظائف شاعرة، غير ذلك
تفاصيل الاعلان:
عنوان التواصل:
قص هذا الكوبون وارسله إلى صحيفة يمن تايمز (ص.ب. 2579 - صنعاء) لمزيد من المعلومات اتصل ب(ب/2/3/268661)
Email: Azal2000@y.net.ye www.yemen-online.com/azal2000
نسعى معاً لتحقيق مستقبل أفضل... فأحرص أن تكون معنا..

تهانينا «مجيب»
أحمل التهانى والتبريكات معطرة بالورد والياسمين نرفها للاخ/
مجيب عبد الرقيب القباطي
بمناسبة الخطوبة وقرب الزفاف..
فألف مبروك.
المهنئون:
عبد الوهاب عبد القاهر، عبد القادر محمد سعيد، صالح عبد النور هاشم، محمد احمد المرشد، القاضي احمد سيف حاشد، صادق عبد القاهر، شاكر محمد عبد الرقيب، هشام علي محمد، عمر الكندي، وكالة الاهل والاصدقاء.

باحثون عن وظيفة
توظيف عبد الرحمن الاسويدي كبرياتي الكورنيش، وصيانة موادات وصيانة اجهزة طبية وسياكة ولحام، بالإضافة الى اعمال اخرى، حاصل على دبلوم كبريا، وشهادات خبرة في هذا المجال اكثر من ١٠ سنوات، بيجر: ٥٨٢٤٤١٥
مبتم عند الرسوم: عراقى، بكالوريوس هندسة مدنية، ١٥ سنة خبرة في مجال الانبئة والفرق، لغة انجليزية تحداً وكاتباً، دورة كمبيوتر، ت: ٧٢٨٧٠٠ - ٢١٠٤٨٧
والى على هادي: دبلوم كمبيوتر، سكرتارية، طباعة على الآلة الكاتبة، ثمانية ثابة، ت: ١١٧٤٠٠ - ٢٨٣٦٦

المعهد البريطاني الحديث
لغة انجليزية، دورات كمبيوتر، قسم خاص بالترجمة
فرع الجامعة: شارع الدائري، جولة الجامعة الجديدة، ص.ب: ٢٧٩٢٢، تلفاكس: ٢٠٣٦٨٩، سيارة: ٧٤١٧٧٣٢
فرع الجامعة: شارع الدائري، جولة الجامعة الجديدة، ص.ب: ٢٧٩٢٢، تلفاكس: ٢٠٣٦٨٩، سيارة: ٧٤١٧٧٣٢



MUS'ID & MUS'IDA

MUS'ID AND MUS'IDA

First Ever Yemeni Radio Series to be Published

The well-known Yemeni radio soap opera, Mus'id wa-Mus'ida, produced by the household name, Abd al-Rahman Mutahhar, is soon to appear in book form in English and Arabic with illustrations by the satirical cartoonist, Muhammad al-Shaibani. The British academic and researcher, Dr Janet C.E. Watson, who has already authored three books on San'ani Arabic, is currently

preparing the Arabic-English text for the book, which has the provisional title, Mus'id wa-Mus'ida, Social Issues Through Popular Culture. The research and publication costs are being provided through a grant from the British Embassy in Sana'a, administered by the British Council. It is hoped that this project will serve as a cultural bridge between the English-speaking expatriate com-

munity in Sana'a and Yemeni citizens. Janet Watson and Abdulrahman Mutahhar are grateful to Yemen Times for offering to publish English translations of this well-loved program on a weekly basis. The translations which will appear in Yemen Times will form part of the planned book.

Janet Watson
25 Briardene, Durham, UK
DH14QU

Part 1

Written by
Abdulrahman Mutahhar



Translated by
Janet Watson



He who sees Mus'id in the marketplace..

Now tell me, my crazy husband, did we go out in the car to buy the shopping or did we go out to have an argument with other people in the middle of the street?

What could I do, Mus'ida. I didn't chose it to happen. The whole thing suddenly popped up out of the blue!

The only thing that popped up out of the blue was you! Honestly, I don't know anyone like you! What on earth have I done now?

You know perfectly well what you've done! The people who clean the street, who take away all the rubbish which makes the city an eyesore, told you to wait until they had swept that pile of rubbish out of your way. You thought you were above them and couldn't care less for their efforts, though, and simply ploughed

through the pile of rubbish scattering it all over the street.

