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TIMES

AMERICANS ON Bhonghi SANAA, (Reuters) - Yemen officials

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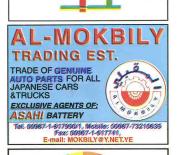
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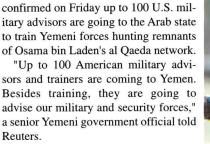
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The Wall Street Journal reported earlier on Friday that the White House had approved a mission to send hundreds of troops to train and advise Yemeni forces.

The Yemeni official did not say when the U.S. troops would arrive in Yemen.

The Yemen operation was disclosed as the United States also prepared to send Army special forces trainers to the for-

mer Soviet republic of Georgia to help train that country's military in battling guerrillas near the Chechen border. The U.S. military also recently sent elite anti-terror trainers to the Philippines in the wake of Sept. 11 attacks on America.

In Washington, senior U.S. defense officials declined on Friday to give specifics of any package for Yemen, saying that talks were going on between the two countries on improved military-to-military ties in the war on terrorism.

"We agreed to work closely with them (Yemen) ... so they can more effectively combat terrorism," Pentagon spokeswoman Victoria Clarke told reporters.

State Department spokesman Richard Boucher urged reporters not to overreact and assume a new front had opened up in the U.S. war on terrorism "every time somebody in a uniform or a counterterrorism expert shows up in some country".

He added, "We are fighting terrorism all

over the world, just like we said we would." Seeking to boost Yemen's ability to do counter-terrorism operations, "we're talking to them about the training and equipment that we can help with," Boucher said.

In December, Yemen launched a manhunt for two Yemenis and other suspected members of al Qaeda.

Washington has named bin Laden and al Qaeda as prime suspects in the September attacks on the United States. It also accuses bin Laden of planning the bombing of the U.S. warship Cole in the southern Yemeni port of Aden in 2000.

The newspaper quoted unnamed officials



as saying the mission was approved after a month-long debate within the administration of President Bush about the size of the al Qaeda presence in Yemen.

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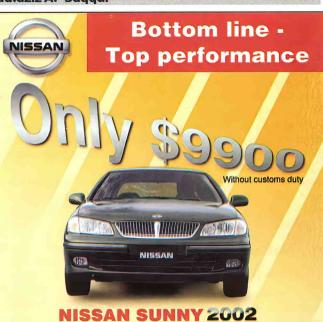
U.S. soldiers will not be involved in combat missions in Yemen, officials said. Rather, the U.S. soldiers will "train with, assist and advise" troops from Yemen's Republican Guard. The U.S. soldiers also will share intelligence with the Yemeni soldiers.

Army Gen. Tommy Franks, the chief of the U.S. Central Command, had said Washington was considering providing military aid and counter terrorism assistance to Yemen.

Two of the people Yemen is pursuing, Mohammed Hamdi al-Ahdal and Ali Qaed Senyan al-Harthi, are suspected of involve

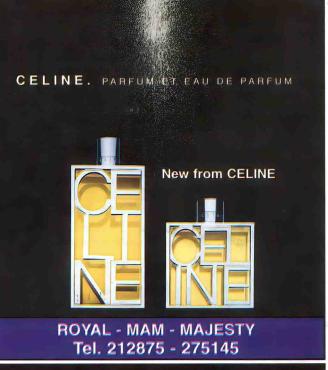
ment in the Cole bombing are believed to be under the protection of powerful tribal chiefs.

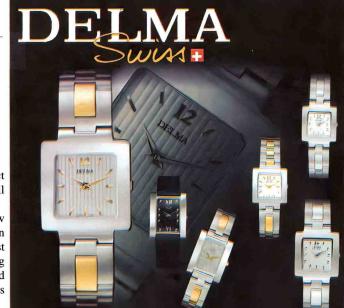
Yemeni President Ali Abdullah Saleh Thursday urged the suspects to surrender and warned tribesmen against protecting them.



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President launches projects

By YEMEN TIMES STAFF

President Ali Abdullah Saleh started to tour a number of governorates including Marib, al-Mahra and Hadhramoot on Thursday

The president was accompanied by some officials to familiarize themselves with the basic needs of these governorates and to inau-

Tens of thousands of Hadhramoot governorate residents had emigrated to Gulf States. Indonesia, Malaysia and other South-Eastern Asia countries where they had started big businesses and are now capable of investing their capitals in Yemen.

In the same context, the president inaugurated Tareem-Shehn highway on March 3, a

ern gateway for Yemen and the Gulf States. At the same time, around 50 per-

cent of al-Ghaidha-Sarfeed highway project has been implemented. This highway will

link Oman and Yemen from the west.

The president will also inaugurate a new



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gurate new essential projects.

In his speech following the Friday Prayer in Shebam, Hadhramoot, the president urged businessmen to invest their capitals into various projects with the aim of providing new job opportunities.

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road which cost more than YR 7.3 billion. It oil refinery in al-Mokalla City. Production is about 575 km long financed by the Sultanate of Oman.

The Yemeni government is also contributing 35 percent of this project. The new highway will link Yemen and Oman from the east-

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will reach 25 thousand barrel during the first phase, and 100 thousand during the coming phase. Yemenis as well as Saudis and investors from the UAE will take part in this project.

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4 March 2002

Negotiations with Chased Qaeda Members deadlocked

Recent mediations to convince Qaed Senyan al-Harethi to surrender himself to the Yemeni authorities have been to no avail.

Leading sheikhs of Mareb, headed by Sheikh Ameen al-Okaimi, an MP, his brother Yahya, as well as Ali bin Saeed Muaili, Sheikh of Abeeda, failed to strike a deal

Sheikh, Hussain al-Ahmar, son of the Parliament Speaker, also resumed negotiations with al-Harethi in an attempt to persuade him to give up himself to the authorities.

However, al-Harethi had no confidence on the assurances made by the authorities, a tribal source told the Yemen Times.

President Salih stressed in a recent

National Day of Kuwait marked

A reception was held recently at the Embassy of the State of Kuwait on the occasion of the National Day of Kuwait. The party was attended by a number of ministers, officials and the accredited diplomats to the Republic of Yemen.

In a statement to the Yemen Times, Kuwaiti Ambassador, Yousf al-Onaisi, highlighted the level of cooperation between the people of Yemen and Kuwait. He added that Muscat summit's decision to make Yemen enter some of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) institutions is a recognition of its special strategic location as for the Gulf countries.

Group Wedding for Bohra

A group wedding was organized for 14 couples of the Bohra sect in Yemen

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/R 31.200 /R 15.500 /R 24.500	YR 45.000 YR 45.000 YR 31.900 YR 35,000	Sheraton Aden Samah Hotel Al-Hawta Palace	4days/2 nights 3days/2 nights 3days/2 nights	Note: group of 4 (adult) & more we discount of YR4,000

speech to tribesmen of Mareb that Yemen has been requested to extradite only two persons (al-Harethi and al-Ahadal), believed to have links with al Oaeda, to the US authorities

On another development, a number of US military counterterror experts are expected to arrive soon in Yemen, within the framework of bilateral antiterror cooperation between Yemen and the US.

US President George Bush earlier denied the report of the Wall Street Journal, that US troops are being sent to Yemen.

He said that whenever the US learns that al Qaeda operates in certain countries, it will work with the respective governments to eradicate it.

at the expense of His Highness the Sultan of Bohra, Mr. Mohammed Burhanuddine. A number of officials and diplomats attended the wedding. Mr. Salman Rashid, the Fatimid

Dai's representative in Yemen and Chairman of the association which organized and financed the wedding, received the guests and thanked them for attending.

Qat-free weddings are a remarkable note about the group wedding organized by the Bohra sect in Yemen. This is the fifth group wedding organized by Bohra.

SEDF established

A republican decree No. 39 for the year 2002 was issued with regard to establishing a fund to finance small enterprises. The decree has comprised 29 articles distributed to five chapters. The first chapter is on definitions

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and naming, the second one on general judgments, the third on the fund's administration, the fourth comprises the financial fund system and the final chapter deals with the final judgments.

Shiite celebrate al-Ghadeer Day

The Shiite movement in Yemen celebrated the al-Ghadeer day which coincide with the Zu al-Hajjah 18, the day in which the prophet Mohammed (peace be upon him) delivered his valedictory sermon.

The Shiite consider this day as the day in which Ali Bin Abi Taleb was appointed as the Commander of the Faithful. On this occasion, the Shiite movement in Sana'a and Serwah in Marib celebrated the festival together with the Esmalids sects in Sana'a and Haraz.

Ministry of **Culture reshuffled**

The Ministry of Culture underwent major changes in its top level leadership, as Ahmed Salim al-Qadhi was re-appointed as Vice-minister of Culture an new 11 deputy ministers and directors-general were also appointed.

The reshuffle included the following appointments: Yousif Mohammed Abdulah as deputy minister for Manuscripts & Book Houses, Hisham Ali bin Ali, deputy minister for Intellectual Property Rights, Abdula Mohammed Bawazir, deputy minister of Antiquities & Historical Cities, Miss Najeeba Mahamoud Ali Hadad, deputy minister for Folklore & Theaters, Abdulwahab Mohammed

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Technical Office, Abdula Zaid Hamoud Essa, chairman of the General Authority for Preserving Old Cities, Jamal Abdulwali Abdalah al-Sheikh, vice-chairman for the General Authority for Preserving Old Cities, Mohammed Ali Qassem al-Arousi, chairman for General Authority for Antiquities & Museums, Ahmad Mohammed Ali Shamsan, vice-chairman for the

Local News

General Authority for Antiquities & Museums, Mohammed Hussain Jaghman, advisor for the Ministry of Culture for the old cities affairs, and Shawki Shaif Saeed advisor for the Ministry of Culture.

Qassem Shamhani, chairman of the

Historical clock in Aden repaired

ADEN - The British Ambassador, Francis Guy paid a visit to al-Towahi clock site located at Gasar Mountain. The clock is one of the largest clocks in the world, after the Big Ben clock in Britain. It dates to 1890, during the British occupation to Aden City. Preparations are underway to repair the clock in Britain.

About 28,000 pounds was allocated ed. to repair the clock but the concerned bodies didn't take care of the tender.

camp comes to a close

The first eye diseases camp organized by the People General Congress (PGC) from Feb. 25 to March 3, in Taiz ended yesterday with a high attendance of eye patients.

Specialized eye doctors conducted different eye operations for the patients free of charge, Sheikh Jabir Abdulah Ghalib, an MP and chairman of the PGC's branch. told Yemen Times.

He added that this camp was made so as to help the poor in the district to have a free but yet a reliable medical service that should be taken as an example.

The clock is going to be repaired during the coming three months, which coincides with the fiftieth anniversary of the Elizabeth's rule in Britain.

Middle-East delegation paid visit to Yemen

The Middle-East delegation for Computer program producers union recently paid a visit to Yemen chaired by the Regional Director, Gowad al-Redha. In a statement to Yemen Times, the Regional Director said that his visit to Yemen has come within the framework putting an end to use the copied systems in an illegal way.

Mr. Gowad also visited the Information Ministry, the Personal Division and the Civil Registration. the Computer Center at the Saba News Agency and the two deaneries of the Sana'a University and Technology and Science University.

"At the end of March the computer programs producers union in collaboration with Computer and Studies Center will hold the first training courses to avoid illegal programs in collaboration with the Ministries and the concerned bodies," the Regional Director, Gowad al-Redha conclud-

First eye diseases

March.

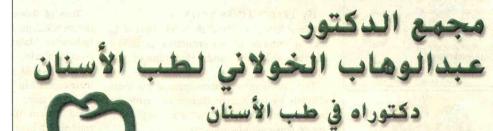
 Traffic accidents in Taiz claimed the lives of 9 persons including two women

· Hudaidah University is hosting Yemen's 1st International ELT conference from March 30 to April 2. The theme of the conference is "Old Borders, Fresh Crossing Thinking ---Rethinking ELT in Arabia Flex.

 The Human Rights Information & Training Center (HRTIC) organized in cooperation with the Canadian Program for Development on March 3, a training course for police officers on human rights. Many police personnel as well as representative of the public security staff took part at the training course.



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In Brief

· The Ministry of Education and the British Council in Yemen organized a five-day workshop for 44 English language inspectors representing every governorate in Yemen.

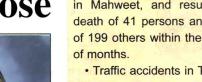
The workshop took place at the Higher Institute for Training Teachers, Sana'a, 16-20 Feb.

The workshop covered three themes: Strategies & Methodologies of English Language Teaching, Models and Roles of Inspection, and Assessment of Teaching and Learning. It was delivered by two trainees invited from the specialized education college of Christ Church Canterbury, an affiliate of the University of Kent.

 The Indian Embassy School & Cultural Center organized on March 1, an Indian cultural event of the year 2002 at IDA hall, Baghdad Street Sana'a.

· Taiz University is to take part in the 5th Art International Meeting for Arabic and Islamic universities. The meeting will be held at the Egyptbased South Valley University on

· 163 traffic accidents took place in Mahweet, and resulted in the death of 41 persons and the injury of 199 others within the last couple





World

TIME Afghan troops say battling more than 5,000 Al Qaeda fighters

GARDEZ, Afghanistan (Reuters) -Afghan troops beaten back in an attack on al Qaeda and Taliban forces in eastern Afghanistan on Saturday were facing up to 5,000 die-hard fighters, soldiers returning from the front said.

In the first on-the-spot indication of the scale of the developing battle, the soldiers said their forces, backed by U.S. B-52 strikes, only numbered around 1,000 including about 50 American advisers.

The soldiers said they feared some of their units might have been cut off or surrounded in the battle about 20 miles east of Gardez, capital of Paktia province and near the Pakistan border. Reuters Television cameraman Taras Protsyuk said he had seen B-52 bombing and at least two U.S. military Chinook helicopters heading out of the site of the battle in the mountain village of Shahi Ko in Arma district.

The Pentagon has said pockets of Osama bin Laden's al Qaeda network and followers of deposed Taliban leader Mullah Omar are seeking to regroup in Paktia province.



A Special Operations Force (SOF) commando from Task Force K-BAR conducts Special Reconnaissance on an undisclosed location in Afghanistan. Osama bin Laden's al Qaeda network is regrouping and could be planning more strikes against the West, the Financial Times reported. Photo by Us Navy/Reuters

Cuba evicts intruders from Mexico embassy

HAVANA (Reuters) - Cuban special forces entered the Mexican Embassy before dawn on Friday at Mexico's request and whisked off to an unknown destination 21 men who stormed the compound earlier this week with a hijacked bus.

Mexico labeled the men as criminals, but urged Cuba to give them "humanitarian" treatment after they were taken by surprise asleep in the embassy library in a roundup operation said to be designed by President Fidel Castro. The 21 Cubans were assumed to be in detention after the six-minute operation -- in which only one 38-year-old man physically resisted the 42 special officers -- ended the 30- hour standoff at the mission in Havana's posh Miramar district.

"The tiredness had taken its toll on them," Mexican Embassy No. 2 Andres Ordonez, who witnessed events with Ambassador Ricardo Pascoe inside the mission, told Reuters. "The commander (Castro) himself designed ... this operation."

Most of the men, aged 17 to 38, allowed themselves to be marched away, while the oldest member of the group resisted but was subdued, he said. "There was no blood ... the whole thing took six minutes with an impressive neatness and efficiency."

Cuba did not say what would happen to the 21 or where they were being held. Mexico said none had requested diplomatic asylum or given evidence of persecution or risk to life. "From the moment they entered, we told them we considered them criminal intruders ... but we are not going to bring charges," Ordonez said. The men, who shouted slogans against

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Cuban police stand by a truck blocking access to the Mexican embassy in Havana February 28, 2002 after a group of young Cuban men broke into the diplomatic compound Wednesday night. Mexico said that 21 Cubans who broke into its embassy were not asylum-seekers and would be encouraged to leave as soon as possible. Photo by Rafael Perez/Reuters

Castro from the embassy roof on Local human rights campaigner Wednesday night, had been hoping to start a new life in Mexico. They were dismissed from the outset by Cuba as "anti-social criminals" and are now expected to face charges related to the bus hijacking and forced entry.

"They were manipulated ... their sociocultural level is extremely modest. They have no idea what the world is about," Ordonez said.

Although Mexico did not ask Cuba to guarantee any conditions for the 21 after their eviction, the Mexican stateElizardo Sanchez said he had no information as to the 21 men's whereabouts and was seeking an urgent meeting with Mexican officials to discuss their fate

Cuban and Mexican communiques both said Mexico's special envoy for the crisis, Gustavo Iruega, the deputy foreign minister for Latin America and the Caribbean, and other Mexican diplomats, repeatedly asked the intruders during meetings on Thursday to leave.

US, Britain, Turkey plan session on Afghan force

UNITED NATIONS (Reuters) -Turkey, edging closer to formally agreeing to command an international security force in Afghanistan, has called a meeting with U.S. and British officials next week to discuss remaining military and financial concerns, U.S. and other diplomats said on Friday.

The session is expected to be in Ankara late next week but the precise date has not yet been set. The envoys were hopeful a formal announcement would follow within days of the session, so troop contributors could finalize plans before Britain relinquishes leadership of the force in mid-April.

Turkey for weeks has expressed a number of concerns including the scope and future of the mandate for the troops. The 17-nation force with some 4,500 soldiers, mainly from NATO nations, is stationed in Kabul and its environs. "If they want us to undertake this task, of course there will be some requests and conditions on our part," Turkish Prime Minister Bulent Ecevit said in Ankara on Thursday.

Diplomats said conditions remaining

presidential election and power shar-

ing, Ibrahim Rugova, veteran leader of

the Democratic League of Kosovo

(LDK), is expected to be the president

while Bajram Rexhepi, a senior mem-

ber of the Democratic Party of

In the new government of nine minis-

ters, four will be from the LDK, two

from the Alliance for the Future of

Kosovo, and the other three from other

Xinhua

Kosovo, will be the premier.

three different parties.

included assurances of U.S. assistance in extracting the peacekeepers if they become endangered by hostile forces. Turkey also wants some financial assistance for its troops, which have to increase from the current 260 soldiers to the largest block in the International Security Assistance Force, known as ISAF.

"These appear to be acceptable," one envoy said.

The force is mandated by the U.N. Security Council until June but not organized by the world body, which means troop contributors pay for their own upkeep.

The issue, however, is not extending the mandate of the force, now restricted to Kabul, but expanding it to other cities, as advocated by U.N. officials and the new interim Afghan administration, headed by Hamid Karzai.

None of this would occur until June at the earliest and U.S. and British officials have given Turkey assurances it would not be taken by surprise. Britain and France intend to reduce their troops in April but Germany may increase them.



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Kosovo assembly to elect

president, prime minister

BELGRADE, Chairman of the

Kosovo Assembly Nexhad Daci

announced on Friday that the assembly

is scheduled to elect Kosovo president

and premier and approve the appoint-

ment of other government members on

Sunday, Yugoslavia's Tanjug news

Daci made the announcement at a

press conference in Pristina. Tanjug

said that since Kosovo's main ethnic

Albanian parties have reached an

agreement over the issues concerning

agency reported.

ment said in an appeal for their fair treatment, "Given the assailants were induced and manipulated, Mexico has asked Cuban authorities to take into account humanitarian factors in the treatment of their cases."

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The bus crashed through the embassy gate late on Wednesday, sparking scenes of chaos and violence in nearby streets between police and other mainly young people who had gathered hoping to enter the building. Sixteen of the 21 who made it inside were on the bus, while five others got in on foot in the melee.

Cuba listed penal records of 13 of the 21 who, it said, responded to an "invitation to assault the embassy" by an anti- Castro, U.S. government-funded radio station, Radio Marti.

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World



Secret bunkers used after Sept. 11

Bush activated plan akin to Cold War era

WASHINGTON (Reuters) - After the Sept. 11 attacks, President Bush set in motion a Cold War-era plan to keep the government running, sending civilian officials to live and work in secret bunkers outside Washington, administration officials said on Friday.

"This is serious business," Bush said of the necessity to ensure the continuity of the U.S. government in case of a catastrophic attack on the nation's capital.

"I have an obligation as the president, my administration has an obligation to the American people, to put measures in place, that should somebody be successful in attacking Washington, D.C., there's an ongoing government," he told reporters during a trip to Des Moines, Iowa.

Bush did not confirm details of a report in The Washington Post on Friday outlining contingencies for the survival of federal rule in the event of a crippling attack, but he said: "We take the continuity of government issue serio because our nation was under attack. And I still take the threats we receive from al Qaeda killers and terrorists very seriously."

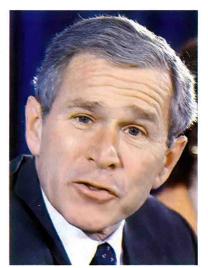
Administration officials, speaking on condition of anonymity, said Bush activated a Cold War-era plan to ensure the government would continue to operate immediately after hijackers slammed commercial aircraft into the World Trade Center in New York and the Pentagon near Washington

Initially a temporary measure, the program has been extended indefinitely, the officials said. It is one of several steps the Bush administration has taken to ensure continuity in the event of a catastrophic attack.

Vice President Dick Cheney's activities and whereabouts have been strictly shielded. He frequently works at a "secure, undisclosed location" and rarely appears in the same place as Bush. In a worst-case scenario, Cheney is next in line for the presidency and would need help to run the government.

Originally designed to withstand Cold War nuclear threats and dating back to the 1953-to-1961 presidency of Dwight Eisenhower, the plan was implemented out of concern that the al Qaeda network -- blamed for the Sept. 11 attacks --

might obtain a portable nuclear weapon. The administration officials stressed that U.S. intelligence had no specific



knowledge of any such weapon. Activation of the government-in-waiting plan was a prudent precautionary measure, they said.

"Of course we're taking steps to ensure the continuity of government," one U.S. official said. "Anything less would be irresponsible. We are taking all necessary steps to ensure the job of government can continue in any circumstances."

Pentagon spokeswoman Victoria Clarke said, "It is absolute common sense, absolutely appropriate that the government should have all the parts and all the pieces in place so in case of a crisis, in case of an emergency, the government can and will continue to function." Under the classified "Continuity of Operations Plan," the Post reported, Bush has deployed a "shadow government" of about 100 senior civilian managers to live and work in fortified locations outside Washington.

The newspaper said high-ranking government officials representing various departments had begun rotating in and out of the assignment at one of two fortified locations along the East Coast.

A senior official involved in managing the program and quoted by the Post said the civilian force in the underground bunkers usually numbered 70 to 150, and "fluctuates based on intelligence" about terrorist threats

In the event of a disabling blow to Washington, the underground government's first mission would be to prevent the collapse of essential functions, such as food and water supplies, transportation links, energy and telecommunications networks, public health and civil order. Later, it would begin to reconstitute the U.S. government.

Drawn from every Cabinet department and several independent agencies, those activated for what some call "bunker duty" live and work underground 24 hours a day, away from their families, the newspaper said.



Following the Sept. 11 attacks, President Bush set in motion a Cold War-era plan to keep the government running, sending civilian officials to live and work in secret bunkers outside Washington, in case of a catastrophic attack on the nation's capital, administration officials said March 1, 2002. Bush is shown meeting with Cabinet members at the White House Oct. 11, Photo by Win Mcnamee/Reuters

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NATO fails to net Karadzic

in second Bosnia swoop

NEAR CELEBICI, Bosnia (Reuters) - NATO troops scoured woodland in mountainous southeastern Bosnia on Friday in the latest phase of a determined but so far fruitless effort to capture accused war criminal Radovan Karadzic.

Helicopters from the NATO-led SFOR peacekeeping force landed on hills near the village of Celebici and soldiers poured out to search the terrain, eyewitness Risto Bozovic said.

"I tried to approach them but the soldiers warned me not to come closer,"

Bozovic, 67, told Reuters at the scene. "They didn't search the houses, but woods surrounding the village."

Reflecting resentment among Bosnian Serbs at Western efforts to capture their wartime leader, he added: "If only I'd had a decent gun, I'd have killed them all."

Bozovic said he had seen about 25 soldiers disembark from two helicopters and conduct searches for around an hour. He said he had also seen two more helicopters land fuarther away. Friday's move came hard on the heels of a NATO swoop on Celebici the previous day. Soldiers used explosives to blast their way into buildings and found three weapons caches from a compound where they believed Karadzic had been hiding.

SFOR said it had received fresh intelligence after Thursday's operation that Karadzic was still in the area. The peace force said in a statement that "while he was not seized SFOR continues its efforts to apprehend him."

A NATO official told Reuters the peacekeepers were confident they had been close to grabbing Karadzic.

"We do not come out unless we are sure," said the official, who asked not to be named. He said that each attempt left NATO with new clues about how to get Bosnia's most wanted man.

"This leaves him with fewer places to hide and in the end there is a point where everyone slips up," he added.

Karadzic and Mladic are charged with genocide both for the 1995 mass killing of up to 8,000 Muslim men and boys at Srebrenica and for the threeand-a-half-year siege of the Bosnian capital Sarajevo, which killed around 12,000 people.

With their erstwhile patron, former Yugoslav President Slobodan Milosevic, now on trial at The Hague tribunal, Karadzic and Mladic are top of the U.N. court's wanted list.

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Arab/Middle East

4 March 2002

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Following the military's strong grip in West Bank camps: **Israelis fear more bombings**

JERUSALEM (Agencies/Reuters) -Following the suicide bombing that shook Israeli citizens last Saturday evening, Israeli citizens have expressed grave concerned over expected bombings in retaliation to the Israeli army's strong grip in West Bank camps.

The explosion, which resulted in at least 7 dead and a large number of wounded occurred in a neighborhood as people were returning to the streets after the end of the Jewish Sabbath.

This comes at a time Israeli forces continue to maintain their hold on two West Bank refugee camps on Saturday despite international calls to withdraw after fierce fighting that has killed 20 Palestinians and two soldiers.

