

Women's International Day: WNC: We demand for a Ministry for Women

By NADIA AL-SAKKAF
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Under the auspices of the Prime Minister, Chairman of the Supreme Council for Women Mr. Abdulqadir Ba Jamal, the Women's National Committee (WNC) organized a two-day conference in celebration of women's international day on the 8th and 9th of this month.

The aim of the conference was to promote women's movements in Yemen to defend their rights. On behalf of Mr. Ba Jamal, who declined to attend the inauguration. The Minister of Social Affairs and Labor, Mr. Abdulkarem al-Arhabi attended and gave an encouraging speech on women's rights and promised his support to women's issues in Yemen emphasizing on girls' education.

Mrs. Hooria, the deputy chair person of the WNC in her welcoming speech narrated some of the achievements so far and stressed the challenges and requirements needed to enhance status of Yemeni women, especially the lack of resources and weak representation in the



View of the panel

decision-making bodies. This is why the WNC is calling to be upgraded to a ministry and demanding a quota of 30 per cent for women in all elected and unelected decision-making positions.

Regarding the future activities of the Committee she said, "our activities focus on developing a women's development strategy that is in terms with the exerted efforts to develop the third socio-economic development plan 2006-2010 based on the Millennium Development Goals and which the international community considers as a framework for cooperation and support. And also the equality between women and men in

opportunities and services and access to resources which we see as an gate to women's empowerment is a significant issue in the international agendas."

Ms. Fauzia Noman was congratulated by the WNC in the inauguration for being appointed as deputy of the Girls' Education Sector at the Ministry of Education, and she commented that it was a pleasure to be given this responsibility and this is an encouraging indication that women's rights in Yemen are slowly being achieved.

Detailed report of the celebration to be published next week.



Minister of Justice promises again

Reform judiciary, activate judicial inspection

MOHAMMED BIN SALLAM
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Adnan Al-Jefri, Minister of Justice, visited last Monday the headquarters of the Lawyers Syndicate in Sana'a in an effort to ward off further exacerbation of the crisis with lawyers and journalists syndicates, as well as other professional syndicates backing them. The syndicates had met to discuss the attacks on lawyers Mohammed Naji Allaw, Jamal al-Ja'abi and Hafidh al-Bukhari, Secretary-General of the Yemeni Journalists Syndicate (YJS), by the bodyguards of head of the Court of Appeals, Judge Hamoud al-Hirdi.

The Lawyers Syndicate has circu-

lated a pamphlet on March 3 exposing the procedures the Sana'a Appeals Court's Judge updated especially the exaggerated investigation of journalists' identities and the people who attended the court.

The syndicate's meeting, co-chaired by Mr Adnan al-Jefri and lawyer Abdullah Rajeh, Chief of Yemeni Lawyers Syndicate (YLS), came out with some recommendations including:

1. They expressed their regret over what happened to lawyers Mohammed Naji Allaw and Jamal al-Ja'abi on Tuesday March 1 2005 because it happened in a place where people do go seeking justice and to be secured.

2. They assigned the Judicial Inspection Authority directly to start its investigation in this respect, ensuring an objective report of the events and the superiority of law.

3. They recommended the necessity for arresting the perpetrators and to be brought to justice.

4. They recommended removing the exaggerated armed security procedures and banishing non-official armed persons from courts.

5. They asked for the need to cancel the many provocative measures of personal search done against lawyers.

On last Saturday's meeting held at the YJS's headquarters to show solidarity with lawyers and journalists, many political and syndicate figures affirmed that separation between civil society organizations and political parties has damaged the society's interests.

"The citizens' freedom of expression and dignity are absent," they commented.

They called on all people to reject all forms of oppression, freedom con-



Mr Adnan al-Jefri

fiscation, pressures or intimidation exercised by any side.

Meanwhile, the JMP (opposition parties) had denounced in a statement circulated last Saturday the extraordinary unprecedented measures for entering courtrooms.

The statement said, "It was clear for those who attended the Court of Appeals session that the purpose of those measures was to humiliate, suppress, and terrorize the leaders of opinion, society, men of letters, diplomats, politicians and human rights activists who were present before the trial session was held."

It added that another purpose was procrastination of the trial proceedings of the prisoner of opinion Abdul-Karim al-Khaiwani.

On the other hand, lawyers have expressed their non-optimism with respect that the Minister of Justice would conform to the agreement with the Lawyers Syndicate. "He has been promising repeatedly to introduce imperative reforms to the judicial system and to resolve the prolonging of al-Khaiwani's trial," they said.



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Yemen holds talks on GCC membership

By YEMEN TIMES STAFF

SANAA - In a continued bid to join the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), the Yemen Foreign Minister met on Monday in Sana'a with the Secretary General of the GCC.

Yemeni Foreign Minister Abu-Bakr al-Qirbi said full membership for Yemen, which has previously been vetoed by GCC members, would reflect his country's historical ties with other Gulf nations.

Al-Qirbi acknowledged

however, that "there are many points of dissimilarity between Yemen and its Gulf neighbours", and he called for discussions on these aspects to be based on "transparency and trust." "We realize that we face a set of obstacles that we must overcome to gain membership," he said.

GCC Secretary-General Abdul-Rahman al-Atya who is in Yemen on a three-day official visit to discuss the country's quest for membership, told Yemeni officials on Monday that their country must harmonise economic legislation with laws

enforced in other Gulf States.

At a meeting with Yemeni President Ali Abdullah Saleh, al-Atya also asked Yemen to join the Gulf Arab Free Trade Zone and other gulf economic bodies, before being considered for GCC membership.

Yemen's state-run Saba news agency reported that Saleh has ordered to his government to accelerate work on reforming Yemeni legislation in line with the GCC requests.

Yemen has been trying since

1996 to join the GCC, which was established in 1981 to group Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates.

After five years of rebuff, Gulf leaders decided at a December 2001 summit to allow Yemen to join the GCC council of health ministers, a regional education bureau, the council of labour and social affairs ministers and the Gulf football cup as part of a gradual integration.

Yemen's drive to join the GCC has repeatedly faced vetoes from Saudi Arabia and Kuwait.



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Symposium on democracy

By Yemen Times Staff

The Human Rights and Information Training Center (HRITC) took part in the international symposium on democracy and good governance in the Middle East, which was held in London between March 6-9.

The symposium, which was attended by a number of international organizations, discussed the democratic reforms in the Middle East, the role of civil

society organizations and the principles of good governance.

Mr. Abdulaziz Abdulghani, Chairman of al-Shura Council and Mrs. Amatalaleem Al-Soswa, Minister of Human Rights, represented the Yemeni Government at the symposium, while Mohammad al-Qadhi participated in the symposium as a representative of HRITC.

The HRITC took part in the regional conference on the national institutions

for human rights held in Cairo from March 6-8. The conference was organized by the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, in cooperation with the National Council for Human Rights in Cairo.

The HRITC presented a vision about the partnership between the non-governmental organizations and the official institutions that is based on joint cooperation, supporting the independence of civil society and empowering its role.

Japanese assistance for agriculture in Yemen

*Notes concerning a new Japanese Grant for the Increase of Food Production in Yemen amounting to 300,000,000 yen (US\$ 3 million) were signed and exchanged on March 8th 2005 at the Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation by Mr. Ahmed Mohammed Sofan, Minister of Planning and International Cooperation, and Mr. Yuichi Ishii, Ambassador of Japan to Yemen,' a press release delivered on March 9th by the Japanese

Embassy declared.

The grant will be used for the purchase of agricultural machineries and equipments to help, in particular, underprivileged farmers improve their living standard, and therefore contribute to developing agriculture, sector in Yemen efficiently.

It is worth mentioning that Japan has extended to Yemen under this grant more than ten billion yen (US\$ 100 million) since this program started in 1979.

New NDI headquarters opened

By Yemen Times Staff

Sheikh Abdullah bin Hussein al-Ahmer, Speaker of the Parliament and President of the Islah Party, inaugurated, the new headquarters of the National Democratic Institute for International Affairs (NDI) and one of its new branches, the Democracy Promotion Center, on March 3.

The centre which is devoted to educating members of parliament on the principles of parliamentary work.

In his speech, Sheikh al-Ahmer urged the institute to activate communication with the parliament and organize activities that help promote MPs' understanding of parliamentary work, to further bolster democracy.

Meanwhile, Robin Madrid, NDI

director, welcomed Sheikh al-Ahmer and all the participants in the inauguration of the institute, pointing out the challenges before Yemen in different areas.

She explained the pressing need to know mechanisms of joint work, and exchange opinions among democratic institutions, within the community and among NGOs. That illustrates the importance of the parliament as a national establishment fostering democratic existence in the society.

Madrid briefed the attendants on the service to be provided by NDI and the DPC for MPs and political parties in terms of research capacities, library and digital literature, the Internet, all to add a significant contribution into democracy-enhancing studies.

Yemen and Egypt sign medical agreement

By Yasser al-Mayasi
Yemen Times Staff

Yemen and Egypt have signed an agreement on sanitary and medical cooperation to allow Egyptian and Yemeni companies to work together on drugs and medical appliances.

Under the agreement signed by the Egyptian Health Minister, Dr. Mohammad Tajaddin and his Yemeni counterpart Dr. Mohammad al-No'mi, Egypt will provide Yemen with highly qualified doctors to train Yemeni medical

students. Both sides agreed to encourage local businessmen to invest in the drug industry.

The agreement says that the Egyptian Health Ministry will treat Yemeni patients in its medical facilities, including private hospitals, as it does for its own citizens.

Egypt will offer 30 scholarships every year to train Yemeni students and will treat 40 Yemen patients free of charge who suffer from cancer, or who require kidney transplants or neurological surgery.

First Thai exhibition in Aden

By YEMEN TIMES STAFF

The City of Aden, the economic hub of Yemen, is preparing the first Thai exhibition which is to be organized during March 15-17, 2005 involving some 50 Thai companies looking for prospects of finding a market for Thai products in Yemen, said Tawfiq al-Nihmi, General Manager of Apollo International Exhibitions.

"The Thai exhibition is a true translation of the good Yemeni-Thai relationships and a sign of the improving economic ties as Thai products are readily purchased by Yemenis," he added.

"The exhibition which is held in both Aden and Sana'a comes after the success of 2004 Exhibition and the lucrative deals between businessmen from both countries."

The exhibition will feature products from the following industries: automobile

spare parts – computer sets and accessories – electric devices – furniture – accessories – decorations – hospital appliances – leather products – stationary – construction materials – jewellery – foods and drinks – clothes and fabrics – gifts – health and beauty – household tools – pharmaceutical and laboratory equipment – chemicals

Al-Nihmi added that the exhibition is held in Aden in inclination to the desire of Aden businessmen and adjacent provinces. Bilateral meetings are going to be held between Yemeni and Thai businessmen who will discuss the possibility of commercial exchange.

The exhibition is held for the second year under the supervision of the Ministry of Industry and Trade, the General Union of Chambers of Commerce and Industry, and the Aden Commerce and Industry Chamber.

Spacotel to upgrade network

By YASSER AL-MAYASI
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Spacetele Yemen, one of the country's GSM-service providers recently signed a contract worth \$20 million with the French Alcatel Mobil Company in order to expand and update its network.

The French company will begin updating Spacetele's stations and increasing the number of devices to suffice to serve over one million customers. The upgrade will enable customers profit from the new services such as MMS and GPRS.

A grenade frightens people near Republican Hospital

TAIZ BUREAU

The people in the zone of the Republican Hospital near the Health Cultural and Sports Club in Taiz woke up in the early morning of Saturday March 5 in a frightened manner because of the explosion of a grenade.

The grenade was thrown when the three young men: Kamel Ahmed Abdullah, Mukhtar al-Sanabani, and Arafat Moh'd Hazza'a were quarreling with each other. The resources said that the security forces have arrested them and directed them to investigation and trial in order to make them an example for whoever thinks of shaking the tranquility of people.

Russian doctor murdered in Hodeidah

By YASSER AL-MAYYASI
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Mrs Sankita Elinia, 30, a Russian physician who has worked in Yemen for a long time was killed in the commercial zone in Hodeidah on Feb.7.

The victim was found dead inside her apartment after being stabbed several times with a sharp dagger.

The Russian doctor was a specialist in nostril and laryngeal diseases, working in al-Hayat Private Hospital, and was married to a Russian national residing in the UAE.

The security authorities are still investigating the motives to the crime and the doctor's killers.

Dr. Ibrahim al-Faqi arrives in Sana'a

By YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Dr. Ibrahim al-Faqi, an expert on human development, is going to land in Sana'a on Sunday March 13, 2005, on a 10-day trip to Yemen. The visiting doctor will run a host of courses and programs focusing on human development. He is to conduct three lectures on communication in Sana'a over March 13-17, and other two lectures on March 24-25 in Taiz.

Al-Kuhali is 2004 NBY financial personality

ADEN BUREAU

The National Bank of Yemen (NBY) has achieved a great increase in its revenues exceeding 1.4 billion in the year 2004 with a 200-million rise comparing to last year.

The Information center in Aden has made a poll on the financial personality of the year of which Abdurahman al-Kuhali, Director of Board of Directors of the National Bank of Yemen, won the poll. Al-Kuhali has been playing a vital role in making the bank overcome all the crises since 1997 when the bank's debts were YR 700 million.

This is the first poll of its kind to be made by the information center and the center intends to make it annually in all departments.



Abdurahman al-Kuhali

Yemen needs serious taxation reforms

By YEMEN TIMES STAFF

A recent study says that taxation reforms in Yemen have not achieved their desired goals. Despite a new law, called the General Tax on Sales, aimed at integrating taxation measures, its implementation has been postponed because of objections by businesspeople.

The study says the government revenues from taxes are limited and fluctuate significantly. The study confirms that tax reforms need better management and must create increases of between 50 and 75 per cent, in order to make important increases in revenue.

Economic experts affiliated with the World Bank have recommended taxation reform including the simplification of the taxation structure, expansion of the tax base, and a unified consumer tax. The experts argue that reforms are inevitable if national income is to increase, which is crucial with Yemen's oil expected to be depleted by 2012.

The government now intends to

lift the official subsidy on diesel and save the money for other areas. Lifting diesel subsidies is controversial, however, and is facing objection by the parliament, the people and the opposition parties.

Al-Shomooa organizes a symposium on 'YSP and its development horizons'

Hassan al-Zaidi

Al-Shomooa Weekly organizes a symposium on 'Yemen Socialist Party (YSP) and its development horizons' to be held on March 26th 2005. The symposium will last for two days and it aims to contribute to presenting the attitudes and views of YSP that are rooted in its effective participation in the political life and in its bringing the various political colors.

The symposium will be of five aspects: the transparency of the organizational modifications in reinforc-

ing the internal democracy of the party, reinforcing the proximity of parties' political variety, the complementary efforts of parties and political organizations in protecting freedoms and human rights, the difficulties that hinder the efficiency of the party, and the political and intellectual variables in the YSP ideologies. It is worth mentioning that Al-Shomooa is an independent newspaper but it severely attacked YSP, so that the YSP leaders considered that it is an independent establishment working in the favor of some political forces that are against YSP.

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*A message from UNESCO's director general***Let's still work at gender equity**

By KOICHIRO MATSUURA
FOR THE YEMEN TIMES

The theme chosen by the United Nations for the celebration of International Women's Day, March 8 this year, is "Gender equality beyond 2005: Building a more secure future."

It's a theme that resonates strongly with UNESCO - with its values, programs and vision.

The year 2005 marks a milestone in our collective efforts towards women's advancement, empowerment and gender equality. It coincides with the 13th anniversary of the First World Conference on Women (Mexico 1975) and the 10th anniversary of the Fourth World Conference on Women (Beijing 1995).

In 1995, all countries unanimously adopted the Beijing Declaration and the Platform for Action, committing themselves to the empowerment of women and gender equality, both nationally and internationally.

In 2005, the Beijing Platform for Action as well as the Millennium Declaration and the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) will be the focus of major review processes.

The Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) will undertake, starting this month, a ten-year review and appraisal of the Beijing Platform of Action as well as the "outcome document" adopted by the UN General Assembly in June 2000 (also called "Beijing + 5").

Meanwhile, the high-level summit in September 2005 was held during the 60th session declaration. Integrated follow-ups to the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic social and related fields are now needed.

What preliminary conclusions can we draw from the progress towards women's empowerment and gender equality from the perspective of UNESCO?

As the EFA Global Monitoring Report

has shown, there have been significant advances in girls' and women's access to education in the past decades in many parts of the world.

Above all, 2005 is the year that the international community chose as the target date for achieving parity between girls and boys in primary and secondary education. Efforts directed towards this target and that of EFA goal 2/MDG 2 (universal primary education for boys and girls) have helped advance gender parity in primary and secondary education in many parts of the world, although there is still much room for improvement in sub-Saharan Africa and southern and western Asia.

The Education sector, including the education institutes, regional education bureaus and field offices, is actively promoting gender parity and equality within formal education systems at all levels and through literacy and non-formal education programs.

UNESCO, in fact, is assisting member states through intensified efforts to integrate women's empowerment and gender equality perspectives into all of its programs. The natural sciences sector seeks to promote more gender responsive environmental management and to enhance the equitable participation of women and men in science, engineering and technology, especially in decision-making and training opportunities. The social and human sciences sector makes its contribution through programs to promote human rights and combat discrimination as well as initiatives to enhance human security and peace-building.

Access to information and knowledge increasingly determines patterns of learning, cultural expressions and social participation. UNESCO is promoting women's and men's equal access to information, knowledge and participation in the media through the programs of its communication and information sector.

Meanwhile, gender equality issues are central to ongoing debates about the relationship between culture and development and also figure in the follow-up to

the UNESCO Universal Declaration on Cultural Diversity (2001). Regarding intangible cultural heritage, special attention is being paid to the importance of women-bearers in the renewal of transmission systems and women are central to our activities relating to crafts production in Least Developed Countries (LDCs) with a view to increasing their productivity and personal income.

Serious gender inequalities still persist worldwide: poverty and HIV/AIDS have increasingly a female faced, while the persistence of discriminatory laws and mounting violence against women constitute serious cases of human rights violations.

Regarding HIV/AIDS, it is estimated that almost 50 per cent of those living with HIV and AIDS are women. Yet, more alarmingly, rates of infection among young women aged 18-25 years are growing.

