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"We have downsized the army by 50000 men."

Mr. Abdo Rabbo Mansoor Hadi, Vice President of the Republic, disclosed that the army has been downsized by 50,000 men, and that another 24,000 men will soon be discharged. The Vice President indicated that economic development was first priority, at this stage. In an interview published by Defense News of May 12-18, 1997, Vice President Abdo Rabbo then criticized Saudi Arabia for trying to undermine Yemeni democratization and stability. He was also puzzled at the inability of the USA to "balance its interests with Saudi Arabia with its principles in supporting democracy".



Prime Minister Gives Green Light:

MOMR Moves to Curb Abuse of Oil Companies

The Government of Dr. Faraj Bin Ghanim is already beginning to show all sides that is serious about fighting corruption and abuse. While most of the effort is directed to reign bad government officials, some of the action is also directed at others. Last week, the Ministry of Oil and Mineral Resources (MOMR) cashed a US\$ 7 million guarantee lodged by ARCO with the Chase Manhattan Bank. The step came as a result of the failure of the company to live up to its commitments made on its oil concession (Block 12). The Ministry has also been given the green light to proceed with steps to push Yemenization effort in this sector. One of the steps taken in this regard includes the requirement that Yemen-Hunt Oil Company release any foreign personnel who have spent more than five years in Yemen. This step would have taken effect now (end of May), but YHOC asked for a two months extension to implement the directive.

A third measure is taken against Canadian Occidental Petroleum which has, according to ministry sources, pocketed more than its share in the proceeds of oil sales. The difference of around US\$ 60 million over a two-quarter period is subject to adjustment. The company, under pressure from the ministry, is offering to make partial adjustments over the second half of 1997. NIMR Petroleum is probably in the worst of cases. The Saudi-owned company is seen as sleeping over four concession blocks without doing much. For a year a half now, NIMR has frozen any activities. To add insult to injury, the company production from Shabwah Block has fallen from around 10,000 bpd, to 6,000, to 3,500, and to only 1,200 bpd at the moment. Many Yemenis believe the company is purposely killing the potential of the blocks the company holds. Meanwhile, the ministry is quickly moving to put its house in order. After all, it is MOMR mismanagement that allowed this abuse.


Journalists Fight Back a New Threat:

The Excess

Tuesday, 27th May, 1997, was a bad day for the Yemeni press. A little-known judge called Taha Al-Aghbari, presiding over a case in which Islah leader Sheikh Abdul-Majeed Al-Zindani accused the chief editor of Al-Shoura newspaper, Mr. Abdullah Sa'ad, and a writer, Mr. Abdul-Jabbar Sa'ad, of slander and character assassination, passed a stiff sentence in favor of Sheikh Zindani. He ordered that:

1. The newspaper be closed down for six months.
2. That the chief editor and the writer be each flogged eighty lashes.
3. That the chief editor and the writer be each stopped from work for one year.
4. That the chief editor and the writer each pay a compensation of YR 100,000.

There was an uproar in almost all circles. One ambassador called the sentence primitive. A chief editor of another local newspaper called the sentence frightening. All sides agreed that the sentence was far in excess of the crime, if indeed there is a crime. Several key editors, along with the Syndicate of Journalists, got together on Thursday, May 29th, to discuss how to protect press freedom. The journalists are considering many steps, as the situation unfolds. The first thing to do, however, was to appeal the verdict. This was promptly done. Meanwhile, this was the first case picked up by the Committee on Rights, Liberties and Non-Governmental Organizations at the Consultative Council. The Committee is the force leading the journalists' campaign.



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OUR VIEWPOINT

Faraj Bin Ghanim Government's Program to Parliament

The Government of Faraj Bin Ghanim presented last week its program to the House of Representatives on the basis of which it will get the vote of confidence. The Program has two main chapters - State Building and Development, and Sectoral Plan of Action.

The first chapter has eight sections dealing with the structures of a democratic state, development and economic policies, manpower resource development, social safety net, water resources, security and social safety, the armed forces, and foreign relations and international cooperation.

The second chapter has eighteen sections or sectors. These are oil and mineral resources, agriculture and irrigation, fisheries, industry, supply and trade, transportation, communications, water and electricity, housing and urban planning, labor and vocational training, information and media, culture and tourism, public health, social security, youth and sports, endowment and religious guidance, and Yemenis abroad.

The Prime Minister indicated in his presentation that the program aimed hard to come close to the needs and feelings of the people. But the achievement of all those lofty objectives was contingent on mobilization of resources, their optimal use, and the cooperation of all sides to make it a reality. He then pressed on parliament to exercise fully its watchdog role, which he said was an 'integral part of our system'.

What is refreshing about this program is that it does not promise heaven on earth. It has a serious tone, and outlines certain specific measures laid out in a time-frame.

But that is not really the most important dimension to good government. How the general public perceives the government and interacts with them, and how government officials behave will be critical. What matters is not what the program of the government says, it is how the government members will execute their responsibilities. After all, a 'yes' vote of confidence is guaranteed.

The Faraj Bin Ghanim Government is lucky in many ways. The groundwork and the foundations have been laid down by the Government of Abdulaziz Abdulghani. The Abdulghani Government had to bite the bullet and make the hard decisions in order to put the economy back on the right track. Of course, the Faraj Bin Ghanim Government will also need to make some hard decisions. But at least, the road has been charted and even paved.

It is in this light that many expect the new government to do very well. The optimism and good will that prevails makes its task much easier.

But one word of warning is warranted. The government should not appear to be weak or appeasing, especially not of the big sharks and big violators. It should not let the people down.

If my reading is correct, Dr. Faraj Bin Ghanim will not let us down.

The Publisher
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Saudi Arabia Opens Borders

The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has decided to re-open the land-border between Yemen and Saudi Arabia. A Yemen Times team, made up of Yusuf Al-Sherif and Yasser Mohammed went to Haradh and verified. Colonel Ali Al-Akwa', Commander of the Border Post on the Yemeni side, commenting on this matter, said that the media had made too much out of a small thing.

Yemen Times witnessed truckloads of Yemeni vegetable and other produce transported into Saudi Arabia.

At the same post, Yemenis who do not have proper stay/work permits continue to be trucked back to Yemen. "This is normal," explained Mr. Akwa' "If Yemenis do not have proper documents, they should accept the risk of deportation. All nations do this," he added.

Yemen Times met with many of the deported persons. In general, it looks like the way they are treated have improved. These developments help shore up the bilateral relations and bring the two neighbors closer together.

Both authorities are trying to downplay their difference. Official media criticism has also been toned down on both sides.



Human Rights Advocate

The President of the Republic has, in a press conference on 24th April, dismissed the recent Amnesty International report on Yemen as full of lies and unsubstantiated allegations. He also denied the existence of any political prisoners in Yemen.

The left-wing lawyer Abdul-Ilah Al-Marwani, a human rights activist, has contested that. He cites the case of Mansour Rajih as an example of a political prisoner in Yemen. Rajih, accused and condemned by court of murder, was a political activist. He has been languishing in prison for more than 15 years now.

Problems at Taiz University

A statement signed by "the students of Taiz University" and issued on 24th May, has cited several examples of professional misconduct and abuse of power on part of the University's Rector, Dr. Mahmoud Dawood. Sacking competent university lecturers and employees, unleashing his armed bodyguards against unsuspecting professors, threatening others with dismissal, favoritism, and nepotism are some of the deeds alleged to be perpetrated by the rector.

He recently abolished the Psychology Department just because he had a dispute with its head. More than 230 students at the College of Administrative Sciences were unjustly dismissed. He even set his thugs on his own driver who is in hospital now, the circular alleges.

Taiz University, established formally last year, has more than 25,000. Yet, the resources available to it are limited. It does not even have a campus.



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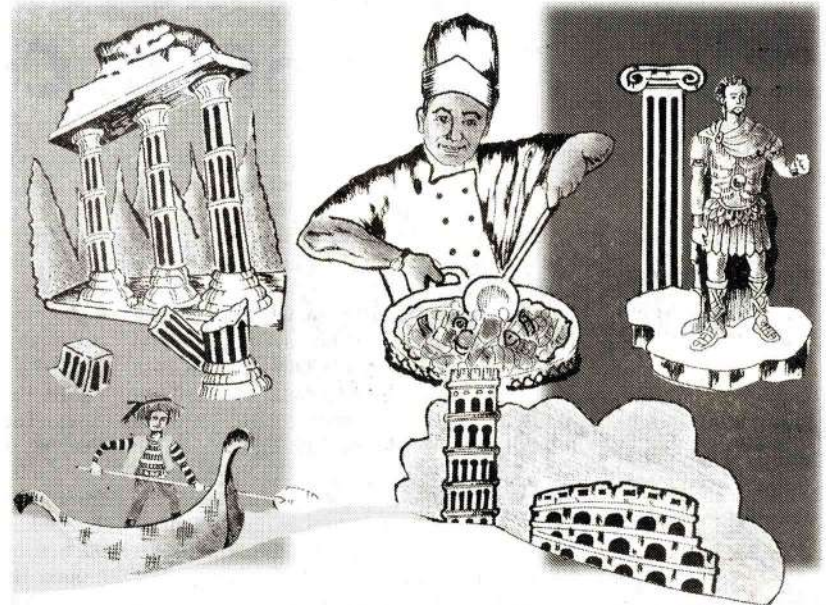
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Dr. Oras Naji:

“It is a matter of time before women play a more visible role in public life.”

Dr. Oras Sultan Naji is one of two newly elected female members of parliament. She represents the People's General Congress in constituency # 21 in Khormaksar, Aden. With B.Sc. and M.Sc. degrees in medicine from the University of Aden, Dr. Oras, 35, is an assistant professor at the College of Medicine in the University of Aden.

She is the daughter of Yemen's renowned historian, Sultan Naji. A political activist in her own right, Dr. Oras has quite a good reputation in Aden in particular and all over Yemen in general. Ismail Al-Ghabri of Yemen Times talked to her, and filed the following interview.

Q: What motivated you to run for parliament?

A: I was nominated by the PGC leadership. I accepted the nomination upon my personal conviction, and upon realizing the PGC's sincere desire that women should occupy their proper place in public life and politics. Women, representing half of society, must not be left idle. Their participation in public life have to be encouraged and increased. This is one of the main principles realistically advocated by the PGC in its political action program.

I had a much better chance in Constituency # 21 in Khormaksar due to my and my family's good reputation in that region. I was born, and had lived most of my life in that area of Aden. This provided added incentive to run for parliament.

Q: What do you propose to do for your constituents?

A: People in my constituency had overwhelmingly voted for me. I am very proud of that. However, I feel that I represent the aspirations of all Yemenis. My constituents are part of a bigger society. They have their own local concerns, of course. But they share many other hopes and aspirations with the rest of the nation. The PGC's program has extensively dealt with economic revitalization, administrative reform, a comprehensive development, and the consolidation of the pillars of the modern state. Due to the credibility of this program, the PGC has won the people's hearts and support.

As an MP, I'll aim to help realize my constituents' goals in particular and the hopes of the Yemeni people in general.

Q: Will being a female enable you to play a greater role in addressing some specific women issues?

A: The distinction in my role will appear during the next four years. I am quite committed to that as part of being faithful to the people who elected me. An MP, whether male or female, has to actively express the wishes and concerns of the people. Distinction arises from the MP's extent of awareness in how to best achieve the major goals of his or her elections program. I shall endeavor, within my experience and personal abilities, to serve my constituents as best as I can.

I'll advocate the introduction of legislations to help improve the status of women in society, remove any shortcomings in the existing laws, and encourage women to increase and develop their roles in the political life. Women must be greatly encouraged to practice and take advantage of their rights as guaranteed by the constitution. Voting and standing for elections come in the forefront of these rights. It is only natural that I should advocate such issues.

As a doctor specialized in community medicine, I shall also concentrate on social development. The role of the family as a basic unit of society must be enhanced and better organized. Mothers and children must be protected and provided with all the necessary care and attention. One of my other major concerns is the consolidation of primary health services and care for the elderly and the handicapped.

Q: Why did many female candidates fail in the last elections?

A: I prefer to use the phrase "unsuccessful in winning a seat" in parliament. It is quite normal that some people do not win. Otherwise, it would not be called elections. I think your question is not accurate in that it attributes "failure" to women only. Women have positively participated as voters, candidates, and elections supervisors and observers. The proportion of female participation has increased from 19% in 1993 to more than 30% in 1997. So the women's role is not marginalized as your question may insinuate.

Yemen has taken many positive steps towards a wider participation by women. Tremendously good results were achieved in that respect. Women in the US, for example, have won their voting rights after 70 years of hard struggle. They were finally allowed to vote at the beginning of this century. The suffragettes faced many hardships in order to win for women the right to vote. You can count, if you like, the number of US elections in which women were not allowed to participate since the establishment of the USA in 1776.

The Yemeni Constitution has saved women the suffering of having to struggle for their civil rights by explicitly guaranteeing these rights. This is a very advanced position, compared to many neighboring countries where women are not allowed to



vote. Many Arab countries, on the other hand, which are more politically advanced than Yemen may have only one female MP. To raise morale, we can resort to a mathematical trick. Of the 16 females who stood in the elections, two (PGC) have won. This is 12.5%. Only 299 out of the 3100 male candidates have won, i.e. less than 10%!