The two-day-old assault on the crowded camps of Balata and Jenin, both strongholds of Palestinian gunmen, has drawn vows of revenge from militant groups while threatening to derail a new Middle East peace initiative.

The army said the raids -- in which gun battles sometimes raged house by house and alley by alley -- were meant to root out militants and deny them a safe haven in the camps.

But Palestinian security sources said most of the suspects on Israel's mostwanted list for deadly attacks on Israelis had slipped away and found new hiding places.

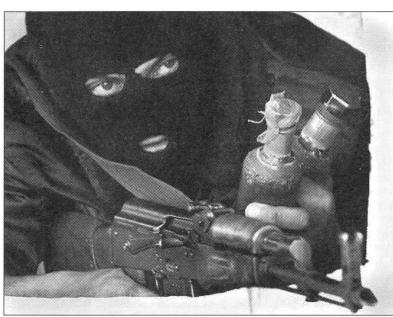
The raids, which followed a Palestinian suicide bombing at an army checkpoint on Wednesday, have marked Israel's fiercest attacks against refugee camps in 17 months of conflict.

Palestinian President Yasser Arafat urged international action to halt what he described as a massacre.

"I call upon the whole world to act quickly before a state of chaos engulfs the whole Middle East region," he told reporters in Ramallah in the West Bank. Arafat's Palestinian Authority responded by suspending all talks with Israeli officials, including U.S.-brokered security meetings aimed at paving the way for a cease-fire.

The Israeli campaign began on Thursday when troops stormed into Balata and also seized the outskirts of Jenin, both in the northern West Bank. On Friday, Israeli forces moved deeper into Jenin, playing a deadly game of cat-and-mouse with gunmen.

Palestinian officials said seven



A masked Palestinian gunman holds his weapons during an exchange of fire with Israeli troops inside the Jenin refugee camp, in the northern West Bank, March 2, 2002. Israel said its forces withdrew to the edge of Jenin, one of two refugee camps it raided on a hunt for Palestinian militants, but insisted it would go wherever it saw fit to track down killers of its citizens. Photo by Ammar Awad/Reuters

Iraq dampens expectations for March 7 **U.N.** talks

Egypt's Mubarak leaves malise relations with Israel in return for Mideast talks in U.S.

CAIRO, March 2 (Reuters) -Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak left on Saturday for his annual visit to Washington where he is due to discuss ways to end Israeli-Palestinian violence. Mubarak's talks with U.S. President George W. Bush are likely to address a new Saudi Arabian peace initiative.

Saudi Crown Prince Abdullah has proposed that Arab state would nor-

for full Israeli withdrawal from land captured in the Middle East war of 1967. Diplomats said that although the plan held little new, various parties were able to treat it as fresh starting point because it came from Saudi Arabia, a past opponent of normalisation with Israel.

Egypt has praised the plan, which has won international backing and received cautious welcome in Israel, but stressed the need for Israeli withdrawal from occupied Arab land.

Palestinians were killed, among them a by fire from an Israeli helicopter, and 38 people were wounded. nine-year-old girl they said had been hit

UNITED NATIONS (Reuters) - Iraq's

U.N. ambassador cautioned on Friday

about expecting too much from next

week's talks between his foreign minister

and U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan,

saying the session would be short and

include discussion of issues other than

With the US refusing to rule out an

invasion of Iraq, the talks Annan is hold-

ing with Iraqi Foreign Minister Naji

Sabri next Thursday have taken on

added significance. Annan has said he

would press Sabri to allow weapons

inspectors back into Iraq for the first time

Mohammed Aldouri, said in an inter-

view that "we will look to the secretary-

general to say what issues are still out-

standing for the United Nations and we

Qaddafi

reveals

peace bid

But Iraq's U.N. ambassador,

weapons inspections.

in three years.

will tell them what is outstanding for Iraq," Aldouri said of the March 7 session.

"There will be an exchange of views, but this is only one short session," he told Reuters. "We expect there will be following meetings in April."

Aldouri said Baghdad wants to discuss a wide range of issues and not be focused solely on the possible return of weapons inspectors, who left Iraq on the eve of a U.S.-British bombing in December 1998 and have been barred since then.

"We want to reach agreement with the secretary-general, but this is a package deal involving all of the issues," Aldouri said, without elaborating.

"Our primary concern has not changed. For the good of our people, we need the lifting of sanctions," Aldouri

said

Western diplomats said they did not expect a definitive reply on the inspectors at next Thursday's meeting.

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They said Annan would have to decide whether there was enough willingness from Iraq to allow the arms experts to return before he would hold another meeting in April. A year ago, Annan refused to hold a follow-up meeting with Iraqi officials, believing it would not lead anywhere.

The United States, however, wants the meeting focused on the inspectors. "It should be a short one," a U.S. official said. "There isn't much to discuss except how Iraq is going to comply with U.N. Security Council resolutions, specifically with regard to return of weapons inspectors."

Iraq last month offered to hold a dia-

logue "without preconditions" after discussions with Amr Mousa, the secretarygeneral of the Arab League.

Aldouri again brought up a provision in a post-Gulf War 1991 U.N. Security Council resolution that calls for the "need to work toward the establishment in the Middle East of a zone free" of nuclear and other weapons of mass destruction.

Iraq has been saying for months that the pressure on Baghdad to rid itself of weapons of mass destruction should also be applied to Israel.

Separately, the U.N. Security Council is reviewing regulations on sanctions imposed on Iraq after it invaded Kuwait in August 1990. The council in late May may approve a revision of embargoes that would allow most civilian supplies to go to Baghdad except those on a



Palestinian **Minister hails** Saudi peace plan

AMMAN, Visiting Palestinian Minister of Local Government Affairs Saeb Erekat on Friday hailed the recent Saudi initiative as the most significant Arab plan since the Madrid Mideast peace conference.

During a meeting with Jordanian Foreign Minister Marwan Moasher, Erekat also said the peace initiative sends a crystal-clear Arab message that Arabs adhere to peace as a strategic option, Jordan's official Petra news agency reported.

He commended Jordan's relentless efforts to end the Israeli aggression against the Palestinian people.

"The peace we aspire for is based on Israel's full withdrawal till the June 4, 1967 line, including the pullout from Al Quds Sharif (Jerusalem), the Syrian Golan Heights and Lebanese Sheba Farms," Erekat said.

On his part, Moasher said Arab foreign ministers will conduct intensive consultations prior to the March 27-28 Arab summit in Beirut and will meet in Cairo on March 19 to crystallize specific ideas to be discussed by the summit to revive the peace process in the treaties with Israel. Xinhua

"It is significant to give Palestinians a hope to set up their

independent state and to end the conflict through diplomatic channels satisfactory to all parties," Moasher said.

The Saudi plan is a political outlet to defuse the current

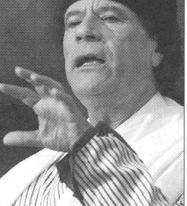
crisis and chart a framework for the political settlement, he added. Erekat arrived in Amman earlier in

the day as part of a

consultation mechanism between Jordan and the Palestinians on the peace process in the region.

His discussion with Jordanian official focused on the Saudi plan, which was formulated by Crown Prince Abdullah Bin Abdul Aziz and floated 10 days ago in the New York Times.

The plan called for Israel to withdraw its troops from all Arab territories it occupied during the 1967 Middle East War in exchange for Arab recognition of the Jewish state. Currently Jordan and Egypt are the only two Arab countries to have signed peace



Libvan leader Moamer Kadhafi on Saturday unveiled a plan for Arab-Israeli peace in exchange for three conditions, including the right of Palestinians refugees to return to their homeland.

Libyan leader Moamer Kadhafi also called on his country's parliament to examine Libya's pullout from the 22member Arab League for its failure to fully support the Palestinians.

"I ask the General People's Congress (GPC, or parliament) to examine Libya's pullout from the Arab League which has become a masquerade," over its failure to support the Palestinians, Kadhafi told a rally in the northern coastal city of Syrte.

At the rally marking the 25th anniversary of the creation of the Libyan Popular Socialist Jamahiriya he criticised a Saudi peace proposal for Arab recognition of Israel in return for complete Israeli withdrawal from Arab land captured in the June 1967 war

رئيس مجلس ادارة بنك اليمن الدولي وكافة أفراد الأسرة بوفاة والده المغفور له بإذن الله تعالى/ الحاج / عبد الولي ناشر سائلين المولى عز وجل أن يتغمد الفقيد بواسع رحمته ومغفرته ويسكنه فسيح جناته ويلهم أهله وذويه الصبر والسلوان «إنا لله وإنا إليه راجعون» المعزون: وليد عبد العزيز السقاف، محمد بن سلام، وكافة موظفي «يمن تايمز»...

6 4 March 2002

Gulf

Saudi expects Arab backing for Mideast peace move

By Timothy Heritage

JERUSALEM (Reuters) - Saudi Crown Prince Abdullah told a European Union envoy Wednesday he expects to unite the Arab world behind a Middle East peace initiative next month as new violence lent urgency to his proposal.

"He is fully determined to move forward with his ideas that he thinks may bring peace to the region," EU foreign policy chief Javier Solana told Reuters after meeting the prince.

"He is going to coordinate his ideas with the Arab countries ... and he expects at the Arab League summit they will be approved," he said, referring to a Beirut summit on March 27-28.

Israeli troops killed three infiltrators in a shoot-out near the Egyptian border and a Palestinian shot dead an Israeli businessman as Solana shuttled through the region discussing the de facto Saudi ruler's land-for-peace proposal.

Prince Abdullah's initiative has won wide backing, including from the

United States, and diplomats say it offers "light at the end of the tunnel" after 17 months of Israeli-Palestinian violence. But it could be upset by any new surge of violence.

The prince's comments to Solana raised hope that he is serious about pushing the proposal forward and added momentum to the initiative, although it contains little or nothing new.

Saudi officials said Solana held two hours of talks with the prince in the Saudi Red Sea city of Jeddah. The envoy later flew to Cairo for talks with Egyptian leaders after two days of meetings with Palestinian and Israeli leaders earlier this week. Solana, speaking to Reuters on his

arrival in the Egyptian capital, said a plan "could be approved unanimously by the leaders of the Arab world" at the Beirut summit next month.

In an interview with the New York Times published last week, Prince Abdullah aired an initiative which resurrected an Arab offer to normalize relations with Israel in return for full withdrawal from Arab lands occupied

in the 1967 Middle East war. Saudi officials said little of the meeting but one remarked: "We expect the European Union to play a bigger role in the Middle East peace process in light of today's talks.'

SOLANA SEES HOPE

Solana had discussed the Saudi proposal separately with Palestinian President Yasser Arafat and Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon earlier this week and said they welcomed it.

"It's a message being brought by an important messenger. It brings hope," Solana said Wednesday before going to Jeddah.

The prince's initiative restates the principle on which Arab-Israeli peace talks were launched in 1991. Collective Arab recognition of Israel has a broad appeal in the Jewish state.

U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan and President Bush have praised the prince's idea.

Western nations in the United Nations Security Council lauded Saudi Arabia for floating the initiative, although Syria's ambassador said the peace



process required political will from Israel's security. Israel and "not further initiatives."

Sharon told Solana he was ready to meet Saudi officials to discuss the peace proposal. But right-wingers have made clear they will oppose any proposal calling for a return to pre-1967 borders, saying it would threaten

government must withdraw its military

forces, stop the extrajudicial execu-

tions, freeze the settlements and lift ...

all the restrictions imposed the

Palestinian Authority and its elected

leader President (Yasser) Arafat," the

"And the Palestinian Authority must do

everything to put an end to the violence

and take determined and effective

action against terrorists, whose attacks

on innocent civilians are inexcusable."

Two Arab delegatations had earlier

been concerned that the statement

equated Israeli attacks against

Palestinian targets in the West Bank

and Gaza with Palestinian suicide

"This was the most controversial para-

bombings, a diplomatic source said.

statement said.

the statement said.

Arafat said he fully supported the Saudi initiative. But the militant Islamic group Hamas said it opposed it because it did not require the return of all of what they call historic Palestine, which takes in territory that now makes up Israel.

think it was hard enough on Israel, but they adopted a more flexible attitude." the source said.

U.S. saber-rattling on Iraq has unsettled European and Arab leaders, and the EU-GCC said it hoped Iraq and the United Nations could renew weapons inspections so that eventually sanctions against Iraq could be lifted. "This was all the more urgent in the

present international context," the statement said.

في العدد الماضي تم نشر أسماء الفائزين بمسابقة الملايين الكبري، ولأن العدد الماضي جاء مواكباً لإجازة عيد الاضحى المبارك، فقد رأينا أن نعيد نشره هذا العدد . .



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	حياة يحي مصلح القعبي	ربع مليون ريال	الثالثة					
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عدن	نبيل محمد علي باحبيب	مانة ألف ريال مانة ألف ريال	الخامسة السادسة					
عدن عدن	جتيش رتيلال جوبال فطوم عوض محمد غربي	مانة ألف ريال مانة ألف ريال	السابعة					
صنعاء	نادية ابوبكر المقطري	مانة ألف ريال	الثامنة					
صنعاء	سليمان عبد الله عبده الشيباني	مائة ألف ريال	التاسعة					
صنعاء	محمد على حمود السريحي	مانة ألف ريال	العاشرة					
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عدن	صلاح احمد سالم محمد	تذكرة سفر مفتوحة من اليمنية	لثاني عشر					
ضنعاء	نيازي حمود ناجي الأشول	تذكرة سفر مفتوحة من اليمنية	لثالث عشر					
صنعاء	محسن علي سالم النجاري	تذكرة سفر مفتوحة من اليمنية	لرابع عشر					
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Gulf states slam Israeli, **Palestinian violence**

By Begona Quesada

GRANADA, Spain (Reuters) - Arab gulf states and the European Union on Thursday called on Israel to withdraw from the occupied territories and said Palestinian officials must do all they can to halt suicide bombings on Israel. A joint declaration by the European Union-Gulf Cooperation Council meeting also called on Iraq to fulfil its U.N. obligations on weapons inspec-

tion, and praised reforms in Iran. The annual meeting takes place as Europe seeks to assert its weight in world affairs, amid concern over unilateralism by the United States whose President Bush has called Iran and Iraq part of an "axis of evil." EU foreign policy chief Javier Solana

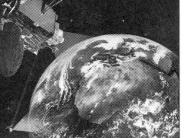
is touring the Arab world to drum up support for Saudi Crown Prince Abdullah's Middle East peace proposal

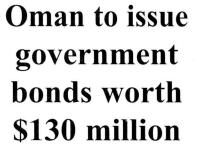
of Arab recognition of Israel in exchange for it withdrawing to its pre-1967 borders

The meeting in this former Moorish capital in southern Spain brings together the 15 EU countries and representatives of Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Oman, Kuwait, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates, six countries that sit on nearly half the world's known oil reserves. "The two sides stressed that the Israeli



Bahrai moves free telec sector





MUSCAT, March 2 (Reuters) - Oman said on Saturday it would issue government bonds worth 50 million rials (\$130 million) to help finance development projects.

The central bank said in a statement that the auction, the sultanate's first this year, would be held on March 25 and the bonds will be issued on the first of April.

The bonds, which are available to local and international investors, mature on February 1, 2007.

They carry a 5.25 percent coupon per year and interest will be paid on August 1 and February 1 of each year. Earlier this year, the Gulf Arab state said it would issue a total of 131 million rials worth of government bonds in 2002 to soak up funds and finance development projects.

Oman last year issued 40 million rials worth of government bonds and 45 million rials in 2000. The government had committed itself however to exploring new income generating mechanisms other than oil and gas.

of whom are attending the meeting.

Trade often tops the agenda in EU-

GCC meetings, but the 17 months of

sustained violence in Israel and the

Palestinian territories has dominated

this 12th annual session.

graph...because the Arab states did not President Bush's "axis of evil" speech, which also targeted North Korea, has been criticized by European leaders including EU External Affairs Commissioner Chris Patten and French Foreign Minister Hubert Vedrine, both

«مركيور صنعاء» - الجمهورية اليمنية، وسوف لن يتحمل الفندق أدنى مسؤولية يقوم بها هذا

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MANAMA, Feb 28 (1 Bahrain has signed an agree a British firm to prepare a s possibility of opening up dom's telecommunications competition, local media Thursday.

Transport Minister Sheik Khalifa al-Khalifa signed th British firm Intercai M strategic consulting firm, the study.

U.S. legal consultants Whit will provide legal and logis for the study, which is sche completed in July. No furt were immediately available

Bahrain Telecomm Company BTEL.BH (Batel rently the sole provider of t nication services in the G financial and banking hub.

Batelco is 39 percent own Bahraini government and by Cable and Wireless Britain. The rest is trad Bahrain Stock Exchange. Bahrain's King, H.M. Sha

bin Isa Al Khalifa had decla country will be taking strides towards more fre democracy. This step telecommunications is observers to be one of the the king has started in this

TEMEN

South Asia

Religious violence rages, Indian PM pleads for peace

AHMEDABAD, India (Reuters) -Violence raged in India's western Gujarat state on Saturday as the Prime Minister appealed for peace while sending in fresh troops to quell the country's worst religious bloodshed in a decade.

Despite the deployment of thousands of heavily armed soldiers to reinforce overstretched police in Gujarat, 35 people were burned alive in two separate clashes between Hindus and Muslims

The death toll is nearing 300 from four days of violence sparked when a suspected Muslim mob on Wednesday set fire to a train carrying Hindu devotees, burning 58 mostly women and children to death.

"Whatever the provocation, people should maintain peace and exercise restraint," Prime Minister Atal Behari Vaipayee (news - web sites) said in a nationally broadcast address calling for peace. "The burning alive of people, including women and children... is a blot on the country's face."

But on the streets, some members of the country's Hindu majority shunned his words. "Learn from us how to burn Muslims," said chilling graffiti on a wall in Naroda on the out (news - web sites)skirts of Gujurat's capital Ahmedabad.

After three days of violence, there was hardly a home or mosque left untouched by violence in the town's Muslim quarter.

"There are times when the country is put to test," Vajpayee said. "Such a situation has been created today because of the violence in Gujarat."

On Saturday, at least 27 people were burned alive in a predominantly Muslim village and eight more when a mob torched a Muslim-owned bakery. Guiarat authorities have rounded up about 1,200 people since the killings began, but seem so far to have prevented the violence spreading much beyond Gujarat's state borders.

MOBS BLOCK POLICE

Wednesday's attack on the train set off a wave of Hindu revenge attacks aimed at Muslims, escalating a simmering dispute over whether a Hindu temple should be built on the site of a former Mosque. Thousands of soldiers sent to the region have so far been unable to staunch the bloodshed. Officials said more reinforcements were being sent to try to restore calm.

Mobs blocked roads to stop police trying to rescue the victims of Saturday's worst killings, in the mainly Muslim village of Bijapur, a government security official, Ashok Narayan, told

Reuters.

"The miscreants blocked the road and did not allow police to reach the spot," Naravan said. But he added police had managed to rescue 40 people from the village. While relative calm returned to Gujarat's main city, Ahmedabad, which has born the brunt of the bloodshed, Narayan said the situation in rural areas was "still bad."

"We are trying to get additional forces and are also trying to set up peace committees at district levels. These committees will have representatives from all communities and will initiate dialogue to maintain harmony," he said. A curfew has been imposed across large parts of Gujarat and police have been ordered to shoot violators on sight. Police shot two people dead on Saturday.

In the Hindu-dominated areas of Ahmedabad, men with sticks and iron rods held vigils through the night as rumors spread of retaliatory strikes by Muslims. Authorities said they had begun moving Muslims in some parts of the state from mixed neighborhoods to heavily-protected Muslim enclaves. The bloodshed is the worst crisis to hit Vajpayee's ruling Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) since it came to power at in 1999. The party also rules Gujarat state.

OFFER ON TEMPLE ROW

In a bid to ease tensions a BJP ally, the hardline Vishwa Hindu Parishad (VHP), on Friday offered to consider delaying its controversial campaign to build the disputed temple on a site sacred to both Hindus and Muslims in the northern Indian city of Ayodhya.

The Hindu devotees who died in the train inferno on Wednesday were on their way home from a vigil in Ayodhya in support of the VHP's plans to build the temple on March 15.

In 1992, Hindu hard-liners razed the 16th century mosque on the site, triggering India's worst religious clashes since the sub-continent was divided in 1947. More than 3,000 people died across India in the 1992 riots. Muslims account for more than 12 percent of mainly Hindu India's one billion population, making them one of the largest Islamic communities in the world. While the country is officially secular, religious tensions constantly test its social peace.

Religion also dominates relations between India and neighboring Islamic Pakistan, who have fought two wars over Muslim-majority Kashmir and are currently engaged in an uneasy border stand-off after Muslim militants attacked India's parliament in New Delhi.



A Muslim child injured in communal riots sits bandaged in a mosque in the western Indian city of Ahmedabad on March 2, 2002. Violence raged in India's western Gujarat state as the Prime Minister appealed for peace while sending in fresh troops to quell the country's worst religious bloodshed in a decade. Photo by Kamal Kishore/Reuters

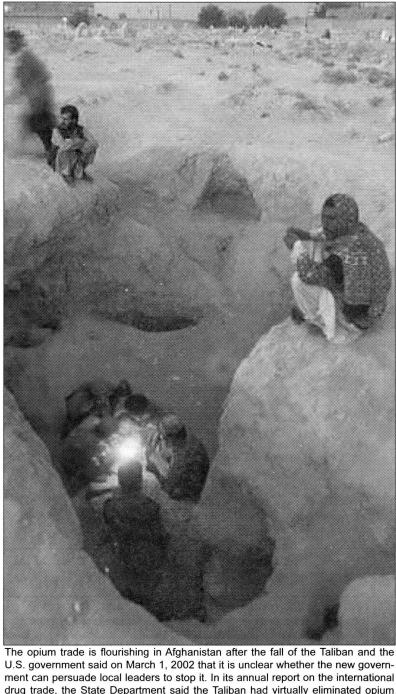
Drug trade flourishes in the Taliban-free Afghanistan

WASHINGTON (Reuters) - The opium trade is flourishing in Afghanistan after the fall of the Taliban and the U.S. government said on Friday it is unclear whether the new government can persuade local leaders to stop it.

In its annual report on the international drug trade, the State Department said the Taliban, driven out of power by the U.S. military last year, virtually eliminated opium poppy cultivation in the regions under their control.

Overall opium production fell dramatically, to about 74 tons in 2001 from about 3,656 tons in 2000 and almost all the production was in parts of Afghanistan held by the Northern Alliance, Washington's ally in the war against the Taliban.

Afghanistan has traditionally been one of the world's major producers of opi-



Philippines says end near for Abu Sayyaf

said on Thursday the end was near for the Abu Sayyaf Muslim rebel group linked to Osama bin Laden's al Qaeda network but added it faced a tough job flushing out the insurgents.

"We have killed about 190 Abu Sayyaf members and captured quite a lot of them and many surrendered also because of the intense pressure of the military. So we are now seeing the end game, the end is near so far as the Abu Sayyaf is concerned," Philippine National Security Adviser Rolio Golez told a business forum.

MANILA (Reuters) - The Philippines with a little over 1,000 in the regions of Basilan and Sulu and is now down to 180 members due to a very intense military campaign.

But Golez said it was still a tough job for Filipino troops as the rebels were now believed to be hiding in a rugged terrain area on Basilan island.

The Abu Sayyaf, which operates in the south of the country, is included in Washington's list of foreign terrorists organizations, and is also the target of joint military military exercise between the United States and the Philippines

He said the group started in May, 2001 The group claims to be fighting for an

Commonwealth heads urge unity against 'terrorism'

independent Muslim state in the south, but in reality pursues kidnap for ransom

7

4 March 2002

Since May, Abu Sayyaf has been holding an American couple hostage on Basilan island since their abduction from an upscale beach resort in central Philippines. Military officials said government troops clashed with the combined forces of the Abu Sayyaf bandits and guerrillas of a separate Muslim group in Basilan earlier on Thursday, wounding eight rebels. There were no reports of casualties on the government side. Golez also said there were some groups trying to obstruct the government's fight against terrorism, namely the New People's Army (NPA) -- the militant arm of the Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP) which threatened to hurt American soldiers should they wander into their territory.

ates, along with Myanmar, which regained its place as top producer last year because of the Taliban ban.

Opium is the raw material for the opiates heroin and morphine, and Afghanistan has been the major supplier of those drugs to the region and to Western Europe.

The U.S. report, released on Friday, said widespread cultivation of poppies resumed in Afghanistan after the collapse of the Taliban and drug traffickers remained active in Afghanistan and the region.

The interim authority in Kabul, led by Hamid Karzai and backed by the United States, has announced its own ban on growing opium but its writ hardly runs beyond the capital.

LOCAL POWER CENTERS

The report said, "The Authority lacks means to enforce its ban, and it must work with local power centers and the donor community if the ban is actually to be respected."

"It remains uncertain whether the urgings and even the financial support of the international community will be sufficient to eliminate poppy cultivation in Afghanistan quickly. ... In the wake of hostilities, which faction is actually in control in which region varies. Whether factions will follow a ban on poppy cultivation issued by the Interim Authority is uncertain," it added.

The Northern Alliance, which dominates Karzai's government, does not appear to have taken any action against drugs in the parts of the country that it drug trade, the State Department said the Taliban had virtually eliminated opium poppy cultivation in the regions under their control. Pakistani drug addicts are shown smoking heroin in Quetta, Pakistan near the Afghan border on October 1, 2001. Photo by Jerry Lampen/Reuters

does control, it said. "There have also been recent reports of farmers cultivating a second opium crop in Northern Alliance-controlled areas," it added. The United States is putting some hope in regional efforts to stop Afghan opiates leaving the country through the Six Plus Two group, which brings together the United States, Russia and Afghanistan's six immediate neighbors.

