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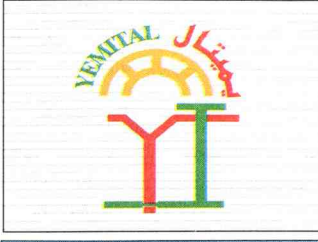
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Attacker denies he's part of militant group

Embassy attack still a mystery

BY YEMEN TIMES STAFF AND NEWS AGENCIES

SANA'A - Initial reports suggest the man who attacked the US Embassy on Friday may belong to an Islamic radical group.

According to eye witnesses who saw the arrest person after his capture the attacker used certain Islamic phrases indicating his actions likely belong to a militant Islamist group.

Some sources also suggest the suspect has contacts with Abu Ali Al-Harethi, one of two al-Qaeda suspects being chased by Yemeni forces.

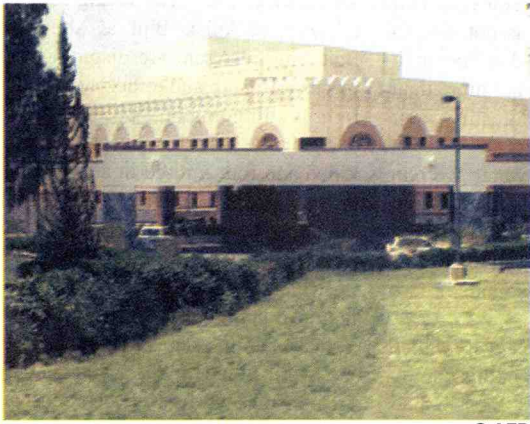
The 25-year old attacker, Sameer Yahya Awadh, maintains he has no links to any group and refuses to reveal any information that may link him to any Islamic group.

His refusal may mean his motives were personal, or he doesn't wish to put his group under pressure.

It is expected possible links to other groups will be known as investigations continue.

Awadh had thrown two grenades at a wall and near a gate of the U.S. embassy at 7:15 p.m. on Friday. The incident caused no injuries or damage.

Eyewitnesses said that the suspect showed no concern about the military forces that



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were guarding the embassy.

"Perhaps he thought he would be shot and killed by policemen. It was a suicidal act," an eyewitness said.

A third grenade was later found in his possession, the Yemeni official said.

"He threw the grenade at the wall, but it hit a tree and blew up without causing any injuries or damage," the Yemeni official said.

"He was about to throw the third bomb before he was arrested," another official said.

Official sources said that Awadh's relatives had indicated he was mentally disturbed.

Sameer Awadh, who is currently being held captive at the Sanaa Intelligence Police Department at the Capital Secretariat, is a student from the city of Kawkaban in the Mahweet province, 100 km north-west of Sana'a.

The incident came just two days after the embassy had warned Americans in Yemen they could be in danger of "imminent terrorist targeting."

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Continued on page 3

Aden Free Zone celebrates 3rd anniversary this week

BY YEMEN TIMES STAFF

ADEN - This week, the Aden Free Zone (AFZ) will celebrate its third anniversary marking the start of Aden Container Terminal, which began operations on March 19 1999.

The celebration comes at a time when the infrastructure of the Industrial and Warehouse Estate, one of the most vital organs of the zone, is finished. The infrastructure's completion has followed much hard work in the last few years, and a cost of about U.S. \$3 million.

The AFZ administration has already invited investors who have signed contracts to start implementing their projects in their reserved spaces.

Mohamed Omar Bamashmoos, chairman of the Aden Industrial and Commercial Chamber, has noted that since the AFZ started operation, an



increasing number of investors from Gulf countries have expressed their desire to invest in Yemen. It is expected those involved in and running the AFZ will come together for a special celebration on this occasion.

Continued on page 3

Yemen officially took part in a meeting of the GCC

THE GULF NEWS

For the first time ever, Yemen officially took part in a meeting of the GCC when its education minister attended the Arab Bureau of Education held at Burj Al Arab last week.

It was last year when Gulf heads of state decided to ask Yemen to take part in matters relating to GCC educational organizations.

The regular meeting of the bureau, considered a forum related to teaching, was held at the Burj Al Arab, which was attended by all GCC ministers of education.

The meeting was attended by Dr Ali Abdul Aziz Al Sharhan, UAE Minister of Education and Youth, Dr Saeed M. Al Mullais, Director General of the Arab Bureau of the Education for Gulf States, Dr Mohammed bin Ahmad Al Rashid of Saudi Arabia, Dr Musaid Rashid Al Haroun of Kuwait, Dr Ahmad Khalifa Bu Shרבak of Qatar, Yehya bin Saeed bin Mansour Al Suleimi of Oman, Dr Mohammed bin Jasim Al Ghatam of Bahrain, Dr Fadi Ali Abu Ghanim of Yemen and Gudmond Hernes, Director of International Institute for Educational Planning.

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38 Yemeni detainees at Guantanamo

Yemeni detainees at the US Guantanamo military base soared up to 38, Yemeni official sources said last week.

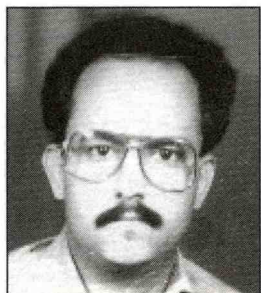
News reports said last week that the Yemeni team of investigators who went to the military base after obtain-

ing a permission from the US authorities failed to interrogate the detainees.

But, the Yemeni government denied the travel of the team and the team which came back recently was on another mission in England.

Al-Mujahed commemorated

TAIZ- The Yemeni Writers and Authors Union and Human Rights and Information Training Center (HRITC) commemorated the second anniversary last Thursday to one of the distinguished writers



in Yemen, Mohammed Ahmed al-Mujahed on his death.

al-Mujahed died last year in a traffic accident on March 13.

Al-Mujahed was one of the prominent writers and had written many research papers and a book on Taiz.

Yemeni Journalists hold sit-in to protest Israeli Aggressions

Yemeni journalists staged a sit-in last Friday at the Yemeni Journalists Syndicate (YJS) to protest the Israeli atrocities against the Palestinians and show support to Intifada.

In his speech at the set-in, YJS chairman Mahboob Ali stressed the next Arab summit in Beirut should take courageous decisions that restore the rights of the Palestinian people and put an end to their sufferings.

In a letter to Amnesty International and World Journalists Union, the journalists requested all human rights

organizations to condemn the Israeli acts against the Palestinians, who are defending their rights and freedom.

The Palestinian citizens led a demonstration to the United Nations headquarters in Sana'a and delivered a message addressed to UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan in which they express surprise at the lack of action of the international community in relation to the ongoing atrocities in the Palestinian territories.

The message demanded that the UN should send monitors to Palestinian territories to investigate the assassination campaign and demolition of houses of the Palestinians.

Government silent on violence and tribal revenge increases

Yemeni detainees at the US Guantanamo military base soared up to 38, Yemeni official sources said last week.

News reports said last week that the Yemeni team of investigators who went to the military base after obtain-

ing a permission from the US authorities failed to interrogate the detainees.

But, the Yemeni government denied the travel of the team and the team which came back recently was on another mission in England.

Government silent on violence and tribal revenge increases

Violence and tribal revenge acts have gone to the extremes and it appears the government is not able to stop them.

The fighting over a water well in IBB between al-Towaiti and al-Bahm tribes is still going on.

Previously 10 persons were killed and dozens were injured in this continued battle.

The government has been indifferent and has done nothing to stop this one-year-old fight.

In Rada, al-Baidha governorate, seven were killed and 18 wounded in a

tribal fight over a piece of land last Wednesday. The four warring tribes of al-Azan, al-Anisi, Bait al-Abdy and Bait Ahiq al-Azani are disputing over pieces of land and other feuds.

Again last week, two people were killed and four injured in a tribal clash in Sa'ada as a result of a dispute between Bani Ghalfan and al-Abu Slamah tribes.

In Taiz in the same week, three people were killed in the Jabal Habashi area in clashes between citizens and bandits.

Police Fails to Arrest Brit's attackers

Police has failed until now to arrest two unidentified persons who shot down a British citizen last week in Hudeidah.

David John, a British consultant working with a marine company in Hudeidah, was shot last Monday in his neck by two unidentified persons who were riding a motor cycle.

British Ambassador Frances Guy said he is fine, and that she is in contact with him as well as the Yemeni authorities to find out the identity of the criminals and their motives, which might be political.

After this murder attempt, the British Embassy in Sana'a warned its citizens in Yemen to be cautious and on high alert to avoid possible attacks.

Head of Islah Bloc & US Ambassador to discuss current issues

Dr. Abdulrahman Bahadhl, the Head of the Islah Bloc, conveyed a message to the US Ambassador to



Yemen urging him to participate in a debate revolving around diverse vital issues and US attitudes towards sensitive worldwide terminology defined up to now by the US Administration.

The debate is to be organized by Center of Studies headed by Dr. Afandai in Haddah.

President meets ambassador

President Ali Abdullah Saleh met the British Ambassador last Thursday. Yemeni official sources said they discussed the bilateral relationship as well as the question of extradition of abu al-Hamza, wanted by Yemen for terrorist acts.

The letter which Saleh received from the British government stressed Britain's interest in strengthening relations with Yemen and on cracking down on terrorism.

Britain said it will not accept terrorist acts against Yemen from the UK.

Reliable sources told YT that they also discussed the issue of around 15 Brits detained in Yemen.

Eight political parties oppose Cheney's visit to Yemen

Eight political parties issued on March 14 a statement opposing US vice-president Dick Cheney's visit to Yemen and the possible results of that visit.

The statement said that the US administration has been giving false promises with regard to the Palestinian issue, and seeking a free hand to launch a new strike against Iraq.

Al-Eman University celebrates its 9th anniversary

Al-Eman University celebrated its 9th anniversary last Wednesday with an estimated 7,000 people attending the celebration.

Sheikh Abdullah bin Hussein al-Ahmar delivered a speech placing great stress on the leading role performed by the University in disseminating awareness, guidance and religious learning.

Since the September 11 terrorist attacks in the US, the University has encountered many difficulties and pressures, he said.

In the same context, in his speech, the University Rector, Sheikh Abdulmajeed al-Zandani underlined that any attempt to obliterate the religious learning was an attempt to desert people from their religion.

Al-Eman University in one of the most outstanding universities in the Middle East and about 6,000 students study there, among these are 1,300 female students. About 800 students are foreigners.

In Brief

Sponsored by Mr. Abdulqader Bajammal, the PM, the Yemeni Exports Supreme Council, the Technical Department is holding March 18 the first consultative meeting for the Yemeni exporters under the motto of "Towards developing the competitive capacities for Yemeni exports to foreign markets" at the Police Officers Club, Sana'a.

The capital Secretariat celebrated last March 15 the Arab City Day under the motto of "Planning & Developing Local Resources for a Better reality of Arab Cities".

Al-Saeed Foundation for Science and Culture concluded last Wednesday its second cycle of children's rights which was organized by the Children's Forum in collaboration with al-Saeed Foundation.

The Higher Education and Scientific Research Ministries, the Public Health, and Medicine College Dean will organize a workshop on March 21 focusing on developing competence at the Medicine College.

Protocols between the Yemeni-Ethiopian News Agency were reactivated and implemented last week.

Three kidney transplantation operations were conducted at Athowrah General Hospital. Doctors said that the operations were 100% successful.

The third phase of the Italian-French expedition has been completed at the historical site for the old city Tamna'a, the capital of Qeiban.

A symposium titled "Women, Reality and Ambition" was organized by the Yemeni Cultural Center in Cairo on March 15, revolving around women's issues.

The Culture Minister, Abdulwahab al-Rowhani inaugurated the plastic art exhibition to two distinguished French artists at the French Cultural Center.

A lecture was delivered last week at the Cultural Center in Sana'a titled "The Cultural and Social Factors of the Urban Heritage in Yemen". Lectures were concentrated on the old live cities such as, Old Sana'a, Shebam and Hadhramoot and other old forgotten cities such as, Zabeed and al-Makha.

Several Belgian companies and institutions have showed their interest to invest their capitals in the Aden Free Zone so as to enhance the trade exchange between Yemen and Belgium.

10 Malaysian students released

At another level, Yemen announced that it has released 10 Malaysian students who were arrested two weeks ago.

The sources said their arrest was meant to make sure of their legal status in the country. Once it was proved that they are studying in the country with legal residence, they were released.

The Malaysian government was not happy about the incident and demanded the release of its citizens, as they are living in Yemen legally. The Malaysian students were arrested once they came back from Saudi Arabia after performing Hajj.

During the last few weeks, Yemen extradited over 100 foreigners including Americans, Brits and French. They were studying at Dar al-Hadith Scholastic Institute which was closed down mid January, 2002.

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Continued from page 1

Embassy attack still a mystery

The embassy said in a message it had received "additional information" suggesting that an attack on Americans could take place at some time after March 8.

It gave no indication who might be planning to attack and did not link the threat with Cheney's visit, which went ahead on Thursday under tight security.

The message said: "American citizens in Yemen should seriously consider minimizing visits to locations associated with foreigners ... American-affiliated franchises, restaurants and hotels catering to expatriates. If you do decide to visit such locations, you should exercise extreme caution."

In unusual detail for a warning of this kind, it mentioned a certain supermarket and a shopping center to avoid.

Americans should avoid moving around Sana'a alone, vary the stores at

which they buy food or ask non-American domestic staff to buy food for them, it added.

Before driving, they should check their vehicles to make sure no one has tampered with them, it said.

Vice President Dick Cheney visited Sana'a on Thursday as part of his 11-nation Middle East tour.

The Vice President expressed his deep appreciation for President Saleh's determination to eradicate the al-Qa'eda presence in Yemen.

The two leaders also discussed ways of further strengthening US-Yemeni cooperation in staunching potential terrorist flows through the region.

Cheney indicated that in addition to being responsive to Yemen's request for training its special forces in their counter-terrorism mission, the United States is planning to address essential military equipment needs and to

increase assistance to Yemen's Coast Guard and economy.

Just as important will be U.S. help in encouraging other members of the international coalition to contribute to Yemen's development plans.

In reviewing the latest developments in the Middle East, the Vice President welcomed the Yemeni President's support for General Zinni's mission in the area. Mr. Cheney summed up that what the United States is striving for is the end of the cycle of violence between Israelis and Palestinians and the implementation of the Tenet and Mitchell plans with the ultimate objective of a Palestinian state coexisting peacefully with Israel.

Vice President Cheney and President Saleh also discussed the need to enhance security in the Gulf and address Iraq's development of weapons of mass destruction.

Yemen officially took part in a meeting of the GCC

The ministers discussed educational and cultural issues relating to the region, tackling them according to expectations of heads of GCC states who aim to raise the level of education to the highest in the world.

Dr Al Sharhan said: "I would like to congratulate Dr Abu Ghanim on his first appearance in representing Yemen in the Arab Bureau of Education for Gulf States.

The Yemen Ministry of Education taking part in this meeting is of great importance and it comes at a time when education and culture are need-

ed for many reasons.

"Most of our countries in the region need education to combat the forces that trap people in poverty, foster life skills, improve functioning of local economics, provide capacities to participate in a rapidly developing global economy, preserve national culture and improve governance," he said.

Listing some of the solutions that need to be undertaken, Dr Al Sharhan added: "We need to seek the future in returning to the past and translate our talents into competence. What we get

from globalisation depends clearly on our contribution. We need also to innovate in order to create wealth and welfare from minds and not just from wells that can be done by strategic planning and good management."

Dr Al Mullais said: "I would like to thank our new colleague Dr Abu Ghanim for attending the meeting for the first time with us and representing Yemen for the first time. Yemen's participation in the bureau is essential for education and culture and we expect a positive output in the near future

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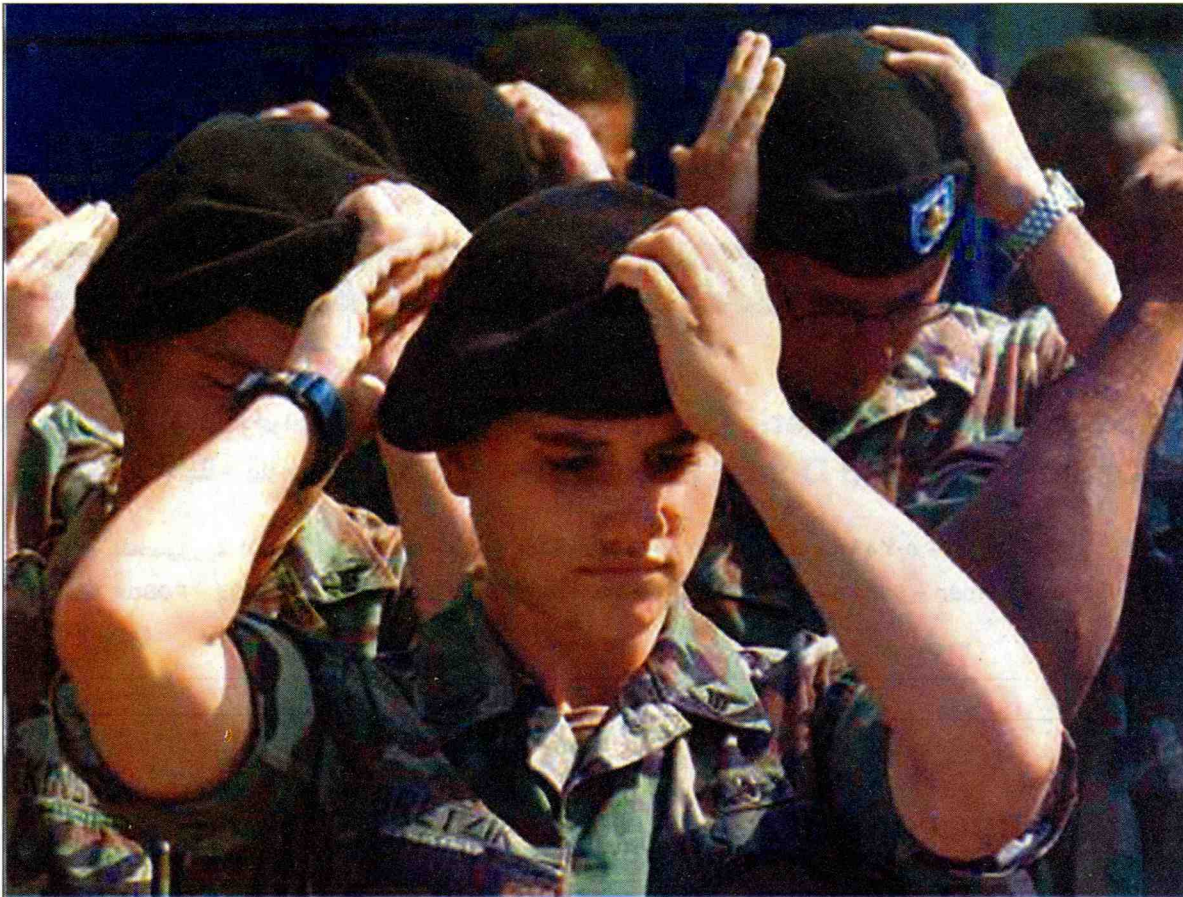
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Manila Denies U.S. Battlefield Rescue Breached Deal



U.S. soldiers arrange their black berets during a ceremony inside the Edwin Andrew's air base in Zamboanga city, southern Philippines March 16, 2002. The donning of the black beret is part of the transition of the changing of the beret to symbolize professionalism. Photo by Romeo Ranoco/Reuters

MANILA (Reuters) - The Philippines insisted on Saturday a U.S. helicopter mission to rescue Filipino troops wounded in battle had not overstepped the controversial military training agreement between the two countries.

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tary personnel, picked up one dead and three wounded Filipino soldiers from the site of a clash with Abu Sayyaf on Basilan island late on Friday. Brigadier General Donald Wurster, chief of the U.S. Special Operations Command, said in a statement.

About 600 U.S. troops are in the southern Philippines training local troops fighting Abu Sayyaf, in a deployment critics say violates a ban in the constitution of the Philippines on foreign combat forces from operating in the country.

Under the terms of the joint military exercise, the American forces are supposed to limit themselves to training and logistics support and may not engage in combat.

"Such details as rescuing Philippine troops does not really contradict that main principle," Presidential spokesman Rigoberto Tiglao told Reuters.

The government says its treaties with the United States give it the right to conduct the military exercises.

About 160 U.S. special forces have been joining local soldiers on patrol in Basilan, a remote jungle-clad island 550 miles south of Manila, where the Abu Sayyaf have holed up.

Tiglao confirmed that the government has received informal proposals for an increase in the number of American military personnel allowed to take part in the exercises.

He added that a final decision would be in the hands of President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo.

In a separate incident early on Saturday, the Philippine army said two Abu Sayyaf fighters were killed in a clash with troops on Jolo island, south of Basilan.

None of the soldiers were hurt and the military was pursuing the remnants of the group. Army Southern Command chief Lieutenant General Roy Cimatu said.

Turkey Says Iraq No Threat to Neighbors

BARCELONA, Spain, (Xinhua) — Turkey on Friday urged the United States not to attack Iraq, saying the country poses no threat to its neighbors.

"We feel that Iraq should not be the subject of military attacks because it would upset the whole Middle East," Turkish Prime Minister Bulent Ecevit told reporters after meeting European Union (EU) leaders at their summit in Barcelona.

The United States, which led a coalition against Iraq in the 1991 Gulf War, is widely believed to prepare for a fresh strike if Baghdad does not let international weapons inspectors return to the country. The issue is also on the agenda of the two-day EU summit in Spain, with the spokesman for British Prime Minister Tony Blair warning that the West could not turn its back on the problem.

Ecevit said Iraq had done nothing to merit a new onslaught. "Since the Gulf

War, Iraq has been under strict control ... It is under constant surveillance so it is not in a position any more to inflict any harm on its neighbors or even against its people," the Turkish prime minister said.

Turkey, one of NATO allies and Iraq's western neighbor which played an active part in the 1991 war, is worried that another conflict would wreak havoc with its already enfeebled economy.

Ankara says it lost more than 30 billion U.S. dollars in revenues after the Gulf War. "Our economy would suffer a great deal on account of a military venture," said Ecevit, who is due to meet U.S. Vice President Dick Cheney next week to discuss the Iraqi issue.

Earlier at the EU summit which started on Friday, German Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder told reporters that he knew of no plans for an attack on Iraq. He urged reporters not to speculate about the possibility of strikes.

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Upbeat U.S. Middle East envoy meets with Arafat again



PALESTINIAN PRESIDENT YASSER ARAFAT SHAKES HANDS WITH U.S. ENVOY ANTHONY ZINNI. Palestinian President Yasser Arafat (R) shakes hands with U.S. envoy Anthony Zinni during their meeting in the West Bank City of Ramallah March 15, 2002. Israeli tanks moved out of the West Bank city of Ramallah, ending a brief reoccupation of Arafat's power base as Zinni pressed ahead with truce talks. Photo by Osama Silwadi/Reuters

JERUSALEM (Reuters) - U.S. envoy Anthony Zinni, upbeat about his first meetings with Israeli and Palestinian leaders, pressed ahead on Saturday with talks aimed at brokering a cease-fire after 17 months of Israeli-Palestinian fighting.

Zinni was greeted by Palestinian President Yasser Arafat in the West Bank city of Ramallah before holding talks with senior Palestinian negotiator Saeb Erekat and other Palestinian leaders for the second time in since his arrival on Thursday.

The former U.S. Marine Corps general was due to meet Prime Minister Ariel Sharon later in the day at the Israeli leader's ranch in the Negev Desert, their second encounter in 48 hours.

Erekat told CNN television the Palestinians had impressed on Zinni the need for Israel to "pull out of all re-

occupied areas" and for a two-pronged approach to resolving the crisis.

"We cannot work security aspects in isolation from the political track or the political vision, and what we are trying really to institute here is that the political track and the security track will work in parallel," Erekat said.

In a statement after meeting Arafat on Friday, Zinni had described his meetings on both sides as "positive."

"I sensed everyone is committed to get out of this terrible situation," Zinni said in Ramallah, Arafat's West Bank power base, hours after Israeli tanks rumbled out of the city, leaving a trail of crushed cars and toppled utility poles in their wake.

He said he expected truce talks to begin in earnest within three days, after preliminary talks on "mechanisms" to end the fighting.

Gun battles in the West Bank cities

of Bethlehem and Hebron late on Friday underscored the difficulties Zinni faces after a week of some of the fiercest Arab-Israeli fighting in decades.

Zinni, on his third trip to the region since November, is seeking implemen-

al-Qaeda's difficulties

Since the September 11 attacks in America, it has become clear, from sources in Afghanistan, as well as from commentary in the middle East, that many Islamists believe al-Qaeda's decision to escalate its attacks on America has seriously completed the Islamists' agenda. These Islamists, including many members of the Laskar Jihad, a Jakarta-based organization, prefer a more subtle, pragmatic approach to their goals. They are prepared to resist efforts of the now-

tation of a U.S.-brokered cease-fire and an internationally backed truce-to-talks plan. His two previous missions were derailed by violence.

European Union leaders meeting in Barcelona were set to reaffirm their support on Saturday for the creation of an independent Palestinian state alongside an Israel secure within internationally recognized borders.

"(The EU supports) the creation of a democratic, viable and independent Palestinian state, bringing to an end the occupation of territories which began in 1967," Spanish Foreign Minister Josep Pique told reporters after the 15 leaders discussed the Middle East crisis at a dinner on Friday evening.

The Palestinian Wafa news agency quoted Nabil Abu Rdainah, Arafat's adviser, as welcoming the EU statements at "this sensitive stage."

Israel's pullback from Ramallah and two other West Bank cities, announced shortly before Zinni flew in on Thursday, drew praise from President Bush, who spoke of a need to "establish the conditions for eventual peace."

Israeli troops remained just outside four other cities.

About 40,000 mourners marched through al-Bureij refugee camp in central Gaza for the funeral of a Palestinian mother, her three children and a nephew killed on Friday when a land mine exploded under a donkey cart in which they were riding.

At least 1,069 Palestinians and 344 Israelis have died since a Palestinian uprising against Israeli occupation began in September 2000 after peace talks froze.