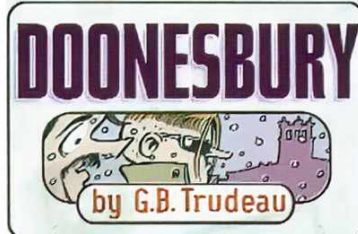
I was in a hurry. I wanted to get your shopping and take you back to the house, and then go back to sign on at work!

Oh so that's it is it! You were trying to help me, and I threw it back in your face! Well you didn't consider the street cleaners in helping me, did you! You went and hit that man's car, breaking his brake lights, and all because of your arrogance with the poor street cleaners, and because of driving too fast down a street packed with traffic and pedestrians. Where's all that modesty and patience that you keep going on about, eh?

Oh go on! Why don't you just get a rod and give me a good hiding?!

I don't need to, you've already given yourself a good hiding! You thought you were above the street cleaners and the rules of the road. You smashed that driver's rear lights and stopped him being able to go to work. Then you and he went and blocked the road, and everyone came rushing out to see what his Lordship was doing. The money we were going to use to buy the shopping was used to pay for the lights, and we came back home without any shopping, all because of your legendary patience and brilliant behavior! As the Yemeni proverb goes, 'He who sees Mus'id in the marketplace congratulates his poor family!'

¹ The original is a Yemeni proverb.



CONGRATULATIONS Dr. YASSER

Prof. Abdullah Al-Huraibi & Khaled Al-Huraibi
present their warmest congratulations to

Dr. Yasser Abdulmughni

for succeeding in the FRCS exam and obtaining
the Fellowship of Royal College of Surgeons in
Ireland.

Congratulations Dr. Yasser, and keep up the good work..

بمناسبة قدوم عيد الإضحى المبارك الذي يحل على شعبنا وسائر الشعوب العربية والاسلامية

تفقد: شركة صناعة السجائر والكبريت الوطنية المحدودة

ممثلة برئيس مجلس الادارة التنفيذي الشيخ / صالح سالم باثواب
وجميع موظفيها وعمالها

بأحر آيات التهاني والتبريكات الى فخامة رئيس الجمهورية وقائد مسيرتها التنموية فخامة الأخ/

علي عبدالله صالح

رئيس الجمهورية
وإلى مجلس النواب برئاسة الشيخ / عبدالله بن حسين الأحمر
وإلى الحكومة اليمنية الرشيدة برئاسة الأستاذ / عبد القادر باجمال،
وإلى المجلس الاستشاري برئاسة الأستاذ / عبدالعزيز عبد الغني،

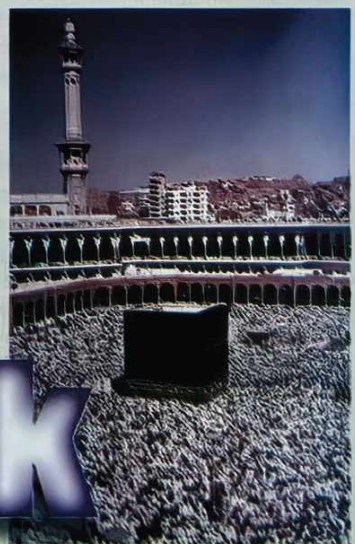
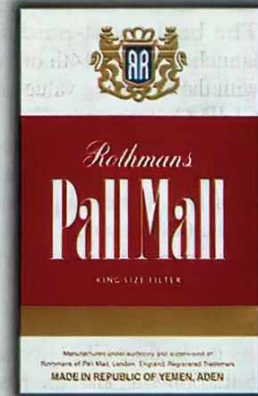
وإلى كافة أبناء شعبنا اليمني والأمميين العربية والاسلامية
سائلين المولى القدير عز وجل ان يعيدها علينا وقد تحقق لوطننا المزيد من التقدم والخير والرخاء..
وكل عام والجميع بخير..

Sheikh Saleh Salem Ba-Thawaab - Chairman of the
National Cigarette & Match Industries Ltd
Congratulates

President Ali Abdullah Saleh
and the Yemeni people

ON EID AL-EDHA ALMUBARAK

We wish Yemen the best of success and progress towards building a
strong country headed by his wise leadership for years to come



Eid Mubarak

Feds launch 'Spam' E-mail crackdown

WASHINGTON (Reuters) - Federal regulators kicked off a crackdown on the junk e-mail known as "spam" on Tuesday with an announcement that they had settled charges against seven people accused of running an e-mail pyramid scheme.