It said it would work with other donors on a strategy to eliminate production and to develop indigenous law enforcement and judicial systems in Afghanistan.

"In the meantime, narcotics trafficking in the region will continue, despite the best efforts of the Interim Authority and the international community," it added.

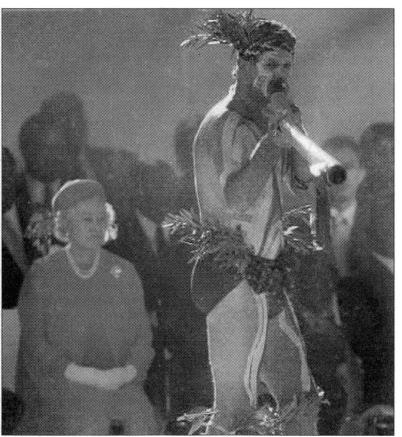
By Michael Perry

COOLUM, Australia (Reuters) -Commonwealth leaders began a fourday summit in Australia on Saturday urging some of the world's poorest nations to join the "fight against terrorism," racism and religious intolerance. They also called on the world's rich nations to adopt more humane globalization policies to reduce the gap between rich and poor, which provides fertile ground for political instability. But the biennial summit of the group composed mainly of ex-British colonies is divided over whether to impose sanctions against strife-torn African nation Zimbabwe over allegations President Robert Mugabe has tried to rig the March 9-10 presidential election.

Opening the summit with Queen Elizabeth, Commonwealth Secretary General Don McKinnon said: "We know we can make a difference in the fight against terrorism." But he added the greatest challenge facing the world was the huge divide between rich and poor. "No one in the world can have a secure future when half the world has no future at all," he said. "In the Commonwealth we want to have a spirit of generous globalization."

The 54-nation Commonwealth represents 1.7 billion people, about one third of the world's population, but includes some of the poorest nations on earth like Bangladesh and Tuvalu.

Many question the relevance of such a varied group, but in her opening



Britain's Queen Elizabeth watches an aboriginal dancer during the opening ceremony of the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM) in Coolum March 2, 2002. Leaders from Commonwealth nations around the globe have gathered in Australia for the 35th biennial summit. Photo by Pool/Reuters

address Queen Elizabeth said it was just such diversity which made the Commonwealth relevant after last year's hijacked airliner attacks in the United States.

"The events of 11th September have reminded us all of the need to build bridges between different cultures based on greater knowledge and understanding of our differences," she said.

8 4 March 2002

Africa



Mugabe tells Britain: Go to hell'

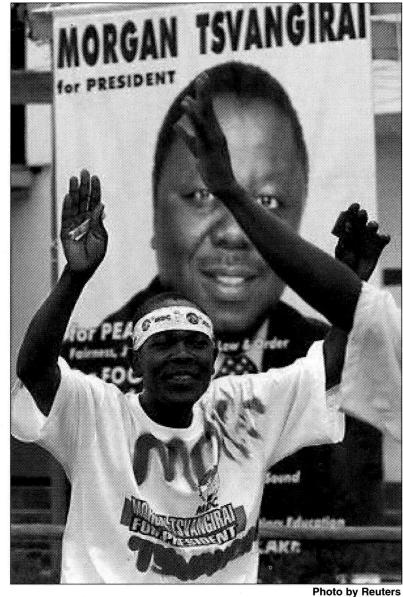
HARARE (Reuters) - Zimbabwean President Robert Mugabe has accused Britain's Tony Blair of endorsing opposition rival Morgan Tsvangirai in next week's election, saying the country's former colonial rulers can "go to hell." Mugabe's latest volley against Britain came on the eve of a weekend Commonwealth summit where Blair was expected to call for immediate sanctions against Harare in response to government intimidation ahead of the March 9-10 presidential poll. Tsvangirai, leader of the Movement for Democratic Change (MDC), poses the strongest challenge to Mugabe since he led his ZANU-PF party to power 22 years ago. Adding to rising tension, the MDC said on Friday it had canceled an election rally in the eastern town of Marondera after reports that Tsvangirai would be harmed. "What Zimbabweans seek from the security officers is peace and protection, not intimidation and harassment. We thus condemn attempts by some members of the army and police to intimidate the population," the statement said.

The allegation could not be independently verified and Marondera police could not immediately be reached for comment.

The MDC says at least 107 of its supporters and activists have been killed in political violence which began ahead of June 2000 parliamentary elections, narrowly won by Mugabe's ZANU-PF.

Mugabe, quoted in Friday's official Herald newspaper, told a rally in Guruve in northern Zimbabwe on Thursday that Britain's prime minister had shown his bias toward the opposition.

"Blair stood in parliament unashamedly to say the British government should stay ready to recognize and support the victory of MDC and should not stay ready to recognize the victory of ZANU-PF," Mugabe was quoted as saying. "But of course we say: 'Go to hell'. Go to hell, our people have decided and that is what matters



to us. It s not the right or responsibility of the British to decide on our elections. We don't decide on their own and why should they poke their pink noses in our business?" In parliament on Wednesday, Blair accused Mugabe of acting like a dictator and said Britain would push for action against him at a Commonwealth summit this weekend. Opponents accuse Mugabe and his

ZANU-PF party of instigating a wave of violence against supporters of Tsvangirai, who has been accused of treason after the release of a videotape purporting to show him discussing a plot against Mugabe. Tsvangirai has denied the charge and sued an Australian television station for broadcasting the tape.

Election fallout Martial Law is now declared in Madagascar's capital

President of Madagascar imposed a curfew in December 16 in the Indian Ocean island TANANARIVE,

At least 16,000 Congolese refugees in Rwanda seek repatriation

Congolese refugees in the Rwandan northern province of Byumba wish to be repatriated back home, a representative of the refugees was quoted by Rwanda News Agency as saying on Friday.

"We are Congolese, we want to be repatriated back to our country," their representative told visiting High Commissioner Lubber who assumed office on January 2001 succeeding Mrs Sadako Ogata, a Japanese diplomat and academician who served since 1991.

According to the United Nations field office in Byumba, most of the refugees in Byumba are Congolese Banyamulenge and Banyamasisi who fled the Kivu provinces of the DRC at

NAIROBI, Over 16,750 the start of the war that toppled the former Zairean president Mobutu Sese Seko in 1996.

"They were shifted to Gihembe camp in Byumba in 1997 to date," UNHCR Assistant Public Relations officer Mika Inamahoro told Rwanda News Agency.

The refugees appreciated the security rendered by the Rwandan government and the schools as well as health facilities that are provided but they said more scholarships and also medications are needed to cater for the respiratory and eye infections that are on the rise.

On his part, High Commissioner Lubbers said, "I wish and pray that one day you all return home.'

"I replaced Mrs Sadako Ogata last

year, and I wish to be the last person in this office to visit you here in this refugee camp," Lubbers told the refugees.

He said that next time he comes, he will visit them from their homes in the Democratic Republic of the Congo but not in the refugee camps in Rwanda.

In December 1997, following attacks perpetrated by infiltrators in the site of Mudende in the Rwandan western province of Gisenyi, where Congolese refugees were hosted, the Rwandan government and the UNHCR transferred the refugees to Gihembe camp in Byumba. At the end of January 2002, the camp hosts over 16,750 persons distributed in 4583 families. Xinhua

Angolan President seeks ceasefire, investment LUANDA, Angolan President Jose ment.

Eduardo dos Santos has said that the government forces are to make contact with the rebel National Union for the Independence of Angola (UNITA) to establish a truce, which would pave the way for negotiations on a ceasefire and eventual peace.

According to local media reports on Saturday, during his visit to Brazil, Angolan President dos Santos said on Friday in Brasilia, capital of the country, that it was important to bring about normalization in Angola by concluding the Lusaka peace agree-

Dos Santos was speaking after a meeting with his Brazilian counterpart Fernando Henrique Cardoso, who "encouraged the Angolan government to take firm steps to reestablish peace and begin reconstruction of

the country". An Angolan delegation will visit Brazil soon to set up partnerships with Brazilian businesses and seek finance for rebuilding the war-torn country, dos Santos added.

However, Angolan President dos Santos, during his recent visit to the

United States, ruled out a unilateral ceasefire or amnesty to rebel UNITA still taking arms.

The Angolan civil war, which broke out since the country's independence in 1975, has claimed a million lives and left 4.2 million displaced.

On February 22, leader of the rebel UNITA Jonas Savimbi was killed in battle by Angolan government forces and the international community considers the dearth of Savimbi as a good chance for peace in the southwestern African country. Xinhua

U.N. seeking release of kidnapped Somali worker

NAIROBI (Reuters) - The United Nations is doing all it can to secure the release of a U.N. worker abducted in the Somali capital but has scant information on the kidnappers, a U.N. spokeswoman said on Friday.

Gunmen seized a Somali worker with the United Nations children's agency UNICEF in Mogadishu on Thursday, a day after U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan said it was too dangerous to open a U.N office in the anarchic city.

The spokeswoman named the worker, the first U.N. employee to be snatched for a year, as Ahmed Moalim Mohammed, a Somali national. There are currently no international U.N.

staff in Mogadishu because of the security situation.

"Mohammed is working on projects that benefit the Somali people. We are doing everything to secure his release," said Sonya Green, a Nairobibased spokeswoman for the U.N. humanitarian coordinator for Somalia. Green said the motive for the kidnapping remained unclear. It was U.N. policy not to pay ransoms for kidnapped workers, although no demand had yet been received, she said.

The kidnapping was the second incident in a week involving a Somali national doing U.N. work, a spokeswoman said in New York.

Hassan Sheikh Ali, a UNICEF con-

sultant, was killed after being accidentally caught in a cross-fire in Mogadishu, U.N. spokeswoman Marie Okabe said.

At least 27 people have died in clashes over the last few days in the country, including a 70-year-old Swiss woman who had worked for a humanitarian agency in southern Somalia.

The United States and Ethiopia, among others, fear the deeply splintered northeast African nation could become a haven for al Qaeda fighters fleeing Afghanistan after a Washington-led military campaign targeted them for masterminding Sept. 11 hijack attacks on the United States.

Madagascar Didier Ratsiraka declared to exercise martial law in the capital city of Tananarive on Thursday.

Ratsiraka told reporters that he had General Leon-Claude named Raveloarison as the "military governor" of the capital to handle the crisis in the city caused by a dispute over last December presidential elections.

On Wednesday, the government of

Tananarive, which was ordered after a day of clashes between the supporters of opposition leader Marc Ravalomanana and those of Ratsiraka.

Ravalomanana supporters clashed with Ratsiraka backers early on Wednesday, with more than 10 people injured.

Ravalomanana had claimed to win the first round of presidentia election on

country and declared himself president The government declared a state of emergency last Friday, following weeks of protests by the opposition. The international community has urged the both sides to return to talks and call for a second round of elections on March 24 thatis ordered by Madagascar's High Constitutional Court.

S. Africa reports no increase in flow of Zimbabwean refugees

JOHANNESBURG, The South African National Defense Force (SANDF) commanders on the country's border with Zimbabwe have reported no increase in the flow of refugees into South Africa.

The numbers of Zimbabwean refugees caught by SA security forces had actually decreased, the South African Press Association reported on Saturday quoting Colonel Tol Snyman, commander of the Soutpansberg military area and Colonel Pine Pienaar, the chief of staff of Regional Joint Task Force

This was despite a reported increase in the level of violence in Zimbabwe in the run-up to the presidential election there on March 9 and 10, food shortages and high inflation.

Snyman said about 4,000 Zimbabweans were intercepted at the border, or between the border and the Soutpansberg in January 2001. This year the figure was 2,600.

There was no clear reason for the decrease, but last summer was much cooler than this year's, with the temperature in the border town of Messina this summer routinely an energy-sapping 40 degrees Celsius. Snyman said this made it difficult for his troops to function, and made it more unpleasant for migrants as well.

An indication of this was the poor physical state of the people detained, Snyman said.

"Their condition is terrible. Many had been walking for the last four or five days with no food and no water. They are extremely hungry and thirsty by the time we reach them," he said.

One aspect that has changed from previous years was the demographics. A year ago most of those crossing the border were aged about 30. By late last year they were about 25. Now most were between 16 and 20.

Snyman said that he had two companies of soldiers — about 300 soldiers in total — permanently patrolling along the frontier to intercept illegal border-crossers.

Roadblocks were also routinely set up in the area within 10 kilometers of the border.

Further from the border, commando units, working with police and traffic authorities also had checkpoints to filter out the illegal immigrants from legitimate travelers.

Turning to the question of a sudden, mass, inflow of refugees, Snyman said the SANDF was ready to handle the safety aspect of such a development.

"We have all drawn up our contingency plans and have identified the triggers that will activate them," he said. Xinhua

EU urges cessation of hostilities in

Angola

LUANDA, The European Union all in favor of peace and reconcilia-(EU) has called on Angola's warring parties for a "rapid cessation of hostilities", stressing the urgent necessity of ending a conflict that is provoking a very grave humanitarian situation, according to a EU statement reaching here on Friday. In a statement issued in Madrid, the EU Spanish presidency expressed the conviction that peace could only be achieved "through the effective engagement of

tion" on the basis of the aborted 1994 Lusaka peace and power-sharing accord. The EU welcomed the "positive signs" given by the Angolan government, which has pledged its commitment to seek a "definitive end to all hostilities" after the death of Jonas Savimbi, leader of the rebel National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA), on February 22.

The EU also urged rapid steps to aid Angola's estimated 4 million wardisplaced people and expressed hopes that conditions would be created for the government to organize planned elections and reinforce the democratic process.

The civil war in Angola, which broke out in 1975 soon after the country's independence from Portugal, has so far claimed 1 million lives and left 4.2 millions displaced.



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9

YT Business

Controversy continues to brew over government's plans to privatize

By Mohammed H. al-Qadhi Yemen Times Staff

ontroversy in political and economic circles is brewing over the governent's privatization policy. Many people in these circles, in fact, oppose the economic and financial reforms the government has started since March 1995 in assistance with the IMF and WB technical consultation experts.

The government justifies privatizing crippled state establishments by noting that the private sector needs more investment, while the government needs to get rid of bureaucracies which are adding to its deficit and dragging down the economy.

Those opposing privatization say that taking the government out of some services will hurt social equity and slow economic development. Moreover, they say, economic feasibility studies need to be carried out before certain projects are privatized, so that they don't collapse altogether.

The rules of privatization

Without ever giving a formal hearing to opposing views, the Yemeni government has gone ahead and set regulations and laws in place for the transfer of publicly-held assets. It has established a technical office that supervises selling campaigns nd draws up lease contracts. It has also passed the privatization law No 45 for 1999.

Dr. Yahya al-Mutawakel, chairman of Privatization Technical Office, which is affiliated to the Industrial Ministry, said that the government carried out the first phase of privatization program before the law was passed. In this phase, 16 industrial establishments were liquidated and leased. They are now run by the private sector.

Opposition parties headed by the Yemeni Socialist Party have stressed that liquidating successful establishments in particular is a misguided policy. They formed a committee of opposition and independent voices to support the preservation of establishments of the public sector, particularly the successful ones.

The government, meanwhile, stresses that the privatization policy was drawn up to create a proper atmosphere for boosting activities of the private sector. It has tried to convince opposition parties of the necessity of privatizing these public establishments, giving guarantees to settle conditions of laid off workers. Commenting on the government action, Badr Ba Salem, Industrial and Commercial Chamber GM, said "It is really hard to comprehend the privatization reality. It is true the government can't bear the heavy burdens and problems of crippled establishments. However, what has so far been done is not privatization. Rather it is liquidation for these crippled establishments." He takes the view that the solution lies

in creating a good environment that generates the investments process.

Privatized sectors to date

Despite the controversy over privatization and its impacts on low-income people, a number of establishments are already privatized in different sectors. They are as follows:

1) The Financial and banking sector: Procedures to privatize one of the most successful banks, the Yemeni National Bank, are now over. Another diagnostic study to privatize specialized governmental Banks: Agricultural, Industrial, and Housing Banks, is now underway.

The government announced late last vear that it would privatize 60% of the National Bank and it will keep 40% of its ownership. This decision is being opposed by the opposition parties, as the bank is ranked number two in terms of its official importance in Yemen. Besides, it is an active commercial bank with 33 branches in different governorates of the Republic.

Independent economic sources say that the government wants to liquidate the Yemeni National Bank because it was established and developed within a country dominated by the YSP in the then Southern part of the country, before unity in 1990. Therefore, it is a matter of a political decision that has nothing to do with the privatization program, they said.

Sources at the Yemeni National Bank confirmed that the bank, established 30 years ago, made good financial profits. Therefore, it should be kept within the public sector, they believe.

They reveal that profits increased by 46% in the first ten months of 1999 and employment increased by 91%. Moreover, the bank had more investments after the unity, they say, adding that in 1998 profits increased by 23%.

The bank capital has also increased by 37% in the second half of this year, 2000, which makes it stand as a financial competitor to the activity of the main central Bank in Yemen.

However, the cabinet has not considered the financial successes of the National Bank. It agreed last July to give 60% of the bank to the main partners and 20% for public subscription, while keeping 20% for the government.

sector:

Government farms and leased establishments have been liquidated. Three other establishments are on sale now and liquidation while shipment and discharging in the National Marine Company are now being privatized.

5) Communication Sector:

President Ali Abdullah Saleh declared last June that within the free market orientation policy, the government will study privatization in the field of communication, as national, Arab and foreign capitals compete to introduce the best services.

The Ministry of Communication presented suggestions before the Yemeni Cabinet including privatizing 60% in the field of communication keeping 40% for the governmental sector. This has the objective of encouraging investors making them take part in enhancing the economic development in the country.

6) Aden Refinery and Airport Services:

The government has also sought partial privatization of Aden Refinerv administration, which refines oil at more than 100 thousand barrels a day. It also sought to privatize part of Sana'a International Airport Services.

Structural reform and privatization

The government says that privatizing these establishments will bear fruits in terms of encouraging ownership and private investment in a competitive atmosphere, leading to combat monopoly.

Another advantage it sees is that privatization will relieve the burden of debts which resulted due to the government support to these establishments. The government believes this will guarantee the flow of new investors and modern technology to the country, which, in turn, will boost industrial production and encourage the establishment of stock market.

Therefore, privatization law stipulates in one of its articles that crippled establishments are not to be sold until they are highly assessed, and then put on sale through defining shares of public subscriptions selling the government shares in the mixed sector.

Experts believe that establishing a

hazards posed by globalization. He views that achieving a successful privatization policy depends on the availability of a competitive atmosphere.

Monitoring privatization

As the privatization process means the disposal of public wealth, the Central Organization for Control and Audit (COCA) was authorized by the government to monitor its implementation and evaluate its outcomes. In this program, COCA has two goals:

the first is called "Commerce, Economic & Legal Skills" which is to define the costs, revenues, and profits made by the project that is intended to be privatized.

The second duty called "Personal Skills," in terms of active contact with high administrative units to explain the organization views on the feasibility of privatizing establishments and their social, cultural and environmental outcomes

The point is that the performance of this organization is very much questioned by opposition parities, for its decisions are not taken seriously on the part of high authority institutions.

Future plans

In the second phase of the privatization program, the Yemeni government plans to involve the private sector in establishing expanding projects in three cement factories through defining shares with defined rates. It also plans to privatize the Yemeni Drug Company (YADCo) which is one of the most suc-

Yemen", Alwan warns against many cessful companies in the public sector and the best in administration and production.

> The technical privatization office is preparing a list of consultative companies interested in preparing privatization feasibility studies of other projects such as electricity and water services.

Revenues of privatization

Yemeni privatization law indicated in Article 32 that revenues of privatized establishments are to be put in a special bank account called Privatization Revenues Fund. This account is included in the state budget as a separate fund to support social and economic development projects.

However, Dr. Abdulrakeeb Muqbel, teacher of the Trade Law Hodeidah University, comments on this and said "The public sector plays a substantial role in terms of creating job opportunities and enhancing living stability for many families. Therefore, in carrying out privatization program, the Yemeni government has to tackle the negative outcomes in terms of finding solutions to the increased number of poor people below the poverty line and increased unemployment rate which will result due to laying off workers in these privatized establishments.

WB, quick implementation of privatization program

The government is trying to take consultations and recommendations of the WB in carrying out its privatization program,WB Middle East unit chairman,

said.

"If Yemen carries out this program in a transparent way, privatization will attract foreign investment which will work as an income source for the government. The government may focus on activities of much interest to the private sector. In the coming reform phase Yemen has to move fast towards privatizing big projects in cement, electricity and Aden port fields, all of which will attract big foreign investment."

Social outcomes

Critical of recommendations of the WB, opposition parties oppose the privatization policy , it does not guarantee compensation and security for workers in these establishments.

Despite the government endorsement to establish Sustenance Fund to support laid off workers, privatization faces many challenges including lack of social security alternatives

Some laid off workers commented on this fund by saying that the fund was a temporary measure that did not ensure their social security.

They believe that reforming conditions of crippled establishments could only be achieved through reforming the administrative units, giving incentives to workers so as to achieve the desired production and expected profits.

By and large, disputes over the implementation of the privatization policy in Yemen has slowed the government course to implement the program, to avoid its negative results and social turmoil.



Job Duties:

a. Services all types of vehicles and heavy duty | a. Loads and lifts items of equipment in a safe and equipment. Includes lubricating, changing oil, topping up fluid levels, carrying out safety inspections, performing major overhauls on engines and gear boxes.

Job Duties

2) The industrial sector: In this sector 16 establishments were liquidated and some leased for the private sector including the Dairy and Leather Factory in Aden.

3) The tourist sector:

Nine hotels were restored to their owners after they were nationalized during the socialist reign in Aden before the unity. Seventeen tourist establishments were leased for local and foreign investors.

4) The agricultural & transportation

\$210 Million for Yemen

By Mahyoub al-Kamali Yemen Times Staff

emen will receive new loans worth US \$210 million from the World Bank.

Road, water and sanitation projects will take up \$ 190 million of the total, said Ahmed Mohammed Sufan, Minister of Planning and Development. Education will also get a portion of the balance.

The WB will also provide the necessary technical assistance for the work, which is geared to help alleviate

poverty in Yemen.

Jan Luis, Vice-president of the World Bank for the Middle East & North Africa, said Yemen enjoys good relations with the WB, and that has not changed as a result of the September 11 attacks against the US.

He added that the bank has been supporting the Yemeni government to reassess the consequences of the attacks.

Luis points out that Yemen has already achieved positive results with the support of the WB in areas of education, health, water and rural roads. He also said that WB wants to help

stock market will help the government put shares up for public subscription. However, selling these establishments out of this market will only increase the rampant financial and administrative corruption in these establishments.

Dr. Taha Alwan, administrative management teacher in the Faculty of Economy and Administration in Aden University, points out that obstacles facing privatization in Yemen are attributed to some legal limitations, that is difficulties to define and specify duties of public and private sectors and lack of information pertaining to future results of privatization.

In his study on "Privatization in

the country with its economic performance by creating an environment conducive for investment and reducing unemployment.

Luis met President Saleh, who briefed him on Yemen's efforts to deal with such national issues.

Ways of enhancing the existing partnership between Yemen and the WB, especially with regard to upgrading the civil service, were also discussed.

The World Bank is implementing 19 projects for roads construction estimated at \$45 million Another \$150 million will be earmarked for new water and sanitation projects.

Yemen is currently implementing an economic reform program with the support of the WB, which is also supervising the reconstruction of the government's enterprise and developing oil and energy resources.

- b. Performs safety inspections. Includes checking condition of tires, steering gear and components, inspecting undercarriages and the general condition of vehicles, and preparing report to his supervisor. Inspections are carried out on a planned basis.
- c. Carries out major overhauls on engines, gearboxes and transmissions. Includes stripping down and replacing components to restore vehicle to full operational condition.
- d. Carries out other similar or related duties such as trouble shooting hydraulic system on cranes, trucks and forklifts.

efficient manner. Includes lifting generators power transformers, piping materials, etc. and transferring warehouse materials and mechanical equipment to various locations; up to 7 tons with the picker, up to 50 tons with crane. Operates equipment in a safe and efficient manner.

- Carries out daily checks and minor maintenance b. work on heavy equipment. Includes inspecting wire rope, lubricating, inspecting and lubricating sheaves and hoists, checking tire pressures, testing safety overloads, inspecting for hydraulic leaks, checking engine oil levels and brakes, etc.
- c. Carries out other similar or related duties such as instructing trainees in leading, operating and carrying out minor maintenance work.

Minimum Requirements:

a. Completion of secondary (Technical) education (12 years) followed by 2 years full-time formal training in mechanical trades and 6 years of related experience.

b. Fair knowledge of English.

c. Valid heavy equipment operator certificate or license.

If you have the above requirements, please send your CV to the following address NOT later than March 25, 2002.

Canadian Nexen Petroleum Yemen Human Resources P. O. Box 15137 Sana'a, Republic of Yemen Fax No. 01-269899 **Attention: Senior Supervisor, Human Resources**

PLEASE DON'T CALL US, WE WILL CALL YOU IF YOU WERE SELECTED FOR TEST AND INTERVIEW

Finance / Market



Economic data pushes Dow to 6-month high

NEW YORK (Reuters) - Stocks rallied on Friday, with the blue-chip Dow Jones industrial average hitting a sixmonth high, after upbeat data on manufacturing, construction and consumer spending raised hopes the economy and corporate profits will rebound soon.

A rosy business outlook from Novellus Systems Inc. NVLS.O, a major producer of chip-making equipment, also helped. Novellus shares soared 14 percent and a sector rally ensued.