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Iraqi Deputy PM visits Libya, Tunisia, Algeria, Morocco

BAGHDAD, March 16 (Xinhua) — Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister Tareq Aziz on Saturday embarked a visit to Libya, Tunisia, Algeria and Morocco to rally support from these Arab countries to avert any possible attacks from the United States.

The official Iraqi News Agency (INA) said Aziz began the visit in the capacity of being an envoy of President Saddam Hussein, without elaborating.

Izzat Ibrahim, vice chairman of Iraq's decision-making Revolutionary Command Council, visited Jordan, Syria and Lebanon earlier this week as an envoy of Saddam.

Iraq's diplomatic drive came ahead of the annual Arab summit due in Beirut, Lebanon from March 27-28, during which Iraq hopes the summit to take a unified stand against U.S. attacks against Iraq.

U.S. President George W. Bush has branded Iraq as part of an "axis of evil" and strongly warned that Iraq might become the next target of the U.S.-led war on terrorism.

U.S. Vice President Dick Cheney is currently visiting the Mideast region to drum up support for the U.S.-led war against terrorism as well as destroying Iraq's weapons of mass destruction.

Released by the US Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor on March 4

Report on human rights in Yemen - 2001

The Republic of Yemen, comprising the former (northern) Yemen Arab Republic (YAR) and (southern) People's Democratic Republic of Yemen (PDRY), was proclaimed in 1990. Following a brief but bloody civil war in mid-1994, the country was reunified under the Sana'a-based government. President Ali Abdullah Saleh is the leader of the General People's Congress (GPC), which dominates the Government. He was elected by the legislature to a 5-year term in 1994, and was elected to another 5-year term in the country's first nationwide direct presidential election in September 1999, winning 96.3 percent of the vote. The Constitution provides that the President be elected by popular vote from at least two candidates endorsed by Parliament, and the election was generally free and fair; however, there were some problems, including the lack of a credible voter registration list. In addition the President was not opposed by a truly competitive candidate because the candidate selected by the leftist opposition did not receive the minimum number of votes required to run from the GPC-dominated Parliament (the other opposition party chose not to run its own candidate, despite its seats in Parliament). The President's sole opponent was a member of the GPC. The first Parliament elected by universal adult suffrage was convened in 1993. Parliamentary elections were held again in 1997, with the Yemen Socialist Party (YSP), formerly the main party of the PDRY and a previous coalition partner of the GPC, leading an opposition boycott. The GPC won an absolute majority in the 1997 Parliament, with the opposition Islamist and tribal Yemeni Grouping for Reform (Islah) as the only other major party represented. International observers judged that the elections were reasonably free and fair, while noting some problems with voting procedures. The Parliament is not yet an effective counterweight to executive authority, although it increasingly demonstrates independence from the Government. Real political power rests with the executive branch, particularly the President. The country's first local elections were held in February, with all major opposition parties participating. The judiciary is nominally independent, but is weak and severely hampered by corruption, executive branch interference, and the frequent failure of the authorities to enforce judgments.

The primary state security apparatus is the Political Security Organization (PSO), an independent agency that reports directly to the President. The Criminal Investigative Department (CID) of the police reports to the Ministry of Interior and conducts most criminal investigations and makes most arrests. The Central Security Organization (CSO), also a part of the Ministry of Interior, maintains a paramilitary force. The civilian authorities do not maintain effective control of

the security forces. Members of the security forces, particularly the PSO, committed numerous, serious human rights abuses.

Yemen is a very poor country with a population of approximately 18 million; about 40 percent of the population live in poverty. Its embryonic market-based economy, despite a major economic reform program, remains impeded by excessive government interference and widespread corruption. Annual per capita gross national product (GNP) rose to \$403 in 2000, up from \$373 in 1999. Agriculture accounts for approximately 22 percent of GNP; industry, including construction and trade, for approximately 45 percent; and services for approximately 33 percent. Oil is the primary source of foreign exchange. Other exports include fish, livestock, coffee, and detergents. Remittances from citizens working abroad (primarily in Saudi Arabia and other Arab Persian Gulf states) also are important. However, remittances were reduced sharply after Saudi Arabia and other Gulf states expelled up to 850,000 Yemeni workers during the Gulf War because of the Government's lack of support for the U.N. coalition. The Gulf states also suspended most assistance programs, and much Western aid was reduced. Foreign aid has begun to reemerge as an important source of income, with Saudi Arabia and Kuwait resuming soft loan programs during the year. The unemployment rate is estimated at 35 percent, and is highest in the southern governorates, where, prior to unity, most adults were employed by the PDRY Government.

The Government generally respected its citizens' human rights in some areas and continued to improve its human rights performance; however, its record was poor in several other areas, and serious problems remain. There are significant limitations on citizens' ability to change their government. Members of the security forces killed a number of persons during the year. Members of the security forces tortured and otherwise abused persons, and continued to arrest and detain citizens arbitrarily, especially oppositionists in the south and other persons regarded as "secessionists." Directives intended to align the country's arrest, interrogation, and detention procedures more closely with internationally accepted standards generally were implemented during the year. Prison conditions were poor, and some detainees were held in private prisons not authorized by the Government. However, during the year, the Government conducted prison inspections, released prisoners being held after their sentences had been completed, and cooperated with international nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) to study and improve conditions for female prisoners. PSO officers have broad discretion over perceived national security issues. Despite constitutional constraints,

security officers routinely monitor citizens' activities, search their homes, detain citizens for questioning, and mistreat detainees. The Government usually failed to hold members of the security forces accountable for abuses; however, there were two convictions of security officials for abuses in late 2000. Prolonged pretrial detention is a serious problem, and judicial corruption, inefficiency, and executive interference undermine due process. The Government continued to implement a comprehensive long-term program for judicial reform. The law limited freedom of speech and of the press, and the Government continued to harass, intimidate, and detain journalists. Journalists practiced

peacefully, but, due to circumstances that were unclear, the confrontation escalated into a shootout when tribal members opened fire on security forces. Nineteen security forces personnel were killed and 30 wounded; reportedly four tribal members were killed and seven wounded. The al-Qaida suspects escaped and were still being sought by the Government at year's end.

RESPECT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

In August 2000, Sabah Seif Salem reportedly died while being detained in a prison in the al-Udain district of lbb governorate. Her family claimed that security officials tortured her to extract a confession of adultery (sec 1.c.).

No security officials were tried or convicted for abuses committed during the year. However, in December 2000, the penal court in Hodeidah governorate found two security officials guilty of torturing a citizen to death in 1995. The officials were demoted, dismissed, and sentenced to 3 years in prison (see Section 1.c.).

On October 12, 2000, terrorists in a small bomb-laden boat attacked the USS Cole, a U.S. naval ship, as it refueled in Aden harbor. The explosion killed 17 sailors and wounded 39 others. The investigation into the attack was ongoing, and several suspects were in custody at year's end (see Section 1.e.).

Approximately 28 persons were killed in election related violence in February (see Section 3).

Tribal violence resulted in a number of killings and other abuses, and the Government's ability to control tribal elements remained limited. In addition tensions between the Government and various tribes periodically escalated into violent confrontations (see Section 5). Persons continued to be killed and injured in unexplained bombings and shootings that occurred during the year. In most cases, it was impossible to determine who was responsible for such acts or why they occurred, and there were no claims of responsibility. The Government accused southern oppositionists of perpetrating some incidents, but the opposition denied any involvement. Some cases appeared to have criminal, religious, or political motives; others appeared to be cases of tribal revenge or land disputes. In June 1998, the President established a committee to study the phenomenon of revenge killings and to make recommendations on how to combat the problem. Presumably in response to the committee's inability to produce results, the President in May gave the new Shura Council (see Section 3) the task of developing a strategy to address the phenomenon of violent tribal revenge. In November the Dar al-Salam Arbitration Organization, a local NGO, held the country's first "anti-revenge conference."

Section 1 Respect for the Integrity of the Person, Including Freedom From:
a. Arbitrary or Unlawful Deprivation of Life
Members of the security forces killed a number of persons during the year. There were some reports during the year that security forces at checkpoints killed or injured persons whom they believed were engaging in criminal activity and resisting arrest.

In January the human rights organization Forum for a Civil Society reported that Mohammed al-Yafia, who was convicted in 1996 for his involvement in a series of bombings in Aden and who had complained of being tortured in 1997, had died under suspicious circumstances in al-Mansura Prison in Aden (see Section 1.c.).

In April a demonstrator was killed and another wounded when a soldier fired into a crowd protesting a zoning decision in the al-Dalah governorate. The soldier reportedly was arrested, but at year's end there was no information about whether he was disciplined (see Section 2.b.).

On December 18, military and security forces conducted armed operations in Marib and Shebwa governorates in an attempt to apprehend terrorists affiliated with the al-Qaida organization. The operation began

b. Disappearance
Members of the security forces continue to

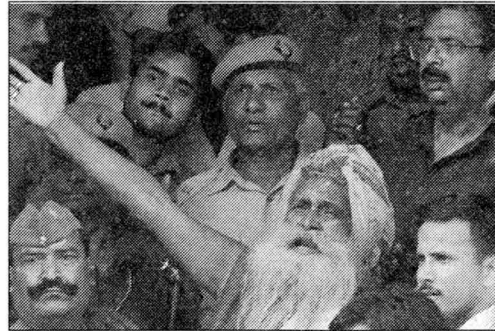
Section 1 Respect for the Integrity of the Person, Including Freedom From:

Members of the security forces continue to

Members of the security forces continue to

Members of the security forces continue to

Indian PM urges speedy dispute of religious row



NEW DELHI (Reuters) - Indian Prime Minister Atal Behari Vajpayee called on Saturday for the speedy resolution of a row over a holy site in the northern town of Ayodhya that has plunged India into its worst religious crisis in a decade.

"It should become a national effort to resolve this as it is hurting efforts to maintain religious peace," the leader of the Hindu nationalist coalition government told parliament.

"We mustn't let this dispute fester."

The mainly Hindu but officially secular country has been deeply shaken by a wave of religious bloodletting stemming from the dispute in which more than 700 people, most of them Muslims, were killed in the western state of Gujarat.

The violence was triggered on February 27 when a Muslim mob torched a train carrying Hindu devotees from Ayodhya, where Hindus want to build a temple on the site of a razed mosque.

The mosque's demolition by Hindu

zealots 10 years ago sparked religious riots in which some 3,000 people died.

The row over Ayodhya has created a huge political storm with the opposition accusing the Bharatiya Janata Party-led government of betraying the secular constitution and coincides with a massive Indian military stand-off with Pakistan.

Vajpayee said the government would ask a court to speed up hearings of a half-century-old case over ownership of the site claimed by Hindus and Muslims and said efforts should also be made to resolve the dispute outside the courts.

Hindu hard-liners say the site was the birthplace some 900,000 years ago of the god-king Ram, one of the most important deities in the Hindu pantheon, while Muslims want the mosque rebuilt.

Fears of a fresh explosion of religious violence receded on Saturday after a threatened showdown over a contentious Hindu prayer ritual in

Ayodhya was averted. "Ayodhya face-off ends in a whimper," read a headline in the Times of India.

Police had rounded up thousands of people across the country to avert any new unrest over the ceremony on Friday, cordoned off the temple-studded town and turning it into an armed fortress, pouring in units of security men.

But a new political controversy loomed over a decision by Vajpayee to send an envoy to accept two carved pillars intended for the elaborate temple from the Hindu activists.

Vajpayee was slammed by the opposition Congress party for sending the government representative to take the pillars. The government "tacitly connived with the VHP and has now been exposed as openly collaborating with them," Sonia Gandhi, the Italian-born leader of Congress, told parliament on Friday.

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U.S., Afghan troops hunt for pockets of rebels

BAGRAM AIR BASE, Afghanistan (Reuters) - The U.S. military said on Saturday coalition and Afghan troops were fanning out across the rugged Shahi Kot valley to root out any remnants of Taliban-al Qaeda resistance. The biggest ground battle of the Afghan War ended earlier in the week but, despite fierce aerial raids and close combat, the mountainous landscape and a vast labyrinth of caves may have allowed some of the hardened Muslim rebels to slip away.

About 1,000 U.S., coalition and Afghan soldiers were mopping up in the Shahi Kot valley, U.S. military spokesman Major Bryan Hilferty told reporters at Bagram near Kabul, the main base for the campaign in eastern Afghanistan.

"We continue cave exploitation, finding ammunition caches, mortar bombs, rockets, sensitive documents, diaries

and manuals in Arabic and French," he said.

"The operation continues. We are looking for other pockets of resistance."

U.S. teams are gathering DNA evidence to try to determine whether senior Taliban and al Qaeda leaders were killed or managed to escape the assault that killed hundreds of their men.

U.S. commanders have said the bodies of Egyptians, Sudanese and Indonesians have been found among the rebel dead — and possibly Chechen, Uzbek and Chinese fighters as well.

The last of the major battles ended on Wednesday when U.S., Canadian and Afghan troops stormed rebel caves and trenches near Gardez, about 95 miles south of Kabul.

The focus has now shifted to a guerrilla war as small bands of fighters from

Afghanistan's ultra-Islamic Taliban movement and the al Qaeda network — blamed by Washington for the September 11 attacks on the United States — try to dodge the allied dragnet.

The U.S. military says troops have found a goldmine of intelligence information as they carefully search mined and booby-trapped caves that riddle mountains soaring 12,000 feet.

The hunt is also on for Saifur Rahman Mansour, the Taliban's leader in the region. Afghan commanders say intercepted radio traffic suggests he lost an arm and may even have been killed.

The U.S. military says it killed 800 to 1,000 militants during the 12-day Shahi Kot campaign, although some Afghan commanders have expressed concerns that many may have slipped across the mountains toward the nearby Pakistan border.

Human rights in Yemen in 2001 (contin'd)

Citizens regularly claim that security officials did not observe due process procedures when arresting and detaining suspects, particularly those accused of involvement in political violence. There also were claims that private individuals hired lower-level security officials to intervene on their behalf and harass their business rivals. Security forces at times detained demonstrators (see Section 2.b.).

The Yemeni Institute for Democratic Development (YIDD) reported that Amar Mahmoud Ali Abdo al-Madhagi was arrested by CID officials in May and held without charge for approximately 6 weeks. Al-Madhagi's family claimed that security officials detained al-Madhagi as he was walking down the street in Sana'a, coerced a confession from him regarding his purported involvement in terrorist activities, and then held him incommunicado. The Government denied the family's version of al-Madhagi's arrest. The Ministry of State for Human Rights looked into the YIDD report and stated that al-Madhagi had approached the authorities, claiming to have information regarding the October 2000 terrorist attack against the USS Cole (see Section 1.a.). The authorities determined that the information provided by al-Madhagi was a hoax, and arrested him for "intentionally providing inaccurate and misleading information." According to the Ministry, al-Madhagi was in prison and awaiting trial at year's end.

In cases in which a criminal suspect is at large, security forces in some instances detain a relative while the suspect is being sought. The detention may continue while the concerned families negotiate compensation for the alleged wrongdoing. Arbitration, rather than the court system, commonly is used to settle cases.

The Government failed to ensure that detainees and prisoners are incarcerated only in authorized detention facilities. The Ministry of Interior and the PSO operate extrajudicial detention facilities. A large percentage of the total prison population consists of pretrial detainees. There have been allegations that a large number of persons have been imprisoned for years without documentation concerning charges against them, their trials, or their sentences.

Aziz Mohamed Musaid, who was arrested in Taiz in September 1998 and charged with intent to commit adultery, was released on bail in December 2000; however, his trial remained pending. Musaid's case had languished and he remained in jail because the presiding judge, Abdul Jabar Taha al-Kharasani, refused to adjudicate the case. The charges did not appear to be supported by solid evidence. In October 1999, the Minister of Interior ordered al-Kharasani to turn over his cases, including Musaid's, to another judge, but he refused to do so. Al-Kharasani was finally compelled to do so in December 2000, and another judge has taken the case.

While some cases of those being held without charge have been redressed through the efforts of local human rights groups and government inspection missions (and some

illegally detained prisoners released), the authorities have not investigated nor resolved these cases adequately.

Unauthorized private prisons also exist in tribal areas in which the Government does not exercise authority effectively. Persons detained in such prisons often are held for strictly personal reasons and without trial or sentencing (see Sections 1.c. and 1.e.).

The law does not permit forced exile. The Government does not use forced exile. However, at the end of the 1994 civil war, the Government denied amnesty to the 16 most senior leaders of the armed, secessionist Democratic Republic of Yemen (DRY) who fled abroad. Although they were not forced into exile, they are subject to arrest if they return.

The trial of the so-called "16" concluded in March 1998. During the year, with the encouragement of the Government, prominent southern journalists, military officers, and their families who fled the country during the 1994 civil war returned to the country (see Section 1.e.).

In December the Government deported approximately 100 foreigners, many of whom were studying at Muslim religious schools, who allegedly were in the country illegally. The Government claimed that these persons were suspected of inciting violence or engaging in criminal acts by promoting religious extremism. The Government deported them using existing laws that require all foreigners to register with the police or immigration authorities within a month of arrival in the country.

e. Denial of Fair Public Trial

The Constitution provides for an "autonomous" judiciary and independent judges; however, the judiciary is not fully independent, and it is weak and severely hampered by corruption, executive branch interference, and the frequent failure of the authorities to enforce judgments. Judges are appointed by the executive branch, and some have been harassed, reassigned, or removed from office following rulings against the Government. For example, there were credible reports that in 1999 then-governor of Sana'a Najal al-Sufi repeatedly interfered with and attempted to intimidate members of the judiciary, including assault on a defense lawyer, detaining at least two judges, and harassing the chairman of Sana'a governorate's prosecutor's office. Many litigants maintain, and the Government acknowledges, that a judge's social ties and susceptibility to bribery at times have greater influence on the verdict than the law or the facts of the case. Many judges are poorly trained; some closely associated with the Government often render decisions favorable to it. The judiciary is hampered further by the Government's frequent reluctance to enforce judgments. Tribal members at times threaten and harass members of the judiciary. For example, in August 2000, members of the Bani Dhuban tribe kidnaped judge Abdu Rahman Abu Taleb, who was presiding over a land dispute case involving the tribe.

There are five types of courts: Criminal; civil

and personal status (for example, divorce and inheritance); kidnapping/terrorism; commercial; and court-martial.

All laws are codified from Shar'a, under which there are no jury trials. Criminal cases are adjudicated by a judge, who plays an active role in questioning witnesses and the accused. Under the Constitution and by law, the Government must provide attorneys for indigent defendants; however, in practice this never occurs. Despite a stipulation that the Government provide legal aid to indigent defendants, the law does not explicitly prohibit trying criminal defendants without a lawyer, and the judicial budget currently does not allow for defense attorneys. Judges at times "appoint" attorneys present in their courtrooms to

The Government failed to ensure that detainees and prisoners are incarcerated only in authorized detention facilities.

The Ministry of Interior and the PSO operate extrajudicial detention facilities. A large percentage of the total prison population consists of pretrial detainees.

represent indigent defendants; however, such attorneys legally are not required to take the case, although most accept in order to avoid displeasing judges before whom they must appear later.

By law prosecutors are a part of the judiciary and independent of the Government; however, in practice prosecutors consider themselves as an extension of the police. They do not receive the normal judicial training that judges do, nor do they fulfill their legal obligation to prosecute police who delay reporting arrests and detentions.

Defense attorneys are allowed to counsel their clients, address the court, and examine witnesses. Defendants, including those in commercial courts, have the right to appeal their sentences. Trials generally are public; however, all courts may conduct closed sessions "for reasons of public security or morals." Foreign litigants in commercial disputes have complained of biased rulings. However, some foreign companies have won cases against local defendants, and some such decisions have been enforced.

In addition to regular courts, the law permits a system of tribal adjudication for noncriminal issues, although in practice tribal "judges" often

adjudicate criminal cases as well. The results of such mediation carry the same if not greater weight as court judgments. Persons jailed under the tribal system usually are not charged formally with a crime but stand publicly accused of their transgression.

In October 1999, the Government established a special court to try persons charged with kidnapping, "carjacking," attacking oil pipelines and other acts of banditry and sabotage (see Section 1.b.). Several persons tried by this special court have received lengthy jail sentences, which appears to have had a deterrent effect on tribal kidnappings.

Prior to unification, approximately half of the judges working in southern Yemen were women. However, after the 1994 civil war,

In August the country's Higher Judicial Council, chaired by the President, dismissed 20 judges and prosecutors for violating the law and forced 108 others to retire. The council also strengthened the Ministry of Justice's authority to investigate and prosecute allegations of judicial abuse, and instructed the Accountability Council to accelerate its investigation of pending cases. Also in August, the Minister of Justice led an inspection tour of courts in several governorates to review the performance of officials, identify problems and take corrective action, if necessary.

In September the Cabinet approved a package of judicial reform measures aimed primarily at improving the country's commercial and public finance courts, which deal with taxes, customs, and foreign exchange law. Later in the month, the Ministry of Justice initiated a project to upgrade the country's judicial infrastructure, including construction of 55 new courthouses, prosecution offices, and residences for judges in several governorates. The Ministry completed 20 facilities by year's end.

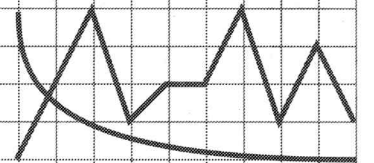
In 1999 a U.N. Development Program (UNDP) team visited the country to conduct an assessment that would serve as the basis of a second judicial reform program, which originally was scheduled to begin in January 2000 and end in 2002. The team noted the Government's willingness to address long-standing issues of accountability and transparency and to implement laws more effectively. The program's goals would be to modernize Ministry of Justice equipment, improve the country's legal libraries, provide special training for the Attorney General's office, enhance public awareness of the rule of law, and secure a building for the Supreme Court. The UNDP continues to seek donor funding for the program, which had not begun by year's end.

A third judicial reform program, financed by international assistance, was initiated in January 2000 and is to last through March 2002. The program focuses on the Ministries of Justice and of Legal and Parliamentary Affairs and is to provide training in business and commercial law for judges; a diagnostic study of judicial education curriculum; training on drafting of legislation; and a review of the country's commercial laws to identify and correct inconsistencies or close gaps. The program is ongoing.

The security services continued to arrest and prosecutors to charge and try persons alleged to be linked to various shootings, explosions, bombings, and other acts of violence. Citizens and human rights groups alleged that the judiciary did not observe due process standards in these cases.

In February the lawyer for two suspects detained in connection with the investigation into the October 12, 2000, terrorist attack against the USS Cole in Aden harbor (see Section 1.a.), claimed that authorities denied him access to his clients. There also were expressions of concern that the prosecution has postponed proceeding to trial to give security officials more time to investigate with

YT Business



Will Yemen's poverty alleviation strategy be successful?

BY YEMEN TIMES STAFF

It is expected that both ministers of economic cooperation of Germany and the Netherlands will pay visits to Yemen from April 2 to 4, with the view of discussing with the Yemeni officials issues of bilateral cooperation and means of enhancing them. The two countries are scheduled to contribute to the activities of the poverty alleviation strategy currently under implementation in the Republic of Yemen.

The two countries are two of the top donor countries to Yemen and have funded many development projects across the country.

The visits of the two ministers will coincide with the launch of the poverty alleviation strategy, after a seminar organized by Aden University has stressed the importance of creating a climate to help for investment and create more job opportunities. Similarly, the seminar called for creating a competent management which is capable to efficiently run the social care network.

Minister of Planning & Development, Ahmed Sufan said in a press conference held recently that the ability of the Yemeni economy to create more jobs tops the current government's agenda.

"The real test is to eradicate poverty

and to achieve a remarkable economic growth," he added. The Minister of Planning also pointed out need to tap into the resources of different social groups, especially women.

The partial objectives of the strategy are represented by reducing the rate of food-related poverty to 21.7 percent, reducing the population growth to 3 percent, raising life expectancy from 61.1 years to 62.3 years. The strategy also aims at providing 69 percent of water to urban areas instead of the current figure which is 64 percent. Electricity as well as water sanitation services coverage are expected to surge to 4 percent and 8 percent respectively.

The strategy also focuses on reducing infants and children mortalities under 5 years to 95.9 per thousand newborn. As for mothers mortality rate, it will aim at reducing this to 15 percent.

The strategy also aims at increasing the overall enrollment at the basic grades of education to 69.3, and increasing the overall enrollment to 41.3 percent instead of 31.7 percent.

Women's presence at the labor market will rise to 24.4 percent instead of 21.5 percent, while unemployment as well as partial unemployment rates will be reduced to 9.5 percent and 12.5 percent respectively.

Poverty is one of the gravest problems, which a high portion of the society are suffering from, as the individual share of the gross domestic product GDP does not exceed USD 280, according to some statistics of the World Bank.

Similarly, the average individual share of the gross domestic product rose from US \$302 in 1995 to US \$375 in 2000. However, the survey admitted that the real living standard dropped by 6.9 percent after deleting the annual average inflation totaling 3 percent in 2000. It was 10.2 percent in 1999, which in turn has made the problem even worse.

The government has attempted to secure US \$39 million for funding the projects implemented by the Social Fund for Development. The government also decided last December to establish a bank for the poor, named the Hope Bank for Microfinance to help alleviate poverty. This bank will



Courtesy UN

not have any interests for the loans made to the poor. This is the first bank of its kind in Yemen where 60 percent of the population here (18.5 million) live under the poverty line.

The capital of the bank will total US \$6 billion of which \$2.5 billion will be allocated by the government of Yemen. Whereas the Arab Gulf Fund for supporting UN development organizations will fund it with \$2.5 million. The Yemeni private sector will contribute with USD one million.

Unemployment is the second largest problem in Yemen, after poverty, which is the direct results of the difficult economic situation the country has been going through since the second Gulf crisis in 1990. The current unemployment rate is 20.2 percent, i.e. it has doubled within the last five years. Though independent sources confirm that the actual rate is 40 percent and it is subjected to increase in annual basis.

Minister of Planning & Development confirmed recently say that 250,000 Yemenis enter the job market each year which is a low proportion of the Yemeni labor force estimated at 4.1 million.