The Federal Trade Commission said that the seven defendants had participated in a chain-letter scam that promised returns of up to \$46,000 for a \$5 payment. Such chain letters are illegal in the United States.

The chain letter eventually drew in more than 2,000 participants from nearly 60 countries, the FTC said.

While the consumer-protection agency has targeted some 200 Internet-based scams over the past several years, it has not until now gone after spam. That's changed, said FTC Chairman Timothy Muris.

"We're going after deceptive spam and the people who send it. We want it off the Net," Muris said at a press conference.

The agency will not seek to limit the flood of pornography, fake diploma offers and get-rich-quick schemes that



clog Internet users' inboxes, FTC officials said.

Rather, FTC agents will concentrate on spam that violates existing laws prohibiting false or deceptive trade practices.

In addition to chain letters, pyramid schemes and other scams, the agency will target spammers who use deceptive return addresses or do not respond to consumer requests to be taken off their contact lists, officials said.

The agency plans to settle several more cases within six months, said Eileen Harrington, assistant director of marketing practices.

Intel to unveil new chips this month



SAN FRANCISCO, Feb 13 (Reuters) - Intel Corp. INTC.O, the world's biggest computer-chip maker, will unveil new microprocessors, including one for data networking equipment, at its conference for software and hardware developers later this month.

The network processor and a related semiconductor that directs information in and out of the guts of networking gear will both be based on Intel's XScale architecture, which it is pushing as a standard in both the wireless and networking industries, spokeswoman Christine Chartier said.

At the Intel Developer Forum, the Santa Clara, California, company will also announce new Xeon processors that are the brains of powerful server computers that serve up Web pages and comprise computer networks.

Intel will also announce that it will resume manufacturing chipsets for Xeon processors, which it stopped doing in early 2000, Chartier said. The chipsets connect the processor to mem-

ory chips and the rest of a server computer.

Executives will also tout Intel's forthcoming McKinley processor,

which is due to be available to customers by the middle of this year. McKinley is the successor to the Itanium processor, Intel's first chip that crunches data in chunks of 64 bits at a time, compared with the 32 bits that Intel's Pentium and Xeon chips do.

But the number of McKinley chips sold will be far less than the number of desktop and laptop PC processors that Intel sells, although they will sell for far higher prices, on average.

For years, rivals Sun Microsystems Inc. SUNW.O and International Business Machines Corp. IBM.N have sold their own 64-bit chips, which are used in very powerful computers.

Performance details and the price of the new chips and chipsets weren't yet available, Chartier said.

Chief Executive Craig Barrett on Feb. 25 will kick off the San Francisco conference with an address on the state of the telecommunications and computer industry. The conference, which runs through Feb. 28, is expected to draw about 4,000 people, the same number who attended Intel's conference last fall.

Shares of Intel rose 41 cents to \$33.38 on Nasdaq. The stock has risen 6 percent so far this year.

Management Protocol, used for monitoring and managing computer network devices.

Also on Tuesday, the FBI and Secret Service issued guidelines for businesses to use in planning for and responding to computer system attacks and security breaches.

The guidelines urge business leaders to establish contacts with law enforcement agencies, and it explains how to report incidents to authorities.

TECHNOLOGY IN BRIEF

States Request Microsoft Windows Code

WASHINGTON (Reuters) - The state attorneys general still pursuing the antitrust case against Microsoft Corp. MSFT.O have asked a federal judge to force the company to show them the inner workings of the Windows operating system.

Washington Plans Unprecedented Camera Network

NEW YORK (Reuters) - Washington police are building what will be the nation's biggest network of surveillance cameras to monitor shopping areas, streets, monuments and other public places in the U.S. capital, a move that worries civil liberties groups, The Wall Street Journal said on Wednesday.

IBM Introduces Low-Power Server with RAID

NEW YORK (Reuters) - International Business Machines Corp. IBM.N on Wednesday introduced low-power computer servers with an advanced disk management system, the latest salvo in the company's battle with Sun Microsystems Inc. SUNW.O and other computer makers.

Apple, Sun, Ericsson Agree on Streaming Media

SAN FRANCISCO (Reuters) - Apple Computer Inc. AAPL.O, network computer maker Sun Microsystems Inc. SUNW.O and wireless telephone maker Telefon AB L.M. Ericsson ERICB.ST said on Tuesday that they jointly would support a new format for next-generation Internet streaming media.

Web Surfers Not Fond of Paying to Send E-Cards

NEW YORK (Reuters) - Web surfers are not eager to pay to send their loved ones greetings, Jupiter Media Metrix said Wednesday, citing the decline in traffic to online e-greeting

card sites after many started charging.