"It's an extremely powerful and meaningful rally, based on the economic data, which negate the thought the economy is in recession. That's what the market wants to hear," said Peter Cardillo, chief strategist at Global Partners. "Novel!us' bright outlook also added a lot of wood to the fire."

The Dow surged 262.73 points, or 2.6 percent, to 10,368.86 — its strongest close since Aug. 27, 2001.

The broader Standard & Poor's 500 Index .SPX rose 25.05 points, or 2.26 percent, to 1,131.78. The technologylaced Nasdaq Composite Index .IXIC pulled in a gain of 71.26 points, or 4.12 percent, to 1,802.75.

For the week, Nasdaq rose 4.54 percent, snapping a four-week losing streak. The Dow average rose for the third week, gaining 4.02 percent, while the S&P 500 climbed 3.85 percent.

A key report showed factories had boosted production in February for the first time since July 2000 to meet a wave of new orders as demand for manufactured goods soared. That, plus other data for January showing U.S. consumer spending surged and construction spending grew at its fastest pace in a year, offset a drop in a closely watched consumer sentiment gauge.

"For several months now, the economic data has been stronger than the market," said Edward Hemmelgarn, chief investment officer of Shaker Investments, which oversees \$2.3 billion. "People are taking the better economic numbers and, for the first time, believing that that may translate into better corporate (earnings) numbers."

Semiconductor stocks helped lead Nasdaq's rebound after the update by Novellus, whose shares rallied \$5.97 to



\$48.56. "There are signs of the downturn going away," Novellus Chairman and Chief Executive Richard Hill said. "We see that February has followed January with continued signs of recovery."

The Philadelphia Stock Exchange's semiconductor index .SOXX jumped 11 percent, reflecting gains in the shares of others such as Applied Materials AMAT.O, up \$4.51 at \$47.98.

"Maybe we can see other companies giving better guidance or even hint at increasing capital spending," Cardillo said.

Chip giant Intel Corp. INTC.O climbed \$2.43 to \$30.98, helping both the Dow and the Nasdaq. It reported China was set to overtake Japan as its largest Asian customer within two years.

Chartered Semiconductor Manufacturing CHRT.O, the world's third-largest independent foundry, raised its guidance and pointed to a sector rebound. It rose \$2.87 to \$25.35.

Crown Castle International Corp. CCI.N, the No. 2 wireless tower operator, rose 27 percent, or \$1.69, to \$7.90, after it reported greater-thanexpected leasing revenues for the fourth quarter amid a downturn in the industry.

AT&T Wireless Services Inc. AWE.N fell sharply as the nation's No. 3 wireless company warned that revenue growth will slow due to the weak economy and increased competition. It was the most active stock on the Big Board, slumping \$1.49 to \$8.60.

Biotechnology companies Invitrogen Corp. IVGN.O and Protein Design Labs Inc. PDLI.O sank after each said sales growth in 2002 would be slower than expected. Invitrogen **Ex-Enron president Skilling hits back**

WASHINGTON (Reuters) - As Congress squeezed former Enron Corp. ENRNQ.PK president Jeffrey Skilling this week for more facts on the company's historic collapse, Skilling used a television interview to take another swipe at U.S. lawmakers.

Escalating his war of words with the nation's elected representatives, Skilling accused Congress of playing "judge and jury" in its probe of his role in the Enron debacle.

"The United States Congress has decided that I am guilty until proven innocent," Skilling said in the interview on CNN's "Larry King Live."

"I don't think the Congress was acting as a fact-finding entity, trying to figure out what happened," he said. "It's an election year, and during an election year, I guess you would expect something like that to happen, but I think that Congress is acting as judge and jury," Skilling said.

As Skilling counter-punched, California Democratic Rep. Henry Waxman sent him a letter asking for responses to 17 questions about Enron's broadband services, electricity markets, off-the-books partnerships and political activity.

Waxman asked Skilling to respond to the questions by March 7. A letter sent to Skilling on Thursday by four other lawmakers, including House Energy and Commerce Committee Chairman Rep. Billy Tauzin, set the same deadline.

Ten congressional committees are probing the corporate scandal at Enron that led to the largest bankruptcy filing in U.S. history, destroyed thousands of jobs and billions of dollars in investor equity and shook investor confidence.

The Justice Department is conducting a criminal probe and the Securities and Exchange Commission is also investigating the downfall of what was once America's seventh-largest firm.

Skilling, who resigned unexpectedly from Enron last August just over three months before it fell apart, said his workaholic tendencies had taken a toll on his personal life and he left because "I was tired."

The former Enron executive said when he left, he believed the company was "in great shape," and that he was subsequently shocked at its collapse. Skilling has testified before

Congress, but some other former top officers have appeared and refused to testify, citing their Fifth Amendment rights.

Continuing his approach of openly confronting questioners, Skilling told King on CNN he had some regrets.

"Would I have done some things differently? I think — I think we all would do — we would do a number of things differently," he said. King did not ask exactly which things Skilling would have changed.

Asked if he was angry with Enron internal whistle-blower Sherron Watkins, Skilling said, "I'm not angry at all. I think Sherron is absolutely entitled to her opinion. ... I think some of the things that she said about her opinion of what I was thinking, I think, were incorrect."

A few Enron managers have told Congress they tried to warn Skilling and former Enron Chairman Kenneth Lay last year of accounting problems with a web of off-the-books ventures that ultimately unraveled and brought down the company.

Watkins has told Congress she warned Lay, but was too intimidated to take her concerns to Skilling, who was approached by other worried subordinates. Among them was Jeffrey McMahon, then treasurer and now Enron president. Waxman sent a list of questions to McMahon, as well, on Friday.

Exchange Rare for the Yemeni Rial as of February 9 Curr. Buying Selling USD 173.25 173.47 GBP 248.15 248.46 EUR 151.94 152.13 SAR 46.20 46.26 264.19 KWD 263.47 47.17 47.23 AED EGP 37.36 37.41 BHD 459.55 460.13 QAR 47.58 47.64 JOD 244.36 244.67 OMR 450.00 450.57 DEM 77.70 77.80 CHF 102.73 102.86 FRF 23.17 23.20 .078483 ITL .078583 NLG 43.18 43.23 SEK 16.51 16.53 BEF 3.77 3.77 JPY 1.299943 1.301594

Source: Central Bank of Yemen

Middle East Stock Exchange Indicators

CSE	-0.4%	02/03
BSI	+1.01%	02/03
BSE	+0.13%	28/02
TUNINDEX	+0.21%	01/03
HFI	-0.12%	28/02
IGB	-1.05%	31/12
ISE100	+2.51%	01/03
KSE	+1.15%	11/02
MSM	+1.55%	09/12
Al-Quds	+2.87%	27/02
TEPIX	+0.07%	02/03
AMMAN SI	E +0.41%	28/02
DUBEX	+0.13%	02/03
Interna	tional Stoc	k
Exchan	ge Indicato	rs
NASDAQ	+4.11%	01/03
DOW JONE	S+2.60%	01/03
NIKKEI	+2.12%	01/03
EURO 500	+1.06%	01/03
FTSE 100	+1.33%	01/03

+0.52%

+2.26%

01/03

01/03

CAC 40

S&P 500



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

1) Procurement Clerk

The position is located in the Procurement Section, American embassy, under the supervision of the Procurement Agent and the General Services Officer. Employee will be responsible of performing a variety of clerical duties. Duty will include: prepares and maintains contract files. Drafts basic fax inquires and transmit to vendors-offshore and in Yemen. Processes payment paper work for local and offshore vendors and track receiving reports. Translates local invoices into English.



fell \$11.52 to \$34.12. Protein Design fell 93 cents to \$14.94.

PerkinElmer Inc. PKI.N sank 31.52 percent after the maker of scientific instruments lowered its earnings forecasts and said it would cut 500 jobs and reorganize a unit. Shares plunged \$7.25 to \$15.75.

But Andrx Corp. ADRX.O surged 25.29 percent after a federal judge threw out a lawsuit claiming its planned copycat forms of British drug-maker GlaxoSmithKline's drugs Wellbutrin and Zyban infringe Glaxo patents. Andrx jumped \$8.46 to \$41.91.

A rise in mortgage applications and industrial metal prices, along with a fall in corporate bond yields, helped to push a weekly indicator of U.S. economic activity slightly higher last week, the Economic Cycle Research Institute said.

"It's hanging in at relatively modest growth rates, which is telling you that the recovery is not going to be a gangbusters recovery," said Anirvan Banerji, ECRI research director. "But if it stays here, then we don't see a double-dip recession."

The Dow muscled right through a key technical "resistance" level at 10,300. A close above that level, technical analysts believe, opens the way to tackle resistance at 10,400 to 10,500.

Resistance — a level where sellers are likely to emerge — is now set at 10,500 for the Dow, 1,850 for Nasdaq, and 1,132 for S&P, according to Schaeffersresearch.com.

Support — where buyers are expected to swoop in — is at 1,750 for Nasdaq, 10,200 for the Dow, and 1,120 for the S&P. The levels are key elements of technical analysis, which studies prices, volume and charts.

of Switzerland



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The distributor will be assured of brand support by the principal. Swistar is one of the most heavily advertised and promoted brands in the region.

Interested parties are requested to send their company profiles with their enquiry to our Middle East branch office.

> INTERNATIONAL SYNDICATE GROUP LLC P.O. Box No: 6300, Sharjah, United Arab Emirates Tel. 00971-6-5687888, Fax: 00971-6-5683044

Desired Qualifications

Education: Completion of secondary school is required.

Prior work experience: One year of clerical experience is required.

Language abilities/Knowledge: English level III (good working knowledge) is required. Knowledge of PC-based databases, spreadsheets and word processing programs is required.

Skills and abilities: level II typing: 40 wpm (English) is required.

Salary: The minimum starting annual gross salary for this position is YR722,595 of which one forty percent is paid in U.S. Dollars.

2) Human Resources Clerk

The position is located at the Administrative Section, of the American Embassy, and will be responsible of performing a variety of clerical and administrative support duties to the Human Resources Unit. Duties may include typing of correspondence, telegrams, announcements, and forms. Assists other members of staff in preparing and typing periodic employment or informational lists and reports. Translates routine correspondence or documents from Arabic into English, and vice versa, and other duties as assigned by supervisor.

Minimum qualifications: Completion of elementary school is required.

Experience: One to two years of clerical experience is required.

Language: Level III English ability (good working knowledge) is required.

Skills/Abilities: level II typing (minimum 40 words per minute with a small number of errors) and able to use PC and typewriter.

Salary: The minimum starting annual gross salary for this position is YR800,355 of which forty percent is paid in U.S. Dollars.

How to apply: All qualified Yemeni nationals should complete OF-612 (Application form for Employing Foreign Nationals) OR submit a current C.V. with certificate and recommendation letters attached. Applicants could submit the application or C.V. in person to the Embassy's gate or send it to the following address, Embassy Human Resources Office, American Embassy, Dhahr Himyar Street, P.O. Box 22347, Sana'a, no later than March 13, 2002.

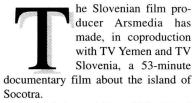


Reports

11

Introducing the first documentary film on Socotra **ISLAND OF THE** DRAGON'S BLOOD TREE





The initiative and idea of 'The Island of The Dragon's Blood Tree' came from Miran Hvala, who first came to Yemen in 1982.

An opportunity for Hvala to visit Socotra came in 1999 when the island was opened for tourists. "What I found was the Sleeping Beauty of Yemen - an island of amazing beauty, of wonderful, open people and an abundance of endemic fauna and floral species---and the living fossil called the Dragon's Blood Tree, i.e. the Dracaena cinnabari," Hvala said.

A wider project

In the following year, a camera crew of three spent a week on the island, working on a wider film project. The crew included the director Igor Likar, who in 1993 and 1997 won the Golden Butterfly of Trento, Italy. Also involved were Janez Kalisnik, a renowned cameraman and Hvala as an executive producer, PR man, organizer and others.

The team shot mainly on the site

around Hadibo (the site, the coast and fishermen), Qalansya (the lagoon and the surroundings) and the Dixem plateau (the Dragon Tree and the Canyon.)

Logistic support and expertise were offered by the Socotra Biodiversity Project crew, led by Dr. Edoardo Zandri.

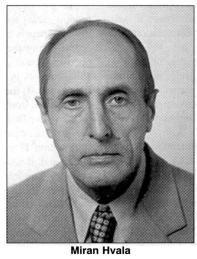
The documentary was taped on Kodak 16mm film and produced according to professional standards as a documentary film essay. It was released in mid-October 2001 on TV Slovenia, covering by satellite HOT-BIRD3 the whole of Europe.

More information is available on www.rtvslo.si/Socotra. An English VHS version is available to all interested, as well as pictures and slides for professional purposes.

The distribution and broadcasting of the pictures to a wider audience, especially those of national services, would represent a good opportunity to promote and campaign for the protection of this endangered virgin island.

Slovenian Hvala has held a number of different positions within the Slovenian Radio and TV, such as electronic engineer on the transmitter department, head of the engineering department of the transmitters and

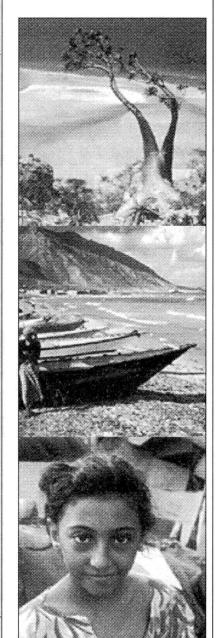
Photo / illustration by Hva



assistant of General Director for finan-

cial management. He also cooperated with Yemen TV and Radio for a number of years before he turned to making documentary films. For more information, contact Hvala

Lubejeva 3 SI-1000 Ljubljana Slovenia Tel/fax: +386 1 5190486 email: hvalamm@hotmail.com or in Sana'a Fax: +967 1 274119 NTSC COMP before end of March



Tourism & Environment minister: "The ministry is exploring new potential markets that bring tourists to Yemen"

tourism industry has suffered since the September 11 attacks on the USA. More than 90% of international booking contracts, in fact, were cancelled, causing huge losses to tourism business and related services.

Some tourism establishments closed down and others laid-off or sent away most of their employees on holidays without pay.

Some hotels have been operating at 5-10% of their operation capacities.

In light of this new and difficult situation, Yemen Times writer Ismail al-Ghabri met with Mr. Abdul Malik Abdul Rahman al-Eryani, Minister of Tourism and Environment.

Following is an edited version of their conversation.

YT - What are the measures being taken by the ministry to face the catastrophic fallout of the September 11 attacks on the USA?

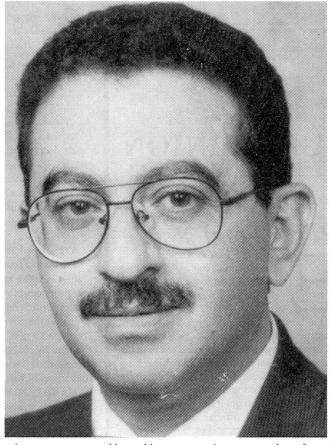
Al-Eryani - The ministry has taken steps to address this issue. The High Tourism Council devoted a meeting in November to deal with this issue. The council has approved a comprehensive plan and policy. Accordingly, a joint committee involving the ministry, the Hotel Union and Tourism Agencies Society was established to carefully study the magnitude of the impact.

The ministry is exploring new potential markets that bring tourists to Yemen, from such places as other Arab countries, South East Asia and Africa in addition to enhancing domestic tourism. Tourism promotion will be enhanced, targeting these markets, and Yemenia flight networks will be gradually expanded.

More other urgent measures have been taken to mitigate the direct impacts on the industry and limit losses to tourism establishments. The package includes postponing taxes due on affected establishments for the period 1999 to 2001, and giving more support for flight passenger insurance.

YT - What are the new projects to be lunched by the ministry in the year 2002?

Al-Eryani - The ministry will continue to support tourism business. Efforts will be made to open new markets. We are planning in 2002 to organize promotional activities targeting potential tourism. 2002 will see a change in our promotional and market- aim is to promote tourism activities ing activities both at the international and investments based on sound envi-



taken serious measures to address this issue. A special law was enacted in 1998 enacting penalties. The ministry is cooperating with the Ministry of Interior and other relevant agencies. Actions have been and are taken to improve tourism security services and to enhance local community participation in tourism business.

YT - Yemen has a unique biodiversity, especially in its islands? Are there any investors in these islands?

Al-Eryani - Indeed Yemen is rich with its biodiversity, especially in the islands. Socotra Island is unique in its natural resources and biodiversity. We are committed to integrate economic concerns with environmental protection in environmentally sensitive areas.

For example, in the case of Socotra a zoning plan has been prepared and approved, identifying resource use reserve, general use zone, national parks, areas of special botanical interest and nature sanctuary. A draft Master plan has been prepared aiming to achieve socio-economical development in the island and preserve its unique biodiversity. An eco-tourism department has been set up and we are cooperating with the Island Development authority concerning tourism investment in the islands. Our

preparation process plans, formation of seven thematic working group and the outline of the working papers of these groups

A national workshop was organized on January 21st to review guidelines for the preparation of the national report and exchange information with relevant stakeholder. We will be discussing the draft report soon ,in March, in a national forum.

At the regional level, we have been actively involved in preparation of the regional report. In fact Yemen is chairing the Arab group in Johannesburg.

YT - There are different groups involved in protecting the environment. How can these bodies consolidate the work of the ministry?

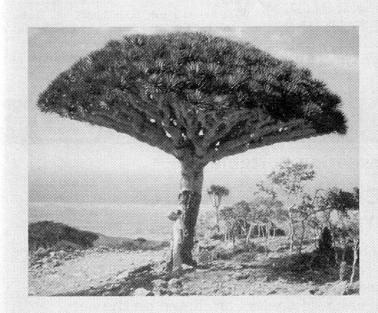
Al-Eryani - Environment protection and concern for sustainable use of the natural resources has grown gradually since the late 80s, both on the part of the government and the public. The government has been undertaking active roles in environmental management and institutionalized environmental work. The Ministry of Tourism and Environment was established in 2001 with broad responsibilities for environmental management.

Growing public interest resulted in the creation of a number management systems and the formation of a number of non-governmental organizations and increasing involvement of media in environmental issues. The academic institutions and scientific communities also got more involved in environmental research. Environmental research centers have been introduced in Aden, Sana'a, Hadramout and Hodaidah universities. We cooperate with these groups and make use of their facilities. National consultants and academics have been providing services to environmental work whenever a major action is planned and relevant entities and stakeholders are invited to join. The ministry is also considering resource mobilization from donor communities not only for the ministry and its authorities, but also for other relevant agencies and NGOs.

SOCOTRA THE ISLAND OF THE **DRAGON'S BLOOD TREE**

ARSMEDIA LJUBLJANA

RADIOTELEVIZIJA^ISLOVENIJA YEMEN RTV CORPORATION



www.rtvslo.si/socotra

and national levels. The ministry will also work on revising our tourism strategy and policy.

YT - What about the crippled projects, such as the construction of tourist townships and hotels?

Al-Eryani - A decision was taken by the High Tourism Council to assist such projects. Investment facilities will be granted to contribute in payment of interest due on tourism investment loans and postponement of payment deadlines.

YT - What are the major obstacles hindering tourism in Yemen?

2025 had identified the tourism industry as an important sector contributing to the economic development of the nation. We are taking serious measures to improve the performance of his sector.

However there are certain obstacles hindering tourism that need to be addressed both in the short run and long run. There is a need to improve the infrastructure. The legal and institutional framework is also a priority. Other areas include improvement of tourism police services and development of national capacities and skills operating in the industry and serving the sector.

YT - Does the ministry have any role in fighting kidnapping?

Al-Eryani - No doubt, kidnappings have affected the tourism industry and our image abroad. The government has ronmental impact assessment.

YT - Why doesn't the ministry promote domestic tourism?

Al-Eryani - This is not true. We are paying attention to domestic tourism and encourage this field. As I have mentioned earlier, we are planning to organize domestic promotional activities in four governates. This package includes organization of tourism exhibitions, marketing seasons and awareness campaigns. Participation of local community in tourism activities is also an important issue in our agendas.

YT - The World Earth Summit will Al-Eryani - The strategic vision for be held this year. What has the ministry planned for this summit?

Al-Eryani - Preparations for the nation's participation in the World Submit on Sustainable Development has been underway since October 2001. A committee and a temporary secretariat have been set up to supervise and follow up the process.

The preparatory committee has been mandated to prepare the National Report on Sustainable Development to be presented to the summit, scheduled to be held in Johannesburg in September 2002. The committee consists of representatives from relevant ministries, authorities, academic institutions, womens' associations, the private sector and environmental NGOs.

The committee has already two meetings to launch the preparation, review progress made on environmental management at the local level,

YT - Many western countries have advised their citizens not to visit Yemen. Has the ministry taken action to ameliorate the image of Yemen overseas?

Al-Eryani - European countries such the as Germany, UK and Italy have already removed such bans. This is a step ahead and reflects the achievement of the ministry and our diplomatic mission to improve the image of Yemen overseas.

YT - Any final comments?

The ministry appreciates your interest in tourism and environmental sectors and is interested to enhance the role of media to support tourism promotion and environmental awareness.

Words of Wisdom



There is no doubt that the media plays an important role in our lives. The influence of the media is greater among societies that are less advanced culturally and educationally because they are not equipped to assess the information passed on to them. In this sense, the Yemeni media has a much larger influence on the pubthan media in advanced countries where the subjects more knowledgeable. This fact adds o the responsibility of the media in Yemen. Prof. Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf, (1951-1999) Founder of Yemen Times



Decentralize Aden:

It's a good start very time I visit Aden, I see its great potential. It is a city that built to flourish, not to die and collapse, yet Aden is neglected in many ways. Its people are crushed by economic burdens, unemployment, and worst of all, lack of adequate services.

Another problem is the deadly and overwhelming bureaucracy that makes everything unachievable unless capital authorities in Sanaa are in the picture. It seems the commitment of Aden's leadership is not enough to get it out of its problems.

While Aden's local officials are doing their best, analysts, economists, and even businessmen also need to help. And certainly a key is to decentralize.

I have personally received many comments by businessmen coming from Hadramout, Aden itself and other areas that they had wonderful memories in Aden, and that they feel they could do a lot if they are given the chance. Why not try give those businessmen a chance to see what they could do?

I think of, for example, how well and efficiently the main Hayel Saeed Factories are run in Taiz. I just cannot help but ask whether this could indeed be implemented on a wider scope.

This era is the era of modern business mentality and thinking, and it requires dedication by businessmen who have a sense of responsibility towards their end goal. If they succeed in developing a neighborhood in Aden for example, then that could be a starting point and an example for other cities to follow.

These things take time. There is no solution on earth that will turn a developing country into a developed one overnight. There must be a starting point, however, and I feel a neighborhood is exactly that. Then we can move to another, then a city, then a district, then provinces and eventually the whole country.

Yemen happens to have donor countries that are also very helpful, and they could serve as observers and consultants. With hard work, good planning and dedication, Aden and other areas could become a better place.

Words are easier than deeds. But action can start somewhere. Any city, in fact, will do. The bottom line is that change is needed, and it won't happen by itself.

Those of us who have the vision need to get together with those of us who have the resources and know-how. And then we need to get to work

Opinion

Yemen needs a free press

Mohammed H. Al-Qadhi mhalqadhi@hotmail.com

he Republic of Yemen is slowly trying to find its way to a new system of democracy. The regime is constantly torn between those who are comfortable with the old ways with deeply-rooted economic and power

interests, and those who call for progress in the nation's march forward to join the world community and the 21st century. One area of this power struggle has to do with freedom of the press and the media.

Press freedoms taken after war

For almost four years after Yemeni unification in 1990, newspapers have were able to produce brave reports on different issues, criticizing the government openly. But after the civil war of 1994, between the People's General Congress (PGC) and the Yemeni Socialist Party (YSP), the Yemeni press was thrust into turmoil, through various forms of harassment ...

For the last few years, their syndicate has not been working well because of the desire of the political parties to control it. It was only in 1999 that an election for a new board for the syndicate was conducted. But it was boycotted by many journalists, particularly those working for opposition newspapers. They accused the government of seeking1g to control the syndicate.

We can highlight the main constraints the Yemeni press is going through:

Legal constraints

Journalists in Yemen are faced with a number of obstacles, either legislative, or various sorts of harassment. However, we shall first say that the living conditions of journalists are very miserable. They are among the poorest in the country. Their work for newspapers is not well-paid.

The low income of the Yemeni journalist affects his independence and makes journalism for him or her a mission as much as a job. Calls have been raised to improve their situation, but to no avail. In addition, the current Law of Press and Publication doesn't give journalists any privileges like health care and discounts in transportation and telephone costs. The card he gets from the Ministry of Information is a sign of membership only and doesn't give any legal power.

Broadcasters state controlled Moreover, we find also that most of Yemeni society is illiterate and that most of them live in the countryside. This means that the majority of the people do not know or read newspapers. Their source of information is the radio and TV stations, which social and cultural life of the country. The state shall guarantee freedom of thought and expression of opinion in speech, writing and photography within the limit of the law."

This is fine. But the Law No. (25) of 1990 for Press and Publications is full of shortcomings that constitute a major hindrance for the journalism movement in Yemen. For example, to establish a newspaper/magazine one has to get license from the Ministry of Information.

There is also a monetary restriction in starting a paper. The Minister of Information's Decree No. 9 for 1998 states that "for establishing a paper or a magazine, the publisher's capital should amount to YR 2 million for a daily newspaper, YR 700,000 for a Weekly paper, YR 1.2 million for a Weekly magazine and a Periodical, YR 100,000 for an Advertisement Bulletin." Therefore, one can conclude that this is one of the major constraints of the press in Yemen.