Will the government be able to reduce the poverty rate and improve the living conditions of the poor segment of the society?

It sounds that the answer for this question will be through having more investments and attracting foreign investment in particular, otherwise, all the government's efforts will come to know avail.

Speculation undermines national currency

BY: MAHYOUB AL-KAMALI
YEMEN TIMES ECONOMIC EDITOR

Yemen is in dire need of a new monetary system to stop random speculation which is causing our national currency to deteriorate.

Speculation problems have been on the rise in Yemen. So while foreign currencies have been strengthening, the YR has been sagged against the USD.

It seems the laws at the Central Bank of Yemen are encouraging banking activities akin to a hobby, not a profession, and as a result those who practice banking activities have been seeking to achieve excessive wealth.

Speculation is one of the easiest ways to gain profits and to ameliorate the stocks. But as an economical financial activity, speculation is also supposed to be under the control of monetary bylaws and market laws.

A public opinion poll has been conducted at exchange markets, and exchangers say that speculation has been widely expanded at the Yemeni money markets because of traders' orientation to the banking sector. Such orientation has greatly effected the stock market exchange, and has result-

ed in the deteriorating of the national currency.

Money exchangers believe about 25 % of those who work at the banking sector have restored speculation because of the rapid windfall. They say that speculation lies in the fact that it is in need of purchasing shares and developmental enterprises. As a result, investors prefer to gain a rapid windfall through speculation, instead of investing, which they see as a trap.

It is noteworthy that speculation in the field of properties has been recently recessed particularly after the bankruptcy of the private companies. This can be attributed to the unavailability of proper and legal bases. In this context, businessmen of the private sector prefer to work in the field of the speculation through purchasing currencies that are undervalued, and then selling them at high prices.

It is also noticeable that speculation is widely practiced in the pilgrimage seasons, before Eids and during mid summer vacations. The main deterioration of the national currency, the emergence of the financial crises and the high increase of inflation has greatly affected the national currency due to this random speculation.

It's time for a new way.

Exchange Rate for the Yemeni Rial as of March 16

Curr.	Buying	Selling
USD	173.52	173.78
GBP	246.84	247.21
EUR	151.80	152.03
SAR	46.27	46.34
KWD	264.75	265.60
AED	47.24	47.31
EGP	37.46	37.51
BHD	460.27	460.96
QAR	47.66	47.73
JOD	244.74	245.11
OMR	450.70	451.38
DEM	77.62	77.73
CHF	102.96	103.12
FRF	23.14	23.18
ITL	.078400	.078517
NLG	68.89	68.99
SEK	16.72	16.75
BEF	3.76	3.77
JPY	1.348775	1.350796

Source: Central Bank of Yemen

Prequalification Notice for Implementing and Maintaining the Radio Complex, Sana'a



The General Corporation for Radio & Television invites contractors from Yemen and abroad, classified as (A) class building contractors by the official bodies, to apply for the prequalification for implementing and maintaining Sana'a Radio Complex.

Total area: 37500 m²

Building area: 14200 m²

The complex will include the following facilities: public studios, TV studios, various radio studios, monitoring and control rooms, administrative offices and offices for all departments and sections, technical offices, grand meeting hall plus a number of cafés, waiting halls and a basement.

Complex's specifications:

The six-storey building will be made of reinforced concrete as for the structure, while the inner walls should be build of bricks and the outer covering of the building is made from stones.

Studios should be concealed and have double height of the other storeys.

Most of the floor tiles should be of hollow-blocks.

Carrying out electricity, lighting, central air-conditioning for the studios.

The site is located on a green area and should have many car parking facilities, roads and pavements.

Qualified companies and contractors will be invited to submit their bids within May 2002.

Prequalification for the tender is open for the companies and contractors who meet the following requirements:

- (A) class license for implementing building projects
- Valid commercial license for the year 2002 (approved copy from the issuing department).
- Decree of the official body which issued the company's establishment license (approved copy from the issuing department).
- Tax card of the year 2002 (copy of the card approved by the issuing department).

Interested companies and contractors which meet the abovementioned requirements can apply to the General Corporation for Radio & Television's head office for collecting the prequalification documents against a non-refundable fee of YR 50,000 as for the local companies, and USD 300 for the foreign companies. Documents can also be sent to bidders by mail against extra US\$ 100.

Prequalification documents should be submitted in a red-wax sealed envelopes to the Tenders Committee's secretary based at the General Corporation for Radio & Television.

Bids' envelopes will be opened at 11:00 a.m. Saturday, 13 April 2002. Documents submitted after 10:00 a.m. April 13, 2002 will not be considered.

Address:

**General Corporation for Radio & Television, Engineering Sector
General Department of Projects
Sana'a al-Hassaba zone, near the Ministry of Health & Population.**

In Brief

FAO financed fish projects

Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations (FAO) chaired by Andrew Smith had visited Yemen. Several fish projects have been financed by the FAO. The FAO has offered technological facilities with regard to preserving the fish wealth in the Red Sea. Fish export has ranked first among the Yemeni exports amounting to 90 percent out of the total exports totaling last month USD 200 million.

Tax sales implemented

The Government of Yemen has decided to implement the phase I of Tax Sales Law which is to be operated from the coming September estimated at 10 percent. The phase I is going to be implemented and applied at the expense of industrialists, importers and merchants where their annual sales exceeds YR 50 million.

During the phase II YR 40 is going to be taken into consideration and tax sales are also going to be implemented.

Bylaws and utilizing loans

The Cabinet has endorsed bylaws in relation to loans, aids and assistance in order to guarantee not to misuse these amounts of financial assistance.

Financing development conference held in Mexico

The Yemeni delegation flew to Mexico to discuss several issues hindering the process of development. The delegation was chaired by the Minister of Planning and Development, Ahmed Sufan to participate in the 7-day conference starting from March, 16 to 22 2002.

Yemen attended Arab Industry Ministers Meeting

The Yemeni delegation chaired by the Minister of Industry and Commerce, Abdurahman Mohammed Ali Othman has attended the Second Consultative Meeting for the Arab industry, and finance ministers held in Kuwait from March 12 to 13 2002. The meeting has discussed the Yemen's access to join WTO.

Training Program at the Ministry of Planning & Development



The Ministry of Development & Planning invites university graduates to the training program it is organizing in economics, civil engineering, statistics, information systems/computer.

Requirements:

- 1- Very Good university grade in one of the abovementioned fields. 2- Should not be above 30 years old. 3- Very good command of English.

The training program will last for 3 months during which trainees will be offered training allowances. Later, trainees who successfully pass the training program will be selected.

Interested candidates can apply to the Human Resources Department of the Ministry of Planning & Development located at al-Huriya street.

Deadline: Two weeks from publishing this announcement.

Villa in Aden for Rent

- Location: Plot No. 7 behind Khormaksar Supermarket in super class area. - Three floors made of stones and inside decorations and first floor marble

Please contact: Mahmood Abdula Tel/Fax (02) 240774 Mobile: 73219088

JOB OPPORTUNITY

ARAMEX International Courier searching for Accounts Team Leader for its Yemen Office.

The applicant should fulfill the following requirements:

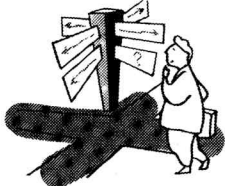
- University Degree in Accounting
• Good Computer knowledge (Microsoft office + Accounting SW)
• 5-7 years experience
• Good knowledge of English & Arabic writing and speaking
• Team Player

If you fulfill the above requirements, please send your CV to the following address not later than the end of March 2002.

P. O. Box 19411, Hadda Street, Sana'a, Republic of Yemen Fax: 967 1 441009 Attn: Personnel Office

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■ حديقة تضم كافيتيريا وألعاب ترفيهية
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Sheikh Abdulah Mohammed Tuaiman on Mareb:

"Unfortunately, our region has not had security and stability for a long period of time"



BY HASSAN AL-ZAIDI YEMEN TIMES STAFF

The US Department of State's report on terrorism points out that Yemen could be a safe heaven for terrorists because of the weakness of authorities in remote parts of the country.

And as the US Ambassador to Sana'a said in a seminar held in Sana'a, some parts of the country can be a breeding ground for terrorism, and that they badly need infrastructure projects.

Mareb is indeed one of the most important areas which has a lot of nomadic tribes. It is currently the focal point of the anti-terror campaign in Yemen.

Yemen Times interviewed sheikh Abdulah Mohammed Tuaiman, a sheikh of Jaham and one of the leading personalities of the region on the issue. Following is an edited version of the interview.

YT: How do you evaluate the situation in the tribal areas. Is it really a safe heaven for terrorist?

The economic situation in Mareb, as in the case of some other areas of Yemen, is very bad. As for the existence of terrorists in this area only few elements of Mareb's tribe provided shelter for those terrorists. Indeed, they have done this merely for serving their own interests, and having such figures in the area in a very embarrassing situation.

We absolutely stand by President Saleh in his anti-terror campaign and we will cooperate with him to crack down on the terrorist elements in the region. Tribesmen of the region fully

understand the dangers posed by such elements and they will back the government's campaign achieve its ends.

YT: What about the two persons linked to al Qaeda (al Harethi and al Ahdal)?

I don't know anything about persons who have links to international terrorism. All I know is about the existence of two persons (al Harethi and al Ahdal) who are actually not from the Mareb or the Jawf region. These two people are unacceptable in our area because they have been outlawed by our president Saleh.

And what president Saleh says is welcomed in our area. Principally, we are against Islamic extremism because it has crossed the limits prescribed by God and the Sharia.

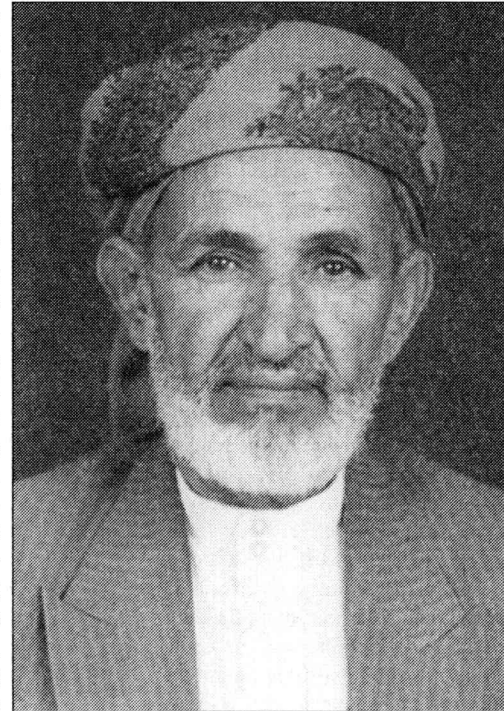
YT: So, where does the problem lay?

The problem lays in the government's uncooperative approach in dealing with the problems of the region. Further, some of the government's officials are biased against the region in general and underestimate our tribesmen as "gypsies."

Unfortunately, our region has not experienced security and stability for a long period of time. Tribal blood feuds are a major problem for people of Mareb, and even if they have resettled in cities, the nightmare of revenge will still follow them.

YT: Why is the state's role in this area is so week?

This is because of the absence of authorities in the tribal area in terms of infrastructure projects. If the state is serious in its plans to develop the region, it will certainly find cooperation on the part of tribesmen here. We are more eager for building the region than to carry arms.



the real objectives of kidnapping has been always to achieve merely personal gains. The reason for the continuance of this phenomenon is that the new breed of kidnappers would like to benefit as their predecessors have.

Yet, the government itself has been very aggressive in dealing with these elements, as it used excessive force demolishing houses and carrying out random detention campaigns for the people whose surnames are linked to the region.

Though tribes of the region have provided facilities for the government to track down those elements, it had resorted to taking innocent tribesmen as hostages, after its failure to hunt them down.

TY: How do tribes of the region view the current cooperation between Yemen and the US to root out terrorism?

What president Saleh has stated on many occasions in this respect has been convincing. The president has been wise in tackling this issue and he has been able to avoid a disaster.

We hope that the last visit of president Saleh to the United States will have a positive impacts on development, especially in the region. The US is a friendly country and always supports Yemen in different domains.

The US is excused in its current anti-terror campaign since it has been a victim of this terror. Terrorism is dangerous for the USA and the Islamic countries where these elements operate as well.

The September 11 attacks against the US have been denounced by all Muslims and if Osama bin Laden was its mastermind, then he is a terrorist. These acts have distorted the image of Islam which calls for tolerance and co-existence.

Workshops & symposiums:

How do we get the most out of them?



BY IMAD AL-SAQQA TAIZ BUREAU CHIEF YEMEN TIMES

TAIZ — As anyone who has attended a workshop or symposium, which is most of us, can verify, they don't always seem to give a good bang for the buck.

Some, in fact, seem like they're a waste of time and money.

Results of a recent informal survey show that there are indeed mixed feelings about just how many workshops and symposiums Yemen should have. Some even feel that some workshops are more for media attention, rather than for achieving real goals.

Further, some people feel that some organizers also have personal gains or funding goals in mind when they bring together a group of people.

The Times has received a copy of a letter by Ali as-Sunaider, chairman of the Federation of Yemen Chambers of Commerce & Industry, written to Prime Minister Abdulqadir Bajamal in which he notes that "though symposiums and workshops are a good means for improving the performance of different institutions, but yet they turned to be a mere phenomenon."

The letter maintains that money used for many workshops and symposiums is wasted because activities carried out by these institutions are not monitored.

The attitudes of others who are familiar with this issue suggest they believe workshops are beneficial, irrespective of any funds wasted. Others see such group meetings as a media-related phenomenon. Following are excerpts of what some people think about this issue.

Ahmed Jabir Afif, chairman of the al-Afif Cultural Foundation, wonders if the number of symposiums and workshops convened in a country with 18 million inhabitants is higher than what it should be.

He points out also, however, that it is a healthy phenomenon for sharing

expertise and improving the level of performance, and organizing goal-driven workshops and seminars will ultimately develop and enhance the expertise and capabilities of the involved institutions.

That's because the world is changing, and Yemen needs to cope with these changes.

As for the money disbursed on these workshops, he says, "I don't think that it is a constrain because the benefits we gain are more important than the money used."

Faisal Saeed Fare'a, director-general of the Taiz-based al-Saeed Institution for Science & Culture, believes that if the topics of workshops and seminars are carefully selected and are to the point, they will undoubtedly have fruitful results.

Ahmad Salim Shamakh, a well-known businessman, began his statement with a familiar proverb that reads: "Deeds, not words," as relevant to organizing workshops and symposiums. The majority of workshops and symposiums are meant for media propaganda and a mere show-off, he suggests.

What is noticeable is that the people who take part at the workshops and symposiums organized in Yemen are always the same people, and are always held in Sana'a. They need to be regional, he said.

Sua'ad al-Qadasi, chairwoman of the Women's Forum for Research & Training, said workshops and symposiums often don't, in fact, meet the demands of the target groups. Indeed, the target groups are in most cases ignored. In the long-run, these workshops and symposiums will fail to achieve their objectives, according to al-Qadasi.

In my opinion there are areas to



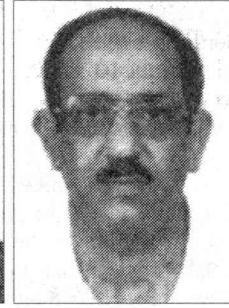
Ahmed Jabir Afif



Faisal Saeed Fare'a



Sua'ad al-Qadasi



Ahmed Salim Shamkh

improve. The objectives, demands and priorities meant for the target groups aren't clearly outlined. As the outcomes of these workshops are not continuously assessed, with the view of learning their suitability for the new changes, they are in many cases useless. Still, depending on how much they imitate others, these workshops are often made very stereotypical.

Limiting foreign assistance to NGOs, which usually publicize foreign donors regardless of their objectives and outputs, as well as a lack of coordination among the related organizations and the government departments, further complicates the problem.

Ahmed Salim Shamkh thinks all workshops should begin with setting up permanent appraisal committees, which would operate across Yemen and report directly to the cabinet. Specialized committees should also regulate and supervise workshops and symposiums.

The capital Sana'a should not remain the sole venue.

Similarly, academics should not be the major participants all the time.

I actually share the view of Ahmed Shamakh who spoke out an appeal through Yemen Times to

Sana'a University and the Central Organization for Audit & Control to record the number of symposiums, conferences and workshops held from 1995 to 2000. This count should include the amount of money disbursed and the benefits gained from these workshops and symposiums. This is in fact a national duty and will help us to best obtain results from these workshops.

In a nutshell, workshops are important but what is more important is how to benefit from these workshops, and how to translate their outcomes into practice.

Advertisement for the Federation of Yemen Chambers of Commerce & Industry. Includes text in Arabic and English, and contact information: www.fcci.org.ye, Tel: 264091, 261266, Fax: 264091, 261266, E-mail: fcci@net.ye

Survey says . . .

US military presence will harm both Yemen and USA

Mohammad Bin Sallam
By Yemen Times Staff

The talk about the US military presence has taken so many dimensions. Some people hail this move and some others strongly oppose it. Some have observed silence and keep watching what is going on. Others say, it is natural for the national interest to keep peace and safety. Nevertheless, some Yemenis believe that the US presence is a violation of Yemen sovereignty and has greatly affected the Arab national security. Yemen Times conducted this survey of opinions and spotlighted the negative and positive dimensions of this issue.

Excerpts.



Qassem Salam, Secretary-General of Bath Arabic Socialist Party, said, the Americans are used to the policy of black-mailing nations and pressurizing them to have their plans passed. This policy is applied to all the Third World countries, and not only to Yemen or the Arab countries.

It is clear that the United States has gone astray since the September 11 attacks as it has no longer been able to sense the feelings of the Arab masses. Yet, the United States should recognize that the Yemeni people are not ready to make it tamper with their sovereignty for some dollars. Yemenis will oppose the US presence and will fight both the US troops and those advocating their presence.

The US government should keep its money for itself and let us live decently and honorably. Yet, America should know that Yemen has been the grave of occupiers and will continue to be so.



Abdulaziz al-Mansub, editor-in-chief of Alwadhawi newspaper, organ of the Nasserite party, commented, the US government has been searching for a foothold in the region under the pretext of fighting terrorism, however, the real objective of this presence is to have the upper-hand over both the people and the resources of the region. America's hostility to the Arab nations is evident.



M o h a m m e d Abdulmajid al-Qubati, head of the PGC's political division, said, speaking about the US military presence in Yemen is a mere media exaggeration. The arrival of some US military trainers and technicians to help Yemen clear landmines is natural and not a new thing. Previously, there had been so many American experts and technicians for training Yemen's army even before the reunification of the country in 1990. Following the reunification of Yemen namely in 1996 there were tens of American military trainers and technicians for the purpose of training Yemeni army to clear mines planted during the unsuccessful 1994 secessionist attempt.

They have actually trained our army how to clear mines that claim the lives of tens of people. Still, the US military personnel will not be involved in combating tasks.

Though, Yemen and the US hold different attitudes towards the issue of fighting terrorism, the fact is that Yemen has been countering terrorism even before the September 11 attacks and the USS Cole incident in 2000.

The existence of some US military personnel for training Yemen's special task forces on sophisticated equipment and military hardware, which will be used in combating terrorism, should not be exaggerated and used for mere political propaganda by some political parties.

After all, it is easier and more cost-efficient to have 20 US trainers in Yemen than to send hundreds of the special forces troopers to the United States for the same purpose.

Likewise, Yemen will not accept the presence of US troops on its soil. This is known for all and thus should not be a point for political bargaining.

Mohammed al-Massani, said, a per-

son who will accept the US military presence has no dignity nor any sense of patriotism. We will not allow the US forces to stay on Yemeni soil since even the presence of US forces in the Red Sea is openly an occupation of Yemeni territorial waters.

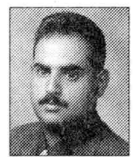


Khalid al-Hamadi, correspondent of the London-based al-Quds al-Arabi, believes that if the US military presence in Yemen will go beyond training and exceeded the proclaimed number it will be catastrophic for both Yemen and the United States.

This is because Yemen is not like the Gulf countries. Yemeni people have more means of freedom to object this presence which is lacking in the Gulf states.

Thus, such a move will backfire on both Yemen and the United States, and will have certainly more disastrous consequences to that of the USS Cole bombing. I'm more afraid that this may rather affect the good relations between Yemen and the United States.

If the two side mistakenly think that the military presence will further strengthen the existing relations, later they will come to know that it isn't like this. The Soviet military presence in Afghanistan was actually one of the reasons for the collapse of the Soviet empire. Accordingly, current super-powers should learn from the mistakes of others.



Jamal Mohammed al-Ja'abi, lawyer, believes that there is a public opposition of the US military presence not only in Yemen but in the region as a whole.

Further, the Yemeni people are even more cautious about a stronger relations with the US.



Ibrahim Hussein Mohammed, pointed out that the Yemeni people are heedless to the US military presence because they are more concerned with winning their bread. Mostly, Yemenis discuss this issue during Qat meetings.

Yet, some people, for the most part, leftists welcome this presence because they think that eradicating terrorism will avert Yemen repeating the Afghan experience. They also think that Yemen might turn into a battlefield for Jihad groups that have no program but to issue *Fatwa* "religious decrees."

These people believe that the US military presence will consolidate the state of law and order and will dictate on the Yemeni government to achieve more justice and respect for human rights. On the contrary, I think Yemen's government has no choice but to fulfill the American demands.

Sana'a thinks that US military presence will help to suppress its opponents under the pretext of eradicating terrorism. Most properly, the Yemeni authorities will not hesitate to subdue any potential demonstration to protest the deteriorating living conditions under the pretext that they are supported by terrorist elements. Similarly, the Americans might technically support the regime in covering the suppression of that demonstrations.

The issue of suspending the US financial assistance to Yemen, in my opinion, is because the majority of the US congressmen still have doubts in Sana'a's ability to support the anti-terror campaign, as the Americans are looking for a stronger ally.



Abdurahman Mohsen, a writer, said "Although, the Yemeni people have strongly condemned the September 11 terrorist attacks on the New York and Washington DC, the Yemenis don't express any sense of sympathy towards the US administration.

Many Yemenis don't trust the US government and its policies in the region. I think the US military presence would be encountered by a massive rejection and resentment. Yemenis are totally against the US presence which will breed more hatred and misunderstanding.

Many Yemenis don't trust the US government and its policies in the region. I think the US military presence would be encountered by a massive rejection and resentment. Yemenis are totally against the US presence which will breed more hatred and misunderstanding.

A Yemen Times exclusive:
Sir Cyril Townsend's thoughts on Yemen and other issues in the Arab World

Sir Cyril Townsend is the Director of the Council for the Advancement of Arab-British Understanding, (CAABU) which is based in West London. He has been a columnist on al-Hayat newspaper for 12 years, writing on foreign affairs and relations between the UK and this region's 21 Arab countries.

The council was set up in Britain 1967 to improve understanding of the Arab World as build links between the UK and Arab countries.

Mohammed Bin Sallam of the Yemen Times met with him at the Sana'a International Airport. Following is an edited copy of their conversation.

I've been deeply impressed with the way you have improved your relations with neighboring countries for example, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. Border issues have been settled, which is a very positive step in relations between Saudi Arabia and Yemen. I am aware of initiatives taken by Yemen and Eritrea in which Yemen showed a very sensible interest in the international arbitration and I think this is also a good example of international behavior.

I'm also happy that you are now represented on some of the committees of the GCC countries. I would be happy for Yemen to join the Commonwealth and I will be watching with interest to see if you join the GCC.



Q: With whom did you meet while on your visit here?

A: I had the privilege to meet al-Eriani, the former Prime Minister and the Minister of Communication. In Aden, we saw the governor and the vice-governor. We were also shown around the new port. We also met our friends in the British-Yemeni Society. I discussed with them what they are doing in Yemen.

Q: Has Yemen supported your council?

A: I was delighted that Yemen has given financial support to the CAABU. Yemen has shown a wonderful example. It's given money on annual basis to my council in London.

Q: What are some significant places you've seen in Yemen?

A: We've seen the capital. Then, we went to Taiz where we toured a large

commercial biscuit factory. While we were in Aden, we were shown the port, and I was impressed with the growth of the free zone where there are 500,000 containers coming to shore. We were told that the majority of the containers are sent to other parts of the region. This is a great international port.

Q: What is the CAABU's role with regard to the current development in the occupied territories and Iraq's position of terrorism?

A: We spend 40% of our time on the Palestinian issue. We are deeply shocked of what is happening now, with the terrible death-toll in Palestine, even now while I've been here in Yemen. We are all aware of Britain's traditional responsibilities to Palestine. We spend another 20% of our time on Iraq. We haven't seen Iraq involved in terrorism. There is no evidence of this

at all. We think that the problem of Iraq should be looked after by the UN and not by the US.

Q: Any last comments?

A: We have had a wonderful visit to Yemen. We are fascinated by the architecture. Some of the new buildings in the Arab World, I find rather disappointing. They might be in Manchester, they might be in New York or in Florida. But you have a very distinctive style of architecture. We think you have great prospects to market tourism, when you are ready. You have super hotels and so much for people to see, do and have. That fact that you have so much green land is a great advantage too. We are taking home happy memories. I'll also note that this trip has not been a holiday, but one of work, and along with my executive committee, we are aware of the need for the British investment here.



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- d. Completes daily reports of rig activities.
- e. Monitors costs of well projects as estimated by Production group.
- f. Carries out other similar or related duties such as ensuring that Services are efficiently planned and managed and follows specified procedures in case of unusual occurrences.

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- c. Computer skills including Word and Excel.
- d. Very good knowledge of English.
- e. Valid Yemen driving license

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US policies at cross-purposes



By AHMED MOHAMMED ABDULGHANI FOR THE YEMEN TIMES

The Iraqi invasion of Kuwait in August 1990 was a clear failure of the Iraqi leadership to understand the changes shaping up the world in that period.

Indeed, it was enough for Iraq to understand the objectives for which the US rapid deployment forces were created. As the US experts then made different scenarios for the tasks of this force, one of which was to assume that a country in the region might invade a smaller one with the view of controlling its oil resources.