Internet Use Up 3 Percent in January

NEW YORK (Reuters) - Total Internet use rose in January, with Web surfers spending more time online and increased traffic to health- and government-related sites in the wake of New Year's resolutions and ahead of tax season, Jupiter Media Metrix said Wednesday.

U.S. Disappointed by EU Move on Digital Taxes

WASHINGTON (Reuters) - The Treasury Department on Wednesday reacted negatively to a European Union move to require non-EU companies to impose a tax on products delivered online to consumers, such as downloaded software or music.

Security Group Warns of Flaws in Internet Technology

SAN FRANCISCO (Reuters) - An Internet security watchdog group Tuesday warned that a flaw in the way a popular Internet technology is used could leave corporate and university computer networks vulnerable to attack by hackers.

Gay and Lesbian Internet Bank Shutting Down

PENSACOLA, Fla. (Reuters) - G & L Internet Bank, created specifically for the gay and lesbian community, said on Tuesday that it is closing down, marking the latest failure in the struggling online banking sector.

Overture Shares Soar on Microsoft Deal

NEW YORK (Reuters) - Shares of Internet search company Overture Services Inc. OVER.O soared about 25 percent on Tuesday after the company said Microsoft Corp. MSFT.O would use its search technology through 2003.

FBI says it's monitoring internet vulnerability

WASHINGTON (Reuters) - The FBI said last week it was monitoring "potential vulnerabilities" in computer networks that could leave portions of the Internet open to disruption by hackers.

"We're aware of potential vulnerabilities ... and to date there have been no confirmed exploitations of these vulnerabilities," said Steven Berry, spokesman for the FBI's



National Infrastructure Protection Center.

An advisory disclosing a flaw was issued on Tuesday by the Computer Emergency Response Team at Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh.

It said the flaw leaves systems vulnerable to paralyzing "denial of service" attacks, service interruptions and

possible break-ins. It recommends ways of minimizing the vulnerability, but says some of these can significantly affect performance of the computer system.

Homeland Security Director Tom Ridge was informed of the vulnerability as part of his regular briefings on potential threats, said Ridge spokesman Susan Neely.

The advisory said the vulnerability affects the Simple Network

SabaFon Celebrates Its First Anniversary

Thursday, the 14th of February 2002 marks the first anniversary for SabaFon as the FIRST GSM operator in Yemen. Looking back, SabaFon is very proud of its performance during the year 2001 and at the same time the company is looking ahead for a very competitive performance during 2002

SabaFon is the first to introduce the GSM service into the Yemeni market. The basic post-paid service was launched on the 14th of February 2001 with the following value-added services: CLIP, Call waiting, Call holding, and Call forwarding. The pre-paid service (Naba') was launched by end of February to meet a particular segment of the GSM market. Again, it was the first pre-paid service to be launched in Yemen.

As the leading GSM operator in Yemen, SabaFon was also the first to issue the bills to its subscribers during April for the period ending March 2001. This has enhanced SabaFon customers' trust in the company and its services. The launch of CLIP and SO-CLIP services also followed short after that.

Initiatives and offers have always been characterized SabaFon's performance. These range from providing discounts, draws, and competitions to joining hands with major enterprises inside and outside Yemen like Thuraya and Yemenia Airlines as well as other roaming operators world-wide, which ultimately provides SabaFon customers with a leading edge.