Any step taken by Yemen towards social, economic, and political development has its positive aspects, which must not be overlooked. The negative parts must not be exaggerated beyond their true magnitude. The 1000 mile journey starts with one step.

Q: It was expected that at least one ministerial portfolio would be given to a woman, in accordance with the PGC's call for higher female participation in the executive authority. This did not materialize. How do you explain that?

A: Women have indeed achieved a lot on all levels, whether in the legislative or executive authorities. There are women general managers, deputy ministers, judges, etc. The PGC did not back from its promise of allowing women to occupy higher positions in authority. This government will

not stay forever. So granting women ministerial portfolios in the future is a big possibility, given that there are many capable and politically experienced women.

The important thing is that the political leadership, headed by President Ali Abdullah Saleh, has the will and credibility to achieve that. Many drastic development are expected in the near future. Women will experience real qualitative social advancement.

It is only a matter of time before we see women ministers in Yemen. Everything should be taken step by step. The more mature the political circumstances are, the better the participation of women.

Q: Do you think that the participation of women in the higher echelons of power is opposed by certain political groups?

A: Since we have chosen the path of democracy as a means of life, then every individual or group has the right of freedom of expression. If it is their conviction to oppose women participation, then they are entitled to freely express it. We can argue with them, but we do not have the right to prevent their full and free expression of opinion.

I can, with all confidence, say that the PGC has its special advanced views in this regard. Women's right to perform an increasing role in the political life is paramount on the PGC agenda. It is a prominent part of our constitution too.

Difference of opinion is the hallmark of democracy. Every party can come with its own arguments and justifications. The Prophet (P) said "the differing within my nation is a blessing." This goes to prove the importance of respecting the others' point of view.

Q: How do you divide and coordinate your time among your positions as an MP, a doctor and a university professor?

A: Being a member of the highest legislative authority in the land does not create any conflict with my original profession as a physician. I try to answer the call of those who need my medical assistance. Many of my patients have become good personal friends. They always ask for my advice in health problems. Their confidence in my professional competence is a source of pride for me.

Q: You are member of the parliamentary Committee for Foreign and Expatriates Affairs. What do you propose to do in this field?

A: This committee is concerned with Yemen's diplomatic missions and the implementation of agreements and protocols with other countries. It also aims to help and unite Yemeni expatriates. An action plan is now being formulated to organize the activities of the committee.

I must also point out that being a member of this committee does not preclude my participation in other equally important committees. This right is guaranteed for all PM, each according to his or her specialty and expertise.

Q: Any last comment?

A: We have to be optimistic in viewing the next phase in our country's life. Constructive criticism is essential. Any achievement however small is bound to improve the country. I do not like pessimism and overlooking positive aspects, no matter how insignificant they may seem. They are better than nothing. A deep insight can overtake shortsightedness.

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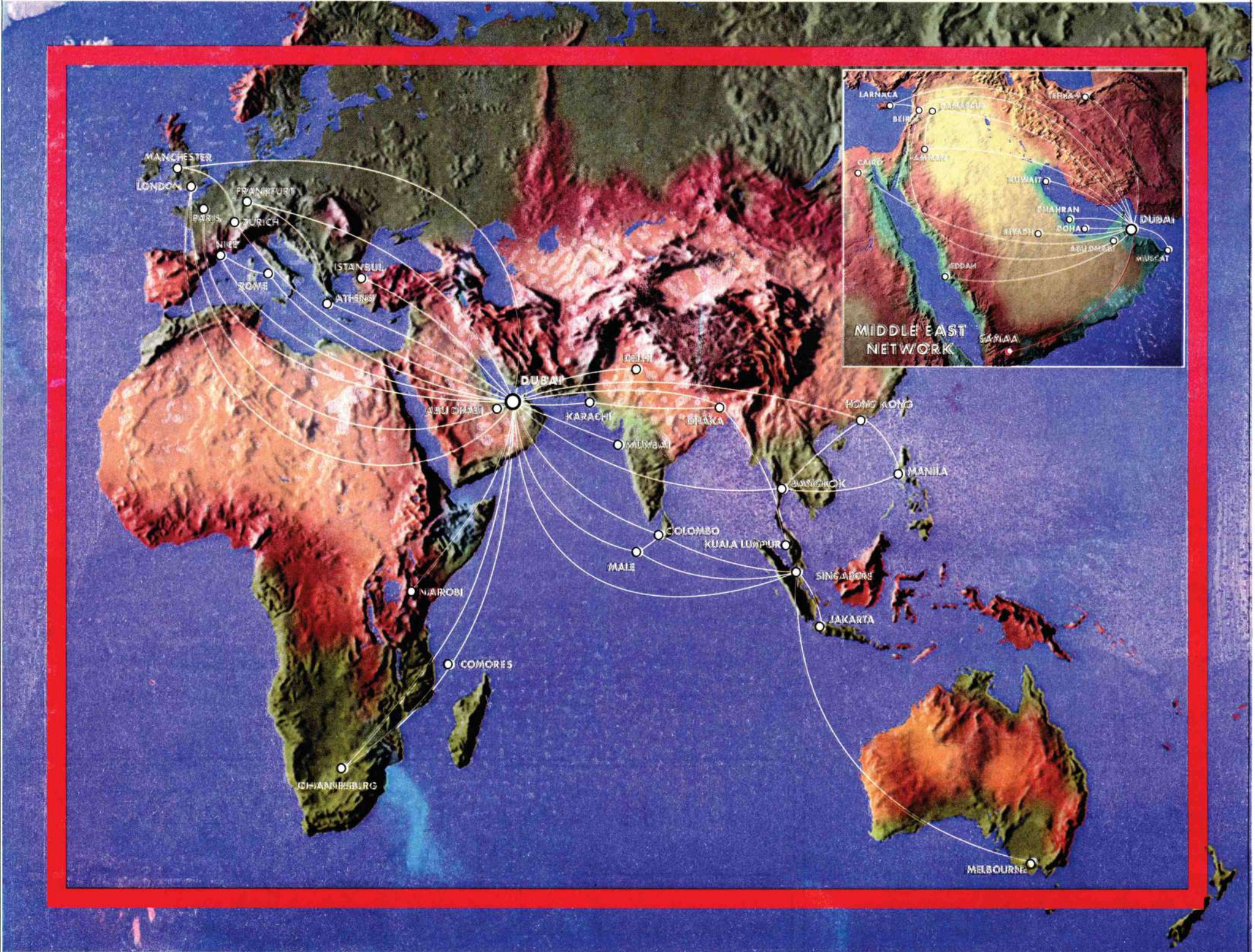
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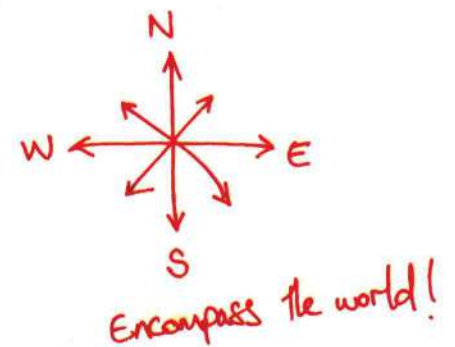
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CARE International is a federation of member countries which includes the US, Canada, Australia, UK, France, Germany, Norway, Denmark and Japan. CARE was established in 1946, with the purpose of channelling US relief assistance to post-world-war Europe and Japan. It was called the Cooperative for American Relief Everywhere (CARE). But with time, some of the recipient countries became contributing members. Today, the organization is the world's largest NGO. Non-political and non-sectarian, it operates in more than 60 countries in Africa, Latin America, the Middle East and Eastern Europe.

Here in Yemen, CARE has been involved in various projects related to relief and development. Ramzy Al-Saqqaf of Yemen Times reports based on talks with CARE officials.

1. The Regional Manager, Mr. Lockton Morrissey:

Q: Where do your funds come from?

A: Funding comes from the governments of member countries. It comes from multi-lateral donors like the EU, UN agencies and large number of private donors like American wealthy people and corporations. There is also money raised by CARE's appeals

effective. That is why the UN agencies are using them to undertake their programs or part of them.

The advantage of NGOs, however, is not just better economics. There is also their higher level of acceptance in beneficiary countries. The reason is that NGOs are not politically-oriented. Even in countries where the regime is not in good standing, NGOs continue with their work. Iraq is an example of this.

NGOs also emphasize local participation in their work. This helps achieve a higher level of integration. NGOs train people to work with the community in implementing projects. In this way people help themselves without depending totally on the government.

Finally, NGOs usually work on small-scale projects. That makes grass-level operations possible. This means working closely with the target population groups, which is the ultimate objective of development and relief operations.

Q: Do you find yourselves dragged into local politics?

A: NGOs are not part of the government, but they are part of the community. Basically, we are non-political organizations. Let me take our work in Yemen. Yemen now is a successfully emerging democracy. One thing I notice in emerging democracies is that every one wants to be involved in politics. In an emerging democracy. That is great and natural. But we, as NGOs, need to deliver social services, to be non-partisan, non-selective, non-religious. It should go to the people who deserve it. That is the main message.

Our work is basically humanitarian. A key guideline for us is that we are non-governmental, and non-political. Although in a democracy, every person has his/

her own political position, that position should not spill over in our work.

One of the dangers of being allied to a political party or line is that your fortunes are suddenly linked to that party.

2. The Country Representative, Ms. Wendy Lee:

Q: How many people work for CARE in Yemen?

A: We have 21 Yemeni employees in our project in Shabwah.

Q: How and when did CARE come to Yemen? And what have you been doing here?

A: We came to Yemen in 1992 in order to help the Somali refugees. Then, gradually, the focus of CARE shifted to participate in the development of Yemen. During the flood disaster in Yemen, CARE did a lot of work in Shabwah. We distributed kitchen utensils and equipment, blankets, water tanks, etc.

Q: Do you have new projects coming up in the near future?

A: Yes, we have just finalized the administrative aspects for starting a small project targeting farmers in Al-Mahweet.

3. The Team Leader of the Water Project in Shabwah, Mr. Richard Boni:

Q: Shabwah was badly affected during the floods? How is the situation there now?

A: I would say that there is still considerable damage. A lot of agricultural land (top-soil) was washed out by the floods thus

reducing agricultural activity. More is still needed.

Q: What was your main job out there?

A: Care was Concerned with water supply. We helped in rehabilitating many wells. We also helped villages dig new wells.

Q: What was the volume of your assistance?

A: Our total budget for the last six month was \$820,000. If you add the contribution of Unicef and the UNDP, we can say about a million US dollars. I want to use this occasion to specially stress the Dutch contribution, which was the largest.

Q: Has the project been completed?

A: No and yes. No because there is a lot more work to be done. Yes, because we have almost ran out of money. We are now discussing possible new funding.



With an international Secretariat in Belgium, CARE's ten fundraising and management offices in North America, Europe, Japan, and Australia support projects that reach more than 45 million people each year. The staff of the organization is truly international. Out of more than 10,000 employees, over 9,500 are nationals of the countries where CARE works.

for disasters. We have regular subscribers who give certain amounts of money.

Q: The world is increasingly moving towards involving NGOs in relief operations as well as in general development. How do NGO compare with government in terms of cost-effectiveness of expenditures?

A: I think the general belief is that NGOs are much more cost-

her own political position, that position should not spill over in our work.

One of the dangers of being allied to a political party or line is that your fortunes are suddenly linked to that party.

2. The Country Representative, Ms. Wendy Lee:

Q: How many people work for CARE in Yemen?

A: We have 21 Yemeni employees in our project in Shabwah.

Q: How and when did CARE come to Yemen? And what have you been doing here?

A: We came to Yemen in 1992 in order to help the Somali refugees. Then, gradually, the focus of CARE shifted to participate in the development of Yemen. During the flood disaster in Yemen, CARE did a lot of work in Shabwah. We distributed kitchen utensils and equipment, blankets, water tanks, etc.

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We also work with charitable societies and organizations in small projects in Aden. For example, we are assisting formerly employed women in generating income through self-help projects. One of the projects is a sewing center.

We also have another project in Abyan. Both are successful.

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VACANCY SECRETARY TO THE REPRESENTATIVE

The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) in Yemen is inviting applications for the post of Secretary to the Representative in Sana'a, Republic of Yemen.

Duties and Responsibilities:

The successful candidate shall perform the following duties:

1. Communication Support

Will arrange appointments; maintain supervisor's calendar; receive high-ranking visitors; place and screen telephone calls and answer queries with discretion.

2. Clerical Support

Will receive, screen, log and route correspondence; attach necessary background information and maintain policy, confidential, general management files and follow-up-system. Select and make pertinent abstracts and undertake searches for information.

3. Secretarial Support

Will draft non-substantive correspondence and ensures follow-up. Take dictation, using shorthand, on a variety of subject-matters and transcribes, ensuring that spelling, punctuation and format are correct; types correspondence, documents and reports, etc., some of which are highly confidential.

4. Liaison Dutie

- Will make travel arrangements for the supervisor and performs liaison duties with other units.
- Participate in the organization and preparation of staff meetings or special meetings and will take minutes and/or notes;
- Perform other duties as required.