Based on the assumption the flow of oil to the United States along with the other European countries will be intercepted, the tasks of the US rapid deployment forces will be for counter-ing such potential incidents.

The Iraqi leadership's decision to occupy Kuwait had indeed resulted from arrogance on its capability and trust in the US administration, especially after the American ambassador to Baghdad had signaled to president Saddam Hussein that the United States will not interfere. This was, in fact, a big trap in which the Iraqi leadership had fallen without recognizing the disastrous consequences of this risky adventure.

US coalition

The United States was able to build a strong international coalition to force the Iraqi forces out of Kuwait. This coalition had in fact gained much international recognition and support. Most countries of the world objected to the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait because it is a sovereign state and a UN member state.

Much of the Arab countries joined this coalition, which mobilized more than half million soldiers, with the view of expelling the Iraqi forces out of Kuwait. Yet, this massive mobilization of troops and navels was unjustified. Thus, all Arab countries expressed concerns when they saw the American operations crossing the lines it had been set for. The operation's targets went far beyond bombarding and destroying the Iraqi military capabilities, it really turned to devastate the Iraqi infrastructure projects, including electricity power plants, oil stations, telecommunication stations, road, bridges even farms. Arabs became more concerned when the US war-planes started brutally bombarding even populated zones, as was the case

with the al-Amiriya shelter which resulted in the death of 400 Iraqis, mostly women and children.

The Desert Storm was over with the destruction of the Iraqi military capabilities, driving them out of Kuwait. Further, the US imposed no-fly-zones both in northern and southern Iraq, and then the Iraqi-Kuwaiti borders were demarcated. Iraq had no choice but to adhere to the UN resolutions.

Coinciding with Iraq's implementation of the UN resolutions, the US-Russia-sponsored Madrid peace conference was held in October 1991. It was clear from the beginning that this conference was a reward for Israel for the services it provided to the US-led coalition against Iraq.

Many people hoped that the new US administration led by president Clinton (January 1993) would rearrange the US foreign policies in the region in ways that help Iraq implement the UN resolutions and turn a new page in Iraq-US relations.

However, the Clinton administration which sponsored the Oslo peace treaty continued its anti-Iraq policies through introducing the double containment policy against both Iraq and Iran. This policy principally meant to prevent Iraq and Iran from playing any key role in the region, especially with regard to the Arab-Israeli conflict and the peace process in general.

As for Iraq, the double containment policy aimed at keeping the economic sanction as well as preserving the no-fly-zones in the north and the south. Clinton's administration claimed that its absolute objective had been to make Iraq adhere to the UN Security Council resolutions imposed in the wake of the Gulf war, however, the US's objectives have been far beyond that.

At that time the UN inspection team for Iraqi mass destruction weapons continued its work, while the miserable consequences of the economic sanction had appeared more stronger. Thus, many countries called for easing the sanction which culminated with the oil-for-food deal as a temporary solution for the sanction which was reluctantly accepted by Iraq.

Since late 1997 there were many reports that the UN inspection operations had completed its mission and that Iraq was no longer possessing weapons of mass destruction, and also unable to manufacture any new weapons, as all the weapons manufacturing facilities had been destroyed.

Lift the sanctions

By now, there had been stronger voices calling for lifting of the sanctions against Iraq, not only from Arab states but also from the European countries, who took part in forcing the

Iraq forces out of Kuwait.

But, the US government turned a blind eye to these calls. The United States and Britain also withdraw the inspection team and subsequently carried out a devastating air strikes against Iraq.

With the aggravation of the humanitarian situation in Iraq during 1999 and 2000, many people raised this question: why the US war against Iraq have remained an open war since 1991 although the United States have fought different wars but it won them on time? Isn't it enough that these wars had destroyed everything in Iraq, and depleted the resources of the countries of the region?

Following the US presidential elections of November 2000, many people mistakenly thought that the new American administration will ease the decade-old sanctions on Iraq. However, George Bush Jr. started propagating the smart sanctions proposal hoping to further prolong the sanction, and threatening to direct a military strike against Iraq. This actually indicates that the US administration is practicing a psychological war against both Iraq and Arab countries. This has become more clearer following the September 11 attacks, as, during the US war against terror, Iraq has remained under threat, although Iraq has nothing to do with the September 11 attacks.

Axis of evil?

The real intentions of the US administration to strike Iraq was spoken during president Bush's state of the union address on Jan. 29 when he voiced threats against what he called the "axis of evil," meaning North Korea, Iran and Iraq. Indeed, speaking about the axis of evil represented a confusion in the US foreign policies and disclosed the depth of disagreement between the United States and its allies.

As the European allies have expressed their rejection to these US policies, the US resolve to strike Iraq will go ahead regardless of its allies' objections, and this has been confirmed by some US top officials who were quoted as saying that the White House is determined to assault Iraq even if the allies did not cooperated with them. The American official pointed out that the US government has been preparing secret military and diplomatic plans for attacking Iraq, adding that the US vice-president's visit to the region will focus on means of eradicating Saddam Hussein.

The question now is, why is there all this American resolve to assault Iraq at the time there is no logical justification for that? Iraq is not a terrorist state and also doesn't harbor terrorism. All coun-

SKETCHED OPINION



BY: SAMER A.

tries of the world agree that any US strike on Iraq is a brutal act and a violation of the sovereignty of a UN member country.

Objectives

So many people believe that the most important objectives for attacking Iraq can be outlined as follows:

Consolidating the status of Israel as a strong regional power, as carrying out a massive operation against Iraq will shake the stability of many countries in the region and further weaken Arab countries. This in turn will enable Israel to have a bigger chance to settle its conflict with Arabs based on Sharon's terms.

Yet, the United States would like to send a clear message to Iran to stop its support for Hezbollah party and the other Palestinian liberation organizations. Iran is striving, according to Washington, to develop its military capabilities so as to defend its sovereignty from any Israeli attack. This issue is openly rejected by the United States.

Similarly, the United States is willing to rebuild its coalition in the region and this has been confirmed by the US president as he pointed out that countering the axis of evil countries will

require building up a new US coalition in the region.

Other objectives of the US strikes will include re-arranging and re-drawing the political map of the region in ways that serve the US top policies, as political analysts confirm that Israel is instigating the US administration to prompt assaulting Iraq. Israel itself will take part at these operations through Turkey which is linked to Israel with security and military agreements. This has been confirmed by the Turkish president when he said that Turkey might reluctantly find itself involved in anti-Iraq operations.

A narrow view

The issue of striking Iraq and keeping the sanction, in fact, means that the United States views its relations with Arabs from a very narrow angle, as it always couples it with pleasing Israel. By this, the United States is not attentive neither to the Arab objection nor to the embarrassment it is causing for its closest Arab allies.

Isn't the United States concerned with losing its credibility with so many countries of the world which will be so much cautious in their dealing with the US in the future? And won't the United States be afraid that this rejection, even

by its European allies, may turn into an anti-US coalition in the future? This coalition, of course, will pose a threat to the US interests and limit its power.

Then why is the United States so determined to be hostile to all the countries of the world? Does the US administration ignore the negative consequences of this policies which will certainly affect the American people and make them live in a persisting fear?

The campaign against Iraq will remain a matter of discussion for all intellectuals, including the Americans themselves. And the most important is that this matter will remain a matter of questioning for the rising American generations, which will come to discover later on that the distance between Iraq and the USA is more than 8,000 miles. Besides, with the US current military supremacy neither Iraq nor any other country could be a threat to America.

Indeed, I don't know how the American students will feel when they read in history's books that the subsequent US governments have killed more than one million Iraqi children. Will the American students believe that the mass killing of Iraqi children was for defending America?

Israel must atone

Editor-in-Chief Jordan Times

An editorial published in Jordan Times Saturday 16 March discusses the Israeli stand towards peace said more than 50 journalists have been wounded by Israeli gunfire in the last 10 months of the Palestinian uprising against occupation. But not a single Israeli soldier has been held responsible for firing at newsmen and women. Not a single serious attempt has been taken to halt such criminal acts. The result is the increased attacks on members of the press in the last few days, with Israeli occupation forces killing Italian journalist Raffaele Ciriello and wounding a French and an Egyptian journalist.

The excuses Israel has offered in try-

ing to explain these attacks are pathetically unconvincing. The official silence and the failure to initiate serious investigation into them indicate that the Israeli government has something to hide. Cameras have captured the hatred many in Israeli occupation troops harbour for journalists. This renders not too far-fetched the conclusion that Israeli soldiers are targeting foreign correspondents covering the Palestinian Intifada.

The international media have exposed the crimes Israeli soldiers have committed against helpless and unarmed Palestinians. TV journalists have shown Israeli soldiers breaking the bones of Palestinian youth and executing Palestinian prisoners. Reporters eloquently depicted the inhumanity of Israeli occupation. Obviously, this did not sit well with the proponents of

occupation. Many in Israel, have thus, condemned the messengers. Others are killing them.

Israel has for years gotten away with murder. Not any more. The international community is becoming increasingly aware of the reality of the situation in Palestine. International public opinion has grown more informed about who is really responsible for the wars in the Middle East. The media played the major role in creating this awareness.

It will continue to do so. Crimes and threats have not deterred journalists from doing their jobs in the past. They will not now. There will always be journalists who will take enormous risks for no other reason than reporting the news, and telling the story. Ciriello paid with his life trying to do just that. Israel has to answer why.

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Yemen Times

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Al-Awd Mount: A hidden civilization



By: Sa'ad Sharif
Taher
Nadira/ lbb

On 17th Jan. 2002 an unexpected chance led me to al-Awd undecided kingdom. My students invited me to have a look at it.

I was warmly welcomed by their parents in the village of "Thu-il-Drub". After lunch they narrated the story of the "Holly Mount" [al-Awd Mount] in details:

The story of discovery

Mr. Mohammed Mohsin al-Awdi started: "in 1983 a military troop came to settle on the summit of the mountain. As the shovel began to prepare the way for cars it hit what was later known a room of a buried palace. Statues, earthenware and cups appeared. Soldiers and workers took them away. The discovery didn't draw attention of anyone even at the official level till 1997 when a shepherd by chance discovered a room during searching for a certain planet added to fenugreek. He found many antiques. So, he asked the villagers to help him dig the area. After telling the official circles, tribes quarreled over guarding the ruins. The governor himself interfered to settle the quarrels and took the stolen antiques. Then the Bureau of Antiques worked with the German company for Antiques to search for more of them. Officials visited the site with German ambassador who offered taking part in excavations. In 1998 ten German excavators found extra antiques and coins that belonged to 2000 B.C."

Mr. Hussein Naji al-Awdi continued: "The Germans discovered statue of a woman (50 cm. length) holding a dove in a hand and a snake wound on the other arm. They couldn't interpret that. They also found a bronze head similar to the Egyptian sphinx and that proved the relationships between Yemeni civi-

lization ancient Egypt".

Mr. Ahmed Abdullah al-Dellag (a teacher) interrupted "thousands of year ago olive trees had been known in al-Awd mount and a tree is their till now".

A legend

another old man recited a legend of an ancient proverb

"The welfare of the Awd is in Thi-sewd". To explain that he said, "in al-Awd was a farm in which there was a hidden treasure of gold. "Under the shetha, on the shetha, he who would see it will be happy". Shetha was a tree whose leaves were used to tan leathers". The legend added that when the key and treasure would be found lots of people would be wealthy even if a traveler came from Egypt on foot, he would gain a headwrapperful of the treasure. That referred to the amount of the treasures. The narrators promised to take me to the summit of the mount where the ruins are. Dreaming of tomorrow's climbing up journey I slept.

At 7:30 in the morning, we set out through moving mist on the tops of the surrounding mounts. Climbing zigzag paths up the mountainside on billions of shapeless differ-

ent in size stones and rocks was a tire some task for an untrained person like me. Rocky teeth were tearing up our tired bodies. Two hours later we got to the summit out of breath after sweating to the toes. Saleh Mosleh (a teacher) continued yesterday's talking about the mount. "You see al-Awd is near Nadirah, Harith Thu-Asboh the



Hamyarian". It is 3200 meters high, 3 kilometers length and 100-900 meters width. To the north is Sana' village, leiyan is to the west. It hides ancient remains in Masnadh, Hadda fortress and Medhred fortress".

In the city

Barbed wires prevented us to go further but Abdulmajeed Saif (the guard) welcomed us and led us into the newly discovered city where he was acting as a good guide.

The temple

Saif pointed to a well-paved court of 15x 8 meters saying: The Germans said this is a temple with thirty rectangular rooms 3x 4 meters each. The walls were built geometrically with smooth square rocks of 60x 40 cm four stony stairs of 2 meters length each led to the altar. Engraved tablets were decorating walls. In a room they found tablets on which the name of king Wid was engraved dated to 2000 B.C. in the middle of the court there was a hanana

(pond) 3 meters deep and 2 meters diameters covered with cement like material called (godhahd) to keep water. Holes dug in sidewalls through which water was brought to the pond. Different pools engraved in big stones geometrically.

The museum

Saif added, a museum of ten rooms with ceilings and the stamp of the king, bronze coins, bronze lions, gazelles, pottery jars and earrings next year.

The market:

It was 3-4 stony pathways with stony ceilings. They were discovered in them.

The prison

It was called Dukeim jail. It was a hole in the mountain with chains attached to the ceiling to hold criminals who were sentenced to hanged for three days till death as they would be killed by cold winds. Dukeim might have been the name of the jailer or a

A Canadian in Yemen: Let's start with the truth

For thousands of years, from Socrates to today's postmodernists, the question "What is truth?" has plagued plenty of people.

We all, in fact, somewhere deep inside, have a need to understand the nature of truth. We crave it so we can have peace in our own lives and, to the best of our ability, with those around us.

As a journalist, then, from a country such as Canada, I can't help but be moved by recent Yemen Times reports on the state of a free press in the Arab world.

Self-censorship

In recent issues of the Times, including today's which highlights the latest Human Rights report of the US State Department, details have emerged of how Arab journalists here are forced into self-censorship. At

times newspapers in Yemen have even had their licenses pulled, while journalists have been threatened or worse. It's a situation completely unknown in the West.

It seems 10 years ago when Yemen united, things were brighter. It was the spring of 1991 when this country began a very noble path in this part of the world: democracy. Indeed, in 1993 you had the first free elections ever held in the Arabian Peninsula.

On this fresh page, this country also introduced relative freedom of the press. Constructive criticism of the officials was allowed and the government could no longer close newspapers without court approval.

It's unfortunate the wheels of change began to fall off when Yemen was punished for stance in the Gulf War. And one wonders if any country ever fully recovers from civil war, which Yemen then experienced.

While its three-month civil war in 1994 cost, according to The Lonely Planet series, 7,000 lives, plus an estimated US \$5.5 billion to an already impoverished Third World economy, it seems it also changed the freedom journalists have to write critically about important issues.

Comfort the afflicted

Nonetheless, in this environment the Yemen Times has grown and matured. Readers are aware of its recent 11th anniversary, and its storied history under the guidance of its late founder Abdulaziz al-Saqqaf. A man who understood the journalist creed, to 'afflict the comfortable, and comfort the afflicted,' he's been described to me as both brilliant and transparent: a mix not commonly seen in any part of the world.

Having worked with newspapers that have many times the resources as the Times, I'm impressed with the determination of al-Saqqaf's son Walid, and his dedicated staff, as they now carry the original vision of this paper forward. Maybe they get strength from the many copies of the founder's photo, with an appeal for God's strength, that hang in rooms throughout the Times' building.

The paper has its challenges, con-

sidering 70 per cent of Yemen's 20 million people live outside of cities, and more than half of the country can't read Arabic, let alone English. Take that into consideration, as the Times has just introduced an improved product with 30 per cent more pages, broader regional coverage, and a pledge to be a voice beyond its traditional borders.

It's no small undertaking. And it's the type of thing that, as a Canadian, I can't help but cheer for, especially as I discover more about this proverbial underdog country. I see Yemen's rough ride in the last decade something like that of a poor kid who studied hard to make a life for himself amidst a tough neighborhood, only to be suspended after sticking to his principles.

What's interesting is that Yemen is still clinging to freedoms unique to this region, and is maintaining liberties that are still greater than in some parts of the world. This country, in fact,

has pursued promising ideals against some very tough odds. Sometimes, amidst the gloomy news, it's easy to forget that.

Yes, Yemen does have a way to go as it continues to find its way as a young democracy. Certainly in terms of freedom of the press, the government here needs to understand a free media, in the long run, will benefit the entire country, including officials who are in the public's trust.

Earn your respect

At the same time, the press here needs to earn its respect by reporting not only with accuracy, but with of spirit of fairness and constructiveness. Human nature being what it is, journalists can abuse their positions and I personally have little patience for those who spread fear and even hatred from atop their little platforms.

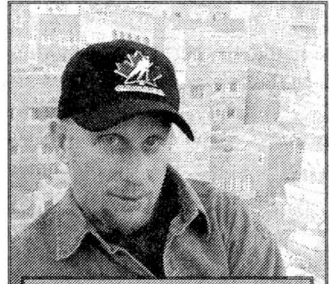
But what's good for the Yemeni to know is that the media in the West didn't attain its freedom overnight. It was a journey, and it wasn't always smooth. It was England, in fact, that developed the authoritarian press that's still used around the world now. For 200 years, patents, guilds and licenses controlled things with marvelous efficiency.

Libertarian thinkers helped bring Westerners out of that. But it wasn't until the 20th century before a press of social responsibility emerged in America, granting anyone the right to speak in the public square.

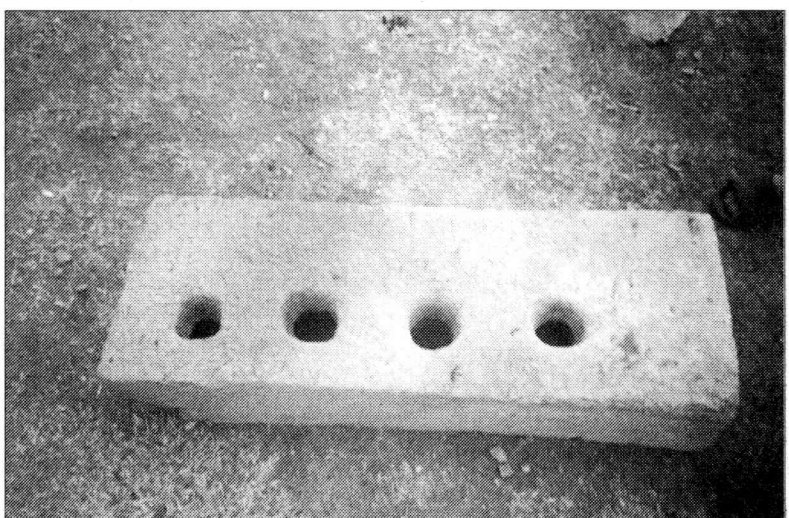
The fact is, virtually all human societies have shown an incredible capacity to develop systems of control. That's why we need a free press as a prophetic conscience. It's our soul. It breaks down systems that are, in the end, harmful to everyone. The American poet Walt Whitman put it aptly when he said the newspaper is, in fact, our 'Bible of democracy.'

We now have new mediums in a world that is shrinking. But our challenge remains the same: to protect and nurture and grow that liberating spirit of truth. Maybe sometime in this Third Millennium then, freedom will arrive in everyone's home. And we'll have peace.

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



Thomas Froese



quarter in the city. The city was strictly surrounded by a big wall with Easter and western gates. Down the mountain, there was a big tablet on which a message of 14 lines was sent to the king of the holy mount (al-Awd mount itself) from king of Shafar written Musnad calligraphy praising Abukerb Asa'ad Tuban al-Humayri. On the top of the mountain there might have been the palace of the king for there were remains of an old castle.

Conclusion:

"German archeologists concluded that the city was just a holy city because it was not as big as a capital and because of the five temples to which and a wide smile Saif concluded his narration. I put down a human skull, bones and teeth where they were after taking picture with them and said goodbye to Saif. We, the visitors, came back to the village taking about one of wonderful Yemeni civilizations and dreaming of another journey again to see the museum next year.

Our national scourge: Dead mothers



Bringing new life to the world is deadly in Yemen, which has among the highest rates of maternal mortality on the planet.



By ISMAIL AL-GHABRI
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

While Yemen has improved its health care in some ways during the past 30 years, its high rate of mothers dying during childbirth continues to be a national scourge.

National information about maternal mortality is scarce and data is based on scattered studies and primary estimates, or estimates from outside agencies.

According to the World Health Organization (WHO) and UNICEF, the maternal mortality rate in Yemen is estimated to be 1,400 per 100,000 live births. Other international studies indicate the rate may be as high as one in nine women dying during childbirth.

That means that maternal mortality rate in Yemen is one of the highest in the world, and is an indicator of the poor medical services in the country.

Yemeni health officials confirm that women here continue to have a high number of pregnancies with a short period, and 35% of births occur at unsafe ages to teens and to women aged more than 35.

All this has contributed to a high birth rate, which is now between six and seven children per woman.

Based on the 1996 estimates of the Central Statistical Organization, the contraceptive use prevalence rate for all methods including breast-feeding has increased from 10% in 1992 to 12%.

Previous demographic surveys on maternal and child health show, however, it is hard for women to access family planning services.

The three major providers of family planning methods are the Ministry of Public Health, The Yemeni Family Care Association, and the pharmacies, but a high prevalence of illiteracy especially among women, a lack of knowledge of family planning methods, husband's disapproval, and religious prohibitions all are preventing such family planning.

The most widely used method of birth control in Yemen is the pill, which is used by 33% of all married women who are currently using contraceptives.

Birth control is higher among urban women, among women with education and among couples when one or both

husband and wife are working. As a result, these families are smaller.

In general, according to current estimates, only 28% of the total need for family planning in Yemen is being met.

The goal: 10 years ago

Ten years ago, the goal of officials was to increase the rate of contraceptive use rate to 36% of married couples by this year, and to decrease the total fertility rate to six children per family.

In order to attain these objectives, there is still a need for leaders to support reproductive health services.

There is an urgent need to improve the quality of the family planning services including the mix of safe and reliable family planning methods, to provide counseling for couples enabling them to free and informed choice through implementation and proper supervision of medical standards.

It is also essential to pay more attention to train all providers in family planning aspects, including communication, education and counseling.

Educating the public about breastfeeding and the prevention and treatment of infertility are also part of family planning services, and will improve the maternal and child health and increase the survival rate of both mothers and children.

Controlling sexually transmitted diseases and getting men more involved in reproductive health care are also issues that need to be dealt with, according to Yemen's health care officials. So is closing the health care gap in different regions.

Lack of awareness

One study on risk factors for maternal mortality among women using a hospital in North Yemen revealed a maternal mortality ration of 753 per 100,000 live births.

It was found that hepatitis, hemorrhage, pregnancy-related infections, and pregnancy-induced hypertension, in that order, are the main causes of maternal deaths.

Regarding the maternal morbidity, there is a lack of a general awareness on the extent of the problem. However, studies show that there in five women who were pregnant for at least three months at the time of study have had various health problems: 23% reported swollen ankles and fingers, 47% had persistent headaches, 15% had high blood pressure, 6% had bleeding, and 30% had convulsions.

These conditions occur regardless of whether the women are urban or rural, or if they've had antenatal care. In the last five years preceding the survey,

mothers received antenatal care for only 26% of all births.

Antenatal care increases with the increase in mother's level of education. Greater antenatal care utilization was observed in urban areas (57% of births) than in rural areas (20% of births).

Women who had births in the five years prior to the survey reported receiving one or two doses of tetanus toxoid for only 15% of births. A doctor or a midwife assists in only 16% of deliveries (14% of deliveries take place in health facilities).

Postnatal care is sought by mothers for only 6% of births.

Complex web needs broad initiatives

The poor maternal health in Yemen is the result of a complex web of low socioeconomic status of women and weak maternal health services. Unorganized reproductive behavior, a high illiteracy rate, heavy workloads, harmful cultural practices, lack of health awareness, and low status of women in the family and the community are all the factors which keep Yemeni women from using available health services.

At the same time, maternal health services are limited in coverage (20% of health facilities are providing maternal care). The situation of these facilities does not encourage women to use them.

Health officials stress that the most important initiatives to combat the high maternal deaths are to:

Upgrade existing health facilities to provide high quality of maternal health care, including comprehensive reproductive health care of essential obstetrics care at the district level

Offer basic and continuous manpower training especially for females;

Establish a referral system with participation of communities, so there is fresh information on maternal mortality and morbidity from health facilities, in addition to national surveys, confidential inquiries, and operational research. Referrals are essential because improving the quality of services cannot be fulfilled without establishing links and integration between different projects and service provision facilities.

Promote supportive systems as logistics and supplies supervision.

We are optimistic that over time we will have success and Yemen will have better reproductive health. But there is still a huge unmet need, and we need to move fast to save the lives of some, and bring a better quality of life to others.

Sana'a's Artificial Limb & Naturopathy Centre: Where miracles come true



By Mujahid Al-Musaabi
Yemen Times Staff

It's not just a theory, but it's real life that you'll see if you are ever in the Artificial Limb and Naturopathy Centre here in Yemen's capital.

Compared to other public health care institutions, this centre offers unique services that are top-notch. There is a feeling of close relations between medical staff, administration and patients, which you will rarely find at other health centers.

That's combined with very low fees. In most cases, they don't exceed 100 Y.R.

The up-to-date equipment, along with highly-qualified Yemeni doctors and a good administrative system, are the main characteristics of the center.

"As a unique center. Disabled people with limited income come here from all over Yemen. They enjoy the free services and the top level health care," said administrator Ahmed Hamoud Asaqqaq.

"Those who are unable to pay the nominal sum for medication, we'll exempt completely."

The centre is among the institutions run by the Ministry of Public Health and Population. Since its establishment in 1978, the government has ensured it has modern equipment and training to provide the best human services.

During the last ten years, its services have continued to evolve. It has two main areas.

The Technical Department

The department consists of the: Sizes and plaster area, which sizes for cases that need artificial limbs or medical devices, and back bones plaster.