A new epidemic also appears to be emerging in some countries among people aged 50 and over, particularly among women. This provides a new challenge for the new Global Initiative on HIV/AIDS and Education.

With regard to gender-based violence in conflict situations, women's work in conflict resolution and peace-building processes is still rarely reflected in formal processes aimed at strengthening human security overall.

How shall we move forward? Undoubtedly, achieving the goal of women's empowerment and gender equality is possible.

What is needed is political leadership and commitment, systematic and concerted action, and accountable policies. Moreover, we all need to continue our efforts to tackle ignorance, stereotype and attitudes that work against the right of women and girls and their rightful aspirations for equality.

UNESCO is fully committed, in all domains, to efforts promoting women's empowerment and invites all its partners to join in the endeavor to build a future with gender equality.

*Acting US ambassador gives conference***Yemeni reforms encouraging but more needed**

By EMAD AL-SAQAF
YEMEN TIMES
TAIZ BUREAU CHIEF
TYEMAD@YAHOO.COM

During his field visits to several governorates, Acting US Ambassador, Dr. Nabil Khorri held a press conference at Sofitel Hotel in Taiz on Wednesday March 2. Answering a question by the Yemen Times about the influence of the September 11 2001 attacks on civil society organizations and the private societies in Yemen, he said that they have not been effected because they are not donor organizations. The organizations that have been effected are those that transfer money to terror organizations. The activities of the organizations that support terrorism have been reduced while legitimate ones have not.

When the Yemen Times asked him about the relationship between democracy and poverty and illiteracy, he pointed out that democracy does not ensure eradicating poverty or illiteracy, nor does it necessarily achieve economic development. Democracy contributes to solving the problems of the society. Democracy does not mean the right to food, or education, but rather the right to request and organize ways in which to obtain food and knowledge.

Dr. Khorri spoke about the projects that the US government supports, saying that there are projects for supporting the campaigns against illiteracy, establishing and rebuilding schools in

rural areas, as well as several medical and economic development programs in rural areas.

Evaluating democracy in Yemen especially in the field of human rights and press freedom, he said that Yemen has been of the pioneering countries in the Middle East since the beginning of 1990s. Elections are frequently conducted, different political parties work in a transparent public manner appointing candidates for many Yemeni institutions, there is a constitution and a parliament, as well as the freedom of expression and variety of media organizations.

Regarding the suspects of the USS Cole and Limburg bombings, he said that these trials were being conducted in a transparent atmosphere according to the Yemeni laws and have been attended by a number of the regional and international observers. He added, "we, as the American government, appreciate implementing laws in these two trials; we may agree or disagree to an issue of a man or two but generally we are convinced with the legal procedures applied in these two cases."

Dr. Khorri talked about the American grants that are offered to



Dr. Nabil Khorri

Yemen are within the aid program under the frame of the American foreign affairs and the International Development Agency. If we calculate today the grants in the field of the foreign affairs, military, and economy, the USA is the biggest donor on the list.

There are certain reforms that are still required, however, particularly within the judiciary and the economy. Investment will not come to Yemen unless these establishments are reformed.

He added that Yemen is about to join the Economic Club according to a project presented by the Ministry of Planning and International cooperation. This project specifies general principles concerning fighting corruption, media, and judicial reform.

VACANCIES ANNOUNCEMENT (INTERNATIONAL/REGIONAL)

The Republic of Yemen has received a credit from the International Development Association (IDA) toward the costs of Sana'a Basin Water Management Project and it is intended that a portion of the proceeds of the credit will be used to cover the the cost of consultancy services (Individuals). Now the Project Coordination Unit (PCU) invites qualified and experienced international/regional experts to apply for the following posts.

(1) Irrigation System Engineer (30 staff-months in three periods 2005 – 2008)

The ISE shall work under the overall supervision of the PCU and shall Provide direction and guidance to the Project Field Unit teams undertaking:

- Physical system design relating to improvement of delivery (conveyance and distribution) system through upgrades of or conversion to, piped system, introduction of various modern on-farm pressurized irrigation technologies, wadi bank protection works for some vulnerable locations, land leveling and introduction of plastic tunnels/covers for demonstration plots;
- Tendering and contracting of above physical systems construction and installation supervision such that these activities are to proceed in parallel with the Social Mobilization but the construction is carried out not before WUA establishment and signing of implementation agreement;
- Commissioning and O&M start up.
 - Undertake various implementation studies, including inter alia the following:
 - Undertake a study to review the design criteria and technical specifications of pipes with the purpose of cost savings and potential increasing the number of beneficiaries; and
 - Provide on-the-job training to the counterpart Project Field Unit staff.

Qualifications and Required Experiences

- Degree in Engineering, preferably with Master Degree in Irrigation Systems Engineering
- Knowledge and Experience in management of rural development projects and water resources engineering and irrigation including pipes conveyance and pressurized irrigation systems
- More than ten years experience in Designing and Managing projects and supervising engineering works
- Good knowledge of English, Knowledge of Arabic an advantage
- Basic Computer Skills (MS Word and Excel)

(2) Water Management/O&M Specialist (18 staff-months in three periods 2005 - 2008)

- Assist in developing water resources management and understanding and skills for the Farmers, WUG and WUA training program;
- Guide SMTs in developing procedures for measurements (including metering of water consumption of wells) and evaluation of water savings in fields as a result of project intervention and assessment of mid-the long-term individual financial benefits resulting from water savings and systems modernization, including reduced water system operation costs (from less pumping and less labor-intensive irrigation) and increased crop yields (from more even and effective water applications and control, fertilizer application through irrigation systems, and improved disease control) and long-term community sustainability benefits from reduced water use and non-expansion of irrigation, in the form of groundwater conservation and extended useful aquifer life; and

- Assist in comprehensive capacity development and training program for the WUA and water users covering irrigation management and O&M, specifically in relation to the system types and technologies being provided under the project, and agricultural techniques and practices for improved cropping and production, again specifically related to the physical system interventions;

Qualifications and Required Experiences

- Degree in Engineering, preferably with Master Degree in Irrigation Agronomy
- Knowledge and Experience in management of major rural development projects, piped conveyance and pressurized irrigation systems, ground water recharge and crop water requirements, crop yields etc.
- More than ten years experience in Designing and Managing projects and groundwater recharge studies and O&M of Irrigation Systems
- Good knowledge of English, Knowledge of Arabic an advantage
- Basic Computer Skills (MS Word and Excel)

3- INSTITUTIONAL TRAINING SPECIALIST/EXPERT (International/Regional)

The ITS will help the PCU to oversee the institutional development and capacity building. This will require him/her to work in close collaboration with the relevant existing and projected water management institutions, in particular (i) the National Water Resources Authority (NWRA) and the NWRA Sana'a Branch (NWRA/SB), (ii) the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation (MAI) and its sub-agencies including the MAI General Directorate for Irrigation (MAI/GDI), and including the MAI Office (MAI/SO) and/or to the Northern Development Authority (NDA or SSHADA), and (iii) the Sana'a basin stakeholder organizations including water user associations (WUAs), water user federations (WUFS) and the SBC. More specifically, the PCU institutional Training specialist would be responsible for:

- Develop the various comprehensive training programs for each component including: Training in Water Management for Irrigated Agriculture, Water Control and Recharge Systems O&M, Social Mobilization Teams, Basin Water Resources management, Information and Public Awareness Campaign, Training for the PCU and Line Agencies
- General Overview and Direction of all training programs in collaboration with PCU's Sociologist Social Development Specialist, and line agency engineers
- In collaboration with all project staff, define the population concerned by the training program
- Design and coordinate the execution of a training needs assessment (this would be conducted as early in the cycle as possible)
- Define the training needs and the scope, and type of training, in collaboration with the project management team
- Define the needed consultancy and education program, write terms of reference and prepare cost estimates and advise on the procurement process
- Design quality control mechanisms, including post training evaluations and follow up reviews
- Design and help implement a training programming and monitoring system
- (At the end of the project) prepare a full report on training

effectiveness and cost effectiveness

Qualifications and Required Experiences

- At least MSc Degree in Administration / Sociology/ Economics/ Business/ Public Information or any related field,
- Ten years experience of designing and conducting training programs, of which five in projects related to natural resource management

Duration: intermittent consultancy assignments totaling nine months during (2005-8) (3/2/1/1/2).

4- SOCIOLOGIST/ SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT SPECIALIST (International/Regional)

The SSDS will work with the national social development/WUA specialist in the PCU and will report to the manager of the PCU. The primary function of the SSDS will be to provide methodological guidance and management support to the national social development/WUA specialist in overseeing the social mobilization function in the project. In particular the SSDS will help the national social development/WUA specialist in the PCU to:

- In collaboration with the national Sociologist and SMTs, conduct social assessment studies to assess the attitudes of the farmers towards implementation of Demand Management Component and Supply Management Component, and their impact on the traditional water rights to the beneficiaries located downstream of such structures in accordance with Article 27 to 45 of the Water Law and give his recommendation.
- Conduct social assessment studies to assess the attitudes of the farmers and make recommendation for achieving stakeholders participation of farmers especially in the WUAs for management and conservation of groundwater and to encourage them not to expand the irrigation areas and not to increase cropping intensities in lieu of the subsidies on the modern irrigation systems to be provided to them.
- Design the overall community participatory approach for the management and conservation of water
- Review and assess the institutional structure at the community level (Stakeholders, Community relations with other local institutions, Water transfers and markets etc.).
- Train National Consultant and Counterpart staff assigned to the PCU.
- Coordinate the various involved implementation partners and processes involved in the social mobilization aspects of the project
- Oversee and guide the process of identification, interview, selection, recruitment and assembly of the SMTs, and of their subsequent training.
- Review and refine the methodological approach to social mobilization, test it, and reflect results in a continuous process of improvement of the approach
- Oversee the process of assessment and selection of participating communities through definition and application of criteria related to socioeconomic characteristics, social and organizational readiness, and willingness of communities and water user organizations to assume both benefits and responsibilities relating to project interventions;
- Overview the social mobilization, training and extension

support processes, including coordination of inputs by the various partners (SMTs and consultants, and community groups and individuals), review and supervision of the preparation and execution of work plans, and definition of process adjustments from cycle to cycle in response to encountered constraints and difficulties;

- Oversee in particular the social and organizational development of the WUAs for village wellfields management and dam and recharge systems operations and maintenance, including legal and organizational establishment, setup of financial and administrative procedures, and corresponding management training;
- Contribute to definition and execution of community social, economic and institutional baseline, monitoring and evaluation exercises, assess from these the level of satisfaction of water users, WUGs and WUAs with project-supported interventions and of the corresponding social benefits, and propose actions to be taken for needed improvements;
- Mediate in and/or address as needed social difficulties that may arise as a result of project interventions, such as conflicts within and between WUGs and WUAs, between participating and non-participating WUGs and WUAs, between government agencies and local communities, etc.
- Provide social and organizational development inputs to PCU monitoring, reporting and decision-making related to Components 1 and 2.

Qualifications and Requirements.

The Sociologist shall have at least MSc degree in Sociology or economics with specialization in Sociology with extensive experience of not less than 15 years in Socio-economic surveys, social and institutional assessment related to water / agriculture and irrigation projects. The Sociologist shall have experience in poverty assessment of land tenure and land use, water rights, participatory water management, stockholders assessment, formation of Water Users Groups and Associations etc.

Duration: intermittent consultancy assignments totaling nine months during (2005-8) (3/2/1/1/2)

Competencies Required: - incumbents should have:-

- Ability to produce quality outputs in a timely manner
- Ability to work under heavy pressure
- Excellent organizational skills and sound judgment
- Ability to communicate with different levels of targeted populations and Professionals
- Good knowledge of English language and knowledge of Arabic is an advantage.
- Computer Use: Windows, MS Office and related programs

Duty Station: Sana'a Basin area and in-country travel if necessary

Applications accompanied by CVs and supporting documents shall be delivered to the project address as follow (SBWMP- P.O.BOX11014) Rabat Street, Sana'a ROY Tel (00967-1-469159/7/6) Fax (00967-1-469158) E-mail (SBWMP@y.net.ye) Latest Date is (March 26th, 2005)

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- Solid understanding of the Yemeni Labour Law
- SAP HR modules working knowledge (Preferred)

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أربح الذهب

فقط اشتري عبوة واحدة ١٥ كجم أو ٦٠ كجم من منتجات سمون (سمن القمرية أو البنت الزرقاء أو البنت الخضراء)

١- استبدل غطاء واحد فقط ١٥ كجم محتوم عليه علامة من أقرب مركز استبدال واحصل علي هديتك الفورية (حافضة طعام كبيرة أو صحن ملامين كبير وكذلك قسمتين للسحب النهائي)

٢- استبدل غطاء واحد فقط ٦٠ كجم محتوم عليه علامة من أقرب مركز استبدال واحصل علي هديتك الفورية (حافضة طعام متوسطة صافي أو طبق ملامين صغير وكذلك قسيمة للسحب النهائي)

سيتعمل سحب كل يوم إثنين علي جوائز ذهبية حسب الجدول التالي :

السحب الأول عدن ٢٠٠٥/٤/١١ تسليم الجوائز ٢٠٠٥/٤/١٨
السحب الثاني إب ٢٠٠٥/٥/١٦ تسليم الجوائز ٢٠٠٥/٥/٢٣

لمزيد من الإستفسار الإتصال بخدمة العملاء تلفون: ٢٦٦ ٣٥٠ ٤/ ٢٠٠٥/٠٣

أنت الرابع في عيد سبأفون الرابع

أجهزة منزلية
رحلات سياحية
سيارتان هيونداي

مبارك للفائزين لليوم ١٩ :

- وهيب محمد طه سعيد (رحله إلى ماليزيا لشخصين)
- مصطفى علي محمد أحمد (أجهزة منزلية)

مبارك للفائزين لليوم ٢٠ :

- معتز أحمد الأمين (رحله إلى ماليزيا لشخصين)
- محمد صالح أحمد البرعي (أجهزة منزلية)

مبارك للفائزين لليوم ٢١ :

- علي عبده حاتم الصايدي (رحله إلى ماليزيا لشخصين)
- سامي محمد صالح مهدي (أجهزة منزلية)

مبارك للفائزين لليوم ٢٢ :

- جمال صالح ناصر صالح (رحله إلى ماليزيا لشخصين)
- علي متيف علي بن حويل (أجهزة منزلية)

مبارك للفائزين لليوم ١٦ :

- بدر عمر سالم بن قريان (رحله إلى ماليزيا لشخصين)
- طه محمد عبدالرحمن قائد (أجهزة منزلية)

مبارك للفائزين لليوم ١٧ :

- محمد جلال محمد شحاده (رحله إلى ماليزيا لشخصين)
- صادق عبده زيد (أجهزة منزلية)

مبارك للفائزين لليوم ١٨ :

- علي صالح عايض الصريمي (رحله إلى ماليزيا لشخصين)
- خالد أحمد علي كايح (أجهزة منزلية)

بمناسبة عيدنا السنوي الرابع يسرنا أن نقدم هذا العرض المتميز لعملائنا الكرام: سيتم السحب عبر الكمبيوتر على رحلة سياحية إلى ماليزيا وأجهزة منزلية لشخصين يومياً. كما سيتم السحب على سيارتين هيونداي عند نهاية فترة العرض.

هذا العرض ساري ابتداءً من ١٥ فبراير وحتى ١٥ مارس ويشمل مشتركي نظام الفوترة ونظام الدفع المسبق على أن لا يكون الخط مفصول أثناء فترة السحب.

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Abbas accuses Israel of dragging feet on peace moves

RAMALLAH, West Bank, March 8 (Reuters) - Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas accused Israel on Tuesday of undermining peace efforts by dragging its feet over promises to free prisoners and pull back from West Bank cities.

Addressing the Palestinian parliament, Abbas voiced his toughest criticism of Israel since agreeing a ceasefire with Prime Minister Ariel Sharon a month ago. Israel froze peace moves after a Palestinian suicide bombing on Feb. 25.

Abbas turned up the heat just hours before he was due to meet Defence Minister Shaul Mofaz, resuming talks for handing over five West Bank towns to Palestinian control. It will be the highest-level negotiations since last month's summit in Egypt.

Abbas's scathing comments could exacerbate tensions in the negotiations, which Israeli and Palestinian sources had predicted would lead to an Israeli army pullback from Tulkarm, possibly within hours of the talks.

"The Israeli delay in implementing the commitments constitutes a threat to what we have succeeded in achieving and gives excuses to those who are plotting to sabotage the entire peace process," Abbas told lawmakers.

But Israel has demanded that Abbas dismantle militant groups instead of just trying to coax them into halting attacks.

Hopes for Middle East peace have risen since Abbas, a moderate elected on a platform of non-violence, replaced the



A Palestinian youth holds a Palestine flag in front of Israeli border police during a protest against Israel's controversial security barrier near the West Bank village of Bilin March 8. Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas accused Israel on Tuesday of undermining peace efforts by dragging its feet over promises to free prisoners and pull back from West Bank cities. REUTERS

late Yasser Arafat and fighting has declined.

But after a bombing killed five people in Tel Aviv, Israel suspended a planned handover of cities and prisoner releases, saying Abbas had to crack down on militants.

"We have proven our commitment and seriousness ... despite continued occupation and poor capabilities," Abbas said.

Abbas may be hardening his line against Israel to win over militants who have balked at formalising a de facto truce.

He also appeared to be sending a message of frustration to the international community, which backed his plans for reforming the Palestinian Authority at last week's London conference but pushed him to do more to rein in militants.

Tulkarm first?

Abbas reiterated demands for negotiations for statehood alongside efforts to end violence. Israel says that there can

be no talks on such issues until militant groups are crushed.

Abbas also emphasised that Palestinians would not stand for an increase in Jewish settlements in the West Bank as a result of Sharon's planned withdrawal from the Gaza Strip this summer. Palestinians want both occupied territories for a state.

Despite signs pointing to Tulkarm, Mofaz said no decision had been made yet on the first handover in the West Bank.

The meeting with Abbas was due to take place at the Erez Crossing to Gaza on Tuesday night. Successful negotiations could brighten the prospects for further peace moves.

Aides to Sharon and Abbas had restarted talks in recent days as security cooperation improved.