Qualification Requirements:

- Completion of secondary education, proven shorthand and typing ability, thorough knowledge of modern office procedure; ability to operate word-processing equipment is obligatory. Knowledge of protocol.
- Six to seven years secretarial experience, some of which should have been at a senior secretarial level.
- Excellent knowledge of English and Arabic is obligatory. Knowledge of French will be an asset.

Others:

- Salary will be paid in accordance with United Nations Local Salary Scales. Other social benefits shall also apply.
- This position is open to Yemeni nationals only.
- Applications should be received not later than 30 June 1997. Any application received after this date will not be considered.
- Only those candidates who strictly meet the requirements should apply but acknowledgement will only be sent to applicants meeting the requirements of the post.
- Qualified and interested candidates are requested to send applications with a detailed curriculum vitae to:

The Representative, UNHCR, P. O. Box 12093, Sana'a.

Please note that UNHCR is an equal opportunity employer and is currently prioritizing the recruitment of equally qualified female candidates among professional staff.



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Job Opportunity - Human Resources Assistant .

We Offer: - Excellent training and development opportunities, plus the competitive salary and benefits you would expect from a leading international company .

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- Have a university degree.
- Demonstrate a command of written and spoken English and Arabic.



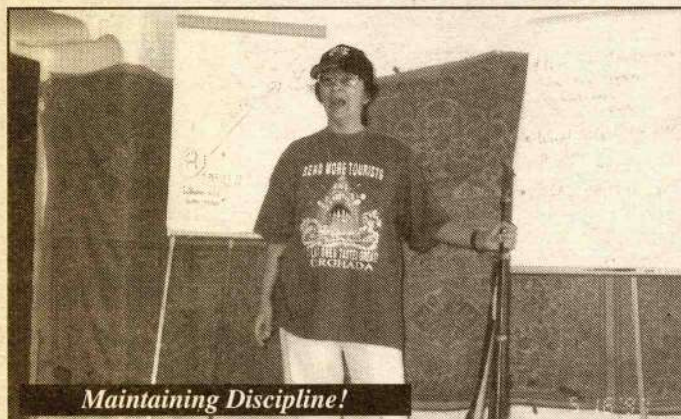
If You are interested then call :
Telephone (01) 413136



PASSION FOR PEOPLE

at

SHERATON SANA'A

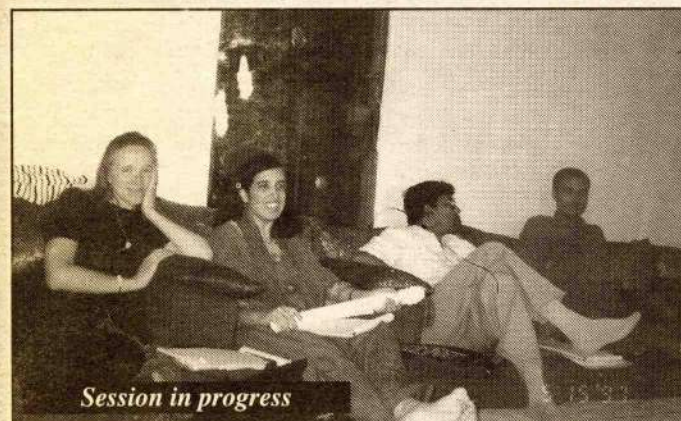


Maintaining Discipline!

For a whole week (13-20 May), the Sheraton Sana'a Hotel was practically functioning without its Heads of Department and all the Senior Management. No, ... they were not all away on vacation at the same time. They were all busy honing their various skills at a well-developed Training Session which left everyone with a greater sense of achievement, and ready to practice what they had learnt.

Annette Mosher, the Director of Training for Europe, Africa and the Middle East Division of ITT Sheraton, spent a wonderful week in Sana'a. Not a new face to this part of the world (ref. Yemen Times of 24th Feb. 1997), Annette has been here four times prior to this visit. She has a very tight schedule with 110 hotels under her wing, and she does an excellent job of all her training sessions. She introduces a lot of variety in her presentations. One remains in awe throughout these training sessions. Training is not an easy task. But combined with other factors, that makes it exciting. Variety was introduced this time in the form of having outdoor training. Of the total 7 days of training, four days were spent in the confines of the hotel, but the other three days were the ones most remembered.

The first two days which were spent on the premises, were based on the wonderful topic of TIME MANAGEMENT. However hard a human being tries, it is always difficult to manage one's time perfectly and with a harmonious balance between work and leisure. More time is spent on the former, ignoring the latter, which does not help in making us effective individuals. For this, we always have the excuse 'I don't have the time to do so & so or I don't have the money to do so & so'. Her retort is ... "It's never the time, it's never the money". What actually matters is your determination to be successful. Her one emphasis on managing time effectively was to do away with all the unnecessary files and papers that build up high on your desk ... throw out all that will not be needed and always have a desk with a neat appearance. Now Mr. Melhem



Session in progress

pays a surprise visit to the offices of his team members to routinely check if they are putting to practice what they were taught.

During the sessions, time was given off to just clean up the desks and to gauge how much useful time is saved.

The UNIVERSAL GROUPS building in Al-Rawdha, which was once a former palace and where they now host get-togethers for some of their groups, came alive on the 15th May with Annette's booming voice and the participation of the Sheraton management. The session was on CONFLICT HANDLING and how essential listening is in this field. One cannot handle a complaint efficiently unless the other person is heard out completely. Role plays were enacted pertaining to real life situations and how they were sorted out was well worth watching. An exquisite meal was prepared and eaten in the traditional

manner - all seated on the floor. During the training session as well, the seating was Mafraj style which was comfortable to all.

The session at Al-Rawdha was such a roaring success, that the next day the session was held at Kawkaban. The Kawkaban Hotel there did a good job of arranging the meeting room, Mafraj style again, followed by a superb meal. You could see that a lot of care was taken to ensure that their guests were looked after. The topic for the day was ASSERTIVENESS and by the end of the day every one was practicing being assertive and succeeding in getting what they wanted. Now everyone was geared to distinguish between the BULLY (the AGGRESSIVE PERSON), the MEEK (the UNASSERTIVE PERSON) and the one who HAS HIS PRIORITIES RIGHT (the ASSERTIVE PERSON). The heavy lunch led to all participants realizing that they cannot continue with the session today and they needed to lose the weight gained. This was achieved by following the wonderful path made through the mountain connecting Kawkaban to Shibam. This was a wonderful experience as for many it was the first time even though they live in Sana'a or have spent several years here.



Meal Time - a sumptuous spread

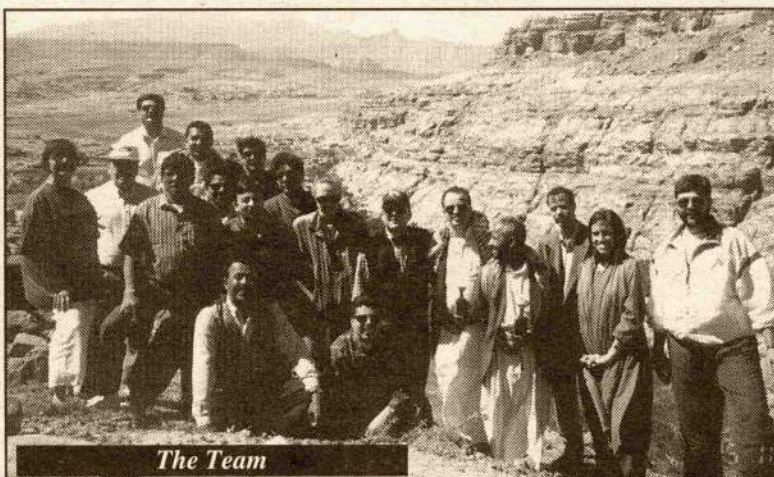
marvelous, and all were wondering how people are surviving in the rest of the world without casting a glance at the wonders that Yemen has to offer.

The final days were just a wrap up session followed by a graduation ceremony where every participant was awarded a certificate for successfully completing the training course. Dinner was like a family gathering at the Nour Al-Negoum Supper Club.

To the renditions by the Hanky Panky Band, we all bid goodbye to Annette, whom we shall be ever grateful to for her excellent training sessions which will go a long way in making us better individuals. We look forward to more such enlightening sessions and to more outings for which we need Annette to come back.

Three cheers to Annette! Three cheers to Sheraton Sana'a and Three cheers to all who contributed in making this a memorable and successful week.

it's all happening at Sheraton!

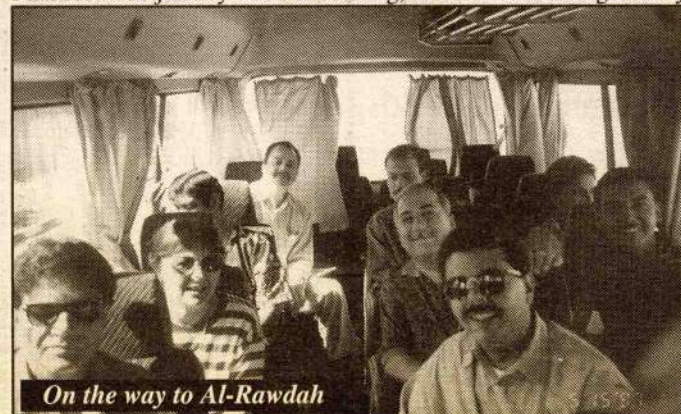


The Team

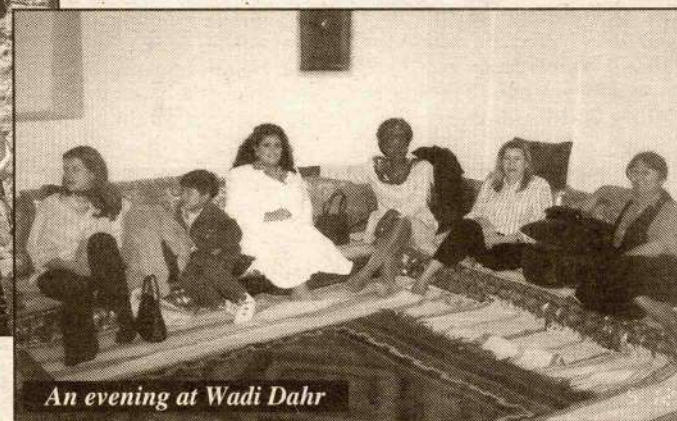
Legs were aching, backs were painin the next day but every one was at their desk on time. No training today, but it was a regular working day.

Sunday was spent on the premises learning the skills of how to make a good presentation. Every one had to get up there and talk individually about themselves for Annette Mosher to get to know the participants better, see each person's body language, and point out to them their areas for improvement. By the end of the session every one was gaining confidence in themselves and were not conscious any more of their little nuances.

Surprise! Surprise! All were requested to be in the Lobby at 6:30 AM. No venue announced. It was kept a secret by the organizer and by the GM, Mr. Melhem. On getting into the bus, which was sponsored on the three outings by Arabian Horizons, we were informed that the venue for the day was the UNIVERSAL GROUPS Hotel at Al-Mahweet. The journey was 3 hours long, but the breath taking scenery



On the way to Al-Rawdah



An evening at Wadi Dahr

FITNESS GOES TO THEIR HEADS!
(Like a summer with a thousand Julys)

And summer has indeed a thousand Julys here at Sheraton Sana'a.

Early morning. Calls to prayer still echo from the old city. Birds are singing in the green, by the pool of the Thula Recreation Center, when a peaceful commando of Department Heads get out of bed to join a fitness session. That is every Monday, Wednesday and Saturday from 7 to 8 AM; one can see them stretching their backs to various degrees - for once obeying! - the soft voice of Barbara, the Sports Trainer.

All with a very heavy day ahead they nevertheless, enthusiastically, gather together in this almost revolutionary ritual. Sheraton Home of the Brave. Mr. Abdullah Melhem, General Manager, whose wonderful idea this was, says; "Exercise builds energy, well-being, motivation and team spirit. This is also what Sheraton Sana'a is all about and what we wish to convey to our guests". Congratulations, yet another step on the fast lane of new success and excellence which started 7 months ago.

The compensation for this heroic act is the early morning sight of this blessed spot - a lovely pool with tennis courts, 2 gym rooms (for ladies and gents) all surrounded by lush greenery and trees, looking up at the imposing rear facade of the hotel - Barbara has of course prepared suitable programs for the lazier guests and members of the Thula Recreation Center. You don't need to be there at 7 AM!

OUR WORLD REVOLVES AROUND YOU



Yemen's National Day of Vocational & Technical Training **GAVTT Gets a Boost**

Since the re-establishment of the Ministry of Labor, Minister Mohammed Al-Tayyeb has been itching to bring vocational and technical training to the forefront of government priorities. Last week, the Minister has succeeded in putting this dimension of human resource development back on the map.

Under the auspices of the Prime Minister Dr. Faraj Saeed Bin Ghanem, the Ministry of Labor and the General Authority for Vocational and Technical Training (GAVTT) organized an exhibition on 24th May, 1997, which was chosen as the 'National Day of Vocational and Technical Training'.