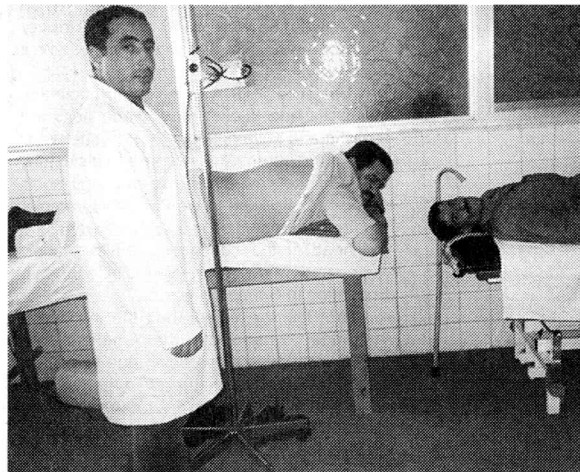
Limbs area, which specializes in making and fixing artificial limbs, and making crutches.

Leather products area, which makes different medical leather belts for supports for the back, neck, abdomen and limbs. It's also where medical shoes are made.

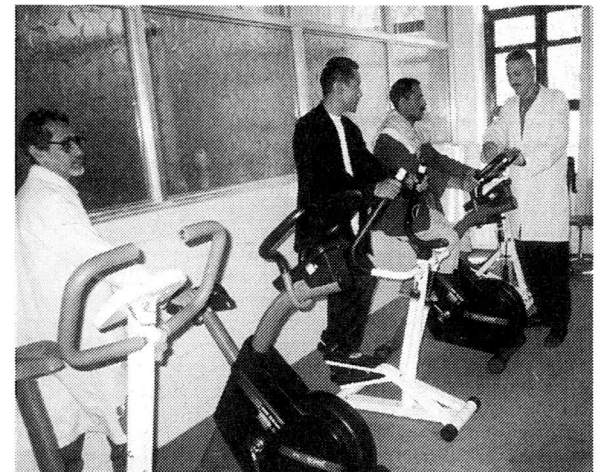
The apparatus section, which specializes in manufacturing trolleys, paralysis devices and all metal crutches.

The Naturopathy Department

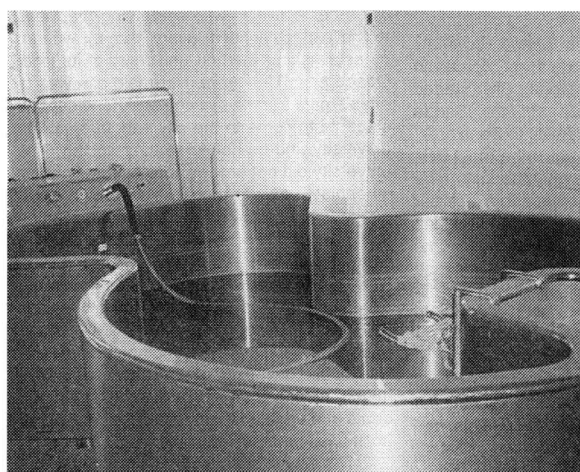
The area covers:



Natural medication unit



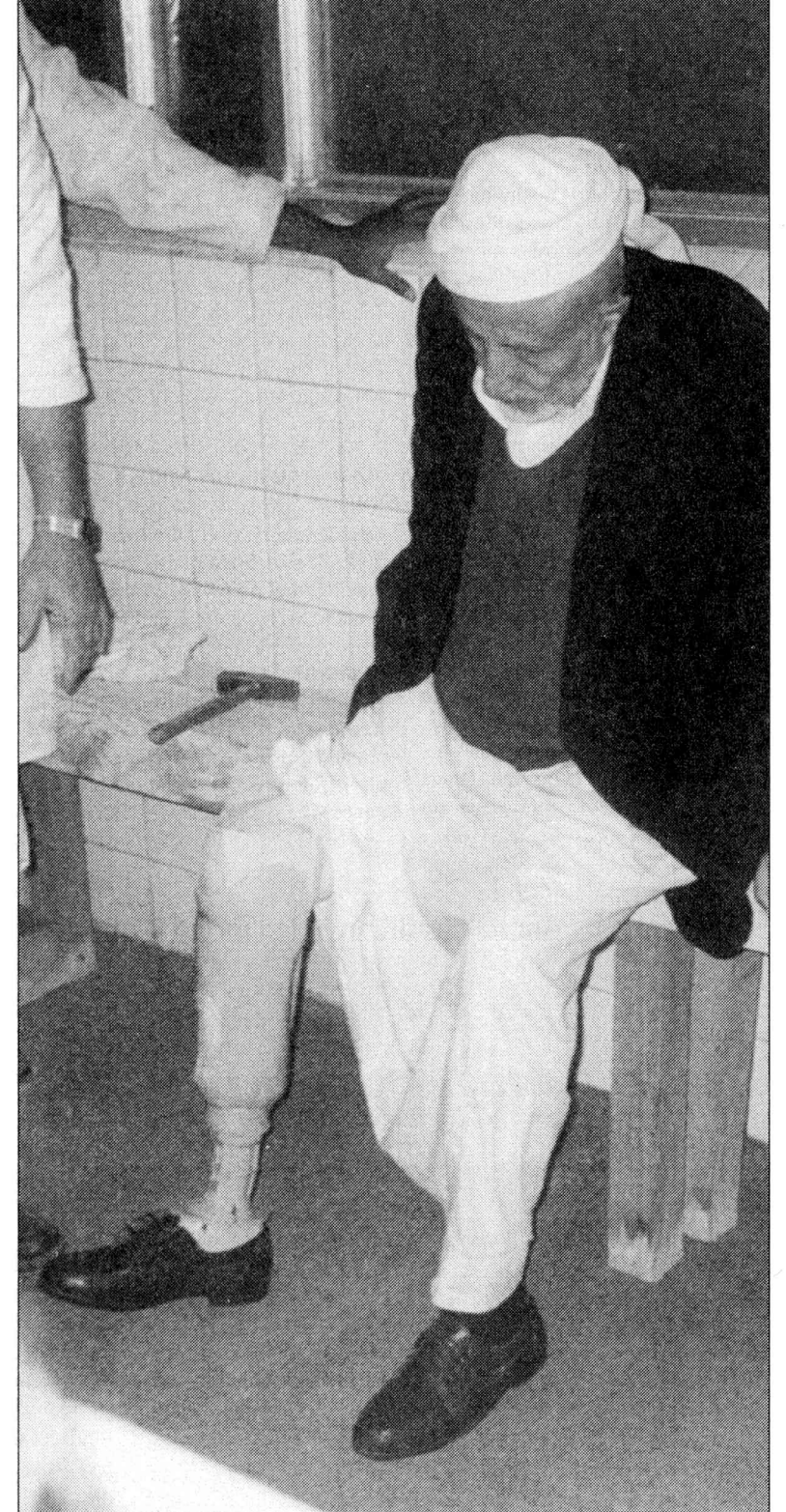
New apparatuses and more exercises



Water medication, whirlpool



An old man stricken by brain clot while doing exercises



Electrical Medication: This section specializes in electrical excitation-vertebra binding-magnetic medication.

Light & Temperature Medication: This section provides short-wave, ultrasonic and infrared light, plus hot compresses and waxes.

Water Medication. In this section, patients are treated by whirlpool, underwater massage, and by steam.

One patient noted how happy he was with the center's care.

"I have been here for two weeks, having natural medication to lose weight because I'm going to Saudi Arabia for a limb operation. I was really surprised by the friendly doctors, excellent care, and the good atmosphere here."

Major news items in leading international newspapers

Provided by Xinhua

Philippine

The following are major news items in leading Philippine newspapers.

The Philippine Star

The anti-graft court postponed on Friday the trial of ousted President Joseph Estrada for almost a month to give his newly appointed lawyers time to study his cases.

The Manila Times:

The Supreme Court ordered on Friday the start of the trial of Nur Misuari on rebellion charges after it learned that the construction of a 206-square meter temporary court house in the northern province of Laguna had been completed.

Philippine Daily Inquirer:

The Philippine government and Muslim separatist group Moro Islamic Liberation Front have agreed to resume formal peace negotiations, possibly in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, Presidential Adviser on the Peace Process Eduardo Ermita said on Friday.

Japan

The following are major news items in leading Japanese newspapers.

Asahi, Yomiuri, Mainichi, Nihon Keizai

Scandal-tainted lawmaker Muneo Suzuki said Friday he is quitting Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi's ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) as he does not wish to trouble the party any further but indicated he will certainly not resign from his daily Diet (parliament).

Yomiuri, Mainichi, Nihon Keizai

Koichi Kato, former Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) secretary general, said Friday he is considering leaving the party and starting from scratch, his supporters said Friday.

Mainichi

A panel of the Japanese government has approved a package of economic stimulus measures, including the creation of special structural reform zones.

Kenya

The following are major news items in leading Kenyan newspapers on Saturday.

Kenya Times

Developing countries are set to benefit from an assistance of 2.4 billion shillings (about 30 million U.S. dollars) from the World Trade Organization, which is part of the Doha Development Agenda Global Trust Fund.

Daily Nation

Air traffic controllers at all airports in Kenya threaten to go on strike on June 1 to protest the failure to delink the directorate of civil aviation from the government as approved by the cabinet on August 8, 2000.

East African Standard

Kenyan President Daniel arap Moi has said that he will not support any candidate in Monday's merger polls between the ruling Kanu party and the opposition National Development Party.

Egypt

The following are major news items in leading Egyptian newspapers.

Al Ahran

UNESCO Director General Koichiro Matsuura will give the Egyptian Red Sea resort of Sharm El-Sheikh and four other world cities the "Peace City" award during a ceremony to be hosted in Morocco on March 18.

Al Akhbar

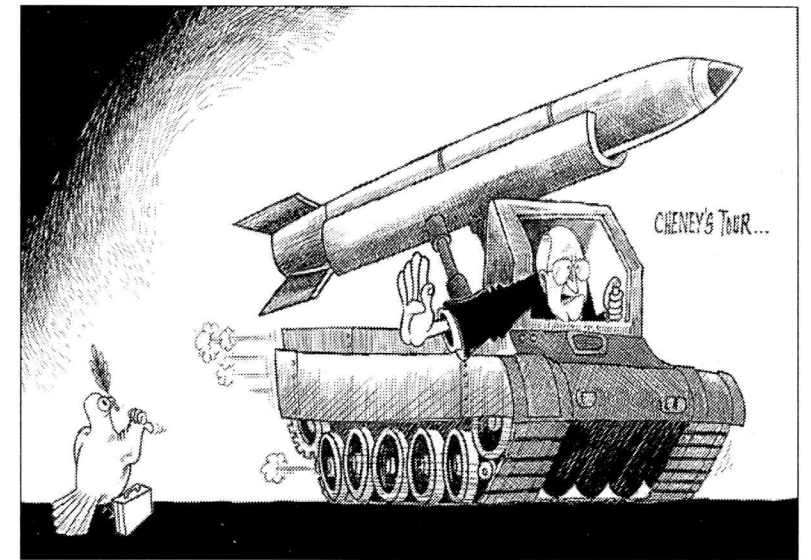
Egypt called on the United Nations to condemn Israeli settlements in the occupied Palestinian territories. Ahmad Abul-Gheit, Egypt's permanent envoy to the U.N., said Egypt is following up with concern the human settlements on the grounds that they violate international law and the Geneva Convention.

Al Gomhuria

Egyptian investigation team in the EgyptAir 990 disaster on October 31, 1999 off the U.S. East Coast will deny the report by the National Transportation Safety Board which holds co-pilot Gamil Al-Batouti responsible for the catastrophe. Aviation sources said the U.S. investigators have come out with the conclusion that Batouti was to blame in the Boeing 767 nosediving. The report ruled out any technical failure or other elements as responsible for the disaster.

The Egyptian Mail

President Hosni Mubarak has reiterated that peace is the only way out of turbulence in the Middle East and warned against the worsening situation in the occupied Palestinian territories.



Arab News - Khalil Cartoons

Britain

The following are major news items in leading British newspapers.

The Guardian:

Germany's chancellor, Gerhard Schroder, Friday brought into the open the growing rift between Britain and continental Europe over taking the "war on terror" to Iraq when he signaled he had no intention of participating in any unilateral military action launched against Baghdad by the U.S.

The Daily Telegraph

The European Union's new military force was on the way to becoming a reality Friday night after key EU leaders agreed in principle that it should take over peacekeeping in Macedonia this year.

Financial Times

British Prime Minister Tony Blair has begun a diplomatic offensive to bridge the gulf between the United States and European leaders over military action against Iraq.

The Independent

Four British tourists were among 16 people killed when a Soviet-made biplane crashed in central Cuba as they returned from a day trip.

The Times

Tony Blair is backing a last-minute compromise plan to allow fox hunting to survive where it is proven to serve a need for pest control. Three-year licenses would be issued to hunts, but these could be withdrawn at any time if there were evidence of cruelty.

Part of its Annual Tradition in Honoring Distinguished Women:



Honors Dr. Wahiba Fari'

Dr. Wahiba Fari', the first woman to be appointed as a government minister in Yemen, has been honored with a major award by the Human Rights and Training Centre.

The annual award is given to Yemeni women who are leaders in their communities and examples for others to follow.

Dr. Fari, the first female

chairman of a university in Yemen since 1996, has an academic and educational background that has helped her establish a strong reputation in the Republic of Yemen.

She has participated in civil society establishments and has written for several newspapers. She's also written dozens of research papers and given many presentations for

local, regional, and international seminars and conferences. All of this has resulted in her attaining a prestigious position among Yemenis.

The pioneering role Dr. Fari' has played will continue to have an impact on Yemen for many years, and will continue to serve as an example for other Yemeni women in the future.



teacher in Sanaa University's College of Arts. By then, there were more than 13 schools teaching girls all over the country.

Two years later, dozens of new girl schools emerged. But Wahiba had to leave to the UK, then to Egypt, where she obtained her Masters and Doctorate degrees in 1979. During her 8 years in Egypt, she taught in the university and carried out a number of researches and studies, and participated in various social and cultural local, Arab, and international activities. During her stay in exile her father and brother both died in Yemen. Those two men were great examples of persistence and courage to her, and others in Yemen.

But her career was still in its beginning. Her skills and talents have made her more realistic and self-confident in what she wants to do in the future. She was able to distinguish between the various educational and social fields that she liked to work in. After completing her higher studies in Egypt she worked as the head of the educational basics department and Vice-Dean of the College of Education in Sanaa University.

In 1989 she established the institute of languages when both the American and British institutes closed down due to political factors. In 1992 she established the development institute and then in 1995 she established the institute to support civil society establishments. Both establishments had similar circumstances and development stages that were linked to the overall political picture in the country.

In 1996, Wahiba Fari' decided to conclude her activities with something that rises to the expectations of every Yemeni woman by establishing the first university of its kind: Queen Arwa University. Her main aim was to enable girls from the village and handicapped students to come to the city and study at the university and be helpful to their society. The university did not only provide education to its students. But it was more like a learning experience with social values and ideas including the promotion of human rights including women's rights.

The university grew quickly to become a service center for all Yemenis due to its rich libraries and research capabilities. It was an educational institution that competed furiously with public universities, and often surpassed them. The university encouraged talented students and enabled them to find their deserved positions in the society.

The way to success was not an easy one

and did not come by coincidence. It was hard work, dedication, education, and insistence that made Dr. Wahiba what she is today.

Those elements qualified her to become a decision-maker and an active member of the society representing women with pride and dignity. She used her talents and capabilities to correct many false understandings and restrictive values.

As a lecturer and a researcher, she was able to provide the best solutions to various problems that hindered the progress of Yemeni women throughout the recent past. The leadership of the country decided to appoint her as the Minister of Human Rights for her glorious past and for her great potentials. This in itself was a great honor for the Yemeni woman.

But could the first female minister convince women to fight for their cause? Dr. Wahiba, along with a few other Yemeni women, has shown a positive example of how women can have their deserved rights. However, this should also be a turning point for all Yemeni women to take advantage of the time to have women join actively in the political arena has come and there should be no hesitation in pushing in this direction.

Amid her busy daily schedule, Dr. Wahiba had never forgotten that she had another responsibility to take care of. It is her children, whom she along with her husband pledged to take care of and provide the best educational standards.

Who is Dr. Wahiba Fari'? She is a human being who now holds one of the most difficult cabinet posts that is the closest to women's conditions. And this was the story of a Yemeni women of this era" as one writer described her before she became a minister.

But in Yemen there are other women who also deserve to be ministers, as they have been born with the ability and have acquired the experience to be an example to this generation. They too need a chance to have the kind of life they deserve.

CURRICULUM VITAE

Wahiba G. Fare' Al Fakh
Professor of Education
Foundations of Education Department
Faculty of Education
P. O. Box 11586
Tel. (967-1) 206917, Fax 209544
Sana'a, Yemen

processing and statistics such as Excel, Macintosh, SPSS (IBM).

1. Personal
Place of Birth: Taiz, Yemen
Place of Birth: Aug 22, 1954
Marital Status: Married and have 5 children
Languages: Arabic (standard, dialects) English, French.
Nationality: Yemeni

5. Other Activities

- Member and advisor of many Yemeni Organizations and Associations: (NGO's), (YWU), (YWA), (YWW).
- Member and advisor of many Yemeni Governmental Organizations: (ERC), (EDC), (ERCS), (YNPC).
- Member of Advisory Committee to SWAY in Yemen.
- Member of World Council of Curriculum and Instruction.
- Member of Arab Curricula Association.
- Member of Educational Arab Union.
- Member of Yemeni Women National Preparation Committee to W.I.C. in China, 1995.
- Originated and founded Women's Educational Dept. Ministry of Education, Sana'a 1976.
- Originated and founded the Yemen International Language Institute, Sana'a 1989.
- Originated and founded the MA of Higher Education at the Faculty of Education, Sana'a University, 1990.
- Originated and founded the Women Studies Center at the Faculty of Arts, Sana'a University 1992.
- Member of the High Commission of the Human Rights.

2. Present Positions
• Professor of Educational Planning and Development, Faculty of Education, Sana'a University (1987-1990).
• Professor of Sociology, Philosophy of Education, Dept of Foundation of Education, Faculty of Education, Sana'a University (1990-1994)
• Professor of Women's Education, Sociology Dept, Faculty of Arts, Sana'a University (1994-1995).
• Dean of Yemen International Language Institute.
• Occupy the position of full professor at the Dept of Foundation of Education, Sana'a University 1996.
• Rector of Queen Arwa University 1995-2001.
• Minister of State of Human Right 2001.

3. Education
1. Ph. D., Foundation of Education, Ain Shams University, Cairo 1987.
2. M.A., Education, Ain Shams University, Cairo 1983.
3. B.A. Arabic Language and Islamic Literature, Faculty of Arts and Education, Sana'a University 1976.

4. Skills
• Fluent speaker of Arabic
• Strategic Planning and Following Up Projects.
• Organizational and Training programs.
• Writing and analyzing Educational and Social contents.
• University lecturing experiences for more than eight years.
• Computer operations: packages, Word

7. Employment Experiences.

- Lecturer on Foundations of Education (Sociology, Philosophy, Planning) Sana'a University (1983-1994).
- Lecturer of Women's Education Dept of Sociology, Faculty of Arts, Sana'a University 1994.
- Dean of Yemen International Language Institute (1989-1994).
- Vice Dear of Faculty of Education, Sana'a University (1989-1991).
- Director of Foundation of Education Dept (1988-1989).
- Director of Women's Education Dept, Ministry of Education (1976-1978).
- Director of Belquis Girls School (the first Preparatory/Secondary school for girls in Sana'a 1975.)
- Part time teacher for non-formal education Belquis Center Sana'a 1974.
- Part Time teacher for Arabic Studies, Belquis Center Sana'a 1973.

HRITC in Brief

Established in November 1995, as a non-governmental organization by a number of human rights activists in Yemen and the Arab world. It was founded to complement and supplement an evident short-coming in the human rights movement in Yemen by virtue of its specialization in training and rehabilitation of human rights promoters, as well as spreading of human rights awareness.

It is specialized in organizing activities, events, training courses, intellectual gatherings, book archives, and producing regular printed documents.

The center adopts practical and scientific programs which includes training courses and workshops for activists in human rights and specialized communities such as teachers, doctors, lawyers, journalists and members of human rights organizations. It



also holds conferences, seminars, offers scientific and liberal services for researchers in human rights field, produces printed materials and periodicals to strengthen human rights awareness and propagates general principals for maintaining firmly established intellectual, scientific and practical regulations.

HRITC cooperates with other general, ideological and human rights organizations, which share the same principles of equality, honesty and political neutralization. The center supports private, non-aligned independent establishments not affiliated to any political discipline or organization whether local, regional or international, which may adversely affect clean scientific course it has undertaken.

Press Scanner

Prepared by Mohammed Khidhr



Ash-Shoura weekly, organ of Yemeni People's Forces Union, 10 Mar. 2002.

Main headlines:

- Investors Complain of Bueaurocratic complications, corruption and absence of security
- Islamic National Conference in Yemen Denies Discussing Prince Abdulla's Initiative
- Massive meeting in Baghdad: Arab People's Forces Union
- "Made in Yemen" project kicked off
- Tribal disputes, Security incidents continue.

Mr Abdulla al- Qadi has written an article on convening the coming Arab summit saying that holding the Arab summit scheduled in Beirut late this month, comes amidst very serious and complicated regional and international political atmospheres, particularly following the 11 September events in the United States and their successive repercussions influencing both Arab and Islamic worlds. These include the beginning of strikes on Afghanistan to the American threats of attacking Iraq and Iran and even Somalia to Palestine where Sharon is tightening the grip on the Palestinian people and destruction of their infrastructure as an authority and people, in addition to the western media campaign against all that is Islamic and Arab. The western media intentionally portray Arabs and Muslims as against civilisation and enemies of progress while unleashing the slogan of conflict of civilisations applied against them.

Upon these situations one wonders what could the summit do in the face of the events and developments the region is leading. Among these queries are:

- What would the summit offer to the Palestinian cause and would the Arab leaders wave that the American strategic and vital interest in the Arab region must be linked to the Palestinian issue and the extent of solutions offered with regard to this level,
- Would the Arab leaders be able to come out with clear-cut Arab definition distinguishing terrorism from national struggle for freedom and independence?
- Would the Arabs be capable of staving off a military strike America intends to deal to Iraq or any other Arab country?
- Could the Arabs come out with a political and media unified address directed to the world?
- Are the Arabs able to dismiss from themselves the charge of terrorism, and
- Does the Arab leaders' agenda contain all that is related to improving the political, economic, and social conditions, in addition to removing the injustice from yoke of the Arab citizen who is living under the burden of poverty in his homeland and facing the charge of terrorism in the western hemisphere?



Annas weekly, 11 Mar. 2002.

Main headlines:

- Two weeks of Tribal battles kill 12 and injure 40
- Elections Supreme Committee to overcome previous mistakes
- Yemeni- British Military Manoeuvre in Ma'areb

Columnist Ahmed Shalafi says in his article this week the Americans, specifically the U.S. State Department insist every year on exposing to the world their defects, showing extensive amount of disrespect towards the international community, and that is exactly done by publishing their "Report on Human Rights". In such a report, America reviews a number of abuses and violations of human rights in the third world. The falsehood by the American State Department contained

in such reports represents a big scandal to be added to record of the American policy scandals. The latest report has impudently excluded America itself from human rights violations and war crimes that almost affected innocent people from all nationalities. All indications confirm that in the year 2001 the United States had played a major role in being the main state in the world that committed many violations of human rights, rules of the world order and even the American law itself are not spared from the repeated violations committed by the U.S. Defence Department, the CIA, the White House or even the president who seems to be the most ignorant of his country's laws.

Declaring war on terror is actually nothing but a new American pretext for bigger violations of human rights and against humanity. The Americans think by that they attain their big illusion of leading the world and impose their control over it.



Al-Wahdawi weekly, organ of the Nasserite People's Unionist Organisation, 12 Mar. 2002.

Main headlines:

- Saudi Authorities Detains Yemenis, their tribe threaten of kidnapping Saudis
- Nasserite organisation refuses American military presence on Yemeni territories
- At Hudeida university: Security Arrests 14 students, disperses a strike using live ammunition
- Committees for support for Palestine and Iraq

Mr Ahmed Salem Ka'boub says in his article that much has been written and talked about financial and administrative reform and many years passed while the reform has been kept hostage of formulas and texts of plans and programs and within the folds of laws and decisions that have not come to surface.

Among the factors that nourish corruption, besides the crisis in applying the laws, is the administrative failure.

The writer maintains to comment that we have judged as failure many state establishments and got rid of them by privatization without exerting efforts to look for the reasons behind their failure, though the process does not need much effort as it is very clear before our eyes, i.e. the administrative unsucces. Many administrative leaderships have found themselves at high posts through various means far away from qualification and experience and scientific degrees. Bribes, tribal affiliation and mediation were the ladder that they ascended to reach the top posts. In consequence these administrative leaderships discover themselves as being incapable of performing the required role and see their continuation in their posts linked to keeping the situations as they are.



Ath-Thawri weekly, organ of YSP, 7 Mar. 2002.

Main headlines:

- 100 American special forces and intelligence troops arrive in Yemen
- 11 killed, 40 injured in clashes in Ibb
- Son of a tribe chief kills a civil servant at his office
- Salem Saleh: Political will that achieved unity, capable of unifying national rank
- YSP mourns Zubairi decease
- Civil society organisations congratulate woman on her day

The writer Fadhl al- Rabei discusses in an article this week the relationship between unemployment and crime. There are many indicators at present confirm the aggravation of unemployment problem as it has become one of the outstanding social problems many

developed and developing societies, including Yemen are suffering. Aggravation of unemployment problem undoubtedly forms a danger threatening life of the society in general. Unemployment causes a host of effects negatively reflected on life of the unemployed and their families and the society. One of those effects is related to crime. Therefore, many countries give this phenomenon great attention in research and discussion with the aim of reaching to create and draw up a treatment for it. They usually follow up a number of procedural steps aimed at staving off dangers of unemployment and curbing its various impact. They as a matter of fact start from detecting its causes, whether those pertaining to the nature of the political regime or diminution of economic resources or rise in population rates.