Ask the government

In addition, we find also that the law of Press and Publication imposes censorship on the substance of the press or cultural material coming from outside the country. Article No. 56 of the same law reads "Any person who wishes to import any cultural material and stationery and open a cultural emporium shall obtain permission in writing from the Minister of Information prior to such activity,

b) Any person who wishes to carry on the business of import, sale, distribution and circulation of newspapers and magazines shall obtain permission in writing from the Minister of Information prior to such activity."

The law of the press, in fact, is good in comparison with similar laws in Arab countries. But the problem is with the bylaw execution of the press law which was issued by the president of the Republic in 1993. This by-law doesn't explain and illustrate the law, rather it adds some legislative articles, constituting rather more forbiddings and restrictions which the Ministry of Information take as an excuse to hassle the press. It gives the excuse for journalists to start a paper and at the same time it acts as an implementation against of the law. It has intensified the act of the press and publication authority.

As we have mentioned earlier, majority of the Yemeni people are illiterate and this means that the radio and TV are still the most influential means in informing the public and shaping their opinion. However, they are still under the complete control of the state. Hence, the media is not able to create a public opinion to generate more power. This public opinion is absent and this is why the role of the media in the development drive is being marginalized.

Sana'a Declaration

Yemen co-hosted, along with the UN,

Arab Media" in January of 1996. This resulted in the Sana'a Declaration, which called upon all the member governments of the UNESCO and UN to promote independent and pluralistic media, and to allow private ownership of the press, radio and television. The Sana'a Declaration was later adopted as a binding document of the UNESCO by all member states including Yemen.

However, the Yemen Times had applied three years ago to start a small FM radio station in Sana'a. The Minister of Information said he was unable to act on the request as there was no law to offer guidelines to exercise this right. As such he has failed to initiate any action to enact such a law.

Meanwhile, the college of Journalism of Sana'a University applied to operate a small radio/television station to offer training facilities to its students. Again, it could not be done.

In 1999, the Rector of Science and Technology University (private) wrote to the Minister of Information to request permission to operate a small radio station for the students. Again, the Minister simply said there was no law to govern such an activity.

Freedom Constrains

The government is trying from time-totime to harass the press through prosecuting newspapers and journalists. The main ordeal facing the newspapers, mainly the opposition and independent ones, since 1995 consists in the cases that are being filed against them by the Ministry of Information. Ironically - and this is a hopeful sign - we find that most of the newspapers won the cases against the Ministry of Information. However, the judiciary can be biased and, if need be, can lean to the side of the government.

Worse still, the trials of the newspapers and journalists are not done in accordance with the Press Law. Rather, they are conducted according to the Penal Code of the country. Unfortunately, the writer and correspondent of Al-Wahdawi newspaper (voice of the Nasserite Unionist Party) Jamal Amer was punished ruthlessly. The verdict the court issued in February 2000 states that Mr. Amer is forbidden from writing and he should give up the profession of journalism forever.

This is dangerous and it is the first time in which a writer is asked to stop writing forever. There is no such article in the Press Law which says that a journalist can be prosecuted in such a way. This highlights the absence of independent and fair judiciary. The Al-Asboo weekly decided to stand by the side of Mr. Amer by challenging the court decree by publishing an article by Mr. Amer. But the punishment was severe too. The government decided to confiscate that issue of Al-Asboo of February 24, 2000 and did not allow the circulation of the paper. This has been considered to be the UNESCO and many local and internation- most flagrant instance of throttling of free



What does **Sharon want?**

he Middle East conflict, as much as the Israelis will try to fool the world otherwise, was born out of the designs of Zionist idealists of the late 19th Century. They wished to reclaim the Kingdom of Solomon on the pretext of finding a national home for the Jewish people, who for centuries had been persecuted wherever they settled.

Whatever the mythical argument that is used to back up such claims, it goes without saying that the last place that the Jews can claim to have been persecuted throughout the period of the "diaspora" was the Middle East. In fact, sizable communities of Jews lived relatively undisturbed amidst many of the Arab States. These were not really states until the second half of this century, and they were created out of the random divisions of colonialist countries that suited their division of the spoils as they rooted out the Ottomans over some four centuries.

In fact many of the Arab Jews prospered and were well-entrenched in the economic regimes that prevailed in the areas they lived. Moreover, there was never any effort by the Jews over this long history since the downfall of the Kingdom of Solomon to "retake" their lost short-lived claim to statehood. Even during the Kingdom of Solomon itself, and his father David before him, Palestine was only subject to a temporary conquest by the "Hebrews", just like so many of the conquests that Palestine underwent by so many other nation, tribes, or empires throughout its ancient and modern history.

Surely history and all the religious scriptures (including the Quran) attest to the fact that the Kingdom of David arose after the Hebrews led by the Prophet-King David (May the peace of Allah be upon him, as he and his son, Solomon are both regarded as revered prophets of Islam) defeated the Philistines, the indigenous population of the land, only to be replaced later by other conquerors, including the Romans and the Byzanitnes.

Thus the Hebrews don't necessarily have an exclusive claim of being the only indigenous people group to Palestine, since the father of the Hebrews and the Arabs, of course, Ibrahim (P) or Abraham, to start with hailed from Iraq. His sons Ishmael (Father of the Arabs) and Isaac (Father of the Hebrews) and their heirs took on a nomadic subsistence.

The sons of Ishmael were fated to be more lucky in finding permanent abodes, whereas the Hebrews were less fortunate, since they wandered, relentlessly, in land that was already inhabited. Sometimes, the Hebrew tribes were held captives by people they encroached upon (such as the Egyptians). The rest is history, none of which ever lends support to Zionist dogma

Yet demagogues of the mentality of Ariel Sharon. continue to try to convince the world that the Palestinians (the Philistines) are a non - existent people, that Palestine was never around, and that Israel, as a state, is a continuous phenomenon.

For some of us, this seems like a serious distortion of history. It may be hard to believe, but this is the type of Zionist dogma, in theory that we see daily on

God forbid that, the All-Mighty should ever con-

The Editor



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are totally monopolized by the state. The Yemeni Constitution states in

Article 41 "Every citizen has the right to participate in the political, economic,

etters to the Za

al media and NGOs, a seminar on expression in the country. "Promoting Independent and Pluralistic

more?

Continued on page 17



the Yemen Times has its own unique place. So, why don't you promote Yemeni culture (and Arabic culture in general) a little

> Stefano Sanna sanna.stefa@tiscalinet.it

Don't slander Israel I have not had a chance to

visit your country, but I know that there are lots more things of import that slandering your neighbors (such as Israel).

Hopefully, we can start to reconcile and live peacefully together.

Len Hoffman lenhoffcpa@yahoo.com

done any transgression, or the suffering of any people for the sake of the well-being of another people. All believers surely must submit to the inalienable iustice of the Lord, All-Mighty (In fact, the Quran considers "Justice" as one of the 99 known names attributed to the Divine).

Ariel Sharon is a demagogue who misunderstands that people cannot be victimized for the sake of a heresy against the Lord, and yet it seems he is set on proving that there is really no such a people as Palestinians.

While Sharon is only being himself, one is also somewhat amazed at how the United States can be so easily swayed to consider such gross moral misconceptions as solid ground on which to base its current Middle East policy.



troops For global peace and security, it is important that countries have open dialogue in all topics and levels, including security matters.

between countries

However, at the same time it is important that the voices of different political parties are heard, so long as they do not insult a religion or culture of any nation or race, so that alienation and tribal conflict is avoided.

We hope that Yemen's government with logic and wisdom overcomes its internal security matters. Kambiz Bassir

tech21@btinternet.com

Re: 'Imminent decline and fall of America'

I had a good laugh at Steven Jones' anti-American diatribe ("The imminent decline and fall of America"). He must be one of our home-grown malcontents. If you want to test his

convictions, just look at his More co-operation is needed

address: California, USA. For Co-operation between two all his denunciations, it seems countries' police forces or secuthat America isn't so bad that he rity forces is not something new feels compelled to leave. The and does not constitute an invalast time I checked, we had no walls keeping people in. sion or deployment of the

Mr. Jones' little editorial is merely "sound and fury signifying nothing." I hope the readers of your excellent paper do not think that he is representative of any portion of America. Most Americans are proud of their country and their standard of living.

Michael Frost mfrost@ optonline.net

More culture articles would be welcomed, please

I'm an Italian student currently studying Arabic literature. I usually read the Yemen Times and other Arabic online newspapers because I want to learn information about the Arab world through Arabic sources. I have some problems in finding news about literature or music or culture in general. Also your journal devotes very little to culture

Among the Arabic online journals in English, I would say



13

Editorial of Palestinian Liberation Organization (Fateh)

The Intifada: A strategy of peace

Declaration of he Principles (D.O.P.), i.e. the Oslo Accord, signed in 1993, introduced a strategy of peace between the P.L.O. and the government of Israel. The agreement did not elicit the required consensus, but later it won the absolute majority. This gave it the momentum it needed to develop into the interim stage during which the PNA, its legislative council, and the President were elected and the negotiations were launched.

In the same year, however, the Israeli electorate rejected the Oslo peace approach when they refused the candidate of the Labor Party, Shimon Peres. Instead, Netenyahu was brought into office as the representative of a party, the Likud, that voted against the Oslo Accord.

1996 uprising

The Palestinian strategy of peace was met with one of war from the Israeli side. In fact, one can think of the September 1996 uprising as a Palestinian reaction to Israeli attempts to abandon their commitments under the Oslo Accord. It was then President Clinton who forced Netenyahu's government to sign the Hebron Protocol. Although the Protocol had more votes in the Knesset than the Oslo Accord did, the Likud representatives remained faithful to their nature.

They showed their disregard for peace when their party launched a campaign to build a settlement on Abu Ghneim Mountain. The step was in line with the Likud's ideology that rejects the dismantling of settlements.

It also denies all the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people including the establishment of a Palestinian state, the return of Jerusalem, or the right of return for the Palestinian refugees - all the basic requirements of peace.

Despite Clinton's efforts that led to the signing of the Wye River Memo, the peace process deteriorated as a result of Netenyahu's government insistence on lowering the expectations of the Palestinian people through the use of force.

Netenyahu left the political scene to be replaced by a Laborite of Likud tendencies- Barak. He adopted his predecessor's policies in trying to lower our expectations. His proposals at Camp David II showed his true intentions after he refused for months to fulfill Israel's obligations under the agreements signed. These proposals were reflected in Clinton's that were originally phrased by the Zionist Denis Ross. They violated different aspects

of UN resolutions. In fact, Barak later into a battlefield. It controlled the roads acknowledged that his proposal concerning Jerusalem was not real, and it was put forward just to know the PNA's position on the issue.

War deepened

The war on the Palestinian people escalated in the aftermath of Sharon's visit to al Aqsa Mosque. The Palestinians reacted in order to stress their desire for a true peace based on international legality. The Intifada has aimed to emphasize the Arab and Islamic character of al Aqsa and Jerusalem in addition to the other basic national principles.

Many observers think that Sharon does not have a political project to offer at the negotiating table. This is not fully true: Sharon has a complete political project that he wants to impose on the Palestinian people. He does not believe in negotiations since he assumes that there isn't an equal partner. But he will not succeed where his predecessor failed.

At Camp David II, President Arafat refused Clinton's proposals that apparently suggested an Israeli withdrawal from 95% of the area of the West Bank. As a matter of fact, Israel was supposed to move its troops out from only 69% of the West Bank area. 26% of the area was left out to be controlled by Israel, and this includes places like Jerusalem, the Dead Sea, the demilitarized zone, and al Latroun. The 69% from which Israel was supposed to withdraw is made up of three cantons in addition to a fourth in Gaza.

No golden opportunity

It is clear that what was offered at Camp David II did not represent a golden opportunity. In comparison, Sharon's political project suggests a withdrawal from 42% of the West Bank area leaving final status issues to be negotiated in a prolonged interim period.

The Israeli military escalation against the peaceful functions of the Intifada elicited a Palestinian military response against the Israeli occupying army and the illegal settlers. This enabled Barak and, later, Sharon to picture the Intifada as part of a military confrontation between two parties. It should be noted here that the right to resist occupation is legitimate in areas internationally endorsed as occupied areas.

Israel has been using its military power in an unequal confrontation to impose Sharon's political project on the Palestinians. For this purpose, Israel turned the Palestinian territories

and practiced all evil acts including the assassination of Intifada activists, the occupation of PNA-controlled areas, and besieging cities and villages.

All these practices failed to undermine the Palestinian steadfastness despite the support Sharon has received from the US Administration. He was allowed to 'tame' the Palestinians during the first hundred days of his government. In addition, the US envoys approved his demand of having seven days of quiet as a prelude for implementing the Mitchell report.

Sharon continued to invent methods for eliciting Palestinian reactions although President Arafat declared a cease-fire and more than seven days passed without any major incidents. He thought that the September 11th events could open the way for him to become a partner in the 'war against terror'.

Explosions well-timed

The explosions in Haifa and Jerusalem could never have been better timed to serve Sharon's interests. The US peace envoy, Zeny, was in the area; Sharon was visiting Washington to meet George Bush; and the US was about to achieve an easy victory in Afghanistan without the need for an Arab support. Killing civilians, i.e. Israel settlers, as a result of a legitimate act of resistance was easily depicted as an act of terrorism whereas the state organized terror of Israel became legal. The Palestinian position became more awkward, especially after the US demanded the PNA to outlaw the military wings of Hamas, the Islamic Jihad, and the PFLP.

The situation deteriorated rapidly after the US adopted the Israeli position concerning 'terrorism'. On his first visit to the area, general Zeny told President Arafat that his mission goes beyond implementing the cease-fire and it ultimately aims to establish a Palestinian state in line with the US's vision. Zeny's second visit coincided with the Jerusalem-Haifa explosions that the US strongly condemned. The allegation that a Palestinian weapon shipment was on its way from Iran to the PNA complicated the situation although the PNA denied any connection to the ship.

The issue of the weapon shipment was seen as a violation of the peace agreements from the US and Israeli identical perspectives. However, if the fulfilling of obligations towards the peace agreements is the criterion upon which the US passes its judgement, what about the Israeli insistence on adopting a strategy of war and aggres-



sion against the Palestinian people? President Arafat declared on more than one occasion our adherence to the peace agreements signed with Israel. But this should not be read as a sign of weakness or surrender.

The Intifada is an integral part of the Palestinian peace strategy since it represents the only way of defending the rights that Sharon's government persists in denying. It will remain so as long as Israel uses its arsenal to impose its version of peace that has no relevance to the UN resolutions. As a matter of fact, the Israeli flagrant violation of the peace agreements makes it unethical for any party to accuse the PNA of harboring terrorism on the false pretext of ordering a weapon shipment.

If Sharon's government aims to destroy the possibility of future coexistence, it becomes a Palestinian responsibility to ensure that our peace strategy forbids the harming of Israeli civilians. This is in line with our Islamic heritage, and there is no justification for following the example of Sharon's heinous aggression. We have the right to obtain weapons that we can use against Israeli tanks and fighter planes but not against Israeli civilians.

Settling old scores

Sharon and the US managed to invest the question of the weapon shipment and placed much of the responsibility on President Arafat personally. Sharon found a golden opportunity to settle old scores with Arafat after twenty years of the battle of Beirut when he was dismissed from the Israeli ministry of war.

In his last visit, general Zeny found that the Israeli National Security Council offered the political leadership two options that specify the military strategy to be followed:

To deal with Arafat as a leader who cannot conclude an agreement, but not to harm him personally. The Council called for adopting a scenario of continued pressure on Arafat to force him

out of the Territories as a first step of replacing him with a more realistic leader

To place pressure on Arafat in coordination with the US Administration, assuming that Arafat would not make a strategic decision to fight terrorism, but he would adopt tactical measures that would lead to relative quiet. Israel in this case will be able to impose an interim solution to be completed later with a new leadership.(Aluf Ben, Haaretz, 5/1/2002)

Option 2

It seems that Sharon has adopted the second option excluding the first option since he knows from his experience that Arafat's expulsion will only flare up the Intifada. The option he adopted is in line with the US current policy that wants neither to harm Arafat nor to destroy the PNA. However, the public support that Arafat has received made Sharon modify his plan that is based on the following:

• To keep Arafat within the range of the Israeli fire;

• To carry out demands that Arafat would not do to maintain the national unity that Sharon aims to harm;

· To reoccupy parts of the PNA-controlled areas, a step that no longer attracts the attention of the US Administration nor that of the leaders of the Arab neighboring countries;

• To control most of the PNA-controlled areas leaving an area of 5-10% from area (A) to prepare the grounds for implementing Sharon's plot.

This plot is based on the following points:

• To sign a new agreement that nullifies all previous ones, but it will have the same terms of reference;

• To declare the state of Palestine with its temporary borders in areas A&B (42% of the West Bank area plus the Gaza Strip);

• To put a time line for an interim period during which the final status issues would be negotiated;

• The US Administration will pledge that the final borders of the state of Palestine are those of 4/6/1967 and what can be agreed on through negotiations including Jerusalem;

• To cease all forms of violence and incitement.

Israel and the US assume that what the Palestinian people might reject now will become later acceptable in better conditions to be prepared by some of those who wish to succeed Arafat. Should we therefore allow the plot to proceed until the last castle is broken through? The answer is no. We should not allow the Israeli elephant, Sharon, to destroy our china shop nor that of the Israeli people. After all, the two peoples know the advantages of living in peace and harmony.

Foreign delegations needed

It is the responsibility of all the forces in the Palestinian society to turn the current state of emergency into one of confrontation. This requires an emergency central committee comprised of all forces not forgetting the desirable effect that the presence of foreign delegations would have on the international community. The areas to be reoccupied are those where the confrontation should occur although it might be bloody for the Israeli side. The Israeli society has to raise its voice against Sharon whose criminal acts bring hate and disasters.

To defend our national project, we have to maintain our right to resistance, strengthen our national unity, end political detention and release all prisoners who might be arrested by Israel.

Disillusioned are those who think that a positive response to the demands of Sharon and Zeny will end Sharon's greed. 'Hell' is the name of the Israeli army's current operation, and it is an indicative name since it echoes our understanding of hell on the judgement day when hell keeps on asking for more; it never gets satisfied- like Sharon.

Trans-Atlantic rift gets more serious

David Ignatius International Herald Tribune

PARIS-Maybe it's because this is an election year in many European countries and politicians here are more likely to make inflammatory remarks. Or maybe it's because America - at once victorious and vulnerable after its Afghan success - is talking belligerently as it gropes toward the next phase of its war against terrorism.

Whatever the causes, the rift between the United States and its European "allies" is getting serious. You could hear the NATO alliance tearing at the seams on Tuesday as Germany's foreign minister, Joschka Fischer, denounced the Bush administration's anti-terrorism policy and warned that Europeans will refuse to be treated like "satellite" states.

Jousting

The jousting continued Thursday as Secretary of State Colin Powell was quoted in the Financial Times as saying that the French foreign minister, Hubert Vedrine, was "getting the vapors" when he criticized U.S. foreign policy as "simplistic."

.For President George W. Bush, it must be a relief to be heading across the Pacific this weekend, toward Asia and away from those pesky Europeans. At least Beijing supports his anti-terrorism policy.

Euro-American friction as simply a dispute over Bush's "axis-grinding" State of the Union speech. Or to believe that, in the memorable words of the prison warden in "Cool Hand Luke" to Paul Newman: "What we have here is a failure to communicate.'

But I fear it's something considerably worse. What is driving a wedge between the United States and Europe isn't simply a lack of dialogue but a growing divergence of interests and capabilities. If this imbalance is not addressed quickly, both sides will soon find themselves on very unstable ground.

Bad marriage

The imbalance begins with military power. The United States is getting stronger, relative to Europe. It's like a marriage that has gotten out of sync with one partner feeling left behind as the other becomes more successful.

The new generation of U.S. military technology on display in Afghanistan is years ahead of what Europe has today or is willing to pay for in the future. From this strategic imbalance flows everything else: America doesn't need Europe to help fight its war in Afghanistan; and Europe couldn't help much anyway, even if it wanted to. European defense planners are concentrating their limited resources on building their own modest strike force, outside NATO. Militarily, these allies may

It is tempting to regard the recent not need each other.

Military pygmy

This growing mismatch was the unspoken theme of this month's gathering of defense experts in Munich. The NATO secretary general, Lord Robertson, said it out loud when he warned that Europe could soon become a "military pygmy." But there's no sign the Europeans are willing to pay for the necessary growth hormone.

The fact is, the mercurial Europeans aren't even America's key diplomatic allies anymore. Since Sept. 11, that role has been played by Russia's president, Vladimir Putin.

So how to save the aging Euro-American marriage before either spouse does something really stupid? One thing that would help is if each side tried to understand what is motivating the other's anxieties.

What Europeans don't understand is how much America was changed by Sept. 11. The example I use to explain this transformation to my European friends is my parents' neighborhood in Washington. Before Sept. 11, you would have had trouble finding an American flag in this comfortable suburb. Today, the stars and stripes are flying above almost every door.

American patriotism is so loud and self-congratulatory in ordinary times that it's hard for Europeans to realize that this time it really is different. Americans feel that they are at war. They feel vulnerable. They want to destroy the enemy before the enemy destroys them. Europeans may find that kind of thinking simplistic, but they can't wish it away.

Now turn over the coin: Americans don't understand that Europeans have been fighting terrorism for decades. The British coped with IRA bombs in the center of London; the French lived with bombs in the Metro and assassins in the streets; the Spaniards continue to face regular bombings by Basque terrorists. The Europeans don't need lectures about fighting terrorism; they've lived it.

Caught in fallout

Americans also fail to understand how vulnerable Europeans feel because of their own growing Muslim populations. It is easy for America, across the water, to talk about bombing Iraq and Iran. But Europeans worry they will be caught in the fallout.

Paradoxically, the struggle against terrorism is one of the few issues that could unite these wayward allies. The challenge now is to identify and destroy Al Qaeda's networks of sleeper agents in Europe and the United States. The Europeans won't have to spend billions on new defense hardware. All that's required is that America and Europe work together on intelligence operations and police work. It's certainly a cheaper option than divorce.





Sana'a Haddah Road, PO Box 1287 Sana'a, Republic of Yes ephone: 967 1 264081/2/3/4 Facsimile: 967 1 263059

British Embassy Sana'a / Trade Partners UK **Commercial Section** The Place for Business

The British Embassy is seeking Commercial Section Staff to work on one year renewable contracts. Have you got what it takes to promote trade between the UK and Yemen?

Do you have:

Fluent written/spoken English and Arabic? A dynamic, self-starting personality and the ability to develop an in depth understanding of market opportunities in Yemen? the ability to make a significant contribution in a small team and project a professional image of the Commercial Section at all levels? Familiarity with computers?

A car?

If the answer to all these questions is yes, you may be the person we are looking for. As an LEIII Commercial Officer you will enjoy a good pay and benefits package, opportunities to travel within Yemen, and occasionally to other countries in the region and to UK. Salary \$500-700 per month. Opportunity for promotion.

Interested? Obtain an application form from the British Embassy, Hadda Road,

Only applications on the Embassy's form will be considered. Please do not include your own CV. Applications must be received by 15 March.

Culture



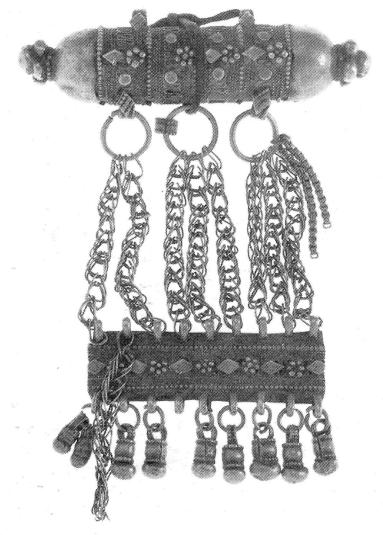
Silver-smithery: Sublimity of the great art

ilver-smithery is one of the oldest and the most popular handicrafts in Yemen. It has been handed down from one generation to another. Well-known places in silvermaking can be found in many different cities in Yemen including Shabwa, particularly in al-Awalek district, which is our focus in this interview. The silversmiths in the al-Awalek are well-known for their dexterity which is deeply rooted in the past.

chests or foreheads and still be worn by women in some villages of the countrv.

Yemen Times has met up with one of the prominent silversmith in al-Awalek, who gained a good reputation in silver-smithery. Following is an edited copy of their conversation.

Q: Silver-smithery is one of the technical and significant handicrafts. How do you find this job? A: Actually, it is laborious job which



They make beautiful types and antique forms. They make very beautiful rings, necklaces, medals, Yemeni swords, etc. Lots of people tend to decorate their Jambias with golden pieces.

Many tourists are fascinated to see all these things in Yemen and they appreciate such talented people. This is evident from the fact that they sometimes stand for hours looking at these people working in a state of meditation.

needs a creative mind. It should be molded in accordance with different tastes which suits any admirer. There are several silver drawings which can be molded with a special solder and liquid material used for linking pieces and forms together to get any attractive form.

Q: Are there any other industries in which silver can be used?

A: Silver-smithery is used in jewelry The trade of silver was restricted to and used also in different industries some skilled people and has became a such as the making of guns, heads of

A: There are of course several different names in each district of Yemen. In al-Walek district, we call jewelry which are put by women on their faces Ganagen Woozek. Others worn on their chest are called Lazem or Khetr which are similar to necklaces, and there are also jewelry which is worn on women's waists, termed in our country as Zemam, Mushalshal or Raggashat. There are also circle-like jewelry which used to be worn by old women on their humerus, and is still be worn in some villages.

Q: But what we see these days is that silver-smithery is somewhat different from that of the past. How do explain this?