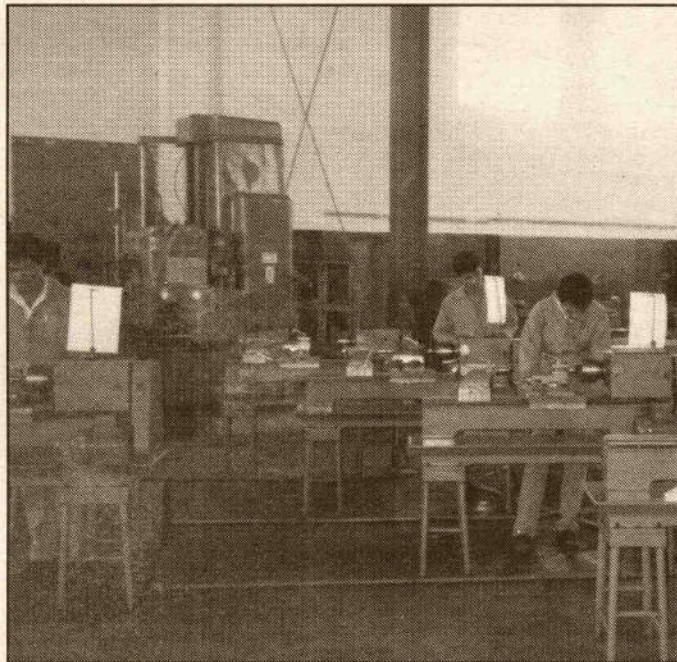
On this occasion, all technical and vocational training centers and institutes in various parts of the country were asked to send representative individuals and products to Sana'a. There are today, 24 government vocational and technical centers and institutes in the country as follows:

Sana'a	4
Aden	5
Hodeidah	3
Taiz	2
Abyan	3
Hadramaut	3
Dhamar	1
Ibb	1
Lahej	2

The products exhibited ranged from skills in machine repair spare parts to talents in the fine arts. Generally speaking, technical and vocational training in Yemen can be grouped into three main fields, as follows:

Industrial Fields:

This includes electricity, car mechanics, general mechanics,



construction, communications, carpentry and decoration, radio and TV, air conditioning and refrigeration, water and sanitation networks, maintenance of agricultural machinery and equipment, welding/shaping metals, road engineering, electronics, civil engineering, land survey, maintenance of heavy machinery and equipment, and car body repair and paint work.

Agricultural Fields:

This includes horticulture, soil and cultivation, animal production, food technologies and diary processing, raising, bee keeping, agricultural disease prevention, agricultural mechanics.

Business Fields:

This includes book-keeping and accounting, administration and

management, secretarial skills. The entity behind this sector's development is the GAVTT, which the minister now plans to strengthen. GAVTT is an autonomous government authority, responsible for the management, planning, organization and training of manpower in the Republic of Yemen. It is also responsible for supporting and supervising the work of the various vocational and technical institutes.

Vocational and technical training is done with the purpose of either giving trainees new skills, or upgrading their skills. That is why programs are implemented under short-term workshops and medium/long-term courses. The

programs are implemented in collaboration with technical and financial support from bilateral donors, notably China, Germany, Japan, Sweden, and multi-lateral and international donors such as the World Bank and the European Union.

At the moment, GAVTT is implementing a nation-wide program whose cost exceeds US\$ 74 million. The donors that are financing the project include the International Development Association (\$24 million), the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries - OPEC (\$11 million), the European Union (\$9 million), Japan (\$10 million), etc.

In addition, German technical support amounts to DM 25 million. A new Yemeni-German Cooperation Agreement in this field is expected to be signed later this month.

This project aims to improve the vocational and technical training system in Yemen through the rehabilitation of the existing vocational and technical training institutes/centers by upgrading machinery and equipment and by reforming the programs. In addition, it will tie-in vocational and technical training with the requirements of the market. Finally, it will expand the training programs by setting up new vocational and technical training institutes.

The new institutes to be established are the following:

- Higher Institute of Technology.
- Hotelery & Tourism Institute.
- Petroleum Institute.
- Women's Institute.

In addition, there are 15 new skills that will be added to the curricula.

"This project is expected to have a strong economic effect by supplying the labor market with the required qualified personnel," Minister Al-Tayyeb said.

**By: Ali Al Malhani,
Yemen Times.**



TENDER NOTICE (Second Announcement) N° 1/97

The Public Corporation for Maritime Affairs (PCMA) wishes to announce, for the second time, its intention to purchase a Pollution Control Boat as follows:

Approximate Specification

Length	About 18 metres
Breadth	About 5 metres
Draft	About 1.5 metres
Hull	GRP, steel or aluminium

Tender Conditions

1. Tender Documents can be purchased from the PCMA Head Office south of Hadda and 60 metre Road Junction for a sum of US\$500.00, non-refundable. Those who purchased the documents during the first Tender Notice do not need to purchase them again, but must ensure that they obtain a copy of the amendments.
2. Bids must be accompanied by a bid bond in favour of the PCMA, valued at not less than 2% of the total price in a confirmed cheque or a non-negotiable bank guarantee, valid for at least ninety days.
3. Bids must be submitted in one original and two copies in a sealed envelope, addressed to:
The Chairman, PCMA, PO Box 19395, Sana'a, Yemen
within two months of **24th May 1997**.
4. Bids will be opened in public, in the presence of bidders at the PCMA Headquarters at 1100 hours on 24th **July 1997**. No bids will be accepted after 1000 hours on the same date.
5. Local companies representing foreign bidders must produce valid tax cards and the Agency Agreement or Authorization form the foreign bidder.
6. All bids must be accompanied by a brief history of the bidder to show its experience and its technical and financial capability to execute the project.
7. The PCMA is not obliged to accept the lowest bid or any bid at all.

PCMA Telephone Nos (Sana'a): +9671-414412/419914
PCMA Fax No: +9671-414645

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Aden Madram St. - Maalla Tel: 242099	Taiz Jamal St. Tel: 231523	Hodeidah Sana'a St. Tel: 239166	



27 Babies Killed in Raimah MURDER BY NEGLIGENCE

The Ministry of Health is pushing an immunization drive to cover the whole country. The idea is to vaccinate babies against six diseases - polio, diphtheria, tetanus, whooping cough. The task is presumably simple.

Unicef provides the vaccines, the Ministry of Health trains and sends out the nurses who carry out the immunization effort.

Last week, something disastrous happened. The vaccines are generally supposed to be kept in cold temperatures. The people administering the doses in Na'om Village, Maswar Area, Raimah District (Sanaa Governorate) do not have refrigeration facilities. So, they went to a shop-owner in the area, and asked him to keep the vaccines in his private refrigerator.

He graciously agreed to help. "For the sake of the babies," as he ironically said.

Later, one of the old men in the same village came to the shop keeper. "You know I have high sugar content in my blood. I have to take this insulin to bring down the sugar level. Can I keep it in your refrigerator?"

The shop-owner agrees to help. The next day, the nurse administering the vaccination drive sends a small boy to fetch the vaccines. He brings back the insulin.

The result is 27 babies dead and 38 more in still serious condition. A total of 146 babies had been vaccinated with insulin.

Selah Haddash and Bin Sallam of Yemen Times paid a field visit to Raimah. Here is their report.

Villagers in the Na'om, Raimah, witnessed the worst tragedy in their already sad lives. It started with an ordinary inoculation campaign against the most common six deadly infant diseases.

According to the villagers in the area, the children were vaccinated with three doses on Thursday 22nd May by a male nurse, Hassan Ahmed, and his son Mansour. The inoculation was done haphazardly and without any official medical registers or cards. The medication bottles were unmarked, and without any labels. The supposed vaccines were not refrigerated, either. As if that would have helped.

It transpired later, too late for any emergency intervention, that the infants were injected with insulin! The death toll, up to Thursday 29 May, has reached 27 children. Tens of others are left in very serious conditions. Deaths started to occur within 24 hours of the first inoculation. The situation was dangerously exacerbated by the lack of proper medical emergency facilities.

The Minister of Health, Dr. Abdullah Abdul-Wali Nasher acted swiftly. He despatched a team of doctors and nurses, headed by Dr. Ahmed Makki. The visit was for one day -

Republic of Yemen
Ministry of Public Health
Minister Office



الجمهورية اليمنية
وزارة الصحة العامة
مكتب الوزير

Date:

Code:

قرار وزاري رقم (٣ / ٥ / ٩٦) لسنة ١٩٩٦ م

وزير الصحة العامة

بعد الاطلاع على القرار الجمهوري رقم (١٥٣) لسنة ١٩٧٢م بتشكيل مجلس الوزراء .
وبناء على ما تقتضيه المصلحة العامة ومصلحة العمل .

المقرر -

- ١- يرفق عن العمل حتى نهاية المطبق في مشكلة ربه كل من الاخره :
- ١- الدكتور / محمد صليح مدير عام مكتب الشؤون الصحية محافظة صنعاء
- ٢- الدكتور / خالد عبده المنصور نائب مدير عام مكتب الشؤون الصحية محافظة صنعاء . لشؤون ربه
- ٣- علي صفيح جباري مسئول محور ربه للتحصين
- مادة (٢) : يعمل بهذا القرار من تاريخ صدوره ، وعلى الجهات المعنية تنفيذه كل فيما يخصه .

صدر بقرار من وزير الصحة العامة بتاريخ ١٩٩٧ / ٥ / ٩



Sunday, 25 May - 3 days after the incident. The medical team was supposed to stay behind to help. But given the angry mood, they quickly left the place.

It brought back to Sanaa with it the six children that could have used help.

The Minister issued his orders freezing the Director-General of Health in Sanaa, the Director of

Raimah Health, and the person in charge of immunization in the region. Investigations are underway.

Yemen Times was told many sordid stories by the villagers. Many children are still in very serious conditions without any noticeable medical care. Some of the villagers resorted to primitive

بمناسبة العيد عيد الوحدة اليمنية ٢٢ مايو،
وبمناسبة استكمال انشاء المؤسسات الدستورية للبلاد
نتقدم بأطيب التهاني والتبريكات إلى فخامة الأخ

الفريق علي عبدالله صالح - رئيس الجمهورية

وإلى أعضاء مجلس النواب والوزراء وكافة أبناء شعبنا

اليمني.

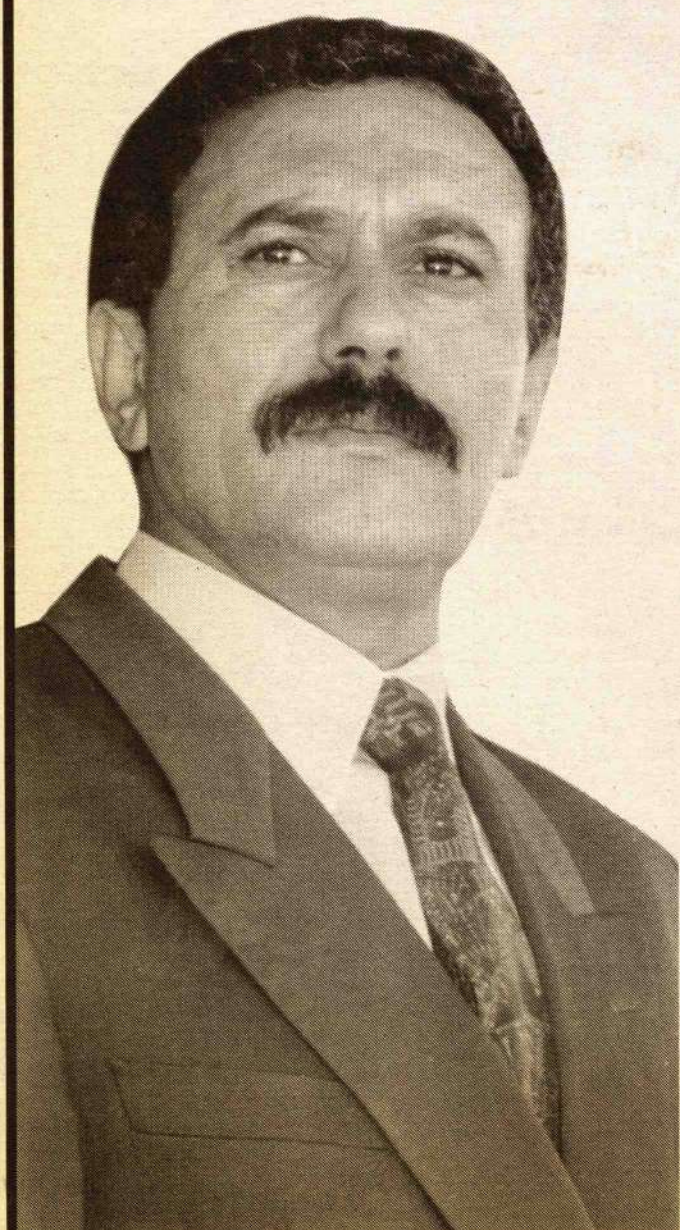
المهنتون

مجموعة شركات

أحمد عبدالله الشيباني

عنهم / الحاج أحمد عبدالله الشيباني ،

عبدالكريم أحمد عبدالله الشيباني



بمناسبة الذكرى السابعة للوحدة اليمنية ٢٢ مايو، وبمناسبة
استكمال انشاء المؤسسات الدستورية