The towns to be handed over had been under Palestinian rule following a 1993 interim peace accord, but effectively were reoccupied by Israel after a wave of suicide bombings in the Jewish state during a Palestinian uprising that erupted in

2000.

Plans for initiating the handover in Jericho, a centre of relative calm, were shelved in favour of Tulkarm after the sides failed to agree on the dismantling of military checkpoints.

Tulkarm, a town of 60,000 people near the West Bank boundary at Israel's narrowest point, was home to many of the bombers who struck Israel's coastal cities earlier in the uprising.

But Israel now appears willing to ease restrictions on Tulkarm in part because of a section of its West Bank barrier that mostly hems in the town to the north, south and west.

Israel says the barrier is for self-defence. Palestinians call it collective punishment.

A pullback from positions on the town's edges would end army raids, but last-minute hitches could still delay any handover.

Tulkarm Governor Izzedin al-Sharif said 2,000 security officers already had been deployed in the town to take control.

UN presses Somali warlords to agree to cease-fire

UNITED NATIONS, March 7 (Reuters) - Somalia's warlords must stop fighting among themselves and agree to a cease-fire as a first step toward peace and security in the lawless northeast African nation, the Security Council said on Monday.

The 15-nation council, in a statement adopted unanimously, welcomed the progress made by Somalia's fledgling national government toward restoring central authority but said a comprehensive and verifiable cease-fire agreement was needed before feuding factions could start to disarm.

A country of as many as 10 million people, Somalia has been carved up into fiefdoms run by rival warlords since 1991.

The new government was formed in the safety of neighboring Kenya last year and is currently trying to establish itself inside the Horn of Africa country.

Somalia's new President Abdullahi Yusuf and Prime Minister Mohammed Ali Gedi, both of whom are still based in Nairobi, toured parts of Somalia in recent weeks to prepare for the return of their government, which hopes to begin disarming militias once it is ensconced inside the country.

Winston Tubman, head of the U.N.

political office for Somalia, told the council in a closed-door session before it adopted the statement that the security situation in Somalia remained precarious.

Intermittent fighting continued, fueled by factional rivalries and extensive violations of a U.N. arms embargo, Tubman told reporters in a summary of his council briefing.

The capital Mogadishu was particularly insecure, Tubman said. But the political process now under way at least pointed the way to a possible end to the crisis, he said.

"I believe this new effort constitutes Somalia's best chance in many years to achieve peace and security. It is a process, however, that will need (international) support to succeed" as well as help from the Somali people, he said.

The powerful earthquake and tsunami that devastated Indian Ocean coastlines on Dec. 26 killed as many as 300 people in Somalia and touched some 18,000 households. Recurrent drought is also a problem in the region.

But international assistance for many needy victims cannot be delivered until aid workers are assured of better security, said Tubman, who is leaving his U.N. post to run for president in October elections in his native Liberia.

African Union deadlocked on Darfur prosecutions

ABUJA, March 8 (Reuters) - The African Union has been unable to agree a way to punish perpetrators of gross human rights violations in Sudan's Darfur region, the head of the 53-member group said on Tuesday.

Aid groups accuse pro-government militia of raping women, killing civilians and burning villages in the vast western Sudanese region, where 2 million people have been driven from their homes since rebels took up arms two years ago.

Nigerian President Olusegun Obasanjo, who is also chairman of the African Union, said the pan-African body was still seeking an "acceptable means of

bringing the culprits in violation of human rights in Darfur to book".

"No consensus has been reached in the African Union with the government of Sudan on the matter," he added in a statement.

The United Nations has also been deadlocked on the issue of prosecuting war crimes in Darfur, with Europe, China and the United States pushing for different options.

A majority in the Security Council favour sending perpetrators to the International Criminal Court in The Hague, but this is opposed by U.S. President George W. Bush.

W.Bank settler outposts grow with state aid

JERUSALEM, March 8 (Reuters) - Unauthorised Jewish settler outposts have spread in the West Bank with state funding despite Israel's pledge to remove them under a U.S.-backed peace plan, a report commissioned by Israel's government said on Tuesday.

"It seems as if blatant violations of the law have become institutional and institutionalised...that no ones seriously intends to enforce (it)," said the report, leaked to Reuters by justice sources before it was to be given to Sharon on Tuesday.

A government official said there would be no comment on the report until Sharon had read it.

The study by a former chief state prosecutor detailed involvement by the housing ministry, Israel's immigrant agency and the army in providing funds and infrastructure needed to erect settler outposts, some on Palestinian private property.

"The process of outpost expansion is profoundly under way," the report said. Prime Minister Ariel Sharon has repeatedly promised to dismantle scores of the caravan clusters erected in occupied territory by ultra-nationalist Jews.

"The state of Israel finances at least some of these outposts," the report said.

The international community views all the settlements as illegal. The outposts are unauthorised even by Israel.

The "road map" peace plan calls in part for the removal of outposts and a freeze on building in established, suburban-style settlements to help enable the creation of a viable Palestinian state in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Israel's failure to fulfil either condition has irked U.S. President George W. Bush but pressure for compliance appears to have abated as Sharon pursues a plan to evacuate all 8,500 settlers from Gaza later this year.

Palestinians welcome the Gaza withdrawal as a step that could help peace-making prospects that have brightened since President Mahmoud Abbas agreed

a truce with Sharon on Feb. 8. But they fear Israel will strengthen its hold in the West Bank.

Israeli housing boom in Westbank

Sharon, confronted by resistance in his right-wing camp to any withdrawals, has coupled the Gaza pullout with vows to keep for good wide tracts of the West Bank where the vast majority of the 240,000 settlers live.

Palestinian officials said the outpost report hardened their concern that gaining Gaza will come at the expense of Israel's effective annexation of wide tracts of the West Bank.

"The road map says Israel must stop all settlement activity, must dismantle all outposts created since March 2001 (when Sharon took power). If not, this will seriously undermine the peace process," said chief Palestinian negotiator Saeb Erekat.

Palestinians were infuriated by a disclosure last month that Israel planned a housing construction boom in the West Bank.

A confidant of Sharon said: "The Americans are aware Sharon has political difficulty dealing with the outposts as long as he has not overcome opposition over disengagement."

The report by Talia Sassoon, ex-head of criminal prosecutions in the state attorney's office, said outposts had sprouted without cabinet approval or planning authority.

It said officials of the Housing Ministry, headed by a rightist, had sent hundreds of trailers into the West Bank and provided for their connection to vital utilities without signed agreements. Dror Etikes of the settlement watchdog group Peace Now said about 100 outposts with up to 2,000 people were flourishing.

"Lately we have seen the phenomenon of outposts thickening with some permanent building going on. In most cases people live there permanently," he said on Israel Radio.

Iraqi voters grow frustrated

BAGHDAD, March 8 (Reuters) - Many Iraqis who defied suicide bombers to vote in landmark elections now say they regret risking their lives for politicians they say care more about winning top government posts than rescuing the country.

Five weeks after the national assembly polls, Iraqi parties are locked in wrangling over who will get what posts, leaving Iraqis frustrated as violence rages.

As politicians from rival sects bicker, a suicide bomber killed 125 people in the town of Hilla last week in the

deadliest single attack since Saddam Hussein was toppled in 2003.

"I considered elections as a big Iraqi wedding. I wore my best clothes, but now I feel betrayed," said a 40-year-old unemployed Iraqi who declined to give his name because of fear of attack by insurgents.

"I am angry and ask myself why did I vote? Why did I risk my life? Everyone seems busy trying to get posts and leave Iraqis to terrorists like the attack on Hilla," he said.

Iraqi government officials billed the elections as a big success after decades

of oppression under Saddam's regime.

The Islamist Shi'ite United Iraqi Alliance won by a slim majority, giving the sect power after years of Sunni domination under Saddam.

Since then, politicians from different party lists have worked to divide up key posts including that of prime minister.

But ordinary Iraqis say stability, promised by Iraqi officials as a fruit of democracy, is their number one concern ahead of the demands of rival sects or the question of who will get control of oil-rich cities.

"I feel frustrated and disappointed.

It's nearly a month now and the lists couldn't form a government. We want to see the fruit of what we did," said Abdul Amir Najim, 40, an employee at a construction company.

"We went to elections because we want stability and security. But what we had instead is differences between the parties, withdrawal from alliances and terrorist attacks everywhere."

Betrayal

The sense of betrayal may not ease anytime soon. Shi'ites, Sunnis and Kurds hope to form a government before the first meeting of the National Assembly on March 16.

But that is looking increasingly unlikely, leaving a political vacuum in a country where the new political leaders are eager to reach a comprehensive agreement that satisfies everybody before choosing a new government.

"I thought after the elections our life would improve but politicians are busy with who takes the presidency and who is the prime minister," she said.

"Let anyone be the prime minister but he should improve our lives, security and curb corruption that spread everywhere," said pensioner Shireen Taha, 54.

Some Iraqis said the protracted negotiations are a healthy part of democracy, as long as they deliver.

"They are trying to reach a consensus. It's for the benefit of Iraq," said Yihya Ibrahim, 45, a taxi driver.

"It's part of democracy and the political game. I have no concerns on them being late as long as they reach a result that serves Iraq."



Iraqi college students chant anti-U.S. slogans as they demonstrate in the University of al-Mustansiriya in Baghdad March 8. Hundreds of students left their classes on Tuesday as they demonstrated against U.S.-led occupation in their country. The demonstration came one day after U.S. troops conducted a raid in the university and arrested one of their female professors. REUTERS

Croatia talks won't start if Hague negative : EU

BRUSSELS, March 8 (Reuters) - The European Union will not open accession talks with Croatia next week if a report from the chief U.N. war crimes prosecutor on Zagreb's cooperation is negative, the European Commission said on Tuesday.

A Commission spokesman was responding to comments by chief prosecutor Carla del Ponte in a Reuters interview on Monday that Croatia was not doing enough to arrest top war crimes suspect General Ante Gotovina and had obstructed her own investigations.

Del Ponte was due to send an updated written report to EU president Luxembourg later on Tuesday and the Commission spokesman said it would

be an important element in the decision by EU foreign ministers next week.

"The only thing I can tell you is that without a positive assessment of this report, negotiations can't start on March 17," spokesman Amadeu Altafaj Tardio told a news conference. "The report is important but it does not in any way pre-empt the decision that will be taken by the (EU) Council," he added.

The EU executive had always said that full cooperation with the tribunal was "the sine qua non criterion" for starting accession talks and it was not changing its position, he said.

The Commission planned no further discussion on Croatia before next

week's decision, but ambassadors of the 25 EU member states will hold a preparatory meeting on Thursday.

Del Ponte told Reuters that Zagreb could have captured and handed over Gotovina if it had wanted but it was still not trying to do so apparently because of political reasons.

Her stern verdict appeared to doom Prime Minister Ivo Sanader's hopes of starting the talks on time without having captured or transferred Gotovina to the International Criminal Tribunal on the former Yugoslavia in the Hague.

Gotovina, regarded as a hero of Croatia's 1991-95 war of independence, is accused of crimes against humanity during a 1995 offensive against rebel Croatian Serbs.

French ex-Guantanamo inmates probed for terror link

PARIS, March 8 (Reuters) - Three French citizens released by U.S. authorities at Guantanamo Bay were held for questioning over terror links when they arrived back in France, the Justice Ministry said on Tuesday.

The three, identified by a government source as Ridouane Khalid, Khaled ben Mustapha and Moustak Ali Patel, arrived back in France on Monday.

They were the last French citizens to be released from the U.S. naval base in Cuba.

"They were held for questioning on their arrival" in France, the ministry said in a statement, adding that they were being investigated for "criminal association with a terrorist enterprise".

The three Frenchmen were captured in 2001 or early 2002 after U.S.-led forces invaded Afghanistan to oust the Taliban government and its al Qaeda allies.

They were taken to the U.S. military camp at Guantanamo as suspected Islamist militants.

Their release from the U.S. base followed a visit to France last month by U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice — a trip aimed at repairing ties between the two countries strained over the U.S.-led Iraq war, which France strongly opposed.

Four other French citizens, captured in 2001 and 2002 in Afghanistan by the U.S. military, were released from Guantanamo Bay and returned to France last July. They remain in detention in France despite several release requests by their lawyers.

UN raises Kosovo security for PM indictment

PRISTINA, Serbia and Montenegro, March 8 (Reuters) - The United Nations raised its threat level and NATO sent extra troops to Kosovo in case of ethnic unrest following the war crimes indictment of Prime Minister Ramush Haradinaj, officials said on Tuesday.

"Five hundred British troops flew into Pristina on Monday night," said Captain Sarah Erikson, a spokeswoman for the NATO-led peacekeeping force KFOR.

"There have been indications the security situation is not as good as we want it to be."

In western Kosovo, Haradinaj's power base and scene of his guerrilla battles against Serb forces in 1998-99, Germany was also reinforcing its peacekeeping contingent, while the protectorate's U.N. administration warned non-essential personnel to stay off the streets in some areas.

KFOR said late last week that 600 extra German troops were coming in, but declined to link the move to any upcoming indictment of Haradinaj, saying it was an exercise.

But the reinforcement seemed to be part of a pattern of security precautions by the international authorities.

"We went to Stage Black in the (western) Pec area this morning because of ongoing police operations," U.N. spokesman Remi Dourlot told Reuters. Black designates security threat level 2 on a scale rising from 1 to 5.

The threat level in the capital, Pristina, remained at 1.

Erikson, spokeswoman for KFOR's Central Kosovo region, said the deci-



Kosovo Prime Minister Ramush Haradinaj speaks to the press in Pristina March. 8. The United Nations raised its threat level and NATO sent extra troops to Kosovo in case of ethnic unrest following the war crimes indictment of Prime Minister Ramush Haradinaj, officials said on Tuesday. The former rebel commander said he had resigned and would fly to The Hague on Wednesday.

sion to deploy troops of the 1st Battalion Royal Green Jackets was taken on Sunday.

She refused to comment on whether the deployment was linked to the long-rumoured indictment of Haradinaj.

"We learned lessons from last year and want to be ready for anything," said the spokeswoman for KFOR's central region.

In March 2004, mobs of ethnic Albanians attacked Serb enclaves in the U.N.-run province in two days of

rioting which left 19 people dead and hundreds of homes in ashes.

There are some 20,000 troops stationed in Kosovo.

Haradinaj confirmed he had been indicted and had resigned.

He planned to fly to The Hague on Wednesday.

Details of his indictment have not been made public, but the U.N. court has investigated him over his role in the 1998-99 guerrilla war against Serb forces.

President Fidel Castro's communist government by halting a policy of inviting dissidents to embassy receptions.

But it kept pressing Havana to free dissidents and pledged to pursue dialogue with opponents of the government.

Moreno, on a visit to London, singled out three nations for helping bring about what he termed the EU-Cuban "detente".

"Several European countries have been much more realistic and objective than others," he said.

"The UK, Spain, Belgium and a

Italy says doubts US version of Iraq shooting

ROME, March 8 (Reuters) - Italy's foreign minister urged the United States on Tuesday to launch a full inquiry into the shooting of an Italian intelligence agent in Iraq and punish any of its soldiers found guilty of wrong-doing.

Agent Nicola Calipari has been hailed as a hero in Italy after he died last Friday while shielding a newly-freed Italian hostage from U.S. gunfire as they were approaching Baghdad airport in a car.

Foreign Minister Gianfranco Fini dismissed speculation that U.S. forces might have deliberately fired on the Italians, but he told parliament that the U.S. military's account of the shooting did not tally with Italy's.

"It was certainly an accident, an accident caused by a series of circumstances and coincidences," Fini said.

"But this doesn't mean, in fact it makes it necessary, to demand that events are clarified ... to identify those responsible, and if people are to blame then to request and obtain that the guilty parties are punished," he added.

The U.S. military has said their soldiers fired on the car after it approached a checkpoint at speed and failed to heed signals to slow down.

But in a detailed reconstruction of the incident, Fini insisted that the Italians had been driving slowly and had received no warning before the attack.

He added that immediately after the fatal shooting, U.S. soldiers had apol-



Italian Foreign Minister Gianfranco Fini gestures during a session of the Italian parliament in Rome, March. 8. Italy's foreign minister said on Tuesday the killing of an Italian intelligence agent in Iraq by U.S. forces had been a tragic accident, but added that Rome did not believe the U.S. military's version of events. Agent Nicola Calipari has been hailed as a hero in Italy after he died last Friday while shielding a newly-freed Italian hostage from U.S. gunfire as they were approaching Baghdad airport in a car. REUTERS

ogised profusely to freed hostage Giuliana Sgrena and an unnamed intelligence officer who survived the fire.

"The government has a duty to point out that the reconstruction of the tragic event that I have set out and as emerges from the direct account of our secret service official who was with Dr Calipari does not coincide, totally, with what has been said so far by the U.S. authorities," Fini said.

The shooting has strained ties between the United States and Italy, which has been one of President George W. Bush's staunchest allies in

Europe.

While the Italian government has made clear that it will not withdraw its troops from Iraq following the killing, it is pushing for a full inquiry into the shooting and fears any hint of a white-wash will fuel anti-American sentiment.

Sgrena, who was held hostage for a month in Iraq before Calipari master-minded her release, has suggested the Italians were fired at because the United States opposes Rome's practice of negotiating with kidnappers.

The White House has rejected that suggestion.

UK's Blair makes faltering pre-election start

LONDON, March 8 (Reuters) - Tony Blair has not even called Britain's general election, yet politicians from both sides of the fence say most of the plaudits during pre-campaign skirmishes must go to his Conservative opponents.

The prime minister is widely expected to send voters to the polls on May 5 and already Britain's political leaders are holding daily news conferences and squabbling over the air-waves.

But turning recent British political history on its head, experts and insiders say it is the Conservatives — out of power since 1997 and thrashed twice by Blair at successive elections — who have been setting the agenda.

"It's early days but you have to say we are not on the front foot so far," said one Labour parliamentarian, who is defending a modest majority in his constituency.

Some opinion polls have even suggested Labour's lead over the Conservatives — impregnable for 10 years — is narrowing.

Analysts caution against reading too much into the pre-election phoney war but agree the once-mighty media machine run by Blair's Labour party, so effective in 1997 and 2001, has yet to hit its stride.

"Unless something dramatic happens in the next eight weeks, Labour is heading for a third successive victory, but with a reduced majority.

The Conservatives will gain seats, but not many," said Peter Kellner of pollsters YouGov.