A: As I have said earlier, tastes are different from that of the past and each one has his own way and taste. In the past for instance, the bride used to wear a lot of jewelry in different parts of her body, such as, her heads, arm, fingers, chest, humerus and even in her legs. but we see now is the opposite. Women wear light jewelry and in order to be attractive. We can say that time and place is the major difference of the past and the present.

Q: Silver-smithy is very popular here in Yemen, does it have a good

demand in the Gulf States?

A: Frankly speaking, there is a good demand inside the country more than that the outside. The majority of people here in Yemen prefer to buy jewelry rather than gold. Yemenis who travel abroad whether in the Gulf States or the other countries of the world constitute a good thing for exporting our valuable silverware to these countries.

Q: What are the different materials used for silver-smithery including the traditional and the modern ones?

A: To talk about the silver-smithery is a long process. But we are here don't use the traditional way of silver-smithery. It has been handed down from our ancestors. We use special herbs to polish silver which is mixed with lemon and then together with silver pieces. Then, we dry them and put them inside powder. We are still use the traditional way in silver-smithery which is preferred by all.

Q: Any last comments?

A: I thank the Yemen Times for its limitless efforts in taking care of the Yemeni heritage in general. Without its efforts, many people in Yemen would not know the tremendous treasures we have in our homeland.

Where the streets have no name

A Canadian in Yemen:

t was Day 8 of my life as a foreigner in Yemen as I sat in a dilapidated cargo office at the international airport in Sana'a. Here I am, one more person living in this place of one million souls.

Yemen is among the oldest inhabited regions of the world. And I'm likely the only one with a Canada hockey cap.

On a wall in the airport office is a dated poster advertising a regional airline. Pictured, as if looking through an airliner cockpit, are popular global destina-

tions, including New York's Statue of Liberty with a prominent backdrop of the World Trade Center's Twin Towers.

'Fly with us' "Fly with us and see the world," says the ad, somewhat innocently.

A clerk is filling out papers so I can collect my cargo that's arrived from Canada. He pleasantly asks if I prefer my form to be filled out in English or Arabic.

"English," I say. "Are you American?" he then asks.

"Canadian," I respond. He smiles and nods, "Canadian

okay. Better than American. I glance at the poster and recall a

meaningful visit I once made to New York over an Easter weekend. A friend who grew up in Brooklyn, one of New York's districts, had showed me his hometown. It was a lifetime away.

Back at the cargo office, amidst bustling activity and overwhelmingly loud interactions, a manager informs me I need to return "tomorrow" because the office is about to close for the day. It was just 11:30 in the morning.

Thankfully an insider arrives to my aid, and after a couple of hours of paper shuffling, a dozen signatures, several payments and trips between office and shipping building, my bins of personal belongings are released to me

Why the delay?

"I am the computer," is the comment from a clerk at my last stop, while he printed my file in a large ledger.

Westerners? With 20 million people and 60 million guns, even if most are for show, it seems like America's old Wild West. In places like Canada, Yemen is known for incidents such as the 2000

bombing of the USS Cole. That Osama bin Laden has roots here doesn't help Yemen's image.

So what is a Canadian to make of

this ancient place that, until recently,

has existed in oblivion to many

Still, I believe there's more to this country than accounts of inefficiency and violence. That's what my New York City friend told me as he

showed me the slums of his New York home on that Easter weekend. "You have to look past what you see to know what it's really like here," he said.

After attending an Easter church service with him, in the heart of what had previously been the most foul part of New York's Times Square, I understood

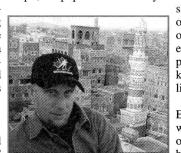
his point. People are people. And while cultural change can be painfully slow, history shows it does happen. In Yemen's case, while it's clear America is not loved here, I think of the trust that is developing. It's reported the U.S. is offering it up to \$800 million, largely to bolster Yemen's national security, and that is nothing to turn away from.

I'm impressed also that Yemen is a fledgling democracy. Its government is not perfect, and needs to held to high standards. But Yemen has, at least on paper, rights such as freedom of the press, something unheard of in neighboring countries.

Happy Arabia

I've also discovered the value of treating foreigners kindly is deeply engrained here. In fact, this region has been known for centuries as Happy Arabia. It reminds me of Newfoundland, an east-coast province in Canada that is poor economically, but rich in spirit. It has among Canada's friendliest people.

Interestingly, Yemen is from where the Queen of Sheba came, seeking Solomon's wisdom. And 2000 years ago, the mrryh and frankincense given to the Christ Child by wise men from the East, in all likelihood, originated here. These commodities from southern Arabia were highly valued



-Thomas Froese

source of income for most silver smiths. Coins were made of silver and among these is the Ryal which was termed at that time as Maria Treza. It was used to be worn by women on their

Jambias and other industries.

Q: There are several names of jewelry in your district. Can you tell us some of these names?



A Donkey's Diary A story by Ali Ahmed Qubatti's

Today: no

This morning my owner led me to the farm because, as he said, oxen became more expensive; therefor, he must use the donkey, (i.e) me instead of them.

I thought of that for a long time. I couldn't refuse, for if I refused he would use the came as usual. I went out following him in farm, and the hand labor started. It was not easy to work, because I was in need of practice because of the unjusted small trenches of the ground. As a result whenever I diverted left or right, he lashed me till my legs bled.

Today: yes

I heard on the radio that a society called "The Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals" had been formed. On hearing this, my owner trembled frightfully. But he commented: "This society didn't represent lords of labor rather than a group of these who didn't

own tools of production." So he wouldn't attend meetings of that society, because it didn't represent

When I heard the news soon I went out to hang a sticker on my leg "Let lashes of injustice end forever".

Today: An attitude

anyone but itself.

I met a friend loaded with bags of flour. He talked to me cheerfully about what that society represented and that he collected donkeys to demonstrate in front of the society to claim a reduction in labor hours.

Today: Who?

I refused to eat my fodder which is less than enough to feed a lamb. How about me who worked form 5 A.M. to nightfall, bearing lash stings while I hit the ground with my feet? My master grew more angry when he saw my legs not moving in spite of their pain. He felt tired of beating me, so he left the

swallowed them quickly. I felt sympathy for him, therefore I went out with him

Today: why?

My master ordered me not to take part in the demonstration with other donkeys promising to answer my claims. It was not wise to stand against those who provided you with enough food.

Then he added if I behaved wrongly, he would stop giving me food for three days. As he said that, jesters had nothing to admit, except shouting and sweeping thoughts of present and future of donkeys thinking that would pave the way to control donkeys and lead them in a way that served their interests

Near the well a quarrel took place between representatives of the society and donkeys' owner of donkeys. You don't care for their hunger but

yard to bring another can of seeds. I you care for their production. You order them to obey you, but neglect your duties towards them. As if the game won't pass because they are more attentive than you, guess till they get their rights completely.

We donkey's owners know them well more than you do. You are merely a group of paupers wishing to exploit donkeys by the name of donkeys. Such injustice should continue no more. You should be fought.

Today: the end of 11

Till now I still think of what should be done. All began to feel weak points in donkey's lives. But the last decision should be taken into consideration. I think the recent struggle is for our interests, those of us, the donkeys, especially when fodder is served generously.

Translated by: Sa'ad Sharif Tahir

Another local puts it this way, "We have a very good administrative system, but a very stupid management system."

"In sha'a 'llah"

It was a good introduction to the concept of "in sha'a 'llah," an expression I'm discovering means, definitely yes, 'definitely no,' or any shade in between. Yemen runs on its own clock.

With the help of a Korean doctor friend, I finally get my cargo onto a beaten Toyota 4x4 and we make our way through this city's dusty streets. As a Westerner, it's a discovery to see women covered head-to-toe in their black baltas, and men with their jambias.

As a Canadian, I'm also taken aback by the poverty. Considering life is harder outside the capital, I see why Yemen ranks 150th on the UN's human development scale. I'm saddened to learn the average lifespan here is just 56 years.

I also see why Yemen's rate of traffic deaths is among the world's highest. I'm told there are 14 streetlights in Sana'a and it seems half don't work. I'm not familiar with the many intersections that run on a first-honk, first-drive basis.

My doctor friend and I reach home safely. My wife Jean Chamberlain-Froese, is also a doctor, a Canadian obstetrician who is here to help save the lives of the many Yemeni women who are dying during childbirth. She and I live on a typical Sana'a side street. Like many roads, it has no name.

throughout the ancient civilized world for their pleasing aroma.

Is it reasonable to think, then, Yemen will ever again leave this type of sweetness for others to enjoy? The answer. I suspect, will be determined by how much the West and East can co-operate for the good of both.

American human rights activist Booker T. Washington says it well in his biography Up from Slavery, "that one of the most vital questions that touch our American life is how to bring the strong, wealthy and learned into helpful touch with the poorest, most ignorant and humblest, and at the same time make one appreciate the vitalizing, strengthening influence of the other."

He asks, "How shall we make the mansion on Beacon Street feel and see the need of the spirits in the lowliest cabin in Alabama cotton fields or Louisiana sugar-bottoms?"

For the West, this same question remains: How will we make today's mansions of the developed world feel the need of the spirits of the lowliest places, in the proverbial cabins and cotton fields of places like Yemen? Will Westerners even try to tug on the trousers of our influential, or offer our own services when we have something of value?

Likewise, will Yemen be receptive to help when it is offered? Or will they allow their own fears and stereotypes of the West to close the door on people who can help them have a unique position in the Arab world?

Thomas Froese, (140765@sympatico.ca) is a YemenTimes editor.



Health/Environment

First benevolent medical camp now going in Sada

By Sa'ad Sharif Taher **Yemen Times Staff**

eneral hospitals and medical centers in remote rural areas provide poor or inferior medical services compared with hospitals in big cities; therefore, sick people rarely get full care.

So it's a welcome move that Dr Abdulnasser al-Minibari, the Health minister has proposed what is called "The Benevolent Medical Camp" to offer better medical services to such people. This includes major surgical operations and free medicine.

Orders were given to al-Thawra hospital in Sana'a to organize staff of different specialized doctors toward this end.

The idea was used in Abyan last October and now another group has been serving in Martyr Ali Abdul-Mughni hospital in Saddah, since earlier this month

Dr. Mohammed Saleh Abdul-Mughni, director of the hospital said: "We prepared a sterilized hall for operations and up to February 9, 69 major surgeries have been performed. In addition to operations, large quantities of medicine are also being offered

freely. If there were another anaesthetic set, two operations could be done at the same time.

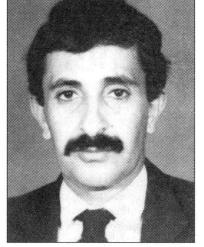
Q: What did the visit paid by H.E. Minister of health signify? A: We were highly honored by his

visit on 4th Feb. 2002 because as far as I feel it had a pleasant echo in the region and to our personnel in particu-

He promised to look into all our needs of equipment, medicines and adding extra doctors.

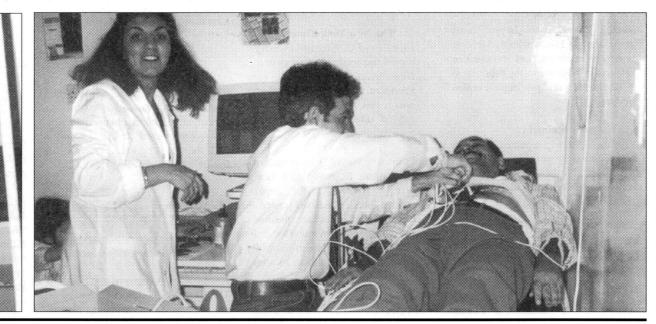
Q: What are your future projects? A: We are working to establish nursing schools with boarding houses to both male and females students, we are also trying to expand our room to 20 beds, in addition to offering additional staff and new machines.

O: What's your last word? A: We are very grateful to the minister and we highly appreciate his gener-



visit and our thanks to Dr.Mohammed Fadhil, general director of financial affairs and supplies for providing us with much X-ray films.





Dr. Yuriko of JICA to the YT: "I hope the history of our collaboration will be a history of combating TB in Yemen"

ore than three million people are killed by TB, one of the most frightening diseases in the world, every year. In Yemen, about 15,000 TB

patients are detected and treated. Many international organizations have been working hard to help Yemen decrease the rate of TB patents since years. One of these major organization has been Japan **International Cooperation Agency** (JICA) which has an office in Sana'a.

As far as TB control is concerned a lot of Japanese health experts have been sent to Yemen last of whom was Dr. Yuriko Egami who left Yemen last week after two years and a half of great and sincere efforts in the field of TB control.

Ms Yuriko Egami is a doctor with a specialty of International Health. After her post-graduate training in Pediatrics for six years, she learned

YT - When did you come to Yemen?

I came to Yemen for the first time in January 1999 as a short-term consultant. Then, since August 1999 I stayed in Yemen for two-and-a- half years.

YT - What are the things that you have been doing?

My assignment as a Chief Advisor of the Yemen TB Control Project (third phase) is to give technical and managerial advice on TB control to the National TB Control Program (NTP), Ministry of Public Health and Population (MoPHP).

YT - Can you give us some idea about Tuberculosis and its control? Tuberculosis (TB) is regarded as one

of the most frightening diseases in the world, and more than three million people are killed by TB every year.

In Yemen, about 15,000 TB patients

patient with MDR-TB. So, the most important in TB control is to complete the treatment by taking anti-TB drugs everyday until the end of the course, and to cure the patients so as to avoid emergence of MDR-TB.

The current strategy for TB control is called DOTS (Directly-Observed Treatment, Short-course), which more than 200 countries have adopted globally

There are five components of DOTS which are essential to achieve successful TB control program. The most important is (1) management of the patients, i.e. to make sure that patients take medicine, by watching the patients taking the drug in front of health workers everyday which also allows better communication and reliability of health staff and patients.

The concept is that it is the responsibility of health staff, not patients, to complete the treatment.

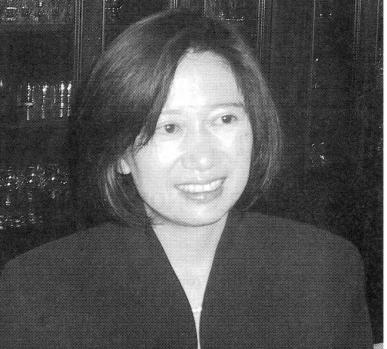
Other components are; (2) political are detected and treated. We have commitment to TB control by the Government, (3) diagnosis and follow up of the patients by sputum smear exam which is economic and reliable The next target method to confirm the patients excrete the Mycobacteria, (4) stable and timely drug supply system with adequate amount of stocks, and (5) recording and reporting system which allows us to evaluate the treatment outcome of the patients. DOTS strategy is effective in curing available in one district in Yemen. The

more TB patients and in controlling the emergence of MDR through preventing patients default, as well as to enable the program evaluation by patient's management with reporting.

Good results

Since 1995 when the Ministry of Public Health of Yemen adopted DOTS strategy NTP has obtained prominent results with its continuous efforts and the partners' supports. NTP, MoPHP are responsible for TB control in all of Yemen, and they are making efforts to expand DOTS strategy to enable good TB control services for the people in Yemen.

They maintain the national policy, get budgets, procure and distribute anti-TB drugs, train health staff, and collect data of the patients for cohort analysis to find out the outcome of the patients (how many % are cured). In each Governorate, one Governorate TB Coordinator (GTC) is responsible for implementing all the activities in TB control of the respective Governorate.



Public Health and have been working in this field, in Djibouti, Honduras (Central America), Geneva, Bangladesh and Yemen, with an NGO, WHO (World Health Organization), and JICA.

The Yemen Times met her just a few days before she returned to Tokyo after finishing her contract and filed the following interview:

effective drugs for TB, and patients have to take these medicines as indicated by health staff at least eight months to be cured, even cough or fever stops a few weeks after taking drugs. If a patient stops taking drugs before the period, there is a chance of Mycobacterium getting resistant to many anti-TB drugs (which is called multi-drugs resistance (MDR)-TB) and it costs thousands of dollars to treat a

I have been working with NTP, MoPHP to support above-mentioned activities for better TB control services to Yemen, at both central and Governorate level. Until 2001, we expanded DOTS strategy so that at least one unit for TB control would be

The Budget allocation from JICA to The National Tuberculosis Control in Yemen

1. Project Type Technical Cooperation

The Input from JICA

	Project Phase I	Project Phase II	Individual Experts	Project Phase III	Total
Period of Cooperation	1983/ 9 / 1 to 1992 / 8 / 31 (9 years)	1993 / 2 / 21 to 1998 / 2 / 20 (5 years)	1998 / 2 / 26 to 1999 / 8 / 5 (1.5 years)	1999 / 8 / 6 to 2002 / 3 / 31 (2.6 years)	(17.3 years)
Mission Team (times)	9	5	2	1	17
JICA Expert (> 1 year)	15	4	1	3	23
JICA Expert (< 1 year)	16	20	5	13	54
Yemeni Trainee in Japan	40	14	1	14	69
Equipment provided (JY)	246,475,000	133,564,000	4,267,000	81,522,000	465,828,000
Running Budget (JY)				37,366,600	Until 4/2002

2. Grant Aid

1986	Construction of National Tuberculosis Institute (Sana'a)	JY 918 Million	
1987	Construction of Tuberculosis Centers (Hodeidah, Taiz)	JY 1,080 M.	
1991	Expansion of National Tuberculosis Project	JY 580 M.	
2000	Aden Tuberculosis Center (Plan)	JY 564 M.	

next target is to expand DOTS to all

peripheral health facilities so that TB

control services will be much closer to

YT - When did the TB control pro-

The Japanese government started

collaboration with the TB program in

the Yemen Arab Republic in 1983,

where we established the basis of a

national TB Control, foundation of

these TB Centers, and human resource

After the unification of North and

South, the second phase started in 1993

where we focused on integration of

NTP to Primary Health Care system as well as intensification of the TB pro-

gram in the southern area. The third

phase started in August 1999 and will

be continued until August 2004. The

Japanese Government has continuous-

ly supported the Project with strong

back up by JATA (Japan Anti-TB

YT - How much has been spent on

The provision of equipment has been

at JY 466 Million. Unfortunately I

has so far been JY 2500 Million plus

sending Japanese experts (69) and

Mission teams (17), and Yemeni

have no idea about the running cost. The Grant Aid project for TB centers

TB control (from the Japanese

the people.

gram begin?

development.

Association).

Government)?

trainees to Japan (63).

YT - How many Yemenis have been trained in Japan in the field of TB?

63 trainees since 1983 up to now. (see table)

YT - What is your advice to the **Ministry of Health in Yemen?**

First of all, I would wish that Ministry staff would work for patients and people, so that better health services may come closer to the people.

The Ministry of Health in Yemen takes a very good initiative in donor's coordination. Each agency has its own strategy for support, and I would wish that the Ministry might get more ideas about which agency wants what kind of support. We are always suggesting the idea that the Japanese Government would like to support in which manner. By knowing this, the Ministry can maximize the support of donors and agencies.

Better TB Control Program in Yemen and its sustainability may rest in expanding our partnership to advocate TB control policies, to raise awareness and demand for effective TB control and to assist in the delivery of resources and services.

I believe that early this century we will witness the expansion of effective TB control in Yemen through our partnerships. I hope the history of our collaboration will be a history of combating TB in Yemen, at a time when TB is one of the biggest health problems in the world.

World Press Review

Germany

Giscard d'Estaing on the attendants to

work out a "Constitution for Europe".

He urged 105 representatives of

European national governments and

parliaments as well as the European Parliament and the European commis-

sion to work for the convention's suc-

Die Welt

The situation of the Bundeswehr

(German Defense Force) is more cata-

strophic than what was known. An

investigation report obtained by this

newspaper comes to the conclusion

that "the troops no longer stand before

the military leadership without reser-

Nigeria

The following are major news items

Vanguard

The European Union (EU) has raised

an objection to the proposed plan by

the Nigerian federal government to

ban importation of about 20 items

from the EU this year. The objection

based on their belief that the proposed

ban would reduce the volume of trade

between Nigeria and their countries

The Punch

Experts from the United States has set

up a base at the Ikeja Military

Cantonment, preparatory to their clean

up of remnants of exploded bombs fol-

lowing January bomb blasts.

and contradict a World Trade treaty.

by EU member countries was

in leading Nigerian newspapers.

cess.

vation."

leading German newspapers.



Major news items in leading international newspapers

Japan

The following are major news items in leading Japanese newspapers.

Asahi, Yomiuri, Nihon Keizai A report on a Foreign Ministry inhouse investigation will admit to Liberal Democratic Party lawmaker Muneo Suzuki's deep involvement in government assistance projects on four Russian-held

islands off Hokkaido, ministry sources said Friday.

Asahi

Starzen Co., Japan's largest meat wholesaler, on Friday admitted having fabricated labels for beef and chicken products in addition to the fabrication of labels for pork products revealed Wednesday.

Mainichi

A war-displaced Japanese woman from China was reunited with her older brother at the Health Ministry in Tokyo on Friday, ministry officials said.

Yomiuri

Snow Brand Milk eyes establishing a joint holding company with JA group to take over milk business.

Philippines

The following are major news items in leading Philippine newspapers.

The Philippine Star

The Philippine anti-graft court special division deferred on Saturday for two weeks the trial of the plunder case of detained former President Joseph Estrada to give his seven newly appointed lawyers time to prepare for his defense.

Today

Field training in the ongoing

US

The following are major news items in leading U.S. newspapers.

The Washington Post

U.S. President Bush has dispatched a shadow government of about 100 senior civilian managers to live and work secretly outside Washington, activating for the first time long-standing plans to ensure survival of federal rule after catastrophic attack on the nation's capital.

The New York Times

- Eighteen of U.S. energy industry's top 25 financial contributors to the Republican Party advised Vice President Dick Cheney's national energy task force last year, according to interviews and election records.
- In the first strong Democratic criticism of the Bush administration's war on terrorism, the Senate majority leader and two powerful committee chairman are questioning whether the White House is expanding its military efforts without a clear explanation of its aims.

Philippine-U.S. joint military exercises in the southern Philippines will be held

in a village in the southern city of Zamboanga instead of the nearby island of Basilan to ensure greater safety of the participants ..

Manila Bulletin

President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo on Friday abolished 83 out of 97 government agencies and task forces in an attempt to scale down the bloated and still-growing government bureaucracy.

nexen Vacancy

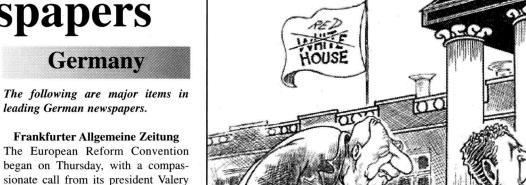
AIR CONDITIONING TECHNICIAN

Yemeni Nationals

Qualified A/C Technician is required in our Masila Block Operation – Hadhramout Govt., Yemen. This job will be based on rotational schedule (28 days on / 28 days off).

Job Duties:

Carries out repairs to stand alone A/C units on variable speed drives (VSD) in the filed. Includes



Pakistan

The following are major news items in leading Pakistani English newspapers.

The Nation

Pakistan on Friday regretted the loss of life and property in the communal killings in Indian state of Gujarat and termed as "ridiculous and irresponsible" the Indian Defence Minister's allegation that ISI was behind these disturbances.

The News

The United States has handed over to

Britain

fellow traveler injured in religious violence in India that has killed almost

Financial Times

in leading British newspapers.

British Prime Minister accepted for the first time on Friday that British troops may have to remain in charge of Afghanistan's international security force after the April deadline set by Britain.

The Daily Telegraph British Prime Minister Tony Blair paved the way for Peter Mandelson to return to high office on Friday after virtually-apologizing for sacking him as Northern Ireland secretary.

The Independent A British Muslim holiday maker is believed to have been murdered and a

Turkey

The following are major news items into the Turkish People's democratic

Courtesy: Arab News

Egypt

The following are major news items in leading Egyptian newspapers.

Al Ahram

Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak chaired a cabinet meeting Thursday to tackle issues pertaining to his visit to the United States set for Saturday, especially the Middle East peace process and bilateral economic cooperation.

Al Akhbar

President Mubarak Thursday met with European Union foreign policy chief Jovier Solana over the outcome of the EU official's talks with Palestinian, Israeli and Saudi officials on the situation in the region, and European initiatives to be adopted by EU leaders during their Barcelona summit set for March 15-16.

Al Gomhuria

Egyptian Foreign Minister Ahmed Maher denied on Thursday reports that Cairo was mediating a meeting between Saudi Arabia and Israel at the request of Tel Aviv.

The Egyptian Gazette

President Mubarak on Thursday received a telephone call from Libyan leader Muammar Gaddafi and dicussed with him the current deterioration in the Middle East as well as other issues of mutual concern.

South Africa

The following are major news items in leading South African newspapers.

Saturday Star The government and the South African

The following are major news items 300 people. Two other Britons in the

struction' national army.

same party are missing. The Times

Pakistan a draft memorandum of

understanding (MOU) to formalize and

further extend cooperation between the

two countries to curb international ter-

The Frontier Post

Efforts continue to rehabilitate the

Afghan Army, as the defence ministry

has reappointed 27 Afghan generals

and top military officials who had per-

formed duties under Zahir Shah regime

and later in successive communist gov-

ernments as leaders of the 'under con-

rorism and terrorist networks.

Scotland Yard is proposing a middle way option of on-the-spot fines for cannabis possession amid growing unease within the police over the controversial "softly-softly" approach pioneered in London.

The Guardian

An urgent warning was issued Friday night to British politicians and their staff after packages containing a toxic substance were intercepted by Scotland Yard en route to the prime minister and a Scottish MP.