يتقدم

الاستاذ/ عبدالكريم الرفاعي

بخالص التهاني القلبية لفخامة الأخ الرئيس

الفريق علي عبدالله صالح

وإلى الشعب اليمني كافة

Mr. Abdul-Karim Al-Rifayi

present his felicitations to the President of Yemen

General Ali Abdullah Saleh

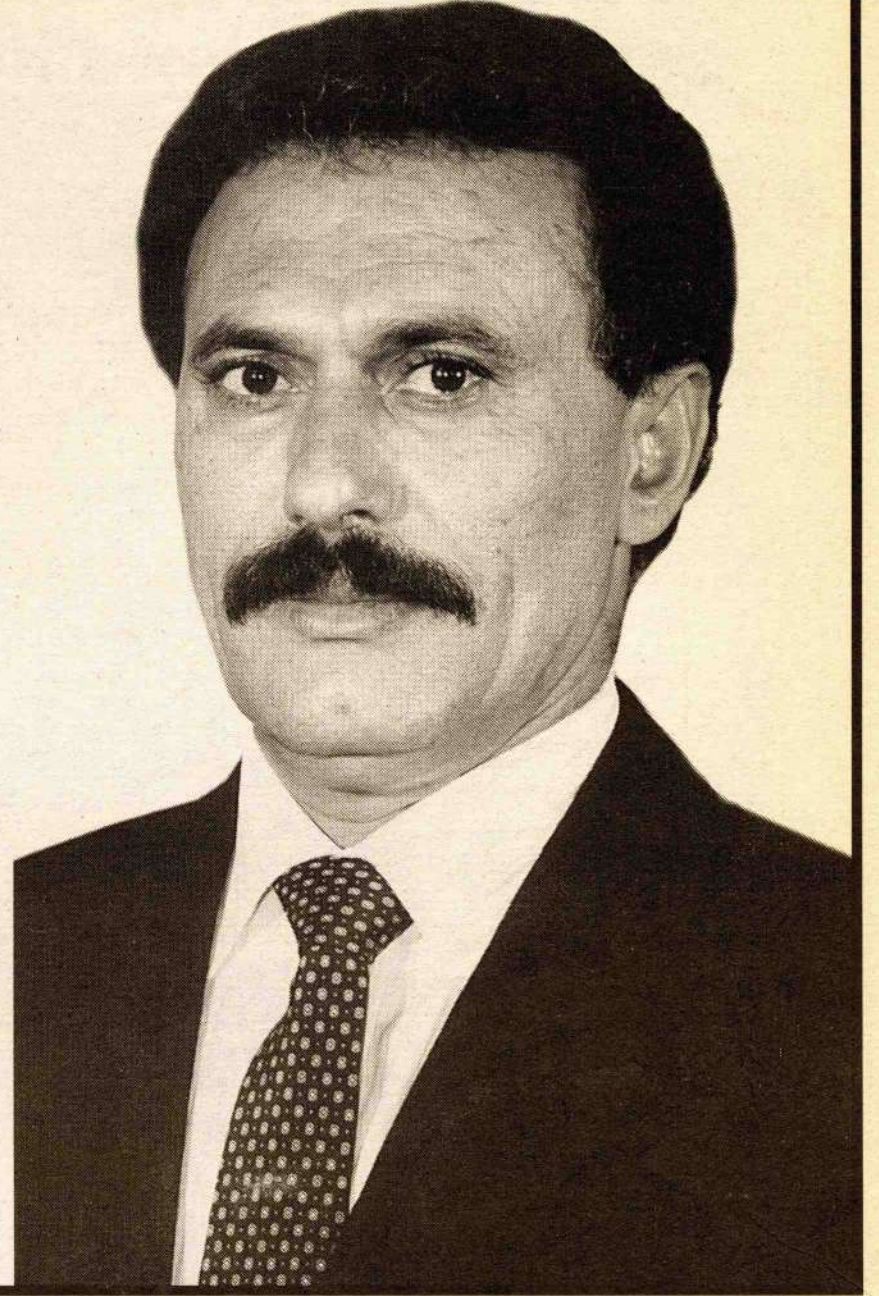
and the people of Yemen

on the 7th Anniversary of Unification Day (May

22nd), and on the establishment of the

Constitutional Organizations:

Parliament, Government and the Upper House.



د/ محمد علي مقبل

رئيس مجلس إدارة

الشركة اليمنية لصناعة وتجارة الأدوية

والادارة العليا وجميع الموظفين والعمال يتقدمون

بخالص التهاني والتبريكات لفخامة الرئيس

الفريق علي عبدالله صالح

وإلى الشعب اليمني الأبني

بمناسبة الذكرى السابعة لقيام الوحدة اليمنية في

الثاني والعشرين من مايو وبمناسبة استكمال انشاء

المؤسسات الدستورية

Dr. Mohammed Ali Moqbil The Chariman,

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Yemen Drug Company

present their felicitationsx to the President of Yemen

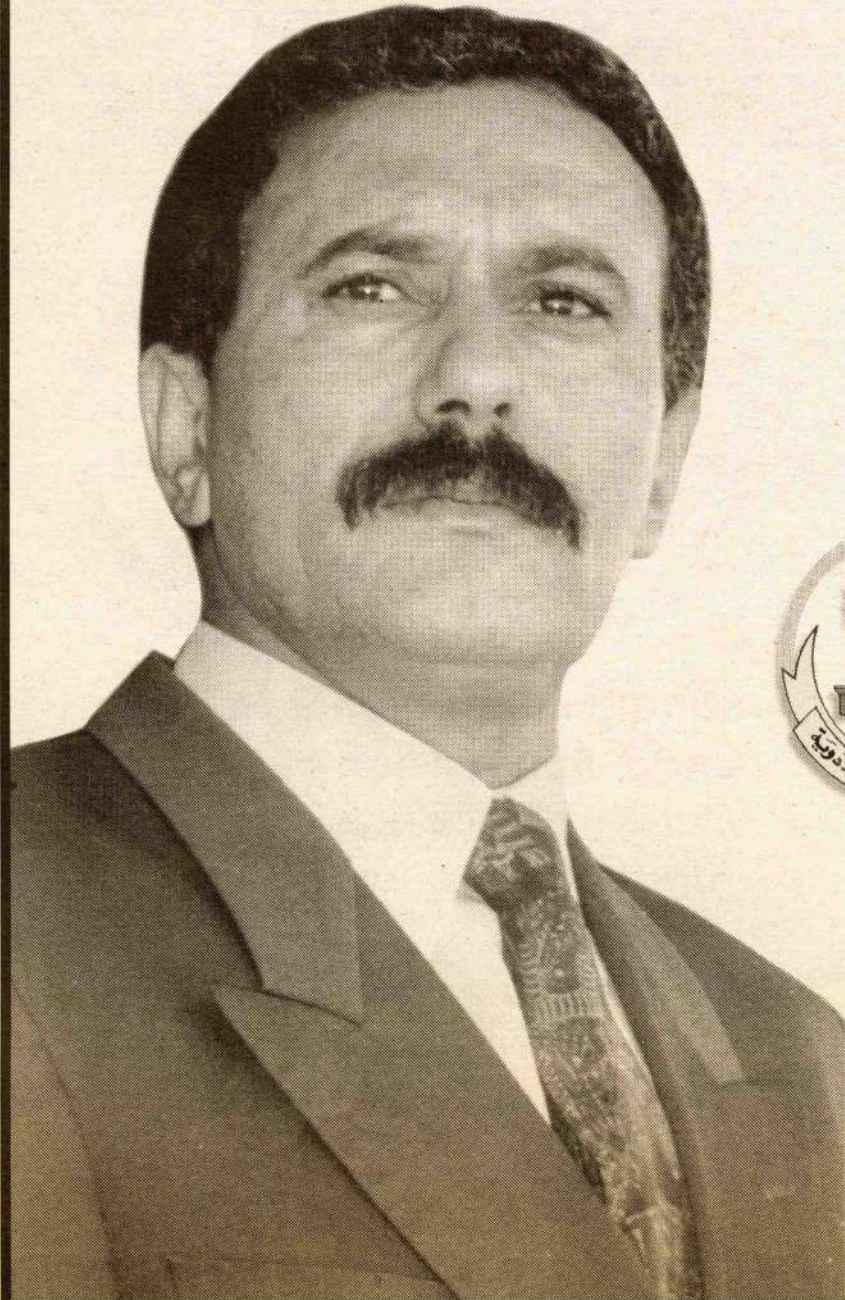
General Ali Abdullah Saleh

and the people of Yemen

on the 7th Anniversary of Unification Day (May 22nd), and

on the establishment of the Constitutional Organizations:

Parliament, Government and the Upper House.



UK Photographer Catches Yemeni Life



Mr. Richard Boggs is a teacher of English at the British Council in Sana'a. His three year stay in Yemen has enabled him to get as close a look at the culture and heritage of this country as is possible for an outsider.

He also lived and worked in Damascus and Khartoum, where he taught at the Islamic University. His first exhibition, 'Days by the Nile,' was the fruit of those years in Sudan.

Mr. Anwar Al-Sayyadi of Yemen Times talked to Richard on the occasion of his second photographic exhibition in Sana'a, "Among Yemenis."

Manakha, a very beautiful area of the country and it combines portrait and landscape. With the qat seller on his motorbike and the terraced hills in the background, I feel it captures something of the spirit of Yemen.

Q: What about the picture of the old guard? He has a typical Yemeni face.

A: I put this portrait under the title of "Style". I think there is something very stylish among some of the older generation which some of the youth (with their imported fashions) have lost.

Q: What about the texts accompanying the photographs?

A: Although it is called a photographic exhibition, to me the texts is more important than the photographs. With a camera you can record the outside world -- the world that is there for everyone to see. What the photographer does is to document that world before it passes. But with words, you can express what is internal -- the personal and the subjective -- and in some ways this internal world is much more important.

I'd like to link this up to Yemen's culture. Given Islamic concerns about images, I feel that in this society words have to some extent replaced images. For example a room in a house in the West will probably be decorated with pictures. A Yemeni home, however, will have Islamic texts on the wall. What I am interested in is the tension between two different media -- photographic images and words.



Q: When did your interest in photography begin?

A: I think it first started when I was living on an island in Lake Malawi in Central Africa. I tried to record the life of the islanders there. Living in the Sudan was my next opportunity, trying to capture some of the life of the tribes of western and eastern Sudan.

Q: How would you compare Yemeni culture with the Sudanese?

A: Both countries have a great variety, a wealth of culture, and wonderful opportunities for the photographer. Yemen however is a much easier country in which to travel.

Q: What places have you traveled to in Yemen?

A: I have traveled all over the country, from Sa'ada to Hadhramaut, although I have to yet visit Al-Jawf. I particularly like the coast, especially Hodeidah and the Tihama (in winter that is!). Hodeidah is described in the guide books in rather negative terms. To me the old Turkish quarter has a certain decaying beauty, and the Tihama is incredibly rich culturally. The Tihama features in the exhibition.

Q: Which do you prefer, taking photographs of the landscape or people?

A: To be honest, landscape photographs bore me. Most people coming to Yemen photograph the buildings and the mountains, but to me the people are of much greater interest. Much of my photography is street photography and the portraits in the exhibition are of shopkeepers, marketsellers, fishermen.

Q: Which is the best photograph in the exhibition?

A: The photograph on the cover of the catalogue "Biker" is perhaps my favorite. It was taken near



Q: Do you take photographs primarily as a hobby or with the purpose of making exhibitions?

A: It is becoming a little more than a hobby now. Originally I had no plans. I was just taking photographs. But now I have quite specific targets. In the near future I hope to travel to Socotra Island and record impressions of the islanders' lives.

Q: Who is your favourite photographer?

A: Wilfred Thesiger -- an Englishman who was brought up in Ethiopia, and traveled extensively throughout the Arab world, including Yemen. It was his images of Yemen which brought me here.

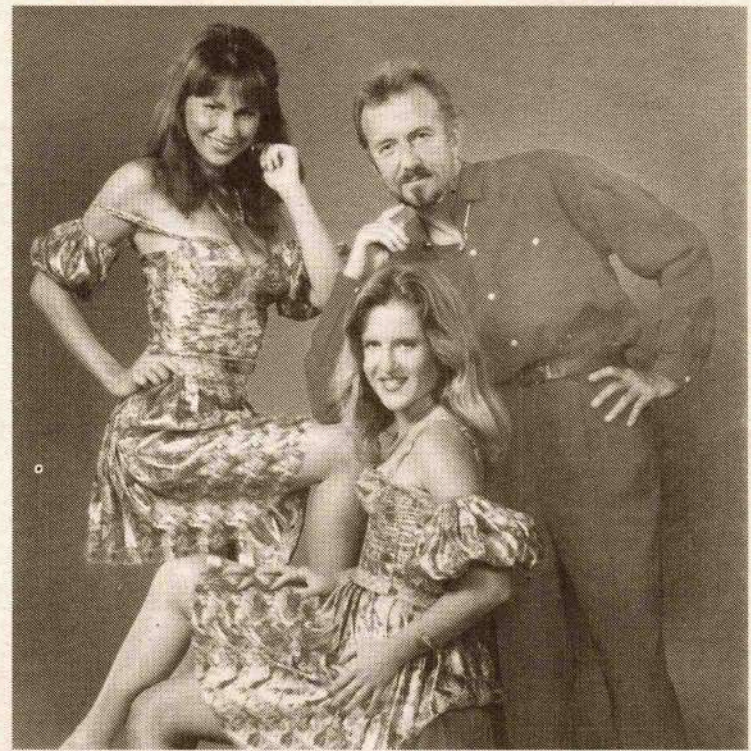
Q: Why don't Yemenis have photographic exhibitions?