Former Conservative minister Michael Portillo, often a critic of his party's leadership in recent years, said

few other countries have been very constructive ... The UK sensed what was happening was really a non-issue, that Europeans in general had made a mistake."

"Cocktail war"

That, he said, contrasted with the "very aggressive" attitude of other EU nations whom he declined to name.

The so-called "cocktail war" blew up when Europe decided to invite opponents of the government to embassy parties to signal disapproval of a crackdown on

he had been pleasantly surprised by its slick election strategy.

He cited efforts to push out policies through the regional media, explaining how they would affect local communities around the country, as an example of a new professionalism.

Praise is going to Lynton Crosby, flown across the world to try and replicate his success in helping Australian Prime Minister John Howard to four successive election wins.

"Crosby has created a loyal and effective campaign team that is pulling in the same direction," Chancellor of the Exchequer Gordon Brown's former spin doctor Charlie Whelan said last week.

Crosby, party sources say, has also sharpened up Conservative leader Michael Howard's attacks on Blair.

This was Howard warning Blair on Sunday: "Every day from now until May 5 we are going to hold you to account for the money you've wasted, for the promises you've broken and for the contempt you've shown for the office you hold."

There have been concrete achievements too.

The Conservatives have forced Blair into amending his tough anti-terrorism laws, made some headway by labelling Blair's immigration policy a shambles and have even scored on traditional Labour ground like healthcare.

Seizing on the case of Margaret Dixon, a 66-year-old woman who repeatedly failed to receive a promised operation through the National Health Service, Howard has posed Blair serious questions on public health.

"At the moment their campaign is pretty ramshackle.

dissent in 2003.

Castro's government snubbed European diplomats in return.

But prior to the January change, Cuba had released 14 of a group of 75 prisoners on health grounds.

The EU bloc is to review its position in the summer.

"It has not been permanently resolved but we really do hope that the present situation is a step in the right direction ... I wouldn't like to foresee what will happen in July. That wouldn't be wise," Moreno said.

Moreno indicated, however, that

It seems to me that the wheels, if they haven't come off, at least are wiggling around," Conservative finance spokesman Oliver Letwin told Reuters.

The normally sure-footed Labour machine has come under fire, most notably for running nationwide adverts attacking the Conservatives, which were slammed for sailing close to anti-Semitism.

Brown to the rescue?

Blair insists he would quit if he thought he was no longer a vote-winner for his party but the polls show his personal ratings have shrunk since the unpopular war in Iraq.

They show Britain's finance minister is now a more popular figure than his boss and many Labour party insiders are crying: "Bring back Brown".

Blair put old ally Alan Milburn in charge of election strategy, a role filled by Brown in 1997 and 2001, sparking reports of a rift which had left the Chancellor resentful.

Some are blaming Milburn, a heavy-weight but with little experience of running a campaign, for Labour's faltering start.

"Whether Blair and Alan Milburn like it or not, the size of Labour's majority in the next parliament could turn on the degree of harmony they manage to achieve with Brown, their greatest electoral asset," Kellner said.

Brown has kept a low profile until now but the signs are that as he will deliver his annual budget on March 16, and strategists admit his successful economic record is still Labour's trump card, he will be centre-stage again before long.

Cuba says Spain, UK, Belgium behind EU detente

LONDON, March 8 (Reuters) - Cuba has praised Spain, Britain, and Belgium as the main movers behind a recent thaw in relations with the European Union, but made clear the bloc's demands for the release of jailed dissidents were in vain.

"We do not interfere in the internal affairs of members of the European Union, so why should we allow those countries to interfere in our internal affairs?" deputy foreign minister Abelardo Moreno told Reuters in an interview.

In January, Europe moved to end a 19-month diplomatic freeze with

Havana was staying firm on the dissidents' issue.

Cuba justifies its crackdown on internal opponents on grounds they take orders from Washington.

"These people are in jail because they worked as mercenaries in favour of a foreign power.

They received money and resources from a foreign power," he said.

The EU policy shift was opposed by ex-communist states Poland and the Czech Republic and condemned by former Czech President Vaclav Havel.

Malaysia asserts claim on eve of Indonesia talks

JAKARTA/KUALA LUMPUR, March 8 (Reuters) - Malaysia reasserted its claim to potentially oil-rich waters off Borneo island on Tuesday, on the eve of talks with Indonesia which is using warships to back its own claim to the area.

Indonesia has also sent fighter jets over the waters off northeast Borneo, raising the stakes in a standoff sparked by Malaysia's recent grant of exploration rights there to Anglo-Dutch oil firm Royal Dutch/Shell.

"We will protect our interest and our sovereignty, but that does not mean that we want to be confrontational," Malaysian Foreign Minister Syed Hamid Albar told reporters.

"We will not make the situation worse," he said, adding Malaysia would remain calm.

"I don't think I should add to what already is a very tense situation with further tense statements that people will try ... to misinterpret further."

Indonesia has sent four F-16 fighter jets and will soon have seven warships in the waters claimed by both sides. The military said on Tuesday up to 750 soldiers were on standby on the main island of Java for deployment to the disputed area.

The row comes as oil prices are near record highs and as relations between the two mainly Muslim, ethnic Malay states, are already under strain because of a Malaysian crackdown on illegal workers, many from Indonesia.

Dozens of Indonesian protesters were reported to have burned Malaysian flags on Tuesday in Makassar city on Sulawesi island, which flanks the Makassar strait where the row is centred.

About 100 people protested outside Malaysia's embassy in Jakarta.

"I am very sad with developments that I see taking place in Indonesia," Syed Hamid said, referring to the street protests.



Indonesian policemen block hundreds of protesters during a protest outside the Malaysian embassy, asserting Indonesia's sovereignty over potentially oil-rich waters which are also claimed by Kuala Lumpur, in Jakarta March. 8. Indonesian Army chief Lieutenant General Djoko Santoso told reporters at the ceremony "We are ready to dispatch (troops) to the border area to defend the sovereign rights of Indonesia and to defend its honour". REUTERS

"I think our relations go deeper than that ... Beefing up all this emotion is not good."

Nationalist feelings

Syed Hamid and his Indonesian counterpart, Hassan Wirajuda, are to meet in Jakarta on Wednesday to try to defuse the row.

Syed Hamid is due in Jakarta this week for meetings between the European Union and Association of South East Asian Nations.

The row has raised nationalist hackles in Indonesia where the military and some politicians are very sensitive to territorial rifts after the loss of East Timor.

The former Portuguese colony voted to break away from Indonesia in 1999.

The waters currently under dispute also lie close to Sipadan and Ligitan islands, which Indonesia lost to Malaysia in a legal battle in the International Court of Justice in December 2002.

Dewi Fortuna Anwar, an Indonesian international relations expert, said strong domestic opinion in Indonesia would make it difficult for the government to seek arbitration again.

"I don't think Indonesia will go to the international tribunal. I think there will be strong opposition domestically to taking that option," Anwar said.

"I think if the situation is not dealt with properly, this could lead to a more serious problem between the two countries."

Indonesia sent an initial fleet of warships to the region in a show of strength after Malaysia announced the exploration deal with Royal Dutch/Shell.

Exploration work has yet to begin.

Last year, Indonesia awarded U.S.-based oil firm Unocal Corp the right to explore for oil and gas in the area.

Malaysia, Southeast Asia's second-biggest crude producer after OPEC member Indonesia, has a similar dispute with Brunei.

Roh vows full probe after S.Korean fin min departs

SEOUL, March 8 (Reuters) - South Korean President Roh Moo-hyun vowed on Tuesday to discover the truth about media allegations linking his outgoing finance minister to speculative real estate deals that breached regulations.

Lee Hun-jai, who has denied any wrongdoing, resigned on Monday because he said the suspicions could harm Asia's third-largest economy.

In his first response to the resignation, Roh apologised for the furore but said that Lee had gone because of the pressure of public opinion rather than any confirmation he had broken rules.

"I will order relevant authorities to find out the truth about various suspicions raised against deputy prime minister Lee Hun-jai," Roh said in a one-page statement.

The departure of Lee, who combined the roles of finance minister and deputy premier, has dealt another blow to the image of Roh's government, formed in 2003 with a pledge to crack down on corruption.

Two months ago, Roh's chief of staff and other senior secretaries stepped down after failing to screen out another top cabinet minister, who quit under fire for suspected misconduct before taking office.

"I feel really sorry.

At the same time, I feel distressed and ashamed," said Roh.

South Korean media reports alleged that Lee and his wife had earned millions of dollars in land deals made before he took office in February 2004, violating regulations barring land ownership by non-residents in certain areas.

Roh gave no indication of when he would name a new finance minister, although local media said it could happen as soon as Thursday.

Lee's departure comes at a tricky time for South Korea's economy, currently showing a hesitant recovery from a two-year slump in domestic demand.

Analysts did not expect his successor to make any major change in the government's policy of favouring low interest rates and more government spending to boost an economy suffering from weak domestic demand.



South Korean President Roh Moo-hyun (C) and his wife Kwon Yang-sook chant slogans at a graduation ceremony of the Korea Air Force Academy in Chongwon, about 130 km (81 miles) south of Seoul, March. 8. Roh vowed on Tuesday to get to the bottom of embarrassing media allegations linking his former finance minister to speculative real estate deals that breached regulations. REUTERS

Zimbabwe mercenaries due in SAfrica, may be charged

JOHANNESBURG, March 8 (Reuters) - Sixty-two men jailed in Zimbabwe last year in connection with a coup plot in Equatorial Guinea are expected home in South Africa on Tuesday, where they may still face charges, their lawyer and officials said.

"We are conducting an ongoing investigation into the plot in Equatorial Guinea ... Where there are grounds for prosecution, prosecution will take place," said National Prosecutions Authority (NPA) spokesman Makhosini Nkosi.

Their lawyer Alwyn Griebenow told Reuters he was awaiting their arrival at the South African land border with Zimbabwe.

The men, who were travelling on South African passports, were found guilty last year

on weapons and immigration charges related to the plot.

A Zimbabwe court last week reduced their sentences by four months following an appeal to the country's second highest court.

They are part of a group of 69 who were arrested in Harare last March, accused of being an advance mission en route to Equatorial Guinea to topple the oil-rich nation's leader Teodoro Obiang Nguema.

One died in prison and others were found not guilty or freed on medical grounds after spending months in prison.

Equatorial Guinea sentenced 11 foreigners in November to between 14 and 34 years in jail for their role in the plot, and two of its own citizens to 16 months in jail.

China says aggression against Taiwan a last resort

BEIJING, March 8 (Reuters) - China unveiled an anti-secession bill on Tuesday that allows the use of military force to thwart any bid for independence by Taiwan but sought to ease U.S. concerns by leaving itself other options.

The bill has raised alarm bells in Taiwan, the United States and Japan, but diplomats and analysts said the draft's emphasis on "non-peaceful" means as a last resort appeared designed to provide China alternatives to war, such as blockades or sanctions.

Beijing has claimed sovereignty over Taiwan since their split at the end of the Chinese civil war in 1949 and has threatened to attack the democratic island of 23 million if it formally declares statehood.

The bill calls for the use of non-peaceful means should "major incidents" entailing Taiwan's secession from China occur, or should possibilities for a peaceful reunification be completely exhausted, Wang Zhaoguo, a vice-chairman of parliament, told the law-making body. He did not elaborate.

"Using non-peaceful means to stop secession in defence of our sovereignty and territorial integrity would be our last resort when all our efforts for a peaceful reunification should prove futile," Wang said, quoting from the bill.

He said the bill was "necessary and timely", but added that China was still committed to peaceful reunification with Taiwan.

"So long as there is a glimmer of hope for peaceful reunification, we will exert our utmost to make it happen rather than give it up," said Wang, who sits on the Communist Party's elite 24-member Politburo.

In Taipei, the bill sparked an expected angry response from the government.

"Communist China tries to use this bill to deny the sovereignty of the Republic of China and unilaterally change the status quo of the Taiwan Strait," said Chiu Tai-shan, vice chairman of Taiwan's policy-making Mainland Affairs Council, using Taiwan's official name.

"It has caused tension in the region," he said, reading from a prepared statement at a news conference.

"We voice our strongest protest."

Asked to comment, Taiwan Premier Frank Hsieh told parliament he supported revising sensitive parts of the constitution if China passed the bill legalising an attack and including Taiwan as part of the People's



Chiu Tai-san, vice chairman of Taiwan's policy-making Mainland Affairs Council, speaks at a news conference to give Taiwan's official reaction to China's draft anti-secession law in Taipei March. 8. REUTERS

Republic of China.

"Soften the blow"

But Chen Yuchun, a China expert at Taiwan's private Chinese Culture University, said: "'Non-peaceful means' is a lot more flexible and could include economic sanctions, a blockade, and not necessarily refer to military conflict.

"The choice of words is certainly more moderate."

A Western diplomat in Beijing said: "The Chinese are doing the maximum they can now to soften the blow of this legislation. (But) they certainly are not going to back-track on passing it."

Taiwan stocks gave up earlier gains to close down 0.76 percent on Tuesday, but mainly on renewed fears over China's measures to cool its economy.

Taiwan President Chen Shui-bian has called the legislation the biggest threat to regional stability. Thousands took part in a protest march against the bill in southern Taiwan on Sunday.

The United States, the island's main arms supplier, and Japan have been alarmed about the implications for one of the world's hottest flash points.

Chinese Foreign Minister Li Zhaoxing, who spoke to his U.S. counterpart Condoleezza Rice about Taiwan on Tuesday, said the issue was China's busi-

ness and China's alone.

"This is a domestic matter, our internal affair," Li told reporters on the sidelines of parliament.

"No foreign force has the right or qualification to interfere," Li said.

"We Chinese people have the wisdom, resolve, ability and confidence to unite as one and protect our country's sovereignty and territorial integrity."

Beside the stick, the bill also contained a carrot.

It aimed to encourage economic exchanges and cooperation and realise direct trade and transport links between the two sides to their mutual benefit, Wang said.

Taiwan has banned non-stop air and shipping links since 1949 due to security fears, but trade, investment and tourism have flourished in recent years.

Taiwan investors have poured up to \$100 billion into China.

The bill calls for Beijing and Taipei to negotiate an end to their state of hostility and map out future relations with an eye to eventual peaceful reunification.

The rivals could also resume fence-mending dialogue, stalled since 1999, on the post-reunification status of the island in the international community, according to the bill. Beijing has pushed Taipei into diplomatic isolation.

نزف أجمل التهاني والتبريكات للاستاذ/

زغلول عبد الكريم بازراعة

بمناسبة تكريمه وحصوله على الوسام الملكي

من قبل حكومة مملكة بلجيكا

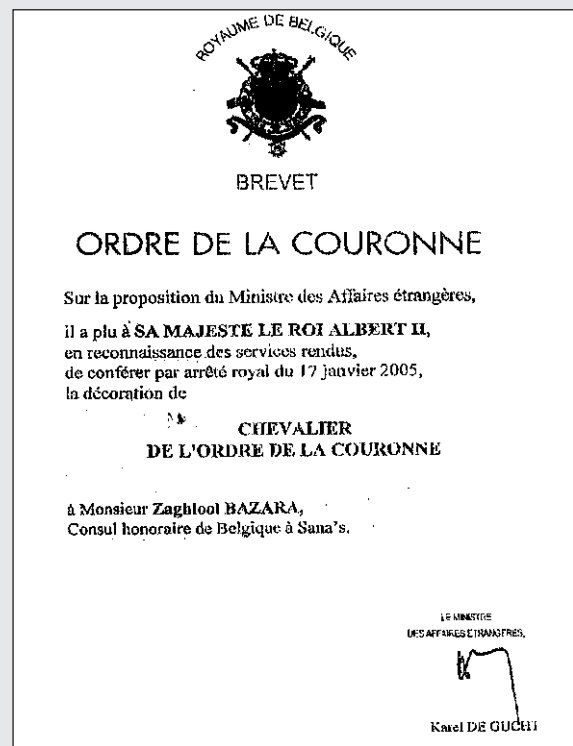
تقديراً وعرفاناً لجهوده المتميزة التي قدمها لتطوير العلاقات

بين اليمن وبلجيكا منذ تعيينه قنصلاً فخرياً في اليمن عام

١٩٨٢م متمنياً له التوفيق والتجّاح.

المهنتون

رئيس تحرير وطاقم صحيفة يمن تايمز



Words of Wisdom



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

The fall-out from technology advances, notably globalization, is clearly ahead of us. We need to grapple with this and the sooner we assess the issues and decide on what we need to do, the better prepared we will be. A main component of globalization is liberalization.

OUR
OPINIONManagement
is the key word

It is very frustrating to realize that although Yemen is rated as one the least developed countries in the world, it is one of the richest countries in the region resource-wise. Despite all of the country's potential, Yemenis live in very miserable conditions and Yemen is rated 133rd among 162 countries assessed by the Human Development Index for year 2001.

This means that it is not enough to have resources, it is more important is to know how to manage them.

Good management includes putting the right person in the right place, it includes accountability and responsibility, the ability to make decisions and the creativity to break from routine.

When businesses become chaotic, and there is no management strategy, the business is failing. When routine is the norm and creativity absent, the business is going down. And when people become careless and irresponsible about their work, business is definitely doomed.

Whether you are running a country, a business, a project or even a home, the reasons behind success essentially remain the same. Many people say that depressing circumstances put us down and inevitably make us fail. However, the truth is that people do not fail, businesses do. This statement has been proved throughout history by the stories of great people who have made a change. Prophet Mohammed (mpbh) is an example of being brought up in a chaotic and cruel environment and yet (in just 23 years) he achieved drastic changes not only in his town, but across the world.

It is amazing how much one can achieve by managing things well. It is only a matter of using human and material resources in the best way. One can start at any level. All one needs to do, is to have a vision, then to set out clear time objectives and identify the available resources. This process should be carried out every time assessing the results of the previous phase and making changes until the vision is achieved.

It's never too late to rethink the way we live our lives and do our work. Learning how to manage better will not only affect our spheres but has a ripple effect that continues beyond imagination. Whoever you are and whatever you are doing, you should start today, as for me, I am starting right away.