Official sources in Yemen point out to a 3% annual rise in population growth and the proportion of unemployment is estimated at 32%. The state has abandoned the question of employing the graduates where the percentage of unemployment among them has rocketed during the recent years. A prolonged period of unemployment is associated with an increase in feelings of frustration and diminish of social status with the unemployed person. That is why he would develop negative tendencies and hostile feelings towards the society and the surrounding environment. Such feelings could be expressed with some hostile behaviour leading the persons to committing criminal acts. Hence regimes in many countries have given attention to the economic factors and creating job opportunities for their people for poverty and unemployment would have negative impact on those poor and the unemployed and lead them to practice criminal acts. Care and attention must be given to providing social safety net and assistance given to the unemployed in addition to creation of new job opportunities for the youth.



AS-Sahwa weekly, 14 Mar. 2002.

Main headlines:

- Yemen sees Activities in Support of the Palestinian Struggle
- Students of Hudeida University, still under arrest
- Ba Fadhl, head of Islah party Parliamentary bloc: In response to the President's wish, I would not nominate myself
- Barghothi: Israeli massacres, shake not our faith

Columnist Zaid Ash-Shami has said in his article this week it seems that the United States more than any time before hankering for wars. Therefore it is preparing for a new war against Iraq. And despite that it has not found any role positive response except from Britain and Israel and the American vice president has thus embarked on an Arab tour to prepare it for the war. This escalation lacks in fact any justification. The American administration at the time of Clinton was faced with rejection from the Gulf states and other Arab countries as well as from the Islamic states and others. It is no longer acceptable by all reasons to launch a war on a country suffering from harsh sanctions and blockade and its territories have been subjugated to international inspection teams for more than eight years whereas Israel has been allowed to kill the Palestinian people and develop its nuclear weapons.

In order to secure success for the American escalation against Iraq the U.S. administration needs to calm down temporarily the situation in the Palestinian territories. For this reason the American administration has decided the return of its envoy Zinni who has not been but a witness biased to the Israeli aggression and it is not expected from him to contribute to remove the

stands and funds. The Arabs have to tell America that the world is today in need of peace not war and the children are in need of medicine and food not bombs and explosives.



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

Main headlines:

- Injured and detained persons in conflict between the GPC and Islah parties,
- Police storms Hudeida university, disperse students by using tear gas and live bullets
- Gang stealing Mobile phones, arrested
- Yemeni- Egyptian talks on repatriation of wanted
- 25 Local companies call for permission to establish independent satellite channels

In its editorial the newspaper said recently the U.S. president has expressed his administration's fears of Yemen's change into another Afghanistan. It does not seem that it is a sentence voiced randomly. Yemen has the biggest asset of tolerance and civilized coexistence, but has today due to complicated circumstances been looked at as a source of others' fears. The editorial added that many have ignored the sincere calls demanding for following the road of comprehensive reform that would rectify all forms of failure and straighten our course and purify our social, political and economic environment.

The editorial calls for cooperation and coordination with others in order to achieve our interest provided that the cooperation would be confined to the need, both in quality and quantity and for a limited time and rallied behind by the active national forces.



Al-Mithaq Weekly



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CEBIT-Nokia, RealNetworks sign cooperation deal

ELSINKI, March 12 (Reuters) - Finnish telecom equipment maker Nokia NOK1V.HE said on Tuesday it had a long-term cooperation agreement with U.S. RealNetworks RNWK.O to use the latter's digital media software in its phones and networks. No financial details were given. "Under the alliance, Nokia will include the mobile version of RealOne Player as a standard feature on all its mobile devices that use the Symbian operating system," Nokia said in a statement.



Symbian, a consortium led by Britain's Psion PNL and including Nokia, makes software for personal digital assistants (PDAs) and so-called smart phones. The main rival of Symbian and RealNetworks is software giant Microsoft MSFT.O, which is seeking to break into the mobile software market as the number of Web-ready mobile phones rise. Nokia said it would include RealOne Player in two phones to be released in the second quarter -- its 9210i Communicator for release in Europe, Asia and Africa, and the Communicator 9290 due out in the Americas -- and in its 7650 model due out later this year.

Computers Gain Bigger Role in Making Music

FRANKFURT (Reuters) - The great musical instrument of the future may already be sitting on your desk: your home computer. For years already, the computer has aided synthesizers in editing and recording music, much akin to a word processor for sounds. But experts at the Musikmesse, the world's largest music instruments show now meeting in Frankfurt, say the computer is gradually becoming the instrument itself. The reason is that a computer's

insides are basically the same those of a synthesizer. New software programs can tell ever faster computer chips to emulate a B-3 organ, a flute or act as an echo or vintage amplifier for the guitar or voice. "In the beginning it was very hard to convince people that software was proficient for professionals," said Daniel Haver, chairman of Native Instruments, a Berlin-based firm whose software enables computers to make music.

Weary astronauts return from Hubble mission

CAPE CANAVERAL, Florida (Reuters) - Seven astronauts, weary but happy, have returned to Earth aboard the space shuttle Columbia, ending an ambitious and successful mission to improve the Hubble Space Telescope so it can see to the ends of the universe. The crew installed new wing-like solar-power arrays on the telescope, added a new gyroscopic steering device, a new power control unit and a phone-booth sized digital camera, the most sensitive optical device ever to fly in space. It is 10 times as powerful as the one it replaced.



The space shuttle Columbia touches down at the Kennedy Space Center in Cape Canaveral, Fla., March 12, 2002. The shuttle returns with seven crewmembers after a refurbishment mission to the Hubble Space Telescope. Photo by Pierre Ducharme/Reuters

Columbia's mission was threatened shortly after launch by a clogged coolant line, but NASA declared the orbiter safe, setting the stage for five spacewalks over five consecutive days that the space agency called the most challenging and risky in the 21-year history of the U.S. shuttle program.

"What I've just been through was anything but a vacation," pilot Duane Carey told reporters several hours after landing.

Mission commander Scott Altman, who steered Columbia to a 4:32 a.m. EST (9:32 a.m. British time) Tuesday landing, said the crew often worked 17 hours a day during the 11-day flight.

"You're not left for a lot of time for sleeping and eating, so there was a lot of eating on the run," Altman said.

As Columbia's wheels touched down on the three-mile landing strip at Florida's Kennedy Space Center, Hubble was flying more than 350 miles above the Pacific Ocean, its systems performing well, NASA said.

The space telescope has already helped astronomers rewrite much of what they know about the universe, proving the existence of super-massive black holes and showing that stars and galaxies formed much sooner after the Big Bang than scientists had earlier

believed.

Since it takes billions of years for the dim light of distant galaxies to reach Hubble, astronomers hope the new, more powerful instruments will give them a glimpse of the earliest formation of stars and galaxies -- in effect, the first light.

Astronaut John Grunsfeld, the lone astronomer on Columbia's crew, made three spacewalks on this mission and often used words like "shrine" and "icon" when talking about the telescope, which he sometimes addressed as "Mr. Hubble."

"Hubble has really opened our eyes to what the universe is made of, its structure, and has helped us learn how little we know about the universe. It's helped us explore the beauty of the universe in a way that we've never been able to before," said Grunsfeld.

On his second spacewalk, the most challenging of the mission, Grunsfeld's pressure suit sprang a leak after he was already in the shuttle's airlock but

before it had depressurised, adding drama to the mission.

The crew scrambled to clean up weightless water escaping his suit and Grunsfeld completed the spacewalk wearing another astronaut's suit.

Rounding out the crew were flight engineer Nancy Currie, who also worked the shuttle's robotic arm, and spacewalkers Rick Linnehan, Jim Newman and Mike Massimino.

This was the fourth service flight to Hubble, launched in 1990 on a 20-year mission.

One final service mission is planned for 2004 and there are tentative plans to return Hubble to Earth aboard a shuttle after its mission ends in 2010.

NASA does not get much of a break in its schedule of shuttle flights. Just a few hours after Columbia's landing, shuttle Atlantis was rolled to the sea-side launch pad at Kennedy for an April 4 launch to the International Space Station.

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Chelsea boosts Champions League hopes

LONDON (Reuters) - Chelsea have continued their bid for a UK Champions League berth with a convincing 4-0 win over struggling Sunderland in the premier league.

Goals from William Gallas, Eidur Gudjohnsen, Mikael Forssell and Sam Dalla Bona were enough to move Claudio Ranieri's side to within three points of fourth-placed Newcastle United, who could only manage a 2-2 draw against Ipswich on Saturday.

Sunderland's defeat leaves manager Peter Reid anxiously looking over his shoulder, however. On 34 points his side remain just four points above the relegation zone.

Despite missing both Kevin Phillips

and Claudio Reyna through injury Sunderland made the better start.

Michael Gray dragged an early shot wide before Patrick Mbomba forced Carlo Cudicini into a full-stretch save with a sharp shot on the turn.

Chelsea opened the scoring on 24 minutes after Sunderland failed to deal with a Graeme Le Saux corner, which was met by Marcel Desailly at the far post. His knock down was turned in from close range by the knee of Gallas.

Sunderland wasted a great chance to equalise four minutes before the break when Gavin McCann headed wide from six yards after beating Cudicini to Gray's far post corner.

They continued to cause problems

early in the second half as Frank Lampard was caught in possession 30-yards out.

The ball broke for Kevin Kilbane to strike a low drive towards the bottom corner, but Cudicini's fingertips diverted the shot wide.

Chelsea's second goal finally arrived after 73 minutes when Gudjohnsen latched onto Jesper Gronkjaer's through ball before lifting a shot over Thomas Sorensen into the net.

Jimmy Floyd Hasselbaink came within inches of adding to his season's tally of 21 when he held off two challenges before curling a shot from 25-yards just the wrong side of the post.



Tyson gets green light to fight Lewis in Washington

WASHINGTON (Reuters) - Washington boxing authorities voted on Tuesday to give Mike Tyson a license to fight world heavyweight champion Lennox Lewis, despite concern that Tyson's troubled past could tarnish the city's image.

The Washington, D.C., Boxing and Wrestling Commission voted 3-0 to grant Tyson a license that would allow him to fight Lewis at the city's MCI Center, tentatively on June 8.

"We went above and beyond any act, any commission, anywhere in the history of boxing," said commission Chairman Arnold McKnight in reviewing Tyson's license application.

"Mr. Mike Tyson has been granted a license to box here in the District of Columbia."

The commission's vote has made D.C. the favorite to host the heavyweight title fight in June.

Still, other states including Tennessee and Michigan have expressed interest in holding the fight, but Tyson and Lewis have favored the nation's capital.

The match in the fight world is reckoned to be capable of generating a purse of up to \$150 million which would make it the richest bout in boxing history.

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Woods aims for Tour history in Bay Hill third round



ORLANDO, Florida (Reuters) - World number one Tiger Woods is eyeing another piece of history as he begins the third round of the \$4 million Bay Hill Invitational on Saturday.

Woods is seeking to become the first player to win three different tournaments three times in a row.

He won the Memorial and WGC-NEC Invitational three times each between 1999 and 2001 and won

Bay Hill in 2000 and 2001.

Woods began his round at 12-under-par, four shots ahead of Scott McCarron and five strokes over two-time U.S. Open champion Ernie Els and Angel Cabrera of Argentina.

Among the early movers in the third round were Jeff Sluman, who was three-under-par after four holes and had moved to seven-under.

Ireland's Paul McGinley was four-under-par through nine holes and at six-under and reigning British Open champion David Duval was three-under through eight holes and also at six-under.

Catching Woods on the par-72, 7,239-yard Bay Hill Club and Lodge layout may prove difficult, as he has become a dominating front-runner in his career.

Seventeen times he has held or shared the 36-hole lead and gone on to win 13 of those times.

2002 FIFA World Cup Korea/Japan No water breaks at the FIFA World Cup

The FIFA World Cup Organising Committee has confirmed that FIFA will not request the law-making International Football Association Board to allow interruptions in matches of this year's World Cup in Korea and Japan to allow players to drink more water.

The Committee felt that in view of the temperatures in the two host countries in June (averages are in the low to mid-20s), the current system of allowing players to drink during normal stoppages in play was adequate, especially if referees were more flexible in their application of the system.

Other decisions by the Committee under the chairmanship of Lennart Johansson (Sweden) included: Teams will only have to submit one list of players before the competition, containing the final list of 23 players and due by 21 May; a list of 35 names, previously due on 30 April, has been scrapped.



Training sessions during the World Cup finals will be open to all accredited media for at least the first 15 minutes, after which the team can either require the media to depart or allow them to stay; one training session per match will be completely closed. The public will not be allowed to attend any training session, for organisational and security reasons. Giant screens in the World Cup sta-

diums may be used for showing live real-time pictures of the match in the same stadium, but without any replays of any scenes whatsoever. The number of accreditations per team was raised from 45 to 50, the extra five persons being at the team's own cost. The Committee stressed that offers appearing in the press of World Cup tickets for sale, usually at black-market prices, are to be totally ignored as tickets have not yet been printed and the FIFA World Cup system rules out the possibility of tickets being offered by private individuals or non-authorised organisations other than the official channels.

Ticket sales continue to go well; Japan has sold out its allocation, and Korean domestic sales are also accelerating; the participating teams have taken up 60 per-cent of their allocation, the remainder being now offered to the other teams first before going on official general sale.

Starting 11th of March

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As of March 11, 2002 Royal Jordanian will add another weekly flight between Amman and Aden every Tuesday, in addition to the regular flights every Saturday, as per the following schedule:

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Cupid's arrow finds its mark - in cyberspace

LONDON (Reuters) - Here are words of comfort for anyone who has spent more time than he should in online chat rooms -- a psychologist has found that courtships begun in cyberspace can very well lead to true love. Many "virtual" relationships thrive once potential partners meet face-to-face because they already know each

other so well through their online encounters, said Jeffrey Gavin, a lecturer in psychology at the University of Bath. "Chat rooms don't lead to shallow and impersonal relationships," Gavin said in an interview on Friday. "They lead to really close relationships because people express themselves more freely and are more open and honest on the Internet."

Gavin carried out in-depth interviews with 42 regular chat room users aged 19 to 26 years. Of the volunteers he studied, 29 reported close friendships or romantic relationships with people they met online, with 21 progressing to face-to-face meetings. One couple



became engaged to be married. "What tends to happen is that, when they meet, it's a fairly smooth transition from online to offline because they know each other so well," said Gavin, who presented his findings to the annual conference of the British

Psychological Society (BPS) in Blackpool on Friday.

"Online, guys can be more emotionally honest and open, while women can be more overtly sexual."

His research also showed that most chat room users tell a few white lies about their height or the colour of their hair. But in most cases they were minor misrepresentations rather than outright fabrication.

"They still seem to comply to the social norms around the body," said Gavin.

"So the guys tend to make themselves sound blond and blue-eyed, while the women add a bit of blond to their hair or increase their bust size slightly."

"It's true, twelve of them told outright lies but the rest just exaggerated slightly."

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Impressions about Yemen

This is my first to Yemen. I'm very pleased to be here and very grateful. I'm very impressed by this beautiful country, by the friendliness of the people, and by the beauty of the architecture.

The houses are very extraordinary. I've never seen like them before. Sana'a and the Old City is amazing. I've been to Aden, Taiz, Kowkaban and Dar al-Hajar. It is very beautiful and impressive and I think the people of Yemen are wonderful

I have stored a lot of unforgettable sweet memories as well as impressions during my tour here in Yemen. Yemenis are among the most passionate, sentimental, faithful and humble people. Besides, they are still holding fast to many valuable customs. All these features will always stay in my memory.

The last word I would like to say is that I hope from the bottom of my heart that Yemenis will achieve more and more progress and prosperity.

By Lady Townsend

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26 September celebrates 1000th edition

The 26-September weekly newspaper, the mouthpiece of the military forces, celebrated last week its 1000th issue since it was founded. The newspaper has evolved and developed to become the government-owned leading newspaper in Yemen. With its professional articles and high quality lay-

out and printing, it also resembled a good example for other Arabic-language newspapers to follow.

At the Yemen Times, we wish the newspaper and its management the very best on this special occasion.



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ADEN FREE ZONE

Celebrating Third Anniversary

By Ridwan Al-Saqqaf,
Aden Bureau Chief
Yemen Times



This week, we are celebrating three years since the inauguration of the Container Terminal at the Aden Free Zone, a milestone in Yemen's history. Since 19 March, 1999, the Aden Free Zone has operated smoothly,

and it's believed this will help in the development of Yemen and its unification that's now moving into its 13th year.

With such a project in operation, Aden is slowly regaining its status as a strategic harbor and trade center in the Arabian Peninsula.

With Yeminvest's hard work and cooperation with various authorities overseeing the free zone, its different phases are expected to be complete on time.

According to experts in the field of business, investment opportunities in Aden are huge. All that is needed

is greater publicity and media coverage for the benefits of companies setting up in Aden. Its infrastructure, complete with all essential services, has been provided since October 2001.

As a port, Aden's location near the international marine shipping line makes it a preferred port for trade and delivery services, and a hub linking East Asia, Asian Sub Continent, Africa, and Europe. If taken advantage of, the port could easily attract thousands of vessels from all over the world. The last three years in the free

zone have seen considerable improvements at the Aden Free Zone, and as of last month, a total of 1,786 vessels have arrived there. Statistics reveal steady growth in the number of vessels from 210 in 1999 to 590 in 2001 to 856 in 2001. Meanwhile, the number of containers handled during those three years reached an impressive 778,242, and will likely exceed the one million mark later this year.

The statistics promise a great future for the Aden Free Zone, especially as new phases are being completed.

We also need to note that the rules and regulations enforced at the zone are among the most convenient, efficient, and well-placed laws in the free zones sector. However, the laws include important articles that would regulate insurance-related issues and would resolve disputes that may emerge among investors and with the authorities concerned.

The different incentives that have been provided to investors have played a key role in attracting new business and investment into the free zone, and observers say the

Yemeni government has had foresight to make that possible.

The Aden Free Zone is a project for the future of Yemen, and any effort into having it completed on time is going to be in favor of our future generations and help bring Yemen's economy to a stronger position.

We are confident that the authorities concerned will continue and intensify their efforts to bring Aden to its glorious past as one of the most important harbors of the world.

Neighbors in one world

Mr. Abdulqadir Ba Jammal
Prime Minister



This economic project resembled in the Aden Container Terminal (ACT) will help Aden gain its historic and glorious past as the point where our planet's main continents connect.

It will enable it to become a trade center for all sorts of products and an important link in the cooperation of nations of the world and a place where common interests can meet. Aden as a city is distinguished represents a point where various free trade relations can be made. All of this reflects the historic and economic factors that qualifies Yemen to move confidently into the 21st century.

The ACT in Aden with all its features provides all the factors for success to all who looks forward for a regional and international merge operations as the port provides companies with opportunities that could not be found elsewhere.

The port of Aden has several technical, administrative, and developmental facilities that make it cope with this era's and the future's requirements taking into consideration the swiftly moving globalization phenomenon. The motto of the Yemeni city of Aden could be summarized in its message delivered to all friends and partners as "We are all neighbors in one world."

AFZ Chairman to YT:

"Industrial and Warehouse Estate's Infrastructure now Complete"

This month, we are all celebrating the third anniversary since the inauguration of the Aden Container Terminal, which cornerstone of the Aden Free Zone (AFZ). On this important occasion, Yemen Times met with the man behind the administration of the AFZ, Mr. Derhim Abdo Noman, Chairman of the AFZ and the Vice President of the Free Zones Public Authority.

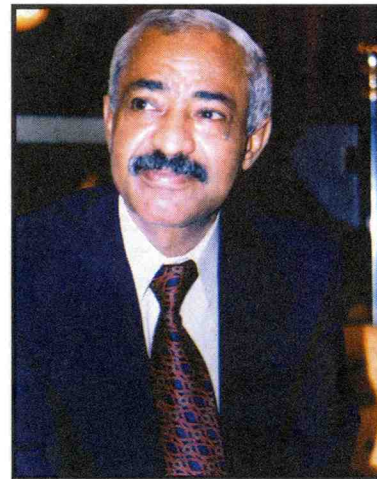
Mr. Derhim started by saying, "The third anniversary that we are celebrating resembles a historic and important day in the history of Yemen.

This is the day when Aden regained its popular status as an internationally renowned harbor. The Aden Free Zone would have never come to reality without the generous support and encouragement that we received from H.E President Ali Abdullah Saleh."

Regarding the Aden Industrial and Warehouse Estate (AIWE), Mr. Derhim said that "the Industrial and Warehouse Estate's Infrastructure is now 100% complete.

The overall cost for the completion of the infrastructure reached USD 3 million and now it is open for investors to start receiving their lands based on contracts we signed with them."

"In the year 2002, a new information and training center for Yemeni specialists in various fields will be founded.



Apart from that, a special parking place for trucks will be set up and infrastructure projects for heavy industries in the field of pipe manufacturing and oil production, along with other projects including a sugar refinery, will be established in the AIWE."

Mr. Derhim also emphasized the importance of the visits of different Arab and foreign delegations of officials and businessmen to the AFZ. "Those delegations come to get an idea of the potential of the Aden Free Zone and see the different activities currently taking place. The guests usually express their admiration of the level of work at the AFZ and also express interest in future cooperation in this area. Apart from that, my latest visit to Syria resulted in several agreements including an agreement to exchange expertise." he said. He also told Yemen Times that at the end of March 2002, the AFZ

will participate in a meeting of Free Zone Authorities of the Arab countries and will present a paper on the different attractions that AFZ has, so as to bring more investors to Aden. "The AFZ enjoys good relations with all the Arab Free Zones, but our zone is unique in its private sector experience" Mr. Derhim added. "No doubt, such a gigantic project requires a lot of effort and patience by Yemenis, who will be the main beneficiaries of the project, which will provide job opportunities and sources of revenue for the country. The way is open, procedures are clear and simple, and facilities are much more than what investors would get in other free zones in the region. We welcome all investors whom we will provide with all facilities they need" Mr. Derhim asserted.

Mr. Derhim stressed that the political leadership of the country is very much eager to provide all the support and facilities possible to investors and businessmen willing to invest at the AFZ. He said, "The Aden Free Zone was granted the 21st century quality certificate by the World Marketing Organization (WMO) in recognition of the AFZ's efficient marketing procedures.

The nomination was made by several professionals in marketing in Europe and the USA." "Finally, I would like to thank H.E. President Saleh for his sincere and straightforward orders to preserve the land of the AFZ. I would also like to convey my sincere appreciation to Mr. Ahmed Aqabat, Minister of Justice for his role in supporting this important national economic project of Yemen." he concluded.



Governor of Aden to YT:

"Everything is going on as planned."

In a meeting with the Governor of Aden, Mr. Taha Ahmed Ghanem, the governor asserted that everything is going as planned and as expected. "We are quite satisfied with what has been achieved at the Aden Free Zone since 19 March 1999.

The increasing number of handled containers in the last three years promises us that Aden will retain its historic position in the world.

No one can deny that the AFZ is considered a major achievement of the unification of Yemen" Mr. Taha told Yemen Times.

The governor expressed his hope in that the AFZ will indeed be the giant economic project that will confidently have Yemen develop in the 21st century.

He described the remaining stages of the AFZ to be going on as scheduled and in a normal manner.

"The infrastructure of the Industrial and Warehouse Estate, which will be inaugurated soon, was completed in October 2001, and we are looking forward for the investors who had allocated blocks in the estate to start building their factories, warehouses, and other invest-



ment projects." Mr. Taha added. Mr. Taha also stressed that H.E. President Saleh's care for the city of Aden was behind the ongoing pace in the development of the city in various ways.

"We call upon Yemeni, Arab, and foreign investors to start investing in the AFZ and in Yemen in general, as they will benefit from the various facilities, opportunities, and features that will be given to them." he concluded.





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Since the launch of the first phase of the Container Terminal on March 19 1999, Aden has been confidentially restoring its glorious position, attracting great international interest. The special attention and care,

President

Ali Abdullah Saleh

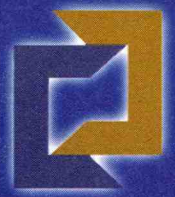
has been giving to this important economic project, the facilitation granted and his close follow-up of the remaining phases motivate us to make every effort to make this project a success.

On the occasion of the 3rd anniversary of the launch of the Container Terminal, we extend our heartfelt congratulations to President Ali Abdullah Saleh, All Yemeni People and to those who have been contributing to the success of this vital project.

تطل علينا الذكرى الثالثة لبدء تشغيل ميناء الحاويات في ١٩ مارس ١٩٩٩م وقد تحققت العديد من الانجازات في بناء واستكمال البنية التحتية للمنطقة الصناعية والتخزينية ليصبح الآن العمل جاهزاً لإقامة المشاريع الاستثمارية

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علي عبد الله صالح - رئيس الجمهورية

الذي كان له الدور الأكبر والأهم في انجاز هذا الصرح الاقتصادي الهام، والى الشعب اليمني العظيم وإلى كل الذين وقفوا ويقفون خلف هذا المشروع.