A: I assume you are right in saying that they don't. I think this is a shame. Perhaps they just aren't aware of their potential. It would be interesting to see how Yemenis portray themselves. I think they should just go ahead and do it, especially an exhibition by Yemeni women. That would be a great one!

Q: Any last comment?

A: The exhibition, organized by Catherine Potter, is in the British Council Library until 12 June. Every Yemen Times reader is most welcome.

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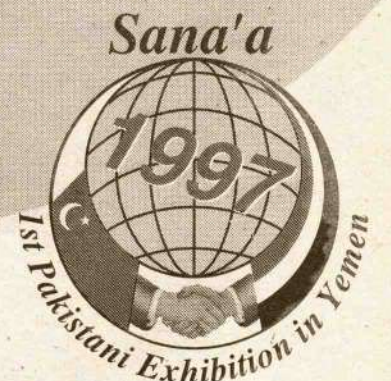

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ألف مبروك

نتقدم بخالص التهاني والتبريكات لكل من
أمانى العليبي، محمد عبدالحميد
بمناسبة عقد قرانهما.
المهنيون
آل العليبي، الزملاء زميلات في الهيئة العامة
للمعاشات والضمان الاجتماعي

King Hussein to Revamp Military Systems

Jordan will start building industry to bolster its military, which has relied on US aid in the past to equip its 100,000 soldiers, said King Hussein. In a speech to army officers, the King said the military would modernize and maintain its own armored vehicles and seek to upgrade the capabilities of the Royal Jordanian Air Force. He appointed his brother, Prince Hassan, to supervise the task. He provided few details, but the declaration followed years in which the military has suffered from tight government budgets.

The King also lamented the peace process and said, "What is the alternative to peace, except war and destruction?"

"Let us bring down the walls, build the bridges and see each other for what we are," added the King, who signed a treaty with Israel in 1994 and has been a staunch supporter of negotiations. Hussein attacked opponents of the treaty, particularly the media in Jordan, accusing them of fomenting hatred and anger.

Benazir Says She's Ready to Testify in US If Govt Permits

Former Premier Benazir Bhutto said she would testify in a case involving the US campaign finance scandal if the Pakistani government allows. Benazir said she was served with a subpoena by the US justice department to testify before a grand jury over allegations. Congressman Dan Burton tried to intimidate a lobbyist for Pakistan to make campaign donations. The issue relates to something which is alleged to have happened when Ms. Bhutto was Prime Minister.

"If my government agrees I will have no problem to appear," Bhutto said during her trip in the United States in which she delivered lectures at US universities. The trip followed a visit to London, which was her first tour abroad since her government was dismissed on November 5th by President Farooq Ahmad Leghari on charges of corruption and misrule.

"If my party wants me to contest in (future) as chairman of the Senate, I will contest for the post. I will not quit politics. I will keep serving the party and people of Pakistan. I am in politics just because of masses," she added.

The 44-year-old Benazir alleged "political victimisation" of her party by the government of prime minister Nawaz Sharif.

Expatriates Welcome Opening up of Saudi Shares Market

A cross-section of financial experts, bankers, businessmen and expatriates living in Saudi Arabia have welcomed the move of the Saudi government to allow foreign ownership. This is a step as which will attract foreign capital in the Saudi stock market, the largest in the Middle East with a market capitalization of almost \$50 billion.

Hamad Al-Sayyari, Governor of Saudi Arabian Monetary Agency (SAMA), announced plans to allow foreign ownership of Saudi shares, which will substantially boost the flow of international capital to the Saudi market. The move is primarily intended to open shares market, keeping in mind the increased interest of foreign investors including expats in the Kingdom.

The removal of stock market barriers and several trade barriers have been extremely significant especially in view of the fact that Saudi non-industrial sales have amounted to billions of dollars. This is in addition to the growing sales from oil and petrochemicals sector, which will be priority areas for foreign investors. There is also an approval from SAMA to establish a closed-ended country fund called Saudi Arabian Investment Fund Limited which will be listed on the London Stock Exchange and will be open to Saudi and non-Saudi participation. This is the first time that non-Saudis have been provided the opportunity to participate in the Saudi Stock market.

The Government of Saudi Arabia, running a budgetary deficit for the last twelve years, has embarked on new fund-raising methods. Privatization of government companies and corporations has been an important source of new revenue for the Government. Borrowing has been another source.

The opening up of the stock market for foreign investors is now an additional source for funds which will bolster the investment capabilities of Saudi Arabia.

More than 300 banks and companies trade their shares in the GCC with their market capitalization exceeding \$70 billion at the end of 1993. The move will help to establish an internal link between the stock markets of the Gulf states besides moving toward unifying and integrating the stocks markets of Bahrain, Jordan and Egypt. Bahrain and Oman are negotiating to link their stock markets with each other and it is hoped that Kuwait will also join them. This will help generate investment in local market.

Many foreign individuals and companies are already seriously considering to take the plunge.

Weizman Washes His Hand of Netanyahu

Israeli President Ezer Weizman was quoted by an Israeli newspaper as saying he had cut off contact with Prime Minister Benyamin Netanyahu over his attitude towards a peace making crisis with the Palestinians. "I have cut off all contact with him. Bibi isn't ready to listen. He knows everything. When I returned from the meeting with Palestinian President Yasser Arafat, I thought he would want to hear what happened there. Not at all." He said, "I see myself as the ice-breaker, I opened the channel and the convoy needed to follow it, but the convoy did not follow it. More desire is needed and a lot of understanding." Israel insists the eastern part of the city it captured from Jordan in 1967 will remain its eternal, united capital. The Palestinians want East Jerusalem as the capital of a future state. They say building settlements pre-empt final peace talks.

Tunisia: Press and Challenges of Globalisation & Technology

It was an exciting initiative when African and Arab pressmen working in various fields gathered in Tunisia to debate the future of the African and Arab press amid increasing challenges of globalization and technology.

Some 50 Arab and African pressmen, representing 23 countries, flew to Tunisia to attend a three-day seminar on 'Arab and African press and the Challenges of Globalization and Technology'. The seminar was opened by Mr. Fethi Houidi, secretary of state of information, in which he focused on the need to join ranks in order to face common challenges effectively.

Mr. Houidi also disclosed that the paper consumption in the Arab countries is embarrassing. He explained that the consumption rate in the Arab world is 0.9 kg per person, the rate in African countries reaches 0.8 kg. The paper consumption rate in Europe is 13.7 kg; and it reaches 18.8 kg in US. The consumption rate in Asian countries reaches 2.3 kg per person.

The press crisis in the Arab and African world is also the fruit of poor circulation and distribution. The participants agreed that media's future depends on four elements: Freedom of speech, removal of censorship (including self-made censorship), and the use of technology. They also agreed that globalisation will not pose a challenge to newspapers. It will actually present an opportunity.

Reward Leading to Capture of Armed Islamic Group

The Algerian government, fighting a violent Muslim militant campaign, offered residents up to 4.5 million Dinars (\$80,357) for information leading to the capture or killing of Algeria's most wanted guerrillas. The government's proposed reward appeared in posters put up on walls in several suburbs of Algiers.

The names of the most feared Armed Islamic Group, GIA, chief Antar Zouabri and his rival Islamic Salvation Army, AIS, Madani Mezrag as well as his deputy Ahmad Benaicha topped the posters. The GIA and its rival AIS, the armed wing of the outlawed Islamic Salvation Front, FIS, have been staging a guerrilla campaign in order to turn Algeria into a fundamentalist state. About 60,000 people have been killed in the five years of violence since 1992.

Tracking Down the Original Natives

In the Kaleidoscope of people in Bombay, there is one small community that can truly claim to be the native of this teeming Indian metropolis, tracing its ancestry to the 13th century.

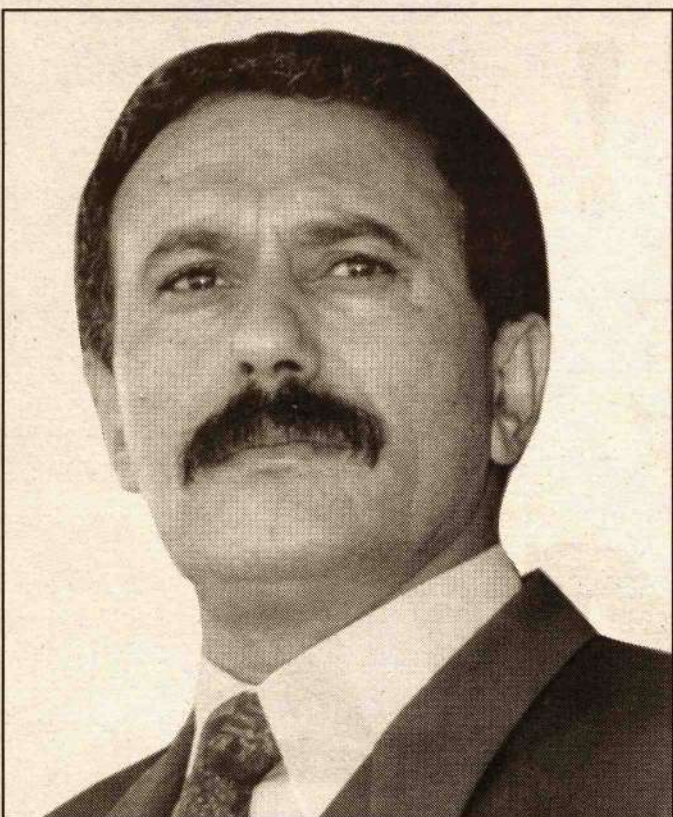
The Bombay East Indians, so named because their forefathers are said to have come to Bombay from the eastern part of the Deccan in the 13th century, claim to be the original settlers of the city. Most other communities had little to do with the city until the beginning of this century.

By then Bombay had become prosperous and the other communities merely came there to have a share of the pie. Originally Hindus, the East Indians soon converted to Christianity under the influence of the Portuguese, who had by then arrived in India and taken possession of, among other areas.

A considerable percentage of this community traces its ancestry to Brahmins, Prabhus, Marathas and Bhandaris, who were the early settlers, along with King Bhimdev, on the island of Mahim, now an integrated part of the city, during the 13th century.

They were then referred to as Bombay Portuguese because of their Portuguese surnames acquired by their forefathers on conversion in the 15th century. Today, the East Indians, comprising just a fraction of Bombay's population, are scattered over the city. They have merged into the Kaleidoscope that is Mumbai, yet they maintain an identity of their own. That is the strength of the East Indians.

Mumbai today is a bustling city of several million inhabitants.



رئيس مجلس الادارة الدكتور محمد السعيد

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المؤسسة العامة للمياه والصرف الصحي

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الفريق علي عبدالله صالح

والشعب اليمني، ولكافة عملاء المؤسسة

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General Ali Abdullah Saleh

and the people of Yemen

on the 7th Anniversary of Unification Day (May 22nd), and

on the establishment of the Constitutional Organizations:

Parliament, Government and the Upper House.

Sheikh Faisal Bin Qassim Al Thani:

"We are encouraged by HH the Emir of Qatar to invest in Yemen."

Sheikh Faisal Bin Qassim Al-Thani is a well-established and hugely successful entrepreneur and businessman from Qatar. He visited Yemen last week to follow up some investment projects, and to negotiate new ones. Mr. Al-Thani, 48, represents the front of a new wave of Arab and foreign investors, attracted to Yemen by the new opportunities and prospects. This is also part of Qatar's drive to invest in, and closely associate with, Arab countries. Al-Thani and Sons Holding Company is the flagship of a huge business empire, extending over many parts of the world.

Bin Sallam of Yemen Times met Mr. Al-Thani to talk about his future plans for investment in this country.

Q: What is the reason behind your current visit to Yemen?

A: This is my third visit to Yemen. It comes with the encouragement and blessing of H.H. the Emir of Qatar, who advised me to visit Yemen in April, 1996. His main aim was to find good opportunities for the investment of Arab capital in this country. A group of businessmen, including myself, visited Yemen last year. My second visit came upon the invitation of the Aden Chamber of Commerce. We visited Sana'a, Aden and Taiz to follow the progress of our first projects.

During this current visit, we have registered a new company, the International Trade Center, in partnership with a Yemeni businessman. We allocated the capital for this project about a year ago.

Q: Could you give us an idea about your intended investments in Yemen?

A: There are plenty of investment opportunities in this country. There is no doubt about it. We have started with the International Trade Center, which will be a sort of a parent company for many other future projects. We have many other plans and ideas. We intend to establish a first-class luxury hotel.

Q: How do you evaluate the current climate of investment in Yemen?