Nadia Al-Saqqaf
Editor-in-Chief

Regarding: "America Isn't So Great" by Alawi Abdulla Abu Bakir

"We hate it that we
are there. But we will
finish the job there"

By JAMES A. SHOCKLEY SR.
cwbuff150@aol.com
FOR THE YEMEN TIMES

Thank you for responding to my letter, which was printed in the Yemen Times as a guest article, last month. Your sarcastic, and historically slanted responses, however, rely much on supposition, and opinion. Please allow me to comment on several key points.

"Shove my blind patriotism down your throat," you say? In as much as I said what I did in that letter, these are MY opinions, stated freely, on your site, and open for criticism. I have not shoved them down your throat, but placed them in the public forum for open discussion, rather than an angry rant bent on showing all what a ridiculous thing it is to have an opinion other than yours.

That I am patriotic is my right, and prerogative. Are you any less so as a citizen of Yemen? It is your right as well, but if my patriotism offends you, too bad, that's not going to change.

As I stated, you claim to have some historical expertise, as well as your own spin on CNN and other American News coverage. In addition to CNN, I watch CBS, NBC, FOX, ABC, NPR, and a host of smaller, local stations. You imply that CNN, which is regarded as a liberal or progressive network by the right, and a conservative mouthpiece by the left, deliberately misrepresents Muslims. In what way? It seems they often go well out of their way to be "politically correct," in order to not offend anyone, or cause such charges to be made. What proof or examples do you have?

Of course we are critics. Everyone is a critic, with a different bone to chew, depending on your politics or religion. In the US, particularly in New York many of us lost friends on 9/11. Others were badly scarred. If you want me to recognize Muslim complaints and wrongs, can you not recognize ours? It does not appear that you can. I will always enjoy debate, or I would not write, would not go out of my way to find the Yemen Times, and in so doing engage YOU.

Regarding Hiroshima, and also Nagasaki, you conveniently leave out the many years of war that led up to these events. You seem to know little of the attack on China in 1936 by the Japanese Empire, the subsequent roll up of South East Asian countries, and attacks on Pearl Harbor and Singapore. The US was very much an isolationist country at that time. My country, Mr Bakir, was attacked. It responded by putting its massive industries on a war footing, and mobilizing an army, and Navy. At the time it was attacked, it was around the fifteenth largest armed force in the world. Japan and Germany, combined with Italy, had millions of veteran soldiers in the field, and they were NOT in retreat. It took four and a half years of combat to win that war. Did the US not become the arsenal of democracy? If you are a student of history, you know the US was just that.

The fighting against Japan that was fought across numerous outlying islands, including the Philippines, cost many thousands of lives. My own father fought with the US Marines on Saipan and Iwo Jima, the latter costing 7,000 American lives. It was thought, an assault on the home islands would cost a million casualties. The Japanese are courageous, fierce soldiers. No one wanted to invade. The bombs were dropped to win and finish the war. It worked. Probably millions lived who would not otherwise of survived. For those who say you cannot impose a democracy at the point of a bayonet, Japan should be looked at. They are still a democratic country, are they not?

In what way are these nations "trapped" today? Are you claiming that we somehow blackmail them, and have been receiving war reparations for 60 years? An amazing untruth. The obligations of the Europeans are to NATO, and the alliances they gladly joined, in order to avoid being run over by the Russians. Are you aware of the Cold War?

Which countries did the US "Carve Up"? The Philippines was given independence after it was liberated, as were numerous, formerly occupied Island nations. If the US was the Empire builder you imply, we would have colonies all over the world. Or is it just the corporations that move into small, developing countries for cheaper labor that you object to?

Europe is NOT free? What have I missed? Where is this repression coming from? I doubt highly the Europeans live in terror of us. Read the newspapers. The European newspapers will tell you what one of their biggest fears is, and it is not George Bush. (though he does trouble them).

The very weapons you claim the US supplied that killed Muslim minorities in Yugoslavia, were not US weapons. The Yugoslavians, particularly under Marshall Tito, were always independent. Their equipment was strictly Warsaw Pact, made in the Soviet Union. But Soviet Troops did not occupy their country, as they did other Eastern European nations. Take a look at any of the pictures. We do not make AK-47's here. Those were Russian made tanks, not English, French or American tanks rumbling through Kosovo, killing civilians.

So now, please explain to me here, because you seem to mix motive with fact. You say "Kuwait is still paying the billions for this (being freed from Iraq) but that the US "does not give a damn for Muslims, only their oil." Let's not get into a pathetic debate that the USA cared a damn for Muslims. Sorry to disappoint you, but many did, and still do. Americans, by nature, hate tyranny, and tyrants. We also hate to see minorities abused by people in power. There is no question, of the strategic importance of oil on the US, indeed world economy. Is there some other product the Middle Eastern nations have that is so important? There is not. So spill out your contempt. Obviously, perception is reality.

You act as though Western historians

are a group of hooligans, sitting in a room making up historical facts as they go? "Who writes these books?" You demand. I can name many accurate and respected authors, why do you question them, or their credentials? Are you that overwhelmed with facts that you cannot accept anything?

That you reach back 160 years and grumble about the black man in America is interesting, considering the large and flourishing slave market still functioning in the Middle East today. Or is the UN yet another source of information to be scorned, because you don't like their conclusions either? Slavery is no doubt a sad time in my country's history. It took a massive Civil War, and 600,000 dead to resolve the question. I never said we were perfect, but I am proud of the way it turned out.

You act as if the US just squeaked into World War II at the final act. In fact, the tide began to turn with the entrance of the US into the war, in 1941. Japan suffered her first major setback early in 1942 at the Battle of Midway, six months after the US entered the war. None of these battles were bloodless. The US did win the war, as did the UK, The Soviet Union, and all the other allied powers. I doubt you will find many historians in any country to say it could have been done without the US. Likewise it could not of been done without the Russians. I am proud of my country's contributions, because you denigrate them does not change the facts.

Yes the USA supports Israel, our one ally in the Middle East for many years. Or did you forget about all those rather loose alliances with the Soviet Union that the Arab countries made? Once again, it all comes back to Palestine. I hope we are on the verge of great things here. I hope your cynicism is proved wrong, and things get markedly better.

About the Tsunami victims, how many millions did Yemen give in aid? How many aircraft couriers, hospital ships, helicopters or other forms of aid were dispatched to help? Your reasoning is selective beyond logic. Outside of India, the Western countries led the way in relief aid. There were troops diverted from service in Iraq to help. At last count the US and Australia, pledged over 500 million dollars each in aid, as did Japan. Weighted down in reparations payments to the US? Hardly.

Ref Ariel Sharon, the same people who say he is a murderer, also say Arafat was a man of peace. Can you not see how easy it is to say the opposite? More uncomfortable facts.

To sum up, your letter is contemptuous of American involvement both in history and the world today. How heartening it is to know then that the US aid grants that I read about, in the Yemen Times, for schools and medical clinics, in Yemen are so well appreciated. And our motives so clearly understood. Or was the US somehow doing that even though it does not want to? Truly, that could be, and is said of our involvement in Iraq. We hate it that we are there. But we will finish the job there. We are reconciled to it.

COMMON
SENSE

By Hassan Al-Haifi

The mirror of the Arab street:

Lebanon
does it again

A couple of days ago this observer read an article in Slate Magazine (formerly a Microsoft web publication, now owned by the Washington Post), which states that, for all practical purposes, the Arab Street is a non existent concoction that has no merit or significance in the formulation of the political scene. On Tuesday, the 8th of March 2005, the Lebanese people, lock, stock and barrel went out on the street to belie this stupid supposition, undoubtedly written with the belief that it is all right for Israel and the United States to dictate to the Arabs how should they be governed and what policies to pursue. On Tuesday, the 8th of March, 1.6 million Lebanese gathered together, in a magnificent display of civilized mass behavior and expression of political views and told the world, "Lebanon is ours, and it is we who decide what Lebanon should and should not do". If American thinks that by sending an envoy (aided by a French envoy for décor) to arrange for some relatively insignificant minor displays of public will and expression, they can dictate to Lebanon how its future should be laid out, they have fallen into the mistaken belief, no doubt sold by the Israelis, that the political scene in the region is in the hands of a few neo-conservative strategists in Washington and their Israeli mentors. Lebanon, on Tuesday, told the world that the future of Lebanon is in the hands of the Lebanese and it is the Lebanese who decide the fate of Lebanon. It is not Ariel Sharon, George W. Bush or for that matter Lebanon's supposedly dear friend Jacques Chirac who dictate the terms of Lebanon's sovereignty. It is the Lebanese people who kicked out a mischievous Israeli occupation that brought havoc, death and destruction to Lebanon, while the international community, the White House and Paris sat idle, not even willing to get a UN Resolution issued against Israel for its many massacres in Lebanon into passage, let alone get Israel out of Lebanon.

Yes, the Arab Street is alive and well in Beirut, Sidon, and Tripoli and it fully knows what it wants and does not have to wait for a signal or forebodings from Washington, Tel Aviv or Parris as to how to sustain its independence and ability to resist the most dangerous menace to peace and tranquility in the Middle East, the demonic State of Israel. The people of Lebanon have echoed the mood of all the Arab peoples from Mauritania to the Persian Gulf, when they cried out to the world: "We have our own views. We have our own sense of justice. We have our own ways of making sure that our rights are sustained".

So, how can one not truly watch in admiration as every so called ethnic or factional group in London had representative in that momentous gathering in Riadh Al-Sulh Square that spoke with one mode of expression: America, Israel, France et al, leave Lebanon alone. Lebanon shall not be a sphere of influence for any hegemonious monster that insists on dictating its will on all the people of the area. If we want the Syrians to stay in Lebanon, it is because the national interests of Lebanon so dictate, not because the late Hafez Al-Assad or Basshar Al-Assad so want it to be".

The mass gathering in Beirut was a solemn slap in the face against all the manifestations of a "might makes right" policy, which Mr. Sharon together with Mr. Bush are fervently trying to shape the region with. The people of Lebanon have made it clear that the views of the Arab masses have not nudged one bit from their long standing conceptualization of the circumstances in the region: Israel and all her supporters are seeking to put the entire region under their submission, so that Israel can undermine the stability of the region to further its own ambitions. Tuesday is an unforgettable day in the political history of the Arab World, because for once, the people of Lebanon reminded the rest of the Arabs that power lies in their hands if they organize it correctly and in a civilized manner. Even those Arab leaders that rushed to suggest their support of Security Council Resolution 1559 will find themselves dumbstruck by the massive display of rejection by the Lebanese people of the guided wisdom by which these leaders wish to influence the will of the Lebanese (and for that matter their own) people.

The people of Lebanon on Tuesday the 8th of November echoed the cries of every Arab, whose hearts bleed for their brethren in Iraq and Palestine, while their leaders are content with succumbing to American dictates in order to augment their own political leverage. The people of Lebanon – Christians, Druze, Moslem Sunnis and Moslem Shi'as – all spoke one language on Tuesday in Beirut. Thus, the minor manipulations of public opinion with the guidance of special envoys from Washington and France, were made a mockery of by the people of Lebanon – all the people of Lebanon, who once again showed the world that indeed Lebanon is an exceptional case of true Arab civility and democratic interaction. By democratically coming forward en masse to express their rejection of outside interference in their internal affairs and the imposition of the political will of those who care the least about the welfare of the Lebanese or any other Arabs, as can be seen in Iraq and Palestine, the Lebanese have assured the world that indeed there is political life in the Arab masses. If the rest of the Arab leaders will only allow their people to organize such displays of national solidarity as we saw in Lebanon and not worry about what Washington or Tel Aviv might think, they will see that the proud gathering at Riadh Al-Sulh Square can be repeated from Nouakchott to Salalah. One might even suggest that this would be even to their benefit more so than succumbing to any prodding from Washington or Paris. After all, the political will of the people is their best safeguard to longevity.

One important point to note from this is that Hezbollah of Lebanon has once again shown that it cannot be underestimated or for that matter removed from the arena in Lebanon. Its political muscle has now actually been strengthened rather than weakened by the latest folly of American Middle East policy in Lebanon, adding more to its previous manifestations of military might.

The Arab Street is alive and well.

Letters to the Editor

Thanks YT, but please
add pictures

As we readers of the Yemen Times Online have been given this opportunity, I will then therefore use it to its full potential.

I am a regular reader of your paper and I feel that it has immensely increased my knowledge of Yemen, from where I come from.

As a Yemeni born and raised in England, having a great source like the Yemen Times is a privilege. Having visited Yemen almost every summer I've become more attached to my family and to the country itself and therefore by reading your paper it makes me relive those memories.

I would be very grateful if you would add more pictures of the beautiful country so I and many more people like me can enjoy.

Thank you, and I am very appreciative of your time and effort that you will use

to read my e-mail. Please may I add that Yemen is the main wonder of the world? And I wish that everyone could experience the bounties that lie within her.

Najla Abdul Rakeeb
najla_rakeeb@hotmail.com

Shame on you, Haifi!

I must say, 'Shame on you' columnist Mr. Hassan Al-Haifi. I want to ask him to please, get rid of his "Zionist" obsession and focus a little bit more on your countries' own problems. It is indeed too easy to accuse Israel and America for all your troubles... What a pity!

Thomas Creissen
thereissen@hotmail.com

Things in the US
need to change

I sent a previous letter about the Zionist quest for bombs and just like to add one further comment.

I am a Canadian citizen

born here and very westernized. I also live next door to the worlds largest terrorists country, the USA. Many Canadians protest what is going on in the Middle East and recognize the unbalanced foreign policy of the US in favour of support of Israel.

I knew that Bush was lying about the WMD in Iraq only to give his inner crowd a place at the trough, in other words a pay off to his buddies that got him elected. It is corrupt regime in the US and its actions reminds me of how Germany was run by the Nazis who propagandized their citizens. The US is an arrogant nation. The people are raised as such.

Brent Hemingway
salientresources@shaw.ca

About treatment of
females in Yemen

I am writing to tell you people how I feel about

the way women are treated in the Yemen. I have read "Sold" by Zana Muhsen. I would like you to publish my letter in hope that her sister Nadia will see it.

Zana is obviously doing as much as she and her mother can do. I come from Ireland and the people here are shocked at Zana and Nadia's story. I wish there was something we could do to help to get Nadia out of the Yemen.

Doesn't the Yemen government realize what their doing is so cruel and wrong? They are taking a girl's whole childhood away. And this isn't the only story of cruelty to women in these areas. Modern customs need to be brought into Yemen.

I hope someone sees this and can do something to help poor Nadia out of the hell she is living in. Please publish my letter. I would be so grateful.

Jane Reynolds



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First English Newspaper in Yemen, founded in 1991
by Dr. Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf

Publisher & Editor-in-Chief:
Nadia Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf

Head office:
Telephone: +967 (1) 268-661
Fax: +967 (1) 268-276
P.O. Box 2579, Sana'a

Email: yementimes@yementimes.com
Website: http://www.yementimes.com

Branches:
Aden Bureau Chief:
Ridhwan Alawi Ahmed
Tel: +967 (2) 347-057, 346596;
Fax: +967 (2) 347-056
Email: ytdaden@y.net.ye

Taiz Bureau Chief:
Imad Ahmed Abdullah
Tel: +967 (4) 217-156
Telefax: +967 (4) 217-157
P.O.Box: 5086, Taiz
Email: yttai@y.net.ye

Hodeidah Bureau Chief:
Imad Ahmed Abdullah
Tel: +967 (3) 206-886

Regional Distributors

KSA:
Saudi Distribution Co.
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Tlx: 605350
P.O. Box: 13195

Qatar (Doha):
Dar Al-Sharq Printing,
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Yemeni Press,

A week in review

Presented by Mohammed Khidr

Al-Isbou weekly
3 Mar. 2005

Main headlines

- First German Chancellor visits Yemen
- French defence minister: Our presence does not compete with Americans
- Al-Soufi: Wages strategy without squandering billions
- Abu Mazin and Misha'al to meet in Sana'a
- Journalists syndicate, good attempts to overcome first year of failure

The political editor of the newspaper writes saying the Lebanese Prime Minister Omar Karami has scored a moral victory in the political defeat the Lebanese opposition has inflicted him. He has taken his allies with a surprise by that noble stance he has shown in keenness on the unity and safety of Lebanon.

Though he was capable of renewing confidence in his government in parliament, as the opposition does not possess majority to vote in non-confidence, it was clear for him and before him that the street was in contradiction of him. Thus, he did not pay attention to the advice of the president of the republic to gain confidence in his government and then to resign for what would mean for him votes of a majority of members of parliament in the face of popular tempest and social division threatening his homeland?

One sentence with which Karami has put the ball in the court of the opposition and placed it in the touchstone of the test of responsibility and credibility. It has either to display loyalty to al-Hariri heritage and continue his national approach or just disclose it is taking his death and asset for sectarian and private interests.

Rafik al-Hariri, not the pillars of opposition, was himself who led with his known efficiency the confrontation for not renewing the extension for the president of the republic and operated with it the battle of lessening the grip of the Syrian security apparatuses. Since the parliamentary majority was on the other side, al-Hariri came out victorious, politically and morally and maybe Damascus has now realized that it was the bigger loser in that battle.

Al-Hariri himself was well aware of the importance of Lebanon's connection with Syria more than understood by those who see the alliance with it is an easy road for reaching the parliament or the cabinet. He was capable of formulating a new relationship with Syria guaranteeing for it political and economic influence in Lebanon after pulling out its forces and to provide it with an international cover.

When he refused to cooperate with president Lahud after the extension of his presidency and withdrew from premiership of the government, it has granted him his vote as a member of parliament.

Al-Sahwa weekly,
3 Mar. 2005.

Main headlines

- With the aim of controlling the entire region countries, Zionist-American coordination with mercenary forces targeting the

military establishment

- Symposium at the center of studies and research on forerunners of Yemeni expeditions

The political editor writes saying we are not in the process of entering in a bid with regard of the official information of the GPC and the newspaper of 26 September in their being forums that relinquished their real function and headed for the margin of the national issues. These media overlook issues that ought not to be neglected at all or to skip.

By this we do not claim to point out that they are not national and there is no use of them. For the official media is may be interested in the propagandist aside more than the information and is lacking of a clear-cut information policy, which is one of the important aspects of its failures.

It is particularly so at a time in the homeland there are many major issues that official media are no longer able to deal with. It also seems that the official information lacking of enlightened cadres and programmed vision are among the reasons urged that information to express its independence in its special way.