- inspecting equipment, evaluating nature of problem, obtaining spare parts if necessary, carrying out repairs using basic hand tools and a variety of operational equipment, using oxy-acetylene welding equipment, as applicable, replacing refrigeration and vacuum gauges, purging refrigeration lines with nitrogen, attaching vacuum pump and refilling system with required gas.
- b. Carries out planned maintenance. Includes visiting unit, replacing or cleaning filters, checking control panel and wiring etc, checking tension and condition of belt, checking fire and manual dampers. checking level of refrigerating coolant if necessary, checking thermostat settings, closing up unit and returning unit to service. Carries out own electrical isolation as necessary.
- Carries out repairs to walk-in freezers and chillers in the camp. Includes assessing nature of the problem, c. obtaining parts as necessary, carrying out repair using a variety of hand tools and equipment, and handing unit back to user.
- d. Repairs water coolers, domestic fridge-freezers and ice-making machines following standard repair procedures.
- e. Carries out other similar or related duties such as assisting automotive shop mechanics in carrying out auto repairs as required, repairing and maintaining extracting fans on kitchen roof, and providing assistance to electrical technicians during peak loads.

Minimum Requirements:

- a. Completion of Secondary (Technical) education followed by two years' full-time formal training in air conditioning/electrical trades with 4 years of A/C maintenance experience.
- b. Commenced hands on training for work order and permit procedures.
- d. Good English skills.
- e. Valid Yemeni driving license.

If you have the above requirements, please send your CV to the following address NOT later than March 25, 2002.

> **Canadian Nexen petroleum Yemen Human Resources** P. O. Box 15137 Sana'a, Republic of Yemen Fax No. 01-269899 **Attention: Senior Supervisor, Human Resources**

Please don't call us, we will call you if you were selected for test and interview.

in leading Turkish newspapers

Hurriyet (Freedom) The relations between Turkey and Greece are being shadowed by a request from the Greek General Staff

and Foreign Ministry that the "Strait of Istanbul" be renamed as "Bosphorus Strait" and written in the NATO document.

Turkish authorities regarded this move of Athens as "arrogant" and "very unfriendly."

Milliyet (National)

The European Parliament (EP) has called on Turkey to stop interrogations

India

The following are major news items in leading Indian newspapers.

The Times of India

Riots, arson, mob rule and mass murders, all targeted against the minority community, continued well into the day on Friday all over the west state of Gujarat. The death toll after two days of governmental inaction shot up to 250.

The Hindu

A joint appeal, issued Friday night after a meeting between Prime Minister Atal Behari Vajpayee and leaders of major political parties, urged the people to isolate the perpetrators of violence and defeat their sinister designs.

Party, which works for the civil rights of Kurds, but has no connection with the outlawed Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK).

The EP warned that banning the party will damage Turkey's effort to join the European Union.

Turkish Daily News

The 76-year-old Turkish prime minister, Bulent Ecevit, is fighting a new front to convince the Turkish public that he is in good health. Turkish newspapers have published conflicting news reports on his health, arguing whether he can face an election campaign in 2004.

The Indian Express

Vajpayee sought to restore his battered credibility by snubbing Gujarat Chief Minister Narendra Modi through a series of unusual measures, which began on Thursday night when he sent Defense Minister George Fernandes to Gujarat to oversee the deployment of the army in the state.

The Statesman:

Violence broke out in some parts of the country on Friday during the 12-hour strike called by the World Hindu Community. However, there was mixed response to the call elsewhere in the country except Gujarat, the state worst hit by the strike.

National Defense Force are ready to deal with any overflow of the situation in Zimbabwe into South Africa, Defense Minister Mosiuoa Lekota said on Friday.

The Citizen

Commercial farmers in Namibia will be made to pay a special land tax from next month in an effort to ensure that the land is used to its full economic potential", a news report said on Friday.

Kenya

The following are major news items in leading Kenyan newspapers.

Kenya Times

France is looking into ways of increasing tourists flow into Kenya, visiting French Minister for Public Works, Transport and Housing Jean Claude Gayssot said.

Daily Nation

Kenyan detectives are analyzing forensic evidence to determine if any of the 10 suspects in custody was involved in the murder of top policeman Njiru Kyanda.

East African Standard

Seven people are feared dead after they consumed a lethal brew which they looted from a vehicle that had overturned in Ndia Division of Kirinyaga District in Kenya's Central Province.

Local Press

4 March 2002

Mus'id and Mus'ida is broadcast in English and you still busy with the ABC at your



Ath-Thawra daily ٥ 2 March 2002

Main headlines:

- President Ali Abdulla Saleh Opens Tareem-Thamoud Strategic Highway The president Urges heading for agriculture, more industrial investments

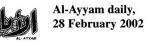
- President Expresses Bush Satisfaction over Yemeni-American cooperation in fighting terror
- Yemen takes part in Arab Labor Conference
- France warns Israel against its military adventures, calls for immediate pullout
- Gaddafi discloses proposals for

eliminating the phenomenon of Israeli warplanes violate Lebanese vengeance that contradicts morals and values of our people and our religious ideology. He urged on the scientific The newspaper's editorial says the upbringing of the young generation social development emerges as a pivdepending on bequeathing science and otal issue in president Saleh's visit to knowledge to them.

> On the materialistic side the president encouraged businessmen to head for investment in agriculture as a basic cornerstone for the national economy as well as industrial and other areas of investment.

> In his speeches the president has also stressed the true spirit of citizenship urging to be given the position it deserves. He put stress on the combined responsibility in fighting acts

threatening stability and security, which harm the homeland's reputation and make it miss economic opportunities and the citizens' interests.

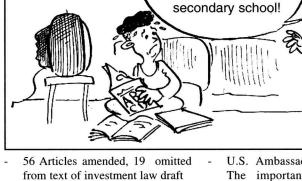


Main headlines:

reserves increase

Hadramout

Culture ministry closes down French cultural centre in Sana'a Yemen repatriates a Saudi citizen suspected to be linked to al-Qaeda Yemen Central Bank's foreign



- Foreign minister begins a visit to Japan French Embassy in Sana'a express-
- es astonishment over closing down the French Cultural Centre
- U.S. Ambassador to Al-Ayyam: The important thing to have stronger government and security to encourage investment

31 Yemeni expatriates detained in New York while on their way back home

Continued from page 12 Yemen needs a free press

Prosecution and closing of newspapers

Newspapers are liable to closures and arbitrary restriction in violation of local and international law.

Al-Shoura (voice of the Federation of Popular Forces), closed down since 26th September 1999, was prosecuted in August 1996, May 1997, September 1998, and March 1999.

Al-Wahdawi, mouthpiece of the Unionist Nasserite Party, was prosecuted in June 198.

The Yemen Times was accused of slander and spreading lies after publishing articles in November 1998, accusing government officials of channeling international development funds into their own bank accounts. The prosecution was dropped in July 1999 following the death of the editor-in-chief Dr. Abdulaziz al-Saqqaf in a tragic traffic accident. Dr. Saqqaf was the most important and influential defender of human rights, free press freedom and expression and democracy in Yemen.

Al-Thawri, voice of the Yemeni Socialist Party, stood in the defendant's dock in January 1997 and June 1998.

A case was also filed against AI-R'ay Al-A'am (Independent) in September 1998 and it was blocked several times. The last one was on 2/12/1998. Al-R'ay Al-A'am office in Sana'a was bombarded by unidentified people on Sunday evening, February 20, 2000. In a statement, chief editor of the paper Mr. Al-Ulifi held the Minister of Interior responsible for the explosion.

Cases were also filed against other newspapers like Al-Sahwah (Islah party), Ray (Sons of Yemen League Party), Al-Haq, Al-Ayam.

Hassling journalists

The other major headache faced by the media in Yemen is harassment. The harassment of the independent press and journalists is not limited to threats of legal action and prosecution.

Yemen journalists, thinkers, and opinion makers are subject to different sorts of harassment. They are detained, imprisoned, beaten up and threatened. Some of the journalists are civil servants and therefore they are subject to removal from their posts or suspension

These violations and others trigged a lot of concern and worry about the future of the press freedom in the countrv.

Professionalism constraints

peace in the Mideast

the governorates of Ma'reb and

Hadramout. The president's speeches

during his visits focused on develop-

ment of that issues. The president

emphasized that the issue depends on

both material and moral pillars repre-

sented by rationalizing the awareness

and behavior in general through taking

care of performance of education

The president stressed the necessity of

establishments and guidance.

airspace

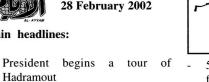
As we said earlier, the Ministry of Information is the authority to issue licenses for kicking off a paper or magazine. The role of the YJS is still very absent. The Ministry issues licenses to everybody despite of their being journalists or not. Most of the people running newspapers in the country are not journalists by profession. They don't look at the press as a mission and a tool of change in the society. Rather, they run them in a way similar to running shops or groceries.

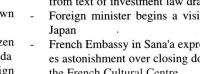
In some cases newspapers are used as a means to blackmail or harass others. This has made people lose confidence in the press and its unbiased stand as a voice of the voiceless. The owners of newspapers on their part exploit journalists and still deal with them as ordinary workers and asking them to sign in and out. They don't understand what it means to work in the press

The Ministry of Information still divides the press into three categories; government, partisan and independent. While, in fact, a press should go beyond such division. The press in general should be free despite of its affiliation or color.

The private sector has not yet started investing in the press and this is why the economic situations of the newspapers are still very poor. Some of them are seasonal. They publish in particular occasions once they are able to guarantee some ads. Some of them are family newspapers. Once the father or editor dies, his son is to replace him, regardless of his qualification or profes-

All this has disturbed the professionalism of the press in Yemen. This has made some European countries question the professionalism of the Yemen press, and look up for means to support the press in this regards as a part of supporting the drive for democracy, in which professional media is an important component. The Dutch government





Stund



17

of their salaries. Abdulraheem Musen of Al-Thawri and Ahmad Al-Ashwal of Al-Wahdawi are cases in point.

Not only that, journalists and international media reporters are badmouthed and even accused of being agents of international Zionism, of being mercenaries working against the interests of the country. For example. Mr. Abbas Ghalib, Chief Editor of Al-Mithag weekly (voice of the ruling party PGC) lashed at the Arab and foreign newspapers and agencies' correspondents with accusations of being spies of foreign agencies. That was on October, 1999.

As a reaction, the correspondents filed a defamation suit against Mr. Ghalib. The first hearing of this case was held in February 2000. The investigation is still going on. Some are also accused of being secessionist working against the unity of the country. Some are subject to abrupt and unusual heart attack, like Abdulhabeeb Salem Muqbil (1996), Dr. Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf (Yemen Times Chief Editor) was killed in a traffic accident in June 1999.

Several journalists were beaten up by security officers while reporting the case Sana'a university's ripper, Mohammed Adam Omar, Sudanese national, in May 2000. Two female journalists, Ramah Hujairah and Aida Abdulhameed were harassed and received phone threats after the same story of the Sana'a University massive killer. Althakafia weekly, was harassed because of reproducing a story "Sana'a an open city" for a Yemeni writer who died 25 years ago.

Its editor, Sameer Al-Yousifi was arrested for some time. The story was considered to have abused Islam.

The Yemeni Journalists Syndicate (YJS) 2000 report on press freedom in Yemen says there were different sorts of violations against the press. They vary from lawsuits to torture and sometimes assassination attempts.

has already started thinking about this issue very seriously. A Dutch journalist has carried out a report on this matter to be presented to the Development Minister in the Hague. Other donor countries should think seriously to help the Yemeni press in this respect.

The ongoing battle

The above instances clearly illustrate the deeply disturbing and outrageous panorama of events concerning the press in Yemen. It is an ongoing legal battle between the Ministry of Information, on one side and the partisan and independent newspapers on the other. From this, only one can comprehend the predicament and hardships Yemeni journalists face. They have to practice giving lip service to the people in authority, otherwise they won't be able to obtain their blessing. The list presented above is enough to make one able to understand their ordeals.

Another important point that should be highlighted again is that Yemeni society is still troubled by the high rate of illiterate people, estimated roughly at 80%. In addition, most of the Yemeni population (around 87%) live in the countryside, inaccessible to newspapers' coverage. This indicates that the role of newspapers in informing the people is still very limited.

Hence, the government monopoly over the TV and Radio stations should come to an end, since these two organs play a major role in shaping public opinion, particularly in the countryside. To boost its democratization further, Yemen needs the launch of free and independent electronic media. Unless the people are adequately informed, they will not be able to make decisions that have meaning in their lives.

* This paper has been presented to the New Media and Change in the Arab World Conference, held in Jordan, March 1, 2002

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(مطلوب ضمين	سیع. تعون موبورود ۲۰۰ (ایم بورد) مع الخط بسعر مغري ۲۰۰ دولار. سلیم محمد	الخدمات ويوجد حوش للسيارة ويتكون من ٤	والطرق، لغة انجليزية تحدثاً وكتابةً ، دورة	
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∎ للبيع: جهاز		الرئيسي من اتجاهين. بسام الكحلاني ت:		ي بلوم فني كهربائي عام، خبرة
الشاشة، انتاج	■ للبيع: ٤٠٠ سهم في شركة الاسماك والاحياء	۵۳۰۳۵عص	 خبرة في مجال المبيعات + سنة ثانية كلية	
۳۹٫۰۰۰ ریال	البحرية، سمير عبد الرزاق، تعز ت: ٢٠٢٧٠٠– بسمبر ب	■ ايجار/بيع: عمارة دورين تتكون من اربع	- الشريعة والقانون جامعة صنعاء، رخصة قيادة،	72777.
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	وبسعر ٢٣,٥٠٠ ريال. هاشم الشرفي ت:	■ مطلوب استئجار: غرفة+ حمام في شعوب،	انجليزي + شهادة في الغوص (الأكسجين)	اجادة استخدام الكمبيوتر
🔳 فقدت بطاقة	. ٧١١١١١٤٨	الحصبة، الدائري، هائل، فتح الدين نجم الدين،	خريج ثانوية عامة. المكلا ت: ٣٠١٩٨٨	وتصفح الانترنت، خبرة في مجال
علي الشكامي	■ للبيع: تلفون سيار نظام تيليمن عدد ستة	ت: ٤٠٨٤٩٢، فترة مسائية.	■ ابراهيم محمد عبد الكريم: دبلوم ادارة	التدريس والسكرتارية، حجة ت: ٧١١٢٤ - ٨
فعلى من حصل	خطوط ، فهيم درهم الحمادي، ت: ٧٩٠٦٩٦٠	اللايجار: شقة في مدينة عدن، مكونة من	مخازن ثانوية عامة، قسم علمي، خبرة في مجال	٨٧١١٢٦
٤.٨٤٩٢	■ للبيع: تلفزيون شارب ١٤ بوصة + رسيفر	غرفتين، حمام، مطبخ، بسعر ٥-٦ الف ريال،	المحاسبة، لغة انجليزية، خبرة في مجال	فارس محمد الحسني: بكالوريوس لغة
1	·	يحي علي النهدي، المنصورة المعلا، الشيخ	الكومبيوتر، ت: ٧٣٨١٧٠٢٩ - ٢٩١٧٠٢٩	انجليزية، دورات كمبيوتر، خبرة سنتين مندوب
J)) E	تهانين	عثمان ، ت: ۲٤٤٩١١، حضرموت ت: ۰٫۰/۰۰.۱۷	■ فياض محمد الشرماني: ثانوية عامة علمي،	ىبيعات، وسنة سكرتارية، عدن ت: ٢٥١٠٤٠
1.116	أجرا العواز والعركان		علاقات عامة متميزة، اجادة اللغة الانجليزية،	د. صلاح احمد محمد بن عاطف: بكالوريوس
منت الأست	أجمل التهاني والتبريكات ا نزفها للأخ ال	مطلوب شراء: شقة في حي القاهرة - عدن او	كتابة ونطقاً، ويجيد التعامل مع الكمبيوتر، إب	طب عام وجراحة، كوبا-جامعة هافانا. عدن ت:
		من حي عبد العزيز في عدن، ابراهيم سالم ت: 	ت: ٤/٤٠١٨٤١ .	252.2.
ولي	ر شيد عبد اا	ראזידז	■ هيثم عبد الرحمن محمد قيس: كهربائي	■ عبد الله احمد النعماني: خريج كلية التربية،
، بارك الك	بمناسبة زفافه الميمون	للايجار: شقق مكاتب ودكاكين جوار فندق	ومهندس الكترونيات، خبرة لمدة خمس سنوات،	عدن، قسم اللغة الانجليزية، دبلوم برمجة
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	بسام جميل السقاف، مازن السقاف	حوالي مائة متر تصلح لبناء مقر شركة/فرع	شهادة انجليزي. كريتر ت: ٢/٢٥٦٨٣٣ .	لامراض الباطنية والجراحة العامة وأمراض
	السقاف غانم الدبعي وكافة موظفي	بنك/ مبنی تجاري، ت: ۷۱۷۷۲۰۷۰	■ صبري العويني: ثانوية عامة، المام بالبرامج	الاطفال، خبرة ٧ سنوات في الامراض الباطنية،
		سد	التطبيقية office 2000، محافظة	برغب بالعمل في مستشفى خاص بصنعاء

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نسعى معاً لتحقيق مستقبل أفضل... فاحرص أن تكون معنا..

Education Presented by Dr. Ramakanta Sahu



Improve Your English



Dr. Ramakanta Sahu Associate Professor College of Education, Mahweet ramakantasahu@yahoo.com

I. What to Say

Situations and Expressions (6): Responding to Good news

ood news makes us feel on top of the world. We receive good news with a great pleasure and enthusiasm. We all live by the hope of something good happening to us. When it arrives, our joys know no bounds. At a moment our spirits are flying high, we must find appropriate expressions to communicate the flood of emotions. After all, joy shared is joy doubled. Here are a few expressions to share our mood of happiness with others.

- Oh lovely! Just what we've been expecting has happened.
- Wonderful! So glad we're!

Incredible! I can't believe my eyes!

- Simply superb!
- What a marvelous piece of news!
- Oh! I'm thrilled at the news
- you've just given. Lo and behold! My dream has
- come true My warmest congratulations on your wedding!
- I'm so glad to learn about your promotion. It was long over due. You richly deserve it.
- It's extremely heartening to know that you got a job.
- So you have done it. I know your capabilities.
- Hats off to you on winning the coveted prize.
- Look who has come! What a pleasant surprise!
- My heart is full to learn about your brilliant achievement. Keep it up.
- I'm indeed spell bound. I don't know how to articulate my feeling
- of joy. I'm overjoyed to hear this.
- I can't say how elated I feel to
- learn this I feel really ecstatic at such a
- thrilling news. I'm on top of the world today.
- I'm so delighted at your spectacular success. March ahead. Don't look back.
- Thank God for being so kind. I'm much beholden to you for
- your words of encouragement.

political matters. 3. Regain health and strength after an

- illness. 4. Call persons to come together for a meeting.
- 5. Freedom from difficulty or worry.

Answers to last week's questions

- 1. Say that something is not true: Contradict (v_t)
- 2. Opposite in nature or tendency: Contrary (adj)
- 3. Compare one thing with another so that differences between them are made clear: Contrast (v_t)
- 4. Act in opposition to a law, or a custom: Contravene (vt)
- 5. Join with other in giving help to a common cause: Contribute (v_t)

IV. Grammar and Composition

a) Composition

Job Advertisement Read the following job advertisement and complete the job application given below:

SALES/STORE PERSON

- Opportunity for full time position in large scale Discount Retail Store. Duties include counter sales, store work, heavy lifting. Driver's license for deliveries. Must be neat, reliable, willing to work hard. Ability to speak English an advantage. Award rates Apply in writing to: The Manager P. O. Box 14533 Sana'a **Job Application**
- Dear I am writing to apply I have worked as I am and consider myself a most suitable applicant for the job. I have enclosed Please contact me Yours sincerely,

b) Idioms and phrases

sentences of your own. Give a good account of oneself, accuse of, accustomed to, be acquainted with, to have a nodding



He has another appointment with the dentist again on the next Tuesday morning. I would like to request you to condone his absence on the above-

mentioned days and regularize his attendance. Yours sincerely,

b) Idioms and phrases

in accord with (agreeing with) All my family members are in accord with one another

in accordance with (in agreement or conformity with) We celebrated Ramadhan in

accordance with the Islam custom.

according to (on the authority of) According to the doctor, I have no major health problem now.

according as (in a manner that depends upon)

You will be rewarded or punished according as your work is good or

accordingly (far that reason, therefore)

I have already told you what to do. Now you must act accordingly.

c) Words commonly confounded

1. accuse (v_t) (to say that somebody has done something, broken the law, and is to be blamed) He is accused of theft. **blame** (\mathbf{v}_t) (find fault with or fix the responsibility on somebody or

something) Bad workmen often blame their tools

2. habit (n) (somebody's personal practice that cannot easily be given up)

I have a bad habit of getting up late

custom (n) (usual and the generally accepted behavior among members of a social group) Muslims have the custom of observing fast during the holy month of Ramadhan.

Use the following phrases in 3. ache (n) (to have continuous or prolonged pain) I'm suffering from headache/ toothache/ stomachache

pain (n) (suffering of mind or

BOOK REVIEW The Golden Deer (A Poetic Metafiction)

Ramesh Chandra Dash Published by Minerva Press, New Delhi First published in 2000 PP 217 Price YR 500

amesh Chandra Dash's The Golden Deer represents a unique experiment in casting the plot of a novel in the poetic mould. He has attempted to show that the intricacies of plot, subtleties of characterization, the nuances of the descriptive and narrative mode which find their most natural and elegant expression in prose can as well be manifested in poetry without sacrificing any of the significant elements of novel. Conversely, poetry which traditionally has had the distinction of being the unexceptionable carrier of flights of imagination, depth of passion and flamboyance of emotion can as well be a fitting vehicle to express all the characteristic features of a well made novel. Considered from this view point The Golden Deer epitomizes a paradigm shift, representing a welcome symbiosis of the two genres of literature - poetry and fiction. It is undoubtedly a path breaking attempt to explode the myth of sacrosanct compartmentalization of these two established genres.

The novelist has taken as the theme of this metafiction the mystery of manwoman relationship that has been baffling many a sensitive soul as Dash and eluding a neat analytical survey and classification. Dash has given the primordial theme a novel twist. It is not exactly a restatement of the Garden of Eden myth. It is rather a deeply psychological exploration into the complexities of human relationship that

> comes at the beginning of the word and Debi Prasad Sahu, a suffix comes at the end of the word. If you are familiar with the meaning of

PGT DAV Public School, Chandrasekharpur, Bhubaneswar, Orissa (India)

uccessful acquisition of any foreign language depends, to a large extent, on using it in different contexts of use. A very necessary prerequisite for this purpose is to have a good stock of vocabulary and know how to use them. Therefore, words are called building-blocks of language. Knowing one hundred words and using them actively in the right situations is better than only knowing five hundred words passively, and not using them. So you should try by all means to increase your vocabulary stock in English and create situations to use There are a number of prefixes which

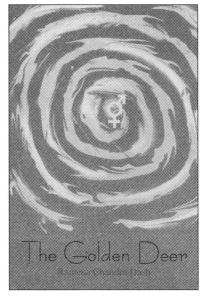
them as often as you can. It is good to have two separate

defies any neat definition. Like the poet John Milton in the epic poem 'Paradise Lost', Dash leads the reader into the heart of the creator-creation saga. Dash

invites the reader's psyche to take an incursion into the profundity of the age old man-woman relationship, and delve deep into this mystery and discover for himself, if he can, the minute labyrinths of this relationship. But unlike Million whose aim was 'to justify the ways of God to man', Dash has an open, non-puritanical and unmistakably secular approach to his theme. It's a purely innocent quest for an answer to the baffling question. And the poet has no religious or moral bias. As such the work has the complexion of an areligious, amoral peep into a mystifying question

The poet has incorporated into the fabric of plot of the play a wealth of characters such as Queen, Poets, Observer, Listeners, Drones as dramatis personae which help in building up the dramatic effect.

Evidently there is a happy marriage between myth and realism in the metafiction. The entry of Chorus at places to provide a continuity in theme and resolution to some intricate problems reminds one of the Greek plays. The dramatized rendering of a sublime theme has been done with such meticulous care and dexterity of skill that the reader is transported to the world created by the poet and is absorbed in it until he is through with the resolution in the final scene. The diction of this One-Act poetic drama may lack the suppleness, grace, elegance and flourish of a traditional lyric, but it seems to be a deliberate feat engi-



neered by the poet to convey as effectively as he could the terseness of the theme. On the whole 'The Golden Deer' remains an enigma as much as its theme is, not withstanding the superb versification and absorbing dramatic effect of the work. It is, no doubt, meant for a discerning readership who would not fail to see through the deep symbolism embedded in the characters and their dialogues. However, it offers a lot for the common reader as well who would enjoy the twists and turns of the theme and amuse at the subtleties of the verses. Dash who has made his debut as a promising Indo-Anglian novelist of our times with his The Renegade has undoubtedly crossed another significant milestone in the upsurge of his creative pursuits with The Golden Deer. The readers expect a lot more from him in time to come.

Reviewed by Dr. Ramakanta Sahu (Copies available with Dr. Sahu)

Building your vocabulary

prefixes and suffixes, you can know the meaning of words. For example, the prefixes im-, in-, un- and non-

LEARNING STYLES AND STRATEGIES (7)

express negative meanings. Let's take some examples: Impossible not possible Improper not proper Indefinite not definite Incompetent not competent Unnecessary not necessary

Non-smoker

Non-vegetarian not a vegetarian The prefix re- means 'again'. Look at the following examples: Re-examine examine again Re-do do again

not a smoker

express specific meanings. Similarly, there are suffixes which change the class of a word. For example: Suffixes -al, -ed, -ful, -ic, -ish, -less, -ly, -ous, -y, change a noun to an

- adjective. - al
- accidental, magical, musical diseased, talented, colored -ed
- graceful, peaceful, useful -ful
- -ic heroic, poetic, romantic
- childish, foolish, boyish -ish
- careless, colorless, useless -less
- -ly brotherly, motherly, scholarly
- -ous humorous, poisonous, zealous dusty, wealthy, hairy -y
- When you see an unfamiliar word in

any thing you read, check to see if it contains a prefix or a suffix. If you know the meaning of a part of the word, you may be able to get at the meaning of the word.