A: Many great opportunities have been created in Yemen, especially after unification. The intended Aden Free Zone is a shining example. Many big foreign companies have the desire to revive Aden as an international commercial center. It has a unique geographical position. It does not require much by way of international renown. The new investment laws will, hopefully, attract many businessmen and numerous capital. These are all very encouraging factors, but more time is needed for greater progress.

Q: Do you think these new laws are reliable?

A: People at the Investment Authority are working hard to help prospective investors, and to win their confidence. They practically adopt the new investor. The newly enacted investment laws represent a landmark in this respect.

Q: Do you have local partners in your venture?

A: We have several Yemeni partners and one Saudi partner.

Do you have any other projects planned for the future?

A: We are currently preparing for one big project, which will be announced when the idea is fully evolved and crystallized. We cannot disclose the details now. It is a special formula, composed of several elements -- buyers, financiers, etc. If the idea is declared prematurely, many people will try to chip in.

Q: Some newspapers try to portray the call for investing in Yemen as a government propaganda, which is difficult to bring into reality. What do you think about that?

A: I am not aware of such things. It is quite natural that every potential investor waits for others to start before taking the plunge. Thank God that we have started. Hopefully, we will be an example for others to follow.

Q: Do you facing difficulties in executing your projects?

A: There are some bureaucratic obstacles. Finding a suitable place for our offices has also proved to be somewhat difficult. We have been looking in vain, for over a year now, for an apartment or a villa in Aden to rent as an office. We have opened temporarily in Sana'a, while our offices are being built in Aden on land owned by our Yemeni partners.

Q: It is visible that Arab businessmen do not consider investing in the manufacturing industry. In Yemen, we have a big labor market, and a small industry limited mainly to food products. What do you think the main reason for that?

A: Big projects in the manufacturing industry must be adopted by the Yemeni businessmen first. Once economic viability is established, foreign investors can be called in participate. Such projects are easier for the local businessmen to tackle first.

Q: Yemeni businessmen seem to refrain from such industrial projects of non-consumer goods such as agricultural equipment and machinery. What do you think is the reason for that?

A: Local investors hesitate for a while because they know the real state of the local economy. Yemen is now witnessing a move towards the free market economy. The change from controlled to



free market economy needs some time to take roots. An even longer time is required to win the confidence of the people in the new economy.

The Hayil Saeed group of companies, with its great reputation, could start the ball rolling by adopting new projects to manufacture non-consumer products.

Q: Do you plan to engage in industrial projects?

A: We specialize in a particular field of investments. So we do not plan to try other ventures, which we do not have much experience in. There are many other investors friends of mine who will gladly engage in other types of investment. Actually, many of them have been planning such projects. But I do not know at what stage they are now.

Q: What do you think about the Aden Free Zone? Do you think it will be ready soon?

A: Frankly, I do not see much

progress being achieved in that respect. It is taking a lot more time than I believe is necessary. I cannot see much difference from my last visit. It should be accomplished a lot faster. I do not know the reasons for this delay.

Q: Do you contemplate other projects outside the Free Zone?

A: Our current project is actually outside the Free Zone. Once full prepared, we will launch new projects in the Free Zone.

Q: Any last comment?

A: When we see simple products being imported into Yemen, instead of being manufactured here, we feel saddened. A larger industry must be established here. There is a huge workforce. The other field that is in big need of more capital is the tourism industry. Yemen is an exceedingly beautiful country. With its great mountains, beaches, and historical heritage, it certainly has the potential for a gigantic boom in tourism.

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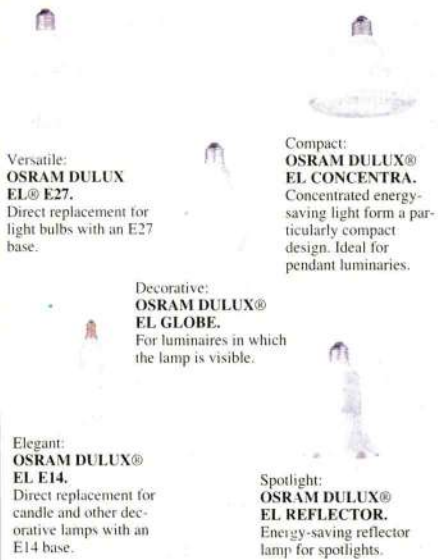
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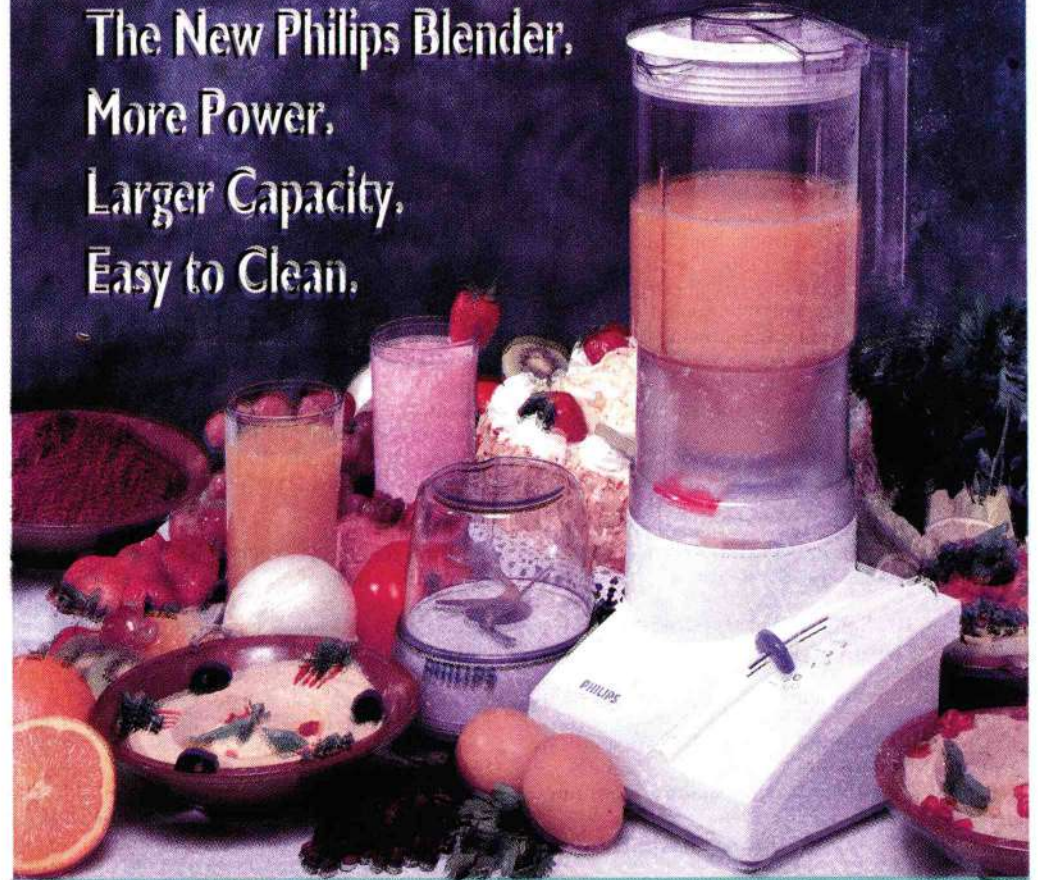
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AL-AYYAM: Aden (Weekly) 28-5-97
(Independent)

Main Headlines:

- 1) YSP Politburo Member: "The crisis in Yemen can only be resolved by adhering to the Pledge and Accord agreement."
- 2) Al-Shoura Chief Editor & Another Journalist Sentenced to 80 Lashes and YR. 100,000 Fine for Slandering Islah Leader, Al-Zindani
- 3) Land Transport Employees in Abyan Not Paid Salaries and Allowances for Many Months

Article Summary:

Smuggling is a (Prevalent) Phenomenon
by Abdulrahman Khubara

According to official statistics, the total value of imported goods dropped from about \$ 1.5 billion in 1995 to \$ 300 million in 1996. This is not due to finding locally manufactured alternatives. The reason is unhindered and widespread smuggling. Economic depression and the slowing down of the already limited investments have set in. The government's revenue is starting to suffer badly. The danger also lies in bringing in expired food stuff and medicines.

Seasonal crackdowns on smugglers have become very ineffective. Hardened smugglers, resorting to many means such as bribery, have become virtually unstoppable. A more realistic and comprehensive governmental program is urgently needed to put an end to this very harmful phenomenon.

AL-THAWRI: Sana'a (Weekly) 29-5-97
(Yemeni Socialist Party)

Main Headlines:

- 1) One Million Yemenis will be Unemployed by Year 2000
- 2) Children Insulin Deaths Investigated by Ministry of Health and General Prosecutor
- 3) Tribal Armed Conflict in Shabwa Continues, Government does not Intervene
- 4) Propaganda War Between Yemen and Saudi Arabia Escalates

Article Summary:

Scarecrows and Ceremonial Weapons
by Yassin Nasher

Judging by the laws that regulate them, elections' contestations are meant to be ineffective. The Supreme Court is given the authority to only provide an opinion as to the validity of the contestations. Contesting the legitimacy of a particular candidate does not prevent, or delay granting him a winning certificate and a seat in parliament. Any court ruling thereafter will be annulled by parliamentary immunity. The previous elections law forbade the granting of a winning certificate to a



Yemeni Press in a Week

by: Adel J. Moqbil

candidate whose winning is contested. The legitimacy of the contested membership of a particular MP must be decided by a two-third majority in parliament. This means that it is a political, not a judicial, decision. Rulings on elections contestations must be left to the relevant courts.

AL-WAHDAMI: Sana'a (Weekly) 27-5-97
(Nasserite Unionist Party)

Main Headlines:

- 1) Local Authorities Procrastination to Help Insulin-Injected Babies Arouse Public Anger in Reima
- 2) Armed Clashes Between Police and Citizens in Taiz Over Disputed Piece of Land
- 3) Local Councils are Backward and should be Replaced with Local Authority

Article Summary:

PSO Interrogates Teachers
by Fahmi Al-Saqqaf

An official at the Education Bureau in Aden has confirmed the leaking of examination papers at Saif School in Aden. The bureau has asked the Political Security to investigate the matter. Three teachers and six pupils were arrested on Saturday 24 May. The pupils were released on the same day after questioning.

These measures were taken due to the spread of rumors regarding the leaking of the 6th, 7th, and 8th grade examination questions. It was also alleged that some teachers resorted to selling the exam papers. The likely factor that led to the leak is that, for lack of facilities, most schools resort to photocopying the exam papers in ordinary shops.

AL-TAJAMMU': Aden (Weekly) 26-5-97
(Yemeni Unionist Congregation Party)

Main Headlines:

- 1) US President Calls for Wider Political Participation in Yemen
- 2) Margin of Democracy in Yemen is Rapidly Eroding
- 3) Soldiers in Aden Still Await Rewards for their Role in Elections

Article Summary:

No Compensation for Beneficiaries

Several citizens in Abyan have been complaining for not receiving compensations for the arable lands they were allotted. They had to return the pieces of land to the original owners. Compensations were promised before the elections. They were also promised other pieces of land to cultivate about five years ago. Neither of the promises was kept.

On another level, some real estate owners have also been complaining. They too have not received compensations for the office buildings that were taken by the government. Some of the appropriated property was given as handouts to senior government officials.

26 SEPTEMBER: Sana'a (Weekly) 29-5-97
(Yemeni Armed Forces)

Main Headlines:

- 1) In a Meeting with their Ambassadors, the Prime Minister Emphasizes Improving Relations with Jordan, US and France
- 2) Increase in MPs' Armed Body Guards is Uncivilized
- 3) Agricultural Bank Loans Reached YR. 5.3 Billion in 1996
- 4) Deputy Chief of Staff Visits British Frigate "Westminster"

Article Summary:

Yemeni- Saudi Relations

Saudi Arabia has the greatest influence in the region. Its relations with Yemen, however, have been characterized by unclarity, instability and suspicion. This led in some instances to blatant hostility, which was rather unfairly detrimental to Yemen. We must take the initiative of starting the dialogue.

The crucial questions that need to be accurately answered are:

- 1- Are the Saudis really serious about resolving the border issues?
- 2- Is it true that Saudi Arabia tries to hinder progress in Yemen?
- 3- Is it true that Yemen represents a danger to Saudi Arabia?
- 4- Is it possible to bring some hidden issues of contention to the open?

5- What reasonable compromises are the two parties expected to make?

AL-TARIQ: Aden (Fortnightly) 27-5-97
(Independent)

Main Headlines:

- 1) Former Premiere Appointed Head of Consultative Council (Upper House)
- 2) Sana'a Court of Appeal Issues Second Annual Judicial Report
- 3) Governors of Aden, Lahaj and Abyan Expected to be Replaced
- 4) Dockyards Company Rejects Rulings by Civil Service Authority and Prosecutor's Office to Reinstate Sacked Workers

Article Summary:

Yemenis Arrested in Jordan

According to Al-Quds newspaper, the Jordanian authorities have arrested a number of Yemenis who have been in contact with the opposition PM, Laith Shbeilat. The MP said that they came to him with recommendations by Sheikh Abdullah Al-Ahmer to mediate in a tribal dispute. The Yemenis' telephones were tapped. They were later arrested, and had their passports confiscated.