This has made the opposition information address goes beyond its limits in its falsification of consciousness and tampers with minds in addition to dealing with issues of the homeland with much of carelessness and irresponsibility.

26 September
weekly, organ of
the Yemen Armed
Forces,
3 Mar. 2005.

Main headlines

- Yemeni -German summit, official and popular reception for the German Chancellor
- The two leaders confirm development of relations and enhancement of cooperation
- Yemeni-German agreement on application of international legitimacy in the Mideast and Iraq and fighting terror
- World Bank director in Sana'a: Satisfied over Yemeni economy performance, new three-year strategy
- Yemen chairs meetings of the Arab League council in Cairo
- Protocol on health cooperation between Yemen and Egypt
- French defence minister: My visit to Yemen fruitful and successful
- Yemen hands over more than 21 wanted to Saudi Arabia

The newspaper editorial focuses this edition on the Yemen- German relations saying peculiarity, specialty of the Yemeni-German friendly relations has been clearly culminated in the visit to Yemen by the German Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder, and its important is greater because of the fact that it is the first visit by a German Chancellor to Yemen.

It is also important due to the big delegation that accompanied the German leader in his visit as the delegation included delegates from the government, parliament and German businessmen and investors and the information delegation.

While dealing with the type of the relations between Yemen and Germany it is very important to talk about what Germany offers to Yemen of great assistance that contributed to support programs of development and comprehensive economic structure in various areas of development and services and

culture.

The German assistance also played a big role in the efforts of fighting poverty and unemployment let alone its contributions to support democracy and civil society organisations. That exactly what made the relations of Germany with exceed the only official relationship to a relationship between peoples of the two countries.

Al-Thawri
weekly, organ of
the YSP, 3
Mar. 2005.

Main headlines

- American prosecution accuses Ali Muhsin and al-Fadhli of terror
- International Journalists Union asks Schroeder to interfere for the protection of journalists
- Parliamentarians dictate transmission of their session, recommendation of abolishing imprisonment of the journalist
- Arrests campaigns include scientists and children
- Three killed, others wounded in tribal fight in Taur al-Bahah area

Columnist Tawakul Abdulsallam Karman writes that the problem with judiciary with jurists and pressmen protesting the restraining of freedoms, but rather with those who have rendered it into a tool wiping dust smearing their faces and other things. Moreover, the judiciary is not independent as claimed by the appeals court judge in his session last Tuesday.

What happened at that session of attack on lawyers was not out of the judge independent will. The proof is the pre-organized security aggression at previous sessions. It had appeared from the beginning that security men were prepared already to attack lawyers Naji Allaw and Jamal al-Jaabi and also the annoying colleagues of journalist al-Khaiwani. They started implementation of military orders before directives of the judge.

The court of appeals that needed six months to pronounce the verdict even without listening to statements of defense for al-Khaiwani and deliberations of those who appealed, related the comedies that the judiciary is suffering from, which is unprecedented in the whole world.

Lawyers and sympathizers with al-Khaiwani have to boycott sittings of this court. There is no use of reading their defense, as they are aware that judges would not listen to them and would only obey what they receive from the ruler.

Al-Wahda
weekly,
2 Mar. 2005.

Main headlines

- Yemen receives first of its citizens from Guantanamo detention
- Parliamentary committee demands the government implementation of the international agreement on fighting corruption
- Health ministry calls for forming higher committee for combating dengue
- Opening competing companies for the operation of container port in Aden
- Nasserite Unionist

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By Samer A.

Peace the Israeli way!



Organisation concluded its conference successfully

Columnist Nour Ba Abbad says in her article that the phrase of "taxpayers" is much used in advanced societies where the citizen has reached a progressed level regarding their rights and duties.

The citizen in those societies could express his worry and resentment if the taxes he has paid were spent not in the proper direction.

The taxpayer situation in the developing countries is in a state of enmity and coerciveness. He feels the injustice due to the large amount of taxes he pays without tangibly finds any improvement in services as the taxes would go to the financial circle of the state and fund social services of which he does find a kind of low standard.

In most cases, the citizen's taxes are channeled to favor of the authority needs, especially for strengthening its positions and influence as well as being spent on wars and hostilities. He consequently does not perceive how to practice his rights and defend his right to know how those taxes revenues were spent.

We have to look for the areas of power in the civil societies, to activate those sites, and also to enhance popular monitoring and accountability.

Al-Sahwa weekly,
3 Mar. 2005.

Main headlines

- Sheik Abdullah Bin Hussein al-Ahmar: Rendering public issues into personal ones, unacceptable pursuit
- Our stands are firm, sticking to defending the homelands interest and people aspiration
- Islah Secretary-General meets the American ambassador
- Comprehensive strike of doctors and pharmacists continues
- American Brookline court listens to American expert in Yemeni affairs on al-Mouayad case
- Large-scale condemnation to attacks on lawyers and journalists in the appeals court in the capital
- Its capital \$12.5 million, Authorities in Aden demolish steel factory infrastructure
- Parliamentary report discloses violations inside the Social

Care Fund

- International Journalists Union condemns suppressive measures against Yemeni press, demands release of al-Khaiwani
- Symposium at strategic studies center, Politicians discuss Iraq's future after the elections
- Dengue in Hudeidah

Columnist Zaid al-Shami writes that the 10th conference of the Nasserite Unionist Organisation has concluded its meetings and managed to muster ranking representatives from the nationalist and Islamic union. It was impressive scene of that harmony in the Yemeni, Egyptian, Syrian, Iraqi and Palestinian presence at the conference where the common concern of our nation was there.

In the opening ceremony of the conference, all the present affirmed that renaissance would not be realized by fabrication of crises and battles between Arabism and Islam. The Islam has raised status of the Arabs from merely conflicting tribes to leaders of good, justice, peace and prosperity. Who would deny that the Arabs formed the vanguards of armies for the spread of Islam and they had been in the forefront in building the civilization of Islam?

The Nasserite Unionist Organisation conference has expressed the common woes locally and at the pan-Arab level, in the first place of which is the narrow margin of democracy, limitation of freedoms, violations of human rights, recession of justice and living strains.

Those are issues that deserve to be tackled as a basis for the release of the human creativity and capabilities and feeling of his readiness for sacrifice.

Such conferences, in addition to their being a factor strengthening power of the political parties, would revitalize the political life, shake stagnant waters, and also submit issues related to the citizens life.

Al-Nahar weekly,
3 Mar. 2005.

Main headlines

- The government threatens to sack the physicians on strike
- The president gives his orders of full monitor on universities
- Deterioration of health condition all over the country
- Aggression on lawyers Allaw

and Jaabi

- In the wake of arresting Mujaidaa, fears of tribal confrontations between Amran and Mareb

Columnist Abdulbari Tahir says in an article the Yemeni political and information life has for a long time been characterized by demonizing the other

And maybe the inability and absence of freedom have helped that. Yemen is no different from other Arab countries in the prevalence of the mentality of conspiracy and incrimination but maybe it surpassed them because of the backwardness and heritage of the imamate rule and the tribal composition.

He who follows up the media campaign in confrontation of al-Houthi rebellion and the sectarian stance would think that the political life has not recovered from the deep wounds of the past. Because the alliance between the GPC and Islah is political and the difference is also political there must be a political reading of it.

The Alliance was established and on the basis of succeeding the sick man, i.e. the YSP and both of the allies adopted the pursuit of regarding as treacherous. They differed, after removal of the rival, on sharing the pie and the Islah went out of rule following elections of 1997.

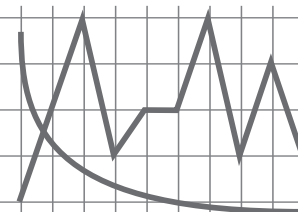
After the Islah departure from power, it stood in an area neutral between the power and the opposition. It would lean on the Joint Meeting Parties prior to elections for bargaining with its big rival the GPC sacrificing the opposition.

In the experiment of 2003 elections, the Islah had gone too far in the instigative address and signed with the opposition parties the so-called then an agreement of principles and its executive mechanism, which is a program similar to that of toppling the regime by peaceful ways.

Then the Islah tended to bargaining with the rule to accept less than five seats in the parliament. But the heated campaign this time between the Islah and the GPC was more heated and took a personal character.

The GPC has soon backed down from the accusations against the leader of the Islah and sent chairman of the Shura council at a head of a delegation to offer apology to Sheik al-Ahmar. In fact, the political differences that come to the surface every now and then are ascribed in main part to the sharing of the booties and preys.

YT Business



New strategy for investment in Yemen

By MAHYOUB AL-KAMALI
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Investment projects in Yemen have been successful in several sectors but there has been an overall failure in implementing strategic project licenses, which were granted to the private sector. Those licensed projects floundered in a way made the government think of reconsidering criteria of investment and think of entering new amendments on the law of investment.

According to evaluation of the course of the investment process, the reasons of some strategic projects floundering lie in the extent of the licensed sides' commitment to build new projects rather not in what the government had provided and what facilities the laws have offered to investors.

Official sources confirm that slowness of investment process in Yemen could be attributed to that some investors have got facilities to buy lands for investment but they did not erect projects on them and their owners changed into agents for selling those pieces of land and benefit from that transaction.

Some serious-minded investors demand establishment of vitally important productive projects absorbing the biggest number of the unemployed by finding legal outputs for the modernization and upgrading the



investment map so that investment could be the more important provider of the development process in Yemen.

The Yemeni government says it intends to draw up new criteria to guarantee implementation of the licensed projects. Among those criteria to be

proposed by the government are the prevention of trading with the pieces of land and putting an end to exploitation of facilities and customs and taxes exemptions by the persons who obtain licenses for projects, which then become unreal. According to some

official data, there are persons who import materials such as steel, cement and other construction materials in the name of projects to be built but they change those materials to means for living and trading in the market.

One of the questions that led to lose

the importance of investment process is that each side is dealing with the new projects with its own special way. Thus, the responsibility of the state authority of investment changed into just a party for registration and facilitating the task of exemptions. Specialists clarify those matters by mentioning that the ministry of culture and tourism undertaking of the affairs of hotels and tourist complexes, the health ministry undertakes the matter of hospitals and clinics projects, the education ministry supervision on educational establishments and the state authority of investment dealing with investment requests in the free zone in Aden, contribute to shrink the role of the authority in following up accomplishment of licensed projects.

Despite of the state authority for investment responsibility for knowing and following up the level of projects implementation, the failure is clear in the performance of the authority's branches in the governorates with regard to follow-up preliminary supplies for the licensed projects and importation of equipment and supplies necessary for them.

To come out of this existing dilemma in the investment process, specialists believe in the necessity that the concerned parties have to introduce solutions for problems proved to be forming impediment against establishment of the licensed projects. They are:

Exchange Rate for the Yemeni Rial

Currency	Buying	Selling
US Dollar	187.5300	187.7700
Sterling Pound	359.5200	359.9800
Euro	247.8500	248.1700
Saudi Rial	50.0000	50.0700
Kuwaiti Dinar	642.0100	642.8300
UAE Dirhem	51.0600	51.1200
Egyptian Pound	32.3100	32.3500
Bahraini Dinar	497.4300	498.0600
Qatari Rial	51.5300	51.6000
Jordanian Dinar	264.6900	265.0200
Omani Rial	487.0800	487.7100
Swiss Franc	160.1300	160.3400
Swedish Crown	27.4200	27.4600
Japanese Yen	1.7859	1.7882

Source: Central Bank of Yemen

- problems pertaining with pieces of land specified for the projects, problems related to financing the projects,
- technical problems and others connected to taxes or failure of the infrastructure,
- providing information and economic studies for investors and facilitating procedures of the employment of foreign expertise,
- obliging the investors to abide by a time ceiling for the establishment of their projects on the pieces of land allotted for them.

It is certain that the responsibility for bringing to success the investment process in Yemen is common among official parties and the private sector. There is a suitable climate for activating the process as the government has provided services in the areas set aside for investment and taken measures against those who interrupt security. In addition, there are legal guarantees encouraging investors to use their properties successfully.

The concerned parties, especially the state authority of investment, must encounter those who seek to trade with investment licenses and prevent them from dealing with lands set for building productive projects. Such a task whose results would positively be reflected on economic and social development in Yemen.

A worthwhile economic partnership

Yemeni-Chinese friendship brings prosperity

By MOHAMMED DARSI NEDHAM
FOR THE YEMEN TIMES

Yemen has left a deep impression on me. Yemen also has achieved big developments in the period of President Saleh. The military and security forces had struggled in bravery to protect the Yemeni Revolution. All Yemeni people joined hands with the military forces in their struggle to protect Sana'a and the Republican regime.

Assab'een blockage is an immortal event in the mind of history. It will be always alive in the minds and hearts of the millions. The Revolution is an immortal heroic development in the history of Yemeni-Chinese relationship. President Saleh takes upon his shoulder the Revolution's aims, and leads the country successfully to develop the financial, economic and administrative reforms.

He aims at improving the country's relations with neighbors and to consolidate the Arab Union," says Mr. Shi Yanchun, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the People's Republic of China in the Republic of Yemen.

He was installed as an Ambassador for China, in the Republic of Yemen, in 1997.

History of Yemen-China relationship Thereupon, the Yemeni and Chinese relationship is distinguished and historical. Some sources had mentioned that the Chinese people had begun to arrive to Yemen in the sixth century. They brought silk and pottery from China to Yemen throughout land and sea transportation. During the tenth century, Aden was an important waterway which leads to China.

In the fifteenth century, Captain Jenkh Kha had visited Aden three times. Yemeni rulers also sent missionaries to China. The People's Republic of China was founded on October 1, 1949. Since that time, it still preserves the Yemeni-Chinese relationship. The Yemeni-Chinese diplomatic relationship had started in 1956.

On October 6, 1962, China recognized the Yemeni Republican regime after the Revolution, on September 26, 1962. The Chinese mission which was in Yemen before the Revolution turned into an Embassy, on February 13, 1963. China upheld the Yemeni Revolution during the Sana'a blockage days.

Then, it declared clearly that the peo-

ple and government of China supported the people and government of Yemen, in their struggle of preserving the national sovereignty and independence of the country. We see that the continuous development in Yemen-China relations is one of the Chinese policies.

Chinese projects in Yemen

It is known that the relation between China and Yemen is going on towards a better future. China founded about seventy projects in Yemen. As a result of the last visit of our President Ali Abdullah Saleh and Vice President Abdrabuo M. Hadi to China many contracts were signed.

At this time, our two friendly countries are implementing those contracts. One of the most famous Chinese projects in Yemen is the Yemeni-Chinese Friendship Bridge. This bridge is located in the heart of the capital Sana'a; it is deemed as a gift offered by the government of China to Yemen. Absolutely, this bridge reflects the wide extension of the Yemeni-Chinese friendship. It consists of three levels: The high level bridge, under bridge level and water level deepening (about 5 meter).

My old contacts with the Yemeni Ambassador and other diplomats, who

work in the Yemeni Embassy in China during my doctoral study period, and my new contacts with the Chinese Consulate in Aden, show that the two sides do their best to consolidate the Yemeni Chinese friendship. So we all are sure that this friendship will prosper more and more in the future. In the Fifty-Six of China and the Forty-Three anniversary of the Yemeni Revolution, we in Yemen wish that Yemeni-Chinese friendship will reach a high level of prosperity.

Conclusions and Recommendation

1. We must find a way for Yemen Studies in China.
2. We must have the opportunity to start parallel study between Yemen and China. Even though Yemen-China Center.
3. We must work hard on making an effort to expand the academic exchanges in the private level; it has the limit of approach.
4. In my opinion, there is no time for hesitation to promote the diplomatic relation and academic exchanges as well as in private level and governmental level.
5. We must breed from the lesson of China scientific revolution and expand the academic exchanges with China

through parallel study due to the common consciousness of the long history and disintegrated grief.

6. We must keep in our minds, that China is very important for us beyond scientific revolution issue.

7. It is fact now, that China is a developing country after its scientific revolution as an oil producing country.

8. Considering to my simple interest on studies done on the East Southeast Asia in future, I have to maintain a concrete relation with China, especially in the fields of cultural, social, economic and political matters as well as academic relation.

In the end, I would like to say, "China is an important economic partner of Yemen and one of the growing economies in the world. It is a country which we believe has a tremendous future in the world. Therefore, we have to develop our relation on principles of economic partnership.

Dr. Eng. Mohammed Darsi Abdulrahman Nedham, is a specialist in geology and a member of the Joint Consultative Committee (JCC Member) dealing with Yemen Hunt Oil Company. He graduated from Jilin University (China) in 2002.

Aden Port to be run by foreign company

By YEMEN TIMES STAFF

The Ministry of Transportation is studying three bids offered by international companies to run the Aden Port of Containers. Preliminary indicators showed that the three bids seem to be close in terms of price. The winner will be announced in the next couple of days.

The three companies that are competing for the position are the Dubai Port, Kuwait and Gulf Bond Company, and a company from the Philippines.

The project aims to restore the role and status of the port and attract new, ships making the port a station for exporting and receiving containers.

The Yemeni Government shows a desire to invest in the Aden Port of Containers in the coming period and the port is expected to contribute significantly to the state budget.

New public works strategy

By Yemen Times Staff

The Project of Public Works and the Social Fund for Development have been recognized as successful projects because of their ability to create job opportunities.

The project provides essential services for the needy and works to improve people's participation in the

developmental process.

The director of the public works project, Saeed Mohammed Abdeh, said the project was founded in 1996 as part of the government's financial and administrative reform package. It began its work in joint cooperation with the government and the World Bank. The government contributed with three million dollars, and the World Bank contributed \$25 million in its first phase.

The project aims at providing job opportunities in labor-intensive fields, and to upgrade the professionalism of contractors. During its first phase, the project implemented around 435 projects throughout the country at a cost estimated at \$30.5 million. The projected realized its goals one year ahead of schedule.

The number of beneficiaries of the projects of the first phase reached more than two and a half million

people. At the beginning of 1999, the second phase was initiated and the amounts of money appropriated for it was estimated at \$116 million, half of which was from grants and aid. Some 1600 projects were carried out during this phase.

There are several conditions that must be fulfilled with each project, most important of which is that 30 per cent of its value should be allocated as wages for the workers involved.

Yemen vows to reach Millennium Development goals

By YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Yemen has vowed to achieve the millennium developmental goals that focus on the economic and

social development, poverty alleviation and sustainable development during a conference in Paris.