II. How to say it correctly

Correct errors, if any, in the following sentences.

- 1. What a task she was levying on this poor man!
- 2. We have crossed our target with several weeks to spare.
- Other crops to be taken up in the 3. area are cotton and ground nut.
- 4. The incident occurred when the party took out a demonstration.
- 5. His little daughter asked him to say a story before she went to bed.

Answers to last week's questions

- 1. The main objective of the course is to improve (raise) the standards of English of our students.
- The system of promotions from Level 1 should be strictly enforced with immediate effect.
- 3. The president caused a surprise by announcing his decision to resign.
- An international campaign should be launched to discourage political groups from resorting to terrorism.
- The doctor says that his 5. temperature has come down (subsided) and there is nothing to worry about.

III. How to express it in one word

- 1. Inventing or designing a way of causing something to happen.
- Prolonged and inconclusive argument over social, moral or

acquaintance with

c) Words commonly confounded Bring out differences in meaning between the following pairs of words: 4. action (n) (process of doing 1. acquire, require

- 2. adapt, adopt, adept
- 3. affect, effect
- 4. affection, affectation
- 5. allusion, illusion

Answers to last week's questions a) Composition Formal notes:

- 1. Dear Mr. Abdul Wahab, I am sorry that I was unable to attend the appointment on Monday due to some unavoidable reasons. I should be grateful if you would give me another appointment on next Monday. Yours sincerely,
- Dear Mr. Al-Thefany, 2. Fatima was absent from school for five days, i.e. from 26 to 30 January 2002 as she was suffering from flu.

Hence I request you to grant her leave of absence for those days. A copy of doctor's certificate is attached herewith for your reference. Yours sincerely,

3. Dear Ms. Al-Kamali Fuad was not at school as he had a prior appointment with the dentist.

body)

I feel some pain in my right shoulder.

- things)
- The time has come for action. And the moment is now.
- auction (n) (public sale at which goods are sold to the highest bidders)

I bought the car in a public auction.

V. Pearls from the Holy Quran

Woe to every (kind of) scandalmonger And backbiter Who piles up wealth And lays it by Thinking that his wealth Would make him last for ever. Sura Al-Humaza (104:1-7)

VI. Words of Wisdom "I'm indebted to my father for living, but to my teacher for living well." *—Alexander the Great* vocabulary notebooks, one for words and terms relating to your subjects and textbooks, and the second for general vocabulary items. You may follow the following steps for increasing your vocabulary:

- 1. As you read, whether it's newspaper, a magazine, a novel, or your textbooks, stop and write down every word you don't know. Below the word, copy the phrase or
- sentence that has used the word. Try to figure out the meaning of 3. the word from the context before looking it up in the dictionary. You
- can get a good idea of what it means by carefully reading the sentence that contains the word and may be a sentence or two before and after the word.
- If, however, you do not succeed in guessing the meaning of the word from the context, look up the word in a good English-English dictionary and write down its meaning in that context in which it is used.
- Try and create a context and write 5. a sentence of your own, using the word.
- Review and revise the word periodically as your list grows and you have more and more new words in it.
- Make it a point to use the word in your daily conversations. You'll see that after you use it a few times, the word has become a part of your active vocabulary.

There is an easy way to get the meaning of many English words. This clue involves understanding prefixes and suffixes. As you know a prefix

Qu	estions	3	4.	Yeast is an impo a) Invertase	ortant source of b) Vitamin C
A		sts of hydrogen converted into a		c) Protein	d) Riboflavin
-	central core of	Helium by the	5.	Hair originates f	rom the
	process known	as		a) dermis	b) epidermis
	a) Atomic fusion			c) skin glands	d) subcutaneous
	b) Atomic fission			layer	
1	c) Nuclear fission				
	d) None of them		60	lutions to Times	Quiz (19)
			1.	Platypus is an eg	gg laying mammal.
2.	Which of the fol	lowing planets is	2.	EGG (electron er	ncephalogram), an
	also called 'the	morning star'?		index of brain f	function, is used
	a) Mars	b) Venus		to diagnose s	leep disorders,
	c) Mercury	d) Neptune			s, epilepsy and
				other brain diso	rders
3.		ated' computer? ated to the owner	3.		active chemical in the body

s are active chemical substances in the body secretions of ductless glands.

- The most useful tree for man is 4. Cocos
- H. H. Aiken developed the first 5. digital computer.



TIMES QUIZ (20)

Promises of a new day

specific functions

The new day will be hilled by several things which may be pleasing or less pleasing. Those troubled hours may vanish tomorrow which will carry all happiness for us, all surprises and all

b) Which is dedicated to perform

c) Which has a vast memory

d) Which is a fast computer

Our dreams which we didn't attain till today, will be attained tomorrow with industry and hard work. One should

Life is constant where as our dreams are too short and fleeting. Of course one should laugh with life in order to laugh with oneself, we have to be optimistic always in our life. In other

words, we can also look at the sunse in a pessimistic way. Life is setting like sun set. There is no life after the sun set. May be life will come to a stop. Like our youth will also set. It is like the sun rise. After that it will set like sunset. There is no time better than that the time of youth. With sunset all the problems will also set in order to appear in a new shape next day. All the patience and all the perplexities will be down when the sun is down

Fatima Al-Tawily Level 4 Faculty of Education, Mahweet

the adventures.

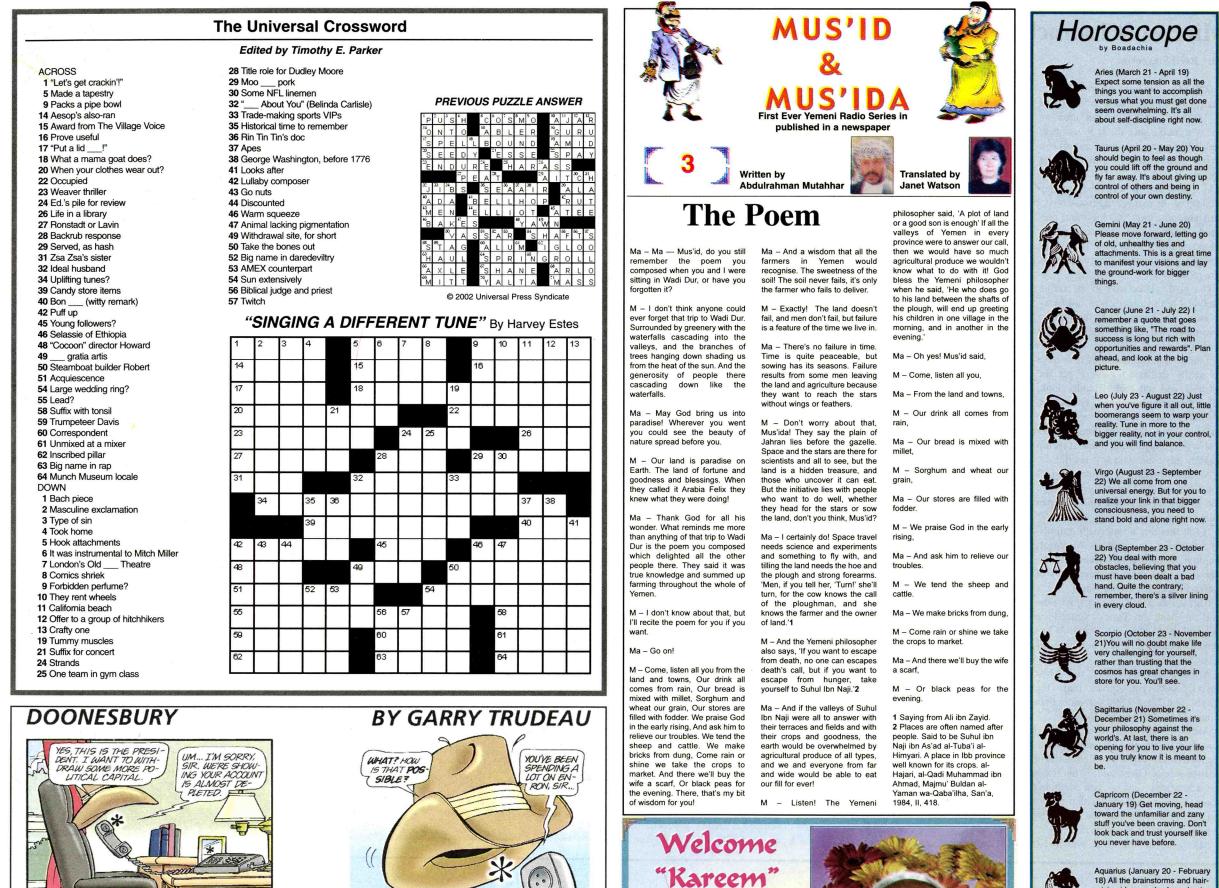
resolve to achieve it tomorrow.



Entertainment

4 March 2002

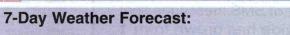
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Spacetel Yemen and editor-in-

chief of Yemen Times, Waleed

al-Saqqaf, warmly congratulate,

Waleed Akawi,

Spacetel Yemen's Marketing

Manager on the arrival of his

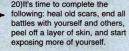
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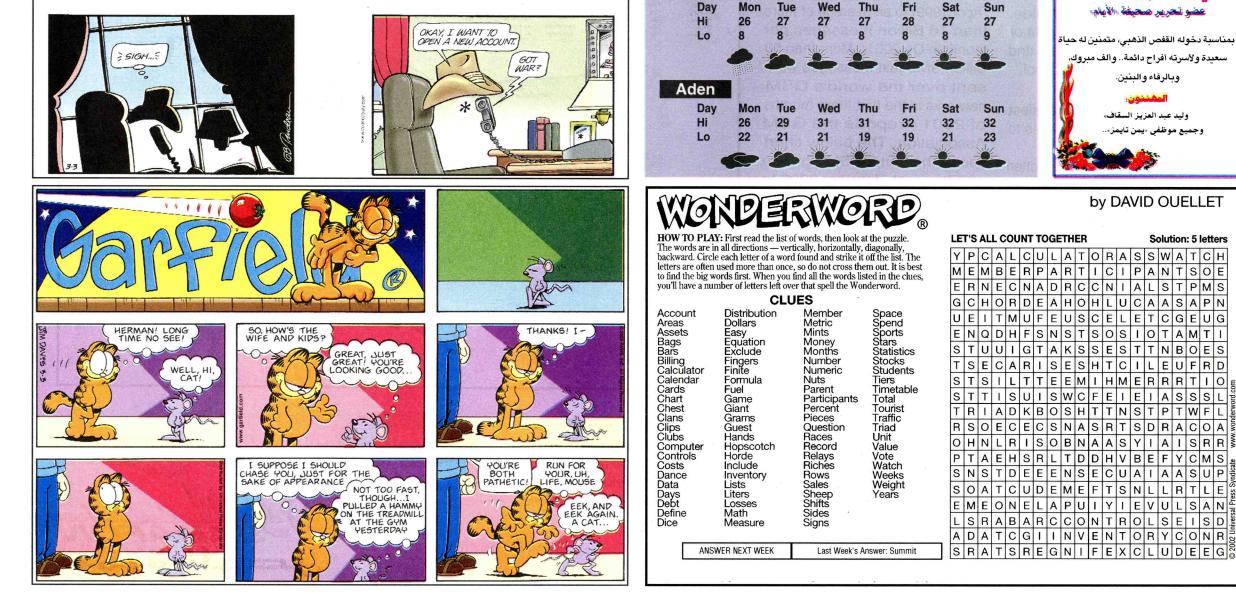
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raising ideas you've been having

are in direct conflict with what others tell you can't be accomplished. Shame on them. Pisces (February 19 - March 20)It's time to complete the



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Microsoft Launches Xbox in Crucial Japan Market

By Reed Stevenson

TOKYO (Reuters) - Microsoft Corp Chairman Bill Gates took to the streets of Tokyo's trendy Shibuya area on Friday to make sure the U.S. software giant's Xbox game machine got off to a strong start in Japan's tough gaming market.

Microsoft said it was ready to ship 250,000 of the rectangular black boxes built around a big "X" logo and prepared a dozen games titles to convince Japan's gamers and powerful game publishing community that the Xbox is here to stay.

The goal, Gates said in an earlier interview with Reuters, was not to try to beat its robust U.S. launch in November, but to win the hearts of hard-core gamers.

"Our goal in our launches is to have the really dedicated gamers get the machine and tell their friends, 'look, this is the next generation'," Gates said.

Analysts said it would be hard to imagine Xbox knocking Sony Corp's best-selling PlayStation 2 out of its top position any time soon -- if at all.

Atsushi Ishizaka, 22, showed up 12 hours before the launch to be first in line to buy the first machine in Japan from Gates.

"I felt that this was a really impressive machine," he said, as Microsoft employees handed out green gloves, Xbox logo hats and steaming cups of coffee to keep the crowd warm.

Ishizaka is a hard-core gamer who said he was in Times Square on November 15 for the initial Xbox launch, making Friday's purchase his second machine.

At 34,800 yen (\$260), the Xbox costs 5,000 yen more than the PlayStation 2 and 9,800 yen more than Nintendo Co Ltd's Game Cube.

Asked if Microsoft could stage a repeat of its strong U.S. debut, which resulted in sales of 1.5 million units in just six weeks, Gates said: "This is not the Christmas season, you shouldn't compare us to numbers like that. As we get into next December we should be able to deliver good numbers."

Microsoft said the Xbox, which also

plays DVD videos and sports an Internet connection, would be backed up by an online gaming service by the end of the year that would allow users to compete and interact in virtual game world from living rooms. In an apparent departure from its

previous aim of starting an online gaming system six months after each country's Xbox launch, Gates said Microsoft was planning a dual U.S.-Japan online system debut by year-end.

Gates was joined by Japanese rock star Yoshiki, leader of the band "X Japan," to kick off the launch amid cheers from the crowd of several hundred people. He also popped into a popular noontime TV talk show to hand out a few consoles and plug his new machine.

BETTING BIG

To make sure it can claim a piece of the \$20 billion global video game industry, Microsoft has invested more than \$1 billion in the machine and promised to spend a further \$500 million into promoting the Xbox.

"Japan is the most challenging market for Microsoft as far as the Xbox is concerned," said Hirohisa Ohura, Microsoft Japan's managing director in charge of Xbox operations.

Gates said Microsoft was able to increase Japan's marketing budget thanks to a strong U.S. debut.

While the Xbox has 75 U.S. and 31 Japanese game titles lined up, PlayStation 2 already has 220 U.S. and 400 Japanese games.

"Sony does have a significant lead," said Credit Suisse First Boston analyst Jay Defibargh. "And they have more concrete plans for online gaming."

Sony, in a preemptive move, last week unveiled plans to begin online offerings for the PlayStation from April.

Microsoft has stressed that it is easi-



er for game developers to write software for the Xbox than the PlayStation 2 and that its high-capacity 8-gigabyte hard drive and high-speed Internetready Ethernet port will help makers develop more interactive and appealing games.

Gates said such features "allowed them to bring down their lead time and focus on the creative aspects of the game."

Game consoles live and die by software sales because they generate lucrative royalties for the hardware makers. Xbox's fast computer and video chips allow users to combat each other and virtual opponents in games such as "Halo" and "Genma Onimusha" with fluid moves that match the PlayStation 2.

Software powerhouse Konami Co Ltd lined up three sports titles and jetflying game "Airforce Delta II," while Sega Corp came out with its "Jet Set Radio Future" in-line skating action game.

Asked if Microsoft was willing to buy a stake in a Japanese game maker to clinch key game titles, Gates said: "We're Microsoft -- we're open to any sort of relationship. We haven't done any minority investment at this point but we're always open-minded to do something like that if it would help somebody do a breakthrough game for the Xbox."

Leaving little to chance, Microsoft also prepared 50,000 special edition translucent Xbox models for the launch and developed a smaller controller for the Japanese market. (\$1=133.73 Yen)



SabaFon Short Message Service (SMS)

SabaFon launched the Short Message Service (SMS) in July 2001.

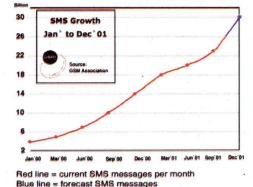
This service is one of the advanced GSM technology applications and one of the most commonly used world-wide. Users can enjoy the benefit of SMS being a very efficient and effective communication tool. The SMS is one of the fastest growing GSM services in the world. In just two years, the number of SMS messages sent worldwide has grown from 1 billion messages per month (April 1999) to an average of more than 16 Billion messages per month in Q1 2001. More than 50 Billion SMS text messages were sent over the world's GSM networks in the first three months of 2001 - reports the GSM Association. The below chart shows the trend in SMS growth and forecast, January 2000 to December 2001.

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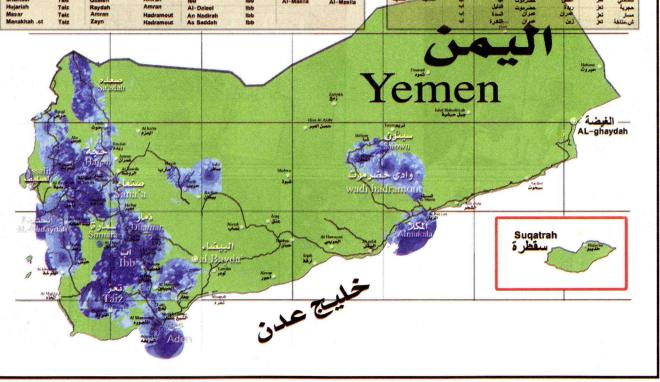
The SMS is one of the easiest and cheapest GSM services to use across the world.

Customers can exchange written text messages via their mobile phones at a very low cost. This can be done locally or internationally. In both cases, the cost of sending an SMS remains very low.

SabaFon has provided this service, in both English and Arabic, to its subscribers free from any monthly subscription. This means that ALL SabaFon subscribers can activate this service at no cost and also receive messages free from charge. They can also send local or international SMS text messages according to theirneeds.



Following the global trend, the SMS in Yemen is growing very fast. The practicality as well as efficiency of this service are the dynamics for its growth in the Yemeni market. SabaFon will always continue to improve upon this service as to match technology development with subscribers' needs and expectations!





Sport

OTTAWA (Reuters) - Canada's

House of Commons has taken time from deliberations on tax rates and lum-

ber disputes with the United States to glory in the Olympic gold-medal victo-

ry of the Canadian men's hockey team

"My question for the prime minister

"Winning this game was very, very

"There were probably not many

Even the Bloc Quebecois, which

"I would like to congratulate our ath-

Outside Parliament, a lone horn-blar-

CBC television said a record 10 mil-

The National Hockey League's web-





South Korea Olympic chief intends to resign

is, how about that Joe Sakic?" the leader Reuters of the parliamentary opposition, John PhotoSEOUL Reynolds, said in his leadoff in the daily (Reuters) - South question period, referring to the most Korea's Olympic Committee head "I'm very happy that the leader of the Kim Un-yong has opposition mentioned that. It was a fabexpressed his ulous afternoon yesterday. We were all intention to resign cheering, but it is not only yesterday. over a speed skat-The last two weeks have been very, ing dispute at the very good," Prime Minister Jean Winter Olympics which in a Chretien watched the 5-2 victory

Korean skater was disqualified from a gold medal.

But it was not whether clear Kim's resignation was final, Korean Olympic Committee spokesman Park Pil-soon told Reuters. "Mr Kim

expressed his intention to resign," he said.

Apolo Anton Ohno (2L) of the United States tries to pass South "Our board Korea's Kim Dong-sung in the final lap of the men's 1500 m short track final at the Salt Lake 2002 Olympic Winter Games. members unanimously agreed to REUTERS/Kimimasa Mayama ask him to cancel his resignation and conveyed it to him,

but Kim left the meeting room without saying a word," Park said.

Seoul's YTN cable news network reported the resignation, then followed wih a report saying it had been retracted.

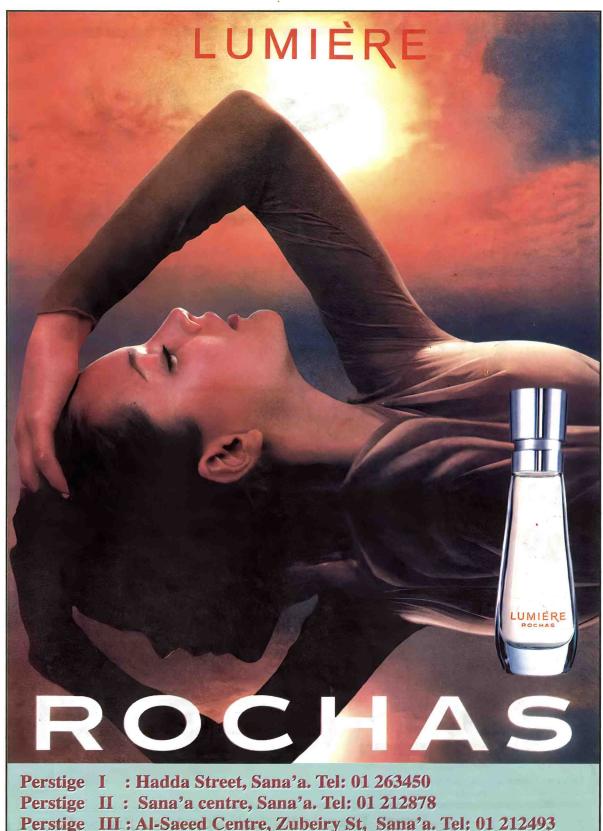
It was also not clear whether Kim would quit as South Korea's delegate to the International Olympic Committee (IOC).

A week ago, Korea's Kim Dongsung crossed the line first in the 1,500 metres men's short track final at the Olympics but was disqualified for impeding U.S. skater Apolo Anton Ohno.

Ohno received the gold medal and the United States Olympic Committee got a deluge of e-mail threats from Koreans. South Korea's appeal of Kim Dong-sung's disqualification was

rejected. South Korean media, politicians and fans condemned Kim Un-yung for overruling the South Korean delegation's threat to boycott the Salt Lake City closing ceremony in protest.

Kim Un-yong was a strong contender last July to take over the IOC presidency from Juan Antonio Samaranch but Jacques Rogge of Belgium won the prized position at a congress in Moscow.



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The Bank Offers 🚿 البنك الذي يمنح **HIGHEST RATE OF** أعلى سعر فائدة على الودائع لأجل HIGHEST RATE OF INTEREST ON DEPOSITS in Yemeni Riyal or US Dollarina Riyal or US Dollarina Kiyal or Head Office: Al-Rowaishan Building, Al-Zubairy St- P.O.Box:19845 or 160 Sana'a E-Mail address: ycbho@y.net.ye,Web Site:w ww.ycbank.com, Fax:(967-1) 284656, Secretary Telfax:(967-1) 277238, Exchange:(967-1) 284272/6, Tel: 277324, 277378, 277354, 277381,Telex: 3373/4 YECOMBK YE.

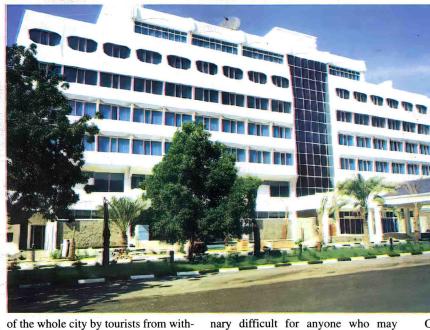
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Sheraton Goldmohur Aden Excellent Starwood Eid Hospitality

In the last few years, Aden has become the most attractive destination for local tourism from all over the country. During the Eid vacations of the winter season, Aden's charming moderate weather plus its beautiful beach have become two major reasons for hundreds of thousands of Yemenis and foreigners to flood the city during this time.

However, the star of last Eid was no doubt the Sheraton Goldmohur Aden Hotel, which is owned by Al-Kathiri Investment Group. Uniquely strategic location by the western clean beach west of Aden has made Sheraton Goldmohur one of the preferred hotels





of the whole city by tourists from within the country and from abroad. The hospitality level is excellent, so find any vacant rooms.

is the service. Bookings for rooms at the hotel have started months before the Eid vacation, making it extraordi-

rated, as it was opened less than a year ago, Sheraton Goldmohur hotel stands as the fastest growing hotel in terms of popularity and preference by many Adenlovers. "We feel Sheraton Goldmohur Hotel's extra

Despite the fact that the

hotel was recently inaugu-

feature is the open beach that it has. It is the only hotel that has a beach that is open for water to refresh itself, hence it is a hotel where you have the option to swim in the sea or the swimming pool of its own." said one of the hotel's guests for the last Adha eid vacation.

Overall, Sheraton Goldmohur Hotel serves as a good example of a hotel that combines both a strategic location and quality service, making it a unique and first class hotel for a fabulous vacation in the city of Aden.

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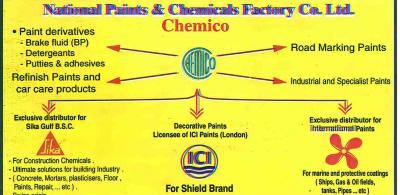
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Made-in-Yemen project inaugurated

The Yemeni Industrialists Society (YIS) has declared a national project "Made in Yemen" which aims at raising awareness of the economic importance of the national industry as an economic support to the national economy.

have come a few days before the eid to

number one priority" says Mr. Alaa'

Hamed, the Sales Manager of the hotel.

"Quality service to our guests is our



The project also aims at promoting



national industries and providing the