According to sources at Sheikh Al-Ahmer's office, the Yemenis arrested are known in the past to have forged signatures and recommendations purported to be from Yemeni officials. The sources also stated that the recommendation they presented to Shbeilat must have been forged.

تهنئة

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المهنيون:

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إيمان وأمل الأديمي، أبناس السقاف

الوالد محمد القدسي وحرمة،

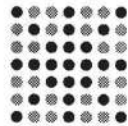
الوالد عبدالوارث السقاف وحرمة،

خالد وعبداللله القدسي، خالد ونبيل عبدالوارث السقاف،

سلوى ويسرا السقاف، والخال إبراهيم غانم وحرمة،

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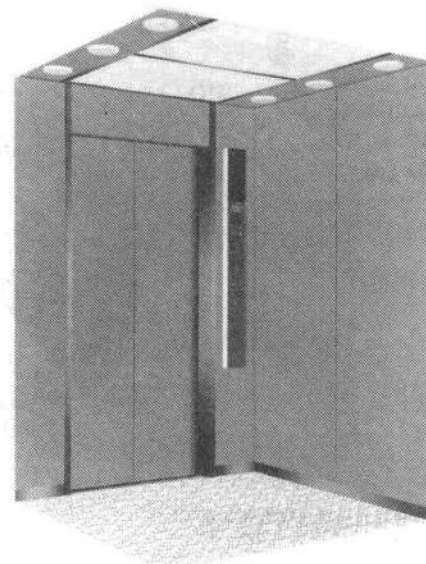
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Thursday	19/6/97 10:00am - 1:00pm	

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The Yemeni National team in Oman Loss and Mistakes

It seems that the Yemeni football national team did not play seriously in the warm-up match with Oman last Thursday May 29. The team did not play as same as it did in the Asian qualifiers. There were many repeated mistakes in the defense line which enabled the Omani team to score two goals. The Yemeni team could only score one goal.

minute. This goal stimulated the Omanis' appetite for more goals especially when the Yemeni team showed no seriousness. The Omanis intensified their attacks through Ghareeb Saeed, Mohammad Khamees, and Habibullah. Mohammad Khamees made use of the confusion in the Yemeni defense line to add the second goal. In spite of their lack

scored it a goal at 34 minute in the first half.

The Second Half:

The Yemeni team showed some harmony in the second half after they felt the danger of their carelessness in the first half. Seeing that the Yemeni attacks were more organized, the Omani team fell back to defend its goal. The Omani team kept defending its goal throughout the second half. Our team could not make a tie and the game ended 1:2.

I seems that the Yemeni Players considered that the result of this game is of no value since the match is merely experimental. But that is a mistake because what is important is developing the team's level through such matches. They discover the weaknesses which would affect our team in the coming World Cup qualifiers. We want our team to move forward not backward. We hope they will show a strong performance in the coming match with Indonesia. The result of this match is very crucial for the Yemeni team.



The Omani team dominated the first half. The Omani attackers were able to penetrate the Yemeni defenses. The Omani payer, Mahmoud Khamees, scored the first goal at the tenth

of seriousness and concentration of attacks, the Yemenis made few attempts. The most dangerous one of these is when Jayyab passed the ball over the Omani Defenders to Essam Driban who

Yemen 1997 Cricket Tournament The Emirates Cup



Summer has started and Cricket in Yemen picks up its momentum again thanks to Yemen Cricket Association (YCA) headed by Sheikh Tariq Abdullah as the Chairman for the Association for the year 1997. Other members our Mr. David Pearce ad deputy Chairman and Finance and Sponsorship Committee consists of Mr. Sikadar Mahmood, Mr. Koshy Vinod and Mr. Ajay Tandon ... Mr.Masroor Siddiqui is the secretary to the YCA. YCA has announced the tournament to start from 6th June 1997.

This year tournament will have six teams in total to compete for number one position. Pakistan Cricket Club the defending champions will have to fight hard as all teams are equally placed this year. Emirates Airline has sponsored the whole tournament giving enormous support to all the teams. YCA conveys special thanks to Mr. Adnan Kazim Area Manager of Emirates in Yemen and also to Dr. Abdul Aziz Al-Saqaf of Yemen Times.

The countdown has begun for exiting summer cricket Fridays and the teams stand as below:

Pakistan Cricket Club - PCC

Defending champions for 1996 cup are once again getting ready under a new captain Mr. Masroor Alam. Though this team has a few good players left but they have been replaced with new young talented all around performers. Players to watch: Adil/ Akil and Wasi

India Cricket Club - ICC

The arch rivals are looking forward to lift the cup 1997 under new captain Mr. Narendra and also a new name for the club to call for all Indian split teams to play under one flag. This team when playing against PCC or PTC draws maximum crowds to the ground. Players to watch: Pradeep / Anthony and Srinivas.

Pakistan Tigers Club - PTC

Quite go getting and highly emotional team with strength in all aspects of cricket. Team did manage to reach finals against PCC in 1996 and lost the cup to better team. This team has not announced any changes in the team but hopeful this year not just to reach finals but also to taste number one position. Players to watch : Salman(Captain) / Arif

Arabian Cricket Club - ACC

Extremely young and energetic team with their major strengths being batting and fielding. This team when playing against any team is always ahead with 15-20 runs because of its fielding. Under a new captain Mr. Nadem this team looks forward

to be number one this year. Mr. Tahir(Ex captain ICC) has joined this team giving them a great moral support while strengthening both bowling and batting.

Players to watch : Imran / Nadem and Tahir.

Yemen Cricket Club - YCC

Lead by Aden born Mr. Khusdil who has gathered and trained new players over the last 6 months after the last tournament. This team has players who play regular cricket in Aden and fly or drive specially to Sana'a for their scheduled matches. This team looks towards this tournament as their entry to build a strong foundation of Yemeni cricketers. Players to watch : Gilal / Tofeeq

Lion & Jambia Crcket Club - LJCC

The pioneer's of cricket in Yemen and complete multinational team this year hopes to upset the other teams and lift the Emirates Cup as it has added in the team new big stroke players. This team has been winning all its matches during practices and looks forward to carry the same way under their new captain Mr. Ajay Tandon. This team is privately sponsored by World No. 1 Rothmans Royal in Yemen.

Players to watch : Casper Ridley / Dominic / Waris and Nafes

Cricket lovers may make note of following schedule for their reference and watch these exiting matches at the Al-Tawrah Stadium on Amran road starting at 10 a.m on 06th June 1997.

DATE	MATCHES BETWEEN	UMPIRES
JUN 06, 1997-	YCC VS L&J	ICC & PCC
JUN 13, 1997	ACC VS ICC	PTC & L&J
JUN 20, 1997	PTC VS PCC	ICC & ACC
JUN 27, 1997	YCC VS ACC	PCC & PTC
JUL 04, 1997	ICC VS L&J	ACC & YCC
JUL 11, 1997	ACC VS PTC	ICC & L&J
JUL 18, 1997	PCC VS YCC	ACC & PTC
JUL 25, 1997	L&J VS PTC	YCC & PCC
AUG 01, 1997	ACC VS PCC	L&J & ICC
AUG 08, 1997	ICC VS YCC	ACC & PTC
AUG 15, 1997	L&J VS PCC	YCC & ICC
AUG 22, 1997	ICC VS PTC	ACC & PCC
AUG 29, 1997	L&J VS ACC	YCC & PTC
SEP 05, 1997	YCC VS PTC	ICC & ACC
SEP 12, 1997	ICC VS PCC	L&J & PTC

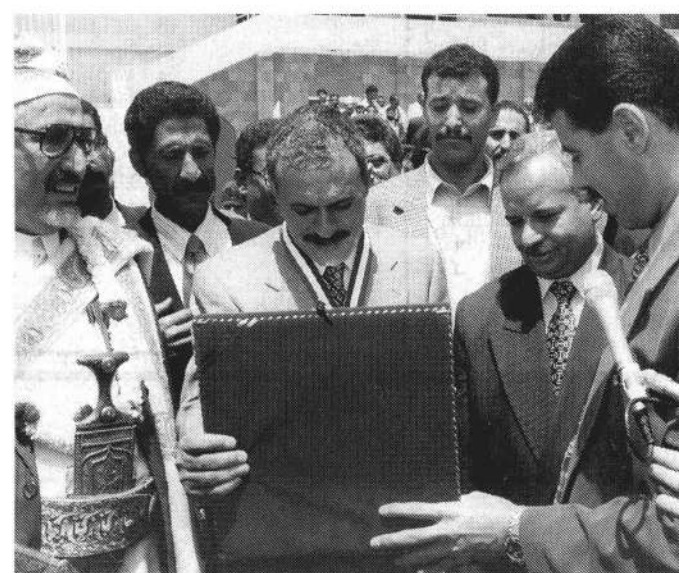
FIRST SEMI FINAL : SEPTEMBER 19, 1997
SECOND SEMI FINAL: SEPTEMBER 26, 1997
MATCH FOR THIRD POSITION: OCTOBER 3, 1997
FINAL: OCTOBER 10, 1997

By: Ajay Tandon
Finance and Sponsorship Committee.

Jamal Hamdi Venerates the President

For more than two decades, Jamal Hamdi had been the legendary footballer of the Yemeni national team before he quitted playing in 1995. The victories which our team has been achieving in the Asian qualifying matches have reminded the football fans of Jamal Hamdi who was always associated with the successes of our team.

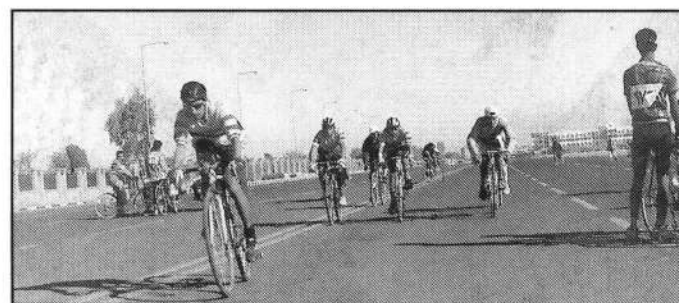
Recently, Jamal Hamdi has showed his respect for the youths' first mentor, president Ali Abdullah Saleh as an expression of appreciation for his generous and continuous support for the young people of Yemen. The ceremony was attended by many officials headed by the speaker of the parliament Abdullah bin Hussein Al Ahmer and Dr Abdulwahab Raweh, the Minister of Youth and Sports.



22 May Race for cyclists A Competition and Prizes

On the anniversary of signing the renunciation agreement in May 22, 1990, The Yemeni Cyclist Association in Sana'a organized a special race last Thursday May 29. 35 participants from different governorates competed for the Championship Cup by the Cyclist Association.

The start point was from Al Sabeen St., and through the streets of Sana'a, it would end at the building of the Ministry of Youth and Sports. At the end point, The cyclists were awaited by the deputy-minister of Youth and Sports, Mohammed Al Khawlani and Many other Officials from the Ministry and the



Cyclist Association. The result were as follows:

The first Ahmed Abdulrazzaq Jaleel
The second Yahya Al Arashi
The third Abdullah Ali
The fourth Abdulsalam Mohammed

The fifth Khalid Ahmed
The sixth Abu buker Mohammed

The deputy-minister awarded the first winner the cup of the championship and handed the prizes to the first winners.

Yemen Participates in the Arab Chess Championship

Mr. Abdulkarim Al Othri, The president of Yemeni Chess Association has confirmed that Yemen is going to participate in the Arab Chess Championship which will take place in Qatar from 14 to 29

June. The international chess player and the Yemeni chess champ, Hamid Al Khadhi is nominated to represent Yemen in this championship. This championship is going to be a tough competition for our Champ since many Arab chess champs are participating in it. Recently, Yemen has witnessed a distinguished development in this game. This is proved by the good results achieved by the Yemeni players. We wish our champ all the best.

تهانينا القلبية

نتقدم بخالص التهاني والتبريكات لبطول الملاكمة اليمني يوسف صالح محمد بمناسبة زفافه الميمون.

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تهانينا الحارة

نتقدم بخالص التهاني والتبريكات للأخ عبدالكريم عجلان - رئيس تحرير صحيفة الهدف بمناسبة قرب زفافه الميمون.

المهنيون:

جمال العواضي، حسين العواضي، عبدالله الكبسي، خالد السوداني، وجميع الأهل والأصدقاء.

مبوك

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CC Embarks on Ambitious Effort

The first working session of the Consultative Council (CC) was held yesterday, Sunday, June 1st. It was attended by President Ali Abdullah Saleh who indicated that much hope is pinned on the role of the Council. "From the very outset, I leave with you two law drafts, one related to Local Government, and the second to administrative zoning of the country," he said. Both laws have far-reaching political, social, and economic effects. The CC has formed eight committees to help it in its work. Although entitled consultative, the council will be able to accomplish a lot given the caliber of the people in it, and given its bridge role between the Office of the President and the Parliament. The role of the CC is seen as crucial in strengthening national cohesion and unity, and in broadening the base of decision-making at the highest level of authority. It is also seen as a necessary benchmark for taking important economic and political decisions. "We will be involved in the reform package, especially as conditions worsen, and we will be involved in the boundary talks with Saudi Arabia," explained one of the CC members. The mood is upbeat and optimism rides high.

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