Yemen was represented by Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Planning and International Cooperation, Ahmad Sufan.

History and lore

Al-Taweelah cisterns show Aden's glory



BY ISMAIL AL-GHABERY
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

They have a history that is inscribed on the face of Yemen, an ever-remembered civilization. It is the city of warmth, magic and beauty ... Aden.

In this city that everyone visiting even as a passersby gets infatuated with it.

Here in Aden - the city of legends - everything is possible, even if it is impossible. That is because it has the legends of all the tales of "One Thousand Nights and a Night". In Aden, legends and superstitions had been weaved since ancient times.

One of these legends says that Qabeel who killed his brother Habel in India feared his father's (Adam) wrath so he fled to Aden and lived on the mountain of "Seerah" that surfaces the town of Aden from the eastern direction, and is one of its most prominent tourist and historical landmarks. He lived there happily.

The legend adds that the end of the cosmos will begin from Aden, too, as an awful fire erupts from the bottom of the well that is found in Seerah Mountain till the Day of Judgment. It is narrated that The Prophet (PBUH) said the hell-fire will erupt from Aden on the Day of Judgment.

Though the legends and tales related to Aden are many, they are not only the most important things experienced in this wonderful city. It is the magical nature made by the rare shores and gulfs that surround the town from three directions, which makes it a

voluptuous bride.

Besides, its location in the middle of the path among different continents of the world as it has an ancient civilization that qualified it to be the destination of various races and tribes of different religions. These people got affected by the city and affected the city as well, forming a unique society that mostly has civil and religious tolerance. With this, the town became the place where civilizations and religions meet.

Today, it has so many important and alive impacts of the people who lived in it. For instance, the churches, temples shrines and diors, and, before these, the historical mosques that assured the Arabic and Islamic identity.

Of the most important historic landmarks in Aden is its wall of stones and lime for the purpose of protecting the town from thieves and bandits. The history of this wall dates back more than 1,000 years.

Along this wall stretch the castles and forts built for special protection and watching. At the bottom of "AlHadeed" mountain situate the "Bughdatan" that are two tunnels leading to the town of Aden.

These two tunnels are of the alive witnesses of the greatness and ability of the Yemeni man in making up tunnels using primitive methods and ways, but with geometrical methods that are so accurate, which assures that ancient Yemenis were pioneers in such important landmarks that the Yemeni ancient civilization is rich with.

From the other side of Aden, and specifically the old town, are the Cisterns of "Attaweelah" which go back to the "Awsanyah State" era and considered to be one of the greatest



old kingdoms.

This kingdom's authority is expanded to include the shores of the Arab Sea and the Red Sea. It had such a large navy that the shores of the Red and Arab Seas were called the "Awasanian Shores" relating them to this kingdom.

that might come from the peaks of great mountains. These tanks have a capacity for 20 million gallons of water, which was among the greatest achievements the ancient Yemenis made.

According to the ancient inscriptions, the water of these tanks was considered by the inhabitants to be sacred water. The French expert in the systems of irrigation (Sierge Bians) said the "Attaweelah Tanks" that still only around 13 tanks of the whole number of 53 tanks are considered to be of the rarest and greatest facilities in storing and draining water in the world.

The town of Aden was know from long time ago as an important commercial and sea port, as it played prominent and important roles in the prosperity of trade between the East and the West.

The depth of its seaport and the quietness of its air currents helped it play these vital roles. But, unfortunately, this port today has just some remnants of the old one, especially, after the establishment of the new internationally famous port in 1847, after a few years from the British occupation.

The Yemeni authorities have been working hard since the unification in 1990 so as to restore life to the Port of Aden which was well-known internationally. Many parts of the city were converted to a free zone. The Yemeni authorities rely mostly on the port of Aden and the Free Zone to revive the trade and economic activities in the country.

Over the last 14 years following the Yemeni unification, the city of Aden experienced growth and unprecedented urban expansion.

Stolen antiques seized in Yemen

BY YEMEN TIMES NEWS SERVICE

Yemeni authorities have seized a shipment of stolen antiques, including two mummies dating to 300 BCE, that were about to be smuggled out of the country.



A security source said on Monday the suspected thieves were being interrogated to determine whether they had stolen other pieces.

He said a special team from the department of Museums and Antiquities would examine the mummies, which were stolen from an archaeological site in the province of Mareb in northeast Yemen.

The source said police also foiled an attempt to smuggle 800 antiques, some of which dated back to the early Islamic era, and others to pre-Christian times.

للإستفسار 01- 441000

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Yemeni Nationals

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Department: Maintenance
Schedule: 28 days on / 28 days off

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- Maintains all types of heavy duty mobile equipment.
Includes - lubricating, changing oil, topping up fluid levels, carrying out safety inspections, performs major overhauls to engines, gearboxes, suspensions, drive lines and lifting equipment.
- Performs safety inspections.
Includes - checking condition of tires, steering gear and components, inspecting undercarriages and the general condition of vehicles, and preparing reports for the supervisor.
- Maintains hydraulic systems on cranes, trucks and forklifts.
Includes - repairing hydraulically operated components
- Maintains other lighter vehicles such as _ ton pick-ups, station wagons and utility carts.

Minimum Requirements:

- Completion of 4 years degree in Mechanical Engineering or equivalent followed by 4 years' full-time formal training in mechanical trades.
- Minimum of 6 years of related experience.
- Very good knowledge of English.

If you have the above requirements, please send your CV to the following address. NOT later than March 23th, 2005

Canadian Nexen Petroleum Yemen
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Sana'a Republic of Yemen
Attention: Human Resources, Recruitment Section
E-mail: recruiting_sanaa@nexeninc.com

Application Criteria:

- Please make sure that your CV contains all the needed personal , **contact** and qualification information, **no need** to attach any certificates unless we request them.
- Please **don't** call us, we will call you if you are selected for test and interview, which will be based on the most qualified applicants.
- Please **mention** in your application the **job** you are applying for and the **code number**.
- Preferable to send CVs via the **E-mail** address. Faxed CVs **will not** be considered
- Unclear and untyped CVs **will not** be considered, use normal font and **do not** decorate the CV.

New health clinic for the poorest of the poor

By PETER WILLEMS
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

A new health clinic opened last week in the largest shanty community in Sana'a where some of the most marginalized groups live without many basic necessities.

The three-year project, funded by the Millennium Relief and Development Services and the British Embassy, aims to improve the health conditions and empower the people in the Greedome community to run the clinic while the project runs its course.

"This is an ignored community," said Dennis Cox, Country Leader of Millennium. "Our intention is to be here for three years, train them and they will take responsibility for their health. Part of the process is for them to think in terms of 'We're responsible for our health,' not from just donations from others. If we can get that lesson communicated, it will be a success."

Dar Al-Ta'am, the local non-government organization (NGO) that was established in 2002 by the people in the area, is the owner of the new clinic - called Choice Clinic - while Millennium provides technical consultancy. Richard Bramble is the doctor of Millennium responsible for medical care and Benjamin Saeli is in charge of training. Six men and eight women from the community are now being trained as health workers who will be responsible for basic medical care, vaccinations, delivering medicine, nursing, administration, record keeping and book keeping.

"We are technical consultants taking on many responsibilities at the beginning, but a year from now we hope to



Choice Clinic's members of the staff and people living in Greedome at the clinic on opening day
(Yemen Times photo by Peter Willems)

be doing very little and only consultants on the side," said Saeli. "This is empowerment."

Along with training, the project provides medical services and medicine at reasonable prices and schedules vaccinations on regular intervals. The community is learning how to create and maintain "kitchen gardens," so that they can produce their own vegetables which provide much needed nutrition. A campaign on cleanliness, both within the homes and in the community at large, is on the way, and a major focus is on measures to prevent common illnesses.

"We are aiming a great deal on prevention," said Saeli. "We don't want people to always have to come to the clinic. We want them to be healthy so they don't have to come for treatment."

Ninety percent of our work is raising awareness, training and preventative health practices."

The Millennium Relief and Development Service is based in Houston, Texas. It is a network of international development centers operating in many countries worldwide. It works on health and social services, micro-economic development, education, disaster relief and assistance and consulting services.

Bramble said that numerous projects to aid the poorest groups in Africa and the Middle East often fail, which has geared the project in Sana'a to get the people to take part.

"We from Millennium are only technical consultants to set up the clinic and get it rolling," said Bramble. "Dar Al-Ta'am is doing everything while



Some people living in Greedome that are in need of health care
(Yemen Times photo by Peter Willems)

we are consultants. One of the reasons projects fail is the lack of participation from the beginning, which is why we have the local NGO seriously involved in the project. For example, it carries out financial responsibility and executive decision making so that the project will be sustainable in the long run."

The marginalized group, considered the poorest in Yemen, has been shunned by mainstream society for hundreds of years, and most still live in shanty neighborhoods with a half dozen in the capital.

According to a study carried out by the United Nations Children's Fund in the late 1990's, the population was roughly 200,000 in Yemen. Although the government has provided electricity and better water, most of the communities still lack facilities for basic needs, such as sewage systems and access to health care.

"It is good that we now have a clinic in our area," said Aziza Mansour, one of the 5,000 living in Greedome. "It is better that prices are more affordable for treatment and medicine, and the training will help us a lot so that we will be in charge of our own health care."

Within the plan, those who are trained to be health workers will take their knowledge and train others in other shanty communities in Sana'a, such as Bab Al-Yemen and Asser Al-Kasara.

"Training is a better investment than just offering assistance," said Najeeb Ghanem, Chairman of Health and Population Committee in Yemen's Parliament. "This is proven to be sustainable development. It is the integration approach in which the government, society and NGOs work together for health. I hope that the people are no longer marginalized, and I want them to be fully integrated. The clinic is one step taken to help them not to be marginalized in the future."

Facts of Life



By DR. KHALED M. NSOUR
NSOUR1977K@HOTMAIL.COM

Why does meat still move after the animal is killed?

Have you ever thought why does meat still move even after the slaughtering of the animal? Or why do some meat look watery while others seem to be stiff and dry?

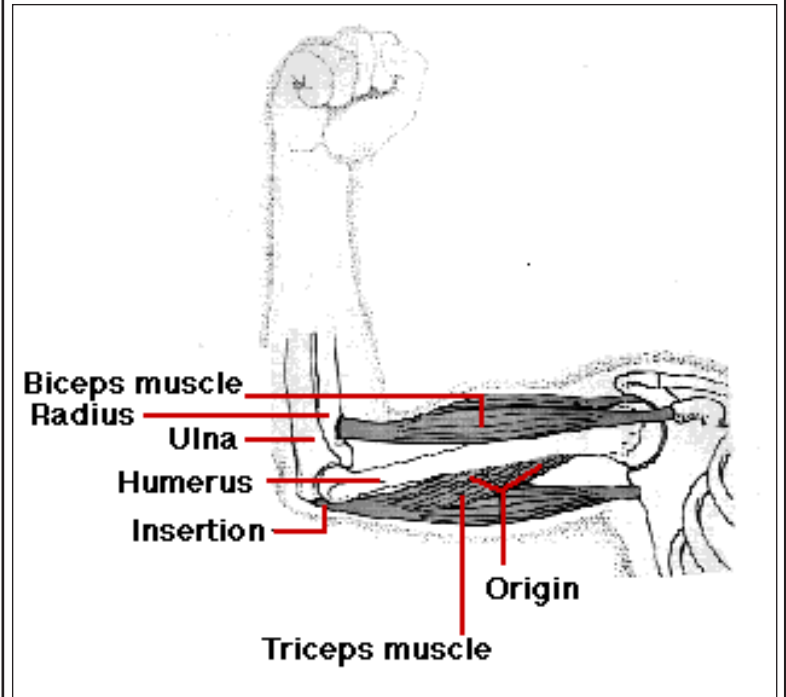
These questions and more are answered in the following article...

What is meat?

Meat is mostly the muscle tissue of an animal. Animal's muscle is mostly consistent of 75% water, 20% protein, and 5% fat and carbohydrates. Muscles

its water-binding ability and becomes pale and watery. This happens because the acid drives away the water out of the cells to the surface of the meat. Whereas if the acid is too low, the water remains within the muscle and the meat appears stiff and dry.

Lactic acid buildup releases calcium, which causes muscle contraction. As glycogen supplies are depleted, ATP regeneration stops, and the actin and myosin remain locked in a permanent contraction called *rigor mortis* (see fig2&3). Freezing the carcass too soon



Anatomy of Skeletal Muscle. Source: Kimball's Biology Pages

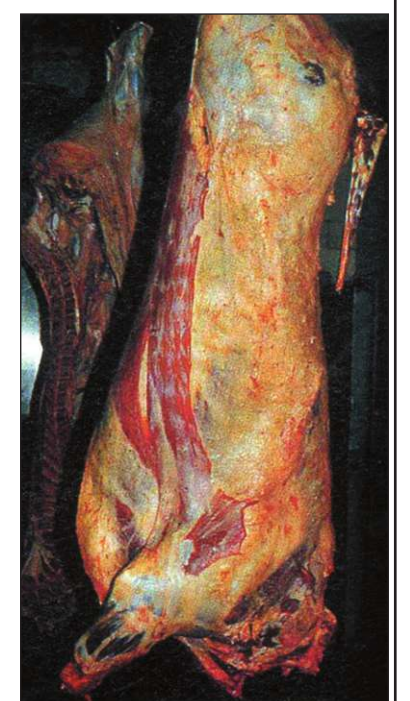
are made of bundles of cells called *fibers*. And each cell is crammed with filaments made of two proteins: actin and myosin.

In a live animal, these protein filaments make muscles contract and relax, through sliding action between muscles (see fig 1). This requires enormous amounts of energy, which muscles get from the energy-carrying molecule called ATP (adenosine triphosphate). The most efficient way to generate ATP requires oxygen, which muscles get from circulating blood. And this is why our breathing increases while exercising or exerting ourselves.

How does muscle turn into meat?

After an animal is slaughtered, blood circulation stops, and consequently muscles exhaust their oxygen supply. Muscle can no longer use oxygen to generate ATP and alternatively turn to another method called *anaerobic glycolysis*, a process that breaks down sugar without oxygen, to generate ATP from glycogen (sugar stored in muscle).

The breakdown of glycogen produces just enough energy to contract the muscles for a short while until the glycogen is exhausted from the muscle. This process produces lactic acid and with no blood flow to carry the lactic acid away, the acid builds up in the muscle tissues. If the acid content is too high (which is dependent on the amount of glycogen in the tissue) the meat loses



Lateral view of the carcass.
Source FAO

after death keeps the proteins all bunched together, resulting in very tough meat. However, if the carcass is not frozen the enzymes in the muscle cells break down the overlapping proteins and make the meat tender after a period of time.



Rigor Mortis. Source: <http://deathonline.net>

The Embassy of The United States of America announces for an immediate job opening within its organization.

“English Language Instructor”

The position is located in the Yemen America Language Institute YALI, American Embassy. Employee teaches English as a Second Language courses at the Yemen-America Language Institute (YALI) under the direct supervision of the Director of Courses. Employee Prepares lessons, assigns and corrects homework, scores classroom exams, evaluates student progress and assigns end of term grades to each student fairly and objectively. Also, employee attends all pre- and in-service workshops and prepares reports as required by YALI operating practice. He/ she works individually with students as needed and collaborates frequently and routinely with other teachers to ensure state-of-the-art teaching methodology and creative activities are used. Employee performs other administrative tasks as assigned.

Required Qualifications:

Education: A B.A/B.S. is normally required (but may be substituted for in cases where significant relevant teaching experience is in evidence)

Prior Work Experience: Minimum of one year of previous experience teaching EFL/ESL is required (except in the case of native speakers or of YALI non-teaching employees who demonstrate teaching capability during a demonstration lesson given at YALI and observed by the YALI DOC.

Language Proficiency: Level IV English (fluent ability) is required.

Ability: Strong interpersonal and leadership skills, the ability to exercise fairness, adaptability, flexibility, patience and creativity, and an ability to motivate students and to work cooperatively with colleagues.

Grade/Salary: *EFM/MOH/Non Ordinarily Resident: FP-06 or FP-07 (to be confirmed by Washington)

Ordinarily Resident: FSN-07 or 08 (Depending on qualifications)

How to apply: All Interested nationals should complete OF-612 or submit a current C.V. (with awards, recommendation letters, copies of degrees earned) that addresses the qualifications and requirements of the position, as listed above, and send it to the Human Resources Office, American Embassy, Dahr Himyar Street, P.O. Box 22347, Sana'a. Yemen, Tel: 755-2000, Fax: 303-182 no later than March 20, 2005.

NOTE: ALL ORDINARILY RESIDENT APPLICANTS MUST BE RESIDING IN COUNTRY AND HAVE THE REQUIRED WORK AND RESIDENCY PERMITS TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR CONSIDERATION.

James, Gooden Help Cavs Snap

TORONTO (Reuters) - LeBron James and Drew Gooden notched 23 points apiece to help the Cleveland Cavaliers romp past the Orlando Magic 111-92 Tuesday.

The host Cavaliers snapped a six-game losing streak by claiming their first victory since February 23.

James also had eight assists and seven rebounds while Gooden, who was replaced as a starter for the previous two games, chipped in with five rebounds and five assists.

Zydrunas Ilgauskas added 18 points for the Cavaliers, who received 13 points and eight assists from Jeff McInnis.

Orlando, without Grant Hill due to a sore left shin, had its three-game winning streak ended.

Hill is expected to miss Wednesday's game at Toronto but the team says the injury is not serious.

Steve Francis led Orlando with 21 points while rookie Jameer Nelson had 17.

In Philadelphia, Jason Richardson scored 22 points as the Golden State Warriors beat the 76ers 104-85.

Mike Dunleavy added 21 points for the Warriors, who won on the road for only the eighth time this season. Troy Murphy chipped in with 17 points.

Allen Iverson amassed 33 points for the Sixers but Chris Webber had eight points on 3-of-12 shooting.

In New York, Jamal Crawford contributed 19 points, six rebounds and six assists to lead the Knicks to a 93-83 triumph over the Washington Wizards.

Kurt Thomas added 15 points and 11 rebounds for New York while Stephon Marbury had 14 points and 10 assists.

Larry Hughes led Washington with 27 points and Gilbert Arenas added 23.