● Covered Areas				● المناطق المغطاة			
Area Covered	City	Area Covered	City	Area Covered	City	Area Covered	City
Senna	Senna	Al-Hudaydah	Hajjah	Wadi Banna	Ibb	Al-Hudaydah	Al-Hudaydah
Al-Mansura	Aden	Bagel	Al-Hudaydah	Khab	Ibb	Al-Hudaydah	Al-Hudaydah
Moualla	Aden	Harad	Al-Hudaydah	Ma'rib	Ibb	Al-Hudaydah	Al-Hudaydah
Sheikh Osman	Aden	Abos	Al-Hudaydah	Ma'rib	Ibb	Al-Hudaydah	Al-Hudaydah
Khomakkar	Aden	Al-Hudaydah	Hallan	Ma'rib	Ibb	Al-Hudaydah	Al-Hudaydah
Criar	Aden	Al-Hudaydah	Dhamar	Dhamar	Ibb	Al-Hudaydah	Al-Hudaydah
Tawahli	Aden	Al-Hudaydah	Wosey	Dhamar	Ibb	Al-Hudaydah	Al-Hudaydah
Burayka	Aden	Al-Hudaydah	Yarin	Dhamar	Ibb	Al-Hudaydah	Al-Hudaydah
Majalla	Talz	Al-Rayyan	Lahj	Yarin	Ibb	Al-Hudaydah	Al-Hudaydah
Tahrir	Talz	Shibem	Yafa	Yafa	Ibb	Al-Hudaydah	Al-Hudaydah
Hawshan	Talz	Hadramout	Bahar	Yafa	Ibb	Al-Hudaydah	Al-Hudaydah
Shensal	Talz	Hadramout	Ibb	Yafa	Ibb	Al-Hudaydah	Al-Hudaydah
Hajarlah	Talz	Hadramout	Al-Rajm	Al-Rajm	Ibb	Al-Hudaydah	Al-Hudaydah
Masar	Talz	Hadramout	Al-Mahwit	Al-Mahwit	Ibb	Al-Hudaydah	Al-Hudaydah
Manakhah.at	Talz	Hadramout	An Nadrah	Al-Mahwit	Ibb	Al-Hudaydah	Al-Hudaydah
			As Saddah	Al-Mahwit	Ibb	Al-Hudaydah	Al-Hudaydah



SabaFon's subscriber base has grown very fast. In no more than four months of launching the service, SabaFon had 20,000 subscribers. Short after that this number doubled and this trend is continuing. Spontaneously, SabaFon continued launching more services like, the International Roaming, Super Naba' campaign (endorsed by Prince Naseem), Short Message Service (SMS), the Closed User Group (CUG) solution, and the Voice Mail Service (VMS), etc.

The new Yemen Call initiative was introduced lately by SabaFon, offering a new range of valuable services to SabaFon customers. SabaFon plans to incorporate also suitable offers for the users of this service, which will include a variety of prizes.

The constant progress in SabaFon coverage network has always been an on-going priority. Efforts have been concentrated on enhancing the coverage service by expanding the currently covered areas as well as opening new areas. SabaFon has an intensive plan for the year 2002, which will expand and improve upon the coverage network throughout Yemen.

The public interaction and trust with all that SabaFon provides is the driving-force for the company. As a result, SabaFon is determined to be always up to its customers' requirements and expectations. Flashing back at this brief of last year performance can be regarded as an indicator for all the achievement and progress to come during 2002.

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Henin Overcomes Schnyder to Reach Antwerp Final

(Reuters) - Second seed Justine Henin fought back from a set down to reach the final of the Antwerp Open with a 1-6, 6-3, 6-4 victory over witzerland's Patty Schnyder on Saturday.

Henin, last year's Wimbledon finalist, initially struggled to find her rhythm as she dropped her serve twice in the first set and hit several unforced errors to lose six games in a row.

The local favorite, backed by cheering fans, fought hard to hold her opening service game but then came unstuck as Schnyder took advantage of Henin's numerous backhand errors to easily wrap up the set.

"It's not always easy to find my rhythm," Henin said.

"I wasn't aggressive enough." However, the turning point for Henin came at breakpoint in the fourth game of the second set when the 23-year-old Swiss lost her temper and slammed her racket to the ground after

an apparently wide shot by the Belgian was judged in.

The ruling by British umpire Fiona Edwards seemed to frustrate Schnyder, who also earned a warning for the tantrum, and she lost her way in the remainder of the set.

By the third set, Henin had gotten into her stride and played more aggressively as her trademark backhand slices were once again on target.

The world number nine outplayed Schnyder with her blistering groundstrokes from the baseline and sublime volleys, clinching the match with an ace.

A disappointed Schnyder left the court in anger, pulling off her wristband and throwing it on the floor.

Henin will face the winner of the second semifinal between world number two and U.S. Open champion Venus Williams and French third seed Amelie Mauresmo in Sunday's final.



U.S. Venus Williams plays a forehand to Italy's Silvia Farina Elia during their quarter final match at the WTA Proximus Diamond Games tournament in Antwerp February 15, 2002. Williams won the match 6-3 0-1 after Elia gave up for medical reasons during the second game of the second set. Photo by Yves Herman/Reuters

Reuters Photo ANTWERP, Belgium

Russians Accept IOC Decision

SALT LAKE CITY (Reuters) - Russian figure skaters Anton Sikharulidze and Yelena Berezhnaya are content with the decision to award Olympic gold to Canadian pair Jamie Sale and David Pelletier.