Adnan Al-Kaff of Yeminvest to YT:

“Industrial & Warehousing Estate Infrastructure is now complete...It is time for investors, who signed their contracts to start implementing their projects”

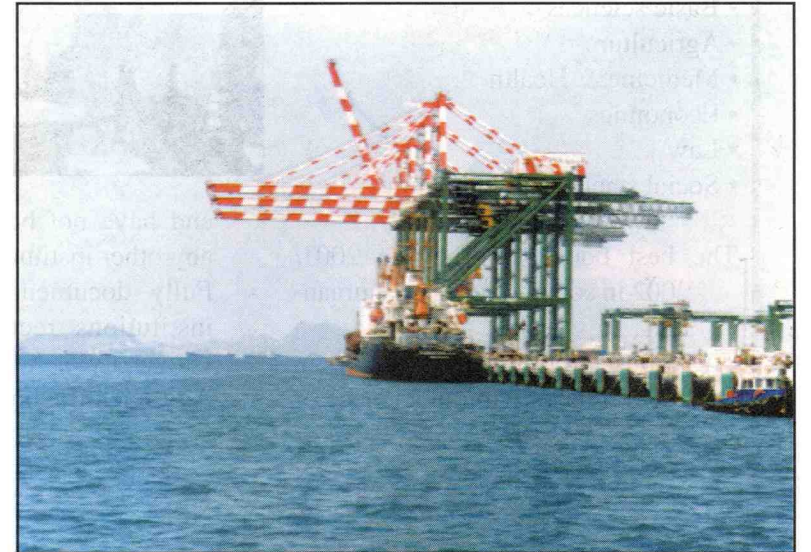
The infrastructure of the AFZ Industrial & Warehousing Estate (IWE) was completed in last October. Operation in the estate is now prepared for establishing investment projects, as reported by Adnan Al-Kaff, the Director (Corporate Appoints) at Yeminvest to Al-Fanar Bulliten. He pointed out that the official opening shall be made soon in coordination with the leadership of the Free Zone Public Authority. The ceremony will be appropriate to the Estate location significance for attracting investment. Adnan Al-Kaff called on investors who have signed contracts with Yeminvest to start the process of constructing industries, warehousing

and investment project that can be implemented at present. Regarding Yeminvest activity in shipping business of Aden Container Terminal (ACT), he said: “Yeminvest has signed contracts with some new shipping companies, such as UNI Glory Co. & Coscon for Shipping, thus, opening two new shipping lines, in addition to some new shipping services being extended to APL and PEL so as to increase the NO. of containers handled at Act, thus reducing shipping costs. Al-Kaff pointed out to the increasing number of vessels and containers coming to the Terminal. No. of ves-



sels arrived during last year, 2001 reached 856 while the number for the year 2000 was 590 vessels only. Numbers of containers coming to the Terminal during last year, 2001 amounted to 377,367, while the number for the year 2000 was 247,913. The figures above are a proof of the ever increasing giant container vessels choosing AGT as their preferred Terminal due to better facilities and services they

received and the distinguished geographical location among world ports. He clarified that the Terminal has not been operated up to its maximum capacity. Still there are potentials have not been tapped yet more containers and more vessels can be accommodated. A new crane has arrived in February this year as a fifth giant crane operating at ACT. This will help in speeding up container handling and accommodation process. As to the issue of ACT expansion to increase its shipping business, he affirmed that the remaining stages shall be duly implemented when viability is secured or the business at Act reaches its maximum capacity.



The Refinery Company

presents, its heartfelt and warmest congratulation to H.E, the President of the Republic,

Ali Abdullah Saleh

& to the Yemeni people,

on the occasion of the third anniversary of the official inauguration of the Aden Free Zone in March 19/1999,

& Completion of the Infrastructure of the Industrial Estate

Aden Refinery is considered one of the most significant and influential economic sectors in the Republic of Yemen, where it provides the Local Market with its needs of oil and petroleum derivatives. It also exports all kinds of petroleum derivatives to East Africa, Indian Ocean, East Mediterranean Sea and Red Sea markets.

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إفتتاح المرحلة الأولى لميناء الحاويات بـعدن وبدء التشغيل في 19 مارس 1999 تمثل إستعادة مدينة عدن تاريخها الملاحى لتصبح محط أنظار العالم وبمناسبة الذكرى الثالثة لبدء العمل في ميناء الحاويات بـعدن وإستكمال البنية الأساسية للمنطقة الصناعية والتجزئية بالمنطقة الحرة

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As part of Aden University's support for promoting scientific research and using it to serve development issues of the society as well as to promote culture and sciences.



Aden University has the pleasure to invite candidates for Aden University Awards for Scientific Research for the third time in 2002 in accordance with the University's Rector decree No. 191 of 1999 concerning the allocation of annual awards by Aden University in the following fields:

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- Economics
- Law
- Social sciences & humanities

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applied sciences. University of Aden will start receiving applications and researches for the abovementioned awards as of March 2002 till 30th of June 2002 .

Conditions & terms

Researches submitted should be genuine and distinguished. They should include new discoveries in the respective fields, and closely related to the Yemeni environment, society and development issues.

Eligibility

- Submitted researches should be exclusively conducted for winning Aden University's awards,



and have not been presented to any other institution

- Fully documented patent from institutions recognized by the University of Aden
- Any scientific book (reference or

university book) that meet publication standards specified by Aden University **other than** master and doctorate dissertations

Requirements:

- 1- Applicants should be members of teaching staff of Aden University and Yemeni universities as well as Yemeni specialized research centers
- 2- Applications forms can be collected from the trustee of the awards based at Aden University Head Office got filled and subsequently submitted in person to him
- 3- Five copies of the dissertations plus five copies of all related documents (mentioned at the appli-



cation forms) to the trustee of the awards by the 30th of June 2002

- 4- Candidates should clearly specify the field of his research
- 5- If the research was conducted by several persons, applicant should

present the approval of his colleague

- 6- Submitted scientific researches can not be recovered in case they win or not

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- Award-delivery to winners will take place at a party to be held on September 10 which coincides with Aden University foundation anniversary
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- Results of winning researches will be disclosed on the second half of August
- The date of the award-distribution party will be declared through the media



• Award-delivery to winners will take place at a party to be held on September 10 which coincides with Aden University foundation anniversary

• Winners will receive financial prizes plus medals and certificates

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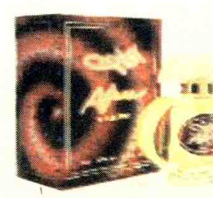
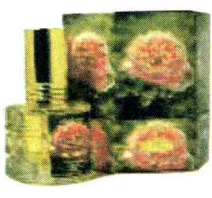
من الجودة والتميز في صناعة العطور

Since the Aden Container Terminal, which is the cornerstone of the Aden Free Zone, started operations in 19 March 1999, It became an important element in attracting foreign investment and increasing economic and business activities.

On the occasion of the third anniversary of the Aden Container Terminal,

AL-REHAB PERFUMES

presents its heartfelt congratulations to the leader of Yemen's development and builder of this great economic enterprise,
President Ali Abdullah Saleh
and all the Yemeni people
Wishing Yemen all the best of economic progress and development



تعتبر الذكرى الثالثة لبدء العمل في ميناء الحاويات في المنطقة الحرة عدن ١٩ مارس ١٩٩٩م، هي ذكرى عودة تاريخ أمجاد مدينة عدن التاريخية.

وبهذه المناسبة تتقدم

الرحاب للمطور

بأزكى التهاني وأعطر التبريكات الى فخامة الأخ/

علي عبد الله صالح

رئيس الجمهورية

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Aden's 5th Super Post Panamax crane delivered

By Karen Dabrowska

ADEN -- Delivery of the 5th SPP Reggiane Crane on 24th February to the Port of Aden shows the phased expansion of container handling services to meet increasing demand.

This additional crane, with the same 55m outreach as the first four delivered in 1999, will allow the Aden Container Terminal (ACT) to handle over 500,000 TEU, a figure that it soon expects to reach.

Yard operations were expanded in 2001 by delivery of additional five RTG's plus tractors and trailer units.

Aden has maintained an average annual container volume growth rate of over 40% during the past

expanding traffic volume.

The Ma'alla Terminal, completed in 1990, now has very high levels of berth occupancy and, with a second silo and a flour mill complex due to open in April, new berths equipped to handle fully loaded bulk carriers of 80,000 TDW or better are included in the port's immediate development plans. Non-container cargo growth has exceeded 250% since 1997, from 874,000 to over 2.2 million tonnes in 2001.

Further ahead the port will make much more extensive use of the almost 50-square kilometers of sheltered water lying between the Aden peninsula and the Little Aden refinery/Oil Harbour area as facilities are expanded.

The 1998 dredging program



nine years. Volume has risen from 121,600 TEU when the ACT opened in 1999 to over 377,000 in 2001, above 50% each year.

Almost 2,000 ships, not counting fishing vessels and yachts, called at Aden in 2001, compared with less than 900 in 1995. The port took delivery of two conventional tugs in 1998 and has ordered a further two 60 tonne bollard pull ASD tugs from Damen shipyard for delivery in September and November this year to handle its

increased water depth in the 4-km approach channel and 700-meter diameter inner harbour, turning basin to 15m or better. With excellent seabed stability, this can be increased to any required depth without any need for maintenance dredging. It was noted in the 1999 survey that outer harbour depths clear of the channel are essentially the same as those recorded in the first harbour approaches survey - carried out in 1835.

Lieutenant General Mohammad Saleh Turaiq to YT:

"We are sparing no effort in making the AFZ as secure as possible"

Lieutenant General Mohammad Saleh Turaiq, Chief of Security in Aden Province told Yemen Times that no effort is being spared to make the Aden Free Zone as secure as possible.

"A special police force was founded only for the AFZ. Those police officers have received modern training and are highly qualified.

They are currently carrying on their missions with great precision and efficiency to make the AFZ as

secure as possible," he said.

Mr. Turaiq explained that since President Saleh established the Aden Free Zone, it has been divided into 15 regions extending from the Mualla Port to Little Aden (Buraiqa), with a total area of more than 28,360 hectares.

"We realize how important it is for investors to make sure their investments are secure and that their businesses are going without interruption for any security reasons.

Hence, we are sparing no effort to make them feel that way," he said.

"We realize that the city is Aden is now the economic capital of Yemen, and it requires more dedication and effort to have it continue to develop and prosper for the benefit of the whole country.

Thus, we will be exerting greater efforts to preserve stability and security in all possible ways in this very important project for each and every Yemeni."



Duties of Aden Free Zone Security

Abdullah Abdo Qairan
Security Chief of the AFZ



It also takes into consideration the various security risks that could cause instability, and work on monitoring the movement of vessels and other objects on land and on sea.

This is done through constant and moving monitoring sites.

The Security of the Aden Free Zone (AFZ), and in particular the Aden Container Terminal (ACT) take responsibility to give the best services possible.

The main duty of the security department of the AFZ is to make sure security is established in all the different regions of the AFZ in general, and in the ACT in particular. We understand the great economic significance of the AFZ, and hence we realize the dimensions of our duties.

The security department of the AFZ presents security-related plans and studies that suit the natural warm weather of the port and according to the different communication and business-related transactions.

The department makes sure that all points of weakness are inspected and prevented from affecting the security in the area.

The department also constantly sends security units to observe operations of the different departments of the AFZ and uses sophisticated inspection machinery for vehicles, containers and persons going into the zone.

In addition, there is also monitoring patrol groups along the coast and in the AFZ to provide better security internally and externally.

The security of the AFZ also insures the security status of the zone during delegation visits of diplomats, businessmen, and other guests as well as providing safety means and firefighting tools in the different sections of the AFZ.

There are direct cooperation links with the different companies in the zone, and the effort to make the area as secure as possible becomes a joint one.

Only this way will the security pro-



cedures be effective in case of

emergencies that may hinder normal operations in the AFZ.

In regard to the humane and civil side of the security department's duties, the security forces treat people gently and with the greatest of respect.

All personnel of the department wear standard uniforms and can communicate with locals as well as foreigners in a civil and modern

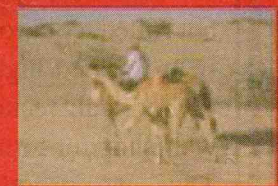
manner.

This resulted in the confidence of local and foreign investors alike in the security teams of the AFZ.

It remains a fact that the security apparatus for the AFZ is a vital organ to have the zone progress and develop.

Stability is a major concern for all investors, and hence the need for the security department is also of great importance.

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Mr. Hamdo Abdulkareem to YT:

“We call upon investors to take advantage of facilities offered at the AFZ”

Mr. Hamdo Abdulkareem, a prominent businessman and investor in Aden, and the General Manager of the United Company for Industrial Metals told Yemen Times that “Yemen enjoys several unique factors encouraging investment. One of

the main factors is the Aden Free Zone which provides several key and encouraging facilities unavailable in any other country.”



Mr. Hamdo continued, “Based on our own experience in Yemen for the last five years, I can confidently tell you that Yemen has a big market with strong purchas-

ing ability, just as any other country.”

“We, as the United Company for Industrial Metals, have succeeded in our investment in Yemen because of our sincerity in practical investment, by establishing a chain of factories working in different production lines of metal products,” Mr. Abdo said.

“We make use of our successful investment experience in Yemen by holding seminars and exhibitions and by meeting Arab and foreign delegations in Yemen and abroad, explaining to them the great benefits of investing in Yemen.

We also have emphasized,

through satellite channels and newspapers, the true value of investing in Yemen in general and at the AFZ in particular.” Mr. Abdo added.

Mr. Abdo concluded by thanking H.E. President Saleh for the attention he has been giving to foreign and Arab investors in the country.

“Those special facilities offered by the Yemeni government, and the special care of H.E. President Ali Abdullah Saleh have helped tremendously in removing all obstacles facing us as investors, and will definitely continue to attract investment from all over the globe.” he stressed.

INVESTMENT STATISTICS FROM ADEN GOVERNORATE

TABLE 1:
Projects Currently Operational in the Governorate of Aden

Sector	Projects	Capital (Thousand YR)	Assets	Employees
Education	13	179213	119244	138
Services	14	5169193	4110754	885
Agricultural/Farming	3	69665	29241	24
Housing	2	4000000	139142	27
Fishery	5	3145271	2859097	411
Tourism	46	5360793	2279965	1313
Health	18	1423634	841730	718
Industry	114	19349943	12255296	3337
Transport	3	285415	283105	N/A
Total	218	38983127	22917574	6853

TABLE 2:
Projects with Permissions from the General Investment Authority

Sector	Projects	Capital (Thousand YR)	Assets	Employees
Education	23	427408	290404	279
Services	207	1535151	942080	1490
Agricultural/Farming	12	349385	84585	215
Housing	26	3602573	469547	321
Fishery	2	76950	46222	121
Tourism	118	12398315	5711382	3757
Health	37	1920025	1169999	1310
Industry	494	12231753	6488366	8459
Transport	3	128785	121580	72
Total	922	32670345	15324165	16024

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UNITED COMPANY FOR INDUSTRIAL METALS

Congratulates the leader of modern Yemen

H.E. President Ali Abdullah Saleh and the people of Yemen

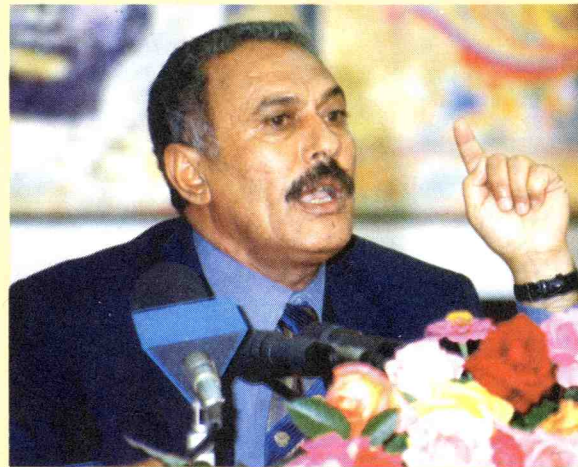
on the occasion of the second anniversary of the inauguration of the cornerstone of Aden Free Zone, Aden Container Terminal by President Ali Abdullah Saleh, the leader of modern Yemen, and the builder of this great enterprise.

The United Company for Industrial Metals wishes the best of success to the administration of the Aden Free Zone in its upcoming phases, and expresses delight with its progress so far.

We announce to all investors and businessmen inside and outside Yemen as well as Free Zone Administration that the “United Company for Industrial Metal” as a branch of Saudi Steel Profile Factory Co., Jeddah/S. A to render our Company best quality services of hanger construction and ensure providing all factory-building requirements of beams (U.H & I shapes) & various kinds/sizes of steel (checked, hot rolled, cold rolled, stainless steel) and a wide range of seamless & seam welded high pressured, and galvanized water pipes and tubes (cylindrical, rectangular, triangle, square). There is also a technical workshop for forming, lathing, cutting & recycling metals on demand. Thus we produce different kinds of welding rods, mesh & reinforcement steel bars.

The company pleasantly renders its services on direct sale site basis and/or customer site delivery for competitive prices. It is only 500 m from Free Zone - near the municipality/Almansoor - Aden.

CONTACT ADDRESS:
UNITED Co. for Industrial Metals
P. O. Box: 4585 Al-Mansoor, Aden
Tel: 00 967-2-343546, 341286, 341562
Fax: 00 967-2-347888
E-mail: un.co.fim@y.net.ye



الشركة المتحدة للصناعات المعدنية

إن الذكرى الثانية لبدء العمل في ميناء الحاويات بادن في ١٩٩٩/٣/١٩ هي عودة تاريخ وأمجاد مدينة عدن التاريخية.

وبهذه المناسبة تتقدم الشركة المتحدة للصناعات المعدنية ممثلة

بالمدير العام الأستاذ / حمدو عبد الكريم

بأحر التهنئة والتبريكات الى قائد مسيرة اليمن التنموية وباني صرحه الاقتصادي فخامة الأخ /

علي عبد الله صالح - رئيس الجمهورية

ذلي لأبناء الشعب اليمني العظيم

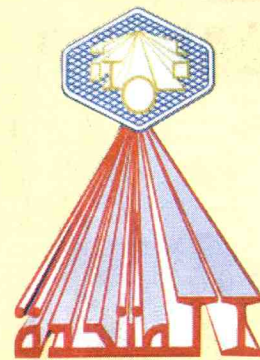
متمنين كل التقدم والإزدهار لليمن السعيد تحت قيادته الحكيمة

مصنع الأنابيب المجلفنة في الجمهورية اليمنية

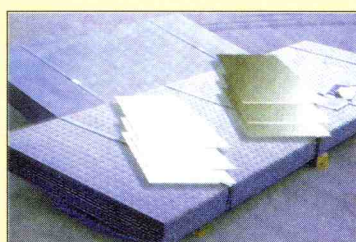
يعتبر مصنع المواسير المجلفنة أحد المشاريع الاستثمارية التابعة للشركة المتحدة للصناعات المعدنية في الجمهورية اليمنية. وهذا المصنع هو الأول من نوعه في اليمن، وقد تم افتتاح وتشغيل هذا المصنع في بداية العام الجاري ٢٠٠١م.

وما يدعو للفخر والاعتزاز أن إنتاج هذا المصنع لاقى إقبالا ورواجا واسعا في السوق اليمنية بسبب إنتاجه المتميز ومطابقتها للمواصفات العالمية.

زوروا في موقعنا الرئيسي في المنصورة جوار البلدية.
م/ عدن أو في أحد فروعا في كلامن صنعاء، تعز، والحديدة.



ويمكنكم التواصل معنا على العنوان التالي:
الشركة المتحدة للصناعات المعدنية
تلفون: ٣٤٤٤٤٤٣، ٣٤٤٤٤٤٤، ٣٤٤٤٤٤٤
فاكس: ٣٤٣٥٤٦
ص. ب. ٤٥٨٥، المنصورة - عدن
بريد الكتروني:
un.co.fim@y.net.ye



Procedures and conditions of granting licenses for special investment projects

1) Investors shall submit their applications for licenses to invest in the free zone to the administration of the zone through the form designated for this purpose, stating all basic data pertaining to the project attached with the required necessary documents.

2) The investment-related department shall make sure that the applicant has met the required data and documents. It shall, then, hand him an official receipt identifying the number and data of entering his application in the register of investment applications.

3) The concerned department shall prepare a report containing a presentation and analysis of the data of the project as well as its recommendations with regard to the proposed project, and refer it to the commission in a period not later than seven days of the date of receiving the application with all project documents.

Article (35):

a) The commission shall study the documents of the application and the report of the concerned department and make an appropriate decision in this respect. The commission shall either approve the application or request modifications to its data and documents or deny it in three days of receiving the documents and report.

b) The applicant shall be notified of the commission's decision after two days of its issuance, at the latest.

c) In light of the commission's decision approving the application, and after payment of the specified fees by the applicant at the rate of (one for each 1000) of the investment cost of the project provided that such fees shall not exceed a sum of U.S. \$2000. The chairman of the zone shall issue an initial approval of licensing for the establishment of the project according to the form designated, for that which includes identification of the purposes for

which the project has been granted the decision and validity of the decision and the basic data of the project.

d) The decision of the chairman of the zone with regard to initially approving the establishment of the project shall be deemed a permission for the applicant to initiate the procedures of the founding the project.

Article (36):

The founding procedures shall include the following steps:

a) Submitting the legal documents to the registration office in the free zone for entering it in the approved legal form.

b) Inspecting the proposed site and receiving it by a delivery report to be signed by both, the investor and the concerned authority. Such delivery of the site shall be made after payment of the rent for the required leased area effected by the investor.

c) The lease, however, begins from the data the investor has received the site empty and well leveled and prepared for construction (to build the project on it). The investor shall also sign contracts and services necessary for his project. The administration shall be furnished with copies of all these contracts.

d) Obtaining a building license from the engineering department (if the project includes constructional work and buildings). His application shall be supported by detailed layouts and designs prepared by an engineering office authorized by the zone administration. The engineering department will review these documents to make sure that they match the technical specification of the building and the approved designs. After payment of the authorized fees by the investor, the zone administration shall give him the building license.

e) After completion of constructional work, the project shall be given a

building completion certificate upon inspection and verification of safe implementation of the project.

e) If the project requires the installation of equipment and devices, it shall obtain an operation efficiency certificate from the engineering department before the operation test.

Article (37):

The investment-related department shall follow up the holder of the initial approval during his undertaking of the founding procedures. If he didn't undertake any executive step to establish the project within three months of the date of issuance of the initial approval, such approval would be deemed invalid, and he may appeal to the chairman of the zone within a week of the date of conciliation of the approval.

Article (38):

The chairman of the zone in consultation with the commission may grant the grievance an other 60 days, beginning on the date the initial approval had been filed. The grievance repeats his negligence, the zone administration shall completely stop dealing with him and shall not accept from him any further review within at least three years.

Article (39):

Having become certain of the completion of all the founding procedures of the project, the concerned department shall report to the chairman of the zone, recommending him for a license for the project to practice its investment activity. The chairman's decision with regard to the license shall be issued by the form designated for that purpose and published after payment of the fees stated in the official bulletin of the zone administration by the holder of the license.

Sheikh Saleh Ba Thawwab to YT:

"As businessmen, we do feel the big difference between yesterday and today"

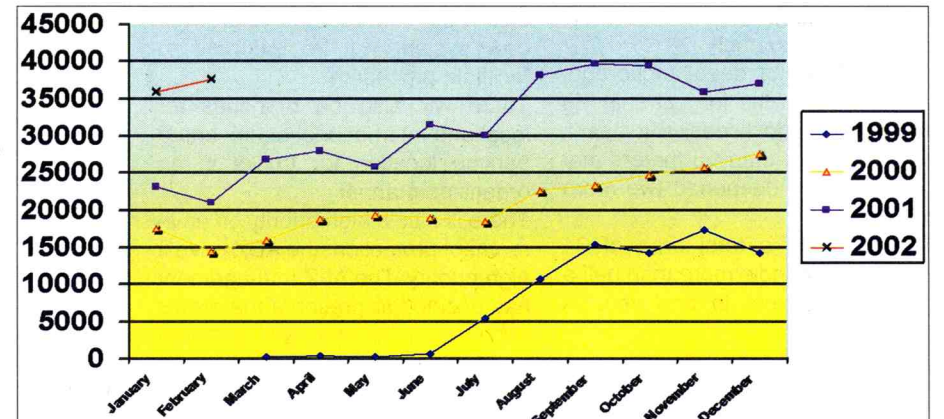
On this special occasion resembling three years since the operation of the Aden Free Zone, Yemen Times also met with a special personality who had helped the investment sector of Yemen tremendously. This personality is Sheikh Saleh Ba Thawwab, Chairman of the National Cigarette and Matches Industry Ltd-Aden. He said, "The third anniversary of the AFZ we are celebrating today is a historic and distinguished day in the trade history of Yemen. In this day, Aden retained its position as a strategically important harbor in the region, and which is growing at a tremendous pace. As businessmen, we do feel the big difference between yesterday and today in the city of Aden and in the whole country. This will definitely



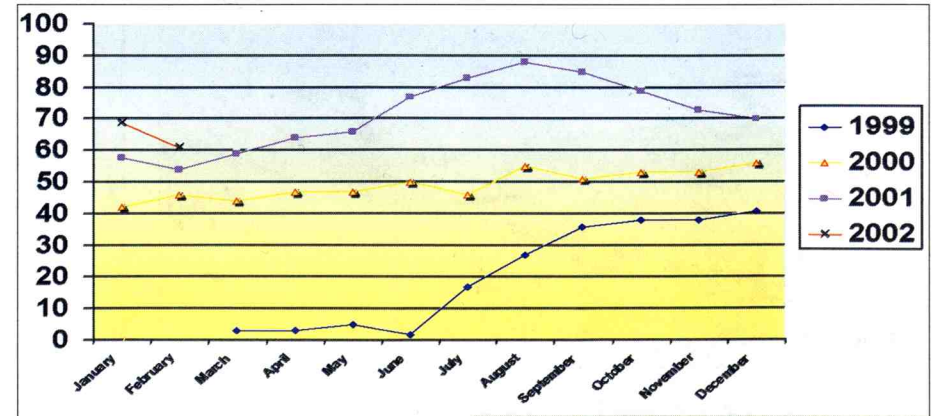
bring prosperity and benefit to the economy of Yemen. I also stress on the importance of the role played by the administration and executors of the AFZ, who are doing a good job."

Concerning the anticipated Tobacco Factory in Aden, Sheikh Ba Thawwab said, "Work is going fine and as scheduled concerning the completion of the Tobacco Factory as the necessary equipment have already arrived. This factory will be one of the largest factories in producing tobacco in the Middle East, and the first of its kind in the Republic of Yemen. We expect to have the factory inaugurated in 2002." Sheikh Ba Thawwab concluded his statement by thanking H.E. President Ali Abdullah Saleh for the encouragement and support that he has given to businessmen and investors in Aden and called upon businessmen to invest their capitals in Yemen and particularly in the AFZ.

Number of containers handled at the Aden Free Zone since inauguration in March 1999



Number of vessels that arrived at the Aden Free Zone since inauguration in March 1999



ارتبطت أهمية مدينة عدن التجارية بتاريخ الملاحة في البحر الأحمر وذلك للأهمية الإستراتيجية التي تمتلكها تلك المدينة لموقعها الجغرافي وإشرافها على مضيق باب المندب الذي اكسبها طابع إقتصادي وتجاري خاص.