In Milwaukee, Maurice Williams collected 22 points and 10 assists as the Bucks edged the Atlanta Hawks 105-101.

Desmond Mason added 22 points for the Bucks and Michael Redd 21.

Tyrone Lue paced Atlanta's offense with 27 points while Al Harrington picked up 19 points and nine assists.

In Minneapolis, Kevin Garnett registered 30 points and 15 rebounds as the Minnesota Timberwolves overcame the Charlotte Bobcats 102-97.

Latrell Sprewell added 21 points for Minnesota. Primoz Brezec had 20 points and 12 rebounds for Charlotte while Jason Hart recorded 14 points and 10 assists.

In San Antonio, 19 points and eight rebounds from Tim Duncan drove the Spurs to a 90-74 win over the New Jersey Nets.

Devin Brown led San Antonio's scor-



New York Knicks forward Anfernee Hardaway (R) loses the ball in front of Washington Wizards guard Larry Hughes in the second quarter of their NBA game at New York's Madison Square Garden, March 8. Reuters

ing with 22 points. Nenad Krstic had 19 points for New Jersey.

In Salt Lake City, Stephen Jackson poured in 30 points as the Indiana

Pacers edged the Utah Jazz 89-83.

Reggie Miller added 24 points for the Pacers, who rallied after blowing an early 24-point lead.

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ابتداء من ١٥ / ٣ / ٢٠٠٥ م

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المكتوب عليها عبارة (مسابقة ٢٠٠٥) + خمسة أكياس
فارغة من مكرونة وشعيرية المائدة وأحصل على :-

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أو

إجمع عشرة أكياس فارغة من مكرونة المائدة (طويل)
المكتوب عليها عبارة (مسابقة ٢٠٠٥) وأحصل على

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جوائز نقدية مغرية، وأكثر من ٢٠٠ ألف هديه فوريه

Wade, O'Neal Lead Heat to 6th Win in a Row



Philadelphia 76ers guard Allen Iverson (3) is defended by Miami Heat players Shaquille O'Neal (32) and Keyon Dooling (5) during the second period of NBA action in Miami, Florida March, 7. Reuters

TORONTO (Reuters) - Dwyane Wade scored 32 points and Shaquille O'Neal added 25 to power the Miami Heat to a 108-100 victory over the Philadelphia 76ers Monday.

Despite playing for the fourth time in five nights, the Heat shot 54.9 percent from the field to win their sixth straight outing and their 10th consecutive home game.

Wade's points included a franchise record 18 free throws as he got to the line 23 times to help Miami move 30 games over the .500 mark at 46-16.

Shandon Anderson had 13 points for the Heat while Udonis Haslem contributed 12 points and 10 rebounds.

Allen Iverson collected 27 points for the Sixers, who lost for the first time in three games.

Samuel Dalembert, who was involved in a fourth-quarter altercation with Alonzo Mourning which resulted in the Heat center being ejected for a

double technical foul, added 21 points for Philadelphia.

Mourning played only four minutes and scored one point.

Chris Webber struggled in his first game since he and O'Neal moved to the Eastern Conference, picking up 10 points in 26 minutes.

In Dallas, Marquis Daniels registered 32 points as the short-handed Mavericks beat the Toronto Raptors 113-105.

Dallas was without the injured Dirk Nowitzki and Michael Finley.

Jason Terry had 23 points for the Mavs and Josh Howard chipped in with 22 points and eight rebounds.

Morris Peterson led Toronto with 23 points while Milt Palacio added 19.

In Chicago, Kirk Hinrich notched 17 points, eight assists and six rebounds to guide the Bulls to a 90-85 triumph over the Milwaukee Bucks

Eddy Curry recorded 16 points and

seven rebounds for the Bulls while Chris Duhon had 13 points and 10 assists.

Michael Redd led Milwaukee with 26 points.

In Denver, Carmelo Anthony scored 23 points in only three quarters as the Nuggets won their seventh straight game, 111-98 over the Portland Trail Blazers.

Wesley Person added 18 points in 22 minutes for the Nuggets, who are on their longest winning streak in 16 years.

Damon Stoudamire led Portland with 24 points and Darius Miles had 16.

In Los Angeles, Lorenzen Wright claimed 23 points to carry the Memphis Grizzlies past the Clippers 105-102.

Brian Cardinal added 20 points for Memphis while Mike Miller picked up 17.

Corey Maggette amassed 37 points for the Clippers.

Rudi Johnson Re-Signs with Bengals

CINCINNATI (Sports Network) - Following a career season in which he set a team record for rushing yards, running back Rudi Johnson signed a \$6.3 million tender offer to remain with the Cincinnati Bengals in 2005.

Johnson was named the Bengals' franchise player last month, and his salary for next season is equal to the average of the top five running backs in the NFL last year.

He may still negotiate a longer deal with the Bengals.

"By signing the tender, Rudi has shown his commitment to being a pro," Bengals head coach Marvin Lewis said.

"We will continue to have discussions with Rudi's representatives to come to terms on a longer contract."

Johnson rushed for 1,454 yards last season, breaking the franchise record of 1,435 yards set by Corey Dillon in 2000.

In 38 games during his four-year career, he has rushed for 2,478 yards on 593 carries (an average of 4.2 yards per carry)

and has scored 21 touchdowns.

"I'm ready to play and do what I do best," Johnson said.

"I'm glad to still be a Bengal.

I like my teammates and this city and our fans.

I think our team can give them a lot to cheer about this year."



Johnson breaks free from the Denver Broncos defense for a 36-yard touchdown run, during the third quarter of NFL action in Cincinnati. Reuters

Chelsea Hoping for Home Heroics

LONDON (Reuters) - Chelsea must rescue their Champions League dream against Barcelona Tuesday without the inspiration of winger Arjen Robben or the finishing of Didier Drogba.

Looking to overcome a 2-1 deficit from the first leg, manager Jose Mourinho had hoped Dutchman Robben might recover in time from a broken foot but revealed the bad news Monday.

Ivory Coast striker Drogba is suspended after he was sent off in the first leg two weeks ago at the Nou Camp.

The Chelsea clash is the pick of Tuesday's three first knockout stage matches.

In other action, AC Milan protect a 1-0 lead over Manchester United at the San Siro and Lyon are virtually assured a place in the last eight after beating Werder 3-0 in Bremen two weeks ago.

Werder, however, will be hoping history repeats itself having once before come back from a similar deficit to beat Lyon in the UEFA Cup 4-3 on aggregate, but Paul Le Guen's Lyon team have lost only twice all season and look odds-on to qualify.

That is Chelsea's dream too when they face Barcelona at Stamford Bridge in a match that has developed almost as much baggage as the luggage carousels at Heathrow Airport.

Bad feeling

If the on-field action matches the off-field allegations, and insults following the first leg,

then it should be a game to remember between two sides who both believe they are good enough to go on and win the Champions League final in Istanbul at the end of May.

Chelsea coach Jose Mourinho is bidding for a third successive European title after leading Porto to the UEFA Cup in 2003 and the European Cup in 2004.

Chelsea sparked all the bad feeling that has since surrounded the tie following their claim that Barcelona coach Frank Rijkaard visited the room of referee Anders Frisk at halftime during the first leg.

Chelsea are also in trouble with UEFA for being late on to the pitch for the second half, missing the post-match press conference, and now claiming that they knew in advance that Pierluigi Collina would referee the second leg.

However, none of that will matter much to Chelsea if they qualify, with just a 1-0 victory enough to put them through.

A single-goal lead is all AC Milan have over United but their 1-0 win at Old Trafford is likely to be enough, especially if ex-United defender Jaap Stam takes his place in the defense after recovering from a hamstring injury.

United will be without the injured Gary Neville and Louis Saha, while European Footballer of the Year Andriy Shevchenko is out for Milan with a fractured cheekbone.

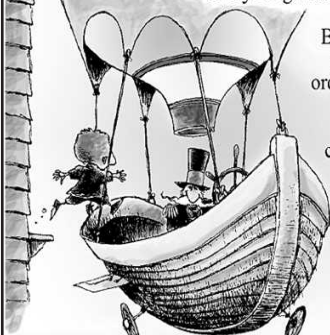
Non Sequitur

by Wiley



Ordinary Basil

It was the height of the Industrial Revolution. This was an exciting time for most people, as new and wondrous inventions seemed to appear every day. For others, it was a time of fear, as everything was changing so rapidly.



But it just made Basil feel that much more ordinary. His existence seemed even more hum-drum in comparison, so when an opportunity to sail off on an adventure came along, he leaped at it...literally!

"Welcome aboard, laddy,"

said the perpetually happy gentleman piloting a rather preposterous airship.

His baritone voice had a gurgling resonance, as though it came from the very depths of the ocean, but was as soothing as the surface breeze.

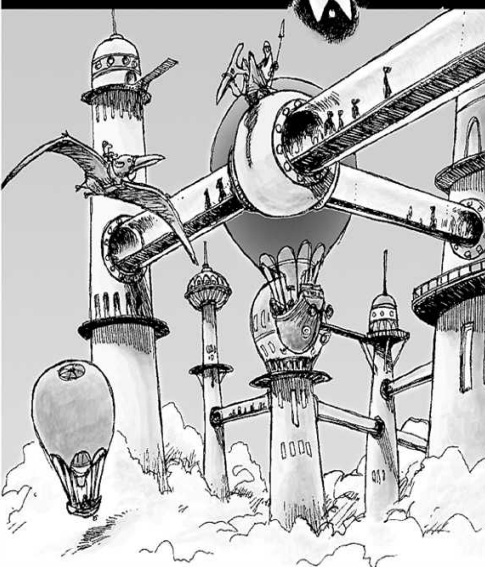
"My name is Professor Angus McGookin. And what might your name be?"



"Ordinary, eh, laddy? Well, let's see what we can do about that. Take a look off starboard..."

Basil stood motionless. He couldn't even blink. Finally, remembering to breathe, he gasped and managed to force out one word...

"...extraordinary..."



THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

BY Eugenia

Aries (Mar 21 - Apr 19)
Respect your surroundings and nurture what you have. It's time to take heed of the advice offered by the people closest to you. An older relative will need your help.

Taurus (Apr 20 - May 20)
Times have changed, and it's time you did the same. Rid yourself of the outdated items that fill up your closets, and prepare to make a fresh new start. Something very unusual will develop if you do things in unison with others today.

Gemini (May 21 - Jun 20)
You may face some challenges, so keep your wits about you and be prepared to act fast. You should be able to maintain whatever it is you are trying to accomplish. Versatility and multitasking are some of your best assets, but don't make yourself sick by overdoing it.

Cancer (Jun 21 - Jul 22)
Roll out the red carpet and prepare to host a little event at your place. Your hospitality will win you favors. A new acquaintance will surprise you. Love and romance are in a high cycle, so make the most of it.

Leo (Jul 23 - Aug 22)
You can do a little wheeling and dealing today. Look at an investment that is a little unusual, and you may have a winner on your hands. Money can be made if you are swift to pick up on a new trend. Change may take place at home.

Virgo (Aug 23 - Sep 22)
Take note that even if you want something, it may not mean that you are going to get it. Not everyone will be of the same mindset you are, and if you don't compromise today, you may end up with the short end of the stick.

Libra (Sept 23 - Oct 22)
Take note of what everyone around you is doing. Follow suit and don't let anyone outdo you. It's crucial that you do your best if you want to advance. Unusual circumstances will arise with peers.

Sagittarius (Nov 22 - Dec 21)
Be passionate about whatever you do today, and your life will take a turn for the better. Creative projects will flow smoothly, and you will have a much better sense of what you want to do in the future. Love is highlighted.

Scorpio (Oct 23 - Nov 21)
Don't run yourself ragged just because you have a lot to do. Pace yourself. Let your charm work for you; with proper attention to those around you, help will be offered.

Capricorn (Dec 22 - Jan 19)
Get together with friends or take a short trip to bring back memories. This is the perfect day to reflect on the past and also a good time to avoid any sort of confrontation. Having fun should be your prime concern.

Aquarius (Jan 20 - Feb 18)
You can make some extra cash. Set your sights high and strive to make changes to your life that will bring about a better future. You can do it—it's just the preliminary steps that will be hard to initiate.

Pisces (Feb 19-Mar 20)
Pick a destination or a direction and get moving. Change beckons you, and to go against the grain will only set you back. Believe in what you are capable of doing, and you will get through any challenge with flying colors.

مسابقة رقم (37) Contest No. (37)

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Prepared by Al-Farouk Institute of Languages & Computer

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Area of salt-water _____ 3 _____

Look closely at _____ 7 _____

Flavor _____ 5 _____

Always _____ 7 _____

Require of want _____ 4 _____

Opposite of male _____ 6 _____

Uncle's wife _____ 4 _____

King of the jungle _____ 4 _____

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Derivation الاشتقاق

طلاب رطلات للتربية العامة

Noun	الاسم	Adjective	الصفة
مطر	rain	مطر	rainy
ضباب	fog	ضبابي	foggy
شمس	sun	شمسي	sunny
بعد	distance	بعد	distant
شاب	youth	شاب	young
خوف	scare	خيف	scary
جمال	beauty	جميل	beautiful

بيانات المتسابق

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Yemen Times: Years of Success

By YASSER AL-MAYASI
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

The Yemen Times began its work in 1991 in Sana'a, issuing its first issue on Feb. 28 as the first Yemeni English language newspaper in the country. It has dealt with many issues in Yemeni politics and collected its pieces from many from reliable sources. The newspaper has bureaus throughout the country and it strongly advocates the importance of the freedom of opinion and human rights.

The goals and principles of the newspaper earned the respect of readers and its independence enabled it to work with transparency, and impartially convey political, economic and social issues to its Arab and foreign readers.

Prof. Abdulaziz al-Saqqaf (1951-

1999) who majored in economics and media, guided the newspaper successfully for its first eight years. He started in a modest room and grew to build a huge press and printing establishment entirely depending on self-generated funding.

The Yemen Times remains firmly connected with its founder, Prof. al-Saqqaf. He was fluent in English and received his bachelors degree (honors) from Sana'a University, after which he was nominated for a scholarship in the USA to pursue his postgraduate studies.

He earned his first certificate in arts from Ohio University, and Masters and Doctoral degrees in international economics and public administration from Harvard University. He was appointed a member at the Association of Middle East Studies and was also



Walid al-Saqqaf (L) talking with Abdulaziz Abdulghani, al-Shura Council Chairman, during his visit to YT.

a member at the American Economists Association.

Being a professor of economics, he taught in a number of Arab and foreign universities and later in

Sana'a University and was an author of a number of books on the economy and media.

During his post as the Yemen Times chief editor, he founded

numerous organizations and charitable societies as well as other organizations associated with freedom and human rights. During his post in the al-Shura Council, as Head of the Committee of Public Rights and Freedoms, he adopted the case of several prisoners and solved their problems, particularly prisoners of opinion.

Over the last 14 years, the Yemen Times has defended human rights and freedom of the press and has always worked to convey a positive image of Yemen.

The Yemen Times was published even on the day of its founder's death.

The Yemen Times also proved to

be able to issue a number of supplements, press guides and other regular magazines, the most important of which is the "Family and Development Monthly Magazine". It has professional staff in all of its departments, most of whom now work for other Arab and international newspapers.

The Yemen Times is a window exposing Yemen to the external world. It could help the Yemeni Government in gaining international aid and this is reflected in the words of an international journalist, who said "the Yemen Times works in parallel with the function of the embassies abroad in terms of promoting Yemeni tourism."



Late Dr. al-Saqqaf with members of the Yemen Times staff.



A group of foreign researchers visiting the Yemen Times Headquarters in the post of Late Dr. al-Saqqaf.

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Few clues on dolphin deaths in Florida Keys

SUMMERLAND KEY, Fla., March 7 (Reuters) - Biologists are investigating whether sonar used in U.S. Navy submarine exercises or red tide bacteria contributed to the deaths of more than 30 rough-toothed dolphins in a mass stranding in the Florida Keys last week.

Scientists began testing on

Philadelphia, based at Groton, Conn., conducted training exercises with Navy Seals in the Florida Keys a day before the stranding.

Navy officials are "working this issue," said Lt. Cdr. Jensin Sommer of Norfolk, Va.-based Naval Submarine Forces on Monday.

Biologists also tested for toxicol-

swim away.

"We still don't know how many were stranded. We definitely had a maternal pod. It was mostly moms and babies," said Celeste Weimer, stranding coordinator for the Florida Keys Mammal Rescue Team.

Several of the females in the group had stillbirths.

At the Mote Marine Laboratory on Summerland Key, about 25 miles (40 km) east of Key West, an adult female dolphin — nurtured by another dolphin behaving as a labor coach and wetsuit-clad volunteers who hydrated the creatures — struggled more than 12 hours on Monday to deliver a stillborn calf.

Two other dolphins delivered still-born babies in Key Largo, Fla., and another aborted a near-term fetus at a facility on Key Biscayne, near Miami, Weimer told Reuters.

The Marine Mammal Conservancy is rehabilitating nearly two dozen dolphins at a protected lagoon in Key Largo.



Celeste Weimer (R) stranding coordinator for the Florida Keys Marine Mammal Rescue Team, feeds one of four rough-tooth dolphins at a rehabilitation facility in Summerland Key, Fla., with the help of volunteer Tom Krajcik, (L) Mar. 7. The mammal is a portion of about 68 that stranded Wednesday, March 2, off the Florida Keys near Marathon. REUTERS

Monday for bacterial, viral and tissue infections during necropsies on nine of the dead dolphins, including a stillborn calf.

An estimated 70 to 110 rough-toothed dolphins, which normally swim in deeper continental shelf waters, turned up in shallow waters on sand flats near Marathon, south of Miami, on Wednesday.

Some scientists speculate that the stranding could be related to sonar that may have disoriented the marine mammals, causing them to surface too quickly and suffer decompression sickness.

The submarine USS

ogy related to red tide, an algae bloom that reproduces at an explosive rate and is harmful to marine mammals such as manatees. An unseasonable red tide formed off southwest Florida in early January. "There's no smoking gun," said Alex Costidis, a Florida Fish & Wildlife Research Institute biologist in St. Petersburg, Florida. "They all had empty stomachs, which is pretty typical of a stranding, indicating they had not eaten in the last two or three days."

The dolphins were mostly adult females and young. Of the total stranded, 10 to 15 were able to

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