"We just want to put an end to this scandal, to be friends with our fellow athletes and be one happy figure skating family once again," Sikharulidze told Reuters at a reception honoring the new men's Olympic champion Alexei Yagudin and silver medalist Yevgeny Plushenko.

"This whole ordeal took a lot out of all of us, that's why we were glad it ended one way or the other."

The International Olympic Committee awarded gold to Sale and Pelletier after the judge in Monday's pairs was suspended for misconduct in the furor over the voting which shoved the Canadians into second place behind the Russians.

Sikharulidze said he was shocked when he first heard Friday's announcement. "My first reaction was 'Wow, how

could they do that,'" he said. "But again I must say that we're athletes, not politicians. We came here to compete and don't want to get into this political mess."

Berezhnaya told NBC earlier: "Well, it was a big deal to decide whether they would award one more gold medal. We just have to accept it because we can't do anything."

French judge Marie-Reine Le Gougne has been suspended over the voting which handed the Russian duo a 5-4 split decision.

Earlier Friday, Russian Olympic Committee official Rudolf Nezvegsky questioned the IOC decision.

He told Reuters: "It went against any moral and ethical norms that exist in sport where athletes, not lawyers, compete against each other on the slopes and in the sports arenas and not in back rooms."

The Russians keep their gold. The Canadians are expected to receive their medals at the Olympic rink next Thursday.



Figure skaters Elena Berezhnaya and Anton Sikharulidze of Russia perform their free skating routine at the Salt Lake 2002 Olympic Winter Games, February 11, 2002. Sikharulidze said on Feb. 14 he and partner Yelena Berezhnaya were worthy Olympic pairs champions despite the controversy over the judging in Monday's final. Photo by Gary Hershorn/Reuters

Reuters Photo By Gennady Fyodorov



KABUL'S BIGGEST SPORTING EVENT IN YEARS

Chaos ensues as Afghan men attempt to get into watch a soccer match at the Olympic Stadium in Kabul, between ISAF (the International Security Assistance Force) and Kabul United, February 15, 2002. Afghan soccer fans clamored to watch the Kabul's

biggest sporting event in years - a soccer match between two teams. ISAF defeated Kabul United 3-1.

A wild fight broke out at Kabul's main soccer stadium at the start of what had been named as a goodwill game between the peacekeepers and an Afghan team.

An overflowing crowd began fighting its way

through the gates, and Afghan police beat back the crowd with tree branches, strips of rubber and the butts of their rifles. Play began anyway despite the fight. No news of casualties is available yet.

(Xinhua Photo/Li Xiaoguo) (zyw/djh)

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Publicity photo from the set of NBC show The Weakest Link

Contestants on the hit television show 'The Weakest Link' would win more if they banked their earnings after each right answer or held their nerve until six right responses, mathematicians said on January 16, 2002. The show tests the wits of eight contestants who win more money for the group with each correct answer, but winnings are only carried over to the next round if contestants bank them before hearing the next question. British host Anne Robinson is pictured in an undated photo with contestants (L-R) Dr. Sean Kenniff, Richard Hatch and Susan Hawk.



The same program is run in arabic by the Lebanon-based Future TV.
Photo by Dave Bjerke/Nbc

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Spanish olive oil: back to Yemeni market

Spanish olive oil seems to restore Yemeni and Arab consumers' confidence following a number of successful promotional cam-

paigns in the Arab countries. Many international prestigious hotels, such as the Sana'a Taj Sheba Hotel, now serve the Spanish olive oil with meals to enrich them with its unique health, nutritional and gastronomic benefit.

On February 12, officials from the Spanish Olive Oil Exporter's Association held a press conference at the Taj Sheba Hotel to highlight the benefit of the olive oil. The event was followed by Spanish and international lunch as part of the promotional campaign.



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Horses get passports

LONDON (Reuters) - Horses and ponies in England and Wales will receive a "passport" for life, Rural Affairs Minister Alun Michael said on Thursday.

The equine I.D. cards would record the veterinary medicine a horse had taken, a spokeswoman for the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs said, adding that European legislation required this registration for all horses which might end up in the food chain.

"(The passport) won't have a picture on it," she said. "It will be an identification paper that the horse needs as it moves from location to location."

Although Britons did not eat horses, British horse meat was sold to European countries, she said.

In addition to the registration required by the European Union, the government wanted to introduce unique identification numbers for horses and ponies and create a central database, which could be used for disease control, she said.

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