ويبدء تدشين العمل في ميناء الحاويات في المنطقة الحرة في عدن في 19 مارس 1999م ، الذي ارتقى بالتنمية الإقتصادية ورفد الإقتصاد اليمني بالإستثمارات الخارجية.

وبحلول الذكرى الثالثة لتشغيل ميناء الحاويات في المنطقة الحرة والانتهاه من البنية الأساسية للمنطقة الصناعية والتجزئية تتقدم

شركة صناعة السجائر والكبريت الوطنية المحدودة

ممثلة بالشيخ - صالح سالم باثواب - رئيس مجلس الإدارة التنفيذي

بأزكى آيات التهاني والتبريكات إلى باني صرح اليمن ونهضته فخامة الأخ /

علي عبد الله صالح - رئيس الجمهورية

وإلى شعبنا اليمني، وإلى كل من ساهم في هذا المشروع الاقتصادي، ومزيداً من التقدم والإزدهار.

The city of Aden has been an important commercial hub for decades. Mostly, this because of its strategic location between the Red Sea and the Indian Ocean.

Since the Aden Container Terminal, which is the cornerstone of the Aden Free Zone, started operation in March 19, 1999. It has been attracting more and more investments.

On the occasion of the third anniversary of the Aden Container Terminal and finalizing the infrastructure of the industrial and warehousing zone:

THE NATIONAL CIGARETTES & MATCHES INDUSTRY

represented by its Executive Chairman

Sheikh Saleh Salem Ba Thawwab,

presents its heartfelt congratulations to the leader of Yemen's development and builder of this great economic enterprise,

President Ali Abdullah Saleh

and all the Yemeni people

Wishing Yemen all the best of economic progress and development



THE NATIONAL CIGARETTES & MATCHES INDUSTRY



The Best Tobacco of Virginia

All about the Aden Free Zone

By Eng. Adel. M. Othman
Gen. Manager
Engineering Department



The third anniversary of the creation of the Aden Container Terminal (ACT) has come at a time when we are witnessing the highest percentage of success on all levels at the Aden Free Zone (AFZ).

On March 19 1999, the first stage of the AFZ was inaugurated after extensive work for two years. During those two years, two roadways anchorages were built for two giant vessels to anchor.

The ACT has a deep anchorage, which enables the largest ships in the world to dock easily. It has a depth of more than 16 meters that could also be deepened two more meters.

The port has a total area of 34 hectares to handle more than half a million containers in one year. A

tions that will enforce themselves as the number of investors increases. An exit route is currently being constructed for trucks and other vehicles is being constructed to avoid possible traffic jams in the future.

The Free Zones Public Authority is currently preparing a new building for its staff near Caltex Ring to offer the most modern of services to investors. The offices will be linked directly with the government and the management of the Aden Free Zone for investors, so they don't have to go to independent administrative units to process paperwork etc. In other words, the single-window system will be enforced to facilitate procedures.

There will also be branches for local and international banks and a parking location for trucks in an organized manner.

There is also a high priority on environment protection, the ADZ gave it high priority. The AFZ management has decided to preserve the area's

Airport. The AFZ had signed an agreement in this regard with Yemenia Company. Other projects are also under construction including a sugar refinery factory project, which will be the largest of its kind in Yemen. From the completed projects, and those that are still being under construction, one can proudly say that the Aden Free Zone project is growing and it will be only a matter of time before the national economy benefits from it all.

We can compliment all the men behind this project, including Mr. Derhib Abdo Noman and the two companies implementing and running the work, Yeminvest and PSA, and others across Yemen who are helping in the background.

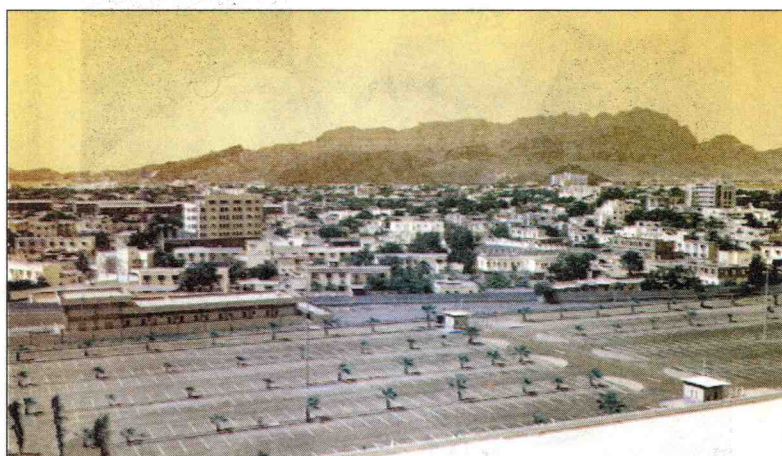


cooling system for containers is available at the port which also includes a special electricity station with a capacity of 14 mega watt (expandable to 28 mega watt) that provides the necessary electricity for the port area along with the industrial and warehouse estate.

There is also a modern sanitary water purification unit installed at the port, and another one installed at the industrial estate.

natural beauty by planting thousands of new trees and plants.

The AFZ has also signed a number of agreements with specialized companies to start implementing the first stage of the green belt project around the Industrial Estate in Caltex along with planting palm trees taking into account the importance of making the whole area as green and natural as possible.



In October 2001, the infrastructure of the Industrial and Warehouse Estate (IWE) was completed. All the necessary requirements of investors were also met and renting contracts with investing companies have also been signed.

Currently, the second phase of the IWE is being planned to include increasing activities and flow to the ACT to cope with the new condi-

The Free Zones Public Authority continues to work on a number of designs and plans for the rest of the different sections of the AFZ to find sources of finance for infrastructure projects and to encourage investors to bring new initiatives to better serve the AFZ. A study has been completed on the construction of a cargo air and warehouse village in the Aden International



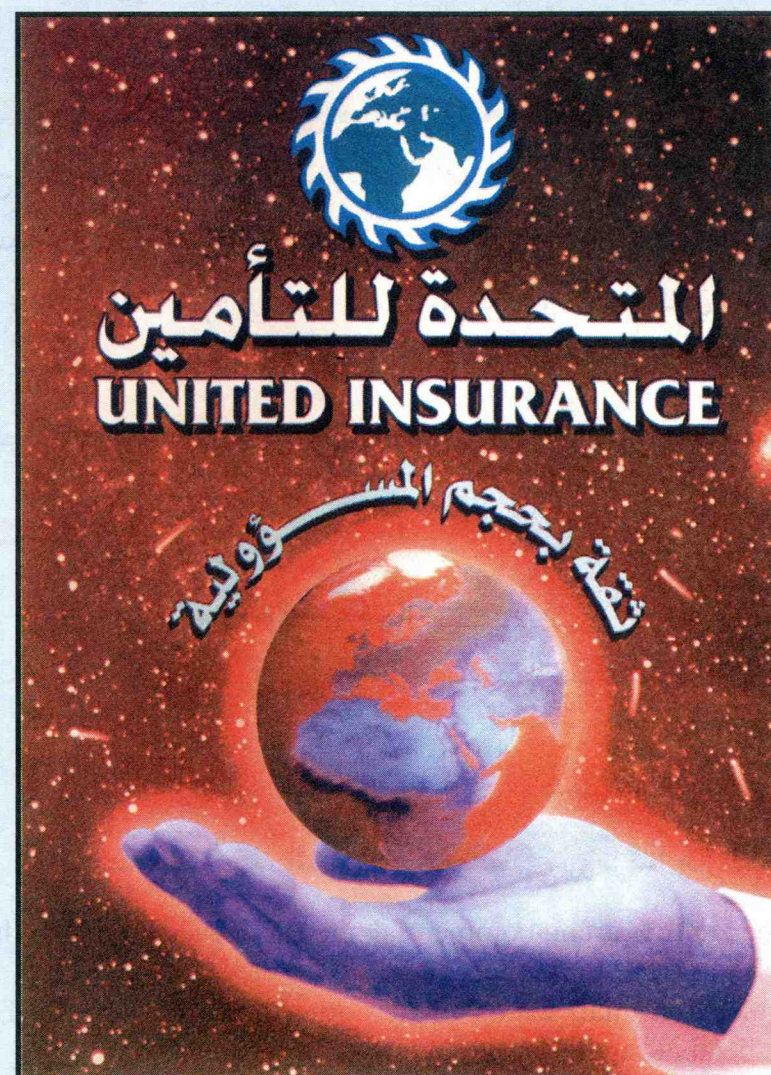
United Insurance Company in its 21th anniversary

congratulates



for the successful completion of the third year of operation for the Aden Container Terminal.

With best wishes for Years to come.



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the official insurer of the Aden Container Terminal,

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ADEN FREE ZONE

A Giant Achievement in the Horizon

By Abdulaziz Mohamed Abdullah
Yemen Times,
Aden



If the biggest achievement ever been accomplished in Yemen's recent history was unification in 1990, the second biggest one would probably be the creation of Aden Free Zone (AFZ).

No doubt, hopes to restore the port of Aden to a strategically important harbor for trade and business have come alive since

the decision to start this gigantic project was taken. The AFZ is expected to enhance Yemen's economy and generate new sources of income for the country.

The leadership and government of Yemen have given strict orders regarding the land of the AFZ according to the premier decree (65/1993). It is forbidden to use land for reasons other than the

ones described in the decree and can only be given after permission is taken from the Free Zones Public Authority.

This week, we are signaling the third anniversary since the Free Zones Public Authority succeeded in completing the first phase of the AFZ, which started operation on 19 March 1999. Ever since then, the AFZ has continued to attract greater numbers of vessels.

The year 2001 included major enhancements and additions to the AFZ, including the installment of a new gigantic crane for loading containers and another for emptying containers, plus eight transport vehicles and five smaller container cranes.

The authority had also started providing opportunities for local companies to provide their services for the container terminal, such as providing water, fuel, emptying loaded containers, marine communications, maintenance, etc.

This resulted in having the AFZ management provide large areas for offices with competitive prices

for private companies dealing with shipping services. Those areas already have main facilities and services installed such as electricity, water and sanitary networks, telephone links, and other features that renters will find very useful for their operations compared to other offices out of the AFZ. The latest developments in the AFZ's industrial and warehouse estate include the start of constructing new internal roads, which are currently being paved.

Most of the AFZ's sanitary and water pipelines and electricity networks have been completed and the bases for stations and water containers and completing more than 40% of communication network

However, the great developments of the AFZ make it necessary to draft new laws and regulations that would organize the investment procedures and guide investors into the best ways to



make use of the services and facilities.

Those regulations should also emphasize the health-related issues on the employees or the civilians living near those industrial complexes. The environmental hazards need to be taken seriously, as it is of great importance to provide protective measures against any possible leakage of

chemical and toxic waste into the air or the water in the area.

Regardless of the different requirements that are to be fulfilled for the AFZ, there is no doubt that this project is indeed one of the major achievements of Yemen's recent history, and will be a major factor behind the shaping of Yemen's future.



Sheikh Mohammed Omar Qasim Al-Esayi; The General Manager,
the employees and Staff of

Al-Esayi for Beverages Co. Ltd. - Aden

Present their heartfelt congratulations to the founder and leader of modern Yemen

President Ali Abdullah Saleh

and to the entire Yemeni people

on the occasion of the New Hejira Year - 1423 and on the 3th anniversary of inaugurating and operating Aden Containers Terminal in 19 March, 1999.

This is a turning point of Aden city's history to regain its strategic location on the Indian Ocean. Also, on the occasion of completing the infrastructure of the industrial and warehousing area at Aden Free Zone.

Wishing Yemen more prosperous future.

شركة العيسائي للمربطات المحدودة - عدن
ممثلة

بالشيخ / محمد عمر قاسم العيسائي - المدير العام

وجميع موظفي وعمال الشركة

يتقدمون بأسمى آيات التهاني وأزكى التبريكات إلى مؤسس وباني اليمن الحديث فخامة

الأخ / علي عبدالله صالح - رئيس الجمهورية

والى جميع أبناء شعبنا اليمني الكريم

بمناسبة حلول العام الهجري الجديد 1423

والذكرى الثالثة لبدء تشغيل ميناء الحاويات بالمنطقة الحرة بعدن

في 19 مارس 1999م والذي به عادت الروح إلى مدينة عدن واستعادة مجدها التاريخي والملاحى وكذا بمناسبة الانتهاء من البنية الأساسية للمنطقة الصناعية والتجزئية في المنطقة الحرة بعدن. متمنين أن تعود هذه المناسبات السعيدة وقد تحقق لليمن المزيد من التقدم والإزدهار

وكل عام وأنتم بخير



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Expectations of Yemenis from the ADEN FREE ZONE

By Haifa Sadiq
Yemen Times,
Aden



in certain areas of the city. The city of Aden should include parks, theaters, and other recreational facilities that would promote local and foreign tourism into the city.

Sea tourism is also one of the major issues that the mayor should take into account. Boats and tourism ships should be provided

for marine tours around the city, while other ships should provide greater security to the investment projects in the city.

It is important to understand that in order to make the AFZ attractive, the city of Aden needs to be given prominence also. The world must realize that the Aden Free

Zone is located in a city that has all the elements of a successful trade center. It would be a waste of time and effort to try to encourage investors to invest in the Aden Free Zone if the city that contains does not rise to the minimum level of a modern city.

The AFZ has a great future.

There is growing hope that thousands of young Yemenis will find decent jobs there and contribute to the country. However, those young men and women will need training, and the government needs to establish schools that will offer the necessary high-level technical and scientific skills.

Ever since the construction of the Aden Free Zones (AFZ) was formally started, expectations of the Yemeni people have continued to rise amid signs of possible prosperity in Aden, and the whole country, once the zone is operational in full capacity.

The strategic and historic importance of Aden City as a whole has attracted thousands of businessmen and investors from all over the world to start planning for their future businesses at the AFZ.

Those investors have pledged to support the national economy in the country, as well as establish businesses that have the capacity to absorb local labor and revive the industrial production in Yemen, which will help improve the living standard of Yemenis in that region.

The AFZ is hence one of the projects that Yemenis have great hope in. They feel that it will allow the qualified young men and women in Aden and elsewhere to use their skills in their respective fields. Thousands of young Yemenis are hoping that they could seize the opportunity to practice what they learned in their higher studies in the various scientific fields at the AFZ.

Yemen is certainly able to produce well-trained young workers who could serve to their best at the AFZ. Hence, expectations of the qualified young generation are

running high.

There is a great need for coordination between the Supreme Investment Authority and the AFZ. Unfortunately, there are certain issues that result in creating obstacles in front of potential investors in the AFZ. For example, certain areas and blocs should not be given to more than one party as each party should be given different areas not to go into future conflicts. In case coordination in this regard between the two said entities is not achieved, this will hinder the efforts to create economically effective investment projects.

There is also a need for a modern infrastructure. This includes installing water, sanitation, electricity, and lighting services, plus pavement of roads and providing other services like telephone lines and Internet, medical services, postal services, etc not only at the AFZ, but in the whole city of Aden.

So it's believed that it would be a mistake for authorities to separate the AFZ from the city of Aden in terms of development.

The Aden Port should also be developed in other ways, such as tourism and recreation for tourists. Beaches should include entertainment facilities and a clean environment that would be appealing for tourists.

The city's mayor should give the issue of tree planting great importance, as this will help stop the desertification that is taking place

With the inauguration of the Container Terminal at the Aden Free Zone, Aden has restored its position as one of the world marine hubs. On the occasion of the third anniversary of beginning work at the Container Terminal, Completion of the Infrastructure of the Industrial Estate

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H.E, President

Ali Abdullah Saleh,
& the Yemeni people
and wishing them more prosperity and success.

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الشركة العالمية للملاحة البحرية المحدودة
شارع الهلال - التواهي
عدن - الجمهورية اليمنية

يعتبر افتتاح ميناء الحاويات في المنطقة الحرة إستعادة
مدينة عدن تاريخها الملاحي لتصبح محط أنظار العالم
وإيمناسية الذكرى الثالثة لبدء العمل في ميناء الحاويات
وانتهاء البنية التحتية للمنطقة الصناعية
تتقدم

الشركة العالمية للملاحة البحرية المحدودة
وكلاء ملاحة

ممثلة بجميع عمالها بأطيب التهاني القلبية إلى فخامة الأخ

علي عبدالله صالح

رئيس الجمهورية

وإلى الشعب اليمني العظيم مزيداً من التقدم والتطور والنماء.



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Aden Free Zone

Opportunities and Features of Investment at the Aden Free Zone



Incentives and Features Provided to Investors at the Aden Free Zone:

- 1- Projects are 100% foreign ownership.
- 2- Exemption from commercial, industrial profit taxes and exemption from income taxes applicable in the Republic of Yemen for 15 consecutive years. The period of exemption can be further extended for not more than 10 more years.
- 3- Liberty to transfer assets (capital or profit) out of the AFZ.
- 4- No restrictions on currencies usage.
- 5- Exemption from income taxes for non-Yemeni employees.



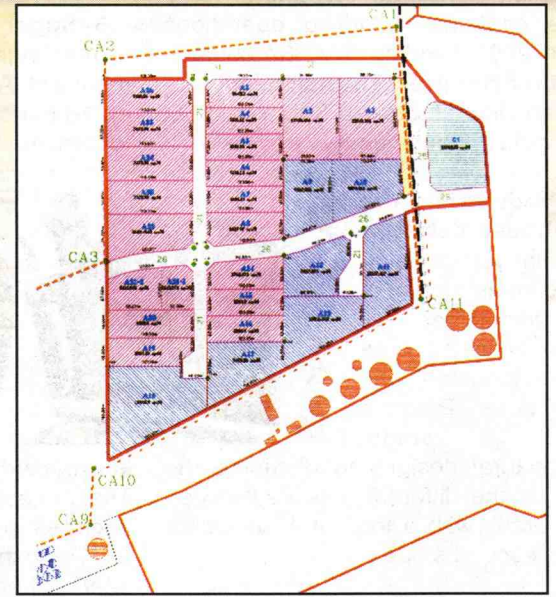
Readily Available Investment Opportunities at the Aden Free Zone:

- 1- Investing in infrastructure projects:
 - a. Heavy and Petrochemical Industries Project
 - b. Faqum Amran Tourist and Recreational Facility Project
 - c. International Commercial Center Project: Starting a project for international trade and commerce to be located on Hadid Mountain with an area of 92 hectares and to include an international exhibition and administrative and commercial centers and to expand warehouse capacities.
- 2- Investing in special projects:
 - a. Industrial projects
 - b. Warehouse and preservation projects
 - c. Commercial projects



- 6- No restrictions on hiring and using foreign workforce.
- 7- Liberty in choosing any investment sector.
- 8- Liberty in choosing the legal form of the investment project.
- 9- Liberty in deciding on prices and profit margins.

- d. Tourism projects
- e. Housing projects: Includes building complete housing complexes and office complexes for administrative and contracting purposes.
- f. General service projects: Including financial and commercial services, transport and communication services, social services, handicraft, vocational, and technical services.

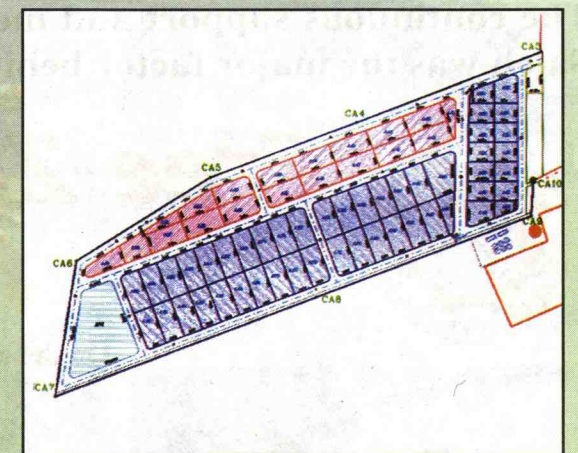


Industrial Area First Stage



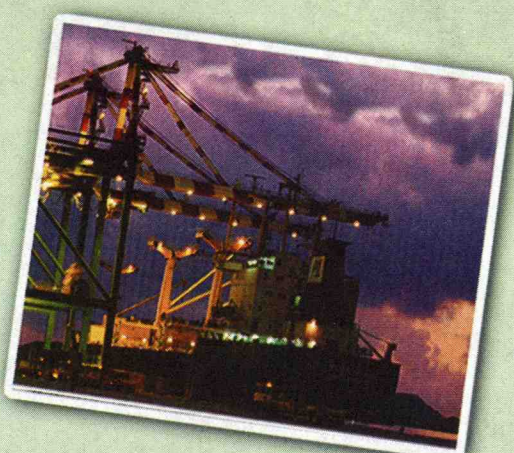
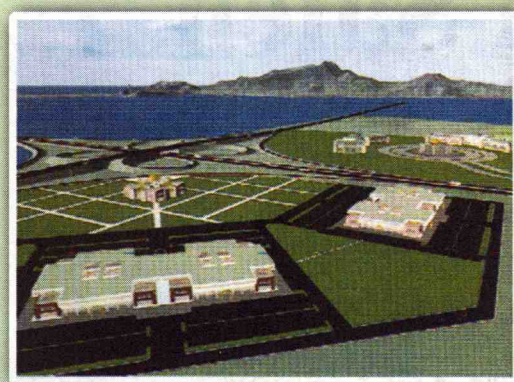
Special Facilities Provided to Investors at the Aden Free Zone:

- Facilitation of finding information to help making decisions on what to invest in.
- Carrying on activities through the single-window approach as the window will include specialized employees in administrating the AFZ



Industrial Area Second Stage

- Facilities of the Industrial and Warehouse Estate with a total area of 1,550 hectares, and which offers excellent service to investors in various ways.



2001

THE YEAR OF AFZ ACHIEVEMENTS

The year 2001 included a noticeable number of activities, projects, and accomplishments in the Aden Free Zone (AFZ). Among those achievements is the increase of authorized projects to 63 authorizations.

Apart from that, the different activities that took place during 2001 can be identified as follows:

1- Aden Container Terminal:

The container handling operations during 2001 handled 377,367 containers of various sizes. The number of vessels arriving at the ACT totaled 856, from various countries.

2- Industrial and Warehouse Estate:

Yeminvest completed the infrastructure of more than 28 hectares of the allocated area for the Industrial and Warehouse Estate's first stage.

Architectural designs to distribute the areas to the different allocated investment areas with a total of 40 hectares as the second stage.

3- Goods and air cargo village project:

Construction of the Goods and Air Cargo Village Project started in 2001

after signing an agreement between the Free Zones Public Authority and Yemen Airways (Yemenia) in 20 May 2001.

4- Miscellaneous industries complex project:

It is expected that this project will be completed in 2002 as the AFZ administration signed the deal with CCC at the end of the year 2001 with a first phase cost of USD 25 million.

5- Sugar factory project:

After signing the preliminary agreement with Adair and Partners Company on 18 March 2001, the final agreement to construct the Sugar Factory Project

to build an electricity station.

6-Administration and Service Complex Project (Caltex):

After completing the architectural design, construction of the project started in 2001 in the Caltex area with a cost of YR 140 million. This project is aimed at expanding the Free Zones Public Authority structure to include the single-window services to provide better service for investors. The project is expected to be complete by the first quarter of 2003.

7- Mineral and Grano-Stones Export Project:

The project was set-up in 2001 by the Indian Lorvin Company which was given permission to start marketing for stones and exporting them through the Aden Container Terminal to other countries.

To facilitate the export process, the Yemeni-Indian company Yemen-Lorvin started paving a special road near the



port to speed up the transportation of the exported goods.

8- Infrastructure Project:

Extensive work in building a solid infrastructure for the AFZ continued in 2001 in the following form:

- Route network of main and branch roads.

Tourism estate project:

A tourism project (with symbol "O") covering the coastal area from Bandar Faqm until Ras Amran with a total area of 1,146 hectares and with a length of 11.3 kms and a width of one kilometer.

Petrochemical and heavy industries estate project

This project will use up the lands located north-west Sha'ab city in the regions (L) and (M) located within the AFZ and they are described as follows:

M Sector: To be allocated to developing Aden Refinery Port and constructing a port north of the refinery to export petrochemical and heavy materials.

L Sector: To construct and develop the petrochemical and heavy industries in all means including services, equipment, and usage.

9 - Projects in process



The 19th of March 1999 will always resemble great expectations for the Yemeni economy as this historic day signaled the start of the Aden Container Terminal operations and with it, the International Port of Aden retained its historic place.

The continuous support and monitoring of the President of the Republic, H.E. Ali Abdullah Saleh was the major factor behind accomplishing this achievement for the people of Yemen.



Free Zone Public Authority Aden Free Zone

On the occasion of the third anniversary of the inauguration of the Aden Container Terminal, and on the occasion of the completion of the Aden Industrial and Warehouse Estate's infrastructure, We present our sincerest and heartfelt congratulations to

Ali Abdullah Saleh

and to the Yemeni people on and to all who stood and continues to stands behind the success of this giant economic project.

الهيئة العامة للمناطق الحرة المنطقة الحرة بعبدن

سيظل التاسع عشر من مارس 1999 بشرى سارة للإقتصاد اليمني حيث يمثل هذا التاريخ بدء تشغيل ميناء الحاويات بعبدن وبه عادت لميناء عدن الدولي مكانته التاريخية. كما أن الدعم المتواصل والمتابعة المباشرة من قبل فخامة القائد علي عبدالله صالح رئيس الجمهورية كان هو العامل الأساسي في تحقيق هذا المنجز لأبناء اليمن.

وبمناسبة الذكرى الثالثة لبدء تشغيل ميناء الحاويات بعبدن وكذلك الانتهاء من البنية الأساسية للمنطقة الصناعية والتجزئية في المنطقة الحرة بعبدن، تتقدم بأزكى آيات التهاني وأرق التبريكات لفخامة الأخ

علي عبدالله صالح

رئيس الجمهورية

وإلى كل من وقف وبقف وراء إنجاز هذا المشروع الإقتصادي الشامخ

